

# College English

## 大学英语 精读

同步讲解与优化练习

张文起 主编

BOOK 4

南开大学出版社

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# 《大学英语·精读四（第三版）》

## 同步讲解与优化练习

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## 前 言

本书是《大学英语·精读》(第三版)第四册的同步辅导用书。由于大学英语第四册学生用书更换了部分精读课文,同步辅导书也作出了相应的更新。

为了便于学生使用,本书的重点放在对词汇的讲解、辨析和应用等几个方面,在培养学生的阅读能力的同时,加强语言表达与应用能力训练。为了体现精读课程的重点,在编排上不仅将每课的重点词和句子反复进行操练,而且还提供了与课文相关的“课文背景材料”(Cultural Notes),使学生更多地了解作者及文化背景知识,提高整体文化素养;对“语言点”(Language Points)部分作了扩充,对于和课文有关的“易混的词”(Confusable Words)也逐个作了辨析,并配有实用性强的例句使学生掌握使用。本书还包括句子和课文的中文译文,给出练习答案并有详细的讲解,使学生能够温故而知新。与前几册同步训练不同的是本书新增添了“现学现卖”(Learn to Practice)和结合四、六级考试改革题型的深层次阅读(Reading in Depth)的练习。在书的最后针对全书十个单元的内容和所学的词汇编写了两套试题,以帮助学生复习和巩固学过的知识。

为了给学生打好“宽、厚、牢”的语言基础,编者在《大学英语·精读》(第三版)第三册教师用书的基础上增补、变动了一些内容,扩大信息量和知识面,引导学生主动了解、接触更多新的东西,以适应社会的需求。

我们相信本书是学生复习课文和充实课外知识的最佳选择。

参加本书编写的教师分工如下:

张文起老师编写了第一、二单元;高玉茜老师编写了第三、四单元;王颖老师编写了第五、六单元;李维老师编写了第七、八单元;曹春瑾老师编写了第九、十单元。张文起老师负责全书的审校。

本书是“天津市高等学校本科教学改革与质量建设研究计划重点项目”的一个组成部分。

南开大学出版社的领导和王冰先生及其他编辑同志在本书付梓前进行了具体的指导,在此一并表示诚挚的感谢。

编 者

2008年9月于南开园

# Table of Contents

Unit	Text			
	Cultural Notes	New Words	Language Points	Confusable Words
1. <b>Big Buck the Easy Way</b>  <b>Page 1</b>	1. Montgomery Ward & Co. and Sears, Roebuck & Co. 2. Minimum wage  <b>Page 1</b>	leisurely, pain, delivery, echo, inform, cram, stack, harm, cash, entitle, party, shrink, volunteer, odd, overhear, finance  <b>Page 2</b>	settle, pull up, piece of cake, know better than to, at, dent, have no business to do/doing sth., may as well  <b>Page 4</b>	1. inform/ notify 2. shrink/ decrease/reduce  <b>Page 6</b>
2. <b>Deer and the Energy Cycle</b>  <b>Page 20</b>	1. Deer and the white-tailed deer 2. Energy crisis  <b>Page 20</b>	currency, excess, mature, conceive, ample, resource, dependent, accumulate, account, expenditure, somewhat, melt  <b>Page 21</b>	turn of mind, convert into, in turn, a case in point, give birth to, draw on, pull through  <b>Page 23</b>	1. scarce/ rare/shortage/ lack 2. rich/ abundant/ plentiful  <b>Page 24</b>
3. <b>Why Do You Believe That the Earth Is Round?</b>  <b>Page 37</b>	1. George Bernard Shaw 2. The Flat Earth Theory & the Round Earth Theory 3. Playing cards  <b>Page 37</b>	advance, swallow, refute, cast, justify, precarious, stray, press  <b>Page 38</b>	appeal to, follow up, for the sake of, throw/shed, light on  <b>Page 39</b>	1. credulous/credible/ creditable 2. foretell/forecast/predict  <b>Page 40</b>
4. <b>Flight 93: What I Never Know</b>  <b>Page 53</b>	1. Sept. 11, 2001 attacks 2. United Airline Flight 93 3. Jeremy Logan Glick  <b>Page 53</b>	fumble, poke, herd, desert, hunger, tread, abort  <b>Page 54</b>	get in, make it, in sb.'s hands, sink in, make sense of  <b>Page 55</b>	1. collide /crash  <b>Page 56</b>
5. <b>To Lie or not to Lie— The Doctor's Dilemma</b>  <b>Page 68</b>	1. White lie 2. Defensive medicine  <b>Page 68</b>	dilemma, conceal, dwarf, brutal, uphold, promote, corruption, minimize, grave, deteriorate, transcend, utter, deceive  <b>Page 69</b>	shelter from, differ sharply, to be meant to, informed choices, keep in the dark, go to great lengths, take a stand  <b>Page 75</b>	1. object/ subject/ objective 2. rise/ rose/arise/arose 3. promote/ prompt 4. refrain/ restrain  <b>Page 78</b>

<b>Key to Study &amp; Practice</b>	<b>Reading Activity</b>	<b>Chinese Translation</b>	<b>Key to Guided Writing</b>	<b>Learn to Practice</b>	<b>Reading in Depth</b>
<b>Pages 7-13</b>	<b>Page 13</b>	Text <b>Page 14</b>  Reading Activity <b>Page 16</b>	<b>Page 18</b>	<b>Page 18</b>	<b>Page 18</b>
<b>Pages 25-30</b>	<b>Page 31</b>	Text <b>Page 31</b>  Reading Activity <b>Page 33</b>	<b>Page 34</b>	<b>Page 34</b>	<b>Page 35</b>
<b>Pages 41-46</b>	<b>Page 46</b>	Text <b>Page 47</b>  Reading Activity <b>Page 48</b>	<b>Page 49</b>	<b>Page 50</b>	<b>Page 51</b>
<b>Pages 56-60</b>	<b>Page 60</b>	Text <b>Page 61</b>  Reading Activity <b>Page 63</b>	<b>Page 65</b>	<b>Page 65</b>	<b>Page 66</b>
<b>Pages 80-84</b>	<b>Page 85</b>	Text <b>Page 86</b>  Reading Activity <b>Page 87</b>	<b>Page 89</b>	<b>Page 90</b>	<b>Page 90</b>

Unit	Text			
	Cultural Notes	New Words	Language Points	Confusable Words
<b>6.</b> <b>How to Mark a Book</b>  <b>Page 92</b>	1. Francis Bacon 2. Mortimer Jerome Adler 3. John Dewey 4. Robert Maynard Hutchins <b>Page 92</b>	transfer, restrain, dilapidated, scribble, preserve, intake, elegantly, bind, edition, original <b>Page 93</b>	dip into, no more...than, so to speak, light fiction, pick up, leave off, <b>Page 98</b>	1. magnificent/significant 2. conscious/conscience 3. statue/status  <b>Page 101</b>
<b>7.</b> <b>The Luncheon</b>  <b>Page 116</b>	1. William Somerset Maugham 2. The Latin Quarter 3. The Luxembourg 4. The Balkans <b>Page 116</b>	luncheon, beckon, quarter, overlook, means, imposing, devastate, inclined, passion, attentive, startle, reassure <b>Page 117</b>	caught sight of, in answer to, keep body and soul together, cut out, come in, take sb. to task <b>Page 120</b>	1. manage/attempt/try 2. forbid/ ban/ prohibit 3. assure/ ensure/ insure 4. oblige/ compel /force  <b>Page 122</b>
<b>8.</b> <b>The New Caves</b>  <b>Page 137</b>	1. The Ice Ages 2. Myths & Legends  <b>Page 137</b>	virtually, someday, manmade, simplify, association, vary, convenience, shift, endeavor, mobile, entail, gear, deprive <b>Page 138</b>	be exposed to, add to, at first thought, torment. say sth. for, on the stroke, jet lag <b>Page 141</b>	1. vary/change/convert/ alter 2. external/outside /outer 3. artificial/imitative/fake /false  <b>Page 144</b>
<b>9.</b> <b>The Education of a Physicist</b>  <b>Page 157</b>	Michio Kaku Albert Einstein  <b>Page 157</b>	enrich, fascinate shallow, dim, alien, intrigue, parallel, baffle <b>Page 158</b>	make sense, in all directions, in the slightest, live out, high dimension <b>Page 160</b>	1. compose/consist/ constitute 2. wander / wonder  <b>Page 162</b>
<b>10.</b> <b>Why People Work</b>  <b>Page 177</b>	Leonard R. Sayles  <b>Page 177</b>	crucial, focus, complaint, identity, potential, symptom, exert, unique, persist, reflect <b>Page 177</b>	be conscious of sth., to ...extent, rather than, attributable to, pride oneself on, work off, in truth <b>Page 179</b>	1. persist /insist 2. identity/ identify  <b>Page 182</b>
<b>Test One</b>	<b>Pages 197-216</b>			
<b>Test Two</b>	<b>Pages 217-235</b>			



<b>Key to Study &amp; Practice</b>	<b>Reading Activity</b>	<b>Chinese Translation</b>	<b>Key to Guided Writing</b>	<b>Learn to Practice</b>	<b>Reading in Depth</b>
<b>Pages 103-107</b>	<b>Page 108</b>	Text <b>Page 110</b>  Reading Activity <b>Page 112</b>	<b>Page 113</b>	<b>Page 113</b>	<b>Page 114</b>
<b>Pages 123-129</b>	<b>Page 129</b>	Text <b>Page 130</b>  Reading Activity <b>Page 133</b>	<b>Page 134</b>	<b>Page 135</b>	<b>Page 135</b>
<b>Pages 145-150</b>	<b>Page 150</b>	Text <b>Page 152</b>  Reading Activity <b>Page 153</b>	<b>Page 154</b>	<b>Page 155</b>	<b>Page 155</b>
<b>Pages 163-168</b>	<b>Page 169</b>	Text <b>Page 171</b>  Reading Activity <b>Page 173</b>	<b>Page 174</b>	<b>Page 174</b>	<b>Page 175</b>
<b>Pages 183-188</b>	<b>Page 188</b>	Text <b>Page 191</b>  Reading Activity <b>Page 193</b>	<b>Page 194</b>	<b>Page 195</b>	<b>Page 195</b>



# Unit 1

## Big Buck the Easy Way

### *Cultural Notes*

#### 1. Montgomery Ward & Co. and Sears, Roebuck & Co. (蒙哥马利·沃德百货公司和西尔斯·罗伯克公司)

Montgomery Ward & Co. is a United States retail and mail-order concern. Across the United States the company has more than 500 retail stores and 700 catalog stores. The company was founded as a mail-order business in Chicago in 1872 by A. Montgomery Ward, who adopted the policy "Satisfaction guaranteed or your money back." The first retail store was established in 1926. At its height, Montgomery Ward & Co. ranked as the second largest mail-order firm in the world, but by 2001 declining sales forced the original retailer out of business. In late 2004, however, a new Internet and catalog-based retailer was established of the same name. Sears, Roebuck of Co., once the world's largest mail-order concern, was founded in North Redwood, Minnesota in 1886. In 1993 Sears closed production of its general merchandise catalog because of diminishing sales and profits. It also was once the US' largest retailer, but its market share much decreased in the 1990s to stores such as Wal-Mart, and in 2004 it merged with Kmart, becoming the Sears Holding Corporation.

蒙哥马利·沃德公司和西尔斯·罗伯克公司是美国零售和邮购公司。在美国，这家公司有 500 多家零售店和 700 家（按商品目录出售货物的）目录商店。该公司是 1872 年由 A·蒙哥马利·沃德创建的零售公司。沃德采用的政策是“保您满意，不然退款”。第一家零售店于 1926 年开业。在其鼎盛时期，该公司在世界最大的零售公司排行中名列第二。但是到了 2001 年，销售量的下降迫使原来的零售商出局。然而，在 2004 年底，新兴的网上购物和以目录为主的零售店建立起来，仍然叫蒙哥马利·沃德公司。一度曾经是世界上最大的西尔斯·罗伯克零售公司是在 1886 年是在明尼苏达州的雷德伍德成立的。1993 年由于销售量和利润的下降，西尔斯停止它一般的商品目录。西尔斯也曾经是美国的最大的零售商，但是它的市场份额在二十世纪九十年代下降到与有些商店持平，比如与沃尔玛商店持平。在 2004 年它与 Kmart 合并，成为西尔斯控股公司。

#### 2. Minimum Wage (最低工资)

The minimum wage is the smallest amount of money per hour that an employer may legally pay a worker. It is fixed by law, agreement, or other means. In the U. S., the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, popularly known as the Federal Wage and Hour Law, established a minimum wage of 25 cents an hour. The minimum wage has since been increased by amendments to the Fair Labor Standards Act in 1949, 1955, 1961, 1966, 1974, 1977, and 1991. The 1977 amendment raised the minimum wage in stages from \$2.65 an hour in 1978 to \$3.35 an hour by 1981. By 1991, the

federal minimum wage reached \$4.25 an hour. And by Sept. 1997, it had reached \$5.15. Bill Clinton, during his presidency, gave states the power to set their own minimum wages. By 2004, 12 states' minimum wage was above the federal level. In Jan. 2007 New York state's became \$7.15. Some counties and cities determine their own rates. Santa Fe, New Mexico, for instance, has the highest minimum wage in the nation. Presently, \$9.50 / hr, it's planned to increase to \$10.50 in 2008.

所谓“最低工资”是指每小时雇主付给工人的最低合法工资。最低工资由法律、协议或其他方法决定。在美国, 1938 年的《市场劳工标准法案》是众人皆知的联邦工资和钟点法, 规定最低工资是每小时 25 美分。随着市场劳工法案在 1949 年, 1955 年, 1961 年, 1966 年, 1974 年, 1977 年和 1991 年的修订, 最低工资标准逐步提高。1977 年的修订把最低工资从 1978 年的 2.65 美元/小时提高到 1981 年 3.35 美元/小时。到 1991 年, 联邦的最低工资达到 4.25 美元/小时。到 1997 年 9 月, 达到 5.15 美元/小时。比尔·克林顿总统在他的任期内授权各州可以决定它们自己的工资最低标准。到 2004 年, 美国 12 个州的最低工资标准超过了联邦政府规定的工资标准。2007 年 1 月, 纽约州的最低工资是 7.15 美元/小时。一些县和市决定它们各自的最低工资标准。譬如新墨西哥的圣菲是全国最高的。目前是 9.50 美元/小时, 这个市计划在 2008 年提高到 10.50 美元/小时。

### New Words

**1. leisurely, lucrative work:** work that brings in a lot of money and can be done with ease 轻轻松赚大钱

**leisurely:** *adj.* (moving, acting, or done) without haste 从容的, 慢慢的

——When he lived in the country, he used to take a leisurely walk in the woods before supper.  
他住在乡下的时候, 晚饭前常常在树林里慢慢悠悠地散步。

——My father does everything in a leisurely manner.  
我父亲做什么事情都是慢慢悠悠。

**2. pain:** *v.* cause physical pain or mental suffering to 使……疼痛

——It pained the mother to watch her son suffering.  
看着儿子受罪, 当母亲的心痛。

——It pains me to think of you struggling all alone.  
想到你孤军奋战我很心痛。

——Does your knee still pain you on damp days?  
你的膝盖阴天还疼吗?

**3. delivery:** *n.* the act of delivering (letter, goods, etc.) 投递, 递送

——This department store makes prompt delivery.  
这家百货公司即时递送。

——Postmen are responsible for the delivery of letters to our houses.  
邮递员负责把信件投递到我们家。

**4. echo:** *v.* repeat (the words, feelings, etc. of sb.) 重复 (他人的话、思想或感情)

——The little boy echoes everything his brother says.

这个小孩重复他哥哥说的每句话。

—Their voices echoed in the big empty hall.

他们的声音在空旷的大厅里回荡。

**5. inform:** v. tell, give information to 告诉

—Have you informed the company of your wish to leave it?

你告诉公司你想离开的愿望了吗?

—I'm afraid you were wrongly informed about the matter.

恐怕是有人把这件事给你告诉错了。

**6. cram:** v. force or press into a small space; crowd 塞

—He crammed all his clothes into the bag.

他把所有的衣服都塞在了这个包里。

—It's dangerous for so many people to be crammed into a bus.

这么多的人挤在一辆公共汽车里很危险。

**7. stack:** n. an orderly pile 一叠(堆、垛等)

—In Prof. Wang's study you can find stacks of books on the floor.

在王教授书房的地板上你可以看到堆放的一摞摞的书。

—The whole stack fell over and half the plates were broken.

一摞碟子倒下来,有一半摔碎了。

**8. harm:** v. injure or damage 伤害

—A unkind and untrue story harmed his reputation.

一个恶劣的捏造的故事毁坏了他的名声。

—Don't harm your eyes by reading in dim light.

不要在昏暗的灯光下看书,这会伤害你的眼睛。

**9. cash:** n. money in the form of coins and paper notes 现金

—I've very little cash on me so will you accept a check?

我没有带多少现金,你们收支票吗?

—Fifty thousand bucks in cash is a lot of money.

50,000 美元现金不是小数目。

**10. entitle:** v. give (sb.) the right to do or have sth. 给(某人)权利(或资格)

—It entitles you to at least 50% off the regular price of either frames or lenses when you buy both.

如果你镜架和镜片两个都买,会让你有权享受镜架或镜片正常价格至少 50% 的折扣。

—This ticket entitles you to a free boat tour on the lake.

这张门票可以让你免费在湖上坐游船。

**11. party:** n. one of the people or sides in an agreement or argument 一方; 当事人

—The talks will be attended by all parties to the conflict.

冲突的各方都得出席这些谈判。

—The two parties are having difficulty agreeing.

这两方很难达成一致的意見。

**12. shrink:** v. become smaller 减小; 变小

—The vast forests of West Africa have **shrunk** in the past 20 years.

在过去的20年间,西非的大片的森林变小了。

—The advertisement says this material doesn't **shrink** in the wash, but it has.

广告上说这种面料水洗时不缩,但实际上却缩了。

**13. volunteer:** v. offer (sth.) without being asked for it. 自愿(做)

—While I was trying to start the car, several people in the crowd **volunteered** advice.

我正试图发动车的时候,人群中几个人自动提出建议。

—Whenever someone is ill in our neighborhood, Jack will **volunteer** his services as a doctor.

在我们街区,不管什么时候有人病了,杰克作为一名医生都自愿提供服务。

**14. odd:** adj. strange; unusual 奇怪的,不同寻常的

—Don't you think it **odd** that that famous pop singer should have committed suicide?

那个著名的歌手竟然自杀了,你不觉得奇怪吗?

—That house has been painted in such an **odd** combination of colors!

那所房子刷上了奇怪的混合色。

**15. overhear:** hear by chance; hear without the knowledge of the speaker(s) 无意中听到,偷听到

—I **overheard** Bob talking about me in the next room.

我无意中听到鲍勃在隔壁房间了谈论我。

—I **overheard** part of their conversation.

我偷听到他们的部分谈话。

**16. finance:** the management of money; (usu. pl) money for a business, nation or person 财政; 钱财; 金融

—His company needs a man who really knows **finance**.

他的公司需要一名真正懂财政的人。

—Whether it can be done or not depends, of course, on your **finances**.

这件事是否可行全靠你有没有钱。

### Language Points

**1. (Para. 5) I was comfortably settled in a hotel room...:** I was comfortably at rest in a hotel room 我在一家旅馆的房间里舒舒服服住了下来。

**settle:** v. place in a comfortable position 坐下; 安顿下来

—He took off his raincoat and settled by the fire. 他脱下雨衣,然后在炉火旁坐下。

—They got married and settled near London. 他们结了婚,定居于伦敦附近。

**2. (Para. 7) Another truck just pulled up out front:** Another truck just stopped outside in front of our house. 又一辆卡车停在了我们的门前。

**pull up:** come to a stop; bring to a stop (使)停下

—Bob was walking along the street when suddenly a car pulled up beside him.

鲍勃正沿着大街行走,突然一辆小汽车停在了他的身旁。

—The driver pulled up (his car) at our door.

司机把车停在我们的门口。

3. (Para. 11) **piece of cake**: a colloquial phrase meaning “something that can be done or obtained very easily” 容易做的事情

——After climbing mountains in the Swiss Alps, going up English hills is a piece of cake.

爬过瑞士阿尔卑斯山脉，再去爬英国的那些山丘，简直就是小菜一碟。

——The English test yesterday was a piece of cake. Most of us finished it in less than an hour.

昨天的英语考试容易得很。我们大多数同学不到一个小时就做完了。

4. (Para. 18) **...but knew better by now than to say so**: ... but was smart enough to know that he shouldn't speak the truth. 最好不说为妙。

**know better than to**: be wise or well-trained enough not to 有头脑；明事理（而不至于）

——You should know better than to go swimming right after eating. 你应该知道饭后不应该立即去游泳。

——You should know better than to make friends with such a mean person.

你该懂得不要跟这种卑鄙的人交朋友。

5. (Para. 22) **They've been at it for hours**: They've been doing it (or busy at it) for many hours. 他们干了好几个小时了。

**at**: engage in, busy over 从事于；忙于

——I found him at his desk. 我发现他正伏案忙乎。

——They were already at the cornflakes when I entered the kitchen. 我走进厨房的时候，他们已在大吃玉米片了。

6. (Para. 22) **...but all this hasn't made a dent, not a dent, in the situation!**: ...but all this hasn't made the slightest change or improvement in the situation! 但一切努力收效甚微！

**dent**: “a hollow in a (hard) surface made by a blow or pressure” 凹痕；凹坑

——The touch of his finger made a dent in my swollen face.

他的手指在我肿起的脸上一按就是一个坑。

——The accident left a dent in his new car.

事故在他的新车上留下了一个凹痕。

“Dent” can be used figuratively to mean “progress,” “a first step toward success,” esp. in the phrase “make a dent in.” dent 也可以用作比喻的含义，意思是“初步进展”，特别是在短语“make a dent in”中。

——It's already 6 o'clock and we haven't made a dent in this pile of work.

现在是6点钟了，我们在这一堆工作中还没有理出头绪来。

——Peter studied all evening, but hardly made a dent in his homework.

彼得学习了一个晚上，作业几乎没有进展。

7. (Para. 30) **The bonus program had worked until....**: The bonus plan had been effective until... 奖金计划直到……都行之有效

**work**: v. be effective, have the desired outcome 奏效

——I don't think your plan will work.

我觉得你的计划行不通。

——It's no good trying that method, because it won't work.

试也没有用，因为这个方法不行。

**8. (Para. 30) ...the workers had no business settling for \$5 and a few competitive bonuses...:** ...the workers had no right to agree to \$5 and just a couple of bonuses for the fastest workers... 工人们绝没有理由满足每人 5 元外加一点竞争性的奖金。

**have no business to do/ doing sth.:** have no reason or right to do sth. 没有理由(或权利)去做

——Mary had no business to be so friendly to such a shameless person.

玛丽没有理由对这种无耻之徒如此友善。

——You have no business saying such things about my brother.

你没有权利说我哥哥的坏话。

**settle for:** agree to take or accept sth. in place of what is hoped for or demanded; be satisfied with (无可奈何地)接受, 将就

——Bill wanted \$1,000 for his used car but settled for \$600.

贝尔的二手车要价 1000 美元, 但是不得已以 600 美元的价钱成交了。

——Beth won't settle for being an ordinary housewife. She has decided to open a day nursery.

蓓丝不满足于作个普通的家庭主妇。她已决定开办一个日托所。

**9. (Para. 32) ... and a like amount for gifts:** ...and a similar amount of money for gifts. 花了同样的钱买了礼品。

“Like” is used here as an adjective meaning “similar.” Like 在这里用作形容词, 意思是 similar (相同的)。

——On his birthday Tom received \$20 from his father and a like sum from his mother.

生日那天, 汤姆从爸爸那里得到了 20 美元, 从妈妈那里同样得到 20 美元。

**10. (Para. 40) may/ might as well:** have no strong reason not to 最好

——Since it's a fine day, we might as well go home on foot.

天气这么好, 咱们最好步行回家。

——Since you are all here, I may as well tell you all about it.

趁大家都在, 我就把一切都告诉你们。

### Confusable Words

#### 1. inform /notify

**inform** v. 通知 指把发生的事情或其他情报通知或报告某人或某组织, 常用的句型是 inform sb. that...或 inform sb. (of/about sth.)

——Keep me informed of/about what happens.

要随时向我报告发生的情况。

——He informed the police that some money was missing.

他报警说有些钱不见了。

**notify** v. 通知 是正式的或公务上的用语, 常与 of 或 to 连用。

——The college notified me that I was awarded a scholarship.

学校通知我, 我被授予了奖学金。

——Please notify of your new address.= Please notify your new address to me.

请告知我你的新地址。

## 2. shrink / decrease / reduce

**shrink:** v. 收缩 指受冷、受热、受潮后体积的缩小, 如: 肉在开水中煮后体积缩小, 棉布放在水中会缩水等。指人的时候也用于因恐惧或厌恶而退却。

——Flannel is apt to **shrink** in the wash. 法兰绒洗时易缩水。

——It **shrinks** two inches the first time it got wet. 它在初次受潮时, 收缩了两寸。

**decrease** v. 减少 指数字、人口、长度、比率、价值、势力、重量等减少。

——The number of traffic accidents **decreased** last year. 去年交通事故的数目减少了。

——**Decrease** the dose of medicine as you feel better. 随着身体的康复, 你要减少药量。

**reduce** v. 减少, 降低 指人为地把数量、体积、程度、范围等减少或降低。在美国英语中该词也可当“减肥”解。

——The only way to do that is to **reduce** expenses.

做那件事情的唯一方法是减少花费。

——He won't **reduce** the rent of our house.

他不会少收我们的房租。

——I'm trying to **reduce**, so I don't want any sugar.

我不要糖, 我正减肥。

## Key to Study &amp; Practice

## II. Comprehension of the Text

1) c    2) b    3) d    4) c    5) b    6) c    7) a    8) d

## III. Vocabulary Activities

1.

1) A **thoughtful** person thinks before speaking and considers the feelings of others.

一个善于思考的人是想好了再说, 并且考虑他人的感情。

2) The library is closing. We **might as well** go home.

图书馆要关门了。我们最好回家。

3) I'd like to **draw your attention** to the fact that there is some sense after all in the speaker's nonsense.

我想让你注意这个事实, 在那个演讲者的胡言乱语中有点儿有道理的地方。

4) Harry has a vivid imagination; he can make up **marvelous** stories.

亨利有生动的想象力, 他可以编造离奇故事。

5) Although Margie was swimming so well, she failed to win the first prize and had to **settle for** the second.

虽然马洁游泳很好, 但是她没能得一等奖, 只能屈居第二名。

6) I'm quite determined to have the thing finished and **done with** before leaving the office.

我已决定在离开办公室之前把事情做完。



- 7) Competitive sports are recommended to young adults to prepare them for the competitive world of college and business.

给青年人推荐竞技运动是让他们做好准备迎接大学和商业的竞争。

- 8) It pains/ pained me to admit that I was such a fool as to repeat the mistake.

我总是重复错误,我痛心地承认我太笨了。

- 9) My boss paid me and added a bonus for the new customers I had signed up.

因为我与新客户签了约,我的老板给我发了薪水还增加了一笔奖金。

- 10) A soldier should never shrink from the duty of defending his country even in the face of certain death.

士兵在任何时候都不能逃避保卫国家的职责,即使面临着死亡。

- 11) Due to exceptionally bad weather, the ship arrived late and the delivery of goods was not on time.

由于罕见的坏天气,那条船晚到了,没有按时交货。

- 12) My wife was rather embarrassed when she overheard some of our guests say they didn't like the meal she's cooked for them.

当我妻子无意中听到客人说他们不喜欢吃她做的饭,她非常尴尬。

- 13) People in my hometown tend to eat more sour food on hot summer days presumably because it could help quench their thirst.

我家乡的人们在炎热的夏天常吃些酸味食物,可能是因为酸味食物有助于解渴。

- 14) In the United States it is quite easy to find a place for rent, but the high cost keeps many young people away.

在美国要租赁房子不难,但是高房租使许多年轻人望而却步。

- 15) The professor was reluctant to stop grading the stack of papers on her desk, but she was really too tired to read on.

教授不想停止批改她办公桌上的那一大摞论文,但她确实太累了,实在看不下去了。

- 16) Bacteria reproduce themselves by splitting into two.

细菌通过一分为二自我繁殖。

## 2

- 1) A visiting scholar inquired how long it would take a Chinese factory worker to save up for a refrigerator.

一位访问学者问一个中国工人多长时间才能攒够买一台冰箱的钱。

- 2) The general manager's telegram informed the Seattle branch when he was due to arrive at the city.

总经理的电报通知西雅图分部他什么时候到达那里。

- 3) Conditions in the hospital were terrible. The place was falling apart and it was understaffed.

医院的状况恶劣,房屋破裂,人手不足。

- 4) At first the man demanded two hundred dollars for the used bike but eventually he had to settle for half that amount.

起初那个卖二手自行车的人要 200 美元,但最后他不得不半价售出。

- 5) One of the greatest problems facing the 21<sup>st</sup> century will be what to do with all the trash

produced in the world.

二十一世纪面临的最大的问题将是世界上产生的垃圾怎么办。

- 6) The man **claimed** he'd been drinking with friends at the time of the murder, but the police were still suspicious.

那个男人声称在谋杀案发生时他一直跟朋友一起喝酒，但是警方仍然怀疑。

- 7) **Normally** farmers welcome the rainy seasons, but if there is too much rain, the flood will destroy the crops.

通常农民欢迎雨季，但是如果雨水过多就会毁坏庄稼。

- 8) It may be a **piece of cake** to learn to drive an automobile but many new drivers are afraid to drive on crowded city streets until they have more experience.

学开车不难，但是许多新司机不敢在拥挤的城市大街上开，直到有了较多的开车经验才敢开。

- 9) An unpleasant task like this needs to **be done with** as quickly as possible.

像这种令人不愉快地工作应当尽快结束。

- 10) The new test should **enable** doctors to detect the disease early.

这个新的监测能让医生尽早地确定疾病。

- 11) I think I **am entitled** to know why I was fired.

对于我为什么被解雇，我觉得我有权知情。

- 12) Peter has been away from Rockford for **quite a while**, so he knows nothing about what happened there recently.

彼得离开洛克福德有好长时间了，所以他对那里最近发生的事情一无所知。

### 3.

- 1) This morning Patty gave me a ring to ask for my aunt's telephone number.

今天上午帕蒂给我打电话问我姨妈的电话号码。

- 2) A special committee **was set up / has been set up** to look into the matter and report to the board of directors.

成立了一个特别委员会调查此事并向董事会报告。

- 3) The driver **pulled up** by the side of the road to give a blind man a lift.

司机把车停靠在路边让一个盲人搭车。

- 4) Water, when boiled, always **gives off** steam.

水加热时总是要释放出蒸汽来。

- 5) Traffic on the bridge **was held up** for several hours because of the accident.

因为车祸，桥上的交通阻塞了几个小时候。

- 6) If we can **keep up** this speed, we should arrive there in about five hours.

如果我们以这个速度行驶，我们可以在五个小时左右到达那里。

- 7) Her eyes **ran** quickly **over** the letter to see who it was from.

她很快瞄了一眼那封信，看是谁寄来的。

- 8) My brother **made up** the time that he has wasted on Friday afternoon by working late that evening.

为了弥补星期五下午浪费的时间，那天晚上我兄弟工作到深夜。