

英语晨读系列

# 超越 30 分

(中级本)

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# 内容简介

本书是“英语晨读系列”丛书的第二册,精选了84篇短文,内容涉及名人轶事、风土人情、幽默故事、神话故事、科普知识等。这些文章绝大部分都是选自近几年国外出版的书籍、报刊杂志等,内容新,时代感强,而且许多生词随着情节给读者留下深刻印象,大大增强了学习者记忆单词的能力。此外,每篇文章前附有生词表,文章后有注释,旨在减少学习者在阅读过程中的困难,增强阅读的信心。为了帮助学习者熟悉英语的语音、语调,提高听的能力,我们还特为本书配制了磁带。磁带由英美教师朗读,发音清晰标准,语音语调柔和、优美,有助于学习者模仿和朗读课文。

本书可作为大专院校二、三年级学生晨读的材料,也可供各类相应水平的读者使用。

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## 编者的话

经过一段时间的充分酝酿和准备,我们的“英语晨读系列丛书”终于和大家见面了。这套丛书共有《轻松30分》、《超越30分》、《激情30分》和《流畅30分》四本。第一本浅显易懂,读起来轻松活泼,叫做《轻松30分》,适合于大学一、二年级的学生阅读。第二本较第一本无论是在词汇量和语言的难易度上都有一定的提高,读者需努力才能上一个台阶,因此,叫做《超越30分》,适合于大学二、三年级的学生阅读。读者在读完了第一、第二本后,词汇量已经扩大了许多,也积累了一定的语感,这时读者已经可以充满激情地朗读了,第三本我们称做《激情30分》。到第四本,读者已在英语学习上取得了长足的进步,其英语的听、说、读、写能力接近流畅自如的程度,所以第四本叫做《流畅30分》。在清晨30分钟里,您可晓畅自如地穿行在英语世界的广阔天地中,采撷芬芳,咀嚼英华,分享知识带给我们的快慰。

我们摒弃英语学习中的枯燥单调,寓教于乐,寓庄于谐,让同学们在轻松愉悦的语言氛围中耳濡目染,循序渐进,逐步提高,超越自我,达到潇洒自如、激情流畅的理想境界,以适应当今世界日益发展的社会、经济、科技和文化的迫切需要。

本丛书构思巧妙,设计新颖,选材广泛,语言地道,融知识性、趣味性于一炉,让你一见钟情,爱不释手。

那么,我们这套丛书有什么特色呢?

首先,在构思上我们设定了“导言”、“生词”、“正文”和“注解”

四个部分。“导言”画龙点睛,提纲挈领,就像一根无形的细线牵动着你的心弦,使你欲罢不能,一睹为快,一读难忘。“正文”精挑细选、择优拔萃,涵盖当今社会的上上下下、方方面面,恐龙、电脑、科幻、体育、罪案、政坛……无不囊括在内,让你足不出户,尽享其中。“生词”和“注解”相辅相成,互为比照,为你理解原文提供了可靠有力的保证。

其次,本丛书在选材方面难度过渡的合理性、节奏性和科学性,使四本书之间既相对独立,又互为关联,尽量避免大起大落、难易失衡的现象,不会让同学们有莫名其妙、如坠云雾的错位感。

其三,本丛书图文并茂,时代感强,使你有一种“会当凌绝顶,一览众山小”的投入感,我们相信你将会从中呼吸到课本之外的一丝清新、纯情和浪漫,增加一份学习英语的自信和勇气。

其四,本丛书除编印精美的文字材料外,还有相互配套的同步录音磁带。为此,我们专门聘请外籍专家朗读配音。

由于水平有限,其中肯定有不少难尽人意之处,因此我们恳请大家不吝赐教,以便我们再版时作进一步修订,使其更加完美,走进更多读者的心田。

编者

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# *1. The Case of the Jewels*

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## 阿拉伯王子的宝石盒

一个喜欢搞恶作剧的人装扮成阿拉伯王子,带着“随从”在餐馆里掉下一盒珠宝……

## New Words and Expressions :

1. costume [ 4 2stj 7m ] n. 服装 服装式样
2. robe [ 1ub ] n. 长袍 罩袍 ( 常用复 ) 礼服 官服 制服
3. amethyst [ 4æmiθist ] n. ( 矿 ) 紫晶 紫水晶
4. gemstone [ 4 ʒemstʌn ] n. 宝石 珍宝
5. pouch [ 4 autʃ ] n. ( 随身携带的 ) 小袋 [ 古 ] 钱袋
6. chauffeur [ ʃəʊfə ] n. ( 汽车 ) 司机
7. limousine [ 4lim( : )ɪzn ] n. 轿车 ( 前后座间用玻璃隔开的 ) 大型高级轿车
8. jostle [ 4 ʒɔsl ] vt. 与.....竞争 挤 堆
9. token [ 4 1uk1n ] n. 表示 标志 纪念品
10. spill [ spil ] vi. 散落 溢出
11. shrug [ ʒ ʌg ] vt. ( 为表示冷漠、无奈、蔑视、不满等 ) 耸( 肩 )
12. scramble [ 4skræmbl ] vi. 争夺 抢夺( for )

**W**hen a trickster named Jim Moran learned that the crown prince of Saudi Arabia was in Hollywood for a long visit , he decided to pose as<sup>1</sup> the prince one night and see what it was like to be treated as royalty.

He would wait until the prince was out of town for a while , then dress in Arab robes and have dinner in a fancy restaurant. But that was only part of his plan.

He hired three actors to help him , one to pose as his Arab dinner companion , the other two as his servants. He arranged with a costume company to rent the robes and other clothing they would need. Then he bought a big batch of<sup>2</sup> glass “ jewels . ” He also bought a large amethyst , an inexpensive gemstone that looks more valuable than it is. He stored his “ jewels ” in a large leather pouch.

When Moran heard that the prince had left Hollywood for a few days , he called an expensive restaurant that was popular with movie

stars<sup>3</sup> and reserved a table for that night. He also rented a chauffeur-driven limousine. After Moran and the three actors dressed in their costumes , the limousine took them to dinner.

When they arrived at the restaurant , the two servants went inside to make certain that the table was suitable for the prince. Then they brought in the prince and his friend. After they seated them , they stood nearby.

Their table was at the edge of the dance floor. Whenever the dance band played , the dancers jostled one another to get a good look at the royal party. Moran ignored them. But at one point he sent one of the servants to ask the band leader to play “ Begin the Beguine , ” a popular song that was one of his favorites.

After the band played the song , the prince smiled at the band leader and nodded his approval. Then he pulled out his pouch of “ jewels ” and emptied it on the tablecloth. As everyone in the restaurant watched , he selected the amethyst. He examined it in the light , then sent it to the band leader as token of his appreciation.

Soon after dinner , the prince decided to leave. Since there was no one dancing , his party started across the dance floor toward the door. Suddenly the prince ’s jewel pouch opened , and the glass “ jewels ” it held fell to the floor , spilling in all directions.

The servants started to pick them up , but the prince shrugged his shoulders. “ Leave them , ” he said , and swept from the room without looking back.

As the Arabs were seating themselves in the limousine , everyone in the restaurant was on hands and knees scrambling for the “ jewels ” the prince had left behind.

## Notes :

1. to pose as :假装
2. a batch of :一批
3. an expensive restaurant that was popular with movie stars :电影明星很喜欢的一个豪华餐馆

## *2. Hard Life for Millionaires*

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### 百万富翁的艰难生活

百万富翁在美国可以说是不计其数 ,也是人们羡慕的对象 ;但是他们的生活却不是人们所想象的那么轻松和随意。

## New Words and Expressions :

1. cavort [kə'vɔ:t] vi. [美俚] 马) 跳跃 , 欢跃
2. beach [bi:tʃ] n. 海滩 , 湖滩 , 河滩
3. bask [bɑ:sk] vi. (舒适地) 取暖
4. chew [ʒ: ] vt. 咀嚼
5. cigar [si'gɑ:] n. 雪茄烟
6. counter ['kauntə] n. 计算器 , 柜台
7. credit [4kredit] n. 信用 , 信誉 , 声望
8. fancy [4fænsi] a. 花哨的 , 奇特的
9. mistress [4mistris] n. 女主人 , 情妇
10. genuine [4 9enjuin] a. 真正的 , 名副其实的
11. boom [bu:m] vi. 兴旺 , 迅速发展
12. avenue [4ævinj :] n. 林荫道 , 大街 , 大道
13. retire [ri'taiə] vi. 退休 , 离退
14. schedule ['skedʒul] n. 计划表 , 议程安排
15. exhausting [g4 ɔ:stiŋ] a. 耗尽的 , 使人精疲力尽的
16. scatter-brained [4sk1 1-breind] a. 不专注的 , 轻率的
17. franchise ['fræntʃaiz] n. (美) 政府给予个人或团体的特权 , 此处指特许专营店

Who wants to be a millionaire? "I don't," might be most people's response after reading a new study on America's almost one million millionaires, for whom the glory of being wealthy seems to be wearing thin.<sup>1</sup>

The study of America's millionaires by Dr. Thomas Stanley, of the Georgia State University has found that the traditional image of millionaires cavorting on the beaches of St. Tropez, basking on the slopes of Aspen, driving their Cadillac<sup>2</sup> or Rolls-Royce<sup>3</sup> to the races or simply chewing a good cigar, is far from reality.

America's average millionaire is more than likely to live an un-