



高等学校英语专业教材

# A NEW ENGLISH COURSE OF EXTENSIVE READING

ENGLISH TEXTBOOK FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

总主编 谭志明

本册主编 谭志明

## 新编英语 泛读教程

(一)

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A New English Course of Extensive Reading (1)

# 新编英语泛读教程

(第一册)

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**【内容简介】**《新编英语泛读教程》是高等学校英语专业的系列泛读教材,旨在有效提高学生的英语应用技能。本册教程与高中课程紧密衔接,以提高阅读速度及扩大词汇量为主要目的,全书共 16 个单元,每单元包含 3 篇文章,各有词汇、注释及练习。书后附有生词表、词组表、练习答案及英文名著片段欣赏。

本教程可供高等学校英语专业学生作为泛读教材,尤其适合高职高专院校学生使用,对自学者提高英语阅读能力也大有裨益。

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# 前言

《新编英语泛读教程》是高等学校英语专业学生的泛读教材，共四个分册。本套教材是“陕西省 21 世纪初高等教育教学改革工程”中“英语泛读精品课程建设”项目的重要组成部分，该项目旨在为普通高等学校，特别是高职高专英语专业培养应用型、技能型、职业型人才服务，而目前传统的英语泛读教材难以适应这一需求。因此，在对此类院校特别是高职高专学生入学时的英语水平及阅读能力进行实地摸底并做出恰当评估的基础上，我们编写了《新编英语泛读教程》这套教材。本套教材的第一、二册内容相对容易，题材较为广泛，目的在于提高学生的阅读速度和扩大词汇量；第三册难度有所增大，选材中易于掌握的应用型题材占有一定的比例；第四册的素材则主要选自日常工作中常用的英语信函、合同、报单、契约、电子邮件等应用型内容，以适应学生将来的工作需要。

《新编英语泛读教程(1)》本着承前启后、由浅入深、循序渐进的原则，与高中普通学生所学英语知识紧密衔接，起点较低，容易阅读，非常适合普通高校一年级学生的入学水平。本书的选文题材广、文体宽、风格异、内容精、文字美，并且结构严谨，兼顾一定的趣味性。为了解决学生词汇量少、阅读速度慢的难题，我们在每篇文章之后注出生词和词组，且有注音；对一些难词难句加了注解，并将平时提及较少的人名、地名列在注释中，有些还加注了文化背景知识，对引导学生扩大知识面有一定启迪和裨益。

本分册共 16 个单元，每个单元有 3 篇文章，分别为 Text A, Text B 和 Text C。Text A 和 Text B 相对较短，长度一般约为 150~

300 个词;Text C 较长,一般约为 450~1 000 个词。Text A 后设计了 3 种练习;Text B 和 Text C 后分别有 5 种练习。所选课文和所编练习旨在帮助学生逐步提高阅读速度和阅读理解能力,同时通过大量的阅读以扩大词汇量,让学生通过做练习一步一步地体会并掌握一些阅读技巧。这些对学生应对国家教育考试也不无益处。

教师在课堂使用《新编英语泛读教程(1)》时很重要的一点是注重因材施教。本分册的 Text A 是引子,可让学生先阅读,教师可简要处理。Text B 可视学生情况,既可详讲,也可略过。Text C 为主讲课文。为了便于与《新编英语泛读教程(2)》的衔接,教师可简要介绍一些阅读理解的技巧,例如,如何理解课文主旨大意,如何跳读(skim)和寻读(scan),如何通过上下文判断词意及文章意思,等等。

《新编英语泛读教程(1)》供高等学校英语专业一年级第一学期使用。书后有 4 个附录,附录 1 为生词表,附录 2 为词组和表达方式,附录 3 为练习答案。为了培养学生的阅读兴趣,提高阅读能力,我们还从两本英文原著简易读物中选用了脍炙人口的 3 个章节作为附录 4,供学生阅读欣赏。

本教材在编写过程中得到了西北工业大学出版社的大力支持,同时也得到了西安欧亚学院的支持,在此一并表示感谢。

由于编者水平有限,书中疵漏之处在所难免,诚望读者和外语界同仁不吝赐教,使本书渐臻完善。

编著者

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## Text A

### A Fox and a Crow

#### Warming-up Questions

1. Do you like animals?
2. Are you interested in fables? Why or why not?
3. Do you think it is good for the people in big cities to raise animals?

***A fable is a short, fictitious story that teaches a lesson.<sup>1</sup> The characters in some fables are human beings, but in most fables they are animals or birds that act like people. In one fable even the sun and the north wind converse like people. In the following story the characters are a fox and a crow. This is an ancient fable that has an important message.***

One day a crow finds a tasty piece of cheese. She picks it up, flaps her wings, and flies to a high branch of a tree to eat it.

Down on the ground, a fox sees her. "Oho!" he says to himself. "That looks like a delicious piece of cheese. Maybe I can get it away from that old crow."

He walks over to the tree and calls to the crow in a very friendly voice. "You look so pretty today, Madam Crow!" he says. "Your feathers are so beautiful and your eyes so bright! And is your voice more beautiful than ever today?"

Now, some people think that crows have beautiful feathers and bright eyes. However, most people do not think that crows have beautiful voices.<sup>2</sup> The crow listens to the nice words of the fox and likes what she hears. Of course, she tries to sing for him. But as soon

as she opens her mouth, the cheese drops. Snap! The fox has it in his mouth before it reaches the ground.

The fox quickly eats the cheese. Then he turns to the crow and says, "You cannot trust a person who flatters you." and runs away.<sup>3</sup>



Approximate Length: 250 words

Reading Time \_\_\_\_\_

WPM \_\_\_\_\_



## Words & Expressions

**fictitious** [fik'tifəs] *adj.* imagined; not real 虚构的, 假的

**character** ['kærəktə] *n.* person in a novel, play, etc. (小说、戏剧等中的)人物

**converse** [kən'və:s] *v.* talk with 交谈

**ancient** ['eɪnfənt] *adj.* 古代的, 远古的

**tasty** [teisti] *adj.* having a strong and pleasant flavor; appetizing 好吃的, 引起食欲的

**flap** [flæp] *v.* (of a bird) fly in the specified direction by moving its wings 振翼而飞

**branch** [brɑ:ntʃ] *n.* arm-like division of a tree, growing from the trunk or a bough 树枝

**delicious** [di'liʃəs] *adj.* 美味的

**friendly** ['frendli] *adj.* acting like a friend 友好的

**feather** ['feðə] *n.* 羽毛

**snap** [snæp] *v.* catch with the teeth 猛地咬住

**flatter** ['flætə] *v.* praise sb. too much or insincerely, esp. in order to gain favor for oneself  
恭维, 讨好



## Notes

1. A fable is a short, fictitious story that teaches a lesson. 寓言为短小精悍的虚构故事, 具有一定训诫作用。
2. However, most people do not think that crows have beautiful voices. 然而, 大多数人认为乌鸦的噪音不好听。
3. Then he turns to the crow and says, "You cannot trust a person who flatters you." and runs away. 然后, 狐狸转向乌鸦说: "你不能相信一个只恭维你的人。" 接着逃之夭夭。  
turn to: 转向



## Exercises

### 1. Questions on the text:

- 1) What is the difference between a fable and a story?
- 2) What does the crow find one day?
- 3) What does she do then?
- 4) When a fox sees her, what does he say to himself?
- 5) How does the fox persuade the crow to give up the delicious piece of cheese?
- 6) In the fable, the fox is so clever that he cheats the crow successfully. What is your comment on this?
- 7) What can we learn from this fable?

### 2. Choose the best answer according to the information given in the passage by checking A, B, C or D.

- 1) The characters in this fable are \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. a fox and a cock
  - B. a crow and a cock
  - C. a wolf and a crow
  - D. a fox and a crow
- 2) After the crow picks up the food, she \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. goes to tell her dear friend, a fox
  - B. comes back to share it with her two little babies
  - C. flies to a high branch of a tree to eat it
  - D. runs to her neighbor, a sick bird to share the food with it
- 3) Most people do not think that crows \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. have beautiful voices
  - B. have ugly feathers
  - C. have sharp teeth
  - D. are kind-hearted
- 4) The crow feels \_\_\_\_\_ about the fox's words.
  - A. angry
  - B. glad
  - C. funny
  - D. sad
- 5) \_\_\_\_\_ eats the cheese at last.
  - A. The fox
  - B. The crow

- C. Both the fox and the crow
- D. Neither the fox nor the crow

**3. Choose the right meaning for each of the following Chinese phrases by checking A, B, C or D.**

1) 寓言

- |          |            |          |          |
|----------|------------|----------|----------|
| A. story | B. fiction | C. fable | D. novel |
|----------|------------|----------|----------|

2) 虚构的

- |          |               |             |              |
|----------|---------------|-------------|--------------|
| A. false | B. fictitious | C. abstract | D. organized |
|----------|---------------|-------------|--------------|

3) 交谈

- |             |        |          |         |
|-------------|--------|----------|---------|
| A. converse | B. say | C. speak | D. tell |
|-------------|--------|----------|---------|

4) 树枝

- |         |         |           |          |
|---------|---------|-----------|----------|
| A. tree | B. post | C. branch | D. trunk |
|---------|---------|-----------|----------|

5) 美味的

- |           |              |          |              |
|-----------|--------------|----------|--------------|
| A. bitter | B. tasteless | C. sweet | D. delicious |
|-----------|--------------|----------|--------------|

## Text B

### Getting Advice from Strangers

#### Warming-up Questions

1. What will you do when you get into a problem in life?
2. Do you like to talk about your problem with a stranger?
3. Will you consult your parents or friends when you have some problems?

Most Americans don't like to get advice from members of their family. When they need advice, they don't usually ask people they know. Instead, many Americans write letters to newspapers and magazines which give advice on many different subjects, including family problems, sex, the use of language, health, cooking, child care, clothes, and how to buy a house or a car.

Most newspapers regularly print letters from readers with problems. Along with the letters there are answers written by people who are supposed to know how to solve such problems.<sup>1</sup> Some of these writers are doctors; others are lawyers or educators. But two of the most famous writers of advice are women without special training for this kind of work.<sup>2</sup>

One of them answers letters addressed to “Dear Abby.” The other is addressed as “Dear Ann Landers.” Experience is their preparation for giving advice.

There is one writer who has not lived long enough to have much experience.<sup>3</sup> She is a girl named Angel Cavaliere, who started writing advice for newspaper readers at the age of ten. Her advice to young readers now appears regularly in the Philadelphia Bulletin in a column called DEAR ANGEL.



Approximate Length: 200 words

Reading Time \_\_\_\_\_

WPM \_\_\_\_\_



## Words & Expressions

**advice** [əd'vaɪs] *n.* idea given about what to do or how to behave 劝告, 忠告

**write to sb.** 给某人写信

**instead** [ɪn'sted] *adv.* 代替, 更换

**subject** ['sʌbdʒɪkt] *n.* 主题, 话题

**sex** [seks] *n.* 性

**regularly** ['regjʊləli] *adv.* 有规律地, 定期地

**suppose** [sə'pəʊz] *v.* believe, assume 认为, 假定

**solve** [sɒlv] *v.* find an answer to a problem 解决

**lawyer** ['lɔːjə] *n.* person who is trained and qualified in legal matters 律师

**educator** ['edʒukeɪtə] *n.* 教育工作者

**special** ['speʃəl] *adj.* not usual, common or general 特殊的

**address** [ə'dres] *v.* 写收信人的名字及地址

**preparation** [ˌprepə'reɪʃən] *n.* 预备, 准备



## Notes

1. Along with the letters there are answers written by people who are supposed to know how to solve such problems. 和这些信一起刊有回答, 是由知道应该怎样解答此类问题的人士写的。  
be supposed to do sth.: 应该做某事
2. But two of the most famous writers of advice are women without special training for this kind of work. 但是其中两位撰写劝告的最著名的作者却是没有为此类工作受过特殊训练的妇女。
3. There is one writer who has not lived long enough to have much experience. 有一位作者,

她还没有生活经历去积累经验。

## Exercises

### 1. Questions on the text:

- 1) From whom do most Americans like to get advice?
- 2) What kinds of subjects do newspapers and magazines offer advice on?
- 3) Are letters from readers printed by newspapers and magazines?
- 4) Do the writers of advice need necessary training?
- 5) Do you believe that a ten-year-old girl is capable of answering the young readers' letters accurately and effectively?

### 2. Choose the best answer according to the information given in the passage by checking A, B, C or D.

- 1) Americans usually ask \_\_\_\_\_ for advice when they make decisions.  
A. their friends  
B. their parents  
C. strangers who give advice in newspapers and magazines  
D. strangers who work in the government
- 2) Letters to newspapers and magazines are \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. printed regularly by most newspapers  
B. printed altogether in a week  
C. printed according to the reader's idea  
D. never printed without the writer's agreement
- 3) If one wants to be a good writer of the answers to the letters for advice, he \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. has to accept special training  
B. has to work as an editor for two years  
C. should be over 20  
D. is supposed to be just himself
- 4) It is \_\_\_\_\_ for people without much experience to give advice for newspaper readers.  
A. likely                      B. impossible              C. usual                      D. common
- 5) It is likely that \_\_\_\_\_ writes most of her advice for young readers.  
A. Angel Cavaliere                      B. Ann Landers  
C. Dear Abby                      D. all of them

3. Decide whether each of the following statements is true or false according to the information given in the passage. Then, in the space provided, write a T for the true statement and an F for the false one.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1) In general, most Americans don't like to consult their family members when they have problems.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2) Newspapers and magazines only give advice on housework.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3) Answers to the letters are only given by the editors of the newspapers and magazines.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4) People without special training can also be good writers of the answers to the letters for advice.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5) Ann Landers is probably the name of a reader with problems.

4. Choose the word or the phrase which is closest in meaning from Column B to match the one in Column A, and write your answers in the spaces provided.

Column A	Column B
_____ 1) ask	A. expected
_____ 2) advice	B. reply
_____ 3) solve	C. require
_____ 4) supposed	D. do with
_____ 5) answer	E. opinion

5. Choose the best word form to fit into each sentence, making changes where necessary.

- 1) advise, advice, advisable
- A. If you take my \_\_\_\_\_, you'll make progress in study.
- B. Do you think it \_\_\_\_\_ to wait?
- C. We \_\_\_\_\_ them to start early.
- 2) regular, regularity, regularize
- A. We meet with great \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. This patient's pulse and heartbeat are \_\_\_\_\_.
- C. Illegal immigrants can \_\_\_\_\_ their position by obtaining the necessary residence permit.
- 3) suppose, supposed, supposing
- A. They were \_\_\_\_\_ to be here an hour ago.
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ that it rains, can we have the match indoors?
- C. His \_\_\_\_\_ generosity is merely a form of self-interest.
- 4) educate, education, educational
- A. His mother is an \_\_\_\_\_ worker.



- B. When he was young, he received a medical \_\_\_\_\_.
- C. His parents tried their best to \_\_\_\_\_ his ear for music in his early age.
- 5) prepare, preparation, prepared
- A. Students are very busy now because they are \_\_\_\_\_ for their final examination.
- B. Professor Li always makes full \_\_\_\_\_ for his classes.
- C. The President delivered a well-\_\_\_\_\_ speech to the public.

## Text C

### American Congress

#### Warming-up Questions

1. Do you know who the first President of the United States was?
2. How much do you know about the American Government?

In the United States Government, Congress makes the laws. Congress has two parts, which are more or less equal in power. They are known as the House of Representatives and the Senate.<sup>1</sup> The House of Representatives is larger than the Senate whose 100 members (two from each state) serve for six years. The 435 members from the House are elected every two years, and the number from each state is determined by the population of the state. For example, California, which has a large population, has forty-three Representatives, while the state of Nevada has only one.<sup>2</sup>

The House and the Senate are divided into small groups, which take care of special matters such as education or foreign affairs. The most important work of Congress is often done in these groups, which are called committees.

According to the Constitution of the United States, a Senator must be at least thirty years old and he must have been a citizen of the United States for nine years at the time of his election.<sup>3</sup> To be elected to the House a person must be twenty-five years old and must have been a United States citizen for seven years. At the present time, members of Congress include businessmen, farmers, teachers, and especially lawyers.

In general, Senators are better known than Representatives because they are fewer in number and serve for a longer time.<sup>4</sup> Many American presidents served in Congress before