

P 高级实用英语

ractical English (Advanced)

胡树声 陈允智 查剑英 编

北京工业学院出版社

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内 容 简 介

本书是编者根据原教育部对研究生和出国人员的外语要求及他们的实际需要而编写的一本教科书。全书共15个单元，每个单元除精读课文、阅读材料、注释、词汇表、听力训练外，前13单元还用英语各教授学生一个技能，如“怎样扩大词汇量”、“如何进行有效阅读”、“如何写作（论文、书信、引言、摘要……）”，等等，最后2个单元给学生提供必要的有关国外的知识。书末附有汉译英练习答案和听力材料。

本书多取材于英美文学作品，内容新颖有趣，语言流畅自然，对于理工科院校的研究生和高年级学生以及出国人员是较理想的学习材料。具有中级以上英语水平的科技人员和英语爱好者，亦可用它作为自修课本。



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前 言

编者根据原教育部对研究生和出国人员的外语要求及他们的实际需要编写了这一本教科书。全书共15个单元，前13个单元用英语各教授学生一个技能，内容包括学好英语的几点建议，如何进行有效阅读，怎样扩大词汇量，科技文章的特点、疑难句和公式、方程式、符号等的读法，如何写作（论文、书信、引言、摘要等）、提高听力、作报告、翻译等。最后2个单元给学生提供必要的有关国外的知识。此外，每个单元包括课文、注解、词汇表、阅读材料、听力材料、练习等。课文、阅读和听力材料与各单元所学技能有较紧密的联系，且以文学作品为主；即使有关科技文章特点的单元，编者也选择了从文学角度来叙述的作品，以提高学习水平和兴趣。本书末附有汉译英练习答案及听力材料。

北京工业学院严沛然教授审校了全书初稿，提出了许多宝贵的修改意见，在此表示感谢。

由于编者水平有限，本书的编写难免有些不足之处。仅以此为试稿，抛砖引玉，恳切希望各界人士不吝指教，以便逐步完善。

编 者
一九八七年八月

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Listening Material

1997

Unit One

Text: English, English Everywhere

Learning an Art: A Few Tips on Learning English

Reading Material: Right Attitude Toward Grammar

Listening Comprehension: Part I; Part II

Text

English, English Everywhere

Around the globe, the English language is washing over the worlds of diplomacy, science, business and the arts like a tidal wave.

Chinese television airs a dozen or more English classes each week.¹ The most popular of these is "Follow Me", a half-hour adaptation of BBC series whose star, Kathy Flower, has become a celebrity in China and receives over a hundred letters a week—including offers of marriage—in English, of course.

India, with 15 languages, and more than 1500 dialects, relies on English to unify the country. "I could never have married my husband without it," says one woman. "He comes from the north and speaks Hindi. I'm from the west and speak Konkani. I still have trouble speaking to his mother—although I suppose that's not such a bad thing."

The sun sets regularly on the Union Jack these days, but never

on the English language.² Today, like it or curse it,³ English is the closest thing to a lingua franca around the globe.⁴ Some 414 million people, or roughly one in ten, speak it—an increase of 15 percent in the last 20 years.

English has replaced French in the world of diplomacy and German in the field of science.⁵ It is the dominant language of medicine, electronics and space technology, of aviation, international business and advertising, of radio, television and film. Says Robert Burchfield, editor of the Oxford English Dictionary, "Any literate person on the face of the globe is deprived if he does not know English."

Not surprisingly, the teaching of English as a second language has become a multimillion-dollar business the world over. Qualified English teachers are among the best-paid professionals in some countries.

The English-language boom stems from a variety of sources: World Trade. English is the tongue Japanese businessmen use to negotiate a deal with Kuwaitis. It is how Swedes speak to Mexicans, Hong Kong bankers work in Singapore. In Mexico English-speaking secretaries can increase their wages substantially; in Egypt their pay can go up ten times.

Many multinational corporations don't wait for their employees to learn English on their own. Chase Manhattan Bank offers English instruction to staff members on four continents. Aramco teaches the language to more than 12,000 workers in Saudi Arabia. Other companies send executives to Britain for live-in conversation courses. At the top of the range is a \$ 1500-a-week program run in stately English homes by the Swann Formation, a Paris-based company.

Diplomacy At the Versailles Peace Conference of 1919, English was already a major language of the pinstriper. Today, it is an official language at meetings of countless international bodies, from the Olympic Committee to the Miss Universe Pageant.

Pop Culture English pervades rock music the world over. Last December, 13 of the top 20 LPs in Japan had English titles.⁷ West German rock songs average 56 English Words a tune.

Science English replaced German after World War II when scores of German scientists moved to Britain and the United States.⁸ Now two-thirds of all scientific papers are published first in English.

English is not, to be sure, the most popular language everywhere. More people, as many as 730 million, speak mandarin Chinese (but few non-Chinese speak it). Nor is English without its detractors. More than a dozen countries have tried to limit its use by their people, even to the point of banning it by law. France's former President Georges Pompidou, a non-English-speaking intellectual, made "linguistic integrity" a national priority in the mid 1970s.

In the last five years, the French-speaking majority in Quebec has also embarked on a strenuous crusade against English. The separatist government no longer permits billboards, commercial signs or names of businesses in English. It plans to remove the word "stop" from red octagonal arret signs.⁹ And it has imposed rigid restrictions on access to English-language schools.

Mexico has discouraged the Yanqui intrusion for decades—with little success.¹⁰ Today, the Mexico City Commission for the Defense of the Spanish Language confronts an English tidal wave. In one ten-mile strip in Mexico City, half the shops have foreign names—mostly English. One radio station presents the news hourly in English. In parts of Mexico City, the U.S. networks are available on

cable television, and undubbed Hollywood movies are shown each day.

With English-language schools sprouting up everywhere, the need for competent English teachers has created a boom industry: teaching teachers. Over 50 U.S. colleges and universities now offer master's degree programs in the teaching of English as a foreign language. There is a parallel boom in the publishing of English-language textbooks—a business that now exceeds \$20 million a year in the United States alone. Three of the major houses—Oxford University Press, Longman and Regents—turn out nearly 100 new teaching texts a year, often in specialized-vocabulary fields such as atomic energy or international trade.

The place of English as lingua franca to the world appears secure for the foreseeable future. But English does have one possible mortal enemy—itself. “Just as Latin broke up into French, Italian and so on,” says the Oxford English Dictionary’s Burchfield, “I think English is gradually breaking up into unintelligible varieties. Of course, the process could take centuries.” Three years ago, Oxford published what it called the Oxford American Dictionary.

And so, for those who see the spread of English as a menacing form of cultural imperialism, there is reason to take heart.¹¹ Invading languages, like invading armies, may seem to be sweeping all before them, while in fact, over the long term, they themselves are being captured.

Proverbs

Knowledge is the wing wherewith we fly to heaven.

There is no royal road to learning.

Notes to the Text

1. **airs (v):** broadcasts (v.)

2. **The sun sets regularly on the Union Jack** these days, but never on the English language. In old days Great Britain was such a big power that it had colonies all over the world. **Union Jack** (the national flag of Great Britain) flew here and there, so the British used to say "The sun will never set." But now the British empire is on the decline. As a consequence, the sun sets regularly on the Union Jack these days. The English language, however, is still spoken all over the world.

3. **like it or curse it:** No matter whether you like it or curse it

4. **lingua franca:** the language adopted for communication over an area in which several languages are spoken

5. Before "German..." "English has replaced" is omitted and before "Hongkong..." "it is how" is omitted. They are elliptical sentences.

6. **pop:** the short form of "popular"

7. **LPs:** long-playing records

8. **scores of:** large numbers of

The word "dozen" (= 12) and the word "score" (= 20) when used to show a definite number, are never made plural. If they are used loosely, merely to convey the idea of a large number of something, they must be made plural, e.g. a dozen pencils; four score and seven years (def. number); dozens of pencils; scores of people (indef. number).

9. **atret:** (French) stop

10. **Yanqui:** (Spanish) Yankee

11. **take heart:** be confident

Word List

- adaptation** [ædæp'teɪʃn] n. something made suitable for a new need through alteration
- dominant** ['dɒmɪnənt] adj. having control
- literate** ['lɪtərɪt] adj. able to read and write
- deprived** [dɪ'praɪvd] adj. underprivileged
- boom** [bu:m] n. sudden increase
- negotiate** [nɪ'ɡəʊʃɪeɪt] v. to discuss in order to come to an agreement
- substantially** [səb'stænfəli] adv. largely
- executive** [ɪk'zekjʊtɪv] n. person responsible for making decisions
- stately** [steɪtli] adv. dignified; impressive
- pinstriper** [pɪn'strɪpə] n. person who wears a suit with long, narrow bands (in those days, gentlemen, diplomats wore this kind of suit)
- pageant** ['peɪdʒənt] n. public celebration or gathering
- pervade** [pə'veɪd] v. to spread through; get into every part of
- mandarin** ['mændərɪn] n. standard spoken Chinese
- detractor** [dɪ'træktə] n. person who takes away a part as from quality, value or reputation
- ban** [bæn] n. order with authority that

integrity [in'teɡrɪtɪ] n.

embark [ɪm'ba:k] v.

crusade [kru:'seɪd] n.

octagonal [ɒk'tæɡənəl] adj.

access ['ækses] n.

intrusion [ɪn'tru:zən] n.

dub [dʌb] v.

sprout [spraʊt] v.

mortal ['mɔ:tl] adj.

menace ['menəs] n.

something must not be
done, said etc.

quality of being upright
to start

any struggle or movement
in support of something
plane, figure with 8 sides
and angles

admittance to a place
the act of entering without
invitation

to replace to the sound-
track of a film in a different
language

to begin to grow

subject to death

danger or evil

Exercises

I. Answer the following questions:

1. Give a brief account of the sources from which the English-language boom arises.
2. What advantages does the ability to use English give us?
3. Give an example of the role of English in world trade.
4. In what nations English is spoken as a first language?
5. What countries does the author mention that have tried to limit the use of English by the people?
6. What does the author mean by "English does have one possible mortal enemy—itself"?

7. You have been studying English for some time now, so you must have given some thought to your reasons for learning it, how do you expect to use English in your life? Has it been useful to you already?

8. Do you find English easy or difficult to learn? Talk about your own experience, both positive and negative, in the study.

II. Are these statements true or false according to the text?

1. Many countries have more than one national language: India and France are mentioned as examples in the text.

2. English is spoken as a native language by more people than Chinese.

3. There are more native speakers of Chinese than of English. Nevertheless, English is the most frequently used international language.

4. According to Robert Burchfield, the English language will soon break up into several varieties.

5. People around the world learn English because it provides ready access to world scholarship and world trade.

6. English is understood more widely than any other language, but French has long been the principal language of business and government in the world.

7. The spread of English in the world over the past two decades has been phenomenal.

8. There is a great need for qualified English teachers everywhere in the world.

III. Complete the following sentences with words or expressions chosen from the list below:

(a good deal of, a variety of, competent, spread, variety, a series of)

1. Two years of training has turned Mary into a very _____ secretary.
2. I have spent _____ trouble over the work.
3. The news rapidly _____ through the village that the war had ended.
4. A vacuum cleaner can serve _____ purposes.
5. My mother has a large collection of roses, including some very uncommon _____.
6. _____ stamps is a set of stamps of various values made available together at the same time.
7. Efforts should be made to improve the quality of products and increase their _____.
8. Our students demand more _____ in cultural and recreational activities.
9. In the 18th century English was already finally established in Canada and has _____ to India.
10. The fire started in the basement and quickly _____ to the first floor.

IV. Choose the right answer.

1. We could have done better _____ more favourable conditons.
 - a. with
 - b. without
 - c. in
 - d. under
2. This change could not have taken place _____ a solid industrial foundation.
 - a. with
 - b. without
 - c. in
 - d. under
3. _____ another social system such floods would have caused terrible disasters.