



普通高等教育“十一五”国家级规划教材

Second Edition

第二版

NEW HORIZON
COLLEGE ENGLISH

新视野大学英语

2

主 编：彭石玉 崔艳萍



阅读教程



外语教学与研究出版社

FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH PRESS



NEW HORIZON COLLEGE OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES

NEW HORIZON

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新视野大学英语

第二版 第二册

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 阅读教程

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修订版前言

本书是《新视野大学英语》配套系列教材之一，与《新视野大学英语读写教程》配合使用。自 2003 年出版以来已有 6 年之久。本教程以其在选材上的趣味性和信息性得到了使用院校的充分肯定。

此次在原有基础上，根据《新视野大学英语（第二版）读写教程》对《阅读教程》进行了如下修订。

一是针对《新视野大学英语（第二版）读写教程》每个单元的主题，重新调整《阅读教程》的选材，使其话题与《读写教程》保持一致，并对读写教程进行有力补充。

二是为了便于组织教学，使其更有针对性。本次修订《阅读教程》的练习完全按照新的四级考试（710 分试卷）中阅读题型进行编写。这样有利于学生尽早熟悉新题型，适应新测试。

《新视野大学英语（第二版）阅读教程 2》修订版每单元包括五个部分。Section I Reading Comprehension (Skimming & Scanning), Section II Reading Comprehension (Reading in Depth), Section III Practical Reading Comprehension, Section IV Fast Reading, Section V Practical Writing Samples.

本阅读教程在选材上注重趣味性和信息性，题材广泛，内容丰富。每一单元的话题与《新视野大学英语（第二版）读写教程》紧密结合，是对读写教程的有力补充。阅读篇章绝大部分选自最新出版的英美报刊书籍，也有刚刚问世的网上作品，基本未做修改，保持了原作的特色，有利于培养学生理解和分析问题的能力，扩大学生的知识视野。

除了提供阅读文章和练习外，为培养学生的语言应用能力，满足社会需要，本教材还在每单元 Section IV Practical Writing Samples 部分提供了各种英语应用文的写作样本，包括书信、合同、简历、函电、论文等，供学生学习和模仿。第二册主要介绍通知、假条、会议日程等实用文体的格式与特点。样本全部选自英美原作，体现了英语应用文的真实性。本部分旨在通过阅读培养学生的英语实用能力，这也是本教材的一大特色。为了提高学生的英语写作能力，我们在修订版中仍然保留了这部分，以供学生学习时参考。

《新视野大学英语（第二版）阅读教程 2》的修订由彭石玉、崔艳萍担任主编，参加修订的有李锋、王菁、王振洪、余红顺、张文君、杨元。

《新视野大学英语（第二版）阅读教程 2》的修订时间紧迫，其中不足之处请使用本教材的教师和同学批评指正。

编者

2009 年 12 月

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Unit 1

Section I Reading Comprehension (Skimming & Scanning)

Directions: *In this part, you are asked to go over the following passage quickly and answer the questions.*

For questions 1-7, mark

Y (for YES) if the statement agrees with the information given in the passage;

N (for NO) if the statement contradicts the information given in the passage;

NG (for NOT GIVEN) if the information is not given in the passage.

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

What's Typical About U.S. Americans?

There are so many aspects to any one culture that it is difficult to describe what a specific culture is like in only a few words. Most people living in the U.S. are either immigrants themselves or descendants of immigrants who have been arriving since the beginning of the 1600's. It is not surprising, therefore, that the U.S. contains many different cultures and ethnic groups. How then can one talk about "Americans"? When people try to describe Americans, they are often referring to the behaviors, values, and ideas of the white middle class, since historically people in this group have held the most prominent positions and have exerted (发挥) the greatest amount of influence on the predominant ideals of society. Not all Americans are white or middle class, nor do they necessarily agree with white middle class values, but these values are widely evident in the U.S. To help you understand better the behavior you may observe in the United States, some characteristics of American culture are described below. But bear in mind that not everyone in this culture will display these traits (特征).

Control of nature and the environment. Americans usually think of nature as something that can be altered, conquered, and controlled for people's comfort and use, for example, to minimize the effects of fierce weather conditions. In contrast, many cultures accept nature as a force greater than people and as something to which people must adapt, not something they can or should change and control.

Progress and change. Most people in this country accept change as an inevitable part of life. Non-Western people tend to look upon their traditions as a guide to the future. Americans are more inclined to make decisions based on the anticipated or desired immediate future. Achievement, positive change, and progress are all seen as the result of effort, hard work, and the control of nature and one's destiny or future.

Individualism. Americans generally believe that people should strive to be autonomous and self-reliant. Most Americans see themselves as separate individuals, more than members of a nation, family or community. They dislike being dependent on other people or having others dependent on them. Some people from other countries view this attitude as "self-centeredness"; others may view it as a healthy freedom from constraints imposed by family, clan (家族), or social class. Members of a traditional society are more likely to regard their role in life as unavoidable and seldom to be questioned or changed. Social and cultural factors may be viewed simply as barriers that need to be overcome in order for them to get ahead. A result of this attitude is the competitiveness of American life. Achievement is a dominant motivation in American culture.

Time consciousness. Americans place considerable value on punctuality (准时). Because they tend to organize their activities by means of schedules, they may seem hurried, always running from one thing to the next and unable to relax and enjoy themselves. Since Americans are so time conscious, the pace of life may seem very hectic (繁忙的). Being on time is regarded as very important, and in the U.S. most people make an effort to arrive on time. Not all Americans are punctual, but almost everyone is conscious of time. Different types of activities have different conventions. One should arrive at the exact time specified for meals, and for appointments with professors, doctors, and other professionals. You can arrive any time between the hours specified for parties, receptions, and cocktail parties. Plan to arrive a few minutes before the specified time for public meetings, plays, concerts, movies, sports events, classes, church services, and weddings. If you are unable to keep an appointment, it is expected that you inform the other party that you will be late or unable to arrive.

Doing rather than being. Americans consider activity to be a good thing; thus, the expressions "keeping busy" and "keeping on the move". Rather than simply getting together with friends to spend time together, Americans frequently will plan a particular activity so that there is a focus to the time spent with friends. People in other cultures often comment on this American emphasis on "doing".

Work Relations and Social Relations. It is common for Americans to make a distinction between friends in their work or professional world and friends in their social world. Although Americans are friendly with their colleagues, they usually do not develop deeper relationships with them outside the office. Americans also tend to be rather formal with customers, clients, and professional colleagues. In a meeting for example, they may exchange brief greetings with each other but then want to concentrate immediately on the

business at hand. Therefore they may have difficulties functioning in cultures where you must cultivate a social relationship with someone first before they can transact (办理业务等) business. It can be frustrating for Americans to have to develop a social relationship over some period of time before talking about more serious matters.

(Words: 836)

- () 1. When immigrants arrived at the U.S., they brought their own cultures there at the same time.
- () 2. The values of the white middle class have a great influence on American society to some extent.
- () 3. Americans think they cannot control the nature so the people should adapt to it.
- () 4. Non-Western people usually regard their tradition as the guide to the future.
- () 5. Americans usually arrive later for some public meetings.
- () 6. It's usual for most Americans to develop deeper relationship with their colleagues outside the office.
- () 7. Americans think that it is useless to cultivate a social relationship with someone before doing business with them.
8. Most Americans see themselves as _____, more than members of a nation, family or community.
9. _____ is viewed as very important, and in the U.S. most people try hard to arrive on time.
10. In most cases, Americans will plan a particular activity so that there is _____ to the time spent with friends.

Section II Reading Comprehension (Reading in Depth)

Directions: *In this section, there is a passage with ten blanks. You are required to select one word for each blank from a list of choices given in a word bank following the passage. Read the passage through carefully before making your choices. Each choice in the blank is identified by a letter. Please mark the corresponding letter for each item. You may not use any of the words in the bank more than once.*

As soon as a student completes the 8th grade, the clock starts 1. From that very moment the child has about Two Million Minutes until high school graduation. Two Million Minutes to 2 their intellectual foundation. Two Million Minutes to prepare for college and ultimately 3. Two Million Minutes to go from a teenager to an adult.

How do most American high school students spend this time? Statistics for American high school students give rise to 4. Less than 40 percent of U.S. students take a science

course more rigorous than general biology, and a mere 18 percent take 5 classes in physics, chemistry or biology. Only 45 percent of U.S. students take math coursework beyond two years of algebra and one year of geometry. And 50 percent of all college freshmen 6 remedial course work.

Even more distressing are 7 offered by the National Center on Education and the Economy in its 2007 report "Tough Choices or Tough Times". For every 100 ninth graders: 68 graduate from high school in four years; 40 enroll 8 in college after graduation; 27 are still enrolled in college one year after entering; 18 earn an associate degree within three years or a bachelor's degree with six years; 82 don't 9 a college degree.

How a student spends their Two Million Minutes—in class, at home studying, playing sports, working, sleeping, socializing or just goofing off (游手好闲)—will 10 their economic prospects for the rest of their lives.

(Words: 249)

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| A) statistics | I) develop |
| B) concern | J) advanced |
| C) rigid | K) career |
| D) ticking | L) receive |
| E) moving | M) directly |
| F) build | N) occasionally |
| G) affect | O) focus |
| H) require | |

Section III Practical Reading Comprehension

Directions: *There are two passages in this section. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them there are four choices marked A), B), C), and D). Decide on the best choice.*

Passage 1

In the Arctic Circle, it is not that Eskimos lack ability or industry, but the surroundings restrict their constructive efforts to the barest necessities of existence. This retards (阻碍) progress to higher development.

Agriculture is impossible all along the thousands of miles of the north shore. The only wood is such as drifts in. Other than this driftwood, the only available building materials are snow, ice, stone, and bones of animals. All of these have been used for habitations and storage, places, differing in various tribes according to the requirements and skill of the workers.

The lack of necessary timbers to build walls and span wide spaces is probably one reason why they construct their houses at least partly beneath the surface of the ground. This device also makes the houses more impervious (不能渗透的) to the cold.

Most of us are inclined to think that Eskimo lives always in an igloo or snow house. This is not entirely true. After the long cold winter, the family is very likely to move, when the weather permits, into a tent of sealskin. The actual construction of such a tent is similar to that used by other, more southerly tribes and will be described later.

The snow house, however, is an interesting and unique habitation. Our summer campers will not build, with snow, but the delicate art is worth recording and some of our winter campers might try to make snow houses.

(Words: 241)

1. What retards Eskimos' progress to a higher development?

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| A) Lack of ability. | B) Lack of industry. |
| C) Terrible surroundings. | D) Their constructive efforts. |

2. Which of the following about the construction of houses is NOT true?
 - A) Driftwood is the only building materials available.
 - B) Building materials include snow, ice, stone, etc.
 - C) All the building materials available have been used by Eskimos.
 - D) Different tribes may have different habitations and storage places.

3. Why do Eskimos build their houses partly under the ground?
 - A) They like to live under the ground.
 - B) They are short of essential materials for walls and roofs.
 - C) There is no enough space on the ground.
 - D) They want to show their skills in building snow houses.

4. In the long winter, Eskimos commonly live in _____.

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| A) a snow house | B) a stone house |
| C) a storage place | D) a tent of sealskin |

5. What will be described immediately after the passage?

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| A) Snow houses. | B) Summer campers. |
| C) Winter campers. | D) Tents in southerly tribes. |

Passage 2

In order to understand American culture, one must have knowledge of the history of our country. America is traditionally a country of immigrants. Very few people today have ancestors who were natives in this land. Even our founding fathers fled to America, many because of religious persecution (迫害), and a few who were just looking to start a new life

on the exciting untouched frontier. During the hundreds of years to come, America was seen as a land of opportunity, and people from all over the world moved there; some in large groups, and some all by themselves. This history of immigration to America has greatly shaped our culture. Instead of having one basic set of customs and beliefs, our country has so many that there are no dominant viewpoints. We are like a melting pot in some ways, and a tossed salad (拌沙拉) in other ways. Each immigrant brings some of his homeland's culture with him, and some parts of his culture will melt with others, and some will stay intact (完整无缺的) (like all of the different pieces of a salad). I think this is why the French and English responses to individualism were different. In America an individualist is not afraid to have his own culture, and not mold (塑造) himself to Pop culture which is a big factor on the lives of young Americans.

As I mentioned before, immigrants saw America as a land of opportunity, and in America we still hold onto the belief that no matter how poor a person is, they can always work to a higher position in life. It doesn't matter who you are, it only matters that you work hard, persistently, and efficiently. Efficiency is another important value to Americans, who have recently become obsessed with speed. We are a very fast paced culture who loves to have plenty of fast-food stores, quick Internet shopping available and instant messenger.

(Words: 321)

6. What's the main reason for the ancestors of Americans moving to America?
 - A) Religious persecution.
 - B) Hope of starting a new life.
 - C) Bringing the different cultures there.
 - D) Attracted by American special culture.

7. What helped to influence the shaping of American culture?
 - A) The Pop culture.
 - B) The opportunities in America.
 - C) The history of immigration.
 - D) The various cultures in other nations.

8. Why does the author say that America is like a melting pot?
 - A) Because everyone in American work hard to make their dreams come true.
 - B) Because America is a land of opportunity.
 - C) Because it is difficult to find one basic set of customs.
 - D) Because each immigrant brings his own culture there and some of it will melt with others.

9. What is important if one person wants to succeed in America?
 - A) His education background and talent.
 - B) His traditional belief and efficiency.
 - C) His hard work and efficiency.
 - D) His belief and talent.

10. What is this passage mainly talking about?

- A) Brief introduction of the history of America and some characteristics of it.
- B) Brief introduction of American culture and other nations' cultures.
- C) The distinctions between American culture and other nations' cultures.
- D) Brief introduction of the importance of immigrant history.

Section IV Fast Reading

Directions: *In this part, you are asked to go over the following passage quickly and answer the questions. There are four choices marked A), B), C), and D) for each of them. Decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter.*

How Do Americans Spend Their Leisure Time?

Americans plan on doing more jogging, but their interest in playing ice hockey is on the decline. Active vacations such as swimming and hiking are on the rise, but Americans' interest in racquetball (手球式墙球) and surfing is not as great as it once was. Americans are using the Internet more as a leisure activity, but they also have an increased desire to remain physically fit. Those are just some of the findings of Bear Stearns' exclusive leisure trends survey. The survey, conducted in conjunction with Yesawich, Peppardine & Brown, attempts to shed light on how Americans spend their leisure time and money and predict leisure trends moving forward.

"A survey like this is invaluable to our leisure industry research and our investment clients," said Jason Ader, Bear Stearns' senior managing director and leisure analyst. "It provides us with a great tool for predicting customer interest and company success." Peter Yesawich, CEO of Yesawich, Peppardine & Brown, a leading market research firm, added, "The survey represents one of the most comprehensive studies of Americans' use of leisure time in many years, and the implications of the findings for companies that market products and services consumed by Americans at leisure are fascinating."

The Bear Stearns' leisure survey polled more than 1,000 American consumers above the age of 18. The questions focused on past and future participation levels for a variety of leisure activities. Using the data, the analysts were able to calculate an anticipated "net gain" for each activity. For a given activity, the net gain is the difference between the proportion of American adults who expect to participate more frequently minus the proportion of American adults who expect to participate less frequently. The difference is expressed in percentage terms.

According to the survey, the majority of Americans feel they do not have enough leisure time, want more pleasure out of life and say they try to engage in new experiences. About

one-half of the adult population reported that when they have spare time, they like to relax and do nothing at all.

The majority of Americans tend to enjoy more passive leisure activities, such as watching television or going to the movies, as opposed to vigorous activities like aerobics (有氧运动), jogging and weight training. However, the survey did find participation levels for physical activities could increase significantly during the coming years. "Americans clearly enjoy relaxation as a leisure activity, but they also claim they want to be more active in the future," said Marc Falcone, Bear Stearns' leisure analyst. "It will be interesting to see if that desire to get off the couch turns into a reality."

The survey also evaluated which spectator sports are well-positioned for future growth. Professional football and basketball top the list, while sports such as college baseball, women's professional basketball and professional soccer could face a decline.

The majority of Americans responded favorably to the concept of travel and made it clear that they do so whenever they get the opportunity. Americans also hunger for new experiences, which could lead to significant increases in the travel business.

(Words: 521)

1. What may be the purpose of conducting the survey mentioned in the passage?
 - A) To guide people to participate in some leisure activities.
 - B) To inform people of the most popular leisure activities in the United States.
 - C) To let people know how Americans spend their leisure time and predict leisure tendencies.
 - D) To market products and services.

2. All of the following are the findings of the survey except _____.
 - A) most Americans feel they need more leisure time
 - B) most Americans enjoy active leisure sports
 - C) most Americans are likely to travel if they get opportunities
 - D) Americans are spending more time using the Internet as a leisure activity

3. According to the passage, who is the senior managing director of Bear Sterns?

| | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| A) Peter Yesawich. | B) Pepperdine & Brown. |
| C) Jason Ader. | D) Marc Falcone. |

4. According to the passage, which of the following is NOT an active leisure activity?

| | |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| A) Hiking. | B) Jogging. |
| C) Traveling. | D) Going to the movies. |

5. Who may benefit from the findings of the survey?
 - A) American consumers above the age of 18.
 - B) The majority of Americans.

- C) Yesawich, Pepperdine & Brown.
 D) Leisure industry investors and companies.

Section V Practical Writing Samples

Visiting cards

A visiting card, also called a business card or a name card, often bears such personal information as one's work unit, mailing address, professional title, zip code, telephone number, e-mail address and so on. A visiting card may be double-sided.

Sample

John LIM PhD
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Back

Unit 2

Section I Reading Comprehension (Skimming & Scanning)

Directions: *In this part, you are asked to go over the following passage quickly and answer the questions.*

For questions 1-7, mark

Y (for YES) if the statement agrees with the information given in the passage;

N (for NO) if the statement contradicts the information given in the passage;

NG (for NOT GIVEN) if the information is not given in the passage.

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

Discover Your Path to Success

Time taken for self-analysis is so important in developing your road map to success. Let's continue with a few more questions to ask you before we go into the heart of the formula for personal success.

Are you easily distracted?

Most people cannot focus on a goal, without getting "side tracked". When this cannot be helped, you can develop a new skill set, through meditation (冥想), self-hypnosis (自我催眠), or by learning not to give up. You can learn to meditate in a variety of ways.

You don't have to give up everything in life to achieve a goal, but you have to focus on your goal, avoid giving up, getting depressed, and make up your mind to enjoy the journey. It is still wise to have a complete life by allowing time for your family and friends. If you stay on a straight course, you will be "ahead in the game", but you will have to mentally focus on your end result, even in bad economic times.

Can you rationally separate good advice from bad?

You will hear many opinions—some will be constructive, and others will be useless. You will have to know the difference, by evaluating all advice without emotion, and with an open mind.

Is the ultimate reward worth the cost and sacrifice?

You should already know that you may invest time, money, work, or all three, to reach