

Graded English Reading
on
Hot Issues



英语
流行话题阅读
——语境识词5500

主编/龚嵘

编者/史晓慧 华静 郭敬维 秦颖



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致读者

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已有多年英语学习史的你，是否仍困扰重重，看见大段的英文字就头痛？一步一生词，前查后忘记！那些长得像、意思近的词总是混淆难辨！除了美国牛仔、伦敦大雾、澳洲袋鼠，你的英语文化知识寥寥无几！遇见老外，聊完天气就无话可说！

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本套丛书《英语流行话题阅读——语境识词 3500/4500/5500》为你开辟了一条提高英语的新捷径，引导你在愉快阅读中系统、快速地积累词汇、背景知识，提高快速阅读的技能。本丛书内容新颖翔实，具有极强的知识性、史料性、时代性与可读性，结构编排注意词汇与语言点的阶梯式循环出现，帮助读者在阅读中不断巩固，重复记忆。

《英语流行话题阅读——语境识词 5500》是本丛书的下卷，精选文章 101 篇，按内容分设 11 个模块——环球风情、亚当夏娃、心灵探索、多棱人生、国际风云、职场拼杀、医药保健、经济瞭望、社会广角、文艺体坛与地球家园，话题从都市原始男人到澳洲丛林文化，从试婚到婚外情与同性恋，从“二战”美国飞虎队到自杀性爆炸与伊拉克“虐囚门”事件，从办公室政治到跳槽，从避孕药到致癌薯条与染发，从“性趣”广告到过度包装，从网络骗局到师生恋，从印象派到 F1 赛车，从白色污染到臭氧空洞……为你展示了一个精彩的语言文化与现代科技的万花筒。每篇文章还附有精心编排的本文看点、经典句型、速记生词、知识链接等栏目，帮助你把握词汇重点，廓清语言难点，进一步开拓语言文化视野。并且，更重要的是，它能帮你找回失落已久的阅读的乐趣！

本丛书分三册，词汇级别从 3500 ~4500 ~5500 逐级增长，分别适于高中生、大学英语四级、大学英语六级或研究生入学考试应考者三个级别的读者群。

本书是多人合作的成果。龚嵘负责 55 个单元的编写及全书的策划统稿工作,史晓慧负责 16 个单元及“开心驿站”栏目、华静负责 11 个单元、郭敬维负责 11 个单元、秦颖负责 8 个单元的编写。此外,本书的编写还得到陆红菊、张校勤、徐迎捷、董慧敏、张才宁、顾建华、朱文辉、朱晓琴等教师的帮助与支持,在此表示衷心感谢。

囿于编者的学识和水平,书中错漏在所难免,恳请广大读者批评指正。

编者

2006 年 1 月



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Retrossexual Man

大都市的原始男人



本文看点

现代大都市的男人可分为两类：原始粗糙型 (Retrossexuals) 与优雅精品型 (Metrosexuals)。粗糙的 Retrossexual 男人有着历史定格的经典男子汉形象：他们不修边幅、不用化妆品、不进厨房、看不见地板上的灰尘、购买日用品从不还价且常被商家狠宰，但他们会修车刷墙筑篱笆、善与电工管道工打交道、喜欢倒垃圾、从不在服饰上浪费钱财。而雅致的 Metrosexual 男人则是当代西方繁华大都市滋养出的一族新新男人。他们年轻富有，衣着时尚，追求完美身材，使用化妆品，但绝无同性恋倾向。此类都市美男的典型代表是球星贝克·汉姆、影星施瓦辛格与布莱德·皮特，以及阿迪达斯产品广告代言人——澳大利亚游泳名将伊恩·索普。

This is the story of how my husband got mugged at the chemist's. It wasn't his fault. On certain matters, he is as innocent as a newborn baby and should not be allowed to roam around unsupervised at cosmetics counters. In other words, he's a genuine guy.

Genuine guys are sometimes known as retrossexuals, to distinguish them from metrosexuals, who are men with the good taste of gay men, only they're straight. Metrosexuals are particular about their grooming and great consumers of men's cosmetic products. They use hair gel. Retrossexuals are scared of



hair gel.

Secretly I've always thought my husband could stand to be just a little bit more metro. Sometimes I buy him fancy shaving cream and leave it suggestively on his side of sink. He never gets the hint. He prefers a ten-second dry shave with a plastic disposable razor and toilet paper to stanch (止血) the wounds.

From time to time my husband's retrosexuality bothers me. He can't understand why it's time to paint the kitchen when we just painted it 9 years ago. He doesn't grasp why we need expensive blinds (遮光窗帘) on the kitchen windows when we leave them permanently rolled up. He's baffled that my haircuts cost ten times more than his do, and he thinks massages are a waste of time. There're many things on which we'll never see eye to eye.

But there're advantages to my husband's retrosexual orientation, and they are large. For example, being completely indifferent to appearance, a retrosexual will never complain that you're putting on weight. This is one of the foundation stones of a good marriage. Also, it's easy to impress him with your culinary skills. My husband is so grateful to get out of kitchen duty, he brags about my cooking even though it's usually quite lousy. He is happy to do certain household tasks, like garbage duty and replacing light bulbs. He knows it's his job to talk to plumbers and electricians. We have lapsed into tired gender stereotypes. We don't care. We only wish there were a third gender to clean the kitty litter (猫粪).

I blame myself for the mugging at the chemist's. I never should have let him to go alone. Something similar would have happened if I'd wandered into an electronics store and tried to buy a fancy new TV. The chance of a good outcome is remote.

The trouble began when he noticed his feet were dry and itchy. He blames his new socks. Off he went to the chemist to get something to rub on them. He was excited when he got home. “This will do the trick”, he said and showed me a small bottle. According to the label, the ingredients included Vichy thermal-spa water (温泉矿物水) from France, which explains why the bottle cost \$43.

“You’ve been mugged”, I said. He didn’t know he could have got exactly what he needed (minus the Vichy water) for \$3.99 to treat his itchy feet.

Naturally I teased him ever since. But actually I have no interest in men who are interested in skin care. I’m happy to let them worry about oil level in the car. Some might call this sexist. I call it a sensible division of labor. And it’s a chief benefit of marriage.

(651 words)

经典句型

1. Genuine guys are sometimes known as retrosexuals, to distinguish them from metrosexuals, who are men with the good taste of gay men, only they’re straight. 真男人有时被叫做“原始男人”，以区别于所谓的“精品男人”——他们虽然有着同性恋男子的优雅生活品味，却仍是真正的男子汉。
2. Secretly I’ve always thought my husband could stand to be just a little bit more metro. 私下里我一直希望自己的丈夫还可以再优雅细致一点。
3. This will do the trick. 这东西一定灵验。
4. We have lapsed into tired gender stereotypes. 我们陷入了老套的性别角色。