



普通高等教育“十一五”国家级规划教材

NEW ESSENTIAL 新起点

[修订版]

新起点 大学基础英语教程

总主编：杨治中 主 编：吴鼎民



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学习方法
与阅读

外语教学与研究出版社
FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH PRESS



普通高等教育“十一五”国家级规划教材
普通高等教育精品教材

NEW ESSENTIAL
COLLEGE ENGLISH

新起点

〔修订版〕

新起点 大学基础英语教程

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前言

高职高专教育是我国高等教育的一个重要组成部分,高职高专学生是我国大学生中一个十分重要的群体。针对这一学生群体的特点,教育部于2000年颁布了《高职高专教育英语课程教学基本要求》(试行)(简称《基本要求》)。该《基本要求》明确指出,高职高专的英语教学应该以培养学生实际运用语言的能力为目标,突出教学内容的实用性和针对性。

根据《基本要求》的这一指导思想,外语教学与研究出版社组织编写了《新起点大学基础英语教程》系列教材。这套教材自2004年出版以来,被众多高职高专院校采用,作为提高学生英语综合应用能力的主要教材,受到师生的广泛好评。近年来,随着我国社会与经济的发展,国家对高职高专院校人才培养提出了更明确的要求,高职高专院校的英语教学改革也在不断深入。面临新的发展和新的要求,《新起点大学基础英语教程》的编者遵循教育部的指导方针,结合实际使用中的反馈意见,经过认真细致的调研、策划与筹备,对第一版教材进行了认真修订,以满足新形势下高职高专英语教学的需求。

为配合高职高专院校的教学安排,《新起点大学基础英语教程》(修订版)每册调整为10个单元,删除并更换了部分选篇。其中《读写教程》还重新编写了语法内容,应用英语写作的教学从第一册开始。此外,《读写教程》和《听说教程》还配备了助学光盘,使该套教材更加立体化。

《新起点大学基础英语教程》(修订版)设1—4级,供两个学年使用。每一级别均由《读写教程》、《听说教程》、《学习方法与阅读》和《自主综合训练》组成。与教材配套的还有录音带、学习光盘、电子课件和试题库,各院校可根据实际需要选择使用。

编者

2008年9月



编写说明

本教材属于《新起点大学基础英语教程》中的学习方法与阅读系列，与读写系列、听说系列话题融通，技能互补，构成一个整体。

本册共 10 个单元，每个单元由 5 个板块构成。第一板块是微型讲座 (Mini-lecture)，主要介绍学习方法，回答英语学习过程中的常见问题，并提出一些有效的建议，目的是指导学生学会学习。第二板块是阅读实践 (Reading Practice)，每单元 4 篇短文，内容围绕同一个话题，目的是使学习者通过阅读增加词汇量，开阔视野，逐步掌握阅读方法。第三板块是中英文对照阅读 (Bilingual Reading)，内容多为中国文化知识，旨在使学习者了解有关中国文化的英文表达方式，提高英语的应用能力。第四板块是格言锦句 (Famous Sayings)。每单元选取了 5 句短小精炼、值得背诵的英语成语或古今中外的名人名言，希望学习者在诵读过程中既培养英语语感，又能启迪智慧，感悟人生。第五板块是听歌学英语 (Reading & Singing)。选取了一些欧美经典歌曲，目的在于使学生通过读词听歌，劳逸结合，寓学于乐。

本书注释详细，配有总词汇表，每单元的练习答案都附在书后，便于在课时不够的情况下由学生自主学习。

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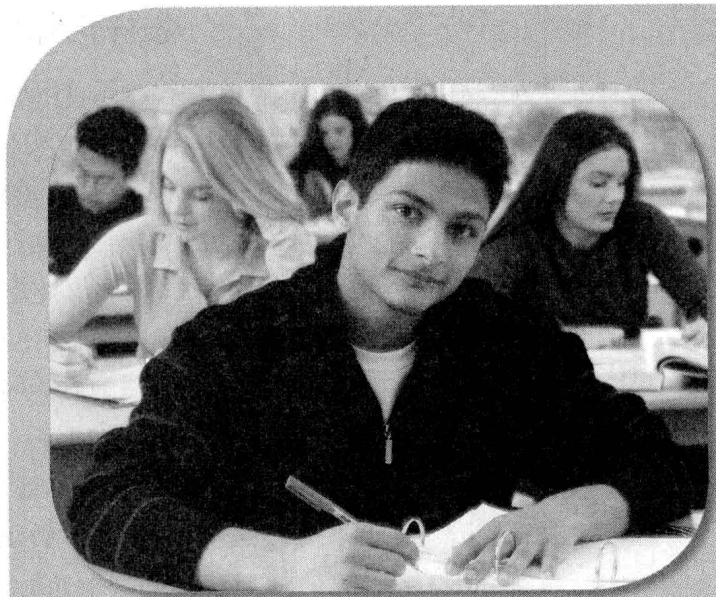
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Unit One

忆需要联想、比较、对比,这样才能记得牢靠。对词卡进行不同的分类加以记忆,可以提高效率。(参照本讲的“即学即练”,学会对单词进行分组。)

记单词要适时反复。有了一定数量的词卡,就可以把它们分成若干组,每组可以在 20 个单词左右,作为一天背词的总量。一天反复三遍,把已经记住的词暂搁一边,把没有记住的词与新词放在一起,凑足 20 个,留作第二天记,依此类推。需要注意的是:已经记住的单词在 5—6 天之后要复习一遍,否则很快会淡忘。如果不抓住时机及时巩固,就会前功尽弃,这一点非常重要。克服遗忘的最好办法是及时地反复。

《高职高专教育英语课程教学基本要求》(试行)词汇表 A 级、B 级单词总数为 2,400,如果每天背 20 个单词,即使平均每天只能记住一半,那么这些词在八个月之内就可以记住。记忆英语单词需要经过数次拉锯战,才能取得最后的胜利。

要善于利用零星时间背单词。我们每天要做的事情很多,有时很难找出完整的时间专门记单词,所以要把零星的时间利用起来。古人说,学习有“三上”:马上,厕上,枕上。说的就是要善于利用零星时间学习。其实,记单词的时间应该分散,因为人的注意力能集中的时间不长,如果连续背一个小时,会头晕脑胀,效果反而不佳。

如果你每天计划花一个小时左右的时间记单词,最好是早、中、晚各背一遍,每次 10—15 分钟。在一天之内这组单词就重复记了三次,且每次都能保持高度集中的注意力。这样做不仅有效利用了零星时间,也符合记忆的规律,效果会更好。

即学即练

请指出下列各组单词分组的标准,并说出每个单词的词义。

1. advance, advanced, advantage
2. abroad, aboard, absorb
3. get, gain, win, achieve, obtain; good, kind, fine, nice; bad, spoil, awfully, ruin, evil
4. adopt, adapt; fridge, bridge; less, unless
5. count, account; accustomed, custom, customer
6. handkerchief, handbook, handwriting
7. patient, disease, doctor, operation, medicine, stomachache
8. patient, impatient; possible, impossible; understanding, misunderstanding
9. little, less, least
10. respect, inspect, aspect, expect

阅读实践

Reading Practice

1

Language Is Changing

Language is always changing. In a society where life continues year after year with few changes, the language does not change much, either. The earliest known languages had complicated grammar but a small, limited vocabulary. Over the centuries, the grammar changed, and the vocabulary grew. For example, the English and Spanish people who came to America during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries gave names to all the new plants and animals they found. In this way, hundreds of new words were introduced into the English and Spanish vocabularies. Today life is changing very fast, and language is changing fast, too.

Linguists say there are nine major language families. The languages in each family are related, and linguists think that they came from the same parent language. About three percent of the people in the world speak languages that are not in these major families.

Notes

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. year after year 年复一年 | 6. be introduced into 被传入, 被引进 |
| 2. the earliest known languages 所知道的最早的语言 | (introduce /ˈɪntrə'dju:s/ vt. 引进, 传入) |
| 3. complicated /ˈkɒmplɪkətɪd/ a. 复杂的, 难解的 | 7. linguist /ˈlɪŋgwɪst/ n. 语言学家 |
| 4. limited /ˈlɪmɪtɪd/ a. 有限的 | 8. major language families 主要语系 (major /ˈmeɪdʒə(r)/ a. 主要的, 较大的) |
| 5. Spanish /ˈspæɪnɪʃ/ a. 西班牙的, 西班牙语的 | 9. parent language 原始语, 母语 |

I. Choose the best answer to each of the following questions.

- Which of the following statements is true about the early languages?
 - They were from the same parent language.
 - They had complicated grammar but a small number of words.
 - They had difficult words but easy grammar.
 - They had a huge number of words and complicated grammar.
- How many major language families are there in the world?
 - Three.
 - Five.
 - Seven.
 - Nine.
- Which of the following statements is NOT true?
 - Language changes more slowly in a primitive society than in an advanced society.
 - Although words in a language grow, its grammar never changes.
 - Languages reflect changes in the society.
 - Language is forever changing.

4. What is the main idea of this passage?
- Languages change slowly.
 - Both languages and society change slowly.
 - Languages change with society.
 - There are many language families in the world.

II. Answer the following questions briefly.

- What happens to a language in a society with relatively few changes?

- Why are English and Spanish mentioned in the passage?

- What conclusion have linguists drawn about languages within each major family?

- How many people in the world speak the languages belonging to the nine major families?

III. Put the following Chinese expressions into English.

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. 复杂的语法 | 2. 有限的词汇 |
| 3. 西班牙人民 | 4. 主要语系 |
| 5. 16 世纪 | |

2

The Assembly of English Words

Some English words are made up of the same part but have different beginnings or different endings, such as import, export, report and transport. All these words, as you can see, have the same “port”, which comes from the Latin word meaning “carry” or “move” from one place to another. And according to the bit at the beginning, which we call the prefix, the meaning changes. “Import” means “bring into a country”; “ex-” means “out of”, so “export” means “carry out of the country”; “re-” means “back”, so “report” means “bring back information”; “trans-” means “across”, so “transport” means “carry across one place to another”.

Let’s look at the following words: supporter, reporter, importer and exporter. You can see that in this case these words are nouns which are made up of a verb plus a suffix, thus meaning a person who completes the action. So a supporter means somebody who supports, a reporter is somebody who reports, an importer is somebody who imports and an exporter is somebody who exports, and so on.

Notes

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. assembly /ə'sembli/ n. 集合 | 5. in...case 在……情况下 |
| 2. be made up of 由……组成 | 6. suffix /'sʌfiks/ n. [语] 后缀 |
| 3. bit /bit/ n. 一小部分 | 7. and so on 等等 |
| 4. prefix /'pri:'fiks/ n. [语] 前缀 | |

I. Answer the following questions briefly.

1. Why are the words “import”, “export” “report” and “transport” mentioned in the passage?

2. Where does “port” come from and what does it mean?

3. What is the function of a prefix?

4. What does the passage mainly discuss?

II. Match the following Chinese terms with their English equivalents.

- | | |
|-------|--------------|
| 1. 词首 | A. prefix |
| 2. 词尾 | B. verb |
| 3. 前缀 | C. beginning |
| 4. 后缀 | D. noun |
| 5. 名词 | E. suffix |
| 6. 动词 | F. ending |

III. Complete the following sentences after the two models.

Model 1: A dishwasher is a machine that is used to wash dishes.

Model 2: A landowner is a person who owns land.

- A bookseller is _____.
- A pencil-sharpener is _____.
- A trouble-maker is _____.
- A _____ is a tool that is used to open tins.
- A _____ is a person who is an expert in building ships.
- A credit card _____ is a person who holds a credit card.

3

Are You Too Old to Learn?

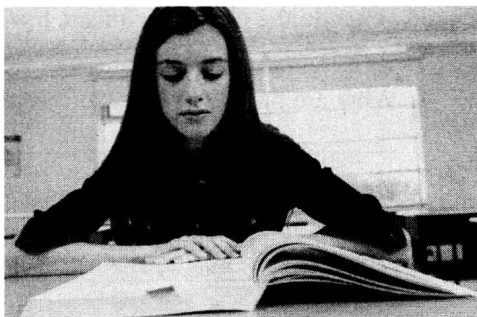
Most people think that the older you get, the harder it is to learn a new language. In other words, they believe that children learn more easily and efficiently than adults. Thus, at some point in our

lives, maybe around age 12 or 13, we lose the ability to learn languages well. Is this idea fact or myth?

Is it true that children learn a foreign language more efficiently than adults? In fact, research studies suggest that the opposite may be true. One report, on 2,000 Danish children studying Swedish, concluded that the teenagers learned more, in less time, than the younger children. Another report, on Americans learning Russian, showed a direct improvement of ability over the age range tested; that is, the ability to learn increased as age increased, from childhood to adulthood.

There are several possible explanations for these findings. For one thing, adults know more about the world and therefore are able to understand meanings more easily than children. Moreover, adults can use logical thinking to help themselves see patterns in the language. Finally, adults have more self-discipline than children.

All in all, it seems that the common idea that children are better language learners than adults may not be fact, but myth.



Notes

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. efficiently /ɪ'fɪʃəntli/ <i>ad.</i> 有效率地 | 9. a direct improvement of ability 能力的直接提高 |
| 2. at some point in our lives 当我们到了一定的年龄 | 10. range /reɪndʒ/ <i>n.</i> 范围 |
| 3. myth /mɪθ/ <i>n.</i> 神话 | 11. explanation /ˌeksplə'neɪʃən/ <i>n.</i> 解释, 说明 |
| 4. suggest /sə'dʒest/ <i>v.</i> 表明 | 12. findings /'faɪndɪŋz/ <i>n.</i> [pl.] 研究结果 |
| 5. opposite /'ɒpəzɪt/ <i>a.</i> 相对的, 相反的 | 13. logical thinking 逻辑思维
(logical /'lɒdʒɪkəl/ <i>a.</i> 逻辑的, 符合逻辑的) |
| 6. Danish /'deɪnɪʃ/ <i>a.</i> 丹麦的 | 14. patterns in the language 语言模式
(pattern /'pætən/ <i>n.</i> 模式) |
| 7. Swedish /'swɪ:dlɪʃ/ <i>n.</i> 瑞典语, 瑞典人;
<i>a.</i> 瑞典的 | 15. self-discipline /ˌself'dɪsɪplɪn/ <i>n.</i> 自我约束 |
| 8. Russian /'rʌʃən/ <i>n.</i> 俄语; <i>a.</i> 俄罗斯的, 俄国的, 俄语 (的) | |

I. Decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

- () 1. Most people believe age has a great effect on language learning.
- () 2. Both experiments are about children learning their native languages.
- () 3. The results of both experiments led to the same conclusion.
- () 4. Children are able to use logical thinking in language learning.

II. Answer the following questions briefly.

1. How do most people understand the relationship between age and language learning?
-
2. What does the expression "the opposite may be true" mean?
-

3. What do the two experiments have in common?

4. What are the possible reasons for the findings of the experiments?

III. Fill in the blanks with the given words or expressions. Change the form where necessary.

efficiently suggest improvement findings pattern

1. That girl's sun-tanned (日晒后的) face _____ excellent health.
2. The first two chapters (章) of the book mainly deal with sentence _____.
3. Although examinations do the job quite _____, their side effects are also huge.
4. The _____ of the test were in favor of us.
5. Much _____ has been made in the public order of the city.

4

Languages in China

The Han people speak Chinese. Spoken Chinese has many dialects. To bring about better communication among people of China, the government has made putonghua (which is based on the principal dialect spoken in and around Beijing) the official language. Many foreigners call the official language Mandarin, but the Chinese prefer the term putonghua (common language). The Northern Chinese dialect is spoken by about 70 percent of the nation's people, and it is now taught in all Chinese schools. Other varieties of Chinese include Min (spoken in Fujian province), Wu (spoken in Shanghai), and Yue (Cantonese), each of which has many local dialects.

Although each dialect of Chinese has its own pronunciation, all speakers of Chinese write the language in the same way. The Chinese writing system uses characters instead of alphabets. Each character is a symbol that represents a complete word.

The ethnic minority peoples of China speak many other languages, including Korean, Mongolian, and Uigur, etc.

Notes

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| 1. dialect /'daiəlekt/ <i>n.</i> 方言 | 9. character /'kærəktə(r)/ <i>n.</i> 字符 |
| 2. official language 官方语言 | 10. alphabet /'ælfəbet/ <i>n.</i> 字母 |
| 3. Mandarin /'mændərɪn/ <i>n.</i> 官话, 普通话 | 11. represent /ˌreprɪ'zent/ <i>vt.</i> 代表 |
| 4. prefer /prɪ'fɜ:(r)/ <i>vt.</i> 喜欢 | 12. the ethnic minority 少数民族 |
| 5. term /tɜ:m/ <i>n.</i> 术语 | 13. Korean /kə'riən/ <i>n.</i> 朝鲜语 |
| 6. variety /və'raɪəti/ <i>n.</i> 各种, 种类, 变化 | 14. Mongolian /mɒŋ'gəʊliən/ <i>n.</i> 蒙古语 |
| 7. pronunciation /prəʊˌnʌnsɪ'eɪʃən/ <i>n.</i> 发音 | 15. Uigur /'wi:ɡʊə(r)/ <i>n.</i> 维吾尔语 |
| 8. in the same way 同样地 | |