

大学英语

College English Reading

阅读



主编 / 胡淑娟 段萍

上册



武汉出版社
Wuhan Publishing House



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阅读

Section B

Passage 1

1. L

6. D

Passage 2

1. C

Passage 3

1. C

Section C

1. d

4. a. John began to sweat.

b. He felt like having a cigarette although he had quit smoking three months before.

c. His hands were shaking.

d. He apologized nervously.

5. d

6. the son of an oil millionaire

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上册



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前 言

《大学英语阅读》是按照教育部 2004 年《大学英语课程教学要求(试行)》中的一般要求和较高要求,并结合四、六级考试改革趋势而编写的一套阅读教材。本教材既可作为普通高等院校大学英语的独立阅读教材使用,也可配合大学英语主干教材使用,以拓宽学生阅读面,帮助学生掌握阅读技巧,扩大学生阅读视野,丰富其英语语言知识,提高其对课外阅读的兴趣,从而达到提高阅读水平的目的。

本教材的编者均来自一线的大学生英语授课的教师,既有丰富的教学经验,又熟悉教学要求,了解学生的基础、需求和所能适应的教学方法,所以能按学习的需求来设计、编写教材,使本教材既能适用于老师讲授,又可方便学生自学。

本教材共分上、下两册,上册供大学一年级学生使用,下册供大学二年级学生使用。每册包括 15 个单元,每单元由 3 部分组成,即 Section A: Fast Reading (快速阅读), Section B: Reading in Depth (仔细阅读)和 Section C: Reading Skill (阅读技巧)。每单元的快速阅读和仔细阅读共由 4 篇文章组成,他们围绕同一主题选材,这样有利于提高生词的重复率。同时在选材时,我们既考虑了题材的多样性,又注重题材的广泛性,以增强阅读的趣味性,让学生在提高英语能力的同时,汲取更多的文化和社会知识,增强综合素质。每篇阅读文章后附有相应的新四级题型的阅读练习,仔细阅读部分还附有注释或生词表。阅读技巧则自成体系。上、下册系统介绍了英语阅读的基本技巧,细致入微,注重实用,并围绕各种技巧设计了专项阅读技能训练,从词汇、语境、句子、段落、篇章等不同层面,全面提升学生的英语阅读能力。

我们经过精心的策划与设计,编写了这套《大学英语阅读》教材,它具有以下几个特点:

1. 紧扣大纲 主旨明确:本书不仅紧扣大学英语教学大纲,选材力求做到有的放矢,最大限度地覆盖四级考试的目标词(target words),而且顺应四、六级考试改革趋势,从阅读文章的字数到课后练习均按照新四级题型的形式而编排。

2. 选材新颖,内容广泛:所有文章均选自英美最新报刊时文,紧随社会及语言发展的趋势,内容涉及情感、健康、政治、文化、教育、消遣、经济、科普、体育、环保等领域,精彩内容可助质的提高,广泛题材有益量的拓展。

3. 难度适当:各篇阅读的题目设置、难句含量、超纲词汇及文章长度均与新

四级真题吻合,考生在练习时可以感受实战气氛,以便做到知彼知己,心中有数。

4. 阅读技巧全面:本书上、下册系统地介绍了阅读中常见的一般方法和技巧。细致入微,着重实用,按照词、句、段落的顺序对阅读中常用到的方法和技巧作了深入浅出的讲解,并在每个阅读技巧后面配置相对应的训练,以强化技巧的使用能力。

5. 难句过关:分析近两年的四级试题,我们会发现长难句的数量有所增加,为此我们精选文中的长难句,然后分析句子主干,解析疑难词汇和理解难点,以帮助考生克服阅读障碍,提高阅读能力。

6. 答案详解:每单元后附有阅读理解训练及阅读技巧训练的答案,所有答案皆经过反复推敲论证后确定。

7. 词汇突破:词汇是阅读能力提高的基础,记忆理解单词最有效的方法是通过阅读上下文来理解记忆。因此,我们从每篇阅读文章中挑出重点、难点词汇,并给出词性和释义,以方便学生巩固记忆。标有“▲”号的词为六级词汇,标有“◆”号的词为六级后词汇。

我们已经进入 21 世纪,新世纪对大学生提出了更高的要求。本书通过严谨的课本形式,使大学生或英语爱好者在提高英语阅读能力的同时,也能得到生活的感悟、人生的启迪,对于提高大学生的英语语言运用能力和综合素质,使其成为适应时代要求的新型人才将起到一定的作用。

由于我们的经验不足,水平有限,书中有诸多不当之处,望广大读者和同仁不吝指正。

编者

2007 年 7 月

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Unit 1 Fashion

Section A Fast Reading

Fashion Victims

Many people like to follow fashion. But what is fashion? The Macmillan English dictionary defines it as follows:

1. *the activity or business that involves styles of clothes and people's appearance*

1a. *a style of dress that is popular at a particular time*

Notice that in the first meaning we hear of the business of fashion, whereas the second meaning talks about what is popular. These two meanings are related, of course. It is the fashion business world that drives fashion and not simply people copying what other people wear, or deciding that something looks nice or is comfortable. The fashion houses — those famous brand names such as Dior, Gucci, Versace and so on — are big businesses that have enormous power through their use of the media.

Pick up a fashion magazine from a newsstand(报摊, 杂志摊) — there are many to choose from, mostly for women and a few for men. In the magazine you will find page after page of young and beautiful models wearing outrageous(令人不可容忍的) clothes. These magazines will tell you what is “in” and what is “out”; what is “hot” and what is “not”. These terms for what is trendy and what is not trendy can change what people choose to wear almost overnight. If a famous fashion magazine says women should wear short skirts and high heels then you can be sure many young women will go out and buy these things — and stop wearing the long trousers and flat shoes that they had happily worn last month. Many other young women will then follow the lead of these first women and soon most of the women you see on the street are wearing high heels and short skirts. And so a new fashion is born.

The young women who buy the magazines and then buy clothes — and the host of other women who copy them — are all fashion victims. They wear whatever they are told is fashionable even if it doesn't suit them.

By changing their clothes every year or every season these fashion victims not only spend a small fortune on clothes but also acquire a fashion-victim mentality. They consider last year's clothes to be

out of fashion or even “old-fashioned” and would not want to be seen dead wearing them. How many beautiful, barely worn clothes must rest undisturbed in a fashion victim's closet?

But why do fashion victims do what they do? Why do they copy famous actresses and models, artists and sporting heroes? Is it just because they want others to say, “You're looking good today”?

There is a real psychological(心理上的) need behind the outward show of fashion. It seems that the people who dress fashionably want to be recognized by others as fashionable people, beautiful people. They want to draw attention to themselves by the clothes they wear. They are making a statement that, “I am an important and worthwhile person — look how trendy I am!”

But surely by dressing in the latest styles and forever changing their image to suit this year's model, these fashion victims are really making an altogether different statement: “Look at me; I have no confidence in my own taste. I have no sense of my own individuality. I want to follow fashion so that other people will not look down on me. I don't want to be different from anyone else.”

So, being fashionable and wearing the latest trends with confidence and even a sense of daring may well hide a sense of unease(不舒适, 不安) about oneself. Here the clothes are literally covering up the person's sense of insecurity.

Is it no surprise, then, that most fashion victims are young? These are the very people most vulnerable(脆弱的, 易受伤害的) to a sense of inferiority(自卑) and who feel the need to have their egos(自我) boosted by others telling them they look “cool”. It is the youth in every country that follow the fashions most closely and who spend the most money on achieving just the right look. The middle-aged and elderly generations are no longer such slaves to fashion. They have established their style and they no longer care so much what other people think of how they dress although they probably still care what others think of them!

So the fashion business continues to tell the bright young things of today what to wear tomorrow and continues to make money out of the people who feel they need to look “in”. These people are the willing victims of a multi-billion dollar business which employs hundreds of thousands of workers around the world.

It is these garment(衣服) makers who are the other fashion victims. In tiny sweatshops in South Asia, on Pacific islands and in South American countries, workers spin(纺) cotton and sew(缝制) shirts for a few dollars a day. The conditions are often appalling(令人震惊的, 骇人听闻的) — with poor lighting, poor equipment and few rest breaks. Workers in sports shoe factories may work up to 12 hours a day and produce 200 shoes and get paid less for the day's work than the price of a single pair of Michael Jordan Air shoes in an American shopping mall.

The fashion houses claim they are paying fair wages for the workers' labor and providing jobs in poor countries but they are really protecting their huge profits. The fashion houses know that the price of fashion changes and so every year they must come up with new goods to sell. No one will buy last year's coat, so they have to control their stocks(库存) carefully. To protect themselves against the very changes in taste that they help to promote they have to seek out every cheaper places of

production.

The companies that create the clothes, the workers that they employ, the people that buy the clothes and the media that publicizes the new fashion are all involved in a vicious circle(恶性循环). In the end, perhaps, we are all victims of fashion.

Reading Comprehension

Go over the passage quickly and answer the following questions. For questions 1-7, mark Y (for YES) if the statement agrees with the information given in the passage; N (for NO) if the statement contradicts the information given in the passage; NG (for NOT GIVEN) if the information is not given in the passage.

For questions 8-10, complete the sentences with the information given in the passage.

1. People of all ages like to buy fashionable clothes. ()
2. Fashion victims copy famous actresses because they want to be famous stars. ()
3. The youth are the willing victims of a multibillion dollar business which employs hundreds of thousands of workers around the world. ()
4. Factory workers in South Asia get rich by making clothes for American consumers. ()
5. Most fashion victims copy what they see in the media. ()
6. Fashion houses are small businesses uninterested in making profits. ()
7. People who follow fashion are true individuals. ()
8. _____ can change what people choose to wear almost overnight.
9. The middle-aged and elderly generations are no longer slaves to fashion because _____.
10. The fashion business makes money through _____.

Section B Reading in Depth

Passage 1

DIY^① Love Tokens^②: A New Fashion

Young lovers in Beijing are no longer 1 with transmitting love letters and holding romantic candle dinners.

2, their favorite love tokens are made by themselves, the DIY love tokens. Some of them 3 the names or pictures of their sweethearts on T-shirts, mugs or even underwear, which is an easy and economical way to DIY their exclusive love tokens.

Others make potteries, candles or chocolates together, but these usually require a little more 4 techniques and skills, and are also more expensive.

Nowadays, DIY love token 5 can be found on nearly all the major streets in Beijing. They do not only supply necessary materials and tools for lovers to make their own tokens, but also sell finished products.

Xixi loves this way of showing love to her boyfriend, thus she has printed their pictures on two underpants, one for herself, and the other for him as a birthday present. Her boyfriend must be deeply 6 when he gets the precious present.

Miss Li and her boyfriend made a print of their palms on the first anniversary of their courtship. "It's so romantic, and all my friends 7 me," Miss Li beamed.

A college student 8 in economics said that love economy had already entered the DIY 9, as it would be the best and romantic way to show their unique and indispensable love towards each other.

"The 10 and the high price of the service of these DIY love token workshops will surely become another growth point in the national economy," he added.

First reading — Read the passage through carefully, then select one word for each blank from the given word bank in the following. Each choice in the bank is identified by a letter. Please mark the corresponding letter for each item. You may not use any of the words in the bank more than once.

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| A) complicated | I) popularity |
| B) envy | J) print |
| C) workshops | K) show |
| D) lead | L) remain |
| E) majoring | M) contain |
| F) significant | N) impressed |
| G) currently | H) stage |
| O) satisfied | |

Second reading — Read the passage with the help of the following notes and revise your answers, then check the answers to see how well you have done.

Notes

- DIY: do it yourself (自己动手做 DIY)
- love token: 爱情信物

Passage 2

Personal Aesthetic — The Latest Buzzword(流行语) in Fashion

Just in time for the new century, the new fashion trends offer a lot of choices to the customers. Instead of one main fashion look, fashion houses are offering a range of different looks. The new prediction for high fashion this year is “Personal Style” is in. As long as it’s modern, you can wear whatever you want. That means any color and dress length is acceptable.

What is the reason behind the confused fashion scene this year? One Italian designer puts the confusion down to a world-wide reaction to the globalization of high fashion over the last ten years. Globalization has meant that all over the high-fashion world, fashion designers have influenced each other’s designs. This has resulted in clear fashion trends, from the “power dressing” of the eighties, to “grunge” of the early nineties to conservative “chic” of recent years. In turn, the followers of high fashion have had no choice but to follow the season’s new fashion. But no more.

This year, for the first time on the fashion **catwalks** around in Europe and the USA, there is no definitive designer style to copy. Instead we now get to decide our own fashion style. The individual can now be truly individual. The latest trend is for the fashion-conscious to experiment with different styles. You try to work out your personal style, called “Personal Aesthetic”. This style or “aesthetic” should suit your body as well as suiting your outlook on life and your personal **philosophy**.

This new freedom of choice hasn’t meant total chaos on the fashion scene this year, however. Out of the main fashion centers of Milan, Paris, New York and London have come three main looks, the decorative, colorful “boho look”, the “less is more” **streamlined** look and the new look, and the “mix and match” look. Which one is your look?

Once you have worked out what style matches your body and your personality, try and stick with it. Be confident about yourself and your clothes. Of course, having a personal style doesn’t mean never making any more changes in your fashion life. Use your Personal Aesthetic to **filter** new fashion influences. Remember, your Personal Aesthetic is an expression of your inner self.

Reading Comprehension

The following are some questions and unfinished statements based on the above passage. For each of them there are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should decide on the best choice and write down the corresponding letter in the blank in front of each question.

- () 1. The new prediction for high fashion this year is _____.
A. one main fashion look B. different fashion looks
C. modern D. personal style
- () 2. Globalization of high fashion has meant that _____.

- A. the new fashion trends are the same all over the world
 - B. people all over the world pursue the same fashion style
 - C. fashion designers all over the world have influenced each other's designs
 - D. fashion designers copied style from each other
- () 3. How to make your own "Personal Aesthetic"?
- A. You should be truly yourself.
 - B. You have your own fashion style.
 - C. You should follow the fashion trend.
 - D. You should work out your style which can match your body, your outlook and your personality.
- () 4. How many fashion centers are mentioned in this passage?
- A. One. B. Two. C. Three. D. Four.
- () 5. In the last paragraph, "having a personal style" means that _____.
- A. you can not make any changes in your fashion life
 - B. you can make some changes in your fashion life and use your personal aesthetic to filter new fashion influence
 - C. You cannot be influenced by others
 - D. you should not follow the fashion trend

Passage 3

Popularity and Fashion

How we look and how we appear to others probably worries us more when we are in our **teens** or early twenties than at any other time in our life. Few of us are **content** to accept ourselves as we are, and few are brave enough to **ignore** the trends of fashion.

Most fashion magazines or TV advertisements try to persuade us that we should dress in a certain way or behave in a certain manner. If we do, they tell us, we will be able to meet new people with confidence and deal with every situation confidently and without **embarrassment**. Changing fashion, of course, does not apply just to dress. A barber today does not cut a boy's hair in the same way as he used to, and girls do not make up in the same way as their mothers and grandmothers did. The advertisers show us the latest fashionable styles and we are constantly under pressure to follow the fashion in case our friends think we are odd or dull.

What causes fashions to change? Sometimes convenience or practical necessity or just the **fancy** of an **influential** person can establish a fashion. Take hats, for example. In cold climates, early buildings were cold inside, so people wore hats indoors as well as outside. In recent times, the late President Kennedy caused a **depression** in the American industry by not wearing hats. More American men