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# 将零碎时间用起来学英语

——100天学会用英语说各种话题

主 编 思马得学校

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# 前 言

人类最宝贵的是生命。生命是由时间构成的，是一个小时一个小时、一分钟一分钟累积起来的。甚至可以说：时间是人惟一的资本。

每个人都有许多零碎的时间，等车、买饭、开会之前……如果你能将这些零碎的时间串联起来学习英语，便能将自己的英语能力推进到更高的水平。

本系列丛书采用 64 开本，你可以随身携带，在每一个零碎的时间拿出来阅读；读完之后，你会发现在英语水平提高的同时，还学会了有效地利用时间……

**点点滴滴，汇入江河；  
零碎时间，成就伟业！**

对于绝大多数英语学习者来说，对于这门语言的掌握是一个需要付出大量时间和艰苦努力的过程。但是，大量时间并不一定意味着长时间，艰苦努力也不意味着没有捷径可走。我们认为，如果选

择好适当的切入角度,并将有关的知识点进行条理化、系统化的组织,即使是利用零碎的时间段,也能取得事半功倍的学习效果。

本书共选择了30个话题,内容全部都围绕着中国现状及外国人感兴趣的有关中国的具体问题。这些话题中既有流行音乐、中国影视和中国住房等时尚焦点问题,也包括中国美食、中国节日和京剧等传统文化内容,涵盖了中国及中国人生活的方方面面。只要掌握了书中提供的相关话题的各种词汇和表达法,在与外国友人进行交流时,你就可以充满自信地侃侃而谈,“秀”出你的风采,“秀”出中国的精彩。

我们回忆,是因为我们怀念;我们怀念,是因为已经不存在了……在现实生活中,有着许多这样的遗憾,平时对亲朋好友的点点滴滴关爱,远胜“抱佛脚”式的“激情拥抱”。点点滴滴,无微不至才能融入心田呵……学习英语又何尝不如斯?!

思马得学校图书编辑部

# 目 录

中国教育	( 1 )
中国女性	( 9 )
中国外交	( 19 )
中国体制改革	( 31 )
中国流行音乐	( 41 )
公司生活	( 56 )
中国影视	( 65 )
中国老龄化话题	( 77 )
中国住房	( 87 )
中国人口	( 97 )
中国美食	( 108 )
中国节日	( 119 )
中国建筑	( 130 )
中国草药	( 142 )

中国传统医学	( 156 )
中国京剧	( 167 )
中国书法	( 181 )
中国民乐	( 197 )
中国服饰	( 211 )
中国古代科技	( 224 )
中国宗教	( 239 )
中国国画	( 251 )
中国民间工艺	( 262 )
中国名山	( 274 )
中国少数民族	( 289 )
北京 2008	( 299 )
中国武术	( 308 )
中国茶文化	( 320 )
中国古典诗歌	( 330 )
中国婚嫁习俗	( 340 )
参考译文	( 351 )

# 中国教育

## CHINESE EDUCATION

### 抛砖引玉

In China there are 4 major types of education: basic education, vocational and technical education, higher education and adult education.

Basic education refers to pre-school, primary, and general secondary education. According to **the Law on Compulsory Education**<sup>①</sup>, all **school-age children**<sup>②</sup> in our country have the right to receive an education.

Vocational education consists mainly of education provided by specialized secondary schools, technical schools, vocational secondary schools, and post-secondary vocational and technical schools, including diverse forms of **short-term vocational and technical training**<sup>③</sup> courses.

Higher education refers to **short 2-to 3-year higher education**<sup>④</sup> programs, 4-year undergraduate education.

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and post-graduate education. Since 1981 we began to implement the **academic degree system**<sup>⑥</sup>.

Adult education includes **literacy classes**<sup>⑥</sup>, school education and other forms of education provided for adults.

### 核心词汇

- ① the Law on Compulsory Education 义务教育法
- ② school-age children 学龄儿童
- ③ short-term vocational and technical training 短期职业技术培训
- ④ short 2-to 3-year higher education 大学专科
- ⑤ academic degree system 学位制度
- ⑥ literacy class 扫盲班

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### 身临其境

Wang and Ma are talking about their coming college life.

(注: W=Wang; M=Ma)

W: Wow, so you are going to be a university student.

Oh, I am glad you decided to go to school here.

M: Yeah. I will be able to see you all the time now.

W: Yes, that's right. Hey, you want to get together



for lunch tomorrow?

M: Great idea. What time?

W: Oh, I don't know... about noon?

M: Yeah, sure. Sounds OK. I've just got to take care of some important stuff in the morning.

W: Like what?

M: Oh, all the administrative stuff, you know, first, I am going to get my school ID.

W: Yeah, that's important.

M: Yeah, and then I am going to pay my tuition fee. And after that, I am going to register for my classes.

W: That might take some time. That campus is pretty big, you know.

M: Don't worry. I've get it all planned out. Then, I'll go buy my books, and by that time it should be noon already, I guess. I'll meet you for lunch.

W: OK. There is a big cafeteria in the student center. The food's not that great, but at least it's cheap.

M: Fine with me.

W: Just don't be late. I go to leave at 1:30.

M: No problem. See you then.

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### 画龙点睛

1. 教育要面向现代化,面向世界,面向未来。
2. 学而不思则罔,思而不学则怠。
3. 学无坦途。
4. 他充分利用大学生活,一方面用功读书,一方面参加许多课外活动。
5. 你要用功好追上班里其他人。

### 海阔天空

China has adopted a nine-year compulsory schooling system, which means all children are required to attend school for at least nine years. Students have to complete both the primary school program and the junior middle-school program. Higher education is only for those students who have passed examinations of all levels. Student must pass the entrance examination for senior middle schools or middle-level technical schools. After two, three or four years, they have to go through national college entrance examination for admission to universities.

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### 1. Pre-school Education

Children aged from 3 to 6 will attend kindergartens near their neighborhoods, where they learn the basics of the native language and subjects. They play games, dance, sing and act. Children are taught from the early year the values of Truth, Kindness and Beauty.

Chinese take children education very seriously since they know that a person's personality is mould in the early childhood.

### 2. Primary School Education

The primary school education requires six years. Pupils are required to take a variety of subjects such as the Chinese language, fundamental mathematics and moral education. They also take part in sports and extra-curriculum activities. Foreign languages such as English are optional courses in the senior year of the primary education.

### 3. High School Education

High school education has two parts, 3-year junior high school program and senior high school.

From junior high school, students begin to learn a

variety of science subjects such as chemistry, physics and biology and other subjects such as history, geography, and foreign languages. Physical education is enthusiastically encouraged.

Senior high school education is a continuation of junior high school. Students take up specific subjects in either science or humanity subjects. Many contests are organized annually in all levels to encourage their study. The "Olympic Series" are the most noticeable ones.

The purpose is for them in preparation for the national college entrance examination. Examinations are designed separately for science and arts students.

#### 4. Higher Education

Higher education in China is to train specialists for all the sectors of the country's development. Universities, colleges and institutes offer four or five-year undergraduate programs as well as special two or three-year programs. Students who have completed a first degree may apply to enter graduate schools.



## 5. Admission

University admission is operated on a centralized enrolment system, in which admissions committees at the provincial level are under the Ministry of Education. Admission is granted on the basis of academic, physical and moral qualifications. Special allowances are made for minority nationality and overseas Chinese candidates.

The nationwide examinations are held in the first ten days of July. Candidate can take the examination in either one of the two categories, humanities or sciences/engineering. They apply for the institutions and departments they wish to enter in order of preference. Enrolment is determined by the examination results. Brief investigation into their social behavior and moral character is conducted before students are admitted. In some faculties, specific physical requirements must be met.

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## 6. Project Hope

There is no doubt that remarkable progress has been made in the development of elementary education in China since the founding of the People's Republic in



1949. However, during the period between 1980 and 1988, more than 37 million primary and secondary school students in China were obliged to quit school; many of them are joining the ranks of new illiterates.

With deep love and a strong sense of responsibility for the youngsters, the China Youth Development Foundation (CYDF) initiated "Project Hope" in 1989. The project aims at providing financial assistance for the hundreds of thousands of school dropouts in poverty-stricken areas by enlisting support and raising funds from social institutions, mass organization, foundations and individual at home and abroad.

Project Hope has met with hearty and generous response from children as well as adults from all walks of life. With people's united efforts, Project Hope has provided financial aid for at least 30,000 school leavers and built 15 Hope Primary Schools in 1992.

# 中国女性

## CHINESE WOMEN

### 抛砖引玉

In China, women are often referred to as “**Half of the Sky**”<sup>①</sup> since they constitute nearly half the total population of the country and play a significant role in all walks of life.

Before 1949 China was a **semi-feudal and semi-colonial country**<sup>②</sup>. In those days, the people suffered cruel exploitation and oppression under **imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat capitalism**<sup>③</sup>, and women were subjected not only to the feudal rule of political, clan, and religious authorities but also to the dictation of husbands. Under the **patriarchal**<sup>④</sup> family system, women were at the bottom of the **social ladder**<sup>⑤</sup>, with no rights to speak of. After the founding of New China, the People's Republic eradicated the roots of political and economic inequality between men and women and abolished all

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discriminatory legislation, thus creating the necessary social conditions for genuine sexual equality.

The very first law passed in New China was the Marriage Law of 1950. The law liberated Chinese women from the feudal marriage system, which had enslaved them for thousands of years. In 1992 a law on the protection of rights and interests of women was passed, which further aroused women's enthusiasm for China's modernization program.

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With the support of the government, **women's liberation movement**<sup>⑥</sup> developed rapidly and brought about a tremendous change in women's status in many fields. The reform carried out since 1979 has further raised women's status in political, economic, cultural, social, and family life. A large number of reform-minded women politicians, entrepreneurs, and scientists have emerged. More and more women are actively participating in the management of the political affairs of the country, showing unprecedented concern about the domestic policies, development of the legal system, and the **democratization of politics**<sup>⑦</sup>.

To **keep abreast of**<sup>⑧</sup> the developing circumstances, Chinese women are making great efforts to improve

themselves to end their traditional dependence on men and to cultivate a new sense of self-respect, self-confidence, self-reliance and self-strengthening.

### 核心词汇

- ① Half of the Sky 半边天
- ② semi-feudal and semi-colonial country 半封建半殖民地国家
- ③ imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat capitalism 帝国主义, 封建主义和官僚资本主义
- ④ patriarchal [ˌpatriˈɑ:kəl] *a.* 家(族)长的
- ⑤ social ladder 社会地位
- ⑥ women's liberation movement 妇女解放运动
- ⑦ democratization of politics 政治民主化
- ⑧ keep abreast of 保持与……并列

### 身临其境

Ann and Bai are talking about the working condition of women.

(注: A=Ann; B=Bai)

A: I don't really understand how the Sexual Discrimination Act works, I mean, how can anyone

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