**高三英语每周二晚读晚练材料（十四）**

（2015.12.1）

【请抄写并背诵这篇文章】

【书写要求】 1.字母大小一致； 2.字母间距均匀； 3.单词间隔一个字母距离； 4.所有单词倾斜度一致； 5.所有单词写在一条横线上； 6.文章左右竖直对成一条垂直线； 7.段落开头空出四个字母的距离； 8.用0.5黑色字迹的笔或签字笔书写，其他笔无效

Hongbao, a red envelope with small amounts of money in, is a gift that is guaranteed to be warmly received, not just because of the cash, but also because of its traditional symbolism and best wishes for the future. This is true throughout China, but especially in the south where people regard receiving hongbao as an auspicious beginning to the New Year.

Legend in the south has it that a devil used to appear to harm children and the elderly but loud noise would frighten the devil away, as the color red did.

Firecrackers took care of the noise and during the Spring Festival couplets also helped keep him away. But firecrackers couldn’t go off all day so children and the elderly also got hongbao, red envelopes containing money.

The tradition has survived millennia, and giving hongbao to children and the elderly remains popular among Chinese people all over the world. It has also made its way into workplaces where bosses often give employees hongbao and most recently, companies have adopted online marketing strategies where hongbao are distributed, hoping their companies and staff members have a good start.

Giving hongbao at the beginning of the Lunar New Year indicates best wishes for the future.

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