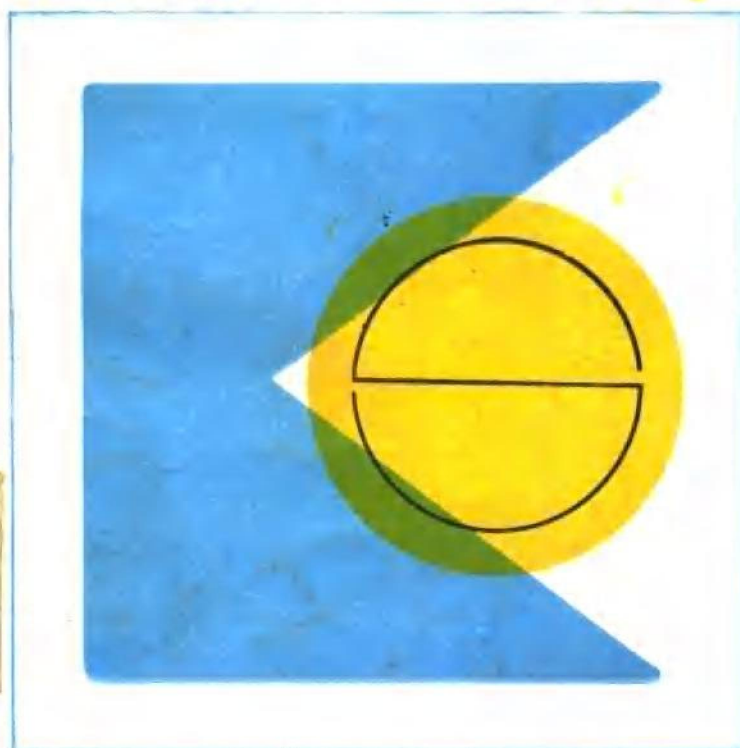


上册

实用英语快速阅读

王健 刘凤兰 编

Practical Faster Reading



机械工业出版社

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内 容 简 介

本书从国外书刊中摘选出有关英美的简要地理、大学教育、城市、通讯、运输、人类未来生活的幻想、海洋、太空、娱乐、天气、火山、南极等方面的32篇短文,富有较强的知识性和趣味性,文字流畅、易懂。针对我国成年人提高英语阅读技能常见的问题,每篇短文后配有阅读理解(Reading Comprehension)、综合填空(Cloze Test)、词汇(Vocabulary)三项练习。为了便于读者自学,每篇后加有简要的注释,书后附有练习答案。

本书适合我国具有中等英语水平的成年人,大专院校的学生、研究生,以及电大、夜大学生和科技人员等自学或教学使用。

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前 言

为了满足我国理工科大专院校的学生、研究生和电大、夜大的学生,以及科研机关、厂矿企业部门的科技人员渴望提高外文阅读能力的迫切需要,我们编写了《实用英语快速阅读》(Practical Faster Reading)一书,其目的是使读者通过快速阅读训练能较快地提高阅读速度和阅读技能,养成快速阅读的习惯。这不仅能训练眼睛扫视速度,促使大脑反应敏捷,还可巩固已有的外语知识,扩大词汇量和知识面,增强运用外语进行快速阅读的能力。

本书分上、下两册,其中的文章选自外文书刊,题材广泛,内容丰富,具有较强的知识性和趣味性,文字流畅,通俗易懂。

根据国内 EPT (The English Proficiency Test) 考试的要求和多年的教学体会,我们认为加强阅读理解、提高阅读速度和词汇运用的训练是十分必要和大有益处的。本书每篇都配有阅读理解 (Comprehension)、综合填空 (Cloze Test) 和词汇 (Vocabulary) 三项练习及简要的注释,书后附有练习答案 (Key to Exercises), 以便读者自学。为使读者能较清楚地了解编者的意图和掌握操练方法,书中附有本书的“使用说明”。本书可作为高等院校学生(包括研究生)课外阅读、训练阅读技巧、提高阅读速度的自学教材。

本书在编写过程中得到来我院任教的美国高森学院英语教授 Roy H. Umble 博士和加拿大文学硕士 Barry Nolan 的指导和审阅,承蒙华中工学院副教授程恩洪、北京工业大学副教授张俊、东北工学院副教授里佐亨等同志的大力支持,在此深

表谢意。参加本书注释工作的还有马腾同志。全书由王健同志统编。

由于编写时间仓促，编者水平有限，难免有差误之处，恳请专家、读者批评指正。

编 者

1986 年 9 月于东北工学院

使用说明

为了使读者能掌握快速阅读的要领和较快地提高阅读速度,在此简单地介绍一下如何使用本书进行快速阅读训练。

1. 在正式统计阅读时间之前,对文章可作初步的浏览,注意文章的标题及其练习项目。

2. 正式开始阅读时,要准确地填写开始阅读的时间(Starting time)。

3. 在阅读过程中,严禁使用字典。遇到少量生词要联系上下文去理解,力争抓住整篇文章的中心大意,不必纠缠细节。

4. 文章阅读完毕,应立即完成所配的阅读理解练习,准确地填写完成的时间(Finishing time)。要以词作单位经常计算每分钟的阅读速度,就中等难度的材料(如本书)而言,平均每分钟的阅读量应逐渐递增,60→80→110→150 个词以上。常此这样训练,能迅速提高阅读速度和养成快速阅读的习惯。

5. 对练习的检查标准是:“阅读理解”和“词汇”练习应答对 70%,否则空有速度是无益的。如果阅读速度为每分钟 80 个词,完成练习的准确率是 80%,那么你的阅读速度就大有加快的潜力。目前国内优等阅读速度是每分钟 200 个词以上。

怎样才能较快地抓住文章的中心大意?在此只谈几点一般常见的规律,仅供参考。

1. 每篇文章的梗概多半是在文章开始的一、二段;

2. 文章的结论多半是在文章的末尾(倒数一、二段);

3. 文章中间段落多半是所述题目的展开、举例等详述部分。

就文章的一段而言，每段开头的一、二句是这一段的要点；就一个句子而言，主语是这个句子的中心。希望读者在阅读过程中有意识地把精力集中在关键的段落和句子上。这样就能较快地掌握文章的中心大意。一定要避免逐字、逐句地翻译理解。要“成组视读”，加快阅读速度，使之久而成习惯。

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练习答案

The World's First Completely Automatic Railway

The world's first completely automatic railway has been built under the busy streets of London. On this railway, the trains drive themselves, and all the work is done by machines.

The railway is called the Victoria Line¹, and it is part of the complete London underground railway. This railway has seven separate 'lines', which connect at various stations. Together they serve most parts of England's capital city.

The new Victoria Line was opened in 1969. The people of London saw that this new line was very different from the others.

The stations on the other lines need a lot of workers. People are needed to sell tickets, and to check them. Others collect tickets when people leave the trains. There are men and women on the platforms. They check that everything is all right. On the trains, too, there are several workers.

This is all different on the Victoria Line. Here a machine checks and collects the tickets, and there are no workers on the platforms. If a man wants to ask about the trains, he must use a special telephone.

On the train, there is only one worker. If necessary, this man can drive the train. But usually he just starts it; it runs and

stops by itself.

The trains are controlled by electrical signals from the rails. Short rails, called 'command spots'², send these signals. The command spots are the same distance apart³. Each sends a certain signal, in the form of electrical impulses. One command spot may send 180 impulses a minute; the next might send 270. These impulses are received by an instrument on the train, and they control its speed. When the train starts, there are few impulses. The train moves slowly. At the next command spot, the number of impulses may be higher. This makes the train move faster. So it goes from one command spot to the next. It always moves at the speed that the command spots allow. When it enters a station, it automatically puts on its brakes'. This method is simple, yet very safe. The train cannot move until it receives the signals. The impulses always control the speed of the train. If the command spot sends no signals, the train will stop. So there is no danger of accidents on the line.

Most of the control work is done by computers. They plan the services and prepare the time-table for the trains. The computers also fix the trains' speeds⁵, and send the signals to the command spots.

Other machines make sure that the trains are always a safe distance apart. For example, one train may stay too long at a station. The machines then send lower impulse signals to the command spots. The other trains automatically move slower, so they are always at the same safe distance.

There are only two men in the Control Room. They watch

the machines, and make sure everything is working properly. They can see everything that is happening on the line. Small lights on a map show the positions of the trains. When a train moves, its light on the map also moves. So the men always know where every train is .

They can also watch the stations. Television cameras in the stations send pictures to the Control Room. The controllers watch when a train enters a station. If there are any difficulties, they guide the people on to the train. For example, the end of a train may have more room than the front. If many people are waiting at the front, the controller may say that there is room at the back. Or, if they are slow, he may ask them to hurry. People are often surprised when they hear this 'voice from nowhere' .

The controllers can also talk to the men on the trains. If there is trouble, everyone knows about it immediately. If one of the men has a problem, he can ask the Control Room for advice.

In this way the Victoria Line has become the world's first automatic railway. Here too machines are working for men. But, as always, men are still needed to control the machines.

(Approximately 550 words)

Exercises

一、Comprehension: Mark the following statements true (T) or false (F) according to the reading passage.

1. This railway has several divided 'lines', which connect at various stations. **T**
2. The people of London know that this new line is very

- different from the others. 7
3. On the Victoria Line, a machine checks and collects the tickets, and there are no workers on the platforms. E 7
 4. If a man wanted to ask about the trains, he would use a special telephone. 7
 5. On the train, there are no workers. If necessary, the train can drive itself. f
 6. One command spot might send 180 impulses a minute; the next command spot might send 270 impulses a minute. 7
 7. If the command spot sends no signals, the train will stop. So there is the danger of accidents on the line. f
 8. If there is trouble, the workers on the trains know about it immediately. 7
 9. The train always moves at the speed that the command spots allow. 7
 10. There are only two men watching the machines. They can see everything that is happening on the line in the Control Room. 7

二、Cloze Test: For each blank in the following passage, choose the best answer from the choices given below.

The stations 1 the other lines need 2 workers. People are needed 3 tickets, and to check 4. Others 5 tickets when people 6 the trains. There are 7 on the 8. They check that 9 is all right. On the trains, there are 10 workers, too.

- | | |
|-----------|----------|
| 1. a. at | b. on |
| c. in | d. near |
| 2. a. few | b. a few |

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| (c) many | d. much |
| 3. a. to give | b. to buy |
| d. to show | (d) to sell |
| 4. a. it | b. that |
| c. them | d. these |
| 5. a. gather | (b) collect |
| c. receive | d. assemble |
| 6. a. set off | b. give up |
| c. depart | d. leave |
| 7. a. people | b. men |
| c. women | d. children |
| 8. a. surface | (b) platforms |
| c. places | d. station |
| 9. a. something | b. thing |
| c. things | d. everything |
| 10. a. several | b. different |
| c. many | d. no |

三、Vocabulary: There are four words or phrases beneath each sentence. Choose the one word or phrase given below which would best keep the meaning of the original sentence if it were substituted for the underlined word or phrase.

- The computers also fix the trains' speeds.

a. arrange	b. determine
c. appoint	d. settle
- Other machines make sure that the trains are always a safe distance apart.

a. believe	b. trust
------------	----------

- ☒ c. make certain d. be convinced
3. The controllers watch when a train enters a station.
a. makes an entrance into b. appears on
☒ c. comes into ☒ d. both a and c
4. When the train starts, there are few impulses.
a. no much ☒ b. not many
☒ c. very little of d. lots of
5. It always moves at the speed that the command spots allow.
a. not prevent b. let
c. suffer ☒ d. permit
6. They plan the services and prepare the time-table for the trains.
a. mark ☒ b. make up
c. examine ☒ d. ready for using
7. People are often surprised when they hear this voice from nowhere.
☒ a. slightly amazed b. alarmed
c. astonished ☒ d. both a and c
8. These impulses are received by an instrument on the train, and they control its speed.
a. greeted ☒ b. picked up
c. asked d. taken
9. The command spots are the same distance apart.
a. equivalent ☒ b. similar
☒ c. identical d. not another
10. Small lights on a map show the positions of the trains.

a. indicate
c. predict

b. explain
d. prove

Notes

1. Victoria Line 维多利亚铁路

Victoria [vik'tɔ:riə] *n.* 维多利亚(英国女王,在位期间 1837—1901)

2. Command spots 指令信号点

3. The command spots are the same distance apart. 这些指令信号点之间的距离是相等的。

4. brake [breik] *n.* 闸,制动器; *vt.* 刹闸

put on its brakes 制动,刹车

5. fix the trains' speeds 确定火车的速度

6. voice from nowhere 不知从何处传来的声音