

走向英语世界

中级阅读理解

READ ON

迪安·柯里 编著

MAKING ENGLISH PERSONAL

skills practice book
for students
at the

(Oral & listening
skills practice book
for students
at the intermediate level)

FAVORITES FOR ALL AGES

DAY
DAY BY

PEOPLE
TODAY

MAKING
ENGLISH
PERSONAL

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book 1

students at the

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On behalf of the United States Information Agency, I congratulate the Beijing Normal University Press on its decision to reprint the books that will constitute the series "A Treasury of English Teaching Materials."

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph Duffey".

Joseph Duffey

Director

序

我代表美国新闻总署祝贺北京师范大学出版社出版“英语教学文库”图书。

这些书原由美国新闻总署出版。每本书都为学生提供了提高英语知识水平、学习更多的美国文化、习俗和历史的机会。教师会发现这些书是中国中学和大学英语课程教学的有益补充材料。

美国新闻总署致力于中美两国人民之间的相互了解。中国人民能够有效地用英语交流、美国人民能够熟练地运用汉语是加深两国人民相互了解的关键。

本书以及这套丛书的其他书籍将帮助中国学生准备参与国际商业竞争和从事东西方文化交流,在这两种活动中英语知识是必不可少的。

美国新闻总署署长
约瑟夫·达菲

序

许嘉璐

这套美国《英语教学文库》是美国新闻总署英语教学部编辑出版的,现在由北京师范大学出版社在中国出版发行。

这套书的内容丰富实用。书中有切合教与学的语法、词汇、听力、会话、写作和阅读的基本知识;其语言材料则注意选择当今美国最为广泛使用的简便精练的语言;其中的对话大都置于日常生活中最容易碰到的各种场合,并写进很多目前在美国最为流行的短语和短句;全套书风格是生动活泼的,不会让读者承受枯燥无味之苦。在这套书中有十二部美国著名小说的缩写本。缩写者的技巧是很高的,在保证原书内容完整的前提下,非常注意语言的通俗晓畅,凡掌握了1000到3000个单词的人都可以兴味盎然地阅读。这样,这套书就把适用的范围扩大了,这是很聪明的做法。全套书大多都配有原声录音带,边听边读,更可以提高学习的兴趣和效率。

在中国出版这套丛书,是中国英语教学和英语普

及工作中的一件很有意义的事。随着世界的“缩小”，学习母语之外的其它语言，特别是学习别国的语言，不仅仅是工作的需要，交流的需要（合起来就是一个国家生存、发展的需要），也将成为人们精神生活的需要，成为一个人文化教养高低的标志之一。在这样的形势下，学习用书的选择就成为至关重要的事。作为在中国有着重要影响，特别是在教学用书方面经验丰富、成绩卓著的北京师范大学出版社刊行这套丛书，是再合适不过的了，这也将是该社对我国外语教学所作的又一重要贡献，是奉献给选择学习用书的读者的一份厚礼，理应表示祝贺。

在我国，第二语言的教学还是一个比较年轻的学科，教材的编写、教学理论的研究都有待加强和提高。这套丛书的出版或许可以对这些方面起到“助威”的作用——从事第二语言教学和研究的，可以从中借鉴美国同行的一些经验；至今还没有认识到这一领域的重要的，应该从中看到这一工作的意义和难度。

这套丛书的出版同时也是中美文化交流的产物。美国新闻总署在中美文化交流方面做过不少工作；北京师范大学也曾出版过不少介绍美国和适合美国人民学习汉语的读本——这次的合作是很自然的，也是对双方都有利的。我希望双方的真诚合作能够不断得到加强，为两国人民的友好交往再做出新的成绩。

（1994. 3. 1.）

前 言

本书是为一般中级水平的英语学习者编写的阅读理解书。书中的文章短小精悍、趣味性强、涉及多方面知识。

本书练习的目的是鼓励学生参与各种不同的交际活动,其中主要是提高阅读理解的水平和能力。练习形式主要是为英语课堂教学而设计,但是也可以用来指导学生进行口语和写作练习。

本书用 2000 个基础英语词汇编写。超出这个范围的词汇在附录的词汇表中按字母顺序排列。

CONTENTS

Chapter 1:	Glaciers	1
Chapter 2:	Wonderful Water	4
Chapter 3:	Presidential Talent	8
Chapter 4:	Sense of Smell	11
Chapter 5:	The Ebony Express	14
Chapter 6:	The Gyrocompass	17
Chapter 7:	The Verrazano—Narrows Bridge	20
Chapter 8:	Johnny Appleseed	24
Chapter 9:	Hurricanes	27
Chapter 10:	The Kangaroo Rat	30
Chapter 11:	Boy Genius	33
Chapter 12:	Chimpanzees Can Learn	37
Chapter 13:	Busy Honeybees	40
Chapter 14:	Robert Wadlow	43
Chapter 15:	Bat Radar	46
Chapter 16:	Fleas	50
Chapter 17:	Thomas Edison's Inventions	54
Chapter 18:	Geodesic Domes	57
Chapter 19:	Saguaro Cactus	60
Chapter 20:	Clyde Beatty	63
Chapter 21:	Mount Rushmore	67
Chapter 22:	Venus Flytrap	72

Chapter 23: Houdini 76

Chapter 24: The Sun 80

Chapter 25: The Winchester Mansion 83

GLOSSARY 87

1. GLACIERS

Glaciers are huge sheets or rivers of ice that cover the North and South Poles and many mountains in different parts of the world.

Glaciers are formed by excess snow. When the excess snow does not melt in summer, it accumulates year by year. Pressure causes the snow to become ice.

Normally, glaciers move only a few centimeters a day. The force of gravity causes them to move.

Scientists estimate that nearly 75 percent of the world's fresh water exists as glaciers.

huge [hju:dʒ] *adj.* very big; unusually large or great 巨大的, 庞大的

north pole the northern end of the earth's axis 北极

south pole the southern part of the earth's axis 南极

excess [ik'ses] *n.* part that is too much; more than enough 超过, 过剩

melt [melt] *v.* to change from a solid to liquid by the application of heat 融化

accumulate [ə'kju:mjuleit] *vi.* to collect little by little 积累

pressure ['preʃə] *n.* the continued action of weight or force 压力

force [fɔ:s] *n.* active power; strength 力量

gravity['græviti] *n.* the natural force that causes objects to move or tend to move toward the center of the earth 地球引力

estimate['estimeit] *v.* to form a judgment or opinion; to guess 评定, 评估

EXERCISES

I. FINDING INFORMATION. Find the sentence (or sentences) that gives the following information. Read the information aloud.

1. what forms glaciers
2. what glaciers are
3. what makes snow become ice
4. the size of glaciers
5. where glaciers are found
6. how glaciers move

II. Which of the following are related to glaciers? How? Base your choice on the information in the reading.

- | | |
|----------|-------------|
| 1. trees | 5. gravity |
| 2. ice | 6. heat |
| 3. water | 7. speed |
| 4. snow | 8. pressure |

9. lakes

10. North Pole

III. FOR DISCUSSION

1. Are you interested in glaciers? Why or why not?
2. Are glaciers useful, in your opinion?
3. Suppose many of the world's glaciers begin to melt at the same time. What will happen?

IV. WHAT IS THE EFFECT of the following in matters related to glaciers?

1. non-melting snow
2. force of gravity
3. rivers of ice
4. pressure

V. INFORMATION REVIEW. Make questions of the phrases in Exercise I and ask them of your classmates. You may want to begin some of your questions with Can you tell me.....? or What do you know about.....?

2. WONDERFUL WATER

Water has many unusual properties. It has the ability to move upward through the ground to the roots of plants. This is called capillary action.

Water can absorb more heat than almost any other substance. This ability enables water to absorb heat until it reaches 100 degrees Celsius. Then it boils, becomes a gas, and evaporates.

When frozen, water floats because as ice it expands and becomes less dense. Soil is formed by the force of ice in the earth cracking and breaking rocks.

As a cover on lakes and the ocean, ice acts as insulation and protects life in the water below.

property ['prɒpəti] *n.* quality or power belonging specially to something 性质, 特征

capillary action (attraction) the force that causes a liquid to rise when in contact with a porous substance, as a plant draws water from the ground 毛细管作用

absorb [əb'sɔ:b] *vt.* to take in; to suck up as a liquid or gas 吸收

substance ['sʌbstəns] *n.* what a thing consists of; matter; material 物质

Celsius ['selsjəs] *n.* (scale) the official name of the centi-

grade scale for measuring temperature 摄氏

boil[bɔɪl] *vt.* to bubble up and give off steam or vapor when heated 煮沸

evaporate[i'væpəreɪt] *v.* to change from liquid into vapor (使)蒸发

frozen[frəuzn] past participle of *freeze* freeze 的过去分词

float[fləʊt] *vi.* to stay on top of or be held up by air, water, or other liquid 漂浮

expand[ɪks'pænd] *v.* to make larger; to increase in size 扩大

dense[dens] *adj.* having its parts closely packed together; thick 密集的, 稠密的

crack[kræk] *n.* split or opening made by breaking without separating into parts; a narrow opening 裂缝

insulation[,ɪnsju'leɪʃən] *n.* material used to keep from losing electricity, heat, sound, etc; separation from others 绝缘

EXERCISES

I. FINDING INFORMATION. Find the sentence (or sentences) that gives the following information. Read the information aloud.

1. what capillary action is
2. why ice floats
3. the change in water at 100 degrees Celsius

4. the formation of soil
5. how water becomes a gas
6. the effect of ice on lakes

II. Which of the following are related to water or its properties? How? Base your choice on the information in the reading.

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. the sun | 5. breaking rocks |
| 2. ice | 6. evaporation |
| 3. plant roots | 7. sand |
| 4. protector of life | 8. steam |

III. FOR DISCUSSION

1. How important is water? Is it more important than food?
2. Do you know of some ways that water is used in industry?
3. How is ice used in many societies?
4. Do you agree with the title of the reading? Give your reasons.

IV. WHAT IS THE EFFECT of the following in matters related to water?