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泛读教程

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# 新编大学英语

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## 序 言

在我国实施科教兴国和即将进入 WTO 之前,应沈阳工业大学和沈阳大学师范学院的邀请,为他们的科研新成果《新编大学英语泛读教程》作序,我非常高兴。

国内以前出版的英语泛读教材大多数课文冗长,单调,选材陈旧。广大师生迫切需要能有升级换代产品。我现在向广大师生推荐这套由辽宁教育出版社出版的《新编大学英语泛读教程》。该教材给人耳目一新的感觉,其特点是:

第一,材料新,信息量大,知识性强。

第二,形式灵活多样,短小精悍,趣味性强。

第三,练习题针对性强,备有参考答案。使阅读建立在科学的指导之下,读者对自己的不足与进步了如指掌。

除此而外,本套教程也适用于英语爱好者,对其参加多种多样的英语考试也有指导作用。

在此,我对参加编写的同仁表示衷心祝贺。感谢他们的辛勤劳动。我坚信本教材对提高英语教学将有巨大的推动作用。

范一岳

辽宁省翻译学会主席

2000年9月

## 前 言

应广大师生的急需，我们沈阳工业大学和沈阳大学师范学院两家单位合作，出版了这套大学英语泛读教程，希望对广大师生以及自学成才者的英语学习有所帮助。现将本套教材的编写体系和使用方法介绍如下。

教材的编写体系：

本套教材共四册，每册有30篇课文，其中大部分选自1999年以后出版的国外杂志和报刊，有相当一部分选自今年刚出版的材料。还有一部分是首次与国内读者见面。

书中内容涉及最新国际时事政治、人文历史、奇闻轶事、科学新动态以及网上信息，林林总总，基本描绘了信息社会的方方面面。

一、二册课后练习题参照辽宁省二、三级考试水平，三、四册课后练习题以全国统考四、六级的题型(包括新题型)为主，兼顾国内外有影响的流行的英语考试题型，包括TOEFL、GRE以及国内研究生各类考试等。

课后练习题均附有参考答案，每册还提供英语统考相应等级的三套全真试题及模拟试题，供学生自测。

忠告：

阅读是所有英语考试占比例最大的部分，建议使用者持之以恒，加强自测。

首先读完每单元，然后及时完成相应的练习题。

其次，要控制阅读时间，以便提高阅读速度。

另外，还要记录好自己的答题成绩。否则，自己就无法了解自己的阅读进展情况。

最后，每一单元读完课文后，再完成相应的练习。千万不要边答题，边看参考答案。否则，既影响提高答题速度，同时使自己不能清楚地了解自己的阅读水平。

### 致谢

借此机会，我们对提供信息及材料的单位和有关作者表示由衷地感谢，由于篇幅所限，未能一一注明出处，请多加谅解；另外由于时间仓促，还有许多不尽人意之处，不当之处诚请指正，以便再版时及时修订。

最后，祝广大读者的英语水平有一个质的飞跃。

**编 者**

2000年9月于沈阳

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# ***The Mystical Power of Free Trade***<sup>①</sup>

## 自由贸易的神秘力量

Free trade is always a *hard sell*<sup>②</sup>. In all of social science, the proposition that comes closest to being scientific, in terms of being theoretically provable and true in real life, is that a society benefits from allowing its citizen to buy what they wish—even from foreigners. But people resist this conclusion, sometimes violently, as in Seattle last week. Why?

A couple of reasons. First, the principle of free trade may be true, but it's not obviously true. In fact, it's counter-intuitive. If a factory shuts down because of a flood of cheap foreign products, how is that good? If the middle-class finds itself competing with workers being paid practically nothing and living in squalor in other countries, how can this send the middle-class standard of living up and not down? If another nation is willing to pollute its air and water in order to produce goods for sale in the global economy, how can a country join

that economy and still hope to keep its own air and water clean?

There are answers to these questions, but they take a bit of background and a bit of persuading. *Students of economics are led step by step through layers of reasoning until the moment they see the light* <sup>③</sup>. Skeptics think that the whole routine is like induction into a religious cult and that free trade is more like an article of religious faith than a sound policy recommendation. These skeptics are wrong, but their skepticism is understandable.

The other reason it's hard to sell free trade is that any given example tends to benefit a lot of people in small ways that are hard to identify and tends to harm a few people a lot in ways that are vividly evident. When that factory shuts down, the unemployed workers know they've suffered a loss, and they know why. And it's a big enough loss to stir them politically. It will affect their vote at least, if not cause them to march in the streets.

By contrast, budget-conscious shoppers (maybe those same workers) who are able to save a few bucks on a new sweater are not likely to realize they are enjoying a bargain as a result of global trade or to take to the streets to defend their right to a cheap sweater. Or suppose the U. S. slaps a tariff on foreign sweater and the foreign country retaliates by raising a tariff on something the U. S. is selling them—the people who would lose their jobs aren't even identifiable for sure, though for sure they exist. Likewise the people who lose jobs because

shoppers who have to pay more for sweaters have less money to spend on other things.

It's by considering all these things—the risk of losing your job one way minus the risk of losing it another, the extra money you make if your industry is shielded from foreign competition minus the extra money you pay for goods and services that are protected—that you reach the conclusion that on average, free trade benefits us all. Yes, there are various economic theories about circumstances in which all this may not be true, but their authors win prizes precisely because the circumstances are unusual. In general, the numbers work irrespective of what policies other countries follow. They just get worse if one country's trade restrictions lead other countries to impose more of the same. Trouble is, who's got time for all that math?

Still, a half-century of general prosperity in the U. S. has created a climate of toleration, if not enthusiasm, for *the free-trade gospel* <sup>4</sup>—mostly, indeed, as a gospel of our civic religion rather than out of anyone's buying the math. Alarm about imports tends to ebb and flow with the economy—less in good times, more in bad. So how, in the best times ever, did the World Trade Organization become the global bogeyman? No earnest college kid ever hitched across the U. S. to carry a picket sign against *the General Agreement on Tariff and Trade* <sup>5</sup>, the WTO's predecessor, although its function was similar. It took decades for *the CIA*, *the Trilateral Commission* and *the Council on Foreign Relations* <sup>6</sup> to achieve their places in *the*

*pantheon of political paranoia*<sup>①</sup>. The WTO has joined them in just 4 years. And it is despised across the entire political spectrum, whereas these other groups symbolize evil only to one political extreme or the other.

Part of the explanation is the special nature of the current prosperity, which is widening the income gap rather than narrowing it, as in the past. *Part is the growth of global economic forces that are actually impinging on national sovereignty, even though it's the paranoid hysterics who say so*<sup>②</sup>. But the WTO isn't responsible for either of these trends, both of which are probably inevitable and neither of which undermines the basic case for free trade or for an organization empowered to promote trade through binding arbitration of trade disputes.

Maybe it's the name. If you call yourself the World Trade Organization, you can't complain much if people dial your toll-free number and gripe about world trade. If a bunch of heads of government plan a triumphalist self-celebration in Seattle, you can't blame party poopers for showing up to horn in on the publicity. But really, the WTO is O. K. Do the math. *Or take it on faith*<sup>③</sup>.

Words: 917

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Notes:

① The article is chosen from TIME, DECEMBER 13, 1999, written by Michael Kinsley.

② a hard sell: 硬行推销, 同 a soft sell 相对, 下文中

sell 的意思是“推行”。

③ Students of economics are led step by step through layers of reasoning until the moment they see the light: 学习经济学的学生通过步步引导层层推理才能明白。

④ the free trade gospel: 对自由贸易的信仰

⑤ the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade: 《关税及贸易总协定》

⑥ The CIA: (美)中央情报局, the Trilateral Commission; 三边主义, the Council on Foreign Relations, 外交委员会

⑦ The pantheon of political paranoia: 字面上意义是“政治偏执狂的万神殿”引申为“政治舞台”

⑧ Part is the growth...who says so: 部分的原因是经济全球化的力量冲击了国家主权, 尽管这是见解偏执的人的看法。

⑨ Or take it on faith: Or believe me.

## Exercises:

### I. Reading Comprehension:

- ( ) 1. What's the real purpose of free trade?
- A. To encourage people to buy what they like.
  - B. To encourage the country to increase its tariff to protect their people.
  - C. To benefit all the people universally.
  - D. To encourage the factories to produce at any cost.
- ( ) 2. If a factory shuts down because of a flood of cheap foreign goods, what is the last thing the employed



workers want to do?

- A. To change their votes.
- B. To carry out a demonstration.
- C. To rush to buy the cheap goods.
- D. To criticize their government's policy.

( ) 3. Among the following statements, which is not the reason that people dislike WTO?

- A. The principle of free trade may not be apparently true.
- B. As to any certain example, free trade harms a lot of people openly while benefits a few people in reality.
- C. The current prosperity widens the income gap.
- D. The growth of global economic forces begins to threat a country politically.

( ) 4. How many reasons did the author list in the article to explain why some people resist free trade?

- A. 4                      B. 5                      C. 6                      D. 7

( ) 5. Which of the following features doesn't belong to WTO?

- A. Have strong influence on American political policy.
- B. Look down upon some political extremes.
- C. Take less time to draw people's attention.
- D. Attached to the U. S.