



普通高等教育“十一五”国家级规划教材
教育部推荐使用大学外语类教材



NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC

全新版大学英语

New College English

Watch, Listen and Read

Student's Book

视听阅读
学生用书

主编 美方 Rob Waring
中方 李霄翔

3



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《全新版大学英语视听阅读》是一套根据美国国家地理(National Geographic)视听素材改编而成的创新型大学英语教材,由上海外语教育出版社、美国国家地理和圣智学习出版公司(Cengage Learning)联合开发出版。本套教材以教育部颁布的《大学英语课程教学要求》为指导,在教材设计、选材和编写中力求准确把握大学英语教学的性质和目标,努力体现大学英语教学中以听说技能为先导、其他技能跟进的教学指导思想。它所采用的将视听说与阅读技能融为一体的教材设计,旨在探索一条教材编写新路,创新教学模式,从而提高教学的绩效。

《全新版大学英语视听阅读》是为我国普通高校大学生设计和编写的,共6册,每册10个单元。与同类教材相比,它具有以下几个显著的特点:

1. 编写体例创新。它将英语视听说技能培训与阅读技能培训融为一体,力求从编写思想、素材选编、练习设计和版面设计上反映当代外语教育的最新研究成果,兼容并蓄各学术流派所提出的有益的教学理念和原则。针对我国大学英语教学和考核要求,本套教材既体现当前英语教学中融多种技能为一体的整体性教学原则,又在语言技能训练中突出视听说技能,以弥补目前大学生入校前在英语视听说技能训练方面的不足。学习主题和内容的高度关联方便了英语训练中各种技能的有机转换,同时也可借助于与视听说主题一致的阅读素材,既保持视听说素材的真实性和原有风味,又可有效降低视听说素材的难度,起到了积极的协调和辅助作用。本套教材新颖独特的体例设计,为教学方法论的探究提供了方便。在处理视、听、说与读的关系时,既可以视听为导入,以研究项目式的“做中学”和“视听说相连,层层深入”为目标,也可以“读听说相辅,多种技能共同推进”。阅读教学过程可以作为视听说的导入,也可以作为视听说的温习与强化。可以针对不同的学生群体和学习目标灵活安排不同的教学活动。

2. 题材广泛,内容丰富。本套教材针对我国大学生的社会生活经历和知识结构,广泛地选取了具有较强知识性、趣味性和针对性的视听和配套

的文字素材，主题涉及中外文化、天文地理、历史名胜、科技探索、自然生态、风土人情、生活常识、名人轶事等各个层面。题材的趣味性和多样性增强了学习素材的可视、可听和可读性，同时也可以有效地激发学生学习的积极性，有利于学习者借助于本教材这样一个窗口，拓展生活视野，丰富生活经历。

3. 高质量的语言素材，原汁原味的语境呈现。本套教材在选材内涵丰富的基础上，十分注重语言的表述和场景的呈现技巧。鲜活生动的语言加上优美的画面和纯正的语音，将学生带入一个异域的环境，这种身临其境的感觉将会有效地调动学生多种认知感官，促进多种语言认知策略的形成和发展，在感官和心理上有助于充分激发和维系学生的好奇心、求知欲和模仿内驱力，使得教学活动沉浸在一种既有挑战又有享受的氛围中。

4. 良好的梯度，有机的衔接。本套教材采用词汇控制的方法均衡各册内容的难易度，各册教材的中心词（headword）词汇量分别为：基础1：1300；基础2：1600；第1册：1900；第2册：2200；第3册：2600；第4册：3000。每册教材词汇覆盖面按梯度递增，6册教材呈现出合理的梯度和有机的承接与递进。全套教材的语速基本上保持了均衡的速度，这一方面是借鉴了交际教学法的原则，保持了语言的真实性，有利于缩短英语学习与应用之间的距离；另一方面通过词汇控制手段、视频辅助理解和文本阅读等方法，有效降低视听难度，保证了对原汁原味语言的学习、模仿和应用。

5. 多种技能训练层次分明，形式多样。本套教材练习设计体现了不同技能采用不同训练方法、突出技能转换和教学互动的三大原则。练习整体框架参照建构主义的认知原理，由多种手段辅助主题引入，体现“高质量输入为先，吸收消化为重，互动式输出为主”的练习设计指导思想。在理解环节上，遵循由总体理解向细节理解过渡；在练习环节上，体现“控制型向半控制型再向自由式”逐层递进；在信息流的流向上，由视频、音频和文本所提供的信息流向学习者，学习者不再是被动地接受信息，而是通过多种形式的交互活动，既分享教师指导下由教材所提供的信息，又参与信息的反馈、评价与补充和完善活动，充分体现教师主导和学生主体的作用。形式多样的交互式练习旨在将英语语言基础知识学习、语言应用技能训练和影响到交际效能的文化背景知识介绍有机地融合在一起，突出语言的交际语境和实用的功能意念，在强化语言基本功训练的同时，又注重语言交际技能的培养和训练，力求使英语学习做到学用结合，学以致用，学后会用。

6. 每册教材均附有含视听和语音素材的光盘。本套教材的编排图文并茂，图解文意，新颖独特。音视频资料具有很高的专业水准，令人耳目一新，给人以美的享受。视听和语音素材均提供美音和英音两种选择，有效满足不同学习者的学习和训练需求。

需要指出的是，本套教材印刷文本上的词汇拼写和表达以美式英语为准，美音的录音与印刷文本完全一致，但英音是基于英式表达来录制的，所以会出现英音中的某些表达与印刷文本不一致的情况，请注意区别。如：第1册第1单元的 carry-on 在英音中用 hand luggage。

7. 每册教材均配有教师手册。

由于编者的水平有限，本套教材的不足之处在所难免，恳请各位专家、同仁和广大读者多提宝贵意见。

编者

2010年4月于南京

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The King of the **SPIDERS**

UNIT **1**



This story is set in South America. It takes place in the country of French Guiana.

Goliath tarantulas are the most enormous spiders in the world. Most people consider them to be extremely dangerous and avoid them, but not tarantula expert Rick West. He seeks out tarantulas because he has an important story to tell. What information does West want to share with the world? Are tarantulas as dangerous as people think?



I Goliath Tarantulas. Read the paragraph. Then write the basic form of each underlined word next to the correct definition.

The Goliath tarantula is the largest spider in the world and can have a leg span of over 30 centimeters when fully extended. It's native to the rain forest regions of northern South America and usually lives in burrows in the ground. Like some other tarantulas, the Goliath has sharp fangs and thousands of barbed hairs on its body, abdomen, and legs. The Goliath also produces silk, which it uses to make nests in trees or webs near the ground.

1. having sharp points that curve backwards: _____
2. the stomach area; the lower part of an insect's body: _____
3. a hole in the ground in which animals live: _____
4. a long, sharp, pointed tooth: _____
5. a delicate fiber or thread spun by spiders: _____
6. the measure of space from one point to another: _____

II Tarantula Hunt. Read the paragraph. Then match each word with the correct definition.

Tarantula expert Rick West has traveled into the dense rain forests of French Guiana to find Goliath tarantulas in their natural habitat. West's intention is to educate people about tarantulas since the spiders have often been given a bad rap. Although they carry venom in their fangs and have been known to bite humans when threatened, they are not usually deadly. However, their venom does prove to be a valuable weapon against their prey. The Goliath is a very dangerous predator for birds and other small animals.

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 1. dense _____ | A. poison |
| 2. habitat _____ | B. a tool used to harm or kill |
| 3. bad rap _____ | C. thick; crowded together |
| 4. venom _____ | D. the area in which an animal lives |
| 5. weapon _____ | E. an animal that kills and eats other animals |
| 6. prey _____ | F. animals killed for food by other animals |
| 7. predator _____ | G. a negative general opinion about the quality of something untrue or without reason |



WATCHING

Part 1

00:00 ~ 02:19	02:19 ~ 05:00	05:00 ~ 08:10
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I. Watch Part 1. Choose the best answer to each of the following questions.

- Which of the following descriptions of tarantulas is true?
 - Tarantulas are usually as big as a dinner plate.
 - Although tarantulas are of different shapes and colors, they are about the same size.
 - Tarantulas usually live a long life, so they are called “ancient hunters.”
 - Tarantulas are not only good at hunting, but also have strong survival ability.
- Where does Rick West, a tarantula expert, usually find the world’s largest spiders?
 - In the forests in France.
 - In the forests in Canada.
 - In the forests in French Guiana.
 - In the forests in Columbia.
- In West’s opinion, what is the main reason for people to be frightened of tarantulas?
 - Tarantulas have always been described wrongly in the media.
 - They are usually large and bright-colored.
 - Their appearance causes natural fear.
 - They usually creep out of the shadow and scare people.

II. Watch again. Complete each of the following sentences about Rick West. Write the exact words you hear.

- He is one of the world’s _____ tarantula experts.
- He goes to some of the most far-off and _____ places on the planet to look for tarantulas.
- He has devoted much of his time to _____ tarantulas to people worldwide.
- He feels tarantulas need his support since people _____ against them.



III. Oral work. Work with a partner. Summarize what you have learned about tarantulas. Use these questions to help you. Then present your summaries to the class.

1. What do tarantulas look like?
2. What is the history of the tarantula?
3. How do most people feel about tarantulas? Why do they feel that way?



I. Watch Part 2. Decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

1. Tarantulas may choose a lot of places as their habitat such as burrows in the ground, cliff faces or trees. _____
2. Some types of tarantulas are human killers because they consider humans to be potential attackers. _____
3. West releases the first tarantula he catches since he knows this particular type. _____
4. Goliath tarantulas can sometimes be dangerous to human beings. _____
5. The barbed hairs that cover the Goliath tarantula's abdomen are poisonous. _____

II. Watch again. Find out the dangers Rick West faces in his search for a Goliath. Fill in the blanks with the words or expressions you hear.

1. Rick often goes into _____ where most of people wouldn't _____.
2. He never knows what he might find in the dark caves. It's one of those _____ things; he has to go in to see what's in there.
3. There are some places where it's almost impossible to _____, for he is always _____ things.
4. There's razor grass; there are a lot of things in there that will _____ you.
5. Besides its fangs, the Goliath has some very _____ weapons such as its "urticating hairs" which can cause a great deal of _____.

III. Listen and repeat. You're going to hear five sentences selected from the video. Repeat each sentence after it is spoken twice. Then write the sentences.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Part 3		
00:00 02:19	02:19 05:00	05:00 08:10



I. Watch Part 3. Choose the correct statements about West and the Goliath tarantula.

- ☐ West finally finds a Goliath whose leg span is about ten inches across.
- ☐ West is a bit scared of having a spider that size on his back because it looks like a monster.
- ☐ The Goliath is about to start scraping those hairs off its abdomen, so West lets it go.
- ☐ The Goliath tarantula is more active at night than in the daytime, because its eyesight is very good.
- ☐ The Goliath tarantula usually sets a trap made of silk near the entrance to its burrow to attract its prey.
- ☐ The Goliath tarantula detects its prey mainly by feeling instead of seeing.
- ☐ It's like ringing a dinner bell for the hungry tarantula as the prey's movement makes a sound when it touches the silk.
- ☐ For most people, the tarantula's bite may feel like a bee sting.

II. Watch again. Underline and replace the incorrect words in the following sentences based on what you hear.

1. The jungle at night would frighten most people, but for West, night is a difficult time to be in the jungle. _____
2. "I'm not frightened at all by having a spider that size on my hand." _____
3. "If she were to use her front legs and scrape those hairs off her abdomen, they'd get into my skin and cause great irritation." _____
4. When the alarmed creature steps on the silk string, the string moves slightly and acts as a trip wire. _____
5. It's only a matter of time before some careless creature wanders near the Goliath's trap. _____

III. Oral work. Work with a partner. Discuss how a Goliath tarantula catches its prey.

Useful words and expressions

make a trap; lay silk down; come within range; attack; feel; sensitive



I. Watch the entire video. Put the following statements in the correct order.

- A. West finally finds the world's largest tarantula in the jungle at night.
- B. West talks about the difficulties of walking through the jungle.
- C. West observes how the tarantula catches its prey.
- D. West identifies the type of tarantula – *Epehebopus rufescens*.
- E. West enters a dark cavern.
- F. West pursues the tarantula out of its burrow and catches it in a plastic container.
- G. West argues that people are prejudiced against tarantulas despite having no reason to be afraid.
- H. West takes a boat to the rain forests of French Guiana.
- I. West releases the female spider and continues his research for a Goliath.

() → () → () → () → () → () → () → () → ()

II. Oral work. Work with a partner and role play a dialogue between Rick West and someone who is afraid of spiders. West is trying to convince him / her that tarantulas are harmless creatures.

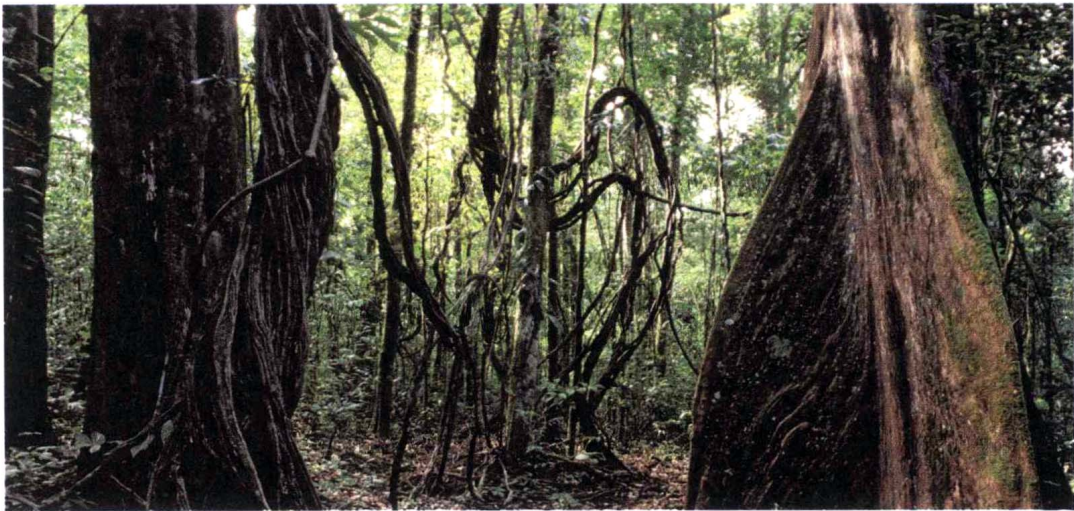
Useful words and expressions

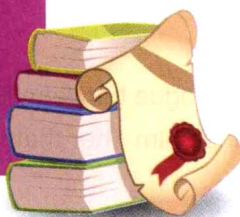
frightened; terrified; hairy; big size;
bright-colored; long fangs; dangerous;
poisonous; terrible dream; dark
caverns; creep out of the shadow

bad rap; described wrongly in horror
movies; be biased against; no reason to
be afraid; remote areas; unless threatened;
no report of human death; no worse than
a bee sting; not a killer of humans

III. Project. Form groups of three or four. Each group does research on another kind of tarantula, such as the Brazilian yellow banded, California ebony, Ecuadorian purple, Sri Lankan ornamental or Zimbabwe gray. Each group is required to write a report to help a spider hunter to search for and recognize that particular type of tarantula.

Tarantula				
Colour				
Size				
Habitat				
lifespan				
...				





The King of the Spiders

1 For some, the huge Goliath tarantula may be one of the most terrifying sights in the natural world. Witnessing one of these enormous hairy creatures **creeping** along a tree branch can seem like a scene from a scary movie or a terrible dream. Its size alone may fill one with terror. This hairy spider, which is considered to be the biggest spider in the world, can reach the size of a dinner plate!

2 The Goliath is the largest of the tarantulas, and tarantula spiders in general are considered to be the biggest species of spiders. There's an enormous number of different types of tarantulas out there, and they come in a wide range of shapes, colors, and sizes. The colors alone offer a huge variety — some are orange, others are blue, and still others are delicate shades of pink. In fact, there are more than 800 known species of tarantula in the world, and scientists are finding new ones all the time.

3 Most people would prefer to stay as far away as possible from hairy monsters like the Goliath, but tarantula expert Rick West is not like most people. He's a man who is fascinated by tarantulas, and who regularly travels to the jungles of French Guiana to find the world's largest spiders in their natural habitat.

4 These amazing creatures don't seem to be easily frightened, not even by humans. Amazingly, they actually seem comfortable coming very close to people, sometimes even walking on them. West explains that tarantulas are often able to do this because they don't seem to be aware that they're walking on anything different. To them, a person could be anything from the natural world, even a tree. "They'll just walk on you," West explains as a large tarantula works its way across his shoulder and up towards his neck, "because they don't know me from a piece of wood."

5 The tarantula is truly the "King of the Spiders." It's a skilled hunter, which can jump incredibly quickly to catch smaller insects. Sometimes, it will even take on larger prey, including snakes. When hunting, tarantulas often wrap their hairy legs around their prey to hold it before

creep /kri:p/ *vi.* move slowly and quietly
inject /in'dʒekt/ *vt.* force a substance (usually a liquid) into a person or thing
malign /mə'lain/ *vt.* speak or write bad things about someone or something
go for the jugular /'dʒʌgʝlə/ (slang) try to destroy someone or something
creep (someone) out (slang) cause fear and disgust

injecting it with venom from their long fangs. These large spiders are also tough survivors and are able to do well in almost every climate and landscape. Tarantulas have existed for an extended period of time, so they have had time to evolve and improve their skills. They're ancient hunters, the product of 25 million years of evolution, which has made them master predators, perfectly adapted to their habitats.

6 Of this incredible species of spider, the biggest and “baddest” of them all is the Goliath tarantula. The Goliath can grow to over 30 centimeters wide, with fangs up to 5 centimeters long. This huge spider makes its home in the remote rain forests of French Guiana, and that's where Rick West must go to find it.

7 West is one of the world's leading tarantula experts, and his interest in the giant spiders often takes him from his home in British Columbia, Canada, to some of the most far-off and inaccessible places on the planet. It isn't an easy journey for him to see his favorite creatures deep in the French Guiana rain forest. First, he must travel via boat on one of the region's small

channels deep into the jungle. Then, he must leave the boat behind and walk for miles even deeper into the forest, using a knife to cut his way through the thick ground cover.

8 Over the years, Rick has become a great supporter of tarantulas, and has devoted much of his time to trying to explain them to people all over the world. He feels that they really need his support as people are often biased against them despite having no reason to be afraid. One of the main reasons for this bias is the fact that the giant spiders usually receive a lot of poor and unfair coverage in movies and on television. “They have had a bad rap,” he explains. “They've been **maligned** in horror movies. These are the things that — as we've come up through our years watching television [and] science fiction movies — it's always the thing that creeps out of the shadow and **goes for the jugular**. It **creeps people out** and gives them the wrong impression.”





9 While tarantulas may not actually be the “bad guys,” like some people think they are, they certainly live in some scary places. In his search for these huge spiders, Rick often goes into locations where most of us wouldn’t dare to step, including dark, isolated caves in the middle of the jungle. “There’s a cave here in French Guiana,” West explains. “It is **primordial**. As you enter down into this dark cavern and look backwards into the light, the vines are hanging down at the entrance.”

10 As he talks about the cave, Rick also notes that it is not always an enjoyable place to visit. “You know there [are] snakes in there,” he reports. “You can hear the bats starting to **swirl around** as you enter the cave. You just don’t know where they are, so that creeps you out.” West then explains that, for him, exploring these caves and discovering the unknown secrets that lie within them is something he must do. The prospect of what he might find is irresistible. “It’s one of those **compelling** things. I have to go in to see what’s in there.”

11 Since Rick is in Guiana, he pays a visit to the primordial cave. He slowly cuts his way through the forest and finally reaches the cave entrance. As he nears the huge dark

cavern, it seems as if he’s walking into a black hole, but this doesn’t bother West. He bravely continues to pick his way over the rocks and tree roots to get farther into the cave, using his flashlight to find his way. Once he gets deep inside, he begins overturning rocks and looking around. At last he sees what he has come for: a tarantula burrow. There could be a good sized spider in there, so he cautiously approaches it and holds his flashlight towards the burrow in order to examine it closely.

12 After he’s taken a look, West notes that there is indeed a tarantula in the burrow. “You can see a tarantula in it,” he explains. “I [won’t] know what kind it is until I get it out, so ...” With this comment, West bends towards the burrow and gets closer to the entrance so he can better see the tarantula. Then suddenly he says, “Wait a minute. It’s come out the back. There’s a hole in the back here.” West quickly moves around to the other side of the burrow. “It’s just on the back wall,” he reports. “Maybe I can **tease it out**.” He then takes a long stick and gently pushes the tarantula towards the entrance to the hole. As the spider begins to move and comes into view, West says excitedly, “There it is, there it is!” But he then adds with concern, “I don’t know if I can get it.” The spider is still quite deep within the burrow, one fast move and it could disappear once more.