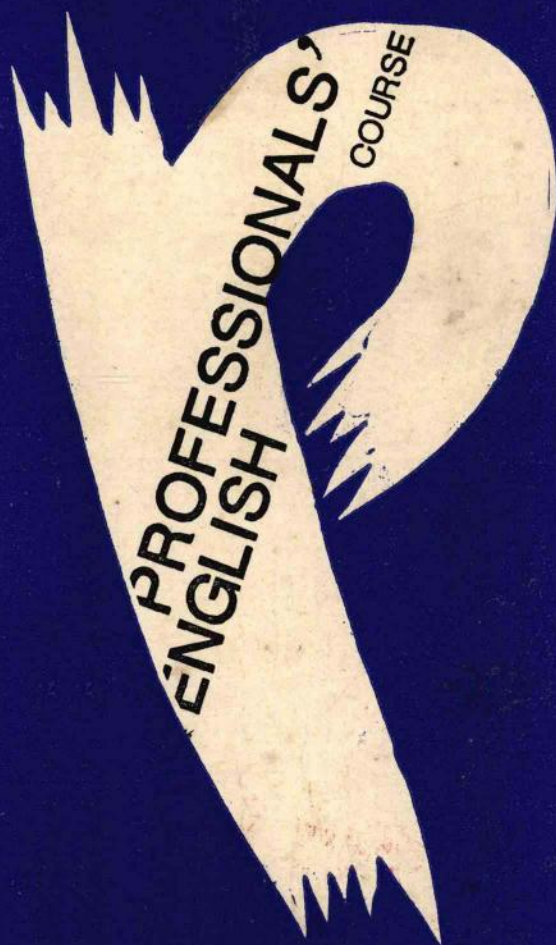


江西省专业技术人员

英语继续教育教程

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江西省专业技术人员

# 英语继续教育教程

(下册)

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## 前 言

为对广大专业技术人员进行英语继续教育，提高专业技术人员的英语水平，我办聘请江西师范大学外语系的专家、学者编写了《江西省专业技术人员英语继续教育教程》。

《教程》以掌握 600 个英语单词与基本语音、语法知识为起点。学员通过自学和函授辅导，可以掌握英语的基础语法和约 3500 个单词，从而基本具备阅读英语书刊，专业资料的能力，达到晋升相应专业技术职务所要求的外语水平。

《教程》分上、下二册及辅导材料。上册词汇量约为 1700 个，下册词汇量约为 1800 个。上、下册各有 75 课。每课分课文、词汇表、注解、语法、课文练习、语法练习等六项。课文参照新近出版的英美书刊编写，题材以科普文章为主，兼顾人文社会科学方面的内容。辅导材料为上、下册课文的译文、课文练习答案、语法练习答案。晋升初级专业技术职务（职称）者学习上册，晋升中、高级专业技术职务（职称）者学习上、下册。

《教程》在编写过程中得到江西师范大学外语系领导，专家和教授的鼎力相助，同时得到省有关部门的大力支持，谨向他们表示感谢。

由于水平有限，《教程》中难免存在缺点和错误，恳请读者给予批评指正。

江西省职称工作办公室

1994 年 6 月 南昌

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# Unit One

## Tornadoes

The great power of tornadoes is almost unbelievable. The speed of this whirling funnel-shaped wind may be more than 800 kilometers per hour. It can tear up trees, carry buildings away, and can even lift large trucks off the highway. The tornado is like a giant vacuum sweeper that sucks up anything in its path. Experts believe that the most violent force of tornado is found inside the funnel, where a vacuum is created because of a very low air pressure. When this vacuum moves over a building which is filled with air under normal pressure, the difference between the air pressure inside the building and that outside causes the building to explode. The largest tornado on record had a funnel two kilometers wide.

There are many interesting stories about the strange things that tornadoes have done in the United States. Common wheat straw has been driven several centimeters onto posts and trees. Buildings have been turned completely around on their foundations and have remained intact. People and animals have been carried hundreds of meters, often suffering no physical harm. Feathers have been removed from chickens. Cars, trucks, and even whole freight trains have been carried away.

A few years ago in the state of Indiana, three people were walking into a church just as a tornado struck. Two walked up the steps into the church building and the third person went down into the basement. In that moment, the church building was carried away and the two persons upstairs were killed. The one in the basement was not hurt.

Fortunately, a tornado does not last long, about 20 to 30 minutes on the average. Usually, it destroys an area about 26 kilometers long, and the great damage that it does in one place lasts only about 30 seconds. Tornado does normally occur on hot, humid days but not necessarily in the summer. The biggest and most destructive tornado in the United States struck on March 18, 1925. Roaring along at a speed of 96 kilometers per hour, it swept clean a path two kilometers wide across the states of Missouri, Illinois, and Indiana. In its 354-kilometer long journey across these three states, the tornado killed 689 people.

More than 200 tornadoes strike in the United States every year. It is not possible to predict when a tornado will strike although the U. S. Weather Bureau gives storm warnings when conditions are right to cause a tornado. The safest place to be if a tornado seems likely is in some underground area such as a cellar or a basement.

## Words and Expressions

|            |               |    |           |
|------------|---------------|----|-----------|
| tornado    | /tɔ:'neɪdəu/  | n. | 飓风, 旋风    |
| whirl      | /wɜ:l/        | v. | 使旋转, 卷走   |
| funnel     | /fʌnl/        | n. | 漏斗        |
| suck       | /sʌk/         | v. | 吸、饮       |
| vacuum     | /'vækjuəm/    | n. | 真空, 空间    |
| explode    | /iks'pləʊd/   | v. | 爆发, 爆炸    |
| wheat      | /wi:t/        | n. | 小麦        |
| straw      | /strɔ:/       | n. | 稻草        |
| centimeter | /'sentimɪ:tə/ | n. | 公分, 厘米    |
| post       | /pəʊst/       | n. | 柱, 支柱     |
| intact     | /ɪn'tækt/     | a. | 未能动的, 完整的 |
| basement   | /'beɪsmənt/   | n. | 地窖        |
| average    | /'ævərɪdʒ/    | n. | 平均数       |
| humid      | /'hju:mɪd/    | a. | 潮湿的       |
| roar       | /rɔ:/         | v. | 吼, 轰鸣     |
| cellar     | /'selə/       | n. | 地窖        |

## Notes

1. funnel-shaped: 象漏斗的, 漏斗形的
2. vacuum sweeper=vacuum cleaner 真空吸尘器
3. Where a vacuum is created because of a very low air pressure: 非限制性定语从句, 说明 funnel. because of sth: 因为……, 由于……
4. be filled with sth: 充满, 装满
5. …, the difference between the air pressure inside the building and that outside… that outside 相当于 the air pressure outside the building.
6. …, often suffering no physical harm: 现在分词短语用作状语, 表示伴随情况。
7. such as……象……这样的, 诸如……之类的, 例如……。

Books of reference, such as dictionaries and handbooks 参考书, 例如词典, 手册之类。

## Grammar

### Auxiliary Verbs and Modal Verbs I (助动词和情态动词 I)

#### 1. 概说