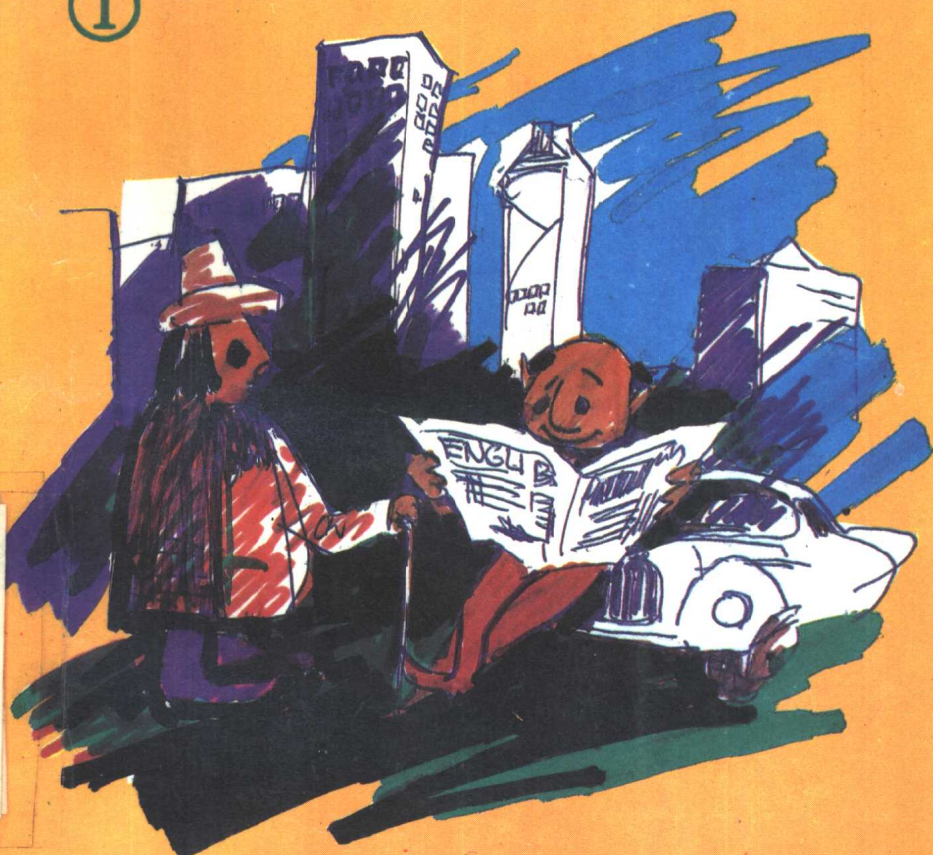


最新大学英语 泛读教程

连平 主编 青岛海洋大学出版社

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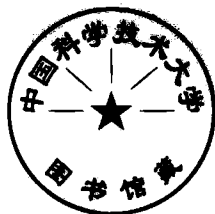


A NEW EXTENSIVE READING COURSE
FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

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最新大学英语泛读教程

主 编	连 平	
副主编	乔 候	高谢黄
编 者	冯孝通	田野青
	史 煜	刘相群
	李雅静	周胜姿



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内 容 提 要

本书是根据国家教委颁布的《大学英语教学大纲(文理科本科用)》编写的大学英语基础阶段泛读教材。全书课文总阅读量为十三余万词,共分两册。每册六十篇课文,并配有注释和练习。为便于自学,书后附有练习答案。本书也可供英语专业低年级学生及其它英语学习者学习使用。

本套教材课文全部选自近期出版的英文报章书刊,内容新颖。语言规范,题材广泛,体裁多样,并力求符合教育性、知识性、科学性、量力性和趣味性等原则。课文的长短和难度以及生词的数量,逐级递增,循序渐近。

最新大学英语泛读教程

连 平 主 编

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1. On Buying Books

Time spent in a bookshop can be most enjoyable, whether you are a book-lover or merely there to buy a book as a present. You may even have entered the shop just to find shelter from a sudden shower. Whatever the reason, you can soon become totally unaware of your surroundings. The desire to pick up a book with an attractive dust-jacket is irresistible, although this method of selection ought not to be followed, as you might end up with a rather dull book. You soon become engrossed in some book or other, and usually it is only much later that you realise you have spent far too much time there and must dash off to keep some forgotten appointment—without buying a book, of course.

This opportunity to escape the realities of everyday life is, I think, the main attraction of a bookshop. There are not many places where it is possible to do this. A music shop is much like a bookshop. You can wander round such places to your heart's content. If it is a good shop, no assistant will approach you with the inevitable greeting: 'Can I help you, sir?' You needn't buy anything you don't want. In a bookshop an assistant should remain in the background until you have finished browsing. Then, and only then, are his services necessary. Of course, you may want to find out where a particular section is, but when he has led you there, the assistant should retire discreetly and look as if he is not interested in selling a single book.

You have to be careful not to be attracted by the variety of books in a bookshop. It is very easy to enter the shop looking for a book on, say, ancient coins and to come out carrying a copy of the latest best-selling novel and perhaps a book about brass-rubbing—something which had only vaguely interested you up till then. This volume on the subject, however, happened to be so well illustrated and the part of the text you read proved so interesting, that you just had to buy it. This sort of thing can be very dangerous. Apart from running up a huge account, you can waste a great deal of time wandering from section to section. Book-sellers must be both long-suffering and indulgent.

There is a story which well illustrates this. A medical student had to read

a text-book which was far too expensive for him to buy. He couldn't obtain it from the library and the only copy he could find was in his bookshop. Every afternoon, therefore, he would go along to the shop and read a little of the book at a time. One day, however, he was dismayed to find the book missing from its usual place and was about to leave when he noticed the owner of the shop beckoning to him. Expecting to be told off, he went towards him. To his surprise, the owner pointed to the book, which was tucked away in a corner.

'I put it there in case anyone was tempted to buy it,' he said, and left the delighted student to continue his reading.

Notes:

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| 1. dust-jacket | n. (书的)护封 |
| 2. engross[in'grəʊs] | vt. take the entire attention of; absorb 聚精会神;使全身贯注 |
| 3. dash off | hurry away, leave 急速离开 |
| 4. discreetly[disk'rɪ:tli] | ad. carefully in speech and action (在行动、说话等方面)谨慎地 |
| 5. indulgent[ind'ʌldʒənt] | a. yielding easily to the wishes of others; merciful 纵容的;宽容的 |
| 6. beckon['bekən] | vi. signal (to a person) by a motion of the hand or head (用于点头、招手等方式) 召唤 |
| 7. tell off | ((colloq)) scold severely 斥责, 责备 |
| 8. tuck away | put into a narrow or hidden place 把……置放在隐蔽的地方 |
| 9. apart from | not considering; other than 除……之外; 且别说 |

Comprehension Check Questions:

1. You may spend too much time in a bookshop because
 - a. the dust-jackets are very attractive.
 - b. you start reading one of the books.
 - c. it is raining outside.
 - d. you have to make sure you don't buy a dull book as a present.
2. In a good bookshop

- a. nobody takes any notice of you.
 - b. the assistant greets you in a friendly way.
 - c. your heart is contented.
 - d. you feel that you are in a music shop.
3. An assistant should help you
- a. as soon as you have entered the shop.
 - b. just before you finish browsing.
 - c. only when you have finished browsing.
 - d. when he leads you to a particular section.
4. The text-book the medical student was interested in was tucked away in a corner
- a. to prevent anyone from buying it.
 - b. because the medical student might take it away.
 - c. in case the medical student was tempted to buy it.
 - d. because it was a rare and expensive book.
5. The medical student was surprise because
- a. he saw the owner beckoning to him.
 - b. the book wasn't in its usual place.
 - c. he had expected the owner to be angry with him.
 - d. he was about to leave.
6. "might end up with(1.6)means
- a. come to the end.
 - b. find yourself the possessor of.
 - c. stop reading.
 - d. put an end to.
7. "to your heart's content"means
- a. for the good of your health.
 - b. in order to keep happy.
 - c. in the heart of a city.
 - d. for as long as it pleases you.
8. According to the author
- a. you can enjoy your everyday life in a bookshop.
 - b. you can escape the realities of everyday life in a bookshop.
 - c. you can become engrossed in some bookshop or other.
 - d. you can become unaware of your surroundings in every day life.

2. If only...

It is sometimes said that the English are a polite people. This can make life difficult for foreigners. Suppose a foreign boy asks an English girl to go out with him and she says "If I finish my work, I'll meet you in the café at 7 o'clock." Is she saying "yes" or "no" to his invitation?

In grammatical terms she is using the conditional structure. By using the conditional, speakers of English can avoid giving a direct 'yes' or 'no' answer to a question. Often this is very useful. It enables people to be diplomatic. If the girl didn't want to go out with the boy she won't turn up at the café. She will let him assume she is still working. If she wanted to go out with him, but didn't want to appear too easy to catch, she has achieved that with her reply. But in this case, as she used the first conditional (If + present simple + future) which indicates probability, she is quite likely to turn up at the café. Being polite can make life very complicated!

The conditional is often used by people in the news — politicians for instance — who wish to avoid making direct statements. This is very necessary if they are on their way to negotiate an agreement. No one wants to give away their position before they start. A government spokesmann might say to a group of workers. "If we could give you an increase, we would." The use of the conditional here allows room for debate, although the speaker is using the second conditional form (if + past simple + conditional) which implies improbability — so it is unlikely the workers will get their rise.

Another use of the conditional allows you to express regret or annoyance without being bitter or personal. A husband, expecting important clients to dinner, might want to say to his wife, "You didn't put the meat in the oven on time, you stupid woman. It's not ready now!" But the evening is more likely to be a success if he restrains himself and says instead, "If only you'd put the meat in the oven on time, it would be ready now. Never mind, I'll show them round the garden!"

'If' is a small word which occurs frequently in the English language. It can indicate politeness, reported speech and conditionals such as the First — probability — if I can come to your party, I will; and threat — if you move I'll

shoot you; the Second — improbability — if I saw you tomorrow, I'd give you the book; and advice — if I were you I'd buy it; and the Third — impossibility (meaning it is too late to change something that has happened) — if you had told me I would have helped you.

Finally there's another aspect of the conditional. We call it the Fourth conditional, which relates to past action and present consequences: — if you had studied English better you could be taking it easy now...!

Notes:

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| 1. conditional [kən'diʃənl] | a. express a condition or supposition 条件的 |
| 2. turn up | appear 出现, 到来 |
| 3. diplomatic [diplə'mætik] | a. of or related to diplomacy 外交的 |
| 4. negotiate [ni'gəʊʃieɪt] | vt. discuss, confer, in order to come to an agreement 谈判, 协商 |
| 5. client ['klaɪənt] | n. 委托人, 当事人 |
| 6. consequence ['kɒnsɪkwəns] | n. result 结果, 后果 |

Comprehension Check Questions:

- In this article the word "English" means
 - people who speak English.
 - one English man.
 - people in Britain.
 - people from Britain.
- "If she wanted to go out with him, but didn't want to appear too easy to catch, she has achieved, that with her reply. "Here "catch" means:
 - get hold by one's hand
 - understand
 - be seen
 - get.
- Suppose a person you don't like ask you to go to a party. , your answer would be:
 - If I finish my work, I'll go with you.
 - If I could finish my work, I'll go with you.
 - If only I could finish my work, I would go with you.
 - If I had finished my work, I would have been with you.
- According to the article, "If only" has
 - four functions.
 - three functions
 - five functions.
 - only one function.

5. If I were you, I'd get a hat. "The sentence indicates
a. probability b. impossibility c. threat d. advice.
6. The conditional is often used by politicians, because
a. they don't want to say "yes" or "no" to a questioner.
b. they want to cheat the questioner.
c. they want to delay the time.
d. they want to find a room to debate in.
7. The sentence in paragraph 4 "I'll show them round the garden." means
a. I'll let the visitors see our garden.
b. I'll do some work in the garden.
c. I'll see the garden.
d. I'll throw the meat to the garden.
8. What's the main idea of this passage?
a. The importance of the word "if" in English language.
b. You cannot speak English without the word "if".
c. "If only" has several different meanings.
d. When one begins to learn English, he must learn "if only" first.

3. STUMP

Much has been said about the early settlers of America — the men who moved westward and opened up new territory. Who were these men, or pioneers, as they were called?

Many were farmers, men who wanted a new home, a piece of land, some crops and cattle. And so they moved on, cutting their way westward, searching for a good place to live. And when they found one, they took out their steel axes and started to cut down the trees, to clear the land, to let the sun in.

This was hard work. But it was much harder to pull up tree stumps from the ground. In fact, the early American farmers often said that it was not the Indians that slowed down the movement west.

And it was not the wild animals, or the British, or the deep winter snows. It was what they called the "damn tree stumps."

Yes, the lowly tree stump was a great problem for these early farmers. Some stumps were so big that two and three horses were needed to pull them out. Stumps became part of the farmer's life, part of his language. And if one of them was ever asked if he had cleared all of his land, he might answer, "No, I'm still stumped," meaning he did not know what to do, how to get rid of his stumps.

Even today, this meaning of the word is the same. To be stumped is to be blocked, confused, not knowing what to do or say. It is well known among students that they can easily "stump" their science teacher by simply asking him which came first, the chicken or the egg.

During the early days of America, the trees fell fast; the stumps remained for years. Stump farms, stump towns and even stump cities could be seen in many new areas.

Stories have been written about tree stumps. One day, in the year 1716, a visitor named Ann Maury left the east coast to visit a stump town. "I went in to the middle of the town," she wrote, "and there right in the center, surrounded by wooden buildings was a great stump of a tree. I asked why this stump had not been pulled up. 'Oh, we just never thought of it,' was the answer. 'Besides, we use it. Whenever one of the town chiefs has something to say he stands upon this stump and is raised higher than the others. In this way he can be heard better.'"

And so "stump" took on another meaning. In time anyone who stood upon a stump and spoke to people became a "stump speaker." Of course, sooner or later the word entered politics. Perhaps this started when George Washington became commander of all Colonial troops in 1775. One day he stood on a stump and spoke to his men. Later a song was written about this, "Great Washington did he, upon a stump place himself to speak..."

Ever since that day, 200 years ago, the lowly tree stump was given a high place in American politics. Today, any political candidate, even one for the presidency, "takes to the stumps" when he goes to small towns and cities to speak to the people.

Notes

1. settler ['setlə] n. a person who settles in a new country 殖民者
2. damn [dæm] n. a cry of anger or dislike; a curse 诅咒, 咒骂

3. stump [stʌmp] n. the lower end of a tree or plant left after the main part is cut off 残株, 残根
4. block [blɒk] v. obstruct 阻碍, 堵塞
5. confuse [kə'fju:z] vt. throw into disorder 使混乱, 使迷惑
6. take to begin to like; become fond of 喜欢

Comprehension Check Questions:

- Who were the early settlers in the western America?
 - priests.
 - farmers.
 - geologists.
 - explorers.
- It was.....that prevented the farmers from moving westward.
 - Indians
 - wild animals
 - bad weather
 - tree stumps
- "I'm still stumped" in the article means
 - people were unable to answer or do something.
 - people have some stumps cut down.
 - people were eager to get help to clear the stumps.
 - there were many stumps around them.
- In order to settle down the west America, the pioneers
 - looked for the suitable place to live in.
 - cut down the trees with tools.
 - cleared the land
 - all of the above
- During the early days in America stumps were seen everywhere because
 - they were too big to be pulled out.
 - people did not think of pulling up them.
 - people used them as a symbol of exploration.
 - the reason was not mentioned in the passage.
- Which of the following is NOT true according to the passage?
 - Some stumps were so big that they needed to be pulled up by horses.
 - It was difficult for the farmers to pull up the stumps.
 - Farmers did not know how to get rid of the stumps.
 - Nothing slowed down the pioneers' movement west.
- The word "stump" entered politics
 - during the early days of America.

- b. in seventeenth century.
 - c. 200 years ago.
 - d. after stumps became part of the farmers' life.
8. "takes to the stumps" in last paragraph means
- a. people enjoy pulling up stumps.
 - b. people like to stand upon the stumps and speak to the people.
 - c. people stand on the stumps to attract the audience.
 - d. people like to remove the stumps.

4. 'It's high time men ceased to regard women as second—class citizens'

This is supposed to be an enlightened age, but you wouldn't think so if you could hear what the average man thinks of the average woman. Women won their independence years ago. After a long, bitter struggle, they now enjoy the same educational opportunities as men in most parts of the world. They have proved repeatedly that they are equal and often superior to men in almost every field. The hard-fought battle for recognition has been won, but it is by no means over. It is men, not women who still carry on the sex war because their attitude remains basically hostile. Even in the most progressive societies, women continue to be regarded as second-rate citizens. To hear some men talk, you'd think that women belonged to a different species!

On the surface, the comments made by men about women's abilities seem light-hearted. The same tired jokes about women drivers are repeated day in, day out. This apparent light-heartedness does not conceal the real contempt that men feel for women. However much men sneer at women, their claims to superiority are not borne out by statistics. Let's consider the matter of driving, for instance. We all know that women cause far fewer accidents than men. They are too conscientious and responsible to drive like maniacs. But this is a minor quibble. Women have succeeded in any job you care to name. As politicians, soldiers, doctors, factory-hands, university professors, farmers, company directors, lawyers, bus-conductors, scientists and presidents

of countries they have often put men to shame. And we must remember that they frequently succeed brilliantly in all these fields in addition to bearing and rearing children.

Yet men go on maintaining the fiction that there are many jobs women can't do. Top-level political negotiation between countries, business and banking are almost entirely controlled by men, who jealously guard their so-called 'rights'. Even in otherwise enlightened places like Switzerland women haven't even been given the vote. This situation is preposterous! The arguments that men put forward to exclude women from these fields are all too familiar. Women, they say, are unreliable and irrational. They depend too little on cool reasoning and too much on intuition and instinct to arrive at decisions. They are not even capable of thinking clearly. Yet when women prove their abilities, men refuse to acknowledge them and give them their due. So much for a man's ability to think clearly!

The truth is that men cling to their supremacy because of their basic inferiority complex. They shun real competition. They know in their hearts that women are superior and they are afraid of being beaten at their own game. One of the most important tasks in the world is to achieve peace between the nations. You can be sure that if women were allowed to sit round the conference table, they would succeed brilliantly, as they always do, where men have failed for centuries. Some things are too important to be left to men!

It's high time men ceased to regard women as second-class citizens.

Notes

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. enlighten [in'laɪn] | vt. give more knowledge to 教导 启迪 |
| 2. recognition [ˌrekəg'nɪʃən] | n. being recognized or recognizing 被认知, 承认 |
| 3. hostile [ˈhɒstail] | a. unfriendly 敌对的 |
| 4. sneer [sniə] | vi. show contempt by means of a derisive smile 嘲笑 |
| 5. conscientious [ˌkɒnʃi'ɛnʃəs] | a. guided by one's sense of duty 有责任的, 负责的 |
| 6. maniac [ˈmeɪniæk] | n. raving mad man 叫嚣的疯子 |
| 7. quibble [ˈkwɪbl] | n. evasion of the main point of an argument 避开议论之主要点 |

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 8. rear[riə] | v. bring up 养育 |
| 9. preposterous[prɪ'pɒstərəs] | a. completely contrary to reason or sense
完全与理性或常识相反 |
| 10. irrational[ɪ'ræʃənəl] | a. absurd; illogical 荒谬的, 不合理的 |
| 11. intuition[,ɪntju'ɪʃən] | n. the immediate understanding of something without conscious reasoning or study 直觉 |
| 12. shun[ʃʌn] | vt. keep away from 避免 |
| 13. supremacy[sju'preməsi] | n. highest authority 至高无上 |
| 14. inferiority complex | 自卑感 |
| 15. It is (high) time ... | 该...时候了
该句型从句谓语用过去时 |

Comprehension Check Questions:

- "The hard-fought battle for recognition has been won" indicates
 - women belonged to a different species.
 - women's abilities seem light-hearted.
 - women are equal and often superior to men in almost progressive societies.
 - women were regarded as enlightened
- From the first paragraph we can learn
 - women are still looked down upon by men in some fields.
 - women won their independence easily.
 - men has changed their hostile to women
 - women's fought battle for independence is over.
- "borne out" in paragraph 2 means

a. produced.	b. provided.
c. confirmed.	d. brought.
- Which of the following is NOT true?
 - Men often repeated their joke about women drivers.
 - Women drive more carefully than men.
 - Men sneered at women's abilities light-heartedly.
 - Except bearing and bringing up children women have put men to shame.

5. In authors's opinion
 - a. women are unreliable and irrational.
 - b. women are not capable of thinking clearly.
 - c. women lack cool reasoning.
 - d. men should recognize women's abilities and give them due.
6. What causes men to stick to their supremacy?
 - a. Their intelligence.
 - b. Their superiority.
 - c. Their intuition.
 - d. Their inferiority complex.
7. The real reason that men refuse to acknowledge women's abilities is that
 - a. women are too conscientious.
 - b. men jealously guard their so-called "rights".
 - c. women are not suitable for top-level negotiation.
 - d. men are really afraid of losing the game with women.
8. Author concluded in the passage that
 - a. women could deal with important tasks better than men.
 - b. men's abilities are superior to women.
 - c. men are not afraid of competing with women.
 - d. men succeeded brilliantly in sitting round the conference table.

5. Women in the media

Liz Heron recently went to a meeting in London to find out about women in the media.

The women's movement has a growing influence on the media. In the last few years, there have been television programmes in Britain and in other countries about women's issues; about equality for women at work, childcare and the family, women's health and the different images of women.

But many women feel that more and better programmes are needed to provide a different point of view — for, most of the time, we see stereotypes and traditional views of women on our television screens. This year there was a conference in London which brought together 'professionals' working in