

清华大学远程教育系列教材



# Comprehensive English 1

# 综合英语

供专升本英语专业第1学期使用

## 第一册

崔 刚···主 编

王敬慧···副主编

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### 内 容 提 要

本书是专门为远程教育英语专业专升本学生编写的综合英语教材,供本专业一年级学生第一学期使用,也适合于具有中级水平的英语学习者自学使用。本书共 8 个单元,另外设两个复习课。每个单元由 A、B 两个部分组成,其中 A 部分的课文用于课堂讲解,为主课文;B 部分的课文内容一般与 A 部分的课文内容相关,用于学生课外学习。两个部分都附有练习题,以帮助学生巩固课文中所学的内容。每个单元的最后设计了专家论坛栏目,其中选择了一些我国外语界知名的专家学者对于英语学习的精辟论述。

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# 前 言

《综合英语》为清华大学远程教育专升本系列教材之一，是专为英语专业专升本一年级学生编写的综合英语教材，也适合于具有中级水平的英语学习者自学使用。本课程的目标为：在学生现有英语水平的基础上，进一步传授英语的基础知识，加强学生基本技能的训练，培养学生实际运用语言的能力，培养学生良好的学习习惯和正确的学习方法，为学生进行高级英语的学习打好扎实的基础。

为了达到上述目标，我们在教材编写的过程中充分注意了以下几点：

1. **充分考虑学生的实际情况。**根据《全国各类成人高等学校专科起点本科班招生（非师范类）精读和泛读复习考试大纲》的规定，要求学生应该具备 5 500 个英语单词的词汇量，但是考虑到远程教育专升本学生的实际情况，为了使他们打下坚实的基础，我们把本教材的起始词汇量要求确定为 4000 英文单词。此外，针对远程教育的学生大多数时间需要自学的特点，在每个单元的最后我们还特地设计了专家论坛栏目，摘录了一些我国外语界知名的专家学者对于英语学习的精辟论述，以帮助他们培养自学能力，同时养成正确的学习方法。

2. **突出时代气息。**本书中的所有课文均选自国外九十年代后半期的出版物，都具有较强的时代感，使本教材中的语言充分体现新世纪英语语言的特点。而且选取的材料也具有足够的新的信息量，同时具有一定的趣味性和可思性，可以激发学生学习英语的兴趣。

3. **重视文化教学。**英语语言教学不是单纯地为教语言而教语言，而是把语言作为信息的载体，使学生在在学习语言的同时，初步了解西方文化背景，也获得关于现代社会的文化、科技和经济等方面的知识。在每个单元主课文的注释中都有对课文中所涉及英美文化背景的介绍，同时附有相关网站的网址，学生可以通过访问这些网站，进一步了解有关方面的知识，增加英语阅读的阅读量。

4. **语言训练不仅重视语言形式，更要重视语言形式的具体运用。**在本套教材的练习题设计上，我们不局限于对语言形式的操练，停留在语言形式本身的水平上，更注重培养学生在实际环境中运用语言的能力。练习的题目不是对课文句子的简单模仿和机械性套用，而是从

语言形式出发,注重语言形式的具体运用,使练习题部分成为形式活泼,独具风格的课文内涵的延伸,使课文和练习题相辅相成,融为一体。

本册《综合英语》由8个单元,外加两个复习课组成,每个单元需要8个学时左右,每个复习课大约需要2个学时,全册共需授课时数68个学时。每个单元由A、B两个部分组成,其中A部分的课文用于课堂讲解,为主课文;B部分的课文内容一般与A部分的课文内容相关,用于学生课外学习,教师可以在课堂上对该部分的个别疑难问题进行必要的讲解。

为了充分利用现代网络技术,我们还专门设计与本教材配套的多媒体课件。

在本套教材的编写过程中,我们得到了清华大学继续教育学院、清华大学外语系和清华大学出版社的大力支持与帮助,在此一并表示诚挚的谢意。

现代远程教育是我国教育界的一件大事,如何充分利用现代科技为外语教学带来的便利是一个非常值得研究的问题。编写远程教育教材是我们为此而进行的一次尝试。由于编写时间紧张,编者水平有限,书中还有许多不尽人意之处,恳请使用本书的教师和学生提出宝贵意见。

编者

2000年8月

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# UNIT ONE

## Comprehensive English Comprehensive English Comprehensive English

*Chicken Soup for the Soul* is a very popular series of books published by Health Communications, Inc.. Many of these writings have been translated into Chinese since they are quite moving. In this unit, you will read two stories selected from the book. The two texts in this unit were taken from *Chicken Soup for the Mother's Soul*. Text A tells you a story about Christmas gifts sent to a mother and Text B describes what occurred to a mother when her daughter went off to college. After reading the two articles, you may have a deeper understanding about the love between parents and children and may become more knowledgeable about how to get along better with your family members.

- Text A A Surprise Gift for Mother  
Text B When a Child Goes Off to College

**Part A****Pre-reading Activities**

Answer the following questions.

1. What are gifts used for?
2. Have you ever given your mother or father a gift?
3. If yes, when and why?
4. When do you think is the best or appropriate time for giving others a gift?

**Text****A Surprise Gift for Mother**

*Sarah A. Rivers*

1 On Christmas Day<sup>1</sup>, all the joys of close family relationships were seen and felt throughout our parents' home. The smells of roasted turkey, Southern-baked ham and homemade bread hung in the air. Tables and chairs were set up everywhere to accommodate toddlers, teenagers, parents and grandparents. Every room was lavishly decorated. No family member had ever missed Christmas Day with our mother and father.

2 Only this year, things were different. Our father had passed away on November 26, and this was our first Christmas without him. Mother was doing her best to be the gracious hostess, but I could tell this was especially hard for her<sup>2</sup>. I felt a catch in my throat, and again I wondered if I should give her my planned Christmas gift, or if it had become inappropriate in my father's absence.

3 A few months earlier I had been putting the finishing touches on portraits I had painted of each of my parents. I'd

How was the family celebrating Christmas?

Why were things different this year?

Why would the gift be a surprise?

planned to give them as Christmas gifts. This would be a surprise for everyone, as I had not studied art or tried serious painting<sup>3</sup>. There was an undeniable urge within that pushed me relentlessly to do this. The portraits did look like them, but I was still unsure of my painting techniques.

4 While painting one day, I was surprised by a doorbell ring. Quickly putting all my painting materials out of sight, I opened the door. To my astonishment<sup>4</sup>, my father ambled in alone—never before having visited me without my mother. Grinning, he said, “I’ve missed our early morning talks. You know, the ones we had before you decided to leave me for another man!” I hadn’t been married long. Also, I was the only girl and the baby of the family.

5 Immediately I wanted to show him the paintings, but I was reluctant to ruin his Christmas surprise. Yet something urged me to share this moment with him. After swearing him to secrecy, I insisted he keep his eyes closed<sup>5</sup> until I had the portraits set on easels. “Okay, Daddy. Now you can look!”

6 He appeared dazed but said nothing. Getting up, he walked closer to inspect them. Then he withdrew to eye them at a distance. I tried to control my stomach flip-flops. Finally, with a tear escaping down one cheek, he mumbled, “I don’t believe it. The eyes are so real that they follow you everywhere—and look how beautiful your mother is. Will you let me have them framed?”

7 Thrilled with his response, I happily volunteered to drop them off the next day at the frame shop.

8 Several weeks passed. Then one night in November the phone rang, and a cold chill numbed my body. I picked up the receiver to hear my husband, a doctor, say, “I’m in the emergency room. Your father has had a stroke. It’s bad, but he is still alive.”

Did her father  
love her or not?  
How did you  
know?

Whom does  
“another man”  
refer to?

What does the  
word **something**  
refer to?

How did her  
father comment  
on the painting?

What happened to  
her father?

9 Daddy lingered in a coma for several days. I went to see him in the hospital the day before he died. I slipped my hand in his and asked, "Do you know who I am, Daddy?" He surprised everyone when he whispered, "You're my darling daughter." He died the next day, and it seemed all joy was drained from the lives of my mother and me.

10 I finally remembered to call about the portrait framing and thanked God<sup>6</sup> my father had gotten a chance to see the pictures before he died. I was surprised when the shopkeeper told me my father had visited the shop, paid for the framing and had them gift-wrapped. In all our grief, I had no longer planned to give the portraits to my mother.

11 Even though we had lost the patriarch of our family, everyone was assembled on Christmas Day—making an effort to be cheerful. As I looked into my mother's sad eyes and unsmiling face, I decided to give her Daddy's and my gift. As she stripped the paper from the box, I saw her heart wasn't in it. There was a small card inside attached to the pictures.

12 After looking at the portraits and reading the card, her entire demeanor changed. She bounced out of her chair, handed the card to me and commissioned my brothers to hang the paintings facing each other over the fireplace. She stepped back and looked for a long while. With sparkling, tear-filled eyes and a wide smile, she quickly turned and said, "I knew Daddy would be with us on Christmas Day!"

13 I glanced at the gift card scrawled in my father's handwriting. "Mother—Our daughter reminded me why I am so blessed. I'll be looking at you always—Daddy."

Why could her father recognize her so easily?

What did her father do about the picture before he died?

Whom does "the patriarch of our family" refer to?

How did her mother respond after she got the gift?

## New Words

- homemade** /ˈhəʊmˈmeɪd/ *a.* made at home and not bought from a shop 自制的
- accommodate** /əˈkɒmədeɪt/ *v.* to do or provide what somebody needs 向……提供
- toddler** /ˈtɒdlə/ *n.* a child who has only just learned to walk 刚学会走路的孩子
- lavishly** /ˈlævɪʃli/ *ad.* generously or in large quantities 丰富地, 大量地
- inappropriate** /ˌɪnəˈprəʊpriət/ *a.* not suitable 不合适的
- undeniable** /ˌʌndiˈneɪəbl/ *a.* clear, true or certain 无可争辩的, 确定无疑
- relentlessly** /riˈlentləsli/ *ad.* without stopping or changing 不停地, 不间断地
- Doorbell** /ˈdɔːbel/ *n.* a button outside a house that you push to make a sound so that people inside know you are there 门铃
- amble** /ˈæmbəl/ *v.* to walk in a slow relaxed way 漫步, 缓行
- grin** /grɪn/ *v.* (grinned, grinned; grinning) to smile widely 咧着嘴笑
- swear** /swɛə/ *v.* (swore, sworn) to make a very serious promise 发誓
- secrecy** /ˈsiːkrəsi/ *n.* the state of being secret 保密, 秘密
- insist** /ɪnˈsɪst/ *v.* to demand that something should happen and refuse to let anyone say no 要求, 坚持
- easel** /ˈiːzəl/ *n.* a wooden frame that you put a painting on while you paint it 画架
- dazed** /deɪzd/ *a.* unable to think clearly 茫然的
- inspect** /ɪnˈspekt/ *v.* examine something carefully 检查, 仔细地看
- flip-flop** /ˈflɪpflop/ *n.* quick movement 怦怦的跳

<b>mumble</b> /'mʌmbəl/	v.	to say something too quietly and not clearly enough 咕哝, 含糊地说
<b>thrill</b> /θril/	v.	To make someone feel excited, happy and pleased 使(某人)感到兴奋或激动
<b>chill</b> /tʃil/	n.	a feeling of coldness 寒冷
<b>linger</b> /'liŋgə/	v.	to remain in existence 奄奄一息
<b>coma</b> /'kəʊmə/	n.	a state of deep unconsciousness, often lasting for a long time and caused by serious illness or injury 昏迷
<b>Whisper</b> /'wɪspə/	v.	to speak very quietly 低语, 小声地说
<b>Patriarch</b> /'peɪtriɑ:k/	n.	an old man who is respected as the head of a family or tribe 家长, 族长
<b>strip</b> /stri:p/	v.	to remove something that is covering the surface of something else 脱去, 剥去
<b>demeanor</b> /di'mi:nə/	n.	the way someone behaves or looks that gives you a general idea of their character 行为, 举止
<b>bounce</b> /baʊns/	v.	to move quickly 跳起
<b>commission</b> /kə'mɪʃən/	v.	to ask someone to do a piece of work 交付(某人)任务或工作
<b>scrawl</b> /skro:l/	v.	to write in a careless and untidy way 不工整地书写

## Phrases and Expressions

set up tables and chairs	布置桌椅
pass away	an expression meaning to die, used because you want to avoid upsetting someone by saying this directly 去世
do one's best	to try one's best 尽力
in one's absence	while someone is away 在某人不在时
out of sight	out of the area that one can see 视野之外

to one's astonishment	in a way that makes one feel astonished 令人吃惊的是
swear sb. to secrecy	to make someone promise not to tell anyone what you have told them 使某人承诺保守秘密
share ... with	与……共享
at a distance	from a place that is not very close 从远处
linger in a coma	奄奄一息地; 处于昏迷之中
look into sb.'s eyes	打量某人的眼神

## Notes

1. **Christmas Day** (圣诞节), 12 月 25 日是基督教徒纪念耶稣基督诞生的日子, 称为圣诞节。Christmas (有时被简称为 Xmas), 由 Christ (基督) 和 Mass (弥撒) 组成, 意思是圣诞节这一天教徒们到教堂去, 举行崇拜仪式以庆祝耶稣基督的诞生。12 月 24 日夜称为圣诞前夜 (Christmas Eve), 12 月 25 日称为圣诞日 (Christmas Day), 12 月 24 日至翌年 1 月 6 日称为圣诞节期 (Christmas tide)。

### (1) 圣诞树 (Christmas tree)

圣诞树是圣诞节最为重要的点缀物。一般由挺拔的塔形松柏之类常绿树制作而成, 树上挂满闪闪发光的金银卡片、用棉花制成的雪花和五颜六色的彩色灯泡 (传统习惯是挂小蜡烛), 有时也把圣诞礼物挂上面。树顶上面还装有一颗大星。树上的彩色灯泡或蜡烛象征耶稣是世界的光明, 大星则代表耶稣降生后将三位贤士引到伯利恒的那颗星。根据习惯, 12 月 24 日夜一家人围坐在美丽的圣诞树下, 共进圣诞晚餐, 别人赠送的礼物也要在圣诞树下打开。

### (2) 圣诞老人 (Santa Claus, Father Christmas)

圣诞老人在美国英语中为 Santa Claus, 在英国英语中则为 Father Christmas。圣诞老人是一个留着银白胡须、和蔼可亲的老人。他头戴红色尖帽, 身穿白皮袖边、白皮领子的大红袍, 腰间扎着一条宽布带。传说圣诞老人在圣诞前夜驾着八只鹿拉着的满载礼品的雪橇, 从北方雪国来到各家, 由屋顶的烟囱下来, 经过壁炉到房间内, 把糖果、玩具等礼品装进孩子们吊在壁炉旁或床头上的袜子里。

### (3) 圣诞贺卡 (Christmas card)

在圣诞节, 家庭成员之间、朋友之间互相赠送圣诞贺卡和礼品是一种最常见的庆祝圣诞的活动。圣诞贺卡上印着有关耶稣降生故事的各种精美图案, 通常还印着像“Merry Christmas! Happy New Year!”之类的贺语。

#### (4) 圣诞餐 (Christmas dinner)

圣诞餐是圣诞节当天的主要一餐, 有的家庭把它安排在午间, 有的则安排在晚上。这餐主要是家人团聚, 一般不邀请客人。圣诞餐的主要食品是烤火鸡 (或烧鹅)、布丁和碎肉 (或干果、鸡蛋) 馅饼等。圣诞会餐时, 往往要多设一个座位, 多放一套餐具, 据说这是为“主的使者”预备的, 也有的说是为一个需要帮助的过路人准备的。

#### (5) 圣诞颂歌 (Christmas carol)

在圣诞夜, 教徒们组织歌咏队到各教徒家去唱圣诞歌, 传报“佳音”。流行比较广的圣诞颂歌有《平安夜》、《小小伯利恒》和《东方三贤士》, 内容大多和耶稣的诞生有关。

(摘自《英美文化词典》, 胡文仲主编, 外语教学与研究出版社。)

关于圣诞节的详细情况, 请访问 <http://www.holidays.net/christmas/>。

2. **but I could tell this was especially hard for her** 但是我可以看得出这对她来说尤为困难。tell 看得出 (to know something or be able to recognize something because of certain signs that show this), 例如:

*Even though it was so dark I could still tell it was you.*

尽管天很黑, 我还是能辨认出是你。

*I could tell that he had enjoyed the evening.*

我能看得出他晚上玩得很开心。

3. **as I had not studied art or tried serious painting** 因为我没有学过艺术, 也没有真正尝试过画画。as 因为 (because), 例如:

*I didn't buy the dress, as I decided it was too expensive.*

我没有买那条裙子, 因为我觉得 (它) 太贵了。

4. **To my astonishment** 令我感到惊讶的是。to one's surprise/annoyance/delight: in a way makes you feel a particular emotion, 例如:

*To my surprise, I saw two strangers coming out of my house.*

我吃惊地看见两个陌生人从我的家里走出来。

*To her relief, there was no one else there.*



让她感到欣慰的是，没有其他人在那里。

5. **I insisted he keep his eyes closed** 我坚持让他闭上自己的眼睛。insist 当“坚持，主张”讲时，后面的宾语从句要求使用“should + 动词原形”，should 经常被省略，例如：  
*They insisted that everyone should come to the party.*  
 他坚持每个人都要参加晚会。  
*He insisted that I go to see a doctor.*  
 他坚持让我去看医生。

6. **thanked God** 谢天谢地 (used to show that you are very glad about something), 例如：  
*Thank God that's over! I've never been so nervous in my life!*  
 谢天谢地，总算结束了！我一生中还从来没有这样紧张过。

## Reading Comprehension

- Ex. 1** Decide whether the following statements about the narrator of the story are true or false.

- \_\_\_\_\_ The narrator is female and her husband is a doctor.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The narrator is an artist, who is very skillful in painting.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The narrator has been married for a long time.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The narrator's father loved her very much.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The narrator is the only girl of the family.

- Ex. 2** Decide whether the following statements about the painting are true or false.

- \_\_\_\_\_ The painting was painted by the father.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The painting was framed and paid for by the father.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The most striking feature of the painting was the mother's eyes.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The painting was given to the mother as a gift by the father.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The painting brought great joy to the mother.

- Ex. 3** Explain the following statements in English.

- No family member had ever missed Christmas Day with our mother and father.