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实用大学英语读写系列教材

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实用大学英语 读写教程

(第二册)



胡德勤 雷万忠 主编



华中科技大学出版社

实用大学英语读写教程

第二册

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前 言

《实用大学英语听说教程》一至四册和《实用大学英语读写教程》一至四册是根据教育部 1999 年公布的《大学英语教学大纲》修订本及 2004 年 3 月网上公布的《大学英语课程要求(试行)》意见编写的,针对地方普通高等院校本科学生在基础阶段使用的一套教材。

本套教材选择的题材和体裁具有多样性,从一般的趣味性文章,到文、史、哲、经等方面的文章,特别注重学生语言基础的训练,从读音、词汇、语法、功能意念等方面对学生进行训练。材料的来源也很广泛,既有从国外原版教材中选择的文章,也有从国内外英文杂志、网络上改编的文章。

大学英语教材建设是大学英语教学改革的重要环节,在全国高等院校中,既有 211 工程大学,也有国家重点大学、省级重点大学,一般普通高等院校,同时,由于地域差异,学生入学时的英语水平参差不齐,针对不同的教学对象,使用不同的教学材料、划分不同的教学级别、提出不同的教学要求,因材施教,是大学英语教学理论的“与时俱进”。不同层次的学校,有针对性地编写出适合自己学校学生学习的教材和辅助教材,以及正在发展的网络教材是大学英语教学改革、大学英语教材建设的发展方向。

在这样的背景下,由华中科技大学出版社组织、策划了针对一般普通高等院校而编写的《实用大学英语听说教程》和《实用大学英语读写教程》系列教材,由江汉大学、中国人民解放军第四军医大学、四川大学、秦皇岛职业技术学院、广西师范学院、湖北经济学院、湖北鄖阳医学院等院校数十位中青年教师参加,经过认真准备,精心修改,集体协作编写而成。编写集体成员中,大多是年富力强的中青年教师,其中大多数教师具有硕士学位或正在攻读硕士学位,他们大多毕业于 90 年代,学习了新的语言学理论,并掌握了较为扎实的语言功底,为教材的成功编写打下了良好的基础。本套教材由江汉大学外国语学院夏锡华、崔东担任总主编。

本套教材的编写方针是:从实际出发,总结经验,借鉴方法,编写适合

一般普通高等院校实用的基础阶段大学英语教材。

以学生为教学中心,以教师为教学的主导是本套教材推荐的教学方式。在信息时代的今天,无论是教师还是学生,都受到了这一时代的强烈冲击。快餐文化、浮躁心理、不平衡感觉、网络游戏沉溺、贫富差距、付出与所得不对等,使我们动辄回忆起过去的美好、传统教学环境下学生的自觉、自愿、目标明确的教学环境难以再现。如何有效地开展好大学英语教学活动,不断提高我国的大学英语教学水平,为国家培养外语合格的人才是在大学英语教师面前的一个重大课题,是一个需要方方面面配合方能解决的历史性课题,所幸的是,新一轮的大学英语教学改革已经启动,我们大学英语教师所期盼的不仅仅是教学方式的改变,而是更深层次的改变。

本套教材由江汉大学外国语学院牵头,通过参加单位的通力合作,历时一年多合力编写而成的,邓虹、张冬贵、董春枝、胡德勤、王静、周昕、王相国、李旭等分册主编为此付出了艰辛的劳动。教材建设一向是学校教学改革的重点,本套教材从开始就得到了校领导的高度重视和支持,同时,得到了校教务处及相关部门的支持及具体建议。由于材料来源及学识水平有限,本套书在体例,内容选择,练习取舍,注解完善等方面都存在着这样和那样的缺陷,但第一步必须走出,通过本套书的编写,锻炼了一支队伍,培养了一批骨干,聚集了一群科研人员、打下了一定的研究基础,为今后的工作提供了条件。通过教材的使用,可以为大学英语教学提供教学方法、手段等方面的研究,也可以为研究学生的学习兴趣、注意力等提供素材。

华中科技大学出版社副编审孟筱康为本套书的编写及付梓付出了辛勤的劳动,对以上同志的辛勤劳动表示衷心的感谢!

教学改革之路漫漫其修远兮,大学英语教师当不断上下而求索。

夏锡华

2004年5月1日

使用说明

本书为《实用大学英语读写教程》系列教材第二册,供大学英语第二级教学使用。学生在学习本书之前应该已经掌握英语的基本语法知识及1 600个英语单词,并在读、听、写、说等方面受过初步的训练。

第二册共有八个单元。每一单元由三篇围绕同一个主题的课文组成。讲解时教师可根据需要重点学习其中一篇课文,将另外两篇留作学生自学。每篇课文后分别有生词(New Words)、注释(Notes)、课文理解练习(Reading Comprehension)及词汇结构练习(Vocabulary and Structures)。整个单元之后还提供了有指导的写作训练。

课文全部选用原文材料,但有少量删改。选材力求题材、体裁多样,内容丰富有趣,并有一定的启发性。

为了便于学生学习,生词释义采用英汉结合的方式,并附有音标及例句。注释尽量用浅近的英语,主要介绍有关的背景知识,说明一些特殊的语言现象,供学生预习时参考。

练习包括课文理解(Reading Comprehension)及词汇结构(Vocabulary and Structures)两大部分。理解练习旨在培养学生的阅读技能及训练他们从篇章着眼的良好阅读习惯。有选择填空、回答问题、正误判断以及提纲归纳等多种形式,既测试学生的理解程度,也兼顾训练归纳表达能力。为了使学生更注重掌握一定语言环境下词汇的意义及用法,词汇结构练习提供了大量猜测词义及比较一词多义的练习。词形转化练习帮助学生熟悉现代英语中的主要构词法,借以扩大词汇量。翻译练习挑选课文中的长难句,帮助学生加深对课文内容的理解以及重点学习英语句式特点,掌握基本翻译技巧。

有指导的写作根据本单元的主题,提出了写作题目。并归纳了与写作内容相关的有用的词汇及表达法,供学生参考。

总之,本教程是根据《大学英语教学大纲》对于二级教学的要求编写的。阅读和练习量都较大,难度适当照顾各类学生的需要。教师可根据学生的具体情况有选择地加以使用。

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Unit One

Passage 1

The History of Tea

Tea is believed to have originated in an area encompassing Southwest China and Northern India sometime before the last ice age^①, spreading to other parts of the land as the ice receded. Even so, when man first began drinking tea is unclear, although it is thought to have been first used as a medicine. Indeed, legend has it that China's father of agriculture and medicine, Shen Nong Shi, whose habit was to personally consume plants to assess their medicinal effects, recovered from a serious bout of accidental poisoning after eating tealeaves. From that time on tea was administered as a remedy for illnesses ranging from poisoning and digestive problems to common fatigue. And even today, tea is believed to help prevent certain types of cancer.

When tea finally made the transition from purely medicinal use to a generally enjoyed beverage it was unlike the drink that we know today. Instead tealeaves were processed and compressed into a cake. Tea was subsequently made by breaking off parts of the cake and boiling it in a container into which ingredients such as salt and fruit were added—a similar process is still observed by habitants of the Tibetan plateau today.

As tea drinking gained popularity it gradually necessitated a variety of utensils from which tea could be prepared and drunk. This in turn spurred on the ceramic industry, as well as the academic study of tea, and gave rise to the first tea masters who had great expertise in the variety of different teas as well as the best widespread throughout China. Tea became so prized, in fact, that it was even used as a form of exchange, in place of money, for horses bred by neighbouring tribes. Moreover, during the Song Dynasty tea was exported to Japan and sparked off a tea drinking

culture there. Even today the traditional Japanese art of tea making still reflects the tea making art that predominated in China during the time of the Song Dynasty. Many of the traditional arts of tea preparation, however, were lost during the Mongol empire, and only revived following the rise of the Ming Dynasty, some one hundred years later, albeit in a modified form^②.

Tea eventually reached Western countries by way of the great trading routes, such as the Silk Road, and first became established as a national drink in the Holland, and later English; most other European countries preferring to hold on to their coffee drinking traditions. The demand for tea became so great that ships known as tea clippers were specially designed and built for the sole purpose of transporting tea, stimulating the ship building industry in Glasgow, and giving rise to famous Oceanic races when ships would challenge each other to be the first to reach the English coastline from the East China ports. Tea became so popular, in fact, that during the Victorian period (late 18th and early 19th centuries) ladies of leisure would spend their afternoons engaged in conversation and tea drinking, out of which grew numerous tea-shops. Thus, even today, alongside countries such as China and Japan, England remains a great tea-drinking nation.

The wide varieties of teas available derive from two main facts: the region in which they are grown and the process by which the leaves are prepared. Generally, however, there are three main categories of tea: green tea, which is made from unfermented leaves, brown tea (Oolong) which is brewed from leaves that have undergone a process of semi-fermentation, and finally black tea for which full-fermented leaves are used. For many years, however, China jealously guarded the secrets of how to grow and cultivate tea as a way of holding onto their monopoly of the tea trade. This led to some Western botanists guessing wrongly that green and black teas originate from different plants, when in truth they are the same. Instead, tea leaves change their colour, from their natural green through to brown and eventually black through a process known as "oxidation", when the leaves are prepared by rollers and spread out in a fermentation room where they are allowed to oxidize. Finally, they are dried with hot air which stops the fermentation process and turns the leaves black.

In modern times, tea is drunk in many countries throughout the world. And although tea has less commercial value than coffee, it still remains second only to water in being the world's most popular beverage.

New Words:

originate [ə'ridʒineɪt] *vi.* to come into being; start 起源, 发生

e. g. Coal of all kinds originated from the decay of plants.

encompass [in'kʌmpəs] *v.* to constitute or include 构成, 包括

e. g. The survey encompassed a wide range of participants.

recede [ri'si:d] *v.* to withdraw or retreat 后退

e. g. As the tide receded we were able to look for the shells.

legend ['ledʒənd] *n.* an unverified story handed down from earlier times, especially one popularly believed to be historical 传说

assess [ə'ses] *vt.* to determine the value, significance, or extent of; appraise 评估

e. g. It's difficult to assess the impact of the President's speech.

bout [baʊt] *n.* attack (of an illness, etc.) (疾病等)侵袭, 发作

e. g. a bout of flu, bronchitis, rheumatism, etc.

administer [əd'ministə(r)] *v.* to apply (as a remedy) 给予作为治疗或药物使用

digestive [di'dʒestiv] *adj.* 消化的, 有助消化的

fatigue [fə'ti:g] *n.* physical or mental weariness resulting from exertion 疲劳

transition [træn'siʃ(ə)n] *n.* passage from one form, state, style, or place to another
转变, 转换

beverage ['bevəridʒ] *n.* any one of various liquids for drinking, usually excluding water 饮料

process ['prəuses; (US)'prəses] *vt.* 加工, 处理

compress [kəm'pres] *vt.* to make more compact by or as if by pressing 压缩

subsequent ['sʌbsikwənt] *adj.* following in time or order; succeeding 随后的, 后来的

subsequently *adv.* 随后, 后来

ingredient [in'ɡri:diənt] *n.* constituent 成分

habitant ['hæbitənt] *n.* inhabitant 居住者

Tibetan [ti'betən] *adj.* 西藏的, 藏族的, 藏族人的

n. 藏语, 西藏人, 藏族人

plateau ['plætəu; (US)plə'təu] *n.* 高地, 高原

necessitate [ni'sesiteit] *v.* to make necessary or unavoidable 成为必要

e. g. It's an unpopular measure, but the situation necessitates it.

utensil [ju:'tens(ə)l] *n.* instrument, implement, or container used domestically, especially in a kitchen 器具

ceramic [si'ræmik] *adj.* 陶瓷的

n. 陶瓷制品

academic [ækədemik] *adj.* theoretical 理论的

expertise [ekspe'ti:z] *n.* skill or knowledge in a particular area 专门技术

predominate [pri'dəmineit] *vi.* to have or gain controlling power or influence; prevail
占优势, 有支配性权力或影响

e. g. Good predominates over evil in many works of literature.

Mongol ['mɒŋg(ə)l] *n.* 蒙古人[语]

adj. 蒙古人[语] 的

empire ['empaɪə(r)] *n.* 帝国

revive [ri'vaiv] *v.* to return to use, currency, or notice (使)苏醒, (使)复兴

albeit [ɔ:l'bi:t] *conj.* even though; although; notwithstanding 即使, 虽然, 尽管

e. g. clear albeit cold weather

clipper ['klipə(r)] *n.* a sharp-bowed sailing vessel of the mid-19th century, having tall masts and sharp lines and built for great speed 快速帆船

unfermented [ʌnfəmentid] *adj.* 没有发过酵的

fermentation [fə:men'teiʃ(ə)n] *n.* 发酵

brew [bru:] *v.* to make (a beverage) by boiling, steeping, or mixing various ingredients 酿造, 酝酿

cultivate ['kʌltiveit] *vt.* grow or tend (a plant or crop) 种植或照料(植物或作物)

botanist ['bɒtənɪst] *n.* 植物学家

oxidation [ɒksi'deɪʃ(ə)n] *n.* [化] 氧化

Phrases and Expressions:

range from ... to ... / between ... and ... vary or extend between specified limits

e. g. The children's age ranges from ten to fifteen.

break off (cause sth. to) become separated from sth. as a result of force or strain
(使某物)折断

spur sth. /sb. on strongly encourage sth. /sb. to do better, achieve more, etc;
incite or stimulate sth. /sb. 激励或刺激(某事物/某人)

e. g. The magnificent goal spurred the team on to victory.

give rise to cause 引起, 导致

e. g. Her disappearance gave rise to the wildest rumours.

in place of in stead of 代替

spark sth. off (=spark off sth.) lead to sth. [喻] 导致, 引起

e. g. His comment sparked off a quarrel between them.

by way of by a route that includes (the place mentioned); via 经由

e. g. They are travelling to France by way of London.

hold on to keep or retain (sth.) 保留或保有(某事物)

e. g. You should hold on to your oil shares.

derive from have as a starting-point, source or origin; originate from 源自, 源于

e. g. Thousands of English words derive from Latin.

Notes:

1. ice age: period when much of the northern hemisphere was covered with glaciers.
2. albeit in a modified form: although the form was different from that of the Song Dynasty.

Exercises

I. Choose the best answer to complete the following questions.

1. According to legend, _____.
 - A. Shen Nong Shi was accidentally poisoned by tasting tea leaves
 - B. Shen Nong Shi administered tea as a remedy for illnesses
 - C. Shen Nong Shi was the first man who ever drank tea
 - D. Shen Nong Shi was recovered from an accidental poisoning after eating tea leaves
2. According to paragraph two, which of the following statements is true?
 - A. Tea making process has remained unchanged from the time when tea was purely used as medicine.
 - B. Some of the ancient tea making traditions still can be found among Tibetan inhabitants.
 - C. Tea leaves were originally ate in the same way as we eat cake today.
 - D. Tea making tradition has originated in the area of Tibetan plateau.
3. The word "prized" (Paragraph 3) probably means _____.
 - A. valued highly
 - B. given a high price
 - C. praised
 - D. honoured highly
4. According to paragraph three, which of the following statements is not true?
 - A. In Tang Dynasty tea was once used in place of money to exchange horses from neighbouring tribes.
 - B. Japanese art of tea making originated from China during Song Dynasty.

- C. China's ancient traditional arts of tea preparing were all lost during the Mongol empire.
- D. Many of the traditional arts of tea preparation were lost during the Mongol empire, and regained during the Ming Dynasty, though in a modified form.
5. According to paragraph four, which of the following statements is not true?
- A. Tea is a national drink in Holland, English, but most other European countries sticks to their coffee drinking tradition.
- B. Tea clippers were specially designed and built for the only purpose of transporting tea from China to the English coastline.
- C. Tea clippers were specially designed for the only purpose that ships would challenge each other to be the first to reach the English coastline from the East China ports.
- D. Together with countries such as China and Japan, England is also a great tea-drinking nation.
6. The word "monopoly"(Paragraph 5) probably means _____.
A. sole situation
B. sole right of doing something
C. sole position
D. sole possession or control of something
7. To distinguish the wide varieties of teas, which of the following should be taken into consideration?
A. The region in which they are grown.
B. The process by which the leaves are prepared.
C. The plants from which the tea leaves are taken.
D. Both A and B.
8. According to paragraph five, which of the following statements is not true?
A. Generally speaking, there are three categories of tea; green tea, brown tea and black tea.
B. Green and black teas are different because the tealeaves are taken from different plants.
C. Green, brown and black teas are made from tealeaves taken from the same plant.
D. Whether or to what degree the tealeaves have undergone the process of fermentation may determine the category of a tea.

II. Write T in front of a statement if it is true according to the text and write F if it is false.

1. _____ According to legend the founder of the Chinese agriculture and medicine was once accidentally poisoned after eating tealeaves.
2. _____ Tea was originally used as a medicine.
3. _____ Many of the traditional arts of tea preparation were interrupted during the Mongol Empire.
4. _____ The popularity of tea drinking stimulated the industry of making various tea drinking and preparing utensils.
5. _____ During the Song Dynasty tea was exported to Japan and at the same time the traditional Chinese art of tea making was introduced there.
6. _____ Most of the European countries take tea as their national drink.
7. _____ People enjoy tea drinking mainly because tea can prevent certain types of cancer.
8. _____ Tea originated in China.
9. _____ The consumption of tea is greater than that of coffee in the world every year.
10. _____ Coffee is more expensive than tea.
11. _____ Black tea is more expensive than green tea, for the former has undergone a fermentation process while the later has not.
12. _____ For a long time, China was the only country that knew how to grow and cultivate tea. As a result, Europeans didn't know that green and black teas originate from the same plant.
13. _____ The tea clipper was first designed and built in Glasgow, Scotland.
14. _____ England imported the greatest quantity of tea in the world.
15. _____ Tea can sometimes be used as medicine.

III. Choose the best answers to complete the following sentences.

1. Football is believed to have _____ in China.
A. come out B. originated C. born D. traced down
2. _____ the Cowherd(牛郎) and the Weaving Girl(织女) will meet only once a year, on the 7th day of the 7th lunar month, when magpies build a bridge for them over the River of Heaven (the Milky Way).
A. Legend has that B. Legend has it that
C. The legend has that D. The legend has it that

3. They meet monthly to _____ the current political situation.
A. determine B. decide C. assess D. access
4. He was badly injured during the earthquake. Nobody would believe that he has _____ in so short a time.
A. recovered B. refreshed C. restored D. refined
5. The most essential _____ in this dish is the pepper(胡椒).
A. part B. ingredient C. element D. factor
6. The popularity of cars among the citizens _____ a variety of garages in which cars can be repaired and maintained.
A. has necessitated B. has asked for
C. has required D. has demanded
7. I am not conceited about my achievement but I am _____ by it.
A. spurred B. spurred on C. aroused D. aroused up
8. The cloning of human beings can _____ ethical problems.
A. give raise to B. give rise with
C. give raise with D. give rise to
9. Absolute secrecy is essential. _____, the fewer who are aware of the plan the better.
A. So B. As a result
C. Consequently D. In the end
10. He is not qualified enough for the job, for it require a great deal of managerial _____.
A. experience B. expertise C. expert D. experter
11. The fish is highly _____ for their excellent flavour.
A. praised B. primed C. priced D. prized
12. This task is carried out by robots _____ human workers.
A. to place of B. in place of
C. to the place of D. in the place of
13. They knew the painting was a forgery(赝品). _____, they knew who had painted it.
A. As well as B. More the same
C. Something more D. Moreover
14. The letter _____ a friendship between the two men.
A. sparked off B. sparked of
C. sparked out D. sparked with