

College English Fast Reading  
Students' Guide Book

# 大学英语 ④

## 快速阅读 新导学

(第四册)

总主编 蔡碧霞  
主 编 陈冰冰

副主编 马牧青 高敏颖



ZHEJIANG UNIVERSITY PRESS

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## 前言

大学英语教学的目的是培养学生具有较强的阅读能力和一定的听说读写译能力,使他们能用英语交流信息。大学英语教学应帮助学生打下扎实的语言基础,掌握良好的语言学习方法,提高文化素养,即帮助学生具有较强的英语综合应用能力,以适应社会发展和经济发展的需要。教育部颁发的英语教学大纲中,阅读的基本要求(四级)是:能顺利阅读语言难度中等的一般性题材的文章,掌握中心大意以及说明中心大意的事实和细节,并能进行一定的分析、推理和判断,领会作者的观点和态度,阅读速度达到每分钟 70 词。在阅读篇幅较长、难度略低、生词不超过总词数 3% 的材料时,能掌握中心大意,抓住主要事实和有关细节,阅读速度达到每分钟 100 词。

阅读理解始终都是各类测试的最重要内容,所占分数比重大。阅读理解既是英语学习和英语测试的重要手段,又是英语学习的终极目的之一。英语阅读是一种创造性的思维劳动,它不仅涉及语音、语法、词语这些最基本的语言要素,而且还包括许多非语言因素,如文化知识背景、思维习惯等。

现有的大学英语教材虽然种类繁多,但能真正帮助学生、针对性较强地解决学生阅读能力的教材却寥寥无几。在多年的教学实践中,我们深深感到,要有的放矢地提高学生的英语阅读能力,必须有相适应的英语阅读教材。其特点必须是由浅入深、体裁广泛、文体多样、趣味性强,既可作教材,在课堂内使用,又可由学生在课外自主阅读。阅读量课内外的比例应是 1:4 左右。而由于课时原因,阅读不可能全部在课堂内进行,还必须在课外加强。这就要求我们必须给学生准备大量的快速阅读及泛读材料。

鉴于以上种种因素,我们在总结几十年教学经验的基础上,并根据学生的实际情况,殚精竭虑编写了这套《大学英语快速阅读新导学》。其目的就是让学生接触到大量以英语国家为背景的社会、人文、政治、经济、娱乐等方方面面的文字材料,创造出一个模拟的英文环境,在老师的帮助下,拓宽学生的视野。我们的编写原则是强调材料的数量及多样性。

《大学英语快速阅读新导学》共有四册,每册分为 8 个单元,每单元由 4

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》的第四册。本册可以说是该系列书的总结和升华,突出了阅读技巧的应用。该书在指导学生阅读各类题材和文体的文章的同时,要求学生灵活运用各种技巧掌握中心大意、事实和细节,并能就文章的内容进行分析、推理、判断和综合概括,领会作者的观点和态度,并努力做到提高阅读速度。

本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

## Anecdotes

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

—Author unknown

ReadMe

## Passage 1

### Bartender Still Mixing Martinis at 90

A man who mixed martinis (马提尼酒) for Marilyn Monroe and poured Scotch whisky for John Lennon was celebrated as New York's oldest bartender (酒吧男招待) when he turned 90 this week, and he vowed to keep working.

1



Hoy Wong, who was born in Hong Kong in 1916, fled Hong Kong in 1940, the year before it fell to Japanese forces, and moved to San Francisco where he joined the US Air Force and learnt English. Demobilized in 1946 after serving in India and China, he moved to New York and started serving cocktails two years later. It was while working in Freeman Chum, considered one of the city's first fashionable Chinese restaurants, that he served most of his celebrity clients. He is known simply as Mr. Hoy at the historic Algonquin Hotel where he has served Manhattans and martinis for the past 27 years in the dimly lit Blue Bar. The hotel is best known as the favored lunch spot of the 1920s literary circle The Round Table, whose members included the founders of *The New Yorker* magazine. The Algonquin, which touts (吹嘘) Hoy as the city's oldest bartender, threw a birthday party for him on Tuesday night, inviting customers past and present as well as staff, friends and family. Asked about retirement, Hoy said, "I never think about that... Now I'm 90 but I don't feel I'm that old."

2

Hoy started tending bar in 1948 and worked at various hotels and restaurants, including Freeman Chum in New York where he served Monroe drinks, before moving to the Algonquin where former Beatle Lennon used to order Scotch. Hoy was shy of his celebrity customers, but his granddaughter Jennifer Zhang said he would occasionally come home with anecdotes from work. "He would tell me that the Duke of Windsor told him he made the best martini in the world," Zhang said. "One day he said, 'People all think that Marilyn Monroe is beautiful but I'm telling you, the prettiest is Elizabeth Taylor, though Marilyn Monroe is just sweet.' She would come to the bar and say with her sweet voice 'Hi, Mr. Hoy,'" she said. Zhang said she would be surprised if Hoy ever retires. "He can't relax. I said, 'When are you going to retire?' and

3

he said 'I don't know, maybe I'll work for a couple more years,' and that was 10 years ago," she said.

Wong still works five days a week, spending his entire eight-hour shift on his feet. The 90-year-old is far from slowing down and has no thoughts of putting down his cocktail shaker for good. 4

He said he loved his job, and had no plan to retire. 5

(456 words)

### How fast do you read?

456 words  $\div$  \_\_\_\_\_ minutes = \_\_\_\_\_ wpm

## Exercises for Passage 1

I. Decide whether each of the following statements is true or false. Put "T" for true and "F" for false in the space provided.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Hoy Wong was once a soldier when he was young.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. *The New Yorker* magazine founder once had lunch at the Round Table.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. As a matter of fact, Hoy is the oldest bartender in the US.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Mr. Hoy served Monroe martinis in Algonquin Hotel.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Hoy Wong has been a bartender for 42 years and he would like to pursue his work.

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

1. A man who mixed martinis for Marilyn Monroe and poured Scotch whisky for John Lennon was celebrated as New York's oldest bartender when he turned 90 this week, and he vowed to keep working.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Hoy was shy of his celebrity customers, but his granddaughter Jennifer Zhang said he would occasionally come home with anecdotes from work. “

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. People all think that Marilyn Monroe is beautiful but I'm telling you, the prettiest is Elizabeth Taylor, though Marilyn Monroe is just sweet.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



## The Real Thing

One of the most successful commercial products ever launched is said to have come about as the result of a mistake. In 1896, Jacob's Pharmacy (药房) in Atlanta, Georgia, was selling a nerve medicine known as “French Wine Cola—Ideal Nerve Tonic”. By

1

accidentally adding fizzy (吱吱的) water instead of still water to the recipe, a pharmacist called John S. Pemberton invented what has today become the most popular soft drink in the world: Coca-Cola. Along with its closest rival—Pepsi—which appeared on the market three years later, Coke has enjoyed phenomenal success worldwide, particularly in the past fifty years. Indeed, old Coke bottles and “limited edition” cans can often fetch considerable sums from collectors, and there are even stores which deal specially in Coke products and souvenirs.

What could possibly account for the amazing success of Coca-Cola? How has this combination of carbonated water, sugar, acid and flavorings come to symbolize the American way of life for most of the world? After all, even the manufacturers could hardly describe Coke as a healthy product since it contains relatively high amounts of sugar (admittedly not the case with Diet Coke which contains artificial sweeteners instead of sugar) and phosphoric (含磷的) acid, both of which are known to damage teeth.

One explanation may be found in the name. The original recipe included a flavoring from the coca plant and probably included small amounts of cocaine (an addictive (上瘾的) substance), but since the early part of this century all traces of cocaine have been removed. However, Coke (like all cola drinks) also includes a flavoring from the cola tree; cola extract contains caffeine, which is a stimulant, and the Coca-Cola Company adds extra caffeine for good measure. While caffeine is not thought to be an addictive substance in itself, there is considerable evidence that over a period of time the consumption of caffeine has to be increased in order for its stimulating effect to be maintained, and so sales of Coke perhaps benefit as a result.

A more likely reason for the amazing popularity of Coke may, however, be found in the company's enviable marketing strategies. Over the years it has come up with some of the most memorable commercials, tunes, slogans and sponsorship in the world of advertising, variously emphasizing international harmony, youthfulness and a carefree lifestyle. Few other companies (arguably including Pepsi) have been able to match such marketing strategies so consistently or effectively. As suggested earlier, the influences of American culture are evident just about everywhere, and Coca-Cola has somehow come to represent a vision of the United States that much of the rest of the world dreams about and aspires to. Perhaps drinking Coke brings people that little bit closer to the dream.

(472 words)

### How fast do you read?

472 words  $\div$  \_\_\_\_\_ minutes = \_\_\_\_\_ wpm

## Exercises for Passage 2

### I. Choose the best answer for each of the following items in accordance with the passage.

1. What is the main idea of Para. 1?
  - A. Coke is so popular that some shops sell nothing else.
  - B. Only certain people are allowed to enter the most popular Coke stores.
  - C. Some stores can successfully sell Coke at higher prices.
  - D. Coke is so popular that some shops only sell goods with the Coke label.
2. What does the phrase "both of which" in Para. 2 refer to?

- A. Phosphoric and acid.
  - B. Sugar and artificial sweetener.
  - C. Sugar and phosphoric acid.
  - D. Artificial sweetener and phosphoric acid.
3. Why does the author describe Coke's marketing strategies as enviable?
- A. Because the strategies are based on envy.
  - B. Because Coke's marketing staff is encouraged to be envious of each other's ideas.
  - C. Because rivals are envious of the Coke company's successful methods of marketing.
  - D. Because people are persuaded to buy Coke because they are envious of others.
4. Which of the following is the closest in meaning to "just about everywhere" in Para. 4?
- A. In a lot of countries.
  - B. In every part of the world.
  - C. In a majority of places.
  - D. In almost every part of the world.
5. Which of the following statements about the passage is true?
- A. Cocaine and caffeine are addictive substances.
  - B. At least one of the ingredients of Coke is addictive.
  - C. The stimulating effect of caffeine is reduced over time unless consumption of it is increased.
  - D. The Coca-Cola Company has gradually increased the amount of caffeine it puts in Coke.

**II. Answer the following questions with the information you get from the passage.**

1. According to this passage, what do you know about Pepsi?

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2. Why does the Coca-Cola Company add extra caffeine in their products?

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3. In the last sentence of the passage, what does the writer imply?

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## *Passage 3*

## Against the Odds

Ron Meyer was 14 when a friend gave him his first tattoo, a crude design done with ink and a needle. Like many of the guys he hung out with in West Los Angeles. Meyer was a high school dropout, a kid quick with his fists who seemed to get into fights somewhat regularly.

1

Today, Meyer is the president and COO (Chief Operation Officer 首席营运官) of Universal Studios. As one of the most successful business leaders in Hollywood, he heads up Universal Pictures and Universal Parks & Resorts. He's the guy who oversees the production of multimillion-dollar extravaganzas (狂妄的言行) like King Kong and Cinderella Man. Even though Meyer could easily afford it, he has no interest in getting his tattoos removed. They symbolize just how far he has come, and they remind him of the

2

choices he made—good and bad along the way.

Meyer's story sounds like the plot of one of his motion pictures. The son of German immigrants, he grew up in a modest home where there was little disposable income. It was a big deal to go to a restaurant.

3

At 15, he quit high school and spent his time shooting pool, boxing at a nearby gym and hanging out with the neighborhood toughs. With little education or direction and few options, he figured he'd be drafted (服役). So when he heard about a boxing program in the Marine Corps, he signed up.

4

At one point, he was isolated with the measles, with no TV and nothing to do. His mother sent him two books. One was the *Amboy Dukes*, a novel about kids in street gangs. The other was the *Flesh Peddlers*, now out of print, about a guy in the talent-agency business who was living a glamorous life. "I realized," he says, "that I was no longer that idiot kid I had been, and I wanted to change my life."

5

Meyer took any job he could get. He worked as a busboy and short-order cook. He cleaned grease off duplicating machines. He sold shoes. "Once I got a job, I put all I had into it," says Meyer. "When I was a busboy, I wanted to be the best busboy." That attitude made an impression on people and gave him many chances to achieve success. After 20 years efforts and hard work, Meyer was tapped to run Universal Studios, a position far beyond his youthful dream.

6

In looking back, Meyer admits that he's never forgotten his humble beginnings. Today, colleagues regularly attribute his success—

7



and theirs—to his humility and perseverance. It's a level of success that takes certain tenacity, a certain personality, a certain kind of intelligence, whether it comes from a college education or from the street.

It takes guts to make a choice—and gumption to stick with it.

8

(483 words)

### How fast do you read?

483 words ÷ \_\_\_\_\_ minutes = \_\_\_\_\_ wpm

## Exercises for Passage 3

### I. Choose the best answer for each of the following items in accordance with the passage.

1. What is the main idea of this passage?

- A. Most business tycoons were school dropouts when they were young.
- B. Guts and gumption are key factors to one's success although he or she had a humble origin.
- C. Books are helpful to one's career and success.
- D. One should achieve success by taking certain tenacity and intelligence either from education or from the street.

2. Why did Meyer not remove the tattoos when he became the COO of Universal studios?

- A. Because he could not have enough money in doing so.
- B. Because the tattoos were the symbols of his success and helped him all the way through.
- C. Because the tattoos could make him recall the way how he