

新编大学英语 阅读教程

第1册



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NEW COLLEGE ENGLISH READING COURSE

安徽大学出版社

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前 言

为很快适应和落实教育部最近颁发的《大学英语课程教学要求》，深化教学改革，培养学生的英语综合应用能力，满足新时期国家对人才的需要；更为了结合我省学生的实际情况，我们依据《全国大学英语四级考试样卷》新题型，组织具有丰富的教学经验、多次参加新题型培训的一线教师编写了这套阅读理解专项教材。希望本套书能在进一步提高我省外语教学质量方面作一点贡献。

本教材旨在培养学生正确的阅读习惯，提高学生的阅读速度和阅读理解能力。在选材时注重内容的可读性、趣味性、知识性、时代性、语言文字的规范性和文体的多样性。课文大多数选自英美原著、正式出版的英文报刊杂志等。

本套教材共分四册，每册十个单元，每单元分两部分：第一部分为快速阅读，含一篇短文，共 10 题，1-7 题为是非判断题，8-10 题为句子填空题，即完成句子；第二部分为仔细阅读，含三篇短文，第一篇为选词填空，共 10 题，从所给的 15 个词中选 10 个词填空。后两篇为单项选择，每篇 5 题，共 10 题。

使用本教材时，应注意以下几点：

1. 为便于教学，本教材印成活页。
2. 让学生养成先了解问题后读文章的良好习惯，做到有的放矢，以达到提高阅读速度和准确率的效果。
3. 学生阅读时不能查词典，如有生词，可根据上下文和构词法进行猜测以确定词义，或直接跳过那些不影响理解的生词。
4. 学生应注意培养边阅读、边理解、边记忆的良好习惯。读完课文即做练习；做练习时，不再翻阅已读过的课文。
5. 学生应在建议时间内快速读完文章，较准确地完成课后练习。

编 者
2006 年 8 月

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Unit One



Part I

Reading Comprehension (Skimming and Scanning) (15 minutes)

Directions: In this part, you will have 15 minutes to go over the passage quickly and answer the questions.

For questions 1-7, mark

Y (for YES) if the statement agrees with the information given in the passage;

N (for NO) if the statement contradicts the information given in the passage;

NG (for NOT GIVEN) if the information is not given in the passage.

For questions 8-10, complete the sentences with the information given in the passage.

The Welfare State

Every British citizen who is employed (or self-employed) is obliged to pay a weekly contribution (捐助) to the national insurance and health schemes. An employer also makes a contribution for each of his employees, and the Government too pays a certain amount. This plan was brought into being in 1948. Its aim is to prevent anyone from going without medical services, if he needs them, however poor he may be; to ensure that a person who is out of work shall receive a weekly sum of money to subsist (生存) on; and to provide a small pension for those who have reached the age of retirement.

Everyone can register (挂号) with a doctor of his choice and if he is ill he can consult the doctor without having to pay for the doctor's service, although he has to pay a small charge for medicines. The doctor may, if necessary, send a patient to a specialist, or to hospital; in both cases treatment

will be given without any fee being payable. Those who wish may become private patients, paying for their treatment, but they must still pay their contributions to the national insurance and health schemes.

During illness the patient can draw a small amount every week, to make up for his lost wages. Everyone who needs to have his eyes seen to may go to a state-registered oculist (眼科医生) and if his sight is weak he can get spectacles from an optician (眼镜商) at a much reduced price. For a small payment he may go to a dentist; if he needs a false tooth, he can obtain dentures (假牙) for less than they would cost from a private dentist. Various other medical appliances can be obtained in much the same way.

When a man is out of work, he may draw an unemployment benefit until he finds work again; this he will probably do by going to a Job Center (an office run by the State to help people find jobs). If he is married, the allowance (津贴) he receives will be larger. Obviously the amount paid is comparatively small, for the State does not want people to stop working in order to draw a handsome sum of money for doing nothing.

When a man reaches the age of 65, he may retire from work and then he has the right to draw a State pension. For women, the age of retirement is 60.

Mothers-to-be and children receive special benefits such as free milk or certain foodstuffs for which only a minimum charge is made. The State pays to the mother a small weekly sum for each child in a family. There is also an allowance for funerals, for the State boasts that it looks after people "from the cradle to the grave"! There are special benefits for certain people, such as the blind and the handicapped.

The amount of money needed to operate these schemes is enormous and a large part of the money comes not from the contributions but from taxation.

Most people in Britain agree that there are still many improvements to be made in our national insurance and health schemes, but it is also true that they have become a social institution that the great majority of the population wishes to see it maintained.

It is this social insurance scheme, together with the Government's determination to see that there is full employment (or as near as can be), that constitutes what we call the Welfare State.

1. () British employed citizens, employers and the Government are obliged to contribute to the national insurance and health schemes.
2. () The state doesn't pay an unemployed man a large unemployment benefit for fear that he might draw a handsome sum of money for doing nothing.
3. () Most people in Britain are not very satisfied with the social service schemes and they wish to get rid of such schemes.
4. () Private patients have to pay for their treatment, but they don't have to pay their contributions to the national insurance and health schemes any more.
5. () The amount of money needed to operate these schemes is enormous and around 3/4 of the money comes not from the contributions but from taxation.
6. () In Britain, people who are blind and handicapped may receive special benefits from the social insurance scheme just as mothers-to-be and children do.
7. () Everyone living in Britain is included in the welfare program and can enjoy the benefits.
8. Those British citizens who can receive money from the Welfare Program.
9. Those who want to find a job in Britain can go to .
10. If one is ill, he can consult the doctor without having to .

**Reading Comprehension (Reading in Depth) (25 minutes)****Section A**

Directions: *In this section, there is a passage with ten blanks. You are required to select one word for each blank from a list of choices given in a word bank following the passage. Read the passage through carefully before making your choices. Each choice in the bank is identified by a letter. **You may not use any of the words in the bank more than once.***

Not all sleep is the same every night. We experience some deep, quiet sleep and some active sleep, which is when dreams happen. You might think sleepwalking would happen during 11 sleep, but a person isn't physically active during active sleep. 12 usually happens in the first few hours of sleep in the stage called slow-wave or deep sleep.

Not all sleepwalkers actually 13. Some 14 sit up or stand in bed or act like they're awake when in fact, they're asleep! Most, 15, do get up and move around for a few seconds or for as long as half an hour.

Sleepwalkers' eyes are 16, but they don't see the same way they do when they're awake and often think they're in different rooms of the house or different places altogether. Sleepwalkers tend to go back to bed on their own and they won't 17 it in the morning.

Researchers estimate that about 15% of kids sleepwalk regularly. Sleepwalking may run in families and sometimes occurs when a person is sick, has a fever, is not getting enough sleep, or is stressed.

If sleepwalking occurs frequently, every night or so, it's a good idea for your mom or dad to take you to see your doctor. But occasional sleepwalking generally isn't something to worry about, although it may look funny or even 18 for the people who see a sleepwalker in action.

Although 19 sleepwalking isn't a big deal, it's important, of course, that the person is kept safe. Precautions should be taken so the person is less 20 to fall down, run into something, or walk out the front door while sleepwalking.

A. however

B. effective

C. open

D. simply

E. outstanding

F. walk

G. occasional

H. scary

I. sleepwalking

J. prescribe

K. likely

L. remember

M. continually

N. active

O. induce

Section B

Directions: *There are 2 passages in this section. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them there are four choices marked A, B, C and D. You should decide on the best choice.*

Passage One

Among the tourists in Britain this summer will be an army of thieves who will return to their countries with a haul worth millions of pounds. Thousands will head for the West End shops and help themselves to the goods on display. And although some will be caught, with as many as 15 a day appearing before the magistrates, most will escape with their spoils (战利品).

Oxford Street stores alone can expect stock worth 20 million pounds to leave Britain this year without being paid for. That is a conservative estimate of the amount. Oxford Street is already losing to the international brigade (旅, 团队) of thieves. With the sinking pound bringing in overseas visitors in greater numbers than ever before, 2004 is likely to break all records for shoplifting.

As usual, the shops will make allowances for the “shrinkage”, along with other overheads (企业一般管理费用) like rates, lighting and salaries. But honest customers must pay for the plundering (抢劫之物) in higher prices.

The number of customers who have been getting something for nothing has been increasing every year. Figures are available only for the minority who, end up in court, and have grown by 100 percent in a decade. There are now more than 60 000 prosecutions a year for shoplifting. In the West End, the foreign thieves have become the biggest menace (威胁), preying on the stores in Oxford Street, Bond Street and Regent Street.

21. It seems to be quite _____ for international thieves to steal in Britain.
A. easy B. hard C. impossible D. limited to a small area
22. Which of the following words has the same meaning with the underlined phrase “preying on” in the last paragraph?
A. Beg gods for blessings.
B. Destroying.
C. Having something as a game to be hunted.
D. Making purchases in.
23. British police only have figures of those thieves who _____.
A. have been prosecuted
B. have appeared in the last decade
C. are minorities
D. only steal in Oxford
24. Who will make up for the loss made by the thieves?
A. The shop owner.
B. The government.
C. Not mentioned.
D. Average honest customers.
25. What is the author's attitude toward the increasing theft in London?
A. Indifferent. B. Worried. C. Practical. D. Radical.

Passage Two

Specialists in marketing have studied how to make people buy more food in a supermarket. They do all kinds of things that you do not even notice. For example, the simple, ordinary food that everybody must buy, like bread, milk, flour, and vegetable oil, is spread all over the store. You have to walk by all the more interesting—and more expensive—things in order to find what you need. The more expensive food is in packages with bright colored pictures. This food is placed at eye level so you see it and want to buy it. The things that you have to buy anyway are usually located on a higher or lower shelf. However, candy and other things that children like are on lower shelves. One study showed that when a supermarket moved four products from floor to eye level, it sold 78 percent more.

Another study showed that for every minute a person is in a supermarket after the first half hour, she or he spends \$50. If someone stays forty minutes, the supermarket has an additional \$5.00. So the store has a comfortable temperature in summer and winter, and it plays soft music. It is a pleasant place for people to stay—and spend more money.

Some stores have red or pink lights over the meat so the meat looks redder. They put light green paper around lettuce (生菜) and put apples in red plastic bags.

So be careful in the supermarket. You may go home with a bag of food you were not planning to buy. The supermarket, not you, decided you should buy it.

26. Marketing specialists study _____.
A. plants suitable for human needs
B. how to build shelves
C. the method of selling more products
D. how to own supermarkets
27. The more expensive kind of food is _____.

- A. in bright-colored packages
 - B. on high shelves
 - C. all near the front of the store
 - D. on lower shelves
28. According to the selection, children's books are probably _____.
- A. on low shelves
 - B. on high shelves
 - C. spread all over the store
 - D. sold in supermarket
29. A supermarket plays soft music because _____.
- A. people like to listen to it
 - B. the store has a comfortable temperature
 - C. it will make people spend more money
 - D. it will remind people to buy things they want
30. A good way to save money in a supermarket is to _____.
- A. go just before dinner
 - B. buy things that are in the prettiest packages
 - C. walk around and see what you need
 - D. make a list of what you need before you go



Unit Two



Part I

Reading Comprehension (Skimming and Scanning) (15 minutes)

Directions: *In this part, you will have 15 minutes to go over the passage quickly and answer the questions.*

For questions 1-7, mark

Y (for YES)

if the statement agrees with the information given in the passage;

N (for NO)

if the statement contradicts the information given in the passage;

NG (for NOT GIVEN)

if the information is not given in the passage.

For questions 8-10, complete the sentences with the information given in the passage.

Are You a Dreamer?

Dreams—why do we have them? Do they mean anything? Is there such a thing as a dream in which the events seen by the dreamer come true? Such questions have interested people for thousands of years. Scientific advances in the past few decades have revealed more about the physical process of sleep, but they still don't offer any final answers to the many questions about dreams that continue to puzzle us.

Everyone dreams—it's just that some of us can't remember doing so. Recordings of human brain waves show that we all go into dream mode when we fall asleep. We dream for most of the night, but we are only able to remember our dreams if we happen to wake up while we are still in REM (Rapid Eye Movement) sleep. This is when we dream. We have four or five REM stages of sleep during the night, the first occurring about 90 minutes

after we fall asleep. After that, our dreaming periods recur every 90 minutes and last between 15 to 45 minutes, getting longer as the night progresses.

The main purpose of sleep, apart from giving us rest, may be to allow us to dream—to review our lives, our worries and hopes in a totally different way, and to get an unconscious view of ourselves, getting rid of material from our memories that we no longer need.

Some dreams may have a simple physiological cause. Dreaming of walking on hot coals, for example, may well be caused by sleeping with your feet too close to a heater. And the frustrating dream in which you try to run but your legs won't move may be explained by bedding that is too tight. Anyone who sleeps through their alarm may well dream of doorbells or telephones ringing. All are simple examples of how the unconscious works with our conscious mind to guide and advise us.

But such physiological explanations are not enough to tell us why we dream. Some people believe that dreams are total nonsense, merely the result of the misfiring of electrical impulses in the brain, while on the other hand, some read great importance into even the simplest of dreams.

Some dreams reflect inner fears that are instantly recognizable. Dreaming of losing your job or house can reflect real fears, even if they are only subconscious. Most of us have dreamed that we had to take a final exam for a difficult course, which we had never taken, or in which we had done poorly.

But what of the dreams that do not have such an obvious meaning? For centuries, both men and women have sought the answers in so-called dream dictionaries, possibly the oldest of which dates back to 5 000 BC. According to these dictionaries, a dream about drinking wine meant a short life, whereas a dream about drinking water predicted a long life.

By AD 200, dream dictionaries had lost none of their popularity, and the ancient Greek Artemidorus wrote a five-volume interpretation of more than 3 000 dreams, listing such symbols as right hand (meaning father), left hand (meaning mother), and dolphin (a good omen).

Today, there are countless books offering dream interpretations in libraries and bookshops. They're as popular as ever with dream enthusiasts, but more experts warn that they should be read with care. Psychoanalyst and author Kenneth Saunders explains, "Dreams are closely tied up with an individual's mind and analysis is so open to mistakes or errors. I believe that you can only discover the true meaning of a dream if you know the person who had the dream. "

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1. () Scientists have discovered the possible causes of some dreams.
2. () Even those who claim that they can't remember dreaming actually dream for most of the night.
3. () We repeat the same dream every 90 minutes.
4. () Dreaming helps us forget unnecessary things.
5. () Some dreams can be explained as affected by physiological surroundings.
6. () The oldest dream dictionary was compiled 5 000 years ago.
7. () According to Kenneth Saunders, it is impossible to explain dreams.
8. The main purposes of sleeping are to _____.
9. Dreaming occur when we are _____.
10. Most experts warn that dream interpretations should be _____.

**Reading Comprehension (Reading in Depth) (25 minutes)****Section A**

Directions: *In this section, there is a passage with ten blanks. You are required to select one word for each blank from a list of choices given in a word bank following the passage. Read the passage through carefully before making your choices. Each choice in the bank is identified by a letter. **You may not use any of the words in the bank more than once.***

Social customs and ways of behaving are 11. Things which was considered impolite many years ago are now 12. Just a few years ago, it was considered impolite behavior for a man to smoke in the street. No man who thinks of himself as being a 13 will make a fool of himself by smoking when a lady is in the room.

Customs also 14 from country to country. Does a man walk on the left or the right of a woman in your country? Or doesn't it matter? What about table manners? Should you use both hands when you eat? Should you leave one in your lap, or on the table?

The important thing to remember about social customs is not to do anything that might make other people feel uncomfortable— 15 if they are your guests. There is an old story about a rich nobleman who gave a very 16 dinner party. When the food was 17, one of the guests started to eat his peas with a knife. The other guests were 18 or shocked, but the nobleman 19 20 his knife and began eating in the same way. It would have been bad manners to make his guests feel foolish or uncomfortable.