

Reading

英语趣味阅读系列

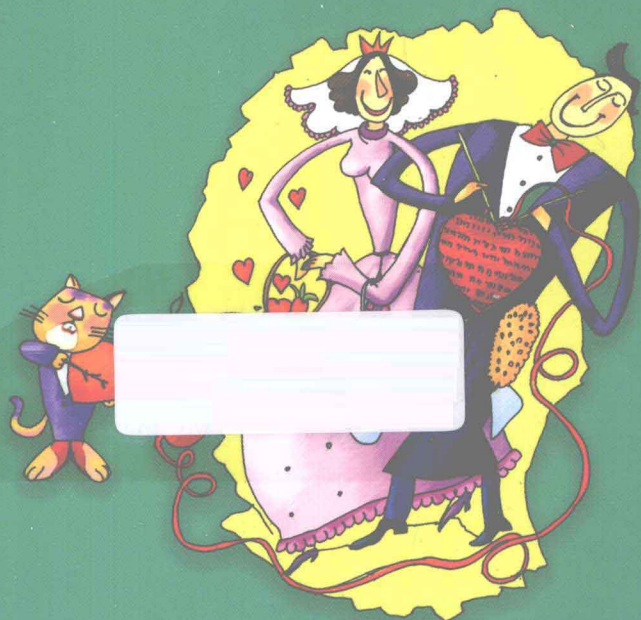
丛书主编 朱宾忠

长寿的秘诀

The Secret of
Longevity

主 编 朱宾忠

副主编 杨文慧 尚海蓉 代玉香



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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

长寿的秘诀/朱宾忠主编;杨文慧,尚海蓉,代玉香副主编. —武汉:武汉大学出版社,2012.7

英语趣味阅读系列/朱宾忠主编

ISBN 978-7-307-09518-2

I. 长… II. ①朱… ②杨… ③尚… ④代…
III. 英语—语言读物 IV. H319.4

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2012)第 016390 号

封面图片为上海富昱特授权使用(© IMAGEMORE Co., Ltd.)

责任编辑:叶玲利 责任校对:黄添生 版式设计:韩闻锦

出版发行:武汉大学出版社 (430072 武昌 珞珈山)

(电子邮件:wdp4@whu.edu.cn 网址:www.wdp.com.cn)

印刷:湖北恒泰印务有限公司

开本:950×1260 1/32 印张:10.125 字数:330千字 插页:1

版次:2012年7月第1版 2012年7月第1次印刷

ISBN 978-7-307-09518-2/H·868 定价:23.00元

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序 言 PREFACE

兴趣是最好的老师。阅读兴趣是学生养成好的阅读习惯、提高阅读能力的核心要素之一。有兴趣阅读，学生才会在零碎时间中“见缝插针”地经常性阅读。众所周知，语言学习除了课堂教学材料（如课本和习题）以外还需要补充大量的课外阅读材料（报纸、杂志、故事、小说等）。一般而言，一个本族语学习者阅读课外材料的数量是课堂教学材料的十多倍甚至数十倍，这也正是人们能够掌握好本族语的最大保障。然而，中国学生在学习英语的过程中，除了课本和习题外，极少阅读其他英语读物。根据笔者 2009 年 3 月针对 3 个省份（湖北、广东、福建）4 座城市（武汉、丹江口、东莞、厦门）6 所学校从初一到大一 7 个年级 731 名学生的问卷调查，除课本和习题外“从不”和“几乎不”看其他英文书籍的学生占 46.03%， “偶尔”看的学生占 51.60%， “经常”阅读的只有 2.37%。

课本及习题是英语学习的主要素材，但仅限于课本及习题的多讲多练不足以大幅度提高阅读能力以及语言能力。学校英语课本的难度都高于多数学生自主阅读的语言水平，需要老师讲解后才能理解，而习题中的阅读部分差不多都是为考试服务的，无论是文章的编排形式还是篇幅的长短，一切都是“考试化”，如阅读理解、完形填空、短文改错等。很多练习阅读的习题集还会附上应付考试的技巧，以致许多学生见到阅读材料时脑子里想的只有两个字：“答题”或“考试”。“阅读材料考试化”在较大程度上扼杀了学生的阅读兴趣，让他们不断体验英语学习中的“枯燥”和“疲劳”。也就是说，英语课本和习题不足以培养学生较浓厚的阅读兴趣，而缺乏阅读兴趣不利于养成好的阅读习惯，结果是课本中学到的词汇、短语、语法等知识也很少有机会在课外阅读中得到深化和保持。

什么样的英语故事更适合培养学生的阅读兴趣？25年来笔者在多座城市为近30所学校的中学生、大学生讲授或辅导过英语科目，也无数次因学生的请求频繁光顾书店搜寻适合他们阅读的英语故事。笔者发现，要培养学生的阅读兴趣，选择故事时需重点考虑以下因素：阅读的连续性、故事的趣味性、语言难度和汉语依赖性。

阅读的连续性。一口气把一个故事（或一本故事书）看完更容易享受阅读的乐趣。如果一边看故事，一边频繁地翻看词典、生词表或译文就不可避免地中断阅读的连续性，从而降低阅读兴趣。

故事的趣味性。阅读的连续性是人们欣赏故事、领悟语言的基本功，而故事的趣味性是吸引读者持续性阅读的最有效动力。上述问卷调查中74.41%的学生表示，他们挑选英文故事阅读时主要会考虑趣味性。

语言难度。语言难度是影响阅读的连续性和阅读兴趣的另一个重要因素，上述调查结果也表明了这一点：42.95%的学生挑选英文故事时主要会考虑语言难度；而“从不”和“几乎不”以及“偶尔”看其他英文书籍的学生当中，66.44%的学生认为他们读过的英文故事难度“太大”或“较大”，因而失去阅读的兴趣。所以，要保持学生的阅读兴趣，所选故事的难度最好是接近或略低于学校课本的语言程度。

汉语依赖性。许多学生阅读英语时习惯于一见到生词就查看词典（或生词表），有译文时先看译文。对汉语的过分依赖不仅影响到阅读的连续性，降低阅读兴趣，更不利于培养阅读英语的习惯。本丛书尝试把影响故事整体理解的词汇、短语、结构、语法、习俗等进行适当改写或在句中加上简明的汉字。比如，常见的被动语态对初学者是理解的难点，词典、词汇表和译文对此帮助不大，而三言两语的注释也解释不清，在句中加上简明的汉字反而简单有效。

“英语趣味阅读系列”丛书主要由武汉大学外语学院英文系教授（博导）朱宾忠博士、集美大学外语学院英语系副主任（副教授）黄明博士和广东东莞市高级中学高级教师吴彩担任主编，邀集了一批长期从事英语教学和研究的教师共同编写。丛书共四册，难度依次递进，内容各有侧重，共选编了500多个经典故事，分为童话故事、民间故事、情感故事、幽默故事四大类。所选故事趣味性强、语言地道、情节生动、真挚感人。本丛书在保持原文原汁原味的前提下对影响故事整体理解的难点部分进行了改写或添加简明的汉字，语言难度逐册提高，但力求让所有中学生、大学生在“无词典、无词表、无译文”的状态下一口气看完每一

个完整的故事。本丛书的编写方式不仅降低了学生对汉语的依赖性，而且为阅读的连续性创造了条件。一口气看完本丛书中一个个动人故事也是学生真实体验“欣赏与自我欣赏”的一个新奇历程，即在欣赏优美英语故事的同时不知不觉开始欣赏自己英语水平的提高。总之，本丛书在提高学生阅读兴趣、养成英语阅读习惯、增强英语阅读信心、扩展英语文化知识、培养英语敏捷思维等方面将起到积极的推动作用。

黄 明

2012 年 6 月 1 日

于厦门集美大学白鹭湖畔

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