

精读

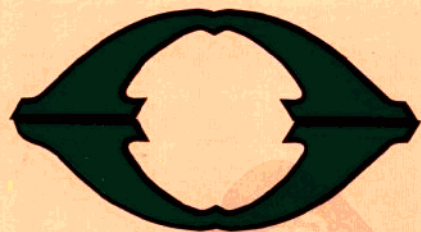
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INTENSIVE READING

上海外语教育出版社高等学校教材
配套辅导用书

A TRUE ENGLISH CLASSROOM 全英文课堂

大学英语精读课题研究组
丛书主编 万之



全

英文授课，是提高英语学习效率的最佳途径
也是英语教学的趋势与必然
英文授课，不仅倍增英文信息获取量
而且引导你用英文思考

早一天适应全英文教学环境
早一日进入英语学习的自由王国

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大学英语

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西北大学出版社

前言

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——万之

2002.8

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Unit 1

Big Bucks The Easy Way

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I. Learning Target

I). Key Words and Expressions

Words: leisure, pain, deliver, inquire, inform, range, competitive, shrink, harm

Expressions: pull up, know better (than do), cut into, settle for, look into, turn out, work one's way, be done with

II). Grammar:

1. as
2. may (might) as well
3. no + v - ing;
4. know better (than)

III). Reading Skills:

☞ Avoiding Vocalization and Inner Speech

"Vocalization" and "Inner speech" are bad reading habits. The former means when one reads, he points to each word with the index finger, saying the word to himself in a low voice, while the latter means when one reads, he just imagines the pronunciation or "whispers" words in his mind. Vocalization and inner speech greatly impede the progress of reading. Keep in mind the three points below:

1. Reading is a visual process.
2. Read with your eyes only, not with any part of your mouth or vocal apparatus.

tus.

3. Words can be, and should be, understood without "saying" them in your mind.

IV). *Text*:

This text is a narrative writing in style. The story tells about a weekend of an American family. Encouraged by their father and tempted by an advertisement that promises them an easy way to earn a lot of money, the two college sons decide to deliver advertisements. The story reflects one aspect of the American society: family background or personal influence plays a much less important role than in many other countries. Anyone who wants to become successful has to rely on his / her own efforts. That's why many American parents encourage their children to do part-time jobs while studying in college or even in high school. This is of great benefit to the young people not only financially but also in the development and formation of character, for in the process of work, they can learn a lot of things which are impossible for them to acquire from their textbooks at school.

Written in a light and humorous style, the story also tells all youngsters that there is no easy way to earn a lot of money in such a competitive society as the United States. You have to rely on your own intelligence and wisdom and work hard. "No pains, no gains."

In the text, some big and formal words and phrases as "report, language of diplomacy, employees, audience" are used. It seems these words and phrases are too big and too formal to be used in the case of a family. But this is by no means improper usage of words. The author uses these words and phrases elaborately because the story is meant to be funny. The problem in the story is one that people think is very serious when happens, but later they can laugh about.

V). *Writing*:

1. Choose the precise words
2. How to write a narration

A composition in narrative style tells a story. It tells what a person or thing did during a particular period of time. The span of time can be of short duration or it can cover a long period. In narrative writing, events are described in the order of their happening. This type of composition follows a chronological (or time) order with one action following another as it happened in the original experience.

When writing a narrative composition, be sure that you create interest through movement of actions in the story and that you include enough details for clearness.

Inte
ing 4

II. Background Information of the Text

1. *Montgomery Ward & Company*

It is a United States retail and mail - order concern. It is now the second largest mail - order firm in the world. The company was founded as a mail - order business in Chicago in 1872 by A. Montgomery Ward. The first retail store was established in 1926. Across the United States the company has more than 500 retail stores and 700 catalog stores.

2. *Sears, Roebuck & Company*

It was founded in North Redwood, Minnesota in 1886. Now it is the world's largest mail - order concern.

3. *Minimum Wage*

Minimum wage is the smallest amount of money per hour that an employer may legally pay a worker. It is fixed by law, agreement, or order means. In the United States, minimum wage laws are made by the federal government and state and municipal governments. The Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, popularly known as the Federal Wage and Hour Law, established a minimum wage of 25 cents an hour. The minimum wage has since been increased by amendments to Fair Standards Act in 1949, 1955, 1961, 1966, 1974 and 1977. The 1977 amendment raised the minimum wage in stages from \$ 2.65 an hour in 1978 to \$3.35 an hour by 1981. By 1991, the minimum wage reached \$ 4.25 an hour. And by Sept. 1997, it had reached \$ 5.15.

III. Summary of the Text

In a humorous and witty tone, the author describes how the two college sons deliver advertisements. Encouraged by their father and tempted by the "Big Bucks the Easy Way" advertisement, the two college sons decide to deliver advertisements. So trucks of advertisements are carried to their house, piling up to the ceiling. In order to get their work done, the two college sons have to develop management skills quickly; they have to learn cooperation, team work, efficiency and business ethics in order to meet the real world's deadlines. They hire their younger brothers and other children in the neighbourhood. Prompted by their father, they carry out the policy of award. After bargaining and bargaining and even dealing with the kids' strike, they completed their job. And the two youngest sons have also learnt that "you are never done with books", because books teach us knowledge and theories which are as important as, if not more important than, practical experience.

The story tells us, anyone who wants to be successful has to rely on his/her

own effort and learn cooperation.

IV. Key Words and Expressions

1. Words

1. **leisure** *n.* [U]

spare time, free time

e. g. He spends his leisure reading newspapers and magazines.

[synonym] ease, freedom, relaxation, rest

[antonym] toil

[idiom] at leisure; not occupied

e. g. I am seldom at leisure.

at one's leisure; when one has free time

e. g. Please look through these papers at your. . .

[derivative] (1) ~ful *adj.* (2) ~less *adj.* (3) ~ly *adv.* / *adj.*

2. **pain**

① *n.*

(1) suffering of mind or body

e. g. Geological workers have spared no pains to uncover the mineral resources.

(2) (pl. only) effort, trouble

e. g. No pains, no gains.

[idiom] to be at (the) pains; to take great trouble; being careful.

e. g. They had been at pains to examine all the statistics.

in pain; suffering pain or trouble

e. g. For the last week there has been scarcely an hour when I have not been in pain.

for one's pains; as a disappointing, or unsatisfactory, return for one's trouble, efforts

e. g. He got little reward for his pains.

to spare no pains; do everything that hard work can do

e. g. Geological workers have spared no pains to uncover the mineral resources.

to take pains (to do sth.); to make an special effort to do sth. correctly

e. g. She takes great pains with her appearance.

[derivative] (1) ~ed *adj.* (2) ~ful *adj.* (3) ~less *adj.* (4) ~staking *adj.*

(5) ~killer *n.*

② **v.** cause physical pain or mental suffering to

e. g. Doesn't your laziness pain your parents?

She looked pained when I refused to help.

[synonym] harm, injure, hurt, damage

hurt: cause pain to one's body or mind. This word is the most common and most informal one in this group of words. It can be used to mean pain in body, mind and feelings.

e. g. These tight shoes hurt my feet very much.

I'm sorry if I hurt your feelings.

She was deeply hurt by his unkind words.

pain: cause to feel pain in the mind. It has a stronger sense than "hurt", and since it is a formal word, it is often used in literary works. "It" is often used as its subject in the sentence.

e. g. It pain her to admit that she was wrong.

It pains me to have to leave, but I must.

ache: have / suffer a continuous, but not violent pain. It only means pain in body, and it's continuous but not violent.

e. g. I ache all over.

The ache in her hand was terrific and she couldn't think straight.

3. **delivery** *n.* taking letters, parcels, goods, etc. to houses or buyers

e. g. There are two parcels deliveries a week.

The store makes prompt delivery.

[synonym] conveyance, distribution, transmission

[antonym] collection, withdrawal

[derivative] (1) deliver *v.* (2) deliverer *n.*

4. **inquire or enquire** *v.* ask (sth.) to be told

e. g. The students inquired of the teacher, but he couldn't remember the exact results of everyone.

They all inquired what had happened in the remote village.

[synonym] question

inquire: search for facts or truth by asking questions (used in the pattern: ~ of sb. sth.)

e. g. Some want ads tell people where to inquire about renting.

question: ask a series of questions in order to get information

e. g. Some witnesses on the scene were also questioned by the police.

[phr. v collocation] inquire into: investigate, search for information about; look in-

to

e. g. The police decided to inquire into the cause of his death.

inquire (of sb.) about sth. ; ask (sb.) for information

e. g. Did you inquire about the times of the trains to New York?

inquire after; ask politely about the health of (someone); search for (information)
by asking people

e. g. Fowler inquired after you.

He's inquired after any information the library might have on future city planning.

inquire sth. of/from sb. ; (fml) ask a question of sb

e. g. A stranger inquired of him the way to Chicago.

[derivative] (1) inquiry; *n.* (2) ~ er; *n.* (3) ~ ing *adj.*

5. **normally** *adv.* in the usual condition; ordinarily

e. g. I normally go to bed early, but I stayed up late last night.

[synonym] normal, natural, ordinary, regular

normal; usual, in agreement with established patterns, rules, etc.

e. g. It is perfectly normal to get angry with your mother sometimes.

natural; of, concerning, or being what is or happens ordinarily in the world

e. g. It's natural to shake hands with someone you've just seen.

ordinary; not unusual, common

e. g. It was a piece of ordinary dance music.

regular; according to custom; happening often with the same length of time between the occasion

e. g. You must keep regular hours.

[antonym] abnormally, exceptionally, oddly

[derivative] (1) norm; *n.* (2) normal *adj.* (3) normality *n.* (4) normalize
v. (5) abnormal *adj.*

6. **inform** *v.*

[~ sb. about / of] give information to; tell

e. g. I informed him about where to go.

I read the newspapers to keep myself informed of as to what is happening everywhere.

[synonym] tell, notify, make known

[derivative] (1) ~ ation *n.* (2) ~ atice *adj.* (3) ~ ant *n.* (4) ~ er *n.* (5)
~ ed *adj.* ~ sb.

7. **range**

① *n.*

(1) row, line, or series of things

e. g. The library has ranges of books in perfect order.

(2) the distance at which one can see or hear

e. g. Within easy range of one's eyes.

(3) extent; distance between limits

e. g. Her reading must be of a wide range.

[synonym] extent, degree, scope, area, bounds

range: limit, scope or distance at which one can reach. It's often used with "within, in, out of, beyond, outside," etc.

e. g. a wide range of knowledge; within my range of vision; within his range of understanding

degree: step or stage in a process, usu. with "to, in". i. e. to a degree, to a certain degree, to some degree, in some degree.

e. g. develop a degree of resistance to this disease, a high degree of intelligence, take some degree of responsibility

extent: refers to degree, usu. with "to"

e. g. To some extent he is responsible for the accident.

[Confusing Words] *rage*: great anger; *rang*: the past form of "ring"

[idiom] at close range: at, or from, a point, never to where sb./sth. is very close together; almost touching

e. g. His camera was a cheap one and didn't take good pictures at close range.

He wanted to see farm life at closer range.

beyond (out of) range not within reach (of shot, etc.)

e. g. They kept on firing before the enemy were out of range.

She was still beyond range (of my gun).

in range with: within reach (of shot etc.)

e. g. Those trees are in your range and offer shelter.

② *v.* [no continuous tense]

(1) set in a row or in proper order

e. g. He ranged the children from the tallest to the shortest.

(2) classify

e. g. We ranged the medical herbs according to their use.

(3) [~ + adv. phr.] extend, run in a line

e. g. The Himalayas range from west to east.

(4) vary between limits

e. g. The increase of the products ranged from several to seven dozens times.

[v. Phr.] range oneself with; support (sb. or an opinion)

e. g. I'm surprised to hear that he has ranged himself with workers.

range against; place, direct (sth. sb. or oneself) in opposition to (sb. or sth.)

e. g. The opposition's attack was ranged against the government's attempt to control rising prices.

range from...to...; vary from (sth. smaller or less) to (sth. bigger or more)

e. g. Temperatures here range from the low 30's to the upper 80's Fahrenheit.

range over/through; spread, move among; cover, include

e. g. The cattle range over many miles in search of food.

His mind ranged over the problems set before him.

range up; line up in order; set in a scale

e. g. The dyes were ranged up in order of tint, beginning with the deepest and ending with the palest.

[derivative] (1) ~ er; n. (2) ar ~ ; v.

8. **competitive** *adj.* related to, based on, or decided by competition; liking to compete

e. g. There are competitive examinations for government posts in our country.

Jane's a very competitive person.

[synonym] competent, aggressive

[antonym] passive, sluggish, unambitious

[derivative] (1) compete; v. (2) competent; *adj.* (3) competence; n. (4) competition; n. (5) competitor; n.

9. **harm**

① *n.* damage or wrong

e. g. There's no harm in your staying up late occasionally.

[synonym] hurt, damage, injury

[antonym] benefit, profit

[idiom] do harm to; harm, hurt

e. g. You made a serious mistake and did great harm to the plan.

come to harm; be hurt, harmed; fall under a bad influence

e. g. Most teachers hold that students will come to no great harm if they go to a disco now and then.

mean no harm; do not intend to hurt anyone

e. g. He probably meant no harm to you.

out of harm's way; in a place of safety

[derivative] ~ ful adj. causing harm (to); ~ less adj. not doing harm (to)

2) v. cause harm to; hurt

e. g. Drinking too much can ~ one's health.

[synonym] harm, damage, injure

harm: cause pain or suffering or loss, You may harm yourself or harm someone or harm sth.

e. g. Telling a lie could harm other people.

injure: wound or hurt someone,

e. g. You might injure yourself and others if you're not careful when you ride your bike.

damage: hurt or lower the value of sth.

e. g. An early frost damaged the farmer's crops.

10. **shrink** vi. become less or smaller

e. g. Modern communication means make the world shrink.

The personnel of this office has shrunk.

[synonym]

(1) shrink, contract, compress, condense

shrink: become or make smaller, esp. from the effect of water

e. g. My wool sweater shrank because it was not washed carefully.

contract: is the opposite of "expand". When sth. contracts, it becomes smaller in size or volume.

e. g. Pipes expand during the summer heat and contract in the winter cold.

compress: make sth. smaller or occupy less space by pressing, squeezing, or flattening

e. g. Scientists compress gases by putting them under pressure.

condense: become or make sth. more compact or dense

e. g. Steam condense into water as it cools.

He condensed the paragraph into one line.

(2) shrink, shorten, less, reduce

shrink: become smaller from the effect of heat or water

e. g. Meat shrinks by losing some of its fat in cooking.

shorten: make or become shorter

e. g. You only have ten minutes so you must shorten your report.

lessen: make or become less in size, worth, importance, appearance, etc.

e. g. this defeat lessen our chances of winning the championship.

reduce: make smaller, cheaper, etc. (from a larger to a smaller amount or number)

e. g. I bought this shirt because it reduce from \$ 12 to \$ 6.

[antonym] expand

[derivative] (1) ~able *adj.* (2) ~age *n.*

II). *Expressions*

1. **pull up**: draw up, bring or come to a stop

e. g. The car pulled up in front of the teaching building.

The police pulled up the motorist and asked to see his licence.

[synonym] stop, draw up

2. **turn out**:

(1) happen to be the end

e. g. The person I spoke to turned out to be the president.

(2) be present in large number at an event

e. g. The whole town turned out to welcome the distinguished guests.

(3) make or produce

e. g. The school turns out well behaved students.

The factory turns out 1,000 TV set a month.

3. **cut into**: reduce, decrease, diminish

e. g. The pollution of the river cut into the value of the houses in that neighborhood.

The economic crisis cut into the income of the company.

[compare] cut into, cut down

cut into: use part of (sth. such as money, time) unwillingly

e. g. I shall have to cut into my savings to pay the holiday.

cut down (on sth.); cut back (on sth.); reduce sth. esp. to save money.

e. g. In these times of rising prices, we must all cut down (on) our spending.

4. **have no business to do / doing sth.**: have no right to do sth.

e. g. The superpower has no business to interfere our internal affairs.

He has no business saying such things about his friend.

Some more expressions with "business": on business; on a business trip; in business; mean business; go into business; get down to business; none of one's business; go about one's business

5. **settle for**: accept or agree to, be satisfied with

e. g. Our boss wants to make a quick sale, so he'll settle for a low prices.

6. **for sale**: offered to be sold, esp. by a private owner

e. g. He had a big house for sale.

[compare] on sale;

(1) offered to be sold, esp. in a shop

e. g. Will the new product be on sale as early as next month?

(2) AmE. at or in a special offering of goods in a shop at lower prices than usual

e. g. I got a hat on sale.

7. **be done with**: stop doing or using; finish; complete

e. g. She is wanted to be done with the housework as soon as possible.

One can never be done with books.

8. **may / might just as well**: have no strong reason not to

This phrase is used in an informal style to suggest that one should do something because there is nothing better, more interesting, more useful, etc. to do. There is no real difference between may and might here.

e. g. Since it's such a fine day, we might as well go home on foot.

He'll never pass. He might as well give up.

V. Difficult Sentences

1. **leisurely, lucrative work**: work that brings in a lot of money and can be done with ease

1) *leisurely*: *adj.* without haste or hurry

e. g. When he lived in the country, he used to take a leisurely walk in the woods before supper.

2) *lucrative*: *adj.* profitable, bringing in money, high-paying

e. g. He invests his money only in lucrative business.

2. "I don't mind the indignity," the elder son answered.

1) *mind*: have a reason against or be opposed to; be troubled by or dislike (esp. in negative sentences, sentences with would, questions, and answers saying yes).

[~ doing sth.], [~ if - clause]

e. g. Would you mind closing the window?

Do you mind if I smoke?

[compare] care; mind, usu. with about It can be used in negative, positive sentences and questions.

e. g. I don't care what other people say.

The only thing he cares about is money.

2) *indignity*: injury to the dignity; insult