

■ 21世纪研究生英语系列教材

沈金华 易文 主编

研究生英语

精读教程(下)

ENGLISH FOR

GRADUATE STUDENTS

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研究生英语精读教程

(下)

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✧ 编者寄语

你我互动 共同耕耘 打造精品

提高研究生英语教学质量,教材建设是极重要的一环。适应教材建设和教学改革的需要,由多所高校教师共同编写、中南大学出版社出版的这套研究生英语系列教材得以顺利面世,是一件值得庆幸的事。

“21世纪研究生英语系列教材”,第一批包括《研究生英语精读教程》(上、下册),《研究生英语听说教程》(上、下册),《研究生英语写译教程》五种。参编人员来自中南大学、湖南师范大学、湘潭大学、湖南农业大学等高等院校,作者全部是从事研究生英语教学多年且经验丰富、治学严谨的教师。

该套教材的主要特点在于:

其一,实用性、时代感很强。

该套教材所有选材均力求贴近学生、贴近生活、贴近实际,使学生能对所学内容进行深入思考和灵活多样的讨论,以确保学生能将所学语言运用自如,切实有助于提高其用英语交际的能力。除个别经典作品外,绝大部分选材都来自于最新的英语报刊杂志及出版物,语言地道,时代感特别鲜明。

其二,自然衔接,好教、好学。

这套教材在内容上特别注意做到与本科生英语教学自然衔接、有效延续,难易适中,并力求使研究生阶段英语学习者的实际水平适合新形势下现代社会对该层次人才的要求。在体例、结构安排上,力求新颖、合理,适当配以插图。《研究生英语听说教程》则根据师生的需求,聘请高水平的外籍教师录制了语音磁带,以便好教、好学。

其三,凝聚群智,配套成龙。

本套教材,凝聚了多所高校英语教师的集体智慧。在教学上各有所长、来自不同高校的教师以高度的社会责任感,协同配合,相互启发,相互砥砺,一起讨论写作提纲、体例和书稿,并在部分高校试用,发现不足,及时弥补。中南大学出版社选派有多年英语图书编辑工作经验、工作认真负责的编辑参与编写工作的讨论,并全程跟踪,试用教材的学生提出了很好的修改意见。

因此可以说,这套教材也凝聚了编辑和学生的智慧。联合多所高校,从整体上考虑研究生英语教材的编写,使之配套成龙,形成系列,弥补了过去大多以一校一院为单位,作者来源单一,不能形成配套系列教材的不足。

其四,领导重视,多方支持。

这套教材从选题策划到编写出版,得到了湖南省教育厅学位办、湖南省学位与研究生教育学会以及中南大学、湖南师范大学、湘潭大学、湖南农业大学等高校的校领导和各校外国语学院或外语系的领导与专家的高度重视与大力支持。他们对这套教材寄予厚望,希望能把她打磨成代表湖南省研究生英语教学水平、在全国有一定影响的高质量的研究生英语教材,为我国研究生英语的教材建设和学科建设做出贡献。我社和作者虽然尽了最大努力,但由于种种条件的限制,这套教材肯定还有不足之处。但我们相信,通过使用该套教材的全国各高校的教师和学生及时地把信息反馈给我们,和各位作者和责任编辑像关注自己的孩子的成长一样,继续关心这套教材的修订与完善,多方共同努力,辛勤耕耘,一定能把她打磨成一套深受师生欢迎的高质量、高水平的研究生英语教材。

前言

为了使研究生英语教学跟上时代发展的步伐,同时使之与大学英语教学自然衔接,有效延续,我们针对研究生阶段英语学习者的实际水平和新形势下社会对该层次人才的具体要求,总结多年的教学经验,在国家制定的《非英语专业研究生英语教学大纲》(1992年试用版)的原则指导下,编写了这套《研究生英语精读教程》(上、下)。

该教材的主要特点是集实用性与时代感于一身。所有选用题材都力求贴近学生,贴近生活,从而使学生能对所学内容进行深入的思考和灵活多样的讨论。所选课文语言难度适中,以确保学生能将所学的语言运用自如,真正提高用英语进行交际的能力。同时,除个别经典作品之外,绝大部分选材都来自2004年的英美报刊、网络及书籍,具有鲜明的时代特点,给学习者以耳目一新的感觉,从而加强了教材的趣味性和可读性。此外,教材中的欣赏课文短小精悍,文字优美,题材丰富,可供学生诵读、熟记。书中所提供的练习形式多样,既注重学生基本功的训练,又兼顾各类各层次英语测试中不同题型的实际操练,切实提高学生运用语言的综合素质。

该教材共分上、下两册,上册供第一学期使用,下册供第二学期使用。每册分别有八个单元供使用者根据需要灵活选择。

每单元内容包括:1. 课文:其中包括词汇表、注释、练习;2. 补充读物:其中包括词汇表、注释及问答题;3. 欣赏读物。

该教材由中南大学英语部研究生英语教研室集体编写。上册由易文、沈金华担任主编,刘晓、杨清明任副主编,主要编写人员有:邱香玲、魏晓莎、秦乐娱、杨俊敏、姚忠、田晖、骆莲莲。下册由沈金华、易文担任主编,刘晓、杨清明任副主编,主要编写人员有:姚忠、魏晓莎、秦乐娱、杨俊敏、邱香玲、田晖、骆莲莲。张龙宽教授担任教参中所有译文的审阅工作,澳大利亚语言专家 Lesley Pereira 和 Don Pereira 担任了本书全部审阅工作。该书的编写工作还得到了中南大学大学英语部研究生英语教研室孙晓玲等同志的精诚合作,并得到了中南大学研究生院培养管理办负责同志及管理人员的大力支持。在此表示诚挚的谢意!

由于时间有限,教材在编写过程中难免出现错误或不足之处,敬请使用者批评指正!

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Unit One

Text

Shades of Grey

By Trish Saywell¹

Whenever China gains entry to the World Trade Organization, Shanghai Haixin Plush will be ready.

5 The company, listed on the Shanghai Stock Exchange, makes long-fibre silk and cotton for use in products exported to the United States and Europe. The trade benefits of WTO

membership, its management reckons, will far outweigh the costs.

10 Haixin Plush hopes that WTO membership, when it comes, will finally secure its access to the U. S. market—still vitally important to many Chinese companies despite the anti-American rhetoric that has flowed since Nato²'s bombing of the Chinese embassy in Belgrade. Securing China's most-favoured-nation trading status with the United States would end the

15 uncertainty caused by the annual debate in Congress over whether Chinese imports should continue to enjoy the lowest tariffs. Just as important, Haixin Plush sees WTO membership as a link to a wider range of markets: if China joins the world trade body, Beijing eventually will see an end to quotas on Chinese textile exports to countries in the West. And that would

20 mean new opportunities for Haixin Plush.

"In the past, even with China's advantages of low labour costs, we



would not get a large-enough market share because of the strict quotas on our exports," says Yang Yufeng, a company spokesman. Garments and carpets account for about a third of Haixin Plush's 500 million renminbi (\$ 60 million) in exports each year; toys make up the rest.

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Indeed, despite fears within China that Premier Zhu Rongji's market-opening offers could cripple domestic industry, many Chinese firms would have much to gain from WTO entry. (That may also be one reason to believe that once anger over Nato has dissipated, a more pragmatic tone will resurface in U. S. -China relations.) At the broadest level, increased competition from foreign companies would put new pressures on state enterprises, banks and farmers to raise productivity. And the liberalization of the financial industry would force a reallocation of capital from lossmaking state-owned enterprises to more efficient private companies. While such changes would undoubtedly cause economic pain, they could also prompt much needed corporate reform. Once companies see growing competition "they will become more proactive in developing new products, improving services and bringing down costs," says Andy Xie, China economist at Morgan Stanley Dean Witter³.

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The bold concessions Zhu offered on his recent trip to the U. S. included opening the telecoms industry to foreign ownership, allowing foreign banks to conduct business in renminbi by 2005, and lowering tariffs on key imports such as cars. Zhu also offered to eliminate all import tariffs on information-technology products by 2005 and allow foreign insurers to gradually enter health, pension and other forms of insurance business—areas that represent almost 85% of total insurance premiums in China.

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While Zhu's offers were welcomed in Washington, critics have since argued that economic opening on this scale would destroy money-losing state-owned enterprises and shatter China's banks at a time of high unemployment. "It will be a battleground and no one will benefit except the consumer," argues Lawrence Ang, head of China research at Deutsche Securities Asia in Hong Kong. Another source of irritation is Washington's insistence on the right to extend its import quotas on textiles by five years after the Multifibre Arrangement⁴ expires in 2005.

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55 But cracks in China's resolve have already been detected. On May 7, before the bombing in Belgrade, European Union Vice-President Leon Brittan declared during a trip to Beijing that China had already pulled back on some of its key offers—including allowing foreigners to hold majority stakes in companies in the telecoms, banking and insurance industries.

60 There is no doubt that WTO membership would initially be painful for the Chinese economy, says Shawn Xu, head of research at China International Capital Corp., an investment joint venture between Morgan Stanley and China Construction Bank. But he argues that the economy as a whole would benefit in the longer term if the increased competition forces
65 Chinese companies to improve efficiency and cut costs.

Xu says that's exactly what has happened to China's consumer-appliance makers. He says that in the mid-1990s Japanese companies dominated sales in China of goods such as colour televisions and refrigerators. Now domestic brands are pushing Japanese companies from
70 the market. "Because of competition from the Japanese, local companies figured out what they needed to do—like improve efficiency, research and new models," says Xu. "I've talked to some Japanese firms—they say the local Chinese firms are killing them in China." Appliance makers such as Haier, Guangdong Kelon and Konka have even moved abroad. Indeed,
75 Haier now exports washing machines to Japan and refrigerators to the U. S. .

Much the same phenomenon is at work in the computer industry. Executives at Legend, China's biggest personal-computer maker, say the appearance in China of high-end foreign computer products in the early
80 1990s was a wake-up call for the industry. "When China first lowered import tariffs on IT products in 1990, China's information industry got a big boost," says Legend President Liu Chuanzhi. (Import tariffs on PCs are now 9% .) The increased competition hurt Legend at the start, says Liu, but then the company became a sales agent for a number of foreign
85 brands including Hewlett-Packard⁵, Toshiba, IBM and Microsoft. Through its relationship with such companies, Liu says Legend improved its quality control, logistics and marketing strategy. "And we managed to

design a better product," he says. "So the Chinese market has expanded with competition, but Chinese companies have improved their performance, too."

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Legend is now a major player in the Asian PC market. Its market share in the Asia-Pacific region, excluding Japan, rose to 5.4% in 1998 from 3.1% a year earlier, according to International Data Corp. That puts it third on the list of top PC sellers in the region, behind global heavyweights Compaq and IBM.

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Economists say WTO membership would also lead to an increase in exports for companies in low-to-mid tech labour-intensive industries in which China already has competitive pricing, such as apparel, footwear, textiles, toys and consumer electronics. Fred Hu, executive director of Asian economic research at Goldman Sachs⁶ in Hong Kong, says the textile industry would "benefit tremendously" from the removal of quotas by Western governments. He says that if the U. S. agrees not to extend its quotas on textiles beyond 2005, Chinese textile and clothing exports would nearly double from current levels to \$ 70 billion annually in 2005. "This is an area where China has a basic comparative advantage," he says. That's good news; textiles and clothing products make up more than one quarter of China's total exports. Richard Newfarmer, an economist at the World Bank in Washington, says that if China enters the WTO, falling trade barriers would also provide domestic companies with "better access to technology, efficient machines and markets." And that, he says, would make the companies "better positioned to export."

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Executives at state-owned underwear maker Shanghai Three Gun are looking forward to an end to what they see as the "discriminatory" quota system. Last year, just \$ 2 million of the company's total exports of \$ 20 million went to the U. S. . Shen Bing, the company's vice-president, notes that in value terms Three Gun imported more Lycra and dyeing agents from the U. S. than it exported in finished garments. After China enters the WTO, and if the U. S. lifts its quotas on textiles, Three Gun expects to at least double its exports to the U. S. .

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Chinese exporters wouldn't be the only ones to benefit from WTO

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membership. Perhaps the biggest advantages would fall to companies that import components and raw materials. Economists say most small and medium-sized enterprises would see large benefits from a wider—and cheaper—choice of imports. Cheaper imports would allow companies to

125 cut prices and improve their competitiveness in the international market, says Xiao Geng, a professor of economics at the University of Hong Kong. “With restrictions on imports, Chinese domestic enterprises find it hard to get bigger,” he says. “If you apply tariffs on imports you create a lot of inefficiencies.”

130 Management at Shanghai-based Aton, a maker of automatic-control systems for machinery used in production lines, know what tariffs can cost. Aton imports \$ 3 million-5 million-worth of components each year for its control systems. If China joins the WTO, Wu Lingling, Aton’s general manager, expects import tariffs would be cut to at least 7% from the

135 current 12%. She says a cut of that magnitude would save Aton \$ 150,000 ~250,000 a year.

Wu says those savings would allow Aton to lower prices and increase sales abroad. “We would be very happy to enter the WTO,” says Wu. “Our products will gain a competitive edge in terms of price. It will make

140 it easier for me to export my products more cheaply.” Wu says exports to the Middle East now account for about 2% of the company’s 40 million renminbi in annual sales. Wu figures that if China joins the WTO, the company—in which two state-owned textile groups hold a combined 50% stake—would be able to double its exports.

145 Tongwei Enterprises Group, a private company in central Sichuan province and China’s largest maker of fish feed, would also benefit from falling import tariffs, Tongwei imports roughly 50,000 tonnes of soya beans, 30,000 tonnes of fish powder and 2,000 tonnes of amino acids each year from the U. S.. Chairman Liu Hanyuan calculates that WTO

150 membership would cut the cost of those imports by about 10%, saving the company about \$ 2.5 million a year.

Not all executives in China are so optimistic, but Xu of China International Capital Corp. says that if Chinese companies are allowed to

compete on an equal footing they will both survive and improve. From that angle, says Xu, WTO entry "is good for the U. S. and it's good for the rest of the world and it's good for China. " 155

For the moment, however, those potential benefits hang on a restoration of relations between Washington and Beijing.

Notes

1. Trish Saywell: staff reporter of *The Wall Street Journal*
2. Nato: North Atlantic Treaty Organization
3. Morgan Stanley Dean Witter: Morgan Stanley, formally named Morgan Stanley Dean Witter, is a global financial services firm and a market leader in securities, investment management and credit services. With more than 600 offices in 27 countries, Morgan Stanley connects people, ideas, and capital to help clients achieve their financial aspirations. Morgan Stanley Investment Management manages \$ 421 billion in assets for institutional and individual clients around the world.
4. Multifibre Arrangement: the Multifibre Arrangement (MFA), more formally the Arrangement Regarding International Trade in Textiles, entered into force in 1974. It extended the coverage of the restrictions on textiles and clothing from cotton products to wool and man-made fibre products (and from 1986, certain vegetable fibre products). Operationally, the MFA provided rules for the imposition of quotas, either through bilateral agreements or unilateral actions, when surges of imports caused market disruption or threat thereof in importing countries.
5. Hewlett-Packard: Hewlett-Packard Company is a leading global provider of computing and imaging solutions and services. The company is focused on making technology and its benefits accessible to all.
6. Goldman Sachs: Goldman Sachs is a leading global investment banking, securities and investment management firm that provides a wide range of services worldwide to a substantial and diversified client base that includes corporations, financial institutions, governments and high net-worth individuals. Founded in 1869, it is one of the oldest and largest investment banking firms. The firm is headquartered in New York and maintains offices in London, Frankfurt, Tokyo, Hong Kong and other major financial centers around the world.

New Words

plush /plʌʃ/ <i>n.</i>	a fabric of silk, rayon, cotton, or other material, having a thick, deep pile
reckon /'rekən/ <i>vt.</i>	to think or assume
rhetoric /'retərɪk/ <i>n.</i>	using language effectively to please or persuade
quota /'kwəʊtə/ <i>n.</i>	a proportional share, as of goods, assigned to a group or to each member of a group; an allotment
cripple /'kripl/ <i>vt.</i>	to disable, damage, or impair the functioning of
dissipate /'disɪpeɪt/ <i>vi.</i>	to vanish by dispersion
pragmatic /præg'mætɪk/ <i>adj.</i>	dealing or concerned with facts or actual occurrences; practical
resurface /rɪ'sə:fɪs/ <i>vi.</i>	to come to the surface again; reappear
liberalization /,lɪbərəlaɪ'zeɪʃən/ <i>n.</i>	the act of freeing (sb./sth.) from political or moral restrictions
reallocation /rɪ:əleɪʃən/ <i>n.</i>	the act of distributing again according to a plan
lossmaking /'lɒs,meɪkɪŋ/ <i>adj.</i>	(of business deal) money-losing
proactive /,prəʊ'æktɪv/ <i>adj.</i>	acting in advance to deal with an expected difficulty; anticipatory
pension /'penʃən/ <i>n.</i>	a sum of money paid regularly as a retirement benefit or by way of patronage
premium /'pri:miəm/ <i>n.</i>	the amount paid or payable, often in instalments, for an insurance policy
expire /ɪks'paɪə/ <i>v.</i>	to come to an end; terminate
crack /kræk/ <i>n.</i>	a mental or physical impairment; a defect
stake /steɪk/ <i>n.</i>	a share or an interest in an enterprise, especially a financial share
executive /ɪg'zekjʊtɪv/ <i>n.</i>	a person or group having administrative or

high-end <i>adj.</i>	managerial authority in an organization (abbr.) (usu. of a technological product) expensive, advanced and aimed at the wealthier customer
logistics /lə'dʒɪstɪks/ <i>n.</i>	the management of the details of an operation
player /'pleɪə/ <i>n.</i>	person or organization, etc. with an active interest and that plays a recognized part in a type of business
heavyweight /'heviweɪt/ <i>n.</i>	(informal.) a person of great importance or influence
apparel /ə'pærəl/ <i>n.</i>	clothing, especially outer garments
footwear /'fʊtweə(r)/ <i>n.</i>	attire, such as shoes or slippers, for the feet
underwear /'ʌndəweə/ <i>n.</i>	clothes worn next to the skin, beneath one's outer clothing
discriminatory /dɪs'krɪmɪnətəri/ <i>adj.</i>	marked by or showing prejudice; biased
magnitude /'mæɡnɪtjuːd/ <i>n.</i>	greatness in size or extent
edge /edʒ/ <i>n.</i>	a margin of superiority; an advantage
figure /'fɪɡə/ <i>vt.</i>	to conclude, believe, or predict
amino /'æmɪnəʊ/ <i>adj.</i>	relating to an amine or other chemical compound containing an NH group combined with a nonacid organic radical 胺 基的
footing /'fʊtɪŋ/ <i>n.</i>	position or rank in relation to others; standing
restoration /'restə'reɪʃən/ <i>n.</i>	an act of bringing back into existence or use; reestablish

Phrases and Expressions

bring down	to reduce
pull back	to change one's mind
hang on	(= hang upon) to depend on

Exercises

I. Comprehension

Answer the following questions according to the text.

1. What is implied in the title "Shades of Grey"?
2. What does the author try to convince the readers in the article?
3. How does Shanghai Haixin Plush view WTO membership?
4. What changes would WTO entry bring to many Chinese firms?
5. What market-opening offers did Premier Zhu Rongji make on his recent trip to the U. S. ? And how were Zhu's offers received both in China and in the U. S. ?
6. What is the same phenomenon having occurred both in China's consumer-appliance makers and in China's computer industry?
7. What does Shanghai Three Gun hope to gain after China enters the WTO?
8. Who would gain the biggest advantages from WTO membership? And how does the author illustrate it?

II. Topics for discussion

1. When did China enter the World Trade Organization? And what pains and benefits has WTO entry brought to Chinese companies?
2. How has WTO membership influenced Chinese consumers' life? Give examples to support your ideas.
3. What's your comment on Premier Zhu Rongji's market-opening offers mentioned in the article?
4. What do you think should be done to make China become a global economic superpower?

III. Vocabulary

Section A. Replace the italicized words or phrases in the following sentences with synonyms from the text.

1. They are looking forward to the end of the year because his term of office as president will *come to an end* at that time.