

初中英语 限时阅读

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杨晓明 刘柯艳 编
北京师范大学出版社



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前 言

阅读理解，是对学生所学英语知识综合运用能力的考查形式，已成为初中升学考试中的必考项目之一。

为了帮助学生提高英语阅读理解能力，我们编写了这本《初中英语限时阅读》，供学生自学及初三英语总复习使用，也可供教师备课参考。

本书共选短文100篇，以每分钟读50个词左右的速度，进行限时阅读。短文中出现的个别生词，用汉语加以注释。

本书所选短文的题材广泛，内容丰富，每篇短文配有与考试中的阅读理解题相吻合的理解练习题，并附参考答案。

参加本书编写的还有张伍、陈英。

限于编者水平，书中难免出现不足之处，恳请广大读者批评、指正。

编 者
1992.11

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1. How Windows Began

(Words 126 Minutes:2.5)

Before windows were used, old houses in Northern Europe and Britain were very dark. Their great rooms were high, with only a hole in the roof to let out the smoke from cooking fires. As time went on, people began to make the holes bigger in order to have more light and air in their homes.

The first English window was just a small opening in the wall. It was cut long, to let in as much light as possible, and narrow (狭窄的), to keep out the bad weather. However, with the window cut long, more wind than light would come in. This is why it was called "the wind's eye". And the word "window" comes from two ancient (古老的) words for "wind" and "eye".

Choose the best answer according to the passage.

- 1) A long time ago, old houses in Northern Europe had _____.
A. only one door B. no rooms
C. no windows D. one window
- 2) The hole in the roof was used to _____.
A. have light only B. let the smoke out
C. help people look D. let wind in
- 3) The first English window was _____.

- A. a bigger hole in the roof B. long and wide
 C. an opening with glass D. long and narrow
- 4) With the window cut long, people got more light in their houses and at the same time ____ came in.
 A. more wind B. more sunshine
 C. less air D. a lot of rain
- 5) Now windows are used to ____.
 A. make houses look more beautiful
 B. let in more light and air
 C. keep us warm
 D. let in light and keep out the wind

2. Finding the Truth

(Words:237 Minutes:4.5)

The two teachers were sitting in the teachers' room in silence(沉默不语). Then one of them, Miss Smith, said, "I'm afraid I'd have to fail him (给他评不及格)!"

"Is he such a terrible student?" asked her friend Mrs Baker.

"That's just the trouble!" the other woman answered. "Tom is my best student. The problem is that he's so lazy he never gets his work done. He hasn't handed me a piece of homework for three weeks."

Mrs Baker had never seen Miss Smith look so unhappy before. "Have you talked with him about it?" she asked.

"Why should I? He knows he has to prepare his

lessons and do his homework. I made that very clear the first day for class. I don't know what has happened. When the course started he did so well that I thought of asking the school to give him a scholarship (奖学金). But he has changed. He even sleeps in class!"

"You should have a talk with him. Give him a chance to tell his side of the story."

Miss Smith spoke to Tom and learned all about it. He was studying all day and working most of the night in a factory to pay for his schooling. Of course he was tired in class and sometimes fell asleep. Miss Smith soon helped him get a scholarship and he was able to give up his job and concentrate (集中精力于) on his studies.

Are the following statements True or False according to the passage?

- 1) Miss Smith wanted to fail Tom because she didn't like him.
- 2) Tom was not really a terrible student.
- 3) At the beginning Tom was doing very well in Miss Smith's class.
- 4) Tom changed a lot because he lost his interest in his lessons.
- 5) From the above passage, we get to know that Tom's family was poor.

3. What Did She Spend the Money for?

(Words:163 Minutes:3)

Mr Black gave his wife money every Friday evening, but she always spent it before the next Wednesday, so that for the next three days she had none.

Every Tuesday evening Mr Black asked her, "But what did you spend all that money on?" and she always answered, "I don't know."

One Friday Mr Black brought home a notebook and a pencil and gave them to his wife with her money. "Now look!" he said to her. "When you get money from me, write it down on this page, and on the opposite page (反面) write down what happens to the money."

When Mr Black came home the next Tuesday, his wife came to him and showed him the book. "I have done what you told me," she said happily. On one page she had written, "Friday, 28th June. I got \$18 from John"; and on the opposite, "Tuesday, 2nd July. I have spent it all."

Choose the best answer according to the passage.

- 1) Mrs Black ____ how she had spent the money.
A. wanted to know B. knew quite well
C. had no idea D. often asked herself
- 2) By ____ evening there was no more money left for Mrs Black.

A. Tuesday B. Wednesday

C. Thursday D. Friday

3) Mr Black told his wife to write down___on the next page.

A. when she spent the money

B. where she spent the money

C. why she spent so much money

D. what she bought with the money

4) ___Mrs Black began to write down how much her husband had given her.

A. At the beginning of July B. By the end of June

C. On Friday morning D. Every weekend

5) In the end, Mr Black was sure___.

A. that his wife had a habit of saving money

B. that most of the money had been spent on food

C. about how the money had been spent

D. that his wife spent her money without much care or thought

4. A Clever Boy

(Word:126 Minutes:2)

Once three men bought seventeen oranges. The first man wanted one half; the second one, one third (三分之一); and the third, one ninth. It was not possible to divide those seventeen oranges as they wanted. Just as they were in such a difficulty, a small boy came up with an

orange in his hand. The boy said, "Don't worry about that. Let me divide them for you."

First of all, with his own orange added to them, he made the number of oranges eighteen. Then he gave nine to the first man, six to the second man and two to the third man. He gave away seventeen in all and took his own for himself. These men praised (称赞) him together, "What a clever boy!"

Are the following statements True or False according to the passage?

- 1) The boy showed his cleverness by dividing the oranges.
- 2) The small boy got an orange from the three men after he had helped them divide the oranges.
- 3) In fact there were seventeen oranges when the boy was dividing them.
- 4) The small boy offered (主动给) his help to the three men.
- 5) The boy helped the three men to get their praise.

5. A Polite Notice

(Words: 234 Minutes: 4.5)

Mr Brown lived in a house less than two miles from his office, so he was able to drive home every day for lunch. Every time he drove home at noon, he found

at the road outside his house cars were parked (停放车辆), and there was no room for his own car. He had to drive somewhere else to park his car. Then he had to walk back home. This made him very angry.

He had put up a board (木板), which said: "No Parking", in the garden facing the road, but nobody seemed to take any notice of it. People obeyed a police notice, but not a private (私人的) one. There were no parked cars where there was a blue board with white letters on it.

Police Notice

No Parking

Mrs Brown suggested (建议) that he steal a police notice. He dared not, being afraid of going to prison. She then suggested that he make one just like a police notice. He said he was not the police and couldn't use the word "police". He decided to find a way out.

Several days later, Mr Brown made a blue board with white letters.

Polite Notice

No Parking

"Oh!" Mrs Brown said. "But you told me you weren't going to use the word 'police'. That's exactly like a police notice."

"Is it?" he asked. "Look again."

She started to laugh. "You are really clever."

- B. some people still parked their cars outside his house
- C. he could find room to park his car outside his house
- D. he still had to drive away from his house to park his car

6. Always Taking, Never Giving

(Words:205 Minutes:4)

Peter wondered why he didn't have many friends. The reason was he was always taking, never giving,

One day Peter told Bill, "I'd like to give a party on Saturday. I'd like you to come and bring Martha, too."

"Thanks, Peter. We'd be happy to come."

"Perhaps you'd like to bring your violin. You and Martha sing well together. I'm sure everyone will want you to sing for us."

That was how Peter began to plan his party. Next he asked another friend, Betty, to bring a cake. "You make the best cake in the world, Betty, and I prefer (更喜欢) to eat your cake than have one from the bakery."

Peter invited several other friends to come to his party. He did not forget to ask something from each one of them. He even asked Jim and Mary Jackson to let him give the party at their house! They agreed.