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总主审 陈福民

# 大学英语 阅读实践教程

第三册

主编 罗帼瑞 杨宇慧

## A COLLEGE ENGLISH READING PRACTICE COURSE

哈尔滨工业大学出版社

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### 大学英语阅读实践教学

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# 前 言

这套教程是根据国家教委审定的《大学英语教学大纲》和《大学英语四级通用词汇表》以及大学英语分级标准考试题型设计而编写成的系列英语阅读实践教学。本教程共分四册,可分别用于大学英语1—4级阅读教学和语言实践训练。

本书为第三册,共15个单元,每单元3篇阅读文章。所选阅读材料在内容上力求集知识性、科学性、实用性和趣味性为一体。每篇文章后,配有阅读理解试题、完形填空练习、英译汉和写作实践题。目的是既能达到培养学生的阅读能力,又能提高学生综合运用语言的能力。此外,该书每5个单元后附有一套词汇和语法结构测试题(100道题)。所有测试题都是结合前5个单元内容编写而成,可供学生自测和巩固已学的语言知识,进一步扩大词汇量和掌握语法要点。我们相信这套教程对提高学生的英语水平一定会大有裨益。

该套教程由张学君任总主编,王达坤、李小红任副总主编,陈福民任主审。

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由于编者水平有限,书中疏漏和不足之处在所难免,恳请读者与同仁批评指正。

编委会

1996年8月

于哈尔滨工业大学

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# UNIT ONE

## I . HOW DO THE MOVIES DO IT?

1. Have you ever seen a movie in which a building was burned down or a bridge was destroyed? Have you seen films in which a train crashed or a ship sank into the ocean? If so, you may have wondered how these things could happen without harming the people in the film.
2. The man who knows the answer is the "special-effects" man. He has one of the most important jobs in the film industry. He may be ordered to create a flood or to make a battlefield explode. But he may also be asked to create a special effect which is much less exciting, though just as important to the success of the film.
3. In a scene for one movie there was a big glass bowl filled with water in which small fish were swimming. The director of the movie wanted the fish to stop swimming suddenly while they seemed to stare at an actor. Then the director wanted the fish to stop staring and swim away. But fish can't be ordered to do anything. It was quite a problem.
4. The special-effects man thought about this problem for a long time. The result was an idea for controlling the fish with a harmless use of electricity. First he applied electricity to the fish bowl, causing the fish to be absolutely still. Then he rapidly reduced the amount of electricity, allowing the fish to swim away. Thus he got the humorous effect that the director wanted.
5. For fires the special-effects man does not trust the normal burning process of wood or other materials. He does not have time to wait until large flames appear. Usually he places metal pipes in the area that is to be burned. Gas flowing through the pipes burns instantly but can be kept under control easily by opening or closing the pipes.
6. When explosives are used, as in battlefield scenes, special-effects men usually receive extra pay. There is danger, and sometimes there are accidents. For a large battlefield scene the special-effects man talks with the director, examines the area, and plans the effects several days before the filming is to begin. He then places his explosives. They must not be too powerful in the areas where actors will pass. But there must be enough power so that—with sound effects added later—the explosions seem real.
7. The special-effects man may cover two acres of ground with explosives, each connected individually by wire to a special device for controlling the course of an electric current. When the scene begins, he causes explosions in the air by sending up large bags filled with explosives. The bags float in the air and are held by wires. At the right time he makes them explode. If a church tower, for example, must seem to be hit by guns, he puts explosives in several places in the tower. He usually cuts through some of the supports of the tower first so that he can be sure they will fall.
8. All this requires training, skill, and experience. It also adds a great deal to the expense of producing the film. In point of fact, it helps explain why so many movies are very expensive to make.

(536 words)



- |                        |                          |                       |                     |
|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. <del>A.</del> there | B. they                  | <del>C.</del> it      | D. he               |
| 2. <del>A.</del> for   | B. off                   | C. with               | D. of               |
| 3. A. pretend          | <del>B.</del> show       | C. pay                | D. hide             |
| 4. <del>A.</del> even  | B. even so               | C. never              | D. too              |
| 5. A. few              | B. the other             | <del>C.</del> other   | D. another          |
| 6. A. always           | <del>B.</del> never      | C. often              | D. ever             |
| 7. A. doesn't          | B. haven't               | <del>C.</del> don't   | D. hasn't           |
| 8. A. encourages       | B. mounts                | <del>C.</del> forbids | <del>D.</del> alien |
| 9. <del>A.</del> when  | B. where                 | C. why                | D. that             |
| 10. A. one other       | <del>B.</del> each other | C. another            | D. one the other    |

### TRANSLATION EXERCISE

**Directions:** In this part, there are five sentences. You are asked to translate them into Chinese.

- The art of pleasing is a very necessary one to possess, but a very difficult one to acquire.
- For more than a decade, with increasing success, molecule biologists all over the world have been struggling to answer a question as old as death.
- Scientists are the miracle workers of the 20th century.
- Being able to speak French is still the mark of a superior education in Southern Europe and Latin America.
- My life is in the hands of any fool who makes me lose my temper.

### WRITING PRACTICE

**Directions:** Some people hold the negative opinion on the increasing violence in society. What's your opinion? Please give several reasons and some examples to support your argument. Your composition should be no less than 100 words.

## I . THE BIRTH OF BLUE JEANS

- Each time you step into those faded old jeans, you put on a piece of history. The world's favourite trousers are now over a hundred years old, and here's how they started out.
- The first Jeans were made in 1850, in the California gold rush. A man named Levi Strauss realised that the gold-diggers' normal trousers weren't strong enough for the work they had to do and were wearing out quickly. Strauss had some strong canvas, which he was going to make into tents and wagon covers to sell to the workers. Instead, he made some trousers out of it and these became the first Jeans. They were brown and called the waist-high overall (高腰工作裤).
- The trousers sold well, and Strauss began looking around for ways of making them even tougher. He found a material that was better than canvas — a durable cotton that was manufactured only in the south of France. In a town called Nimes, the material was denim (斜纹布) — the name coming from the French or from Nimes. Strauss ordered boat loads of this material and, to keep the colour consistent, had it all dyed indigo (靛青) blue. The trousers became known as blue denims or blue jeans (the word jean is thought to come from Genoa. Italian sailors from the port of Genoa wore trousers similar to jeans, on the big trading ships).
- In the early days cowboys, farmers, miners and timber Jacks (伐木工人) — all people as-

sociated with hard work——wore jeans. But there were a few design problems with the early styles——as cowboys discovered to their cost. When they crouched(弯腰曲膝) too close to the camp fire, the rivet(铆钉)(the metal button strengthening the jeans at the bottom of the fly) got too hot and became very uncomfortable. Levi didn't take much notice of the cowboys complaints until the 1940s, when a company official crouched too close to a camp fire and experienced the problem first-hand. The crotch(裤裆) rivet was soon removed!

5. In the fifties and sixties, Jeans represented rebellion(反叛). Film stars like James Dean, Elvis Presley and Marilyn Monroe wore them, as did pop stars like the Beatles and the Rolling Stones.

6. Fashions changed in the seventies and jeans became flared-tight at the hip and wide at the bottom. They were very, very tight——if you could get the zip(拉链) up while standing up, they weren't tight enough. You had to lie down on the bed to do them up, for a really skin-tight fit, people would lie in a bath in their jeans and wait for them to shrink!

7. As the trousers became more and more successful, other jeans manufacturers started up——such as Wrenglers, Pepe and Lee.

8. But jeans have had their opponents, in some countries——such as the old Soviet Union——jeans became a prized status symbol of the West. They suggested that a Soviet citizen had either travelled abroad or had contacts in the West. So the authorities discouraged the wearing of jeans. And in Japan, a consumers' association stubbornly refused to sell one manufacturer's fashionable ripped jeans because it felt these were inferior and defective product!

(513 words)

### NEW WORDS AND PHRASES

- |               |               |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. faded      | a. 褪色的        | 7. shrink     | v. 收缩         |
| 2. canvas     | n. 帆布 ✓       | 8. opponent   | n. 对手, 敌手 ✓   |
| 3. durable    | a. 耐穿的        | 9. consumer   | n. 消费者        |
| 4. consistent | a. 坚固的, 一致的 ✓ | 10. stubborn  | a. 顽固的        |
| 5. dye        | v. 染色         | 11. rip       | v. 撕破, 扯碎 ✓   |
| 6. hip        | n. 臀部 ✓       | 12. defective | a. 有缺陷的, 有缺点的 |
- \* \* \* \*
- |                     |        |                    |        |
|---------------------|--------|--------------------|--------|
| 1. wear out:        | 穿破     | 3. associate with: | 和……联系  |
| 2. look around for: | 四处寻找 ✓ | 4. to one's cost:  | 吃了苦头 ✓ |

### NOTES

- |                   |                        |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| 1. California     | 加利福尼亚(美国州名)            |
| 2. gold rush      | 淘金热                    |
| 3. Nimes          | 尼姆(法国南部的城市)            |
| 4. Genoa          | 热那亚(意大利港市)             |
| 5. fly            | 衣服上的拉链和钮扣盖布            |
| 6. Elvis Presley  | 埃维斯·普雷斯列(美国流行歌手外号“猫王”) |
| 7. Marilyn Monroe | 玛丽莲·梦露(美国著名性感女影星)      |
| 8. Beatles        | 甲壳虫乐队                  |
| 9. Rolling Stones | 滚石乐队                   |



## TRANSLATION EXERCISE

1. He is the last man to say such a thing.
2. I couldn't agree with you more.
3. Jim loved no sport better than to swim in winter.
4. To try to give an idea of what China is like I shall start with what there isn't in China. There is no hunger there.
5. He is not a poet any more than a musician.

## WRITING PRACTICE

**Directions:** Write a composition on the topic MY OPINION OF BLUE JEANS. Your composition should be no less than 100 words.

### III . A CHINESE WOMAN I KNEW

1. Now that women are freely taking part in work outside their homes, such questions arise as: Who does the housework? Who cares for preschool-age children? Is family planning effective? Whereas men and women are given equal status(地位)by the Constitution with equal pay for equal work, immediately after liberation in 1949 men did not always carry this principle of equality over into home relationships. The feudal (封建的) concept that men are superior and women inferior made men refuse to share household tasks, saying "housework is women's work". Although this concept has not been entirely overcome, great progress has been made so that today many husbands share housekeeping chores (家庭杂务) with their wives. How has this change come about? Through education of the men and through the concern of their fellow-workers.

2. Let me give you an example which came to my attention some years ago. Here was a family with two children. Both husband and wife were working in factories. Thus they left home about the same time in the morning and returned home about the same time in the late afternoon or early evening. At home there were the usual household chores to be taken care of cleaning, washing, cooking, looking after the needs of their children and preparing them for bed. Once at home the husband would settle into a chair to read a newspaper while the wife was left to do all the tasks. She felt that her husband should help with these chores since theirs was a joint home. She would ask him to help with the cooking, etc., but always he refused. Finally her patience reached the breaking point and she said, "I'm going to get a divorce.", but even this statement did not move him. However, the wife was in earnest and presented her problem to the leadership of her factory. Recognizing the seriousness of this situation, the factory leadership suggested that the woman come to live in the factory dormitory and not visit her home for the time being. This was what she did.

3. Very soon the man's factory became aware that the "deserted"(被遗弃的) husband was facing serious problems which affected his work. His factory then made its own investigation of the home situation, and began to gradually reeducate the man. A number of weeks, indeed several months passed before the woman's factory advised her, "We think it might be good if you should pay a visit to your home, if for no other reason than to see your children once again" Then the woman returned to her home and when she rang the doorbell, the door was opened by a very friendly husband who greeted her warmly, as did the children. Immediately the hus-

band invited her to join him and the children at their evening meal, which proved to be tasty and well prepared. "Yes," said the husband, "I cooked this meal myself." The ice was broken and quickly the wife realized that her husband's point of view had changed completely. What had brought about this change? It was the deep concern of the husband's factory worker comrades, their untiring efforts to eradicate (根除) his feudal thinking and ideology (思想), their patient education and help in teaching the husband how to fulfil his responsibility in sharing household tasks that created the "new" man. The wife did not return to live in her factory, but began to share this new, cooperative relationship with her husband. Indeed before long she announced that she had dropped the idea of a divorce and the two, with their children, lived happily together for years to come. The concept of equality between men and women had become an active factor in this family's relationship.

(512 words)

### NEW WORDS AND PHRASES

- |                               |                         |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. preschool-age n. 学龄前       | 6. housekeeping n. 家务管理 |
| 2. equality n. 平等             | 7. tasty a. 美味的, 可口的    |
| 3. superior a. 上等的            | 8. untiring a. 不倦的      |
| 4. inferior a. 下等的            | 9. constitution n. 宪法   |
| 5. household n. 家务            | feudal [fju:dl]         |
|                               | * * * *                 |
| 1. now that: 既然, 由于           | 4. get a divorce: 离婚    |
| 2. share...with: 分享, 分担       | 5. in earnest: 认真地      |
| 3. for the time being: 暂时, 眼下 |                         |

### READING COMPREHENSION

- The passage is mainly about \_\_\_\_\_.
  - equal pay for equal work between men and women
  - the feudal concept that men are superior to women
  - the equality between men and women in family affairs
  - the education of men
- According to the author, the feudal concept that the man are superior and women are inferior or \_\_\_\_\_.
  - has not been overcome at all
  - has been overcome a little
  - has been greatly overcome
  - makes men refuse to do housework
- The example given by the author shows \_\_\_\_\_.
  - how the feudal concept has been greatly overcome
  - women are inferior to men in China
  - how a Chinese family live and work
  - how a Chinese woman lives and works
- "We think it might be good if you should pay a visit to your home, if for no other reason than to see your children once again." This sentence means the factory thought it might be time for the wife to visit her home \_\_\_\_\_.
  - if she had no other reasons
  - even if she only wanted to see her children again
  - even if she didn't want to see her children

- D. even if she had no reason to do so
5. The author's attitude toward the equality of men and women is \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. hostile                      B. negative                      C. positive                      D. critical

### CLOZE TEST

I have been trying to get sick. I don't wear a sweater when I should do. This morning I 1 to rub the end of the thermometer until it went up, but it never went 2 94 F. I rubbed it for ten 3 minutes. So I held the tip of the thermometer 4 to the light bulb in my desk 5 and it went up to 105 F. I figured I'd put it in my mouth and walk downstairs 6 that. Then my mother would take it out and wouldn't she be 7 when she saw what a high fever I had!

The only 8 was I didn't know the thermometer would be so hot. 9 I put it into my mouth I burned my tongue, something awful! Spit the thermometer 10. It fell on the floor but it didn't break.

- |                 |             |               |              |
|-----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. A. enjoyed   | B. stopped  | C. tried      | D. decided   |
| 2. A. below     | B. above    | C. up         | D. for       |
| 3. A. total     | B. whole    | C. more       | D. long      |
| 4. A. right     | B. just     | C. next       | D. high      |
| 5. A. lamp      | B. drawer   | C. lock       | D. position  |
| 6. A. into      | B. for      | C. like       | D. to        |
| 7. A. suspected | B. supposed | C. recognized | D. surprised |
| 8. A. objective | B. key      | C. clue       | D. trouble   |
| 9. A. When      | B. Once     | C. Provided   | D. Since     |
| 10. A. down     | B. out      | C. away       | D. behind    |

### TRANSLATION EXERCISE

- Now that women are freely taking part in work outside their homes, such questions arise as: who cares for preschool-age children? Is family planning effective?
- Whereas men and women are given equal status by the Constitution with equal pay for equal work in 1949 men did not always carry this principle of equality over into home relationships.
- Once at home the husband would settle into a chair to read a newspaper while the wife was left to do all the tasks.
- Finally her patience reached the breaking point.
- The wife was in earnest and presented her problem to the leadership of her factory.

### WRITING PRACTICE

**Directions:** Write a composition on the topic **MEN AND WOMEN ARE EQUAL IN CHINA** IN THREE WAYS. Your composition should be no less than 100 words.

# UNIT TWO

## I . WELCOME TO OUR BANK

1. "I wish Central Bank would be robbed," George Pickens said to himself. He had been making this wish daily from the time he had started work as a teller (出纳员) at the bank.
2. All over the country banks were being robbed, George thought sourly. Why not this bank? Were robbers scornful of its four-million-dollar capital? Were they afraid of Mr. Ackerman, the old bank guard, who hadn't pulled out his gun in twenty-two years?
3. Of course, George had a reason for wanting the bank to be robbed. After all, he couldn't simply take the thick bundles of bills that were under his hands all day long. So he had thought of another way to get them. His plan was simple. It went like this:
4. If Bank Robber A holds up Bank teller B...
5. And if Bank Teller B gives Bank Robber A a certain amount of money...
6. What is to prevent Bank Teller B from keeping all the money left and claiming that it was stolen by Bank Robber A?
7. There was only one problem. Where was Bank Robber A?
8. One morning George entered the bank feeling something was about to happen. "Good morning, Mr. Burrows," he said cheerfully. The bank president muttered something and went into his office.
9. At two o'clock Bank Robber A walked in, George knew he was a bank robber. For one thing, he slipped in. For another thing, he wore a mask.
10. "This is a holdup," the man said roughly. He took a pistol from his pocket. The guard made a small sound. "You," the bank robber said, "lie down on the floor." Mr. Ackerman lay down. The robber stepped over to George's cage.
11. "All right," he said. "Hand it over."
12. "Yes, sir," said George. "Would you like it in ten-or twenty-dollar bills?"
13. "Just hand it over!"
14. George reached into his cashbox and took all the bills from the top section — close to six thousand dollars. He passed them through the window. The robber snatched them, stuffed them into his pocket, and turned to leave.
15. Then, while everyone watched Bank Robber A, Bank Teller B calmly lifted off the top section of the cashbox and slipped bills from the bottom section into his pockets.
16. The door swung and the bank robber was gone. George fainted. When he woke he smiled up at the worried faces looking down at him. "I'm all right," he said bravely.
17. "Perhaps you should go home, George," Mr. Bell, the chief auditor (查帐员), said.
18. As soon as he was safely behind his bedroom door, George took the money from his pockets and counted it. He had seven thousand dollars. He was very happy.
19. The next morning when George arrived at the bank, it was not open for business. But everyone was there, helping to examine the bank's records for the special audit (查帐) Mr. Bell was taking.

20. George was called into Mr. Burrows's office. The bank president seemed strangely cheerful. "George," he said, "I want you to meet Mr. Carruthers, who used to be president of our bank."
21. "Good morning, George," said Mr. Carruthers. "I was sorry to hear you fainted yesterday. Are you all right now?"
22. "Yes, sir, just fine, thanks."
23. "I'm glad to hear it. That was quite an adventure. It just goes to show how easy it is to rob our bank."
24. "Sir?" said George, confused.
25. "George, I was sorry to give you a hard time yesterday, but with all the banks being robbed these days I thought it would be a good idea to prove that our little bank can be robbed too. I have retired, but I haven't stopped thinking. That's why I played my little game yesterday, just to keep every body on his toes."
26. "I don't understand," said George. "What game?"
27. The old man laughed and whipped out a mask. He placed it over his face, and said: "All right. Hand it over!" Mr. Burrows laughed but George did not.
28. "And the money?" George asked in a small voice.
29. "Don't worry," Mr. Carruthers said. "I put it all back in your cashbox — all six thousand. We're just finishing up the audit now." George turned cold with fear.
30. Behind them, the door opened and Mr. Bell, the chief auditor, put his head into the room. "Mr. Burrows," he said gravely, "May I see you a moment?"

(641 words)

#### NEW WORDS AND PHRASES

- |                             |                     |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. scornful(of) a. 轻蔑的, 不屑于 | 5. snatch v. 抢夺, 攫取 |
| 2. bundle n. 捆, 包           | 6. faint v. 发昏, 昏晕  |
| 3. mutter v. 咕哝, 抱怨         | 7. retire v. 退休     |
| 4. pistol n. 手枪             |                     |

1. hold up: 抢劫
2. for one thing...for another thing... : 一方面(由于)....., 另一方面.....
3. on one's toes: 警惕的, 警觉的
4. whip out: 突然拿出

#### READING COMPREHENSION

- What is the story mainly about?
 

A. The game played by Mr. Carruthers.	B. The failure of George's clever plan.
C. A robbery in the bank.	D. The carelessness of the teller.
- Which of the following statements is true?
 

A. The guard of the bank was a brave young man.
B. After the robbery, the president said something to comfort George and told him he might go home.
C. The bank robber was Mr. Carruthers, a former president of the bank.
D. The chief auditor at last found the bank had lost six thousand dollars.
- The purpose of the adventure by Mr. Carruthers is just to \_\_\_\_\_.
 

A. find out whether this bank was as easy to be robbed as other banks and make all the peo-
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- ple at the bank keep alert(警惕的)
- B. make a fun and entertain both himself and other people at the bank  
 C. steal money because he was in urgent need of money after his retirement  
 D. prove that both the teller and the guard were not fit for the job they held
4. On seeing the performance about the robbery by Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Burrows laughed but George did not, why?  
 A. Because George didn't think it was interesting.  
 B. Because George was absent-minded(心不在焉).  
 C. Because George was afraid that his stealing would be discovered.  
 D. Because Mr. Carruthers gave a poor performance.
5. From the ending of the story, we can infer that \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. Mr. Bell had just finished up the audit  
 B. the robber had been arrested  
 C. seven thousand dollars was missing  
 D. no money was missing

### CLOZE TEST

If you live in a large city, you are 1 familiar with some of the problems of noise, but, because of some of its harmful effects, you may not be aware 2 the extent of its influence on human behavior. Although everyone more or less knows what noise is, i. e. , it is sounds that one would rather 3 , it is perhaps best to define it more precisely for scientific purposes. One such definition is that noise is sounds that are 4 to the task at hand. Thus stimuli 5 at one time might be considered relevant will at 6 time be considered noise, depending on what one is doing at the moment. In recent years there has been a great deal of 7 in the effects of noise 8 human behavior, and concepts such as "noise pollution" have 9 , together with movements to reduce 10 .

- |                   |                |               |                   |
|-------------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| 1. A. rather      | B. quite       | C. frequently | D. seldom         |
| 2. A. of          | B. at          | C. in         | D. on             |
| 3. A. not to hear | B. not hearing | C. not hear   | D. not to hearing |
| 4. A. unrelated   | B. related     | C. relative   | D. relation       |
| 5. A. what        | B. when        | C. where      | D. that           |
| 6. A. one         | B. another     | C. each       | D. every          |
| 7. A. problems    | B. attention   | C. interest   | D. ignorance      |
| 8. A. in          | B. for         | C. at         | D. on             |
| 9. A. arisen      | B. raised      | C. risen      | D. rose           |
| 10. A. money      | B. noise       | C. interest   | D. effort         |

### TRANSLATION EXERCISE

- I was sorry to give you a hard time yesterday but with all the banks being robbed these days I thought it would be a good idea to prove that our little bank can be robbed too.
- The culture and customs of America are more like those of England than of any other country.
- So far as the learning of languages is concerned, constant practice is of first importance.
- In people's mind atomic energy is always connected with the destructive force of the atomic bomb, that is why the atomic power station must always be set up far away from the place