



“九五”国家重点科技攻关项目

——计算机辅助教学软件研制开发与应用

通用大学英语 (第四级)

赵 雯 卢 燕 主编



高等教育出版社

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All Purpose College English

通用大学英语 第四级

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前 言

《通用大学英语》包括一套多媒体学习光盘和配套的文字教材,是国家“九五”重点科技攻关项目的研究、开发与应用成果。《通用大学英语》的内容是依据《大学英语教学大纲(文理科本科用)》,由富于教学经验的中美教学专家按分级教学要求而编写的。这套教材包括光盘4张和课本4册,从1998年起陆续推出。

在教材的设计和编写中,我们以面向21世纪信息时代的大学英语教学内容、课程体系和教学方法的改革为出发点,考虑到充分发挥逐渐普及的多媒体计算机在教学中的作用,力图建立一套能适应以学生主动、交互学习为主的教学思想的新型大学英语教材,从而为推动我国大学英语教学上一个新台阶作出贡献。

《通用大学英语》光盘将英语课文学习、补充材料泛读、听力训练、在线英汉词典、在线语法、多媒体画廊、联机测试、联机笔记、谚语警句等融为一体,能够满足不同学生的多种学习风格、学习层次与学习方式的要求,从而为学生高效率地学习奠定基础。

《通用大学英语》文字教材对应于光盘中的课文学习部分,相当于其它英语系列教材的精读课本,可直接用于课堂教学。在选材方面既有经典的,又有现代特征的课文;既注重知识性和信息性,又不失趣味性与实用性。体系编排方面考虑了学生自学和用计算机学习(CALL)的需求。4册课本基本对应于大学英语的4个级别,本级(册)文字教材包括15篇风格及题材各异的课文,以此为基础编排成学习单元。每个单元结构如下:

1. Introduction (导学): 概要介绍文章的内容、重点词法及语法现象,起着教师指导的作用。
2. Outline (课文纲要): 详细而标准的大纲模式,以满足不同风格、不同类型学生的学习需要。
3. Pre-reading Questions (导读): 设计了三个与文章内容相关的简洁问句,使学生已有的相关知识与文章内容有机地建构在一起。
4. Text (正文): 精选自经典或现代英文原版材料,作了少量修改。
5. Paragraph Questions (段落问题): 针对课文的段落信息提出一些精炼的问句及一个全文主旨问句,以帮助学生加深对课文的理解,引发学生的思考。
6. Language Points (语言点): 从篇章的衔接、指代关系及语篇角度,对语法现象、语言现象、文化现象较多的句子及较长的句子进行英文注释。在解释重点词语时,对所举例句也进行了

AP03/14⁰⁶

翻译,有些常见的近义词及构词法还通过 Further Information 的形式作进一步注释,以使學生更好地掌握它们的用法。

7. Comprehension Questions (阅读理解问题): 采用多种类型的问题,以便多角度地加深对文章的理解。包括: (1) Factual Questions (事实性问题), 采用 Sequential Statements、True or False Statements 或 Multiple Choice 等形式使學生在理解课文的基础上, 寻找出文中的重要事例与事实; (2) Inferential Questions (推论性问题), 通过显性与隐性的推论题, 使學生能够理解作者的意犹未尽及言外之意、写作目的及观点等, 从更高一级的角度来把握课文。

8. Vocabulary Exercise (词汇练习): 通过与课文相关的文化语境使學生学习并掌握词语的正确用法。

9. Writing (作文): 通过一、两个与课文内容相关的问题, 引导学生自己发挥, 编织和扩展课文以外的信息。

10. Translation (译文): 为满足不同水平及层次学生的需求, 所有的课文都附有中文翻译。

需要特别说明的是, 因文字教材与光盘配套使用, 光盘上已有联机英汉词典, 所以没有给出每课的生词表。另外, 上述单元结构与光盘上的超文本组织也有些不同。

我们非常珍惜在《通用大学英语》的策划、设计和编写过程中与高等教育出版社外语二室、北京高教多媒体开发中心之间亲密而真诚的合作; 在本教材编写、制作和试用过程中, 东北大学教务长段曰瑚教授、教务处、计算中心、CAI中心的领导给予了大力的支持与帮助, 外国语学院院长李思国教授及外国语学院的领导也对本项目给予了极大的关注与支持。在本册电子教材的制作过程中, 郑晓辉参与了文字脚本的修订录入与校对工作, 曹阳参与了辅助阅读材料的统计管理工作, 王勃然和张春良完成了辅助阅读材料的录入与校对以及测试题的编写与修订, 曹明也参与了部分材料的录入与媒体制作, 王大青完成了媒体素材的整理与制作, 英国的 Elizabeth Cort 女士对文字脚本提出了修改意见, 还有部分师生参与了本项目的研发, 在此一并表示感谢。

尽管编写时我们在体现和探索新型教学思想方面尽了最大努力, 但由于水平和经验有限, 这套教材中难免有一些不尽人意之处, 我们热诚欢迎广大师生在使用本教材中提出宝贵的意见。

编 者

2000年11月28日于东北大学

CONTENTS

1	21ST CENTURY BOOKS	1
2	BOXING -- LEGALIZED MURDER	26
3	TWO TRUTHS TO LIVE BY	49
4	FRIED GENE TOMATOES	70
5	TOMB ROBBING AND THE DISCOVERY OF AN IMPORTANT EGYPTIAN TOMB	102
6	A WARNING FROM NATURE	125
7	THE ENLIGHTENMENT	153
8	GUGGENHEIM MUSEUM, USA	176
9	THE INTERNET (I)	206
10	THE INTERNET (II)	239
11	JOHN CORCORAN -- THE MAN WHO COULDN'T READ	272
12	THE ESSENCE OF UNDERSTANDING	295
13	PULITZER PRIZES	326
14	FROM COMPETENCE TO COMMITMENT	354
15	RIO DECLARATION ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT	386

1

21ST CENTURY BOOKS

Introduction

For hundreds of years people have been reading books made of paper. Few people realize that the books they are now accustomed to will sometime appear in different forms. However, with the development of science and technology, a completely new type of books is now really emerging. What are they going to be like? Can these electronic books replace the books we now have? In the following text, look for answers to these and other questions about the future of books. You will also learn the following words and expressions:

promise
be done with
beat
for sale
encase
at stake
a sense of
via
as opposed to
to one's liking
avoid

carry around
when it comes to ...
have to do with
put
given
provide
thanks to
all the time
download
work on
on a large scale



Outline

- I. An introduction to electronic books (Paras 1–3)
 - A. The practicability of the new type of books (Para 1)
 - B. The advantages of electronic books over computers (Paras 2–3)
- II. Electronic ink, the way to an electronic book (Paras 4–7)
 - A. The development of electric ink at MIT (Paras 4–5)
 - B. The use of microcapsules that respond to charges (Para 6)
 - C. Additional facts about the microcapsules (Para 7)
- III. The advantages of the electronic book (Paras 8–11)
 - A. The need for less power (Para 8)
 - B. The convenience of usage (Para 9)
 - C. The availability of a wide selection of books (Para 10)
 - D. An eventual low price (Para 11)
- IV. Jacobson's confidence regarding its future mass production (Para 12)



Pre-reading Questions

1. How might an electronic book be different from an ordinary one?
2. In what ways might an electronic book be better than an ordinary one?
3. Can you describe the form of the books that you would like to own?



Text

21ST CENTURY BOOKS

Para 1

It may be the last book you'll ever buy. And certainly, from a practical standpoint, it will be the only book you'll ever need. But, it's not the Bible or a large philosophical work promising hours of interesting study — although it would let you carry around both texts simultaneously. It's an electronic book — a single volume that could contain a library of information or, if your tastes run towards what's current, every title on today's bestseller list.

And when you're done with those, you could refill it with new titles.

Para 2 Why an electronic book? Computers can store a ton of data, and their laptop companions make all that information portable. True enough. But laptops and similar portable information devices require a lot of power — and heavy batteries — to keep their LCD (Liquid Crystal Display) screens operating. And LCDs are not easy to read in the bright light of the sun.

Para 3 The fact is, when it comes to portability, easy viewing, and low power requirements, it's hard to beat plain old paper.

Para 4 So let's make the ink electronic.

Para 5 That's the deceptively simple premise behind a project currently coming to fruition at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Some hurdles — mostly having to do with large-scale manufacturing — remain, so it will be a few years before you see an electronic book for sale in stores. But the basic technology already exists, developed at the Institute's Media Lab by a team led by physicist Joe Jacobson.

Para 6 Simply put, each paper page in an electronic book is coated with millions of microscopic particles encased in tiny capsules. Each of these microcapsules can respond independently to an electrical charge: Particles within the capsule moving to the rear appear dark while those moving toward the front look white. The direction in which the particles move depends upon whether a negative (dark) or positive (white) charge is applied. Each microcapsule is about 40 microns in size (that's a little less than half the thickness of a human hair).

Para 7 The number of microcapsules used on a given page is enormous. For instance, about 1,000 microcapsules might be used to create the letter "A" on this page. "The smaller the size of the letter, the more microcapsules you use," says Jacobson, "thereby improving resolution." The target is to have a "paper display" with a resolution higher than that offered by today's computer screens. More than static letters is at stake. Theoretically, the microcapsules could be programmed to "flip" rapidly between dark and white states, providing, for example, a sense of motion in a diagram showing

how a car works.

Para 8

Thanks to electronic ink, the book essentially typesets itself, receiving instructions for each page via electronics housed in the spine. From a power standpoint, this process makes the electronic book very efficient. Unlike an LCD screen, which uses power all the time, energy is no longer needed to view the electronic book's pages once they are typeset. Only a small battery would be required, as opposed to the large ones needed to power laptop computers and their LCDs.

Para 9

Convenience, though, is still the main attraction — and that means more than simple portability. Because the information is in electronic form, it can easily be manipulated. You could, for instance, make the type larger for easier reading. Or you could make notes in the margin with a stylus, your observations being stored on a tiny, removable flash-memory card in the spine.

Para 10

It's likely that electronic books will come pre-loaded with a selection of titles. New titles could be made available through flash-memory cards, for example. Jacobson, though, thinks the Internet will be the delivery method of choice. Imagine browsing through an online bookstore like www.amazon.com and downloading a novel into your electronic book via the modem in its spine. Transmitting *Moby Dick* would take about a minute. You could download a few titles, so you'll have a few good reads to choose from while you're relaxing at the beach. If your first choice is not to your liking, a new title becomes available at the push of a button.

Para 11

Jacobson thinks that an electronic book, in contrast to a computer, will be affordable — around \$ 200 for a basic read-only model to about \$ 400 for one that would record your margin scribbles. Some hurdles remain, though, before you can take an electronic book with you anywhere. Paper is produced in long sheets, and Jacobson is still working on the best method to integrate electronic ink into that process. To avoid having to use thousands of tiny wires on each page, the ink itself must be conductive. Such ink was recently demonstrated in the lab but has yet be produced in volume.

"Essentially," notes Jacobson, "we're trying to print chips."

Para 12 Jacobson is confident, however, that this can be done on a large scale. If Jacobson succeeds, he will have made the book for the 21st century.



Paragraph Questions

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Para 1 | What kind of book is the author introducing to you? |
| Para 2 | What are the two disadvantages of laptop computers? |
| Para 3 | What are the advantages of printed paper? |
| Para 4 | What is the solution to the problems of laptop computers? |
| Para 5 | Why do people have to wait a few years to see an electronic book for sale in stores? |
| Para 6 | What is important about the microcapsules on a paper page in an electronic book? |
| Para 7 | What are the two possible advantages of the microcapsules? |
| Para 8 | Why is an electronic book more energy efficient than laptop computers and their LCDs? |
| Para 9 | In what ways may an electronic book be more convenient than an ordinary one? |
| Para 10 | Why does Jacobson think the Internet will be the delivery method of choice? |
| Para 11 | What problems need to be solved before electronic books will be easily portable? |
| Para 12 | What does the word <i>this</i> in this paragraph refer to? |
| The whole text | What are the advantages of an electronic book? |

Answer: It can store, manipulate, and substitute large amounts of information; it will be easier to read than LCD screens; it will not use much power; and it will be easy to carry.



Language Points



But, it's not the Bible or a large philosophical work promising hours of interesting study — although it would let you carry around both texts simultaneously.:

However, it is not the Holy Bible or some large philosophical work making it quite likely for you to do hours of interesting study — although you could carry both books at one time.

promise vt.: give a basis for expecting, make something seem likely 预示, 给予希望, 使某事很有可能

e.g. Frankly, I look upon All Purpose College English as a program promising real progress in advancing English reading, thinking, and listening for its users.

坦白地说, 我认为《通用大学英语》作为一个项目, 在促进使用者的英语阅读、思维和听力能力方面预示着实质性的进步。

Clouds have been gathering all day, promising precipitation by evening.

一整天云都在积聚, 预示着傍晚将有降雨。

carry around: carry (something) with one most of the time 随身携带

e.g. Grandparents often carry around family photos and show them to others from time to time.

祖父母常随身携带家照, 并时不时地拿出来给人看。

Why does that student always carry around so many heavy books?

那个学生为什么总是带着那么多大部头的书呢?

Further Attention:

carry away: excite or delight to the lost of cool judgment; succeed in obtaining 使激动或高兴而失去理智, 使入迷; 获得, 夺得

e.g. When he went to Inner Mongolia for the first time, he was quite carried away by the beauty of the grasslands.

他初次到内蒙古, 就完全被草原的美景迷住了。

In the Olympic Games, the young girl from China carried away the first prize.

在这次奥运会上，这位来自中国的姑娘捧走了头奖。

carry it/something off: handle a difficult situation 成功地应付过去；若无其事地应付过去（如困难、尴尬的处境等）

e.g. The scientist carried off the interview well.

这次采访，这位科学家应付得很出色。

Lacking in research fund was quite an embarrassing situation, but the young researchers carried it off well.

研究资金匮乏往往置人于困境，但这些年轻的研究人员成功地应付过去了。

simultaneously adv.: at the same time 同时地

e.g. The computer company planed to give a product demonstration in London and New York simultaneously.

这家计算机公司计划在伦敦和纽约两地同时进行产品演示。

The audience burst in applause simultaneously for their favourite football team.

观众齐声为他们最喜爱的足球队欢呼。

Further Information

simultaneous adj.: happening or done at the same time 同时的

simulate v.: pretend to have or feel (esp. an emotion); reproduce (certain conditions) by means of a model 假装，冒充；模仿

simulated adj.: make to look, sound, etc. like something 模仿的；模拟的

simulation n.: acting of simulating 模仿；模拟

simulacrum n.: (pl. simulacra) *fml.* thing resembling or made to resemble somebody or something 幻影；影像



And when you're done with those, you could refill it with new titles. :

When you finished reading those books, you could replace it with new ones again.

be done with: finish doing something 做完；不再有关系

e.g. Tom keeps asking me for an opinion about his research paper, but I am not done with it yet.

汤姆不断地询问我对他的研究论文的看法，可我还没看完呢。

When that artist is done with her new painting, **she is going to** give it to the

school library.

那位画家在完成她的新作之后，将把它送给学校图书馆。

Further Information

be done with 与 **do with** 辨异：

be done with 与 **do with** 不是同一个短语的两个形式。**be done with** 指做完；不再有关系；**do with** 指利用：乐于做，并且该短语没有被动语态。例如：

The father told his little son that people would never **be done with** books.

父亲告诉他的小儿子，人是永远离不开书的。

He gave me this strange object for my birthday, and I don't know what to **do with** it.

他把这个奇怪的东西送给我作生日礼物，可我不知道拿它能干什么。

If we can't afford meat, we shall have to **do with** fish.

如果我们买不起肉，鱼也不错。



The fact is, when it comes to portability, easy viewing, and low power requirements, it's hard to beat plain old paper. :

The truth is, as far as the characteristics of portability, convenience of seeing, and minimum power needed are concerned, nothing is as good as simple paper.

when it comes to: concerning; relating to 谈到，涉及到

e.g. The school has very good teachers, but when it comes to buildings, the school is poor.

这个学校有非常好的师资队伍。但是要说到教学楼，它可就不行了。

He is not good at sports, but when it comes to arithmetics, he is the best in the class.

他不擅长体育；但要讲到数学，他可是班上最好的。

Further Information

come to that (if it comes to that): if it is so; in fact 如果事实是那样的话；事实上，无论如何

e.g. His family was not very well off at that time. Come to that, not many of people were.

那时他家的生活不太富裕。其实，很多人的生活也都是如此。

One of the researchers complains of having too much to do. If it comes to that, all of the project group are all busy.

一位研究人员抱怨活儿太忙了。果真如此，那整个项目组的人都同样忙。

come to light: be discovered; become known; appear 被发现；泄露，显露
e.g. The clerk's thefts from the bank where he worked came to light when the bank examiners made an inspection on the intranet.

这位职员在他工作的银行行窃时被检查人员从局域网上发现了。

According to some latest archaeological discovery, new facts about ancient Egyptian tombs have recently come to light.

根据考古学的最新发现，有关古埃及陵墓的新的事实最近被披露出来。

beat vt. : be better than; defeat 胜过，超过；打败

e.g. As a famous playwright and poet, Shakespeare beat all his contemporaries.

作为一名著名的剧作家兼诗人，莎翁胜过所有与他同时代的人。

The new government's main aim is to beat inflation.

新一任政府的主要目标是抑制通货膨胀。

Further Information

beat about/around the bush: talk about something without coming to the main point directly 不直截了当地说，拐弯抹角地说

e.g. If you have got bad news, don't beat about the bush, come straight to the point.

如果有坏消息，不要绕圈子，直截了当地说出来好了。

beat one's brains (out): try very hard to understand or think something very difficult; tire oneself out by thinking 苦思，苦苦思索

e.g. The programme was too hard for the postgraduate student and he beat his brains out trying to get the answer.

该程序对这位研究生来说太艰深了，他苦苦思索想找出答案。

beat somebody hollow: defeat somebody decisively 远远地超过某人，给某人致命打击

e.g. Our team was beaten hollow.

我们队被打得落花流水。



Some hurdles — mostly having to do with large-scale manufacturing — remain, so it will be a few years before you see an electronic book for sale in stores. :

There are still some unsolved difficult problems — most of them are related to mass production — so people will have to wait for several years to see electronic books in the stores.

have to do with: be related to; be associate with 与…有关系; 与…有来往
e.g. Tom said he didn't want to have anything to do with the new club.

汤姆说他不跟那个新俱乐部有什么瓜葛。

After he completed a third draft of his paper, the student needed to make only a few more changes, most having to do with adding a little more data to support his points.

在完成其论文的第三稿以后, 这个学生需要的只是再做些修改, 主要是添加一点支持其论点的详细材料。

I have nothing to do with the case. I've never involved myself in any trouble.
我与那个案子毫无关系; 我从不让自己卷到任何事端里去。

Further Information

have a word with: have some conversation with 交谈, 会谈

e.g. After the meeting, the chief executive officer (CEO) had a word with the sales manager.

会议结束后, 首席行政官与销售部经理进行了交谈。

have a voice in: be allowed to express one's opinion by vote or otherwise; participate in 有发言权; 参与

e.g. In democratic countries, the people have a voice in public affairs.

在民主国家里, 人民对国事有发言权。

have words: dispute; quarrel 争执, 争论; 口角

e.g. Every time the two friends got together they had words.

这两位朋友每次见面都吵嘴。

for sale: offered for purchase 供出售

e.g. At that time the mother was badly in need of money and had to offer her favorite diamond ring for sale for 300 dollars.

那时母亲急等用钱，迫不得已把心爱的钻戒以 300 美元的价钱卖了。

The sign on that house says, "For Sale." Shall we find out the price?

那个房子上的牌子写的是“出售”，咱们去问问价好吗？

Further Information

在英式英语中“供出售”也用 **on sale** 来表达，例如：

The book has been published but won't be on sale till next week.

这部书已出版，但要等到下个星期才面市。

而在美国英语中 **on sale** 是“削价出售”的意思，例如：

Sarah got the dress on sale; it was very cheap.

莎拉买的那条裙子是降价的，非常便宜。



Simply put, each paper page in an electronic book is coated with millions of microscopic particles encased in tiny capsules. :

Briefly speaking, all the pages of an electronic book are covered with huge numbers of tiny particles enclosed in very small capsules.

put vt. : **express; state** 表达，陈述

e.g. The representatives made various proposals orally at the meeting, but the chairman suggested that it could be better if they put everything in black and white.

代表们给会议提出了各种各样的口头建议，而主席提议说如果他们白纸黑字地写出来会更好些。

It would take at least five minutes to explain what happened at the faculty meeting. Simply put, after a long debate, a consensus was reached.

要说明白教工会议上发生的事最少得用 5 分钟时间。简单地说吧，经过长时间的辩论之后，取得了一致意见。

encase vt. : **fm. surround or cover with a case** 装入盒(箱或套等)之内

e.g. When he went to work for the first time, the young man wore his best suit and his feet were encased in his best leather shoes.

第一天去上班，这位年青人穿上了最好的西装和最好的皮鞋。

The handsome knight's body was encased in shining armour.

英俊的骑士身着闪亮的铠甲。