



New Century College English
-- Efficient Reading --

新世纪大学英语 快速阅读

华中科技大学外语系 编著



华中科技大学出版社

2

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新世纪大学英语快速阅读

(第二册)

华中科技大学外语系 编著

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内 容 提 要

本套教材（1~3 册）是根据新颁布的《大学英语教学大纲》（修订本）所规定的教学目标及对快速阅读所作的具体要求而编著的一套快速阅读教材。教材全面系统地介绍了英语快速阅读的各种技巧和方法，包括略读、导读、猜词、预测等。

本套教材旨在使学生以较快的速度在有限的时间内有目的、有方法、有效果地读完一定量的阅读材料，从中获得所需要的信息，以此来提高阅读效率和快速思维的能力。

前 言

《新世纪大学英语快速阅读》(1~3 册)是华中科技大学外语系大学英语教材编写组根据教育部最新颁布的《大学英语教学大纲》(修订本)而编写的一套快速阅读教材。根据大纲对快速阅读所作的具体要求,学生“在阅读篇幅较长、难度略低、生词不超过总词数 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”。本套教材共分三册,涵盖近乎所有快速阅读的基本技巧,分别供大学英语一至四级使用。

本套教材有以下特点:

1. 能结合大学生的实际情况及大纲的要求,重点培养学生快速阅读及正确理解的技能,提高实际运用语言和快速思维的能力。
2. 在讲解阅读技巧之前,我们提供了“Questions for Self Understanding”,以给学生了解自己阅读习惯的机会。
3. 阅读文章具有较强的时代特色及很强的知识性、趣味性、可读性和针对性。教材中所选的绝大部分文章都源于国际互联网或国内外最新出版的各种报刊杂志,并针对常用的快读技巧进行了专项训练。
4. 既适用于课堂教学,又适用于课外自学。
5. 既适用于本科生、研究生,又适用于专科生和自学者。

本册为第二册,分为两部分。在第一部分,我们为读者提供了选材广泛新颖、颇具时代特色、融知识性与趣味性为一体的阅读材料,其难易程度均不超过大纲规定的四级词汇范围(文中影响阅读的超纲词已给出中文释义),目的是便于读者进行快速阅读。在每篇文章前注明了应该达到的阅读速度,以供读者自测,文章后还配有文章字数及检查学生对该文章的理解的练习题。第二部分是练习的参考答案。阅读技巧部分请参见第一册。

在本教材的编写过程中,我们得到了外语系领导、广大教师及出版社领导和编辑的支持和帮助,编者在此表示最诚挚的谢意。

同时,我们还要特别感谢雷小川老师,他从本教材的选题、编写到最后的审、定稿都给予了指导和支持,并提出了不少宝贵的指导性建议,在此我们向他表示最诚挚的谢意。

由于编者水平有限,书中错误和不足难免,在此我们恳请广大读者及同仁批评指正。

编 者

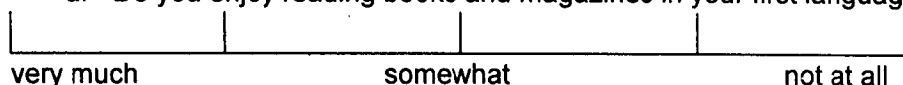
2002 年 12 月

Questions for Self-understanding

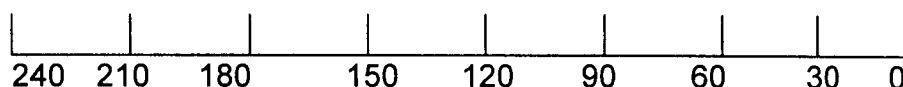
Before you begin your reading course, think about how you read now. Circle the point on the line which best describes your present reading habits and interests.

1. Reading in your first language

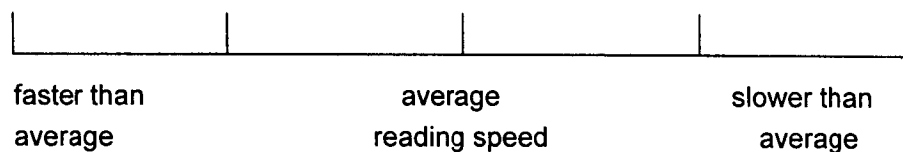
a. Do you enjoy reading books and magazines in your first language?



b. How many minutes a day do you generally read?

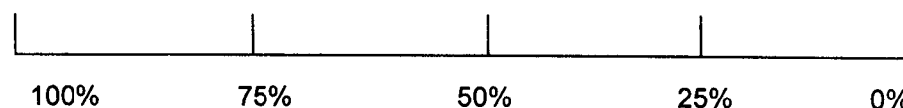


c. In general, how fast do you think you read?

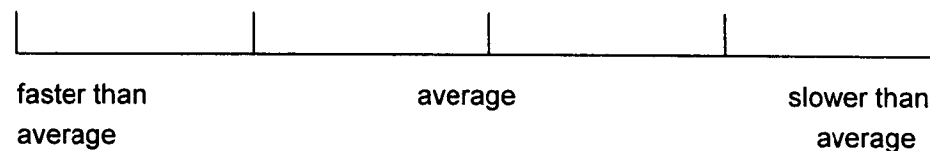


2. Reading in English

a. When you read an English passage, how much do you usually understand?



b. In general, how fast do you think you read in English?



c. What kinds of books and magazines do you want to read in English for your own pleasure or information?

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I. Reading Passages

Expected Reading Time: 3'

Passage 1 Air Flight Schedule

Repudiation (限制性条款): This information should only be used as a basic information guide, since it may not be up to date due to the constant changing of flights and their times by the Airlines. *ALWAYS* check with each airline for up to date information on flight schedules.



BANGKOK TO MOSCOW

Days	Flight No.	Departure	Arrival	Length	Stops	Distance	Aircraft	Operate
MON	SU552	23:00	06:05+1	11:05 hrs	NON	7070 km	B767	30OCT TO 19MAR
TUE	SU552	23:25	06:10+1	10:45 hrs	NON	7070 km	B777	31OCT TO 24MAR
THU	SU552	23:25	06:10+1	10:45 hrs	NON	7070 km	B777	31OCT TO 24MAR
FRI	SU554	21:45	06:30+1	12:45 hrs	DEL	7278 km	B767	03NOV TO 23MAR
SAT	SU580	13:40	20:45	11:05 hrs	NON	7070 km	IL96	04NOV TO 24MAR
SAT	SU552	23:25	06:10+1	10:45 hrs	NON	7070 km	B777	31OCT TO 24MAR

MOSCOW TO BANGKOK

Days	Flight No.	Departure	Arrival	Length	Stops	Distance	Aircraft	Operate
MON	SU551	23:25	12:55+1	09:30 hrs	NON	7070 km	B777	30OCT TO 19MAR
WED	SU551	23:55	13:25+1	09:30 hrs	NON	7070 km	B777	01NOV TO 23MAR
THU	SU553	23:25	15:00+1	11:35 hrs	DEL	7278 km	B767	02NOV TO 22 MAR
FRI	SU579	21:40	11:40+1	10:00 hrs	NON	7070 km	IL96	03NOV TO 23MAR
FRI	SU551	23:55	13:25+1	09:30 hrs	NON	7070 km	B777	01NOV TO 23MAR
SUN	SU551	23:25	13:25+1	10:00 hrs	NON	7070 km	B767	29OCT TO 18MAR

Reading Comprehension

- From Bangkok to Moscow, the only flight that stops for one time is _____.
 A. SU552 on Tuesday B. SU552 on Saturday
 C. SU580 D. SU554
- A passenger may fly from Moscow to Bangkok on all of the following days EXCEPT _____.
 A. Monday B. Tuesday C. Thursday D. Sunday
- The type of aircraft for flight SU553 is _____.
 A. Boeing 767 B. Boeing 777 C. Boeing 737 D. IL96
- The quickest flight among all is _____.
 A. SU553 B. SU579 C. SU551 D. SU552
- How many types of aircrafts are employed in the tables above?
 A. four B. five C. three D. two

Expected Reading Time: 3'

Passage 2 Train Schedule

Philadelphia to Atlantic City

Weekdays except Major Holidays — Effective Sept. 5, 2000



Train No.	BUS	4605	4607	B4659	B4661	B4663	B4665	4617
SEPTA								
PHLAirpt Lv	—	—	—	7:09a	8:09a	10:39a	12:39p	2:39a
Phil 30th Ar	—	—	—	7:30a	8:30a	11:00a	1:00p	3:00p
Phill 30th Lv	—	5:44a	6:32a	7:52a	9:05a	11:18p	1:18p	3:17p
Cherry Hill	4:40a	6:08a	6:58a	8:17a	9:31a	11:43a	1:44p	3:43p
Via Patco:								
15-18&Loc	4:30a	5:44a	6:37a	7:51a	8:57a	11:17a	1:17p	3:18p
8th & Market	4:33a	5:47a	6:40a	7:54a	9:00a	11:20a	1:20p	3:21p
Camden	4:39a	5:53a	6:46a	8:00a	9:05a	11:25a	1:25p	3:28p
Lindnwd Ar	4:55a	6:09a	7:03a	8:17a	9:22a	11:42a	1:42p	3:40p
Lindenwld Lv	5:00a	6:18a	7:12a	8:27a	9:41a	11:53a	2:00p	3:53p
Atco	—	6:25a	7:19a	8:41a	10:02a	12:07p	2:14p	4:01p
Hammonton	5:34a	6:40a	7:37a	9:04a	10:25a	12:30p	2:37p	4:18p
Egg Harbor	5:51a	6:51a	7:47a	9:19a	10:40a	12:45p	2:52p	4:29p
Absecon	6:06a	7:02a	7:58a	9:37a	10:58a	1:03p	3:10p	4:39p
Atlantic City	6:21a	7:15a	8:11a	9:54a	11:15a	1:20p	3:27p	4:53p

AB—Substitute bus service from Atco to Atlantic City

No local service from Hammonton to Egg Harbor City or Absecon

Atlantic City to Philadelphia

Saturdays, Sundays, and Major Holidays — Effective September 5, 2000

Train No.	4604	4606	4608	4610	4612	4614	4616	4618
Atlantic City	4:35a	5:56a	6:40a	8:45a	10:31a	12:20p	2:40p	3:40p
Absecon	4:44a	6:05a	6:49a	8:54a	10:40a	12:29p	2:49p	3:47p
Egg Harbor	4:54a	6:16a	7:03a	9:10a	10:55a	12:39p	3:03p	3:57p
Hammonton	5:04a	6:27a	7:14a	9:21a	11:05a	12:53p	3:13p	4:07p
Atco	5:17a	6:44a	7:28a	9:35a	11:18a	1:06p	3:26p	4:20p
Lindenwold	5:24a	6:52a	7:36a	9:43a	11:25a	1:14p	3:34p	4:27p

Via atco:

Lindnwd Lv	5:30a	7:00a	7:48a	9:48a	11:30a	1:24p	3:36p	4:34p
Camden	5:46a	7:16a	8:04a	10:04a	11:48a	1:40p	3:52p	4:51p
8th&Market	5:52a	7:22a	8:11a	10:11a	11:54a	1:47p	3:59p	4:57p
15-16&Loc	5:55a	7:25a	8:14a	10:14a	11:57a	1:50p	4:02p	5:00p
Cherry Hill	5:34a	7:02a	7:46a	10:00a	11:35a	1:24p	3:44p	4:37p
Phl30th Ar	6:04a	7:33a	8:16a	10:30a	12:06p	1:54p	4:21p	5:07p

SEPTA

Phi 30th Lv	6:34a	7:34a	8:34a	10:34a	12:34p	2:04p	4:34p	5:34p
PHLAirpt Ar	6:53a	7:53a	8:53a	10:53a	12:53p	2:23p	4:53p	5:53p

Reading Comprehension

- On Monday, the train B4659 will arrive at Atco at _____.
A. 6:25am B. 7:19am C. 8:41am D. 8:27am
- The latest train arrives at Camden by _____ during the workdays.
A. 3:28pm B. 3:43pm C. 3:21pm D. 3:53pm
- The starting station of 4605 is _____.
A. Cherry Hill B. Phil 30th Lv
C. PHL Airtpt Lv D. Lindnwd Ar
- During the holidays, passengers can take trains at Cherry Hill at all of the following moments EXCEPT for _____.
A. 11:35am B. 1:24pm C. 7:46am D. 4:21pm
- The train 4604 will arrive at Camden at _____.
A. 5.46am B. 5.26am C. 5.30am D. 6.04am



Proverb

A rolling stone gathers no moss.

Expected Reading Time: 3'

Passage 3 Large Dams in the Western United States

"No river should ever reach the sea." — Joseph Stalin. "Of all the ways to tamper (损害) with or harm a river, a large dam usually has the most immediate and far reaching effects ..." —Lori Pottinger, International River Network Introduction.



If we consider the benefits achieved by impounding (储水) rivers and utilizing dammed waters for hydroelectric power production, industry, irrigation or fishing and recreation, the validity of Stalin's statement appears accurate. However, though large dams are useful in many ways, they have also proved to be tragically destructive to both river and terrestrial (陆栖的) ecosystems (生态系统的), as well as human cultures. In order to analyze both the positive and negative effects of dams we examine two case studies; the Bonneville Dam located on the Columbia River, and the Glen Canyon Dam found on the Colorado River. Our findings are divided into four sub - divisions: Biological/Ecological, Sociological/Cultural, Legal/Political, and Economical. You may see our listing of the major positive/negative effects of the Bonneville and Glen Canyon dams. As you navigate (漫游) through our web pages, and travel with us down the Columbia River, you may meet the Native American tribes whose culture and livelihoods (生计) have been ravaged (毁灭) the Bonneville Dam, sail down the Colorado River and visit the Glen Canyon Dam where endangered and extinct (灭绝的) species once dwelled. Finally, journey to the future of large dams in the United States and decide what you can do to help eradicate (完全解决) the problems caused by large dams.

(278 words)

Reading Comprehension

1. By saying "No river should ever reach the sea", Joseph Stalin means that there are so many large dams across rivers that _____.
A. ecology becomes imbalanced

- B. there isn't too much water left for drinking
 - C. water in rivers becomes increasingly little
 - D. little water can reach the sea
2. The statement made by Stalin is to some extent right because _____.
- A. large dams are harmful to the balance of ecology
 - B. large dams are useful in energy production and irrigation
 - C. large dams have positive effect on human cultures
 - D. large dams should be built across wide rivers
3. The findings were achieved through the following sources except _____.
- A. web pages
 - B. first - hand materials
 - C. extinct animals in the area
 - D. talks with native American tribes
4. The findings are based on the following EXCEPT _____.
- A. theories about different fields
 - B. investigations on the sot
 - C. case studies
 - D. animal observation



Proverb

Don't burn your bridges behind you.
Don't cross the bridge till you come to it.

Expected Reading Time: 3'30"

Passage 4 Hong Kong

Hong Kong is East Asia's most extraordinary city. Despite 150 years of British colonial (殖民的) rule and a cosmopolitan veneer(粉饰), the vast majority



5 English tea to the sound of a string quartet (四重奏), there's cricket and pubs and cocktail lounges(休闲), but some 98 percent of the region's six million people are Chinese, eat only Chinese food and pray in Chinese temples. For many first-time visitors there's a bizarre (奇异的) juxtaposition (混合) of the all-consuming noise and bustle (忙乱)
10 乱) of the East in one of the world's most ultra-modern cities. Hong Kong, now a Special Administrative Region (SAR) of China, comprises an irregularly shaped peninsula (半岛) and a host of offshore (近岸的) islands. Surprisingly, the bulk(主要部分) of it is still farming land or protected country parks, while most of the population
15 is crammed into Kowloon (九龙), on the peninsula's southern tip, and on Hong Kong Island.

Hong Kong Island offers not only traces of the old colony — from English place names to ancient trams (有轨电车) — but also superb
20 modern architecture and incredible cityscapes (都市风景) of towering buildings teetering (摇摇欲坠) up impossible slopes (斜度). It also offers unexpected opportunities for hiking and even swimming on the delightful beaches of its southern shore. Kowloon, though, and in particular its southernmost tip, Tsimshatsui (尖沙嘴), is the budget accommodation center of Hong Kong and its most cosmopolitan district.
25 It also boasts more shops offering a greater variety of goods per square kilometer than anywhere in the world (not necessarily at reasonable prices though). North of Tsimshatsui, Kowloon stretches away into the New Territories, an area of so-called New Towns, as well as ancient villages, secluded(隐蔽的) beaches and rural tranquility. In addition,
30 there are the offshore islands, notably Lamma and Lantau, which are well worth exploring for their fish restaurants, scenery and if, nothing else, the experience of chugging (发出轧轧声前进) about on the

inter-island ferries (渡轮). Prices are given in Hong Kong dollars.

(346 words)

Reading Comprehension

1. Why is Hong Kong called the most extraordinary city in East Asia?
 - A. Because there are both traces of the old colony and superb modern cityscapes.
 - B. Because most part of the city is still farming land or protected country parks.
 - C. Because its people still preserve the Chinese tradition though it had been a colony.
 - D. Because the city is extremely modernized and developed.
2. Geographically, Hong Kong embraces _____.
 - A. a peninsula whose form is irregular and some neighboring islands
 - B. Kowloon, Tsimshatsui, the New Territories and Hong Kong island
 - C. farming land or protected country parks and the downtown area
 - D. some beautiful beaches and shores as well as a peninsula
3. Which of the following is NOT true about the characteristic of Hong Kong?
 - A. Hong Kong is both modern and traditional.
 - B. Hong Kong is a business center as well as a cultural center.
 - C. Hong Kong is both noisy and serene (平静地).
 - D. Hong Kong is influenced by the culture of Chinese and British.
4. According to the passage, what kind of tourists will NOT consider Hong Kong to be a perfect choice?
 - A. those who want to perceive the cultural impact of the west and the east
 - B. those who would like to see the modern cityscapes and skyscrapers
 - C. those who are interested in the features of the colonial culture
 - D. those who are fond of shopping for the inexpensive goods



Proverb

Good fences make good neighbors.

The more things change, the more they stay the same.

Expected Reading Time: 2'8"

Passage 5 Gestures

The French invented body language. To watch a gendarme on traffic control is to witness an elaborate modern ballet — the twirling baton, the palm of the hand thrust forward to bring hundreds of vehicles to a halt, the abrupt inclination of the head that allows them to proceed, the raising of the judgmental eyebrow if all is not in order.



In conversation, French hands are never still. They give shape, form and size to ideas. They display the state of the mind, heart and soul of the parties involved.

Where others use the inflection (语音的抑扬变化) of the voice to show how they feel, the French use eyes, hands, lips and shoulders to reveal a full range of emotions. They kiss the tips of their fingers when they approve strongly of something or somebody. They pull the hand across the forehead, as though scalping (使受辱) themselves, when they are fed up. They raise their shoulders when confronted by the ridiculous. They stroke their cheeks with the back of the hand as a sign that they are bored. They purse their lips and exhale (发怒) when they are angry.

They have signs for disapproval, disbelief, superiority, apology, amazement, surprise, bewilderment (困惑) and frustration, which is why it is considered grossly impolite to talk with one's hands in one's pockets.

(213 words)

Reading Comprehension

1. What is the passage mainly about?
 - A. What "gesture" is.
 - B. Gestures convey different meanings in different cultures.
 - C. The Frenchmen are good at using body language.
 - D. Using gestures is a way of communication.
2. What does the word "gendarme" (Line 2) probably mean?
 - A. policeman