ENGLISH

LANGUAGE

LEARNING

英 语 学 习

（一九八二年合订本）

初 学 园 地

（本期责任编辑 刘兴安）

4th Session of 5th NPC Convenes
Premier Zhao Outlines Ten Principles
on Economic Development

The Fifth National People's Congress,[1] the supreme organ of power of the People's Republic of China, opened its *Fourth Session*[2] in the Great Hall of the People on November 30, 1980.

Ye Jianying, *Executive Chairman*[3] of the session and Chairman of *the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress,*[4] declared the meeting open at 3 p.m. Premier Zhao Ziyang delivered a report on China's economy and principles for future economic development. The ten principles Premier Zhao outlined read as follows:

1. *Speed up*[5] agricultural growth by relying on new policies and the use of science.

2. Put emphasis on *the consumer goods industry*[6] and continue readjusting the service orientation of heavy industry.

3. *Raise the utilization rate*[7] of energy resources and improve construction of the energy, transportation, and communications industries.

4. *Make full use of*[8] existing enterprises through systematic technical transformation.

5. Carry out the consolidation and essential reorganization of enterprises group by group.

6. Pay attention to *ways to make, accumulate, and use social resources*[9] to increase construction funds, and use them economically.

7. Adhere to the policy of opening to the outside world and strengthen China's self-reliance.

8. *Actively and prudently*[10] transform economic system and effectively arouse the enthusiasm of the people of all circles.

9. Raise the scientific and educational level of the working people, and *tackle key problems*[11] in scientific research.

10. Start from the *concept*[12] of doing everything for the people in arranging production, construction, and the people's life.

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1. 五届人大　　2. 第四次会议　　3. 执行主席　　4. 人大常委会　　5. 加快
6. 消费品工业　　7. 提高利用率　　8. 充分利用　　9. 生财、聚财、用财之道
10. 积极稳妥地　　11. 解决重点问题；攻关　　12. 概念；思想

The Open Window

Saki (H.H. Munro)

"My aunt will join us soon, Mr. Nuttel,[1]" said a very confident young girl
of twelve. "Until then, you'll have to be satisfied with me."

Framton[2] Nuttel tried to continue the conversation, but he couldn't
think of the right things to say. He tried to be agreeable, but he just didn't
know how to behave towards this strangely self-confident child.[3] Look-
ing back on it,[4] he wished he hadn't given in to his sister so easily. Every-
thing would have been all right even without these frequent visits to the homes
of complete strangers.

Framton had been advised to take a restful vacation in the country to
cure a nervous condition.[5] "I know how it will be." his sister had said when
he was preparing to leave for this quiet little town. "You will stay by your-
self[6] all the time and you'll be lonely and unhappy and become more ner-
vous than ever. I'll give you the names of people to visit so that you'll have
some companions while you're away.[7] Some of these people, as far as I
can remember, were quite nice."

Framton was curious about whether or not Mrs. Sappleton,[8] the
lady whose house he was visiting, was one of those his sister considered
"Quite nice."

"Do you know many of the people around here?" asked the niece, in-
terrupting Framton's private thoughts.

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* Saki [sɑːki]: 萨基(1870—1916)，英国著名作家，原名叫赫克托·休·芒罗。他擅
长写讽刺短篇，主要作品集子有: *Reginald; Reginald in Russia* 和 *Beasts and
Superbeasts* 等。*The Open Window* 是作者传世名篇之一，在不长的篇幅中，让一位
才思敏捷的女孩编造了一个小小的故事，使得有点神经质的来客丧魂落魄而逃，然而又
机伶地掩饰过去，使读者也随之先是一惊，然后才又松了一口气。
1. Nuttel ['nʌtəl]: 纳特尔。 2. Framton ['fræmtən]: 弗拉姆顿。 3. He tried
to be agreeable ... self-confident child: 他也想随和一些,但在这位出奇地富于自信
的孩子面前,简直不知道该如何是好。just 在句中加强语气用。 4. Looking back
on it: 回想起来。 5. a nervous condition: 精神紧张。 6. stay by yourself:
独自一人呆着; 离群索居。 7. while you're away: 你离家以后 (此处指在乡下
时)。8. Sampleton ['sæmpltən]: 桑普尔顿。

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"Very few," said Framton. "My sister was staying in this town four years ago and she gave me letters of introduction to some of the people here."

"Then you don't know very much about my aunt, do you?"

"Only her name and address," answered the guest. Framton wondered whether Mrs. Sappleton was a widow, but he decided she wasn't. There was something about the room that made him feel that Mr. Sappleton was still alive and living in the house.

"Her great tragedy occurred just three years ago." said the strange child. "After your sister's visit," she explained.

"Her tragedy?" asked Framton. For some reason, he couldn't imagine a tragic experience in this restful country town.

"You may be wondering why we keep the window open on an October afternoon," continued the niece looking in the direction of a French door[9] that opened into a garden.

"It is quite warm for this time of the year," said Framton, "but what does that window have to do with the tragedy?"

"Three years ago today, my aunt's husband and her two young brothers went out through that window for a day of duck hunting. They never got back. We don't know the exact circumstances, but we assume that, in crossing the land to their favourite hunting place, they were all caught in the marshes.[10] Places that were safe in other years became extreme dangerous during that miserable wet summer. Their bodies were never found. That was the terrible part of it."

The child hesitated and for a moment she seemed to lose some of the strange self-confidence that disturbed Framton so much. "My aunt is sure they will return someday — they and the little brown dog that was lost with them—and walk in at that window[11] just as they used to. That's why the window is kept open every evening until it gets quite dark. It's so sad! My aunt often tells me how they went out, her husband with his white raincoat over his arm and Ronnie,[12] her youngest brother ...Do you know, sometimes on a quiet evening just like this one, I get the peculiar feeling that they will all walk in through that window...."

9. a French door: 法国式屋门(指对开式之两扇门通常是大玻璃门,通向花园),亦称法国式窗 (French window) 或落地长窗。 10. they were caught in the marshes: 他们都陷进泥沼之中。 marshes 一般用复数形式。 11. walk in at that window: 从那扇窗户走进来。at 在此意思同 by 或 through。 12. Ronnie ['rɔni] 罗尼。

Fortunately, her aunt came in the room at that moment, interrupting the child's strange story. "I'm Mrs. Sappleton," she said, introducing herself.

"I'm sorry to keep you waiting, Mr. Nuttel, but I hope Vera[13] has been amusing you."

"She's been very interesting," Framton answered politely.

"I hope you don't mind the open window," Mrs. Sappleton said in a friendly voice. "My husband and brothers will be home soon from a day of duck hunting and no doubt will leave mud all over my carpet—just like men, isn't it?" the aunt said laughing.

She went on talking about hunting and how ducks were getting fewer in number and the problems of hunting during the winter. Framton was very uncomfortable. He made an attempt to talk about something less disturbing, but was not successful. Mrs. Sappleton hardly heard a word he said. She kept glancing at the open window behind him and the garden outside. Her visitor was getting more and more upset. If he had known about this tragic anniversary, he certainly wouldn't have called on Mrs. Sappleton at this time. He wished he had stayed home in bed. Too polite to leave,[14] Framton again tried to change the subject of the conversation.

"The doctors told me to take a quiet vacation—no noise, nothing exciting—and to avoid any physical exercise," said Framton. "On the matter of meals, they don't agree."

"No?" said his hostess, trying to look interested in Framton's dull description of his illness. Then suddenly she sat up on the edge of her chair and became alert—but not to what Framton was saying.[15]

"Here they are at last!" she called out in a happy voice. "Just in time for tea, and don't they look as if they were in mud up to their eyes?"[16]

Framton turned toward the niece intending to show some sympathy. The girl's eyes, wide with horror, stared at the open window. In a cold shock of fear,[17] Framton turned around in his seat and looked in the same direction.

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13. Vera ['verə]: 维拉。　　14. Too polite to leave: 因客气不好意思告辞。　　15. but not to what Framton was saying = but she did not become alert to what Framton was saying.　　16. don't they look as if they were in mud up to their eyes? 你看看他们是不是简直浑身上下都是泥巴?　　17. in a cold shock of fear: 忽然感到一阵恐怖。

It was almost dark, but he could still see the shapes of three men walking slowly across the garden towards the window, they all carried rifles under their arms, and one of them had a white coat over his shoulders. A tired brown dog walked beside them. As they came nearer to the house, one of them waved and shouted, "Here we are,[18] dear."

Filled with horror, Framton jumped out of his chair. hardly noticing where he was going, he ran out of the room, down the hallway, and out the front door[19] in a frantic attempt to get away. A boy on a motorcycle had to drive off the road[20] to avoid a collision.

"We're full of mud,[21] but most of it's dry," the man with the white coat said as he came in through the window. "By the way, who was that man hurrying out of here just as we approached?"

"A most extraordinary fellow, a Mr. Nuttel," explained Mrs. Sappleton. "He could talk only about his illnesses. Then when you arrived, he suddenly turned pale and ran away without a word of good-bye or explanation. He reacted as if he had seen a ghost. I can't imagine what happened..."

"I suspect it was the dog," the niece reported, with an odd little laugh. "He told me he was afraid of dogs. He was once attacked by violent dogs somewhere near the Ganges River[22] of India. He got away by hiding in a cemetery where he spent the night in an empty grave with the angry animals[23] running around just above him. Such an experience would make anyone behave strangely."

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18. Here we are: 我们回来了。　　19. down the hallway and out the front door = ran down the hallway and (ran) out the front door. 　　20. drive off the road: 把车子开到马路外面去　　21. We're full of mud: 我们浑身都是泥巴。　　22. the Ganges ['gændʒi:z] River: 恒河。　　23. angry animals 这里等于 violent dogs.

（春　草　选注）

Humour

Two Irish fishermen, sitting on a riverbank, their lines in the water, made a bet as to which one would catch the first fish. One man got a bite. He grew so excited he fell into the water. 'Well,' said the other, 'if you're going to dive for him, the bet's off!'

The Sea Wolves

英国电影《海狼》近期将在我国举行的英国电影周上映。影片是根据詹姆斯·利塞尔的小说《登船队》改编拍摄的,情节紧张曲折,演员技艺出色,博得了观众的好评。

The story took place in India in 1943, during World War II.

For some time now, large numbers of Allied ships[1] were being sunk in the Indian Ocean[2] by German U-boats,[3] or submarines. But what puzzled the British Government was the fact that these U-boats, or "Sea Wolves" as they were called, seemed to know the exact movements of the Allied ships. They knew exactly when and where to strike.

Colin Mackenzie,[4] Controller of the S.O.E.[5] (Special Operations Executive) in India, learnt through his sources that most probably an enemy agent in Goa,[6] a Portugese colony in India, was supplying information on the Allied ships' movements to the Germans.[7] Such information was being relayed to German submarines from a secret radio transmitter on board a German spy ship, *the Ehrenfels*, sheltered in Goa.[8]

How to find this agent and dispose of him? This was the problem Mackenzie wanted urgently to solve. The problem was further complicated by the fact that Portugal was a neutral country,[9] so any action taken there must be unofficial and undercover.

Mackenzie discussed the problem with Lieutenant Colonel Lewis Pugh[10] and Captain Garin Stewart,[11] also of S.O.E. Together Pugh and Stewart

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1. Allied ships: 同盟国的舰船。 allied 读 ['ælaid] 或 [ə'laid]。 2. the Indian ['indjən] Ocean: 印度洋。 3. German U-boats ['juːbəuts] 德国潜艇。德语管潜艇叫 *Unterseeboot*。 4. Colin Mackenzie ['kɔlin mə'kenzi]: 柯林·麦金斯。 5. Controller of the S. O. E.: 特工队队长。或译成"特别行动执行队队长"。 6. Goa ['gəuə]: 果阿(当时是葡萄牙的一个殖民地)。 7. was supplying information ... the Germans: 把有关盟军舰艇活动情况的情报提供给德国人。 8. *the Ehrenfels*, sheltered in Goa: 潜伏在果阿的(德国间谍船)"艾伦号"。 Ehrenfels 读 ['erenfels]。英语习惯在船只前面用定冠词,所以写 *the Ehrenfels* 9. The problem was ... neutral country: 葡萄牙是个中立国, 这个情况使得问题更加复杂了。 10. Lieutenant [lef'tenənt] Colonel Lewis Pugh [pjuː]: 路易斯·皮尤中校。 11. Captain Garin Stewart ['stjuːət]: 加林·斯图尔特上尉。

went on a secret mission[12] to Goa, where they confirmed the existence of a secret transmitter on the German ship *Ehrenfels*. Though they could not destroy the transmitter, they did manage to find the enemy agent who had been supplying the radio transmitter with the secret information, and disposed of him[13] before they returned to India.

The elimination of the agent did not solve the problem. Allied ships were still being sunk, as a second agent had taken the place of the first[14] and continued to supply the enemy with information on Allied ships' movements. So the S.O.E. must find a way to destroy the spy ship to prevent information being passed on to German submarines. It was Pugh who finally came up with a daring and unorthodox plan.[15] "If the professionals can't do it, then perhaps we'll have to turn to the amateurs," he said to Mackenzie. What he had in mind was the Calcutta Light Horse,[16] a part-time territorial unit, a sort of reserve militia of middle-aged businessmen and merchants,[17] who, if somewhat advanced in age, made up for it with their enthusiasm and daring.[18]

Pugh approached Bill Grice,[19] the chief of the Light Horse unit, and outlined to him his plan to blow up the spy ship. Grice was at once captivated by the idea and was more than enthusiastic.[20] He called his men together and selected eighteen best qualified. The older men were rejected, much to their regret.

So the operation got underway. The voyage itself was a most dangerous adventure, for they travelled to Goa in an old and rusty river boat—some 2,500 miles by sea.[21] However, they all managed to reach their destination, and after more dangers and adventures, they began to plan their main action — the boarding and blowing up of the spy ship *Ehrenfels*.

12. went on a secret mission: 执行秘密的使命。 13. disposed of him: 把他干掉。 14. as a second agent had ... the first: 因为另一个密探已经取代了原先那个。a second agent 里用了不定冠词,因为是泛指。 15. came up with a daring and unorthodox plan: 提出一个大胆而特异的方案。 16. the Calcutta [kæl'kʌtə] Light Horse: "加尔各答轻骑队"。 17. a part-time territorial unit ... merchants: 一个业余的地方自卫组织,由中年的厂主和商人组成的预备役的自卫队。 18. who, if somewhat advanced ... and daring: 这些人尽管上了点儿年纪,但人人摩拳擦掌,个个浑身是胆。make up for sth. 是常用短语,作"弥补,补偿"解。 19. Bill Grice [grais]: 比尔·格莱斯。 20. was more than enthusiastic: 可积极啦。more than 在这里作"十二分"解,后面用形容词,另如 We were more than happy to hear of your recovery. (听说您病愈,我们高兴之极。) 21. some 2,500 miles by sea: 海上行驶约2,500英里。some 在此作"大约;左右"解。

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书　讯

　　吕叔湘同志译注的几本书已经或即将出版。

　　一、《五个独幕剧》：天津人民出版社出版，每册 0.50 元。这五个独幕剧是 A. A. Milne 的《哥儿回来了》，George Middleton 的《家教》，Christopher Morley 的《星期四晚上》，Charles Lee 的《沈普生先生》，R. U. Joyce 的《一个道德问题》。这几个剧本都很有名，作者文笔优雅，写得幽默自然。

　　二、《跟父亲一块过日子》(Life with Father)：即将由天津人民出版社出版。原书是作者 Clarence Day 成名之作，描写一个个性很强但也不乏人情味的人物，语言清新可喜，耐人寻味。原书共三十篇，译注本选用六篇。

　　三、《我叫阿拉木》(My Name Is Aram)：湖南人民出版社出版，每册 0.43 元。作者 William Saroyan。译注本选自他的短篇集。这个短篇集曾当选为每月新书会的一九四〇年四月份推荐书。名作家 Christopher Morley 评这本书，说它足以表示萨拉扬已是"一个成熟的富有多种色彩的艺术家，真正的散文诗人，世界上少年们的发言人。"

　　这几本书行文都很平易，接近口语，生动活泼，能朗读上口，既有趣，也实用。译文流畅，能表达原著的风格，但又不脱离原文，可作为对照读物阅读。注释详细，不限于一字一语的释义，对词语的用法和文句的结构均有提示，必要处对英美人的生活习惯以及原书中提到的环境地点也有些解释。对较生僻的字有注释，对一些常用字，因其意义往往因地而异，易引起错误理解，也加注释。学习英语的学生可用来作为补充读物，对自修英语的读者也会有帮助。

<div align="right">（舒汉平　供稿）</div>

　　The actual raid on the ship was carried out on a pitch dark night.　The Light Horse, led by Pugh and Grice, were outnumbered by the enemy five to one.[22]　However, they were entirely successful.　They not only blew up *the Ehrenfels* and destroyed the secret transmitter, but also managed to blow up two other German ships, and came through without suffering serious casualties.[23]

　　Exciting and dramatic, the story is based on true facts and real persons.[24] In fact, Mackenzie and Pugh, now a Lieutenant General, were on the scene as technical advisors when the story was filmed.　Also acting as advisors were four men who were sailors on *the Ehrenfels* at the time, and who had esaped death by jumping overboard when the ship blew up.

<div align="right">（熊德锐　编写）</div>

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22. were outnumbered by the enemy five to one: 敌人比他们人数多得多，比例是五比一。　23. and came through ... casualties: 完成了任务，而且没有重大伤亡。come through 作"经历……而活着"或"获得成功"解。　24. Exciting and dramatic...real persons: 故事紧张又惊险，描写的却是真人真事。　（荣澄　注释）

The Purpose of School

Have you ever asked yourself why children go to school? You will probably say that they go to learn their own language and other languages,[1] arithmetic, geography, geometry, history, science and all the other subjects. That is quite true; but why do they learn these things? And are these things all that they learn at school?

We send our children to school to prepare them for the time when they will be big and will have to work for themselves.[2] They learn their own language so that they will be able to tell others clearly what they want and what they know, and understand what others tell them. They learn foreign languages in order to be able to benefit from what people in other countries have written and said,[3] and in order to make people from other countries understand what they themselves mean. They learn arithmetic in order to be able to measure and count things in their daily life,[4] geography in order to know something about the world around them, and history to know something about the human beings they meet every day. Nearly everything they study at school has some practical use in their life, but is that the only reason why they go to school?

No. There is more in education than *just* learning facts.[5] We go to school above all to learn how to learn, so that, when we have left school, we can continue to learn. A man who really knows how to learn will always be successful,[6] because whenever he has to do something new which he has

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1. You will probably say ... other languages: 你很可能会说,孩子们上学是为了学习本国语和外国语。they go to learn 里的不定式表示目的, 这种用法在本文中多次出现。另外, probable 比 possible 表示的可能性更大。有一本英语词典这样说: *Probable* is more possible than *possible.* 2. We send our children ... work for themselves: 我们送孩子上学去受教育, 以便将来孩子长大成人的时候能独立生活。when 引起的从句修饰 the time。 3. to benefit from what ... and said: 从外国人的著作和言谈中学到东西。what 引导的从句是 benefit from 的宾语。 4. to measure ['meʒə] and count ... daily life: 测量和计算日常生活中遇到的事物。 5. There is more ... learning facts: 上学的目的不只局限于学习实际知识。 6. A man who really knows ... be successful: 一个真正会学习的人将永远是一帆风顺的。who 引导的限制性从句修饰 man。

（谢闽昕 选注）

《录音听力材料》预告

为了便利读者开展听力训练，提高朗读能力，本刊今年 2—3 期合刊号将刊登一组介绍美国概况的短文，同时发行盒式磁带一盒。每篇短文由两位专家朗读，一次是男声，一次是女声。所选材料除有中文注释，专名加注国际音标外，全部附有中文译文。盒式磁带由北京外国语学院知青服务社负责发行，每盒磁带 4 元，邮购另加包装及挂号费 0.50 元，现在开始收订。汇款时请在附言栏写明要求，不要另写信；字迹务必清楚，以免贻误。

录音的篇名如下：

1. The Size of the United States
2. The Four Largest Cities
3. Schools in the U.S.A.
4. How Did the States Get Their Names?
5. America in the Machine Age
6. Stone Walls in New England
7. Farm Life in the United States
8. American Youth
9. Which States Have the Most People?
10. Ecology on a College Campus
11. A New Way to Fly
12. What Causes Waves?
13. Women in the U.S.A.
14. Automobiles in the U.S.A.
15. The Congress of the United States
16. Should There Be a Law?
17. Women's Liberation in the U.S.A.
18. Frank Lloyd Wright, an Artist in Architecture

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never had to do before, he will *rapidly* teach himself hów to do it in the best way. The uneducated person, on the other hand, is either unable to do something new, or does it badly. The purpose of schools, therefore, is not just to teach languages, arithmetic, geography, etc., but to teach pupils the way to learn.

When Was the Umbrella Invented?

To us it seems so natural to put up an umbrella to keep the water off[1] when it rains. But actually the umbrella was not invented as protection against rain. Its first use was as a shade against the sun!

Nobody knows who first invented it, but the umbrella was used in very ancient times. Probably the first to use it were the Chinese, way back in the eleventh century B.C.![2]

We know that the umberlla was used in ancient Egypt and Babylon[3] as a sunshade.[4] And there was a strange thing connected with its use:[5] it became a symbol of honour and authority.[6] In the Far East in ancient times, the umbrella was allowed to be used only by royalty or by those in high office.[7]

In Europe, the Greeks were the first to use the umbrella as a sunshade. And the umbrella was in common use[8] in ancient Greece. But it is believed that the first persons in Europe to use the umbrella as protection against the rain were the ancient Romans.

During the Middle Ages,[9] the use of the umbrella practically disappeared. Then it appeared again in Italy in the late sixteenth century. And again it was considered a symbol of power and authority. By 1680, the umbrella appeared in France, and later on in England.

By the eighteenth century, the umbrella was used against rain throughout most of Europe. Embrellas have not changed much in style during all this time, though they have become much lighter in weight. It wasn't until the twentieth century that women's umbrellas began to be made, in a whole variety of colours.[10]

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1. put up an umbrella to keep the water off: 打伞挡雨。keep sth. off (或 keep off sth.), 不让……接近; 把……驱开。 2. way back in the eleventh century B. C.: 远在公元前十一世纪。way, （美）远远地; 非常。back, 以前。两个都是副词。 3. Babylon ['bæbilən]: 巴比伦。古代 Babylonia （巴比伦王国)的首都。 4. sunshade ['sʌnʃeid]: 遮蓬; 阳伞。 5. there was … its use: 使用阳伞跟一件怪事有关联。 6. a symbol ['simbl] of honour and authority: 荣誉和权力的象征。 7. those in high office: 大官。 8. in common use: 普遍使用。 9. the Middle Ages: （欧洲)中世纪(约公元五世纪至 1500 年)。 10. It wasn't until the twentieth century that women's umbrellas began to be made, in a whole variety of colours:直到二十世纪,才制造出女用伞,而且花色繁多。made 后用逗号,以突出 in 引导的介词短语。It wasn't until … that … 是一个常用句型,意为: 直到……(时候)才……。

(成　欣　选注)

如何获得英语阅读能力

赵 德 鑫

四、注意学习方法，多进行语言实践

学习外语没有什么捷径或诀窍，但这并不是说不要一定的方法。光凭热情，拚干劲，恐怕不容易学好，即使能取得某些成果，也是花的代价大而收效小。有许多人学习英语不能说不刻苦，但几年下来，仍没过关，这主要是方法有问题。本文前部分谈到在精读的同时开展广泛阅读。除此以外，还要尽可能开展语言实践活动。

有的人只喜欢听教员讲课，自己很少做笔头练习，也很少朗读单词和课文，更没有广泛阅读。总之，没有什么英语实践活动。这样，学习效果肯定会很差。可以说，语言是一种熟巧，光凭理论上的理解是不够的。主要是实践，辅之以理解。比如学游泳，光看讲游泳的书和听体育老师讲课，即使把那些道理背得滚瓜烂熟，自己不下水，也是永远学不会的。学习英语的过程，也就是不断改进学习方法的过程。

所谓多进行语言实践，就是要多接触英语，多使用和练习英语，方式要多样化，如：记英语单词，死记硬背效果不一定好，若是先读出正确的发音，再动笔写几次，如有可能再听听课文的录音。耳旁有这个词的音，笔下写出它的拼法，印象深，就容易记了。

语言实践主要有：跟着录音读课文，甚至背诵课文，做一定的笔头练习或抄写课文，学了口语句子就说说，课后听听故事的录音和英语广播，读读会话课本和练习简单会话，如此等等。这样可以改变单一的学习方法，打破那种沉闷的学习气氛，使得学习生动、活泼、有趣，从而使你的英语学得扎实，牢固，再加上循序渐进、坚持不懈地进行广泛阅读，积以时日，就会获得长足的进步，达到过关的目的。

五、锲而不舍——坚持下来，就能学好

以阅读为主要目的而学习英语的同志，希望能早日学会看专业书，这种心

情是可以理解的。然而,看来想以"电线杆"的办法,学了英语基本知识之后就读专业书是不可能的;只依靠精读一些课文也不能达到目的。比较好的方法是精读和泛读两种学习同时并行,一方面打好基础,另方面扩大英语知识,要做到这点,学习者需要有较大的决心和毅力,要坚持下来。特别是泛读要读这么多书——5,000页,共三十多本书,有的人会望而生畏。实际上如果我们算算细账并不可怕。每小时平均读十页书(尤其是简易读物)决非难事,5,000页共需 500 小时。如果一天读一小时,不到两年时间就读完了。

经过两年精读和泛读相结合的学习之后,如果能把基础打好,又通过泛读接触了相当可观的英语感性知识,然后比较顺利地开始阅读专业书,我认为这对于学习者是合算的。比用别的办法学习了两三年仍不能读书要好得多。

当然学习过程中还会有困难,时间就是一个问题。比较理想的情况是,能有一段时间集中学习,否则只好平时抽时间学。鲁迅先生讲过,时间象海绵挤水一样,总是可以挤出来的。一个有工作的人,只要工作不是太忙,一天挤出个把小时应当是可能的。另外,既然决心要在一两年或者稍多一点时间内把英语搞上去,解决阅读的问题,那么休息和文娱的时间恐怕就得牺牲一点。鲁迅先生还说过,他是把别人喝咖啡的时间用来工作的。这种锲而不舍的精神值得我们学习。

学习外语最好不要中断,横下一条心,咬紧牙关在两年内一鼓作气过关,学习的效果比慢腾腾地拖五、六年要好得多。

附:英语泛读渐进书单

(前面有·者已在我国出版,有注释,有的附有词汇表;前面有··者五十年代由商务印书馆出版,有详细的注释和词汇表。)

一、简易读物

第一类　最浅近的简易读物

*Oriental Stories　东方故事

*Tales for Young Folk　少年故事

 Robin Hood　罗宾汉(由英国 Michael West 改写)

 The Canterbury Tales　坎特伯雷故事集(同上)

 Rip Van Winlke　里普·范·温格尔(同上)

 Stories from the Sands of Africa　非洲沙漠的故事(同上)

 Tales from the Arabian Nights　天方夜谭(同上)

 Stories of the Greek Heroes　希腊英雄故事(同上)

 Traveller's Tale　游历家的故事(同上)