

贾正选 总主编

新编大学英语泛读教程

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New Extensive Reading for College Students

刘晓虹 主编



中国社会科学出版社

新编大学英语泛读教程

NEW EXTENSIVE READING
FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

第 一 册

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前言

《新编大学英语泛读教程》是针对《大学英语教学大纲(修订本)》的要求,以扩大英语学习者的英语阅读量和知识面为目标而编写的。本书分为上、下两册,每册包括上、下两篇各二十个单元。重点体现“新”和“泛”的特点——选材新颖:其中选编了不同领域的最新发展和动态的文章,充分体现时代特色,反映时代潮流;知识面广:所选文章涉及到政治、经济、外交、社会、科学、技术、文学、文化、人文、交通、通讯、医学、生物工程及环境保护等诸多层面,题材广泛,信息量大,涵盖面广;词汇量大:所选文章中除包含《新大纲》所要求的词汇及短语以外,还涉及多个领域的最新词汇。因此,这套泛读教材会使读者在扩大英语词汇量、获得英语语言知识的同时,了解多个领域的最新信息,提高阅读兴趣。

本套书在编写过程中充分考虑到其实用性和可操作性。每个单元围绕一个主题编选文章,设计练习项目与内容。这种编选“主题式”篇章的方式,使读者从不同的角度与层次、不同侧面与渠道吸收同一个主题的丰富语言现象和语料,这是本套书编排创新的突出特色。统一的单元话题也便于教师根据教学内容的需要,或学习者根据自己的实际水平和阅读兴趣进行取舍和选择。另外,所有课后练习都附加答案,便于读者自测。同时,编者对文章中的超纲词汇标注了汉语注释,篇后附有难句翻译,这在一定程度上为读者顺利阅读提供了便利。此外,本书兼顾不同起点的英语学习者,上、下两册难度依次递增。上册上、下篇分别适用于大学一级、二级水平的英语学习者,下册上、下篇分别适用于大学三级、四级水平的英语学习者。

本书适合于普通高校、成人高校的学生作为泛读教材或课外读物,也可供参加自考以及其他广大的英语爱好者使用。

本套书由贾正选教授担任总主编,宁慧萍任上册主编,刘晓虹任下册主编。上册第一至第十二单元以及第十六单元由宁慧萍撰写,第十三至十五单元由张文芳撰写,第十七单元由贾正选撰写,第十八至二十单元由张丽撰写。下册第一至第五单元由胡艳撰写,第六至第十单元由董艳撰写,第十一至二十单元由刘晓虹撰写。

北京教育学院外语系李玲老师和北方交通大学外语系李京平、周红红老师在百忙中审阅了书稿,在此表示衷心的感谢。

由于时间紧迫,经验不足,教材中一定会有不少错误和疏漏,欢迎批评指正。

编者

2002年元月

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PART I

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UNIT One

Art and Philosophy

Section A Background Information

Art

Art, a disciplined activity that may be limited to skill or expanded to include a distinctive way of looking at the world. Art in its broader meaning, however, involves both skill and creative imagination in a musical, literary, visual, or performance context. Art provides the person or people who produce it and the community that observes it with an experience that might be aesthetic (美学的), emotional, intellectual, or a combination of these qualities.

Traditionally, in most societies, art has combined practical and aesthetic functions. In the 18th century in the West, however, a more sophisticated public began to distinguish (区分) between art that was purely aesthetic and art that was also practical. The fine art — including literature, music, dance, painting, sculpture (雕塑), and architecture — are concerned primarily with aesthetics. The decorative (装饰性的) or applied arts, such as pottery, metalwork, furniture, tapestry (挂毯), and enamel (瓷釉), are often useful arts and for a time were demoted (称作) to the rank of crafts. The term art was sometimes narrowed to mean only drawing, painting, architecture, and sculpture. Since the mid20th century, however, greater appreciation of non-Western and folk traditions and of individual work in a mechanized society has tended to blur (模糊) the old distinction. Both categories are becoming valued as art.



Section B Reading Practice

Passage 1

Love Him Tender — The King Elvis Presley

Elvis Aaron Presley, in the humblest of circumstances, was born in Tupelo, Mississippi on January 8, 1935. His twin brother, Jessie Garon, was stillborn (夭折), leaving Elvis to grow up as an only child. He and his parents moved to Memphis, Tennessee in 1948. After graduation from high school in 1953, Elvis worked as a truck-driver.

In 1954, he **began** his singing career **with** the legendary Sun Records label in Memphis. In late 1955, his recording contract was sold to RCA Victor. By 1956, he was an international sensation. Elvis' musical influences were the pop and country music of the time, the gospel (福音) music he heard in church from childhood and at the all-night gospel sings he frequently attended, and the black R&B he absorbed on historic Beale Street as a Memphis teenager. With a sound and style that uniquely combined his diverse musical influences and blurred and challenged the social and racial barriers of the time, he ushered (引导) in a whole new era of American music and popular culture.¹

He starred in 33 successful films, made history with his three television specials which stood among the most highly rated specials of their time, and knew great acclaim (喝彩) through his many, often record-breaking, live concert performances on tour and in Las Vegas. Globally, he had sold over ten billion records, more than any other artist. In America alone, Elvis had had 131 different albums and singles that have been certified gold, platinum (白金) or multi-platinum by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA), with more certifications expected as research into his past record sales continues and as current sales go on. Among his many awards and accolades (荣誉) were 14 Grammy nominations (提名) (3 wins) from the National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences, the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award, which he received at age 36, and his being named One of the Ten Outstanding Young Men of the Nation for 1970 by the United States Jaycees.

Without any of the special privileges his celebrity status might have afforded him, he honorably served his country in the U. S. Army in 1958.² During the two years in the army, he still released singles and albums and kept his popularity among the fans. But for him, the most inspiring thing was the meeting with his life-long lover, Priscilla. He **fell in love at first sight with** the girl 10 years younger than he. After 10 years waiting, they married in Las Vegas in 1966. The next year, their daughter Lisa Marie was born. But their marriage didn't last long. It was in 1973 that the couple got divorced.

In middle 70s, Elvis became more and more depressed. Perhaps it was the influence of his failure in marriage. He **was indulged** (放纵的) in drinking and took medicine heavily. He **gave up** any effort to be a respectable singer. On August 16, 1977, Elvis died at his Memphis home. The world has lost its greatest entertainer.

His talent, good looks, sensuality, good humor, and charisma endeared him to millions, as did the humility and human kindness he demonstrated throughout his life.³ Known the world over by the name “King”, he is **regarded as** one of the most important figures of twentieth century popular culture. After his death, he also received many special posthumous (身后的) honors. The 1984 W.C. Handy Award from the Blues Foundation in Memphis recognized Elvis for “keeping the blues alive in his music — rock and roll.” The Academy of Country Music’s first Golden Hat Award presented in 1984 recognized Elvis’ influence on country music. In 1986, Elvis was among the first group of inductees (入选者) into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. In 1987, Elvis was honored with the first posthumous presentation of the Awards of Merit by the American Music Awards, 1987. In 1998, Elvis received the Country Music Association’s highest honor, and elected to the Country Music Hall of Fame.

Currently, there are over 625 active Elvis fan clubs worldwide. Elvis’ popularity is at an all-time high, and his legacy continues to reach new audiences. Half of Graceland’s visitorship is age 35 and under. In Jan. 8, they would celebrate Elvis’ 66 Birthday here, and spot a vaguely familiar-looking gent (绅士) in line. One could imitate him and looks just like him, but one could never replace him. Elvis Aaron Presley is the only one who deserves the name King.

Notes:

- * Memphis, Tennessee: 田纳西州的孟斐斯
- * Sun Records: 太阳录音唱片公司
- * the black R&B: 黑人节奏布鲁斯音乐
- * Las Vegas: 拉斯维加斯
- * Recording Industry Association of America: 美国唱片工业协会
- * Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award: 格莱美终生成就奖
- * Rock and Roll Hall of Fame: 摇滚名人殿堂
- * Country Music Hall of Fame: 乡村音乐名人殿堂

Translation of Difficult Sentences

1. With a sound and style that uniquely combined his diverse musical influences and blurred and challenged the social and racial barriers of the time, he ushered in a whole new era of American music and popular culture.
他以多元化的演唱风格对当时的社会等级和种族壁垒提出了质疑和挑战,他宣告了美国音乐及通俗艺术一个全新时代的来临。
2. Without any of the special privileges his celebrity status might have afforded him, he honorably served his country in the U. S. Army in 1958.
艾尔维斯没有利用他的名人特权,于1958年加入美国陆军,光荣地服了兵役。
3. His talent, good looks, sensuality, good humor, and charisma endeared him to millions, as did the humility and human kindness he demonstrated throughout his life.
他才华横溢、英俊潇洒、幽默风趣、魅力四射,赢得了千百万人对他的热爱。此外,他一生中一直是一个谦逊仁慈、富有人情味的人。

Comprehension Checkup

A. Answer the following questions.

1. When did Elvis begin his singing career and when did he become world-famous?

2. What music influenced Elvis?

3. How many records did Elvis sell altogether?

4. Was Elvis awarded the "Awards of Merit" after his death or before his death?

B. Decide whether each of the following statements is true (T) or false (F).

1. Elvis Presley ushered in a whole new era of American music and popular culture. ()

2. He starred in 33 successful films and has sold over one billion records, more than any other artist. ()

3. At the age of 30, he received the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award. ()

4. Despite the privileges brought by his celebrity status, Elvis honorably served in the US army in 1958. ()

5. In 1987, Elvis received the Country Music Association's highest honor, induction into the Country Music Hall of Fame. ()

Passage 2

Disney Parallels American Culture

Last fall, the Walt Disney Co. did something rare: it conceded (承认) defeat in its fight to build a history theme park in northern Virginia. The park was going to be called "Disney's America".

However, some people might be wondering if Disney **lost the battle and won the war**. These days, it seems Americans are all living in Disney's American.

With its purchase of Capital Cities — ABC Inc. last month, the company founded by Walter Elias Disney in 1923 deepened its claim on the American psyche (心灵). It would be hard to name another company that has **exercised** such **influence on** American culture.¹ It would be hard to find another company so widely admired — even loved — by Americans.

Americans flock to Disney films, and then replay them — on videotapes. They read Disney books to their Disney-pajama-clad (迪斯尼服饰) children. They watch Disney shows on Disney TV. They make pilgrimages to Disneyland and Disney World, where they stay in Disney hotels and eat Disney food. They buy Disney products at Disney stores, and listen to Disney records of Disney songs.

The world of Disney is becoming anything but small.

All of this makes some people more than a little grumpy (牢骚满腹的). Harold Bloom, professor

of humanities at Yale University and author of *The Western Canon*, provides an analysis of the cultural legacy of Western civilization.

“At the end of this road lies cultural homogenization (uniform and without variety) of the most ghastly (可怕的) kind. It's a disaster.”

This is an increasingly common view in academia.

“The taste of the Disney products,” said Paul Fussell, a professor of English at the University of Pennsylvania, “has always seemed to me gravely sub-adult.”

Disney critics, and there are many, see its films and spin-off products as **rife with** sexism, racism and a dumbed-down, cheered-up vision of American history and folklore.²

“There's a kind of anesthesia (麻木) at work here,” said Henry Giroux, a professor of secondary education at Penn State University. Like all Disney critics, he can cite chapter and verse of Disney's crimes against culture: he **is** particularly **incensed** (激怒) **about** the treatment of American Indians in “Pocahontas”.

“I mean, the entire history of what happened to the Indians, which some people would call genocide (有计划的灭种和屠杀)... **is sort of** played out as a love story,” he fumed.

Giroux said he believes that Disney has become a primary educator of America's children, most of whom will be able to recite the complete script of *The Lion King* long before they even learn U.S. President Abraham Lincoln's historic *Gettysburg Address*.

However, even the critics **are quick to** note that Disney embodies many positive values — optimism, good-hearted fun, a tradition of artistic quality — that help explain its success,³ and critical or not, most are Disney consumers.

Notes:

- * Walter Elias Disney: 迪斯尼 (1901 — 1966), 美国动画片作家及制片人, 创造了以米老鼠和唐老鸭等为主角的系列短片和《白雪公主》《木偶奇遇记》等动画片, 1955 年创建迪斯尼乐园。
- * Pocahontas: 波卡洪塔斯波瓦坦人部落的公主, 她与詹姆斯敦的英国殖民者交好, 而且据说曾搭救过约翰·史密斯上尉, 使其未被她的族人处死。
- * Gettysburg Address: 葛底斯堡演讲。葛底斯堡是宾夕法尼亚南部钱伯斯堡东南偏东的一城镇, 是美国内战中一次较重要的联邦军胜利遗址。在此建立了一座国家公园以纪念这次战役和林肯总统的葛底斯堡演讲 (发表于 1863 年 11 月 19 日, 为此公墓落成典礼的献辞), “民治, 民有, 民享”——by the people, of the people, and for the people 即出于此演讲。

Translation of Difficult Sentences

1. It would be hard to name another company that has exercised such influence on American culture.
很难再找到一家对美国文化有如此影响的公司。
2. Disney critics, and there are many, see its films and spin-off products as rife with sexism, racism and a dumbed-down, cheered-up vision of American history and folklore.

为数不少的迪斯尼批评家认为迪斯尼电影和它的相关产品中普遍存在着一种现象,即对美国历史和民间传说中的性别歧视、种族歧视欢呼的场景,这令人瞠目结舌。

3. However, even the critics are quick to note that Disney embodies many positive values — optimism, good-hearted fun, a tradition of artistic quality — that help explain its success.

然而,即使这些批评家也很快注意到迪斯尼体现了许多积极的价值观——乐观、善意的玩笑和传统性的高质量艺术——这一切都能解释迪斯尼成功的原因。

Comprehension Checkup

A. Decide whether each of the following statements is true (T) or false (F).

1. Disney company was founded by Walter Disney in 1925. ()
2. Disney has exercised great influence on American culture. ()
3. It's a disaster that Disney causes cultural uniform. ()
4. Some Disney products are filled with racism. ()

B. Answer the following questions.

1. Why do people wonder if "Disney lost the battle and won the war"?

2. Is there any other company who has influenced American culture so much as Disney?

3. What's the people's attitude toward Disney culture?

Section C Enlarge Your Vocabulary

Words and expressions of art.

structure 结构

painting 绘画

architecture 建筑

authorship 原创作者

craftsmanship 手工艺

style 风格

profile 格调,轮廓

prototype 原形

oriental 东方的

Surrealism 超现实主义

Post-impressionism 后印象派

Functionalism 实用主义

syntax 句法

sculpture 雕塑

edifice 大厦

portrait 肖像

Platonic 柏拉图主义的

trend 倾向,潮流

format 格式

classical 古典的

Impressionism 印象派

Expressionism 表现主义

Aestheticism 唯美主义

Section D Relax Yourself

Dashing Chinese movie star Chow Yun-fa, hero of the kungfu epic *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* (卧虎藏龙) says the key to staying young is stupidity. "You see I am very stupid. I don't understand or talk well. I take it easy every day. I am like an idiot. Be like this every day, and then you'll look young." Chow, who looks younger than his 45 years, bantered at a news conference. "Don't try to push yourself too hard," said the star. Well loved in Asia for his good humor, affability and total absence of any airs, Chow was speaking at a news conference to launch a set of stamps and first-day covers issued by the South American nation of Guyana and featuring him. The set includes six colorful stamps depicting Chow in his various movie roles.