

21 世纪高校规划教材

新纪元

大学英语

总主编 赵国杰 余富斌

NEW ERA
COLLEGE ENGLISH

读写教程

主编 廖振发 王焕科

1

江西高校出版社

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新纪元大学英语

New Era College English

读写教程 1

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前 言

《新纪元大学英语》是根据“高职高专教育英语课程教育基本要求”,同时又根据学生的实际情况而编写的。教材分《读写教程》、《听说教程》和《教师用书》三种,分三级出版,供高职高专院校课堂教学和课外学习使用。

本教材编写宗旨是以人文素材为基本教学内容,注意听说读写全面发展,为英语学习打下坚实的基础。课文的选择大多是叙事体裁,理性通过故事表达,易学、易教。所有练习均为打基本功练习,一方面注意阅读技能的培养;另一方面关注口语活动、听力训练、词汇知识、语法训练。教师可根据学生的实际情况有重点地开展课堂教学活动。

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2007年8月

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Contents

Unit 1	(1)
Text A	A Special Physical Examination
Text B	The Army Son
Unit 2	(21)
Text A	Not on the Menu
Text B	His Life's Work
Unit 3	(41)
Text A	The Art of Forgiveness
Text B	All It Took Was Two Words
Unit 4	(58)
Text A	The Home Computer
Text B	Learning to Love the Computer, Warts and All
Unit 5	(76)
Text A	When to Keep Your Mouth Shut
Text B	The Story of Courage and Love
Unit 6	(96)
Text A	The Rose
Text B	Too Dear for the Whistle
Unit 7	(117)
Text A	Life in Death
Text B	Monday Morning Miracle
Unit 8	(138)
Text A	Sticks and Stones
Text B	Homesick Blues
Unit 9	(156)

Text A The Honesty

Text B Books and Man

Unit 10 (177)

Text A A Country on the Move

Text B Learning from Stamps

Glossary (199)

Unit 1

Text A

A Special Physical Examination

Anonymous

It is a true story which happened during World War II in a certain state in the east of the U.S.A. .

One day a young man named Jim received an enlistment notice in which he was told to undergo the physical examination the next day. To Jim it seemed like a bolt from the blue. He was troubled so much that he couldn't get to sleep all the night. In all fairness, Jim wasn't a coward and he hated the Fascists deeply. But he wouldn't join the army. Why? It was all because he was in love with a beautiful girl and he would not be separated from his girl friend. "If I could find a way to make the doctors believe there are some defects in my body," he thought, "I would avoid being sent to serve in the army. But how? ..." He thought and thought. Suddenly to his great joy, a good idea crossed his mind.

The next morning Jim got to the hospital on time. He was led into a large room where he found an aged medical officer sitting behind a large writing-desk, busy looking through the sheets of paper carefully. "It must be the chief doctor," to himself Jim thought. "And I'd best try not to be paid attention to by that old fellow." With the thought, he hurriedly found a seat to sit down on and took out an out-of-date newspaper, pretending to read it.

Not long after that, Jim heard his name called. He knew it was his turn to be examined. When Jim came up to the doctor, the old man

raised his head slowly from his papers and took a quick and sharp look at him, then in a whisper he ordered Jim to put his newspaper on the table and take off his clothes at once. Of course, Jim had to do what he was wanted to. After that, he was told to go straight to a corner and sit down on a chair there. But to Jim's great surprise, no sooner had he seated himself on the chair than he heard the doctor murmuring to his assistants: "Finished! That lad is quite up to the standard."

"How can you draw such a conclusion like that before you give me a careful check? It's too rash!" Still on the chair, Jim shouted at the doctor. "Don't be impetuous, young man! Get off and put on your clothes, and then I'll explain it to you." the doctor said calmly.

And when Jim stood before the old man, the doctor held out his hand and gave a pat on his broad shoulder. A smile on his face, he said to Jim in a kind voice: "My boy, you said we didn't examine you carefully, didn't you? But I don't think it's necessary for us to do that. You might be puzzled about this. Now let me tell you how and why." After a pause to take a breath, he went on: "When I whispered to you to put down the newspaper and take off your clothes, you did it as I told you. It shows you have good ears. And then when you were asked to go and sit on the chair in that corner, you did it, too. It shows you can see any object within a certain distance. So you are not nearsighted at all. Besides, you were found reading the newspaper just now, and we are certain you are a man of intelligence. In a word, we have no doubt that you are perfect in mind and body. Now I'm glad to say you've passed the physical examination. That is to say you'll be a glorious soldier. Congratulations!"

With those words the medical officer stretched out both hands to Jim, and Jim could do nothing but hold them in his own. "I wish you to be a good fighter and fight for the justice and freedom of human beings!" said the old man in an inspiring voice. And Jim was so moved that his eyes were full of tears.

Half a year later, Jim was killed in the European battlefield. At this news his girl friend nearly went mad. She dashed down to the shore and stood there, looking out to the boundless ocean. She kept weeping, while calling her lover's name. "Don't be like that, my dear." It was an old man's trembling voice. "Your Jim died a real man. He devoted his life to the people all over the world. It is right that we should be proud of him..." Saying this, the old man, her father, was choked. His only regret was that he had never let Jim know who he was. This old man was no other than the medical officer who had given Jim the health check.

New Words

physical ['fizikəl] *adj.*

enlistment [in'listmənt] *n.*

undergo [ˌʌndə'ɡəʊ] *vt.*

(underwent, undergone)

bolt [bəʊlt] *n.*

fairness ['feənɪs] *n.*

coward ['kaʊəd] *n.*

defect [dɪ'fekt] *n.*

out-of-date *adj.*

sharp [ʃɑ:p] *adj.*

murmur ['mɜ:mə] *vi.*

lad [læd] *n.*

conclusion [kən'klu:ʒən] *n.*

rash [ræʃ] *adj.*

impetuous [im'petjuəs] *adj.*

puzzle ['pʌzl] *vt.*

pause [pɔ:z] *n.*

nearsighted ['niə'saitɪd] *adj.*

intelligence [ɪntelɪdʒəns] *n.*

of or concerning the body 体格的, 身体的

entering (the armed forces) 征募, 服兵役

go through, experience 经受; 经历

a flash of lightning 闪电, 霹雳

justice, honesty 公正, 公平

懦夫, 胆怯者

fault; imperfect 毛病; 缺陷

not modern, not fashionable 过时的, 陈旧的

quick and sensitive (in thinking, seeing, hearing) 敏锐的, 机警的

utter in a low voice 低声说

boy; young man 男孩; 小伙子

judgement; inference 判断; 结论

too hasty; careless 急躁的; 草率的

acting quickly and suddenly without thinking
冲动的, 鲁莽的

confuse; cause uncertainty (使) 困惑

a short stop; break 停顿; 暂停

shortsighted 近视的

ability to learn and understand 智力

glorious ['glɔːriəs] <i>adj.</i>	splendid; honourable 辉煌的; 光荣的
congratulation [kənˌgrætjuˈleɪʃən] <i>n.</i>	well-wishing; words that congratulate 祝贺词
stretch [stretʃ] <i>vt.</i>	make longer, wider by pulling; extend; draw out 拉长, 伸展; 抽出
justice ['dʒʌstɪs] <i>n.</i>	rightness 公正, 正确
inspire [ɪnˈspaɪə] <i>vt.</i>	encourage; fire 激励; 鼓舞
battlefield ['bætlfi:ld] <i>n.</i>	战场
dash [dæʃ] <i>vi.</i>	run quickly and suddenly 猛冲
boundless ['baundlɪs] <i>adj.</i>	vast; without limit 广阔的; 无边际的
choked [tʃəʊkt] <i>adj.</i>	哽咽的

Phrases and Expressions

a bolt from (the) blue	something completely unexpected and very unpleasant 晴天霹雳
in all fairness	平心而论
cross one's mind	(of ideas) occur to one (指念头) 掠过脑海
look through	examine 查看
up to the standard	equal to the required level 符合标准
draw a conclusion	come to / arrive at a conclusion 得出结论
hold out	stretch out 伸出
nothing but	just; only 就是; 只有
none/no other than	the person oneself; no other person 不是(别人)正是(某人自己)

Proper Names

Jim [dʒɪm]	吉姆
Fascist ['fæʃɪst]	a supporter of fascism 法西斯分子

Notes

1. *Anonymous*: An author whose name is unknown.
2. *Suddenly to his great joy, a good idea crossed his mind.*

The preposition "to" is often followed by some emotional nouns to express one's

feeling. For example: to one's surprise, to one's satisfaction, to one's sympathy.

3. *I'd best try not to be paid attention to by that old fellow.*

"I'd best" equals the same structure as "I'd better". e. g. I thought I had best/better have your opinion first.

Exercises

I. Comprehension of the Text

Choose the best answer for each of the following according to the text.

1. Jim was much troubled when he received an enlistment notice. It's because _____.
 - A. he loved his parents
 - B. he was a coward
 - C. he wouldn't like to leave his girl friend
 - D. he wouldn't like to leave his hometown
2. Jim thought of a good idea to make the doctors believe there were some defects in his body. What's that idea?
 - A. Going to the hospital on time.
 - B. Obeying the doctors.
 - C. Being impetuous to the doctors.
 - D. The author didn't mention it.
3. Why did the old doctor give his order in a whisper?
 - A. Because he tried to test Jim's hearing.
 - B. Because he was so old that he could not speak in a loud voice.
 - C. Because he did so in order to show his politeness.
 - D. Because it was a private conversation.
4. During the physical examination _____.
 - A. the doctor knew Jim was his daughter's boy friend
 - B. both the doctor and Jim knew each other
 - C. Jim knew the chief examiner was the father of his girl friend
 - D. Jim didn't know the doctor, nor did the doctor know him
5. The doctor examined Jim _____.
 - A. with medical instruments
 - B. by Jim's reactions

- C. by Jim's appearance
D. without a careful check
6. According to Para.4, which of the following statements made Jim feel surprised?
- A. The old man raised his head slowly.
B. The old man ordered Jim to take off his clothes.
C. The old man asked Jim to go straight to a corner.
D. The old man told his assistant that Jim had passed the physical examination.
7. Jim was _____, when he heard that he was up to the standard.
- A. happy B. sorry C. excited D. impetuous
8. At the news of Jim's death the old man _____.
- A. persuaded his daughter to forget him
B. regretted what he had done with Jim during the physical examination
C. was proud of his daughter's boy friend
D. felt sorry that he couldn't help Jim to avoid being sent to the army

II. Question Answering

Answer the following questions based on the text.

1. Where and when did the story take place?
2. What did Jim receive one day? And what was he told to do the next day?
3. Why was Jim unwilling to join the army?
4. Who was the old medical officer?
5. What was the old medical officer doing when Jim was led into the room?
6. Did Jim know that the chief medical officer was the father of his girl friend?
7. Why was Jim surprised when he knew he had passed the physical check?
8. Did Jim survive the war in Europe?
9. What did the old man regret when he heard the bad news?

III. Question Discussion

Please discuss the following questions in groups or write your answers in your exercise books.

1. What kind of physical examination did Jim undergo? Do you think it was a careful check?

2. What do you think of the old medical officer?

IV. Vocabulary Learning

1. Fill in the blanks with the words or expressions given below and change the forms where necessary.

devote one's life to	in all fairness	murmur	pretend	avoid
nothing but	none other than	defect	coward	undergo

- 1) To his great surprise, the boss found that the waiter working in his restaurant was _____ his brother.
 - 2) On the way to Yan-an (延安) the Red Army men _____ many difficulties.
 - 3) You can hardly _____ meeting her if you both work in the same office.
 - 4) He _____ to be reading when his mother came in.
 - 5) They were all so tired that they could do _____ complain.
 - 6) Her bad temper is a _____ in her kind and generous nature.
 - 7) The stream kept _____ all the year round as if telling a never-ending story of sorrows.
 - 8) Tony is such a _____ that at the first sight of danger he runs away.
 - 9) Li Si-guang _____ the research work of geological science.
 - 10) _____, it must be pointed out that the students did work very hard on the project.
2. Complete each of the following sentences with the correct form of the given word on the left of each sentence.
- 1) enlist The old soldier's fifteen-year _____ will be over in two years.
They both _____ in the navy a year before the war broke out.
 - 2) tremble After reading her husband's letter the young lady was so angry that she tore it into little bits with _____ fingers.
There was a slight _____ in her voice as she recalled her husband.
 - 3) care The slightest _____ in a surgical operation can result in death.

- She thinks only of herself; she doesn't _____ about other people.
- 4) fair I hope the case will be _____ dealt with.
Our teacher is known for her _____ in grading students.
- 5) hurry The work seemed to have been done _____.
If you want the ice in a fridge to melt more quickly, you can _____ it up by leaving the door open.
- 6) attend Manufacturing chemists focused their _____ on the recent tests with new man-made fibres.
The school _____ almost entirely by local children.
- 7) pat He _____ the child on the head and encouraged him to work harder.
Mark got a _____ on the back from the boss for his excellent work.
- 8) intelligence All human beings are much more _____ than animals.
Anybody with ordinary _____ and no special training can fill the position.
- 9) glory They won a _____ victory; everyone said the army had fought bravely.
He revelled in the _____ of scoring three goals in the last 8 minutes.
- 10) inspire The strike has given a new _____ to the whole working-class movement.
The news instantly _____ the soldiers with courage.
- 11) congratulation We _____ him on having passed the examinations.
Please accept my sincere _____ on your recovery from illness.
3. Use the verb in the bracket to form an appropriate verbal phrase and complete the sentence with it.
- 1) She _____ her foot _____ to move the stone away. (stretch)
- 2) _____ that knife before you hurt somebody! (put)
- 3) These children _____ the bus and walked to their school. (get)
- 4) I must _____ these bills and check them before I pay them. (look)

- 5) He has apparently _____ his best clothes for the press conference. (put)
- 6) He _____ his two hands to the Foreign Minister to welcome his visit.
(hold)
- 7) He stood at the window and _____ at the country view. (look)
- 8) After the operation the surgeon _____ his cap, mask and gloves, and then went out. (take)
- 9) The Atlantic Ocean _____ America _____ Europe. (separate)
4. For each of the underlined words or phrases, four choices are given. Choose the one that best explains or defines the underlined part.
- 1) My brother had to undergo three months of military training.
A. suffer B. experience
C. go over D. receive
- 2) Some were in very good condition but others had small defects.
A. effects B. difficulties
C. imperfections D. troubles
- 3) The old man took a quick and sharp look at Jim.
A. acute and direct B. short and kind
C. strong and sudden D. firm and keen
- 4) You will find that the dictionary is out of date and will mislead you on this point.
A. useful B. useless
C. not current D. fashionable
- 5) The work isn't up to the standard I required.
A. good enough to reach B. as much as
C. above D. below
- 6) The medical officer stretched out both hands to Jim.
A. held on B. held over
C. held up D. held out
- 7) A sudden thought crossed my mind.
A. flashed through my mind B. thought of
C. passed from me D. produced quickly
- 8) The new arrival was none other than the secretary of the Party committee.
A. except B. anything