

吉林大学研究生立项教材

新

English *Intensive Reading* For Graduate Students

研究生英语精读教程

——非英语专业研究生使用

*Intensive
Reading*



吉林大学出版社

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总主编：孙怀庆 滕玉梅

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前 言

世纪之交，原吉林大学、吉林工业大学、白求恩医科大学、长春科技大学和长春邮电学院合并，组建成为我国目前规模最大的一所综合性大学。新的吉林大学在研究生教育方面迈出了更大的步伐，招生人数猛增，学科门类趋于齐全。为适应新形势下对非英语专业研究生英语教学的需要，吉林大学和东北师范大学携手编写了这套《新研究生英语》系列教材。

《新研究生英语》是根据原国家教委颁布的《非英语专业研究生英语教学大纲》和 21 世纪对研究生英语教学要求的新特点而编写的一套系列教材，分精读、泛读、听说和测试四种教程，供硕士研究生基础英语教学使用。本系列教材经吉林大学 2001 级硕士研究生试用，反映良好，现修订出版。

本系列教材充分吸取各高校在研究生英语教学中积累的行之有效的经验，借鉴国内外优秀的教学理论和方法，博采众长，将实用性与知识性融为一体，将应用性与应试性贯穿始终，旨在通过教师精讲和学生多练，培养学生具有扎实的英语语言基础和较强的英语综合应用能力。

本系列教材选文题材广泛，集时代性、知识性、可思性、信息性、前瞻性和实用性为一体，以反映当代社会生活为主，兼顾科技、政法、文史、医药等时尚主题；体裁多样，充分兼顾书面语，正式语体和非正式语体；课后练习形式丰富、实用，既有利于学生消化、巩固语言基础知识，也有利于培养学生运用英语的实际能力。

吉林大学研究生院于永利副院长、郭学东处长、陈玉梅副处长，全国大学外语教学指导委员会副主任、全国大学英语四、六级考试委员会委员、吉林大学公共外语教学与研究中心主任刘龙根教授，对本教材的设计与编写自始至终给予关心和支持。美国文教专家 Charlotte E. McCallum 和 Lily Cocks 审阅了全部书稿，在此一并致谢。

《新研究生英语精读教程》由吉林大学组织编写，胡铁生任主编，战菊、张秀丽、宋雅文、殷明玉、部铁军、石文博、李朝、马玉芳、王红岩、田兵、刘晓波等同志协助编写。

由于编者水平与经验有限，教材中难免还有不足之处，希望广大教师和学生批评指正。

编 者

2002 年 8 月

使用说明

《新研究生英语精读教程》是《新研究生英语》系列教材之一。

在学习本教程之前,研究生应该在大学本科期间通过大学英语四级测试,部分研究生已达到大学英语五级或六级水平,应该掌握英语的基本语音和语法以及6000个左右常用单词及500个左右的常用词组,并对其中3000个左右基本词的词意能够达到复用性的掌握(即能正确识别词类、选择词义、英汉互译,熟悉某些常用搭配和用法)并具有英语的初步构词、阅读和写作技能。

本教程共有二十个单元,供一个学年(两个学期)使用,每个学期讲授10个单元。每一单元由课文(*Text*)、生词(*New Words*)、注释(*Notes*)、课文和词汇及语法练习(*Exercises*)、阅读练习(*Reading Practice*)和引导写作(*Guided Writing*)六部分组成。重点放在培养研究生阅读能力上(含各种类型的论文),兼顾写作和会话能力的培养。

课文全部选用原文材料,但有少量删改。选材力求题材、体裁多样化,内容丰富多彩,并具有一定的时代性和启发性。课文部分应在语言知识运用的基础上,要求研究生能够从总体上把握课文内容。

课文生词收取的词汇多为六级或六级以上的词汇。释义以英语为主,在词义难以用英语解释或英语解释过于复杂且不利于理解的情况下采用英、汉双解或单独采用汉语释义的方式。

注释部分采用英语,个别地方加注了汉语。主要介绍课文的出处、作者简介、课文所讲内容的基本背景、重要人物以及重要典故,供研究生预习时参考。

本教程的练习部分包括课文理解、情景及个人观点论述、词汇、结构、语用、阅读技巧和翻译等部分。这一部分的编写原则之一是各项练习的内容均围绕课文所出现的语言点,其中阅读技巧的训练也尽量与课文的体裁和题材保持一致,形成两部分的内容和形式相统一的语言环境,增加同一语言形式和内容的重复率,便于研究生在同一语言环境中反复练习,增强记忆,提高学习效果。从研究生教育的总体目的出发,考虑到研究生将来工作的实际需要,本教程中每单元课文的词汇量增加到2000个英语单词左右,其中生词量约占2.5%,并含有一定比例的英语表达法。生词中的黑体部分为重点词汇,其余为非重点词汇,重点词汇要求研究生熟记,非重点词汇要求在一定语言环境中能够猜出词义。总体上要求研究生在较快速度通读课文的基础上,能够对课文,尤其是各种学科的学术论文,从总体上把握其论点及其论据,有较好的理解,以求在将来的研究工作中能够适应大量资料的查找和梳理工作的要求。为了提高研究生的口语表述能力,课文理解练习部分增加了情景和个人观点口语表述练习。在教学中,教师对这一部分可根据课时量的具体情况掌握。英语语用练习部分未给出选项,要求研究生能够根据语境连词成句,以便提高研究生的语用能

力。语言纠错部分以综合语法练习为主，兼顾词汇。

阅读技巧部分仅提供了阅读材料和理解部分。考虑到大学本科期间已对阅读技巧做过系统介绍，故本教程未做详细讲解。阅读部分的文章选材，在题材和体裁上力求与课文保持一致，旨在巩固和提高研究生在这一领域内阅读能力的提高。文章后面附有阅读理解题，以便检查研究生的阅读技巧运用、阅读速度和准确度。此外，阅读文章内共有五个划线部分，供研究生在阅读理解的基础上进行翻译练习时使用。

汉译英部分为100个汉字左右的短文，难易度适中，要求研究生能够运用翻译的基本技巧译出通顺且合乎英语语法和习惯的英语译文。

引导写作部分除继续提高研究生基础英语的写作能力之外，还增加了应用文的内容，包括论文摘要、出国留学入学申请信、个人简历、图表等应用文的写作技巧介绍，旨在提高研究生毕业后从事科研和深造时英语写作技巧的运用能力。技巧介绍部分力求简捷、明了，重点放在写作练习上。这一部分所提供的题目和提示性的句子供研究生在写作练习时参考。不要求写出全部作文，教师可以根据教学时数的具体情况来安排写作内容。

本教程是根据我国《非英语专业研究生英语教学大纲》的要求编写的。词汇量和练习量较大，难度也较大，目的在于使这本教程能够同全国的非英语专业硕士研究生英语教学的要求接轨，适应我国21世纪非英语专业硕士研究生英语教学的要求。教师可根据学生的具体情况有选择地加以使用。

编者

2002年8月

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Unit One

Language: A Reflection of Life in the U.S.A.¹

It has been said that people start by speaking as they think and end by thinking as they speak, since language and culture are interestingly intertwined. People's speech does reflect their background, their activities, and the values they hold; thus we can learn much about a people by looking at their language. Let us here examine a few of the ways the language of the United States reflects the history, the way of life, and the habits of thinking of the country.

The fact that English is understood and spoken by all but a very small minority of the adult inhabitants of the country tells us something about the history of the U.S.A. Although the population derives from many nations, English is the language of the United States because the majority of the early European settlers on the North American continent were British. Yet while British and American English share a grammatical system in which there are only minor differences, and those largely on the spoken level, there are aspects of the vocabulary of American English which give it a characteristic flavor. Settlers from countries other than England brought the language of their homeland with them. The influences of these languages are particularly apparent in areas where large numbers of non-English speaking people have settled, but can be seen in the country as a whole. The Pennsylvania Dutch, German settlers in the Pennsylvania area, known for their bounteous dinner tables have contributed names of food. ... Terms of African origin are found in music. "Jukebox," for example, comes from Gullah, a dialect of English spoken originally by African slaves in the South Carolina area. "Jazz," a term originating in New Orleans, is very likely of African origin. African influences on the language are found in other areas of living, particularly in the South of the United States.

Although the language of the U.S.A. has shown an ability to absorb many borrowings from other languages in the 200 years of its history, these borrowings, which are mainly the result of cultural contact, seem relatively small by comparison

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with the new words and expressions or new uses of old words that have grown up as a result of the fact that the restless, individualistic people from all nations who have made America their home have had to adapt to new conditions. When the first settlers came to the North American continent they found physical features that were different from those of the homeland; new plants and animals were found; people engaged in new activities and developed new interests. Words and expressions for these new things had to be found. The geographical terms "creek," "gulch," and "gully," and the expressions "bluff," "foothill," and "continental divide" originated in America to describe features of the American landscape. Names for animals such as "chipmunk," "woodchuck" and "skunk" are adaptations of North American Indian words, as are the plant names "squash" and "hickory." These words imitate Indian sounds but use words or word parts that have other meanings in English. Expressions that come from frontier days, such as "land office business" or "stamping ground," have been extended to new situations. A "land office business" is now a term for a large number of sales, similar to the number transacted in the offices on the frontier where public lands were sold. A "stamping ground," a place where animals perhaps buffalo gathered, is a term for a home place, a place that one returns to frequently. These terms have taken on a metaphoric quality, a quality found also in the expression "prairie schooner," a covered wagon in which settlers crossed the country.

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This picturesque or metaphoric quality may be seen in other expressions associated with the way of life in the United States. Terms used in travel, politics, and sports are illustrative. In a country as vast as the United States, travel has played an important role. Although the prairie schooner or covered wagon is a thing of the past, and railroads as means of carrying passengers are now giving way to automobiles and airplanes, American English retains expressions from early railroading such as "milk train," now denoting a slow method of travel, and "jerkwater," a descriptive epithet for a small unimportant town, at one time a town where the train stopped to take on water that was carried to it in buckets.

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Among terms which grew out of American political activities are "lame duck," (someone remaining in office until the end of the term for which he is elected, although his successor has been chosen) "dark horse," (a term from horse racing to designate an unexpected winner), and "carpetbagger," a person who moves into a community from outside and attempts to make a profit or change legislation to suit his purposes. This term grew up in the late 1860s after the War Between the States, when many Northerners moved to the South, taking with them their possessions in a bag made out of a carpet.

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Given the American love of sports, it is not surprising that many figures of

65 speech in the United States stem from the baseball diamond, the football field, the boxing ring, or the card table. Although originally used in sports, many of these expressions have become commonplace in other areas of living. If someone “goes to bat” for you, he helps you out of a bad situation. The businessman who has been deceived in a transaction may accuse the deceiver of “throwing me a curve ball.”

70 The executive, in assigning duties in the firm, may ask someone to “carry the ball” in a given matter. He may indicate negative results in a venture by saying, “We couldn’t even get to first base,” or “We were struck out before we even got started.” “Hit and run,” borrowed from baseball, has been applied to automobile drivers who leave the scene of an accident which they have caused. “Kickoff,” the first play in a football game, has come to mean the start of anything; for instance, there are kickoff breakfasts to start charity drives. A “knockout,” a term in boxing meaning to knock unconscious, probably has been applied more to women as a term of flattery than it has been used in the ring. “Throw in the sponge,” also from boxing, is in universal use as indication of giving up or surrendering. “He’s on the ropes” also indicates a person who is almost defeated. “Give him some line,” from fishing, means to let someone have his way temporarily in order to outwit him finally; “reel him in” is used in many situations to indicate victory. “To call someone’s bluff” stems from poker; “I pass,” “The cards were stacked against us,” and “I have an ace up my sleeve” are other common expressions coming from card games.

85 National traits or habits of thinking and acting are reflected in the language. Americans have sometimes had a reputation for always being in a hurry, perhaps as a result of the fact that at one time there was much to be done in a new country and there was a sense of immediacy about doing it. In this modern age this trait may characterize people throughout the world, particularly in big cities. A reflection of it in language is the use of abbreviations. The Englishman has his “telly” (television) and his “fridge” (refrigerator) —abbreviations not commonly used in the United States. But the American puts “gas” (gasoline) in his car, goes to the “movies” (moving pictures), and drinks a “coke” (Coca-Cola). A student at an American university may study “math” (mathematics) or “trig” (trigonometry), or perhaps specialize in “soc” (sociology) or “edpsych” (educational psychology), and go to the “gym” (gymnasium) for a “PE” (physical education) class. Perhaps the most common American abbreviation is the ubiquitous “OK” known from Berlin to Bangkok, from Manila to Rio.² Sometimes it seems to be the one term that a foreign visitor to America feels secure in using. Many sources of its origin have been suggested, the most common of which is that it is a humorous abbreviation for “all correct.”

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The informality of Americans is another trait sometimes commented on. There

is a freedom in use of language. Americans may be generally less concerned with the fine distinctions between terms such as “rather than” as opposed to “instead of” or “lend” as opposed to “loan” than are their British cousins. Yet along with this informality there has been in America a glorification of the commonplace that perhaps reflects a longing for the niceties of European civilization that were not found in the rough, new world. In the past century it was customary for small towns to have an “opera house,” though few ever had grand opera performed in them; the local gathering place for the consumption of alcoholic beverages was the “saloon,” adapted from the French “salon” or drawing room. A liking for titles is seen in the use of terms “professor” and “doctor” not only on college campuses but in situations less appropriate as well. Occupations take on Latinized names. Thus there are “morticians,” “beauticians” and “cosmeticians.” A refuse collector becomes a “sanitary engineer.” There is a yearning to be citified as a mark of refinement. In a society based on farming, the noon meal was the large meal of the day and was called “dinner” while the term “supper” was reserved for a lighter meal in the evening. In the cities, however, dinner was served in the evening, and it was considered countrified or “small town” to speak of dinner in the middle of the day. Though language is often informal in the U.S.A., correctness in grammatical form (as legislated by grammar books) or in pronunciation and usage (as legislated by the dictionary) has among some people been a matter of great concern, as “good English” is considered a means of moving upward in a socially mobile society.

Americans historically pride themselves on “Yankee ingenuity” and the inventive quality of American English has been taken as an example. The word “Yankee” itself is reported to come from “Jan Kees,” a Dutch pirate and was first applied by the English to the Dutch settlers in New York, though it somehow shifted later to refer to the English. Ingenuity is seen in the exaggeration upon which the American “tall tale” or frontier humor story depends, and in such mouth-filling terms as “gobble-dygook” (nonsense), or “rapscallion” (rogue), or the somewhat out-of-date comparison “knee-high to a grasshopper” to describe a small child. More recent vivid coinages are “carhop” (a waitress at a drive in restaurant), “rat race,” applied to the complications of daily living, or “striptease,” used in a burlesque show.

H. L. Mencken³ in his *The American Language* maximizes the inventiveness of American English. Whenever the British and Americans, he says, have created a new word, the American one is better. For an automobile he believes that “hood” is better than “bonnet,” “gas” better than “petrol,” and the American “billboard” is a better term for the roadside advertising device than the British “hoarding.” Which term is “better” is, of course a matter of opinion. While Americans have been linguistically inventive and have spread their language to other parts of the world, new

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uses of words have developed in Britain as well. Much of the present youth culture has owed its impetus to Britain, and much of its influence on vocabulary has crossed the Atlantic in a westerly direction. In the nineteenth century Noah Webster, the American lexicographer, conceived of an American language that would be "as different from the future language of England as modern Dutch, Danish, and Swedish are from each other." This prediction has not come to pass. American and British books are read equally freely on either side of the Atlantic. Mass communication and ease of travel are breaking down differences within a language. Yet language still provides a mirror of aspects of life in the U.S.A.

New Words

intertwine /,inte'twain/	vt. & vi.	twine or twist together 缠绕在一起
bounteous /'bauntɪəs/	a.	abundant, generous
derogatory /di'rɒgətəri/	a.	degrading 降低 (价值) 的
jukebox /'dʒu:kɒks/	n.	coin-operated record-player 自动电唱机
individualistic /'ɪndɪ,vɪdʒuəlɪstɪk/	a.	of individualism or its principle 个人主义的; 利己主义的; 有个性的
creek /kri:k/	n.	small river
gulch /gʌltʃ/	n.	deep, narrow, rocky valley 峡谷
gully /'gʌli/	n.	narrow channel cut or formed by rain water 水冲沟; 溪谷
bluff /blʌf/	n.	headland with a broad and very steep face; threats 伸入海中的悬崖绝壁; 威胁
chipmunk /'tʃɪpmʌŋk/	n.	花栗鼠
woodchuck /'wʊdʃʌk/	n.	土拨鼠类
skunk /skʌŋk/	n.	臭鼬
hickory /'hɪkəri/	n.	山胡桃树
transact /træn'zækt/	vt.	conduct, carry through (business, etc., with sb.) 办理; 处理; 执行 (事务等, 与 with 连用, 后接某人)
prairie /preəri/	n.	wide area of level land with grass 草原
schooner /'sku:nə/	n.	美国拓荒者乘用的大篷车
picturesque /pɪktʃə'resk/	a.	vivid, graphic 生动的, 形象的
jerkwater /dʒɜ:kwɔ:tə/	n.	支线专用的火车
epithet /epɪθet/	n.	adjective expressing a quality; word added to a name 表示性质、特征的形容词, 附于人名后的

carpetbagger /kɑ:pɪtbægə/	n.	的描述词 冒险家; 不受欢迎的外来者
commonplace /kɒmənpleɪs/	n.	event, remark etc, that is ordinary or usual
transaction /træn'zækʃən/	n.	conducting; carrying through (business, etc., with sb.) 办理; 处理; 执行
given /gɪvən/	prep.	if one takes into account
flattery /flæteri/	n.	insincere praise
outwit /aʊt'wɪt/	vt.	get the better of by being cleverer 智胜
reel /ri:l/	vt.	收 (钓鱼竿上的线轴)
poker /pəʊkə/	n.	American card game
stack /stæk/	vt. & vi.	arrange secretly for cheating 洗牌作弊
abbreviation /ə'bri:vɪ'eɪʃən/	n.	short form (esp of a word)
ubiquitous /ju:'bɪkwɪtəs/	a.	present everywhere
informality /,ɪnfə:'mæltɪ/	n.	being informal
glorification /,glɔ:rɪfɪ'keɪʃən/	n.	giving honor and glory to 赞美
nicety /'naɪsɪti/	n.	[常作 niceties] pleasant things or characteristics
Latinized /lætɪnaɪzɪd/	a.	being given a Latin form 译成拉语的
alcoholic /,ælkə'hɒlɪk/	a.	of or containing alcohol 酒精的; 含酒精的
saloon /sə'lu:n/	n.	place where alcoholic drinks may be bought and drunk
mortician /mɔ:'tɪʃən/	n.	one whose business is to prepare the dead for burial and to arrange and manage the funerals 殡仪人员
beautician /bjə'tɪʃən/	n.	a person who gives beauty treatments 美容师
cosmetician /,kɒzme'tɪʃən/	n.	a person who is professionally trained for the use of cosmetics 化妆师
sanitary /sænɪteri/	a.	of, concerned with the protection of health
yearning /'jɜ:nɪŋ/	n.	strong desire
cityfy /'sɪtɪfaɪ/	vt.	cause to take on characteristics of cities 使城市化
refinement /rɪ'faɪnmənt/	n.	被改良; 精妙形式; 精妙区别
Yankee /'jæŋki/	n.	native of New England
ingenuity /ɪndʒɪ'nju:ɪti/	n.	originality in design 创造力; 设计才能
pirate /'paɪəɪt/	n.	sea-robber
mouth-filling /maʊθ'fɪlɪŋ/	a.	夸大的
rapscallion /ræp'skæljən/	n.	(AE) 坏蛋; 流氓; 恶棍
rogue /rəʊg/	n.	wicked person with no principles 恶棍
grasshopper /grɑ:'shɒpə/	n.	蚱蜢, 蝗虫

coinage /kɔɪnɪdʒ/	n.	a word or phrase recently invented
carhop /'kɑ:hɒp/	n.	(AM) (服务到车的) 路边店服务员
striptease /stripti:z/	n.	脱衣舞
burlesque /bɜ:'lesk/	a.	amusing 滑稽的
hood /hʊd/	n.	hinged cover over the engine of a motor-car (发动机) 罩
bonnet /'bɒnɪt/	n.	(BE) a metal lid over the front of a car
billboard /'bɪlbɔ:d/	n.	a large panel designed to carry outdoor advertising 广告牌
hoarding /'hɔ:diŋ/	n.	(BE) a high fence or board on which large advertisements are stuck
impetus /'ɪmpɪtəs/	n.	impulse, driving force
lexicographer /,leksɪ'kɒgrəfə/	n.	person who compiles a dictionary

Phrases & Expressions

stem from	come from
come to pass	happen, become true
land office business	生意兴隆
stamping ground	常去之处
lame duck	再竞选失败的现任国会议员 (尤指众议院议员)
dark horse	a competitor who may be successful although not much is known about him
throw sb. a curve ball	欺骗某人
carry the ball	<i>inf.</i> to have the chief post; have most work
cards are stacked against sb.	对某人极为不利
have an ace up one's sleeve	获有重要消息或论据
call someone's bluff	tell someone who is deceiving by pretending to be surer of the truth, etc., than one is; do what he threatens to do, guessing that he will not be able to do. 揭穿某人的虚伪; 促使某人实行他所威胁着要做的事

Proper Names

Gullah /gʌlə/	(美国东部的) 嘎勒英语
South Carolina /sauθkærə'laɪnə/	南卡罗来纳 (美国州名)
New Orleans /nju:'ɔ:lienz/	a city and port in the south of the U.S.A. 新奥尔良

Bangkok /bəŋ'kɒk/

capital of Thailand曼谷

Manila /mə'nɪlə/

capital of Philippines马尼拉

Notes

1. This text is selected and excerpted from *Language and Life in the U.S.A.* written by Gladys G. Doty et al, third edition, 1973, New York.
2. Rio: short form for Rio de Janeiro 里约热内卢, a city and port in Brazil.
3. H. L. Mencken (1880-1956): a central figure in American intellectual life during the 1920s. His monumental but highly entertaining study, *The American Language*, which appeared in 1919, is still an outstanding work of philological scholarship. The book contrasted American English slang expressions examined uniquely American geographical and personal names, and traced the influence of immigrant languages on the American idioms.

Exercises

Part One

Comprehension of the Text

I. Multiple Choice:

1. In the U.S.A. the relationship between language and culture can generally be considered as _____.
A. separated
B. linked together closely
C. one controlling another
D. having nothing to connect with each other
2. Borrowings from other languages took place in American English primarily as a result of _____.
A. contact with American Indians
B. contact with other countries
C. the explorations of the French and Spanish in the New World
D. the languages brought from their homelands by settlers from countries other than England
3. English is commonly regarded as the official language of the U.S.A. because _____.
A. compared with other languages, English is easier to learn
B. the British government forced the American people to speak it