

高等学校教材

COLLEGE ENGLISH

大学英语

泛读

EXTENSIVE
READING



SHANGHAI FOREIGN
LANGUAGE EDUCATION
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SUB-
BAND
预备级

大学英语

泛读

预备一级



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前 言

《大学英语》是根据国家教育委员会审定批准的《大学英语教学大纲(文理科本科用)》编写的一套系列教材,分精读、泛读、听力、快速阅读、语法与练习五种教程。

本教材重视英语语言基础,从各方面保证文、理科的通用性,适用于大学英语基础阶段的教学。

本教材的精读、泛读、快速阅读和听力教程各按分级教学的要求编写六册,每级一册;语法与练习编写四册,供1—4级使用。精读与听力教程均配有教师用书和录音磁带。对低于大纲规定入学要求的学生,另编预备级精读、泛读教程各两册。

上述五种教程根据各自的课程特点自成体系,但又相互配合,形成整体,以贯彻大纲所提出的三个层次的要求:“培养学生具有较强的阅读能力、一定的听的能力、初步的写和说的能力。”全套教材由复旦大学、北京大学、华东师范大学、中国人民大学、武汉大学和南京大学合作编写,复旦大学董亚芬教授审订。

《大学英语》预备级精、泛读教程经大学外语教材编审委员会综合大学英语编审组和理工科英语编审组共同审定选文,可供文、理、工各类本科生使用。预备级泛读教程由南京大学大学外语部负责编写。孙淑强副教授担任主编,杨治中教授担任主审,大学外语教材编审委员会理工科英语编审组郭杰克教授以及英籍专家 Anthony Ward 审读了全书。参加编写的有许水耀、傅玉华、冯卓三位副教授和钱兴荣同志。上海外语教育出版社的编辑同志在付梓前仔细编审,精心设计,给予我们很大帮助和促进。

本书为预备级泛读教程第一册,供大学英语预备一级学生使用。修完预备二级教程后可任选按文理科大纲或理工科大纲所编写的各类后续教材。

由于时间仓促,编者水平有限,教材中不妥之处在所难免。希望广大读者批评指正。

编 者

1989年2月

使用说明

本教程按以下指导思想编写:

1、通过一定量的阅读增强学生的语感,提高学生的阅读速度,使之初步掌握阅读技巧,为进入一级的学习打下基础。

2、在编写各类练习时,注意逐步培养学生在阅读过程中的分析、归纳、综合和推断的能力,以配合精读教程在阅读方面的教学。

3、选材较浅于相应的精读课文,并加必要的注释,以便于学生顺利阅读。

4、教材绝大多数选自原文,略经删节或改写,在保证语言文字规范化的同时,尽量使之适合预备级学生的英语水平。

5、选材力求内容新颖、题材广泛、体裁多样、知识性与趣味性并重。

6、考虑到学生阅读能力上的差异,每册的阅读量都略高于大纲所规定的指标。

本教材分一、二级两册,每册选编课文三十六篇,每课编有少量注释,配有若干练习,以测试学生对文章的理解能力。书末附有练习答案。为了配合精读教程,每册按十二个单元编写,三课为一个单元。每单元的前两课篇幅较长,跨度为 350—700 词,第三课较短,跨度为 200—300 词,可作一般课文使用,也可用作快速阅读的材料,在课内进行,读后即做练习,所需时间(包括练习)约十分钟。

编者

1989年2月

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小提箱, 衣箱

14. by the way:

blanced up with a smile. "Can you tell me how

yled¹². “What circus do you mean?”

arrived from Italy to attend a school for

arrived from Italy to attend a school for over-

...on it?" asked the young woman.

her handbag and found a postcard with a British

you want. It's the name of an area

the underground railway the route from Victoria

124.

approximately 340 words

NOTES

1. Dover: / 'dəʊvə / 多佛 (英国港市)

2. Victoria Station: / vik'to: riə / 维多利亚车站

3. platform: 月台

4. entrance: 入口处

['ek'sit] 5. exit: 出口处

6. steps: 台阶

['kju:pai] 7. queues forming: 已在排成长队

8. to be occupied with ...: to be busy helping ...

9. Milan: / mi'læn / 米兰

10. hands: (钟、表的) 指针

11. circus: 马戏团, 马戏场 ['sɜ:kəs]

[pʌzəl] 12. puzzled: felt difficult to answer a question

[tju:b] 13. tube: an underground railway

14. by the way: 顺便说说

EXERCISES

I. Choose the best answer to each question:

1. Gina was _____.

- a. waiting for a friend at the station
- b. visiting a school in London
- ✓ c. going to study at a school in London
- d. taking a train to Victoria Station

2. Gina found that it _____ in London.

- a. was always raining
- b. seldom rained
- ✓ c. was warm and dusty
- d. was always sunny

3. "Her native language" (Para. 2) means _____.

- a. her natural way of speaking
- ✓ b. the language of her own country
- c. the language she was going to learn
- d. the language of a foreign country

4. Gina arrived in London _____.

- a. in the morning
- ✓ b. in the afternoon

- c. in the evening
d. on a rainy day
5. Gina somehow the school's address.
a. had lost
b. had never had
c. had forgotten
✓ d. had forgotten she had
6. Oxford Circus is under.
a. a famous circus
✓ b. a place in London
c. a railway station at Oxford
d. a famous school
7. Gina went up to the young woman because _____.
✓ a. she believed the woman would be glad to help her
b. she knew the woman was also an Italian
✗ c. she found the woman reading an English magazine
d. the woman was one of her friends
8. The young woman was puzzled because she _____.
a. had never been to a circus
✓ b. did not understand the word "circus"
c. did not know what Gina was asking about
d. did not know where Oxford Circus was
9. Gina made the woman understand by _____.
✓ a. showing her a letter
b. opening her handbag
c. showing her a map
d. speaking her native language
10. When Gina was told to follow the colours, she was advised to _____.
a. use a coloured ticket
b. follow the colours on the trains
c. buy a coloured map
✓ d. follow the colour of the train route shown on the map

II. Choose the proper word in column B to fill in each blank in Column A:

A

B

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| 1. The porters were busy carrying the suitcases of the <u>f</u> . | a. handed |
| 2. People were hurrying <u>2</u> the steps. | b. puzzled |
| 3. Gina heard someone speaking her own language <u>h</u> near the bookstore. | c. take |
| 4. She <u>a</u> her ticket to the railway officer and walked | d. coloured |
| | e. with |

through the gate.

5. At first Gina didn't know how to g to Oxford Circus.
6. The young woman was b by Gina's question.
7. The woman asked Gina if she had a letter h the school's address on it.
8. Gina had a postcard with a British j on it.
9. The easiest way to Oxford Circus is to c the tube.
10. The woman showed Gina a d map of the underground railway.

and passengers

g. get on

h. somewhere

i. up and down

j. stamp

k. had forgotten

l. had forgotten she had

m. Oxford Circus is

n. a famous circus

o. a place in London

p. a railway station at Oxford

q. a famous school

7. Gina went up to the young woman because

a. she believed the woman would be glad to help her

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a. use a coloured ticket

b. follow the colours on the trains

c. buy a coloured map

d. follow the colour of the train route shown on the map

11. Choose the proper word in column B to fill in each blank in Column A.

B

A

a. handed

b. puzzled

c. take

d. coloured

e. with

1. The porters were busy carrying the suitcases of the f

2. People were hurrying g the steps.

3. Gina heard someone speaking her own language h

near the bookstore.

4. She i her ticket to the railway officer and walked

Unit One

2. What Age?

Tom Biggs, a hotel servant

Henry Maxwell, a man of about thirty¹, unmarried

Rose Wellington, a beautiful girl, younger than Maxwell

A room in a hotel. Maxwell is sitting at a table with a glass in front of him². It is his first evening in the hotel. Rose walks into the room, but Maxwell has never seen her before. A lot of people are standing outside the window.

Maxwell: (to Tom) Bring me another drink, please. What's your name?

Tom: Tom Biggs, sir.

Maxwell: What's happening out there? (He stands up and looks through the window.) I can see a taxi.

Tom: Oh, it's nothing,³ sir. Two people got married this morning, and now they're going away. (Rose walks to the window and looks out.)

Rose: There they come!

Maxwell: Yes, I can see them.

Rose: She isn't very young, is she?

Maxwell: No, she isn't. Er...will you have a drink? My name's Henry Maxwell.

Rose: Well, that's very kind of you,⁴ Mr Maxwell. Thank you. My name's Rose Wellington.

Maxwell: Tom, please bring Miss Wellington a drink.

Tom: Yes, sir.

Maxwell: Shall we sit here? (He points to his own table, and they sit down at it together.)

Rose: Thank you. How old do you think she was?

Maxwell: I'm not sure. I only saw her for a minute⁵. About forty, perhaps.

Rose: Oh, I don't think so. She looked about the same age as he was; and he was only about thirty-five.

Maxwell: Oh, I'm certain she was older than that⁶. A man ought to marry a woman younger than himself, don't you think?

Rose: Yes, it's usually better that way, I suppose⁷. I was telling my sister Lilian the same thing this morning.

Maxwell: And you are quite right. The girl ought to be the younger of the two; half his age and ten more.

Rose: I don't quite understand.

Maxwell: It's easy. The girl ought to be half the man's age and ten years more. If he's twenty-six, she ought to be twenty-three. Half of twenty-six is thirteen; thirteen and ten are twenty-three.

Rose: Yes, that seems about right⁸. So if the man's thirty years old, the girl ought to be twenty-five.

Maxwell: Yes. And if he's sixty, she ought to be forty. And if he's eighty...

Rose: Eighty! People don't get married at the age of eighty!

Maxwell: Believe me, they do. If he's eighty, she ought to be fifty. And if he's a hundred and ten...

Rose: (laughing) A hundred and ten! (She looks down at her glass and thinks for a few seconds without speaking.) Yes, perhaps you're right. So Lilian can marry George, I suppose.

Maxwell: Who's George?

Rose: He's a young man in love with Lilian. They want to get married, but Lilian's older than George, and so I told her not to marry him.

Maxwell: Quite right. They mustn't get married.

Rose: But she's just half his age ten years more, as you said.

Maxwell: But she's older than he is. You've just said so.

Rose: That's right. He's eighteen and she's nineteen.

Maxwell: (thoughtfully) Half of eighteen is nine...Oh, I see. Yes!

approximately 520 words

NOTES

1. about thirty: 三十岁左右
2. in front of him: before him
3. it's nothing: nothing serious; nothing important
4. that's very kind of you: 谢谢你的好意。
5. for a minute: for a very short time
6. older than that: older than thirty-five
7. I suppose: I think
8. about right: fairly true; true enough

EXERCISE

Write T for True in the space if the statement is true; write F for False if the statement is not true:

1. Rose is about the same age as Maxwell.
 2. Maxwell and Rose have not met before.
 3. Tom is one of Maxwell's best friends.
 4. Maxwell and Rose are going to get married soon.
 5. According to Maxwell, a man's wife ought to be younger than the man himself.
 6. Rose told Lilian it was better to marry a man older than herself.
 7. Lilian is Rose's sister.
 8. Lilian got married that morning.
 9. According to Maxwell, if a man is twenty-eight, his wife ought to be twenty-five.
 10. Maxwell's idea is not always true.

EXERCISES

1. Choose the best answer to each question.

1. What was Robert doing when he read his letter?

- a. Watching television.
 b. Eating his breakfast.
 c. Listening to the radio.
 d. Talking with his wife.

2. What was there in the letter?

- a. A note.
 b. Two tickets.
 c. A note and two tickets.

d. A nice surprise.

3. Who sent the tickets?

- a. One of Robert's friends.
 b. One of Mary's friends.
 c. A neighbor.

d. An unknown person.

3. A Surprise Present

One morning during breakfast, Robert was reading a letter. "Look, dear," he said to his wife Mary, "someone sent these two tickets for the play tonight. Wasn't that kind?" "Who sent them?" asked Mary. "I've no idea," said Robert. "There's a note in the envelope, but it just says, 'Can you guess who sent these two tickets to you?'" "Well, never mind," Mary said, "I expect one of our friends wants to give us a nice surprise."

After dinner that night, Robert and Mary put on their best clothes and went to the play. They had a wonderful evening and came home very grateful to the unknown friend who had given them the tickets. But when they got back to their flat, they found that a thief had been there. In fact, everything they owned had been stolen—furniture, pictures, clothes, money and even the knives and forks in the kitchen. At the centre of the kitchen table was another note. This one said, "Now can you guess who sent the tickets?"

approximately 170 words

EXERCISES

I. Choose the best answer to each question:

1. What was Robert doing when he read his letter?
 - a. Watching television.
 - ☒ b. Eating his breakfast.
 - c. Listening to the radio.
 - d. Talking with his wife.
2. What was there in the letter?
 - a. A note.
 - b. Two tickets.
 - ☒ c. A note and two tickets.
 - d. A nice surprise.
3. Who sent the tickets?
 - a. One of Robert's friends.
 - b. One of Mary's friends.
 - c. A neighbour.
 - ☒ d. An unknown person.

4. Who came to their flat while they were out?

- a. A thief.
- b. One of their friends.
- c. A policeman.
- d. A neighbour.

II. Write T for True in the space if the statement is true; write F for False if the statement is not true:

- T 1. After getting the two tickets Robert and Mary put on their best clothes and went to the play right away.
- T 2. They enjoyed the play very much that evening.
- T 3. An unknown friend sent Robert the two tickets in order to give him a nice surprise.
- T 4. All their furniture, including the kitchen table, had been taken away by the thief.
- T 5. It was a thief who sent them the two tickets.

4. Sir Walter Raleigh¹

Doctors tell us not to smoke; but a lot of people smoke tobacco every day. Long ago, no one in Europe smoked; the tobacco plant was unknown there. It grew in America, and Christopher Columbus² found it there. Later, he returned to Europe and told everyone about tobacco. He said that the American Indians often smoked it.

One way of smoking was this. The American Indians threw some tobacco leaves on a fire. Then they put long tubes in their mouths. The other ends of the tubes were over the fire; so they were able to draw the smoke into their mouths.

About the year 1560 a Frenchman, Jean Nicot, was living in Lisbon, Portugal³. He was very interested in American plants, because some of them were very different from the plants of Europe. He (and other men too) used the leaves of the tobacco plant to cure pain. When a man had a bad pain⁴ in a leg or an arm, Nicot would put tobacco leaves on the painful place, and try to cure the pain in that way. We say now that tobacco contains nicotine⁵. The word nicotine comes from this man's name.

Tobacco was used as a cure in many ways. Sometimes, a horse was so ill that it could not walk properly. Then a man blew some tobacco smoke into the horse's nose. He believed that this would make the horse better! Poor horse! Nobody blows smoke at horses now.

Sir Walter Raleigh was a famous man in the days of Queen Elizabeth the First⁶. He travelled widely and learnt to smoke. Then he returned to England, but he did not stop smoking. He used to⁷ smoke two pipes every day secretly in his room. When anyone came in, he quickly hid his pipe; but one day, he was not quick enough. A man came in and found clouds of smoke in the room. More smoke was coming from Raleigh's mouth, so the man got some water and threw it over Raleigh. He believed that Raleigh was burning. He ran out of the house and told everybody about it.

After this, smoking was not a secret. Raleigh told Queen Elizabeth about it. He added that he could weigh his smoke. She did not believe this, and she asked him to explain.

"First," he said, "I shall weigh the tobacco. Then I shall put it in my pipe and smoke it, then I shall weigh the ashes which remain. I can take them out of the pipe and weigh them on a balance, there will be a great difference⁸ between the two weights. The tobacco must be heavier than the ashes. The difference between them must be the weight of the smoke."

It was a good explanation, but Raleigh was wrong. When anything burns, it needs oxygen. It usually gets the oxygen from the air. When Raleigh's tobacco burned, it did this⁹; but the oxygen was not in the tobacco at the beginning. It was added when Raleigh smoked his pipe. So the smoke was heavier than the difference between the two weights. The weight of the oxygen was