

高校英语精品课系列教材



美英报刊文章 选读教程

主编 徐昌和



上海交通大学出版社
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高校英语精品课系列教材
浙江省重点教材建设项目(高职高专)

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内 容 提 要

本书系浙江省重点教材建设项目,内容直接选自各类美英报刊,题材广泛,涉及政治、经济、文化、科技、能源、医疗卫生、体育等方面。全书共分16个单元,每个单元包含正文、生词、注释等内容。书后附有5个附录以供学习。本书供高职高专英语类各专业学生使用,也可供应用型本科英语专业学生、其他非英语专业的大学生和英语爱好者学习和使用。

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主 编 徐昌和

副主编 鲍 彬

编 委 严春妹 李 颖 王 燕

叶美丽 陈迪春 卢凯军

沈银珍 吴彩萍 蒋阳建

前 言

在瞬息万变的信息时代,阅读美英报刊可以使人们了解日新月异的英语语言变化,获悉当今世界政治、经济、科技、文化、社会、军事等最新动态,无疑是学习现代英语的有效途径,也是学生走上社会工作岗位后掌握信息、开阔眼界的主要手段。

教育部高等学校英语专业教学大纲明确指出:报刊英语选读旨在培养学生阅读和理解国外报刊的技能。通过学习,学生能够阅读有关时事的文章,正确理解新闻英语的特点,深入领会其语言规则,体会正式英语语体的一些特点,从而在阅读过程中正确理解原文的含义,更好地提高阅读水平。学生还可通过学习范文进行评论,并进行简单的口头讨论。学生对英语宣传媒介的几种常见形式能有所了解,能看懂英语报刊中的政治述评,进一步了解西方社会的政治、经济、文化、科技等。

本教材直接从国外出版的报刊中选材,题材广泛,包括世界政治、经济、文化、科技、能源、医疗卫生、体育等方面内容。这些文章的取材我们始终抓住学生的兴奋点,体现很强的时代性、实用性,内容丰富多彩,适合精读讲解,又适用于泛读训练。这些材料由于选材贴近生活,可以激发学生的阅读兴趣,可谓一举多得。

本教材分16个单元,每个单元均由一篇文章组成。正文后都配有生词和短语的英文解释和中文翻译、注释详细的新闻背景知识的介绍、常用的习语和短语以及供学生讨论的问题。

俗话说:“授人以鱼,不如授人以渔”。我们深知仅凭课内十几篇文章的阅读,要想完全掌握报刊阅读的精髓是不可能的。书后有5个附录供学生查阅,掌握这些知识对学生今后大量的阅读英文报刊无疑会起着十分重要的作用。

本书自立项以后就成立了编写委员会,衢州学院外国语学院徐昌和教授任主编,负责所有阅读材料的选取并设计教材的编写提纲和体例,编写第4、6、15、16单元,并统一全书的审稿工作;衢州职业技术学院鲍彬副教授任副主编,编写第8章;浙江大学城市学院陈迪春副教授编写第3单元;衢州学院外国语学院严春妹副教授编写第2、5、10单元;衢州学院外国语学院李颖讲师编写第1、11、12单元;衢州学院外国语学院王燕讲师编写第7、9单元;衢州职业技术学院叶美丽讲师编写第13、14单元;浙江经贸职业技术学院沈银珍教授、金华职业技术学院吴彩萍副教授、台州职业技术学院蒋阳建副教授、广厦建设职业技术学院卢凯军副教授等参加了本书的审稿工作。

我们希望读者能从本书中得到启发,有所获益。我们在编写教材的时候参考了大量国外相关的原版美英报刊和国内同行专家的著作,在此谨向他们表示深切感谢。由于编著者水平所限及编写时间仓促,书中错误之处在所难免,恳请专家学者和广大读者提出宝贵意见。

编著者

2010年11月

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Unit 1

Speech Suggests Pro-Business Approach by Cuomo

ALBANY^[1]—Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo^[2] called for “a fundamental realignment” of state government on Wednesday, saying New York needs to rethink the services it provides and face up to its overspending problem before it is too late.

“We need radical reform, we need a new approach, we need a new perspective,” said Mr. Cuomo, who was giving his first State of the State address^[3]. “And we need it now.”

The speech was emphatically pro-business and centrist, suggesting he is modeling himself more after his former boss, President Bill Clinton, than his father, former Gov. Mario M. Cuomo.^[4]

The new governor mentioned the word “tax” or “taxes” 21 times, mostly to denounce them and promise to lower them. “What made New York the Empire State was not a large government complex,” he said. “It was a vibrant private sector that was creating great jobs in the state of New York.”^[5]

The proposals laid out by Mr. Cuomo—including reducing the number of agencies, authorities and departments by 20 percent and capping the annual growth of state government to the rate of inflation^[6]—set up a clash with the more liberal Democrats who control the State Assembly^[7].

In addition to freezing the salaries^[8] of most state workers, Mr. Cuomo would reduce spending on Medicaid^[9] and limit local property tax increases statewide.

“New York has no future as the tax capital of the nation^[10],” Mr. Cuomo, a Democrat, said in his speech. “Our young people will not stay, businesses will not come, this has to change. Put it simply, the people of this state simply cannot afford to pay more taxes, period.”

The 47-minute speech also offered New Yorkers a different view of their new governor: he was highly animated in his expressions of frustration over the state’s

reputation and injected cornball humor, a PowerPoint slide show and even air quotes^[11] into the formal setting.

One of his PowerPoint slides showed Mr. Cuomo in a captain's uniform aboard a battleship, taking incoming fire from special interests while smaller ships captained by legislative leaders—Sheldon Silver, the Democratic Assembly speaker, and Dean G. Skelos, a Republican who is the Senate majority leader^[12], as naval officers—sailed nearby.

Mr. Cuomo has a passionate if at times nostalgic view of the state's history^[13], and he implored lawmakers to return New York to its previous glory, to an era when it was not a symbol of shame and scandal, a period that, in his version of history, typically ends on the day his father left office.

“We were the model for the nation,” Mr. Cuomo said. “This has been an aberration, this recent past, the dysfunction of Albany, the gridlock of Albany, the corruption of Albany. This is not the true story of the New York State Legislature^[14]; it's not who we are, it's not what we do, it's not why we're here.”

He continued, as the Legislature applauded enthusiastically, to invite them to rehabilitate themselves. “The New York State Legislature is the best legislature, historically, in the nation,” he said, adding, “That's who we can be again.”

The governor has much work ahead of him. Most of the proposals in his speech expanded on plans laid out during his campaign, and, notably, he failed to provide many details for how he will close the state's nearly \$10 billion deficit. The emergency finance reinvention plan he promised, too, was broadly drawn.

“I think it was effective for setting the stage and really trying to communicate that these are serious issues, but there weren't a lot of specifics about the financial impact of the proposals he's making,” said Elizabeth Lynam, deputy research director at the Citizens Budget Commission^[15].

Edward F. Cox, the chairman of the state Republican Party, expressed concern that Mr. Cuomo was adding new layers of bureaucracy, and criticized the governor's plan to set up regional economic development councils that would help develop and bring forward local leaders' ideas for economic development, and help state agencies administer aid.

“Ten regional councils, they all compete for goodies,” Mr. Cox said. “Where's the decision made? In Albany. We don't need more government programs.”

In many ways, though, the speech by Mr. Cuomo, a former housing secretary

under President Clinton, reinforced his determination to show he will be a different kind of Democrat. Already, leaders of the State Assembly have been chafing, with members suggesting in recent days that new borrowing or higher taxes on the wealthy would be required to balance the budget, notions the governor has rejected. He said his fiscal plan would not involve tax increases or new borrowing.

Mr. Cuomo did reiterate his positions on social issues that are more in line with Democratic members' views, like his support for same-sex marriage and for expanding abortion rights^[16].

Mr. Cuomo gave the speech in a convention center near the Capitol^[17], breaking the tradition of holding it in the Assembly chamber, and he invited more than 1,000 members of the public—perhaps to balance a crowd of legislators with mixed feelings about his remarks. He also invited the leaders of the Legislature to speak before him, and both leaders struck cooperative tones in their remarks^[18]. Perhaps the most animated part of the speech came when Mr. Cuomo called for an overhaul of the state's juvenile justice system, criticizing the state for keeping open half-empty youth prisons upstate. He cast the issue as both an economic and a moral one.^[19]

“An incarceration program is not an employment program,” Mr. Cuomo said, his voice rising to its loudest point during the speech.

“Don't put other people in juvenile justice facilities to give some people jobs^[20],” he added. “That's not what this state is all about, and that has to end.”

Mr. Cuomo also said he had appointed the former Medicaid director of Wisconsin, Jason A. Helgeson, to import strategies used in that state to bring Medicaid spending under control. He proposed to set aside a portion of the state's annual education aid and use it to reward school districts that improve student performance; similar plans have been controversial on the federal level.

Mr. Cuomo's agenda appears to have more in common with that of the Senate Republicans, who regained control of the Senate in the fall elections^[21]. Mr. Skelos, of Nassau County^[22], could be an ally for the governor, though there are likely to be tensions over how school aid is distributed across the state, particularly on Long Island.

Mr. Cuomo also laid out a number of steps aimed at improving the state government's ethics practices, though such proposals have been offered many times in Albany but failed to pass.

“The state of the state^[23] begins with an honest analysis of the crisis we face,” Mr. Cuomo said. “In government as in life, you can never solve a problem if you refuse

to acknowledge it. ”^[24]

New Words

- aberration** [æbə'reɪʃən] *n.* deviation from what is accepted as normal or right 偏差
- abortion** [ə'bi:ʃən] *n.* expulsion of a foetus from the womb before it is able to survive, esp. in the first 28 weeks of pregnancy 堕胎
- administer** [əd'mɪnɪstə] *v.* to control the affairs of sth. ; manage 管理, 治理
- animated** [ænə'meɪtɪd] *adj.* lively 活跃的, 活泼的
- authority** [ɔ:θɔ:ri'ti] *n.* person or group having the power to give orders or take action 有权力发号施令的人或团体, 当局, 官方
- borrowing** [ˈbɔ:rəʊɪŋ] *n.* receiving (something) from somebody temporarily, expecting to return it 借款, 借贷, 举债
- bureaucracy** [bjʊə'kræsi] *n.* excessive or complicated official routine, esp. because of too many departments and offices 官僚作风
- campaign** [kæm 'peɪn] *n.* series of planned activities with a particular social, commercial or political aim 系列活动, 竞选活动
- cap** [kæp] *v.* to follow sth with sth better, bigger, funnier, etc. (以更好、更大、更有趣...的事物)继(某事物)之后
- centrist** [ˈsentrɪst] 1) *n.* person who holds moderate political views (政治上的)中间派 2) *adj.* 中间派的
- chafe** [tʃeɪf] *v.* to become irritated or impatient 恼怒, 不耐烦
- controversial** [kɒntrə'vɜ:ʃəl] *adj.* causing or likely to cause controversy 有争议的
- cornball** [ˈkɔ:nbɔ:l] *adj.* (slang) unsophisticated, old-fashioned, banal, sentimental, etc. ; corny (俚)不懂世故的, 似乡巴佬的
- corruption** [kə'rʌpʃən] *n.* corrupting or being corrupted 堕落, 腐化, 腐败
- deficit** [ˈdefɪsɪt] *n.* excess of debts over income; amount of this excess 赤字, 亏空
- denounce** [dɪ'haʊns] *v.* to say that sb./sth. is wrong, unlawful, etc 公开指责, 谴责, 斥责
- dysfunction** [dɪs'fʌŋkʃən] *n.* abnormality 机能障碍, 机能失调
- emphatic** [ɪm'fætɪk] *adj.* 1) having, showing or using emphasis 强调的, 重视的, 重点的 2) definite and clear 肯定的, 明确的
- emphatically** [ɪm'fætɪkli] *adv.* 强调地, 明显地
- fiscal** [ˈfɪskəl] *adj.* of or related to government money or public money, usu. taxes 国

库的, 财务的, 财政的

goody [ˈɡʊdi:] *n.* (usu. pl.) desirable thing; pleasant thing to eat 特别吸引人的东西, 美味的食品

gridlock [ˈɡrɪdlɒk] *n.* high traffic congestion 交通全面大堵塞

implore [ɪmˈplɔː] *v.* to ask or beg (sb.) earnestly 恳求或乞求(某人)

incarceration [ɪnˈkɑːsəˈreɪt] *n.* putting sb. in prison 监禁, 关押, 禁闭

inject [ɪnˈdʒekt] *v.* to introduce (new thoughts, feelings, etc.) into sb./sth 注入

juvenile [dʒuːˈvɪnəl] 1) *n.* young person who is not yet adult 未成年者, 少年 2) *adj.* of young person who is not yet adult 未成年的, 少年的

legislature [ˈledʒɪsleɪtʃə] *n.* body of people with the power to make and change laws 立法机关, 立法团体

legislative [ˈledʒɪsleɪtɪv] *adj.* law making 立法的

legislator [ˈledʒɪsleɪtə] *n.* member of a legislature 立法者

liberal [ˈlɪbərəl] *adj.* not strict, literal or exact 开放的, 主张变革的, (政治经济上) 自由的, 开明的, 支持(社会、政治或宗教)变革的

model [ˈmɒdəl] 1) *n.* person or thing regarded as excellent of his/its kind and worth imitating (值得仿效的) 优秀的人或物, 模范 2) *v.* to take sb./sth. as an example for one's action, plans, etc. 以...为榜样, 仿效

nostalgic [nɒstældʒɪk] *adj.* longing for things that are past 对往事怀恋的, 怀旧的

overhaul [əʊvəˈhɔːl] *n.* thorough examination followed by any necessary repairs 彻底检查, 大修

overspending [əʊvəˈspendɪŋ] *adj.* spending too much 超支的, 花钱过多的

perspective [pəˈspektɪv] *n.* point of view 观点, 想法

radical [ˈrædɪkəl] *adj.* 1) of or from the foot or base; fundamental 根本的, 基本的 2) thorough or complete; drastic 彻底的, 完全的, 激进的

realignment [riːəˈlaɪnmənt] *n.* forming into new groups; reorganize 重组, 改组, 整编

rehabilitate [riːhəˈbɪlɪteɪt] *v.* to restore (sb.) to a normal life 改造(罪犯等), 使恢复正常生活

reiterate [riːˈɪtə ˈreɪt] *v.* to say or do (sth.) again or repeatedly 反复地说, 重申

specific [spɪˈsɪfɪk] *n.* particular aspect or precise detail 详情, 细节

statewide [ˈsteɪtwɑɪd] *adj. /adv.* over the whole of a state 全州的(地)

upstate [ˈʌpsteɪt] *adj. /adv.* (美国的一州内) 远离大城市的(地), 远离海岸线的(地), 偏僻的(地)

vibrant [ˈvaɪbrənt] *adj.* full of life and energy; exciting 充满生气的, 精力充沛的, 兴

奋的

Notes

1. ALBANY—the capital city of the state of New York 纽约州首府奥尔巴尼市
2. Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo—Andrew M. Cuomo (born in December 6, 1957) is the 56th and current Governor of New York, having assumed office on January 1, 2011. He was the 64th New York State Attorney General, and was the 11th United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. Born in Queens, New York, he is the son of Mario Cuomo, the 52nd Governor of New York (1983—1994).

安德鲁·库默州长。民主党员安德鲁·库默于2011年1月1日正式走马上任担任纽约州长。在1997年,库默担任美国前总统克林顿的住房与城市发展部(HUD)部长,成了美国有史以来最年轻的部长。2011年对他来说不是简单的一年:他不得不面对纽约经济复苏缓慢的尴尬、高居不下的失业率以及纽约州政府的巨额预算赤字。

3. his first State of the State address—他首次的州情咨文演讲。库默上任后发表了州情咨文,提出了一项计划,内容是通过冻结工资和税收以及限制支出增长等方式来填补100亿美元的预算缺口。内容还包括对纽约州医疗补助(Medicaid)计划进行重新设计,以及建立一家委员会来将政府机构数量削减20%等。
4. The speech was... former Gov. Mario M. Cuomo. —他的演讲显然对商业有利,并呈现出温和派的态度,这就表明了他在更多地效仿他的前老板,克林顿总统,而不是他的父亲,前纽约州长马里奥·库默。

pro-business—亲商业的

5. What made New York... of New York—It was the private sector, not the government that made New York the Empire State, because the private sector created many jobs.
6. capping the annual... the rate of inflation—将州政府支出的年度增长率限制在通胀率之内
7. set up a clash... the State Assembly—与目前控制州议会的自由民主党人士形成交锋
 - a. Democrat—民主党成员

The Democratic Party (民主党) is one of two major contemporary political parties in the United States, along with the Republican Party (共和党). President

Barack Obama is the 15th Democrat to hold the office.

b. the State Assembly—州议会,此处指纽约州议会

美国是联邦制国家,政权组织形式为总统制,实行三权分立与制衡相结合的政治制度和两党制的政党制度。美国的三权分立体制:即立法(legislative branch)、行政(executive branch)、司法(judicial branch)。三种权力分别由国会(Congress)、总统(President)、最高法院(Supreme Court)掌管,三个部门行使权力时,彼此互相牵制,以达到权力平衡。国会有立法权,总统对国会通过的法案有权否决,国会又有权在一定条件下推翻总统的否决;总统有权任命高级官员,但须经国会认可,国会有权依法弹劾总统和高级文官;最高法院法官由总统任命并经国会认可。最高法院又可对国会通过的法律以违宪为由宣布无效。

国会由参议院(the Senate)和众议院(the House of Representatives)组成,参众两院议员总数为535人。参议员(senator)由各州选民直接选出,每州2名,共100名,任期6年,每2年改选1/3,连选连任。众议员(congressman)数按各州人口比例分配,由直接选举产生,每州至少1名,人数固定为435名,任期2年,连选连任。两院议员长期连任现象极为普遍。议员不得兼任其他政府职务。

在建立统一的联邦政权的基础上,美国各州仍保有相当广泛的自主权。各州有自己的宪法、法律和政府机构;州的权力主要是处理本州范围内的事务,如以地方名义征税、管理州内工商业和劳工、组织警卫力量和维持治安等等。

8. freezing the salaries—冻结工资。库默州长改革方案的一部分。
9. Medicaid—美国医疗补助计划,是美国最大的医疗福利计划,它覆盖每个州,包括哥伦比亚特区和5个海外领地。联邦医疗补助计划的对象是符合特定条件的低收入人群,以及有老人和残疾人的家庭。
10. the tax capital of the nation—the state with the largest amount of tax in the country
11. air quotes—also called finger quotes, or Ersatz quotes are virtual quotation marks formed in the air with one's fingers when speaking. This is typically done with both hands held shoulder-width apart and at the eye level of the speaker, with the index and middle fingers on each hand flexing at the beginning and end of the phrase being quoted. Air quotes are often used to express satire, sarcasm, irony or euphemism.
12. legislative leaders—Sheldon Silver, the Democratic Assembly speaker, and Dean G. Skelos, a Republican who is the Senate majority leader
 - a. legislative leaders—立法机关领袖
 - b. Sheldon Silver, the Democratic Assembly speaker—Sheldon Silver (born

on February 13, 1944) is an American lawyer and Democratic politician from New York. He has held the office of Speaker of the New York State Assembly since 1994. Sheldon Silver 民主党人,现为纽约州议会议长。

c. Dean G. Skelos, a Republican who is the Senate majority leader—Dean G. Skelos (born on February 16, 1948) is an American politician and the Republican Temporary President and Majority Leader of the New York State Senate. Dean G. Skelos 共和党人,现为纽约州参议院多数党领袖。

13. Mr. Cuomo has a . . . view of the state's history—库默先生在谈及纽约州的历史时充满激情,但也不时流露出怀旧的情绪。

14. the New York State Legislature—纽约州立法机关

15. Citizens Budget Commission—公民预算委员会

The Citizens Budget Commission is a nonpartisan, nonprofit civic organization that attempts to influence constructive change in the finances and services of New York City and New York State government.

16. like his support. . . expanding abortion rights—比如他对同性婚姻、扩大堕胎权利的支持

a. same-sex marriage—同性婚姻

b. abortion rights—妇女堕胎权利

美国民主党和共和党之间存在一些不同的观点。许多民主党人认为妇女都应该有选择生殖与否的权利,无需政府的干涉。他们主张每个妇女,都有权利依据自己良心判断堕胎是否道德。大多数共和党人都反对堕胎,反对同性婚姻合法化。

17. the Capitol—美国国会大厦。The United States Capitol is the meeting place of the United States Congress, the legislature of the Federal government of the United States. Located in Washington, D. C. (华盛顿特区), it sits atop Capitol Hill at the eastern end of the National Mall.

18. and both leaders. . . in their remarks—and both leaders expressed their cooperation in their speech.

19. He cast the issue. . . a moral one—He pointed out that the issue was an economic as well as moral one. 他指出这既是经济问题,也是道德问题。

20. “Don't put other. . . some people jobs,”—Putting other people in youth prisons should not be taken as a chance to offer jobs to some people.

21. the fall elections—此处指美国中期选举(Midterm Election),它一般在选举年11月的第一个星期二举行,此时正值秋季。

中期选举是指每 4 年一次的美国总统选举结束两年后举行的美国大选（因其临近 4 年总统任期的时间中点，所以称为中期选举），美国国会成员会在中期选举中改选，包括众议院的 435 个席位及在参议院 100 个席位里 33 或者 34 个完整任期的席位。

在 2010 年 11 月举行的中期选举中，奥巴马所属的民主党失去众议院多数地位，仅以微弱优势保住参议院多数。在州一级的选举中，共和党的胜利更具压倒性。有 19 个州的议会倒向共和党，目前该党至少掌握了 50 个州中的 29 个州长宝座以及 25 个州中的上下两院。

22. Nassau County—a suburban county on Long Island, east of New York City in the U. S. state of New York, within the New York Metropolitan Area.
23. the state of the state—here refers to the State of the State address 此处指的是州情咨文
24. In government. . . to acknowledge it—You can never solve a problem if you refuse to acknowledge it, whether it is a government problem or a personal problem.

Questions

1. When did Gov. Andrew Cuomo assume office?
2. What is the new governor's attitude towards taxes?
3. What is the relationship between Andrew Cuomo and Bill Clinton?
4. Paragraph 8 describes one of his PowerPoint slides. What do you think the slide signifies?
5. Describe the different responses to his plan.
6. Please comment on the sentence “An incarceration program is not an employment program.”

Useful Phrases and Expressions

call for 要求

face up to 正视,勇敢地面对
lay out 筹划,设计,安排
put it simply 简单地说
in line with... 跟...一致,符合,按照
bring sth. under control 使...处于控制中
set aside 留出(钱、时间等)
have... in common with... 与...有共同之处