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世纪英语专业系列教材

北京市高等教育精品教材立项项目

范守义 总主编

第四册

# 英语时文泛读

徐英 魏腊梅 / 主编

Current News Articles  
for Extensive Reading



北京大学出版社  
PEKING UNIVERSITY PRESS



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总主编 范守义

主 编 徐 英 魏腊梅



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# 总序

北京大学出版社自 2005 年以来已出版《语言与应用语言学知识系列读本》多种,为了配合第十一个五年计划,现又策划陆续出版《21 世纪英语专业系列教材》。这个重大举措势必受到英语专业广大教师和学生的欢迎。

作为英语教师,最让人揪心的莫过于听人说英语不是一个专业,只是一个工具。说这些话的领导和教师的用心是好的,为英语专业的毕业生将来找工作着想,因此要为英语专业的学生多多开设诸如新闻、法律、国际商务、经济、旅游等其他专业的课程。但事与愿违,英语专业的教师们很快发现,学生投入英语学习的时间少了,掌握英语专业课程知识甚微,即使对四个技能的掌握也并不比大学英语学生高明多少,而那个所谓的第二专业在有关专家的眼中只是学到些皮毛而已。

英语专业的路在何方?有没有其他路可走?这是需要我们英语专业教师思索的问题。中央领导关于创新是一个民族的灵魂和要培养创新人才等的指示精神,让我们在层层迷雾中找到了航向。显然,培养学生具有自主学习能力和能进行创造性思维是我们更为重要的战略目标,使英语专业的人才更能适应 21 世纪的需要,迎接 21 世纪的挑战。

如今,北京大学出版社外语部的领导和编辑同志们,也从教材出版的视角探索英语专业的教材问题,从而为贯彻英语专业教学大纲做些有益的工作,为教师们开设大纲中所规定的必修、选修课程提供各种教材。《21 世纪英语专业系列教材》是普通高等教育“十一五”国家级规划教材和国家“十一五”重点出版规划项目《面向新世纪的立体化网络化英语学科建设丛书》的重要组成部分。这套系列教材要体现新世纪英语教学的自主化、协作化、模块化和超文本化,结合外语教材的具体情况,既要解决语言、教学内容、教学方法和教育技术的时代化,也要坚持弘扬以爱国主义为核心的民族精神。因此,今天北京大学出版社在大力提倡专业英语教学改革的基础上,编辑出版各种英语专业技能、英语专业知识和相关专业课程知识的教材,以培养具有创新性思维的和具有实际工作能力的学生,充分体现了时代精神。

北京大学出版社的远见卓识,也反映了英语专业广大师生盼望已久的心愿。由北京大学等全国几十所院校具体组织力量,积极编写相关教材。这就是

说,这套教材是由一些高等院校有水平有经验的第一线教师们制定编写大纲,反复讨论,特别是考虑到在不同层次、不同背景学校之间取得平衡,避免了先前的教材或偏难或偏易的弊病。与此同时,一批知名专家教授参与策划和教材审定工作,保证了教材质量。

当然,这套系列教材出版只是初步实现了出版社和编者们的预期目标。为了获得更大效果,希望使用本系列教材的教师和同学不吝指教,及时将意见反馈给我们,使教材更加完善。

航道已经开通,我们有决心乘风破浪,奋勇前进!

胡壮麟

北京大学蓝旗营

## 写给本书使用者的话

21世纪的中国是改革向广度和深度进军的世纪，21世纪的世界是全球化走向优化整合和更高水平的世纪。中国与世界各国交往向全方位推进和巩固是历史发展之必然。走在历史发展最前沿的是双语或多语工作者；而在当今世界上，英语使用之广泛是举世公认的。中国的外语教育中英语是最为重要的外国语言。外交学院作为外语类院校在过去的半个多世纪中为中国外交外事和各个部门培养了大批外语人才，他们在各个领域发挥了巨大作用，做出了杰出的贡献。

外交学院是具有外交特色和外语优势的重点大学，外交学院的英语教学在复校后的30年中，积累了丰富的教学经验。英语时文泛读是外交学院英语本科教学的核心课程；该课程为学生提高英语阅读水平，扩大词汇量和阅读技巧，丰富文化和国际知识提供了很好的学习平台。学习这门课程以及其他相关课程，可为学生走向职场奠定坚实的基础。外交学院培养出的学生具有国际视野和外交外事专业水准是十分恰当的评价。

2005年以来外交学院英语系将英语泛读作为精品项目立项，2007年夏被评为北京市精品课程；目前我们正在向国家级精品课程努力。该精品课程由两大板块组成，即课堂教学和课外阅读——课堂教学使用了精选的时文作为主要的教学内容；课外阅读使用了精选的英语简易读物、注释读物和英语原著作为主要内容，并为每一部书设计了100个问题，可以在计算机网络上进行在线测试，并立即得到结果，同时教师也能够立即看到全部参加测试者的成绩以及学生学期和学年的累计成绩。我们与北京外国语大学英语学院和首都师范大学外国语学院英语系合作，进行异地登录测试也取得了满意的结果。这种英语泛读课程创新的教学模式为迅速提高学生的英语水平和综合运用能力起到了很好的作用，深受教师和学生的欢迎。

这里我们主要谈一下课堂用书《英语时文泛读》的编写情况。

我们的编写设计思路如下：

1. 所选文本要语言地道、内容新颖（除个别为略早的文章，其余课文全部为2005年以后英美主要报刊杂志上发表的文章）、题材广泛多样（涉及政治、经济、文化、教育、科技、环保、法律、社会等诸方面内容），贴近时代与生活，易激发学生兴趣。
2. 该教材就不同主题设不同单元，知识内容较成体系，既有助于学生系统学习、积累和运用所学知识，又有助于学生分类学习记忆相关词汇。



3. 练习设计合理、实用，既有很强的针对性（针对每个单元具体的阅读技巧及目标），又能考察学生的综合能力，形式比较灵活，易于操作。
4. 为使所选用的文本难度符合学生的英语程度，既不要过易，也不要过难，我们根据美国著名教育家鲁道夫·弗莱什(Rudolf Flesch)博士的研究，即“英语文章难易度与单位长度的音节数和词数密切相关”的理论，将其数学模型化、程序化，并在其基础上进行《英语时文泛读》文本的选材，剔除了过难和过易的文本。
5. 编写了旨在为使用《英语时文泛读》的教师准备的《教师参考书》，提供必要而丰富的备课参考资料和练习答案。
6. 制作课堂使用的PPT文档，供授课使用，教师亦可增添或删节内容，以适应具体需要。
7. 编写快速阅读文本，以及相关的英国英语和美国英语的知识等内容，供教学参考使用。
8. 使用者可以根据本教学单位学生的英语水平，使用合适的单元和文本长度进行课堂阅读活动。
9. 为了锻炼学生自己查词典和确定词义的能力，在文本A和文本B之后的词汇表中，只给出没有在练习中出现的词；为照顾部分学生学习的需要，各单元的生词按英语字母顺序列在全书之后，学生可以查阅、记忆，然后再去做练习。

为保证教材编写的专业水准，我们组成了以范守义教授为负责人的《英语时文泛读》教程编写委员会，人员及任务分配如下：

范守义：总主编，负责策划统筹、审阅和编辑等工作。

石毅、于倩：共同主编，负责《英语时文泛读》第一册的编写工作；

张蕾、吴晓萍：共同主编，负责《英语时文泛读》第二册的编写工作；

武波、王振玲：共同主编，负责《英语时文泛读》第三册的编写工作；

徐英、魏腊梅：共同主编，负责《英语时文泛读》第四册的编写工作。

我们期待《英语时文泛读》的出版能够为我国大学本科和程度相当的英语学习者提供一套新的泛读教程，以满足与时俱进的教学要求；为此我们期待广大教师和学生提出宝贵意见和要求，以改进我们的编写工作。我们也期待以《英语时文泛读》为主和能进行在线测试的课外阅读为辅的创新英语泛读教学模式为推动和提升全国泛读教学做出贡献。

《英语时文泛读》教程编辑委员会

2008年12月26日



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# FOOTBALL

## Target of the Unit

- ☞ To get a glimpse of football game of men and women, the present and the past
- ☞ To practice reading skills
- ☞ To enlarge your vocabulary

### 1) LEAD IN

*Directions: In this unit, you will read 3 passages about football as an international game, the predicament of women's football and its future, the men's football and some sordid dealings, and the Chinese origin of the game.*

### 2) DISCUSSION

*What does World Cup mean to our life? Will Chinese men's team emerge top 8, if not top 4 one day in the near future instead of disappointing us?*

## Text A



## Women's Football Popularity on the Rise

*By Jaskirt Dhalrwal*

### Warming-up Exercises

- ☞ When was it when the Chinese girls came into the limelight and won acclaim from the world's audience?
- ☞ Women of which country or countries are now the best football players?

• First reading •

Directions: Now please read the following passage as fast as you can and summarize the main idea.

1 It comes as little surprise that football has now replaced **netball** as the most popular female sport in England. When the FA took over the running of the women's and girls' game in 1993, there were just 11,200 registered players. Today that figure stands well over 100,000. Yet despite this rise, it still lags behind countries such as the United States where there are 7.8 million players.

2 For a country which claims the beautiful game as its heritage, why is it that the US women are more **revered** than our own?

Sceptics or converts?

3 Under representation of women in sport, and football, is by no means an uncommon thing, you only have to look at the back pages of any newspaper to realise that, but after the success of Euro 2005, the times may be changing. Record attendances, impressive form, good TV ratings and an array of talent, all proved to **propel** the women's game into the **limelight** for a short time.

4 But now the competition is well and truly over, the new season has begun and any publicity gained has slowly fettered away. Only the dramatic **plight** of Birmingham City Ladies caught the public eye, after they were saved from imminent collapse and financial ruin in the 11th hour, proving miracles don't just happen in Istanbul!

Women's footy—good or bad?

5 However the effects are being felt, as Birmingham Ladies could no longer afford to hold

**netball** *n.* Netball is a non-contact generally indoor sport similar to, and derived from, basketball. It is usually known as a women's sport. It was originally known in its country of origin, the United States, as "women's basketball". 是类似篮球的女子运动, 最早的名字是叫“女子篮球”, 起源于美国, 创始人: Clara Gregory Baer, 中文翻译有好几个, 有“篮网球”, “投球”, “英式女篮”, 没有统一的中文名字。风行於美、英、加、澳、纽及西印度群岛。即“无挡板篮球”或“女子篮球”。

**rever** *v.* to regard with awe, deference, and devotion 敬畏

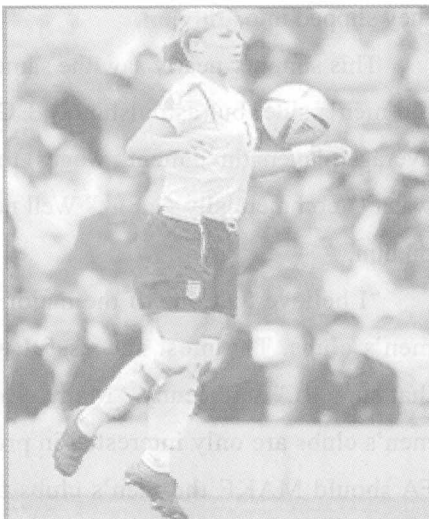
**sceptic** *n.* someone who habitually doubts accepted beliefs 怀疑一切的人

**propel** *v.* to cause to move forward or onward 推动

**limelight** *n.* a focus of public attention 公众注意

**plight** *n.* a situation from which extrication is difficult especially an unpleasant or trying one 窘况

onto most of their top **acquisitions**, players like Rachel Yankey and Alex Scott, which had previously made them responsible for a quarter of England's Euro 2005 squad. But all is not doom and gloom. Having managed to keep starlets Karen Carney and recruit England keeper Jo Fletcher, the Blues are aiming to stay in the National Premier Division and build again.



6 Steve Shipway, Birmingham City Ladies FC's chairman since 2000, has seen the game grow rapidly since he first became involved with the club. "The women's game internationally has increased its profile with a lot more media coverage, a prime example being the **Euros** this year. But I've seen a much greater transformation at Blues. When I first started here there were only two teams, and now we have a centre of excellence and four full teams from under 10's and upwards, with the senior side competing in the highest women's football league."

7 Although the quality and quantity of players are undoubtedly rising, the spectators are unfortunately not. Steve commented, "Football has become the biggest female sport, ahead of netball, hockey ,etc., and the game will continue to grow. However where it isn't developing is as a spectator game. Even though we (**BCLFC**) play in the highest division we're still only getting an average attendance of 60-70 people every match. The lack of media coverage doesn't help."

8 Jenny Wilkes, Chairwoman of Wolverhampton Wanderers WFC, agreed. "The media coverage is a problem. It's a bit 'chicken and egg'—we need to get big gates to get the interest from the media, but we won't attract the crowds if the media don't cover the games. Wolves Women's average crowd is about 100-150—mainly friends and families of the players. It doesn't help that satellite TV is showing games all Sunday afternoon and the local newspaper doesn't publicise the games."

9 The progression of the women's game did see one team, Fulham, go professional for a season whilst under the financial wing of its male counterparts. But as soon as that financial backing was taken away,

**acquisition** *n.* someone or something acquired or added 增添的人或物

**Euro** *n.* Euro (Football) 200X 欧洲杯

**BCLFC** *abbr.* Birmingham City Ladies Football Club 伯明翰市女足俱乐部

they slipped into oblivion.

10 This summer nearly saw the same with BCLFC, who were expecting financial help from the men's side, but astonishingly BCLFC's male counterparts couldn't afford £75,000 (an average players three month wages) to support the entire ladies team, because they believed it wasn't "commercially viable." Well neither is Emile Heskey, yet £6.25 million was still spent on him.

11 "I believe that one of the major problems in the game is the lack of support from the men's clubs. The most successful women's clubs, eg: Arsenal, Charlton, Everton have that support," said Jenny. "Many other clubs are really struggling to survive. Many of the men's clubs are only interested in profits and don't want to give anything back. I think the FA should MAKE the men's clubs take their female teams on board. They have made them run the girls' Centres of Excellence (for girls aged Under 10 to Under 16) but there are no requirements to help the senior teams."

**oblivion** *n.* the condition or quality of being completely forgotten 彻底忘记  
**viable** *adj.* capable of success or continuing effectiveness; practicable 可行的  
**garner** *v.* to acquire or to deserve by one's efforts or actions 获得  
**euphoria** *n.* a feeling of great happiness or well-being 幸福感

12 If this is the case than by the time the World Cup comes around in 2007 how much progression will be made? "If the FA doesn't do something soon, it will be in exactly the same position as it is now—with many teams struggling to survive. The FA puts a lot of money and effort into the national side, but not into supporting the teams which provide the players for the squad. We don't want to see a repeat of England's poor performance at Euro 2005."

13 Jenny Wilkes' last comment rings very true, because although Euro 2005 gained lots of publicity for the women's game, it would have garnered a hell of a lot more if the England team had progressed into the latter stages of the tournament. It was their chance to spark national pride and euphoria, but instead they crumbled as is too often seen with the men's team. But with a fantastic grass roots development in place, hopefully England's ladies won't be too far off from reaching better heights next time round.

(Words: 918)



## • Second Reading •

Directions: Read the text again more carefully to find enough information for Exercises I, II & III.

### Exercise I True or False

Directions: Please state whether the following statements are true or false (T/F) according to what you've found in the text.

1. Football is as popular as netball for girls in England.
2. The beautiful game refers to football for girls.
3. Not much attention has been paid to women's football in England.
4. Because of the success in Euro 2005, women's football in England came into the limelight for a while.
5. People do not know the difficult situation Birmingham's girl's football team was in.
6. There are still chances for Birmingham Ladies to rise again.
7. Steve Shipway, Birmingham City Ladies FC's chairman is confident of women's football as an international game.
8. Women's football is a game that attracts large crowds of spectators.
9. Men's football clubs have given a great deal of help to their women counterparts.
10. Women's football did well at Euro 2005.

### Exercise II Word Inference

Directions: Often you can guess the meaning of a word/expression by reading the words around it. Please read the given sentence to see how each word/expression in bold type is used in the text. Then choose the answer that is closest in meaning to the bold-faced word/expression.

1. When the FA took over the running of the women's and girls' game in 1993, there were just 11,200 **registered** players.
  - A. on official list
  - B. approved
  - C. recognized
  - D. publicized



2. Under **representation** of women in sport, and football, is by no means an uncommon thing, you only have to look at the back pages of any newspaper to realise that, but after the success of Euro 2005, the times may be changing.
- A. presence  
B. reproduction  
C. the state of being represented  
D. participation
3. Only the dramatic plight of Birmingham City Ladies caught the public eye, after they were saved from **imminent** collapse and financial ruin in the 11th hour, proving miracles don't just happen in Istanbul!
- A. belated  
B. impending  
C. urgent  
D. emergent
4. For a country which claims the **beautiful game** as its heritage, why is it that the US women are more revered than our own?
- A. women's football  
B. girl's football  
C. spectators game  
D. football
5. However the effects are being felt, as Birmingham Ladies could no longer afford to hold onto most of their top acquisitions, players like Rachel Yankey and Alex Scott, which had previously made them responsible for a quarter of England's Euro 2005 squad.
- A. scouts  
B. a small group  
C. a military unit  
D. an athletic team
6. The women's game internationally has increased its **profile** with a lot more media coverage, a prime example being the Euros this year.
- A. exposure to public notice  
B. status  
C. side view  
D. summery
7. The progression of the women's game did see one team, Fulham, go professional for a season whilst under the **financial wing** of its male counterparts.
- A. organization  
B. protection  
C. section  
D. support
8. It's a bit "chicken and egg"—we need to get big gates to get the interest from the media, but we won't attract the crowds if the media don't cover the games. This figure is used to liken the relationship between \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. stadium and media  
B. crowds and media  
C. games and media  
D. games and crowds
9. I think the FA should **MAKE** the men's clubs **take their female teams on board**
- A. protect them  
B. be partners  
C. help them  
D. accept them

10. But with a fantastic **grass roots** development in place, hopefully England's ladies won't be too far off from reaching better heights next time round.

- A. the local level                      B. basic  
C. unimportant                         D. unofficial

### Exercise III Discussion

Directions: Please discuss the following questions in pairs or groups.

1. Do you agree that the Birmingham ladies' plight is typical of all other women's football teams?
2. What do you know about the present situation of China's women football teams?
3. What means more to the football fans, the World Cup, the European Cup or the Olympic Games?

## Text B

### Officially Wrong

By Bruce Crumley

### Warming-up Exercises

1. What do you think are the causes for referee errors and such scandals in sports?
2. Is it a good idea to have referees from every continent of the world in sports? Will this guarantee impartiality?

### • First reading •

Directions: Now please read the following passage as fast as you can and summarize the main idea.

- 1   A  . But while World Cup pressure seems to bring out some of the best field play, so far, this year at least, the officials have seemed noticeably incompetent. "They've been pretty bad," says an official with one of the squads favored to win it all—and who prefers not to make his team a target by identifying himself. "We haven't suffered the really terrible