

总主编：戴炜栋

# 新世纪研究生 公共英语教材

*READING B (STUDENT'S BOOK)*

阅读 **B** 学生用书  
第二版

主编：王 哲 王善平 赵伟礼



上海外语教育出版社

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# 出 版 说 明

随着大学外语教学水平的不断提高,研究生外语学习的起点也逐年提升。研究生入学时,绝大多数已经具备了较为扎实的语言基础,基本上都通过了大学英语四级考试,不少还通过了六级考试。为了编写出适应新时代要求的研究生英语教材,上海外语教育出版社组织了清华大学、复旦大学、浙江大学、山东大学、中山大学、大连理工大学、南京航空航天大学等 10 余所重点大学,召开了教材编写委员会会议,做了广泛而深入的调研。在认真分析当时研究生英语教学状况的基础上,于 2002 年推出了《新世纪研究生公共英语教材》。

教材编写时曾考虑到以下几点:1. 练习设计和活动安排以学习者为中心,强调应用能力的培养。2. 针对研究生听说能力下降的情况,编写专门教材,重视口语和听力的培养。3. 课文题材、体裁多样,内容时代感强。4. 重视翻译和写作(尤其是论文写作)能力的培养。5. 在突出词法、句法的基础上,融入篇章知识的教学。

《新世纪研究生公共英语教材》由以下几个品种组成:

《阅读》A 学生用书、教师用书各一册

《阅读》B 学生用书、教师用书各一册

《阅读》C 学生用书、教师用书各一册

《听说》上 学生用书、教师用书各一册

《听说》下 学生用书、教师用书各一册

《口语口译》一册

教材推出后受到了使用学校的广泛欢迎。为了适应新时期社会对研究生人才培养的需要,满足新时期研究生英语教学的要求,在广泛听取使用高校意见的基础上,上海外语教育出版社组织原编者对这套教材进行了修订。修订在保持原教材编写结构的基础上,更新了三分之一以上的篇目,进一步突出了选材的时代性。同时亦对部分练习进行了调整,单元后增加任务型的练习,使教材更符合培养学生的听、说、读、写、译等实用技能方面的要求。

由于研究生生源不一,该套教材中可能存在这样或那样的缺点。我们衷心希望广大师生多和我们联系、沟通,提出宝贵的意见和建议,以便我们不断修订,不断提高、完善。

本套教材的录音材料由上海外语音像出版社出版。

上海外语教育出版社

# 修 订 说 明

新世纪研究生公共英语教材于2002年面市以来,受到研究生英语学习者和教师的好评。为使本套教材更为适应新时期外语教学的迫切需要,经过我们编者长期的斟酌酝酿,对这套教材进行了大幅度的修订。

本次修订工作首先是基于当前外语教学改革和外语人才培养的需要,教材编写注重与大学英语教学改革的呼应和对学习者英语应用能力的培养,阅读课文题材、体裁多样,紧跟时代变化,内容更新超过三分之一。在巩固和提高英语阅读能力的基础之上,此次的教材修订更注重培养学习者中英文互译和英语写作的能力,尤其是学术论文写作的能力。

《新世纪研究生公共英语教材·阅读B(第二版)》全书共分十五个单元,每个单元由读前练习(Warm-up)、课文(Text)、生词(New Words)、课后练习(Exercises)、补充阅读(Supplementary Readings)和读写任务(Projects)等部分组成。

本教材的编写以我国传统精读教材的练习形式为基础,吸收了国外同类阅读教材的优点,将练习分为读前与读后。在每单元课文前均配有读前练习,要求学习者在阅读课文前,先根据自己已有的知识,发挥联想思维,思考课前问题,然后再阅读原文。这种阅读方法有助于调动学习者的主动性,提高学习者的阅读理解能力,令学习者更好地了解作者的思想观点及思维过程。

在选材上,本教材遵循了时代性、广泛性、知识性和实用性相结合的原则,可读性极强。全书共四十五篇文章,全部选自国外出版的教材、书籍以及权威的报刊杂志,内容涉及政治、经济、社会、语言、文化、科技等,从各个侧面反映了国际社会具有代表性的思想文化,具有一定的深度。通过这些文章的分析阅读,学习者不仅可以较快地提高英语语言水平,而且可以扩大知识面,了解诸多学科的相关背景知识,获取大量的知识和信息。

每单元课文的生词和词组基本上采用英语直接释义,以期培养学习者查阅英语词典以及用英语思维的习惯。读后练习包括课文理解(Comprehension Check)、词汇(Vocabulary Study)、翻译(Translation)和写作(Writing)四部分。课文理解练习中多项选择题直接检查学习者对课文的理解。问答题和讨论题供训练口头表达能力之用。词汇练习分多种形式,主要是操练课文中出现的常用词或词组,起到巩固、掌握并扩大词汇的作用。翻译练习中汉译英是一段与课文内容相近的短文,如有一定难度,教师可在遣词造句上作适当的讲解与提示;英译汉练习亦如此。另外,每单元的写作部分均有对一项英语写作技巧的概括性讲解,并设计了与之相关的写作任务,以期巩固、提高学习者的英语写作水平。

补充阅读分为A、B两篇,均配有词汇注释和阅读理解练习。除此之外,每个单元都设计了与主题相关的3—5个读写任务,由学习者课后有选择地自主完成,从而令学习者达到巩固知识、锻炼能力的学习效果。

本教材阅读与练习量均较大,其中部分选文亦有一定难度,教师可根据学生的具体情

况有选择地使用。同时，本教材还注重学习者自主学习能力的培养和与学习者的互动，教材主课文配有录音，并有专业学习网站提供学习支持。除此之外，本教材另配备教师用书，附有练习答案和课文译文，可供教师备课时参考或作为同等程度自学者的辅导用书。

由于编者水平与经验有限，书中难免有不足之处，希望读者批评指正。

编 者

2006 年 7 月

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# UNIT ONE



## Warm-up

### I. Group Discussion

Discuss the following topics in groups of four.

1. Why do you like or dislike going to parties? Talk about the party that impressed you most.
2. What do we usually do at parties apart from eating, drinking, singing, and dancing?
3. Which do you prefer: going to a party with a friend or partner or going on your own?
4. Do you know the differences between the following words: *ball*; *prom*; *masque*; *cocktail party*?

### II. Pair Work

Work with a partner and decide whether you share the same opinions on the following statements concerning parties. Mark each of the statements with a "+" for agreement, "-" for disagreement and "?" for uncertainty.

1. Parties are important occasions for people to make new friends.
2. Going to parties is a great way to entertain oneself and pass the time.
3. If you want to enjoy yourself, you'd better not go to an office party with your spouse.
4. One should care about his or her dress no matter what kind of party he or she is going to.
5. Talking about business or work is a bad idea at a party.
6. You can discover more about your boss and your colleagues at a party than in the office.
7. Parties usually provide opportunities for one to meet someone of the opposite sex.

## Text

### Party Politics<sup>1</sup>

Judith Martin

1. Etiquette at an office party? Why, these people have been socializing happily every working

1. From *Business Week*, December 3, 1990



day of their lives, give or take a few melees, rumors, and complaint petitions. All it takes to turn this into holiday merriment is a bit of greenery looped around the office — the staff will soon be looped, too. Surely it is enough that the annual Christmas party has the magic ingredients: time off from work, free food and drink, and a spirit of fun replacing such ugly work realities as sexual harassment.

2. Furthermore, partygoers figure, it offers relief from such pesky obligations as thanking anyone or being kind to wallflowers because there really aren't any hosts. Nobody has to pay (that same nobody who generously provides the telephone line for long-distance personal calls), and so nobody's feelings need be considered.
3. This is all pure hospitality — there for the taking, like the office-supplied felt-tipped pens everyone has been pocketing all year. Out of the natural goodness of its corporate heart and the spirit of the holiday season, the company wishes only to give its employees a roaring good time, and the employees, out of loyalty and the thrill of getting to know their bosses off-duty as equals, delight in the opportunity.
4. For those still dimly aware of the once-standard give-and-take of real social life, this no-fault approach to business entertaining seems a godsend. In the now-rare domain of genuine society, hosts are supposed to plan and pay for the entertainment of their guests, on their own time and in their own houses. Guests have strict duties, as well — from answering invitations to co-operating with all arrangements, even to the extent of pronouncing them perfectly lovely.
5. Business entertaining appears to remove the burdens of time, effort, money, individual responsibility — and the etiquette connected with them. The people who do the planning are paid for their trouble, so those who benefit need not consider they have incurred a debt. Why, the annual Christmas party ought to be an inspiration to lower-level employees to work their way into realms where company-sponsored partying can be enjoyed all year long.
6. Not so fast. Flinty Miss Manners does not recognize any holidays from etiquette. (Employees, if not employers, should consider themselves lucky that she is only on the Party Committee, not the one that might take up ethical questions about those pens and calls.) Office parties differ from private ones but are no freer from rules.
7. If it were indeed true that everyone has a better time without etiquette, Miss Manners could easily be persuaded to take the day off. But having long served on the Office Party Etiquette Cleanup subcommittee, she is aware that things generally do not go well when there is no recognized etiquette and everyone is forced to improvise.
8. Let us look at all this spontaneous, carefree fun: There being no proper place for the boss, he or she hangs around the door, concerned about mixing with everyone. It might discourage hospitable bosses to see guests staring at them in horror and then slithering in by a side door.



But etiquette's solution of having everyone greeted in a receiving line was rejected as too stiff. So one can hardly blame employees for recalling a long-ingrained principle of the workplace: Seeing the boss and having a good time are best not scheduled at the same time.

9. Desperate to make the time count, the boss grabs the nearest available person and starts delivering practiced words about the contribution he makes to their great enterprise. The reaction is not quite what was hoped for. Discreet questioning establishes that this is an employee's guest. He doesn't work for the company, recognize the boss, or appreciate the attention — and, as a matter of fact, has only a passing acquaintance with the employee who issued the invitation. What this guest wants is not professional fellowship but a fresh drink, if the boss would kindly step out of the way.
10. Now, the reason the invitation said "and guest" was to avoid the ticklish issue of who is still married to whom and what the spouse calls itself. Last year, unmarried employees were furious when their partners were not included, and married employees complained that the forms by which their spouses were addressed were offensive: "Mrs." offended women who preferred "Ms.," and wives who had the same surnames outraged everybody who didn't. This year, the complaints will be from spouses who were not told that there was a party or who were told that spouses weren't invited — but found out otherwise. There won't be many complaints. They will, however, be memorable, darkly charging the company with promoting immorality.
11. Meanwhile, what about those who are interested in promoting a bit of immorality, or just plain romance, of their own? They, too, are creating problems that will reach far into the new year. True office romances are the least of them, with their charges of favoritism and melding professional and personal time. More serious is the fact that, in spite of the liquor and high spirits, it still counts as sexual harassment when anyone with supervisory powers makes unreciprocated overtures to a lower-ranking employee. And foolhardy when a lower-ranking employee annoys a higher-ranking one.
12. Some employees have their minds only on business and will be spending party time actively promoting workaday concerns. Remembering the company rhetoric about open communications and all being in this together, they will actually seek out the boss, who by this time is grateful to be addressed by anyone at all.
13. But they don't want to engage in platitudes. They accept compliments with: "Well, then how about a raise?" They plead for promotions, explain confidentially who ought to be fired, and advance previously submitted ideas about revolutionizing the business that have been unaccountably unappreciated for years. In one evening, they manage to cut through the entire hierarchy and procedures the boss has painstakingly established for the purpose of being spared this kind of importuning.



14. Eventually — usually somewhat late in the party — it occurs to someone that this informal setting is just the time to offer the boss some constructive personal criticism. What else does talking frankly and informally mean but an invitation to unload opinions without any career consequence?
15. Here is where the company has pulled a fast one on its employees. “Go ahead,” it has said, “relax, have a good time, forget about the job.” And the naive have taken this at face value. This event is called a party — a place where one lets loose without worrying about being judged by the cold standard of professional usefulness.
16. Even employees who adhere strictly to standard business dress in the office may not know what the bosses might consider vulgar in evening wear. Here is a chance to show off their racy and imaginative off-duty clothes. But over there are supervisors murmuring that people who look like that can’t really be sent out to represent the company.
17. Worse are the comments on anyone whose idea of fun is a little boisterous. It may be just the behavior that makes one a delight — or a trial — to one’s friends. But here, it is not being offered for the delight or tolerance of friends. It is being judged on criteria other than whether the person is a riot.
18. It is not that Miss Manners wants to spoil the office party by these warnings. She just wants to prevent it from spoiling careers. And the solution is what was banished from the party for being too inhibiting: etiquette.
19. The first formality that must come back is inviting everyone by name. The practice of merely counting every invitation as two is as dangerous as it is unflattering. But people who have been clearly identified and told that they must respond — the suggestion must be made neutrally, to show that the party is a treat, not a requirement — already have some sense that they are both individually sought after and expected to be responsible.
20. What constitutes a couple is a murkier question than Miss Manners and any sensible employer ought to investigate, but employees simply can be asked to supply the name of a spouse or friend they want to invite. (An office party can be limited by confining it to employees, in which case it should be held during office hours. But inviting spouses and such is better. Having to work is enough distraction from one’s more intimate relationships, and the staff was not compiled like a guest list, according to personal compatibility.)
21. Since we have established, Miss Manners hopes, that the point of an office party is not whooping it up or telling people off, what is it? It is showing appreciation of the staff.
22. This starts with a well-run receiving line. However much popular opinion may regard receiv-



ing lines as nasty ordeals, they were invented to be, and remain, the easiest way to get everyone recognized by the key people. The oldest receiving-line trick in the world still works: Someone whose business it is to know everyone — or someone unimportant enough to be able to ask each guest his name — announces the guests to the host as they go through the line. The host can then scornfully declare: “Of course I know Annette. We couldn’t run this place without her.” For extra charm, the employee’s guest is also told how wonderful that employee is. This always seems more sincere than straight-out flattery, and from then on, whenever the employee complains that everyone at the office is an idiot, the spouse will counter by repeating that appreciation.

23. It is often erroneously assumed that the style of the party ought to be what employees are used to: their own kind of music, food, and other things the executive level believes itself to have outgrown. Nonsense. What employees want is a taste of high-level entertaining. This may vary greatly according to the nature of the business. If, however, the party is too formal for the employees’ taste, they’ll get a good laugh and enjoy the contrast all the more when they continue partying on their own afterward.
24. The clever employee will dress as the executives do, keeping in mind that there are few fields in which people are condemned for looking insufficiently provocative. Refusing or limiting drinks is not the handicap at business parties that it may be under the overly hospitable eye of a private host. And the real opportunity for career advancement is not petitioning a boss but rescuing one who has been cornered or stranded, thus demonstrating that one knows how to talk charmingly about nonbusiness matters.
25. At the end, there is another receiving line. That is, the bosses plant themselves conspicuously by the exit, grabbing the hand of anyone trying to get away and thanking him for coming. Even the dimmest guest will then realize it is appropriate to thank back — that is, to realize that something has been offered and deserves gratitude.
26. After all, isn’t that why the office Christmas party is given?
27. If the only goal were for the company to show the staff its appreciation, this could be effectively done with a day off and a bonus to go with it.

(1,886 Words)

## NEW WORDS

etiquette /'etiket/ *n.*

formal rules of correct and polite behavior in society or among members of a profession 礼节；礼仪



melee /'meleɪ/ <i>n.</i>	confused struggle or fighting; a violent argument 混战; 论战
petition /prɪ'tɪʃən/ <i>n.</i>	solemn request or demand to a superior authority
merriment /'merɪmənt/ <i>n.</i>	entertainment and enjoyment
loop /lu:p/ <i>v.</i>	form a shape of a curve 形成一个环; 使成圈状
looped /lu:pt/ <i>a.</i>	formed into or having a loop or loops; drunk or inebriated; enthusiastic or keen 成圈状的; 喝醉了的; 陶醉的
pesky /'peskɪ/ <i>a.</i>	annoying and causing trouble
wallflower /'wɔ:lflaʊə/ <i>n.</i>	person, usu. a woman, who sits by the wall at a dance because no one has asked her to participate 舞会上受 冷落者; 壁花
pocket /'pɒkɪt/ <i>v.</i>	take (money or sth. small) for one's own use, usu. dis- honestly
roaring /'rɔ:ɪŋ/ <i>ad.</i>	greatly or extremely
thrill /θrɪl/ <i>n.</i>	sudden strong feeling of fear, joy, or excitement
incur /ɪn'kʊ:/ <i>v.</i>	receive (sth. unpleasant) as a result of certain actions; bring upon oneself 招致; 惹起
flinty /'flɪntɪ/ <i>a.</i>	hard, cruel, and unmerciful 不留情面的
improvise /'ɪmprəvaɪz/ <i>v.</i>	do or make sth. one has not prepared for
discreet /dɪs'kri:t/ <i>a.</i>	careful; cautious
slither /'slɪðə(r)/ <i>v.</i>	move in a slipping and twisted way
ingrained /ɪn'greɪnd/ <i>a.</i>	(of habits, tendencies, etc.) deeply fixed 根深蒂固的, 一成不变的
ticklish /'tɪklɪʃ/ <i>a.</i>	(of a question or issue) difficult or needing special care and attention 棘手的; 需小心处理的
unreciprocated /ˌʌnrɪ'sɪprəkeɪtɪd/ <i>a.</i>	unreturned; unshared
overtures /'əʊvə.tʃʊəz/ <i>n.</i>	attempt to begin a friendly relationship with a person, country, etc. 主动表示; 姿态
foolhardy /'fu:lhɑ:dɪ/ <i>a.</i>	foolishly adventurous
platitude /'plætɪtʃu:d/ <i>n.</i>	statement that is true but not new, made by someone who thinks it is both 陈词滥调
unaccountably /ˌʌnə'kaʊntəblɪ/ <i>ad.</i>	in a way that is very difficult to explain; without any ob- vious reason 难以解释地; 莫名其妙地
importune /ɪm'pɔ:tʃu:n/ <i>v.</i>	beg someone repetitively to do something 坚决请求; 纠缠不休
racy /'reɪsɪ/ <i>a.</i>	distinctive or attractive, esp. in a sexual way; amusing and lively



<b>boisterous</b> /'bɔɪstərəs/ <i>a.</i>	cheerful and noisy
<b>riot</b> /'raɪət/ <i>n.</i>	an irresistibly funny person or thing 非常滑稽有趣的人或事物
<b>banish</b> /'bænɪʃ/ <i>v.</i>	stop thinking about; drive out; put away
<b>murky</b> /'mɜ:kɪ/ <i>a.</i>	dark and unpleasant
<b>compatibility</b> /kəm.pætə'bɪləti/ <i>n.</i>	state of being able to have a harmonious relationship 兼容性; 相容性
<b>ordeal</b> /ɔ:'di:l/ <i>n.</i>	difficult or painful experience
<b>scornfully</b> /'skɔ:nfʊli/ <i>ad.</i>	in a way of showing contempt
<b>erroneously</b> /ɪ'rəʊniəsli/ <i>ad.</i>	incorrectly
<b>provocative</b> /prəʊ'vɒkətɪv/ <i>a.</i>	causing or intended to cause interest or some other emotive reaction
<b>corner</b> /'kɔ:nə(r)/ <i>v.</i>	force someone into a difficult or threatening situation
<b>stranded</b> /'strændɪd/ <i>a.</i>	being in a helpless position; unable to get away
<b>conspicuously</b> /kən'spɪkjʊəsli/ <i>ad.</i>	noticeably or obviously
<b>gratitude</b> /'grætɪtju:d/ <i>n.</i>	state or feeling of gratefulness 感激; 感谢之情

## PHRASES AND IDIOMATIC EXPRESSIONS

<b>hang around</b>	stay near (a person or a place) with no clear purpose or activity
<b>have one's mind on</b>	mind or care about something
<b>let loose</b>	speak or behave in an uncontrolled way; give someone freedom or the chance to make changes or be in charge
<b>whoop it up</b>	have a wild and enjoyable time, usu. with drink (alcohol) 欢闹; 狂欢; 庆祝
<b>tell off</b>	reprimand; scold 责备

## PROPER NAMES

<b>Judith Martin</b> /'dʒu:diθ 'mɑ:tɪn/	朱迪思·马丁
<b>Miss Manners</b>	礼仪小姐 (朱迪思·马丁的笔名)
<b>Annette</b> /'ænit/	安妮特



## EXERCISES

### I. Comprehension Check

I For each of the following unfinished statements, choose the most appropriate answer from the choices provided.

1. According to the text, the annual Christmas party is a chance for merriment because it enables employees to enjoy \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. pocketing felt-tipped pens  
B. chatting with the boss  
C. compliments from everyone  
D. a spirit of fun
2. From the author's point of view, one's daily routine work is usually \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. fascinating  
B. meaningful  
C. unexciting  
D. attractive
3. Most people tend to think that business entertaining frees one from the pressure of \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. time  
B. individual responsibility  
C. etiquette  
D. all of the above  
E. B and C
4. It can be inferred from the article that etiquette is something \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. that exists in every social occasion  
B. welcomed by all party-goers  
C. ignored at office parties  
D. favored by employers
5. An office party has one principle in common with normal workplace environments: \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. to always be punctual  
B. not to plan enjoyable activities within sight of the boss  
C. to talk to the boss politely  
D. to seek every possible chance to promote one's business ideas
6. According to the author, if an employer makes the most of an office party with regard to praising his employees, the reaction may be \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. surprisingly satisfactory  
B. not rewarding at all  
C. an accepted form of etiquette  
D. not quite what he had hoped for
7. An employee will be considered naive if he \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. thinks he can share his business ideas with the boss at an office party  
B. develops a romance with a colleague at an office party  
C. worries about others' judgment and criticism  
D. thinks that he can let loose with personal opinions without any worrying  
E. A, B and D
8. It is implied in the passage that no matter how informal an office party might be, the employees who attend such an event should \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. wear whatever they like  
B. not bother about their dress  
C. still be concerned about the clothes they wear  
D. still dress carefully and decently  
E. C and D

