

河南省高等教育自学考试教材

# 基础英语

主编 李泽民 吕长发

副主编 史传高 李宏志 程若春

ESSENTIAL ENGLISH

第四册



河南大学出版社



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## 前 言

高等教育自学考试教材建设是高等教育自学考试工作的一项基本建设。为了满足个人自学、社会助学和国家考试的需要,我们组织了河南大学外语系的部分教师,根据专业考试计划,按照全国高等教育自学考试指导委员会颁布的《英语专业自学考试大纲》的要求,并结合自学考试的特点编写了《基础英语》一书。它是我省高等教育自学考试英语专业的必读教材,也是我省高等教育自学考试其它专业的公共英语教材,同时也可作为普通高校和成人高校的教学用书。

本书由李泽民、吕长发任主编,史传高、李宏志、程若春任副主编。

编写高等教育自学考试教材是一种新的尝试。由于本书的编印时间仓促,不当之处,在所难免,希望得到社会各方面和广大自学者的批评指正。

河南省高等教育自学考试委员会办公室

1993年5月

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## Lesson One

### TEXT

#### JIMMY VALENTINE

*by O. Henry*

A guard came to the prison shoeshop, where Jimmy was working, and told him that the warden wished to see him.

Jimmy went into the warden's office, not knowing what to expect.

"Valentine," the warden said, "you'll be pleased to hear that the governor has given you a pardon. You'll go out in the morning . . . Brace up and make a man of yourself. You are not a bad fellow at heart. Stop cracking safes and live straight."

"Me?" Jimmy said, in surprise. "Why, I never cracked a safe in my life."

"Oh, no," the warden laughed. "Of course not. Let's see now. How was it you happened to get sent up on that Springfield job? Was it because you couldn't prove an alibi? Or was it simply a case of a mean jury that had it in for you?"

"Me?" Jimmy said. "Why, warden, I was never in Springfield in my life."

"Take him away," the warden said. "Release him at seven tomorrow morning. Better think over my advice, Valentine."

At seven o'clock the next morning Jimmy Valentine was in the warden's outer office, waiting for the door to be unlocked.

He wore a badly fitting ready-made suit and a pair of stiff shoes the state provides its discharged guests.

The clerk handed him a railroad ticket and a five-dollar bill that was supposed to help him get a new start in life. The warden gave him a cigar, shook his hand, and wished him well.

Jimmy walked slowly to the railroad station. On the way he tossed a quarter into the hat of a blind man sitting by a doorway.

Three hours later he left the train at a little station near the state line. He went to the café of one Mike Dolan and shook hands with Mike, who was alone behind the bar.

"Sorry we couldn't get you out sooner, Jimmy, me boy," Mike said. "The governor, you know, wasn't sure about you. Are you all right?"

"Fine," Jimmy said. "Do you have my key?"

Mike handed over the key. Jimmy went upstairs and unlocked the door of a room at the rear. Everything was just as he had left it. On the floor he found one of Ben Price's cuff links, which had been dropped when that eminent detective had arrested him.

Pulling from the wall a folding bed, Jimmy slid back a panel in the wall and dragged out a dust-covered suitcase. He opened it and gazed fondly at the finest set of burglar tools in the East. It was a complete set, and it had cost him over nine hundred dollars.

In half an hour Jimmy went downstairs through the café. He was now dressed in tasteful, well-fitting clothes and carried his dusted and cleaned suitcase in his hand.

"Got anything on?" Mike Dolan asked.

"Me?" Jimmy said in a puzzled tone. "I don't understand. I'm now an honest salesman, representing the New York Snap-

py Cracker Company."

A week after the release of Valentine, there was a neat safe burglary in Indiana and then there was a bank safe robbery in Missouri. The losses were high, and the police and the bank officials decided to ask for the help of the famous thiefcatcher Ben Price.

"It looks like Jimmy Valentine again," he said after he had completed his investigation. "He's up to his old tricks, I'll bet."

One afternoon Jimmy climbed down from a mail coach in Elmore, a little town in the back country of Arkansas. Jimmy, looking like an athletic young senior just home from college, went down the board sidewalk toward the hotel.

A young lady crossed the street, passed him at the corner and entered a door over which hung the sign "The Elmore Bank." Jimmy looked into her eyes, forgot what he was, and became another man. She looked at Jimmy and blushed. Young men of Jimmy's style and looks were scarce in Elmore.

Jimmy spoke to a boy who was loafing in front of the bank. "Isn't that Miss Polly Simpson?" he asked.

"Naw," the boy said. "She's Annabel Adams. Her pa owns this bank."

Jimmy was forced to make a quick decision. He had fallen in love with Miss Annabel Adams.

He went to the hotel and registered as Ralph D. Spencer. He told the clerk he had come to Elmore to start a business. He had thought of a shoe business. Was there an opening?

The clerk was impressed with Jimmy's style. He liked Jimmy's new bow tie. Yes, there was need for a shoe store in town, and he hoped Mr. Spencer would locate there soon.

And so, Mr. Ralph Spencer put aside all that was Jimmy Valentine and became a good citizen of Elmore. His store did well from the beginning. Meanwhile he had become socially popular in the town. He had met Annabel Adams, and before the end of the year they were engaged.

*(To be continued)*

### WORDS AND EXPRESSIONS

warden ['wɔ:dn] n. the official in charge of a prison

governor ['gʌvənə] n. a person who controls or directs the public affairs of a city, province, colony or (US) a state

pardon ['pɑ:dn] n. forgiveness; an action of a court or ruler forgiving a person for an unlawful act, or forgiving the act itself v. to forgive; to excuse; to overlook

brace [breis] v. to give vigor or energy to; to stimulate

brace up to brace oneself; to call forth one's courage, resolution, etc.

crack [kræk] n. a line of division where something is broken, but not into separate parts; v. to get or make a crack or cracks in; to break into (a safe)

alibi ['ælibai] n. an argument or defence that a person charged with a crime was in another place at the time the crime was done and that he therefore could not have done it

jury ['dʒʊəri] n. a body of persons (in US and Britain, twelve) who swear to give a true decision (a verdict) on issues of fact in a case in a court of justice

have it in for (someone) to bear (someone) ill will; to have a bitter feeling against; to wish or mean to harm

release [ri'li:s] v. to allow to go; to set free; n. releasing or  
 being released; an instance of this  
 discharge [dis'tʃɑ:dʒ] v. to send (someone) away; to allow  
 (someone) to leave  
 toss [tɒs] v. to throw up into or through the air; to jerk  
 quarter ['kwɔ:tə] n. (US) 25 cents  
 cuff [kʌf] n. the end of a shirt or coat sleeve at the wrist  
 link [lɪŋk] n. (usually plural) one of a pair of fasteners for the  
 sleeves of a shirt  
 rear [riə] n. the back part; (attributive) in or at the rear  
 eminent ['eminənt] adj. (of a person) distinguished  
 slide [slaid] v. to (cause to) move smoothly over; to slip along  
 a polished surface  
 panel ['pænl] n. a separate part of the surface of a door, ceil-  
 ing, etc. usually raised above or sunk below the surround-  
 ing area  
 tasteful ['teɪstfʊl] adj. showing good taste  
 snappy ['snæpi] adj. likely to break, part or be released sud-  
 denly, especially with a sharp, cracking sound  
 cracker ['krækə] n. a small thin round or square well-baked  
 unsweetened cake of a breadlike mixture  
 burglar ['bɜ:glə] n. a person who breaks into a house at night  
 in order to steal  
 burglary ['bɜ:gləri] n. (an instance of) the crime of breaking  
 into a house at night to steal  
 athletic [æθ'letɪk] adj. physically strong, with well-balanced  
 proportions between the trunk and limbs  
 scarce [skeəs] adj. rare; seldom met with  
 register ['redʒɪstə] v. to enter one's name on a formal or offi-  
 cial record

loaf [ləʊf] v. to waste time; to spend time idly  
 locate [ləʊ'keɪt] v. to take up residence or set up business

## PROPER NOUNS

Jimmy Valentine ['dʒɪmi 'væləntɪn]	吉米·瓦伦丁
O. Henry [əʊ 'henri]	欧·亨利
Springfield ['sprɪŋfi:ld]	斯普林菲尔德(美国伊利诺斯州首府)
Mike Dolan ['maɪk 'dəʊlən]	迈克·多伦
Indiana [ˌɪndi'ænə]	印第安那(美国州名)
Missouri [mi'zuəri]	密苏里(美国州名)
Ben Price ['ben 'praɪs]	本·普赖斯
Elmore ['elmə:]	艾尔摩(小镇名)
Arkansas ['ɑ:kənsə:]	阿肯色(美国州名)
Polly Simpson ['pɒli 'sɪmpsn]	波莉·辛普森
Annabel Adams ['ænəbel 'ædəmz]	安娜贝尔·亚当斯
Ralph D. Spencer ['reɪf 'di: 'spensə]	拉尔夫·D. 斯潘塞

## NOTES TO THE TEXT

1. O. Henry: This is the pseudonym of William Sydney Porter (1862—1910), the famous American short-story writer. Among his best known tales are *The Gift of the Magi*, *The Furnished Room*, *A Service of Love*, *The Cop and the Anthem*, etc., which illustrate his technique of ironic coincidence and the surprising ending.
2. How was it you happened to get sent up on that Springfield job?
  - 1) The preposition *on* here expresses the basis, ground or

reason for something, meaning "because of", "as a result of", or "through".

Another example:

The man was arrested on a charge of theft.

- 2) Here *job* is a slang word meaning a dishonest or harmful piece of work, especially robbery or a beating.
- 3) send up: to send (someone) to prison
3. ... of one Mike Dolan ...  
*One* means "a certain" when it is used before names.
4. me boy: my boy
5. the East: the states of the U. S. A. east of the Mississippi and north of the Ohio, especially the northern states on the Atlantic seaboard
6. ... there was a neat safe burglary .... : ... there was a safe burglary which was done cleverly and smartly ....
7. I'll bet: I'm certain
8. naw [nɔ:, nɔ]: an American slang word meaning "no"

## EXERCISES

I. Answer the following questions on the text:

1. Where was Jimmy working when a guard came to him?
2. Why did the warden want to speak to Jimmy? What did he tell Jimmy?
3. Did the warden believe Jimmy when he said that he had never cracked a safe in his life? How do you know?
4. Why did the clerk give Jimmy a five-dollar bill?
5. Where did Jimmy live before he was arrested?
6. Who was Ben Price? What conclusion did he reach when he had completed his investigation?

7. Whom did Jimmy meet in Elmore that caused a change in him?
8. Why was Jimmy forced to make a quick decision? What decision did he have to make?
9. What was Jimmy going to do in Elmore?
10. Did his plan work?

I. Explain the italicized words in the following:

1. Stop cracking safes and *live straight*.
2. Was it because you couldn't prove *an alibi*?
3. He wore a badly fitting *ready-made* suit and a pair of stiff shoes the state provides its *discharged* guests.
4. Three hours later he left the train at a little station near the *state line*.
5. He went to the café of *one Mike Dolan*.
6. One afternoon Jimmy climbed down from *a mail coach* in Elmore ....
7. Was there an *opening*?
8. He liked Jimmy's new *bow tie*.

III. Fill in each of the blanks with a suitable preposition or adverb:

1. He looked up \_\_\_\_\_ surprise when he heard his name called.
2. The kitchen was \_\_\_\_\_ the rear of the house.
3. O. Henry was eminent \_\_\_\_\_ a short-story writer.
4. The drawers of this desk slide \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ easily.
5. Who is standing there \_\_\_\_\_ the corner of the street?
6. Mary likes to speak \_\_\_\_\_ a commanding tone.
7. The old fisherman gazed \_\_\_\_\_ me politely and \_\_\_\_\_ interest.

8. Nowadays there is a great need            high-quality goods.

9. We'll have to look            the problem sooner or later.

10. Did he impress the teacher            his fine words?

IV. Translate the following into Chinese:

1. Jimmy went into the warden's office, not knowing what to expect.

2. You are not a bad fellow at heart.

3. The clerk handed him a railroad ticket and a five-dollar bill that was supposed to help him get a new start in life.

4. Everything was just as he had left it.

5. He was dressed in tasteful, well-fitting clothes and carried his dusted and cleaned suitcase in his hand.

6. It looks like Jimmy Valentine again.

7. Jimmy spoke to a boy who was loafing in front of the bank.

8. And so, Mr. Ralph Spencer put aside all that was Jimmy Valentine and became a good citizen of Elmore.

V. Replace the italicized words or phrases with specific words or expressions that appear in the text:

1. The people in the village are generous *in their innermost nature*.

2. Ever since John insulted her, the teacher *has had a bitter feeling against* him.

3. The members of the jury were *set free from their duties*.

4. The angry bull *caused the rider to fall to the ground*.

5. The children were *moving smoothly* down the snow-covered mountainside.

6. Anne *looked long and steadily* at the painting on the wall.

7. During the depression, the workers who had lost their jobs *wasted their time* in the street.
  8. Hans and Jan *promised to marry each other*.
- VI. Make sentences with each of the following words, using different parts of speech indicated in the brackets:
1. pardon (n. v. )
  2. straight (adv. adj. )
  3. release (v. n. )
  4. dust (v. n. )
  5. safe (adj. n. )
- VII. Paraphrase the following:
1. Brace up and make a man of yourself.
  2. How was it you happened to get sent up on that Springfield job?
  3. Or was it simply a case of a mean jury that had it in for you?
  4. "Got anything on?" Mike Dolan asked.
  5. He's up to his old tricks, I'll bet.
  6. Jimmy, looking like an athletic young senior just home from college, went down the board sidewalk toward the hotel.
  7. Jimmy looked into her eyes, forgot what he was, and became another man.
  8. ... and he hoped Mr. Spencer would locate there soon.
- VIII. Choose the right words or phrases from the list given below to complete the following sentences. Make changes where necessary:

hang	pardon	represent	where	hand
scarce	lose	please	pass	ask for
cost	good-bye	crack	mean	start
drag	suppose	whether	arrest	release

1. She went to Chicago,            she met John Smith and married him.
2. The very sight of the Iron Pagoda            us beyond description.
3. Dark clouds            overhead, and a heavy snow fell.
4. With the words, he            Professor Wang the newspapers.
5. Time eventually came for me to wish him           .
6. If you get into difficulties, don't hesitate to            advice.
7.            me for contradicting you.
8. The glass will            if you pour boiling water into it.
9. That man was very            to the little boy, teasing him and treating him unkindly.
10. Mary            Tom from his promise to go to the seaside with her.
11. You            to clean both the outside and the inside of the windows.
12. To arrive there before dusk, we'd better make an early           .
13. I am not sure            I can help you this time.
14. Our attention            the moment we entered the art gallery.
15. The murderer at large            out of his hiding place.
16. Mastering a foreign language            much time and energy.

17. During the festival, there were so many people in the street that I lost my little sister in the crowd.

18. Since Jimmy could not establish an alibi the judge passed sentence on him.

19. I speak only on my own behalf, for I cannot represent the whole class.

20. Water being scarce, we have to make the best of what we have.

X. Translate the following into English:

1. 小张本质上是一位诚实的学生。(at heart)

2. 你如果去得太早,就得等着书店开门。(wait for)

3. 我们应该充分利用宝贵的时间,可不能混日子。(loaf)

4. 据说新总统要对政治犯实行大赦。(pardon)

5. 卡特(Carter)在全国各地游荡了半生,决定在阿肯色州定居。(locate)

6. 在机场,他是以迈克·多伦的名字登记的。(register)

7. 那天我去图书馆,他碰巧也在那里。(happen)

8. 医生警告他如果他想过正常生活,就必须停止饮酒,打起精神。(brace up)

9. 我非常高兴能在这所学校学习。(please)

10. 要回答这个问题,她不得不做周密的思考。(cost)

11. 他把他的书寄给我们要我们提意见。(ask for)

12. 现在把你们手中的工作先放一下,我有要紧的事告诉你们。(put aside)

X. Read the following passage and then do the exercises attached to it:

### THE HISTORY OF BOOKS

The first books were quite different from the books of today. They were made of baked clay tablets. Some of these