

成人高等教育公共课系列教材

ENGLISH

英语读写教程

(一)

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四川出版集团
四川科学技术出版社

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四川科学技术出版社

图书在版编目 (CIP) 数据

英语读写教程. (一) / 金黛莱, 姚敦云主编. —成都:
四川科学技术出版社, 2006. 10
成人高等教育公共课教材
ISBN 7-5364-6088-0

I. 英... II. ①金... ②姚... III. ①英语-阅读教
学-成人教育: 高等教育-教材②英语-写作-成人教
育: 高等教育-教材 IV. H31

中国版本图书馆CIP数据核字 (2006) 第118051号

成人高等教育公共课系列教材

英语读写教程 (一)

主 编: 金黛莱 姚敦云

特约编辑: 徐爱琳

责任编辑: 冯建平 李 珉

封面设计: 坤 玉

责任出版: 邓一羽

出版发行: 四川出版集团·四川科学技术出版社
成都市三洞桥路12号 邮政编码 610031

成品尺寸: 230mm × 175mm

印张 15.25 字数 280 千

印 刷: 成都科星印务有限公司

版 次: 2006年10月第一版

印 次: 2006年10月第一次印刷

定 价: 26.00元

ISBN 7-5364-6088-0

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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，重点突出对学习者的读、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。

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Unit 1

Before You Read

How much do you know about the differences between education in China and education in the United States? Talk with your partner and make a list of the differences.

Text A

Education in the United States¹

Education is one of the biggest and most important jobs of government in the United States.² However, it is a task that is carried out by local governments rather than the federal government. Help from Washington³ usually comes in the form of money and research.⁴ There are no national educational standards or regulations, as there are in many other countries. Local areas — states or cities or counties — have kept control over their own school systems. In spite of local control, school systems throughout the country are very similar. A child can transfer from a school in one state to a school in another without encountering any serious difficulty. Different books may be required or different courses may be offered, but the same basic subjects are taught throughout the country.

The normal school system in the United States consists of six years of elementary school and six years of high school. In many areas, high school is divided into three years of junior high school and three of senior.⁵ Each school year is called a grade — the ninth grade, for example, is the last year of junior high school in most localities. In

addition, almost all school systems have a year of kindergarten for children too young for the first grade. Because so many women work nowadays, a lot of communities have also set up day care centers for prekindergarten children. Education is compulsory — that is, it is required by law — everywhere in the country. However, the age at which a child can leave school differs from place to place. The average throughout the country is about sixteen.

While the curriculum is more or less the same everywhere, the quality of the schools is often very unequal. Some areas have far more money to spend for each pupil each year.⁶ In general, schools in suburban communities are better than those in either large cities or rural areas. In addition to the public schools, there are a number of private schools. Many of them are operated by religious groups. In the public schools, education is free, but the private schools charge a fee, sometimes a very high one.

The universities are also both public and private. The most famous U.S. universities — Harvard⁷, Princeton⁸, and Yale⁹, for example — are private, but some of the largest universities are public. California operates a university system with branches all over the state. The entire system has more than 2,000,000 students. To teach the millions of students at all levels of the U.S. educational system, there are over three million teachers. In fact, they make up the largest single group of government employees in the country.

(439 words)

New Words and Expressions

government /'gʌvənmənt/ *n.* body of persons governing a state 政府

local /'ləʊk(ə)/ *a.* of or relating to a city, town, or district rather than a larger area 地方的, 当地的

federal /'fedər(ə)/ *a.* 联邦的, 联邦制的

educational /ədʒu'keɪʃ(ə)nəl/ *a.* of or relating to education (关于) 教育的

standard /'stændəd/ *n. & a.* 标准 (的)

regulation /regjʊ'leɪʃ(ə)n/ *n.* a principle, rule, or law designed to control or govern conduct 规章制度

system /'sɪstəm/ *n.* 系统, 体系, 制度, 体制

- similar /'similə(r)/ *a.* related in appearance or nature 相似的, 类似的
- transfer /'træns'fɜ:(r), trɑ:-/ *v.* (cause to) move from one location or job to another 调动, 转移, 转学
- encounter /in'kauntə(r)/ *vt.* meet, especially unexpectedly; come up against 相遇, 尤指意外遇到, 偶然遇到; 遭遇
- normal /'nɔ:m(ə)/ *a.* in accordance with what is typical, usual or regular 正常的, 正规的, 标准的
- elementary /eli'mentəri/ *a.* 基础的, 基本的, 初级的
- junior /'dʒu:niə(r)/ *a.* having a lower position or rank 年少的, 级别、地位较低的
- senior /'si:niə(r)/ *a.* having a higher position or rank 年长的, 级别、地位较高的
- locality /ləu'kæliti/ *n.* 位置, 地点, 地区
- kindergarten /kində'gɑ:t(ə)n/ *n.* school for very young children 幼儿园; <美> 学前班
- nowadays /'naʊədeiz/ *adv.* during the present time; now 现在, 当今
- community /kə'mju:niti/ *n.* 社区, 团体, 集体
- prekindergarten /pri:'kində,gɑ:tn/ *a.* 幼儿园学龄前的, 入幼儿园之前的
- compulsory /kəm'pʌlsəri/ *a.* required; obligatory 必需做的, 必修的, 强制性的, 义务的
- differ /'difə(r)/ *vi.* be different 不一致, 不同
- average /'ævərɪdʒ/ *a.* ordinary 平均的, 普通的, 一般的, 中等的
- while /waɪl; (US) hwaɪl/ *conj.* although 虽然, 尽管
- curriculum /kə'rikjuləm/ *n.* (全部的) 课程; (获得学位、资格或证书的) 必修课程
- quality /kwɒliti/ *n.* 质量, 品质, 性质
- unequal /ʌn'i:kw(ə)/ *a.* not equal in number, amount, or level 不相等的, 不平等的
- suburban /sə'bɜ:bən/ *a.* of or relating to a suburb 郊区的, 郊外的
- rural /ruər(ə)/ *a.* of or relating to the country 农村的, 乡下的
- private /praɪvɪt/ *a.* of or confined to the individual; personal 私人的, 私有的
- operate /'ɒpəreɪt/ *v.* 操作, 运转, 管理; 动手术
- religious /rɪ'lɪdʒəs/ *a.* of or concerned with religion 宗教的
- charge /tʃɑ:dʒ/ *v.* 收费, 要价; 充电, 使带电; 控告 *n.* 费用; 电荷; 控告

- fee /fi:/ *n.* 费(会费、学费等), 酬金
- sometimes /sʌmtaɪnz/ *adv.* at times; now and then 有时; 间或
- entire /ɪn'taɪə(r)/ *a.* whole; complete 全部的, 完整的, 整个
- single /sɪŋɡ(ə)l/ *a.* consisting of one part or section 单一的, 单独的, 个别的
- employee /ˌemplɔɪ'i:, ɪm'plɔɪi:/ *n.* someone who is paid to work for someone else 雇员, 员工
- carry out put into practice or effect 执行, 完成
- rather than 而不是, 宁可不
- in spite of despite 不管, 尽管, 不论
- consist of be made up of 包括, 由...组成, 由...构成
- for example for instance 例如
- in addition besides 此外, 还有; 而且
- set up start; establish 建立, 设立, 创立
- day care center 日托中心
- that is in other words 换言之, 即, 也就是说
- more or less about; approximately 大约; 或多或少
- in general generally 通常, 大体上, 一般而言
- in addition to besides 此外, 除...之外还有
- a number of some; a lot of 一些; 许多
- in fact in reality or in truth; actually 事实上, 实际上
- make up constitute; form 组成, 构成

Proper Names

- the United States 美国
- Washington /wɒʃɪŋt(ə)n/ 华盛顿
- Harvard /hɑ:vəd/ 哈佛大学
- Princeton /prɪnstən/ 普林斯顿大学
- Yale /jeɪl/ 耶鲁大学
- California /kælɪ'fɔ:njə/ 加利福尼亚

Notes

1. This text is adapted from *Modern American English, Book 5* edited by Robert J. Dixon, published by Regents Publishing Company, Inc.

2. Education is one of the biggest and most important jobs of government in the United States. (Paragraph 1) 教育是美国政府最大、最重要的职责之一。

此句中, job 相当于 task, duty, responsibility, 表示任务或职责。

3. Washington: the capital of the United States, on the Potomac River between Virginia and Maryland and coextensive with the District of Columbia. It was designed by Pierre L'Enfant and became the capital in 1800.

4. Help from Washington usually comes in the form of money and research. (Paragraph 1) 联邦政府通常在资金和研究方面给予帮助。

这里用华盛顿代指美国联邦政府。

5. In many areas, high school is divided into three years of junior high school and three of senior. (Paragraph 2) 在很多地区, 中学分为三年初中和三年高中。

high school 在不同的上下文中, 分别可以相当于我国的“中学(包括初中和高中)”或“高中”。

6. Some areas have far more money to spend for each pupil each year. (Paragraph 3) 有些地区每年的生均投入比其他地区高得多。

在比较级前可加 much, even, far 等程度副词来修饰。又如:

They are paid much less than white workers doing the same kind of work.

Diamond is even harder than steel.

7. Harvard: the oldest institution of higher learning in the United States (founded in 1636) and one of the nation's most prestigious. It is one of the Ivy League schools. The main university campus lies along the Charles River in Cambridge, Massachusetts, a few miles west of downtown Boston.

8. Princeton: coeducational, privately endowed institution of higher learning at Princeton, New Jersey, U.S. It was founded as the College of New Jersey in 1746, making it the fourth oldest institution of higher education in the United States.

9. Yale: private university in New Haven, Conn., one of the Ivy League schools. It was founded in 1701 and is the third oldest university in the United States. In 1718 it was renamed Yale College in honor of a wealthy British merchant and philanthropist, Elihu Yale, who had made a series of donations to the school.

Study and Practice

Reading Aloud and Enhancing the Language Sense

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

The normal school system in the United States consists of six years of elementary school and six years of high school. In many areas, high school is divided into three years of junior high school and three of senior. Each school year is called a grade — the ninth grade, for example, is the last year of junior high school in most localities. In addition, almost all school systems have a year of kindergarten for children too young for the first grade. Because so many women work nowadays, a lot of communities have also set up day care centers for prekindergarten children.

II. Read the following story for fun.

One morning Lenny and Benny were late for their mathematics exam. Thinking quickly, the boys decided on a good excuse. By the time they got to the classroom, the other students had already finished and left.

“Sorry, Mrs. Quinn,” said Lenny, “but I was giving Benny a ride on my bike and we got a flat tyre and had to stop and get it fixed.”

“Come back on Monday,” smiled Mrs. Quinn, “and I’ll let you take the test.”

A few days later they came back for the make-up test. Mrs. Quinn put each boy into a separate room with their test questions. The first question was easy and worth five points. The second question was worth 95 points. It read simply, “Which tyre?”

Comprehension of the Text

Answer the following questions.

1. What is one of the biggest and most important jobs of government in the United States? By what governments is it carried out?
2. Are there any educational standards or regulations established for the entire country?
3. Who controls the local school systems?
4. Can a child change schools easily?
5. How many years does the normal school system in the United States consist of?
6. How are they further divided?
7. What is each school year called? Give an example.
8. What is compulsory education?