

全国高等教育自学考试指定教材(英语专业)

英语阅读(二)

附英语阅读(二)自学考试大纲

全国高等教育自学考试指导委员会办公室 组编

张奎武 主编

高等教育出版社

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出版前言

编写高等教育自学考试教材是高等教育自学考试工作的一项基本建设。经教育部同意,我们拟有计划、有步骤地组织编写一批高等教育自学考试教材,以满足社会自学和适应考试的需要。《英语阅读(二)》是为高等教育自学考试英语专业组编的一套教材中的一种。这本教材是根据专业考试计划,从造就和选拔人才的需要出发,按照教育部颁布的《英语阅读(二)自学考试大纲》的要求,结合自学考试特点,组织高等院校一些专家学者集体编写而成。

英语专业《英语阅读(二)》自学考试教材,是供个人自学、社会助学和国家考试使用的。现经组织专家审定同意予以出版发行。我们相信,随着高教自学考试教材的陆续出版,必将对我国高等教育事业的发展,保证自学考试的质量起到积极的促进作用。

编写高等教育自学考试教材是一种新的尝试,希望得到社会各方面的关怀和支持,使它在使用中不断提高和日臻完善。

全国高等教育自学考试指导委员会

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附 英语阅读(二)自学考试大纲

UNIT 1

ANIMAL EDUCATION

1 Animals perform many useful and entertaining jobs. Dogs are particularly valuable in guiding the blind, protecting property, finding lost people, and hunting criminals. Horses are used in guarding herds, carrying men in lands where there are no roads, and helping farmers work their land. Pigeons have long been used to carry messages. Wild animals from the jungles, forests and seas are very popular performers in circuses and moving pictures. People realize that, although animals may not have the same intelligence as human beings, they are smart enough to learn certain things.

2 The first thing a dog is taught is to obey. It should not take too long for him to learn commands. Simple orders, such as "sit", "lie down", "stay there", and "come here", can even be taught by a child.

3 Training a dog to be a watchdog ~~often produces~~ unexpected results. Some dogs quickly learn the difference between unwanted people and friends. This is because their masters welcome friends and invite them into their houses. However, some dogs will always attack the postman who comes to deliver letters. One explanation for this behavior is that, although the postman comes to the house often, he never enters the house. Therefore, the dog thinks the postman is someone who is not wanted, but keeps coming back any-

way.

4 Masters of dogs who attack postmen can easily show the dog that the postman is a friend and that the dog does not need to treat him as an unwanted person. A dog is quite ready to do what his master wishes. And a dog is always happy when he is praised for understanding correctly.

5 Dogs can be taught to obey commands when the sound of a word is connected with a certain act. Two important factors in teaching a dog to obey commands are: using the same word each time for the same act, and teaching only one act at a time. Dogs can learn not only to sit, lie down, come, and stay in place when their masters go away, but also to jump, carry, and fetch.

6 After a dog learns to carry an object, he can learn to bring something back from a distance. A stick can be thrown far away, and the dog enjoys running after it, and searching for it until he finds it. After a lot of practice, the dog can retrieve a stick (or other object) even when he has not seen it thrown. To teach a dog this skill, the master makes a simple trail by walking some distance in a straight line. Then he leaves the stick at the end of the trail. The dog learns to follow the straight line at first. Then, later, he learns to follow more irregular lines. Eventually, he can learn to follow an odor instead of looking for an object. With this skill he can be very useful in tracking down lost people or criminals.

7 Dogs are extremely useful as companions for blind people. When a dog has been properly trained, he will always lead his blind master in the right direction and keep him out of danger. For example, seeing-eye dogs learn never to cross a busy road when cars are coming, even if their masters command them to do so.

8 Horses are also able to learn many things. Horses that are used

for guard or police duty must learn never to be frightened of noises, traffic, and other disturbances. Racing horses are able to run much faster than other horses, but they are also quite high strung. Therefore, it is necessary for those people who train them to be very patient and understanding.

9 Pigeons have a natural instinct to return home, even if they are very far away and the trip is hard or dangerous. Men utilize this homing instinct to send messages on small pieces of paper which are fastened to the pigeons' backs or legs. In war time, pigeons have been known to fly as fast as 75 miles an hour and to cover distances of 500 to 600 miles. These homing pigeons begin their training when they are about four weeks old. After a few weeks they can begin flying and carrying messages. If all goes well, their flying career lasts about four years.

10 Animals can learn to do many things that, while not necessarily useful, are very amusing to watch. In circuses, animals are taught to do the tricks that are most compatible to their physical and ~~tempera-~~mental make-up. Lions and tigers can be taught to leap and spring gracefully when told to do so, or to stay in place on command. Elephants learn to walk in line, to stand on their hind legs, to lie on their sides, and to stand on their heads. They can also learn to dance.

11 Another trainer had an elephant and a tiger. After many weeks of living in the same cage, the two animals became accustomed to each other. Then the tiger was taught to jump on the elephant's back. Both animals became so interested in the act (as well as the praise and food they received after the act) that they forgot they were natural enemies. Later a lion was added to the act. This also took a lot of patient training. However, when the three animals grew

accustomed to each other they made a most successful circus act.

12 The moving pictures and television can use trained animals too. Some animals, such as skunks and foxes, are easy to film. All you have to do is to make a trail in front of the camera by dragging something that smells good to the animals over the ground. Big animals, such as lions and tigers, can be photographed as they bound happily back to their families and dinner. If a movie actor is nearby, the well-trained animal will pay no attention to him. However, the audience may imagine that the actor escaped a terrible death by the skin of his teeth.

GLOSSARY

behavior [bi'heivjə] *n.* way of acting 行为

bound [baund] *v.* leap 跳跃

cage [keidʒ] *n.* a place where birds or animals are kept 笼子

camera ['kæməɹə] *n.* an instrument to take pictures 照相机

companion [kəm'pænjən] *n.* a person or animal that spends time with another 同伴, 伙伴

✓ compatible [kəm'pætəbl] *a.* suitable 适合的

cover ['kʌvə] *vt.* travel a certain distance 行过(路程)

criminal ['kriminl] *n.* a man who has broken the law 罪犯, 犯人

deliver [di'livə] *v.* hand over 传递

✓ disturbance [dis'tɜ:bəns] *n.* things that distract one's mind 打扰, 干扰

✓ entertaining [ˌentə'teiniŋ] *a.* amusing 有趣的

escape [is'keip] *v.* avoid 逃脱; 避免

factor ['fæktə] *n.* a particular side 方面

fasten ['fæsn] *v.* fix firmly 扎牢, 系牢

✓ hind [haind] *a.* of the back part 后面的, 在后的

- ✓instinct [in'stɪŋkt] *n.* tendency without training 天性
 intelligence [in'telɪdʒəns] *n.* ability to learn and understand 智力
 jungle ['dʒʌŋɡl] *n.* a tropical forest too thick to walk through easily
 丛林
- ✓odor ['əʊdə] *n.* smell 气味
 particularly [pə'tɪkjʊləli] *ad.* especially 尤其
 perform [pə'fɔ:m] *v.* do 从事; 做
 photograph ['fəʊtəɡrɑ:f] *v.* take pictures (为...)拍照
 physical ['fɪzɪkəl] *a.* of or concerning the body 身体的
 popular ['pɒpjulə] *a.* well liked 受欢迎的
 property ['prɒpəti] *n.* things that are owned 财产
- ✓retrieve [rɪ'tri:v] *v.* bring back 取回, 带回
 spring [sprɪŋ] *vi.* jump suddenly from the ground 跳, 跃
- ✓temperamental [ˌtempərə'mentl] *a.* of nature 性情的
 track [træk] (down) *v.* find after search 追踪; 追捕
 traffic ['træfɪk] *n.* the movement of people or cars, trucks, etc. 交通
- ✓trail [treɪl] *n.* path across rough country 小道; 路径
 unexpected [ˌʌnɪks'pektɪd] *a.* never thought to happen 想不到的
- ✓utilize ['ju:taɪz] *v.* make use of 利用
 circus ['sɜ:kəs] *n.* 马戏团

NOTES

1. Horses are used in guarding herds, carrying men in lands where there are no roads, and helping farmers work their land. ——马用来保护畜群, 在无路的地带驮人, 还可以帮农民种地。work 原意为“工作”, 此处指耕种。
2. After a lot of practice, the dog can retrieve a stick (or other object) even when he has not seen it thrown. ——经过大量训练

之后,狗即使没有看见棍子(或其它东西)被扔出去,仍可以把它找回来。

3. With this skill he can be very useful in tracking down lost people or criminals.——有了这一本领,它在寻找失踪的人或追寻罪犯方面很有用处。skill 原意为“技能”,此处转译为“本领”。
4. For example, seeing-eye dogs learn never to cross a busy road when cars are coming, even if their masters command them to do so.——例如,盲人领路狗学会在车辆快开过来时决不横跨繁忙的马路,即使主人命令它们这样做,它们也决不会的。seeing-eye dogs 意为“盲人领路狗”。这种狗犹如盲人的眼睛,给盲人引路,由此得名。
5. However, the audience may imagine that the actor escaped a terrible death by the skin of his teeth.——不过,观众可能会认为这位演员是虎口脱险,幸免惨死的。

EXERCISES

Vocabulary

1. Find single words in the article which have roughly the meanings given below (Note the numbers in the brackets. They refer to the numbers of paragraphs in the article.):

1. property (1) things that are owned

2. caravans (1) a group of persons and animals who travel from one place to another to give shows

3. behaviour (3) way of acting

4. obey (5) do what one is asked to do

5. retrieve (6) find and bring back

6. companion (7) a person or animal that spends time with another

7. utilize (9) make use of

8. spring (10) jump suddenly from the ground
 9. jungle (11) a place where birds or animals are kept
 10. drag (12) pulling

II. Match the words given under A with the meanings given under B:

- | A | B |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. jungle | a. a man who has broken the law |
| 2. unexpected | b. fix firmly |
| 3. popular | c. of the back part |
| 4. attack | d. amusing • |
| 5. ready | e. never thought to happen |
| 6. retrieve | f. bring back |
| 7. criminal | g. well liked |
| 8. fasten | h. a tropical forest too thick to walk through easily |
| 9. entertaining | i. willing |
| 10. hind | j. make violent attempt to hurt, defeat |

III. Each of the following sentences is taken from the article. Choose a, b, c, or d that has the closest meaning to the underlined word or phrase:

- Animals perform many useful and entertaining jobs.
 - carry on
 - give show in a play
 - ☒ do
 - succeed in
- People realize that, although animals may not have the same intelligence as human beings, they are smart enough to learn certain things.
 - quality
 - information gathered
 - ☒ ability to learn and understand

d. character

3. However, some dogs will always attack the postman who comes to deliver letters.

a. hand in

☒ b. hand over

c. set free

d. collect

4. Eventually, he can learn to follow an odor instead of looking for an object.

a. route

b. taste

c. flavour

☒ d. smell

5. With this skill he can be very useful in tracking down lost people or criminals.

☒ a. finding after searching

b. catching sight of

c. seizing

d. taking care of

6. Horses that are used for guard or police duty must learn never to be frightened of noises, traffic and other disturbances.

☒ a. things that distract one's mind

b. disasters

c. things that draw attention

d. fears

7. Pigeons have a natural instinct to return home, even if they are far away and the trip is hard or dangerous.

☒ a. tendency without training

b. habit

c. manner

d. consciousness

8. In circuses, animals are taught to do the tricks that are most compatible to their physical and temperamental make-up.

a. favourable

☒ b. suitable

c. contradictory

d. contrary

☒ 9. After many weeks of living in the same cage, the two animals became accustomed to each other.

a. tired

b. indifferent