

安徽省高等学校“十一五”省级规划教材

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新 ²
New Target
目标
大学英语泛读
College English Extensive Reading

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中国科学技术大学出版社

安徽省高等学校“十一五”省级规划教材

图章册目(CIP)录编注作图

高中、部合... 编主册分本家著,平亚梁;编主册著编... 2008年... 中国科学技术大学出版社
ISBN 978-7-313-02376-7
7-313-02376-7

新目标

大学英语泛读

New Target College English Extensive Reading

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江苏工业学院图书馆
藏玉书章

中国科学技术大学出版社

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

新目标大学英语泛读. 2 / 郝涂根主编;梁亚平,程家才分册主编. — 合肥: 中国科学技术大学出版社, 2008. 7

(安徽省高等学校“十一五”省级规划教材)

ISBN 978-7-312-02376-7

I. 新… II. ①郝… ②梁… ③程… III. 英语—阅读教学—高等学校—教材 IV. H319.4

中国版本图书 CIP 数据核字(2008)第 094931 号

出版发行 中国科学技术大学出版社
安徽省合肥市金寨路 96 号, 邮编: 230026
网址: <http://www.press.ustc.edu.cn>

印 刷 合肥远东印务有限责任公司印刷
经 销 全国新华书店
开 本 710×960(mm) 1/16
印 张 14.125
字 数 260 千
版 次 2008 年 7 月第 1 版
印 次 2008 年 7 月第 1 次印刷
定 价 20.00 元

前 言

教育部《大学英语课程教学要求》规定：大学英语课程以英语语言知识与应用技能、学习策略和跨文化交际为主要内容，其目标是培养学生的英语综合应用能力。改革后的大学英语四、六级考试，也是侧重于考查学生的英语应用能力，提高了阅读理解的难度和阅读速度，以测试考生快速捕捉信息的水平。我们以此为依据，编写了《新目标大学英语泛读》。

本教材以凸显文化性为主要特色，着重选择了一些有关中西方文化、教育理念、学习策略以及科技、经济、社会生活等方面的文章。我们从普通高校非英语专业学生入学时英语水平的实际情况出发，同时紧扣大学英语四、六级考试题型，设置了丰富多样的练习题，从内容到练习形式，都极力体现《大学英语课程教学要求》中有关大学英语泛读教学的指导理念，以期满足普通高校非英语专业大学生学习英语的需求。

本教材 1 套 4 册，每册 15 单元，每单元围绕一个主题，由三大部分构成：

Part I Text: 主题性文章一篇。文章前配有相关插图和汉语阅读提示，以便于学生把握学习方向。生词采用边注形式，有助于学生排除阅读障碍。文后附有难句译文及形式多样的练习题。

Part II Skimming and Scanning: 快速阅读文章 1 篇。文中生词采用夹注形式，练习题形式多样，有判断练习、完成句子练习和填表练习等。

Part III Reading in Depth: 仔细阅读文章 2 篇。第一篇文章的练习题形式为填词和简短问答题，旨在提高学生的书面表达能力。第二篇文章配有 5 个与四、六级考试阅读理解题型相同的选择题。

需要说明的是，我们在本教材文章素材的选取上，注重了知识性、趣味性、时代性，同时着重选编了一些有关中国文化和学习策略的文章，相信这对于拓宽同学们的英语表达领域、增强自主学习观念会有所帮助。期望同学们通过对本教材的学习，提高对英语学习的兴趣，养成独立阅读的良好习惯，增强国际交际能力。

《新目标大学英语泛读》编委会

2008 年 6 月

注：★=较高难度的单词，▲=更高难度的单词，◆=超纲单词。

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Unit 1

Information Technology

Part I Text

Introduction Angel Balderas Puga

随着社会的发展,信息技术已融入我们生活的各个方面。增强用英语对信息技术的表达能力,对您无疑是有益的。



In the last decade, we have been witnesses of a gradual and complex process of integration¹ of information technology in the different sectors² of our societies. Information technology goes from the financial³ sector to the commercial one, from the educative sector to the cultural one. This process seems unchangeable. Everything makes us predict that computers and computer networks will not be foreigners in homes, schools, universities or work centers. Instead, computers and computer networks will be considered as a natural part of the environment

1. ◆ integration /inti'greiʃn/ n. 结合, 综合
2. sector /sektə(r)/ n. 部门, 部分
3. financial /'fainænsiəl/ adj. 金融的, 财政的

4. strengthen /'streɪŋŋən/ *v.t.*
加强, 加固

5. cell phone 手机, 移动电话

6. dialectic /,daɪə'lektɪk/
n. 辩证

7. in a way 在某种程度上, 在某些方面

8. reduce /rɪ'dju:s/ *v.t.* 简化, 归纳

9. dimension /,daɪ'menʃn/
n. 特点, 特性, 方面, 部分

10. vision /'vɪʒən/ *n.* 看见的事物

11. convergence /kən'vɜ:dʒəns/
n. 回合(点), 集中点

12. tendency /'tendənsi/
n. 趋势

13. calculator /'kælkjuleɪtə(r)/
n. 计算器

14. automation /ɔ:təmeɪʃən/
n. 自动化, 自动操作

15. evolution /ɪ'vɒlu:ʃn/
n. 演变, 发展

in which we are born and grow, and they follow the same way of other well strengthened⁴ technologies that already exist in the every-day-life of people.^①

In fact, we have seen in the past how every new technology (from cars to airplanes, from films to cell phones⁵) requires a dialectic⁶ process of adaptation because of society.^② Such adaptation process can last even for several generations. Finally, the new technologies become in a way⁷ almost a natural part of the environment in which we live. Seeing and using radios and phones has been natural for us. In the same way, using computers will be natural too.

Information technology cannot be reduced⁸ just to the concept of machines because it includes various dimensions⁹. However, the computer has been for many years the only visible sign of the existence of information technology for people. Unfortunately, even today, that is the most obvious vision¹⁰ that exists in different sectors¹¹ of societies. Information technology cannot be even reduced to a fashion because its roots appeared in remote times.

In fact, modern information technology has its roots in the convergence¹¹ of three important tendencies¹²: the development of calculator¹³ machines, the processes of automation¹⁴ operation, and the detailed description of information.^③ Each one of these sectors has had its own evolution¹⁵ characterized by different stages. Many of these stages are directly linked

with the development of mathematics.

From the mid 60's to the late 70's, information technology went through¹⁶ deep transformations¹⁷:

On one hand, there is a considerable extension of the information technology applications¹⁸. Many people consider this stage as a true revolution, and later on it was going to impact¹⁹ on all the economic and social structures.

On the other hand, there is the appearance of personal computers. In this stage exists the will to fight against the centralization²⁰ of data by very few people with special rights.

These two transformations contribute in a determinant way to the spread of modern information technology. Such effect brings new problems linked to the large increase of different forms of applications. The necessity of a better control of these new applications implies knowing in a deep way the limits and potentialities²¹ of information technology. This is a global necessity of contemporary societies that interests all sectors, from the scientific to the industrial, from the commercial to the educative, and so on.

Each sector has to study and resolve the specific problems related to the integration of the deep values of information technology. This activity implies the necessity of incorporation²² of a new element in our culture. Such incorporation requires a process of adaptation and learning of this "new" sector of knowledge in order to incorporate information technology as another element of our culture. The development of a

16. go through 经历

17. transformation /trænsfə'meɪʃn/ *n.* 变化; 转变

18. application /æpli'keɪʃn/ *n.* 应用, 运用

19. impact /im'pækt/ *vi.* 产生不良影响

20. centralization /sentrə'lai'zeɪʃn/ *n.* 集中, 集权

21. potentiality /pə'tenʃi'æli'ti/ *n.* 潜力, 潜能

22. incorporation /ɪn,kɔ:pə'reɪʃn/ *n.* 包含, 合并, 吸收

“ computer-science culture ” allows us to understand that information technology will bring about a transformation in the social organization, in everyday life, in different work forms, in the way of being of each one of us, and in the way in which we relate with everyone else and with our objects of study.

—<http://dipmat.math.unipa.it/~grim/EBalderas.PDE>

(599 words)

Notes

- ① Instead, computers and computer networks will be considered as a natural part of the environment in which we are born and grow, and they follow the same way of other well strengthened technologies that already exist in the every-day-life of people.

相反,可以把电脑和电脑网络看作是我们生长环境的一个自然部分。和其他在日常生活中已得到充分应用的技术一样,它们同样与人们的生活息息相关。

- ② In fact, we have seen in the past how every new technology (from cars to airplanes, from films to cell phones) requires a dialectic process of adaptation because of society.

事实上,我们在过去已经见证了由于社会的缘故每项新技术(从汽车到飞机,从胶卷到手机)所经历的辩证适应过程。

- ③ In fact, modern information technology has its roots in the combination of three important tendencies: the development of calculator machines, the processes of automation operation, and the detailed description of information.

事实上,现代信息技术集3个重要趋势于一身:即计算机器的发展、自动操作的过程以及信息的详细阐述。

Exercises

I. Decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F) according to the text.

- () 1. In the last ten years, information technology has been greatly combined into different sectors of our societies.
- () 2. According to the author, computer is the symbol of information technology.
- () 3. From the late 60's to the early 70's, information technology experienced great changes.
- () 4. Modern information technology is directly connected with the development of mathematics.
- () 5. The spread of modern information technology is due to the considerable extension of the information technology applications and the appearance of personal computers.

II. Fill in the blanks in the following sentences, using the words or phrases given below. Change the form where necessary.

tendency impact strengthen reduce in a way necessity dimension link with go through financial
--

1. It is a matter of _____ to wear formal clothes when meeting the Queen.
2. Tokyo and New York are major _____ centers.
3. _____ it was one of our biggest mistakes.
4. He's amazingly cheerful considering all he has had to _____.
5. This latest development has further _____ my determination to leave.
6. There is a _____ to the problem that we have not discussed.
7. The newspapers _____ his name _____ hers.
8. Her father's death _____ greatly on her childhood years.
9. There is a _____ for this disease to run in families.
10. The problem _____ to two main issues.

III. Put the following into Chinese.

1. In the last decade, we have been witnesses of a gradual and complex process of integration of information technology in the different sectors of our societies.

2. Information technology cannot be reduced just to the concept of machines because it includes various dimensions.
3. These two transformations contribute in a determinant way to the spread of modern information technology.
4. This is a global necessity of contemporary societies that interests all sectors, from the scientific to the industrial, from the commercial to the educative, and so on.

IV. Complete the summary with the words and phrases from the text.

In the last decade, we have seen the process of integration of information technology in the different sectors of our societies, from the 1 sector to the commercial one, from the 2 sector to the cultural one.

Information technology cannot be 3 just to the computer because it includes various 4. Even it can not be reduced to a fashion because its roots appeared in 5 times. In fact, modern information technology has its roots in the combination of three important 6: the development of calculator machines, the processes of automation, and the elaboration of information.

From the mid 60's to the late 70's, information technology 7 deep transformations: On the one hand, there is a considerable extension of the information technology 8. 9, there is the appearance of personal computers. These two transformations 10 in a fixed and definite way to the spread of modern information technology.

(152 words)

Part II Skimming and Scanning

Information Technology and Education

In recent years, the fast, effective and global communication of knowledge has created a new foundation for co-operation (合作) and teamwork, both nationally and internationally. The increasing role played by information technology in the development of society calls for an active reaction to the challenges of the information society.

The Danish government's IT policy report to the Folketing (Danish parliament) (议会) and annual IT plans of action are an expression of the fact that the government takes the development of the information society seriously and regards the public sector as the spearhead (先锋) in selected areas. In this connection, education is one of the quite central areas.

Only if society works towards a higher level of education for the population as a whole and involves the individual citizen in life-long education will Denmark maintain its competitiveness (竞争力) and develop a labor market which, in the global competition for jobs, is even today under great pressure.

The following strategic (战略性的) targets are an expression of the fact that the Ministry of Education is ready to face the challenge.

An IT educational policy must ensure:

Up-to-date (现代的, 最新的) qualifications in the information society

Up-to-date qualifications gained against the background of a high general level of education in the population will be decisive (决定性的) if Denmark is to maintain competitiveness and its share of the global labor market in the information society. IT skills and IT understanding are thus central preconditions for the individual, both now and especially in the future.

The advantage of using information technology is that time-consuming work routines can increasingly be performed by means of this technology

and time can thus be devoted instead to communicating and informing, to the processing of information and the production of knowledge.

This means that the ability to gain an overview(概述, 概观) and to choose between items of information will be quite central skills. Only with their help can the increasing volume of information be used to meet individual needs and to increase the speed of decision-making and the production of knowledge. At the same time, an overview of the potential of information technology on the part of the user is necessary for its rational use.

It is, therefore, necessary to develop professional skills as well as basic IT operating skills. IT skills are obtained mainly through prolonged experience in use. Therefore, it is part of the ministry's strategy that the educational system be so arranged that pupils and students become used to regarding IT as a tool to be used in the learning process.

The integration of new pedagogic opportunities

New pedagogic(教学法的) opportunities must be explored and tested, just as new forms of communication must become established among pupils, students, teachers and the education sector as a whole. The IT policy of the Ministry of Education focuses on research, development and spread, including the creation of frameworks(准则) for the exchange and spread of experience among pupils, students, teachers and leaders of educational institutions.

Finally, IT opens up opportunities for a more individualized form of teaching in which pupils and students themselves can control the learning process and the teacher is not necessarily present. Teaching has to be organized in such a way that learners learn to learn and to accept responsibility for their own education. Educational courses based on IT technology can be developed to support everyone, in new and more effective ways, including specially weak learner groups in the learning of basic skills such as reading, writing and arithmetic.

Equal and flexible(灵活的) access to education

Irrespective of age, school background and living place, it must be ensured that everyone has an opportunity to participate in a broad range of

educational activities. An IT educational policy strategy in this area includes a considerable extension of virtual educational courses and possibilities, where physical presence is not an initial requirement and where the advantages of courses that are not geographically and temporally(时间上地) limited can be realized.

By means of information technology, education can thus be made available outside of working hours, at the weekend, during working hours in co-operation between companies and educational institutions, as well as in a completely different part of the country from that in which the teaching is taking place. Education can, in this way, be said to be “unlimited”.

Effective and flexible structure and organization

Today, virtually all educational courses available at foreign educational institutions compete with corresponding(相应的) Danish courses, just as competition within Denmark for the decreasing numbers of students is expected to become stronger. More Danish companies are now establishing their own training departments with a view to meeting their own needs for adult and supplementary(补充的, 额外的) training. Major foreign companies are also establishing their own virtual training centers. Therefore, there is a need in this area for new ideas, so that educational institutions can continue to be the main suppliers of new qualifications to the labor market and life in general. New forms of organization and co-operation within the educational system already have consequences for educational institutions, their geographical coverage and the courses they offer.

It is thus the aim to utilize the opportunity to maintain a geographical decentralization(分散) of the Danish educational system. In further and higher education and in adult and supplementary training, distance teaching can be used to offer education to local communities, where there would not otherwise be a sufficient population for the establishment of courses.

— http://eng.uvm.dk/publications/9Informationtec/eng_it.htm#educ.
(894 words)

I. Read each of the following statements. Write "Yes" if the statement agrees with the information given in the passage; write "No" if the statement contradicts the information given in the passage; write "Not Given" if the statement is not given in the passage.

1. If society does't work towards a higher level of education of the populatoin and involve the individual citizen in life-long education, Denmark can't maintain its competitiviveness develop a labor market.
2. All time-consuming work routines can be performed by means of in formation technology.
3. Pupils and students in Denmark should regard IT as a tool to be used in the learning process.
4. IT provides opportunities for a more individualized form of teaching in which pupils and students can control the learning process with the teacher's help.
5. Educational courses based on information technology are only suitable for quick learners.
6. Everyone can receive education by means of information technology without being influenced by age, school background and living place.
7. Denmark attaches greater importance to education than many other countries.

II. Complete the table with the information given in the passage.

What an IT Educational Policy Must Ensure
1. Students should become used to regarding IT as a tool to be used in the learning process.
2. Teaching should be organized in such a way that learners learn to learn and <u> 1 </u> for their own education.
3. People can receive education which can be " <u> 2 </u> ".
4. The structure and organization within the educational system should be <u> 3 </u> .

Time required: 15 minutes

Time used: _____ minutes

Part III Reading in Depth

Section A

Read the passage carefully and then answer the following questions or complete the unfinished statements in the fewest possible words (not exceeding 10 words).

China Will Be World Information Power in 15 Years

The Chinese Ministry of Information Industry plans to build China into a world power in the information industry in 10 to 15 years.

China plans to establish a number of large-scale national electronic information industrial bases in the field of electronic information products manufacturing. These will include relatively concentrated distribution (分布), strong radiation (辐射) roles, and competitive export capacity. At the same time, national electronic information industrial parks will be created to meet special needs of communication, digital (数字的) audio (音频的) and video products, computer network products, microelectronics, components, and software.

In the field of communication operations, China will try hard to develop a sound pattern for better service and a healthy market competition. A number of multinational communication businesses of international competitiveness will be created. In addition, an advanced management system adapted for the new developments will be established.

In the field of information communication, China will find extensive applications of electronic information technology in the fields of industrial information processing, e-government, and e-commerce. China will also

take full advantage of information technology to transform its traditional industries and establish a fully functioning national information system.

The Ministry of Information Industry has defined major topics for further study. These topics include the development trends of information technology in the next 5 to 10 years, analysis of the development of 3rd generation mobile telecommunication(电信), the development of the digital TV industry, the development of the software and integrated circuits(集成电路) industries, and communication laws, regulations, and management systems for the new period.

— http://www.most.gov.cn/eng/newsletters/2004/200411/t20041130_17758.htm
(249 word)

1. What does China plan to establish? _____.
2. For what purpose will China develop a sound pattern in the field of communication operations? _____.
3. _____ will be established to adapt to the new developments in the field of communication operations.
4. In which fields shall we find a lot of applications of electronic information technology? _____.
5. China will make good use of information technology to change _____
_____.

Time required: 8 minutes

Time used: _____ minutes

Section B

Read the passage and decide on the best choice to answer or complete each of the following.

Information technology has made deep changes in mathematics at non-elementary levels since several years ago. It is good to remember what some authors say: "Computers are transforming the way mathematicians discover, prove and communicate ideas". "Computers and computation have changed the entire modern world, but their effects in the fields of sciences and engineering have been especially deep". Many of the problems