

大学体验英语 阅读教程

○ 总主编 王谋清 赵丽萍

4

Reading



高等教育出版社

大学体验英语 阅读教程

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前言

根据《大学英语课程教学要求》和大学英语四、六级考试改革趋势,针对非英语专业大学生训练英语阅读技能、提高英语阅读能力的要求,我们编写了这套《大学体验英语阅读教程》。全套书分为四册,其主要特点是:

1. 从快乐阅读的理念出发,侧重于在阅读过程中激发学生的学习动机和兴趣,培养学生的阅读技巧和能力;
2. 强化语言学习过程中学生的英语语言思维能力培养,以提高学生运用英语的能力;
3. 强调阅读技巧的训练,每册教材介绍数种阅读技巧,通过大量的、由易到难的阶梯式训练,帮助学生理解并掌握这些技巧,以达到熟能生巧的训练目的。
4. 练习设计注重学生之间的互动,通过一对一或小组讨论等活动,不断强化学生英语阅读能力和英语思维的训练和培养,使学生在互动交流中实现英语听、说、读、写四项技能的同步提高。
5. 兼顾众多非英语专业学生参加大学英语四、六级考试的需要,还结合教材中的重点词汇和短语,设计了句子翻译和与中国文化相关的段落翻译,以期在一定程度上提高学生的翻译能力和用英语介绍中国文化的能力。
6. 为方便学生自学,本教程配有词汇表、文化注释,并提供了各单元练习的参考答案。

为使本教程达到预期的教学效果,使用时应注意以下几点:

作为教师

- ☐ 为学生提供低焦虑的学习环境,使其轻松地尝试各种新的阅读技巧。
- ☐ 给予学生充分的练习机会,帮助他们运用并掌握新的阅读策略。
- ☐ 通过引导和计时,给学生以适当的压力。
- ☐ 利用典型例证引导学生更好地处理文本。
- ☐ 为学生提供有效阅读所需要的思维模式。
- ☐ 帮助学生体验成为出色英语阅读者的进步过程。

作为学生

- ☐ 克服逐字阅读的习惯。否则,只能理解单个的词或句子,却不知晓整段或全文的含义。
- ☐ 学会用英语进行思考。不必把英文译成中文,否则会减低阅读速度,影响文章的理解。

- ☐ 积极扩展英语词汇。
- ☐ 勤于练习。
- ☐ 尽可能发现并了解新观点和新事实。

最后，有必要再次提醒广大教师和学生，《大学体验英语阅读教程》是以提高阅读技能为目的编写而成的，希望在教学和学习过程中始终抓住这一关键。

本教材编写过程中，得到高等教育出版社的大力支持和帮助。在此，编者表示衷心的感谢。

由于编者水平与经验所限，教材中难免有不妥之处，敬请广大读者批评指正。

编 者

2014年4月

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Reading for Pleasure

Introduction to Reading for Pleasure

Reading, like sports or music, requires lots of practice. The best way to become a better reader is by reading a lot. The best readers are people who love to read and who read often. If you don't already love reading, you can learn to love it by reading for pleasure. Think about your pleasure reading habits as you fill out this questionnaire.

Pleasure Reading Questionnaire

- ① For the following statements, give a number from 1 to 10.

(1=totally disagree; 10=totally agree)

- ___ a. I enjoy reading for pleasure.
- ___ b. My parents enjoy reading for pleasure.
- ___ c. Most of my friends read for pleasure.
- ___ d. I read only books assigned by a teacher.
- ___ e. I have no time to read for pleasure.

- ② Do you have a favorite book? Write the book's title and author here: _____

What did you like about this book? _____

Would you recommend it to a friend? Why or why not? _____

- ③ Circle the types of books you generally enjoy reading for pleasure:

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------------------|
| a. novels | e. mysteries |
| b. romances | f. biographies |
| c. thrillers | g. factual books (nonfiction) |
| d. adventures | h. others (give examples) _____ |

- ④ In what language do you usually read for pleasure? _____
- ⑤ Do you read for pleasure in English? If so, what book(s) have you read? _____

Discuss your answers with some classmates. Have you read any of the books they recommend?

The Advantages of Reading for Pleasure

Some students may prefer to skip pleasure reading and spend their time studying grammar and vocabulary lessons. Others may think that pleasure reading is too easy. However, according to many experts, pleasure reading is the key to improving your English. Dr. Stephen Krashen, a leading expert on language learning, has studied the effects of regular reading for pleasure on language ability. In his research, he has found that students who read a lot improve their grammar and vocabulary, and they learn more about good writing.

Regular reading for pleasure can help you to

- improve your vocabulary.
- increase your reading speed.
- improve your comprehension.
- improve your writing.
- gain more knowledge.
- find examples of many different ways people speak and write.

There are two main reasons why pleasure reading is such an effective way of improving your English. First, pleasure reading gives you an opportunity to have lots of contact with the language. This is especially true because pleasure reading is enjoyable, so you are likely to spend time doing it. You are also more likely to remember and learn from what you read.

Second, reading for pleasure allows you to build on your personal knowledge of English. No two students have the same knowledge of a language or the same language learning needs. Some students may need to learn more vocabulary, for example. Others may need to develop their ability to write good sentences in English. When students read for pleasure at their own pace in their own books, they can each learn what they need to learn.

Reading for pleasure is different from the reading that you do for study. When you read for pleasure, you don't have to read the same book that everyone else in the class is reading. You can choose any kind of book you want — a romance, a thriller, a mystery, a science fiction novel, a biography, or a history book. It is not *what* you read, but your *enjoyment*, that matters.

Pleasure reading is also different from study reading in another way. You do not have to remember the details of your pleasure reading book because you will not be tested about what

you have read. All you have to do is *enjoy the book!*

Discussing Your Pleasure Reading

Talking about your pleasure reading is another way that you can improve your English language skills. When you tell your teacher, your classmates, or a friend about what you have read, you review the story in your mind, and you make more connections between the ideas in the book and what you already know. In fact, sometimes you find that your understanding of the story increases after you have talked about it. This happens because you automatically organize your ideas as you explain them to someone.

English speakers talk about their reading in ways that may be new to you. You will read *Good Morning*, a short story by Mark Hager, in order to practice talking about reading. Follow these steps as you read the story:

- ① Read the title. As you read the story, try to imagine why the author decided to call it “Good Morning.”
- ② Read the story all the way to the end. Do not stop for new words. Just mark with a pencil any new words that you need to know in order to understand the story. You will have a chance to read the story a second time.
- ③ Talk about the story with another student. Discuss these questions:
 - a. Where does the story take place?
 - b. Who are the characters in the story?
 - c. What happens in the story? In other words, what is the plot of the story?
 - d. Were there any confusing parts to the story? Help each other to figure them out.
- ④ Read the story again. This time, when you come to vocabulary items that you still haven’t figured out, write the word or words on the lines below.

_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

- ⑤ Working with a group of three or four students, briefly retell the plot of the story. Then ask each other these questions:
 - a. Did you like the story? Why?
 - b. Which character did you like most? Why?
 - c. Did you like the ending? Why?
 - d. Is this story similar to other stories you have read? Explain.
 - e. Do you know the meanings of my vocabulary items?
 - f. Why did the author decide to title the story “Good Morning?”

Good Morning

by Mark Hager

When I was a boy, I walked through two miles of woods to get to our schoolhouse, and I would take my father's twenty-two rifle with me and hide it in a hollow tree before I got to the schoolhouse, and get it as I came home in the evening.

One evening, coming from school, I ran into a community uprising at Mr. Epperly's house. Mr. Epperly's cow had gone mad and was bawling lonesome bawls and twisting the young apple trees out of the ground with her horns, and the whole community was demanding that Mr. Epperly's dog, Old Ranger, be shot, as Old Ranger had fought and killed the mad dog that bit the cow.

Mr. Epperly wanted to know if it wouldn't be safe to put Old Ranger in the stable or someplace and keep him penned up until the danger period was over, but the neighbors said no — that Mr. Epperly's children might slip and feed him through the cracks and get bit.

Mr. Epperly said he could not do it himself, and wanted to know who would volunteer to do it, but none of the men would.

Mr. Epperly came to me, and said, "Joe, why can't you take him with you through the woods on your way home and do it?"

I told Mr. Epperly I did not want to shoot Old Ranger. I saw Mr. Epperly's three kids were already keeping close to the old dog.

Mr. Epperly then pulled a one-dollar bill from his pocket.

"I will give you this dollar bill if you'll do it," he said.

I considered. I had never yet had a one-dollar bill all my own and while the idea of shooting Old Ranger did not appeal to me, it did seem like a thing that was demanded by the whole community, and they all put at me to do it, trying to make me feel like a kind of hero, and pointed to the danger to Mr. Epperly's children. Then Mr. Epperly put a piece of clothesline around Old Ranger's neck and I started with him. The Epperly kids began to cry.

As I walked through the woods by the little path, I started looking for a place suitable to shoot a dog and leave him lay. I saw a heavy clump of wild grapevines, and I led him down under there and then got back up in the path. Old Ranger looked at me and whined and wagged his tail. He wanted to come to me. I recollected always seeing him wherever there was a splash of sunshine in Mr. Epperly's yard when I would pass there and Mr. Epperly's kids would join me for school.

I went down and untied Old Ranger and walked on. I came to a place where there was a hickory grove in a little flat where the underbrush was thin. I recollected how Old Ranger liked to go to the hickory groves and tree squirrels. I led Old Ranger down and tied him close to the trunk of a big hickory tree.

I started to take aim, but Old Ranger started prancing and looking up the tree. I remembered then hearing Mr. Epperly tell how Old Ranger would do that when he'd tree a squirrel and Mr.

Epperly would raise the gun to shoot, and I could not fool Old Ranger like that.

Besides, there was too much light and Old Ranger could see me take aim. I decided to wait for the gloom. Soon as the sun dropped a few more feet behind the Wilson Ridge, there would be gloom, and maybe Old Ranger would not see so plainly how I pointed the gun.

While I waited for the gloom, the burning started in my pocket. I took the one-dollar bill out. I had a feeling there was something nasty about it.

While I thought of that, Old Ranger reared and barked and surged at the cord leash, and when I looked back out the path I saw Mr. Epperly's three kids, but they were running away. They had turned to run when Old Ranger barked. I guessed they had slipped off from their house and followed just to see where I left Old Ranger.

The thought struck me that they would run back to their house and tell I had not shot Old Ranger yet, and that would set the folks to worrying again, and I took aim. I thought I had better fire in their hearing. I took aim at Old Ranger, but I could not touch the trigger the way he looked at me and tried to speak, so I fired in the air so the Epperly kids could say they heard the shot.

I stuck the dollar back in my pocket, went down and hugged Old Ranger around the neck. I knew I would never shoot Old Ranger. I took him and walked on. I got to the edge of our field. I climbed on the gate and sat a long time and considered. I tried to think up how I could explain to my mother why I had brought Old Ranger home with me so that she would not be scared. I could not decide how I could ever explain with a good face that I had a one-dollar bill in my pocket I had been given to shoot Old Ranger.

I remembered where I had seen an empty castor-oil bottle at the edge of the path. It was still there, and I got it, and stuck the one-dollar bill in it, and buried the bottle in some soft dirt under the corner of the fence.

My mother decided that since I had fired the shot, she would let me keep Old Ranger for a month, with the community thinking he was dead, but it was the hardest month I ever spent.

The Epperly kids would not walk with me to school. They would pucker up to cry when they saw me, and the other kids down at the schoolhouse, they would say with a sneer, "What did you buy with your dollar bill?"

I could not answer. I could not tell them about the castor-oil bottle under the fence corner or Old Ranger in our stable; the Epperly kids searched the woods on both sides of the path to our house, hunting for the body of Old Ranger, but they would not ask me where I had left him, and other neighbors spoke of how Old Ranger's great booming voice was missed.

Mrs. Epperly was kind to me. I met her in the road one day, and she told me how she had scolded the kids for treating me like that. "But," she added, "if it was to do over, I would not allow it done. The children ... Mr. Epperly, too, they're half crazy."

Then came the happy morning. "You can take Old Ranger home now, Joe," my mother said. "Been over a month. No danger now."

I went to the stable, got Old Ranger, and he reared and licked my face. I shouldered my book

strap, and led Old Ranger down the path. I stopped at the fence corner and got the castoroil bottle with the one-dollar bill in it. I had a time trying to hold Old Ranger's mouth shut so I could get in sight of the Epperly house before he barked.

At the right place where they could see us when they came running to the front porch, I let Old Ranger have his voice. Old Ranger let go with a great howl that rolled and rocked across the ridges, and the Epperlys came bounding. Mr. and Mrs. Epperly and the three kids. They alternated between my neck and Old Ranger's, and I don't know to this day which of us got the most hugging.

I handed Mr. Epperly the castoroil bottle.

"Why did you do that?" he said.

"It felt nasty in my pocket," I said.

He tried to make me keep it and when I wouldn't, he just pitched it toward me and his three kids, and we started for the schoolhouse, feeling rich, with a whole dollar to spend.

Hints for Success in Reading for Pleasure

- Set a specific goal in your pleasure reading. Decide how many books you would like to finish reading during the semester.
- Make pleasure reading a part of your daily routine. Plan to read a certain number of pages or for a certain amount of time every day.
- Read for at least thirty minutes at one time so that you can become involved in your book. This is especially important when you start a new book. It may take a little time before you begin to enjoy it.
- Choose a paperback book (paperbacks are small and lightweight), and carry it with you wherever you go. Read it whenever you have some free time. This is a good way to escape boredom when you are waiting in line or riding a bus or subway.
- Keep a journal. When you finish several chapters, write your thoughts about the book in your journal and write about what you expect to happen next.
- Talk to your friends about your book.
- Keep a record of the books you read in the chart on page 281.
- Make an appointment with your teacher for a book conference when you have finished a book. This is not a test about the book. In fact, your teacher may not have read your book and may not know anything about it. This is your chance to talk and to share your feelings about the book.
- After you finish reading your book, fill in a copy of the Book Response Sheet on page 282 and give it to your teacher.

Guidelines for Choosing a Pleasure Reading Book

1. Choose a book that interests you. Ask your teacher, your friends, your family, and your classmates for suggestions. But choose the book that is best for you, not for them!
2. Preview the book to help you decide if you want to read it. Paperback book covers provide plenty of information for that. Pictures on the front cover can give some ideas of what the book is about. On the back cover there is usually some information about the book's contents.
3. Choose a book that is not too easy or too difficult. If your book is too easy to read, you may become bored. If it is too difficult, you are likely to become discouraged. By reading the first few pages, you can tell if a book is too easy or too difficult for you. A book is easy if there are no unknown key words on a single page. It is too difficult if there are more than five unknown key words on a single page. (A key word is a word you must know in order to follow the author's general meaning.)
4. Choose a book that is printed clearly. Make sure the print is not too small. The size and clarity of the print will make a difference. You can read longer if the print does not make your eyes tired.
5. Remember, you are reading for pleasure. You don't need to memorize what you read when you read for pleasure! The important thing is to follow the story or the ideas presented by the author.
6. Some popular books have been made into movies. Avoid reading a book if you have already seen the movie. You may get bored if you already know what happens in the story. But do see a film version after you have read a book. It's often interesting to see how a film director has brought a book to life. You may enjoy comparing the director's ideas with your own.
7. Do not choose a book that you have already read in a different language. The fact that you are already familiar with it may make it less interesting. Also, do not choose a book that has been translated from another language. A translation is not always natural English, so it might be more difficult to read.

Suggested Books

Finding a good book is the first step in reading for pleasure. The books listed here have been read and enjoyed by many people around the world. They are usually available in most libraries and bookstores.

The authors of *More Reading Power* recommend these books, but remember, they are only suggested books. You may choose a title that is not on the list, of course. What matters most is reading a book that interests *you*.

The book list is divided into two parts, fiction and nonfiction. Both parts of the book list have books at three levels of difficulty:

Level One: These books are not difficult to read. If you have not read many books in English, you may want to begin with a selection from this level.

Level Two: The books in this section are a little more difficult.

Level Three: These books are for advanced readers.

Book List

An asterisk (*) after an author's name indicates that this author has written other books that you might enjoy. The number of pages may be slightly different in different editions. The numbers given here are meant to give you a sense of how long the book is.

Fiction

Fiction books are not true stories. Reading fiction is helpful in learning English because in fiction you will find many examples of how people use the language in everyday life.

Level One

Chain of Fire, by Beverley Naidoo.* The story of Nalida and Taolo, who struggled against apartheid in South Africa. (242 pages)

Charlotte's Web, by E. B. White. Written for children, this famous book is popular with all ages. It tells a story of love and loyalty that everyone can enjoy. (184 pages)

Forever, by Judy Blume.* The famous story of teenage love. The question is, can you love two people at the same time? A best-seller. (220 pages)

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone (or *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*), by J. K. Rowling.* This book tells of the adventures of a young boy who goes to a school for wizards. (312 pages)

Killing Mr. Griffin, by Lois Duncan.* A teenager casually suggests playing a cruel trick on the English teacher, but he does not intend to have the teacher die as a result. (243 pages)

Letters from Rifka, by Karen Hesse. In 1919, a Jewish girl and her family leave Russia and start the long journey to America. But Rifka is not allowed to board the ship with her family. Will she ever get to America and see her family again? (146 pages)

My Brother Sam Is Dead, by James L. Collier and Christopher Collier. The story of the tragedy that strikes the Meeker family during America's Civil War, when one son joins the rebels. (216 pages)

My Name Is Davy — I'm an Alcoholic, by Anne Snyder. A lonely high school student drinks too much. Can he end this behavior and find a better life? (128 pages)

145th Street: Short Stories, by Walter Dean Myers. One street, ten stories of young people who

live in New York's Harlem. There is danger, hopelessness, joy, and excitement. (151 pages)

Sacajawea, by Joseph Bruchac. Based on the story of Sacajawea, a sixteen-year-old Shoshone Indian mother who helped Lewis and Clark explore North America's west. They found a safe way to travel from the Mississippi River to the Pacific Ocean. (199 pages)

Sometimes I Think I Hear My Name, by Avi. The humorous story of a thirteen-year-old boy who tries to understand his parents. (139 pages)

That Was Then, This Is Now, by S. E. Hinton.* Sixteen-year-olds Mark and Bryon have been like brothers since childhood, but now they begin to grow apart. (159 pages)

The Daydreamer, by Ian McEwan. Peter is a boy who lives somewhere between dreams and real life. In these stories, he finds out what it is like to be a cat, a baby, and an adult. (143 pages)

The Friends, by Rosa Guy. A family moves to the United States from the West Indies. This story tells about the love and friendship they find. (185 pages)

The Glory Field, by Walter Dean Myers. The story of one family, from the time their ancestors were taken as slaves from Africa to the United States. Their farm in the South unites them in this story of pride, determination, struggle, and love. (196 pages)

The Pearl, by John Steinbeck.* A poor fisherman finds a big pearl and hopes to get rich by selling it. Can a pearl bring happiness to his family? (118 pages)

The Pigman, by Paul Zindel. Lorraine's crank telephone call to a man called "the Pigman" sets off a terrible chain of events, and she learns valuable life lessons. (158 pages)

Level Two

Animal Farm, by George Orwell.* The story of what happens when overworked, mistreated animals take over a farm. A story that reflects any place where freedom is attacked. (139 pages)

Anne of Green Gables, by Lucy Maud Montgomery. How an orphan girl is accepted into a loving family and small community on Prince Edward Island, Canada. (309 pages)

Carrie, by Stephen King. A high school girl was always laughed at by her classmates. Then she discovers that she has special powers. A suspenseful horror story. (220 pages)

Diving In, by Kate Cann. A novel of summer love and all the difficulties and uncertainties of a relationship. (238 pages)

Flowers for Algernon, by Daniel Keyes. A sad tale of a mentally retarded man who is given an experimental drug. For a short time, he becomes normal. (216 pages)

I Know What You Did Last Summer, by Lois Duncan. A group of friends have a terrible secret. Then they find out that someone knows their secret and wants revenge. (199 pages)

Jazz Country, by Nat Hentoff.* A white youth in New York plays his trumpet in a jazz club in

Harlem. (146 pages)

Johnny Tremaine, by Esther Forbes. The American Revolution as seen through the experiences of a youth in Boston. (269 pages)

Little Women, by Louisa May Alcott.* This famous book tells of the joys and sorrows of the four March sisters and their mother in New England in the 1800s. (561 pages)

My Side of the Mountain, by Jean George. A young boy tells about his adventures as he spends a year alone in the Catskill Mountains. (177 pages)

The Call of the Wild, by Jack London.* Buck, a St. Bernard/Scotch shepherd dog, lives a comfortable life as a wealthy family's pet. When he is kidnapped and taken to the Arctic to work as a sled dog, his life is changed forever. (143 pages)

The Chocolate War, by Robert Cormier.* A high school student fights against a secret society of other students and becomes a hero in the school. (191 pages)

The Clan of the Cave Bear, by Jean Auel.* A story of prehistoric peoples told through the experiences of a heroic woman. (468 pages)

The Incredible Journey, by Sheila Burnford. Two dogs and a cat travel many miles to return to their home. (160 pages)

The Road to Nowhere, by Christopher Pike. Teresa runs away from home and meets two mysterious hitchhikers. Together, they face a long night of terror. (212 pages)

The Summer of My German Soldier, by Bette Greene. During World War II, German prisoners are sent to a camp near Patty's home town in Arkansas. A twelve-year-old Jewish girl, Patty, befriends an escaped German prisoner. (Language may be disturbing to some readers.) (230 pages)

The White Mountains, by John Christopher. One hundred years in the future, Switzerland is the only free country left on earth. This is a science fiction thriller. (192 pages)

The Witch of Blackbird Pond, by Elizabeth G. Speare. The story of Kit Tyler and her fight against prejudice. (249 pages)

Level Three

A Lesson Before Dying, by Ernest J. Gaines. The moving story of an unusual friendship between a young teacher and a man in prison for murder, waiting to be executed. (256 pages)

And Then There Were None, by Agatha Christie.* Ten weekend guests who don't know one another meet on a private island. All they have in common is a secret, evil past. One by one, they die. (275 pages)

Being There, by Jerzy Kosinski. A man named Chance becomes an heir to a rich Wall Street businessman, an adviser to the U.S. president, and a popular TV personality. An ironic story of how an uneducated man can seem to be brilliant. (140 pages)

Dinner at the Homesick Restaurant, by Anne Tyler.* Three children were raised by a strong single mother. Now adults, they return home as their mother is dying, and they try to make sense of their past. (303 pages)

Father Melancholy's Daughter, by Gall Godwin.* When Margaret was six years old, her mother left the family and died soon after that. Now as an adult, Margaret searches for answers about her past. (404 pages)

For Whom the Bell Tolls, by Ernest Hemingway.* The story of Robert and Maria, who fall in love during the Spanish Civil War. Many people think this is one of the best war novels of all time. (471 pages)

If Beale Street Could Talk, by James Baldwin. A talented New York musician is falsely accused of a crime and is put into prison. His girlfriend is determined to free him. (213 pages)

My Antonia, by Willa Cather.* A famous portrait of a pioneer woman, Antonia, the daughter of a Bohemian immigrant. She faces loneliness and other challenges of life on America's prairies. (175 pages)

The Bean Trees, by Barbara Kingsolver.* Driving west to start a new life, Taylor stops for gas. A woman gives her a little girl. The touching story of how they grow to love each other. (323 pages)

The Firm, by John Grisham.* A young lawyer's first job seems to be perfect until he discovers that partners die mysteriously. A thriller. (501 pages)

The Kitchen God's Wife, by Amy Tan.* An immigrant from China tells her daughter Winnie Lou about her past. Through her stories, we learn the details of Chinese life and tradition. (530 pages)

The Left Hand of Darkness, by Ursula LeGuin.* On a strange planet called Gethen, people do not see each other as men or women. This poses a challenge to an explorer from planet Earth. (304 pages)

The Sky Is Falling, by Sidney Sheldon.* Sheldon is a master storyteller. This thriller is about the mysterious death of Gary Winthrop, the last of five people in his family to die in a single year. (398 pages)