

New English Course

新 English 英语教程

陈淑珺 王芳 主编



中国石化出版社

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前 言

《新英语教程》一书是供石油院校高等函授本科及专升本学生基础英语后期所用的英语教材。

本教材以培养学生的阅读能力、加快阅读速度、提高学生翻译英语资料的能力为主要目的,在石油大学成教学院函授部各位领导的大力支持下,经过石油大学外语系有多年函授英语教学经验的教师反复严格地选材,认真编写而成。

本教材共分 16 单元,32 篇文章,所选用的材料内容丰富,语言规范,具有时代性、知识性、趣味性和可思性。内容涉及计算机科学、石油科普、文化教育、网络经济、财会、管理、环保、医学和人物传记等等。每课课后编有阅读理解、词汇、完型填空和汉译英练习。

为了便于学生自学,文章后编有注释。书后附有练习答案和课文参考译文。为了提高学生的阅读速度和理解能力,我们还请了石油大学外语系王清亭教授撰写了“关于阅读方法和解题技巧”一文,以帮助学生有目的、有针对性地学习和练习,以尽快提高阅读能力。我们相信这本教材定会在石油院校高等函授本科英语教学中起到积极的作用。

在编写过程中我们得到了石油大学成教学院以及教材中心各级领导的大力支持与帮助,在此,对他们表示衷心的感谢。同时对所选用材料的原作者表示深深的谢意。

由于编写时间仓促,编者水平有限,书中难免有漏误之处,敬请专家和读者批评指正。

关于阅读方法和解题技巧

阅读的目的主要是为了获取信息。阅读理解试题主要是检查读者在限定的时间内正确理解文章内容,获取解题所需信息的能力。要想既快又透彻地理解文章,正确解题,读者应该掌握有效的阅读方法和解题技巧。

首先,谈谈阅读方法。阅读方法很多,但主要应掌握三种。一是速读。应试者一定要养成良好的阅读习惯,克服不良习惯的影响,如边读边用手指所读字句、读出声、头随行数移动等。这些不良习惯不仅影响了阅读速度,也影响了读者对文章的理解力。实践证明,速度越快,其理解水准越高。正确的阅读方法是全神贯注,思想集中,首手不动,唇息无声,一目数字,重在思维。二是浏览。浏览的目的在于了解文章大意。方法应是一目数行地通读全文。侧重点是领会文章的中心思想。大意好比纲,具体的单词、词组和细节好比目,纲举才能目张。就是说,理解了大意,许多其他问题就可以迎刃而解。应试者就能居高临下,控制全局,透过现象见实质。三是查阅。查阅的目的是快速寻找解题所需要的具体信息及选择答案的可靠依据。有效的方法是,确定所查信息范围,注意所查信息特点。如有关人名、地点,主要寻找词首字母大写的单词。有关日期、数字,一般用阿拉伯数字表示,一目了然。有关描写某事件,讨论某观点,需要查阅与之有关的关键词,与所查信息无关的词可一扫而过。

其次,谈谈解题思路 and 技巧。在做题时,应试者要特别注意下面八点。

1. 在阅读一篇文章时,首先要仔细阅读第一段。在第一段中要特别注意第一句话,因为你常常可以据此来预测全文将要讲述的内容是什么,这样就有助于你把握文章的整体。

2. 在阅读文章的每一段时,首先要着重读懂第一句话。因为它可能就是本段的主题句(topic sentence),于是便可确定该段的中心思想。

3. 阅读过程中如果遇到生词,不要怕。可以根据上下文的内容猜测,也可以根据所学的构词知识来分析。如果不影响答题,干脆跳过生词往下读。对生词千万不要望而生畏。猜词能力在阅读中是非常重要的。

4. 如果遇到不懂的语法结构,正确的解决办法是“联想”,即想想过去是否学过与此类似的语法现象;也可以“不想”,只根据句中各个词汇或短语的意思大致了解句子的内容,只要逻辑意义合理即可。这样就可以排除语法障碍对理解的干扰。如果是长难句,则要采取断句的方法,先把各个分句弄清楚,再作

整体考虑。

5. 应试答题时,要先仔细看懂题目(包括四个选择项),把它们作为线索去进行阅读,然后根据文章的内容选择正确答案。一般说来,阅读理解题有两类:一是“直接题”,或叫“单一题”。这类题型的答案与文章中某些内容在语义上往往很相似甚至相同,因此只要看懂题意,即可在原文中找到答案。另一类是“综合题”。这类题常常要概括几句话,或一段话甚至几段话的内容。这就要求你必须扩大阅读面积,从字里行间领会其中的意思,进行信息综合处理与分析。有时还需根据生活经验、历史文化知识来考虑或进行逻辑推论等。然后采用“排除法”,即从“最不可能的”做起,逐一排除以得到正确答案。

6. 对文章“标题句”一类的题,一定要在理解全文大意之后才能选择答案。但其中有一点要特别注意:即仔细阅读第一段和最后一段,你往往可以发现语言及内容都很相似的句子,那可能就是正确答案。

7. 如果遇到某一题做不出来,你可不必担心。可先跳过去答别的题,不要因为翻来覆去寻找一道题的答案而无谓地消耗时间。等把本段文章其他会做的题做出来后,再回到不会做的题。这时,由于你对整体有了大致了解,因而在上下文语言环境的衬托下,你有可能较容易地找到正确答案。

8. 把握好阅读时间。从应试角度来讲,要做完阅读理解部分需要近40分钟。如果考生用于这部分的时间过多,就会把后面的测试题的时间挤掉。因此,必须达到较高的要求,既要提高阅读速度,又要注重阅读技巧,阅读速度不能低于每分钟80个单词,这样才能尽快完成阅读、复读、查阅及答题过程。

英语阅读是通过书面语言来获取信息的过程。要顺利完成这一过程,学生必须要有扎实的语言基础,有足够的词汇量和语法知识,同时还必须具有较宽的知识面。如果在提高阅读理解能力的基础上,再掌握一些阅读技巧和应试技巧,那么就能在规定的时间内更快、更有效地获取所需要的信息。

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Lesson One

Text

Walking in Space

Para. 1 The whole world seemed to be black, black nothingness. The sky was black with bright, shining stars that never twinkled. The sun, a white, burning disk, seemed to hang in the black velvet of the surrounding heavens. This was the scene that spread before the eyes of the first astronaut who left his spaceship to walk in outer space. The name of the Soviet astronaut who performed this feat was Leonov, and the date of his walk in space was March 18, 1965.

Para. 2 Several months later a similar feat was performed by the first American astronaut to walk in space. Both of these "space walkers" had spent months previous to their flight learning how to control their movements under the strange conditions which exist in space¹. Wearing their thick space suits, they learned to deal with an environment where there is neither weight nor gravity, neither "up" nor "down".

Para. 3 We do not realize how much we depend on the earth's gravity until we are deprived of it. Then our feet no longer stay on the ground; we float around in the air; and the slightest touch may send us drifting off in the opposite direction.

Para. 4 The first astronaut to walk in space, Leonov, and his companion, Beliaiev, began making preparations for the walk as soon as their spaceship was launched. The spaceship was equipped with a double door, which was fitted with a bellows between the ship and the outside. This made it possible

for the astronaut, in his space suit with oxygen supply, to go first from the air-filled ship to the bellows. Then the air was let out of the bellows, and, while the man stepped outside, the air inside the ship remained at normal pressure. If the door had opened directly into space, the air in the ship would have rushed out and been lost when the door opened.

Para. 5 Leonov and Beliaiev practiced testing the doors several times after they had begun revolving around the earth. When the time came for Leonov to go out, his companion helped him attach the cable that was to keep him from floating away from the ship. Then Leonov entered the bellows, and the door closed behind him. As the air was left out of the bellows, he felt his suit swell up because of the air pressure inside. When there was no air left in the bellows, the outer door opened, and Leonov could see, simultaneously, the blackness of space and the blinding light of the sun.

Para. 6 If the sky appears blue to us on earth, it is because the earth's atmosphere absorbs a certain number of blue rays of sunlight. Out where there is no air², this phenomenon does not take place. On the earth, our atmosphere diffuses light so that, when the sun is up, light seems to be everywhere. However, in the airless realms of outer space, strong lights, such as the sun, exist side by side with a dark similar to the dark of the blackest night. The absence of air also explains why the stars do not seem to twinkle in space, as they do from the earth.

Para. 7 Leonov reported that the earth appeared as a huge, round disk, filling a large part of the sky. He found that the relief of hills and mountains was more easily observed from that distance than from a plane flying at a few thousand feet.

Para. 8 While Leonov was outside the ship, he kept in touch by telephone with his companion and with the earth. He opened the shutter of the movie camera, which made a record of what he did and saw. When the signal was given for him to return to the ship, he was enjoying the cosmos so much that he was disappointed to have to stop his wanderings so soon.

New Words and Expressions

- | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. twinkle | /'twɪŋkl/ | vi. 闪烁, 闪耀 |
| 2. disk | /disk/ | n. 圆盘, 圆板 |
| 3. velvet | /'velvɪt/ | n. 天鹅绒 |
| 4. feat | /fi:t/ | n. 功绩, 功勋 |
| 5. drift | /drɪft/ | v. 漂流, 使漂流 |
| 6. bellows | /'beləʊz/ | n. 风箱 |
| 7. swell | /swel/ | vi. 膨胀 |
| 8. simultaneously | /,sɪmə'lteɪnjəsli/ | ad. 同时地, 同时发生地 |
| 9. diffuse | /di'fju:z/ | vt. 使(光线)漫射; 使...散开 |
| 10. realm | /relm/ | n. 领域, 范围; 王国 |
| 11. relief | /ri'li:f/ | n. 地势的起伏 |
| 12. shutter | /'ʃʌtə/ | n. 快门 |
| 13. cosmos | /'kɒzmɒs/ | n. 宇宙 |
| 14. wandering | /'wɒndəriŋ/ | n. 漫游, 闲逛 |

* * * * *

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. deprive ... of | 夺去, 使丧失 |
| 2. be equipped with | 安装有, 装配有 |
| 3. be fitted with | 安装有, 装配有 |
| 4. let ... out of | 从...泻出(水、空气等); 释放 |
| 5. keep in touch with | 与...保持接触 |

Proper Nouns

- | | |
|-------------|-------|
| 1. Leonov | 列昂诺夫 |
| 2. Beliaiev | 别里亚耶夫 |

Notes

1. spend (time, money) ... (in) doing 花费(时间、金钱)做某事。which 引导定语从句, 修饰 conditions。
2. Out where there is no air, this phenomenon does not take place. 在没有空气的外层空间就不会发生这种现象。这里 out where there is no air 是地点状语, where there is no

air 是对副词 out 的补充说明。

Exercises

I. Comprehension Choose the best answer from A, B, C and D according to the passage.

1. The world spreading before the eyes of the first astronaut who walked in outer space was _____.
 - A. colorful
 - B. black nothingness
 - C. very bright
 - D. shining
2. Leonov found in outer space _____.
 - A. the stars were bright, shining and twinkling
 - B. the stars twinkled, but were not bright
 - C. the stars were bright, shining but never twinkled
 - D. the stars were neither bright nor twinkling
3. The date of Leonov's first walk in space was _____.
 - A. May 18, 1965
 - B. May 20, 1956
 - C. March 18, 1965
 - D. March 18, 1956
4. An American astronaut walked in space _____.
 - A. two years after Leonov's performance
 - B. several months after Leonov's performance
 - C. twenty months after Leonov's performance
 - D. several years after Leonov's performance
5. In space _____.
 - A. there is atmosphere
 - B. things become heavier
 - C. gravity is stronger than that on earth
 - D. there is neither weight nor gravity
6. "We do not realize how much we depend on a thing until we are deprived of it." This sentence means _____.
 - A. we realize the importance of the thing when we have it
 - B. we realize the importance of the thing when it is taken away
 - C. we realize the importance of the thing when it comes back
 - D. we don't realize the importance of the thing when it is taken away

7. Which of the four statements is TRUE according to the passage?
 - A. Leonov and Beliaiev both walked in space.
 - B. Only Leonov walked in space.
 - C. Only Beliaiev walked in space.
 - D. Neither Leonov nor Beliaiev walked in space.
8. A bellows was fitted between the ship and the outside _____.
 - A. to get more air in
 - B. to prevent sunshine from coming in
 - C. to keep the temperature constant
 - D. to prevent the air in the ship from being lost
9. The sky appears blue to us on earth because the earth's atmosphere _____.
 - A. absorbs a certain number of blue rays of sunlight
 - B. sends away a certain number of blue rays of sunlight
 - C. changes a certain number of blue rays of sunlight
 - D. becomes a certain number of blue rays of sunlight
10. Stars do not seem to twinkle in space _____.
 - A. because there is no air in space
 - B. because the sun is too bright
 - C. because there are a large number of blue rays
 - D. because there is no light in space

II. Vocabulary **Replace the following underlined parts with the words or expressions that best keep the original meaning.**

1. Both of these "space walkers" had spent months previous to their flight learning how to control their movements under the strange conditions which exist in space.
 - A. since
 - B. after
 - C. until
 - D. before
2. We do not realize how much we depend on the earth's gravity until we are deprived of it.
 - A. we are given the thing
 - B. we are determined
 - C. it is taken away from us
 - D. we are driven away from it
3. The spaceship was equipped with a double door, which was fitted with a bellows between the ship and the outside.
 - A. was suited with
 - B. was connected with
 - C. was supplied with
 - D. was equipped with
4. Leonov and Beliaiev practiced testing the doors several times after they had begun

revolving around the earth.

- A. moving B. flying
C. drifting D. circling
5. When the time came for Leonov to go out, his companion helped him attach the cable that was to keep him from floating away from the ship.
A. fix B. attack
C. touch D. acquire
6. When there was no air left in the bellows, the outer door opened, and Leonov could see, simultaneously, the blackness of space and the blinding light of the sun.
A. at some time B. at the same time
C. surprisingly D. by chance
7. If the sky appears blue to us on earth, it is because the earth's atmosphere absorbs a certain number of blue rays of sunlight.
A. takes in B. takes up
C. takes away D. takes to
8. On the earth, our atmosphere diffuses light so that, when the sun is up, light seems to be everywhere.
A. goes away very quickly
B. gathers together
C. comes closer in all directions
D. spreads out freely in all directions
9. However, in the airless realms of outer space, strong lights, such as the sun, exist side by side with a dark similar to the dark of the blackest night.
A. areas B. rays
C. records D. air
10. While Leonov was outside the ship, he kept in touch by telephone with his companion and with the earth.
A. touched B. exchanged information with
C. contracted D. kept the telephone with

III. Cloze Choose the right one out of the four suggested answers to fill in each blank of the following passage.

Once the moon flights had proved that people could live and work in space, the next step in space flight was the (1) of space stations. The stations were sent (2) earth orbit, where they (3) the earth for long periods of time. Crews of scientists and engineers traveled to the station and worked there for weeks or months at a time. They (4) to learn the effect of weightlessness on a variety of processes that took place on earth.

Scientists working aboard the space stations were especially interested (5) the discovery that it is easier to manufacture certain pure substances under weightless conditions. For the future it is hoped that space stations will (6) headquarters for the manufacture of certain metals and crystals that must be very pure. It is also easier to mix substances under weightless conditions. Space stations would be (7) places to prepare certain medicines.

The effects of long-term weightlessness (8) the human body were also studied on the space stations. Space stations have proved to be excellent places to study the stars and the planets. This is (9) the stations are beyond the earth's atmosphere, which interferes (10) many kinds of astronomical observations.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. A. launching | B. traveling |
| C. shattering | D. climbing |
| 2. A. onto | B. into |
| C. to | D. from |
| 3. A. left | B. observed |
| C. circled | D. chased |
| 4. A. performed experiments | B. studied experiments |
| C. experienced experiments | D. carried experiments |
| 5. A. on | B. for |
| C. in | D. at |
| 6. A. regard as | B. serve as |
| C. consider as | D. take as |
| 7. A. favorite | B. purified |
| C. ideal | D. orderly |
| 8. A. at | B. in |
| C. for | D. on |
| 9. A. why | B. because |
| C. as | D. since |
| 10. A. with | B. in |
| C. for | D. on |

IV. Translation Put the following sentences into English.

1. 我们的工厂备有全部最新机器。
(be equipped with)
2. 有些人直到失去自由才认识到自由的重要。
(deprive ... of)
3. 双层门使宇航员能首先从充满空气的飞船内走进过道。

(make it possible)

4. 由于没有地球引力,我们的双脚不再停留在地面上;我们漂浮在空中。

(no longer)

5. 在他出国期间,他一直与他的同事保持联系。

(keep in touch with)

Reading

First Steps on the Moon

Para. 1 Before leaving the ship the Captain calls everybody together and makes a little speech. He tells us that we are no longer on the earth but on a strange world, so small that it has no air or water. We must remember that because the moon is so small that its gravity is much less than that on earth, we must be careful how we move about. We shall not be able to walk because the effort which would take us a foot on earth will take us six feet on the moon, so we shall have to jump. We must be careful also of the pits and cracks and keep together, because, although the moon is supposed to be a dead world, we cannot be quite sure of this; after all, there may be strange and dangerous things waiting for us!

Para. 2 We all get into spacesuits with packs on the back filled with compressed air, so that we can breathe, for we have to take our air with us. All have “walkie-talkie” sets in order to talk with one another. Slowly the door opens, showing the black sky, set with shining stars, and we look down the shining side of the ship to where thirty feet below, lies the surface of the moon¹. Following the Captain, one after another comes out to the ground.

Para. 3 We look around. Behind us is the ship, half lit up by the sun and the other half in deep shadow. The ground on which we are standing is bare rock of a dark-grey color, with a thin covering of dust which does not rise in a cloud as we move, but merely stirs and at once falls down again². There can be no doubt that the rock was once a white-hot sea of lava, the same sort