



全国高等教育自学考试

综合英语 (一) 下册 自学辅导

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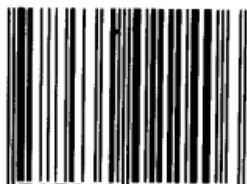


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自学辅导

A Comprehensive Course in English

User's Guide

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出版前言

为了完善高等教育自学考试教育形式，促进高等教育自学考试的发展，我们组织编写了全国高等教育自学考试自学辅导书。

自学辅导书以全国考委公布的课程自学考试大纲为依据，以全国统编自考教材为蓝本，旨在帮助自学者达到学习目标，顺利通过国家考试。

自学辅导书是高等教育自学考试教育媒体的重要组成部分，我们将根据专业的开考情况和考生的实际需要，陆续组织编写、出版文字、音像等多种自学媒体，由此构成与大纲、教材相配套的、完整的自学媒体系统。

全国高等教育自学考试指导委员会

1999 年 10 月

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Lesson One

The Story of an Hour

Kate Chopin

Outline of the Text

1. Louise Mallard heard the news of her husband's death and broke into tears. (Paras. 1 – 6)
2. When Louise Mallard was alone in her room, a feeling of freedom seized her. (Paras. 7 – 11)
3. Louise Mallard came to look at her marriage in a new way. (Paras. 12 – 14)
 - 1) Her husband loved her and was kind.
 - 2) He had always told her what she should do.
 - 3) She had been living for him.
4. Louise Mallard thought freedom is better than love and welcomed her freedom with joy and hope. (Paras. 15 – 21)
5. Louise Mallard died of heart failure when she saw her husband return home safe and sound. (Paras. 22 – 24)

Detailed Study of the Text

1. They knew that Louise Mallard had a weak heart.

Who are they? They are Josephine, Louise's sister, and Richards, Brently's friend.

2. So they broke the bad news gently.

So they told her the bad news kindly and carefully.
break the news; to tell the news

3. Brently's name was on the list.

What list? The police wrote down the names of those who had

been killed in the accident. They made a list of the names.

4. She could not close her mind or her heart to the news.

She could not receive the news without any feelings.

5. Like a sudden storm, her tears broke out.

Suddenly, she began to cry.

6. Then, just as suddenly, the tears stopped.

Then, as suddenly as she began to cry, she just suddenly stopped crying.

7. She was physically exhausted after her tears. Her body felt cold; her mind and heart were empty.

She was very tired after crying so much; her body was cold; she could not feel anything, and she was not thinking, for at the moment she did not know what life would be like without her husband. He had arranged everything for her.

8. Blue sky showed between the clouds.

Between the clouds, you could see the blue sky.

9. But now there was a dull stare in her eyes.

But at the moment, her eyes showed no expression. From her eyes, you could see that she was tired, and that she was not thinking.

dull 常用来形容 expression、look 等词,表示“麻木的”。

10. It was too subtle to name.

It was a feeling she had. But she couldn't say exactly what the feeling was.

subtle: not easy to notice or understand

There are only subtle differences between the two designs.
两个设计方案只有不易察觉的不同之处。

I noticed something subtle in his speech.

我听出他的讲话中有一些微妙的东西。

There is a subtle smell of perfume in the air.

空气中有一缕香水的气味。

11. But she felt it creeping out of the sky.

creep: to move in a quiet, careful way, not to attract attention

The boy crept out of the hall before dawn.

天亮之前,那个男孩悄悄溜出了大厅。

He crept up the stairs and quietly went into his bedroom.

他悄悄爬上楼梯,进了他的卧室。

12. It was reaching her through the sound, the smell, the color that filled the air.

The feeling was all around her, coming from the sound, the smell and the colour that was surrounding her.

reach: to arrive after some efforts

We reached Athens after an eight-hour drive.

我们开车八个小时才到达雅典。

Your letter reached me last week.

我上个星期接到了你的信。

She reached the end of that thick book.

她终于读完那本厚厚的书了。

13. She did not ask if her joy was wrong.

She had just lost her husband and was not supposed to be joyful. But she didn't care whether it was right or wrong to feel glad at this moment. And now she did not even try to beat this feeling back.

14. She...could not stop to think of smaller things.

For the moment, the feeling of freedom was the most important thing for her, and anything else was less important and not worth thinking of.

15. There would be no powerful will bending hers.

bend one's will: to force sb.

He was angry at his father for trying to bend his will.

他对父亲迫使他屈从感到很气愤。

16. No, she was drinking in life through that open window.

She was feeling completely alive, enjoying the smell of fresh air, the singing of birds, the sight of trees, the sky, and experiencing the feeling of freedom.

17. She thought joyfully of all those days before her.

before: ahead of

Let's discuss the tasks before us.

讨论一下我们面临的任务吧。

The accident took place before her eyes.

事故就发生在她的眼前。

He gave an excellent lecture before a roomful of students.

他给满教室的学生作了一次精彩的讲演。

18. He didn't understand why Richards moved suddenly between them, to hide Louise from her husband.

Richards thought that suddenly seeing her husband alive would be too great a shock for Louise. He knew she had a weak heart and wanted to protect her.

19. But Richards was too late.

Too late for what? He was not quick enough to hide Louise from her husband. She saw her husband.

20. ...they said she had died of heart disease—of joy that kills.

The doctors all thought that she had had a heart attack because she was so happy to see that her husband wasn't dead. But actually, she died of deep disappointment because she had been so happy and relieved to think that he was dead and that she was free of his control.

die of joy that kills: to die of joy because the person is so happy that his/her heart cannot stand it

Key

Oral Work

1. Answer the questions on the text.

- 1) What news did Richards bring to Louise? Who told the news?

Her husband Brently was dead.

Louise's sister Josephine did.

- 2) How did Josephine break the news? Why?

She spoke gently in broken sentences because she knew her sister had a weak heart.

She was afraid that the news would be too much for her heart.

- 3) How did Louise take the news?

She burst into tears.

- 4) What did she do when she was alone in her room?

She looked out of the window. She sat there for some time, not thinking, not seeing. She was waiting for something.

- 5) What feeling suddenly began to seize her? Why did she try to beat it back? What little word broke from her lips? How did her look change when she said the word several times?

A feeling of joy suddenly seized her.

She did that probably because she felt guilty to feel happy at her husband's death.

The word "free".

The dull stare and look of fear went from her eyes and they became keen and bright.

- 6) What do you learn from the text about the Mallards' marriage? Was their marriage a happy one? How do you know? What was wrong with Brently Mallard?

It was not a very happy one.

We learn about it from Louise' feelings toward the death of her husband. (Though she hadn't been conscious of these feelings before.)

He didn't give his wife enough freedom. He completely controlled her, and had always told her what to do and what to think.

- 7) What did she look into now she felt body and soul free? Had she always wished to live a long life?

She looked into the future—the long years that would belong to her alone. That is, she would no longer live for her husband alone.

No, she hadn't. It was only the day before that she had thought life was too long.

- 8) How did Louise look when she walked out of her room? Why?

Her eyes were bright, and her cheeks were red. She looked well, strong and full of joy.

She was happy because she thought that from then on she would live a life of freedom, and for herself alone.

- 9) Brently wasn't killed in the train accident, was he? What did Richards try to do when he entered? Why?

No, he wasn't.

He tried to hide Louise from her husband.

He did this because he was afraid Louise would be so happy to see her husband alive that her weak heart wouldn't stand the joy.

- 10) What happened to Louise when she saw her husband? What was the cause of her heart failure according to the doctors?

She died suddenly.

The doctors said that she died of heart failure, which was

caused by great joy. They said that the joy of seeing her husband alive was too great for her weak heart.

- 11) What do you think caused her heart failure? Or, what kind of joy was it that killed Louise?

I think she died of shock. In the hour after hearing the news she had been feeling so happy and so free that she was not at all prepared for her husband's return. She didn't want to return to the life that she had come to hate so much. Her deep sorrow at the loss of freedom caused her heart failure.

We may also say that it was joy that killed her. But it wasn't the joy of seeing her husband alive, but the joy of being freed from her husband's control. If she hadn't experienced the joy of freedom, she wouldn't have been so sad when she realized she would lose her freedom again.

- 12) Louise now felt that freedom was stronger than love. Do you agree?

Yes, I do. I would say freedom is more precious than love. If someone loves you but does not give you freedom to do what you want, you won't be happy. In fact, part of the goodness of love is freedom, freedom to be oneself.

2. Suppose you are Josephine, tell what happened to Louise the day Richards brought the news.

My sister Louise was happily married. One day, Richards, my brother-in-law's friend, came with bad news. Louise's husband Brently had been killed in a train accident. I could hardly speak the words when I broke the news. Louise burst out crying in my arms. Then she went upstairs and locked herself in her room. She would not let anyone in. I waited at the door outside, begging her to come out. After a while she came out, looking

very well. We went downstairs where Richards was waiting. At that moment, someone opened the door, and it was Brently who had come home safe and sound. Louise suddenly collapsed. She had died of heart failure. The joy had been too great for her weak heart.

Written Work

Write a paragraph of about 100 words on this topic: What did Louise realize when she was alone in her room?

When she was alone in her room, Louise sat down in an arm-chair at the window and looked out. She saw a beautiful world outside. The air was fresh after a spring rain; the sky was blue; she heard birds singing. Suddenly she felt free, body and soul, as she realized that her marriage hadn't been really happy. It was true that her husband loved her, but he had completely controlled her life. Now that her husband was dead, there would be no one to tell her what to do, or not to do. She began to look forward to those days of freedom, and was filled with great joy. (109 words)

Vocabulary Exercises

1. Form words according to the following rules of word formation.

Add *-able* to the following words to form adjectives, making changes in the spelling wherever necessary.

move love read season suit prevent

Key:

movable lovable readable seasonable suitable preventable

2. Translate the following sentences into English.

1) Use words or expressions from the text.

(1) 我不知道该这样告诉他这个消息。

- (2) 昨夜一家医院发生火灾,无人丧生。
- (3) 电影院离这儿并没有你想像的那么远。
- (4) 当他向我详细解释后,我开始意识到我错了。
- (5) 这栋房子归盖茨(Gates)家族所有已经一百多年了。
- (6) 这位足球明星脱离了以前的俱乐部并计划加入另外一个俱乐部。
- (7) 无票者一律不得入内。
- (8) 总统希望在未来的岁月里两国关系将得到改善。
- (9) 我们应该向前看,不要总是生活在过去。
- (10) 他死于心脏病的消息使大家非常吃惊。
- (11) 我正读着课文,老师让我停下来翻译两个句子。

Key:

- (1) I don't know how to *break the news* to him.
- (2) A fire *broke out* in a hospital last night, but no one was killed.
- (3) The cinema was not as *far away* from here as you think.
- (4) After he had explained it to me in detail, I *realized that* I was wrong.
- (5) The house *has belonged to* the Gates family for over 100 years.
- (6) The football star *broke away* from his club and planned to join another.
- (7) No one *would be let in* without a ticket.
- (8) The president hoped that the two countries would improve their relations in the *years to come*.
- (9) We should *look into the future* instead of always living in the past.
- (10) Everyone *was greatly surprised at* the news that he *had died of* heart disease.

- (11) I was reading the text when the teacher told me to *stop to translate* two sentences.

2) Use Verb Pattern 17.

- (1) 他感觉到梯子晃了一下。
- (2) 我看见约翰进了教室。
- (3) 我看见他把书拿走了。
- (4) 你听见我母亲下楼了吗?
- (5) 孩子们让我把故事又讲了一遍。

Key:

- (1) He felt the ladder shake.
- (2) I noticed / saw John enter the classroom.
- (3) I saw / noticed him take the book away.
- (4) Did you hear my mother go down the stairs?
- (5) The children made me repeat the story.

3. Complete the following sentences with the correct form of the verbs in the list below.

say tell talk speak

- 1) Would you stop _____, please? I can't hear a word of what the teacher _____.
- 2) At first, he could not _____ French, and she didn't know a word of English. They had to _____ in Chinese.
- 3) When his brother broke the news to him, he _____ nothing and would _____ to no one.
- 4) We _____ for an hour, but he _____ me nothing about his business plans.
- 5) He _____ for a long time, but none of us could catch what he _____ because he _____ too fast.
- 6) I can _____ you what he _____, but you will have to

work out what he meant.

- 7) I'd like to _____ a few words about myself first, and then go on to _____ about my trip to America.
- 8) After the meeting, the chairman _____ to me, "You _____ well, but I don't quite agree with what you _____ about the situation in Asia."
- 9) The father _____ angrily, "What I hate most is children _____ lies."
- 10) The dean _____ the new teacher that a good teacher should not do all the _____ in class.
- 11) I learned from what others _____ about him that he _____ five languages.

Key:

- 1) talking, is saying 2) speak, talk 3) said, speak 4) talked, told 5) spoke, said, spoke 6) tell, said 7) say, speak 8) said, spoke, said 9) said, telling 10) told, talking 11) said, spoke

4. Put in the correct words from the list below in the blanks.

sense considered prepare abroad ordered handed necessary foreign idea any space take

The younger members of most American families don't like (1) _____ food. They like hamburgers (汉堡包). Their (2) _____ of a good meal is a hamburger, served with ketchup (番茄酱) and French fried potatoes (炸薯条), which are called French fries. French fries are not (3) _____ foreign; most American children love to eat them (4) _____ time of the day or night.