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编著/葛郁槟

审读/Irvin D. Yasom



# Chall-enge

## English

学生必备

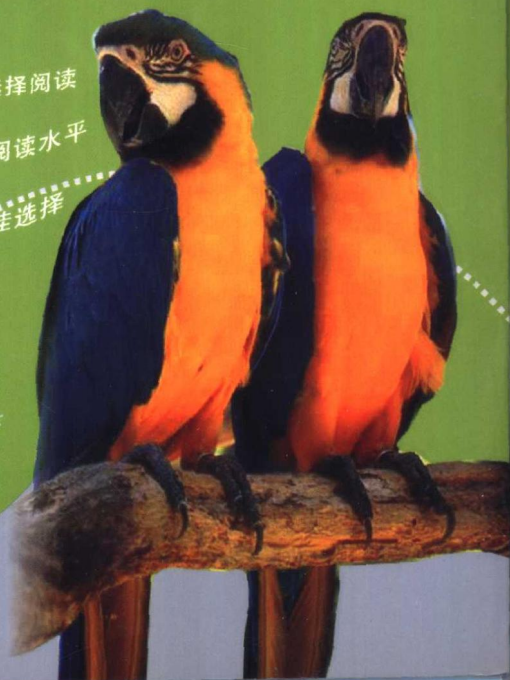
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## 初中英语阅读教程

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# Challenge

## 前言

我们根据现行的中学英语教学大纲，结合各地实际情况，组织了一批教学经验丰富的重点中学教师，编写了这本《初中英语阅读教程》。

这本书不同于以往的英语阅读材料。在语言风格上，我们十分注重保持语言的原汁原味，精选的都是英美国家各种书刊杂志上的佳作；在题材选择上，尽可能做到形式多样，兼收并蓄；在内容的选择上，注重轻松时尚，为中学生所喜闻乐见。中学生朋友通过在课余时间的轻松阅读，不仅可以提高自身的英语水平，还能够领略到更多的异域风情，全面增长知识，可谓是一举多得。希望这套书能受到中学生朋友的欢迎。

本书适合初中学生课外阅读使用。各年级的学生可以根据自身情况，有选择地进行阅读训练。

由于时间仓促，加上水平所限，书中肯定还存在一些不足之处，敬请广大师生批评指正，以便我们再版时使之更加完善。

编者

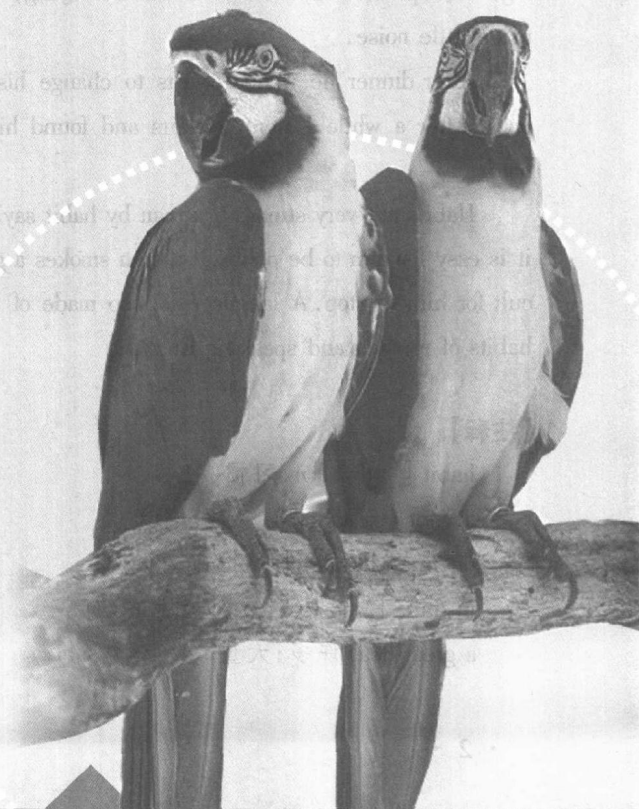
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# Challenge

## 第一章/生活故事



# Challenge

初中英语阅读教程

## 1. English Habits

生活习惯是每个人都有的,国与国之间也存在着不同的风俗习惯。本文讲的是英国人的习惯之一,我的英国朋友吃完饭便上楼睡觉去了……人人都要养成好习惯。

I have an English friend. One day I came to see him. He invited<sup>①</sup> me to dinner. At table Englishmen had their good manners<sup>②</sup>. To accept a dish was by saying, "Yes, please." To decline it was by saying, "No, thanks." When eating they made little noise.

After dinner he went upstairs to change his clothes. But he did not come back. After a while I went upstairs and found him in bed asleep. That was his habit.

Habits are very strong. If a man by habit saying, "thank you" and "please", it is easy for him to be polite. If a man smokes a great deal, it becomes very difficult for him to stop. A language is also made of habits. So we should form good habits of reading and speaking English.

### 【注释】

habit ['hæbit] *n.* 习惯; 习俗

accept [ək'sept] *v.* 接受; 同意

decline [di'klaɪn] *v.* 推却; 拒绝

upstairs ['ʌp'steɪz] *adj.* 楼上的

a great deal 许多; 大量

# Challenge

生活故事

## 难点解析】

①invite:邀请;招待

eg. *Don't forget to invite her to the dinner party.*

别忘了邀请她参加宴会。

*We'll invite Alice to a meeting.*

我们将邀请艾丽丝参加一个会议。

②manner:态度;(复)举止;风度;习惯

eg. *His manner showed his frankness.*

他的态度说明了他的坦率。

*She has manner as well as good manners.*

她不但很有礼貌而且态度大方。

*It is his manner to be humorous.*

他总是幽默得很。

## 2. Wealthy People of the World

什么样的人称得上是有钱人? 有钱人中又可分为不同的层次。本文举了几位著名的人物及他们所持有的个人财产。

There are really two classes of wealthy people. Millionaires are rich. Billionaires are super rich! However, determining a person's wealth is not always easy.

The wealth of a king or queen, for example, is based on the wealth and property of the nation instead of the personal wealth and property of the king or queen. For some kings and queens, it is difficult to tell these two kinds of wealth apart.

It can only be guessed, but many people believe that His Majesty the Sultan



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of Brunei is the wealthiest man in the world. In 1993, Fortune magazine reported that he was worth almost \$ 37 billion (U.S.).

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II is the second wealthiest person with \$ 11. 7 billion. However, when the national wealth of England is ruled out of Her Majesty's wealth, the queen's personal money and property seem rather small. Queen Elizabeth II's personal wealth is guessed to be only between \$ 270 to \$ 900 million.

In the United States, there were 101 people reported to be billionaires in 1996. The youngest of these billionaires was William Gates. He is one of the two men who had the bright idea to create the company Microsoft.

Mr. Gates was only 20 years old when he first helped to set up the company in 1976. He was a billionaire by the time he was 31.

Mr. Gates may seem young to be so rich, but other people have made a lot of money at even younger ages. Other young people who struck it rich include Jackie Coogan (1914—1984) and Shirley Temple (1928—). Both of these child actors made over a million dollars acting in movies before they were 14 years old. Jackie Coogan acted in the movie *The Kid* with Charlie Chaplin, and Shirley Temple starred in a dozen movies in the 1930s.

## 【注释】

wealthy [ˈwelθi] *adj.* 富有的

determine [diˈtɜːmɪn] *v.* 决心; 决意

property [ˈprɒpəti] *n.* 财产

report [riˈpɔːt] *v.* 公布; 报道

dozen [ˈdʌzn] *n.* 一打; 十二个

star [stɑː] *v.* 由……主演

## 【难点解析】

bright idea: 好主意; 新点子

# Challenge

## 生活故事

eg. *Who had the bright idea to go to this movie? It was great!*

是谁提出来去看这场电影？真是个好主意！

*Thomas Edison had the bright idea to use electricity to make light.*

托马斯·爱迪生产生了用电照明的新想法。

### 3. Marriage

古往今来，婚姻是一个永久的话题。世界各国的文化差异决定了婚姻在各国之中的重视程度有所不同。在中国，婚姻家庭是很重要的社会单元，我们每个人都希望有一个快乐、幸福的婚姻生活。

Marriage can vary greatly from country to country. For example, many western countries only accept marriages between one woman (the bride) and one man (the groom). However, in other parts of the world a man may have several wives.

There are also many different kinds of marriage ceremonies practiced around the world. These ceremonies can be very short and simple, or very long and complicated.

One of the largest and most expensive wedding ceremonies was held in Dubai in 1981. At this wedding, the well-to-do<sup>①</sup> son of Sheik Rashid Bin Saeed Al Maktoum married Princess Salama. The wedding ceremony took seven days to complete. It was held in a large building which was built for the ceremony. The building looked like a place where sporting events are usually held. The bride and groom needed a large place for their wedding because there were 20,000 guests at the wedding. The wedding cost was close to \$ 44 million.

A man and woman may choose to get married for many reasons. Sometimes

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they marry because they are in love. Sometimes they marry because their parents tell them that they must marry.

The youngest couple in the world to get married was an 11-month-old boy (the groom) and a three-month-old girl (the bride). This couple got married in Bangladesh in 1986.

The parents of the bride and groom arranged the marriage in order to end a fight between the two families without either family having to lose face② in the end. The families had been arguing over a farm for 20 years. Both families thought that they owned the farm, but no one knew for sure. The fight ended for good when the young boy married the young girl. The two families agreed to give the farm to the young couple.

## 【注释】

vary ['vɛəri] *v.* 改变; 变化

accept [ək'sept] *v.* 接受

ceremony ['seriməni] *n.* 礼仪; 典礼

groom [gru:m] *n.* 新郎

bride [braid] *n.* 新娘

arrange [ə'reindʒ] *v.* 安排

argue ['ɑ:gju:] *v.* 争吵

## 【难点解析】

① well-to-do: 富有; 地位显赫

eg. *The Johnsons, who are well-to-do, had a big party at their mansion.*

约翰逊家十分富有, 在他们的宅第举行了一个大型的宴会。

*The young man with the expensive car was very well-to-do.*

那个拥有豪华轿车的年轻人非常富有。

② lose face: 丢脸; 难堪; 没面子

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生活故事

eg. *You won't lose face as long as you try your best.*

只要尽最大的努力,你就不丢脸的。

*Jane's mother said that their family lost face when Jane lost the competition.*

简的妈妈说, Jane 在竞赛中输了, 他们全家都感到没面子。

## 4. Stranger in the Night

电视在我们的日常生活中是必不可少的, 通过它人们可以掌握信息, 增添乐趣。然而我们有没有注意到电视在人们身上造成的影响呢? 本文用具体事例生动地说明了这一现象, 这一点对我们是有意义的。

Many television programs are very realistic. The viewer often feels that whatever happened in the film could well happen to <sup>①</sup> him. With only a little imagination, every man in the street becomes a thief, a spy or a murderer. Jane had been watching a spy film at a friend's house. In it, a young girl had been followed and murdered. It had been very realistic, and she felt a little frightened walking to the station. She took the train back to the centre of the city. There were a lot of people travelling, so she felt much safer. She looked round at the other people in the compartment.

A man sitting opposite her, reading a newspaper, glanced at her. She thought nothing of it until she saw him staring at her. Remembering the film and feeling very uncomfortable she got out of the train and went to the bus-stop. When he got on the same bus as her she was convinced that he was following her. As long as <sup>②</sup> she had been with other people she wasn't frightened, but when she got off the

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bus, the streets were almost empty. She walked as quickly as she could. She could hear footsteps following her but she didn't dare to look. After what seemed to have been hours, but was in fact only a few minutes, she reached the front door. She felt for her keys, but was unable find them, because she was so frightened. The footsteps stopped behind her. She felt a hand on her shoulder. Instead of<sup>③</sup> feeling hands round her throat, however, she heard a pleasant voice.

"I apologize if I frightened you. I'm your new neighbour. I thought I recognized you in the train, but I wasn't sure."

## 【注释】

realistic [riə'listik] *adj.* 栩栩如生的; 逼真的

imagination [i,mædʒi'neɪʃən] *v.* 想象

compartment [kəm'pɑ:tmənt] *n.* 分隔间

convince [kən'vins] *v.* 说服; 使相信

recognize [ˈrekəɡnaɪz] *v.* 认出; 认识

## 【难点解析】

① happen to: 发生(某事情); 对……产生影响

eg. *A bad accident happened to that family.*

那个家庭发生了不幸的事情。

② as long as: 只要

eg. *You may borrow this book as long as you promise to give it back.*

只要你答应归还, 你就可以把这本书借走。

③ instead of: 代替

eg. *We'll have tea in the garden instead of in the house.*

我们将改在花园里喝茶, 而不在屋内喝。

*I'll go instead of you.*

我代你去。



# Challenge

生活故事

## 5. The Hot Dog

几乎每个人都吃过热狗，它虽是美国很流行的快餐食品，但近几年在我国也大为流传。那么在吃热狗的同时，我们可要想想它的来历哟，知道了它的身世后，我们可能会吃得更香了！噢，原来热狗就是……

In its home country of Germany, the hot dog was called the frankfurter. It was named after<sup>①</sup> Frankfurter a German city. Frankfurters were first sold in the United States in the 1860's. Americans called frankfurters "dachshund sausages". A dachshund is a dog from Germany with<sup>②</sup> a very long body and short legs. Dachshund sausages first became popular in New York, especially at baseball games. At games they were sold by men who kept them warm in hot-water tanks. As the men walked up and down<sup>③</sup> the rows of people, they yelled, "Get your dachshund sausages! Get your hot dachshund sausages!" People got the sausages on buns, a special bread.

One day in 1906, a newspaper cartoonist named Tad Dorgan went to a baseball game<sup>④</sup>. When he saw the men with the dachshund sausages, he got an idea for a cartoon. The next day at the newspaper office he drew a bun with a dachshund inside—not a dachshund sausages but a dachshund. Dorgan didn't know how to spell dachshund. Under the cartoon, he wrote "Get your hot dogs!"

The cartoon was a sensation<sup>⑤</sup>, and so was the new name<sup>⑥</sup>. If you go to a baseball game today, you can still see sellers walking around with hot-water tanks. As they walk up and down the rows they yell, "Get your hot dogs here! Get your hot dogs!"

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## 【注释】

home country 家乡;发源地

frankfurter [ˈfræŋkfətə] n. 小熏肠

dachshund 达克斯猎狗

sausage [ˈsɔsɪdʒ] 香肠;腊肠

especially [ɪsˈpeʃəli] adv. 特别地;尤其是

baseball [ˈbeɪsbɔ:l] n. 棒球

tank [tæŋk] n. 大桶;箱

yell [jel] v. 号叫;呼喊

bun [bʌn] n. 小而圆的甜面包

cartoonist [kɑːˈtuːnɪst] n. 卡通画家

cartoon [kɑːˈtuːn] n. 卡通;动画

sensation [senˈseɪʃən] n. 感觉;轰动

## 【难点解析】

① be named after: 以……命名, 美语中也说 be named for.

eg. *The college is named after George Washington.*

该大学以乔治·华盛顿的名字命名。

*The child is named after its father.*

小孩以他父亲的名字为名。

② with: 有, 带有, 引起短语作定语。

eg. *Who is the girl with yellow hair and dark eyes?*

黄发黑眼的女孩是谁?

*I found a wallet with a lot of money in it.*

我发现一个装有很多钱的钱包。

③ up and down: 上上下下; 来来回回

eg. *He got up and began to pace up and down in the room.*

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生活故事

他站起身来在屋里踱来踱去。

*I've been driving up and down the street for ten minutes looking for you.*

为了找你我已在街上转悠了十分钟。

④named: 叫做……, 也可以说 called

eg. *Tom, a boy named/called Henry wants to see you.*

汤姆, 有个叫亨利的男孩想见你。

*They lived in a place named Kent.*

他们住在一个叫肯特的地方。

⑤sensation: 轰动; 造成轰动的人或物

eg. *The moon landing in 1969 caused a worldwide sensation.*

1969 年的登月计划引起了全球轰动。

*The singer and the song both became a sensation.*

歌手和歌曲都轰动一时。

⑥...and so was the new name: so 加倒装句, 表示情况相同, “也是, 也如此”。

eg. *He is a doctor, so is his wife.*

他是医生, 他妻子也是。

*I like fruit, so does my mother.*

我爱吃水果, 我妈妈也爱吃。

## 6. Ladies First

女士优先在各国中都成了一种规矩, 凡是有绅士风度的男士都会做到这一点, 这种社交礼仪在美国尤其重视, 主要表现在哪些场合呢?

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In America, just as in Europe, men usually open doors for women, and women always walk ahead of men into a room or a restaurant, unless<sup>①</sup> the men have to be ahead of the ladies to choose<sup>②</sup> the table, to open the door of a car or do some other things like the above. On the street, men almost always walk or cross<sup>③</sup> the street on the closer side of the ladies to the traffic. But if a man walks with two ladies, he should walk between them. Then if the host or hostess or both of them come in a car to get their guest for dinner, the guest should sit at the front seat and leave the back seat though there are no people sitting on it.

## 【注释】

unless [ən'les] conj. 除非

traffic ['træfik] n. 交通

host [həʊst] n. 主人

hostess ['həʊstɪs] n. 女主人

## 【难点解析】

①unless: 除非; 如果不

eg. *My baby sister never cries unless she is hungry.*

我刚出生的妹妹除非饿了, 她是从来不哭的。

*Unless you go at once you will be late.*

如果你不马上走, 就会迟到的。

②choose: 挑选; 选择; 决定; 拿定主意

eg. *She chose to study chemistry.*

她选择了学化学。

*He chose not to go home.*

他决定不回家。

③cross: 渡过; 交叉; 交叠

eg. *They crossed the road.*