

Extracurricular Reading Series of College English  
大学英语课外读物系列

*Fashion Part*

# 时尚篇

主编 李学爱



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## 编者寄语

阅读作为英语学习的重要内容,是学习者获得语言知识,获取信息的重要手段和途径,阅读能力也是学生语言综合能力的体现。但在教学中我们注意到,学生提起“阅读”却仿佛“鸡肋”,所谓食之无味,弃之可惜。针对这种情况,我们产生了编写一套学生既感兴趣又看得懂的阅读丛书的想法。于是《大学英语课外读物系列》丛书诞生了。

我国许多英语学习的前辈都在不同场合提起朗读对语言学习的重要作用:朗读可以培养语感,改善语音语调,更是提高口语表达能力最直接最简便的方式。“书读百遍,其意自现”,可见朗读益处多多,但学习中同学们常常为找不到适合朗读的材料而苦恼。于是我们的这套丛书就由《上册:朗诵篇》开始。《上册:朗诵篇》选取的文章,短小精悍,寓意深刻,语言优美,朗朗上口,旨在通过大声朗读帮助同学们开启通向英语世界的大门。兴趣是最好的老师。《中册:时

尚篇》以同学们关注的时尚话题为线索,将学生在阅读报纸杂志中经常遇到的一些困难,以点带面,释疑解惑,引导大家学会这些与我们的生活息息相关的语言表达形式。英语在很多中国学生的心中是“痛苦”的代名词。“头悬梁,锥刺股”的精神固然可贵,但我们真的不能在轻松愉悦的氛围中学习英语吗?现代心理学的研究成果已经证明,快乐是开启心智的良方。《下册:幽默篇》让您带着轻松愉快的心情,了解西方文化,体会英语的玄机与奥妙,在开心的笑声中不知不觉地提高英语水平。如果在从前痛苦的经历中,你依然一无所获,那么《下册:幽默篇》也许将成为你英语学习新的开始。

这是一套为满足学生需求而诞生的丛书,这是一套经实践证明行之有效的阅读材料,这是一套凝结着大学英语教师心血和期望的丛书,我们相信,这套丛书一定会为大家的英语学习开辟新的道路。

由于学识所限,书中不妥及错漏之处恳请诸位同仁及广大读者批评指正。

编者于南开园  
2006年1月4日

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## 1. So You Think You Know About . . . Fashion ?

### Fashion is everywhere

Open up most fashion magazines and you will see incredibly thin models with impossible hair and embellished<sup>①</sup> beauty wearing unreasonably expensive, impracticably styled clothes. Who creates these outfits<sup>②</sup>, and why do so many people think they should aspire<sup>③</sup> to dress this way? Shouldn't clothes be comfortably sturdy<sup>④</sup> and make a principle of being simple for the individual who wears them? Why are we constantly told that we need to buy new clothes and add fresh pieces to our wardrobes<sup>⑤</sup>?

Fashions change year after year so lots of people can make piles of money. If folks are convinced that they need a different look each season, that this year's sweater's length and shoes style are important, they can be persuaded to buy. The fashion industry would have you ignore your shortcomings and just make you feel beautiful and happy. In fact it is not only a phenomenon we can find in people's dressing.

So you like fashion . . . you wear fashion . . . you read fashion . . . you watch fashion . . . you listen to fashion . . . you even EAT fashion! . . . but what do you really know about it?

Try to answer the following questions before you claim that you are an

- 
- ① embellish *vt.* 美化, 修饰
  - ② outfit *n.* 全套服装
  - ③ aspire *vi.* 渴望, 追求
  - ④ sturdy *adj.* 结实的, 坚固的
  - ⑤ wardrobe *n.* 衣橱, 衣柜



expert in fashion.

1. Why do many women wear lipstick?
2. Why do many men have short hair or shaved heads?
3. What are the four fashion capitals of the world?
4. Why do models walk up and down in a fashion show?

### **Fashion controls us**

Fashion controls our lives. Fashion controls what we wear, what we eat, what we drink, the way we cut our hair, the make-up we buy and use, the color of the cars we drive. Fashion even controls our ideas.

You don't believe me? How many of your friends are vegetarians? Why are they vegetarians? Because it is fashionable!

### **Where does fashion come from?**

Often the reasons are quite logical. Scientists and historians study the fashions of the past and discover the secrets of each fashion.

When girls see an attractive guy, their blood pressure rises and their lips become redder. That's why guys think that girls wearing lipstick are beautiful.

Why do guys shave their heads? In the past soldiers shaved their heads to kill the insects that lived in their hair. Now guys shave their heads so that they look strong and masculine, like soldiers.

### **Are we victims of fashion?**

People spend a lot of time and money on fashion. But are they wasting their money? Changes in fashion help to develop new technologies. Changes in style create work for people all over the world. Fashion is good for the

economy. Fashion makes the world go round. Many people work in the fashion industry, particularly in the fashion capitals of London, New York, Paris and Milan.

And finally, fashion makes you feel good, doesn't it? When you are dressed in the latest style, dancing to the most fashionable music, after watching the latest hit film, you feel great, don't you? Perhaps you even feel like a model walking up and down the catwalk!

## Translation

### 与时尚零距离接触

#### 时尚无处不在

翻开大多数时尚杂志,你总能看到瘦得离奇的模特梳着令人难以置信的发型,带着经过修饰的美貌展示着昂贵得令人咋舌、设计得极不实用的服装。是谁创造出这些衣装?为什么有如此多的人认为他们应该穿成这样?难道衣服不应该是舒适而耐穿的?服装设计的原则不应是简洁而易于穿着吗?为什么我们总是听到说我们需要买新衣服,需要往衣橱里添新东西呢?

时尚年年在变,所以很多人可以大赚其钱。如果人们相信他们每一季都需要有不同的打扮,今年毛衣的长度和鞋子的款式比较重要,他们就控制不住要去买、买、买。时装行业会让你忽略自己的短处,而只让你觉得美丽和快乐。事实上,这种现象并非仅仅出现在人们的衣装上。

所以你喜欢时尚……你穿着时装……你读时尚杂志……你看热门电影……你听流行音乐……你甚至吃时髦大餐!……但你真的明

白时尚是怎么回事吗？

在你自称了解时尚之前，试着回答以下问题：

1. 为什么许多女人涂口红？
2. 为什么许多男人剪短发或剃光头？
3. 全球四大时尚名都是哪几个城市？
4. 为什么模特在时装表演时走来走去？

### 时尚控制了我们

时尚控制了我们的生活。时尚控制了我们穿什么，吃什么，喝什么，理什么样的发式，购买和使用什么样的化妆品，开什么颜色的车。时尚甚至控制了我们的思想。

你不相信？你有多少朋友是素食者？他们为什么吃素？因为时尚！

### 时尚从何而来？

通常这些理由都是十分合理的。科学家和历史学家们研究过去的时尚，发现了其中的秘密。

当女孩子看到吸引人的小伙子时，她们血压升高，嘴唇变红。这就是为什么小伙子们认为涂口红的女孩子漂亮的原因。

为什么男孩子要把头发剃掉？过去士兵们剃头发是为了消灭他们头发里的寄生虫。现在的小伙子们剃掉头发是为了使自己看起来强壮，具有男子汉气概，就像士兵一样。

### 我们是时尚的牺牲品吗？

人们把大量的时间和金钱花在时尚方面，这是不是浪费钱财？时尚的变化有利于开发新技术。式样的改变为全球的人创造就业。时尚有利于经济。时尚使世界运转。许多人在时尚行业工作，尤其

是在时尚名都伦敦、纽约、巴黎和米兰。

最后,时尚使你感觉良好,不是吗?当你穿着最新的款式,随着最流行的音乐起舞,看完最热门的电影,你感觉很棒,不是吗?没准儿你甚至会感觉自己像是个在 T 型舞台上走来走去的模特呢!

### Remarks

你穿着最时髦的衣服,理着最酷的发型,看最热门的电影,嘴里哼着最流行的音乐,手里拿着最新款的手机,在路边的书报亭买本最近一期的《时尚》等等,但你真的明白时尚是怎么一回事吗?

### Open Questions for Discussion:

1. Do you read magazines that tell you the latest fashion news?
2. Why do so many people choose to follow fashion?
3. Do you want to look "cool"? If yes, do you think you are a victim of fashion?

## 2. *The Best Men's Suits*

For some people, suits are back. For some people — particularly in the boardrooms and corner offices of the biggest companies — they never went away.

The old saying “clothes make the man” is as of a truism as ever. Today, as always, a well-made suit is not just a crucial business accessory; it also sends a subtle message that distinguishes wearer as a person of direction, taste and, in many cases, as someone with many zeroes in his annual bonus<sup>①</sup> package.

What suits don't do to the same extent they once did reveal the wearer's background. In our sartorially<sup>②</sup> egalitarian<sup>③</sup> age, one doesn't need to be a blue blood<sup>④</sup> or an Ivy grad<sup>⑤</sup> to occupy the corner office or know the name of the best tailors. The result is that suits have become less a uniform than an expression of individual style. If you're conservative in outlook, the odds are you will dress that way too. Like to be a bit more flashy? Most likely, so are your clothes.

What has also changed is the way men buy suits and the occasions to which they wear them. Around the turn of the last century, men of all backgrounds and careers wore ties and a suit pretty much everywhere. These days men are more selective about when and where to dress up or dress

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① many zero in one's bonus 奖金数里有许多零,即数额大

② sartorial *adj.* 男士服装的

③ egalitarian *adj.* 平等主义的

④ blue blood 贵族出身,名门望族

⑤ Ivy grad 常春藤名校的毕业生

down. A board meeting? Wear a suit. A business lunch? Ditto<sup>①</sup>. A corporate retreat in Tahoe<sup>②</sup>? Not if you don't want to look like the hotel manager.

Suits are also becoming hip. Design houses like Gucci, Prada, Yves Saint-Laurent<sup>③</sup> and others are coming out with suits that are definitely more appropriate for nightclubs than the boardroom. The idea is to appeal to younger customers who rebel at the thought of wearing a necktie, let alone a day job, but still have the money to spend on a \$1,500 suit.

### Which suit is right for you?

There are three key elements that go into choosing the Best Men's Suits: price, style and quality. Choosing the right suit presents a closet-full of challenges and opportunities to those faced with building a wardrobe. From suit silhouettes<sup>④</sup>, pricing and fashionable obsolescence<sup>⑤</sup> to pant fronts, button counts and label widths, there's much to consider.

Suits can be broken down into three basic styles: European (i. e., Italian), British and American. Many designers cross cultural lines, such as Bronx native Ralph Lauren<sup>⑥</sup>.

For tailoring options, the bespoke<sup>⑦</sup> suit is the finest. Bespoke suits are

① ditto *adv.* 同上地

② Tahoe 即 Tahoe Lake, 塔霍湖, 著名的游览和休养胜地, 位于加利福尼亚州和内华达州交界处

③ Gucci, Prada, Yves Saint-Laurent 均为世界著名的服装品牌

④ silhouette *n.* 轮廓, 剪影

⑤ obsolescence *n.* 废弃, 过时

⑥ Ralph Lauren 拉尔夫·劳伦, 著名时装设计师, 著名服装品牌 Polo 的创始人。其设计风格注重简洁, 自称“没有代表作, 没有草图, 有的只是尝试”

⑦ bespoke *adj.* 〈英〉(尤指服装)定做的

created by highly skilled tailors and artisans to fit your every inch. They may take up to five fittings and six weeks of work to complete, and starting prices run upwards of \$ 3,000.

Off-the-rack<sup>①</sup> suits are the least costly and the most convenient option, provided you're happy with the fabric and fit. But these days many suit makers also offer a "made-to-measure" alternative that allows customers to choose the fabric, styling options and details before allowing a tailor to take measurements and forward the order to the factory. A semi-finished suit is then returned to the store for fitting and finishing.

### Style Vs. Fashion

Once you get into stratospheric<sup>②</sup> price levels, it makes sense to ask yourself whether you're making an investment or buying a fashion item. Both have their pluses and minuses. While an immaculately<sup>③</sup> rendered and classically tailored suit may last 10 or 20 years and never go out of style, it'll hardly get you noticed in a crowd. Meanwhile, slick<sup>④</sup> fashion suits will have you looking like a rock star, but only for a couple of years.

"The choice between fashion and longevity is a very personal one," says Michael Bastian, men's fashion director in New York. "The best strategy is to play with them."

Indeed, playfulness is one of the defining characteristics of the latest generation of suit buyers. "Suits are definitely back, but in a more personal way," says Bastian. "The younger guys are treating suits more as an

① off-the-rack *adj.* 〈主英〉(= off-the-peg)现成的

② stratospheric *adj.* 最高档的

③ immaculate *adj.* 无瑕疵的,完美的

④ slick *adj.* 〈口〉虚有其表的,华而不实的

integrated part of their wardrobe — pairing jackets or pants with less traditional elements for distinctly personal looks. If they wear a tie now it's because they want to, not because their suit needs one.”

That same philosophy is gradually making its way into corporate culture. When it comes to a wardrobe, there's no longer the same emphasis on distinguishing between going to work and socializing. Your business wardrobe shouldn't be just navy and gray suits anymore, and your social wardrobe shouldn't be just corduroys<sup>①</sup>. Wherever you're going these days, you're doing business, and you need to feel good about what you're wearing at any given moment.

## Translation

### 最靚的男裝

对某些人而言,西装又时兴起来了。而对那些在大公司董事会会议室和经理办公室里办公的人来说,西装从来就没有过时过。

“人靠衣装”这句老话仍然是条真理。今天和从前一样,一套做工考究的西装不仅是商业人士最重要的行头,还能巧妙地表现穿着者的地位和品位,而且在很多时候还能体现其收入的丰厚。

然而与以往不太一样的是,西装不再那么明确地显示穿着者的身份背景。在这个穿着上讲究平等的年代,人们不一定要出身名门或毕业于常春藤名校才能入主经理办公室,也不一定非要知道最好的裁缝的名字。因此,西装更多地成为一种个人风格的体现,而不仅是制服。如果你是个观念守旧的人,很可能在穿衣上也保守。想更

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① corduroy *n.* 灯芯绒



引人注目吗?很可能你的衣服就会艳丽夺目。

人们买西装的方式以及穿西装的场合也都发生了变化。在 20 世纪末,各行各业的男士差不多在各种场合都穿西装打领带。而如今男士们对何时何地盛装打扮或穿着随便有了更多的考虑。开董事会?穿西装。商务午餐呢?还是西装。要是在塔霍湖参加公司组织的休养呢?如果你不想看上去像那儿的酒店经理,就别穿西装。

西装本身也越做越时髦了。像古琦、普拉达和圣罗兰以及其他一些服装设计公司推荐出的西装绝对更适合去夜总会而非进会议室的时候穿。这样做无非是想吸引较为年轻的顾客,这些人是谈领带色变,更别提要他们一整天都打着领带了,但他们却买得起 1 500 美元一套的西装。

### 哪款适合你?

选购理想的西装时有三要素:价格、款式和质地。对那些需要购置全套西装的人来说,选购合适一款意味着无尽的挑战和机会。从服装的款式、价格、式样新旧到裤子前部的做法、纽扣数及翻领的宽度,要考虑很多问题。

西装大致可分为三种基本样式:欧式(如意大利式)、英式 and 美式。许多设计师跨越了这种文化界限,像生于纽约布朗克斯区的拉尔夫·劳伦就是其中的一位。

从裁剪上来讲,定做的西装是最好的。定做的西装是由技艺高超的裁缝和手艺人按照你的尺寸量身定制的。他们做一套服装可能需要经过五次试穿,花六个星期才能完成,价格要在 3 000 美元以上。

如果你对面料满意且穿着合身,买成衣不失为最划算和最省事的方法。但是近来许多西装店也提供“量身定制”服务:顾客可以先选择面料、款式,提出一些具体要求,然后再由裁缝量好尺寸交由工厂制作。在做好之前,半成品西装会送回店里让顾客试穿并最终完