

高 等 学 校 教 材

# 现代英语教程

# 泛读

总主编 赵国杰  
主 编 陈根发  
李行亮  
宋志勤

3

*Modern  
English Course*

*Extensive Reading*

江西高校出版社

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现代英语教程 泛读(3)

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# 前 言

《现代英语教程》是根据正在编写的新的大学英语教学大纲及江西省大学英语教学的实际需要而编写的。它是江西省大学外语教学协作组一项重要的科研项目。

教材分精读、泛读、口语和听力四种形式,分四级出版,供各校课堂教学及课外活动使用。

本书的编写得到了江西省教育委员会高教一处的大力支持和帮助;全省的各个外语教学单位积极参加编写,成为本书编写的坚强基础和可靠保证。在此一并表示衷心地感谢。

《现代英语教程》编写组

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# Unit 1

## Text A

## Good-Bye

I leaned on the parapet and watched the river flowing under the bridge. The water looked grey and uninviting. Where the end of the bridge met the High Street I could see traces of frost sparkling in the gleam of street lamps. Over there was light and the hint of warmth. Out here on the bridge it was lonely and cold. That was what I wanted. I felt lonely and cold.

I remembered this same scene as it had been in the summer. I remembered my first glimpse of the river. Judy and I had come from the High Street. We had stopped for lunch on our way north and we had wanted a stroll before getting back in the car. We followed the twisting road out beyond the end of the shops and suddenly we were on the bridge.

“Oh look! There’s the river!” said Judy.

“So, it is!” I said.

It was all the more surprising because we had both forgotten that this was a riverside town. To us it was just another place on the map. That day we had not stayed long. We found the place attractive and we wanted to explore, but we did not have the time.

“We’ll come again,” said Judy, “When we have more time to spare.”

We had come again. We made several more visits, most of them fairly short. Then, after certain details had been arranged, we made a longer one. This time we stayed ten years.

Together the two of us had explored the towpath in each direction. Downstream it led, after about a mile, to a tiny lock with heavy wooden gates that strained shut against the current. I tried to explain to Judy how it worked, but she could never really understand. “I can’t see why it’s needed,” she would say, “Why not let the water just flow?”

My son was born in this town. I remember Judy wheeling the pram along the towpath, her skirt flaring in the light breeze. We used to stand on the bank just below Gibson’s jetty and throw stones at pieces of wood drifting by on the current. Then Judy would rummage in the basket attached to the pram and throw stale bread for the ducks. She would always believe that they were hungry, and that they would starve to death if she did not feed them. She would ignore me when I pointed out all the other people doing the same thing. I will never forget those afternoons. The colour of her clothes would

contrast with the white and brown of the ducks, and when she turned to me, her head on one side, I would wish that I had the skill of an artist to capture her, the pram, the ducks and the river and bind them all together for eternity.

But that was the summer and ten years ago. Now the winter had come again. The ducks were supplemented by seagulls fleeing from the coast. The soft green of the trees had changed to wiry branches that snapped in your face as you pushed through them.

I leaned on the parapet and watched the river. It was a different place in the winter. But one day the gulls would leave and return to the sea. One day the trees would soften back into green. One day the summer would transform this river back to the idyll it had been once. At least it would for others. For me the winter had come to stay. I stood back from the bridge parapet and turned my back on the river. I had given ten years of my life to this town. My son had been born here. But now the madness that had engulfed the world had even touched us here down by the river. Summer would come to this spot again, but I would not see it. I would always remember it as I saw it now. For I had matured several years in as many months. And Judy? Well, Judy was dead.

## NEW WORDS

parapet[ 'pærəpɪt ] <i>n.</i>	side of a bridge 桥的两侧栏杆
uninviting[ 'ʌnɪn'vaɪtɪŋ ] <i>adj.</i>	not attractive 无吸引力的, 讨厌的
sparkle[ 'spɑ:kəl ] <i>vi. &amp; vt.</i>	send out flashes of light 闪闪发光, 闪耀
hint[ hɪnt ] <i>n.</i>	slight or indirect indication or suggestion 暗示, 提示
glimpse[ glɪmps ] <i>n.</i>	short look(at sth. or sb.) 一瞥, 瞥见
stroll[ strɔ:l ] <i>n.</i>	quiet unhurried walk 漫步, 闲逛
twist[ twɪst ] <i>vt. &amp; vi.</i>	turn and curve in different directions, change position or direction 盘旋, 迂回
towpath[ 'təʊpɑ:θ ] <i>n.</i>	path along the bank of a river or canal for use in towing 拖船路, 纤路
strain[ streɪn ] <i>vt. &amp; vi.</i>	stretch tightly by pulling(at) 拉紧, 拖紧
pram[ præm ] <i>n.</i>	(short for perambulator) 婴儿车, 童车
flare[ flɛə ] <i>vi.</i>	(of a skirt) spread gradually outwards(衣裙等) 张开
jetty[ 'dʒeti ] <i>n.</i>	a landing place for ship and boats 码头

rummage[ˈrʌmɪdʒ] *vt. & vi.*

turn things over, move things about, while looking for sth. 翻寻, 翻找

stale[steɪl] *adj.*

(of food) dry and unappetizing because not fresh (指食物)不新鲜的, 干瘪无味的

eternity[ɪ(:)ˈtɜːnɪti] *n.*

time without end; the future life 永恒, 不朽; 来生

supplement[ˈsʌplɪmənt] *vt.*

make an addition or addition to 增加, 补充

flee[flɪː] *vi. & vt.*

run or hurry away (from) 逃、逃走; 消失

wiry[ˈwaɪəri] *adj.*

like wire 似金属丝的(本文中意为干枯的)

snap[snæp] *vt. & vi.*

break with a sharp crack; open or close with, make, a sudden, sharp sound 啪的一声折断; 啪的一声关闭或打开; 劈啪地响

gull[gʌl] *n.*

(动)鸥; 易受骗的人, 笨人

engulf[ɪnˈgʌlf] *vt.*

swallow up 吞没; 席卷

idyll[ˈɪdɪl, ˈaɪdɪl] *n.*

short description, usu. in verse, of a simple, scene, esp of country life, period of great peace and hapiness 田园诗; 叙事诗

## PHRASES AND EXPRESSIONS

all the more

越发, 更加

attach sth. to sth.

fasten or join 附上, 加上, 系上, 贴上

point out

指出

be supplemented by

be made an addition to 由……补充

## PROPER NAME

Judy[dʒuːdi]

朱迪(人名)

## NOTES

1. **Where the end of the bridge met the “High Street” I could see traces of frost sparkling in the gleam of street lamps.** 在桥头连接大街的那一端, 可以看到寒霜在路灯的微光下闪烁。
2. **Over there was light and the hint of warmth** This sentence is an inverted sentence. The right order is that light and the hint of warmth was over there.



3. **We followed the twisting road out beyond the end of the shops and suddenly we were on the bridge.** 我们沿着弯弯曲曲的小路走出一排排商店的尽头,一下子就来到桥上。
4. **Down stream it led, after a mile, to a tiny lock with heavy wooden gates that strained shut against the current.** 顺流而下大约一英里处有个小水闸,沉重的木门紧闭着阻断了水流。
5. **But now the madness that had engulfed the world had even touched us here down by the river.** But now the madness had swallowed up the world and have even affected us in the riverside town. 但是现在把全世界都卷进去的那场大疯狂也没有放过居住在这河滨小镇的我们。

## EXERCISES

### I. Comprehension of the Text

Choose the best answer for each of the following.

1. The river water was "grey and uninviting" in the author's eyes, because \_\_\_\_\_.
 

A. it was a cold winter day	B. he was in a gloomy mood
C. he felt happy at the time	D. both A and B
2. The first time the author saw the river was \_\_\_\_\_.
 

A. in the winter ten years ago	B. on his way back home
C. when he passed by the town with Judy	D. when he paid a visit to Judy
3. The following statements are true except that \_\_\_\_\_.
 

A. the author had paid several visits to the place before they settled down there	B. the day when the whole family took a walk along the towpath was unforgettable
C. Judy fed the ducks in the river with fresh bread	D. the author and Judy were fond of the place
4. The author and his family had stayed in the riverside town \_\_\_\_\_.
 

A. for 10 years	B. since his wife's death
C. since his marriage to Judy	D. for 10 months
5. We can learn from the sentence "For me the winter had come to stay." that \_\_\_\_\_.
 

A. winter was his favorite season	B. the death of Judy made his life miserable
C. winter days were too harsh for him to tolerate	D. there was only one season there
6. The term "the madness" in the phrase "The madness that had engulfed the world" probably refers to \_\_\_\_\_.
 

A. a flood	B. a tornado
------------	--------------

- C. a war  
D. a plague
7. The ninth paragraph reveals \_\_\_\_\_ .  
A. the author's love for Judy  
B. the author's dislike for the ducks  
C. the beauty of the river  
D. the author's hope to become an artist
8. The word "supplemented" in the tenth paragraph is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_ .  
A. substituted  
B. replaced  
C. enriched  
D. succeeded

## II. Topics for Discussion

1. Did the author feel happy? Why?
2. What's your attitude towards life?

## III. Vocabulary

1. Choose the definition from Column B that best matches each word in Column A.

A	B
1) uninviting	a. walk
2) hint	b. discover
3) stroll	c. time without end
4) explore	d. uninteresting
5) wiry	e. swallow up
6) eternity	f. a small or indirect suggestion
7) engulf	g. a low wall at the edge of a bridge
8) stale	h. not fresh
9) parapet	i. shining in small flashes
10) sparking	j. like wire

2. Fill in the blanks with the words or phrases given below. Change the forms where necessary.

gleam	contrast	all the more	capture	mature
strain	stroll	hint	snap	engulf

- 1) The letter from my mother made me \_\_\_\_\_ happy because I was homesick.
- 2) The village \_\_\_\_\_ by the flood after three day's of storm.
- 3) She gave him a \_\_\_\_\_ that she didn't love him.
- 4) The blue curtain is in beautiful \_\_\_\_\_ with the white wall.
- 5) It took several years for her ideas to \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6) After a careful investigation, the police \_\_\_\_\_ the criminal at last.
- 7) A \_\_\_\_\_ of pride crossed her face, for she had got the first place in the examination.
- 8) If you \_\_\_\_\_ the rope any more, it will break.

9) The dry wood \_\_\_\_\_ in the fireplace as it burned.

10) We'll go for a \_\_\_\_\_ along the beach if you feel like it.

#### IV. Translation Work

Put the following into Chinese.

I will never forget those afternoons. The colour of her clothes would contrast with the white and brown of the ducks, and when she turned to me, her head on one side, I would wish that I had the skill of an artist to capture her, the pram, the ducks and the river and bind them all together for eternity.

## Text B                      Public Holidays

In England, Christmas Day and Good Friday have been holidays (literally 'Holy Days') for religious reasons since the establishment of Christianity in this country. Christmas is celebrated on December 25, not Christmas Eve as in several other European countries. The other public holidays (or 'Bank Holidays') are Easter Monday, May Day (May 1st), the Spring Bank Holiday (the last Monday in May), the Summer Bank Holiday (the last Monday in August), December 26th (Boxing Day), and New Year's Day. The term 'Bank Holiday' goes back to the Bank Holidays Act of 1871, which owes its name to the fact that banks are closed on the days specified.

Boxing Day takes its name from the old custom of giving employees or tradesmen (such as the milkman) an annual present or 'Christmas box' on that day. It has nothing to do with the sport of boxing. If Christmas Day or Boxing Day falls at the weekend, the weekday which follows December 25th and 26th becomes a Bank Holiday.

Easter Monday is generally regarded as an unofficial consecration of Spring. In many towns there are funfairs with roundabouts, coconut-shies, switchbacks and other amusements. The fair on Hampstead Heath, in the north of London, is particularly famous. Easter Monday used to be the day on which the ladies would parade in the parks, wearing new dresses and hats. Although this custom is dying out, the tradition still provides the ladies with a pretext for buying spring clothes.

The August Bank Holiday is probably the most popular one of the year, partly because it comes at a time when children are not at school. Very many people try to make this a long weekend, and go away to the seaside or the country (as they may indeed have done at Easter or in Spring). The result is that anyone who can manage to take a holiday at another time would be well advised to do so, for the roads get congested with traffic (in England, at the

time for writing, there are more vehicles per mile of road than in any other country).

In recent years, there has been a good deal of talk of creating another Bank Holiday mid-way between August and Christmas, but nothing has yet been done. October would be a good month, as the weather is often very agreeable then. Many people would welcome an extra 'Bank Holiday' or two as England has fewer than most Continental countries.

In Ireland, St. Patrick's Day (March 17th) is also a Bank Holiday. St. Patrick is the Patron Saint of Ireland. It is curious that St. George's Day (April 23rd) is not a public holiday in England, for St. George is the Patron Saint of England, and in addition that day is the anniversary of the birth of the most famous of Englishmen, William Shakespeare. However, the flag of St. George (a red cross on a white background) or the Union Jack is flown on that day, particularly by churches of 'the Church of England'.

The public holidays in Scotland are New Year's Day and the second of January (the third, if the first or second of January is a Sunday), Good Friday, May Day and usually the first Monday in August. There are local variations. New Year's Eve is called Hogmanay in Scotland and is an occasion for much joyous and noisy celebration. It is a Scottish tradition that the first person to cross the threshold of your house on New Year's Day should be dark-haired—such a person brings luck for the coming year. In London, Scottish people gather on the steps of St Paul's Cathedral and sing 'Auld Lang Syne' at midnight. There are also large crowds in Piccadilly Circus and Trafalgar Square, and New Year's Eve is a great occasion for parties and jollity.

## NEW WORDS

literally ['litərəli] <i>adv.</i>	word for word; strictly 照字面意思, 逐字地; 严格地
establishment [is'tæblɪsmənt] <i>n.</i>	establishing or being established 建立, 设立; 确定
specify ['spesɪfaɪ] <i>vt.</i>	state or name definitely, include in the specifications 指定; 详述, 逐一登记
annual ['ænjʊəl] <i>adj.</i>	coming or happening every year, of one year 一年一次的; 一年的
pretext ['prɪːtekst] <i>n.</i>	借口, 托词
funfair ['fʌnfɛə] <i>n.</i>	(英)公共露天娱乐场
roundabout ['raʊndəbaʊt] <i>n.</i>	revolving circular platform with wooden horses,

coconut-shies [ˈkəʊkənʌt-ʃaɪz] <i>n.</i>	etc. on which children ride for fun (at fairs, etc) 旋转木马
switchback [ˈswɪtʃbæk] <i>n.</i>	掷椰子
consecration [kənsəkeɪʃən] <i>n.</i>	railway that twists and turns up and down steep slopes esp the kind seen in amusement 在陡斜坡上盘旋升降的铁道
congest [kənˈdʒest] <i>vt.</i>	圣化仪式
anniversary [ˌæniˈvɜːsəri] <i>n.</i>	fill, overcrowd 充满, 拥挤
variation [ˌvɛəriˈeɪʃən] <i>n.</i>	yearly return of the date of an event; celebration of this 周年纪念日; 周年纪念
threshold [ˈθreʃhəʊld] <i>n.</i>	(degree of) varying or being variant 变异, 差异; 变异的程度
jollity [ˈdʒəlɪti] <i>n.</i>	stone or plank under an outside doorway; part of an entrance over which one must step 门槛, 门口
	state of being jolly 欢乐; 欢宴

## PHRASES AND EXPRESSIONS

have nothing to do with sth.	与……无关
die out	消失, 熄灭
provide sb. with sth.	提供……给……
be/get congested with	充满, 拥挤, 拥塞

## PROPER NAMES

Good Friday	耶稣受难日(复活节前的星期五)
Easter [ˈiːstə]	复活节(指每年过春分月圆后第一个星期日)
Boxing Day [ˈbɒksɪŋ] <i>n.</i>	节礼日(英国法定假日, 是圣诞节的次日, 如遇星期日推迟一天; 按英国俗例, 这天向邮递员等赠送“节礼”, 故称“节礼日”)
Hampstead [ˈhæmpstɪd]	汉普斯特德, 伦敦西北部一自治区
St. Patrick's Day [səntˈpætrɪk]	圣帕特里克节(3月17日)
Hogmanay [ˈhɒgməneɪ]	大年夜
St. Paul's Cathedral [kəˈθiːdrəl]	圣保罗大教堂
Auld Lang Syne [əːldlæsəɪn]	《友谊地久天长》

Piccadilly Circus [ˌpɪkəˈdɪli ˈsɜːkəs]

皮卡迪利广场

Trafalgar Square [trəˈfælɡə]

特拉法尔加广场

## NOTES

1. The term “Bank Holiday” goes back to the Bank Holidays Act of 1871, which owes its name to the fact that banks are closed on the days specified. “银行假日”这一名称,可以追溯到 1871 年的银行假日法令,在法令规定的日期里银行都关门休息,因此才有“银行假日”这个名称。
2. In many towns there are funfairs with roundabouts, coconut-shies, switchbacks and other amusements. 许多城镇设有游乐场,其中有旋转木马、掷椰子、惊险小铁路和其他一些游乐活动。
3. It is a Scottish tradition that the first person to cross the threshold of your house on New Year’s Day should be dark-haired—such a person brings luck for the coming year. 苏格兰有这样一个传统,即把元旦第一个跨进你家门的人的头发涂成黑色——这样的人会给来年带来好运。

## EXERCISES

### I. Comprehension of the Text

Decide whether the following statements are true or false according to the text.

1. Many people would not welcome an extra “Bank Holiday” or two as England has more holidays than most Continental countries.
2. In England, there are other public holidays such as Easter Monday, May Day, the Spring Bank Holiday, New Year’s Day, Valentine’s Day and Boxing Day besides Christmas Day and Good Friday.
3. In England, St. Patrick’s Day is also a Bank Holiday as St. Patrick is the Patron Saint of England.
4. St. George’s Day is also the anniversary of the birth of the most famous of Englishman, William Shakespeare.
5. There are similarities about the public holidays in Scotland such as New Year’s Day, Good Friday, May Day etc. as they are extremely strictly specified or restricted.
6. In London, Irish people and Scottish people gather on the steps of St. Paul’s Cathedral and sing Auld Lang Syne at midnight.
7. It’s known to us that Boxing Day does not have much to do with the sport of boxing.
8. According to the passage, those who can manage to take a holiday at another time would be wise enough to go away to the seaside or the country during the August

Bank Holiday.

## II. Topics for Discussion

1. How many holidays do you know there are in Britain? But, on which of the holidays do people stay at home and rest or do anything else?
2. Why is December 26th considered a special day in Britain?

## III. Vocabulary

1. Choose the definition from Column B that best matches each word or phrase in Column A.

A	B
1) congested	a. shopkeeper
2) regard...as	b. coming or happening every year
3) tradesman	c. false reason for an action
4) fair	d. marching in procession
5) in addition	e. yearly return of the date of an event
6) annual	f. New Year's Eve
7) pretext	g. also
8) hogmanay	h. crowded
9) parade	i. consider...as
10) anniversary	j. market

2. Fill in the blanks with the words or phrases given below. Change the forms where necessary.

regard...as	die out	go back to	literally	have nothing to do with
tradition	provide	variation	congest	a good deal of

- 1) Mr. Wang translated this sentence \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) What you have done \_\_\_\_\_ what I have done.
- 3) On the weekends, every street \_\_\_\_\_ with buses and cars.
- 4) It is a \_\_\_\_\_ that women get married in long white dresses.
- 5) We \_\_\_\_\_ them \_\_\_\_\_ the most promising table-tennis players.
- 6) She is very busy, for she has \_\_\_\_\_ work to do.
- 7) The east wind is blowing strong while the west wind \_\_\_\_\_.
- 8) That poor man had to \_\_\_\_\_ food and clothes for his family.
- 9) This custom \_\_\_\_\_ the seventeenth century.
- 10) If you go to a number of different shops, you'll often find great \_\_\_\_\_ of price for the same articles.

## IV. Translation Work

Put the following into Chinese.

Boxing Days takes its name from the old custom of giving employees or tradesmen (such as the milkman) an annual present or 'Christmas box' on that day. It has nothing to do with the sport of boxing. If Christmas Day or Boxing Day falls at the weekend, the weekday which follows December 25th and 26th becomes a bank holiday.



## Unit 2

### **Text A Humans can be Frozen & Revived!**

By the year 2000—just 13 years from now—scientists will be able to freeze dying people and revive them years later when a cure for their disease has been found opening the door to human immortality, predict excited experts.

And their conclusions are not just pie in the sky—they're based on an astonishing experiment in which a dog was frozen for 15 minutes, then revived in perfect health!

“The bottom line of experiments like this is the indefinite extension of human life!” declared Dr. Paul Segall, a research associate in physiology at the University of California-Berkeley who conducted the frozen dog experiment.

“If you're about to die—you have an incurable disease such as AIDS or Alzheimer's disease, or even extreme old age—we could freeze you and stop time for you until we can cure those diseases or reverse a condition like aging.

“What we're looking at is a gradual victory over death and aging. And reversible cryonic suspension—freezing someone and then bringing them back—could be here within 13 years!”

In Dr. Segall's experiment—which was conducted last June—a 3-year-old beagle named Miles had his body temperature gradually lowered until he was ice-cold.

He was kept chilled for 15 minutes, then gradually warmed again—and incredibly, the dog revived, healthy and happy!

“Miles came back from his ice-cold state in great shape—he was his old frisky self within five days.” said Dr. Segall. “He was romping around, playing with his toy bones, chasing balls, acting just as frisky as ever. He responds to his name, and eats and drinks normally. He's exactly the same dog he was before the experiment.”

Both before and after the experiment, Miles has lived with Dr. Harold Waitz, a biophysicist who helped conduct the landmark work.

“Miles is the same friendly dog he was before the freezing,” said Dr. Waitz. “He's just as lovable as ever, playing with our two teenage daughters.”