

中学英语 阅读教程

(适于高中三年级程度使用)

北京师范学院出版社

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齐平昌 王 辰 选注

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内 容 提 要

《中学英语阅读教程》原文选自美国《Reading for Concepts》丛书，共分8册（A～H）。它配合新颁中学英语教学大纲使用，供学生进行阅读能力的训练，是一套理想的阅读教材。本册58篇短文，语言地道，内容丰富，涉及人类学、生物、地理、历史、经济、艺术、数学、宇宙空间等十几个领域。文章的深浅程度与现行中学教材平行发展，相应的生词量一般不超过4%，编者专门作了注释。每课都配有练习题（书末附有答案），从不同方面科学地引导和考查学生阅读能力的发展。《教程》具有广泛的使用性和较高的保留价值，除供中学师生参考使用外，还可供广大英语爱好者阅读。

本书是《教程》的G册，适合于高中三年级程度使用。

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序 言

一、新颁中学英语教学大纲指出：中学英语教学的目的是，对学生进行听、说、读、写的基本训练，培养学生在口头上和书面上初步运用英语的能力，侧重培养阅读能力，为进一步学习和运用英语切实打好基础。大纲同时还指出：阅读是理解和吸收书面信息的能力。阅读有助于扩大词汇，丰富语言知识，提高运用语言的能力。阅读材料宜选用原著或经过改写的原著。这类读物的难点往往不只是词汇和语法，还有英语特有的表达法、习惯用语、思维习惯和社会文化背景知识。

为适应新颁中学英语教学大纲提出的这些要求，帮助中学生和英语自学者提高英语素质以及阅读能力，满足对阅读教材的急切需求，我们选注了这套阅读教程。

二、《中学英语阅读教程》选自美国《Reading for Concepts》丛书，全套共8册（A～H），每册约75篇短文。从初三起始至高三结束，每一年级配备两册，供上、下学期开设阅读课使用。普通中学可要求学生从高一开始，读完A～F册，重点中学可要求学生从初三开始，读完A～H册。当然，对于英语基础较好的读者，它也不失是一套很好的阅读教材。

三、全套教材采用符合初三及高中各年级学生心理特点

和逻辑思维的知识性材料，题材广泛，篇幅适中，极富启发性。语言深度与现行教科书平行发展，由浅入深，对生词量有严格控制，一般不超过4%。

每篇课文包括三项内容：1. 课文；2. 课文注释；3. 练习题（书末附有答案）。练习题的设置遵循着一定的理论依据，指导学生从不同的方面去提高他们的阅读能力和水平。如A册的7个方面是：

1. 获知能力，要求回忆起一个具体事实。
2. 理解单词在上、下文中的含义。
3. 掌握语言结构——找到代词的先行词。
4. 理解文章暗含意思与推理能力。
5. 证实课文中一个具体的句子。
6. 理解文章中心意思。
7. 在上、下文中理解词义——找出反义词。

随着学习的深入，阅读能力测验的范围也逐渐扩大。读者可以根据练习情况，对照书末的答案检查自己阅读能力的发展。

四、全套教程具有百科知识性质，涉及人类学、生物、地理、历史、经济、艺术、数学、宇宙空间等十几个领域。每册还穿插了三至四篇兴趣阅读材料（不附测试题），如民间故事、科学幻想等。

五、全套教程的选注由王辰主持。

编者 1988年3月

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Concept I	(1)
1. The Horse That Won a War	(2)
2. The Mighty Army	(5)
3. Strange Fish in a Strange Sea	(9)
4. The Model and the Mimic	(12)
5. The Price Nobody Pays	(16)
6. When Is a Gallon Not a Gallon?	(19)
7. The Gander from Michigan	(23)
8. Tell It to the Marines!	(27)
9. The Lake That Wasn't There	(30)
10. The Ship That Was Someplace Else	(33)
11. The Ground That Gives Way	(37)
12. "Fool's Gold"	(40)
13. Neighbors in the Sky	(44)
14. The Shrinking Moon	(48)
15. A Rich Plum for Horner	(51)
16. What Goes with the Crown?	(55)
17. The Giant Optical Illusion	(59)
18. Not What They Seem	(63)
19. It All Began with Billiard Balls	(66)

20. Bending Towers	
and Swaying Skyscrapers	(70)
<i>In the Land of the Ice Giants</i>	(74)
Concept II	(80)
21. It All Began with Some Convicts	(81)
22. The Search for a "Lost Continent"	(84)
23. Apple of Gold	(87)
24. The Mysterious "Little Animals"	(90)
25. The Tea War	(94)
26. The City That Came Back to Life	(97)
27. When Women Were "Ladies"	(101)
28. The "Wish Book"	(104)
29. The House of the Dead	(108)
30. Wetlands, Wildlife, and Wells	(111)
31. The Old, Old Earth	(114)
32. The Bones of Strange Beasts	(118)
33. The Difficult Question	(121)
34. How Many Stars?	(125)
35. The Captured Soldiers	(129)
36. The Long Fight	(133)
37. America's Own Music	(136)
38. The "Why" Stories	(141)
39. The Auto Haters	(145)
40. The Auto That Won	(148)
<i>Loki and the Magic Apples</i>	(152)
Concept III	(158)

41. The Fence War	(159)
42. When Horses Pulled Boats	(162)
43. Which Is It—Animal or Plant?	(166)
44. The Oozing Heart	(169)
45. The Bug Comes to America	(172)
46. A Room Full of Gold	(176)
47. Who Wears What and Why	(179)
48. Never on Friday	(183)
49. Cattle or Wildebeests?	(187)
50. Land Turned Upside Down	(190)
51. The Mystery of "Drift"	(193)
52. The Argument	(196)
53. A Bagful of Nothing	(200)
54. The Big Puzzle	(204)
55. The Important Agreement	(207)
56. The Fair Plan	(210)
Book G Answer Key	(214)

I

Some Things Are Not What They Seem

In this section you will read about many things that are not what they first seemed to be. You will read about these things in the areas of history, biology, economics, anthropology, geography, earth science, space, political science, art, and engineering.

Keep these questions in mind when you are reading.

1. What are some things that are not what they seem to be?
2. What leads us to be fooled?
3. What can we do to find out the truth about something?
4. Is it always possible to find the truth?
5. If it is not always possible to uncover the truth, what do we then do?

1. *The Horse That Won a War*

To camouflage something means to disguise it. From the ancient Greeks comes a legend of a camouflage so successful that it won a war!

The Trojan War began with the kidnapping of a beautiful woman. Paris, the son of the King of Troy, fell in love with Helen, wife of the King of Sparta. He kidnapped Helen and brought her to his home in Troy. The angry Greeks decided to bring Helen home and destroy Troy. For ten long, hard years, Trojans fought Greeks outside the walls of Troy, but neither side was able to conquer the other.

At last, a Greek leader thought of a way to get inside the strong Trojan walls. He ordered a huge and hollow wooden horse to be built. The horse was so tremendous that it could easily hold 100 Greek soldiers. The wooden animal, with soldiers hidden inside, was placed outside the walls of Troy. The Greeks then made a big show of leaving Troy and sailing off in their ships.

The Trojans, seeing the Greeks leave, flung open the gates of their city and crowded around the great wooden horse. A wise priest warned that it was a trick, but the curious Trojans moved the horse inside the gates. They insisted it was not a trick. With their own eyes they had seen the Greeks depart.

That night, while the Trojans celebrated their seeming

victory, a Greek prisoner managed to reach the horse and open a hidden door in its side. The Greek soldiers slipped quietly out of their hiding place, opened the gates of Troy, and signaled the Greek ships.

The city of Troy fell that night to the clever Greeks.

Notes

1. camouflage ['kæmuflo:ʒ] vt. 伪装, 掩饰
2. legend ['ledʒənd] n. 传说
3. Trojan ['trɒdʒən] War 特洛依战争
4. Paris ['pæris] n. (希腊神话) Troy 王之子, 因夺斯巴达王 Menelaus 之妻 Helen 而引起 Trojan War
5. Troy [trɔi] n. 特洛依 (小亚细亚西北部一古城, 因荷马在 Iliad 中描述其战役而著称)
6. Sparta ['spɑ:tə] n. 斯巴达 (古希腊最重要的城邦之一, 以尚武著称)
7. conquer ['kɒŋkə] v. 征服
8. tremendous [tri'mendəs] adj. 巨大的
9. made a big show of leaving ... 做出要离开...的样子
10. flung open the gates 猛地打开门, fling [fliŋ] v. (猛地) 打开 (门、窗等)
11. priest [pri:st] n. 牧师
12. depart [di'pɑ:t] v. 离开, 分手
13. seeming adj. 表面上的, 似乎真实的
14. signal ['si:gnəl] v. 用信号通知; n. 信号

FIND THE ANSWERS

1. A Greek leader thought of a way to
 - a. trick a priest.
 - b. get inside the Trojan walls.
 - c. talk to the Trojans.
 - d. build a wooden gate.
2. The word in paragraph 2 that means *overcome by force* is _____.
3. The words "that it could easily hold 100 Greek soldiers" in paragraph 3 refer to the _____.
4. While it is not directly stated, the article suggests that
 - a. cleverness can be more important than strength.
 - b. everything that happened was Helen's fault.
 - c. most wars last at least ten years or more.
5. The wooden horse was placed
 - a. outside the walls of Troy.
 - b. inside the Trojan ships.
 - c. outside the gates of Greece.
6. On the whole, the article tells about
 - a. signals used on Greek ships.
 - b. the trick that captured Troy.
 - c. a prince and a beautiful woman.
7. Which statement does the article lead you to believe?
 - a. The Trojans could not see very well.
 - b. Greek prisoners always hide in horses.

- c. The Trojan priest could have saved Troy.
- 8. Why did the Greek leader use a trick to get into Troy?
 - a. He wanted the long, hard war to come to an end.
 - b. He wanted to see how many men would fit into a horse.
 - c. He wanted to keep his soldiers busy with work.
- 9. Think about the concept for this group of articles. Which statement seems true both for the article and for the concept?
 - a. You can't fool people with tricks.
 - b. People should not be curious.
 - c. We cannot always believe what we see.

2. *The Mighty Army*

On February 23, 1779, a ragged group of men were approaching a fort held by British soldiers in Vincennes, Indiana. The men were Americans. Their leader was a man named George Rogers Clark. Clark and his small army of about 125 men were determined to capture the fort. To accomplish this task, they had marched across Illinois through mud and rain, fording dangerously swollen rivers on foot and by canoe.

The men were exhausted. They had almost no ammunition. By the time they neared Vincennes, they had been without food for two days. Yet before they could attack the fort, they had to capture the town. Clark, a daring and resourceful man,

sent a message to the townspeople. In it, Clark advised townspeople who were for the British to go to the fort immediately. All others were to stay inside their homes. His army, Clark's message warned, was big and powerful!

To convince the townspeople that this was so Clark made his weary men march in and out of the hills around Vincennes. They marched from early afternoon until dark to give the townspeople the notion that Clark's army was so big it took that much time for all the men to reach Vincennes. Some men, on Clark's orders, also carried flags on long poles so that the banners were constantly visible in the town.

The townspeople thought Clark's army was a mighty one indeed! The town fell to Clark and his men and not a shot was fired. Clark and his men created the effect of a furious battle outside the fort. On February 25, the fort, which had enough supplies to hold out another six months, surrendered to the ragged American army!

Notes

1. mighty ['maɪtɪ] adj. 强大的
2. approach [ə'prəʊtʃ] v. 接近
3. fort [fɔ:t] n. 城堡
4. Vincennes [væn'sen] Indiana [ɪndi'ænə] 印第安那州的文森斯
5. George Roger Clark [dʒɔ:ʒ 'rɒdʒə klɑ:k] 乔治·罗哲·克拉克

6. accomplish [ə'kɒmplɪʃ] v. 完成
7. Illinois [ɪli'nɔɪ] n. 伊利诺 (州)
8. ford [fɔ:d] v. 徒涉
9. swollen ['swɒlən] adj. (河水) 涨起的
10. exhaust [ɪg'zɔ:st] v. 使筋疲力尽
11. ammunition [æmju'niʃən] n. 弹药
12. attack [ə'tæk] v. 进攻
13. resourceful [ri'sɔ:sfʊl] adj. 善于临机应变的, 机智的
14. convince [kən'vɪns] v. 说服, 使相信
15. banner ['bænə] n. 旗帜
16. furious ['fjuəriəs] adj. 猛烈的

FIND THE ANSWERS

1. George Rogers Clark had an army of about
 - a. 2,000 men.
 - b. 900 men.
 - c. 125 men.
 - d. 400 men.
2. The word in paragraph 4 that means *gave up* is _____.
3. The words "a daring and resourceful man" in paragraph 2 describe _____.
4. While it is not directly stated, the article suggests that
 - a. Illinois is always full of mud and rain.
 - b. Clark was a great leader and hero to his men.
 - c. it is not a good idea to put flags on long poles.
5. The fort had enough supplies to hold out

- a. one more year.
 - b. at least ten days.
 - c. another six months.
6. On the whole, the article tells about
- a. the capture of a fort against great odds.
 - b. the townspeople in Vincennes, Indiana.
 - c. an army that carried visible banners.
7. Which statement does the article lead you to believe?
- a. Crossing a swollen river on foot is a lot of fun.
 - b. All mighty armies are made up of 125 ragged men.
 - c. Most townspeople wanted Clark's men to take the fort.
8. Why did the men in the fort surrender to Clark?
- a. They thought the townspeople wanted this.
 - b. They thought they were fighting a large army.
 - c. They didn't want to stay in Indiana anymore.
9. Think about the concept for this group of articles. Which statement seems true both for the article and for the concept?
- a. Men fight better when they are exhausted and hungry.
 - b. Noise and confusion can make a few seem like many.
 - c. Clark and his men stayed inside the houses in town.

3. *Strange Fish in a Strange Sea*

There is a fish that does not look like a fish, which lives in a sea that is not a sea. The fish is the sargassum fish, sometimes called a "fishing frog." The sea is the Sargasso Sea, a vast tangle of floating seaweed in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean. This seaweed is known as sargassum.

The sargassum fish looks like a small handful of seaweed. Its body is covered with knobs and streamers that look like trailing plants. The fish's greenish-brown coloring can change a little to match the color of the weeds around it.

The sargassum fish is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches long. This tiny fish is a poor swimmer. It uses its stubby fins almost like legs to creep through the dense tangle of plants. Most of the time it remains quietly in one place. It is so nearly invisible among the plants that it is safe from its enemies.

The sargassum fish waits in hiding for the small fish and crustaceans that it eats. When one of these small creatures is near, the sargassum fish suddenly opens its mouth and water rushes in, carrying along a tiny victim with it. The sargassum fish is a greedy eater, and spends much of its time on the lookout for food.

The Sargasso Sea is not the only place in which sargassum seaweed grows. This seaweed is also found floating in the Gulf Stream, and in the western part of the Pacific Ocean.