

总主编 程爱民

College English

# 大学英语阅读教程

Extensive Reading

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本册主编 朱 铭

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# 大学英语阅读教程

## College English 上 Extensive Reading

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江苏工业学院图书馆  
藏书章

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南京师范大学出版社  
NANJING NORMAL UNIVERSITY PRESS

### 图书在版编目(CIP)数据

大学英语阅读教程/程爱民总主编. 朱铭, 周自强, 王毅主编. —南京: 南京师范大学出版社, 2006. 6

ISBN 7 - 81101 - 457 - 2/H · 120

I. 大... II. ①程... ②朱... ③周... ④王...  
III. 英语—阅读教学—高等学校—教材 IV. H319. 4

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (2006) 第 055819 号

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书 名 大学英语阅读教程(上)  
总 主 编 程爱民  
本册主编 朱 铭  
责任编辑 王 瑾  
出版发行 南京师范大学出版社  
地 址 江苏省南京市宁海路 122 号(邮编:210097)  
电 话 (025)83598077(传真) 83598412(营销部) 83598297(邮购部)  
网 址 <http://press.njnu.edu.cn>  
E - mail [nspzbb@njnu.edu.cn](mailto:nspzbb@njnu.edu.cn)  
照 排 江苏兰斯印务发展有限公司  
印 刷 南京通达彩印有限公司  
开 本 787×1092 1/16  
印 张 14.75  
字 数 380 千  
版 次 2006 年 8 月第 1 版 2006 年 8 月第 1 次印刷  
印 数 1—6 000 册  
书 号 ISBN 7-81101-457-2/H · 120  
定 价 74.00 元(上、中、下)

出 版 人 闻玉银

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# 前言

本教程根据教育部最新《大学英语课程教学要求》(试行)编写,旨在帮助学生巩固并熟练应用在基础阶段所学的英语语言知识和阅读技能,进一步扩大英语学习者在政治、经济、文化、生活、科技方面的英语词汇,提高阅读能力和翻译能力。

教程中的所有材料均选自国外最新报纸、杂志,内容广博、题材广泛、语言规范,寓知识性、趣味性、前沿性、思想性于一体。在编写过程中,我们充分考虑了目前高等院校学生的英语实际水平和大学英语教学要求,在单元安排、内容取舍、体例结构上注意区分教学层次,根据由浅入深、循序渐进、方便教学的原则安排教学内容。

本教程的每个单元都围绕一个主题展开。所有主题均是当今政治、经济、文化、生活、科技发展的前沿,具有强烈的时代气息。教材将语言学习贯穿在了解、思考、探讨现实生活中的各种问题的过程中。每个单元分为两个部分:主课文(Text A)和副课文(Text B)。每篇课文后均附有生词表、注释和练习。生词表大部分采用双解方式。练习的设计从有利于学生打好语言基础和提高语言应用能力的角度出发,采取了“任务”方式(task-based),如 discuss the following topics 等。在题型上,考虑学生参加大学英语四、六级考试的实际需要,设计了部分针对新的四、六级考试的练习,帮助学生逐步熟悉新的考试形式。此外,中册和下册的单数单元还加入阅读方法指导和科技英语文体结构特点介绍。

教材的总阅读量(课文)在 90,000 词左右,总生词数 2,800 个左右,其中上册和中册词汇均为《大学英语课程教学要求》(试行)一般要求中所规定的词汇,下册词汇均为《大学英语课程教学要求》(试行)较高要求中所规定的词汇。

教材上册供第一、二学期使用,中册、下册供第三、四学期及后续英语学习使用。教师可根据具体情况在课堂上使用或安排学生自主学习。

本教程的编者均为长期从事大学英语教学、具有丰富教学科研经验的一线教师。教材适合非英语专业的本、专科生使用,也适合研究生和具有中级英语水平以上的广大英语爱好者学习或培训使用。

由于编者水平和经验有限,教材中难免有不足之处,真诚希望得到广大读者和同仁的批评和指正。

编者

2006 年 6 月

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# UNIT 1



## Elementary Education in the United States Public Schools

1 Today more than 56 million Americans are attending a wide variety of schools and universities across the nation. One half of all the people in the country between the ages of 18 and 25 attend a university. Schools are expected to meet the needs of every child — regardless of his ability and also of society itself. This means that tax-supported free education includes courses in such subjects as sewing, typing, radio and automobile repairs as well as in the customary school subjects such as mathematics, history, and language. Students can choose among a great variety of subjects depending on their interests, future plans, and level of abilities. There are, however, certain basic courses that everyone is required to study including reading, writing, mathematics and English. During the 1800's and early 1900's, when millions of people from many countries around the world came to the United States to settle, schools were an important part in "Americanizing" the children, and through them the parents, too.

2 There is another difference that visitors often notice in American schools. There is less importance given to the learning of facts than is usual in the school systems of many other countries. Instead, Americans try to teach their children to think for themselves, to ask questions, to explore, and to develop their own creative abilities.

3 In some countries the word "public" means private or schools not supported by the state. In the United States, public schools are tax-supported and free. Most American schools, whether public or private, are divided according to the following system:

4 Elementary school — for students from the first grade to the sixth grade(ages 6 to 12 years);

5 Junior high school — for students in grades seven and eight(ages 13 and 14), although sometimes the ninth grade is also included;

6 High school — for students in grades nine through twelve(ages 15 through 18);



**7** University — for students 18 years and up. The university, sometimes referred to as “college”, usually offers a four-year “undergraduate” course of study with “graduate” or “professional” schools offering programs of study for students who have completed university work. There are many fine universities in the United States, both public and private.

**8** Throughout the United States, all children are required by law to attend schools from the age of 6 to 16. The great majority of American children attend public schools. Most of the private schools are church-supported.

**9** Visitors often find the organization of the public school system in America confusing. To begin with, there is no nationally directed school system for all 50 states. Each state is free to develop its own educational plan. These vary so widely in quality, subjects taught, and educational standards, that people sometimes move into (or out of) a state because of the quality of free education available. The situation is further confusing because within each state, local school districts have additional freedom regarding the way the schools within each district are run. The states provide general guidance about what kind of education should be provided in the local schools, both public and private, but the local school districts usually determine the subjects to be taught, how many teachers to hire, how large the classes will be, and many other questions, including the kind of materials to be used.

**10** The local public schools are supported by tax money collected by the state and local governments from all of the people, whether they have children attending public schools or not. When the federal government does give money to education, it does so chiefly in the poorer areas, where there is not enough money locally. Federal government money is usually used for buildings, school bus systems, school lunches, or other purposes that do not affect the educational process itself. Americans do not want the Federal government controlling what their children are taught. By having local governments control the schools, Americans feel that they are able to influence the education that is provided for their children to a great degree.

**11** Consistent with this clear separation of nation and state, there are no national examinations at either the school or university levels. A general entrance examination is given for students who want to attend universities. However, this test is not given by the government but a private organization, and universities are not required to use the test results.



## **Religious and Private Schools**

**12** Religious and private schools receive little or no support from public taxes in the United States, and, as a result, are usually somewhat expensive to attend. The largest group of religious "parochial" schools in America, is run by the Roman Catholic Church. Religious schools tend to be less expensive than private schools.

**13** When there is free education available to all children in the United States, why do people spend money on private schools? Americans offer a great variety of reasons for doing so, including the desire of some parents to send their children to schools where classes tend to be smaller, or where religious instruction is included as part of the educational program, or because, in their opinion, the public schools in their area are not of high enough quality to meet their needs. Private schools in the United States range widely in size, quality, and in the kinds of programs that are offered to meet the needs of certain students.

## **Relationship between Parents and School**

**14** The degree to which American parents are active in their children's schools is often surprising to people in other countries. Most schools have organizations consisting of both parents and teachers, usually called P. T. A. for Parent-Teacher Association. They meet together to discuss various matters concerning the school. Some parents often give their time to help with classroom or after-school activities. Others work with teachers to help the slower-learning children in the classroom. Both mothers and fathers are expected to attend P. T. A. meeting and to show their interest in the school.

## **After-school Activities**

**15** In addition to their regular school work, students in the United States are offered a wide range of activities in the after-school hours. Called extracurricular activities, they are designed to help develop a student's skills, abilities, and attitudes toward life. From nature clubs to musical organizations, school newspapers or sports activities, the student has a large selection of activities from which to choose.

**16** Some of these activities occur during the school day, but most are held after class. Although a student is free to join or not to join, after-school activities are considered an important part of the American educational system.

## The School Year

17 Most schools begin in early September and end around the middle or end of June. Classes are held Monday through Friday, with Saturday and Sunday free, some high schools, and most universities, however, have Saturday classes. Almost all universities offer classes in the summer also.

Total words: 1,150

## New Words and Expressions

<b>attend</b> /ə'tend/ <i>vt.</i>	出席, 参加; 照顾, 护理
<b>variety</b> /və'raɪəti/ <i>n.</i>	变化, 多样性; 种种, 品种
<b>automobile</b> /'ɔ:təməbi:l/ <i>n.</i>	(主美) 汽车
<b>customary</b> /'kʌstəməri/ <i>adj.</i>	习惯的, 惯例的
<b>require</b> /ri'kwaɪə/ <i>vt.</i>	需要; 要求, 命令
<b>Americanize</b> /ə'merikənaɪz/ <i>v.</i>	使美国化
<b>explore</b> /ik'splɔ:/ <i>vt.</i>	探险, 探测; 探究
<b>creative</b> /kri:'eɪtɪv/ <i>adj.</i>	创造性的
<b>settle</b> /'set(ə)l/ <i>vi.</i>	安家, 定居; 停留
<b>offer</b> /'ɒfə/ <i>vt.</i>	提供; 出价
<b>professional</b> /prə'feʃən(ə)l/ <i>adj.</i>	专业的, 职业的
<b>majority</b> /mə'dʒɔ:ri/ <i>n.</i>	多数, 大半
<b>organization</b> /ɔ:gənaɪ'zeɪʃ(ə)n/ <i>n.</i>	组织; 机构, 团体
<b>confuse</b> /kən'fju:z/ <i>vi.</i>	搞乱, 使糊涂
<b>nationally</b> /'næʃənəli/ <i>adv.</i>	全国地
<b>vary</b> /'veəri/ <i>vi.</i>	改变, 变更; 使多样化
<b>quality</b> /'kwɒləti/ <i>n.</i>	质量, 品质; 性质
<b>standard</b> /'stændəd/ <i>n.</i>	标准, 规格; 水平
<b>available</b> /ə'veɪləb(ə)l/ <i>adj.</i>	可用到的, 可利用的; 有用的
<b>additional</b> /ə'dɪʃən(ə)l/ <i>adj.</i>	另外的, 附加的, 额外的
<b>regarding</b> /rɪ'gɑ:diŋ/ <i>prep.</i>	关于
<b>guidance</b> /'gaɪdəns/ <i>n.</i>	指导, 领导
<b>determine</b> /dɪ'tə:mi:n/ <i>vi.</i>	决定, 确定
<b>federal</b> /'fedərə(ə)l/ <i>adj.</i>	联邦的; 联合的
<b>locally</b> /'ləukəli/ <i>adv.</i>	在地方上, 在本地
<b>consistent</b> /kən'sɪst(ə)nt/ <i>adj.</i>	一致的; 调和的
<b>parochial</b> /pə'reʊkiəl/ <i>adj.</i>	教区的
<b>range</b> /reɪndʒ/ <i>vi. /n.</i>	排列, 延伸; 行列, 范围
<b>curriculum</b> /kə'rikjʊləm/ <i>n.</i>	课程
<b>concerning</b> /kən'sə:niŋ/ <i>prep.</i>	关于
<b>occur</b> /ə'kɜ:/ <i>vi.</i>	发生, 出现
<b>meet the needs of</b>	满足……的要求

a variety of  
consistent with

种种,若干不同的事物  
和……一致的,与……连贯的

## Notes

**Roman Catholic Church** (罗马天主教堂) — a member of the Church that has the Pope as its bishop.

## Exercises

### I. Complete the following unfinished sentences according to the text.

- 50% of all the people in the U. S. A. between the ages of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ attend a university. (para. 1)
- Another difference that visitors often notice in American schools is that \_\_\_\_\_. (para. 2)
- The great majority of American schools are divided according to the following system: 1) \_\_\_\_\_; 2) \_\_\_\_\_; 3) \_\_\_\_\_; 4) \_\_\_\_\_. (para. 4~7)
- By American law, all children are required to attend schools from the age of \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_. (para. 8)
- Most American schools begin in \_\_\_\_\_ and end around the \_\_\_\_\_. (para. 17)

### II. Read each of the following statements and decide whether it is True or False.

- Education makes the immigrant children more American-like and through their children the parents are also Americanized.
- In some countries a "public school" may be actually a private school.
- For religious reasons, the parochial schools are less expensive than private schools.
- The students in America take part in the extracurricular activities on weekend or during the vacations.
- American parents are very enthusiastic in helping the slower-learning children in the classroom.

### III. Language points to learn: Match the italicized parts with correct explanations.

- |                    |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| a. consistent with | b. different, diverse |
| c. rely upon       | d. concerning, about  |
| e. be inclined to  | f. additional         |

- Residents may use the hotel swimming pool at no *extra* charge.
- Thank you for your letter *regarding* the annual subscription to our magazine.
- All living things *depend on* the sun for their growth.

4. I had to sign *various* documents before they would let me into the country.
  5. Wool *has a tendency to* shrink if it gets wet.
- IV. Synonyms:** Rewrite each of the following sentences by replacing the italicized part with an appropriate synonym from the list. Make sure that the verb or noun forms are correct.

probe  
vary

mainly  
compose of

provide  
center on

1. In addition to their regular school work, students in the United States are *offered* a wide range of activities in the after-school hours. (para. 15)
2. Most schools have organizations *consisting of* both parents and teachers, usually called P. T. A. for Parent-Teacher Association. (para. 14)
3. When the federal government does give money to education, it does so *chiefly* in the poorer areas, where there is not enough money locally. (para. 10)
4. Instead, Americans try to teach their children to think for themselves, to ask questions, to *explore*, and to develop their own creative abilities. (para. 2)
5. Private schools in the United States *range* widely in size, quality, and in the kinds of programs that are offered to meet the needs of certain students. (para. 13)

**V. Translate the following sentences into Chinese.**

1. Students can choose among a great variety of subjects depending on their interests, future plans, and level of abilities. (para. 1)
2. There is less importance given to the learning of facts than is usual in the school systems of many other countries. (para. 2)
3. Visitors often find the organization of the public school system in America confusing. (para. 9)
4. By having local governments control the schools, Americans feel that they are able to influence the education that is provided to their children to a great degree. (para. 10)
5. The degree to which American parents are active in their children's schools is often surprising to people in other countries. (para. 14)

**VI. Discuss the following topics.**

1. When there is free education available to all children in the United States, why do some parents prefer to send their children to private schools?
2. Say something about the relationship between parents and schools in the United States and compare it with the situation in your country.



## Higher Education in the United States

**1** In the United States, a student who has finished high school may want to continue in higher education. There are several ways to continue in higher education in the United States. They are universities, colleges, community colleges, and technical or vocational schools. Each of these kinds of higher education will be described below.

**2** A university is usually much larger than a college. It is larger for two reasons. First, a university in the United States usually has several different colleges in it. Each college within the university has a special subject area. There may be a college of liberal arts where humanities, social science, natural science, and mathematics are taught. There may be a college of education where students learn to be teachers. There may be a college of business where business subjects are taught. All of these colleges may be parts of one university. Sometimes, in a university, each college is called a "school", "The School of Liberal Arts", "The School of Business", or "The School of Education", and so on. Second, the university always has programs for advanced or graduate study in a variety of subjects. There may be a medical school, a law school, and other advanced programs.

**3** Students in the United States must have a high school diploma or its equivalent, to enter one of the colleges in the university. Most students have completed regular high school programs. Some older students may have the same amount of equivalent of a high school degree. University students may study for an undergraduate degree in the arts or sciences. If they complete a course of study in the arts, they receive bachelor of arts degrees. In the sciences, they receive bachelor of science degrees. Students may leave the university at this time, or choose to go on for a graduate or professional degree.

**4** The university may get money for its expenses from several different sources. It may get some money from the state government. If so, it is a publicly funded university. The university may get money only from private sources; contributions, tuitions, investments, and other sources. If this is the case, it is a privately funded university. Finally, a university may be funded by a religious group.

**5** A university program for undergraduates usually takes four years.

In this way, a university and a college are alike. College students usually spend four years in school also. A college does not have graduate or professional programs in a variety of areas, though it may specialize in one or two, such as business or teaching training.

6 A college is also like a university in the kinds of students it has. College students, like university students, usually have a high school diploma when they enter college. If a college student completes a course of study in the arts, he or she receives a bachelor of arts degree. In the sciences, the students receive a bachelor of science degree. They must usually go to a university.

7 The college is usually funded in one of the three ways already described. It may be publicly or privately funded. Or, it may be funded by a religious group.

8 Compared to universities and colleges, community colleges in the United States are quite different. The program of study in the community college usually lasts only two years. Many different subjects are taught in the community college. Not all of the subjects are the usual school subjects. The community college may give courses in dental technology, auto mechanics, sewing, and many other nonacademic subjects. The community college may also have courses in the regular academic subjects like science, math, languages, literature, and other courses in the humanities.

9 Many different types of students study at community colleges. Not all students have high school diplomas. Many students are adults with children, and sometimes with grandchildren, of their own. The community college serves the community, and anyone who lives nearby may go. When community college students complete a two-year program, they receive an associate of arts or associate of science degree. Then they may go to a college or a university for two more years to get the bachelor degree. However, the students may get a job instead, or just stop going to school. Many just take a few classes in subjects that interest them. Fewer than 10% of community college students actually complete a degree, though many of those who don't get degrees transfer their credits to colleges and universities where they do get degrees.

10 Community colleges are nearly always publicly funded, by the state, county, or city governments. They are not usually funded by religious groups.

11 The community college gives training for a variety of jobs, and also has an academic program. The technical or vocational school, however, only has job training. Its programs may last a short time or a long time.

Some programs take six months, while other programs may take two years or more to complete.

**12** Many, however, do not have the diploma. Many people go to a technical or vocational school instead of going to high school. When they complete their training, they may be able to get a good job right away. The technical or vocational school provides training for work in areas such as electronics, carpentry, plumbing, and others.

**13** The technical or vocational school may be funded in any of the ways already described. It may be publicly or privately funded, or it may be funded by a religious group. Other sources of money for this kind of school are trade unions or charity organizations.

**14** Students who have finished high school, and even some who do not go to high school, may choose from these four kinds of higher education in the United States. High school students who want further academic or professional training may go to a college or university. Students who want both academic and non academic training may go to the community college. Students who want to learn a job may go to a technical or vocational school. Students may choose the kind of higher education that they like best.

*Total words: 999*

## New Words and Expressions

**vocational** /və'keɪʃən(ə)l/ *adj.*

职业的

**humanities** /hju:'mænitɪs/ *n.*

人文学科

**program** /'prəʊgræm/ *n.*

课程, 大纲, 项目

**diploma** /dɪ'pləʊmə/ *n.*

文凭

**equivalent** /'ɪkwɪvələnt/ *n.*

相等物, 等价物

**degree** /dɪ'ɡri:/ *n.*

学位

**undergraduate** /ˌʌndə'ɡrædʒuɪt/ *n.*

大学本科生

**bachelor** /'bætʃələ(r)/ *n.*

学士

**professional** /prə'feʃən(ə)l/ *adj.*

专业的, 业务的

**source** /sɔ:s/ *n.*

来源, 源泉

**fund** /fʌnd/ *n.*

基金, 资金

*vt.*

提供资金、基金

**private** /'praɪvɪt/ *adj.*

私人的; 私立的

**contribution** /kən'trɪbjʊtʃən/ *n.*

捐助, 捐献; 贡献

**tuition** /tju:'ɪʃ(ə)n/ *n.*

学费

**investment** /ɪn'vestmənt/ *n.*

投资

**alike** /ə'laɪk/ *adj.*

相似的, 一样的

**specialize** /'speʃəlaɪz/ *vi. / vt.*

专攻, 专门研究

**community** /kə'mju:nɪti/ *n.*

社会; 社区



<b>dental</b> /ˈdent(ə)l/ <i>adj.</i>	牙的; 牙科的
<b>technology</b> /tek'nɒlədʒi/ <i>n.</i>	技术; 工艺
<b>mechanics</b> /mi'kæniks/ <i>n.</i>	机械; 结构
<b>academic</b> /ækədemik/ <i>adj.</i>	学术的
<b>transfer</b> /trænsfə:(r)/ <i>vi.</i>	调动, 转移
<b>electronics</b> /ilek'trɒniks/ <i>n.</i>	电子学
<b>carpentry</b> /'kɑ:pintrɪ/ <i>n.</i>	木工工艺
<b>plumbing</b> /'plʌmɪŋ/ <i>n.</i>	铅管工的工作
<b>liberal arts</b>	文科
<b>social science</b>	社会科学
<b>natural science</b>	自然科学

## Exercises

### I. Answer the following questions.

1. What is the difference between a university and a college?
2. What degree does a student get from a community college?
3. What are the features of the community college?
4. How long do the job training programs last in technical or vocational schools?
5. How many ways are there for high school students to continue in higher education in the United States?

### II. Choose the best answer to each of the following questions.

1. In the United States, sometimes people call a college established within a university \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. an institution                      B. an academy  
C. a school                              D. a program
2. If you, as an undergraduate, study literature in a university in America, and can complete the required courses, you can receive a \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. bachelor of arts degree              B. bachelor of science degree  
C. professional degree                  D. degree of writing
3. We can infer from the text that \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. in a college you can study medicine for several years so as to receive a professional degree in medicine  
B. you can always find an advanced study program in a college  
C. college students can get graduate degree if they work hard  
D. a university may be funded by a famous private industrial group
4. If you want to study sewing or gardening, you will usually go to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. a community college                  B. a university  
C. a high school                          D. an academic institute
5. If you are from a poor family and want to get a job sooner, you had better go to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. a community college                  B. a university  
C. a vocational school                    D. a school of education

### III. Interpretation of words and phrases: Circle the letter that best matches the meaning of the italicized part in each sentence.

- If so, it is a publicly *funded* university. (para. 4)  
A. supported      B. established      C. functioned
- The university may get money only from private sources; *contributions*, tuition, investments, and other sources. (para. 4)  
A. commitment      B. donation      C. fortune
- A college does not have graduate or professional programs in a variety of areas, though it may *specialize* in one or two, such as business or teaching training. (para. 5)  
A. become firm or steady  
B. form opinions  
C. limit one's study to particular subjects
- Its programs may *last* a short time or a long time. (para. 11)  
A. continue      B. pursue      C. postpone
- The technical or vocational school *provides* training for work in areas such as electronics, carpentry, plumbing, and others. (para. 12)  
A. preserves      B. involves      C. offers

### IV. Phrase study: Fill in each blank with a proper phrase. Make sure that the verb forms are correct.

describe... as  
of one's own

choose to  
instead of

compare to...  
consistent with

- He \_\_\_\_\_ the situation \_\_\_\_\_ "tragic" and "grave".
- \_\_\_\_\_ many women, she was indeed very fortunate.
- You can make it very difficult for me to speak to you if you \_\_\_\_\_ misunderstand me.
- I can't understand why they chose him \_\_\_\_\_ you — you're much better qualified for the job.
- We could adopt, but we really want a child \_\_\_\_\_.

### V. Translate the following sentences into Chinese.

- There may be a college of liberal arts where humanities, social science, natural science, and mathematics are taught.
- Students in the United States must have a high school diploma or its equivalent, to enter one of the colleges in the university.
- If they complete a course of study in the arts, they receive Bachelor of Arts degrees. In the sciences, they receive Bachelor of Science degrees.
- The college is usually funded in one of the three ways already described. It may be publicly or privately funded. Or, it may be funded by a religious group.
- When community college students complete a two-year program, they receive an associate of arts or associate of science degree.