

总主编 梁正宇

大学英语

拓展阅读

第 4 册

主 编 梁正宇



苏州大学出版社

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苏州大学出版社

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

大学英语拓展阅读. 第4册/梁正宇主编. —苏州: 苏州大学出版社, 2009. 8

ISBN 978-7-81137-275-5

I. 大… II. 梁… III. 英语—阅读教学—高等学校—教学参考资料 IV. H319.4

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2009)第 116331 号

大学英语拓展阅读

第4册

梁正宇 主编

责任编辑 金莉莉

苏州大学出版社出版发行

(地址: 苏州市丁将东路 200 号 邮编: 215021)

丹阳市教育印刷厂印装

(地址: 丹阳市西门外 邮编: 212300)

开本 787 mm×960 mm 1/16 印张 32.75(共四册) 字数 656 千

2009 年 8 月第 1 版 2009 年 8 月第 1 次印刷

ISBN 978-7-81137-275-5 定价: 60.00 元

(共四册)

苏州大学版图书若有印装错误, 本社负责调换

苏州大学出版社营销部 电话: 0512-67258835

苏州大学出版社网址 <http://www.sudapress.com>

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Preface

前言

学习英语,阅读历来就是一条必不可少的重要途径。这既是提高英语学习者语言综合能力的手段,也是学习语言的重要目标之一。新一轮的大学英语教学改革特别强调培养学生实际使用英语的能力,尤其是通过多种阅读渠道获取知识和信息的能力。教育部颁布的《大学英语课程教学要求》将大学阶段的英语教学分为三个层次:一般要求、较高要求和更高要求。每个层次都对学生的阅读能力提出了具体而明确的要求。其中对阅读理解能力的一般要求为:“能够基本读懂一般性题材的英文文章,阅读速度达到每分钟 70 词,在快速阅读篇幅较长、难度略低的材料时,阅读速度达到每分钟 100 词,能基本读懂国内英文报刊,掌握中心意思,理解主要事实和有关细节。能读懂日常生活中常见的应用文体材料。能在阅读中使用有效的阅读方法。”从 2006 年起,大学英语四、六级考试还增设了“快速阅读”考试题型。因此,为适应仔细阅读和快速阅读的这些新要求,我们组织有关老师编写了《大学英语拓展阅读》系列教材,一方面积极应对大学英语教学改革的要求,倡导大学英语个性化、自主性学习等学习理念;另一方面帮助广大学生扩大阅读范围,增加词汇量,提高阅读速度,培养独立阅读习惯和提高阅读能力。

《大学英语拓展阅读》第 1 册至第 4 册的编写遵循这样的原则:内容新颖,时代感强,选材既有历史、传统的内容,又注重社会、科技发展的最新信息;体裁和题材多样化,考虑到知识的多样性,文、理、工、医等内容兼顾;内容富有知识性和趣味性,既注重对国外社会、文化的介绍,也增加中国传统文化及风俗的描述,以便增长学习者的多元知识;练习题型多样化,既有四、六级考试快速阅读题型“是非判断”和“句子填空”,又设置“多项选择”、“简短问答”和“英汉翻译”。本套教材共 4 册,每册及单元之间由浅入深、由易到难、循序渐进。每

单元以一个主要话题为线索,选取内容相近、体裁不同的阅读材料4篇,其中前两篇为快速阅读材料,后两篇为仔细阅读材料。为了便于学习者及时检验自己的阅读情况,教材后面附有参考答案。本教材每单元的内容,一部分可以作为课堂强化训练,一部分可以作为学习者的课后自主练习。

在编写这套教材过程中,我们还得到了外国语学院孙庆文副院长热心指导和支持。在此表示衷心感谢!

由于编者水平有限,如有不当之处,衷心希望广大教师同仁和同学提出宝贵的批评意见和建议,以便今后改进和完善。

编 者
2009年7月

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*Unit 1***Foreign Education****Fast Reading****Text A-1**

Directions: In this part, you will have 15 minutes to go through the passage quickly and answer the 10 questions. For questions 1–7, choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D. For questions 8–10, complete the sentences with the information given in the passage.

Discover an American Treasure: Community Colleges

For the past few years the fastest growing enrollments of international students in the United States have taken place on the campuses of America's community colleges. One of the great treasures of American higher education, the community college system has now begun to be discovered by students from all over the world who see the advantages of institutions that are convenient, affordable, innovative, and ready to admit students from other countries.

Community colleges are located in virtually every population center in the United States—from small towns in rural areas to the downtown campuses in large cities. They offer a variety of academic and vocational programs. They also offer a wide

range of services to very diverse student populations. A full understanding of the services which are offered and which are not offered is crucial to international students.

Services Offered by Community Colleges

Some of the services community colleges provide are listed below. Please note that this list is by no means comprehensive, but it provides a checklist for international students who want to compare what is available at different institutions.

1. Orientation programs

Most colleges and universities that welcome foreign students provide some kind of orientation programs for new students. These programs may last anywhere from half a day to a week or more. You should find out if the institution you want to attend has an orientation program, and if so, how long does it take and what does it include? A well-organized orientation program is a good indication of a higher quality international student program.

2. Academic advising

What is more important than getting good advice about how to achieve your academic goals in the most efficient manner possible? Because academic advising is so critical, it is probably the most widely used service offered on most campuses. All students have questions that only well-trained academic advisors can answer. It is important that you find out how to get the most out of the academic advisors wherever you decide to enroll.

3. Immigration advising and processing

This is another critical “must” for international students. The ins and outs of US immigration laws and policies are sometimes baffling. A good foreign student advisor can guide you through and help you avoid making costly mistakes. Conversely, a poor advisor can have a negative impact on your entire future.

4. Health insurance program

As medical costs climb higher in the USA, it is absolutely essential to have insurance coverage for accidents, injuries, or serious illnesses. Many colleges and universities require international students to purchase a particular health insurance plan. Find out in advance what the policy is and be prepared to pay for insurance. It is much better to have it and not use it than to lack insurance and find yourself with

astronomical medical bills to pay.

5. Personal and career counseling

What do you want to major in? What are the “hot” careers? What future jobs suit your personality, aptitude and interests? What can you do about chronic depression or irrational fears? Is your boyfriend or girlfriend treating you right? You can get help with all of these questions at the college or university’s counseling center. Don’t be afraid to make use of this service. It’s there for you and the professional staff there will talk to you as an adult in complete confidence.

6. Financial aid

Don’t expect to find a lot of scholarship money available to foreign students. Most financial aid in the US comes from the federal government and is therefore restricted to citizens and permanent residents of the United States. Nevertheless, the financial aid office can help you determine if you are qualified for any forms of financial aid.

7. Student activities

Do you like to play chess, watch movies or go camping? Do you enjoy dancing or are you interested in getting involved in volunteer projects? The student activity office on the campus has a long list of things that you can do in your spare time. There are clubs, groups, and people with common interests on your campus. But it’s your job to balance your leisure time and your study time!

8. Remedial programs

This is a particular strength of community colleges. Students who enter the college with weak skills in English or mathematics can begin with a course below college level. These courses will prepare the student to continue in the subject and work up to college level courses.

9. Honors programs

For gifted students, participation in an honors program can be one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their college career. Honors classes tend to have the best students, the best professors, and the most interesting class discussions. There may be other benefits as well. Community college honor students can join Phi Beta Kappa(ΦBK 联谊会, 美国大学优秀生的荣誉组织), an international honor society. Phi Beta Kappa is the most prestigious honor society for students in a

four-year institution.

10. Cultural programs and festivals

More and more colleges and universities sponsor international or cultural festivals. That's a wonderful opportunity for you to share your country, language, and culture with your fellow students. Find out how you can get involved in planning and promoting the event.

Services not Offered by Community Colleges

There are some services that are not usually offered by community colleges. For example, unlike many universities and four-year colleges, community colleges generally do not have on-campus housing.

1. On-campus housing

The most common type of housing at universities is often a shared room in a dormitory or "dorm", also referred to as a residence hall. Some residence halls are quite plain, but the rooms are comfortable and cheap and give students a taste of the traditional American college experience. Since community colleges are often "commuter schools" within commuting distance for students living in the surrounding urban or suburban areas, most of them do not have on-campus housing of any kind. Students attending community colleges live in the local community, usually with their families. The only public community colleges that have dormitories are located in remote rural areas far away from population centers. These colleges have to provide housing because their students come long distances to attend classes. This is particularly true in the wide-open spaces of the western United States.

2. Health center

Another service that you might not find at a community college is the health center. On many university campuses, students who feel sick or who have a health problem can go to a campus clinic. They may be seen by a registered nurse or other health care providers. Most large universities have full-time doctors on the staff who can treat students for any number of ailments or medical problems. But community colleges tend not to have large health clinics. Many community colleges have no medical staff at all. Students who need to see a doctor do what anyone else in the community would do—they can't find medical services in the community. By not operating dormitories and clinics, community colleges save money. The savings are

then passed on to the students in the form of lower tuition and fees.

<http://www.intistudy.com/articles/usuco.htm>

1. Community colleges have the following advantages except _____.
 - A. they offer a wide range of services to different students
 - B. they provide a variety of academic and vocational programs
 - C. they are located in every population centre
 - D. they never enroll students from other countries
2. Most colleges and universities provide some orientation programs for foreign students in that _____.
 - A. a good orientation program provides an international student program of a higher quality
 - B. they may be held at any place on campus
 - C. they may last different periods of time
 - D. they include various contents
3. With academic advising, students may know how to _____.
 - A. make use of the service on campus
 - B. achieve their academic goals efficiently
 - C. get no useful advice from the academic advisors
 - D. find a well-trained academic advisor
4. It is important to have a health insurance because _____.
 - A. it is convenient for international students to have treatment
 - B. it has wide insurance coverage for accidents, injuries or serious illnesses
 - C. medical costs are increasing in the USA
 - D. foreign students may receive extra help from a health insurance
5. Students may get help from personal and career counseling except _____.
 - A. their majors and hot careers
 - B. their future jobs
 - C. their scholarships
 - D. their depression
6. For talented students, which is one of the most challenging and rewarding experience on campus? _____.
 - A. Participation in an honors program
 - B. Participation in student activities

- C. Participation in cultural programs
D. Participation in international festivals
7. Most community colleges do not have any on-campus housing because _____.
A. students like to live outside their colleges
B. students usually live in the local community with their families
C. students have more chances to know American tradition
D. students feel not so comfortable to live in a shared room
8. The advantages of institutions in community colleges are _____ and ready to enroll students from other countries.
9. _____ is/are a particular strength of community colleges.
10. Community colleges generally do not have _____.



Text A-2

Directions: In this part, you will have 15 minutes to go through the passage quickly and answer the 10 questions. For questions 1-7, mark

- Y** (for YES) if the statement agrees with the information given in the passage;
N (for NO) if the statement contradicts the information given in the passage;
NG (for NOT GIVEN) if the information is not given in the passage.
For questions 8-10, complete the sentences with the information given in the passage.

System of Higher Education in the Republic of Serbia

Types of Institutions and Their Status

The activity of higher education in the Republic of Serbia is performed by the following higher education institutions:

- (1) University—University is an independent institution of higher education, the

performance of which unites educational, scientific, research and professional/artistic work, as components of a unique higher education process. University can perform all types and levels of studies. The institution of higher education has the status of university if it performs academic study programs at all levels of studies, within at least three fields (natural sciences and mathematics, social and humanistic studies, medical science, technical and technological science and arts) and three areas (which are defined within the three fields by the National Council). As an exception, a university can be established in the area of art, if it contains all three levels of studies from at least three fields of art.

(2) Faculty / Art academy, as a component of the university—Faculty/Art academy is an institution of higher education i. e. , a unit of the system of higher education which is a part of university and performs academic study programs and develops scientific, research and professional/artistic activities within one or more areas. Faculty/Art academy can also perform specialized study programs. In legal traffic, faculty/art academy is presented by the name of the university to which it belongs, under its own name and in accordance with the university statute.

(3) The academy of professional studies—The academy of professional studies is an independent institution of higher education, the performance of which unites educational, research, professional and artistic work, as components of the unique process of high education. The academy of professional studies can perform basic professional studies and specialist professional studies. An institution of higher education has the status of the academy of professional studies as it accomplishes at least five accredited study programs from at least three fields.

(4) Higher education school—Higher education school is an independent institution of higher education which performs basic, specialist and graduate academic studies from one or more areas.

(5) Higher education school of professional studies—Higher education school of professional studies is an independent institution of higher education which performs basic professional and specialist professional studies from one more areas. The stated institutions are treated as legal subjects. The stated institutions are independent institutions of higher education, except faculties and art academies.



Types and Levels of Studies

The activity of higher education is performed through academic and professional studies based on granted/accredited study programs for the achievement of higher education. At the academic studies, the academic study program is carried out. This program enables students for the development and practical use of scientific, professional and artistic achievements.

At the professional studies, the professional study program is carried out. This program enables students to apply knowledge and skills necessary for participating in the working process.

First level studies are;

- (1) Basic academic studies
- (2) Basic professional studies

Second level studies are;

- (1) Graduate academic studies—master
- (2) Specialist professional studies
- (3) Specialist academic studies

Third degree studies are doctor academic studies.

Accreditation

Accreditation is used to establish if an institution of higher education and study programs fulfill the standards established by the National Council. It is also used to establish if an institution of higher education has the right to issue public documents, all in accordance with the law of higher education.

In the process of accrediting an institution of higher education, it is established if the institution fulfills certain conditions which are, according to the law of higher education, specified for the given institutions which perform the higher education activity. In the process of accrediting a study program, it is established if conditions of introducing such a program are being fulfilled, in accordance with the law. The process of accrediting is conducted at the demand of the Ministry, founder i. e. the institution of higher education itself.

At the process of accrediting, the Accreditation and Quality Control Commission does the following:

- (1) Issues a certificate of accreditation to an institution of higher education or a

study program.

(2) Issues an act of warning to an institution of higher education. This act points out the weaknesses concerning conditions, quality of work of an institution of higher education or a study program, and gives a deadline for removing the weaknesses. When the deadline is over, it decides the request.

(3) Issues a decision which denies the accreditation demand. In the process of deciding the accreditation, the Commission takes into account the results of the quality assessment and self-assessment defined by the law of higher education. If the board reaches a decision to deny the accreditation, the founder/ institution of higher education can file a complaint to the National Council within 30 days from the day the decision is received.

There could not be a legal process against the decision of the National Council. Founder/Institution of higher education has the right to repeat the request for accreditation after the period of one year after the decision to deny the accreditation request is received. The institution of higher education can start working and performing its activities after it receives the working license.

Working license is issued by the Ministry, at the demand of the institution of higher education. At the territory of A. C. Vojvodina[(南斯拉夫自治省名) 伏伊伏丁那], the license is issued by the organs authorized for the delegated affairs.

Organization of Studies

1. Bachelor

Basic studies are organized by all the institutions of higher education defined by the law of higher education.

Basic academic studies last for three to four years.

Basic professional studies last for three years.

Study program of basic and specialist studies can include the final work. A person who finishes the basic academic studies acquires the professional title that includes the name of the profession of the first degree academic studies in the corresponding area—bachelor. A person who finishes the basic professional studies acquires the professional title that includes the name of the profession of the first degree of the professional studies in the corresponding area—bachelor apply.