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朗文英语快速阅读进阶

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

BASIC READING SKILLS

FYI

Karen Blanchard ◆ Christine Root



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南开大学出版社

朗文英语快速阅读进阶一

FOR YOUR INFORMATION 1

BASIC READING SKILLS



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改编说明

朗文英语快速阅读进阶（原名 FOR YOUR INFORMATION）共分四个分册，每一分册均由八个单元组成，是一套旨在提高学生的阅读兴趣、扩展学生的词汇量、帮助学生掌握阅读技巧的非常系统的英语阅读丛书。该丛书是按照初级、中级、中高级至高级四个阶段进行编排的。该丛书的最大特点是选材新颖，融知识与趣味于一体。学生在阅读过程中既可学到相关的词汇和语句，又可以了解到全球范围内的一些热门话题。更重要的是，通过阅读文章和做辅助练习题，学生的阅读技能得到快速的提升。

我们对该丛书的改编主要是从我国的英语教学实践出发，按照国家教育部关于大学英语教学改革的要求，密切结合全国大学英语四六级考试委员会对大学英语四、六级考试题型的重新调整而进行的。特别针对目前大学英语四级考试新题型中的快速阅读，我们对原书作了部分删改，并在每篇文章中增补了与文章内容吻合的单词表，以及文章中所涉及的相关的人物、地区、国家等背景知识的介绍。另外，还特别对文章中所涉及的一些跨文化交际内容作了适当的介绍。这也是国家教育部关于大学英语教学改革的一项新的要求。

希望全国各高校的大学生在学好学校所安排的英语课程的同时，充分利用本丛书，进一步提高英语阅读能力和兴趣。同时，我们强烈建议新大学英语四级考试的考生使用本丛书作为考前的自主复习用书。

编者
2006年7月30日
于南开园

For Your Information 1 is a book of high-interest readings, most of which are authentic, for high-beginning or low-intermediate students of English as a second language (ESL). It focuses on the very real needs of students at this level for vocabulary expansion and reading skill-building. It is designed for use in ESL adult-education programs, universities, language institutes, and secondary schools both in the United States and abroad.

For Your Information 1 is made up of eight thematically based units, each of which contains a selection of three or four readings. It is based on the premise that ESL students are able to read at a higher level of English than they can produce. Vocabulary-building and skill-building activities accompany each reading.

An important goal of *For Your Information 1* is to help students become confident readers by increasing their vocabulary base and improving their word-attack skill. It engages them in the process of reading thoughtfully and encourages them to move beyond passive reading. Although it is a reading text, students practice their speaking, listening, and writing throughout *For Your Information 1*. The tasks are varied, accessible, and engaging and they provide stimuli for frequent interaction.

The basic format for each unit in *FYI 1* is as follows:

● **Points to Ponder**

These prereading questions serve to introduce the topic of the unit and get students thinking about that topic.

● **Reading Selections and Accompanying Tasks**

Each unit contains three or four reading selections on topics of high interest and universal appeal. One of the readings in each unit is an interview with an individual knowledgeable on some aspect of the general topic of that unit. Selections are followed by a combination of comprehension questions and activities to practice new vocabulary and vocabulary in context as well as scanning, skimming, predicting, and separating main from supporting ideas.

● **Tying It All Together**

Each unit concludes with discussion questions designed to encourage students to think about, distill, and discuss the information they have read about throughout the unit. Following the questions are an interactive vocabulary review and self-test.

We hope that you and your students enjoy the readings and activities in this text and find them interesting for your information.

KLB, CBR

We acknowledge with gratitude the many family members and friends whose seemingly tireless reading, writing, and researching added so much to this book.

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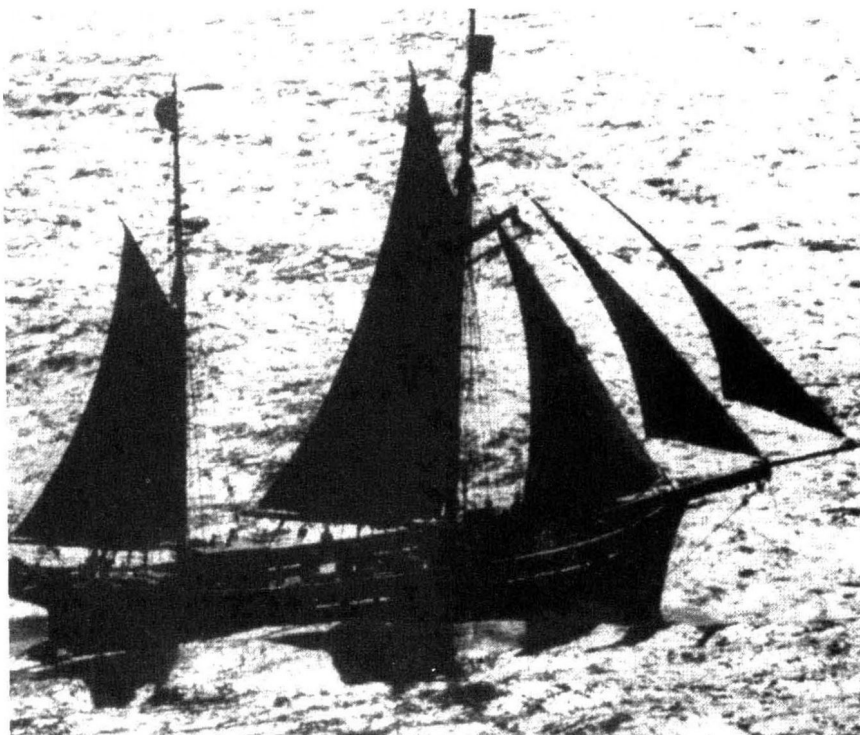
TRAVEL TALK



Selections

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People travel for many different reasons. Some people travel to visit friends or family. Other people travel for business or education. Still others travel for excitement and adventure. This unit has several articles about travel experiences. Before you read these articles, think about your own feelings about traveling.



POINTS TO
POND

Answer each of the following questions about yourself. Then discuss your answers in small groups.

1. What do you like most about traveling? Make a list.

2. What do you like least about traveling? Make a list.

3. Which of the following types of vacations appeal to you? Put a 1 in front of your first choice, a 2 in front of your second choice, and so on.

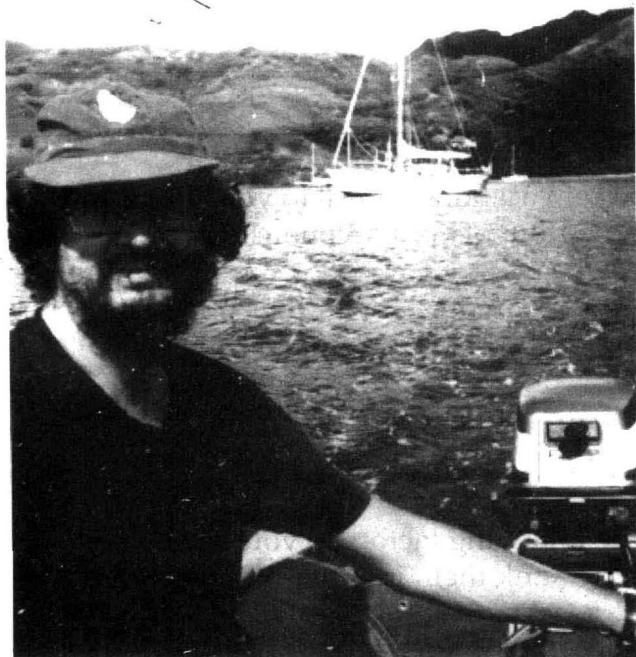
_____ ski trip	_____ city sightseeing
_____ tropical island	_____ camping
_____ cruise	_____ visiting family or friends
_____ safari	_____ other: _____

4. How important is each of the following factors to you when you choose a vacation destination? Rank them in order of importance.

_____ weather	_____ a golf course
_____ scenery	_____ location
_____ friendly people	_____ interesting sights
_____ food	_____ tourist facilities
_____ cost	_____ accommodations
_____ shopping	_____ other: _____

5. Which factors would make your vacation less enjoyable? Put them in order. Start with the one most likely to ruin your trip.

_____ bad weather	_____ getting sunburned
_____ losing your wallet	_____ bad food
_____ getting sick	_____ poor accommodations
_____ jet lag	_____ losing your luggage
_____ bad flight	_____ other: _____



The Company of the Sea is an interview with a man who has sailed around the world. This man, Eralp Akkoyunlu, was born in Istanbul, Turkey in 1933. He spent his childhood in Istanbul on an island called Buyukada, which means “big island” in English. Like many of the children on the island, he loved the water, the fish, and the small boats. Sometimes he would go out with fishermen in their boats. Eralp was never afraid of the water.

Eralp’s dream was to build a boat and sail it around the world. Lots of people dream of boats. Many people buy boats. Some people build boats, but very few people build their own boat and sail it around the world alone. This is an interview with someone who did.

BEFORE YOU READ

PREREADING DISCUSSION

1. Have you ever been on a sailboat or taken a cruise somewhere? If you have, describe your experience to your classmates.
2. Do you like the feeling of being on a boat? How does it make you feel? Relaxed? Anxious? Excited? Free? Afraid? Helpless? Strong?
3. Sailing on the sea is a popular theme. There are many movies, books, paintings, songs, and poems about life on the sea. Have you seen, read, or heard any of these? Discuss some of your favorite ones with your classmates.

VOCABULARY

company

同伴，朋友

Istanbul

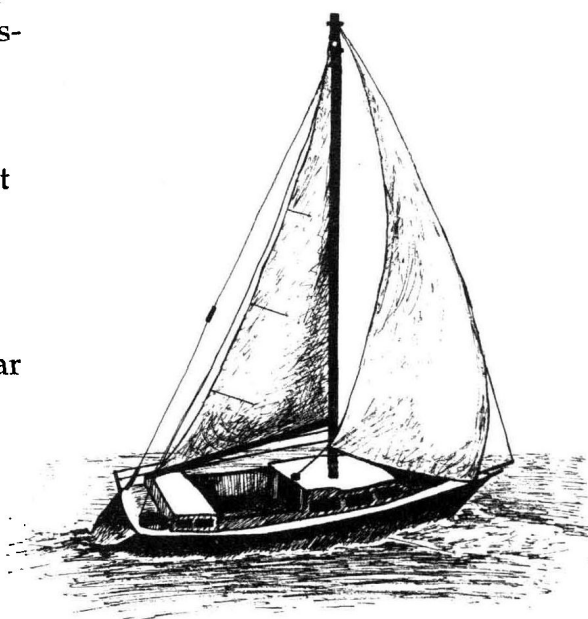
伊斯坦布尔（土耳其西北部港口城市）

Turkey

土耳其（国），地跨亚欧两洲，扼黑海和地中海的出入海峡，战略地位重要

take a cruise

航行，巡游



VOCABULARY

Ph.D.

= Doctor of Philosophy,
 哲学博士, 现泛指博士
 feet (pl.) of foot,
 英尺, 略做ft.; 1 ft. =
 12 in. = 0.3048 m
 seaweed

Bermuda

百慕大, 北大西洋中
 西部岛群。位于北纬
 32度14分至32度25分,
 西经64度38分至64度53
 分, 西距北美大陆约
 928公里, 由150多个
 珊瑚岛组成, 其中7个
 大岛有桥梁和堤道相
 通。面积53平方公里,
 仅20个岛有居民, 主要
 为黑人, 首府哈密尔顿。

Venezuela

委内瑞拉(国), 位
 于南美洲西北端, 北
 濒加勒比海, 东北临
 大西洋。面积916 700
 平方公里, 官方语为
 西班牙语。

Tahiti

塔希提岛[南太平洋]
 Fiji

斐济(国), 位于太
 平洋南部斐济群岛上。
 由维提岛等840多个岛
 礁组成, 仅100个岛有
 常年居民。陆地总面
 积18 200平方公里, 主
 要为珊瑚环绕的火山
 岛, 沿海有肥沃的平
 原, 属热带雨林气
 候。

dolphin

海豚, 属哺乳动物

flying fish

(鱼) 文鳐鱼, 飞鱼

hitchhike

沿途免费搭乘便车旅行

The Company of the Sea

**Tell us a little about your-
 self and what made you
 decide to build a boat and
 sail it around the world.**

1 I finished my early education
 in Turkey and moved to New
 York for graduate school in com-
 puter science at Columbia
 University. After I finished my
 Ph.D., I began teaching gradu-
 ate students at Stonybrook
 University in New York and then
 at Brooklyn College. I loved New
 York and felt like a true New
 Yorker, but I often missed the
 sea. One day on vacation in
 southern Turkey, I realized that
 what I really wanted to do was
 build a sailboat and sail around
 the world. When I returned to
 New York, I started to work on it.

**How long did it take to
 build the boat? How big is it?**

2 I worked full-time at my
 teaching job during the week
 and began to build the boat at
 night and on weekends. It was a
 long and difficult job. It took me
 about five years. The boat is
 thirty-eight feet long. I decided
 to name the boat *Yosun*, which
 means "seaweed" in Turkish.

**Describe the trip you
 took on your boat.**

3 Because of my job, I was only
 able to sail during summer vaca-
 tions, so the trip around the
 world had to be broken up into
 small pieces. The first section
 was from New York to Bermuda.
 From there, I went to Venezuela,
 then to the Galápagos Islands
 and Tahiti. I wandered all
 through the South Pacific, stop-
 ping for long visits to Fiji.
 Occasionally, I would be joined
 by friends. But most of the time,
 my only companions were dol-
 phins and flying fish. Sometimes
 a bird would stop by to hitch-
 hike or for a little rest. I love the
 company of the sea and most of
 all, I love my boat. *Yosun* sails
 beautifully and is a joy to see.

**What are you doing now?
 Are you planning another
 trip?**

4 Now I divide my time between
 life on the sea and life in the
 city. *Yosun* is in southern
 Turkey, being readied for a sec-
 ond major trip—crossing the
 Atlantic and then returning to
 the South Pacific.

**HOW WELL DID
YOU READ?**

Read the following statements. If a statement is true, write *T* on the line. If it is false, write *F*.

- _____ 1. As a child, Eralp was afraid of the water.
- _____ 2. Eralp grew up in Turkey.
- _____ 3. *Yosun* was built in Turkey.
- _____ 4. Eralp usually sailed alone.
- _____ 5. Many people build their own boats and sail around the world.

**BUILDING
READING SKILLS****ORGANIZING
INFORMATION**

Here is a list of some important events in Eralp's life. Put them in the correct time order by numbering them from 1 to 8.

- _____ went to graduate school at Columbia University
- _____ spent his childhood on an island called Buyukada
- _____ sailed to Venezuela, the Galápagos Islands, and Tahiti
- _____ completed his early education in Turkey
- _____ spent five years building *Yosun*
- _____ began teaching graduate students
- _____ sailed from New York to Bermuda
- _____ realized he wanted to build a sailboat and sail it around the world

**BUILDING
READING SKILLS****LOCATING
INFORMATION**

Look through the interview for the answers to the following questions. When you find the place in the text that answers the question, underline it. Then write the number of the paragraph in the space provided. Work as quickly as you can.

- 1. How long did it take Eralp to build his sailboat? (¶ _____)
- 2. How long is the boat? (¶ _____)
- 3. What does *Yosun* mean in English? (¶ _____)
- 4. Where is *Yosun* now? (¶ _____)
- 5. At what university did Eralp get his Ph.D.? (¶ _____)

Circle the letter of the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word.

1. I loved New York and felt like a true New Yorker, but I often missed the sea.

true:

- a. real
- b. lonely
- c. foreign

missed:

- a. felt bored with
- b. felt the loss of
- c. felt afraid of

2. I worked full-time at my teaching job during the week and began to build the boat at night and on weekends.

- a. in the evening
- b. on vacations
- c. on Saturdays and Sundays

3. The first section was from New York to Bermuda.

- a. problem
- b. part
- c. job

4. I wandered all through the South Pacific, stopping for long visits to Fiji.

- a. traveled without a specific destination
- b. sailed quickly
- c. had many mechanical problems

5. Occasionally, I would be joined by friends. But most of the time, my only companions were dolphins and flying fish.

occasionally:

- a. most of the time
- b. once in a while
- c. luckily

companions:

- a. company; friends
- b. enemies
- c. animals



Madrid Memories is taken from the travel journal of Nancy Stetser, a young woman who was traveling in Spain. This entry describes her thoughts about the first day of her trip.

PREREADING
DISCUSSION

1. Do you ever keep a journal when you travel? If so, what kinds of things do you record?
2. Do you like to take pictures when you travel? Do you collect souvenirs from the places you visit? If so, what kind?

Madrid Memories

