

李丽霞 董会庆 主编

最新大学英语

阅读理解教程

第三册

中国农业出版社

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南林周 审主
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序

自国门开启，西方高度发达的科学技术向我们提出了严峻的挑战，更为我国的改革开放提供了诸多有益的经验。在被人们称为信息时代的今天，阅读是我们获取科学发展最新信息的重要途径。要从浩如烟海的外文资料中获取所需信息，这就要求我们具有较强的阅读能力。因此新的《大学英语教学大纲》的教学目的，是培养学生具有较强的阅读能力和一定的听、说、写、译能力……。大纲把阅读能力置于英语各项基本技能之首，足见其重要。

阅读理解能力是一种领会式能力 (receptive ability)，而非产出式能力 (productive ability)。对产出式语言能力的测试可以直接对语言活动的结果进行评价，如说和写就是如此。由于阅读过程是考生内心的一种心理活动，无法直接观察，只能通过阅读理解测试来评价考生的领会能力。判断这种能力的测试方法是否有效取决于两个因素，即阅读材料的选择和试题的质量。凝聚着有关语言学理论专家及大学英语教学专家理论底蕴和辛勤汗水的《最新大学英语阅读教程》，是根据新《大学英语教学大纲》对学生阅读能力的基本要求编写而成，无疑给大学英语阅读教学注入了新鲜的活力。

本套教材在具备阅读能力测试特点的基础上，同时具备以下特点：(1) 科学性强。严格遵循了有关应用语言学和心理语言学理论以及《英语教学大纲》的要求。(2) 涵盖面广。选材内容丰富、广泛，对各层次、各领域、各种文体的文章，兼收并蓄。(3) 循序渐进。从第一册到第四册，不论其文章难度的编排，还是其习题的设计，都呈现出由易到难、从简单到复杂的合理梯度。(4) 信息量大。每册均由 20 个单元组成，每个单元由 4 篇阅读短文和 1 篇简短回答问题或完形填空的短文组成，阅读总量在 200 000 词以上。(5) 针对性强。文章内容及题型、练习取舍皆针对大学英语四、六级的特点而专门设计编写，对练习和答案作了详细的讲解，因此，本套教程既是大学公共外语英语教师作为阅读教学的好教材，又是各类学生提高英语阅读能力的自学指导书。

本套教材由朱乐红教授总主编，负责文稿的统筹整理、内容审定。本书为第三册，按大学英语阅读三级考试水准要求编写，可在教师指导下在大学二年级第一学期与教材同步配套使用。主编：李丽霞、董会庆；副主编：殷延军；参编：巩存芳、屠明忠、罗建忠；主审：周竹南。

由于时间及水平所限，文稿虽经反复揣摩修改，可能仍有不妥或错漏之处，恳请读者不吝指教。

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2001年5月

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Unit One

Part I Reading Comprehension

Passage One

The traffic lights were red when the motorist approached them. To the surprise of his passenger, the car did not slow down. Suddenly the passenger was thrown forward in the vehicle as the driver put on his brakes at the last moment. The car skidded to a halt just in time.

“Sorry,” said the driver. “I didn’t notice the light. I thought it was green until I saw that it was the top light that was shining. I’m colour blind; I can’t see red colours as you can.”

This strange story is quite true. About ten men in every hundred suffer from colour blindness in some way; women are luckier—only about one in two hundred is affected in this manner. Perhaps it is safer to be driven by a woman.

There are different forms of colour blindness. A man may not be able to see deep red. He may think that red, orange and yellow are all shades of green. In rare cases an unlucky man may see everything in shades of green—a strange world indeed.

In certain occupations colour blindness can be dangerous and candidates are tested most carefully. For example, when fighting at night, soldiers use lights or flares to signal to each other. A green light may mean “Advance” and a red light may mean “Danger! Keep back!” You can see what will happen if somebody thinks that red is green!

Colour blindness in human beings is a strange thing to explain. In a single eye there are millions of very small things called “cones” (锥形体, 视锥细胞). These help us to see in a bright light and to tell the difference between colours. There are also millions of “rods” (杆, 视杆细胞) but these are used for seeing when it is nearly dark. They show us shape but not colour. Wait until it is dark tonight, then go outside. Look round you and try to see what colours you

can recognize.

Human beings have favour to colours. Blue is often popular because it is the colour of the cool sky and sea. Green is a peaceful colour, which makes us, think of fields and forests. Yellow is the cheerful colour of the sun. On the other hand, red is the colour of blood and fire. It makes some people think of accidents, danger and bloodshed. Black is the colour of night. In the dark we cannot see what is around us, so we are sometimes afraid of the unknown and do not like black as a colour.

1. The story of the motorist at the beginning of the passage tells people that _____.
 - A. traffic lights are very important
 - B. it is very dangerous to drive too fast
 - C. the motorist is very careless in driving
 - D. some people are colour blind
2. Women are luckier, because _____.
 - A. only very few of them suffer from colour blindness
 - B. only very few of them suffer from traffic accidents
 - C. only very few of them like to drive out
 - D. only very few of them are drivers
3. Which of the following statements is not true according to the passage?
 - A. Some people can't see deep red.
 - B. Some people may regard red, orange, and yellow as green.
 - C. Some people may think of blue and green as the same colour.
 - D. Quite often, some people may see everything in shades of green.
4. Why do candidates in certain occupations have colour - blindness testing?
 - A. Because some jobs may hurt their eyesight.
 - B. Because they may cause dangers in some jobs.
 - C. Because they are required to fight at night.
 - D. Because some jobs may use eyes very often.
5. All of the following colours are mentioned in the passage except _____.
 - A. red
 - B. yellow
 - C. brown
 - D. black

Passage Two

If sustainable competitive advantage depends on work - force skills, American firms have a problem. Human - resource management is not traditionally seen as central to the competitive survival of the firm in the United States.