

COLLEGE ENGLISH READING SERIES

# 大学英语系列阅读

第三册

主编 张文鹏



西南财经大学出版社



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# 前 言

本系列丛书根据最新修订的《大学英语教学大纲（修订本）》的指导思想和教学要求编写，旨在帮助学生丰富语言知识，提高英语阅读能力，可用作大学英语基础教学阶段的课外阅读教材。

阅读是掌握语言知识、打好语言基础、获取所需信息的重要渠道，是全面提高听、说、写、译等能力的基础。阅读能力也是大部分大学生今后工作所需的主要语言技能。从语言学习的规律来看，英语应用能力的提高是建立在大量的语言输入，尤其是大量阅读的基础上的。《大学英语教学大纲（修订本）》明确指出大学英语的教学目的是“培养学生具有较强的阅读能力和一定的听、说、写、译能力”。可见，阅读是对大学生英语能力的第一层次的要求，所谓较强的阅读能力，主要包括阅读速度和阅读理解两个方面。因此，在大学英语学习阶段，应始终注意阅读能力的培养和提高。

《大学英语教学大纲（修订本）》对大学英语基础阶段学生的阅读能力的基本要求是：“能顺利阅读语言难度中等的一般性题材的文章，掌握中心大意以及说明中心大意的事实和细节，并能进行一定的分析、推理和判断，领会作者的观点和态度，阅读速度达到每分钟 70 词。在阅读篇幅较长、难度略低、生词量不超过总词数 3% 的材料时，能掌握中心大意，抓住主要事实和有关细节，阅读速度达到每分钟 100 词”。要达到这一要求，必须通过大量的阅读实践。本书为读者提供了较为丰富的实践材料，使读者通过大量的阅读训练，全面提高阅读能力，并通过阅读逐步扩大词汇量。

全套书共分 4 册，每册 15 个单元。每个单元共 5 篇文章，其中 4 篇为阅读理解文，1 篇为阅读与背诵文。第一册文字相对简单，难度与大学英语一级要求相当，主要让读者掌握如何快速阅读文章，找出文章大意及相关信息的技巧；第二册难度加大，帮助读者从获取文章要点过渡到理解文章含义；第三册的文章均有一定深度，帮助读者积极思维，读懂字里行间的意义，并根据文章内容作出正确推理

和判断；第四册加强综合技能的训练，全面提高和检测读者的阅读理解能力。

在选材方面，本书既注重知识性，又兼顾趣味性。所选文章符合新修订大纲对各级阅读的要求，力求内容新颖、题材广泛、体裁多样，涉及社会、文化、政治、经济、历史、地理、人物传记、体育运动、现代科技、风土人情、自然环境、卫生与健康等诸方面。

除“阅读与背诵”文外，每篇文章均配有练习题，其中客观题为多项选择和正误判断，主观题则以大学英语四、六级考试所要求的简答题和翻译题为主。

为了帮助学生在提高阅读能力的同时扩大词汇量，本书在每篇文章的阅读练习后均附有单词表，以供参考和记忆。为方便查阅，在各册最后列有总词汇表。单词表按新修订大纲要求列出，超过四级的词汇用“▲”标出，并注有音标、词性、中文义项和常用固定搭配。

每个单元所配的“阅读与背诵”文章均为优秀范文，有小品文精粹，也有经典佳作、名人演说。阅读与背诵这些文章不仅有助于读者学到一些英语语言的精华，提高文化素养，对语感的培养和写作能力的提高也大有裨益。

本书语言地道规范，文章短小精悍，难度由浅入深。读者每天花少量时间阅读1篇，长期坚持，其英语阅读水平必将实现质的飞跃。

在全套书的编写过程中，魏俊轩、谭芷芳老师作了策划，在此表示感谢。由于时间仓促，编者水平有限，书中不妥之处在所难免，望广大读者批评指正。

编 者

2001年9月

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# Unit One

## Part A Comprehension Passages



### U. S. Cities: Past and Present

The problems of the nation's cities — pollution, crime, riots, lack of planning, transportation—are bad, but they were worse in the so-called “good old days”, according to Dr. Charles Adrian. He gives pollution from automobiles as one example. He agrees that it may be bad now, but he states that there was a lot of pollution from horses and other animals in American cities in the 19th century.

“Most cities had their own slaughterhouses where cows and pigs were killed a century ago. They were careless about throwing out the remains of the animals and that sort of thing,” he said. “And the sewer system for waste disposal was almost nonexistent.”

Some of the problems that bothered people living in the cities during that period are still with us—poor planning, problems in low-income neighborhoods, police relations, and public transportation.

“Pollution was a very important problem for city governments in the last century, particularly with regard to water supplies,” Dr. Adrian said. “They had some idea that water could be polluted, but they didn’t know how. Trying to get pure water was a big problem.”

“People like to talk about the good old days, but, actually, the cities of the 19th century were dirty and, in many ways, filthier than today. Communicable disease was a great concern. There was still smallpox and also yellow fever, malaria, cholera and typhoid. The infant death rate was high, and there were other dangers as well.

“It is true that people were not being killed by cars. However, they often were killed or seriously injured by runaway horses. It was quite common,” Dr Adrian said.

Crime was a great concern then too, according to Dr. Adrian. “Mugging wasn’t as common then,” he said, “but it did exist. Pickpockets were very skilled, too. Also, from the 1830’s on, there were a lot of summer ghetto riots. That wasn’t just something from the 1960’s. There were several causes, but basically, it was because many people moved to the cities from rural areas.”

Planning of cities and their neighborhoods was controlled by land speculators and real estate developers who were only interested in making money.

Finally, Dr Adrian thinks that the situations and problems facing American cities have not changed so much, and he suggests that we look back at the past and try to learn from it.

1. This article is mainly concerned with that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) things used to be better in the good old days
  - B) cities were worse in the past than they are now
  - C) cities are terrible places to live
  - D) we'll have far better environment in the future
2. In Paragraph 2, the author intends to show that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) cows and pigs were killed more than they are nowadays
  - B) people in the past were more wasteful than people today
  - C) people in the past attached less importance to their living surroundings
  - D) people in the past had less advanced technology of waste disposal
3. The words "smallpox", "yellow fever", "malaria", "cholera" and "typhoid" in Paragraph 5 are \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) some examples of communicable diseases
  - B) some reasons for the high infant death rate
  - C) some examples of environment pollution
  - D) some dangers that faced the people in the past
4. Which statement would you expect Dr. Adrian to make?
  - A) "Let's look at the past and try to learn from it."
  - B) "Forget the past. Look on the future."
  - C) "Cities are for the dogs."
  - D) "I'd rather live in the rural areas than in the city."
5. Decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 1) Pollution began in the 20th century.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 2) There are more contagious diseases now than there were a hundred years ago.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 3) Many people were killed or injured by horses.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ 4) Problems and situations of cities in the past were generally quite different from those facing cities in the present.
6. According to the passage, a big problem the government had to deal with was \_\_\_\_\_.

## Words & Expressions

riot [ˈraɪət] <i>n.</i>	暴动, 骚乱
▲slaughterhouse [ˈslɔ:təhaus] <i>n.</i>	屠宰场
remains [riˈmeɪnz] <i>n.</i>	剩下的东西, 残余; 废墟
disposal [disˈpəʊzəl] <i>n.</i>	处理, 处置; 配置, 布置
▲filthy [ˈfɪlði] <i>adj.</i>	不洁的, 污秽的
runaway [ˈrʌnəweɪ] <i>adj. &amp; n.</i>	逃跑的; 逃跑; 逃跑者
▲pickpocket [ˈpɪkˌpɒkɪt] <i>n.</i>	扒手
▲speculator [ˈspekjuleɪtə] <i>n.</i>	投机商, 投机者; 思索者, 推理者
real estate [riəlˈɪsteɪt] <i>n.</i>	不动产
with regard to	关于, 涉及到



## F. D. R. , the Gallant Leader

The Roosevelt dime shows the portrait of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, 32nd President of the United States.

This dime was first issued a year after the end of World War II. It was important in 1946 that this new coin carried the symbols and messages of America's wish for world peace. Also during that year, the United Nations, newly formed, was attempting to bring brotherhood to all the people in the world. America had become a world power. The eyes of the rest of the world looked to the United States for leadership.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt was the only president in American history to be elected to four consecutive terms of office. Born in 1882, at Hyde Park, New York, he first served in the New York State Senate. In 1913, he was appointed Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

While swimming one day in 1921, he suffered an attack of a crippling disease he later learned was polio (小儿麻痹症). In the prime of his life, with many outstanding successes to his credit, he became paralyzed from the waist down. He fought desperately to overcome his illness but never succeeded. He spent the rest of his life in a wheelchair. In spite of his illness, he continued to work hard and in 1929 was elected governor of New York State.

When Roosevelt became President, America had just suffered a serious economic depression and thousands of people were without jobs. He immediately went to work to solve the nation's problems by setting up government agencies to provide jobs. He was elected again in 1936, in 1940, and once more in 1944.

Roosevelt is best remembered for his strong leadership during World War II and for his many stirring speeches. He was the first President to speak regularly for the American people over the radio. In his 1933 inaugural address, he said with determination, "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself."

As war raged throughout the world and America's sons fought in faraway places, the nation stood firmly beside Roosevelt as he carried the crusade for freedom across Africa, Europe, and Asia. But the President was never to see the final victory. He died in Warm Springs, Georgia, on April 12, 1945, less than a month before General Dwight D. Eisenhower accepted the surrender of the Nazi Army. Roosevelt's portrait on the dime is more than a design for a coin. It is an everlasting memorial to a gallant leader.

1. According to the author, the Roosevelt dime represents \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) unyielding power                      B) world peace  
C) equal justice                          D) the prosperity of America
2. One of Roosevelt's first job as President was to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) reduce federal spending              B) control inflation  
C) prevent official corruption          D) ease unemployment
3. The American people stood behind Roosevelt because \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) they were confident of his ability  
B) they feared communism  
C) Roosevelt delivered stirring speeches  
D) Roosevelt demanded their support
4. We can infer from the passage that America's goal after World War II was \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) to stabilize the American economy  
B) to establish diplomatic relations with the defeated countries  
C) to defeat the communist countries  
D) to unify the countries of the world
5. From the passage we can conclude that Roosevelt was \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) a controversial figure                  B) a humorous leader  
C) a popular figure                        D) a creative genius
6. Translate the underlined part into Chinese.

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## Words & Expressions

▲gallant ['gælənt] <i>a.</i>	勇敢的;华丽的;雄伟的
▲dime [daim] <i>n.</i>	一角硬币
issue ['isju:] <i>v. &amp; n.</i>	发行,发布;发行物;问题,争端
brotherhood ['brʌðəhud] <i>n.</i>	兄弟般的关系
▲consecutive [kən'sekjutiv] <i>a.</i>	连续的;连贯的
▲cripple ['kripl] <i>v. &amp; n.</i>	使……跛,使……残废;跛子;残废人
▲paralyze ['pærəlaiz] <i>vt.</i>	使……瘫痪;使……无力;使……气馁
desperately ['despəritli] <i>ad.</i>	不顾一切地;危急地;极度渴望地
stirring ['stəriŋ] <i>a.</i>	激动人心的;忙碌的
▲inaugural address [i'nə:gjurəl ə'dres] <i>n.</i>	就职演说
rage [reidʒ] <i>v. &amp; n.</i>	猖獗;盛行;大怒,狂怒
▲crusade [kru:'seid] <i>n.</i>	讨伐;改革运动
to one's credit	足以使某人增光,争得赞扬
in the prime of one's life	在全盛时期;在壮年时期

### 3

## Do Animals Sleep?

All animals must rest, but do they really sleep as we know it? The answer to this question seems obvious. If an animal regularly stops its activities and stays quiet and unmoving — if it looks as though it is sleeping — then why not simply assume that it is in fact sleeping? But how can observers be sure that an animal is sleeping?

They can watch the animal and notice whether its eyes are open or closed, whether it is active or lying quietly, and whether it responds to light or sound. These are important clues, but they often are not enough. Horses and cows, for example, rarely close their eyes, and fish and snakes cannot close them. Yet this does not necessarily mean that they do not sleep. Have you ever seen a cat dozing with one eye partially open? Even humans have occasionally been observed to sleep with one eye partially open. Animals do not necessarily lie down to sleep either. Elephants, for example, often sleep standing up, with their tusks resting in the fork of a tree. Finally, while “sleeping” animals often seem unaware of changes in the sounds and light and other stimuli around them, that does not really prove they are sleeping either.

Observations of animal behavior alone cannot fully answer the question of whether or not animals sleep. The answers come from doing experiments in

“sleep laboratories” using a machine called the electroencephalograph (EEG) (脑电图记录仪). The machine is connected to animals and measures their brain signals, breathing, heartbeat, and muscle activity. The measurements are different when the animals appear to be sleeping than when they appear to be awake. Using the EEG, scientists have confirmed that all birds and mammals studied in laboratories do sleep. There is some evidence that reptiles, such as snakes and turtles, do not truly sleep, although they do have periods of rest each day, in which they are quiet and unmoving. They also have discovered that some animals, like chimpanzees(黑猩猩), cats, and moles(鼹鼠), who live underground, are good sleepers while others, like sheep, goats, and donkeys, are poor sleepers. Interestingly, the good sleepers are nearly all hunters with resting places that are safe from their enemies. Nearly all the poor sleepers are animals hunted by other animals; they must always be watching for enemies, even when they are resting.

1. According to the passage, we can safely come to a conclusion that all animals \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) sleep some time each day
  - B) spend some time resting
  - C) close their eyes to sleep
  - D) react to sound while they are sleeping
2. The author uses the elephant as an example of an animal that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) is a good sleeper
  - B) wakes to dangerous sounds
  - C) sleeps with its eyes open
  - D) doesn't always sleep lying down
3. According to the passage, reptiles \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) may not really sleep
  - B) may not need to rest
  - C) are not often studied in sleep laboratories
  - D) cannot be studied with an EEG
4. It can be inferred from the passage that some animals are better sleepers than other animals because the better sleepers \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) are often tired from being hunted by other animals
  - B) are often tired from hunting other animals
  - C) have safe places to sleep
  - D) awake faster if an enemy finds them sleeping
5. The best way to tell if an animal is sleeping is \_\_\_\_\_.

6. The author mentions humans who sleep with one eye open to show that \_\_\_\_\_.

## Words & Expressions

clue [klu:] <i>n.</i>	线索, 暗示
▲doze [dəʊz] <i>v. &amp; n.</i>	打瞌睡, 打盹
partially ['pɑ:fəli] <i>ad.</i>	部分地
stimulus ['stimjuləs] <i>n.</i> ( <i>pl.</i> stimuli)	刺激物; 刺激
measurement ['meʒəmənt] <i>n.</i>	尺寸; 大小; 数据
▲mammal ['mæməl] <i>n.</i>	哺乳动物
▲reptile ['reptail] <i>n.</i>	爬行动物
watch for	守候

### 4

## China's WTO Entrance Benefits All

China's entrance into the World Trade Organization (WTO)<sup>1</sup> will benefit not only herself but the whole world, said an article in *People's Daily* (December 28).

For the last nine years, negotiations have been going on concerning restoring China's status in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)<sup>2</sup>, which is now replaced by WTO. The negotiations have drawn attention from all over the world.

Only when consensus is reached on key issues can the final decision, involving more than 100 member states, be made.

It is expected that China's bid will eventually pass, though final details and a timetable have not been decided yet, said *People's Daily*.

Over the past years, China has taken important steps to conform with international trade regulations based on the Uruguay-round talks<sup>3</sup>. It is clear that China has made its markets more open, both in commercial and tertiary industries. Since 1992, a series of measures have been taken in lowering tariff rates and reducing non-tariff barriers.

These reforms demonstrate China's readiness to join the WTO. Serious disputes, however, still remain between China and some key member states<sup>4</sup> over obligations China should undertake.

China should be responsible for reforms compatible with its current



development level, the article stressed. In future negotiations, we should insist on this point and give the member states a clearer understanding of the practical situation in China.

China has a population of 1.2 billion, which increases by 10 million each year. The government must be very cautious in reforms to prevent dramatic economic downfalls, which may have disastrous results not only in China but around the world.

China's per capita income remains less than \$ 500. There are still 70 million people who do not have enough for food and clothing. The negotiators should bear in mind the country's development level when they decide the obligations China should assume. Otherwise, negotiation results will be meaningless, or worse; they could stifle the Chinese market. It is like the old Chinese saying: "Killing the hen to get the eggs."<sup>5</sup>

China is in a transition from a planned economy to a market one. With such big population and large economic development scale, a transitional period is necessary for any new reform measure. This is also the case when adopting some international practice.

1. Decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1) The whole world is paying attention to China's entrance into WTO.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2) China's bid will pass someday.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3) The negotiators should take into account the actual situation and development level in China.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4) China should open its markets as greatly as possible in order to enter WTO.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5) It is predicted that China has a long way to go before its bid eventually passes.

2. The former economic mode in China before its reform is \_\_\_\_\_.

3. The word "dramatic" in Paragraph 7 means \_\_\_\_\_.

## Words & Expressions

negotiation [niˌgəʊʃi'eɪʃən] *n.*

谈判; 协商

▲tariff ['tærɪf] *n.*

关税

▲consensus [kən'sensəs] *n.*

(意见等的)一致; 合意

▲tertiary ['tɜːʃəri] *a.*

第三的; 第三级的

disastrous [di'zɑːstrəs] *a.*

灾难性的; 造成损失的