

*College Core English*

大学核心英语

# 读写教程

(第三版)

*Reading and Writing*

第四级

杨惠中 张彦斌 郑树棠 主编

高等教育出版社

大学核心英语  
College Core English

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READING AND WRITING

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主 编

杨惠中 张彦斌 郑树棠



996987



高等教育出版社

FWS1/10

### 图书在版编目(CIP)数据

大学核心英语读写教程. 第四级/杨惠中, 张彦斌,  
郑树棠主编. —3 版. —北京: 高等教育出版社, 2000. 12 (2001 重印)  
ISBN 7-04-008929-7

I. 大… II. ①杨… ②张… ③郑… III. ①英语-阅读教  
学-高等学校-教材②英语-写作-高等学校-教材  
IV. H31

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2000)第 78964 号

大学核心英语读写教程(第三版)第四级  
杨惠中 张彦斌 郑树棠 主编

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出版发行 高等教育出版社

社 址 北京市东城区沙滩后街 55 号

电 话 010-64054588

网 址 <http://www.hep.edu.cn>

<http://www.hep.com.cn>

邮政编码 100009

传 真 010-64014048

经 销 新华书店北京发行所

印 刷 高等教育出版社印刷厂

开 本 787×960 1/16

印 张 23.5

字 数 510 000

版 次 2000 年 12 月第 3 版

印 次 2001 年 6 月第 2 次印刷

定 价 27.00 元(含光盘)

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本书如有缺页、倒页、脱页等质量问题,请到所购图书销售部门联系调换。

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## 写在《大学核心英语》(第三版)问世之前

从80年代中期开始,我国的大学英语教学经历了一个飞速发展的时代。在此期间,大学英语界教学、科研等学术活动非常活跃,在大纲设计、教材编写和语言测试等各个方面取得了令人瞩目的成绩。《大学核心英语》就是在这样的形势下应运而生的。《大学核心英语》题材广泛、内容丰富,涉及政治、经济、工业、农业、体育、医疗、文化教育、语言文字、社会问题、交通运输、公共设施、异国风俗和礼节以及妇女运动等等,融知识性、科学性、实用性、趣味性和可思性于一体。有些学校的老师和学生曾把《大学核心英语》誉为一部小百科全书。

人类历史已经进入21世纪,大学英语教学的改革和发展也已进入一个崭新的时期,我们把《大学核心英语》(第三版)奉献于一个新的世纪,一个深化改革和持续发展的新时期。

《大学核心英语》(第三版)将配套发行包括辅教、辅学和测试的多媒体光盘。21世纪是向传统教学模式挑战的时期,多媒体光盘的问世是教学方法、教学管理和教学思想的巨大变革,是对传统的粉笔加黑板教学模式的巨大冲击。《大学核心英语》多媒体光盘的问世将有利于教学思想的转变,有利于从以教师为中心、讲解为中心的教学,逐步向以学生为中心的教学转化,进一步激发学生的主动性,有利于学生个性化的发展。

《大学核心英语》(第三版)第四级的修订工作有的放矢,且针对性很强。它加强了对薄弱环节的训练,增加了翻译(英译中)及写作方面的练习。值得一提的是,第三版新增了From Reading Analysis to Guided Writing栏目,大大加强了写作训练的内容。我们采取“就地取材”的办法,对A篇课文进行篇章结构分析,并要求学生模仿其篇章结构进行写作练习,题目大都取材于学生感兴趣的话题,可以自由选择。《大学核心英语》(第三版)第四级的重点为短文写作。

《大学核心英语》(第三版)有力地执行《大学英语教学大纲》的原则——坚持分类指导和因材施教。经过多年的教学实践,《大学核心英语》已经找到了属于她的明确定位,即比较适宜于通过四个学期的学习达到大学英语四级要求。

参加《大学核心英语》(第三版)第四级修订工作的教师,除了本书原来的编者之外,南京理工大学的赵小沛副教授也作了大量的工作。

我们欢迎使用《大学核心英语》(第三版)的教师和同学多提宝贵意见。

编 者  
2000年10月

责任编辑 黄丽雯  
封面设计 于文燕  
责任绘图 刘德臣  
版式设计 潘学颖  
责任校对 于冰  
责任印制 韩刚

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|-----------------------------|
| A. Why We Laugh             |
| B. The Laughter             |
| C. Disc Drives              |
| D. New Army New Job New You |

## Passage A

## EX. 1 Pre-reading

*Think of possible answers to the following questions before reading the passage.*

1. Give at least three reasons for why we laugh.
2. What sort(s) of laugh should we avoid?

## Why We Laugh

**Para 1** We start finding things laughable — or not laughable — early in life. An **infant** first smiles at approximately eight days of age. Many psychologists **assume** this is his first sign of simple pleasure — food, **warmth** and comfort. At six months or less, the infant laughs to express complex pleasures — such as the light of Mother's smiling face.

**Para 2** Between the ages of six months and one year, the baby learns to laugh for es- 5  
sentially the same reasons he will laugh throughout his life, says Dr Jacob Levine, associate  
professor of psychology at Yale University. Dr Levine says that people laugh to express mas-  
tery over an **anxiety**. Picture what happens when a father throws his child into the air. The  
child will probably laugh — but not the first time. In spite of his enjoyment of “flying”, he is  
too anxious to laugh. How does he know Daddy will catch him? Once the child realizes he 10  
will be caught, he is free to enjoy the game. But more importantly, says Dr Levine, the child





laughs because he has mastered an anxiety.

**Para 3** Adult laughter is more **subtle**, but we also laugh at what we used to fear. The feeling of achievement, or lack of it, remains a crucial factor. Giving a first dinner party is an  
15 anxious event for a new **bride**. Will the food be good? Will the guests get along? Will she be a good hostess? Will the knives and forks, cups and **saucers** be all right? All goes well; the party is over. Now she laughs freely. Her pleasure from having proved her success is the foundation for her pleasure in recalling the evening's activities. She couldn't enjoy the second pleasure without the first, more important one — her mastery of anxiety.



20 **Para 4** Laughter is a social response **triggered** by **cues**. Scientists have not determined a brain center for laughter, and they are **perplexed** by patients with certain types of brain damage who go into laughing **fits** for no apparent reason. The rest of us require company, and a reason to laugh.

**Para 5** When we find ourselves alone in a **humorous** situation, our usual response is  
25 to smile. Isn't it true that our highest **compliment** to a humorous book is to say that "it made me laugh out loud"? Of course, we do occasionally laugh alone; but when we do, we are, in a sense, socializing with ourselves. We laugh at a memory, or at a part of ourselves.

**Para 6** Of course, we don't always need a **joke** to make us laugh. People who survive frightening situations, such as a fire or an emergency plane landing, frequently relate their story of the crisis with laughter. Part of the laughter expresses **relief** that everything is now all 30 right. During a crisis, definitely, everyone **mobilizes** energy to deal with the potential problem. If the danger is avoided, we need to release that energy. Some people cry; others laugh.

**Para 7** Knowing that laughter **blunts** emotion, we can better understand why we sometimes laugh when nothing is funny. We laugh during moments of anxiety because we feel no mastery over the situation, claims Dr Levine. He explains, "Very often **compulsive** laughter is 35 a learned response. If we laugh, it expresses good feelings and the fact that we are able to **cope**. When we're in a situation in which we can't cope, we laugh to **reassure** ourselves that we can!"

**Para 8** How often have we laughed at a **funeral** or upon hearing bad news? We laugh to deny an unendurable reality until we are strong enough to accept it. Laughter also breaks 40 our tension. However, we may also be laughing to express relief that the **tragedy** didn't happen to us. We laugh before giving a big party, before delivering a speech, or while getting a traffic ticket, to say, "This isn't **bothering** me. See? I'm laughing."

**Para 9** But if we sometimes laugh in **sorrow**, more often we laugh with joy. Laughter creates and strengthens our social bonds. And the ability to share a laugh has guided many 45 marriages through hard periods of adjustment.

**Para 10** How could we manage a life with the **absence** of laugh? According to Dr Levine, we can measure our adjustment to the world by our capacity to laugh. When we are secure about our abilities, we can laugh at the **defects** of our own character. If we can laugh through our anxieties, we will not be **overpowered** by them. 50

**Para 11** The ability to laugh starts early, but it takes a lifetime to perfect. Says Dr Grotjahn, "When social relationships are mastered, when the individual has mastered ... a peaceful relationship with himself, then he has ... the sense of **humor**." And then he can throw back his head and laugh.

## New Words

<b>infant</b> / 'ɪnfənt / <i>n.</i>	a very young child
<b>assume</b> / ə'sju:m / <i>v.</i>	1. to take as being true 2. to pretend to have or be
<b>warmth</b> / wɔ:mθ / <i>n.</i>	the state or quality of being warm
<b>anxiety</b> / æŋg'zaɪəti / <i>n.</i>	1. (an example of) fear caused by uncertainty, danger or misfortune 2. a strong wish to do something
<b>subtle</b> / 'sʌtl / <i>a.</i>	hard to describe or detect
<b>bride</b> / braɪd / <i>n.</i>	a girl or woman about to be married, or just married
<b>saucer</b> / 'sɔ:sə / <i>n.</i>	a small, round dish, esp. holding a cup
<b>trigger</b> / 'trɪgə / <i>v.</i>	to start (something); set off
<b>cue</b> / kju: / <i>n.</i>	anything that excites to action
<b>perplex</b> / pə'pleks / <i>v.</i>	to cause to feel confused and troubled by being difficult to understand or answer
<b>fit</b> / fit / <i>n.</i>	a sudden burst of (usu. uncontrollable) laughter, activity, etc.
<b>humorous</b> / 'hju:mərəs / <i>a.</i>	funny; that makes people laugh
<b>compliment</b> / 'kɒmplɪmənt / <i>n.</i>	an expression of praise, admiration or respect
<b>joke</b> / dʒəʊk / <i>n.</i>	1. anything said or done to cause laughter or amusement 2. a person, thing, or event that is laughed at and not taken seriously
<b>relief</b> / ri'li:f / <i>n.</i>	to tell or make jokes 1. a feeling of comfort at the ending of anxiety, fear, or pain 2. help for people in trouble
<b>mobilize</b> / 'məʊbalaɪz / <i>v.</i>	to gather together (things or people) for a particular use or service
<b>blunt</b> / blʌnt / <i>v.</i>	to weaken the force or keenness of
<b>compulsive</b> / kəm'pʌlsɪv / <i>a.</i>	resulting from a strong usu. unreasonable desire

注：词汇表中凡红色词汇属大纲词汇；凡黑色则考超纲词汇。下同。

<b>cope</b> / kəʊp / <i>v.</i>	that is difficult to control ( <b>with</b> ) to manage successfully; deal successfully with something
<b>reassure</b> / ,ri:ə'ʃʊə / <i>v.</i>	to comfort and make (someone who is anxious or uncertain) free from fear or uncertainty
<b>funeral</b> / 'fju:nərəl / <i>n.</i>	a ceremony of burying or burning a dead person
<b>tragedy</b> / 'trædzɪdi / <i>n.</i>	a sad event; serious accident; disaster
<b>bother</b> / 'bɒðə / <i>v.</i>	1. to give trouble to; worry 2. to take trouble (to do, about)
<b>sorrow</b> / 'sɒrəʊ / <i>n.</i>	1. sadness 2. something causing sadness
<b>absence</b> / 'æbsəns / <i>n.</i>	1. nonexistence; lack 2. the state of being away
<b>defect</b> / di'fekt / <i>n.</i>	something lacking or imperfect; a fault
<b>overpower</b> / ,əʊvə'paʊə / <i>v.</i>	to overcome; overwhelm
<b>humo(u)r</b> / 'hju:mə / <i>n.</i>	1. the ability to be amused 2. the quality of causing amusement 3. the state of mind; mood

## Phrases and Expressions

get along	相处融洽
go well	进行顺利
out loud	出声地, 大声地
in a sense	在某种意义上, 在某种程度上
throw back	使(头、肩等)向后, 使…回过来

## Proper Names

Dr Jacob Levine / 'dʒeɪkəb 'levi:n /	雅各布·莱维恩博士 [人名]
Yale University / jeɪl /	耶鲁大学 [美国]
Dr Grotjahn / 'grəʊtdʒɑ:n /	格罗特加恩博士 [人名]

## Comprehension

**Ex. 2** Find the information while reading the passage and fill in the blanks according to the instructions.

1. Fill in the box with the information from Paragraphs 1 & 2.

Infant's Smiles	
Age at which a baby smiles	Why does the baby smile?

2. Several paragraphs in the passage give the reasons why people laugh. Write down these reasons.

Para. 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Para. 3 \_\_\_\_\_

Para. 5 \_\_\_\_\_

Para. 6 \_\_\_\_\_

Para. 8 \_\_\_\_\_

Para. 9 \_\_\_\_\_

**Ex. 3** Explain the following statements.

Dr Levine: "Very often compulsive laughter is a learned response." (Para. 7)

Dr Levine: "... we can measure our adjustment to the world by our capacity to laugh." (Para. 10)

Dr Grotjahn: "... it (the ability to laugh) takes a lifetime to perfect." (Para. 11)

**Ex. 4** Interpretation of Words and Phrases: Look at the way the coloured words and phrases are used in the text. Try to decide on the best interpretation from the choices given.

1. At six months or less, the infant laughs to express complex pleasures — such as the **light** of Mother's smiling face. (Para. 1)
- a) expression of happiness

- b) reflection of brightness
  - c) beauty
2. **In spite of his enjoyment of** "flying", he is too anxious to laugh. (Para. 2)
- a) Because he likes
  - b) Overpowered by the enjoyment of
  - c) Although he likes
3. Scientists have not **determined** a brain center for laughter ... (Para. 4)
- a) identified
  - b) decided
  - c) realized
4. ... but when we do, we are, **in a sense**, socializing with ourselves. (Para. 5)
- a) if the statement is taken in a particular way
  - b) if the statement is regarded as true
  - c) if one has the ability to understand the statement
5. People ... frequently **relate** their story of the crisis **with** laughter. (Para. 6)
- a) explain ... with
  - b) refer to ... as
  - c) tell ... with
6. How often have we laughed at a funeral or **upon** hearing bad news? (Para. 8)
- a) for the reason of
  - b) in spite of
  - c) directly after
7. How could we manage a life **with the absence of** laugh? (Para. 10)
- a) without
  - b) with regard to
  - c) with reference to
8. When we **are secure about** our abilities, we can laugh at the defects of our own character: (Para. 10)
- a) are developing
  - b) have confidence in
  - c) have obtained

## Vocabulary and Structure

**EX. 5** Complete the following sentences with some of the words listed below. Change the form where necessary.

approximately	consequently	complex	anxiety
survive	funeral	humour	defect
absence	warmth	assume	cope
joke	bother	sorrow	lack

- I \_\_\_\_\_ that we all accept the principle that it is wrong to make harmless people suffer for other people's actions.
- Some plants derive their energy from sugar and can live in the \_\_\_\_\_ of oxygen.
- I enjoyed reading the book in spite of its \_\_\_\_\_.
- At the party Mr Smith delivered a laugh-stimulating speech, which contributed much to the \_\_\_\_\_ of the evening.
- The death of our Premier Zhou is a great loss to our nation and long after his state \_\_\_\_\_ people could talk about nothing but him.
- The presence of lions in the area does not always \_\_\_\_\_ other animals.
- Even though the man said that he could surely find his missing child, \_\_\_\_\_ was written all over his face.
- The strike has been on for half a year; \_\_\_\_\_ there is a severe decline in trade.
- The visiting scholar was touched by the \_\_\_\_\_ of their welcome.
- He was overcome with \_\_\_\_\_ for his wife's sudden death.

**EX. 6 A.** Write an appropriate preposition or verb-completer in each of the following blanks.

- We can hardly imagine how our project could get \_\_\_\_\_ without these up-to-date instruments.
- We regretted your absence very much. There was, indeed, enough to laugh \_\_\_\_\_ at the party.
- You have to find some ways to comfort him over his father's death. He can't live \_\_\_\_\_ sorrow for the rest of his life.

4. Do have confidence in yourself as everyone can exercise mastery \_\_\_\_\_ his own fortune.
5. Whatever his present condition is, he is \_\_\_\_\_ a sense still the best football player we have ever had.
6. He is a man who never gives in. He smiles \_\_\_\_\_ various kinds of difficulties, setbacks and even repeated failures.
7. The Browns used \_\_\_\_\_ live in luxury and now it's hard for them to become used \_\_\_\_\_ a simple life here.
8. We have to work even harder though we feel quite secure \_\_\_\_\_ our success.

**B. Complete the sentence with one of the four choices given below.**

1. Ball-point pens require \_\_\_\_\_ than fountain pens do.
  - a) the thicker the ink
  - b) an ink and thicker
  - c) a thicker ink
  - d) the ink is thicker
2. "Why do you drink so much coffee?"
 

"Well, \_\_\_\_\_ it doesn't cause me to stay awake the whole night, it will not do me any harm."

  - a) as well as
  - b) as soon as
  - c) as long as
  - d) as far as
3. \_\_\_\_\_ man must fear when travelling in space is radiation from the sun.
  - a) Which
  - b) How
  - c) What
  - d) That
4. \_\_\_\_\_ got on the train when it started to move.
  - a) No sooner I had
  - b) No sooner had I
  - c) Hardly I had
  - d) Hardly had I
5. People always greet each other warmly, \_\_\_\_\_ their differing origins and beliefs.
  - a) in regard to
  - b) in contrast with
  - c) with respect to
  - d) regardless of

**EX. 7 Make use of your knowledge of word formation and fill in each of the blanks with the proper form of the word which is related to the coloured word given.**

**1. wide**

The length of the table is 3 meters, its \_\_\_\_\_ is 1 meter, and its height is 0.55



meter.

2. **device**

The scientists \_\_\_\_\_ an instrument for measuring the distances between stars.

3. **duration**

If you want a raincoat which will last for a long time it is best to pursue one which is made of \_\_\_\_\_ material.

4. **load**

The soldiers are required to \_\_\_\_\_ their guns for safety reasons.

5. **understand**

Through various kinds of talks, the two countries have obtained sympathetic \_\_\_\_\_ of each other's viewpoints.

6. **conscious**

People interested in a conversation may be quite \_\_\_\_\_ of the lateness of the hour or the coldness of the room.

7. **loose**

With the aid of a screwdriver, \_\_\_\_\_ the two screws at each end.

8. **use**

My teacher has crossed out some words in my composition and told me that these words have virtually dropped out of \_\_\_\_\_ today.

9. **enormously**

The project will last for 10 years and involve an \_\_\_\_\_ amount of hard work.

10. **exclusive**

The article was written \_\_\_\_\_ for the memory of that scientist.

11. **tempt**

The thief confessed that the sight of such a big sum of money on the table had been too strong a \_\_\_\_\_ to him.

12. **final**

It was Mr Heath's incomes policy which \_\_\_\_\_ led to his downfall.

13. **stick**

The \_\_\_\_\_ bottle of fruit juice is not easy to clean; just throw it away.

14. **marvelously**

Migrating birds have a \_\_\_\_\_ directional sense, which helps them to move from one place to another.