

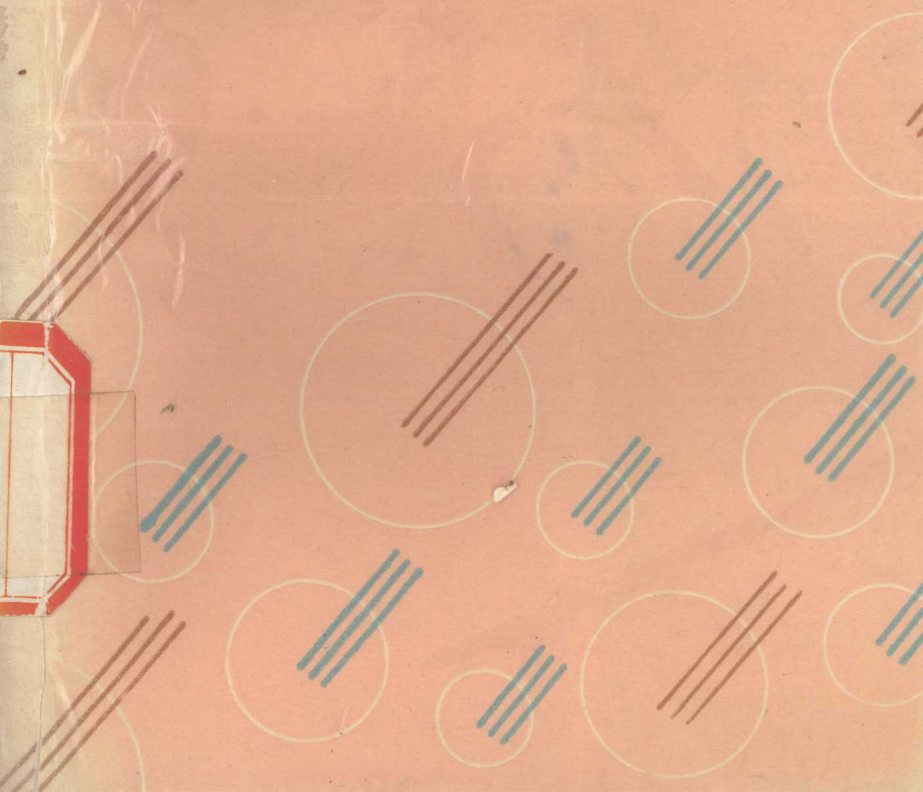
ENGLISH READING SERIES

南京大学出版社

# 英语阅读文丛

第一册

主编 钱兴荣



# 英语阅读文丛

第一册

English Reading Series

Book One

主编 钱兴荣

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南京大学出版社

1991 · 南京

(苏) 新登字第 011 号

英语阅读文丛 (第一册)

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南京大学出版社出版

(南京大学校内)

江苏省新华书店发行 南京大学印刷厂印刷

开本:  $787 \times 1092 \frac{1}{32}$  印张: 5.5 字数: 122 千

1991 年 11 月第 1 版 1991 年 11 月第 1 次印刷

印数 1—3000

ISBN 7-305-01201-7/H·54

定价: 2.40 元

## 前言

《英语阅读文丛》是我们向中学生和广大英语爱好者献上的一份薄礼，旨在为他们提供课外英语辅助读物、提高他们的英语程度。

编写本书的想法最早是在和几位中学英语教师聊天时产生的。近几年来中学生的英语能力普遍较前增强，但是可供他们巩固已学知识、进一步提高对学习英语的兴趣的读物却不多，既有启发性，又有知识性的英语读物更为少见。后来我们便留心此事，并通过海外友人，从美国、英国、澳大利亚等以英语作为母语的国家中、小学英语教科书和课外读物中选取了大量有知识性、趣味性、启发性的材料。为了更适合我国中学生和广大英语爱好者的英语程度，我们在不改变原作风格和特点的前提下，参照《全日制中学英语教学大纲》的要求，对所选原文进行了一些改写，使之成为我国中学生学习英语、增加知识、了解世界的一个有用的阶梯。

选入本丛书的文章体裁较广，主要是考虑到给学生一个英语使用范围的真实了解。文章包括小故事、知识小品、人物小传、名人轶事、寓言、神话、幽默等。

本书的特点在于提供丰富的英语语言材料，使学生阅读之后，在英语词汇、语法和实用文体方面获得大量的知识。全书共三册，适合于高一、高二、高三和相应程度的英语爱好者课外和业余阅读之用。每册约为 60 篇短文，虽然文章长度

与难度逐步增加，但每篇短文所出现的生词一般不超过全文词数的3%。每篇选文后面对文中的难点进行了注释，并编有4个阅读理解选择题和4个判断正误题，书后附有参考答案。对程度较低的学生来说，本书是他们籍以提高英语程度的阅读材料；对于程度高的学生，则是进一步提高、巩固英语知识、藉以无师自通的良友。

本书主编为钱兴荣（南京大学外办），参加本册编著工作的有周秀清（南京大学附中）和潘利群（南京大学大学外语部）。审校为吴克明副教授（南京大学外文系）。

对为本书的编著和出版提供有关资料和帮助的海外友人和同行，我们仅在此表示衷心的感谢。

由于我们的水平有限，编写时间仓促，书中难免有讹错之处，敬请英语界人士和广大读者不吝指正。

编者

1991年11月

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## 1. "Iced Water: 50 p"

A young man had a new girlfriend, whom he wanted to please so much<sup>①</sup>. One evening he invited her to go to a world-famous restaurant with him. They ate wonderful foods and had a great many drinks; they listened to the beautiful music and danced wildly until midnight. The girl enjoyed the entire evening and she loved everything she saw, including several film stars.

Then the waiter brought the bill at the end of the evening, and when the young man saw how much he had to pay, he was greatly surprised by the total that his face went as white as a sheet<sup>②</sup>.

The helpful waiter, who was watching his face, thought he might be going to faint, so he quickly poured out a glass of ice-cold water and emptied it over the young man's head. Then he took the bill back and added to it: "Iced water: 50 p".

### 注释

- ① ... whom he wanted to please so much: 他很想讨好她。  
② as white as a sheet: 苍白如纸。

### I. Multiple Choice Questions:

1. The young man invited his new girlfriend to a restaurant so that he could let her \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) know how rich he was
  - b) know how much he liked her
  - c) see some film stars there
  - d) learn how to dance
2. That poor young man \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) did not have a wonderful meal
  - b) did not dance with his girlfriend till midnight
  - c) asked the waiter to drink a glass of water
  - d) was frightened to see the bill
3. The waiter \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) gave the young man a free glass of water
  - b) helped the young man with the bill
  - c) served the young man with only one glass of iced water
  - d) emptied a glass of water over the young man's head
4. The passage did not mention \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) that the waiter was helpful
  - b) that the foods in the restaurant were wonderful
  - c) how much the young man had to pay
  - d) whether the girl enjoyed the whole evening or not

## II. True or False:

1. The young man drank so much in the restaurant that his face became as white as a sheet.
2. The restaurant was more expensive than the young man had expected.
3. The young man pretended that he would faint.
4. The girl had got ready to pay the bill.

## 2. Water or Wine?

Some villagers were going to hold an important wine festival in a few days' time, so they borrowed a huge barrel from the nearest town, put it in the village square, and decided that each of them should empty into it a bottle of the best wine he had, so that there should be plenty to drink at the festival.

One of the villagers thought he would be very clever. "If I pour a bottle of water in, instead of wine, no one will notice it," he said to himself, "because there will be so much excellent wine in the barrel that the water will be lost in it<sup>①</sup>."

The night of the festival arrived. Everybody gathered in the village square with their glasses for the wine. The tap on the barrel was opened — — but what came out was pure water. Everyone in the village had the same idea.

II. True or False:

1. The young man drank so much in the restaurant that he became as

① the water will be lost in it; 水将掺在其中.

2. The restaurant was more expensive than the young man had expected.

### I. Multiple Choice Questions:

1. A huge barrel was borrowed to the village \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) to hold both water and wine
- b) to store the wine produced by the villagers
- c) to save up wine for the next year
- d) to hold wine for the coming festival

2. It was decided that \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) all the villagers should drink water
- b) the best wine should be poured into the barrel
- c) wine should be mixed with some water
- d) water should be poured into the barrel

3. One of the villagers \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) brought some wine with him
- b) did not like drinking wine
- c) poured a bottle of wine in the barrel
- d) thought that he would be very clever

4. On the night of the festival \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) people enjoyed themselves very much
- b) a few villagers were found to have poured water in the

barrel

- c) everyone had expected to drink the wine given by others  
d) the barrel was broken by one of the villagers

## II. True or False:

1. The wine festival was held in the village square.
2. Only one villager poured his excellent wine in the barrel.
3. The barrel got lost in the water before the festival arrived.
4. It was found at the festival that the barrel was actually full of water.

## 3. An Umbrella?

One year Miss Wyatt decided to have a holiday in Italy. She did not speak much Italian, but wherever she went, she was fortunate enough to find people who knew enough English to be able to understand what she wanted, until one day she decided to have lunch in a beautiful little restaurant in a village in the south of Italy.

She had seen some nice mushrooms in the market of another village near there and thought they would taste very good, so when the waiter came to take her order<sup>①</sup> for lunch, she asked whether she could have some mushrooms for her meal, but she had great difficulty in explaining to him, because she did not know the

Italian word for mushrooms.

At last she took out a pencil and drew a picture of a mushroom. The waiter's face brightened at once, and he hurried out to the kitchen. A minute later he returned, carrying an umbrella.

注释:

① take her order: 让她点菜.

### I. Multiple Choice Questions:

1. Miss Wyatt \_\_\_\_\_, so she enjoyed her holiday most of the time.
  - a) could speak Italian very well
  - b) ate a lot of mushrooms in Italy
  - c) often found people who could understand her
  - d) had eaten a lot of mushrooms
2. The waiter brought Miss Wyatt an umbrella because \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) he was selling umbrellas
  - b) it was going to rain
  - c) he thought she wanted it
  - d) it was larger than mushrooms
3. Miss Wyatt ordered mushrooms for lunch because \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) it was the cheapest  
 b) it might taste good  
 c) she could not find it in her country  
 d) this would please the waiter
4. Miss Wyatt tried to tell the waiter what she wanted by  
 a) drawing a picture  
 b) speaking English  
 c) asking him for an umbrella  
 d) showing him some mushrooms

## II. True or False:

1. Miss Wyatt could not speak a word of Italian. **F**  
 2. Almost all Italians knew English very well. **F**  
 3. Miss Wyatt bought a nice umbrella in an Italian village. **F**  
 4. Miss Wyatt could not be understood in that restaurant. **T**

## 4. To Hell With Churchill and His Speech

During the Second World War, Winston Churchill<sup>®</sup> was the British Prime Minister. One day he had to go to the British Broadcasting Corporation (the BBC)<sup>®</sup> to make an important speech to the nation.

An hour before the time of his speech, he stopped a taxi in the street and asked the driver to take him to the BBC; but the taxidriver, who did not recognize him, said that he could not take him anywhere at the time, because he wanted to go back to his home at the other end of London to hear Churchill make a speech on the radio.

Churchill was so pleased when he heard this answer that he gave the man a pound, which was worth quite a lot in those days.

"All right, get in," said the driver happily, opening the door of the taxi. "I'll take you, and to hell with<sup>③</sup> Churchill and his speech!"

### 注释:

- ① Winston Churchill: 温斯顿·邱吉尔(1874—1965). 曾任英国首相. 在位期为 1940 年至 1945 年和 1951 年至 1955 年.
- ② the British Broadcasting Corporation (the BBC): 英国广播公司.
- ③ to hell with: 让……见鬼去吧.

### I. Multiple Choice Questions:

1. Winston Churchill had to go to the BBC one day           .  
a) to make an important speech there  
b) to listen to an important speech there

c) to hold an important meeting there

d) to have a discussion with the taxidriver

2. The taxidriver did not want to take Churchill an hour before the speech because \_\_\_\_\_.

a) he did not know Churchill

☒ b) he wanted to get home in time for Churchill's speech

c) he was very tired and hoped to have a rest

d) it was in the war-time

3. Churchill gave the taxidriver a pound because the taxidriver \_\_\_\_\_.

☒ a) agreed to take him

b) hoped to listen to him on the radio

c) asked him to get into the taxi

d) lived at the other end of London

4. The taxidriver changed his mind and was willing to take Churchill because \_\_\_\_\_.

a) he no longer wanted to hear the speech

☒ b) he was given a pound

c) he recognized the Prime Minister

d) the speech was not very important

## II. True or False:

1. The taxidriver realized that he could not hear Churchill's