

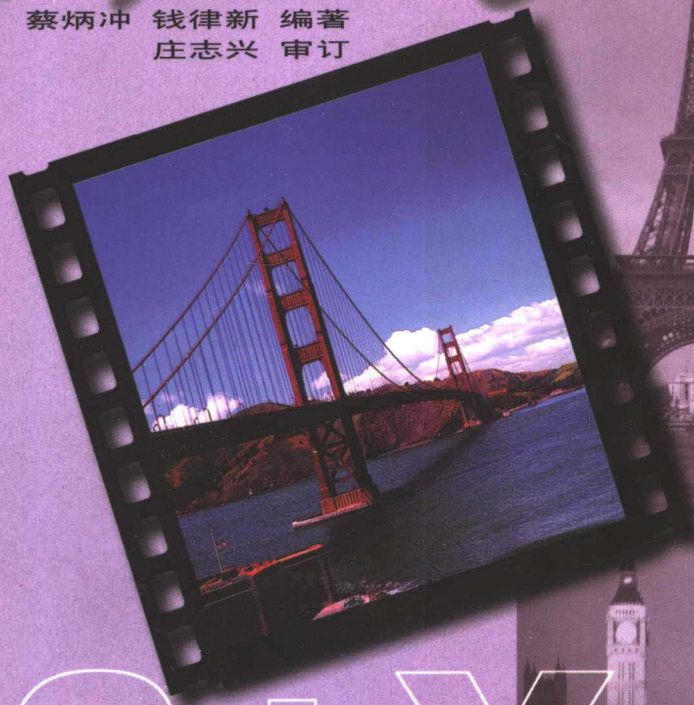
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走近名城

To Famous Cities

蔡炳冲 钱律新 编著
庄志兴 审订



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前 言

《新视野英语阅读丛书》以高中学生为主要读者对象,以开拓视野、增长知识、提高英语阅读能力为宗旨,以创特色、出精品、瞄准高考、服务教学为目标,特邀著名重点中学一线教师及英语学科带头人精心策划和编著。

本丛书首推 4 本:

《走近名人》“走近”百位世界名人,阅览他们的为人、个性、兴趣、爱好以及鲜为人知的趣闻轶事。

《走近名城》“走近”百座世界名城,游览旖旎的城市风光、典雅的名胜古迹以及奇异的风土人情。

《走近自然》“走近”百种珍稀动植物,饱览其特有的生活习性、生长过程以及与人 and 自然的关系。

《走近科学》“走近”科学,博览百篇科普读物,让读者徜徉于科学知识的海洋,激发其爱科学、学科学、用科学的热情,培养创新意识和创造能力。

本丛书所选材料均来自海内外文献资料,语言地道,内容健康,趣味隽永。其难度与现行高中新教材相当,生词量控制在 3% 左右,个别生词未加注中文,旨在培养读者通过上下文推测词义的能力。阅读理解题型与 NMET 标准化考试完全吻合,考查内容兼顾表层、深层和整体理解三个层次,因而十分适合高中各年级及相当于此程度的英语学习者使用,尤其对参加会考、高考的学生进行针对性英语阅读训练与模拟检测更有裨益。

本丛书全部书稿承蒙澳大利亚英语教育专家 Melanie Ruchel 博士亲自审阅和福建中学英语报社庄志兴总编辑亲自审订,谨致谢忱。

我觉得,当书本给我讲到闻所未闻、见所未见的人物、感情、思想和态度的时候,似乎是每一本书都在我面前打开了一扇窗户,让我看到一个不可思议的新世界。

——高尔基

I feel that every book opens before me a window through which I see an unthinkable new world when the book tells me about never-heard-of and never-seen characters, sentiment, ideas and attitudes.

—Gorky

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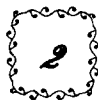
Amsterdam

Amsterdam(阿姆斯特丹) is the capital of Netherlands(荷兰) and also its largest city. It was once an important port, and has many old canals that run in a circle pattern through the centre of the city. Because the main roads cross one canal after another, Amsterdam has many bridges. Along the canals, the roads are cobbled(铺有圆石的) and there are many tall old buildings.

Once, the canals carried barges(驳船), but today they carry boats full of tourists. In the streets that cross the canals there are many shops and restaurants. The Rijks Museum in Amsterdam is important for its many paintings by Rembrandt, and the City Museum, many by van Gogh.

1. Amsterdam is _____.
 - A. the capital of Netherlands
 - B. the biggest city in Netherlands
 - C. a tourist attraction(旅游胜地)
 - D. All of the above.
2. There were so many canals in Amsterdam because _____.
 - A. it was the capital of Netherlands
 - B. it was a large city
 - C. it was an important port
 - D. it had many museums

3. Amsterdam has many bridges because _____.
A. it has many canals
B. it has many roads
C. the canals cross the roads
D. the canals run through the city
4. When you are in Amsterdam, you can see many _____.
A. big factories B. barges
C. old buildings D. rivers
5. The Rijks Museum is well known for _____.
A. van Gogh's paintings B. Picasso's paintings
C. Renoir's paintings D. Rembrandt's paintings



Ancient Chang'an

During the Tang Dynasty, Chang'an(长安) included present-day Xi'an and its suburbs(郊区). 6.5 times larger than preliberation Xi'an, it was 36.7km in circumference(周长), and had a population of one million.

The city was divided into three parts. In the north was the palace city where the emperor lived with his family and held court. To the south was the loyal city where the feudal(封建的) government offices were situated(座落于).

East, west and south of the palace city and the loyal city was the outer city. Here were the living quarters of citizens and the commercial centres. This area was divided into 108 squares

1. Today's Xi'an is _____ ancient Chang'an.
A. as large as
B. much smaller than
C. much larger than
D. The passage doesn't say.
2. The whole city was made up of _____.
A. the palace city and the loyal city
B. the palace city, the loyal city and the outer city
C. the loyal city and the outer city

-

Athens

Athens is a famous ancient city, but it is, in fact, a city that is dying. Stinking(臭的) buses, their passengers pale and tired, force their way though the crowded streets. Drivers shout

at one another and knock their horns. Smog(烟雾) destroys the eyes and chokes the senses. The scene is Athens at rush hour. The city of Plato and Pericles(柏拉图和培里克里斯) is in a sorry state of affairs, built without a plan, lacking even necessary sewerage facilities(排水系统), enclosed in by mountains and the sea, its 135 square miles crowded with 3.7 million people. Even Athens' ruins(废墟) are in ruin; sulfur dioxide(二氧化硫) eats away at the marble of the Parthenon(巴台农神殿) and other treasures on the Acropolis(雅典卫城). As Greek Premier Constantine Karamanlis has said, "The only solution for Athens would be to pull down half of it and start all over again."

So great has been the population flow toward the city that entire hinterland villages stand empty or nearly so. About 120 000 people from distant provinces move to Athens every year, with the result that 40% of Greece's citizenry(公民) are now packed into the capital. The migrants(移民) come for the few jobs, which are usually no better than the ones they fled(逃离). At the current rate of migration(移居), Athens by the year 2000 will have a population of 6.5 million, more than half the nation.

Besides overcrowding and poor public transport, the biggest problems facing Athenians are noise and pollution. A government study concluded that Athens was the noisiest city in the world. Smog is almost at killing levels: 180 ~ 300mg of sulfur dioxide per cubic(立方的) metre of air, or up to four times the level that the World Health Organization(世界卫生组织, 缩写为

WHO) considers safe. Nearly half the pollution comes from cars. Despite high prices for vehicles(车辆) and fuel (\$ 2.95 per gallon), nearly 100 000 motor-cars are sold in Greece each year; 3 000 driver's licences are issued in Athens monthly.

After scores of years of neglect(忽视), Athens is at last getting some attention. In March a committee of representatives from all major public service departments met to discuss a plan to clear up the city, made it livable and clean up its environment(环境). A save-Athens ministry, which will soon begin to work, will propose heavy taxes to discourage immigration, a minimum(最低额) of \$ 5 billion in public spending for Athens alone, and other projects for the countryside to encourage residents to remain where they are. A master plan that will move many government offices to the city's edges is already being carried out. Meanwhile, more Greeks keep moving into Athens. With few parks and valuable few oxygen-producing plants, the city and its citizens are in fact suffocating(窒息).

1. Athens is _____.

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| A. a city in France | B. the capital city of Austria |
| C. the capital of Greece | D. a city in Italy |

2. The writer thinks the city of Athens is dying, because _____.

- A. of increasing population
- B. of its poor public transport
- C. of its serious pollution

- D. All of the above.
3. The increasing population accounts for _____.
A. the high birth rate
B. migrants from its surrounding rural areas
C. migrants from other provinces of the country
D. Both B and C.
4. Altogether the whole country has a citizenry population of _____.
A. 3.7 million B. over nine million
C. more than ten million D. less than 3.7 million
5. It is considered barely safe to have less than _____ mg of sulfur dioxide per cubic metre of air, according to WHO.
A. 75 B. 45 C. 180 D. 300
6. Measures Athens is taking to unclog the city don't include _____.
A. taxing the migrants heavily
B. encourage the peasant to remain in the countryside
C. moving government offices to the edge of the city
D. further raise the price of vehicles and fuel



Barcelona (I)

Spain's second largest city is the Catalanian(加泰罗尼亚) seaport of Barcelona(巴塞罗纳). Barcelona is a much older city than Madrid and has also been a much more important city

through most of the country's history. According to custom, Barcelona was founded in 218 B.C. by the Carthaginian(迦太基的) general Humilcar Barca(哈米尔卡·巴卡, 270 B.C. ~ 228 B.C.), from whom the city takes its name. Barcelona soon fell to the Romans, under whom it became one of the most important towns in coastal Spain. It served as a capital for the Visigoth(西哥特人) and later as the seat of the powerful counts(伯爵) of Barcelona. It became a city of great wealth and splendour(壮丽) after 1137, when it was made the capital of a united kingdom of Catalonia and Aragon(阿拉贡). In the early 15th century Barcelona and the region it ruled were joined to the Spanish state. Ever since that time an intense rivalry(激烈的竞争) has existed between Madrid and Barcelona. But Barcelona has continued to flourish(繁荣) as the country's leading seaport, business centre, and industrial city. The Barcelona metropolitan(大都市的) area has a population of almost 1 800 000. It is one of the world's most densely-populated(人口密度高的) cities. It also is the country's leading industrial and trade centre. The official language is Spanish, but the native language — Catalan, is widely spoken throughout the district of Catalonia.

1. Barcelona is _____.

- A. only a seaport
- B. the second largest city in Catalonia
- C. the oldest city in Spain
- D. a much more important city than Madrid most of the time