



北京高等教育精品教材 全国高等教育“十一五”规划教材  
高职高专公共英语系列教材

# PRACTICAL ENGLISH

*for Special Purpose  
Student's Book*



首都师范大学出版社

# 应用英语

专业  
教程

本册主编 张敬源  
刘亚明

系列主编 王贵明  
许建平

顾问 刘润清  
主审 吴树敬

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系列主编 王贵明 许建平  
主 编 张敬源 刘亚明  
编 者 张 怡 张 虹  
李 欣 陈志娟  
刘亚明 张敬源  
王长喜

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YINGYONG YINGYU ZHUANYE JIAOCHENG

应用英语专业教程

王贵明 许建平 系列主编

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网 址 cnuph.com.cn

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# 前言

近年来,我国高等职业技术教育迅猛发展,大批适应社会 and 经济发展要求、面向市场和用人单位的高职专业应运而生,同时我国高职高专招生人数以较大幅度逐年递增。本书就是为了培养广大高职高专学生阅读英语科技文献和专业技术资料的能力,同时也为了帮助这些学生在顺利完成基础阶段英语学习后,能够将所学英语知识运用于相关专业英语技术资料的阅读,以英语为工具,获取专业学习所需要的信息。

## 一、教学对象

本教材是专业英语教学用书,适用对象为已经顺利完成高职基础阶段英语学习的高职高专院校各专业学生;也可供具有一定英语基础、对科技英语感兴趣的其他读者使用,我们精心编撰了此书。

## 二、编写原则

本教材在编写中力求体现以下原则:

### 1. 循序渐进性

本书的编写注重与高中及高职基础阶段英语教学的衔接,以便学生在完成高职高专基础阶段英语学习的前提下顺利过渡到专业英语的学习。同时在选材的长度、难度以及课后练习的编写上都体现了由易到难、由浅入深、循序渐进的原则。

### 2. 实用性

高等职业技术教育不是传统的学历教育,而是就业教育。为此,本教材的编写过程不以任何英语水平考试为目的,取消了各类考试中最常见的多项选择题型,注重培养学生的英语应用能力。无论材料的选择还是习题的编配都重在培养学生运用所学英语知识进行具有一定难度的口语及书面语交际的能力。

### 3. 语言知识与运用能力的互补性

鉴于高职高专学生的特殊背景,我们反对割裂语言知识和运用能力之间的关系,片面强调学生语言知识的不足或运用能力的提高。主张对高职高专学生的培养应注重在使用英语的过程中发现语言基础知识的不足,并有目的、有针对性地弥补语言基础知识方面的欠缺,真正做到学有所用、以用促学、边学边用、边用边学的目的。

## 三、课文选材

本教材选材力求新颖、规范、涵盖面广。由于高职高专各专业错综庞杂,相差甚远,本教材的着眼点不在于用简单的英文介绍各专业的基础知识,因为通过专业基础课和专业课的学习,学生对这些知识已经耳熟能详。而学生普遍欠缺的是如何完成由基础课向专业课的过渡,做到阅读专业技术资料时得心应手。为此,本教材所有选材均反

映了科技文献语言规范、句式严谨、从句迭出等特点，突出了科技与社会、科技与经济这一主题，便于学生通过课文内容的学习与理解，进一步巩固对语言知识的掌握。

#### 四、内容结构

本教材由正文和附录两部分组成。正文包括18个单元，每单元由课文导入（Pre-reading Questions）、课文（Text）、课文练习（Exercises）、补充读物（Supplementary Reading）四部分构成。

1. 课文导入部分旨在启发学生积极思考与课文内容相关的问题，为课文学习做好准备。

2. Text后附有注释、词汇与短语及专有名词表，便于学习者对课文的学习和掌握。

3. 课文练习中的阅读检测旨在检查学生对课文内容的理解情况；词汇练习旨在培养学生熟练运用已知词汇，借助必要的构词知识，扩大词汇量的能力；完形填空部分是对文章内容的高度浓缩和概括，既有利于进一步加深对所学课文的理解，又能帮助学生把握所读科技文献的主要信息，为口头或书面交流打下基础；翻译部分旨在培养学生准确理解和表达给定信息以及翻译科技文献的能力；口语练习旨在培养学生就课文相关的科技话题连续地表达自己的观点的能力。

4. 补充读物，内容与Text围绕同一主题展开，这样编写便于学习者就同一话题了解更多信息，从而达到批判性阅读的目的。附录包括“练习参考答案（Keys to the Exercises）”、“课文译文（Translation of the Texts）”以及“词汇总表（Glossary）”三个部分，便于学生自学。

#### 五、教学组织

鉴于高职高专教育的特殊培养目的，本教材的教学活动应力求体现“以学生为中心”的教学思想，在课堂教学中建议教师要发挥“导”而不是“教”的作用，最大限度地让学生通过阅读，正确把握所读科技文献的内容，尤其是培养学生用英语复述和讨论文献内容、表达自己观点的能力。

本教材的教学安排为一学期，课文教学活动与学生自主学习时间可根据学生的具体情况由教师自行安排。

#### 六、编写人员

本教材由北京科技大学张敬源、刘亚明负责全书编写体例的策划以及全部书稿的修改、补充和审订工作。参加本书编写的人员还有李欣、张怡、张虹、陈志娟老师（按姓氏笔画为序）。限于编者水平，疏漏错讹之处在所难免，敬请专家和读者批评指正。

编者

2007年12月

# 编写委员会名单

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 系列主编 | 王贵明（北京理工大学）<br>许建平（清华大学）  |
| 顾问   | 刘润清（北京外国语大学）  |
| 主编   | 吴树敬（北京理工大学）<br>（以姓氏笔画为序）<br>王贵明（北京理工大学）<br>王 红（北京理工大学）<br>王长喜（中国人民大学）<br>邓 莉（安庆师范大学）<br>孙德娴（北京理工大学）<br>刘 芳（北京理工大学）<br>许建平（清华大学）<br>纪爱梅（中国地质大学）<br>朱 蔓（中国地质大学）<br>杨会兰（中国地质大学）<br>张敬源（北京科技大学）<br>张悦红（北京理工大学）<br>李华山（清华大学）<br>毕晓宁（北京理工大学）<br>屈晓丽（中国人民大学）<br>黄清如（北京工商大学）<br>赵 冬（北京外国语大学）<br>赵宏凌（北京理工大学）<br>姜丽蓉（北京理工大学）<br>索玉柱（北京大学）<br>曹 莉（北京理工大学）<br>董启明（首都师范大学） |

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# Unit 1

## Pre-reading questions

1. What is the main channel for you to obtain information nowadays?
2. How do you keep in touch with your family and friends while you are on campus?

## Text

### The Future of the Phone

Once the exclusive domain of executives with expense accounts, the mobile phone is set to become one of the central technologies of the 21st century. Within a few years, the mobile phone will evolve from a voice-only device to a multi-functional communicator capable of transmitting and receiving not only sound, but video, still images, data and text. A whole new era of personal communication is on the way.

Thanks in part to the growth of wireless networks, the telephone is converging with the personal computer and the television. Soon light-weight phones outfitted with high-resolution screens — which can be embedded in everything from wristwatches to palm-held units — will be connected to series of low orbit satellites enabling people to talk, send and receive e-mail, or take part in video conferences anytime, anywhere. These phones might also absorb many of the key functions of the desktop computer. Mobile devices are expected to be ideal for some of the new personalized services that are becoming available via the Internet, such as trading stocks, gambling, shopping and buying theater and airline tickets.

The communications revolution is already taking shape around the globe. In Europe, small-scale trials are under way using module phones for electronic commerce. For example, most phones contain a subscriber identification module (SIM) card that serves primarily to identify a user to the phone network. But the card could also facilitate limited financial transactions. Deutsche Bank and Nokia, for example, are working together to develop mobile banking services. Some manufacturers plan to upgrade the SIM card to an all-in-one personal identification and credit card. Another approach is to add a slot to mobile phones for a second smart card designed specifically for mobile e-commerce. These cards could be used to make payments over the Internet or removed from the phone for use in point-of-sale terminals to pay for things like public transportation, movie tickets or a round of drinks at the bar.

In France, Motorola is currently testing a dual slot phone, the StarTAC D, in a trial with France Telecom, while in Finland Nokia is testing a phone that uses a special plug-in reader for a tiny smart card. Siemens is pursuing a different approach. Since it is not yet clear whether it's best to do everything with a single device, Siemens is developing dual slot phones and Einstein, a device equipped with a smart card

reader and keypad that can be linked to the phone via infrared wireless technology.

For those who want to, though, it will be possible to receive almost all forms of electronic communication through a single device, most likely a three-in-one phone that serves as a cordless at home, a cell phone on the road and an intercom at work. The mobile phone will become increasingly multi-functional, and fingerprint technology or advanced speech recognition will ensure that only one or two authorized users will be able to operate it. New hybrid devices, such as Nokia's 9110 Communicator, a combination phone and personal digital assistant (P. D. A. ), are already on the market. But some customers feel the keyboard and screen are too small and complex for comfort.

To get around these problems, Nokia's 7110 mobile phone has a larger screen and is operated by a tracking ball in addition to a keyboard. The phone has found a ready market among young people, who tend to send more text messages than they make mobile phone calls — not surprising given the fact that text is approximately a tenth as costly as voice. The Nokia 7110 also offers Internet access via Wireless Application Protocol (WAP), an open standard that allows streamlined versions of website contents to be displayed on mobile phone screens. Phones equipped with WAP enable people on the move to access basic information — such as news services, stock prices and flight timetables — from specially “but-down” sites.

For some, any device that bridges the gap between handwriting and keying in text will be a world-beater. Ericsson is researching a “smart quill” pen that could do just that. Though the smart quill looks like any other pen, it permits writers to write on any surface — or even in the air — while a microchip in the tip of the pen records the shape of the scribbles and transmits them to a remote PC, where special software converts them into normal text. Could this mean the end of typing? Not yet. Ericsson cannot say when a prototype will be ready.

Keyboards might eventually be unnecessary on mobile handsets if speech recognition software continues to improve. Mobile phones might then be reduced to a few computer chips, a micro-phone and a receiver embedded in an earring. The Philips Genie, a lightweight mobile phone, can be operated by uttering a single word. When you type a name into the Genie's keypad, the system asks whether you would like to assign a voice-dial tag to that name. Through a series of yes or no prompts, the Genie compiles a list of up to 10 voice tags. The next time you want to call a person listed as one of these tags, just say that person's name or a relevant code word. The word home, for example, is sufficient to place a call to your family.

Until mobile phones become even more sophisticated, though, they will face stiff competition from P. D. A. s. In selected markets American firm Palm Computing, part of 3Com, has released its Palm VII — successor to its best-selling range of hand-held organizers. Palm Computing has created a fast Internet messaging service for the Palm VII by building the Personal Query Assistant, a service that, like WAP technology, allows access to specially cut-down Internet sites. The company has teamed up with 23 leading content providers — including ABC News, Bank of America, the Internet stock service E-Trade — to provide key data such as flight schedules, sports scores, weather forecasts and news headlines. The device will be able to handle transactions like booking cinema tickets or making online stock trades. In a similar alliance, CNN and Nokia have joined forces to create the first 24-hour global news hotline, CNN Mobile, which provides Global System for Mobile communications (GSM) customers with breaking news.

Using an earpiece, callers hold the phone at arm's length to maintain visual contact. Alternatively, the phone can be pointed at something else — the Taj Mahal, for example — to allow the person on the other end to view it. Some even suggest that mobile videophones could overtake television as the major source of visual information, giving the phrase “something to phone home about” a whole new meaning.

## Notes

1. subscriber identification module (SIM) : 用户识别模式卡
2. Deutsche Bank : 德意志银行
3. Nokia : 诺基亚
4. Motorola : 摩托罗拉
5. Siemens : 西门子
6. Einstein : 爱因斯坦 (手机名)
7. personal digital assistant (P. D. A.) : 个人数字助理
8. Wireless Application Protocol (WAP) : 无线应用协议
9. speech recognition software : 语音识别软件
10. Ericsson : 爱立信
11. voice tag : 语音 (标签) 识别
12. Palm VII : 掌上第 7 代
13. Personal Query Assistant : 个人问题助理
14. ABC News : 美国广播公司新闻网
15. Bank of America : 美利坚银行
16. CNN : (Cable News Network) (美国) 有线电视新闻网
17. Global System for Mobile communications (GSM) : 全球系统移动通信
18. Taj Mahal : 泰吉·马哈尔陵 (即泰姬陵, 在印度北部名城阿格拉, 系 17 世纪莫卧尔帝国 Mumtaz Mahal 为其妃 Shah Jahan 建造的陵墓)

## New Words

1. exclusive / iks'klusiv / *adj.* available only to particular people, so that only they can have, do or use sth. 专有的, 独占的
2. domain / dəu'mein / *n.* an area of activity, interest, or knowledge 领域, 范围
3. evolve / i'vɒlv / *v.* to develop naturally and gradually 演变, 渐进; 逐渐发展
4. video / 'vidiəu / *n.* videotape recording 录像, 录影
5. converge / kən'veɪdʒ / *v.* to come together towards the same point 会聚, 集中
6. resolution / ˌrezə'lʊʃn / *n.* the power of a scientific instrument to give a clear picture of things that are very small or close together 分辨力, 分辨率
7. embed / im'bed / *v.* to fix sth. firmly and deeply in a mass of surrounding matter 把……嵌入
8. trial / 'traɪəl / *n.* testing to ensure quality, usefulness, safety, etc. 试验
9. facilitate / fə'silitiːt / *v.* to make easy or easier; help 使更容易, 便利

10. transaction / træn'zækʃən / *n.* a piece of business (一笔) 交易
11. slot / slɒt / *n.* a long straight narrow opening or hollow place, esp. in a machine 狭槽
12. terminal / 'tɜːmɪnəl / *n.* a piece of computer equipment consisting of at least a keyboard and a screen, that you use for putting in or taking out information from a larger computer【计】终端机
13. dual / 'djuːəl / *adj.* consisting of 2 parts or having 2 parts like each other; double 双的
14. keypad / 'kiːpæd / *n.* a small keyboard, which can often be held in the hand (能放在手上操作的) 小型键盘
15. infrared / 'ɪnfərə'red / *adj.* of or being rays of light of long wavelength that cannot be seen but give heat 红外线的
16. intercom / 'ɪntəkɒm / *n.* a system by which one can talk through a machine to someone in a near place 内部通话系统
17. hybrid / 'haɪbrɪd / *n.* a machine that contains parts of different machines 混合型机器
18. approximately / ə'prɒksɪ'mətli / *adv.* about 大约, 大概
19. access / 'ækses / *n.* means or right of using, reaching, or obtaining 取得的方法、权利  
*v.* to obtain (stored information) from a computer's memory (电子计算机) 存取 (数据等)
20. streamlined / 'striːmlaɪnd / *adj.* smooth and efficient by moving away the unnecessary parts 精简了的, 最新型的, 流线型的
21. bridge / brɪdʒ / *v.* to reduce or get rid of the difference between two things 减少或消除分歧
22. quill-pen / kwɪl'pen / *n.* a pen made from a large bird's feather 鹅毛笔
23. microchip / 'maɪkrəʊtʃɪp / *n.* a very small piece of silicon containing a set of electronic parts which is used in computers and other machines 微型集成电路块
24. scribble / 'skɪbl / *v.* to write carelessly or in a hurry 潦草地书写
25. prototype / 'prəʊtətaɪp / *n.* the first form of sth., esp. of a machine or industrial product, from which all later forms develop, sometimes with improvements (尤指机器等工业产品的) 原型
26. handset / 'hændset / *n.* 手机
27. utter / 'ʌtə / *v.* to make a sound or produce words 发声
28. prompt / prɒmpt / *n.* a word or words spoken in prompting an actor (给演员的) 提白, 提词
29. relevant / 'reləvənt / *adj.* directly connected with the subject 有关的
30. sufficient / sə'fɪʃənt / *adj.* as much as is needed for a purpose; enough 足够的, 充分的
31. sophisticated / sə'fɪstɪkeɪtɪd / *adj.* produced or developed with a high level of skill and knowledge 高级的, 尖端的, 精密的
32. release / rɪ'liːs / *v.* to make something available to the public (产品等) 发行, 推出; 发表, 发布 (新闻等)
33. query / 'kwɪəri / *n.* a question or doubt 问题, 疑问
34. alliance / ə'laɪəns / *n.* the act of joining together 联合, 联盟
35. visual / 'vɪʒjuəl, -ʒuəl / *adj.* of or gained by seeing 看的, 视觉的
36. alternative / ɔːl'tɜːnətɪv / *adj.* of two things that can be used, had, done, etc., instead of another;

other 两者挑一的; 可选择的

37. videophone / 'vidiəufəʊn / *n.* a type of telephone that allows you to see the person you are talking to on a machine like a television 可视电话
38. overtake / ˌəʊvə'teɪk / *v.* to come up to the same level as from behind, and usu. pass 追上, 赶上并超过

## Phrases

1. set to: to start doing sth. eagerly and with a lot of effort and determination 开始认真干起来
2. on the way: in the process of coming 正在到来, 在途中
3. thanks to: because of; owing to 由于; 幸亏
4. be embedded in: to fix sth. firmly and deeply in 把……嵌入
5. be under way: having started and making progress 已经开始并进行着, 正在进行
6. be linked to: to be joined or connected to 连接, 联系
7. get around: to avoid or solve a particular problem or difficult situation 避免或解决问题、难题
8. in addition to: as well as 除……之外

## Exercises

### I. Comprehension

Answer the following questions according to the text.

1. Who possessed mobile phones in the previous years? Why were they exclusive users of mobile phones?
2. What will be the new functions of the mobile phone once it is connected with the PC and the television?
3. Why does the author say that the communication revolution is already taking shape around the world?
4. What are the efforts being made by Motorola, Nokia and Siemens?
5. What are the problems the customer complained about Nokia's 9110 Communicator?
6. Why do young people prefer Nokia's 7110 mobile phone?
7. What is special for Ericsson's "smart quill" pen?
8. How can the future mobile phones be embedded into earrings?
9. What makes Palm VII more sophisticated than other mobile phones?
10. According to the text, what is the prospect of mobile videophones?

### II. Vocabulary

#### Section A

Complete the following sentences with the words or phrases given below. Change the form where necessary.

exclusive	terminal	bridge	facilitate	evolve	domain	overtake
thanks to	in addition to	converge				

1. Mr. Johnson is running his own research company for telecommunication in Paris — that is \_\_\_\_ his job at the university.
2. Playing tennis is not her \_\_\_\_ interest outside work — she does many other things as well, such as swimming, travelling and listening to music.
3. These documents should be placed in the public \_\_\_\_, so people will never forget the bitter experiences once they see them.
4. \_\_\_\_ the continual efforts made by generations of scientists, effective treatments for blood cancers are available now.
5. After only two years in the American market, our U. S. sales of textile products \_\_\_\_ our sales in Europe.
6. Please connect one wire to the positive \_\_\_\_ and one to the negative \_\_\_\_ on the battery.
7. The government has taken effective measures to \_\_\_\_ the gap between the unemployed and employers who need workers.
8. The media — newspapers, magazines, radios, TV and Internet can be used to \_\_\_\_ language learning.

## Section B

Complete the following sentences with the appropriate forms of the words given in the brackets.

1. The new policy is aimed at developing \_\_\_\_ (alternatively) energy sources and decreasing dependence on imported energy.
2. Susan \_\_\_\_ (visual) her wedding day and saw herself walking down the aisle on her father's arm.
3. The system has been designed to give the users quick and easy \_\_\_\_ (access) to the required information.
4. The \_\_\_\_ (sophisticated) of personal computers is increasing day by day as their size decreases.
5. The video has sold more than three million copies in its first three weeks on \_\_\_\_ (release).
6. The leading basket player hopes to have recovered \_\_\_\_ (sufficient) from his knee injury to take part in the semi-finals next week.
7. Mr. Harrison reckons that half of his business could be \_\_\_\_ (transaction) by computer nowadays.
8. They are now in a position to govern the state in \_\_\_\_ (alliance) with either the Republic Party or the Democratic Party.

## III. Cloze

Fill in each of the following blanks with an appropriate word to complete the following passage.

Try to use the words in the text.

China is overtaking the United States as the country with the largest number of mobile phone users. A \_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_ done in July 2001 showed that more than 40 percent of adults in 10 of China's largest cities \_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_ a mobile phone. For young people, mobile phones are not only a communication tool, but also a fashion \_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_ and a necessity in expressing one's personality. While in the past, people viewed mobile phones merely as a way of communication, or perhaps as a \_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_ symbol, people today enjoy the fashion aspects

of their mobile phones. Mobile phones will certainly become more and more 5 to the next generation.

Besides the increasing of the number of mobile phone users, the 6 of mobile phones are also developing. With the click of a 7, people can receive a great number of short messages. Other new services such as offering stock 8, a travel service, sending and receiving e-mail and looking up information on commerce and employment will be available soon. All these indicate that in the future mobile telecommunications will bring greater 9 to people's lives, which will in turn 10 to increased consumption of telecommunications services.

#### IV. Translation

##### Section A

Translate the following sentences into Chinese.

1. While some prefer mobile phones and P. D. A. s to be combined into a single unit, Swedish manufacturer Ericsson believes that if they are built separately they can offer more flexibility.
2. Using an infrared modem, the “advanced mobile companion,” the MC 218, brought out by Ericsson, enables e-mail, fax, short message service (S. M. S.) messages and Internet access to be undertaken via any Ericsson GSM mobile phone and mobile network subscription.
3. Telecommunications networks are wiring the world into a vast web of computers, satellites and fiber optic cables. This new Language of Technology lets us communicate with one another in fresh and surprising ways. But PCs and mobile phones aren't always needed for a good chat. Scientists are deciphering the Language of the Body, too.
4. Yet, to many, data transmission via mobile phones and P. D. A. s is agonizingly slow. At present, GSM phones can transmit data only at speeds of 9.6 kilobits per second — compared with the 56 kilobits per second Web browsing found in PC modems. But next year in Europe, a faster system will enable mobiles to send many packets of data simultaneously, allowing information to be transmitted at 115 kilobits per second, and within a few years at 384 kilobits per second.
5. Images will be just as important as sound to the future of mobile communications. But how can someone on the move conveniently view videos and websites? At British Telecom's research laboratories in England, engineers are evaluating how a tiny screen fitted to the side-frame of a pair of ordinary glasses can be linked to the human eye.

##### Section B

Translate the following sentences into English, using the words or phrases given in the brackets.

1. 20 世纪 80 年代末,移动电话首次出现在中国时,它是社会地位或财富的象征,只有外贸公司的高级职员,或新富起来的私人业主才有可能使用移动电话。而今天,在大城市的公共场所,用手机一个接一个地打电话,已是司空见惯。(a symbol of)
2. 移动通信已占中国所有通信业务的 48%,而且,已经成为国家电信业持续增长的主要因素。(account for)
3. 调查显示,上海的移动电话拥有率位居全国之冠,有 54.5% 的成人拥有移动电话,其中有 34% 的人打算来