

Classic Reading Course for College English

大学英语

精品阅读

教程

摆玉萍 陈生梅 编著



兰州大学出版社

LANZHOU UNIVERSITY PRESS

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附赠(97)目录册套书图

作者: 摆玉萍, 陈生梅
ISBN: 7-309-03502-0
兰州大学出版社

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(第1版)



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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

大学英语精品阅读教程/摆玉萍,陈生梅编著. —兰州:
兰州大学出版社, 2007
ISBN 978-7-311-02905-0

I. 大... II. ①摆...②陈... III. 英语—阅读教学
—高等学校—教材 IV. H319.4

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2007)第 009057 号

大学英语精品阅读教程

摆玉萍 陈生梅 编著

兰州大学出版社出版发行

兰州市天水南路 222 号 电话:8912613 邮编:730000

E-mail: press@onbook.com.cn

http://www.onbook.com.cn

兰州大学出版社激光照排中心照排

兰州德辉印刷有限责任公司印刷

开本: 880×1230 1/32 印张: 7.375

2007 年 1 月第 1 版 2007 年 1 月第 1 次印刷
字数: 192 千字 印数: 1~1000 册

ISBN978-7-311-02905-0 定价: 13.80 元

(图书若有破损、缺页可随时与本社联系)

前 言

英语学习离不开阅读,要准确理解或快速获取信息,需要进行大量的阅读实践。多看多读各种体裁、各种风格、尤其是原汁原味的英语文章,就能在熟悉英语单词、短语和句型的同时,增强语感和语言表达能力。多年的大学英语教学实践中,编者深深地感到增强选材的多样性、实用性、趣味性,在体现语言的时代性和对于激发学生的学习兴趣方面尤为重要。因此,在编写过程中,对于文章取舍再三,保留了最具思想性和艺术性的部分。

本教材包括主体、参考答案和参考译文。主体部分体裁广泛、涉猎面广,一共分为 12 个单元,分别是诗歌篇、寓言篇、散文篇、小说篇、戏剧篇、演讲篇、科技篇、财经篇、时政篇、文化篇、应用篇和杂文篇。每个单元包括名人名言、单元简介以及课文三大部分。

名人名言紧密结合单元内容,目的是让学生们欣赏大师们的传世之言,有意无意间掌握纯正的英语表达。对此方面感兴趣的学生还可以将其背诵下来。

单元简介部分是对各单元所选材料的简要介绍,旨在方便教师讲授和学生学习。

课文部分包括引言、课文、词汇和短语、注释和练习,个别课文由于文体和内容的需要,又附加了文章赏析的栏目,以利于文章的理解。

本教材主要有以下特点:

1. 文章体裁的多样性

本教材的选材非常广泛。包括诗歌、小说、散文、寓言、戏剧等。选材十分注重文章的经典性,使非英语专业的学生能够接触到一些源

远流长、经久不衰的英语语言文学佳作。考虑到非英语专业学生的英语水平和学习能力,有些内容只是原著的节选。

2. 文章蕴含的哲理性、思想性和文化性

本教材中的大部分文章都蕴含一定的哲理性、思想性。这些文章能够引发学生的思考,激发出人内心深处最为真挚和纯洁的情感,从而引起学生思想上的共鸣。语言是文化的载体,我们学习语言,目的是与世界各国的人们进行交流,汲取人类思想文化的精华,所以笔者在选材时尤为注重文章的文化性。本教材还选取了一些其他学科的资料,尤其是与人们生活关系密切的政治、经济类文章。目的是扩大学生们的知识面,让他们掌握我们身边的各种知识在英语中的表达,并在学习语言的同时,能够吸收其他一些人类科学发展的知识。

3. 语言的规范性和实用性

语言的规范性是我们在选材时十分注重的一个问题。虽然选材有难有易,但是我们在每一单元对选材的语言特点都做了介绍,使学生能接触到原汁原味的语言。但第9单元时政篇的第二篇文章和第11单元的全部文章均为翻译稿,这主要是由于考虑到所涉及的内容具有很强的实用性。

4. 练习的灵活性和趣味性

不同体裁和内容的文章,应该有不同的练习模式。针对每篇文章的语言特色和思想内容,我们设计了一些思想性和趣味性较强的练习,目的是使学生对练习产生新的预期,从而提高其学习兴趣和语言应用能力。练习的设计比较独特,部分练习结合写作进行,写作题目与课文内容结合,实现配套学习的目的。

本教材可作为非英语专业大学一、二年级的泛读教材,以及各种非英语专业和英语专业本科生和研究生的补充读物,为此特地配了汉语译文。而且本教材对于篇章的解释也比较详细,适于自学者使用。

总之,本教材是作者在长期教学过程中不断沉淀和积累后的精

心之作,是一本适合西部学生们的阅读教材。其中大部分内容已经进行过课堂讲授,深受学生的喜爱和欢迎。在学期末的问卷调查中,学生普遍反映这些材料对于提高其英语学习兴趣起到了积极的作用。

本教材系兰州大学第五批重点课程建设项目之——“大学英语阅读课程建设方案”的成果。在编写和出版过程中,得到了兰州大学教务处的全力协助和支持,在此表示衷心的感谢。

由于编者水平有限,书中若有纰漏与不当之处,恳请各位同仁及学生提出批评指正。

编者

2006年9月

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Unit 1 Poems



A great poem is a fountain forever
overflowing with the waters of wisdom and
delight.

—P. B. Shelly (Britain)

伟大的诗篇是永远喷涌出智慧和快乐的泉水。

——雪莱.P.B.(英国)

A poet is a man who puts up a ladder to a star and
climbs it while playing a violin.

—Concourt (France)

诗人是这样的人,他架起通向星星的梯子,
一边爬梯子一边拉小提琴。——龚古尔(法国)

1

诗歌不仅是一种语言中最精粹的部分,而且如马修·阿诺德所云:“诗乃人心之精髓;诗人正视生活,并观其全貌。”英语诗歌的历史源远流长,从荷马史诗开始,出现过莎士比亚、拜伦、雪莱、惠特曼、艾米莉·狄金森等璀璨夺目的诗人和浩如烟海的优美的诗歌艺术作品。品味含义隽永、语言优美的英文诗歌,就如同在炎热的夏季啜饮一杯冰爽的佳酿,意味深长,酣畅淋漓。

好的诗歌将丰盈的想像力、强烈的感情、敏锐的观察以及精细而真实的刻画有机地结合起来,将感情和理智融合在一起。按诗的性质来讲,不外乎“言志”和“缘情”,优秀诗作大都兼而有之。诗的特征是用形象化手段(如我国历来诗论中阐述的比兴,

西方诗论中剖析的意象、象征和隐喻等)加上尾韵、头韵、排比、对比、转折与衬托等修辞法,构成精妙的意境。至于诗的风格,从传统来讲也不外乎两类,即我国历代诗话所谓豪放与婉约,西方诗论概括的崇高(the sublime)和秀美(the beautiful)。当然,真正的诗人各有其独创的风格。

读诗需要用你的耳朵去读,去感受诗歌的乐律、节奏;需要用你的眼睛去读,去感受诗里的诗情画意;更需要用你的大脑去读,去领会诗情画意下的深刻思想内涵;需要用你的心去读,体察作者的心情,是欢快还是忧伤,是激动还是愤慨,是批评还是赞美等等。

1.1 Little Stone

Introduction

How do you feel whenever you see a little stone? Probably you might say that you don't feel much. Read the short and profound poem of Emily Dickenson below, you may feel differently next time you see an ordinary little stone.

Little Stone

Emily Dickenson

How happy is the little stone
That *rambles* in the road alone
And doesn't care about *careers*
And *exigencies* never fears—
Whose coat of *elemental* brown

A passing universe puts on,
And independent as the sun
Associates or *glows* alone
Fulfilling *absolute decree*
In *casual simplicity*

Key Words

ramble['ræmbl] *v.* 漫游

career[kə'riə] *n.* (原意:道路,轨道)事业,生涯,速度

exigency['eksɪdʒənsɪ] *n.* 紧急,紧急事件

elemental[,eli'mentl] *adj.* 基本的或本质的;基础的

glow[gləʊ] *vi.* 发光,发热

absolute['æbsəlu:t] *adj.* 完全的,绝对的

decree[dɪ'kri:] *n.* 法令,政令,教令,天命,判决

casual['kæʒuəl] *adj.* 偶然的,不经意的,临时的

simplicity[sɪm'plɪsɪti] *n.* 简单,简易,朴素,直率

Notes

1. About the author

艾米莉·狄金森(Emily Dickenson, 1830—1886), 美国抒情女诗人, 意象派诗歌的先驱之一, 被誉为美国现代派诗歌的鼻祖。她生前写过一千七百多首无标题短诗(标题为出版时后人所加, 一般为原诗的首句), 当时不为人知, 死后声名大噪。她诗风独特, 近乎婉约, 以文字细腻、感情真挚、意象突出、清新自然而著称。艺术风格倾向于微观, 内省。多涉及自然、宗教、爱情、死亡与永生等题材, 体现了朴素的自然美、新颖的意象美与不拘一格的音韵美。

2. 尾韵(Rhyme)

这首小诗读起来琅琅上口, 细心的读者可能已经发现, 与汉语诗歌一样, 英文诗歌也有押韵现象, 即尾韵(rhyme), 指词尾音素重复,

例如:本诗中的stone与alone; careers与fears; brown与on; decree与simplicity。

Exercises

1. In today's materialistic world, most people worry excessively about their careers and exigencies. Since a little stone has no such concerns, it rambles alone happily in the road. Can you learn something from the little stone? If so, what is it?
2. From the poem, we know the little stone is not as ordinary as it seems to be, for it is as independent as the sun, it fulfills absolute decree, and a passing universe puts on its coat of elemental brown, yet it does these all in a casual, simple way. What, do you think, is the implication of this ordinary, yet great little stone?
3. Find out the rhyming words in the following poem.

Infant Sorrow

William Blake

My mother groaned! My father wept.
Into the dangerous world I leapt,
Helpless, naked, piping loud;
Like a friend hid in a cloud.

Struggling in my father's hands,
Striving against my swaddling bands;
Bound and weary I thought best,
To sulk upon my mother's breast.

4. Writing: The poem is short, but you may have difficulty understanding it because of some words. Please rewrite the poem by replacing those words with some simple ones you know according to the word list, which might help you remember the poem. And if you can, recite the

poem.

1.2 Do You Fear the Wind

Introduction

Have you ever thought about fighting against the wind and the rain to make yourself strong and determined? Maybe this short poem can give you some hints.

Do You Fear the Wind

Hamlin Garland

Do you fear the force of the wind,
The *slash* of the rain?
Go face them and fight them,
Be *savage* again.
Go hungry and cold like the wolf,
Go *wade* like the crane?
The *palms* of your hands will thicken,
The skin of your cheeks will *tan*,
You'll grow *ragged* and *weary* and *swarthy*,
But you'll walk like a man!

Key words

slash[slæʃ] *n.* 抽打

savage['sævidʒ] *adj.* 野蛮的, 凶猛的

wade[weɪd] *vi.* 跋涉

crane[kreɪn] *n.* 鹤

palm[pɑ:m] *n.* 手掌

tan[tæn] *v.* 晒黑, 晒成褐色

ragged['ræɡɪd] *adj.*粗糙的

weary['wiəri] *adj.*疲倦的, 厌倦的

swarthy['swɔ:ði] *adj.*黑黝黝的, 浅黑的

Note

哈姆林·加兰(Hamlin Garland, 1860—1940), 生于威斯康星州。早年曾在爱阿华州和南达科他州居住, 中学毕业后赴波士顿, 决心描写他所熟悉的地区。这首诗注重格律, 讲究韵脚, 充满激情地鼓励人们要拼搏、奋斗, 是历来传唱的经典之一。

Appreciation of the poem

这首诗的赏析重点在于修辞和语言, 诗人反复使用明喻(simile)手法, 即明显地打比方, 在本体和喻体之间运用显而易见的喻词, 如 like, as, as if, as though 等等, 作为本体和喻体之间的媒介。这种比喻能够把本体更加生动形象地表现出来, 例如: be like a fox; as sly as a fox。本诗语言简练, 韵律简洁流畅, 充满了鼓舞性和挑战性, 不愧是一篇精品。

Exercises

1. Write one or two phrases of simile by using the following words.
busy(bee) light(feather) cold(ice) cheerful(lark)
blind(bat) cool(cucumber) foolish(donkey)
2. Underline the words that indicate simile in the following sentences and remember them.
 - 1) We can compare wealth to water, the more we drink, and the more we feel thirsty. Reputation is also like that.
 - 2) My love is like a red, red rose.
 - 3) Life is like a box of chocolates. You never know what you are going to get.

1.3 Solitude

Introduction

It is inevitable that sometimes we feel lonely in life. However, you can learn something from this beautiful and thought-provoking poem to know more about solitude and find ways to overcome your loneliness. In a word, sadness does you no good and it is laugh that makes you go on in life and that makes the earth go around.

Solitude

Ella Wheeler Wilcox

Laugh, and the world laughs with you
Weep, and you weep alone
For the sad old earth must borrow its *mirth*
But has trouble enough of its own
Sing, and the hills will answer
Sigh, it is lost on the air
The echoes *bound* to a joyful sound
But *shrink* from voicing care.

Rejoice, and men will seek you
Grieve, and they turn and go
They want full measure of all your pleasure
But they do not need your *woe*
Be glad, and your friends are many
Be sad, and you lose them all
There are none to *decline* your *nectared* wine

But alone you must drink life's *gall*

Feast, and your halls are crowded

Fast, and the world goes by

Succeed and give, and it helps you live

But no man can help you die

For there is room in the halls of pleasure

For a large and *lordly* train

But one by one we must all *file* on

Through the narrow *aisle* of pain

Key Words

mirth[mɜ:θ] *n.* 欢笑, 高兴

bound[baund] *v.* 跳跃

shrink[ʃrɪŋk] *v.* 收缩, (使) 皱缩, 缩短

rejoice[ri'dʒɔis] *v.* (使) 欣喜, (使) 高兴, 喜悦

grieve[ɡri:v] *v.* (使) 悲痛, (使) 伤心, 忧伤

woe[wəu] *n.* 悲哀

decline[di'klaɪn] *v.* 婉拒

nectared['nektəd] *adj.* 有花蜜的, 甘美的

gall[ɡɔ:l] *n.* 胆汁

feast[fi:st] *v.* 盛宴, 筵席

fast[fɑ:st] *vi.* 绝食, 斋戒

lordly['lɔ:dlɪ] *adj.* 贵族的, 气派的

file[faɪl] *vi.* 列队行进,

aisle[aɪl] *n.* 走廊, 过道