

Life
@ Reading



英语经典美文诵读

九年级

■ 浙江教育出版社



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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

英语经典美文诵读. 九年级 / 盛艳萍主编. —杭州: 浙江教育出版社, 2009.4

ISBN 978-7-5338-7698-2

I. 英... II. 盛... III. 英语—阅读教学—初中—课外读物
IV. G634.413

中国版本图书馆CIP数据核字(2008)第157772号

责任编辑 李 春 责任校对 张 帆
封面设计 韩 波 责任印务 温劲风

英语经典美文诵读

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- 出 版: 浙江教育出版社
(杭州市天目山路40号 邮编310013)
- 发 行: 浙江省新华书店集团有限公司
- 图文制作: 杭州万方图书有限公司
- 印 刷: 浙江新华技术印刷有限公司
- 开 本: 890×1240 1/32
- 印 张: 4.75
- 字 数: 115 000
- 版 次: 2009年4月第1版
- 印 次: 2009年4月第1次
- 本次印数: 0 001-5 000
- 标准书号: ISBN 978-7-5338-7698-2
- 定 价: 8.00元

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前 言

古人云：“熟读唐诗三百首，不会作诗也会吟。”古人又云：“读书破万卷，下笔如有神。”英伦名仕 Francisco Bacon 爵士亦云：“Reading maketh a full man.”（读书使人完美。）英语中更有格言，曰：“Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body.”（阅读之于心灵，犹如运动之于身体。）

学习一门语言，阅读和背诵是两件很重要的事情。

阅读可以使人明理，使人睿智。在阅读的过程中，我们感知语言的美，感悟语境的美。通过阅读，我们培养语感，积累素材。通过阅读，我们体验文化，训练思维。

背诵可以使人博古通今，使人雄辩。在背诵的过程中，我们体验英语的用词习惯，我们感受英语的行文习惯。通过背诵，我们巩固词汇，强化写作。通过背诵，我们提升思维，拓展自我。

为了给初中学生的英语学习提供朗读和背诵的材料，我们经过一年多的筹备，组织来自于浙江省的优秀的中学教师，编写了《英语经典美文诵读》。

本书选材时充分考虑了《英语课程标准》的要求和现行初中英语教材的语法、话题及词汇，具有题材新颖、体裁广泛、循序渐进、难易适当、语言优美、朗朗上口等特点。每篇文章中的生词均有注释（词性、英汉双语解释），对重点句型和优美句子均进行了强调，以供学生参考，学生在阅读之后还能记录学习到的新词和新句型。

书中如有不当之处，敬请批评指正。

编 者

2009年4月



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Section One

Art

Art is much less important than life, but what a poor life without it!

Passage 1

Read the passage and think: Why do we call Vienna “The City of Music”?

The City of Music

Listening to music is the favorite *pastime* of many people all over the world. This is especially true for the people living in Vienna, the city of music. Being the home of Mozart and Schubert, this city is the birthplace of classical music and *waltz*. Writing to his father in 1781, Mozart said, “Vienna is the best place in the world for my *profession*.”



Music fills the air in Vienna. Going to public concerts is often *free of charge*. And don't forget, Vienna is also home to the world famous Vienna Boys' *Choir*. No wonder people say Vienna is always alive with a sound of music.

(106 words)

New Words and Expressions

pastime: n. a hobby 爱好

waltz: n. a kind of dancing music 华尔兹舞曲

profession: n. a type of work that asks special training 职业, 专业

free of charge: 免费的

choir: n. a group of singers 合唱团



音乐之都

听音乐是世界上许多人最喜爱的消遣,尤其是生活在音乐之都——维也纳的人们。这座城市不仅是莫扎特和舒伯特的故乡,也是古典音乐和华尔兹舞曲的发源地。莫扎特在1781年写给父亲的信中说:“维也纳是全世界最适合我从事音乐创作的地方。”

音乐缭绕于整个维也纳。欣赏公开的演奏会通常是免费的。别忘了,这里也是世界著名的维也纳少年合唱团的所在地。难怪人们说维也纳永远与音乐共存呢!

My notes


同学们,如果学到了什么新单词和新句子,赶紧记下来吧!

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◆ Without music life would be a mistake.

—Nietzsche

没有音乐,生命是没有价值的。

——尼采——

Passage 2

Read the passage and think: What does the author think of the movie? What does he mean by “It is not a vacation for the brain”?

A Movie Review of *The English Patient*

I can understand why some people think this movie is boring. It is a movie for readers. In my eyes, *The English Patient* is a good movie that takes effort to appreciate. It is not a vacation for the brain. It's about idealism and regret of life. Not so much a love story as a tragic one.

I would ask those who thought the movie boring to watch it again when you feel able to pay full attention to what's going on in the film and how the characters are feeling and thinking. This movie takes an investment of time and thought. If this investment is made, I believe you will feel rewarded.

(113 words)

New Words and Expressions

appreciate: *v.* to enjoy the good quality of sth 欣赏

idealism: *n.* the belief that a perfect life can be achieved 理想主义

regret: *n.* a feeling of sadness or disappointment 遗憾

tragic: *adj.* making you feel very sad 悲剧的

investment: *n.* the act of giving time or effort to sth 投入

reward: *v.* to give sth to sb because they have done sth good 奖赏, 回报



《英国病人》影评

我能理解为什么有人会认为这部电影很枯燥，因为这是一部给读者看的电影。在我眼中，《英国病人》是一部值得花精力去欣赏的好电影。它谈论的是理想主义和人生的遗憾，并非是一部为了让大脑得到放松的电影。与其说它是一部爱情片，倒不如说它是一部悲剧。



我想劝那些认为这部电影枯燥乏味的人们，当你们能够全身心地关注情节发展和人物的所感所想时，再去看一遍这部片子吧。它值得你投入时间和思考，如果你投入了，我相信你一定有所收获。

My notes

同学们，如果学到了什么新单词和新句子，赶紧记下来吧！

- ◆ Art is the object of feeling, and the subject of nature. —Langer
艺术是情感的客观表现，也是本性的主观反映。

——朗格 

Passage 3

Read the passage and think: What is music to the Olympic Games?

Music and the Olympic Games

Music and Olympic Games have *tight connection*. Music is an important part of the Olympic Games. It helps express the spirit of the Olympic. Greeks sang *paean* for the winner in ancient Olympics. *Olympic Anthem* is played as the Olympic flag raised during every opening ceremony. Each Olympic Games, even each *delegation* has its own theme song. Winner will hear his country's national anthem played as he stands on the medals *podium*. So what would it be like if there were no music during the Olympic Games? (87 words)

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New Words and Expressions

tight: *adj.* close, firm 紧密的

connection: *n.* a relation between things or events 联系

paean: *n.* a song of praise 赞歌

anthem: *n.* a song of devotion or loyalty (as to a nation or school) 国歌, 颂歌

delegation: *n.* a group of delegates 代表团

podium: *n.* a platform for people who win an honor to stand on 讲台



音乐与奥运会

音乐与奥运会紧密相连，它是奥运会的一个重要部分，有助于弘扬奥运精神。在古代奥运会上，希腊人为获胜者唱赞歌。每次在奥运会开幕式上，升会旗时都会演奏奥运会会歌。历届奥运会，甚至每个代表团都有自己的主题曲。当冠军站在领奖台上，他将听到本国的国歌在会场奏响。奥运会一旦离开了音乐将会变成什么样呢？



My notes

同学们，如果学到了什么新单词和新句子，赶紧记下来吧！

◆ Art consists of limitation. The most beautiful part of every picture is the frame. —Chesterton

艺术由有限组成，而每一幅画最美的地方是它的框架。

——切斯特顿 

Passage 4

Read the passage and think: How do you understand the sentence "Painting is said to have the same origin as calligraphy"?

Calligraphy and Painting

Chinese characters developed from pictures and signs, and the Chinese art of calligraphy developed naturally from its unique writing system. Through the ages, great calligraphers developed *representative* calligraphic styles of their times. The love of calligraphy has been handed down to the present day.

The roots of Chinese painting can be *traced* back to paintings on Neolithic(新石器时代) pottery six or seven thousand years ago. Since similar tools and lines were used for the earliest painting and writing, painting is said to have the same *origin* as calligraphy. Thus, Chinese paintings usually *integrate* poetry or calligraphy with themes that include figures, *landscapes*, flowers, birds and other animals. (107 words)

New Words and Expressions

representative: *adj.* able to be used as a typical example of sth 代表的

trace: *v.* to find the origin or cause of sth 上溯, 追溯

origin: *n.* a primary source 起源, 起因

integrate: *v.* to combine two or more things so that they work together 汇合, 融合

landscape: *n.* an area of land of a particular type 山水, 风景



中国书画

汉字是从图画、符号逐渐演变形成的,其独特的书写体系自然而然发展成为中国的书法艺术。中国历代都有大书法家,其书法艺术成为当时书法风格的典型代表。人们对书法的喜爱一直流传到今天。

距今六七千年前新石器时代出土的陶器上的图画,是中国最早的绘画作品。由于最早的绘画和书写均使用同样的工具,并且都是以线条为主,故有“书画同源”之说。中国传统绘画作品一般都有题诗或题字,再配人物、山水、花鸟或动物等主题,诗、书、画汇合成一个艺术整体。



My notes

同学们,如果学到了什么新单词和新句子,赶紧记下来吧!

◆ In music one must think with the heart and feel with the brain.

—Hugo

音乐要用心灵去听,用头脑去感受。

——雨果 

Passage 5

Read the passage and think: Do you know any other famous carnivals in the world?

Rio Carnival

The Rio Carnival is the world's most famous street party. Millions of people come from everywhere and it goes on for several days. But the best part is called "The Sambofromo Parade". The Sambofromo is a 700-meter long street surrounded by spectator stands and luxury boxes which are filled with over 60,000 people. It is famous for people dancing the samba and goes on all night. They have lavish floats with women dressed in amazing clothes, and these are accompanied by marching bands. Then, all around is a sea of people who are also dressed in costumes. They changed themes and costumes every year, so you'll never see the same thing twice. (112 words)

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New Words and Expressions

The Sambofromo Parade: 桑巴大道

surround: *v.* to be all around sth/sb 围, 包围

spectator: *n.* a person who is watching an event 观众

luxury boxes: 豪华包厢

lavish float: 豪华彩车

accompany: *v.* to play a musical instrument, while sb else sings or plays the main tune 为……伴奏