

Fifty Passages for Advanced English Reading (Bilingual)

高级百科读物英汉对照 50 篇

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前 言

有不少大学生在学完两年的英语课程后,还想进一步学习英语。近年来随着考研人数的增加,读者对于高级英语百科读物的需求越来越大,但是由于一般院校在第五学期以后便不再开设英语课,所以同学们都想得到便于自学的书籍。顺应这一要求,结合近年来举办英语考研辅导班的教学实践,我们编写了这本《高级百科读物英汉对照 50 篇》以飨读者。

本书精选了 50 篇较难理解的不同学科的读物,题材广泛,涉及政治、军事、历史、文化以及最新科技内容,包括克隆技术、网络、DNA 应用技术等。这些读物可以使读者在学习英语的同时,了解相关知识和专业术语,还可以帮助不同专业的读者进一步学习英语。本书所选段落或文章短小精悍,适合业余时间学习。

各篇文章中的疑难句子都加了注释,文中生词也都加了双语注释。每篇文章后面还附了思考题,供读者进行相关题目的写作练习和讨论之用。

本书已经多次作为考研辅导讲义使用,深受同学的欢迎,取得了较好的效果。在审稿过程中,英籍专家 Bishi 先生给予了大力帮助,在此谨表谢意。由于编者水平所限,在编写过程中难免出现这样或那样的问题,敬请有关专家及广大读者不吝赐教。

编者

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Passage 1

Old Is Suddenly In

For an increasing number of students at American universities, Old is suddenly in.¹ The reason is obvious: the graying of America means jobs.² Coupled with the aging of the baby-boom generation, a longer life span means that the nation's elderly population is bound to expand significantly over the next 50 years.³ By 2050, 25 percent of all Americans will be older than 65, up from 14 percent in 1995. The change poses profound questions for government and society, of course. But it also creates career opportunities in medicine and health professions, and in law and business as well. "In addition to the doctors, we're going to need more sociologists, biologists, urban planners and specialized lawyers," says Professor Edward Schneider of the University of Southern California's (USC) School of Gerontology.

Lawyers can specialize in "elder law," which covers everything from trusts and estates to nursing-home abuse and age discrimination. Businessmen see huge opportunities in the elder market because the baby boomers, 74 million strong, are likely to be the wealthiest group of retirees in human history.⁴ "Any student who combines an expert knowledge in gerontology with, say, an MBA or law degree will have a license to print money," one professor says.⁵

Margarite Santos is a 21-year-old senior at USC. She began college as a biology major but found she was "really bored with bacteria." So she took a class in gerontology and discovered

2. Old Is Suddenly In

that she liked it. She says, "I did volunteer work in retirement homes and it was very satisfying."

老龄学突然热起来了

对于越来越多的美国大学生来说,老龄学突然热了起来。其中的原因很明显:美国的老龄化意味着工作机会。加上形成生育高峰的一代人进入老年,寿命的延长便意味着在未来的 50 年间本国的老龄人口肯定会出现明显增长。到 2050 年,美国人口的 25% 将超过 65 岁,而 1995 年仅为 14%。这一变化当然给美国政府及社会出了不少难题。但是它也给医疗保健行业、法律行业及商务行业创造着就业机会。南加利福尼亚大学老年医学院的爱德华·施乃德教授说:“除了需要医生之外,我们将需要更多的社会学家、生物学家、城镇规划人员和专门律师。”

律师可以专门从事“老年人法律”事宜,包括财产托管、财产权问题、疗养院的虐待及年龄歧视等。商业界人士看到了老年人市场的庞大商机,这是由于这些生育高峰出生的人们从数量上超过 7,400 万,很可能会成为人类历史上最富有的退休人群。一位教授指出:“任何一个具有 MBA 或法律学位的学生再加上老龄学的专业知识将会得到摇钱树。”

玛格利特·桑托斯 21 岁,是南加利福尼亚大学大四的学生,上学时主修生物,但是后来发现自己对细菌实在是烦透了,所以便听起了老龄学课程并且对此很感兴趣。她说:“我在退休者之家做过志愿者工作,这个工作很是令人满意。”

Notes

1. For an increasing number of students at American univer-

sities, Old is suddenly in.

Courses of the study of the old people and aging suddenly become popular with more and more students at American universities.

本句是全篇的主题句,虽然乍一看没有一个生词,但是理解错误率是很高的。阅读时应当注意:

(1) 大写字母开头的 old 如果稍不注意就会理解成老年人。由于 O 大写,Old 便被用于专有名词,结合下文,其意思应为老龄学。

(2) 司空见惯的词 in 可以有不少人会望文生义地理解为“进来”,那就会给整个段落的理解带来麻烦。结合下文,其词性为形容词,词义应为流行的,“热”(起来)。

2. The reason is obvious: the graying of America means jobs.

本句中的 gray 一词为动词,是转喻用法,原指(头发)灰白的,很形象地指美国人的老龄化。

3. Coupled with the aging of the baby-boom generation, a longer life span means that the nation's elderly population is bound to expand significantly over the next 50 years.

本句中有两个要点:

(1) coupled with 意思是 in addition to.

(2) the baby-boom generation 指的是:the generation that were born at the time of a high birth rate 在生育高峰出生的一代。

4. Businessmen see huge opportunities in the elder market because the baby boomers, 74 million strong, are likely to be the wealthiest group of retirees in human history.

本句中的 strong 意思是:having a specified number of units or members,即,(数目或成员)多达……的。在翻译时要注意

4. Old Is Suddenly In

一词多义现象。

E. g. a military force 100,000 strong 一支多达十万之众的军队

5. “Any student who combines an expert knowledge in gerontology with, say, an MBA or law degree will have a license to print money,” one professor says.

在本句中, have a license to print money 直接理解是: 具有印制货币的执照, 是一种暗喻。所以可以译成: 就像拿到了摇钱树, 或者: 就能挣大钱。

New Words & Expressions

in *adj.* (1) currently fashionable 目前流行的

E. g. That's just the in thing to wear this season. 这正是这个季节的流行装束。

(2) concerned with or attuned to the latest fashions 紧跟或追赶潮流的

E. g. the in crowd 赶时髦的人们

gray *vt., vi.* to make or become gray 使变灰色或变成灰色

estate *n.* the whole of one's possessions, especially all the property and debts left by one at death 某人全部的财产, 尤指一个人死后留下的所有的财产和债务

gerontology *n.* the scientific study of the biological, psychological, and sociological phenomena associated with old age and aging 老年学, 与年老或老年人有关的生物、心理和社会现象的科学研究

Topics for Discussion or for Writing

1. Aging and the aged
2. Positive influence of the graying of society
3. Negative impact of the graying of society
4. The role of the old in our current society
5. Old people should be respected and taken good care of

Passage 2

Social Behavior and Health

Attempts to understand the relationship between social behavior and health have their origin in history.¹ Dubos (1969) suggested that primitive humans were closer to the animals in that they, too, relied upon their instincts to stay healthy.² Yet some primitive humans recognized a cause and effect relationship between doing certain things and alleviating symptoms of a disease or improving the condition of a wound. Since there was so much that primitive humans did not understand about the functioning of the body, magic became an integral component of the beliefs about the causes and cures of health disorders. So it is not surprising that early humans thought that illness was caused by evil spirit. Primitive medicines made from vegetables or animals were invariably used in combination with some form of ritual to expel harmful spirit from a diseased body.³

One of the earliest attempts in the Western world to formulate principles of health care based upon rational thought and rejection of supernatural phenomena is found in the work of the Greek physician Hippocrates. Little is known of Hippocrates who lived around 400 B.C. , not even whether he actually authored the collection of books that bears his name.⁴ Nevertheless, the writing attributed to him has provided a number of principles underlying modern medical practice.⁵ One of his most famous contributions, the *Hippocratic Oath* , is the foundation of contemporary medical ethics. Among other things, it

requires the physician to swear that he or she will help the sick, keep oneself from intentional wrongdoing or harm, and keep secret all matters to keep the doctor-patient relationship.

Hippocrates also argued that medical knowledge should be derived from an understanding of the natural sciences and the logic of cause and effect relationships. In this classic thesis, *On Airs, Waters, and Places*, Hippocrates pointed out that human well-being is influenced by the totality of environmental factors: living habits or lifestyle, climate, geography of the land, and the quality of air, and food. Interesting enough, concerns about our health and the quality of air, water, and places are still very much written in the twentieth century.

社会行为与健康

人们在很久以前就试图弄清社会行为与健康的关系问题。杜波斯(1969)提出,原始人更接近于动物,因为他们也凭借本能维持健康。不过,一些原始人已经意识到做某些事情与减轻疾病症状或加快伤口愈合之间的因果关系。原始人对肌体的机能知之甚少,由此,人们便完全相信法术,他们认为法术可以导致或治疗疾病。所以,早期的人类认为疾病是由邪恶的精怪所致,这是不足为奇的。用蔬菜或动物制造的原始药品总是与某种仪式一并使用,以驱除体内的有害精怪。

在西方,希腊医生希波克拉底是在理性思维与摈弃超自然现象的基础上,最早系统地奠定医疗保健法则的人之一。希波克拉底出生于大约公元前400年,人们对他了解极少,甚至不知道署其姓名的著作集是否真的出于他的笔下。不过归其名下的文章提供了奠定现代医疗行业基础的诸多准则。《希波克拉底誓言》便是其最著名的贡献之一,它是当代医德的基础,其中包括要求医生发

8. *Social Behavior and Health*

誓,表示他(或她)要扶助患者,不可有意失误,或伤害病人,并保守医生和病人之间的所有秘密。

希波克拉底还主张医学知识应出自对自然科学和因果关系的逻辑的理解。在《空气、水和地域》这一古典论文中希波克拉底指出,人类福祉受总体环境因素的影响,这些因素包括:生活习惯或称之为生活方式、气候、乡土地理及空气质量和食物。有趣的是,在20世纪,关于人们的健康、空气质量、水和地域仍是人们诸多著述的论题。

Notes

1. Attempts to understand the relationship between social behavior and health have their origin in history.

本句中的 have its origin in history 可以理解为:it came into being long ago (not at present), 有其历史渊源。

E.g. Such practice has its origin in history. 这种做法有其历史渊源。

2. Dubos (1969) suggested that primitive humans were closer to the animals in that they, too, relied upon their instincts to stay healthy.

本句中的 in that 意思是 since or because, 因为, 由于。

E.g. I decide to buy that book in that it's so helpful to my English study. 我决定买这本书,因为它对我学英语很有帮助。

3. Primitive medicines made from vegetables or animals were invariably used in combination with some form of ritual to expel harmful spirit from a diseased body.

句中的 in combination with 等于 joined with.

4. Little is known of Hippocrates who lived around 400 B. C. , not even whether he actually authored the collection of books that bears his name.

本句可以理解为: We know little of Hippocrates who lived around 400 B. C. , and we even don't know whether he actually authored the collection of books that bears his name.

5. Nevertheless, the writing attributed to him has provided a number of principles underlying modern medical practice.

本句中的 attributed to 可以理解为 regarded as the work of a specified agent or creator, 认为是由……所创作。

E. g. The painting was attributed to Titian. 这幅画是提香的作品。

New Words & Expressions

in that *as, since* 由于, 因为

instinct *n.* an inborn pattern of behavior that is characteristic of a species and is often a response to specific environmental stimuli 本能; 天性

E. g. the spawning instinct in salmon 鱼产卵的本能

the altruistic instincts in social animals 群居动物的利他主义天性

alleviate *vt.* to make (pain, for example) more bearable 减轻, 使(痛苦等)更易于忍受

E. g. This is a drug that alleviates cold symptoms. 这是一种减轻感冒症状的药品。

symptom *n.* sign or an indication of disorder or disease, especially when experienced by an individual as a change

10. Social Behavior and Health

from normal function, sensation, or appearance 症状

integral *adj.* possessing everything essential; entire 完整的
的具有全部要素的;完整的

E.g. Steel is an integral part of a modern skyscraper. 钢铁是现代摩天大厦的主干。

cure *n.* a method or course of medical treatment used to restore health 治疗,疗法,用来恢复健康的医疗方法或过程

invariably *adv.* not changing or subject to change; constantly 不变的或不易变的;始终如一的

E.g. All things invariably divide into two. 事物都是一分为二的。

It's invariably wet when I take my holidays. 我度假时总是下雨,不曾有过例外。

ritual *n.* a ceremonial act or a series of such acts 仪式性活动或一系列此类活动

expel *vt.* to force or drive out 赶走,驱逐

E.g. They expelled the invader. 他们把侵略者赶了出去。

formulate *vt.* to devise or invent 规划或构想

E.g. We have to formulate the strategy first. 我们必须首先制定策略。

supernatural *adj.* attributed to a power that seems to violate or go beyond natural forces 超自然的,自然规律无法解释的

underlie *vt.* to be the support or basis of; account for 成为……的根据,作为……的支撑或基础;解释

E.g. Many factors underlie my decision. 我的决定是以众多因素为基础的。

oath *n.* a solemn, formal declaration or promise to fulfill a pledge, often calling on God or a sacred object as witness

誓约,宣誓,庄严正式地宣布或许诺履行的某一誓言,通常以上帝或圣物为见证者

contemporary *adj.* current; modern 当前的;现代(派)的

E.g. That's the contemporary trend in design. 那是现代(派)设计倾向。

ethics *n.* the accepted principles of right and wrong that govern a person's behaviour or the conduct of a profession 道德准则,伦理规范;合乎公认的支配职业行为的是非原则

swear *vt., vi.* to make a solemn promise; vow 发誓严肃地许诺;立誓

E.g. I swear to god that I am honest. 我向上帝发誓,我是诚实的。

thesis *n.* a dissertation advancing an original point of view as a result of research, especially as a requirement for an academic degree 论文,尤指出于获得学位的研究需要而提出一个原创的观点以作为研究成果的论文

totality *n.* the quality or state of being total 全体,整个作为整体的性质或状态

E.g. We feel appalled by the totality of the destruction. 我们对于破坏的彻底性感到震惊。

Topics for Discussion or for Writing

1. The harm of witchcraft or superstition medicine
2. Food and health
3. Principles of keeping physical and mental health
4. My view on the development of modern medicine