

主编 应启慎

英语高阶词汇 自学通

TRUE MASTERY OF
ADVANCED LEARNER'S
VOCABULARY OF ENGLISH

This book will help you improve your own word power dramatically if you spend 30 minutes every day on the book.



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应启慎 主编

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前 言

《英语高阶词汇自学通》的编写旨在帮助读者学习并掌握近二千个出现频率高的高阶英语词汇。我国很多大学生学习英语的时间都在十年左右,但真正能读懂语言难度在中等以上的文章者为数不多。一批准备出国的学生,试图将 TOEFL(托福), IELTS(雅思)类考试所要求的高难词汇死记硬背地记住,但结果是今天背明天忘,考前背考后忘。一些出国时间不长的中国学生,在国外要读懂内容广泛的媒体文章也是困难重重。尤其是,每年国内有一大批考生参加研究生入学考试、专业英语八级考试、大学英语六级考试以及公共英语五级考试,但他们在这类考试的词汇题与阅读理解题中得分很低。编者从事大学英语教学四十余年,深知我国学生在英语词汇学习与使用中的种种困难,觉得要化解这些困难的重要一环是应在掌握七千英语常用词的基础上再掌握二千左右出现频率高的高阶词汇。编者希望能用《英语高阶词汇自学通》来帮助读者提高英语词汇的实力,解决阅读英语文章的困难,帮助有志出国的学生顺利通过 TOEFL、IELTS 一类的考试,帮助广大考生在国内的研究生入学考试、专业英语八级考试、大学英语六级考试以及公共英语五级考试中得高分。

《英语高阶词汇自学通》的编写具有以下几个方面的特点:

一、书中要求掌握的词汇是依据二十世纪九十年代对英、美大众传媒进行词汇出现频率的调查(frequency tests)所得出的高频率的高阶词汇。

二、书中反复出现的高阶词汇都是 TOEFL、IELTS 一类考试中所要求的词汇,也是国内研究生入学考试等一类考试中出现频率很高的词汇。

三、本书中词汇的学习与掌握都是通过阅读文章,自然而然地进行的。文章全部选自 20 世纪 80 年代、90 年代出版的英、美报刊和书籍。文章短小精悍,题材广泛,生动有趣,反映英、美人民生活的方方面面,折射英、美社会与文化的斑斓色彩。书中 250 篇短文不仅给准备出国留学人员提供了地道的英语语言材料,而且提供了丰富的美国与英国社会的文化背景知识。

四、词汇重复率高是本书的又一显著特点。文章的编排与练习的编写均使这批高阶词汇不断重现。文章中要求掌握的词汇用斜体排出,后续文章与练习中重复出现的词汇用星号“*”标出。

五、书中词汇练习 4 种形式:1. Sentence Context Clues,这一练习的目的是让读者通过对英语句子的学习,掌握其中高阶单词的词义和用法。2. Substitute Words and Expressions,这一练习的目的是让读者扩大掌握同义词、近义词以及同义表达语。3. Review,每个 Unit 的 Part V 都有一个词汇复习练习,以便复习和巩固每个 Unit 学过的词汇。4. Analogy Review,从 Unit 9 开始,以后每 5 个 Unit 都有 1 个 Analogy Review,旨在复习和巩固前面几个单元学过的词汇。

六、书后附有每篇短文的译文、练习答案及索引供读者参考。

《美国英语高级词汇》(本书的前身)自 1994 年 1 月出版以来,一直深受读者的喜爱《美国英语高级词汇》修订后,更名为《英语高阶词汇自学通》。它可作为大学生、研究生和有志出国留学人员的英语自学教材,也可作为 TOEFL、IELTS 培训班的英语词汇教材。

参加本书编写的人员还有朱嫣红,陆家齐,宣文玲,尹金发,张剑,潘思越,傅汝雅,应淡宁。

To err is human; to forgive, divine. (凡人多舛误,唯神能欠宥。)编者水平有限,书中存在的错误和疏漏在所难免,竭诚欢迎并殷切期望读者和外语界的同行对本书进行批评指正。

应启慎

2004 年元月于浙江大学

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Unit 1

Part I

New Words: roam teem rugged desolate spectacular

An Unknown Land

Five hundred years ago North America was a virtually unknown land. Bears, moose, foxes and wolves *roamed* the vast forests and the rivers, lakes and coastal waters *teemed* with salmon and cod. In the center of the continent immense grassy plains supported enormous bison herds, and to the east and west stood *rugged* and imposing mountain chains. In the south and south-west lay what is still some of the most *desolate* country in the world, a wilderness of sand and rock, *spectacular* scenery and scorching temperatures.

Each Indian tribe that lived in these areas had its own language and customs, and they lived by hunting, fishing and farming, traveling everywhere on foot or by canoe. Horses at that time were unknown to them and so too were guns which, when they were later introduced by Europeans, resulted in many bloody battles as well as the virtual extinction of the bison.

Sentence Context Clues: Learn the five new words in these sentence contexts.

roam /rəʊm / *v.* 来回地走, 漫步; 闲逛, 流浪

- The lovers *roamed* about the forest.

teem /ti:m / *vi.* 充满, 充斥, 有很多(in); (地方) 充满, 富于(with)

- The desert is *teeming* with life in the good seasons.

rugged /'rʌɡɪd / *a.* 崎岖不平的, 粗糙不平的; 多岩的

- They found their way through the *rugged* hills.

desolate /'desəleɪt / *a.* 荒凉; 凄凉

- After the war the town was a *desolate* place.

spectacular /spek'tækjʊlə / *a.* 引人注目的; 壮观的; 激动人心的

- Princess Anne's wedding was a *spectacular* affair.
- The men gave a *spectacular* display of horse riding.

Substitute Words and Expressions: Now go a step forward to learn some of the synonyms and similar expressions of these words.

1. Wild animals *roam* / *travel* / *wander* over the hills and plains.
2. The rivers, lakes and coastal waters *teem* / *abound* / *are filled* with salmon and cod.
3. They went along a *rugged* / *uneven* / *rocky* track through the mountains.
4. The old monastery is located in a *desolate* / *deserted* / *barren* mountainous area.
5. The sunrise as seen from the top of a mountain is a *spectacular* / *magnificent* / *gorgeous* / *glorious* / *impressive* sight.

Unit 1

Part II

New Words: immigrate persecute prolific fashion commercial

The Exploration of the “New world”

In 1492 Christopher Columbus landed at San Salvador, near the Florida coast and in so doing the “New World” was discovered. The early exploitation, settlement and development, mainly by English, French and Spanish invaders, was the start of what is now one of the greatest and most powerful nations of the 20th century. Many of the first English *immigrants* had left their country to escape religious *persecution* and they settled in the new world.

There were many other reasons, however, for exploring this unknown land. Fur-bearing animals were *prolific* and furs were in great demand in *fashion*-conscious Europe. The promise of gold encouraged some, timber from the huge forests and the sale of land attracted others. Later came the *commercial* production of crops such as sugar-cane, tobacco and indigo.

Sentence Context Clues: Learn the five new words in the following sentences.

immigrate /'ɪmɪɡreɪt / *vi.* 移居入境 (to, into)

- Many Italians *immigrated* to the United States and Canada.

immigrant /'ɪmɪɡrənt / *n.* (从外国来的)移居

persecute /'pɜːsɪkjʊt / *vt.* 迫害

- They *persecute* those who do not conform to their ideas.

persecution /'pɜːsɪ'kjuːʃən / *n.* 迫害

prolific /prə'ɪlɪfɪk / *a.* 多产的(作家等);繁殖很快的

- He was a *prolific* writer and wrote as many as three books a year.

fashion /'fæʃən / *n.* 方式,样子;(服装等的)式样,一时的风尚

- She was dressed in the latest Paris *fashion*.

commercial /kə'mɜːʃəl / *a.* 商业(上)的;可能获得利润的,以营利为目的的

- Our *commercial* laws are very old-fashioned.

Substitute Words and Expressions: Now go a step forward to learn some of the synonyms and similar expressions of these words.

1. As a mere child, he *immigrated/migrated/moved* to this country from Ireland.
2. Members of these sects are ruthlessly *persecuted/maltreated/oppressed* and suppressed.
3. The rabbit is a *prolific/reproductive/progenitive* animal.
4. He wanted to make his living in the arts rather than in the *commercial/business/trade/profit making* world.
5. She moves in a graceful *fashion/way/manner*.

Unit 1

Part III

New Words: incur culminate issue renounce allegiance

The Recognition of American Independence

By 1750, the original thirteen English Colonies were taken over by the British Crown under the rule of King George III. His autocratic policy, however, was largely responsible for their loss. He introduced certain laws and taxes which *incurred* the resentment of the settlers.

This conflict between England and her colonies *culminated* in the American War of Independence and the establishment of the United States of America. The first shots of the war were fired at Lexington and the opening battle was fought at Bunker Hill, near Charleston, in 1775.

On July 4th, 1776 Congress *issued* its Declaration of Independence, *renouncing* all *allegiance* to the British Crown and stating: "that these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent states." The war, however, continued for another seven years, during which time Spain and France joined in as America's allies. Eventually peace negotiations were opened which resulted in the recognition of American Independence through the Treaty of Paris of 1783.

Sentence Context Clues: Learn the five new words in these sentence contexts.

incur /ɪn'kɜː / *vt.* 招致,引起,带来,遭受,受以

- Do not *incur* unnecessary debts.

culminate /'kʌlmɪneɪt / *v.* 达到顶点;以……告终(in)

- The science fair *culminated* in the awarding of prizes.

issue /'ɪʃuː / *vt.* 发行;颁布,发布;出版

- He *issued* instructions that the prisoners (should) be set free.

renounce /rɪ'naʊns / *vt.* 放弃(权利等);宣布不承认,宣布不做某事

- He *renounced* his claim to the money.
- The old lady *renounced* her wicked son.

allegiance /ə'li:dʒəns / *n.* (对国家等的)忠诚;(对个人等的)忠贞

- The fighting men swore full *allegiance* to the nation.

Substitute Words and Expressions: Now go a step forward to learn some of the synonyms and similar expressions of these words.

1. He *incurred/contracted/ran up* huge debts by rash spending.
2. The struggle between King and Parliament had *culminated/resulted/ended up* in the Civil War.
3. Does the government *issue/circulate/distribute* commemorative stamps?
4. They had to *renounce/give up/abandon* the use of force to settle the disputes.
5. My first *allegiance/faithfulness/devotion* is to my family then to my friends.

Unit 1

Part IV

New Words: deposit migrate pioneer barrier pose

A Land of Rich Opportunity

Meanwhile, many settlers were attracted to the far west, with its fine climate, good farming land and mineral *deposits*. During their *migrations*, pioneer farmers faced enormous hardships, shortage of food and water, attacks by lawless people, extreme weather conditions and, eventually, the *barrier posed* by the Rocky Mountains. Between 1783 and 1848, however, American expansion was at its greatest. America quadrupled its size and, with the rich resources it had acquired became, by 1900, the world's largest industrial and agricultural nation.

Vast fortunes were made from coal, oil, steel, timber, railways, milling and meat packaging — to mention just a few of the booming industries of the time. Cities like Chicago, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Detroit and New York grew rapidly as a result, and the influx of millions of immigrants from Europe, many of them highly skilled, eventually made America into not only a prosperous country but also a fascinating melting-pot of races and a land of rich opportunity.

Sentence Context Clues: Learn the five new words in these sentence contexts.

deposit /dɪ'pɒzɪt/ *n.* & *vt.*

n. 定金;存款;矿藏

• The shopkeeper promised to keep the goods for me if I left a *deposit*.

vt. 存放;储存;(使)沉积

• He *deposited* his luggage in the corner beside the tall clock.

migrate /maɪ'grɛɪt/ *vi.* 迁移(到其他地区);(鸟类)迁往

• People often *migrate* to another town to find work.

pioneer /ˌpaɪə'nɪə/ *n.* 先驱,探索者;开拓者

• The Russians were the *pioneers* of space travel.

barrier /'bærɪə/ *n.* 障碍(物),有妨碍的东西

• The police put up *barriers* to control the crowd.

pose /pəʊz/ *v.* 装模作样;(为相片、画)摆姿势;形成

• She dances, smiles, *poses*, and *shouts*.

Substitute Words and Expressions: Now go a step forward to learn some of the synonyms and similar expressions of these words.

1. *Deposit* / *Put* / *Place* / *Set down* your lunch tray at the cafeteria door.

2. When did the Irish *migrate* / *emigrate* / *move* to the United States?

3. *Pioneers* / *First settlers* / *Early immigrants* / *Frontiersmen* from the East settled in this region in 1870.

4. Not knowing a foreign language is a(n) *barrier* / *obstacle* / *block* to enjoying travel abroad.

5. She loves to *pose* / *posture* / *show off* when men are around.

Unit 1

Part V

REVIEW

SENSIBLE SENTENCES?

Choose the word that makes sense in each of the sentences below.

1. Hungry wolves _____ the forest in search of food. (incurred, roamed).
2. The coastline is wild and _____. (rugged, prolific)
3. The western plains used to _____ with bison before those animals were slaughtered by settlers. (culminate, teem)
4. The house looked _____, ready to be torn down. (desolate, spectacular)
5. Moving pictures present _____ scenes like battles, storms, or races. (spectacular, rugged)
6. All Americans are _____ for even the Indians came originally as emigrants from Asia. (immigrants, pioneers)
7. Christians were terribly _____ in that country. (renounced, persecuted)
8. The usually _____ novelist was frustrated by her failure to come up with a good plot. (prolific, rugged)
9. During that time he studied American _____ practice. (prolific, commercial)
10. He greeted us warmly in his usual friendly _____. (barrier, fashion)
11. The hunter _____ great danger in killing the tiger. (incurred, deposited)
12. The Ministry had to cancel plans to _____ government bonds. (issue, persecute)
13. I'm proud to pledge _____ to the flag and to my country. (allegiance, migration)
14. We have expressed our determination to _____ the materialism of society. (persecute, renounce)
15. Their disagreement _____ in a fight. (posed, culminated)
16. I'll take a picture of you, so will you _____ by the tree? (pose, roam)
17. They all went out as _____, with little or nothing. (pioneers, barriers)
18. _____ for work is accelerating in the third world. (Migration, Immigrant)
19. I _____ 50 dollars in my savings account. (deposited, issued)
20. Deserts and mountains have always been a _____ to the movement of people. (barrier, fashion)

Unit 2

Part I

New Words: preserve faculty cultivate trait destructive

Thinking Freely

Albert Einstein once attributed the creativity of a famous scientist to the fact that he “never went to school, and therefore *preserved* the rare gift of thinking freely.” There is undoubtedly truth in Einstein’s observation; many artists and geniuses seem to view their schooling as a disadvantage. But such a truth is not a criticism of schools. It is the function of schools to civilize, not to train explorers. The explorer is always a lonely individual whether his or her pioneering is in art, music, science, or technology. The creative explorer of unmapped lands shares with the genius what William James described as the “*faculty* of perceiving in an unhabitual way”. Insofar as schools teach perceptual patterns they tend to destroy creativity and genius. But if schools could somehow exist solely to *cultivate* genius, then society would break down. For the social order demands unity and widespread agreement, both *traits* that are *destructive* to creativity. There will always be conflict between the demands of society and the impulses of creativity and genius* .

Sentence Context Clues: Learn the five new words in these sentence contexts.

preserve /prɪ'zɜ:v / *vt.* 保持, 维持; 保存; 保护

- Policemen *preserve* order in the streets.
- In times of danger he always *preserves* his calmness.

faculty /'fækəltɪ / *n.* 才能, 能力; 大学教师的总称

- The stroke deprived him of the *faculty* of speech.
- He was on the *faculty* there for over 40 years.

cultivate /'kʌltɪveɪt / *vt.* 耕种, 种植; 培植; 培养, 养成

- How can you best *cultivate* in your students the speech habits of the English language?

trait /treɪt / *n.* 品质, 性格上的特点

- She inherited this *trait* from her mother.

destructive /dɪs'trʌktɪv / *a.* 有破坏性的, 破坏性很大的, 有害的

- It was the most *destructive* storm in 30 years.

Substitute Words and Expressions: Now go a step forward to learn some of the synonyms and similar expressions of these words.

1. We must *preserve/protect/conserve* our natural resources.
2. He joined the *faculty/professors/teachers* of Columbia University.
3. She *cultivated/developed/improved* her mind by reading many books.
4. Boldness and resolution are two of the *traits/qualities/characteristics* of a good leader.
5. The missile has great *destructive/damaging/ruinous* power.

Unit 2

Part II

New Words: voracious indiscriminate eminent steep replete

How to Gain in Wisdom?

The youngster who reads *voraciously*, though *indiscriminately*, does not necessarily gain in wisdom over the teenager who is more selective in his reading choices. A young man who has read the life story of every *eminent* athlete of the twentieth century, or a coed who has *steeped* herself in every social-protest novel she can get her hands on, may very well be learning all there is to know in a very limited area. But books are *replete* with so many wonders that it is often discouraging to see bright young people limit their own experiences.

Sentence Context Clues: Learn the five new words in these sentence contexts.

voracious /və'reɪʃəs/ *a.* 贪婪的(读者); 贪吃的

- She is a *voracious* reader of all kinds of love stories.
- Teenagers often have *voracious* appetites.

indiscriminate /ɪndɪs'krɪmɪnət/ *a.* 不加选择的; 不系统的, 紊乱的

- The boy's *indiscriminate* choice of friends got him into trouble.
- He is an *indiscriminate* reader, and likes good books and bad books.

eminent /'emɪnənt/ *a.* 闻名的, 杰出的; (品质等) 突出的(或优良的)

- Churchill was one of the world's most *eminent* statesmen.
- The explosive situation was handled with *eminent* restraint.

steep /sti:p/ *v.* 对……熟悉, 对……造诣深(*steep oneself in*)

- Professor Dorner *steeps* himself in geology, especially in the geology of the American West.
- Since I am *steeped* in football, I enjoy explaining its intricate details to him.

replete /rɪ'pli:t/ *a.* 充满(with); 饱足的

- The cabinets were *replete* with valuable antiques.
- Current novels are *replete* with lurid crimes, carnage and death.
- I feel rather *replete* after that large meal.

Substitute Words and Expressions: Now go a step forward to learn some of the synonyms and similar expressions of these words.

1. The fat man has a(n) *voracious/insatiable/omnivorous* appetite.
2. Television watchers tend to be *indiscriminate/casual/unselective* in their viewing habits.
3. The committee has 10 members, each *eminent/illustrious/renowned/prominent* in his or her particular field.
4. She *steeps/immerses/buries* herself in the problems of her students.
5. The worlds of science-fiction are *replete/are fraught/abound* with wonders.

Unit 2

Part III

New Words: survey reveal poll reconcile casual

The Major Source of Information

Surveys reveal that most adults consider themselves “well-informed about the affairs of the nation and the world.” Yet a regularly taken Roper *poll* that asks, “From where do you obtain most of your information about the world?” has found the percentage of people who reply “Television” has been increasing steadily over the past decade. The latest questionnaire found that well over 60 percent of the respondents chose television over other media as their major source of information. These two facts are difficult to *reconcile* since even a *casual* study of television news reveals it is only a headline service and not a source of information enabling one to shape a world view.

Sentence Context Clues: Learn the five new words in these sentence contexts.

survey /'sɜ:vɛɪ / *n.* & *vt.*

n. 调查; 检查; 查看; 测量

• We made a *survey* of the uses of English.

/sə'veɪ / vt. 调查, 研究; 查看; 概述

• Let's *survey* the events leading up to the crime.

reveal /rɪ'veɪl / *vt.* 显露; 让人知道, 透露, 暴露

• I will now draw the curtain and *reveal* the picture behind it.

• The survey appears to have *revealed* some interesting facts.

poll /pəʊl / *n.* 投票, 选举; 民意测验

• The result of the *poll* won't be known until midnight.

• An independent *poll* shows that 60 percent of the people favor daylight saving time.

reconcile /'rekənsaɪl / *vt.* 使和解; 使一致, 使相符

• The two girls quarreled but are now *reconciled*.

• Each month we *reconcile* our check book with the bank statement.

casual /'kæʒʊəl / *a.* 偶然的; 随随便便的; 一时的

• The two old friends had a *casual* meeting.

• A *casual* laborer is one who has no steady job.

Substitute Words and Expressions: Now go a step forward to learn some of the synonyms and similar expressions of these words.

1. They ran a(n) *survey* / *investigation* / *comprehensive view* of the most popular television programs.

2. Further investigation *revealed* / *exhibited* / *showed* / *unveiled* the true facts.

3. A recent *poll* / *public opinion poll* / *public survey* shows a change in public opinion.

4. After a while he grew *reconciled* / *adjusted* / *accustomed* to the situation.

5. I had a *casual* / *superficial* / *perfunctory* glance at the papers.

Unit 2

Part IV

New Words: distinction assume province certify convey

Our Potential as Teachers

Teaching is supposed to be a professional activity requiring long and complicated training as well as official certification. The act of teaching is looked upon as a flow of knowledge from a higher source to an empty container. The student's role is one of receiving information; the teacher's role is one of sending it. There is a clear *distinction assumed* between one who is supposed to know (and therefore not capable of being wrong) and another, usually younger person who is supposed not to know. However, teaching need not be the *province* of a special group of people nor need it be looked upon as a technical skill. Teaching can be more like guiding and assisting than forcing information into a supposedly empty head. If you have a certain skill you should be able to share it with someone. You do not have to get *certified* to *convey* what you know to someone else or to help them in their attempt to teach themselves. All of us, from the very youngest children to the oldest members of our cultures, should come to realize our own potential as teachers.

Sentence Context Clues: Learn the five new words in these sentence contexts.

distinction /dɪs'tɪŋkʃən / *n.* 区别; 荣誉; 卓越, 杰出

- It is difficult to make exact *distinctions* between all the meanings of a word.

assume /ə'sju:m / *vt.* 认为, 假定; 装出(样子); 开始执行(任务)

- Scientists *assume* that there is no animal life on Mars.
- You will *assume* your new duties tomorrow.

province /'prɒvɪns / *n.* (专长的)领域, (有关)范围; 生长的地区

- I know nothing about Persian art; that's quite outside my *province*.

certify /'sɜ:tɪfaɪ / *vt.* 确认……正确无误; (经过核查)宣布; 证明

- The doctor *certified* his findings to the commission.

convey /kən'veɪ / *vt.* 传导, 运送, 传送; 传达, 表达, 转达

- This train *conveys* over three hundred passengers every day.

Substitute Words and Expressions: Now go a step forward to learn some of the synonyms and similar expressions of these words.

1. The *distinction/difference/differentiation* between a bush and a shrub is very fine.
2. When you have a language degree people *assume/believe/presume* that you can speak the language fluently.
3. My *province/field/realm* is European art.
4. Ask the bank manager to *certify/confirm/corroborate* this check.
5. Words cannot *convey/express/communicate* my feelings.

Unit 2

Part V

REVIEW

SENSIBLE SENTENCES?

Choose the word that makes sense in each of the sentences below.

1. This rocket has sufficient _____ power to blow a battleship to pieces. (destructive, replete)
2. Courage, love of fair play and common sense are desirable _____. (surveys, traits)
3. Ancient Egyptians knew of means to _____ dead bodies from decay. (preserve, reveal)
4. He _____ the sort of people who can be useful to him in his business. (cultivates, conveys)
5. He has the _____ of saying the right thing at the right time. (province, faculty)
6. A good library is _____ with many different kinds of books. (replete, eminent)
7. The _____ author received the Nobel Prize for literature. (steeped, eminent)
8. My cousin is so _____ in schoolwork that his friends call him a bookworm. (steeped, casual)
9. After skiing, I find that I have a _____ appetite. (voracious, indiscriminate)
10. Modern warfare often results in the _____ killing of combatants and innocent civilians alike. (indiscriminate, replete)
11. This chapter includes a brief _____ of the more commonly used drugs. (survey, faculty)
12. The U.N. _____ the international dispute. (reconciled, roamed)
13. They employ _____ workers to pick the fruit. (casual, commercial)
14. A majority of those _____ wanted "stricter law enforcement". (polled, posed)
15. Research _____ that the bird was on the brink of extinction. (persecuted, revealed)
16. Being color-blind, he can't make a _____ between red and green. (distinction, trait)
17. Let's _____ you don't get a raise, could we still afford a new car? (preserve, assume)
18. I _____ that the facts written here are the truth. (certify, incur)
19. His tone _____ his real feelings more truly than his words. (conveyed, surveyed)
20. Judging the legality of the ordinance is within the _____ of the courts. (province, allegiance)

Unit 3

Part I

New Words: ritual paraphernalia grave sober discard

Lottery , an Exciting Game of Chance

I like any game of chance, but I most enjoy taking part in a lottery. The lottery is like an unchanging religious ceremony, and it is perhaps this *ritual* quality of the lottery that people enjoy. Unlike other games of chance, a lottery does not require a great deal of *paraphernalia*. The only equipment needed is a bowl filled with slips of paper. I enjoy the excitement of watching the official pick the winning number. The moment before the drawing is very serious. The judge *gravely* approaches the bowl and looks at the crowd *soberly*. The crowd is quiet except for the low murmur of excitement. Suddenly the winner is selected. After the lottery is over, everyone but the winner throws away his piece of paper, and the *discarded* slips are soon blown away by the wind. People begin to disengage themselves from the crowd and the lottery is over.

Sentence Context Clues: Learn the five new words in these sentence contexts.

ritual /'ritʃuəl / *a. & n.*

a. 仪式的, 祭典的; 礼节性的, 惯常的

• On Sunday we make our *ritual* visit to the pub at lunchtime.

n. (宗教等的) 仪式; 例行公事, 老规矩; 程式, 礼规

• I don't know much about the rituals and customs of other churches.

paraphernalia /,pærəfə'neiʃə / *n.* 随身用具; 成套装备

• Why did you bring all that *paraphernalia*? We shall only be away for two days.

grave /greɪv / *a.* 严肃的, 沉闷的; 严重的, 危急的

• The president addressed the Congress with a *grave* voice.

• The situation confronting the new Republic was extremely *grave*.

sober /'səʊbə / *a.* 头脑冷静的, 客观的; 没喝醉的; 庄严的

• I sat down in his armchair and began to talk to him in a *sober* and friendly fashion.

• Anyone who is not drunk is *sober*.

discard /dɪs'kɑ:d / *vt.* 扔掉, 抛弃

• He *discarded* all his old clothes.

• Let's *discard* some of these old newspapers.

Substitute Words and Expressions: Now go a step forward to learn some of the synonyms and similar expressions of these words.

1. The marriage *rituals/rites/ceremonies* were performed by a priest.

2. The girls began to gather their hockey sticks, satchels and other *paraphernalia/articles/implements*.

3. His sister was happy and carefree, but he was always *grave/solemn/serious*.

4. She is sensible and will give a *sober/realistic/rational/sound* opinion of the facts.

5. Let's *discard/throw away/get rid of* some of these old newspapers.