



义务教育课程标准实验教科书


English
Reading

英语

阅
读

八年级 下册

山东教育出版社



出版说明

根据全日制义务教育课程标准精神和五四分段教学的需要,我社组织编写了这套配合《义务教育课程标准实验教科书·英语》的《英语阅读》丛书,供五四分段教学地区师生使用。

本书可配合义务教育课程标准实验教科书五四分段《英语》八年级下册使用。每单元围绕教科书中的单元话题编排,选文注重知识性、科学性、教育性,体现了任务型语言教学的精神,有助于学生提高英语综合运用能力。

《英语阅读》每学期一册,本册供八年级下学期使用。本书由刘红编写。

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Unit 1

A

Read the passage and choose the best answer. 阅读文章, 选择最佳答案。

Every day thousands of Londoners set their watches by Big Ben. Every 15 minutes they can hear the bells of Big Ben. This most famous clock in the world is always correct. Well, almost always. In 1976 the bells in the clock tower did not ring for 51 hours. It was the first time for 20 years that Big Ben had been silent for so many hours.

Three men always came at once if there was any problem with Big Ben. But they were not necessary this time. Mr John Vernon, director (董事) of the company of clockmakers who looked after Big Ben, stopped the bell himself because painters were coming to the clock room to give it a new coat of paint at the top of the 66-meter tower.

"My job is very important," said Mr Vernon. "Everyone looks at the clock. If something is wrong, everyone wants to know why." But Mr Vernon had to stop the bells. The wheels that moved the bells were very

close to the walls, and the bell swung (摇摆) only two centimeters away from the wall the painters were going to paint. That's why the bells in the clock tower did not ring for so many hours.

() 1. Londoners set their watches by Big Ben because _____.

- A. it can be seen from all parts of London
- B. the bells can be heard every 15 minutes
- C. the famous clock is almost always correct
- D. they like this clock better than any other

() 2. From the first paragraph we can see that _____.

- A. Big Ben was made in 1956
- B. Big Ben had been silent many times
- C. the bells stopped ringing for two days
- D. Big Ben had been working well since 1956

() 3. If anything goes wrong with Big Ben, _____.

- A. Mr John Vernon will stop the bell
- B. several people will arrive immediately
- C. everyone will call Mr Vernon at once
- D. clockmakers will come to look after it

() 4. In the year 1976, _____.

- A. the clock room was painted once again
- B. the clock was given a new coat
- C. the bells were under repair
- D. the clock tower was rebuilt

B

Read the passage and choose A for "True" or B for "False". 阅读文章,判断正误,正确的填"A",错误的填"B".

The Everglades(大沼泽) is very beautiful. If you listen carefully you can hear a passing alligator(短吻鳄) in the water, the sound of birds taking off or the wind blowing through the tall grasses. The Everglades itself is a very shallow, slow-moving river surrounded by wetland.

Sometimes the Everglades has suffered from hurricanes(飓风). But many famous persons say it was a natural thing; that nature was just cleaning out the old to make way for the new.

Visitors to the Everglades will enjoy it more if they remember a few simple rules. It is always best to go in the morning rather than in the heat of the afternoon. It is important to wear a hat in summer. But perhaps the most important rule of all is; do not feed the alligators. They are wild animals and have been known to bite people!

- () 1. The Everglades is a very shallow, slow-moving river surrounded by wetland.
- () 2. The Everglades often has suffered from hurricanes.
- () 3. The nature was just cleaning out the old to make way for the new.
- () 4. You can feed the alligators.



Read the passage and answer the questions. 阅读文章，回答问题。

The church of Hagia Sophia (索菲亚教堂) was built in 537 AD by the Emperor Justinian I. It was called the Great Church because of its size. Over the years, the Hagia Sophia has been damaged by fire and earthquakes and parts of the building have been rebuilt several times since then. It was closed for many years and then in 1934 it was reopened as a museum.

It is worth visiting the dome (圆屋顶) of the church and the mosaic (镶嵌图案) of the Virgin Mary (处女玛丽), which are both quite worth seeing.

ADVICE TO VISITORS

The Hagia Sophia Museum can be visited every day 9:00—17:30, except Mondays. Visitors are advised to allow at least two hours for their visit as there is a lot to see.

1. When was the church of Hagia Sophia built?

2. Why was it called the Great Church?

3. Which are both quite worth seeing?

4. Can the Hagia Sophia Museum be visited at 11:00

on Monday?

2

Read the passage and choose the best answer. 阅读文章, 选择最佳答案。

The Eiffel Tower is one of Europe's most famous buildings. It stands in the Champ de Mars, a park near the River Seine in Paris. It is 300 meters tall and was built by Alexandre Gustave Eiffel for the Paris Universal Exposition in 1889, or "expos" as we now call them, and these "expos" are places where people can see new inventions, new kinds of art, and new kinds of food.

Because the tower was such a tall building, Eiffel wanted to make it easy for people to get to the top. He wanted to use an elevator, which was a very new invention at the time. Eiffel asked Elisha Otis to design an elevator to the first and second platforms of the building. Unfortunately, the French government did not like the first design that Otis showed them, and they would not let him put the elevator in. By early 1889, the first visitors had to climb hundreds of stairs to get on the first and second platforms of the tower.

The Eiffel Tower cost over a million US dollars—a lot of money at that time. People who invested in the building were worried that they would not get their money back.

However, in the first year they got much more than their money back. Thousands of tickets were sold to people who wanted to go up and look at the view from the top.

The opening of the Eiffel Tower took place on 10 June 1889. Eiffel himself lived in his tower where he had his own apartment. Many kings and queens visited the tower during the opening day and, of course, they visited Eiffel's apartment. Although Eiffel designed the tower for people to visit, it was also used for scientific experiments. Nowadays, the tower gets twice as many visitors as the other very famous building in Paris—the Louvre.

The writer Oscar Wilde said that he liked the Eiffel Tower because it was the only place in Paris from which he could not see the Eiffel Tower!

- 6
- () 1. The story is about _____.
- A. new inventions B. tall buildings
C. expensive buildings D. a tower in Paris
- () 2. The elevator in the Eiffel Tower _____.
- A. cost over a million dollars
B. was made by Alexandre Eiffel
C. took people to the top
D. was designed by the government
- () 3. People visit the Eiffel Tower to see _____.
- A. Alexandre Eiffel
B. Eiffel's apartment
C. the view of Paris from the top



14. People who invested in the Eiffel Tower _____.
- A. lost a million dollars
 B. made a lot of money
 C. sold tickets to visitors
 D. borrowed money from Eiffel
15. The only place in Paris you cannot see the Eiffel Tower from is _____.
- A. the Louvre
 B. the Eiffel Tower
 C. Champ de Mars
 D. The River Seine

8

Read the passage and complete the words according to the first letters. 阅读文章, 根据首字母及文意完成单词。

Dick was born in a rich family. His parents often traveled in the world when he was young. His father learned English, German and Arabic. He could talk with the foreigners and knew a lot about the countries while he traveled in.

Now his father was too old to go on traveling. Dick had to go abroad (祖国) alone. He could speak only French. It brought him a lot of trouble. He thought English is widely spoken in many countries, so he decided to learn the language. He went to one of the most famous professors in Paris and asked the man to teach him. Half a year later the young man thought he had learned English.

He called on his teacher and said, "You're the best teacher in the world! I'm leaving now, but you'll be my teacher for ever. Could you tell me how to thank you?"

"Well, then," said the professor. "I wish you could do one thing: Don't tell anybody that I've taught you!"

1. Dick is a F _____.
2. Dick's father knew three foreign languages, so he could easily t _____ with the foreigners.
3. Dick didn't know any foreign language, so he decided to learn E _____.
4. Dick thought the professor t _____ well and asked him for help.
5. Dick learned little English, so the professor told him not to tell anybody that he was his t _____.

8 **Read the passage and choose the best answer. 阅读文章, 选择最佳答案。**

It is interesting to visit 1 country, but there are some 2 when we don't know the language very well. It may be difficult to 3 with the people there. We may not know 4 to use the telephone. We may not know how to do shopping.

In a 5 country we may not know where to eat or how to order in a restaurant. It is not easy to decide 6 we will tip (付小费) waiters or taxi drivers. When we

but 7 help, we might not know how to ask for help. It is not pleasant to have an experience 8 that. After a short time, we may learn what to do 9, what to say. We may learn to enjoy 10 in that country, and we may feel sorry to leave.

- () 1. A. other B. the other
 C. another D. others
- () 2. A. people B. ways
 C. question D. problems
- () 3. A. tell B. talk C. say D. speak
- () 4. A. how B. what C. that D. if
- () 5. A. small B. foreign C. rich D. great
- () 6. A. how many B. how often
 C. how long D. how much
- () 7. A. like B. ask C. need D. have
- () 8. A. for B. like C. on D. as
- () 9. A. and B. it C. to D. but
- () 10. A. living
 C. to live D. to living

9

Read the passage and choose the best answer. 阅读文章, 选择最佳答案。

Charlie Chaplin, who died in 1977 at the age of 88, was one of the most famous stars in the cinema history. He was certainly the most famous comic actors of the cinema.

His first films were in the age of silent films. He wrote and directed nearly all his films and composed the music of all his sound pictures.

He was born in 1889. His family was poor and he had a hard childhood. In 1912 he left England for the US and in 1914 he made his first film. In the film he acted the character of a little man who always faced life's difficulties with great courage.

Because he was very successful, he set up his own film company in 1918. His great films include *Gold Rush* (1925), *City Lights* (1931) and *Modern Times* (1938). Chaplin was married four times. In 1952 he left the US with his family and lived his last years in Switzerland.

- 10
- () 1. Chaplin was good at _____ films.
A. composing B. directing
C. acting in D. all the above
- () 2. He lived in America for _____.
A. forty years B. thirty years
C. almost half a century D. half of his life
- () 3. Where did Chaplin spend most of his life?
A. England.
B. Switzerland.
C. America.
D. The text does not tell us.
- () 4. How do you understand "a little man who always faced life's difficulties with courage"?

1. A. An ordinary man fearing no difficulties in life.
 B. A child fearing no difficulties in life.
 C. A young man who never gave in before difficulties.
 D. A grown-up man who was encouraged to face difficulties.

5. Which of the following is WRONG according to the passage?

- A. Chaplin made his first film at the age of 25.
 B. He lived in at least three countries in his life.
 C. He was not always satisfied with his marriage.
 D. He set up his own company in his native country.

H

Read the passage and choose the best answer. 阅读文章, 选择最佳答案。

"When are you going on holiday? And where?" are usual questions in the office before the summer holiday, and the answer often is: "In one week, to the beach." "Aha! You have a beautiful tan (brown by sunshine)!" "How was your holiday?" These continue for days after you return.

Many Europeans have not only weekends and bank holidays but also five to seven weeks paid leave. Usually parents in the summer plan to spend three or four weeks

with the family. Because of my earlier years in China, I found it difficult to understand the European attitude toward holidays.

During my childhood in the 1960s, my parents were always busy with work and meetings. They left early in the morning and came back late in the evening. My sisters, my brother and I were left alone with grandma. We saw our parents only on Sundays and during the few holidays. The only long period of time during which the whole family could be together once a year was the Spring Festival. We missed our parents badly, but didn't say so because we had been told that hard work was everyone's duty and that we could not have our own small family without a big family.

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Later I was a hard-working student and, during summer or winter holidays, often stayed alone at university to have more time to study. I was always encouraged by my parents, for whom the holiday was less important than "work" and "study". Holidays were a waste of time and I felt as if I had done something wrong if I took a holiday or did nothing during a holiday.

I spent the most difficult period of my life abroad. But when I joined this company, my boss didn't seem to think it right for me to work like that. When I called him at home after office hours for business purposes, he politely told me that he preferred talking about work with me in the

office.

When the holiday season came near, he asked me to plan my leave beforehand (提前). He talked with me about his holiday and also asked about mine. For him, leave was a right.

Giving up a holiday for the company is encouraged in China, but is foolish here. I began to think about holidays.

Today my parents are retired (退休) and stay home with a lot of time for their children. But we are all grown-up and live far away. We miss each other, but we cannot afford to see each other very much and they often feel sorry for the fact that they were too busy to be able to take care of us when we were young.

Nowadays, Chinese take long weekends and have paid holidays. But do they use their holidays to enjoy family life? I hope so because my experience in China and Europe has helped me understand that work is not my whole life and that a family is also very important. I do not want to feel sorry in the future as my parents do and I certainly spend as much time with my son as possible.

There is nothing wrong with either working hard or taking holidays, but we shouldn't have one instead of the other. It is important to keep a balance between work and play.

- () 1. What do the underlined words "paid leave" (paragraph 2) mean?

- A. You have to pay when you take a holiday.
 B. Someone will pay for your holiday.
 C. You are still paid when you have your holiday.
 D. You can't leave until you pay for the holiday.
- () 2. What is the main idea of this passage?
 A. Working is the only part of the life.
 B. Traveling is the best way to spend your holiday.
 C. Enjoying holidays is as important as working.
 D. Sharing happiness with your family is more important than working.
- () 3. The writer talks about her own experience because she hopes that the Chinese will _____.
- A. plan their holiday beforehand
 B. get used to long holidays and enjoy themselves
 C. give up a holiday for their work
 D. bring business home after work hours

Read the passage and choose the best answer. 阅读文章, 选择最佳答案。

Millions of people pass through the gates of Disney's entertainment (娱乐) parks in California, Florida and Japan each year. What makes them such worldwide places of interest? What makes foreign kings and queens and other important people want to visit these Disney parks? Well,