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# 大学英语阅读教材 (3-4级)

English Reading (Band III~Band IV)

唐树成 李晖 方云军 编著  
任军 刘丽华

肖澜 审校



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责任校对:何茜  
封面设计:吕伟  
责任印制:李平

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作者 唐树成等 编著  
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# 前 言

2000年修订的《大学英语教学大纲》明确规定“培养学生具有较强的阅读能力和一定的听、说、写、译能力”，把培养阅读技能定为大学英语教学的重点，并且提出了较高的要求。这是基于非英语专业的学生在毕业之后的实际工作需要而定的。他们在今后的工作中更多地是要通过准确阅读来直接获取最新信息，吸取世界各国的先进经验和先进技术。全国大学英语四级统考大纲也把阅读技能的考查放在重要位置，并占40%的分数。已推出的新题型英译汉与简答题要求学生具备精确阅读的能力，也是为了促使教师和学生更加重视阅读技能。因此，抓好阅读教学，培养学生分析、推断、综合的阅读理解能力是十分重要的。

要抓好阅读，就需要有不同层次、不同题材和内容丰富、生动有趣的阅读教材。为此我们根据多年的教学经验和目前学生的现状编写了这套《大学英语阅读教材》(1-4级)，供非英语专业一、二年级本科生以及大专生和准备参加大学英语四级统考的各类考生使用。

本书分为(1-2级)与(3-4级)共两个分册。每个分册各有40个单元，两个分册共计80个单元，使用四个学期。每单元由课文、阅读理解题(10个)、英译汉翻译题(5个)、生词表、短语表及注释几个部分组成。书后附有参考译文及答案，便于学生自我检测。

本书所选课文题材广泛，涉及社会、历史、地理、经济、科普、人物、故事、体育及乡土人情等方面。语言生动有趣，可读性强。

本书由四川大学外语学院几位长期从事大学英语教学的教师编写。肖澜教授担任主审并对全书提出了很多宝贵的意见，对此，我们表示衷心的感谢！

编 者

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# Band III



# Unit 1

## No Story

1. I was doing work on a newspaper.
2. One day Tripp came in and leaned on my table. Tripp was something in the mechanical department. He was about twenty-five and looked forty. Half of his face was covered with short, curly red whiskers that looked like a doormat. He was pale and unhealthy and miserable and was always borrowing sums of money from twenty-five cents to a dollar. One dollar was his limit. When he leaned on my table he held one hand with the other to keep both from shaking Whisky.
3. "Well, Tripp," said I, looking up at him rather impatiently, "how goes it?" he was looking more miserable than I had ever seen him.
4. "Have you got a dollar?" asked Tripp looking at me with his dog-like eyes.
5. That day I had managed to get five dollars for my Sunday story. "I have," said I; and again I said, "I have," more loudly, "and four besides. And I had hard work getting them. And I need them all."
6. "I don't want to borrow any," said Tripp, "I thought you'd like to get a good story. I've got a really fine one for you. It'll probably cost you a dollar or two to get the stuff. I don't want anything out of it myself."
7. "What is the story?" I asked with an editorial air.
8. "It's a girl. A beauty. She has lived all her life on Long Island and never saw New York City before. I ran against her on Thirty-fourth Street. She stopped me on the street and asked me where she could find George Brown. Asked me where she could find George Brown in New York City! What do you think of that?! I talked to her. It's like this. Some years ago George set off for New York to make his fortune. He did not reappear. Now there's a young farmer named Dodd She's going to marry next week. But Ada — her name's Ada Lowery — couldn't forget George, so this morning she saddled a horse and rode eight miles to the railway station to catch the 6.45 a. m. train. She came to the city to look for George. She must have thought the first person she inquired of would tell her where her George was! You ought to see her! What could I do? She had paid her last cent for her railroad ticket. I couldn't leave her in the street, could I? I took her to a boarding-house. She has to pay a dollar to the landlady. That's the price per day."
9. "That's no story," said I. "Every ferry-boat brings or takes away girls from Long Island."
10. Tripp looked disappointed. "Can't you see what an amazing story it would make? You ought to get fifteen dollars for it. And it'll cost you only four, so you'll make a profit of eleven dollars."
11. "How will it cost me four dollars?" I asked suspiciously.



12. "One dollar to the landlady and two dollars to pay the girl's fare back home."
13. "And the fourth?" I inquired.
14. "One dollar to me," said Tripp. "Don't you see," he insisted, "that the girl has got to get back home today?"
15. And then I began to feel what is known as the sense of duty. In a kind of cold anger I put on my coat and hat. But I swore to myself that Tripp would not get the dollar.
16. Tripp took me in a street-car to the boarding-house. I paid the fares.
17. In a dim parlour a girl sat crying quietly and eating candy out of a paper bag. She was a real beauty. Crying only made her eyes brighter.
18. "My friend, Mr. Chalmers. He is a reporter," said Tripp "and he will tell you, miss Lowery, what's best to do."
19. I felt ashamed of being introduced as Tripp's friend in the presence of such beauty. "Why — er — Miss Lowery," I began feeling terribly awkward, "will you tell me the circumstances of the case?"
20. "Oh," said Miss Lowery, "there aren't any circumstances really. You see, everything is fixed for me to marry Hiram Dodd next Thursday. He's got one of the best farms on the Island. But last night I got to thinking about G — George — "
21. Down went the golden head upon her hands. What a storm of tears! By and by she took another candy and went on.
22. "You see, I can't help it. George and I loved each other since we were children. Four years ago he went to the city. He said he was going to be a policeman or a railroad president or something. And then he was coming back for me. But I never heard from him any more. And I — I — liked him."
23. Down went the head again.
24. "Now, Miss Lowery," broke in Tripp, "you like this young man, Dodd, don't you? He's all right, and good to you, isn't he?"
25. "Of course I like him. And of course he's good to me. He's promised me an automobile and a motor-boat. But somehow I couldn't help thinking about George. Something must have happened to him or he would have written. On the day he left, he got a hammer and a chisel and cut a cent into two pieces. I took one piece and he took the other, and we promised to be true to each other and always keep the pieces till we saw each other again. I've got mine at home. I guess I was silly to come here. I never realized what a big place it is."
26. Tripp broke in with an awkward little laugh. "Oh, the boys from the country forget a lot when they come to the city. He may have met another girl or something. You go back home, and you'll be all right."
27. In the end we persuaded Miss Lowery to go back home. The three of us then hurried to the ferry, and there I found the price of the ticket to be but a dollar and eighty cents. I bought one, and a red, red rose with the twenty cents for Miss Lowery. We saw her aboard her ferry-boat and stood watching her wave her handkerchief at us until it was a tiny white patch. And then Tripp and

I faced each other.

28. "Can't you get a story out of it?" he asked. "Some sort of a story?"

29. "Not a line," said I.

30. "I'm sorry," he said quietly. There was disappointment in his tone. Tripp unbuttoned his shabby coat to reach for something that had once been a handkerchief. As he did so I caught sight of something shining on his cheap watch-chain. I stretched out my hand for it and seized it curiously. It was the half of a silver cent that had been cut in halves with a chisel.

31. "What?!" I exclaimed looking at him in amazement.

32. "Oh yes," he replied, "George Brown, alias Tripp. What's the use?"

33. I produced a dollar from my pocket and unhesitatingly laid it in his hand.

### Multiple Choices

1. Why did Tripp come to the author one day?
  - A) To borrow money from him.
  - B) To make friends with him.
  - C) To seek employment.
  - D) To provide him a good story.
2. The young girl came to New York because \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) she was fond of the life in big city
  - B) she escaped her wedding
  - C) she tried to seek employment
  - D) she wanted to find her former lover
3. George Brown was probably a \_\_\_\_\_ in New York.
  - A) policeman
  - B) reporter
  - C) worker
  - D) railroad president
4. The author followed Tripp to the boarding-house because \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) he liked the beautiful girl
  - B) he knew the girl
  - C) he wanted to help the girl
  - D) he knew the landlady
5. "I began feeling terribly awkward..." (Par. 19) Here "terribly" can be replaced by \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) frighteningly
  - B) very
  - C) inevitably
  - D) hardly
6. What had happened to Ada Lowery?
  - A) She didn't find a satisfactory job.
  - B) She didn't recognize her previous lover.
  - C) She was cheated by the landlady.
  - D) Her fiancé (未婚夫) abandoned her.
7. According to this passage, which of the following statements is NOT true?
  - A) Tripp once hurt Lowery.
  - B) Dodd hated Tripp very much.
  - C) Tripp no longer loved Lowery.
  - D) Dodd was the only man Lowery loved.
8. The half of a silver cent on Tripp's watch-chain proved that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) he was a farmer
  - B) he was a man who always made jokes
  - C) he was a liar
  - D) he was the man the girl searched for
9. At the end of the story, the author \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) gave a dollar to Tripp
  - B) felt sympathy for Tripp
  - C) was moved a lot by the story
  - D) all of the above
10. We may infer from this story that \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) Tripp was a good but an unfortunate guy
- ✓ B) the author never changed his attitude toward Tripp
- C) Lowery love Dodd because of his fortune
- D) Tripp would come back to Lowery someday

### Translation

1. When he leaned on my table he held one hand with the other to keep both from shaking Whisky. (Par. 2, Lines 5-6)
2. She must have thought the first person she inquired of would tell her where her George was! (Par. 8, Lines 8-9)
3. I felt ashamed of being introduced as Tripp's friend in the presence of such beauty. (Par. 19, Line 1)
4. I took one piece and he took the other, and we promised to be true to each other and always keep the pieces till we saw each other again. (Par. 25, Lines 4-5)
5. The three of us then hurried to the ferry, and there I found the price of the ticket to be but a dollar and eighty cents. (Par. 27, Lines 1-2)

### New Words

- mechanical /mɪkænikəl/ *a.* 机械的
- whisker /ˈwɪskə/ *n.* 腮须
- curly /ˈkɜːli/ *a.* 卷曲的
- doormat /ˈdɔːmət/ *n.* 门前的擦鞋小垫
- stuff /stʌf/ *n.* 素材, 原料
- editorial /ˌedɪtəˈriəl/ *n.* 编辑的, 编者的
- air /eə/ *n.* 气质, 神态
- saddle /ˈsæd/ *v.* 给(马)等装鞍
- boarding-house /ˈbɔːdɪŋ ˌhaʊs/ *n.* 供膳宿的私人住房
- landlady /ˈlændlɛdi/ *n.* (旅馆等的)女老板, 女房东
- ferry-boat /ˈferi,bəʊt/ *n.* 渡船
- suspiciously /səˈspɪʃəsli/ *ad.* 怀疑地
- fare /feə/ *n.* 费用
- swear /sweə/ *v.* 发誓
- dim /dɪm/ *n.* 昏暗的, 模糊的
- parlour /ˈpɑːlə/ *n.* 营业室
- candy /ˈkændi/ *n.* 糖果
- automobile /ˈɔːtəməbiːl/ *n.* [美] 汽车
- chisel /ˈtʃɪzəl/ *n.* 凿子
- persuade /pəˈsweɪd/ *v.* 劝说
- aboard /əˈbɔːd/ *ad.* 上船(或飞机、车)

tiny /ˈtaɪni/a. 微小的,很少的  
 patch /pætʃ/n. 斑点  
 unbutton /ʌnˈbʌtn/v. 解开纽扣  
 shabby /ʃæbi/a. 破旧的,褴褛的  
 stretch /stretʃ/v. 伸展,伸长  
 unhesitatingly /ʌnˈhezɪtətɪŋli/adv. 毫不犹豫地,坚定地,迅速地  
 alias /ˈeɪliəs/n. 别名,化名

### Phrases and expressions

1. run against 偶然碰见
2. make one's fortune 发财,发迹
3. in the presence of 在...的面前,面临...
4. catch sight of 发现,意识到

### Notes

1. "I was doing work on a newspaper." (Par. 1) 我正忙于编报纸。
2. "How goes it?" (Par. 3) 过得怎么样? (相当于"How is life?", "How are you getting?")
3. "with an editorial air" (Par. 7) 意为 "as if he were an editor". 这里 "air" 意为 "manner; a way of acting or behaving".
4. Long Island 长岛[美国纽约州东南部](在哈得逊河口和东河以东)
5. "Down went the golden head upon her hands." (Par. 21) 和后面的 "Down went the head again." (Par. 23) 同属倒装句。"down" 和 "went" 提前是为了增强文章的表达效果。正常顺序应为 "The golden head went down upon her hands."; "The head went down again."
6. a railroad president [美] 火车站的站长

## Unit 2

### Four of the Leaders in the Computer Revolution

1. The computer is one of the most important devices ever invented to increase knowledge and spread information around the world. Four Americans who helped lead the computer revolution will be our report today on 20th century Americans.

2. In 1937 John Artnosov was a professor at Iowa State University. He believed it was possible to design an electronic device to solve difficult mathematical problems. But he was not making much progress with it. One night he took a long drive in his car. He stopped at a public drinking-place. As he sat there alone, a solution to several problems suddenly came to him. He thought of a way to store numbers electronically. He thought of a way to keep the electronic memory fresh. He also thought of a way to join tiny pieces of information electronically to solve problems. Professor Artnosov and one of his students began building an electronic computer. They used three ideas that have been part of every computer since then. Their computer had no mechanical parts. It used zeros and ones to represent information. And it had separate areas for problem solving and for memory.

3. Professor Artnosov's computer worked, but World War II interrupted his experiment; he was asked to work on projects more closely tied to the war effort. His computer remained in the university science building. His electronic computer was the first ever built. Yet it was soon forgotten. After the war, other scientists interested in computers visited him in Iowa. He told them about his device. Later, these men claimed they had invented the computer. But Professor Artnosov knew they had used his ideas. At a trial in 1971 he proved that the others had copied his work.

4. In 1990 President Bush awarded America's National Medal of Technology to John Vincent Artnosov for designing and building the first computer. He was 87 years old. Professor Artnosov died in 1998.

5. Grace Merry Hooper was one of the first computer scientists. She was also a mathematics expert, a teacher and an admiral in the United States Navy. Admiral Hooper retired from the Navy in 1986. She was 80 years old. She died in 1995. Grace Hooper joined the navy in 1943. The next year she began working with one of the first government computers. After World War II, Grace Hooper helped create the common business oriented language known as COBOL. COBOL is a programming language. A programming language is the letters, words and numbers that give

instructions to a computer. Early programming languages were difficult to understand and learn. Miss Hooper believed they should be more like everyday language so that many people could use computers. COBOL made this much easier. It was considered one of the major improvements in computer technology.

6. Grace Hooper enjoyed teaching people about computers and their uses. When the computer was new, she traveled all over the world to explain its uses and how important it would be in the future. Grace Hooper also liked a good joke. She could be very funny. Once many years ago, a small insect found its way into a huge computer. It made the computer stop. Grace Hooper found the dead insect. She placed it in the computers record book. Then she wrote that she had found the first computer bug. Since then, any problem in a computer or a computer program has been called a bug.

7. Do you know what an apple is? At one time everyone would have given the same answer: a fruit that grows on a tree. Now because of a man named Steve Jobs, some people might answer that an apple is a computer. Computer industry experts say no company has done more to make the computer easier to use than Apple. Steve Jobs is the head of the Apple Computer Company. As a child he lived about sixty kilometers south of the city of San Francisco, California. It is an area called Silicon Valley, where many electronic companies build factories. While still in high school, Steve Jobs worked at one of these companies, Huerd Packert. He attended college in the state of Oregon but left after his first year. Later he worked for a company called Atarrey. At that time Atarrey made a small computer — like device, that was used to play games. Steve Jobs wrote programs for this game machine.

8. Steve Jobs had creative ideas about computers. He began working with a friend Steven Rosneac. Mr Rosneac was an excellent electronics engineer. Mr Jobs had ideas about how to sell computers. The two young men had very little money. But they began to design and build a new computer. Steve Jobs' father permitted them to work in a room in his house. By 1976 the two were producing the first computer for their new Apple Company. Five years later Apple Computers had 334 million dollars in sales. Apple produced a machine that was easy to use. Steve Hogs invited anyone to write programs for it. The result was thousands of programs that could do useful work or play games. Apple has had serious problems in the past several years. Steve Jobs was not working for the Company. Now he again is the head of Apple. The company again is producing what experts are calling a new and very user-friendly machine.

9. The press has written and broadcast thousands of reports about Bill Gates and his company Microsoft Corporation. The reason? The Microsoft company is extremely successful. It has made Bill Gates one of the richest men in the world. Bill Gates was born in 1955 in the northwestern city of Seattle, Washington. He became interested in computers when he was only thirteen years old. He liked to write computer programs.

10. Bill Gates attended Harvard University after high school. There he began developing the computer language called BASIC. He began to believe that computer would someday be used in every office and home. He left school after one year and returned to Seattle. He established the

Microsoft Company in 1975. It had only three workers. Microsoft began by developing computer programs for established American companies like General Electric and City Bank. Soon Microsoft was working with the International Business Machines Company known as IBM.

11. In 1981 IBM began selling a personal computer that used Microsoft products as part of its operating system. By then Microsoft had 129 workers. IBM computers still use Microsoft's operating system. So do many other computer companies. Microsoft now makes hundreds of products each year. Microsoft Corporation now has thousands of branches in the world. It does thousands of millions of dollars in business each year.

12. Many computer industry experts are not happy with Bill Gates and Microsoft. They say Mr gates and his company try to control the computer industry. Smaller computer companies say it is impossible to compete against Microsoft. In recent months legal action has been brought against Mr Gates and Microsoft Corporation. The legal action claims that Microsoft uses unfair and illegal business dealings to compete against smaller companies. Mr Gates and Microsoft deny the charges. It may take several years before the courts announce a decision.

13. Hundreds of people have been important in the striking growth of the computer industry in the last half of this century. John Vincent Artnosov Grace Hooper, Steve Jobs and Bill Gates are four of the leaders in the computer revolution. They helped develop a machine that will continue to influence our future.

### Multiple Choices

1. According to this passage, the similarity shared by Prof. Artnosov's computer and any other computer is the application of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) mechanical parts
  - B) one area for problem solving
  - C) zeros and ones to represent information
  - D) letters, words and numbers to give instructions
2. "... a solution to several problems suddenly came to him." (Par. 2) This sentence means \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) he suddenly got the ideas of how to solve several problems
  - B) he was suddenly in trouble
  - C) he suddenly confronted several problems
  - D) he came to find out the solution to several problems
3. What's the importance of the trial in 1971(Par. 3)?
  - A) It sentenced the war criminals.
  - B) It proved that the first computer was designed by Prof. Artnosov.
  - C) It gave the scientists who copied the work of Prof. Artnoso a severe punishment.
  - D) It made the business dealings legal.
4. One of the main features of COBOL is that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) it is easier than the previous programming languages

- B) it is created by Grace Hooper  
 C) it consists of instructions  
 D) it is everyday language
5. We may infer from this passage that Grace Hooper \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A) is an earnest teacher  
 B) has the sense of humor  
 C) once served in the army  
 D) all of the above
6. What does "a computer bug" mean?  
 A) a lovely computer insect.  
 B) a computer expert.  
 C) a problem in a computer program.  
 D) a computer fan.
7. Which of the following is NOT true about the Apple Computer Company?  
 A) It never suffered setbacks.  
 B) Steve Jobs is its present head.  
 C) It has done a great deal to make the computer easier to use.  
 D) It had produced thousands of programs for work and games.
8. "The Microsoft company is extremely successful." (Par. 9) Here the word "extremely" may mean "\_\_\_\_\_".  
 A) completely  
 B) to a very great degree  
 C) obviously  
 D) to some extent
9. According to this passage, which of the following is NOT true?  
 A) Prof. Artnosov once worked at Iowa State University.  
 B) Grace Hooper had won the America's National Medal of Technology.  
 C) Steve Jobs lived in Silicon in his childhood.  
 D) Bill Gates had been attacked by many other computer industry experts.
10. The author holds that \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A) Bill Gates is the most intelligent computer scientist  
 B) computer industry develop faster than any other industry  
 C) computer is something which have great influence on our life  
 D) no one can excel these four leaders in the computer revolution

### Translation

1. Professor Artnosov's computer worked, but World War II interrupted his experiment; he was asked to work on projects more closely tied to the war effort. (Par. 3, Lines 1-2)
2. When the computer was new, she traveled all over the world to explain its uses and how important it would be in the future. (Par. 6, Lines 1-3)
3. Computer industry experts say no company has done more to make the computer easier to use than Apple. (Par. 7, Lines 3-4)
4. The legal action claims that Microsoft uses unfair and illegal business dealings to compete against smaller companies. (Par. 12, Lines 4-5)
5. Hundreds of people have been important in the striking growth of the computer industry in



the last half of this century. (Par. 13, Lines 1-2)

### New Words

- electronic /ɪˌlekˈtrɒnɪk/a. 电子的  
zero /ˈzɪərəʊ/n. [数] 零  
represent /ˌrɪːprɪˈzent/v. 代表  
trial /ˈtraɪəl/n. 审判  
award /əˈwɔːd/v. 授予  
admiral /ədˈmərəl/n. 海军上将  
navy /ˈnævi/n. 海军  
orient /ˈɔːriənt/v. 调整;定…的位  
insect /ˈɪnsɛkt/n. 昆虫  
bug /bʌg/n. 小虫  
user-friendly /ˌjuːzəˈfrendli/adj. 用户界面友好的  
extremely /ɪkˈstriːmli/adv. 极其,非常  
charge /tʃɑːdʒ/n. 指控  
court /kɔːt/n. 法庭  
striking /straɪkɪŋ/引人注目的,惊人的

### Phrases and Expressions

1. find one's way into (to) 设法到达;到达
2. compete against 与…竞争

### Notes

1. COBOL (计)面向商业的通用语言
2. Silicon Valley 硅谷(旧金山东南圣克拉拉谷的别称,美国主要微电子公司集中于此。硅片是微电子工业的重要材料,硅谷因此得名。)
3. Microsoft Corporation 微软公司
4. General Electric 通用电气公司
5. City Bank 花旗银行的简称,全称为 the First National City Bank of New York
6. business dealings 商业上的往来,生意