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Fashion English

时尚英语

大学
背诵版

上

*Recitation
for better English*



湖北教育出版社

时尚英语

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大学英语版

藏书章

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Foreword

前言


在作为国家“九五”重点图书出版规划项目的《英语学习论》这部著作中,北师大外语系教授胡春洞在谈到外语教学的理论与实践时,首先便提到了语感的培养。在“培养语感”一节中,作者又将“朗读背诵”摆在了首位。从朗读背诵中大受其益并在教学中特别强调这种学习方法的有范存忠、朱光潜、戴镗龄、赵元任、葛传槱、许国璋等著名学者或专家。李赋宁教授在《漫谈英语学习》这本文集中,也对朗读背诵给予了充分的肯定,他认为,采用这种学习方法的最大好处在于,它能对学习者的起到“潜移默化的作用”,“在不知不觉中帮助”他们“提高用外语表达(说、写)思想感情的能力”。

遗憾的是,在学好外语变得越来越重要的今天,这种科学的学习方法却在一些人的眼里成了过时的东西。他们追求时髦,急于求成,企图通过“啃”词典、做模拟题等,在短时间内攻克英语难关。如果一个人学英语的目的仅仅只是通过某项考试或拿到某某证书的话,这样做也无可厚非。现在的某些只用打勾的考试实际上也在鼓励人们这样做。但是如果你的目的是成为“英语通”,而不是“半瓢水”的话,你就得在语感的培养上下硬功夫。你就得像许国璋先生年轻时那样“一口气背几页书,甚至梦中也背书”,或像朱光潜先生倡导的那样,把范文“懂透背熟,真正消化成为自己的精神营养”(《英语学习论》36页)。除此之外,别无他途。

1999年底,当学校决定将“综合英语”(原名“精读”)建成优质课程时,我们首先想到的便是如何通过朗读与背诵来改变那种“精读不精”的现象。本书的编辑是这一努力的一部分。本书

的选材原则是：一、语言要美，内容要新；二、知识性要强，涵盖面要广；三、学了能用，易于模仿；四、可读性高，背诵不难。为了方便学生们的朗读与背诵，我们给高中毕业生在这里可能碰到的生词和词组加注了国际音标并给出了与上下文相关的词义；对较难的句子都给予了详尽的注释；为了帮助学生们更好地理解、欣赏入选的文章，我们还就文章的结构及写作特色等给读者提供了阅读指导。此外，我们还针对文章内容或某个关键词给每篇文章附上了两条谚语。谚语代表了一个民族的智慧。它的使用不仅有助于思想的表达，还能使你的谈吐与文字平添几分幽默。

通过朗读与背诵，我们的学生在说和写上典型的中国式错误少了，不仅口笔头表达比以前自如，言语空泛、言之无物的情况也有所减少。“熟读唐诗三百首，不会作诗也会吟”，这就是语感，这就是我们希望每个学生通过朗读与背诵要达到的境界。



我们想藉此机会提醒本书的使用者：一、不管每三日背一篇或每周背一篇，一定要持之以恒，不可半途而废；二、要在对原文结构及内容充分理解的基础上去背诵，切不可“死记呆背”；三、学习者可根据自己的情况调整背诵的顺序，如觉得个别文章太难或不符合自己的口味，也不妨跳过。四、对背诵的好处要有信心，但不能指望背一两篇就有立竿见影的奇效。

卢仲遒

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1 A Knack for Language Learning

Some people seem to have a knack for learning languages. They can pick up new vocabulary, master rules of grammar, and learn to write in the new language more quickly than others. They do not seem to be any more intelligent than others, so what makes language learning so much easier for them? Perhaps if we take a close look at these successful language learners we may discover a few of the techniques which make language learning easier for them.

First of all, successful language learners are independent learners. They do not depend on the book or the teacher; they discover their own way to learn the language.^① Instead of waiting for the teacher to explain, they try to find the patterns and the rules for themselves. They are good guessers who look for clues and form their own conclusions.^② When they guess wrong, they guess again. They try to learn from their mistakes.

Successful language learning is active learning. Therefore, successful learners do not wait for a chance to use the language; they look for such a chance. They find people who speak the language and they ask these people to correct them when they make a mistake. They will try anything to communicate. They are not afraid to repeat what they hear or to say strange things; they are willing to make mistakes and try again.^③

Finally, successful language learners are learners with a purpose. They want to learn the language because they are interested in the language and the people who speak it.^④ It is necessary for them to learn the language in order to communicate with these people and to learn

from them.

What kind of language learner are you? If you are a successful language learner, you have probably been learning independently, actively, and purposefully. On the other hand, if your language learning has been less than successful, you might do well to try some of the techniques outlined above. ⑤

生词与词组

knack [næk] n. 窍门

pick up (不经意地)学到;学会

intelligent [in'telidʒənt] a. 聪明的

technique [tek'nik] n. 技术;方法

pattern ['pætən] n. 模式

guesser ['gesə] n. 猜测者

communicate [kə'mju:nikeit] vi. 交流

purposefully ['pəpəsfuli] ad. 有目的地

outline ['autlain] vt. 列举

阅读指导

有的人并不比别人更聪明,但学习语言就是比一般人效率高。他们有什么窍门呢?根据作者的观察,这些人有如下三个特点:独立性、主动性、目的明确。二、三、四段是文章的主体部分。它们分别以概括某一个特点的句子作为主题句。First of all, Finally 等关联词增强了文章的层次感与段落间的衔接。最后一段除号召学习语言的人注意朝这三方面努力外,还以 independently, actively, purposefully 三个副词巧妙地总结照应了前文。

注 释

① They do not depend... way to learn the language. 他们不依赖书本或教师,而是独自探寻自己学习语言的方法。

②They are good guessers...their own conclusions. 他们很善于猜测,能寻找线索得出自己的结论。

③They are not afraid...and try again. 他们不害怕重复听到的话,也不怕说出令人觉得奇怪的话语;他们愿意犯错误,错了再试。

④They want to learn...people who speak it. 他们想学习这种语言,因为他们对这种语言感兴趣,并对讲这种语言的人感兴趣。

⑤On the other hand,...the techniques outlined above. 另一方面,如果你的语言学习一直不那么成功,试试上面提到的方法你便可以学得好一些。

● Proverb ●

There is no royal road to learning.

在学习的征途中没有平坦的路。

Use makes mastery.

常用达到精通。

2 The Monster

He was an undersized little man, with a head too big for his body—a sickly little man. His nerves were bad. He had skin trouble. It was agony for him to wear anything next to his skin coarser than silk. And he had delusions of grandeur.

He was a monster of conceit. Never for one minute did he look at the world or at people, except in relation to himself. He was not only the most important person in the world, for himself; in his own eyes he was the only person who existed. He believed himself to be one of the greatest dramatists in the world, one of the greatest thinkers, and one of

the greatest composers. To hear him talk, he was Shakespeare, and Beethoven, and Plato, rolled into one.^① And you would have no difficulty in hearing him talk. He was one of the most exhausting conversationalists that ever lived. An evening with him was an evening spent in listening to a monologue. Sometimes he was brilliant; sometimes he was maddeningly tiresome. But whether he was being brilliant or dull, he had one sole topic of conversation: himself. What he thought and what he did.^②

He had a mania for being in the right. The slightest hint of disagreement, from anyone, on the most trivial point, was enough to set him off on a harangue that might last for hours, in which he proved himself right in so many ways, and with such exhausting volubility, that in the end his hearer, stunned and deafened, would agree with him, for the sake of peace.^③

生词与词组

- monster ['mɒnstə] n. 魔鬼
undersized ['ʌndə'saɪzd] a. 小于一般尺寸的
sickly ['sɪkli] a. 有病的; 多病的
nerve [nɜ:v] n. 神经
agony ['ægəni] n. 苦恼
next to 紧贴着
coarse [kɔ:s] a. 粗糙的
delusion [di'lu:ʒən] n. 幻想; 错觉
grandeur ['grændʒə] n. 高大; 威严
conceit [kən'si:t] n. 自负, 自高自大
composer [kəm'pəʊzə] n. 作曲家
exhausting [ig'zɔ:stɪŋ] a. 令人筋疲力尽的
monologue ['mɒnələg] n. 独白
maddeningly ['mædnɪŋli] adv. 令人发疯地
tiresome ['taɪəsəm] a. 令人厌烦的

mania [ˈmeɪnjə] n. 癖好

trivial [ˈtrɪviəl] a. 微不足道的

harangue [həˈræŋ] n. 训斥性的讲话, 高谈阔论的长篇演说

volubility [vɒljuˈbɪlɪti] n. 滔滔不绝, 健谈

stun [stʌn] vt. 使晕眩

in relation to 涉及

阅读指导

本文摘自 Deems Taylor 的散文 *The Monster*。文章从各个方面描述了 Richard Wagner 的古怪性格并分析了造成这种性格的原因。第一段作为开场白, 简要介绍了人物的外貌特征及一般特性。这些特征与特性可用一个字概括: 怪。在这一段的末尾作者提到 *And he had delusions of grandeur*。接下来的两段文字便主要说明他如何自负, 如何目空一切。主题句出现在段落的最前边。紧随其后的是对主题句的进一步解释或论证。一般学生写此类文章时总少不了 *for example* 之类的话, 这里却没用这样的词语, 这种提出例证的方式值得借鉴。

注释

① *To hear him talk... rolled into one*. 听他的口气, 他便是集莎士比亚, 贝多芬及柏拉图三位一体的人物。这三个人分别为公认的大戏剧家, 大音乐家, 大思想家。

② *What he... what he did* 是一个单部句。它进一步解释上文中提到的 *himself* 这个话题。

③ *The slightest hint... for the sake of peace*. 无论是谁, 无论是在哪一个微不足道的小问题上对他的说法稍微有点不赞同的表示都足以引发他滔滔不绝的反驳, 有时可以一口气讲几个钟头。为了证明自己是正确的, 他可以用各种方式论证, 直说得你精疲力竭。到头来, 听者被说得晕头转向, 耳朵也被吵聋了, 只好附和他, 以求太平。

本句虽长, 但只要弄清它的基本结构和意思, 特别是句子的

主干部分: The slightest hint of disagreement would set him off on a harangue, 要记住它并不十分困难。

● Proverb ●


Self-praise is no recommendation.

自己说好不算好。

Self-trust is the first secret of success.

自信是成功的第一秘诀。

3 Sixpence Worth of Trouble



Children always appreciate small gifts of money. Father, of course, provides a regular supply of pocket-money, but uncles and aunts are always a source of extra income. With some children, small sums go a long way. ① If sixpences are not exchanged for sweets, they rattle for months inside money-boxes. Only very thrifty children manage to fill up a money-box. For most of them, sixpence is a small price to pay for a satisfying bar of chocolate. ②

My nephew, George, has a money-box but it is always empty. Very few of the sixpences I have given him have found their way there. ③ I gave him sixpence yesterday and advised him to save it. Instead, he bought himself sixpence worth of trouble. ④ On his way to the sweet shop, he dropped his sixpence and it rolled along the pavement and then disappeared down a drain. George took off his jacket, rolled up his sleeves and pushed his right arm through the drain cover. He could not find his sixpence anywhere, and what is more, he could not get his arm out. A crowd of people gathered round him and a lady rubbed his arm with soap and butter, but George was firmly stuck. The fire-brigade was called and two firemen freed George using a special type

of grease. George was not too upset by his experience because the lady who owns the sweet shop heard about his troubles and rewarded him with a large box of chocolates.

生词与词组

sixpence ['siksɪpəns] n. 六便士; 面值六便士的银币(现折合 2.5 新便士)

pence [pens] n. 便士(其单数形式为 penny)

appreciate [ə'pri:ʃieɪt] vt. 重视

thrifty ['θrɪftɪ] a. 节俭的

pavement ['peɪvmənt] n. 人行道

drain [dreɪn] n. 排水沟

stick [stɪk] vt. 卡住

fire-brigade ['faɪəbrɪ'geɪd] n. 消防队

free [fri:] vt. 使解脱; 使自由

grease [ɡri:s] n. 油脂

upset ['ʌpset] a. 不安

reward [rɪ'wɔ:d] vt. 奖赏

what is more 而且

阅读指导

这篇短文的标题极富吸引力。英语中有 not care a sixpence 的说法,意为毫不在乎。那么, sixpence worth of trouble 中的麻烦会是什么样的麻烦哩?正是这种悬念调动了读者的阅读兴趣。在切入正题前作者描述了一般小孩子对零用钱的态度,说明钱对小孩子是多么宝贵,紧接着作者便讲了小乔治的遭遇。为了找回小小的六便士,他竟脱了衣服,挽起袖子伸手去下水道摸,结果非但钱没找回,还卡住了手臂。这六便士的麻烦可真不小,它不但惊动了邻居和路人,还招来了消防队员。可是事后乔治并不懊恼,因为他最终从糖果店老板娘那里得到了一盒巧克力的补偿。学习这篇文章应特别注意文中动词及动词短语的用