等学校英语专业系列教材 **FT** T F Nook Series for Tertiary English Majors

# A Gourse in Extensive Reading 英语泛读教程

司头青

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## 英语泛读教程 1

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#### 内容提要

《英语泛读教程》共4册,供大学本科英语专业学生使用,是《求知高等学校英语专业系列教材》的一部分。

本书为第1册,供英语专业1年级上学期使用。本书题材广泛,覆盖教育、文化、娱乐等多个领域,选材注重新颖性、知识性和趣味性,从而增加了教材的可读性。各单元以话题为纲组织编排,包括3篇同一话题的文章,共分为3个部分:Warm-up, In-focus, Follow-up。每篇文章的具体教学指导和练习安排包括:预读、速读训练,文章主旨理解、文章要点及细节理解、文章篇章结构理解,文章的词汇和语言,作者观点和文章风格透析。

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## 总 序

进入21世纪,我国高等教育呈现快速扩展的趋势。为适应社会、经济的快速发展,人才的培养问题已经比我国任何一个历史时期都显得更为重要。当今,人才的能力和素质的衡量越来越多地采用国际标准,人才的外语水平自然地也越来越受到培养单位和用人单位的重视,由此引发了对大学外语教学模式、教材和检测机制的新一轮讨论,掀起了新一轮的大学英语教学改革。作为外语师资队伍和外语专业人才培养的高等学校英语专业,相比之下,在教学改革思路、新教材开发和新教学模式探讨等诸方面均显得滞后。尽管高等学校外语专业教学指导委员会英语组针对当前高校发展的新形式和外语专业人才培养的新规格、新模式和新要求,修订出了新的《高等学校英语专业英语教学大纲》,并结合21世纪外语人才培养和需求的新形势,制定了由教育部高等教育司转发的《关于外语专业面向21世纪本科教育改革的若干意见》,就英语专业的建设提出了指导性的意见,但在实际工作中这两个文件的精神尚未落实。

为此,重庆大学出版社和外语教学界的专家们就国内高等学校英语专业建设所面临的新形势作了专题讨论。专家们认为,把"大纲"的设计和"若干意见"的思想和理念变为现实的一个最直接的体现方式,就是编写一套全新理念的英语专业系列教材;随着我国教育体制的改革,特别是基础教育课程标准的实施,适合高等学校英语专业教学需要的教材也应作相应的调整,以应对中小学英语教学改革的新要求;高等学校学生入学时英语水平的逐年提高和就业市场对外语人才需求呈多元化趋势的实际,对高等学校英语专业的人才培养、教学模式、课程设置、教材建设等方面也提出了严峻挑战,应对这些挑战,同样可以通过一套新的教材体系来实现。

迄今为止,国内尚无一套完整的、系统的英语专业系列教材;目前已有的教材出自不同的出版社,编写的思路和体例不尽相同;现有的教材因出版时间较早,内容、知识结构、教学方法和手段已经不能适应新的发展要求;传统的教材设计多数基于学科的内在逻辑和系统性,较少考虑学习者的全面发展和社会对人才需求的多元化。

自2001年开始,在重庆大学出版社的大力支持下,我们成立了由华中、华南、西南和西北地区的知名专家、学者和教学一线教师组成的《求知高等学校英语专业系列教材》编写组,确定了系列教材编写的指导思想和总体目标,即以《高等学校英语专业英语教学大纲》为依据,将社会的需求与培养外语人才的全面发展紧密结合,注重英语作为一个专业的学科系统性和科学性,注重英语教学和习得的方法与规律,突出特色和系列教材的内在逻辑关系,反映当前教学改革的新理念并具有前瞻性;锤炼精品,建立与英语专业课程配套的新教材体系,推动英语专业的教学改革,培养高素质人才和创新人才。

系列教材力求在以下方面有所突破和创新:

第一,教材的整体性。系列教材在课程类型上分为专业技能必修课程、专业知识必修课程、专业技能选修课程、专业知识选修课程和相关专业知识课程等多个板块。 在考虑每一种教材针对相应课程的特性和特色的同时,又考虑到系列教材间相互的 支撑性。

第二,学生基本技能和实际应用能力的培养。在课程的设计上充分考虑英语作为一个专业来培养学生的基础和基本技能,也充分考虑到英语专业学生应该具备的专业语言、文学和文化素养。同时,教材的设计兼顾到社会需求中对英语专业学生所强调的实际应用能力的培养,除考虑课程和英语专业的培养目的,课程或课程体系应该呈现的学科基本知识和规范外,充分考虑到教材另一方面的功用,即学生通过教材接触真实的语言环境,了解社会,了解文化背景,丰富学生的实践经验。在教材编写中突出强调"enable",让学习者在实践中学习语言、文学、文化和其他相关知识,更多地强调学习的过程,强调学生的参与,以此提高学生的实际应用技能。

第三,学生的全面发展。对高等学校英语专业学生而言,英语不仅是一门工具,更重要的是一个培养学生人文素质和跨文化意识的学科专业。系列教材强调合作性学习、探索性学习,培养学生的学习自主性,加强学习策略的指导。通过基础阶段课程的学习,使学生在语言知识、语言技能、文化意识、情感态度和学习策略等方面得到整体发展;在高年级阶段则更多地注重学生的人文精神、专业理论素养、中外文学及文化修养的培养。

第四,教材的开放性。一套好的教材不应该对课堂教学、老师的施教和学生的学习拓展有所制约,应给使用教材的教师和学生留有一定的空间,要让学生感到外语学习是一件愉快的事,通过学习让人思考,给人以自信,引导人走向成功。系列教材的总体设计既考虑严密的学科系统性,也考虑独具特色的开放性。不同地区、不同类型的学校,可以根据自己的生源和培养目标灵活地取舍、选用、组合教材,尤其是结合国内高等学校中正在探讨的学分制,给教与学一个多维度的课程体系。

我们希望通过这套系列教材,来推动高等学校英语专业教学改革,探讨新的教学理念、模式,为英语专业人才的培养探索新的路子,为英语专业的学生拓展求知的空间。

《求知高等学校英语专业系列教材》编委会 2004 年 8 月

## 前言

泛读课是英语专业教学重要的基础课程之一。英语泛读课的目的在于培养学生的英语阅读理解能力和提高学生的阅读速度;培养学生细致观察语言的能力以及假设判断、分析归纳、推理检验等逻辑思维能力;提高学生的阅读技能,包括细读、略读、查阅等能力;帮助学生扩大词汇量、吸收语言和文化背景知识。《英语泛读教程》(共4册)就是按照《高等学校英语专业英语教学大纲》中对阅读课程的要求而编写的。

本书为第1册,供大学本科英语专业1年级上学期使用。由于面向1年级学生,根据教学大纲中的相关教学指导要求,教材主要注重各种阅读技巧的训练,引导学生养成良好的阅读习惯。从读前准备到对文章主要观点、具体细节的正确理解、把握,以及最后对文章组织结构、作者观点、写作方法的考虑、理解等,引导学生全面了解正确的阅读过程、阅读方法,纠正学生错误的阅读习惯,并在此过程中逐渐锻炼、提高学生的阅读能力。为了更具有操作性,方便教师课堂教学,教材中并未就阅读过程与阅读技巧进行任何讲解,而是将这些内容内化于对各篇文章的练习设计之中。至于有关阅读知识方面的传授,则期望教师在具体使用教材时,按需自行添加。教材中每篇文章的练习设计主要按照循序渐进、由浅入深的原则,由预读练习直至最后的文意解析,其间涉及阅读中的各个主要过程和各种基本的技巧操练。我们的意图是通过设计精当、科学的阅读练习来帮助、配合教师介绍阅读技巧,引导学生熟悉阅读过程,养成正确的阅读习惯。

阅读教材的文章选择非常关键。本教程的选文注重将文章内容的趣味性和对1年级阅读教学训练的适应性相结合。为了培养学生的阅读兴趣,方便和活跃阅读课堂教学,教程主要选取一些新颖的、喜闻乐见的、难度及篇幅基本符合教学大纲相关要求的文章,并注意题材涉及各种话题、领域以及体裁(如说明文、论述文及叙述文等)。鉴于泛读课程的性质,本教程在保证1年级阅读教材重点的前提下,加大了选文数量,希望能够方便学生尽快熟悉各领域的基本语言、风格等,从而在课外进一步扩大相关领域的阅读,同时也通过安排大量选文及配套练习,方便教师根据各自教学实际情况进行增减或做顺序上的调整。

本教程分为14个单元,各单元以话题为纲组织编排。为了帮助学生对相关领域语言的复习和巩固,各单元在话题选择上会有固定间隔的重复。具体的话题包括:文化、科技、教育、娱乐、政治与经济、生活与健康、广告与传媒等。每个单元围绕同一话题选取3篇文章,分成3个部分:第1部分,"Warm-up",文章与练习较易,主要

供课前预习用;第2部分,"In-focus",是单元的重点,练习设计比较全面,供教师课堂教学使用;第3部分,"Follow-up",文章较长,练习设计简洁,供学生课后训练使用。在实际教学中,教师也可以根据学生具体情况和具体教学需要,自行调整各部分的教学要求和顺序。教材中每篇文章的具体教学指导与训练类型包括:预读、速读训练,文章主旨、要点与细节、篇章架构理解,文章的词汇、语言,作者观点、文章风格透析等。另外,为了保证语言的权威性与真实度,教程的文章全部选自西方报刊、杂志等出版物,未做简写。为了部分地降低文章的难度,我们特别在每篇文章的脚注中设计了词汇训练,借此对文章中重点难词和短语进行提示与练习。在每篇文章后面,我们还根据需要穿插有关的文化知识注释。

本教程练习的答案可在重庆大学出版社商务网(http://www.cqup.com.cn)上下载。凡使用本教程的教师,均可通过本书版权页上提供的联系方式向重庆大学出版社免费索取密码。

编 者 2004年8月

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## $\mathcal{U}_{\scriptscriptstyle{ ext{ t NIT 1}}}$

## **Education Policy**

## Warm-up

l.	Pre-readir	ıg			
(1)	Can you te	ll about China's	education system	n?	
(2)	What differ systems?	ences do you kn	ow between Chi	na's and America's	
(3)				tes sometime in the f torate (博士学位) ther	
			(Time limit: 4 mi	nutes — Starting time	e:;)
	•	B. 16			_
	When the argo to college		nearly of	American high school	graduates
	A. 1/2	B. 2/3	C. 3/4	D. 100%	

## The Article

### The American Education System

Editorial provided by Susan E. Hume, Ph. D., Graduate Teaching Fellow in the Geography Department at the University of Oregon.

- International students who come to the United States might wonder how f their American classmates reached that educational level. The American education system appears to be very confusing. This is a brief introduction.
- To begin with, because of the country's history and cultural values, no 2 national education system or national curriculum exists in the United States. The federal government does not operate schools.
- Each of the 50 states has its own Department of Education which sets guidelines for the schools of that state. Public colleges and universities receive funding from the state in which they are located. Each state's legislature decides how many tax dollars will be given to colleges and universities.
- Most of the control of American schools lies in the hands of each local school district. Each school district<sup>①</sup> is governed by a school board<sup>②</sup>, a small committee of people elected by the local community. The school board sets general policies for the school district. Students do not pay tuition in grades 1-12.
- Generally, school districts are divided into elementary schools, middle schools or junior high schools, and high schools. Elementary schools contain students in kindergarten and 1st through 5th or 6th grades. Many children go to

① school district (para. 4): <美>学区,其中公立学校处在共同管理之下

② school board (para. 4): 地方教育董事会

kindergarten when they are five years old. Children begin first grade at age six.

- Depending on the school district, students follow elementary school with either middle school or junior high school. Middle school contains grades 6-8. Junior high school contains grades 7-9. Following that, students go to high school. High school contains grades 9-12 or 10-12.
- High school students take a wide range of courses. All students are required to take English, maths, science, and social studies courses. They also might be required to take a foreign language and/or physical education. A course can be one semester or two semesters long.
- In the United States, education is compulsory<sup>®</sup> for all students until age 16. Usually, a student graduates after he or she has successfully passed all the required courses. Grades are given to students for each course at the end of every semester or term. Grades are:
- A = Excellent, B = Above Average, C = Average, D = Below Average,
   F = Failure (A student who fails a required course must take the course
   again.)
- In 1970, about half of all American students who graduated from high school went to college. Today, nearly three out of four American high school graduates go to college.

### Admission<sup>®</sup> to a College / University

- Although admission policies vary from one college and university to the next, most determine admission based on several factors such as a student's high school course of study, high school GPA, SAT scores, written essay, and possibly personal interview.
- The college or university admission office considers whether a student has taken courses in high school that have prepared him/her for the more difficult college courses. A student's high school grade point average (GPA)

B. required

C. basic

B. entrance fee

C. right to enter

③ compulsory (para. 8): A. free

<sup>(4)</sup> admission (para. 11): A. acknowledgement



- is also considered. A GPA is a quantitative figure representing a student's accumulated grades. Each letter grade is assigned a number of points: A=4 points, B=3, C=2, D=1, and F=0 points.
- A GPA is calculated by adding all of the points earned for each course grade and dividing the total points by the total number of courses taken. For example, a GPA of 3.0 means a "B" average for all of the courses taken.
- Most colleges and universities set a minimum SAT score that a student must achieve in order to gain admission. The SAT is the Scholastic Aptitude Test, a standardized quantitative examination taken by high school students throughout the United States. Each college or university decides the minimum SAT score it will accept.
- Colleges and universities often require applicants to write an essay. The length and content of the essay is determined by each admission office. Depending on the college or university, applicants might also have a personal interview with a representative from the admissions office.

#### There are four types of degrees

- Associate's (completion of a program in a specific career field),
  Bachelor's (conferred after completion of an undergraduate program),
  Master's (first graduate degree),
  - Doctorate (second graduate degree and final degree).
- At the college and university level, most courses are only one semester long. Each course is assigned a number of credit hours. Credit hours are usually based on how much time is spent in class. Most courses are 3 credits. However, some courses may be 1, 2, 4 or 5 credits. All degree programs require students to complete a minimum number of credit hours before graduation. Most Bachelor's degree programs in the United States don't

⑤ quantitative (para. 12): A. 淀性的

B. 定量的

C. 很多的

⑥ accumulated (para. 12): A. 累积的

B. 平均的

C. 增多的

② scholastic (para. 14): A. 学校的

B. 学术的

C. 权威的

<sup>®</sup> aptitude (para. 14): A. 适合

B. 能力

C. 态度



require students to write a final thesis. A final thesis is required for most Master's programs and all Doctorate programs. Selection for admission to a graduate program is similar to the factors used to determine admission to an undergraduate program. Instead of considering high school courses and GPA, an admissions office examines the student's undergraduate courses and GPA. Most Master's programs require students to have a minimum score on the GRE. The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is similar to the SAT.

- In most Doctorate programs, students continue to take courses until they have earned enough credit hours to attempt their qualifying examinations. After students pass the qualifying exams, they can begin to write their final thesis.
- Because degree requirements can be very complex and vary from one program to another, all students should check with their departments and program advisors to make sure they are meeting the requirements of their particular programs.

## Culture Notes

Grades: Professors give letter grades to show the quality of a student's work. The grade tells how well the student is performing on tests, research papers, and class participation. Most colleges or universities require that students maintain a minimum grade point average to continue their studies. Here are the grades and the grade point averages:

	Letter Grade	Grade Point
	A +	4.0
Excellent	Α	4.0
	A	3.7

续表

#2000 CSC 1270 CSC 12	Letter Grade	Grade Point
	B +	3.3
Above Average	В	3.0
	В –	2.7
	C +	2.3
Average	С	2.0
	C -	1.7
	D +	1.3
Poor	D	1.0
	D -	0.7
Failure	F	0

(Source: http://www.educationguide-usa.com/isg/edusystem.htm)

## 3. Reading comprehension

i. Reading for main idea	
(1) According to the article, who does N	IOT operate American schools?
A. The Federal Government.	B. The states.
C. Local school districts.	D. Local school board.
(2) Fill the blanks with the grades ea	ach section of the pre-college/university
education contains.	
Elementary school:	
Middle school: (or	junior high school;
High school:/	
(3) The factors determining admission	to a college or university are listed in

1	~Y	7
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1	-	U

paragrap)	h.

### ii. Understanding the language

#### A. Vocabulary

Pick out the right meaning of each of the words in the footnotes of the article. You should only guess the meaning of the words from the context where they appear in the article. You should not use a dictionary in this exercise.

B. Phrases and sentence	3. Phr	ases	and	sentence
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A. Associate's

B. Phrases and sentences Paraphrase the following sentence	ees.
(1) " admission policies vary from (para. 11)	one college and university to the next"
(2) All degree programs require stude credit hours before graduation. (p	lents to complete a minimum number of ara. 17)
iii. Reading for facts	
(1) Students in the United States have choice is acceptable)	e to pay tuition in (more than one
A. elementary school	B. middle school or junior high school
C. high school	D. college and university
E. post-graduate programs	
(2) Who decides the minimum SAT university?	score for an admission to a college or
A. The federal government.	B. The State Department of Education.
C. The college or university itself.	D. Local school district.
(3) A final thesis is required for all	programs.

C. Master's D. Doctorate (4) If you have taken 5 courses and have got the following letter grades: A, A,

B. Bachelor's

B, B, C, what is your GPA? And what does your GPA mean?

A. 3.2; excellent.	B. 3.2; above average.
C. 3.0; average.	D. 3.0; above average.
(5) Which one is NOT a factor det program?	ermining the admission to a graduate
A. High school course of study.	B. Undergraduate GPA.
C. GRE score.	D. Personal interview.
4. Interpretation and evaluation	a
colleges and universities." Who do you	how many tax dollars will be given to u think actually fund the public colleges t students do not pay tuition in grades
In-focus  1. Pre-reading	
(1) Do you happen to know any children are they? What do you think could	en who have no access to education? Who I be done to help them?
(2) Are there still illiterate adults ar aimed to eliminate adult illiteracy?	ound you? Do you know any programs
2. Skimming and scanning (Time (1) What meeting is this article about	limit: 4 minutes — Starting time::)