

COLLEGE CORE
ENGLISH
READING AND WRITING

大学核心英语

读写教程

第二册 (上)

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College Core English

— Reading and Writing —

大学核心英语 读写教程

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前 言

《大学核心英语》(内部试用本)是一套供理工科大学使用的大学英语教材。本教材的编写以国家教育委员会印发的《大学英语教学大纲(理工科适用)》为依据。教学大纲规定:大学英语的教学目标是“培养学生具有较强的阅读能力,一定的听和译的能力,以及初步的说与写的能力,使学生能以英语为工具,获取专业所需要的信息,并为进一步提高英语水平打下较好的基础。”教学大纲还规定,大学英语教学分为基础阶段和专业阅读阶段,为了便于组织教学,基础阶段共分六级,在大学一、二年级中开设。本教材就是供基础阶段英语教学使用的。

为了体现上述教学目标,在编写《大学核心英语》过程中,我们采纳了现代外语教学理论中有关交际法的一些合理的思想,即认为英语课应以培养学生使用英语的能力为根本目的,而不应以传授关于英语的知识为根本目的。教材要着重发展学生的英语交际能力。我们力求正确处理以下几点:在理解方面,主要是培养学生通过英语获取信息的能力;在表达方面,则在大纲规定的范围内培养学生表达思想的能力;语法是手段而不是目的,重点应是发展运用语法结构的能力,在流畅与准确的关系上应以流畅带动准确,因此在阅读与听力训练中要有一定的量与速度的要求。本教程还要有利于发展学生独立学习英语的能力。为了体现以上的教学指导思想,编者未采用以语法为纲进行编写的传统做法,而是根据语言技能及语言功能来设计教材,安排教学内容。整套教材分为两条主线:一条为读写教材,共六册,每级一册;一条为听说教材,共三册,每两级一册;两套教材相互独立而又相互配合,分设两种课型,可由不同教师分别担任,以发挥教师的专长。此外,还辅以词汇与语法练习手册(共三册,每两级一册),可以在课内使用,也可供学生在课外自学。

本书是读写教程的第二册(分上、下分册),按照书面语言的特点,培养学生的阅读技能,提高其阅读能力和帮助学生打下初步的写作基础。本书共有十五个单元,每一单元由三部分组成:第一部分为阅读技能(Reading Skills),主要培养理解段落的能力。第二部分为阅读材料(Reading Passages),每一单元有三篇(共四十五篇),每篇约有600—700词;其中A篇为主要阅读材料,B篇为辅助阅读材料,C篇为课外阅读材料;总阅读量约为30,000词。第三部分为写作技能(Writing Skills),继续培养学生正确地写出英语句子的能力。本书教学时数约为60学时(每单元3~4学时)。如一学期教学时数不足,可将第五、第十、第十五单元的B篇阅读材料和各项复习性练习放在课外进行,以一学期学完本书为宜。

本书阅读材料均选自原文,题材广泛,语言规范,内容生动,知识性强,练习丰富。书后附有总词汇表、词组表和专名表。

《大学核心英语》全书由上海交通大学科技外语系杨惠中和张彦斌主编。第二册由张彦斌(上海交通大学)、孔庆炎(大连海运学院)、刘鸿章(上海交通大学)、沈子文(上海科技大学)编写,并经英国专家、上海交通大学科技外语系顾问 Geoffrey Thompson 详尽审阅。

在本书编写过程中,编者得到上海交通大学科技外语系许多同志的热情支持,特别是冯玉柱、宣骏、巴源、蒋美玲、谢善禄以及张耀辉等同志在计算机统计、打字、复印、出版等方面给予的帮助,对此编者表示衷心的感谢。同时,对大连海运学院和上海科技大学的大力支持也一并表示谢意。

《大学核心英语》的编写是一种新的尝试,是否有利于达到教学大纲所规定的教学目标,是否便于组织课堂教学,还有待实践的检验。我们迫切希望使用本书的教师和学生提出宝贵意见。

编 者

一九八六年一月

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Unit One

Reading Skills

三种阅读方法

Three Reading Strategies

阅读总是有一定目的的。对于不同的目的，应该采用不同的方法和技能。阅读方法有三种：略读、查阅和细读。

I. 略读

为了了解文章的大意和中心思想，应当采用这种方法。略读有如下特点：

1. 阅读时注意提高速度。注意力集中在寻找和领会作者表达的中心思想上，不试图记住一些细节，如：日期，一连串的人名、地名、各种数据等。

2. 不逐词阅读。眼光扫过句子时，主要注意关键词语，如表达名称概念、描写动作状态和表示转折、原因、结果等意思的词语（如 *because, however, as a result, therefore* 等）。例如，下面两个句子，只看划线部份也能领会其中心意思：

1) This long waterway called the English Channel, is about 560 kilometers in length, and its greatest breadth, between Ushant (an island near the northwest coast of France) and the Sicilly Isles off Cornwall, is about 190 kilometres.

2) If they knew how difficult it was to drill through the hard rock, they would lose heart.

3. 段落的第一句常常概括出全段主旨，是阅读的重点。

4. 许多文章的第一段是对全文主要内容的概述，而最后一段则往往是结论，因此阅读较长的文章时，主要是看这两部分。中间各段可以只看第一、二句。

5. 注意文章的标题、小标题、粗体字、斜体字和划线部份。

6. 遇到生词，不要停下来查阅词典，而是往下看，上下文往往能阐明其词义。

试用略读的方法阅读下面这篇文章，着重注意划线词，记下阅读时间，然后向答后面所提的问题：

Presidents of the United States

The United States has had thirty-five presidents. Grover Cleveland was elected as our 22nd and 24th president. The State Department (国务院) has ruled that he must be counted twice. This means that the office of president has been filled by thirty-five different men, that Lyndon Johnson is our 35th President.

The first president, George Washington, took office in 1789. He served two terms that ended in 1797. When he died, he was mourned here and abroad as one of the great men of the time. He was buried at his home at Mount Vernon, Virginia, which is just outside Washington, D.C. Nine of our presidents have been elected for two terms. Franklin D. Roosevelt served three full terms. He was elected to a fourth term in 1944. He died in 1945, and his term was completed by Harry Truman.

The shortest term was served by William Henry Harrison who died one month after he took office in

1841. Four presidents were killed while in office. The first of these was our 16th president, Abraham Lincoln. He was shot a few months after his inauguration and died at the age of forty-nine. William Mckinley was assassinated in Buffalo, New York, in 1901. John Kennedy was killed in Texas in 1963.

James Buchanan was the only bachelor (单身汉) to be elected. He was assisted in the social activities of the White House by a niece who is remembered for her gracious (优雅的) manner as hostess.

One of our presidents (Andrew Johnson) had been employed as a tailor before he became president. Three of our Presidents—Washington, Grant, and Eisenhower—had been Generals of the Army before they were elected.

Our 26th president, Theodore Roosevelt, had been a Colonel (上校) in the Army before he was elected to serve as Vice-President during William Mckinley's term of office. After President Makinley was assassinated, Theodore Roosevelt automatically became President. It was in this way that he became the youngest man ever to be called upon to fill the presidency. He was forty-three at the time he was chosen.

The state of Virginia is known as the "Presidents' State." Eight of our presidents were born in Virginia and seven were born in Ohio. Some of our presidents will be remembered by future generations as great men of their times.

- 1) The subject of this short article is _____.
a) about the life of American presidents
b) about the history of American presidents
c) about great statesmen of the United States
d) an introduction of American presidents
- 2) The main idea of this short article is that _____.
a) some of the American presidents were great men in history
b) most of the American presidents came from the state of Virginia
c) American presidents come from different places with different social backgrounds
d) from George Washington to Lyndon Johnson, there were all together 36 presidents in the United States.

II. 查阅

如果我们希望从某篇阅读材料中查找所需要的信息，应当用查阅的方法。查阅有如下特点：

1. 查阅之前必须有具体的要求，即带着问题进入阅读。
2. 阅读时尽快扫视所读材料，只有在找到所需资料时才仔细阅读该项内容。
3. 根据所需信息的性质(时间，人物，地点，数据，因果，事件等)集中注意与其有关的语言特点。如要了解人物，应注意首字母大写的词；要了解时间，应注意时间介词和连词，如 in, on, at, after, when 等，以及有关的数字；要了解因果，便要注意 because, since, as a result 等词语。

4. 只要找到问题的答案, 阅读便可终止, 不必把全文看完。

试根据所提的问题查阅下面的段落, 然后选出正确答案。

1) When did Shakespeare buy his house in Stratford?

There has been much idle talk about Shakespeare's married life. The simple facts are that he left his wife at Stratford (their son, Hamlet, died and was buried there in 1596 and there is no evidence that Anne ever joined him during his stay in London), that no children were born to them after 1585, that about 1611 he moved his wife and children into New Place, the fine house in Stratford that he had bought in 1597, and that he joined them there and died in that house in 1616.

a) 1585

b) 1596

c) 1597

d) 1611

2) What served as the post office at the Cape of Good Hope?

At the southern tip of Africa there was once a post office. In the old days the route from England to India was around the Cape of Good Hope. The journey was stormy and dangerous. It took six long months. Sailors often wished to send mail home, but they seldom met ships sailing back to England. So at the cape the sailors would go on shore. They headed for a certain large stone.

On the stone were the words "Look hereunder for letters." They would leave their letters there, knowing that the next homeward-going ship would stop and pick them up.

- a) A mailbox.
- b) A large stone.
- c) A ship.
- d) A tall tree.

III. 细读

要领会和理解文章的细节时，应当采用细读的方法。细读时要注意以下几点：

1. 细读时既要注意准确性，也要注意提高阅读速度。细读不等于慢读。

2. 细读时，仍应集中注意领会文章的信息。

3. 遇到生词和难理解的地方，应当继续看下去，下文往往可以阐明其含义。

4. 立足于一遍即能理解全部内容，不要时时回头阅读。

5. 要培养按意群一组一组词地视读和注意关键词的习惯，例如下面的句子可以划成五个意群，一眼看一个意群，而不是逐词阅读。

Cars travel / on the right side / of the road / everywhere / in the United States.

试将下列一段文字划分成意群，然后按意群视读：

Hostels (寄宿旅馆) offer the traveler to America an even less expensive place to stay than the places discussed above. Hostels can be found around the world and are usually used by students and other young people. They

provide not only an inexpensive place to stay, but also give young people a chance to make new friends from other countries as they travel. While hostels may not offer the most comfortable rooms, they are convenient, inexpensive (usually charging less than \$5 per person per day), and because they are attractive (有吸引力的) to traveling students and young people, hostels are generally friendly places.

Reading Passages

(A) The Symbolic Process

The process by means of which human beings can arbitrarily make certain things stand for other things may be called the symbolic process.

Everywhere we turn, we see the symbolic process at work. Stripes on the sleeve can be made to stand for military rank; rings of gold or pieces of paper can stand for wealth: crossed sticks can stand for a set of religious beliefs. There are few things that men do or want to do, possess or want to possess, that have not, in addition to their mechanical or biological value, a symbolic value.

All fashionable clothes, as Thorstein Veblen has pointed out in his *Theory of the Leisure Class*, are highly symbolic: materials, cut, and ornament are dictated only to a slight degree by considerations of warmth, comfort, or practicability. The more we dress up in fine clothes, the more we restrict our freedom of action. But

by means of fashionable clothes, high heels and other things, the wealthy classes manage to symbolize among other things, the fact that they don't have to work for a living! On the other hand the—not-so wealthy, by copying these symbols of wealth, symbolize their belief that even if they do work for a living, they are just as good as anybody else.

With the changes in life, many changes have taken place in our ways of symbolizing social status. Except for evening and party wear, fashionable clothes nowadays are often designed for outdoor life and therefore stress comfort, informality and above all freedom from the conventions of business life -- hence the gaily coloured sports shirts for men and pants for women.

Food is also highly symbolic. Specific foods are used to symbolize specific festivals. For example, moon cakes are eaten to celebrate the Chinese mid-autumn festival as the Chinese think that on the mid-autumn day (August 15th of the lunar year), the moon is at its brightest!

We select our furniture to serve as visible symbols of our taste, wealth, and social position! We often choose our houses on the basis of a feeling that it "looks well" to have a "good address." We trade in perfectly good cars for later models not always to get better transportation, but to give evidence to the community that we can afford it.

The writer once had an eight-year-old car in good running condition. A friend of his, a repairman who knew the condition of the car, kept urging him to trade it for a new model. "But why?" the writer asked, "The old car's in fine shape still." The repairman answered scornfully, "Yeah, but what the hell. All you've got is transportation."

Recently, the term "transportation car" has begun to appear in advertisements: for example, "4B Dodge — Runs perfectly well: transportation car. Leaving, must sell! \$100" (Classified section of the *Pali Press*. Kailua, Hawaii.) Apparently it means a car that has no symbolic value and is good only for getting you there and bringing you back -- a poor kind of vehicle indeed!

Such complicated and apparently unnecessary behavior leads philosophers, both amateur and professional, to ask over and over again, "Why can't human beings live simply and naturally?" Often the complexity of human life makes us look enviously at the relative simplicity of such lives as dogs and cats lead!

However, the fact that more things can go wrong with motorcars than with wheelbarrows is no reason for going back to wheelbarrows. Simply, the fact that the symbolic process makes complexity possible is no reason for wanting to return to a cat-and-dog existence. A better solution is to understand the symbolic process so that instead of being its slaves, we become, to some degree at least, its masters.

Notes to the Text

arbitrary / 'a:bitrəri / *a.* 任意的; 武断的

to stand for--to represent

ornament / 'ɔ:nəmənt / *n.* something used for decoration 装饰

"There are few things that men do or want to do,..., that have not, ... , a symbolic value" — Almost everything that men do or want to do, ... has, ... , a symbolic value

practicality / ,prækti'kæliti / *n.* the state of being practical 实用性

heel / hi:l / *n.* part of a shoe supporting the back of the human foot 鞋后跟

convention / kən'venʃən / *n.* practice or custom based on general consent 惯例; 习俗

to a slight degree-- to a small degree

yeah / jeə / (非正式) yes

visible / 'viziəbl / *a.* that can be seen

scornfully / 'skɔ:nfəli / *ad.* 轻蔑地

complexity / ,kəm'pleksiti / *n.* the state of being complex 复杂性

simplicity / sim'pliksiti / *n.* the state of being simple

wheelbarrow / 'wi:lbærəu / *n.* 手推车

Dodge / 'dɒdʒi / *n.* 道奇牌汽车

Exercises:

Analysis of Ideas and Relationships: Circle the letter next to the best answer.

- 1) The main idea of the passage is that _____.
 - a) almost everything we do or we possess has a symbolic value
 - b) very few things we do or we possess have a symbolic value
 - c) some things we do have a symbolic value, but most haven't
 - d) things have no symbolic value unless some important people start thinking they have
- 2) According to the passage, the wealthy people wear fashionable clothes chiefly _____.
 - a) to keep warm
 - b) for comfort
 - c) for fun
 - d) to show that they can afford them
- 3) Houses are also symbolic. One reason given in the passage for choosing houses is a feeling that they should _____.
 - a) look good
 - b) face south
 - c) be located in a respectable district
 - d) be equipped with modern furniture
- 4) 'Transportation car' means one that _____.
 - a) is transported by other vehicles