

成人高等教育公共课系列教材

ENGLISH

英语读写教程

(三)

主 编 金黛莱 郑鸿颖

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前 言

成人高等教育公共课系列教材之《英语读写教程》是一套专门为成人高等教育的非英语专业英语课程教学所编写的教材。

成人高等教育是我国高等教育的重要组成部分,是终身教育体系的关键环节,在高科技经济时代正发挥着重要的作用。在世界进入了经济全球化和科学技术一体化的时代,英语作为当前国际上使用最广泛的信息载体和交流工具,越来越受到社会的重视。

目前国内的成人高等教育英语教材可谓百花齐放,竞相争艳,其中不乏在选材、编排、设计等方面都很优秀的教材,但是适合成人高等教育的英语教材还不多见,编写组经过认真讨论、研究和撰稿,编写了本套教材。

本套教材是以成人高等教育英语课程的教学目标和课程要求为依据编写的。其教学目标是培养学习者的英语综合应用能力,增强自主学习能力,提高综合文化素养,以适应社会发展和国际交流的需要。其要求是应帮助学习者学习英语语言基础知识,掌握读、写、译的基本语言技能,了解相关文化背景知识。本套教材的编写充分考虑成人高等教育的特殊性,在选材方面力求做到在确保语言的规范性和文章的思想性的前提下,兼顾题材的现代性、可读性、趣味性和广泛性,反映现实生活,为学习者提供丰富的语言材料,最大限度满足学习者不同专业发展的需要。以上述教学目标和课程要求为指导思想,本套教材的编写人员结合多年成人高等教育英语教学实践,借鉴同类优秀英语教材的编写经验,完成了这套教材的编写工作。

本套教材由四川师范大学外国语学院金黛莱主编,具体编写工作分别为预备级蒋长英;第一册姚敦云;第二册王恒、崔鉴;第三册郑鸿颖;第四册雷冬梅承担。

教材编写过程中我们得到了四川师范大学成人教育学院和四川科学技术出版社的大力支持,值此正式出版印行之际向他们表示衷心的感谢。

谨希望通过这套教程的出版能为提高成人大学英语教学质量贡献绵薄之力。

《英语读写教程》编写组

使用说明

成人高等教育公共课系列教材之《英语读写教程》是一套为成人高校非英语专业学生编写的基础英语教材。本教材根据教育部最新颁发的高职、高专和成人高等教育《英语课程教学基本要求》，吸取现代外语教学理念，结合各类成人教育多层次外语教学的实践经验编写而成。本教材重视英语语言基础，以培养学生实际语用能力为目标，突出教材的实用性和针对性。

本套教材共五册。专科层次使用预备级和一、二册，本科层次使用预备级和一至四册，专升本层次使用二、三、四册。

每册共八个单元，可供一学期使用。

每单元均围绕课文内容和重点词汇、短语等设计了适量的练习，以及时巩固所学知识。此外，一至四册每单元设有构词法、语法、写作、日常会话等专题，预备级每单元还专设了语音和语法等专题。通过各单元相关项目的训练，旨在以夯实语言基础知识为前提，重点突出对学习者读、写、译等语言应用能力的培养，同时兼顾学习者听说能力的提高。

各单元的构成和使用建议如下：

Before You Read

该部分以简要介绍课文内容或设置简单问题的形式引导学习者对相关话题进行讨论，同时导入本单元学习者将要学习的系列课文。

Text A

课文 A 为精读材料，包括课文、生词和短语以及注释部分。生词和短语的解释大多采用英汉双解的方式，以利于学生更准确地把握其含义，同时进一步扩大词汇量。注释采用英汉结合的方式，介绍课文出处和重要的文化背景，解释课文中难度相对较大的语句。

Study and Practice

1. Reading Aloud and Enhancing the Language Sense

这一部分选材包括出自课文的精彩段落以及另选的诗歌、名言警句、歌词或篇幅短小的幽默故事，要求学生熟读、背诵以培养和加强学生的语感。

2. Comprehension of the Text

该练习旨在采用问答等方式帮助学习者熟悉课文内容，引导学习者进行口头表达，可以在预习时由学习者自行完成，在课文讲解完毕后再由教师进行核对，也可结合课文的讲解同时完成。

3. Vocabulary

采用根据解释、首字母补全单词、单词与释义的搭配、选词填空、用课文中学过的单词或短语替换句中画线部分等多种形式，帮助学习者巩固所学的单词和短语的用法。

4. Word Building

简要介绍英语中常见的构词法知识并辅以训练，帮助学习者学习掌握基本的构词法知识，熟悉常用前缀和后缀，有效地扩大词汇量。

5. Grammar

考虑到本教材使用对象基础参差不齐的客观情况，本部分从基本的语法概念入手，简要讲解重要语法知识并辅以针对性练习，但由于篇幅有限，无法面面俱到，故在使用过程中教师可结合教学实际情况适当加以补充。

6. Structure

结合课文中出现的较重要的语法现象和句型结构等进行操练。

7. Cloze

这一练习旨在训练学习者在具体语言环境中运用词汇和语法的能力。教师应特别注意引导学生结合上下文进行语篇分析和逻辑推理，提高综合语篇能力。

8. Translation

翻译练习包括汉译英和英译汉各五个小题。前者旨在帮助学习者复习和巩固该单元所学重要单词、短语，并在题后括号中给出相应提示；后者选材取自课文，要求学生在理解全文的前提下，结合具体语境，将其译成汉语。

9. Structured Writing

介绍写作基础知识并辅以训练，帮助学习者在实践中掌握基本的写作技能。一至四册的训练体系按由浅入深，从句子、段落到语篇的原则设置。

Text B

课文 B 为课内泛读材料，包括课文、生词、短语、注释并附有阅读理解练习，教师可限时让学习者在课内完成，同时辅以阅读基本知识的讲解，培养和规范学习者的阅读习惯，提高阅读能力。

Text C

课文 C 为课外泛读材料，旨在帮助学习者扩大阅读量，教师也可视实际需要在课堂上简单串讲部分段落。为节省篇幅，本部分未列出生词、短语及注释，只在个别较难的生词后面用括号加注汉译。课文后列有两到三个问题供学生在教师引导下进行讨论，以加强口头表达能力。

Everyday English

这一部分按不同的功能意念提供若干日常会话素材，其内容涉及不同职业、不同场景，针对性强，语言地道，便于模仿。

此外，每册课本还附有两套自测题，既涉及课内所学知识点，以便于学习者进行阶段性复习，检查基础知识的掌握情况，又注重对能力的考查，以便学习者对自己的英语应用能力有大致地了解。考虑到多数学习者参加各类英语考试的实际需要，自测题在题型和难度上均参考了《高等教育自学考试公共英语考试大纲》、《四川省成人高等教育本科毕业生申请学士学位英语水平考试大纲》、《大学英语四级考试大纲》、《四川省大学英语三级考试 SCET-3 大纲》、《全国英语等级考试大纲》。自测题难度各册依次递增，一到四册自测题的难度大体分别相当于四川省

大学英语二级考试、四川省大学英语三级考试、四川省学士学位英语考试、全国英语等级考试（三级）。

每册书均附有附录，包括两套自测题的参考答案和全册课本的总词汇表，在第一册后面还附有基础词汇表，供学习者检查自测结果和学习时查阅参考。

由于编者水平有限，教材中不足之处在所难免，希望本教材的使用者提出宝贵意见。

目 录

Unit 1	1
Text A April Fools' Day	1
Text B Christmas Day	14
Text C Chinese New Year.....	17
Unit 2	19
Text A Extreme Sports	19
Text B Football.....	31
Text C Sports.....	34
Unit 3	37
Text A Teaching Reform	37
Text B Best Teacher I Ever Had.....	50
Text C TV-A Babysitter.....	52
Unit 4	54
Text A Beauty is in the Eye of the Beholder.....	54
Text B Friend and Friendship.....	67
Text C Black Umbrellas, Golden Hearts.....	69
Test Yourself	71
Test Paper 1	71
Unit 5	84
Text A The Critical Period for Learning.....	84
Text B Winning the Innovation Race	98
Text C Man Power	101
Unit 6	104
Text A Is the Earth Getting Hotter?	104
Text B Ecotourism.....	117
Text C World Water Shortage.....	121

Unit 7	124
Text A Women of Everest.....	124
Text B CEO at Apple Computer.....	135
Text C CEO in the New York Times	138
Unit 8	140
Text A The World to Get What You Want	140
Text B Employees Needed for the E-Era	153
Text C What Jobs will Disappear in the 21 st Century?	156
Test Yourself.....	159
Test Paper 2.....	159
Appendix.....	174
Key to Test Paper 1	174
Key to Test Paper 2	179
Glossary	183

Unit 1

Before You Read

Discuss with your partner your favorite holiday and try to answer the following questions.

What is your favorite festival?

When is the festival celebrated?

How do you celebrate it?

What special preparations does your family or you make for the festival?

Do you know the origin of the festival?

Text A

April Fools' Day^{1,2}

"The Headmaster wants you in his office."

The poor boy to whom a friend says one of these things gets into a panic, and suddenly everyone around laughs and shouts: "April Fool!"

The boy laughs too but feels so ashamed for having been made a fool of, but secretly feels relieved that nothing disastrous has really happened. A few minutes later, he is busy devising a way to fool his friend.

This is April 1, or All Fools' Day. In Britain, and in America and a few other countries, it is the custom to play tricks on people on that day. Children are allowed to play harmless jokes on their friends until twelve o'clock. Usually they try to trick other children into doing foolish things.

It isn't only children that like such jokes. Grownups indulge in such pranks, too. Even the media occasionally try to deceive the public with a clever April Fool story.

Some years ago, for example, a very serious BBC TV programme did a ten-minute report about spaghetti trees in Switzerland: the reporter described how, with the recent bad weather, the trees weren't producing as much spaghetti as they normally did. He predicted that the price of spaghetti would go up. A lot of the TV viewers who didn't know that spaghetti is made of flour actually believed the story. Some house wives went to the supermarkets to buy the food that was going to become scarce.

When did this custom start? There are several theories as to the origin of this "festival". I recently came across the following well-researched story of the origin of the day.

The custom of All Fools' Day was started in 1545 by a rather unfortunate accident. A Norwegian scientist, Loof Lirpa, was staying in London, where he was trying to find the secret of how to fly.

The scientist was eccentric, but there was no doubt that he was clever. It seems that his experiments were successful: King Henry VIII received a letter from Mr. Lirpa, in which he announced that he had finally solved the secret of flight. He asked the king to be present at a demonstration flight at Westminster on April 1.

So the king, and the leading politicians of the day, stood outside the palace of Westminster on April 1, and waited for Mr. Lirpa to fly-past. But, of course, nothing happened—and it became the tradition, afterwards, to play tricks on people in the same way on this day.

Recent evidence, however, shows that Loof Lirpa was not playing a trick: he was in fact telling the truth. He had learnt how to fly – the reason why he didn't appear at Westminster was that his flying-machine had crashed into a tree, and he had been killed.

It was a tragedy for science. Most people believe that the first aeroplane flew in 1903, but this is not true. It flew 358 years earlier, in 1545. If Mr. Lirpa had lived, our technology would now be much more advanced than it is.

The scientist, unfortunately, was very secretive: he hadn't kept any notes, and hadn't trusted anyone else with the knowledge of how his flying machine worked. When he died, the secret died with him.

Although most people in Britain haven't heard of Loop Lirpa, he is very famous in Norway. April 1 is a national holiday, and people remember his flying trip by having ski-jump competitions. They also eat a special Loof Lirpa cake, which was invented by

the scientist, and consists of fish, bananas, honey and chocolate.

Actually, 'Loof Lirpa' wasn't his real name: if you say the two words backwards, you'll find out what his name really was...

(612 words)

New Words and Expressions

- panic /'pænik/ *a.* fear, terror 惊慌失措的, 恐慌的
 ashamed /ə'ʃeɪmd/ *a.* 惭愧的, 羞耻的
 relieved /rɪ'li:v/ *a.* 放心的, 得到安慰的
 disastrous /dɪ'zɑ:stɹəs; (US) dɪz'æstəʊs/ *a.* causing disaster 灾难性的, 造成灾难的; extremely bad, terrible 极坏的, 很糟的
 devise /dɪ'vaɪz/ *v.* design or contrive 设计或发明, 计划或整理
 trick /trɪk/ *n.* 诡计, 骗局, 恶作剧, 窍门, 诀窍 *vt.* 欺骗, 哄骗
 grownup /grəʊn'ʌp/ *n.* 成年人
 indulge /ɪn'dʌldʒ/ *v.* 沉溺于, 放纵自己
 prank /præŋk/ *n.* a mischievous trick or practical joke 恶作剧或令人难堪的玩笑
 occasionally /ə'keɪʒənəli/ *adv.* now and then; from time to time 偶然地, 时不时地, 间断性的
 deceive /dɪ'si:v/ *v.* 欺骗, 行骗
 programme /'prəʊgræm/ *n.* 程序, 节目
 spaghetti /spə'getɪ/ *n.* 意大利式细面条
 describe /dɪ'skraɪb/ *v.* 描写, 记述, 形容, 形容
 scarce /skɛəs/ *a.* insufficient 缺乏的; absent or rare 难得的; 缺少的或罕见的:
 unfortunate /ʌn'fɔ:tʃənət/ *a.* unlucky 不幸的, 不合宜的, 不吉利的, 使人遗憾的
 eccentric /ɪk'sentɹɪk/ *a.* strange 古怪 *n.* 行为古怪的人
 announce /ə'naʊns/ *v.* 宣布
 demonstration /demən'streɪʃ(ə)n/ *n.* proof 证明; 证实; 验证
 evidence /'evɪdəns/ *n.* 明显, 显着, 明白, 迹象, 根据, (物)证据, 证物
 crash /kræʃ/ *v.* smash 碰撞, 坠落, 坠毁
 tragedy /'trædʒɪdɪ/ *n.* 悲剧, 惨案, 悲惨, 灾难
 aeroplane /'ɛərəpleɪn/ *n.* plane
 advanced /əd'vɑ:nst/ *a.* 高级的, 年老的, 先进的
 secretive /'si:kretɪv/ *a.* 秘密的, 偷偷摸摸的

consist / kən'sist/ v. be made up or composed 由...组成
play tracks/jokes on 开玩笑
indulge in 沉溺于
come across 遇到, 发生效果
consist of 由.....组成

Proper Names

Switzerland / 'switsələnd / 瑞士 (欧洲中部国家)
Norwegian / nɔ:'wi:dʒ(ə)n / 挪威人, 挪威语

Notes

1. This text is taken from *Things on Other Land*, published by Foreign Language Teaching and Research Press, 2003.

2. April Fools' Day: Unlike most of the other non-foolish holidays, the history of April Fools' Day, sometimes called All Fools' Day, is not totally clear. There really wasn't a "first April Fools' Day" that can be pinpointed on the calendar. Some believe it evolved simultaneously in several cultures at the same time, from celebrations involving the first day of spring.

Study and Practice

Reading Aloud and Enhancing the Language Sense

I. Read the following paragraph until you learn it by heart.

The poor boy to whom a friend says one of these things gets into a panic, and suddenly everyone around laughs and shouts: "April Fool!"

The boy laughs too but feels so ashamed for having been made a fool of, but secretly feels relieved that nothing disastrous has really happened. A few minutes later, he is busy devising a way to fool his friend.

The scientist was eccentric, but there was no doubt that he was clever. It seems that his experiments were successful: King Henry VIII received a letter from Mr. Lirpa, in which he announced that he had finally solved the secret of flight. He asked the king to be present at a demonstration flight at Westminster³ on April 1.

II. After-class reading:

Love is in the air. You can see it, smell it, hear it, taste it, and feel it everywhere. The spirit is colored pink, red and white. Chocolate hearts, boxes of sweets, and handfuls of cards are stuffed into mailboxes and handed with care. What day can this be? What day calls for such hearts and kisses? What day but Valentine's Day? Valentine's Day comes from tradition, from history. It all started in the Roman Empire during the cruel reign of Emperor Claudius II.

Comprehension of the Text

Answer the following questions:

1. Why was the boy asked to the headmaster's office?
2. What is the most popular practice people will do in April Fools' Day?
3. What is spaghetti made of?
4. Why did the housewives go to the supermarket to buy spaghettis?
5. Why didn't Loof Lirpa manage to get a demonstration flight at Westminster?

Vocabulary

I. I. Fill in the blanks with words (with the first letters given) from the text that match the meaning in the column on the right.

- | | |
|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| c _____ | to be made up or composed |
| d _____ | to form, plan, or arrange in the mind; design or contrive |
| s _____ | short in supply |
| a _____ | highly developed or complex |
| c _____ | the action of high speed object colliding with each other or running into each other. |
| i _____ | to allow (oneself) unrestrained gratification |
| e _____ | strange |
| t _____ | a prank |
| d _____ | extremely bad |
| p _____ | terror |

II. Fill in the blanks with the words or expressions given in the bracket. Change

the form where necessary.

1. The parents should never _____ (indulge) their children.
2. New York City _____ (consist) of five boroughs (行政区).
3. He is a genius in _____ (devise) computer programs.
4. Their car _____ (crash) into a guardrail (护栏) and everyone in the car was seriously injured.
5. The government _____ (announce) that they would build a new highway to the mountain.
6. You can not _____ (deceive) an innocent child.
7. _____ (fortunate), he survived the earthquake.
8. He felt _____ (ashamed) to make apology to his son.
9. Tom got into a _____ (panic) at the news of his brother's death.
10. Fresh vegetables are extremely _____ (scarce) in the desert.

Word Building

Both -ity and -ty are suffixes added to adjectives to form nouns with the meaning "the quality or condition of being _____", e.g.

security: the condition of being secure

safety: the condition of being safe

Now give the noun forms of the adjectives given below and then complete the following sentences with some of them.

minor _____ major _____ real _____ cruel _____ curious _____
certain _____ complex _____ pure _____ equal _____ regular _____

1. John opened his sister's mail out of _____.
2. The seasons come and go with _____.
3. I can say with _____ that our work will be a success.
4. The _____ of slave traders filled us with indignation (愤怒).
5. The _____ of doctors believe that smoking is harmful to health.
6. Exhaust fumes (废气) are a threat to the _____ of the air we breathe.
7. The _____ of the road map puzzled the truck drivers.