



ENGLISH

中等专业学校、职业高级中学通用教材

英语 ③

阅读课本

湖南省中等职业教育教材编审委员会

湖南科学技术出版社

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编 审：湖南省中等职业教育教材
编审委员会

主 编：伍刚中

副主编：高介耿 刘贤钧

编 者：伍刚中 高介耿 刘贤钧
秦亚农 刘子秀 蒋凌波
荣斌年

主 审：廖世翘

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使 用 说 明

培养英语阅读理解能力的关键在于“练”。课堂教学应以练为主，精讲多练。“中专、职高英语”每册安排了12篇课文，是我们进行精读训练的主要材料。但每学期精读12篇文章，无论如何难以达到提高阅读速度和阅读正确率这一目的，因为阅读能力的提高非一朝一夕之功，必须持之以恒，进行长期阅读训练。《阅读课本》是“中专、职高英语”的配套教材，正是为了提高学生的阅读理解能力而设计、编写的。

本书具有以下几个特点：

1. 与教材配合，按教材课次编写，短文和对话难度相当或略低于教材，内容均与教材有一定内在联系。

2. 所编文章，由浅入深。每学完一课教材，同步阅读一课“阅读课文”，就会拾级而上，步步登高。

3. 所编材料，语言地道，文情并茂，引人入胜。既能扩大视野、拓宽知识面，又能激发阅读兴趣，提高阅读理解技能。

4. 本书要求记时阅读，计算阅读速度。随即做阅读理解习题，算出理解正确率。书后附有全部习题答案，读者可随时掌握、验证自己的阅读水平。

阅读时，建议按以下步骤进行：

1. 通读全文一遍，理解大意。特别要注意文章中的时间、地点、人物和重要情节。要把握住关键句子，但不要遇生词就查词典，不要纠缠在个别单词和词语的含义上。把精力集中在文中意义之间的联系上，理解就会深一些；过分注意单词的意义，反而会削弱对文章整体的理解。

2. 通读阅读理解题一遍,边读边联系文章中与题目有关部分,作出初步判断。

3. 重读一遍全文,重点阅读与题目有关的关键句子。

4. 对个别不认识且又是较为重要的词语,根据上、下文内容进行猜测。

5. 在通晓全文、看清题目的基础上,采用逐个分析或排除法等方法,作出正确判断。

6. 将记下的所花阅读时间套入公式,算出每分钟所读词数(wpm);查对书后所附答案,得出阅读理解的正确率。

作为中专或职高二年一期学生,如果阅读速度每分钟在 60 词以上,理解正确率达到 70%,则基本达到了“湖南省中等专业学校及职业高级中学英语教学大纲”的阅读要求。

编者

1996 年 3 月 2 日

CONTENTS

LESSON ONE	(1)
Articles; A strange Decision	(1)
Teachers and Actors	(4)
Practical Writing; Private Letters	(7)
 LESSON TWO	(10)
Articles; Always Unlucky	(10)
Whales	(13)
Practical Writing; Letters of Introduction	(16)
 LESSON THREE	(19)
Articles; Salt and Its Uses	(19)
Chinese Food——What a Way to Cook! ...	(23)
Practical Writing; Letters of Application	(26)
 LESSON FOUR	(29)
Articles; William Shakespeare	(29)
Lu Xun	(32)
Practical Writing; Invitations	(36)
 LESSON FIVE	(39)
Articles; How Bears Sleep in Winter	(39)
Fish	(42)

Practical Writing; Bills	(44)
LESSON SIX	(47)
Articles; Popular Hobbies	(47)
How to Send Mails in the Past	(49)
Practical Writing; Notices	(53)
LESSON SEVEN	(55)
Articles; A Foreigner's Farewell Speech	(55)
Care of the Eyes	(58)
Practical Writing; Notices	(61)
LESSON EIGHT	(63)
Articles; Seven Words That Changed My life Forever	(63)
No Greater Love	(66)
Practical Writing; Résumés	(70)
LESSON NINE	(73)
Articles; Concept of Privacy	(73)
How America Got Its Name	(76)
Practical Writing; Student's Sports Report	(79)
LESSON TEN	(82)
Articles; Robert Bruce and the Spider	(82)
Flying Kites	(85)
Practical Writing; Posters	(88)
LESSON ELEVEN	(91)

Articles; Christmas	(91)
A Miserable, Merry Christmas	(95)
Practical Writing; New Year Card and Birthday Card	(99)
LESSON TWELVE	(102)
Articles; The Earthquake	(102)
Geyser and Old Faithful	(105)
Practical Writing; Notes	(108)
Supplementary Readings	(110)
I . The Game	(110)
II . Hamlet	(118)
III . A Common Patient	(129)
IV . A Tale of Two Cities	(138)
V . A Song	(145)
Key to Reading Comprehension Exercises	(146)
编后	(151)

LESSON ONE

Articles

A Strange Decision

A poor chimney-sweep (扫烟囱工), who did not have enough money to buy a meal, stopped one hot summer day at noon before a restaurant, and remained there regaling (使喜悦) his nose with the smell of the food. The cook of the shop told him several times to go away, but the sweep could not leave the delicious smell, though unable to buy the taste of the food. At last the cook came out of the shop, and taking hold of the sweep, declared that as he had been feeding upon the smell of his food, he should not go away without paying half the price of a dinner. The poor fellow said that he neither could go nor would pay, and that he would ask the first person who should pass, whether it was not an unreasonable and unjust (不公正的) demand.

The case was referred (提交) to a policeman, who happened to pass by at the moment. The policeman then said to the sweep: "As you have been enjoying one of your senses with the odor (香气) of this man's meat, it is just (公平的) that you should make him some recompense (赔偿); therefore you shall, in your turn, regale one of his senses. How much money do you

have?"

"I have but two pence in all the world, sir, and I must buy me some bread."

"Never mind," answered the officer, "take your two pence between your hands and rattle (使发出格格声) them loudly."

The sweep did so, and the officer, turning to the cook, said, "Now, sir, I think he has paid you: the smell of your food regaled his nostrils (鼻孔); the sound of his money has pleased your ears."

This decision gave more satisfaction to the bystanders than to the cook, but it was the only payment he could get.

Reading speed: $\frac{300 \text{ 词}}{\text{分} \times 60 + \text{秒}} \times 60 = \text{_____} \text{ (wpm)}$

Reading Comprehension

I. Choose the best answers in the following sentences:

- () 1. Why did the chimney-sweep stop before a restaurant and remain there regaling his nose with the smell of the food?
Because _____.
A. he was not hungry
B. he was too poor to buy any food
C. the smell was so delicious
D. his doctor advised him not to eat too much
- () 2. How much did the cook ask the sweep to pay for feeding upon the smell of his food?
A. Two pounds. B. Two pence.
C. Half the price of a dinner. D. One-third of the price.

- () 3. The policeman thought the cook's demand was _____.
- A. reasonable B. just
C. unreasonable D. right
- () 4. The policeman's decision _____ the chimney-sweep.
- A. satisfied B. encouraged
C. disappointed D. was of no use to
- () 5. What did the cook get in return from the sweep?
- A. Half the price.
B. Two pence.
C. The sound of the sweep's money.
D. Nothing.

I. True or false:

- () 1. After working in the restaurant, the chimney — sweep stopped in it, refusing to leave without a meal.
- () 2. The chimney — sweep refused to pay for feeding on the smell of the cook's food because he had no money with him.
- () 3. The cook of the restaurant was angry, because he could not make the sweep pay half the price.
- () 4. They went to a police station and referred the case to a policeman.
- () 5. When the policeman made the decision, many people were standing there, waiting to see what was going to happen next.

Comprehension score: _____ 分

Teachers and Actors

To be a good teacher, you need some of the gifts (才能) of the good actor; you must be able to hold the attention and interest of your audience (观众); you must be a clear speaker, with a good, strong, pleasing voice which is fully under your control; and you must be able to act what you are teaching, in order to make its meaning clear.

Watch a good teacher, and you will see that he does not sit motionless (不动的) before his class; he stands the whole time he is teaching; he walks about, using his arms, hands and fingers to help him in his explanations (解释), and his face to express (表达) feelings. Listen to him, and you will hear the loudness, the quality (质量) and the musical note (调子) of his voice always changing according to what he is talking about.

The fact that a good teacher has some of the gifts of a good actor does not mean that he will indeed be able to act well on the stage (舞台); for there are very important differences between the teacher's work and the actor's. The actor has to speak words which he has learnt by heart; he has to repeat exactly the same words each time he plays a certain part (角色); even his movements and the ways in which he uses his voice are usually fixed before. What he has to do is to make all these carefully learnt words and actions seem natural on the stage.

The good teacher works in quite a different way. His audi-

ence take an active part in his play; they ask and answer questions, they obey (服从) orders, and if they do not understand something, they say so. The teacher therefore has to suit his act to the needs of his audience, which is his class. He cannot learn his part by heart, but must invent it as he goes along.

I have known many teachers who were fine actors in class but were unable to take part in a stage-play because their brains would not keep discipline (纪律); they could not keep strictly to what another had written.

Reading speed: $\frac{350 \text{ 词}}{\text{分} \times 60 + \text{秒}} \times 60 = \text{ } (\text{wpm})$

Reading Comprehension

I. Choose your best answers in the following sentences:

- () 1. To be a good teacher, you _____.
- A. need a lot of money
 - B. have to speak words which you have learned by heart
 - C. need some of the gifts of the good actor
 - D. should take part in stage-plays
- () 2. Attending a good teacher's class you will see that _____.
- A. he sits motionless before his class
 - B. he doesn't sit motionless before his class
 - C. he sings a lot in class
 - D. he stands motionless before his class
- () 3. Which statement is right according to the article?
- A. A good teacher will indeed be able to act well on the

stage.

B. A good teacher can be a good actor.

C. A good teacher often punishes his students.

D. A good teacher won't be able to act well on the stage.

() 4. Which statement is not correct?

A. Actors must change the words of a play as they go along.

B. Actors have to repeat the same words each time they play.

C. Teachers must answer some questions.

D. Teachers have to suit their acts to the need of their audience.

() 5. What's the main idea of this article?

A. A good teacher must be a clear speaker.

B. Teachers' work is the same as actors'.

C. The differences and similarities between teachers and actors.

D. Teachers should not sit motionlessly.

I . True or false :

() 1. As a good teacher , you must try your best to let your students take an active part in your class.

() 2. Both actors and teachers often use their faces , arms , hands , and fingers to help them express feelings.

() 3. A good teacher always sit motionless before his class.

() 4. The actor has to speak words which he has learnt by heart.

() 5. All teachers are fine actors in class and are able to per-

form well on the stage.

Comprehension score: _____分

Practical Writing

Private Letters

A

3940 Witty Street,
Singapore,
June 26, 1996

Dear Mother and Father,

I have been in the school for about a month. One of the things in my first weeks here that surprised me so much was that new people were treated with respect. Upperclass students would come up and say, "Hey, how're you doing?" or "What's your name?" or "Where're you from?" Everyone at this school seems to be my friend.

As for the teachers, they will do anything to get their point across you. They really care about how a student feels, and they give you all the help they can. Learning is easy when you have teachers like these.

With love and good wishes.

Your loving son,
Pill

B

780, Broadwood Road, 1st floor

Hong kong

May 21, 1996

Dear Henry,

I have been very busy since I heard from you last. First of all, I have to say that I am very well, and that I often think of you.

My homework has been so heavy that I have often had to work till midnight. There have been many exercises in English and mathematics to do every week.

My school will soon publish a little magazine, of which I have been made one of the assistant editors. It will appear twice a month. It will contain both articles and pictures. I am writing a short article on English sentence structure for it. I shall send you a copy as soon as the first issue is out.

I have had no time for any form of athletics during the past three weeks.

When this reaches you, I hope that you will have read through the novel that I sent you last month. You need not return it till I ask you to do so.

Yours sincerely,
George Chang

Humour

When I was waiting in line at the bank, I noticed a woman holding a small child at one of the windows. The boy was eating a roll (卷饼), which he thrust at (刺向) the teller. The teller smiled and shook his head.

“No, no, dear,” said the boy’s mother, and then, turning to the teller, “I beg your pardon, young man. Please forgive my son. He’s just been to the zoo.”

A Quotation from Oliver Goldsmith

Our greatest glory consists not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall.

我们最大的光荣并不在于永不跌倒，而在于每次跌倒后能爬起来。

奥利弗·哥尔斯密