

21 世纪中学生英语文库

吴小英 宋贤序 编写
刘 静 方博文

初中英语

阅读精选

(第二版)

Selected Reading
for Junior Students

复旦大学出版社

21 世纪中学生英语文库

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初中英语阅读精选

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復旦大學 出版社

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

初中英语阅读精选/吴小英等编写. —2 版. —上海:
复旦大学出版社, 2005. 5
(21 世纪中学生英语文库)
ISBN 7-309-04415-0

I. 初… II. 吴… III. 英语-阅读教学-初中-
课外读物 IV. G634. 413

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2005)第 021447 号

初中英语阅读精选(第二版)

吴小英 宋贤序 刘 静 方博文 编写

出版发行 复旦大学出版社 上海市国权路 579 号 邮编 200433
86-21-65642857(门市零售)
86-21-65118853(团体订购) 86-21-65109143(外埠邮购)
fupnet@fudanpress.com <http://www.fudanpress.com>

责任编辑 唐 敏
总 编 辑 高若海
出 品 人 贺圣遂

印 刷 上海浦东北联印刷厂
开 本 850 × 1168 1/32
印 张 7.75
字 数 194 千
版 次 2006 年 5 月第二版第二次印刷
印 数 6 101—12 100

书 号 ISBN 7-309-04415-0/H · 864
定 价 12.00 元

如有印装质量问题, 请向复旦大学出版社发行部调换。

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内 容 提 要

根据初中英语的教学要求与特点,精选了 120 篇内容新颖、文字简洁、篇幅短小的阅读语篇辑成本书。这些短文按主题内容和体裁排列,颇具趣味性、知识性和可读性。每篇之后附有与阅读内容有关的理解性练习,以及练习的参考答案,供读者查阅,读者可以通过这些阅读实践,有效地提高自己的阅读理解能力。

前 言

随着我国改革开放形势的发展,广大青少年及家长们都知道英语非常有用,迫切希望尽快掌握好这一门工具,为今后的学习和工作创造良好的条件。

英语是一门实践性很强的学科。英语学习有它自身的规律。要想学好英语,不仅要学词和语法,更重要的是让学习者接触大量的语言材料,经过充分的语言操练,才能使他们具备较好的语言能力,包括英语的理解和表达能力。任何“捷径”、“突击”和“速成”都只可能是一种不现实的愿望。英语学习必须是循序渐进的和全方位的,既要学习英语的语音、词汇和语法知识,又要接受听、说、读、写各方面的训练。《21 世纪中学生英语文库》正是基于这一前提而为中学生编写的涉及英语学习各个环节的参考丛书,它们包括英语阅读、语法、常用词用法、说话和写作等各个方面。这些参考书既为读者提供了有益的学习材料,同时又指导学习者遵循英语学习的规律,用正确的方法去学习,以期达到事半功倍的效果。这些参考书是对现用教材的补充,也是对校内英语学习的一种辅助和促进。希望这一套丛书能帮助中学生在英语学习方面打好扎实的基础,以利于将来的深造和熟练掌握英语。

陈锡麟

2005 年 3 月

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Stories on Animals

(Passages 1—10)

Passage 1

A lion was walking through the jungle one day when he came across a deer eating grass in a *clearing*¹. The lion *roared*², "Who is the king of the jungle?" and the deer replied, "Oh you are, Master."

The lion walked away, feeling pleased. Soon he came across a *zebra*³ drinking at a water hole. The lion roared, "Who is the king of the jungle?" and the zebra answered, "Oh, you are, Master."

The lion walked away, feeling pleased. Then he came across an elephant in a *copse*⁴.

"Who is the king of the jungle?" he roared. The elephant immediately threw the lion on the ground and jumped on him.

The lion *scraped*⁵ himself up off the ground and said, "Okay, okay, there's no need to get *mad*⁶ just because you don't know the answer."

Notes:

1. clearing /'klɪərɪŋ/ *n.* 空旷地

2. roar /rɔɪ/ *v.* 吼叫

3. zebra /'ziːbrə/ *n.* 斑马

4. copse /kɒps/ *n.* 小灌木林

5. scrape /skreɪp/ *v.* (艰难地)凑集

scrape oneself up off the ground 艰难地从地上站起来

6. mad /mæd/ *a.* 暴怒的

Exercise :

Choose the correct.

1. Which word can **not** be used to describe the lion in the passage?
A. Clever. B. Stupid. C. Proud.
2. Which one is the better title for the passage?
A. Lion King.
B. The Real King of the Jungle(丛林).
C. Forest Animals.
3. Who is the real king of the jungle according to the passage?
A. Lion. B. Tiger. C. Elephant.

Passage 2

Once upon a time a thirsty *crow*¹ came upon a bottle, half full of water. With the greatest joy, she put in her *beak*². But her beak was short and the water was very low in the bottle. Try as she might, she could not reach a drop.

Just as she thought she would have to give up, she had a bright idea. She took a *pebble*³ in her beak and dropped it into the bottle. Then she picked up another pebble and dropped it in, too. Another and another and another pebble went into the bottle. Little by little, the water began to rise. At last, it was close enough for the crow to drink. She *dipped*⁴ her beak and drank till she was full.

"Where there's a *will*⁵, there's a way," said she.

Notes:

1. crow /krəʊ/ n. 乌鸦
2. beak /bi:k/ n. 鸟嘴
3. pebble /'pebl/ n. 卵石
4. dip /dɪp/ v. 将…放入或伸入液体中
5. will /wɪl/ n. 意志

Exercise:

I. True or False.

- _____ 1. Once a thirsty crow came upon an empty bottle.
- _____ 2. The crow couldn't reach the water in the bottle because her beak was too short and the water was too low.
- _____ 3. The water in the bottle rose high enough for the crow to drink when she dropped a big pebble into the bottle.

II. Choose the correct.

“Where there's a will, there's a way” means _____.

A. 众志成城

B. 有志者事竟成

Passage 3

One *sunny*¹ day all the animals came together to choose a king. They made a wide circle in the forest. A monkey danced and played such clever tricks that the animals made him king. The *fox*² was very



angry about this.

The next day the fox was walking slowly along a road. He saw a *trap*³ which a man had set. In the trap was a piece of meat. He hurried off to fetch the monkey. When the monkey saw the meat, he said it was fit for a

king. The monkey quickly *grabbed*⁴ the meat and then was caught in the trap. Soon the man who had set the trap came by with his son. They took the monkey away with them.

The fox went and told all the animals what had happened. They all agreed that the monkey had not been a *wise*⁵ king and they chose the fox instead.

Notes:

1. sunny /'sʌni/ *a.* 阳光充足的

2. fox /fɒks/ *n.* 狐狸

3. trap /træp/ *n.* 陷阱

set a trap 设陷阱

4. grab /græb/ *v.* 抓取

5. wise /waɪz/ *a.* 英明

Exercise:

True or False.

___ 1. A monkey was made king by playing clever tricks.

___ 2. The fox was more clever than the monkey.

- _____ 3. The fox set a trap to catch the monkey.
_____ 4. The fox wanted to tell the monkey what had happened.

Passage 4

Tommy has a little dog. Her name is Goldier. She is pretty and interesting. Tommy loves her very much.

The other day, Goldier was out walking with Tommy. She cut her *paw*¹ on a bit of glass. When they arrived home, Tommy's mother thought that the cut was deep. She asked Tommy to take Goldier to the *vet*². The vet was very kind, and he gave her an *injection*³. Then he *stitched*⁴ up the cut and put on a *bandage*⁵.

Goldier looks ever so funny as she walks on three legs, holding her paw as *if*⁶ she had been to war!

Notes:

1. paw /pɔ:/ n. 爪子
2. vet /vet/ n. 兽医
3. injection /ɪn'dʒekʃən/ n. 注射
4. stitch /stɪtʃ/ v. 缝(合)
5. bandage /'bændɪdʒ/ n. 绷带
6. as if 好像

Exercise :

Choose the correct.

1. Goldier is _____.
A. Tommy's dog B. Tommy's school friend
2. The dog cut her foot when she _____.
A. was out walking B. was fighting
3. The vet was _____.
A. Tommy's mother B. an animal doctor
4. Wearing a bandage on her paw and walking on three legs, Goldier looks like _____.
A. a wounded soldier B. a funny boy

Passage 5

A dog was carrying a *bone*¹ in his mouth one day. Coming to a river, he looked for a bridge. As he was *crossing*² the bridge, he looked down. On the water he saw his own *reflection*³. He thought it was another dog with a bone in its mouth. To drive the other dog away he *barked*⁴ at it. When he opened his mouth the bone fell into the water. The *ripples*⁵ made the reflection disappear immediately. He believed then that the other dog had took his bone and had run away with it.

Notes:

1. bone /bəʊn/ *n.* 骨头
2. cross /krɒs/ *v.* 越过
3. reflection /rɪ'flekʃən/ *n.* 倒影
4. bark /bɑ:k/ *v.* 吠叫
5. ripple /'rɪpl/ *n.* 涟漪

Exercise:

True or False.

- _____ 1. As the dog was looking for a bridge, he saw another dog in the water.
- _____ 2. In order to attract(吸引) the attention of the dog in the water, the dog with a bone in his mouth barked.
- _____ 3. When the dog opened his mouth, the bone fell into the water, and the dog in the water took it and ran away quickly.
- _____ 4. Finally the dog realized the dog in the water was actually his own reflection.

Passage 6

When I take a walk around Washington Square Park, I often see a lot of people walking dogs. It is still true that a dog is the most useful and *faithful*¹ animal in the world, but people have changed the rea-

sons why they keep a dog. Of course, they keep dogs in order to keep safe. But the most important reason is that they can have friends, because the city can be a *lonely*² place. For a child, a dog is his best friend when he has no friends to play with. For young *couples*³, a dog is their child when they have no children. For old couples, a dog is also their child when their real children have grown up. Now can you see the reason why people keep dogs?

Notes:

1. faithful /'feɪθfʊl/ a. 忠实的
2. lonely /'ləʊnli/ a. 孤独的
3. couple /'kʌpl/ n. 一对(夫妇)

Exercise:

True or False.

- _____ 1. In the world a dog is the most useful and faithful animal in the zoos.
- _____ 2. People think that a dog can be their best friend.
- _____ 3. Some old people think a dog is their child because they themselves have no children.
- _____ 4. People keep dogs because they need friendship.

Passage 7

Viki washed her face and brushed her teeth. She also learned to clean her *nails*¹ with a *file*². Viki learned to follow about fifty different orders. She would “go to the bedroom” when someone told her. Someone would ask, “Do you want to go to the show?” Then Viki would go to the car. She learned how to turn on every lamp in the house. Once a visitor was having trouble trying to start an electric fan, Viki came to help.

Viki was clever, but she could not really learn to talk to others. Her *brain*³ was the brain of a very *smart*⁴ animal, but it was not a human brain. Only people have the kind of brain that makes it possible to use language.

Notes:

1. nail /neɪl/ *n.* 指甲;爪
2. file /faɪl/ *n.* 锉刀
3. brain /breɪn/ *n.* 脑
4. smart /smɑ:t/ *a.* 机警的;聪明的

Exercise:

True or False.

- ____ 1. Viki is a nice girl.