

Useful Information

Whether it is a mother's nurturing love for her child, a son's loyal love for his parents, the love between husband and wife, the love between friends, or love between humans and animals, love is a universal emotion that expresses itself in every culture. To love is to be human. To need love is also to be human. Children, for example, need loving care in order to be emotionally healthy.

Romantic love is a deep feeling of fondness, affection and friendship that grows between two people. It usually begins as passion and evolves with time to a more lasting sense of attachment. Though love remains the most beautiful and precious affection of human being, it is not easy to find true love and own it forever. Many of the famous romantic love stories in various cultures end in the tragedies of death or betrayal. The loss of love is a favorite musical theme and the subject of countless stories, operas, songs, and ballads.

The verb "like" is not as strong as the verb "love" and generally does not imply deep emotions. Liking someone means that you are happy being with that person, while loving someone means that you absolutely cannot bear to be without that person. All in all, the difference between love and like has something to do with the depth of your emotion toward somebody. Liking may give you a warm feeling inside, but it's mostly superficial. Love, on the other hand, involves much deeper, complex emotions, making it one of the greatest feelings that you will ever have in your lifetime.

PART 1 Preparation

1 Motherly Love and Fatherly Love

Sample

- 1 It's true that motherly love is unconditional. I believe what I've got from my mother is the deepest love I've ever received. When I was at home, my mother took good care of me and did what she could to meet my needs. For example, she remembered all my birthdays and bought nice birthday gifts for me. At home she woke me up in the morning after she had prepared breakfast. Sometimes she even combed my hair while I was having breakfast so that I could get to school on time. She treated my classmates kindly when they were with me. I know that's

because they were my good friends. Now, I'm away from home, and she calls me every two or three days asking about my college life and what she can do for me. It seems that to her, my life is much more important than hers.

As for fatherly love, I'm not sure if his love is conditional, but obviously it's different from mother's love. Father also loves me very much. He pays more attention to my education and what I'm going to be in the future. He doesn't care much about my daily life, but asks me to keep him informed of my study and progress. During my last year in high school, he was unusually patient with me. He encouraged me when I wasn't doing well at school and helped me when I had difficulties. Father must have been a math wizard in his schooldays, because he seemed to know all the solutions to my math problems and could point out my weaknesses. Following his instructions, I began to feel interested in math myself.

If I'm asked to describe the two kinds of love, I'd like to say my mother takes meticulous care of me and makes my life very comfortable while my father cares more about my study and makes me a strong person. I believe there're many mothers and fathers who are like my parents.

- 2 I think there's something in Erich Fromm's statements, although it's hard for me to identify whose love is fatherly and whose love is motherly in the case of my parents. Unlike most mothers, my mother has been very strict with me. Maybe she thinks a boy should develop a strong, tough and persistent personality to be able to get around in this competitive world. She pays a lot of attention to my study and has been concerned with my progress. Although she didn't receive higher education herself, she believes it is essential to me and hopes I can continue my study after I finish my undergraduate program. When I didn't do well in school, she would ask me to reflect on my failure and see how I could do better next time. She would be very angry if I argued with her or hid any of my wrongdoings. Several times when I was in my junior high school, I doubted that I was her biological son.

On the other hand, my father has been very kind to me. He knows my needs and does his best to satisfy them. When my mother criticized me, he would comfort me afterward. When he had something good, he would ask me if I needed it. I still remember he bought me a lot of toys in my childhood, such as toy vehicles and robots. And he bought me many books during my school years. Father even made a few of his business trips during my vacations so that he could take me with him to see different places. Now father always looks forward to my going back home before holidays. Each time he offers me the nice things he has bought or received since I last saw him, and he feels very happy if I take any of them. I also enjoy his company very much, feeling secure and relaxed. That's why I often think I have the best father in the world.

In my case, both mother's love and father's love have made what I am today. Father takes care of my needs—material needs and spiritual needs. Mother cares much about my personal integrity. The two kinds of love are different but equally important.

2 Someone You Love Most

Sample

- I love my mother most, because she's always very kind to me, unlike my father who would scold me or even slap me if I make mistakes or if I am naughty. In my eyes my mother is a very

beautiful woman. She is very hard-working, and does almost all the housework. When I was preparing for the university entrance examination, she was very thoughtful and never let me do any housework. When I didn't do a good job in school, she would encourage me and hope I would do better next time. When I was hungry at night, she would fix a snack for me. She is a good cook. Now it's a pity that I am not able to have what she cooks because I am far away from home.

- I spent my childhood with my grandfather because my parents were too busy to take care of me at that time. Now I often visit him, especially during holidays. He's a very kind and knowledgeable person. He reads a lot and knows so much about the history of our country. Before I could read, he told me many interesting stories, stories about Monkey King, heroes in *The Three Kingdoms* and *Water Margins*, etc. When I was in the elementary school, he began to buy books for me and that's why reading is always my hobby.

I believe I owe a great deal to my grandfather for my growth, both physical and intellectual. He's been taking good care of me and I often feel I'm lucky to have such a kind, thoughtful, intelligent and generous grandfather.

3 Guess What He Actually Said

Sample

When he asked her to marry him, he said, "1) Trust me, please." When she gave birth to their first child, a daughter, he said to her, "2) It's really a painful labor." When their daughter got married and lived far away from them, he said to her, "3) I won't leave you." When his wife was seriously ill and hospitalized, he said to her, "4) I'm with you." When she lay dying, he kissed her and said, "5) Wait for me."

PART 2 Reading-Centered Activities

In-Class Reading

Pre-Reading

Sample

- 1 I feel pity for those who are disabled. I wonder how they can manage in their daily lives and whether they have a job. I know life must be very hard for them. We, the fortunate, often face difficulties in our lives. They must have to face even greater difficulties in theirs. I know the population of disabled people is comparatively large in China. However, we seldom see them on the street, let alone on campus. It's not easy for them to move around in an environment that is not well-equipped for the disabled. I feel really sorry for them and hope we can do something for them.
- 2 Yes, my aunt is deaf and dumb. She has been like this since her childhood. My grandmother said that she became deaf because of taking the wrong medicine. She is now more than 70 years old

and she has never been married. She often felt it was unfair because she couldn't hear. However, she is very intelligent, and she is good at sewing. We get along very well and I can communicate with her as smoothly as with any normal person.

Passage Reading

Notes

- 1 There are five districts in N.Y. They are also called five boroughs. They are: Manhattan, Brooklyn, the Bronx, Queens, and Staten Island. Central Park and Harlem are both located in Manhattan. Brooklyn is located just across the river from Manhattan.
- 2 The subway station uses tokens and they cost about 50 cents each.
- 3 Baseball is an outdoor game between two teams of nine players, in which players try to get scores by hitting a ball and running around four bases. It is one of the most popular games in the U.S.

Words, Phrases and Grammatical Points

1 ... I was embarrassed to be seen with my father. (*Lines 1-2, Para. 1*)

This can be paraphrased as "... I was embarrassed when others saw me together with my father."

2 despite (*Line 3, Para. 3*)

- e.g. I) Despite all our efforts to save the school, the County decided to close it.
II) She went to Spain despite the fact that the doctor had told her to rest.

同义词组: in spite of

- e.g. I) We went out in spite of the rain.
II) Kelly loved her husband in spite of the fact that he drank too much.

3 ice-free (*Lines 7-8, Para. 4*)

类似的词语及用法有: a salt-free diet, a trouble-free journey, a duty-free shop, a rent-free period 等。

4 ... nor did he show any envy of the more fortunate or able. (*Lines 2-3, Para. 6*)

这是一句用 nor 引导的倒装句。

- e.g. I) Jack didn't like the play. Nor did we.
II) I don't expect children to be rude, nor do I expect to be disobeyed.
III) I am not, nor have I even been a wealthy man.

5 in frustration (*Lines 4-5, Para. 9*)

类似的词组有: in relief, in surprise, in astonishment, in horror, in fun, in despair, in anger, in doubt, in pain 等。

6 He has been gone many years now. (*Line 1, Para. 12*)

Here "gone" means "dead".

e.g. Now that his wife is gone, he's all on his own.

参考译文

善良之心，久久相依

当时我没有意识到，是父亲帮我保持平衡。

1 在我还未成年时，每当别人看见我和父亲在一起，我就会觉得尴尬。他身材矮小，走起路来跛得很厉害。我们一起走时，他要把手搭在我的肩上才能保持平衡，每到这时人们就会盯着我们看。对这种令人讨厌的关注我觉得非常难堪。他也许曾注意到过，也许曾为此而烦恼，但他从来没有流露出来。

2 要协调我们的步伐并不容易，他的步子一瘸一拐的，我走起来则缺乏耐心。因此，我们走路的时候并不怎么说话。但出发时，他总是说：“你定速度，我会尽量跟上。”

3 我们通常步行往返于家和地铁口之间，他是坐地铁去上班的。不论生病还是碰到恶劣的天气，他都去上班，几乎没有旷过一天工。即使别人无法上班，他也要去办公室。对他来说这是一种骄傲。

4 当地上有雪或冰的时候，即使有人帮忙他也无法走路。这时，我或者我的姐妹就用孩子玩的雪橇拉着他，穿过纽约布鲁克林的街道，直到地铁的入口处。一到那儿，他就能紧紧抓住扶手一直走下去，因为地铁通道里比较暖和，下面的楼梯不结冰。曼哈顿的地铁站正好是他办公楼的地下室，因此直到在布鲁克林我们接他回家，他都不用再出去。

5 一个成年男子要有多少勇气才能承受这种屈辱和压力，我现在想来都惊讶不已。他从没有因此而痛苦或抱怨，我对他是如何做到这一点的感到不可思议。

6 他从不把自己当作被同情的对象，也从不要嫉妒比自己幸运或能干的人。他在别人身上所寻找的是一颗“善心”。如果他找到了一颗善心，那么有这样一颗心的人对他来说就是一位大好人了。

7 随着年龄的增长，我相信那是一种用来判断人的恰当的标准，尽管我还不能确切地知道什么是一颗“善心”。但是，当我自己没有这样一颗“善心”的时候，我是知道的。

8 尽管很多活动我父亲不能参加，但他还是尽量以某种方式参与。当发现本地的一支棒球队没有经理的时候，他帮助球队运转下去。他是一个很懂行的棒球迷，经常带我去埃贝茨球场看布鲁克林道奇队打球。他喜欢参加舞会和聚会，就是坐在一旁观看也很开心。

9 有一件事我至今难忘。一次沙滩聚会上，人们打了起来，每个人都在推推搡搡，拳头你来我往。他不满足于坐在一旁观看，但没有人帮忙，他在松软的沙滩上又站不起来。困窘之际，他开始大叫：“谁坐到我这儿来和我对打！谁坐到我这儿来和我对打！”

10 没人坐下和他打。但是第二天，人们都和他开玩笑，说还是第一次听说拳击手在开打之前就被要求“倒地服输”。

11 我现在才明白，有些事他是通过我，他唯一的儿子，间接参与的。我打球时（我球技很糟），他也在“打”。我加入海军，他也“加入”。我休假回家时，他总要我去他的办公室。在介绍我时，他实际上是在说：“这是我的儿子，但也是我。如果不是因为残疾，我也能做这些。”可是这些话从没有说出来。

12 父亲已去世多年，但我还是经常想起他。不知道他当年是否感觉到了我不愿意别人看见我和他走在一起。如果他感觉到了，我很遗憾我从没有告诉过他后来我感到多么难过，多么不孝，多么后悔。每当我为琐事抱怨的时候，每当我嫉妒别人好运的时候，每当我没有一颗“善心”的时候，我就会想起他。

13 在这种时候，我就把手放在他的臂膀上，来重新获得平衡，并说：“你定速度，我会尽量跟上。”

Exercises

Post-Reading

Reading Comprehension

1 Paras. 1-4—C Paras. 5-7—A Paras. 8-11—B Paras. 12-13—D

- 2 1 They would stare at them.
- 2 He felt embarrassed / ashamed.
- 3 He never let on.
- 4 He usually walked there with the help of his son.
- 5 He was pulled on a child's sleigh to the subway station.
- 6 He liked baseball, dances, and parties.
- 7 He asked them to sit down and fight with him.
- 8 He was proud of his son.
- 9 He missed him very much and was sorry for what he had thought about him.
- 10 He learned to have a good heart from his father.

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

*Although the father was severely crippled, he was eager to join the fight like a normal person. To do so, he could only fight anyone who would sit down with him. After comparing each of the statements in the choices with what he actually said, we can see that C is closest in meaning to the original sentence.

- 4 1 the difficulty in coordinating the steps
- 2 whether a person has a good heart
- 3 a good heart
- 4 the baseball team
- 5 sat down to fight
- 6 what the son has achieved, i.e. serving in the Navy
- 7 sensed my reluctance to be seen with him during our walks
- 8 the reluctance to walk with him

5 Sample

- 1 I think the father knew his disability stood in the way between him and his son. That's why he said to his son: "You set the pace. I'll adjust to you." When the son was young, he was ashamed of his father because other people stared at them when they were on the way to or from work. But deep in their hearts they loved each other. The father was proud of his son, and the son learned a lot from his father. The son loved his father even more when he was older. And as an adult, he felt his father's love more intensely and it was his father who loved and guided him in his life.
- 2 I think there are many things which make a good heart, such as kindness to others, generosity, sympathy for others, compassion for the sick, endurance, tolerance, working hard, never

hurting others, being satisfied with life, protecting the weak, and patience, etc.

- 3 The son realized that it was his father who taught him many things such as how to have a good heart. He knew that having a good heart was more important than a good appearance. Especially after his father died, he felt it more intensely that it was his father who guided him in his life.
- 4
 - If I were the son, I wouldn't feel embarrassed to be seen with him by others. I would be proud of my father no matter how he looked because it was he who gave me life and brought me up. His disability was not his own choice. He was disabled, which was difficult enough for him. How could the others look down upon him, let alone his son?
 - I'm afraid I would feel embarrassed too when walking together with a disabled father, just like the son did. It's likely for young kids to pay more attention to appearance. We were taken good care of at home and parents seldom asked us to do anything for them. I would feel unhappy to have a father who was disabled. Anyway, as we get older, a good feeling might develop. So I think the son's feeling toward his father was typical and natural as a young kid.

Vocabulary

- | | | | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------------|---|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 | 1 urged
6 kid | 2 bother
7 subject | 3 embarrassed
8 saw to it that | 4 adjusted
9 coordinate | 5 complain
10 participate in |
| 2 | patient—patience
bitter—bitterness
fortunate—fortune
knowledge—knowledgeable
reluctance—reluctant | | enter—entrance
complain—complaint
envy—envious
memory—memorable
frustrate—frustration | | |
| | 1 bitter
6 entrance | 2 fortunate
7 complaints | 3 patience
8 envious | 4 memorable
9 knowledgeable | 5 reluctant
10 frustration |

Translation

- 1 More than 3,000 cars were recalled yesterday because of a brake problem.
- 2 He came to the meeting despite his serious illness.
- 3 See to it that the same mistake won't happen again.
- 4 Now that they've got to know more about each other, they get along better.
- 5 Then I found myself surrounded by five or six boys.
- 6 I send you my best wishes on this happy occasion.

After-Class Reading

参考译文

献给凯特的吻

- 1 作为晚间护士，每天下午我来值班的时候，都要走过养老院的过道，在每个门口停下来看一看，聊

一聊。凯特和克里斯两个人经常会在腿上放着大大的剪贴簿，翻看相片，缅怀往事。凯特很骄傲地向我展示已逝岁月里的相片：克里斯个子很高，金黄色头发，英俊潇洒；凯特漂亮，黑头发，爱笑。两个年轻的恋人穿越时间隧道灿烂地笑着。他们现在坐在那儿，光线洒在他们的白发上，他们那饱经沧桑布满皱纹的脸在追忆往事时露出了笑容，一切的往事都被相机拍下来并永久地保留在了剪贴簿上。这时候的他们看起来真可爱。

2 年轻人对爱情的了解少得可怜，我常常这样想。如果他们以为这样珍贵的东西只有他们才能拥有，那真是太愚蠢了。老年人才知道爱情的真谛，而年轻人只能猜测。

3 凯特和克里斯总是在一起，无论在餐厅、休息厅，还是沿着长廊和草坪漫步，他们总是手牵手。当我们这些工作人员吃晚饭的时候，有时凯特和克里斯会慢慢地经过餐厅门口。这时话题就会转向对这一对老夫妇的讨论，关于他们之间的爱和忠诚，以及他们其中一个去世了另一个会怎样。我们知道克里斯是强者，凯特总是依靠着他。

4 如果克里斯先去世，凯特会怎么过？我们常常会想这个问题。

5 像往常一样，到了上床睡觉的时候。我把晚上的药拿给凯特，她就坐在椅子上，穿着睡衣和拖鞋，等着我的到来。在我和克里斯的注视下，凯特吃下药，然后克里斯把她从椅子上扶到床上，给她瘦弱的身体盖好被子。

6 看到这些爱的举动，我又一次地想（尽管已经想过上千次了），天哪，养老院为什么不给那些老年夫妇提供双人床？他们一辈子都睡在一起，这对他们而言是种安慰。但是到了养老院，却要他们睡单人床，这种安慰一夜之间就被剥夺了。

7 这种政策真愚蠢，当我看着克里斯伸手关上凯特床头的灯时常常会这样想。随后克里斯会温柔地弯下腰，两人轻轻地亲吻。他拍拍她的脸颊，他们微笑着。他总是把她床边上的横档拉上以后才转过身去拿自己的药。他们俩的床被分隔在房间的两边，当我走到过道上时，我能听见克里斯说：“晚安，凯特！”，以及她回答的声音“晚安，克里斯！”。

8 我有两天没去上班，当我回来时，我听到的第一个消息是：“克里斯昨天上午去世了。”

9 “怎么回事？”

10 “心脏病，很突然。”

11 “凯特怎么样？”

12 “不好。”

13 我走进凯特的房间。她坐在椅子上，一动不动，手放在膝上，目光呆滞。我握着她的手说，“凯特，我是菲丽丝。”

14 她的眼睛一动不动，只是呆呆地瞪着。我用手托着她的下巴，让她慢慢转过头来，好让她看着我。

15 “凯特，我刚刚得知克里斯的事。我很难过。”

16 一听到“克里斯”这个名字，她的眼睛重现生机。她看着我，迷惑不解，好像正奇怪我是怎么突然出现的。“凯特，是我，菲丽丝。对于克里斯的死我很难过。”

17 她认出了我，一脸的悲伤。接着，她泪如泉涌，泪水顺着脸颊流了下来。“克里斯死了，”她轻声说。

18 “我知道，”我说，“我知道。”

19 我们有一阵子对凯特特别照顾，让她在自己的房间里吃饭，给予她特殊的关心。接下来工作人员帮助她回归过去按部就班的生活。常常，当我走过凯特的房间，我会发现她坐在椅子上，腿上放着剪贴簿，悲伤地注视着克里斯的相片。

20 对于凯特来说，睡前的时光是最难熬的。虽然已允许她从自己的床上搬到克里斯的床上，虽然工作人员会一边为她掖好被子，一边与她聊天说笑，但凯特却仍然沉默，仍然郁郁寡欢。在照顾她盖好被子躺

下一个小时之后，我经过她的房间，总会发现她还没睡，凝视着天花板。

21 几周过去了，她晚上依然不能入眠，看上去焦躁不安。为什么？我思索着。为什么晚上会比其他时间更难熬呢？

22 一天晚上，我走进她的房间，看见她还是那样毫无睡意，我忍不住说：“凯特，会不会是因为没人亲吻你道晚安？”弯下腰，我吻了吻她那布满皱纹的脸颊。

23 我好像打开了她情感的闸门，眼泪顺着她的脸流下来，她紧紧地抓着我的手。“克里斯总是亲吻我，对我说晚安，”她哭着说道。

24 “我知道，”我轻声说。

25 “我很想念他，这么多年以来他总是亲吻我道晚安。”她停顿了一下，我帮她擦着眼泪。“没有他的吻我似乎无法入睡。”

26 她抬头看着我，眼里充满了泪水。“噢，谢谢你给我一个吻。”

27 她的嘴角浮起一丝微笑。“你知道吗，”她掏心窝地对我说，“克里斯过去常给我唱一首歌。”

28 “是吗？”

29 “嗯，”她点了点她那满是白发的头，“我晚上躺在这儿，就想着那首歌。”

30 “这首歌怎么唱？”

31 凯特笑了，拉着我的手，清了清嗓子。然后她轻轻地提起嗓子唱了起来，她的嗓音虽然因年老而细弱，却依然优美：

亲吻我吧，我亲爱的，让我们分手（睡觉）吧，

当我老得做不动梦时，

你的吻会永远留在我心里。

PART 3 Further Development

1 Grammar Review

Structure 1

- 1 This book is easy to find in the library.
- 2 Kitchen floors are not easy to keep clean.
- 3 George is hard to get along with.
- 4 His attitude is difficult to accept.
- 5 This information would be impossible to gather without using computers.

Structure 2

- 1 It became increasingly difficult for her parents to understand her behavior.
- 2 It is very difficult for the government to deal with the problem.
- 3 It is impossible for you to win such a prize.
- 4 It was hard for us to take such criticism.
- 5 It is convenient for you to prepare these meals.

Structure 3

- 1 At that moment, we really had no vocabulary with which to express our feelings.
- 2 He was then 14 years old, a rather late age at which to start a formal education.
- 3 But a regular inspection every four or five years cannot provide enough information by which to judge the effectiveness of a school.
- 4 They can usually find another person with whom to share the pain.
- 5 The professor helped John choose a likely publisher to whom to send his novel.
- 6 They believe that marriage will provide them with a partner in whom to trust.

2 Vocabulary Review

- 1 **A** **paces**: The word “pace” here means a single step when one is running or walking, or the distance one moves in one step.
B **pace**: the phrase “keep pace with” means change, increase or move as fast as sth. or sb. else
C **pace / speed**: the speed at which sb. walks, runs, or moves
D **speed**: the rate at which sth. moves or travels during a given period of time. We usually use “at a high speed”, not “at a high pace”.
- 2 **A** **adjust**: make small changes in position or level of sth. in order to improve it or make it more suitable
B **adjusted**: make small changes in order to improve sth. or make it more suitable. We use “carefully” to modify “adjust” but not “change”.
C **change**: make sb. or sth. different. We use “change one’s mind” but not “adjust one’s mind”.
D **changed / adjusted**: change or move slightly
- 3 **A** **precisely / exactly**: accurately and carefully
B **precisely / exactly**: used to emphasize that a particular thing is completely true or correct
C **exactly / precisely**: used when emphasizing that sth. is no more and no less than a number or amount, but “exactly the same” is more commonly used.
D **precisely / exactly**: correctly; no more, no less than a number or amount
- 4 **A** **puzzled**: confused because you cannot understand sth., especially because it is different from what you expect. We say “puzzled face” but not “confused face”.
B **puzzled / confused**: unable to understand what sb. is saying or what is happening.
C **confused / puzzled**: unable to understand what sb. is saying or what is happening. “Get confused” is more commonly used.
D **puzzled / confused**: unable to understand sth. or the reason for sth.
- 5 **A** **urged**: strongly suggest that sb. do sth. “Urge” can be modified by “strongly”.
B **persuade**: make sb. decide to do sth., especially by giving them reasons why they should do it, or asking them many times to do it
C **urged**: try hard to persuade sb. to do sth.
D **persuade**: make sb. decide to do sth.

3 Expressions in Chinese Romances

STEP ONE

Sample

It seems some of them are a bit out of date, but when we look into the deeper meaning, there is still something in most of them. Now, let's deal with them one by one.

- 1 Nowadays in China there are still many men who look for beautiful partners and women for gifted scholars. Another similar expression is “郎才女貌”. Both of them reflect the idea that an intelligent man and a beautiful woman will make a perfect match. In fact, it doesn't work in many cases. Now there are quite a few girls who want to seek for rich men as their partners, while men still prefer to have beautiful girls.
- 2 The second expression shows us the different roles of a couple in a family, though nowadays they won't till the soil or weave. I think both the husband and the wife should share the responsibilities for their family, but it doesn't mean that the husband should work outside while the wife should stay at home.
- 3 Harmony between a couple is an important factor for a long-lasting relationship, but it's not necessarily true that harmony is obtained only in this way: The husband sings while the wife follows in harmony. It can be the other way round, “妇唱夫随” (The wife sings while the husband follows in harmony). In a family the husband and the wife cannot always be agreeable with each other. When they have different ideas and then reach agreement after reasoning, they are still in harmony.
- 4 The fourth expression is still popular in China, though the divorce rate is reported to have gone up, especially in big cities. I believe both men and women hope to remain devoted to their partners to the end of their lives when and after they are married. Surely devoted couples enjoy considerable advantages in their lives, however, things are changing and why should people keep an unhappy marriage to the end of their lives?
- 5 I think people of the same social and economic status may have similar ideas and feelings or share the same value system. But it's not always true. We live in such a complicated society, which is changing so rapidly. Even in the past, there were a lot of stories about men and women with totally different family backgrounds getting over barriers on their way to marriage. And it isn't difficult for us to find more living examples of the kind.
- 6 Treating each other with respect is very important to a happy marriage. It also means a couple cherish their relationship and love each other whole-heartedly. I think we should respect people, not only our dear ones in our family but also those who are close to or around us.
- 7 The last expression, “嫁鸡随鸡”, refers to women, not men, conveys a somewhat out-of-date idea. It means that a woman could have only one marriage all her life, no matter what happened to the husband or no matter what kind of person the husband became. This suggests that Chinese women in the past had very low social status and were the vulnerable ones in marriage. A woman could make no choice of her own all her life, and as we know, marriages in the past were usually arranged by parents.

STEP TWO

Sample

- 1 “Naked marriage” (getting married with no car, no house, no wedding ceremony and even no rings) started in 2008 when many young people born in the 1980s began to form their own families. Considering the high housing prices and other expenses involved in a wedding, a number of young people prefer naked marriage instead of traditional wedding rituals. I think naked marriage is a good practice for those who don’t want to be in debt as a result of getting married. In fact, a happy marriage is not necessarily based on material items like a car, house, wedding ceremony or rings. If both parties feel happy together, nothing can prevent them from getting married.
- 2
 - “Flash marriage” is gradually becoming popular among young people. When our life pace is so fast people don’t like to wait. We have fast food, instant noodles, instant coffee, high-speed railway, express mail and the Internet. All these indicate that we don’t want to waste our time. As the saying goes, “Time and tide wait for no man.” Why should young people date for a long time before they can get married? Flash marriage doesn’t mean blind marriage. Nowadays almost nothing can be kept secret. When two young people get to know each other and feel happy together they may get married right away. It saves a lot of time and effort.
 - As we know, love is a deep feeling of fondness, affection and friendship that grows between two people. Even for those who fall in love at the first sight, it also takes time for their love to evolve with time to become a more lasting sense of attachment. I don’t think people can get to know each other well enough within a very short period of time. When the early passion is gone, life may become very difficult for the young couple. Very often flash marriage will lead to flash divorce, and either party could be hurt as a result. So I don’t think flash marriage is a good practice.
- 3 I know a couple who graduated from our university with the wife working in IT industry and the husband teaching at a university. They visited me just after they got married. When they talked about life, the wife said jokingly that they were a revolutionary couple. Although they do not lead a rich life, they share a common goal and both of them are working hard to achieve their goal. I like their attitude toward marriage and life. There are a lot of choices in our lives, and theirs is surely a good one for young people.
- 4 Nowadays, many beautiful girls wish to marry men from rich and powerful families, especially movie stars, singers or sports stars. They try hard to get into touch with those men, hoping to become their wives. The mass media are interested in publicizing this kind of news, often misleading the public. I think everybody has their own choice to make. That’s their freedom. As for the question of whether or not that will lead to a happy marriage, it depends.

4 Agree or Disagree

Sample

- I agree with this statement because I love pets, and I feel happy when I’m with pets. I myself have a pet cat. I like him very much, and I enjoy taking care of him. When I am unhappy or in low spirits, I stroke him, cuddle him and then I feel much better. He’s like one of my friends. In

a sense, he is better than a friend because he never argues with me and usually obeys me.

- I don't agree with this statement. I'm afraid of animals, especially dogs. I don't know why, but I have been afraid of dogs since my childhood. At the sight of dogs, I shiver. I don't understand how I can lower my blood pressure by stroking or patting them. On the contrary, my blood pressure would rise because I am so nervous when seeing a dog and sometimes I can't help screaming.

5 What Is Love?

- | | | | | | |
|-------------|-------------|--------|-----------------|-------------|---------|
| 1 causes | 2 offers | 3 to | 4 not | 5 tell | 6 calls |
| 7 attracted | 8 discovers | 9 weak | 10 disappointed | 11 distance | 12 out |

6 What's Wrong with Them?

STEP TWO

Sample

- At that time they didn't know how to make the relationship work though they loved each other. In other words, they didn't understand each other. They didn't know what the other needed or how the other felt to make their love grow. I believe they both were inexperienced.
 - John said he wasn't skilled enough to make the relationship work, but I don't think that was the real cause. If they really value their relationship, they can do whatever they can to keep it. I guess the reason why they broke up and went their separate ways at first was that they thought they could find a better partner later on.
- Four years later, they became more mature and dated differently because they understood how men and women were different. When they knew how the opposite sex thought and felt differently, they were able to open their hearts to each other and improve their communication. By doing so, they created conditions for love to grow.
 - I think the reason why their relationship could be resumed four years later was that they still loved each other. Their problem at that time was that they lacked skills to continue their relationship. When they met again and the problem was solved, they made their relationship work. If they hadn't loved each other, I think it would have been impossible for them to rekindle the fire of love and passion.

PART 4 Translation and Writing

2 Translation Practice

- 1 He never complains about the financial burden on his shoulders.
2 She has a golden heart and loves people around her.
3 My father has never bought any candies or toys for my younger brother and me, but I know he loves us.
4 My parents do their best to meet our needs and always keep their promise.
- 1 他从来不感到疲劳，非常喜欢工作，而且说话不多。

- 2 我喜欢她的陪伴，有她在我觉得很安心，尤其是在天气不好的时候。
- 3 我们非常感激他给我们的一切，而且下决心要努力学习来报答他。
- 4 她常常给我讲一些很有趣的故事，从这些故事中我能够知道自己该做什么，不该做什么。

3 Writing

Teaching tips

To give students a clear idea of how to organize their composition, the teacher may encourage them to include the following in their writing:

- a description of the physical features (height, weight, etc.) of their father / mother
- characteristics of their father / mother
- what the student thinks of their father / mother
- something that had happened between their father / mother and the student

Sample 1

My Father, a Hard-Working Man

My father, 46 years old, is a very hard-working farmer. It seems as if he never feels tired and enjoys working very much. He seldom smiles. Perhaps it's because he has a big family to support and the heavy burden on his shoulders leaves him no time to enjoy himself. He is also a man of few words.

Father has never bought any candies or toys for my younger brother and me, but I know he loves us. He is strict with us. Actually he himself has set a good example for us. He once said: "You should study hard so that you can serve the people better in the future." My family is poor, but father does his best to meet our needs and always keeps his promise. He once promised that he would pay for the education of my brother and me even if he had to sell our house. We were deeply moved.

Following father's example, both my brother and I are very diligent. We appreciate what we have received from him and are determined to study hard to repay him. I love and admire my father.

Sample 2

My Mother

My mother, a middle-aged woman, has a golden heart and loves people around her. I'm a lucky girl and always feel proud of her and thankful for her love.

When I was a child, my mother took me to the kindergarten every day and talked with me on the way. I enjoyed her company and felt secure, especially when the weather was bad. When I was naughty and made mistakes, my mother never blamed me. Instead she often told me some enjoyable stories from which I was able to know what I should do and what I shouldn't do.

When I went to school, my mother cared about not only my daily needs but also my studies. When I did poorly in school, she often encouraged me to try my best the next time. She said she had confidence in me and told me never to lose heart. So I owe what I've achieved in my study to my mother.

I love my mother and will remember her kindness forever. I'll try to be a person who has inherited all the good virtues from my mother.