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### 出版前言

《新理念英语阅读》是由上海外语教育出版社从美国 Cengage Learning 出版集团引进改编的一套中小学英语读物。这套读物题材广泛,话题丰富; 既有引人入胜、趣味无穷的故事,又有知识丰富、包罗万象的科普读物。把语言输入和知识输入融合在一起,让学生体验阅读的乐趣。

全套读物由美国 Cengage Learning 出版集团青少年读物金牌作家倾力打造,语言纯正、内容丰富、精彩纷呈。原汁原味的语言帮助读者培养英语语感、提升阅读兴趣。《新理念英语阅读》还强调阅读与视听的有机结合,全套读物的原版音频由英语语言专家绘声绘色、声情并茂地朗读,让读者有身临其境的感受。高中阶段另配由美国《国家地理》(National Geographic)精选的视频材料,能充分满足读者视觉和听觉的不同需求。色彩丰富、极具趣味性的插图在辅助读者阅读的同时,也让读者尽情享受前所未有的视觉盛宴。

本套读物针对每个故事精心设计了练习:小学阶段的题型和通用少儿英语星级考试接轨;初中阶段的题型和中考题的阅读部分题型匹配;高中阶段的练习分为阅读前、阅读中、阅读后以及阅读拓展训练和与视频材料相关的练习,帮助学生循序渐进地提高独立阅读能力,有效训练应试技巧。

整套读物分 9 个级别,从小学三年级到高中二年级,共 43 册,包含 78 篇故事和 132 篇科普读物。各级别根据国家《英语课程标准》规定的难度划 分,充分考虑到不同年龄段学生的认知特点和阅读兴趣。

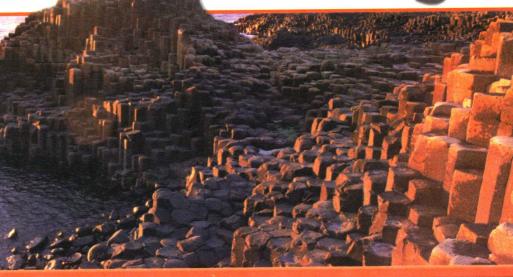
《新理念英语阅读》提供丰富多彩的阅读材料和多层次的拓展训练,在适宜性、可读性、多样性和有效性方面均凸显本套英语读物的优势。它让读者感受阅读乐趣的同时,也切实提高了他们的阅读解题能力,使其体验到新理念带给英语阅读的全新动力。

上海外语教育出版社 2010年8月

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# The Giant's CauseWay



Rob Waring, Series Editor

## **Before Reading**

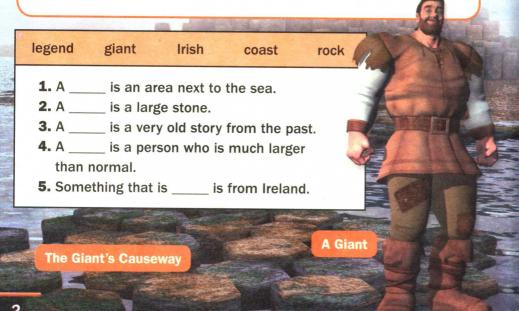
### Words to Know

This story is set in Northern Ireland. It happens in a place called the "Giant's Causeway."





The Giant's Causeway is a formation made of rock on the Irish coast. There are many legends about who, or what, made it. One story is about a giant called Finn MacCool. According to the story, Finn had a fight with a giant from Scotland. The legend says that Finn MacCool took 40,000 pieces of rock and built a walkway between Northern Ireland and Scotland. People say he did it because he wanted to go to Scotland to find the Scottish giant.



Did a Volcano Make the Giant's Causeway? Read the paragraph. Then match each word with the correct definition.

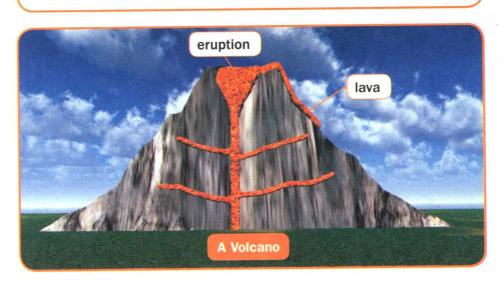
Scientists are people who study the structure and actions of natural things. Scientists, such as geologists, believe that the Giant's Causeway has a more scientific explanation. One idea is that a volcanic eruption made it. When a volcano erupts, it produces lava. The lava becomes dry and hard and can make interesting formations in the rock. Geologists think the Giant's Causeway is a natural rock formation from a volcano.

1.	geologists	
	1	

4. lava

**5.** formation

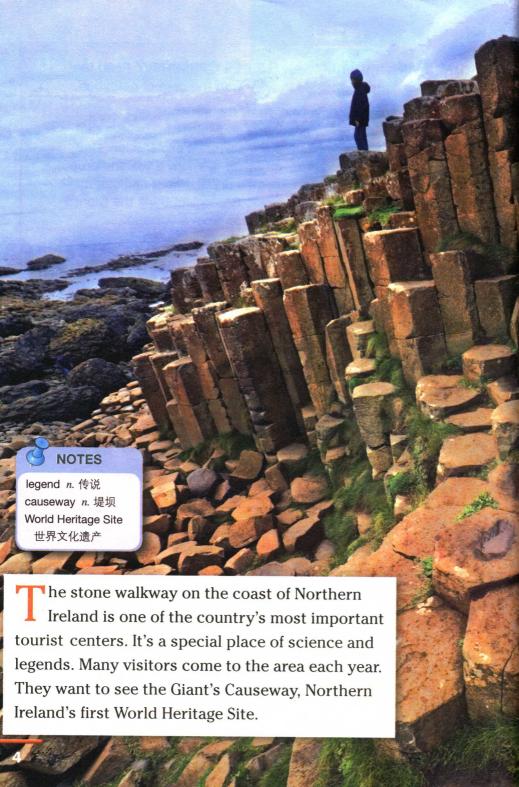
- a. explode; blow up
- **b.** scientists that study the earth 2. volcano **3.** erupt \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. hot, melted rock
    - **d.** a mountain with a hole in the top
    - e. things that are arranged in a particular way



Which words do you think you will read in this story? Circle them.

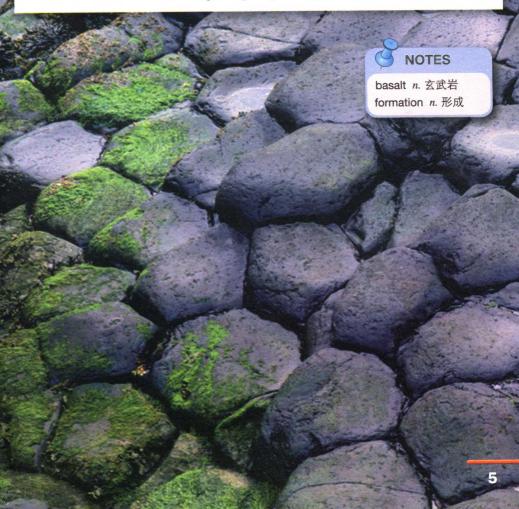
tourists language music story rocks food science sea

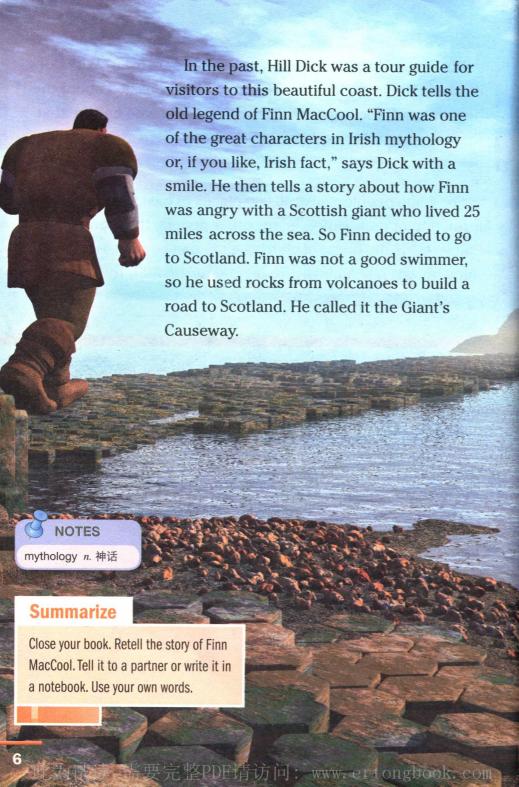
Now read the story and see if your answers were correct.



But where does the Giant's Causeway come from? Why does it exist? People can't agree. There's a big discussion about the beginnings of the walkway. There are people who believe that there is a scientific explanation for it, and there are those who believe in a legend.

For some people, these 40,000 pieces of basalt are a natural formation of rock. However, for other people, the Giant's Causeway is the home of an Irish giant named Finn MacCool. But who was he? And why do people say he built the causeway?





Is the legend of Finn MacCool and his causeway true? Did he really build it so that he could catch the Scottish giant? Well, perhaps—if you use your imagination.

However, not everyone agrees with the legend. Scientists like geologist Patrick McKeever have their own, more scientific, story. They say that a volcano made the Giant's Causeway about 60 million years ago. That was a very long time before humans ever lived in this lovely part of the world.



geologist n. 地质学家

Some people think a volcano erupted and made the Giant's Causeway.

McKeever tells about what he thinks made the Giant's Causeway. "The lava that was erupted, was erupted very, very quickly and the flows were very, very thick," he says. He then explains that the lava was a bit like mud on a hot day. Mud becomes dry and shrinks, or gets smaller when it dries. McKeever says that a similar condition with the lava made the many-sided columns. For McKeever and other geologists, the causeway is a natural rock formation.

lava flow

columns

### What do you think?

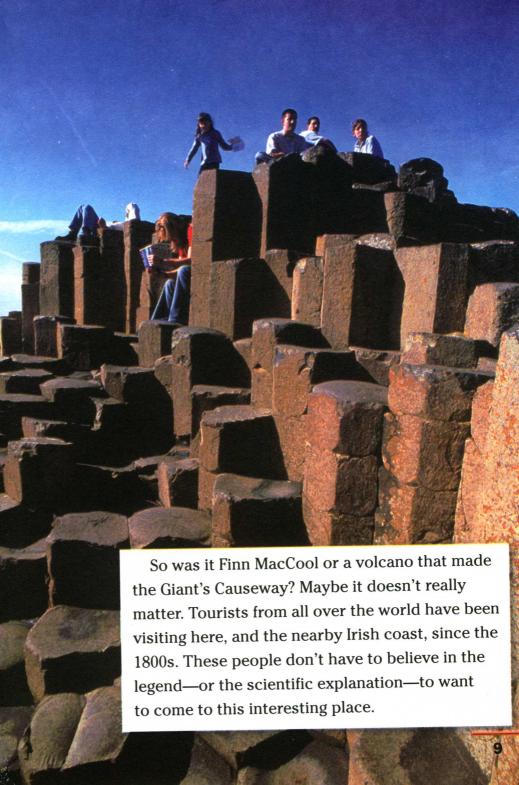
eruption

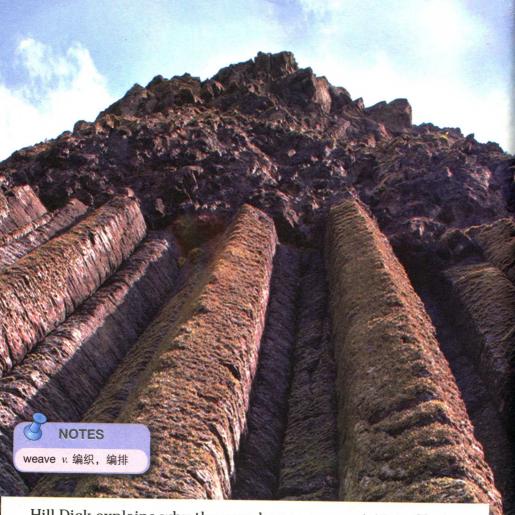
- 1. How does McKeever explain the Giant's Causeway?
- 2. Does he believe the story of Finn MacCool?
- 3. What makes you think that way?

NOTES

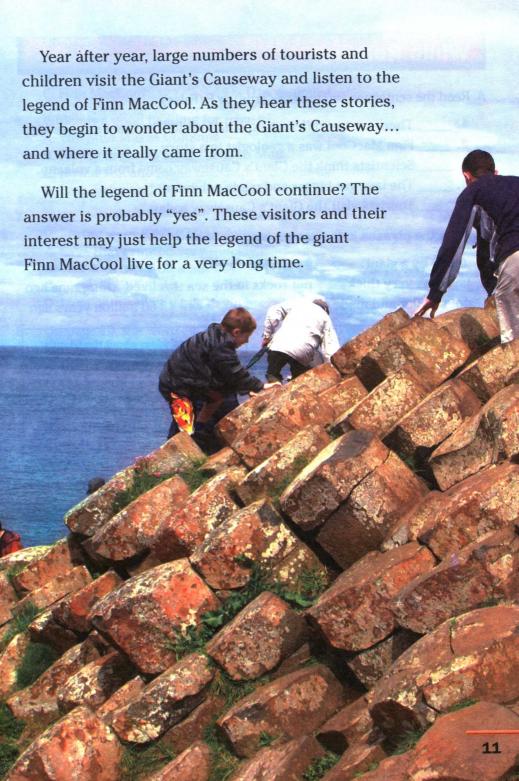
lava n. 熔岩,火山岩 shrink v. 收缩 column n. 柱状物

It was much warmer and there was volcanic activity in Northern Ireland 55 to 65 million years ago.





Hill Dick explains why the area has so many visitors. He claims that every visitor has a personal experience when they look at the rocks and the formations they make. He feels that every visitor can make their own personal story about the place. Each visitor has their own experience at the Giant's Causeway because each visitor can use his or her own imagination. "You can weave your own story around it," he says. "You can look at a rock and say, 'That, reminds me of something...'[or] 'That looks like something...'"



## **While Reading**

				CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY OF
A.	Read the sentence	ces and mark T	(True) or F (Fal	se).
	<b>2.</b> Finn Ma	acCool was a ge its think the Gia a got bigger an	eologist in a sto ant's Causeway d made colum	y came from a volcano.
В.	Write the phrase	s in the correct	box.	
	made by a giant a path for walking lava was very thick put rocks in the got smaller and made columns		•	made by a volcano lived a long time ago 60 million years ago
		bout the Giant's	Scientist	ts' ideas about the Giant's Causeway
	After Read	ding		
1.	peo		ee the Giant's C C. Other	auseway every year.
2.	Finn MacCool i A. a geologist	s		D. Many D. a tour guide
3.	How many piece A. 40,000.	es of basalt are	e in the Giant's	· ·
4.	The word "used to build a road A. dried	l" in the senten to Scotland." or B. made	ce, " so he us n page 6 can be C. erupted	ed rocks from volcanoes replaced by: D. moved

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