



World Scenery

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世界风光

双语阅读

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前 言

本书是为帮助广大中学生和业余英语爱好者巩固英语基础知识,扩大英语词汇量,提高英语阅读和写作能力而编写的英汉对照读物。

该书以游览的形式编排,描写了一部分有代表性的世界风光。文章均选自英美原文并对原文做了适当的删节和改动,语言生动优美,形式活泼多样,内容丰富有趣。同时,为了阅读方便,各篇文章都附有难点注释和汉语译文。由于水平有限,疏忽错误在所难免,请读者批评指正。

编译者

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The Great Wall

The Great Wall of China is the biggest structure that man has ever built. It is 15 feet thick and as tall as a house! It stretches for more than 6 000 kilometres across the mountains and valleys of northern China. Every 200 or 300 yards there is a tall watchtower. The entire wall is made of earth and stones. Different parts of the wall were built at different times, but all of it was built many, many hundreds of years ago—before there were machines to help with the building. Thousands of men worked patiently with their hands to build this long wall.

Why did they build it?

The wall was built by order of the Chinese emperors to keep out the race in the north—the Huns. The Huns had been riding their horses into China, killing people and stealing things. After the Great Wall was built, the people of China felt safer. If an enemy approached the wall, smoke signals would be passed from watchtower to watchtower. A sign fire would be lighted if an attack came at night. An alarm would be sounded, and the emperor's army would rush to defend the wall.

Time went on, and for a while China became one of the richest, biggest, and most beautiful countries in the world.

In China at that time people lived in great, clean cities. Trash was carted away. It did not pile up in the streets. Parks were kept green and neat. Water was used to keep the dust down and to wash the streets clean. Some of the rulers lived in beautiful palaces with gold roofs. The rest of the world, or much of it, lived in dirty, rude huts on

dirty streets.

The Chinese invented gunpowder, paper, printing and the compass. They had public baths and clocks. And they had their Great Wall to protect themselves and their possessions—the wall that was supposed to keep the enemy from riding in and destroying things.

Unfortunately, the Great Wall didn't always protect the Chinese people. It stretched so far and through such lonely places that enemies sometimes broke through. Finally, the Chinese stopped depending on their wall.

Walls sometimes keep out good things, as well as bad things. In the years that had passed since the building of the Great Wall, the people outside China had discovered some things that the Chinese did not know. The Chinese decided that they had remained separate from the rest of the world long enough. They began to exchange ideas with the rest of the world. It was good for everybody that they did. China learned about machines. The rest of the world brought back ideas from China that led to fire departments, modern street cleaning, the printing press, and new medicines.

长 城

中国的长城是人类建造的最宏伟的工程,有 15 英尺宽,房子那么高。它横穿华北众多山峰和峡谷,绵延 6 000 多公里。每隔二三百码都有一座高高的瞭望塔。整个长城都是用泥土和石头建成的。不同部分是在不同年代建造的,但都是几百年前——在没有使用任何机械的情况下完成的。成千上万的人辛勤劳动,肩扛手搬,终于建成这座万里长城。

为什么要修建长城呢?

根据帝王的旨意,修建长城是为了抵御北部匈奴人的入侵,因为他们一直骑马窜到中原,杀人抢物。长城建起以后,人们感到安全多了。若敌人靠近城墙,烟火信号就很快从一个瞭望塔传到另一个瞭望塔。若夜里遭到突袭,就点火为号,顿时,发出警报,帝王的守军就跑过来坚守阵地。

斗转星移,日月如梭,中国曾经是世界上富、最大、最美的国家。

那时,中国人居住在整洁的大都市,垃圾都运走了,没有堆放在街道里。公园绿阴整齐,街道用水洗刷得干干净净,有些帝王住着漂亮的金殿,而世界上其他地方统治者们或大多数人则住在肮脏街道的简陋茅棚里。

中国人发明了火药、纸、印刷术和指南针,他们有公共浴池和钟表,有长城来保护自己的安全和所有财产——因为长城被认为是防止敌人入侵和破坏财物的有力工具。

不幸的是,长城并不总是保卫中国人的安全,因为长城延伸得

太长,经过许多孤零零的地段,有时,敌人很容易打破缺口,中国人最终不再依赖这座长城了。

城墙把坏东西排斥在外,有时把好的东西也拒之门外。自长城修建多年以来,外国人已发现了中国人不知道的东西。中国人认为自己同外部世界隔离太久,并开始同外部世界交流思想。这样做对每个人都有好处,中国人学会了开机器,世界其他地方也从中国带回了新概念,而这种新概念又导致了火药研究、先进的街道清洁法、印刷术和新的医疗方法的产生。

Notes:

structure['strʌktʃə] *n.* 建筑物;结构物

stretch[streɪtʃ] *v.* 伸展;延伸

valley['væli] *n.* 山谷

watchtower['wɒtʃtaʊə] *n.* 瞭望台

entire[in'taɪə] *adj.* 整个的;全部的

machine[mə'fi:n] *n.* 机械;机器

patiently['peɪfəntli] *adv.* 耐心地

approach[ə'prəʊtʃ] *vt.* 向……靠近,接近

signal['sɪgnəl] *n.* 信号;暗号

sign[saɪn] *n.* 符号

trash[træʃ] *n.* 废物;垃圾

gunpowder['gʌn paʊdə] *n.* 黑色火药;火药

protect[prə'tekt] *vt.* 保护

exchange[ɪks'tʃeɪndʒ] *vt.* 交流;交换

medicine['medɪsɪn] *n.* 医学

The Yellow River

The Yellow River is the second longest river in China—over 3 000 miles long. It rises in the mountains of Tibet and flows right across China to the east coast. For over half its journey it runs through cold, bare, hilly and desert country. It makes huge loop northwards, across the Great Wall into Inner Mongolia, and then curves southwards round the Ordos Desert, where only wandering herdsmen live. For its last 600 miles it flows eastwards through the flat, fertile, North China Plain, which is densely populated.

The Yellow River is called yellow because of the yellow mud which the river carries down from the desert into the sea, making the water a dirty, yellow colour. When the river reaches the plain and flows less fast, it drops much of this mud, filling up the river-bed and forcing the water to overflow its banks and flood the countryside for miles. These terrible floods wash away crops and destroy whole villages. They have brought death and famine to so many people that the river is sometimes called "China's Sorrow". In order to prevent the floods, the people have "harnessed the dragon"—that is, they have built banks of earth, called dykes, along both sides. As the river brought down much more mud and broke through the dykes, the people mended them and built them higher, until now in some parts the river flows as much as twenty feet above the field on each side. Today dams and waterworks have been built to prevent these floods.

黄 河

黄河是中国第二大河流,它有 3 000 多英里长。它起源于中国西藏的群山之中,横跨中国流至东海岸。在一大半旅途之中,它穿越了寒冷、荒凉的山区以及野草丛生的沙漠和荒野,在内蒙古境内横跨长城向北形成了一个巨大的弯曲,尔后向南绕过只有游牧民居住的鄂尔多斯沙漠。黄河的最后 600 英里是向东流经平坦而肥沃的华北平原,那里人口十分稠密。

黄河用“黄”字,主要是因为这条河携带了大量的泥沙而流入大海,使得河水变得脏兮兮,一片黄色。当河水进入平原地带而流速减慢时,大量的泥沙便沉淀下来,填满了河床,使河水冲出河岸而淹没的地方有数英里。可怕的洪水冲走了庄稼,毁坏了整个村庄,给成千上万的人民带来了痛苦、饥荒乃至死亡,所以黄河有时被人们称做“中国的悲哀”。为制止洪水泛滥,黄河沿岸人民已经较成功地利用了这条“黄龙”——他们在两岸堆积了大量的泥土,称之为“堤”。由于黄河携带的泥沙越积越多,冲垮了河堤,因此沿岸人民就必须不断地将河堤增高加厚,以致现在在某些地方,河水竟流在高于两岸地面 20 英尺的地方。如今,为制止河水泛滥,黄河上已修建了许许多多的水利枢纽工程。

Notes:

journey[ˈdʒɜːni] *n.* 旅行

bare[bɛə] *adj.* 赤裸的;光秃的

hilly['hili] *adj.* 丘陵的

northwards['nɔ:θwə:dz] *prep.* 向北

Inner Mongolia 内蒙古

Ordos Desert 鄂尔多斯沙漠

flat[flæt] *adj.* 平坦的

North China Plain 华北平原 plain[plein] *n.* 平原

densely['densli] *adv.* 密集地

desert['dezət] *adj.* 荒芜的

overflow[,əuvə'fləu] *vt.* 使涨满

wash away (off) 冲走

destroy[dis'trɔi] *vt.* 破坏

sorrow['sɔrəu] *n.* 悲伤

break through 突破;冲破

mend[mend] *vt.* 修理

... until now in some parts the river flows as much as twenty feet above the
field on each side.

……以致到了现在某些地方,河水竟流在高于两岸地面 20 英尺的地方。

waterworks['wɔtəwɜ:ks] *n.* 自来水厂

Hong Kong

I am on one of the world's most exciting islands. Most of the year the weather is hot and damp. The people who live here are friendly.

Here I can ride on a big double-deck bus, or ride in a rickshaw—a two-wheeled cart pulled by a running man. I can take a five-minute ferryboat ride from this island to the mainland.

I can even take rides on a cable car, almost straight up, to the top of a famous mountain. From there I can look down and see that this is an island of both the old and the new. There are tall modern skyscrapers and wide beautiful streets. And there are old falling-down houses on streets that are narrow and noisy, crooked and crowded. The air down there is filled with the smell of dried fish, roasting chestnuts, and many strange foods.

Prices are very low, and for travelers with money this place like a great treasure chest. They can buy jade, carved ivory, bright silks, perfumes, fine dresses, and suits. They can buy almost anything.

Here "water people" live on small boats. There are thousands of these water people. Some of them spend their whole lives on their boats, almost never setting foot on land. They even have floating shops and schools. For the travelers there are large floating restaurants.

I am on the island of Hong Kong, in the South China Sea. Hong Kong has one of the world's most important seaports. Most of the people who live here are Chinese. Some people think that Hong Kong is one of the most beautiful places in the world.

香 港

我已到达世界上最令人兴奋的一个岛屿上，这里的天气每年多半又炎热又潮湿。这儿的居民十分友好。

在这里，我可以乘上双层公共汽车，也可以乘坐人力车——这是用人力拉的双轮车，从这个岛到大陆还可乘坐一艘五分钟的轮渡。

我甚至还可以坐上缆车，几乎直升到著名的山顶。在山顶上，我看到这个岛既崭新又破旧，既有高大的现代摩天大楼和宽阔、漂亮的街道，又有破旧倒塌的房屋和狭窄吵闹的、弯曲拥挤的街道。山下的空气充满了干鱼腥味、烤栗子的香味，还有很多奇怪的食物香味。

这儿物价很低，对有钱的游客来说，这个地方简直是个大宝箱，他们可以买到玉器、雕凿的象牙、闪亮的丝绸、香料、漂亮的衣服，几乎任何东西都可以买到。

这儿的渔民在小船上生活着，这样的渔民有好几千人，有的人在船上生活一辈子，很少上岸。他们甚至有流动的商店和学校，还有大型的流动餐厅为游客服务。

我就在南海的香港岛上。香港是世界上最重要的海港之一，这儿的多数居民都是中国人，有人认为香港也是世界最美丽的一个地方。

Notes:

- damp[dæmp] *adj.* 潮湿的;有湿气的
- double-deck bus 双层汽车(这种车在伦敦很流行)
- rickshaw['rikʃɔ] *n.* 人力车;黄包车
- pull[pul] *v.* 拉
- ferryboat['feribəʊt] *n.* 渡船
- mainland['meinlənd]或['meinlənd] *n.* 大陆
- take rides on 搭乘
- skyscraper['skai,skreipə] *n.* 摩天大楼
- falling-down['fɔ:lɪŋ,daʊn] *adj.* 东倒西歪的
- crooked['kru:kɪd] *adj.* 弯弯曲曲的
- crowded['kraʊdɪd] *adj.* 拥挤的
- chestnut['tʃesnʌt] *n.* 栗子
- jade[dʒeɪd] *n.* 玉;玉制品
- ivory['aɪvəri] *n.* 象牙
- perfume['pə:fju:m] *n.* 香料
- floating['fləʊtɪŋ] *adj.* 流动的;漂动的
- the South China Sea 南海(该词也可说:the Naihai Sea)
- seaport['si:pɔ:t] *n.* 海港