

• 研究生教学用书 •

研究生英语

读写佳境

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QUALITY PERFORMANCE IN READING & WRITING



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前 言

新 编研究生英语教程《读写佳境》(Quality Performance in Reading & Writing)是依照《非英语专业研究生英语教学大纲》的要求,结合目前英语教与学的大趋势以及非英语专业研究生的具体情况编写而成的。本教程内容新颖,题材广泛,语言规范而生动;每一单元自成一体,并着力确保 Text A 与 Text B 在内容和语言风格上的一致,使学生每学完一单元就能有所得益,有所感悟而渐入佳境。

本教程在选材、编排时尽可能避免难易程度的突兀变化,力求循序渐进,难易得当;所编写的练习也尽量去芜存精,而又不失其主旨功能,真正让人教得“舒服”,学得“轻松”,从而调动教与学双方的积极性和主观能动性。

本教程的另一特点是它的实用性。无论是本书所选取的内容、配制的练习,还是实用写作的编排,都无不体现了这一宗旨。学生可以此为契机,举一反三,学以致用。另外值得一提的是本教程中的 Leisure Reading 和 Bilingual Reading 两部分内容。它们以英语习语和经典名篇为切入点,或轻巧,或优美,或凝重,旨在唤起学生学好英语、完善英语的兴趣。

在编写过程中,我们得到了苏州大学外国语学院几位专家、教授的热心帮助和苏州大学研究生处、外国语学院、苏州大学出版社给予的大力支持。在此,编者一并表示衷心的感谢。

编 者

2006 年 5 月于苏州

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Unit 1

Text A

Warming-up

A. Complete the survey below. Then share your answers with a partner. What Kind of Traveler Are You?

1. How often do you go on trips abroad?
A) Once a year. B) A few times a year. C) When I can afford it.
2. How often do you travel around your own country?
A) Once a year. B) A few times a year. C) When I can afford it.
3. Who do you like to travel with?
A) Alone or with a friend or partner.
B) Family.
C) A big group of friends.
4. How do you like to travel?
A) In comfort.
B) I like to figure it out myself.
C) On an organized package tour.
5. Which of the following is the primary reason you go on vacation?
A) Rest and relaxation.
B) Education and cultural learning.
C) Adventure.
D) Spend time with family and friends.
6. How do you usually pay for your vacation?
A) Max out my credit card.
B) Find the cheapest way to get there and budget carefully.
C) Spend no more than a couple of weeks' salary.
D) Save all year for my big trip.

B. Read the following descriptions from the back covers of travel guidebooks. Which type of travelers are they intended for?

1. The world's most beautiful guidebooks—full-color photography on every page, plus poetry and art from the indigenous people.
2. Double rooms for only \$20, three-course meals for just \$5—who says travel has to be pricy? We'll help you get top value for your vacation dollar, every time!
3. Outdoor fun, kid-friendly museums, lots of rainy-day sights to see—even hotels that offer baby-sitting. You'll find it all here!
4. All the essential facts you need for a productive stay, with suggestions to help you make the most of your leisure hours.
5. Don't follow the crowd—follow us, to pristine rain forests, wild rivers, and remote mountain villages where life hasn't changed in centuries.
6. For those who appreciate the finer things in life. We share inside tips, hot new discoveries, and the very best localities for everything you're looking for.

Canaima—Eco-tours with Angels and Devils

1 I threw my bags into the back, went around to the passenger side, and slid into the front seat. Moments later the wheels started turning and our journey to Canaima National Park began. We climbed to a cruising altitude of around 5,000 feet. At this height, the jungle looked like a gigantic green carpet, except for the red rivers snaking through it. Our pilot followed the path of the Churún River, and as it approached the edge of the mesa, the plane took a dramatic dive along the trajectory of the mighty Angel Falls—the longest waterfall in the world—as it plummeted down into Devil's Canyon.

2 A half hour later, we landed on a dirt strip alongside six mud huts that constitute the Pemon Indian village of Uruyen. As the trip continued, I became increasingly amazed at the lack of tourists. Nowhere was it more surprising than in Devil's Canyon, the principal vantage point at the base of the 3,200-foot (about 975 meters) Angel Falls. It was one of the most awe-inspiring sights I have ever beheld, but almost equally incredulous was the fact that we were the only ones there!

3 How could this be? After all, you can barely move for crowds even on overcast days at Niagara. Canaima's remoteness is one reason; there is no road access so

you must charter a flight from Puerto Ordaz, a one-hour journey from the Venezuelan capital of Caracas. Flights are limited and the trip is expensive. Another major factor is that until recently, the Venezuelan government did not promote tourism to Canaima and Angel Falls. Of the few tourists who come here, most fly directly into Canaima village, which gives easiest access to the Falls via a three-hour boat ride, and a moderately challenging two-hour hike.

4 The tour operators at Angel eco-tours take an interesting approach in that they emphasize the park and its people more than Angel Falls. In doing so, they create an experience that I found to be truly unique. This is in large part due to the close interaction we had with the Pemon Indians, to whom Angel eco-tours donates 5 percent of its earnings. In previous stays at indigenous villages, I had often gotten significantly to the sense that tourists were well received primarily because they contribute significantly to the village's income. But the Pemon are extremely gracious hosts. From the moment we arrived, it was clear that they were genuinely excited to share their culture and learn about us.

5 We slept in their huts, played soccer with them, tried traditional dishes such as cassava bread dipped in a beetle-based hot sauce, and even learned a few phrases in the Pemon language (although most speak at least some Spanish). My fondest memory is of spending an evening watching three generations of Pemon, decked out in their traditional garb, perform a ceremonial dance. The show became increasingly amusing as Pemon and tourists alike drank more and more of their homemade cassava beer. Our inhibitions quickly disappeared and before we knew it, we were dancing alongside the Pemon.

6 Through our interactions with the Pemon, we gained a very special understanding of the land they inhabit. They were our guides on hiking excursions, bringing us to some of the most sacred spots. These included caves with eerie rock formations resembling human faces, towering waterfalls where we swam underneath the powerful spray, a spot in the river that formed a natural Jacuzzi, and a riverbank with pink sandstone that can be used for natural facials. As we walked through the forest, they pointed out the many trees and plants that they use for medicinal or ceremonial purposes. Given the other-worldliness of the park, I was not surprised to hear that a large number of the flora, including several carnivorous plant varieties, are endemic to the region.

7 The Pemon also introduced us to their system of beliefs and spirituality. I had

heard that the planet's major energy meridians, which connect spiritual centers such as Machupicchu and Stonehenge, all run through Canaima. After a few days, I didn't doubt it. Nearly everyone in our group reported having extremely lucid dreams. Mysteries seemed commonplace; the sky at night constantly flickered with lightning, although there was never any thunder or rain. Supposedly, there are more UFO sightings here than anywhere in the world. Sightings or not, by the end of the trip, everyone in the group felt that their batteries had been totally recharged.

8 As much as I found the trip exhilarating, I would not say it is for everyone. Eco-tourism means responsible, low-impact travel, and generally involves some degree of "roughing-it". This trip is no exception. Three of the five nights were spent in hammocks, which did not suit everyone's natural contours. You must not be averse to sun, sweat, mosquitoes, or bathing in rivers with little or no privacy. At \$1,500 per person for the week-long trip it's an excellent deal, but still prohibitively expensive for some people. If you can afford it, and don't mind a few ants in your pants, this trip will provide you with incredibly unique experience that I guarantee you will never forget.

Words & Expressions to Watch

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| cruising altitude | height at which airplanes travel |
| mesa <i>n.</i> | Spanish word meaning "plateau"; a flat-topped mountain |
| trajectory <i>n.</i> | moving path |
| plummet <i>v.</i> | fall or drop straight downward; plunge |
| strip <i>n.</i> | a runway for the take-off or landing of air planes; landing strip |
| vantage point | strategic or advantageous position for viewing something |
| awe-inspiring <i>a.</i> | (also) awe-struck, filled with awe |
| behold <i>v.</i> | see |
| charter <i>v.</i> | hire or lease by charter or charter party; hire for exclusive use |
| hike <i>v.</i> | take a long, vigorous journey esp. through the country |
| donate <i>v.</i> | give, esp. to some philanthropic or religious cause; contribute |
| indigenous <i>a.</i> | existing, growing, or produced naturally in a region or country |
| gracious <i>a.</i> | having or showing kindness, courtesy, charm, etc. |
| cassava <i>n.</i> | 木薯 |

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| deck <i>v.</i> | cover or clothe with finery or ornaments; adorn; trim |
| garb <i>n.</i> | distinctive clothing |
| inhibition <i>n.</i> | anything that inhibits; esp. , a mental or psychological process that restrains or suppresses an action, emotion, or thought |
| excursion <i>n.</i> | short journey as for pleasure |
| eerie <i>a.</i> | mysterious, uncanny, or weird, esp. in such a way as to frighten or disturb |
| Jacuzzi <i>n.</i> | (trade mark, also Jacuzzi bath) “极可意” 漩水浴缸 |
| flora <i>n.</i> | the plants of a specified region or time; the goddess of flowers |
| carnivorous <i>a.</i> | flesh-eating; insect-eating, as certain plants |
| endemic <i>a.</i> | native to a particular country, nation, or region |
| meridian <i>n.</i> | inside line or circle on the earth's surface that passes through certain points |
| lucid <i>a.</i> | bright; shining; transparent |
| flicker <i>v.</i> | move with a quick, light, wavering motion |
| exhilarating <i>a.</i> | making cheerful, merry, or lively |
| hammock <i>n.</i> | lounger or bed made of netting, supported at each end usually by a tree |
| contour <i>n.</i> | the outline of a figure, mass, land etc. |
| averse (to) <i>a.</i> | not willing or inclined; reluctant; opposed |
| prohibitively <i>ad.</i> | causing something to be impossible |
| as much as | however; although |

Notes

- 1 This text is adapted from *Canaima: Where Angels and Devils Collide* by Brad Weiss 2001.
- 2 the Churún River: 丘伦河[委内瑞拉]
- 3 Niagara: 尼亚加拉
- 4 Puerto Ordaz: 奥尔达斯港[委内瑞拉]
- 5 Caracas: 加拉加斯
- 6 Machu picchu: 马丘比丘 the site of an ancient Incan(印加) and pre-Incan city, about 7,000 feet above level in the Andes, in South Central Peru
- 7 Stonehenge: 巨石阵(英国南部索尔兹伯里附近的一处史前巨石建筑遗址)

Exercises

Comprehension

A. Discuss the following questions.

1. Why are there not too many tourists who visit Canaima National Park?
2. Where are Devil's Canyon and Angle Falls?
3. How does the writer consider the trip to Canaima?
4. What does the eco-tour emphasize?
5. What do tourists enjoy at Canaima?
6. What does the writer describe as evidence of Canaima's spiritual energy?
7. Why does the writer think that this eco-tour is not for everyone?
8. Would you like to go on the eco-tour described in the reading? Why or why not?
9. Are there any monuments or natural sites in your country that are being damaged by mass tourism? What kind of damages being inflicted on these places? What is being done to protect them? Do you think it is enough for the present endeavor?
10. The year 2002 was designated as the International Year of Eco-tourism by the United Nations. Do you know of any special events or promotions for eco-tourism that were held in your country?
11. Do you think it is possible for mass tourism to coexist with environmental conservation? If so, how is it possible? If not, what can be done to change this situation?

B. Match the type of travelers with the definitions below.

- a. make frequent short trips, and may have little time to see the sights. They require efficiency and comfort.
- b. travel together with their spouse and children, and look for safe destinations and activities that all ages can enjoy together.
- c. want "only the best"—the most elegant hotels, the most succulent meals, the most exclusive shops. Expense is not a concern.
- d. enjoy reading about travel as a hobby. Many never actually use the guide-book to take a trip.