

第三版
Third Edition

大学英语 精读 College English INTENSIVE READING

第二课堂 SECOND CLASSROOM

Book 2

总主编 吴树敬

主 编 王 斌 刘爱军



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前言



《大学英语》系列教材正式本出版于1992年，并于同年9月荣获全国高等学校第二届优秀教材特等奖，以及国家教委高等学校第二届优秀教材一等奖。

1998年，教材作者在广泛征求意见的基础上，对该系列教材做了第一次修订，更加注意教材的通用性，力求帮助学生打好语言基础。

2004年6月，为了推进大学英语教学改革，提高教学质量，满足社会各界对大学生英语能力的要求，教育部颁布了《大学英语课程教学要求(试行)》(以下简称《课程要求》)，指出大学英语的教学目标是“培养学生的英语综合应用能力”。教材作者于是决定根据《课程要求》对教材做第二次修订，以满足新时期国家和社会对人才培养的需要。修订后的《大学英语》(第三版)系列教材于2006年已经陆续出版。

为了弥补精读课堂上教师精力和时间的不足，帮助学生更好地学习、吸收课本知识，上海外语教育出版社策划、组织编写了本套《精读第二课堂》，与《大学英语(第三版)》系列教材的《精读》教程配套使用。

本套书每单元由以下部分组成：

一、课文精解：主要介绍了与课文相关的背景知识、文体特点、课文大意及结构、主要词汇及用法、重点句子，并包括部分课文中的好句赏析。

课文精解针对每单元的主课文(Text)，既有语篇分析，又有难点讲解，点面结合，使学生在把握课文全貌的同时，更好地掌握其重点难点，对精读的课堂教学是很好的补充。

二、学生用书练习答案及解析：对学生用书上的练习给出了参考答案及详细解析。对每个练习都进行了提示，说明此练习的目的及要求，便于学生抓住练习的重点。

三、阅读活动(Reading Activities)：针对辅助课文进行了深入细致的讲解，包括主要词汇及用法、难句分析以及练习答案。写作练习答案没有给出范文，而是给

出了提示以及相关词汇和短语，便于学生自由发挥，充分展示他们的写作技能。

此外，为帮助学生检测学习效果并为四级考试做好准备，每册书还设计了两套自测题，分别放在第五单元和第十单元后。

每册书最后还有一个附录，为两套自测题答案。

参加本书的编写人员：第一单元由刘爱军编写；第二单元由张钊炜、王斌编写；第三单元由刘丽编写；第四单元由柳淑华编写；第五单元由王健刚编写；第六单元由刘杰编写；第七单元由王琳编写；第八单元由徐玮编写；第九单元由李颖编写；第十单元由史金金编写。测试由张钊炜、王斌命题。王斌进行了全书的统稿工作。

在本书编写过程中，上海外语教育出版社给予了鼎力支持，在此表示衷心的感谢。由于时间有限，书中难免有疏漏之处，敬请读者指正。

编 者

2007年1月

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Unit 1

Courage is resistance to fear, mastery of fear — not absence of fear.

— Mark Twain

勇敢是抵制恐惧，克服恐惧，而非没有恐惧。

—— 马克·吐温

一、课文精解

Text

The Dinner Party

I. Cultural Notes

1. Mona Gardner and “The Dinner Party”

“The Dinner Party” by Mona Gardner, an American woman writer, is selected from *The Saturday Review of Literature*, Vol. 25, No. 5, January 31, 1941.

2. India in colonial period

During the time this story took place, India was a British colony, and the colonial officials worked for the British government in India. In 1610, the British chased away a Portuguese naval squadron, and began its presence in India with a few trading centers at Madras, Bombay, and Calcutta, and the East India Company created its own outpost at Surat. During the 18th century and the first half of the 19th century, many British people went to India as Army officers to make their fortunes. The British were more or less welcome (indeed,

there were a number of highly connected Anglo-Indian families) until the rebellion in 1857–1858, and the British influence had been dominant and profound. However, along with the desire for independence, in 1915, Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi eventually led the country to independence, and the British promised that they would leave India by 1947. In 1947, the British rule in India ended.

3 Equality between the sexes

Prejudice against women has long been a hot social issue, and many argue that women still have not achieved real equality with men, since women are still discriminated in many fields, especially in their career and family life.

4 The cobra

The cobra in India, which can often be seen in novels or movies about India, is an extremely venomous snake with smooth shiny skins of different color and patterns, but not as dangerous to humans as commonly thought. It does not want to bite a human, so it alerts the human of its presence just like a rattlesnake does, but in a different way.

The strong slender bodies of the cobra are yellow, brown, or almost black. The common Indian cobra is 5 to 6 feet long. The longest poisonous snake in the world is the king cobra, which can grow to be 18 feet long. The 12-inch babies can spread their tiny hoods and poison their prey.

These cobra snakes are considered slightly more intelligent than the average snake and they are also very adaptive. That's why they are sometimes found in agricultural land and near human inhabitations. These are dangerous snakes; their bites are poisonous and they easily hit a person in the eyes at a distance of two meters.

5 Rupee

The Rupee is the common name for the currencies used in India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, and Mauritius. An Indian rupee is equivalent to one hundred new paise or pice (singular: paisa).

6 Naturalist

A naturalist is someone who studies animals and plants.

II. Stylistic Features

本文是一个结构严谨的故事。该故事讲述了一个印度妇女在面对眼镜蛇时勇敢机智的表现，从而传递了这样一种信息：尽管人们一直认为男性比女性勇敢，但女性在身处危险境地时同样可以表现出勇敢与机智。本文同样包含了记叙文所应包含的主要元素，如：人物 (a colonial official and his wife, and the guests)、事件 (how the hostess showed her great courage and presence of mind when facing danger)、时间 (during the colonial period)、地点 (India)。

除第一段是过去时之外，从第二段开始作者用现在时进行了讲述，从而使得故事更加生动可信。作者在文中对很多细节进行了描写，如：环境、气氛、人们的面部表情和反应以及他们的一言一行，其中对女主人的描写尤为突出。故事的结局安排得很巧妙，其高潮在于最后一句 “Because it was crawling across my foot”，让人对女主人的勇敢赞叹不已。这种安排手法与 O. Henry 很多短篇小说类似，即将悬念留到最后。请考虑以下问题，同时请找出作者对不同的人、物进行细节描写的词语或句子。

1) In what order is the story presented? (chronological order 时间顺序)

2) The author gives a detailed description of the environment and the characters involved. What are they?

(See the table below)

	What is described	Words / phrases / sentences
2	<i>the environment</i>	spacious dining room, a bare marble floor, open rafters and side glass doors opening to a veranda
5	<i>the hostess</i>	a strange expression comes over the face, staring straight ahead, her muscles contracting slightly, whispers something
7	<i>the environment</i>	bare, three corners are empty, in the fourth the servants are waiting to serve the next course
10	<i>the American's action</i>	out of the corner of his eye, jumps to slam the veranda doors safely shut
13	<i>the hostess</i>	a faint smile lights up the woman's face

III. Summary of the Text

The story tells how the hostess got the cobra out of the dining room. Though people consider that men are generally braver than women, the hostess, a colonial official's wife, showed her great courage and presence of mind. A fatal cobra crawled across the hostess' foot; the hostess, however, did not scream. She asked the servant to get a bowl of milk, bait for a snake, and finally got the cobra out of the dining room successfully with the help of an American.

Structure of the Story

本文共分两部分。

第一部分 (Para. 1): 文章的引言, 介绍了故事的来源。

第二部分 (Paras. 2-13): 宾客们就男性与女性谁更勇敢展开讨论, 而女主人则将桌下的眼镜蛇引到室外, 显示了她的勇敢和机智。

IV. Key Words & Expressions

1 a *heated* discussion ... (Introductory Remarks)

heated: *a.*

a) fierce, spirited, lively 激烈的, 热烈的

[例句] We were engaged in a heated debate about the situation in the Middle East. 我们就中东的局势进行了激烈的辩论。

b) angry, excited 愤怒的, 激动的

[例句] George grew heated as he spoke of the hardship in his childhood. 谈到童年时的苦难, 乔治变得激动起来。

[扩展] 构词法分析: *heated* 是由 *heat* 加上 *ed* 转变而来, 成为一个形容词。

2 ... in a rather *unexpected* way. (Introductory Remarks)

unexpected: *a.* not expected; unforeseen 意外的, 想不到的

[例句] His unexpected arrival made all of us at a loss. 他的不请自来使我们所有人感到茫然不知所措。

[扩展] *unexpected* 与 *expected* 是反义词。派生词有:

expectation: *n.* anticipation 期望, 指望

3 ... *shortly* before the First World War (Para. 1)

shortly: *ad.*

a) soon, not long 很快, 不久

[例句] Police arrived at the scene shortly after the car accident. 车祸发生不久, 警察就赶到了现场。

b) briefly and rudely 简短而不耐烦地

[例句] “I don’t have time to talk with you. I’m in a hurry,” he said shortly, “Come next time.”

“我没有时间与你谈。我正赶着有事，”他不耐烦地说，“下次再来吧。”

4 I have never been able to *track down*. (Para. 1)

track down: find after a long search or hunting (经过长时间的搜索) 追踪到, 追查到

[例句] The girl had spent several years trying to track down her parents and brothers.

这个女孩儿花了几年的时间查到了她父母和兄弟们的下落。

5 A *colonial* official ... (Para. 2)

colonial: *a.* of or related to a colony or colonies 殖民地的

[例句] The oil painting was created in the colonial period.
这幅油画创作于殖民地时期。

[扩展] *colony: n.* a place that is controlled by another country 殖民地
colonize: vt. take control of another country by settling down there 殖民

colonialism: n. a situation in which one country rules another 殖民主义

colonialist: n. someone who supports colonialism 殖民主义者

6 They *are seated* with their guests. (Para. 2)

be seated: sit down 就座, 坐下

[例句] When he finally got to the dinner party, all the guests were already seated at the table.

当他赶到晚宴会场时, 所有的客人都已在餐桌前就座了。

[辨析] be seated 强调“坐”的状态; sit down 侧重于“坐”的动作。

7 ... their *spacious* dining room ... (Para. 2)

spacious: *a.* big, vast, having a lot of space 宽敞的

[例句] Our new house has a spacious living room and an exquisite kitchen.
我们的新房子有宽敞的客厅和精巧的厨房。

8 ... a *bare* marble floor ... (Para. 2)

bare:

(1) *a.*

a) not covered 无遮盖的, 裸的, 光秃秃的

[例句] If you are interested in yoga, you can start practising it on bare feet. 如果你对瑜伽有兴趣, 你可以光着脚开始练习。

b) containing nothing 空的

[例句] My fridge was bare apart from three smelly eggs.
我的冰箱里除了三个臭鸡蛋已没有其他的東西了。

c) basic, with nothing extra 基本的, 仅有的

[例句] The public wants more than just the bare facts of the event.
公众想要的不仅仅是事件的基本事实。

(2) *vt.* reveal, expose 露出, 暴露在外

[例句] The fierce large dog barked and bared its teeth to the strangers.
这只凶猛的大狗向陌生人狂吠, 还露出了牙齿。

[辨析] bare, empty (见练习 III. Vocabulary Activities 1)

9 A spirited discussion *springs up*... (Para. 3)

(1) spirited: *a.* heated, lively 热烈的, 激烈的 (用法同 heated)

(2) spring up: appear or grow suddenly and quickly 涌现, 突然而迅速地出现、生长

[例句] My hometown has changed a lot. Many new factories and companies are springing up every day.
我的家乡变化很大, 许多新工厂和公司每天都如雨后春笋般地涌现。

10 A woman's *reaction* ... (Para. 4)

reaction: *n.*

a) the way of reacting; response 反应

[例句] The initial reaction of people to bad news is shock.
人们听到坏消息的第一反应就是震惊。

b) a bad effect caused by food, medicine or another substance 不良反应

[例句] Some people's skin has an allergic reaction to certain types of fabric. 有些人的皮肤对某种纤维制品有过敏反应。

c) a process in which a chemical change happens 化学反应

[例句] Experts are studying reactions between a number of metals and acids. 专家们正在研究一些金属与酸之间的化学反应。

[扩展] *react: vi.* act or behave in a way in answer 反应

[例句] Women workers react violently to the unequal treatment of the factory. 女工人对工厂给予的不公平待遇反应强烈。

[搭配] react 和 reaction 通常与介词 to 连用, 后面跟名词或动词的 *ing* 形式。

11 ... in any *crisis* ... (Para. 4)

crisis: *n.* an urgent, difficult or dangerous situation 危机 (复数形式为 *crises*)

[例句] Negotiations have so far failed to solve the political crisis.
谈判至今未能解决这场政治危机。

[搭配] economic crisis (经济危机), family crisis (家庭危机), mid-life crisis (中年危机), energy crisis (能源危机) 等。

- 12 while a man may *feel like* it ... (Para. 4)
 feel like: have a liking for, wish for 想要 (*feel like sth.* or *feel like doing sth.*)
 [例句] None of the soccer fans feel like going to sleep when the World Cup is going on. 世界杯激战正酣, 球迷们都不愿去睡觉。
- 13 ... what really *counts*. (Para. 4)
 count: *vi.* be important, make difference 至关重要, 起作用, 有意义
 [例句] What really counts is whether you have really realized your mistake.
 真正重要的是你是否已经认识到了你犯的错误。
 It seemed that my opinion did count for nothing in their eyes.
 看来, 在他们眼中, 我的意见毫无价值。
 [搭配] count for nothing 一文不值, 毫无价值
- 14 ... join in the *argument*. (Para. 5)
 argument: *n.*
 a) a discussion or debate 争论, 辩论
 [例句] The strike triggered a new round of argument over/about the role of the government.
 罢工引发了新一轮对于政府角色的争论。
 b) a reason or reasons given to support or disapprove sth. 理由, 论据, 论点
 [例句] The current low mortgage rates are an argument for buying a house now. 现行的低抵押贷款利率是现在就买房子的根据。
 [扩展] *argue: v.* disagree and quarrel 争论, 辩论
argumentation: n. the presentation and elaboration of an argument or arguments 论证
argumentative: a. having the quality of arguing 争论的
 [近义词辨析] argument, dispute, controversy
argument 强调各方用事实和理由来支持自己的论点并试图说服对方的过程。
 例如: Emotions are seldom swayed by argument.
 情绪很少受论证的影响。
dispute 强调由于涉及相互矛盾的观点而导致意见上的分歧, 常常暗含敌意。
 例如: A dispute arose among union members about the terms of the new contract. 工会会员们在新合同的条款方面产生争执。
controversy 指许多人、大众, 而非个别人在观点上存在的分歧及争端。
 例如: The use of nuclear power is the subject of widespread controversy. 使用核动力是一个有广泛争议的问题。
- 15 ... her muscles *contracting* slightly ... (Para. 5)
 contract:
 (1) *vi.*

a) make or become tighter or narrower 紧缩, 变紧

[例句] My father always contracted his brow when he was thinking of something serious.

我父亲在思考一些严肃的问题时总是紧皱眉头。

b) make or become shorter or smaller 收缩, 缩小(短)

[例句] Metal contracts as it cools. 金属冷却时会收缩。

(2) *vt.* become infected with a disease 感染

[例句] Unfortunately, the old artist contracted flu and died before he finished his masterpiece.

这位老艺术家不幸得了流感, 还没来得及完成这幅杰作就去世了。

(3) *n.* a written legal agreement between two people or businesses 合同, 契约

[例句] Under this contract she was not allowed to work for any other dress company.

根据该合同, 她不可以再为其他时装公司工作。

[扩展] *contraction*: *n.* the process of becoming smaller 收缩, 缩小

contractor: *n.* a person or company that provides services at a specified price 承包人, 承揽人

16 She *motions* to the native boy... (Para. 5)

motion:

(1) *vt.* move the hand or head to point to somewhere or get someone's attention
用手或头示意、招呼 *motion (for) sb. to do sth.*

[例句] I motioned (for) the waiter to bring the bill after the dinner.

用餐后我示意服务员结账。

(2) *n.*

a) signal by hand or head 动作, 手势

[例句] The dancer made a fluttering motion with her delicate hands.

舞者用灵巧的双手做了一个展翅飞翔的动作。

b) the process of action or moving 运动, 移动

[例句] The wind from the car's motion blew her long blond hair.

汽车开动时, 风吹起了她金色的长发。

c) a formal proposal to be discussed and voted on at a meeting 动议, 提议

[例句] The Opposition is going to bring a no-confidence motion against the government. 反对党打算提出一项对政府不信任案。

[搭配] 与 *motion* 有关的短语: go through the motions 敷衍了事; set sth. in motion 启动……, 使……开始运转。