

【安徽省高等学校“十一五”省级规划教材】

主 编 马海波 何苏宁

# 新目标 大学英语 快速阅读

New Target

College English Fast Reading

本册主编 何苏宁 黄频频

第4册

中国科学技术大学出版社

新目标

主 编 马海波 何苏宁

# 大学英语快速阅读

## NEW TARGET

## COLLEGE ENGLISH FAST READING

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# 新目标大学英语快速阅读

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# 前 言

教育部制定的《大学英语课程教学要求》(以下简称《课程要求》)对于英语快速阅读能力的一般要求是:“在快速阅读篇幅较长、难度略低材料时,阅读速度达到每分钟 100 词,能基本读懂国内英文报刊,掌握中心意思,理解主要事实和有关细节。能读懂工作、生活中常见的应用文体的材料。能在阅读中使用有效的阅读方法。”较高要求是:阅读速度达到每分钟 120 词,能就阅读材料进行略读或寻读。正是根据《课程要求》的具体要求,我们编写了这套《新目标大学英语快速阅读》教材,以期通过规范的选篇和练习设计循序渐进地提高学生的英语快速阅读水平,从而进一步增强他们的英语综合应用能力。

英语快速阅读与精读、泛读共同构筑起英语阅读技法的链状体系。快速阅读侧重于阅读的“时间观念”和“效率意识”,体现出信息化时代高速度、高效率的理念,是外语阅读技法中的新概念。对于广大非英语专业的大学生而言,英语阅读效率低是制约他们获取更多知识和信息的最大障碍。因此,培养快速阅读、准确捕捉信息的能力,是大学英语教学的一项重要任务。我们在编写本教材时,注重将语言的课堂教学与实际应用能力的提高相结合,做了一些尝试。

(1) 本教材共 4 册,分为 1~4 级,达到《课程要求》对快速阅读一般要求层次的具体要求。

(2) 本教材遵循理论与实践相结合的原则,讲练结合,每册分为两大部分:第一部分讲授快速阅读常用技能,采用中文讲解,清晰明了;第二部分为快速阅读综合技能训练,注重训练的渐进性和系统性。每册分 10 个单元,每个单元包含 3~4 篇阅读文章,每篇文章后配有练习。第 1、2 篇文章后的练习与四级考试新题型的形式一样,第 3、4 篇文章后的练习则侧重于训练某一项快速阅读技能,以达到通过训练熟练掌握快速

阅读技能的目的。

(3) 本教材所选篇目均是根据实际教学需要筛选而来,在保证科学性、知识性、趣味性和新颖性的同时,又尊重学生的兴趣爱好,内容涉及语言、文化、习俗、伦理、科学、社会焦点等方面。文章均从近期的国内外书籍和报刊中选编,难度适中。

(4) 1~4级阅读文章的长度和阅读速度分别为:1级 600~800 词,建议阅读速度为每分钟 90 词;2级 800~1000 词,建议阅读速度为每分钟 100 词;3级 1000~1100 词,建议阅读速度为每分钟 110 词;4级 1100~1200 词,建议阅读速度为每分钟 120 词。生词不超过短文词汇总量的 3%。在每篇短文之前都明确标出了完成短文阅读及练习的建议用时,学生可以记录完成时间和答题的正确率,以便对自己的阅读速度和阅读水平进行自我评估。

(5) 在练习的编排方式上注重形式多样。在注重寻读、略读、猜词悟义、写摘要等快速阅读基本技能训练的同时,在题型和阅读速度等方面结合四、六级考试的要求进行设定,旨在帮助学生熟悉新题型,提高应试能力。练习题的形式主要为判断题、信息填充题和综合题。

本教材的编写由解放军电子工程学院和解放军炮兵学院合作完成,所有编写人员均为在教学一线执教多年的教师,具有丰富的教学经验。全书由马海波、何苏宁主编,各分册主编分别为:第1册马海波、喻纲;第2册方怡、王玫;第3册赵天红、潘云燕;第4册何苏宁、黄频频。

编 者

2008 年 5 月

# 目 录

前言 .....	I
快速阅读的基本方法与技巧 .....	1
Unit 1 .....	5
Unit 2 .....	18
Unit 3 .....	31
Unit 4 .....	44
Unit 5 .....	58
Unit 6 .....	70
Unit 7 .....	83
Unit 8 .....	96
Unit 9 .....	109
Unit 10 .....	121
Key .....	133

# 快速阅读的基本方法与技巧

## 1. 略读(skimming)

略读,或称为跳读,就是粗略地、快速地阅读全文,包括文题、作者、写作时间、注释说明等,要求读者有选择性地忽略阅读材料中的部分内容,其目的是明确背景,抓住线索,了解梗概,把握主旨。略读虽不免“粗疏”,但绝不是粗枝大叶地、一般地浏览,而是有目的地把握“全局”,对全文做一鸟瞰式的俯视,这就要求在阅读时精神高度集中,能提纲挈领地抓住全文关键的问题。其特点是:(1)以极快的速度阅读大量材料,寻找字面上或事实上的主要信息和少量的阐述信息;(2)有选择性地跳过某个部分或某些部分阅读内容;(3)适当地降低阅读理解的准确率;(4)事先读者对阅读材料往往是一无所知。

略读可以运用下列技巧:

(1) 利用印刷细节(typegraphical details)。如利用书或文章的标题、副标题、小标题、斜体词、黑体词、脚注、标点符号等,对书或文章进行预测略读(preview skimming)。预测略读要了解作者的思路、文章方式(模式),以便把握文章大意、有关的细节及其相互关系。标题性的信息是作者提供的重要阅读线索,一般而言,通过标题可以知道文章的主题。对文章的首段和末段要多加注意,以便发现作者的观点。忽视了标题、引言、总结、说明及图解等信息,会限制读者的阅读思考,影响阅读效率。

(2) 弄清文章体裁,快速理解文章。以一般阅读速度(每分钟 200~250 词)阅读文章开头的一两段,力求抓住文章大意、背景情况、作者的文章风格、口吻或语气等。对不同体裁的文章,就要根据其体裁的特点,运用不同的方法快速阅读,正确



理解。

记叙文往往一开始就交待人物(who)、时间(when)、地点(where)及事件(what),然后再详细叙述事件发生的原因(why)。

议论文中,作者先提出一个论点,再对此进行分析,或举例加以论证,得出结论。

说明文中,作者首先提出说明对象,然后从时间、空间、用途、方法、步骤等各个不同侧面加以说明。

(3) 抓住关键词句(key words and topic sentences)。为了提高阅读速度,首先应抓住关键词句,因为它们是联接上下文的纽带。快速阅读时只注意瞬时关键词,其他都可迎刃而解。抓住关键句子也就是找出主题句,主题句是文章中用来概括大意的句子,主题句往往是每个段落的第一个句子,有时可能是最后一个句子,在特殊情况下也可能出现在段落中间。通过识别主题句,可以快速、准确地抓住文章中各个段落的主要意思。如果把每一个段落的大意抓住了,那么全篇文章的中心思想也就把握住了。在阅读中识别主题句,并准确理解其意思,可帮助读者了解作者的行文思路,分析文章的内容结构,搞清楚各个段落之间的逻辑关系,有利于提高阅读的速度和理解的准确性。

(4) 读首、尾句,预测文中细节。一般情况下,英语文章多是按“总一分一总”的思路写的。因此,研读首、尾句,对快速阅读理解文意具有重要的意义。读者不但由此可以抓住文章的内容,还可以揣测作者的态度、意图,从而进一步猜出作者所要写的细节。

(5) 注意连接词,揣测作者意图。英语文章中,作者往往先叙述或介绍常人的观点、他人的态度和看法,然后再提出自己的想法或与之不同的观点,即作者本人的意图或事实真相及本文的主旨。两者之间常用 but, however, yet, in spite of, though, although, moreover 等连词或短语,或 but in fact, on the contrary, in addition, even though, even if 等短语连接。掌握了文章的阅读方法,就大大加快了阅读速度,同时理解的正确性也就大大提高了。

(6) 若无需要,不必阅读细节。

## 2. 寻读(scanning)

寻读又称查读,就是从阅读材料中快速准确地找出某些具体信息。读者往往

是有目的地去阅读,并从阅读材料中查找自己所需要的资料。如查找电话号码簿,翻词典查生词,了解飞机、车、船时刻表,在工具书或报纸杂志中查考一个人名、地名、典故、数据及有关资料等。其特点是:(1)既要求速度,又要求寻读的准确性;(2)带有明确的目的性,有针对性地选择所需信息;(3)事先读者对阅读材料有所了解。

寻读可以运用下列技巧:

(1) 利用材料的编排形式。资料多半是按字母顺序排列的,如词典、索引、邮政编码簿、电话号码簿以及其他参考资料簿等。当然,并非所有资料都是按字母顺序排列的,例如,电视节目是按日期和时间排列的,历史资料是按年代排列的,报纸上的体育版面是按比赛类别(足球、排球、网球等)排列的,等等。不管资料来源怎样,它们都是按照某种逻辑顺序排列的。例如,要知道某事是何时发生的,要查日期;要知道某事是谁做的,要查人名等。

(2) 利用章节标题和说明。寻读时,首先看看文章标题或章节标题,确定文章是否包含自己所需要的材料,或者哪一部分包含哪些材料,这样可以直接翻到那个部分,进行寻找。

(3) 利用提示词。读者找到包含所需信息的章节,准备寻读时,要留心与那个具体信息有关的提示词。例如,在报纸体育运动版上寻找某田径运动员的某项运动成绩,他的国名是提示词;在百科全书上寻找纽约市的人名,翻到 New York City 那一章后, population, census, inhabitants 等词就是提示词。找到提示词,就可以采用一般阅读速度,获得所需要的信息。

(4) 利用上下文猜出词义。充分利用上下文给出的线索,有些生词的意思是可以猜出来的。基本方法有:

① 利用定义的线索。在生词出现的上文或下文,有时能找到对它所下的定义或解释,由此可判断其词义。

② 利用同义的线索。一个生词出现的上下文中有时会出现与之同义或近义的词,它往往揭示或解释了生词的词义。

③ 利用反义的线索。在某一生词的前面或后面有时会出现它的反义词或常用来对比的词语,由它可以推测生词的词义。

④ 利用常识猜测词义。有时一句话中尽管有生词,但我们可以利用已有的知识去判断生词的词义。

⑤ 利用等式或符号猜测生词。一段话后面有时会给出一些等式或符号,如前

面的话中有生词,由后面的等式或符号可以猜出生词的词义。

### 3. 需克服的不良阅读习惯

在阅读过程中,某些不良的阅读习惯不仅影响阅读速度,而且影响阅读理解的有效性,因此需要加以克服。常见的不良习惯有:

(1) 音读。音读就是在阅读过程中读出声音来。因为眼睛的移动速度比舌头动作快,音读的最大弊端是使阅读速度等同于说话的速度,从而拖慢阅读速度。出声读不但影响速度,而且会分散一部分精力去注意自己的发音。

(2) 逐字读。许多常见词,如功能词等,不需停顿下来去单独理解。逐字阅读并不能增加对文章的理解程度,把意思完整的句子割裂成字、词,注意力被单个文字所分散,只会妨碍、减慢对全句或全段的理解,就好似只看每一棵树而不见森林。

(3) 默读。虽然没有大声读出来,但在脑中一字字地读,也会影响速度,分散注意力。

(4) 指读。用手指指着字句阅读,因为手指不及眼睛敏捷,所以会降低阅读速度,并影响理解。

(5) 回读。眼睛回向移动,寻找先前读过的信息,而不是继续读下去以获取完整的概念。回读是快速阅读最大的障碍,一方面是因为精力不集中,另一方面是担心看得快就会看不清、记不住,结果,新的内容得不到充分理解,只好又回头重读。回读严重影响阅读速度,更重要的是造成信息的混乱、流失,影响记忆。

(6) 纠缠生词。在阅读过程中,遇到生词、难句在所难免。如果一碰到生词、难句就追根刨底,孤立地去思考,甚至还想把它译成汉语才罢休,其结果不但会打乱阅读节奏,减慢阅读速度,而且会打断阅读思路,妨碍完整地理解所读信息。

# Unit 1

## Passage 1

**Directions:** Read the following passage, and then complete the sentences with information given in the passage.

建议用时: 12'04"  
实际用时:

### **Lunar Homes: Tiny Rooms, but They Repel Dust and Solar Storms**

Peter N. Spotts

Within 25 years, the Home and Garden Channel may need to add some new entries to its programs, shows like "Designing for Space Suits" and "Moonscapers Challenge".

While the National Aeronautics and Space Administration prepares to finish building the space station, a small team of architects and engineers here at the Johnson Space Center is exploring designs for living and working quarters on the moon and beyond.

At this point, future occupants of Rancho Luna(月球棚屋) can select from any module(舱) they want, as long as it's a tube. Ultimately, habitants may include multistory vertical tubes as well as simpler horizontal ones, designers say. For now, they are working with astronauts who have spent months in tight quarters to learn how to make a lunar outpost livable, if not lovable.

The ideas are taking shape in plywood and foam board to test everything

from the optimal size of crew quarters to the desirability of putting a half bath close to the air lock for last minute pit stops before the crew suits up.

As with the push to finish the space station and retire the shuttles by 2010, the driving force behind the effort is President Bush's vision for space exploration. While fresh US bootprints on the moon aren't expected to appear for more than a decade, it's not too early to think about where astronauts will stay for long-duration visits, says Larry Toups, who heads the effort at the space center's Advanced Projects Office.

"Over the course of the next five years or so, we'll be using very low-tech things to identify future needs," he says. These needs are as vital as radiation shielding and dust control, and as ordinary as whether to include exercise treadmills.

When the center's health specialists found out that Mr. Toups's team was building mock-ups (full-scale model Lunar house), they brought over exercise equipment. After all, the space station has exercise gear to help astronauts reduce the effects of weightlessness.

But on the moon, Toups points out, gravity — as low as it is — means moonwalks will be more strenuous than spacewalks, where everything is weightless. "The debate becomes: Do we really need this amount of equipment? Won't they be getting exercise based on their EVAs(舱外活动)?" he asks. If such extra-vehicular activity isn't enough, must exercise equipment be packed away immediately after use or should the living space be designed to allow astronauts to leave it out?

"I don't know how you are at home, but usually when something gets pulled out" in many homes, "it stays that way," he adds. "We're using the mock-ups(实体模型) to drive those kinds of discussions. That's the value that you get."

For those who don't demand a panoramic(全景的) view of, say, the Mare Imbrium, Toups's colleague George Rains is pleased to show a horizontal version of a habitat module, complete with life-size photos of equipment racks hanging on the walls. Like a low-key estate agent exploring possibilities with prospective buyers, he walks a small group of visitors through the two-floor tube, which measures 37 feet long and 15 feet in diameter. It's 9 feet longer and a foot wider than the main space-station modules.

"We're using this for dimensional studies," he says as he points to four

variations on crew quarters — ranging from 221 cubic feet to 418 cubic feet in volume. In this configuration, the crew would live upstairs. The kitchen, common area, life-support equipment, and an air lock large enough for four space-suited astronauts occupy the ground floor.

One concern, Mr. Rains points out, is moon dust. On Earth, dust particles' naturally sharp edges are rounded by wind and water. On the moon, the dust is more destructive. "It's like finely ground glass," he says. Thus, it's vital to keep the dust at bay.

One approach, incorporated in this mock-up, is to use raised thresholds, similar to those found aboard ships. Controls also might include something as relatively complex as maintaining slightly different air pressure in rooms next to the air lock. Or it could be as simple as a grate on the floor, where incoming crews would scrape their boots.

Over in Hanger X, at the far end of the space center's campus, Toups unveils a mock-up for outpost crews who want something more similar to a townhouse. Roughly 23 feet across and some 30 feet tall, the cylindrical mock-up is designed to explore the possibilities of vertical living. The ground floor might contain the life-support capsules. The crew's common area, kitchen, and food storage occupy the second floor. The third floor is the crew's quarters.

So far, the only simulated furniture appears on a floor plan nailed to the wall.

"One issue we need to deal with is vertical translation," Toups says — NASA speak for ways of getting people and supplies up and down the module. Currently, a Navy-style ship's ladder joins the second and third floors; a more user-friendly design is still undecided.

A key concern is shielding the crew from radiation, which comes when the sun rises in flares and other violent outbursts.

"That problem is not trivial," he says, noting that an individual solar storm can last up to four days. If a crew member is caught outside, he or she may have to rely on geological features like ancient lava tubes or crater walls for shelter. To protect the habitats from radiation, Toups's team is exploring options ranging from sandbags filled with lunar soil to placing water tanks and large pieces of hardware along the interior side of the structure.

In the end, however, the habitats also will need something intangible(无形

的): The feeling that the module is home. That's a challenge to any space architect.

"You need all this high-tech stuff to provide the environment," Toups says. But at the end of a crew's long day on the hostile lunar surface, "what they will want when they get in and shake off all the dust, is to feel like: 'this is where I live.' It's like that log cabin in the woods in winter—there is a glow inside, there is a fire, you go inside and go: 'Ah, I can sleep here at night!'" (1,048 words)

1. A small team of architects and engineers at the Johnson Space Center is engaged in research on how to design \_\_\_\_\_ on the moon and beyond.
2. President Bush's vision for space exploration is \_\_\_\_\_ behind the effort headed by Larry Toups at the space center's Advanced Projects Office.
3. As Toups points out, moonwalks will be more difficult than spacewalks owing to \_\_\_\_\_.
4. According to the passage, there is a debate on whether astronauts need \_\_\_\_\_ to get exercise on the moon.
5. George Rains' horizontal habitat module is longer and wider than \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Compared with that on Earth, the dust on the moon is more \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Over in Hanger X, at the far end of the space center's campus, Toups shows a mock-up to explore the possibility of \_\_\_\_\_.
8. As far as the issue of vertical translation is concerned, a more user-friendly design is still \_\_\_\_\_.
9. A key concern mentioned in the passage is protecting the crew from \_\_\_\_\_.
10. To space architects, it's a \_\_\_\_\_ to provide the environment for the crew where they feel that the module is home.

## Passage 2

**Directions:** Go over the passage quickly and answer the questions. For questions 1—7, select the most appropriate answer for each of the questions. For

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questions 8 — 10, complete the sentences with information given in the passage.

## **Do We Need a More Reliable Online Encyclopedia Than Wikipedia?**

Paul Valley

### **So What Is Wikipedia?**

Wikipedia has been around since 2001, which gives it whiskers(胡须) in Internet terms. It is now the largest encyclopedia in the world with articles on more than 5 million subjects in 229 languages — and an average of 1,515 new articles posted every day this month. It's also one of the most popular research tools on the web; last month 33 million people used it.

Not bad for an organization with just one member of staff. The rest of the work is done by thousands of devotees — self-confessed wikimaniacs(维基狂人) — dedicated to the huge project of trying to assemble “the sum of all human knowledge”. It reckons to have 3,800 hardcore users making more than 100 edits a month, another 18,000 who make at least five and countless others dipping in as the mood takes them. It's one of the closest expressions ever seen of genuine anarchy — a “self-regulating cooperative of free thinkers acting voluntarily for a greater common good”. Their motto is “out of ordinariness, excellence”.

### **So Why Would We Need a New One?**

You've had the clue in the word ordinariness. Wikipedia has no editor-in-chief, no academic peer review, no university approval. Anyone can edit any entry, which is why this week one of its founders, Larry Sanger, has broken away and announced he's launching a spin-off called Citizendium. Again, anyone can submit materials, but he's got financial backing to hire experts to review all the submissions. This will, he says, make it far more reliable than Wikipedia.

### **How Unreliable Is It?**

How long is a string of clichés? That's how a lot of Wikipedia entries read. But then others read as if they were written by people who know what they're talking about. The problem is with all the stuff in between, which looks reliable, but you never know. Using it is like asking questions of a fellow you met in the pub. He might be a nuclear physicist. Or he might be a fruitcake. Wikipedia acknowledges this. Lots of articles are prefaced with a hint such as: “To meet Wikipedia's quality standards, this article may require clean-up”, which often is a considerable under-statement.



Robert McHenry, the former editor-in-chief of *Encyclopedia Britannica*, has been rather ruder. Visiting Wikipedia is like using a public lavatory, he has said. You don't know who has used the facilities before you.

But Wikipedia-use now dwarfs that of *Britannica*, primarily because the former is free and the latter has to be paid for. And with a free encyclopedia you get what you pay for.

But what is clear is the bias evident in some Wikipedia entries. Look up an entry like "Islam" or "Israel" and you will detect the hands of dedicated contributors with his own beliefs whose views are there because no one has the time and energy to counteract the bias.

Some pages seem to have taken over by those fans and special interests groups. When others try to correct their pages the dedicatees "revert" the contributions of new contributors.

### **Are There Other Problems?**

You have to watch out for self-glorification, or for PR (public relation) people adding entries for their clients. Then there are the politicians. Earlier this year it was revealed that staff in the US House of Representatives had embarked on a campaign to clean up the biogs (biography) of their political masters, and insert negative remarks about opponents, some of it pretty childish, such as that the Congressman from Virginia "smells of cow dung". Most difficult to stop is disproportionate emphasis. Earlier in the year the entry on Coronation Street was twice as long as the article on Tony Blair. "The holes in Wikipedia are big enough to throw an old-fashioned printing press through," lamented one critic, frustrated at Wikipedia's very few entries on Australian literature. If it didn't call itself an encyclopedia, said another frustrated user, but something like "Jimbo's Big Bag O'Trival", it wouldn't be the problem it has become.

### **So Why Does Anyone Bother with It?**

Because it has lots of good material on it. A report by the scientific journal, *Nature*, found that on 42 randomly selected science articles Wikipedia came close to *Britannica* in terms of accuracy. (The average Wikipedia article contained four errors or omissions; the average *Britannica* article, three.)

Where Wikipedia is useful is as a pointer to more reliable sources — it is diligent about giving a reference to most key points. What that doesn't help with is the hoaxes (恶作剧).