

大学体验英语 阅读教程

○ 总主编 王谋清 赵丽萍

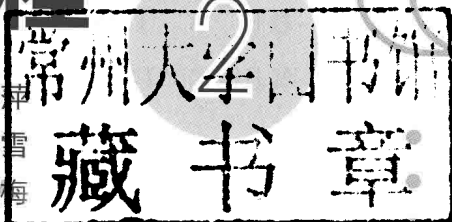
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Reading

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大学体验英语 阅读教程

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前言

根据《大学英语课程教学要求》和大学英语四、六级考试改革趋势，针对非英语专业大学生训练英语阅读技能、提高英语阅读能力的要求，我们编写了这套《大学体验英语阅读教程》，全书分为四册，其主要特点包括：

1. 从快乐阅读的理念出发，注重培养学生的阅读技巧和能力，专注于在阅读过程中激发学生的学习动机，培养兴趣；
2. 强化语言学习过程，强化学生运用英语的能力培养，并特别重视培养学生的英语语言思维能力；
3. 强调阅读技巧的训练，每册教材介绍数种阅读技巧，通过大量的、由易到难的阶梯式训练，帮助学生理解并掌握这些技巧，以达到熟能生巧的训练目的。
4. 练习设计注重学生之间的互动，通过一对一或小组讨论等活动，不断强化学生英语阅读能力和英语思维的训练和培养，使学生在互动交流中实现英语听、说、读、写四项技能的同步提高。
5. 同时，为兼顾众多非英语专业学生参加四、六级考试的需要，还结合教材中的重点词汇和短语，设计了句子翻译和与中国文化相关的段落翻译，以期在一定程度上提高学生的翻译能力，实现英语语言的运用。
6. 为方便学生自学，本教材配有词汇表、文化注释，以及各单元练习的参考答案。

为使本教材达到预期的教学效果，使用时应注意以下几点：
作为教师：

- 为学生提供低焦虑的学习环境，使其轻松地尝试各种新的阅读技巧。
- 给予学生充分的练习机会，帮助他们运用并掌握新的阅读策略。
- 通过引导和计时，给学生以适当的压力。
- 利用典型例证引导学生更好地处理文本。
- 为学生提供有效阅读所需要的思维模式。
- 帮助学生体验成为出色英语阅读者的进步过程。

作为学生：

- 克服逐词阅读的习惯。否则，只能理解单个的词或句子，却不知晓整段或全文的含义。
- 学会用英语进行思考。不必把英文译成中文，否则会减低阅读速度，影响文章的

理解。

- ☐ 积极扩展英语词汇。
- ☐ 勤于练习。
- ☐ 尽可能发现并了解新观点和新事实。

最后,《大学体验英语阅读教程》是以提高阅读技能为目的编写而成的,希望广大教师和学生在学习过程中始终抓住这一关键。

本教材编写过程中,得到高等教育出版社的大力支持和帮助。在此,编者表示衷心的感谢。

由于编者水平与经验所限,教材中难免有不妥之处,敬请广大读者批评雅正。

编 者

2014年4月

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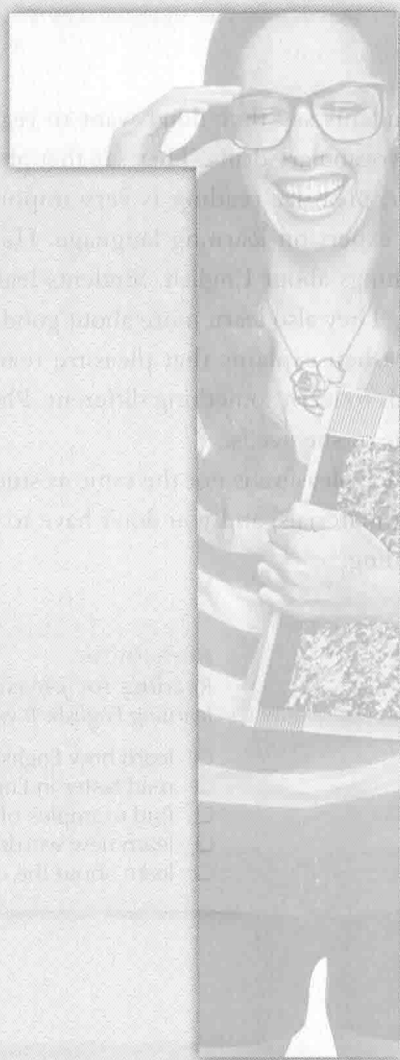
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PART



Reading for Pleasure

Introduction to Reading for Pleasure

Reading for pleasure is the easiest way to become a better reader in English. It's also the most important way.

Some students say they don't want to read for pleasure. They prefer to work on grammar lessons and vocabulary drills. They say that pleasure reading is too easy.

However, pleasure reading is very important for learning English. Dr. Stephen Krashen is a famous expert on learning language. He says that pleasure reading helps you learn many important things about English. Students learn more grammar and vocabulary when they read for pleasure. They also learn more about good writing.

Prof. Krashen explains that pleasure reading helps each student in a different way. Each student needs to learn something different. Pleasure reading makes it possible for each student to learn what he or she needs.

Reading for pleasure is not the same as studying, when you read for pleasure you choose your own reading materials, and you don't have to remember everything. There are no tests on your pleasure reading.

Remember

Reading for pleasure is very important for learning English. It will help you:

- ☐ learn how English speakers use English.
- ☐ read faster in English.
- ☐ find examples of good writing in English.
- ☐ learn new words.
- ☐ learn about the cultures of English speakers.

Talking About Your Reading

You can understand what you read better if you talk about it. On the following pages there are two stories to read and talk about. "The Lost City of Pompeii" is a true story (nonfiction); "After Twenty Years" is not a true story (fiction). You will read these stories and practice new ways of reading and talking about your reading.

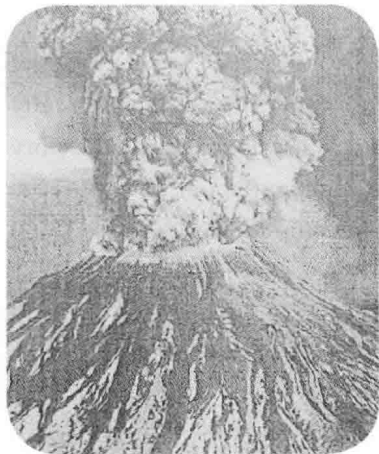
Example a Nonfiction

Follow these steps:

1. The title of this story is “The Lost City of Pompeii”. It’s a report of events that really happened in the past. Before you read, talk with another student. What do you think the story is about? Have you ever heard about Pompeii before? What do you know about it?
2. Read the story, beginning on page 4 all the way to the end. Don’t stop for new words. (You’ll have another chance to read the story.)
3. Talk about the story with another student. Ask each other:
 - Where does the story take place?
 - When does it take place?
 - What happens in the story?
 - Was any part of the story hard to understand?
4. Read the story again. Mark with a pencil the new words that you want to learn.
5. Talk to another student about the new words. Guess the meanings. Write them here.

6. Work with a group of three or four students. Retell the story from beginning to end. Then ask one another these questions:
 - Was this story interesting to you? Why?
 - Why is Pompeii important to scientists?
 - Do you know about any other volcanoes or natural disasters?

The Lost City of Pompeii



In 79 C. E.¹, **Pompeii**² was a busy Roman city in southern Italy. On one side of the city was the sea. Pompeii was on a wide bay that was good for boats and for fishing. On the other side was a tall mountain, **Mt. Vesuvius**³. In many ways, this was a good place for a city. The land near it was good for growing things. The weather was also good for farming most of the year. Vesuvius was a volcano, but it was quiet. It had been quiet for 800 years.

On the morning of August 25, the marketplace in Pompeii was busy. The weather was hot and many people were out early. Farmers came in from the countryside. They brought fruits and vegetables to sell in the market. The shops opened, selling food, pots, cloth, and many other things. Bakeries had piles of bread to sell. The cafés had snacks and drinks. The streets were soon crowded. There was noise, and music, too, as traveling musicians entertained in the marketplace. Children ran around everywhere, and dogs barked.

By late morning, there were many people in the center of the city. In the cafés, they were talking about the games in the stadium. That afternoon, gladiators (Roman fighters) were going to have a battle. The gladiators were already practicing in the stadium. At the city meeting place, some of the important men of Pompeii were talking about their city. They were talking about problems, law, and buildings. Other men were at the bathhouse. They were sitting in the steam room or in the hot pools and talking with their friends.

Suddenly the ground began to shake. All the houses in Pompeii moved a little. People looked around, and they looked at each other. Was this another earthquake? Earthquakes were common in the area. Suddenly there was a terrible, loud sound—boom! The top of Mt. Vesuvius blew off. Fire came shooting out of mountain. A huge black cloud of ash and smoke rose into the sky.

The ground shook again, and this time people went running outside. They looked at the mountain and were afraid. Women held onto their children. Husbands looked for their wives. Children cried, and dogs barked.

In a short time, the sun was hidden by the ash and smoke from the mountain. It was as dark

1. **C.E.**, Common Era, the period since the birth of Christ when the Christian Calendar starts counting years 基督纪年, 公元 (表示日期时用法同AD)
2. **Pompeii**, an ancient Roman town-city near modern Naples in the Italian region of Campania, in the territory of the commune of Pompei. 庞贝 (地名), 庞贝古城
3. **Mt. Vesuvius**, an active volcano near Naples, in southern Italy, 4,190 feet (1,277m) high. 维苏威火山

as night in Pompeii. Ash and rocks began to fall from the sky. Some of the rocks were very small, but some were the size of tennis balls. People ran screaming through the streets. In the marketplace, bakers forgot about their bread. Farmers forgot about their vegetables. Even the gladiators in the stadium dropped their weapons and ran.

Everyone was terrified. Rich people ran to get their jewelry and gold. Religious people called to the gods for help. As the people ran, hot ash fell on them. It stuck in people's throats and got in their eyes. Their clothes were soon covered with ash. The rocks fell on their heads. Some people tied cushions to their heads to protect themselves.

The air became so thick with ash and smoke that people couldn't breathe. The ash soon filled the streets and piled up on roofs. The weight of the ash and rocks caused houses to fall in. The town was quickly disappearing under a blanket of gray ash. Some people ran to the seaside and tried to get into boats. The sea was wild. Huge waves crashed onto the beach. Still, some families were able to escape that way. Other people ran into the countryside, away from the mountain.

In the end, most of the people—about 20,000—got away from Pompeii in time. But about 2,000 people didn't get away. They were buried under the ashes. In less than two days, the whole city was buried under about 15-25 feet (4.5-6 meters) of ashes. Then it rained, and the ashes became hard as rock.

Across the bay from Pompeii was another small city. The people who lived there saw everything. They saw the mountain explode and a black cloud cover Pompeii. They saw people trying to escape by water or by land. They talked to the people who arrived by boat. A boy named Pliny⁴ was there. He watched and listened to everything. When he grew up, he became a writer and he wrote about what happened to Pompeii.

Many years later, new houses were built on top of the old ones in Pompeii. People forgot what had happened to the old Roman city. For the next 1,800 years, it lay underground. Then, in the 19th century, scientists discovered some of Pliny's writing. They read his story about Pompeii and they wondered where it was. One day, some workers were digging a tunnel for water. They found pieces of an old wall underground. Some years later, other people found more walls and buildings. Then they found a stone with writing on it. On the stone was the name of the city—Pompeii.

In 1860, the king of Italy told scientists to uncover Pompeii. They dug away many layers of rock and dirt. They found the city just as it was when the volcano exploded. There was money on a table in a café. There were pots and pans in a fireplace. There was a bowl of unbroken eggs in a kitchen.

At first, the scientists found only a few human bones. But then they made an important discovery. The bodies of most of the people had disappeared. In their place, there were holes

4. **Pliny**, 普林尼 (人名), 全名盖乌斯·普林尼·塞孔都斯 (Gaius Plinius Secundus, 公元23年或24年—79年), 又称老普林尼, 古罗马的百科全书式的作家, 以《博物志》一书著称。

in the rocks. From these holes, the scientists could make models of the bodies. These models showed how people looked when they died. Some people were holding on to each other. Other people were holding on to their jewels. There was even a dog on a chain.

Today, Pompeii is an open-air museum. People come from all over the world to see it. Scientists continue to study the Roman city. They learn new things about the way people lived in those days.

Other scientists study Mt. Vesuvius. They wonder when it will explode again. Now, there are many people living near the mountain. If it explodes, hundreds of thousands of people will be in danger. The scientists tell this to the Italian government. The government says it has a plan to save all the people. But will it work? Few people know about the plan. However, few people think about the volcano. They worry about the problems in their town. They worry about their family or their job. They can't imagine that there could be another Pompeii disaster.

Example **b** Fiction

Follow these steps:

1. The title of this story is "After Twenty Years". The author is O'Henry. Before you read, talk with another student. What do you think the story is about? How can you tell? Write your guess here.

2. Read the story all the way to the end. Don't stop for new words. (You'll have another chance to read the story.)
3. Talk about the story with another student. Ask each other:
 - Where does the story take place?
 - Who are the people in the story?
 - What happens in the story?
 - Is any part of the story hard to understand?
4. Read the story again. Mark with a pencil the new words that you want to learn.
5. Talk to another student about the new words. Guess the meanings. Write them here.

6. Work with a group of three or four students. Retell the story from beginning to end. Then ask each other these questions:
- Do you like the story? Why?
 - Do you like the ending? Why?
 - Can you think of a different ending?
 - Have you ever had trouble with different ways of measuring things?

After Twenty Years

by O'Henry¹

The policeman on the beat moved up the avenue impressively. The impressiveness was habitual and not for show, for spectators were few. The time was barely 10 o'clock at night, but chilly gusts of wind with a taste of rain in them had well nigh depeopled the streets.

Trying doors as he went, twirling his club with many intricate and artful movements, turning now and then to cast his watchful eye adown the pacific thoroughfare, the officer, with his stalwart form and slight swagger, made a fine picture of a guardian of the peace. The vicinity was one that kept early hours. Now and then you might see the lights of a cigar store or of an all-night lunch counter; but the majority of the doors belonged to business places that had long since been closed.

When about midway of a certain block the policeman suddenly slowed his walk. In the doorway of a darkened hardware store a man leaned, with an unlighted cigar in his mouth. As the policeman walked up to him the man spoke up quickly.

"It's all right, officer," he said, reassuringly. "I'm just waiting for a friend. It's an appointment made twenty years ago. Sounds a little funny to you, doesn't it? Well, I'll explain if you'd like to make certain it's all straight. About that long ago there used to be a restaurant where this store stands—'Big Joe' Brady's restaurant."

"Until five years ago," said the policeman. "It was torn down then."

The man in the doorway struck a match and lit his cigar. The light showed a pale, square-jawed face with keen eyes, and a little white scar near his right eyebrow. His scarfpin was a large diamond, oddly set.

"Twenty years ago to-night," said the man, "I dined here at 'Big Joe' Brady's with Jimmy Wells, my best chum, and the finest chap in the world. He and I were raised here in New York, just like two brothers, together. I was eighteen and Jimmy was twenty. The next morning I was

1. **O' Henry**, noted American author of hundreds of short stories including "The Cop and the Anthem", "A Service of Love", and "The Gift of the Magi". 欧·亨利

to start for the West to make my fortune. You couldn't have dragged Jimmy out of New York; he thought it was the only place on earth. Well, we agreed that night that we would meet here again exactly twenty years from that date and time, no matter what our conditions might be or from what distance we might have to come. We figured that in twenty years each of us ought to have our destiny worked out and our fortunes made, whatever they were going to be."

"It sounds pretty interesting," said the policeman. "Rather a long time between meets, though, it seems to me. Haven't you heard from your friend since you left?"

"Well, yes, for a time we corresponded," said the other. "But after a year or two we lost track of each other. You see, the West is a pretty big proposition, and I kept hustling around over it pretty lively. But I know Jimmy will meet me here if he's alive, for he always was the truest, stanchest old chap in the world. He'll never forget. I came a thousand miles to stand in this door to-night, and it's worth it if my old partner turns up."

The waiting man pulled out a handsome watch, the lids of it set with small diamonds.

"Three minutes to ten," he announced. "It was exactly ten o'clock when we parted here at the restaurant door."

"Did pretty well out West, didn't you?" asked the policeman.

"You bet! I hope Jimmy has done half as well. He was a kind of plodder, though, good fellow as he was. I've had to compete with some of the sharpest wits going to get my pile. A man gets in a groove in New York. It takes the West to put a razor-edge on him."

The policeman twirled his club and took a step or two.

"I'll be on my way. Hope your friend comes around all right. Going to call time on him sharp?"

"I should say not!" said the other. "I'll give him half an hour at least. If Jimmy is alive on earth he'll be here by that time. So long, officer."

"Good-night, sir," said the policeman, passing on along his beat, trying doors as he went.

There was now a fine, cold drizzle falling, and the wind had risen from its uncertain puffs into a steady blow. The few foot passengers astir in that quarter hurried dismally and silently along with coat collars turned high and pocketed hands. And in the door of the hardware store the man who had come a thousand miles to fill an appointment, uncertain almost to absurdity, with the friend of his youth, smoked his cigar and waited.

About twenty minutes he waited, and then a tall man in a long overcoat, with collar turned up to his ears, hurried across from the opposite side of the street. He went directly to the waiting man.

"Is that you, Bob?" he asked, doubtfully.

"Is that you, Jimmy Wells?" cried the man in the door.

"Bless my heart!" exclaimed the new arrival, grasping both the other's hands with his own. "It's Bob, sure as fate. I was certain I'd find you here if you were still in existence. Well, well, well! — twenty years is a long time. The old gone, Bob; I wish it had lasted, so we could have had another dinner there. How has the West treated you, old man?"

"Bully; it has given me everything I asked it for. You've changed lots, Jimmy. I never thought you were so tall by two or three inches."

"Oh, I grew a bit after I was twenty."

"Doing well in New York, Jimmy?"

"Moderately. I have a position in one of the city departments. Come on, Bob; we'll go around to a place I know of, and have a good long talk about old times."

The two men started up the street, arm in arm. The man from the West, his egotism enlarged by success, was beginning to outline the history of his career. The other, submerged in his overcoat, listened with interest.

At the corner stood a drug store, brilliant with electric lights. When they came into this glare each of them turned simultaneously to gaze upon the other's face.

The man from the West stopped suddenly and released his arm.

"You're not Jimmy Wells," he snapped. "Twenty years is a long time, but not long enough to change a man's nose from a Roman to a pug."

"It sometimes changes a good man into a bad one," said the tall man. "You've been under arrest for ten minutes, 'Silky' Bob. Chicago thinks you may have dropped over our way and wires us she wants to have a chat with you. Going quietly, are you? That's sensible. Now, before we go on to the station here's a note I was asked to hand you. You may read it here at the window. It's from Patrolman Wells."

The man from the West unfolded the little piece of paper handed him. His hand was steady when he began to read, but it trembled a little by the time he had finished. The note was rather short.

"Bob: I was at the appointed place on time. When you struck the match to light your cigar I saw it was the face of the man wanted in Chicago. Somehow I couldn't do it myself, so I went around and got a plain clothes man to do the job. JIMMY."

Finding your reading rate in your pleasure reading

Before you practice reading faster, you must find out how fast you read now. Follow these directions to find your reading rate.

Read this sample page from a book entitled *Murder in the Language Lab*. Before you start to read, write the starting time: _____ min. _____ sec.

Murder in the Language Lab

- 1 Against one wall there was a large machine. The sides of the machine were made of black metal. The bottom half of it looked like a large typewriter. The top part of the machine was like a television set.
- 5 The man walked over to the tree. He looked up at the hole in the roof.
 The man called out, "Sally! Come down, Sally!"
 After a short time, a face appeared in the opening. The face had small, bright eyes. The mouth was very wide, and
- 10 the nose was flat. There were very big ears. The face was covered with short brown hair. It was the face of a chimpanzee.
 The animal's lips opened, showing yellow teeth. It looked like a smile. The chimpanzee made a happy sound.
- 15 "Come down here, Sally," the man said again.
 Sally climbed down the tree very quickly. With her long arms, it was easy for her to climb up or down very fast. Sally looked at the man and smiled again.
 "Do you want a banana, Sally?" the man asked.
- 20 Sally made another happy sound. She ran across the room to the machine. She stood in front of the machine. It looked like she was thinking very hard. She was studying the part that was like a typewriter. There were many more keys than are usually found on a typewriter. Also,
- 25 instead of letters there were little pictures or symbols on the keys. There were circles and squares in different colors, and many other symbols as well.
 Sally looked at the keys with their symbols. She put out her finger and pressed several keys. When she pressed

30 a key, that symbol appeared on the television part of the machine. At the same time, words in English appeared above the symbols. Sally finished pressing the keys. She looked at the symbols on the television.

Write the time you finished reading: _____ min. _____ sec.

Look at the next page and read the directions carefully.

To figure out your reading rate:

1. Count the number of words in the first three lines. There are 30 words in the first three lines on the sample from *Murder in the Language Lab*.
2. Divide the number of words by three (the number of lines). Then you will know the average number of words in one line.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 30 & \div & 3 & = & 10 \\ \text{(words)} & & \text{(lines)} & & \text{(words in one line)} \end{array}$$

3. Count the lines on the page. On the sample page from *Murder in the Language Lab*, there are 33 lines.
4. Find out how many words there are on the page. Multiply the number of words in a line by the number of lines on the page.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 10 & \times & 33 & = & 330 \\ \text{(words)} & & \text{(lines)} & & \text{(words in one line)} \end{array}$$

Now that you know there are about 330 words on the page, you can find out how many words you can read in one minute.

5. How many minutes did you take to read the page of *Murder in the Language Lab*?
(finishing time minus starting time equals reading time) _____ minutes.
6. To find your reading rate, divide the number of words on the page by the number of minutes it took you to read the page.

330 words on a page \div _____ minutes = _____ words per minute.

For example, if you read the page in 5 minutes,

330 words on a page \div 5 minutes = 66 words per minute.

Next, you will learn how to figure out your reading rate for your own book.