



赖世雄 初中英语满分阅读

赖世雄 吴纪维 著
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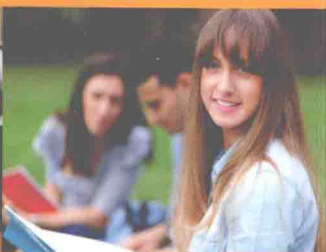
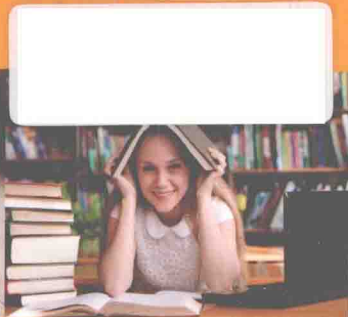
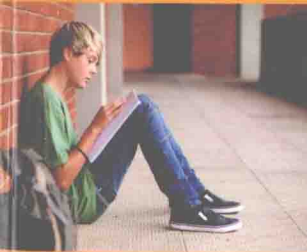
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赖世雄 初中英语满分阅读

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序

提高英语阅读能力、扩大词汇量最好的办法就是在兴趣中学习。如果你觉得学习外语是一种乐趣的话，你就会有极大的动力和热情。这正是我们撰写此套阅读系列的初衷。这套书所选的精彩文章和精致美图定会让你爱不释手。

该阅读系列分为初中和高中两个级别。每个级别包括精心撰写的 80 篇文章。本套丛书最大的特色是：

1. 选材新奇有趣。选材包罗万象，与时俱进，读完之后你会有一种不识庐山真面目的感觉，真心感叹世界之妙。

2. 文章行云流水。我们的文章完全没有从各大报刊杂志截取，而是我本人带领专业外籍老师精心原创，绝对地道流畅，是你学习写作的上佳范本。


3. 插图精美时尚。一般的阅读理解文章均是满篇的文字，读起来难免乏味苍白。而我们为每一篇文章均配了多幅插图，通过形象的方式同时开启你的左右脑，让你的理解更深刻。

4. 题型多样严谨。我们每篇文章配有阅读理解选择题、单词填空题以及完形填空题，涵盖了英语考试的主流题型，用一种快乐的方式春风化雨般提高解题能力。

5. 朗读地道纯正。可以免费下载由外籍老师录制的纯正朗读音频。根据级别的不同，初中阅读的语速略慢于高中阅读，读者可通过朗读音频锻炼听力并练就纯正发音。

就初中阅读而言，每篇文章为 200 词左右，题材包含文化艺术、节庆盛典、旅行、趣味新知、体育休闲等，每篇文章配三个选择题测验你的阅读成果。此外全书还另外配有 20 套复习测验题，包括单项选择和完形填空。此外，我们对每篇文章均配有详细的汉语翻译、巨细无遗的词汇详解、语法点拨以及试题答案。让你的词汇量无限拓展，解题能力节节升高。

简言之，此套阅读丛书旨在用一种全新而有趣的方式，让你在快乐中阅读英语，在提高英语能力的同时扩大知识面。两全其美之事，何乐而不为呢？



于台端著

Preface

The best way to build your English reading and vocabulary skills is in an interesting, informative and entertaining way. When studying a foreign language is fun, people are much more motivated to make progress in it. That is the belief of the writers, editors and designers who created *Reading Comprehension Practice*. Both levels of the book series feature fascinating articles and beautiful pictures designed to inspire readers.

Levels 1 & 2 of *Reading Comprehension Practice* each contain 80 articles that are divided into eight categories. For this book, Level 1, the titles for the various sections are: Art & Culture; Celebrations; Just So You Know; Innovations; Sports & Leisure; The Origins; Travel; and Features. Level 1 is written for students at a basic level, with shorter articles (150-200 words each) and easier vocabulary and grammar. Every article comes with three multiple choice questions to test reading comprehension. In addition, there are a total of 20 sets of review exercises at the back of each book. Using a fill-in-the-blank format with multiple choices, each review exercise is designed to be a test for four articles contained in *Reading Comprehension Practice*.

In the two books, students will find a large amount of useful information to assist them in understanding the vocabulary presented in the articles. Vocabulary definitions, tips on phrases and grammar points, translations of the readings and answer keys are all part of the content of the books.

MP3 recordings that feature native English speakers reading the articles can be downloaded for free. As you might expect, the reading speed for the Level 1 book is slower than that for the Level 2 book. Students can use the recordings to benefit both their listening and pronunciation skills.

In short, *Reading Comprehension Practice* is a two-book series designed to boost reading and vocabulary skills in English in an informative, entertaining way. The books can be used either for group classes or self-study. Either way, the articles in them provide readers with the necessary tools to effectively boost their reading comprehension ability.

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Unit 1 The Greatest Show on Earth

1 From their very beginnings to the fascinating acts of today, circuses have been one of the most popular forms of entertainment ever.

01 Throughout time, people have enjoyed being entertained¹. Whether with laughter, amazement, or fear, entertainment always draws² a crowd. From their very beginnings to the fascinating acts of today, circuses have been one of the most popular forms of entertainment ever. The first records of circuses are from ancient Rome. Chariot³ races, animal shows, jugglers⁴, and acrobats⁵ made up⁶ these first performances. The events were held indoors and were open to all social classes. After the fall of Rome, however, these were lost to Europe.

Circuses made a comeback⁷ in England in the 18th century thanks to Philip Astley. He was the first to introduce trick⁸ horse-riding to the show and created the famous circus ring⁹ in which the performances were held. He then added clowns, trained animals, tightrope¹⁰ walkers, and tumblers¹¹. This was the official¹² start of the modern circus.

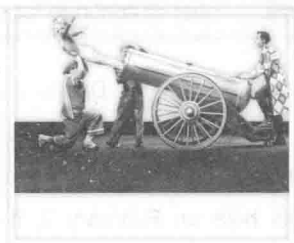
The next big step for circuses was taken by P.T. Barnum in the US. He brought the circus world the sideshow¹³, where strange animals and humans could be seen. He also was the first to use trains to transport his circus from town to town. With Barnum, everything was bigger and better, which is reflected¹⁴ in his circus' nickname, The Greatest Show on Earth.




Questions

_____ 1. What is this reading mostly about?

- (A) Why people enjoy circuses so much.
- (B) Circuses in ancient times.
- (C) The evolution of circuses.
- (D) The decline of circuses in modern society.

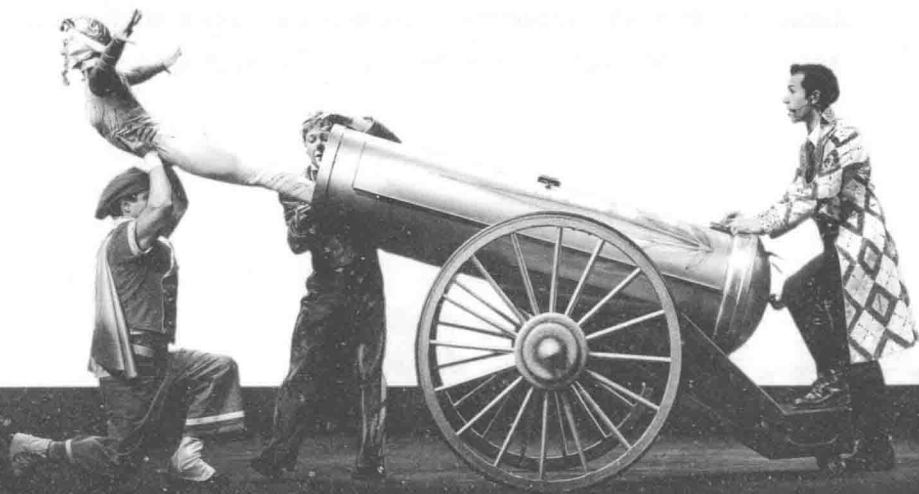


_____ 2. What did Philip Astley do?

- (A) Made circuses popular in the UK.
- (B) Held the first circuses ever.
- (C) Created the sideshow.
- (D) Introduced jugglers into the circus.

_____ 3. Which of the following is NOT mentioned in the article?

- (A) Acrobats were part of the first circuses.
- (B) Circuses disappeared from Europe for some time.
- (C) Trick horse-riding was used in Roman circuses.
- (D) P.T. Barnum traveled to various cities with his circus.



Unit The Shadow Tells All

2

On February 2, a groundhog predicts whether the winter will soon be over or continue for six more weeks.

02 **G**roundhog¹ Day is a holiday with an interesting story. Legend has it that when a groundhog emerges² from its hole on February 2, it can predict whether the winter has ended or will last for six more weeks. If the groundhog doesn't see its shadow³, spring will be arriving soon. It is a very popular holiday, but it is not taken very seriously. Everyone knows that Groundhog Day is more about having fun.



The star of the celebration is Punxsutawney Phil, a groundhog that lives in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. The small town hosts the largest Groundhog Day celebration in the world, with over 40,000 anxious⁴ onlookers⁵ in attendance. Phil may be famous, but he is certainly⁶ not a genius⁷ at weather prediction⁸. He has only been right about 40 percent of the time. Groundhog Day celebrations are full of activities and fun. With that being said, if you really want to know whether spring has arrived, it might be better to check the long-term⁹ weather report.

**Questions**

_____ 1. What is the writer's attitude about Ground hog Day?

- (A) People take it too seriously.
- (B) It's a fun time for people.
- (C) It's a reliable way to predict the weather.
- (D) More people should believe in it.

_____ 2. According to legend, which of the following means winter will last a long time?

- (A) If the groundhog sees its shadow.
- (B) If the groundhog doesn't see its shadow.
- (C) If the groundhog doesn't come out of its hole.
- (D) If people are able to spot the groundhog.

_____ 3. How does the reading describe the people who watch Punxsutawney Phil?

- (A) Smart.
 - (B) Predictable.
 - (C) Confident.
 - (D) Nervous.
- 