

《大学英语》(精读) 学习手册

第二册

钱芙香 鲍琳虹 编

DAXUE YINGYU JINGDU XUEXI SHOUCE

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华中师范大学出版社



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钱芙蓉 鲍琳虹 编

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华中师范大学出版社

1999 年·武汉

(鄂)新登字 11 号

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

《大学英语》(精读)学习手册 第二册/钱美香,鲍琳虹编. —武汉:华中师范大学出版社,1999.7

ISBN 7-5622-2025-5/H·151

I. 大… II. ①钱… ②鲍… III. 英语-高等学校-教学参考资料 IV. H31

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(1999)第 10191 号

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© 钱美香 鲍琳虹 编

华中师范大学出版社出版发行

(武昌桂子山 邮编:430079)

新华书店湖北发行所经销

武汉工业大学印刷厂印刷

责任编辑:月 生 赵 宏
责任校对:廖国春

封面设计:甘 英
督 印:方汉江

开本:850×1168 1/32
版次:1999年7月第1版
印数:1-5 000

印张:7 字数:175千字
1999年7月第1次印刷
定价:8.40元

本书如有印装质量问题,可向承印厂调换。

前 言

为了进一步加强对学生语言应用能力的培养,教育部在新的《大学英语教学大纲》中对大学英语教学提出了更高的要求。根据修订大纲的精神,我们以新的视野、新的标准编写了这套与上海外语教育出版社1997年出版的《大学英语精读(修订本)》教材配套的学习指导书。该教材1992年获全国高等学校第二届优秀教材特等奖和国家教委高等学校第二届优秀教材一等奖。我们编写这套指导书旨在帮助读者提高学习效率,打好语言基础,大幅度提高用英语进行口头和书面表达的实际应用能力。

第二册由十个单元组成,每个单元包括语篇分析、重难点句子分析与讲解、重点词汇与短语、练习答案、阅读材料注释和指导作文参考答案六个部分。此外,书后附有课文参考译文。

“语篇分析”部分简明扼要地概括课文大意、归纳课文中心思想、分析文章层次结构以及文体特点,使读者更深刻地了解课文中的人物性格特点、文章的语言特色,以及作者的写作风格等,使读者在学习语言知识的同时提高阅读欣赏水平。

“重难点句子分析与讲解”部分对课文中的疑难句子从语法、修辞的角度进行分析解释,便于读者对重点句型进行操练,加深对课文的理解。

“重点词汇与短语”部分对大纲中要求掌握的词汇与短语进行中英文诠释,对一些常见的同义词或近义词进行辨析,促进读者准确理解并正确使用核心词汇、扩大词汇量、巩固语言知识,为提高

语言的的实际应用能力打下坚实的基础。

“练习答案”部分提供了全部练习答案,包括讨论题的参考答案。这有利于读者在做练习的过程中开拓思路,提高灵活运用语言知识的能力。

“阅读材料注释”部分对文章中的重难点句子进行讲解,对重点单词与短语提供了例句,旨在帮助读者更快、更有效地进行阅读。

“指导作文参考答案”部分提供了写作技巧练习答案和段落写作范文。范文仅供读者在练习中借鉴,为读者有效提高应用语言的综合能力创造条件。

“课文译文”部分提供了课文参考译文,有助于读者更好地理解原文,提高英译汉的能力。

在本书的编写过程中,得到了华中师范大学出版社外语编辑室全体同志的支持和帮助,在此,特向他们表示衷心的感谢。

编 者

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Unit One

IS THERE LIFE ON EARTH?

Discourse Analysis

1. Main Idea

Though the text sounds like a piece of humorous science fiction, it is intended to bring home to the public the serious problem of environmental pollution on the earth. It's written from the point of view of the hypothetical Venusians, who have managed to land a satellite on Earth and drawn a conclusion that there is no life on Earth. The implied message is that human beings should take effective measures to prevent the environment from being polluted, otherwise they will destroy themselves some day.

2. Writing Style

The author, Art Buchwald, aims to criticize human beings' indifference to the environment, but he illustrates his view point in a satirical tone. To achieve this effect in writing, he employs such writing techniques as **irony**, **the unconventional usage of words**, **the fictitious coinage of words**. The unconventional usage of words refers to "20,000 light years ago" and "billions of zilches", which

are used to carry the meaning against convention, but vividly reveal the author's writing purpose. Still there are such coined words as "Grubstart", "Consolidated Edison Belt". By means of these devices, the author makes his satire deeply felt. What also deserves to be mentioned is the ending of the text: "Because if we Venusians can learn to breathe in an Earth atmosphere, then we can live anywhere." This statement suggests that modern people pollute their environment to such an extent that they will destroy themselves without taking effective environmental protection measures. In this way, the author manages to set people thinking and arouse their concern about the environment.

3. Division of the Text

Part 1. (L. 1—7) The hypothetical Venusian scientists succeed in landing a satellite on the planet Earth.

Part 2. (L. 8—49) At the press conference, the Venusian scientists issue a piece of astonishing news that there is no life on the earth, for the place they have explored is heavily polluted.

Difficult Sentences and Useful Patterns

1. Is there life on earth? 地球上是否有生命?

本文是一篇科幻文章,作者以“金星人”的口气来观察评论地球上严重的污染问题,因而提出了地球上是否有生命存在这一发人深思的问题。

2. ... to get valuable information as to the feasibility of a manned flying saucer landing on Earth. 获得有关载人飞碟能否在

地球上着陆的宝贵资料。

as to 是介词短语,意为“至于,关于 (about, concerning)”,作后置定语,修饰名词 information。

A clue as to why Americans may have been more honest in the past lies in the Abe Lincoln story.

3. “We have come to the conclusion, based on last week’s satellite landing,” Prof. Zog said, “that there is no life on Earth.” “根据上周发射的卫星所提供的资料,我们已经得出结论,”佐格教授说,“地球上没有生命。”

1) based on last week’s satellite landing 为过去分词短语作后置定语,修饰名词 conclusion。

2) that 引导的从句作名词 conclusion 的同位语,说明 conclusion 的具体内容。同位语从句通常用 that 引导,在这种情况下 that 是连词,只能起连接主语与从句的作用,它不充当从句中的任何成分,也不可以用 which 来代替。

I have a good hope that he will soon be well again.

There is some possibility that he may be late.

4. What does this mean as far as our flying saucer program is concerned? 就我们的飞碟计划而言,这又意味着什么呢?

as/so far as ... be concerned: as for; in respect of 涉及到,就……而言

As far as the content is concerned, this book is admirable.

So far as the quality of tone is concerned, the radio is excellent.

5. You see this dark black cloud hovering over the surface of Earth?

你们看到了飘浮在地球表面上方的这片深黑色的云层吗?

该句称为陈述问句,它和陈述句形式相同,只是句末用的是问号,朗读时用升调。陈述问句常用于口语中,一般表示惊讶、难以置信的心情。回答的方式和一般疑问句一样。

Your purse is lost? Yes.

He didn't go to the concert? No.

6. There are so many of these paths and so many metal particles that it is impossible to land a flying saucer without its being smashed by one. 金属微粒及其轨道如此之多,要使飞碟在那儿着陆而不被某一微粒撞毁是不可能的。

1) one 指的是 one of the many metal particles, 也是上文中照片上的 tiny black spots。从作者的描绘中,读者根据“排废气 (emit gases), 有噪声 (make noise), 常相撞 (keep crashing each other)”等特点,很自然地就会联想到这里的 one 指的是“车辆”(vehicles)。

2) ... impossible ... without ... 是双重否定,相当于“必然”。句中两个否定成分相抵消,表示肯定意义。

Jefferson refused to accept other people's opinions without careful thought.

Not all of us dislike the story.

7. ... since they seem to be scraping the skies. ……因为它们好像已经擦到了天。

1) seem 后面用不定式的进行时态使叙述显得生动,给人以身临其境的感觉。这是进行时态的功能之一。

2) skies 为 sky 的复数形式,这里指天空某些局部区域,例如: the cloudy skies over my head。不过,sky 多作单数,带定冠词,指“天空”,但有形容词修饰时,前面有时加不定冠词。

The sky turned dark as the storm came near.

It was the 1st of August — a perfect day, with a burning sun and a cloudless sky.

sky 作复数时,仍是单数意思,一般指“天空”。

We expect sunny skies for the next two days.

In Britain the skies are often cloudy.

8. "Prof. Zog, why are we spending billions and billions of zilches to land a flying saucer on Earth when there is no life there?" "佐格教授,既然地球上没有生命,那我们为什么要花费亿万个零元向那儿发射飞碟呢?"

- 1) when 在该句中意为 since (既然)。

I can't tell you anything when you won't listen.

Why do you want a new job when you've got such a good one already?

- 2) billions and billions of zilches: zilch(零),俚语,这里貌似货币单位。作者用的是自相矛盾的修辞手法,非常幽默,亿万个零自然还是零。在金星人眼中,也就是在作者看来地球快要失去它的价值了。作者用讽刺幽默的手法来描绘地球被污染的状况,其目的是促使人们认识到环境污染的严重性,并立即采取措施,挽救地球。

Useful Words and Expressions

1. manage

- 1) succeed in dealing with or accomplishing sth. , esp. , with an effort 设法完成, 设法办到

How did you manage to finish the work in time?

The box is heavy, but I can manage it.

- 2) control; deal with 管理,经营,对付

He manages a large business for his mother.

She manages the money very well.

He couldn't manage his horse, and it threw him to the ground.

2. ever since: (adv. , conj. , prep.) from then till now 从那以后, 自从……一直

She came to China 40 years ago and has lived here ever since.

We haven't seen each other ever since we graduated from school.

He had been teaching English at college ever since the year of 1978.

3. (be) known as: (be) generally recognized as; (be) called 以……知名, 被称为

He's known as a successful architect.

Samuel Clemens, known as Mark Twain, was a famous American writer.

cf. be known for: be famous for 因……而闻名

China is known for the invention of paper, gunpowder and the compass.

It is known to all that Newton discovered the law of universal gravitation.

4. be named after: be given the same name (of) as 以……名字命名

Washington D. C. is named after the first President of the United States of America, George Washington.

Their daughter was named Sophia after her grandmother.

cf. name ... after: give the same name ... as 以……名字取名

The couple named their first son George after his grandfather.

5. feasibility: possibility of being done or carried out 可能性, 可行性

The scientist considered the feasibility of the plan.

A feasibility study is required before they agree to finance a

project.

6. base ... on; build or found ... on; use ... as a basis for 以……为基础, 以……为根据

You should always base your opinions on facts.

That opera is based upon an actual occurrence.

7. for one thing ..., for another ...: in the first place..., in the second place 首先……其次, 一则……再则(常用作插入语, 表示列举)

For one thing she dances; for another, she is fond of singing.

Many people want to buy it because, for one thing, the price is low; for another, it's rather durable.

8. compose: make up; form 组成, 构成

Twelve people compose a jury.

Water composes nearly 70 per cent of the human body.

cf. be composed of: be made up of 由……组成

Water is composed of hydrogen and oxygen.

China is a country with a very large population composed of many nationalities.

9. deadly: causing death; likely to cause death 致命的

Cancer is a deadly disease.

The shock was deadly to him.

10. hover over

1) stay in the air in one place; keep floating over 盘旋, 飘浮

A helicopter was hovering over the city.

The balloon hovered over the square.

2) cause to worry 使不安, 使担心

The fear of dismissal has been hovering over me ever since the director's warning.

cf. hover near/about/around: wait around one place 徘徊,
在附近逗留

hover between: (fig.) not know what to do; hesitate
(喻)彷徨,犹豫

The students hovered around their teacher, hoping to
hear the examination results.

The sick man was hovering between life and death.

11. be unfit (to do sth. /for sth.): be not suitable (for sth.) 不适
于

He is unfit to be an airman because of poor eyesight.

The subject is unfit for poetry.

cf. be fit (to do sth. /for sth.): be suitable (for sth.) 适于

He is physically fit to be an airman.

Such a boat is fit only for a calm sea.

12. emit: send out 散发, 射出

It is now unlawful for factories to emit black smoke into the air.

The moon is emitting cool light through clouds.

13. keep doing sth. : continue doing sth. ; do sth. repeatedly 不断
做某事

The man seated in front of me kept coughing.

News of successes keeps pouring in.

cf. keep on doing sth.

keep on doing sth. 与 keep doing sth. 意义相同,但强调重
复性与不怕困难的决心。

You keep on making the same mistake.

Don't give up hope; keep on trying.

14. stick up: stand upright; project upwards 直立; 突出

Those pillars of the wharf are still sticking up in the water.

The boy's hair stuck up straight with fright.

cf. stick out: (cause to) reach further than usual; be clearly seen (使)伸出, 突出; 显眼

The doctor asked the boy to stick out his tongue.

I hurt my arm on the stone that sticks out from the wall.

The author's prejudice sticks out all over.

cf. stick to: refuse to leave or change 坚持, 忠于

You should stick to the principle through thick and thin.

He always sticks to his country.

15. give off: emit; send out (esp. liquid, gas, steam, or smell) 发出; (尤指) 散发出 (气体、气味)、流出 (液体) 等

Boiling water gives off steam.

The moist land gave off the fragrance of fresh earth.

cf. give away: give sb. sth. as a present; make known (a secret) 赠送; 泄露 (秘密)

give in: yield 让步, 屈服

give out: give to each of several people 分发

give up: stop having or doing 放弃, 不再做

16. set back: cause to put off or get behind schedule; delay the advance or development of 使耽搁; 阻碍

The recent poor trade has set us back several months in our plan for sales development.

The crisis set back the entire economy of their country.

cf. set about: begin to do sth. 开始做, 着手

set aside: save for a special purpose 留出, 拨出

set down: write; make a record of 写下; 记录

set off/out: begin a journey 出发, 启程

set up: raise into position; establish 竖起; 成立