

ENGLISH FOR  
GRADUATE STUDENTS

# 研究生英语 (上)

赵珏 鲁人 王敬华 郭素娟

自学手册

北京大学出版社

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## Foreword

This book is for the use of those who teach English for Graduate Students as well as those who teach themselves English, Book I, published by Peking University Press in 1987.

In correspondence with the students' book, the teacher's book consists of ten Units, each of which has four sections. Section 1 deals with the additional background which supplements the background notes provided in the textbook, and gives the explanation of the text. Detailed explanation is given on points that constitute comprehension or language problems for teachers' reference. It might be advisable to have the students look up some of the items before coming to class. Section 2 contains the keys to the exercises and possible answers to the questions on the text and suggested translated versions. In Section 3, apart from the keys to the reading exercises, there is usually a passage for special dictation. Section 4 consists of the key to the sentence-combining exercise and a sample précis and a possible summary of the text.

Our suggestion is that group work and pair work be carried out in teaching each unit. In the groups the students should not work individually. Encourage the students to discuss the language points without interrupting and giving correct answers. Let the class reason and then

guide them. This will avoid straight lecturing by a teacher in class.

Zhu En-huai has made some contributions to the compiling of the book. Besides Yantai University's Yang En-tang, Fei Ya-fu and foreign teacher Tim Lott have provided some of the translations of the texts, answers to the questions on the text, précis and summaries. Marian Andersen, John Pellowe and Christopher Lynch, foreign teachers of the Graduate School of Peking University, have read and checked all of the final manuscript. We hereby express our thanks to all of them.

Zhao Lian, Lu Ren,  
Wang Jing-hua, Guo Su-juan  
December 15, 1986

## Contents

<b>Unit One</b> .....	( 1 )
Text: The Computer Society: Business	
Section 1 Aids to Study.....	( 1 )
Section 2 Suggested Answers and Keys to the General Exercises.....	( 5 )
Section 3 Reading Exercises.....	(11)
Section 4 Writing Exercises.....	(12)
课文参考译文.....	(16)
<b>Unit Two</b> .....	(22)
Text: The adventures of Tom Sawyer	
Section 1 Aids to Study.....	(22)
Section 2 Suggested Answers and Keys to the General Exercises.....	(32)
Section 3 Reading Exercises .....	(36)
Section 4 Writing Exercises.....	(37)
课文参考译文.....	(42)
<b>Unit Three</b> .....	(46)
Text: Why Are You Laughing?	
Section 1 Aids to Study.....	(46)
Section 2 Suggested Answers and Keys to the General Exercises.....	(56)
Section 3 Reading Exercises.....	(61)
Section 4 Writing Exercises.....	(61)
课文参考译文.....	(65)

**Unit Four** ..... (69)

**Text:** Life on Other Planets

**Section 1** Aids to Study..... (69)

**Section 2** Suggested Answers and Keys to the  
General Exercises..... (73)

**Section 3** Reading Exercises..... (78)

**Section 4** Writing Exercises..... (79)

课文参考译文..... (84)

**Unit Five** ..... (88)

**Text:** Newspapers in the Capitalist World

**Section 1** Aids to Study..... (88)

**Section 2** Suggested Answers and Keys to the  
General Exercises..... (91)

**Section 3** Reading Exercises..... (97)

**Section 4** Writing Exercises..... (98)

课文参考译文..... (103)

**Unit Six** ..... (105)

**Text:** Notes from the Underground

**Section 1** Aids to Study..... (105)

**Section 2** Suggested Answers and Keys to the  
General Exercises..... (108)

**Section 3** Reading Exercises..... (113)

**Section 4** Writing Exercises..... (114)

课文参考译文..... (118)

**Unit Seven** ..... (122)

**Text:** The Enormous Radio

**Section 1** Aids to Study..... (122)

**Section 2** Suggested Answers and Keys to the  
General Exercises..... (125)

Section 3	Reading Exercises.....	(128)
Section 4	Writing Exercises.....	(130)
	课文参考译文.....	(134)
<b>Unit Eight</b>		(146)
	Text: Taking a Bite Out of the Big Apple	
Section 1	Aids to Study.....	(146)
Section 2	Suggested Answers and Keys to the General Exercises.....	(155)
Section 3	Reading Exercises.....	(160)
Section 4	Writing Exercises.....	(161)
	课文参考译文.....	(165)
<b>Unit Nine</b>		(170)
	Text: The Sun and Beyond	
Section 1	Aids to Study.....	(170)
Section 2	Suggested Answers and Keys to the General Exercises.....	(186)
Section 3	Reading Exercises.....	(190)
Section 4	Writing Exercises.....	(191)
	课文参考译文.....	(195)
<b>Unit Ten</b>		(203)
	Text: Science in the Capitalist World	
Section 1	Aids to Study.....	(203)
Section 2	Suggested Answers and Keys to the General Exercises.....	(206)
Section 3	Reading Exercises.....	(211)
Section 4	Writing Exercises.....	(212)
	课文参考译文.....	(217)

## Unit One

**Text: The Computer Society: Business**

### Section 1 Aids to Study

#### Detailed Notes

1. **TIME:** It is an American weekly newsmagazine. It is a well-known magazine and has a large circulation all over the world.
2. **The Computer Society: Business:** This is a special article first presented by TIME, February 20, 1978. It consists of several reports and our text is one of them intended to explain that the miracle chip is revolutionizing the world of business and its potential for future is unlimited.
3. No one ... the businessman: (Para.1) The sentence structure (nothing or no + more + than) used in this sentence expresses the superlative degree, meaning in Chinese 最, 莫过于. Businessmen were among the first to adopt the computer.
4. Now ... these versatile machines have become the galley slaves of capitalism: (Para.1) Note the analog. Computers in modern times are compared to galley slaves in the ancient Greek or Roman society. In this sense, the author wants to convey the idea that computers are to capitalism what galley slaves are to the ancient Greek or Roman society.

5. credit card: (Para.1) a card provided by a business firm allowing the holder to obtain any services without payment of cash, the cost being charged to his account and paid later.
6. In many industries ... the companies sell:(Para.1)  
In this sentence, "the companies sell" is an attributive clause used to limit the noun products. And the relative pronoun is omitted. It is a common occurrence to omit the relative pronoun in modern English.
7. Only ... the computer industry:(Para.2) Pay attention to the definite article "the" . The computer industry here in fact means the real major computer company.
8. peripheral equipment: (Para.2) in computer technology, a device or unit operating outside of a computer but connected to it.
9. mainframe:(Para.2) The device within a computer which contains the central control and arithmetic units.
10. Far from ... obsolete: (Para.3) This phrase, in our text, means rather than or instead of.
  - (1) Far from admiring his paintings, I dislike them intensely.
  - (2) Many workers in the industrialized countries, far from enjoying the benefits of automation, are thrown out of work as a result of its introduction.

In this usage, the phrase is followed by a gerundial

phrase. In some cases, it can precede an adjective or an adverb.

(3) Our experience is far from adequate (*adj.*) .

(4) Our power plant is not far from here(*adv.*) .

11. software: (Para.4) the designs, instructions, routines, and other printed matter, required for the operation of a computer or other automatic machines.
12. Explain<sup>r</sup> Richard Melon...“...publishing industry.”: (Para.4) Here the predicate “explains” is placed before the subject because the subject is followed and limited by an appositive. In doing so, the separation of the subject and the predicate is avoided. And when the journalist reports what the others say, the simple present tense is often used. This is the manner of writing of newspaper language.
13. hi-fi: (Para.4) equipment for sound reproduction over the full range of audible frequencies with little distortion of the original signal, high fidelity, very sensitive.
14. microelectronics: (Para.5) a branch of electronics dealing with microminiaturization, and the making of mini electrical apparatuses using very small parts.
15. miracle chip: (Para.6) referring to the integrated circuits prepared on a very thin piece of silicon, which are capable of accomplishing incredible tasks.
16. buggy whips: (Para.6) Buggies were used before

motor vehicles came into use, and whips are used for urging horses. Here "buggy whips" means the things or products made obsolete by the miracle chip.

17. Achilles' heel: (Para.7) also the heel of Achilles. Small but weak or vulnerable point, esp., in somebody's character. Achilles was a hero of the Trojan War, son of Peleus and Thetis; killed by Paris with a poisoned arrow that pierced his heel where his mother had held him in infancy when she plunged him into the Styx to make him invulnerable. Hence, Achilles' heel means the small but vulnerable part or spot.

18. challenge: (Para.7) This is a very meaningful word widely used in EST. It is frequently used together with the following verbs:

to accept the challenge	负责解决问题
to face the challenge	遇到问题
to issue the challenge	提出任务
to meet the challenge	满足要求; 完成任务
to offer the challenge	提出任务; 展现前景

When it is used as a verb, it means calling somebody to compete against one, esp., in a fight, match, etc.

I challenged him to a game of tennis.

challenging: a. causing competitive interest of thought or great interest.

His new book is full of challenging ideas.

She is a challenging woman.

19. burglar alarm: (Para.11) an apparatus that makes

- a loud warning noise when a thief breaks into a building.
20. fire alarm: (Para. 11) an apparatus for giving a signal to warn people of fire.
21. petty cash: (Para. 13) an amount of money kept ready in an office for making small payments

## Section 2 Suggested Answers and Keys to the General Exercises

### A. Answers to the Questions on the Text

1. In the automobile industry, computers are used to help in the design of automobiles and are used to predict sales, too. In some cases, computers electronically control the ignition systems.
2. The miracle chip has stimulated the computer industry by lowering the cost, and increasing the power of today's computer.
3. The term "economies of scale" means that it becomes cheaper to produce goods in greater numbers, which is the case with chips since most of the cost of a chip is in its design and development.
4. Chip makers face the danger that they may create more and more powerful chips than the computer industry can absorb.
5. Sales of computers in the area of office equipment are growing at the rate of 40% per annum.
6. Computer crime is thought to be a large potential problem because it is increasing very quickly, and is very difficult to detect.

7. When American companies were slow to recognize the impact of transistors and semiconductors, Japanese manufacturers gained a large portion of the U.S. color television market.
8. From 1974 to the time of writing of the article, Japanese imports increased by eight times.
9. Thomas says that the most exciting applications of computers will likely take place when the present generation of high school students who are used to computers grow up to become tomorrow's engineers.
10. ... slip through its fingers; the expression means that the industry may not keep a firm grip upon the opportunity presented to it, and thus the opportunity will slip through its fingers and be lost.

## B. Learn about Words

### 1. Verb-noun Matchings

- |                         |                               |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (1) reserve a seat      | (2) process information       |
| (3) create a market     | (4) face a challenge          |
| (5) open the way for    | (6) take the lead             |
| (7) acquire a computer  | (8) lower the cost            |
| (9) perform the task    | (10) sign contracts           |
| (11) invest 200 million | (12) receive a telephone call |

### 3. Words or expressions of similar meaning:

- (1) meanwhile — at the same time
- (2) in fact — for all practical purposes
- (3) startling — astonishing
- (4) exceed — surpass

- (5) entire — whole
- (6) maker — manufacturer
- (7) lead to — give rise to
- (8) absorb — gobble up
- (9) recognize — see something as
- (10) mightiest — most powerful
- (11) transform into — turn into
- (12) intricate — complex
- (13) cut prices — lower cost
- (14) regulate — control
- (15) upward of — more than

### C. A Translated Chinese Version for Your Reference

1. 最热切地从事计算机，或最先看到其用途的莫过于企业家。
2. 在民航工业中，计算机能预定大型喷气式客机机票，用信用卡付机票钱，以及使飞机自行飞行。
3. 集成线路片不仅没有使大型计算机过时，反而为商用超级计算机设计开辟了道路，而这些超级计算机功率比几年前所能梦想到的都大。
4. 本杰明·罗森把集成线路片看作是我们时代的主要技术进展。
5. 集成线路片虽然仍处在幼年时期，它却导致出现了这个国家所看到的竞争力最令人吃惊的、发展速度最快的工业之一。
6. 迄今为止，将近85%的工业产品都是在零售市场上推销的，这些产品主要是电视游戏机，数字显示手表以及计算器。
7. 用户每月大约缴纳100美元的电话费，就能把电话机随身携带到巴尔的摩特区的任何地方。如果需要的

话，在他们沿街漫步时就可以打电话或接电话。

8. 由于大型计算机每秒运转费用为几十乃至几百美元，未经许可为私人目的使用计算机，也是一种盗窃。
9. 对美国企业家来说，一个更大的危险是他们可能跟不上神奇集成线路片所带来的产品革新的步伐。
10. 最振奋人心的应用，只有到了现在仍在中学读书并随袖珍计算器和家用计算机一起成长的少年们变成了八、九十年代的工程师时才会到来。

**D. A Translated English Version for Your Reference**

1. Lu Xun gave up medicine and took to literary work.
2. Once a person takes to smoking it's usually difficult to give it up.
3. Changes in temperature may give rise to changes in the length of the bar.
4. I can't account for his failure.
5. The driver's carelessness accounts for this traffic accident.
6. Hilly areas account for upward of 15% of this country's cultivated land.
7. The industrial output increased 25 percent or so last year.
8. He has a host of (hosts of) friends.
9. They started as simple farmers and wound up as millionaires.
10. As time is running short, I'll wind up my speech now.
11. You must look to the east for the rising sun.
12. We looked toward the door as it opened slowly.

13. An able young man is ashamed to look to others for help.
14. He was a writer in his own right.
15. The cost of repairs will amount to three hundred yuan.

#### E. Key to the Cloze Test

1. (1) in (2) Your (3) up (4) out (5) Although (6) As (7) for (8) has (9) for (10) and (11) At (12) that (13) where (14) on (15) off (16) and (17) Is (18) all (19) many (20) they (21) where (22) at (23) up (24) if (25) in (26) that (27) with (28) much (29) of (30) of (31) how (32) into (33) from (34) than (35) by (36) before (37) by
2. (38) back (39) before (40) represent (41) even (42) and (43) of (44) from (45) interested (46) as (47) in (48) were (49) for (50) and (51) preserved (52) made (53) In (54) from (55) to (56) for (57) because (58) to (59) for (60) in (61) of (62) in addition (63) because (64) invented (65) so (66) to (67) It (68) in (69) up

#### F. Correct the mistakes:

	<i>wrong</i>	<i>right</i>
Para. 1	his	its
	economical	economically
	unreliably	unreliable
	soundly	sound
	a	an