

新编 大学基础英语

快速阅读 1

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PREFACE 前言

在英语教学中,我们一直强调听、说、读、写四种能力并重。根据我国的国情,我们认为阅读能力是英语水平的主要标志。在学习英语过程中,要提高阅读能力应该注重三种阅读方法:精读、泛读和快速阅读。本套教材就是要帮助高职高专等大学基础阶段的学生强化英语快速阅读的能力。

在母语环境中,我们进行阅读出于多种原因,其中兴趣是很重要的一个原因。然而,在以学习为目的的外语阅读中,阅读往往是一种能力的培养。我国的英语学习者在阅读中,比较偏重于词汇和语法,久而久之会养成逐词逐句地死抠词义和句子结构的坏习惯。有些学生简直是在破译“密电码”,结果对阅读的兴趣荡然无存。因此,我们以为,学生在阅读过程中应该注重阅读内容,并且养成快速阅读的能力。根据语言学家和外语教学者的研究,在保证理解阅读材料 70% 的情况下,阅读速度越快越好。为此,我们编写了本套教材,旨在帮助英语学习者强化阅读兴趣,提高阅读速度和能力。

本书是根据教育部高职高专英语类专业教学指导委员会 2009 年最新颁布的《高等职业教育英语课程教学要求》而编写的。本书具备以下特点:

1. 选材广泛、内容丰富,注重科学性、知识性、趣味性。题材灵活多样,情节生动
2. 所选材料语言地道,难度深浅适中。目的是帮助学生尽早、尽快接触到原汁原味的语言,有利于激发学生学习英语的兴趣,帮助他们养成自觉阅读的习惯和能力。
3. 每个单元均由题材相近的 3 篇 500 词左右的短文组成,每篇短文各附有两个练习,练习形式多样。3 篇短文之后还附有一篇 relevant reading,以及与该单元中心主题相关的三四十个词语,这些词语是从“联想”(association)出发,结合关联词场 (association field) 的理论而编写出来的。
4. 所选文章的语言适合快速阅读,又适合朗读和背诵,将培养快速阅读技巧、阅读理解能力和养成背诵范文的良好习惯融为一体。使用此书可收到“一举三得”

的功效。

我们相信,这本教材在某种程度上能够适应学生们的需求,既能促进他们的阅读习惯和能力,又能开阔他们的视野;对于使用此教材的教师而言,为他们提供了更大的教学空间,书中所选的文章是课本教学的补充和延伸,可以供课堂教学选用,也可作为课外阅读之用。

由于经验、水平有限,书中疏漏在所难免,恳请广大同行、专家不吝赐教。

编者

2010年3月

Contents

目录

Unit One	Campus Life	1
	Passage One The Young Generation	1
	Passage Two Dream	3
	Passage Three Princeton University	5
	More Information about Campus Life	7
Unit Two	Education	11
	Passage One Examinations Exert a Pernicious Influence on Education	11
	Passage Two Children's Language Learning	14
	Passage Three Why Is the Native Language Learnt So Well?	16
	More Information about Education	18
Unit Three	Natural Environment	20
	Passage One Plants and Man	20
	Passage Two About the Sea	22
	Passage Three One Way to Deal with the Increasing Human Population	24
	More Information about Natural Environment	26
Unit Four	Social Customs and Practices	29
	Passage One Tea Drinking	29
	Passage Two Life Going Casual	31
	Passage Three Father's Day	34

	More Information about Social Customs and Practices	35
Unit Five	Study Abroad	38
	Passage One Exchange-student Programmes	38
	Passage Two Study at the Open University	40
	Passage Three Foreign Exchange	42
	More Information about Study Abroad	45
Unit Six	Advertisement	48
	Passage One “Help Wanted” Advertisements	48
	Passage Two Advertisements for English Studies	51
	Passage Three Usefulness of Advertisements	54
	More Information about Advertisement	56
Unit Seven	Health	59
	Passage One TV’s Harmfulness	59
	Passage Two Strictly Ban Smoking	62
	Passage Three Studies Show U. S. Spending doesn’t Get Health	64
	More Information about Health	66
Unit Eight	Emotion	68
	Passage One I Love You	68
	Passage Two My Brother	70
	Passage Three An Observation and Explanation	72
	More Information about Emotion	74
Unit Nine	Economy	76
	Passage One The Law to Keep the Oil Industry under Control	76
	Passage Two Mules	79
	Passage Three Brands	81
	More Information about Economy	83

Unit Ten	Traveling	86
	Passage One The Only Way to Travel Is on Foot	86
	Passage Two Does Vacation Cost a Lot?	88
	Passage Three The National Trust	91
	More Information about Traveling	93
Unit Eleven	Science and Technology	97
	Passage One Who Is More Intelligent?	97
	Passage Two The Gene Industry	99
	Passage Three Will We Take Vacation in Space?	101
	More Information about Science and Technology	103
Unit Twelve	Business Communication	106
	Passage One Meditation in Indonesian Business	106
	Passage Two Different Communications	109
	Passage Three How to Make a Good Impression	111
	More Information about Business Communication	113
Unit Thirteen	Sports	115
	Passage One NBA	115
	Passage Two Mountaineering	117
	Passage Three Dangerous Experience	119
	More Information about Sports	121
Unit Fourteen	Cyber Life	125
	Passage One Crime in Computer	125
	Passage Two E-mail Management	127
	Passage Three Internet Shopping	129
	More Information about Cyber Life	131
Unit Fifteen	Historic Events and Persons	134
	Passage One Holmes' Knowledge	134
	Passage Two O. Henry	136
	Passage Three Vanity Publishing	138

Unit Sixteen

More Information about Historic Events and Persons 140

Fashion 143

Passage One Women and Fashions 143

Passage Two Pop Stars Earn Much 145

Passage Three S. H. E. 147

More Information about Fashion 150

参考答案 153

Unit One

Campus Life

Passage One The Young Generation

Old people are always saying that the young are not what they were. The same comment is made from generation to generation and it is always true. It has never been truer than it is today. The young are better educated. They have a lot more money to spend and enjoy more freedom. They grow up more quickly and are not so dependent on their parents. They think more for themselves and do not blindly accept the ideas of their elders. Events which the older generation remember vividly are nothing more than past history. This is as it should be. Every new generation is different from the one that precedes it. Today the difference is very marked indeed.

The old always assume that they know best for the simple reason that they have been around a bit longer. They don't like to feel that their values are being questioned or threatened. And this is precisely what the young are doing. They question the assumptions of their elders and disturb their complacency (自鸣得意, 自满情结). Office hours, for instance, are nothing more than enforced slavery. Wouldn't people work best if they were given complete freedom and responsibility? And what about clothing? Who said that all the men in the world should wear drab grey suits and convict haircuts? If we turn our minds to more serious matters, who said that human differences can best be solved through conventional politics or by violent means? Why have the older generation so often used violence to solve their problems? Why are they so unhappy and guilt-ridden (负罪感) in their personal lives, so obsessed with mean ambitions and the desire to amass (积累, 积聚) more and more material possessions? Can anything be right with the rat-race? Haven't the old lost touch with all that is important in life?

These are not questions the older generation can shrug off lightly. Their record over the past forty years or so hasn't been exactly spotless (无污点的, 纯洁的). Traditionally, the young have turned to their elders for guidance. Today, the situation

might be reversed. The old, if they are prepared to admit it, could learn a thing or two from their children. One of the biggest lessons they could learn is that enjoyment is not "sinful". Enjoyment is a principle one could apply to all aspects of life. It is surely not wrong to enjoy your work and enjoy your leisure, and to shed (摆脱, 抛弃) restricting inhibitions. It is surely not wrong to live in the present rather than in the past or future. This emphasis on the present is only to be expected because the young have grown up under the shadow of the bomb: the constant threat of complete annihilation (歼灭). This is their glorious heritage. Can we be surprised that they should so often question the sanity (头脑清醒健全) of the generation that bequeathed (赠送, 把……传给后代) it?

(524 words)

➡ Exercises

I. Choose the best answers according to the passage.

- () 1. Which of the following features of the young is NOT mentioned?
 - A. Better education.
 - B. More money and freedom.
 - C. Independence.
 - D. Hard work.
- () 2. What do the young reject most?
 - A. Values.
 - B. The assumption of the elders.
 - C. Conformity.
 - D. Conventional ideas.
- () 3. Why do the young stress on the present?
 - A. They have grown up under the shadow of the bomb.
 - B. They dislike the past.
 - C. They think the present world is the best.
 - D. They are afraid of destruction.
- () 4. What can the old learn from the young?
 - A. Enjoyment is not sinful.
 - B. People should have more leisure time.
 - C. Men might enjoy life.
 - D. One should enjoy one's work.
- () 5. Which one of the following statements is true?
 - A. The old are better educated.
 - B. The old dislike the young because they are better educated.
 - C. The old think the old world is the best.
 - D. The old are not so satisfied with the young.



II. Fill in each blank with a word whose first letter is already given.

The young today are given more money to enjoy more f _____. Each new generation is different from the p _____ one. The old don't like their own values to be q _____ or t _____. It is certain that people would work better if they are given more r _____.

Notes

1. a rat-race 激烈的竞争
2. shrug off 对……耸肩表示不屑一顾;轻视;摆脱

Passage Two Dream

The first day of school our professor introduced himself and challenged us to get to know someone we didn't know. I stood up to look around when a gentle hand touched my shoulder. I turned around to find a wrinkled, little old lady beaming up at me with a smile that lit up her entire being.

She said, "Hi, girl! My name is Rose. I'm 87 years old. Can I give you a hug?"

I laughed and enthusiastically (热情地) responded, "Of course you may!" and she gave me a giant squeeze.

"Why are you in college at such a young, innocent age?" I asked. She jokingly replied, "I'm here to meet a rich husband, get married, have a couple of children, and then retire and travel!"

"Not seriously," I said. I was curious about what may have motivated her to be taking on this challenge at her age.

"I always dreamed of having a college education and now I'm getting one!" she told me.

Over the course of the year, Rose became a campus icon and she easily made friends wherever she went. She loved to dress up and she reveled in the attention bestowed (给予,安放) upon her from the other students. She was living it up.

At the end of the semester we invited Rose to speak at our football banquet. I'll never forget what she taught us.

"We do not stop playing because we are old; we grow old because we stop playing. There are only two secrets to staying young, being happy, and achieving success. You

have to laugh and find humor every day. You've got to have a dream. When you lose your dreams, you die!" she said.

"There is a huge difference between growing older and growing up. If you are 19 years old and lie in bed for one full year and don't do one productive thing, you will turn 20 years older. If I am 87 years old, and stay in bed for a year, and never do anything, I will turn 88. Anybody can grow older. But every minute counts for young men," she added.

"The idea is to grow up by always finding the opportunity in change. Have no regrets. The elderly usually don't have regrets for what we did, but rather for things we did not do. The only people who fear death are those with regrets."

She concluded her speech by courageously singing *The Song of Rose*. She challenged each of us to study the lyrics(歌词) and live them out in our daily lives.

At the year's end, Rose finished the college degree she had begun all those years before. One week after graduation Rose died peacefully in her sleep.

➡ Exercises

I. Choose the best answers according to the passage.

- () 1. Rose made herself known to the author in a _____ manner.
A. serious B. cold C. humorous D. crazy
- () 2. From the information provided in the passage, we know _____.
A. Rose finished the college degree within a year
B. Rose did realize her dream of meeting a rich husband and getting married through college education
C. Rose enjoyed her campus life very much
D. Rose grew so old that she stopped playing
- () 3. Rose delivered the speech _____.
A. upon graduation
B. which she prepared carefully
C. ended with *The Song of Rose*
D. to challenge all the other speakers
- () 4. According to her speech, _____.
A. whenever you have a dream, you succeed
B. all people don't grow up while growing older
C. Rose usually regretted having done something



D. a nine-year-old is as old as an 87-year-old if he doesn't do anything

() 5. The word "icon" in the seventh paragraph means _____.

A. signal B. leader C. image D. teacher

II. Decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F) according to the passage.

1. We learned a lot from Rose in college because she was our teacher.
2. Rose taught us to try our best to realize our own dreams.
3. Rose is a friendly but pessimistic lady.
4. Rose wrote a song named *The Song of Rose* herself.
5. Rose died peacefully during the college.

Notes

1. icon: (也可拼为 ikon) 画像, 肖像; 本文中意为“偶像”
2. revel in: 陶醉于; 热衷于
3. live it up: 享受一番
4. We do not stop playing because we are old; we grow old because we stop playing. 我们并不因为年迈而停止运动; (相反) 我们因为停止运动而衰老。这是一句很有哲理的句子。请注意句子结构, 前一个分句中, not 虽然出现在主句中, 但否定的是原因从句。而且, 整个句子运用了 parallelism。
5. *The Song of Rose*: 玫瑰之歌
6. live out: 实践, 身体力行

Passage Three Princeton University

Location

The University is in Princeton, New Jersey. It is an hour's train ride south of New York City and an hour's train ride north of Philadelphia.

Students

There are 4,600 undergraduates (本科生). There are also 1,900 graduate students (研究生), but Princeton is unusual among universities in having a student body made up largely of undergraduates.

Faculty

Princeton has about 700 full-time faculty members (教员). There are another 300



or so part-time and visiting faculty. All faculty members at Princeton are expected to teach and research.

Degrees

Princeton offers two undergraduate degrees: the bachelor (学士) of arts (A. B.) degree and the bachelor of science in engineering (B. S. E.) degree.

Academic Year

An academic year runs from September to late May and lasts two terms (fall and spring). A normal course load is four or five courses per term, although many students take extra courses.

Residences

Princeton provides housing for all undergraduate students. Freshmen and second-year students are required to spend their first two years in one of the five colleges. Each college has its own dining hall, common rooms and computer centers.

Fees and Expenses (Academic Year 2004—2005)

Tuition(学费): \$ 29,910

Room and board: \$ 8,387

Other expenses(books, telephone, etc.): \$ 3,083

Total: \$ 41,380

➡ Exercises

I. Choose the best answers according to the passage.

- () 1. How many kinds of faculty members are there in Princeton University?
A. One. B. Two. C. Three. D. Four.
- () 2. In Princeton University, an undergraduate will pay at least _____ for the Academic Year 2004—2005 besides tuition.
A. \$ 41,380 B. \$ 52,850 C. \$ 11,470 D. \$ 8,387
- () 3. In what way is Princeton University different from other American universities according to the text?
A. It has five colleges.
B. Its students are mainly undergraduates.
C. It provides housing for all undergraduate students.
D. All the faculty members at Princeton are expected to teach and research.
- () 4. Which of the following is NOT true?
A. Princeton offers two undergraduate degrees.





B. An academic year lasts about nine months in Princeton University.

C. Undergraduates should spend their first two years in one of the five colleges.

D. It's about an hour's train ride from Princeton University to the north of New York City.

() 5. An academic year runs _____ and lasts two terms.

A. from September to late May

B. from June to late September

C. from July to late October

D. from September to late April

II. Decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F) according to the passage.

1. The Princeton University is an hour's train ride north of New York City.

2. Princeton is unusual among universities in having a student body made up largely of graduates.

3. Princeton offers two undergraduate degrees; the bachelor of arts degree and the bachelor of science in engineering degree.

4. The total fees and expenses for every academic year are always \$ 41,380.

5. The total fees and expenses of an academic year are different.

Notes

Princeton University: 普林斯顿大学坐落在美国新泽西州普林斯顿小镇, 位于费城和纽约之间, 环境幽雅, 生活富裕, 校园宁静祥和。作为全美第四个最古老的学府, 普林斯顿大学在学术和资源方面都名列前茅。

More Information about Campus Life

I. Relevant Reading

Campus love

Nowadays, there are more and more loves appearing on our campus. It's common to see the lovers wandering around us hand in hand, shoulder by shoulder. It seems that campus love already becomes kind of fashion, which has been taken for granted too

much by college students. However, is it really a must in our four-year's campus life? Well, it all depends. Here, let's come to see two different views towards this controversial issue.

The view of supporting:

It is natural for us, university students, to share the precious four years with our Mr. or Miss right.

Reasons

—I consider it as a valuable experience.

Campus life, for us, is a transition from a teenager to an adult. We should learn a lot of things, not only the knowledge, the working ability, but also the capability of dealing with the relationship between love and life. And now, as adults, we have fairly mature mind and clear judgment to organize and develop our love properly, and also keep it harmonious with our life. What's more, the process of love can be a process of growing; we can become a real mature grown-up through this kind of experience.

—We also can regard campus love as compensation for our mental needs. When we left our family, entered the university, there exists an empty space in our heart. We need something to fill it up. We need love to make up for it. In such a strange city, we are lonely, lonely deeply at the bottom of our hearts. Even sometimes we can be hopeless and helpless, and at this time we need people's comfort and help. And this kind of comfort and help need to come from our nearest and dearest.

—People always say: "Love can make a girl prettier." Well, maybe, there is no scientific ground, but actually it is true. When two people fall in love with each other, there may come a kind of power. And this kind of power can be considered as the mental and spiritual strength, which can stimulate us to keep enthusiastic about life. When we are in love, to us, the sky is always blue, the air is always fresh, and the wind is always gentle. In a word, love can bring us beautiful mood and add much color to our life.

The view of opposing:

Maybe campus love is really romantic, but I don't think it can benefit college students.

Reasons

—We are young people, who are beginners in everything, and are not yet capable of love. To us, sometimes love is just an urge from curiosity; we can't understand the truth of love, considering it as a romantic, pure and sweet thing. Actually, it is average