

高等学校试用教材

大学英语

(文理科本科用)

泛读

EXTENSIVE READING

1

上海外语教育出版社

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第 一 册

张砚秋 主编

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前 言

《大学英语（文理科本科用）》试用教材是根据国家教育委员会审定批准的《大学英语教学大纲（文理科本科用）》编写的一套系列教材，分精读、泛读、听力、快速阅读、语法与练习五种教程。

本教材重视英语语言基础教学，从各方面保证文、理科的通用性，适用于综合大学、师范院校和文科院校。

本教材的精读、泛读、快速阅读和听力教程各按分级教学的要求编写六册，每级一册；语法与练习编写四册，供1—4级使用。精读与听力教程均配有教师用书和录音磁带。

上述五种教程根据各自的课型特点自成体系，但又相互配合，形成整体，以贯彻大纲所提出的三个层次的要求：“培养学生具有较强的阅读能力、一定的听的能力、初步的写和说的能力。”全套教材由复旦大学、北京大学、华东师范大学和中国人民大学合作编写，复旦大学董亚芬教授审订，同时还聘请两名专职外籍专家参加编写和文字审定工作。

《大学英语（文理科本科用）》泛读教程由北京大学英语系公共外语教研室负责编写。张砚秋副教授担任主编，王岷源教授担任主审。

本书为泛读教程第一册，由解又明、焦英、吕钰凤、周学艺等同志参加编写，供大学英语一级学生使用。

由于时间仓促，编者水平与经验有限，教材中不妥之处在所难免。希望广大读者批评指正。

编 者

一九八六年三月

使用说明

本教程按以下指导思想编写：

1. 通过一定量的阅读增强学生的语感，提高学生的阅读速度，使之掌握阅读技巧，学会以英语为工具获取所需信息的能力。

2. 在编写多项选择和思考题时，注意逐步培养学生在阅读过程中的分析、归纳、综合和推断的能力，以配合精读教程在阅读技能方面的教学。

3. 选材较浅于相应的精读课文，并加必要的注释，以便于学生顺利阅读。

4. 教材绝大多数选自原文，一般不删节、不改写，足以保证语言文字的规范化。

5. 选材力求内容新颖、题材广泛、体裁多样、知识性与趣味性并重。

6. 考虑到学生阅读能力上的差异，每册的阅读量都略高于大纲所规定的指标。

本教程目前只有学生用书。每册选编短文三十课，每课编有少量注释，配有若干多项选择题和思考题，以测试学生对文章的理解能力。为了配合精读教程，每册按十个单元编写，三课为一个单元。每单元的前两课为必读部分，第三课可视具体情况灵活掌握。

编 者

一九八六年三月

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Lesson One

YOUR BREAKFAST IS SERVED, MADAM

Narrator: Ladies and gentlemen, my friends and I are about to present you with a puzzling problem. We would like each of you to try to solve it, so please pay careful attention for the next few minutes.

The problem appears in a short sketch¹ we are going to perform. The scene is a hotel room. Miss Muffett has been staying there for two days. At the moment she is alone, but she will soon be visited by three different people. Please look closely at these characters, for one of them is acting very suspiciously.

(Exit Narrator.)

Miss Muffett: (on the telephone) Hello. Is this Reception? Good. Would you please send up a copy of the Daily Telegraph² to Room 321? Oh, and a cup of tea. Thank you.

(Knock at the door.)

Goodness³! That was quick. Yes . . . just a minute, I'll come and open the door.

Waiter: Good morning, Madam. Here is your breakfast.

Miss M: My breakfast? What do you mean?

Waiter: The breakfast you ordered. Cereal, bacon, eggs, toast, and coffee. Shall I put it over here on the table?

Miss M: I'm very sorry, but I'm afraid there's been some mistake. I didn't order breakfast. I only asked for a cup of tea.

Waiter: Really? I do apologize, Madam. Reception must have given me the wrong number.⁴ They definitely said Room 326.

Miss M: But this is Room 321, not 326.

Waiter: Room 321? Oh, no! I'm so sorry to have disturbed

you.

Miss M: Never mind. We all make mistakes . . . especially first thing in the morning.

(Exit waiter, closing the door. Knock at the door.)

This will be my tea. Come in!

Man: Oh, what are you doing here?

Miss M: I beg your pardon? How dare you burst into⁵ my room like this! Who are you? What do you want?

Man: What are you doing in my room, and how did you get in here?

Miss M: What do you mean? This is my room.

Man: There must be some mistake. Room 323 is my room.

Miss M: But this is Room 321.

Man: Room 321? Are you sure? (He looks at the door.)

My goodness, I simply don't know what to say! I'm dreadfully sorry. I don't know how I could have been so stupid. I do apologize.⁶

Miss M: That's quite all right.

(Exit man, closing the door.)

Miss M: I wonder when I'm going to get my cup of tea?

(Knock at the door.)

That'll be the cup of tea at last. Come in!

Waitress: Good morning, Madam. Here is your tea and your newspaper.

Miss M: Good. Just put them down here, would you? That's fine. Thank you. (Picks up newspaper.) Oh, but wait a minute! This is the Daily Mirror,⁷ I ordered the Daily Telegraph.

Waitress: I'm ever so sorry, Madam. Reception must have mixed up the order. I'll go back down and get you a copy of the Telegraph immediately, Madam.

(Exit Waitress, closing the door.)

Miss M: Oh, dear! I think it's going to be one of those days⁸---just one of those days

Narrator: And indeed, Miss Muffett was right, for later that day it was discovered that several rooms in the

hotel had been burgled. If you were watching and listening to the play carefully, you may have noticed something rather suspicious about one of the characters. If you were a detective, which of them would you want to question, and why?

Approximately 550 words

Notes

1. a short sketch: a short, humorous play
2. the Daily Telegraph: 每日电讯报 (英)
3. goodness = my goodness: an expression of surprise
4. Reception must have given me the wrong number.
 - a) reception: the office that receives visitors to a hotel
 - b) paraphrase: It must be the reception that has given me the wrong number.
5. burst into: rush into
6. I do apologize: 'do' is used here for emphasis.
7. The Daily Mirror: 每日镜报 (英)
8. one of those days: an expression used for complaint
i.e. one of those days when everything goes wrong

Questions

1. How many characters are there in the play? How many of them are under suspicion?
2. If you were a detective, which of them would you want to question? And why?
3. What did the waiter, the man and the waitress do before they entered Room 321?
4. What did the man claim when Miss Muffett blamed him for bursting into her room?
5. Does one knock at the door if he thinks he is entering his own room?
6. Who is the suspicious character?

Lesson Two

En Route

The large airplane is en route to a country which most of its passengers have never visited before. "En route" means on the way. The passengers are the people riding in the airplane. Most of these passengers are tourists---people who travel to see another place, area, or country. Most tourists travel for pleasure. They enjoy seeing different places and meeting other people.

The long flight, or trip by air, is almost over. The passengers have finished their dinner. Most of them are resting or relaxing---sleeping, reading, or talking. But for Miss Brown and Mr. Green, who are going home, there are still many things to do before their arrival.

Sue Brown is a stewardess and Sam Green is a steward for their country's airline (the company that operates the airplanes). Their job is to look after the comfort and safety of the passengers who ride in the passenger cabin of the airplane during the flight. They are also called cabin or flight attendants.

Passenger safety is the main job of flight attendants. Miss Brown and Mr. Green must make sure the passengers are sitting safely. The things passengers bring on the plane with them must be put away² safely so that they will not slide around during the flight. If the plane should move or turn suddenly, a loose object could hit and injure someone.

Before the flight begins, the flight attendants tell the passengers: "Please stow all hand or carry-on luggage³ under the seat in front of you or in the overhead compartments."⁴

The things passengers bring aboard (on) the plane are called hand or carry-on luggage. "To stow" these means to put them away. Carry-on luggage can fit either under the seat or in a special compartment (enclosed

space) above the seats over the heads of the passengers. Cabin attendants must make sure these compartments are closed properly during the flight.

En route, the cabin attendants serve food and beverages (drinks) to the passengers. This keeps the attendants busy and on their feet during most of the flight. On a flight of five hours or more, Miss Brown and Mr. Green walk between 10 and 15 miles---or 16 to 24 kilometers---as part of their jobs.

Their duties also include welcoming the passengers aboard the airliner and helping them to find their seats. A flight attendant must show the passengers where the emergency exits⁵ are and explain how to use the oxygen masks.⁶

The flight attendants also give out pillows and blankets to help make passengers comfortable. They give passengers magazines to read. They must be able to answer questions about the times of flights and the services of the airline.

"It's an interesting job," Mr. Green says, "and we meet many interesting people. We get to see different places. But it's not all fun. We live out of suitcases,⁷ and we serve hundreds of meals each day. A flight attendant has to enjoy taking care of and serving people."

"Even under the best conditions," Miss Brown adds, "taking care of a plane full of hungry, thirsty people is not easy. But we have to stay calm and pleasant at all times. This is especially important when bad weather makes a flight rough or bumpy, when a plane is late, or when there is an emergency. "

Flight attendants must learn about the safety equipment of the airplane in which they are flying. They must know how to get passengers out quickly and safely if there should be an accident. And, most important, they must be able to keep the passengers calm in an emergency.

All flight attendants must be able to give first-

aid. This is the help that is given to a sick or hurt person before regular medical treatment from a doctor can be obtained. Such treatment can often save a person's life if it is given quickly. Learning to give first-aid is an important part of a flight attendant's training.

"A flight attendant," Mr. Green says, "has to be able to stay calm and courteous at all times. This is important for the safety of the passengers."

Miss Brown adds, "Passengers spend more time with flight attendants than with any other airline employee. The service the passengers receive on board the plane determines whether or not they will fly again on one of our airplanes. We want them to continue to be customers of our airline. So it is important that we give them good, courteous service."

Approximately 750 words

Notes

1. en route / ɑ̃ 'ru:t/ (French): on the way
2. to put away: to put in a proper place
3. hand or carry-on luggage: a small bag which can be carried on board a plane
4. compartments: small box-like containers inside a passenger cabin of an airplane
5. an emergency exit: a way out in case some accident occurs
6. an oxygen mask: a covering for the face which provides oxygen in case of emergency
7. to live out of suitcases: in contrast to 'to live in peace and comfort'

Questions

1. What is the most important job of a flight attendant?
2. What does a cabin attendant do during the flight?
3. How will flight attendants act when there is an emergency?
4. Why do flight attendants offer their customers good service?
5. What do you think about the job of a cabin attendant?

6. Have you ever taken a trip by air? If yes, try to describe what service the flight attendants offered to the passengers?

Lesson Three

From Mr. Walton's Diary

March 17: It rained heavily all morning. The rain stopped about two o'clock and I went out for a walk. There was a cold wind blowing, so I put on my heaviest and warmest coat. As I was walking along the High Street the wind blew my hat off. I ran after it. The wind carried it into the road and I ran out¹ to get it. I was almost knocked down² by a car. I have just listened to the nine o'clock news. It will freeze hard in most parts of the country, they say.

April 20: We're having spring weather now. The sun shone for several hours during the early part of the day. Now the sky is cloudy and it looks like rain. The rain will help things to grow. The gardens are full of spring flowers and all the people in the village are busy sowing seeds. The man next door has been busy cutting the grass in his garden. I shall have to start cutting the grass in my garden soon. It's hard work, but it has to be done.

June 14: I think June is one of the best months in the year. The temperature was almost eighty³ this afternoon. The children enjoy the warm weather. I saw seven or eight of them in the river after school. Most of them were good swimmers. One small girl was learning. Her elder sister was teaching her. I used to swim in this river when I was a boy. Now I find the water too cold even on a day like this. I can't remember when I last went swimming. Probably it was during that enjoyable holiday we had ten years ago on one of the Greek islands.

August 5: This is my wife's birthday. She's fifty-seven. We asked a few old friends in to dinner:⁴ the doctor, the clergyman, the headmaster of the village school, and their wives. Like most elderly people, I

suppose, we spent most of the evening talking about old times. This was a quiet little village thirty years ago. Now, every Sunday hundreds of cars and coaches pass through the High Street at what I think is a very dangerous speed.⁵ They make the village almost as noisy as the streets of a large town. When I was a boy I used to enjoy riding on the backs of the big farm horses. Today there are very few horses working on the farms. The farm workers today drive tractors, not horses, and a man is not much use⁶ on the farm unless he knows all about machines. When I was a boy we had no electricity in the village. Now every house in the village has a radio set and a television set. Is it a good thing for children to sit in front of a television set all evening? It's probably bad for their eyes. They ought to be outdoors walking or playing. When my young friends ask me why I haven't bought a television set, I tell them there are thousands of good books I still want to read. I can't find time for both reading and television.

October 11: It's beginning to get quite cold. We're glad to have fires and have been burning wood for the last few weeks. Those old apple trees that were cut down last winter will give us wood for the fires most of this winter. Our neighbours have electric fires. They don't like fires that burn wood or coal: too much smoke and dirt, they say. I like to see a wood fire in the living-room and I like an electric fire in the bedroom.

December 18: Only a week to Christmas now. We're looking forward to having the children with us for the holidays, and the three grandchildren. We ought to go to town and buy presents for them. London will be full of people, I suppose, and there will be so many things in the shops that it will be difficult to know what to buy. If we have an early breakfast tomorrow we can catch the half-past eight train and be in London by ten. We can do our shopping before lunch and go to a theatre

in the afternoon. I don't think we've been to a theatre for three or four years.

January 5: It has been snowing for three days and nights now. In places the snow is already three feet deep. The postman was an hour late this morning. The trains are all late, and there are very few cars and vans on the road. If it freezes the roads will be very dangerous. There's nothing worse than frozen snow. The birds don't like this sort of weather. They can't find food. We've put out a lot of bread for them.

The worst winter I remember was the winter we came to live here. The snow was so deep that for several days we were cut off⁷ from the rest of the country. We had no letters and no newspapers. I hope it isn't going to be as bad again⁸ this January!

Approximately 860 words

Notes

1. I ran out: I ran out of the pavement into the road.
2. to knock down: to strike to the ground
3. eighty: 80 fahrenheit
4. We asked a few old friends in to dinner: We asked a few old friends to come to our house for dinner.
5. at what I think is a very dangerous speed: at a speed that I think is very dangerous
6. to be not much use: sometimes to be no use, i.e. to be useless
7. cut off: shut off or kept separate
8. to be as bad again: to be as bad as that again

Questions

1. What months are spring months in England?
2. What's the weather like in spring? What do people usually do when spring comes?
3. When does summer begin? Do children like summer? Why?
4. How did things change in the little village where Mr. Walton lived?

5. What's the weather like in winter? Is it warm inside the farm houses? Why?
6. What have you learned about Christmas from Mr. Walton's diary?