

ENGLISH 大学英语 阅读进阶

COLLEGE

ENGLISH

5

Progressive Extensive Reading

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内 容 提 要

《大学英语阅读进阶》是“大学英语系列教材”之一,旨在逐步扩大学生阅读量和词汇量,提高学生阅读技能,并帮助学生通过阅读获取知识、开拓视野。

本书为第5册,难度相当于大学英语5级。全书共12个单元,每单元围绕一个主题选取4篇文章。每篇文章长度适中。第一篇文章作为限时阅读,并设快速阅读练习,主要帮助学生提高阅读速度;其余3篇文章后均设阅读理解练习和词汇扩展练习,旨在帮助学生提高理解能力,并通过阅读扩大词汇量。每4个单元后设计1套阅读自测练习,题型与大学英语四级考试题型相同,旨在让学生自我检查,并熟悉四级考试题型及命题特点。全书语言规范,材料新颖,每单元的主题均是当前学生感兴趣的话题。

本书可作为泛读教材供教师课堂使用,也可作为课外读物供具有相应英语水平的学生和英语爱好者自学。

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前 言

《大学英语系列教材》是以教育部颁布的《大学英语教学大纲(修订本)》为依据,根据重庆地区大学英语教学实际情况和学生英语水平编写的。在组织编写前,我们先后对重庆地区 300 多名学生和 100 多名教师进行了问卷调查,充分了解了大学英语教与学的实际情况和师生的真正需求。基于调查结果和教学大纲对大学英语教学的基本要求,我们确定了书目,并为每一本书制定了详细的编写计划和方案。在编写过程中,我们不断地将所编写的部分用于教学实践,并不断对其进行修正。参加系列教材编写的人员均为重庆市有着丰富大学英语教学经验和教材编写经验、熟谙教学法与语言习得理论、科研成果突出的教师。可以说,这套教材凝聚了重庆市大学英语教师多年的教学经验、心得体会和理论成果。

本系列教材具有以下特点:

1. 在编写中充分考虑重庆地区学生英语学习的特点,即语言基础知识较扎实,但听、说、读、写、译等综合运用能力,尤其是听说能力普遍较差。无论从教材选材、难易度还是内容体系上,我们都从重庆地区学生的实际出发,认真筛选,精心设计。

2. 本系列教材既注重教师课堂使用,又注重学生课外自学,将课堂内外很好地结合起来。首先,它便于教师课堂操作。如系列教材中的《大学英语课堂限时阅读》、《大学英语 CET-4 考前冲刺》装订形式灵活,可以拆卸,教师可以在每次安排课堂限时阅读或综合训练时,随堂将课文和练习发给学生。其次,它便于学生课外自学。系列教材中的《大学英语课堂限时阅读》、《大学英语阅读进阶》、《大学英语自主听力》等分册每单元的材料除了足够教师课堂使用以外,还留有大量的阅读、听力等练习供学生课外操练。

3. 本系列教材以培养学生扎实的语言技能、提高学生全面应用能力为主要目标,同时兼顾提高其四、六级考试应试能力。本系列教材注意吸收我国长期在大学英语教学和教材编写中积累的经验,同时采纳国外先进的教学理论和方法,保证了教材编写的科学性和合理性,以利于学生扎实、有效地从各个方面提高英语应用能力。同时,我们在编写系列教材的练习时,有意识地将题型向全国大学英语四、六级考试靠拢,以增强学生的应试能力,并在某些分册中对应试技巧给予适当的讲解。这当然不是提倡应试教育,而是以素质教育为基础,对学生进行应试方面的指导。更何况,全国大学英语四、六级考试是英语运用能力的考试,引导学生向其靠拢,反过来会促进学生语言能力的提高。

本系列教材包括以下分册:

《大学英语阅读进阶》:共 6 册,难度分别相当于大学英语 1 ~ 6 级,适合非英语专业 1 ~ 3 年级学生使用。它类似于传统的泛读教材,但又有所突破。每分册提供大量的阅读材料,并在

每单元安排快速阅读练习、阅读技能、词汇等的综合练习。每分册均编写了三套阅读自测题,作为学生阶段测试。本教材既可供课堂泛读教学用,又可供学生课外自学。

《大学英语课堂限时阅读》:共4册,难度分别相当于大学英语1~4级,系快速阅读教材。每册15单元,每单元3篇文章,每篇文章均配有理解练习,并附有字数和建议阅读时间。装订形式灵活,可拆卸。教师既可在课堂上安排限时练习,又可让学生课外自行规定时间练习。

《大学英语自主听力》:共4册,难度分别相当于大学英语1~4级。1~2册每个单元既有基础的辨音练习,又有会话、短文听力,还有幽默故事、电影对白等趣味听力。3~4册按照四级听力考试的题型对学生进行大量的听力训练。它可作教材用,也可供课外自学。本书配有录音磁带。

《大学英语写作教程》:本书从学生习作常见的错误出发,安排技巧讲解,设计有的放矢的练习。内容有:对写作技巧的循序渐进的指导,对学生习作中典型错误的评点,对优秀范文的赏析,以及一些旨在提高学生兴趣的、为学生提供语言素材的锦言妙语、幽默故事和谜语等。同时还对大学英语应试写作和英语应用文写作进行有效的指导。

《大学英语 CET-4 考前冲刺》:本书作者具有多年的大学英语四级考试辅导经验及四级考试强化教材编写经验。他们在认真研究历年四级考试命题特点的基础上,严格按照考纲规定的题型编写了本书。全书含10套全真模拟试题,并附答案与注解。注解部分简洁、明了,对考生有实实在在的帮助。本书配有听力部分的录音磁带。

《大学英语词汇进阶记忆与自测》:本书以现行主干教材为基础,将教材中出现的词汇分1、2、3、4级排列,并列出词义;然后从每级中选取核心词汇编撰自测练习。它简明扼要,有助于学生通过练习记忆单词。

本系列教材由重庆大学、西南师范大学、西南农业大学、重庆医科大学、第三军医大学、中国人民解放军后勤工程学院、渝州大学、重庆邮电学院、重庆交通学院、重庆工商大学、重庆通信学院等长期从事大学英语教学的骨干教师编写。编写过程中,我们得到了国家级专家,全国大学英语四、六级考试委员会委员韩其顺教授,以及重庆市各高校英语界领导、同仁的悉心指导和热情支持,在此向他们表示衷心的感谢!

《大学英语系列教材》

编写组

2002年7月

编 者 的 话

《大学英语阅读进阶》系列教材依据《大学英语教学大纲》(修订本)编写,供大学英语基础阶段的教学使用。《大学英语阅读进阶》的1~4册适用于大学英语的基本要求,5~6册适用于大学英语的较高要求。本系列教材也是“新世纪高等教育教学改革工程”项目“大学英语教学方法和模式的探索与研究”(教高[2000]14号)课题的成果。

在该系列教材编写之前,我们对学生作了广泛的调查,学生普遍反映现有的一些教材中的阅读文章偏长,他们难于长时间地集中精力读下去;课文后的练习过多,无时间去完成,结果是做练习的时间多于阅读的时间;教材缺乏趣味性,版式陈旧,也缺少启发性的内容,等等。我们在综合了学生的反馈意见和参阅了国内外的一些阅读课本之后,决定该系列教材要更新教学理念,以人为本,充分发挥学生的学习自主性和能动性,从“要我读”转变为“我想读”。本系列教材编写的指导思想就是要把快乐(enjoyment)融入到阅读课中,建立一种“快乐阅读”(enjoyable reading)的理念,因为我们坚信这样一条阅读循环规律,即:快乐阅读(exjoys reading)→读得快(reads fast)→读得多(reads more)→理解好(understands better)→快乐阅读(enjoys reading)。要让学生做到“我想读”,其主要因素就是“enjoyment”,因此,该系列教材的编写思路的切入点就在“快乐阅读”这一点上。在此思路的指导下,本系列教材的特点体现在以下几个方面:

1. 采用 topic-based 的原则编写各单元。每单元的话题均为学生所熟悉的内容,以便学生能充分运用他们的原有知识,更好地理解所读文章。

2. 所选材料均为地道的“原汁原味”,语言规范。选择的课文多为近期出版和发表的英文原版,有很强的时代感。课文的难易度和长度基本上成阶梯状上升。

3. 重视学生跨文化意识的培养。每一分册均安排有介绍不同文化的单元,使语言材料与文化内容融为一体。

4. 注重启发式的教学。每单元的第一页均配有与文章相关的图片和若干问题,供学生阅读前思考,并诱导学生阅读的积极性。

5. 学与考相结合。除了每一分册均编排了三个单元的自测(Test Yourself)以

外,各单元也设计了一定量的类似四、六级考试题型的训练,以满足学生对参加考试的需要,做到既培养学生应用语言的能力,又训练了学生的应试能力。

6. 所选文章的长度适中,编写的练习少而精,有利于学生在单元时间里完成,也易于课堂教学的操作。

7. 该系列教材图文并茂,版式别具一格。插图的运用为学生学习语言提供了较为真实的情景,让学生有身入其景之感,从而更有效地培养他们运用语言的能力。

本系列教材的编写得到了许多同仁和专家关心和悉心指导;重庆大学出版社的领导和外语编辑室的编辑们为该系列教材的版式设计、图片选配以及最终的出版等方面均倾注了大量的心血,我们借此机会向他们表示感谢。由于编者水平有限,难免存在不足之处,甚至有错误的地方,恳请使用本教材的广大教师和学生不吝指正。

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Unit 1

After a Vicious Attack



Preparing to Read

Think about the answers to the questions below :

1. How did you first know the Sept. 11 Terrorism Attack? What were your first mental reflections to the incident?
2. If you had happened to be in the World Trade Center, above the plane-hit floor, what would you have done to the terror-stricken people around you and then to yourself?
3. What's your overall opinion about terrorism after thinking about what it means to you?

Part One**Timed Reading**

Read as quickly as you can. Record the time when you both start and finish reading the passage. Then do the exercise that follows.

Suggested time : 5' 42 "

Starting time : _____

[1] We have taken a great wound, we Americans, and our first task is to rescue survivors if that is still possible, to grieve and to remain alert until we better understand what happened to us. The time will come soon enough to sort out the causes, who delivered this vicious attack and how we hold them accountable, then to assign official blame at home, if the facts require it. We should also begin deeper arguments about the political meanings, the failures in our own leadership and the role our government has chosen to play in the world. But right now, our minds are swimming in the same ghastly images. Dazed men and women, covered with dust, streaming north on foot from lower Manhattan. A TV videotape replaying the fiendish plot in which commercial airliners are turned into suicide bombs. The smoldering ruins at the Pentagon. The lost skyline in Manhattan. The bolt of fear: Where are my children? Questions spun through our heads, but all the circuits were busy. Terror leaves its sickening residue, the swooning sense of helpless vulnerability. That is the purpose.

[2] One odd privilege of being American is that we have had very little experience with such blindsiding assaults, at least in modern times. Other countries became the battlegrounds, not ours. Other peoples were schooled in stoical expectations, knowing that the worst can happen and sometimes does, but not Americans.

[3] It is essential now to stick to hard facts, not fearsome shadows or injured hubris (or the xenophobic hatreds already in the air). Yet the intelligence agencies that had not a clue what was coming were claiming within hours to have proof of who organized the attack. And figures like Henry Kissinger are already calling for an open-ended war against terrorist organizations — regardless of whether any evidence establishes their culpability.

[4] Civil liberties, already under attack, were immediate targets. Legislators talked of granting the FBI and other agencies broad new powers — this despite the fact that the FBI is already intercepting a record number of calls. Some called for wholesale closing of US borders. On Tuesday, only Senator Joseph Biden, himself a key supporter of the noxious Anti-Terrorism and Effective Death Penalty bill of 1996, to his credit stood on the Capitol lawn to suggest that any incursions on civil liberties should be resisted.

[5] After the dead are properly mourned, after we have reliably established how this happened and who was responsible, then we Americans must undertake a most difficult conversation among ourselves. Yes, we should speak with one voice expressing our compassion and outrage, but we need a multiplicity of voices, a true national debate about what sane national security means in the twenty-first century. The paradox is that if or when we engage in brutal reprisals, they will serve a cathartic function for the vast majority of justifiably outraged Americans. But let us not delude ourselves; they will inflame rather than deter. In the long run, the only way to deal with international terrorism is to build and support international institutions toward that end.

[6] This is a pivotal moment when we should reconsider our posture toward the world and examine the true burdens and obligations of acting like an empire awesomely more powerful than any others and answerable to no one. To maintain international order, our military occasionally intervenes in what, for us, are meant to be casualty-free wars. Our economic order claims to spread democracy by imposing its own self-interested rules on poorer nations. Yet, as we learned and should have already understood, this great country is vulnerable too, beyond imagination. Whoever planned this vicious attack must have calculated that the United States is at a fragile juncture, its great prosperity sinking and uncertain leaders in power. They probably intended an unraveling, both of financial markets and the national confidence.

[7] It may seem trite to say so, but the calamity does test our character. If we are shrewd about ourselves and truly brave, citizens will not yield to hysteria — or accept draconian new laws that undermine civil liberties — but will force these difficult questions into the political debate.

(683 words)

Finishing time : _____

Time spent : _____

Reading speed : _____ (WPM)

Exercise

Decide whether the following statements are true or false according to the text. Write “T” or “F” on the lines provided.

1. ____ When writing the editorial, the author was quite certain of the causes of the vicious attack.
2. ____ American people feel pity for their lack of experience with blindsiding assaults.
3. ____ Some celebrated persons are urging to launch a non-restrictive war against terrorist organizations whatsoever.

4. ____ The author is afraid to some extent that the FBI and other agencies are going so far as to undermine the civil rights of common people.
5. ____ The author seems to be too cool to rethink about American's acting like an empire awesomely more powerful than any others and answerable to no one.

Results : _____

Part Two



Reading Comprehension and Vocabulary Development

Read the following selections and then do the exercises below.



Text 1

In Stopping to Save Woman, Rescuers Saved Themselves (I)

[1] The six firefighters would have moved faster if they hadn't stopped to help a weary woman trying to flee. They would have moved slower if they hadn't been able to coax her along, to tell her that if she wanted to see her children and grandchildren again, she had to keep moving down the stairs.

[2] It was that precise intersection of rescuers and rescued, that destined bit of timing, not a few seconds less or more, that enabled them all to survive inside a twisted stairwell of the World Trade Center when the north tower crashed down on them. The woman and the firefighters, in the actions each took, saved each other.

[3] Almost all of the stories about firefighters summoned to the World Trade Center on Sept. 11 have been stories of brave men who went into the towers and never returned. The story of six men of Ladder Company 6 is a rare happy story.

[4] It is the tale of a group of men and one woman trapped for three hours inside a sliver of stairs, lucky enough to be between the second and fourth floors, for there were no longer any floors above them, and beneath them was impassable debris. But they kept their wits until the sun shone through and they climbed out.

[5] "There's no reason we should be alive," Firefighter Matt Komorowski said.

[6] Ladder Company 6 is on Canal Street in Chi-



natown. It usually fights fires in nearby tenement buildings, only occasionally having to enter the city's skyscrapers.

[7] On the morning of the 11th, six men were on duty captain, John Jonas.

[8] Five of them were sitting inside the firehouse when they heard a loud noise. Captain Jonas thought it was a truck plunging off the Manhattan Bridge.

[9] Matt Komorowski was out front, getting ready to go home. He and the house watchman saw a plane slipping between the buildings. The watchman said into the intercom, "A plane just hit the World Trade Center."

[10] Within minutes, the members of Ladder 6 parked their fire truck in front of the towers. Debris rained down as they hurried into the lobby of 1 World Trade Center. A woman whose hair and clothes had been melted off passed them. Someone was assisting her. Two bodies lay on the floor.

[11] Awaiting their assignment, they saw a shadow on the ground and then heard an eruption. Captain Jonas said, "Oh my God, they're trying to kill us."

[12] They had to begin rescuing people. The men, each carrying about 100 pounds of gear, entered Stairway B and climbed. People descending cheered them on.

[13] Captain Jonas figured the fire had probably spread as low as the 80th floor. He had to pace his men or they would be too spent to help. Every 8 or 10 floors they rested.

[14] When they reached the 27th floor, the entire building shook. The other tower had collapsed.

[15] "OK, if that building can go," the captain announced, "this building can go. It's time to head down." (To be continued)

(530 words)

Understanding Ideas

Exercise 1

Decide whether the following statements are true or false according to the text. Write "T" or "F" on the lines provided.

1. ____ The weary woman would have moved slower without being encouraged to see her children.
2. ____ The six men and the woman were protected beneath impassable debris when the north tower crashed down.
3. ____ When Firefighter Matt Komorowski said "There's no reason we should be alive," he conceived no hope of living.

4. ____ Captain Jonas was prudent enough to slow down his men because he didn't want them to go too far to be self-saved.
5. ____ The captain decided that the north tower would collapse before they reached the 27th floor.

Exercise 2

Choose the correct answers according to the text.

- The six firefighters couldn't move faster or slower because _____.
 A. they were helping a weary woman fleeing
 B. they were able to coax her along
 C. they wanted to be punctual in seeing the woman's children and grandchildren
 D. both A and B
- In the second paragraph, "precise intersection of " can best be replaced by _____.
 A. place where they met with
 B. accidental confrontation between
 C. result of coming across with
 D. timely arrangement between
- This story is a rare happy one as it is one of _____.
 A. bravery B. firefighters C. narrow escape D. six men of Ladder Company 6
- The firehouse of Ladder Company 6 is likely located _____.
 A. in the World Trade Center B. near the Manhattan Bridge
 C. not far from Chinatown D. next to the World Trade Center
- Before rescuing people, the team presumed to _____.
 A. fight fire B. assist a hair-and-clothe-melt woman
 C. help others escape D. see to it that a plane had hit the tower

Vocabulary Development

Exercise 1

Match the words in Column A with those similar in meaning in Column B.

Column A

- rain down
- descend
- summon
- keep one's wits (about one)

Column B

- maintain cool and alert
- make a likeness of; predict
- impossible to pass, cross, or overcome
- scattered remains of sth. broken or destroyed