

Book Four

For First - & Second-Year

Students of English

CLOSE READING

精·读·英·语·教·程 教学参考手册

(第四册)

高校英语专业二年级用

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复旦大学出版社

精读英语教程教学参考手册

(第四册)

Teaching-Learning Aid for *Close Reading* Book 4

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前 言

作为复旦大学外文学院在英语专业教材上的重点项目,《精读英语教程》第四册于2006年初正式出版。上海交通大学外国语学院英语系于第一时间在英专二年级的课堂上使用了这本教材。现在这本《精读英语教程教学参考手册》就是在三年的教学实践、四位专业教师的集体智慧、九个班级逾二百七十名学生的教学反馈的基础上编写而成的。

复旦版《精读英语教程》给人的第一印象似乎就是“难”,而作为这套教材最高阶段的第四册恐怕是“难上加难”——这是很多学生和包括编者在内的教师的普遍印象。但这一印象只是初步的,随着教学的深入,教材的价值才逐渐被认可。教师现在的共识是:讲授有挑战性的课文才更体现精读课的要旨;学生的共识则是:学习较难的课文才有真正的收获。虽然在课外没有安排背诵任务,但很多学生都自觉地背诵课文中的精彩段落,甚至有学生豪言要从头至尾背下所有的课文。本主编曾收到一位以合作形式在交大学习专业英语两年后返回上海中医药大学的学生发来的电子邮件。在邮件中,他动情地说道:“在学第四册时,我和有些同学一样,觉得学这么难的课文没有必要……前天我拿起书翻翻,发现这是一座真正的金矿。现在我正在研读每一篇课文,无论是教过的还是没教过的……”

学生的肺腑之言是对《精读英语教程》第四册的最佳肯定,也是对该书教参编写工作的有力鞭策。切实助师生一臂之力,参透波特和乔伊斯等巨擘文字迷雾后的真实用意,疏通桑塔格和菲德勒等新锐的文艺批评思路,解释文学、艺术、哲学、科学等领域的背景知识和思想流派,从而使教材的使用者真正从中获益,这就是我们的编写宗旨。

在编写结构上,本教参基本承袭了第一、二册教参的模式,提供对课文的详细解释、相关背景材料和几乎所有练习的参考答案。考虑到英语专业二年级学生的专业水平和重在疏通原文的授课特点,我们不提供课文的译文,而将重点放在课文内容的阐发和引申上,增强了难句讲解(包括 paraphrase 和 explanation)的力度,相应地淡化了词语的讲解。由于第四册课文的词汇普遍较难,因此不再区分基本词汇表和超纲词汇表。第四册的课后练习主观灵活性较强,我们提供的答案往往只表一家之言,教师可在此基础上进行发挥。这些都是第四册的教参区别于第一、二册教参的最显著之处。

本教参的编写体例也大体遵循第一、二册教参,但在内容的醒目和格式的统一方面作了一些改进,主要包括:

1. 词汇讲解以课文中出现的关键词或词组为条目。为醒目起见,条目用黑体并标以序号。正文中的词汇还标以行号以便查找。

2. 词汇条目下面首先列出英语释义(课文中该条目的意义),个别条目提供汉语释义。

3. 例句一律用斜体书写,前面标以黑点(•)。

4. 相关语言知识以各种符号标示,其中:

⊕ 表示该条目课文以外的其他释义;

⊕ ⊕ 表示包含该条目的重要短语或熟语;

Ⓓ 表示该条目的派生词或同源词(derivative);

Ⓔ 表示该条目的同义词(synonym);

Ⓐ 表示该条目的反义词(antonym);

Ⓗ 表示该条目的同音异义词(homonym);

Ⓒ 表示与该条目进行音、形、义等方面对比的重要词项(compare);

⌘ 表示由该条目引申而得的其他语言知识。

5. 句子讲解以课文中出现的难句或长句为条目,句子条目与词汇条目连续编号。

6. 句子讲解的内容包括:

Ⓖ 表示句子的英语释义(paraphrase);

Ⓔ 表示对句子含义的解释(explanation);

Ⓗ 表示句子的汉语翻译(translation)。

《精读英语教程》第四册教参的编写是一项艰辛的工程,几位主要编者中有教学科研任务繁重的资深教师、也有新为人父母或将为人母者,教参的编写都是他们在课余争分夺秒完成的。《精读英语教程》的主编沈黎教授审读了教参的初稿,并提供了许多有益的建议和帮助,复旦大学出版社一直很关心教参的编写工作并给予大力支持。谨以本教参的问世向以上所有人致敬。而“凡人多舛误”,欢迎教参的使用者指出该教参中的纰漏和不足,以便我们再版时改正。

主编 谨识

2008年7月

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精读英语教程教学参考手册(第四册)

Teaching-Learning Aid for *Close Reading* Book 4

Unit One Quest for Meaning

Text 1 Rope

I. Pre-Reading Discussion

1. Yes, I did. I bought some new clothes during a big sale. But later I found them not so suitable for me.
2. Yes, it was. I bought them just because everyone else was grabbing more clothes at the time. I kept the clothes while knowing that I would not wear them in the future. They would be a reminder of my irrational behavior.

II. Close Reading of the Text

[introduction]

1. **quest** (*n.*) (~ of, for) : a long search ; an attempt to find sth.
 - *The continuing **quest** for a cure for the disease is highly admired.*
 - *They traveled in **quest** of gold.*
- C

query (*n.*) : a question or doubt
 (*vt.*) : to express doubt or uncertainty about
 - *Give us a ring if you have any **queries** about the contract.*
 - *His reliability is to be **queried**.*
2. **note** (*n.*) : a particular quality or tone expressing a mood or attitude
 - *There was a **note** of scorn in her voice.*
3. **discord** (*n.*) : lack of agreement or harmony
 - *Marital **discord** is the reason for many family conflicts.*
- +

 (*n.*) : lack of agreement heard when musical notes are played

A

concord, harmony
4. **zoom** (*vi.*) (~ in on, out) : (of a cinema camera) to move quickly between a distant and a close view
 - *The camera **zoomed** in on the child's face.*
- +

 (*vi.*) : to increase suddenly and quickly
 - *The cost of living has **zoomed**.*

Unit One

5. “A note ... the couple ...”

[P] As soon as the husband and wife become the focus of the story, an inharmonious atmosphere is felt ...

6. “... he affords ... ‘meaningless’ rope.”

[P] ... he lavishes money on a rope that is believed to be “useless” and “meaningless”.

[E] The word “luxury” indicates that the family is so poor that buying an unnecessary item like a rope becomes a luxury.

7. erupt (vi.): to break out suddenly

[D] eruption (n.)

- Volcanic **eruptions** are often heard in this area.

8. escalate (vi.): to make or become more serious by stages

- The government **escalated** the war by starting to bomb enemy cities.

[+] (vi.): to make or become higher or greater

- The cost of living is **escalating**.

[D] escalation (n.), escalator (n.): moving staircase(自动扶梯)

9. redeem (vt.): to make (something bad) slightly less bad

- The excellent acting wasn't enough to **redeem** a weak plot.

[+] (vt.): to make free of blame or bring back into favor

- She **redeemed** her reputation with a powerful speech to the party convention.

10. racket (n.): a loud unpleasant noise

- Stop making such a **racket**! I can't sleep.

[+] (n.): a specially shaped piece of wood or metal that is used for hitting the ball in tennis(网球等的球拍)

11. to the fore: to a noticeable, active or leading position

- Environmental issues came **to the fore** in the 1980s.

12. disquieting (adj.): causing a feeling of anxiety or uneasiness

- But there came the **disquieting** thought that my opinion didn't matter.

[D] disquiet (vt.): to make anxious

(n.): anxiety and dissatisfaction

13. woe (n.): great sorrow or unhappiness

[D] woeful (adj.): very sad, mournful

- His **woeful** face suggests something unfortunate has happened.

14. “Brought to ... marital woes.”

[P] Then he compensates for his inappropriate doings by going back to town again to buy coffee, which ends the conflict between the couple. In spite of that, the

conflict highlights a series of problems that will make a married couple very unhappy.

[E] This is the clue students can follow when reading this short story full of third-person psychological descriptions. In fact, the quarrel between the couple is not presented in the familiar way. Instead, verbal fights are characterized by a direct observation of the characters' psychological worlds. Note that "though" is an adverb, which can be structurally understood as "though (it was brought to a halt after ...)".

[Paragraph 1]

15. (L2) **groceries** (n.): items of food sold in a grocer's shop or supermarket

- *I reached the road, picked up my **groceries**, and left her in peace.*

[C] **grocery** (n.): a store selling groceries

16. (L4) **smock** (n.): a garment like a long loose shirt, esp. as worn by women or to protect the clothes in former times by farm workers and painters(罩衫, 工作服)

17. (L4) **tumble** (vi.): to throw about in a confused mess

[+ (vi.): to fall suddenly or helplessly

- *He slipped and **tumbled** down the stairs.*

18. (L7) **rural** (adj.): in the countryside instead of the city

- *Agriculture forms the backbone of the **rural** economy.*

19. (L4-L7) "**Her hair ... a play.**"

[E] Judging by their appearances and comments, they probably moved from a city to the countryside and lived an indecent life.

[Paragraph 3]

20. (L10) "**Gosh, no, he hadn't. Lord ...**"

[E] Both "Gosh" and "Lord" are euphemisms for "God" and exclamations to express surprise or make emphasis.

21. (L10-11) "**Yes, he ... killed him.**"

[P] Yes, he would (go back) (even) if going back killed him.

22. (L13) "**Suppose they ... of cigarettes ?**"

[P] What about they using up cigarettes?

[E] This suggests that the man smoked cigarettes and would remember to buy them if they ran out of them.

23. (L15) **or something**: also as "or something like that", used to refer to something similar to what you have mentioned but are not certain about

Unit One

- *The name of this guy is Briarly or Bearly or something.*
- 24. (L17) **blot** (*n.*): a spot or mark, esp. of ink, that spoils sth. or makes it dirty
 - *A blot of ink is on the paper.*
 - *That hideous building is a real blot on the landscape.*
- ⊕ (*n.*): a fault or shameful action, esp. by someone usually of good character
 - *She cannot put up with a blot on his character.*

[Paragraph 4]

25. (L22) **odds and ends**: small things of various kinds without much value (零零碎碎的东西)
26. (L23-24) “... but she ... more rope.”
 - ⒫ ... but she thought that at that moment when they didn't have much money, it was very strange and unreasonable to buy extra rope.
27. (L24-25) “she hadn't meant anything else.”
 - Ⓔ What she meant was that they just didn't have enough money to buy useless things.

[Paragraph 6]

28. (L37-38) “He should ... of eggs.”
 - ⒫ He should be experienced enough to know that heavy things shouldn't be put on eggs.
 - Ⓔ “Know better than to do something” means be old or experienced enough to know it is wrong to do something.

[Paragraph 7]

29. (L41-42) “He desired ... a fact.”
 - ⒫ He argued/hoped that anybody could prove it was not true (that he did not put the rope on top of everything).
 - Ⓔ “The whole wide world” is a little exaggerated, and with “witness”, alliteration is produced.
30. (L43-44) “... and what ... for her ? ”
 - ⒫ ... and her eyes would be useless if the best they (i. e., the eyes) could do was to miss an obvious fact that he had carried the rope in one hand instead of in the basket.

[Paragraph 9]

31. (L53) **choke** (*vt.*): to prevent somebody from breathing
- *I felt as if there was a weight on my chest, **choking** me.*
- [E] In the text, it means she was made speechless by the idea (because it sounded too ridiculous).
32. (L53-54) “**Warmed-over ... it fresh.**”
- [P] It is unthinkable to have the meat warmed over, because they could have it cooked straightaway and had it when it was fresh.
- [E] It is better to eat freshly cooked meat than warmed-over meat, a fact so obvious that it makes the man's suggestion appear so absurd.
33. (L54) **makeshift** (*n.*): a temporary or expedient substitute for something else
- [+ (*adj.*): made to be used for a short time only when nothing better is available
- *The refugees slept in **makeshift** tents at the side of the road.*
34. (L54-55) “**Second best ... the meat!**”
- [P] They have nothing good in home, except for second-best items, odds and ends and items for temporary use. Now even the meat could not be eaten fresh.
35. (L57) **arch** (*vi.*): to form an arch or make into the shape of an arch
- *Two rows of trees **arched** over the driveway.*
- [+ (*n.*): a structure with a curved top and straight sides that supports the weight of a bridge or building(弓形, 弧)
36. (L57) **purr** (*vi.*): (of a person) to show quiet happiness in a pleasant low voice
- [+ (*vi.*): to make the low continuous sound produced by a pleasant cat
37. (L57) **hiss** (*vi.*): to make a sharp, sibilant sound similar to a sustained “s”
- [+ (*n.*): a sharp, sibilant sound similar to a sustained “s”
38. (L56-58) “**he would ... almost clawed.**”
- [E] The words “arch” and “purr” form a sharp contrast with “hissed” and “clawed”. The former pair suggests the gentle and lovely response of a docile animal (e. g. a cat) while the latter indicates the hostile reaction of some fierce beast (a snake “hissed” and a wolf “clawed”).
39. (L59) **turn on** (*sb.*): to attack suddenly and without warning
- *Peter **turned on** Martin and screamed, “Get out of my sight!”*
40. (L58-60) “**He was ... his face.**”
- [P] He was about to say that they could certainly find a way to live a life. At that time she suddenly jumped on him and warned that if he said that she would beat him on the face.

[Paragraph 10]

41. (L61) **red-hot** (*adj.*): (of metal) so hot that it shines red

[E] In the text, the “words” are red-hot because they are just about to be said.

42. (L64) **clutter** (*n.*): (a collection of) things scattered about in a disorderly fashion

[+] (*vt.*): to make untidy or confused, esp. by filling with useless or unwanted things

- The walls were **cluttered** with paintings and prints.

43. (L64-66) “She had ... in order.”

[P] When they lived in town, she used to tolerate a messy house, but now after they moved to the country and had more room, she would no longer bear any clutter at all.

[Paragraph 11]

44. (L70-71) “She simply ... hiding them.”

[P] Because she had an unreasonable habit of moving, reorganizing and hiding things in the house, work became inefficient and sometimes had to be repeated.

[Paragraph 12]

45. (L74-75) “... in the ... the dark.”

[E] It was the man who had put the hammer and nails in the middle of the bedroom floor and made a mess. So instead of apologizing, the woman blamed the man again for his sloppiness.

[Paragraph 13]

46. (L81) **god-forsaken** (*adj.*): (of a place) containing nothing useful, interesting, attractive, or cheerful, and often in very bad condition

[Paragraph 14]

47. (L85) **heckle** (*vi.*): to interrupt (a speaker or speech) with disapproving or unfriendly remarks, especially at a political meeting

- The guest speaker was **heckled** by a group of protestors.

48. (L85) **tyrannize over**: to treat somebody in a cruelly unfair way

[D] **tyranny** (*n.*): cruel or unfair control over other people

49. (L85-86) “He wished ... out on.”

Ⓔ The man was scolding the woman for treating him like a child, and she did that just to vent her anger and dissatisfaction.

[Paragraph 15]

50. **forlorn** (*adj.*): nearly hopeless, desperate

- *She had a **forlorn** look on her face.*

⊕ (*adj.*): left empty and in poor condition;

- *A row of **forlorn** old buildings down by the port.*

Ⓓ **forlornly** (*adv.*), **forlornness** (*n.*)

51. (L92) **for God's sake**: It is used to emphasize something you are saying when you are annoyed

- ***For God's sake**, shut up!*

[Paragraph 16]

52. (L93) **hush** (*vi.*): to become silent

⊕ (*n.*): a period of silence

- *A sudden **hush** fell over the crowd.*

53. (L94) **indefinitely** (*adv.*): for a length of time that has no fixed or obvious end

- *The plan will be postponed **indefinitely**.*

54. (L96) **for the life of sb.**: It is often used in “cannot ~ understand / remember / see ...” to mean somebody cannot understand / remember / see ... even if he has tried very hard.

55. (L97) **swell** (*adj.*): (AmE.) very good, excellent

- *What a **swell** idea!*

56. (L101) **as it was / as it is**: because of the situation that actually exists; used when that situation is different from your expectation or need (既然如此,像现在这样)

- *We were saving money to go to Hawaii, but **as it is** we can only afford to go on a camping trip.*

57. (L102) **straighten out**: to make something clear or satisfactory

- *There are several financial problems that need to be **straightened out** quickly.*

[Paragraph 17]

58. (L103-104) **out of bounds**: outside the prescribed area

- *This area is **out of bounds** to persons not concerned.*

Unit One

59. (L106-107) "She knew ... it otherwise."

[P] She knew very well that they couldn't get the money if he hadn't stayed in town last summer to do a lot of jobs.

[Paragraph 18]

60. (L109-110) "Oh, he ... his great-grandmother."

[P] Don't try to lie to me. Tell the bold-faced lie to your great-grandmother. Only dotard would believe you.

61. (L111) **bring up**: to raise the subject or start to talk about it

- *Why did you have to **bring up** the subject of money?*

62. (L114-117) "Yes, yes ... by refusing."

[E] The woman was indicating that the man would easily have an extramarital affair with women. "Kidnap" is the exaggerated version of "hooked in". The woman meant satirically that it was always the woman's fault and he was just too weak to refuse that.

[Paragraph 19]

63. (L118) **rave** (*vi.*): to talk wildly as if mad

- *He **raved** all night in his fever.*

[C] **rave about sth.**: to speak about with extreme praises or admiration

- *Everyone was **raving about** the new singer.*

64. (L121) **stick in one's craw**

(AmE.) (craw: throat [of a bird]) = (BrE.) stick in one's throat

(of a situation or someone's behavior) that is so annoying that you cannot accept it

- *Her criticism really **stuck in my craw**.*

65. (L121) "If you ... his craw."

[P] If you thought what you had said didn't make me angry, then you were wrong. Because I'm already angry, so shut up!

[Paragraph 20]

66. (L123) **devilish** (*adj.*): very bad or very difficult, cruel or evil

- *It is a **devilish** problem to solve.*

[D] **devilishness** (*n.*), **devilishly** (*adv.*): (showing displeasure) very

- *It was **devilishly** hard work climbing the mountain.*

67. (L130) **skillet** (*n.*): (AmE.) frying pan(炒锅)

68. (L132) **raw** (*adj.*): sore or painful because of being rubbed or damaged;

inflamed

- *The shoe had rubbed a **raw** place on her heel.*

⊕ (adj.): uncooked or unprepared

- *I have a **raw** throat.*

69. (L131-132) “... and if ... simply raw”

Ⓔ The complete message is “he might bring a pair of rubber gloves if there were any in the village because her hands were rubbed painful from physical work”.

[Paragraph 21]

70. (L133) **swelter** (vi.): to feel uncomfortably hot

- *We had been **sweltering** in the room all afternoon.*

⊕ (n.): heat stroke

71. (L133) “**sweltering on the slopes**”

Ⓔ In the hot sun, the hillsides make one uncomfortably hot.

72. (L134-135) “... if only ... for *anything*”

Ⓔ ... if only she could wait a while for anything she wanted.

[Paragraph 22]

73. (L137) **run along**: to go away (often said to children as a command)

74. (L140) **melancholic** (n.): one who tends to feel very sad

⊕ (adj.): of or suffering from melancholia or gentle sadness

Ⓔ **melancholia** (n.): a feeling of great sadness and lack of energy (精神忧郁症), **melancholy** (adj.) = melancholic

- *Hamlet was known as a **melancholy** prince.*

75. (L139-140) “... but he ... few days”

Ⓔ ... he had said to her, “if you are not such a hopeless sad woman, you may see that we have only been here for a few days.” It was only after saying that that he could go back.

Ⓔ See the beginning of the essay “on the third day ...”. What the man meant is they should have enough time to appreciate the beauty and there was no reason for her to be so sad.

76. (L144) **topple** (vi.): (~ over) to (cause to) become unsteady and fall down

⊕ (vt.): overthrow

- *This political scandal could **topple** the government.*