

READING SPECTRUM



〔美〕 V. F. 艾伦

英语 阅读文选

重庆分社

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A READING SPECTRUM

第四册

【美】 V. P. V. 编著

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前 言

本注释本原书是美国坦普尔大学弗·弗·艾伦博士专为外国人学习英语而编写的一套系列阅读丛书（一九七四年至一九七八年出齐），适合用作我国高中，大学一、二年级学生及水平相当的同志学习英语的读物。该丛书自八十年代初期起在四川省内外大专院校广泛使用，反映良好。

全书共八册，分初、中、高三级。第一、二、三册为初级，初中毕业即可阅读；第四、五、六册为中级；第七、八册为高级。总词汇范围以三千词为基础。本书语言材料精心编纂，词汇语法严格筛选，课文题材广泛，文体丰富多彩，语言生动活泼；每课课文后还附有词汇、语法等练习；书后附有练习答案和词汇表。这套书的趣味性、知识性与科学性融为一体，做到了循序渐进，引人入胜。读者既可培养阅读能力，扩大词汇量，又可较全面地学习语法，逐步提高使用英语的技能。

为了适应中国人学习英语的特点，本注释本对课文、插图说明及练习中出现的生词、习语、重要的人名地名等专有名词，特别是疑难句和重点语法现象均一一作了适当的注释。

本丛书第四册由石孝殊注释，由于时间仓促，加之本人水平有限，书中可能有错漏之处，希望读者提出宝贵意见，俾于今后改进。

注释者

一九八七年一月

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READING 1

The First Four Minutes

[1] When do people decide whether or not¹ they want to become friends? During their first four minutes together, according to a book by Dr. Leonard Zunin.² In his book, *Contact: The First Four Minutes*, he offers this advice to anyone interested in starting new friendships: "Every time³ you meet someone in a social situation⁴, give him your undivided attention⁵ for four minutes. A lot of people's whole lives would change if they did just that."

[2] You may have noticed that the average person does not give his undivided attention to someone he has just met. He keeps looking over the other person's shoulder⁶, as if⁷ hoping to find someone more interesting in another part of the room. If anyone has ever done this to you, you probably did not like him very much.

[3] When we are introduced to new people, the author suggests, we should try to appear friendly and self-confident. In general⁸, he says, "People like people who like themselves."

[4] On the other hand, we should not make the other person think we are too sure of ourselves. It is important⁹ to appear interested and sympathetic, realizing that the other person has his own needs, fears, and hopes.

[5] Hearing such advice, one might say, "But I'm not a frie-

*contact; a meeting or association Approximately 500 words

ndly, self-confident person. That's not my nature. It would be dishonest for me to act that way."

[6] In reply, Dr. Zunin would claim that a little practice can help us feel comfortable about changing our social habits.⁹ We can become accustomed to any changes we choose to make in our personality. "It's like getting used¹⁰ to a new car. It may be unfamiliar at first, but it goes much better than the old one."

[7] But isn't it dishonest to give the appearance of friendly self-confidence when we don't actually feel that way? Perhaps, but according to Dr. Zunin, "total honesty" is not always good for¹¹ social relationships, especially during the first few minutes of contact. There is a time for everything¹², and a certain amount of play-acting may be best for the first minutes of contact with a stranger. That is not the time to complain about one's health or to mention faults one finds in other people. It is not the time to tell the whole truth about one's opinions and impressions.

[8] Much of what has been said about strangers also applies to relationships with family members¹³ and friends. For a husband and wife or a parent and child, problems often arise during their first four minutes together after they have been apart. Dr. Zunin suggests that these first few minutes together be treated with care¹⁴. If there are unpleasant matters to be discussed, they should be dealt with later.

[9] The author declares that interpersonal relations should be taught as a required course¹⁵ in every school, along with¹⁶ reading, writing, and mathematics. In his opinion¹⁷, success in life depends mainly on how we get along with other people. That is at least¹⁸ as important as how much we know.



Notes

1. whether or not = (本文) *whether conj.* 是否 (*whether or not* 是 *whether* 的变体, 在间接引语中引导表示间接疑问的名词从句)。 例:
These machines also tell whether or not a new tool is dangerous before it can hurt someone. 这些机器还可以在一个新工具可能伤害人之前就告诉人们它是否有危险。(参见第一册 Reading 45, 注释8.)
2. Leonard Zunin [*'lenəd 'zu:nin*] 伦纳德·朱宁(姓名)。
3. every time = *whenever (something happens) conj.* (时间从句的连接词) 每当。
4. in a social situation 在社交场合。
5. undivided attention 专心, 专注。
6. keep looking over the other person's shoulder 不断地从对方背后看过去。
look over sb's shoulder ① (本文) 从某人背后看过去,

②(转)监视某人, 监督某人。

7. *as if* = *as though conj.* 似乎, 好象。

试比较: *You look as if you know each other.* 你们两人好象彼此认识。

You look as if you'd seen a ghost. 你象是见了鬼似的。

前句表示可能认识, 后句表示与事实不符, 并没有见了鬼。本文属后句用法, 即虚拟语气。*as if*常用于虚拟语气, 其后可用过去时动词, 或现在分词或不定式等。

8. *in general* = (本文)*usually*; *in most cases* 通常; 一般; 大体上。

9. *social habits* 社交习惯。

10. *used* [ju:st] *adj.* (+ 介词*to*) = *accustomed(to)* 习惯(于)。 例:

a. *I'm not used (= accustomed) to drinking.* 我不习惯喝酒。

b. *It's like getting used (= accustomed) to a new way of living.* 这如同习惯于一个新的生活方式。

c. *She has become used (= accustomed) to English food.* 她已经吃惯英国食物。

试比较: *I used to take a walk after supper.* 我过去(曾经)晚饭后要散散步。(现在晚饭后不散步了。)

小结: *be (get, become) used to*中*used*是表语形容词, *to*是介词, 表示“习惯于”; *used to*中*used*是谓语动词, *to*后接不定式, 表示“曾经”。

11. *be good for* ①(本文)有效的, 对……有用的。②值

……, 有支付……能力的。

12. *There is a time for everything.* 凡事都有其时机;
做事要当其时。

13. *a family member* 家庭成员。

14. *Dr. Zunin suggests that...be treated with care.* 朱
宁博士建议要小心对待这最初的几分钟。

句中*be*为不带*to*的动词不定式。这是由于*suggest*和
insist, *propose*, *require* 等表示要求的动词后接*that*从
句时, 谓语用不带*to*的不定式。英国英语可用 *should* +
不带*to*的不定式。

15. *a required course = an obligatory course* (一门) 必修
课。

16. *along with = together with adv. + prep.* 与……一道;
和……一起。

17. *in one's opinion* 据某人意见。

18. *at least* 至少。

Exercises

A. What is your opinion of this author's advice? Explain why.

B. Try writing two dialogs, using the ideas in this reading. The
first one should show how *not* to use the first four minutes
with a stranger whom you have just met. The other dial-
og should show how someone *should* act and talk during
these first minutes. Some of the dialogs might be acted out
by students in the class.

C. Fill each blank in the sentences below by choosing one of
the following prepositions:

about, at, by, for, in, of, on, over, than, to, with

1. We have been reading about a book by Leonard Zunin.
2. He gives advice about meeting people in social situations.
3. Give your undivided attention to your new friend.
4. Don't keep looking over his shoulder.
5. Don't try to find someone more interesting than another part of the room.
6. Appear friendly when you are introduced to someone.
7. In general, people like people who like themselves.
8. On the other hand, don't appear too sure of yourself.
9. Do you think it would be dishonest of you to act that way?
10. We can become accustomed to changes in our habits.
11. It is like getting used to a new car.
12. New habits seem unfamiliar at first.
13. New cars usually go better than old ones.
14. Perhaps total honesty ~~is not~~ good for us.
15. There is a time for everything.
16. A certain amount of play-acting may be necessary.
17. Don't mention the faults you find in other people.
18. It's not necessary to tell the whole truth about one's impressions.
19. Much of this advice also applies to family relations.

20. Unpleasant subjects should be dealt later.



D. Each of the following sentences can be made to express just the *opposite* meaning if you put the prefix *dis-* or the prefix *un-* before one of the words in the sentence. Find the word and use the right prefix.

1. His attitude was very friendly.
2. Strangers usually like being given advice.
3. Sometimes family members have to be honest with each other.
4. I was introduced to a rather sympathetic doctor.
5. Some authors seem to be comfortable in social contacts.
6. It is sometimes difficult to deal with familiar situations.
7. In my opinion, some children create a very agreeable impression.
8. There are circumstances in which strangers trust each other.
9. Discussing problems can be quite pleasant.
10. He is seldom successful in his dealings with the public.

E. Which of the following statements are not true according to the article? Make the necessary changes in the statements to make them true.

1. Total honesty is good for social relationships.
2. It is important to appear interested and sympathetic in meeting other people.
3. Within family relationships the first four minutes are important after people have been apart.
4. After meeting a person for the first time, it is important to begin to complain about one's health.
5. Most people give their undivided attention to persons they have just met.
6. With practice people can learn to change their social habits.
7. Success in life is related to giving the appearance of being dishonest and very self-confident in relationships with others.

F. Dr. Zunin says that "People like people who like themselves." Write a short composition of four or five sentences in which you agree or disagree with the statement. Use expressions from the reading to express your ideas.

READING 2

College Students' Today

[1] In 1972 the American Council on Education² published forty pages of facts about college freshmen in the United States. The facts had been obtained from thousands of students in their first year of university study by asking such questions as³ these:

1. How old will you be on December 31 of this year?
2. How many miles is this college from your parents' home?
3. Where did you live while you were growing up?
4. Are your parents still living, and are they still married to each other?
5. How would you describe your present political view?

[2] The answers to these questions indicated that seventy-eight percent of the freshmen were eighteen years old, and fourteen percent were nineteen. It is quite unusual for a freshman to be younger than eighteen or older than nineteen.

[3] More than half of the freshmen were studying in colleges far from their parents' homes,

only forty percent were within a distance of⁴ fifty miles from

