

# Extensive Reading

大学基础阶段

## 英语泛读课本

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## 前 言

本书是受湘、鄂、豫英语教学研究会委托，为大专院校英语专业基础阶段编写的泛读教材，也可供英语基础较好的其它专业学生或具有高中毕业程度以上自学者使用。

本书分八册，即每学期二册。前四册共25万字左右（不含注解和练习），后四册共30万字左右，在阅读数量上可基本满足基础阶段两年泛读课堂教学（不包括快速阅读训练）的需要。阅读速度与单元划分，由任课教师根据课时安排与学生实际能力自行规定。要求学完第八册以后，学生能基本看懂英语国家出版的中等难度文学原著（如 *The Moon Is Down*）、报刊文章和史地、科技等其他读物。为了培养学生良好阅读习惯和准确理解能力，并便于在阅读过程中吸收语言知识、全面打好语言基础，我们对前四册，特别是第一、二册的难度作了适当控制。

在选材方面，本书一律采用浅易或中等难度原文，除注意保留了一些多年实践证明教学效果较好的材料以外，力求做到题材与体裁的多样化，确保思想内容健康、语言现代化、规范化。第一至四册以反映一般生活的故事、小说为主，知识性材料为辅，第五册至第八册增加了国际政治、文化科技知识等材料的比例。

本书的注解，是以交代背景知识为主，包括人名、地名的注音和标准译名以及少量难句翻译。常用单词短语一般不注，由学生查阅字典，培养其独立工作能力。多数语言难点留给教师课堂讲解。

练习的目的是为了检查学生对所学内容的理解情况。练习形式有两种：即检查对课文大意、基本观点与基本事实理解情况的综合性问答题（Global questions）和检查对课文中某个具体事实、具体论点以及语言含义理解情况的局部性问答题（Local questions），后者分别采用正误题（True/false questions）或多项选择题（Multiple-choice questions）的形式。

本书的编写，受到了中国英语教学研究会秘书长丁往道教授、湘、鄂、豫英语教学研究会负责人武汉大学潘耀霖教授、洛阳外国语学院朱树庵教授和湖南师范大学周定之教授的热情支持和鼓励，谨致谢意。

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## 1. A SECRET TREASURE

There may be a hundred million dollars worth of treasure waiting — just waiting off the coast of \*Corsica — for someone with the nerve and the equipment to find it. The treasure, consisting of gold, precious stones and works of art, was stolen by the German General \*Rommel's troops in Africa during World War II. How it came to be sunk under 20 fathoms is one of the strangest stories of the war.

The journey of Rommel's treasure began with an order from Hitler to deliver the fortune to Berlin. In September 1943, the looted Jewish wealth, packed in six great cases, left for Berlin by way of Italy. It would be difficult; the Italian mainland was under heavy fire, but the treasure was well guarded by four of Hitler's best \*Afrika Korps officers. Hitler had assigned them personally. It would be only a matter of time before the treasure slipped safely into Germany. There would be no mistakes.

Following orders, Captain Dal, officer in charge of the expedition, set out for Berlin by land. Soon after, it became obvious to the officers that if they proceeded on further

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Corsica n. (法国) 科西嘉岛

Rommel ['rɔ:məl] 隆美尔: 德国法西斯将领

Afrika Korps 非洲军团

up the Italian Peninsula, they would lose the treasure and their lives. An alternate plan was proposed and accepted. They would continue their journey by water, under cover of darkness.

The decision made, there remained but two obstacles to immediate departure — a boat and a crew. The former was found and placed at the disposal of Captain Dal and the latter acquired in the persons of a Peter Fleig and an unidentified sailor. Fleig, a Czech sailor of unimpressive background and little accomplishment, survived, alone, to trace the history of a strange burial at sea — the burial of a fortune that, \*but for his memory, would have remained forgotten.

September 15, 1943: According to the new plan, Captain Dal, his officers, crew, and the looted treasure moved into the Mediterranean under cover of darkness, destination, Corsica. On the following morning, they sighted the island but were seen by allied fighters. Captain Dal was forced to seek safety in the deserted \*estuary of the Golo River, 13 miles south of Bastia.

After \*camouflaging the boat, Dal and his party hid, hoping that enemy activity would die down. It became greater. Dal and his fellow officers felt it would be impossible to get the treasure to Berlin in safety, and, on

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but for = if it had not been for  
estuary ['estjuəri] n. 河口港湾  
camouflage v. 伪装

their own initiative, acting without orders, the four officers submerged the treasure until such time as it could be recovered safely. On the night of September 17, the great cases were lowered into the Mediterranean.

The precise spot of the submerging was known only to the four officers. Fleig reasoned that it was two to three miles offshore from the mouth of the Golo River. As the cases were lowered, he saw through the darkness two lights, one red, one white. They were in direct line with each other. The officers \*took soundings; the treasure lay between 116 and 136 feet below the surface. To aid in future recovery, a buoy with 30 feet of cable was attached to each case.

On the following day, September 18, Dal picked up a convoy sailing for Italy. Arriving at Spezia, he reported his action. The report was cabled to Hitler, who was furious! Outraged at Dal's action and the loss of the treasure, Hitler ordered the immediate \*court-martial of the four officers. They were tried and executed.

Fleig and his fellow sailor were absolved of blame and released. Fleig was later wounded and the other sailor killed in action. Of the group of officers and sailors assigned to deliver Rommel's secret treasure, Fleig alone remained alive.

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take soundings, 行进水深测量

Court-martial, a trial before a military court



1946: The war and an injury behind him, Peter Fleig came to realize that perhaps he might be the only living being who knew precisely the details concerning the \*Axis treasure buried underwater for four years. He confided his story to a friend, Heinz Binder, an experienced diver, and the two of them decided they would need assistants. They chose Walter Simmon, a Czech, age 27, and Gunter Sengler, a German, age 20.

Preparations were made and the transportation of gear from Bremen to Spezia arranged. By the spring of 1948, arrangements were complete. Now, if visas could be obtained from the French authorities to travel to Corsica, nothing lay between Fleig and the treasure but 116 to 136 feet of blue Mediterranean. However, it was still difficult for a German to obtain a visa at that time, and the group decided that Fleig should apply first because he was a Czech. If his application went through, then the other three would apply at various consulates over a period of a few days.

May 1948: Peter Fleig applied to the French \*Consulate in Stuttgart for a visa. Why should a young Czech wish to go to Corsica? Suspicion was aroused. Fleig was vague. Under intense questioning, the story came out. It created a sensation in French governmental circles.

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Aixis 轴心国 (指第二次世界大战中的德、日、意联盟)  
Consulate ['konsjulit] n. 领事馆

July: An official and secret search was initiated. The French Ministry of Finance voted a million francs to back the venture. Rudolphe Loebenberg, director of \*a marine salvage company in Bastia, was chosen to direct the operation.

August 1948: Fleig arrived in Marseilles from Germany on August 18 under armed guard and sailed that same day.

Arriving in Ajaccio, capital of Corsica, Fleig was taken by bus over the mountains to Bastia. On August 23, he left Bastia to inspect the search area. The beacons had been destroyed. No sign of them remained, but their exact positions were known. Loebenberg, acting on Fleig's information, calculated an "area of probability." The treasure should be found somewhere in that 1.5 mile area.

Fleig, Loebenberg, a police officer named Andre Sanguinetti, a pilot, and two German \*POW's prepared for the first dive on August 30. For twelve days in succession they explored the "area of probability" and found nothing. Disappointed, but unwilling to give up, they postponed further search until the following summer.

The million francs provided by France had \*all but been exhausted in the first dive. However, there was some reason to believe the grant might be renewed before the following summer.

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a marine salvage company 海上打捞公司  
pow=prisoner of war 战俘  
all but, almost, nearly

Over a period of months that followed the August search for the secret treasure, a series of strange and confusing incidents occurred. Then, on October 5, Fleig was accused, and in due time tried and sentenced, to two months in jail for stealing a camera from Loebenberg. Exit Peter Fleig from any future treasure hunt sponsored by the French government!

After his release from prison, Fleig vanished. Later it was learned that Fleig had been picked up by Marseilles hoodlums who had heard of the treasure. In exchange for his help, they were prepared to offer him a much larger share of the treasure than had the French government. Fleig refused, and went into hiding. Nothing has been heard of him since.

The complete disappearance of Fleig and France's unexplained loss of interest in the treasure hunt has provoked questions for which we have no answers.

There have been other dives for the secret treasure since August 1948, but still the treasure remains in secret silence, waiting.

## 2. NEEDED: COLONISTS FOR SPACE

We always expect that exploration will be followed by exploitation—that is, that discovery will be followed by the use of whatever is discovered. We have seen such a situation occur again and again whenever new countries have been explored. A few men went out and found new territory; after them came

a few trappers, hunters, and miners. These men paved the way for the real pioneers, who came to settle and to colonize. Finally there was a well-settled land to which anyone could come to find a safe living.

Maybe use will be made of the planets after they have been thoroughly explored. If that does happen, the exploitation will be different in a number of ways from what it has always been in the past. The pioneer, \*frontiersman, and settler we know from history will not have a chance to participate.

Remember that most early settlers were poor, sometimes persecuted people, that was the reason they left their homelands. Those who held wealth and power were content to stay where they were. However, before an individual can go into space, he must have enough money to pay for the trip and the supplies he will need. A few thousand dollars will be required in order to reach the moon, and tens of thousands to reach other planets. If a man has that much money, he can probably invest it quite profitably in a business on Earth, he will probably not feel any necessity for going to the moon.

There is another drawback: even if a man has the money and wants to go, he will have a hard time getting there. Because of the expense of building rocketships there will not be many of them, and those that do exist will belong to the government or

**frontiersman** n. a man living on the border between settled and wild country, especially that in the U.S. in the past.

to a few big corporations, not to individuals. Anyone who wants to make a space trip will have to be valuable, either to the government or to a business.

The physical qualifications will be rigorous, and candidates for space travel will be expected to have a high level of scientific training or special skills that will be of use on the other worlds. Obviously, not many of the old-fashioned pioneers would have fulfilled these qualifications.

Since very few men will qualify for space travel or for settling on other planets, we cannot expect a rapid spread of men through space. There will be nothing like the rush to settle the old West in the United States. There will be only a few who will be sent to the other planets. These men and women will go out into space to stay for years since that will be cheaper than transporting them back and forth. Because science will want to study the other worlds fully, many of these people will be members of scientific teams engaged in studies that will take them years to finish. It is from these people and their children that colonies might grow up in time.

Such settlements can grow—if there is a way for people to live on other planets, either without supplies from Earth or by the settlers' being able to provide something to trade with Earth. In the old days, the miners and trappers who opened up new lands had furs and metals to trade for the supplies they needed, and could even carry these trade goods on their backs if necessary. Perhaps there will be valuable materials on Mars,

\*Venus, or the moon. If so, they will have to be very valuable indeed to justify the high cost of transporting them back to Earth by spaceships even pure gold might not be worth the expense.

The new territories, then, will probably have to supply all the colonists' needs. Everything that can be found or made there will have to be used. On the moon, this might mean digging into its surface, mining rock that will supply water and air and growing plants in \*hydroponic tanks. Because of the power that can be obtained from sunlight, much can be done to make the moon self-supporting.

On Mars many conditions are similar to those on Earth, and the job of living on that planet may be somewhat easier. There the settlers will probably begin with airtight buildings made of some kind of plastic—perhaps even supported by inflated sections just as small swimming pools are today. In time it may prove simpler to put a big transparent plastic dome over the whole group of houses in order to hold in breathable air. The oxygen the people will need may already be in the atmosphere, even though we can find no sign of it. In that case, perhaps it could be compressed for breathing. That failing, the oxygen could be separated from water. There is very little water on Mars, but the small amount that freezes each winter

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Venus [vi:nəs] n. 金星

hydroponic tank 溶液培养箱, 水栽培箱

to form the cap around each pole could be collected and used. Growing food on Mars would not be too difficult. There is a good prospect that our plants could be grown in Martian soil, provided hothouses are covered with transparent plastic to protect the plants from the extreme temperature changes.

Settlers on the planet could then obtain their own food, air, water, and clothing from plant fibers. Perhaps they could even find enough metallic ores for the tools and machines they would need. Power would probably have to come from one of the small atomic power plants that are already being designed. In time the space outposts could become self-sufficient.

It is certain that, at first, people in the planetary outposts will keep talking about the day when they will go back to Earth. But children born in the space colonies will grow up regarding them as home: eventually they will probably abandon the idea of returning to Earth. After a few generations they will consider themselves citizens of the world they are on. They might not even be happy or physically comfortable if they did someday return to Earth.

There will be very few trips between planets, probably, but the inhabitants of other worlds will not be completely isolated from Earth. Radio waves can cover the distance to Mars very easily. Discoveries made by the colonists will be reported back to Earth, and what is learned on this world will help the settlers there, providing advantages for all of us.

There will be no covered wagons or gold rushes in space,

but the new pioneers will do without them. Someday men will look into the heavens with the warm feeling that there are friends and neighbors up there.

### 3. MAN IN A HOSTILE LAND

The Eskimos believe that a human being is made up of a body, a soul, and a name, and is not complete unless it has all three. This belief has a great effect on the Eskimo's daily life and runs like a golden thread through the Eskimo culture.

As for the soul of man, the Eskimos do not claim to know exactly what it is—but then, who does? They see it, however, as the beginning of life, the initiator of all activities within a being, and the energy without which life cannot continue.

An Eskimo's name is believed to have a life of its own. It combines all the good qualities and talents of all the persons who have been called by it. One may imagine it as a procession of ancestors stretching into the dim past and surrounding the present bearer of the name with a sort of magic protective \*aura.

Many Eskimos believe that a newborn baby cries because it wants its name and will not be complete until it gets it. Immediately after a birth the angakok (medicine man) or some wise elders of the tribe gather to name the child. The name that

aura ['ɔ:rə] *n.* a faintly shining shadow that some people claim to see surrounding the human body



is selected must be the name of someone who has died recently. The choice may in some cases call for much conjuring and sooth-saying, and in other cases be self-evident. When my son was born, everyone realized that it was his great-grandfather, Mequ-saq, who had died a few months before, who had been reborn in him. The newborn infant had a slight squint in the very same eye that old Mequsaq had lost to the cannibals in Baffin Land. This was taken as a sign from the name spirit that the baby should be called Mequsaq.

When, in 1927, I returned to Thule for a visit, I found that no fewer than five little girls had been named Navarana after my dear late wife. So great was the confidence in Navarana's ability and character that there was believed to be enough for all five children. It was thus a beautiful and touching memorial to her, though a slightly expensive one for me, since I had to give all the little girls presents.

More often the newborn child was given several names, so as to have the highest possible protection, and certain names became great favorites. Calling so many by the same name was often very confusing. This custom was continued in Christianized Greenland. In the little settlement of Kook, in the Upernivik district, all five hunters were called Gaba (after the archangel Gabriel). I was told that some years before, a great man called Gaba had died, and after his death several unmistakable signs indicated that his spirit was still active. To please the spirit, many boy babies were named after it. In order to dis-