

College English Fast Reading
Students' Guide Book

大学英语 ②

快速阅读 新导学

(第二册)

总主编 蔡碧霞
主 编 端木敏静

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篇阅读文章组成。文章主要选自当代最新的英文报纸和英文原作,题材广泛,涵盖文化、教育、历史、地理、科技、经济、友情、亲情、校园生活等,并与学生的学习、生活密切相关,是大学生提高词汇量、扩展知识面、培养英语学习兴趣的好帮手。所有文章的内容思想健康,具有知识性、时代性和趣味性,既可提高学生的英语素养,又能增强学生的综合运用能力。每篇阅读文章配有针对性强、形式多样的练习,设有选择题、正误判断、翻译和问答题等题型,以增进英语的习得。所有练习均给出了参考答案。

在培养阅读能力的教学过程中,应在密切关注“快速阅读”的基础上,着重关注以下几个方面:理解文章的主旨和要义,理解文章的具体信息,根据上下文推断生词的词义,根据文章做出简单的推断和推理,理解文章的基本结构,理解作者的意图、观点和态度。另外必须注意的是:相应练习总是以文章为根据,这就是说,答案要在文章中找到根据。因此,我们不仅要求学生注意词汇、语法和阅读理解三大语言要素,掌握一定的语言背景知识,掌握阅读技巧,并有一定的分析和理解能力,同时还希望在注重量的同时注重阅读速度。

阅读是一个循序渐进、厚积薄发的过程,所以这套书分为四册,由浅入深,最后达到大学英语四级所要求的词汇量、阅读量和阅读速度。

本册是《大学生英语快速阅读新导学》的第二册。本书的内容在第一册的基础上作了延伸,主要注重篇章结构组织的分析、了解整篇文章的逻辑关系、把握全篇脉络、理清句和句以及段和段之间的关系。该书旨在指导和帮助有一定英语学习能力的学生顺利阅读语言难度较高的文章。

本丛书的相关语言问题由英语专家审阅把关,从而保证了质量。

在编写这套书的过程中,尽管我们从主题设计、文章选择、练习设置等方面花了大量的时间和精力,力求使其达成我们理想的教学目的,但由于种种原因,未必能做到尽善尽美。因此,我们衷心希望广大教师和学生在使用过程中不吝指教,以便我们在重印或再版时修正提高。

编者
2009 春



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Unit 1

Humor

Imagination was given man to compensate for what he is not, and a sense of humor to console him for what he is.

—Abbott Lawrence Lowell



The Search Team

Humor is the ability or quality of people, objects, or situations to evoke feelings of amusement in other people. Humor will make every part of your life better. It will help you through difficult times and it will help you make the good times even better. It will attract good people and good situations to you. You'll become a magnet

1

for positive experiences. And it's well documented that daily laughter will make you healthier. In short, a sense of humor is what makes life fun. However, a child's sense of humor can be both a source of pleasure and frustration for parents. The following story shows us what a good sense of humor of children can bring to a family.

The boss of a big company needed to call one of his employees about an urgent problem with one of the main computers. He dialed the employee's home phone number and was greeted with a child's whispered, "Hello?"

2

Feeling put out at the inconvenience of having to talk to a youngster, the boss asked, "Is your Daddy home?" "Yes," whispered the small voice. "May I talk with him?" the man asked. To the surprise of the boss, the small voice whispered, "No." Wanting to talk with an adult, the boss asked, "Is your Mommy there?" "Yes", came the answer. "May I talk with her?" Again the small voice whispered, "No."

3

Knowing that it was not likely that a young child would be left home alone, the boss decided he would just leave a message with the person who should be there watching over the child. "Is there any one there besides you?" the boss asked the child.

4

"Yes," whispered the child, "a policeman." Puzzled at what a cop would be doing at his employee's home, the boss asked, "May I speak with the policeman?" "No, he's busy," whispered the child. "Busy doing what?" asked the boss. "Talking to Daddy and Mommy and the Fireman," came the whispered answer.

5

Growing concerned and even worried as he heard what sounded

6

C. delight

D. sympathy

3. When he heard what sounded like a helicopter through the ear piece on the phone, the boss became _____.

A. irritated

B. anxious

C. worried

D. astonished

4. Which of the following is the best conclusion about the presence of a search team in that employee's house?

A. There was a fire in the house.

B. The parents thought the child was missing and the team came to help.

C. The child called the policemen in.

D. They just happened to be there.

5. Based on the passage which of the following is NOT true?

A. It is obvious the child really enjoyed this "cat-and-mouse game" with his parents and the policemen while others were frantically looking for the boy.

B. The child whispered to the boss on the phone because he didn't want to be heard by his parents or policeman.

C. The child cannot help laughing, though not loudly, when he told the boss the search team was actually looking for him.

D. A child's curiosity can always bring great trouble to adults' life.

II. Fill in the blanks with the words or phrases from the passage.

- When the boss was greeted by a child in the phone, he felt 1.
- When the boss learned from the child that there was a policeman in his employee's home, he felt 2.
- When the boss heard the sound of a helicopter, he felt 3 and 4.
- When the boss learned there was a search team, he felt 5.
- And we can imagine all the time the child was filled with excitement.



of multiple homework projects. An ability to plan and organize social gatherings for clients of all ages and mental outlooks. A willingness to be indispensable one minute, an embarrassment the next. Handling assembly and product safety testing of a half million cheap, plastic toys, and battery operated devices not essential but highly desirable. Applicant should always hope for the best but be prepared for the worst. It is also essential that applicant assume final and complete accountability for the quality of the end product.

In addition, responsibilities will also include floor maintenance and janitorial work throughout the facility.

3

POSSIBILITY FOR ADVANCEMENT & PROMOTION:

Virtually none. Your job will require remaining in the same position for years, without complaint, constantly retraining and updating your skills, so that those in your charge can and will ultimately surpass you.

4

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE:

None required. Nothing you have ever done could possibly prepare you for this job anyway. Fortunately, exhaustive on-the-job training is available on a continual basis.

5

WAGES AND COMPENSATION:

Get this! You pay them and offer frequent raises and bonuses. A balloon payment is due when they turn 18 based on the likelihood that college will help them become financially independent. Upon your death, they get whatever is left of your possessions. The oddest thing about this reverse-salary scheme is that you will actually enjoy it and wish you could give them more.

6

- A. previous experiences are required
 - B. both on-the-job training and experiences are required
 - C. neither on-the-job training nor the previous experiences are required
 - D. on-the-job training is required
4. The prospective superwoman is _____.
- A. to be provided with frequent raises and bonuses
 - B. to be promoted in the near future if she updates her skills
 - C. to complain about the challenging work environment
 - D. to provide the kids with financial support until they are 18 years old
5. What can we learn from the above article?
- A. The job offered is the most challenging and only ambitious superwoman would take it.
 - B. The candidates have to be trained before they take the job.
 - C. A superwoman is required at home because of challenges and responsibilities of the job.
 - D. The best benefit the job offers is the limitless opportunities of traveling.

II. Translate the following sentences from the passage into Chinese.

1. Candidates must possess excellent communication and organizational skills and be willing to work variable hours.
- _____
- _____
2. Nothing you have ever done could possibly prepare you for this job anyway.
- _____
- _____
3. This job supplies limitless opportunities for personal growth and free hugs for life if you play your cards right.
- _____
- _____



Passage 3

Super Technical Watch

- Tom is struggling through a bus station with two huge and obviously heavy suitcases when a stranger walks up to him and asks, "Have you got the time?" 1
- Tom sighs, puts down the suitcases and glances at his wrist. "It's a quarter to six," he says. 2
- "Hey, that's a pretty fancy watch!" exclaims the stranger. 3
- Tom brightens a little. "Yeah, it's not bad. Check this out," and he shows him a time zone display not just for every time zone in the world, but for the 86 largest cities in the world. 4
- He hits a few buttons, and from somewhere on the watch a voice says "The time is eleven to six" in a very West Texas accent. 5
- A few more buttons and the same voice says something in Japanese. Tom continues, "I've put in regional accents for each city." 6
- The display is unbelievably high quality and the voice is simply astounding. The stranger is struck dumb with admiration. 7
- "That's not all," says Tom. He pushes a few more buttons and a tiny but very hi-resolution map of New York City appears on the display. "The flashing dot shows our location by satellite 8

positioning,” explains Tom. “View recede ten,” he says, and the display changes to show eastern New York State.

“I want to buy this watch!” says the stranger. 9

“Oh, no, it’s not ready for sale yet; I’m still working out the bugs,” says the inventor. “But look at this,” and he proceeds to demonstrate that the watch is also a very credible little FM radio receiver with a digital tuner, a sonar device that can measure distances up to 125 meters, a pager with thermal paper printout and, most impressive of all, the capacity for voice recordings of up to 300 standard-size books. “Though I only have 32 of my favorites in there so far,” says the proud inventor. 10

“I’ve got to have this watch!” says the stranger. 11

“No, you don’t understand, it’s not ready.” 12

“I’ll give you \$1,000 for it!” 13

“Oh, no, I’ve already spent more than...” 14

“I’ll give you \$5,000 for it!” 15

“But it’s just not...” 16

“I’ll give you \$15,000 for it!” And the stranger pulls out a checkbook. 17

Tom stops to think. He’s only put about \$8,500 into materials and development, and with \$15,000 he can make another one. The stranger frantically finishes writing the check and waves it in front of him. “Here it is, ready to hand to you right here and now \$15,000. Take it or leave it.” 18