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快速阅读新目标

总主编 李长忠 李 灏
主 编 张 政

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编 者 (按姓氏笔画排序)

丁 冉 刘效群

张继光 周 健

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总主编: 李长忠 李 灏

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张 政 主 编

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前言

Preface

阅读是提高外语技能的重要手段,而快速阅读又是阅读技能的重要方面,进行科学合理的快速阅读训练,有助于帮助学生运用和掌握正确的阅读方法,养成良好的阅读习惯,有效培养阅读能力,从而促进学习者外语综合技能的迅速提高。实际阅读都具有明确和特定的目的:对整篇文章主旨内容的把握,对文章观点的评判,对局部内容的理解,对事实与细节的分辨,对具体信息的捕捉等。

《大学英语快速阅读新目标》第1册至第4册按照《大学英语课程教学要求(试行)》,结合大学英语四级新题型对快速阅读能力的要求,并根据大学英语阅读能力培养的实际需要编写。所选内容遵循的原则是:内容新颖,时代感强,选材既有历史、传统的内容,也有社会、科技发展的最新信息;体裁和题材多样化,考虑到知识的多样性,文、理、工、医等内容兼顾;内容富有知识性和趣味性,既增长学习者的多元知识,又能使学习者保持阅读兴趣;材料来源多样化,语言地道。本套教材共4册,每册及单元之间由浅入深、由易到难、循序渐进。第1册至第4册文章的长度梯度增长,最终与大学英语四级考试的要求相吻合。每册由8个单元构成,每单元有4篇阅读材料。每篇阅读材料后面设10道测试题,按照大学英语四级快速阅读题型设计,一般前7题为理解题,后3题为填空题。为了便于学习者及时检验自己的阅读情况,后面附有参考答案。本教材每单元的内容,一部分可以作为课堂强化训练,一部分可以作为学习者的课后自主练习。

在编写这套教材的过程中,苏州大学出版社给予了多方面的支持。对此,我们表示感谢。

在使用过程中,如发现有不当之处,衷心希望广大老师和同学提出批评意见和建议,以便今后改进和完善。

编者

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第3册

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Unit 1

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.

Passage 1 Bluetooth Technology

What is Bluetooth technology?

Bluetooth is a low-power-consumption and short-range wireless technology for personal area networks(PANs). It connects your personal electronic devices, such as laptops, mobile phones, digital cameras, audio equipments, and printers, without the clutter of cables. The Swedish telecom giant Ericsson originally developed Bluetooth. The name is inspired by King Harold Bluetooth, known for his unification of previously warring tribes from Denmark, Norway, and Sweden. Likewise, the Bluetooth technology was intended to unify and connect different personal electronic devices.

What can you do with Bluetooth?

Bluetooth saves time and improves mobility by supporting a portable network anywhere. You do not have to stop, sit down, and mess with the cables in order to use your electronics. This portable personal network is typically anchored in a smart



phone or laptop computer. To fully understand the power of Bluetooth, let's first check out some common use cases for the Bluetooth technology.

Car kits

A Bluetooth car kit allows you to use your voice to operate the phone, and talk on the phone via the car's built-in audio system. They can also display callers' IDs, callers' pictures, and other call information in the dash. You never need to plug the phone into the car, which would require different connectors for different phones.

Keyboards and mice

Common computer accessories like keyboards and mice can be connected to the PC via Bluetooth. This helps to keep the office desk tidy. But more importantly, some Bluetooth keyboards and mice also work with smart phones and PDAs (personal digital assistants). They are essential tools for mobile e-mail.

Wireless access points

Bluetooth can provide connectivity from devices to an Internet access point. For instance, you can share a wireless Internet connection from a mobile phone to a laptop via Bluetooth. This way, you can use your laptop to browse the Internet whenever your phone has a signal. Compared with regular WiFi, the wireless Internet via the mobile phone network (i. e. the GPRS/UTMS/EV-DO networks) is more pervasive, cheaper, and often faster.

Handheld navigation

Bluetooth-enabled GPS (Global Positioning System) receivers can be connected to PDAs, smartphones, or laptops. You can leave the GPS receiver in your pocket or backpack, and use the mapping software on the computer to navigate.

Social networking

Bluetooth devices can discover and communicate with nearby devices. They can facilitate communications between strangers who happen to be in the proximity. Nokia Sensor is a free Bluetooth application for Series 60 smartphones. You can publish your personal profile, including photos, on your Bluetooth smartphones, and nearby Sensor users can then view your profile on their smartphones. You can also search for and view Sensor profiles nearby. If you find an interesting profile, you can message that person, or simply walk over to strike up a conversation.

Future application domains

In the future, Bluetooth technology will be used in more and more fields. Here we examine just a few new Bluetooth application domains which are not exhaustive;



new applications will almost certainly continue to appear over time.

Medical

As the practice of medicine becomes more sophisticated and complex, new technology is increasingly used in this area. Here we suggest two possible applications of Bluetooth wireless technology in the medical domain.

Biometric data

Some kinds of medical testing, such as electrocardiograms (心电图) and the like, involve taking detailed measurements of certain body functions. Current technology uses wires to connect the sensors on the body to the measurement equipment. Bluetooth wireless technology could replace these wires, allowing measurements to be taken remotely and more conveniently. Such a wireless solution would also allow the person undergoing the testing to be more mobile. This might be especially useful to measure the body functions of athletes for research purposes, or to measure response to exercise.

Medicine dispensers

Another medical application that we note here involves the use of Bluetooth wireless technology in medicine dispensing devices. Some medicines must be taken in very precise dosages, which medical practitioners adjust based on the patient's response to the dose. A medicine dispenser that had Bluetooth communication capability could transmit information about the dosage and time; this could in turn be transmitted to a medical facility and the dosage could be adjusted in real time based on the patient's response to the medicine.

Travel

The travel industry is always seeking new ways to save time and enhance convenience for travelers. Here we present a few ways in which Bluetooth wireless technology could enhance travel scenarios.

Airline industry

With a personal device that employs Bluetooth wireless communications, a traveler in airports might check in using this device, which could include personal identity credentials, thus eliminating the need to insert a credit card or frequent flyer card used to identify the user into a terminal which is used by traditional electronic tickets. Moreover, an electronic boarding pass could be issued and stored in the Bluetooth device; that same device could then be used to wirelessly present the boarding pass when boarding the aircraft, eliminating the need for a paper boarding



pass.

Hotel industry

In the hotel industry, the use of Bluetooth technology has been demonstrated at industry trade shows. Possible applications of Bluetooth wireless communication include the ability to check in to the hotel automatically using a Bluetooth device, retrieving guest messages using Bluetooth links and enabling in-room information services such as telephones, Internet access devices, printers, fax machines and so on with Bluetooth wireless communication, allowing them to be used with personal portable devices that the hotel guest brings along. Even the use of Bluetooth wireless communications to open special Bluetooth door locks on hotel room doors has been demonstrated.

Home networking

Bluetooth technology can be especially useful in home networks because it does not require any wires to be installed in the home to allow devices to communicate. For instance, a mobile phone could be used as a cordless phone via a Bluetooth voice access point (base station). Portable computers could be used at home through wireless dial-up networking or a data access point. If many devices in the home happen to have Bluetooth interfaces, a personal device such as a PDA or mobile phone might be used as a “universal remote control” for all of these other devices. From a single device, using Bluetooth links, a person might be able to receive alerts that the refrigerator door was left open or the clothes dryer completed a cycle, arm the security system, control lighting in the house, and control the stereo and television.

<http://www.phptr.com/articles/article.asp?p=24243&rl=1>

<http://www.mobileinfo.com/Bluetooth/applic.htm>

1. Bluetooth is a kind of wireless technology which consumes low power. ()
2. The Bluetooth technology was initially developed by a big telecom company in Sweden. ()
3. To send mobile e-mail it is not necessary to have Bluetooth keyboards. ()
4. With Bluetooth technology, you can browse the Internet using your laptop even when your mobile phone has no signal at all. ()
5. Nokia Sensor is an example cited to show how Bluetooth devices are used to promote interactions between strangers who happen to be in the proximity. ()



6. Bluetooth wireless technology has little uses in examining athlete's reactions to exercise. ()
7. The widest application of Bluetooth wireless technology in the future is medicine dispensing devices. ()
8. It is not necessary for a passenger to use a _____ if he has an electronic boarding pass which is stored in the Bluetooth device.
9. One of the applications of Bluetooth wireless communications in hotel industry demonstrated at the trade show is to open _____.
10. Since it does not need any wires to be _____ in the home to cause devices to communicate, Bluetooth technology has wide use in home networks.

Passage 2 Computer

A computer system is composed of software and hardware in the light of its working mode. If we compare the hardware to a human body, then, the software would be soul.

Just as a driver can't drive a car without driving skills or the car itself, you can't control a computer without controlling techniques or the computer itself. The controlling techniques are called software, while computers themselves and related devices are called hardware.

The work of a computer is just making full use of various resources by software set in the computer, and directing the hardware to realize marvelous omnipotent functions.

Primary computer hardware component

There are many types of microcomputers. Here, we will use an IBM Personal Computer(PC) to illustrate the primary hardware components of a microcomputer. The primary hardware components of an IBM are the main frame, the monitor, the keyboard, and many peripherals such as mouse disk drive, hard disk, printer, etc.

The main frame

The main frame is the heart of a microcomputer system. It contains the Central Processing Unit(CPU) which is the heart of a computer like the head of a family. On the back of the main frame there are various ports, with which CPU may be linked with input and output devices.





Another essential part of the main frame is the hard disk, which is the typical secondary storage medium of a microcomputer. It can be either fixed in the mainframe as a part of the internal hard disk resides permanently within the microcomputer and is removed only for servicing or replacement. External hard disk can be purchased alone and then attached to the microcomputer with cables; it is used for backing up large amounts of data or for additional storage capacity.

The main frame also contains device such as the primary memory which is known as random access memory (RAM) or simply named memory. It is the storage area within the computer that holds programs and data during processing. Memory is only temporary storage area; when processing is complete, memory is cleared. The user needs to load or enter data and programs into the computer memory when using any application on the computer.

The monitor

The monitor is an essential output device of a microcomputer. Monitors, also known as video display terminals (VDTs), resemble television screens, and may be either monochrome or color. A monochrome monitor displays only one color on the screen. It is possibly white or more eye-pleasing green, while a color monitor usually offers a wide selection of display colors.

Keyboard and mouse

A keyboard is a requisite hardware device of a computer. It is an input device most in use, and a dialogue tool between a man and a computer. We can input data needed to be processed or preserved by a computer via a keyboard. A typical includes a group of standard keys set in the center with keyboard, many function keys and several additional keys. Function and additional keys have different roles in different software.

Another popular input device is the mouse. The mouse is a small, handheld object pushed around a desktop to move the cursor on the screen or to select choices from menus displayed on the screen. A mouse is essentially a pointing device that allows the user to do many operations more quickly than he could with the keyboard alone.

Computer software

Software is the collective name for all the programs and instructions that direct a computer's operations. Generally software can be divided into three types: system software, application software and support software. System software monitors and

controls the system's hardware. Application software performs specific tasks for the user. Support software is a series of software, which supports the development and maintenance of other software. Software is created through the use of programming languages.

Computer applications

Computer—our good fellow

Whatever you are, a scientist, a manager, an architect, a lawyer, or a successful scholar; and no matter how diligent you are, or lazy, in the modern work, study and life, you always need our common good friends—computers.

A computer is an erudite tutor, and a talented secretary who can draw up documents, manage data, design blueprints, type papers and so on. Furthermore, the computer is the most obedient and diligent “house-keeper” or “servant” of housewives; it is also a game expert admired by children. Oh, the computer is really a welcome fellow of ours.

Office Automation

Office Automation(OA) is the application of the computer and communication technologies to improve the productivity of clerical and managerial office workers. The major functions of the OA system include text processing, electronic mail, information storage and retrieval, task management, etc. Today, there have been many OA systems, for example, desktop publishing, video conference, video text and so on. So, many office workers can easily find the information they want through a personal computer sitting on his or her desk. It changes substantially the way people work.

Artificial Intelligence

For many years, researchers have been exploring the way people think in hopes of creating a computer that thinks like a person. This is so called Artificial Intelligence (AI). It aims at producing a computer system that will be able to communicate with us by speech and hearing, and be capable of solving intelligent problems.

Computer-Aided Instruction(CAI)

CAI is an educational concept that places the student in a conversational mode with a computer that has a preprogrammed study plan. The programmed course selects the next topic or phase of study according to previous responses from the student, allowing each student to process at a place directly related to his or her learning capability.



Expert system

An expert system is a software system having some domain knowledge, which can solve some problems for people. Its performance depends on the facts and the rules that are fed into the computer. The expert knowledge is gathered by knowledge engineers from human experts in the field such as medicine, engineering, or geology. For example, in the field of medicine, one question that might be asked of an expert system is whether one treatment is better for a patient than another one. An expert system has the capacity to store the collection of knowledge and manipulate it in response to the user's inquiries, and in some cases, it can explain responses to the user.

<http://www.cycnet.com/englishcorner/digest/tech/comstru.htm>

<http://www.cycnet.com/englishcorner/digest/tech/Application.htm>

<http://www.cycnet.com/englishcorner/digest/tech/Hardware.htm>

1. As far as the working mode is concerned, three elements make up a computer system. ()
2. The hard disk as an essential part of the main frame can be either internal or external. ()
3. The data can be stored in random access memory permanently. ()
4. Function and additional keys have the same usage even in different software. ()
5. A user is able to operate the computer much more rapidly with the help of a mouse. ()
6. The application software is under control of the system software. ()
7. The example of desktop publishing, video conference, video text is cited to illustrate the kinds of OA systems. ()
8. Artificial Intelligence is a kind of computer system which can think _____.
9. In the CAI educational system, the topic of courses given to the students is selected on the basis of students' _____.
10. According to _____ that are fed into the computer, an expert system can solve some problems for people.

Passage 3 A New Reading Era

In recent years, millions of people have become comfortable downloading and



enjoying digital media, including electronic books, or e-books, but until recently there has not been a good device on which to read.

People are looking for a device designed exclusively for immense reading. The new generation of e-books, with its electronic paper display, thin format and extraordinary battery life, fits the bill.

Previous e-books

Although e-books have been around for several years, previous versions, using LCD screens, have never caught on. The biggest complaint is that readers' eyes quickly become tired from the glare and flicker of the conventional computer screen.

Launch of the first e-book

The printed page is facing its biggest threat with the launch of the first electronic book called Reader that people can read for hours without straining their eyes. Sony, which launched its Reader at the Consumer Electronics Fair in Las Vegas, believes that the invention could do for reading what the iPod has done for listening to music.

E-book technology—e-ink and e-paper

The use of electronic ink and two-way wireless communication could lead to the creation of electronic paper which displays the text of an electronic book.

E-ink company

Scientists have been working on electronic paper since the 1970s, but technical difficulties kept getting in the way. Jacobson, a physicist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), embarked on a new series of research projects to come up with a fresh approach. With the help of two undergraduate students at MIT, Jacobson found a promising technology, and the team launched e-ink in 1997.

E-ink and e-paper

Electronic ink, as devised by e-ink, is a clear, liquid plastic in which there are microcapsules that contain some particles. Some particles are black. Some are white. All of the particles have an electrical charge. To make a sheet of electronic paper, engineers spread millions of the particle-filled microcapsules onto a piece of plastic. Because opposite electrical charges attract, applying a positive electric field to a microcapsule causes negatively charged black particles to rise and become visible—just like answers in a Magic 8-Ball. The positively charged white particles sink. So you would see a black dot at this spot.

By controlling electric field patterns, engineers can decide which particles rise to the top. The resulting patterns of black and white dots, viewed from a distance,



create the words and pictures you see on the sheet. To move the ink around, computer programs simply change the electric fields. The pattern of black and white dots changes in turn.

The first version can display text and pictures in black and white only, but a color model is likely to follow.

Use guide to e-books

Sony's Reader is the size of a slim paperback(平装本) but can store hundreds of books at a time. When the cover is lifted, the Reader displays its text, drawings or pictures on a sheet of electronic paper which is virtually indistinguishable from the real thing at a time. The gadget is designed to be held in one hand and the pages are "turned" at the press of a button. And the text displayed on e-paper can be enlarged up to 200 percent to make it easier for readers with poor sight. It might even receive e-mails or include full-color video clips.

Owners will be able to buy books from Sony's online store, download them to a computer and transfer them to their Reader. They will also be able to download any free books that are out of copyright.

Features of e-books

Dan Brown, the author of *The Da Vinci Code*, is an enthusiast. "It is not about replacing books," he said. "But e-books offer features that traditional books cannot."

- It is convenient to carry an e-book in that e-paper on which its text is displayed is flexible and foldable since it feels a lot like paper.
- If one wants a new book, he can download it instantly online, which takes only seconds to download a book.
- Electronic books can renew themselves with new selections when readers are finished with the current book. Or newspapers can update themselves with the latest news while being read.
- Electronic paper sucks up a lot less power than a PalmPilot, and the message remains displayed even after the power is turned off. So the life of batteries should not be a problem.

The battery-powered paper of an e-book is easy to read in dark subway trains compared with the traditional paper. And it is also much easier to read in bright sunlight than typical computer screens. Many traditional displays count on lights inside the machine to light up the screen from behind. That makes such screens easy to see when you're indoors, but they're hard on the eyes and difficult to read in bright

sunlight. Electronic paper, on the other hand, reflects the light around it. “If you can read the newspaper, you can read our display. It’s a much clearer, crisper, easier way to read a text on a display.”

- Electronic books might one day serve as the vehicle for a low-cost stream of information to schools all over the world. And, while students today often strain their backs with the hefty books they have to lug around in their backpacks, students of the future might get by with only one textbook. It would be electronic, its pages would change with the touch of a button, and it is the most up-to-date edition.
- The lower costs of publishing e-books would encourage publishers to take risks on lesser known authors. The effect of this is that there will be more choices for readers.

Sony’s Reader is the first commercial application of e-ink and e-paper. Japan is a natural place to start because people there spend hours every day commuting to and from work on crowded trains. The Reader is expected to go on sale in America in April at between \$300 and \$400. It should arrive in Britain soon afterwards. For the foreseeable future, these new books are likely to be bulkier than paperback books.

<http://www.sciencenewsforkids.org/articles/20031203/feature1.asp>

http://www.jxue.com/e_t/News/19467.htm 信息来源:国际在线

<http://www.uenbank.com/ReadNews.asp?NewsID=1520>

1. The disadvantage of the previous e-books mainly lies in the fact that it may strain the reader’s eye. ()
2. iPod is a kind of electronic reading devices. ()
3. Sony is a corporation which is remarkable for its digital camera. ()
4. The creation of electronic paper is mainly based on the technique of electronic ink and two-way wireless communication. ()
5. E-ink Company was founded by a chemist and two undergraduate students at the MIT in 1997. ()
6. Colorful text and pictures can be displayed by the first version of e-ink. ()
7. Users of Reader can use it to receive e-mails. ()
8. One of the features of e-books is that its paper is _____ since it feels like real one.
9. After readers finish reading the current book, electronic books are able to renew

