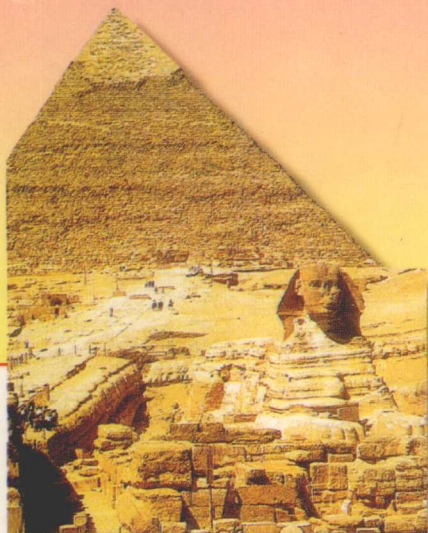


高等学校大学英语阅读教材


# 大学英语阅读教程

下册(一年级用)



AN ENGLISH READING COURSE  
FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

主编 谢立新

 世界图书出版公司

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## 前 言

本套教材是按照《大学英语教学大纲》和《大学英语四级考试大纲》对阅读理解的基本要求编写的,旨在培养、帮助学生迅速提高阅读水平,达到“两纲”对学生阅读能力的规定和要求,顺利通过国家大学英语四级考试。

本套教材分为四个分册,一年级和二年级分别各使用上、下两个分册。每个分册各由 30 个单元组成。参照大学英语四级考试样题阅读理解部分的形式,每个单元设有 4 篇短文。1—20 单元各篇短文后设有 5 个选择类型的阅读理解题;21—30 单元各篇短文后设有简短问题回答(Short Answer Questions),使之更贴近现行全国四级英语考试形式。此外,根据目前题型变化,在每个单元又增设了翻译练习,以划线形式选出大约 5 个句子,要求学生在理解文章的同时翻译成符合汉语习惯的中文。

每篇短文约 200—400 个单词,每个单元总词汇量为 1000—1400 个单词。全套教程共 120 个单元,480 篇短文,生词量一般不超过 3%,对超纲单词在短文后加注汉语释义。

本教程选材广泛,有科普知识、人物传记、英语国家风土人情、日常生活常识、社会、文化、教育等各方面的内容。体裁多样,有叙述文、说明文、议论文等。文章编排由浅入深,循序渐进并融知识性和趣味性于一体,具有较强的可读性。

本套教程由谢立新主编。一年级用书上册由潘俊武担任副主编,撰稿人为谢立新、潘俊武、刘淑颖;下册由林文煌担任副主编,撰稿人为林文煌、张兰、魏晓朴,二年级用书上册由刘蔚铭担任副

主编,撰稿人为刘蔚铭、张耕天、葛亚军;下册由谢立新、范晓玲担任主编,撰稿人为范晓玲、谢立新、穆翠英。

本教程在编写过程中,得到西北政法学院常务副院长陈明华教授和院教务处的支持帮助,陕西省人民政府外事办公室副主任饶笃钧教授和西安外国语学院李惠康副译审在百忙之中审阅了全稿,在此一并表示最衷心的感谢。

由于编者才疏学浅,舛错疏漏之处在所难免,恳请同行和广大读者批评指正。

编 者

一九九七年七月一日于西安

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## Unit 1

### Passage A

Many employers are convinced that you can be trained on the job to perform specific tasks but after college, you cannot be trained to communicate well. One company official even concludes, "If a candidate does not have basic speaking and writing skills at age twenty-one, he is a lost case." To sum up, your communications skills have their final chance for development during your college years; they will not appear magically later in life.

The message conveyed by these brief quotes is clear; technical expertise, motivation, and creativity alone are not enough. At the very least, you will need to be a "part-time" technical writer. And without the ability to communicate, you may not get far.

A prospective employer will first judge your writing skills by the quality of your application letter and resume. If you are hired by a large organization, your retention and promotion may depend on decisions made by executives you have never met. In this case, the quality of your letters, memos, progress reports, work orders, requisitions, recommendations, and written instructions will be regarded as an indicator of the overall quality of your work. This is hardly the time to let your competence be



buried beneath carelessly written reports. Good writing skills give you an advantage in any field. And as you advance in your field, your ability to communicate will increase in importance while your reliance on your technical background may correspondingly decrease. The higher your professional goals, the better communications skills you will need. In short, your value to any organization will depend on how well you can convey to others what you know.

**Notes:**

1. technical expertise 专业技能
2. prospective *a.* 未来的
3. resume *n.* (个人)简历
4. requisition *n.* 申请

**Comprehension:**

1. In this passage, the term "communications skills" chiefly refers to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. technical skills
  - b. reading skills
  - c. speaking skills
  - d. writing skills
2. "He is a lost case" means \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. "He is hopeless"
  - b. "He has missed the writing course"
  - c. "He is ignored"
  - d. "He doesn't know where to go"
3. When one is working with a large company, his competence is largely determined by \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. his creativity

- b. his technical knowledge and experience
  - c. the quality of his written work
  - d. all of the above
4. According to the passage, one's writing skills are usually developed \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. at any time in his life
  - b. before he graduates from college
  - c. as soon as he enters college
  - d. only after he is employed
5. Which of the following is true according to the passage?
- a. Working hard is a basic requirement of all employees.
  - b. Good writing skills alone ensure success in any field.
  - c. The only qualification for getting hired by a company is good communications skills.
  - d. While the importance of one's ability to communicate increases, his professional background may become increasingly less important.

### Passage B

I'm afraid to grow old — we're all afraid. In fact, the fear of growing old is so great that every aged person is an insult and a threat to the society. They remind us of our own death, that our body won't always remain smooth and responsive, but will someday betray us by aging. The ideal way to age would be to grow slowly invisible, gradually disappearing, without causing worry or discomfort to the young. In some ways that does happen. Sitting in a small park across from a nursing home one day, I no-

ticed that the young mothers and their children gathered on one side, and the old people from the home on the other. Whenever a youngster would run over to the "wrong" side, chasing a ball or just trying to cover all the available space, the old people would lean forward and smile. But before any communication could be established, the mother would come over, murmuring embarrassed apologies, and take her child back to the "young" side.

Now, it seemed to me that the children didn't feel any particular fear and the old people didn't seem to be threatened by the children. The division of space was drawn by the mothers. And the mothers never looked at the old people who lined the other side of the park. These well-dressed young women had a way of sliding their eyes over, around, through the old people; they never looked at them directly. The old people may as well have been invisible; they offended the aesthetic eye of the mothers.

My early experiences were somewhat different; since I grew up in a small town, my childhood had more of a nineteenth-century flavor. I knew a lot of old people, and considered some of them friends. There was no culturally defined way for me to "relate to" old people, except the rules of courtesy which applied to all adults. My grandparents were an integral and important part of the family and of the community. I sometimes have a dreadful fear that mine will be the last generation to know old people as friends, to have a sense of what growing old means, to respect and understand man's mortality and his courage in the face of death.

**Notes:**

1. aesthetic *a.* 审美的

2. courtesy *n.* 礼貌

2. integral *a.* 组成的

4. mortality *n.* 死亡必然性

**Comprehension:**

6. People are afraid of growing old because it is usually associated with \_\_\_\_\_.

a. insult

b. threat

c. death

d. betrayal

7. In the author's opinion, it is a perfect way to \_\_\_\_\_.

a. grow old slowly and then die unnoticed

b. grow old suddenly and then die

c. shut oneself up from others when growing old

d. remain young all one's life and then die suddenly

8. The author believes the division between the old and the young is \_\_\_\_\_.

a. made by people

b. understandable

c. formed naturally

d. traditional

9. From the passage, we learn that the author \_\_\_\_\_.

a. used to have the same experience as the young have today

b. has never been afraid of getting old

c. was quite free to know and befriend old people in his childhood

d. both b and c

10. The phrase "relate to" in the last paragraph means \_\_\_\_\_.

a. get along with

b. link to

c. have to do with

d. connect to

### Passage C

Most shoplifters agree that the January sales offer wonderful opportunities for the hard-working thief. With the shops so crowded and the staff so busy, it does not require any extraordinary talent to help yourself to one or two little things and escape unnoticed. It is known, in the business, as "hoisting".

But the hoisting game is not what it used to be. Even at the height of the sales, shoplifters today never know if they are being watched by one of those evil little balls that hang from the ceilings of so many department stores above the most desirable goods.

As if that was not trouble enough for them, they can now be filmed at work and obliged to attend a showing of their performance in court.

Selfridges was the first big London store to install closed-circuit videotape equipment to watch its sales floors. In October last year the store won its first court case for shoplifting using as evidence a videotape clearly showing a couple stealing dresses. It was an important test case which encouraged other stores to install similar equipment.

When the balls, called sputniks, first made an appearance in shops it was widely believed that their only function was to frighten shoplifters. Their somewhat ridiculous appearance, the curious holes and red lights going on and off, certainly made the theory believable.

It did not take long, however, for serious shoplifters to start showing suitable respect. Soon after the equipment was in

operation at Selfridges, store detective Brian Chadwick was sitting in the control room watching a woman secretly putting bottles of perfume into her bag.

"As she turned to go," Chadwick recalled, "she suddenly looked up at the 'sputnik' and stopped. She could not possibly have seen that the camera was trained on her because it is completely hidden, but she must have had a feeling that I was looking at her."

"For a moment she paused, then she returned to the counter and started putting everything back. When she had finished, she opened her bag towards the camera to show it was empty and hurried out of the store."

**Notes:**

1. desirable goods 称心如意的商品
2. closed-circuit videotape equipment 闭路电视摄像设备

**Comprehension:**

11. The sputniks hanging from the ceiling are chiefly intended \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. to identify thieves from customers
  - b. to make films that can be used as evidence in court
  - c. to frighten the thief by their appearance
  - d. both b and c
12. The influence of the case last October can be seen from the fact that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. the "sputnik" equipment began to be widely used in other shops

- b. other shops were encouraged to accuse other thieves
  - c. it repaid the investment on the equipment "sputnik"
  - d. Selfridges got back everything that had been stolen
13. The woman stealing perfume suddenly stopped because \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. she sensed that the detective was standing behind her watching
  - b. she had found the "sputnik" but didn't know what it was for
  - c. she had found the "sputnik" and feared that somebody might have watched her all the time
  - d. she wanted to know whether there was a camera inside the "sputnik"
14. The woman opened her bag toward the "sputnik" before she left because she intended to show that \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. she had forgotten to bring any money
  - b. she had returned everything she had stolen
  - c. she had bought nothing
  - d. she was playing a joke with the "sputnik"
15. From the passage we may conclude that \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. thieves are beginning to adopt new ways of stealing to avoid being found by the "sputnik"
  - b. thefts are now only taking place in January because the "sputnik", facing so many customers, is far less effective
  - c. today many thieves are only able to steal little things from a shop because of the "sputnik"
  - d. thieves are now quite conscious of the "sputnik" whenever they are trying to stealing anything from a shop

### Passage D

The old-fashioned general store is fast disappearing. This is, perhaps, a pity, because shopping today seems to lack that personal element which existed when the shopkeeper knew all his regular customers personally. He could, for instance, remember which brand of tea Mrs. Smith usually bought or what sort of washing-powder Mrs. Jones preferred. Not only was the shop a center of buying and selling, but also a social meeting place.

A prosperous general store might have employed four or five assistants, and so there were very few problems in management as far as the staff were concerned. But now that the supermarket has replaced the general store, the job of the manager has changed completely. The modern supermarket manager has to cope with a staff of as many as a hundred, apart from all the other everyday problems of running a large business.

Every morning the manager must, like the commander of an army division, carry out an inspection of his store to make sure that everything is ready for the business of the day. He must see that everything is running smoothly. He will have to give advice and make decisions as problems arise, and he must know how to get his huge staff to work efficiently with their respective responsibilities.

No matter what he has to do throughout the day, however, the supermarket manager must be ready for any emergency that may arise. They say in the trade that you are not really an experienced supermarket manager until you have dealt with a flood, a fire, a birth and a death in your store.



**Notes:**

1. lack *v.* 缺少、缺乏      2. prosperous *a.* 繁荣的

**Comprehension:**

16. According to the author, it is a pity that there are fewer old general stores now because \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. there is less trading business  
b. there used to be more social activities in the old days  
c. the supermarket manager has more problems than before  
d. there is less personal contact between manager and customer
17. In what way has the job of the store manager changed?  
a. He doesn't sell tea and washing-powder any more.  
b. He has a much larger staff to take care of, to say nothing of all the other daily problems of running the store.  
c. He must try hard to remember the names of regular customers.  
d. He has to give advice and make decisions when problems arise.
18. Who are Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Jones mentioned in the first paragraph?  
a. They are friends of the store manager's.  
b. They are shop assistants.  
c. They are both regular customers of the store.  
d. They represent any of the regular customers of the old general store.