

精 读 INTENSIVE READING

教育部推荐使用大学外语类教材



College English

全国高等学校第二届优秀教材特等奖
国家教委高等学校第二届优秀教材一等奖

高等学校教材

上海外语教育出版社



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大学英语

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教育部推荐使用大学外语类教材

总主编

董亚芬

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(Revised Edition)

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《大学英语》(修订本)多媒体系列教学光盘正式出版

为了繁荣我国的大学外语教育事业,支持我国的大学外语教学改革,上海外语教育出版社开发了《大学英语》(修订本)多媒体系列教学光盘。该系列教学光盘与《大学英语》(修订本)系列教材同步。精读和听力的每册教材各配2张光盘。

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大学英语最新四级词汇测试
大学英语最新六级词汇测试

修 订 本 前 言

《大学英语》是根据国家教育委员会审定批准的《大学英语教学大纲(文理科本科用)》编写的一套系列教材,分精读、泛读、听力、快速阅读、语法与练习五种教程,于1986年出版试用本,1992年出版正式本。

本教材的精读、泛读、快速阅读和听力教程各按分级教学的要求编写六册,每级一册,供1—6级使用;语法与练习编写四册,供1—4级使用。精读与听力教程均配有教师用书和录音磁带,泛读教程1—6级也配有教师用书。对低于大纲规定入学要求的学生,另编预备级精读、泛读教程各两册。全套教材由复旦大学、北京大学、华东师范大学、中国人民大学、武汉大学和南京大学分工编写,复旦大学董亚芬担任总主编。前大学外语教材编审委员会综合大学英语编审组的全体成员对这套教材的设计与编写自始至终给予关注。

这次修订是在广泛听取全国各地使用本系列教材的教师们的意见并通过问卷形式对数以万计的师生征求意见的基础上进行的。大学外语教学指导委员会综合大学英语组对本教材的修订提供了多方面的指导与帮助。修订的宗旨是“面向21世纪,将大学英语教学推上一个新台阶”。修订本根据各教程的具体情况,对课文作适当调整,提高大纲词汇的覆盖率和常用词汇的重现率,进一步完善练习,突出重点词语的操练;同时加强各教程间的横向联系,做到既自成体系又相互补充,形成整体。修订本更加注意文、理、工、农、医等各科的通用性,力求给学生打好“宽、厚、牢”的语言基础。

精读教程的修订重点放在改善对词汇的处理和改进练习两个方面,在培养学生阅读能力的同时,更好地加强对学生表达能力的训练。具体说来,有如下几点:

一、筛选出每课的重点词,加以反复操练。1. 将每课生词表中凡属《大学英语教学大纲通用词汇表》的词,一律用黑体标出。某些词虽不是大纲词,但确系较为常用的,亦用黑体标明;2. 从上述用黑体标出的词中,每课再精选出20—30个左右更具活力的常用词,连同词组一起作为该课练习的重点。为醒目起见,将这部分重点词另用“Words to Drill”一栏列出。一至四册重点操练的词和词组总计有1345个。

二、进一步提高大纲词汇的覆盖率和重现率。修订本尽可能在各种练习中补进课文没有覆盖的《大纲通用词汇表》中的词。凡在书中各种场合出现的1—4级大纲词汇,在该册附录的词汇表(Glossary)中,均用“*”号标明;5—6级大纲词,用“△”号标注。

三、修订本对练习部分作了较大的修订,以加强句子和语篇水平的操练。1. 词语练习改为全部围绕各课列出的重点操练词和词组进行;2. 进一步增加主观题:除保留各单元阅读材料中的英译汉练习外,一至六册均设汉译英练习;一至四册每课增设一篇根据课文内容写成的完形填空题(Cloze);各册均增设了简答题、改写句子等练习;改进写作练习,从第一册起就让学生开始写成段文章,使其在写作实践中学会写作。

四、一至四册增设复习题(Revision Exercises)。除对原有的两套自测题(Test Yourself)加以改进,分别置于各册的第五单元和第十单元后面外,每册再各增两套复习题,分别放在第三单元和第八单元之后。主要用于进一步操练并巩固所学过的有关各课

的重点词语和语言技能。

五、新增科普文章阅读(Supplementary Reading in Popular Science)一栏。每册增收数篇反映当前各种科普内容的文章并附若干简答题,供学生自测。

《大学英语》精读教程由复旦大学英语教学部负责编写。翟象俊主编第一、二、五册;李荫华主编第三、四、六册;程雨民、孙骊担任主审。参加编写第一册的还有张增健、王德明、任建国、赵建、杨晨等。英国专家 Anthony J. Ward 和美国专家 Craig M. Breon 以及 Janet W. Helfand 协助编写和审阅。

本书为精读教程第二册的修订本,供大学英语二级学生使用,由翟象俊主编,孙骊主审,王德明负责具体修订工作。参加修订的还有夏国佐、赵建等。美籍专家 Mark Eades 和 René Florence 协助编写和审阅。上海外语教育出版社的编辑同志在付梓前仔细编审,精心设计,谨此一并致谢。

由于编者水平与经验有限,教材中难免还有不足之处,希望广大读者批评指正。

本书录音磁带由上海外语音像出版社出版发行。

编者
1997年3月

使用说明

本书为《大学英语》精读教程第二册,供大学英语二级的学生使用。

第二册共有十个单元。每一单元由课文(Text)、生词(New Words)、注释(Notes)、练习(Study and Practice)、阅读练习(Reading Activity)和有引导的写作(Guided Writing)六部分组成。

课文全部选用原文材料,但有少量删改。选材力求题材、体裁多样,内容丰富有趣,并有一定的启发性。讲解课文时应从全篇内容着眼,并对一些常用词和词组的用法进行分析,既要防止只讲语言点而忽略通篇内容,也要避免只注意文章内容而忽视语言基础训练。

为便于学生学习,生词释义采用英、汉结合的方式。在一般情况下,尽可能用英语释义,并酌情加注汉语,难以用英语解释清楚的则直接用汉语释义。

注释尽量用浅近的英语,主要介绍有关的背景知识,说明一些特殊的语言现象,供学生预习时参考。

本册的练习包括朗读和背诵(Reading Aloud and Memorizing)、课文理解(Comprehension of the Text)、词汇(Vocabulary)、构词(Word Building)、结构(Structure)、完形填空(Cloze)和翻译(Translation)等部分。朗读和背诵练习主要要求学生掌握句重音和意群,并熟记课文中有关段落。课文理解练习要求学生根据课文回答问题,有的则要求学生陈述自己的看法;有条件的班级可用一定的时间在教师引导下进行讨论,以提高学生的口头表达能力。词汇练习旨在巩固课文中所学常用词和词组的用法。构词练习要求学生熟悉现代英语中的主要构词法,熟练掌握一些常用的前缀、后缀,借以扩大词汇量。结构练习的目的是使学生掌握一些英语常用句型,以提高学生的表达能力。完形填空练习是一种综合性的练习,分A、B两篇。前者根据课文写成,主要围绕该课重点词和词组作语篇水平的操练;后者选自课外的文章。这一练习有一定难度,需要由教师予以启发引导。翻译练习每单元安排八句汉译英,可作为课外书面作业。

阅读练习旨在培养学生的阅读技能,每一(或二)单元编列一项技能,并配有一篇内容与课文相近而难度较浅的阅读材料;其中1—4级的大纲词汇均加注汉语,放在前面,希望学生尽量掌握。教师应紧扣技能的培养,不必在语言现象的分析上花太多时间。新增的科普阅读文章(Supplementary Reading in Popular Science)主要供学生自学,教师也可酌情选用。

有引导的写作在本册中主要是培养学生连句成段的能力,并进一步练习段落写作。

书中每隔两或三单元后所设的复习题(Revision Exercises)或自测题(Test

Yourself), 供学生复习并巩固所学内容。书末附有参考答案。

总之,练习是按照教学大纲和本册教程的要求编写的,练习量较大,难度适当照顾各类学生的需要。教师可以根据学生的具体情况有选择地加以利用。

编者
1997年3月

CONTENTS

UNIT 1	1
Text: Is There Life on Earth?	1
Study & Practice	6
Reading Activity	13
Skill: Reading Attack Skill I	
—Using Word Part Clues for Word Meanings	
Passage: Fresh Air Will Kill You	
Guided Writing	17
Part I Skill: Coherence	
Part II Paragraph Writing	
UNIT 2	19
Text: The Dinner Party	19
Study & Practice	23
Reading Activity	30
Skill: Reading Attack Skill II (Follow-up)	
—More Prefixes and Suffixes	
Passage: An Important Lesson	
Guided Writing	33
Part I Skill: Combining Sentences with Coordinating Conjunctions and	
Conjunctive Adverbs	
Part II Paragraph Writing	
Supplementary Reading in Popular Science	34
Smog-Eating Cars	
UNIT 3	36
Text: Lessons from Jefferson	36
Study & Practice	42
Reading Activity	50
Skill: (Reviewing Work)	
Passage: The American Ideal of a Great Leader	
Guided Writing	54
Part I Skill: Developing a Paragraph from the Topic Sentence	
Part II Paragraph Writing	

REVISION EXERCISES 1	55
UNIT 4	59
Text: My First Job	59
Study & Practice	63
Reading Activity	71
Skill: Reading Comprehension Skill III	
—Making Inferences While Reading	
Passage: Black Boy	
Guided Writing	75
Part I Skill: Combining Sentences with Subordinating Conjunctions or	
Relative Pronouns	
Part II Paragraph Writing	
Supplementary Reading in Popular Science	76
A Star Is Born	
UNIT 5	78
Text: The Professor and the Yo-Yo	78
Study & Practice	84
Reading Activity	91
Skill: Reading Beyond the Lines	
Passage: Alfred Nobel — A Man of Contrasts	
Guided Writing	95
Part I Skill: Rearranging Sentences in Logical Order	
Part II Paragraph Writing	
TEST YOURSELF: Test Paper 1	96
UNIT 6	108
Text: The Making of a Surgeon	108
Study & Practice	112
Reading Activity	119
Skill: Reading for Implied Meanings	
Passage: A Doctor on Night-call	
Guided Writing	122
Part I Skill: Parallelism	
Part II Paragraph Writing	
Supplementary Reading in Popular Science	124
Pigs As Organ Donors?	
UNIT 7	126
Text: There's Only Luck	126
Study & Practice	131
Reading Activity	137

Skill: Reading Comprehension Skill IV —Drawing Conclusions While Reading Passage: 38 Who Saw Murder Didn't Call the Police Guided Writing	142
Paragraph Writing	
UNIT 8	143
Text: Honesty: Is It Going out of Style?	143
Study & Practice	149
Reading Activity	158
Skill: Review of Drawing Conclusions While Reading Passage: A Question of Honor	
Guided Writing	162
Part I Skill: Transition I Part II Paragraph Writing	
Supplementary Reading in Popular Science	164
Blood Pressure Lower for Working Women?	
REVISION EXERCISES 2	166
UNIT 9	171
Text: What Is Intelligence, Anyway?	171
Study & Practice	175
Reading Activity	183
Skill: Reading Comprehension Skill V —Understanding Figurative Language Passage: Angels on a Pin	
Guided Writing	187
Part I Skill: Transition II Part II Paragraph Writing	
UNIT 10	190
Text: Profits of Praise	190
Study & Practice	196
Reading Activity	205
Skill: A General Review of Reading Skills Passage: My Wonderful Lousy Poem	
Guided Writing	209
Paragraph Writing	
Supplementary Reading in Popular Science	209
Crazy Weather from the Bottom of the Sea	
TEST YOURSELF: Test Paper 2	212
APPENDIX 1: Key to Revision Exercises 1	222

Key to Revision Exercises 2	224
APPENDIX 2: Key to Test Paper 1	227
Key to Test Paper 2	228
APPENDIX 3: Key to Exercises in Supplementary Readings	231
APPENDIX 4: Glossary	233

UNIT 1

TEXT

It is a humorous essay. But after reading it you will surely find that the author is most serious in writing it.



Is There Life on Earth?

Art Buchwald

There was great excitement on the planet of Venus this week. For the first time Venusian scientists managed to land a satellite on the planet Earth, and it has been sending back signals as well as photographs ever since.

The satellite was directed into an area known as Manhattan (named after the great Venusian astronomer Prof. Manhattan, who first discovered it with his telescope 20,000 light years ago).

Because of excellent weather conditions and extremely strong signals, Venusian scientists were able to get valuable information as to the feasibility of a manned flying saucer landing on Earth. A press conference was held at the Venus Institute of Technology.

“We have come to the conclusion, based on last week’s satellite landing,” Prof. Zog said, “that there is no life on Earth.”

“How do you know this?” the science reporter of the Venus Evening

5

10

Star asked.

15 “For one thing, Earth’s surface in the area of Manhattan is composed of solid concrete and nothing can grow there. For another, the atmosphere is filled with carbon monoxide and other deadly gases and nobody could possibly breathe this air and survive.”

20 “What does this mean as far as our flying saucer program is concerned?”

“We shall have to take our own oxygen with us, which means a much heavier flying saucer than we originally planned.”

“Are there any other hazards that you discovered in your studies?”

25 “Take a look at this photo. You see this dark black cloud hovering over the surface of Earth? We call this the Consolidated Edison Belt. We don’t know what it is made of, but it could give us a lot of trouble and we shall have to make further tests before we send a Venus Being there.”

30 “Over here you will notice what seems to be a river, but the satellite findings indicate it is polluted and the water is unfit to drink. This means we shall have to carry our own water, which will add even greater weight to the saucer.”

“Sir, what are all those tiny black spots on the photographs?”

35 “We’re not certain. They seem to be metal particles that move along certain paths. They emit gases, make noise and keep crashing into each other. There are so many of these paths and so many metal particles that it is impossible to land a flying saucer without its being smashed by one.”

“What are those stalagmite projections sticking up?”

40 “They’re some type of granite formations that give off light at night. Prof. Glom has named them skyscrapers since they seem to be scraping the skies.”

“If all you say is true, won’t this set back the flying saucer program several years?”

“Yes, but we shall proceed as soon as the Grubstart gives us the added funds.”

45 “Prof. Zog, why are we spending billions and billions of zilches to land a flying saucer on Earth when there is no life there?”

“Because if we Venusians can learn to breathe in an Earth atmosphere, then we can live anywhere.”

NEW WORDS

humorous /'hju:mərəs/ *a.*

funny; that makes people laugh 幽默的

humor <i>n.</i>	
essay /'esei/ <i>n.</i>	散文, 随笔
excitement <i>n.</i>	the state or quality of being excited
planet /'plænit/ <i>n.</i>	large body in space that moves round a star, esp. round the sun 行星
Venusian /vi'nju:siən/ <i>a.</i>	of or having to do with the planet Venus 金星的
satellite /'sætəlaɪt/ <i>n.</i>	supposed Venus being 金星人 spacecraft that goes round the planet earth and sends back radio and television signals; heavenly body that goes round a planet (人造)卫星
signal /'signəl/ <i>n.</i>	信号; 暗号
astronomer /əs'trɒnəmə/ <i>n.</i>	person who studies the science of the sun, moon, stars and planets 天文学家
telescope /'telɪskəʊp/ <i>n.</i>	instrument with special glasses used for seeing distant things
extremely /ɪks'tri:mli/ <i>ad.</i>	very 极端, 非常
extreme <i>a.</i>	
feasibility /'fi:zə'biliti/ <i>n.</i>	possibility of being carried out or done 可行性
feasible <i>a.</i>	
manned /mænd/ <i>a.</i>	occupied by one or more persons 载人的
saucer /'sɔ:sə/ <i>n.</i>	浅碟; 茶托
flying saucer <i>n.</i>	飞碟
conference /'kɒnfərəns/ <i>n.</i>	meeting
√ press conference <i>n.</i>	meeting arranged by an important person to which news reporters are invited to listen to a statement or ask questions 记者招待会
technology /tek'nɒlədʒi/ <i>n.</i>	技术
conclusion /kən'klu:ʒən/ <i>n.</i>	decision or opinion reached by reasoning 结论
conclude <i>v.</i>	
reporter <i>n.</i>	person who gathers news for a newspaper, magazine, or radio or TV station 记者
compose /kəm'pəʊz/ <i>vt.</i>	make up, form 组成, 构成
concrete /'kɒŋkri:t/ <i>n.</i>	building material made by mixing cement with sand, small stones and water 混凝土
atmosphere /'ætməsfɪə/ <i>n.</i>	all the gases round the earth; air in a place 大气; 空气
carbon /'kɑ:bən/ <i>n.</i>	碳
monoxide /mɒ'nɒksaɪd/ <i>n.</i>	一氧化物
deadly <i>a.</i>	causing death; likely to cause death 致命的

gas <i>n.</i>	气体
survive /sə'vaiv/ <i>vi.</i>	remain alive; continue to live or exist 活下来; 幸存
<i>vt.</i>	remain alive after; live longer than 经历...后还活着; 比...活得长
survival <i>n.</i>	
program <i>n.</i>	plan of what is to be done 计划
concern /kən'sɜ:n/ <i>vt.</i>	be of importance or interest to; have an effect on 涉及, 关系到
oxygen /'ɒksidʒən/ <i>n.</i>	氧, 氧气
originally /ə'ridʒinəli/ <i>ad.</i>	formerly 起初, 原来
original <i>a.</i>	
hazard /'hæzəd/ <i>n.</i>	danger
hover /'hɒvə/ <i>vi.</i>	stay in or near one place in the air 盘旋
consolidated /kən'sɒlɪdeɪtɪd/ <i>a.</i>	united; combined 联合的
consolidate <i>vt.</i>	
belt /belt/ <i>n.</i>	area that has some special quality; zone (地)带
indicate /'ɪndɪkeɪt/ <i>vt.</i>	show
indication <i>n.</i>	
pollute /pə'lju:t/ <i>vt.</i>	make (air, water, soil, etc.) dirty with man-made waste 污染
pollution <i>n.</i>	
unfit /'ʌn'fɪt/ <i>a.</i>	not good enough; not suitable
particle /'pɑ:tɪkl/ <i>n.</i>	粒子; 微粒
emit /i'mɪt/ <i>vt.</i>	send out 散发, 射出
emission <i>n.</i>	
crash /kræʃ/ <i>v.</i>	fall or strike suddenly, violently and noisily 坠落; 猛撞
smash /smæʃ/ <i>v.</i>	(cause to) break into pieces violently (使) 碎裂
stalagmite /'stæləgmɑɪt/ <i>n.</i>	石笋
projection /prə'dʒekʃən/ <i>n.</i>	sth. that stands out from a surface 凸出物
project <i>v.</i>	
type /taɪp/ <i>n.</i>	a particular kind, class or group 类型, 种类
granite /'grænɪt/ <i>n.</i>	hard grey stone used for building 花岗岩
formation /fɔ:'meɪʃən/ <i>n.</i>	sth. that is formed; way in which sth. is formed 形成(物)
skyscraper /'skɑ:skreɪpə/ <i>n.</i>	very tall building 摩天大楼
scrape /skreɪp/ <i>vt.</i>	rub with sth. rough or sharp 刮, 擦
proceed /prə'si:d/ <i>vi.</i>	continue after having stopped (停顿后) 继续进行
fund /fʌnd/ <i>n.</i>	sum of money set apart or available for a special purpose 资金; 基金

billion /'biljən/ <i>n.</i>	one thousand million
zilch /ziltʃ/ <i>n.</i>	zero; nothing at all

PHRASES & EXPRESSIONS

(be) known as	also publicly called; named 以…闻名, 通常名叫
name after	give the same name as 以…名字命名
as to	about, concerning 关于
base on / upon	use as a basis or foundation for 以…为基础, 把… 基于
for one thing ... (for another)	in the first place ... (in the second place)
be composed of	have as members or parts 由…组成
as far as ... be concerned	to the degree that it matters to 就…而言
stick up	stand upright; project 直立; 突出
give off	emit; send out 发出; 散发出
set back	delay the advance or development of 耽搁; 阻碍

PROPER NAMES

Art Buchwald /'ɑ:t 'bʊtʃwəld/	阿特·布奇沃德
Venus /'vi:nəs/	金星
Manhattan /mæn'hætən/	曼哈顿(纽约市中心区)
Zog /zɔ:g/	佐格(姓氏)
Edison /'edisən/	爱迪生(姓氏)
Glom /glɒm/	格洛姆(姓氏)

NOTES

- 1 Art Buchwald (1925 -):** well-known humor columnist (幽默专栏作家) for the *Washington Post* (《华盛顿邮报》).
- 2 Manhattan:** the commercial and cultural center of New York City, famous for its tall buildings and theaters.
- 3 20,000 light years ago:** A light year is the *distance* that light travels in one year, about 6 trillion (6,000,000,000,000) miles. Art Buchwald is being humorous when he deliberately (故意地) says “20,000 light years ago”. The intended meaning is only “a very, very long time ago.”
- 4 Consolidated Edison Belt:** There is a radiation zone (辐射带) encircling (环绕) the earth, called the Van Allen Belt (范爱伦辐射带). Consolidated Edison is the company that makes and supplies electricity for much of eastern New