

高级

英语阅读

READING SKILLS FOR CAREER SUCCESS

技能

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研究生英语语言技能系列教程

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序 言

《研究生英语语言技能系列教程》是以教育部颁布的《非英语专业研究生英语教学大纲》为依据,在针对研究生的语言需求、研究当代最新英语语言理论和总结国内外语言教学以及教材编写经验的基础上编写的。

研究生学习英语多年,已有了一定的基础。但来源多门,层次繁多;多数来于工作岗位,英语荒疏多年,水平参差不齐;还因师出各门,受各种教材、教法的影响,他们通常只注重记、背,不注重运用,甚至不用,因而语言运用能力差。本系列教程的编写指导思想是培养良好的语言学习习惯,揭示语言习得规律,教授外语运用技能,在运用外语中学习外语,全面提高外语运用能力。因此,教程提供的不仅是 fish,更重要的是 fishing。

此系列教程有如下特点:

培养良好的语言学习习惯。研究生过去学习外语,通常抓生词、习语,背语法条条,在词、句上下工夫。在阅读中,词、句均清楚,整篇主题却不明;口语中,主、谓、宾在脑中排列整齐,但出口张口结舌,甚至不能开口;听力中,逐词逐句地听,句中一词没听到,就不知整句所云等等。他们只在“林”中穿行,养成了“只见树木不见林”的不良习惯。本教程一改传统做法,引导学生从“林”走出,让他们站高、看远,不仅见“树”还要见“林”。

注重运用。语言是交际工具,非英语专业研究生掌握英语的最终目的是获取信息,交流信息,是用英语做事,而不是学习、学习、再学习。因而在教材编写中充分体现语言必须在运用语言中习得,集中地体现让学生学习一个语言项目就运用一个语言项目,最终提高整体运用水平的原则。

教授语言技能。教程力图揭示语言习得规律,教授语言运用技能,即抓主旨、识细节,领悟隐含意义,养成预测、推绎习惯,熟习篇章体裁结构等常用技能,使学生在技能的指导下用得得、用得得体。

本系列教程由《高级英语阅读技能》,《高级英语写作技能》,《高级英语听力技能》和《高级英语口语教程》组成。各教材均以语言技能为主线,提供体裁广泛、语言现代、编写形式活泼的内容,以达到逐步掌握各项语言技能的目的。本系列教程可供非英语专业硕士研究生和博士研究生使用,还可供相当于硕士和本科英语 6 级及以上水平的英语自学者使用。

《高级英语阅读技能》共有十六章、三个单元。每章分词汇技能、阅读技能、问题研究三大部分。在第一章编有阅读预考试题(Pre-test),在第十六章编有期考阅读试题(Post-test),以检验学习效果。书尾附有构词法词例。本书提供足量的练习段落和范文,以逐步掌握各个语言技能,如快速阅读、抓主题(Topic)、识细节(Details)、词汇处理等;技能阐述简明实用,例段典型,数量适当;技能指导与阅读练习相结合,段落阅读与篇章阅读相辅相成,在段落阅读上下功夫,每个单元将段落阅读升华为篇章阅读。内容广泛,

语言真实。选用的近 200 篇短文和 9 篇范文均选自英美最新原版书籍，真实地体现了各种阅读文体和各个知识领域，以扩大词汇量，增强语言实力，了解文化背景知识，因此具有信息量大的特点。

《高级英语阅读技能》在编写过程中得到许多同行的大力支持和协助，陈汉芳、张宏清等同志对本书的修改提出了许多宝贵意见。杜飞翔、何亚萍等同志对本书的选材、输入、编排做了大量工作，在此一并致谢。尤其要感谢的还有湖北科学技术出版社的冯友仁同志，在本书编辑成书过程中做了大量细致的建设性工作。

本系列教材的作者怀着对研究生外语教育的一片热忱，群策群力，通力合作，为研究生英语教材的编写作了一点有益的尝试，但由于编者水平有限，经验不足，思路难免以偏概全，语言的缺点也再所难免。我们诚挚地欢迎广大师生和读者提出批评和建议，以便使这套系列教材在今后的修改中不断得到改进和完善。

何业华

2003 年 6 月于武汉

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Unit 1 WORD-FORMATION AND FASTER READING

Chapter 1

I. Reading pre-test

READING PRE-TEST

VOCABULARY AND READING

Time – 45 minutes

60 questions

This section is designed to measure your comprehension of standard written English. There are two types of question in this section, with special directions for each type.

Part A

Directions: *In questions 1 – 30 each sentence has an underlined word or phrase. Below each sentence are four other words or phrases, marked (A), (B), (C), and (D). You are to choose the one word or phrase that best keeps the meaning of the original sentence if it is substituted for the underlined word or phrase. Then, on your answer sheet, find the number of the question and fill in the space that corresponds to the letter you have chosen. Fill in the space so that the letter inside the oval cannot be seen.*

Example:

Both boats and trains are used for transporting the materials.

- (A) planes
- (B) ships
- (C) canoes
- (D) railroads

The best answer is (B) because “Both ships and trains are used for transporting the materials” is closest in meaning to the original sentence. Therefore, you should choose answer (B).

After you read the directions, begin work on the questions.

1. The house by the sea had a mysterious air of serenity about it.
(A) melancholy (C) sadness
(B) joy (D) calmness
2. The speaker emphasized the need for cooperation in the project that we were about to undertake.
(A) accentuated (C) discussed
(B) downplayed (D) displayed
3. The Bunker Hill Monument was erected on Breed's Hill in remembrance of one of the first battles of the American Revolution.
(A) memory (C) construction
(B) reverence (D) suppression
4. The use of mechanical refrigerators became widespread in the United States in the 1920's.
(A) well known (C) misinterpreted
(B) commonplace (D) chilled
5. Radar guns are used by police in many parts of the United States to enforce speed laws.
(A) expose (C) shove
(B) uphold (D) deregulate
6. Christopher Columbus was the first person to navigate under the patronage of Queen Isabella of Spain.
(A) explore (C) work
(B) sail (D) circumvent
7. The sun's intense rays distorted the image on the horizon.
(A) reflected (C) melted
(B) altered (D) disrupted
8. A new government department was established to control maritime traffic.
(A) sea (C) highway
(B) military (D) air
9. His company empowered him to negotiate the contract.
(A) helped (C) authorized
(B) forbade (D) ordered

10. His involuntary reflexes betrayed his feelings.
(A) automatic (C) unnecessary
(B) unbelievable (D) unreasonable
11. The principal congratulated the student on his outstanding display of leadership.
(A) alluded (C) praised
(B) scolded (D) contacted
12. A middle-aged woman of tremendous girth sat down beside the other patients in the waiting room.
(A) prestige (C) eloquence
(B) rotundity (D) mirth
13. Numbing terror filled their brains as they witnessed the explosions.
(A) torpid (C) paralyzing
(B) tantalizing (D) sentient
14. The atmosphere in the police chief's office was electric with contention.
(A) discord (C) weeping
(B) rejoicing (D) curiosity
15. Penny's impromptu speech given at the state competition won her the first prize.
(A) interesting (C) extemporaneous
(B) informative (D) expressive
16. The slender boy scaled the wall like a lizard.
(A) balanced (C) plastered
(B) crawled (D) climbed
17. The salon was the most elegant room Madeline had ever seen, despite its austerity.
(A) flexibility (C) decoration
(B) design (D) simplicity
18. The Royal Museum contains a facsimile of the king's famous declaration.
(A) copy (C) record
(B) showcase (D) new edition
19. The raccoon is a nocturnal animal.
(A) harmless (C) marsupial
(B) night (D) diurnal
20. The author wrote with great clarity, not missing a single detail.

- (A) genius (C) clearness
(B) cleverness (D) extensiveness
21. Double agents live in a perpetual state of fear.
(A) perfect (C) ceasing
(B) constant (D) perpetrated
22. A railroad company cannot make a decision to discontinue passenger service along a particular line without permission from the Interstate Commerce Commission.
(A) specific (C) part of a
(B) low income (D) peculiar
23. After receiving the insulting letter, Ron became furiously.
(A) ghastly (C) fulgent
(B) resentful (D) irate
24. Her childhood poverty caused Lucy to be very thrifty as she grew older.
(A) practicality (C) wealth
(B) indigence (D) shyness
25. If the crops are not irrigated soon, the harvest will be sparse.
(A) watered (C) planted
(B) plowed (D) fertilized
26. While in Europe on vacation, the twins roamed the countryside on their bikes.
(A) rounded (C) wandered
(B) rocked (D) rustled
27. The coroner was able to extract a minute particle of cloth from under the victim's fingernail.
(A) infinitesimal (C) large
(B) significant (D) short
28. Let's suppose that we are floating in a cool pool on a hot summer's day.
(A) imagine (C) succumb
(B) imply (D) suggest
29. The students' records were not readily accessible for their perusal.
(A) offered (C) acceptable
(B) available (D) accountable
30. Scientists say that brown genes are dominant and blue ones are recessive.

- (A) controlling
- (B) docile

- (C) dormant
- (D) doleful

Part B

Directions: *In the rest of this section you will read several passages. Each one is followed by several questions about it. For questions 31 – 60, you are to choose the one best answer, (A), (B), (C), or (D), to each question. Then, on your answer sheet, find the number of the question and fill in the space that corresponds to the letter of the answer you have chosen.*

Answer all questions following a passage on the basis of what is *stated* or *implied* in that passage.

Read the following passage:

John Quincy Adams, who served as the sixth president of the United States from 1825 to 1829, is today recognized for his masterful statesmanship and diplomacy. He dedicated his life to public service, both in the presidency and in the various other political offices he held. Throughout his political career he demonstrated his unswerving belief in freedom of speech, the anti-slavery cause, and the right of Americans to be free from European and Asian domination.

Example I

To what did John Quincy Adams devote his life?

- (A) Improving his personal life
- (B) Serving the public
- (C) Increasing his fortune
- (D) Working on his private business

According to the passage, John Quincy Adams “dedicated his life to public service.” Therefore, you should choose answer(B).

Example II

The passage implies that John Quincy Adams held

- (A) no political offices
- (B) only one political office
- (C) exactly two political offices
- (D) at least three political offices

The passage states that John Quincy Adams served in "the presidency and various other political offices." Therefore, you should choose answer (D).

After you read the directions, begin work on the questions.

Questions 31 through 34 are based on the following reading.

Why would anyone want to set aside a day to honor a lowly little groundhog? The answer to that question is not certain, but a group of people get together every February 2 in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, to watch Punxsutawney "Pete" leave his burrow. What "Pete" does next, many believe, will indicate whether spring is just around the corner or a long way off. You see, in Pennsylvania on this date there is usually a great deal of snow on the ground, and the little animal has been hibernating during the long, cold winter. He gorged himself during the autumn months and then went into his burrow for a long sleep, his body fat helping keep him alive. But as he emerges on February 2, he looks very thin. If the sun is shining brightly and he sees his shadow, according to legend, it scares him back into his home where he will stay another six weeks. Should it be cloudy and gray, the little animal will supposedly wander around for food — a sure sign that spring is near. While many believe in the groundhog's predictions, it is unwise to accept them as factual.

31. According to this reading, why do people gather every year to observe the groundhog?

- (A) He's cute and playful, and children love to watch him.
- (B) He's looking for food and the people want to help him find it in the snow.
- (C) Many people believe him to be a harbinger of spring.
- (D) The people want to be sure he is alive after such a long winter.

32. How does the groundhog manage to stay alive during the long winter?

- (A) People set out food for him.
- (B) His stored body fat sustains him.
- (C) He wakes up on nice days and hunts for food.
- (D) It is a mystery as yet unsolved.

33. Which of the following is not true?

- (A) Animals have a certain instinct which helps them predict the seasons.
- (B) According to the legend, the groundhog leaves his burrow on February 2.
- (C) Groups of people in Pennsylvania wait for the groundhog's predictions.
- (D) After his long period of hibernation, the groundhog looks very thin.

34. What prediction does the groundhog supposedly make?

- (A) If he sees his shadow, it will soon be spring.

- (B) If he sees his shadow, spring will not arrive for another six weeks.
- (C) If he does not see his shadow, spring will arrive in six weeks.
- (D) If he does not see his shadow, all the snow will disappear immediately.

Questions 35 through 38 are based on the following reading.

The First Amendment to the American Constitution declares freedom of the press to all men. Although this right was not officially adopted until 1791, the famous Zenger trial of 1735 laid the groundwork for insuring this precious freedom.

John Peter Zenger emigrated as a teenager from Germany. In 1733 he began publishing the New York Weekly Journal. The following year, he was arrested for writing a story about the crown-appointed governor of New York. While he was imprisoned for nine months, Zenger's wife dutifully published the newspaper every day, bravely telling the truth about the corrupt government officials sent by the king to govern the colonies.

Finally Zenger's long-awaited trial took place. The hostile judge dismissed Zenger's local lawyers, making it necessary for his wife to seek out Andrew Hamilton, a prominent Philadelphia lawyer. Persuaded by Hamilton, the jury bravely returned a not-guilty verdict defying the judge's orders for a conviction.

As a result of determination and bravery on the part of the colonists, a lasting victory for freedom of the press was set by a young immigrant.

35. John Peter Zenger was a
- (A) corrupt governor of New York
 - (B) famous lawyer
 - (C) brave newspaper publisher
 - (D) hostile judge
36. What political problem existed in the colonies at that time?
- (A) Government officials were corrupt.
 - (B) Newspapers exaggerated the truth about the political officials.
 - (C) Lawyers were hostile to witnesses.
 - (D) All newspaper publishers were imprisoned.
37. How long did it take after the Zenger trial before the concept of freedom of the press was officially adopted?
- (A) 9 months (B) 1 year (C) 56 years (D) 58 years
38. Which of the following is not true?
- (A) Despite Zenger's imprisonment, his newspaper continued to be published.
 - (B) Andrew Hamilton encouraged the jury to fight for freedom.
 - (C) The jury obeyed the judge's orders and convicted Zenger.

(D) The king controlled the colonies through his own appointed rulers.

Questions 39 through 41 are based on the following reading.

When buying a house, you must be sure to have it checked for termites. A termite is much like an ant in its communal habits, although physically the two insects are distinct.

Like those of ants, termite colonies consist of different classes, each with its own particular job. The most perfectly formed termites, both male and female, make up the reproductive class. They have eyes, hard body walls, and fully developed wings. A pair of reproductive termites founds the colony. When new reproductive termites develop, they leave to form another colony. They use their wings only this one time and then break them off.

The worker termites are small, blind, and wingless, with soft bodies. They make up the majority of the colony and do all the work. Soldiers are also wingless and blind but are larger than the workers and have hard heads and strong jaws and legs. They defend the colony and are cared for by the workers.

The male and female of the reproductive class remain inside a closed-in cell where the female lays thousands of eggs. The workers place the eggs in cells and care for them.

39. How are termites like ants?

- (A) They live in communities, and each class has a specific duty.
- (B) They bodies are the same shape.
- (C) The king and queen are imprisoned.
- (D) The females' reproductive capacities are the same.

40. Which of the following is not true?

- (A) All termites have eyes.
- (B) Some termites cannot fly.
- (C) Workers are smaller than soldiers.
- (D) Termites do not fly often.

41. Which of the following statements is probably true?

- (A) Thousands of termites may move together to develop a new colony.
- (B) The male and female reproductives do not venture outdoors except to form a new colony.
- (C) There are more soldiers than workers.
- (D) A worker could easily kill a soldier.

Questions 42 through 46 are based on the following reading.

In recent years, there has been an increasing awareness of the inadequacies of the judicial system in the United States. Costs are staggering both for the taxpayers and the litigants – and the litigants, or parties, have to wait sometimes many years before having their day in court. Many suggestions have been made concerning methods of ameliorating the situation, but as in most branches of government, changes come slowly.

One suggestion that has been made in order to maximize the efficiency of the system is to allow districts that have an overabundance of pending cases to borrow judges from other districts that do not have such a backlog. Another suggestion is to use pretrial conferences, in which the judge meets in his chambers with the litigants and their attorneys in order to narrow the issues, limit the witnesses, and provide for a more orderly trial. The theory behind pretrial conferences is that judges will spend less time on each case and parties will more readily settle before trial when they realize the adequacy of their claims and their opponents' evidence. Unfortunately, at least one study has shown that pretrial conferences actually use more judicial time than they save, rarely result in pretrial settlements, and actually result in higher damage settlements.

Many states have now established another method, small-claims courts, in which cases over small sums of money can be disposed of with considerable dispatch. Such proceedings cost the litigants almost nothing. In California, for example, the parties must appear before the judge without the assistance of counsel. The proceedings are quite informal and there is no pleading – the litigants need to make only a one-sentence statement of their claim. By going to this type of court, the plaintiff waives any right to a jury trial and the right to appeal the decision.

In coming years, we can expect to see more and more innovations in the continuing effort to remedy a situation which must be remedied if the citizens who have valid claims are going to be able to have their day in court.

42. The pretrial conference, in theory, is supposed to do all of the following except

-
- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (A) narrow the issues | (C) save judicial time |
| (B) cause early settlements | (D) increase settlement costs |

43. What is the main topic of the passage?

- (A) All states should follow California's example in using small-claims courts in order to free judges for other work.
- (B) The legislature needs to formulate fewer laws so that the judiciary can catch up on its older cases.
- (C) Nobody seems to care enough to attempt to find methods for making the judicial system more efficient.
- (D) While there are many problems with the court system, there are viable suggestions for improvement.

44. The word litigants means most nearly
(A) jury members (C) parties in a lawsuit
(B) commentators (D) taxpayers
45. Which of the following is true about small-claims courts?
(A) It is possible to have one's case heard by a jury if he or she is dissatisfied with the court's decision.
(B) The litigants must plead accurately and according to a strict form.
(C) The decision may not be appealed to a higher court.
(D) The parties may not present their cases without an attorney's help.
46. What can we assume from the passage?
(A) Most people who feel they have been wronged have a ready remedy in courts of law.
(B) Many people would like to bring a case to court, but are unable to because of the cost and time required.
(C) The judicial system in the United States is highly acclaimed for its efficiency.
(D) Pretrial conferences will someday probably have replaced trials completely.

Questions 47 through 50 are based on the following reading.

In 1971, the great Persian Empire celebrated the 2500th anniversary of its founding. Its founder was Cyrus the Great, who proclaimed himself the King of Kings. His son Cambyses succeeded him, conquering Egypt and expanding the empire. Darius I followed Cambyses and was probably the most famous of this long line of kings. Under his rule, the empire stretched as far as India. Governors were placed in charge of the provinces. Extensive systems of roads and waterways improved communication throughout the realm. He was one of a few ancient rulers who permitted his subjects to worship as they wished. The magnificent city of Persepolis, founded under his direction in 518 B. C., was a ceremonial center then as well as in the 1970's.

47. Who is considered the founder of the Persian Empire?
(A) Persepolis (C) Cyrus
(B) Darius (D) Cambyses
48. In what year was the Persian Empire founded?
(A) 2500 B. C. (C) 518 B. C.
(B) 529 B. C. (D) 971 A. D.
49. Who was the predecessor of Cambyses?
(A) Egypt (C) Persepolis
(B) Darius I (D) Cyrus