

研究生英语创新教育系列教材

—— 主编 白靖宇 郭继荣 ——

硕士英语综合教程

1

本册主编 李欣 游建荣



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主编 白靖宇 郭继荣

主要内容

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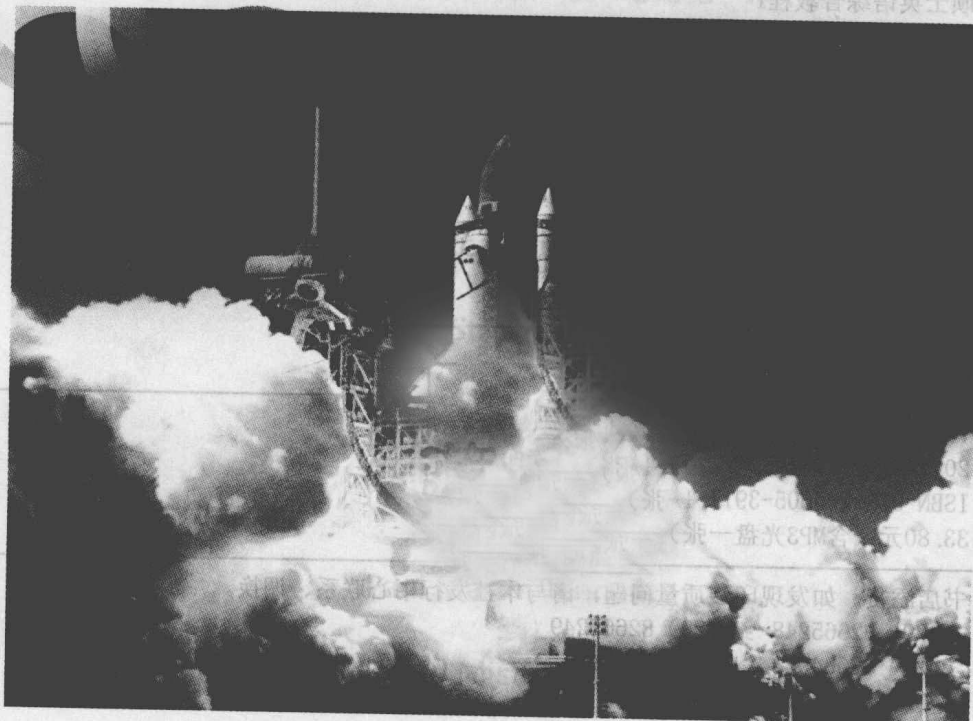
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内容提要

本册教程以课文和练习为核心,共有12个单元,每单元课文分为A、B两篇两部分,其中A篇包括课文、词汇和练习,用于教师课堂教学;B篇包括课文与练习,用于研究生自主学习。另外,本册教材后都附有总词汇表,供参考。

本册教程旨在提高研究生英语综合运用能力,主要供非英语专业硕士研究生第一学期使用,同时也适用于具有中高级英语水平的读者。

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前言

Foreword



目录

《硕士英语综合教程》是“研究生英语创新教育系列教材”必修课主干教材之一。该教程贯彻系列教材“以研究生为本”和“英语创新教育”的核心理念，通过对研究生进行英语读、写、译以及听说等技能的综合训练，巩固和提高他们的语言基础知识和语言应用技能，培养他们运用英语获取信息、沟通交流和创新思维的能力。

本教程共2册，每册共有12个单元，每单元课文分为A、B两篇，其中A篇包括课文、词汇和练习，用于教师课堂教学；B篇包括课文与练习，用于研究生自主学习。每册教材后都附有总词汇表、配备了教师用书和录音光盘。另外，该教程还配有一本《硕士英语综合教程学习指导》，供自学时使用。

本教程最显著的特点是题材具有很强的时代性和思想性。本教程课文内容涉及到低碳经济、互联网、全球变暖、和谐社会、文化冲突、大众传媒以及以人为本、爱情婚姻、文学艺术、科学技术等，既反映了当今社会的许多热点问题，又具有很强的思想性和可读性。由于本教程文章思想内容深刻、意境美，适合在研究生阶段的英语学习中进行讨论式和启发式教学，以达到激活思想、启迪思维的目的。

本教程另一个显著的特点是以语言学习的实践性为原则。本教程练习设计紧扣课文，丰富多彩，包括问题讨论、阅读、翻译、写作等多种形式，能够充分调动研究生学习英语的积极性，使他们成为一位英语学习的实践者。通过主动参与练习实践来巩固已掌握的英语语言知识，使研究生的英语综合技能和水平得到大幅度的提升，增强他们在实践中运用英语的实际能力。

本教程由白靖宇教授全面负责编写，李欣、游建荣担任主编，冯广宜、马珂担任副主编，西安交通大学、陕西师范大学、空军工程大学、西北政法大学、西安财经学院等研究生培养单位具有丰富教学经验的教师共同编写。

由于编者水平有限，书中错误之处在所难免，请广大师生和读者批评指正。

由于编者水平有限，书中错误之处在所难免，请广大师生和读者批评指正。如有不妥之处，希望广大师生和读者在使用过程中及时反馈。本教程是《新英土突册》编者精心编写而成。2011年2月出版，经西安交通大学、陕西师范大学、空军工程大学、西北政法大学、西安财经学院等研究生培养单位共同审定。

本教程共分两册，A册为文解元单册，B册为音译指南。A册共12个单元，B册共12个单元。本教程可作为西安交通大学、陕西师范大学、空军工程大学、西北政法大学、西安财经学院等研究生培养单位的教材，也可供其他院校师生参考。

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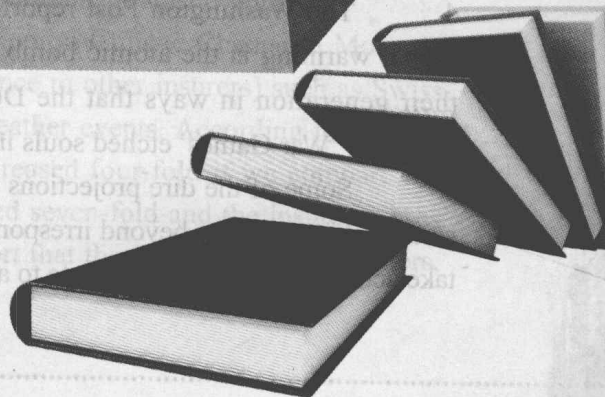


UNIT 1

Low-Carbon Economy

Warm-up Activities

1. What do you know about global warming?
2. What do you think are the reasons for the occurrence of global warming?
3. What should we individuals do to prevent global warming? And what about the government?



John Podesta, Todd Stern, Kit Batten

Overview

1 There is no longer any real question that global warming is occurring as the result of the rapid build-up of greenhouse gases primarily caused by human activities. We are on a trajectory for global warming to become much more intense unless we begin a concerted, rapid shift toward a low-carbon economy. And the danger is increasingly clear and present. As Rajendra Pachauri, chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and recipient of the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize, has said, “If there’s no action before 2012, that’s too late. What we do in the next two to three years will determine our future. This is the defining moment.”

2 The Earth’s average temperature has already increased by 0.8°C (about 1.4°F) over pre-industrial levels, increasing at a rate of 0.2°C per decade since 1975, and without changing our course, we will lock several more degrees of change into the system. Such temperature shifts may sound small, but they are not. During the last ice age, average global temperature was only about 5.4°C (9.7°F) colder than it is now.

3 Many of our leading climate scientists have warned that if we exceed 2.0°C (3.6°F) above pre-industrial times, we will enter a dangerous, uncharted territory. No one knows at what precise temperature the effects of global warming become intolerably large, whether as a result of gradual worsening of droughts, floods, hurricanes, and heat waves or as a result of abrupt, catastrophic change, such as the collapse of the Greenland or West Antarctic ice sheets and the accompanying global swell in sea levels. But we are conducting a dangerous uncontrolled experiment with the only home we have. This is why young people in increasing numbers are starting to see climate change as the challenge of their generation.

4 The Washington Post reported in April that, “For many children and young adults, global warming is the atomic bomb of today. Fears of an environmental crisis are defining their generation in ways that the Depression, World War II, Vietnam and the Cold War’s lingering ‘War Games’ etched souls in the 20th century.”

5 Some of the dire projections may not occur, but in light of the warnings from our best scientists, it would be beyond irresponsible to take that bet. Scientists are telling us if we do not take action soon, it will be too late to avoid the most serious consequences of global warming.



Environmental Costs

6 The projected environmental consequences of climate change are well known. The only thing that keeps changing, with the steady drumbeat of new and better scientific data and analysis, is that the picture gets more and more serious. In the words of Harvard's John Holdren, one of our leading science policy thinkers, global climate change is the most dangerous of all environmental problems because climate represents the envelope within which all our natural systems operate. By badly disrupting that envelope, we "adversely affect every dimension of human well-being that is tied to the environment."

7 The Fourth Assessment Report on Climate Change Impacts released in April 2007 by the IPCC, the official body of over 2,000 scientists acting under the auspices of the United Nations, presents a stark picture. The IPCC report says that "human induced climate change is already affecting physical and biological processes on all continents and some oceans." Among other impacts, the report warns of:

- Extreme weather events such as drought, floods, and severe storms, including hurricanes, becoming more intense and inflicting greater damage to life and property.
- Increasing hurricane intensity. (Other recent scientific findings suggest that not just the intensity but also the frequency of hurricanes is increasing with rising sea-surface temperatures.)
- Rising sea levels threatening the mega-delta regions of Asia, coastal cities in Europe, low-lying areas in North and Latin America, and small islands. The melting of the Greenland ice sheet alone could lead to a sea-level rise of seven meters.
- Increased water scarcity facing 1 billion to 2 billion people.
- Increased risk of heat- and flood-related mortality and of water and food-borne diseases.
- Declining crop yields and increased hunger in some regions, including parts of Africa and Asia.
- Degrading fisheries.
- Declining coral reef systems.
- Extinction facing 20 percent to 30 percent of global plant and animal life.

Economic Costs

8 There is substantial uncertainty about the precise economic costs of climate change, but if we continue on our current path there is little doubt that overall they would be very large. A look at trend lines from the insurance industry gives a hint of the kind of rising magnitude of damage we might see from just one projected effect of global warming—extreme weather events.

9 At the meeting of the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change in Morocco in 2001, large reinsurance companies (which offer insurance to other insurers) such as Swiss Re and Munich Re warned of the increase in extreme weather events. According to Munich Re, "The number of really big weather disasters has increased four-fold if we compare the last decade to the 1960s. The economic losses have leaped seven-fold and the insured losses are 11 times greater." In 2004, Swiss Re warned in a report that the costs of natural disasters,

aggravated by climate change, threatened to double to \$150 billion a year in 10 years.

10 More systematically, the much discussed Stern Review of the Economics of Climate Change, commissioned by the British government and authored by Sir Nicholas Stern, former Chief Economist for the World Bank, concludes that economic damages from climate change could be seismic:

Our actions over the coming few decades could create risks of major disruption to economic and social activity, later in this century and in the next, on a scale similar to those associated with the great wars and economic depression of the first half of the twentieth century. And it will be difficult or impossible to reverse these changes.

11 Stern sees the threat of this major disruption coming from a number of factors, including the increased costs of damage from extreme weather events such as floods, droughts, hurricanes, heat waves, and major storms; the risk that such events affect global financial markets through higher or more volatile insurance costs; and the risk of abrupt and large-scale climate change. Stern also points to the consequences of climate change on the environment and on human health as economic growth and productivity suffer under the weight of degrading environmental conditions.

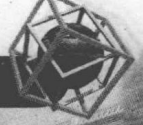
Building a Low-Carbon Economy

12 To design policies aimed at creating a low-carbon economy, we need to understand first the extent to which global average temperatures can rise without triggering the dangerous consequences of global warming and, second, how low we need to keep the atmospheric concentration of greenhouse gases in order to stay within that temperature limit. Both of these questions (the temperature limit and the concentration limit) must be answered based on scientific analysis of historic climate data and projections of future conditions, and state-of-the-art computer models paint a stark picture of what is to come.

13 As noted, global mean temperature is about 0.8°C (1.4°F) above pre-industrial levels, and another 0.6°C (1.1°F) of further warming is probably built into the system already. Even if we cut off emissions tomorrow, the concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere would continue rising since these gases persist in the atmosphere for a very long time—from decades to thousands of years after they are first emitted depending on the specific type of greenhouse gas.

14 The evidence is mounting for the need to maintain global average temperatures at no more than approximately 2.0°C (3.6°F) above pre-industrial levels, a level the Center for American Progress and others called for in 2005 in “Meeting the Climate Challenge,” the report of the International Climate Change Task Force that was chaired by Sen. Olympia Snowe (R-ME) and U.K. Member of Parliament Stephen Byers. As John Holdren has discussed, the scientific view of an appropriate temperature target has evolved recently downward:

Until a few years ago many analysts and groups were suggesting that stabilization of atmospheric concentrations at a level corresponding to a 3°C increase was in fact a suitable target... The last few years of accumulating evidence about impacts already



being encountered at only 0.8°C above the pre-industrial average temperature, however, have led many analysts to argue for a more ambitious target, with some (including the European Union) settling on 2°C.

15 If a temperature target in this range is not maintained, the planet faces serious risks. In a February 2007 statement to U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, and the U.N. Commission on Sustainable Development, Holdren said:

If the build-up of greenhouse gases pushes the global average surface temperature past 2–2.5°C above the pre-industrial level, the danger of intolerable and unmanageable impacts of climate change on human well-being becomes very high.

16 Dr. James Hansen, the noted climate scientist at NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies, has issued similar warnings:

We conclude that global warming of more than about 1°C, relative to 2000, will constitute "dangerous" climate change as judged from likely effects on sea level and extermination of species.

17 The IPCC, in its Fourth Assessment Report on Mitigation of Climate Change, published in May 2007, analyzes the concentration levels that correspond to estimated increases in the global mean average temperature above pre-industrial levels. According to this analysis, keeping average temperature to an increase in the range of 2.0°C to 2.4°C would require a CO₂ equivalent concentration—or CO₂e, which is a measurement that expresses the global warming potential of all greenhouse gases compared to CO₂—in the range of 445 parts per million to 490 parts per million, a highly ambitious target.

18 The challenge before us, then, is clear, and nothing is gained by delay. If we ignore the risks of climate change and oil dependence, or fail to mobilize the political will needed to address them, then we will ultimately be forced into a much more costly and much less effective crash program down the road. A short-sighted, business-as-usual approach to climate change will make it more difficult to cope with increased disaster-related damage in the future and force us to abandon existing infrastructure and equipment and any new physical capital we improvidently deploy without regard to global warming.

19 Moreover, we would incur a very large opportunity cost, having lost out on the chance to become the economic leader in developing alternative and more efficient uses of energy. Instead, we should seize the moment of challenge and opportunity now to start building the low-carbon economy.

(1,745 words)

from *Capturing the Energy Opportunity—Creating a Low-Carbon Economy*, November, 2007

New Words

trajectory	[trə'dʒekətəri]	n.	the curved path of an object moving through the air
recipient	[ri'sipiənt]	n.	a person who receives sth.
uncharted	[ʌn'tʃɑ:tɪd]	adj.	that has not been visited or investigated before; not familiar
catastrophic	[kætə'strɒfɪk]	adj.	extremely harmful; bringing physical or financial ruin
etch	[etʃ]	v.	铭刻
dire	['daɪə]	adj.	very great or terrible
disrupt	[dɪs'rʌpt]	v.	make it difficult for sth. to continue in the normal way
adversely	['ædvə:sli]	adv.	unfavorably
stark	[stɑ:k]	adj.	unpleasant; real and impossible to avoid
inflict	[ɪn'flɪkt]	v.	make sb./sth. suffer sth. unpleasant
scarcity	['skeəsɪti]	n.	a situation in which there is not enough of sth.
low-lying	['ləʊ.laɪɪŋ]	adj.	situated below the normal height or altitude
mortality	[mɔ:'tælɪti]	n.	the ratio of deaths in an area to the population of that area
fishery	['fɪʃəri]	n.	a workplace where fish are caught, processed and sold
reinsurance	[ri:ɪn'ʃuərəns]	n.	sharing the risk by insurance companies
four-fold	['fɔ:fəʊld]	adj.	four times as great or many
aggravate	['ægrəveɪt]	v.	make worse
systematically	[sɪstə'mætɪkəli]	adv.	有系统地; 有组织地
seismic	['saɪzmɪk]	adv.	relating to or caused by an earthquake
volatile	['vɒlətaɪl]	adv.	likely to change suddenly; easily becoming dangerous
trigger	['trɪgə]	v.	start a chain of events
stabilization	[.steɪbɪlaɪ'zeɪʃən]	n.	the act of stabilizing sth. or making it more stable
extermination	[ɪks.tə:mi'neɪʃən]	n.	消灭, 根绝
mitigation	[.mɪtɪgeɪʃən]	n.	缓解, 减轻
infrastructure	[.ɪnfɹə'strʌktʃə]	n.	基础; 基础结构
improvidently	[ɪm'prɒvɪdəntli]	adv.	不顾将来地; 没有长远打算地; 挥霍地
incur	[ɪn'kʊə]	v.	receive sth. unpleasant as a result of certain behavior or actions
alternative	[ɔ:l'tɜ:nətɪv]	n.	sth. that can be used or done instead of sth. else



Phrases and Expressions

in light of	taking sth. into account
under the auspices of	with the support and approval of
under the weight of	在…重压下; 迫于…
state-of-the-art	the highest level of development at a particular time (especially the present time)
settle on	become fixed (on)
crash program	紧急方案
down the road	in the future; at a later date
business-as-usual	(尽管处境艰难) 一切照常, 不受干扰
physical capital	实物资本, 有形资本
lose out (on)	not get sth. sb. wanted or feel sb. should have

Notes

1. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
联合国政府间气候变化专门委员会
2. U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change
联合国气候变化框架公约
3. Munich Re 慕尼黑再保险公司
4. Swiss Re 瑞士再保险公司
5. Center for American Progress 美国进步中心
6. International Climate Change Task Force
国际气候变化专题小组
7. U.N. Commission on Sustainable Development
联合国可持续发展委员会

Exercises

1. Reading Comprehension

a. Choose the sentence that best expresses the meaning of the statement from the text.

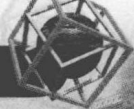
(1) This is the defining moment. (Para. 1)

A. This is the critical moment for us to define our activities.

- B. This is the decisive moment for us to take actions to stop global warming.
 C. This is the last moment for us to determine what we should do in the next two to three years.
- (2) ..., it would be beyond irresponsible to take that bet. (Para. 5)
- A. ..., it would be irresponsible to go on our activities and cause damages to our environment.
 B. ..., it would be much more serious than being irresponsible if we go on to destroy our environment.
 C. ..., it would not be irresponsible to go on our activities and let global warming become worsening.
- (3) ..., because climate represents the envelope within which all our natural systems operate. (Para. 6)
- A. ..., because climate is the atmosphere that all our natural systems operate in.
 B. ..., because climate is the base for all our natural systems.
 C. ..., because there is a climate operating system within all our natural systems.
- (4) ..., concludes that economic damages from climate change could be seismic: ... (Para. 10)
- A. ..., concludes that climate change could cause economic damages and earthquake-related disasters: ...
 B. ..., concludes that economic damages from climate change could cause earthquake: ...
 C. ..., concludes that economic damages caused by climate change could be earthshaking: ...
- (5) The challenge before us, then, is clear, and nothing is gained by delay. (Para. 18)
- A. Now the challenge before us is obvious and we should obtain nothing without delay.
 B. Now we have a very clear challenge before us and we should try every means without delay.
 C. The challenge before us is very obvious and it will delay us gaining something.

b. Fill in the blanks with the information you've learned in the text.

- (1) According to the author, the main reason for the occurrence of global warming is _____ . The global warming will become much more serious unless _____ .
- (2) John Holdren says global climate change is the most dangerous of all environmental problems because _____ .
- (3) The threat of major disruption to economic and social activity, according to Stern, is caused by many factors, which are _____ .
- (4) _____ are the bases to answer the questions of temperature limit and concentration limit.



(5) According to the IPCC's report, _____ is a highly ambitious target.

2. Vocabulary

a. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the words or phrases you have learned in the text.

- (1) Lack of money, coupled with low-level researching equipment, will have a(n) _____ effect on our next seismic research program.
- (2) The problem is simple and _____: health-care costs have been, are, and will continue to increase faster than government revenues.
- (3) Now there are nuclear weapons in some countries; if war broke out, they could _____ untold losses on mankind and uncontrollable damages on environment.
- (4) Databases used by some companies don't rely on data collected _____ but rather lump together information from different research projects.
- (5) France's resumption of nuclear testing in the South Pacific last month _____ political debates and mass demonstrations around the world.
- (6) Because many people lack the feeling of belonging to an ecosystem, and this results in a harsh and _____ treatment of things upon which we ultimately depend, such as water and trees.
- (7) She had _____ the wrath of her parents by going abroad and marrying a foreigner without their consent.
- (8) When travelling, you are advised to take travelers' checks, which provide a secure _____ to carrying your money in cash.
- (9) He _____ a chance to go to Mexico City because he was too busy with his research program on climate change.
- (10) My parents finally _____ my punishment — I would use my summer wages to pay for the repairs of their car.

b. Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined one.

- (1) As my eyes met theirs at the end of my performance, I was, for the second time, the recipient of their zealously guarded applause.
 A. recipe B. receiver C. receipt D. reciprocity
- (2) As I opened up the computer to try and fix the problem, I realized that I was getting into completely uncharted territory and considered whether to leave it to the experts.
 A. unclassified B. uncomplicated C. unfamiliar D. uncontrolled
- (3) The deadly earthquake that jolted southwest China's Sichuan Province on May 12 has destroyed the homes of giant pandas and left them in dire need of their favorite food, bamboo.
 A. extreme B. dim C. diverse D. diligent

(4) Russian Emergency Situations Minister Sergei Shoigu on Saturday warned that current fire situations in 17 Russian regions may further aggravate, and urged continuous supervision on some strategic targets.

- A. release B. etch C. reinsure D. worsen

(5) The British government says it will withdraw its troops from a volatile region of southern Afghanistan and handover control to U.S. Marines later this year.

- A. unsafe B. unsteady C. insatiable D. unshaken

(6) The Buffalo nickel, produced from 1913 to 1938, honored a pair of connected tragedies from the settlement of the American frontier — the extermination of the buffalo herds and the American Indians.

- A. termination B. destination C. destruction D. distinction

(7) The global financial crisis has not spared the Middle East region, but strong economic fundamentals and sizeable currency reserves have helped to mitigate the impact of the shock.

- A. relieve B. relinquish C. relight D. relive

(8) During the past decades, the international community, usually under the auspices of the United Nations, has struggled to negotiate global standards that can help us achieve many essential goals.

- A. with the advance of B. with the addition of
C. with the view of D. with the help of

(9) The mortality rate of children under five years old is an important indication of the situation of children in a country.

- A. growth B. birth C. death D. injury

(10) The utilities contend that this reduced capacity will result in curtailed service and higher prices some years down the road.

- A. by the way B. along the street C. in the past D. in the future

3. Cloze

Choose an appropriate word or phrase from the following list to fill in each of the following blanks. Each one can be used only ONCE. Change the form where necessary.

specific	contribute	urgency	involve	schedule
run out	reward	due to	speed up	vulnerability
adaptive	embrace	adverse	alternative	initiative
designate	context	compensation	hamper	incorporate

The U.N.-sponsored meeting in Accra was one in a series aimed at forging a deal to replace the Kyoto protocol, which expires at the end of 2012, and was never fully (1) _____.

The process has (2) _____, and parties have become more serious about reaching an agreement, said the executive secretary of the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate