

高等专科学校公共英语协作教材

ENGLISH FOR COLLEGE
STUDENTS

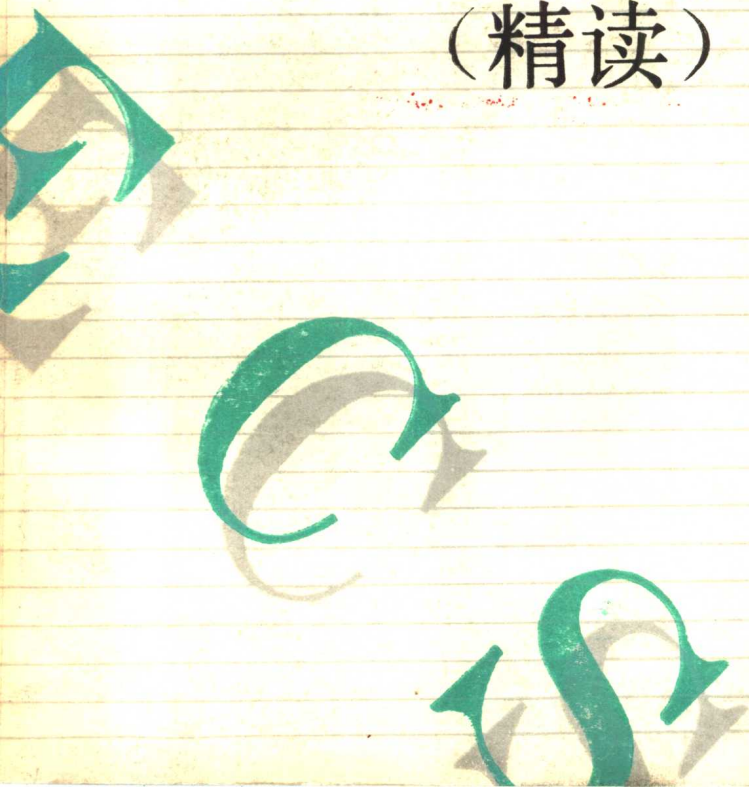
Intensive Reading

专科英语

瞿德元 主编

四川科学技术出版社

(精读)



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前 言

本教材系参考高等学校文理科本科用《大学英语教学大纲》中规定的基础阶段1~3级的具体要求, 由我国西南和西北地区的部份高等院校教师(其中主要是高等专科学校)协作编写的, 供高等专科学校非英语专业2~4个学期使用。根据具体情况, 共可安排课堂教学170~220学时。

本教材根据上述两地区高等专科学校学生入学时的英语水平现状和入学后英语学时不够多的实际出发, 进一步训练学生的英语基本技能, 以培养阅读能力为主, 适当兼顾其他方面的技能学习。全书共分三册, 即《精读》一册, 《语法练习》一册, 《泛读》一册。

《精读》共选文32篇, 由浅入深, 体裁多样, 有科普文章、科学家小传、故事、风土人情、历史地理、书信、对话等。课文皆选自英美作者手笔(个别有删节修改), 语言纯正, 文字流畅。每一课文之后, 有该课的生词和词组(Words and Expressions)、注解(Notes to the Text)和练习(Exercises)。考虑到目前专科学校教学的实际情况, 词与词组只用了汉语释义, 词义以课文中意义为主, 音标皆采用国际音标, 以上海人民出版社《新英汉词典》为主要依据。为使学生预习和复习方便, 对课文作了注解。注解的重点放在长难句和成语使用上, 有的长难句只注了译文, 这种句子往往是语法结构不难, 有时只是理解困难, 有时是理解不一定困难, 而要准确通顺地译成汉语却有一定的难度。练习是为了让学生加深对课文的理解, 巩固学到的语法

和词汇，使学生去熟读课文，通过这些练习进一步提高学生的阅读能力和其他方面的技能。《精读》是本课程教学的重点，课堂教学安排100~120学时。鉴于学生入学时的英语水平有差别，各校可根据具体情况作前后取舍。

《语法练习》并非按照传统的语法系统编写。这是考虑到学生在入学前对基本语法已作过反复的学习，但运用却普遍不够好。如果入学后再按系统逐一地讲解语法规则，势必产生厌倦情绪，所以，本语法练习是以巩固基本语法并适当加深拓宽为目的，先提出常容易混用和错用的语法现象，加以解析、举例，然后设计若干练习题，以提高学生对语法的运用能力。语法的重点还是突出非谓语动词、时态和语态，安排课堂教学40~60学时。

《泛读》选文与《精读》课文体裁类似，深度略低于《精读》课文。目的在于培养学生的阅读兴趣和提高其阅读能力。安排课堂教学30~40学时。

本教材是在急需的情况下，集体协作编写的。在编审过程中，从初审到定稿，采取了分别执笔，集体互审的办法。因此，各册的编者都是该册的审者；各册的副主编和副主审，除负担组织该册的编审工作外，也是该册的编者。尽管如此，限于我们的水平和经验，加之时间仓促，书中缺点和错误在所难免，恳请有关专家、学者及广大师生批评指正。

本书初审时，邓刚老师提出过有益意见，在此致谢。

编 者

1989年9月

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Lesson one

Text

The Beautiful Black Princess

Once upon a time, in a faraway land, there lived a beautiful black Princess.

The Princess lived in a palace of black glass, and golden lions watched over her.

The Princess was as dark as night, and as beautiful as the evening star. The Princes of seven countries wanted to marry her. But the beautiful black Princess was as clever as she was beautiful. She said she would not marry anyone who could not answer three hard questions.

Many fine Princes rode up to the palace of black glass trying to answer the three questions. And many fine Princes rode sadly home again. The beautiful black Princess stood near her golden lions and smiled to herself.

Then one day a poor young man came by. He had no horse and no money.

"What do you want with me?" the Princess asked.

"I have heard of your three questions," said the young man.

"My questions are for Princes," said the Princess. "But if you think you are clever enough to answer them, I might let you try. Do you want to try?"

"Maybe I do, and maybe I don't," the young man said, "Maybe I just came by to see your golden lions."

The young man sat down and began to sing. The golden lions came nearer and nearer to him. At last they lay down next to him.

"Well," said the black Princess, "you have seen my golden lions. Are you going now?"

"Maybe I am, and maybe I am not," said the young man. "Maybe I just came by to see your black glass palace."

"Then look at it," said the Princess.

The poor young man walked through the rooms of the palace, with the Princess and the lions behind him.

When he had seen all of the palace, the young man sat down on the black glass steps outside and began to sing some more.

"Well," said the black Princess, "Now you have seen my palace. Are you going?"

"Maybe I am, and maybe I am not," the young

man said, "Let me hear the three questions. I'll see if I can answer them."

"One at a time," said the Princess. "The first question is: What is the smallest thing in the world?"

"Oh, that's easy." said the young man.

He put his hand on the head of one of the lions and caught a flea. He held his hand out and showed it to the Princess "Here it is." he said.

"A flea!" laughed the beautiful black Princess. "Seven fine Princes have given the same answer. You are no different from all the others."

"Wait," said the young man. "I did not say that this flea that you see was the smallest thing in the world. The smallest thing in the world is the flea you cannot see. The flea is on the back of a flea that is on the back of a flea that is on the back of a flea that is on the back of the flea that you see in my hand."

The Princess walked up and down outside her palace of black glass.

"Well," she said at last, "that was a very clever answer."

"What's your second question?" asked the young man.

"The second question is this," said the Princess. "What is the biggest thing in the world?"

"That is easy, too," said the young man. He held out his hand. "The biggest thing in the world is in my hand."

"In your hand!" said the Princess. "But there is nothing in your hand. Nothing at all!"

The young man smiled. "Not so," he said. "There is air on my hand and air all around my hand. There is air over the whole world, so air must be the biggest thing in the world."

"Well," said the Princess, "that is a good answer. Will you try the third question now?"

"I will," said the young man.

"Tell me then," said the Princess. "What is the most beautiful thing in the world?"

The young man patted the heads of the golden lions and smiled to himself.

"That is easy," he said, "the easiest of all."

The young man picked up a looking glass, and gave it to the beautiful black Princess. She looked in the glass and saw herself.

"There is your answer", he said.

The Princess began to laugh.

"Oh, clever young man," she said, "you are the best one of all. But how can you marry me? The man I marry must be a Prince, and you are just a poor young man."

"That's easy, too," the young man said. "If

I marry you I will be a Prince, the Prince of the glass palace, the master of the golden lions."

So the poor young man won the beautiful black Princess and became her Prince. And some said that the new Prince that was even more clever than his Princess.

But not the Prince. He always said that no one could be as clever or as beautiful as the beautiful black Princess.

Words and Expressions

princess [prin'ses] *n.* 公主

faraway ['fɑ:rəwei] *a.* 遥远的

watch over 守护; 看守

lion ['laɪən] *n.* 狮子

step [step] *n.* 台阶; 步子, 步骤

flea [fli:] *n.* 跳蚤

walk up and down 走来走去, 在...走来走去

pat *v.* 拍打

pick up 捡起

looking glass = mirror 镜子

Notes to the Text

1. ...she was as clever as she was beautiful.
她既美丽又聪明。

2. Many fine Princes rode up to the palace of black glass, trying to answer the three questions

许多英俊的王子都骑马到那座黑色的玻璃宫殿去，试图回答那三个问题。

ride up to 是“骑马或自行车到(去)某处”之意。如：
Every summer many pupils ride up to the tower near the Great Wall. 每年夏天，有许多学生骑车去参观长城边（附近）那座塔。

2. I'll see if I can answer them.

我到要看看我能回答它们不。

“see”在这儿是“看一看，弄明白”的意思。

4. One at a time. 一个一个地回答。

Don't hurry! Eat one at a time.

别急！一个一个地吃。

5. That flea is on the back of a flea that is on the back of a flea that is on the back of the flea that you see in my hand.

那个跳蚤在你能看见的我手里的那个跳蚤的背上的某个跳蚤的背上的某个跳蚤的背上。

6. “Not so”

“并不如你所说。”是省略句。

7. try sth. 尝试，试探

try doing sth.

试验；试用或试做以观其结果，尝试做某事

try to do sth. 尽力，尽力而为

Exercises

I. The following statements are about the text.
Decide whether they are true or false.

1. Some people said that no one could be as clever as the beautiful black Princess.
2. The smallest thing in the world was on the back of the flea which was in the young man's hand.
3. "So the poor young man won the beautiful black Princess" means "He defeated the Princess."
4. At first the Princess thought the young man was just as foolish as the seven fine Princes.
5. The Princess got pleased that the boy thought her to be the most beautiful in the world.
6. The new Prince said he was not as clever as the Princess.

II. Answer the following questions:

1. Do you think the poor young man liked the Princess because of her beauty or wealth? Why?
2. Can you tell something about how a Princess or Prince live?
3. Do you think it's possible for a beautiful Princess to marry a poor man who has neither money nor a horse? Why(not)?