

新东方
名师

宋平明◎主编

新大学英语四级 美文晨读120篇

赏析与学习结合 · 于轻松中掌握词汇语法

语言与文学结合 · 于悦读中领略双语魅力

经典与时代结合 · 于方寸中纵览全球热点

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前 言

作为一名在新东方讲授近十年的英语老师，我能够深刻感受到同学们在英语学习过程中的困惑和难处，也能够切实把握住同学们学习英语的节奏和规律，所以我希望通过自己对英语学习特点的理解以及学习规律的掌握，为同学们提供力所能及的、切实有效的以及简单易学的英语学习方法和教材。

前几年，我出版过一套大学英语四、六级美文阅读系列的图书，这些图书深受同学们喜爱，一再加印，供不应求；但是几年过去了，有些文章过于陈旧，出版时因为水平有限时间紧张也有些错误，所以这次重新遴选更为时尚和经典的美文编写成书，希望能够给同学们的英语学习提供更大的帮助。

本套书是作者在深刻领悟四级考试规律、综合英语综合水平提升技巧以及总结长期一线教学实践经验而倾心编著的。我们精选了与大学英语四级考试难度相似以及长度相似的各类文章，配上精美译文，标注常考词汇以及常考词组，精准分析长难句，供大家学习、模仿以及写作时参考使用。总的来说本套书有如下特点和功用：

经典选文与时尚选文结合，扩展知识面

本套书既选编了流传已久的经典美文，也选入了与时代脉搏紧密相连的时尚美文，让同学们阅读时既可以感悟经典也可以与时俱进，从而能够紧跟时代步伐，掌握英语精华。

素质提升与应试教育结合，注重实用性

同学们可以通过阅读和学习本套书而使阅读、翻译、语法甚至写作方

面得到全面的提高，既能应付各类考试，亦能提高综合素质，成为时代完美弄潮儿。

常考词汇与语法分析结合，提升阅读力

选文结合大学英语四级常考词汇，让同学们能够全面掌握考试词汇，同时配备长难句的精准名师讲解，全面提升英语基词汇基础和长难句分析能力。

我希望这套书能够为大家的英语学习提供切实的帮助，同学们能够在阅读之后提升英文水平、感受英文魅力。希望大家能喜欢这套书！

宋平明

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Part One

环球人物

Unit 1

Foreword

近日,中国国家主席习近平偕夫人彭丽媛进行首次外访。代表中国形象的第一夫人优雅亮相,时尚造型获得中外媒体的赞誉,而第一夫人获得关注也引发本土品牌时尚热。

China's New First Lady

China's new First Lady, Peng Liyuan, has become something of a global style icon on her first official state visit.

Peng Liyuan, wife of the new Chinese president Xi Jinping, has become a surprise style sensation with her native fashion bloggers and style commentators around the world on her first official state visit.

Disembarking from her private plane in Moscow on Friday, Peng, 50, chose an elegant black double-breasted belted coat and ladylike handbag by Chinese fashion label Exception; a look which, teamed with her neatly pinned up hair, fresh-faced make-up and understated accessories, wouldn't have looked out of place in the front row at Paris Haute Couture Week.

"First ladies are ambassadors of the culture and the design and of the soft power of a country. I'm glad that she chose to wear Chinese and take up that role of spokesperson for Chinese design here." said Hong Huang, publisher of the fashion magazine *iLOOK* and one of the most popular microbloggers in China.

"It's the first time that China's first lady appears like a modern woman. I think she dressed very well, with taste and confidence." said Zhang Yu, editor of China's *VOGUE* magazine. "After so many years, we finally have a first lady who can represent us so appropriately. I think it is a landmark event."

① Online retailers have sought to associate their products with what news portals are terming the "Peng Liyuan style". with searches for those key words resulting in lists of handbags and trench coats, many of which did not even resemble the items she wore.

Heavy online traffic to Exception's website has caused it to crash since Friday, with it loading only sporadically on Monday.

② Chatter about her winning personal style quickly spread globally with U. S. newspaper's comparing her to Michelle Obama (both have daughters and are only a year apart in age), though we think her ladylike style is more reminiscent of ex First Lady of France, Carla Bruni.

中国新任第一夫人

首次出访的中国新任第一夫人彭丽媛,俨然已经成为全球时尚偶像。

彭丽媛是中国国家主席习近平的妻子,日前她随习近平主席开始了首次正式国事访问。优雅的彭丽媛女士如今已经成为了时尚象征,给中国国内时尚博主和评论家带来了不少惊喜。

上周五彭丽媛抵达外访的第一站俄罗斯莫斯科市。现年 50 岁的彭丽媛女士从私人专机上优雅地走下来,她身着一件黑色双排扣束腰外套,手上提着的是中国时尚品牌“例外”的女士提包。这样的装扮搭配上精心梳理的发髻、清新妆容以及低调朴素的首饰,就算是坐在巴黎高级定制时装周的前排也毫不逊色。

“第一夫人一直是一个国家的文化大使,通常代表的就是一种软实力。看到彭丽媛女士选择中国本土品牌我非常高兴,她充当了中国设计的发言人的角色。”中国时尚杂志《iLOOK》的出版人洪晃表示,她也是中国最著名的微博达人之一。

中国版《VOGUE》杂志的编辑张宇则表示:“这是第一次中国第一夫人展现现代女性的形象。我觉得她的穿着非常得体,很有品味也很自信。在这么多年后,我们终于能找到一位可以大方得体地代表中国女性的第一夫人。我觉得这是里程碑式的事件。”

① 新闻门户网站将这股潮流称为“彭丽媛 style”,中国的网络零售商也都在使他们的产品赶上这股最热时尚潮流。搜索这些关键词,你可以看到许多列的提包和风衣,很多其实跟彭丽媛女士的穿戴并不相符。

“例外”品牌网站吸引了大量浏览量,造成网站从周五开始一直处于拥堵状态,在本周一也还是偶尔才能登录上去的状态。

② 彭丽媛女士在此次外访中个人形象大获成功,也让很多美国报纸将其与美国第一夫人米歇尔·奥巴马进行比较,毕竟这两位女士情况很相似:都有两个女儿,年龄也只相差一岁。不过我们认为彭丽媛女士的优雅风格其实与前任法国第一夫人卡拉·布吕尼更为相似。

Part One
环球人物

Part Two
科技前沿

Part Three
职场人生

Part Four
生活百科

Part Five
环境健康

📖 重难点词汇

- icon['ai:kən] *n.* 偶像, 崇拜对象
sensation[sen' seiʃən] *n.* 感觉, 感受, 知觉
disembark[,disem' bɑ:k] *vt. & vi.* (使) 登陆[上岸]
ambassador[æm' bæʃədə] *n.* 大使, 使节
retailer['ri: teilə] *n.* 零售商, 零售店
resemble[ri' zembl] *vt.* 与……相像, 类似于
sporadically[spə' rædikli] *adv.* 偶发地, 零星地

📖 重难点词组

- out of place 不合适, 不恰当
take up 拿起, 占去

📖 长难句精析

1. Online retailers have sought to associate their products with what news portals are terming the "Peng Liyuan style," with searches for those key words resulting in lists of handbags and trench coats, many of which did not even resemble the items she wore.

结构精析: 本句是复合句。主句是 Online retailers with..., 后面 what news portals are terming the "Peng Liyuan style" 是宾语从句 lists of handbags 作 with 的宾语, with searches for those... and trench coats 是介词短语作伴随状语, 后面 many of which did not even resemble the items... 是非限定性定语从句, 从句中还有一个省略了 that 的定语从句 she wore。

语法重点: 宾语从句, 介词短语作状语, 定语从句。

2. Chatter about her winning personal style quickly spread globally with U. S. newspaper's comparing her to Michelle Obama (both have daughters and are only a year apart in age), though we think her ladylike style is more reminiscent of ex First Lady of France, Carla Bruni.

结构精析: 本句是复合句。主句是 Chatter... spread globally, 其中 with U. S. newspaper's comparing her to Michelle Obama 是介词短语作方式状语, though 引导让步状语从句, 从句中 her ladylike style is more reminiscent of ex First Lady of France 是省略 that 的宾语从句。

语法重点: 让步状语从句, 宾语从句, 介词短语作状语, 同位语结构。

No road of flowers lead to glory. —La Fontaine

没有一条通向光荣的道路是铺满鲜花的。——拉封丹

Unit 2

Foreword

英国前首相撒切尔夫人因为中风去世,享年 87 岁。她的家人宣布这一消息后,英国女王和首相大卫·卡梅伦分别致哀。葬礼定于 2013 年 4 月 17 日在圣保罗大教堂(St. Paul's Cathedral)举行,英国女王伊丽莎白二世(Queen Elizabeth II)和英国前任及现任知名官员都会参加为撒切尔夫人举行的盛大仪式。

Lady Margaret Thatcher

Baroness Thatcher, Britain's greatest post-war prime minister, has died at the age of 87 after suffering a stroke, her family has announced.

Known as the Iron Lady, Margaret Thatcher governed Britain from 1979 to 1990.

① She will go down in history not only as Britain's first female prime minister, but as the woman who transformed Britain's economy in addition to being a formidable rival on the international stage.

Lady Thatcher was the only British prime minister to leave behind a set of ideas about the role of the state which other leaders and nations strove to copy and apply.

The funeral for former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was set to take place on April 17 at St. Paul's Cathedral, with an elaborate ceremony attended by Queen Elizabeth II and a who's who of British public officials, past and present.

Attendees included the queen and her husband, Prince Philip, as well as British Prime Minister David Cameron and a host of other well-known figures from British public life, including both some who worked with Mrs. Thatcher and some who currently serve in politics. Also present were other friends and family, including her two children and her grandchildren.

② The ceremonial funeral is one step short of a state funeral, which is usually reserved for the monarch but was provided for Winston Churchill, Britain's prime minister during World War II. Mrs. Thatcher had requested that she not lie in state and that

there be no military fly-past, or flyby, which sometimes marks funerary events. A private cremation will follow the service.

撒切尔夫人

英国战后时期最伟大的首相玛格丽特·撒切尔爵士因为中风去世,享年 87 岁。撒切尔夫人的家人宣布了这一消息。

玛格丽特·撒切尔被人们誉为“铁娘子”,于 1979 年到 1990 年间执政英国。

①她不仅是英国历史上第一位女首相,她还带领英国经济的发展,让英国成为国际舞台上一个令人畏惧的强大竞争对手。

作为英国首相,撒切尔夫人还留下了很多关于国家角色的观点,让后来的英国领导者和其他国家都纷纷效仿和实践。

前英国首相撒切尔夫人(Margaret Thatcher)的葬礼定于 4 月 17 日在圣保罗大教堂(St. Paul's Cathedral)举行,英国女王伊丽莎白二世(Queen Elizabeth II)和英国前任及现任知名官员都参加为撒切尔夫人举行的盛大仪式。

出席者将包括英国女王和她的丈夫菲利普亲王(Prince Philip),以及英国首相卡梅伦(David Cameron)和诸多英国公众人物,既包括撒切尔时代的官员,也包括在现政府任职的官员。撒切尔夫人的其他友人和家庭成员,包括撒切尔夫人的两个孩子和她的孙子孙女,也将参加撒切尔夫人的葬礼。

②撒切尔夫人的“葬礼”要比“国葬”规格略逊一筹,国葬一般适用于君主,不过二战时期英国首相丘吉尔(Winston Churchill)的葬礼也是国葬。撒切尔夫人要求不接受公众瞻仰,不使用军方飞机低空编队飞行。撒切尔夫人的遗体在葬礼之后将被火化。

☞ 重难点词汇

baroness[ˈbærənɪs] *n.* 女男爵

funeral[ˈfjuːnərəl] *n.* 葬礼,丧礼

elaborate[ɪˈləbəreɪt] *adj.* 精心制作的

ceremonial[ˌserəˈməʊniːəl] *adj.* 仪式的,讲究仪式的

fly-past[ˈflaɪpɑːst] *n.* 空中分列,致礼飞行

☞ 重难点词组

leave behind 留下

a host of 许多

长难句精析

1. She will go down in history not only as Britain's first female prime minister, but as the woman who transformed Britain's economy in addition to being a formidable rival on the international stage.

结构精析:本句是复合句。主句是 She will go down in history not only as Britain's first female prime minister, but as the woman... , as 后面跟名词表示“作为”的意思,后面 who transformed Britain's economy in addition to... 是定语从句修饰 the woman。

语法重点:定语从句,并列结构。

2. The ceremonial funeral is one step short of a state funeral, which is usually reserved for the monarch but was provided for Winston Churchill, Britain's prime minister during World War II.

结构精析:本句是复合句。主句是 The ceremonial funeral is one step short of a state funeral, 后面 which is usually reserved for the monarch but was provided for Winston Churchill 是非限定性定语从句,修饰前面的 state funeral,从句中有两个谓语结构 is usually reserved ... but was provided for, 后面 Britain's prime minister during World War II 是 Winston Churchill 的同位语结构。

语法重点:定语从句,并列结构,同位语结构。

There is no such thing as darkness, only a failure to see. —Muggeridge
没有黑暗这种东西,只有看不见而已。——马格里奇

Unit 3

Foreword

贝聿铭,美籍华人建筑师,1983年普利兹克奖得主,建筑设计界的“奇才”、“现代派设计大师”其代表作品有肯尼迪图书馆,香山饭店,美秀美术馆,卢浮宫玻璃金字塔,华盛顿国家艺术馆东馆。

An Unusual Architecture-leoh Ming Pei

On this vivid planet, it appears colorful with azure blue seawater, lush green plants and many world famous buildings. Among these largest artificial articles in the world, many originated from the same architect-leoh Ming Pei.

leoh Ming Pei, the 1983 Laureate of the Pritzker Architecture Prize, is a founding partner of I. M. Pei & Partners based in New York City. He was born in China in 1917, the son of a prominent banker. He came to the United States in 1935 to study architecture at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (B. Arch. 1940) and the Harvard Graduate School of Design (M. Arch. 1946).

During World War II, he served on the National defense Research Commission at Princeton, and from 1945 to 1948, taught at Harvard. ❶ In 1948 he accepted the newly created post of director of Architecture at Webb & Knapp, Inc., the real estate development firm, and this association resulted in major architectural and planning projects in Chicago, Philadelphia, Washington, Pittsburgh and other cities. In 1958, he formed the partnership of I. M. Pei & Associates, which became I. M. Pei & Parteners in 1966. The partnership received the 1968 Architectural Firm Award of The American Institute of Architects.

Pei has designed over forty projects in this country and abroad, twenty of which have been award winners. His more prominent commissions have included the East Building of the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D. C.; the John Fitzgerald Kennedy Library near Boston; the National Center for Atmospheric Research, Boulder, Colorado; the Dallas City Hall in Texas; the Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation Centre (OCBC) and Raffles City in Singapore; the West Wing of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; ❷ the Fragrant Hill Hotel near Beijing, China, designed to graft advanced technology onto the roofs of indigenous building and thereby sow the seed of a new, distinctly Chinese form of modern architecture;

the Everson Museum of Art, Syracuse, New York; and the Texas Commerce Tower in Houston.

He has designed arts facilities and university buildings on the campuses of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the University of Rochester, Cornell University, the Choate School, Syracuse University, New York University and the University of Hawaii. He has been selected to design the headquarters for the Bank of China in Hong Kong.

Pei is currently a member of the National Council on the Arts, and previously served on the National Council on the Humanities. He is a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects, a member of the Royal Institute of British Architects, and an elected member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters (of which he served a term as Chancellor), the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the National Academy of Design. He is a member of the Corporation of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

As a student, he was awarded the MIT Traveling Fellowship, and the Wheelwright Traveling Fellowship at Harvard. His subsequent honors include the following: the Brunner Award, the Medal of Honor of the New York Chapter of the AIA, the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Medal for Architecture, the Gold Medal for Architecture of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the Alpha Rho Chi Gold Medal, la Grande médaille d'Or de l'Académie d'Architecture (France), and The Gold Medal of The American Institute of Architects. In 1982, the deans of the architectural schools of the United States chose I. M. Pei as the best designer of significant non-residential structures.

非凡的建筑师——贝聿铭

在这个充满活力的地球上,蔚蓝的海洋,葱翠的树木以及许多世界著名的建筑使它变得多姿多彩。在这些世界上最大的人工作品中,有许多都出自同一位建筑师之手——贝聿铭。

贝聿铭,1983年普里茨克建筑奖的获得者,是纽约贝聿铭股份公司的创建人之一。他1917年生于中国,其父是一位出色的银行家。1935年他来到美国,在麻省理工学院(1940年获建筑学学士)和哈佛设计研究生院(1946年获建筑学硕士)学习建筑。

第二次世界大战期间,他在国防研究委员会普林斯顿分部供职,1945年至1948年间,在哈佛任教。①1948年他接受了房地产开发商韦布奈普有限公司新设立的建筑部主任的职位,他对这家公司的加盟使得芝加哥、费城、华盛顿、匹兹堡及其他一些城市产生了一些建筑学上的杰作。1958年他组织成

了贝聿铭联合社团合股机构,1966年成立贝聿铭股份机构。这个合股机构在1968年获得由美国建筑研究院颁发的建筑公司奖。

贝聿铭在国内外设计了四十多个建筑项目。其中二十项曾获奖。更为出色的受委托项目包括华盛顿国家艺术馆东楼;波士顿附近的约翰·菲茨杰拉德·肯尼迪图书馆;科罗拉多博耳德的国家大气研究中心;德克萨斯的达拉斯市政厅;海外华人银行业务中心股份有限公司(OCBC)及新加坡的莱佛斯城;波士顿美术博物馆西翼;②中国北京的香山饭店,该设计将先进技术用于传统的屋顶从而开创出一种新的,有鲜明中国特色的现代建筑形式;纽约锡拉丘兹的埃弗松艺术博物馆;以及休斯敦的德克萨斯商业城。

在麻省理工学院、罗切斯特大学、康奈尔大学、乔特学校、锡拉丘兹大学、纽约大学和夏威夷大学的校园里,他曾设计了艺术场所和大学建筑。他还被选中设计了香港中国银行总部。

贝聿铭目前是国家艺术理事会成员,此前他任职于人文学科全国理事会。他是美国建筑师协会会员、英国建筑师皇家研究院成员、美国艺术与文学学院(其间他担任了一届的名誉院长)、美国艺术与科学学院和国家设计学院的推举成员。他是麻省理工学院校务委员会成员。

学生时代,他获得过麻省理工学院和哈佛的惠尔怀特出国奖学金。他此后获得荣誉包括布鲁纳奖、美国建筑师协会纽约分会的荣誉奖章、托马斯·杰克逊纪念堂建筑奖、美艺术与文学学院建筑金奖、阿尔发·罗·契金奖、建筑学会大金牌(法国)及美国建筑师协会金奖。1982年,美国建筑学校的校长评贝聿铭为出色的非居住用建筑物最杰出设计者。

📌 重难点词汇

azure[ˈæʒə] *adj. & n.* 蔚蓝(的),天蓝色(的)

lush[lʌʃ] *adj.* 葱翠的,豪华的

artificial[ˌɑːtiˈfiʃəl] *adj.* 人造的,人工的,虚假的

architect[ˈɑːkitekt] *n.* 建筑师,设计师

prominent[ˈprɒmɪnənt] *adj.* 突出的,杰出的

commission[kəˈmɪʃən] *n.* 委员会,委员;任命,委任

graft[grɑːft] *vt.* 移植

indigenous[ˌɪnˈdɪdʒənəs] *adj.* 土生土长的;生来的,固有的

distinctly[diˈstɪŋktli] *adv.* 明显地,无疑地

subsequent[ˈsʌbsɪkwənt] *adj.* 后来的,随后的

📌 重难点词组

real estate 不动产

长难句精析

1. In 1948 he accepted the newly created post of director of Architecture at Webb & Knapp, Inc., the real estate development firm, and this association resulted in major architectural and planning projects in Chicago, Philadelphia, Washington, Pittsburgh and other cities.

结构精析:本句是简单句。由 and 连接两个简单句并列而成,在第一个简单句中,主语 he,谓语 accepted,宾语 the newly created post of director of Architecture, the real estate development firm 是 Webb & Knapp, Inc. 的同位语;第二个简单句中主语是 this association,谓语 resulted in,宾语 major architectural and planning projects in Chicago, Philadelphia, Washington, Pittsburgh and other cities。

语法重点:并列结构,同位语结构。

2. the Fragrant Hill Hotel near Beijing, China, designed to graft advanced technology onto the roofs of indigenous building and thereby sow the seed of a new, distinctly Chinese form of modern architecture;

结构精析:这是一个名词短语,只是定语比较复杂而已。the Fragrant Hill Hotel near Beijing, China 是名词短语,后面 designed to... 是过去分词作定语或也可以理解为插入语补充修饰前面的名词短语, to graft... and thereby sow... 是动词不定式作 design 这个动词的目的状语。

语法重点:过去分词短语作插入语,动词不定式作目的状语。

Fear not that thy life shall come to an end, but rather fear that it shall never have a beginning. —J. H. Newman

不要害怕你的生活将要结束,应该担心你的生活永远不曾真正开始。——J. H. 纽曼