新世纪高等教育教学改革工程
大学外语教学改革与实践项目

大学英语系列阅读教程

主编 王 勇 主审 吴稚倩

人物 分册

Reading Course for College English

上海科技教育出版社

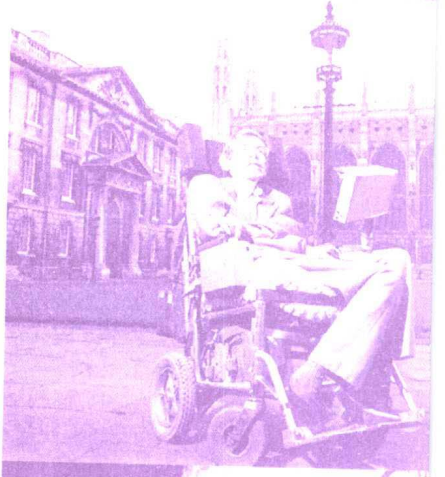
大学英语系列阅读教程

Famous Lives

人物分册

主编 王 勇
编者 初丽岩 汪珍珠
王 珏
主审 吴稚行

上海科技教育出版社



大学英语系列阅读教程——人物分册
主编/王　勇
编者/初丽岩　汪珍珠　王　珏
主审/吴稚倩

策划编辑/焦　健
责任编辑/刘天祥
装帧设计/汤世梁

出版/上海科技教育出版社
（上海市冠生园路 393 号　邮政编码 200233）
发行/上海科技教育出版社
经销/各地新华书店
印刷/常熟市印刷八厂
开本/850 × 1168　1/32
印张/10
插页/1
字数/ 260 000
印次/2000 年 10 月第 1 版　2000 年 10 月第 1 次印刷
印数/ 1 – 5 000
书号/ISBN7 – 5428 – 2288 – 8/G·1464
定价/16.00 元

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

大学英语系列阅读教程.人物分册/王勇主编;初丽岩,汪珍珠,王珏编.—上海:上海科技教育出版社,2000.10

ISBN 7-5428-2288-8

Ⅰ.大… Ⅱ.①王… ②初… ③汪… ④王… Ⅲ.英语-阅读教学-高等学校-教材 Ⅳ.H319.4

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2000)第 25837 号

前言

《大学英语教学大纲》明确指出:大学英语教学的目的在于培养学生具有较强的阅读能力和一定的听、说、写、译的能力,使他们能用英语进行交流。因此,大学英语教学改革的重点就是培养学生的语言实际运用能力。学生学习外语不仅要打下扎实的语言基础,更应注重学以致用;通过学习和实践,顺利地完成从学习英语到使用英语的转变。

《大纲》同时规定:大学英语教学分为基础阶段和应用提高阶段两部分。学生在完成基础阶段的学习任务、达到英语四级或六级后,都必须修读专业英语。专业英语的学习是大学英语教学必不可少的一个组成部分,是培养学生正确使用英语的一个重要过程。专业英语阅读课程的设置可以巩固学生在基础阶段所学到的英语知识,使他们的英语学习"不断线"。

本套英语系列阅读教程是以《大学英语教学大纲》为指导,以提高学生学习英语的兴趣、培养学生语言运用能力为宗旨而设计和编写的专业英语教程,适用对象主要为已通过大学英语四级考试的学生,准备大学英语六级考试和研究生入学考试的考生,出国进修者和欲继续深造的英语爱好者。全套教程分为科技、经贸、人物、报刊、文化、文学等六本分册,可以满足不同专业和不同层次读者的需要。教程中的课文选材注重科学性、知识性、趣味性和可读性。每篇课文前配有导读语,课文后编有阅读理解题、思考讨论题和英汉翻译题,并对课文中的有关生词、习惯用法与词组、专用名词及背景知识作了注释。另外,每册书后附有阅读理解题和英汉翻译题的参考答案。所以本教程既适用于专业英语的课堂教学,也不失为一套很好的英语自学课本。它对于扩大学生的知识面,提高他们的文化素质,培养其语言综合运用能力将起到积极的促进作用。

本分册所介绍的人物涉及面广,从第一位登上月球的宇航员到可口可乐公司的总裁,从奥运会金牌得主到IT界巨子,从提出爆炸黑洞理论的科学家到世界文坛巨匠,从立体主义画派的代表到获得诺贝尔和平奖的黑人领袖。书中向

读者详细介绍了这些人物的生平,同时又展示了有关他们的一些鲜为人知的内容。文章的选材内容新颖,篇幅适中,语言规范。

本套大学英语系列阅读教程由华东师范大学大学外语部负责编写,王勇教授担任主编,吴稚倩教授担任主审,初丽岩、汪珍珠、王珏参加了本册书的编写。在编写和出版过程中,我们得到了学校、外语学院和上海科技教育出版社的大力支持和帮助,在此表示衷心的感谢。

由于编者水平和经验所限,教程中存在的不足和疏漏之处,恳请广大读者批评指正。

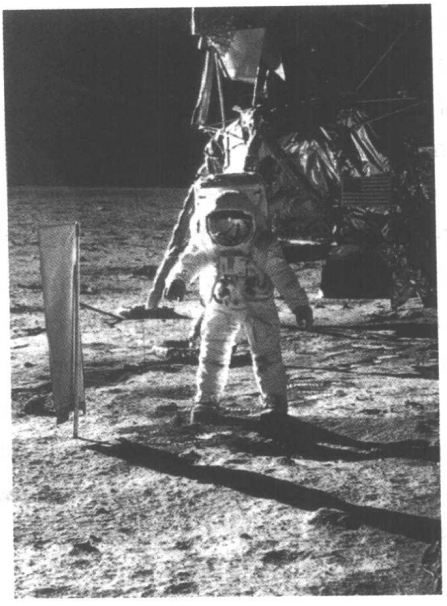
编　者

2000年初秋

于上海华东师范大学

Contents

Unit One



Neil Alden Armstrong

The outer space is mysterious to everyone who lives on the earth. We human beings have made great efforts to explore the space for a long time. Therefore, the American Neil Alden Armstrong's first step on the moon is one small step for man, but one giant leap for mankind. From this passage, you'll get some interesting information about his training for the special mission, his experience on the moon and his life after the great mission.

[1] Neil Armstrong was born on August 5, 1930, near ***Wapakoneta***,

Ohio, the eldest of three children of Stephen and Viola Engel Armstrong. Airplanes drew his interest from the age of six, when he took his first flight, and on his 16th birthday he was issued a pilot's license. A serious pilot even at this age, Armstrong built a small wind tunnel in the basement of his home and performed experiments on the model planes he had made.

[2] Armstrong entered ***Purdue University*** in 1947 with a U. S. Navy scholarship. After two years of study he was called to active duty with the Navy and won his ***jet wings*** at ***Pensacola Naval Air Station*** in ***Florida***. At 20 he was the youngest pilot in his squadron①. He flew 78 combat missions during the Korean War and won three Air Medals.

[3] Armstrong returned to Purdue and completed a degree in aeronautical② engineering in 1955. He immediately accepted a job with the Lewis Flight Propulsion Laboratory of ***the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics*** (***NACA***) in ***Cleveland***, Ohio. A year later he married Janet Shearon.

[4] Shortly afterward, Armstrong transferred to the NACA High Speed Flight Station at ***Edwards Air Force Base***, ***California***. Here he became a skilled test pilot and flew the early models of such jet aircraft as the F-100, F-101, F-102, F-104, F-5D, and B-47. He also flew a B-29 "***drop plane***" from which various types of rocket-propelled③ planes were launched. More important for his later role, he became a pilot of the X-1B rocket plane, an earlier version of which had been the first plane to break the sound barrier.

[5] Armstrong was selected as one of the first three pilots of NACA for the X-15 rocket plane, and he made seven flights in this prototype④ spacecraft. Once he set a record altitude of 207,500 feet and a speed of 3,989 miles per hour. Armstrong received an invitation from the American space-flight program, but he demonstrated little en-

thusiasm for becoming an astronaut. His real love was piloting. Largely because of his experience with the X-15, he was selected as a pilot of the Dynasoar, an experimental craft that could leave the atmosphere, orbit earth, reenter the atmosphere, and land like a conventional airplane.

[6]In 1962, however, sensing that the days of the projected Dynasoar were numbered⑤(it was canceled in 1963), Armstrong decided to become an astronaut and applied for selection and training. In September 1962 he became America's first civilian astronaut and moved to ***Houston***, ***Texas*** to begin training. Armstrong's attitude toward his job, at least prior to his first space mission, was summed up in a statement to a reporter in 1965: "I ***rule out*** the possibility of agreeing to go up if I thought I might not come back, unless it were technically indispensable. Dying in space or on the moon is not technically indispensable and consequently if I had to choose between death while testing a jet and death on the moon, I'd choose death while testing a jet."

[7]Armstrong's first flight assignment as an astronaut was as backup, or alternate, command pilot for Gordon Cooper of the ***Gemini*** 5 mission. Armstrong continued his specialized training on the Gemini spacecraft and was selected as the command pilot for the Gemini 8 mission. With copilot David Scott he was launched from Cape Kennedy (now Cape Canaveral), Florida, on March 16, 1966. The Gemini 8 achieved orbit and docked⑥ as planned with the ***Agena vehicle***, but shortly afterward the vehicle went out of control. Armstrong detached his craft from the Agena, corrected the malfunction, and brought the Gemini down in the Pacific Ocean only 1.1 ***nautical miles*** from the planned landing point. His cool and professional conduct made a strong impression on the officials of the ***Manned Spacecraft Center*** in Houston. Armstrong continued his intensive training on the Gemini

spacecraft and was selected as the backup command pilot for the Gemini 11 mission, which was flown, however, by astronauts Charles Conrad, Jr., and Richard Gordon.

[8]As the training for the Apollo program got under way, it was obvious that Armstrong rated high among those being considered for the important role of being the first American on the moon. He undertook his training program with the same cool, analytical, and almost detached approach that had always marked his attitude to flying.

[9]During a routine training flight on the lunar landing research vehicle, a training device that permits astronauts to maneuver a craft in a flight environment similar to that in landing on the moon, Armstrong's craft went out of control. He ejected⑦ himself and landed by parachute only yards away from the training vehicle, which had crashed in flames. With his usual imperturbability⑧ he walked away and calmly made his report. Again, his behavior and attitude were noted by those who were evaluating candidates for the first crew to the moon.

[10]In January 1969 Armstrong was selected as commander for Apollo 11, the first lunar landing mission. On July 16 at 9:32 A.M. ***Eastern Daylight Time*** (***EDT***), Armstrong, together with astronauts Michael Collins and Edwin Aldrin, lifted off from ***the Kennedy Space Center***, Florida, aboard the ***Saturn*** 5 ***space booster***.

[11]Apollo 11 passed into the gravitational influence of the moon on July 18 and circled the moon twice. Armstrong and Aldrin entered the lunar module⑨, named the Eagle, which then disconnected from the command and service module. As they descended toward the lunar surface, their computer became overloaded, but under continuous instructions from the mission control center at Houston, Armstrong continued the gradual touchdown⑩. Suddenly a boulder⑪ field loomed⑫ in front of him. He quickly switched to manual control and guided the

Eagle over it to a smooth landing with only 10 seconds of fuel left. At 4:17:40 P.M. EDT on July 20, a major portion of the earth population was listening to Armstrong's transmission, "Houston, ***Tranquility Base*** here. The Eagle has landed." At 10:56 P.M. he set foot on the moon, saying, "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." (Later, he stated that he had intended to say, "That's one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind.")

[12]Armstrong and Aldrin spent nearly two and a half hours walking on the moon. Armstrong reported: "The surface is fine and powdery. I can pick it up loosely with my toe. It does adhere in fine layers like powdered charcoal to the soles and sides of my boots. I only go in a fraction of an inch, maybe an eighth of an inch, but I can see the footprints of my boots." The astronauts deployed[13] various scientific instruments on the moon's surface, including a seismograph[14] and solar-wind particle collector, and collected rock and soil samples. They also left a mission patch and medals commemorating American and Russian space explorers who had died in the line of duty, along with a plaque[15] reading, "Here men from the planet Earth first set foot upon the Moon. We came in peace for all mankind."

[13] Armstrong and Aldrin returned to the Eagle and launched themselves to rendezvous[16] with Collins, who had been orbiting in the Columbia spacecraft. On July 24 Columbia returned to earth. It splashed down at 12:50 P.M. EDT some 950 miles southwest of ***Hawaii*** and only 2.7 miles from its aiming point. After 18 days of quarantine[17] to control any lunar microorganisms, Armstrong and the others traveled around the world for parades and speeches. The mission brought honors including ***the Presidential Medal of Freedom***, ***the Harmon International Aviation Trophy***, ***the Royal Geographic Society's Hubbard Gold Medal***, and accolades[18] from many nations. Armstrong

became a fellow of ***the Society of Experimental Test Pilots***, ***the American Astronautical Society***, and ***the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics***.

[14] Apollo 11 was Armstrong's final space mission. He joined ***NASA***'s Office of Advanced Research and Technology, where he served as deputy associate administrator for aeronautics. One of his main priorities in this position was to further research into controlling high-performance aircraft by computer. In 1970 he earned a master's degree in aerospace engineering from ***the University of Southern California***.

[15] A private man, Armstrong rejected most opportunities to profit from his fame. He left NASA in 1971 and moved his family back to Ohio to accept a position at ***the University of Cincinnati***. There he spent seven years engaged in teaching and research as a professor of aerospace engineering. He took special interest in the application of space technology to such challenges as improving medical devices and providing data on the environment. In 1978 Armstrong was one of the first six recipients of ***the*** congressional ***Space Medal of Honor***, created to recognize astronauts whose "exceptionally meritorious[19] efforts" had contributed to "the welfare of the Nation and mankind."

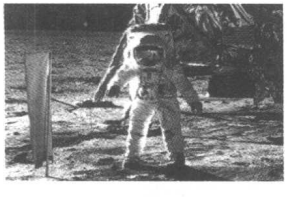
[16] A member of the board of directors of Gates Learjet Corporation, in 1979 he piloted that company's new business jet to five world-altitude and time-to-climb records for that class of aircraft. Other boards Armstrong served on included those of USCX Corporation and ***United Airlines***. In between his business ventures and such hobbies as fishing and sail-planing, he also chaired the board of trustees[20] of ***the Cincinnati Museum of Natural History***.

[17] Armstrong did accept two further government appointments. In 1984 he was named to ***the National Commission on Space***, which

two years later completed a report outlining an ambitious future for American space programs. Also in 1986, Armstrong was named deputy chair of ***the Rogers Commission*** to investigate the explosion of the space shuttle Challenger. The commission's work resulted in major changes in NASA's management structure and safety practices.

[18] From 1980 to 1982, Armstrong was chair of the board of ***Cardwell International***. He accepted a similar post with Computing Technologies for Aviation (CTA) in 1982. CTA, which was based in ***Charlottesville***, ***Virginia***, provided software for flight scheduling and support activities, allowing corporate jet operators to maximize the efficient use of their aircraft. Armstrong ***stepped down*** as head of CTA in 1993. He later presided over the board of AIL Systems, Inc., an electronic systems company headquartered in ***Deer Park***, New York.

[19] In May 1997 Armstrong was named a director at ***Ohio National Financial Services Inc.***, a Cincinnati-based provider of diversified financial services. At that time, he also served on the boards of Cinergy Corp. and Cincinnati Milacron Inc. He maintained his residence at a farm near ***Lebanon***, Ohio, and made occasional public appearances in nearby Wapakoneta, his boyhood home and the site of ***the Neil Armstrong Air & Space Museum***.



Vocabulary

① squadron *n*. a medium-sized airforce unit
② aeronautical *adj*. 航空的

③ rocket-propelled *adj*. 火箭推进的
④ prototype *n*. 原型,样品
⑤ number *v*. (数目)受到限制
⑥ dock *v*. 与另一宇宙飞行器在外层空间对接
⑦ eject *v*. to throw out with force
⑧ imperturbability *n*. calmness
⑨ module *n*. (宇宙飞船上各个独立的)舱
⑩ touchdown *n*. the landing of a spacecraft
⑪ boulder *n*. a large stone or mass of rock
⑫ loom *v*. to come into sight
⑬ deploy *v*. to arrange for effective action
⑭ seismograph *n*. 地震仪
⑮ plaque *n*. 匾,饰板
⑯ rendezvous *v*. to meet by arrangement
⑰ quarantine *n*. 检疫期
⑱ accolade *n*. strong praise and approval
⑲ meritorious *adj*. deserving reward or praise
⑳ trustee *n*. 理事,评议员

Notes

1. Neil Alden Armstrong:阿姆斯特朗(1930～),第一个登上月球的美国宇航员。
2. Wapakoneta:沃帕科内塔,俄亥俄州一地名
3. Ohio:俄亥俄州
4. Purdue University:普度大学,美国印地安那州一所公立大学
5. jet wings:空军徽章
6. Pensacola:彭萨科拉,佛罗里达州一城市名
7. Pensacola Naval Air Station:彭萨科拉海空站

8. Florida:佛罗里达州
9. the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA):(美国)国家航空咨询委员会
10. Cleveland:克利夫兰市
11. Edwards Air Force Base:爱德华兹空军基地
12. California:加利福尼亚州
13. drop plane:轰炸机
14. Houston:休斯顿市
15. Texas:得克萨斯州
16. rule out:排除,拒绝考虑
17. Gemini:[天]双子座(在此用作宇宙飞船名)
18. Agena vehicle:阿金纳飞船
19. nautical mile:海里(合1.852公里)
20. Manned Spacecraft Center:载人宇宙飞船中心
21. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT):美国东部夏令时间
22. the Kennedy Space Center:肯尼迪航天中心
23. Saturn:[天]土星(在此用作宇宙航行推进器名)
24. space booster:宇宙航行推进器
25. Tranquility Base:静海基地
26. Hawaii:夏威夷州
27. the Presidential Medal of Freedom:总统自由勋章
28. the Harmon International Aviation Trophy:哈蒙国际航空奖杯
29. the Royal Geographic Society's Hubbard Gold Medal:皇家地理学会的哈伯德金牌
30. the Society of Experimental Test Pilots:实验试飞员协会
31. the American Astronautical Society:美国宇宙航行协会
32. the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics:美国航空和航天协会
33. NASA:National Aeronautics and Space Administration的缩写,(美国)国