



普通高等教育“十一五”国家级规划教材

1

新通用大学英语

阅读教程 Reading Course

《新通用大学英语》项目组 编



高等教育出版社
Higher Education Press

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College English 1

新通用大学英语

阅读教程

Reading Course

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江苏工业学院图书馆
藏书章



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《新通用大学英语》立体化系列教材

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前 言

《通用大学英语》最早出版于1998年8月，是国内开发较早的一套面向学习者需求的系列电子教材。《新通用大学英语》是在“九五”国家重点科技攻关项目——《通用大学英语》的研究、开发与应用的基礎上，依据教育部2004年颁布的《大学英语课程教学要求（试行）》重新研发的供大学基础阶段英语教学使用的立体化系列教材。

本系列教材共分为6级，供大学英语课程的一般要求和较高要求层次的教学使用。每级由《综合教程》、《阅读教程》、《综合技能训练》、《教学参考书》以及配套的电子教案、网络课程等组成。

本系列教材以面向信息时代的大学英语教学内容、课程体系和教学方法的改革为出发点，充分考虑现代教育技术在大学英语教学中的应用，力图建立一套能适应以学生主动、交互和自主学习为主的，集先进的语言学习理论、教学理论和教学手段与媒介于一体的，具有时代特色的本土化与国际化相结合的新型大学英语立体化教材。在设计及编写上充分吸纳了国内外教材先进的编写理念与特色，引进了刚刚于2006年获得美国教育出版大奖的Top Notch，为教材提供了真实、自然与鲜活的语料。在教材的引进、改编与自主研发等方面，我们进行了积极有益的探索，主要体现在以下几个方面：

※ 系统化的语言教学思想

本套教程采用了多技能交际大纲的编写原则，融语言知识与听、说、读、写四项技能于一体，同时扩展了语音和词汇部分内容，并辅以先进的多媒体与网络教学手段；以全面提高学习者的英语交际能力为目标，以交际主题为线，意义构建为本，以活动为导向，任务为驱动，通过多样化的交际活动与探究式学习来进行知识建构，并以形成性评价作为教学重要的评价方法，来培养学生的综合分析能力和跨文化交际的能力。

※ 模块化的内容架构

《综合教程》每一册书共有10个单元，每单元2课。这10个单元的主题均贴近学生的生活现实，其情景的设置与学生在学校、社会以及未来的生活密切相关。每个课程单元又分为单元导入、听、说、读、写等几大模块，每个模块的内容均与主题相关，并重点操练2~3种语言功能。

※ 知识性、趣味性与文化性并重

在语料的选择方面，注重语言素材与中西方文化的结合，融知识性、趣味性与文化性于一体，题材广泛、体裁多样、语料真实、语言地道、版式活泼、图文并茂。在内容的设计上，力求语言知识学习、文化意识与批判性思维能力的培养并重。

※ 一体化的教学解决方案

由《综合教程》、《阅读教程》、《综合技能训练》、《教学参考书》、电子教案、网络课程和基于教学内容的语料库等构成了完备的一体化的教学解决方案。

《阅读教程》是基于本系列教材的设计理念编写的，以全新的视角诠释了信息时代大学英语的教学内容、教学方法和教学规律，以先进的语言学习理论和教学理论为指导，独树一帜，充分突出了本教程与众不同的特色。在语料的选用上，内容丰富，极具时代感和先进性；在版式设计上，图文并茂、生动活泼；在编写模式上，不拘一格、富有创意；在操练形式上，体现了多样化和活泼性，寓学于乐。

本《阅读教程》共10个单元。每一单元由4篇文章组成：2篇短文章，2篇长文章。包括实用文、记叙文、议论文和说明文等。Unit Goals 和 Lead-in 均设在每个单元的开始。Unit Goals 配上与文章主题相关的图片，使学习者对本单元的学习要点一目了然；Lead-in 提出与本单元4篇文章相关的启发性问题，供学习者思考、讨论或就文章涉及的主题与教师展开互动；Pre-reading Questions 设在2篇长文章的开始，就文章主题和内容提出相关问题，引发学生对文章的阅读兴趣，启发学生对文章的理解；Notes 设在文章的结尾，主要对文章的文化背景及专有名词进行解释，使学习者对相关国家的文化有更全面的了解，以便更好地理解文章；Comprehension Questions 形式新颖独特，丰富多彩，包括 Matching, True or False Statements, Choice Making, Chart Completion, Translation, Multiple Choices 等。Extended Activities 帮助学生巩固所学内容，培养其实际应用语言的能力；Reading Strategy 既讲又练，使学生逐步积累和掌握阅读技巧，达到提高阅读理解能力的目的；Fun Zone 设在每单元的最后，包括笑话，幽默故事、漫画、游戏、智力测试、脑筋急转弯等，使学生在轻松愉快的气氛中结束一个单元的学习。

《阅读教程》在设计、编写过程中得到了高等教育出版社编辑的帮助。香港中文大学的孔宪辉教授、David Coniam 教授、Arthur McNeill 博士、马冠芳博士以及沈阳理工大学的外籍语言专家 Chill Christine Margaret、Scherbakoff Alexy 和 Current Landon Alan 担任了本教程的审定与顾问工作，沈阳理工大学的领导及教务处领导为教材的试用提供了鼎力支持，在此一并表示感谢。尽管编写时作者在探索和体现新型教学思想方面尽了最大努力，但由于水平、经验有限，本教程中难免有一些不尽人意之处，我们热诚欢迎广大师生在使用时提出宝贵意思。

《阅读教程》编写项目组

2006年9月

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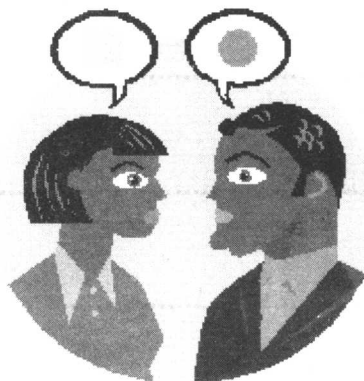
UNIT 1

Getting to Know People

UNIT GOALS

Learners will be able to

- introduce university events to newcomers;
- get acquainted with new classmates;
- tell a story about a friend;
- greet and start a conversation with a stranger;
- scan a text to locate specific information.



Lead-in

1. How do you get to know others when you are in a new environment?
2. What will you do if you have difficulties in making friends?
3. Do you want to join some clubs in college? Why?

Matching

Read through the words and expressions used in Readings 1 & 2 in the left column, and match each of them with an appropriate meaning statement in the right column.

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| 1. enthusiastic | a. at a time that is best and easiest for sb. |
| 2. socialize | b. expect that sb. will always be there when needed |
| 3. take sb. for granted | c. use a particular situation to do or get what one wants |
| 4. take advantage of | d. tell sb. that he can do sth. if he wants to |
| 5. at one's convenience | e. tell sb. not to do sth. because it will have no effect |
| 6. it is no use doing sth. | f. feeling or showing a lot of interest and excitement about sth. |
| 7. take an interest in | g. want to know or learn more about sth. |
| 8. feel free to do | h. spend time with other people in a friendly way |

Reading 1

Required Time: 5 mins

Start Time:

Finish Time:

A Welcome Letter

30th, June, 2006

Dear friends,

Warm welcome!

On behalf of The Chinese Student Association (CSA) of the Louisiana State University, we welcome you to join this University, and we pledge to offer you our best service.

In the past few weeks, the CSA has occasionally organized small “get-togethers” to put you newcomers in touch with senior students, to make acquaintance with them, and to learn from them about life on campus. Between July and August, the CSA will offer free airport pick-up service to newcomers from China. Please contact us if you need assistance.

At the beginning of the fall semester, the CSA will organize a city-tour followed by a welcome reception. On 5th October, the eve of the Mid-Autumn Festival, the CSA is throwing the annual BBQ party. Please mark your calendar now! Another function organized by the CSA in the fall semester is a networking event in November, about the time of Thanksgiving, in which you can make acquaintance with other students from China.

If you feel enthusiastic about jump-starting a new university life with more interesting work, come and join our Association; do not waste a minute hesitating! To be a member of the CSA will help you broaden your horizons, meet more people and, more importantly, take advantage of the opportunity to experience life in the university and the city more fully!

Last but not the least, please feel free to contact us any time at your convenience. Questions about the university and suggestions for the work of the CSA are always welcome.

Thank you very much for your time and patience in reading this letter. We wish you a wonderful four-year life ahead!



Yours sincerely,

The Chinese Student Association
Louisiana State University
(292 words)

Notes

1. BBQ: barbecue 烧烤
2. Thanksgiving Day: the fourth Thursday of November — a public holiday in the US and in Canada when families have a large meal together to celebrate and be thankful for food, health, families, etc.
感恩节

Comprehension Questions



True or False Statements

Decide whether the following statements are True or False according to the passage. Write T for true and F for false.

- () 1. The student association has held some small get-togethers to welcome new students.
- () 2. The student association will offer airport pick-up service to new students from China.
- () 3. The writer encourages new students to join the student association, which is short of staff members.
- () 4. You may get in touch with the student association if you want to get to know more students from China in the university.
- () 5. The purpose of this letter is to tell new students to familiarize themselves with the rules of the university.



Choice Making

Check (✓) the activities arranged by the student association according to the passage.

- () 1. a city tour and a welcome reception
- () 2. celebrating New Year's Eve
- () 3. small get-togethers between newcomers and senior students
- () 4. a networking event
- () 5. a speech contest for the first year students
- () 6. an annual sports meet
- () 7. summer camping activities
- () 8. airport pick-up service
- () 9. celebrating Dragon Boat Festival
- () 10. an annual BBQ party

Reading 2

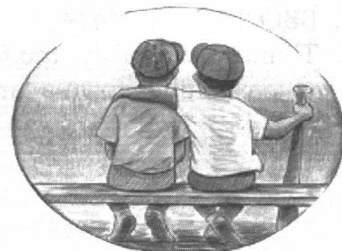
Required Time: 6.5 mins

Start Time:

Finish Time:

How Did I Make Friends at University

After I arrived at university I stayed in a dorm. Everyone there seemed to be making friends more quickly than I was. At school, I had known my friends from the age of 12 and I had taken their presence in my life for granted. My parents had been a bit overprotective of me and had not encouraged me to get involved with after school activities. I had not had a weekend job, so I had little independence



or the chance to socialize. That is why I was so excited when I did well enough to go to university because I could not wait to make new friends. However, it was a bit of a shock to suddenly know nobody.

To begin with, I always went back to my room after lectures, and I even felt shy asking the way. So I did not have a chance to make new friends. It took me a while before I came to the conclusion that the only person who could help me make friends was "me". It was no use waiting for other people to make an effort. I had thought that nobody was taking an interest in me and that I would never make friends with anyone. But then I realized that I was not really taking an interest in others either! The reason was that I was shy, but other people may have thought I was just not very friendly.

Looking back at my first few months at university, I think I would like to offer this piece of advice: to be cheerful and friendly with people you meet. I did not do this at first, because I was shy. However, later when I made myself known, spoken up and joined a few clubs that interested me, I began to develop more friendly and meaningful relationships, and soon discovered that I was no different from others in being to make some very good friends.

(331 words)

Comprehension Questions

A Chart Completion

Complete the following information according to the passage.

How I Made Friends			
Time	Reasons for making or not making friends	Results	Advice
Before entering the university	I had taken my friends' presence for granted.	e. _____.	h. _____.
	a. _____.		
	b. _____.		
After entering the university	c. _____.	f. At first, _____.	
	d. _____.		
	I decided to change.		
		g. In the end, _____.	

B Translation

Complete the following sentences by translating the Chinese into English, using the words or expressions in brackets.

- _____ 我认为这是理所当然的 that we should build new roads. (take...for granted)
- These meals can be prepared in advance, and served _____ 在您方便的时候. (at one's convenience)
- Even if too old to work much, _____ 但这位退休工人对街道事务非常热心. (enthusiastic)
- _____ 汤姆想充分利用 the English clubs. (take advantage of)

5. Babies soon begin to _____ 对他们周围的世界感兴趣. (take an interest in)

Reading 3

Pre-reading Questions

1. Do you think people should stop learning after getting a job?
2. How do you understand the proverb "It's never too old to learn"? Share your opinion with your partner.

Rose

On the first day of school our professor introduced himself and challenged us to get to know someone we had not met before. I stood up and looked around when a gentle hand touched my shoulder.

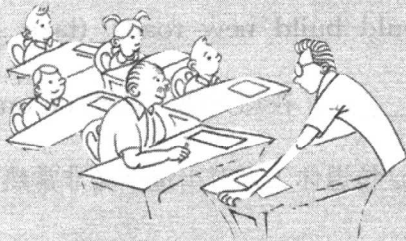
I turned around to find a wrinkled, little old lady looking at me whose smile lit up her entire being. She said, "Hi, handsome. My name is Rose. I'm eighty-seven years old. Can I give you a hug?" I laughed and enthusiastically responded, "Of course you can!" and she gave me a giant squeeze. "Why are you in college at such a young, innocent age?" I asked. She jokingly replied, "I'm here to meet a rich husband, get married, have a couple of children, and then retire and travel." "Not seriously," I asked. I was curious what had motivated her to be taking on this challenge at her age. "I always wanted to have a college education and now I'm getting one!" she told me.



After class we walked to the student union building and shared a chocolate milkshake. We became instant friends. Every day for the next three months we would leave class together and talk nonstop. I was always absorbed in listening to this "time machine" as she shared her wisdom and experience with me.

Over the course of the year, Rose became a campus icon and she easily made friends wherever she went. She loved to dress up and she reveled in the attention bestowed upon her from the other students. She was living it up.

At the end of the semester we invited Rose to speak at our football banquet. I will never forget what she taught us. She was introduced and stepped up to the platform. As she began to deliver her prepared speech, she dropped her cards on the floor. Frustrated and a little embarrassed, she leaned into the microphone and simply said, "I'm sorry I'm so nervous. I'll never get my speech back in order, so let me just tell you what I know." As we laughed she cleared her throat and began, "We do not stop playing because we are old; we grow old because we stop playing. There are only four secrets to staying young, being happy and achieving success." "You have to laugh and find humor every day." "You've got to have a dream. When you lose your dreams, you die. We have so many people walking around who are dead and don't even know it!" "There is a huge difference between growing older and growing up. If you are nineteen years old and lie in bed for one full year and don't do one productive thing, you will turn twenty years old. If I am eighty-seven years old and stay in bed for a year and never do anything I will turn eighty-eight. Anybody can grow older. That doesn't take



any talent or ability. The idea is to grow up by always finding the opportunity in change." "Have no regrets. The elderly usually don't have regrets for what we did, but rather for things we did not do. The only people who fear death are those with regrets." She concluded her speech by courageously singing "The Rose." She challenged each of us to study the lyrics and live them out in our daily lives.

At the end of the years, Rose finished the college degree she had begun all those years ago. One week after graduation Rose died peacefully in her sleep. Over two thousand college students attended her funeral in tribute to the wonderful woman who taught by example that it is never too late to be all you can possibly be.

Remember, life is 10% what happens to you and 90% how you react to it.

(626 words)

Comprehension Questions



Multiple Choices

Choose the best answer from the four choices given below according to the passage.

1. What is the main idea of this passage?
 - A. Art is long, and life is short.
 - B. It is not easy for old people to learn new things.
 - C. It is never too late to do what you want.
 - D. Genius is ten percent inspiration and ninety percent perspiration.
2. The reason why the old woman entered the college is that _____.
 - A. she wanted to meet a rich husband
 - B. she had dreamed of college education
 - C. she wanted to attract others' attention
 - D. she did not want to grow old
3. How well did Rose get along with others in the university?
 - A. Very badly because of the generation gap.
 - B. Very well because she enjoyed staying with young people.
 - C. Just so-so because she only made one or two friends.
 - D. Very badly because she only paid attention to her lessons.
4. The old woman dropped _____ on the floor when she began to give her speech.
 - A. her playing cards
 - B. greeting cards from her schoolmates
 - C. her speech cards
 - D. her name cards
5. In this passage, "Rose" is _____.
 - A. the name of an old woman
 - B. the song that the old woman taught us

- C. the flower which the old woman always wore
D. Both A and B
6. Which of the following is NOT a secret to staying young, being happy and achieving success mentioned by the old woman?
A. You have to laugh and find humor every day.
B. You must have a dream.
C. You must be an example of others.
D. You should have no regrets.
7. What dream did not come true when the old lady died?
A. She regretted she could not learn more knowledge.
B. She regretted she could not share her life experience with more students.
C. She regretted she could not put what she had learned into reality.
D. She had no regrets.
8. Which of the following statements is true?
A. If you have no regrets, you will not fear death.
B. Young people who do not have a college education will regret when getting old.
C. Growing up means growing old.
D. You will never grow old if you work hard.

B Word Replacement

Replace the italicized parts in the following sentences with words or expressions from the appropriate paragraph. Change the word form where necessary.

- Be careful. The forest is full of *very big* snakes and spiders. (Para. 2)
- I don't know what *drives* people to commit such crimes. (Para. 2)
- Their garden was *brightened* by dozens of colored lamps. (Para. 2)
- He has a lot of *abilities*, and his work is fresh and interesting. (Para. 5)
- He gets *upset* when people don't understand what he's trying to say. (Para. 5)
- Tony spilled red wine all over the Smiths' carpet. He was so *nervous*! (Para. 5)

C Chart Completion

Scan the passage and complete the following information.

Events	Time
1. The writer met the old woman	
2. We had a chocolate milkshake together	
3. The old woman became famous on the campus	
4. The old woman made a speech to us	
5. The old woman died	

Extended Activities

You are about to interview a classmate who has worked for several years before entering the university.

- Step 1. Work in pairs or small groups and brainstorm some questions which will help you get a thorough understanding of him/her.
- Step 2. Write the questions down in a logical order, so they can scale from the easiest to the most challenging ones.
- Step 3. Role-play the interview.

Reading 4

Pre-reading Questions

1. How would you break the ice when you meet a stranger?
2. Can you list some remarks of icebreaking in different situations you can think of?

How to Start a Conversation with Someone

Breaking the ice and starting to talk to someone can be very difficult. Someone you have never spoken to before can seem big and scary. Here are some ways of getting people talking that I have figured out.

Be polite

If you want people to like you and want to get to know you, politeness helps a lot. I am not saying you should always flatter them, but treat them with respect. There is a trend for being rude these days that comes from the movies and TV. It is fun to watch, but that is not how the real world works. When Clint Eastwood is rude and nasty, it is fascinating — when you are rude or nasty, you are just someone who is not worth having anything to do with. Everyone knows what you are supposed to do: to be polite — put it into practice and you will go far with making new friends.

If it is someone you have seen before, say “hello”

It is amazing how many people will be in the same office, same school or on the same bus for years and never speak. Simply say “hi” to a person you see regularly and you will move from being a stranger towards being a friend.

Practice shy confidence

While shyness and confidence are obviously opposites, you can combine them in opening conversation to great effect. Be confident in forcing yourself to speak to other people, but be shy as in letting them know that you respect them enough to worry about their reply. Most people will either try to surprise the other person with their confidence, or never speak to them in the first place.

The trick is to combine the two approaches. Simply speaking up with a “How are you?” will break the ice. Then continue with shy, respectful conversation. Most people are not mean enough to reject a politely shy approach.

Ask questions

This is an old technique, but it works well. Since you do not know the person very well, you do not want to pry into anything too personal to begin with. Just keep it friendly and respectful, do not go into the interrogation mode. Look for something about them to ask which is likely to receive more



than just a yes or no answer — “I like your watch, where did you get it?”, “Are you guys busy up there at the moment?”, “Do you work in the city?”, “Did you watch the tennis match last night?”.

What you are really looking for is something you have in common that you can begin a conversation from. Here is an example of a man starting a conversation with a woman. They work for different companies in the same building.

Frank: Hi, there, how's it going?

Mary: Fine, thanks.

Frank: Your team seems pretty busy these days. I've seen you all rushing around like ants.

Mary: Yeah, we've got the auditors in at the moment.

Frank: Oh, I think they're coming our way next. They're being difficult, aren't they?

Mary: You wouldn't believe it. I've been here until eight every night this week.

Frank: That's no good. Any advice for getting ready for them?

Do not worry too much if someone is not immediately friendly back to you

Everyone gets nervous when talking to someone they do not know very well. Sometimes we react badly even if we do not mean to. If someone is a bit blunt with you, acts strangely, or seems disinterested the first couple of times you speak to them, do not worry too much. They are probably just nervous and need to get used to the idea that you are just being friendly. Give them a bit of space and time to think it over and often they will come around. You will be surprised how often such people soon earn respect for you when you continue being friendly with them.



Realize that not everyone is interested in being your friend

Some people are never going to be your friend no matter how hard you try. That is just their loss. They are probably like that with almost everyone anyway, so do not take it personally. If someone is continually rude to you when you are trying to be nice, just shrug your shoulders and move on. While it may be tempting to get revenge, it often is not even worth doing so. Rude people usually do not get ahead in their personal relationships. Their nastiness is probably much more damaging to them than it will ever be to you.

(768 words)

Notes

Clint Eastwood: American motion-picture actor who is regarded as one of the most popular Hollywood stars in the 1970s and a respected director-producer. 克林特·伊斯特伍德

Comprehension Questions



Yes, No or Not Given Statements

Read the following statements and decide if they agree with the information given in the passage. Mark Y (for Yes) if it agrees; N (for No) if it contradicts the information or NG (for Not Given) if the information is not given in the passage.

_____ 1. Some rude words used by movie stars will not influence old people.

- _____ 2. Many people may be in the same building or in the same school for years without saying anything to each other.
- _____ 3. You should be neither too confident nor too shy if you want to get to know others.
- _____ 4. You'd better start to ask some personal questions to show your friendliness.
- _____ 5. If someone shows little interest in talking with you, it does not necessarily mean that they do not want to make friends with you.
- _____ 6. If you try every means to be friendly to someone, he/she will be your friend sooner or later.



Communicative Questions

Decide whether the following questions are appropriate (√) or not (×) when you are talking with someone you are not familiar with.

- () 1. Lovely weather, isn't it?
- () 2. I'm married and have two children. What about you?
- () 3. What a beautiful wedding dress! Where did you get it?
- () 4. Christmas is coming. I'm going to buy some presents for my friends. How would you spend the holiday?
- () 5. I got a pay rise last week. By the way, how much do you earn per month?
- () 6. Are you going to Singapore on vacation or on business?
- () 7. How long have you been a football fan?
- () 8. The new semester begins, would you like to join some of the clubs?



Sentence Completion

Complete the following sentences with the information given in the passage. The first letter of each word has been given.

1. When you start a conversation with others, you need to be p_____. Because p_____ shows that you will treat them with respect.
2. If you meet a young man in the same school several times, you can just go over and say h_____ to him, and from then on, you may possibly begin to know each other better.
3. Don't start a conversation with something too p_____, but something that you have in c_____ so that you can continue the talk smoothly.
4. You do not need to worry too much if someone is not f_____ back to you at once.
5. Don't try to seek r_____ if someone is always rude to you, because you need to know that not everyone is i_____ in being your friend.

Extended Activities

Suppose you are invited to a Welcome Party for New International Students.

Refer to the poster on the right and follow the steps.

- Step 1. Introduce yourself and get acquainted with the newcomers.
- Step 2. Introduce the newcomers to your friends.
- Step 3. Find out the interests that you have in common.
- Step 4. Practice it with your classmates.