

大学英语 阅读教材

(第二册)

College English Reading Materials

—— Book 2 ——

陈林堂 主 编
要同林 副主编
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陕西人民出版社

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前 言

这套教材是依据高等学校文理工科《大学英语教学大纲》对阅读理解的要求精神编写而成的。旨在使学生通过大学两年英语基础阶段的学习，培养他们具有较强的阅读能力，迅速达到大纲的要求，顺利通过全国大学英语四级考试。

本教材共分四册，一级一册，配合大学英语一、二、三、四级的精读课的教学，使学生循序渐进地进行大量的快速阅读和泛读，以扩大他们的词汇量，提高阅读水平。

本教材一、二册各二十个单元，每单元三篇短文，每篇短文后十个阅读理解题；三册二十个单元，每单元四篇短文，每篇短文后五个阅读理解题；四册二十五个单元，每单元四篇短文，每篇短文后五个阅读理解题，完全模仿全国大学英语四级考试阅读理解试题的形式和内容编排。全套教材共 300 篇短文，生词不超过 3%，并加注了超纲词的汉语释义。

本教材最大的特点是，紧扣大纲、选材广泛、体裁多样、内容丰富、题材新颖、针对性强，并具有较强的知识性和趣味性。同时侧重于训练读者领会文章的主旨大意的能力，从正反两方面提出问题，以加深理解的深度，练习比较深入、隐晦，有利于加强阅读中的引申、推断、联想和概括的能力。

本教材适用于大学生阅读自测，也可作为社会上中、高

级英语自学者提高阅读理解能力的有益参考书。同时可作为教师指导学生进行阅读理解强化训练的理想教材。

本教材在编写过程中，得到陕西人民出版社、西北纺织学院、陕西师范大学、西安工业学院、陕西机械学院和西北农业大学的有关同志的大力支持和帮助。西安外国语学院英语系周龙如教授在百忙中审阅了此教材。在此一并致谢。

由于我们水平有限，加之时间仓促，书中谬误之处在所难免，尚望广大读者及同行批评指正。

编 者

1990年2月

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UNIT ONE

Passage A

On Thursday afternoon Mrs Clarke, dressed for going out, took her handbag with her money and her key in it, pulled the door behind her to lock it and went to the Over 60s Club. She always went there on Thursdays. It was a nice outing for an old woman who lived alone.

At six o'clock she came home, let herself in and at once smelt cigarette smoke. Cigarette smoke in her house? How? Had somebody got in? She checked the back door and the windows. All were locked or fastened, as usual. There was no sign of forced entry. Had anything been taken? She went from room to room, checking. Yes, some things were missing—her small radio, her spare watch, a camera. That was all, she thought; but she couldn't be sure just yet. She was annoyed, of course, but rather glad that nothing had been thrown about.

Over a cup of tea she wondered whether someone might have a key that fitted her front door—"a master key"^① perhaps. So she stayed at home the following Thursday. Nothing happened. Was anyone watching her movements? On the Thursday after that she went out at her usual time, dressed as usual, but she didn't go to the club. Instead she took a short cut home again, letting herself in through her garden

and the back door. She settled down to wait.

It was just after four o'clock when the front door bell rang. Mrs Clarke was making a cup of tea at the time. The bell rang again, and then she heard her letter-box being pushed open. With the kettle of boiling water in her hand, she moved quietly towards the front door. A long piece of wire appeared through the letter-box, and then a hand. The wire turned and caught around the knob² on the door-lock. Mrs Clarke raised the kettle and poured the water over the hand. There was a shout outside, and the skin seemed to drop off the fingers like a glove. The wire fell to the floor, the hand was pulled back, and Mrs Clarke heard the sound of running feet.

That evening she reported the matter to the police. They were not too pleased, but they came and took away the wire and the skin. 'It was only self-protection,' she told the officer. 'An old woman must try to look after herself.' With the help of a doctor the police found the man and recovered Mrs Clarke's things. She has become something of a heroine at the Over 60s Club.

Notes: ①master key 万能钥匙 ②knob *n.*球形把手

1. Mrs Clarke belonged to a club for _____ people.
a. brave
b. lonely
c. independent
d. elderly
2. The smell of cigarette smoke surprised her because _____.
a. she had taken her cigarettes with her

- b. she never left a cigarette burning
 - c. she didn't smoke
 - d. she didn't allow smoking at home
3. If someone had made a forced entry _____.
- a. Mrs Clarke would have found a broken door or window
 - b. he or she was still in the house
 - c. things would have been thrown about
 - d. he or she would have needed a master key
4. On the third Thursday Mrs Clarke went out _____.
- a. because she didn't want to miss the club again
 - b. to see if the thief was hanging about outside
 - c. to the club but then changed her mind
 - d. in an attempt to trick the thief
5. The lock on the front door was one which _____.
- a. needed a piece of wire to open
 - b. could be opened from inside without a key
 - c. couldn't be opened without a key
 - d. used a knob instead of a key
6. The wire fell to the floor _____.
- a. because Mrs Clarke refused to open the door
 - b. when the man's glove dropped off
 - c. because the man was hurt and wanted to get away
 - d. because it was too hot to hold
7. A kettle of boiling water was an unusual weapon, but in this case it was _____.
- a. effective
 - b. attractive

- c. comparative d. selective
8. The police were not too pleased with Mrs Clarke for taking the law into her own _____.
a. house b. hands.
c. method d. punishment
9. The thief was arrested after _____.
a. he went to a doctor about his hand
b. the police found his finger-prints on the wire
c. he complained to the police
d. Mrs Clarke described him to the police
10. The thief probably watched her leaving, but he did not see her _____ the house.
a. re-enter b. return
c. come back d. arrive

Passage B

It was a quarter after nine as Marie hurried into the office building where she was going to work. Her bus had inched along through heavy morning traffic, making her a few minutes late for her very first job. She resolved to start out half an hour earlier the next day.

Once inside the lobby^①, she had to stand at the elevators and wait several minutes before she could get on one going to the sixth floor. When she finally reached the office marked "King Enterprises," she knocked on the door nervously and waited. There was no answer. She tapped on the door again, but still there was no reply. From inside the next office, she

- c. eight thirty
- d. nine thirty
2. Marie was late because _____.
 - a. she overslept
 - b. she got up late
 - c. her bus headed for a wrong direction
 - d. her bus was slow
3. Choose the best explanation according to the story.
resolved means _____.
 - a. found a solution
 - b. thought about
 - c. agreed
 - d. was determined
4. How did Marie get to the sixth floor?
 - a. She got on the lift.
 - b. She climbed the stairs.
 - c. She ran up hurriedly.
 - d. She was led by a bell boy.
5. People in the office laughed _____.
 - a. at Marie because she was late
 - b. at Marie because she was nervous
 - c. loudly since Marie looked silly
 - d. loudly since someone had told a joke
6. When one of the men clapped his hands, he must have said, _____.
 - a. "Don't be silly"
 - b. "Mr King is coming"
 - c. "Marie is here"
 - d. "Someone is watching us"
7. Marie had to wait for Mr King because

- a. it was her first day at work
 - b. she was the manager's new secretary
 - c. she didn't know when would the work begin
 - d. it was her duty to wait
8. Mr King lived in Connecticut _____.
- a. and worked in Manhattan
 - b. and came to Mahattan once a week
 - c. and came to work every other day
 - d. and spent 9 hours on train every morning
9. According to the passage _____.
- a. Marie would start out half an hour later the following day
 - b. Marie resolved to leave her home half an hour earlier
 - c. Marie would come to the office promptly at 9:35 the following day just as Mr King did
 - d. Marie would be in the office well after 9:30
10. The most suitable title for the reading passage should be _____.
- a. Marie's First Day at Work
 - b. Mr King's Employees
 - c. Like Employer, Like Employee
 - d. Like Clockwork

Passage C

The party started shortly after nine. Mr. Wood, who lived in the apartment below, sighed to himself as he heard the first signs—the steady tramp^① of feet on the stairs and the

sound of excited voices as the guests greeted each other. He knew that in just a few minutes the music would begin and, after that, the dancing. Luckily, Mr. Wood had brought some work home from the office which would keep him busy for a while, perhaps for a couple of hours or so. He hoped this would help him ignore the party that was going on upstairs.

By eleven o'clock Mr. Wood felt very tired. He was ready for bed but he knew from past experience that he was not going to be able to get to sleep. Putting on his pajamas^②, he propped^③ himself up in bed with a book. He tried to concentrate on his book, but the noise from the room directly above his head was too much. He found himself reading the same page over and over again. Giving up, he turned out the light and buried his head in the pillows in a desperate effort to shut out the noise. Finally, after what seemed like hours, he switched the light back on and looked at his watch. It was a little after three o'clock. He was furious. Throwing back the covers, he jumped out of bed, put on his robe and marched out of the bedroom and across the living room to the front door of his apartment. He jerked^④ the door open and charged out into the hallway, heading for the stairs.

Gasping for breath after running up the stairs, Mr. Wood positioned himself at his neighbor's door and knocked several times as loud as he could. But no one opened the door. This did not improve his temper. So he pounded on the door and shouted, "Open up in there!" A moment later

the door opened and his neighbor, dressed in pajamas and rubbing his eyes, appeared in the doorway. Recognizing Mr. Wood and sensing that something terrible had happened, he asked, "What is it, Mr. Wood? What's the matter? Is the place on fire or something?" "No!" shouted Mr. Wood. "It's all this noise! How do you expect people to get any sleep?" His neighbor looked surprised and said, "What noise?" Mr. Wood stopped and listened for a moment. There was silence. He turned around slowly and looked up and down the empty hallway, and then turned back and leaned his head through the open doorway. "Where are all your guests?" he asked with a puzzled look on his face. "They've gone home," said his neighbor, opening the door wide and motioning with his arm to the dark living room. "We had a little party earlier, but everybody left a couple of hours ago," he explained. "I've been in bed asleep." Mr. Wood could hardly believe it. There was not another soul in the place. Then it suddenly dawned on him that he must have gone off to sleep without realizing it hours ago while the party was still going on. Feeling a little foolish and quite embarrassed, Mr. Wood apologized for waking up his neighbor in the middle of the night and silently made his way back to his own apartment.

Notes: ①tramp *n.* 踩, 踩 ②pajamas *n.* 睡衣

③propped *v.* 支, 靠 ④jerked *v.* 猛拉

1. How long did the party last?

a. two hours

b. three hours

c. one hour

d. five hours

2. Mr Wood brought some work home from the office _____.
- a. because he knew there would be a noisy party
 - b. because there was a party every evening over his apartment
 - c. by chance to be used to ignore the party
 - d. to do every evening except on weekends
3. The party his neighbor held usually ended _____.
- a. just after eleven
 - b. before eleven
 - c. at dawn
 - d. at mid-night
4. The noise from the room directly over Mr Wood's head prevented him from _____.
- a. reading and working
 - b. reading and sleeping
 - c. working and sleeping
 - d. sleeping only
5. Mr Wood turned out the light and buried his head in the pillows in a desperate effort to shut out the noise, giving up _____.
- a. reading
 - b. working
 - c. sleeping
 - d. all a, b and c
6. Although Mr Wood buried his head in the pillows, _____.
- a. he is still bothered by the noise not to be able to sleep
 - b. he, immediately after shutting the noise out of his ears, fell into soundly asleep
 - c. he thought he was still prevented from sleeping
 - d. he felt the noise lower a little and went to sleep soon
7. When Mr Wood confronted the party host, he dressed

- _____.
- a. neatly
 - b. clean and tidy
 - c. only in shorts
 - d. in his robe
8. Mr. Wood knocked several times at the door of his neighbor, but got no answer at first because _____.
- a. his knocking is too light to be heard by the noisy dancers
 - b. his neighbor pretended to be not having heard his knocking
 - c. he just imagined he knocked but in fact he didn't
 - d. his neighbor was already soundly asleep
9. When Mr Wood leaned his head through the open doorway, he saw _____.
- a. only the empty apartment
 - b. all the guests were quietly talking
 - c. only the radio be on and give off all the noise
 - d. all the guests lying on the floor, sleeping
10. Why did Mr Wood's anger suddenly vanish?
- a. His neighbor apologized to him heartily.
 - b. He was more frightened than angered by his tough neighbor.
 - c. He found that he himself made a mistake.
 - d. He found that he was a foolish dream-walker.