GENERAL COLLEGE ENGLISH

通用大学英语读写教程

READING AND WRITING COURSE

B00人4^{第四册}



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通用大学英语读写教程

READING AND WRITING COURSE

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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

通用大学英语读写教程(4)教师用书/王文玉,徐光源编.

一上海: 上海外语教育出版社,2005

(通用大学英语/罗亦君,柯吉贵主编)

ISBN 7-81095-676-0

I. 通··· II. ①王··· ②徐··· III. ①英语-阅读教学-高等学校-教学参考资料 ②英语-写作-高等学校-教学参考资料 IV. H31

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2005)第 053358 号

出版发行:上海外语教育出版社

(上海外国语大学内) 邮编:200083

电 话: 021-65425300 (总机)

电子邮箱: bookinfo@sflep.com.cn

D 址: http://www.sflep.com.cn http://www.sflep.com

责任编辑: 江雷红

印 刷: 同济大学印刷厂

经 销:新华书店上海发行所

开 本: 787×1092 1/16 印张 20.75 字数 518千字

版 次: 2005年9月第1版 2005年9月第1次印刷

印 数: 3100册

书 号: ISBN 7-81095-676-0 / H • 262

定 价: 28.50 元

本版图书如有印装质量问题,可向本社调换

前 言

根据教育部有关大学英语教学的新精神,结合大学英语教学的特点与现状以及21世纪社会、经济发展对大学英语教学提出的新要求,我们精心编写了本套《通用大学英语》教程(含《听说教程》和《读写教程》)。本套教程着眼于加强学生的英语基本功训练、提高其语言综合运用能力、培养其科学和人文精神。

一、编写原则

- 1. 努力贯彻教育部新颁布的《大学英语课程教学要求》(试行)的精神, 同时注意与全国研究生入学英语统一考试的要求相衔接;
- 2. 借鉴已有的一些大学英语教材的编写经验,继承优良传统,反映新世纪大学英语教学的新发展和新要求;
- 3. 精选课文,确保语言的规范性和文章的思想性、现代性、可读性及趣味性,体现科学和人文精神的相互结合;
- 4. 注重系统的语言基础训练和综合能力培养,突出听、说、读、写、译的训练;
- 5.《听说教程》运用当代英语教学最有效的模式,遵循语言教育规律,突 出交际教学法,倡导教学互动和学生自主学习,既可先听后说,又可 听说并重,强调信息输入,提高输出能力;
- 6.《读写教程》注重文章的阅读理解和写、译的系统训练,强调打好语言基础和训练学生的语言基本功:
- 7. 课文精练,练习适量,以好教、好学、效果好为原则。全套教程通过 控制词汇量、语篇的长度和难度、听力材料的语速和语流等方式,循 序渐进,合理地设计难度。
- 二、学生用书的结构和编写特点
- 1.《听说教程》共四册,每册八个单元,各单元由两篇课文组成,每篇课文包括四个部分:
 - Part A:技能训练,重点是让学生了解、掌握听力技巧;
 - Part B: 课内听说训练, 听的部分由两个文本组成, 每个文本下分设两个练习题; 说的部分以话题为基础, 由学生自主进行练习:
 - Part C: 课外听说训练,巩固听力与会话技能;
 - Part D: 趣味练习, 寓教于乐, 让学生在轻松的气氛中学习英语。

此外,书中还附有两套测试题,可作为期中和期末考试的模拟试题。 全套教材循序渐进,重点突出:

- (1) 第一册的话题围绕校园生活展开,引导学生在德、智、体等方面开展话题;第二册把学生的视线引入周围的世界,考虑人与人、人与社会的关系;第三册主要引导学生以社会人的眼光观察客观世界;第四册以新闻报道为重点,从更广的角度向学生介绍全球的热点问题;
- (2) 重视综合技能的训练。第一册包括辨音和语音基础知识的训练,帮助学生克服可能产生的听说困难和障碍;第二、三册尝试分析听力的本质,点明要领,帮助学生掌握听力技巧;第四册进入新闻听力训练阶段,培养学生对具有相当长度和难度的有声信息的理解、记录和记忆的能力;
- (3) 本教程题材广泛,与学生的生活、思想紧密相关,有助于引起学生的 兴趣,激发其用英语进行口头交际的愿望;
- (4) 口语技能训练覆盖《大学英语课程教学要求》(试行)有关说的能力要求,目标具体明确,且有范例和提示,便于教师课堂操作及学生在教师的启发下进行表达;
- (5) 听说练习形式丰富多样,内容生动活泼,力求从多方面训练和提高学生的听说能力,帮助学生逐步提高自学能力。
- 2.《读写教程》共四册,每册八个单元,每单元由两部分组成:正课文A,后有生词、短语、课文注释和练习;副课文B,后有生词、短语、课文注释和练习。为使学习内容和形式生动活泼,每单元后还配有与主题相关的诗歌、名言、警句或谚语等。此外,书中还附有两套期中、期末自测题,以及Glossary。

本教程是学生学习语言知识、获取信息和提高读、写、译等能力的主要教程,因而课文多选用英美著名作家的经典名篇、权威的英文杂志文章等,富于哲理性、知识性、可读性和趣味性。选文覆盖了人文社科和理工农医等各个领域,对于培养学生的科学精神、人文素质、语言能力与文化意识很有帮助。全套四册共选文64篇,其中语言文学类占39%,社会文化类占30%,科学技术类占31%。

在练习的编排上,贯彻"三重两基"的训练原则,即重阅读、重写作、重翻译和加强词汇、语法等基础训练的原则,着重加强学生语言综合运用能力的训练,体现如下:

- (1) A、B 课文的阅读理解练习在整个单元的练习中占有较大比重, 突出了阅读理解的重要性;
- (2) 各单元的练习较系统地加强写作基本功训练,并有明确的要求: 第一 册着重进行简单句、并列句和复合句的写作训练; 第二册着重进行段

落写作训练; 第三册着重进行记叙文、描述文和应用文的写作训练; 第四册着重进行议论文和说明文等的写作训练;

- (3) 翻译也是本教程强调的一个重要教学内容,其训练内容和方式为: 第一、二册主要运用课文中学到的英语词汇、短语和句型,对汉语 短语和句子进行英译或对英语长句、难句进行汉译; 三、四册主要 进行段落、短文的英汉互译;
- (4) 词汇、短语的学习是掌握语言的基础,全套教程的总词汇量和短语数量完全符合教育部关于大学英语教学的"一般要求",训练形式多样、生动有趣,易于学生掌握和运用;
- (5) 按照大学英语教学的客观规律,我们从英语教学的实际出发,在 1~2 册的基础阶段仍保留了一些主要语法学习项目;此外,每册配有 两套用于学生巩固所学内容和检测教学情况的测试题。
- 三、教师用书的编写特点和结构

《通用大学英语》的教师用书采用新颖的"学教合一"的编写方式,便于教师使用,其特点如下:

- 1.《听说教程》的教师用书除了学生用书上的内容外,还为教师提供了 练习答案、文化背景注释及听力部分的录音文字;
- 2.《读写教程》的教师用书除了学生用书中的内容外,还为教师提供了 文化背景介绍、语言难点和重点的解释、主要语法项目解析、写作练 习讲解、练习答案和A、B课文的参考译文等;
- 3. 全套教程配有相应的录音磁带、光盘和多媒体电子课件等,既方便教师教学,也便于学生自学。

四、适用对象、学习对策和目标

《通用大学英语》既适合大学非英语专业基础阶段的教学,也适合具有一定基础的其他英语学习者自学。

全套教程分为《听说教程》和《读写教程》两个系列各四册。《听说教程》可一个学时完成一篇课文,其中每篇课文的前两部分在课堂内完成,后两部分由学生在课外完成。《读写教程》每单元可安排4~6学时完成,也可视情况灵活掌握。

编 者 2004年8月

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Terrorism — Before and After

TEXT A

One year after the terrorist attacks in the United States, the people of New York City remembered September 11th, 2001 in services held throughout the city. Thousands of lives and the World Trade Center's twin towers were gone, but amazingly the spirit of the city had survived. But could life there ever be the same again? Most agree that the terrorist threat has changed life in New York City, and the United States, forever.

NEW YORK - A TALE OF TWO CITIES1



1. World Trade Center

The World Trade Center was a "United Nations of Commerce" along the Hudson River. The towers of the World Trade Center were 405 meters high, and each had 110 floors. Together the two towers had 48,600 windows. Three of the 102 elevators in each tower could take you from the first to the 110th floor in one minute. Besides, there were international banks, government offices, transportation companies, restaurants and import and export businesses inside the twin tower.

An outline of the World Trade Center:

Height



1.329 feet/405 meters

Floors

110 floors, each covered one acre

Workers/Visitors

50,000 offices workers and 90,000 visitors daily

When built & cost

Built between 1966 and 1973 at a cost of \$700 million

2. September 11th Attack

7:59 a.m.: American Airlines Flight 11 takes off from Logan bound for Los Angeles. With 92 people on board, it is not even half full.

8:01 a.m.: United Airlines Flight 93 takes off from Newark International Airport bound for San Francisco with 45 passengers and crew.

8:10 a.m.: American Airlines Flight 77 leaves Washington Dulles Airport, heading to Los Angeles with 64 people on board.

8:14 a.m.: United Airlines Flight 175 takes off from Logan International Airport, also heading to Los Angeles with 65 passengers and crew.

Within 20 minutes, four planes are in the sky, departing from three different airports. Though passengers expected a routine cross-country journey, each plane had at least four or five hijackers on board.

8:28 a.m.: American Airlines Flight 11 — the Trip Atta had been training for — makes an unexpected hard left turn, heading not toward Los Angeles, but over New York.

The transponder, which normally allows controllers to identify the plane, disappears.

"Atta knows enough to turn it off," says ABCNEWS' Lisa Stark: "Now it's just a blip on their radar screen."

According to authorities, Atta and his team, armed with knives and box cutters, have taken over the plane. A pilot leaves his radio microphone open. "That pilot was desperately trying to get word out that something was very, very wrong," says Stark.

Within moments, air traffic controllers notice something is very wrong with United Flight 175. Instead of going west to California, it takes a U-turn over New Jersey and heads to Manhattan's World Trade Center.

"As it was dawning on the Air traffic controllers, it was too late to really do anything about." Says Stark. "They were just starting to realize ... a second jumbo jet is heading to Manhattan."

But, says ABCNEWS' John Miller, "There doesn't seem to have been alarm bells going off, traffic controllers getting on with law enforcement or the military. There's a gap there that will have to be investigated, but it's very doubtful you could have done anything anyway."

8:45 a.m.: Flight 11 slams into the North Tower of the World Trade Center, hitting at about the 100th floor of the 110-story building.

9:03 a.m.: Eighteen minutes later, United Airlines Flight 175 crashes into the South Tower at about the 90th Floor.

9:30 a.m.: Someone aboard United Airlines Flight 93 from Newark to San Francisco tells controllers the pilot wants to change their flight plan.

"All they (those on board) know is that the pilot or someone in the cockpit is requesting clearance to Washington D. C.," says Stark. "I'm sure they were fearing the worst."

In the passenger cabin, the worst is happening. Hijackers have taken over. One passenger is dead, while several others use their cell phones to call loved ones.

9:43 a.m.: The horror arrives at the doorstep of the Pentagon, when American Flight 77 crashes into the west side of the nation's military intelligence headquarters.

10:00 a.m.: Flight 93 flies an erratic course, then, 80 miles southeast of Pittsburgh, crashes in the Pennsylvania woods, killing all on board. But the plane has missed its target, possibly saving thousands of lives. Some speculate the plane was headed to the White House, and that heroes aboard wrestled the plane's controls away from the hijackers.

10:09 a. m.: One World Trade Center Tower collapses.

10:16 a. m.: A portion of the Pentagon collapses.

10:30 a.m.: Another World Trade Center Tower collapses.

3. E. B. White

Elwyn Brooks White (1899–1985) was born in Mt. Vernon, New York, and educated at Cornell University. He joined the staff of the newly established *New Yorker* in 1926 and married the magazine's fiction editor, Katherine Angell; in 1929. (White was the stepfather of writer Roger Angell.) His work from the magazine, including many "casuals" and humor pieces, is collected in *Writings from The New Yorker*, 1927–1976.

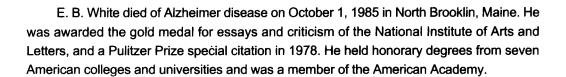
White was the leading American essayist and literary stylist of his time. White was known for his crisp, graceful, relaxed style. "No one can write a sentence like White," James Thurber once stated. White's stories ranged from satire to children's fiction. While he often wrote from the perspective of slightly ironic onlooker, he also was a sensitive spokesman for the freedom of the individual.

White is perhaps best known, though, for his children's books — *Stuart Little*, *Charlotte's Web*, and *The Trumpet of the Swan* — stories that use the characters of mice, pigs, spiders, and swans to make points about the human condition.

From 1929 White worked for *The New Yorker*'s weekly magazine, remaining in its staff for the rest of his career. White's favorite subjects were the complexities of modern society, failures of technological progress, and the pleasures of urban and rural life, war, and internationalism. He was skeptical about organized religion, and advocated a respect for nature and simple living.

In 1939 White moved to a farm in North Brooklin, Maine, and continued his writing career without the responsibilities of a regular job. He never stopped loving New York, calling it "a riddle in steel and stone," but he also prophetically saw the vulnerability of the city: "A single flight of planes no bigger than a wedge of geese can quickly end this island fantasy, burn the towers, crumble the bridges, turn the underground passages into lethal chambers, cremate millions ... Of all targets New York has a certain clear priority. In the mind of whatever perverted dreamer might loose the lightning, New York must hold a steady, irresistible charm."

In 1959, he revised *The Elements of Style*, originally written in 1918 by his former professor William Strunk Jr. "A fundamental work on the use of the English language" (*Encarta*), a well-thumbed *Elements* sits on the shelf of many an aspiring writer and college English major.



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There is one New York that is recovering well from September 11th — and another New York that probably never will

"Back to business as usual" was the rallying cry taken up by New Yorkers a year ago, after terrorists destroyed the World Trade Center. Remarkably, a sort of normality has returned to the city. The first few months after the attack were dreadful, but the new year brought new hope, tourists and businessmen started to return, the hotels and Broadway shows began to fill up. This summer, the city's economy has reportedly resumed growth after a deep recession.

Even so, it would be wrong to conclude that life has returned to normal. New York is not over the terrorist attacks yet, and may never be. It remains consumed with grief for the thousands of lives lost, remembered this week in countless services throughout the city — big and small, private and public.² The most moving was the reading of the names of each murdered individual, which came just after one minute's silence observed at 8:46 a.m. on September 11th, the exact anniversary of the first plane hitting the first tower. Can New York ever have been so quiet?

It was a revealing silence, combining both remembrance of what happened with a fear of what might be yet to come. The fear of another attack has been nagging away at New Yorkers throughout the past year, more often privately harboured than publicly acknowledged.

There was a brief moment of collective panic around Memorial Day³ in late May, after the federal government started sharing its fears that terrorists might target cities with weapons of mass destruction and the *New York Times Magazine* ran a cover story exploring what might happen if a dirty nuclear bomb went off in Times Square. But this week's ceremonies have pushed these fears once more to the forefront of people's minds.

How can New Yorkers achieve the "closure" most of them yearn for when they know that those who took their friends and colleagues could at any moment come back for them? There will be a collective sigh of relief once this anniversary week has been (hopefully) safely negotiated. But most New Yorkers will not forget that what made the city such an attractive target a year ago continues to make it the likeliest focus for any future attack in America.

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A year ago, it was routine to say that the city, along with the world of which New York is the self-proclaimed capital, had been changed forever. More recently, such claims have increasingly been questioned, even dismissed as overblown clichés. Certainly, the mass exodus from New York that some predicted a year ago did not happen. A few Manhattanites fled to suburban safety, but most stayed.

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The city's boosters claim that people were bonded more closely than ever to the Big Apple by the communal pulling together of the recovery effort. It is debatable whether this would have happened if the terrorists had struck again, or had done so more effectively than with the few anthrax-carrying letters that were received last October from still-unknown authors. For now, the lure of New York has persuaded most of its inhabitants to gamble that September 11th was a one-off.

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A second attack could dramatically alter such calculations for all Americans. But New Yorkers are understandably more nervous than most other Americans. In June, a Gallup poll showed that 19% of New Yorkers were very worried that they or a family member would become a victim of a terrorist attack in America, and another 34% were somewhat worried. This compares with 8% and 31% nationally. Only 12% of New Yorkers said they now felt safe, down from 42% before September 11th.

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A new CBS/New York Times poll suggests that fear of terrorism has eased a little in recent months. Even so, only 33% of the New Yorkers asked in the new poll expect their city to be a better place in the next 10–15 years, down from 54% a year ago. Only 57% of them want to be living in New York in four years; a year ago, the proportion was 67%.

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This pessimism partly reflects the city's economic difficulties. New York's businesses have mostly stayed put — at least, those that have been able to stay afloat. Some public money went to aid firms in the vicinity of the World Trade Center, especially small ones that catered to those who worked there — but that was not always sufficient to keep them going.⁵ All the same, much of New York's recession, which started in early 2001, is due to national and global problems that have had little to do with the terrorist attacks. Both Wall Street

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and Madison Avenue were in trouble before September 11th.

The industry that was most clearly hit by September 11th was tourism. The occupancy rate at the city's hotels plunged to a miserable 62% last September (from 89% in September 2000), and their revenues fell to \$246m (compared with \$448m). Yet the situation has been improving steadily since then.

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By June, the occupancy rate had risen to 78%, roughly the same level as the previous year, albeit with lower prices. Revenues for Broadway shows, which plunged in the last four months of 2001, were actually higher in May 2002 than in the same month last year. Air travel to New York is also rebounding, though it remains significantly lower than it was before the terrorists struck. And there has been a significant shift in the mix of tourists visiting the city, with a rising number of American travelers partially filling the gap left by typically higher-spending foreigners who are staying away, especially the Japanese.

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All the same, there is no doubt that New York (for whatever reasons) is worse off than it was this time last year. The result is that the city faces a looming budget crisis, with a likely deficit of at least \$2 billion next year that will be solved only by some combination of higher taxes and cuts in services. This year, hard budget decisions were postponed by using the September 11th attack to justify borrowing \$1.5 billion to cover the city's operating expenditures. This trick surely cannot be pulled off twice.

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Behind this lies a conclusion that sounds trite and is impossible to prove: New York has become a nicer place. New Yorkers proclaim this frequently. But the city's impressive reaction to the attack has endeared it to the rest of the American people, many of whom had come during the previous half-century to regard New York as a godforsaken un-American place.

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The ceremonial meeting of Congress in New York on September 11th symbolized this change in the city's status. Meanwhile, the public's spontaneous applause and cheers for the visiting Washington politicians showed that New Yorkers welcomed it. Ironically, through the loss of its tallest buildings, the city has resumed its traditional role, well described by E. B. White in "Here is New York", his classic 1949 essay: "It is to the nation what the white church spire is to the village — the visible symbol of aspiration and faith, the white plume saying that the way is up⁶."

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Warm-up Activity

Procedure:

- Step 1: Ask two or more students to describe something most frightening they might have experienced either in their real lives or even in their dreams, leading the other students' attention to the narrators' feelings and reactions.
- Step 2: Ask the students to divide the text into three parts and try to find out the main idea for each, leading the students to the conclusion that there is one New York that is recovering well from September 11th and another New York that probably never will.

For the teacher's reference:

- Part 1. New Yorkers seem to be recovering well from September 11th. (Para.1)
- Part 2. The terrorist threat has changed life in New York City, and the United States, forever. (Para.2–13)
- Part 3. The spirit of the city has survived. (Para.14-15)



Introductory Questions

- 1. Do you know anything about Charles Dickens and his work A Tale of Two Cities?
- 2. What is the theme of the text A Tale of Two Cities?
- 3. Read the title of Text A carefully to see if you have noticed something unusual, why?
- 4. How did you first get the tragic news of September 11th? When and where?
- 5. What was your first reaction?
- 6. How do you think New Yorkers and the rest of Americans feel about it one year later?



Language Points

- 1. take up: 1. add one's voice to sth.; join in sth.
 - Examples:
 - The whole crowd took up the cry: "Long Live the Queen."
 - take up a chorus (song, etc)

2. occupy or fill (space or time)

Examples:

- All his evenings were taken up with study.
- That big clock will have to go; it takes up too much space in the small hall.
- **2. remarkable:** worthy of attention; noticeable; extraordinary; outstanding *Examples*:
 - The sick man was near death but made remarkable improvement and got well.
 - It is quite remarkable how alike the two children are.
 - This part of the country is remarkable for its many historic houses.
- 3. the hotels and Broadway shows began to fill up: people began to stay at the hotels and recreational activities began to revive
- 4. resume: begin again, continue after stop

Examples:

- He paused, drank a glass of wine, reflected for a moment, and resumed.
- We'll stop now and resume working at 2 o'clock.
- 5. New York is not over the terrorist attacks yet, and may never be.: New York has not yet got rid of the fear of the terrorist attacks, and it may never get rid of it.
- 6. It remains consumed with grief for the thousands of lives lost, remembered this week in countless services throughout the city big and small, private and public.: This week people in New York still felt great sadness over thousands of people who had been killed, and they held a great many services in various forms big and small, private and public, throughout the city to remember them.

be consumed with (by): suffer with; be controlled by strong emotions

Examples:

- be consumed with envy
- be consumed with curiosity
- be consumed by hatred
- -- She was consumed with jealousy over the end of their affair.
- 7. The most moving was the reading of the names of each murdered individual, which came just after one minute's silence observed at 8:46 a.m. on September 11th, the exact anniversary of the first plane hitting the first tower.: At 8:46 a.m. on September 11th, the exact anniversary of the first plane hitting the first tower, the reading of the names of each individual who had been killed was the most moving, which came just after one minute's silence.
- 8. It was a revealing silence, combining both remembrance of what happened with a fear of what might be yet to come.: It was more than simply a silence, which was both for the remembrance of what happened and with a fear of what might be yet to come. combine ... with: join together

Examples:

- The child combined dirt with water to make mud cakes.
- These substances are sometimes combined with other chemicals, such as chlorine.
- 9. harbour:

1. keep (sth.) secretly in one's mind.

Examples:

- harbour a grudge
- harbour suspicions
- harbour thoughts of revenge
- 2. hide in order to protect

Examples:

- He was put into prison on a charge of harbouring a criminal.
- The suspect is accused of harbouring an escaped convict.
- 10. the federal government ... sharing its fears: fears ... experienced by the federal government
- 11. forefront: the very front; the most active or prominent position

Examples:

- She is in the forefront of scientific research on cancer.
- A new group of young popular singers is coming to the forefront.
- 12. what made the city such an attractive target a year ago continues to make it the likeliest focus for any future attack in America: a year ago, what made the city such an attractive target (of terrorist attack) may still make it the most probable city that might undergo future attack in America
- 13. A year ago, it was routine to say that the city, along with the world of which New York is the self-proclaimed capital, had been changed forever.: A year ago, it was commonly said that the city, which is a self-proclaimed capital of the world, had been changed forever.

routine: regular; normal

Examples:

- A routine medical checkup is advisable at least once a year.
- He had sufficient routine work to do through the morning.

14. claim:

n. 1. statement that sth. is true

Examples:

- The police don't believe her claim that she knows who the thief is.
- The government's claim that war was necessary was clearly mistaken.
- 2. a right to sth.

Examples:

- He has a claim on part of the money left by his dead father.
- What claim has he to the property?
- 3. a demand for sth. that one has a right to

Examples:

- Her claim to the inheritance was questioned.
- He put in a claim for compensation because he had lost his luggage in the train crash.
- v. 1. state sth. as being true

Examples:

She claims that she has a college degree.