

Improving Your Reading

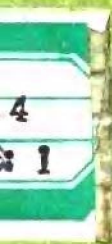
中国电视师范学院
卫星电视辅导教材



李陆平 王 峰 编 谢云锦 审

英语阅读技巧训练①

宇航出版社



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(1)

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内 容 简 介

本书是为国家教委 1989 年开播的卫星电视英语专业泛读课而编写的电视课堂用书,与高教出版社的《英语阅读教程》(An English Reading Course for Comprehension & Speed)配套使用,是一套循序渐进的阅读训练教材。

本书旨在使读者通过大量的有系统的阅读技巧训练,及对词汇知识的扩展和积累,提高理解能力和阅读速度,从而提高实际读听英语的技能。

全书共五册,这是第一册,书中习题均结合《教程》的系列结构与进程而设计,内容新颖,形式多样,对其课文中的难点作了解释,还对部分课文背景知识作了说明,书后还有学期期末考试试卷。

本书适合于高等院校一二年级英语系学生阅读。特别是还配有原声录音带,供不能按时收看卫星电视的读者需要,也适合于凡具有高中文化程度以上,迫切要求提高英语阅读和听力者,例如外贸、旅游行业职工,合资企业职工等,也可作为大专院校教师的参考书。

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前 言

《英语阅读技巧训练》(Improving Your Reading)是为国家教委 1990 年开播的卫星电视英语专业泛读课而编写的电视课堂用书,与高教出版社的《英语阅读教程》(An English Reading Course for Comprehension & Speed)配套使用。

编写这本书的目的是使读者通过大量阅读技巧训练,培养阅读技能,扩展并积累词汇知识,提高听力、理解能力与阅读速度,从而在实际工作、生活中能灵活运用英语。

全书共分五册出版,前四册作为电视课堂上用书,每学期使用一册;第五册为前四册的所有练习答案。书中内容生动活泼,丰富有趣,练习设计精巧,既利于激发学习者的兴趣,又可增加对西方文化的了解。

在中国电视师范学院电视英语课程中,以单元(Unit)为教学单位,每册书共分 10 个单元,每个单元供两周教学使用。每个单元都包括阅读技巧训练和趣味英语两个部分。书中第 10 个单元之后,附有学期期末考试题,是专为参加收看卫星电视的读者而设立的。在学期结束后,读者将答卷填好后,邮寄到所注册的学校,以登记学分。由于电视教学受时间的限制,本书还配有原声录音磁带,以弥补不能按时参加收看卫星电视的读者所需。

在编排本书的过程中,宇航出版社和国防工业出版社加强横向联系,进行紧密地合作,夜以继日地工作,采用我国自行研制的“华光”照排系统,使这本书能在这样短的时间内出版,特对这两个出版社的同志们表示衷心的感谢!

在本书编纂和出版中,得到了中国电视师范学院和北京师范学院英语系的支持和鼓励。在本书编写过程中,邵淑敏同志也参加了部分工作;北京师范学院英语系专家布兰特夫妇及谢德对本书进行了校正,为此,对他们表示衷心的感谢!

由于编者水平所限,加之时间仓促,书中难免有不当之处,甚至错误,敬请读者批评指正。

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Unit 1 - A

1A-1 Word Recognition

Word Recognition is the ability of responding rapidly and correctly to the appearance of English words and phrases. This skill is certainly of great importance in effective reading. Read the following story and see the importance of it.

Mr. Brown lived in a house less than two miles from his office. He was therefore able to drive home everyday for lunch. Every time he drove home in the middle of the day, he found at the road outside his house cars were parked, and there was no room for his own. He had to drive two more blocks before he could find a place to park his car. Then he had to walk back home. This made him very angry.

He had put up a board, which said: "No Parking" in the garden facing the road, but no body seemed to take any notice of it. People obeyed a police notice, but not a private one. There were no parked cars where there was a blue board with white letters on it:

Police Notice

No Parking

Mrs. Brown suggested that he steal a police notice. He dared not, being afraid of going to prison. She then suggested that he make one just like the police notice. He said he was not the police and couldn't use the word "police". He decided he must find a way out and started thinking hard.

For several days a smell of paint filled the house before one night he showed his wife a new notice board. It was painted in white letters on blue:

Polite Notice

No Parking

"Oh!" Mrs. Brown said. "But you told me you were not going to use the word "police". That's exactly like a police notice."

"Is it?" he asked. "Look again."

She started to laugh. "You are really rather clever."

Do you know what happened later? There were no more parked cars near his house for people misread Mr. Brown's notice board as a police board with the letters. "Police Notice" on it.

A careless reader may sometimes misread words that are spelled similarly and may thus misunderstand the meaning of the whole sentence, like the example of "polite" and "police" in the short story here. There are more examples of this kind to show you .

r	-	n		
car	-	can	hard	- hand
row	-	now	ravel	- navel
care	-	cane	rational	- national

cl	-	d
clue	-	dup
clip	-	dip
cline	-	dine
clean	-	dean
close	-	dose
clown	-	down

r	-	v
rain	-	vain
rice	-	vine
real	-	veal
hare	-	have
rapid	-	vapid
bearer	-	beaver

t	-	l
pat	-	pal
tens	-	lens
mute	-	mule
mite	-	mile

h	-	b
hold	-	bold
hail	-	bail
hell	-	bell
heat	-	beat

o	-	a
born	-	barn
word	-	bard
worm	-	warm
borrow	-	barrow
bottle	-	battle

g	-	q
guilt	-	quilt
guest	-	quest

Also

e	-	o
ten	-	ton
tern	-	torn
fellow	-	follow

ant	-	aunt
aura	-	aural
litter	-	little
metal	-	mental
mantel	-	mantle
laugher	-	laughter

The following exercises are to help you improve your ability of word recognition.

Ex. I

You will have a test word and then a pair of words. Read them quickly and decide which of the two words is exactly the same as the test word.

e. g.

	five	-	fire	<u>five</u>
1.	store	-	store	stove
2.	hand	-	band	hand
3.	bog	-	hog	bog
4.	clam	-	dam	clam

5.	aural	-	oral	aural
6.	window	-	widow	window
7.	stone	-	stone	stove
8.	bottle	-	battle	bottle
9.	desert	-	desert	dessert

Ex. II

In this exercise, first you will see a test word, and then a group of words. Read the words of each line and decide which of this group of words is the same as the test word.

e. g. fire - fare file fine fire

1. read - raid real lead read 4. grows - prows grows grown glows

2. wire - hire wise wire were 5. heard - heart hard head heard

3. dark - dart bark dark darn 6. great - grate greet great grade

Ex. III

This time you are going to see pairs of phrases. If the phrases are exactly the same in each pair, give the letter S and if not, the letter D.

e. g.

poor day poor pay (D)

poor day poor day (S)

wait longer wait longer

last train fast train

choose one chose one

fresh fruit fresh fruit

hold tight hold right

walk out watch out

wants more wants more

make up wake up

Ex. IV

In this exercise, first there will be a sentence and then two words. One of the two words has appeared in the sentence. Read them quickly and decide which of the two words has been used in the sentence.

e. g. It is my mother's house. /horse house

1. It is snow. /slow snow

2. That is something pleasant. /pleasant peasant

3. She took the gum in her hand. /mug gum

4. He is the only diver here. /diner diver

5. Is the coffee better? /better bitter

6. It must be the dog. /god dog

7. I will not eat the core. /cone core

8. Why is he bawling in such a place? /bawling bowling

Ex. V

Now, you are going to see some of the sentences from the texts in this unit. In each of them, one word has been changed and so the meaning of the sentence changes too. Read the sentence and see if you can find out the changed word quickly.

Text I

1. Soapy turned from side to side on his bench in the dark.

2. The sound of the sweat song caught and held Soapy there.

Text II

3. Everyone soon saw that Marie had a quirk mind.

4. It was Marie who thought of a plant.

5. She studied in a small room without heart or light.

Text III

6. In 1911, she deceived another one.
7. Evans put a soft clearskin cover on it.
8. Indians from near and far came to Norway House to trade furs.

Text IV

9. In those days, the plane was very different.
10. Twenty years ago, I was a little bored with teaching.
11. They go to difficult places for different subjects.
12. At last, that's the theory!

1A-2 Enjoying English

Word Recognition

Song: John Brown's Baby

John Brown's baby had a cold upon his breast...

And they rubbed it with camphorated oil.

Unit 1 - B

1B-1 Word Recognition/Compound Words/Prefixes

To be able to read words that are printed in capital letters quickly and correctly is a necessary skill, especially when reading newspapers, magazines, advertisements, notices, and so on. But capital letters are not easy to recognize and there are also pairs of capital letters that can be easily misread.

e. g.

N/V R/P T/J E/F I/L

Ex. I

Read the following pairs of phrases in capital letters and decide quickly if they are the same or not. Use the capital letters S and D to show your answer.

RICK	KICK	QUEST	GUEST
KING	RING	JERRY	JERRY
RITE	KITE	NOISE	NOISE
JELL	TELL	LIGHT	NIGHT
RICK	RICK	QUILT	GUILT

COMPOUND WORDS

Ex. II

This exercise is for you to study the Compound Words. In each of the groups of words here, only one of them is a compound word. Read them quickly and find out the compound word.

1. break breaker breakable breakwater
2. sun sunlit sunny sunnily
3. human inhuman humankind humanist
4. fish fishy fisherman fisher

PREFIXES

Here are some of the commonly used prefixes and their meanings.

- non- means not
e. g. nondrinker - not a drinker
 - un- means not
e. g. unlike - not alike
 - dis- means opposite of or lack of
e. g. disagree - not agree
disorder - lack of order
disunite - opposite of unite, set apart
 - in- means not or opposite of
(im- when before words beginning with the letters "m" or "p";
ir- when before words beginning with the letter "r";
il- when before words beginning with the letter "l".)
e. g. inactive - not active
impure - not pure
irregular - not regular
illegal - not legal
 - mis- means wrong or wrongly
e. g. misspell - spell wrong
- Also:
- anti- means against
 - pro- means for
 - sub- means under or below
 - super- means above, beyond or over
 - over- means too, too much or above
 - under- means below, not enough
 - trans- means across, into a different place

Ex. III

Read each of the following sentences and then fill in the blank with one of the two words given.

1. No matter how hard the police looked for him, the thief remained _____.
recaptured/uncaptured
2. If the natives say, "Yankee, go home!" you know they are _____.
anti-American/pro-American
3. It took _____ strength to lift the fallen tree.
subhuman/superman

4. The mother is very tired because of _____
nonwork/overwork
5. This TV is _____ from Japan.
imported/exported
6. The boy has _____ his clothes.
outgrown/overgrown

Ex. IV

Replace each of the following groups of words with one word by using one of the following prefixes: un-, mis-, trans-, under-, over-, out-.

e. g.

not happy - unhappy

1. much too old
2. sold below (the regular price)
3. to plant into a different place
4. not able
5. a wrong deed
6. grow beyond a limit

Ex. V

The second of each pair of sentences has a word that is incomplete. Read the first sentence carefully and then finish the incomplete word in the second sentence by using a prefix.

1. The article Tom read failed to convince him.
He was still _____ convinced by my explanation.
2. Tom and Bill had not agreed on the picnic date.
Tom explained why he _____ agreed with Bill.
3. Martha was not aware of the tap at the door.
She was _____ aware, too, that the door opened.
4. The plane did not stop until it reached Guangzhou.
Many passengers were on the _____ stop flight.
5. The boy realized he had not obeyed the rules.
He readily admitted he had _____ obeyed them.
6. No one had expected hot weather in October.
The _____ expected hot weather surprised everyone.
7. Frank was not certain about what the question meant.
He was _____ certain about how to answer it.
8. Ed did not complete his homework.
Since it was _____ complete, he got a very poor grade.
9. Joe's handwriting was not legible.
Even he admitted it was too _____ legible.

10. When Sue smiled, no one could resist her charm.

Her smile was _____ resistible.

11. The new plane did not seem practical.

Tests soon proved it was _____ practical.

12. It is not legal to hunt pandas at any time.

It is always _____ legal to hunt pandas.

13. The bus was not on a regular schedule.

Its _____ regular schedule confused people.

1B-2 Enjoying English

Listen to the song and find the compound word in it.

Song: Three Fishermen

There were three jolly fishermen, there were three jolly fishermen, fish-er, fish-er, men, men, men, there were three jolly fishermen.

The first man's name was Abraham, the first man's name was Abraham, Abra, Abra, ham, ham, ham, the first man's name was Abraham.

The second man's name was Isaac... I, I, zak, zak, zak...

The third man's name was Jacob... Ja, Ja, cub, cub, cub...

They all sailed up to Jericho... Jeri, Jeri... co, co, co...

They should have gone to Amsterdam... Amster, Amster, sh, sh, sh...

Unit 2 - A

2A-1 Word Recognition/Compound Words/Prefixes

Ex I.

This is an exercise on Word Recognition. You are going to have a test-word on the left and a column of four words on the right. One of the four words is the same as the test-word. You should have a quick look at the test-word and then find out the same word on the right very fast.

e. g.	expanse	expanse expansion <u>expanse</u> expensive			thorough trough precious previous pressures precocious precious
1.	desert	dessert desert deserve desire	8.	precious	concert concerto convict convert
2.	staff	stiff stuff stifle staff	9.	convert	namely manly meanly mainly
3.	waist	waste waist wrist western	10.	mainly	invite invest invert invent
4.	altitude	attitude attribute attrition altitude	11.	invest	crotch crotch crouch crochet
5.	internal	interval interim intervene internal	12.	crochet	world word would ward
6.	descant	descent descend descant descendant	13.	would	principle principled principal princess
7.	though	through though	14.	principal	

Ex. II

This is an exercise for your word comprehension. In a moment you will see groups of words. Each group has four words and three of them will have the same or similar meaning with only one of them has nothing to do to it. Read all the four words fast and point out the one that should be separated from the others.

e. g.	afraid	fearful	<u>face</u>	frightened
1.	beautiful	handsome	handkerchief	pretty
2.	begin	start	launch	lunch
3.	argue	debate	discuss	dislike
4.	answer	animal	beast	creature
5.	answer	reply	repel	respond
6.	city	town	tear	village
7.	bother	brother	trouble	disturb
8.	cry	shout	shut	scream
9.	cold	coat	cool	chilly
10.	daily	danger	risk	threat
11.	expensive	dear	deer	costly
12.	horse	pony	mare	cow
13.	journey	journal	trip	tour
14.	mankind	human	manner	man
15.	large	long	big	giant
16.	boy	bull	ox	cow
17.	repair	recall	mend	fix
18.	deceive	disease	illness	sickness
19.	little	litter	small	tiny
20.	student	stupid	pupil	learner

Ex. III

You are going to see pairs of phrases. The meaning of each pair will be either approximately the same or quite different. Let's see if you can read them quickly and also make sure if they are about the same meaning or different.

e. g.	instead of	in spite of	D
1.	at least	at last	
2.	break down	break out	
3.	on the go	go under	
4.	beautiful dress	pretty garden	
5.	elderly lady	old woman	
6.	watch out	take care	
7.	the lost goods	the missing cargo	

8.	once upon a time	a long long time ago
9.	help yourself	never mind the others
10.	see you later	so long
11.	fit as a horse	beat a horse
12.	kill oneself	commit suicide
13.	expensive coal	expensive coat
14.	no way out	stay inside
15.	come across	meet by chance
16.	from time to time	not often
17.	by and by	by and large
18.	at one time	at that time
19.	set free	send away
20.	take care of	take a careful look

Ex. IV

The following sentences are from the texts in this unit. In each of them there is a compound word. Read them and find that compound word.

- King for a Meal
At the bank we had a bookkeeper named John Spight.
- King for a Meal
King Edward VII was a trapshooter.
- The Worthwhile Fighting
Suspicious townspeople wouldn't let schools be set up in their towns.

- To Help and Protect
He was the office boy and caretaker.

Words of color can also make up some compound words. For instance;

white	-	whitewash	red	-	redbreast
					redcap
					redwing
					redwood
grey	-	greybeard	black	-	blackbird
					blackberry
					blackmarket
					blackmail

Now some compound words with earth and sky;

earth	-	earthwork	sky	-	skylark
		earthworm			skyblue
		earthquake			skyscraper
					skyhigh

Ex. V

In each of the following sentences there is a prefix. Please point it out and tell how it is made up as well as its meaning.

1. The Worthwhile Fighting
She vowed that she would do all she could for these unfortunate people.
2. The Worthwhile Fighting
Perhaps the most unexpected result of Eunice's work happened in 1953.
3. The Worthwhile Fighting
The grandchild of a leper had been chosen the healthiest child in the country.
4. King for a Meal
My bedroom's upstairs on the other side of the house.

* With "up" and "down" we have a lot more words with prefixes. e. g.

1. up - in an upward direction

uproot	-	pull up with the roots
upstand	-	stand erect, strong and healthy
upturn	-	upward turn
upright	-	in an erect position
upgrade	-	raise to a higher grade
upcountry	-	inland
uptown	-	in the upper part of the town
2. down - in a downward direction

downtown	-	to the main or business part of a city
downfall	-	heavy fall of rain, etc.
downgrade	-	reduce to a lower grade or rank
downhill	-	in a downward direction
downpour	-	heavy fall of rain
downstairs	-	on a lower floor
3. in - in or into

include	-	bring in as part of the whole
income	-	money one gets in as the payment, salary, etc.
incurved	-	curved inwards
indoors	-	in or into the buildings
inflow	-	flowing in
inhale	-	draw into the lungs