

大学英语系列教材

新编

大学英语阅读教程

New College English Reading
Book II

—进阶篇

总主编 傅勇林

副总主编 唐跃勤 欣 羚

主 编 夏宏钟 杨德洪



高等教育出版社
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《新编大学英语阅读教程》是一套以教育部《大学英语课程教学要求》为指导、紧扣大学英语四级机考新题型编写而成的系列阅读教材。全书通过让学生熟悉新题型中的相关语言材料,掌握新题型涉及的词汇,使学生在逐步提高阅读能力及应用能力的同时,适应新题型中的听力测试内容。本套教材适用于各类高校的大学一至四年级学生,适合作为课堂教材或自学材料。

本套教材内容丰富、题材广泛、语言规范、词汇丰富、表达地道并具有启迪意义,力求集可读性、趣味性、实用性、多元性、时代性为一体,帮助学生开阔视野,积累背景知识,提高学习兴趣,从而进一步提升英语阅读能力。

本套教材的编写在总体目标、语言项目、词汇范围和练习方式的编排上按照四级机考新题型要求。全套教材共分四册(基础篇、进阶篇、提高篇和高级篇),通过一至四册的学习,逐步达到大学英语四级考试水平要求。教材每册15个单元,每单元由一篇快速阅读、两篇深度阅读、一篇美文欣赏组成。快速阅读部分旨在培养学生在快速浏览文章的同时,能够迅速准确地抓住文章主要信息,明了作者意图,从而提高学生四级新题型的快速阅读能力。深度阅读部分注重培养学生对文章深层含意的理解,培养学生分析问题和解决问题的能力,提高学生逻辑推理能力。快速阅读和深度阅读均配有与四级考试新题型相关的练习,并附有答案及详解,使学生学练结合,稳固提升英语阅读能力及应用能力。美文欣赏部分则精选适宜学生诵读并且模仿运用的短文名篇,所选篇章语言优美、描述生动、含意深刻、易于背诵,培养学生的语感和对美文的欣赏能力,使学生体会英语文章的精妙所在,提高学生的学习

兴趣。

本教材对各种类型的阅读文章篇幅均有适当控制,如快速阅读基础篇为500~700词,进阶篇为700~900词,提高篇为900~1100词,高级篇为1100~1200词;深度阅读基础篇和进阶篇为在300词左右,提高篇和高级篇为400词左右;美文欣赏基础篇为100词左右,进阶篇在150~260词左右,提高篇和高级篇在300词左右。同时,每篇阅读的生词量控制在4%~5%范围内,这既能扩大学生词汇量,又不使学生感到艰深难懂,降低学习兴趣。

参加《新编大学英语阅读教程》编写的单位有:西南交通大学、四川农业大学、四川理工学院和攀枝花学院。本教材的总主编是西南交通大学的傅勇林教授,副总主编是西南交通大学的唐跃勤教授和欣玲副教授。第一册主编是攀枝花学院的张春教授;第二册主编是四川理工学院的夏宏钟教授;第三册主编是四川农业大学的李清源教授;第四册主编是西南交通大学的易红副教授。参加编写人员还有上述大学的多位资深教授和中青年骨干教师,在此谨表示感谢。

由于编者的水平有限,错误和缺点在所难免,衷心欢迎广大读者批评指正。

编 者

2009年7月

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Unit One

Part I Skimming and Scanning

Kids Enjoy Eureka Moment

Annual invention awards are encouraging China's youth to be creative and develop a wide range of devices.

Like a doctor of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM), Dong Ao, 17, attaches a vibrating device on a tester's hand with tape. It is linked to a plastic cup by an electric wire. Dong covers the vibrating (颤动, 振动) device with the cup and creates a vacuum so the cup sticks tightly to the skin. When Dong turns on the circuit, the tester says he feels a gentle vibration in the cupped area.

This interesting device that combines TCM's traditional therapies of acupuncture (针灸) and cupping (拔火罐) gained Dong, a high school student from Xiangtan, Hunan Province, a national patent and several awards, including a silver medal at the 6th Soong Ching Ling Awards for Children's Invention, granted recently in Beijing.

Many Chinese complain that their education system focuses only on academic scores and leaves little room for students to develop their imagination or teamwork. Yet young inventors like Dong have proven otherwise.

"These young inventors are down-to-earth and sensitive to environmental changes," says Lu Dahan, secretary of the China Association of Inventions, one of

the organizers of this year's prize.

The awards were set up in 2001 by the China Soong Ching Ling Foundation to encourage children's creativity, practice and scientific interests. A total of 300 students from across the country were given prizes this year. Their ingenious inventions reflect wide enthusiasm for energy-saving, environmental protection, health and transportation.

Lu says that one third of this year's prizewinners have received national patents.

"The students have stood out by solving environmental problems with limited knowledge, but wild imaginations," Lu says. "They are not only exhibiting their intelligence, but also their concern for a better society in the future."

Dong grew up with a love of planes, missiles and spaceships. He was inspired during a trip with his mother to a hospital last October. His mother suffers from lumbago (腰痛) and receives acupuncture and fire cupping regularly. Dong wondered if he could help his mother save time and recover sooner with something that could combine the effects of the two treatments.

He talked about it with his classmate Luo Qianyu and they gained support from their parents and teachers.

Dong learnt about acupuncture and cupping from his mom's doctor, who is an acupuncture expert. With a vibrating device removed from an old cell phone, they created a similar effect to acupuncture needles being inserted into certain points to relieve pain.

They also bought a plastic fire cup and a suction pump. Guided by their physics teacher, the pair put the wire through the cup and linked it to the vibrating device.

"It cost us some 200 yuan (\$29) and several weekends. My mom tested the cup and has been using it," Dong says.

His mother also took it to her doctor, who wrote a recommendation for the students when they applied for a patent with the State Intellectual Property Office earlier this year.

Gan Zifan, whose "life headgear" was one of 30 gold medal winners of the Awards, also set to work with a sincere concern for bettering, or even saving people's lives.

In a safety education class, the teenage girl heard that a lot of fire accident victims suffocated to death because of inhaling smoke.

Gan learned that covering one's mouth and nose with a wet handkerchief of towel would solve the problem.

"But the truth is people are too scared and rushed to remember that when a fire happen," she says.

Gan and her schoolmates He Siyu and Yu Lei did some research and found that some Japanese schools require students to carry a handkerchief with them at all times. But the students believed there was a better solution.

They made a model "life headgear" out of a bright orange towel. They cut a rectangle on the upper part of the front piece, then sewed a transparent plastic section over a hole, so that one can see.

They put the headgear into a bag with a sachet(小袋) of water, then put the package in a drawer stuck to the chair. In an emergency, students take out the bag and press hard to break the water bag and wet the headgear.

"When students wear the headgear, their heads are protected from fire, smoke and gas," Gan says.

Gan hopes the headgear can be promoted to other schools, with modifications like fixing a small light to the top of the headgear.

"It is a good start for these young inventors to have won awards," says Lu Dahan. "What they need to do is to keep learning and observing."

(804 words)

Directions: Go over the passage quickly and answer the following questions.

For questions 1 ~ 7, mark

Y for YES, if the statement agrees with the information;

N for NO, if the statement contradicts the information;

NG for NOT GIVEN, if there is no information on this in the text.

For questions 8 ~ 10, complete the sentences with the information given in the passage.

1. _____ When the circuit is turned on, the tester says he feels a violent vibration in the cupped area.
2. _____ The invention has gained Dong Ao a lot of money.
3. _____ Chinese education system focuses only on academic scores and leaves little room for students to develop their imagination or team work.
4. _____ The young inventors like Dong Ao are always practical and also caring for the surroundings.
5. _____ The young inventors' ingenious inventions reflect their wide enthusiasm for every field.
6. _____ Most of the prizewinners of this year have not received national patents.
7. _____ A lot of fire accident victims were killed because of lack of air.
8. According to the passage, by _____ the traditional therapies of acupuncture and cupping, we can help patients save time and recover sooner.
9. According to the author, students' _____ should be encouraged.
10. When people wear the "life headgear" in a fire accident, _____ can be kept away from them.

Part II Reading in Depth

Directions: There are 2 passages in this part. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them there are four choices marked A, B, C, and D. You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter with a single line through the center.

Passage 1

Enjoying a cup of coffee while reading this article? Do you avoid caffeinated coffee because of its health effects? Read on and ease your anxiety.

Coffee is the beverage of choice for millions around the world. The cafe is an

almost entirely North American and European trend. In areas of the Middle East, Africa, South America and Asia, coffee is seen as something more *akin* to cigarettes, and is drunk while socializing or doing other things, rather than being an end unto itself. Now in China, more and more people are delighted by the special flavor of coffee.

Aside from tasting good (and smelling even better) , coffee is believed to have a number of health benefits. According to research funded by the American Cocoa Research Institute, coffee drinkers appear to have higher levels of antioxidants than those who don't drink the beverage. Antioxidants help the body ward off harmful free radicals, which can damage cells and DNA. Studies have shown antioxidants to have a number of other health benefits, including protection against heart disease. Statistics from Harvard Health Publications say that coffee may reduce the risk of developing gallstones, discourage the development of colon cancer, improve cognitive functions, reduce the risk of liver damage in people at high risk for liver disease, and reduce the risk of Parkinson's disease. Coffee has also been shown to improve endurance performance in long-duration physical activities.

If you are a coffee lover, now relax and enjoy your coffee!

Tips for those who have sleep deprivation to stay alert. New research suggests that you'll stay more alert, particularly if you are fighting sleep deprivation. The caffeine in coffee raises your blood pressure, so if you are going to drink a lot of coffee, choose decaf(脱咖啡因咖啡). Decaf has the same antioxidant benefits as regular coffee.

After all, moderation is the key.

1. In the third sentence of Para. 2, "akin" means _____.
 - A. dangerous
 - B. safe
 - C. similar
 - D. delicious
2. According to the passage, coffee has a number of health benefits because _____.

- A. it tastes good
 - B. it helps people have high level of antioxidants
 - C. it smells good
 - D. it keeps drinkers alert
3. According to the passage, which statement is true?
- A. If you drink more coffee, you'll have a high risk of heart disease.
 - B. If you drink more coffee, you'll have more chance to have cancers.
 - C. If you drink more coffee, it's easy for you to have Parkinson's disease.
 - D. If you drink more coffee, you'll be healthier.
4. The author's attitude toward coffee is _____.
- A. positive
 - B. negative
 - C. neutral
 - D. indifferent
5. What is the best title for this passage?
- A. Coffee Tastes Good.
 - B. Coffee's Benefits.
 - C. Don't Drink Coffee.
 - D. Enjoy Your Cup of Coffee.

Passage 2

Cell phone calls distract drivers far more than even the chattiest passenger, causing drivers to follow too closely and miss exits, US researchers reported yesterday.

Using a hands-free device does not make things better and the researchers believe they know why — passengers act as a second set of eyes, shutting up or sometimes even helping when they see the driver needs to make a maneuver(车辆的机动动作).

The research, published in the *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Applied*, adds to a growing body of evidence that mobile phones can make driving dangerous.

Lee Strayer of the University of Utah and colleagues have found in a series of experiments using driving simulators (模拟装置) that hands-free cell phones are just as distracting as handheld models.

They have demonstrated that chatting on a cell phone can slow the reaction times of young adult drivers to levels seen among senior citizens, and shown that drivers using mobile telephones are as impaired (损害) as drivers who are legally drunk.

For the latest study, also using a simulator, Strayer's team showed that drivers using a hands-free device drifted out of their lanes and missed exits more frequently than drivers talking to a passenger. They tested 96 adults aged 18 to 49.

"The passenger adds a second set of eyes, and helps the driver navigate and reminds them where to go," Strayer said in a statement.

"When you take a look at the data, it turns out that a driver conversing with a passenger is not as impaired as a driver talking on a cell phone," he added.

Passengers also simplify conversation when driving conditions change, the researchers wrote.

"The difference between a cell phone conversation and passenger conversation is due to the fact that the passenger is in the vehicle and knows what the traffic conditions are like, and they help the driver by reminding them of where to take an exit and pointing out hazards," Strayer said.

1. From the passage we know cell phone can not make driving _____.
 - A. dangerous
 - B. safe
 - C. sad
 - D. pleasant
2. According to the passage, which of the following statements is true?
 - A. Hands-free phones and handheld models are equally distracting.
 - B. Hands-free phones are more distracting than handheld models.
 - C. Handheld phones are more distracting than hands-free models.
 - D. Neither hands-free phones nor handheld models are distracting.

3. By saying "The passenger adds a second set of eyes", it means _____.
 - A. the passengers have a second set of eyes
 - B. the driver has two sets of eyes
 - C. the passengers can observe road conditions and help the driver be alert to dangers
 - D. the passengers add dangers to the driving
4. The word "hazards" in "they help the driver by reminding them of where to take an exit and pointing out hazards" means _____.
 - A. winding road
 - B. paths
 - C. directions
 - D. dangers
5. The researchers want to tell us _____.
 - A. not to use cell phones while driving
 - B. to use cell phones while driving
 - C. not to talk with passengers while driving
 - D. to talk with passengers while driving

Part III Appreciation

Feed Your Mind

Hunger of the mind can be actually satiated through extensive reading. Now why reading and not watching TV? Because reading has been the most educative tool used by us right from the childhood. Just like that, to develop other aspects of our life, we have to learn from reading. You have innumerable number of books in this world which will answer all of your "how to?" questions. When you read a book, you not only run your eyes through the lines, but also use your mind to decode it and explain it. The interesting part of a book is stored in your mind like a seed. This seed will be unknowingly used by you in the future to develop new