



普通高等教育“十一五”国家级规划教材

高级英语 阅读教程

· 修订版 ·

ADVANCED ENGLISH
READING

施发敏 / 主编



北京大学出版社
PEKING UNIVERSITY PRESS

大学英语立体化网络化系列教材

高级英语阅读教程

Advanced English Reading

(修订版)

主 编 施发敏

副主编 李媛媛 王玉环 苏章海

编 者 (以姓氏笔画为序)

王玉环 李媛媛 张雪梅 沈新红 姜 霞

苏章海 国林祥 胡远瑾 施 慧



北京大学出版社
PEKING UNIVERSITY PRESS

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

高级英语阅读教程 / 施发敏主编. —2 版. —北京: 北京大学出版社, 2009. 9
(大学英语立体化网络化系列教材)

ISBN 978-7-301-13384-2

I. 高… II. 施… III. 英语—阅读教学—高等学校—教材 IV. H319.4

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2009)第 154831 号

书 名: 高级英语阅读教程. 修订版

著作责任者: 施发敏 主编

策 划: 刘 强

责任编辑: 孙 莹

标准书号: ISBN 978-7-301-13384-2/H·1937

出版发行: 北京大学出版社

地 址: 北京市海淀区成府路 205 号 100871

网 址: <http://www.pup.cn>

电 话: 邮购部 62752015 发行部 62750672 编辑部 62767315 出版部 62754962

电子邮箱: liuqiang@pup.pku.edu.cn

印 刷 者: 涿州市星河印刷有限公司

经 销 者: 新华书店

787 毫米×1092 毫米 16 开本 20.5 印张 490 千字

2009 年 9 月第 2 版 2009 年 9 月第 1 次印刷

定 价: 35.00 元

未经许可, 不得以任何方式复制或抄袭本书之部分或全部内容。

版权所有, 侵权必究 举报电话: 010-62752024

电子邮箱: fd@pup.pku.edu.cn

前言

众所周知,输入是语言习得过程中的一个关键环节,而阅读又是众多输入方式中极其重要的一种。然而,面对市场上琳琅满目的阅读材料,学生却常常苦于无书可读。究其原因,林林总总。其一,有些传统材料不仅知识陈旧,信息贫乏,而且缺少时代感、文化内涵和思想深意。其二,非语言障碍,如文化背景知识方面的匮乏,使得学生难以领会文章内在的精髓。其三,现代英语测试中,阅读材料篇幅长、难度大,特别是判断、推理题有所增加,对学生阅读的准确性、有效性要求更高,而学生现有的阅读材料既无趣味性又无针对性。基于以上三点,为了满足英语程度达到四级以上的学生及高级英语学习者的需求,我们编写了这本阅读教材。本教材从多方面、多角度精选了英美著名报刊上的时文、新论,内容丰富,行文流畅,练习形式多样。具体而言,本书有以下三大特点。

一、题材广泛,内容时尚

本书选材主题涵盖:异域风情、环境家园、经济视野、医药健康、体育世界、文学欣赏、历史管窥、风云人物、考古寻秘等。文章内容集知识性和趣味性于一体。学生通过阅读这些精选的报刊原文,可以拓宽视野,改善思维,提高素质,同时进一步增进对欧美国家文化的了解,最终达到最大限度地提高英语阅读能力的目的。

二、编排独特,难度适中

本书共十六个单元,每个单元四篇文章。作为大学英语后续课程使用时,第一篇可作为精读,后三篇作为泛读讲授。

本书选材难度适中,为使学生乐于阅读,易于阅读,疑难词汇在文章每页均有注释,这样就避免了学生边阅读边查看生词表的麻烦,使学生能够全神贯注,一鼓作气地完成阅读。此外,为方便学生理解文章,我们在一些文章后附有背景简介,学生可以更加全面深入地理解文章的思想深意及文化内涵,体验语言的魅力。

三、练习设置别具一格

本书的目的在于培养学生在最短时间内通过最少的线索获取最大限度的信息的能力。为此,本书的练习分为两大类:一类侧重于具体语言点的练习;一类侧重于阅读理解能力提高的练习,从词汇、句子、段落到篇章,各个层面的练习一应俱全。例如猜词练习,先给出范

例,然后要求学生在文章中选出的句子中,根据上下文词的构成、语法知识及题中给出的包含被猜单词的同语境例句,写出它们的同义词或英语解释;或是给出一些英语解释,让学生从上下文中找出相应的单词或短语。再如理解练习,包括判断正误、简答、评判阅读讨论。评判阅读练习部分的设置旨在鼓励学生边读边记下当时的感受和想法,并加以诠释和评判。据此,学生可以检测自己的英语语言是否能够达到独立的“放飞”,并力争逐渐达到同运用本族语一样去了解大千世界的英语水平。此外,我们还设置了与阅读内容相关的写作练习,以巩固学习成果,学以致用。

为了进一步体现本书的阅读价值,我们在原书的基础上对部分内容作了修改和补充,相信对读者的阅读兴趣、阅读能力和水平的提高会大有裨益。

因水平和时间所限,难免有错误和疏漏之处,敬请广大读者及同行专家批评指正。

编者

2009年6月于青岛

Table of Contents

目 录

Unit One	Foreign Culture 异域风情	1
	Passage 1 The Oldest City on Earth	1
	Passage 2 Christmas in New Zealand	8
	Passage 3 New York's Chinatown	11
	Passage 4 The Dolphin That Came to Stay	14
Unit Two	Environment 环境家园	18
	Passage 1 How Trees Are Killing Our Rivers	18
	Passage 2 Fiddling While the World Burns	24
	Passage 3 Citizens Can Do Something about Climate Change	27
	Passage 4 Trashed Tech: Where Do Old Cell Phones, TVs and PCs Go to Die?	30
Unit Three	Economy 经济视野	34
	Passage 1 China's Booming Economy: Do the Risks Outweigh the Opportunities?	34
	Passage 2 A Global Love Affair	39
	Passage 3 Go Ahead and Save. Let the Government Spend	42
	Passage 4 Stimulus Plan Places New Limits on Wall St. Bonuses	45
Unit Four	Computer and Internet 网络传媒	49
	Passage 1 The Keyboard Kids	49
	Passage 2 Meet the Chipsons	54
	Passage 3 Digital Pirates Winning Battle with Studios	58
	Passage 4 Not Everyone Is Cheering as Wi-Fi Takes to the Air	62
Unit Five	Medicine 医药健康	66
	Passage 1 The Sleep Cure	66
	Passage 2 Lifting the Curtain on Depression	73
	Passage 3 AIDS: What It Is Not	76
	Passage 4 Why People Get Sick	80

Unit Six	Social Issues 社会长廊	83
	Passage 1 The "Thrill" of Theft	83
	Passage 2 Latent Corruption and Bribery in the U. S.	89
	Passage 3 Alcohol's TV Flirtation More than a Threat	93
	Passage 4 Bringing Up Adolescents	97
Unit Seven	Sports 体育世界	103
	Passage 1 A National Undertaking—Sports	103
	Passage 2 China's Olympics (I)	109
	Passage 3 China's Olympics (II)	113
	Passage 4 Soccer Gets Sexy	116
Unit Eight	Entertainment 休闲娱乐	120
	Passage 1 Girls Just Wanna Have Guns	120
	Passage 2 The Biggest Summer	126
	Passage 3 Channel Surfing	130
	Passage 4 Bullfighting in Spain	133
Unit Nine	Literature 文学欣赏	137
	Passage 1 <i>Harry Potter: The End Is Here</i>	137
	Passage 2 <i>Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows</i> (Chapter XV) The Goblin's Revenge	143
	Passage 3 Review on <i>A Farewell to Arms</i>	147
	Passage 4 <i>A Farewell to Arms</i> (Chapter XLI)	151
Unit Ten	Biology 生物掠影	156
	Passage 1 The Biotech Century—Playing Ecological Roulette with Mother Nature's Designs	156
	Passage 2 Larks and Owls: The Inner Clock That Rules Our Lives	163
	Passage 3 Here, Kitty, Kitty	167
	Passage 4 Does Biodiversity Matter?	171
Unit Eleven	History and Civilization 历史管窥	176
	Passage 1 Napoleonic Europe—1799–1815	176
	Passage 2 Rise of Civilizations and Empires	185
	Passage 3 The Crusades	189
	Passage 4 Elizabethan Age	192

Unit Twelve	Education 教育天地	198
	Passage 1 The Aims of Education	198
	Passage 2 Head Start	204
	Passage 3 Test Drive	209
	Passage 4 Private School under Siege	213
Unit Thirteen	Great Names 风云人物	218
	Passage 1 Little Sister of the Poor	218
	Passage 2 Julius Caesar	225
	Passage 3 Dr. Carl G. Jung: Pioneer in Analytic Psychology	229
	Passage 4 The Kennedy Family and Classical Themes	234
Unit Fourteen	Archaeology 考古寻秘	239
	Passage 1 Discovering the New Rome	239
	Passage 2 The Treasures of King Tut's Tomb	246
	Passage 3 The Trojan Horse and Helen of Troy: Fact or Fiction?	250
	Passage 4 Turning Points: Maya Archeology Comes of Age	254
Unit Fifteen	Space and Discovery 宇宙探索	259
	Passage 1 The Sun—Living with a Stormy Star	259
	Passage 2 The New History of Black Holes: Co-evolution Dramatically Alters Dark Reputation	265
	Passage 3 Exotic Earths	268
	Passage 4 Auroras: What Powers the Greatest Light Show on Earth?	271
Unit Sixteen	Philosophy 哲学经典	276
	Passage 1 Nietzsche	276
	Passage 2 Plato	284
	Passage 3 Hegel	289
	Passage 4 Existentialism and Sartre	292
Keys to Exercises	练习答案	297
References		319

Unit One Foreign Culture

异域风情

Passage 1

The Oldest City on Earth

Kevin Rashby

- 1 Many cities claim to be the oldest inhabited site on Earth, but if Yemeni legends are to be believed, there is no doubt who holds the title.
- 2 As legend has it, San'a¹ was founded by Shem, son of Noah², after a bird led him to the spot. Looking down on the modern city from the surrounding mountains, that area of ancient settlement is now just a central suburb within the city, where the buildings are closer together and the earthy colors are laced with zigzags of whitewash.
- 3 The Old City has almost certainly existed since the birth of Christ, a time when the incense trade was still making fortunes for the city's Sabeans³ rulers.
- 4 Although little remains of that period, the distinctive stone tower houses (roughly 14,000 of them) and minarets that are seen today date back to the middle ages and form one of the most beautiful and architecturally complete ancient Islamic cities in the world.
- 5 For most of the population, however, the reality of San'a is the dusty streets of breeze block and concrete that radiate out from the Old City's ancient gates. Many of these people are the estimated 600,000 to two million Yemeni expatriates that were expelled from Saudi Arabia and the Gulf States following the Gulf War⁴. Many of them were drawn to the Republic of Yemen⁵'s capital, either to be absorbed into the network of extended families or to new neighborhoods that sprang up on the edges of the city.

- Yemeni ['jeməni] *adj.* of or relating to Yemen 也门的
- zigzag ['zizgæg] *n.* an angular shape characterized by sharp turns in alternating directions Z 字形, 锯齿形
- whitewash ['(h)waitwɔʃ] *n.* wash consisting of lime and size in water; used for whitening walls and other surfaces 石灰水, 白色涂料
- incense [in'sens] *n.* a substance that produces a fragrant odor when burned 香料
- minaret ['minəret] *n.* slender tower with balconies 尖塔
- Islamic [iz'læmik] *adj.* of or relating to or supporting Islamism 伊斯兰教的
- breeze block *phr.* 煤渣块
- expatriate [eks'pætriət] *n.* a person who is voluntarily absent from home or country 亡命国外者

- 6 The pace of growth in San'a is staggering. Even as recently as the mid-1970s, visitors could stand outside the main Old City gate of Bab al-Yemen and see nothing but sheep and stony desert. Today, an entire modern city has replaced this wilderness. And the city center, which was once considered to be the area around the Bab al-Yemen, has shifted west towards the modern shops and hotels with their air-conditioned interiors and displays of western consumer goods.
- 7 The decline in the economic importance of the Old City has been matched by a decline in its desirability as a residential area. In the 1980s, when electrical appliances first arrived it was quickly realized that fridges, washing machines and cars did not fit easily into the cramped alleyways and traditional tower houses. Early attempts to modernize had been the sole prerogative of the Imams⁶, the royal rulers until 1962, but with mixed results. Early this century, one European visitor reported how the marvel of modern baths had been introduced to the royal residence. When one person finished, he noted, the dirty water flooded up into the bath next door!
- 8 Early attempts to bring piped water into the city after the 1960s were equally chaotic. The lack of waste pipes caused seeping groundwater to weaken the shallow foundations of the eight and nine-storey houses. Residents began to move to the modern suburbs where having a bath did not bring the house down.
- 9 Fortunately, a survival plan was drawn up by the Yemeni government and UNESCO in 1984. As a result, a proper sewerage system has been installed, roads paved and individual buildings saved. The result is an altered Old City, but one that is viable.
- 10 The layout of old San'a has changed little since the first Ottoman occupation⁷ in the 16th century. Each quarter has a mosque with a bathhouse, or *hammam*, a mosque garden and a ring of tower houses. These houses are often eight or nine stories high. The first and second floors are stone built, while the subsequent floors tend to be brick. Every few years, each house is repainted with the traditional zigzag patterns.
- 11 The traditional tower house is a masterpiece of design and economy. The single large wooden door entrance is opened using the ingenious *majar*, a rope that snakes up through the whole building, allowing anyone on any floor to open it without coming down. The lower floor was originally where the animals were kept, although these rooms are now generally unused.
- 12 The focus of the house is the *masfraj*, which is always on the top floor. Cushions are spread along its four walls, there are oriental rugs and sometimes a *hookah* pipe in the middle and the walls are decorated with family pictures and Koranic⁸ texts. Windows are, wherever

- alleyway ['æliwei] *n.* a narrow street with walls on both sides 小巷, 窄街
- prerogative [pri'rɒɡətɪv] *n.* a right reserved exclusively by a particular person or group 特权
- seep [si:p] *v.* pass gradually or leak through or as if through small openings 渗漏
- UNESCO *abbr.* United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization 联合国教科文组织
- sewerage ['sjʊərɪdʒ] *n.* system of sewers; drainage 排水设备
- mosque [mɒsk] *n.* (Islam) a Muslim place of worship 清真寺
- hookah (pipe) ['hukə] *n.* an oriental tobacco pipe with a long flexible tube connected to a container where the smoke is cooled by passing through water 水烟袋

possible, south-facing and decorated with halfmoon-shaped colored glass. As the sun moves, these cast a slow moving pattern of color across the white walls. In the afternoons, the men sit here and chew **qat**, the leaf that dominates Yemeni culture.

qat [kɑ:t] *n.* the leaves of the shrub *Catha edulis* which are chewed like tobacco or used to make tea 阿拉伯茶叶

frankincense ['fræŋkin,sens] *n.* an aromatic gum resin obtained from various Arabian or East African trees 乳香

myrrh [mæ:] *n.* aromatic resin that is burned as incense and used in perfume 没药

Muslim ['mʊzlim] *n.* a believer in or follower of Islam 穆斯林

cathedral [kə'θi:drəl] *n.* a church that is the official seat of a diocesan bishop 大教堂

alabaster ['æləbə:stə] *n.* a compact fine-textured, usually white gypsum used for carving 雪花石膏

trove [trəʊv] *n.* treasure of unknown ownership found hidden (usually in the earth) 有价值的发掘

13 The highlight of the Old City is the Suq al Milh, a series of interconnected markets. **Frankincense** and **myrrh** would have been the main goods traded here. Although these are still sold in the market, business has slackened off since the Holy Roman Emperor⁹ banned their use in 325 A.D. Today, silversmiths, perfumers and dagger-makers fill the market.

14 Perhaps the busiest section of the market, however, is the section that is reserved for qat.

For a few hours before lunchtime, a narrow lane of cupboard-sized shops becomes a cheerfully chaotic mass of buyers intent on securing the best bundles of leaves for their afternoon session.

15 Traditionally it was the *samsara*—a building for each market trade with its own warehouse and sometimes accommodation—that was central to the economy of the Old City. The market's chief *samsara* was looted in 1948 by tribes people for some reason. There are plans to restore the main *samsara* into a bank. However, other *samsaras* are still in use. Two have been restored with overseas funds; one has been turned into an art gallery, the other a handicrafts center. Unfortunately, neither sells anything remotely interesting to locals and so they have become isolated from the narrow alleys outside.

16 On one side of the market stands the Great Mosque. Although non-**Muslims** are not allowed inside, the architecture of this large stone-walled building is interesting. Many of the stones and columns originally formed part of the Qalis, a sixth century **cathedral**, which was said to be held together with nails of gold. Other material is thought to have come from San'a's great palace, the Gham-dan, a 20-storey marvel with **alabaster** roof and brass lions that roared when the wind blew. In the early 1970's repairs to a ceiling in the mosque revealed a treasure **trove** of Islamic manuscripts, which experts are still working on.

17 Today, the Old City is thriving. Some of the old tower houses have been converted into simple tourist hotels, giving outsiders a chance to sample life within the walls of this unique city. So far, the inroads made by tourism are minimal, and the real attraction of the city is that it is a living, vibrant community, not a museum.

(1,123 words)

Notes

1. **San'a:** (也门首都)萨那 Capital of Yemen with 1.85 million inhabitants (2005 estimate). San'a is situated in the inland, 100km from the coast of the Red Sea, on a plateau at an elevation of more than 2,000 metres above sea level. San'a has a very distinct architecture, and is one of the world's most beautiful cities. Hence, it is high on international organizations preservation list.
2. **Noah:** 诺亚 Noah was, according to the Bible, the tenth and last of the antediluvian Patriarchs (大洪水前的族长); and a prophet according to the Qur'an (古兰经). Narratives that include Noah's Ark (诺亚方舟) are found in the Hebrew Bible and the Qur'an.
3. **Sabean:** 塞巴人 The Sabaeans were an ancient people speaking an Old South Arabian language who lived in what is today Yemen, in southwest Arabian Peninsula.
4. **the Gulf War:** 海湾战争 The Gulf War (2 August 1990—28 February 1991) was a United Nations-authorized military conflict between Iraq and a coalition force from 34 nations commissioned with expelling Iraqi forces from Kuwait after Iraq's occupation and annexation of Kuwait in August 1990.
5. **the Republic of Yemen:** 也门共和国 The Republic of Yemen is a country located on the Arabian Peninsula in Southwest Asia. Yemen is the only republic on the Arabian Peninsula.
6. **Imam:** [i'mɑ:m] 伊斯兰教阿訇 (Islam) the man who leads prayers in a mosque. For Shiites (伊斯兰什叶派) an imam is a recognized authority on Islamic theology and law and a spiritual guide.
7. **Ottoman occupation:** 奥斯曼统治 The Ottoman Empire or Ottoman State, also known by its contemporaries as the Turkish Empire or Turkey, was an empire that lasted from 1299 to November 1, 1922. It was succeeded by the Republic of Turkey, which was officially proclaimed on October 29, 1923.
8. **Koranic:** (伊斯兰教)古兰经的 The Qur'an (古兰经) is the central religious text of Islam. Muslims believe the Qur'an to be the book of divine guidance and direction for mankind, and consider the original Arabic text to be the final revelation of God.
9. **Holy Roman Emperor:** 神圣罗马帝国皇帝 The Holy Roman Empire was a union of territories in Central Europe during the Middle Ages and the Early Modern period under a Holy Roman Emperor. The first Holy Roman Emperor was Otto I in 962 AD. The last was Francis II, who abdicated and dissolved the Empire in 1806 during the Napoleonic Wars. The Empire's territorial extent varied over its history. For much of its history the Empire consisted of hundreds of smaller sub-units, principalities, duchies, counties, Free Imperial Cities, as well as other domains. Despite its name, for much of its history the Empire did not include Rome within its borders.

Exercises

Reading Comprehension

I. Directions: Read the passage and decide on the best choice to the following questions or unfinished statements.

1. The Old City of San'a _____.
A. was built on mountain tops
B. was first established by Noah
C. retains its original scale even today
D. is only a part of the modern San'a
2. According to the passage, the pace of San'a's development is _____.
A. shocking B. destructive C. unstable D. slow
3. In the 1980s, why did many residents move out of the Old City?
A. Because the Old City would be closed for reservation.
B. Because the Old City was no longer comfortable residence.
C. Because the modern suburbs were sparsely populated.
D. Because no renovation were carried out in the Old City.
4. What's the result of the survival plan drawn up by the Yemeni government and UNESCO?
A. The Old City is reserved as a world heritage.
B. The Old City is completely renovated and modernized.
C. The Old City is maintained as its original form.
D. The Old City is transformed in a feasible way.
5. Which of the following statements is **NOT** true about the architectural features of old San'a?
A. The layout of old San'a underwent slight changes since the 16th century.
B. Every few years, the houses of old San'a are repainted with newly-coined patterns.
C. The traditional tower house embodies great skill in design and economy.
D. Windows are usually decorated with halfmoon-shaped colored glass.
6. According to the passage, *samsara* is _____.
A. a series of interconnected markets
B. a section reserved for qat in the market
C. an art gallery and handicrafts center
D. a building with warehouse and accommodation
7. Which of the following statements is TRUE about the Great Mosque?
A. It is a large stone-walled building.
B. The columns are made out of gold.
C. It boasts its alabaster roof and brass lions.
D. A treasure trove is hidden under its base.
8. According to the author, the real appeal of the Old City of San'a today lies in _____.
A. its thriving business B. its modernization
C. its vitality D. its museum

II. Directions: Answer the following questions briefly based on the passage.

1. According to the legend, who was the founder of the oldest city on Earth?
2. In the first paragraph, the author says, "... if Yemeni legends are to be believed, there is no doubt who holds the title." What does the expression "hold the title" probably mean?
3. What are the striking features of the city in terms of architecture?
4. Who made early attempts to modernize the city but in vain?
5. Why is the traditional tower house thought to be a masterpiece of design and economy?
6. What are the main goods traded on the Suq al Milh?
7. Why do shops in the Old City become chaotic and crowded before lunchtime?
8. Why did the two restored samsaras become isolated from the narrow alleys outside?

Vocabulary from Context

I. Directions: For each item in this exercise, a sentence from the passage containing an underlined word is quoted and followed by an additional sentence using the word in the same sense. Explain the underlined word in English according to the two sentences.

1. Many cities claim to be the oldest inhabited site on Earth, but if Yemeni legends are to be believed, there is no doubt who holds the title.

The people who originally inhabited America were Indians.

Inhabit means _____.

2. Many of these people are the estimated 600,000 to two million Yemeni expatriates that were expelled from Saudi Arabia and the Gulf States following the Gulf War.

They expelled the journalist from their country.

Expel means _____.

3. And the city center, which was once considered to be the area around the Bab al-Yemen, has shifted west towards the modern shops and hotels with their air-conditioned interiors and displays of western consumer goods.

The architect laid out the interior of the building.

Interior means _____.

4. In the 1980s, when electrical appliances first arrived it was quickly realized that fridges, washing machines and cars did not fit easily into the cramped alleyways and traditional tower houses.

In later years, he lived in a rather cramped little flat in Bristol.

Cramped means _____.

5. Early attempts to bring piped water into the city after the 1960s were equally chaotic.

With no one to keep order the situation in the classroom was chaotic.

Chaotic means _____.

6. The traditional tower house is a masterpiece of design and economy.

The Old Man and the Sea is considered to be Earnest Hemingway's masterpiece.

Masterpiece means _____.

7. The single large wooden door entrance is opened using the ingenious *majar*, a rope that snakes up through the whole building, allowing anyone on any floor to open it without coming down.

The telephone is a truly ingenious invention for sure.

Ingenious means _____.

8. Although these are still sold in the market, business has slackened off since the Holy Roman Emperor banned their use in 325 A. D.

Determined, the Conservative Government will not slacken the pace of radical reform.

Slacken means _____.

9. Today, the Old City is thriving. Some of the old tower houses have been converted into simple tourist hotels, giving outsiders a chance to sample life within the walls of this unique city.

The old barn we bought to convert into flats was practically tumbling down.

Convert means _____.

10. So far, the inroads made by tourism are minimal, and the real attraction of the city is that it is a living, vibrant community, not a museum.

One aim of these reforms is effective defense with minimal expenditure.

Minimal means _____.

II. Directions: Find words in the passage according to the following explanations.

1. _____ in Paragraph 5 means *to extend or spread outward from a center*.
2. _____ in Paragraph 7 means *wonderful or surprising thing*.
3. _____ in Paragraph 9 means *to set up for use*.
4. _____ in Paragraph 9 means *capable of being done with means at hand or practical*.
5. _____ in Paragraph 12 means *of, relating to, or situated in Asia*.
6. _____ in Paragraph 13 means *to prohibit especially by legal means*.
7. _____ in Paragraph 13 means *a person who makes things out of silver*.
8. _____ in Paragraph 15 means *to steal things during a battle, riot, or other disturbance*.
9. _____ in Paragraph 17 means *to taste or experience*.
10. _____ in Paragraph 17 means *vigorous and animated*.

Respond in Writing

Directions: *The essay demonstrates the history, development, and changes of the oldest city on Earth, especially attracting our attention to its architecture and layout. Write a paragraph in no less than 120 words describing a city concerning its history, layout, development, economy, or culture. Just choose one or more aspects listed above to give us a brief introduction to a city you are familiar with.*

Passage 2

Christmas in New Zealand

- 1 In New Zealand Christmas Day itself is observed much the same way as it is in the United States and Europe. There are some concessions to the reversed seasons, however, for Christmas “down under” comes in midsummer. On the New Zealand Christmas dinner menu, for instance, “plum pudding” is almost invariably **flanked** by fruit salad, ice cream, and fresh summer fruits such as strawberries.
- 2 In New Zealand, Christmas is **preeminently** the season for reaffirming goodwill and friendship for the gathering and reunion of friends and families. For several weeks before December 25th, New Zealanders crowd the shops and department stores looking for presents for their families and close friends, and greeting cards for less intimate acquaintances. The big stores, each have a professional Santa Claus, white-bearded, **red-mantled**, black-booted, presiding over a “Magic Cave” or a “Toyland”, and solemnly noting the Christmas Eve requirements of hundreds of excited children.
- 3 Christmas Eve is much the same in New Zealand as it is in other countries. At last feverish **flurry** of shopping is made possible by a special late night in the stores, and then families and friends may foregather for a Christmas Eve party at home. There are few homes in which children do not carefully hang up their stockings for Santa Claus to fill with toys and candies. There are midnight services at the churches, for those bear in mind the original significance of Christmas, and special broadcasts of Christmas programs on the radio network. Christmas caroling has also been inherited from the Old World, and in some towns on Christmas Eve, “Carols by Candlelight” are held in suitable settings outdoors.
- 4 Christmas carols often usher in Christmas Day in New Zealand. Perhaps the most popular and most regular carolers are members of the **Salvation Army**, whose melodious rendering of the well-loved old Christmas **hymns** wakens many New Zealanders to the Feast of the Nativity.
- 5 New Zealanders spend their Christmas Day with friendly greetings, gifts—and especially toys for the children—and the **sumptuous** family dinner which is the center-piece of this day over the world. Christmas dinner in New Zealand usually includes poultry of some sort—turkey, chicken, duck or goose—meat joints such as lamb, pork, beef, or mutton, new season’s peas and potatoes, and other vegetables, **mince** pies, plum pudding, and the rest of traditional **fare** inherited from New Zealand’s British ancestry. But in most homes dishes more suitable to summer weather are added to or substituted on

flank [flæŋk] *vt.* 装点

preeminently [pri:'eminəntli] *adv.* 卓越地;杰出地

mantle ['məntl] *n.* 斗篷;披风

flurry ['flʌri] *n.* 慌张;混乱

Salvation Army *phr.* 救世军

hymn [him] *n.* 赞美诗

Nativity [nə'tiviti] *n.* 耶稣诞辰

sumptuous ['sʌmptjuəs] *adj.* 奢侈的

mince [mins] *n.* 碎肉

fare [feə] *n.* 食物

the menu. There are salads, cold poultry, fresh fruit and cold sweet dishes.

tramp [træmp] *vi.* 步行; 长途跋涉
 revere [ri'veiə] *vt.* 敬畏, 崇敬
 train days *phr.* 很多天

- 6 In the northern hemisphere, Christmas, coming in midwinter, is a comparatively brief break in the year. Where Christmas comes in summer, however, as in New Zealand, it is vacation time, and it makes a logical interval between the end of one year and the beginning of the next. Particularly in recent years, New Zealanders have become great travelers within their own country. Theirs is a country well known for its rich and varied scenic attractions, which spread through the length and breadth of the land. In both the North and the South Islands there are beautiful rivers, lakes and mountains, unparalleled thermal wonders, pleasant bathing beaches and outstanding scenery of all types. As a result, no matter where a person lives in New Zealand, there is always something worthwhile for him to see in another part of the country.
- 7 Throughout the summer, the ranks of tourists from other countries are increased too, by thousands of New Zealanders traveling by train, ship and plane, as well as on bicycles and on foot, to see more of their own country. From Christmas Day through New Year, and well on into January and February, New Zealand is a nation on holiday. Most people take their two to three weeks' vacation at some time during this period, though essential industries and services, particularly transport, "stagger" their holiday periods to interfere as little as possible with public needs.
- 8 Schools go into recess for six or seven weeks, starting about a week before Christmas Day, and universities complete their examinations by about the first week in December, resuming lectures in the first week of the following March. Shops, factories and businesses close down at least for Christmas Day and the two following days, and then for New Year's Day and January 2nd. Many firms and professional men take their long vacation at this time, closing down altogether for two to three weeks, from Christmas Day onwards.
- 9 Since individuals and families take advantage of New Zealand's summertime Christmas, many organizations—academic, professional, sporting, business, religious, and cultural—arrange annual conventions, summer schools, **tramping** parties, music or health resorts during this period.
- 10 In New Zealand, the Christmas-New Year period—the "weekend" of the year—occurs at the logical time for rest and relaxation. The Feast is **revered** for its message of Christianity, but it brings in its **train days** of sunshine and recreation, in which the people may renew their strength for the coming year.

(836 words)