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大学英语泛读教程

APPROACHING READING EFFICIENCY 1

(第一册) (Book One)

 复旦大学出版社

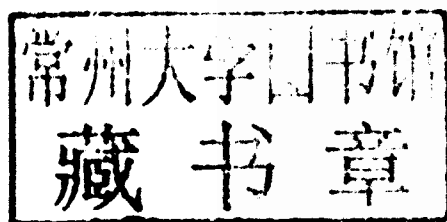
大学英语泛读教程(第一册)

Approaching Reading Efficiency (Book One)

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前言

阅读是语言输入的一个重要途径,尤其是对非英语专业的学习者来讲更是如此。阅读的量积累到一定的程度,语言输出就会有一个质的飞跃。《大学英语泛读教程》是依据教育部《大学英语课程教学要求》编写的一套供大学英语基础阶段1-4级学习的阅读教材,它与《大学英语精读》、《大学英语听力》等教材配合使用,主要是在阅读的量上提供一个语言输入的源泉。我们在编写过程中力图使教程突出以下特点:

一、注重培养学生快速、准确、有效地获取信息的能力,把握文章中心思想,重点训练学生见“树”也见“林”的能力。学生通过阅读实践,扩大英语词汇量,提高阅读速度和理解能力。

二、在选材时注重了题材的多样性、内容的启迪性、语言的纯正性等。题材方面既有贴近大学生生活的主题,如西方文化、爱情与友谊等,也涵盖了教育、科技、体育与健康、环境保护、计算机与网络等领域。选文的主题积极,有一定的教育意义,能够帮助学生理解和发现生活中的真、善、美。选材多样,体裁和风格各有不同,语言表达方式丰富多彩。

三、结构上采用了头脑风暴、课文正文、词汇解释、难点注释、阅读理解练习和翻译训练等内容。在阅读词汇方面,本教程将教学大纲规定的四级重点词汇列在了每篇文章的后面,以供学习者预习及重点掌握。六级和超纲词汇在词汇解释里有特殊标识,★代表六级词汇,▲代表超纲词汇。

本教程共计四册,每册16个单元。每单元分为两个部分。第一部分由课文(Text A)、词汇表及相应的练习组成,其中Text A作为精

读使用。第二部分由课文(Text B)、词汇表及相应的练习组成,其中 Text B 作为快速阅读使用,其目的是培养学生在有限的时间内快速准确地获取主要信息的能力。每册书后附有该册全部练习答案,供教师和学生参考。

《大学英语泛读教程》采取集体研讨,分工负责的原则编写。编委会多次就编写体例、选材等问题集体研讨。主编及参编人员均为长期工作在大学英语教学一线的专家和学者。《大学英语泛读教程》(第一册)主编为关慧,参加编写的主要人员有左丹弘、马晓菲、王蔚、张凌等。

本教程在编写过程中,听取了同行专家的意见和建议。外籍专家 James S. Reynolds 和 Kane Kevin 审阅了全部书稿,并提出了许多建设性的意见。编者衷心希望该教程能为学习者加强语言输入、提高阅读水平助一臂之力。由于编者的水平有限,教材中难免有不足与疏漏之处,恳请广大读者予以指正。

编 者

2011-4-18

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Unit 1

Growing Pains



Part I Brainstorming

Answer the following questions.

1. How do you usually react to other's advice?
2. While you were growing up, you must have encountered some misunderstandings. Can you recall one of the experiences and describe your feelings at the moment?
3. What are the effective ways to get rid of misunderstandings?



Part II Reading

Text A

The Best Advice I Ever Had

Author Unknown

- 1 When I was approximately 15, I had an enemy, a girl who liked to point out my shortcomings. Week by week her list grew: I was skinny; I wasn't a good student; I was a tomboy (假小子); I talked too loud; I was stuck-up (自命不凡的), and so on. I put up with her as long as I could. At last, I ran to my father in tears and rage.
- 2 He listened to my outburst quietly, and then asked, "Are the things she says true or not?"
- 3 True? I wanted to know how to strike back. What did truth have to do with it?
- 4 "Mary, didn't you ever wonder what you're really like? Well, you now have that girl's opinion. Go to make a list of everything she said and mark the points that are true. Pay no attention to the other things she said."
- 5 I did as he directed and discovered to my great surprise that about half the things were

true. Some of them I couldn't change (like being skinny), but a good number I could — and suddenly wanted to — change. For the first time in my life I began to get quite a clear picture of myself.

6 I brought the list back to Daddy, but he wouldn't take it.

7 "That's just for you," he said. "You know better than anybody else the truth about yourself, once you hear it. But you've got to learn to listen, not close your ears in anger or hurt. When something said about you is true, you'll know it. You'll find it will echo inside you."

8 "I still don't think it very nice of her to talk about me in front of everybody," I said.

9 "Mary, there is one way you could stop others talking about you ever again, and criticizing you — just say nothing and do nothing. But then, if you do that, you'd find you were nothing. You wouldn't like that now, would you?"

10 "No," I admitted.

11 Later, I was to have another, more painful lesson about hearing the truth. It happened the week we were to present the senior play. It was a musical in which I had the lead. How eager and excited I was!

12 A few days before the show, some of my friends decided to have a picnic at a nearby lake. It was a raw day. Mother wanted me to stay home to avoid any risk of catching cold. I raised a big fuss; so, after making me promise not to go swimming, she gave in. Well, I kept the letter of that promise, but not the spirit. When the others went into the water, I couldn't stand being left behind. I put on my swimming-suit, too, and went out in a rowboat.

13 When at last I headed for shore, some of the boys began to rock my boat. Just as I was about to reach the shore, it went over. Trying to keep out of the water, I took a leap for shore. I made it — but I landed squarely on a broken bottle. My heel was cut right to the bone!

14 I didn't get to star in the senior play. My understudy (候补演员) made a big hit while I lay in the hospital. "But I kept my promise not to go swimming," I said to Daddy.

15 "Mary, you listened to only half of what your mother said. What she really made you promise was to try not to catch cold. Going swimming was only part of it. You let yourself hear only part of the truth. And that's why you ended up like this."

16 I made a final excuse, "All my friends thought it would be all right, if I stayed in the boat."

17 "And they all were wrong, weren't they?" He paused a moment. "You'll find the world is full of people who think they know better than you. Don't shut your ears to them. Listen to them all, but hear the truth and do what you know is the right thing to do."

18 Daddy's advice has returned to me at many critical moments in my life and it has worked.

(692 words)

New Words and Expressions

approximately adv. 大约

point out 指出

put up with 忍受

rage n. 愤怒

echo v. 回响, 回荡

criticize v. 批评

admit v. 承认

squarely adv. 对准的

hit n. 成功

present v. 表演

musical n. 音乐剧

eager adj. 热切的

raw adj. 寒冷的

fuss n. (为小事)大吵大闹

leave behind 落后

end up 结束

pause v. 暂停

critical adj. 关键的, 至关重要的

I. Reading Comprehension

Choose the best answer for each of the following questions or incomplete sentences.

- What did the author's enemy enjoy doing?
 - Gossiping about the author.
 - Pointing out the author's weak points.
 - Quarrelling with the author.
 - Reporting to the teacher.
- What did the author do when she could no longer stand her enemy?
 - She cried to her heart's content.
 - She turned to her father.
 - She tried to be her friend.
 - She decided to teach her a lesson.
- How did the author's father react to her complaints?
 - He told her that he saw eye to eye with her enemy.
 - He let her continue to put up with her enemy.
 - He asked her to list what her enemy had said about her and see whether it was true.
 - He told her to ignore what her enemy had said.
- The author felt _____ when she did what her father had told her.
 - surprised
 - angry
 - disappointed
 - sad
- Which of the following is true according to the passage?
 - The enemy was jealous of the author because she was pretty.
 - The enemy thought the author studied hard.
 - The author and her enemy became best friends at last.
 - The author is grateful to her father.

6. What can we infer from the passage?
- The author was very angry with her father because he didn't stand up for her.
 - The author was responsible for the misunderstanding between her and her enemy.
 - The author's father was eager to act on other people's advice.
 - The author benefited a lot from her father's advice.

II. Language Focus

Fill in the gaps with words and phrases chosen from the box. Change the form where necessary.

rage	criticize	critical	eager	end up
approximately	risk	put up with	discover	pause

- Our flight to Japan will take _____ four hours.
- Many of the companies that think they can cut costs _____ disappointed.
- Reducing the level of carbon dioxide is of _____ importance.
- The birds could pose a serious health _____ for people who eat them.
- _____ for a glimpse of the singer, fans waited overnight at the airport.
- Doctors have _____ the government for failing to invest enough in the health service.
- My roommates are constantly making noises. I really cannot _____ them.
- A good education will help you _____ and develop your potential talents.
- The speaker _____ for a moment, and then continued.
- He will fly into a _____ if you even mention the subject.

III. Translation

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

- He never dreamed that he would _____ (最终拥有) such a lot of property!
- She _____ (向他指出) the unfairness of his actions.
- A quarter of all workers _____ (承认请假) when they are not ill.
- When he went to work in Saudi Arabia, he had to _____ (抛下家人).
- I am not going to _____ (容忍他们抽烟) any longer.

Text B

A Pair of Green Platform Boots

Author Unknown

- 1 On Monday morning I wore my green platform boots to school for the first time since I had started at Edison Middle School.

2 It was the day of the poetry festival, and I was thrilled. At my old school, I had won the poetry ribbon every year. I'm horrible at sports, too shy to be popular and I'm not cute — but I do write good poetry.

3 The poem I wrote for the Edison Poetry Festival was about my dad. I had a good feeling about sharing how special he was to me, even if it was just with the fifth grade and Mrs. Baker.

4 English class was not until after lunch period on Mondays, so by the time we started poetry, I was so nervous that my mouth was dry as toast. When Mrs. Baker called on me, I had to clear my throat, take a breath and swallow about ten times before I could speak. I didn't even bother to look at my paper. I'd spent so much time perfecting the rhymes (押韵), and counting the beats (节拍), that I knew the poem by heart.

5 I had just started the third verse when I noticed Mrs. Baker was glaring furiously at me. I stopped in the middle of a word and waited for her to say something.

6 “Linda, you are supposed to be reading an original work, a poem you made up yourself, not reciting something you learned. That is called plagiarism!”

7 “Oh, but it's not. I mean ... I did make it up, it's about my dad.” I heard a “Yeah, right!” from somewhere behind me, and someone else giggled.

8 I felt as if I'd somersaulted (做空翻) off the high dive and then, in midair, realized that there was no water in the pool. I opened my mouth to explain, but no words came out.

9 “You will leave the room and will not return until you are ready to apologize,” said Mrs. Baker. “Now go!”

10 My last thought was a flash of understanding as to why the kids had nicknamed her “Battle-Ax Baker” — then my brain just fizzled out, and I turned and left the room.

11 I'd been standing outside for about half an hour when Joseph, the school janitor (大楼管理员), came over to ask me what heinous crime I'd committed to be banished (流放) for so long. He loved using unusual words.

12 We'd made friends one morning before school, when he saw me sitting alone, pretending to do homework. He invited me to help open up the classrooms, and after that, it sort of became my job. He always talked to me as we wiped down the chalkboards and turned on the heat. Just that morning he'd been telling me that Mark Twain once said that the difference between the right word and the almost right word is like the difference between lightning and a lightning bug (萤火虫). I liked that. My dad would have liked it, too.

13 Now as Joseph waited for me to answer, he looked so kind and sympathetic that I poured out the whole story, trying not to cry. A tightness flashed over his face, and he jerked an enormous yellow duster (抹布) out of the pocket of his gray overalls. “So what are you going to do?” he asked, rolling up the duster into a tight ball.

14 I shrugged, feeling helpless and sad. “I don't know.”

- 15 “Well, you are not going to stand here all day, are you?”
- 16 I sighed. “I suppose I’ll do what she said. You know ... say I’m sorry.”
- 17 “You’ll apologize?”
- 18 I nodded. “What else can I do? It’s no big deal. I’ll just never write anything good in her class again.”
- 19 He looked disappointed with my response, so I shrugged once more and turned away from him.
- 20 “Linda,” the tone of his voice forced me to look back, “Accepting defeat, when you should stand up for yourself, can become a very dangerous habit.” He twisted the duster around his fingers. “Believe me, I know!”
- 21 He was staring right into my eyes. I blinked and looked down. His eyes followed mine, and we both noticed my green boots at the same time. Suddenly his face relaxed and creased into a huge smile. He chuckled and said, “You’re going to be just fine. I don’t have to worry about you. When you put on those boots this morning, you knew you were the only Linda Brown in the whole world.” As if he didn’t need it anymore, he cheerfully dropped the duster back into his pocket and folded his arms across his chest. “Those are the boots of someone who can take care of herself and knows when something is worth fighting for.”
- 22 His eyes, smiling into mine, woke up a part of me that had been asleep since I’d come to this school, and I knew that he was right about me. I’d just lost direction for a while. I took a deep breath and knocked on the classroom door, ready to face Mrs. Baker — ready to recite my poem.

(839 words)

New Words and Expressions

poetry *n.* 诗歌

festival *n.* 节日

thrill *v.* 使兴奋,使激动

cute *adj.* 聪明的,伶俐的

toast *n.* 烤面包,吐司

call on sb. 叫某人回答问题

swallow *v.* 吞咽

perfect *v.* 使完美

know by heart 熟记

original *adj.* 有独创性的;新颖的

★ recite *v.* 背诵

★ giggle *v.* 咯咯地笑

dive *n.* 跳水

as to 关于

fizzle out 失灵;失败

commit *v.* 犯(错)

lightning *n.* 闪电

sympathetic *adj.* 同情的

enormous *adj.* 大的

roll up ... into 将...卷成

shrug *v.* 耸肩

response *n.* 反应

turn away from 把脸从...转过去

blink v. 眨眼

tone n. 语调, 语气

▲crease v. 皱起

stand up for 为...辩护, 维护

▲chuckle v. 轻声地笑

twist v. 扭曲

I. Fast Reading

For questions 1 - 7, mark

Y (for YES) if the statement agrees with the information given in the text above;

N (for NO) if the statement contradicts the information given in the text above;

NG (for NOT GIVEN) if the information is not given in the text above.

For questions 8 - 10, complete the sentences with the information given in the text above.

- () 1. When the poetry festival arrived, Linda was filled with excitement.
- () 2. Linda's parents thought highly of her poem and encouraged her to read it to her classmates.
- () 3. Linda was quite nervous when reciting the poem because she hadn't made good preparation for the poetry festival.
- () 4. Before Linda finished reciting the poem, Mrs. Baker began criticizing her.
- () 5. By using the word "heinous", the janitor intended to remind Linda that her mistake was unforgivable.
- () 6. The janitor thought it would be unwise for Linda to say sorry to Mrs. Baker.
- () 7. At last, when she knocked on the classroom door, she had summoned up the courage to make an apology to Mrs. Baker.
8. The janitor being so _____ and _____, Linda told him the whole story.
9. It sort of became her job to help the janitor to _____.
10. The janitor considered it a very dangerous habit to _____.

II. Vocabulary in the Context

Choose the right meaning of the underlined part according to the context.

1. I'm horrible at sports, too shy to be popular and I'm not cute — but I do write good poetry.
A. good at B. keen on C. poor at D. afraid of
2. It was the day of the poetry festival, and I was thrilled. At my old school, I had won the poetry ribbon every year.
A. grateful B. excited C. upset D. tense

3. I had just started the third verse when I noticed Mrs. Baker was glaring furiously at me.
A. a set of lines that forms one part of a poem
B. a story about imaginary people and events
C. a piece of writing that is not yet in its finished form
D. a short piece of writing giving someone's ideas about politics, society, etc.
4. Linda, you are supposed to be reading an original work, a poem you made up yourself, not reciting something you learned.
A. imaginative B. creative C. initial D. productive
5. "Linda, you are supposed to be reading an original work, a poem you made up yourself, not reciting something you learned. That is called plagiarism!"
A. adaptation B. quotation C. copying D. composition
6. My last thought was a flash of understanding as to why the kids had nicknamed her "Battle-Ax Baker" — then my brain just fizzled out, and I turned and left the room.
A. failed B. functioned C. leaked D. inspired
7. I'd been standing outside for about half an hour when Joseph, the school janitor, came over to ask me what heinous crime I'd committed to be banished for so long.
A. horrible B. petty C. minor D. fantastic
8. He looked disappointed with my response, so I shrugged once more and turned away from him.
A. requirement B. request
C. reply D. recommendation
9. He was staring right into my eyes. I blinked and looked down.
A. shut and opened eyes quickly B. looked angrily
C. looked secretly D. look carefully
10. Suddenly his face relaxed and creased into a huge smile. He chuckled and said, "You're going to be just fine. I don't have to worry about you."
A. laughed unkindly B. laughed quietly
C. laughed repeatedly D. laughed insincerely

III. Word Conversion

Fill in the blanks with the proper forms of the words given.

1. original The tradition has its _____ in the Middle Ages.
2. popular The president's _____ has declined considerably.
3. sympathy I'm _____ to parents who are worried about what their children see on television.
4. response When asked about the company's future, the director _____ that he remained optimistic.