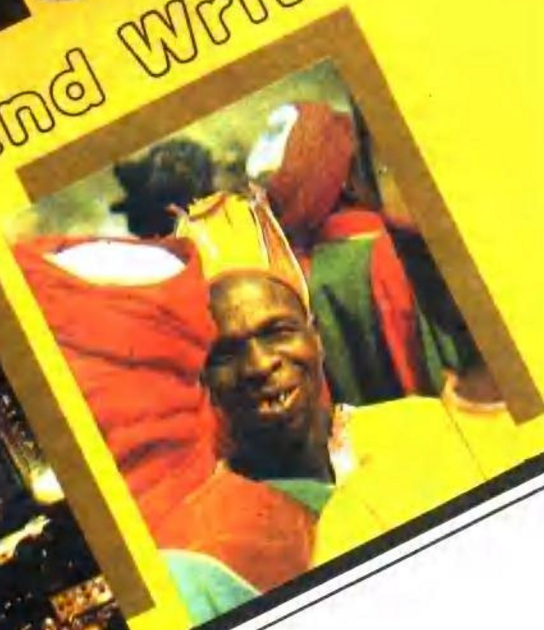


Level 3

Modern English

Reading and Writing



现代英语 (第二版) 第三级
读与写
《现代英语》修订组

M Macmillan China HEP

MODERN ENGLISH

for University Students

现代英语

(第2版)

GF97/29
Reading and Writing

读 与 写

Student's Book

Level 3

Modern English Revising Team



〔京〕 112 号

现代英语读与写

(第2版)

第3级

《现代英语》修订组

中国高等教育出版社

出版

英国麦克米伦出版公司

新华书店总店北京科技发行所发行
高等教育出版社激光照排技术部照排
高等教育出版社印刷厂印装

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开本 787×1092 1/16 印张 11.25 字数 280 000

1991 年 6 月第 2 版 1992 年 4 月第 2 次印刷

印数 11 307—16 918

ISBN7-04-002709-7/H·371

定价 4.10 元

再 版 前 言

《现代英语》(Modern English)系国家教委批准,由中国高等教育出版社与英国麦克米伦出版公司合作编写出版的英语教材,主要供我国高等院校非英语专业的各科学学生学习英语使用。这是我国首次与国外合作编写出版大学教材,是英语国家的语言优势与国内大学英语教学经验的结合。这一中外文化交流项目,为国内外语言界、教育界和新闻界所瞩目。

《现代英语》的编写,以现行的《大学英语教学大纲》为指导原则,从国内大学英语教学情况出发,解放思想,在肯定和继承国内大学英语教学行之有效的经验的同时,积极借鉴和引进国外语言学和语言教学的新思想、新理论和新方法。这主要表现在三个方面:

第一, 阅读教学从 TALO 向 TAVI 转变

国外语言界提出了阅读教学中的两个重要概念,即文章作为语言实体(Text as Linguistic Object,简称TALO)与文章作为传递信息的载体(Text as Vehicle of Information,简称TAVI)。前者表示,阅读材料是用以教授语言知识(语音、词汇、语法等)的形式,后者则表示,阅读材料是传递信息的媒介。因此,在教学实践中,如何处理这两者的关系,便直接影响着教学方法、教学目的和教学效果。在相当长的一个时期内,由于多方面的局限,国内的阅读教学在很大程度上停留在TALO的水平上,体现为以词汇、语法为主线,教师为中心,过多强调了语言知识的传授,却往往忽略了阅读文章所表达的信息。我国英语教学中,甚至在学生毕业后的工作实践中,阅读速度慢、阅读能力较弱这一普遍现象,是与上述的传统教学思想和方法有不可分隔的关系的。须知,人类当前所处的时代是“信息爆炸”的高科技时代,正是在这种形势下,产生了阅读教学从TALO向TAVI转变的观念。这就要求在教学中,不仅要重视语言形式,而且要十分重视通过语言形式所表达出的信息,进而培养学生通过阅读课文获取信息和表达信息的能力。《现代英语》的编写,正是基于英语阅读教学的这一变革,在选材上,打破以语法为纲的框框,选用多题材、多体裁的真实的(authentic)语言材料,使课文内容知识性强,信息量丰富,从而为学生接触真实的语言材料,获取信息创造良好的条件。

第二, 语言操练从 Usage 向 Use 转变

英国语言学家H.G.Widdowson区别了Usage和Use两个不同的概念,指出Usage是语言形式的一个成分,即“用法”,而Use则是语言交际体系中的一个成分,即“使用”。任何一种语言形式都具有这两种属性,也就是说,用作解释某一语言现象的例证和其自身在交际场合中的使用。语言教学应从Usage向Use转变。这一理论反映在教材中,突出的一点就是练习的设计。迄今国内的传统英语教材中,在练习设计上,较为注重语法。因此,对语言形式进行的操练,往往是孤立的,或缺乏语境的,多停留在Usage的水平上,不是对课文句子的简单模仿,便是机械性的套用,因而显得呆板单调,难以达到巩固、掌握和使用的目的。《现代英语》的编写,发挥中外专家、教师的各自优势,充分合作,在练习设计上既着眼于语言形式,又注重语言形式的具体运用,精心设计和安排了形式活泼的练习。例如课前阅读(Before Reading),在国内现行大学英语教材中,则是首次使用。即使是对一些传统语法项目的练习设计,也力求激发学生的兴趣和动力。使用过《现代英语》的师生几乎都有一个深刻感觉,认为这套教材的练习独具风格,不再是课文的陪衬,在

某种程度上可以说是课文内涵的延伸,课文与练习两者自然而紧密地融为一体,相辅相成。

第三,运用语言交际的原则,培养学生的交际的能力

语言是交际的工具,语言教学的最终目的是培养学生能以书面的或口头的方式进行交际的能力。现行的文理科和理工科两个《大纲》都明确地将这一原则定为教学宗旨。《现代英语》编写的指导思想植根于现代语言学对语言交际理论的研究,注重发展语言技能,大力培养学生的交际能力,即运用语言技能,获取和表达信息。同时,《现代英语》努力体现《大纲》的原则、规定和要求。在交际能力的培养方面,根据国内大学英语教学的现状,把培养学生具有“较强的阅读能力”作为首要目标,同时培养“一定的听和译的能力和初步的写和说的能力”。

《现代英语》为推广先进的教学理论和方法,推动我国大学英语教学的改革、提高教学质量,为促进国内大学英语教材的建设都起了积极的作用,并以其独特的内容和风貌受到了国内师生的喜爱。

然而,由于《现代英语》是中外首次合作编写出版的教材,难免会存在这样那样的问题,加之第一版主要采取“他编我审”的方式,因此具有较大的局限性。通过四年多的课堂实践,暴露出某些不足之处,主要是有些内容偏专偏难,超出了国内学生当前的接受能力,这突出地反映在《泛读》和《听与说》教材中,有的文章趣味性较欠缺,有的生词量过大;课序安排也不尽如人意,等等,加之配套辅助材料的编写和出版未能跟上等诸多因素,造成使用上的困难。但是,广大师生和读者对《现代英语》给予了客观的和应有的评价,认为尽管存在着若干缺陷,它仍不失为一套学习现代英语的较好教材,因而迫切希望能尽快修订,弥补存在的不足之处,使之为我国大学英语教学更好地发挥作用。

经过多方努力和两年多的准备,《现代英语》1—4级的修订工作已顺利完成。现在,第2版终于和大家见面了。这次修订总结了第1版的经验和教训,采纳了广大师生的意见,顾及中外文化的客观差异,完全立足于国内,着眼于国内大学英语教学的实际需要,由中外英语专家和教师共同参与。修订的宗旨是:注重能力的培养,体现语言共核,增强趣味性,加大信息量,力图使《现代英语》成为一套大学文、理、工各科均为适用的通用教材。具体各书的修订情况是:

《读与写》(Reading and Writing) 首先,对选材和课序分别进行了充实和调整,增加人文社科方面的一般性文章,较之第1版有了大幅度的变化。以第1、2级为例,第1级只保留了第1版的第2、3和4等3课,对第1版的第5、7和11等3课重新换了课文和练习,另外新选编了《交通灯的来历》、《手势语》、《埃米琳·潘克赫斯特(人物传记)》、《美国人》和《教育新方法》等5课,同时选入第1版第2级的《从牛到纸币》一课。第2级也仅保留了第1版的5课,即第1、2(改名为《母亲和孩子》)、3、4(改名为《土地和人口》)和12等课,对第1版的第7课更换了课文和练习,新选编了《世界上最富有的人》、《英国民族》、《记忆力:为什么我们记得…为什么我们忘记》、《地震与火山》(全新课文和练习)等4课,同时分别将第1版第3级《一个孩子眼中的世界》和第4级《空气船》两课选入。对于所保留下来的课文,在篇幅或内容上都进行了程度不同的增删和修改。如此调整和修改,不仅增强了文章的可读性和可接受性,而且使课与课之间、级与级之间的梯度更加科学合理,符合由浅入深、循序渐进的原则。其次,用计算机对生词出现率和词汇量加以严格的控制,解决了生词量过大和超纲词汇较多的问题。这一点在

《泛读》和《听与说》教材中尤为明显。最后,在练习设计上,本着继承第1版的成功之处和创新的_{原则},对每一项练习都审慎地予以考虑、改写,直至重新设计,加强了词汇(如动词短语、搭配等)和写作方面的练习,使写作练习成为有指导的写作,严格从句子水平开始,逐步过渡到段落水平上。

《泛读》(Extensive Reading) 每单元的内容主题基本上同《读与写》的相应课配合,以使词汇有一定的复现率。每单元分为三篇难易度不同的文章,力求体现区分度,每篇均配以适量的练习,其中第三篇可供练习快速阅读之用。为了使用方便,第2版的《泛读》将A、B两册合为一册。

《听与说》(Listening and Speaking) 每单元的内容原则上也配合《读与写》,听力材料的生词出现率控制在最低限度,练习形式较之第1级更加生动活泼,注意安排了信息转换性质的练习。录音语速严格按照《大纲》的规定,由英美人士朗读,为学生熟悉不同的英美发音创造条件。

需要说明的是,根据广大师生的要求,在以上各教材中的练习设计上,注意与大学英语考试(College English Test)挂钩。

《教参》(Teacher's Guide) 除提供练习答案之外,还编写了《读与写》每单元课文的简介(Introduction),并尽可能提供背景资料、语音和语言难点、语篇分析、教学建议和教学方法等多项内容,以有助于教师备课。

考虑到国内大学英语教学的实际需要,而《现代英语》基本教材一时又尚难予以满足这一情况,高等教育出版社将另行组织国内力量编写和出版相应的配套辅助教材,其中包括《教师教学参考手册》和《学生练习册》等,这样做无疑将为使用《现代英语》提供更大的方便。

尽管这次修订尽了很大努力,但由于时间仓促,仍难做到尽如人意。我们将不断进取,不断提高,有所创造,有所前进。

《现代英语》这一中外文化合作项目,得到了英国已故首相 Harold Macmillan 勋爵和中国国内有关部门各级领导的极大关怀。这里,要特别提到英国麦克米伦出版公司 Adrian Soar 先生、Terrance Creed 先生、Yiu Hei Kan 先生、Kate Garratte 女士;中国高等教育出版社社长祖振铨先生和总编辑杨陵康先生。由于他们的热情关心、大力支持和悉心指导,保证了本书编写和修订工作的顺利进行。

我们感谢所有为《现代英语》的出版而付出辛勤劳动的中外各方面的人们。

《现代英语》在编写和修订过程中,得到了许多院校、师生及其他方面人士的关心、支持和帮助。我们特别感谢北京外国语学院、东南大学、重庆大学、西安交通大学、湖北工学院、陕西机械学院、天津轻工业学院、哈尔滨建筑工程学院、南京邮电学院、中国药科大学和郑州粮食学院等院校的大力支持,并要感谢杨惠中、周献桃、赵明瑜、王保清、徐承钟、唐启金、谢叔寒和王志纯等专家和教授的通力合作。我们尤其要感谢全国大学外语教材编审委员会理工科英语教材编审组副组长韩其顺教授的热心指导。正是这些单位和个人给予《现代英语》的积极支持,无论是批评还是建议,促成了这次修订。如果说《现代英语》第2版能得以问世并有所改进的话,那么必然是与所有关心、爱护、支持这套教材的院校、单位和人士分不开的。值此新版问世之际,我们谨向他们表示衷心的感谢,并热诚希望广大读者继续对《现代英语》提出宝贵意见。

先后参加审稿会的还有：包家珍、孙桂香、李五全、周建平、柳明淮、贾莉、谭荣璋等，在此一并鸣谢。

参加本书修订工作的，英方有：Nicholas Sampson、John Owen、Deborah Veness、Patrick Goldsmith、Donald Watson；中方有：罗信群、曹根望、邹长征、李霄翔。

《现代英语》修订组

1990年4月于北京

CONTENTS

UNIT 1	A NATION OF PET LOVERS	2
UNIT 2	AN ENGLISH SPEAKING WORLD	16
UNIT 3	THE ELEPHANT	30
UNIT 4	FREEZING A HUMAN BODY	46
UNIT 5	KITES	59
UNIT 6	TUTANKHAMEN'S TREASURE	71
UNIT 7	APES AND LANGUAGE	84
UNIT 8	LIVING ON MARS	98
UNIT 9	WHAT IS LIGHT	112
UNIT 10	TIME TRAVEL	128
UNIT 11	HARRIS AND THE MAZE	142
UNIT 12	ALCOHOLISM: ILLNESS OR WEAKNESS	157



UNIT 1

BEFORE READING

1 Before reading the text , think about the following questions .

- 1 In what ways do humans use animals ?
- 2 Do you think there is any difference between the ways in which animals are treated in different countries ?
- 3 Why, do you think , do people keep pets ?
- 4 Do you think society could benefit in any way if pets were not kept?

A NATION OF PET-LOVERS

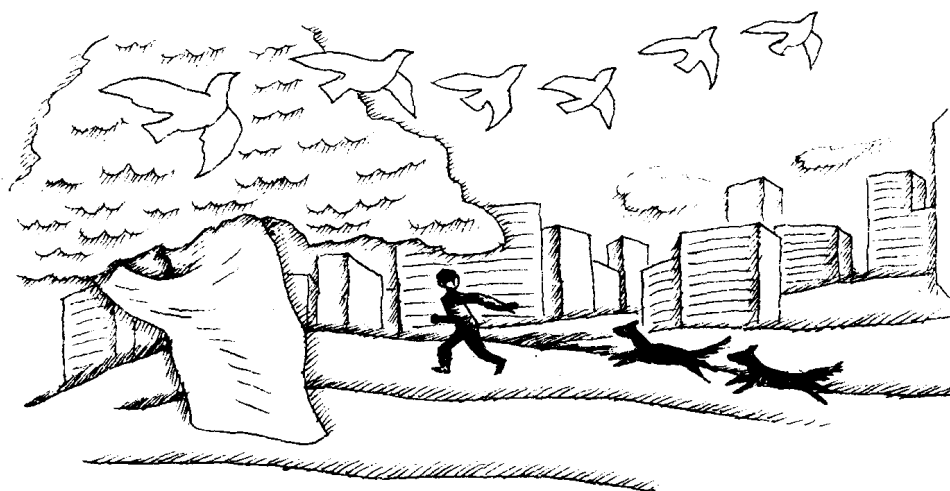
Para 1 A recent survey in the United States showed that the average family there spent more money on its pets than on its children . Although this is a shocking finding , it should not surprise anyone who has seen the many beauty shops or the quiet , well- kept areas of flowers and trees where loved pets of all varieties are laid to rest forever . It is possible that the Americans are unique in treating their little friends in this way , but what information we do have would suggest that the English , too , are perhaps a little over- generous in their attentions to the wishes , likes and dislikes of their pets .

Para 2 This can clearly be seen when we look at pet foods , which often contain more vitamins than human food or , at least , are rarely less nutritious . They certainly cost as much . Last year the British public spent two hundred million pounds on pet foods alone , to say nothing of animal-doctor 's bills and animal furniture . It is difficult not to feel that there is something wrong with this when one considers what the same amount could do for the people suffering from starvation and poverty, and it is not unusual for me to get hot under the collar when I read about a person who has left all his or her money to a dog or cat home.

Para 3 There are a variety of reasons why I , personally, find the popularity of British pets alarming. Among other things they cause physical problems. An example of this is New York where they have great difficulty getting rid of the mess that dogs leave on the streets . Many people find this funny, but in a number of large cities it is a major problem. Animals can cause disease, too. It is the threat of rabies — a disease with no cure — that has made the British Government make it very difficult for animals to enter the United Kingdom. When the Spanish Government recently destroyed a number of stray dogs as protection against the same threat, English people on holiday in Spain immediately wrote letters to the newspapers complaining about ' mass murder '.

Para 4 Another problem is the carelessness of some pet owners . Most little children want a dog or a cat , and they constantly annoy their parents until they get one . It is only when the 'sweet little thing ' has been brought home that the parents

- 30 find out how much time and money must be spent on 'Rover' or 'Bonzo'. At this point many of them try to abandon it. This brings me to my last point. Pets which are allowed to run free in the streets are not 'sweet' at all. English farmers lose hundreds of sheep a year, killed by someone's pet dog, and you must have read about children being attacked by large dogs and seriously injured.



- 35 **Para 5** You may think that I dislike all pets, but this is not true at all. I would only suggest that we should think a little more carefully about what is important in life. Failing this, people should be made to think more carefully. For example, the authorities should introduce stricter penalties for pet owners whose animals attack farm animals or children. Surely it would be a good idea, too, if we made dog
40 licences more expensive. The money raised from these licences could be used for many more important uses.

- Para 6** As far as I'm concerned, it's time we stopped being so soft about pets. I see no reason, for example, why we should get upset when animals are cut up for medical experiments. If this will lead to finding cures for serious human
45 diseases, then I say, "keep cutting".

- Para 7** We are a nation of animal-lovers. Wouldn't it be much better to be a nation of lovers of human-beings?

SKIMMING

- 2 Skim the passage again very quickly and decide which paragraphs the three headings given below are most suitable for.

Make up suitable headings for the remaining four paragraphs.

PARAGRAPH	HEADING
1	A Writer's suggestions for the control of pets
2	B Physical problems caused by pets
3	C The use of animals in medical experiments
4	D
5	E
6	F
7	G

COMPRE- HENSION

- 3 (a) Mark the following statements about the text true (T) or false (F). If you think the answer is false, give your reasons.

- | | | |
|---|--|-----|
| 1 | Most American families seem to be more concerned about their pets than their children. | T F |
| 2 | The writer thinks that old people usually leave their money to homes for pets when they die. | T F |
| 3 | New York's problems amuse the writer. | T F |
| 4 | Little children often abandon their pets. | T F |
| 5 | The writer suggests that the authorities should give pet-owners harsher punishments if their animals cause damage. | T F |
| 6 | The writer thinks we have stopped being sentimental about pets. | T F |
| 7 | The writer does not feel unhappy about experiments on animals. | T F |

- (b) Choose the most appropriate completions for each of the following statements. Some may have more than one true completion, in which case, indicate all correct completions.

- 1 The findings of the survey

- A are shocking
 - B are surprising .
 - C show that Americans dislike pets .
 - D prove that English and Americans like pets in the same way .
- 2 The examples given in the passage of how well people treat pets indicate , in the writer's opinion, that
- A human beings are very generous .
 - B people prefer animals to human beings .
 - C people ' s concern for pets is misplaced .
 - D people suffering from starvation are less important than those suffering from poverty .
- 3 The writer
- A feels the same ways about pets as the Americans .
 - B dislikes pets .
 - C feels it is wrong to be more concerned about pets than humans .
 - D thinks that stray dogs should be destroyed to prevent the spread of rabies .
- 4 The writer disapproves of
- A using animals for medical experiments .
 - B the mess pets leave on the streets .
 - C introducing stricter penalties for animal owners .
 - D the carelessness of some pet owners.
- 5 According to the writer , dogs
- A can cause disease .
 - B are a threat to young children .
 - C destroy farm animals .
 - D do not make very good pets .

COMPRE- HENSION IN DEPTH

- 4 Write full answers to each of the following questions .
- 1 How does the writer think money spent on pets could be better used ?
 - 2 Why does the writer think that people should not be surprised at the way American people spend money on pets ?

- 3 What does the writer feel is wrong about the way owners treat their pets ?
- 4 Why does the writer find the popularity of pets so alarming?
- 5 What does the writer suggest could be done to ensure that pet owners become more aware of their responsibility?

COHESION

- 5 Choose the most appropriate alternative to complete the following sentences .

1 *Although this is a shocking finding* (para 1) refers to the finding that

- A Americans love pets
- B Americans are unique in loving their pets
- C Americans spend more money on their pets than on their children
- D the English treat their pets in the same way as the Americans

2 *They certainly cost as much* (para 2) refers to

- A human foods costing as much as pet foods
- B pet foods costing as much as human foods
- C pets costing the same as humans in terms of food
- D humans costing the same as pets in terms of food

3 *It is difficult not to feel that something is wrong with this* (para 2) means the writer

- A approves of the amount of money people spend on pets
- B disapproves of the amount of money people spend on pets
- C finds it difficult to know what is wrong with people spending so much money on pets
- D finds it easy to approve of the amount of money people spend on pets

4 *the 'sweet little thing'* (para 4) refers to

- A the child
- B the parent
- C the owner

D the pet

5 *Failing this* (para 5) refers to

- A people thinking more carefully about their responsibility as pet - owners
- B people thinking more carefully about what is important
- C people thinking more carefully about their pets
- D people thinking more carefully about their children

INFORMATION TRANSFER

6 In the first column of the table below, make a list of the four reasons the writer gives for being alarmed at the popularity of British pets. In the second column, make a list of the changes the writer suggests.

REASONS

1
2
3
4

CHANGES

1
2
3
4

VOCABULARY

7 (a) Find words in the passage which mean approximately the same as the following.

Para 1: the collection of information to gain a general impression of the wishes /habits etc. of people very kind (in giving)/not mean

Para 2: efficient as food
the process of dying from hunger

Para 3: how much people like somebody/something
giving a sense of danger or threat

Para 4: make angry
to leave something/somebody alone and unprotected

(b) Use the words you have found to fill the gaps in these sentences (some words may need minor changes).

- 1 In many parts of Africa the people are suffering from _____ because of the lack of rain and good soil .
- 2 A _____ of the people in London found that most people agreed that cigarette smoking should be banned in public places .
- 3 Milk is one of the most _____ foods available to man .
- 4 The problem is growing at an _____ rate .
- 5 Because of the poverty in some countries , babies are sometimes found _____ outside churches and hospitals.
- 6 The young boy thanked his parents for their very _____ gift on his birthday .
- 7 The _____ of Japanese cars increases yearly because of their relatively low cost and high quality.
- 8 I became _____ with him because he kept interrupting.

(c) Choose the most suitable words and phrases to complete the following sentences .

- 1 The _____ age for men getting married in Hong Kong is 28 years old .
 A even
 B average
 C absolute
 D extreme
- 2 Libraries , because they are _____ , are good places to study .
 A quite
 B silent
 C quiet
 D peace
- 3 You can help yourself to a drink if you _____ to .
 A wish
 B hope

C expect

D long

4 I think there is something _____ with the engine .

A error

B mistake

C false

D wrong

5 I wish they would _____ their old car and buy one that wasn't so noisy .

A put aside

B get rid of

C get on with

D leave alone

6 It may seem _____ to you , but you weren't the one who forget their key and had to sit outside for three hours .

A interesting

B funny

C sad

D strange

7 The fire _____ the whole house .

A damaged

B detailed

C detached

D destroyed

8 These flies are really starting to _____ me .

A amuse

B attract

C annoy

D disturb

9 You are reminded that you are not _____ to smoke inside the theatre .

A let

B allowed