

《大学英语》(修订本)教学光盘图书版系列



大学 英语

精读
教学光盘图书版

College English
On CD-ROM

(Book Edition)

Intensive Reading

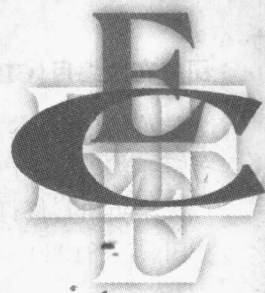
华南理工大学外语系 编

第 **2** 册

(修订本)

上海外语教育出版社





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前 言

《大学英语》(修订本)精读1—4册多媒体教学与辅导光盘于1998年由上海外语教育出版社出版,到2000年底已发行数万套。自出版以来,这套光盘受到国内外英语教育专家及计算机辅助教学专家的高度评价,受到全国高校师生的热烈欢迎,已为全国数百所高校作为教学手段改革与更新的第一手教材使用,并取得了良好的教学效果。该套光盘于2001年获国家级高校优秀教学成果二等奖,广东省优秀教学成果一等奖。

这套多媒体教学光盘是以语言习得理论为基础、以教育部颁发的《大学英语教学大纲》为依据、按照交互式教学法原则,将多媒体技术与我国高校大学英语教学实践全面结合起来的结晶。研制《大学英语》(修订本)精读1—4册多媒体教学与辅导光盘的指导思想是:“突破传统教学模式,丰富课堂教学手段,解决师资短缺矛盾,提高大学英语教学质量”。实践证明:这套多媒体教学光盘突破了传统教学模式,从多种途径丰富了课堂教学手段,不仅有助于提高大学英语教学质量,而且可以在一定程度上缓解当前我国大学英语师资短缺的矛盾。

《大学英语》(修订本)精读1—4册多媒体教学与辅导光盘是在国优教材《大学英语》(修订本)精读1—4册(著名英语教育家董亚芬教授任总主编,上海外语教育出版社出版)的基础上研制开发的。光盘的课文取自《大学英语》(修订本)精读教材1—4册,其他内容均由课题组人员参照该教材自己撰写和开发。

本套丛书系该多媒体教学与辅导光盘的文字版。其用途有二:一是辅助教师课堂教学,为教师提供丰富的供备课和课堂讲解使用的语料,以便减轻教师的工作强度;二是方便学生课外自学,实现课堂应用与课外自学相结合。而对于那些目前还不具备使用多媒体光盘条件的学校的教师、学生和英语自学者而言,光盘文字版则是一套运用全新教学模式开展《大学英语》(修订本)精读教学的辅导资料。

丛书共分四册,与《大学英语》(修订本)精读1—4册光盘配套。每册包括三个主要部分:1. 课文讲解,2. 巩固提高,3. 阶段测试。

课文讲解(Presentation)部分是按照大学英语教学大纲的要求及多数教师经常采用的教学过程而设计的,内容包括“文化背景”、“词汇”、“语言点”、“篇章结构”、“课文翻译”(文字部分)、“课文朗读”及“英文歌曲”(录音部分)等七个部分。这七个部分包括了英语课堂教学的各个环节,涵盖了从词语到句子再到语篇三个层次的教学全过程。因此课文讲解部分既能从不同层次为教师开展“以学生为中心”的课堂教学活动提供便利条件,而且也能从不同的角度引导学生开展自学活动。

巩固提高(Consolidation)是课文的练习部分,旨在帮助学生巩固在课文讲解部分所学的知识,加强听、说、读、写诸方面的技能训练。本部分包括“听力理解”、“重点词和短语操练”、“语法结构”、“完形填空”和“写作”等五项练习。各项练习均设计成“主观题”形式,即学习者必须经过独立思考方能完成各项练习。这就避免了简单的“客观多项选择题”的练习方式,能帮助学生准确掌握知识和习得技能。为了培养学生规范而恰当地运用英语的良好习惯,各项练

前 言

习均提供了必要的解题指导。

阶段测试(Progress Check)部分旨在检查学生对课文掌握的情况,属于“学业测试”(Achievement Test)类型的学习活动。重点检测学生在课文讲解部分学习过并在巩固提高部分练习过的内容,每两个单元进行一次测试,每册均有五个测试。测试内容包括“听力理解”、“词汇”、“语法结构”和“完形填空”四项。阶段测试设计成了客观型的多项选择题。

由于本丛书是基于多媒体教学辅导光盘的文字版,它弥补了光盘版中资料不能复制、不能修改或补充等不足之处,因此对使用大学英语多媒体教学与辅导光盘的教师和学生也具有使用价值。把光盘与本丛书结合起来使用当是最佳的选择。

本丛书由华南理工大学外语系《大学英语》(修订本)精读教学与辅导光盘课题组集体编写,由上海外语教育出版社出版。由于是第一次从事这样的光盘开发研制与文字配套工作,我们的水平有限,又缺乏经验,疏漏之处在所难免,敬请读者批评指正。

编 者

2001年9月

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UNIT ONE

PART ONE PRESENTATION

Text

It is a humorous essay. But after reading it you will surely find that the author is most serious in writing it.

IS THERE LIFE ON EARTH?

Art Buchwald

- 1 There was great excitement on **the planet of Venus*** this week. For the first time Venusian scientists managed to land a **satellite** on the planet Earth, and it has been sending back signals as well as photographs ever since.
- 2 The satellite was directed into an area known as** **Manhattan** (named after the great Venusian **astronomer** Prof. Manhattan, who first discovered it with his **telescope** 20,000 light years ago).
- 3 Because of excellent weather conditions and extremely strong signals, Venusian scientists were able to get valuable information as to the feasibility of a manned **flying saucer** landing on Earth. A press conference was held at the Venus Institute of Technology.
- 4 “We have come to the conclusion, based on last week’s satellite landing,” Prof. Zog said, “that there is no life on Earth.”
- 5 “How do you know this?” the science reporter of the Venus Evening Star asked. “For one thing, Earth’s surface in the area of Manhattan is composed of solid **concrete** and nothing can grow there. For another, the atmosphere is filled with carbon monoxide and other deadly gases and nobody could possibly breathe this air and survive.”

* 黑体部分参见本书的 Cultural Information

** 划线部分参见本书的 Expressions to Drill

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- 6 “What does this mean as far as our flying saucer program is concerned?”
“We shall have to take our own **oxygen** with us, which means a much heavier flying saucer than we originally planned.”
- 7 “Are there any other hazards that you discovered in your studies?”
“Take a look at this photo. You see this dark black cloud hovering over the surface of **Earth**? We call this the Consolidated Edison Belt. We don't know what it is made of, but it could give us a lot of trouble and we shall have to make further tests before we send a Venus Being there.”
- 8 “Over here you will notice what seems to be a river, but the satellite findings indicate it is polluted and the water is unfit to drink. This means we shall have to carry our own water, which will add even greater weight to the saucer.”
- 9 “Sir, what are all those tiny black spots on the photographs?”
“We're not certain. They seem to be metal particles that move along certain paths. They emit gases, make noise and keep crashing into each other. There are so many of these paths and so many metal particles that it is impossible to land a flying saucer without its being smashed by one.”
- 10 “What are those stalagmite projections sticking up?”
“They're some type of granite formations that give off light at night. Prof. Glom has named them **skyscrapers** since they seem to be scraping the skies.”
- 11 “If all you say is true, won't this set back the flying saucer program several years?”
“Yes, but we shall proceed as soon as the Grubstart gives us the added funds.”
- 12 “Prof. Zog, why are we spending billions and billions of zilches to land a flying saucer on Earth when there is no life there?”
“Because if we Venusians can learn to breathe in an Earth atmosphere, then we can live anywhere.”

Words to Drill

atmosphere

- n.* the mixture of gases around the planet; the air; the general impression or feelings that an event or place gives you 大气, 大气层; 空气; 气氛
— A planet's atmosphere is the layer of air or other gases around it.
— The atmosphere of the city is polluted.
— The restaurant has a real family atmosphere.

compose

- vt.* 1) make up, form; 构成, 组成
— England, Scotland and Wales compose the island of Great Britain.
— The chemistry teacher asked the pupils what water was composed of.

- 2) write a piece of (music, a poem or speech) 谱曲; 创作
 — Mr. Mozart composed his first symphony (交响曲) in 1764.
 — He sometimes composes poems.

conclusion

- n.* 1) a judgement or decision; the ending or closing part 结论, 推论; 结尾
 — I came to the conclusion that I didn't really like civil engineering (土木工程).
 — What conclusion did you come to?
 — I found the conclusion of his book very interesting.
 — In conclusion (总之), I'd like to say how much I've enjoyed staying here.
 2) an agreement or arrangement 协议, 议定
 — The conclusion of a treaty or business deal is its final conclusion.

conference

- n.* meeting 会议
 — The Managing Director has daily conferences with the other staff members.
 — She was in Boston attending an international conference on the protection of the environment.
 — A national conference on architecture will be held next Friday in our university.

crash

- vt. & vi.* hit or fall violently or accidentally 碰撞; 坠毁
 — The plane crashed within seconds of taking off.
 — Eric came running down the corridor (走廊) and crashed into me.
 — The car would not stop so the driver had to crash it into the wall.
n. violent hit or fall 碰撞; 坠毁
 — All the passengers were killed in the plane crash.
 — The tree fell with a great crash.

deadly

- a.* fatal, likely or able to cause death 致命的
 — This is one of nature's deadliest poisons.
 — The disease is deadly.

emit

- vt.* produce or send out (light, heat, sound, smell) 发出(光、声音、热等)
 — The chimney emitted a cloud of smoke.
 — The fireplace emitted a pleasant warmth.
 — He was heard to emit heartbroken sighs.
 — Animal bodies emit perspiration (汗).

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extremely

ad. very 非常

- It is extremely difficult to work in these conditions.
- The article contains some extremely important information.
- Ralph and I always got on extremely well.

extreme

a. very great in degree; very unusual or unreasonable 极度的; 极端的

- The extreme punishment of the law in England used to be punishment by death.

feasibility

n. possibility 可行性; 可能性

- They were working at the technical feasibility of a supersonic aircraft during my first visit.
- The scientist doubted the feasibility of the experiment.

feasible

a. able to be carried out or done, possible 可行的; 可能的

- The electric car is technically feasible.
- It's not feasible to dismiss him.

fund

n. 1) money collected for a special purpose 资金; 基金; 专款

- He made a generous donation (捐款) to our campaign (竞选) fund.
- Parts of the school sports funds will be used to improve the condition of the football field.

2) a store or supply 储藏, 储存

- When explaining a new point to a class, it helps a teacher to have a fund of good examples to make his meaning clear.

hazard

n. something dangerous 危害; 公害

- Drinking alcohol is a real health hazard if carried to excess.
- Signs warn drivers of hazards on the road ahead.
- Polluted water sources are a hazard to wildlife.

indicate

vt. show 表明; 标示; 表示

- Research indicates that the drug can be harmful to pregnant (怀孕的) women.
- A recent survey has indicated that viewers want a wider choice of programs on TV.
- The man indicated, with a nod of his head, that he understood.

originally*ad.*

- 1) at the beginning, formerly 起初, 原来
 — She's Canadian, but her family originally came from Scotland.
 — Originally, the book was published as a series of magazine articles.
 2) in a new, different way 独创地
 — The apartment was decorated quite originally.
 — We want this room decorated originally.

original*a.*

- 1) existing at the beginning 原来的, 起初的
 — The original idea came from Dr. Ball.
 2) completely new or different 新颖的, 独特的
 — The young man is a jazz musician with a completely original style.

pollute*vt.*

- make (air, water, etc.) dirty or dangerous to live in or use 污染
 — Parts of the Mediterranean are polluted with poisonous waste.
 — The air is heavily polluted with exhaust fumes (废气).
 — Efforts have to be made to clean up Britain's polluted rivers.

pollution*n.*

- the action of polluting 污染
 — We moved to the country to get away from all the crime and pollution in Los Angeles.

.proceed*vi.*

- continue 进行, 继续
 — He proceeded to explain how to carry out the plan.
 — It is necessary to examine this claim (主张) before we proceed any further.
 — He cleared his throat and then proceeded with his speech.

signal*n.*

- gesture, sound or action intended to give a message 信号; 暗号
 — My signal will be 3 knocks.
 — A red lamp is often used as a danger signal.
 — Don't start yet, not until I give you the signal.

vt. & vi.

- give a signal 发信号
 — A sailor began signaling with two flags.
 — An official signaled that it was time for the race to begin.

smash*vt. & vi.*

- (cause to) break into pieces violently (使)粉碎, (使)破碎
 — I heard something smash in the kitchen. Dad must have dropped a dish or something.
 — They smashed the display window and grabbed (抢劫) \$4000 worth

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of gold jewelry.

— Their little boat hit the rocks and was smashed to bits.

survive

vt. & vi. continue to live in spite of coming close to death; manage to cope with (a difficult situation); continue to live after 幸存,活下来;挺过来;比……活得长

— My grandmother is too old to survive another operation.

— The plane crashed into the sea but over half of the passengers survived.

— You have to make difficult decisions to survive in business.

— She will probably survive me by many years.

type

n. 1) kind, class, sort 类型,种类,品种

— Accidents of this type are extremely common.

— They export (出口) farm medicines and tools of various types.

— There are two types of politicians — the ones who really want to help people, and the ones who just want power.

2) the size or style of a printed character or printed characters 排印出的字型、字体

vt. & vi. write using a typewriter or computer 打字

— I'm afraid I don't type fast enough.

— Could you type those letters for me?

unfit

a. not fit, not suitable 不适合的

— This meat is unfit for human consumption (消费).

— Adams is clearly unfit to hold an administration post (行政职务).

— Years of work in Africa made him unfit for life in a cold country.

Expressions to Drill

(be) known as (be) publicly called 知名,通常叫作

— She is known as a great singer.

name ... after give the same name as 以…的名字命名

— Bill was named after his grandfather.

as to with regard to 至于

— As to that job, I haven't decided whether I will take it or not.

base on develop ... from 基于,根据,以…为基础

— The new agreement is based on the original United Nations' proposal.

for one thing ... (for another) first ... (second) 一则…(再则)

— For one thing, I think you're stupid; for another I don't like you.

be composed of Be made up of 由…构成

— Water is composed of hydrogen and oxygen.

as far as ... be concerned considering; 就…而言; 在…看来

— As far as the jobs are concerned, we can finish them perfectly.

stick up

rise, point upward 直立

— The plants stick up vertically from the seabed.

give off send out 释放, 散发出

— These wild flowers give off a nice smell.

set back

postpone, delay 推迟

— The bad weather will set back our building plans by three weeks.

Cultural Information

1. the planet of Venus

Venus is the second planet in distance from the sun and nearest to the Earth of all the planets in the solar system. Except for the sun and the moon, Venus is the brightest object in the sky.

2. satellite

A satellite refers to a man-made object intended to move around the earth, moon, etc., for some purpose.

3. Manhattan

Manhattan (Island) is one of the commercial, financial, and cultural centers of the world. It has many famous landmarks and tourist attractions. They include Broadway, Chinatown, the Empire State Building, Greenwich Village, Times Square, the United Nations Headquarters, Wall Street, and many churches, colleges, skyscrapers, and theatres.

4. astronomer

Astronomer is the person who studies astronomy, the science dealing with all the celestial bodies in the universe, including stars, planets, satellites, comets, etc.

5. telescope

Telescope is a device used to form a magnified image of a distant object.

6. flying saucer

A flying saucer is any of several types of usually plate-shaped spaceships.

7. concrete

Concrete is the artificial engineering material made from a mixture of Portland cement, water, fine and coarse aggregates, and a small amount of air. It is the

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most widely used construction material in the world.

8. oxygen

Oxygen is a colorless, odorless, tasteless and slightly magnetic gaseous element. The symbol of oxygen is O. On earth, oxygen is more abundant than any other element.

9. the Earth

The earth is one of the planets in the solar system, the third in distance from the sun and the fifth largest of the planets in diameter. It is the only planet known to support life.

10. skyscraper

A skyscraper is a very tall modern city building.

Reference

1. Art Buchwald

Art Buchwald (1925 –) is a well-known American humorist and journalist for the *Washington Post*. He writes a political humor column that appears daily in hundreds of newspapers across the United States. His columns frequently deal with stories about politicians and famous personalities, current events in politics and issues in the news. Some of his well-received columns have been collected and reprinted in book form.

2. the planet of Venus

Venus is the second planet in distance from the sun and nearest to the Earth of all the planets in the solar system. Except for the sun and the moon, Venus is the brightest object in the sky. The planet is called “the morning star” when it appears in the east at sunrise, and “the evening star” when it is in the west at sunset.

The surface temperature of Venus averages about 475 degrees centigrade and its atmosphere is about 95% carbon dioxide. Oxygen is very rare. The high temperature and near absence of oxygen on Venus make it unlikely that life, as we know it, could exist there.

It is satirically interesting that Art Buchwald has chosen the planet Venus as the setting for his story. His satire is most deeply felt when he has the Venusian professor say that if the Venusians can learn to breathe in an Earth atmosphere, then they can live anywhere else.

3. satellite

A satellite is a manufactured object that continuously orbits the earth or some other body in space. Most artificial satellites orbit the earth. People use them to study the universe, help forecast the weather, transfer telephone calls over the oceans, assist in the navigation of ships and aircraft, monitor crops and other re-

sources, and observe movements of military equipment on the ground. Artificial satellites also have orbited the moon, the sun, Venus, and Mars. Such satellites mainly gather information about the bodies they orbit.

4. Manhattan

Manhattan (Island) is one of the commercial, financial, and cultural centers of the world. It has many famous landmarks and tourist attractions. They include Broadway, Chinatown, the Empire State Building, Greenwich Village, Times Square, the United Nations Headquarters, Wall Street, and many churches, colleges, skyscrapers, and theatres. Most of New York's municipal buildings stand on Manhattan Island. When people think of New York City, they are usually thinking of Manhattan, the core of the city.

5. 20,000 light years

A light year is the distance that light travels in one year, about 6 trillion (6,000,000,000,000) miles. Art Buchwald is being humorous when he deliberately (故意地) says "20,000 light years ago". The intended meaning is only a "very, very long time ago".

6. press conference

A press conference (also news conference) is a meeting arranged by an important person to which news reporters are invited to listen to a statement or to ask questions.

7. the consolidated Edison Belt

There is a radiation zone (辐射带) encircling (环绕) the earth, called the Van Allen Belt (范爱伦辐射带). Consolidated Edison is the company that makes and supplies electricity for much of eastern New York State. They burn a lot of coal, which makes air polluted. Here Buchwald uses the Consolidated Edison Belt to suggest that the company is burning so much coal and creating such air pollution that there is a belt of coal dust and smoke encircling the planet Earth.

8. skyscraper

Skyscraper is the name given to the world's tallest buildings. These giant structures first appeared during the late 1800's in Chicago and New York City. Skyscrapers provide space for offices, apartments, stores, hotels, restaurants, sports clubs, and other facilities.

Some skyscrapers have so much space and serve so many functions that they resemble small cities. The World Trade Center in New York City occupies a 16-acre (6.5-hectare) site in lower Manhattan. The center has two towers that are 1,350 feet (411 meters) tall and several smaller office buildings. It also has a large mall, a plaza, a railway station, parking garages, a hotel, and restaurants. The whole complex has 12 million square feet (1.1 million square meters) of rentable space. About 50,000 people work in the World Trade Center, and it receives about

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70,000 visitors a day.

9. Grubstart

In American English there is a word “grubstake”, which means money supplied to a prospector (探矿者) on the condition of sharing in whatever he finds. Here the author has changed “grubstake” into “grubstart” to mean a supposed government agency (机构) in charge of supplying funds to scientific research programs.

10. zilches

“zilch” is a slang word (俚语词) meaning zero or nothing. In our text it is used as if it were a monetary unit such as *yuan* or dollar. A native speaker would immediately see the humor in spending billions and billions of nothings.

11. air pollution

Air pollution occurs when wastes dirty the air. People produce most of the wastes that cause air pollution. Such wastes can be in the form of gases or particulates (particles of solid or liquid matter). These substances result chiefly from burning fuel to power motor vehicles and to heat buildings. Industrial processes and the burning of garbage also contribute to air pollution. Natural pollutants (impurities) include dust, pollen, soil particles, and naturally occurring gases.

The rapid growth of population and industry, and the increasing use of automobiles and airplanes, have made air pollution a serious problem. The air we breathe has become so filled with pollutants that it can cause health problems. Polluted air also harms plants, animals, building materials, and fabrics. In addition, it causes damage by altering the earth's atmosphere. Protecting the environment requires international cooperation.

Notes to the Text

1. Is there life on earth?

Is there any possibility of life existing on earth?

2. For the first time Venusian scientists managed to land a satellite on the planet Earth, and it has been sending back signals as well as photographs ever since. (Para. 1)

The Venusian scientists succeeded in launching the first satellite to the planet Earth, and it has been sending back not only photographs but also a lot of information.

manage (to do sth.): succeed in accomplishing or handling, esp. with an effort

Examples:

- The maths problem is difficult, but I can manage to solve it.
- Can you manage to write this essay in two days?
- He managed to unlock the door.