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2013

考研英语



考天下名师团 编

格林 主编

Reading Stories, Reciting
Vocabulary for Graduate Students

读故事 记单词

幽默故事妙趣横生 | 高频真题词汇汇总



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前 言

词汇是语言学习的基石。从传统上来讲,学生记单词的方法不仅单调乏味,而且效率极低,很多单词背的时候费了九牛二虎之力,用的时候还是一头雾水。有鉴于此,我们想提供给大家一种新的学习词汇的方法——用一些风趣幽默的小故事把一些看似毫无关系的词串连起来。先提供一个故事,然后再提供一个词汇表。这样记单词不仅简单方便,而且妙趣横生。

从理论上讲,背故事比背单词容易,因为故事中有一定的发展线索,联想会更加丰富。这正是我们编写本书的理论基础。在编写这些小故事的过程中,我们发现原本枯燥的单词也可以变得活泼可爱,原本沉闷的学习也可以变得生动有趣。这使我们想起了哥伦布那个征服世人的故事:把鸡蛋敲破了就能立在桌子上。原来世界上没有攻不破的难关,关键是我们能否找到攻关的钥匙。读故事记单词正是为大家准备的一把攻克词汇难关的钥匙。

有人说过:If you love him, make him study English, for it's interesting; if you hate him, make him study English, for it's boring. 英语到底是 interesting 还是 boring, 这本身就是个见仁见智的问题,我们希望读故事记单词这种形式能够帮助你找到学习英语的乐趣,增加征服英语的信心,提高掌握英语的效率。

编 者

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第一部分

寓言故事

Passage 1

A Matter of Dignity

嗟来之食

There was a great famine in the state of Qi. Qian Ao, a rich man of the state of Qi, prepared food by the roadside for the hungry to come and eat.

Along came a starving man, his sleeves covering his head, his hempen sandals held together by strings, walking as if he did not know where he was going. With food in his left hand and a bowl of water in his right one, Qian Ao shouted at him. "Hey you! Come and eat!"

The man looked up and stared at Qian Ao. "I am reduced to this state just because I refuse to take anything from loud-mouthed people giving away food." He said.

The man therefore refused to eat and eventually starved to death.

有一年, 齐国遭到了特大的灾荒, 许多人在忍饥挨饿。富人黔敖在路边摆了些食物, 碰到饥饿的灾民走过, 就施舍给他们。

有一个饿汉走来。他饿得连眼睛也睁不开, 用袖子蒙着脸, 趿拉着一双麻鞋, 步履非常艰难, 显得昏沉沉的样子。黔敖看见那饿汉, 便左手捧着些食物, 右手端了一碗汤, 大声吆喝道: “喂, 你! 过来吃吧!”

那饿汉抬起眼睛, 瞪了瞪黔敖说: “我就是因不肯吃这种吆喝着叫人来吃的东西, 才饿成这个样子的。”

黔敖听了向他道歉, 可是那个饿汉坚决拒吃他的食物, 最后饿死在路上。

点滴思考

- (1) What did Qian Ao do when there was a great famine in the state of Qi?
- (2) How did the starving man come to take food?
- (3) Why did the starving man refuse to take the food?

真题词汇

scoop^① [sli:v] *n.* 袖子

famine¹ [ˈfæmin] *n.* 饥荒

starve¹ [sta:v] *v.* (使) 饿; (使) 饿死

reduce¹ [riˈdu:s, riˈdju:s] *vt.* ① 减少, 缩小 ([同义] lessen, decrease, diminish; [反义] raise)

② 使降级, 使沦落 ③ 迫使

【词组】be reduced to 简化为

【词汇辨析】reduce, lessen

reduce 表示“减少”、“降低”, 指在大小、数量、程度上的缩小、减小, 也可指地位、重要性、条件、级别的降低, 比其他词更强调人的作用。如: *The fortune he inherited gradually re-*

① 1 次是指该单词从 2000 年到目前为止在历年真题中出现的次数。

duced to a few hundred pounds as the result of his extravagance. 由于挥霍无度,他继承的那笔财富逐渐减少到只有数百英镑。

lessen 表示“减少”、“减轻”,一般不与具体的数字连用,可用于较抽象的事物。如: *Considering that the crime committed was rather serious, the court decided to reject the appeal to lessen the sentence of the convicted man.* 考虑到犯罪人所犯罪行相当严重法庭决定驳回减轻刑罚的请求。

dignity ¹['digniti] *n.* 尊严,人格,自尊

prepare ¹['pri'peə] *v.* 准备,预备

【词组】prepare against 为防止……而预备

【记忆】par (词根) 准备 → prepare 准备

dynamic ¹['dai'næmik] *adj.* ① 有活力的,强有力的 ② 不断变化(或增长)的 ③ 动力的,动态的 || *n.* ① (原)动力 ② [-s]动力学

【记忆】dyn (词根) 力量 → dynamic 有活力的,动力的,动态的

constructive ¹['kən'strʌktiv] *adj.* 有建设性的

construct ¹['kən'strʌkt] *vt.* ① 建造,构筑 ([同义] form, build, make, create, found; [反义] destroy, ruin) ② 对……进行构思,造(句) || ¹['kən'strʌkt] *n.* ① 建筑物,构造物 ② 构想,观念

【记忆】struct (词根) 建造 → construct 建设,建造

distinct ¹['dis'tɪŋkt] *adj.* ① 有区别的,不同的 ② 清楚的,清晰的 ③ 明确的,显著的 ([同义] different, dissimilar, clear, plain, obvious, definite; [反义] dim, indistinct, ambiguous)

【词组】distinct from 与……截然不同的 / distinct vision 【物】明晰视觉 / make sth. a distinct possibility 使某事确有可能

defective ¹['di'fektiv] *adj.* 有缺陷的

conclusive ¹['kən'klusiv] *adj.* 有说服力的

【词组】a final conclusive blow 最后决定性的一击 / conclusive proof 确证

conditionally ¹['kən'diʃənəli] *adv.* 有条件地

condition ¹['kən'diʃən] *n.* ① 状况,状态 ② [pl.] 环境,形势 ([同义] state, situation, circumstance) ③ 条件,前提 || *vt.* ① 训练,适应 ② 调整……的状况,改善……的情况 ③ 对……有重要影响,决定

【词组】on condition (that) 如果 / out of condition 健康不佳

【用法】condition 用作单数形式时,表示“状态”、“条件”或“状况”,与 state 同义,可以互换。用作复数时,表示一种“总体、笼统”的环境。 *Conditions in the office made concentration possible.* 办公室的环境可以使人专心。

limited ¹['limitid] *adj.* 有限的

Passage 2

The Water Sprite and the Pearl

海神和珍珠

A man was sailing in a small boat, and dropped a precious pearl into the sea accidentally. When the man had returned to land, he took a pail, and began to scoop up the water and pour it on the shore. For three days he scooped and poured unweariedly.

On the fourth day a Water Sprite came up out of the sea, and asked, "why are you scooping?"

The man replied, "I am scooping because I have lost a pearl."

The Water Sprite asked, "are you going to stop before long?"

The man replied, "when I have scooped the sea dry, then I shall stop."

Then the Water Sprite returned into the depths, and brought up the very pearl, and gave it back to the man.

有一个人乘小船航行,不小心把一颗贵重的珍珠掉到了海里。这人回到岸上后,拿起水桶,开始舀水往岸上泼。

第四天,一个海神从海里出来问道:“你为什么一直在舀水?”

那人回答说:“因为我丢失了一颗珍珠。”

海神又问:“过不久你就要罢休了吧?”

那人答道:“等我把海水舀干了,我才会罢休。”

于是海神回到海底深处,把那颗珍珠拿上来,还给了那个人。

点滴思考

- (1) What did the man drop?
- (2) What did the man do to pick up his pearl?
- (3) Why did the Water Sprite help him?

真题词汇

scoop¹ [sku:p] *v.* 舀

pail¹ [peil] *n.* 桶

return¹⁴ [ri'tə:n] *vi.* ① 返回,回来 ② 回复,恢复 || *vt.* ① 归还,退回 ② 回报,报答 ③ 使回复,使恢复 || *n.* ① 返回,回来 ② 偿还,归还 ③ 回复,恢复 ④ [常 pl.] 收益,赢利 ⑤ 申报(表),(统计)报表 ⑥ 来回票,往返票 || *adj.* 往返的,返回的

【词组】in return for 作为(对……的)报答(或回报、交换)

precious¹⁴ [ˈpreʃəs] *adj.* 宝贵的,珍稀的

Passage 3

The Land of the Halt

瘸子之乡

Many years ago in a small territory, there was not one of the inhabitants who did not stutter when he spoke, or halt in walking; both these defects, moreover, were considered accomplishments.

A stranger saw the evil, and thinking how they would admire his walking, went about without halting in the usual manner of our race. Everyone stopped to look at him, and all those who looked, laughed, and holding their sides to repress their merriment, shouted: "Teach the stranger how to walk properly!"

The stranger considered it his duty to cast the reproach from himself. "It is not I but you who halt." He cried, "you must accustom yourselves to giving up so awkward a habit! This only increased the uproar, when they heard him speak; he did not even stammer, which was sufficient to disgrace him, and he was laughed at throughout the country.

Habit will render the faults which we have been accustomed to from youth, beautiful; in vain will a stranger attempt to convince us that we are in error.

很多年前,一个小地区里的居民说起话来没有一个不口吃,走起路来没有一个人不瘸腿的。更奇怪的是,这两种缺点竟被视为才能。

一个外地人看到了这种弊端,一心以为这儿的居民定会羡慕他走路的方式。于是他按照人类通常的走路方式,不瘸不拐,走来走去。当地人都停下脚步来看他,谁看了谁都笑起来。他们捧腹大笑地喊道:“教教这位外地人该怎样走路吧!”

这位外地人认为有责任驳斥他们。“是你们又瘸又拐,不是我,”他高呼,“你们必须戒除这种不雅的习惯!”当地人一听到他这样说话,就更起哄。因为他说话居然不口吃,这就够他丢脸了。在这个地区,无论他走到哪儿,都受到人们的嘲笑。

习惯会使我们把从小看惯了的缺陷变成美好的事情,外人欲使我们承认自己错了只会枉费心思。

点滴思考

- (1) What were the strangest things in the town?
- (2) What did the stranger think about this?
- (3) How did they react to his behaviour?
- (4) What do we learn from this?

真题词汇

fault¹ [fɔ:lt] *n.* ① 缺点,毛病 ([同义] mistake, error, shortcoming, wrongdoing; [反义] merit, virtue) ② 错误,过失,过错 ③ 故障 || *vt.* 找……的缺点,挑剔,指责

【词组】at fault 有责任,出毛病 / find fault with 抱怨,找岔子,挑剔

【记忆】faul (词根) 错误的 → fault 缺点,缺陷,过失,过错

disgrace¹ [dis'greis] *n.* ① 丢脸,耻辱,不光彩 ([同义] shame, dishonour; [反义] grace, honour) ② 丢脸的人(或事) || *vt.* 使丢脸,使受耻辱

【词组】in disgrace 很不讨人喜欢

territory¹ ['teritəri] *n.* 地区

merriment¹ ['merimənt] *n.* 高兴,兴奋

accomplishment¹ ['ækəmpliʃmənt, ə'kɒm-] *n.* 才能,成就

stammer² ['stæmə] *v.* 口吃

awkward² ['ɔ:kwəd] *adj.* ① 尴尬的,棘手的 ② 难操纵的,使用不便的 ③ 笨拙的,不灵巧的

render² ['rendə] *vt.* ① 使得,致使 ② 给予,提供 ③ 翻译

【词组】render... impossible 使……成为不可能

error⁵ ['erə] *n.* 错误,差错

convince⁵ [kən'vins] *vt.* 使确信,使信服,说服

【记忆】vinc (词根) 征服,克服 → convince 使信服,使确信

sufficient⁵ [sə'fɪʃənt] *adj.* 足够的,充分的

【词汇辨析】sufficient, enough, adequate

sufficient 指数量、范围、力量或质量方面足以满足或恰好满足某一情况、用途或目的要求。可与 enough 互换,但前者多用于正式场合。如: *He has sufficient knowledge for the work.* 他有足够的知识胜任这项工作。

enough 在意义上比 sufficient 的确切程度较差,约略程度较大。该词常用在它所修饰的词后面,当它带有较长的修饰语时,尤其如此。如: *She had sense enough to say nothing about it!* 她有充分的理由对此事保持缄默。

adequate 指仅够满足一种需要,没有任何富裕;达到要求、符合客观标准,含义是适当、适度、正好合适。如: *The supply is not adequate to the demand.* 供不应求。

【用法】sufficient for 表示“对……是足够的”。*The food they stored was sufficient for a hundred men.* 他们贮存的食物足够一百人吃。

manner⁸ ['mænə] *n.* ① 方式,方法 ([同义] way, means, method) ② 态度,举止 ③ [常 pl.] 风度,礼貌,规矩

【词组】all manner of 各种各样的,形形色色的 / in a manner of speaking 不妨说,在某种意义上 / ill-mannered 无礼的

Passage 4

The Mouse and the Elephant

老鼠和大象

A young mouse had just arrived from Athens where he had acquired a smattering of learning. He was very proud of this little wisdom that he had learnt from the books he had studied.

One day, he said to an elephant, "you don't need to walk so ostentatious, because God made you huge enough. You are huge, this is true, but there are no great; for in my idea, it's a big flaw. You are too big, action is not flexible. You walk slow and clumsy. Look at me! I can fly. I can run, I can jump around. But you are lazy, and walk one step will have to stop and catch my breath. You poor thing. Every time I look at you that huge size, I was sort of mercy..."

The proud mouse did not finish his speech to the elephant, because just as he was about to conclude his oration, a cat who had grown tired of listening to his words of wisdom, pounced upon him and ate him up. This experiment that the cat performed proved that there is a great difference between mice and elephants.

点滴思考

- (1) What was the young mouse proud of?
- (2) Why didn't the proud mouse finish his speech to the elephant?
- (3) What did the experiment that the cat performed prove?

真题词汇

mercy ['mɜ:si] *n.* ① 慈悲,仁慈,宽容 ([同义]pity; [反义]cruelty) ② 恩惠,幸运

【词组】at the mercy of 任凭……的摆布,完全受……支配

一只年轻的老鼠刚从雅典学到一些肤浅的知识回来。他因为自己从书本上学到的一点小学问而十分骄傲。他盛气凌人,傲慢自大,很想显示一下自己的聪明。

有一天,他对一头大象说:“你走起路来用不着那么大模大样的,因为上帝把你造得够巨大了。你的个子大,这是事实,但这并没有什么了不起;因为按我的想法,这倒是一个很大的缺点。你个子太大,行动起来就不灵活了。你走路又缓慢又笨拙。你瞧瞧我!我简直奔跑如飞。我能扑来跳去到处跑。你却很懒,走一步就得停下来喘口气。你真可怜。每当我打量你那庞大的身躯时,我实在有点怜悯……”

骄傲的老鼠并没能说完他要教训大象的一番话,因为他刚要结束演说时,一只讨厌了他那种智慧言词的猫纵身扑过来,把他擒住吃掉了。猫的行动证明了老鼠和大象确有天渊之别。

slow¹['sləu] *adj.* ① 慢的 ② 迟钝的,不灵巧的 ③ (营业等)清淡的,不忙碌的 || *v.* (使)慢下来 || *adv.* 慢慢地

【词组】slow down/up 放慢/加快(速度), (使)减速/加速

enough¹['iːnʌf] *adv.* ① 足够地,充分地 ② 相当 || *adj.* 足够的

【用法】① enough 表示“充足的”、“足够的”,当修饰名词时,可以置于名词前或后,放在名词后面,语气强些: *I have enough money (money enough) to buy the book.* 我有足够的钱买这本书。② enough 表示“足够地”、“充分地”时,放在所修饰的形容词或副词之后: *The book is easy enough for you to understand.* 这本书对你来说完全可以看懂。

wisdom⁴['wɪzdəm] *n.* ① 明智,正确的判断 ② 智慧,学问

【记忆】-dom (后缀) 表示抽象名词 → wisdom 智慧

action¹¹['æksən] *n.* ① 行动,行动过程 ② 已做的事,行为 ③ 作用 ④ 情节

【词组】out of action 不(再)起作用,不(再)运转

Athens¹['æθənz] *n.* 雅典

smattering¹['smætərɪŋ] *n.* 肤浅之物,浅薄之物

pompous¹['pɒmpəs] *adj.* 大模大样的

sluggish¹['slʌɡɪʃ] *adj.* 笨拙的

primacy¹['praɪməsi] *n.* 首位

branch¹['bræntʃ, brɑːntʃ] *n.* ① 树枝,分枝 ② (机构的)分部,分号 ③ (学科的)分科,分支 ④ 支流,支线 ⑤ 分叉,分岔

【词组】branch out 扩充,扩大活动范围

database¹['deɪtəbeɪs] *n.* 数据库

mathematics¹['mæθɪ'mætɪks] *n.* 数学

numerically¹['njuː'merɪkəli] *adv.* 数字地,数值地

numerical['njuː'merɪkəl] *adj.* 数字的,用数字表示的,数值的

moreover³['mɔː'rəʊvə] *adv.* 而且,再者,此外

demonstrate⁵['demənstreɪt] *vt.* ① 论证,证明 ② 说明,演示 ([同义] prove, display, show, illustrate) ③ 显示,表露 || *vi.* 举行示威游行(或集会)

【记忆】monstr (词根) 提醒,使回忆起 → demonstrate 表明,演示

community¹⁴['kə'mju:nɪti] *n.* ① 社区,社会 ② 团体 ③ (动植物的)群落

【记忆】mun (词根) 公共的 → community 社区

Passage 5

The Lion with the Ass

狮子和驴子

Aesop lion in the company of a donkey walked to the woods, with the cry of the terrible for the lion encouragement.

A rude crow in a tree at the lion call way: "Good a top-rate partners to shout! Go back the donkey, you don't feel embarrassed?" The lion replied: "No matter who, as long as I can use, I would be very happy to let it with me together."

Thus think the great, when they honour a common man with their company.

伊索的狮子在一头驴子的陪伴下向树林走去, 驴子要以它可怕的叫声为狮子助威。

一只无礼的乌鸦在树上冲着狮子叫道: "好一个顶呱呱的伙伴呐! 跟头驴子一起走, 你不觉得丢脸吗?" 狮子答道: "无论是谁, 只要能为我所利用, 我都非常乐意让它陪我同行。"

大人物们让一个普通人与他们为伴时, 他们就是这么想的。

点滴思考

- (1) Aesop's lion was going to the forest in company with an ass.
- (2) The crow called to him from a high tree.
- (3) The lion wanted to make use of the ass.
- (4) Some VIPs just think in this way.

真题词汇

ass ['æs] *n.* 驴

impertinent [im'pərtinənt] *adj.* 无礼的, 粗俗的

great [greit] *n.* 大人物; 大师; 伟人们

mixture ['miksʃə] *n.* ① 混合 ② 混合物

elsewhere ['els'hweə] *adv.* 在别处, 到别处