

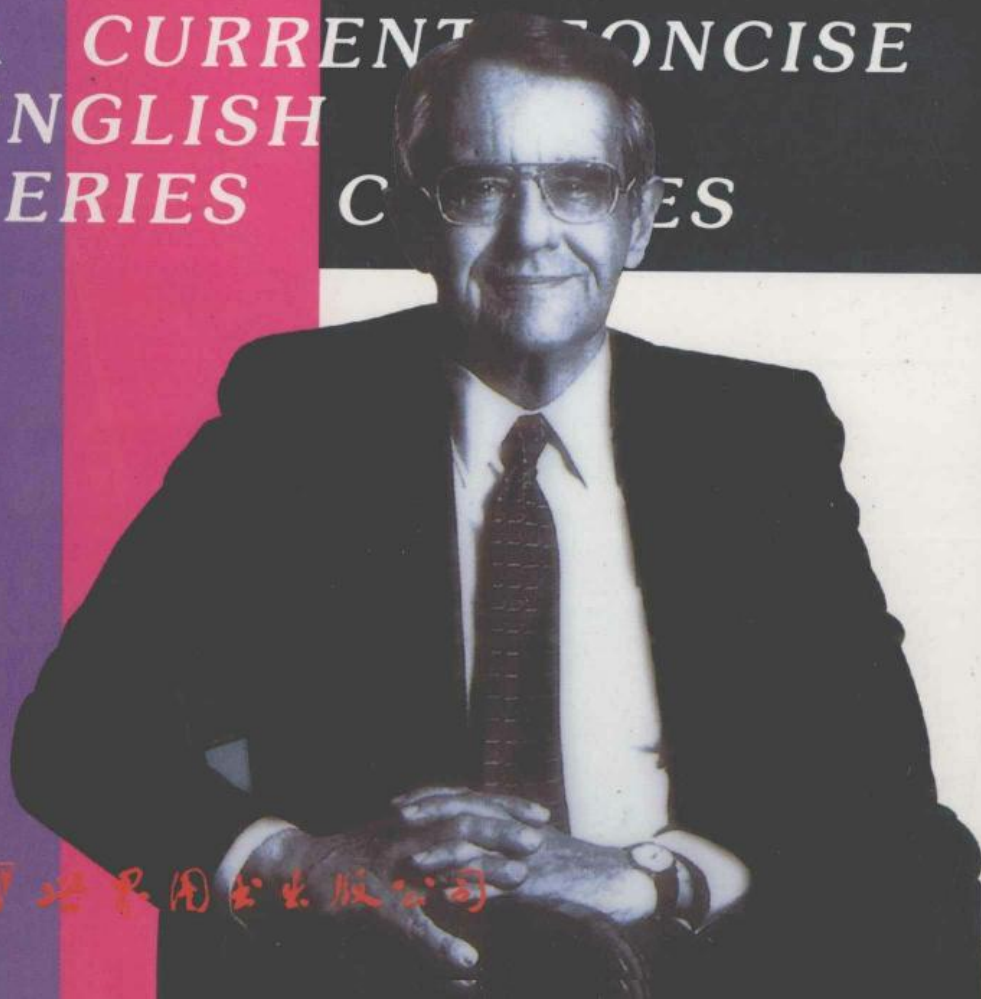
最新简明英语系列教程



最新简明 英语阅读教程

● 本册主编 赵堪培 黑玉琴

A CURRENT CONCISE
ENGLISH
SERIES CASES



W 世界图书出版公司

※最新简明英语系列

最新简明英语阅读教程

(上、下册)

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世界图书出版公司

西安 北京 广州 上海

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

最新简明英语阅读教程/赵堪培主编. —西安:世界图书出版西安公司, 2001.5

ISBN 7-5062-4639-2

I. 最... II. 赵... III. 英语—阅读—教材 IV. H315

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2000)第 64029 号

最新简明英语阅读教程

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出版发行 世界图书出版西安公司
地 址 西安市南大街 17 号
邮 编 710001
电 话 029-87279676 87233647(发行部)
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经 销 各地新华书店
印 刷 西安昭阳包装印刷有限公司
开 本 850mm×1168mm 1/32
印 张 13.875
字 数 370 千字

版 次 2001 年 5 月第 1 版 第 1 次印刷
2005 年 8 月第 2 次印刷
书 号 ISBN 7-5062-4639-2/H·281
定 价 90.00 元(全套) 本册定价:15.00 元

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前 言

在英语学习的过程中,广泛地阅读对提高英语语言水平、增强语感具有十分重要的意义。《最新简明英语阅读教程》(上、下册)收集了 80 篇英语短文,配备了相应的阅读理解、词汇及开放式讨论练习,是一本针对性较强的英语泛读教材。适应大学一、二年级学生泛读学习使用,也可作为大学英语四、六级考试复习的辅导用书。

《最新简明英语阅读教程》(上、下册)具有如下特点:①课文内容丰富,涉及面较广。有关自然、社会、天文、历史、政治、民俗、心理、宗教等方面的知识均有不同程度的介绍,实现了语言 and 文化的相互交融。②所选文章均为地道的原文,文笔流畅,内容新颖,具有一定的时代气息。③文章编排循序渐进,由浅及深。提供的练习能有效地抓住阅读理解和词汇这两大环节,对提高英语阅读技巧,增强应试能力,提高应试水平,具有一定的指导意义。

本书在修订的过程中得到了很多朋友的关心和支持,在此对他们表示最诚挚的感谢!

由于作者水平有限,错误之处在所难免,欢迎广大读者批评指正。

编 者

2005 年 8 月于西安外国语学院

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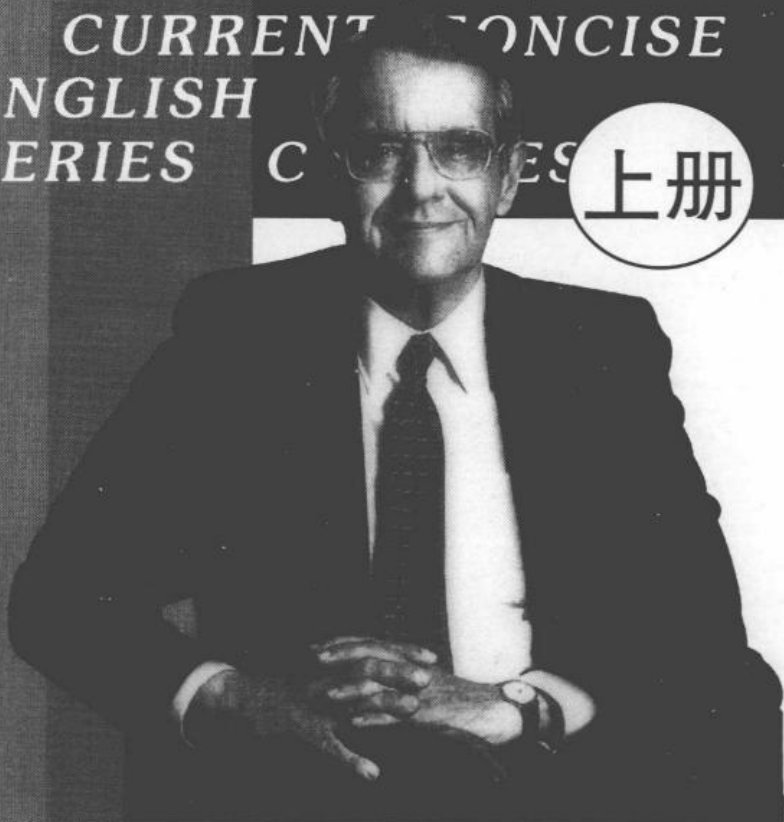


最新简明 英语阅读教程

● 本册主编 赵堪培 黑玉琴

A CURRENT CONCISE
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SERIES C

上册





Unit 1

Passage A

Higher Education in the United States

There are 3,500 colleges and universities in the United States. Two year institutions, which are sometimes referred to as community or junior colleges, award the associate degree—Associate of Arts (A. A.) or Associate of Science (A. S.)—following successful completion of a specific two-year, full-time program. The Bachelor of Arts (B. A.) or Bachelor of Science (B. S.) degrees are the two most frequently awarded, but a variety of bachelor's degrees by other names are also granted. Bachelor's degrees are typically awarded following successful completion of a four-year, full-time program. Bachelor's degree programs in some fields of study or at some institutions can be longer than four years.

The graduate degrees offered are the Master's and Ph. D. All degrees include taught courses and research. Class participation, research papers and examinations are important. Degree requirements are stated in terms of "credits" (sometimes called units or hours) and each taught course usually earns 3-4 credits. A student will usually accumulate 24 credits per academic year if the university operates on a traditional two-semester system.

Academic Master's degrees usually require the completion of 30-36 credits and could reasonably be completed in one or two academic year(s). Often a degree will include a thesis option for 6-9 credits. Some institutions are only interested in potential doctoral candidates, although they will usually award a terminal Master's to

students who complete a certain level of course-work but do not go onto their doctoral work.

Professional Master's degrees (designed to lead the student from the first degree to a particular profession) include business administration, journalism, social work, international relations and urban planning. They are structured, usually require completion of 36-48 units and are unlikely to include a thesis option. These degrees do not require a first degree in a particular field, although in some cases they may require a certain amount of study in a particular field. It is very difficult to complete professional degrees in one year.

The Ph. D requires at least 3 years beyond the Bachelor's, but is rarely completed in less than 5 or 6 years as most students take on teaching or research assignments during their studies. Students are required to complete 2 years of course-work culminating in oral and written qualifying exams (called preliminary exams) before being admitted to candidacy for the Ph. D. and embarking on dissertation research. Students may also have to complete certain foreign language requirements at this time. A dissertation (300-400 typed pages) of publishable quality work is then required. Thereafter an oral exam or "defense" completes the degree.



1. Choose the best answer according to the information given in the passage.

- 1) What does the passage mainly discuss?
 - a. History of higher education in America.
 - b. Enrollment of students in American universities.

- c. Types of higher education in the States.
 - d. Prospects of higher education in America.
- 2) According to the passage, Bachelor's degrees are granted
- a. only as B. A. or B. S.
 - b. also as A. A. or A. S.
 - c. exclusively for successful completion of a four-year study.
 - d. sometimes in other forms besides B. A. or B. S.
- 3) All the following factors contribute to the successful completion of a graduate program except
- a. organized field work.
 - b. participation in class discussions.
 - c. term papers and thesis.
 - d. all the mid-term and final exams.
- 4) Why does the passage mention "credits" in Paragraph 2?
- a. To specify the amount of study needed for graduation.
 - b. To compare university study with the work in a bank.
 - c. To describe types of degrees.
 - d. To mark the start of the graduate program.
- 5) The graduate degrees include
- a. A. A. or A. S. and B. A. or B. S.
 - b. Academic Master's and Professional Master's.
 - c. B. S. and B. A.
 - d. the Master's and Ph. D.
- 6) It can be inferred from the passage that successful completion of the Ph. D requires
- a. teaching experiences or research projects before the study.
 - b. less than 5 or 6 years in some fields sometimes.
 - c. preliminary exams, a dissertation and an oral defense.
 - d. exams and research work.
- 7) In which of the following patterns is this passage organized?

- a. Order of importance.
- b. Time order.
- c. Space order
- d. General to specific.

2. Vocabulary

2.1 Find the word in Column B which is closest in meaning to the word in Column A:

A	B
1) typically	a. organized
2) institution	b. sensibly
3) participation	c. normally
4) operate	d. choice
5) require	e. task
6) reasonably	f. university
7) option	g. involvement
8) structured	h. specific
9) particular	i. need
10) assignment	j. run

2.2 Find the word in Column B which is opposite in meaning to the word in Column A.

A	B
1) quality	a. frequently
2) terminal	b. inferior
3) traditional	c. rural
4) urban	d. preliminary
5) rarely	e. modern

3. Questions for discussion

1) What are the similarities and differences in higher education

between China and America?

- 2) If you want to study for your Master's degree in a university in America, what do you need to prepare for your entry?
- 3) What are the advantages of the credit system in the university?
- 4) Since some people such as Abraham Lincoln and Bill Gates became quite successful without much higher education, is it justifiable to say that education is *not* of much value for one's success? Why or why not?
- 5) It is said that education will pay off in the long run. Give your personal views.

Passage B

Applying for Studying in USA

Most colleges are looking for a varied student population that comes from many backgrounds and represents many different academic interests and personal qualities. Don't forget to stress the unique experience you will bring to the school by being an international student.

The sooner the college receives your application and all the required supporting documents, the sooner they will be reviewed and evaluated.

Post samples of your writing, artwork, or tapes of musical performances, as applicable to the program of study you wish to pursue. They need to get to know you as a person, not just your academic achievements and test results. Make the most of this opportunity.

The Application Package

A complete application typically contains the following:

- fully completed application form
- teacher recommendations
- transcripts and academic records
- TOEFL or other English language proficiency test scores
- standardized test scores
- nonacademic information as requested by the college or university
- financial aid application
- application fee

It's a good idea to enclose with your application several mailing labels filled out with your address. The admission office will appreciate your thoughtfulness.

Teacher Recommendations

Policies regarding teacher recommendations vary from college to college, but you should be prepared to have at least one teacher provide a reference for you.

Secondary School Reports and Transcripts

The school report should talk about your accomplishments and provide a prediction of your chances for success in university-level studies (if you are applying to undergraduate institutions). Your official transcript or academic record is the objective part of your application. Ask your school to include a guide to the grading standards used in the educational system in your country and for your school specifically. If your school does not rank students, an estimate of your rank, for example top 10 percent would be helpful. Be sure to have records sent that describe your academic performance for the past three to four years. If there is a national school-leaving certificate examination at the end of secondary education, you should send it to the university you apply to.

Have official results sent as soon as they are available.

If your transcripts, academic records, and leaving-certificate examination results are not in English, make sure that you have officially certified literal English translations of all documents sent along with the official documents in the original language.



Exercises

1. Choose the best answer according to the information given in the passage.

- 1) What is the passage mainly about?
 - a. The significance of applying for studying in USA.
 - b. How to write a complete application form for studying in USA.
 - c. What's important for applying for studying in USA.
 - d. What the American colleges are looking for.
- 2) The "varied students" mentioned in Paragraph 1 refers to the students
 - a. of different hobbies.
 - b. of different nationalities and characters.
 - c. from the countries of different populations.
 - d. of different studying habits.
- 3) We can infer from the passage that
 - a. the sooner the college receives your application, the sooner you're admitted.
 - b. an application needn't contain any money.
 - c. the application is usually enclosed with several address labels in case that it should be lost.
 - d. personal qualities are as important as academic achievements in your application.