

上册

# 新编英语阅读

胡壮麟 审校  
潘炳信 董启明 主编

世界图书出版公司

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## 前 言

《新编英语阅读》是为高等院校英语专业学生、夜大学学生、函授生及广大的英语学习者编写的泛读教材，分上、下两册。本书对准备参加托福考试、全国英语水平考试、商务英语证书考试的考生和具有相应水平的英语自学者在扩大词汇量、提高阅读技巧、扩大知识面以及增加对英美国家的了解等方面均有助益和参考价值。

本教材（除个别文学性题材的文章）均选自 80 年代和 90 年代的新材料，体现了教材的时代特征。课文内容涉及面广，集知识性、教育性、新颖性和趣味性于一体。文化、教育、科技、商贸、语言、政治、文学、风土人情、人物传记、动物与植物、宗教故事、百科知识等内容的课文均按较合理的比例收入本教材。

本教材的结构按课前问题、课文正文（多数分为 A，B 两篇）、课文注释、词汇表、练习的顺序编排，便于教师讲解和学生自学。练习一般分为阅读理解性练习、判断性练习和综合性问题三种。每单元的最后是“速读”部分，包括课文和回答问题。学生要在规定的时间内读完课文并回答课后的问题，以提高快速阅读能力。

在本教材的编写过程中，我们参考了大量国内外有关的英文资料，如论著、教材、学术杂志、英文报纸等。在此，我们谨向这些资料的编者表示感谢。

北京大学胡壮麟教授对本书的编写十分关心，在百忙之中抽出时间予以审订；杨永林博士、封宗信博士通读了书稿并提出修

改意见，在此特向他们表示诚挚的谢意。

另外，在编写过程中，我们一直受到河北省教委、省高校外语教学研究会、河北师大外语系等单位有关领导的大力支持；在河北师范大学外语系任教的美国专家 Timothy Taylor 博士和 Isabella Nota 博士仔细阅读了书稿，对文字作了润色，在此一并向他们表示感谢。河北师大外语系的李春燕、黄丽珍、李文丽三位同志承担了本教材的微机文字录入工作，我们对她们的辛勤劳动亦表示真诚的感谢。

由于编者水平有限，加之时间仓促，教材中难免存在疏漏、不妥乃至错误之处。希望各位专家、学者、同仁及使用本教材的广大师生批评指正，以便再版时修正。

**编者**

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# Unit 1

## **A. Miss Evans, of Boston, America**

(A true story of the ship Titanic)

Be prepared to answer the following questions after the first reading of the passage.

1. Who was Miss Evans?
2. What happened to the new big ship Titanic?
3. Facing the sinking of the Titanic, why did Miss Evans go back to the ship from the life-boat?
4. Did Miss Evans survive the shipwreck?

On a beautiful afternoon, in a year now long gone, a big ship set out on its first journey from England to America. It was a new ship called the Titanic<sup>1</sup>.

Men worked day and night to build this great ship. Everything in it was new and clean and well made. Hundreds of people were in the ship. Some were rich, and they had beautiful rooms high up in the ship. Poorer people were in another part of the ship, not so high up and nearer to the water-line.

For two days the Titanic went on its way over the sea. Everyone in it was happy. It was very cold, but there was sun all day, and inside the ship it was not cold at all. Then, the next night, it got colder and colder.

People asked —— “Why is it so cold? It’s not a very cold time of the year. ” The answer was this. When water gets very cold, it gets hard. This is called “ice” . When it gets hard, it makes very big, hard pieces called “icebergs” . A part of an iceberg shows on top of the water, but there is a lot more of it under the water. This part of it cannot be seen. In the cold time of the year, the icebergs stay in the cold part of the sea. Later in the year when it is not so cold, the icebergs break up and move about all over the sea. When there are a lot of them, this is called an “ice-field” . The Titanic was moving into an ice-field.

All ships have a man in the highest part of the ship to see everything on the water. He is called the “look-out” man. He can see another ship, or anything else on the water before anyone else can.

The “look-out” man on the Titanic saw the icebergs coming nearer. There was not very much light, but he could just see them.

He called to other men and just then something hit the side of the ship. Very soon after that, the Titanic stopped. But it could not get away from the icebergs. One of them came slowly nearer and nearer. Then the bottom part of the iceberg hit the bottom part of the Titanic. It made a very big hole in the ship, and the water began to come inside.

Everyone was told to come out of their rooms and go up to the top part of the ship. People did as they were told, quickly and quietly. But some of them did not understand. “What has happened? ” they asked. “Why have we stopped?”

Men were putting the lifeboats over the sides of the ship, down into the water. Then all the men helped the women and children to

get into the lifeboats.

Some of the children lost their mothers. Some of the women lost their men and their children. It was very cold, and there was no light, except the light from the ship. People could hear the water coming higher and higher up inside the ship. Then, all at once, the lights went out.

There was not very much time left. The iceberg was on one side of the ship. It was like a high, white wall.

A woman came to the side of the ship. Her two children were in one of the lifeboats, and she was very afraid.

The lifeboat was just moving away from the ship. There was no more room in it. The woman called to the people in the lifeboat.

“Oh! please, please make a place for me, ” she said. “My children are in the lifeboat. I must go with them. ”

“There’s no more room,” someone called out. “If we take one more the lifeboat will go down under the water. Everyone will be lost. ”

“I must go with my children! ” cried the poor woman. “You must take me!”

Her children heard her calling out. They began to cry. “Mother! Mother!” they called. They were very afraid.

There was a young woman in the lifeboat called Miss Evans. Very little is known about her. She was not married, and she came from Boston, in America. She was going home to Boston. That is all we know about Miss Evans. We do not even know her first name.

Miss Evans heard the woman calling to her children. She stood up in the lifeboat and touched one of the men on the arm.

“Let me go back to the ship,” she said. “Let that woman take my place. I have no children. I am not married.”

“The ship will go down,” said the man. “You know that?”

“Yes,” said Miss Evans quietly, “I know that.”

There was no time to talk. People helped Miss Evans to get back to the ship. Then they helped the children’s mother to get down into the lifeboat. The lifeboat moved away from the ship. Very soon after that, there was a great noise, and the “Titanic” went down under the water.

Some hours later, a ship called the Carpathia<sup>2</sup> came to help. Some people were still in the water; others were in the lifeboats. They were all nearly dead from the cold. The Carpathia saved everyone still alive. But it did not save Miss Evans. No one ever saw her again.

If you speak about Miss Evans in Boston today, not many people can remember her name. But she was one of the great women of America.

### [ 注释 ]

1. **the Titanic**: in April 1912, the great ship, the Titanic, sank on her first voyage with heavy loss of life while sailing across the North Atlantic. 泰坦尼克号客轮: 1912 年 4 月, 英国的豪华客轮“泰坦尼克”号, 由英国横渡大西洋首航纽约, 不料在纽芬兰岛附近撞上冰山而沉没, 造成了震惊世界的冰海沉船和 1500 人葬身海底的悲剧。
2. **the Carpathia**: 喀尔巴斯亚号轮船。

### [ 词汇 ]

**iceberg** a large, floating mass of ice ( broken off a glacier) moving in the sea. 冰山

**ice-field** a continuous sheet of floating ice. 冰原

**lifeboat** a small emergency boat carried on a ship for use in case the ship is in danger of sinking, is on fire, etc. 救生艇

**look-out** watchful 警戒的, 了望的

### [练习]

#### I. Reading Comprehension Questions

1. A big ship called the "Titanic" set out on its \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. first crossing of the Pacific
  - b. first crossing of the Atlantic
  - c. second journey from England to America
2. The Titanic was moving \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. into an iceberg
  - b. into an ice-field
  - c. towards an ice island
3. When the icebergs were found, \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. the Titanic stopped to let them go by
  - b. the ship turned immediately and avoided hitting them
  - c. the ship hadn't enough time to turn away from them
4. A young woman called Miss Evans went back to the ship \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. to look for her own children
  - b. to make room for a mother
  - c. because she thought the lifeboat was also dangerous
5. This story happened \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. recently
  - b. years ago
  - c. a long time ago

#### II. Decide whether the following statements are true or false.

1. When the Titanic was on its way, the weather was not very cold.



2. The “lookout” man, staying in the highest part of the ship, was the eyes of the ship, because he could see everything on the water.
3. A woman was very afraid because her children were alone in a lifeboat, in which there was no more room for her.
4. The Carpathia came to help hours later, and saved everyone still alive including Miss Evans.
5. The Titanic went down under the water.

## **B. The Titanic Is Sinking<sup>1</sup>**

Be prepared to answer the following questions after the first reading of the passage.

1. What kind of ship was the Titanic?
2. Were there enough lifeboats for everyone in the ship?
3. Why were the women and children asked to get into the boats first?
4. How many people lost their lives?

“The ship is sinking. Put on your life-jackets. Get ready to leave the ship. ”

All the people on the Titanic soon had news. Passengers left their rooms. Some put coats over their night clothes. Some took a few oranges and left boxes of money. Some took a book to read. They made little noise as they went above.

The sailors started to get the lifeboats ready. There were sixteen boats: eight on each side. Four were near the front. And