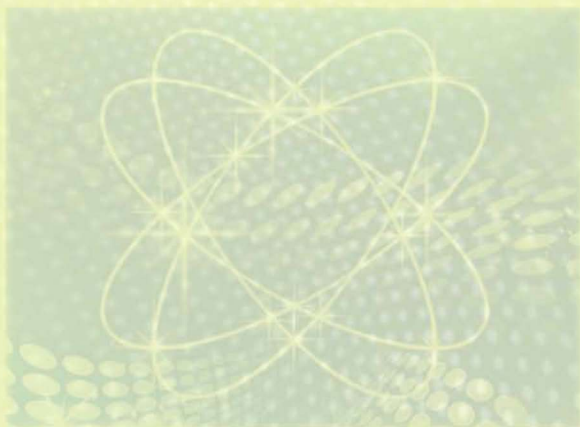


大学英语泛读教程

第 3 册

主编 卢春雁 王浩勇



北京理工大学出版社

高等教育“十一五”规划教材

College English Extensive Reading Course

大学英语泛读教程

第3册

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前言

《大学英语泛读教程》(College English Extensive Reading Course)是我课题组在“多媒体教学技术环境中的分层次教学以培养学生个性发展”(批准文号:教高司函[2004]250号“大学英语教学改革拓展项目第72项”)和“河北农业大学分层次分模块教学实践研究”项目支持下,结合教学实验及教学改革的需要编写的一套学生阅读用书。它主要是针对那些完成高中英语基础知识学习的大学一、二年级学生读者群而做,也适合有一定英语基础的广大的英语爱好者阅读。

这套教材分4册,每册10个单元,每单元2篇文章。第一、第二册每单元的第一篇文章介绍西方文化背景知识,第二篇文章介绍课文背景相关知识。根据学科特点,结合学生的当前需要,本套教材从第三册开始,每单元的第一篇文章是科普知识,旨在为学生提供各类学科的一定量词汇和相关知识,以扩充他们的英文词汇量和相应学科知识面,为学生将来阅读所学专业领域的英文资料,直接了解世界上该学科的先进技术和科研动态奠定扎实的英文阅读基础。为了方便学生自学和课下阅读,我们在每篇文章后增加了注释,而且在课文后附设了答案、问题解析以及参考译文,以便读者自学。

本套教材还有两个特点:一是文章篇幅由短到长,逐渐递增,到第三、第四册,每篇文章扩展到800甚至1000多个单词,以逐步提高学生的阅读速度和阅读能力,使其适应大学英语四级考试的需要;二是为了让学生加深理解和记忆,我们在每篇文章后附设了5个问题供学生练习、实践。有的文章不算太长,适合学生在课下阅读,用5~8分钟完成两篇文章的阅读,其中包括附设的练习内容。

教师在使用这套教材时,可根据学生的英语水平使用。英语基础扎实、自学能力强的学生,重点解释个别词汇和句子难点,稍加点拨,加深学生印象即可;而语言功底较差、阅读英文感到吃力的学生,教师除了加强学生基础知识训练外,应重点解决词汇生疏、长句难句给学生带来的焦虑,帮助这部分学生树立学习英语的信心,培养他们学习英语的兴趣以及学习英文的可持续能力。



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Part One Texts





Unit **1**



Passage One

The Application of Cloning Technology to Disease Therapies

WASHINGTON — Biotechnology company Advanced Cell Technology Inc. (ACT), based in Worchester, Massachusetts, said it hoped the experiment would lead to tailored treatments for diseases ranging from Parkinson's to juvenile diabetes.

Animals have been cloned repeatedly since Dolly the sheep made her appearance in 1997 and there were no real technical barriers to making a cloned human embryo, but the research crosses a line that may leave many people uneasy and even hostile.

The company was at pains to stress that it did not intend to create ranks of genetically identical babies.

“Our intention is not to create cloned human beings, but rather to make lifesaving therapies for a wide range of human disease conditions, including diabetes, strokes, cancer, AIDS and neurodegenerative disorders such as Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease.” Dr Robert Lanza, a vice president at ACT, said in a statement.

The goal is to take a piece of skin and grow a new heart for a heart patient, or brain tissue for an Alzheimer's patient, or vital pancreatic cells for a diabetes patient.

ACT said it had grown a tiny ball of cells that could then be used as a source of stem cells.



“Embryonic stem cells are a kind of master cell that can grow into any kind of cell in the body. Scientifically, biologically, the entities we are creating are not an individual. They're only cellular life,” said Michael West, chief executive officer of ACT.

ACT Vice President Joe Cibelli, who led the research, said his team had classic cloning technology using a human egg and a cumulus cell, a kind of cell used to nurture developing eggs.

It removed the DNA from the egg cell and replaced it with DNA from the nucleus of the adult cell. “In the end, it took a total of 71 eggs from seven volunteers before we could generate our first cloned early embryo,” it wrote.

The egg began dividing as if it had been fertilized by a sperm, but was stopped from becoming a baby at the stage at which it was still a ball of cells. The same technology has been used to clone sheep, cattle and monkeys.

The company did not say whether it had successfully removed embryonic stem cells from the cloned embryo.

The company reported a second breakthrough in its paper, published in the online journal E-biomed: *Journal of Regenerative Medicine*.

Researchers took a human egg cell and got it to progress to the embryo stage without any kind of fertilization, either by sperm or outside genetic material.

The process is known as parthenogenesis, and occurs in insects and microbes but not naturally in higher animals.

Eggs usually dump half their genetic material but, if gathered early enough, contain a full set of genes, the researchers said.

“You hesitate to describe it as a virgin birth, but it is sort of in that vein,” said John Rennie, editor-in-chief of *Scientific American* magazine, which published an article by ACT scientists.

“That is an amazing accomplishment in its own right and, like cloning, something that people once thought was impossible in mammals.”



Questions

1. What is the passage mainly about?
 - A) How to make a cloned human.
 - B) The first cloned human embryo.



- C) The Advanced Cell Technology Inc.
D) The intention of the cloning technology.
2. According to the passage , the main purpose of the ACT is _____.
A) to show their advanced cloning technology
B) to create cloned human beings
C) to develop new therapies
D) Both A) and B)
3. According to the passage , which of the following is NOT true?
A) There are still some technical problems to cloning human beings.
B) ACT has produced a cell that can be used as stem cell.
C) The classic technology is to use a human egg and a cumulus cell.
D) The stem cells can grow into any kind of cell in the body.
4. Which of the following animals should be fertilized if its egg cell progresses to the embryo stage?
A) Bee. B) Fly. C) Monkey. D) Microbe.
5. *Parthenogenesis* in Paragraph 14 means _____.
A) reproduction of offspring without fertilization by sexual union
B) reproduction of offspring with fertilization by sexual union
C) production of offspring without fertilization by sexual union
D) production of offspring with fertilization by sexual union



Notes

1. therapy *n.* 治疗
2. tailored *a.* 个性化的
3. Parkinson's (disease) *n.* 帕金森氏症
4. be at pains to do sth. 费尽心机做某事, 努力做某事
5. diabetes *n.* 糖尿病
6. neurodegenerative disorder 神经退行性紊乱
7. Alzheimer *n.* 阿尔茨海默氏症
8. pancreatic *a.* 胰腺的
9. cumulus cell 卵丘细胞
10. embryo *n.* 胚胎
11. fertilize *vt.* 受精

12. sperm *n.* (雄性动物的) 精液**Passage Two**

The Coming of the Century of Biotechnology

Ring farewell to the century of physics, the one in which we split the atom and turned silicon into computing power. It's time to ring in the century of biotechnology. Just as the discovery of the electron in 1897 was a seminal event for the 20th century, the seeds for the 21st century were spawned in 1953, when James Watson blurted out to Francis Crick how four nucleic acids could pair to form the self-copying code of a DNA molecule. Now we're just a few years away from one of the most important breakthroughs of all time: deciphering the human genome, the 100,000 genes encoded by 3 billion chemical pairs in our DNA.

Before this century, medicine consisted mainly of amputation saws, morphine and crude remedies that were about as effective as bloodletting. The flu epidemic of 1918 killed as many people (more than 20 million) in just a few months as were killed in four years of World War I. Since then, antibiotics and vaccines have allowed us to vanquish entire classes of diseases. As a result, life expectancy in the U. S. jumped from about 47 years at the beginning of the century to 76 now.

But 20th century medicine did little to increase the natural life-span of healthy humans. The next medical revolution will change that, because genetic engineering has the potential to conquer cancer, grow new blood vessels in the heart, block the growth of blood vessels in tumors, create new organs from stem cells and perhaps even reset the primeval genetic coding that causes cells to age.

Our children may be able (I hope, I fear) to choose their kids' traits: to select their gender and eye color; perhaps to tinker with their IQs, personalities and athletic abilities. They could clone themselves, or one of their kids, or a celebrity they admire, or may be even us after we've died.

In the 5 million years since we hominids separated from apes, our DNA has

evolved less than 2%. But in the next century we'll be able to alter our DNA radically, encoding our visions and vanities while concocting new life forms.

Under the moral precept of treating each person as an individual rather than as a means to some end we should recoil at human cloning, because it inevitably entails using humans as means to other human's ends — valuing them as copies of others we loved or as collections of body parts, not as individuals in their own right. We should also draw a line, however fuzzy, that would permit using genetic engineering to cure diseases and disabilities (cystic fibrosis, muscular dystrophy) but not to change the personal attributes that make someone an individual (IQ, physical appearance, gender and sexuality).

The biotech age will also give us more reason to guard our personal privacy. Aldous Huxley, in *Brave New World*, got it wrong: rather than centralizing power in the hands of the state, DNA technology has empowered individuals and families. But the state will have an important role, making sure that no one, including insurance companies, can look at our genetic data without our permission or use it to discriminate against us.

Then we can get ready for the breakthrough that could come at the end of the next century: mapping the 10 billion or more neurons of our brain. With that information we might someday be able to create artificial intelligence that thinks and experiences consciousness in ways that are indistinguishable from a human brain. Eventually we might be able to replicate our own minds in a machine, so that we could live on without the “wetware” of a biological brain and body. The 20th century’s revolution in infotechnology will thereby merge with the 21st century’s revolution in biotechnology.



Questions

1. What does the word “decipher” in the first paragraph most probably mean?
A) Decode. B) Organize. C) Divide. D) Separate.
2. According to this passage, genetic engineering has never been expected to _____.
A) conquer cancer B) eradicate diseases
C) create new organs D) slow down the aging process
3. According to the passage, which of the following is the author’s opinion?



- A) It is not right to treat any person, even a cloned human, as a means to one's end.
- B) Human cloning should be permitted so long as it is not against our moral precept.
- C) Human cloning should be permitted only if we treat cloned humans as individuals in their own right.
- D) Our children should be encouraged to choose their kid's traits.
4. It is implied in the passage that in the 20th century _____.
- A) there was not remarkable progress in medicine
- B) medicine still consisted of crude remedies
- C) the advance of genetic engineering resulted in the huge jump of life expectancy
- D) there was not so much progress in medicine as in physics
5. According to the passage what can we expect at the end of the 21st century?
- A) It will be not only possible but also permissible for everyone to clone himself.
- B) People will be able to change their gender and sexuality at will.
- C) Human minds might be exactly reproduced.
- D) DNA technology will be strictly controlled by the state.



Notes

1. seminal *a.* 种子的
2. spawn *v.* 产卵
3. amputation *n.* 截肢手术
4. tinker with 拙劣修补
5. hominid *n.* 原始人类
6. concoct *v.* 调制
7. fuzzy *a.* 模糊的
8. neuron *n.* 神经细胞



Unit 2



Passage One

Cybersquatting

It's known as cybersquatting — registering Internet addresses containing someone else's name. It's easy enough to do because domain names are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis to whoever pays the \$119 fee. And it has become so rampant that the U. S. government has begun a crackdown, with courts listening sympathetically to companies and individuals claiming their names have been misappropriated in Web addresses. The House of Representatives last week passed the Trademark Cyberpiracy Prevention Act, a bill that would give broad power to trademark holders to go after cybersquatters.

But is the clamor over cybersquatting justified? It's a clash of two visions of what the Internet should be: a standardized tool for business and communication, or a more freewheeling world closer to the Net's academic and technological roots. Corporations want tough rules against cybersquatting to protect their trademarks. But civil libertarians warn against making the government an Internet supercop and say the new rules could stack the deck against the little guys. Some kinds of cybersquatting clearly need to be banned, such as profiteers' hijacking celebrity names in order to direct traffic to for-profit sites selling vitamins or other products. People have a right of publicity — the right to control the use of their name and likeness for commercial purposes — and it should apply online and the new House bill would rightly strengthen this kind of protection.

But many of the new proposals to rein in cybersquatting would make it too easy for trademark holders to go after regular folks who register any of the



Whatever rules finally emerge, it would be a mistake to make them so strict that they wipe out the serendipity and occasional weirdness that exist in Internet domain names. Take “www. billgate. com” for an example. Type it into your browser, and you end up at a black screen with the single word Mail written on it in green. The low-rent feel is the first tip-off that the Microsoft founder has nothing to do with this site. It’s run by Dale Ghent, a computer-system engineer, who — just out of high school — grabbed the domain name before Gates did.

Questions

- What does the word “rampant” in the first paragraph most probably mean?
A) Unfashionable.
B) Severe.
C) Harmful.
D) Flourishing.
- Cybersquatting is so easy because _____.
A) people love doing it for fun
B) the \$119 fee to get a domain name is low enough to be afforded by everyone
C) domain names are assigned to the first one applying for them
D) there was no law forbidding people to do so
- Which of the following statements about the author’s opinion on



cybersquatting is true?

A) It violates people's right of publicity.

B) It is a nuisance to big corporations but a joy to individuals.

C) We should ban the for-profit kind and leave the for-fun alone.

D) It goes against the law.

4. Of the following people, who would most probably support the vision that the Internet should be a standardized tool for business and communication?

A) Bill Gates. B) The author. C) David Sams. D) Sale Ghent.

5. The tone of the last sentence can be described as _____.

A) sarcastic B) humorous C) mournful D) malicious



Notes

1. cybersquatting *n.* 网上域名抢注
2. domain names 域名
3. clamor *n.* 强烈抗议
4. stack the deck 洗牌时做手脚
5. rein in 控制
6. have dibs on 对……有权利
7. serendipity *n.* 不经意发现新奇事物的天赋
8. tip-off *n.* 提示;暗示



Passage Two

How to Secure E-mail

Unencrypted messages can be hijacked in transit and read or altered. If the mail is not digitally signed, you can't be sure where it came from.

There are many options for securing e-mail, all with a few strengths and probably more weaknesses.

Let's take care of the easy decisions. Secure/Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions(S/MIME) should be the message encryption and digital signature