

● 新课标高中英语泛读教程 ●

# 社会热点

## 聚焦

Focus on  
Social Hot Issues

郑秋秋 主编

4.411



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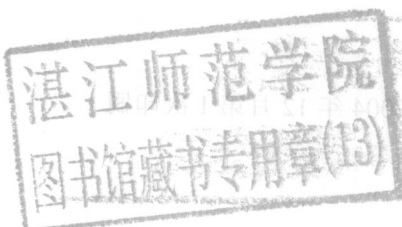
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新课标高中英语泛读教程

社会热点聚焦

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## 前 言

“高中英语课程与课堂教学模式发展的构思与实践”是浙江省基础教育规划课题的立项课题,《新课标高中英语泛读教程》就是该课题的核心项目——开发高中英语泛读课程,编制泛读教材。《新课标高中英语泛读教程》是依据《普通高中英语课程标准》的选修课模块而设计的,属于语言知识与技能类模块。该套教程按英语语言涉及领域,划分为两册:《社会热点聚焦》和《英语国家文化掠影》。依照高中英语课程标准要求,在相应的阅读文章后分别标出级别(六、七、八级,分别对应于高一、高二、高三)和字数,教师可以根据学生的具体水平选用。

本套教材内容选材贴近现代生活,话题广泛,富有时代气息,有利于激发学生学习英语的兴趣、增强语感,也有利于提高学生的人文素养。该套教材的编写思路基于任务型阅读活动课堂教学实践。书中许多文章经过课堂教学实践及学生问卷调查等方面的验证,说明该书使用价值高,操作性强,具有一定的科学性、知识性和趣味性。

为了培养学生创新精神,提高实践能力,本套教材在遵循英语语言学习与掌握规律的前提下,为学生提供了大量的语言实践活动,并注明了相应的活动形式(如:个体、双人、小组等)。课内许多活动可延伸到课外,为学生自主学习和探究能力的形成创造了有利的条件,也为拓宽学生知识面、提高语言实际应用能力开辟了广阔的空间。该册书按话题涉及领域分为5个部分,每部分都有6个单元(Part 5为5个单元)。每单元的编写体例及说明如下:

### 一、体例:

Unit Title	(单元话题)
Before You Read	(读前活动)
Reading	(阅读文章)
Notes	(背景知识,生词解释)
While You Read	(阅读时的任务)
I. Reading for understanding (Individual Work)	
II. Reading for vocabulary (Cooperative Work)	
III. Reading for development (Pair Work)	
After You Read	(阅读后的活动)

I . Reading for building words (Pair Work)

II . Reading for language application (Group Work first then Individual Report)

III . Reading for more information

Further Reading

(扩展性阅读)

(Problem solving, survey / Debate or discussion / Log on line to find out more...)

## 二、说明：

每单元Notes部分的生词旨在为学生阅读时扫除障碍、提供方便，主题文章中的黑体字是泛读单元教学的目标语，要求学生理解与掌握；这些语言知识在阅读时配置的任务与活动中得以进一步的理解和应用，并在阅读后的语言实践与探究活动中得到巩固与发展，促使语言知识转换、内化成语言能力。阅读时和阅读后的活动实际上就是语言知识向语言能力迁移的过程，其任务与活动设计的层次基本上按课堂教学的程序或环节来编排。因此将单元中配置的任务与活动稍加处理与组合，就是一节较好的任务型阅读活动教案。当然，教师若能结合学生的实际情况，重新取舍或扩充教学内容与活动，利用信息技术和多媒体等现代化教学手段辅助教学，这样效果会更好。

本书由首都师范大学英语教育系刘北利副教授审读，刘教授在英语阅读技巧与教学方法领域颇有研究，她在赞赏本书特色的同时也提出了十分有价值的建议，在此表示衷心的感谢！

本套书的编写框架较好地剖析了阅读教学的目的，它是我们课题组所有成员辛勤劳动的结晶，也是各级领导大力支持的结果。由于时间仓促，在编写的过程中难免出现差错，敬请广大教师和读者在使用过程中给予批评指正。我们一定虚心接受，使之不断完善。

编者

2004年8月20日



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注: ▲表示阅读文章难度为6级,

●表示阅读文章难度为7级,

★表示阅读文章难度为8级。

# Part 1

## News

### Unit 1 Wars on Iraq

#### Before You Read

- 1 What was the time when Iraq was last attacked by the USA?
- 2 Who was in power in Iraq when it was attacked by the USA?



#### Reading

联合国秘书长

[1] UN Secretary-General *Kofi Annan*\* urged the United States yesterday not to attack Iraq, saying he **favoured** continued negotiations with Saddam Hussein's government. If the United States did decide to attack Iraq, this would constitute "American nation policy," Annan said, not a policy of the United Nations.

[2] In Washington, the administration of US President George W. Bush is casting Iraqi President Saddam Hussein as a threat who cannot be appeased and suggesting that it may not wait for full allied support before launching an attack. "It's less important to have unity than it is making the right decision and doing the right thing, even though at the beginning it may seem **lonesome**," Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said on Tuesday.





[3] After Bush met at his ranch in Crawford, Texas, with Saudi Arabia's Prince Bandar bin Sultan, White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said, "The president made very clear again that he believes that Saddam Hussein is a threat to world peace, a threat to regional peace." The Saudis strongly **oppose** US military action.

[4] In a lively exchange with Marines at Camp Pendleton, California, Rumsfeld **predicted** that most US friends and allies would support American military action against Iraq if that is what Bush decides. It is required to deal with the threat of being attacked with weapons of mass **destruction**. So far no allies have **voiced** firm support. Many have raised great doubts or outright opposition. "Leadership in the right direction finds followers and supporters," Rumsfeld told members of the 1st Marine Division. When a Marine asked whether Rumsfeld thought victory in Iraq would take long to achieve, he refused to answer directly.

[5] On a day when Bush administration officials told friends and allies around the world it is not rushing to war against Iraq, two key Arab allies — Egypt and Saudi Arabia — voiced their **objections** to US military action against Iraq. In a diplomatic offensive, Iraq sent top officials to China and Syria to press its case. Yesterday, Iraq gave reporters a tour of a site said to be suspected of producing chemical and biological agents but which Iraq insists makes insecticides for home and farm use. It was the third such visit by reporters this month as Iraq tries to **ward off** possible US attack.

(382 Words Level 8)



## Background

**Kofi Annan:** 1938年4月8日生于加纳，先后在加纳和美国高等学府就读，获经济学学士和管理学硕士学位。1962年进入联合国工作，先后在联合国非洲经济委员会、联合国总部、联合国日内瓦办事处、联合国难民署和世界卫生组织等部门工作。1996年12月17日，第51届联大任命安南为联合国第七任秘书长。2001年6月26日，第56届联大批准安南连任，任期至2006年12月31日。



## Notes

1. negotiation [niˌɡəʊʃieɪʃən] *n.* 商议，谈判
2. administration [ədˌmɪnɪs'treɪʃən] *n.* 行政部门
3. appease [ə'piːz] *v.* 平息，缓和
4. ally ['ælaɪ, ə'lai] *n.* 同盟国

5. unity ['juːniti] *n.* 全体一致
6. military ['militəri] *n.* 军事行动
7. outright ['aʊtraɪt] *adj.* 直率的, 完全的
8. diplomatic [diplə'mætɪk] *adj.* 外交上的
9. offensive [ə'fensɪv] *n.* 进攻, 攻势
10. suspect [sə'spekt] *v.* 怀疑(某人犯有过错)
11. ward off: to prevent (something bad, such as danger, a blow, a cold, etc.); keep away or at a distance 避开, 挡住

## While You Read

### I. Reading for understanding (Individual work)

- 1 When Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said, "...even though at the beginning it may seem lonesome," he really knew \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. not many countries would support US attack on Iraq at the beginning
  - B. US would feel unhappy if not many countries support the attack on Iraq
  - C. US felt lonely as not many countries support the war against Iraq
  - D. it was the right thing to attack Iraq even if no countries support it
- 2 How many countries, which have voiced their objections to US military action against Iraq, are mentioned in the report?
  - A. 4.
  - B. 3.
  - C. 2.
  - D. The writer doesn't tell us.
- 3 Iraq gave reporters a tour of a site because \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. reporters are more responsible for the weapon inspection
  - B. Iraq wants to prevent the possible attack from US
  - C. this site can be of great use if an attack happens
  - D. Iraq is afraid that the weapon inspectors would know the truth
- 4 Which of the following is NOT true according to the passage?
  - A. All allies of US support its possible attack against Iraq.
  - B. US possible attack against Iraq is not favored.
  - C. US will still attack Iraq although not many countries are for it.
  - D. Iraq is trying hard to prevent the possible attack.

## II. Reading for vocabulary (Cooperative work)

### 1 Match the words with the right meanings:

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| (1) oppose      | a. to express in words, esp. forcefully   |
| (2) predict     | b. to regard (esp. a suggestion or planned course of action) with strong disapproval, and esp. to take action to try to prevent it from happening or succeeding |
| (3) destruction | c. a person chosen to speak officially for a group  |
| (4) spokesman   | d. the act of destroying or state of being destroyed  |
| (5) voice       | e. to see or describe in advance (a future happening) as a result of knowledge, experience, thought, etc.   |
| (6) constitute  | f. make up or to be considered to be something  |

### 2 Fill in the blanks with a proper word or phrase:

favor, oppose, voice, ward off, destruction, objections, insecticide

- (1) He is always wearing a necklace which is said to \_\_\_\_\_ evil spirits.
- (2) Fortunate \_\_\_\_\_ the brave.
- (3) People have \_\_\_\_\_ different opinions ever since US said it would attack Iraq.
- (4) US often offers weapons to Taiwan, which is strongly \_\_\_\_\_ by Chinese people.
- (5) Every year, fire causes great \_\_\_\_\_ to forests in the world.
- (6) \_\_\_\_\_ is a chemical substance used to kill insects.
- (7) If no one has any \_\_\_\_\_, I'll declare the meeting closed.

## III. Reading for development (Pair work)

### Discussion:

- 1 How do you understand the sentence "Leadership in the right direction finds followers and supporters"?
- 2 What do you think makes the USA decide to attack Iraq?

## After You Read

### I. Reading for building words (Pair work)

#### Word formation:

- 1 objection *n.* → \_\_\_\_\_ *v.*

I wanted to climb the hill, but Bill \_\_\_\_\_ that he was too tired.

- ② insect → \_\_\_\_\_ (同根词)

DDT is a kind of \_\_\_\_\_ which is very effective in killing insects.

- ③ lonesome, lonely, alone

He lives \_\_\_\_\_ in a \_\_\_\_\_ house in the country. So he often feels \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_.

- ④ construction → \_\_\_\_\_ (反义词)

He works in \_\_\_\_\_ industry.

## II. Reading for language application

- ① Discussion: (Group work first then individual report)

(1) Are you for or against the attack on Iraq from the USA? Tell the reasons.

(2) How do you understand “peace and war”?

- ② Writing: (Individual work)

Write down your views about the US military action against Iraq. Try to use words or phrases learned from this unit. (about 100 words)

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## III. Reading for more information



### Further reading

#### Anyhow US Launched the Attack on Iraq!

BAGHDAD, March 20 (AFP) — The third air strike in an hour hit Baghdad early Thursday, at 0335 GMT (6:36 a.m.), an AFP correspondent heard.

The new attack by warplanes or cruise missiles again targeted the southeast of the Iraqi capital, sending huge clouds of smoke billowing into the dawn sky as the United States launched its

long-threatened war on Iraq.

(2003-03-20 11:45)

## Latest Key Developments Relating to Iraq War

ISLAMABAD — War has never been a solution to any problems, instead, it has aggrandized the problems and sufferings of the people concerned, Pakistani Minister of Information and Media Development Shaikh Rashid Ahmed said here Thursday.

OTTAWA — Within minutes of US bombs falling on Iraq, anti-war protesters lifted bullhorns in the streets of Canada's western city of Vancouver, summoning hundreds for a march in front of the US Consulate, reports reaching here said Thursday.

BEIRUT — French ambassador to Lebanon Philippe Lecourtier said on Thursday his country felt extremely disappointed with the on-going US-led war on Iraq and hoped the war could end as soon as possible.

GAZA — The Palestinian National Authority (PNA) on Thursday called on the UN Security Council to immediately stop the US-led war against Iraq and bring weapons inspectors back to Iraq.

DAR ES SALAAM — Tanzania said here Thursday that the invasion of Iraq by the US-led force was against the wishes of the majority of the international community and would not resolve the threat by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

(2003-03-21 03:10)

### Questions for thinking

- 1 How do people react to the war on Iraq?
- 2 How do you understand solving problems through war?

Find more information about wars on Iraq, you may log on the following website: <http://www.un.org/News/press/docs/2003/20030320.sg.sg.html>

## Unit 2 Disasters

### Before You Read

- 1 What kinds of disasters do earthquakes, tornadoes, and floods belong to? Are there any other disasters?
- 2 What are the bad results of disasters? Read the **News** at the end of this unit.
- 3 If a person runs after or chases a certain hurricane, what kind of things do you think he will do?



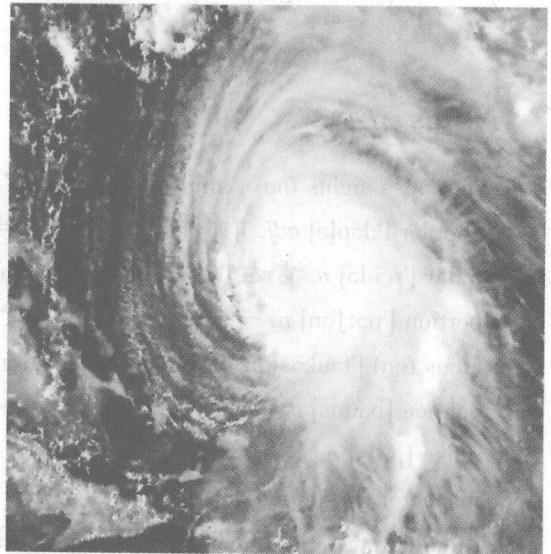
### Reading

#### Storm Chasers Follow Isabel

[1] When *Hurricane Isabel*\* took aim at the eastern seaboard of the United States, university researchers set their sights on her, in the hope of learning more of the **destructive** secrets of these massive storms.

[2] Researchers from different universities, like Texas Tech University, raced eastward to place mobile Doppler radar systems in Isabel's path.

[3] "This is the first time that I know of that we had five mobile Doppler radars in place for a hurricane," said John Schroeder, a Texas Tech assistant professor of atmospheric sciences. The Dopplers, which can **focus on** much smaller portions of a storm than the ones that television stations use on the local news, bounce radio pulses off water droplets. By studying how quickly those pulses return, the radars can **determine** the





direction of wind and water.

[4] Prof Schroeder is part of Texas Tech's wind engineering programme, which studies how buildings deal with the violent winds of hurricanes and tornadoes. Their research hopes to tell builders, building inspectors and the **insurance** industry ways to make buildings **survive** such storms. Isabel will be the 17th hurricane or tropical storm that Prof Schroeder has chased since 1998. But he believes that this storm may prove far more illuminating than other hurricanes he has studied.

[5] "The data from this storm could tell us a lot about the **structure** of the wind field at landfall and how the wind changes as it leaves the water surface and interacts with land," Prof Schroeder said. "We want to know what happens and how quickly those wind patterns change."

[6] New technology and more research teams have made it easier to compile the information on hurricanes in recent years. "The hurricanes offer us an **opportunity** to make measurements we've never made before," said a researcher.

(298 Words Level 7)

## Background

**Hurricane Isabel:** Hurricane Isabel struck the eastern seaboard of the United States on September 16, 2003. Usually, hurricanes or tropical storms do great damage to people. In the passage, scientists explore the secrets of nature despite the possible danger to them and try to find out ways to reduce damage from storms.

## Notes

1. set one's sights (on) : aim (at); direct one's efforts (towards) 致力于.....
2. doppler ['dɒplə] *adj.* [亦作d-] (奥地利物理学家)多普勒的
3. radar ['reɪdə] *n.* 雷达, 电波探测器; Doppler radars 多普勒雷达
4. portion ['pɔːʃən] *n.* 一部分, 一分
5. focus (on) ['fəʊkəs] *v.* to direct (one's attention) to something 集中
6. bounce [baʊns] *v.* (使)反跳, 弹起
7. pulse [pʌls] *n.* 脉搏, 脉冲
8. inspector [ɪn'spektə] *n.* 检查员, 巡视员
9. illuminating [ɪ'ljuːmɪneɪtɪŋ] *adj.* helping to explain 照亮的; 启蒙的

10. assessment [ə'sesmənt] *n.* 估价, 被估定的金额
11. interact [ɪntər'ækt] *v.* 互相作用, 互相影响
12. compile [kəm'pail] *v.* 编译, 编辑, 汇编

## While You Read

### I. Reading for understanding (Individual work)

- 1 Who were the chasers of Isabel? Why did they do that?
- 2 What can Doppler radars do?
- 3 How would the researchers deal with the information after they got it?
- 4 What special results did they hope to get from this hurricane?

### II. Reading for vocabulary (Cooperative work)

- 1 What does “destructive” mean in the passage?  
A. Great. B. Unhappy. C. Causing bad results.
- 2 Match the words with the right meanings:
 

(1) explosion	a. to continue to live or exist, esp. after coming close to death
(2) collapse	b. fall down or inwards suddenly as a result of pressure or loss of strength or support
(3) survive	c. an arrangement or organization; the way in which parts are formed into a whole
(4) determine	d. (a loud noise caused by) the act of explode
(5) structure	e. a favorable moment or occasion (for doing something)
(6) opportunity	f. to fix or find out exactly, e.g. by making calculations, collecting information, etc.

### III. Reading for development (Pair work)

#### Discussion:

- 1 How do you understand the sentence “The hurricanes offer us an opportunity to make measurements we’ve never made before”?
- 2 What makes it possible to do such researches?
- 3 Would you do such researches if possible?

## After You Read

### I. Reading for building words (Pair work)

- ① In which two of the following sentences, the word “**determine**” has the same meaning?
  - A. We should first try to determine how much it is going to cost.
  - B. The radars can determine the direction of wind and water.
  - C. William Hartley was determined to get the geography book even though he didn't have enough money for it.
  - D. The amount of rainfall determines the size of the crop.

- ② Fill in the blanks with the following words or phrases in the proper form:

structure determine explosion take aim at in the hope survive focus

- (1) Her parents died in the accident, but she \_\_\_\_\_, so she was a \_\_\_\_\_.
- (2) Bill Banks was able to get rid of the followers because of the complicated \_\_\_\_\_ of the room in Pyramid Hotel.
- (3) She is a \_\_\_\_\_ woman, who never gives up halfway. In other words, she is a person of great \_\_\_\_\_.
- (4) The army took the bomb away to a safe place and \_\_\_\_\_ it.
- (5) The hunter \_\_\_\_\_ the lion.
- (6) We've put off the game until Monday \_\_\_\_\_ that the weather will improve.
- (7) 20 firefighters lost their lives while putting out the big fire in Hengyang, Hunan Province, which became the \_\_\_\_\_ of state media.

### II. Reading for language application

- ① Discussion: (Group work first then individual report)

Is it worth risking one's life doing researches like this? Tell the reasons.

- ② Writing: (Individual work)

Interview your classmates and ask them the above question, take notes and then write a report “My View of Doing Scientific Researches in a Risk” based on the group work and interview.