



世界名校

(英) 牛津大学

新编

大学英语阅读

4

系列教程

COLLEGE ENGLISH READING SERIES



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哈尔滨工程大学出版社

新编大学英语阅读系列教程

New College English Reading Series

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第四册

哈尔滨工程大学出版社

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新编大学英语阅读系列教程(第四册)

责任编辑 徐达山

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哈尔滨工业大学出版社出版发行

哈尔滨市南通大街145号 哈工业大学11号楼

发行部电话:(0451)2519328 邮编:150001

新华书店经销

哈尔滨工业大学印刷厂印刷

*

开本 850mm×1168mm 1/32 印张 6.3125 字数 206千字

2000年8月第1版

2000年8月第1次印刷

印数:1~10 000册

ISBN 7-81073-057-6

H·8 (全书四册)定价:32.00元

前 言

《新编大学英语阅读系列教程》是国内十几所大专院校的英语教师在总结历年来参加国家大学英语四、六级考试基础上,根据国家教委最新下发的 2000 年实行新英语教学大纲关于四、六级考试文件精神,针对学生的实际水平和备考需要精心编写而成。

本教程的编写原则是在国家《大学英语教学大纲》和新文件要求的新题型规定范围内严格按照各级各类考试的模式设计的。

本书的宗旨是从学生一入学就开始正规训练,即达到提高英语语言的目的,加快阅读速度,又能顺利适应二、三、四级统考的要求,删除繁文褥节,系统地掌握统考规律,准确应试。

在统考的项目中,英语阅读占 40 分,为最大分值,它是考试的基础,失此过关就无从谈起。那么如何才能顺利通过呢?我们感到在学生掌握各级基本词汇和短语的同时,再配以适量和相宜程度的阅读文章是关键所在。而难点恰在阅读材料的相宜度上。以此为出发点,本教程分四级编写,每级的词汇严格控制在该级的要求范围内,对个别超纲词汇和文中难点做出注释。从发展的角度看,第四级文章的选择包含了大纲增加的 800 词汇。

本教程一至三级每级为 18 个单元,四级为 16 个单元。每单元 5 篇文章。前 4 篇文章每篇 6 个问题,包括 5 项选择题,一个翻译题。每 5 篇文章设 5 个简答题。各级文章力求选取可读性和趣味性,词汇积极,题材广泛,忠实于原文而又在其它教课书中少见的作品。各级间配合得当,前后呼应,梯度适中。

每个单元可供一次测试之用,即可在课内使用也可由学生参

照书后答案自测。

本教程虽经 30 几位教师的多方努力,紧密协作,但由于编写时间仓促,有很多不完善之处尚待广大使用者指导,以便修改,更好地为读者服务。

编者

2000.5

CONTENTS

Unit 1	1
Unit 2	11
Unit 3	23
Unit 4	34
Unit 5	45
Unit 6	55
Unit 7	67
Unit 8	79
Unit 9	89
Unit 10	100
Unit 11	112
Unit 12	124
Unit 13	136
Unit 14	148
Unit 15	160
Unit 16	171
Keys	182

Unit One

Passage 1

Every artist knows in his heart that he is saying something to the public. Not only does he want to say it well, but he wants it to be something which has not been said before. He hopes the public will listen and understand—he wants to teach them, and he wants them to learn from him.

What visual artists like painters want to teach is easy to make out but difficult to explain, because painters translate their experiences into shapes and colors, not words. They seem to feel that a certain selection of shapes and colors, out of the countless billions possible, is exceptionally interesting for them and worth showing to us. Without their work we should never have noticed these particular shapes and colors, or have felt the delight which they brought to the artist.

Most artists take their shapes and colors from the world of nature and from human bodies in motion and repose their choices indicate that these aspects of the world are worth looking at, that they contain beautiful sights. Contemporary artists might say that they merely choose subjects that provide an interesting pattern, that there is nothing more in it. Yet even they do not choose entirely without reference to the character of their subjects.

If one painter chooses to paint a broken leg and another lake in moonlight, each of them is directing our attention to a certain aspect of the world. Each painter is telling us something, showing us something, emphasizing something—all of which means that, consciously or unconsciously, he is trying to teach us.

New Words :

repose n. 静止

Questions :

1. An artist hopes that the public will _____.
A. understand him and learn from him
B. notice only shapes and colors in his work
C. teach him something
D. believe what he says in his work
2. It is hard to explain what a painter is saying because _____.
A. most painters do not express themselves well
B. a painter uses unusual words and phrases
C. a painter uses shapes and colors instead of words
D. many painters do not say anything
3. A painter chooses certain shapes and colors because he feels that they _____.
A. have been used frequently in the past
B. are easy to work with
C. are worth showing to the public
D. will be most attractive to the public
4. Then writer says that contemporary art contains _____.
A. nothing but meaningless patterns
B. uninteresting aspects of the world
C. subjects chosen partly for their meaning
D. completely meaningless subjects
5. Which of the following is implied but not stated in the passage?
A. A painting is more easily understood than a symphony.
B. Art is merely the arranging of shape and color.
C. Every artist tries to say something to the public.
D. One must look beyond shape and color to find what the artist is saying.

Translate the underlined sentence into Chinese.

Passage 2

What is a collector? After all, people collect a wide variety of things, from the obvious ones like stamps, coins or autographs, to the less common ones, such as beer bottle labels, bus tickets or gramophone-needle tins. The economies of several small countries rely heavily on the sale of colourful stamps. Some collectors spend hours looking through shops for second-hand goods and build up a collection for a few pence per item, while collectors of antiques, fine china or paintings might spend thousands of pounds on a new acquisition. Some people collect as an investment, but most do it for fun. Collecting is basically illogical. If you simply want to listen to Elvis Presley's first record, you can get a copy at most record shops. A collector, however, will want to own an original 1955 disc complete with its original sleeve and label, and will be willing to pay for it. What makes an item valuable? Rarity and condition are the most important factors. A coin or stamp which is worth hundreds in mint condition might be worth only pence in average or poor condition.

What should you collect? Most collectors begin acquiring things which interest them, and as the collection grows, knowledge of the subject grows. If you want your collection to grow in value, it is probably best to avoid things which are sold especially for collectors. Nearly everybody who buys a set of new coins, or stamps will preserve them in perfect condition, so that a mint set will never become rare. The most valuable items are often things which were widely available, but which were usually thrown away after use, such as Coca-Cola bottles or toy cars. An interesting collection can be started very cheaply.

One collector has started a collection of 1950s' and 1960s' ball-point pens ('biros'). At the moment it's worth nothing, but she

predicts it will one day be valuable. Ball-points were widely available, and were made in large range of colours and styles. They were often designed to be thrown away when they were empty. Many people are reluctant to throw away used pens, and put them in a drawer or box, perhaps hoping they might work again one day. So it is possible to find unusual examples, made thirty years ago or more, for nothing. As she says, it's no crazier than collecting barbed wire of the American West, and there's club with its own magazine for barbed-wire collectors.

New Words :

autograph	n.	亲笔签名
gramophone	n.	留声机
antiques	n.	古物,古董
mint	a.	崭新的

Questions :

6. Some small countries _____.
A. collect stamps
B. use stamps to bring money into the country
C. sell only colourful stamps
D. use stamps instead of money
7. In junk shops collectors can buy _____.
A. very expensive items
B. very cheap items
C. expensive items
D. cheap items
8. An item can be valuable if _____.
A. it's seldom found
B. it's in good condition
C. it's in good condition and seldom found
D. none of the above
9. If you want your collection to become more precious _____.
A. you should learn more about it

- B. you should buy things sold especially for collectors
C. you shouldn't buy things in good condition
D. you shouldn't buy things sold especially for collectors
10. 'Coca-Cola bottle. — — .
A. could never be valuable B. is very valuable
C. might become valuable D. could be valuable now

Translate the underlined sentence into Chinese.

Passage 3

Bill Lord isn't waiting for the new millennium to start doing his part to protect the environment. The 61-year-old college professor and retired TV journalist is using today's technology to make a difference right now.

After Lord retired from his job at ABC News, he and his wife, Deborah, built their dream house near a wildlife refuge on the coast of Maine. Despite the state's cold winters, the Lords don't use any fossil fuel to heat their 2 900-square-foot home. And their utility bills average just \$ 12 a month—a hookup fee that the state of Maine will eliminate next year.

The electricity in the Lords' home—which runs everything from their computers to their big-screen TV—is generated by solar panels on the south-facing side of the house. Solar energy also heats water that comes out of the taps in their home. The solar-heating system added about 10% to the overall cost of their home, but the Lords say they benefit from practically free power and the knowledge they are reducing their impact on the environment. Their solar panels also help fuel Lord's electric scooter, which he rides into town to pick up groceries and do other errands.

“Why not make free power from the sun instead of sucking up dead dinosaurs(oil) and putting the burden on the grandchildren to do something about our environmental problems in the future,” said

Lord, a grandfather of five. "We wanted to be part of the solution."

That desire has inspired Americans throughout the nation to change their lifestyles in ways they say improve both their lives and the environment.

New Words:

millennium n. 千年

refuge n. 保护区, 避难所

hookup fee 接线费

scooter n. 脚踏车

errand n. 差事; 使命

dinosaur n. 恐龙

solar panel n. 太阳能电池板

11. What kind of energy do they mostly use?
 - A. fossil fuel
 - B. solar energy
 - C. electricity from the national power station
 - D. petrol
12. They called their house "dream house" since _____.
 - A. it was in the cheapest region of Maine
 - B. it had a beautiful view of the sea
 - C. it was among quiet surroundings
 - D. they could realize their dream of protecting the nature
13. It could be inferred that _____.
 - A. Bill Lord's home must be rather cold in winter
 - B. Their expenses every month must be rather low.
 - C. They led a lonely life there
 - D. They had to live simply since their pension was too limited
14. They wanted to change their lifestyle in that _____.
 - A. their pension was too limited
 - B. they were tired of the life in a big city
 - C. they wanted to do something for the environment

- D. they wanted to welcome the new millennium by the coast
15. With solar heating system installed, _____.
- A. the overall cost of the house won't be higher
- B. they can reduce the influence on the environment
- C. they could benefit from completely free power
- D. they could save much money on monthly expenditure

Translate the underlined sentence into Chinese.

Passage 4

A computer virus has already done a lot of damage, but its potential is even more terrifying. Beginning late Wednesday, computers in dozens of universities and on many military bases began running faster and faster, compiling huge quantities of useless data.

Scientists at the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory suspected a virus and shut their system down. At the University of California at Berkeley, academic research files also began to fill with worthless data and at Stanford Research institute, several computer based projects are now in jeopardy. One project that will now likely have to be scrapped is a multimillion dollar program being developed to test Defense Department software.

All of the researchers say they will be shutting down and isolating their computers from outside sources. They explain that the virus probably entered the computers by means of a network of telephone lines by which thousands of scientists all over the world share information. The virus is a program disguised as a message. Once in the computer, it takes over and gives the computer new instructions. It is believed the virus was entered into the computer network some time ago and was programmed to trigger late Wednesday.

At the Nasa Ames Research Center in Mountain view, California, the virus was noticed late Wednesday night when it began to overtake the CPU, or central processing unit, of the main system.

The virus then occupied the computer's central brains, preventing them from doing the tasks they should have been doing.

The Pentagon says some of its information systems have shown evidence of tampering, also, but the virus did not reach any classified or weapon system files. It now appears the FBI will launch an investigation to try to determine who or what has caused this information invasion.

New Words :

Pentagon n. 五角大楼

jeopardy n. 危险

Questions :

16. It can be inferred from the first paragraph that _____.
 - A. better and faster computers will be developed soon
 - B. all computer viruses can be wiped out in the near future
 - C. the detected virus has damaged all the data in the key institutions
 - D. the virus is likely to do further damage to the computers
17. The virus got into the computers by _____.
 - A. disguising itself as a message
 - B. hiding itself in a disk
 - C. compiling huge quantities of useless data
 - D. overtaking the central processing units
18. Why did some people unhook their computers?
 - A. They wanted to use less electricity.
 - B. They wanted to prevent the virus from entering their computers.
 - C. They did not want other people to share their information.
 - D. They did not want their computers to work all the time.
19. The word "tampering" in the last paragraph means "_____".
 - A. saving

- B. copying
 - C. mark the symbols that represent or constitute a document
 - D. meddle with or make unauthorized changes
20. The computer virus mentioned in the passage begins to do damage _____.
- A. as soon as it enters the computer
 - B. long after it entered the computer
 - C. on Wednesday morning
 - D. at a preprogrammed time

Translate the underlined sentence into Chinese.

Short Answer

AIDS(Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) is a fatal disease that destroys the immune system. More than four out of five AIDS cases in the United States so far have been homosexual or bisexual men or drug users. Not all those who are infected with the AIDS virus, now numbering one and a half million Americans, will develop the disease, but scientists assume that carriers of the virus can spread it to others through sexual intercourse or exchange of blood or other bodily fluids.

Concern about the spread of the disease has brought demands for testing to detect evidence of infection. But proposals for testing have been met with a storm of questions and counterproposals from health officials, advocates of civil rights, and gay right activists. Should testing of people at special risk be voluntary or mandatory? How wide should testing be? What uses will be made of the results? If the secret is disclosed, is there a danger that people discovered to be carriers will lose their jobs, housing, and access to public places?

At a meeting in February 1987, participants in a federally sponsored conference on the control of AIDS agreed that testing should be voluntary and accompanied by safeguards to protect the privacy of

those who are tested. The consensus, however, was ruined by disagreements about definition of terms. One participant pointed out that "mandatory", "routine", "standard", "required" and "confidential" were being used in different ways.

As AIDS claims more victims—by 1991 health officials estimate that more than 50 000 Americans will die of AIDS each year—public anxiety will mount and the demand for mandatory testing and control may grow. State Laws written in the 1920s and 1930s to limit the spread of sexually transmitted diseases may not be adequate to protect against AIDS. But it remains unclear whether new laws requiring mandatory testing would produce sufficient health benefits to justify possible violations of civil rights.

New Words :

virus n. 病毒

AIDS n. 艾滋病

gay n. 同性恋

mandatory a. 强制性的

Questions :

1. What is the passage mainly about?

2. Not every AIDS virus-infected person will _____

3. AIDS testing is demanded because of _____

4. The participants in a conference on the control of AIDS agreed that the testing should be voluntary but they did not agree on _____

5. According to the last paragraph, what remains unsolved about the new laws in 1990s?

Unit Two

Passage 1

Visitors to Britain are sometimes surprised to learn that newspapers there have such a large circulation. The "Daily Mirror" and the "Daily Express" both sell about four million copies every day. British families generally buy a newspaper every morning and frequently take two or three on Sundays.

Apart from the national papers, there is, however, another branch of the British press which sells almost as many copies. Local newspapers have a weekly circulation of 13 million. Almost every town and country area has one. Nearly all of them hold their own financially and many of them are very profitable.

These papers are written almost entirely for readers interested in local events—births, weddings, deaths, council meetings and sports—but the content is naturally influenced by the kind of community they serve. Editors prefer to rely on a small staff of people who all know the district well. A great deal of local news is regularly supplied by clubs and churches in the neighbourhood and it does not get out of date as quickly as national news. If there is no room for it in this week's edition, an item can sometimes be held over until the following week.

The editor must never forget that the success of any newspaper depends on advertising. He is usually anxious to keep the good will of local businessmen for this reason. But if the newspaper is well written and the news items have been carefully chosen to attract local readers, the businessmen are grateful for the opportunity to keep their products in the public eye.

Local newspapers do not often comment on problems of national importance and editors rarely hold with taking sides on political