

# 高中英语 能力激活

顾立宁 主编  
戴志隆 等编

## 短文阅读

# 2

高考英语听力阅读难题攻关  
英语分析推理能力强化训练  
上海重点中学教师精心策划  
原版短文+原声MP3相得益彰



世界图书出版公司



# 高中

# 英语能力激活

——短文阅读 2

顾立宁 主编  
戴志隆 等编

世界图书出版公司  
上海·西安·北京·广州

**图书在版编目(CIP)数据**

高中英语能力激活——短文阅读 2/顾立宁主编;戴志隆等编,上海:上海世界图书出版公司,2005.11

ISBN 7-5062-7703-4

I.高... II.①顾...②戴... III.英语-阅读教学-高中-习题 IV.G634.415

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2005)第 101256 号

**高中英语能力激活**

——短文阅读 2

顾立宁主编 戴志隆等编

---

**上海世界图书出版公司** 出版发行

上海市尚文路 185 号 B 楼

邮政编码 200010

江苏省丹阳教育印刷厂印刷

如发现印装质量问题,请与印刷厂联系

电话:0511-6520177

各地新华书店经销

---

开本:850×1168 1/32 印张:6.75 字数:188 000

2005 年 11 月第 1 版 2005 年 11 月第 1 次印刷

印数:1-5 000

ISBN 7-5062-7703-4/H·623

定价:16.50 元(书+MP3)

<http://www.wpcsh.com.cn>



## 前言

这套《高中英语能力激活》，是根据教育部制订的普通高中英语课程标准、并按照现行高考试卷的题型编写的，目的在于帮助高中学生迅速提高英语听力和阅读能力，顺利通过高考。

在目前英语高考有关听力和阅读部分的各类考题中，短文的听力测试和阅读测试是难度最高的。如果高中学生通过系统训练，将英语短文的听读能力激活，那么其他方面的问题就会迎刃而解了。

展现在读者面前的这套《高中英语能力激活》，正是以英语短文的听读训练为特色，旨在能力培养，帮助学生正确理解语言难度中等的三四百字左右的英语短文，通过一定的分析、推理和判断，掌握中心大意，了解作者观点。这对提高学生的英语理解能力至关重要，也是取得高考优异成绩必不可少的一种训练。

这套《高中英语能力激活》的又一特色是，用于听读训练的短文均选自美国之音(Voice of America, VOA)的原版英语教学节目，内容丰富，语言地道，并配有VOA资深播音员朗读的MP3原声光盘。在美式英语广泛应用的今天，这对广大高中学生提高英语听读能力十分有益，也为日后大学英语的外台听力要求奠定基础。

参加这套书策划和编写的有上海师范大学英语系的教授和格致中学、延安中学、市西中学等名校的高级教师，他们长期工作在英语教学第一线，富有经验。为体现循序渐进的训练要求，各书第二分册的短文篇幅略长，词汇略深，读者可以先从第一分册着手。相信这套《高中英语能力激活》将成为广大高中学生准备高考的好帮手！

顾立宁

2005年8月30日



## 目 录

1. Business Organizations	1	23. Good Year for U.S. Farmers	66
2. Social Security (1)	4	24. Locust Swarms	69
3. Social Security (2)	7	25. Integrated Pest	
4. Carlos Gutierrez	10	Management	72
5. Lenovo Moves Up	12	26. Mixing Plants	75
6. Disney's New Chief	15	27. No-Till Farming	78
7. Economic News (1)	18	28. Pure-line Breeding	81
8. Economic News (2)	21	29. Biotech Crops	84
9. Canning Food	24	30. Sugar Subsidies	87
10. Helping Children	27	31. Caffeine Withdrawal	90
11. Ann Veneman	30	32. Cancer Survival Rates	93
12. Riecken Foundation		33. Moderate Alcohol Use	96
Libraries	33	34. Smoke and Children	99
13. Gates Foundation	36	35. AIDS Vaccine Study	102
14. Fight Cholera	39	36. Plague Outbreak	105
15. World Population Report	42	37. Lead and Violence	108
16. Save Babies	45	38. Aspirin	111
17. Solar Cookers	48	39. World Tuberculosis Day	114
18. Fight Against Hunger	51	40. Prostate Gland	117
19. World Bank Plan	54	41. World Health Day	120
20. Calls for Health Workers	57	42. Big Killer of Babies	123
21. Some Conditions Worsening	60	43. Deadly Flu Virus	126
22. Freezing Food	63	44. Vaccination Week	129

45. Meningitis	132	58. Middle East Peace Prospects	171
46. Malaria Vaccine	135	59. Bush Second Term	174
47. Cell Phones and Benign Tumors	138	60. Iraqi Elections	177
48. Traffic and Heart Attacks	141	61. Debate About End-of-Life	180
49. New Heart Drug	144	62. Reduce Energy Costs	183
50. Flu Pandemic	147	63. Increase in Violence	186
51. World AIDS Day	150	64. Oil-for-Food Program	189
52. Ozone Pollution	153	65. Ukraine's Election	192
53. Sleep and Weight	156	66. UN Reform Plan	195
54. Safety about Drugs	159	67. Update on the Congo	198
55. Helping Depressed Mothers	162	68. Put Books on the Internet	201
56. Top News Stories	165	69. Presidential Inaugurations	204
57. Aid for Tsunami Victims	168	70. Einstein's Year	207
		附录:	
		参考答案	210

# 1. Business Organizat



Businesses are structured in different ways<sup>1</sup> to meet different needs<sup>2</sup>.

The simplest form of business is called an individual proprietorship<sup>3</sup>. The proprietor owns all the property of the business and is responsible for it. This means the proprietor receives all profits — but also must pay any debts. The law recognizes no difference between the owner and the business.

Another kind of business is the partnership<sup>4</sup>. Two or more people go into business<sup>5</sup> together. An agreement is usually needed to state how much of the partnership each person controls.

There are limited liability partnerships<sup>6</sup>. These have full partners and limited partners. Limited partners may not share as much in the profits. But their responsibilities are also limited.

In the United States, the federal government does not tax partnerships. The partners are taxed, though, on the payments they receive.

Doctors, lawyers<sup>7</sup> and accountants<sup>8</sup> often form partnerships to share the profits and risks of doing business. A husband and wife can form a business partnership.

Partnerships can end at any time. But partnerships and individual proprietorships exist only as long as the owners are alive.

The most complex kind of business organization is the corporation<sup>9</sup>. Corporations are designed to have an unlimited lifetime.

Stock<sup>10</sup> is a share of ownership in a corporation. Investors who buy

stock can trade their shares or keep them as long as the company is in business. A company may pay shareholders<sup>11</sup> in the form of what are called dividends<sup>12</sup>. Or the company may reinvest its earnings into the business.

If shares lose value, investors can lose all the money they paid for their stock. But shareholders are not responsible for the debts of the corporation. A corporation is recognized as its own legal being<sup>13</sup>, separate from its owners.

A board of directors<sup>14</sup> controls corporate policies. The directors appoint top company officers. The directors might or might not hold shares in the corporation.

Corporations may have a few major shareholders. Or ownership may be spread among the general public. Incorporating offers businesses a way to gain the investments they need to grow.

But not all corporations are traditional businesses that sell stock. The American Red Cross is an example of a non-profit corporation.

## Note

- |  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| 1. be structured in different ways 以不同方式组建 |                            |
| 2. to meet different needs 满足不同需求          |                            |
| 3. an individual proprietorship 个人拥有制      |                            |
| 4. partnership 合伙制                         | 5. to go into business 做生意 |
| 6. limited liability partnerships 有限责任公司   |                            |
| 7. lawyer 律师                               | 8. accountant 会计           |
| 9. corporation 有限公司                        | 10. stock 股票               |
| 11. shareholder 股东                         | 12. dividends 分红           |
| 13. legal being 法律实体                       | 14. board of directors 董事会 |



## Reading Comprehension

1. According to the report, there are at least \_\_\_\_\_ different forms of business in the States.  
A. 2  
B. 3  
C. 4  
D. 5
2. \_\_\_\_\_ often form partnerships to share the profits and risks of going into business.  
A. Doctors and accountants  
B. Lawyers and accountant  
C. Husband and wife  
D. All the above
3. Dividends are from \_\_\_\_\_ a company earns.  
A. half of the money  
B. all of the money  
C. part of the money  
D. most of the money
4. The directors of a company \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. control the policies of the company  
B. are supposed to hold all the shares of the company  
C. are supposed to hold half of the shares of the company  
D. only have the right to appoint top company officers
5. Another suitable title of the report is \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. How Does a Board of Directors Work  
B. Different Forms of Business  
C. What is a Corporation  
D. What is Stock



## 2. Social Security (1)

The Social Security system<sup>1</sup> in the United States provides monthly payments to retired people and the disabled. Most of the money comes from a wage tax<sup>2</sup> paid by workers and employers.

For now, Social Security collects more money than it pays out. The surplus<sup>3</sup> goes into a trust fund<sup>4</sup> for workers who will retire in the future. But the future will have more retirees<sup>5</sup> and fewer workers to support them. Last June, the Congressional Budget Office<sup>6</sup> said Social Security is expected to have a deficit<sup>7</sup> beginning in two thousand nineteen.

President Bush says “now is the time to act.” On Wednesday, at the first news conference<sup>8</sup> of his second term, he said the program will be out of money in two thousand forty-two. Mister Bush wants Congress to make changes. But there is intense debate about<sup>9</sup> how much fixing this popular program needs.

Social Security was born out of the Great Depression<sup>10</sup>. Poverty spread during this period from nineteen twenty-nine to the beginning of World War Two. Many leaders spoke of creating a system to guarantee payments to the disabled and the retired. Critics called it socialism.

Some states created their own plans. President Franklin Roosevelt wanted a national system that could pay for itself. He proposed<sup>11</sup> the Social Security Act in January of nineteen thirty-five.

Congress passed the law that year. But payments did not start until nineteen forty. Until then, money gathered in the trust fund so the program could start with a surplus.

At first, Social Security was meant to provide a small amount of money to retired industrial workers. In time<sup>12</sup>, other jobs were added. The government also offered benefits to people who survived the death of someone on Social Security.

In nineteen sixty-five, President Lyndon Johnson and Congress added two programs to offer medical benefits<sup>13</sup>. Medicare<sup>14</sup>, for older Americans, and Medicaid<sup>15</sup>, for the poor, are no longer under the Social Security Administration.

In nineteen eighty-three, Social Security faced a deficit. Congress agreed to increase the retirement age<sup>16</sup> and Social Security taxes. Lawmakers also required all federal workers to be in the system. These changes were meant to fix the system for seventy-five years, until around two thousand sixty.

## Note

1. the Social Security system 社会保险制度
2. a wage tax 工资税
3. surplus 赢余
4. a trust fund 信用基金
5. retiree 退休者
6. the Congressional Budget Office 国会预算办公室
7. deficit 赤字
8. a news conference 记者招待会
9. there is intense debate about... 对……有激烈的争论
10. the Great Depression 特指美国 20 世纪二三十年代经济危机
11. to propose 建议
12. in time 不久
13. medical benefits 医疗福利
14. Medicare 美国医疗保险制度
15. Medicaid 美国医疗补助制度
16. to increase the retirement age 提高退休年龄

- 高中英语能力激活

### 3. Social Security (2)



One out of six Americans receive money from the Social Security system. Monthly payments go to retired workers and disabled people<sup>1</sup> and to their survivors. Two-thirds of Americans age sixty-five and older depend on Social Security for at least half the money they get.

The system is financed mostly by a twelve-point-four percent wage tax shared by workers and employers. This year, close to fifty million people will receive more than five hundred thousand million dollars in benefits.

But, in his State of the Union speech Wednesday night, President Bush said: "With each passing year<sup>2</sup>, fewer workers are paying ever-higher benefits to an ever-larger number of retirees." Thirteen years from now, he said, Social Security will be paying out<sup>3</sup> more than it takes in<sup>4</sup>. In his words: "We must pass reforms that solve the financial problems of Social Security once and for all"<sup>5</sup>.

His proposals face resistance<sup>6</sup>, not only from opposition Democrats<sup>7</sup> but also some Republicans<sup>8</sup>. It is often said that politicians risk political death if they touch Social Security. Experts say any changes will probably reduce future benefits. Yet no one can even know what the population will be like years from now.

The president said the system will not change for Americans now age fifty-five or older. But he warned younger workers that Social Security would be out of money by two thousand forty-two. As he said that, Democrats in Congress shouted "no, no, no." Mister Bush said the only solutions would

be higher taxes, new borrowing or “sudden and severe cuts”.

He said the best way to make the system better for younger workers is through voluntary personal retirement accounts<sup>9</sup>. He said the plan would permit workers to set aside<sup>10</sup> four percentage points of the money they pay in Social Security taxes.

The money would be invested in what he called a “conservative mix of bonds<sup>11</sup> and stock funds”<sup>12</sup>. He said there would be ways to protect investments from sudden changes in the market before a person is about to retire.

But Democrats say younger workers could lose much of their retirement savings.

A powerful group for older Americans, A.A.R.P., says it opposes any major changes. It says public opinion studies show that most Americans want Social Security to remain as it is.

### Note

- |   |                              |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1. disabled people 残废人                              | 2. with each passing year 逐年 |
| 3. to pay out 付出                                    | 4. to take in 收入             |
| 5. once and for all 一次性,永久性                         | 6. to face resistance 遭到阻碍   |
| 7. Democrats 民主党人                                   | 8. Republicans 共和党人          |
| 9. voluntary personal retirement accounts 自愿个人退休金帐户 |                              |
| 10. to set aside 存放,存入,储蓄                           | 11. bonds 债券                 |
| 12. stock funds 股票基金                                |                              |

### Reading Comprehension

1. American retired workers received \_\_\_\_\_ they need from Social Security system.

- A. all the money  
B. at least half the money  
C. most of the money  
D. a small part of the money
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Americans receive money from the Social Security system.  
A. 50% of  
B. 30% of  
C. 15% of  
D. more than 16% of
3. This system is financially based on \_\_\_\_\_ wage tax shared by \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. 12.4 %, employers and the unions  
B. 12.4%, employers and the government  
C. 12.4%, employees and employers  
D. 14.2%, employers and workers
4. President Bush said, "Social Security will \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_."  
A. run out of money, thirty-five years  
B. run out of money, thirteen years  
C. pay out more than it takes in, thirty-five years  
D. pay out more than it takes in, forty-two years
5. The plan would permit workers to \_\_\_\_\_ of the money they pay in Social Security taxes.  
A. put aside 4 %  
B. set off 4%  
C. put off 4%  
D. take off 4%



#### 4. *Carlos Gutierrez*

President Bush says his choice for the next secretary of commerce, Carlos Gutierrez, understands business from bottom to top. Until his nomination<sup>1</sup>, Mister Gutierrez was chief of the food company Kellogg. But, as the president noted, Mister Gutierrez took his first job there as a truck driver in Mexico City.

Carlos Gutierrez is fifty-one years old. He was born in Cuba. He lived there until he was six. His parents exported pineapples<sup>2</sup> from the island. However, the family members fled the communist takeover<sup>3</sup> led by Fidel Castro. They came to the United States in nineteen sixty, but later moved to Mexico. That is where Mister Gutierrez started at Kellogg in nineteen seventy-five. He quickly rose to supervisory<sup>4</sup> positions in the Latin American, Canadian, United States and Asian-Pacific divisions<sup>5</sup>. In nineteen ninety-eight, he became president of the company. The next year he became chief executive officer.

Mister Gutierrez is seen as a supporter of open trade. Under his leadership, Kellogg asked Congress to open United States markets to lower-priced foreign sugar. That has not happened. A Kellogg official called the current situation "the worst form of protectionism".

Kellogg is a major seller of processed food products. It is the world's largest maker of breakfast cereals<sup>6</sup>. Mister Gutierrez won praise as head of Kellogg. Sales and profits increased. The price of Kellogg stock rose nearly one hundred percent. Mister Gutierrez expanded production in Mexico and closed the Kellogg factory in Battle Creek, Michigan. That is where the company started. The move saved money.



But Michigan lost more than five hundred jobs. The company still has its headquarters<sup>7</sup> in Battle Creek. Kellogg announced that James Jenness will be its next chairman and chief executive officer.

Carlos Gutierrez must be confirmed<sup>8</sup> by the Senate to replace Donald Evans, who resigned.

Congress created the Department of Commerce in nineteen-oh-three. The budget this year is more than six thousand million dollars. The Commerce Department supervises<sup>9</sup> trade and intellectual property rights in the United States. And it helps American businesses compete in world markets. The department also includes the Census Bureau and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

### Note

- |                    |                  |                 |
|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. nomination 提名   | 2. pineapple 菠萝  | 3. takeover 接管  |
| 4. supervisory 监管的 | 5. division 分部   | 6. cereal 食品    |
| 7. headquarters 总部 | 8. confirm 确认,批准 | 9. supervise 监督 |

### Reading Comprehension

1. Carlos Gutierrez began his career as \_\_\_\_\_ of the food company Kellogg in Mexico City.  
A. a clerk      B. a typist      C. driver      D. a secretary
2. \_\_\_\_\_ he became chief executive officer.  
A. In 1998      B. In 1999      C. In 2000      D. In 1997
3. From the text we can infer that he \_\_\_\_\_ protectionism.  
A. opposes      B. supports      C. urges      D. criticizes
4. Kellogg is a major seller of processed food products including \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. refreshments      B. dog's foods      C. cat's foods      D. breakfast foods
5. The Department of Commerce was set up in \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. 1903      B. 1902      C. 1930      D. 1920