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中学英语轻松阅读

初中版



巨龙传说

王雪冰 崔淑琳 编



北京出版社



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蓝鹦鹉中学 英语听读文库

《Ladybird 英语听读》是从世界著名的企鹅出版集团下属的 Ladybird 图书有限公司引进的。该丛书为世界古典文学名著简写本系列,首批精选的 10 本包括《雾都孤儿》、《海蒂》、《金银岛》、《艾丽丝漫游奇境》、《格列佛游记》、《铁道少年》、《三剑客》、《黑骏马》、《秘密花园》和《小飞侠》。这批文学名著简写本通俗易懂,文字优美流畅,插图精美生动,适合作为我国中学生的英语课外阅读读物。一批有多年丰富教学经验的中学英语高级教师根据我国中学生的英语学习情况,对该套丛书中的生词难句作了注释,并在每一本书的每一章后设计了一些阅读练习题。这些练习题数量适中,针对性强,适合一般中学生的英语水平。解答这些练习题,读者可以有效地提高对作品的理解和阅读能力,同时也会增强读者的阅读兴趣。为了使读者能够更好地理解原文,满足不同英语程度的读者需求,我们在每一本书都附上了参考译文和参考答案。

《美国之音特别节目听读》是从“美国之音”的 Special English 中精选出来的,适合中学生阅读的学习材料。它的特点是,英语原汁原味、语言活泼生动、内容涉猎很广,包括国外的风俗习惯、文化传统、节日假日、动物生态、名人趣事、环境保护、社会问题等。

丛书共分 10 册,其中初中、高中各 5 册,并附有练习。

译文和答案。练习与中考、高考的阅读题型相符。

本套书选材角度新颖,可读性极强,选出的文章让人感受到知识的强烈冲击,既能掌握最新的知识信息,又能体验到英语语言的魅力。

《Cowan 英语百科阅读》,顾名思义,这是一套将百科知识融入语言学习的英语阅读物。所编人的语篇均取材于原版的英语文章,以提高广大读者的英语阅读能力为第一目的,在潜移默化中,将丰富的文化、知识信息与地道的语言一起传输给读者,使读者在掌握一种语言技能的同时,提高自己的综合知识水平,达到知识与能力双获益的最终目的。本次共推出 10 本,每本编入既反映时代发展,又贴近时代气息的短文 20 余篇,由北京、上海的英语教学专家联手合作,专门为广大中学生和初级英语水平者编写。

《中学英语轻松阅读》包括《三条腿的鸡》、《神秘的小屋》、《巨龙传说》、《幸运的小灯塔》、《未来的城市》及《苹果中的星星》6 册,供初高中学生阅读。全套书依据新教材、新大纲,围绕中学生的兴趣爱好、认知发展因素及阅读理解要求达到的水平而选编,收入文学、动物世界、生活常识及自然现象等约 200 篇生动有趣的小故事,按由易到难、由浅入深的顺序编排。多数故事源自国际互联网及异国中小学生之笔。为便于阅读理解,每篇文章后设计了适应中高考命题的读前思考题、读后练习题、习惯用法、注释及答案。该丛书题材广泛、内容新颖,读后既可提高英语阅读理解能力、应试能力、又能增长知识、开阔眼界,是中学生理想的英语阅读物。

序

学习外语要掌握听说读写四项技能,听和读是接受性技能,说和写是产出性技能。从交际教学法来说,学外语就是为了交际,通过掌握实际应用的能力,能说会写。要做到这一点,便要多听多读,因此听说读写是互补的,缺一不可的。其次,当代语言教学理论的实践,强调学习与习得兼顾。前者在宏观上通过老师在教室内进行,配有固定的教材;在微观上指导老师改进课堂教学方法,以学生为中心,多让学生参与,可取得更好的教学效果。惟独在习得方面,尽管在理论上谁都明白让学生在自然真实条件下,无意识地、轻轻松松地接触英语,但很少有人为学生创造习得的环境和物质条件,形成自流。

从目前国内的出版市场上看,所提供的一些听力和阅读材料,多半是供成人用的,或是直接从国外引进的教材,不能引起国内广大青少年的兴趣,不能满足他们的要求。其次,某些编书者把听和读分开,听力教材和阅读教材分流,这不利于接受性技能的综合培养。现北京出版社出版了《蓝鸂鶒中学英语听读文库》将听和读两者通盘考虑,可谓英明之举。如文库的一个品种《美国之音特别节目听读》以听为主,同时提供文字材料,而另一品种《Ladybird 英语听读》以读为主,同时配有磁带。

《蓝鸂鶒中学英语听读文库》的第二个优点是,这些课外学习材料针对性明确,面向中学生的需要。它非常注意趣味性和可读性。如《中学英语轻松阅读》有学生们

所喜欢的寓言、诗歌、故事、幻想、传说等内容,也把学生引入蜘蛛、黑猩猩、狮子、小狗、小猫等动物世界。

《文库》注意将英语学习和文化知识的传授结合起来,使学生在学习英语过程中同时增长文化知识,或者在接受文化知识的不知不觉过程中习得了英语。如《美国之音特别节目听读》介绍了西方国家的“愚人节”、“劳动节”等文化习俗,以及美国拳王阿里在体育运动上的成就和政治上的正义感等。《Ladybird 英语听读》让学生接触到英美国家的优秀儿童文学,如《格列佛游记》、《金银岛》、《艾丽丝漫游奇境》等名著。《Cowin 英语百科阅读》的内容有对英语学习的指导、英国的衰落、英国剑桥和牛津两所名大学的掌故、美国的穷富差距、体育音乐等。《中学英语轻松阅读》和《Cowin 英语百科阅读》还收入计算机千年虫、克隆技术、航天、健康长寿等现代科技知识。

由于中学生涵盖从初一到高三的不同年龄段,《文库》的优势是提供难易度不同的品种,供读者酌情选用。有的是初中生的理想材料,如《美国之音特别节目听读》;有的适合高中生,如《Cowin 英语百科阅读》;而《中学英语轻松阅读》共6册,分别与初中和高中相对应。

教育部英语课程标准研制组起草的《国家英语课程标准(义务教育阶段)》的讨论稿曾规定,在阅读方面除正规教材外,应引导学生进行课外阅读,如英语标准第3级应达到10万字的阅读量。《蓝鹦鹉中学英语听读文库》将与广大中学生读者携手,共同向这个目标迈进。

胡壮麟

2000年7月13日于

北京大学畅春园

写给同学们的话

这套阅读丛书一共六本,是专门为中学生编写的。初中、高中各三册。

英语阅读理解能力如何提高呢?每一个同学都关注这个问题。其答案只能是:通过阅读提高阅读理解能力。

要阅读首先要有阅读的兴趣。为此,本套丛书从选材方面充分考虑同学们关注的热点问题、兴趣爱好及认知发展等因素,所选的文章内容新颖,题材广泛。文章内容包括文学(寓言、诗歌、故事、幻想、传说),动物世界(蜘蛛、黑猩猩、狮子、小猫、小狗、小鸡、鳄鱼),生活常识(嗅觉、阿司匹林的效用),科普知识(计算机千年虫问题、克隆技术,未来的城市),自然现象(山火)等等。多数文章下载(download)于国际互联网络(Internet),而且,很多文章出自异国他乡的你们的同龄人之笔。你们读起来会感到一种亲近感。阅读这些文章后,你们既可以提高语言、增长知识,又能开阔眼界、了解一些异国文化。

老师们把文章按照先易后难的顺序排列好。他们利用计算机统计出文章的可读性水平和文章的长度才作此安排,以保证同学们的阅读由浅入深、循序渐进。

研究告诉我们,阅读理解的过程一方面依赖于英语语言知识;另一方面,阅读中还要利用已有的科学文化知识、生活经验等。这两方面相互作用、相互补充。老师们为你们安排了阅读前的思考题,背景知识注释,就是为了

帮助你们更好地理解原文。在阅读中,你们要大胆地猜测、预测、推断、归纳、想象。阅读后,花一点时间自我检测一下,书后有答案供参考。

你们的老师们能够熟练地掌握和运用英语,你们通过努力也一定能够做到,而且还一定能够做得更好,超过你们老师的水平。

祝你们阅读愉快。

编者 —— 你们的老师

2000 年 4 月

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巨龙传说

Pre-reading Questions (读前思考题)

What is a dragon like in your eyes? Is he good or bad in Chinese tales?

Long ago in a small town near Paricutin¹, there lived a great big dragon named Caesar². He had beautiful golden wings and breathed red hot fire! The villagers were very **astonished** (惊愕的) by the dragon's wings: they would do anything to kill him and get his wings because an old legend (传说) says "whoever kills the beast and takes the wings of the fearless (无畏的) dragon away, he will be the most powerful man in the world!" One day, a young prince heard this tale and said, "I'm going to slay the dragon and bring his great wings home. Or my name isn't Castillo Prince of Sullberry." The next morning Castillo rode his horse to Paricutin to slay the dragon, and he found the dragon in a cave sleeping. But then he suddenly woke seeing the prince in front of him. Castillo **struck** Caesar with his sword but that wasn't even a scratch (搔痒) on him! Caesar breathed fire at the prince, but he was thankfully protected (保护) by his shield (盾). Prince

Castillo tried many times to slay him, but it was just no use! Castillo gave up and the dragon began to speak, "No one can ever slay me because I have scales(鳞片) as strong as iron, so no one can ever slay me. That's why so many people have given up." Another slayer walked out of the cave with no wings and the legend went on!

Post-reading Tasks (读后练习)

I Please choose one best answer to each question. (根据下列问题选择最佳答案。)

- ① What is the dragon Caesar like?
 - A. He is great and big.
 - B. He is great, big and beautiful.
 - C. He is great, big and fearless.
 - D. He is great, big, beautiful and fearless.
- ② Why would all the villagers do anything to kill the dragon and get his wings?
 - A. Anyone who could kill the dragon and get his wings would be thought very fearless.
 - B. Anyone who could kill the dragon and get his wings would be thought very powerful.
 - C. Anyone who could kill the dragon and get his wings would be thought the most powerful man in the world.
 - D. Anyone who could kill the dragon and get his wings would be thought very intelligent.
- ③ What does the word "slay" mean in the sentence "I'm

going to slay the dragon and bring his great wings home. ”?

- A. kill
- B. defeat
- C. beat
- D. take hold of

- ④ Why wasn't Ceasar hurt when Castillo struck him with sword?
- A. Because Ceasar had a shield.
 - B. Because Ceasar was more powerful than Castillo.
 - C. Because Ceasar breathed fire at Castillo.
 - D. Because Ceasar had scales covering his body and they were as strong as iron.
- ⑤ Do you think there would be anyone to go and succeed defeating Caesar?
- A. It's hard to say.
 - B. Yes.
 - C. No.
 - D. It is not said in the story.

II Fill in the blanks with the following given words. Please don't refer to the story! (用以下所给的词填空。不要参看原文!)

prince legend beautiful powerful great slay went
strike breathe

Caesar , a big dragon, had golden wings and could red hot fire. According to an old anyone who could the dragon and get his wings would be considered (认为) the most man in the world. A called Castillo thought he could make it and there he went. He tried many times to Caesar with his sword, but he failed because Caesar had iron-like scales. The old legend still on.

Notes

(注释)

- ① Paricutin: n. 位于墨西哥墨西哥城以西的帕里库亭山。
- ② Caesar: n. 凯撒 (公元前 100 - 前 44), 是罗马将军、政治家和作家。在本文中指这条龙的名字。

Word Usage

(习惯用法)

- ① astonished: 在本文中用做形容词, 指人感到惊愕或十分惊异。
- e. g. She was astonished to see me there. (她很惊讶会在那里看到我。)
- They all looked astonished at the decision. (她们对这样的决定都感到十分地惊愕。)
- ② strike: 在本文中用做动词, 意思是“打; 击”。其一般过去式为“struck”, 过去分词为“struck”或“stricken”。
- e. g. Strike while the iron is hot. (趁热打铁。)
- He struck the table with a stick. (他用棍子敲桌子。)
- I struck her on the nose. (我打到她的鼻子上。)



神奇的山谷

Pre-reading Question (读前思考题)

Have you ever thought if it is good for human to live in a controllable weather?

Emily woke up early. The other scientists were still asleep. She slipped(悄悄移动) out of bed and stood in the middle of her small room. The thermometer(温度计) on her wall showed the outside temperature was above zero. She smiled as she pulled on her summer parka(皮制大衣). The ice and snow would be gone by the end of the day.

Emily stood outside the station for a while. She watched the twin moons set. When the first rays of the sun appeared, she **hurried** to her land sled(雪橇). She **checked** her cameras and emergency kit(成套工具). Soon she was on her way. For fourteen months, the world had been frozen under a blanket of snow. No human being had ever actually seen the snow disappear.

The temperature was well above freezing point when the sled's radio crackled(发出噼啪声) to life. "Emily, where are you?" The voice of the station commander was