

大 学 英 语

生 词 · 短 语 · 背 景

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前 言

本书为杨立民、徐克容等教授编著的《大学英语教程》(College English)第三册至第五册(由于第一、二册比较简单,故本书不包括这部分)的教学、自学指导用书,是编者多年的教学实践的总结。原教科书的文字全部选自原文原作,材料新颖,但难度较大。众多的生词是学习该教材的第一个“拦路虎”。文章发生的时代背景在理解文字的过程中起着相当关键的作用,但教科书中并没有提供这方面的材料或提供甚少。正是基于以上两点,我们编著了此书,以期能为广大英语学习者带来帮助。

本书主要有两大部分内容:

I. New Words & Expressions:

对课文中的生词进行双解,解释力求简明准确。

I. Background Knowledge:

包括文章发生的背景简介、作者简介、文中涉及的典故简介等。材料翔实生动,准确无误。

美国耶鲁大学 James Hashim 博士通阅书稿后提出了宝贵意见。参加本书编写工作的还有中国人民公安大学粟长江、中

国人民大学曹波、山东聊城师范学院张景华、葛红、山东矿业大学李延波、房红芳以及孟桂新、曹建春等老师。在此谨表谢意。本书由刘振前同志作了统修。书中不妥之处，敬请读者惠正。

编 者

一九九七年十二月于北京

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第三册

Lesson One

Christmas Day in the Morning

by Pearl S. Buck

I New Words and Expressions

Christmas ['krisməs] *n.* a christian holy day usu. held on December 25th in honour of the birth of Christ.

圣诞节

completely [kəm'pli:tli] *adv.* wholly; in every way 完全地; 彻底地

底地

milking ['milkiŋ] *n.* the work to milk cows 挤牛奶的活

cling [kliŋ] *v.* stick firmly 粘着; 缠着

magic ['mædʒik] *n.* a strange influence or power; a charming and mysterious quality 魔力, 魅力

worthwhile ['wɜ:θ'wail] *adj.* worth doing; worth the trouble taken 值得

trim [trim] *v.* to make neat, even. or tidy by cutting 使整齐; 修剪; 整理

separate ['sepərit] *adj.* not the same; different. 分开的, 不同的

actually ['æktʃuəli] *adv.* in actual fact; really 实际上, 事实上
awake [ə'weɪk] *adj.* having woken; not asleep 醒着的, 不睡的
starry ['sta:ri] *adj.* filled with stars 布满星星的, 星光灿烂的
extraordinary [ik'strɔ:dənəri] *adj.* very strange 不一般的, 特殊的

dawn [dɔ:n] *n.* the time of day when light first appears; the first appearance of light in the sky before the sun rises
黎明, 拂晓

slip [slɪp] *v.* to slide out of place or fall by sliding. Here it is used figuratively. 滑动 (本课指时间)

nowadays ['naʊədeɪz] *adv.* at the present time; now 现在, 目前
overhear [əʊvə'hiə] *v.* to hear without their knowledge 无意中听到; 偶然听到

manage ['mænidʒ] *v.* to succeed in dealing with (a difficult action or movement) 应付, 处理

brisk [brɪsk] *adj.* quick and active 轻快的, (语言) 尖刻的

besides [bi'saɪdz] *adv.* in addition; also 再说, 另外

loiter ['lɔɪtə] *v.* to move on or move about with frequent stops 徘徊, 举动缓慢

stumble ['stʌmbəl] *v.* to catch the foot on the ground while moving along and start to fall 跌跌撞撞

turkey ['tʌ:ki] *n.* a type of large bird kept on farms for its meat which is highly regarded as food, esp. for Christmas 火鸡

mince [mɪns] *v.* to cut (esp. meat) into very small pieces 把肉等剁成碎末

ten-cent store *n.* stores where you can buy small and cheap

things 小杂店, 小店铺

attic ['ætɪk] *n.* that part of a building esp. a house, just below the roof 顶楼, 屋顶室

stable ['steɪbəl] *n.* a building for keeping and feeding animals, esp. horses 马厩

barn [b : an] *n.* (AmE) a farm building for deeping animals 牲口棚

shepherd ['ʃepəd] *n.* a man or boy who takes care of sheep in the field 牧羊人, 牧羊童

dagger ['dægə] *n.* a short pointed knife used as a weapon 匕首, 短刀

creep [kri : p] *v.* to move slowly and quietly with the body close the ground 爬行, 匍匐而行

gaze [geɪz] *v.* to look steadily for a long or short period of time 凝视, 盯着看

soundly ['saundli] *adv.* (of sleep) deep and untroubled 熟睡地

creaky ['kri : ki] *adj.* make sound easily 易发声的

reddish ['redɪʃ] *adj.* slightly red 略带红色的, 微红的

placid ['plæsid] *adj.* quiet; not easily angered or excited 平静, 温和

steadily ['stedili] *adv.* without stops 稳固地, 平稳地, 不停地

froth [frɒθ] *n.* a white mass of small balls of air formed in a liquid 泡沫

fragrant ['freɪgrənt] *adj.* having a sweet or pleasant smell 芳香的

chose [tʃɔ :] *n.* a simple fastening for a door, worked by dropping a bar into a U-shaped space 门闩

bar [ba:] *v.* to close firmly with a bar 插门, 闭门

queer [kwɪə] *adj.* strange 奇怪的

sob [sɒb] *v.* to breathe while weeping, in sudden short bursts,
making a sound in the throat 抽泣

clutch [klʌtʃ] *v.* to hold tightly 紧抱, 抓牢

hug [hʌg] *n.* the act of holding sb. tightly in the arms 紧紧地拥
抱

reckon ['rekən] *v.* suppose 猜想, 假设

blessed ['blesɪd] *adj.* happy; desirable 幸福的

fade [feɪd] *v.* to cause to lose colour or freshness (颜色) 消褪

barthrobe ['bɑ:θrəʊb] *n.* a loose garment worn before and after
bathing esp. by men 浴衣

brooch [brəʊtʃ] *n.* an ornament worn on women's clothes fas-
tened on by means of a pin 饰针

dainty ['deɪnti] *adj.* small but pretty, clean 精巧; 秀丽

fortunate ['fɔ:tʃənɪt] *adj.* lucky 幸运的

genuinely ['dʒenjuɪnli] *adv.* really; truly 真正地

occur [ə'kə:] *v.* to happen unexpectedly 偶然发生

beloved [bi'lʌvd] *adj.* deeply in love 挚爱的; 深爱的

seal [si:l] *v.* to fasten or close with sth. sticky 粘住

tiptoe ['tiptəʊ] *v.* to walk on one's toes with the rest of one's feet
raised above the ground 踮脚走

gleam [gli:m] *v.* give out a bright light 闪现; 闪光

to help with sth. 帮助于……

to trim a tree 修剪树木

to milk a cow 挤牛奶

now that... 既然……

to feel awake	无睡意的
to overhear what sb. said	碰巧听到别人的谈话
to take one's turn	轮到某人
to take sth. for granted	想当然
to pull on/off one's clothes	(胡乱、急促地) 穿、脱衣服
to raise turkeys	喂养火鸡
to save money	攒钱
to strike a match	划一根火柴
to bar the door	闭门
to lie still	静静地躺着
to burst with love	充满爱意
to be satisfied	满意
to be unable to do sth.	没有能力干……
to seal a letter	粘信
to tie sth. to some place	把……系到某个地方
to put out the light	吹熄灯火

I Background Knowledge

1. About the Author

Pearl Sydenstricker Buck (1892-1973), a 20th century American novelist, was born on June 26, 1892, in Hillsboro, West Virginia. Her Parents, Presbyterian missionaries in China, brought her to China in her infancy.

China was Pearl Buck's home for 42 years. She learned to speak Chinese before she learned English. All her schooling was in China until she attended Randolph-Macon College and, later,

Cornell University in the United States.

Her marriage to Dr. John Buck, an agricultural missionary took her to a small town in northern China. She described the region in her famous novel, *The Good Earth* (1931). After 5 years she moved to Nanjing and taught English literature to university students. In 1935, she was divorced from Dr. Buck and married Richard J. Walsh but was widowed in 1960. After that she made her home in Pennsylvania.

Her best-known novel, *The Good Earth*, deals with a Chinese family which won Nobel Prize for literature in 1938. Her other known novels include *The East*, *The West Wind*, *The Mother*, *The Proud Heart* etc.

2. the Birth of Jesus Christ

Jesus's mother was Mary and Joseph was his father. When Mary was engaged to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. But as Joseph was fair-minded and did not want to disgrace her publicly, he planned to break with her secretly. While he was considering this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, *Joseph, son of David, be not afraid to take Mary as your wife, for what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you are to call him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.*

When Joseph awoke from his sleep he carried out what the angel commanded of the Lord. He took to him his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to her first-born son, whom he called Jesus.

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem during the reign of King Herod, there arrived wise men at Jerusalem from the east, inquiring, *where is the new-born king of the Jews? For we saw His star in the east and we have come to worship Him.* On hearing this, King Herod felt disturbed, and with him all Jerusalem. Herod then summoned the wise men for a private interview and ascertained from them just when the star appeared. The King also said, *Go and search carefully for the young child, and when you have found Him, report to me so that I too may go and worship Him.* After listening to the king they travelled on, and the star they had seen in the east preceded them until it came and rested above the place where the young child was. Entering the house, they saw the little child with His mother, Mary, and prostrating themselves they worshipped Him. And opening their treasure chests they offered Him Presents: gold, frankincense and myrrh. Then, because of divine warning in a dream not to return to Herod, they went back to their own country by a different route. After the wise men had left an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, *Rise! Take the child and His mother and escape to Egypt, for Herod is about to search for the child in order to murder Him.* So he got up at night, took the child and His mother and departed into Egypt where they remained until Herod's death.

When Herod perceived that he had been out-witted by the wise men he was furious and sent a detachment to murder all the male children in Bethlehem and its environs, those of two years and under, according to the time he had ascertained from the wise

men.

3. About Gifts

Americans give gifts on numerous occasions; on retirement of a colleague at work; at Christmas; on birthdays of good friends and children; at weddings; on the birth of a baby; when someone achieves an honor or graduates and on a farewell visit to a friend. However they exchange these gifts only among good friends. If you know people only casually, it is inappropriate to give gifts. In fact, if you give gifts to casual acquaintances or give too many gifts even to friends, Americans will feel uncomfortable; they will not know how to reciprocate. In most cases, it is suitable to simply bring one small gift on your farewell visit to each friend. The gift should always be inexpensive and will be especially appreciated if it is from China. For a celebration, such as a retirement or graduation, either bring something general like flowers or something that suits the interest of your friend. If you wish, wrap the present, but wrapping is not necessary.

Americans almost always open a gift at once and admire it. They thank the giver and usually make some comment about the gift's beauty or practicality so that you know it is appreciated. Americans value homemade things. To ask if something—food, clothes, decorations or furniture—is homemade is a compliment. It suggests that your host is skillful enough to make the object.