黑龙江省"十一五"教育科学重点规划课题研究成果

英语专业 学生适用

# 英语阅读系列敦程

ENGLISH READING SERIES COURSE

第一冊 战园生居篇

总 主 编: 甄艳华

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主 审:单兴缘

黑龙江教育出版社

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# 英语阅读系列教程

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# 第一册 校园生活篇

英语专业学生适用

副总主编:

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が一般。一方の国内

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YINGYU YUEDU XILIE JIAOCHENG

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# 前言

《英语阅读系列教材》是一套适合英语专业不同程度的学生使用的英语 泛读教材。全套教材共 7 册。涉及题材广泛,有校园生活篇、时文阅读篇、 商务贸易篇、科技信息篇、语言习得篇、文化习俗篇和旅游见闻篇等。所选 文章大多出自当代英语报刊,编者未对文章做任何变动,因而,读者可以原 汁原味地领略当代英语的特色,增进对英语国家文化的了解。所选文章语言 流畅、文字新颖,题材广泛、信息量大,真实性强,符合外语教材必须取材 广泛、真实性强的要求;同时还有利于对学生进行人文知识和科技意识融合 的培养,有助于实现理工科院校英语专业的人才培养目标。

《英语阅读系列教材》的另一特点是每篇文章都配有详细的单词释义、注解(第五册除外)和针对性较强的练习。我们对文章中出现的疑难部分,尤其是较难理解的词汇,以及必要的背景知识(人名、地名、组织名称等)作了注释。我们编写的练习有四种:正误判断题、名词解释、翻译和问答题。这四种练习题都是围绕考查综合理解能力而设计和编写的,侧重培养学生的理解能力和综合归纳能力,同时又可以提高学生的翻译能力和口笔头交际能力。为了帮助读者自我检测,我们在书后附有练习答案。所有答案只是参考性的,我们希望答案不会束缚读者的思考和想象力。

本册书是本套教材的第一册——校园生活篇。全书共 12 个单元,每个单元围绕一个共同的主题,如考试、交友、课外活动、兼职、走向职场等。每个单元包括三篇内容相关的文章,文章后配有练习,以便加强对课文的理解和对语言知识的掌握。本册书力求涵盖大学生活的方方面面,使学生通过阅读有针对性地提高其语言交际水平。

《英语阅读系列教程》的选材和编注工作均由各分册主编承担,最后由 甄艳华教授负责统稿,单兴缘教授负责审稿。本套教材在编写过程中还得到 了哈尔滨理工大学副校长孟大伟教授、教务处处长戈宝军教授、教务处副处 长綦良群教授、外国语学院院长郗朝辉博士的大力支持与勉励;同时还得到 了黑龙江教育出版社领导和编辑的热情帮助,在此一并表示衷心的感谢。

《英语阅读系列教程》还是黑龙江省"十一•五"教育科学重点规划课

题《黑龙江省属院校英语专业多元化人才培养模式的研究与探索》的研究成果。该套教材作为哈尔滨理工大学、齐齐哈尔大学和大庆师范学院等高等院校英语专业学生阅读、科技英语阅读课程的教材;基础英语、文化基础、语言学、商务英语、旅游英语等课程的辅助教材。在编注中,我们充分查阅现有资料,但我们深感反映当代英语国家社会状况的资料不能完全满足编写工作的需要,加上我们对文章的理解或有偏颇,注释和练习中难免出错,请读者与同行指正。

编 者 2006年8月17日于哈尔滨

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#### Unit One

## Passage A The Freshman Adventures

## College Mythology and the Lessons You Can Learn From It

#### By Caitlin J. Noris

Freshman year of coilege sometimes sounds vaguely like a mythological odyssey, full of three-headed professors, fire-breathing roommates, and tuition prices that seem to soar close to the sun.

Upperclassmen spin tales of Herculean<sup>1</sup> academic burdens, Olympic-size<sup>2</sup> social hurdles and Dionysian<sup>3</sup> parties at the Theta Xi house. Graduates who make it through the quest complain of being cursed to carry student debt for all eternity. "Beware, future freshmen," they say forbiddingly. "The first year is an obstacle course."

The stories get pretty wild. In truth, college is challenging, but it isn't horrifying. Although college tests your sense of self and your resolve to succeed, those worrisome tales of freshman year are mostly exaggerations (well, the rising tuition part is true).

I should know. In 2002, I began my freshman year at the University of Pittsburgh<sup>4</sup>, hundreds of miles from my hometown of Miami<sup>5</sup>, my family and everything I had grown familiar to. As I occasionally battled it out with teachers, roommates and Old Man Winter, I learned that behind every college myth is a lesson.

# MYTH 1: It's entirely up to you whether to attend class and complete your assignments.

Yes, you can choose to skip class if you don't want to go. You don't even have to do your homework. But it's very easy to fall behind in college, and there are serious consequences, like academic probation.

"You're there on your own, and if you don't go to class, it's on you," warns Joe Forliano, who goofed around freshman year at West Virginia University until he realized his grades were suffering. "You have to go to class, and don't party too much. Just try to be responsible."

View college as a huge financial investment and a personal obligation; if your motivation wanes, you could lose the opportunities you've earned so far. College is an amazing journey, but partying and hanging out can only be half of the experience. Textbooks are more than just expensive doorstops.

#### MYTH 2: You should already have a good idea what your major will be.

It's perfectly acceptable to be undecided when it comes to your major! Dabble in a few

courses that sound interesting, and don't worry—nearly everyone switches majors. (I'm on my fourth!)

Another common misconception is that your major will be your career and is therefore your future. While your major does have some bearing on future career options, what you do outside the classroom can be just as important. In fact, diversifying your resume will help you after college in countless ways.

"I had to head toward a career that I would enjoy and also be able to make a living with," says Matt Gruber, a business major at the University of Miami who joined the jazz choir. "Music has always been a passion for me, though not necessarily a job or an obligation. [Jazz choir] has taught me how to get along with different types of people—a skill III use in the business world."

# MYTH 3: Freshman courses are just meaningless prerequisites, and they're so large that it's easy to disappear into anonymity.

Most of the classes you will be taking in freshman year serve to fulfill general-education requirements, but they aren't meaningless. The grades count, and they can affect entry into graduate schools, internship programs or scholarship competitions; moreover, entry-level courses provide core knowledge for more intensive classes you'll be taking later.

Many teachers don't require attendance, so yes, it's easy to slip in and out without being noticed. But you'll do better and learn more if you attend all the classes. It's also important to acquaint yourself with professors in case you need extra support. Teacher's assistants often do the actual grading of papers and tests, so it's helpful to get to know them, too.

#### MYTH 4. Dorm life is worthy of a horror movie.

This is the biggest, scariest college myth. In truth, most roommates are normal people who are just as apprehensive about sharing their space with someone as you are. Even if you grow closer to people down the hall than with the person you share a room with, the key to a peaceful dorm room is simple: you don't have to be great friends, but at least be a good roommate.

"Qualities such as compromise, communication, and mutual respect ensure you're going to get along with whomever you live with," says Rebecca Afman, who has successfully lived with her high-school buddies for almost three years.

While the prospect of dorm life can be unsettling, many students form their tightest friendships over studying woes and smelly cafeteria food—after all, you're all in the same boat.

#### MYTH 5: College is about getting a degree.

College is about homework. And tests. And writing lots of essays. While the end goal may be a degree, college is mostly about figuring out who you are. Going to college means having the opportunity to direct your future, make lifelong friends, become independent and figure out how to do laundry on your own.

While four (or five) years of college may seem like a long time, the semesters will quickly slip by, and it's important to be prepared. So for the next year, consider me the Hermes to your Zeus. I'll be your messenger and provide you with more advice from students across the country.

Get ready, future freshmen! Your odyssey begins now.

#### Words and Expressions

academic propation n. a trial period in which a student is given time to try to redeem failing grades or bad conduct 试读期

dabble in v. to undertake something superficially or without serious intent

goof v. to waste or kill time

wane v. to decline or diminish gradually

woe n. misfortune; calamity

#### Notes

- 1. **Hercules:** a hero of extraordinary strength who won immortality by performing 12 labors demanded by Hera 希腊神话中大力神
- 2. Olympus: the highest point in Greece and home of the mythical Greek gods
- 3. **Dionysus:** the god of wine and of an orginatic religion celebrating the power and fertility of nature 希腊神话中的酒神戴奥尼索斯
- 4. Pittsburgh: a city of southwest Pennsylvania at the point where the confluence of the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers forms the Ohio River. Fort Duquesne was built on the site by the French in 1750 and fell to the British in 1758, when it was renamed Fort Pitt. The village surrounding the fort grew rapidly after the opening of the Northwest Territory. The city today is highly industrialized. It's population is 369,879.
- 5. Miami: a city of southeast Florida on Biscayne Bay south of Fort Lauderdale Settled in the 1870's near the site of a fort built in 1836, it expanded greatly during the land boom of the 1920's and again after World War II. Today it is an important resort and cruise center for the Caribbea. It's population is 358,548.

#### Exercises

## I Tell whether the following statements are true or false.

- 1. The freshman-year is challenging and horrifying to every freshman.
- 2. According to the author, if a freshman always skips classes and seldom does his homework, it is easy for him to fall behind the college.
- 3. College is mostly about figuring out who you are.
- 4. People come to college only for a degree.
- 5. Being a good roommate, you need to be apprehensive about sharing your space with someone else.

## Il Translate the following sentences into Chinese.

1. Freshman year of college sometimes sounds vaguely like a mythological odyssey, full of

- three-headed professors, fire-breathing roommates, and tuition prices that seem to soar close to the sun.
- 2. As I occasionally battled it out with teachers, roommates and Old Man Winter, I learned that behind every college myth is a lesson.
- 3. The grades count, and they can affect entry into graduate schools, internship programs or scholarship competitions; moreover, entry-level courses provide core knowledge for more intensive classes you'll be taking later.
- 4. In truth, most roommates are normal people who are just as apprehensive about sharing their space with someone as you are. Even if you grow closer to people down the hall than with the person you share a room with, the key to a peaceful dorm room is simple; you don't have to be great friends, but at least be a good roommate.
- 5. While the prospect of dorm life can be unsettling, many students form their tightest friendships over studying woes and smelly cafeteria food—after all, you're all in the same boat.

#### III Questions for Discussion.

- 1. After you enter the college, it's entirely up to you whether to attend class and complete your assignments. Do you agree with this opinion? Why or why not?
- 2. How can you be a good roommate? What is your way to deal with disagreement in your dorm?
- 3. Why do you go to college? What is your goal in college and after college?

# Passage B Adjusting to College Life: The first few days

The alarm went off at 6;30 a.m. one last time. This marked the beginning of one of the biggest days of my life, the day I would leave home and go to college. It is every high school seniors dream to suddenly wake up one morning and go to college. I was no exception. My entire senior year of high school was filled with thoughts and emotions about moving on. I thought it would never happen. So when the big day finally arrived, it felt more like a dream than reality. Still in dream mode, I took what would be my last shower in a private bathroom for months. After this, I ate my last breakfast at home. I crammed the last few boxes into an already over-packed sport utility vehicle and, along with my father and younger brother, began the journey to Penn State.

Questions about what it would be like and thoughts of denial filled my head during the entire trip. It couldn't actually be time to start college already! What would it be like? Would I get along with my roommate? After an infinite three-hour trip, I arrived on campus. Although it was difficult to find a parking spot, there were carts that I could use to move my boxes in once we did. I arrived at the door of my new room, boxes and bins in my arms. Finally, the moment of truth had arrived. I turned the key and opened the door. I

scanned the room, and was very relieved to find it was relatively large. No bunk beds. My roommate had apparently already moved in. This made it easier for me to unpack. Moving in was a little tricky. Everything was confusing with so many boxes to unpack and places to put things. As I unpacked, I pondered where the proper place was for everything. Finally, I had the furniture rearranged, the computer set up, and the boxes unpacked. I was in business. Just as I was finishing, my roommate Dave arrived. We had been planning what to bring to the room beforehand. That made it easier for both of us to know what to bring, and also to get to know each other a little better. After we finished unpacking, my father, brother and I went to the dining hall across the street for lunch. The abundance of food choices amazed me. The dining hall reminded me of a restaurant buffet. With so many choices, I overate during my first on-campus meal. I had to remind myself to take it easy, and that there was no need to cat so much since I would have the same choices every day. After lunch, I prepared to say goodbye. As I walked back to the car to see my father and brother off, I realized that this signified the end of a part of my life. It also served as a beginning.

I knew that once I arrived in college, I would face new experiences and challenges. It would be a time to learn and grow; a time to experiment, to make mistakes, and to learn from those mistakes. The first time in my life where I had total freedom. As I waved goodbye, I promised myself that I would take that freedom seriously and not abuse it. For the first time, I was alone on campus. A Saturday night and no classwork yet. With the large number of activities offered the first few nights, it became apparent that the university was aware of the problem of freshman drinking. I spent the first night watching a movie and playing laser tag with an old friend.

My second day of college included orientation activities. I became acquainted with university policies, rules and procedures during information sessions. For the most part, however, I had free time. I visited every building where I would have classes, to make sure I wouldn't be late on the first day. Although it seemed like a large campus at first, it became easy to navigate through after a few days.

Up until Tuesday, I mostly relaxed and settled in. Then, something changed. The dreaded thought of classes. Once school started on Tuesday, my free time vanished. Each professor gave a syllabus to the students on the first day. The syllabi outlined what to read before each class, when tests would be given, what was expected of the students, and when office hours were. This proved helpful, and also provided an additional challenge. It was now up to me to manage my own schedule. The professors would not check to see if I did the reading, or even if I came to class. I was truly on my own. I learned very early that one way to get on a professor's good side was to visit him or her during office hours. This is a set time during the day when professors are available to answer any questions that students might have. By seeing a professor during office hours, the student is showing that professor they have genuine dedication and interest in the course. I found that professors can be useful

in looking over essays, explaining assignments, or just engaging in lively discussion.

What are some of the differences between high school and college besides office hours and harder class work? Classes do not meet every day. Every student has his or her own individual schedule. If a student misses a class, most professors will not notice. It is up to the students to attend classes, and to make up the work when they don't. I also learned that there is much more to college than classes. One of the largest adjustments that I had to make was to the communal atmosphere. Everything at college is shared and privacy does not exist. Students share the bathroom, the bedroom, the dining area, study rooms, and everything else imaginable. Sharing definitely isn't a bad thing, it is just something new and different for most students. I expected and prepared for difficult classes. I did not, however, expect some classes to be as difficult as they were. I scheduled Calculus and attended the first class. By looking at the syllabus, and judging by the material to be covered, I determined the class would be too difficult for me. I immediately dropped it. Before I arrived on campus, I did not expect to drop courses. But the challenge of honors calculus was too much for me to handle. I switched out of the class using the school's Web site. I changed my schedule frequently during the first week of classes, which I would not recommend to other students. If I had changed a course and decided to change back, it might already be full. Also, bookstores will not accept book returns or exchanges for full refunds after the first week. I noticed during the first week that class participation is very important in some classes. It can make up to as much as 25% of the overall class grade.

This is often the case when the class size is small. Students may feel more inclined to skip the larger, lecture classes where test grades are all that count for the final grade. This does not make it right. If a student does miss one of these classes, it is his or her responsibility to get the material. Some professors post their material on the Internet. Most do not. Even if they do, there are important in-class examples that should not be missed.

How much studying is there for classes? According to advisers and professors, for every credit a student earns, that student should study for at least three hours a week. Therefore, with my schedule of 17.5 credits, I should study 52.5 hours per week. That's over two days of studying. Who has that much time to study? And participate in other activities as well? Adjusting to this large amount of work was a huge challenge at first. There's only so much time. It was overwhelming, but I decided to keep up with the coursework. Although this takes more time, I would be better prepared when it came time to study for tests.

Still, even with all the studying, it is important to get involved in different activities in college. Most colleges have a student involvement fair sometime during the first few weeks. There, students involved in all types of activities discuss what their clubs do and try to recruit new members. I enjoyed the involvement fair, and would highly recommend it to all new students.

The most important thing is to remember that coilege is the last time in your life when

you are surrounded by people your own age. Take advantage of it. Join some student organizations that match your interests. Make new friends. Try new things. But most of all, have an open mind. Be tolerant of the views and differences of others and enjoy yourself. Good luck; I hope your experiences will be as good as mine have been so far:

#### Words and Expressions

abundance n. a great or plentiful amount

bunk n. either of a pair of narrow beds stacked one on top of the other

calculus n. the branch of mathematics that deals with limits and the differentiation and integration of functions of one or more variables(微积分学)

ponder v. to weigh in the mind with thoroughness and care

syllabus n. an outline or a summary of the main points of a text, lecture, or course of study Exercises

#### I. Tell whether the following statements are true or false.

- 1. The author is anxious to go to the college.
- 2. The author drove to his college in a car by himself.
- 3. After the author finished unpacking, his father, brother and he went to the restaurant buffet across the street for lunch.
- 4. Freshmen learn university policies, rules and procedures through orientation activities.
- 5. If a student missed one of the classes, he may have a great loss of important in-class examples.

#### II. Paraphrase the following sentences.

- 1. Although it was difficult to find a parking spot, there were carts that I could use to move my boxes in once we did.
- 2. I had to remind myself to take it easy, and that there was no need to eat so much since I would have the same choices every day.
- 3. It would be a time to learn and grow; a time to experiment, to make mistakes, and to learn from those mistakes.
- 4. I learned very early that one way to get on a professor's good side was to visit him or her during office hours.
- 5. I also learned that there is much more to college than classes.
- 6. But the challenge of honors calculus was too much for me to handle.

#### III Questions for Discussion

- 1. What are the new experiences and challenges you faced during the first day and first week in college?
- 2. What are the differences between high school and college?
- 3. According to advisers and professors, for every credit a student earns, that student should study for at least three hours a week. How much credit should you get this semester? Calculate, how many hours should you spend on your study? Have you fulfilled your study

# Passage C Experience the US Campus Life

School has started for about one week and it was really busy. The class duration here is 50 minutes and you just feel that you got to meet your professors too often, usually four times a week. In NUS<sup>1</sup>, you might only meet them once or twice. They are very kind but most of them are not young. Can you imagine that they are still using blackboard and I am just so unused to taking notes!

All their assignments need to be marked, so you cannot really skip tutorials like you do in NUS. There are so many mid-terms, on average two for each class and they are crazy to be held as late as 10p. m., but your final only counts to 25 to 30 percent. Hence it's really trivial and they only give one study day for preparation.

There is one thing that I don't like about classes here. I am already a Junior so most of my classmates know each other and you know when people become old, they become dumm in making new friends. So I feel a bit uneasy... but never mind... I will try my best! And for engineering, there are far few females. I am usually among one or two girls in my engineering classes of the size about fifty. So, guys, you are really lucky in NUS!

Well, if you ask me whether Americans study... I'll say there are extremes. Some are really nerds and working hard... others (maybe most) seldom study at all. I am living in the hall which most girls joined the Sorority<sup>2</sup> and they party EVERY NIGHT. It's true... party and party every night. They all look very pretty after make-up and surely have great figures. They go out every night.

I learned from my roommate that party is really a big thing for college students here. If you want to go, there will be parties every night. I was persuaded by my roommate to go to one party held in school (not in those clubs, which involves drinking). I tried my best to stay there for one hour and could not stand any more. It was really HOT stuff! Far from your imagination, which I don't see to be my cup of tea...hehe. However, I was lucky to find my niche in a Salsa (Latin dance) party and I got a nice guy from Gostaliga to teach me. A guy from Argentina also tried to teach me Argentina dance, but it was too fast! I am planning to go for the dance classes. By the way, Yahong joined the ballroom dance course and you get CREDITS for it...haha.

So far, I think that it is a really free country. Everybody does whatever he wants. No-body will judge or restrict you. There is a good side of it when people are more encouraged to develop their talents, in the meanwhile, it can go to extremes which you see here. One of the problems is drinking. I was quite shocked when so many people say what they do in their spare time is drinking.

In order not to put on too much weight because their meals really contain a lot of fat, I started to go to gym regularly to sweat off extra calories. Besides that, I will also join some classes such as Buts and Guts and Yoga<sup>3</sup>. I found that Americans love this style of living; when eating, just eat to the fullest, calories. . . forget it! (They love desserts and ice cream) as long as you exercise and get balanced!

Any other things...emmmm... definitely there are more handsome guys and pretty girls on campus. There is one guy in my class who looks like Prince William and there is another one in my friend's class who looks like Beck Ham. Wow...

#### Notes:

- 1. NUS: National Union of Students(英国)全国学生联合会
- 2. Sorority: a chiefly social organization of women students at a college or university 女生 联谊会
- 3. Yoga; a system of exercises practiced as part of this discipline to promote control of the body and mind 瑜伽修行法

#### Question for discussion.

What is your campus life like? Write a 500-word composition with this title, including your study, your dermitory life and extracurricular activities in college.

## Unit Two

## Passage A Nice to Meet You

Making Friends in College Is Essential, and Not Too Difficult

### By Caitlin J. Noris

Now that I'm a senior in college, I have the luxury of taking electives that interest me, not just classes that fulfill a graduation requirement. Of course, it's no coincidence that these "interesting" classes happen to be introductory courses! This means I'm spending my senior year sitting next to a bunch of freshmen.

In my Introduction to Russian Literature class, I share college survival tips with two freshman girls (and when I say "survival", I mean where to find a \$4.95 pizza). In exchange, they describe funny dorm stories, juicy tidbits from the weekend's parties, and details on what freshmen really think about. One day, I asked what they were most worried about before they started freshman year. Was it classes? Paying for college? Doing their laundry and forgetting to separate whites from darks? Nope! Their biggest worry, I was surprised to learn, was making friends.

But the more I thought about it, the more I understood. I remembered how truly nervous I was the first week of freshman year. After all, college is a pretty big transition—new school, harder classes, different social circles—and it can be disconcerting. A new group of friends is exactly what you need to give you a sense of support and camaraderie in the midst of all these changes.

#### Be Friendly

One of the best ways to meet people is to live in the dorms. Not only do you live and eat with tons of other people, but there's always something fun going on. "Living in the dorms is part of the college experience," says Sarah Eamigh, a senior. "It's the best way to develop a social life."

Don't be shy about approaching your neighbors and saying hello during those first crucial days of move in. "If you want to make friends, be friendly," says Alison Zellis, a freshman. "You're all in the same boat, so don't feel nervous to approach people." Ask them where they're from and how moving in is going. I helped my neighbors unpack, and it gave me a way to start conversations ("You like Coldplay!? So do I!"). Also, don't judge people based solely on first impressions. I took one look at my neighbor and mistakenly decided that she was stuck-up. Four years later, she's still my best friend!

Another way to meet people is through your classes. And if you're placed in an all-fresh-  $10 \cdot$