

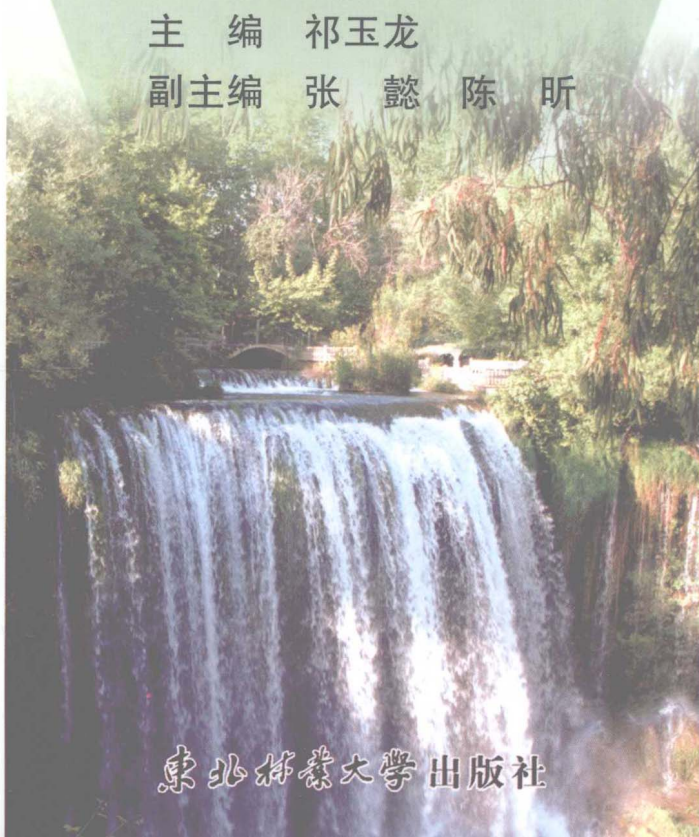
现代大学英语阅读

(1)

教学参考书

主 编 祁玉龙

副主编 张 懿 陈 昕



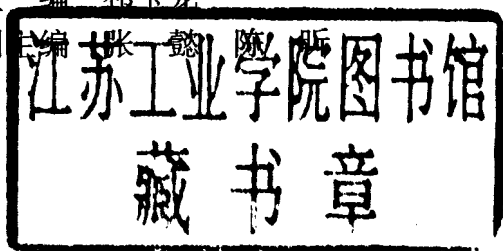
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前 言

英语阅读课一般也被称作泛读课，以广泛的阅读为课程特色。英语阅读课往往阅读量面广，课文中生词多，所涉及的背景知识丰富，学生在进行阅读的同时，可以吸收许多精读课之外的语言知识和文化知识；而且在重点训练阅读技能的基础上，在听、说、读、写、译各方面实现语言技能的全面训练。目前英语阅读课仍然是国内英语专业学生的专业必修课，对于精读课内的众多语言现象的巩固具有重要意义。

虽然英语阅读课程的重要性显而易见，但长期以来，英语专业阅读教材并不统一，主要是因为教材编写者对于阅读教材内容的选材有不同的见解，有的认为应以各种实用性文章为主，包括新闻报道、科学报告和政治评论等；有的主张以著名作家的代表性作品精选为主，包括小说、戏剧、杂文等。笔者认为，作为英语语言文学专业的一门基础课程，英语阅读课本仍然应以文学类作品为主，兼顾多种体裁，因此编者认为外语教学与研究出版社出版的《现代大学英语阅读》是一套优秀的教材。这套教材由北京外国语大学杨立民教授担任总主编，由北京外国语大学多位著名教授共同编写，所选内容从类型、题材来看丰富多彩，基本涵盖了常见的文学体裁；从所选择的作品内容来看，其趣味性和可读性都很强。至今这套教材已经出了第二版，在第一版有详细注释的基础上，又增加了部分作家的简介和习题及讨论题等。但是文中的生词没有加以系统归纳，也没有给出音标，在无形中加大了学生的预习难度，同时，作家的简介也比较简单，不利于学

生将作品与作者相结合。编者在多年教授英语阅读课程的经验基础上，结合对于此套教材的授课实践，针对教材的生词、作者、习题、课外知识拓展等方面尝试加以系统整理，编写成此教学参考书，希望能对使用这套教材的英语专业学生和广大英语爱好者有所帮助。

由于教材选材广泛，阅读内容多样，词汇量较大，因此本书的编写有一定的难度，我们为此做出了艰苦的努力。但由于水平所限，书中错误在所难免，我们衷心希望广大读者给予批评指正。

祁玉龙 张懿 陈昕
2008年6月

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The Selfish Giant

I . Introduction of the Writer

Oscar Fingal O'Flahertie Wills Wilde (1854—1900) was an Irish playwright, novelist, poet, and author of short stories. He was one of the most successful playwrights of late Victorian London, a representative writer of the Aestheticism, and one of the greatest celebrities of his day. The Aesthetic Movement is a loosely defined movement in literature, fine art, the decorative arts, and interior design in later nineteenth-century Britain. It belongs to the anti-Victorian reaction and had post-Romantic roots, and as such anticipates Modernism. It took place in the late Victorian period from around 1868 to 1901, and is generally considered to have ended with the trial of Oscar Wilde.

Oscar Wilde's first collection of poems is *Ravenna* (1878), and first play is *Vera*; or, *The Nihilists* (1880), and best-known plays are *Salomé* (1893), *The Importance of Being Earnest* (1895). He also wrote fairy tales *The Happy Prince and Other Stories* (1888) and only one novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray* (1891)

II . References to the Exercise

1. The giant was cold and not talkative. But he still had the desire to be with friends.

2. It might be a place wrapped in winter without children, flowers or happiness.

3. He liked to see the spring flowers because he once said, "I can not understand why the spring is so late in coming."

4. They have multiple meanings. The garden stands for the society, or one's heart and mind that are short of companionship and happiness; the giant is the selfish person or everyone or the arrogant part of oneself; and the trees are the hope, life.

5. We can see he turned out to be Jesus Christ. Because of the betrayal of one disciple Judah, he was caught and nailed to death on cross. It is said that he shouldered all the sins and weakness of human being and at last sacrificed himself for the sake of salvation of people. So the boy said that the wounds on his palms and feet were the wounds of love.

6. Because the little boy reminded him of how selfish he had been and how good it was to help and share something with others. The more you pay for somebody the more you will care about him.

7. To the heaven.

III. Vocabulary

blossom	[ˈblɒsəm]	n.	a flower or the flowers on a tree or bush	花, 花开的状态
ogre	[ˈɔːɡə]	n.	a large imaginary person in children's stories who eats people	食人魔鬼, 怪物, 像鬼的人
gruff	[grʌf]	a.	speaking in a rough, unfriendly voice	粗哑的
but	[bʌt]	prep.	apart from [= except]	除……以外
prosecute	[ˈprɒsɪkjʊ:t]	v.	to charge someone with a crime and try to show that they are guilty of it in a court of law:	起诉, 控告

linnet	['linit]	n.	a small brown singing bird	朱顶雀, 红雀
casement	['keismənt]	n.	a window that opens like a door with HINGEs at one side	窗户, 窗扇
creep	[kri:p]	v.	to move in a quiet, careful way, especially to avoid attracting attention	爬, 蠕动, 偷偷溜进来
twitter	['twitə]	v.	if a bird twitters, it makes a lot of short high sounds	(鸟) 吱吱叫, 嘁嘁喳喳叫
feeble	['fi:bl]	a.	extremely weak	虚弱的, 无力的
slay	[slei]	v.	to kill someone - used especially in newspapers	杀, 杀害, 残杀
paradise	['pærədaiz]	n.	according to the Bible, the garden where the first humans, Adam and Eve, lived	天堂

The Sheik's White Donkey

I . References to the Exercise

1. A sheik was the leader of the caravan. The means for traveling was the camel.

2. The sheik was a dignified old man with fierce dark eyes and a white beard. He rode a large white donkey. The special description of the donkey may give a hint for the later occurrence, leaving us the impression of the holy status and magic power of the donkey.

3. A passenger or a customer of the caravan. A businessman.

4. It disappeared. He decided to tell the sheik about the missing of the bag with the 80 pieces of gold. The sheik promised that "I" could have the gold before evening came.

5. No one confessed the crime. The sheik planned to get all his men together and asked the donkey to tell the thief by talking when these men went into the tent and pulled the donkey's tail. The plan worked and he found the thief. Who didn't dare to pull the donkey's tail, and thus had no mint on his hand.

6. The donkey was nothing but a test of people's heart.

7. Yes. The sheik has the authority over the men in the tribe or caravan.

II. Vocabulary

sheik	[ʃeɪk, ʃi:k]	n.	an Arab ruler or prince	(阿拉伯人的) 家长, 族长, 酋长
caravan	[ˈkærəvæn]	n.	a group of people with animals or vehicles who travel together for safety, especially through a desert	穿越沙漠的驼队或车队
dignified	[ˈdignɪfaɪd]	a.	behaving in a calm and serious way, even in a difficult situation, which makes people respect you	有威严的, 有品格的, 尊贵的, 高贵的
fierce	[fɪəs]	a.	a fierce person or animal is angry or ready to attack, and looks very frightening	猛烈的, 残忍的, 狂暴的, 强烈的, 锐利的, 犀利的
grateful	[ˈɡreɪtful]	a.	feeling that you want to thank someone because of something kind that they have done, or showing this feeling	感激的, 感谢的
stroke	[strəʊk]	v.	to move your hand gently over something	抚摸, 捋
flap	[flæp]	n.	a thin flat piece of cloth, paper, skin etc that is fixed by one edge to a surface, which you can lift up easily	门帘, 垂吊物

descendant	[di'send(ə)nt]	n.	someone who is related to a person who lived a long time ago, or to a family, group of people etc that existed in the past	子孙, 后代
prophet	['prɒfɪt]	n.	a man who people in the Christian, Jewish, or Muslim religion believe has been sent by God to lead them and teach them their religion	预言者, 先知
innocent	['ɪnəsnt]	a.	not guilty of a crime	无辜的, 无辜的, 清白的
mercy	['mɜ:si]	n.	if someone shows mercy, they choose to forgive or to be kind to someone who they have the power to hurt or punish	怜悯, 宽恕, 仁慈
palm	[pɑ:m]	n.	the inside surface of your hand, in which you hold things	手掌
amaze	[ə'meɪz]	v.	to surprise someone very much [= astonish]	使吃惊
miracle	['mɪrəkl]	n.	something very lucky or very good that happens which you did not expect to happen or did not think was possible	奇迹
mint	[mɪnt]	n.	a small plant with green leaves that have a fresh smell and taste and are used in cooking	薄荷

I Met A Bushman

I . Introduction of the Writer

This is a passage from a series of books *The Chicken Soup for the Soul*, by Jack Canfield and Mark Hansen. Jack Canfield and Mark Hansen are American inspirational and motivational authors. They are best known as the founders and co-creators of *The Chicken Soup for the Soul* book series, which are one of the most successful publishing franchises in the world today. The name “Chicken Soup” was chosen because of the use of chicken soup as a home remedy for the sick. The first *Chicken Soup* book sold more than 2 million copies. There are now over 140 million copies in print and in 54 languages worldwide.

II . References of the Exercise

1. They said that if the car broke down there would be no one passing by for days and there would be insects and bushmen even worse. The risk was that the Bushmen would wait for him to die behind the tall grass and then took the traveler’s water bottle, belt and shoes. But the narrator was going to a distant town in south-west Africa across the Kalahari Desert, so he decided to try it.

2. Owing to the traditional prejudice that bushmen were wild men without mercy, people would think the bushmen were dangerous. In fact, they were natives indigenous people of southern Africa which

spans most areas of South Africa, Zimbabwe, Lesotho, Mozambique, Swaziland, Botswana, Namibia and Angola. They were traditionally hunter-gatherers, part of the Khoisan group, and are related to the traditionally pastoral Khoikhoi. Starting in the 1950s, through the 1990s, they switched to farming. Genetic evidence suggests they are one of the oldest, if not the oldest, peoples in the world — a “genetic Adam” according to Spencer Wells, from which all humans can ultimately trace their genetic heritage

3. The car at last broke down and when the noon sun was terribly hot and the narrator felt lonely, thirsty and a little afraid, the narrator saw a bushman squatting behind the tall brown grass. The bushman showed his kindness by opening his lips and showing a row of amazingly white teeth.

4. No harm at all. The bushman understood what happened.

5. Because the first impression rooted so deeply in his or common people's mind.

6. The Bushman helped him find water in the desert with which to fill the radiator to start the engine. Not for the Bushman, the narrator would have died on the spot.

7. The narrator first intended to give watch to him, and at refusing the narrator gave him a bottle of water but the Bushman put it back on the floor of the car.

III. Vocabulary

bushman	['bʊʃmæn]	n.	someone who belongs to a southern African tribe who live in the BUSH (= wild country)	丛林居民
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insect	['insekt]	n.	a small creature such as a fly or ANT, that has six legs, and sometimes wings	昆虫
distant	['distənt]	a.	far away in space or time	遥远的, 偏远的
lonely	['ləʊnli]	a.	a lonely place is a long way from where people live and very few people go there	荒凉的, 人迹罕至的, 人烟稀少的
radiator	['reɪdiəɪtə]	n.	the part of a car or aircraft which stops the engine from getting too hot	散热器, (汽车的) 水箱
hood	[hud]	n.	the metal covering over the engine on a car	(汽车前部的) 发动机罩
automobile	['ɔ:təməbi:l]	n.	car	汽车
horn	[hɔ:n]	n.	the thing in a vehicle that you use to make a loud sound as a signal or warning	喇叭
squat	[skwɒt]	v.	to sit with your knees bent under you and your bottom just off the ground, balancing on your feet	蹲下, 坐
pile	[paɪl]	n.	a group of several things of the same type that are put on top of each other	堆
motionless	['məʊf(ə)nli:s]	a.	not moving at all [= still]	不动的, 静止的

consider	[kən'sɪdə]	v.	to think of someone or something in a particular way or to have a particular opinion	考虑, 思考, 认为
intend	[ɪn'tend]	v.	to have something in your mind as a plan or purpose	打算
hollow	['hɒləʊ]	a.	having an empty space inside	中空的, 空心的
hospitality	[,hɒspi'tælɪti]	n.	friendly behaviour towards visitors	好客, 殷勤, 款待
wrist	[rɪst]	n.	the part of your body where your hand joins your arm	腕, 腕关节