

高等学校试用教材

大学英语

泛读

EXTENSIVE READING

(文理工科本科用)

预备二级

上海外语教育出版社

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孙淑强 主编

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前 言

《大学英语(文理科本科用)》试用教材是根据国家教育委员会审定批准的《大学英语教学大纲(文理科本科用)》编写的一套系列教材,分精读、泛读、听力、快速阅读、语法与练习五种教程。

本教材重视英语语言基础教学,从各方面保证文、理科的通用性,适用于综合大学、师范院校和文科院校。

本教材的精读、泛读、快速阅读和听力教程各按分级教学的要求编写六册,每级一册;语法与练习编写四册,供1—4级使用。精读与听力教程均配有教师用书和录音磁带。对低于大纲规定入学要求的学生,另编二册预备级精读、泛读教程。

上述五种教程根据各自的课程特点自成体系,但又相互配合,形成整体,以贯彻大纲所提出的三个层次的要求:“培养学生具有较强的阅读能力、一定的听的能力、初步的写和说的能力。”全套教材由复旦大学、北京大学、华东师范大学、中国人民大学、武汉大学和南京大学合作编写,复旦大学董亚芬教授审订,同时还聘请两名专职外籍专家参加编写和文字审定工作。

《大学英语》预备级精、泛读教程经大学外语教材编审委员会综合大学英语编审组和理工科英语编审组共同审定选文,可供文、理、工各类本科生使用。预备级泛读教程由南京大学大学外语部负责编写。孙淑强同志担任主编,杨治中副教授担任主审,大学外语教材编审委员会理工科英语编审组郭杰克教授审读了全书。参加编写的有许水耀、傅玉华、冯卓、钱兴荣同志。

本书为预备级泛读教程第二册,供大学英语预备二级学生使用。修完预备二级教程后可任选按文理科大纲或理工科大纲所编写的各类后续教材。

由于时间仓促,编者水平有限,教材中不妥之处在所难免。希望广大读者批评指正。

编 者

一九八七年十一月

使用 说明

本教程按以下指导思想编写：

- 1、通过一定量的阅读增强学生的语感，提高学生的阅读速度，使之初步掌握阅读技巧，为进入一级的学习打下基础。
- 2、在编写各类练习时，注意逐步培养学生在阅读过程中的分析、归纳、综合和推断的能力，以配合精读教程在阅读技能方面的教学。
- 3、选材较浅于相应的精读课文，并加必要的注释，以便于学生顺利阅读。
- 4、教材绝大多数选自原文，略经删节或改写。在保证语言文字规范化的同时，尽量使之适合预备级学生的英语水平。
- 5、选材力求内容新颖、题材广泛、体裁多样、知识性与趣味性并重。
- 6、考虑到学生阅读能力上的差异，每册的阅读量都略高于大纲所规定的指标。

本教程分一、二级两册，每册选编课文三十六篇，每课编有少量注释，配有若干练习，以测试学生对文章的理解能力。书末附有练习答案。为了配合精读教程，每册按十二个单元编写，三课为一个单元。每单元的前两课篇幅较长，跨度为 350—700 词，第三课较短，跨度为 200—300 词，可作一般课文使用，也可用作快速阅读的材料，在课内进行，读后即做练习，所需时间（包括练习）约十分钟。

编 者

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Unit 1

1. Bozo Finds a Friend

Bozo was an elephant. He often gave performances in a park. He was always gentle and polite. Children came to see him and loved him very much. He would dance and turn round and round -- then lie down and play that he was dead⁽¹⁾. How the children laughed to see such a big elephant dance and play dead!

But one day Bozo suddenly changed. He wouldn't dance or play dead any more. Three times in a week he tried to kill his keeper. He trumpeted⁽²⁾ angrily at the boys and girls as if he wanted to kill them. Nothing would make Bozo quiet and gentle again. The city officers told the owner that Bozo was a dangerous animal and he must be put to death.⁽³⁾

On the Saturday morning of the execution⁽⁴⁾, hundreds of people came to watch. Two men were waiting with their guns. Bozo, in his large cage⁽⁵⁾, walked heavily around and around, never stopping. He seemed to know what would soon be happening.

Outside the cage, the owner was getting ready to start Bozo's execution. Just then a little man with eyeglasses and a hat appeared before him.

"Wouldn't you rather keep that elephant alive?"⁽⁶⁾ asked the little man.

"There isn't a chance," said the owner. "He is a bad elephant. Nothing can make him well now."

"Let me go into the cage and stay with him. In two minutes I will prove that you are wrong."

The owner looked at the little man sadly. "You yourself would be dead in three minutes," he said.

Quickly the little man took off his hat and coat. "Now," he said quietly, "you may open the door."

Bozo stopped his walking. He turned his red eyes toward the door of the cage. The little man, carrying no

gun or stick, stepped inside the cage and closed the door behind him.

Bozo trumpeted angrily. But the little man began to speak gently. When the elephant heard the first words, he grew quiet. The people, too surprised to make a sound, could hear every word. But they could not understand what they heard. Only Bozo seemed to understand the language.

The great body remained still⁽⁷⁾ while the gentle voice went on and on. Suddenly Bozo gave a childlike cry. The great head began to move from side to side⁽⁸⁾. The little man went closer and patted him. He began to walk slowly around the cage with the elephant. The people stood and cheered.

At last the little man left the cage. "There is nothing bad about Bozo," he told the owner. "He just wanted to be in his old home again. I talked to him in Hindustani⁽⁹⁾ because he is an Indian elephant. The language made him feel at peace⁽¹⁰⁾ again. Now he will be all right for a long time."

approximately 460 words

Notes

1. play that he was dead: play dead; pretend to be dead 装死

2. trumpeted: 发出喇叭似的声音 (尤指象的吼声)

3. he must be put to death: he must be killed

4. execution: 处死

5. cage: 笼子

6. Wouldn't you rather keep that elephant alive:

Don't you think it better not to kill the elephant?

7. remained still: didn't move at all

8. to move from side to side: 晃动

9. Hindustani: (印度) 兴都斯坦语

10. at peace: 安静

Exercises

I. Answer the following questions:

1. Why was Bozo so much loved by children?
2. What happened to Bozo one day?
3. What did the city officers ask the owner to do about Bozo?
4. What advice did the little man give to the owner on the day of Bozo's execution?
5. Did the owner accept the little man's advice?
6. How did the little man prove that the owner was wrong?
7. Why did Bozo grow quiet and gentle again when the little man talked to him in Hindustani?
8. What did Bozo want after all?

II. Write T for True in the space if the statement is true; write F for False if the statement is not true:

- _____ 1. The children laughed when the elephant played dead.
- _____ 2. Bozo killed his keeper.
- _____ 3. The city officers ordered the execution of Bozo.
- _____ 4. Only a few people came to watch the execution.
- _____ 5. The owner thought that the little man would be killed if he went into the cage.
- _____ 6. The little man wanted the owner to pay him for taking the risk of being killed.
- _____ 7. The little man sang to the elephant.
- _____ 8. Bozo was killed at last.

Unit 1

2. The Greatest Magician⁽¹⁾ Harry Houdini⁽²⁾

Magicians are popular everywhere. We all know that a magician does not really depend on 'magic' to do his tricks⁽³⁾, but on his ability to act at great speed. However, this does not prevent us from enjoying watching a magician produce ducks from a hat, take eggs out of his empty pocket, or cut his wife into two⁽⁴⁾.

Probably the greatest magician of all times⁽⁵⁾ was Harry Houdini who died in 1926. His real name was Ehrich Weiss, but he named himself Houdini after reading a book which he liked very much. This had been written by a famous magician called Robert-Houdini. Houdini mastered the art⁽⁶⁾ of escaping. He could free himself from the most complicated locks in seconds⁽⁷⁾. Although no one really knows how he did this, there is no doubt that he had made a close study of every kind of lock existing⁽⁸⁾. He would carry a small steel needle-like tool tied to his leg and use this in place of⁽⁹⁾ a key.

Houdini once asked the Chicago police to lock him in prison. They put chains round his body, and locked him up, but he freed himself in a minute. The police said he had used a tool and locked him again. This time he wore no clothes and there were chains round his neck, wrists, and legs; but he again escaped in a few minutes. Houdini had probably hidden his 'needle' in a wax-like material and dropped it on the floor in the passage. As he went past, he stepped on it so that it stuck on the bottom of his foot. His most famous escape, however, was altogether⁽¹⁰⁾ astonishing. He was heavily chained up⁽¹¹⁾ and kept in an empty wooden box, the cover of which was nailed down⁽¹²⁾. The box was dropped into the sea near New York. In one minute Houdini had swum to the surface. When the box was brought

up, it was opened and the chains were found inside.

approximately 370 words

Notes

1. magician: 魔术师
2. Harry Houdini: ['hæ ri hu: 'di: ni] 哈利·胡迪尼
(1874-1926), 美国极负盛名的魔术师
3. do tricks: 变戏法
4. cut his wife into two: cut his wife into two parts
5. of all times: 历代
6. the art of escaping: the skill of escaping 逃跑术
7. He could free himself from the most complicated locks
in seconds: He could escape very quickly from the
most complicated locks.
8. every kind of lock existing: 现有的各种锁
9. in place of: instead of
10. altogether: completely
11. He was heavily chained up: Many chains were put round his
body.
12. was nailed down: was fixed with nails 用钉子钉牢

Exercises

I. Write T for True in the space if the sentence is true;
write F for False if the sentence is not true:

- _____ 1. Magicians always use magic to produce ducks from
a hat, take eggs out of his empty pocket, or cut
his wife into two.

- _____ 2. Ehrich Weiss used the name 'Houdini' because it appeared in a book which he liked very much.
- _____ 3. Houdini had made a close study of various types of locks.
- _____ 4. Houdini used a small steel needle-like tool to open locks.
- _____ 5. Once the Chicago police locked Houdini in prison because he had killed his wife.
- _____ 6. The first time the policemen locked Houdini up they put chains round his neck, wrists and legs.
- _____ 7. Although he was kept in an empty wooden box which later was dropped into the sea, Houdini was still able to swim to the surface in one minute.
- _____ 8. When the box was opened, there was nothing inside except the chains.

II. Use a proper word in Column B to fill in each blank in Column A:

- | A | B |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. We all know that a magician does not really depend on 'magic' to _____ tricks. | a. astonishing
b. hidden
c. art |
| 2. Houdini mastered the _____ of escaping. | d. do |
| 3. He had the ability to _____ at great speed. | e. free
f. act |
| 4. Houdini had probably _____ his 'needle' in a wax-like material. | g. popular
h. sea |
| 5. His most famous escape was altogether _____. | |
| 6. Even if Houdini was heavily chained, he was able to _____ himself in one minute. | |
| 7. Once he was kept in a box, which was later dropped into the _____. | |
| 8. Everywhere magicians are very _____. | |

3. Diamonds or Glass?

Miss Lin of Singapore went to Hong Kong for a holiday. Soon after she got to Hong Kong, she went shopping along Nathan Road. Suddenly a man came up to her and said, "Hello, there, I haven't seen you for a long time." The stranger continued talking to her for a while and then took out a small box from his pocket. "Would you like to buy some diamonds?" he asked, opening the box to show some shining stones. "I'm willing to sell them to you cheap -- only \$300 for this diamond. How about it?" Miss Lin didn't want to buy because she had heard many stories of people being tricked. Also, at that moment a woman stopped and warned her, "Don't buy from him. He's not an honest man. He's trying to trick you!"

The man raised his voice at once, "I'm honest. These diamonds are real." In the end they took one of the diamonds to a jeweller -- one who sells diamonds and the like. The jeweller examined the stone and told Miss Lin that it was real. He said it cost around \$900.

Satisfied that the diamonds were real, Miss Lin decided to buy from the man. She chose two of the largest stones from his box and paid him \$400. Then she went back to the jeweller and asked, "How much will it cost to fix these on a ring?"

The jeweller examined the stones and said, "Why do you want to do that? These are just glass."

"But you told me just now they were diamonds."

"The first stone was a diamond; these are not."

Miss Lin ran out of the shop hoping to catch the stranger and get her money back. However, the man was nowhere to be found.

approximately 280 words

Exercise

Choose the best answer to each question:

1. Miss Lin was _____.
 - a. living in Hong Kong
 - b. a visitor to Singapore
 - c. a diamond-seller
 - d. a traveller to Hong Kong
2. Miss Lin met the man _____.
 - a. on her way to Hong Kong
 - b. on her way home
 - c. when walking along a street in Hong Kong
 - d. when buying diamonds in a store
3. The man tried to _____.
 - a. make friends with Miss Lin
 - b. lead her to a jeweller
 - c. help her find a hotel
 - d. sell her some false diamonds
4. Miss Lin didn't buy the diamonds at first because she _____.
 - a. was afraid of being tricked
 - b. did not have enough money
 - c. already had too many diamonds
 - d. did not like the diamonds
5. They took one of the diamonds to the jeweller to _____.
 - a. find out its weight
 - b. examine it
 - c. fix it on a ring
 - d. have it examined
6. Miss Lin decided to buy from the man, thinking that _____.
 - a. one stone was real, the rest weren't
 - b. the larger stones were real and the smaller ones were glass
 - c. all the stones were real
 - d. all the stones were just glass

7. After buying two of the largest stones from the man, she went back to the jeweller to ____.
- a. buy a ring
 - b. have them examined again
 - c. ask about the cost to fix them on a ring
 - d. phone the police
8. Miss Lin ran out of the jeweller's store because she ____.
- a. wanted to report the matter to the police
 - b. wanted to buy some more diamonds
 - c. was angry with the jeweller
 - d. wanted to catch the stranger and get her money back
9. Which of the following is true?
- a. The jeweller helped the stranger in the trick.
 - b. The man was finally arrested by the police.
 - c. Miss Lin didn't get her money back at last.
 - d. A woman helped her catch the man.

4. Dox — A Great Police Dog

"Dox, you are a very old dog," said Policeman Joe. "Today you are 13 years old. But you are still the best police dog in the world!"

"ARF, ARF!" barked⁽¹⁾ Dox. "Now let's get your birthday dinner," said Joe. "Show me where you want to eat."

Dox led Joe down the street. Good smell came from all the eating places. But Dox walked on. At last he stopped at a door. He smelled around the door and then pushed it open. "Is this where you want to eat?"⁽²⁾ asked Joe. But Dox did not answer. He put his nose to the floor and ran across the room. Then he jumped on a man at a table. "Good boy"⁽³⁾, Dox!" said Joe. "We have looked for this robber for six years. And now you have found him!" Dox and Joe took the robber to the police station. Then Joe said, "All right, Dox, you have done your work. Now do you want that birthday dinner?" "ARF!" barked Dox. "ARF! ARF!" "Let's go," said Joe. "I'm hungry, too."

A city has many smells. But Dox could follow one smell for miles. How did he know what smell to follow? Joe would show him a robber's coat or shoe. Dox would smell it, and then go to work.

One night, a robber broke into⁽⁴⁾ a store. The night watchman⁽⁵⁾ tried to hold⁽⁶⁾ him. But the robber ran away. The police sent for⁽⁷⁾ Dox. Joe let Dox smell the watchman's clothes, for the robber had put his hands on them. Then Joe said, "Find him, Dox!" Dox led the police through the city. He went to a room where a man was sleeping. The police woke the man. "Is this man the robber?" Joe asked the night watchman. "I am not sure. But I do not think he is," the watchman answered. "Dox! You must be more careful!" said Joe, shaking his finger at the dog. Dox