

普通高等教育精品教材

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# 大学英语阅读教程

New Reading Comprehension for College Students (CET-4)

新题型 大学英语 系列



主编 何 英 侯检菊





上海交通大學出版社

#### 普通高等教育精品教材

# 新题型大学英语阅读数程

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#### 内容提要

本书依据大学英语四级考试阅读新题型编写,主要针对普通本科的教学实际,以学生为中心,充分调动学生学习英语的积极性,强调自主学习和任务型学习。

本书引入国际上流行的施道弗阅读效率计算公式,让学生阅读后将自己的阅读时间、阅读效率和正确率等信息填入"阅读效率进展表",使其及时掌握学习进展情况,有效提升阅读能力。本书特别导入了"快速扫视法",有效训练学生眼与脑的协调配合,提高阅读速度和效果。此外,本书还向学生推荐了与话题相关的学习网站,让学生利用网络扩大阅读量。

本书适用于普通本科以及成人教育本科学生,也可作为英语学习爱好者的参考读物。

#### 图书在版编目(CIP)数据

新题型大学英语阅读教程. 2 / 何英, 侯检菊主编. -- 上海: 上海交通大学出版社, 2014 ISBN 978-7-313-11676-5

I. ①新… II. ①何… ②侯… III. ①英语一阅读教学一高等学校一教材 IV. ①H319.4

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2014)第 198193 号

#### 新题型大学英语阅读教程(二)

主 编: 何 英 侯检菊

出版发行: 上海交通大学出版社 地 址: 上海市番禺路 951 号

邮政编码: 200030 电 话: 021-64071208

出版人: 韩建民

印 制:北京市科星印刷有限责任公司 经 销:全国新华书店

开 本: 787mm×1092mm 1/16 印 张: 7.75 字 数: 165千字

版 次: 2014年9月第1版 印 次: 2014年9月第1次印刷

W. 2014 | 77170 1 W

书 号: ISBN 978-7-313-11676-5/H

定 价: 28.00元

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告读者: 如发现本书有印装质量问题请与发行部联系

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## 前言

教育部颁布的《大学英语课程教学要求》明确指出,大学英语课程的教学目标是:培养学生的英语综合应用能力,特别是听说能力,使他们在今后的工作和社会交往中能用英语有效地进行口头和书面的信息交流。《课程要求》指出"教学模式的改变不仅是教学方法和教学手段的变化,而且是教学理念的转变,大学英语教学要以学生为中心,即传授语言知识和技能,更注重培养语言实际运用能力和自主学习能力。

为了有效地进行大学英语教学改革,紧扣大学英语四级考试阅读新题型、新理念,我 们特邀请专家和一线教师编写了《新题型大学英语阅读教程》。

本教程分 4 册,供 4 个学期使用。每册含 8 个单元,按每学期 16 周计,每两周一个单元,每单元包括 4 篇文章,每单元文章围绕一个主题,与教材完全保持一致。本教程设计合理,以任务为驱动,每个单元分为 Warming-up,Reading Comprehension,Reader's Notes 和 Useful Websites 四大部分。

Warming-up: 旨在提高读者的扫视速度,训练一目数词的能力,克服逐个字母阅读和逐词阅读的不良习惯。

Reading Comprehension: 选编同一主题的材料 4 篇, 练习包括最新的四级快速阅读匹配题、选择题等,所有练习在书后均配有参考答案。引入国际上流行的施道弗阅读效率计算公式。根据《大学英语课程教学要求》,设定每册、每单元、每篇材料的参考阅读时长(Target Reading Time),让学生阅读后将自己的实际阅读时间与建议阅读时间进行对比,使学生及时掌握阅读速度与质量进展情况,在自学自测中循序渐进、逐步提高。

Reader's Note: 要求学生在完成 4 篇文章后, 把重要的词汇、句型、做题技巧和感受进行整理, 巩固学习效果。

Useful Websites: 向学生推荐了学习网站,让学生利用因特网,扩大阅读量。

本书编写紧扣大学英语四级最新教学大纲,汇集最新英语阅读短文,使学生使用本书后,既扩大了知识面,又能够有效提高阅读能力。

本教材适用范围广泛,不仅可用作普通院校本科英语教材,也可作为英语学习爱好者的良师益友。

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# UNIT



## **Family Life**











## Warming-up: Horizontal Word Recognition Drill

Directions: Note the word by the number on the left of each line; then scan the words given behind from left to right. Underline the word where it appears again in the same line. Try to finish it in 15 seconds or less.

| starting time:   |          | - 1               |                  |            |            |
|------------------|----------|-------------------|------------------|------------|------------|
| 1. suspect       | suspend  | suspect           | suspicion        | suspense   | suspected  |
| 2. stir          | stiff    | sting             | stair            | stare      | stir       |
| 3. decent        | deceive  | dement            | decent           | decide     | deception  |
| 4. bite          | bitterly | bate              | bitter           | bite       | bit        |
| 5. limb          | bomb     | dumb              | limp             | limit      | limb       |
| 6. disturb       | suburb   | disturbed         | disturb          | disturbing | suburban   |
| 7. fax           | tax      | wax               | relax            | index      | fax        |
| 8. swallow       | sow      | shallow           | sorrow           | swallow    | hollow     |
| 9. resist        | consist  | insist            | persist          | assist     | resist     |
| 10. impress      | stress   | impress           | distress         | assess     | impression |
| Finishing time:  |          |                   |                  |            |            |
| Total reading ti | ime:     | second            | S                |            |            |
| Errors:          | Che      | eck each line car | refully for mist | akes       |            |



#### Reading Comprehension

#### Passage 1

Reading Tip: Scan the passage for the main idea and select the missing words.

| It's the first question reports only when their shill is discussed with action (白田京) Will       |
|---|
| It's the first question parents ask when their child is diagnosed with autism (自闭症). Will       |
| his future brothers or sisters have a higher risk of it, too?                                   |
| According to the largest study of siblings (兄弟姐妹) in families with autism, the answer is        |
| yes. Among 664 children who had at least one older sibling with the developmental disorder, the |
| 2 risk of autism was nearly 19%, 3 higher than previous   |
| sibling-recurrence estimates that were anywhere from 3% to 10%. Kids with more than one older   |
| autistic sibling had an even higher risk of the disorder: 32%.                                  |

### Family Life JOT 1

words/min.

| The4 suggest that genes play a key role in autism risk. But they also hint that         |
|---|
| other environmental factors5 by siblings, like influences in the womb (子宫), may be      |
| important as well.  |
| On the6 of the findings, the researchers recommend that doctors closely7_               |
| younger siblings of autistic children to pick up any early signs of the disorder, 8an   |
| unusually large head or delayed language development and communication skills. Evidence |
| suggests that early 9 and diagnosis of autism can help children take advantage of       |
| therapies that can treat some of its10  |
| (Word count: 204)   |
|   |
| Target reading time 8 min.  |
| Your reading time   |

#### **Practice**

Directions: Go over the above passage and select one word for each blank from a list of choices given in the following word bank. Each choice in the bank is identified by a letter. You may not use any of the words in the bank more than once.

Your reading rate

| A) average      | I) including |
|-----------------|--------------|
| B) basis        | J) monitor   |
| C) common       | K) reason    |
| D) consequently | L) results   |
| E) detection    | M) shared    |
| F) developing   | N) symbols   |
| G) distribute   | O) symptoms  |
| H) dramatically |              |

#### Passage 2

Reading Tip: Scan the statement and focus your mind on specific ideas to look for.

#### Caring for Elderly Parents Catches Many Unprepared

A) Last July, Julie Baldocchi's mother had a massive stroke and was paralyzed. Baldocchi suddenly had to become a family caregiver, something that she wasn't prepared for. "I was flying by the seat of my pants," says Baldocchi, an employment specialist in San Francisco. Both of her

parents are 83, and she knew her father couldn't handle her mother's care. The hospital recommended putting her mother in a nursing home. Baldocchi wasn't willing to do that. But moving her back into her parents' home created other problems. Baldocchi, 48, is married and lives about a mile away from her parents. She has a full-time job and has back problems that make it difficult for her to lift her mother. "I couldn't do it all," she says. "But I didn't even know how to find help."

- B) With help from the Family Caregiver Alliance, she eventually hired a live-in caregiver. "But even if you plan intellectually and legally, you're never ready for the emotional impact," Baldocchi says. In the first two months after her mother's stroke, she lost about 30 pounds as stress mounted. More than 42 million Americans provide family caregiving for an adult who needs help with daily activities, according to a 2009 survey by the AARP. An additional 61.6 million provided at least some care during the year. And many are unprepared.
- C) While many parents lack an advance care directive, it's the most basic and important step they can take. The directive includes several parts, including: a durable power of attorney, which gives someone legal authority to make financial decisions on another's behalf; a health care proxy, which is similar to the power of attorney, except it allows someone to make decisions regarding medical treatment; and a living will that outlines instructions for end-of-life care. (For example, parents can say if they want to be kept alive by artificial measures.) "It's invaluable for the kids, because it's hard to make those decisions for a parent," says Jennifer Cona, an elder-law attorney at Genser Dubow Genser & Cona in Melville, N.Y. An advance care directive is the first line of defense if a situation arises, says Kathleen Kelly, executive director of the Family Caregiver Alliance, which supports and educates caregivers. Without an advance directive, the family will have to petition the court to be appointed the parent's legal guardian, says Aging Care.com.
- D) It's important for families to talk about long-term care so the adult children know their parents, preferences, wishes and goals, says Lynn Feinberg, a caregiving expert at AARP. But it's not an easy conversation. Elderly parents are sometimes suspicious of their children's financial motives, says Susan John, a financial planner at Financial Focus in Wolfeboro, N.H. One client asked John to hold a family meeting because they needed an intermediary to talk about financial issues, she says. And when there are many siblings, the family decisions can become a three-ring circus with much acrimony, says Ann-Margaret Carrozza, an elder-law attorney in Glen Cove, N.Y. Families who need information and help sorting out disagreements can call on elder-law attorneys, financial planners, geriatric care managers and caregiver support groups. In February, AARP said it will offer its members a new caregiving support service through financial services firm Genworth.
- E) Many families are unprepared for quick decisions, especially when they find out that Medicare doesn't pay for long-term care, Feinberg says. The median cost of a year in a private room at a nursing home in 2011 was \$77,745, according to Genworth. And only those who have spent most of their assets can qualify for Medicaid to pay for the nursing home.

## Family Life NoT 1

- F) Assisted living is another option. Residents can have their own apartment to maintain some independence. But the facilities generally provide personal care services, such as meals, housekeeping and assistance with activities. Still, it's not cheap: The national median cost in 2011 was \$39,135, according to Genworth. Assisted living isn't covered by Medicaid.
- G) If they have a choice, at least 90% of elderly parents prefer to stay at home as long as they can, according to AARP research. But if the parents can no longer safely live at home, it can be hard for children to move them into an adult care facility. There may be another option. Sometimes the home can be modified so a parent can stay there. For example, Baldocchi put in a chair lift for her mother. She also arranged for a home caregiver.
- H) Family caregivers take over many responsibilities. One might manage a parent's finances, while another sibling will take the parent to doctors' appointments and shopping. Those who move in with a parent take on a significant and sustained burden of care. Jan Walker moved into her mother's home in Leesburg, Fla. After her mother, who is 83, had fallen, she wasn't able to get around as well. Walker, 55, has three brothers. But she is the only daughter, is divorced and has no children. "I always knew that this was the role that I would have, and I guess my mind was prepared for it," says Walker, who now is a full-time caregiver and works from home as a tutorial instructor for a digital scrapbooking website. "When you get into the trenches, it's literally baptism by fire," she says. "New things come up. It's not just about advance planning for finances or medical care. It's everything," she says.
- I) Caregivers need to also watch their own health. "There is such a thing as caregiver burnout," Cona says. Among female caregivers 50 and older, 20% reported symptoms of depression, according to a 2010 study on working caregivers by MetLife. "It's a hard job," Walker says. "But most worthwhile things are hard. She was always there for me when I needed a helping hand. It's only natural that I be here for her now."

(Word count: 983)

| Target reading time | 12 min.                 |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Your reading time   | ion de land, galdes des |
| Your reading rate   | words/min.              |

#### **Practice**

**Directions:** Go over the above passage and identify which paragraph the following statement is derived from. You may choose a paragraph more than once. Each paragraph is marked with a letter.

1. When elderly parents cannot live at home safely, their children can change their home instead of sending them to an adult care facility.

- 2. To talk about long-term care is not easy because sometimes aged parents are suspicious of their children's financial motives.
- 3. Besides advance planning for finances or medical care, family caregivers take over many other responsibilities.
- 4. The difference between a durable power of attorney and a health care proxy is that the latter allows someone to make decisions regarding medical treatment.
- 5. Baldocchi did not want to send her mother to a nursing home, but she had difficulty taking care of her.
- 6. Over 42 million caregivers helped an adult with everyday activities in the USA in 2009.
- 7. If a family needs information or help to sort out disagreements, there are many people they can call on.
- 8. Caregivers should pay attention to their own health, or they may burn out or become depressed.
- 9. One will have to petition the court to be the parent's legal guardian, if there is no advance directive.
- 10. The national median cost of assisted living in 2011 was \$39,135 and it is not covered by Medicaid.

| Your comprehension rate | % |
|-------------------------|---|
|-------------------------|---|

#### Passage 3

Reading Tip: Skim the passage and topic sentences to grasp the main idea and supporting details.

A father's relationship to his child's current and future academic success and the level of his or her development in academic potential and scholastic achievement are both factors with some rather interesting implications that educators are beginning to study and appraise. As a matter of fact, "life with father" has been discovered to be a very important factor in determining a child's progress or lack of progress in school.

A recent survey of over 16,000 children made by the National Child Development Study in London revealed that children whose fathers came to school conferences and accompanied their children on outing did measurably better in school than those children whose fathers were not involved in those activities. The study, which monitored children born during a week in March, 1992, from the time of their birth through the years of their early schooling, further revealed that the children of actively-involved fathers scored much higher in reading and math than those children whose only-involved parent was the mother. The purpose of the study was to evaluate the role played by father in the raising of a child. It indicated a much higher level of parental

## Family Life JUNO 1

involvement by the father than had been anticipated. Over 66% of the fathers were said to have played a major role in parental responsibility.

The study also suggested that the greatest level of paternal parenting took place in the families of only child. As the number of children and financial obligations increases, the father's apparent interest and involvement with the children decreased. However, no matter what the size or financial condition of the family, a father's active participation in the child's development made a definite difference in the child's progress.

The study further revealed that while the frequency of overnight absences reflected a corresponding deficiency(缺陷) of the child's level in math and reading, a father's employment on night shifts appeared to have little effect on the child's academic progress. The data from the study was obtained primarily through interviews from parents, teachers and physicians. The information evaluating the level of the fathers' parenting performance was elicited(採出) primarily from the admittedly subjective observations of their wives.

(Word count: 363)

| Target reading time | 9 min.     |
|---------------------|------------|
| Your reading time   |            |
| Your reading rate   | words/min. |

#### **Practice**

Directions: Go over the passage quickly and answer the following questions. For each of them there are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should make the best choice.

- The main discovery made in the study was that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) children in large families tend to do poorly in school
  - B) a father's influence played a significant factor in the level of the child's academic progress
  - C) mothers were subjective in evaluating the roles played by fathers
  - D) there is a correlation between socioeconomic status and scholastic achievement
- 2. The data accumulated was obtained through \_\_\_\_\_
  - A) observation by social psychologists
  - B) conversations with mothers of the children
  - C) interviews, school records and physicians' reports
  - D) observations of fathers with their children
- 3. All of the children studied
  - A) attended the same school
  - B) were in the same socioeconomic class
  - C) were at the same age

- D) knew each other
- 4. According to the passage, children who tended to generally progress academically were
  - A) those whose mothers gave them the most affection
  - B) those whose fathers worked the night shift
  - C) those who had no brothers or sisters
  - D) from one-parent families
- 5. Evidence indicated that a high percentage of fathers were involved in the parenting process which amounted to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) about two-thirds of the fathers involved in the study
  - B) slightly less than half of the fathers studied
  - C) more than three-quarters of all the fathers
  - D) a little less than one hundred percent of all fathers

| Your comprehension rate | % |
|-------------------------|---|
|-------------------------|---|

#### Passage 4

Reading Tip: Try to identify the main points of a passage and supporting details.

Romantic love has clear evolutionary roots but our views about what makes an ideal romantic relationship can be swayed by the society we live in. So says psychologist Maureen O'Sullivan from the University of San Francisco. She suggests that humans have always tried to strengthen the pair-bond to maximize(使最大化) reproductive success.

Many societies throughout history and around the world today have cultivated strong pressures to stay married. In those where ties to family and community are strong, lifelong marriages can be promoted by practices such as the cultural prohibition of divorce and arranged marriages that are seen as a contract between two families, not just two individuals. In modern western societies, however, the focus on individuality and independence means that people are less concerned about conforming to(遵守) the dictates of family and culture. In the absence of societal pressures to maintain pair-bonds, O'Sullivan suggests that romantic love has increasingly come to be seen as the factor that should determine who we stay with and for how long. "That's why historically we see an increase in romantic love as a basis for forming long-term relationships," she says.

According to O'Sullivan culture also shapes the sorts of feelings we expect to have, and actually do experience, when in love. Although the negative emotions associated with romantic love—fear of loss, disappointment and jealousy—are fairly consistent across cultures, the positive feelings can vary. "If you ask Japanese students to list the positive attributes they expect

in a romantic partner, they rate highly things like loyalty, commitment and devotion," says O'Sullivan. "If you ask American college women, they expect everything under the sun: in addition to being committed, partners have to be amusing, funny and a friend."

We judge a potential partner according to our specific cultural expectations about what romantic love should feel like. If you believe that you have found true romance, and your culture tells you that this is what a long-term relationship should be based on, there is less need to rely on social or family pressures to keep couples together, O'Sullivan argues.

(Word count: 354)

| Target reading time | 11 min.    |
|---------------------|------------|
| Your reading time   |            |
| Your reading rate   | words/min. |

#### **Practice**

Directions: Go over the passage quickly and answer the following questions. For each of them there are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should make the best choice.

| 1. | What does the author say about people's views of an ideal romantic relationship? |
|----|--|
|    | A) They vary from culture to culture.  |
|    | B) They ensure the reproductive success.   |
|    | C) They reflect the evolutionary process.  |
|    | D) They are influenced by psychologists.   |
| 2. | We can infer from the passage that strong family and community ties              |
|    | A) largely rely on marriage contracts  |
|    | B) can contribute to stable marriages  |
|    | C) often run counter to romantic love  |
|    | D) make divorces virtually unacceptable  |
| 3. | Without social pressures to keep pair-bonds, romantic love                       |
|    | A) will be a substitute for marriage in human relationships                      |
|    | B) plays a key role in maintaining long-term relationships                       |
|    | C) is likely to replace the dictates of family and society                       |
|    | D) is a way to develop individuality and independence                            |
| 4. | O'Sullivan believes that when people from different cultures fall in love,       |
|    | A) they expect different things from their partner                               |
|    | B) they tend to exaggerate each other's positive qualities                       |
|    | C) they often fail to see each other's negative qualities                        |
|    | D) they lay more emphasis on commitment and devotion                             |