

Basic Maritime English

(第二册)

主编 王占礼 吴万千  
主审 王平洲

# 基础海事英语阅读



大连海事大学出版社

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## 内容提要

本书是《基础海事英语阅读》教材中的第二册。内容丰富,选材新颖,图文并茂。本书共 12 个单元,每单元分三大模块:课文、综合练习和阅读材料。内容选材突出远洋船员工作性质的科普知识,包括港口、港口运营、货物装卸、积载、船机和自动化等内容。

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## 前 言

海事英语是一门非常专业的英语,仅一门驾驶专业英语就涉及几乎航海业务的各个方面:从天文、地文、气象,到海上船舶操纵、驾驶值班;从VHF、电报通信,到海上安全、救助;从船体结构部位,到装卸设备部件;从货物的配载、装卸,到货运的各种契约、文件;从港口规章、指南,到IMO国际规则、公约。海事英语语言文字大都是十分规范的国际文本,其语言的广度和深度,不亚于其他任何一门专业英语,语言学习的起点高、难度很大。因此,一旦从风花雪月般的《大学英语》进入涵盖远洋业务的专业英语,即使基础英语较好的学生也一时无法适应、难以接受。我们认为:作为航海院校的学生,应该从一开始就从海事英语的基础知识入手,尽量多地接触专业英语知识,在航海英语中学习和掌握英语。

为此目的,经过多年的探索与实践,我们组织编写了这套《基础海事英语阅读》。该书内容涉及广泛、图文并茂;语言简明实用、循序渐进。其使用对象是国内航海院校海上和陆上专业的学生,既可用作精读、泛读,也可作为口语教材使用。全书共三册,每册各有重点。既有理论,又有实践,语言通俗易懂,趣味性强。本书最大的特点是:在新生入校学习阶段,就能在学习中初步了解专业知识,待正式进入专业英语学习阶段,便解决了专业词汇生疏和相关知识不懂的问题。

本书为第二册。全书共12个单元,每单元分三大模块:课文、综合练习和阅读材料。内容包括:港口、港口运营、货物装卸、积载、船机和自动化等。

在编写本套教材的过程中,编者得到了王平洲老师和加拿大籍专家 Gerrit 的指导及中远集团、青岛远洋船员学院、各大远洋公司、大连海事大学出版社大力支持和帮助,谨在此一并表示感谢。

本书也适合于远洋船员的英语进修和自学。对从事国际航运、物流管理和相关专业的学生,也是一本很好的专业英语参考书。

本书虽已经过多次修改校对,但由于时间紧迫,编写力量有限,书中错误在所难免,希望广大读者谅解并提出宝贵意见,以便再版时改正。

编 者

2006年8月

# CONTENTS

<b>Unit One</b>	<b>Natural Waterways and Man-made Canals</b>	(1)
Text		(1)
Study & Practice		(5)
<b>Unit Two</b>	<b>Ports and Docks</b>	(10)
Text	Ports and Docks	(10)
Study & Practice		(13)
<b>Unit Three</b>	<b>Port Operations</b>	(19)
Text	Port Operations	(19)
Study & Practice		(23)
<b>Unit Four</b>	<b>Types of Cargo</b>	(28)
Text		(28)
Study & Practice		(31)
<b>Unit Five</b>	<b>Cargo Handling</b>	(37)
Text		(37)
Study & Practice		(41)
<b>Unit Six</b>	<b>Shipborne Cargo Handling Equipment</b>	(46)
Text		(46)
Study & Practice		(49)
<b>Unit Seven</b>	<b>Stowage of Cargo</b>	(54)
Text	Stowage of Cargo	(54)
Study & Practice		(57)
<b>Unit Eight</b>	<b>Ship's Engines</b>	(64)
Text		(64)
Study & Practice		(68)
<b>Unit Nine</b>	<b>Industrial Boilers</b>	(72)
Text		(72)
Study & Practice		(74)
<b>Unit Ten</b>	<b>Types of Pumps</b>	(78)
Text		(78)
Study & Practice		(81)
<b>Unit Eleven</b>	<b>Oil</b>	(86)
Text		(86)
Study & Practice		(90)

**Unit Twelve Automation** ..... (94)

**Text** ..... (94)

**Study & Practice** ..... (98)

**Glossary** ..... (102)

# Unit One Natural Waterways and Man-made Canals

## Pre-reading Discussion

1. Do you know some famous channels and straits in the world? List some and tell what oceans or seas they link.
2. Do you know some famous canals in the world? List some and tell what oceans or seas they link.
3. Why do people build these canals?
4. What benefits are obtained from the man-made canals?
5. What do you know about the Grand Canal in China?

## Preface

*Rivers are natural waterways; a canal is a man-made waterway. The Egyptians, the Romans, and the ancient Chinese all built canals to connect the sea to their cities and to connect the cities to the countryside. Water transportation became so important to people that they started to dig waterways of their own. A waterway is like a highway for boats.*

## Text

Natural waterways (channels and straits) and man-made canals exert a considerable influence on the development of world shipping. They enable world shipping to achieve considerable savings in distance, time and costs. In addition, ports located away from the main oceans can also gain access to the world's shipping routes.

The Malacca Straits, which link the Indian Ocean with the South China Sea, offer considerable savings in distance, time and costs for shipping bound from Europe, East Africa, South Asia, or the Persian Gulf to the Far East. Lying on the shortest sea route between China and India, the strait is one of the most used shipping channels in the world.

The Straits of Gibraltar, one of the two "Pillars of Hercules" that marked the limits of navigation for the ancient Mediterranean world, is the waterway between the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea. With the opening of the Suez Canal in 1869, Gibraltar increased in strategic importance, and its position as a provisioning port was greatly enhanced.

The Dover Straits, the narrow part of the English Channel, with chalk cliffs lining both sides provide the main access to the North Sea, which enable ships of up to about 250,000 deadweight tons to trade to the large Northwest European ports. Although this natural channel is of considerable width, shallows and wrecks restrict navigation to a relatively narrow channel. The daily transit of 700 to 800

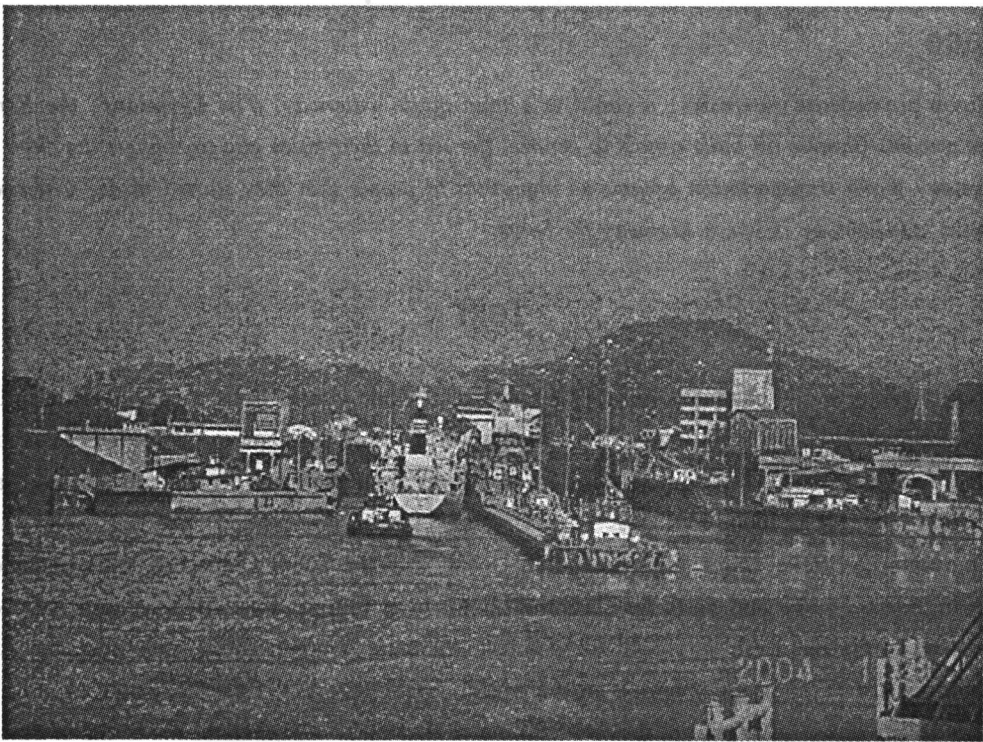


sea-going ships, together with the ferry traffic running across the main routes, has made it necessary to introduce traffic rules similar to those on roads in order to avoid accidents. Frequent fogs and shifting currents make passage through the strait difficult at times.

The Great Belt provides a natural access to the Baltic. This access route is undoubtedly of increasing importance as the trade in raw materials increases.

Canals, which are man-made waterways, have been built since the 18th and 19th centuries. A number of these have either been designed to carry large ships or have been widened and deepened in recent years. These waterways enable international shipping to avoid the need to circumnavigate continents and to take the shortest routes on "round the world" voyages.

The Suez and Panama Canals are two of the most famous shipping canals in the world. Both were built to save ships journeys of thousands of kilometres. The Suez Canal links the Mediterranean with the Red Sea. The Panama Canal runs across Central America and joins the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans. It saves shipping a journey of 12,800 kilometres. There is no question that these two canals continue to be of paramount importance for the development of world shipping.



**The Panama Canal**

Compared with the Suez and Panama Canals, the cost and time savings achieved by the use of the Kiel Canal are much less. This canal is chiefly used for the coasters that are in service in the Baltic and the North Sea, for the direct service to many small ports in this area, and for the feeder trade.

Less important for world shipping than the three major canals mentioned is the St. Lawrence Seaway located on the American-Canadian borders. It is primarily employed for inland water



transport by the USA and Canada. It also plays an increasing part in the sea-borne trade between the North-American centre of maritime trade and other maritime trading centres, for huge ocean-going ships can sail 3,747 kilometres inland as far as Lake Superior.

## Words & Expressions

strait	[streit]	<i>n.</i> 海峡
exert	[ig'zə:t]	<i>vt.</i> 施加(影响等)
pillar	['pilə]	<i>n.</i> 柱子, 支柱
Pillars of Hercules	['hə:kjuli:z]	海克力斯之柱
limit	['limit]	<i>n.</i> 界限, 限制
strategic	[strə'ti:dʒik]	<i>a.</i> 战略的
provision	[prə'viʒən]	<i>n.</i> 供应、补给
provisioning port		补给港
enhance	[in'hɑ:ns]	<i>vt.</i> 加强
chalk	[tʃɔ:k]	<i>n.</i> 白垩
cliff	[klif]	<i>n.</i> 悬崖, 峭壁
width	[widθ]	<i>n.</i> 宽度
shallow		<i>n.</i> 浅滩
wreck		<i>n.</i> 沉船
restrict	[ris'trikt]	<i>vt.</i> 限制, 约束, 限定
restrict ... to		限制在……范围内
relatively	['relətivli]	<i>ad.</i> 相对地
transit	['trænsit]	<i>n.</i> 运输、通行
ferry	['feri]	<i>n.</i> 摆渡, 渡船, 渡口
frequent	['fri:kwənt]	<i>a.</i> 频繁的
shift	[ʃift]	<i>v.</i> 转换, 移动
feeder	['fi:də]	<i>n.</i> 支线:
Baltic	['bɔ:ltik]	<i>a.</i> 波罗的海的
undoubtedly	[ʌn'daʊtidli]	<i>ad.</i> 毋庸置疑
widen	['waidn]	<i>vt.</i> 加宽
deepen	['di:pən]	<i>vt.</i> 加深
circumnavigate	[ɪsə:kəm'nævigeit]	<i>vt.</i> 环航(世界)
paramount	['pærəmaunt]	<i>a.</i> 至上的, 卓越的
coaster	['kəʊstə]	<i>n.</i> 沿海港口间贸易船
border	['bɔ:də]	<i>n.</i> 边界

## Proper Names

Malacca Straits	[mə'lækə]	马六甲海峡
Persian Gulf	['pɜːʃən;gʌlf]	波斯湾
the Straits of Gibraltar	[dʒi'brɔːltə]	直布罗陀海峡
the Mediterranean Sea	[ˌmedɪtə'reɪnjən]	地中海
the English Channel		英吉利海峡
Dover Straits	['dəʊvə]	多佛尔海峡
the Great Belt		大拜尔特海峡
the Baltic Sea	['bɔːltɪk]	波罗的海
Panama Canal	[ˌpænə'mɑː]	巴拿马运河
Kiel Canal	[kiːl]	基尔运河
St. Lawrence Seaway	['lɔːrəns]	圣·劳伦斯海上航路
Lake Superior	[sjuː'piəriə]	苏必利亚湖

## Notes

1. East Africa: 东非  
是指肯尼亚(Kenya),坦桑尼亚(Tanzania)和乌干达(Uganda)。
2. Far East 远东  
是指包括中国、朝鲜(Korea)、日本(Japan)在内的东亚和东南亚地区。有时马来半岛也在其内。
3. "Pillars of Hercules": 海克力斯之柱。  
Hercules, son of Zeus (宙斯之子), was endowed with superhuman strength. "Pillars of Hercules" refer to the two rocky promontories: Rock of Gibraltar and Jebel Musa on either side of the strait of Gibraltar. According to legend, they were parted by Hercules.
4. The daily transit of ... together with ... running across the main routes, has made it necessary to introduce traffic rules similar to those on roads in order to avoid accidents.
  - 1) 每天都有七八百艘海轮通过,再加上横穿主航线的轮渡,使其不得不用类似公路交通规则的分道通航制,以避免事故的发生。
  - 2) has made it necessary to introduce traffic rules...  
这是复合宾语的一种复杂结构。"it"是形式宾语,代的是动词不定式 to introduce。  
如:  
I think it important to speak English more.  
我认为重要的是多说英语。
  - 3) traffic rules 指 Traffic Separation System 分道通航制
  - 4) similar to those on roads 是形容词短语作定语
5. make passage through the strait: 通过海峡 (= to pass through the strait)

注意:

1) “通过”运河、海峡有如下表达方法:

- a) to pass through
- b) to sail along
- c) to transit

2) 而通过大洋或横穿通过运河、海峡等则要说:

- a) to sail across
- b) to run across 或
- c) to cross

6. feeder trade 支线贸易

similarly:

- 1) sea-borne trade (与外国的)海运贸易
- 2) foreign trade (对)外贸(易)
- 3) free trade 自由贸易
- 4) barter trade 实物(易货)贸易
- 5) domestic (home) trade 国内贸易

7. The Suez Canal was opened on 17 November, 1869. It was designed by Ferdinand de Lesseps. Although it is twice as long as the Panama Canal, it cost half as much to build. This was because Suez is a sea-level canal from end-to-end, therefore locks are unnecessary. The Canal has been widened and deepened several times since it was opened. It is now about twice its original breadth and depth. Until 1956, the Canal was operated by the Suez Canal Company. Since this date it has been operated by the Egyptian government.

8. The Panama Canal is a large canal, 82 kilometres (51 miles) long, connecting the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. The canal was opened on August 15, 1914. The canal has two sets of canal locks on the Pacific side and one set of locks on the Atlantic side; in the middle is Lake Gatún. All the locks on the canal are paired so that ships may pass in both directions. The ships are hauled through the locks with small railway engines. The Pacific end of the canal is 24 cm higher than the Atlantic end and has much greater tides. The canal was an important strategic and economic asset to the US, and revolutionized world shipping patterns.

9. Lake Superior: 苏必利亚湖是位于美国和加拿大之间的五大湖(Great Lakes)中最大的一个湖。

## Study & Practice

### I. Comprehension of the text

#### 1. Answer the following questions:

- 1) Why do the natural waterways and man-made canals exert a considerable influence on the development of global shipping?

- 2) Where is the Malacca Straits located?
- 3) What is a provision port?
- 4) Why is it necessary to introduce the "traffic rules" in the Dover Straits?
- 5) Why are the Suez and Panama Canals considered as two of the most famous shipping canals?

**2. Choose the best answer for each of the following:**

- 1) Canals are \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. similar to channels
  - B. man-made straits
  - C. artificial waterways
  - D. natural waterways
- 2) The word "considerable" in the text most probably means \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. fairly large
  - B. fairly small
  - C. comparatively big
  - D. fairly important
- 3) Lying on the shortest sea route between China and India, the strait is one of the most used shipping channels in the world. "Lying..." phrase here best means \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. as it lies...
  - B. when it lies...
  - C. if it lies...
  - D. while lying...
- 4) The Kiel Canal \_\_\_\_\_ on "round the world" voyage.
  - A. is of paramount importance
  - B. becomes of growing importance
  - C. plays an increasing part
  - D. is less important
- 5) The Panama Canal was dug by \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. Panama
  - B. France
  - C. U. S. A
  - D. Britain

**3. Match the following information**

- |                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 1) The Malacca Straits      | a) links the Mediterranean with the Red Sea at Port Said            |
| 2) The Straits of Gibraltar | b) links the Indian Ocean with the South China Sea.                 |
| 3) The Dover Straits        | c) provide the access from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic Ocean. |
| 4) The Great Belt           | d) Provide the access to the North Sea.                             |
| 5) The Suez Canal           | e) provides a natural access to the Baltic Sea.                     |
| 6) The Panama Canal         | f) joins the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.                           |
| 7) The St. Lawrence         | g) is the waterway located on the American-Canadian border          |

**II. Translation**

**1. Translate the following into English:**

- 1) 如今自亚洲港口开往欧洲的船只都经过苏伊士运河,而不必绕行非洲,缩短的距离等于从伦敦到孟买的距离。
- 2) 多佛尔海峡长 34 公里,宽 33 公里,是船只难于通过的海峡之一。
- 3) 巴拿马运河长约 81.7 公里,深 13.5 米,宽 91 至 304 米,通过该运河约需 7 至 8 小时。
- 4) 中美洲各国认为有必要在美洲再开挖一条运河。
- 5) 大运河全长 1931 公里,从北京到杭州贯穿中国南北,始建于公元前 5 世纪,隋炀帝时开通。

**2. Translate the following passages into Chinese:**

- 1) Both the Suez and the Panama canals will have to be enlarged during the next few years in order to adapt them to the ever larger ship sizes if the advantages of using these canals are to continue to be available.
- 2) The technical features of all the large ship canals in the world have been unable to follow the rapid increase in ship dimensions in recent years.

**III. Reading Practice**

## 1

During the first half of the nineteenth century much thought was given to building the Panama Canal. The discovery of gold in California in 1848 brought an increased demand for a transportation line across Panama. A railway line was completed after six years of hard labour in the swamps and woods. Over two thousand workmen died from fever and malaria. In 1881 a French company tried to build a canal across the Isthmus. For eleven years workmen struggled against heat and disease. At least 15,000 workmen died before the French gave up their aim to build the canal. For years the rejected machines lay in the woods. At the end of the Spanish-American War the United States bought a piece of land ten miles wide across the Isthmus. Immediately attention was given to the control of disease. In two years fever was completely wiped out. Because of the hard work of American medical heroes, it was possible to build the splendid Panama Canal.

**Choose the best answer for each of the following:**

1. According to the passage which of the following is true?
  - A. After the discovery of gold in California people began to think of building the Panama Canal.
  - B. The first railway across Panama was completed by a French company in 1854.
  - C. The French stopped building the Canal because they failed to conquer all the hardships there.
  - D. In order to build the Panama Canal the Americans had to start a war against Spain.
2. The building of Panama Canal shows man's \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. ability to resist disease
  - B. thirst for danger
  - C. demands for progress
  - D. spirit of invention
3. From the passage we know America's first aim was \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. to send many workers there
  - B. to send a medical team to control diseases there
  - C. to prevent illness from happening
  - D. to build the Panama Canal
4. The author gave details according to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. order of degrees of importance

- B. space order
  - C. sorts of facts
  - D. time order
5. Before the successful completion of the Panama Canal, \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. France bought a piece of land across the isthmus of Panama
  - B. malaria was wiped out as a terrible disease in Panama
  - C. one country failed in its aim to build a canal
  - D. American doctors were honoured for their work

## 2

In 1920, after some thirty-nine years, the Panama Canal was officially opened, linking the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans by allowing ships to pass through the fifty mile canal zone instead of traveling some seven thousand miles around Cape Horn. It takes a ship about eight hours to complete the trip through the canal and costs an average of fifteen thousand dollars, one-tenth of what would cost an average ship to round the Horn. More than fifteen thousand ships pass through its locks each year.

The French sold their rights to the United States. The latter will control it until the end of the twentieth century when Panama takes over its duty.

**Choose the best answer for each of the following:**

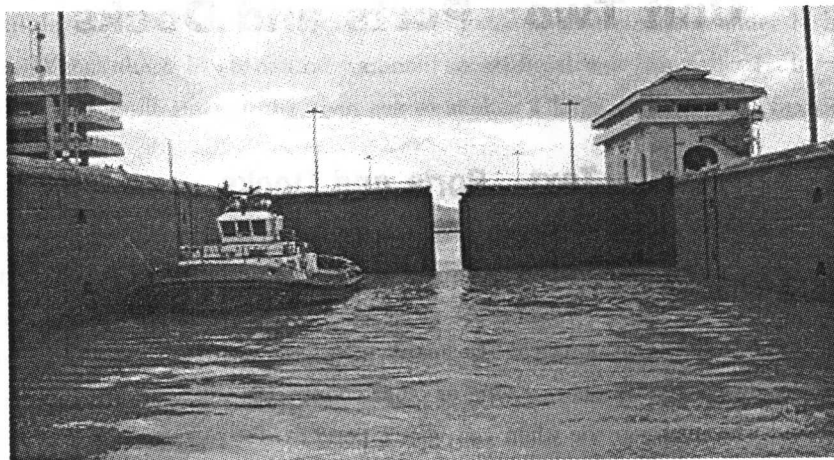
1. The Panama Canal is now under the control of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. France
  - B. the United States
  - C. Panama
  - D. the Canal Zone
2. Panama government will take control of the Canal in the year of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. 1999
  - B. 2000
  - C. 2100
  - D. 2999
3. It costs a ship to travel around Cape Horn \_\_\_\_\_ dollars.
  - A. 1,500
  - B. 15,000
  - C. 150,000
  - D. 1,500,000
4. The construction of the Panama Canal began in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. 1881
  - B. 1920
  - C. 1939
  - D. 1999

## 3

Sailing along a canal, a ship often has to go through a series of locks. Locks are like stairs for ships. They make it possible for a ship to go "upstairs" from a low body of water to a higher one or "downstairs" from a high body of water to a lower one.

A lock is simply a big water tank open at the top with watertight gates at both ends. When a ship going upstairs comes to a lock, the gates at one end open to let it in. Then they are closed behind the ship. Extra water is then let into the lock through pipes to raise the water level. The ship rises as a result. When it reaches the level of the body of the water beyond the other end, the gate at

that end open to let it out. Thus, lock after lock the ship rises higher and higher until at last it rises to the level of the body of water outside, and it is ready to sail out of the canal.



A ship going “downstairs” will go through the same series of locks. But, of course, there is a difference in what happens at the locks. Can you tell what the difference is?

**Choose the best answer for each of the following:**

1. When talking about canals, what do we mean by “a lock”?
  - A. It is a tank in a ship.
  - B. It is something that helps keep a gate closed.
  - C. It is a stair with many steps.
  - D. It is something with walls and gates.
2. Locks are necessary when the canal \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. is very long and has many turns
  - B. runs through the land at different levels
  - C. is too shallow for large ships
  - D. is too narrow for ships to pass at the same time
3. What happens at a lock when a ship is going “downstairs” instead of “upstairs”?
  - A. Instead of sailing forward the ship sails backward through the lock.
  - B. The gates are not closed at both ends; instead they are open at one end to let the water out.
  - C. Before the ship enters the lock, the water is lowered instead of being raised.
  - D. After the gates are closed, water is let out instead of being let in.



## Unit Two Ports and Docks

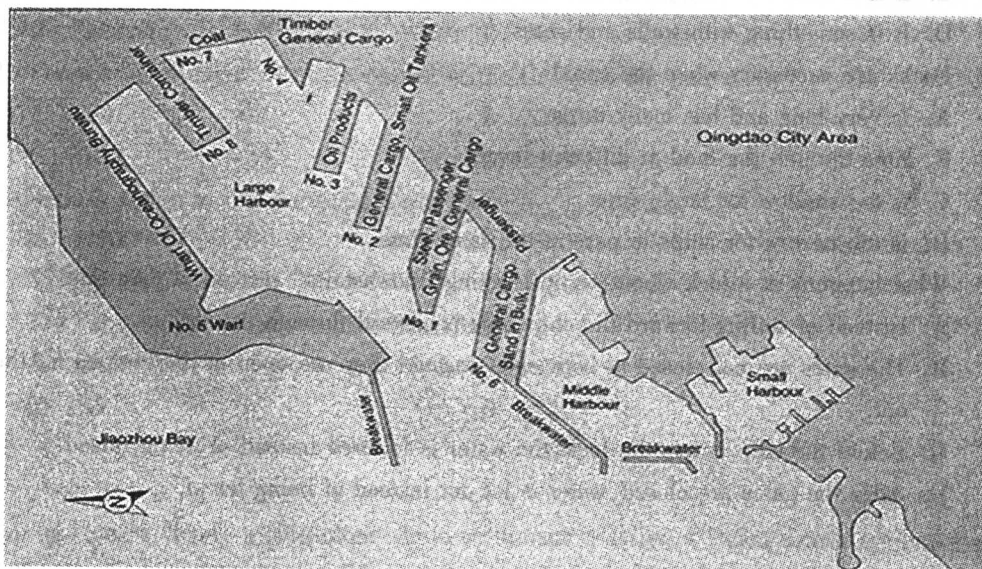
### Text Ports and Docks

#### Pre-reading Discussion:

1. Name some well-known ports you've heard.
2. Have you ever visited ports in China or other countries?
3. What and who may you see when you visit a port?
4. Where is a port likely to be?
5. How many types of ports are there?

#### Preface

More than 70% of the Earth is covered with water, which has been a big obstacle to world communication. Ports are therefore built to promote trade between different countries. As globalization is developing, ports play a role more important than ever.



The natural harbours of Qingdao Port

Ports are places where ships can load and unload their cargo and passengers. They provide the links between sea transport and inland transport. Because they perform the function of transferring the cargo between the sea-going ships and the vehicles that are used for inland transport, they must have effective facilities for handling and storing cargo, and for repairing ships. And it is important

for ports to be near good roads and railways or canals, so that passengers can continue their journeys and cargoes can be sent on to their destinations.

Ports often develop in natural harbours, which are sheltered stretches of water in between long pieces of land. Where there is no natural harbour, an artificial one has to be built. Strong walls called breakwaters are built out into the open sea to shelter a large area of water from strong winds and waves.

Some ports have grown up on river estuaries. London, Paris, Antwerp and Shanghai are famous examples. One great problem about ports on rivers is that mud or silt carried by the river may build up at the entrance to the port. This makes the water too shallow for big ships. Dredgers have to scoop up the silt and take it away.

Some ports, such as Ghent and Port Said, have grown up on canals. The advantage of canal ports is that although ships have to travel a long way inland, they can take cargoes straight to factories.

Along the edge of the port docks or wharfs, quays or jetties, or piers are built. The ships tie up beside them, and the cargo is loaded and unloaded. In many ports there is a very large difference in water level between low and high tide. At low tide, the ship may be too far below the quay to be loaded or unloaded easily. To solve this problem, enclosed docks are built. These are large basins which are filled with water at high tide. Ships enter the dock through lock gates which are then shut, so that the water level does not fall. The ship then can be loaded or unloaded at any time and is not affected by the tide outside the dock.

If a ship needs repairing or repainting, it is taken to a dry dock, and the water is emptied out until the ship is resting on wooden blocks. Work can then begin.

## Words & Expressions

perform	[pə'fɔ:m]	v. 履行, 执行
function	[ˈfʌŋkʃən]	n. 功能
transfer	[træns'fæ:]	v. 中转; 转运
vehicle	[ˈvi:kl]	n. 车辆
effective	[i'fektiv]	a. 有效的
harbour	[ˈhɑ:bə]	n. 港湾
natural harbour		天然港
shelter	[ˈfeltə]	v & n. 避风、隐蔽(处)
stretch	[stretʃ]	n. 连绵
artificial	[,ɑ:ti'fiʃəl]	a. 人工的
breakwater		n. 防波堤
estuary	[ˈestjuəri]	n. 会合处, 河口
mud	[mʌd]	n. 泥
silt	[silt]	n. 淤泥