

中学

English

英语

选读

高二

Readings

江苏科学技术出版社

English Readings
for Middle School Students

中学英语选读

(高二适用)

任泳 徐新

江苏科学技术出版社

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出版说明

《中学英语选读》是按照全日制中学英语教学大纲的要求,按年级(从初二开始)分册编写的。每本书的生词量控制在总词汇量的5%左右,以期不增加学生的负担,并收到复习课本中单词和语法的效果。

本书内容丰富,体裁多样。既有生动有趣的故事、童话、独幕小剧、诗歌等,也有介绍有关天文、地理、卫生等科普知识的短文,还有少量幽默、谜语、填字母游戏、智力测验等内容,因此读来饶有兴味。

学生如能坚持在每个星期学习一篇短文,则能在一学年内读完本书。

本书对学生掌握课本知识,开展英语课外活动,提高学习英语的兴趣有一定的帮助。广大中学生和中学英语教师在使用中有什么意见和建议,请随时向我们提出。

本书承南京大学外国语言文学系刘志漠副教授审校,谨致谢意。

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1. Eating Dates in My Native Village

On Mid-Autumn Festival a few years ago my father took me to our native village in Hebei province for the first time¹ to visit grandpa who was ill.

I do not remember many of the things there now as I was quite little then. But I keep thinking about the low house surrounded by a broken wall, and about grandpa's lined face.² The only thing that cheered me up was the strings of dates dancing over the trees around our house. They looked so lovely and delicious I wanted to eat them.³ Grandpa told me that these trees were ours before but were now owned by the production team.

Last Spring Festival, father and I returned to our village again, this time to attend my uncle's wedding.⁴ My mother stayed behind⁵ because she was not feeling well.

Somehow the bus seemed faster and the road not so bumpy this time.⁶ Before I could fully enjoy the trees and houses along the way we arrived at the county bus station. Uncle was waiting there. He wore a handsome new suit and had a new bike beside him. I did not recognize him until father greeted him.⁷ Uncle put our bags on the handle bar of his bike and then lifted me onto its rack at the back. The three of us left the station.

There were large crowds of people on the street⁸. Food

stalls were seen and local products were sold everywhere. The place reminded me of⁹ Dashala, one of the shopping centers in Beijing. Father said, "I didn't expect to find such a big change here in only a few years' time." Uncle replied, "The new rural policy has certainly done us good.¹⁰ We're much better off now.¹¹ Life is thriving in the village."

They talked as they walked along and we soon arrived at grandpa's house. Father was surprised to see the new gate, the surrounding walls and a new red brick house. He could not believe his eyes. Uncle laughed and said, "I bet you wouldn't have found our home if I hadn't come with you.¹²" Father nodded.

My grandparents came out to greet us. Grandpa was 78 but I felt his strength when he lifted me off the bike. "Are you better now, grandpa?" I asked. With a twinkle in his eyes he said,¹³ "I'll live for another twenty years!" His white beard shook a little as he spoke. He looked younger and the lines on his forehead seemed fewer too. Grandma took my hand and we went into the courtyard. Two long-necked¹⁴ geese were crying loudly and a group of hens searched for food under a pile of firewood. A big white cock with a red comb stood on top of the firewood and looked down proudly at us.

Inside, a big table clock was ticking away¹⁵. I also saw colorful bed sheets and a red lacquer cupboard.¹⁶ Everything looked new there. Grandma took out a big jar and said to me, "Yuanyuan, last time you wanted me to give

you some dates but I couldn't. That made me unhappy for a long time after you left. Now all these date trees have been returned to us because of the new policy. Last autumn, I preserved the biggest ones in wine especially for you." Then she put some on a plate and said, "Come, child, eat as many as you want!" They were so delicious and smelled so good, I wanted to eat them all! Grandma watched me devouring¹⁷ them and asked, "How do you like our village?" Since my mouth was full of dates, I could only nod my head vigorously.

Notes

1. for the first time 第一次, 首次
2. But I keep thinking about the low house surrounded by a broken wall, and about grandpa's lined face. 但是我还一直记得四周围有一堵破墙的矮屋, 以及爷爷那布满皱纹的面孔。
to keep doing sth. 不断做某事。又如:
Alice kept waving to us. (艾丽丝不断向我们挥手。)
surrounded by a broken wall 是过去分词短语, 作定语, 修饰 house; broken 是过去分词作前置定语, 修饰 wall。
lined 是动词 line (使起皱纹) 的过去分词, 作 face 的定语。
3. They looked so lovely and delicious I wanted to eat them. 它们(指红枣)又可爱, 又好吃, 逗得我真想尝一尝。
这是个主从复合句, 带有由 so...that... 引起的状语从句, 表示结果, 但这里的 that 省略了。
delicious [di'liʃəs] a. 美味的, 可口的
4. ... to attend my uncle's wedding.是为了参加我叔叔的婚礼。

这是不定式短语，作目的状语，修饰 returned 这个动作。

wedding ['wedɪŋ] n. 婚礼

5. to stay behind 留下(没去)

6. ...the road not so bumpy this time.这一回公路也不怎么颠人。

这里省略了连系动词 seemed。在并列句中，第二个分句往往可以省略和第一个分句中相同的部分，以避免重复。

bumpy ['bʌmpɪ] a. 颠簸的，(道路)不平坦的

句中的 not 并不修饰谓语，而是修饰表语 bumpy，这种不是针对谓语的否定形式叫做特指否定。又如：

I decided not to go there. (我决定不去那儿。)

You look not so fine today. (你今天看上去气色不那么好。)

7. I did not recognize him until father greeted him. 直到爸爸向他打了招呼以后，我才认出他。

until 常与表示短暂动作的否定形式一起用，表示这个动作未发生的状态一直到 until 所指明的时间为止。汉语可以用“直到……才……”来表达。又如：

He did not arrive until the game had begun. (直到比赛开始他才来到。)

to greet sb. 与某人打招呼

8. on the street 是美国英语的表达方法，在英国通常用 in the street。

9. to remind sb. of sth. 使某人想起某事

10. to do sb. good 对某人有好处。又如：

Their visit did me a great deal of good. (他们的来访使我有很大收获。)

11. We're much better off now. 我们现在的日子好多了。

well off 富裕，日子好过

这里用的是 well 的比较级形式，表示与过去相比。

12. I bet you wouldn't have found our home if I hadn't come with you.
我敢断定假如我不和你一起走，你肯定摸不着家。

I bet 的意思是“我敢断定,我敢和你打赌”,表示十分肯定的语气。在 bet 后面的宾语从句中用的是虚拟语气,表示与过去事实完全相反的一种假设。

13. With a twinkle in his eyes he said... 他眼里闪动着喜悦的光芒说,……

“with + 名词 + 介词短语”在这里作一个介词短语看待,在本句子中作状语,表示伴随的情况。

twinkle ['twɪŋkl] *n.* (眼睛)发光,闪烁

14. long-necked 是一个复合形容词,意思是“长颈的”。

“形容词 + 名词 + -ed”是一种常见的合成词的构成形式。又如, short-legged (短腿的), narrow-minded (心胸狭窄的)

15. to tick away (钟)滴嗒走着

16. a red lacquer cupboard 红漆小衣橱

lacquer ['lækə] *n.* 漆

cupboard ['kʌbəd] *n.* 小衣橱,碗橱

17. devour [di'vaʊə] *vt.* 狼吞虎咽般地吃

故乡吃枣

几年前的一个中秋节,爸爸第一次带我到河北老家看望病中的爷爷。

当时我还很小,对那儿的许多情景现在已经记不清了。但我还一直记得四周有破墙围着的矮屋,以及爷爷那布满皱纹的面孔。当时唯一能引起我兴趣的东西莫过于在屋子周围树上翩翩起舞的串串红枣了。红枣又可爱,又好吃,逗得我真想尝一尝。可爷爷对我说,那些枣树原先都是咱家的,现在已归生产队所有了。

去年春节,我和父亲又回到了故乡。这次是为了参加我叔叔的婚礼。妈妈因身体不舒服,便留在了家里了。

不知怎么,这一次的汽车好象开得要快些,公路也不怎么颠人。我还没有来得及好好欣赏沿途的树木和房屋,我们就已到了县城汽车站。

叔叔在车站等候我们。他身穿一套崭新的漂亮制服，身边停着一辆新自行车。直到爸爸向他打了招呼以后我才认出他。叔叔把我们的包挂到车把上，然后又把我抱到车后面的架上。我们三人离开了车站。

街上熙熙攘攘，行人很多，食品摊到处可见，土产品满街有卖。街上的情况使我想起了北京的一个商业中心大栅栏。爸爸说：“真没想到，刚刚几年的时间，就起了这么大的变化。”叔叔答道：“新的农村政策确实给我们带来了很多好处，我们现在的日子好多了。村上生活可兴旺啦。”

他们边走边谈，我们很快就到了爷爷的家。看到那崭新的大门，四周的围墙和用红砖新砌的房屋，爸爸感到十分惊奇。他不能相信自己的眼睛。叔叔大笑着说道：“我敢断定，假如我不同你一起走，你肯定摸不着家。”爸爸连连点头。

爷爷和奶奶都出来迎接我们。爷爷已78岁高龄，但是当他把我抱下车时，我感到他很健壮。“您身体好了吗，爷爷？”我问道。他眼里闪烁着喜悦的光芒说：“我还要再活二十年呢！”说话时他白胡子在微微抖动。他看上去变得年轻了，额上的皱纹似乎也少了。奶奶牵着我的手，我们一起走进了院子。两只长脖子鹅正在嘎嘎高叫，一群母鸡在一堆木柴下边寻觅食物，一只红冠大白公鸡立在那堆木柴顶上神气地瞧着我们。

屋里，一只大台钟滴滴嗒嗒地走着。我还看到了花床单和一只红漆小衣橱。屋里什么东西看上去都是新的。奶奶拿出一只大罐对我说：“媛媛，上次你向奶奶讨枣子吃，那时我却拿不出来。这件事在你走后好长时间都使我心里难过。如今，有了新政策，那些枣树又归还咱家了。去年秋天，我特地为你把那些最大的枣子留下浸在酒里。”随后她抓出一些放在盘里，说：“来，孩子，随你吃多少！”呵，这些枣子真好吃，味道真香！我真想把它们全吃了！奶奶望着我贪婪地样子，问道：“喜欢我们村子吗？”我嘴里塞满了大红枣，只能一个劲儿地点头。

2. The Fun They Had¹

Margie² even wrote about it that night in her diary. She wrote: "17 May, 2155"³, and then this sentence: "Today Tom found a real book!"

It was a very old book. Margie's grandfather once said that when he was a little boy his grandfather told him that there was a time when all stories were printed on paper.⁴

They turned the pages which were yellow, and it was very funny to read words that stood still⁵, and didn't move as they did on a screen. And then, when they turned back to the page before, it had the same words on it that had been there when they read it the first time.⁶

"Oh," said Tom, "what a waste.⁷ When you⁸ finish reading the book you just throw it away. You can have a million books on our television screen, and even more. There is nothing to throw away."

Tom was thirteen and he had seen a lot of telebooks⁹. Margie asked, "Where did you find the book?"

"In the attic¹⁰," he said without looking,¹¹ because he was busy reading.

"What's it about?"

"School."

Margie didn't like the idea. "School? What can be

interesting about school? I hate school." Margie always hated school but now she hated it more than ever. The mechanical teacher had given her a test and Margie had done it badly.

"Why did they write books about school?" Margie said. "It's not interesting."

"Because it's not our kind of school," Tom answered. "This is the old kind of school that they had hundreds and hundreds of years ago. Centuries ago."

"Well, I don't know what kind of school they had, all that time ago¹²," Margie said. She read the book over Tom's shoulder, then said, "Oh, they had a teacher."

"Of course, they had a teacher, but it wasn't a regular teacher¹³. It was a man."

"A man? How could a man be a teacher?"

"Well, he just told the boys and girls things and gave them homework and asked them questions."

"A man isn't clever enough," Margie said.

"But he is," answered Tom. "My father knows as much as my teacher."

"He can't. A man can't know as much as a teacher."

"He knows almost as much."

Margie said, "I don't think it's pleasant to have a strange man in my house to teach me."

Tom laughed, "You don't know much, Margie. The teacher didn't live in the house. They had a special building and all the kids went there."

"And all the kids learned the same thing?"

"Of course, if they were the same age."

"It's very strange," said Margie.

"If you don't like it," said Tom angrily, "you don't have to read the book."

"I didn't say I didn't like it," Margie said quickly. She wanted to read about those funny schools.

At that moment Margie's mother called, "Margie! School!"

Margie looked up. "Not yet, Mamma."

"Now," said Mrs Jones. "And it's probably time for Tom, too."

Margie said to Tom, "Can I read the book again with you after school?"

"Maybe," he said and went away carrying the old book under his arm¹⁴.

Margie went into the schoolroom¹⁵. It was right next to her bedroom, and the mechanical teacher was on¹⁶ and was waiting for her. It was always on at the same time every day except Saturday and Sunday.

The screen said: "Today's arithmetic lesson is on the addition of proper fractions."¹⁷

Margie looked at the screen but she was thinking about the old schools they had when her grandfather's grandfather was a little boy. All the kids from the whole neighbourhood came, laughing and shouting in the schoolyard, sitting together in the schoolroom, going home together after

school.¹⁸ They learned the same things, so they could help one another with the homework and talk about it. And the teachers were people...

The mechanical teacher was saying on the screen: "When we add the fractions $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ —"

Margie was thinking how the kids must have loved it in the old days.¹⁹ She was thinking about the fun they had.

Notes

1. 这篇故事是美国当代著名生物化学家和科幻小说家艾萨克·阿西莫夫(Isaac Asimov)所著的一部科幻小说。小说虚构了一个生活在二十世纪五十年代电子计算机化时代的学生对今天学校生活的看法。
2. Margie ['mɑ:dʒi] n.玛吉(女子名)
3. 17 May, 2155 2155年5月17日
关于日期的写法,英国和美国是不同的。在美国,一般往往先写日,再写月份;而在英国则大多先写月份,然后再写日。如上述日期,在英国就写成 May 17, 2155。
4. ...there was a time when all stories were printed on paper.
……有一个时期所有的故事都是印在纸上的。
when 引导的是一个定语从句,修饰 a time。
a time 在这里是“一段时间”的意思。
5. ... stood still ……一动不动站着
stand 在这里是连系动词,形容词 still 作表语,表示状态。
6. ...it had the same words on it that had been there when they read it the first time. ……上面竟然还有着原先第一次读时的那些文字。
句中的 it 都指 the book。that 引导的是定语从句,修饰 words,主句中 and 定语从句中用了不同的时态,表示不同的时间概念,定语