复旦大学教材

大学英语(阅读)



复旦大学外文系《大学英语》编写组



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大 学 英 语

阅读

(英语专业用)

第一册

复旦大学外文系《大学英语》编写组

复旦大学出版社

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复旦大学出版社出版 新华书店上海发行所发行 复旦大学印刷厂印刷

字数 218 千 开本 787×1092 1/32 印张 9.25 1986 年 8 月第一版 1986 年 8 月第一次印刷

印数: 1---23,000

书号: 9253.014 定价: 1.20 元

前 言

《大学英语(阅读)》共四册,供高等学校英语专业一、二年级学生阅读(泛读)课使用,同时也可用作非英语专业学生与广大自学者的阅读材料,旨在提高阅读理解能力。

本书的课文均选自英文原著,其中大部分选自近几年英国和美国出版的各种教科书和其它书刊,部分课文略有删节。本册包括课文、课外阅读材料、快速阅读练习三部分。为了使用方便起见,现将各部分简略说明如下:

1. 课文

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- 1. 本册共有课文二十篇,供课堂内处理。选择课文时既注意到思想内容健康和语言规范化,同时也注意到趣味性和知识性。题材以故事为主,同时选有历史、语言和科普知识等方面的文章。
- 2. 每篇课文后附有注释,主要包括背景知识、语言难点以及一般字典上不易找到的材料。

11. 课外阅读材料

1. 课外阅读材料是课文必要的补充,有助于提高学生的独立阅读能力。考虑到一年级学生初进大学,找寻程度适当的阅读

材料有一定困难,编者在本册安排了二十篇阅读材料。

2. 课外阅读材料较课文稍浅易,供学生课外自学使用,教师可根据实际情况进行一定的指导和必要的检查。

Ⅲ. 快速阅读练习

快速阅读练习旨在训练和提高学生的阅读速度,要求学生在不预习的情况下在课堂内限时完成。

本书是在我系阅读课多年教学的基础上编成的,参加本册书编写的人员有孙铢、徐增同、朱德逵、吴延迪、沈关荣。在编写过程中,承我系有关教师给予热情的支持和帮助,并将初稿使用后提出了修订意见。我系资料室和出版社的编辑同志和有关人员也给予我们不少帮助。谨此向上述同志一并表示感谢。

由于我们水平有限,本教材仍会有不少错误和不足之处,欢迎批评指正。

编 者 一九八四年十月

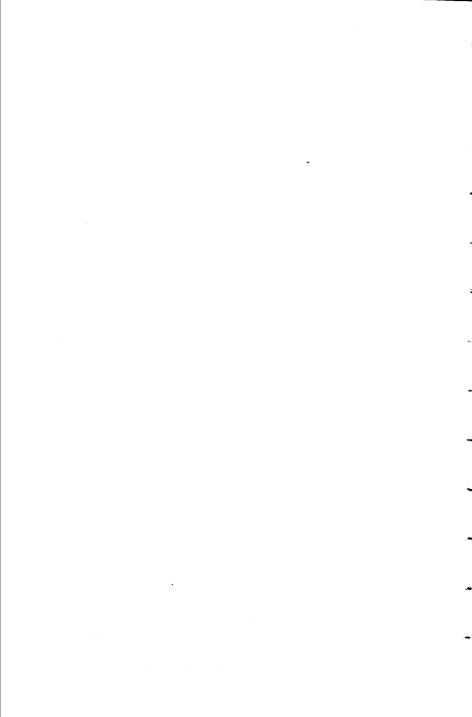
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I. TEXTS



Lesson One

A Lifetime of Happiness

He stood at the cornor of Broadway and Forty-Second Street. On the front of his hat was fixed a sheet of paper with the words "Matrimonial News" written on it, another sheet with the same words was fixed on his chest, and he carried a pile of them in his left hand. And every little while he shouted:

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"Buy the Matrimonial News. If you want a wife or a husband. Five cents a copy. Only five cents for a lifetime of happiness."

He said this without any expression at all, smiling at the passing crowds.

"Five cents a copy. Only five cents for a lifetime of happiness."

"Have you tried it yourself?" I asked him.

"No," he answered thoughtfully, "to tell you the truth, I have not. I have seen enough of life. Why should I try? I am fifty-two years old, and my wife died this day fifteen years ago."

Interrupting himself every now and then to call upon the passing world to buy the Matrimonial News, he told me the story of his life:

"Poth my father and my mother were working people. They died when I was still a boy, and I had to pick up odd jobs which earned me little more than nothing at all. But as I was never strong myself, I went to a night school and later became a clerk. I worked in several offices

"At the age of twenty-seven I fell in love with a girl for the first time in my life, and soon we got married. Our first child died soon after he was born, largely because our room had too little light and air for a baby.

"Soon I rose to be chief clerk at Smith Tellfair's. By the time the second child, a daughter, was born, we had taken a small house for which I was paying in instalments. My little girl grew up, and when she was five, a son was born to me. But a year later, my daughter was taken away by typhoid. After that my wife was never quite the same. She died in a year and a half. I had to take care of my little Herbert besides working in the office. Life was hard for me, but I struggled on.

"Then that young Tellfair took his father's place at the head of the office and started reorganization. I was the first to be dismissed just because I was getting old. Herbert was fourteen then, and I wanted him to remain in school, for he was then busy getting ready for the examinations. But I had no hope of getting another place in an office. Finally I became a watchman. The pay was

less than half of what I had been earning. I was unable to meet my payment on the house...So I lost it.

"I brought Herbert with me to this city. He went to the Public School. And when he was sixteen, just a year ago, he was knocked down by a car and got killed. Shortly after that I got this job."

He ceased, and turning again to the passing world, called upon them to buy the Matrimonial News. "Only five cents for a lifetime of happiness."

from "BROADWAY NIGHT", by John Reed (adapted)

Notes

- 1. Broadway and Forty-second Street: Broadway is a famous avenue in New York City and Forty-second Street is a street there.
- 2. 'Matrimonial News': 《婚姻新闻》, probably the name of a fictitious (虚构的) newspaper.
- 3. every little while: 每隔一会儿。
- 4. to tell you the truth: 说实话。这里是一个插入语。
- 5. every now and then: 时而,不时。
- 6. to call upon the passing world to…: 请求过路的一大群人去……。这里 world 指的是 large crowd of people.

- 7. at Smith Tellfair's: 是 Smith Tellfair开的商号或公司, 通常用 'S' 表示。
- 8. for which I was paying in instalments: 分期付款。也可以用 paying by instalments, 'instalment' 是每期所付的款项。
- 9. the Public School: (美国的)公立中学(或小学); 而在英国, Public School 是指要付昂贵学费的私立寄宿学校。
- 10. was knocked down by: 被(车)撞倒。

Exercises

- I. Answer the following questions:
 - 1. Where did the story take place?
 - 2. Why did the man fix sheets of paper on his hat and chest?
 - 3. What was the 'Matrimonial News' about?
 - 4. Why did the man not try it himself?
 - 5. Of what family was the man born?
 - 6. How did he spend his boyhood?
 - 7. What did he do later on?
 - 8. How did his wife die?
 - 9. Why did he lose his job as a clerk?
 - 10. What had happened to his son just a year before?
 - 11. What do you think of the story?
- II. Explain the following italicized parts in English:

- 1. Five cents a copy. Only five cents for a lifetime of happiness.
- 2. I have seen enough of life. Why should I try?
- 3. I had to pick up odd jobs which earned me little more than nothing at all.
- 4. Our first child died soon after he was born, largely because our room had too little light and air for a baby.
- 5. And when she was five, a son was born to me.
- 6. But a year later, my daughter was taken away by typhoid. After that my wife was never quite the same.
- 7. Then that young Tellsair took his father's place at the head of the office...
- 8. I was unable to meet my payment on the house...

Lesson Two

But He Looked So Young

Abe Gelman was a fur operator. He was sixty-seven years old. Old as he was, Abe's age had never been in the way of his finding a job, because he looked quite young with shiny black hair and sun-tanned face, which had earned him the name of "boychik" among his friends. They used to say that old Abe was getting younger every day. There were times when he believed it was really so. But that was a long time ago. Now it was different. For several times when he was working at the machine, he had felt his heart go wild in his chest. Since then he had been struggling with the fear that one day his heart would refuse to go along with his face and his hair.

Old Abe, however, went on working as usual, though what he really needed was a good rest. Sick? No, that's a luxury Abe couldn't afford, not with his sick wife around. Retire? That's out of the question. Abe Gelman couldn't afford to grow old even at the age of sixty-seven.

One evening when he came home, his wife was startled at his tired look and said:

"Abe, what's wrong with you? You look so pale, You must call a doctor."

"What's the use of doctors if you can't pay for the visit and the medicine. To you they've been coming for twenty years and you haven't got any better for it."

"May I call the shop so that you may have a few days' rest?"

"Yes, yes, call the shop. But don't tell them I'm sick." Abe was afraid that if he told them he was sick, he would lose his job. But even so he had not been able to keep it.

That summer the fur season was a slack one. For over a month Abe had been walking around, looking for a job in vain. At last, an old friend of his told him to try Dankel, who was the worst boss in the trade. Workers who could get anything better had always been keeping themselves away from Dankel. But Abe went. On the very first day of work in Dankel's shop, his heart failed him and he dropped dead at the machine.

When Abe's body was brought home, his wife's sadness was beyond words. She didn't cry, but just sat beside the dead body, looking at its youthful face. Her daughter moved up to her and said:

"Mother, but he looked so young..."

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"That was in appearance only, my child. Inside it was different. Oh, that was fifteen years ago, when he came back one day and took off his cap, I got frightened.