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大学英语 泛读教程

主 编 马晓菲
主 审 关 慧

1

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总主编 王亚光

(修订版)

大学英语泛读教程 1

APPROACHING
READING
EFFICIENCY

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前言

听与读是语言输入的两个重要途径,而对于外语学习者来说,由于受到语言环境的限制,阅读就显得尤为重要。我们在外语学习的过程中,既需要有精细的阅读,以提高语言掌握及语言运用的准确性,又需要通过广泛阅读来达到一定的阅读量,从而获得一定的语言感觉,进而产生对语言理解和使用的一个质的飞跃。而一套能够让学习者喜欢读、容易读的泛读教材会更有助于提高学生的英语水平,开阔学生视野,丰富知识,启迪思想。

《大学英语泛读教程》就是本着这样的目的、依据教育部《大学英语课程教学要求》编写的,适合高等院校非英语专业的大学一、二年级学生使用的阅读教程。《大学英语泛读教程》已经出版使用近两年了。在此期间,一方面,各位编者(也是该教材的使用者)对该教材在使用过程中出现的问题与不足进行了反思;另一方面,为了保证教材内容的时效性,经过各位编者及部分使用者的认真讨论,仔细策划,我们对第一版教材进行了修订和完善,推出《大学英语泛读教程》(修订版)。《大学英语泛读教程》(修订版)新课文所占比例为25%至40%,其中本册新课文共8篇,与第一版相比,总修订量(含练习)达35%以上。

《大学英语泛读教程》(修订版)在秉承《大学英语泛读教程》(第一版)的目的和原则的基础上,力图突出以下特点:

一、增强其趣味性,适当调整难易度,使学生喜欢读、读得懂,以达到让学生积极主动地阅读,通过提高其阅读量,来提高其语言能力的目的。大学英语课堂教学的时间有限,泛读教材大部分需要学生课后自主阅读,因此教材的趣味性就显得尤为重要。为了增强其趣味性,我们一方面在文章的内容上选择贴近学生生活,让年轻人喜闻乐见的主题;另一方面,增强其时效性,尽量选择大众所关注的热点话题,以吸引学生的注意力。在语言上,尽量考虑学生的英语水平,选择表达流畅准确,学生读起来不会感觉太难于理解的文章,以保持并增强其阅读积极性。

二、注重体裁的多样性、主题的启迪性和语言的纯正性。一种语言会为我们打开一扇看世界的窗户,泛读会让我们透过这扇窗户看到五彩缤纷的世界。泛读的目的是打开学习者的视野,让其了解各种各样的体裁和风格,感受英语语言文化的魅力。因此,我们在选材时特别注意体裁的多样性及风格的差异性,选文

中包括记叙文、散文、论说文、书信、演讲,等等,风格有庄重的、朴实的、讽刺的、幽默的,等等。主题方面在保证选材趣味性、时效性的同时,还考虑到主题的深刻性和启迪性。学生通过阅读所获得的绝不仅仅是语言能力的提高,同时还应唤起他们对人生的思索,对社会的责任,对真善美的追求,以潜移默化地提高学生的综合素质。另外,我们还十分注重所选文章语言的纯正性,尽量选择母语是英语的作者的文章,以呈现给学生原汁原味的英语。

三、注重培养学生快速、准确、有效地获取信息的能力。我们在每篇文章后面都有针对性地设置了阅读理解练习题,一方面训练学生把握文章中心思想的能力,另一方面注重其在阅读中对于句子和词汇的正确理解和掌握,以逐步提高其阅读速度和理解能力。

本教程共分4册,每册16单元,每单元围绕一个主题,分为头脑风暴、阅读、开心一刻或名言警句3部分组成。其中阅读部分包括两篇文章(Text A和Text B),每篇文章后面都附有词汇表、难点注释及相应的练习题。由于课堂时间有限,建议在教材的使用中采取课后自主学习为主、课堂教学为辅的原则。教师可根据实际情况选择其中的一篇用于课堂教学。本套书中词汇表中带★号的词汇为六级词汇,带▲号的为超纲词汇,未做标识的均为四级词汇。另外,每册书后附有该册全部练习答案,以供教师和学生参考。

《大学英语泛读教程》(修订版)采取集体研讨、分工负责的方式进行编写。主编及所有编者均为长期从事大学英语教学的一线教师。《大学英语泛读教程》(修订版)(第一册)的主编为马晓菲,副主编为赵岩、张素丹、高宏、马刚。其中赵岩老师负责第三单元的编写及第一至四单元的勘误工作;张素丹老师负责第六单元课文B和第七单元课文B的编写及第五至第八单元的勘误工作;高宏老师负责第九单元的编写及第九至十二单元的勘误工作;马刚老师负责第十一单元课文B和第十三单元课文B的编写及第十三至十六单元的勘误工作。

《大学英语泛读教程》(第一版)(第一册)的主编为关慧,副主编为左丹弘、马晓菲、王蔚、张凌,谨在此向她们对本书做出的贡献表示衷心的感谢。外籍专家Kane Kevin审阅了全部书稿,在此一并表示谢意。由于编者水平有限,教材中难免有不足和疏漏之处,恳请广大师生不吝赐教,批评指正,以使之不断完善。

编者

2013年8月

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Unit 1

Growing up



Part I Brainstorming

Answer the following questions.

1. Do you think growing up is a bitter-sweet process? Why?
2. Are there any unforgettable events in the process of your growing up? Share one of them with your classmates.
3. Do you think parents can be friends with their children? How?



Part II Reading

Text A

The Best Advice I Ever Had

Author Unknown

- 1 When I was approximately 15, I had an enemy, a girl who liked to point out my shortcomings. Week by week her list grew: I was skinny; I wasn't a good student; I was a tomboy (假小子); I talked too loud; I was stuck-up (自命不凡的), and so on. I put up with her as long as I could. At last, I ran to my father in tears and rage.
- 2 He listened to my outburst quietly, and then asked, "Are the things she says true or not?"
- 3 True? I wanted to know how to strike back. What did truth have to do with it?
- 4 "Mary, didn't you ever wonder what you're really like? Well, you now have that girl's opinion. Go to make a list of everything she said and mark the points that are true. Pay no attention to the other things she said."
- 5 I did as he directed and discovered to my great surprise that about half the things were

true. Some of them I couldn't change (like being skinny), but a good number I could — and suddenly wanted to — change. For the first time in my life I began to get quite a clear picture of myself.

6 I brought the list back to Daddy, but he wouldn't take it.

7 “That's just for you,” he said. “You know better than anybody else the truth about yourself, once you hear it. But you've got to learn to listen, not close your ears in anger or hurt. When something said about you is true, you'll know it. You'll find it will echo inside you.”

8 “I still don't think it very nice of her to talk about me in front of everybody,” I said.

9 “Mary, there is one way you could stop others talking about you ever again, and criticizing you — just say nothing and do nothing. But then, if you do that, you'd find you were nothing. You wouldn't like that now, would you?”

10 “No,” I admitted.

11 Later, I was to have another, more painful lesson about hearing the truth. It happened the week we were to present the senior play. It was a musical in which I had the lead. How eager and excited I was!

12 A few days before the show, some of my friends decided to have a picnic at a nearby lake. It was a raw day. Mother wanted me to stay home to avoid any risk of catching cold. I raised a big fuss; so, after making me promise not to go swimming, she gave in. Well, I kept the letter of that promise, but not the spirit. When the others went into the water, I couldn't stand being left behind. I put on my swimming-suit, too, and went out in a rowboat.

13 When at last I headed for shore, some of the boys began to rock my boat. Just as I was about to reach the shore, it went over. Trying to keep out of the water, I took a leap for shore. I made it — but I landed squarely on a broken bottle. My heel was cut right to the bone!

14 I didn't get to star in the senior play. My understudy (候补演员) made a big hit while I lay in the hospital. “But I kept my promise not to go swimming,” I said to Daddy.

15 “Mary, you listened to only half of what your mother said. What she really made you promise was to try not to catch cold. Going swimming was only part of it. You let yourself hear only part of the truth. And that's why you ended up like this.”

16 I made a final excuse, “All my friends thought it would be all right, if I stayed in the boat.”

17 “And they all were wrong, weren't they?” He paused a moment. “You'll find the world is full of people who think they know better than you. Don't shut your ears to them. Listen to them all, but hear the truth and do what you know is the right thing to do.”

18 Daddy's advice has returned to me at many critical moments in my life and it has worked.

(692 words)

New Words and Expressions

approximately *adv.* 大约

point out 指出

put up with 忍受

rage *n.* 愤怒echo *v.* 回响, 回荡criticize *v.* 批评admit *v.* 承认squarely *adv.* 正好地hit *n.* 成功present *v.* 表演musical *n.* 音乐剧eager *adj.* 热切的raw *adj.* 寒冷的fuss *n.* (为小事)大吵大闹

leave behind 落后

end up 结束

pause *v.* 暂停critical *adj.* 关键的, 至关重要的

I. Reading Comprehension

Choose the best answer for each of the following questions or incomplete sentences.

- What did the author's enemy enjoy doing?
 - Gossiping about the author.
 - Pointing out the author's weak points.
 - Quarrelling with the author.
 - Reporting to the teacher.
- What did the author do when she could no longer stand her enemy?
 - She cried to her heart's content.
 - She turned to her father.
 - She tried to be her friend.
 - She decided to teach her a lesson.
- How did the author's father react to her complaints?
 - He told her that he saw eye to eye with her enemy.
 - He let her continue to put up with her enemy.
 - He asked her to list her enemy's comments and make judgments.
 - He told her to ignore what her enemy had said.
- The author felt _____ when she did what her father had told her.
 - surprised
 - angry
 - disappointed
 - sad
- Which of the following is true according to the passage?
 - Her enemy was jealous of the author because she was pretty.
 - Her enemy was envious of her good grades.
 - The author and her enemy became best friends at last.
 - The author found what her enemy said was not totally unreasonable.

6. What can we infer from the passage?
- A. The author was very angry with her father because he didn't stand up for her.
 - B. The author was responsible for the misunderstanding between her and her enemy.
 - C. The author's father was eager to act on other people's advice.
 - D. The author benefited a lot from her father's advice.

II. Language Focus

Fill in the gaps with words and phrases chosen from the box. Change the form where necessary.

| | | | | |
|---------------|-----------|-------------|----------|--------|
| rage | criticize | critical | eager | end up |
| approximately | risk | put up with | discover | pause |

1. Our flight to Japan will take _____ four hours.
2. Many of the companies that think they can cut costs _____ disappointed.
3. Reducing the level of carbon dioxide is of _____ importance.
4. The birds could pose a serious health _____ for people who eat them.
5. _____ for a glimpse of the singer, fans waited overnight at the airport.
6. Doctors have _____ the government for failing to invest enough in the health service.
7. My roommates are constantly making noises. I really cannot _____ them.
8. A good education will help you _____ and develop your potential talents.
9. The speaker _____ for a moment, and then continued.
10. He will fly into a _____ if you even mention the subject.

III. Translation

Complete the sentences by translating into English the Chinese given in brackets.

1. He never dreamed that he would _____ (最终拥有) such a lot of property!
2. She _____ (向他指出) the unfairness of his actions.
3. A quarter of all workers _____ (承认请假) when they are not ill.
4. When he went to work in Saudi Arabia, he had to _____ (抛下家人).
5. I am not going to _____ (容忍他们抽烟) any longer.

Text B

The Green Boots

By Linda Rosenberg

- 1 On Monday morning I wore my green platform boots^① to school for the first time since I had started at Edison Middle School.

2 It was the day of the poetry festival, and I was thrilled. At my old school, I had won the poetry ribbon[®] every year. I'm horrible at sports, too shy to be popular and I'm not cute — but I do write good poetry.

3 The poem I wrote for the Edison Poetry Festival was about my dad. I had a good feeling about sharing how special he was to me, even if it was just with the fifth grade and Mrs. Baker.

4 English class was not until after lunch period on Mondays, so by the time we started poetry, I was so nervous that my mouth was dry as toast. When Mrs. Baker called on me, I had to clear my throat, take a breath and swallow about ten times before I could speak. I didn't even bother to look at my paper. I'd spent so much time perfecting the rhymes (押韵), and counting the beats (节拍), that I knew the poem by heart.

5 I had just started the third verse when I noticed Mrs. Baker was glaring furiously at me. I stopped in the middle of a word and waited for her to say something.

6 “Linda, you are supposed to be reading an original work, a poem you made up yourself, not reciting something you learned. That is called plagiarism!”

7 “Oh, but it's not. I mean ... I did make it up, it's about my dad.” I heard a “Yeah, right!” from somewhere behind me, and someone else giggled.

8 I felt as if I'd somersaulted (做空翻) off the high dive and then, in midair, realized that there was no water in the pool. I opened my mouth to explain, but no words came out.

9 “You will leave the room and will not return until you are ready to apologize,” said Mrs. Baker. “Now go!”

10 My last thought was a flash of understanding as to why the kids had nicknamed her “Battle-Ax Baker” — then my brain just fizzled out, and I turned and left the room.

11 I'd been standing outside for about half an hour when Joseph, the school janitor (大楼管理员), came over to ask me what heinous crime I'd committed to be banished (流放) for so long. He loved using unusual words.

12 We'd made friends one morning before school, when he saw me sitting alone, pretending to do homework. He invited me to help open up the classrooms, and after that, it sort of became my job. He always talked to me as we wiped down the chalkboards and turned on the heat. Just that morning he'd been telling me that Mark Twain once said that the difference between the right word and the almost right word is like the difference between lightning and a lightning bug (萤火虫). I liked that. My dad would have liked it, too.

13 Now as Joseph waited for me to answer, he looked so kind and sympathetic that I poured out the whole story, trying not to cry. A tightness flashed over his face, and he jerked an enormous yellow duster (抹布) out of the pocket of his gray overalls. “So what are you going to do?” he asked, rolling up the duster into a tight ball.

14 I shrugged, feeling helpless and sad. “I don't know.”

- 15 “Well, you are not going to stand here all day, are you?”
- 16 I sighed. “I suppose I’ll do what she said. You know ... say I’m sorry.”
- 17 “You’ll apologize?”
- 18 I nodded. “What else can I do? It’s no big deal. I’ll just never write anything good in her class again.”
- 19 He looked disappointed with my response, so I shrugged once more and turned away from him.
- 20 “Linda,” the tone of his voice forced me to look back, “Accepting defeat, when you should stand up for yourself, can become a very dangerous habit.” He twisted the duster around his fingers. “Believe me, I know!”
- 21 He was staring right into my eyes. I blinked and looked down. His eyes followed mine, and we both noticed my green boots at the same time. Suddenly his face relaxed and creased into a huge smile. He chuckled and said, “You’re going to be just fine. I don’t have to worry about you. When you put on those boots this morning, you knew you were the only Linda Brown in the whole world.” As if he didn’t need it anymore, he cheerfully dropped the duster back into his pocket and folded his arms across his chest. “Those are the boots of someone who can take care of herself and knows when something is worth fighting for.”
- 22 His eyes, smiling into mine, woke up a part of me that had been asleep since I’d come to this school, and I knew that he was right about me. I’d just lost direction for a while. I took a deep breath and knocked on the classroom door, ready to face Mrs. Baker — ready to recite my poem.

(839 words)

New Words and Expressions

poetry *n.* 诗歌

festival *n.* 节日

thrill *v.* 使兴奋,使激动

cute *adj.* 聪明的,伶俐的

toast *n.* 烤面包,吐司

call on sb. 叫某人回答问题

swallow *v.* 吞咽

perfect *v.* 使完美

know by heart 熟记

original *adj.* 有独创性的;新颖的

* recite *v.* 背诵

* giggle *v.* 咯咯地笑

dive *n.* 跳水

as to 关于

fizzle out 失灵;失败

commit *v.* 犯(错)

lightning *n.* 闪电

sympathetic *adj.* 同情的

enormous *adj.* 大的

roll up ... into 将...卷成

shrug *v.* 耸肩

response *n.* 反应

turn away from 把脸从...转过去

tone n. 语调, 语气

stand up for 为...辩护, 维护

twist v. 扭曲

blink v. 眨眼

▲crease v. 皱起

▲chuckle v. 轻声地笑

Notes:

1. platform boots: 厚底高跟鞋
2. poetry ribbon: 诗歌奖

I. Fast Reading

For questions 1 - 7, mark

Y (for YES) if the statement agrees with the information given in the text;

N (for NO) if the statement contradicts the information given in the text;

NG (for NOT GIVEN) if the information is not given in the text.

For questions 8 - 10, complete the sentences with the information given in the text.

- () 1. When the poetry festival arrived, Linda was filled with excitement.
- () 2. Linda's parents thought highly of her poem and encouraged her to read it to her classmates.
- () 3. Linda was quite nervous when reciting the poem because she hadn't made good preparation for the poetry festival.
- () 4. Before Linda finished reciting the poem, Mrs. Baker began criticizing her.
- () 5. By using the word "heinous", the janitor intended to remind Linda that her mistake was unforgivable.
- () 6. The janitor thought it would be unwise for Linda to say sorry to Mrs. Baker.
- () 7. At last, when she knocked on the classroom door, she had summoned up the courage to make an apology to Mrs. Baker.
8. The janitor being so _____ and _____, Linda told him the whole story.
9. It sort of became her job to help the janitor to _____.
10. The janitor considered it a very dangerous habit to _____.

II. Vocabulary in the Context

Choose the right meaning of the underlined part according to the context.

1. I'm horrible at sports, too shy to be popular and I'm not cute — but I do write good poetry.

- A. good at B. keen on C. poor at D. afraid of
2. It was the day of the poetry festival, and I was **thrilled**. At my old school, I had won the poetry ribbon every year.
A. grateful B. excited C. upset D. tense
3. I had just started the third **verse** when I noticed Mrs. Baker was glaring furiously at me.
A. a set of lines that forms one part of a poem
B. a story about imaginary people and events
C. a piece of writing that is not yet in its finished form
D. a short piece of writing giving someone's ideas about politics, society, etc.
4. Linda, you are supposed to be reading an **original** work, a poem you made up yourself, not reciting something you learned.
A. imaginative B. inventive C. initial D. productive
5. "Linda, you are supposed to be reading an original work, a poem you made up yourself, not reciting something you learned. That is called **plagiarism!**"
A. adaptation B. quotation C. copying D. composition
6. My last thought was a flash of understanding as to why the kids had nicknamed her "Battle-Ax Baker" — then my brain just **fizzled out**, and I turned and left the room.
A. failed B. functioned C. leaked D. inspired
7. I'd been standing outside for about half an hour when Joseph, the school janitor, came over to ask me what **heinous** crime I'd committed to be banished for so long.
A. horrible B. petty C. minor D. fantastic
8. He looked disappointed with my **response**, so I shrugged once more and turned away from him.
A. requirement B. request
C. reply D. recommendation
9. He was staring right into my eyes. I **blinked** and looked down.
A. shut and opened eyes quickly B. looked angrily
C. looked secretly D. look carefully
10. Suddenly his face relaxed and creased into a huge smile. He **chuckled** and said, "You're going to be just fine. I don't have to worry about you."
A. laughed unkindly B. laughed quietly
C. laughed repeatedly D. laughed insincerely

III. Word Conversion

Fill in the blanks with the proper forms of the words given.

1. original The tradition has its _____ in the Middle Ages.
2. popular The president's _____ has declined considerably.