



READING

# 大学英语综合阅读教程

总主编：屠国元 沈金华 主 编：刘胜兵 周 静

外语教学与研究出版社

FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH PRESS



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# 江苏工业学院图书馆 大学英语综合阅读教程

总主编：屠国元 沈金华

主 编：刘胜兵 周 静

副主编：王 赟 黄 萍

编 者：孙晓玲 刘胜兵

周 静 王 赟

黄 萍

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# 编写说明

在英语学习中，阅读是打好语言基础、掌握语言知识、获取信息的重要渠道之一，是提高英语应用能力（听、说、读、写、译综合能力）的重要手段。培养学生综合阅读、快速反应和思辨的理解能力，使学生在今后的学习、工作和社会交往中能用英语进行有效地交流正是本教程所期望达到的目标。

新颁布的《大学英语课程教学要求》对阅读理解能力的要求为：能基本读懂一般性题材的英文文章，阅读速度达到每分钟 70 词；在快速阅读篇幅较长、难度略低材料时，阅读速度达到每分钟 100 词（较高要求对快速阅读的要求为每分钟 120 词）；能基本读懂国内英文报刊，掌握中心意思，理解主要事实和有关细节；能读懂工作、生活中常见的应用文体的材料；能在阅读中使用有效的阅读方法。调查显示，阅读是大部分非英语专业学生今后使用英语的主要技能。为了适应这一要求，在改革后的大学英语四、六级考试中，阅读理解部分的测试内容、题型和分值比例仍占很高，为 35% 到 40%。《大学英语综合阅读教程》系列教材以敏锐的眼光捕捉到这一变化，始终坚持把阅读能力的培养放在首位，以大量的阅读来体现“精讲多练”的原则，旨在使学生能按“课程教学要求”掌握阅读技巧，能够高效、快速地阅读中等水平和较高水平的一般性题材的英语文章，进行一定的分析、推理和判断，促进应用能力的提高。

本教程共分四册，每册分为八个单元，每个单元由同一主题的五篇文章组成。每篇文章配有生词注释、英文介绍、有关文化背景介绍和阅读理解练习等。练习形式多样，有判断题、选择题、词汇题、翻译题，还有具有总结归纳作用的填空题和查找细节的表格补充信息题。为了方便学生课外自学，我们在书后附有所有练习的参考答案。

## 本教程的特点如下：

- 1) 本教程从选材到编写、审校等各个环节全部由具有丰富教学经验的教师分工合作，集中了集体智慧编写而成，具有很强的专业性和针对性。
- 2) 本教程在编写过程中充分吸收了我国在英语教学方面长期积累的行之有效的经验和方法，取各家之长，兼收并蓄，能适应大学本科英语教学课的要求。
- 3) 本教程通过把教师课内的“精讲”和学生课外的“多练”结合起来，达到提高学生阅读的主动性、积极性和创造性的目的。
- 4) 本教程选用当代英语中常见语体或文体的典型样本作为素材，内容新颖，文章选材主要来自近年来英美国家出版的报刊、杂志和网络，涵盖了教育、科技、政治、经济、

文化、社会生活等各个方面，具有时代性、可读性、文化教育性和娱乐欣赏性。

- 5) 本教程将阅读教学中的“精读”、“泛读”和“快速阅读”的特点较好地结合起来，对所选文章的生词量和文章长度作了较好的控制，既有利于学生扩大生词量和阅读量，又有利于学生提高阅读速度。
- 6) 本教程在每篇文章的开头都用简短的语言对文章内容作了介绍，既能让学生在阅读初始就了解文章主要内容，也给学生如何总结归纳文章重点做了示范。
- 7) 本教程课后练习题型均按照最新的大学英语四、六级考试的标准和难度设计。题型多样，题量适中，既能较好地帮助学生提高阅读理解和写作能力，也能帮助学生逐步熟悉考试形式。
- 8) 本教程每单元的最后都列有与主题相关的词汇，便于学生练习写作和专题对话。

本教程由屠国元、沈金华两位教授担任总主编，从整体上设计了“编写提纲”和“编写要求”；肖立明教授对全书进行了严格审查，并提出了宝贵的修改意见。在本教程的策划、编写和出版过程中，得到了很多兄弟院校的教授专家的支持和帮助，在此一并表示衷心感谢！

编者

2009年5月

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## UNIT

# 1

# Family

## Text A-1

### New words and expressions

adoption *n.* 收养; 采用

ceremony *n.* 仪式, 典礼

consensus *n.* 一致同意, 多数人的意见

constitute *v.* 组成; 制定 (法律)

define *v.* 定义, 详细说明

distinguish *v.* 辨别, 区别

kinship *n.* 血族关系

lay out 有计划地布置, 约定

legitimate *adj.* 合法的, 合理的

procreation *n.* 生产, 生殖

rear *v.* 培养, 饲养

ritual *n.* (宗教) 仪式, 典礼

## What Is a Family?

### Introduction

*In this essay, the author tells us the meaning of the family in more than one sense, and then explains what a nuclear family is and what a extended family is. In the end, the relationship between family and marriage is offered.*

### Text

The concept of family is difficult to define. Part of the difficulty is that in everyday language, the term family is used to describe a number of relationships. These range from the biological, nuclear family of mother, father, and brothers or sisters, to the more extended family which includes several generations of blood relatives or relatives through marriage, to close and intimate friends, even to humankind.



The wide difference in everyday usage is less obvious in formal definitions, but even here there is a lack of consensus. Formal definitions do not always fit informal definitions. The U.S. Bureau of the Census\*, which collects information used by social scientists, defines family as a group of two or more persons related by blood, marriage, or adoption and living together in a household. A household is made up of all persons who occupy a housing unit, that is, a house, an apartment, or other group of rooms, or a single room that constitutes separate living places. This definition considers the family in terms of only its structure and legal status, not the qualities of the relationship or its functions or activities. The Census Bureau thus would accept as a family two legally related people who hated each other and were just living together for their mutual economic advantage.

Many social scientists often distinguish between the family of origin and the family of procreation. Most of us are members of two families: the family of origin, into which we are born and of which we are always considered a member, even if we leave it, and the family of procreation, which we join as adults for the purpose of procreation and rearing children. Some social scientists also distinguish marriage from family and see the two as independent of one another. They argue that the family can exist regardless of whether the couple is married. They see marriage as a public ceremony which joins together two kinship groups and in so doing lays out some important rights over children, domestic authority, and usual matters. Marriage is also the ritual through which children are made legitimate in the eyes of the parents and the society. Marriage therefore is a social ceremony, whereas family need not be.

(371 words)

**Note:**

the U.S. Bureau of the Census: 美国人口调查局, 是美国商业部下属的一个局, 负责人口调查工作。

## Exercises

A. Decide on the best choice to answer the question or complete the sentence according to the passage.

1. This essay mainly deals with \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. the definition of the concept of family
  - B. the difference between family and marriage
  - C. the difference between the nuclear family and the extended family
  - D. the difference between the family of origin and the family of procreation

2. An extended family \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. is made up of several nuclear families
  - B. does not include people with no blood relationship
  - C. includes close and intimate friends
  - D. is usually larger than a nuclear family
  
3. The Census Bureau's definition of the family includes all the following relations except \_\_\_\_\_.
 

A. blood relation	B. marriage
C. adoption	D. friendship
  
4. Which of the following statements about the family of origin is NOT true?
  - A. It is the family we are born into.
  - B. It is the family of which we are always considered a member.
  - C. It is the family we join as adults for rearing children.
  - D. It is the family we may leave some day.
  
5. From the last paragraph, we can conclude that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. marriage is necessary to form a family
  - B. a family cannot be separated from marriage
  - C. the family needs to be a social ceremony
  - D. marriage is only a public ceremony

**B. Make the best choice to complete the sentence or to substitute the underlined word or phrase in the sentence.**

1. They are quite different \_\_\_\_\_ their attitudes toward life.
 

A. because of	B. in terms of
C. except for	D. in spite of
  
2. \_\_\_\_\_ experience, the undergraduates have great difficulties in finding desirable jobs.
 

A. On account of	B. Because of
C. For lack of	D. As a result of

3. This disease is \_\_\_\_\_ to drug abuse.  
A. connected B. related  
C. joined D. associated
4. Mary and Helen have been intimate friends for some time.  
A. close B. kind  
C. friendly D. regular
5. Self-reliance is the main value of child rearing in middle-class Americans.  
A. looking after B. supporting  
C. caring for D. bringing up
6. Twelve months constitute a year.  
A. make up B. consist of  
C. are made up of D. are composed of

## Text A-2

### New words and expressions

annoy *v.* 使苦恼, 骚扰

appreciation *n.* 感谢, 感激, 欣赏

blurt *v.* 未加思索地冲口说出, 突然说出

longstanding *adj.* (已持续) 长时间的,  
为时甚久的

lurk *v.* 潜藏, 潜伏

remedy *n.* 药物, 治疗法

rough *adj.* 粗糙的

scrape *v.* 刮, 擦, 擦伤, 挖成

soothe *v.* 安慰

tuck *v.* 卷起, 挤进, 塞

tuck sb. in 给某人盖好被子

## Mother's Hands

### Introduction

*As children, we were well protected by a pair of gentle and fair hands which brought to us mother's unselfish love. As time goes by, mother's hands are no longer gentle, but rough.*

*However, what they bring us is still warmth. Treasured in the deepest depths of our souls are mother's hands.*

## Text

Night after night, she came to tuck me in, even long after my childhood years. Following her longstanding custom, she'd lean over and brush my long hair out of the way, then kiss my forehead.

I don't remember when it first started annoying me—her hands brushing my hair that way. But it did annoy me, for they felt rough against my young skin. Finally, one night, I shouted out at her, “Don't do that anymore—your hands are too rough!” She didn't say anything in reply. But never again did my mother close out my day with that familiar expression of her love.

Time after time, with the passing years, my thoughts returned to that night. By then I missed my mother's hands, missed her goodnight kiss on my forehead. Sometimes the incident seemed very close, sometimes far away. But always it lurked, in the back of my mind.

Well, the years have passed, and I'm not a little girl anymore. Mom is in her mid-seventies, and those hands I once thought to be so rough are still doing things for me and my family. She's been our doctor, reaching into a medicine box for the remedy to calm a young girl's stomach or soothe the boy's scraped knee. She cooks the best fried chicken in the world... gets stains out of blue jeans like I never could.

Now, my own children are grown and gone, Mom no longer has Dad. On special occasions, I find myself drawn next door to spend the night with her. So it was late on Thanksgiving Eve, as I slept in the bedroom of my youth, a familiar hand hesitantly ran across my face to brush the hair from my forehead. Then a kiss, ever so gently, touched my brow.

In my memory, for the thousandth time, I recalled the night my young voice complained, “Don't do that anymore—your hands are too rough!” Catching Mom's hand in hand, I blurted out how sorry I was for that night. I thought she'd remember, as I did. But Mom didn't know what I was talking about. She had forgotten and forgiven long ago.

That night, I fell asleep with a new appreciation for my gentle mother and her caring hands. And the guilt that I had carried around for so long was nowhere to be found.

(391 words)

Exercises

Fill in the chart with the information according to the apassage.

Stage	What Mom Does	
In my childhood	1.	Mom 1) _____ me in, 2) _____ down and _____ my hair out of the way, and 3) _____ my brow.
At present	2.	1) She has been _____. 2) She _____ the best dishes. 3) She gets _____ out of the blue jeans while I couldn't.
On Thanksgiving Eve	3.	A hand 1) _____ my face and 2) _____ the hair from my forehead. Then, a kiss 3) _____ my brow.

Text B-1

New words and expressions

amateur <i>n.</i> 业余爱好者 [ <i>attrib.</i> 作定语]	means <i>n.</i> 金钱, 财富
budding <i>adj.</i> 萌芽的	modest <i>adj.</i> 适度的, 谦虚的
craftsman <i>n.</i> 工匠, 手艺精巧的人	professional <i>adj.</i> 专业的, 职业的
economical <i>adj.</i> 节约的, 经济的	refer to... as... 把……称为……
financial <i>adj.</i> 财政的, 金融的	
handyman <i>n.</i> 受雇做杂事的人, 干零活的人	

Englishman’s Home

Introduction

*Nowadays, more and more Englishmen begin to do for themselves some of the household repairs and decorating. This is because, on the one hand, the average Englishman is keen on working with his hands; on the other hand, the cost of labor has reached a level which is beyond many Englishmen of modest means. But doing it on oneself is not that easy!*

## Text

Some people would say that an Englishman's home is no longer his castle, and that it has become his workshop. This is because the average Englishman is keen on working with his hands and because he feels that he must do for himself many household jobs for which, some years ago, he would have hired professional help. The main reason for this is a financial one: the cost of labor has reached a level which is beyond many Englishmen of modest means. So, if they wish to keep their houses looking bright and smart, they have to do some of the repairs and decorating themselves. As a result, there has grown up in the postwar years what is sometimes referred to as the "Do-It-Yourself Movement."

The DIY movement began with home decorating but has since spreaded into a much wider field. Nowadays, there seem to be very few things that cannot be made by the DIY method. A number of magazines and handbooks exist to show hopeful handymen just how easy it is to build things by oneself from a coffee table to a fifteen-foot sailing boat. All you need, it seems, is a hammer and a few nails. You follow the simple instructions step by step and, before you know where you are<sup>1</sup>, the finished article stands before you, complete in every detail.

Unfortunately, it is not always quite as simple as it sounds. Many a budding DIY has found that one cannot learn a skilled craftsman's job overnight. How quickly one realizes, when doing it oneself, that a job which takes the skilled man an hour or so to complete takes the amateur handyman five or six hours at least. And then there is the question of tools. The first thing the amateur learns is that he must have the right tools for the job. But tools cost money. There is also the wear and tear<sup>2</sup> on the nerves. It is not surprising then that many people have come to the conclusion that the expense of paying professionals to do the work is, in the long run, more economical than "do it yourself"<sup>3</sup>.

(354 words)

### Notes:

1. **before you know where you are:** This is a colloquial expression meaning "before you are aware of it; very quickly or suddenly."
2. **the wear and tear:** (正常使用造成的) 损坏, 损耗, 用坏。
3. **the expense of paying professionals to do the work is, in the long run, more economical than "do it yourself":** the money that is paid to professionals to do the work is, in the long run, less than the cost while doing it yourself.



## Exercises

### A. Give brief answers to the questions according to the passage.

1. For what reason do people say that Englishman's home has become a workshop?

\_\_\_\_\_.

2. Why do many Englishmen have to do some of the repairs and decorating themselves?

\_\_\_\_\_.

3. Through what way do average Englishmen learn to do things?

\_\_\_\_\_.

4. DIY is not always quite as simple as it sounds because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

5. Many people have concluded that in the long run, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

### B. Complete the sentences by translating into English the Chinese given in brackets.

1. An Englishman's home has become his workshop \_\_\_\_\_

(因为英国人很喜欢做手工).

2. The cost of labor is \_\_\_\_\_ (超出了许多中等收入家庭的经济能力).

3. (不知不觉) \_\_\_\_\_, the finished article stands before you.

4. I came to the conclusion \_\_\_\_\_ (他在撒谎).

5. (从长远看) \_\_\_\_\_, prices are bound to rise.

## Text B-2

### New words and expressions

adore *v.* 崇拜, 爱慕, (口语) 喜爱

decent *adj.* 有分寸的, 得体的, 正派的

fade *v.* 消失, (声音等) 减弱下去, 褪色

gear *n.* 齿轮, 排挡

kohlrabi *n.* 大头菜

paycheck *n.* 付薪水的支票, 薪水

polarize *v.* (使) 两极分化  
 reflect *v.* 反映, 反射, 反省  
 snotty *adj.* 蛮横无礼的, 流鼻涕的

split *v.* 分裂, 分离, 劈开, (使) 裂开  
 tolerance *n.* 宽容

## Happy Father's Day<sup>1</sup>, Dad

### Introduction

*On the way of my growth, I have had quarrels and even cold wars with Dad because of our differences in age, experience, opinions, hairstyles, clothing, music, etc. In spite of all of these, Dad has always been a tolerant and kind father, a friend and mentor. The love of a father is as great as a mountain. On this special occasion of Father's Day, I'd like to say what I really want to say to Dad.*

### Text

Dear Dad,

Today I was at the shopping mall and I spent a lot of time reading the Father's Day cards. They all had a special message that in some way or another reflected how I feel about you. Yet as I selected and read, and selected and read again, I realized that not a single card said what I really want to say to you.

You'll soon be 84 years old, Dad, and you and I will have had 55 Father's Days. I haven't always been with you on Father's Day, nor have I been with you for all of your birthdays. It wasn't because I didn't want to be with you. I've always been with you in my heart but sometimes life gets in the way.

You know, Dad, there was a time when we were not only separated by the generation gap but completely polarized by it. You stood on one side of the Great Divide<sup>2</sup> and I on the other. Father and daughter split apart by age and experience, opinions, hairstyles, clothing, music, and boys, etc.

The Father-Daughter Fight of '54 shifted into high gear when you taught me to drive the old Dodge<sup>3</sup> and I decided I would drive the '54 Chevy<sup>4</sup> whether you liked it or not. The police officer, who accompanied me home after you reported the Chevy stolen late one evening, was too young to understand father-daughter politics and too old to have much tolerance for a snotty 16-year-old. You were so decent about it, Dad, and I think that was

probably what made it the worst night of my life.

Our relationship improved greatly when I married a man you liked, and things really turned around when we began making babies right, and left home. We didn't have a television set, you know, and we had to entertain ourselves somehow. I didn't know what to expect of you and Mom as grandparents but I didn't have to wait long to find out. Those babies adored you then, just as they adore you now. When I see you with all your grandchildren, I know you've given them the finest gift a grandparent can give. You've given them yourself.

Somewhere along the line, the generation gap faded away. Age and something else separate us now. But we agree on most things, perhaps because we've learned there isn't much worth disagreeing about.

Fifty years ago this spring we planted kohlrabi together in a garden in Charles City, Iowa. I didn't know then that I would remember that day for the rest of my life. This week, we'll plant kohlrabi together again, perhaps for the last time but I hope not. I don't understand why planting kohlrabi with you is so important to me, but it is. And the funny thing about it is, well, I don't know quite how to tell you this, Dad. I don't even like kohlrabi, but I like planting it with you.

I guess what I'm trying to say, Dad, is what every son and daughter wants to say to their Dad today. Honoring a Father on Father's Day is about more than a Dad who brings home a paycheck, shares a dinner table, and attends school activities, graduations, and weddings. It isn't even so much about kohlrabi, and '54 Chevrolets. It's more about unconditionally loving children who are snotty and stubborn, who know everything and won't listen to anyone. It's about respect and sharing and acceptance and tolerance and giving and taking. It's about loving someone more than words can say.

I love you, Dad.

(597 words)

**Notes:**

1. **Father's Day:** (美国) 父亲节。1966 年, 美国总统林登·约翰逊宣布每年 6 月的第 3 个星期天为全美国的父亲节。
2. **the Great Divide:** 美国落基山脉分水岭。
3. **the Dodge:** 道奇 (汽车品牌名)。
4. **the Chevy:** 雪佛兰 (汽车品牌名)。