



世界名校

(中) 香港大学

新编

大学英语阅读 2

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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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 | 10 |
| Unit 3 | 20 |
| Unit 4 | 31 |
| Unit 5 | 41 |
| Unit 6 | 51 |
| Unit 7 | 61 |
| Unit 8 | 70 |
| Unit 9 | 79 |
| Unit 10 | 89 |
| Unit 11 | 99 |
| Unit 12 | 109 |
| Unit 13 | 119 |
| Unit 14 | 129 |
| Unit 15 | 139 |
| Unit 16 | 149 |
| Unit 17 | 159 |
| Unit 18 | 169 |
| Keys | 179 |

Unit One

Passage 1

The school my parents had selected for my education was one of the most fashionable and expensive in the country. It modelled itself upon Eton and aimed at being preparatory for that Public School above all others. It was supposed to be the very last thing in schools. Only ten boys in a class; electric light (then a wonder); a swimming pond; spacious football and cricket grounds; two or three school treats, or "expeditions" as they were called, every term; the masters all M. A. 's in gowns and mortarboards; a church of its own; on hampers allowed; everything provided by the authorities. It was a dark November afternoon when we arrived at this establishment. We had tea with the Headmaster, with whom my mother conversed in the most easy manner. I was preoccupied with the fear of spilling my cup and so making "a bad start". I was also miserable at the idea of being left alone among all these strangers in this great, fierce, formidable place. After all I was only seven, and I had been so happy in my nursery with all my toys. I had a collection of soldiers already nearly a thousand strong. Now it was to be all lessons. Seven or eight hours of lessons every day except half-holidays and football or cricket in addition.

New Words :

gown n. 长袍
mortarboard n. 学士帽, 学位帽
hamper n. (装送食物等用的)有盖大篮
formidable a. 可怕的, 令人生畏的
treks or expeditions 学校组织的徒步郊外活动
a thousand strong 足有一千人
half-holidays 半天上课, 半天放假, 通常指星期六

Questions :

1. What kind of school did the author's mother select for him?
A. A private school.
B. The worst one.
C. The most popular and expensive one.
D. A public school.
2. It was supposed to be the very last thing in schools. Here "last" means _____.
A. popular B. final C. useful D. good
3. What kind of degree must the teachers have?
A. M. A degree. B. Dr. degree.
C. Bachelor degree. D. No degree.
4. From this passage we can see that the author's childhood was _____.
A. unhappy B. miserable C. happy D. dull
5. The best title for this passage should be _____.
A. "My First Day at School" B. "My School Life"
C. "My Nursery Life" D. "My childhood"

Translate the underlined sentence into Chinese.

Passage 2

Early in the 16th century men were trying to reach Asia by travelling west from Europe. In order to find Asia they had to find a way past South America. The man who eventually found the way from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific was Ferdinand Magellan.

Magellan sailed from Seville in August 1519 with five ships and about 280 men. Fourteen months later, after spending the severe winter on the coast of Patagonia, he discovered the channel which is now called Magellan's Straits. In November 1520, after many months of dangers from rocks and storms, the three remaining ships entered the ocean on the other side of South America.

They then continued, hoping to reach Asia. But they did not see any land until they reached the islands off the coast of Asia. Before they arrived at these islands, later known as the Philippines, men were dying of starvation. While they were staying in the Philippines, Magellan was killed in battle. The remaining officers then had to get back to Spain. They decided to sail round Africa. After many difficulties, one ship with eighteen men sailed into Seville three years after leaving. They were all that remained of Magellan's expedition. However, their achievement was great. They were the first men to sail round the world.

Questions :

6. The purpose of Magellan's expedition was _____.
 - A. to sail round the world
 - B. to find navigation lane from the Atlantic to the Pacific
 - C. to make a voyage to Asia
 - D. to carry men to the Philippines
7. The time Magellan Straits was discovered was _____.
 - A. in August 1519
 - B. in October 1520
 - C. in November 1520
 - D. not mentioned
8. The number of the ships lost on the whole expedition was

_____.

A. two

B. three

C. four

D. five

9. Which of the following is not mentioned in the passage concerning the expedition?

A. Lack of navigation equipment.

B. Severe winter in Patagonia.

C. The death of Magellan.

D. Dangers from rocks and storms.

10. The best title for this passage is _____.

A. The Discovery of Magellan's Straits

B. The Discovery of the Philippines

C. The Most Dangerous Expedition in Navigation

D. The First Expedition to Asia

Translate the underlined sentence into Chinese.

Passage 3

The food we eat seems to have profound effects on our health. Although science has made enormous steps in making food more fit to eat, it has, at the same time, made many foods unfit to eat. Some research has shown that perhaps eighty percent of all human illnesses are related to diet and forty percent of cancer is related to the diet as well, especially cancer of the colon. Different cultures are more liable to contract certain illnesses because of the food that is characteristic in these cultures. That food is related to illness is not a new discovery. In 1945, government researchers realized that nitrates and nitrites, commonly used to preserve color in meats, and other food additives, caused cancer. Yet these carcinogenic additives remain in our food, and it becomes more difficult all the time to know which things on the packaging labels of processed food are helpful or harm-

ful. The additives which we eat are not all so direct. Farmers often give penicillin to beef and poultry, and because of this, penicillin has been found in the milk of treated cows. Sometimes similar drugs are administered to animals not for medical purposes, but for financial reasons. The farmers are simply trying to fatten the animals in order to obtain a higher price on the market. Although the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has tried repeatedly to control these procedures, the practices continue.

New Words :

colon n. 结肠
nitrate n. 硝酸盐
nitrite n. 亚硝酸盐
carcinogenic a. 致癌的
additive n. 添加剂

Questions :

11. How has science done a harm to mankind?
- A. Because of science, disease caused by dirty food has been virtually got rid of.
 - B. It has caused a lack of information concerning the value of food.
 - C. As a result of scientific intervention, some possibly harmful substances have been added to our food.
 - D. The scientists have preserved the color of meats, but not of vegetables.
12. Nitrates are used for _____.
A. preserving taste in packaged foods
B. preserving the color of meats
C. the objects of research
D. causing the animals to become better
13. FDA means _____.
A. Food Direct Additives

- B. Final Difficult Analysis
C. Food and Drug Administration
D. Federal Dairy Additives
14. The word "carcinogenic" means most nearly the same as _____.
- A. trouble-making B. money-making
C. color-retaining D. cancer-causing
15. Which of the following statements is Not true?
- A. Drugs are always given to animals for medical reasons.
B. Some of the additives in our food are added to the food itself and some are given to the living animals.
C. Researchers have known about the possible hazards of food additives for over thirty-five years.
D. Food may cause forty percent of cancer in the world.

Translate the underlined sentence into Chinese.

Passage 4

A computer is a machine designed to perform work mathematically and to store and select information that has been fed into it. It is run by either mechanical or electronic means. These machines can do a great deal of complicated work in a very short time. A large computer, for example, can add or subtract nine thousand times a second, multiply a thousand times a second, or divide five hundred times a second. Its percentage of error is about one in a billion digits. It has been estimated that human beings making calculations average about one mistake per two hundred digits.

The heart of an electronic computer lies in its vacuum tubes, or transistors. Its electronic circuits work a thousand times faster than the nerve cells in the human brain. A problem that might take a human being two years to solve can be solved by a computer in one

minute, but in order to work properly, a computer must be given instruction—it must be programmed.

Computers can be designed for many specialized purposes—they can be used to prepare payrolls, guide airplane flights, direct traffic, even to play chess. Computers play an essential role in modern automation in many plants and factories throughout the world.

New Words :

| | |
|------------|-----------|
| circuit | n. 电路, 线路 |
| transistor | n. 晶体管 |

Questions :

16. A computer is a machine designed to _____.
 - A. perform work mathematically
 - B. perform complicated calculations
 - C. store and select information
 - D. all of the above
17. Computers are valuable to industry because they _____.
 - A. perform rapidly
 - B. detect errors in human calculations quickly
 - C. can solve all mathematical problems
 - D. eliminate mathematical errors from calculations
18. The selection calls the vacuum tubes the electronic computer's _____.

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| A. nerve cells | B. brain |
| C. nervous system | D. heart |
19. The selection says that computers play an essential role in _____.
 - A. automation processes
 - B. mathematical computations
 - C. traffic control
 - D. the development of mathematical theory

20. The use of computers for specialized purposes depends on the _____.

- A. design of the computer
- B. power used to operate the computer
- C. difficulty of the mathematical calculations involved
- D. the ability of the programmer

Translate the underlined sentence into Chinese.

Short Answer

Somewhere in this world lived a small family—a husband and a wife. They loved each other all the time just as they had on their first date. They had a lovely house and good jobs. Everything was fine but...they didn't have children.

And, as you know, people are such strange creatures; they always want what they can't have. So, the only wish of that family was to have a child.

One day, as it happens in fairy tales, an incredible thing took place — God took pity on them, and in nine months the woman gave birth to a child. The happy parents couldn't believe that their dream had come true. And from that moment the child became the center of the family. Now all love, all attention, all care was concentrated on the child.

Time passed and the child turned into a young lady. She was, like a million other girls, pretty enough, smart enough, but to her parents she was the prettiest and smartest girl in the world.

Looking for a better life, the family moved to America. "Now you will see a real life," her mother told her. "You are so beautiful, so smart that every man will be happy to make you his wife. But you have to choose the best one; you know your value."

Of course she knew her own value and she remembered it all

the time, refusing one by one all offers to be somebody's wife. she was waiting for a modern prince — a millionaire.

In time all her girl friends had their families, their children. They were living, they were enjoying life, and she was just watching.

Soon her eyes lost their brilliance, her skin turned dry and wrinkled — she became old. She lived a long, empty, and colorless life. All her life she waited for the right time to start.

She didn't leave anything in this world after her. When she was dying, she tried to reproduce her life in her memory. But she couldn't remember anything but grey, identical days of waiting.

New Words :

- | | | |
|-------------|----|-----------|
| creature | n. | 人,家伙 |
| incredible | a. | 难以置信的 |
| millionaire | n. | 百万富翁 |
| brilliance | n. | 光彩 |
| wrinkle | v. | 起皱纹 |
| identical | a. | 同一的;完全相同的 |

Questions :

1. What is the passage mainly about?
2. In paragraph 1 what does "their first date" mean?
3. For what purpose did the family move to America?
4. What does the word "millionaire" mean?
5. Why didn't the girl get married?

Unit Two

Passage 1

Many university students dislike studying history because there is little to get excited about when historical events are presented in a boring manner. However, I'll never forget my American History professor, Dr. Williamson. Each event leaped from the pages of our text and became as real as the daily news report on the radio. My favorite lecture concerned the American Revolution. Dr. Williamson set the mood for the story by imitating Paul Revere, a well-known silversmith, working in his shop. The American colonists were angry because of the British control over their lives. Revere felt that war between the British and the colonists was imminent. Then, Dr. Williamson told us about Revere rowing across the Charles River from Boston on April 18, 1775. I can see the professor now as he raised his hand to his forehead as if he were looking across the Charles River to the Old North Church in Boston. Suddenly, Revere spotted two lanterns, a signal which meant that the British would attack by sea. He jumped on his horse to warn the villagers of the attack. Professor Williamson reminded us that the first battles of the American Revolution were fought at Concord and at Lexington, Massachusetts, the year before the Declaration of Independence was signed in 1776. Never before had history seemed so alive to me and all because a professor cared enough to put his heart into his teaching.

New Words:

imminent a. 逼近的; 即至的

Questions :

1. The main idea of the passage is _____.
A. many students dislike studying history
B. historical events are presented in a boring manner
C. the reason why many university students dislike studying history
D. history professors are poorly prepared
2. Paul Revere earned a living by working as _____.
A. a soldier
B. a blacksmith
C. a teacher
D. a silversmith
3. Where was the Old North Church located? It was located in _____.
A. Boston
B. Concord
C. Lexington
D. Britain
4. The word "spotted" in the sentence "Revere spotted two lanterns," means _____.
A. recognized
B. placed
C. pointed
D. splitted
5. The first battles of the American Revolution were fought _____.
A. in 1776
B. in 1775
C. in 1774
D. in 1777

Translate the underlined sentence into Chinese.

Passage 2

Americans often say that there are only two things a person can be sure of in life, death and taxes. Americans do not have a corner on the "death" market, but many people feel that the United States leads the world with the worst taxes.