

■ 新概念英语（新版）自学辅导丛书

新概念英语

NEW CONCEPT ENGLISH

同步阅读妙语短篇精选

Practice for Reading Comprehension

4

易学通英语工作室 编

Fluency in English
流利英语



中国水利水电出版社

www.waterpub.com.cn

■ 新概念英语（新版）自学辅导丛书

新概念英语

4

NEW CONCEPT ENGLISH

同步阅读妙语短篇精选

Practice for Reading Comprehension

流利英语

Fluency in English

易学通英语工作室 主编

编委：顾玉梅 孙楠 陈北平 苏玲

胡秀梅 胡后伦 王海涛 张薇



中国水利水电出版社
www.waterpub.com.cn

内容提要

英语阅读能力的提高离不开大量的泛读。《新概念英语》原教材中的课文结构严谨、语法点丰富,非常适合学生做精读训练,但有限的几篇课文是无法满足广泛的阅读需求的。为此,本书精选了各式文章,内容编排完全与《新概念英语4》原教材的结构设计同步,学习者在学完课文后就可以直接进行相应的阅读拓展训练。书中所选文章不仅在难度和词汇量上基本和教材课文保持一致,还配有大量的阅读理解试题,用来测试阅读效果,同时也可帮助学习者熟悉并适应各种英语试卷的模式。除此之外,每篇文章的最后还给出了难点词汇、习语的解释,以及试题的答案与解析供学习者参考。

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

新概念英语(4)同步阅读妙语短篇精选/易学通英语工作室编. —北京:中国水利水电出版社,2006
(新概念英语(新版)自学辅导丛书)
ISBN 7-5084-3968-6

I.新... II.易... III.英语—阅读教学—自学参考资料 IV.H319.4

中国版本图书馆CIP数据核字(2006)第085602号

书名	新概念英语(新版)自学辅导丛书 新概念英语4同步阅读妙语短篇精选
作者	易学通英语工作室 编
出版发行	中国水利水电出版社(北京市三里河路6号 100044) 网址: www.waterpub.com.cn E-mail: sales@waterpub.com.cn 电话: (010) 63202266(总机) 68331835(营销中心)
经售	全国各地新华书店和相关出版物销售网点
排版	三原色工作室
印刷	北京市兴怀印刷厂
规格	787mm×1092mm 16开本 14.75印张 356千字
版次	2006年9月第1版 2006年9月第1次印刷
印数	0001—5000册
定价	25.00元

凡购买我社图书,如有缺页、倒页、脱页的,本社营销中心负责调换
版权所有·侵权必究

编写说明

英语阅读能力训练向来是中国学生学习的重点，同时也是各种英语考试的测试重点，分数比重最高达 45%。学习《新概念英语》的读者一边为教材中短小精悍、丰富幽默的短文赞叹不已，同时也感觉到靠有限的几篇课文是无法满足广泛的阅读需求的。教材中的各种文章结构比较严谨，语法点丰富，非常适合学生做精读训练，掌握各种句法结构。但英语阅读能力的提高离不开大量的泛读。适量和适度的泛读不但可以帮助学习者巩固精读过程中学习到的各种知识点，同时还可以拓展学习者的知识和视野，提高英语语感，为提高英语考试成绩奠定良好的基础。

“新概念英语同步阅读妙语短篇系列”图书的编写正是基于以上思路完成的。编者在从事《新概念英语》的教学过程中，除了指导学生进行正常的课文学习外，还给学生提供了大量课外阅读的素材，收到了非常好的教学效果。本系列图书中的大部分文章就是编者在执教过程中不断收集和整理的。

本系列图书的内容编排完全与教材的结构设计同步，学习者在学习完课文后就可以直接进行相应的阅读拓展训练。书中所精选的各式文章不仅在难度和词汇量上基本和教材课文保持一致，还配有大量的阅读理解试题，作为检测学习者的阅读效果，同时也是帮助学习者熟悉并适应各种英语试卷的模式。除此之外，每篇文章的最后还给出了难点词汇及习语的解释，供学习者参考。

本书编者希望能与所有使用《新概念英语》的学习者共同就学习方法进行探讨，欢迎感兴趣的学习者写信到：

easyenglish@sina.com 或 easystart@163.com

我们期待着您的关注和参与，并祝您的英语学习之路——

一帆风顺！

编者

2006年7月

于大连

致英语学习者

► 学习英语为什么要选择《新概念英语》

英国著名英语教育专家路易·乔治·亚历山大（L. G. Alexander）先生与北京外国语大学何其莘教授联合编写的《新概念英语》是完全针对中国学生英语学习特点而编写的一套英语教材，侧重于听、说、读、写四种语言技能的综合训练，注重实际运用能力；语言活泼，趣味性强。自出版以来，《新概念英语》以其严密的体系性、严谨的科学性、精湛的实用性、浓郁的趣味性深受广大英语学习者的青睐。

这套教材语言最大的特点就是往往看似平淡无奇的常用词准确而传神地表达了丰富的意象。亚历山大先生在课文的甄选和编排上表现出了深湛的功力和慧眼卓识。这些课文文思兼优、雅俗共赏，难度由浅入深，篇幅由短到长，层层递进，有条不紊。

教材中所选文章一般以幽默故事为主，适应了不同专业、爱好的学习者的阅读口味。这些课文的题材是相当广泛的，涉及社会、政治、人物、艺术、考古、科技和自然等方方面面。各篇课文的语言风格大体一致，即便是科技类文章，行文也是活泼生动的，没有多少刻板的学究气。课文不仅宜于阅读，而且还可以作为学习写作的良好范本。

► 《新概念英语》4 的学习重点

第四册教材涵盖了文化、经济、哲学、艺术、体育、政治、美学、心理学、社会学、伦理学、教育学、天文学等三十多个学科门类，语言文字精美独到，句型结构复杂多变而又不失简洁酣畅。同时诸多文章里蕴含着深厚的哲思、美学及西方文化中独特的思维方式，这使得该教材成为每一位欲掌握英语语言精华的学习者不可多得、不可不学的读物。同时将扩充、辨析有关的词汇，使学习者在领略语言优美的同时，学会如何将英语、汉语进行自由切换。

► 《新概念英语》4 的读者对象

高级英语学习者——

☞ 已经学完《新概念英语》第二册、第三册或任何中高级英语教程的英语学习者

- ☞ 已经具备一定英文基础的成人英语自学者
- ☞ 在工作中经常使用英语，需进一步提高英语综合能力素质的高级管理者
- ☞ 将自己的英语水平再提高一个层次，美化英语语言的学习者
- ☞ 计划参加 CET-6、考研、GRE、MAT 考试并作长期准备者
- ☞ 高级英语培训班的学员
- ☞ 参加 PETS 五级考试的考生
- ☞ 欲全方位提高超难文章阅读理解水平和翻译写作能力的高级英语学习者

▶ 《新概念英语》4 的学习目标

学完第四册后能够达到的水平——

- ☞ 熟练掌握各门学科，如历史、人文、天文、地理、哲学、化学、物理等，所需的中高级词汇
- ☞ 告别空洞的问候式英语口语，为日常交流提供地道的人文背景
- ☞ 深刻的了解西方文化中的三大主线：哲学、宗教及美学
- ☞ 获得解读深奥英语文章（如 GRE、GMAT、考研阅读文章）的钥匙，全面提高阅读能力
- ☞ 写出经典、简洁、具有深邃思想的英语文章
- ☞ 学完四册可达到 8000 以上的词汇量

学好英语，从 **易学通** 开始 →

目 录

编写说明

致英语学习者

▶ 学习英语为什么要选择《新概念英语》	iii
▶ 《新概念英语》4 的学习重点	iii
▶ 《新概念英语》4 的读者对象	iv
▶ 《新概念英语》4 的学习目标	iv

Lesson 1.....	1
Lesson 2.....	5
Lesson 3.....	9
Lesson 4.....	13
Lesson 5.....	17
Lesson 6.....	21
Lesson 7.....	25
Lesson 8.....	29
Lesson 9.....	33
Lesson 10.....	37
Lesson 11.....	41
Lesson 12.....	45
Lesson 13.....	49
Lesson 14.....	53
Lesson 15.....	57
Lesson 16.....	61
Lesson 17.....	65
Lesson 18.....	70
Lesson 19.....	75
Lesson 20.....	80
Lesson 21.....	85
Lesson 22.....	90
Lesson 23.....	95
Lesson 24.....	100
Lesson 25.....	106
Lesson 26.....	111

Lesson 27.....	116
Lesson 28.....	122
Lesson 29.....	128
Lesson 30.....	133
Lesson 31.....	138
Lesson 32.....	143
Lesson 33.....	148
Lesson 34.....	153
Lesson 35.....	158
Lesson 36.....	163
Lesson 37.....	168
Lesson 38.....	173
Lesson 39.....	178
Lesson 40.....	183
Lesson 41.....	188
Lesson 42.....	193
Lesson 43.....	198
Lesson 44.....	203
Lesson 45.....	208
Lesson 46.....	213
Lesson 47.....	218
Lesson 48.....	223

Lesson 1

Passage A

Using a public telephone may well be one of the minor irritations of life, demanding patience, determination and a strong possibility of failure, together on occasion with considerable unpopularity.

The hopeful caller (shall we call him "George"?) waits till six o'clock in evening to take advantage of the so-called 'cheap-rates' for a long-distance call. The telephone box, with two broken panes of glass in the side, stands at the junction of two main roads with buses, lorries and cars roaring past. It is pouring with rain as George joins a queue of four depressed-looking people. Time passes slowly and seems to come to a standstill while the person immediately before George carries on an endless conversation, pausing only to insert another coin every minute or so.

Eventually the receiver is replaced and the caller leaves the box. George enters and picks up one of the directories inside, only to discover that someone unknown has torn the very page he needs. Nothing for it but to dial Directory Enquiries, wait patiently for a reply (while someone outside bangs repeatedly on the door) and finally note down the number given.

At last George can go ahead with his call. Just as he is starting to dial, however, the door opens and an unpleasant-looking face peers in with the demand, "Can you hurry up?". Ignoring such barbarity, George continues to dial and his unwanted companion withdraws. At last he hears the burr-burr of the ringing tone, immediately followed by rapid pips demanding his money, but he is now so upset that he knocks down the coins he has placed ready on the top of the box. Having at last located them, he dials again: the pips are repeated and he hastily inserts the coins. A cold voice informs him, "Grand Hotel, Chalfont Wells," "I've an urgent message for a Mr Smith who is a guest in your hotel. Could you put me through to him? I'm afraid I don't know his room number."

The response appears less than enthusiastic and a long long silence follows. George inserts more coins. Then the voice informs him, "I've been trying to locate Mr Smith but the hall porter reports having seen him leave about a minute ago."

Breathing heavily, George replaces the receiver, just as the knocking on the door starts again.

► 阅读上面的短文，从每题所给的四个选项中，选出一个最佳答案。

- The main intention of the passage is to provide _____.
 - instructions about how to use a public box
 - advice about how to deal with public telephone problems
 - criticism of the efficiency of the telephone system
 - an account of possible annoyance in using a public telephone
- Which of the following calls are you unlikely to make at the 'cheap rate' mentioned in the passage?
 - to discuss your account in a bank in Scotland
 - have a chat with an elderly relation
 - to ask about a friend in hospital who has just had an operation
 - to express Christmas greetings to cousins in Australia
- George can at least be thankful that _____.
 - the call box is in a convenient position
 - the telephone itself is working
 - he can use the directory in the box to find the number
 - he is able to give his message to the hotel receptionist
- Why does George have to dial a second time?
 - He hasn't remembered to put the money in the box.
 - He hasn't got enough money with him.
 - He has got to find the money to put in the box.
 - He can't find the number he wants in the directory.
- What are George's feelings when he completes his call?
 - He has some difficulty in controlling his annoyance.
 - He is very disappointed at missing his friend.
 - He is annoyed with himself for being so stupid.
 - He is depressed at the thought of having to try again to get through.

► 答案与解析

- D。答案依据本篇第一句 Using a public telephone may well be ... the minor irritation of life. 这里 irritation 的意义与 D 选项中的 annoyance 同义。
- A。从第二段第一句... waits till six o'clock in the evening to take advantage of the so-called "cheap-rate" for a long distance call., 我们可以知道便宜电话在晚上六点之后实行，所以在四个选项中最不可能进行的谈话是 A 项。
- B。答案依据为文章第四段第一句 At last he can go ahead with his call. 从该句可以推断出 George 的“谢天谢地”的心情。
- C。答案依据文章第四段中 Having at last located them (coins), he dials again.
- A。文章中的 irritation 是文章的文眼。用公用电话处处惹人烦。George 打公用电话，一样“难逃厄运”。

Passage B

The island of Great Britain being small (compare the size of Australia), the natural place for holiday relaxation and enjoyment is its extensive coastline, above all its southern and eastern coasts, though Blackpool, which is probably the best known and most crowded seaside town, and the favorite resort of the mass-population of industrial Lancashire, is on the north-west coast. Distant and little-inhabited areas like Northern Scotland, are too remote for the development of large seaside resorts.

For most children, going to the seaside suggests a week or fortnight of freedom on the beach, ideally a sandy one providing ample opportunity for the construction of sandcastles, fishing in pools for stranded shrimps, paddling in shadow water or swimming in deep. Children's entertainment may include the traditional knockabout puppet show "Punch and Judy", donkey rides. Their parents spend sunny days swimming in the sea and sunbathing on the beach. Not that the British sun can be relied on and the depressing sight of families wandering round the town in raincoats and under umbrella is only too common. However there are always the shops with their tourist souvenirs, plenty of cafes and, if the worst comes to the worst, the cinema to offer a refuge.

The average family is unlikely to seek accommodation in a hotel as they can stay more cheaply in one of the many boarding houses, whose owners spend the summer letting rooms to help add enough to their savings to see the winter through.

Nowadays even when an increasing number of people fly off to European resorts where a well-developed sun-tan can be assured, the British seaside is still the main attraction for families, especially those with young children. As they queue for boat trips, cups of tea or ice-cream under grey skies and in drizzling rain, the parents are reliving their own childhood.

► 阅读上面的短文，从每题所给的四个选项中，选出一个最佳答案。

1. A reason suggested in the first paragraph for the appeal of the British seaside is that _____.
 - A. it is within easy reach
 - B. it is an ideal place for children
 - C. most holiday resorts are in the warmer south and east
 - D. a large number of people enjoy going there
2. Children enjoy the seaside because _____.
 - A. they can be sure of a sandy beach to play on
 - B. they are allowed to do as they like there
 - C. it offers a period of enjoyable escape from school routine
 - D. there are a variety of enjoyable ways of spending time there

3. It is suggested that as a form of holiday entertainment the cinema ____.
- A. is visited only if there is nothing better to do
B. is the only place there is to go in bad weather
C. is the best place there is to go in bad weather
D. has nothing whatever to recommend it
4. What reason is suggested for running a boarding-house?
- A. The owners earn their living by doing this.
B. This helps to pay for the upkeep of a large house.
C. The money they earn will keep them through the winter.
D. The resulting supplementary income will ensure a living for several months.
5. What attraction has the British seaside got for many parents in comparison with European resorts?
- A. They can take their families with them in their own country.
B. There are more ways of enjoying themselves there.
C. They can recall their old good times.
D. It takes them less time to get there.

► 答案与解析

1. A. 答案依据在文章第一段最后一句 Distant and little-inhabited areas like Northern Scotland are too remote for the development of large seaside resorts. 根据此句话, 我们可以知道“偏远”是很多地区不能吸引游客的原因。由此, 我们可以反推出 A 选项是符合题意的。
2. D. A 选项与文章第二段中的 Not that the British sun can be relied on and the depressing sight of families wandering round the town in raincoats and under umbrella is only too common. 不符。B 选项与 C 选项则曲解了文章内容。D 选项则正好是对第二段前半部分进行了概括。
3. A. 第二段最后一句 However, ... plenty of cafes and, if the worst comes to the worst, the cinema to offer a refuge. 依据此句, 可以知道在坏天气时, 在商店和咖啡馆里可以消磨时光, 实在再没有更好的地方, 去电影院也好。故应选 A。
4. D. 第三段倒数第二句... will add enough to their savings to see the winter through 中的 add enough to their savings 正好可以用 D 选项中的 the resulting supplementary income 来诠释。ensure a living for several months 意义同 see the winter through。
5. C. 在文章最后一段最后一句中 the parents are reliving their own childhood when... 是问题的答案依据。四个选项中只有 C 选项符合题意。

Lesson 2

Passage A

In October 1987, the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards began its work to set new standards of accomplishment for the teaching profession and to improve the quality of education available to all children.

Teachers are committed to students and their learning. They must act on the belief that all students can learn. They must recognize individual differences in their students and adjust their practice accordingly. They must know that their mission extends beyond the cognitive capacity of their students. They must be concerned with their students' self-concept, with their motivation, and with the development of character.

Teachers must know the subjects they teach and how to teach them. They must command specialized knowledge of how to convey a subject to students. Teachers are responsible for managing and monitoring student learning. They must call on multiple methods to meet their goals, knowing and being able to employ a variety of instructional skills. Teachers must think systematically about their practice and learn from experience, seeking from the advice of others and drawing on education research and scholarship to improve their practice.

As members of learning communities, teachers contribute to school effectiveness by collaborating with other professionals. They take advantage of community resources, cultivating knowledge of their school's community as a powerful resource for learning.

► 阅读上面的短文，从每题所给的四个选项中，选出一个最佳答案。

1. "Teachers are committed to students and their learning." The sentence means that _____.
 - A. teachers should meet all the demands of students
 - B. teachers should set very high demands on students.
 - C. teachers should be very kind to students
 - D. teachers must be responsible for students and their learning
2. According to the author, if a student performs poorly at school, it may be the duty of _____.
 - A. society
 - B. teachers

- C. parents
D. other students
3. Teachers' task should go beyond developing the learning ability of students and they should _____.
A. know the subject they teach
B. transmit valued knowledge
C. respect their students, know about their interests and develop their character
D. seek the advice of others
4. School effectiveness mainly depends on _____.
A. teachers who work together
B. students
C. teaching material
D. school leaders
5. The best title for this message is _____.
A. How to Manage Students Learning
B. Learning from Experience
C. Relations Between Teachers and Students
D. Toward High Standards for Teachers

▶ 答案与解析

1. D. 从文章的第二段知道该句是文章的主题句。本段其他文字对第一句话进行了说明。通过阅读该段，可推断出正确答案。A、B 和 C 选项皆不能全面地解释该主题句。
2. B. 依据文章第三段第三句 Teachers are responsible for managing and monitoring student learning 可以推论出学生在学校表现不好，老师责任难推。
3. C. 依据文章第二段最后两句，C 选项正好解释了 self-concept, motivation, and the development of character.
4. A. 依据文章最后一段第一句 teachers contribute to school effectiveness by collaborating with other professionals. 所以很明显 A 应为正确答案。
5. D. 文章首段中 began its work to set new standards of accomplishment for the teaching profession... 点明了文章要讨论的内容。只有 D 选项才符合该句话。

Passage B

Exchange a glance with someone, then look away. Do you realize that you have made a statement? Hold the glance for a second time longer, and you have made a different statement. Hold it for 3 seconds, and the meaning has changed again. For every social situation, there is a permissible time that you can hold a person's gaze without being intimate, rude, or aggressive. If you are on an elevator, what gaze-time are you permitted? To answer this question, consider what you typically do. You very likely

give other passengers a quick glance to size them up and to assure them that you mean no threat. Since being close to another person signals the possibilities of interaction. You need to emit a signal telling others you want to be left alone. So you cut off eye contact, what sociologist Erving Goffman (1963) calls “a dimming of the lights”. You look down at the floor, at the indicator lights, anywhere but into another passenger’s eyes. Should you break the rule against staring at a stranger on an elevator, you will make the other person exceedingly uncomfortable, and you are likely to feel a bit strange yourself.

If you hold eye contact for more than 3 seconds, what are you telling another person? Much depends on the person and the situation. For instance, a man and a woman communicate interest in this manner. They typically gaze at each other for about 3 seconds at a time, then drop their eyes down for 3 seconds, before letting their eyes meet again. But if one man gives another a 3-second-plus stare, he signals, “I know you”, “I am interested in you,” or “You look peculiar and I am curious about you.” This type of stare often produces hostile feelings.

► 阅读上面的短文，从每题所给的四个选项中，选出一个最佳答案。

1. It can be inferred from the first paragraph that _____.
 - A. every glance has its significance
 - B. staring at a person is an expression of interest
 - C. a gaze longer than 3 seconds is unacceptable
 - D. a glance conveys more meaning than words
2. If you want to be left alone on an elevator, the best thing to do is _____.
 - A. to look into another passenger’s eyes
 - B. to avoid eye contact with other passengers
 - C. to signal you are not a threat to anyone
 - D. to keep a distance from other passengers
3. By “a dimming of the lights” (Para.1) Erving Goffman means “_____”.
 - A. closing one’s eyes
 - B. turning off the lights
 - C. ceasing to glance at others
 - D. reducing gaze-time to the minimum
4. If one is looked at by a stranger for too long, he tends to feel _____.
 - A. depressed
 - B. uneasy
 - C. curious
 - D. amused
5. The passage mainly discusses _____.
 - A. the limitation of eye contact

- B. the exchange of ideas through eye contact
- C. proper behavior in situations
- D. the role of eye contact in interpersonal communication

► 答案与解析

1. D. D 选项概括了首段的内容。A 选项中的 *significance* 表述不够准确。
2. B. 依据第一段最后三句话 *So you cut off eye contact, ... Should you break the rule against staring at the a stranger on an elevator, ...*。前面是做法，后面是举例。B 选项 *avoid eye contact* 符合该行为。
3. D. *a dimming of the lights* 应该是指 *cut off eye contact*, D 选项符合题意。
4. B. 依据文章第一段最后一句 *the other person exceedingly uncomfortable*, 这里 *uncomfortable* 意义就是 B 选项 *uneasy*。
5. D. 和第 1 题一样, *glance* 和 *eye contact* 这里应是同一回事。D 选项的表述是正确的。B 选项中的 *exchange* 表述不对。

Lesson 3

Passage A

In Britain arrangements for inviting and entertaining guests at a wedding are usually the responsibility of the bride's family. In most cases it is mainly friends and relations of both families who are invited. But when the bride's father is a businessman of some kind, the wedding reception may provide a useful occasion for establishing social connections with clients or customers and other people whose goodwill may be of advantage to him. It is, however, the bride's mother who has the job of sending out the formal printed invitation cards.

In the case of a church wedding, the vicar of each parish in which the bride and bridegroom live is normally informed about a month in advance of the ceremony so that an announcement of the coming wedding can be made in church on each of three Sundays before it takes place. Anyone who may know of an existing marriage of either partner is ordered to give information about it, though this means of avoiding bigamy must have been more effective in the days when people moved about the world less than they do today. Often up to a hundred or more people attend the religious service and the bride usually wears the traditional long white dress and veil, while her bridesmaids, who are often children, wear long dresses in attractive colours. This may also happen in the case of a civil wedding in a register office but is probably less usual.

The reception which follows may be held in a restaurant, a local hall or, when there are few guests, in the brides' own home. Refreshments are provided, a special iced wedding-cake is cut (usually to the accompaniment of speeches) and distributed to the guests, toasts are drunk and dancing may follow. At some point in the celebrations, the bride goes off to change into everyday clothes and then leaves the party with her husband to go on their honeymoon, the journey they will make together, often in romantic surroundings abroad.

► 阅读上面的短文，从每题所给的四个选项中，选出一个最佳答案。

1. It is the bride's parents who normally have to _____.
A. make all the arrangements for the wedding
B. provide hospitality for the people attending
C. decide who shall be invited