

● 大学英语序列教程

(上)

现代英语

CONTEMPORARY ENGLISH



● 张道真 编著

● 西北大学出版社

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前 言

《现代英语》是《大学英语序列教程》的一部分，可供大学公共英语第二年使用，也可供广大青年自学。在学完《英语入门》和《活用英语》之后，可接学本书。

这部书分上下两册，共32课。每课有两篇课文、词汇表、注释、语法讲解及练习。课文一般四五百字，比较简短易学。A，B两篇课文互相联系，构成一个题材。若干课课文又形成一个总的题材，如历史、地理、人物、科普、现代科技等。文字力求平易，以便吸收，同时包括适当的科技内容，为转学科技英语铺平道路。每课约有四十多生词及短语，全书词汇量约为1500，学完后的总词汇量可达到3500—4000。语法学到第二轮，重要语法项目都将学到，语法用浅易英语讲解，以利今后自学原著语法。课文注释也用英文，可培养查阅参考资料的能力。每课练习分六部分，第一为课文问答，第二、三为语法练习，第四、五为词汇练习，第六为听写练习。练习量适当控制，以免造成过重负担。

本书配有8盘录音带。录像带正在摄制，争取明年完成。最后形成一套立体教材。我们特别重视录像带的作用。每课将摄制成一盘录像带，用半盘处理Text A，半盘处理Text B。这样的录像带有许多好处：

1. 由外籍教师上课：这可提供学员听地道英语的机会，从而改变听力薄弱的局面；每周都听外语讲课，不断熏陶，听

说能力会有稳步提高，学得会比较巩固；

2. 增加讲课的生动性：由于可利用图片、电视片断及字幕，可使讲课比较生动，给学员留下较深印象，增加学习英语的兴趣，这肯定比单纯听教师讲课效果好；
3. 可节省人力：录像可供成百上千的人观看，可反复播放，可大大节省人力。如每周两节课用录像带上，可节省三分之一至一半教师，这可减轻教师负担，增加备课和进修时间。

如果每周为4节或5节课，建议作如下安排：

1. 精读课（2—3节）：

- 1) 看录像（用《现代英语》录像带）：1节。
- 2) 面授课（由负责教师担任）：1或2节（帮助彻底理解课文，做一部分练习。）

2. 听说课（2节）：

- 1) 看录像（用《视听英语》第3、4册录像带）：1节（正摄制中，共32盘，每周用一盘，分“电视节目”、《看图说话》、原版教学片口语对话三部分，待摄制完毕再出版文字材料。）
- 2) 录音课（由负责教师担任，最好在实验室上）：1节（一半时间用来巩固《现代英语》内容，一半时间按《实验室英语》进行练习，争取配上录音带供教师在课堂使用。）

这是一种新型教学，在国内外都是第一次尝试，其特点是：

1. 注重全面打基础，特别强调听说，培养听说读写的基本功，彻底改变“学哑巴英语”的局面，

2. 充分利用电教手段，教学内容丰富，教学方法生动，自始至终有大量的语言实践，确保教学效果；
3. 充分利用国外优秀的教学录像带。我们将提供大量供课外播放的录像带（包括故事片），创造有利的语言环境，使学员能接触大量的感性材料，学得更加巩固。

我们希望在实践中摸索出效率较高效果较好的教学路子。如果能很好利用这套立体教材，学完后我们估计至少可达到新《大学英语教学大纲》规定的第四级(CE 4)水平：

1. 词汇：3500—4000字（本书新增1300—1500词汇）

2. 精读量：30,000词（累计数50,000词）

泛读量：80,000词（累计数150,000词，两年看“泛读材料”500页以上。）

3. 听力：对题材熟悉，与课文水平相当，生词不多的材料，一遍可以听懂，语速每分钟120词，理解准确率达到70%。
4. 写：能运用学到的词汇及语法，按规定题目在半小时内写出200词左右的短文，基本上能表达思想，无重大语法错误。
5. 说：能进行简单的日常会话，能就教材内容进行问答，成绩优秀者能较顺利完成出国深造的任务或作简单的口译工作。
6. 译：能借助词典将与课文程度相仿的文章译成汉语，理解正确，译文达意，笔译速度每小时达300英语词。

学习成绩突出者可望达到第六级（CE6）水平。

为了取得较好效果请教师注意以下几点：

1. 大部分课文要求学生能复述，特别是要跟录音带复述，要从头坚持这一要求，并要求做到流利准确，语音语调自然。

2. 要尽可能利用语言实验室，让学生自带磁带，在实验室一面练，一面录音。练习方式及内容可参阅《实验室英语》第三、四辑（该书明年可出版）。该书的录音带也将在明年录出（电教条件较差院校可成立简易实验室，一万元就可建立起来）。学生录音带教师要收回抽听。
3. 要鼓励督促学生看课内外录像带，一面看，一面暗暗跟读，有条件的同学应鼓励进行部分复述（如听1小时，说10—20分钟）。要把视听说三者结合起来。
4. 争取成立听力室（设在图书馆或电教中心），提供200—500盘录音带供学员课外自由选听。（我们可提供有声资料，协助建立听力室），录像带的内容也可录在磁带上，供学员课外听。还可办理为学生转录磁带的业务。
5. 利用我们编写的《泛读材料》1、2、3、4辑及《复述材料》第1、2、3、4辑，开展课外阅读及课外听说活动（这些书都将在明年正式出版。）

我们希望大家和我们一道进行公英教学的改革，把公英教学提到新的水平。我们的教材、录像带、录音带都会有不足之处，欢迎大家批评指正，帮助我们逐步改进，更好满足教改的需要。

编者 张道真

一九八七年九月于深圳大学英语中心

“大学英语序列教程”总表

学 期 (级别)	精 读 (课内用)	视听课 (课内用)	听说课 (课内用)	泛 读 (自学)	补充材料 (自学)
一上班 (CE1)	活用英语 (上册)	视听英语 (第1辑)	实验英语 (第1辑)	泛 读 (第1辑)	复述材料 (第1辑)
一下班 (CE2)	活用英语 (下册)	视听英语 (第2辑)	实验英语 (第2辑)	泛 读 (第2辑)	复述材料 (第2辑)
二上班 (CE3)	现代英语 (上册)	视听英语 (第3辑)	实验英语 (第3辑)	泛 读 (第3辑)	复述材料 (第3辑)
二下班 (CE4)	现代英语 (下册)	视听英语 (第4辑)	实验英语 (第4辑)	泛 读 (第4辑)	复述材料 (第4辑)
教材 出版时间	1987年	1989年 出 齐	1988年	1988年	1988年
音像资料 完成时间	配录像带 每课1盘 1988年底 配录音带 每学期4 盘1988年	配录像带 每学期16 盘1989年	配录音带 每学期8 盘1988年		配录音带 每辑两盘 1988年

[注1] 另有大学预科教材 (CEP 1,2) 《英语入门》 (亦由本社出版), 配录音带4盘, 录像带20小时, 1988年完成。

[注2] 需购买录音带或预订录像带者可与广东深圳市深圳大学英语中心联系。

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Lesson One

Text A

The United States of America

The United States is very large: 9,399,317 square miles. It contains many different kinds of landscape (Prairies, mountains, tropical forests and deserts) and many different kinds of people. The population is over 210,000,000.

In the East, in New England, the countryside is green and fresh and similar to the England of the first immigrants. Here are some of the first states of the Union (Massachusetts, Connecticut, Maine, etc.) and the fine old city of Boston, New York and, of course, the capital, Washington, D. C., are also in the East.

In the South, there is the old French colony of Louisiana and the beautiful city of New Orleans, the capital of jazz. Here, and in the neighbouring states of Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and Florida, the climate is sometimes tropical, and the people are very

different from those in the East.

The Central Plains of the United States are great fertile prairies with farms and enormous fields of wheat and corn. The plains stretch from Missouri and Iowa across Kansas and Nebraska to Wyoming and Idaho.

In the South-West, too, there are wide open spaces. The old Spanish states—now Texas, Arizona, New Mexico and California—are often hot and dry. But their deserts and mountains are beautiful, and California, on the West Coast, is famous as “paradise” state.

By contrast, the weather in the Mid-West, near the Great Lakes, is often cold and windy, especially in winter. It often snows from the North-west across the Mid-Western states of Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin Minnesota to the Dakotas, Montana and the State of Washington on the Pacific Coast.

— adapted from *Contemporary English*

Text B

The People of Canada

The Canadian people are made up of different national stocks and races. The first known inhabitants of the country were the Indians.

It is believed the Indians crossed into this continent across the Bering Strait and Sea from Eastern Asia at least 10,000 years ago. When Europeans first explored the country, Indian bands were living in most of the forested areas. There were only a few Indians in the provinces near the Atlantic Ocean.

The second group of people to enter Canada were the Eskimos. They crossed the Bering Strait from Asia less than 3,000 years ago. There are few records of their early movements.

The first white settlers in Canada were the French. They came in greatest numbers to Quebec, but also to Nova Scotia, where they cleared farms on the southern side of the Bay of Fundy.

The French built their citadel at Quebec City, where the St. Lawrence River narrows, and carved farms out of the forests in the territory. By the time of the British conquest in 1763, there were about 600,000 French in Canada, living chiefly between Quebec and Montreal.

There were not many British in Canada until the American Revolutionary War drove large numbers northward.

Throughout the nineteenth century, thousands of British immigrants came to Canada. The descendants of these peoples from England, Scotland and Ireland

now make up about half the population.

Around the turn of the century, immigrants came in increasing numbers from Europe, and the largest numbers came from Central and Eastern Europe—Germans, Czechs, Poles, Rumanians, and Ukrainians.

— adapted from *Still More Tell Me Why*

Words and Expressions

- square [skweə] *a.* 平方, 方形
landscape ['lændskeip] *n.* 风景, 地形
prairie ['preəri] *n.* 大草原
fresh [freʃ] *a.* 清新, 新鲜
similar ['similə] *a.* 和…差不多
immigrant ['imigrənt] *n.* 移民
union ['ju:niən] *n.* 联邦
jazz [dʒæz] *n.* 爵士音乐
neighbouring ['neibəring] *a.* 邻近的
climate ['klaimeit] *n.* 气候
plain [plein] *n.* 平原
fertile ['fə:tail] *a.* 肥沃的
enormous [i'nɔ:məs] *a.* 极大的
corn [kɔ:n] *n.* 玉米
stretch [stretʃ] *vi.* 延伸
wide[waid] *a.* 广阔的, 宽的
dry[drai] *a.* 干燥

paradise ['pærədəais] *n.* 天堂, 乐园
 by contrast 与之形成对比
 windy ['windi] *a.* 爱刮风, 多风
 Pacific [pə'sifik] *a.* 太平洋
 coast [kəust] *n.* 海岸
 made up of 由...组成
 stock [stɒk] *n.* 血统, 民族
 race [reis] *n.* 种族
 inhabitant [in'hæbitənt] *n.* 居民
 strait [streit] *n.* 海峡
 band [bənd] *n.* 一帮, 一伙
 forested ['fɒristid] *a.* 森林覆盖的
 province ['prɒvins] *n.* 省
 record ['rekɔ:d] *n.* 记录
 movement ['mu:vmənt] *n.* 活动情况
 settler ['setlə] *n.* 定居者, 开拓者
 clear [kliə] *vt.* 开拓出, 开垦
 citadel ['sitədl] *n.* 城堡
 narrow ['nærəu] *vi.* 狭窄
 carve [kɑ:v] *vt.* 切, 雕, 开拓
 territory ['teritəri] *n.* 地区, 领土
 conquest ['kɒŋkwɛst] *n.* 征服
 northward ['nɔ:θwəd] *ad.* 向北
 throughout [θru:'aut] *prep.* 在整个
 century ['sentʃəri] *n.* 世纪
 descendant [di'sendənt] *n.* 后代

make up 构成

turn [tə:n] *n.* 转折 (点)

Notes

1. the England of the first immigrants; the England of the time when the first batch of immigrants came to America.
2. the Union; the 23 Northern states which opposed the confederate states in the American Civil War.
3. Washington, D.C.; the capital of the U. S. A. as distinguished from the Washington state of the Northwest U. S. A. D. C. standing for the District of Columbia.
4. the capital of jazz; the place where jazz was born.
5. It is believed...; "It" here is the formal subject standing for the noun clause that comes after it.
6. the French; the people of France, usually plural in number. Compare:
This machine was invented by a Frenchman.
He liked to live among the French.
7. these peoples; these people of different nations. The word "people" is usually used in the plural sense, meaning "persons", but may be used in the singular to denote "a nation", e.g.
The Chinese are a hard-working people.

Grammar

1. The Simple Present Tense

The Simple Present Tense is also called a timeless, factual, general and habitual tense because it usually includes past, present and future time. It is chiefly used:

1. To express a general truth:

The moon moves round the sun.

Apples grow on trees.

The Yangtze is the one of the longest rivers in the world.

A cracked bell never sounds well.

2. To express a habitual action or a repeated action:

She writes home twice a month.

Do you get up early every day?

How much do you get for your work?

It gets very hot here in summer.

3. To express a present state or a characteristic of the subject:

He is very busy (a busy man).

She speaks good English.

Do you smoke?

Conscientious students always work hard.