

《大学英语泛读》导读

主编 孙慧贞 徐兆菊

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前 言

英语阅读课是加强英语综合技能训练的主要途径。在我国外语教学仍以课堂教学为主的情况下,要想提高学生的英语应用能力,使英语真正成为为专业服务的有效工具,就必须加强阅读课,指导学生进行大量而广泛的阅读。然而,目前在大学文理科外语教学中,存在着一个普遍问题:学生不想上泛读课,教师不想教泛读课。究其原因主要是泛读课阅读量大(一个课时要学三篇),而且文章有一定的难度,学生若课前不预习或预习不好,课堂上就害怕教师提问,有的学生干脆就放弃了这门课。课堂上学生情绪不高,师生之间不能很好地配合,就不可能达到预期的教学效果。久而久之,势必严重影响英语的整体教学质量。我们编写《大学英语泛读》导读一书,正是为了解决这一问题,以达到提高教学质量之目的。

该书是以原教材(高等学校教材,《大学英语》泛读)内容的自然顺序分课编写的,每课含三个部分。第一部分是“Introduction”,旨在让学生在通读课文前,对文章的中心意思有个大概了解,然后带着问题去阅读。第二部分是“New Words and Expressions”,其目的在于帮助学生扫清阅读过程中的“拦路虎”。生词、短语均按课文中出现的自然顺序排列,并附有汉英双解及部分例句,以便节省学生查找生词、翻阅词典的时间,提高阅读速度。第三部分是课文中长难句子的汉语翻译。编写该部分的目的是为了帮助学生加深对课文的理解,同时也结合目前全国四级考试增加翻译项目的新题型,让学生通过学习长难句子的翻译,掌握一些翻译技巧,提高应试及实际应用语言的能力。

在本书编写过程中,美籍教师 Shelley A. Root 对英文部分作了全面审校。另外,王玉琴、程军和张和军三位同志也作了许多工作,在此一并表示感谢。

编者水平有限,时间也比较紧,因而书中纰漏在所难免,请读者不吝示教。

编 者

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Book One

Unit One

1. Your Breakfast Is Ready

1. Introduction

This text is in the form of a short play. Its scene is set in a hotel room, where Miss Muffett is staying. She orders a newspaper and a cup of tea, and soon she is visited by three different people. One of them is acting very suspiciously. You may imagine yourself a detective and try to figure out (指出) who is the suspicious character. Then and find out the details to support your answer.

1. New Words and Expressions

1. be served; be ready

(饭)准备好了

2. narrator / nə'reɪtə / n.

a person who tells a story or explains what is happening 讲述者

3. be about to (do sth.):

be just ready to (do sth). 正要(做某事)

4. present v.

give; put forward for consideration 提出

5. puzzling adj.

difficult to explain or understand 费解的, 令人困惑的

6. sketch n.

a short, humorous play 短剧

7. perform v.

act (in a play) 表演

8. scene n.

(戏剧)一场; 场景

9. suspiciously adv.

可疑地

10. exit / 'eksɪt / n.

going off stage 退场

11. reception / rɪ'sepʃən / n.

the office that receives visitors to a hotel 接待处; 服务台

12. goodness / my goodness:

(an expression of surprise) (表示惊讶) 天哪! 老天!

13. order v.

ask for sth. to be made, bought in return for payment 订购; 点菜

14. bacon n.

熏猪肉

15. toast n.

烤面包

16. apologize / ə'pɒlədʒaɪz / v.

say one is sorry 道歉

17. definitely / 'definitli / <i>adv.</i>	clearly; without any uncertainty 肯定
18. disturb / dis'tʌ:b / <i>v.</i>	trouble; break in upon 打扰;妨碍
19. burst into;	break into; enter by force 闯入
20. dreadfully / 'dredfəli / <i>adv.</i>	very 非常地
21. wonder / 'wʌndə / <i>v.</i>	want to know 纳闷;想知道
22. burgle / 'bɜ:gl / <i>v.</i>	break into a building and steal from it (入室)盗窃
23. detective / di'tektiv / <i>n.</i>	a person whose special job is to find out criminals 侦探

II. Translation of Some Sentences

1. We all make mistakes... especially first thing in the morning. (L. 24)
谁能没个差错……清早头一事情更容易出错(因为我们还没有完全清醒)。
2. How dare you burst into my room like this! (L. 27)
你竟胆敢这样闯进我的房间!
3. Reception must have mixed up the order. (L. 44)
服务台肯定把客人预定的东西搞混了。
4. I think it's going to be one of those days—just one of those days... (L. 4)
我看今天是个不安宁的日子,的确让人不得安宁……

2. Never Late (I)

3. Never Late (II)

I. Introduction

Suppose you often travel by train—in one of the best trains in the world, which is never late. Nothing ever happens on the journey with which you are so familiar. But this time something unusual happened. When it was time for you to get off the train to catch, say, your ship or another train, you found you couldn't get off the train, no matter how hard you tried. What would you do? Now you know exactly the difficult situation the narrator faced on his way to work. What would he do? He did an unusual thing—stopping the train. It caused, of course, great confusion (混乱) and panic (恐慌) in the station. The attendant (列车员) and the police officer were both very angry at his bold action. What would happen then? It seemed very likely (可能) that the narrator would be taken to the police station and thus miss his ship. Actually he wasn't. Why? What do you think about the outcome?

I. New Words and Expressions

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 1. as usual; | as has happened before 像往常一样 |
| 2. restful <i>adj.</i> | 恬静的 |
| 3. corridor / 'kɒrɪdɔː / <i>n.</i> | a passage, esp. enclosed 走廊, 过道 |
| 4. raise <i>v.</i> | lift, push or move upward 举起 |
| 5. sign <i>n.</i> | 手势; 信号 |
| 6. pleased <i>adj.</i> | feeling or showing satisfaction or happiness
满足的; 愉快的 |
| 7. police station | 警察局 |

II. Translation of Some Sentences

1. Life is a strange business. (L. 1)
生活让人琢磨不透。
2. Then, one day, you do the same thing once more and something certainly happens. (LL. 2-3)
然而有那么一天, 你仍像往常一样按步就班, 可偏偏就会出事。
3. ...I stood up thankfully.
……我长舒一口气站了起来。
4. I felt a touch of fear. (L. 52)
我心里一阵发慌。
5. But no one outside the train could hear me, and the people inside did not care much. (LL. 2-3)
车外的人听不见我的话, 车内的人也若无其事。
6. It hurt my ears, and quite possibly the men in my ship two miles away could hear it. (LL. 2-3)
声音尖厉刺耳, 两英里外我要乘的那条船上的人或许都能听见。
7. I was getting very hot, and rather angry. (LL. 6-7)
我挤得浑身燥热, 十分恼火。
8. Out there a rather fat man, dressed in blue, was running about and trying to look in through the windows. (LL. 12-13)
车厢外有个穿兰制服的胖子跑前跑后, 想从车窗往里看个究竟。
9. So I raised my two bags high in the air and made signs over the men's heads that I wanted to get out. (LL. 16-17)
因而我把两个包高高举起, 在我前面那俩人的头顶上方打着手势, 示意我要出去。
10. I thought he was going to need a doctor. (L. 34)
我想他都快发疯了。
11. Then he said, "There will soon be something new in your life." (LL. 39-40)
然后他说: "你等着瞧吧, 会有你好看的。"

12. He was a man who could think. (L. 80)

他是个有头脑的人。

13. ...and it seemed to me that the man in blue was going to take my place at the police-station. (LL. 84-85)

……看来那个穿蓝制服的人要顶替我去警察局了。

Unit Two

4. The Winter's Snow

I. Introduction

Thomas Carrington was a typical English gentleman with regular habits and he was very careful of his appearance. He travelled by train between his office in London and his home at Hill Park, forty miles away, where it snowed heavily. He made a rather clever plan to improve his appearance. It all went well for the first two days. On the third day, however, something went wrong with his plan. And he was left without any shoes to wear on his feet in the train to London! You can imagine what an embarrassing (尴尬的) position he was in. Where were his shoes? What could he do then?

I. New Words and Expressions

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1. inch <i>n.</i> | a measure of length; 1/12 of a foot 英寸 |
| 2. appearance <i>n.</i> | look 外表 |
| 3. spotless <i>adj.</i> | completely clean 一尘不染 |
| 4. proper <i>adj.</i> | fine 出色的, 好的 |
| 5. slightly <i>adv.</i> | a bit; rather 稍微 |
| 6. ashamed <i>adj.</i> | feeling shame 害臊; 惭愧 |
| 7. contain <i>v.</i> | hold; have within itself 包含; 装有 |
| 8. straight <i>adv.</i> | directly 直接 |
| 9. leave sth. with sb. ; | give sth. into the care or charge of
someone 委托, 托付 |
| 10. excellent /'eksələnt/ <i>adj.</i> | very good; of high quality 优秀的, 杰出的 |
| 11. admire /əd'maɪə/ <i>v.</i> | look at with pleasure and respect 钦佩, 赞赏 |
| 12. carriage <i>n.</i> | (Br. E) a railway passenger vehicle (英)
火车客车厢 |
| 13. collect <i>v.</i> | call for and take away 带走, 接走 |

14. delight / di'laɪt / *v.*
be delighted;

give great pleasure to 使喜悦
be greatly pleased; be very happy

I. Translation of Some Sentences

1. Carrington was always careful of his appearance. (L. 10)

凯灵顿一向注重自己的仪表。

2. "He's a proper gentleman; one of the best." (LL. 13-14)

“他是个地道的绅士，出类拔萃。”

3. Fred thought the idea an excellent one, and admired Carrington more than ever. (L. 34)

弗雷德对这个主意赞赏不已，因而更加钦佩凯灵顿。

4. That evening, as he sat by the fire smoking a pipe, he considered his new plan with satisfaction. (LL. 43-44)

那天晚上，他坐在火炉边抽着烟，欣赏着自己的新对策。

5. ...but he couldn't possibly walk about London, or sit at his office desk, in his heavy old garden shoes. (LL. 56-57)

但他不可能脚穿笨重破旧的劳动鞋走在伦敦街头或坐在办公室处理公务。

6. "Good old Fred!" (L. 66)

“弗雷德，老伙计，真够朋友！”

5. The Missing Five-Pound Note

I. Introduction

This passage is a detective story written in the form of a play. One morning a five-pound note was found missing in the office. Both of the two office boys, Nobby and Jim, claimed to be innocent (清白). Nobby especially tried to make it believed that it was Jim who stole the money. After a short interview with them two, the policeman, however, quickly solved the mystery and found out the thief. How did the policeman solve the problem? Perhaps it wasn't that the policeman was so good at his job, but that a slip (疏忽) in Nobby's account gave himself away (泄露).

I. New Words and Expressions

1. missing / 'misiŋ / *adj.*

lost; not to be found 丢失的，失落的

2. note *n.*

(Br. E) a piece of paper money (英) 钞票

3. call *v.*

make a short visit to someone 探访

4. interview / 'intəvju: / *v.*

ask questions of somebody at a meeting

面谈；采访

5. blame *n.*

responsibility for sth. bad 过失

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| throw the blame on somebody; | consider (somebody) responsible for sth.
bad 归咎于; 谴责 |
| 6. now then; | (used to attract attention or to express a
warning, command, etc.) (用以吸引注
意或表示警告、命令等) 喂; 好了, 好了 |
| 7. sergeant / 'sɜ:dʒənt / n. | a police officer with rank below that of an
inspector 警官 |
| 8. in the first place | 首先 |
| 9. in payment of; | paying 支付 |
| 10. cash n. | money in coins and notes 现金 |
| 11. register v. | 挂号邮寄 |
| 12. after all; | it must be remembered that 记着; 毕竟 |
| 13. check v. | examine to see if something is correct 查验 |
| 14. normally adv. | usually; ordinarily 通常 |
| 15. newsagent / 'nju:zɛɪdʒənt / n. | person in charge of a shop selling newspapers
报刊经售人 |
| 16. pop out; | go out suddenly for a while (匆忙) 出去 |
| 17. safe n. | 保险柜 |
| 18. fold v. | bend into two or more parts 折叠 |
| 19. lengthwise / 'leŋθwaɪz / adv. | along the length 竖着; 纵长地 |
| 20. slip v. | put with a quick, easy movement 塞入; 夹 |
| 21. tempt v. | persuade sb. to do sth. wrong or foolish
引诱 |
| 22. flick v. | move with a light, quick blow 轻快地翻
(移) 动 |
| 23. or so; | about 大约 |
| 24. accompany v. | go with 伴随, 陪伴 |
| 25. admit v. | agree to the truth of 承认 |

I. Translation of Some Sentences

1. You mean someone risked sending cash by post without registering it? (L. 10)
你是说有人冒险不挂号就用平信寄来现金?
2. There's someone with light fingers around here. (L. 12)
我们这儿有人手脚不干净。
3. I folded it lengthwise and slipped it into my desk dictionary here. (LL. 29-30)
我把钱对折了一下, 夹在办公桌上的词典里。
4. ...and I wasn't going to leave it lying around to tempt anyone coming into the office
as soon as I had left for a moment! (LL. 32-34)
我就出去一小会儿, 所以不想把钱随随便便丢在办公室里让进来的人看着眼热。

6. From Mr. Walton's Diary

I. Introduction

Mr. Walton's diary begins in the spring and ends in the dead of winter. In the diary, he describes his simple, peaceful life in a small town, weather changes in the four seasons and greater changes, perhaps, in the town and in the townspeople's life. Like most elderly people, Mr. Walton cannot help thinking, from time to time, about "the good old times" that left him so many fond memories. From his diary, we also get to know about Mr. Walton's likes and dislikes.

II. New Words and Expressions

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. heavy <i>adj.</i> | of unusual force or amount 过量的 |
| 2. knock down: | strike to the ground with a vehicle 撞倒 |
| 3. sow <i>v.</i> | plant or scatter seeds 播种 |
| 4. eighty: | 80 Fahrenheit 华氏 90° (约 24°C) |
| 5. clergyman / 'klɜ:dʒimən / <i>n.</i> | a Christian priest or minister 牧师 |
| 6. headmaster <i>n.</i> | the teacher in charge of a school 校长 |
| 7. coach <i>n.</i> | (Br. E) bus for long distance travel or
touring (英) 长途旅游汽车 |
| 8. electric fires | 电炉 |
| 9. van <i>n.</i> | a covered vehicle for carrying goods 小型货
车 |
| 10. cut off (from): | isolate; separate 隔离 |

III. Translation of Some Sentences

1. The wind carried it into the road and I ran out to get it. (LL. 3-4)
风把帽子吹到马路上, 我跑上前去把它捡起来。
2. Now, every Sunday morning hundreds of cars and coaches pass through the High Street at what I think is a very dangerous speed. (LL. 22-23)
现在每逢星期天上午, 数百辆轿车、长途汽车驶过中心大街, 其速度在我看来快得吓人。
3. ...and a man is not much use on the farm unless he knows all about machines. (LL. 26-27)
……不熟悉机械的人在农场上就没有多大用处。
4. We're all looking forward to having the children with us for the holiday, and the three grandchildren. (LL. 38-39)
我们盼望着儿女及三个孙子孙女跟我们一起欢渡节日。
5. The snow was so deep that for several days we were cut off from the rest of the coun-

try. (LL. 50—51)

大雪封门，使我们和外界隔绝了好几天。

6. I hope it isn't going to be as bad again this January! (L. 52)

希望今年一月份别再那么糟!

Unit Three

7. My Adventure in Calabria

I. Introduction

The author, a Frenchman, once travelled through Calabria, a place in Southern Italy with a young man. Calabria was believed to be a dangerous place for strangers, especially the French. Having lost their way in the forest, they had to spend the night in a house they found by chance. The author, sensing an air of hostility (敌意), was annoyed at his young friend's easy manner. He felt that their lives were at one moment placed in grave danger. Therefore, the author spent a sleepless and fearful night for keeping a suspicious (疑虑重重) attitude. The author gives many hints (暗示) and clues (线索) suggesting that something unfortunate was about to happen, and builds the story a climax (高潮) by means of a misunderstanding (误会). Finding out these hints and clues and the misunderstanding will add more enjoyment to your reading.

I. New Words and Expressions

1. adventure *n.*

a journey, activity or experience that is
strange, exciting and often dangerous
奇遇; 历险

2. adapt *v.*

change so as to make suitable for new needs
改编

3. come to a bad end:

不得善终; 死因莫明

4. all day long:

for a whole day 一整天

5. come upon

meet, find by chance 偶然发现; 碰见

6. dozen *n.*

a group of 12 一打 (12个)

7. feel at home:

be comfortable 舒适自在; 不拘束

8. storage *n.*

keeping in a special place 储存

9. ladder *n.*

梯子

10. stay up:

not go to sleep 熬夜

11. peacefully *adv.*

quietly; calmly 安静地; 安宁地

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 12. what's more: | more importantly, seriously, etc. 更有甚者, |
| | 而且 |
| 13. opening n. | a hole or clear space 孔, 缝隙 |
| 14. ham n. | 火腿 |

II. Translation of Some Sentences

- At one point my friend, who was riding ahead, turned on to a second road. (L. 6)
我的朋友骑马走在前面, 不知在何处拐上了一条小路。
- It was a mistake to allow a man his age-----just twenty years old-----to lead the way. (LL. 7-8)
让他这样二十来岁的毛头小伙子领路是个错误。
- Not without fear we went up to the house. (L. 11)
我们怀着忐忑不安的心情朝这座房子走去。
- They seemed like ordinary people, but their house told a different story. (L. 16)
他们像是普通的乡下人, 但住的房屋却非同寻常。
- The men didn't seem to like me any more than I liked them. (L. 19)
这些人看来不喜欢我就跟我不喜欢他们一样。
- He felt right at home with them. (L. 20)
跟他们在一起, 他就像在自家一样舒适自在。
- The beds were placed in a storage space four meters above the floor. (LL. 31-32)
床安放在离地面四米高的贮藏间里。
- With my ears to the chimney that connected our rooms, I heard what they were saying. (LL. 37-38)
我把耳朵贴在连通上下屋的烟囱上听到了他们说的话。
- When he reached the top, he stood over my young friend who was sleeping peacefully. Then the man took the knife in his right hand and with his left he took...ah! ... a ham from the shelf. (LL. 54-56)
当爬到顶时, 他立在我那位睡得正香的年轻朋友身边, 然后右手握刀, 伸出左手去抓……啊! 架子上的一条火腿。
- The door closed, the light was gone, and I was left alone with my thoughts. (LL. 56-57)
门关上了, 灯光消失了, 剩我一人在那儿发愣。

8. The United Nations: The World in One Building

I. Introduction

Most of us know something about the United Nations, an international organization

of the world's countries. It brings representatives together from nearly all of the countries in the world under the roof of one building. The peoples can then sit together trying to solve their various problems and promote peace and cooperation in the world. From this essay, we get a general picture of the UN; how and when it came into being, its important offices and organizations, its essential functions, the role it plays in world affairs, and people's different views on it. The UN is an organization with high ideals (理想), though it has many problems of its own at present.

I. New Words and Expressions

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. Arab / 'æɾəb / n. | 阿拉伯 |
| 2. phoenix / 'fi:niks / n. | 长生鸟, 火凤凰 |
| 3. come back to life; | be born again 复活 |
| 4. debate n. | formal discussion; argument 辩论 |
| 5. develop v. | study and make or produce 研制 |
| 6. border n. | the dividing line between two countries 国境; 边界 |
| 7. the Allies / 'ælaiz / | (二战期间) 同盟国 |
| 8. the UN Charter | 联合国宪章 |
| 9. offer v. | hold out for acceptance or refusal 提供; 主动提出 |
| 10. agree upon; | have or share with the same opinion, feeling or purpose 同意; 商定 |
| 11. vote for/ against | 投票支持 (反对) |
| 12. sign v. | write one's name on a written paper to show one's agreement 签名 |
| 13. block n. | a group of buildings between two streets 街区 |
| 14. assembly n. | a group of people who have come together for some purpose 集会 |
| the General Assembly | 联合国大会 |
| 15. delegate n. | representative 代表 |
| 16. security / si'kjʊərɪti / n. | the state of being safe 安全 |
| 17. council n. | 委员会 |
| the Security Council | 安全理事会 |
| 18. be supposed/ meant to; | be expected or required to; should |
| 19. at war; | in a state of armed struggle 处于交战状态 |

II. Translation of Some Sentences

1. National borders were beginning to lose their meaning. (LL. 14-15)