

21 世纪高校规划教材

新纪元

大学英语

总主编 赵国杰 宋志勤

NEW ERA
COLLEGE ENGLISH

读写教程

2

主编 胡溯帆 万田华

江西高校出版社

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新纪元大学英语

New Era College English

读写教程 2

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前 言

《新纪元大学英语》是根据“高职高专教育英语课程教育基本要求”,同时又根据学生的实际情况而编写的。教材分《读写教程》、《听说教程》和《教师用书》三种,分三级出版,供高职高专院校课堂教学和课外学习使用。

本教材编写宗旨是以人文素材为基本教学内容,注意听说读写的全面发展,为英语学习打下坚实的基础。课文的选择大多是叙事体裁,语言简明,准确流畅,可读性强,易学、易教。丰富的练习内容与课文相辅相成,一方面注意阅读技能的培养;另一方面关注口语活动、听力训练、词汇知识、语法训练。教师可根据学生的实际情况有重点地开展课堂教学活动。

《新纪元大学英语》编委会
2007年12月

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Unit 1

Text A

The Christmas Man

When we quit thinking primarily about ourselves and our own self-preservation, we undergo a truly heroic transformation of consciousness.

Joseph Campbell

Last Christmas was a very difficult time for me. My family and all of my close friends were back home in Florida, and I was all alone in a rather cold California. I was working too many hours and became very sick.

I was working a double shift at the Southwest Airlines ticket counter, it was about 9:00 p. m. on Christmas Eve, and I was feeling really miserable inside. There were a few of us working and very few customers waiting to be helped. When it was time for me to call the next person to the counter, I looked out to see the sweetest-looking old man standing with a cane. He walked very slowly over to the counter and in the faintest voice told me that he had to go to New Orleans. I tried to explain to him that there were no more flights that night and that he would have to go in the morning. He looked so confused and very worried. I tried to find out more information by asking if he had a reservation or if he remembered when he was supposed to travel, but he seemed to become more confused with each question. He just kept saying, "She said I have to go to New Orleans."

After much time, I was able to at least find out that this old man was dropped off at the curb on Christmas Eve by his sister-in-law and told to go to New Orleans, where he had family. She had given him some cash and told him just to go inside and buy a ticket. When I asked if he could

come back tomorrow, he said that she was gone and that he had no place to stay. He then said he would wait at the airport until tomorrow. Naturally, I felt a little ashamed. Here I was feeling very sorry for myself about being alone on Christmas, when this angel named Clarence MacDonald was sent to me to remind me of what being alone really meant. It broke my heart.

Immediately, I told him we would get it all straightened out, and our Customer Service agent helped to book him a seat for the earliest flight the next morning. We gave him the senior citizens' fare, which gave him some extra money for traveling. About this time he started to look very tired, and when I stepped around the counter to ask him if he was all right, I saw that his leg was wrapped in a bandage. He had been standing on it that whole time, holding a plastic bag full of clothes.

I called for a wheelchair. When the wheelchair came, we all stepped around to help him in, and I noticed a small amount of blood on his bandage. I asked how he hurt his leg, and he said that he had just had bypass surgery and an artery was taken from his leg. Can you imagine? This man had had heart surgery, and then shortly afterward, was dropped off at the curb to buy a ticket with no reservation to fly to New Orleans, alone!

I never really had a situation like this, and I wasn't sure what I could do. I went back to ask my supervisors if we could find a place for him to stay. They both said yes, and they obtained a hotel voucher for Mr. MacDonald for one night and a meal ticket for dinner and breakfast. When I came back out, we got his plastic bag of clothes and cane together and gave the porter a tip to take him downstairs to wait for the airport shuttle. I bent down to explain the hotel, food and itinerary again to Mr. MacDonald, and then patted him on the arm and told him everything would be just fine.

As he left he said, "Thank you," bent his head and started to cry. I cried too. When I went back to thank my supervisor, she just smiled and

said, "I love stories like that. He is your Christmas Man."

Rachel Dyer Montross

New Words

preservation [ˌprezə(:)'veɪʃən] <i>n.</i>	保护;保管
undergo ['ʌndə'ɡəʊ] <i>vt.</i>	experience or endure (sth. unpleasant or painful) 经历,经受;忍受
transformation [ˌtrænsfə'meɪʃən] <i>n.</i>	change 转变;变化
consciousness ['kaʊntəs] <i>n.</i>	觉悟;意识;知觉
counter ['mɪzərəbl] <i>n.</i>	a long flat narrow table or surface in a shop, bank etc. 柜台
miserable ['keɪn] <i>adj.</i>	very unhappy, or causing unhappiness by being unpleasant 苦恼的;痛苦的
cane ['keɪn] <i>n.</i>	手杖
curb [kɜ:b] <i>n.</i>	(人行道的) 路边
sister-in-law <i>n.</i>	嫂子,弟媳等
ashamed [ə'feɪmd] <i>adj.</i>	feeling guilty, anxious or awkward about something 羞愧的;惭愧的;害臊的
fare [feə] <i>n.</i>	飞机票价;车费;船费
wrap [ræp] <i>vt.</i>	cover or enclose (something) with paper, cloth or other material 裹;包;捆
bandage ['bændɪdʒ] <i>n.</i>	绷带;包扎带
plastic ['plæstɪk, plɑ:stɪk] <i>adj.</i>	塑料的
bypass ['baɪpɑ:s; (US)'baɪpæs] <i>n.</i>	搭桥术,绕道术
surgery ['sɜ:dʒəri] <i>n.</i>	外科;外科学
artery ['ɑ:təri] <i>n.</i>	动脉
afterward ['ɑ:ftəwəd] <i>adv.</i>	后来;以后;过后
reservation [ˌrezə'veɪʃən] <i>n.</i>	预定
supervisor ['sjʊ:pəvaɪzə] <i>n.</i>	a person who is in charge of him or her 上司;指导者
voucher ['vaʊtʃə(r)] <i>n.</i>	(可代替金钱用于某一用途的)票券
porter ['pɔ:tə] <i>n.</i>	a person whose job is to carry things 搬运工;行李工

shuttle [ʃʌt] <i>n.</i>	a vehicle or aircraft that travels regularly between two places 短程穿梭运行的车辆
itinerary [ai'tinərəri, 'it-] <i>n.</i>	a detailed plan or route of a journey 旅程; 路线
pat [pæt] <i>vt.</i>	轻拍

Phrases and Expressions

look out	look outside; be careful 朝外看; 留神; 提防
find out	找出; 发现; 查明
be supposed to do/be	used to say what was or is expected or intended to happen, especially when it did not happen 应当
at least	至少
drop off	让……下车
remind... of...	提醒……某事
straighten out	deal with problems or a confused situation and make it better, especially by organizing things 彻底解决
call for	要求; 需要; 提倡
wait for	等待
bend down	弯腰

Proper Names

Florida ['flɒrɪdə]	佛罗里达(美国州名)
California [kælɪ'fɔːnjə]	加利福尼亚州(美国州名)
New Orleans [ɔː'liːnz, 'ɔːl-]	新奥尔良(美国州名)
Clarence MacDonald ['klærəns mək'dɒnəld]	克拉伦斯·麦克唐纳(人名)
Southwest Airlines ['sauθwest 'eəlaɪnz]	西南航空公司(美国航空公司名)

Notes

The text is taken from *Chicken Soup For The Soul-at Work*.

Exercises

I. Comprehension of the Text

Choose the best answer for each of the following according to the text.

1. Last Christmas Eve the author was _____.
 - A. staying with his family
 - B. waiting for the flight at the airport
 - C. working in California
 - D. having dinner with his close friends
2. The author was feeling miserable inside because _____.
 - A. he couldn't go back home until the next morning
 - B. his family and close friends were back home
 - C. Only he did work at the airport
 - D. Customers were rude to him
3. The old man had to walk with a cane because _____.
 - A. he hurt his leg in an accident
 - B. he had just had bypass surgery
 - C. he was too old
 - D. he had only one leg
4. We can learn from the passage that _____.
 - A. the old man had no family
 - B. the old man's sister-in-law treated him badly
 - C. the old man had a reservation
 - D. the old man was very healthy
5. The experience of the old man told the author _____.
 - A. what being alone really meant
 - B. one should not leave his/her family
 - C. they were both alone
 - D. some people would feel lonely on Christmas Eve
6. "Senior citizens" in paragraph 4 means _____.
 - A. poor people
 - B. rich people
 - C. old people
 - D. respectable people
7. The old man could leave for New Orleans _____.
 - A. the next afternoon
 - B. at once
 - C. the next morning
 - D. the next evening
8. Which of the following is NOT TRUE according to the passage?
 - A. The author felt ashamed when he learned about the old man's experience.

- B. Compared with the old man, the author was not really alone.
C. The author never had a situation like this.
D. The old man stayed at the airport that night because he had no place to go.
9. When the old man left, he seemed very _____.
A. grateful B. happy C. angry D. disappointed
10. What does the last sentence of the passage mean?
A. The old man was Santa Claus.
B. The old man gave the author a Christmas gift.
C. The old man was the author's grandfather.
D. The author seemed to get a Christmas gift.

II. Question Answering

Answer the following questions based on the text.

1. Why was last Christmas a very difficult time for the author?
2. Where was the author working at that time?
3. Whom did the author see when he called the next person to the counter?
4. Where did the old man want to go?
5. Did the old man have a reservation?
6. Was the old man homeless?
7. What did the author do after he saw that the old man's leg was wrapped in a bandage?
8. Why did the old man's leg bleed?
9. Who obtained a hotel voucher for the old man?
10. Why did the old man cry as he left?

III. Question Discussion

Please discuss the following questions in groups or write your answers in your exercise books.

1. What do you think being alone means?
2. Have you ever met someone who helped you undergo a transformation of consciousness?
3. What do you learn from the text?

IV. Vocabulary Learning

1. Fill in the blanks with the words or expressions given below. Change the form where necessary.

undergo	agent	reservation	pat	find out	at least	drop off
wrap	remind of	straighten out	itinerary	look out	transformation	

- 1) She _____ an operation on a tumor in her left lung last year.
 - 2) I'd never seen Peter in smart evening clothes before-it was quite a _____.
 - 3) Please contact our _____ in Spain for further information.
 - 4) I've made you a dinner _____ for seven thirty.
 - 5) A handkerchief was _____ around his left hand.
 - 6) He began working out an _____ for me.
 - 7) She _____ a place next to her for me to sit down.
 - 8) _____, a car's coming!
 - 9) How did you _____ this secret?
 - 10) It requires _____ two days.
 - 11) _____ me _____ at the gate!
 - 12) This photo _____ me _____ my childhood.
 - 13) There are several financial problems that need to _____ quickly.
2. Complete each of the following sentences with the correct form of the given word on the left of each sentence.
- 1) preservation Salt has a _____ effort on food.
Efforts to _____ the peace have failed.
 - 2) truly It seems too good to be _____.
He didn't know the _____ about Tom.
 - 3) heroic Any father can be a _____ to his son.
The team fought back _____ from 3 - 1 down to finish the match 3 - 3.
 - 4) transformation A smile _____ his face.
What leads to the _____ of one economic system to another?
 - 5) difficult We had no _____ in finding the house.

- We climbed up the mountain _____.
- 6) confuse Don't _____ the papers on his desk!
The room was in a state of _____.
- 7) information He hasn't _____ me of his plans for holidays.
The nurse was very _____ and told me everything about his case.
- 8) explain Sarah gave me a very clear _____ of how to find her house.
The structure of the heart was described in the book with the help of an _____ diagram.
- 9) reservation We'll _____ the ticket for you till tomorrow noon.
There is a _____ seat in the theatre for me.
- 10) tired He spoke _____ of his job.
I was overtaken by a sudden wave of _____.
- 11) notice It's _____ that the weather is getting colder.
After her illness, Fiona had become _____ thinner.
- 12) imagine He thought he was being followed, but it was all in his _____.
We must consider our real options, not _____ ones.

3. Use the verb in the bracket to form an appropriate verbal phrase and complete the sentence with it.

- 1) What are you _____? (think)
- 2) Can you _____ on the map where we are now? (work)
- 3) I will _____ you at the gate. (wait)
- 4) The situation _____ an immediate action. (call)
- 5) The police are _____ the matter. (look)
- 6) Why don't you _____ help? (ask)
- 7) I don't _____ taking a tour. (feel)
- 8) This photo _____ me _____ my childhood. (remind)
- 9) She _____, hardly able to believe her ears. (step)
- 10) I _____ it the truth. (take)
- 11) I _____ my teacher yesterday afternoon. (come)
- 12) The supply of food _____ ..(give)

4. For each of the underlined words or phrases, four choices are given. Choose the one that best explains or defines the underlined part.

- 1) She's been so miserable since her dog died.
A. unhappy B. tired C. hopeless D. sick
- 2) My memories of my grandfather are very faint.
A. good B. bright C. slight D. little
- 3) I'd like to make a table reservation for two people.
A. conversation B. subscription C. conference D. party
- 4) You are supposed to come earlier!
A. should B. will C. can D. need
- 5) I dropped off the train in Nanchang.
A. missed B. got on C. saw D. got off
- 6) Train fares are going up again, unfortunately.
A. money B. seats C. payments D. amounts
- 7) It is the problem that calls for an immediate solution.
A. telephones B. needs C. wants D. has
- 8) She wrapped the present and tied it with ribbon.
A. put B. bought C. packed D. liked
- 9) To get across the town, you can take the shuttle.
A. device B. vehicle C. ship D. plane
- 10) Several tour companies have changed their itineraries.
A. minds B. opinions C. thoughts D. plans

V. Structure Learning

Rewrite the following sentences after the model.

Model 1. *I told him we would have it all straightened out.*

→ *I told him we would get it all straightened out.*

- 1) Mind you don't have yourself burned.
- 2) I need to ask somebody to finish the washing machine.
- 3) We must finish this work on time.
- 4) I should be able to finish the first chapter by tonight.
- 5) They tried to have Mary sent to prison.

Model 2. *The laws should prevent crime.*