

湖南省普通高等教育面向21世纪教学内容和课程体系改革计划”重点资助项目

3

CENTURY ENGLISH READING COURSE

丛书主编 林汝昌

主 编 罗德芬

中 南 大 学 出 版 社



21世纪英语阅读教程

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编者的话

1 编写的思路

随着社会的发展,国力的增强,我国与国外的交流日益增多,再加上电讯网络事业的迅猛发展,外语的使用在更大的范围内得到普及。在各级学校里外语已成为一门必修课,受到极大的重视。由于对外语学习的认识与了解因经济的发展,社会的需求以及各学科之间的交叉发展而不断深化,外语教学理论与流派也随之不断涌现。但到目前为止,由于我国地域广阔、地区经济发展不平衡,各校师资力量参差不齐,要求各异,因而在我国很难说哪种教学法(包括目前较流行的交际法)能满足英语教学的需要,哪种教材能满足目前广大英语学习者的需求。

为了跟上时代的步伐和在一定范围内满足英语学习者的需求,本套教材——《世纪英语阅读教程》(1~5)作为“湖南省普通高等教育面向 21 世纪教学内容和课程体系改革计划”重点资助项目,在编写过程中得到省内各高等院校的大力支持,参编的同志们充分参考了现在在各高校使用的教材,如由复旦大学主编的《大学英语》,外语教学与研究出版社出版的《新编大学英语》,上海交通大学与复旦大学合编的《21 世纪英语》,与此同时还参考了由国外出版社出版的多种新教材。在编写中,我们除继承一般教材编写原则(如编写的“四性”原则:针对性、实践性、科学性和趣味性)和组织原则(如线性排列“linear gradation”与螺旋式排列“spiral gradation”)外,还吸取了现代语言学的新成果——图式理论的基本原则以及 20 世纪 80 年代兴起于我国对外汉语教学的文化导入理论,促进人脑知识网络的发展,同时通过词汇文化内涵的介绍,加深同学们的对词汇的理解,体现语言与文化的深层关系。

我们这一套教程毕竟是一套供英语学习者使用的教材而不是研究语言规律的专著,有选择地引入上述两项理论旨在弥补当前我国一些教材对词汇的文化内涵解释不够的不足:比如“breakfast”就是“早餐”,“individualism”就是“个人主义”,或“个体主义”,而没有从文化的角度对该词作进一步的解释,如指出早餐的内容、时间及伴随早餐的一些习俗在不同文化背景国家里的差别。更何况“个人主义”一词在不同文化体系的国家里,该词的解释是截然不同的。我们在这里只想说明在中国这一现实环境里,我们的学习者要学好英语,除学好英语的语言知识外,还要通过英语语言形式的学习,了解体现这些形式的文化成因。而现实的第一步就是通过学习英语词汇去了解蕴含在词汇里面的文化因素。因为这些文化因素最能触及西方文化中有关行为文化(behavior culture)的一些现象,而行为文化是“活”的文化,是文化中最为敏感的部分。学习者如能培养出这种文化意识(cultural awareness)就会对英语有更深入的了解和体会,这就是为什么我们在每篇课文的练习设计里,在 Words and Expressions 后加上 Cultural Hints(文化提示)这一栏目的目的。

图式理论发展于德国的格式塔(Gestalt)心理学派。1932 年心理学家 Bartlett 将“图式”定义为人们过去的经历在大脑中的动态组织。1963 年著名教育家、心理学家 Ausubel 用图式概念去解释学习过程,认为有意义的学习是将新的知识和大脑原有的知识联系起来扩充原有的知识。直到 20 世纪 70 年代后期,在人工智能专家的努力下,自成一体的图式理论才趋向成

熟。近年来,心理语言学家将图式理论运用到外语教学这一领域,企图通过它来解释外语学习和阅读理解的心理过程,这一尝试取得了积极的成果。据此,我们在编写这一教程时,参考了由 Alan Maley 编著的 Cultural Awareness(《文化意识》)一书的一些练习设计,并加以改进,使之更贴近课文。关于这点,读者在做我们设计的 Vocabulary Map 这一练习时会有所体会。这一练习将通过一个关键词调动读者原已储存在脑子里的信息并通过课文学习增加新信息,使之成为一个较为完整的信息网络,永久地储存在读者的记忆里。

在编写过程中,我们对课文的练习设计也给予充分的考虑,我们保留了在各种考试中常用的一部分试题形式,但同时注意设计一些能启发同学们思考的练习题,如第四册中的 Words in Context(一项通过上下文培养学生推测词意的能力训练),从而尽量避免应试教育带来的小部分同学高分低能的倾向。

2 课文编写的框架结构

1)《世纪英语阅读教程》,共5册,前4册为课文,每册12课,第5册为参考答案汇编。

2)每册课文均选自英、美等国原版读物,内容涉及英美社会生活的各个方面,如家庭宗教、体育、音乐、交通、科技与历史等。课文思想内容力求客观、真实;语言力求规范、流畅。当然在个别文章中也许会出现不同价值取向,不同世界观的问题,但在开放改革的今天,笔者相信读者会运用马克思主义的观点,吸收精华,弃其糟粕,作出正确的判断。此外,对个别难度较大的单词,我们力求给出解释。第一、二册的正课文字数一般均控制在800~1000词之间。第三、四册在1000~1200词之间。

3)每篇课文分三部分。Part One: A First Look; Part Two: Look Again; Part Three: Look Back。从标题可以看出,三部分是有机组合的,自成体系,后二部分的补充阅读材料与练习旨在加深对正课文的了解,并通过各种形式的练习巩固和开拓同学们所学的知识。

4)Part One: A First Look 的第一个题目是 Look and Say,目的是通过图片提供的内容及附设的问题,在老师的组织下,让同学们就问题用英语展开积极的讨论,从而一开始就使课堂的气氛活跃起来。

5)Part One: A First Look 的第二题为正文阅读(Reading the Passage)。笔者建议在正课文讲解之前,安排几分钟让同学们对正课文进行默读,使同学们了解课文的大意,这样既培养了同学们快速阅读的能力,又为接下来老师对正课文的讲解作好准备。

6)正文之后,除 Words and Expressions 外,还有 Cultural Hints(文化提示)一栏。这正是本教程的特点之一。要注意的是,Cultural Hints 的中文部分并不是英文部分的翻译,只是英文部分的归纳与说明。

7)Cultural Hints 之后是 Vocabulary Map 练习。如上文所述,这是本教程为开拓同学们思考能力和概括能力而设计的练习,其目的是为同学们提供更大的想象空间。我们深信这一练习将受到同学们的欢迎。

8)Part Two: Look Again 为同学们提供两篇其主题与正文大致相同的短文,目的是为学习者进一步提供与主题类似的文字信息,进而让学习者加深和巩固从正课文里所学到语言知识。

9)Part Three: Look Back,顾名思义,是对正课文学习的小结。

3 编写的分工说明

本教程为湖南省教育厅重点资助项目,由湖南大学林汝昌教授牵头组织编写,并任该套教程的主编。参加编写的学校有中南大学,负责第一册的编写,由彭金定教授主持并任该册的主编。湘潭大学负责编写第二册,由文卫平教授主持并任该册的主编。湖南师范大学负责编写第三册,由罗德芬教授主持并任该册主编。长沙国防科技大学负责编写第四册,由刘晶教授主持并任该册的主编。第五册是前四册参考答案的汇编,由湖南大学陈意含副教授和许俊讲师任主编。

本册是第三册,由罗德芬任主编,编写人员为:钟丽萍(第一、二单元)、陈忠平(第三、四单元)、黄渊泊(第五、六单元)、甘韶军(第七、八、九、十单元)、罗德芬(第十一、第十二单元)。

本套教程在编写过程中得到各个方面的大力支持,首先是湖南省教育厅的大力支持,没有湖南省教育厅高教处与科研处的大力资助,这套教程的出版是不可能的。其次是得到省内各高校外语学院的大力支持,他们为教材提供不少新的资料和意见,特别是湖南省大学英语专业委员会前会长程中文教授与现任会长曾凡贵副教授,他们对全书进行了审核并提出宝贵的改进意见。在此我们对曾给我们支持与帮助的同志们表示衷心的感谢和敬意。

编 者

2001年8月于岳麓山下

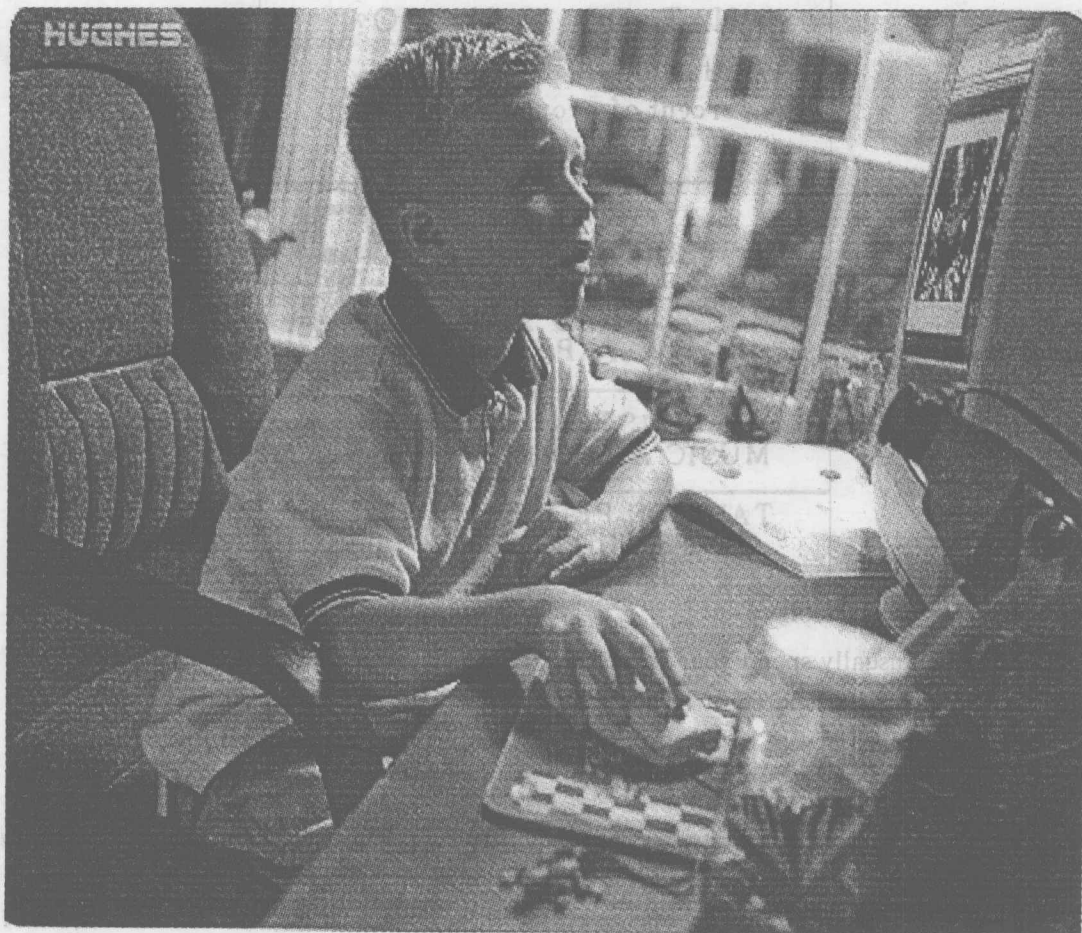
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Unit 1

Driving Home the Message



Knowledge is of two kinds.

We know a subject ourselves

or we know where we can find information upon it.





—Johnson

Part One

A First Look

● Look and Say

Directions: Look at the picture below and discuss the questions with your partner.

WHAT DO YOU DO?		
Everyday, or almost every day the percent of people who		
WATCH TELEVISION	72%	
READ A NEWSPAPER	70%	
LISTEN TO MUSIC AT HOME	46%	
TALK ON PHONE TO FRIENDS OR RELATIVES	45%	

Questions for discussion

1. How do you usually spend your spare time?
2. What is your major source of information?

● Your Opinions

Directions: Think about the following questions and then exchange your opinions with your partner.

1. What are the most popular sources of information?
2. Which, in your opinion, is the most influential source of information?
3. Do you enjoy going on-line?
4. Comment on the advantages and disadvantages of Internet surfing.
5. Objectivity and detachment are considered characteristics of the press. Comment on this.
6. Why is it difficult for news coverage to be free from bias?
7. Comment on the impact of the "Information Explosion" on the modern society.
8. In the information age, how to make good use of the information provided?



● Passage Reading

Directions: Read the passage and try to get the main idea through your first reading.

Driving Home the Message

- 1 Every day, the news of the world is relayed to people by over 300 million copies of daily papers, over 400 million radio sets, and over 150 million television sets. Additional news is shown by motion pictures, in theaters and cinemas all over the world. As more people learn what the important events of the day are, fewer are still concerned exclusively with the events of their own household. As the British writer John Donne put it, nearly four hundred years ago, "no man is an island". This idea is more appropriate today than it was when Donne lived. In short, wherever he lives, a man belongs to some society; and we are becoming more and more aware that whatever happens in one particular society affects, somehow, the life and destiny of all humanity.
- 2 Newspapers have been published in the modern world for about four hundred years. Most of the newspapers printed today are read in Europe and North America. However, soon they may be read in all parts of the world, thanks to the new inventions that are changing the techniques of newspaper publishing.
- 3 Electronics and automation have made it possible to produce pictures and texts far more quickly than before. Photographic reproduction eliminates the need for type and printing presses. And fewer specialists, such as type-setters, are needed to produce a paper or magazine by the photo-offset method. Therefore, the publishing of newspapers and magazines become more economical. Furthermore, photocopies can be sent over great distances by means of television channels and satellites such as Telstar. Thus, pictures can be brought to the public more quickly than previously.
- 4 Machines that prepare printed texts for photo-copies are being used a great deal today. Thousands of letters and figures of different sizes and thicknesses can now be arranged on a black glass disc that is only eight inches in diameter, to be printed in negative form (white on a black background). The disc on the machine turns constantly at the rate of ten revolutions a second. A beam of light from a Stroboscopic lamp shines on the desired letters and figures for about two-millionths of a second. Then the image of the letters and figures that were illuminated is projected onto a film through lenses. The section of film is large enough to hold the equivalent of a page of text. There is a keyboard in front of the machine that is similar to the keyboard of a typewriter, and the machine operator has only to strike the proper keys for the image of the corresponding letters to be immediately transferred to the film. The negative image on the film can quickly be transferred onto paper. This method makes it as easy to reproduce photographs and illustrations as it is to reproduce the text itself.
- 5 Film, being light and small, can be sent rapidly to other places and used to reproduce photographs and illustrations as it is to reproduce the text itself.





- 6 Television broadcasts are limited to an area that is within sight of the sending station or its relay. Although television relays are often placed on hills and mountains so that they can cover a wider region. They still cannot cover more land than one could see from the same hilltop on a clear day. However, the rays also go out into the atmosphere, and if there is a relay station on a satellite that revolves around the earth, it can transmit the pictures to any point on the earth from which the satellite is visible. Three satellites permanently revolving over the equator transmit any television program to any part of the earth. This makes it possible for world editions of newspapers to give the news in all countries at the same time. Some day it may be possible for a subscriber to a televised newspaper to press a button and see a newspaper page on his television screen. He could also decide when he wants the page to turn, and by dialing different numbers such as those on a telephone dial, he could choose the language or the edition of the paper he wants to read.
- 7 It seems strange to think that, even today, methods of the past are not entirely useless. For example, sometimes press agencies that use radio and Telstar use carrier pigeons to send messages between offices in large cities because the pigeons are not bothered by traffic problems.
- 8 It may be some time before television sets become common in the average homes in Africa and Asia. However, radio is already rapidly becoming accessible to thousands of people in these areas. And, now that good radios are being made with transistors, and their price is gradually dropping because of mass production, it may not be too long before radios become commonplace in areas which have no newspaper. Transistors make it possible for people to carry small radios wherever they go without need of electric current. Even television sets are now operating on transistors, and the pocket TV may soon be as widespread as the pocket radio.
- 9 Now that scientific progress is making it possible to send the news to all the inhabitants of the earth, it will be important to consider what news is going to be sent to them. No matter what criteria are used in making the decision, a decision must be made, since no one would have time to read or listen to an account of everything that is going on in the world.
- 10 People who have time to read several papers can already compare different reports of the same event. When an event has political significance, each paper reports it from the point of view of its own political beliefs or preferences. Ideally, of course, the expression of editorial opinion should be limited to editorial page, and the news articles should be objective-telling the facts as completely as possible, without trying to influence the reader's opinion. However, reporters and editors are only human, and if they have strong political beliefs it is almost impossible for them to hide them. If editors believe their point of view is best for the readers of their paper, what's to stop them from using

the paper to try to influence public opinion? And if, some day a world newspaper becomes a reality, will it be the most powerful press agencies that will choose the news to be sent out to all countries?

(1082 words)

● Words and Expressions

relay ['ri:lei] *v.* send out (a broadcast programme received from another station) 传播, 传达 *n.* 转播站, 中继站

exclusive [iks'klu:siv] *a.* excluding all but what is mentioned 专门的, 惟一的

destiny ['destini] *n.* power believed to control events 命运

humanity [hju: 'mænəti] *n.* 人性; 人类

automation [ɔ:tə 'meɪʃn] *n.* (use of) methods and machines to save human labor 自动; 自动化

particular [pə'tɪkjələ(r)] *a.* special, worth notice 特殊的; 特别的

photographic [fəʊtə'græfɪk] *a.* of, related to, used in, taking photographs 摄影的, 摄影用的

eliminate [i'limineɪt] *v.* remove; take or put away, get rid of 排除; 消除; 消灭

furthermore [fə'dʌ:mɔ:(r)] *ad.* moreover; in addition 而且, 此外

channel ['tʃænl] *n.* 海峡; 频道

diameter [daɪ'æmɪtə(r)] *n.* (length of a) straight line drawn from side to side through the center 直径

beam [bi:m] *n.* ray or stream of light (光) 束

negative ['negətɪv] *a.* (photo) having lights and shades reversed (摄影) 明暗相反的; 阴极的

illuminate [i'ljumɪneɪt] *v.* give light to; throw light on 照亮, 照明

equivalent [i'kweɪvələnt] *a.* equal in value, amount, meaning 相当的; 相同的 *n.* 相等物; 等价物

proper ['prəpə(r)] *a.* right, correct, fitting, suitable 适合的; 适当的; 恰当的

corresponding [kə'rɪs'pɒndɪŋ] *a.* be equal, be similar 符合的; 一致的; 相应的

permanent ['pə:mənənt] *a.* going on for a long time 永久的

equator [i'kweɪtə(r)] *n.* imaginary line round the earth 赤道

subscriber [səb'skraɪbə(r)] *n.* person who subscribes (esp. to funds, newspapers) 预定者; 订阅者

press agency 通讯社

Telstar *n.* 通信卫星

accessible [ək'sesəbl] *a.* able to be reached, used, visited, etc. 易接近的, 能进去的

transistor [træn'zɪstə(r)] *n.* small electronic device used in electronic apparatus 晶体管; 晶



体管收音机

commonplace ['kəmənpleis] *a.* ordinary or usual 平凡的; 陈腐的

preference ['prefrəns] *n.* act of preferring 偏爱, 偏爱物

editorial [ˌedi'tɔ:riəl] *a.* of an editor 编辑的; 编者的 *n.* 社论

editor *n.* 编辑, 编者

objective [əb'dʒektiv] *a.* uninfluenced by thought or feeling 客观的, 如实的

interpretation [inˌtə:pri'teɪʃn] *n.* explanation 解释; 阐明

● Cultural Hints

1. Technological Development in Communication Over the Years

Early 18th century: Hand printing presses; Local newspapers

Late 18th century to the mid-nineteenth century: Large-scale printing presses; Telegraph; Development of Magazine and Book Printing

Mid-nineteenth century to the early twentieth century: Transoceanic Cable Telephone; Wireless Telegraphy; Phonograph(唱机; 留声机).

1900—1920: Motion pictures; Radio; Transcontinental Telephone

1920—Present: Television; Transistors; Communication Satellites; computers

1969 U. S. Department of Defence established a nationwide network

1973 First international connections were added to Norway and England

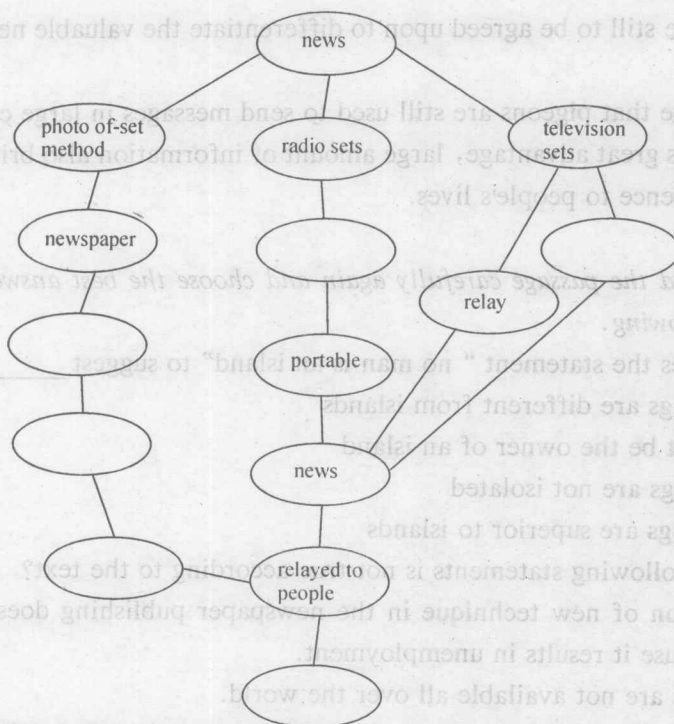
1982 Internet

2. John Donne leading figure of the 17th-century metaphysical poets. Being metaphysical, he paid special attention to such subjects as love, death, and religion. What's most engaging about him is that he often used unconventional and original metaphors. For example, John Donne once made an analogy between the couple and the two arms of a compass, to indicate that they are closely connected and interdependent. This comparison abides in the memory of the readers. 约翰·邓恩为17世纪英国“玄学派诗歌”代表人物。邓恩及其后继者的作品在18世纪和19世纪初期备受冷落,19世纪晚期及20世纪初期,受到越来越多的青睐,并对艾略特等现代主义诗人产生了深远的影响。

● Vocabulary Map

① **Directions:** The following vocabulary map may help you form a schema on the main idea of the passage. Fill in the map with what you think suitable according to the passage. Words may be repeated if necessary.





② **Directions:** State the main idea of the text on the basis of the vocabulary map. You may begin with the sentence:

Papers, radio sets, and television sets are the major sources of information...

● Reading Comprehension

① **Directions:** The following statements are all based on the passage you've just read. Decide if they are true or false.

- ___ 1. It was not quite true for John Donne to make such a statement as "no man is an island" at his time.
- ___ 2. Newspapers are still the major source of information.
- ___ 3. Nowadays, people are more concerned with important events than with household ones.
- ___ 4. Television broadcasts are only possible in the areas where the sending station or its relay can be seen.
- ___ 5. The application of advanced technology has made the publishing of newspapers and magazines more costly.
- ___ 6. Weather conditions affect the coverage of television broadcasts.
- ___ 7. There are still many people who have no access to information.



eliminate	relay	commonplace	equivalent	objective
put	economical	bother	thanks to	concern
negative	feature	preference	particular	permanent
previous	point of view	project	accessible	illuminate
corresponding	now that	revolve	exclusive	

1. Could you _____ the news of the poet's death?
2. She went through the typescript carefully, to _____ all errors from it.
3. Minus ten is a _____ quantity.
4. It really looks magnificent at night when it's _____.
5. Heavy rains are a _____ of the weather near the equator.
6. His evasiveness is _____ to lying.
7. All rights carry with them _____ responsibilities.
8. The books are easily _____ as all the shelves are open.
9. Do you have a _____ for a particular food?
10. The famous writer is concerned with a purely _____ picture of the world.
11. This _____ house was of an excellent design.
12. _____ you have the chance, you had better avail yourself of it.
13. This rough life threatens to injure my health _____.
14. The actress granted the reporter an _____ interview.
15. _____ the bad weather, our journey was very uncomfortable.
16. His work is _____ with the preparation of documents for exports.
17. _____ to her departure she gave a big party.
18. Can you _____ that in simple words?

② **Directions:** Complete the following sentences by choosing the correct words in brackets.

1. Parents _____ (transferred / transmitted) some of their characteristics to their children.
2. The head office has been _____ (transferred / transmitted) from Paris to London.
3. We gave up the house because of _____ (economic / economical) considerations.
4. One must be _____ (economic / economical) of one's time.
5. I got an _____ (electric / electrical) shock from the metal railing. (electric)
6. He majors in _____ (electric / electrical) engineering.
7. Students of _____ (usual / commonplace / average / common) intelligence can be top students by developing good study habits.
8. It is to the _____ (usual / commonplace / average / common) average that street traffic should be well controlled.
9. The film's _____ (usual / commonplace / average / common) plot bored the audience.



10. He faced up to these difficulties with his _____ (usual / commonplace / average / common) courage.
11. There were several _____ (incidents / event) on the frontier.
12. The important _____ (incident / event) of the week was the big storm.
13. The man is always _____ (bothering / disturbing) me to lend him money.
14. The dream so _____ (bothered / disturbed) him that he couldn't sleep.

Part Two Look Again

● Timed Reading (1)

Directions: Try to finish the following passage in 10 minutes and then do the exercises.

Web Community

- 1 The Internet, unlike other media such as TV or radio, is inherently (内在地, 固有地) a "two-way" medium. The ease with which a computer user can communicate to the rest of the world has created a sense of "global community" that's found almost nowhere else. People around the world post web sites, exchange email, and participate in online chats. Going online means not just surfing the Web and reading email. It means getting involved in the world Net community.

You Have Mail

- 2 The earliest Internet-based communication was email. Then came electronic bulletin (公告, 布告) boards. Both of these systems are still used today. And the Web is very true to them.
- 3 While most people are assigned email addresses through their ISPs (Internet Service Provider 因特网服务提供商), free accounts are available to anyone who has access to a web-ready computer. Services such as Yahoo! Mail allow users to access their email from work, home, or anywhere they can launch a web browser.
- 4 Once you've got email, you'll find plenty of uses for it on the Web.
- 5 Most web pages and online authors provide email addresses for visitors to send comments, questions, or just conversation. Not everyone answers their email, but a surprisingly high number of authors do. Send your favorite web sites an email or two. You've got nothing to lose.
- 6 When you are ready to step up to the next level, try online message boards. The original brand of online discussion groups is Usenet. If your browser is properly configured (配置), you should be able to browse, read, and post to any one of 20000+ (over 20000) newsgroups.
- 7 If you'd rather stay within the Web, you'll need to find other message boards to mess a-

