

丛书主编◎张宜

超凡
英语

英语短文 阅读菁华

*Reading
Masterpieces*

初级本

主编◎孙南南



大连理工大学出版社

Dalian University of Technology Press

英语短文阅读菁华

Reading Masterpieces

初级本

(第二版)

丛书主编 张 宜

主 编 孙南南

编 者 (按姓氏

郭 威

孙南南

张 惠



霍文华

赵 娜

刘玉华

张 威



大连理工大学出版社

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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

英语短文阅读菁华·初级本 / 孙南南主编.—2版.—大连:
大连理工大学出版社, 2003.3(2003.8重印)

ISBN 7-5611-2170-9

I. 英… II. 孙… III. 英语—对照读物—英、汉
IV. H319.4

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2002)第 034655 号

大连理工大学出版社出版

地址:大连市凌水河 邮政编码:116024

电话:0411-4708842 传真:0411-4701466 邮购:0411-4707961

E-mail: dulp@mail.dlptt.ln.cn URL: <http://www.dulp.cn>

大连理工印刷有限公司印刷 大连理工大学出版社发行

幅面尺寸:140mm×203mm 印张:10.75 字数:294千字

印数:20 001 ~ 28 000

2000年1月第1版 2003年3月第2版

2003年8月第4次印刷

责任编辑:韩露

责任校对:高玉娟

封面设计:孙宝福

定 价:13.80元

前言

也许你曾经以为阅读是了无生趣的,那是因为你没有遇到倾心的文字;也许你曾觉得英语是复杂枯燥的,那是因为你没能真正地走近它。

在浩如烟海的书卷中,不乏各种英语阅读材料。但是,我们希望一套简洁明了却又实用的阅读丛书能够驻足在你的案头。于是,怀着这种美好的愿望,我们针对不同阶段的英语学习者和爱好者的实际情况,按照初级本、中级本和高级本三册精心筛选编排了内容丰富、各具特色的文章。初级本语言浅显易懂,内容活泼,适合高中或大学低年级程度的读者。中级本在词汇量和语言上较初级本都有一定的提高,适合非英语专业二、三年级程度的读者。高级本语言地道,内容亦庄亦谐,适合具有英语中级水平以上的读者。

本丛书每本均由栏目导言、词汇菜单、正文、旁注和相关知识五个部分组成。栏目导言画龙点睛,撩拨心弦,使读者产生阅读的渴望。词汇菜单罗列了与本栏目相关的词汇、词组 200 余条,它们既可作为阅读前期的“热身”,亦可作为语言学习上的参考。在正文部分编者以独特的视角,精挑细选,择优拔萃,文章体裁多样,内容丰富,令读者爱不释手。旁注为词汇量有限的读者提供了方便的查阅空间、相关知识或恰到好处地扩展了与本文有关的内容,或寓教于乐,寓庄于谐,为读者提供立体的背景信息。

本丛书梯度合理,过渡适宜。三本书之间既相对独立,又互为关联。阅读着这些文字,就如同点击着时

代的鼠标,尽情品味着人类家园的硕果,感受着社会文明的气息。其中有的文章轻松跳跃,却不流于肤浅;有的厚重深邃,却不失于陈旧。总之,每篇文章就如同一颗石子,棱角分明,然而每一颗的纹路却又各自不同。如果您愿意将它们铺在一起,会发现那就是一架坚实的桥梁,牵引着您走向明天,直到未来。

作为编者的我们,当即将把浸透着自己汗水和付出的文字奉献给亲爱的读者时,心中有一丝的忐忑,惟恐我们虽备加仔细却仍难免的疏漏带给您丝毫不悦;但同时心中积淀起来的喜悦也是很难言说的。此刻那么多无眠的日日夜夜变得更加清晰,也更加有意义。因为素未谋面的我们终于可以在这里实现一次约定——一次我们都无比虔诚而且满怀期待的约定!

编者

2003年1月

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您关心流行乐坛的发展吗?

您了解中国电影的最新动态吗?

您是网球运动的爱好者吗?

您是奥林匹克精神的追随者吗?

让我们一起走进文体掠影。



文体掠影





Passage 1

Chinese-Americans in Force to Thank Ang Lee

美籍华人为李安喝彩

The Chinese-American *community*¹ of Los Angeles came out in force on Monday to thank director Ang Lee for raising the *profile*² of Chinese culture through his Oscar-winning *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*³.

About 200 guests were invited at the *reception*⁴ *hosted*⁵ by Taiwan. The guests turned up in their *holiday best*⁶, including *striking*⁷ modern variations on traditional Chinese designs, young and old waited nearly two hours for the chance to see, hear and be photographed with the Taiwan-born Lee.

"We feel very honored to get four awards. For every Chinese person in Los Angeles, it's so exciting," said Chu, who came to the United States 39 years ago. "Exciting but not surprising. I have imagined this for a long time." she said.

Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon won four Academy Awards on Sunday, including best foreign-language film, *best cinematography*⁸, best art direction and

1. community
[kə'mju:niti] n.
社团, 社区
2. profile
['prəʊfaɪl] n.
轮廓, 外形
3. Crouching Tiger,
Hidden Dragon
《卧虎藏龙》
4. reception
[ri'sepʃən] n.
招待会
5. host [həʊst] v.
主持
6. holiday best
节日盛装
7. striking
['straɪkɪŋ] a.
惊人的



best score⁹.

Although the Academy Awards may have been a great success for Chinese cinema, there was some personal disappointment for Lee. *Nominated¹⁰* for 10 awards, the *martial arts¹¹ fantasy¹²* did not bring home the big ones—best picture or best director.

Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon has earned well over \$100 million at the *box office¹³* in North American, a first for a *subtitled film¹⁴*.

8. best

cinematography

最佳摄影

9. best score

最佳原创音乐奖

10. nominate

[ˈnɒmineɪt] v. 提名

11. martial arts 武术

12. fantasy [ˈfæntəsi] n.

幻想

13. box office 票房

14. subtitled film

字幕电影

背景知识

第 74 届奥斯卡金像奖一览

最佳影片:《美丽心灵》

最佳导演:朗·霍华德 (《美丽心灵》)

最佳男主角:丹泽尔·华盛顿 (《训练日》)

最佳女主角:哈利·贝里 (《怪物舞会》)

最佳男配角:吉姆·布劳德本特 (《爱丽思》)

最佳女配角:詹尼弗·康奈利 (《美丽心灵》)

最佳外语片:《无人地带》(波黑)

最佳服装设计:《红磨坊》

最佳音效剪辑:《珍珠港》

学海拾零

Fill in the blank:

"Notre Dame de Paris"(巴黎圣母院), the famous Cathedral is a representative building of _____ art.

Key: Gothic



Passage 2

American Popular Music

美国的流行音乐

One of America's most important *exports*¹ is her modern music. American popular music is played all over the world. It is enjoyed by people of all ages in all countries. The reasons for its popularity are its fast pace and *rhythmic*² beat. The music has many origins in the United States. Country music coming from the rural areas in the Southern United States is one source. Country music *features*³ simple themes and *melodies*⁴, describing day-to-day situations and feelings of country people. Many people enjoy this music because of the emotions expressed by country music song. A second origin of American popular music is the *blues*⁵. It describes mostly the sad feelings reflecting the difficult lives of American blacks. It is usually played and sung by black musicians but it is popular with all Americans. Rock music is a newer form of music. This music style featuring fast and repetitious rhythm was influenced by the blues and country music. It was first known as *rock-and-roll*⁶ in the 1950s. Since then, there have been many forms of rock music: hard rock, soft rock, pop rock, disco music and others. Many performers of popular rock music are

1. export ['eksɒ:t] *n.*

输出, 出口

2. rhythmic ['rɪðmɪk] *a.*

有节奏的, 合拍的

3. feature ['fi:tʃə] *v.*

以.....为特征

4. melody ['melədi] *n.*

悦耳的音调

5. blues [blu:z] *n.*

忧郁的布鲁斯音乐

(蓝调音乐)

6. rock-and-roll *n.*

摇滚乐



young musicians. New popular songs are heard on the radio several times a day. People hear these songs sung in their original English or sometimes translated into other languages. The words may differ but the enjoyment of music is universal.

背景知识

摇滚不是天堂,是一种精神,是一张孕育自由和叛逆思想的温床。你我在这张温床上,得以超脱痛苦、消除原罪,如初生的婴儿一般,首次以彼此的灵魂沟通。常见的摇滚乐风格有:重金属、硬摇滚、朋克、民谣、说唱、爵士、宗教摇滚和迷幻摇滚。



学海拾零

Ask: Could you name some major styles of rock music?

Answer: Heavy metal, hard rock, punk, folk, rap and jazz.



Passage 3

Ballet

芭蕾

Ballet training in Russia begins at age of nine or ten. Whatever the limitations of ballet in the Soviet Union, it is no wonder that Russian ballet dancers perform with ease *leaps*¹ and lifts seldom attempted elsewhere, and that the standard of dancing in a *Russian corps de ballet*² is far above that usually seen in other countries—nine years of ballet *discipline*³ is almost unheard of outside Russia.

The period devoted to dance classes increase gradually from two or three hours a day to five or six. As in other institutions of higher learning, ballet students receive monthly government *stipends*⁴ in their last four years, varying from 160 to 200 *rubles*⁵ (\$16 to \$20). Of the thirty pupils to begin ballet each year, fewer than twenty-five usually graduate; the others drop out because of poor health or lack of ability.

Upon graduation, the starting salary for members of a corps de ballet is 100 rubles a month, while *prima ballerinas*⁶ receive 6000. Russia's most famous ballet company, the Bolshoi, has the first pick of each graduating class, but

1. leap [li:p] *n.* 跳跃

2. Russian corps de ballet

俄罗斯芭蕾舞团

3. discipline
[ˈdisiplin] *n.*

纪律, 训练

4. stipend
[ˈstaɪpend] *n.* 津贴

5. ruble [ˈrubl] *n.* 卢布

6. prima ballerinas

一流的芭蕾舞女演员,
重要的芭蕾舞女演员

7. intellectual
[ˌɪntəˈlektʃuəl] *a.*

有关智力的