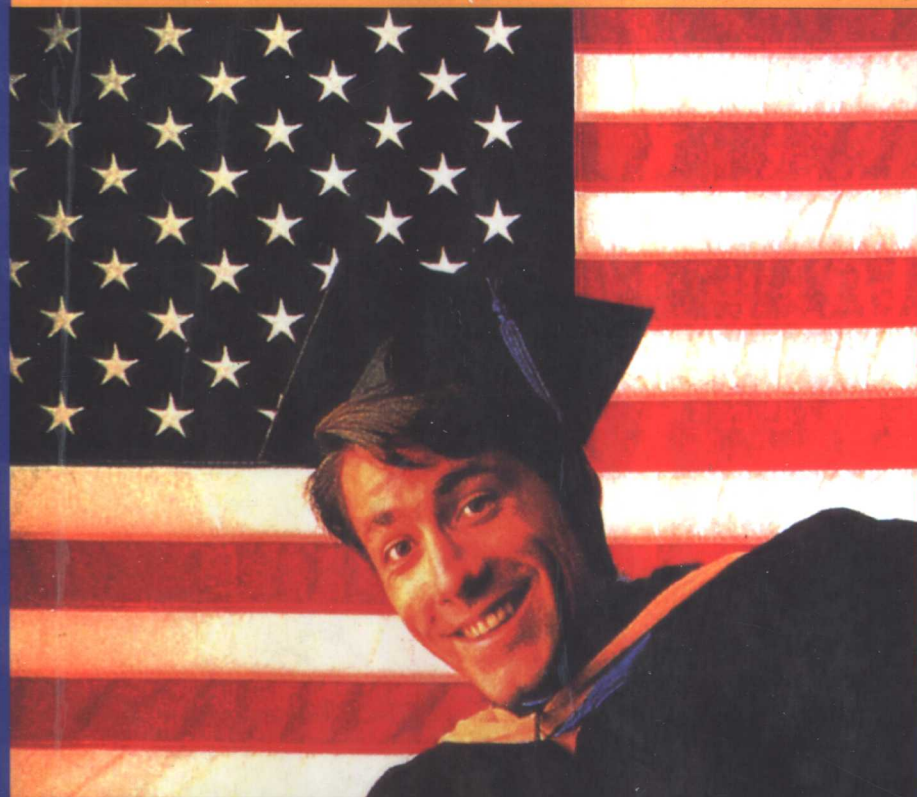


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——掌握词汇 5500

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序

人类即将迈入 21 世纪,新的时代对我们提出了更高的要求,我们也面临着更多的机遇和挑战。只有及时抓住机遇,主动迎接挑战,才能适应不断发展变化的社会,才能无愧于所处的时代。

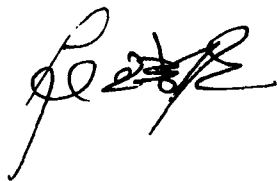
21 世纪是一个国际化、网络化的时代,知识的传播和信息的交流将会更加迅速。因此,作为这些活动的载体——语言,也就显得尤为重要,特别是英语的重要性不言而喻,全世界 70% 以上的出版物均使用英语。改革开放以来,“英语热”持续升温。不过要学好英语谈何容易!怎样学好英语,怎样能够在有限的时间内提高学习效率,广大英语工作者一直在探索行之有效的方法。英语词汇历来是困扰广大学习者的一大难题,只有积累了一定数量的词汇,才能进行训练和提高听、说、读、写、译等基本技能。而词汇的积累主要依靠大量的阅读。由世界图书出版西安公司组织、全国四所高等院校权威专家联合编写的这套《英语阅读突破书系》在此方面作了有益的尝试。全书有以下几个突出特色:

选材得当,资料新颖。全书收集了英语国家出版的最新阅读资料,内容涉及网络、经济、环境、科技、文化、教育等诸多方面。阅读全书,不仅是在提高英语水平,同时也是在最新知识的海洋里遨游。

循序渐进,突出词汇。此套丛书每册分级处理词汇,前后照应,由简到繁,从易到难,按照最新大纲对词汇的要求来编写。

练习多样,重在掌握。本书在每篇课文之后都安排了形式不同的练习,并对课文进行翻译,提供参考答案,以便更好地检查学习效果,巩固所学内容和词汇。

本书不仅可作为在校大学生英语学习的阅读辅助教材,还可为自学考试学生以及广大英语爱好者提供切实的帮助,在短期内收到事半功倍的效果。



2000 年 9 月于西安外国语学院

前 言

《英语阅读突破书系》为循序渐进阅读丛书。编写丛书的目的在于通过丰富、广泛的文章阅读和词汇练习为学习英语的读者提供更好、更新、更科学的语言学习方法,使读者在兴趣盎然的阅读中学习、应用,最终掌握英语单词,扩大词汇量。

丛书共分六册,根据最新《大学英语教学大纲(修订本)》编写,各册词汇量严格按照大纲要求来做。

丛书具有以下特点:

(1)每册内含 18 个单元,每一单元均有两篇阅读文章和一篇篇幅短小且生动有趣的幽默故事。练习设置以单词练习为主,兼顾构词法的学习和练习,练习并不拘泥于形式,各种不同类型相互穿插;力求在阅读实践当中完成词意理解、应用并最终达到掌握的目的。

(2)通过阅读,每册所掌握的词汇数量和重点不同:第一册可掌握词汇 2300,第二册可掌握词汇 3000,第三册可掌握词汇 3500,第四册可掌握词汇 4200,第五册可掌握词汇 5000,第六册可掌握词汇 5500。

(3)考虑到基础阶段读者的词汇量不够丰富的特点,每篇阅读文章中出现的新词、生词均加有标注,协助读者完成连续的、不间断的思维过程,再加之文后的难句注解及背景知识能使读者实现真正意义上的有效阅读。

(4)丛书选材广泛,内容新颖,可扩大读者的语言接触面;同时又图文并茂,既赏心又悦目。希望能通过一种别致、多变的途径使本书成为读者扩大词汇量、提高阅读能力、增见识、长知识的好帮手。

千里之行始于足下,坚实基础的奠定需要读者的用心和恒心,本书在给读者提供实践机会的同时,更期望通过本书的引导帮助读者培养阅读的兴趣,养成自觉良好的阅读习惯,从而登上更高的台阶。

限于水平及其他客观原因,本书难免有疏漏之处,敬请各位读者不吝赐教,予以指正。

编 者

2000 年 9 月

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Unit 1



Text I

Passion for Cities

城市览胜

对城市的情结使许多人怀有周游世界的梦想。城市犹如万花筒,有的旖旎如穿罗裙的丽人,有的勃发如活力四射的年轻人,有的如雅致浪漫的情人,有的又凝重深沉如哲人……在作者眼中它们是怎样的画面呢?



Pre-reading Questions

1. List your favorite city or cities, why do you like it or them?

2. The author lists a series of cities which have given him enlightening. Notice how does the author connect the different individual parts (cities) into a whole passage, especially the connected words in the beginning of each part?

(1) Love apart, and perhaps wine, more than anything else I enjoy looking at cities—not looking at them methodically(有条不紊地), or even analytically, but just as E. M. Forster recommended long ago, “wandering aimlessly around.” The pleasure they have given me has been varied, ranging from the delight of sheer serendipity¹ to the satisfaction of knowledge gained or anticipation fulfilled, and now that I have visited (with one single exception) all the incontestably(无可争辩地) great cities of the earth. I find myself sorting my favorites not just by degrees of enjoyment, but by category.

(2) For example, nobody could seriously deny that the most beautiful of all cities is Venice: the Shakespeare of cities², as it was once called, all on its own³; water lapped, shadow-dappled, tower-crowned⁴, gilded and flagged and marvelously chimneyed, stacked so subtly beside its lagoon that as you sail past its palaces in your long black gondola⁵ its layers seem to be moving, building behind building like a marble ballet.

(3) On the other hand, for intricacy of interest nowhere can match London, the most richly experienced, adaptable, devious and cynical of capitals. London is a theatre. Nothing is unpremeditated there, almost nothing is altogether frank, from the astonishing permutation(排列) of royalty (clank of cavalry down the Mall⁶, billow of golden ensign above the Palace⁷) to the infinite sense of gentlemanly cunning that informs the financial quarter of the City⁸. For stimulus and rejuvenation(恢复活力), for staying up late and dancing in the park—well, hackneyed(陈腐的) though the judgment seems, it can only be New York. I am always more than myself in New York⁹: partly because of its architectural intensity, that masonry thicket of Manhattan¹⁰, partly because of its climatic extremes, but chiefly because nearly everybody I know there is cleverer (if not necessarily wiser) than I am.

(4) Mind you, or majesty, for tremendousness, I think another American city beats it. Charles Dickens was told by his train conductor, when he first went to Chicago, that he was entering “the boss city of the universe¹¹.” It is hardly that, but all the same no other city so impresses me with the scale of the human potential. That magnificent lakefront, those terrific windy boulevards, that stupendous Sears Skyscraper¹², like a slab of living rock left standing when the rest of a precipice was quarried away—Chicago is a city fit for giants.

(5) I suppose one must grant that Paris is the most elegant of cities still, but I have never really responded to it. I prefer a more spontaneous kind of stylishness, and I find it preeminently in Rio de Janeiro¹³. Rio is urbane and squalid cheek by jowl, but its overwhelming characteristic is charm. Set there on its lovely bays, serenely supervised by its hilltop figure of Christ, it seems design to sooth the cares away. More than any other city it possesses what the Arabs call baraka¹⁴, the gift of being blessed, and of bestowing blessings, both at the same time.

(6) I detested Sydney when I first went there, but it has grown on me—partly no doubt because I have matured, but partly because it has blossomed miraculously during the twenty years I have known it. Now if I were asked to name the jolliest city, I think my mind would spring at once to the good-natured bustle of the Circular Quay¹⁵, the shambled bonhomie of Kings Cross¹⁶, the mordancy(刻薄) of the Sydney taxi drivers and the inimitable Sydney humour.

(7) The city where I really grew up, where I experienced I suppose the most formative years of my

young adulthood, was Cairo, and it remains for me in many ways the grandest of them all. As Charles Doughty¹⁷ observed of the Arabs, it has its feet in a sewer but its brow touches heaven. As old as the Sphinx, as brash as television, with its incomparable medieval center¹⁸, the desert that hems it in and the benign old Nile that flows through the middle of it, it is truly the great heart of towns, added by poverty, inefficiency and bad luck, but ennobled always by human sympathy.

(8) And there remains one more category of city than enthralls me¹⁹ the tantalizing city, the mysterious the beckoning, the never-quite-understood. Of all the supreme cities of the earth, for me the most tantalizing is Beijing, because that's the one I've never been to.



Notes

1. sheer serendipity: 纯属好运
2. the Shakespeare of cities: 都市中之佼佼者, 用莎士比亚的名声来形容威尼斯城的知名度
3. all on its own = on its own account; independently
4. water-lapped, shadow-dappled, tower-crowned: 水波拍岸, 阴影斑驳, 塔楼高耸
5. Gondola: (威尼斯运河水上行驶的) 长形平底舟
6. the Mall: 伦敦圣·詹姆斯公园(St. James Park)林荫路
7. the Palace: 指白金汉宫(Buckingham Palace)
8. the city = the city of London
9. I am always more than myself in New York: 在纽约我总是感到不自在。
10. masonry thicket of Manhattan: 曼哈顿(纽约市中心)密集的高楼大厦
11. the boss city of the universe: 世界第一城, boss: (俚) 第一流的
12. Sears Skyscraper: 也称 Sears Tower, 西尔斯大厦(是美国也是世界最高的大厦)
13. Rio de Janeiro: 里约热内卢(巴西港口城市)
14. baraka: [阿拉伯] 穆斯林的祝福和礼赞
15. the Circular Quay: 悉尼市轮渡中心码头
16. the shambled bonhomie of Kings Cross: 国王十字区节奏缓慢的娱乐, bonhomie 是法语, 英语为 cheerfulness; Kings Cross: 悉尼市区一个商业娱乐中心
17. Charles Doughty: 查尔斯·道蒂(1843-1926), 英国诗人, 旅行家, 以游记作品“在阿拉伯沙漠旅行”(“Travels in Arabia Deserts”, 1888) 而闻名。
18. medieval center: 起源于中世纪的商业中心
19. And there remains one more category of city than enthralls me: 另外还有一种城市使我着迷, than 在此用来表示不同类别和特征, 意义上与 that 相近。



Exercises

I . Match words in column A with the corresponding words or phrases in Column B .

Column A

- 1 . addle
- 2 . cliché
- 3 . permutation
- 4 . hackney
- 5 . squalid
- 6 . stereotyped
- 7 . serendipity
- ~8 . serenely
- 9 . inimitable
- 10 . tantalize

Column B

- a . phrases used too often to be meaningless
- b . unchanging ideas or images without individuality
- c . dirty
- d . good chance
- e . distinctive , matchless
- f . arrangement
- g . confused with
- h . entice , provoke
- i . calmly
- j . (of phrase) get used of , becoming dull

II . Filling the blanks in the following sentences with the appropriate words given below .

cynical , ironic , sarcastic , mordant , precipice

- 1 . The _____ humour given by Sydney drivers relaxing the tourists .
- 2 . We heard his _____ remarks about the “speed” and “competence” of the waiters from across the table .
- 3 . The country’s economy was on the edge of the _____ .
- 4 . His death gave an _____ twist to the short story .
- 5 . They’ve grown rather _____ about democracy after they worked .

III . Fill in the blanks with the following given words without turning back to the passage .

hems , benign , old , incomparable , greatheart , sympathy , brash , inefficiency

As _____ 1 _____ as the Sphinx , as _____ 2 _____ as television , with its _____ 3 _____ medieval center , the desert that _____ 4 _____ it in and the _____ 5 _____ old Nile the flows through the middle of it , it is truly the _____ 6 _____ of the towns , addled by poverty , _____ 7 _____ and bad luck , but ennobled always by human _____ 8 _____ .



Text II

What's Right About Reading

书海徜徉

书,教人睿智,给人力量,陪伴人渡过寂寞的岁月;以书为伴,徜徉书海会给人以极大的乐趣和最丰厚的回报。读书的人有种气质,被称为书卷气或书生气;古往今来的读书人总是意气风发,激扬文字,他们的思想最为自由,精深和博大。读书,美哉,壮哉!



Pre-reading Questions

1. What kind of books do you like to read? Have you ever read "Jane Eyre" and "Gone with the Wind?"
2. What does the author obtain from reading from the childhood?
3. What's the culture background of the point of view that "reading somehow is useless"?

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

(1) Ever since I was very small, I've had the sense that I ought to be somewhere else. I remember watching trains click by—a blur(模糊) of grey, the diamond glitter of sunshine on glass—and wishing I was aboard. I remember going to the airport with my parents when I was 13 and reading the destinations board, seeing all the places that I could go to: San Juan, Cincinnati, Los Angeles, London.

(2) But the trains sped by and the planes took off without me, so I wandered the world through books. I went to Victorian England in the pages of Middlemarch¹, and to St Petersburg before the fall of the tsar with Anna Karenina². I went to Tara and Manderley and Thornfield Hall, all those great houses with their high ceilings and high drama, as I read Gone with the Wind, Rebecca and Jane Eyre³.

(3) My home was in a pleasant place outside Philadelphia. But I really lived, truly lived, somewhere else. I lived within the covers of books.

(4) There was a heavy upholstered(装有套子的) chair in our house, a big one, with curled arms and a square ottoman(有垫的凳子) sitting in the living room diagonal to the fireplace, with a ta- \ \

ble next to it. In my mind, I am flung into it, reading, with my skinny legs slung over one arm. "It's a beautiful day," my mother is saying. She said at always—autumn, spring, even when there was a fresh snowfall. "All your friends are outside."

(5) It was true; they always were. Sometimes I went out with them, coaxed into the street, out into the fields, down by the creek, drawn by the lure of what I knew intuitively was normal childhood. I have clear memories of lifting rocks at the creek to search for crayfish, of laying coins on the tram tracks and running to fetch them, flattened, when the tram had passed.

(6) But there was always a part of me, the best part of me⁴, at home, within some books laid flat on the table to mark my place, its imaginary people⁵ waiting for me to return and bring them back to life. That was where the real people were, the trees that moved in the wind, the still, dark waters.

(7) In books I travelled, not only to other worlds, but into my own. I learned who I was and I wanted to be, what I might aspire to, and what I might dare to dream about my world and myself. In the years since those days in my big chair, I have learned that I was not alone in my devotion to books, although at the time it seemed I was the only child anyone knew who preferred reading to ice skating or playing kick-the-can.

(8) By the time I became an adult, I realised that the world was often as hostile, or at least as blind, to the joy of reading as my girlfriends had been when they banged on our screen door, begging me to put down the book—"that stupid book," they usually called it.

(9) While we pay lip service to the virtues of reading⁶, there is still in our culture something that suspects those who read too much (whatever "too much" means) as lazy, aimless dreamers, as people who need to grow up and come outside where the real life is, as people who think themselves superior in their separateness. There is something in our character—a certain hale and heartiness—that is suspicious of reading as anything more than a tool for advancement. We also prize sociability and community and believe that alone leads to loner, loner to loser. Any sort of turning away from human contact is always suspect.

(10) We Americans have a get-out-and-get-going ethos⁷. The images of presidents that stick are those that portray them as men of action: Theodore Roosevelt on safari, John Kennedy throwing a football around with his brothers. There may only be Abraham Lincoln to give solace to the figure sitting by the fire who believed that books held the knowledge he so eagerly sought. "My best friend's the man who'll get me one⁸," he once said.

(11) Perhaps deep inside we readers are dissatisfied people, yearning to be elsewhere, to live vicariously(间接感受到地) through words in a way we cannot live directly through life. Perhaps we are the world's great nomads, if only in our minds. I travel today in the way I once dreamed of traveling as a child—on aeroplanes and in trains. And the irony is that I don't care for it very much. I am the sort of person who prefers to stay at home, surrounded by family, friends, familiarity, books. The only thing I do like about traveling is the time on aeroplanes spent reading.

(12) It turns out when my younger self thought of taking wing, she wanted only to let her spirit soar. Books are the plane, and the train, and the road. They are the real destination, and the journey too. They are home.



Notes

1. *Middlemarch*: 是英国作家乔治伊力亚特(1819 - 1880)最杰出的作品
2. and to St. Petersburg before the fall of the tsar with *Anna Karenina*: 到沙皇和安娜·卡列尼娜消失前的圣彼得堡去 *Anna Karenina*: 列夫·托尔斯泰的作品中的主人公安娜·卡列尼娜
3. I went to Tara and...as I read *Gone With the Wind*, *Rebecca* and *Jane Eyre*: 我在读“飘”, “蝴蝶梦”和“简爱”时去了塔拉, 曼得里和桑费尔德, 那里的房子都有高高的屋顶, 上演着美好的故事。
4. the best part of me: 我最好的状态
5. its imaginary people: (小说中)虚构的人物
6. pay lip service to the virtues of reading: (习语)口头上表扬读书的种种好处, 指口惠而实不至
7. get-out-and-get-going ethos: 喜爱外出走动的气质
8. “My best friend's the man who'll get me one.”: “我最好的朋友是能给我一本书的人。”, one 指 one book.



Exercises

I . Find the corresponding words of the similar meaning in column B for each word in column A.

Column A	Column B
1. glitter	a. illusive
2. solitary	b. termination
3. sociability	c. cajole
4. imaginary	d. insight
5. coax	e. lonesome
6. blur	f. flare
7. vicariously	g. gregariousness
8. upholstered	h. vague
9. destination	i. indirectly
10. intuition	j. covered

II . Idioms are vivid part of English language, which we can not see the meaning from their lookings. Please match the idioms in Column A with their Chinese meaning in column B.

Column A	Column B
1. Diamond cut diamond, crook cut crook	a. 赞成者和反对者