

青春阅读

Easy
Reading (II)

(英语版)

轻松
阅读
世界
(下)

在阅读理解的结合中体会自然天地的动人美丽，
于思考练习的贯穿里感受英语的无限魅力。

孙忠杰 编



远方出版社



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前言

随着科学技术的进步,越来越多的视听手段被用于外语教学与学习,然而对于广大学生来说,书本的阅读仍然是接触外语最主要的渠道。除了课本之外,相应的阅读材料对于学生拓宽视野和提高阅读能力也是必不可少的。

学习语言的目的在于运用,而阅读能力的高低是语言运用能力的一项很重要指标。读书多了,阅读能力才会逐渐提高。频繁接触,不断摄入,由熟悉到模仿,再由模仿到创造,语言的表达能力也就提高了,这是语言学习的必经之路。

如何阅读,是一个非常个性化的问题。这里涉及读者的水平、文章的深浅、篇幅的长短、内容的重要性以及趣味性等等,不能笼统而言。遇到生词——查阅词汇表或辞书固不可取,但只读而不求甚解,浮光掠影一晃而过也不可取。至少有一点必须明确,那就是读了就要求读懂,否则就等于没有读过,这里的“懂”首先是了解大意,包括每一段的要领。从学习的要求来看,还应该力求理解每一个句子。为了确切理解,有

时根据上下文猜测一下,或是停下来查阅一下参考书都是无可厚非的。关键是摸索出行之有效的阅读方法,让自己受益。

为此,我们编写了《青春阅读》丛书。本丛书取材广泛得当,具有鲜明的时代特色,可读性强,可使读者增强对现代英语的感受,增长国外社会与文化方面的知识。本丛书符合中学生的英语水平,便于中学生阅读,从中受益。

本丛书材料选编涉及面广,限于时间及编写水平,有误之处在所难免,欢迎广大读者朋友们批评指正,以便今后完善。

编 者



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Unit 1 Art and Literature

长句短读

所谓长句是由许多短句组成的,只不过放在了一起,就显得庞大,令人生畏罢了。如果我们把它们拆开,还原成一个一个短句来分析,意思就显而易见了。如: The jackdaw (寒鸦), knowing his own ugliness, yet wishing to rule over the birds, searched through woods and fields for feathers which had fallen from the wings of his companions, and stuck them all over his body.

该句可以分为以下几个短句来理解：

1. The jackdaw knew his own ugliness. Yet he wished to rule over the birds.

2. So he searched through woods and fields for feathers.

3. Those feathers had fallen from the wings of his companions.

4. The jackdaw stuck them all over his body.

这种化长句为若干短句的能力对阅读理解帮助极大，我们应在平时多加注意。

阅读理解

Passage A

Macaulay Culkin has played computer games with Michael Jackson. “Mack”, as is known to his friends, helped 20th Century Fox^① take an incredible (难以置信的) \$507 million for Home Alone^②, which went on to become one of the most attractive films of all time. Culkin played Kevin McCallister, the angelic (天使般的) child, who's left by mistake behind by his parents when they go off to Europe for Christmas. Both hands clapped to his cheeks, eyes and mouth wide with fright, Mack's “Aaaaaaaaahhhh!” scream face was copied by children across the world months after the

movie had left down. Writer/Producer John Hughes says, "Kids really liked it because Kevin was like them. He didn't have superhuman (超人) powers."

"I'm just like every other kid," says Mack. "When I'm not doing movies, I go out with my friends and do things any normal kid would do: go to a video shop or go to get pizza. I don't get an allowance (津贴), but whenever I need money I go, 'Mom, can I get ten dollars for pizza?' She goes, 'Sure, sure, sure.' But it's not always 'Sure, sure, sure'. I wake up every day at seven. Then I walk the dog for twenty minutes, that's my favorite. I miss my family when I'm away filming. My younger brothers and sisters love Home Alone, but I don't think they realize I'm in it."

根据文章内容, 选择正确答案:

1. In Home Alone, Macaulay Culkin plays a child who _____.

A. goes to Europe on holiday with his parents

B. is deserted by his parents on purpose

C. often has terrible dreams

D. finds himself on his own by chance

2. John Hughes thinks children like the film because the main character _____.

A. was just a typical everyday kid

B. wasn't very clever

C. got on well with thieves

D. was very strong

3. When he needs money, Macaulay Culkin just asks his mother and _____.

A. she gives him what he wants

B. she gives him what he wants as long as it is for food

C. she gives him what he wants if he does some work around the house

D. she may or may not give him what he wants

译 注

① 20th Century Fox 二十世纪福克斯公司, 美国最著名的电影公司之一。

② Home Alone 美国电影《小鬼当家》, 描述了 Kevin 独自在家智斗窃贼的故事。

Passage B

At a time of high-speed Internet and digital DVD, a book can still work magic. It's British author J. K. Rowling who is creating a wonderful world with her boy wizard, Harry Potter.

The fifth book of Rowling's popular series—"Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix"^①—went on sale on June 21. It hit countries across the world, including China. And it was the first time China took part in a global book launch (发行). All 5,500 of the imported (进口) English copies were quickly sold out in Beijing.

More books will be imported to China and the

Chinese language version (译本) will be released in October.

The series tell of the adventures of Harry, a young wizard at a school for magic in England. In the latest book Harry turns 15. Rowling plans to write one book for each of his seven years at school.

So why is Harry Potter so attractive? "Rowling's Harry Potter books have very good plots (情节). They're great fun to read." said Gao Lulu, a 17-year-old Shanghai student.

Zeng Lisha, a Senior 1 student in Jiangxi, agreed, "The magical world in the books is quite different from reality. Rowling has excellent storytelling skills and imagination. Besides, her writing is wonderful."

American writer Connie Neal believes that Rowling has given parents and young kids an easy way to talk about good and evil. "The books are filled with kids who want to be good." she said.

But not everybody has been swept away by Harry

Potter's charm (魅力). British writer India Knight criticized (批评) the high level of violence (暴力) and killing described in the books. She thinks those are harmful to the minds of young people.

And others say the books encourage people to escape reality and believe in the supernatural. ②

These voices are largely drowned out (听不见) by a world that's completely fallen under Harry Potter's spell (咒语).

根据文章内容,选择正确答案:

1. The underlined words "be released" in paragraph 3 means _____.

A. be set free

B. be known

C. come out

D. be sold out

2. Which of the following statements is TRUE?

A. All 5, 500 of imported Chinese copies were quickly sold out in Beijing.

B. In the latest book Harry is 16 years old.

C. The magical world in the book is quite different from reality.

D. No one thinks the violence and killing are harmful to children.

3. What would be the best title for the text?

A. J. K. Rowling's Book

B. Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix

C. Why We Love Harry Potter

D. One Key to the Book's Success

译 注

①Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix.

英国作家 J. K. Rowling 的系列丛书《哈里·波特》之五《哈里·波特与凤凰令》。

② And others say the books encourage people to escape reality and believe in the supernatural.

也有人说这些书鼓励人们逃避现实,去相信超自然的事物。

Passage C

Before he turned to the historical novel, Walter Scott ^① wrote poems, most of which were based on love and fighting. But soon he discovered that he could not write poems as well as Byron, and so he turned away from it, but as a historical novelist (历史小说家), he seemed to be the best of his time. He read the older novelists, and he himself began to write his first novel *Waverley* in 1805. It appeared in 1814 and for the next eighteen years Scott wrote novel after novel. ^② In 1826 he lost all his money through the business failure (失败) of his publisher and printer. ^③ He owed \$ 100,000, but refused the money which his friends offered to help him. He sat down to pay the huge debt (债务) by writing, but died before he could do so. However, his books brought in enough money after his death to pay the last pound.

The modern world is different from Scott's world. It does not admire (赞赏) glory (光荣) in battle as much as the men of Scott's day, partly because there are so many other dangerous events to remember. Space travel is more exciting to us than fighting with swords (剑). These facts have made Scott's novels interest fewer people; yet we must admire his power of description. His characters, especially the unusual ones, are well drawn. He left so much that few people can read all of it.

根据文章内容,选择正确答案:

1. Walter Scott gave up writing poems because _____.

- A. he was tired of doing so
- B. he had to turn away from writing
- C. he knew more about novels than poems
- D. he didn't think he could receive greater success