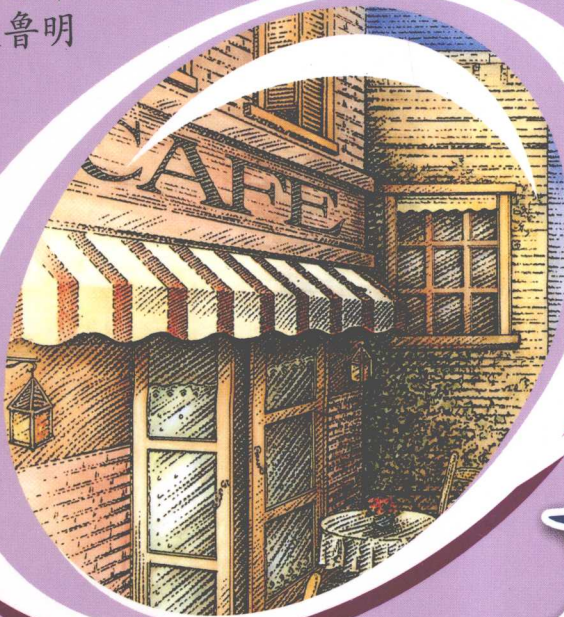


GOLD CROWN
金皇冠

轻松周末英语

◎ 主编 孙会军
◎ 编者 夏鲁明



夏

湖北长江出版集团
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(鄂)新登字 02 号

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

轻松周末英语. 夏/夏鲁明编. —武汉:湖北教育出版社, 2007. 4
ISBN 978 - 7 - 5351 - 4700 - 4

I. 轻… II. 夏… III. 英语 - 自学参考资料 IV. H31
中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2007)第 002212 号

出版 发行:湖北教育出版社

武汉市青年路 277 号

网 址:<http://www.hbedup.com>

邮编:430015

电话:027 - 83619605

经 销:新 华 书 店

印 刷:武汉嘉捷印务有限公司 (430035 · 武汉市硚口区长丰大道东风科技园)

开 本:880mm × 1230mm 1/32

4.25 印张

版 次:2007 年 5 月第 1 版

2007 年 5 月第 1 次印刷

字 数:110 千字

印数:1 - 5 000

ISBN 978 - 7 - 5351 - 4700 - 4

定价:7.00 元

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前言

英

语学习是一个循序渐进的过程，要想提高英语能力，长期坚持英语阅读是个行之有效的好办法。而要取得阅读的最佳效果，阅读过程中轻松愉悦的心情又是非常关键的。目前英语书籍的出版可以说五花八门，但英语习题集居多，学生在学校的学习任务已经很重，回到家里还要在父母的逼迫下应付层出不穷的英语练习题，结果反而挫伤了学生学习英语的积极性，即便是考试成绩上去了，英语能力也未必能得到有效的提高。另外也有一些英汉对照的读物，编辑的质量不错，但学生往往在阅读的过程中，为内容、情节所吸引，急于知道故事的结局，常常把英语原文放到一边，以阅读汉语译文为主，英语无形当中变成了一种可有可无的点缀。虽然出版的英语读物很多，但要找到真正适合学生阅读的却很困难。有感于目前这种状况，我们编写了这套适合初中三年级学生、高中学生和大学一、二年级学生阅读的《轻松周末英语》。考虑到这些学生平时功课重，时间紧，我们特意量体裁衣，以周末为时间坐标，挑选一些具有时代气息、时尚活泼，为青少年喜闻乐见的佳篇美文编辑成册。只要翻读一下每册书的目录，你就知道这些选文不仅可以使学生与当代英语进行零距离接触，增强学生在英语阅读方面的自信，从根本上提高学生阅读理解能力和语言表达能力，而且还能够扩大学生的知识面，培养学生的人文素养。在编写形式上我们注重新颖有趣，生动活泼，充分调动学生的英语阅读兴趣，使学生转变对英语阅读的态度，实现从“父母、老师要我读”，到“我要读”的转变。

我们每周为读者精选了三篇地道的英语文章，周五、周六、周日各一篇。一个月下来，学生阅读十二篇文章。这十二篇文章在题材上避免重复，让学生在一个月当中所读到的内容都是全新的，每读一篇都有耳目一新的感觉。其中包括：时尚短文（含流行歌曲的歌词等）、小小说、名著

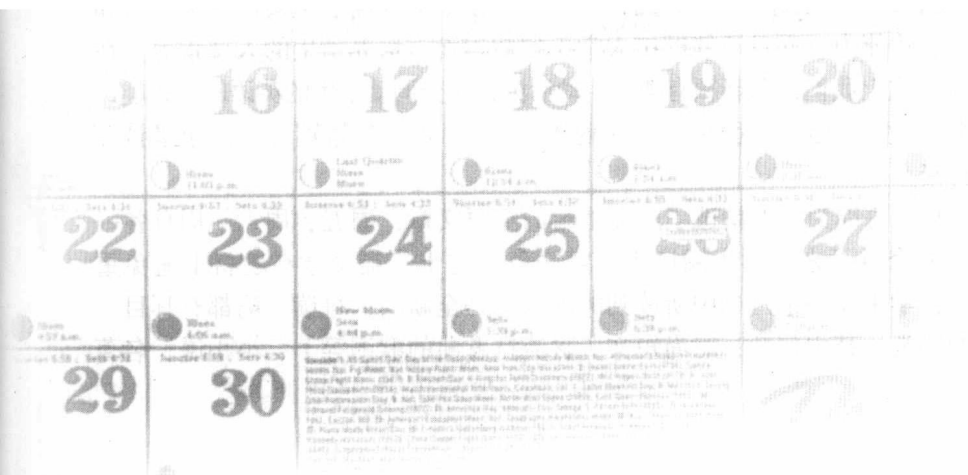
名胜、英语笑话、传记、诗歌等等。一个季度下来，学生可以读到三十六篇精彩英语文章。我们想到一年有四季，便按照春、夏、秋、冬四个季节，一个季度一本，让读者自由选择。

编选中，考虑到读者阅读水平的差异，我们将版面分成两栏，左面的一栏是英文文章，在右面的小栏中，有英文原文中的一些难词、难句的注释或翻译。程度高一些的读者可以一口气读完原文，程度低一些的同学可能会遇到拦路虎，看一下右栏中的注释或翻译，就可以扫除阅读中的障碍，较轻松地完成对原文的阅读。为了让读者有较生动的阅读场景，编辑老师还根据文章内容，增加了一些生动有趣的图片，它会使阅读更有生活气息。另外，我们对一些生词进行了重复注释，一回生、二回熟，在阅读中有效提高自己的词汇量，这也是学好英语的一大诀窍。□

我们还在每一篇文章前面作了明显的时间标记，希望通过这样的方式引导学生按部就班地完成每周的阅读内容，养成定期阅读的好习惯，稳步、高效地提高学生的英语阅读水平。由于编者水平有限，再加上时间有些仓促，其中疏漏之处在所难免，还望读者提出宝贵意见，以利于我们进一步修订、完善。□

孙会军

2006年10月



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星期五

June

The Origin Of Children's Day

儿童节的来历

Children's Day is celebrated in many parts of the world. It is a day to highlight¹ the dignity² of children and their need for love, care, and respect, and instill³ in the children a sense of independence and national pride. It is also a day to honor adults that have contributed⁴ to improving the lives of children.

In August 1925, some 54 representatives⁵ from different countries gathered together in Geneva⁶, Switzerland to convene⁷ the first "World Conference for the Well-being⁸ of Children", during which the "Geneva Declaration⁹ Protecting Children" was passed. The proclamation¹⁰ made a strong appeal¹¹ for the spiritual needs of children, relief¹² for children in

1. highlight *vt.* 使显著, 突出
2. dignity *n.* 尊严, 高贵
3. instill *vt.* 慢慢地灌输
4. contribute *vi.* 贡献
contribute to doing 为……做出贡献
5. representative *n.* 代表
6. Geneva *n.* 日内瓦城(瑞士西南部城市)
7. convene *vt.* 召集, 集合
8. well-being *adj.* 福利
9. declaration *n.* 声明
10. proclamation *n.* 宣布
11. appeal *n.* 呼吁, 要求
make an appeal to sb 向某人提出呼吁
12. relief *n.* 救济

poverty, prevention of child labor, reassessing¹³ the way that children are educated and other issues related to the welfare of children around the world.

After the conference, various governments around the world designated¹⁴ a day, different in each country, as Children's Day, to encourage and bring joy to children as well as to draw the attention of society to children's issues.

Universal Children's Day is on November 20. First proclaimed¹⁵ by the UN General Assembly¹⁶ in 1954, it was established to encourage all countries to institute¹⁷ a day, firstly to promote¹⁸ mutual exchange and understanding among children and secondly to initiate¹⁹ action to benefit and promote the welfare of the world's children.

Many countries like China choose to celebrate the International Children's Day on June 1, which has been established in November 1949 at the International Democratic²⁰ Women's League²¹ Council²² held in Moscow. The Day, which is also called the First of June, is explained as "an international memorial²³ day that exists upon the purpose of securing²⁴ lives and rights of children and encouraging their happiness and health."

However, Women's/Children's Day (formerly²⁵ Children's Day) is celebrated in Taiwan on April 4. This day marks the restoration²⁶ of Taiwan to Chinese rule in 1945 after half a century of Japanese occupation²⁷.

May 5 is Children's Day in Japan. It became a national holiday in 1948, but it has been a day of

13. reassess *v.* 再评价

14. designate *vt.* 指明

15. proclaim *vt.* 宣布

16. assembly *n.* 集会

UN General Assembly 联合国大会

17. institute *vt.* 确定, 开始

18. promote *vt.* 促进, 发扬

19. initiate *vt.* 开始, 发起

20. democratic *adj.* 民主的

21. league *n.* 同盟

22. council *n.* 委员会

23. memorial *n.* 纪念

memorial day 纪念日

24. secure *vt.* 保护

25. formerly *adv.* 从前

26. restoration *n.* 恢复, 归还

27. occupation *n.* 占领期间

celebration in Japan since ancient times. It was traditionally a festival²⁸ for boys. Girls have their own festival, held on March 3.

In India, the birthday of Jawaharlal Nehru²⁹ is celebrated as Children's Day every year, on November 14.

April 23 is the "National Sovereignty³⁰ and Children's Day" in Turkey³¹. It was Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the Father of the Republic of Turkey who loved children so much, that started the Day, the same date when the Republic of Turkey³² was founded. On the Day, certain children are selected to take over³³ the places of the government and even a lucky kid is the president of Turkey for a whole day!

28. festival *n.* 节日, 喜庆日

29. Jawaharlal Nehru 尼赫鲁, 曾任印度总理

30. sovereignty *n.* 主权

31. Turkey *n.* 土耳其

32. the Republic of Turkey
土耳其共和国

33. take over 接管

阅读链接

在中国, 孩子们最期盼、最快乐的日子是“六一”儿童节。每到这一天, 孩子们都兴高采烈地欢度自己的节日。那一张张笑脸, 一阵阵歌声, 都充满了幸福和快乐。但是你是否知道这“六一”节的来历? 是否知道儿童节的确定, 与1942年第二次世界大战期间德国法西斯枪杀捷克利迪策村16岁以上的男性公民140余人和全部婴儿, 并把妇女和90名儿童押往集中营的事件有关? 你是否知道, 其实世界上很多地方的儿童在不同的日子庆祝他们的儿童节?



星期六

June

Text Messages Changing Relationships 短信传情

Mobile phone¹ text messages are changing the way people approach² romantic relationships, according to a survey³ published in the British newspaper *The Times*.

More than half of mobile phone users aged 18 to 24 have sent or received an invitation to a date⁴ via text message, while a similar number have exchanged⁵ sexually-explicit⁶ messages, the study by the London School of Economics showed.

Just fifty-three percent agreed that sending a flirtatious⁷ message to someone while in a relationship was a form of cheating⁸.

"It acts as a kind of subliminal⁹ zone, an exclusive¹⁰ forum¹¹ where the normal social rules are suspended¹²," said Kate Fox, director of the Social

1. mobile phone *n.* 移动电话

2. approach *vt.* 对待, 处理

3. survey *n.* 调查

4. date *n.* 约会

5. exchange *vt.* 交换, 交流

6. sexually-explicit message
明显与性有关的信息

7. flirtatious *adj.* 调情的

8. cheating *n.* 欺骗, 背叛

9. subliminal *adj.* 下意识的, 潜意识的

10. exclusive *adj.* 排外的, 专属的

11. forum *n.* 论坛; 公众交流媒体

12. suspend *vt.* (法律等) 滞后, 迟缓

Issues Research Centre.

“People often say things in texts which they would never say in real life’.”

“When it comes to dating, a text gives you that chance to compose¹³ your thoughts, rather than¹⁴ having to speak spontaneously¹⁵ in a phone call with that person,” she said.

The survey also found that 54 percent of women under 25 used their mobile phone in public to deter¹⁶ people from approaching¹⁷ them.

British mobile phone users send an average of 3.6 text messages and make 2.8 phone calls a day. Fifty-one percent of the 16,500 respondents¹⁸ sent at least six text messages a day but only 15 percent made six or more mobile phone calls in a day.

13. compose *vt.* 组织, 安排, 调整

14. rather than 而不是

15. spontaneously *adv.* 自发的, 自然产生的

16. deter *v.* 阻止

17. approach *vt.* 接近

18. respondent *n.* (测试的) 回答者

阅读链接



“今天你发短信了没有?”——短信满天飞的时代,每天有多少短信进驻你的手机?又飞出去多少“信骚扰”他人?“手机依赖症”已经成为许多年轻人的通病。这种现象,其实不仅限于国内,远在欧洲的英国也是如此呢!短信究竟为何令年轻人如此着迷?



Paradox Of Our Times 现时代的尴尬

We have bigger houses and smaller families; more conveniences, but less time; we have more degrees¹, but less common sense²; more knowledge, but less judgment³; more experts, but more problems; more medicine, but less wellness.

We spend too recklessly⁴, laugh too little, drive too fast, get angry too quickly, stay up⁵ too late, get up too tired, read too little, watch TV too often, and pray⁶ too seldom⁷.

We have multiplied⁸ our possessions⁹, but reduced our values¹⁰. We talk too much, love too little and lie too often. We've learned how to make a living, but not a life; we've added years to life, not life to years.

We have taller buildings, but shorter tempers¹¹; wider freeways¹², but narrower viewpoints. We spend

1. degree *n.* 学位
2. common sense 常识
3. judgment *n.* 判断力
4. recklessly *adv.* 鲁莽地。
此句意为我们大手大脚地花钱。
5. stay up 熬夜
6. pray *n.* 祈祷
7. seldom *adv.* 很少
8. multiply *v.* 增加
9. possession *n.* 财产
10. value *n.* 价值标准
11. temper *n.* 脾气
short-tempered, 脾气暴躁的
12. freeway *n.* 高速公路

more, but have less; we buy more, but enjoy it less.

We've been all the way to the moon and back, but have trouble crossing the street to meet the new neighbor. We've conquered¹³ outer space, but not inner space. We've split the atom, but not our prejudice¹⁴; we write more, but learn less; plan more, but accomplish¹⁵ less.

We've learned to rush, but not to wait; we have higher incomes, but lower morals¹⁶. We build more computers to hold more information, to produce more copies, but have less communication. We are long on quantity¹⁷, but short on quality.

These are the times of fast foods and slow digestion; tall men and short character; steep profits and shallow relationships. More leisure and less fun; more kinds of food, but less nutrition¹⁸; two incomes, but more divorce¹⁹; fancier²⁰ houses, but broken homes.

13. conquer *vt.* 征服

14. prejudice *n.* 偏见

15. accomplish *vt.* 完成

16. moral *n.* 道德

17. quantity *n.* 量, 数量

18. nutrition *n.* 营养

19. divorce *n.* 离婚

20. fancy *adj.* 华美的

阅读链接:

“房子大了,家庭却小了,便利多了,时间却少了……”当人们物质生活越来越丰富的同时,精神生活却渐渐荒芜;科技越来越发达的同时,带来的是越来越多的社会问题……所以这篇文章声称:我们活在一个“尴尬的时代”。身为现代人的你我,对这些无奈应该深有体会吧?当然,不妨想一想:怎样改变这种尴尬的情况呢?



星期五

June

When You Are Young: What Bill Says 比尔·盖茨给青年的寄语

1. Life is not fair¹, get used to it.

1. fair *adj.* 公平的

2. The world won't care about your self-esteem². The world will expect you to accomplish something before you feel good about yourself.

2. self-esteem 自尊

3. You will not make 40 thousand dollars a year right out of high school. You won't be a vice³ president with a car, until you earn both.

3. vice *adj.* 副职的

4. If you think your teacher is tough⁴, wait till you get a boss. He doesn't have tenure⁵.

4. tough *adj.* 凶恶的, 粗暴的

5. Flipping burgers⁶ is not beneath your dignity⁷. Your grandparents had a different word for burger flipping; they called it opportunity.

5. tenure *n.* (职位的)任期

6. flip burgers 制作汉堡

7. dignity *n.* 尊严; 此句意为
“做汉堡并不有伤尊严”

6. If you mess up⁸, it's not your parents' fault, so don't whine⁹ about your mistakes, learn from them.

8. mess up 搞糟

9. whine *vi.* 抱怨

7. Before you were born, your parents weren't