

美国之音 特别节目听读



高考参考书

Special
English

火山爆发啦

赵恒元 主编

北京出版社

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序

学习外语要掌握听说读写四项技能，听和读是接受性技能，说和写是产出性技能。从交际教学法来说，学外语就是为了交际，通过掌握实际应用的能力，能说会写。要做到这一点，便要多听多读，因此听说读写是互补的，缺一不可的。其次，当代语言教学理论的实践，强调学习与习得兼顾。前者在宏观上通过老师在教室内进行，配有固定的教材；在微观上指导老师改进课堂教学方法，以学生为中心，多让学生参与，可取得更好的教学效果。惟独在习得方面，尽管在理论上谁都明白让学生在自然真实条件下，无意识地、轻轻松松地接触英语，但很少有人为学生创造习得的环境和物质条件，形成自流。

从目前国内的出版市场上看，所提供的一些听力和阅读材料，多半是供成人用的，或是直接从国外引进的教材，不能引起国内广大青少年的兴趣，不能满足他们的要求。其次，某些编书者把听和读分开，听力教材和阅读教材分流，这不利于接受性技能的综合培养。现北京出版社出版的《蓝鹦鹉中学英语听读文库》将听和读两者通盘考虑，可谓英明之举。如文库的一个品种《美国之音特别节目听读》以听为主，同时提供文字材料，而另一品种《Ladybird 英语听读》以读为主，同时配有磁带。

《蓝鹦鹉中学英语听读文库》的第二个优点是，这些课外学习材料针对性明确，面向中学生的需要。它非常注意趣味性和可读性。如《中学英语轻松阅读》有学生们所喜欢的寓言、诗歌、故事、幻想、传说等内容，也把学生引入蜘蛛、黑猩猩、狮子、小狗、小猫等动物世界。

《文库》注意将英语学习和文化知识的传授结合起来，使学生在学英语过程中同时增长文化知识，或者在接受文化知识的不知不觉过程中习得了英语。如《美国之音特别节目听读》介绍了

西方国家的“愚人节”、“劳动节”等文化习俗，以及美国拳王阿里在体育运动上的成就和政治上的正义感等。《Ladybird 英语听读》让学生接触到英美国家的优秀儿童文学，如《格列佛游记》、《金银岛》、《艾丽丝漫游奇境》等名著。《Cowin 英语百科阅读》的内容有对英语学习的指导、英国的衰落、英国剑桥和牛津两所名大学的掌故、美国的穷富差距、体育音乐等。《中学英语轻松阅读》和《Cowin 英语百科阅读》还收入计算机千年虫、克隆技术、航天、健康长寿等现代科技知识。

由于中学生涵盖从初一到高三的不同年龄段，《文库》的优势是提供难易度不同的品种，供读者酌情选用。有的是初中生的理想材料，如《美国之音特别节目听读》；有的适合高中生，如《Cowin 英语百科阅读》；而《中学英语轻松阅读》共 6 册，分别与初中和高中相对应。

教育部英语课程标准研制组起草的《国家英语课程标准（义务教育阶段）》的讨论稿曾规定，在阅读方面除正规教材外，应引导学生进行课外阅读，如英语标准第 3 级应达到 10 万字的阅读

量。《蓝鹦鹉中学英语听读文库》将与广大中学生读者携手，共同向这个目标迈进。

胡壮麟

2000年7月13日于

北京大学畅春园

前 言

中考和高考试卷中以短文形式出现的考题有阅读理解、完形填空和短文改错。这些短文考题的篇数在逐年增多，所占总分的比例越来越大，在高考中已达60%，因此抓住了短文就是抓住了重点。然而对许多学生来说，重点并不是他们的强点，而是他们的弱点。如何变弱点为强点，固然有一些技巧，但是最根本的、最关键的、最起作用的是进行大量的语言实践，即多看、多听英语短文，尤其是多看那些原汁原味的文章，多听那些纯正原声的朗读。

本套丛书《美国之音特别节目听读》的一篇篇短文均来自美国之音电台的广播节目文字稿。这些文字稿是用约1 500个最简单的英语单词写成的，文章的内容涉猎很广。我们可以从中了解到外国的诸多风俗习惯、文化传统、节日假日、文艺明星、歌曲大奖、体育冠军、名人趣事、总统

生平、夫人逸闻、科技进展、环境保护、动物生态、世界之谜等。文章的难度和长度与中考、高考试卷中的短文类考题大体相当。

语言是流动的音乐，音乐是羽化的语言。美国之音电台资深广播员的纯正、圆润、舒缓、甜美的声音就像是跳动的音符，他们朗读的一篇篇短文就像是一首首音乐。在音乐氛围中学习语言，在阅读文字中享受音乐，变枯燥为乐趣，化沉闷为振奋。这是学习语言的佳境。本套丛书《美国之音特别节目听读》就是进入这种佳境的最好途径。

我们在每段短文后都配有一段间歇音乐。它可以缓解做题后的紧张，又可以使人在愉悦的心境中继续阅读思考下一段文字。

红入桃花嫩，青归柳叶新。如果本丛书中的“听”和“读”能化作“红”和“青”，为花季春柳的中学生在学习和迎考中增光添彩，那将是作者最高兴的。

参加本书编写工作的还有：潘书祥、郑宏、王泽斌、张培权、姚霞、马秀娥等。

赵恒元

2000年5月于北京

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1. Welcome New Millennium 迎接新千年

听读下面短文。根据短文内容,从短文后面每题所给的四个选项中选择最佳的一项。

This week Americans will join people throughout the world in welcoming a very special New Year. How Americans will celebrate the start of a new century and millennium(一千年) is our report today on the VOA special English program This Is America.

Soon it will be December 31. Thousands of people will stand in Times Square in New York City waiting in a cold night air. They will wait for midnight, that is the time when the old year and old century end. That is the time when a new period of one thousand years, a new millennium begins. The people will call out the seconds until the year 2000 arrives. People will shout: "Happy New Year!" "Happy New Century!" and "Happy New Millennium!" Almost surely, someone will start to sing

Auld Lang Syne(= old long since). This is a traditional song of friendship.

Should auld acquaintance be forgot, and never brought to mind?

Should auld acquaintance be forgot, and days of Auld Lang Syne.

For Auld Lang Syne, my dear, for Auld Lang Syne.

We'll take a cup of kindness yet, for Auld Lang Syne.

New Year's eve in New York is always a noisy, happy celebration, but this year even more events planned. The city is giving a party that will last 24 hours. Officials expect 1, 500, 000 people to attend the outdoor events. There will be a parade in the streets around Times Square. 400 entertainers will act and dance in the parade. 24 huge moving dolls also will march.

Washington, D. C. has spent \$12, 000, 000 to offer 3 days of New Year observations in the nation's

capital. The event is called America's Millennium. A parade of marching dance and musicians will launch an open-air party, December 31. The entertainment continues at night at Lincoln Memorial. President and Ms. Clinton will be on stage with Hollywood actor Will Smith. Fireworks over the Washington Monument will welcome the new millennium.

The city of Chicago, Illinois also plans a very long celebration "2000 Minutes" . The city will hold many kinds of events including dinners, dances and fireworks. Early this year, an Attauy citizen wrote to Chicago officials with a suggestion for celebrating the new millennium. He proposed that the city invite two people from every country in the world to a New Year's eve dinner. More than 4, 000 people will attend the event. These guests are average people, not famous ones.

Celebrations of a New Year began in ancient times. The Romans, for example, exchanged gifts of branches from trees they considered special.

Historians say some of the first Americans celebrated the New Year wildly. They shouted and fired guns into the air. But other Americans in the early days of the country welcomed the New Year in quiet gatherings.

Americans continued to observe the New Year in many different ways. Some people will spend the holiday with huge crowds, like those at Times Square in New York City. Others will pass the last minutes of 1999 with small groups of friends or family members. These parties are often held in homes. Friends and families also hold parties in public eating and drinking places. This year a number of these places raise their prices because of the millennium. But some people apparently believed that the increased prices were too high. The restaurants and nightclubs say they do not expect many more people than usual. Still, thousands of Americans will welcome the year 2000 in hotels and nightclubs eating and drinking a special wine called champagne.

Other Americans want to observe the holiday without drinking alcohol. Alcohol-free events called First Nights are held in hundreds of American cities and towns. The celebrations provide activities mainly related to the arts. In the southern city of Atlanta, for example, musicians and artists will entertain for 10 continuous hours, at the first night celebration on the city's main street.

Some rich Americans will see the new century begin on far away islands. Still others will celebrate on passenger ships on equator or near the North Pole. Most of these people made their plans many months or even years ago. They wanted to welcome the new millennium in a very special place.

Many Americans will spend New Year's eve in religious centers. The Jewish religion does not recognize January 1 as the start of the year, but still a number of Jewish religious centers will offer prayers for the future on Friday night. Music and dancing will follow some of these observations.

Other Americans will celebrate the millennium

by walking in a labyrinth(迷宫). The labyrinth contains a number of circles painted on large pieces of canvas(帆布) material. People walk around the circles. While doing this they think about God, their lives or anything else. These events started in the early 1990s in a church in San Francisco, California. The idea has spread to many other churches. Some community centers across the country also are planning labyrinths. A Washington, D. C. woman says she will walk in labyrinth as 1999 ends. She says, "I want to feel like I am marching into the next 1,000 years."