



高中英语阅读精粹90篇

——提高篇

张英 主编

Clothing is a distinctly human artifact. Even more than the use of tools, it distinguishes form the other creatures on this planet. While there are other creatures which use implements to a greater or lesser degree, clothing is unique to humanity. Clothing is also uniquely human, in that it serves more than one function.



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编者的话

自中学英语新课标实施以来,广大教师,家长和学生都越来越意识到英语阅读的重要性,同时随着近年高考题型的改变,语法淡化,阅读加强。新课标要求高中英语阅读量累计需达到 23 万词,而现行教材所提供给学生阅读量远远不够,根本不能满足中学生对阅读的需求。而且,从时代的发展,社会对人才的需求来看,能够具有从各种媒体中快速获取所需信息能力是一个合格中学生的重要条件之一。因此,各位中学生迫切需要一些能在课外帮助他们提高阅读水平和速度,加大阅读量,同时扩大词汇量的阅读材料。作为长期在教学第一线的教师对学生的需求,对学生的水平都非常了解,于是我们组织了几位在市重点中学教学第一线的英语教师编写了这本适合高中生的一本阅读书,希望能尽到一点微薄之力,起一点促进作用。

本书主要有以下特点:

1. 按照中学英语新课标对阅读的要求。
2. 文章难度和词汇量要求符合现行教材并稍有提高。难度适宜。
3. 文章选材新颖,具有时代性,科学性,思想性和趣味性。同时也便于师生操作,课内课外都可以使用。
4. 文章篇幅长短能充分考虑学生特点,无论是每篇长度还是本书选篇长度都充分考虑学生特点。尊重学生个体差异。
5. 每篇文章后根据高考要求,根据阅读特点设计了基本符合高中生阅读水平和能力的阅读理解题目,以便学生阅读后对文章的理解进行自我检测。

期望随着学生阅读水平的不断提高,阅读面的增加,语言综合能力也会有所提升。这也是我们编者和出版者以及广大家长、师生的共同心愿。

相信广大学生会喜欢这本书的。

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Reading 1

By far the most common snake in Britain is the adder. In Scotland, in fact, there are no other snakes at all. The adder is also the only British snake with a poisonous bite. It can be found almost anywhere, but prefers sunny hillsides and rough open country, including high ground. In Ireland there are no snakes at all.

Most people regard snake bites as fatal misfortune, but not all bites are serious, and very few are fatal. Sometimes attempts at emergency treatment turn out to be more dangerous than the bite itself, with amateurs heroically, but mistakenly, trying do-it-yourself surgery and other unnecessary measures.

All snakes have small teeth, so it follows that all snakes can bite, but only the bite of the adder presents any danger. British snakes are shy animals and are far more frightened of you than you could possibly be of it. The adder will attack only if it feels threatened, as can happen if you take it by surprise and step on it accidentally, or if you try to catch it or pick it up, which it dislikes intensely. If it hears you coming, it will normally get out of the way as quickly as it can, but adders cannot move very rapidly and may attack before moving if you are close.

The effect of a bite varies considerably. It depends upon several things, one of which is the body weight of the person bitten. The bigger the person, the less harmful the bite is likely to be, which is why children suffer far more seriously from snake bites than adults. A healthy person will also have better resistance against the poison.

Very few people actually died from snake bites in Britain and though these bites can make some people very ill, there are

probably just as many cases of bites having little or no effect, as there are of serious illness.

- () 1. Adders are most likely to be found _____.
A. in wilder parts of Britain and Ireland
B. in Scotland
C. on uncultivated land throughout Britain
D. in shady fields in England
- () 2. If you are with someone who is bitten by an adder you should _____.
A. try to catch the adder
B. not attempt to treat the bite unprofessionally
C. not worry about the victim
D. operate as soon as possible
- () 3. We are told that adders are _____.
A. normally friendly towards people
B. unlikely to bite except in self-defense
C. aggressive towards anyone in their territory
D. not afraid of human beings
- () 4. If an adder hears you approaching, it will usually _____.
A. move out of your paths
B. take no notice of you at all
C. disappear very quickly
D. wait until you are close and then attack
- () 5. How does the bite vary?
A. It depends on the age.
B. It depends on the big or small of the bite.
C. It depends on the bodyweight of the person.
D. It does not mention.

Reading 2

There are stock markets(股票市场) in large cities in many countries. Stock markets in Paris, London, Tokyo, Shanghai and New York are among the largest and most well-known. The stock, also called stock exchange, is a place where people can buy or sell shares of a factory or company. And each share means certain ownership of a factory or company.

Different people go to stock markets. Some are rich, who want to get more money than they have. Others are not very rich, who buy stocks to try to become rich. Still others buy stocks as part of their plan to save money.

Of course, investing(投资) money in the stock market is not the safest way to make money. No one can tell exactly whether the shares will be doing well. The factory or company may do badly. Then the stocks will go down, and the investors will lose money. The stock may go up or down for a number of untold reasons. Everyone wants the stock to go up, but sometimes even if a factory or company does a good job, the stock may still go down.

No wonder going to the stock market is often compared to gambling(赌博). All are eager to make money by “gambling” in the stock market. Factories and companies that need money are pleased that so many people are willing to “gamble”. Indeed, the stock market is an attractive and complex part of the business world.

() 1. If you are a good investor, _____ in the stock market.

- A. you can always make money
- B. you can tell exactly when the stock goes up or down
- C. you may sometimes lose money

- D. your gambling is always safe
- ()2. The passage mainly wants to tell us _____.
A. how to buy or sell shares
B. ABC of stock market
C. the stock market is like gambling
D. investing money in the stock market is not the safest way
- ()3. Factories and companies are pleased that so many people
“gamble” because _____.
A. they can make them rich
B. they need more people to work for them
C. they need their money to do business
D. some people win and some lose
- ()4. The word “complex” in the last sentence probably means
_____.
A. complete B. worthy
C. difficult D. modern

Reading 3

The Three Gorges Dam, the largest dam, is also the largest engineering project on the face of the earth. It aims to make the mother of all floods, the Yangtze River, into a tame river, and to generate power of 181,200 megawatts for Eastern and Central China. It will form a huge, deep water lake, and make it possible for 10,000-ton ocean-going ships to sail 1,500 miles inland from the Pacific to the city of Chongqing, making it one of the world's largest inland ports.

Construction has already started. The dam will be about 6,860 feet wide and 611 feet high, at a spot called Sandouping near Yichang. It is obvious that such a grand project will do much good. It is the most important to control floods. By building hydropower plants, China will offer much in environmental protection(计划).

However, some scientists don't agree to the project. They say the Chongqing and dozens of other cities along the river will pollute the reservoir(水库), which will destroy the ecological(生态学的) balance and also the sand from upstream will form sand bed. The Three Gorges Dam could be considered when it is finished, in 2009, the eighth wonder of the world.

- () 1. Which is not the purpose to build such a huge dam?
- A. To prevent floods.
 - B. To produce electricity.
 - C. To improve the sailing conditions.
 - D. To make it a wonder.
- () 2. Where does the dam lie?

A. Near Chongqing.

B. In Sandouping.

C. Near Yichang.

D. In Yichang.

() 3. Some scientists fear that _____ when the dam is built.

A. the ecological balance will be destroyed

B. large ships will destroy the dam

C. the Yangtze River may be too crowded

D. the amount of electricity will not be as much as expected

() 4. Which of the following is NOT TRUE according to the passage?

A. China will be able to depend on the Yangtze River, the third largest river in the world, for electricity.

B. Chongqing will become one of the largest inland ports in the world.

C. The dam will cause serious pollution.

D. The dam will tame the Yangtze River.

Reading 4

At the heart of each Olympic celebration, there is a symbol that takes centre stage, an emblem (会徽, 徽章) that marks out those Games for all time.

Recently, China produced a seal (印, 印章) to stamp its own identity on the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing. Officially known as “Chinese seal — dancing Beijing”, the emblem has a single Chinese character on a traditional red seal.

Below it, the words “Beijing 2008” are written in Chinese brush strokes. The character in the emblem represents “Jing”, which means “capital”. It also resembles a runner or dancer.

“The running figure represents the spirit of the Olympics (faster, higher, stronger) by focusing on the energy and movement of athletes,” said Jin Shangyi, a member of the 11-person emblem selection group.

He also believes the image carries the message that today’s China is not only a nation with a long and colourful history, but one full of modern development.

Yan Ran, 18, a middle school student from Beijing, saw a strong cultural theme in the emblem. “It is so Chinese, it makes me think of Beijing Opera,” he said.

Jacques Rogge, President of the International Olympic Committee, showed his support for the design with his own personal seal. “Within a few short years, the emblem will become one of the most recognizable symbols in the world,” he said.

Among the high points of the build-up to the 2008 Games is the Olympic song. Ten songs are being put forward each year,

with the winner announced in 2007.

Suggestions for the Olympic mascot (吉祥物) will be put forward next year from within China and from all over the world. Ideas range from a panda to the Monkey King in the classic Chinese novel *"Pilgrimage to the West"* (《西游记》).

Meanwhile, other preparations for the Olympics are moving along smoothly. The plans for the 80,000-seat National Stadium were finalized in April by a team of Swiss and Chinese designers. Construction of the stadium, which will look like a large bird's nest, will start by the end of the year. It will host the opening and closing ceremonies of the Games.

() 1. An Olympic emblem means that _____.

- A. it is put at the heart of each Olympic celebration
- B. it is a symbol in the centre stage
- C. it makes the Olympic Games different from others forever
- D. it is only a part of each Olympics

() 2. Our Olympic emblem is _____.

- a. a classic Chinese seal — dancing Beijing
- b. with "Beijing 2008" written in Chinese brush strokes
- c. including "Jing" standing for our capital, like a runner as well
- d. marking out "Beijing" on a traditional red seal
- e. representing the spirit of the modern Olympic Games
- f. showing us China's modern development as well as a long and colorful history

A. a, b, c, d, e

B. a, b, d, e, f

C. a, b, c, e, f

D. b, c, d, e, f

() 3. The main idea of Paragraphs(6-7) is _____.