

Unit 1

Leisure Activities

Useful Information

There are some people in society who either have to or want to work all the time. Most people, however, seek ways to socialize, to relax, or to have fun during their leisure hours. People's tastes vary depending on their income and their age. In recent years, the home entertainment industry has grown all over the world. Instead of going out to see a movie or taking a walk in the park, many people prefer to turn on the television and stay at home. More and more families have DVDs, MP3, MP4, Cable TV, Wi-Fi, and computer games to add to the variety of leisure activities in the home. Especially many young people spend hours sitting in front of their computers, surfing on the Internet or playing computer games. With the coming of the new Internet services, many people are using the Internet chatting and even dating with each other. Many of them also do shopping online.

Despite the rise in home entertainment, there are still many people who enjoy spending some of their leisure time attending sporting events or other physical activities such as dancing, t'ai chi, etc. Exercise not only contributes to good health, but also takes the mind away from worries and troubles.

Concerts, plays and other performances constitute another source of entertainment outside the home. While some people prefer to be entertained, others prefer to be the entertainers. They derive great satisfaction from giving others pleasure by making them laugh or by enabling them to lose themselves in the imaginary world of a play or relaxing music.

PART 1 Preparation

1 A Survey of Chinese People's Leisure Activities

STEP ONE

Age Groups	Leisure Activities	Time Spent	Frequency
Grandparents	playing t'ai chi	1 hour	every day
	fishing	6 hours	once a month

(to be continued)

(continued)

Age Groups	Leisure Activities	Time Spent	Frequency
Grandparents	reading newspapers	1 hour	every day
	watching TV	3 hours	every day
	gardening	half an hour	every day
	enjoying Peking Opera, dancing, etc.	2 hours	every day
	babysitting grandchildren	3 hours	once a week
	practicing calligraphy	1 hour	every day
	having afternoon tea	1 hour	every day
Parents	dancing	1 hour	every day
	climbing and hiking	4 hours	once a week
	watching TV	3 hours	every day
	traveling	10 days	every year
	visiting or entertaining friends	4 hours	once a week
	reading novels or newspapers	2 hours	every day
	playing chess	4 hours	once a week
	shopping	2 hours	once a week
	keeping pets	half an hour	every day
College students	playing ball games	1 hour	every day
	going swimming	1 hour	every day
	playing computer games	1 hour	every day
	surfing the Internet	2 hours	every day
	telephoning and messaging	half an hour	every day
	reading blogs	half an hour	every day
	traveling	15 days	once a year
	listening to music	1 hour	every day
	reading novels	2 hours	every day
	watching a sports match	1 hour	every day
	going to a concert / theaters / museums	3 hours	once a week
	shopping	4 hours	once a week
going to karaoke	2 hours	once a week	
Children under 12	playing Lego (乐高积木)	1 hour	every day
	playing with schoolmates, etc.	2 hours	every day
	riding bicycle	half an hour	every day
	drawing, playing piano, etc.	1 hour	every day
	playing computer games	half an hour	every day
	watching cartoons	1 hour	every day
	listening to stories	1 hour	every day
	playing yo-yo (溜溜球)	half an hour	every day
	reading picture-books	half an hour	every day
	swimming	half an hour	every day

STEP TWO

Survey questions:

- 1 What do you usually do in your spare time?
- 2 How much time do you spend on those activities each time? And how often?

STEP THREE

- 1 I interviewed one classmate about his grandparents' leisure activities. They have very different interests regarding their leisure activities. The grandpa loves tea. Every afternoon he goes to a tea house, enjoying tea and chatting with a bunch of old people like himself. It's the best time in a day for him. He would forget all his troubles and pains during the tea time. The grandma loves dancing in the evening. As long as it doesn't rain, she'll go to a park nearby and dance with a group of women, winter or summer. She says dancing makes her younger and healthy. She also helps babysit during the day when the parents go to work. Once or twice a week, she plays mahjong (麻将) with her friends.
- 2 I asked a classmate about her parents' leisure activities. The father likes climbing and hiking on weekends. On weekdays, he has to work late, so when he gets home, he likes to watch TV. Then on weekends, he'll go hiking. Sometimes he takes his camera with him. That's his new hobby—taking photos. Every year, he would travel to a foreign country for a few days. The mother likes to surf on the Internet during her free time. She does a lot of online shopping. She is addicted to it and has bought a lot of items that she doesn't need at all. She also loves to watch soap operas on the Internet.
- 3
 - I asked three of my classmates about their leisure activities. All of them are boys and one thing they all like is computer games. They like to play computer games because the games give them a sense of accomplishment. They also take some sports activities in the afternoon, like basketball and football.
 - I talked with two girls. Both of them like listening to music. They say they feel relaxed while listening to music. They also like to read blogs and talk with their friends through micromessage (*weixin*). It is a very convenient and cheap way to communicate with other people. They also go to concerts and other performances on campus once in a while.
- 4 I asked two classmates about their leisure activities when they were in primary and middle school. One said they had a lot of homework and seldom had time to do what he liked. But if he had had time, he would enjoy watching animated cartoons and riding bicycle. Another said she liked to play with her schoolmates. She also read books and watched cartoons. Sometimes she chatted with her friends online.

2 Laughter

Cross-talk is very popular in China. You can listen to it everywhere, on MP3 players, on the radio, on TV, on the Internet, etc. I think its popularity mainly lies in its humorous language, the performers' quick wits, their funny gestures, and presentation skills. The subject of cross-talk is in most cases close to our real life so that it resonates with the audience. It uses either bitter irony or funny teasing to amuse people. The most important thing is that cross-talk can make one laugh and think at the same time. What's more, cross-talk is also a reflection of the traditional Chinese

culture. Cross-talk comedians are really gifted performers. They are good at singing—able to sing different kinds of songs as well as a variety of local operas. Some of them are very good at mimicking. With almost nothing on the stage, they can perform whatever they want to.

3 Recognizing Puns

- 1 The word “plane” has the same pronunciation as “plain”. If you say something is plain, you mean it is simple in style. Normally you don’t have very nice food on the plane.
- 2 “A terminal illness” causes death, often slowly, and cannot be cured. The word “terminal” also means “a big building where people wait to get onto planes, buses, or ships, or where goods are loaded”. An airport terminal is where you get on or get off a flight.
- 3 The word “pointless” means “having no sense or purpose”, and a broken pencil has no point.
- 4 Math teachers may have a lot of problems for their students. They may also have problems themselves.
- 5 The word “short” means “short in height”, and it also means “not having as much of sth. as you want or need”. So here it may mean the boy doesn’t have enough money to pay for the lunch, or the boy is too short to reach the counter.
- 6 When you buy something from a vending machine, if you insert more than enough money, the machine will return the change, in the form of coins. What the nurse means is that they haven’t managed to get the coins out of the boy’s body yet. So the boy’s condition hasn’t changed.
- 7 The word “driving” also means “powerful”.
- 8 The word “bored” has the same pronunciation as “board (董事会)”. So here to the listener, it may also mean the mother is a member of the private school board.

Additional activity

Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of watching DVDs and going to the movies.

	Watching DVDs	Going to the Movies
Advantages	1) It’s more convenient, you don’t have to buy tickets. 2) You can watch a DVD whenever you like. 3) You can watch it over and over again if you like. 4) It’s much cheaper than going to the movies.	1) Movies are better in quality than DVDs. 2) You have a relaxed holiday feeling. 3) The wide big screen presents more vivid pictures.
Disadvantages	1) The quality is not as good as that of a movie, because many of the DVDs are pirated (盗版的). 2) You may be disturbed by telephone calls or other things while watching.	1) The cinemas are sometimes too noisy. 2) The ticket may be expensive.

PART 2 Reading-Centered Activities

In-Class Reading

Pre-Reading

Sample

- 1 I enjoy jokes because I think jokes can always make one laugh. It's well-known that laughter is the best medicine. Besides, jokes often have some wisdom in them. When I have time I usually read jokes in newspapers or in books. There are many jokes which cater to different age groups. I also like reading cartoons and comic strips.
- 2 I think humor is a very important quality for a person and a key to getting along with others. I like to be with humorous people. They are like sunshine, very popular with others. They can make me laugh when I am unhappy. They can change an awkward situation and help people get rid of embarrassment by making everybody laugh. With such people, life becomes more interesting and enjoyable.

Passage Reading

Words, Phrases and Grammatical Points

1 note (*Line 16, Para. 10*)

Some phrases with “note”:

- 1 make a note of sth.: write sth. down so that you can look at it later
e.g. I) I made a note of her address and phone number.
II) She took out her diary and made a note of the time of the meeting.
- 2 take / make notes: write notes
e.g. I) I read the first chapter and took notes.
II) She sat quietly in the corner making careful notes.
III) I noticed he was making notes about the deals as I was describing them to the board.
- 3 take note (of sth.): pay careful attention (to sth.)
e.g. I) Take note of the weather conditions.
II) People were beginning to take note of her talents as a writer.
III) His first album made the music world stand up and take note.

2 blame (*Line 7, Para. 13*)

Some phrases with “blame”:

- 1 blame sb. / sth. for sth.: say or think that sb. or sth. is responsible for sth. bad
e.g. I) You can hardly blame Peter for being angry with her.
II) The report blames poor safety standards for the accident.
- 2 be to blame (for sth.): used to say that sb. or sth. is responsible for sth. bad
e.g. I) You are not to blame for what happened.
II) The hot weather is partly to blame for the water shortage.

- 3 only have yourself to blame: (*spoken*) used to say that sb.'s problems are their own fault
e.g. I) If he fails his exams, he'll only have himself to blame.
II) He only has himself to blame if no one talks to him.

3 alive (*Line 8, Para. 13*)

The word is an adjective and not used before a noun. It has the following meanings:

- 1 continuing to exist
e.g. I) Ancient traditions are still very much alive in rural areas.
II) The big factories are trying to stay alive by cutting costs.
- 2 still living and not dead
e.g. I) Doctors fought to keep her alive.
II) It was really a bad accident—they're lucky to be alive.
- 3 active and happy
e.g. I) With the wind rushing through her hair she felt intensely alive.
II) It was the kind of morning when you wake up and feel really alive.

The phrase "alive and well" means:

- 1 still existing and not gone or forgotten, especially when this is surprising
e.g. Unfortunately, discrimination against black people is alive and well.
- 2 still living and healthy or active, especially when this is surprising
e.g. He was found alive and well after three days.

参考译文

享受幽默——什么东西令人开怀？

1 人们听到一个有趣的故事会笑，会开心，古今中外都一样。这一现象或许同语言本身一样由来已久。那么，到底是什么东西使故事或笑话让人感到可笑呢？

2 第一次意识到幽默的存在，我便喜欢上了它。我曾试图向学生们解释并与他们探讨幽默这个话题。这些学生文化差异很大，有来自拉丁美洲的，也有来自中国的。我还认真思考过一些滑稽有趣的故事。这完全出于我个人的喜好。

3 听我讲完一个笑话后，为什么班上的一些学生会笑得前俯后仰，而其他学生看上去就像刚听我念完天气预报一样呢？显然，有些人对幽默比别人更敏感。而且，我们也发现有的人很善于讲笑话，而有的人要想说一点有趣的事却要费好大劲儿。我们都听人说过这样的话：“我喜欢笑话，但我不怎么会讲笑话，也总是记不住。”有些人比别人更具有幽默感，就像有些人更具有音乐、数学之类的才能一样。一个真正风趣的人在任何场合都有笑话可讲，而且一个笑话会从他记忆里引出一连串的笑话。一个缺乏幽默感的人不可能成为一群人中最受欢迎的人。一个真正具有幽默感的人不仅受人喜爱，而且在任何聚会上也往往是人们注意的焦点，这么说有一定的道理。

4 甚至有些动物也具有幽默感。我岳母从前经常来我们家，并住上很长一段时间。她通常不喜欢狗，但却很喜欢布利茨恩——我们养过的一条拉布拉多母猎犬。而且，这种喜欢是相互的，布利茨恩也很喜欢我岳母。布利茨恩即使在很小的时候就常常戏弄外祖母。当外祖母坐在起居室里她最喜欢的那张舒适的椅子上时，布利茨恩就故意把她卧室里的一只拖鞋叼到起居室。它在外祖母刚好够不着的地方蹦来跳去，一直

逗到外祖母忍不住站起来去拿那只拖鞋。外祖母从椅子上一起来，布利茨恩就会迅速地跳上椅子，它那闪亮的棕色眼睛里掠过一丝拉布拉多犬式的微笑，无疑是在说：“啊哈，你又上我的当了。”

5 笑话或幽默故事通常由三部分构成，这三部分很容易辨认。第一部分是铺垫（即背景），接下来是主干部分（即故事情节），随后便是画龙点睛的结尾语（即一个出人意料或令人惊讶的结尾）。如果结尾语含有一定的幽默成分的话，这个笑话便会很有趣。通常笑话都有这三部分，而且每部分都必须交代清楚。如果讲故事或说笑话的人使用观众都熟悉的手势和语言的话，则有助于增强效果。

6 我们可以对幽默这种娱乐形式进行分析，从而找出究竟是什么使一个有趣的故事或笑话令人捧腹。举例来说，以下是几种最常见的幽默形式，有非常显而易见的，也有较为微妙含蓄的。

7 “滑稽剧”是最明显的幽默形式。其语言简单、直截了当，常常以取笑他人之乐。滑稽剧这种形式过去是、现在仍然是单人表演的喜剧演员和小丑的惯用技巧。它为不同年龄、不同文化背景的人们所喜爱。几乎本世纪的每个讲英语的喜剧演员都曾以这样或那样的方式讲述过下面这则笑话。一位男士问另一位男士：“昨晚我看到的那位和你在一起的女士是谁？”那位男士回答道：“那可不是什么女士，那是我妻子。”这则笑话的幽默之处在于第二位男士说他的妻子不是一位女士，也就是说她不是一个高雅的女人。这则笑话并没有因为经常被人讲而变得不再那么好笑。由于这是一则经典笑话，观众事先都知道要说什么，而且大家因为对这则笑话很熟悉而更加喜欢它。

8 中国的“相声”是一种特殊的滑稽剧。说相声时，两名中国喜剧演员幽默地谈论诸如官僚主义、家庭问题或其他一些个人话题。相声哪儿都能听到，无论是在乡村的小舞台上，在北京最大的剧院里，还是在广播和电视上。在中国，它显然是一种家喻户晓的传统的幽默形式。

9 文字游戏不像滑稽剧那样浅显，它因语言的误用或误解而可笑。我特别喜欢的一个例子是三位年长的绅士在英国乘火车旅行的故事。当火车慢慢停下来时，第一位绅士问道：“这是温布利(Wembley)吗？”“不，”第二位绅士说，“是星期四(Thursday)。”“我也是，”第三位绅士说道，“让我们下车喝杯啤酒吧。”我们知道上了年纪的人往往耳背，因此会把Wembley听成Wednesday，把Thursday听成thirsty，这样一来就为第三位老人的妙语做好了巧妙的铺垫。

10 著名的中国漫画家和幽默家丁聪便是一位文字游戏大师。在他的一幅幽默漫画中，一位老师说：“你为什么一字不改地抄别人的作业？”那位年轻的学生回答道：“我没有一字不改地抄。我把作业上的名字改成自己的名字了。”在丁聪的另一幅经典漫画中，一位父亲生气地问道：“告诉我，1加2等于几？”儿子说：“我不知道。”这位不耐烦的父亲接着说道：“比方说，你、你妈妈和我，我们加起来一共是几个，你这个傻瓜？”儿子得意地回答道：“是三个傻瓜。”这些故事无论是漫画还是笑话，是由演滑稽剧的喜剧演员说，还是搭档的相声演员讲，都为各地的人们所喜爱。人们喜爱这些有趣的故事，因为它们贴近现实生活，而且其中那些出人意料的妙语也十分有趣。

11 双关语是一种更微妙的文字游戏。它使用的技巧是利用发音相似的词或同一个词的不同意义来制造幽默的效果。有些批评家认为双关语是最低级的幽默，但我不同意这种观点。与其他形式的幽默相比，双关语需要更微妙、更精深的语言技巧。然而，简单的双关语甚至连很小的孩子也会用。例如，“谜语”或脑筋急转弯问题常在铺垫部分、故事情节中，以及更多地是在结尾语中使用双关语。双关语是我最早懂得的幽默形式。记得大约在五岁时，我听到过下面这个谜语。一个人问道：“什么东西整个儿是黑的、白的和红的？”另外一个人通常猜不出来，于是问道：“我猜不着。是什么呀？”出谜语的人答道：“是报纸。”如果你知道在英语中red（红色）和read（读）的读音一样，但意思显然不同，答案就很明显了。

12 DOUBLE ENTENDRES（法语中的“一语双关”）是双关语的特殊形式，其词汇或短语有双重意义。两个意义往往差异很大，一个比较恰当，另一个往往比较粗俗，但也并不总是这样。我喜欢那个关于一位中学教师和校长因看见学生在校操场上接吻而感到担心的故事，故事并不过火。那位教师对学生们

说：“我和校长已经决定停止在学校操场上接吻的做法。”听到笑声，她意识到自己没有把意思表达清楚，于是她补充说：“我的意思是不能在我们的鼻子底下发生接吻这样的事了。”当然，这个解释并没有纠正她的第一句话，反而使这个笑话的双重含义变得更加好笑。

13 一些专业的幽默作家认为现在的幽默大多缺乏智慧，不够巧妙。他们不喜欢在幽默中被人们滥用的有色情意味或粗俗的语言，而且他们觉得大多数幽默作家缺乏创造性。的确，现在有些幽默令人震惊，但我认为这不是幽默的过错。幽默现在仍然存在，并且将来还会继续存在下去，原因很简单——因为每天都有有趣的事情发生。一些有幽默感的人看到、听到这些有趣的事情后会把它们编成妙趣横生、令人开心的笑话和故事。

Exercises

Post-Reading

Reading Comprehension

1 Paragraphs

Topics

Paras. 1-3	Humor is <u>universal</u> , but people's sense of humor <u>varies</u> .
Para. 4	Even <u>animals</u> have a sense of humor. The writer's <u>dog</u> is a good example.
Para. 5	The typical three parts of a joke: 1) <u>the setup</u> , 2) <u>the body</u> , 3) <u>the punch line</u> .
Paras. 6-12	Different forms of humor: 1) <u>slapstick</u> , 2) <u>Chinese cross-talk</u> , 3) <u>a play on words</u> , 4) <u>puns</u> , and double entendres.
Para. 13	Humor will <u>persist</u> even though some professional humorists think today's humor is not very <u>intelligent</u> or <u>sophisticated</u> .

2 1 B 2 D 3 C 4 A 5 C 6 A 7 A 8 D 9 B 10 B

3 Sample

I think there are several factors that lead to the different responses, such as one's personality, knowledge of the world, cultural background, etc. Some people are more sensitive to humor. They like to laugh, and they enjoy jokes. They are more imaginative. After hearing a joke, they will use their imagination to make the joke more laughable. Others may not understand the joke well, perhaps because they don't have the right knowledge, or because of their limited cultural background, etc. Another barrier, I think, is the language. Sometimes when a foreign teacher tells a joke, his students cannot understand it because of some difficult words. And people from different cultures may perceive humor differently.

4 Joke 1

One day a visitor from the city came to a small rural area to drive around on the country roads, see how the farms looked, and perhaps see how farmers earned a living. (SETUP) The city man saw a farmer in his yard, holding a pig up in his hands, and lifting it so that the pig could eat apples from an apple tree. The city man said to the farmer, "I see that your pig likes apples, but

isn't that quite a waste of time?"(BODY)

The farmer replied, "What's time to a pig?" (PUNCH LINE)

Joke 2

One absent-minded professor approached the edge of a wide river, and far across on the other side he saw another absent-minded professor. (SETUP) The first man called out loudly, "Hello! How do I get to the other side of the river?"(BODY)

The second man on the far side of the river shouted back, "Hello! You are already on the other side of the river." (PUNCH LINE)

5 Sample

- I agree with it because people enjoy laughter. Humorous people know that laughter is the best medicine. In fact, this kind of insult is not insulting in its real sense because when people are trying to make others laugh the focus is on the fun they can enjoy, not on insulting them. People often need self-mockery to survive, to let out anger, and to get out of difficult or embarrassing situations. Life should be filled with laughter. How boring the world would be if everybody was serious and humorless.
- I don't agree with it. Dignity is the most important thing. I wouldn't allow anyone to insult me even if they intend to make me laugh. As a matter of fact, they wouldn't be able to make me laugh if they are insulting me. When people are getting together, friendliness and harmony are the priorities. I enjoy jokes, but I think some jokes go too far because they hurt people.

Vocabulary

- | | | | | |
|---|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | 1 A entertaining | B entertainment | C entertained | D entertainer |
| | 2 A recognizable | B recognized | C recognition | |
| | 3 A tempting | B temptation | C tempt | |
| | 4 A reasoned | B reasoning | C reasonable | D reason |
| | 5 A analyzed | B analytical | C analyst | D analysis |
| | 6 A valuable | B valuation | C valued / values | D value |
| | 7 A humorist | B humor | C humorous | D humorless |
| | 8 A understandable | B understanding | C understand | D misunderstood |
-
- | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2 | 1 a sense of responsibility | 2 a sense of safety / security | 3 a sense of inferiority |
| | 4 a sense of superiority | 5 a sense of rhythm | 6 a sense of justice |
| | 7 a sense of shame | 8 a sense of helplessness | 9 a sense of direction |
| | 10 a sense of urgency | | |
-
- | | | | | | |
|---|----------------|------------|----------|--------------|-------------|
| 3 | 1 mischief | 2 sense | 3 end | 4 successful | 5 contacted |
| | 6 individually | 7 response | 8 answer | 9 directly | 10 followed |

Translation

- 1 Lively behavior is normal for a four-year-old child.
- 2 Fast cars appeal to John, but he can't afford one.
- 3 Dave required a lot of time to study the diverse arguments.

- 4 I asked my boss for clarification, and she explained the project to me again.
- 5 Photographic film is very sensitive to light.
- 6 Mutual encouragement can be a great help, especially in the early days.
- 7 Jimmy cried when people made fun of him.
- 8 John won't give up. He persists in his opinion / viewpoint.
- 9 Ted always wants to be the focus / center of attention.
- 10 Is it cheaper if we buy the ticket in advance?

After-Class Reading

参考译文

致命诱惑

1 英国离奇谋杀案小说的“女皇”毫无疑问是阿加莎·克里斯蒂。虽然作者本人在二十多年前就去世了，但她创作的侦探小说现在仍然非常畅销。这些小说被译成了一百多种语言，销量超过了20亿册。

2 无论是在英国还是在其他国家，阿加莎·克里斯蒂的小说都非常受欢迎，这并不难理解。她的每本书构思都很巧妙。她创造的人物很容易辨认，情节的设计环环相扣，很严密。但最重要的是，她所有的故事都给读者设置了一个谜团。

3 克里斯蒂的作品几乎都是以谋杀开场，迫使读者提出这样一个问题：“是谁干的？”，而最后总是水落石出。读者的乐趣就在于根据故事里隐含的线索顺藤摸瓜，努力在作者揭开谜底之前找到正确答案。这种模式迎合了人类最强烈的本能之一——好奇心——而人们对这种模式的喜爱程度丝毫没有减弱的迹象。

4 很多离奇的案子都是由克里斯蒂笔下的一位常常出场的侦探破解的，例如那个非常自信的比利时人赫尔克里·波洛，或者是那个显然没有恶意的小老太太马普尔小姐。克里斯蒂同时也为她的故事创造了一个特有的背景，这种背景如同她创作的一些人物一样为人们所熟知。那是处于两次世界大战之间的英国，那儿的小村庄里邻里关系紧密，生活平静，或者是城里的阔佬们聚集在乡下的豪宅里度周末。

5 这个世界有着严格的社会等级制度。乡下宅子的主人占据着社会的顶层，他们很可能是贵族成员，然后是那些职业阶层：医生、律师和商人。处于底层的则是一般民众，在书中通常作为仆从、厨师和园丁出场。当谋杀案发生时，有不少需要调查的嫌疑人。

6 阿加莎·克里斯蒂笔下的世界不是一个完全真实的世界，这就是她的作品一直不过时的原因之一。这是一个安定的、循规蹈矩的世界，而谋杀案的发生打乱了人们的正常生活。因此必须侦破案件，抓住杀人犯，从而恢复宁静的生活。

7 在阿加莎·克里斯蒂一生的大部分时间里，英国的杀人犯都被处以死刑。因此，她作品中的谋杀案一旦破获，找出了杀人犯，那么他或者她的末日就到了。不会有未了结的事情，读者于是就可以高枕无忧了。

8 当然，在现实世界里，事情并非如此。罪犯会逍遥法外，法律会伤及无辜，审判不公时有发生。简而言之，现实世界并不是一个安全的地方。正因为如此，才会有这么多的读者喜欢逃避现实，埋头于老套的、结局没有任何争议并且可以预测的侦探小说中。

9 阿加莎·克里斯蒂所著的这种侦探小说毫无疑问是老套的。现代描写犯罪的作家几乎没有人再写这样的作品了。现代的犯罪小说在道德上和心理上更趋复杂，除了“是谁干的？”这个问题之外，现代犯罪小说还要探讨“为什么这样做？”的问题。现代作家更感兴趣的是了解罪犯的心理和杀人的动机。他们

所探讨的犯罪世界比阿加莎·克里斯蒂所能想象的要黑暗得多。现代的犯罪小说不仅不能给读者带来慰藉，反而会使他们感到不安。

10 但是对于美国人称之为“舒适型”的犯罪小说流派，英国人依旧十分喜爱。谋杀故事仍被看作是一种娱乐消遣，而且电视的节目表里也充斥着以杀人犯被捕、让观众心安理得而告终的侦探剧。

11 从酒店提供的“周末离奇谋杀案”活动也可以看出侦探小说有多么流行。客人们扮演那些经典侦探小说中的嫌疑人，用一个周末的时间来找出他们中的哪一个是“杀人犯”。或者举办“谋杀案侦破晚宴”：一群朋友聚在一起，吃饭时根据预先专门准备好的关于人物性格和行踪的线索破解一桩案件。如果餐桌上的谋杀案提不起你的兴趣，还有各种各样的棋盘游戏和计算机游戏来测试你的侦探能力。

12 但是有些人会沉迷于此，无法自拔。小说里最有名的侦探也许就是夏洛克·福尔摩斯了，他的住处是“伦敦贝克街221B号”。现在仍有信件寄到那里，要求他帮忙破解各种各样的谜案。因为有很多信件寄给这位大侦探，所以现在位于此处的公司雇用了一个人，专门回复这些信件。

13 只要人类还有好奇心，那么毫无疑问，各种各样的侦探小说就会继续施展其致命的诱惑力。

PART 3 Further Development

1 Vocabulary Review

1 B

A a part of a gun which causes the gun to fire when pressed

B cause sth. to happen or exist

C an event or thing that causes sth. to happen

2 A

A a number of people or things

B one of the long thin pieces of wire, nylon, etc. that is stretched across a musical instrument and produces sound

C a thin rope or thick thread used for tying or fastening things

3 A

A disappear

B depart; leave a place

C travel to a place and spend some time there, for example for a holiday

4 C

A make a car, truck, bus, etc. move along

B force sb. or sth. to go somewhere

C strongly influence sb. to do sth.

5 B

A a college or university, or the time when you study there

B an opinion or way of thinking about sth. shared by a group of people

C train or discipline

- 6 C
 A the meals provided for you when you pay to stay somewhere
 B a flat wide piece of wood, plastic, etc. that shows a particular type of information
 C a flat piece of wood, plastic, card, etc. that you use for a particular purpose
- 7 B
 A relating to business
 B an advertisement on television or radio
 C more concerned with money than with quality
- 8 A
 A let sth. fall
 B speak less loudly
 C stop doing sth., discussing sth., or continuing with sth.
- 9 C
 A an organization of people with a common purpose or interest who meet regularly and take part in shared activities
 B a playing card showing the black three-leaved sign (扑克牌中的) 梅花
 C a heavy stick, usually thick at one end
- 10 C
 A shine or give off light
 B flow quickly and in great amounts
 C move in a continuous flow in the same direction

2 Competing for Tourists

Sample

Our special services and facilities:

- childcare center, medical center
- reading room
- cinema, karaoke hall, dance hall, computer game rooms
- tennis court, football field, basketball court, swimming pool, bowling alley
- teahouse, pub, coffee house
- spas and foot massage

We have theme activities such as:

- A two-day tour to scenic spots: We will have a packaged tour to some beautiful places like Qiandao Lake, Tianmu Lake Rafting, West Lake, etc.;
- Arts activities, such as Calligraphy Tour, Beijing Opera Night, Fun in Acrobatics, etc.;
- Knowing-More-About-Society-Tour: going to the countryside, visiting a silk factory, visiting a museum, watching a fashion show, visiting historic sights, etc.;
- Fun in food: cooking lessons, cooking competitions, enjoying healthy food with Chinese herbal medicine, etc.;
- Miscellaneous activities: playing board games, various sorts of ball games, bonfire party, swimming and dancing, spa bathing, etc.

3 Trying to Be the Most Entertaining Group

Joke 1

Bad or Worse

“How is the business?” asked Mike, as he walked into his friend’s dress shop.

“Terrible,” complained John. “Business is awful. Yesterday I only sold one dress, and today it was even worse.”

“How could it be even worse?” asked Mike.

“Today the customer returned the dress she bought yesterday.”

Joke 2

The Effectiveness of Advertisement

Some businessmen were talking excitedly about advertising on TV. As none of them had ever done it before, everyone had his point of view. At this moment, Mr. Grey arrived. Mr. Grey was a car dealer and he had once made an advertisement.

“What are you talking about?” Mr. Grey asked.

“We are talking about whether advertisement works or not,” one of the businessmen answered.

“Oh, yes, it works very fast,” Mr. Grey said. “I once advertised for my watchdog and offered a reward of \$100.”

“Did you get the dog back?”

“No, but that very night three of my cars were stolen.”

Game

Teapot

Two people can play this game, but it is better with more people. Ask one person to move away so that the rest of you can decide on which verb you are going to choose. Let’s suppose you choose “sing”. The other person can then return; he or she asks questions, replacing the verb with the word “teapot”. You answer them, but you avoid using the verb you have chosen. For example:

Friend: Do you teapot in the bath?

You: Yes, sometimes.

Friend: Do you teapot during meals?

You: No, not usually.

Friend: Do you enjoy teapotting?

You: Yes.

Friend: Do other people enjoy your teapotting?

You: They pretend they don’t. But I’m sure they do really!

Questions and answers like these can go on and on until your friend discovers the word. You can also limit the number of questions so that the game won’t run too long.

4 Week-Long Holiday Project

Sample

Name: Dandelion (蒲公英)

People: David	Project Manager	Overall charge
Mary	Researcher	Questionnaire designer
James	Researcher	Public relations
Cheryl	Computer technician	Data management
John	Treasurer	Financial management

Target: Find new customers and raise the sales volume of *New College English*.

Research methods and steps:

- 1 Design questionnaires and interview 1,000 office workers and other people who are studying English by themselves.
- 2 Check the interview results and decide the potential customers.
- 3 Organize events in public libraries demonstrating features of the book for those potential customers.
- 4 Provide demo classes.

Budget: 200 *yuan* stationery
300 *yuan* photocopies of questionnaire
900 *yuan* rent for public events
600 *yuan* public relations

Further actions: If we successfully get the grants, we will organize campus tours and classroom demonstrations of the use of *New College English*. The potential customers will have opportunities to attend the class and use its online courseware. We will hold Q&A meetings regularly with experienced English teachers and answer any questions our users may have during their self-study.

5 Racking Your Brains

- 1 A camel.
- 2 Your age.
- 3 A towel.
- 4 A peacock.
- 5 A candle.
- 6 Have someone throw it to you.

PART 4 Translation and Writing

2 Translation Practice

这位上了岁数、但从未结过婚的英国女士，1930年第一次出现在小说《寓所谜案》中，当时她的年龄介于65岁到70岁之间。在长达41年的时间里，她出现在12部小说以及20篇短篇中——最后一次破案时她已经年事很高了。

马普尔小姐高高瘦瘦，面色红润，但脸上布满皱纹。她有着一双淡蓝色的眼睛，雪白的头发在头上盘成老式的发髻。从外表上看，她不会给任何人造成伤害，加上她那漫无边际的闲谈以及永远都带在身边的

毛线针，这些常常会引起人们的误解，让人们仅仅把她看成是一位“犹犹豫豫的老妇人”。那些真正了解她的人都明白，她对人类的本性有着敏锐的观察能力，而且“不可思议地总是正确”。

虽然马普尔小姐一生都生活在看上去枯燥而乏味的圣玛丽牧场，她却相当老道地认识到并接受了这一点：我们周围充满了邪恶。就像她经常指出的那样，大城市能找到的人性特征和邪恶，在她住的村子及周边也都能找到。于是，她的破案方式就是找出圣玛丽牧场和外面的世界在生活 and 人物方面的相似之处。

3 Writing

1 Sample

My Favorite Pastime

My favorite pastime is writing. You may not think it is a pastime. But to me it is, because it is a form of relaxation that takes my mind away from other things when I feel tired.

I began to write when I was in primary school. I was imaginative and created many interesting stories at that time. When I told the stories to my friends on our way home from school, they enjoyed them. Soon it became my regular practice. That made me really happy. Sometimes I wrote down my stories and passed them around among my classmates.

When I was in high school, I began to like poems. This was because of the influence of my best friend Jasmine. She liked poems very much, so gradually I learned to appreciate poems. When I was writing poems, I could concentrate for a long time, totally losing myself. Whether I was happy or sad I started writing poems to express myself.

Let me tell you a little secret. Now I'm writing a science fiction about time travel. I'm sure it is original and interesting. However, writing definitely takes time, and how I wish I could have more time to pursue this hobby. I may not become a professional writer, but I will always enjoy writing.

2 Sample

How People Spend Their Leisure Time

Many people are busy with various things at work or at home, and they have no time for entertainment. But this is really bad for one's health. We should make an effort to have relaxation. A proverb says, "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy."

People in different regions may have different forms of activities. In China one of the most popular activities is traveling, especially going to the remote areas. The isolated locations appeal to travelers who want to get closer to nature because they are tired of stressful city life.

Other people will stay at home, watching TV, going to the movies or concerts, or inviting some friends over for a party. Children like to go to the park, play with their schoolmates, and participate in sports. Young women like to go shopping while young men prefer to stay at home, watching TV and surf the net.

Pastimes vary according to age, sex, personality and financial situations. Whatever one's pastime is, it can make them feel relaxed, more refreshed and ready to start a new day's work. Pastimes offer a way to take one's mind away from the stresses of everyday life.