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大学英语精读课题研究组  
王迈迈 主编

十元书系 超值低价

# 大学英语 精读 课文详解

College English

容量之大，无同类可比；  
定价之低，令世人称奇！

Detailed Annotations  
of the Texts

# 3

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## 十元书系目录

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最新四级考试简答 翻译 完形填空详解	最新六级考试简答 翻译 改错详解

# CONTENTS

# 目录



## Unit 1 A Brush with the Law

- 一、课文背景知识 ..... (见 1 页)
- 二、课文(单词、词组、句子)疑难详解 ..... (见 2 页)
- 三、课文注释译文 ..... (见 9 页)
- 四、易错易混词语辨析 ..... (见 9 页)
- 五、课文练习答案与解析 ..... (见 10 页)
- 六、课文译文 ..... (见 21 页)
- 七、阅读技巧指导及阅读材料译文 ..... (见 23 页)
- 八、写作技巧指导与历年作文真题剖析 ..... (见 24 页)



## Unit 2 The Woman Would Not Tell

- 一、课文背景知识 ..... (见 25 页)
- 二、课文(单词、词组、句子)疑难详解 ..... (见 25 页)
- 三、课文注释译文 ..... (见 34 页)
- 四、易错易混词语辨析 ..... (见 34 页)
- 五、课文练习答案与详解 ..... (见 34 页)
- 六、课文译文 ..... (见 46 页)
- 七、阅读技巧指导及阅读材料译文 ..... (见 48 页)
- 八、写作技巧指导与历年作文真题剖析 ..... (见 50 页)



## Unit 3 Why I Teach

- 一、课文背景知识 ..... (见 51 页)
- 二、课文(单词、词组、句子)疑难详解 ..... (见 52 页)
- 三、课文注释译文 ..... (见 60 页)
- 四、易错易混词语辨析 ..... (见 61 页)
- 五、课文练习答案与详解 ..... (见 62 页)
- 六、课文译文 ..... (见 72 页)
- 七、阅读技巧指导及阅读材料译文 ..... (见 73 页)
- 八、写作技巧指导与历年作文真题剖析 ..... (见 74 页)

## REVISION EXERCISES 1

复习题一 ..... (75)



### Unit 4

#### Lady Hermits Who Are Down But Not Out

- 一、课文背景知识 ..... (见 79 页)
- 二、课文(单词、词组、句子)疑难详解 ..... (见 80 页)
- 三、课文注释译文 ..... (见 88 页)
- 四、易错易混词语辨析 ..... (见 88 页)
- 五、课文练习答案与详解 ..... (见 89 页)
- 六、课文译文 ..... (见 98 页)
- 七、阅读技巧指导及阅读材料译文 ..... (见 99 页)
- 八、写作技巧指导与历年作文真题剖析 ..... (见 100 页)



### Unit 5

#### The Day Mother Cried

- 一、课文背景知识 ..... (见 101 页)
- 二、课文(单词、词组、句子)疑难详解 ..... (见 102 页)
- 三、课文注释译文 ..... (见 110 页)
- 四、易错易混词语辨析 ..... (见 110 页)
- 五、课文练习答案与详解 ..... (见 111 页)
- 六、课文译文 ..... (见 121 页)
- 七、阅读技巧指导及阅读材料译文 ..... (见 122 页)
- 八、写作技巧指导与历年作文真题剖析 ..... (见 124 页)

## TEST YOURSELF: TEST PAPER 1

自测试卷一 ..... (115)



### Unit 6

#### A Day's Wait

- 一、课文背景知识 ..... (见 130 页)
- 二、课文(单词、词组、句子)疑难详解 ..... (见 131 页)
- 三、课文注释译文 ..... (见 137 页)
- 四、易错易混词语辨析 ..... (见 138 页)
- 五、课文练习答案与详解 ..... (见 138 页)
- 六、课文译文 ..... (见 149 页)

七、阅读技巧指导及阅读材料译文 ..... (见 151 页)

八、写作技巧指导与历年作文真题剖析 ..... (见 153 页)



## Unit 7 The Shelter

一、课文背景知识 ..... (见 154 页)

二、课文(单词、词组、句子)疑难详解 ..... (见 155 页)

三、课文注释译文 ..... (见 166 页)

四、易错易混词语辨析 ..... (见 167 页)

五、课文练习答案与详解 ..... (见 167 页)

六、课文译文 ..... (见 178 页)

七、阅读技巧指导及阅读材料译文 ..... (见 182 页)

八、写作技巧指导与历年作文真题剖析 ..... (见 184 页)



## Unit 8 Daydream a Little

一、课文背景知识 ..... (见 185 页)

二、课文(单词、词组、句子)疑难详解 ..... (见 186 页)

三、课文注释译文 ..... (见 198 页)

四、易错易混词语辨析 ..... (见 198 页)

五、课文练习答案与详解 ..... (见 199 页)

六、课文译文 ..... (见 209 页)

七、阅读技巧指导及阅读材料译文 ..... (见 210 页)

八、四级作文模拟指导与范例 ..... (见 212 页)

## REVISION EXERCISES 2

复习题二 ..... (213)



## Unit 9 The Death of Hitler

一、课文背景知识 ..... (见 217 页)

二、课文(单词、词组、句子)疑难详解 ..... (见 218 页)

三、课文注释译文 ..... (见 228 页)

四、易错易混词语辨析 ..... (见 229 页)

五、课文练习答案与详解 ..... (见 230 页)

六、课文译文 ..... (见 240 页)

七、阅读技巧指导及阅读材料译文 ..... (见 242 页)

八、四级模拟作文指导与范例 ..... (见 243 页)





## Unit 10 The Fantastic Spurt in Technology

- 一、课文背景知识 ..... (见 244 页)
- 二、课文(单词、词组、句子)疑难详解 ..... (见 245 页)
- 三、课文注释译文 ..... (见 255 页)
- 四、易错易混词语辨析 ..... (见 256 页)
- 五、课文练习答案与详解 ..... (见 256 页)
- 六、课文译文 ..... (见 268 页)
- 七、阅读技巧指导及阅读材料译文 ..... (见 269 页)
- 八、四级模拟作文指导与范例 ..... (见 271 页)

### TEST YOURSELF: TEST PAPER 2

- 自测试卷二 ..... (272)
- 参考范文 ..... (277)





# UNIT 1

## A Brush with the Law

### 本单元栏目索引

- |                          |          |                         |          |
|--------------------------|----------|-------------------------|----------|
| 一、课文背景知识 .....           | (见 1 页)  | 六、课文译文 .....            | (见 21 页) |
| 二、课文(单词、词组、句子)疑难详解 ..... | (见 2 页)  | 七、阅读技巧指导及阅读材料译文 .....   | (见 23 页) |
| 三、课文注释译文 .....           | (见 9 页)  | 八、写作技巧指导与历年作文真题剖析 ..... | (见 24 页) |
| 四、易错易混词语辨析 .....         | (见 9 页)  |                         |          |
| 五、课文练习答案与解析 .....        | (见 10 页) |                         |          |



### 一、课文背景知识

#### 1) 地方法官及地方法院

在英国,地方法官负责处理较轻微的犯罪。每一个区都有一个地方法院,它是最初级的法院。它只能处理罪行较轻的案件,所判刑期不能超过 12 个月,所处罚的款项不得超过 400 英镑。

#### 2) 初级律师

初级律师可为人们进行法律咨询服务、准备法庭辩护,并可在初级法院出庭辩护。

lawyer 律师的统称; solicitor 初级律师; barrister 出庭律师

#### 3) 英国大学及学期

英国的大学一般依节假日分为三个学期:第一学期 10 月—12 月,圣诞节;第二学期 1 月—3 月,复活节;第三学期 4 月—6 月,夏季。

#### 4) 六十年代的“青年反主流文化”

这是六十年代西方国家青年人的一种思潮,它兴起于美国,后迅速传播到整个欧洲,它的特征表现为一些年轻人反对现有的社会价值标准,追求新的生活方式,崇尚个性自由;但又难以找到更为合理而有建设性的新的标准,所以他们表现得玩世不恭、消极颓废。他们常留长发、穿奇装异服,甚至吸毒、酗酒、群居,从性放纵和摇滚乐中寻求刺激。这股反主流文化思潮在七十年代后期衰落下来。



## UNIT 1 A Brush with the Law

### 二、课文(单词、词组、句子)疑难详解

#### 1. a brush with the law:

a brief encounter with the law 法律小纠葛或一场小官司

**brush:**

- 1) act of using a brush 用刷子刷

例:a. He gave his clothes a good brush. 他把衣服好好地刷了一次。

b. She removed the speck of dust with a brush of her hand. 她用手拂去了尘土。

- 2) short, sharp fight or encounter 短促激烈的战斗或冲突

例:a. She had a brush with the customs men. 她与海关人员发生了点小冲突。

b. I had a brush with the police yesterday. 昨天我与警察产生了点小纠葛。

#### 2. The whole process of being arrested and taken to court was a rather unpleasant experience at the time, but it makes a good story now:

At that time when I was arrested and taken to court, I felt rather unpleasant from beginning to end, but now it becomes a good story. 当时被捕以及送上法庭的整个过程都是一次极不愉快的经历,但现在却成了一个好故事。

**process:**

- 1) course, time during which sth. is still being done 过程

例:a. The production process of these machines is very complicated. 这些机器的生产过程是很复杂的。

b. The company is now in the process of moving everything to a new building. 这家公司现正把所有东西搬到一栋新楼去。

- 2) a special method of doing sth. or producing sth. 工序,制作法

例: Long, long ago the Chinese people mastered the process of making paper. 很久以前,中国人就掌握了造纸的方法。

#### 3. What makes it rather disturbing was the arbitrary circumstances both of my arrest and my subsequent fate in court:

'What makes it rather disturbing' is the subjective clause of the whole sentence. The sentence means that the author was arrested arbitrarily and released arbitrarily and that it is this arbitrariness of both his arrest and his release from the charge that makes the author feel rather unpleasant. 这件事让我恼怒的是在我被逮捕和结果在法庭上被释放的过程中那些随意武断的情景。

- 1) **disturbing:** causing (a person) to become anxious 令人烦恼的



## UNIT 1 A Brush with the Law

例: a. It is a piece of disturbing news. 那是一则令人困扰的消息。

b. The disturbing developments resulted from the careless plan. 这令人担忧的发展起因于计划不周。

2) **arbitrary**: based on one's own opinion rather than reason 任意的, 武断的

例: a. A good judge tries to be fair and does not make arbitrary decisions. 一位好法官应力求公平, 不作恣意决断。

b. He didn't know anything about any of the books, so his choice was quite arbitrary. 他对这些书是一无所知, 所以他的选择是非常随意的。

3) **circumstances**: conditions, facts, etc. connected with an event or a person 环境, 情形

例: a. Good weather and other circumstances made our picnic a success. 晴朗的天气及其他情况使得这次野餐很成功。

b. A gentleman has no right to hurt a woman under any circumstances. 在任何情况下一位男士无权伤害一位妇女。

注意: under/in no circumstances 在任何情况下都不(句子需要倒装语序)

例: a. In no circumstances must a soldier leave his post. 在任何情况下战士不要离开自己的岗位。

b. I made my mind up that under no circumstances could I agree to such a principle. 我下了决心在任何情况下都不能同意这样的原则。

4) **my subsequent fate**: my following result 我随后的结局

5) **fate**: an end or result 结局

例: They met with a terrible fate. 他们遭遇到一个可怕的结局。

### 4. a couple of :

a small number of; a few, usually two (少数)几个, 三两个

### 5. was not due to go to university until the following October :

expected to go to university in the coming October 预期在今年十月份才能上大学。In Britain, the university terms are: October - December; January - March; April - June.

**due**: expected to arrive; to be paid or returned 预定应到的; 应支付的; 到期的

例: a. We are due at the big classroom at 2 o'clock this afternoon. 我们定于下午 2:00 在大教室集中。

b. My salary is due tomorrow. 明天我应发工资了。

c. The books are due today, but I want to renew some of them. 这些书今天应还了, 但我想续借几本。

注意: due to; caused by 由于

例: a. The accident was due to careless driving. 这场事故起因于驾驶不慎。

b. What one thinks and feels is mainly due to tradition, habit and education. 一个人所想到的和感受到的主要是由于传统, 习惯和教育所引起的。





## UNIT 1 A Brush with the Law

### 6. As it was a fine day and I was in no hurry, I was taking my time: \_\_\_\_\_

Because it was a sunny day and I was not eager to do anything, I was walking freely and slowly 因为天气晴朗而我又急于要做什么事情, 所以便慢慢地走着。  
**take one's time**: not hurry to do sth. in an unhurried way 慢慢来, 不着急

- 例: a. The girl liked to take her time over breakfast. 这位女孩吃早餐时喜欢慢慢悠悠的。  
b. You can take your time to pay the debt you owe me. 你可慢慢地归还欠我的债。

### 7. obvious: \_\_\_\_\_

**adj.** 明显的, 显而易见的

例: It's obvious that the sick child needs food and sunshine. 很明显, 生病的那个小孩需要食物和阳光。

### 8. having unsuccessfully sought employment there: \_\_\_\_\_

having failed to get a job there 在那儿没有找到工作

### 9. with the obvious intention of talking to me: \_\_\_\_\_

obviously wishing to say something to me 显然想和我讲话  
**intention**: a determination to act in a certain way; purpose 意图, 目的

- 例: a. What I said made her very angry, but it wasn't my intention to hurt her. 我的话使她非常生气, 但我并不是有意伤害她。  
b. My brother went to the United States with the intention of learning English. 他兄弟去美国的目的是学英语。

### 10. and I was left in no doubt: \_\_\_\_\_

and I was quite sure what had happened 我完全明白了

### 11. But what for: \_\_\_\_\_

But for what reason are you arresting me? 可为什么要抓我?

### 12. Wandering with intent to commit an arrestable offence: \_\_\_\_\_

Walking here and there in order to do wrong deserving to be arrested. 四处乱窜, 心怀不轨, 想作案。

#### 1) wander ①徘徊, 漫步 ②迷路, 过失, 离开正道, 离题

例: Mother told him not to wander the streets after school. 母亲告诉他放学后不要在马路上闲逛。

#### 2) commit 犯(罪), 干(错事, 坏事); 把……交代给

例: Two years later he committed suicide. 两年后他自杀了。



## UNIT 1 A Brush with the Law



- 3) **arrestable**: deserving to be arrested 应遭逮捕的, 可以逮捕的

例: He didn't think that his petty theft was arrestable. 他认为自己小偷小摸不应被逮捕。

- 4) **offence**:

- ① wrong, crime 错事, 犯罪

Everybody knows that theft is an offence. 众所周知, 偷窃是犯罪。

- ② the hurting of feeling 冒犯, 伤感情

No offence was meant. 请勿见怪。

- ③ something unpleasant 令人不快之事

The noise from the factory is an offence to the ear. 那家工厂的噪音刺耳。

### 13. perfectly straight face:

a face showing no emotion or amusement 绷着脸, 很严肃的样子。

例: He is so comical that no one can keep a straight face. 他太滑稽了, 没有人能忍住不笑。

- 1) **perfectly**: extremely, completely 非常, 完全

例: a. She's perfectly capable of taking care of herself. 她完全能够照顾她自己了。

b. I understand your feelings perfectly. 我非常理解你的情感。

- 2) **straight**: (of the face) not laughing, with a serious expression (指面孔) 不露笑容, 表情严肃的

例: a. He kept a straight expression, though he wanted to laugh. 虽然他想笑, 却仍然一副严肃的表情。

b. We couldn't keep our faces straight when he told us a funny story. 听到他讲的那个有趣的故事, 我们禁不住笑了。

### 14. particularly that of stealing milk bottles:

"that" is used to replace theft in the above text. (that 为替代词, 复数时用 those)

例: a. My seat was next to that of the mayor. 我坐的地方靠近市长的位子。

b. He is considered a progressive with views close to those of the Socialist Party. 他被认为是位进步人士, 其观点与社会党相近。

### 15. regarded myself as part of the sixties' "youth counterculture":

thought of myself as a member of the sixties' "youth counterculture" 把自己看作是六十年代“青年反主流文化”的一员

### 16. As a result, I wanted to appear cool and unconcerned with the incident:

Therefore I wanted to appear unfriendly and not worried about the incident 因此我便显出对此事很冷淡, 很不关心的样子



## UNIT 1 A Brush with the Law

**cool:** not as friendly as usual 冷淡的

- 例: a. Mary seemed very cool towards me today, I don't know if I've given offence to her. 玛丽今天对我好象很冷淡, 不知道我是否得罪了她。  
b. When he visited Egypt, the prime Minister was given a cool welcome. 首相访问埃及时, 受到了很冷淡的迎接。



### 17. casual and conversational tone:

careless and usual tone which is like a talk 随便的、平常讲话的口气



### 18. it confirmed them in their belief that I was a thoroughly disreputable character:

it made them more certain that I was completely a person having a bad name 这使他们更加确信, 我完全是一个声名狼藉的家伙

1) **confirm:** make certain, give proof (of) 确定, 证实

- 例: a. The rumor that there was flooding was confirmed by a news broadcast. 有关洪水的谣言已由一则广播详细所证实。  
b. The teacher confirmed that we would have an exam soon. 老师证实我们不久将进行一次考试。

2) **belief** n. ①相信, 信任, 信念 ②信仰, 信条

例: I'm firm in my belief that he is a good teacher. 我坚信他是一位好老师。



### 19. I continued to try to look worldly and au fait with the situation:

I went on trying to appear experienced and familiar with the situation 我依旧显出对这种场面很有经验很熟悉的样子。



### 20. I wanted to conduct my own defence in court:

I intended to defend myself in court instead of asking a lawyer for help. 出庭时, 我打算自我辩护。

In the western society, if one is rich, he can hire a good lawyer who will most likely succeed in getting one's release from the charge, but the author was independent, and he would rather rely on his own efforts to defend himself than get his parents involved in the case. 在西方, 如果某人有钱, 他可请一位好律师。律师可能成功地进行辩护使当事人无罪。但作者是位独立性很强的青年, 他宁愿依靠自身的力量辩护也不愿意让其父母卷入此案。



### 21. arm with:

supply with weapons; give what is needed for a purpose 提供武器; 配备

- 例: a. The crowd were armed with bottles. 群众以破瓶子作为武器。  
b. The warship is armed with 16-inch guns. 这艘战舰配有十六英寸口径的大炮。  
c. He was armed with a letter of introduction. 他带有一封介绍信。



## 22. My 'trial' didn't get that far:

My 'trial' ended before my English teacher would be called on to give evidence.  
我的审判没有进行到那一步。

**far:** *adv.* point, degree, or stage 时刻、程度、地步

- 例: a. I didn't know medical science had got that far. 我不知道医学已发展到那种程度。  
b. She doesn't know how far she could believe him. 她不知道该相信他到什么程度。

## 23. dismissed the case:

stopped the case 拒绝受理此案

**dismiss:** refuse to consider in a court 拒绝受理, 驳回

- 例: a. The judge dismissed the case because of lack of evidence. 由于缺乏证据, 法官驳回了此案。  
b. The magistrate dismissed all the charges against Henry, saying "Case dismissed!" 地方法官以“本案不予受理”驳回了对亨利的种种指控。

## 24. The poor police had never stood a chance:

The poor police had not had any chance of speaking for themselves. 可怜警察根本没有讲话的机会。

**stand a chance:** have a prospect (of sth.) 有……希望

- 例: a. With a degree and with rich experience, he thought he would stand a chance of getting the post. 既有学位, 又有丰富的经验, 他想他有希望得到这个职位。  
b. Do you think I stand a chance of being praised? 你认为我有希望受到表彰吗?

## 25. getting costs awarded against the police:

having the police cover the legal expenses connected with the case 判警察付诉讼费

## 26. respectable:

*adj.* 可敬的, 人格高尚的

例: No one imagined that the apparently respectable businessman was really a criminal. 没人想到那位受人尊敬的商人真是个罪犯。

## 27. reliable:

*adj.* 可靠的

例: The manager thought he was a reliable person and told him all about the new plan. 经理认为他是一个可靠的人, 所以把关于新计划的全部内容都告诉了他。





## UNIT 1 A Brush with the Law



### 28. Given the obscure nature of the charge:

Taking the unclear nature of the charge 考虑到这次指控的模糊性质  
This part means that the author was arrested only because of his wandering with intent to commit an arrestable offence.

given; if taking ... into account, considering; if provided with 考虑到; 假若

例: a. Given his inexperience, he has done a good job. 考虑到他经验不足, 他已经算干得不错了。

b. Given the opportunity, he might well have become an outstanding painter. 假若有机会他可能会成为一位出色的画家。



### 29. if I had come from a different background, and had really been unemployed, there is every chance what I would have been found guilty:

if I had not had respectable middle-class parents or reliable witnesses, if I couldn't have afforded a very good solicitor and I had really lost my job, it is entirely possible that the magistrate would have decided that I had broken a law 如果我没有这样的出身背景, 并且真的失了业的话, 那就完全有可能判我有罪

background: a person's family, experience, and education (家庭, 履历及教育的) 背景

例: The young man has an excellent background. 这个年轻人背景极好 (如父母为名人, 自己受过良好教育等)。



### 30. revolve around:

1) to have as a centre or main subject 以……为中心或主题

例: a. The discussion now is revolving around who will be elected monitor of our class. 现在讨论的中心是选谁当我们的班长。

b. The whole household revolves around the baby. 全家人都围着那婴儿转 (都为婴儿而忙乎)。

2) move in circles round (使) 旋转

例: a. All the planets in the solar system revolve around the sun. 太阳系的行星都围绕太阳转。

b. A wheel revolves around its axis. 轮子绕轴旋转。



### 31. complain:

vi. & vt. ①抱怨, 诉苦 ②申诉, 控告

He complained to me about the food. 他向我抱怨饮食。





## 三、课文注释译文

(参见教材第6页 NOTES)

1. 本文选自詹姆斯·奥德瑞斯科尔编的《企鹅高级写作技巧》。
2. 并要等到该年十月份才能上大学:  
英国大学的学期为:10—12月,1—3月,4—6月三部分。
3. 从门前台阶上盗奶瓶:在英国,瓶装牛奶每天早晨被送到家里。
4. 六十年代“逆文化年轻人(或青年反主流文化)”：“逆文化”一词产生于20世纪60年代,指的是许多摒弃传统社会价值、追求更多个人自由的西方青年的态度和生活方式。他们找不到一种更具建设性的方式同社会现状抗争,于是就沉迷于性、毒品、酗酒和摇滚乐并以蓄长发、穿奇装异服为荣。“逆文化”在20世纪70年代走向衰落。
5. 品行证人:一个在法庭上为他人的名誉、行为和品行提供证据的人。
6. 要警察承担费用:请求法官判定由警察承担该案的诉讼费用。
7. 当要求判给各种费用时,我的律师的辨词非常明显地围绕着……:当我的律师要求判给各种费用时,其辨词非常明显地围绕着……。
8. 可能是我应该做出大发脾气的样子……:他可能是说我应该做出大发脾气的样子……。



## 1. 辨析 intention, intent 与 intend:

intention; *n.* intending; thing intended; aim 意图,意向;目的(修饰用 of 结构)

例:a. She went to Paris with the intention of learning French. 她去巴黎意在学习法语。

b. If I've hurt your feelings, it was quite without intention. 如果我伤害了你的感情,那完全是无意的。

intent; *n.* purpose, aim (主要为法律用语)目的,意向(后接动词不定式)

例:a. The prisoner was charged with intent to kill. 这位囚犯被指控有谋杀意向。

b. The intent of the speech escaped no one. 人人都知道演说的用意。

intend; *v.* have in mind as a purpose or plan 意欲,打算

例:a. I intend to finish this work before I go to bed. 我打算在睡觉前把这件工作干完。

b. They intend that this reform shall be carried through this year. 他们计划今年完成此项改革。

## 2. 辨析 call on sb. to do sth., call for 与 call of

call (up) on sb. to do sth. :invite/ require sb. to do sth. 聘请/要求某人做某事