

大学英语 阅读与欣赏 第3册

COLLEGE ENGLISH
READING AND ENJOYING

朱俊松 主 编
朱慧敏 总主编
王令坤 主 审



中国农业出版社

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前言

阅读是获取信息的重要手段，大学英语的最主要目标之一就是培养学生“具有较强的阅读能力”。为了帮助学生切实有效地达到这一目的，必须有大量的语言输入(input)。因此，《大学英语阅读与欣赏》便应运而生。本书是以国家教育部颁发的《大学英语教学基本要求》为依据，参照大学英语四级考试大纲，为帮助学生有效地掌握各项阅读微技能及基本要求规定的阅读速度等有关指标而专门设计、编著的。主要供普通高等院校非英语专业的本专科生、研究生及其他英语学习者在课外使用。

本书所提供的阅读素材题材广泛，体裁多样，内容新颖，具有较强的科学性和一定的趣味性，可读性强，力求使读者在提高阅读水平的同时，获得一定的科学知识及文化背景知识。本书旨在通过多种形式的大量阅读练习帮助学生提高阅读能力和阅读速度，克服背景知识贫乏、词汇量少等问题，帮助学生复习和巩固已掌握的学习技能，提高学生实际应用英语的能力，达到规定的教学要求。

本书共分4册，每册18个单元，每个单元含5篇长短不一、内容各异的文章。考虑到大学英语教学既要对学生进行素质教育，又要帮助他们通过CET考试，因此，本书在练习上采用了CET的题型，以兼顾到各方面的需要。练习形式包括综合填空、多项选择、英译汉、判断与简短回答问题。

本套系列阅读练习已在江苏科技大学等高校试用多年，应广大读者的要求，现已正式出版。本书由江苏科技大学外国语学院具有多年大学英语教学经验的教师所编写，由

朱慧敏担任总主编，由王令坤教授主审。参加本书编著工作的教师有：

第一册主编：王建忠，编委：王栋，朱红英；

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本书在编写和出版过程中得到了江苏科技大学有关领导、江苏科技大学教材科、中国农业出版社等单位和个人的大力支持，在此一并致谢。本书在有关文献中选用了部分材料，谨向这些文献的作者致以崇高的谢意。

由于编者水平有限，书中若有疏漏及不妥之处，恳请读者提出批评与宝贵意见。

编 者

2005年5月

目 录

前言

Unit 1	1
Unit 2	10
Unit 3	19
Unit 4	28
Unit 5	37
Unit 6	47
Unit 7	56
Unit 8	68
Unit 9	79
Unit 10	90
Unit 11	99
Unit 12	110
Unit 13	123
Unit 14	136
Unit 15	148
Unit 16	159
Unit 17	171
Unit 18	184

参考书目	197
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Unit 1

Passage 1

In the United States, it is not customary to telephone someone very early in the morning. If you telephone him early in the day, while he is shaving or having breakfast, the time of the call shows that the matter is very important and requires immediate attention. The same meaning is attached to telephone calls made after 11: 00 p. m. . If someone receives a call during sleeping hours, he assumes it's a matter of life and death. The time chosen for the call communicates its importance.

In social life, time plays a very important part. In the U. S. A. , guests tend to feel they are not highly regarded if the invitation to a dinner party is extended only three or four days before the party date. But it is not true in all countries. In other areas of the world, it may be considered foolish to make an appointment too far in advance because plans which are made for a date more than a week away tend to be forgotten. The meaning of time differs in different parts of the world. Thus, misunderstandings arise between people from cultures that treat time differently.

Promptness is valued highly in American life, for example. If people are not prompt, they may be regarded as impolite or not fully responsible. In the U. S. A. no one would think of keeping a business associate waiting for an hour, it would be too impolite. A person who is 5 minutes late is expected to make a short apology. If he is less than 5 minutes late, he will say a few words of explanation, though

Answer or complete the following questions or sentences with the best choice:

- Here “attached” means attached.

B. drawn

D. shown

- A. the matter is of some importance

C. the matter requires immediate attention

3. According to this passage, time plays an important role in _____.

B. school life

D. private life

- ## A. The Voices of Time

C. The Importance of an Announcement

5. According to the passage, the author of the article may agree to which of the following statements?

B. It may be appropriate to send your invitation cards to your guests three or four days before a dinner party date in some cultures.

D. If one is less than 5 minutes late, he has to make a short apology.

An interesting fact of the last third of the twentieth century is that, as educational levels, salaries, and the cost of living have

increased, more and more people are having fewer and fewer children. In the United States the 1950s and 1960s were years of rapid growth. Classrooms were crowded. The nation as a whole, and business in particular, turned its attention to the needs, desires, fashions, and language of the young. A United States society, which had been adult centered in the past, became youth centered. Because their buying power had increased tremendously, the young began to have a lot to say about what products were created, marketed, and sold. By the 1970s, however, this trend had begun to change. Many young couples decided not to have children or wait several years before having any, and then to have fewer than their parents had had. By the middle of the 1970s it was necessary to begin closing schools in all parts of the country as there were just not enough students to fill them. Today while fewer and fewer children are being born, more and more was 77, and for men, 69, which was up a full year from 1972. as a result, a constantly increasing load will be placed on the Social Security system and medical services as we approach the end of the century. No one is sure how all the needed money will be raised, but social Security taxes and medical insurance rates will probably climb. As people live longer, they tend to change their ideas about the age at which they want to retire. Although in the past, the usual age of retirement was 65, people are talking about retiring at age of 70. if people retire later, there will be fewer jobs available to young people entering the work force. In spite of all these problems, there is good side to the "Graying of America". By the end of the year 2025 the percentage of the population under 30 will have dropped to less than 40%. As teenagers and young adults are responsible for a disproportionate share of crime and traffic accidents, there may be a decline in these social problems as well. Some people are delighted with the prospect of these changes. Some are alarmed. No matter what one's point of view, however, no one

can ignore what is happening. It won't go away.

Answer or complete the following questions or sentences with the best choice:

1. What is the main idea of this passage?
 - A. It is more difficult for the young people to get a job nowadays.
 - B. The United States is becoming a country of old people step by step.
 - C. Life expectancy was up.
 - D. Young people should be responsible for most of crime and traffic accidents.
2. Many young couples began to decide not to have children _____.
 - A. in the 1970s
 - B. in the middle of 1970s
 - C. in 1950s and 1960s
 - D. by the end of year 2025
3. Which of the following may NOT be the result of "Graying of America"?
 - A. Social Security tax rate will climb.
 - B. Young people had fewer chances to get a job.
 - C. Young people decided not to have children.
 - D. The rate of crime and traffic accidents declined.
4. According to the passage, what causes the young people to have fewer chances to get a job in the United States?
 - A. Their poor ability.
 - B. The lack of social experience.
 - C. The economy is declining.
 - D. Retiring at age of 70.
5. Why did people start to close schools in the middle of 1970s?
 - A. Because schools are becoming unnecessary.
 - B. Fewer and fewer students wanted to go to school.
 - C. There are fewer children going to school.
 - D. The schools cannot make money.

Passage 3

Humanity uses a little less than half the water available worldwide. Yet occurrences of shortages and droughts^① are causing famine and distress in some areas, and industrial and agricultural by-

① drought: 干旱

products are polluting water supplies. Since the world's population is expected to double in the next 50 years, many experts think we are on the edge of a widespread water crisis.

But that doesn't have to be the outcome. Water shortages do not trouble the world-if we start valuing water more than we have in the past. Just as we began to appreciate petroleum more after the 1970s oil crises, today we must start looking at water from a fresh economic perspective. We can no longer afford to consider water a virtually free resource of which we can use as much as we like in any way we want.

Instead, for all uses except the domestic demand of the poor, government should price water to reflect its actual value. This means charging fee for the water itself as well as for the supply costs.

Governments should also protect this resource by providing water in more economically and environmentally sound ways. For example, after the cheapest way to provide irrigation^① water in the dry tropics is through small-scale projects, such as gathering rainfall in depressions^② and pumping it to nearby cropland.

No matter what steps governments take to provide water more efficiently, they must change their institutional and legal approaches to water use. Rather than spread control among hundreds or even thousands of water use, countries should set up central authorities to coordinate water policy.

Decide whether the following statements are true or false:

- () 1. Humanity has not placed efficient value on water resources is the real cause of the potential water crisis?
- () 2. As indicated in the passage, the water problem poses a challenge to the technology of building reservoirs.
- () 3. According to the author, the water price should correspond to its real

① irrigation: 灌溉

② depression: 凹地

value.

- () 4. The author says that in some hot and dry areas it is advisable to build small and cheap irrigation systems.
- () 5. In order to raise the efficiency of the water supply, measures should be taken to encourage local and regional control of water resources.

Passage 4

A dazzling smile needs more than brushing and yearly visit to your dentist. The American V V lds on mental challenges such as memorizing lists or matching photos in a pile. But hidden within those results is the countervailing fact that, as people grow older, mental performance begins to differ markedly among individuals of similar ages, making it impossible to draw conclusions about an older person's abilities based on averages for his or her age.

"The only thing you can assume about a 65-or 75-year-old is how many candles will be on the birthday cake", says Harvard University psychologist Douglas Powell. He tested 1 583 people from 25 to 92 years of age in reasoning, memory, and visual and spatial abilities. On various tests, he found that a quarter to a third of octogenarians performed as well as their younger counterparts. A fraction of people in their 80s and 90s ranked near the top of mental abilities for all ages. And even the lowest scorers suffered only modest declines that didn't interfere with daily living.

Powell's findings mirror other studies concluding not only that most people retain strong mental skills until at least age 70, but over a fourth to on well past that age without significant drops in brainpower. Scientists suspect that genetic and environmental factors play a part.

K. Warner Schaie, director of the Gerontology Center at Pennsylvania State University, finds that the factors most associated with strong mental function in older age groups include an above-

average level of education, a complex and stimulating life-style and being married to a smart person. Rigid adherence to routine and low satisfaction with life are associated with earlier deterioration of the intellect.

Answer or complete each of the following questions or sentences:

1. The first step everyone can take toward healthy teeth and gums is _____.
2. What form strong teeth and bones?
3. What may cause teeth decay?
4. How can teeth be protected against decay?
5. The phrase "in moderation" in Paragraph 4 means _____.

Passage 5

It would be interesting to discover how many young people go to university without any clear idea of what they are going to do afterwards. If one considers the enormous variety of courses offered, it is not hard to see how difficult it is for a student to select the course most suited to his interests and abilities. 1) If a student goes to university to acquire a broader perspective of life, to enlarge his ideas and to learn to think for himself, he will undoubtedly benefit. 2) Schools often have too restricting an atmosphere, with its timetables and disciplines, to allow him much time for independent assessment of the work he is asked to do. Most students would, I believe, profit by a year or so's exploration of different academic studies, especially those "allrounders" with no particular interest. They should have longer time to decide in what subject they want to take there degrees, so that in later life, they do not look back and

say. " I should like to have been an archaeologist. If I hadn't taken a degree in Modern Languages, I shouldn't have ended up as an interpreter, but it's too late now. I couldn't go back and begin all over again. "

There is, of course, another side to the question of how to make the best use of one's time at university. This is the case of the student who excels in a particular branch of learning. 3) He is immediately accepted by the university of his choice, and spends his three or four years becoming a specialist, emerging with a first-class Honour Degree and very little knowledge of what the rest of the world is all about. 4) It therefore becomes more and more important that, if students are not to waste their opportunities, there will have to be much more detailed information about courses and more advice. 5) Only in this way can we be sure that we are not to have, on the one hand, a band of specialists ignorant of anything outside of their own subject, and on the other hand, an ever-increasing number of graduates qualified in subjects for which there is little or no demand in the working world.

Translate the following sentences into Chinese:

1. If a student goes to university to acquire a broader perspective of life, to enlarge his ideas and to learn to think for himself, he will undoubtedly benefit.
2. Schools often have too restricting an atmosphere, with its timetables and disciplines, to allow him much time for independent assessment of the work he is asked to do.
3. He is immediately accepted by the university of his choice, and spends his three or four years becoming a specialist, emerging with a first-class Honour Degree and very little knowledge of what the rest of the world is all about.

4. It therefore becomes more and more important that, if students are not to waste their opportunities, there will have to be much more detailed information about courses and more advice.
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5. Only in this way can we be sure that we are not to have, on the one hand, a band of specialists ignorant of anything outside of their own subject, and on the other hand, an ever-increasing number of graduates qualified in subjects for which there is little or no demand in the working world.
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Unit 2



We have saved as a final set of emotions the two most important emotions pertaining to other people: love and its opposite, hate. Love can be seen everywhere. Yet surprisingly, love has been the subject of less scientific research than other emotions, such as anger and fear. The reason for this may be twofold. First, love is a very complex emotion, difficult to describe and measure. Secondly, unlike many extreme emotions, extreme love is generally not a problem; thus less medical attention has been paid to it.

What is love? This is a complex question and requires a complex answer. Love is an enduring, strong, positive attraction and feeling for another person or thing. But it is more than this. It also involves feelings of caring, protection, excitement, and tenderness. When two people are in love, they feel drawn to one another; they greatly enjoy each other's company; and they may be sexually attracted to one another.

Sometimes it is easier to think in terms of different kinds of love: "puppy" love, romantic love, brotherly love, and so forth. Though they differ in some respects, they share one important characteristic: a strong positive feeling toward another.

Our feelings toward other people are often complex. We may love someone and, at the same time, be angry with him. Or we may love someone, even though we are jealous of him. We might even love someone and, at the same time, hate for some specific