



高职高专行业英语系列教材

# 汽车英语

## Automobile English

顾云青 张金霞 / 主编



外语教学与研究出版社  
FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH PRESS



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# 序

在中国,外语教学特别是英语教学这几年来一直是倍受关注的事情。尽管上至国家领导,下至学生和家长都给予了极大的关心和重视,政府和学校投入也很大,但教学效果却始终不能令人满意。每年各级各类学校都有大量外语毕业生走向社会,大学英语四、六级参考人数也逐步扩大到上千万之多,可学生口语不流利、专业知识缺乏、对国际贸易规则陌生等问题都令社会各界抱怨不已。这是为什么?是哪里出了问题?我们该怎么办?

近十年来,我国高等职业教育研究与实践已经取得了十分丰硕的成果,但仍然有一些基本问题没有解决,这和我们的英语教育颇有相似之处,那就是教育人才培养的效果与市场需求之间存在着系统性偏差,其表现为:高职院校毕业生的职业能力不符合用人单位的要求,社会对高职学生就业能力的认同度低;学生及家长对学校提供的课程不满意,认为在学校学习期间未能获得就业能力的有效培养。我们认为,在高职专业名称与社会需求接轨后,产生系统性偏差的主要原因是目前高职课程体系和培养模式不符合高等职业教育培养人才的内在规律,我们外语教育出现的问题也在于此!我们的外语教育内容和方法没有能够与时俱进,教学效果没能满足社会的需求。

高等职业技术教育应该以培养面向基层、面向服务和管理第一线需要的高等技术应用型人才为目标,职业技术教育以技术应用为主、以能力教学为核心。应按照“实际、实用、实践”的原则,改革专业教学内容、课程体系,制定各专业的人才规格和知识能力结构。高职教学内容必须强调实用性、针对性,必须根据就业需要有的放矢地选择教学内容,恰当处理好近期的就业“必需够用”和将来的发展“迁移可用”的关系,科学构建针对性强、能培养高等实用型人才的课程结构。高职高专的英语教学也必须遵循这个原则,这也正是本套教材编写的原则和特点。

本系列教材在全面贯彻《高职高专教育英语课程教学基本要求(试行)》的前提下,结合一线教学实际,突出了以下几个特点:

- (1) 设置课程原则——面向行业。
- (2) 设定培养目标的原则——以能力培养为本位。



(3) 设定课程内容的原则——适应学生智能特点,真实,可操作性强。

(4) 设计教学活动原则——任务驱动、整体模块,听、说、读、写全方位与专业接轨。

本系列教材难易程度相当于高职高专基础英语的第四册水平,坚持“降低难度,小步前进,力求实效”的编写理念,所以,既可作为高职高专基础英语教材的配套教材使用,也可单独用于业务英语的教学和培训。

本系列教材包括:《商务英语》、《财务会计英语》、《文秘英语》、《电子商务英语》、《饭店英语》、《旅游英语》、《计算机英语》、《医护英语》、《机械英语》、《物流英语》、《电力英语》等,以满足不同专业对行业英语教学和培训的需求。

当然,任何一种新的事物都需要接受实践的考验,但我们有信心为中国的高职英语教育作出应有的贡献。恳请广大读者和英语界同仁不吝赐教。

郑仰成

# 前言

近年来,我国汽车行业空前发展,亟需大量懂技术、能熟练使用英语的复合型人才。然而,现有的汽车专业英语教材大多侧重于介绍汽车构造知识,生词多、句子长、课文偏难,高职学生学习时普遍感到困难、枯燥。于是编者在充分调研的基础上,并结合一线教学实践编写了本教材。

本教材的编写充分考虑到高职高专学生的实际需求,照顾到大多数学生的实际水平,贴近生活,语境真实。全书不仅涉及汽车构造知识,而且包括汽车的文化、维修与保养、营销、新技术等内容。在内容的编排上,既照顾到汽车专业知识的系统性,又注意通过话题导入、小幽默等环节提高趣味性,使学生通过对本教材的学习,不仅能提高英语的实际应用能力,还能进一步了解汽车新技术。本书既可作为高职高专汽车类专业的专业英语教材,又可当作相关技术人员的培训教材或自学参考书。

全书共分为8个单元,每单元围绕一个主题进行选材和编写。各单元的基本内容包括:1.热身活动和对话;2.课文A(附词汇表和注解);3.练习(针对课文A的阅读理解和词汇练习);4.课文B(附词汇表和注解);5.练习(针对课文B的阅读理解和词汇练习);6.知识扩展和小幽默。书末附有习题答案和词汇总表,以方便学习和查阅。

本教材配有相应的汉语译文,以作为任课教师教授本教材的参考。教师和读者可以从外研社高等英语教育出版分社的网站([www.heep.cn](http://www.heep.cn))上下载。

本教材由北京现代职业技术学院的顾云青老师和张金霞老师主编。其中顾云青老师编写Unit 1、Unit 2、Unit 5、Unit 7和Unit 8共5个单元,张金霞老师编写Unit 3、Unit 4和Unit 6共3个单元。在本书的策划和收集资料过程中,任玉霞老师做了大量工作;此外,我们还得到学校汽车工程系张莉老师的大力支持,编者在此深表谢意。

由于编写时间有限,疏漏之处在所难免,敬请专家和读者不吝赐教。

编者

2009年6月

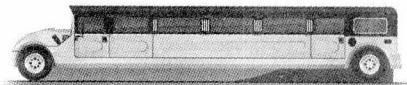
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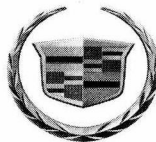
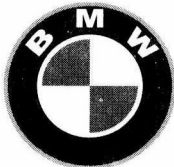
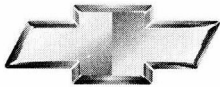
## Unit 1

# History of the Automobile



### WARMING-UP

The following are ten world-famous car logos.  
Work with your partner and try to write out their  
English names.







## DIALOG

The following dialog is between a car rental assistant and a lady named Mary Jones, who wants to rent a car. Read it aloud and try to act it out.



Assistant: Good morning. May I help you?

Jones: I'd like to rent a car, please.

Assistant: You have come to the right place! Would you like an economy car or a luxury one, madam?

Jones: Economy, please. What's the rate?

Assistant: 28 dollars a day or 168 dollars a week, unlimited mileage.

Jones: OK, thank you. And how much is the insurance, please?

Assistant: If you want full cover insurance, it will be 6 dollars a day. That includes collision damage and up to \$1 million injury cover.

Jones: All right. Thank you. I'll take it.

Assistant: Here is our brochure, Madam. Err... economy...? Yes, here they are in this section. Which model would you like?

Jones: I like this yellow "Beetle" very much.

Assistant: Good, it's available. How many days would you like it for?

Jones: I'll need it from today, the 10th to the 18th.

Assistant: That's OK. May I see your driving license, please?

Jones: Yes, it's an international driving license, is that OK?

Assistant: Sure, thank you. Please fill in this form, and can I swipe your credit card, please?

Jones: Sorry, I haven't got it with me.

Assistant: Then you'll have to leave a \$200 deposit.

Jones: OK. Here you are. If that's everything, can you tell me where to collect the car, please?

Assistant: Sure, it's just outside in Line B2. You can't miss it. Here are the keys. Bye.

Jones: Thank you. See you on the 18th. Bye.



## TEXT A

### History of the Automobile

The automobile industry is one of the most important industries affecting not only the economy but also the culture of the world. The manufacture, sale and servicing of

automobiles have become the key elements of industrial economy. Automobiles revolutionized transportation in the 20th century, changing thoroughly the way people live, travel and do business.

Automobiles are classified by size, style, number of doors and intended use. The typical automobile, also called a car, auto, motorcar, and passenger car, has four wheels and can carry up to five people including a driver. Vehicles designed to carry more passengers are called vans, minivans, omnibuses or buses. Those used to carry cargo are called pickups or trucks, depending on their size and design. Sport-utility vehicles, also known as SUVs, are designed for driving in mud or snow.

Today automobile production has grown from small workshops making simple horseless carriages to international corporations that mass-produce advanced automobiles. Automobiles are the products of centuries of innovation and improvements.

### Steam-powered Vehicles

In the 15th century, Italian inventor Leonardo da Vinci envisioned the possibilities for power-driven vehicles. By the late 17th century, English physicist Sir Isaac Newton had proposed a steam carriage, and in 1769 French army captain Nicholas-Joseph Cugnot actually built one—a steam-powered, three-wheeled tractor that was used to haul military equipment at the speed of 2.5 miles per hour. Later, he designed another vehicle to carry people. Other inventors made many improvements to vehicles in the following several decades. Steam-powered stagecoaches were in regular service in many towns in Britain in the early 1800s. Half a century later, the popularity of steam vehicles began to decline because they were dangerous to operate and difficult to maintain.



### Words

revolutionize /ˌrevəˈljʊːʃənəɪz/

vt. 在……方面引起突破性变革

van /væn/

n. 大篷货车; 搬运车

omnibus /ˈɒmnɪbʌs/

n. 公共汽车

cargo /ˈkɑːɡəʊ/

n. 货物

pickup /ˈpɪkʌp/

n. 小卡车, 轻型货车

utility /juːˈtɪləti/

n. 功用, 效用

innovation /ˌɪnəʊ'veɪʃən/

n. 革新, 创新

envision /ɪnˈvɪʒən/

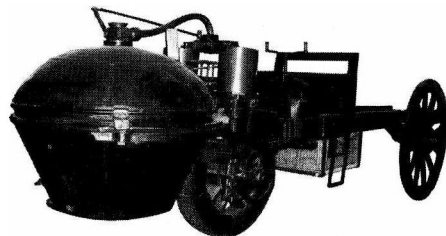
vt. 想象, 展望

haul /hɔːl/

vt. 托运, 运送

stagecoach /ˈsteɪdʒkəʊtʃ/

n. 驿站马车, 公共马车



## Electricity-powered Vehicles

From 1832 to 1839, Scottish inventor Robert Anderson designed a more practical vehicle that used a battery to power a small motor. This was hailed as a breakthrough, even though this vehicle was still very slow and often needed to stop for a recharge. But the idea of electricity-powered vehicles did catch on. Streetcars and trams used electricity for power and became the most popular transportation mode of choice in Europe and the U.S. in the mid 1800s.

hail /heɪl/

vt. 为……欢呼，热情赞扬

breakthrough /'breɪkθruː/

n. 重大成就；突破性进展

recharge /riːtʃɑːdʒ/

n. 再充电

tram /træm/

n. 有轨电车

moderate /'mɒdərət/

adj. 有限的，不大的

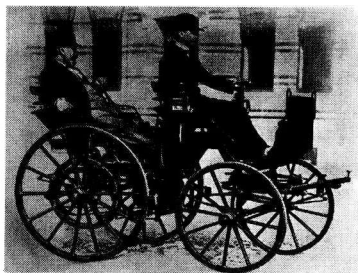
predecessor /'priːdɪsesə(r)/

n. (被取代的) 原有事物

## Gasoline-powered Vehicles

It was the invention of the gasoline-powered engine that really brought a reliable and workable automobile to the world. Gasoline-powered engines were not new; some of the first designs could be dated back to the late 1700s. Some inventors attempted to make a wagon or a carriage run by a motor, but with moderate success.

In 1885, Karl Benz built the first three-wheeled gasoline-powered car in Germany. In the following year, the milestone vehicle was built by Gottlieb Daimler, another German. He perfected the two-cylinder gasoline engine and attached it to a stagecoach, thereby producing the first four-wheeled motor vehicle in the world. And then, engineers and designers went on with refining and shaping the engine and vehicle designs. By the early 1900s, motor-powered vehicles had become more popular than any other type of vehicles.



## The First Vehicle Workshop

In 1889, former woodworkers René Panhard and Émile Levassor in France set up the first workshop that built complete motor vehicles. They made each new car a little bit different from its predecessors for years. Cars were refined during processing. Improvements included moving the engine to the front of the vehicle and designing a rear-wheel drive for better control of the vehicle.

### Mass-produced Vehicles

In 1913, Henry Ford began making automobiles on a moving conveyor line in his factories. He realized that efficient mass production could lower car prices, making cars affordable for the average person, thus generating a huge market. This was a smashing success. By 1916 annual U.S. auto production reached one million units, a level not reached by any other country until about 40 years later in England.

### And Still Growing

Today, auto-making has become the world's largest manufacturing activity, with nearly 58 million new vehicles built each year worldwide. Besides, many other industries support the automobile industry. By some estimates, for every job created in the automobile assembly line, three to four jobs are created in the automotive parts industry. The automobile industry is surely an important source of employment and transportation for billions of people. The 1900s can be called the Age of Automobile, and cars will no doubt continue to shape our culture and economy well into the whole 21st century.

smashing /'smæʃɪŋ/  
*adj.* 了不起的, 出色的  
 estimate /'estɪmeɪt/  
*n.* 估计; 估计数  
 assembly /ə'sembli/  
*n.* 装配, 组装

### Terms

catch on 被(人)接受; 流行起来  
 two-cylinder gasoline engine  
 双缸汽油发动机  
 rear-wheel drive 后轮驱动  
 moving conveyor line 流水线

## Notes to the Text

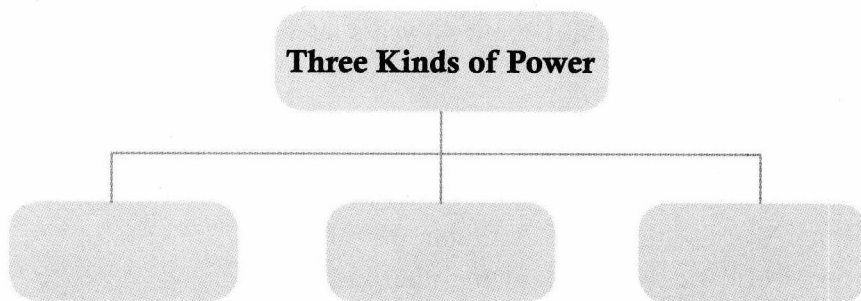
1. Today automobile production has grown from small workshops making simple horseless carriages to international corporations that mass-produce advanced automobiles.  
 今天, 汽车生产已经从制造简易老式汽车的小作坊发展为大规模生产高级汽车的跨国公司。
2. ... a steam-powered, three-wheeled tractor that was used to haul military equipment at the speed of 2.5 miles per hour.  
 ……一辆用蒸汽发动机牵引的三轮拖拉机, 以每小时 2.5 英里的速度拖运军事装备。
3. He perfected his two-cylinder gasoline engine and attached it to a stagecoach, thereby producing the first four-wheeled motor vehicle in the world.  
 他改进了双缸汽油发动机并把它安装在一辆公共马车上, 从而造出了世界上第一辆四轮机动车。



4. They made each new car a little bit different from its predecessors for years.  
 几年中，他们制造的每一辆新车与先前的车都稍有区别。

## Reading Comprehension

### I. Complete the following chart according to the text.



### II. Answer the following questions briefly according to the text.

- What's the advantage of sport-utility vehicles?  
 They can be driven in \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.
- When did Nicholas-Joseph Cugnot make the first steam-powered vehicle?  
 In \_\_\_\_\_.
- What were the two disadvantages of the first battery-powered motor invented by Robert Anderson?  
 It was very \_\_\_\_\_ and often needed to stop for a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Where was the first gasoline-powered car made in 1885?  
 In \_\_\_\_\_.
- Why did Henry Ford produce automobiles on a moving conveyor line?  
 He thought that mass production could lower car \_\_\_\_\_, making cars \_\_\_\_\_ for the average person, thus \_\_\_\_\_ a huge market.

### III. Decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F) according to the text.

- ( ) 1. A typical automobile has four wheels and can carry up to five people.
- ( ) 2. Steam-powered vehicles were in regular service in Britain in the 1800s.
- ( ) 3. The electricity-powered vehicle was viewed as a breakthrough in the automobile history.

- ( ) 4. People preferred motor-powered vehicles to any other type of vehicles by the early 1900s.
- ( ) 5. It was in the U.S. that the first vehicle workshop was set up in 1889.

## Vocabulary Exercises

### I. Match the following expressions with their Chinese meanings.

1. transportation mode
2. Age of Automobile
3. electricity-powered vehicle
4. the way people live
5. power-driven vehicle
6. steam-powered vehicle

- a. 电动汽车
- b. 动力汽车
- c. 出行方式
- d. 蒸汽汽车
- e. 生活方式
- f. 汽车时代

### II. Translate the following sentences into Chinese.

1. The manufacture, sale and servicing of automobiles have become the key elements of industrial economy.
2. Those used to carry cargo are called pickups or trucks, depending on their size and design.
3. It was the invention of the gasoline-powered engine that really brought a reliable and workable automobile to the world.
4. By 1916 annual U.S. auto production reached one million units, a level not reached by any other country until about 40 years later in England.
5. By some estimates, for every job created in the automobile assembly line, three to four jobs are created in the automotive parts industry.

### III. Complete the sentences with the words given below. Change their forms if necessary.

propose      front      date  
 passenger      important      electric  
 classify      popular      divide

1. Automobiles are \_\_\_\_\_ by size, style, number of doors and intended use.
2. The automobile industry is one of \_\_\_\_\_ industries of the world.

3. Vehicles are designed to carry \_\_\_\_\_ or cargo.
4. Sir Isaac Newton \_\_\_\_\_ a steam carriage by the late 17th century.
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ of steam vehicles began to decline several decades later.
6. Streetcars and trams used \_\_\_\_\_ for power in the mid 1800s.
7. Some designs could \_\_\_\_\_ back to the late 1700s.
8. The engine was moved to the \_\_\_\_\_ of vehicles.

IV. Complete the following passage with the words given below. Change their forms if necessary.

brake      appear  
prevent      make      safe  
estimate      control

Road traffic crashes represent the leading cause of death among young people with an 1 1.2 million deaths in the world each year. All kinds of dangerous images 2 incessantly (不间断地). For example, wheels lose traction (牵引力) while braking or turning; mechanical systems are out of 3 unexpectedly...

Safety research started in 1960s. From then on, many improvements 4 in automobile design. The first innovation is creating a solid cage around the occupants (占有人), with soft materials designed to absorb impact forces. Seat belts are used to hold occupants in place. The third one is airbag, which is to avoid direct impacts. The anti-lock braking system can 5 the wheels from locking during braking. Some advanced cars install head-up displays (仰视显示器) to provide a better view at night.



## TEXT B

### Structure of the Automobile

An automobile usually has four wheels, designed to travel on land and applied for personal transportation or cargo. Modern automobiles consist of about 14,000 parts and

comprise several structural systems, including the engine, chassis, electrical devices and body.

### Engine

An engine can convert fuel into energy that moves the automobile. Most autos are powered by an gasoline engine. Some passenger cars and trucks have diesel engines. In recent years, a kind of electronic engine occurs which has different devices and functions on engine operation.

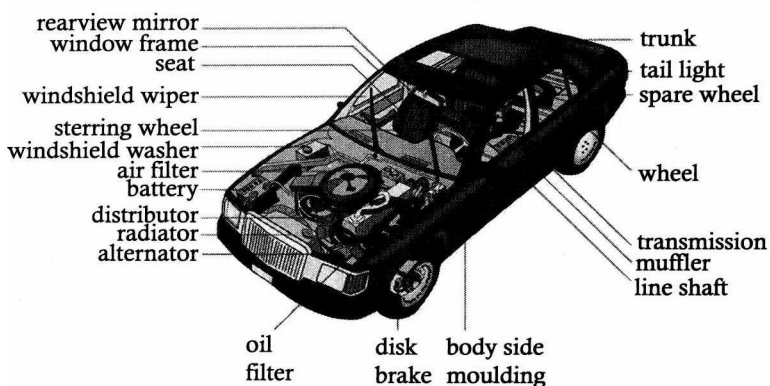
Engines are often located at the front of vehicles and drive either the rear or the front wheels. Combustion inside an engine produces temperatures high enough to melt iron. The cooling system conducts the heat away. The exhaust system carries exhausted gases to the atmosphere in a pipe and also reduces engine noise. Engines become more powerful and use more fuel as the size and number of cylinders increase.

### Chassis

Chassis is considered as a support frame for an auto body. It supports the driving, steering, braking and suspension systems. While power from the engine is transmitted to chassis, these systems interact with each other closely.

The driving system has two functions: it transmits power from the engine to the driven wheels, and it varies the amount of torque. The steering system enables the driver to control the direction of the vehicle. The braking system is one of the most important systems of a car. If the brakes don't work properly, the result can be disastrous. There are two independent braking systems: foot brake and hand brake.

### ANATOMY OF AN AUTOMOBILE



### Words

comprise /kəm'praɪz/

vt. 包含; 由……组成

chassis /'ʃæsi/

n. (单复同) 底盘

convert /kən'veɜ:t/

vt. 使转变, 使变换

combustion /kəm'bʌstʃən/

n. 燃烧

melt /melt/

vt. 使熔化

conduct /kən'dʌkt/

vt. 传导

steering /'stiəriŋ/

n. 转向; 指引

suspension /sə'spensən/

n. 悬挂装置

transmit /trænz'mɪt/

vt. 传递 (力、动作等); 传 (热、声等)

torque /tɔ:k/

n. 扭矩, 转矩

disastrous /dɪ'zɑ:stəs/

adj. 灾难性的, 造成惨重损失的

brake /breɪk/

n. 制动装置, 刹车





tyre /'taɪə(r)/

n. 轮胎; 轮箍

ignition /ɪg'niʃən/

n. 点火, 发火

horn /hɔ:n/

n. 喇叭; 警报器

hood /hud/

n. 发动机罩, 车篷

enclosure /ɪn'kləʊʒə(r)/

n. 围住, 封入

pinpoint /'pɪnpɔɪnt/

vt. 为……准确定位; 确认

emission /ɪ'mɪʃən/

n. (光、热、电、声等的) 发出, 散发

### Terms

gasoline engine 汽油机

diesel engine 柴油机

exhaust system 排气系统

turn signal 转向灯

GPS = Global Positioning

System 全球卫星定位系统

HEV = Hybrid-Electric Vehicle

混合动力汽车 (使用汽油、  
电力两种驱动方式)

anti-collision system

防碰撞系统

The suspension system absorbs road shocks, transmits brake-reaction forces and helps maintain traction between the tyres and the road.

### Electrical Devices

Electrical devices are the basic parts of vehicles. They produce, store and distribute the electricity an auto requires. An auto depends on electricity for the ignition, lights, turn signals, the horn and the radio. In modern cars, a computer controls the whole system and adjusts it to provide maximum efficiency in a variety of driving conditions.

### Body

The auto body is of hood, windows, doors, seats, and other parts that form enclosures for occupants. It is a structure to provide comfort, protection and shelter. Designers have made many improvements to body construction in order to get it safer and more comfortable.

With the development of auto technology, manufacturers continue to add more devices to cars. By using GPS, a computer in the auto can pinpoint the vehicle's location. Cars equipped with computers can link to the Internet to obtain all kinds of information. HEVs promise to double the fuel efficiency while reducing emissions. The anti-collision system is being developed so that the car's brakes can automatically slow the vehicle if it is following another vehicle too closely. In a word, by adopting computer technology and lighter materials, human beings will produce lighter and smarter automobiles.