



广播电视大学英语专业教材

泛读 读本

第一册

TVU

ENGLISH

EXTENSIVE READERS

BOOK

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广播电视大学英语专业教材

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第 一 册

江苏电大英语教材编写组编

主编：解楚兰 佟元晦

江苏教育出版社

一九八六年二月

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江苏省新华书店发行 江苏新华印刷厂印刷

开本 787×1092 毫米 1/32 印张 16.25 字数 425,000

1986 年 5 月第 1 版 1986 年 5 月第 1 次印刷

印数 1—22,500 册

书号：7351·290 定价：2.15 元

责任编辑 张立民

前 言

为了适应现代化建设和社会对英语专门人材的紧迫需求，广播电视大学自一九八六年秋季起开设英语专业。江苏广播电视大学英语教材编写组分工编选了一套泛读读本，主要供全国电大英语专业学生、单科学生和社会自学者使用。

这套泛读读本共有六册，每册使用一学期，第一册从一九八六年秋季开始使用。与本书配套的还有课内快速阅读分册及其他书面与视听材料。

按照《广播电视大学英语专业阅读教程教学大纲(试行草案)》的规定，电大英语阅读教程分阅读I、阅读II和阅读III三个阶段，每阶段为一学年，每学年两个学期，每学期授课二十周，每周二课时。本课程课内外学时总数为600学时，其中广播电视课120学时，面授阅读课120学时，课外自学阅读360学时。每周教学时数与授课方式安排如下：

电视(或录相)课一学时，主要讲解课外自学阅读与面授阅读课中的难点，介绍作品背景知识，对读物进行简单分析，介绍阅读方法并进行概括能力的训练。

面授阅读课一学时，主要进行有指导的快速阅读训练和概括能力训练。

课外自学为每周三学时，按教学进度进行阅读。

本课程的教学目的是：通过广泛的阅读，培养良好的阅读习惯，提高阅读速度与理解能力，拓展知识面，扩充词汇的认知量与增加词汇的接触频度，增强英语语感，初步掌握篇章概括与分析方法。具体要求是：阅读题材广泛，体裁多

样化；周阅读量在5000至8000词；阅读速度达每分钟70词，理解准确率在70%以上；进一步了解英语国家的文化背景知识；增强语言运用的自然性。

每学期期末均按教学大纲的要求进行考试或考查，内容以限定时间的阅读理解为主，形式以借助词典的开卷测试为主。为了保证课外自学阅读的质量，考试考查中可以适当安排对该部分内容进行抽测。

本册共分八个单元，各单元所选读物篇幅长短不一，短的一周可以读完，长的要读几周；大体按文字难易程度编排，循序渐进。各单元的组成部分为：

读物(课文) 作者简介与作品简介 注释 练习，
主要是问答练习

这套教材的注释以英文为主，注释文字尽可能低于原文的难度，必要时也用中文注释，有时用汉英两种文字注释。随着学生阅读能力的不断提高，中文注释部分将逐步减少，直至大体取消。这样做主要是为了兼顾不同水平读者的需要，保证教学。

本册教学进度见下表：

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2	Emil and the Detectives	2—4
3	The Adventures of Tom Sawyer	5—10
4	Escape from the Tower	11—12
5	Gods and Heroes of Ancient Greece	13—14
6	Tales of Ancient Rome	15—17
7	Stories of the Bible	18—19
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本册主编为解楚兰教授(南京大学外文系)和佟元晦(江苏广播电视大学)。参加第一册编选注释工作的还有韦润芳、徐德培(江苏电大),张贤勇(淮阴电大),尤震(镇江电大),谢舒(南京师大)等同志。

在编选注释过程中,南京大学范存忠教授和陈嘉教授曾给予关心和指导,我们谨在此表示衷心的感谢。

以远距离教学手段教授英语专业在我国尚处于试验阶段,由于我们水平有限,经验不足,书中可能有不妥之处,诚恳希望使用本教材的师生批评指正。

编 者

一九八六年二月

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UNIT ONE

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs

by

Walt Disney

Once upon a time,¹ in a castle in a land far beyond the highest mountains, there lived a King and his Queen. The King was wise and just and the Queen was beautiful. They ruled their country well and they were very happy, but for² one thing; they longed for³ a child.

One day, the Queen sat by her window sewing.⁴ As she worked, she pricked her finger with her needle. Three drops of blood fell on the snow-white linen.

"How happy I would be if I had a little girl with lips as red as blood, skin as white as snow, and hair as black as ebony," thought the Queen.

When spring came, her wish was granted. A little daughter was born to the Queen, and she was all her mother had desired.⁵ As she looked at her beautiful baby, the Queen said: "She is even lovelier than I had hoped. I shall call her Snow White."

For a time, life in the castle was even happier than before. Then one day the Queen fell ill. The king

summoned the best doctors in the land to her bedside, but to no avail.⁶ When the Queen died, the whole country mourned her.

The King was heartbroken. He did his best to bring up his little daughter just as the Queen would have wished, but he was very lonely. At last he married again, and brought a new Queen to live in the castle. The new Queen was very beautiful, but, alas, she was also heartless and cruel. She was jealous of all the lovely ladies of the kingdom, but most jealous of all of the Princess.⁷

Now the Queen's most prized possession was a magic mirror. Every day she looked into it and asked:

"Mirror, mirror on the wall,

Who is the fairest⁸ of us all?"

If the mirror replied that she was fairest in the land, all was well. But if another lady was named, the Queen flew into a furious rage⁹ and had her killed.¹⁰

As the years passed, Snow White grew more and more beautiful, and her sweet nature made everyone love her—everyone but¹¹ the Queen.

The Queen's chief fear was that Snow White might grow to be the fairest in the land. So she banished the young Princess to the servants' quarters, made her dress in rags, and forced her to slave from morning to night.¹²

But while she worked, Snow White dreamed dreams of a handsome Prince who would come some day and carry her off to his castle in the clouds. And as she dusted

and scrubbed—and dreamed—Snow White grew more beautiful day by day.

At last came the day the Queen had been dreading. She asked:

*"Mirror, mirror on the wall,
Who is the fairest of us all?"*

and the mirror replied:

*"Her lips blood red, her hair like night,
Her skin like snow, her name-Snow White!"*¹³

Pale with anger, the Queen rushed from the room and called her huntsman to her.

"Take Snow White into the forest at once and kill her," she ordered him.

"Kill Snow White?" cried the huntsman. "But why, your Majesty?"¹⁴

"You will do as I command," snapped the evil Queen. She handed the huntsman a jewelled box. "Put her heart in this box and bring it back to me. Then I will know that she is really dead. If you fail, you will be executed instantly."

The huntsman bowed his head in grief. He had no choice but to obey the cruel Queen's commands.

Snow White had no fear of the kindly huntsman. She went happily into the forest with him. It was beautiful there among the trees, and the Princess, not knowing what was in store for her,¹⁵ skipped along beside the huntsman, now stopping to pick violets, now singing a happy tune.

At last the poor huntsman could bear it no longer.

He fell to his knees¹⁶ before the Princess.

"I cannot kill you, Princess," he said, "even though it is the Queen's command. Run into the forest and hide, and never return to the castle."

Then away went the huntsman.¹⁷ On his way back to the castle, he killed a small animal and took its heart in the jewelled box to the wicked Queen.

Alone in the forest, Snow White wept with fright. Deeper and deeper into the woods she ran, half blinded by tears.¹⁸ It seemed to her that roots of trees reached up to trip her ankles, that branches reached out to clutch at her dress as she passed.

At last, weak with terror, Snow White fell to the ground and lay there, sobbing her heart out.¹⁹

Ever so quietly, out from burrows and nests and hollow trees crept the little woodland animals. Rabbits and squirrels, doves and woodpeckers, raccoons and chipmunks and even a shy little faun all came timidly to look at poor little Snow White.²⁰

When Snow White looked up and saw them all there, she smiled through her tears. At the sight of her smile, the little animals crept closer, snuggling in her lap or nestling in her arms to comfort her.²¹ The birds sang their gayest melodies, and the little forest clearing²² was filled with joy.

"I feel ever so much better now," Snow White told her new friends. "But I still do need a place to sleep."²³

One of the birds chirped something, and the little animals nodded in agreement. Then off flew the birds, leading the way.²⁴ The rabbits, chipmunks and squirrels followed after, and Snow White came along with her arm around the neck of a gentle mother deer.

At last, through a tangle of brush, Snow White saw a tiny cottage nestling in a clearing up ahead.

"How sweet!" she cried. "It's just like a doll's house," and she clapped her hands in delight.

Skipping across a little bridge to the house, Snow White tried to peer through a window pane. But the glass was so dirty, she could see nothing. She rubbed away some of the dirt with her hand, and tried again.

"How dark it is!" she said. "I don't think there is anyone at home."

Then Snow White knocked at the door. Silence. She knocked again, louder. Still no one answered. So Snow White turned the handle and opened the door. The animals followed her into the house, and she found a candle and lit it at the stove. They all looked round the little room. The first thing they noticed was a table, with seven very small chairs around it.

"What lovely little chairs!" cried Snow White. "I think this house must belong to seven children."

Then they saw a jacket in one corner, and a shoe in another. Dirty little shirts and wrinkled little trousers hung over chairs. The sink was piled high with cups and

saucers which looked as though they had never been washed.²⁵

"They must be very untidy children," said Snow White. "Perhaps they have no mother and father to look after them. Let's clean their house and surprise them."

So Snow White and the animals set to²⁶ and cleaned the little house thoroughly. Snow White had to do most of the work, although the animals did what they could to help her. First of all, she washed up all the dirty dishes and polished them till they shone. Next she washed all the dirty little clothes and hung them up to dry. Then she found an old broom and a rag in a corner, and she swept the floor and dusted the furniture. Near the sink there was a basket of vegetables. With them Snow White made a big pot of soup and set it to bubble on the stove.²⁷ Finally, she set out²⁸ seven plates, seven bowls and seven cups and saucers on the table, all ready for the next meal.

"Now," she said to the animals, "let's see what is upstairs."

Upstairs, they found seven tiny little beds in a row. They were all rumpled and untidy, so Snow White set to work again.

"Why, each one has a name carved on it," said Snow White. She read out the names. "Doc, Happy, Sneezy, Dopey—such funny names for children! Grumpy, Bashful, Sleepy²⁹—oh, dear, I'm terribly sleepy, too!"

Poor Snow White was indeed very tired. Yawning,

she sank down across the little beds.³⁰ In a very few minutes, she was sound asleep. Quietly, all the little animals stole away. One by one, the birds flew out of the window. All was still³¹ once more in the little house in the forest.

But the animals had not gone far. Presently, they heard a strange sound. It seemed to be many voices singing together, and it came faintly from deep in the heart of the forest. The little animals consulted each other in alarm. What could it be? Gradually, the sound grew closer and louder until at last they could hear the words.

"Hi ho, hi ho,

*It's home from work we go—"*³²

And marching into the clearing, singing on their way, came, not seven children, but...seven dwarfs!³³ The tiny little men carried lanterns in their hands and pickaxes over their shoulders. They were miners who dug for gold and precious stones in a mine near the foot of the far mountains. Early every morning they set off through the forest to work, and late every evening they returned to their cottage in the clearing.

This evening they stopped short in alarm as they came in sight of the cottage.³⁴ A light glowed in an upper window, and the door was standing open!

"Look! There's someone in our house!"

"Maybe a ghost—or a goblin—or a demon!"

"I knew it," said one with a grumpy look. "I've been warning you for two hundred years that something awful

was about to happen."

The dwarfs were too frightened to go into their house. They stood outside arguing until finally one of them was brave enough to put his head round the door.

"There's no one there," he reported.

"Well, let's go inside and see," said the boldest one.

Very quietly and cautiously, they tiptoed into the cottage. They peered timidly into every corner of the room.

"Someone's stolen our dishes," growled the grumpy one.

"No, they're hidden in the cupboard," said Happy, with a grin. "And see! My cup's been washed. The sugar's all gone."

"Where has the dirt on the floor gone?" asked Doc, "And the cobwebs on the ceiling?"³⁵

In their excitement, the little dwarfs had forgotten to be afraid. Now they jumped in fright as there was a sound from upstairs. It was Snow White, yawning and turning over in her sleep.

"It's upstairs!" gasped Doc. "The ghost is in our bedroom."

Standing in a row at the foot of their beds, they stared at the sleeping Snow White.

"Wh—what is it?" whispered one. "It's very pretty," said another. "Why, bless my soul,³⁶ I think it's a girl!" said a third.

And then Snow White woke up.

"Why, you're not children," She exclaimed. "You're little men. Let me see if I can guess your names." And she did—Doc and Bashful, Happy, Sleepy, and Sneezy, and last of all Dopey and Grumpy, too.

"Supper is not quite ready," said Snow White. "You'll have just enough time to wash."

"Wash!" cried the little men with horror in their tones. They hadn't washed for oh, it seemed hundreds of years. But out they marched, when Snow White insisted. And it was worth it in the end.³⁷ For such a supper they had never tasted. Nor had they ever had such an evening of fun.³⁸ All the forest folk gathered around the cottage windows to watch them play and dance and sing.

Meanwhile, back at the castle, the huntsman had presented to the wicked Queen the box which, she thought, held Snow White's heart.

"Ah ha!" she gloated. "At last!" And down the castle corridors she hurried straight to the special room in which she kept her magic mirror.

Clutching the jewelled box in her hands she faced the mirror and demanded of it:³⁹

*"Now, magic mirror on the wall,
Who is the fairest one of all?"*

But the honest mirror replied:

*"With the seven dwarfs will spend the night
The fairest in the land, Snow White."⁴⁰*

Then the Queen realized that the huntsman had tricked her. She flung the jewelled box at the mirror, shattering the glass into a thousand pieces.

"I will have to kill the wretched girl myself," she screamed.

Then, shaking with rage, the Queen hurried down to a dark cave below the palace where she worked her Black Magic.

First she disguised herself as a toothless old woman dressed in tattered rags. Then she searched her books of magic spells for an evil spell to work on⁴¹ Snow White.

"What shall it be?" she muttered to herself. "The poisoned apple, the Sleeping Death?⁴² Perfect! It won't be difficult to trick that foolish girl into eating a juicy, rosy red apple. Ha! I shall soon be rid of her."

In a great kettle she stirred up⁴³ a poison brew. As it frothed and bubbled, she chanted wicked spells. Then she dipped an apple into the evil liquid—one, two, three—and the apple came out a beautiful red.

Cackling with wicked pleasure, the Queen dropped her poisoned apple into a basket of fruit and started on her journey.

She felt quite sure that her plan would succeed, for the magic spell of the Sleeping Death could be broken only by Love's First Kiss,⁴⁴ and the Queen was certain no lover would find Snow White, asleep in that great forest.

Meanwhile, Snow White was saying goodbye to her