

高等学校教材

**COLLEGE
ENGLISH**

大学英语

快速阅读

**FAST
READING**

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快速阅读

第二册

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前 言

《大学英语》是根据国家教育委员会审定批准的《大学英语教学大纲(文理科本科用)》编写的一套系列教材,分精读、泛读、听力、快速阅读、语法与练习五种教程。

本教材重视英语语言基础,从各方面保证文、理科的通用性,适用于大学英语基础阶段的教学。

本教材的精读、泛读、快速阅读和听力教程各按分级教学的要求编写六册,每级一册;语法与练习编写四册,供1—4级使用。精读与听力教程均配有教师用书和录音磁带。对低于大纲规定入学要求的学生,另编预备级精读、泛读教程各两册。

上述五种教程根据各自的课型特点自成体系,但又相互配合,形成整体,以贯彻大纲所提出的三个层次的要求:“培养学生具有较强的阅读能力、一定的听的能力、初步的写和说的能力。”全套教材由复旦大学、北京大学、华东师范大学、中国人民大学、武汉大学和南京大学合作编写,复旦大学董亚芬教授审订。

大学外语教材编审委员会综合大学英语编审组的全体成员对这套教材的设计与编写自始至终给予关注,分工审阅了全套教材并提出宝贵意见。上海外语教育出版社的编辑同志在付梓前仔细编审,精心设计,给予我们很大帮助和促进。

《大学英语》快速阅读教程由中国人民大学外语系负责编写。谌馨荪教授担任主编,许孟雄教授担任主审,参加编写的有余申燕副教授、王敏同志。

在编写过程中,本教程还承英籍专家 Anthony Ward 审阅,谨此致谢。

本书为快速阅读教程第二册,供大学英语二级学生使用。

由于时间仓促,编者水平与经验有限,教材中不妥之处在所难免,希望广大读者批评指正。

编 者

1988年2月

使 用 说 明

本教程旨在培养学生的正确阅读习惯,提高学生的阅读能力和速度。为保证语言文字的规范化,课文全部选自英、美原著,但有少量删改。选材力求多样化,知识性和趣味性兼顾。

全书共分六册,每册十单元二十课。每篇选文均配有多项选择练习,以测试学生对课文的理解能力。快速阅读主要着眼于培养阅读速度,强调在单位时间内快速获取所需信息,因此每篇材料均略浅于相应的精、泛读课文。篇幅跨度为 250—600 词左右,生词控制在 2%—3% 之间。快速阅读的全部教学活动都要求在课内进行。每单元进行一次,每次使用一至两篇,阅读后即做练习,所需时间(包括练习)约十分钟。每次练习后,学生应及时记录阅读和练习所分别占用的时间,供日后进行自我评估。

使用本教程时,应注意下列各点:

1. 为便于教学,本教程印成活页,由教师保管,使用时临时分发。学生不得预习。
2. 阅读时不能查阅词典,如有生词,可根据上下文进行猜测以确定词义。
3. 培养边阅读、边理解、边记忆的良好习惯。读完课文即做练习,做练习时,不再翻阅已读过的课文。
4. 阅读后,由教师收回快速阅读材料和练习,予以批改并记录成绩。

编 者

1988 年 2 月

College English

Fast Reading

Book Two

By

Chen Xinsun

with the assistance of

Yu Shenyao

Wang Min

Shanghai Foreign Language Education Press

FAST READING II

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1. The Missing Wallet

I don't often lose things and I'm especially careful with money, so I was quite surprised when I reached for my wallet and it wasn't there. At first, I thought it was possible that I could have left it at home. Then I remembered taking it out to pay for the taxi, so I knew I had it with me just before I walked into the restaurant. I wondered if it was possible that it could have slipped out of my pocket while I was eating dinner. Thinking about that possibility, I turned and walked back to the table where I had been sitting. Unfortunately, there were several people sitting at the table at the time, so I called a waiter and explained to him that my wallet had fallen out of my pocket while I was sitting at the table a few minutes earlier. I had the waiter go over to the table to see if my wallet was on the floor. While the waiter was looking for it, the manager of the restaurant came up to me and asked me if anything was wrong. I didn't want to get a lot of people involved in the problem, but I knew I had to get the wallet back. I told the manager what had happened. He had me describe the wallet to him, and then he insisted that I report the missing wallet to the police. I told him that I didn't particularly want to get the police involved in it; besides, I was in a hurry because I had an appointment with my doctor in just a few minutes. I explained to him that my biggest worry at the moment was how I was going to pay the check. He told me not to worry about that. He had me write down my name and address, and he said he would send me a bill.

315 words

1. The Missing Wallet

Comprehension Exercise

1. We can safely say the writer _____.
 - a. seldom loses things
 - b. very often loses things
 - c. loses things once in a while
 - d. never loses things

2. That day the writer found _____.
 - a. he had lost his wallet
 - b. he had left his wallet at home
 - c. his wallet was nowhere to be found
 - d. his wallet was not in his pocket

3. Why was the writer so sure he had brought his wallet with him?
 - a. He remembered not having left it at home.
 - b. He always felt his pocket for the wallet before he left home.
 - c. He believed his own memory.
 - d. He had taken it out to pay his taxi-driver.

4. According to the passage, the writer most probably lost his wallet when _____.
 - a. he took it out to pay for the taxi
 - b. he walked into the restaurant
 - c. he was eating dinner
 - d. he was ordering his dish

5. Why did the writer walk back to the table where he had been sitting?
 - a. He was sure his wallet was still there.
 - b. There might be a possibility of getting back his wallet.
 - c. He could ask someone there about his wallet.
 - d. He saw the wallet lying on the floor near the table.

6. What did he see when he got there?
 - a. The missing wallet.

- b. Several people.
 - c. A waiter.
 - d. The manager.
7. What did he do after that?
- a. He went up and asked whether they had seen his wallet.
 - b. He explained to the waiter what had happened a few minutes earlier.
 - c. He himself started looking for his wallet.
 - d. He waited till the manager came up.
8. The manager _____.
- a. didn't appear till very late
 - b. didn't come because he was busy
 - c. came up very soon
 - d. came even earlier than the waiter did
9. As the writer didn't want to get a lot of people involved in the problem, _____.
- a. he only told the manager everything
 - b. he didn't tell the manager everything
 - c. he reported to the police
 - d. the manager and the waiter were the only two he had told the story to
10. Why did the manager tell the writer not to worry?
- a. He was going to report the incident to the police.
 - b. He could pay the doctor for the writer.
 - c. He would **send** a bill for what they had done for him.
 - d. He was sure the missing wallet would soon be recovered.

2. The Nose on Your Face

The human nose has given to the languages of the world many interesting expressions. Of course, this is not surprising. Without the nose, we could not breathe or smell. It is the part of the face that gives a person special character. Cyrano de Bergerac said that a large nose showed a great man — courageous, courteous, manly, and intellectual.

A famous woman poet wished that she had two noses to smell a rose! Blaise Pascal, a French philosopher, made an interesting comment about Cleopatra's nose. If it had been shorter, he said, it would have changed the whole face of the world!

Historically, man's nose has had a principal role in his imagination. Man has referred to the nose in many ways to express his emotions. Expressions concerning the nose refer to human weakness: anger, pride, jealousy and revenge.

In English there are a number of phrases about the nose. For example, to hold up one's nose expresses a basic human feeling — pride. People can hold up their noses at people, things, and places.

The phrase, to be led around by the nose, shows man's weakness. A person who is led around by the nose lets other people control him. On the other hand, a person who follows his nose lets his instinct guide him.

For the human emotion of rejection, the phrase to have one's nose put out of joint is very descriptive. The expression applies to persons who have been turned aside because of a competitor. Their pride is hurt and they feel rejected. This expression is not new. It was used by Erasmus in 1542.

This is only a sampling of expressions in English dealing with the nose. There are a number of others. However, it should be as plain as the nose on your face that the nose is more than an organ for breathing and smelling!

316 words

2. The Nose on Your Face

Comprehension Exercise

1. This passage is about _____.
 - a. the human nose as an organ for breathing and smelling
 - b. the nose providing us with various expressions
 - c. a woman poet's wish to have two noses
 - d. interesting comments made on Cleopatra's nose
2. Expressions concerning the nose refer to _____.
 - a. some human weakness or other
 - b. nothing but the human emotion of rejection
 - c. a basic human feeling
 - d. more than one human emotion
3. "To hold up one's nose" is an expression of _____.
 - a. contempt
 - b. revenge
 - c. anger
 - d. jealousy
4. A person who is led around by the nose _____.
 - a. lets his instinct guide him
 - b. has no will of his own
 - c. is strong-minded
 - d. is full of imagination
5. A man who is described as "to have his nose put out of joint" _____.
 - a. is happy
 - b. wants to smell a flower
 - c. is ill
 - d. feels hurt and rejected
6. "A sampling of expressions" in the last paragraph means _____.
 - a. "the giving of only one example to show one's feelings"

- b. "quite a number of examples"
 - c. "expressions given to serve as examples"
 - d. "expressions that need examples"
7. When you say it is "as plain as the nose on your face" you mean _____.
a. "it is easy to solve"
b. "something looks like your nose"
c. "it is something quite easy to understand"
d. "there is a plain-looking nose on your face"
8. "The nose is more than an organ for breathing and smelling" means _____.
a. "breathing and smelling are the only two uses of it"
b. "the nose is more important than any other organ"
c. "more can be said of this human organ than its function of breathing and smelling"
d. "no other organ functions for breathing and smelling"

3. A Working Woman's Dilemma

Dear Doctor,

My husband and I got married in 1965 and for the first ten years of our marriage I was very happy to stay home and raise our three children. Then four years ago, our youngest child went to school and I thought I might go back to work.

My husband was very supportive and helped me to make my decision. He emphasized all of the things I can do around the house, and said he thought I could be a great success in business.

After several weeks of job-hunting, I found my present job, which is working for a small public relations firm. At first, my husband was very proud of me and would tell his friends, "My clever little wife can run that company she's working for."

But as his joking remark approached reality, my husband stopped talking to me about my job. I have received several promotions and pay increases, and I am now making more money than he is. I can buy my own clothes and a new car. Because of our combined incomes, my husband and I can do many things that we had always dreamed of doing, but we don't do these things because he is very unhappy.

We fight about little things and my husband is very critical of me in front of our friends. For the first time in our marriage, I think there is a possibility that our marriage may come to an end.

I love my husband very much, and I don't want him to feel inferior, but I also love my job. I think I can be a good wife and a working woman, but I don't know how. Can you give me some advice? Will I have to choose one or the other or can I keep both my husband and my new career?

Please help.

"DISTRESSED"

317 words

