

大学英语系列教材

新编

# 大学英语阅读教程

New College English Reading  
Book III

—提高篇

总主编 傅勇林

副总主编 唐跃勤 欣 羚

主 编 李清源



高等教育出版社  
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# 大学英语阅读教程

New College English Reading Course

Book 1B

—— 视听说 ——

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上海外语教育出版社

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《新编大学英语阅读教程》是一套以教育部《大学英语课程教学要求》为指导、紧扣大学英语四级机考新题型编写而成的系列阅读教材。通过让学生熟悉新题型中的相关语言材料,掌握新题型涉及的词汇,使学生在逐步提高阅读能力及应用能力的同时,适应新题型中的听力测试内容。本套教材适用于各类高校的大学一至四年级学生,适合作为课堂教材或自学材料。

本套教材内容丰富、题材广泛、语言规范、词汇丰富、表达地道并具有启迪意义,力求集可读性、趣味性、实用性、多元性、时代性为一体,帮助学生开阔视野,积累背景知识,提高学习兴趣,从而进一步提升英语阅读能力。

本套教材的编写在总体目标、语言项目、词汇范围和练习方式的编排上按照四级机考新题型要求。全套教材共分四册(基础篇、进阶篇、提高篇和高级篇),通过一至四册的学习,逐步达到大学英语四级考试水平要求。教材每册 15 个单元,每单元由一篇快速阅读、两篇深度阅读、一篇美文欣赏组成。快速阅读部分旨在培养学生在快速浏览文章的同时,能够迅速准确地抓住文章主要信息,明了作者意图,从而提高学生四级新题型的快速阅读能力。深度阅读部分注重培养学生对文章深层含意的理解,培养学生分析问题和解决问题的能力,提高学生逻辑推理能力。快速阅读和深度阅读均配有与四级考试新题型相关的练习,并附有答案及详解,使学生学练结合,稳固提升英语阅读能力及应用能力。美文欣赏

部分则精选适宜学生诵读并且模仿运用的短文名篇,所选篇章语言优美、描述生动、含意深刻、易于背诵,培养学生的语感和对美文的欣赏能力,使学生体会英语文章的精妙所在,提高学生的学习兴趣。

本教材对各种类型的阅读文章篇幅均有适当控制,如快速阅读基础篇为 500~700 词,进阶篇为 700~900 词,提高篇为 900~1 100 词,高级篇为 1 100~1 200 词;深度阅读基础篇和进阶篇为 300 词左右,提高篇和高级篇为 400 词左右;美文欣赏基础篇为 100 词左右,进阶篇在 150~260 词左右,提高篇和高级篇在 300 词左右。同时,每篇阅读的生词量控制在 4%~5% 范围内,这既能扩大学生词汇量,又不使学生感到艰深难懂,降低学习兴趣。

参加《新编大学英语阅读教程》编写的单位有:西南交通大学、四川农业大学、四川理工学院和攀枝花学院。本教材的总主编是西南交通大学的傅勇林教授,副总主编是西南交通大学的唐跃勤教授和欣羚副教授。第一册主编是攀枝花学院的张春教授;第二册主编是四川理工学院的夏宏钟教授;第三册主编是四川农业大学的李清源教授;第四册主编是西南交通大学的易红副教授。参加编写人员还有上述大学的其他多位资深教授和中青年骨干教师,在此谨表示感谢。

由于编者的水平有限,错误和缺点在所难免,衷心欢迎广大读者批评指正。

编 者

2009 年 7 月

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# *Unit One*

## **Part | Skimming and Scanning**

### **General Dining Tips**

#### **Misuse of silverware**

Never grip your knife and fork like daggers — this is a major dining no — no.

Never rest silverware partially on your plate and partially on the table. This is to prevent any kind of accident with your food. Once you pick up your silverware, it should never touch the table again.

Another important thing to remember is to never let your knife blade face outward. This is thought of as offensive to the other people at the table.

Treat your knife with care. For those of you that speak a lot with your hands, don't hold your knife while doing so. No one would want someone's eye to get poked out in the middle of a great conversation.

#### **Misuse of napkin**

Napkins are only meant to catch food that may fall on your lap, or to lightly dab the corners of your mouth. The napkin should immediately be unfolded and placed on your lap ( following your Host's lead ) when starting a meal.

Until the end of the meal, it should remain as invisible to others eating with you as possible. If you are to leave the table during the meal, place the napkin on your chair and gently push your chair in.

When you are finished with your meal, place your napkin on the left side up your plate in a “neat” wad. Do not try to refold your napkin and never put your napkin on your plate.

### **The menu**

The menu in a dining situation may vary. If dinner is being hosted privately in which a menu has already been prepared, then you have nothing to worry about. Most probably, you were notified of the dinner chokes (供客人选择的晚宴菜谱) ahead of time and were given an option of two choices along with a chance to alert the host of any allergies or special diet preferences.

If you as a guest are treated to dinner at a restaurant, then the menu may be very elaborate. If uncertain about some items on the menu, don't be afraid to ask your server about anything unfamiliar. It is part of the server's job to answer your question. Plus, it is much better to find out about a dish on the menu before it is brought to you and you realize that it is either not to your liking, or that some ingredients may be hazardous to your diet.

A well-mannered host will usually allow your order to be taken first and have his or her order taken last. A good server will always take women's orders first. This does, however, depend on the training of the waiter. In some situations, they are trained to take orders by going around the table in a certain sequence.

Never order one of the more expensive items on the menu unless it is in some way suggested by the host. You should also not order more courses from the menu than your host unless he or she suggests it. Because your order will mostly be taken before the host's, it may be difficult to know what to do. Just use your best instincts.

### **Breaking bread**

In fine dining situations, you will be offered an individual bread roll or slices, not an entire loaf that everyone at the table will cut and pick at. The breadbasket will usually be brought out right before the main entree is served, depending on the menu.

When the basket arrives at the table, the person closest to the basket should take the basket and pass it around the table to the right. This person should be the

last person to take a roll from the basket. Always offer first.

Bread is the only part of the menu that you can eat with your bare hands. In fact, it is proper to eat bread with your hands.

Never butter an entire slice of bread before eating it and never bite your entire piece of bread. Instead, tear the bread into bite-sized pieces and butter each piece right before you plan to eat it.

### **Poor posture**

Do not slouch. Sit up straight and don't sit all the way back in your chair. Food doesn't go well when you sit slumped over. And you're not as attractive to your dining companions either. Not only will you feel more comfortable when sitting up straight, but you may avoid choking on a piece of food.

### **Eating quickly**

Whether you're at McDonald's or a fine dining restaurant, eating too quickly and gulping is not only bad for your digestion, but it is very unattractive. Since dining with others is a shared experience. Dining partners should generally have the same number of courses and start and finish each at about the same pace.

### **Picking your teeth**

Never, ever pick your teeth when dining or after the meal. If it is absolutely necessary, excuse yourself and make a visit to the rest room. Remember that picking your teeth includes fingers, fingernails, toothpicks or other foreign objects doing the job.

### **Talking with your mouth full**

Talking with your mouth full is something that your mother has probably told you not to do since you were very young.

In the same way, chewing with your mouth open is also very bad manners. If you are in the middle of a conversation, don't be afraid to continue eating. After all, that is the main purpose of a meal — to eat. Just make sure to keep your mouth closed until you swallow and then answer the question. Your companion is sure to understand.

To eliminate a long wait, take small bites, finish chewing, smile and then carry on your part of the conversation.

### Accessories ( and lipstick ) at the table

Do not do it! This rule includes briefcases, purses, keys, gloves, hats, cell phones ( which should be turned OFF and not used throughout the meal anyway ) and anything else that is not part of the meal. This also means that no compacts or lipsticks should be used or opened at the table. This is why ladies call the rest room the “ powder room. ”

Why are all these accessories not allowed at the table? It is both unsightly and unsanitary.

( 1,028 words )

**Directions:** Go over the passage quickly and answer the following questions.

*For questions 1 ~ 7, mark*

*Y for YES, if the statement agrees with the information;*

*N for NO, if the statement contradicts the information;*

*NG for NOT GIVEN, if there is no information on this in the text.*

*For questions 8 ~ 10, complete the sentences with the information given in the passage.*

1. \_\_\_\_\_ While speaking, do not hold your knife with the blade facing outward.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ After the meal, you should neatly fold your napkin before placing it on the left side on your plate.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Being a guest to dinner, it is not proper to ask the waiter about anything.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ In most cases, a good server will ask the host and hostess' advice before serving.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Unless the host ( hostess ) suggests, never order the most expensive items or more courses than your host.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ When the basket arrives at the table, the person closest to the basket

- should take a roll from the basket first.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ While dining, you need to sit up straight because food will go well without choking you and you will look more beautiful.
  8. Since dining with others is a shared experience, so you can't eat \_\_\_\_\_.
  9. In the middle of a conversation, you needn't worry about \_\_\_\_\_ so long as you keep your mouth closed until you swallow before speaking.
  10. According to the passage, ladies can use \_\_\_\_\_ at a "rest room" to make themselves look beautiful.

## Part II Reading in Depth

**Directions:** *There are 2 passages in this part. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them there are four choices marked A, B, C, and D. You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter with a single line through the center.*

### Passage 1

A father's relationship to his child's current and future academic success and the level of his or her development in academic potential and scholastic achievement are both factors with some rather interesting implications that educators are beginning to study and appraise. As a matter of fact, "life with father" has been discovered to be a very important factor in determining a child's progress or lack of progress in school.

A recent survey of over 16, 000 children made by the National Child Development Study in London revealed that children whose fathers came to school conferences and accompanied their children on outing did measurably better in school than those children whose fathers were not involved in those activities. The study, which monitored children born during a week in March, 1992, from the time of their birth through the years of their early schooling, further revealed that the children of actively involved fathers scored much higher in reading and math

than those children whose only involved parent was the mother. The purpose of the study was to evaluate the role played by fathers in the raising of a child. It indicated a much higher level of parental involvement by the father than had been anticipated. Over 66% of the fathers were said to have played a major role in parental responsibility.

The study also suggested that the greatest level of paternal parenting took place in the families of only child. As the number of children and financial obligations increased, the father's apparent interest and involvement with the children decreased. However, no matter what the size or financial condition of the family is, a father's active participation in the child's development made a definite difference in the child's progress.

The study further revealed that while the frequency of overnight absences reflected a corresponding deficiency of the child's level in math and reading, a father's employment on night shifts appeared to have little effect on the child's academic progress. The data from the study were obtained primarily through interviews from parents, teachers and physicians. The information evaluating the level of the father's parenting performance was elicited (引出) primarily from the admittedly subjective observations of their wives.

1. What is the main discovery made in the study?
  - A. A father's influence played a significant factor in the level of the child's academic progress.
  - B. It indicated a much higher level of parental involvement of the father than had been anticipated.
  - C. It suggested that the greatest level of paternal parenting took place in the families of only child.
  - D. It revealed that a father's employment on night shifts appeared to have little effect on the child's academic progress.
2. Which of the following statements is true according to the passage?
  - A. Children whose fathers did not come to school conferences or accompany them on outing did better than those whose fathers were involved in those

- activities.
- B. Children who have actively involved fathers did much better academically than those whose only involved parent was the mother.
  - C. The more children a family has, the more interest and involvement the father has.
  - D. The more overnight absences the father has, the worse the child's level in math and chemistry is.
3. What's the aim of the study?
- A. To compare children from large families with children from small ones.
  - B. To evaluate father's abilities in involving in children's activities.
  - C. To reveal father's role in bringing up a child.
  - D. To explain the differences between mother's role and father's in raising a child.
4. Evidence indicated that fathers who were involved in the parenting process amounted to \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. about two-thirds of the fathers involved in the study
  - B. slightly less than half of the fathers studied
  - C. more than three-quarters of all the fathers involved in the study
  - D. a little less than one hundred percent of all fathers studied
5. The data accumulated were obtained through \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. observation by social psychologists
  - B. conversations with mothers of the children
  - C. interviews, school records and physicians' reports
  - D. observations of fathers with their children

## Passage 2

The idea of helping people comes naturally to most of us. If we see a blind person getting off a bus, we watch to make sure that he is in no danger of falling. Members of a family help one another, with particular care for the very young and the elderly.

There are many people who have nobody near to see their need for help and



often nobody to give it even when the need is known. The old, the handicapped, the homeless and friendless — these are the people for whom help may not come, because nobody sees. It may not have occurred to you that you are in a position to help. Community service means helping the people around you. Organizations exist which try to make sure that someone sees when help is needed and does something about it. These organizations depend on voluntary help to carry out a wide variety of tasks, volunteers giving up a little of their spare time to lend a hand.

If you wish to take part in this worthwhile activity, what sort of things would you do? Think of the people most in need of help and the ways in which help can be given. Much of the community services is concerned with the care of the elderly and the handicapped. Old people cannot always redecorate their homes. Handicapped people may be young or old. People confined to wheelchairs cannot go out unless somebody takes them. Blind children may love swimming but they need a sighted swimmer to go with them. Some handicapped people may be unable to go out at all and a visitor is then more than welcome.

What do you do if you want to help? Your school may have contact with an outside organization or, indeed, run a community service scheme itself. In many towns there is a committee called the Council of Social Service and it will be able to tell you about voluntary activities in the area. The Citizens' Advice Bureau and the Women's Royal Voluntary Service are other sources of information, as is the public library. Churches, the Scouts and other youth organizations can tell you about their activities. If you join such a group, you will bring pleasure and hope to people who need your help.

1. The author's purpose in writing this passage is to explain \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. why it is necessary for us to help others
  - B. how to help others
  - C. who most need help
  - D. what community service is
2. The main idea of Para. 2 is that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. many people need help, but nobody sees and gives it