

INTEGRATED SKILLS
OF CUSTOMS ENGLISH

海关英语 综合教程

主 编◎郑继正 副主编◎沈闻士

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上海交通大学出版社
SHANGHAI JIAO TONG UNIVERSITY PRESS

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参 编◎张丽莉 韩 健 杨茂娟 胡兴文

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内容提要

本系列教材针对海关专业本科英语教学编写,旨在提高海关专业学生和商贸人士在海关业务领域内的英语综合能力。本书以最新的学术英语教学方法为指导,充分体现海关领域的行业特色,紧扣国际海关最新发展动态,内容涵盖海关各项重点业务,包括征税、贸易安全与便利、知识产权保护、非法贸易、电子商务、风险管理、关企伙伴关系、能力建设、科技创新、知识管理等。

本书为第一册,适合海关专业低年级学生使用。

本书所配音频与参考资料,可至上海交通大学出版社官方网站 www.sjtpub.com“资源下载”专区免费下载。

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前言

随着经济全球化的发展,口岸通关程序成为全球供应链的关键环节。为了促进贸易便利化,更为了尽快恢复国际金融危机后的世界经济,世界贸易组织(WTO)在世界海关组织(WCO)的标准框架基础上出台了《贸易便利化协定》(Agreement on Trade Facilitation),并正在积极督促各成员批准接受。一旦该协定生效,必将大大提升海关在边境口岸管理中的地位,而海关通关或监管程序的改革也必将成为进出口企业和跨国公司重点关注的对象,例如企业分类管理或经认证经营者(AEO)制度、风险管理、预裁定、单一窗口、后续稽查、过境运输、进境加工等等。这些通关和监管制度与全球供应链息息相关,也关乎企业的竞争力。只有熟悉和了解这些制度,企业才能充分利用法律范围内的优惠安排,从而实现利益的最大化。而撬开这一利润源泉的工具之一便是海关英语。熟练掌握海关领域内的专门用途英语(English for specific purpose)能帮助企业了解最新的国际海关业务以及中国海关最新的业务改革。

本套《海关英语综合教程》恰是为了提高学生和商贸人士在海关业务领域内的英语综合应用能力,以最新的学术英语(English for Academic Purpose)教学方法为指导,旨在培养学生海关领域学术英语基本技能,包括听、说、读、写、译等。本套教材共两册,供海关管理和涉关专业两个学期的学术英语教学使用。总体上,本套教材具有以下特色:

1. 强调课文选材内容的全面性、特色性和新颖性

本套教材课文大部分选编自世界海关组织《时事通讯》(WCO News Letters)中最新的文稿,充分体现海关领域的行业特色,紧扣国际海关最新的发展动态,涵盖海关各项重点业务,包括征税、贸易安全与便利、知识产权保护、非法贸易、电子商务、风险管理、关企伙伴关系、能力建设、科技创新、知识管理等。考虑到学生在专业学习和今后日常工作中专业英语阅读的需要,本套教材尽量保持课文的原汁原味,不做大量的编辑加工,让学生能体会到真实海关领域专业文献的语篇、语法和词汇特征,从而培养学生在海关领域的学术英语综合应用能力。

2. 着重学术英语技能训练

本套教材以学术英语的教学思想为指导,着重培养学生在海关领域的学术英语沟通能力,包括听、说、读、写、译等。为此,本套教材对各类学术英语技能进行了深入浅出的介绍,例如句子转写、快速浏览、总结、推理、逻辑安排、引用、论述方法等等,并编制了大量有针对性的练习,以锻炼学生的学术英语综合技能,例如听海关英语讲座和新闻报道;快速阅读文章并对信息进行概括、组织和评述;撰写符合学术论文格式要求的学术小论文和文献综述;口头陈述学术观点和学术报告等。

3. 培养批判性思维能力

批判性思维是一位理性的人所应具有的能力,也是高校学生应当具备的素养之一,在一定程度上批评性思维的重要性超过专业技能。此外,批评性思维也是学术英语能力所不可或缺的部分。与传统通用英语教材不同的是,本套教材通过课文选材和精心设计的练习,更加着重培养学

生的批评性思维能力。例如,对同一主题提供了不同观点的文章,要求学生在阅读文章后提炼观点,并进行比较分析,最后形成自己独立的、评判性的观点,以培养学生分析问题、解决问题、推理论述能力。为有效实现教学目的,本套教材采用任务教学法、项目驱动教学法等不同的教学方法来促使学生开展各类批评性思维练习,如小组讨论、辩论、汇报等,从而提高学生批判性思维能力。

4. 提供大量形式多样的输入输出练习

为了有效提高学生英语综合应用能力,本套教材提供了大量的专业文章和听力材料,在保证大量阅读、听力的输入基础上,通过输出练习,培养学生口头和书面表达及翻译能力。本套教材每单元提供4篇阅读文章和2—4篇听力文章,以确保语言的大量输入和词汇习得。输出练习形式多样,涵盖词汇、句子、篇章和语法的操练。除了大学英语四、六级词汇,国际通用学术英语3000词族和海关领域重要高频词族也是本套教材词汇练习的重点对象。在口头表达上,本套教材课文和听力的练习中设计了大量的开放性问题,供学生讨论;在学术写作方面,本套教材专门设置了写作部分,介绍学术写作的规范及经验和技巧,并要求学生在查阅文献的基础上撰写出规范的学术小论文或报告。

5. 便于学习和教学使用

本套教材编写遵循语言的学习规律。第一册每单元包含 Warming-up, Reading, Listening and Speaking, Writing 和 Integrated Exercises 五个模块。考虑到学生学术英语能力和各阶段的教学重点,本套教材第二册的编写体例略作调整,每单元包含 Approaching the Topic, Reading about the Topic, Exploring the Topic 和 Integrated Exercises,把相关主题的听力练习置于阅读课文之后,作为一个输入模块。从整体上看,本教材以输入、输出过程为主线,根据教学和学习规律设计编排内容,涵盖了一般课堂教学所需的各项活动,包括导入、课文结构分析、内容理解、讨论、听力、学术技能训练、写作和综合练习。此外,本套教材在每单元的综合练习中罗列了重点学术词汇和海关专业用语,并专门编写了配套练习,供学生进行复习和拓展练习。因此,本套教材的编写体例为学生的学习和教师的教学提供了较大的方便。

本套教材共两册,每册六个单元。第一册编写小组成员是郑继正、沈闻士、张丽莉、韩健、杨茂娟和胡兴文;第二册编写小组成员是李端阳、沈闻士、王洁、陈涛、王婷婷和管小繁。每位成员负责一个单元。本套教材属海关领域内第一套学术英语教材,同时也是国内第一套海关英语综合教材。作为上海海关学院大学英语教学改革项目的一部分,本套教材获得了学院领导、校内师生和校外专家的大力支持。教务处主任吴慧教授为教材的审校和出版提出了许多指导意见,并帮忙联系出版社和专家,做了大量的工作;外语系主任王志军教授对教材的编写给予了高度的重视,并亲自督促指导,保证了教材的顺利完成;复旦大学蔡基刚教授对本教材的编写也给予了指导和无私的帮助;海关总署关税司及国际司前副司长、海关业务和英语专家周冠山老师对本套教材进行了最后的审校把关,提出了许多宝贵的意见;本套教材出版前在海关管理专业2015级试验班试用了两个多学期,学生们也提出了许多中肯的建议;最后,当然也是最重要的,本教材的完成离不开编写组各成员的辛勤劳动和出色表现。因此,编者在此向所有参与本套教材编写的老师们以及所有对本套教材编写给予了热心帮助和支持的老师们、专家们和同学们表示衷心的感谢。

本套教材是海关领域学术英语教学的第一次尝试,难免存在不当或疏漏之处,敬请读者批评指正。

郑继正

本书所配音频与参考资料,可至上海交通大学出版社官方网站 www.sjtpu.com“资源下载”专区免费下载。

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Unit One

Customs Roles

In this unit you will carry out a project-based study on customs roles. It is suggested that the class be divided into several groups and each design a related topic of its own. You are required to evaluate, synthesize and organize the information of the four reading materials provided in this unit and other information sourced from the Internet. Form your own ideas to argue about the related topic you have chosen and write a short report or essay which you may present respectively to the class as the research result of your study of this unit.

I. Warming up

1. Search the Internet for the following terms and describe the pictures below in pairs or groups.
 - a. trade facilitation
 - b. trade security
 - c. border protection
 - d. revenue collection
 - e. just-in-time distribution
 - f. multi-modal transport
 - g. customs frauds
 - h. customs declaration
 - i. harmonization and simplification of customs procedure
2. Discuss the following questions in groups and present your comments to the class.
 - 1) What changes have occurred in the landscape of international business in the 21st century?
 - 2) Compared with the conventional transaction method, what advantages and disadvantages are there with e-commerce?



- 3) Do you agree with the statement: "Nothing but revenue concerns customs"?
- 4) What missions should the customs administration have in the new era?

II. Reading

1. Scan Reading 1 and answer the questions below.

Scanning for Specific Information

Scanning is a skill which involves moving your eyes quickly down the page seeking specific words and phrases. In most cases, you know what you are looking for, so you are concentrating on a smaller part of the text and finding a particular answer. In scanning, try to locate the following specific information such as

- a. key words, or words that are repeated;
- b. definitions;
- c. highlighted words, for example, words in bold or italics;
- d. numbers, for example, dates and statistics;
- e. examples, including diagrams.

- 1) How do you understand the sentence spoken by the astronaut Neil Armstrong: "One small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind"?

- 2) Why did the customs inspector at Santa Cruz Airport think that customs is "powerful"? What is the response of M. V. N. Rao?

- 3) What did M. V. N. Rao see in the US Customs Service in October 1984?

- 4) How was the cargo from the moon declared to the US customs officer?

- 5) What questions are triggered in the declaration? Can you think of other questions from the declaration?

- 6) What does M. V. N. Rao think of the customs officer in charge?

- 7) How do you understand the remark of John F. Kennedy: "Their successes are never sung but their failures are heralded"?

- 8) What do we learn from the story?

Reading 1

Not Even Astronauts Can Escape the Long Arm of Customs!

- 1 Many remember the first landing on the Moon, when Apollo 11 touched down on its surface on 20 July 1969 and Neil Armstrong, one of its astronauts and the first man to walk on the Moon, **uttered** his now famous phrase: “One small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind”. People were either glued to the television or **hunched** around the radio as the world **witnessed** this historic event. But little did the astronauts know that when they returned to earth, a **duty-conscious** customs officer would stop them and ask the most famous words associated with customs services across the globe: “Do you have anything to declare?” Not even astronauts can escape the long arm of Customs!
- 10 **2** M. V. N. Rao, a former Chairman of the Indian Central Board of **Excise** and **Customs** who **chaired** the WCO **Policy Commission Sessions** in **Brussels** in December 1988, shares an interesting true story with us, which he calls “The **Ubiquitous** and ‘Duty’-Conscious Customs”, involving Apollo 11 astronauts and the then US Customs Service. An **extract** of his story appears below.
- 15 **3** Almost six decades ago, in 1954, as a ‘**probationer**’ in the service, I had to spend a few days away at Santa Cruz Airport in **Bombay** to learn the procedure of **clearing** (for customs purposes) aeroplanes, passengers and cargoes arriving from and **departing** to foreign countries by air.
- 4** During the course of the ‘**briefing**’ about the implications and **modalities** of granting **inward/outward** clearance for aircraft, crew, passengers and cargo, etc., one of the Inspectors was explaining, **pompously**, how ‘powerful’ customs is and how no aircraft can arrive or depart without obtaining an inward/outward clearance from customs.
- 20 **5** Those were the days when the air was **abuzz** with reports of US and USSR attempts to launch satellites and humans into space, as well as landing men on the moon. As the Inspector was **pouring forth** the details of the procedures, I casually mentioned to him that the day was not far off when customs officers would be granting port clearances to spacecraft travelling to and from the Moon. **Thereafter**, I forgot all about the matter.
- 30 **6** Thirty years later, in October 1984 to be exact, during a visit to the US Department of **the Treasury**, under whose **jurisdiction** the Customs Service fell, an officer of the Department was explaining **prevailing** procedures at international airports in New York, **among other things**. As he was talking to me, I **recollected** and mentioned to him what I had said as a probationer at Santa Cruz Airport.
- 35 **7** On hearing this, he said to me “wait a minute”, went to the Department’s **archives** and brought me a very precious document. It was a “General **Declaration** for Agriculture, Customs **Immigration** and Public Health” taken by a customs inspector when Apollo 11

landed at Honolulu Airport in Hawaii, on its return from the Moon **odyssey** on 24 July 1969.

40 8 The Declaration was taken from and signed by the crew consisting of **Commander** Neil A. Armstrong, **Colonel** Edwin E. Aldrin, Jr. and **Lt. Colonel** Michael Collins. **Inward entry** had been granted by a customs inspector, and the cargo declared as “Moon rock and Moon dust samples” with the **flight routing** indicated as Cape Kennedy, Moon, Honolulu.

45 9 What a precious and invaluable cargo indeed! We are all used to dealing with **terrestrial** objects and products. But how do we **classify extra-terrestrial** objects? What will be the **valuation**? Can one dare to treat them as samples of “no **commercial** value”? All this is **food for thought**!

10 Apart from the personal satisfaction of having been so **futuristic** at the young age of 23, I have always wondered how, in an atmosphere surcharged with excitement and emotion, with millions of people following the event, the customs officer in **charge** was so **thoughtful**, so duty-conscious and had such a keen presence of mind that he had asked for and taken a Declaration from such an **exalted** and **august** crew about the cargo **on board**, for purposes of granting a formal inward entry.

55 11 This historic Declaration serves as a **standing tribute** to this duty conscious US customs officer and is in a way **applicable** to the Customs **fraternity** all over the world. Indeed, as the late US President John F. Kennedy is reported to have **observed** about customs: “Their successes are never sung but their failures are **heralded**”

2. Match the words and phrases with their definitions according to Reading 1, and discuss your answers with your partners, pointing out which sentences provide context clues.

Dealing with Unfamiliar Words

It is not necessary to worry about an unfamiliar word in the reading, for in many cases the context in which the word is located will allow you to guess the meaning of the words. Notice the underlined words in the following sentences:

a. Almost six decades ago, in 1954, as a ‘probationer’ in the service, I had to spend a few days away at Santa Cruz Airport in Bombay **to learn** the procedure of clearing... (tell the activities of a “probationer”)

b. During the course of the ‘briefing’ about the implications and modalities of granting inward/outward clearance for aircraft... (use its synonym “explain” in the context below)

c. **Their successes are never sung** but their failures are heralded. (infer from the contrast with previous part of the sentence)

d. when Apollo 11 **landed at** Honolulu Airport in Hawaii, on its **return** from the Moon odyssey on 24 July 1969 (infer from “land” and “return” with the general knowledge)

A	B
1) _____ duty-conscious	a. concerned about duty
2) _____ excise	b. everlasting respect
3) _____ ubiquitous	c. full of great joy and happiness
4) _____ extract	d. impressive and respected
5) _____ clear	e. that is right or true in a particular case
6) _____ pompously	f. the authority that an official organization has to make legal decisions
7) _____ treasury	g. to give official permission for goods to leave or enter a place
8) _____ jurisdiction	h. existing or being everywhere at the same time
9) _____ prevailing	i. a tax on particular goods and services sold within a country, such as alcohol and cigarettes
10) _____ exalted	j. a government department that controls public money
11) _____ august	k. thinking you are more important than other people, especially by using long and formal words
12) _____ fraternity	l. a group of people sharing the same profession, interests or beliefs
13) _____ observe	m. to make a remark
14) _____ applicable	n. existing or accepted in a particular place or at a particular time
15) _____ standing tribute	o. a short piece of writing, music, etc. taken from a particular book, piece of music

3. Reread Reading 1 and summarize it.

4. Skim Reading 2 for the questions below.

Skimming

Skimming is a reading strategy involving looking at a text quickly for one or more of the following purposes:

- identifying what the text is about (the topic)
- identifying the main idea of the text
- deciding how useful the text is for your purposes

—deciding how you will make use of the text

Skimming a text might involve looking at some or all of the following features of the text:

—title and subtitles (if there are any)

—section headings

—abstract or summary provided by the writer

—first and last paragraphs which often provide a summary of the text

—first and last sentences of each paragraph, as they are the sentences which give the main idea

—topic sentences in each paragraph

Another form of skimming is previewing a book to decide how useful it is for your purpose. In this situation, you might also look at one or more of the following:

—information about the writer and/or publication details

—contents page

—foreword and/or introduction

—index

1) What is the main idea of this passage?

2) Read and label the summary headings (external drivers for the changing landscape of trade) in the following table.

External drivers	Sections
new measures to manage the cross-border movement of goods	
new trade patterns like trade between related parties	
vulnerability of the supply chain to organized crime	
emerging forms of business and requirements of protection from unfair trade	
fraudulent fiscal activities	
growth and complication of international trade	
expectations of the public in security and safety	

5. Scan Reading 2 to answer the following questions:

1) What may the phrase “external drivers” refer to?

2) What factors lead to the changes in the international trade landscape?

3) Please summarize the problems facing the international trade.

4) Please illustrate the relationship between the landscape changes mentioned in the passage.

Reading 2

A Fast Changing Landscape

1 International trade is a key driver for economic growth and development. It raises living standards in both developed and developing countries, contributes to the reduction of poverty as well as creates a more stable, secure and peaceful world. International trade is governed by the rules of the regional and multilateral trading systems, preferential trade arrangements and national governments. New developments are driven by a combination of factors including fast-evolving information and communication technology (ICT), advances in transport methods and trade **liberalization**.

2 The global landscape is complex, fluid and highly sensitive to external **drivers**. These include;

10 (a) Increased volumes and complexities of international trade: International trade has increased annually by 8% from 2002 to 2006. At the same time, there has been a **proliferation** of regional trade agreements and **accompanying** complex preferential rules of origin;

15 (b) New business models and requirements: Just-in-time **distribution**, low **inventory** retention and multi-modal transport are resulting in innovative methods of moving goods across borders and increasing pressures on supply chains. Business also demands protection from unfair international trading practices such as the **smuggling** of goods, under-invoicing, origin **fraud**, tariff misclassification and IPR **infringements**;

20 (c) Increased security threats and organized crime: International trade supply chains are **vulnerable** to exploitation by terrorist groups. A disruption of supply chains by terrorists could bring international trade to a **standstill**. Organized crime **syndicates** operate through fluid networks and engaged in illegal activities such as the **evasion** and avoidance of duties and taxes; cross-border **fiscal** fraud; the smuggling of drugs, dangerous, harmful and prohibited goods; **money laundering**; and trade in **counterfeit** goods;

25 (d) A new approach to the “border”: New measures are emerging for the end-to-end management of the movement of goods across borders such as the WCO SAFE Framework of Standards to Secure and **Facilitate** Global Trade and other initiatives;

30 (e) Demands from society: Society regards the smuggling of goods, especially that of prohibited and dangerous goods, such as weapons and **narcotics**, across borders as a serious threat. Society expects customs to ensure that goods meet certain quality and safety standards. Society is also concerned with threats to public health, its **fauna** and **flora**, as well as the environment;

(f) New trading patterns: Approximately 50% of world trade takes place between connected parties; and

35 (g) Increase in **revenue** fraud; There is an increase in threats related to duty and tax evasion and avoidance.

6. Match the words and phrases with their definitions according to Reading 2. Discuss your answers with your partners, pointing out the phrases or sentences which provide context clues.

A	B
1) _____ money laundering	a. the crime of deceiving somebody in order to get money or things illegally
2) _____ trade liberalization	b. an act against a law or someone's legal rights
3) _____ proliferation	c. the act of moving money obtained illegally into foreign bank accounts or legal businesses so that it is difficult for people to know where the money came from
4) _____ infringements	d. removal or reduction of restrictions or barriers on the free exchange of goods between nations
5) _____ evasion	e. the goods that a business has for sale at a particular time; stock
6) _____ revenue	f. the act of deliberately avoiding doing something that you should do, or paying an amount of money that you should pay
7) _____ standstill	g. a sudden increase in the amount or number of something
8) _____ fraud	h. a situation in which all activity or movement has stopped
9) _____ narcotics	i. strong illegal drugs such as heroin or cocaine
10) _____ inventory	j. money that the government receives from tax

7. Considering the landscape changes of the international trade mentioned in Reading 2, do you think the power of the customs administration will grow stronger or weaker? Discuss with your group and think of at least three reasons to support your opinion.

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

8. Skim and scan Reading 3 to finish the following tasks;

1) Summarize the functions of customs nowadays;

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____

e. _____

- 2) Read the passage again for the missing information in the table below, and discuss within groups what the information can tell you.

Countries or Regions	Contribution of Import Duties to Fiscal Revenue	Percentage of Tariffs in Total Import Value
African countries		
Middle East		
Latin American countries		
Asian countries		
Asia and the Pacific		
Western Hemisphere		
Developed Countries		

Reading 3

The Evolution of Customs Roles

- 1 The responsibilities of customs continue to evolve. customs administrations are now increasingly regarded as “the key border agencies” responsible for all transactions related to issues arising from the border crossings of goods and people. Some of these functions are undertaken in close cooperation with other national **agencies**. The operational
- 5 guidelines of customs cannot give equal **weight** to all functions constantly; choices and priorities are inevitable in light of changing circumstances;
- 2 ♦ Raising revenue has traditionally been high on the agenda of governments, represented by the Ministry of Finance (MOF), because of the critical importance of import duties as a source of budget revenue for many developing countries. Revenues from import
- 10 duties for a sample of African countries accounted for just under 30 percent of total tax revenue, on average. In comparison, this share averaged 22 percent for countries in the Middle East, 13 percent for Latin American countries, and 15 percent for Asian countries. Collection of VAT on imports constitutes another major source of budget revenue. Therefore, a control mentality that ensures that all duties are assessed and paid has
- 15 permeated customs, irrespective of whether this causes delays in the release of imports.
- 3 ♦ Import **tariffs** are meant to protect domestic producers, who expect customs administrations to ensure that all importers pay the official import taxes to ensure a **level playing field**. On average, customs duties amount to 17 percent of the total import value in a sample of African countries, 12 percent in the Middle East, 10 percent in Asia and the
- 20 Pacific, and 7 percent in the Western Hemisphere. Increasingly, import tariffs are being seen as an instrument of protection rather than of raising budget revenue. This is clearly so