



新世纪高等学校教材

大连外国语大学英语专业课程体系改革成果

英语语言文学系列教材

综合英语

美国文学经典作品

总主编：常俊跃

主 编：罗俏娟

编 者：李莉莉 刘 丹 罗俏娟

Comprehensive
English: Selected
Works of American
Literature



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前 言

随着我国英语教育的快速发展，英语专业长期贯彻的“以技能为导向”的课程建设理念及教学理念已经难以满足社会的需要。专家和教师们密切关注的现行大学英语专业教育与中小学英语教学脱节，语言与内容教学割裂，单纯语言技能训练过多，专业内容课程不足，学科内容课程系统性差，高低年级内容课程安排失衡及其导致的学生知识面偏窄、知识结构欠缺、思辨能力偏弱、综合素质发展不充分等问题日益凸显。

针对上述问题，大连外国语大学英语专业在内容与语言融合教学理念的指导下确定了如下改革思路：

（一）更新语言教学理念，改革英语专业教育的课程结构。改变传统单一的语言技能课程模式，实现内容课程与语言课程的融合，扩展学生的知识面，提高学生的语言技能。

（二）开发课程自身潜力，同步提高专业知识和语言技能。课程同时关注内容和语言，把内容教学和语言教学进行有机结合。以英语为媒介，系统教授专业内容；以专业内容为依托，在使用语言过程中提高语言技能，扩展学生的知识面，提高思辨能力。

（三）改革教学方法手段，全面提高语言技能和综合素质。依靠内容，依托教学在方法上的灵活性，通过问题驱动、输出驱动等方法调动学生主动学习，把启发式、任务式、讨论式、结对子、小组活动、课堂展示、多媒体手段等行之有效的活动与学科内容教学有机结合起来，以提高学生的语言技能，激发学生的兴趣，培养学生的自主性和创造性，提升学生的综合能力和综合素质。

本项改革突破了我国英语专业英语教学大纲规定的课程结构，改变了英语专业通过开设单纯的听、说、读、写、译语言技能课程来提高学生语言技能的传统课程建设理念，对英语课程及教学方法进行了创新性的改革。首创了具有我国特色的英语专业内容与语言融合的课程体系；开发了适合英语专业教育的内容与语言融合的课程；以英语为媒介，比较系统地教授专业内容；以内容为依托，全面发展学生的语言技能；扩展学生的知识面，提高学生的综合素质，以崭新的途径实现英语专业教育的总体培养目标。

经过十年的实验探索，改革取得了鼓舞人心的成果。

（一）构建了英语专业内容与语言融合教学的课程体系。课程包括美国历史文化、

美国自然人文地理、美国社会文化、英国历史文化、英国自然人文地理、英国社会文化、澳新加社会文化、欧洲文化、中国文化、跨文化交际、《圣经》与文化、希腊罗马神话、综合英语（美国文学经典作品）、综合英语（英国文学经典作品）、综合英语（世界文学经典作品）、综合英语（西方思想经典）、英语视听说（美国社会文化经典电影）、英语视听说（英国社会文化经典电影）、英语视听说（环球资讯）、英语视听说（专题资讯）、英语短篇小说、英语长篇小说、英语散文、英语诗歌、英语戏剧、英语词汇学、英语语言学、语言与社会、语言与文化、语言与语用等。这些课程依托专业知识内容，训练学生综合运用语言的能力，扩展学生的知识面，提高学生的多元文化意识，提升学生的综合素质。

（二）系统开发了相关国家的历史、地理、社会文化以及跨文化交际课程资源。在内容与语言融合教学理念的指导下，开发了课程资源。开发的教材改变了传统的组织模式，系统组织了教学内容，设计了新颖的栏目板块，设计的活动也丰富多样，在实践教学中受到了学生的广泛欢迎。此外还开发了开设课程所需要的教学课件等。在北京大学出版社、华中科技大学出版社、北京师范大学出版社的支持下，系列教材已经陆续出版。

（三）牵动了教学手段和教学方法的改革，取得了突出的教学效果。在内容与语言融合教学理念的指导下，教师的教学理念、教学方法、教学手段得到更新。曾有专家和教师们担心取消、减少语言技能课程会对学生的语言技能发展产生消极影响。实验数据证明，内容与语言融合教学不仅没有对学生的语言技能发展和语言知识的学习产生消极影响，而且还产生了多方面的积极影响，对学生专业知识的学习也产生了巨大的积极影响。

（四）提高了教师的科研意识和科研水平，取得了丰硕的教研成果。开展改革以来，团队对内容与语言融合教学问题进行了系列研究，活跃了整个教学单位的科研气氛，科研意识和科研水平也得到很大提高。课题组已经撰写研究论文60多篇，撰写博士论文3篇，在国内外学术期刊发表研究论文40多篇，撰写专著2部。

自教学改革开展以来，每次成果发布都引起了强烈反响。在“第三届中国外语教学法国际研讨会”上，与会的知名外语教育专家戴炜栋教授等对这项改革给予关注，博士生导师蔡基刚教授认为本项研究“具有导向性作用”。在“第二届全国英语专业院系主任高级论坛”上，研究成果得到知名专家、博士生导师王守仁教授和与会专家、教授的高度评价。在“中国英语教学研究会年会”上，成果再次引起与会专家的强烈反响，博士生导师石坚教授等给予了高度评价。本项改革的系列成果两次获得大连外国语大学教学

研究成果一等奖，两次获得辽宁省优秀教学成果奖一等奖，一次获得国家教学成果奖。目前，该项改革成果已经在全国英语专业教育领域引起了广泛关注。它触及了英语专业的教学大纲，影响了课程建设的理念，引领了英语专业的教学改革，改善了教学实践，必将对未来英语专业教育的发展产生积极影响。

《综合英语——美国文学经典作品》是英语专业核心必修课程基础英语所使用的教材，适用于英语专业一、二年级学生或具有中学英语基础的非英语专业学生。

综合来看，本教材具备以下主要特色：

（一）遵循了全新的教学理念。本教材是内容与语言融合教学理念指导下开发的教材。本教材依托优秀的美国文学内容进行语言知识教学和语言技能训练。它不仅有助于提高学生的语言能力，而且还能对学生文学知识的构建及综合素质的提升起到积极的作用。

（二）引进了真实的教学材料。本教材是英语学习者接触真实语料和获取知识的重要渠道。教材选取的材料皆为美国文学经典作品的英文原作，为学生提供了高质量的语言输入。经典的文学作品往往蕴含着深邃的思想、高尚的情感和艺术的表达，有助于提高学生的语言表达能力，发展学生的认知能力，培养学生的高尚情操。

（三）涉及了丰富的教学内容。本教材以美国优秀的短篇小说、长篇小说节选、戏剧节选、诗歌等文学体裁的经典作品内容为依托，涉及了爱情、家庭、时间、平等、文化、自然、女权、梦想、成长、善恶、战争、信仰、生活、童年、科学等主题，涵盖了美国文学所历经的殖民主义、超验主义、浪漫主义、现实主义、现代主义等不同历史阶段，涉及不同的文学流派，包括了30余篇广为人知的美国文学经典之作。选材还充分考虑了学生的阅读兴趣、语言水平等因素，以便在教学中调动学生的阅读兴趣，提升学生的思辨能力。

（四）进行了精心的内容安排。全书分为15个单元，每单元设置主课文一篇，补充阅读课文两篇，几篇课文围绕同一主题内容来组织。同一主题的内容通常涵盖短篇小说、诗歌、长篇小说、戏剧等多种体裁，以便让学生感受不同文学作品的不同表达，体会不同意境、不同情感、不同风格。

（五）设计了新颖的教材板块。教材每一单元均包括Before You Read、Start to Read、After You Read、Read More、For Fun板块。通过Before You Read中的问题及活动设计，激发学生的学习兴趣。通过Start to Read中的内容，帮助学生阅读重点的内容。通过After You Read中的内容和活动设计，巩固、深化学习要点。通过Read More中的文章，拓展学

生的阅读内容。通过For Fun中推荐的书目、电影、歌曲，培养学生的情趣，开拓学生的视野。

（六）提供了有趣的训练活动。本教材在关注英语语言知识训练和文学知识传授的基础上精心设计了生动有趣的综合训练活动，如角色扮演、话题讨论、小组辩论、课题研究、模仿创作、故事改写、读书报告、名著改编、电影赏鉴等，培养学生综合运用语言的能力和综合素质。形式多样的教学活动有助于创设有意义的情境，促使学生带着问题去读书、查资料，学会自觉思考、自主探究。

本教材是我国英语专业综合英语课程改革的一项探索，凝聚了全体编写人员的创造性劳动和艰苦努力。然而由于水平所限，还存在疏漏和不足，希望使用本教材的教师和同学们能为我们提出意见和建议。您的指导和建议将是我们提高的动力。

编者

2016年5月17日

于大连外国语大学

CONTENTS

Unit 1 Powerful Love / 1

Text A	The Gift of the Magi.....	2
Text B	Christmas Day in the Morning	11
Text C	To My Dear and Loving Husband	15

Unit 2 Perpetual Change / 19

Text A	Passage Home.....	20
Text B	The Story of an Hour	28
Text C	The Road Not Taken.....	32

Unit 3 Racial Prejudice / 37

Text A	Desiree’s Baby.....	38
Text B	I Have a Dream.....	48
Text C	I, Too, Sing America	53

Unit 4 Cultural Heritage / 58

Text A	Rules of the Game	59
Text B	Everyday Use (Excerpt)	69
Text C	Immigrants	72
Text D	Saying Yes	73

Unit 5 Impersonal Nature / 77

Text A	Battle with Dentuso	78
Text B	Love of Life	86
Text C	Heroism (Excerpt).....	90

Unit 6 Female Roles / 95

Text A	Confinement	96
--------	-------------------	----

Text B Why I Want a Wife 107

Text C Phenomenal Woman 110

Unit 7 American Dream / 116

Text A Gatsby's Party (Excerpt)..... 117

Text B A Wagner Matinee (Excerpt) 126

Text C I Hear America Singing..... 130

Unit 8 Adolescent Initiation / 134

Text A Burden 135

Text B A & P..... 144

Text C A White Heron (Excerpt)..... 150

Unit 9 Subtle Guilt / 158

Text A The Black Cat (I) 159

Text B The Black Cat (II)..... 169

Text C Guilt..... 174

Unit 10 Simple Life / 179

Text A Life in the Woods..... 180

Text B Nature 190

Text C The Soul Selects Her Own Society 194

Unit 11 Traumatic Memory / 201

Text A An Episode of War..... 203

Text B Traumatic Family..... 212

Text C O Captain! My Captain! 216

Unit 12 Strong Faith / 223

Text A Young Goodman Brown 224

Text B The Chrysanthemums 235

Text C Huswifery 241

Unit 13 Childhood Pleasure / 247

Text A How Dorothy Saved the Scarecrow.....248
Text B Tom’s Dying!257
Text C Last Day260

Unit 14 Incredible Science / 268

Text A Love Is a Fallacy269
Text B Live Forever283
Text C What Is Philosophy?.....285

Unit 15 Personal Choices / 290

Text A Death of a Salesman291
Text B A Hard Choice299
Text C Departure for Adventures301

Keys to the Exercises / 307

Unit

1

Powerful Love

Who, being loved, is poor?

— Oscar Wilde

Love is the condition in which the happiness of another person is essential to your own.

— Robert Heinlein

Unit Goals

After learning the unit, students are expected

- to learn the cultural knowledge about Christmas and the gift-giving custom,
- to know O. Henry as a master of short story and his unique literary elements,
- to understand the theme of love and explore minor themes in a given selection,
- to learn some useful words and expressions from the unit, and
- to improve English language skills, communication skills and critical thinking.

Before You Read

1. Do you know the origin of Christmas Day and the story of the Magi? What are some other time of the year when people like to exchange gifts? What is the best gift you've ever received?
2. Think about all the special events in your country or region. Make a list of all the special dates that you celebrate during the year.

Date	Reasons for celebration	Ways of celebration

3. Predict which of the four sayings best describes the main theme of *The Gift of the Magi*. Study the sayings or proverbs and see whether there are similar ones in your language.

- Love is the greatest gift of all.
 - Money can't buy you love.
 - A gift must come from the heart.
 - Beauty comes from within.
4. Form groups of three or four students. Try to find, on the Internet or in the library, information about O. Henry and his famous stories such as *The Cop and the Anthem*. Prepare a presentation about the author and his unique writing style.

Start to Read

Text A The Gift of the Magi

O. Henry

[1] One dollar and eighty-seven cents. That was all. And sixty cents of it was in pennies. Pennies saved one and two at a time by **bulldozing** the grocer and the vegetable man and the butcher until one's cheeks burned with the silent **imputation** of **parsimony** that such close dealing implied. Three times Della counted it. One dollar and eighty-seven cents. And the next day would be Christmas.



[2] There was clearly nothing to do but flop down on the shabby little couch and howl. So Della did it. Which **instigates** the moral reflection that life is made up of sobs, **sniffles**, and smiles, with sniffles **predominating**.

[3] While the mistress of the home is gradually **subsiding** from the first stage to the second, take a look at the home. A furnished flat at \$8 per week. It did not exactly beggar description, but it certainly had that word on the lookout for the **mendicancy** squad. In the vestibule below was a letter-box into which no letter would go, and an electric button from which no mortal finger could coax a ring. Also **appertaining** thereunto was a card bearing the name "Mr. James Dillingham Young." The "Dillingham" had been **flung to** the breeze during a former period of prosperity when its possessor was being paid \$30 per week. Now, when the income was shrunk to \$20, the letters of "Dillingham" looked **blurred**, as though they were thinking seriously of contracting to a modest and **unassuming** D. But whenever

Mr. James Dillingham Young came home and reached his flat above he was called “Jim” and greatly hugged by Mrs. James Dillingham Young, already introduced to you as Della. Which is all very good.

[4] Della finished her cry and attended to her cheeks with the powder rag. She stood by the window and looked out dully at a grey cat walking a grey fence in a grey backyard. Tomorrow would be Christmas Day, and she had only \$1.87 with which to buy Jim a present. She had been saving every penny she could for months, with this result. Twenty dollars a week doesn’t go far. Expenses had been greater than she had calculated. They always are. Only \$1.87 to buy a present for Jim. Her Jim. Many a happy hour she had spent planning for something nice for him. Something fine and rare and **sterling** — something just a little bit near to being worthy of the honour of being owned by Jim.

[5] There was a pier-glass between the windows of the room. Perhaps you have seen a pier-glass in an \$8 flat. A very thin and very **agile** person may, by observing his reflection in a **rapid sequence of** longitudinal strips, obtain a fairly accurate conception of his looks. Della, being slender, had mastered the art.

[6] Suddenly she whirled from the window and stood before the glass. Her eyes were shining brilliantly, but her face had lost its colour within twenty seconds. Rapidly she pulled down her hair and let it fall to its full length.

[7] Now, there were two possessions of the James Dillingham Youngs in which they both took a mighty pride. One was Jim’s gold watch that had been his father’s and his grandfather’s. The other was Della’s hair. Had the Queen of Sheba lived in the flat across the airshaft, Della would have let her hair hang out the window some day to dry just to **depreciate** Her Majesty’s jewels and gifts. Had King Solomon been the janitor, with all his treasures piled up in the basement, Jim would have pulled out his watch every time he passed, just to see him **pluck at** his beard from envy.

[8] So now Della’s beautiful hair fell about her, rippling and shining like a **cascade** of brown waters. It reached below her knee and made itself almost a garment for her. And then she did it up again nervously and quickly. Once she **faltered** for a minute and stood still while a tear or two splashed on the worn red carpet.

[9] On went her old brown jacket; on went her old brown hat. With a whirl of skirts and with the brilliant sparkle still in her eyes, she **fluttered** out the door and down the stairs to the street.

[10] Where she stopped the sign read: “Mme. Sofronie. Hair Goods of All Kinds.” One flight up Della ran, and collected herself, panting. Madame, large, too white, chilly, hardly looked the “Sofronie”.

[11] “Will you buy my hair?” asked Della.

[12] “I buy hair,” said Madame. “Take yer hat off and let’s have a sight at the looks of it.”

[13] Down rippled the brown cascade. “Twenty dollars,” said Madame, lifting the mass with a practised hand.

[14] “Give it to me quick,” said Della.

[15] Oh, and the next two hours tripped by on rosy wings. Forget the hashed metaphor. She was **ransacking** the stores for Jim’s present.

[16] She found it at last. It surely had been made for Jim and no one else. There was no other like it in any of the stores, and she had turned all of them inside out. It was a platinum fob chain simple and **chaste** in design, properly proclaiming its value by substance alone and not by **meretricious** ornamentation — as all good things should do. It was even worthy of The Watch. As soon as she saw it she knew that it must be Jim’s. It was like him. Quietness and value — the description applied to both. Twenty-one dollars they took from her for it, and she hurried home with the 87 cents. With that chain on his watch Jim might be properly anxious about the time in any company. Grand as the watch was, he sometimes looked at it **on the sly on account of** the old leather strap that he used in place of a chain.

[17] When Della reached home her **intoxication gave way** a little **to prudence** and reason. She got out her curling irons and lighted the gas and went to work repairing the ravages made by generosity added to love, which is always a tremendous task, dear friends — a **mammoth** task.

[18] Within forty minutes her head was covered with tiny, close-lying curls that made her look wonderfully like a **truant** schoolboy. She looked at her reflection in the mirror long, carefully, and critically.

[19] “If Jim doesn’t kill me,” she said to herself, “before he takes a second look at me, he’ll say I look like a Coney Island chorus girl. But what could I do — oh! what could I do with a dollar and eighty-seven cents?”

[20] At 7 o’clock the coffee was made and the frying-pan was on the back of the stove hot and ready to cook the chops.

[21] Jim was never late. Della doubled the fob chain in her hand and sat on the corner

of the table near the door that he always entered. Then she heard his step on the stair away down on the first flight, and she turned white for just a moment. She had a habit for saying little silent prayers about the simplest everyday things, and now she whispered: “Please God, make him think I am still pretty.”

[22] The door opened and Jim stepped in and closed it. He looked thin and very serious. Poor fellow, he was only twenty-two — and to **be burdened with** a family! He needed a new overcoat and he was without gloves.

[23] Jim stopped inside the door, as **immovable** as a setter at the scent of quail. His eyes were fixed upon Della, and there was an expression in them that she could not read, and it terrified her. It was not anger, nor surprise, nor disapproval, nor horror, nor any of the sentiments that she had been prepared for. He simply stared at her fixedly with that peculiar expression on his face.

[24] Della **wriggled** off the table and went for him.

[25] “Jim, darling,” she cried, “don’t look at me that way. I had my hair cut off and sold because I couldn’t have lived through Christmas without giving you a present. It’ll grow out again — you won’t mind, will you? I just had to do it. My hair grows awfully fast. Say ‘Merry Christmas!’ Jim, and let’s be happy. You don’t know what a nice — what a beautiful, nice gift I’ve got for you.”

[26] “You’ve cut off your hair?” asked Jim, laboriously, as if he had not arrived at that patent fact yet even after the hardest mental labor.

[27] “Cut it off and sold it,” said Della. “Don’t you like me just as well, anyhow? I’m me without my hair, ain’t I?”

[28] Jim looked about the room curiously.

[29] “You say your hair is gone?” he said, with an air almost of idiocy.

[30] “You needn’t look for it,” said Della. “It’s sold, I tell you — sold and gone, too. It’s Christmas Eve, boy. Be good to me, for it went for you. Maybe the hairs of my head were numbered,” she went on with sudden serious sweetness, “but nobody could ever count my love for you. Shall I put the chops on, Jim?”

[31] Out of his trance Jim seemed quickly to wake. He **enfolded** his Della. For ten seconds let us regard with discreet scrutiny some **inconsequential** object in the other direction. Eight dollars a week or a million a year — what is the difference? A mathematician or a wit would give you the wrong answer. The magi brought valuable gifts,

but that was not among them. This dark **assertion** will be **illuminated** later on.

[32] Jim drew a package from his overcoat pocket and threw it upon the table.

[33] “Don’t make any mistake, Dell,” he said, “about me. I don’t think there’s anything in the way of a haircut or a shave or a shampoo that could make me like my girl any less. But if you’ll unwrap that package you may see why you had me going a while at first.”

[34] White fingers and **nimble** tore at the string and paper. And then an **ecstatic** scream of joy; and then, alas! a quick **feminine** change to hysterical tears and wails, necessitating the immediate employment of all the comforting powers of the lord of the flat.

[35] For there lay The Combs — the set of combs, side and back, that Della had worshipped long in a Broadway window. Beautiful combs, pure tortoise shell, with jewelled rims — just the shade to wear in the beautiful **vanished** hair. They were expensive combs, she knew, and her heart had simply **craved** and **yearned** over them without the least hope of possession. And now, they were hers, but the **tresses** that should have **adorned** the coveted adornments were gone.

[36] But she hugged them to her bosom, and at length she was able to look up with dim eyes and a smile and say: “My hair grows so fast, Jim!”

[37] And then Della leaped up like a little **singed** cat and cried, “Oh, oh!”

[38] Jim had not yet seen his beautiful present. She held it out to him eagerly upon her open palm. The dull precious metal seemed to flash with a reflection of her bright and ardent spirit.

[39] “Isn’t it a dandy, Jim? I hunted all over town to find it. You’ll have to look at the time a hundred times a day now. Give me your watch. I want to see how it looks on it.”

[40] Instead of obeying, Jim **tumbled** down on the couch and put his hands under the back of his head and smiled.

[41] “Dell,” said he, “let’s put our Christmas presents away and keep’em a while. They’re too nice to use just at present. I sold the watch to get the money to buy your combs. And now suppose you put the chops on.”

[42] The magi, as you know, were wise men — wonderfully wise men — who brought gifts to the Babe in the manger. They invented the art of giving Christmas presents. Being wise, their gifts were no doubt wise ones, possibly bearing the privilege of exchange in case of **duplication**. And here I have lamely related to you



the **uneventful** chronicle of two foolish children in a flat who most unwisely sacrificed for each other the greatest treasures of their house. But in a last word to the wise of these days let it be said that of all who give gifts these two were the wisest. Of all who give and receive gifts, such as they are wisest. Everywhere they are wisest. They are the magi.

After You Read

Knowledge Focus

1. Discuss the following questions.

- 1) What is important about the title?
- 2) What are the conflicts in *The Gift of the Magi*? What types of conflict (physical, moral, intellectual, or emotional) do you see in this story?
- 3) How does O. Henry portray the characters in *The Gift of the Magi*?
- 4) What are the themes in the story? How do they relate to the plot and characters?
- 5) What are the symbols in *The Gift of the Magi*? How do they relate to the plot and characters?
- 6) Is Della consistent in her actions? Is she a fully developed character? How? Why?
- 7) Do you find the characters likable? Why or why not?
- 8) Does the story end in the way you expected? How? Why?
- 9) What is the central/primary purpose of the story? Is the purpose important or meaningful?
- 10) How essential is the setting to the story? Could the story have taken place anywhere else?

2. Tell whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

- 1) Della counted out 20 dollars at the beginning of the story. ()
- 2) Upon moral reflection, Della (Mrs. James Dillingham Young) decided that life was made up of sobs, sniffles and smiles. ()
- 3) In *The Gift of the Magi*, the next day was going to be Della and Jim's anniversary. ()
- 4) Della sold Madame Sofronie her wedding ring for \$20. ()
- 5) Della bought a platinum fob chain for her husband Jim for \$21. ()
- 6) Della thought her new look would remind Jim of a Catholic nun. ()