

目标英语阅读阶梯系列

英语扩充词汇阅读欣赏(2)

贺广贤

西安交通大学出版社

内 容 提 要

本书为“英语扩充词汇阅读欣赏系列”书的第2册。全书收集文章38篇,题材十分广泛,涵盖政治经济、最新科技文化、社会轶闻、体育娱乐以及许多热门话题;体裁多样,有议论文、说明文和记叙文。本书内容新颖,融知识性和可读性于一体,注重读者阅读能力,特别是获取信息能力的培养和扩大词汇量。每篇文章后均有难句分析和注释以及为测试阅读理解能力的阅读理解练习题和为复习、扩大词汇量为目的词汇、词组练习题。

本书既可作为中高级英语水平读者的阅读辅助教材,也可作为其他各类读者的英语课外读物。

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

英语扩充词汇阅读欣赏.2/贺广贤著. —西安:西安交通大学出版社,2000.5
ISBN 7-5605-1253-4

2.英... 3.贺... 8.英语-语言读物
.H319.4

中国版本图书馆CIP数据核字(2000)第22771号

*

西安交通大学出版社出版发行

(西安市咸宁西路28号 邮政编码:710049 电话:(029)2668316)

陕西宝石兰印务有限责任公司印装

各地新华书店经销

*

开本:787mm×1092mm 1/16 印张:12.5 字数:297千字

2000年5月第1版 2000年5月第1次印刷

印数:0001-5000 定价:15.00元

若发现本社图书有倒页、白页、少页及影响阅读的质量问题,请去当地销售部门调换或与我社发行科联系调换。发行科电话:(029)2668357 2667874

编者的话

英语扩充词汇阅读欣赏系列(3册)现已面世,这是为配合“英语扩充词汇阶梯阅读系列”(《英语扩充词汇阶梯阅读——精通1000-10000词汇》)而编写的。“英语扩充词汇阶梯阅读系列”1998年获得全国高校出版社优秀畅销书奖和陕西省优秀双效书奖,深受读者的喜爱,产生了较好的社会效应。这两个系列相辅相成,相得益彰。我们尤其希望该阅读欣赏系列能为进一步巩固扩大读者的英语词汇和加强提高读者的英语水平起到较好的作用。

英语扩充词汇阅读欣赏系列内容充实,选材多样,其中不乏名人巨擘们的美文宏论。这些盖世之作溢泛的那黄钟大吕之响与惊涛裂岸之势定会产生振聋发聩、刻骨铭心之效,使您终身受益无穷。其中的多数篇章则选自报章文摘寻常百姓们的散文随笔。朴实无华的语言述说着他们的爱情、婚姻、家庭和工作;酣畅淋漓的文思闪耀着他们智慧的火花和丰富的情感世界,从中读者可以领略到大洋彼岸芸芸众生们真实的生活情趣,他们对人生的感悟、对世界的认知,他们的理念、他们的智慧、他们的不幸遭际及对幸福和未来的渴求。不同的国度、不同的文化传统,使东西文化异彩纷呈,生活在此岸的我们,阅读该书会感受到异域文化的魅力。正是从这些差异中可以扩大升华我们的知识,开阔丰富我们的视野和胸怀,从

而达到东西文化的交流和贯通。一种语言是一个民族人民历史、文化、生活的反映和载体,没有对该民族人民历史、文化、生活的了解,学习语言就成了无源之水、无本之木,想学好它只能是缘木求鱼而已。因此,本阅读欣赏系列给您提供了丰富广博的人文知识,是可供您选择的最佳英语阅读教材。

参加本系列书籍编纂的编者大多都参加了“英语扩充词汇阶梯阅读系列”的编写工作,从而保证了两套系列书在选材风格上的一致性。为了便于读者更准确地理解原文,本系列书在练习设置上除词汇练习外,又增加了阅读理解练习,因而使练习形式更加丰富和充实。

需要指出的是,“英语扩充词汇阅读欣赏系列”(3册)重在扩展学生的知识面,扩大英语词汇量及掌握地道的英语,并不体现阶梯性,因此,具有中级英语水平(相当于大学英语四级)的读者可随意选读。

最后,我们真诚地希望我们的努力能得到广大新老读者的厚爱,使之也和“英语扩充词汇阶梯阅读系列”一样成为您英语学习方面的进身之阶。

书籍编纂不仅需要扎实的外语功力,而且需要深厚的文化底蕴,无奈编者才疏学浅,虽尽心尽力错误亦在所难免,敬请读者涵谅。

编者

2000.1

目 录

n	A Fable for Tomorrow 明天的寓言	1
A	In Amy 's Eyes 在艾米的眼里	5
F	To the Victor Belongs the Language 语言属于胜者	9
y	Babyhood 人之初	13
f	He Rocked ,I Reeled 人各有志	17
I	Keys to a Loving ,Lasting Marriage(1) 永葆爱情之道(1)	22
w	Keys to a Loving ,Lasting Marriage(2) 永葆爱情之道(2)	26
a	Someone May Be Watching You 有人可能在注视着你	30
E	Escape Valve 解脱的阀门	34
10	Countdown Macau 澳门史话	38
11	Cycles and Diversity : The Workings of the Earth 循环与多样性 地球的工作机理	43
12	The Right to Fail 人有失败的权利	48
13	If You Think We Think alike ,Think Again 男女之别在于脑	53

14	Tough love 严爱	58
15	You Can Save a Life 你可救人一命	62
16	Drafting Daughters 女儿当兵	67
17	Helping Children When a Loved One Dies 帮助丧失亲人的孩子	71
18	A Man of the World 一代枭雄	75
19	Prison Studies 狱中苦读	81
20	The Struggle to be an All c American Girl 做一名真正美国女孩的苦争	86
21	Why I Write 我为什么写作	90
22	A Cop 's Plea 一位警察的心声	95
23	Captured by Convicts !(1) 被囚徒绑架时 !(1)	99
24	Captured by Convicts !(2) 被囚徒绑架时 !(2)	104
25	If Lincoln Had Used a Computer 如果林肯使用过电脑	109
26	My Father 's Advice(1) 父亲的教诲(1)	113
27	My Father 's Advice(2) 父亲的教诲(2)	118
28	How Do We Find the Student in a World of Academic Gymnants and Worker Ants ? 我们怎样发现学生的才能 ?	123
29	Kinds of Discipline 纪律的种类	129
30	The Origins of Language and Song 语言与歌曲的起源	135


31	Hugo 雨果	140
32	Everyday Wife Management 与妻相濡以沫的体验	146
33	I am Joe 's Brain Tumor 我是琼大脑里的肿瘤	151
34	Must We Have Nuclear Power ?(1) 我们必须用核电吗 ?(1)	158
35	Must We Have Nuclear Power ?(2) 我们必须用核电吗 ?(2)	162
36	The Future of Reading 读书的前景	167
37	Don 't Let Diet Lapses Weigh You Down 勿让节食不当成为压力	171
38	Millionaire With a Big Heart 心地高远的百万富翁	176

Key to Exercises

1 A Fable for Tomorrow

明天的寓言

明天是什么样子？这里作者描绘了一幅凄凉惨淡的荒芜景象。这并非危言耸听，那些遭到污染的地区不就是佐证吗？



There was once a town in the heart of America where all life seemed to live in harmony with its surroundings¹. The town lay in the midst of a checkerboard² of prosperous farms, with fields of grain and hillsides of orchards where, in spring, white clouds of bloom drifted above the green fields. In autumn, oak(栎) and maple(枫) and birch(桦) set up a blaze of color that flamed and flickered across a

backdrop of pines(松). Then foxes barked in the hills and deer silently crossed the fields , half hidden in the mists of the fall mornings.

Along the roads , laurel(桂) , viburnum and alder , great ferns and wild flowers delighted the traveler 's eye⁴ were places of beauty , where countless birds came to feed on the berries and on the seed heads of the dried weeds rising above the snow. The countryside was , in fact , famous for the abundance and variety of its bird life , and when the flood of migrants was pouring through in spring and fall people traveled from great distances to observe them. Others came to fish the streams , which flowed clear and cold out of the hills⁵ and contained shady pools where trout lay. So it had been from the days many years ago when the first settlers raised their horses , sank their wells , and built their barns.

Then a strange blight(枯萎病) crept over the area and everything began to change. Some evil spell⁶ had settled on the community : mysterious maladies swept the flocks of chickens ; the cattle and sheep sickened and died. Everywhere was a shadow of death. The farmers spoke of much illness among their families. In the town the doctors had become more and more puzzled by new kinds of sickness appearing among their patients. There had been several sudden and unexplained deaths not only among adults but even among children , who would be stricken suddenly while at play and die within a few hours.

There was a strange stillness. The birds , for example—where had they gone ? Many people spoke of them , puzzled and disturbed. The feeding stations in the backyards were deserted. The few birds seen anywhere were moribund(垂死的) ; they trembled violently and could not fly. It was a spring without voices. On the mornings that had once throbbed with the dawn chorus of robins , catbirds , doves , jays , wrens⁷ , and scores of other bird voices there was now no sound ; only silence lay over the fields and woods and marsh. On the farms the hens brooded , but no chicks hatched. The farmers complained that they were unable to raise any pigs—the litters(猪崽) were small and the young survived only a few days. The apple trees were coming into bloom but no bees droned among the blossoms , so there was no pollination(传播花粉) and there would be no fruit.

The roadsides , once so attractive , were now lined with browned and withered vegetation as though swept by fire. These , too , were silent , deserted by all living things. Even the streams were now lifeless. Anglers no longer visited them , for all the fish had died.

In the gutters under the eaves and between the shingles of the roofs⁸ , a white granular powder still showed a few patches. Some weeks before it had fallen like snow upon the roofs and the lawns , the fields and streams.

No witchcraft(魔法) , no enemy action had silenced the rebirth of new life in this stricken world. The people had done it themselves.

This town does not actually exist, but it might easily have a thousand counterparts in America or elsewhere in the world. I know of no community that has experienced at the misfortunes I describe. Yet every one of these disasters has actually happened somewhere, and many real communities have already suffered a substantial number of them. A grim specter has crept upon us almost unnoticed⁹, and this imagined tragedy may easily become a stark reality we all shall know.

Notes

1. in harmony with its surroundings 与环境非常和谐
2. a checkerboard (= draughtboard) 国际跳棋棋盘
3. In autumn, oak and maple and birch set up a blaze of color that flamed and flickered across a backdrop of pines. 秋天, 栎, 枫, 桦树构成火红火红的颜色, 在松林的映衬下燃烧闪烁。backdrop = backcloth 背景幕布
4. delighted the traveler's eye 使旅客赏心悦目
5. which flowed clear and cold out of the hills 流自山间清澈凛冽的溪流
6. evil spell 恶咒
7. throbbed with the dawn chorus of robins, catbirds, doves, jays, wrens 黎明随处可闻知更鸟, 猫鹊, 斑鸠, 槛鸟, 鹪鹩等的啁啾鸣啭。
8. In the gutters under the eaves and between the shingles of the roofs 在屋檐下的导水槽里和屋顶的木瓦间
9. A grim specter has crept upon us almost unnoticed. 在不知不觉中, 一个可怕的幽灵蹑手蹑脚地向我们走来。

Exercises

2. Comprehension questions
 1. How did all life seem to be in a town once in America?
 2. What were the results when a strange blight crept over the area?
 3. How were the birds suffered from?
 4. What caused the tragedy?
3. Find a word in Column A to match it with the word in Column B which has the closest meaning

Column A	Column B
1. blight	a. beat rapidly
2. maladies	b. rich
3. moribund	c. numerous
4. s ecter	d. bleak 3 barren
5. stark	e. dying
6. countless	f. ghost
7. abundance	g. illnesses
8. throb	h. a disease that checks growth

III . Filling the blanks in the following sentences with the appropriate words given below

creep / puzzle / strike / throb / complain / wither

1. She _____ that the examination was too hard.
2. The hunter _____ up as close to the deer as possible.
3. We must prevent the disease _____ again.
4. The murder case continued to _____ the police.
5. His heart _____ with excitement.
6. In autumn the leaves _____ and fall off the trees.

2 In Amy 's Eyes 在艾米的眼里

小艾米生长在社会激烈动荡的时代里。越战 ,水门事件 ,种族歧视 ,民权运动 ,性解放 ,父母离异等相继发生。目睹在这样社会背景下成长起来的她 ,她的父亲思潮起伏 ,感慨万端。



On the dresser(梳妆台) in Amy 's empty bedroom was a music box with Snoopy¹ on the lid , a gift when she was four or five. She had outgrown it years before and yet could never bear to part with it. It connected her to simple days.

I picked it up the evening after she departed for college. Her bedroom haunted me with its silence² , its unaccustomed tidiness , with the odd souvenirs(纪念品) from a childhood that was now history. But it was the music box that caught my eye³. I opened it and the plaintive song played automatically. Surprising me , I remembered , tears filling my eyes , the small child holding the box before she went to sleep. When I saw that she had placed my Marine Corps ribbons from Vietnam⁴ inside , I wept like a fool.

I had not seen the ribbons in ten years. When Amy was small , she wore them to school , picking out one or a few to match a jacket or a sweater. It perplexed her mother and caused her teacher to think I was a militarist at a time when virulent antimilitarism was *de rigueur*. But even at five she could read inside my heart. She had conceived a way to show her loyalty on an issue that was drowning me in pain.

At a time when right and wrong had canceled each other out , when the country was in chaos and I was struggling with the wreckage of my life⁶ , my daughter was my friend. At three , she comforted me , asking the right questions when I learned that my closest friend in law school had died. At five , she tried to take care of me when , badly shaken by the suicide of a young veteran(老兵) , I retreated to a remote campsite. At ten as her class cheered the return of our hostages from Iran , she lectured them on the difficult home coming of our Vietnam veterans.

Amy 's childhood years have formed her view of the world , but like so many compatriots , her life echoed with the turmoil of her elders.⁷ Amy has been treated to a view that government is corrupt and unfair. This was fed by continuous debates over civil rights ,! the Vietnam war , Watergate and the Iran – contra affair.⁸

Amy grew up listening to the disagreements of her parents , both before and after their divorce. She learned what it meant to be a “ latchkey kid ,” cared for by phone.⁹ She heard those who had celebrated the drug culture tell her “ just say no ” at about the time that high-school dealers started wearing beepers to class. She knows that the generation that flaunted (炫耀) sexual freedom is queasy now , what with abortion so common among teenagers and the illegitimacy rate triple that of 20 years ago.

The greatest legacy of the babyboom generation 's early adulthood has been that it asked all the right questions but resolved nothing. Raised by parents whose sacrifices during the Great Depression and World War purchased for us the luxury of being able to question , we all understood the standards from which some of us were choosing to deviate(背离).

But driven by disagreement, we have encouraged our children to believe that there are no touchstones(试金石), no true answers, no commitments worthy of sacrifice. That for every cause there is a counter-cause. That for every reason to fight there is a reason to run. That for every yin there is a yang.¹⁰

How will our children react to this philosophical quagmire(困境)? My bet is that they will surprise us with their stability, that they will perhaps be slower to make commitments, but more serious when they do.

Someone who has bounced between two parents will not marry with the thought that we can always get a divorce if it doesn't work. Someone who has viewed the nightmarish results of political policies and recreational activities that were rather innocently begun will be more careful to consider the implications of new seductions(诱惑) at the outset. In the end, just as my tiny daughter eased my personal turmoil years ago, she and her contemporaries may become the arbiters of the generation that spawned them.¹¹

Thinking of these things as I sat in the quiet of her bedroom listening to the yellow music box that still reminds me of the adoration in Amy's eyes, I understood another truth: we, the members of a creative, sometimes absurd, always narcissistic(自我陶醉) postwar generation, will soon receive a judgment. Whatever it is, our children have earned the right to make it.

Notes

1. Snoopy 此处指盖子上造型“唐老鸭和米老鼠”中的一只狗名。snoopy a. 好打听消息的
2. Her bedroom haunted me with its silence 她房间的寂寥让我时刻牵挂。haunt v. 常浮现于(某人)的脑际
3. But it was the music box that caught my eye. 而我一眼就看见了她的音乐盒。
4. Marine Corps ribbons from Vietnam 从越南返回时佩带的海军陆战队的绶带 Marine Corps 海军陆战队
5. de rigueur 严格, 严厉
6. I was struggling with the wreckage of my life. 我正在为残缺不全的生活斗争。wreckage n. 残骸
7. her life echoed with the turmoil of her elders 她的生活打上了老一代人的烙印(她的生活回响着老一代人的喧闹声)
8. This was fed by continuous debates over civil rights, the Vietnam war, Watergate and the Iran-contra affair. 对人权, 越南战争, 水门事件, 反伊朗事件的连续不断的辩论养成了这种思想。
9. She learned what it meant to be a “latchkey kid,” cared for by phone. 她从电话中得到关照, 明白了挂钥匙的孩子意味着什么。
10. That for every yin there is a yang. 有阴就有阳。
11. may become the arbiters of the generation that spawned them 他们将仲裁生育了他们的这代人的是非功过。arbiters 裁决人

Exercises

2 . Comprehension questions

1. Who is Amy ?Where is she now ?What reminded her father of her childhood ?
2. Did Amy have a happy childhood ?What great events happened during her childhood ?Did these events influenced her view of and attitude towards the world ?
3. What happened in her family when she was young ?As a latchkey kid and cared for by phone did she suffered a great deal ?
4. According to the author what was the philosophical quagmire ?
5. Will the members of the postwar generation be judged by their children ?

3 . Match one word in Column A with another in Column B which has the closest meaning to it

Column A	Column B
1. unaccustomed	a. melancholy
2. odd	b. bewildered
3. plaintive	c. deadly
4. perplexed	d. peculiar
5. virulent	e. uncommon
6. queasy	f. benefaction
7. legacy	g. disturbance
8. turmoil	h. worshi
9. adoration	i. sick

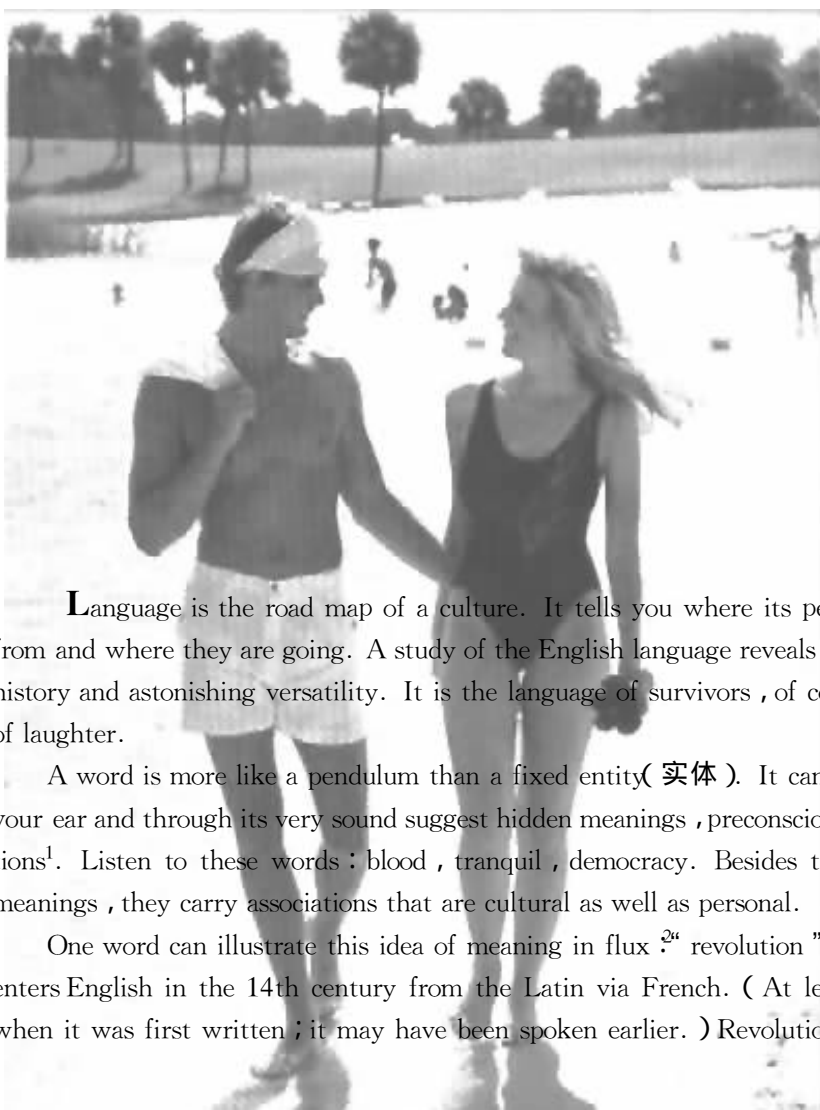
8 . Filling the blanks in the following sentences with the appropriate words given below

bear / connect . . to / baunt / perplex / cancel / comfort / retreat / react . . to

1. The ice is too thin to _____ your weight.
2. Her mother 's words of love and help _____ the sobbing child.
3. The increase in the strength of their navy is _____ by that of our army.
4. Make sure the machine is _____ properly before you press the button.
5. Children _____ to kind treatment by becoming more self-confident.
6. Seeing the big dog , the tramp _____ rapidly.
7. This problem is hard enough to _____ even the teacher.
8. The spirit of his dead father _____ the village.

3 To the Victor Belongs the Language 语言属于胜者

“胜者王侯败者贼”孰“王”孰“贼”依孰胜而定。“革命”是褒意还是贬意道理亦是这样。读过此篇，您会感悟到中西文化不乏异曲同工之妙。



Language is the road map of a culture. It tells you where its people come from and where they are going. A study of the English language reveals a dramatic history and astonishing versatility. It is the language of survivors, of conquerors, of laughter.

A word is more like a pendulum than a fixed entity(实体). It can sweep by your ear and through its very sound suggest hidden meanings, preconscious associations¹. Listen to these words: blood, tranquil, democracy. Besides their literal meanings, they carry associations that are cultural as well as personal.

One word can illustrate this idea of meaning in flux:² “revolution” The word enters English in the 14th century from the Latin via French. (At least that 's when it was first written; it may have been spoken earlier.) Revolution means a

turning around ; that was how it was used. Most often revolution was applied to astronomy to describe a planet revolving in space. The word carried no political meaning.

“ Rebellion ” was the loaded political word. It too comes from Latin (as does about 60 percent of our word pool), and it means a renewal of war. In the 14th century “ rebellion ” was used to indicate resistance to lawful authority. This can yield amusing results. Whichever side won called the losers rebels — they , the winners , being the repositories of virtue and more gunpowder.³ This meaning lingers today. The Confederate fighters⁴ are called rebels. Since the north won that war , it can be dismissed as a rebellion and not called a revolution. Whoever wins the war redefines the language. “ Revolution ” did not acquire a political meaning in English until at least the 16th century. Its meaning — a circular movement — was still tied to its origin but had spilled over into politics. It could now mean a turnaround in power. This is more complicated than you might think.

The 16th century , vibrant , cruel , progressive , held as a persistent popular image — the wheel of fortune — an image familiar to anyone who has played with a tarot deck.⁶ Human-beings dangle on a giant wheel. Some are on the bottom turning upward , some are on the top , and some are hurtling toward the ground. It 's as good an image as any for the sudden twists and turns of Fate , Life or the Human Condition. This idea was so dominant at the time that the word “ revolution ” absorbed its meaning. Instead of a card or a complicated explanation of the wheel of fortune , that one word captured the concept. It 's a concept we would do well to remember.

Politically , “ rebellion ” was still the more potent word. Cromwell 's⁷ seizure of state power in the mid-17th century came to be called the Great Rebellion , because Charles II followed Cromwell in the restoration of monarchy. Cromwell didn 't call his own actions rebellions. In 1689 when William and Mary⁸ took over the throne of England , the event was tagged the Glorious Revolution.⁹ Revolution is benign here and politically inferior in intensity to rebellion.

By 1796 a shift occurred and revolution had come to mean the subversion or overthrow of tyrants. Rebellion , specifically , was a subversion of the laws. Revolution was personal. So we had the American Revolution , which dumped George III¹⁰ out of the Colonies , and the French Revolution , which gave us the murder of Louis XIV¹¹ and the spectacle of a nation devouring itself. If you 're a Marxist you can recast that to mean one class destroying another. At any rate , the French Revolution was a bloodbath and revolution began to get a bad name as far as monarchists were concerned and holly significance as far as Jacobins were concerned¹². By that time “ revolution ” was developing into the word we know today — not just the overthrow of a tyrant but action based on belief in a new principle. Revolution