

新世纪大学英语

New Century College English

Extensive Reading

泛读

2

ENGLISH

圖書館



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New Century

COLLEGE ENGLISH

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Extensive Reading 2

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· 广州 ·

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内 容 简 介

《新世纪大学英语泛读》是参照《大学英语教学大纲》(修订本)编写的一套供大学英语基础阶段~4级学习的阅读教材,它与新世纪大学英语快速阅读、听力等配合使用,主要是在阅读的量上提供一个语言输入的源泉。

本教程在结构上采用了词汇注解、导言、课文正文、语言难点注释、相关文化背景注释、理解和翻译练习等形式。在题材方面特别注意选取大学生们所喜爱的主题,如西方文化、爱情与友谊等贯穿1~4册,并涵盖了英语语言、教育、科技、体育与健康、工商管理、环境保护、音乐、计算机网络等广泛领域。在体裁方面注重各种体裁的兼顾,包括叙事、议论、抒情、说明以及经典小说与散文体。

本教材的大部分文章选自近年原版的英语读物以及英文报纸、杂志等,语言纯正,原汁原味。

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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。如果阅读达到一定的量,那么语言输出就会有一个质的飞跃。

《新世纪大学英语泛读》是参照《大学英语教学大纲》(修订本)编写的一套供大学英语基础阶段1~4级学习的阅读教材,它与新世纪大学英语快速阅读、听力等配合使用,主要是在阅读的量上提供一个语言输入的源泉。

本教材在选材时注重题材与体裁的多样性、文章的时效性、内容的启迪性、语言的纯正性与原样性。在题材方面特别注意选取大学生们所喜爱的主题,如西方文化、爱情与友谊等内容,且贯穿1~4册,其他还涵盖了英语语言、教育、科技、体育与健康、工商管理、环境保护、音乐、计算机与网络等广泛领域。在体裁方面注重了各种体裁的兼顾,包括叙事、议论、抒情、说明及经典小说与散文等文体。本教材大部分文章选自近年原版英语读物以及英文报纸、杂志等,语言纯正,原汁原味。

本教材在结构上采用了词汇注解、导言、课文正文、语言难点注释、相关文化背景注释、理解练习和翻译练习等形式。在词汇方面,本教材将教学大纲规定的4级重点词汇列在了每篇文章的前面,以供学习者预习及重点掌握,超纲词汇在文中标注中文,以加快阅读速度。

本教材在编写过程中,得到了众多专家的指导,尤其是郭杰克教授在百忙中就编写大纲的制订给予了指导与建议。美籍专家 Tom Cook 博士审阅了全部书稿,并提出了许多建设性的意见。美籍专家 Godern Coffman 博士和 Micahael Murdock 先生也参加了书稿的审校工作。华南理工大学出版社的编辑同志在付梓前对本教材进行了认真的审阅与编辑,谨此一并致谢。

本册为第2册,供大学英语2级使用。本册的十个主题为: Western Customs; Western Culture; Health & Medicine; Social Problems; Job & Career; Way to Success; Education; Friendship & Love; Women's Movement 和 Computers & the Internet。这些文章力求贴近大学英语2级学生的学习与生活。如第1单元“西方习俗”、第6单元“成功之路”、第7单元“友谊与爱情”等从不同的侧面提供了与学生生活相关,并能激发阅读兴趣的文章。

编者衷心希望该教材能对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,恳切希望广大读者予以指正。

编 者

2002年5月

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UNIT I Western Customs

Lesson 1

The American Way: Marriage

By Billy Haselton

Words to Know

1	vow	/vau/	n.	誓约
2	fiancée	/fiːnˈseɪ/	n.	未婚妻
3	groom	/gruːm/	n.	新郎
4	minister	/ˈmɪnɪstə/	n.	牧师
5	symbolize	/ˈsɪmbəlaɪz/	v.	象征
6	ritual	/ˈrɪtʃuəl/	n.	(宗教) 仪式

Text

Marriage is a big event for people of all cultures, but every culture has its own traditions and rituals about getting married. What are the traditions and rituals in America? In what way do American couples follow the traditions?

“I do.” To Americans those two words can carry great meaning. They can even change your life. Especially if you say them at your own wedding. Making wedding vows is like signing a contract. Americans don’t really think marriage is a business deal. But marriage is serious business.

- 5 It all begins with engagement. Traditionally, a young man asks the father of his sweetheart for permission to marry her. If the father agrees the man later proposes (求婚) to her. Often he tries to surprise her by “popping the question” in a romantic way. Sometimes the couple just decide together that the time is right to get married. The man usually gives his fiancée a diamond ring as a symbol of their engagement. They
- 10 may be engaged for weeks, months or even years. As the big day approaches, bridal

showers and bachelor's parties provide many useful gifts.¹ Today many couples also receive counseling during engagement. This prepares them for the challenges of married life.

At last it's time for the wedding. Although most weddings follow long-held traditions, there's still room for American individualism. For example, the usual place for a wedding is in a church. But some people get married outdoors in a scenic spot. A few even have the ceremony while sky-diving or riding on horseback! The couple may invite hundreds of people or just a few close friends. They choose their own colors, decorations and music during the ceremony. But some things rarely change. The bride usually wears a beautiful, long white wedding dress. She traditionally wears "something old, something new, something borrowed and something blue". The groom wears a formal suit or tuxedo (礼服). Several close friends participate in the ceremony as attendants, including the best man and the maid of honor.²

As the ceremony begins, the groom and his attendants stand with the minister, facing the audience. Music signals the entrance of the bride's attendants, followed by the beautiful bride and her father, who then sits by her mother as he officially "gives the bride away". Nervously, the young couple repeat their vows. Traditionally, they promise to love each other "for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health". But sometimes the couple have composed their own vows. They give each other a gold ring to symbolize their marriage commitment. Finally the minister announces the big moment: "I now pronounce you man and wife. You may kiss your bride!"

At the wedding reception,³ the bride and groom greet their guests. Then they cut the wedding cake and feed each other a bite. For humor they would put frosting on each other's noses. Guests mingle while enjoying cake, punch (五味酒) and other treats. Later the bride throws her bouquet of flowers to a group of single girls. Tradition says that the one who catches the bouquet will be the next to marry. During the reception, playful friends "decorate" the couple's car with tissue papers, tin cans and a "Just Married" sign. When the reception is over, the newlyweds (新婚夫妇) run to their "decorated" car and speed off.⁴ Many couples take a honeymoon, a one- to two- week vacation trip, to celebrate their new marriage.

Almost every culture has rituals to signal a change in one's life. Marriage is one of the most basic life changes for people of all cultures. So it's no surprise to find many traditions about getting married... even in America. Yet each couple may follow the traditions in a way that is uniquely their own.

(557 words)

Notes to the Language Points

1. As the big day approaches, bridal showers and bachelor's parties provide many useful gifts.
当大喜的日子临近时, 双方的好友在婚前聚会上会送许多实用的礼物。
bridal showers: 新娘在结婚前招待女友的聚会
bachelor's parties: 新郎在结婚前招待男友的聚会
2. Several close friends participate in the ceremony as attendants, including the best man and the maid of honor. 几位亲密的朋友参与婚礼作为陪伴, 包括伴郎和伴娘。
3. wedding reception: 结婚喜宴 (宾客均无座, 可以来回走动)
4. ...the newlyweds run to their "decorated" car and speed off.新郎新娘就跑向他们“装饰好的”轿车, 迅速驶去。

Exercise 1 Reading Comprehension

Part I Choose the best answer for each of the following.

1. The first paragraph of the text is used to _____.
A. introduce the theme "American Way of Marriage"
B. explain the great meaning of those two words "I do"
C. emphasize the seriousness of one's marriage
D. compare one's marriage to a business deal
2. The main idea of the second paragraph is _____.
A. to teach an American how to propose to the girl he loves
B. to describe different ways for a man to propose to the girl he loves
C. to tell us the American ways of engagement, both the traditional and the modern
D. to tell us what changes have been made in the American ways of engagement
3. From the third paragraph we know that _____.
A. Americans do not like the traditional way of wedding
B. most American weddings share some things in common
C. most Americans prefer to have a special wedding ceremony of their own
D. hundreds of people are usually invited to attend the wedding ceremony
4. Which of the following will not appear on the traditional wedding ceremony?
A. Getting married on horseback. B. A formal suit or tuxedo.
C. The couple repeat their vows. D. The minister announces the marriage.
5. According to American traditional way of wedding, the young girl who catches the bouquet of flowers the bride throws is said to be _____.

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| A. the just married | B. the maid of honor |
| C. a playful friend | D. the next to marry |

Part II Answer the following questions.

1. How do Americans think of marriage?
2. What is the first thing to do if a young man wants to propose to a young woman?
3. What is the typical American vow of marriage?
4. What does a gold ring symbolize at an American wedding ceremony?
5. Traditionally, what does a bride wear?

Exercise 2 Translation

Put the following sentences into Chinese according to the context.

1. Americans don't really think marriage is a business deal. But marriage is serious business.
(Lines 3 - 4)
2. Today many couples also receive counseling during engagement. This prepares them for the challenges of married life. (Lines 11 - 13)
3. Although most weddings follow long-held traditions, there's still room for American individualism. (Lines 14 - 15)
4. Music signals the entrance of the bride's attendants, followed by the beautiful bride.
(Lines 25 - 26)
5. Later the bride throws her bouquet of flowers to a group of single girls. Tradition says that the one who catches the bouquet will be the next to marry. (Lines 36 - 37)

Lesson 2

English Social Life

By Valerie Grosvenor Myer

Words to Know

1	sauce	/so:s/	n.	酱油, 调味料
2	roast	/rəust/	v.	烤, 烘
3	ingredient	/in'gri:djənt/	n.	成分, 因素
4	alcohol	/ˈælkəhəl/	n.	酒精, 含酒精的饮料
5	offend	/ɒ'fend/	v.	得罪, 使……不愉快

Text

Treating guests to a meal is a common practice and an important part of social life in many cultures. Do you know how the English people entertain their guests? And how to be a guest in an English home?

Visitors to England sometimes find the English “cold” and “formal”. When you get to know us, we are not cold at all, and as for being formal, we consider ourselves spontaneous (自然的) and natural! Affectation (造作) is not admired in England any more than it is elsewhere in the world.¹ We do, however, have our customs, which we take for granted and think of as being “natural” to us. This culture has become “second nature”.² Like everybody else, we inquire politely about people’s health, say we are glad to see them, and do our best to make them feel welcome and comfortable.

You may be invited to afternoon tea in an English home. This meal is served sometime between 3:30 and 4:30 p.m.. The meal will consist of tea poured from a teapot by your hostess. You may be offered the choice of Indian or Chinese tea. You will be offered milk and sugar or lemon. It is perfectly all right to refuse these additions and drink your tea “black”.³ The food will consist of small sandwiches, biscuits, cake. Remember the scene in Oscar Wilde’s *The Importance of Being Earnest*, where Cecily annoys Gwendolen by putting two unwanted lumps of sugar in her tea, and giving

- 15 Gwendolen cake when she has distinctly asked for bread and butter. Gwendolen, in order to insult Cecily and make her feel inferior, says, "Cake is rarely served in the best houses nowadays." This is nonsense; the irony here is that Gwendolen, a town-bred aristocrat with more style than money,⁴ is trying to hurt the feelings of Cecily, the rich country girl. Wilde's play is about how brutal (残忍的) the privileged (有特权的) echelons (等级) of society can be. To return to our tea. You may be seated round a table, or you may have to juggle (耍弄) your plate and cup and sauce on your lap.⁵ Fortunately your lap will be protected by a table napkin. Small knives may be offered to cut the sandwiches, or to spread jam on bread or scones (a flour cake halfway between sweet cake and bread). The meal traditionally includes cake, either a fruit cake or perhaps cake with cream. As cream cakes are greasy (油腻的) to handle, you may be offered pastry-forks to deal with them. It is polite to leave by six o'clock in the evening after a tea-party.

- Sunday lunch is a family affair and if you are invited to share this meal you will be treated as one of the family. This is not a formal meal. Usually only two courses are served: a joint of roast meat and vegetables, and a fruit pie, or ice cream, followed by coffee. There may be a bottle of wine, or there may not. English food of the traditional kind is not highly seasoned, except with salt, pepper and mustard (芥末). When the ingredients are of good quality, the vegetables fresh, the excellence of plain English cookery may surprise you!
- 35 The most formal occasion we have (apart from official functions, of course) is the dinner party. Generally, English people no longer "dress for dinner" in dinner jackets and long dresses, at home. It is quite usual to say, "What do we wear?" meaning "formal or informal dress?" The answer these days is almost always "Come as you are", which means ordinary clothes. If in doubt, a lounge suit for a man and a day dress for a woman are never out of place.⁶ Your hostess will probably be wearing a blouse and skirt or trousers, the men will most likely be casually dressed in sweaters. You will be invited (the time varies slightly) probably for "7:30 or 8:00". You may arrive any time between 7:30 and 7:45. After that you are late! The idea is for you to sit and relax for a while, sipping a drink and perhaps nibbling (轻咬) nuts or crisps (土豆片) or olives (橄榄). Your hostess will keep disappearing into the kitchen,⁷ while your host entertains you. It is not necessary to offer to help. Some people play music quietly when entertaining guests. You may be offered a choice of spirits (烈酒) to start, or a glass of sherry (雪利酒) or sometimes the wine you will be drinking later on. Many people do not drink alcohol for health reasons, or because they have to drive home, and

ask for fruit juice or water instead. If you wish to smoke, it is usual to ask your
50 hostess's permission, which will be granted. Generally in England we do not smoke
between courses (and at formal dinners nobody may smoke until the Queen's health has
been proposed at the end of the meal: this is called "the loyal toast"). As smoking is
going out of fashion in England, you may not be offered cigarettes, so it is wise to
bring your own. Ashtrays will be supplied. Spittoons (痰盂) are not, as public
55 spitting is considered very bad form in England.

When the meal is ready (at 8:00 or 8:30), the hostess will suggest everybody sits
down at the table. Various knives, forks and spoons will be laid at each place, and
perhaps more than one glass. No problem: just start at the outside and work inwards.
Usually there will be three courses, perhaps four (at very grand dinners, up to ten may
60 be served, but I am talking of middle-class professional and academic households). The
first course may be salad, fish, eggs or soup. A meat course follows, with vegetables
and either potatoes, rice or noodles (called in England by their Italian name, "pasta").
In my own home, we then serve cheese, as in France, because cheese goes well with
wine. However, it is well known that cheese is not the treat for Chinese people it is for
65 us.⁸ Nobody will be offended if you refuse it: a neat way of getting out of eating a dish
you dislike is to plead health reasons: "It doesn't agree with me." Everybody will be
understanding. Then comes the sweet course, in English called the pudding
(Americans call it "dessert", but dessert is properly speaking fruit, nuts, chocolates,
marzipan (杏仁蛋白软糖) sweetmeats eaten after the pudding, with coffee.) Not
70 everybody likes coffee late at night: nobody will be surprised if you ask instead for tea.
The party breaks up⁹ when the guests indicate a desire to go home: sometime between
ten and midnight.

When invited to an English home, it is not necessary to take a present, although a
bottle of wine is usually acceptable at a dinner party. (One would not arrive at dinner
75 with, say,¹⁰ a Cabinet minister, bottle in hand: grand hosts would consider it
unnecessary). A telephone call or short note saying thank you for the evening is
appreciated, but again not strictly necessary.

(1,112 words)

Phrases to Know

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 1 consist of | 由……组成 |
| 2 in doubt | 感到怀疑的, 拿不准的 |
| 3 out of place | 不在适当的位置, 不合适 |

Proper Names

- | | |
|---------------|---------|
| 1 Oscar Wilde | 奥斯卡·王尔德 |
| 2 Cecily | 塞西莉 |
| 3 Gwendolen | 格温多琳 |

Notes to the Language Points

- Affectation is not admired in England any more than it is elsewhere in the world. 就如世界上别的地方一样，英国不欣赏矫揉造作。
- This culture has become “second nature”. 这种修养已成为“第二天性”。
- It is perfectly all right to refuse these additions and drink your tea “black”.
black tea 不加牛奶或糖或柠檬的浓茶。
- ...aristocrat with more style than money. ……装腔作势的穷酸贵族。
style 气派；架式
- ...or you may have to juggle your plate and cup and saucer on your lap. 或者，你不得不玩杂耍似地把杯盘碗碟等东西放在两膝上。
- If in doubt, a lounge suit for a man and a day dress for a woman are never out of place. 如果仍然举棋不定，男子着普通西装，女子穿日常裙装任何时候都合适宜。
- Your hostess will keep disappearing into the kitchen... 女主人一直在厨房进进出出……
- However, it is well known that cheese is not the treat for Chinese people it is for us. 但是，大家都知道，乳酪对我们来说，其意义不同于款待中国人的食物。意即我们可以谢绝食物，而中国人一般不这样做。Chinese people 后省略了 as。
- break up** 终止，结束
例：They decided to break up the partnership. 他们决定终止伙伴关系。
- say** (= **Let's say**) (尤用于虚拟语气及祈使句) 假定；姑且说；大约
例：You may learn to play the violin in, let's say, three years. 你大概要 3 年才可以学会拉小提琴。
Shall we start sometime later this week, say, Friday? 我们是不是在本周晚些时候再出发？星期五怎么样？

Note to the Related Culture

Wilde, Oscar (1854 – 1900): Irish-born writer and wit, who was the chief proponent of the aesthetic movement, based on the principle of “art for art's sake”. Wilde was a novelist, playwright, poet, and critic.

Exercise 1 Reading Comprehension

Part I Choose the best answer for each of the following.

1. The “second nature” in the first paragraph refers to _____.
 - A. English being “cold” and “formal”
 - B. English being spontaneous and natural
 - C. the English customs which the English take for granted
 - D. English people’s polite inquiries about people’s health
2. The main idea of the second paragraph is _____.
 - A. about the English afternoon tea and its cultural and social meaning
 - B. to explain the process of how to serve a typical English afternoon tea
 - C. about the influence of the old brutal privileged echelons on English culture
 - D. to tell us how to prepare and how to attend a typical English tea party
3. Which of the following statements is not true according the text?
 - A. If you are invited to share a Sunday lunch you are usually served two courses.
 - B. The proper time for arriving at a dinner party is between 7:30 and 7:45 .
 - C. If you don’t know what to wear for a dinner party, you can wear a lounge suit for it.
 - D. It is not necessary to offer to help your hostess while she is busy preparing the dinner
4. Which of the following foods is proper for the last course at a dinner party?
 - A. soup
 - B. pudding
 - C. noodles
 - D. pork
5. Which of the following is considered very bad at a dinner party?
 - A. Arriving 3 minutes late for the party.
 - B. Attending the party without taking any presents.
 - C. Giving reasons to get out of eating a dish you dislike.
 - D. Spitting into a spittoon in the presence of the host.

Part II Answer the following questions.

1. What is the usual time for an English afternoon tea?
2. What food is usually served at an English afternoon tea?
3. What will you do first if you’d like to smoke at a dinner party?
4. How do you show appreciation for being invited to attend a dinner party?
5. How do you get out of eating a dish you don’t like when you are a guest at an English dinner party?

Exercise 2 Translation

Put the following sentences into Chinese according to the context.

1. We do, however, have our customs, which we take for granted and think of as being “natural” to us. (Lines 4 - 5)
2. It is perfectly all right to refuse these additions and drink your tea “black”. (Lines 11 - 12)
3. When the ingredients are of good quality, the vegetables fresh, the excellence of plain English cookery may surprise you! (Lines 33 - 34)
4. If you wish to smoke, it is usual to ask your hostess’s permission, which will be granted. (Lines 49 - 50)
5. Nobody will be offended if you refuse it: a neat way of getting out of eating a dish you dislike is to plead health reasons: “It doesn’t agree with me.” (Lines 66 - 67)

Lesson 3

The Mother of Mother's Day

By William Brown

Words to Know

1	anniversary	/ˌæniˈvɜːsəri/	n.	周年纪念(日)
2	content	/kənˈtent/	a.	满意的, 满足的
3	retire	/riˈtaɪə/	v.	退休, 退下
4	commercial	/kəˈmɜːʃəl/	a.	商业的, 商务的
5	neglect	/niˈglekt/	v.	忽视, 忽略
6	obligatory	/ɔˈbligətri/	a.	要求的, 必须做的

Text

How is it that Anna May Jarvis, the mother of Mother's Day, spent many years of her life as well as her fortune campaigning against Mother's Day? What does the author say about mothers in America, and the mothers in his family as well?

When Anna May Jarvis's mother died on the second Sunday of May, 1906, Anna May and America were changed forever.

Like most of us, Anna had ignored the warning "Lavish (慷慨给予) your flowers on the living, not the dead."¹ Now, driven by remorse (悔恨), the gentle, easygoing Anna May had one obsession (顽念) — to see her mother and motherhood honored throughout the world.

After a year's planning, the first Mother's Day was celebrated on the second anniversary of her mother's death, May 10, 1908, at St. Andrew's Methodist Church in Grafton, West Virginia, where Anna's mother had taught Sunday School.

Anna was still not content and a year later, Philadelphia became the first city to proclaim (宣布) an official Mother's Day. Three years after that, in 1914, President Woodrow Wilson signed Public Resolution 25, establishing forever the second Sunday in