



最新《大学英语精读》

课文详释和词语例解

下册

COLLEGE
ENGLISH

金淑媛 徐晓英 主编

北京科学技术出版社

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《大 学 英 语 精 读》
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前 言

全国高等院校在实施国家教育部的《大学英语教学大纲》的过程中,越来越重视英语学科的素质教育。学生们在参加全国大学英语四、六级考试的推动下,学习英语的热情越来越高涨。《最新大学英语精读课文详释和词语例解》在辅导学生学好精读教材,帮助他们迅速提高学习效率,扎实地掌握语言基础知识,取得优良成绩方面起到了积极的作用,受到了广大师生的欢迎。

本书这次修定后,仍保持其传统的语言点学习与当今注重的语篇学习相结合的特点,分上下两册按课文进展顺序编写。其中,主要做了以下几方面的修改:

1. 在每课的最后,增加了“Outline”对课文的篇章结构进行分析,保留了“Main Idea”对课文的内容加以概括。便于学生通过这二者,观察内容与载体的关系,意在帮助学生从宏观的角度,深刻理解课文,从而提高他们的语篇理解能力。

2. 删去了三分之一的内容相对陈旧的例句,增补了与之等量的新例句。新例句的特点是结合语言重点,在内容上增加了学生们所喜爱的名言名谚或俗语套话,也选用了一些四、六级考试试题中的典型句子。使学生爱学易记,学以致用,为他们学习运用语言架起桥梁。

3. 本书在练习答案部分根据最新修订的《大学英语》教材(上海外语教育出版社)进行了修订,同时增加了对相关内容的指导与提示,帮助学生更为积极地运用所学语言知识,在运用中使所学的知识得到巩固。

参加本书修改工作的还有王赤韧、高晓德、熊选琴、柳枫林和武雅丽。限于编者水平与经验,书中不妥之处在所难免,望读者、同行批评指正。

编者

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A Brush with the Law

Main Idea

The author narrates his only experience of having been in trouble with the law. By telling why he was arrested and how he was released, he exposes that neither the police nor the solicitor nor the magistrate dealt with the matter based on the fact or reasons, which was shocked him at that time and has disturbed him for long, though he was free without a criminal record. If he had come from a different background, chances are that he would have been found guilty. What he is trying to reveal here is that the law enforcement sometimes may be unjust, even, the law itself may be unjust.

作者讲述了他跟法律发生纠葛的平生唯一的一次经历。通过讲述他为何而被捕,又如何被释放来暴露无论是警察,律师还是法官,都不以事实或实际的理由为依据来处置此事,虽然他被无罪释放了,但此事使他在当时感到震惊,并且长久以来使他困扰。倘若他出身于另一种背景的家庭,很可能就会被判刑。这里他试图揭示执法有时可能并不公正,甚至法律本身可能就不公正。

Key Structures:

1. **It turned out there had been a lot of petty thefts in the area, particularly that of stealing milk bottles from doorsteps.** 事情原来是这样的,这一地区总有小偷小摸的案件发生,特别以从门前台阶上偷走牛奶瓶的案子为甚。

(1) **It turns out + noun-clause**

- ① **It so happens that...** 原来是……

It turns out that something unexpected have turned up. 原来是出现了意料不到的情况。

It turned out that the middle-aged man was George's father. 原来那个中年人是乔治的父亲。

- ② **It proves that... in the end** 最后证明是……

It turned out that the report was unfounded. 这消息证明是没有根据的。

It turned out that things didn't go smooth for them. 最后证明他们事情进展并不顺利。

- ③ **It is found out in the end that...** 结果是……;最后发现是

……,最后的情况是……

It turns out that this method does not work well. 结果是这一方法并不奏效。

It turned out that her guess was right. 结果她的猜测果然不差。

(2) **petty thefts**: small/minor crimes, misdemeanors of taking someone else's property from a place 偷盗他人财物的轻罪

(3) **that of stealing milk bottles** 偷牛奶瓶的(案例)

① *that pron.* 指代 petty thefts.

② *that of stealing milk bottles*: petty thefts of stealing milk bottles, not other things 只指偷牛奶瓶的,而不是其他钱、物的小偷行为。

2. **Given the obscure nature of the charge, I feel sure that if I had come from a different background, and had really been unemployed, there is every chance that I would have been found guilty.**

从对我指控的这种捕风捉影的作法来看,我肯定,如果我出身于另一种背景的家庭,而且果真是失了业,那我完全可能会被判决有罪。

(1) *Given* 引出的短语在句中作状语, *I feel sure that...* 为主句部分。在由 *that* 引出的宾语从句中,使用了与过去事实相反的虚拟条件句,其主句部分被 *there is every chance that* 所分割,为 *I would have been found guilty*。

(2) **Given + noun-phrase** [这一结构多用于句子的开头,作全句的状语,其逻辑主语需与句子的主语一致]

① *given* [在这个结构中为介词,意思相当于 *considering*; *if one takes into account*] 考虑到;把...加以考虑;注意到
Given their inexperience, they've done a good job. 就他们没有经验而言,他们干的不错。

Given the obscure nature of the charge 从这次指控事实不清的本质来看;照这样事实不清的指控

② *given* 用作介词时,其后也可跟 *that* 从句,在句中作条件状语,意为“如果,假设”

Given that \varnothing equals 30° , then \varnothing' equals 60° . 如果 $\varnothing = 30^\circ$,那么 $\varnothing' = 60^\circ$ 。

Given that x equals 9, it follows that 10 times x equals 90. 已知 $x = 9$,那么 $10x = 90$ 。

- ③ given [在这个结构中为过去分词, 作形容词用]意为: if allowed; if provided with 假如给予; 提供; 在有…的情况下

Given the same opportunity, she might well have become an outstanding artist. 如果给以同样发展的机会, 她是很可能会成为一个杰出的艺术家的。

Given good health, I hope to finish my novel this year. 如果健康情况允许, 我希望今年完成我这部小说。

比较:

Given plenty of labour, the job will be completed on schedule.

如果提供充分的劳动力, 这项工作就将准时完成。(条件)

Given plenty of labour, the job was completed on schedule.

由于提供了充分的劳动力, 这项工作准时完成了。(原因)

- (3) ... **there is every chance that I would have been found guilty.** 那我完全可能会被判了罪。

- ① **there is every chance that...**: it is very likely that...; chances are that... 完全可能; 很可能

Given time, there is every chance that he will make a first-class swimmer. 若给他时间, 他完全会造就成第一流的游泳能手。

Come tonight, there is every chance that you'll see him at the party. 今晚来吧, 你很可能在聚会时看到他。

- ② **be found guilty; be determined and declared guilty** 被认定有罪; 判决有罪

... **I would have been found guilty** [是表达与过去发生的事情相反的情况, 谓语部分是虚拟语气]

Special Difficulties:

1. A Brush with the Law 一场小官司

brush *n.*: a brief contact / encounter; short, sharp fight 遭遇; 磨擦, 小战, 小冲突

have a brush with 与... (发生) 遭遇 / 磨擦 / 冲突

Mr. Mabel *had a brush with* the police / the Customs man / the enemy. 梅布尔先生与警察 / 海关人员 / 敌人发生磨擦 / 小冲突。

The bus happened to crash into a train and he *had a narrow brush with death*. 公共汽车恰巧与火车相撞, 他经历了差一点丢掉性命的遭遇。

2. **What makes it rather disturbing was the arbitrary circumstances both of my arrest and my subsequent fate in court.** 令人烦恼不安的是那些围绕着我的被捕以及随后庭上审讯而出现的种种武断专横的情况。

- (1) **arbitrary** *a.* ; without information; having no reason; based on one's own opinion rather than reason 无控告事实的; 无理性的; 武断的; 专横的

Dictators are *arbitrary* rulers. 独裁者们都是专横的统治者。

I didn't know anything about any of the books so my choice was quite *arbitrary*. 我对那些书一无所知, 所以我纯粹是随意瞎挑。

- (2) **circumstances** *n.*

- ① (usu. pl.) conditions, facts, etc. connect with an event or a person 与某事件或某人有关的情况、事实等

There are complicated *circumstances* behind the matter.

这件事情背后情况复杂。

The *circumstances* forced me to accept a very low price when I sold the house. 当时的状况迫使, 我以极低的价格卖掉了那幢房子。

The *circumstances* at home left me with no alternative. 家里的情况使我没有选择的余地。

- ② (pl.) financial conditions 经济状况; 环境, 境况

Her *circumstances* had never been good enough for her hopes to be realized. 她的经济状况从来不足以使她的希望得以实现。

He seems to be in easy *circumstances* since he had his pay increase. 看来他自从提薪就过上了小康生活。

- ③ 用于下列成语:

in / under + a. + circumstances 在…情况下

in / under *adverse* circumstances 在逆境中

in / under *favourable* circumstances 在顺境中

in / under the circumstances 在此种情况下, 情况既然如此

in / under no circumstances [后面的句子用倒装语序]决不, 无论如何不

Under no circumstances does Anthony follow his father's advice. 安东尼无论如何也不听从父亲的劝告。

In no circumstances must a soldier leave his post. 战士决不应擅离自己的岗位。

- (3) **my subsequent fate**: destiny coming after the trial 审判后的命运

- ① **subsequent a.**: coming after; following 随后的

Subsequent events proved that my judgment of the situation was right. 后来的事件证明我对形势的判断是正确的。

The story will be continued in *subsequent* issues of the magazine. 该杂志的后几期将继续连载这篇小说。

- ② **subsequent to** 在...之后

They were badly in need of food and medicine during the period *subsequent to* the war. 在战后时期他们急需食物和药品。

He left for Shanghai on business on the day *subsequent to* your call. 在你来访的翌日他出差去了上海。

His illness was *subsequent to* his wife's death. 他在妻子去世后就病倒了。

3. **I had left school a couple of months before that and was not due to go to university until the following October.** 事发前我中学毕业已有二三个月了, 而要等到十月份才能上大学。

- (1) **a couple of**: a small number of; a few, usually two or three 一些; 几个, (通常指)二三个

Tom's wife was expecting a baby in *a couple of* weeks. 汤姆的妻子再过二三周就要生孩子了。

They walked *a couple of* miles before their arrival at the station. 他们步行了几英里才到达火车站。

- (2) **due a.** 可用作表语, 亦可用作定语

- ① **expected or scheduled to arrive; supposed (to)** 预定应到的; 定于(某时)到达

The next train to London is *due* here at 4 o'clock. 下班到伦敦的火车应于4点钟抵达这里。

I am *due* at the theater in fifteen minutes. 我15分钟到达

剧院。

- ② expected to do sth. in / at an certain hour 定于(某时作某事)

Minnie is *due* to leave at two o'clock. 明妮定于2点动身。
They are *due* to meet again tomorrow. 他们约定明天再次会面。

- ③ paid or returned 应支付的, 到期的

When is the rent *due*? 何时应付房租?

The wages *due* to him will be paid tomorrow. 明天要付给他应得的工资。

- ④ suitable; right; proper: 适当的; 正当的; 适宜的

After *due* consideration, he decided to accept the position.
经适当的考虑, 他决定接受这一职位。

They will surely meet with *due* punishment. 他们将得到应得的惩罚。

- (3) *due to*; because of; caused by 由于; 起因于(可看作为复合介词)

That Shelly became a poet may have been *due to* his mother's influence. 谢莉之所以成为诗人是受她母亲的影响。(表语)

Joe's application to the University was not accepted *due to* his failing English. 大学未接受乔是因为他英语不行。(状语)

Changes of state of matter are *due to* increased motion of molecules. 物质状态的变化是由于分子运动增大的缘故。(表语)

The force *due to* gravitation causes objects to have weight. 地心吸力使物体具有重量。(定语)

due to 与 *because of* 的不同是:

① *because of* 只用于表原因的状语, 可置于句首、句中。

② *due to* 不仅可用于表原因的状语, 还可用于表语、定语, 但不置于句首。

4. It **must have been** this obvious aimlessness that led to my downfall.

现在看来, 一定是这种显然毫无目的的游逛, 使我倒了霉。

- (1) **must + have + p. p.** [这个结构表示对过去发生的事情做肯定的推测] 一定

They *must have swept off* the dirt. 他们准是已刷除了污物。
She *must have been overdoing* things a bit. 她一定有点过于劳

累了。

Li Ying *must have been* very tired, judging from her appearance. 看样子李英一定是特别累了。

- (2) **downfall**: the state that you have made a mistake and been into trouble 倒霉

- (3) 句中由 *that* 引出的限定性定语从句, 此处起状语作用, 表结果。又如:

There was something original, independent, and heroic about the plan *that pleased all of them*. 计划中有某些天生的, 独创的和英雄主义的东西, 都很中他们的意。(表结果)

定语从句的这种用法, 还可用来表原因、条件和目的。例如:

The mayor was giving a dinner for a few people *whom he wished especially to talk to or to hear from*. 由于市长特别想与一些人谈谈并倾听他们的意见, 他正设宴招待他们。(原因)

He would be a short-sighted commander *who merely manned his fortress and did not look beyond*. 一个指挥官要是只守卫自己的要塞而不往远处看, 他就是一个目光短浅的指挥官。(条件)

He wishes to write an article *that will attract public attention to the matter*. 他想写一篇文章, 以引起公众对这件事的注意。(目的)

5. **I was just walking out of the local library, having unsuccessfully sought employment there, when I saw a man walking across the road with the obvious intention of talking to me.** 我在地方图书馆谋职未成, 刚刚走出来, 突然看到一个人正在穿过马路, 显然是要来跟我说话。

- (1) *having unsuccessfully sought employment there*

① 这是现在分词的完成式, 在句中作状语, 表示发生在谓语动词之前的动作。

② *seek employment; look for a job* 找工作; 谋职

- (2) **when conj.** 当主句为过去进行时态时, *when* 引出的状语从句中的谓语动词用一般过去时, 这种情况下 *when* 表示“正在……突然……”:

I had been working a couple of months *when* I had a letter from Celia. 我一直干了二三个月的光景, 忽然收到了西莉亚的一封信。

I was just coming along to see you *when* I ran into Wilson.

我在走过来看你时忽然碰见了威尔逊。

- (3) **with the intention of + doing sth.** : for the purpose of doing sth. 企图做某事 (good meaning; positive 善意; 肯定)

With the intention of talking to me: It implies his talking must be friendly.

They went to Paris *with the intention of becoming painters*.

他们怀着要成为画家的目的去了巴黎。

Professor Zhang talked so much to me *with the intention of encouraging me* to overcome the difficulties in front of me. 张教授和我谈了这么多, 想鼓励我克服眼前的重重困难。

6. **I was left in no doubt.** 这使我确信无疑了。

leave sb. in no doubt: let sb. become certain / know surely 使某人确信无疑

The result of his experiment *left people no doubt that* his theory is right. 他的实验结果使人们对他的理论的正确性确信无疑。

Seeing Mary *left him no doubt that* she is really beautiful. 看到玛丽使他对她的美貌确信无疑。

7. **Wandering with intent to commit an arrestable offence.** 到处游荡, 企图作案。

- (1) **with intent to do sth.** : intending to do sth. (bad) 企图做(坏)事

Jim was arrested on a charge of having broken into a building *with intent to steal*. 吉姆因闯入一幢楼房意欲行窃而被拘捕。

The gunman shot *with intent to kill*, but he failed. 那持枪抢劫者开枪意欲杀人, 但他没有得逞。

- (2) **an arrestable offence**: an offence / a crime which is serious enough for one to be arrested 犯法; 犯罪

8. **I thus appeared to them to be quite familiar with this sort of situation, and it confirmed them in their belief that I was a thoroughly disreputable character.** 这样一来, 在他们眼里, 似乎我对这种事情很习以为常, 也使他们更加确信我是个地地道道的坏蛋。

appear + inf. [构成复合谓语], 似乎……

Current theories, either empirical or electronic, do not *appear to account for* this result. 现代的经验论也好, 电子理论也好, 看来都不能解释这种结果。

This *appears to be* the only exception to the rule. 这似乎是这

条规则的唯一例外。

(2) **confirm** *vt.*

① strengthen or make firmer 加强; 坚定 (信念等)

The sudden snowstorm during the night *confirmed* my decision not to leave. 夜间突如其来的暴风雪坚定了我走的决心。

The result of my experiment has *confirmed* my belief that your theory is correct. [= The result of my experiment has *confirmed* me in my belief that your theory is correct.]

我实验的结果使我更加确信你的理论是正确的。

② make certain or sure 证实; 肯定

The mayor *confirmed* the report that his son had been kidnapped. 市长证实了他的儿子被绑架的报告。

Both the special theory of relativity and the general theory of relativity advanced by Einstein were later *confirmed* by other scientists. 爱因斯坦提出的狭义相对论和广义相对论后来均被别的科学家所肯定。

③ ratify; agree definitely to (a treaty, an appointment, etc.) 批准, 同意 (条约, 任命等)

When do you think the President will *confirm* you in office? 你认为什么时候总统会批准你上任?

The treaty was *confirmed* by the King. 国王同意了这项条约。

(3) **disreputable** *a.*: having / showing bad character / personality 不名誉的, 声名狼藉的, 名声不好的

① 反义词: reputable; having / showing good character 名誉好的 / 声望好的
be disreputable; be reputable

② 名词: disreputableness 坏名声 reputation 名誉; 名声; 好名声
have bad reputation 有坏名声
have good reputation 有好名声

(4) that 引出的名词从句作 belief 的同位语, 表 belief 的实际内容。

9. 'Aha', I could see them thinking, 'unemployed'. “啊哈”, 我看得出他们在想, “果然是个失业的家伙”。

(1) Aha *int.*: cry of surprise, triumph, satisfaction, etc. “啊哈”

表示“惊愕，胜利，满意”等。

It is used here to express the satisfaction and joy of the policemen in finding out the “reason” for the young man’s supposed theft. [该词在此处用以表达警察以为找到了他们认为的那年轻人偷盗的原因而感到满意和高兴的心情。]

(2) **unemployed** *a.* : out of work; not having a job 失业的

① The police deduced from the stereotype view of the *unemployed* that he must be lazy and wandering with intent to commit an arrestable offence. 警察一听说他没有工作，就根据人们对失业的人定型的看法推断，这年轻人一定是个懒汉；一定是在四处游逛寻机作案。

② 同根词：*employed* *a.* : having a job; work 受雇的

employee *n.* : worker 雇员

employer *n.* : hirer; boss 雇主

employment *n.* : job 工作；雇用

employ *vt.* : give work to 雇用

10. **Eventually, I was officially charged and told to report to Richmond Magistrates’ Court the following Monday.** 最后我被正式指控，并通知我下周一到里士满地方法庭受审。

(1) **be officially charged**: be charged formally 被正式指控

officially *ad.* : in an official manner; formally 官方地；正式地

report to the court 请求法庭裁（决）定

11. **I wanted to conduct my own defense in court, but as soon as my father found out what had happened, he hired a very good solicitor.** 我想在法庭上自我辩护，但父亲知道这事后，他马上请了一位高明的律师。

(1) **conduct my own defence**: defend myself 为自己辩护

(2) **conduct** *vt.* : control; direct; manage 管理；指挥；处理；进行

Businessmen, authors and actors all may hire agents to *conduct* their affairs. 商人、作家和演员都可雇用代理人管理他们的事务。

He should learn how to *conduct* a meeting. 他应该学会如何主持会议。

They are busy with *conducting* a survey. 他们正忙着进

行调查。

② **defence** *n.* : argument(s) used in the cause of an accused person (被告的) 答辩; 为被告方的辩护

The accused man made no *defence*. 被告人未做答辩。

The historian's *defence* of this thesis lacked clarity. 这位历史学家就这篇论文的答辩不够明了。

(2) **solicitor** *n.* : a person who provides legal defence in low court [(英) 在低级法院为当事人提供法律辩护的] 律师 (= (美) lawyer)

barrister (*n.*) : lawyer who provides defence in high court [(英) 有资格出席高等法庭庭审的] 律师 (= (美) lawyer)

12. **My 'trial' didn't get that far.** 我的“审判”没有进行到那一步。

(1) **that** [用作副词], 那样; 那么

I have done only *that* much. 我只做了那么多。

If the tool is *that* bad, we can't use it. 如果工具那样坏, 那么我们就不能使用了。

(2) **far** *ad.* : here it means to a certain point, degree, or stage

I didn't know that biological science had got *that far*. 我不了解生物学已经发展到那般水平。

How *far* was he responsible for what had happened? 他对所发生的事情应负多大的责任?

13. **The solicitor even succeeded in getting costs awarded against the police.** 我的律师胜诉, 使法庭责成警方承担诉讼费用。

(1) **costs** *n.* : fees plus expense of the court 诉讼费

(2) **award** *vt.* : give or grant (by official decision); decide upon or settle by law 授予; 判给

The first prize was *awarded* to the youngest competitor. 一等奖被授予那位最年轻的参赛者。

The judge *awarded* a large sum of money to those hurt by the explosion. 法官判给那些在爆炸中受伤的人一大笔赔偿金。

(3) **costs awarded against the police**: The police have to pay the costs, because the court requires the losing party to pay. 判决警方承担诉讼费用; 警方必须付诉讼费, 因为法院要求败诉一方承担诉讼费用。

14. **But what was most shocking at the time was the things my release**

from the charge so clearly depended on. 然而, 当时使我大为震惊的是, 使我免于指控竟是这般不遮不掩地依据我的背景而定。

(1) **the things**: [作为定语从句的先行词, 在它引出的定语从句中用作宾语。] 根据下文, the things 包括:

right accent (socially acceptable accent),

respectable middle-class parents,

reliable witnesses (dependable people who can tell),

afford a very good solicitor (have enough money to pay for the good solicitor)

(2) **my release from the charge** 免除对我的指控

(3) **clearly ad.**: obviously 明显地

[根据上下文意思, 这个词反过来译为“不遮不掩地”比较好。]

15. **While asking for costs to be awarded, my solicitor's case quite obviously revolved around the fact that I had a 'brilliant academic record'.** 我的律师在请求赔偿诉讼费时, 公然把证据建立在我“学业优异”这个事实上。

(1) **revolved around(美)**: [= (英) revolved round]

① based on; centred upon 基于; 围绕…进行; 以…为核心

The dispute at the moment *revolves around* whether we should go on with the experiment. 当时的讨论是围绕我们的实验是否继续下去进行的。

Lorna has no other outside interests at all. Her whole life *revolves around* her husband and the children. 洛娜对外界没有任何兴趣, 她一生都是以丈夫和孩子为核心的。

② have sth. as its middle point of movement; move in circles around 围绕…而旋转

The earth *revolves both around* the sun and on its own axis. 地球既公转又自转。

The moon *revolves around* the earth. 月亮围绕着地球转。

(2) **brilliant academic record**: record relating to studies / school that is outstanding / extremely good 优异的学习成绩

So he is not a criminal, but a good student. 由此而知他不是罪犯, 而是个好学生。

Words and Expressions: