

Active English Learning



主 编 熊敦礼

副主编 周江林 阙紫江

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华中理工大学出版社

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内 容 提 要

本书为《Active English Learning》(共四册)的第一册,供学习大学英语一级的各专业学生或相当此水平的读者使用。本书的 31 篇文章,均选自于国外新近出版的杂志和期刊,包括语言、教育、文化、科技等内容。而且,作者还针对中国学生学习英语的困难,设计了各种形式的主、客观练习题,供读者选用。使用本书对提高读者英语语言的运用能力会有较大的帮助。

前 言

本书为《Active English Learning》(共四册)的第一册。编者从国外新近发表的各种期刊、杂志中选出体裁、风格各异的 31 篇文章,分为十个单元,内容包括英语语言、学校教育、文化习俗、科学技术等,并针对中国学生学习英语的困难,设计了各种形式的主、客观性练习题,以培养学生在英语阅读过程中,用英语思考的习惯,提高阅读理解能力,从而达到提高学生英语语言的实际运用能力的目的。

本书博采国内外英语阅读教材之所长,在总体设计和编写上有以下几个特点:

1. 结构设计安排新颖,每篇文章位于版面正中,上下左右均有给读者思考的问题或帮助理解的提示,使读者更能主动进行阅读;

2. 既不同于传统的精读,又不同于泛读,而是吸收了精、泛读的长处,在阅读的“质”和“量”上均有要求;

3. 可用于教师上课讲授,也可用于学生课外自学,读者可根据不同需要选做不同练习,以巩固阅读中掌握的语言基础知识;

4. 在各篇之后的练习中,除编写了部分客观选择题外,还编写了大量主观性练习题,使读者能在阅读、词汇、语法、翻译及写作上均能得到训练。

本书由在华中理工大学工作的外籍专家 Frank Matton 博士进行了全面的、认真细致的审阅,并提出了许多宝贵的修改意见,华中理工大学出版社领导和英语编辑在本书编写中给予了热情支持,在此一并致以衷心的感谢。

由于教材编写是一项极其复杂的工作,加之我们水平有限,编法又有异于传统教材,书中难免有错误及不当之处,敬请同仁、专家和广大读者批评指正。

本册参加编写人员还有(按姓氏笔画排列):

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1996 年 12 月 25 日

使用说明

本册供学习大学英语一级的文、理、工、管等各类学生或相当此水平的读者使用。本册分为十个单元(Unit),由 31 篇课文(Text)组成,每一课包含文章、生词及词组和练习三部分构成。全书最后附有练习答案,供读者参考。

I. 课文

此部分除正文之外,在正文前有读前问题(Pre-reading Questions),正文下方有脚注(Footnotes),正文左右两边还分别有理解(Comprehension)和词汇注释(Vocabulary):

1. 读前问题(Pre-reading Questions)一般有 2—3 个,这些问题有助于将读者引入积极主动的阅读状态。

2. 理解(Comprehension)栏旨在训练读者在通读全文后能快捷、准确地在词与句(用斜体标出)的水平上理解文章意思,含有简答问题(Short-answer Questions)及不完全的句子(Uncomplete Sentences)两种形式。

3. 词汇注释(Vocabulary)栏将正文中一些理解上的关键词(有 * 标记)用简明的英语加以解释,免去了读者在阅读中因查找而反复翻页的麻烦。

4. 脚注(Footnotes)对某些专有名词或某些读者可能感到疑惑的结构或句子进行必要的说明或简明的解释,并提供与其相关的背景知识。

II. 生词及词组

生词及词组栏位于课文之后,主要包含读者在中学阶段未曾学过的词及词组,还包含部分要求学生重点掌握的学过的词及词组。

1. 生词表包括生词的注音、词性及释义三部分。释义一般以该词在该文中表示的意思及最常用的意思为主。

2. 词组只给出汉语释义。

III. 练习

本册练习包含以下几种形式:

1. 正误判断题。旨在要求读者阅读后根据文章的意思确定所给句子正确与否。

2. 分析选择题。要求读者正确理解文章中的细节、主旨大意及隐含意思,作出选择。

3. 词语定义匹配题。要求读者找出所列词汇的正确定义。

4. 语法、词汇用法选择题。旨在要求读者在一定的语言环境中更好地了解与掌握文章中出现的积极词汇与语法结构。

5. 翻译。要求读者根据阅读中掌握的词或词组、句子结构用于实际,将汉语句译为英语,以不断提高学生使用语言的能力。

向您推荐

初级英语考试指南
中级英语考试指南
高级英语考试指南
研究生入学英语考试指南
怎样写英文本涉外经济合同
英语四级考试——写作
英语四级考试——阅读理解
英语四级考试精练精析1200题
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英语六级考试——阅读理解
英语六级考试——词汇、语法、综合改错
英语六级考试——写作
英语六级考试最新仿真集
简明英语语法和用法指南
学生实用英语语法
英语词汇强力突破(2000—20000)
英语核心词组速递
英语词汇难词精解
英语词汇多途径记忆
实用英语成语——功能意念与活用
WSK(EPT)国家英语水平英语考试最新动态与对策(配磁带)
WSK(EPT)国家英语水平考试词汇对策
外语单记全息速记法与全息英语单词卡
英语科技论文和文摘写作精解

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II. "TEA" COMES FROM CHINA

III. LOVE, MARRIAGE AND GRAMMAR

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1. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 1990; 263: 1025-1026.

2



1. ENGLISH—A WORLD LANGUAGE?

Pre-reading Questions:

1. How many languages can you speak?
2. What language will become a world language? Why?
3. What language has the largest number of native speakers?

Comprehension

Vocabulary

Why is a world
language important?

The advantages of some form of international language in the modern world are obvious. Thanks to modern methods of transport, we can travel everywhere more easily and more quickly than ever before, but the language problem still remains. Without a common language, misunderstandings arise and there can be no real contact between people of different nationalities.

There are two possible solutions to this problem; either we choose one of the existing major languages of the world, or we make up an artificial* one. But neither solution is simple because no existing major language will be acceptable to everyone and because an artificial language, such as Esperanto, has no literature and would be thought dull by many learners.

* not natural

"its" refers to _____?

It is often said that English is quickly becoming a world language. It is certainly the most widely used language in the world, and second only to Chinese in *its* number of native speakers but there are certain dangers in choosing English as an international language.

Why is English not
acceptable?

First of all, owing to political reasons and national pride, English is not acceptable to everyone as a world language. Many dislike its influence; they see it as a form of

interference, perhaps even domination*.
English words enter their languages and this
too causes offence. In France, a new
word——franglais——has been invented to
describe the results. Le weekend has existed
for ages and the breath test① is called
l'alcoholtest. Although English is being
taught in more and more schools abroad, the
process is not always popular. Not every
nation is prepared to accept the dominant*
position of a foreign language in their
educational system.

* full control
30
35
40

Another danger is that differences in
standard English arise from its use throughout
the world. It could break up, with languages
developing from dialects* of English. Already
Indian teachers and Nigerian② students have
been unable to understand each other's
English. The dialects of West Africa and the
Caribbean③ are not normally understood by
users of any of the standard forms of English.

* most im-
portant
* a variety
of a language
used in one
part of a
country
45

It has also been said that the choice of
English will make native speakers unwilling to
learn other languages, as a result of their
satisfaction with their own. But, for better or
worse, it is English which is being taught
most widely throughout the world. Indeed

50
55

“it” refers to ____? some would say it has already become the
world language.

Words and Expressions

- advantage/əd'vɑ:ntɪdʒ/n 有利条件
nationality/ˌnæʃə'nælɪti/n 国籍
solution/sə'lu:ʃən/n 解决(办法)
existing/ɪg'zɪstɪŋ/a 现存的

① breath test:呼吸测试。警察所取的呼吸抽样以检查司机是否酒后驾驶。
② Nigerian:(西非一国家)尼日利亚的
③ Caribbean:(中南美洲东部)加勒比海

artificial/ˌɑːtiˈfiʃəl/ *a* 人造的, 人工的
 Esperanto/ˌespəˈræntəu/ *n* 世界语
 literature/ˈlitərɪtʃə/ *n* 文献
 influence/ˈɪnfluəns/ *n* 影响
 interference/ˌɪntəˈfɪərəns/ *n* 干扰
 domination/dəmiˈneɪʃən/ *n* 支配, 统治
 offence/əˈfens/ *n* 冒犯, 触怒
 dominant/ˈdɒmɪnənt/ *a* 支配的, 统治的, 占优势的
 dialect/ˈdaɪəlekt/ *n* 地方话, 方言, 土语
 unwilling/ˈʌnˈwɪlɪŋ/ *a* 不愿意的, 厌恶的
 standard/sˈtændəd/ *a* 标准的

owing to 由于
 thanks to 幸亏, 由于
 make up 编造, 虚构
 as a result of 作为(……的)结果
 for better or worse 不论好坏, 不管怎么样

Exercises

1. Decide whether the following statements are true or false. Write “T”(true) or “F”(false) in the brackets for each statement.
 - 1) English has become the world language. ()
 - 2) Chinese is certainly the most widely used language in the world. ()
 - 3) Indian teachers and Nigerian students have been unable to understand each other's English. ()
2. Analyze the text. Choose the correct answer.
 - 1) There can be no contact between people of different nationalities _____.
 - A. without modern methods of transport
 - B. without an international language
 - C. without Esperanto
 - D. without English
 - 2) English is not acceptable to everyone as a world language because of _____.
 - A. some political reasons
 - B. national pride
 - C. A, B and D
 - D. differences in standard English
 - 3) Owing to _____, Indian teachers and Nigerian students have been unable to understand each other's English.
 - A. dialects of English
 - B. different nationalities
 - C. standard English
 - D. their educational systems
 - 4) _____ has the largest number of native speakers in the world.

A. Spanish

B. English

C. Chinese

D. French

3. Match the word in the left column with its definition in the right column.

1) artificial

A. something useful or helpful

2) make up

B. a variety of a language used in one part of a country, different from the standard language

3) offence

C. condition of being hurt in one's feelings

4) dominant

D. invent

5) dialect

E. not natural

F. having control, most important

G. clear, easy to understand

4. Select the best answer among the four choices.

1) _____ a good teacher, John passed the examination.

A. Thanks to

B. Because

C. Thanks for

D. Owing

2) There is more than one solution _____ this problem.

A. for

B. in

C. to

D. with

3) The hunter knew the Indians might _____ kill him _____ let him live.

A. neither... or

B. either... or

C. nor... or

D. either... so

4) San Francisco is second only _____ New York as the tourist city of the United States.

A. by

B. with

C. beyond

D. to

5) Many countries _____ to consider nuclear energy.

A. are preparing

B. are prepared

C. prepares

D. has prepared

6) These results appear only in very artificial conditions. "Artificial" means _____.

A. artistic

B. international

C. not natural

D. practical

7) The _____ of Europe over the rest of the world has changed.

A. domination

B. occupation

C. inclusion

D. competition

8) A serious problem has _____.

A. risen

B. arisen

C. been risen

D. been arisen

9) I missed my flight _____ a traffic hold-up.

A. because

B. thanks for

C. owing to

D. as to

10) The play is liable to give _____ to many people because it is realistic.

A. defence

B. dependence

C. difference

D. offence

5. Translation

1) 人们常说英语正在很快成为世界性的语言。(It is said)

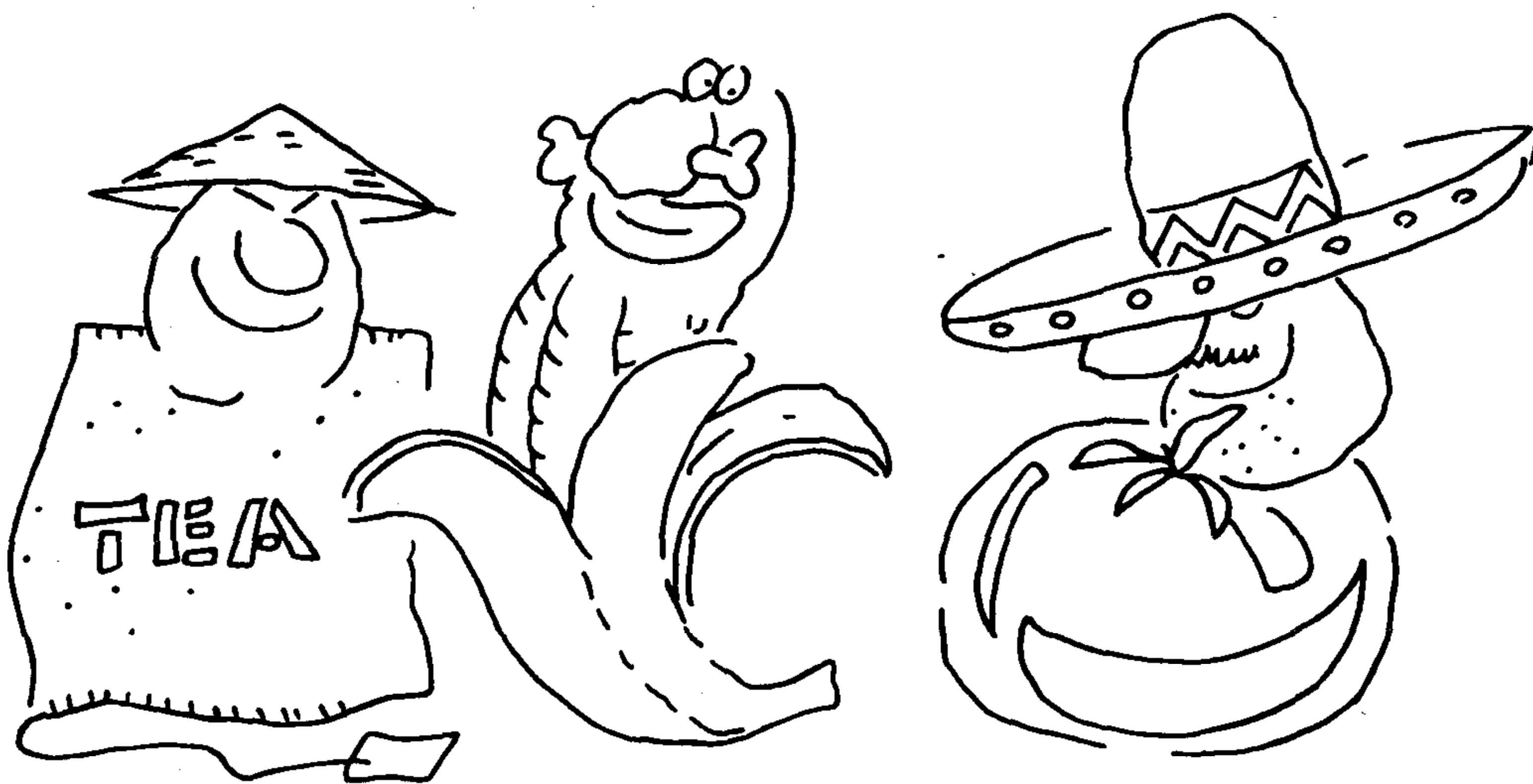
2) 这是解决我们问题的一个非常干净利落的办法。(solution)

3) 不管怎样,我们要尽全力。(for better or worse)

II. "TEA" COMES FROM CHINA

Pre-reading Questions:

1. Great Britain has three parts. What are the name and the language of each part?
2. Why may English continue to be an important international language?



Comprehension

"It" refers to _____?

Many people think the English do not like to speak other languages. In fact, English is a mixture* of words from many different languages. Because of this, the vocabulary of the English language is very large. *It* is much larger than almost every other language in the world.

"these two languages" refers to _____?

Many English words come from Latin^①, the old language of Rome, and also from old Greek^②. From Latin we get words like 'wine', 'use' and 'day'. From Greek we have words such as 'photograph', 'bible'^③ and 'ink'. Because *these two languages* are dead* the words have most often come through other

Vocabulary

* something made by combining different things

* not spoken any more

- ① Latin: 拉丁语
- ② Greek: 希腊语
- ③ bible: 圣经