

大学英语阅读教程 2

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UNIVERSITY ENGLISH COURSE FOR COMPREHENSION AND SPEED

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第二册

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前 言

大量的外语教学实践证明,大学外语教学质量的高低,其中一个十分重要的因素是能否向学生提供充足的,可读性较好的外语语言材料,采用较好的教学方法,从而有效地提高学生的阅读理解能力和口头笔头表达能力。

《大学英语阅读教程》就是从上述目的出发,根据国家教委审定的《大学英语教学大纲》和国家大学英语四、六级标准考试试题设计组制定的《考试大纲》编写而成的系列英语阅读教程。本教程共计四个分册,可分别用于大学英语 1~4 级泛读和快速阅读教学和训练。

本书为第二分册,包括 12 个单元。每单元收泛读和快读文章各 2 篇。全书泛读部分共收课文 24 篇,包括 14431 词;快读部分 24 篇,包括 7281 词。所有的阅读材料都选自近年来美国、英国、加拿大等国出版的书籍和报刊杂志,尽量避免国内各种教材中已经使用的材料。内容力求生动有趣,涉及东西方风土人情、政治、经济和科普等方面。每篇文章后面均附有多项选择式阅读理解题。理解题按国家统考标准格式编排。本分册注重培养学生的词汇和语篇理解能力。

本书所收的文章全部标有词数,可供教师和学生进行阅读速度的训练。教师可根据具体教学情况从 12 个单元中选择 10 个单元进行课内教学,也可以把每个单元的两篇泛读文章在课内使用,把快读文章布置给学生在课外进行阅读,计时完成。

本书每四个单元之后收有词汇和语法结构测试题一套, 包含 50 题, 以便帮助学生复习和巩固所学的知识, 进一步扩大词汇量。

本书在编写过程中得到各有关方面的大力支持, 美籍专家 James Galbraith 和 Jean Yoon 审阅了本书初稿, 在此一并表示衷心的感谢。

由于编者水平有限, 书中疏漏与不足之处在所难免, 恳请读者与同仁批评指正。

编 者

序

改革开放,是我国一项长期的方针政策。在改革的时代,作为第一生产力的科学技术已经显示出了巨大的威力,并将发挥越来越大的作用。同世界各国进行更加广泛的技术经济交流与合作,迅速准确传递各种信息,并将它们造福于人类,是时代的需要。形势的发展使人们越来越清楚地认识到外语的重要性。掌握外语,攀登高峰,是时代赋予新一代的历史使命。

大学英语教学大纲明确规定:“大学英语教学的目的是,培养学生具有较强的阅读能力、一定的听和译的能力以及初步的写和说的能力,使学生能以英语为工具,获取专业所需要的信息,并为进一步提高英语水平打下较好的基础。”

为了达到这一教学目的,在省教委和省大学外语教学研究会关怀和支持下,我省部分高等院校英语教师把多年来教学过程中积累的丰富材料进行了精选、加工、分析、整理而编写了《大学英语阅读教程》。这是一项极有意义的创造性劳动的结晶,是我省高等院校英语教师大协作的成果。

这一丛书共分四册,选材新颖,内容丰富,由浅入深,知识性强,生动有趣,并有适合学生实际水平的阅读及词汇练习。这是一套培养大学生阅读能力的教材,也是广大科技工作者提高阅读能力的良师益友。

衷心祝贺《大学英语阅读教程》的出版。完全可以相信,它的问世,必将对深入贯彻大学英语教学大纲,进一步提高全省

大学英语教学质量起到良好的作用。

刘牟尼

1992年3月8日

于哈尔滨工业大学

CONTENTS

Unit 1

Part A	I. IMPRESSIONS OF ENGLAND FROM PAOLA	1
	I. ANIMAL EDUCATION	6
Part B	Fast Reading	
	Selection 1	13
	Selection 2	15

Unit 2

Part A	I. THOMAS ALVA EDISON	19
	I. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN	24
Part B	Fast Reading	
	Selection 3	30
	Selection 4	33

Unit 3

Part A	I. GALILEO	36
	I. STANDING ROOM ONLY	42
Part B	Fast Reading	
	Selection 5	49
	Selection 6	52

Unit 4

Part A	I. AN ORAL APPROACH TO LANGUAGE—LEARNING	55
--------	---	----

	I . WRITE TO LEARN	61
Part B	Fast Reading	
	Selection 7	68
	Selection 8	71
VOCABULARY AND STRUCTURE TEST 1		
Unit 5		
Part A	I . HELEN KELLER ; A LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS	83
	II . IN A BALLOON	89
Part B	Fast Reading	
	Selection 9	95
	Selection 10	98
Unit 6		
Part A	I . BELL'S GREAT INVENTION	101
	II . EARTHQUAKES	107
Part B	Fast Reading	
	Selection 11	111
	Selection 12	114
Unit 7		
Part A	I . A LIFE ROOTED IN FAITH	118
	II . SLEEP	124
Part B	Fast Reading	
	Selection 13	130
	Selection 14	133
Unit 8		
Part A	I . RICE HARVESTING WITH UNCLE LAN -SANA	136

		II . THE LAST PHONE CALL	143
Part B	Fast Reading		
		Selection 15	149
		Selection 16	151
		VOCABULARY AND STRUCTURE TEST 2	155
Unit 9			
Part A	I . MAY DAY	163	
	II . A VILLAGE IN AFGHANISTAN	170	
Part B	Fast Reading		
		Selection 17	176
		Selection 18	179
Unit 10			
Part A	I . THE PLANET MERCURY	182	
	II . A FRIEND IN NEED.	188	
Part B	Fast Reading		
		Selection 19	195
		Selection 20	198
Unit 11			
Part A	I . THE AMERICAN CHARACTER	202	
	II . CLASSROOM VIOLENCE	209	
Part B	Fast Reading		
		Selection 21	216
		Selection 22	218
Unit 12			
Part A	I . SCHOOLS IN THE U. S.	221	
	II . TEA	228	
Part B	Fast Reading		

Selection 23	234
Selection 24	236
VOCABULARY AND STRUCTURE TEST 3	239
KEY TO COMPREHENSION EXERCISES	247
KEY TO VOCABULARY AND STRUCTURE TESTS	252
VOCABULARY	253

UNIT 1
PART A
I . IMPRESSIONS OF ENGLAND
FROM PAOLA

1 Interviewer: Paola Antony Gomes de Matos had already completed two years of university in her hometown of Brasilia, in South America, when she was given an opportunity to come to London last January to improve her English. Before returning to Brazil she told us what impressions her year in England had made on her.

2 Gomes: Before I came to England I had a picture of what it would be like from books, TV, films, and articles on the Royal Family^①. I imagined it would be clean, well-organized, with no visible problems——quite different from a developing country like Brazil^②.

3 When I arrived in London I was very excited to be here. I thought the architecture was beautiful. I spent my first week just looking. Everything was so different, lots of beautiful old houses, not like the modern buildings in Brasilia. But after I started to get used to it, I started to see what is really England. I started to notice dirty streets, poor people. The tube is really not very good. I hate it! The underground in Rio^③ and in San Paulo^④ is new and clean. In London it is old and dirty.

4 This is a part of England that is not good for me. When I went to Cambridge® I met a man who told me he was homeless and had no job. I did not expect social and economic problems in a developed country.

5 Interviewer: How would you describe London to a fellow student from Brazil who had never been to England?

6 Gomes: I cannot describe it. I would say you must go. You imagine it but when you arrive there it is completely different. It's so crowded. I like to look at all the people in the streets, different types of people. Sometimes you see all the world passing in front of you®! In Brasilia you don't see many people on the streets. Brasilia is very different. In one place there are houses; in another, cinemas; offices in another part. People don't walk in the streets. They drive from one part to another. London is a big city with lights and so many people—but no one looks at you!

7 Interviewer: Have you been able to meet other young English people?

8 Gomes: It is not very easy. I live in a house with foreign students. My school is for foreigners. I did an evening class. I wanted to know English people but they do not want to be close. The people in my class were always very polite but not friendly.

9 Interviewer: Is it different in Brazil?

10 Gomes: Yes. There we are very close. I have heard all Latin people complain about the same thing. The English are polite but not warm. At home we have parties. If you move to a new house in Rio, in the afternoon our neighbour is there to say, "Hello, my name is. . . I have some cookies for you. . ." In two weeks

you know everyone.

11 Interviewer: If you could change English people, how would you change them?

12 Gomes: I don't want to change them. They are not impolite but rather indifferent. I can understand why. It's not easy to have so many foreign people in one's country.

13 Interviewer: Will you come to England again?

14 Gomes: Sure!

15 Interviewer: What would you like to do differently next time?

16 Gomes: If I come again I would like to have more money. There is such a choice of nightlife here but it all costs a lot and I am a poor student!

From *BBC English*

589 words

NEW WORDS

1. visible *adj.* that can be seen 可见的
2. architecture *n.* design or style of buildings 建筑
3. tube = underground 地铁(英国) 美国用 "subway"
4. indifferent *adj.* having no interest in; not caring for 冷漠; 冷淡

NEW PHRASES

1. have a picture of sth: 想象. 图画
2. such a choice of nightlife: 如此多种多样的夜生活

NOTES

1. the Royal Family 皇家
2. Brazil 巴西 Brasilia 巴西利亚(巴西首都)
3. Rio=Rio de Janeiro 里约热内卢(巴西港市)
4. San Paulo 圣保罗(巴西城市名)
5. Cambridge 剑桥(英国城市)
6. You see all the world passing in front of you. 你会看到整个世界在你面前经过(指伦敦街道上有来自各国的人)

COMPREHENSION

1. Before Gomes went to England, she had a picture of it.
Which of the following reasons is not mentioned?
A) She had read about it.
B) She had watched TV programs about it.
C) She had seen films about it.
D) Many people told her about it.

2. The tube in London is _____.
A) old but clean C) new but dirty
B) old and dirty D) new and clean
3. Gomes thought before she went to England that there were social and economic problems _____.
A) in developed countries only
B) both in developed countries and in developing countries
C) in developing countries only
D) neither in developing countries nor in developed countries
4. By "Sometimes you see all the world passing in front of you" Gomes means _____.
A) the world is moving
B) the world is developing
C) there are people from all over the world in London
D) the English people are going all over the world
5. According to Gomes _____.
A) It's very easy to make friends with the English
B) It's not very easy to make friends with the English
C) The English are impolite
D) The English are very warm
6. Nightlife in England is _____.
A) exciting and cheap C) dull but cheap
B) dull and expensive D) exciting but expensive
7. The interview suggests that Gomes _____.
A) studies hard
B) likes fun
C) hates nightlife

- D) doesn't like the Royal family
8. Does Gomes want to go to England again?
- A) Yes, very much. C) It depends on her studies.
B) No, not at all. D) Not mentioned.
9. According to Gomes, people in Brazil are _____.
- A) not close C) warm and close
B) not warm D) very indifferent
10. Which of the following is not true of Brazilia?
- A) There are many cars.
B) Houses and cinemas are not in the same part of the city.
C) Cinemas and offices are in the same part of the city.
D) There are many people.
11. According to Gomes, why are the English indifferent?
- A) There are too few foreigners in England.
B) There are too few English People.
C) There are many foreigners in England.
D) There are too many English people.

I . ANIMAL EDUCATION

1 Animals perform many useful and entertaining jobs. Dogs are particularly valuable in guiding the blind, protecting property, finding lost people and hunting criminals. Horses are used for guarding herds, carrying men in lands where there are no roads, and helping farmers work their land. Pigeons have long been used to carry messages. Wild animals from the jungles, forests and seas