

全 日 制 普 通 高 级 中 学

英语泛读

第二册 (上)

EXTENSIVE READING
FOR SEFC 2A

龚亚夫 罗少茜 主编



教育科学出版社

Educational Science Publishing House

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· 北 京 ·

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前 言

高中英语教学大纲（试验修订版）规定，除教材内容外，高中学生的“课外阅读量应达到 10 万字以上”（一级目标），甚至“达到 20 万字左右”（二级目标）。同时，大纲还提出：教师要有计划地指导学生掌握科学、有效的阅读方法和技巧，指导他们使用词典、语法书等工具书及各种英语教育教学资源，鼓励他们在阅读中根据上下文猜测词义等，使他们逐步获得较强的独立阅读能力，为他们继续学习和发展奠定坚实的基础。

外语阅读困难往往来自三个方面，一是语言理解的困难，二是阅读技巧的困难，三是文化背景知识的困难。本书就是为帮助学生解决这三个方面的问题而编写的。

语言理解的困难涉及语法结构和词汇用法方面。虽然目前高考阅读试题中生词较少，但由于单词往往有几种甚至几十种意思，因此，一个词的词义只有在具体的前后文当中才能确定。所以，词义的转换与搭配仍是阅读理解的障碍。

阅读还涉及阅读技巧的运用，如找出中心思想、推断文章中直接说明的意思、确定作者的语气等。这些阅读的技能虽然学生在汉语学习中接触过，却仍然需要在阅读外语时进行训练。本书循序渐进，系统地介绍涉及阅读技能方面的各种微技能，学生经过三年的阅读训练，可以获得较好的阅读能力。

文化背景知识是阅读的无形障碍。中国英语学习者阅读的主要困难不仅是语言本身，还往往涉及文化背景知识。由于他们不了解英语国家的文化背景，因此很难对某些阅读理解题目做出判断。因此，高中英语大纲提出：阅读是理解和吸收语言信息的最重要手段，比如能给学生提供更为丰富的教育教学资源，有助于他们开阔视野、丰富语言知识、扩大词汇量和了解英语国家的社会及文化等。

本书阅读理解题型参照国内外多种新题型并根据阅读策略以及中学生学习特点编成。学生通过阅读能把握所读材料的主要事实、中心思想、主要逻辑线索和时间空间顺序，能根据上下文理解作者的态度、观点和文段的寓意，能根据已知事实推断文段的隐含意义。教师可以根据文段后面的理解题，引导学生进行讨论和写作。

本书的内容除了高中英语教学大纲所要求的人物传记、寓言故事、活动记述、社会文化、文史知识、科普小品等材料以外，还增添了名人轶事、高科技发展、濒危动物、突发事件、文化和文学名著等内容，同时包括高中学生所关心的一系列问题，如英语学习等。

参加本书编写的人员包括国内外多年从事中学 ze 教学工作的教育专家和国内富有教师培训经验的教师。本书适用于高中学生和水平相当的英语学习爱好者。

在此次修订中，我们又根据修订版高中英语教材的话题与内容更换了若干篇文章，因此，本书可以作为与课堂教学同步的补充阅读材料。

编 者

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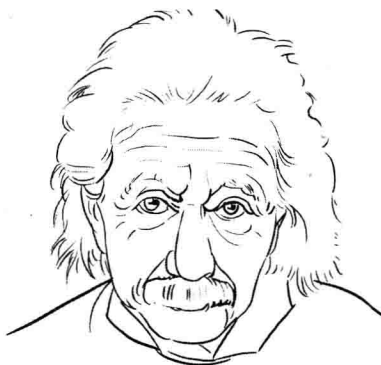
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Inside Einstein's Brain

Before you read . . .

Choose an invention, a telephone, a computer or a car, and tell how it has changed our lives. Are the changes positive or negative? Give examples to support your ideas.

1 When something is said about someone often enough, many people begin to believe it's true. What starts as a misunderstanding becomes a rumor that, in turn, becomes a **myth** (虚构故事) as it gains public acceptance. For decades, it was believed that Albert Einstein, the modern world's first superstar scientist, got poor marks in his classes, including math. Einstein certainly got bored easily in most of his classes. However, it wasn't the knowledge that bored him but the way in which his teachers communicated it. Einstein needed to discover for himself how and why things happened. He didn't care about memorizing details. At home, he read books on math, physics, and **philosophy** (哲学) with great interest. Despite his dislike for the manner of teaching in his high school, his marks in most of his subjects were quite high. Contrary to what has been claimed, he **excelled** (拔尖) in math, as his record in a **Munich** (慕尼黑) high school clearly shows. Only French seemed to have caused him some trouble; it may have kept him out of a technical university in **Zurich** (苏黎世), Switzerland in



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1895. Some biographers—the people who write about the lives of others—pointed to his low marks at university, not knowing that the **grading system** (评分系统) had been **reversed** (颠倒).

2 Why are many people so eager to accept rumors about famous people? Perhaps they imagine that the Einsteins of the world lead such **incredible** (不可思议的) lives that those lives must be tilled with surprises and **contradictions** (矛盾). Others are **suspicious** (怀疑) of those who achieve greatness, hoping to find anything that reveals that the person somehow didn't **deserve** (值得) his fame. Still others feel comfortable whenever they learn that even the most **talented** (有天赋的) among us are not really, after all, so very different. Like you and me, Einstein had his share of frustrations, disappointments, worries, and fears.

3 The popular image of Einstein as a weak and **weird** (怪诞的) professor with wild white hair, wearing old sweaters and caring only about math and physics is correct only for the last years of his life. As a young man, he played the violin and enjoyed sports, especially biking and sailing. He married Mileva Maric, with whom he had a daughter who was put up for **adoption** (收养). When his wife died in 1936, he had a relationship with Helen Dukas, one of his assistants.

4 Still, the signs of genius could be seen in Albert's youth.¹ His parents thought he was a strangely quiet boy who hardly spoke at all before he was aged 3. When he explored the neighborhood where he lived, he was usually alone, away from other children. A **compass** (指南针) his father gave him when he was 5 **captured** (吸引) his interest: what made it point to the north, he wanted to know. When other children built houses of cards of four **stories** (楼层), Albert would try and try again until his card houses reached fourteen stories. He didn't give up easily in his study of anything that made him very curious. At the age of 12, he began to read books on **geometry** (几何). He often joined in discussions at the dinner table with a medical student and his uncle, an engineer. As an adult, Einstein explained that great curiosity and **persistence** (坚持不懈) are what leads one to make unusual discoveries. He also believed that "the most beautiful experience we can have is the mysterious. Whoever does not know it and can no longer wonder or **marvel** (惊讶),

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is as good as dead, and his eyes are **dimmed** (模糊). ”

5 Some of the best-known—and true—stories about Einstein come from his years as a professor of physics at Princeton University, after he immigrated from Switzerland to America in 1932. He was the typical absent-minded professor, forgetting even his own birthday on several occasions. Sometimes he would carry on conversations with himself in public. Once he was seen talking to a **fire hydrant** (消火栓). The hydrant must have listened politely since it didn't shoot water all over him! Einstein was especially forgetful about directions; a special **tunnel** (地道) connected his office in one building with the lecture hall in the next building! On his bathroom mirror he kept a small sign which read “**Shave** (刮胡子) slowly.” He was afraid he would cut his own throat with the **razor** (剃须刀) while thinking about some math problem.

6 Geniuses often understand what the rest of us haven't yet imagined. On the other hand, they sometimes cannot see what most of us think is **obvious** (显而易见的). Once Einstein was asked to give a lecture to some math professors at Princeton. Though **reluctant** (不情愿), he agreed to talk about an important part of his famous **theory of relativity** (相对论). A notice was put outside the hall where the lecture was to be given. When the day arrived for the lecture, the university was crowded with people eager to hear him. Somehow the lecture for a small group of professors now had a huge audience, including students and parents. The townspeople of Princeton had also arrived on campus. It wasn't the topic of his lecture that brought them, but curiosity about this great scientist. After he was led through the crowd, Einstein was seated in the front row of the small **auditorium** (礼堂). In a moment, someone would introduce him to the audience. As he sat there, Einstein looked around at the huge crowd and said, “I never realized that in America there was so much interest in my theory!”

7 Einstein didn't care much about his great popularity, either. Indeed, he was happier to answer a letter from a farmer than from a journalist. Whenever he was asked to a lecture, he would claim that he had nothing new to say. In fact, he disliked calling attention to himself. He also didn't think he should get paid more than his **colleagues** (同事) to speak about science. Once Einstein was asked to lecture to an audience that didn't

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know what he looked like. Bored with giving the lecture, he got his driver to do it for him. Although his driver knew nothing about physics, he had heard the lecture so often that he could repeat it easily from memory. The lecture was a great success until a man asked a difficult question after it was over. Cleverly, the driver said that the question was so easy that anyone could answer it. To prove his point, he let Einstein, who was pretending to be the driver, answer the man's question.

8 Einstein died in April, 1955. At his own request, his body was **cremated**, or burned. Einstein didn't want anyone to "**worship** (尊拜) my bones" in a cemetery. But he did agree to let Dr. Thomas Harvey of Princeton Hospital do something else with his body. Shortly before cremation, his brain was removed. For more than two decades, however, no one knew its **whereabouts** (下落). Then in 1978, reporter Michael Paterniti went to see Dr. Harvey, who was now living in Wichita, Kansas. At first, Harvey **denied** (否认) that he had Einstein's brain. When he could see, however, that Paterniti wasn't going to leave without a look, Dr. Harvey went to a box and took out two large **jars** (瓶罐). Inside were parts of the brain that changed the way we think about the universe.

A: Questions for "Inside Einstein's Brain"

1. The author gives many reasons why myths began about Einstein. Which do you think is the main reason? Why?
2. Why is it helpful to our understanding of Einstein to know some details of his personal life? Explain.
3. Read again what Einstein said about the most beautiful experiences in life. In your own words, explain to a partner what he was trying to say.
4. Some people are forgetful because they are careless or lazy. Do you think Einstein is forgetful for those same reasons? Why or why not?
5. Many famous people don't care about their fame. However, many common people wish they were famous. Can you explain why these two groups of people have different attitudes about fame?
6. According to the passage, is the author implying that the driver enjoyed pretending

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to be Einstein? Why or why not?

7. What do you think is the purpose of the last paragraph in the article? Explain.

B: Analyze ideas and relationships

1. Which of the following statements about Albert Einstein is NOT true according to the text?
 - a. He didn't like the way in which math was taught in his high school.
 - b. He enjoyed reading books on math, physics and philosophy by himself.
 - c. He did poorly in every subject in his high school, including math.
 - d. He wasn't admitted to a Zurich technical university in 1895 because his French was poor.
2. In Paragraph 2, "the Einsteins of the world" refer to _____.
 - a. all those who look like Einstein
 - b. Einstein's admirers from all over the world
 - c. great scientists of the world who support and follow Einstein's theory
 - d. extraordinary scientists of the world
3. The image of Einstein that we are most familiar with is the one of _____.
 - a. his youth
 - b. his last years
 - c. his myth only
 - d. his real life only
4. What is the author implying when he tells us the story of Einstein building card houses?
 - a. Einstein would not let other children defeat him in any game.
 - b. Einstein was far smarter than other children.
 - c. Einstein did not like to play with other children.
 - d. Einstein already showed great curiosity and persistence in his childhood.
5. What did Princeton University do to keep Einstein from losing his way on campus?
 - a. The university had a tunnel specially dug for him between his office and his lecture hall.
 - b. The university kept many road signs on campus to remind him of the directions.

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- c. The university let him live in his office building.
 - d. The university built a lecture hall next to his office.
6. What is the example that the author gives to show Einstein was “absent-minded”?
- a. He couldn't see what was obvious to others.
 - b. He forgot the time of giving a lecture to some of his colleagues.
 - c. He didn't remember even his own birthday.
 - d. He was surprised to find that so many people were interested in his theory.
7. Why did many townspeople of Princeton come to hear Einstein's lecture, according to the text?
- a. Because they were greatly interested in his theory of relativity.
 - b. Because they would be happy to see Einstein in person.
 - c. Because they wanted to learn as much as they could from this great scientist.
 - d. Because they wanted to know more about Einstein's lecture style.
8. According to the last paragraph, what did Einstein agree to let Dr. Thomas Harvey do with his body after his death?
- a. Einstein agreed to let Dr. Harvey cremate his body.
 - b. Einstein agreed to let Dr. Harvey take his brain out for scientific studies.
 - c. Einstein agreed to let Dr. Harvey examine his brain.
 - d. Einstein agreed to let Dr. Harvey bury his body.

The Princes of Serendip

Before you read . . .

Do you think the best things in life are planned or happen by accident? Why?

1 Have you ever gotten lost in a crowd in a busy store? Did you worry that you might not find your friends or family? Perhaps you were a little afraid or maybe you felt **confused** (混淆). But what if you were to take a walk in a park and suddenly felt it might be fun to get lost! Then, maybe, you would feel excited and explore some places that few visitors to the park ever see. An unusual tree, a bird, or a large stone might catch your attention. We have a word in English to describe the belief that letting things happen by chance can lead to surprising discoveries. It is called “serendipity” and was invented by a British writer, Horace Walpole, in 1754. At that time, Mr. Walpole **recalled** (回忆) the word “Serendip,” which was the ancient name for Sri Lanka, an island nation off the southeast coast of India. Sometime before he had read a silly fairy tale called *The Three Princes of Serendip*. In this tale, the princes traveled about the countryside making discoveries. But the things they found were not the things they had planned to search for. Instead,



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they were things which accident, good fortune, and wisdom brought their way. On occasion, they were rescued from great harm by people who luckily came to their aid although they never intended to.

2 Nowadays, scientists who value serendipity believe that things which you are not looking for can often be more important than things you are looking for. The important point is always to be watchful; never miss the chance to observe something strange and new. Indeed, many of the most helpful and enjoyable inventions have been made in this way. One day in 1879, French scientist Louis Pasteur gave an **injection** (注射) to some chickens who had a disease called **cholera** (霍乱). It should have killed them, but Pasteur had accidentally used a **culture** (培养菌) from an old jar and the chickens only got sick. Later, Pasteur gave them an injection from a culture which he knew was deadly. This time, however, the chickens did not even get sick. Through serendipity, Pasteur had discovered what is known as “vaccination” as a way to prevent disease in animals and humans. His **curiosity** (好奇心), determination, and open mind had made possible the discovery.

3 Working with bacteria in St. Mary's Hospital in London in 1928, Dr. Alexander Fleming also learned the rewards of serendipity. Trying to understand the deadly disease of influenza, or “flu,” which killed more Europeans in the winter of 1918 than in the First World War, he instead cured other diseases. In his **messy** (零乱的) lab he noticed that a culture dish of bacteria had grown a strange mold which must have blown into the dish from a nearby open window. Looking at the mold under a microscope, Fleming saw that all around the mold the bacteria he had been growing, had burst. He kept the mold, and from it produced “penicillin,” which has saved the lives of millions of people ever since.

4 Not all of these laboratory discoveries have been useful to medicine. Some have simply made our lives more comfortable or pleasurable. In the early 1950's, George de Mestral was hiking in the woods through a part of the Swiss countryside when he suddenly got an idea. That idea made him forget his discomfort at having so many **burs** (刺蒺藜) **sticking** (粘) to his clothes and hurting his ankles. As he began picking the burs off his jacket and socks, he wondered what made them stick so

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well. So he took a few to his lab and examined them under a microscope. The burs were covered with tiny, sharp **hooks** (钩子) that had caught on the loops of the cloth fabric. From this discovery he designed a fastener known as “Velcro,” from the words “**velvet**” (天鹅绒) and “**crochet**.” These days, *Velcro* is used instead of shoestrings on children’s sport shoes and instead of buttons on winter coats. It has been used in outer space, aboard space ships and in many other places.

5 A few decades ago, a group of students at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut were very bored. So they came up with the idea of tossing around empty pie tins. These tins, which were each shaped like an oval or saucer, came from a local bakery called Frisbees. When the toy company, Wham-O, bought the idea, they made plastic saucers and also called them **Frisbees**. Today, frisbees are very popular with young Americans. It takes great skill to throw a frisbee a long distance in the direction you want it to go. It takes even more skill to **toss** (抛) it in the air for a dog to catch. Every year a national competition awards the dog that is the best at catching frisbees!

6 Most of you have probably had a drink of another invention of serendipity. In the late 1800’s, Dr. John Pemberton, a **pharmacist** (药商) in the town of Columbus, Georgia, in America was mixing together many **ingredients** (原料) for his special recipe for a soft drink, or beverage, that is now drunk by hundreds of millions of people around the world. He tried and tried, adding this or that flavor until he luckily got it just right. This drink uses water that is very bubbly, or “fizzes.” This is “carbonated” water and it **tickles** (使发痒) your mouth and throat as you drink it. It also has a strong taste, or what is often called “a bite.” For decades, competitors tried to copy or imitate this special recipe but without success. Somehow the fake drinks never tasted quite the same; there was always some ingredient missing. A Mr. Asa Candler, who bought the right to the new drink, made the ingredients so secret that it was said that not even the company’s leaders knew them all. These ingredients, called 7X, have never been made public, although we can now guess what they probably were. In a dusty old recipe book in the company’s library is a recipe for X. It includes ingredients like vanilla, **lime** (酸橙) juice,

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caramel (焦糖), citric acid, carbonated water, sugar, flavorings, and oils of orange, lemon, and the spices of **nutmeg** (肉豆蔻末) and **cinnamon** (桂皮). Its nickname is “Coke,” but if you go to the store you will see the drink in a red can with the words of the company, Coca-Cola, written in English and Chinese characters. Over the past century, some of the ingredients have certainly changed, but the expressions “have a Coke and a smile” and “Coke—it’s the real thing” can still be heard. Who knows, maybe someday in the future you or one of your classmates will become the next Prince—or Princess—of Serendip.

A: Questions for “The Princes of Serendip”

1. True or False. “Serendipity” is a word that is used in Sri Lanka. How do you know?
2. Read the first and second paragraphs again. Name at least four things that are necessary for serendipity to happen. What other qualities can do you think might help?
3. Reread the second paragraph. Can you guess the meaning of the word “vaccination” from the context?
4. Look up the vocabulary word “mold” in an English-English dictionary. Read all the definitions, or meanings. Which is the most suitable one for the way “mold” is used in the third paragraph?
5. What is the purpose of a microscope? How was it used in this article?
6. According to the article, must one be curious about and interested in science to find serendipity? How do you know?
7. Why do you suppose the author says that in the future there may be princesses of serendip? After reading the article, can we be sure that there was no princess of serendip in the past? How do you know?
8. In your opinion, do you think that a good scientist can do experiments that are carefully planned or experiments that are not carefully planned? Why or why not?

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B: Analyze ideas and relationships

1. According to Paragraph 1, there is a country's name in the word "serendipity".
This country is _____.
a. Britain b. Sri Lanka c. India
2. In Paragraph 1, "Instead, **they** were things which accident, good fortune, and wisdom brought their way" Here "they" refer to _____.
a. the things the three princes searched for
b. the things the three princes found
c. the three princes
3. By chance, Louis Pasteur had discovered _____.
a. a disease that killed chickens
b. an injection from a culture
c. a way to prevent disease
4. Dr. Alexander Fleming produced "penicillin", which could _____.
a. kill bacteria b. cure influenza c. grow a strange mold
5. All of the following laboratory discoveries have been useful to medicine EXCEPT _____.
a. Velcro b. vaccination c. penicillin
6. In Paragraph 4, "**Some** have simply made our life more comfortable or pleasurable." "**Some**" refer to _____.
a. some scientists b. some laboratory discoveries c. some medicine
7. "Frisbees" are an example of serendipity that _____.
a. has been useful to medicine
b. has made our life more comfortable
c. has made our life more pleasurable
8. According to Paragraph 6, why was the recipe of Coke impossible to copy?
a. Because Coke was made from a sort of water that was unknown to the public.
b. Because Coke was an invention of serendipity and the company kept the recipe secret.

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- c. Because only Dr. John Pemberton could make real Coke.

C: Interpret words and phrases

1. Instead, they were things which accident, good fortune and wisdom **brought their way**.
 - a. led the princes to find them
 - b. let the princes get in the way
 - c. made the princes get lost to find them
2. The important point is always to be **watchful**.
 - a. careless
 - b. alert
 - c. anxious
3. ... in 1928, Dr. Alexander Fleming also **learned the rewards of serendipity**.
 - a. studied how to look for serendipity
 - b. was given a prize for his serendipity
 - c. discovered the benefits of serendipity
4. He noticed that a culture dish of bacteria had grown a **strange** mold ...
 - a. clean
 - b. unusual
 - c. dark
5. In the early 1950's, George de Mestral was **hiking** in the wood, through a part of the Swiss countryside when he suddenly got an idea.
 - a. driving
 - b. running
 - c. walking
6. So they **came up with** the idea of tossing around empty pie tins.
 - a. decided on
 - b. got together for
 - c. thought of
7. Every year a national competition **awards** the dog that is the best at catching frisbees.
 - a. gives a prize to
 - b. thanks
 - c. chooses
8. Somehow the **fake** drinks never taste quite the same.
 - a. copied
 - b. cheap
 - c. stolen

