



对外经济贸易大学
远程教育系列教材

英语阅读 (一)

English Reading (I)

滕美荣 主编

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对外经济贸易大学出版社

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内 容 简 介

本教材注重阅读技能和阅读理解能力的培养,在选材上注意更加贴近生活,增加趣味性、知识性和实用性,帮助英语学习者掌握合理的方法、扩大文化视野。本书由十个单元和六套综合测试题及答案构成,每个单元包括阅读技巧、课文及练习、练习答案等内容。

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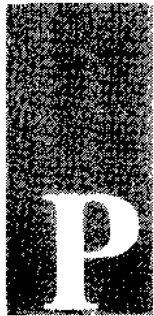
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总 序

中国远程教育的发展经历了三代：第一代是函授教育；第二代是广播电视教育；20 世纪 90 年代，随着现代信息技术的发展，以网络为基础的第三代现代远程教育应运而生。到目前为止，教育部批准开展现代远程教育试点的高校共 67 所。对外经济贸易大学远程教育学院（简称“贸大远程”）是在中国加入 WTO 后的第一年，于 2002 年 3 月正式成立的。

现代远程教育作为新生事物，对传统的教学模式、学习习惯、获取新知的途径等产生了巨大的冲击。如何在网络时代打途学习型社会，构筑终身教育体系，是当今时代的重大课题，现代远程教育试点高校为此进行了许多卓有成效的探索。在网络教育的具体实践中，贸大远程始终坚持依托学校的整体优势和特色，坚持知识的内在逻辑性与职业、行业的市场需求的统一，坚持开展面向广大在职人员的现代远程教育，逐步形成了独具我校特色的“7+1”学习模式（即网络课堂、网上答疑、课程光盘、教材资料、适量面授、网上串讲、成绩检测，以及第二课堂活动），为学生个性化学习提供了广阔的空间。自 2003 年起，贸大远程连续 3 年蝉联新浪网、择校网、搜狐网和《中国电脑教育报》联合评出的全国“十佳网络教育学院（机构）”称号。值得一提的是，“国际贸易实务”课程荣获国家级奖项，“商务英语”等 7 门课程荣获北京市优秀教材一等奖和精品课程称号，另有 10 余门课程在全国性



的远程教育课程展示会上获得大奖。

几年来丰富的现代远程教育实践和教学经验积累,为我们出版成龙配套的贸大远程系列教材奠定了厚实的基础。目前,普通高等学校的现有教材并不完全适合远程教学,市面上真正用于现代远程教育的成规模的网络教材还不多见,与网络课件相配套的系列教材更是寥寥无几,因此为接受远程教育的广大莘莘学子专门设计符合他们需要的教材已成为现代远程教育发展的迫切需求。

基于以上原因,贸大远程按照学校一级教学管理体制,本着为社会、为学生服务的宗旨,致力于教学质量的保证和提高,特组织了国际经济与贸易学院、金融学院、国际商学院、英语学院、公共管理学院等学院的优秀教师,以目前开设的两个学历层次的7个专业为依据,以现有的导学课件为基础,编写了这套远程教育系列教材。本套教材共分为外语、经济贸易、工商管理、法律、金融与会计、行政管理、综合7大系列,全面覆盖两个学历层次7个专业的上百门课程。为了打造贸大远程优质教材品牌,我们与清华大学出版社和对外经济贸易大学出版社达成协议,计划3年之内全部出齐。

本套教材在策划编写过程中,严格遵循现代远程教育人才培养的模式与教学客观规律,充分考虑到远程学生在职和成人继续教育业余学习的实际情况,专门为远程学生量身定制而成,具有较强的针对性、实用性和可操作性。本套教材的编写具有如下特点:

一、在教材体系和章节的安排上,严格遵循循序渐进、由浅入深的教学规律;在对内容深度的把握上,考虑远程教育教学对象的培养要求和接受基础,其专业深度比本科有所降低,基础面相对拓宽,不是盲目将内容加深、加多,而是做到深浅适中、难易适度。

二、在每章开篇给出明确的学习目标与重点难点提示,涵盖了教学大纲的重点或主要内容。相对于传统的学校教育,远程教育更倚重于学生的自学能力和自控能力。明确的教学目标有利于学生带着任务有目的地学习。同时,教材中充分考虑到了学生学习时可能遇到的问题,给他们以提示和建议。由于本套教材的作者都是经过挑选的具有长期教学经验的优秀教师,且大多数作者都来自远程教学的第一线,是远程网络课件的主讲老师,能够为学生提供比较丰富的、切中要害的问题解答,从而使远程学生在学习时少走弯路。

三、在章后和书后分别设置“同步测练与解析”和“综合测练与解析”栏目,涵盖了本章及本书的重要知识点,并给出了详尽的参考答案,对难题还进行分析点评,列出解题思路与要点,更加方便学生自学。测验是检验教学目标是否达到的有效手段。由

于远程学生是在虚拟的网络课堂上课，远离教师，处于相对独立的学习环境；教师不能通过直接交流，了解学生对学习内容的掌握情况；学生也由于与教师、同学之间的分离，无法判断自己的学习状况。针对这种情况，我们在教材中设置了大量自测自练题目。旨在通过这种自测自练方式，积极引导学生及时消化和吸收所学知识，不断加深对教材内容的理解，阶段性检查学习效果，全面复习和掌握所学知识，综合评判自己对知识的掌握程度，巩固最终学习成果。

四、考虑到有些专业课程具有较强的社会实践性，在教材的编写上也力争做到理论联系实际，注重案例的引入。尽可能安排一个或多个案例，并进行详细的分析讲解。旨在通过案例教学，对课程重点难点进行深化分析和实操训练，加强学生对知识点的理解和记忆，强化学生分析问题、解决问题的能力以及动手操作能力。

在本套教材的编写与出版过程中，我们得到了众多业界专家学者的真诚理解与支持，得到了清华大学出版社与对外经济贸易大学出版社的通力合作，在此向他们一并致以衷心的感谢。在前所未有的战略机遇期和“十一五”期间，相信本套教材的出版，必将是全国远程教育界一件很有意义的事情。衷心祝愿现代远程教育在建立学习型社会、构筑终身教育体系的进程中，在推动中国教育事业向现代化大教育形态的历史转变中，迈出更大更坚实的脚步。

对外经济贸易大学远程教育学院院长

谢毅斌

2006年7月于北京

前 言

二十一世纪是催人奋进的时代,知识更替日新月异,科学技术飞速发展。因此,提高英语阅读理解能力,快速浏览、捕捉、领会时代信息,提高学习和未来职场中的工作效率,就显得尤为重要。

大学英语阅读课是英语语言学习中一门重要的基础课程之一。该课程旨在帮助学生培养英语阅读理解能力,提高英语阅读速度,扩大词汇量和知识面,为进一步学习英语和工作打好坚实的基础。

本教程在选材上力求体裁多样、题材广泛,内容具有知识性、实用性和趣味性。本教程为第一册,共分十个单元,每个单元包括三篇内容相关的阅读文章。每篇文章都配有生词与词组(Words and Expressions)、阅读理解练习(Exercises)、相关知识(Related Information)、参考译文,以及谚语。为了方便学生学习,课文的注释部分注重阅读技巧介绍、课文解析、难点注释。另外,该书还增加了六套阅读理解测试题,便于学生自测,巩固和检验所学内容。

该教程在试用多年后,采纳了一些专家和学生意见,重新修改补充成书。此书编写过程中,得到了学院领导的大力支持,在此表示衷心的感谢。另外,李梦溪帮助整理了部分资料和录入全书书稿,特表谢意。

希望该书能助学生一臂之力,欢迎专家教授和学生多提宝贵意见。

编者

2007年7月

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Unit 1

English Reading (I)

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Background

The text is taken from *A First Book in Comprehension Précis and Composition* by L. G. Alexander. What is a hobby? A hobby can be anything that you enjoy doing in your spare time. Good hobbies can help one get enjoyment, friendship, knowledge, and relaxation. They can enrich one's life.

In this text, Henry's hobby is to plant flowers anywhere, including in spots that are hard to reach. He often goes round on his bicycle, with his pockets full of seeds, and plants seeds wherever he goes. He brings flowers and happiness to people.

Text A

My Friend Henry

My friend Henry has a most unusual hobby. He likes planting flowers in strange places.

When spring comes round, you can always tell that Henry is about because the dirty sides of canals, land covered with rubbish, and railway banks suddenly become full of



flowers. In his spare time, with pockets full of seeds, Henry goes round on his bicycle. He has a long pipe with him to blow seeds into spots that are hard to reach. When his flowers fade, he goes round again to collect their seeds. In this way he always has a big supply.

Many people make fun of Henry, but he never lets himself get upset. Recently I was having tea with him and he told me that once he was planting seeds in a large piece of waste land when the owner came along and sent him away. Henry returned some days later when there was no one about. You can imagine how surprised the owner was when, one day, he saw a large letter "H" in flowers which went right across this neglected piece of land! Henry took me round his house and I was astonished to see that there was only one small bunch of flowers in a pot. When I questioned him about this, he answered, "They're artificial. Fresh flowers should be out there." And he pointed out of the window to a garden of flowers.

(239 words)

Vocabulary

- | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|--|
| 1. hobby | <i>n.</i> | favorite activity in spare time 业余爱好 |
| 2. canal | <i>n.</i> | a made waterway used for travel, shipping, or irrigation
运河, 沟渠 |
| 3. rubbish | <i>n.</i> | garbage 垃圾, 废物 |
| 4. railway | <i>n.</i> | 铁路, 铁道 |
| 5. bank | <i>n.</i> | sloping ground 斜坡 |
| 6. spot | <i>n.</i> | a smaller place 地点, 场所 |
| 7. fade | <i>vi.</i> | to lose freshness; wither 凋谢, 枯萎 |
| 8. supply | <i>n.</i> | 物资, 储备; 供给, 供应品 |
| 9. upset | <i>adj.</i> | emotionally or mentally disturbed 心烦意乱的 |
| 10. imagine | <i>vt.</i> | to think, to have a mental picture of 想象, 设想 |
| 11. neglected | <i>adj.</i> | showing a lack of care or attention 被忽视的 |
| 12. astonish | <i>vt.</i> | to surprise greatly 使吃惊, 震惊 |
| 13. artificial | <i>adj.</i> | man-made 人造的 |
| 14. point | <i>vi. / vt.</i> | 指, 指向, 指出 |
| 15. in one's spare time | | 在业余时间 |
| 16. come round | <i>v.</i> | 苏醒, 恢复至以前的状态 |
| 17. covered with... | <i>adj.</i> | 盖满……的, 有大量的 |



18. a bunch of

一束,一串

Notes

1. unusual 的意思是“not usual”, 其中 un- 是词的前缀, 加在形容词前面, 表示与原词相反的意义。例如: unhappy, unkind, unpleasant, untrue, uncomfortable, unfamiliar.
2. come round 是动词短语, 表示“重新来到, 苏醒, 恢复至以前的状态”, 该句意为“春天到来, 大地复苏。”
3. tell 在第二段中, 语义不是“告诉, 告知”, 而是“确定, 肯定”, 如:
You can tell that he is angry when he starts shouting a lot.
他什么时候大喊大叫, 肯定是生气了。
It may rain or may not. It is hard to tell.
天也许下雨, 也许不下。说不准。
4. about 在此句中是副词, 语义近似 around, 意为“在附近, 周围, 四处”; 如:
I am used to going about alone. 我习惯一个人在附近走走。
The birds were flying about and twittering with delight. 鸟儿到处飞, 快乐地鸣叫着。
5. covered with rubbish 在课文中是形容词短语作定语修饰 land, 意为“布满垃圾的”。再如:
trees covered with fruit 结满果实的树
the mountains covered with snow 大雪覆盖的山脉
6. 该句中的 make fun of sb./sth. 是习语, 指 laugh at sb./sth unkindly, 意为“开玩笑, 逗趣; 嘲笑”, 如:
It is cruel to make fun of people who stammer. 嘲笑口吃的人未免不近人情。
7. He was planting seeds in a large piece of waste land when the owner came along and sent him away. 他正在一块荒地上播种花籽, 突然土地主人走来把他赶走。
注意该句的特殊结构以及含义。主句动词为过去进行时, when 分句里的动词是一般过去时, 表示主句为 when 从句提供了时间背景, when 分句中的动作突然插入。因此, when 从句中的动词必须是瞬间动词。如:
John was sleeping when they went in. 约翰正在睡觉, 他们突然走了进来。
He was still smiling when the door opened and his wife came in. 他正笑着的时候, 门突然开了, 他妻子走了进来。
8. 请注意 surprised 和 astonished 的用法, 他们都是形容词, surprised 表示“吃惊的”, astonished 表示“非常吃惊的, 惊诧的”, 即“greatly surprised”。当表示某人感到惊讶的时候, 我们用 surprised/astonished, 但表示某事令人吃惊的时候, 我们用 surprising/



astonishing。如:

I'm surprised at his words. 我对他说的话感到吃惊。

It is a surprising ending. 这是令人吃惊的结局。

He looked astonished when he heard the news. 他听到那个消息显得很震惊。

There was an astonishing number of applicants for the job. 申请这份工作的人多得惊人。

类似用法的形容词还有: exciting/excited, interesting/interested, frightening/frightened.

Practice

I. Reading Comprehension

After reading the passage carefully, you should be able to choose the right answer to each of the following statements.

- Henry likes _____.
A. riding a bicycle
B. planting flowers in waste land
C. cleaning the dirty land
D. collecting seeds
- In his spare time, Henry takes a pipe to _____.
A. play music
B. beat the owner of the land
C. blow seeds into spots that are hard to reach
D. water flowers
- The letter "H" may stand for _____.
A. happiness B. hello C. Henry D. how
- When people make fun of him, he _____.
A. stops planting seeds B. goes on planting seeds
C. feels very upset D. returns home
- From the passage, we know that Henry spent most of his spare time _____.
A. going out B. traveling C. in his car D. on his bicycle

II. Vocabulary

Directions: Choose the best meaning for the underlined word/phrase as it is used in the text.

- Henry has an unusual hobby.



- A. ordinary B. special C. simple
2. When his flowers fade, he goes round again to collect their seeds.
A. throw B. eat C. gather
3. Many people make fun of Henry.
A. laugh at B. bully C. beat
4. I was astonished to see that there was only one small bunch of flowers in a pot.
A. excited B. surprised C. moved
5. They are artificial.
A. fresh B. beautiful C. not real

III. Answer the following questions briefly.

1. What is Henry's hobby?
2. Does he go round on a bicycle in his spare time, or does he go round on foot?
3. Why does he take a long pipe with him?
4. Do people sometimes laugh at him? Can they prevent him from planting seeds in neglected pieces of land?
5. Why doesn't Henry have real flowers in his own house?

Translation

我的朋友亨利

我朋友的亨利有一个很特别的爱好。他喜欢在不寻常的地方种花。

当春天到来的时候,你经常可以断定亨利就在附近,因为肮脏的沟渠两岸、垃圾覆盖的大地以及铁道两旁突然间遍地开满鲜花。在业余时间里,亨利在衣兜里装满种子,骑着自行车在周围到处转。他随身携带一根长管,以便将种子吹到那些人手触摸不到的地方。当花儿凋谢时,他再次去周围收集种子。这样,他便常常有大量的种子供应。

许多人嘲笑亨利,但他从不因此而感到烦恼。最近,我同他一道喝茶,他告诉我他曾经在一块荒地上播种花籽,突然土地主人走来把他赶走。过了几天,当周围没人时,亨利又回来了。你可以想象,有一天当土地主人看到这片废弃的土地上,鲜花排成一个大大的“H”字母,他会多么吃惊。亨利带我来到他的家里时,我吃惊极了,我看到仅有一束花插在一只花瓶里。当我问及此花时,他答到:“这些都是假花。”他的手指向窗外满园的鲜花说,“鲜花应该生长在外面。”

Text B

One at a Time

A friend of ours was walking down deserted Mexican beach at sunset. As he walked along, he began to see another man in the distance. As he grew nearer, he noticed that the local native kept leaning down, picking some thing up and throwing it out into the water. Time and again he kept hurling things out into the ocean.

As our friend approached even closer, he noticed that the man was picking up starfish that had been washed up on the beach and, one at a time, he was throwing them back into the water. Our friend was puzzled. He approached the man and said, "Good evening, friend. I was wondering what you are doing."

"I'm throwing these starfish back into the ocean. You see, it's low tide right now and all of these starfish have been washed up onto the shore. If I don't throw them back into the sea, they'll die up here from lack of oxygen."

"I understand," my friend replied, "but there must be thousands of starfish on this beach. You can't possibly get to all of them. There are simply too many. And don't you realize this is probably happening on hundreds of beaches all up and down this coast. Can't you see that you can't possibly make a difference?"

The local native smiled, bent down and picked up yet another starfish, and as he threw it back into the sea, he replied, "Made a difference to that one!"

(by Jack Canfield and Mark V. Hansen)

(244 words)

Vocabulary

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| 1. deserted | adj. | 荒废的, 被人所弃的 |
| 2. native | n. | 本地人, |
| 3. hurl | vt. | 投, 掷, 猛扔 |
| 4. approach | vt. | 接近, 靠近 |
| 5. starfish | n. | 海星 |
| 6. oxygen | n. | 氧气 |



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|----------------------|----|--------------|
| 7. in the distance | | 在远处 |
| 8. bend down | v. | 弯腰 |
| 9. make a difference | | 有很大不同, 有很大关系 |

Practice

I. Reading Comprehension

After reading the passage carefully, you should be able to choose the right answer to each of the following statement.

1. A friend of ours was walking down deserted beach _____.
A. when the sun was rising
B. when the sun was setting
C. when it was midday
2. The "deserted beach" means _____.
A. the empty and quiet beach
B. the crowded and noisy beach
C. the empty and noisy beach
3. Which of the following is TRUE?
A. The native man kept leaning down, picking up many starfish and throwing them back into water all at once.
B. The native man kept bending down, picking up starfish, one at a time and hurling it back into the ocean.
C. The native kept bending down, picking up the dead starfish and throwing them back into water.
4. Why were the starfish left on the shore?
A. Because it was low tide.
B. Because it was at sunset.
C. Because they lacked oxygen.
5. What can we learn from the story?
A. The local man believed he was great for he saved the lives of some starfish.
B. The local man picked up the starfish and threw them back into water for fun.
C. The local man believed he could save the lives of some starfish, if not all.

II. Discussion

1. Do you like walking along a beach?
2. What would you do on a beach?

Translation

一次扔一只

日落时分,我们的一位朋友正沿着寂寥无人的墨西哥海滩散步。往前走着,他看到远处有一个人。移步向前走近一些时,他发现那是一位本地人,正在不停地俯身拾起什么,然后又把他们扔进大海。

当我们的朋友走到近处,他发现那个本地人正在捡起被冲到海滩上的海星,每次捡起一只,并把它们逐一扔回大海。

我们的朋友疑惑不解。他走到那人身边说到,“晚上好,朋友。我很好奇,想知道你在干什么。”

“我正在把这些海星扔回大海。你看,现在正值海水低潮,这些海星都被冲到海滩上。如果我不把这些海星扔回大海,它们便会因缺氧死在这里。”

“我明白了。”我们的朋友回答道,“但是这海滩上一定有成千上万只海星,简直太多了!难道你不知道同样的事情会发生在沿海几百个海滩上?难道你没意识到你的做法根本无济于事?”

那个本地人笑了,俯下身去,又捡起一只海星,把它扔回海里,回答道,“起码对那只海星来说,可以起死回生!”

Fast Reading

Directions: You are given 3 minutes to finish reading the following passage and making your choices according to the information given in the passage.

Abraham Lincoln (亚伯拉罕·林肯) was President of the United States from 1861 until he died in 1865.

Lincoln was a very tall man. He was six feet four inches tall. His feet were big. They were twelve inches long. He was too tall to fit in most beds. When he was President, the people from his home town gave him a special bed. It was nine feet long, and so it was big