

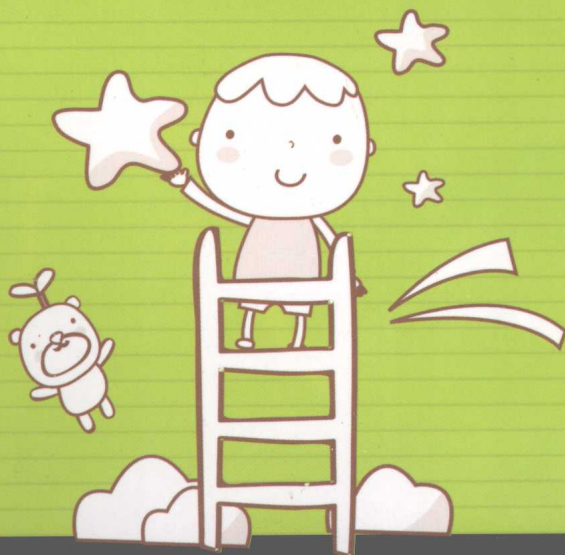
新世纪英语丛书
New Century English

初中英语

Golden Key to the Enchanted Door

阅读理解分级进阶

刘 弢 吕春昕 ©主编



华东理工大学出版社
EAST CHINA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PRESS

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前 言

从目前的中考英语来看, 阅读理解的比重很大, 每套试卷通常有4到5篇文章, 题型也从过去单一的选择題转向了多种题型并存。这些无疑为初中英语的教学指明了方向。

然而, 英语教学中却存着一种割裂的情况: 一方面是对课文的学习过精, 另一方面是对课外阅读的要求过粗。每一篇课文教师都要反复讲、仔细讲, 甚至不惜要求学生背诵, 而课外阅读的很多文章学生却读得囫圇吞枣, 甚至根本没有看明白, 就急急忙忙去做题, 这样看上去似乎有了阅读量, 实际上读的效果却很一般。为了让学生完全读懂这些文章, 提供详尽的注释和完整的译文无疑是最好的方法。因此, 我们查阅了大量资料, 不仅对文中的所有疑难单词和词组详加注释, 而且在仔细揣摩文意的情况下, 尽力提供最为准确、流畅的译文, 力求使学生读一篇就彻底消化一篇, 以真正达到提高英语水平的目的。

需要指出的是, 近几年的中考命题中出现了一种不好的趋势, 就是除上海、北京、江苏等少数教育发达省市外, 许多中西部地区的试题中都出现了大量中国人撰写的英语文章。这些文章带有明显的汉语思维的痕迹, 特别不利于学生掌握地道的英语。因此, 本书在编写时非常重视文章来源, 尽量少用中国人撰写的英语文章, 适当补充适合初中生使用的原版材料。从总体上看, 本书材料70%来源于历届中考题, 30%来源于原版材料, 这样就兼顾了阅读材料的原汁原味和试题设计的权威性。

由于初中英语阅读篇目多、难度跨度大, 因此, 市场上通行的简单堆砌或专题分类的编法都不科学。而本书采用了难度分阶的形式, 我们将所有文章严格按难度分级, 分别编入三章, 学生只需循序渐进, 中考时自可得心应手。因此本书可以说是课本之外的首选读物。

本书正文由刘弢翻译, 错谬之处在所难免, 敬请广大读者不吝赐教。

编 者

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第一章 难度等级★

Reading Exercise 1

(A)

My friend is a taxi driver. He has been a taxi driver for ten years. It's a nice job most of time. He can meet a lot of people. He always works at night, because there is too much traffic during the day. He usually goes home between 1:00 and 3:00 in the morning.

One day my friend was taking a woman home from a party at 3:00 in the morning. She had her little dog with her. When they got to her house, she found that she had lost her key, so my friend waited in the car with the dog while she climbed in through the window.

My friend waited and waited. After half an hour of ringing the bell, he decided to find out what was going on. He tied the dog to a tree and started to climb in through the window.

At that moment some policemen came. They thought my friend was a thief. Luckily the woman came downstairs. She must have gone to sleep and forgotten about my friend and the dog.

[生词]

tie v. (**tying** 或 **tieing**) (用带、绳、线等)系,拴,扎: The dog was tied up in the back garden. 那只狗被拴在后花园。

downstairs adv. 在楼下,到楼下: He went downstairs and into the kitchen. 他下楼到厨房去。

阅读上面的短文,判断正误。

1. The story happened early in the morning.
2. The woman climbed in through the window because she didn't find her

key.

3. The driver usually works between 1:00 and 3:00 in the morning.
4. The woman had no money to pay the driver.
5. The woman had forgotten about the driver and the dog.
6. The driver climbed in through the window to see what happened in the house.



[参考译文]

我的朋友是一位出租车司机。他从事这个行业已经 10 年了。这份工作总的来说还不错。他能遇见很多人。他总是在晚上工作,因为白天的道路过于拥挤。他通常在每天凌晨 1 点到 3 点回家。

一天,凌晨 3 点的时候,我的朋友送一位参加完晚宴的女士回家。她还带着一条小狗。当他们到家后,她发现钥匙丢了,于是我的朋友和这条狗一起在车里等着,而这位女士爬窗进了家。

我的朋友等啊等。在按铃后半小时都没有反应的情况下,他决定看看到底发生了什么事。他把狗拴在树上,开始从窗户往里爬。

正在这时,过来几个警察。他们以为我的朋友是个贼。幸运的是,这位女士下楼了。她肯定去睡觉了,忘了外面还有我的朋友和那条狗。

(B)

Host: Hello! I'm Gavin from *All Talk 970 FM*. Welcome to our program.

Today our topic is part-time jobs. Are they good for school children or not?

Headmaster: Certainly not. Children have got two full-time jobs already: growing up and going to school. Part-time jobs make them so tired that they fall asleep in class.

Mrs. Black: I agree. I know school hours are short, but there's homework too, and children need a lot of sleep.

Mr. Black: Young children perhaps stay at school until they're eighteen or nineteen. A part-time job can't harm them. In fact, it's good for them. They themselves earn their pocket-money. And they see something of the world outside school.

Businessman: You're quite right. Boys learn a lot from a part-time job. And

we mustn't forget that some families need the extra money. If the students didn't take part-time jobs, they couldn't stay at school.

Host: Well, we have got two for, and two against. What do our listeners think?

[生词]

host *n.* 主人, 节目主持人: The event will be opened by television host Bill Punter. 这次活动将由电视节目主持人比尔·庞特揭幕。

topic *n.* 主题, 话题: His main topic of conversation is football. 他谈话的主题是足球。

part-time *adj.* 兼职的: I have a part-time job, about 20 hours a week. 我有一份兼职的工作, 大约每周工作 20 小时。

for *prep.* 赞成: Are you for or against the plan? 你赞成还是反对这个计划?

against *prep.* 不赞成, 不支持, 反对: She felt that everybody was against her. 她觉得每个人都在为难她。

阅读上面的短文, 选择正确答案。

1. How many guests join the discussion?
A. Three. B. Four. C. Five. D. Six.
2. Who have the same opinion?
A. Mr. and Mrs. Black.
B. The host and Mrs. Black.
C. The headmaster and the businessman.
D. The businessman and Mr. Black.
3. Mrs. Black thinks that children _____.
A. need enough sleep
B. need the extra money
C. should see something of the world outside school
D. should stay at school until they're eighteen or nineteen
4. What do the children think of part-time jobs?
A. We are not told in this passage.
B. Part-time jobs are good for them.
C. Part-time jobs aren't good for their studies.
D. Part-time jobs can help the students from poor families.
5. Where is the discussion most probably from?

A. A TV station.

B. A radio station.

C. A newspaper.

D. A magazine.



[参考译文]

主持人:大家好!我是调频 970《有话大家谈》节目的盖温。欢迎来到我们的节目。

今天我们的话题是兼职工作,你们认为兼职工作对学生有好处吗?

校长:肯定没有好处。孩子们已经有两项专职的任务了:成长和读书。兼职工作会让
他们累得在课堂上睡着。

布莱克太太:我同意校长的说法。我知道在校时间是短的,但还有家庭作业,而且孩
子们需要充足的睡眠。

布莱克先生:小孩子通常会在学校待到十八九岁。兼职工作不会伤害他们。实际上,
兼职工作还对他们有好处呢。他们可以自己挣零花钱。还能看看校门外的世
界。

商人:你说得很对。孩子们能从兼职工作中学到很多东西。而且我们不要忘了,有些
家庭需要额外的收入。如果孩子们不干兼职工作,他们就无法待在学校。

主持人:好,现在有两票赞成,两票反对。听众朋友们怎么想呢?

(C)

Mr. Jenkins didn't like to do anything though he learned a lot. He was often late and hated to tidy his office. The manager told him to keep his clothes clean, but he would not do some washing. At last he lost his work. He had to stay at home and spent much time on reading. Sometimes his friends gave him some food when he was hungry.

One day Mr. Hunt, one of his friends had a birthday party and asked him to dinner. He went there by lunch time. Mr. Hunt's daughter heard that he read a lot of books and asked him to tell her some interesting stories. He noticed her father was waiting for an important officer and agreed. He began to say, "Once upon a time there lived a clever young man. He read a lot and often helped the poor. . ."

At that moment the important officer came and Mr. Hunt asked all his guests to take their seats. He hurried off. The little girl followed him and called out, "You have not finished it yet!" "I'm sorry to tell you; The clever young man has died!"

[生词]

tidy *v.* 使整洁,使整齐:I told you to tidy everything onto the trolley. 我告诉过你把一切东西整理好再装入手推车。

hurry off 匆忙离开,赶快走开:The prisoners hurried off before the reporters could have a chance to speak to them. 采访记者还没来得及跟那些犯人说话,犯人们就赶紧走开了。

take one's seat 坐下,就座:If the audience take their seats, the concert can begin. 观众一就座,音乐会就可以开始。

阅读上面的短文,回答问题。

1. Why did the manager send Mr. Jenkins away?

2. What did he do after he lost his job?

3. Why did the girl ask him to tell her some stories?

4. When did the dinner begin?

5. Why did he hurry off?



[参考译文]

尽管詹金斯先生很有学问,但他什么也不想做。他经常上班迟到,还讨厌整理办公室。他的老板让他保持着装清洁,但他却不洗衣服。最终他丢掉了工作,不得不待在家里,把大部分时间用在读书上。有时候,他的朋友也会在他饿得吃不上饭的时候给他些吃的。

一天,他的朋友亨特先生举办生日晚宴,邀请他参加。午饭时他赶到了那儿。亨特先生的女儿听说他读过很多书,就央求他讲些有趣的故事。他注意到亨特先生正在等一位重要的官员,于是同意了。他开始讲:“从前,有一位聪明的年轻人,他读过很多书,而且经常帮助穷人……”

正当这时,这位重要的官员进来了,亨特先生请所有的客人就座。他匆匆忙忙地要过去。小女孩跟在他身后大声说道:“你还没讲完呢!”“我很遗憾地告诉你:这个聪明的年轻人死了。”

Reading Exercise 2

(A)

O. Henry, a famous American writer of short stories, was born in North Carolina in 1862. O. Henry was a pen name. His real name was William Sydney Porter. When he was a young boy, he did not go to school for long because of being born in a poor family, but he tried to teach himself everything he needed to know.

When he was about 20 years old, O. Henry went to Texas. There he tried different jobs. He first worked on a newspaper, and then had a job in a bank. But he got himself into some trouble. Some money went missing from the bank. O. Henry was believed to have stolen it, so he was sent to prison. During the three years in prison, he learned to write short stories. After he got out of prison, he went to New York and went on writing.

He wrote mostly about New York and the life of the poor there. People liked his stories, because almost all of them finished with a sudden change. This made the readers surprised.

[生词]

missing *adj.* 丢失的,下落不明的; She noticed one of the diamond was missing. 她发现一颗钻石找不到了。

mostly *adv.* 几乎全部地,主要地; She is mostly out on Sundays. 星期天她多半不在家。

prison *n.* 监狱; The thief was sent to prison for a year. 小偷被判一年监禁。

sudden *adj.* 突然的; The sudden arrival of guests forced her to change her plans. 客人的突然到来使她不得不改变计划。

阅读上面的短文,判断正误。

1. Carolina was the real name of the famous American writer.
2. O. Henry was sent to prison because he wanted to write stories about prisoners.

3. O. Henry learned everything he needed by himself.
4. O. Henry liked writing stories when he was a little boy.
5. O. Henry got most materials for his stories from the newspaper.
6. People enjoyed reading O. Henry's stories because they had surprising endings.



[参考译文]

欧·亨利是美国著名的短篇小说作家,他于1862年出生在北卡罗莱纳州。欧·亨利是他的笔名,他的真名叫威廉·西德尼·波特。在他还是个孩子时,由于家境贫寒,他很长时间没有上学,但他尽量自学必须掌握的所有东西。

到了20岁左右,欧·亨利来到得克萨斯。在那里,他干过各种工作。他先是在报社工作,后来又去了银行。但他给自己找上了麻烦,银行里的钱丢了。有人认为是欧·亨利偷的,于是他被关进了监狱。在监狱的三年期间,他学会了写短篇小说。出狱后,他来到纽约继续从事写作。

他写的小说大多是关于纽约和那里的穷人的生活。人们喜欢他的故事,因为这些故事的结尾几乎都出现了突然的变化。这使得读者们大为惊叹。

(B)

Dear editor,

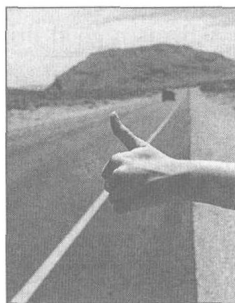
Can't your newspaper do something about the custom of hitchhiking?

A short time ago, on a car travel I counted at least 50 people standing beside the road, asking for rides. Many of them were young women.

Don't they understand how dangerous it is to get into the car driven by a stranger? How much do they know about the driver? Is he a good driver or not? Nothing!

Many of these young hitchhikers may come from good families. Don't their parents teach them anything about the world? I always taught my children not to talk to strangers. I never let them take rides from people they didn't know.

Isn't there enough crime today? Don't ask for trouble by hitchhiking



again. On the other hand, hitchhiking may bring some traffic trouble.

Don't you think what I said is true?

A Worried Grandfather

[生词]

editor *n.* 编辑: She's a senior editor in a publishing company. 她是一家出版公司的高级编辑。

custom *n.* 习惯, 风俗: It is my custom to get up early and have a cold bath every morning. 我习惯每天早晨早起并洗个冷水澡。

hitchhike *v.* 沿途免费搭乘便车旅行: They hitchhiked across the country. 他们搭便车穿越全国。 || **hitchhiker** *n.* 免费搭车者

阅读上面的短文, 选择正确答案。

1. The Worried Grandfather _____.
 - A. doesn't like young women to drive cars
 - B. thinks it is dangerous for a young woman to get into a stranger's car
 - C. likes drivers to be careful and strict in their work
 - D. never lets his children get into other people's car
2. The Worried Grandfather _____.
 - A. was hit by a car when he was standing by the road
 - B. is a good driver and often gives free rides to strangers
 - C. is in trouble now and he wants to get some help from the newspaper
 - D. has seen much of the world and he is very careful
3. The Worried Grandfather wrote the letter to tell _____.
 - A. the newspaper to let its readers know the danger of hitchhiking
 - B. young women never to go on a long travel alone
 - C. young people to listen to their parents at home
 - D. his children not to talk to strangers on the road
4. What do you think a good editor is going to do after he receives the letter?
 - A. He will return the letter to the old man.
 - B. He will give the letter to the police station.
 - C. He will write something about the danger of hitchhiking in the

newspaper.

D. He will hold a meeting to tell the drivers to make the traffic trouble less.



【参考译文】

亲爱的编辑：

难道你们的报纸不能对搭便车的习惯有所作为吗？

不久前，我开车旅行，我数了一下，沿途至少有 50 个人请求搭便车。其中许多都是女孩子。

难道她们不知道坐进陌生人驾驶的汽车有多危险吗？她们对司机有多少了解？他是好人还是坏人？她们一无所知。

这些搭便车的年轻人中可能有很多来自正经人家。难道他们的父母没有告诉过他们这个世界是怎样一个世界吗？我总是教导我的孩子不要和陌生人说话。我从不让他们搭乘不认识的人的车。

现在的犯罪还不够多吗？不要再通过搭便车给自己找麻烦了。另一方面，搭便车也可能引发交通问题。

难道你不觉得我说得对吗？

一位焦虑的祖父

(C)

Mount Everest is the highest mountain in the world. It is 8 848 meters high. Sir Edmund Hillary from New Zealand and Tenzing Norgay from Nepal were the first people ever to climb Mount Everest. They climbed it in 1953. Men from several different countries climbed it after that.

Junko Tabei, a Japanese from Hokkaido, was the first woman to make this difficult climb. A Tokyo company organized the Mount Everest climb in 1975. They chose fifteen women from mountaineering clubs to go to Nepal. The



group climbed for several days. Then there was an avalanche. The heavy ice and snow injured ten of the women. They had to stop climbing. The other five continued. Only Ms Tabei was able to climb the last 70 meters. She was

standing on top of the world.

Ms Tabei was 35 years old at the time. She started climbing mountains in 1960. She is not an ordinary Japanese housewife. Her husband likes to climb mountains, too. But he can't have enough vacation from his work to go with his wife all the time. So he stays home to take care of the house and children.

Ms Tabei earns money for her trips by teaching English and piano to children. She also speaks to groups of people about her mountain climbing.

[生词]

Nepal *n.* 尼泊尔

organize *v.* 组织, 安排: We organized a concert in the village hall. 我们在乡村礼堂里组织了一次音乐会。

mountaineer *v.* 登山, 爬山 *n.* 登山运动员 || **mountaineering** *n.* 登山运动: Walking and mountaineering now very popular. 目前, 散步和登山运动非常受人欢迎。

avalanche *n.* 雪崩: Yesterday's avalanche killed a party of skiers. 昨天的雪崩使一群滑雪者丧生。

earn *v.* 挣(钱): How much do you earn a week? 你一周挣多少钱?

阅读上面的短文, 回答问题。

1. Is Mount Everest an ordinary mountain? Why?

2. What happened to ten of the women climbers?

3. Why isn't Ms Tabei an ordinary Japanese housewife?

4. Why does Ms Tabei's husband stay at home to take care of the house and children?

5. How does Ms Tabei pay for her mountain climbing?
