

ENGLISH READING COURSE

for Speed and
Comprehension

(二次修订本)

吉林大学出版社

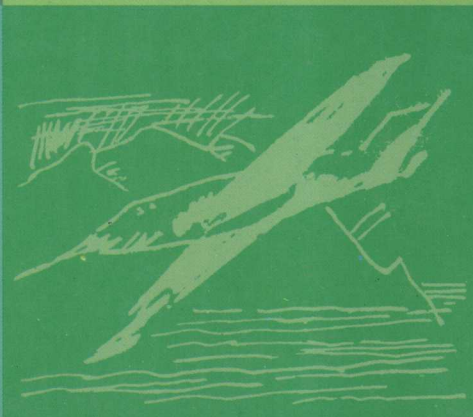
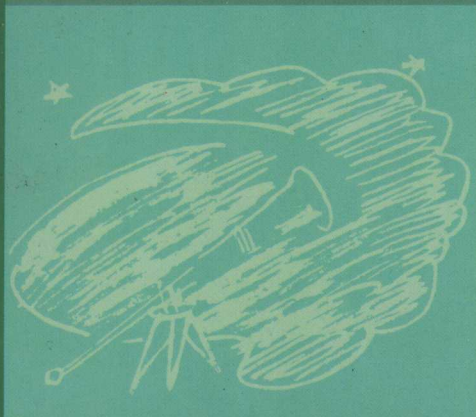
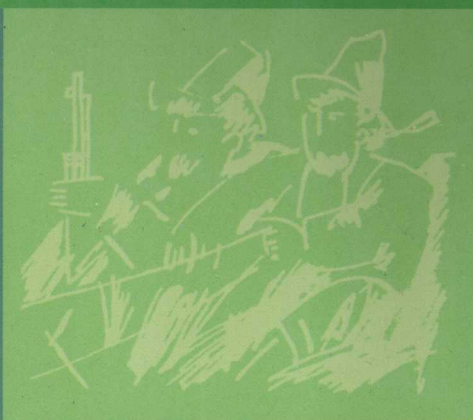
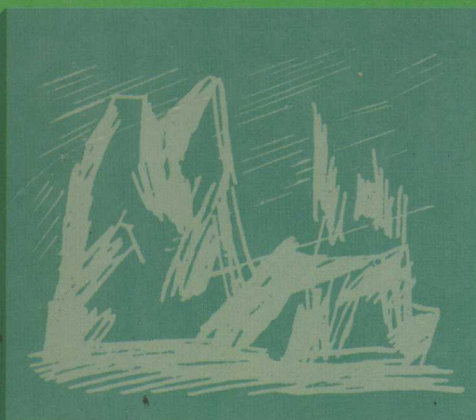
BOOK THREE

英语阅读教程

第三册

原编著：刘希彦

修订者：刘希彦 张万娟 李海平



ENGLISH READING COURSE

For Secondary and
College Students

LEARNING

FOR ALL

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHINA PRESS

英語閱讀教程

第一冊

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CONTENTS

Unit 1	Unsolved Mystery — The Sea	(1)
Unit 2	Winter Comes to the Animal World	(8)
Unit 3	Lost Over The Atlantic	(15)
Unit 4	Domestic Violence	(22)
Unit 5	A Trail of Ancient Violence Leads to Buried Treasure	(30)
Unit 6	Lady of the Wasteland	(37)
Unit 7	Eighteenth Century Style	(44)
Unit 8	The Giants of Easter Island	(51)
Unit 9	Michigan's Marching Dunes	(58)
Unit 10	V-Day in The Polio War	(66)
Unit 11	Rabies	(73)
Unit 12	Animal Rights	(80)
Unit 13	The "Upstart Crow"	(89)
Unit 14	The Real Sherlock Holmes	(97)
Unit 15	Is Your Judgment Warped?	(104)
Unit 16	The Boy Who Grew up to Kill	(112)
Unit 17	Edward R. Murrow Reports on Britain Under Bombs	(121)
Unit 18	If Computers Can Think and Reproduce IS a Race of Robots Possible?	(130)
Unit 19	The War Against Hunger	(138)
Unit 20	Come Aboard an Atomic Sub!	(146)
Unit 21	Right to Die	(154)
Unit 22	Weapons of Mass Destruction	(162)
Unit 23	Endangered and Extinct Species	(171)
Unit 24	Impeachment	(180)
Unit 25	Strange Money	(189)
Unit 26	The Great Chicago Fire	(198)
Unit 27	1066 AD — The Norman Conquest	(208)
Unit 28	Gender Roles in a Cross-Cultural Perspective	(217)
Unit 29	Genetic Engineering	(226)
Unit 30	What's So Funny?	(235)

Unit 1

READING GUIDE

To Landlubbers who have never been to the sea, it always arouses in them feelings of wonder: What is it like? How powerful is it? In this article, Peter Freuchen, a man of curiosity and imagination, gives a vivid demonstration of the unsolved mystery — the sea.

PASSAGE FOR COMPREHENSION

Unsolved Mystery — The Sea

by Peter Freuchen

Starting Time: Minutes _____ Seconds _____

1 I really began to learn about the seas in Greenland¹, although I was born and raised in a little port, Nykobing Falster, in Denmark. I had known ships and sailors and stories about famous voyages all my life, but when I sat through the long, dark nights of the arctic winters at Thule for years, for many years indeed, I discovered the wondrous ocean in my imagination.

2 There was little enough of it that we could see, for all winter long the ice stretched out for interminable miles and miles in front of us, firm and solid. As soon as the sun showed over the horizon in spring, we had a wide outlook; but it took months for the ice to break up, and during that time it was tantalizing to look out from the shore at huge icebergs drifting south in endless procession. When a fellow is sitting alone for months as I was, he lets his imagination fly freely. In my mind I followed those big fragments of icecap as they floated eternally to their doom. I thought of them sailing so majestically south until they were off Newfoundland²; I knew they would turn east there and meet the warm waters of the Gulf Stream³, where they would die, swiftly and inevitably, for the Gulf Stream can finish off even a large berg in twenty four hours.

3 Well, I wondered, where does the Gulf Stream originate, and why and how does it happen to be exactly where it is? On the sails of my imagination still, I followed this mighty current to where it is born in the Caribbean⁴. That took me to the waters of other currents, and to studying the winds and tides that play such an important part in the mysterious movements of the sea. Why, I asked myself, do the winds blow so steadily in one place and so capriciously in another, and not at all somewhere else; why should the tide rise as high as a house on one coast and hardly at all on another? Why twice a day in most of the world but in some places only once? And where, after all, does all that water come from in the first place?

4 Little by little it dawned upon me that there is a logical connection between all the things that happen in that immense connected body of salted water that covers 71 per cent of the surface of the earth. The amazing fact is that the ripple from a pebble thrown by a child could actually be traced

all over the seven seas if only we had scientific instruments delicate enough to record them. There is, indeed, a grand pattern in the wonderful phenomena of the ocean. This pattern regulates the ocean's storms and calms, deeps and shallows, the animals and plants that inhabit it, the birds flying over it, its myriad islands, volcanoes, and caves, and even the men and ships moving about on its surface.

5 Since those long, dark, lonely winters in Thule, I never have stopped wondering and learning about the seas. For every answer I found there were two new questions, because the majesty and the mystery of the seas are inexhaustible, and much lies beyond the comprehension of man. Immense in their extent, irresistible in their power, unconquerable in their precision, the seas have inspired men through all ages with feelings of awe and mysticism and fear⁵. Man feels himself weak and impotent when he faces their might, for no one can halt the tides or fight the currents or control the waves. But everywhere men feel a compulsion to pit their strength against the sea, to explore it and wander about on it, to use it for their own ends and wrest its wealth from it.

6 Primitive people worshipped the sea out of fear of what it might do to them, and in gratitude for the treasures which it washed up for them on its beaches. Even in the days of Columbus, the sailors were deathly afraid of "monsters" in the sea that might rise at any moment from the mysterious depths and devour them. The Romans believed the sea to be a dark kingdom ruled by a god whom they called Neptune⁶. Today we know a great deal more than was known in ancient times; yet we still stand on the shore, humble in our insignificance as we face the waves rolling in from a turbulent ocean.

7 When gales whip the trees and rattle our windows, or snow piles up outside so that no one wants to go for a walk, landlubbers snug and safe in warm rooms are likely to tell each other how sorry they feel for all the poor sailors on a night like this. But, underneath the sympathetic talk, they actually feel a little wistful envy of the men who brave the elements — winds, rain, snow, cold, and storms — upon the restless water. Then on a fine day the sight of foreign seamen, or of tall ships from far away, or of an exotic bit of merchandise from halfway round the world, or even an oddly shaped scrap of driftwood cast up on the beach gives any of us a pang of jealousy of the men who move about over the sea, viewing the wonders of the deep. And it must be confessed that these incredible wonders lose nothing in the seamen's telling them, for their words seem to set fire to the imagination and give shore-bound people a sense of excitement that they can never find on land.

8 The fascinating stories these fellows bring us are the stuff our dreams are made of. Perhaps we may not believe the salty tales for a minute, but in our secret minds we live them, and we are all great heroes in these dreams. We experience countless exciting adventures, and we drift endlessly in hot dead calms while all on board except us are in despair⁷. We baffle the most violent storms, conquer the bravest fighters, foil the most blood-thirsty pirates, bring home the richest cargoes from the most amazing voyages, wrestle with monsters, dive for sunken gold, see the strangest sights. Then, in the end, science takes over from imagination — and behold, there are even greater wonders than we dreamed⁸.

Finishing Time: Minutes _____ Seconds _____

WORDS AND EXPRESSIONS

1. Thule ['θju:li] *n.* the north end of the world 极北地区,世界尽头
2. wondrous ['wʌndrəs] *adj.* (*arch. or liter.*) wonderful (古,文)奇妙的;壮观的;令人惊叹的
3. little enough of *phr.* hardly anything 少之又少;几乎没有
4. interminable [in'tɛminəbl] *adj.* endless; tedious because too long 漫长的;无休无止的;没有尽头的
5. outlook ['aʊtlʊk] *n.* view on which one looks out 景色;视野
6. tantalizing ['tæntəlaiziŋ] *adj.* raising hopes, keeping just out of reach sth. that sb. desires 逗惹人的;撩拨人的;让人心痒难耐的
7. iceberg ['aɪsbɛg] *n.* mass of ice moving in the sea 冰山
8. fragment ['frægmənt] *n.* part broken off 断片;碎块
9. icecap ['aɪskæp] *n.* permanent covering of ice sloping down on all sides from a high center 永久冰峰;(文中)冰山露出水面的部分
10. eternally [i'tɛnəli] *adv.* throughout all time; for ever 永恒地;不停地;亘古不变地
11. doom [du:m] *n.* ruin; death 毁灭;死亡;劫数
12. majestically [mə'dʒɛstɪkəli] *adv.* with or showing majesty 高贵地;庄严地
13. capriciously [kə'prɪʃəsli] *adv.* often changing; irregularly 变化多端地;靠不住
14. dawn upon sb. *phr.* become gradually clear to sb. 渐渐领悟到;逐渐明白
15. ripple ['rɪpl] *n.* small movement on the surface of water 荡漾的微波;涟漪;波纹
16. pebble ['pebl] *n.* small stone made smooth and round by being rolled in water (in a stream, etc.) 鹅卵石
17. myriad ['mɪrɪəd] *n.* very great number (of) 极大量
18. inexhaustible [ɪnɪg'zɔ:stəbl] *adj.* that can not be exhausted 取之不竭的;无穷无尽的
19. irresistible [ɪrɪ'zɪstəbl] *adj.* too strong or too convincing, etc., to be resisted 无可抵挡的;按捺不住的;忍不住的
20. mysticism ['mɪstɪsɪzəm] *n.* beliefs, experiences of a mystic, holding that knowledge of God and of real truth may be obtained through meditation or spiritual insight, independently of the mind and the senses 神秘主义;相信不用思考力与感官而凭借默想与心灵内省,便可以认识上帝与真理的思想或学说。
21. impotent ['ɪmpətənt] *adj.* lacking sufficient strength, unable to act 软弱无能的;无能为力
22. might [maɪt] *n.* great power; strength 力量;强大威力
23. compulsion [kəm'pʌljən] *n.* compelling or being compelled or forced 被迫;强迫;身不由己
24. monster ['mɒnstə] *n.* abnormally misshaped animal; person or thing of extraordinary size, shape 大而畸形之动物;怪物
25. devour [di'vaʊə] *v.* eat hungrily or greedily 吞掉

26. insignificance [ɪnsɪg'nɪfɪkəns] *n.* valuelessness; unimportance 无足轻重; 渺小
27. turbulent ['tɜːbjʊlənt] *adj.* violent; disorderly; uncontrolled 狂烈的; 汹涌的
28. rattle ['rætl] *v.* (cause to) make short, sharp sounds quickly 砰啪作响
29. landlubber ['lændlʌbə] *n.* (used by sailors to describe a) person not accustomed to the sea and ships (海员语)“旱鸭子”
30. snug [snʌg] *adj.* sheltered from wind and cold; warm and comfortable 不受风寒侵袭的; 温暖舒适的
31. brave [breɪv] *v.* face, go into, meet, without showing fear 无畏地面对; 勇敢地搏斗
32. exotic [ɪg'zɒtɪk] *adj.* of foreign country; of strange form or characteristics 奇异的; 充满外国风情的
33. merchandise ['mɜːtɪfəndaɪz] *n.* trade goods 货物; 商品
34. scrap [skræp] *n.* small piece (usu. unwanted) 碎屑; 零星物品
35. pang [pæŋ] *n.* sharp, sudden feeling of pain 突然的剧痛; 痛楚
36. incredible [ɪn'kredəbl] *adj.* that cannot be believed; surprising 令人难以置信的
37. salty ['sɒltɪ] *adj.* containing, tasting of salt; sounding like sea life; piquant 咸的; 充满海洋气息的; 引人暇思的
38. foil [fɔɪl] *v.* baffle; defeat 挫败; 制服
39. pirate ['paɪərɪt] *n.* sea-robber 海上大盗
40. cargo ['kɑːɡəʊ] *n.* goods carried in a ship (船上所载)货物

NOTES ON LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

1. Greenland: the world's largest island 格陵兰岛(属丹麦)
2. Newfoundland: an island of Canada 纽芬兰(自一九四九成为加拿大一省)
3. the Gulf Stream: warm ocean current flowing from the Gulf of Mexico 自墨西哥海湾流出的暖流—墨西哥湾流。
4. the Caribbean: It is a part of the western Atlantic Ocean. It is approximately 1,063,000 square miles (2,754,000 square kilometres) in extent. (加勒比海)
5. Immense in their extent, ... mysticism and fear: In this sentence, *the seas* is modified by three paralleled adjective phrases: *Immense in ...*, *irresistible in ...*, *unconquerable in ...*.
译:长久以来,海洋以其广延无垠的伸展、不可抗拒的力量和人力无法控制的精确变化,一直激发着人类对其敬畏、神秘、恐慌之情。
6. Neptune: In Roman myths, he is the God of the sea 希腊罗马神话中的海神
7. We experience ... in despair: Here, *hot, dead calms* refers to the sea that is extremely quiet and hot.
译:(在梦中),我们去经历那无数次激动人心的冒险,在炎热死寂的海洋中无休无止地漂流,除了我们本人,船上所有人都心无生念。
8. Then, in the end, ... than we dreamed: The function of *behold* is to raise readers' attention to sth. unusual or striking.
译:最后,科学使人们摆脱了梦幻的想象—请注意,科学会产生比我们的梦想更为伟

大的奇迹。

COMPREHENSION

Here are ten questions or unfinished statements about the passage, each with four suggested ways of answering or finishing it. You are to choose the one you consider the most suitable without looking back at the passage. Give one answer only to each question.

1. This selection was probably taken from the beginning of a
 - a. reference book about weather.
 - b. sailor's handbook.
 - c. study of the seas.
 - d. patient's diary.
2. The author's main purpose was to
 - a. supply factual information.
 - b. trace the route of the icebergs in an imaginative way.
 - c. pass on to the reader his own feeling about the sea.
 - d. provide information for tourists.
3. The author has
 - a. great love and respect for the seas.
 - b. a dislike for the seas.
 - c. serious misunderstanding of the seas.
 - d. drunk a lot of sea water.
4. The author is a
 - a. sailor by profession.
 - b. land dweller who has never been to sea.
 - c. pirate.
 - d. man born in Denmark and interested in the sea.
5. The main point of this article is that the seas are
 - a. contrary to the pattern of nature.
 - b. wondrous.
 - c. unconquerable.
 - d. terrible.
6. The statement "all on board except us are in despair" is intended to show
 - a. how exaggerated sailors' tales can be.
 - b. what life on the open seas is like.
 - c. how sailors' stories fire the imagination.
 - d. in what weather the author wrote this article.
7. The author knows
 - a. many of the salty tales of the sea and tells them well.
 - b. none of such salty tales.
 - c. such salty tales are true.
 - d. there are no wonders in the seas.
8. The author believes
 - a. that the mysterious fascination of the sea is being destroyed by scientific investigation.
 - b. that scientific investigation will help to discover more wonders.

- c. that there is no logical connection between the things happened in the sea.
 - d. that the more you know about the sea, the more you will be afraid of it.
9. According to the text, the sailors in the days of Columbus were afraid of
- a. Russian submarines.
 - b. pirates.
 - c. monsters in the sea.
 - d. the Roman people.
10. According to the text, the primitive people worshipped the sea because
- a. they believed there was sunken gold in the sea.
 - b. they believed they could trace all the ripples.
 - c. of the great power of the sea upon people.
 - d. the pirates made them do so.

FAST READING PRACTICE

You are given two minutes to **SCAN** the following passage and then answer the questions by making your choices.

Professional boxing has long been viewed askance by the respectable elements of society. Generally banned by law in earlier days, the fighting was usually done with bare fists, and bouts often lasted forty or fifty rounds.

In 1882 John L. Sullivan, a slugging fighter of great power, won the world heavyweight championship from Paddy Ryan in a bare-fisted battle marked by hitting, wrestling, scratching, and biting. Five years later, while fighting Patsy Cardiff at Minneapolis, Sullivan broke his right arm in the third round, but he continued fighting to a six round draw. In 1889, Sullivan defeated Jake Kilrain in the last bare knuckle championship fight, winning twenty thousand dollars and a diamond prize belt. His admirers talked then of running him for congress, but he traveled to Australia for a boxing tour instead, coming back only to lose his title in a twenty-one-round bout with a young Californian named James J. Corbett.

“Gentleman Jim’s” victory in this bout marked a turning point in professional pugilism, for it demonstrated the superiority of scientific boxing over sheer brute strength. But Corbett’s reign ended in 1897, when his opponent, Bob Fitzsimmons, accomplished three epochal feats in less than three seconds: Fitzsimmons knocked out an Irishman on Saint Patrick’s Day, won the heavy-weight championship of the world, and invented the terrible “solar plexus punch.”

1. John L. Sullivan was
- a. the first heavyweight boxer.
 - b. a powerful slugger.
 - c. a boxer who used scientific techniques.
 - d. the biggest money winner among boxers.
2. How long did Sullivan hold the world’s heavy weight title?
- a. About eight years.
 - b. Only a year.
 - c. Five years.
 - d. Twenty-one years.

PROOFREADING

Proofread the following passage and correct any errors as you find them in the numbered lines. Note that no line has more than one error while some are correct.

Editing methods:

In case of a correct line, put a tick (✓) in the blank following that line. For an extra word: write a minus sign (-) and then the word to delete in the blank. When a word is missing: write a plus sign (+) followed by the word to be added. If it is a wrong word: write and cross (X) it out in the blank, then provide the correct one.

EXAMPLE:

When art museum wants a new exhibit, it never buys things in finished form and hangs them on the wall. When a natural history museum wants an exhibition it must often build it.

The modern world of highly technology could not have come about except with the development of the computer. Different types and sizes of the computers find out uses throughout society in the storage and handling of data, from secretly governmental files to banking transactions to private household accounts. Computers have to opened up a new era in manufacturing throughout the techniques of automation, and they have had enhanced modern communication systems. They are essential tools almost every field of research and applied technique, from constructing models of the universe to produce tomorrow's weather reports, and their use has in itself opened new areas of conjecture. Database services and computer nets make available a great variety of information sources. The same advanced techniques also make it possible invasions of privacy and of restricted information sauces, but computer crime has become one of the many risks that society must face to if it would enjoy the benefits of modern technologies.

1. + an
2. - never
3. ✓
4. x exhibit

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
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16. _____
17. _____
18. _____
19. _____
20. _____

Unit 2

READING GUIDE

In winter, while we are warm and cozy at home with central heating, we sometimes cannot help wandering: How do wild lives, especially those in the far north, manage to pass the freezing winter time when foods are meager and weather unfavorable? In this passage, the author presents with vivid examples a detailed illustration of the wintering process by various kinds of animals.

PASSAGE FOR COMPREHENSION

Winter Comes to the Animal World

by Marston Bates

Starting Time: Minutes _____ Seconds _____

1 Often a season's acorn and hickory crop fails because a late spring frost kills the flowers before the nuts are formed. This creates a problem for the local squirrels, since they are unable to lay inadequate stores for the winter. The squirrels probably get along all right scrounging from the local citizens — people are useful sometimes¹— but it makes one wonder about the winter problems of animals out in the woods.

2 Most birds, of course, manage nicely by the simple process of flying to some region with a more sensible climate. Apparently this is not so much a matter of temperature as of food. After all, quite a few kinds of birds do live all year round even in the far north: grouse, for instance, by eating things like spruce buds, owls by continuing to harry the local mice and other rodents; crossbills by their expert dissection of pine cones. But the birds that live on seeds, berries, and insects face not only vanishing supplies but also a shortage of daylight hours in which to hunt the food that might still be around. So they leave.

3 Migration is out for any animal that cannot fly.² To be sure, caribou move from the tundra into the forests, and mountain sheep move to lower slopes. They may cover quite a bit of territory in such travels, but this is far different from moving from New York to Florida, let alone the West Indies or South America. The pedestrian majority of the animal kingdom has to find some way of getting through the winter without moving from home. Quite a few mammals have chosen the squirrel's solution — stashing away winter food supplies. Squirrels, incidentally, often act as though they knew what they were doing. However, there is disagreement among the experts whether squirrels remember where they have hidden food or whether they locate their caches again with their keen noses. If they depend on memory, either they often forget or they store more food than they need, because the nuts and acorns they fail to retrieve are numerous enough to be an important factor in the seeding of forests.

4 Animals such as rabbits and deer continue to be active all winter, finding food wherever they can. Summer's dried vegetation makes a sort of natural hay. Trouble comes when this is buried in snow — but then the deer takes to eating branches and twigs, and the rabbits to stripping bark from small trees. The latter is a source of great irritation to both farmers and foresters, since trees may be girdled and killed.

5 Squirrels are about the smallest mammals able to be active in cold weather because small size makes it hard to maintain body temperature. The smaller the animal, the greater the surface area in relation to body mass. Since heat is lost through the surface, a mouse, for example, simply cannot keep up its body temperature in a very cold environment. Small mammals that remain active all winter retreat under the snow. It is said that in the north even the squirrels dig into the snow when air temperature drops to twenty-five degrees below zero Fahrenheit. Snow is an excellent insulator. Temperatures at the ground surface under a snow cover rarely drop below about twenty degrees Fahrenheit, even in Siberia or Alaska where air temperatures fall to fifty degrees below zero.

6 Many mammals live through the winter by closing shop — hibernating.³ There is a nice problem of definition here. Most experts now agree that a mammal can be said to hibernate only if its body temperature drops greatly and its whole metabolism — including respiration and heart rate — is much reduced. This is the case with animals like the woodchucks, hamsters, and hedgehogs, which hibernate in their burrows, and bats, which congregate in caves. Bears, however, are not classed as hibernators. They pass most of the winter sleeping, but their body temperature drops only a few degrees, and they can become active without going through a slow process of warming up. Bears, counting on fat reserves to keep them going, even produce their young during this period.

7 Mammals and birds are warm blooded — that is, they have a means of keeping the temperature of their bodies quite constant despite the normal temperature fluctuations of the outside world. Cold blooded animals — fish, reptiles, insects, amphibians — also have a certain amount of control over their body temperature. They can warm up, if they are too cold, by sunning themselves or cool off by getting into the shade. But it is hard for cold-blooded animals to keep warm in the winter. For any animal to be active, its body temperature must be above freezing. This is because the chemistry of life depends on water in a liquid state. If the body actually freezes — if ice crystals form in the tissues — the whole system is disrupted, and the animal dies. So cold-blooded animals in the north must either find some place to spend the winter where temperatures do not reach the freezing point, or develop a special resting stage in which the water content of the protoplasm is much reduced. This will make its freezing point much lower than usual. Thus animals about to hibernate often dig down into the soil. In winter, fish are able to keep active in water under the ice, for it is usually three or four degrees above the freezing point. Many amphibians pass the winter in the unfrozen mud at the bottom of ponds.

8 Insects have developed a wide variety of ways to pass the winter. Only the milkweed butterfly migrates south in great numbers. Adult mourning cloaks and tortoise shell butterflies hibernate, immobile in the crevices of tree trunks. They are the first butterflies to be seen in the spring. A few butterflies hibernate in the caterpillar stage, and many other insects pass the winter as larvae, or

eggs.

9 These creatures have developed a wide variety of ways to cope with winter conditions. Yet, when one looks at the animal kingdom as a whole, the vast majority of kinds live only in the tropics, where winter is no problem. Relatively few species have developed any of the adaptations that would enable them to survive a period of cold and food scarcity. But in January one wonders not why there are so few kinds of animals in the north, but how any of them manage to get along without benefit of central heating.⁴

Finishing Time: Minutes _____ Seconds _____

WORDS AND EXPRESSIONS

1. acorn [ˈeɪkɔːn] *n.* seed or fruit of the oak 橡子
2. hickory [ˈhɪkəri] *n.* (seed of) N. American tree (北美产)胡桃(树)
3. scrounge [ˈskraʊndʒ] *v.* (*colloq.*) get what one wants by taking it without permission or by trickery (口语)偷摸; 骗取
4. grouse [graʊs] *n.* bird with feathered feet, shot for sport and food 松鸡
5. spruce [spruːs] *n.* kinds of fir tree 云杉
6. bud [bʌd] *n.* leaf, flower, or branch, at the beginning of its growth (叶、花、枝初生时的)芽; 苞; 蓓蕾
7. owl [aʊl] *n.* night-flying bird that lives on small birds and animals (e.g. mice) 猫头鹰
8. harry [ˈhæri] *v.* lay waste and plunder; attack frequently 骚扰; 劫掠; 打砸抢; 搞破坏
9. crossbill [ˈkrɒsbɪl] *n.* a bird of the northern hemisphere 交喙鸟
10. dissection [dɪˈseksjən] *n.* cutting up or being cut up (parts of an animal body, plant, etc.) 解剖; 割开; 切碎
11. pine cone [paɪn - kəʊn] *n. phr.* the fruit of the pine tree 松塔, 松果
12. caribou [ˈkærɪbuː] *n.* N. American reindeer 北美驯鹿
13. tundra [ˈtʌndrə] *n.* wide, treeless plain of the arctic regions, marshy in summer and frozen hard in winter 冻土带; 苔原
14. pedestrian [piˈdestriən] *n. & adj.* person walking in street; connected with walking 步行的; 步行者; 行人
15. stash away [stæʃ-əˈwei] *phr.* put aside, hide, keep in store 贮藏
16. cache [kæʃ] *n.* food or stores of anything left for later use 贮藏物
17. girdle [ˈgɜːdl] *v.* remove the bark around the trunk of a tree, like a belt, to kill it 环割树皮
18. metabolism [miˈtæbəlɪzəm] *n.* process by which food is built up into living matter or by which living matter is broken down into simple substances 新陈代谢
19. be the case with *phr.* be true to ... ……的情形也一样
20. woodchuck [ˈwʊdʃʌk] *n.* a kind of rats 土拨鼠
21. hamster [ˈhæmstə] *n.* rodent like a large rat 鼯鼠
22. hedgehog [ˈhedʒhɔːg] *n.* insect-eating animal covered with spine that rolls itself up into a ball to defend itself 刺猬

23. burrow ['bʌrəʊ] *n.* hole made in the ground (by foxes, rabbits, etc.) (狐, 兔等的) 洞穴
24. congregate ['kɒŋgrɪgeɪt] *v.* & *vi.* come or bring together 集群; 聚集
25. respiration [ˌrɛspə'reɪʃən] *n.* breathing 呼吸
26. reptile ['reptail] *n.* cold-blooded animal that creeps or crawls (e.g. a lizard, snake, etc.)
冷血爬行动物 (如蜥蜴, 蛇等)
27. amphibian [æm'fɪbiən] *n.* animal able to live both on land and in water (e.g. a frog) 两栖
动物 (如青蛙)
28. disrupt [dɪs'rʌpt] *v.* break up, split 打乱; 分裂; 使破裂
29. protoplasm ['prəʊtəplæzəm] *n.* colorless, jelly-like substance which is the material basis of life
in animals and plants 细胞质; 原浆
30. mourning cloak ['mɔːnɪŋ-kləʊk] *n.* a kind of butterfly (一种紫褐色) 丧服蝶
31. immobile [ɪ'məʊbaɪl] *adj.* not able to move; motionless 不能活动的; 一动不动的
32. crevice ['krevis] *n.* narrow opening or crack (in wall, rock, etc.) (石, 墙等的) 裂缝; 缝
隙
33. adaptation [ə'dæp'teɪʃən] *n.* adapting or sth. made by adapting 适应; 适应性变化
34. scarcity ['skæəsɪti] *n.* state of being scarce; shortage of supply 缺少; 匮乏

NOTES ON LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

1. ... — people are useful sometimes — ...: These words imply ironically that in man's history, most of the time he does harm to wild lives rather than plays a protective role in preserving them.
2. Migration is out ... that cannot fly: The word *out* in this sentence functions equally as the phrase "out of the question".
译: 对不能飞行的动物来说迁移是不可能的。
3. Many mammals live ... — hibernating: Literally, *closing shop* means "stopping shop business". In this sentence, it indicates figuratively that in winter, many mammals stop outside activities to hibernate.
译: 整个冬天, 许多哺乳类动物闭门不出 — 冬眠。
4. But in January... of central heating: ... *without benefit of central heating* is used to personify the animals' lack of wintering conditions.
译: 但在二月份, 人们感到好奇的不是在北方几乎见不到几种动物, 而是动物如何在享受不到集中供热条件下设法度过冬天的。

COMPREHENSION

Here are ten questions or unfinished statements about the passage, each with four suggested ways of answering or finishing it. You are to choose the one you consider the most suitable without looking back at the passage. Give one answer only to each question.

1. The main reason birds fly south in winter is that the

- a. temperature drops.
 - b. food supply diminishes.
 - c. hours of darkness decrease.
 - d. hours of darkness increase.
2. One factor in the seeding of forests illustrates the fact that squirrels
- a. do not always retrieve their nuts.
 - b. locate their stores by memory.
 - c. locate their stores by sense of smell.
 - d. need more fruit next year.
3. Snow can most fairly be called
- a. a threat to small animals.
 - b. a destroyer of food supplies.
 - c. an aid to survival.
 - d. an additional difficulty to squirrels.
4. Very small animals lose heat rapidly because
- a. they do not have enough insulating fur.
 - b. their surface area is great in proportion to their body mass.
 - c. they are too active.
 - d. they have no shelters to stay in.
5. When the air temperature is 50 degrees below zero, the temperature under the snow would probably be
- a. 70 degrees below zero.
 - b. 50 degrees below zero.
 - c. above zero.
 - d. very high.
6. Most experts agree that true hibernation involves
- a. sleeping through the winter.
 - b. reduced heart rate and temperature.
 - c. decrease in water content.
 - d. sleeping without breathing.
7. The body temperature of a cold-blooded animal
- a. is always lower than air temperature.
 - b. stays at a fairly constant level.
 - c. changes in response to air temperature.
 - d. is always higher than air temperature.
8. Reducing the water content of an animal's body protoplasm will
- a. lower the point at which its body freezes.
 - b. enable it to survive if it should freeze.
 - c. enable it to stay completely motionless.
 - d. warm up the animal.
9. Fish below the ice are able to
- a. freeze and thaw out in the spring.
 - b. hibernate.
 - c. remain active during the winter.
 - d. keep their body temperature at the freezing point.
10. The author thinks it is remarkable that
- a. so few animals live in the north.
 - b. so many animals live only in the tropics.
 - c. survival is possible in the north.
 - d. the north is so cold in winter.

FAST READING PRACTICE

You are given two minutes to **SCAN** the following passage and then answer the questions by making your choices.