

大学基础英语

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编写说明

为了适应广大成人大学生学习英语的需要,我们以国家有关规定为依据,编写了这本《大学基础英语》教材。

本书共 15 个单元。每单元有一篇精读材料,配有阅读理解、词汇与结构、翻译等多种练习。语法与练习设在精读材料之后,涵盖了学历文凭英语考试大纲所要求掌握的所有语法知识。课文翻译和练习参考答案均附在书后,以供读者查阅、自学。

《大学基础英语》选材力求题材多样,内容丰富有趣,时代感强,努力突出科学性、针对性、实用性。生词释义采用英、汉结合的方式。注释尽量用浅近的英语,主要介绍有关的背景知识,说明一些特殊的语言现象,供学生预习时参考。

本书在编写过程中参考了国内外近几年出版的教材和著作,吸收了许多精华,并得到有关业务部门的支持和指导,在此一并致以谢意。

由于编者水平有限,加之时间仓促,书中难免有错误或不妥之处,恳请专家和读者批评指正。

编者
2002 年 3 月

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Unit 1

READING TEXT

Wants to know how to improve your grades without having to spend more time studying? Sounds too good to be true? Well, read on ...

How to Improve Your Study Habits

Perhaps you are an average student with average intelligence. You do well enough in school, but you probably think you will never be a top student. This is not necessarily the case, however. You can receive better grades if you want to. Yes, even students of average intelligence can be top students without additional work. Here's how:

1. Plan your time carefully. Make a list of your weekly tasks. Then make a schedule or chart of your time. Fill in committed time such as eating, sleeping, meetings, classes, etc. Then decide on good, regular times for studying. Be sure to set aside enough time to complete your normal reading and work assignments. Of course, studying shouldn't occupy all of the free time on the schedule. It's important to set aside time for relaxation, hobbies, and entertainment as well. This weekly schedule may not solve all of your problems, but it will make you more aware of how you spend your time. Furthermore, it will enable you to plan your activities so that you have adequate time for both work and play.

2. Find a good place to study. Choose one place for your study area. It may be a desk or a chair at home or in the school library, but it should be comfortable, and it should not have distractions. When you begin to work, you should be able to concentrate on the subject.

3. Skim before you read. This means looking over a passage quickly before you begin to read it more carefully. As you preview the material, you get some idea of the content and how it is organized. Later when you begin to read you will recognize less important material and you may skip some of these portions. Skimming helps double your reading speed and improves your comprehension as well.

4. Make good use of your time in class. Listen to what the teacher says in class means less work later. Sit where you can see and hear well. Take notes to help you remember what the teacher says.

5. Study regularly. Go over your notes as soon as you can after class. Review important points mentioned in class as well as points in your textbook. If you know what the teacher will discuss the next day, skim and read that material too. This will help you understand the next class. If you review your notes and textbook regularly, the material will become more meaningful and you will remember it longer. Regular review leads to improved performance on tests.

6. Develop a good attitude about tests. The purpose of a test is to show what you have learned about a subject. The world won't end if you don't pass a test, so don't worry excessively about a single test. Tests provide grades, and they also let you know what you need to spend more time studying, and they help make your new knowledge permanent.

There are other techniques that might help you with your studying. Only a few have been mentioned here. You will probably discover many others after you have tried these. Talk with your classmates about their study techniques. Share with them some of the techniques you have found to be helpful. Improving your study habits will improve your grades.

NEW WORDS

average ['v rɪd] a.	ordinary 普通的, 中等的
intelligence [ɪn telɪdʒ ns] n.	ability to learn and understand 智力
necessarily [nesɪs rɪli] ad.	inevitably 必定地, 必然地
case [keɪs] n.	what has really happened; actual condition 实情
additional [ədɪ ʃnl] a.	added 附加的, 额外的
weekly [wɪkli] a.	done or happening every week 每周的; 每周一次的
schedule [ˈedʒul; skedʒul] n.	timetable 时间表
chart [tʃɑ:t] n.	(sheet of paper with) information written or drawn in the form of a picture 图(表)
commit [kə'mɪt] v.	指定.....用于
aside [ə'saɪd] ad.	to the side 在旁边; 到(向)一边
etc. [ɪt setr]	(Latin, shorten form for et cetera) and other things 等等
normal [nɜ:məl] a.	usual 正常的
reading n.	the act or practice of reading 阅读
assignment [ə'saɪnmənt] n.	sth. given out as a task (布置的)作业
occupy [ˈkjupai] v.	take up 占用
relaxation [rɪl'kseɪʃn] n.	(sth. done for) rest and amusement 休息, 娱乐
hobby [ˈhɒbi] n.	what one likes to do in one's free time 业余爱好
entertainment [ˌentə'teɪnmənt] n.	show, party, etc. that people enjoy 娱乐

entertain v.	
solve [s lv] v.	find an answer to (a problem) 解决(问题)
aware [w] a.	having knowledge or understanding 知道的; 意识到的
furthermore [f m] ad.	moreover; in addition 而且; 此外
enable [i neibl] v.	make (sb.) able (to do sth.) 使(某人)能(做某事)
activity [k tiviti] n.	sth. (to be) done 活动
adequate [dikwit] a.	as much as one needs; enough 充分的; 足够的
distraction [dis tr k n] n.	sth. that draws away the mind or attention 分心(或分散注意力)的事物
concentrate (on or upon)	pay close attention (to) 全神贯注(于)
[k ns ntreit] v.	
skim [skim] v.	read quickly to get the main ideas (of) 略读
preview [pri vju] v.	have a general view of (sth.) beforehand 预习
content [k ntent] n.	what is written in a book, etc. 内容
organize [naiz] v.	form into a whole 组织
later [leit] ad.	后来; 以后
skip [skip] v.	pass over 略过
portion [p n] n.	part; share 一部分; 一份
double [d bl] v.	make or become twice as great or as many(使)增加一倍
comprehension [k mpri hen ()n]	the act of understanding or ability to understand 理解
n.	(力)
mention [men ()n] v.	speak or write about (sth.) in a few words 提及
confused[k n fju zd] a.	mixed up in one's mind 迷惑的, 混淆的
textbook n.	a standard book for the study of a subject 教科书; 课本
performance [p f m ns] n.	achievement 成绩
meaningful a.	having important meaning or value 富有意义的
attitude [titju d] n.	what one thinks about sth. 态度, 看法
purpose [p p s] n.	aim 目的, 意图
excessively [ik sesivli] ad.	too much 过多地, 过分地
permanent [p m n nt] a.	lasting for a long time; never changing 持久的; 永久的
technique [tek ni k] n.	way of doing sth. 技巧, 方法
helpful a.	useful; providing help or willing to help 有益的; 给予帮助的, 肯帮忙的

PHRASES AND EXPRESSIONS

fill in	write in 填写, 填充
decide on	make a choice or decision about 选定, 决定

set aside	save for a special purpose 留出
as well	also; too; in addition 也, 还; 同样
be aware (of)	know (sth.); know (what is happening) 知道, 意识到
concentrate on	direct one's attention, efforts, etc. to 全神贯注于
look over	examine (quickly) 把.....看一遍, 过目
go over	review 复习
lead to	result in 导致

NOTES

1. This text is adapted (改编) from Lado English Series, Book 6.
2. This is not necessarily the case, however: But this is not inevitably true.
3. "Committed time" means "the time during which a person feels it necessary to do certain things".

EXERCISES TO THE READING TEXT

Reading Comprehension

- . Answer the following questions on the basis of the text.
1. Do you think an average student will never become a top student?
 2. Do you spend all your free time studying? If not, what other things do you do in your spare time?
 3. Where do you usually study in the evening? In your bedroom, in your classroom or in the library? Why?
 4. What does skimming mean? Why is it important?
 5. Do you think it necessary to write down everything that the teacher says? What kind of information do you write down?
 6. What is the purpose of the text?
 7. Which of the six suggestions in the text do you find the most helpful to you? Give your reasons.
 8. Have you any other suggestions to offer to your classmates?

Vocabulary and Structure

- . Choose the definition from column B that best matches each italicized word or phrase in column A.

A

B

1. average

a. find an answer to

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|
| 2. the case | b. talk about in a few words |
| 3. set aside | c. enough |
| 4. occupy | d. unclear in one's mind |
| 5. solve | e. put together in an orderly way |
| 6. adequate | f. true |
| 7. skim | g. ordinary |
| 8. organize | h. save for a special purpose |
| 9. mention | i. take up |
| 10. confused | j. look over quickly |

. Fill in the blanks with the words given below, using proper forms.

occupy	aware	fill in	lead to
organize	solve	enable	concentrate on

1. This new technique will _____ the workers to double their production.
2. Too much discussion will only _____ confusion.
3. It was several minutes before I became _____ of what was happening in the classroom.
4. He made a careful study of the difficult question and _____ it in five hours.
5. His time is partly _____ by his ill wife.
6. The old professor cannot _____ what he is thinking because it is so noisy here.
7. Would you please _____ your name, address and telephone number here?
8. The student tried to _____ my thoughts before speaking out on the question.

Translation

. Put the following sentences into English.

1. 这次面试的成功使他意识到知识的重要性。
2. 有些人认为男生比女生聪明。然而, 事实未必如此。
3. 这篇文章的目的是告诉学生怎样培养良好的学习习惯。
4. 如果你能充分利用时间, 你一定会成为一个优等生。
5. 你应该尽早给他们一个答复。
6. 他一早便将信寄给她, 为的是让她下午能收到。
7. 他是个多才多艺的作家。他写诗、小说, 还有剧本。

GRAMMAR

形容词和副词的比较级

比较级以形容词比较级为主, 比较复杂, 学生们的思维容易受汉语语法体系的影响, 出现不同的错误。要学好比较级不能仅凭做几套相关的练习, 一定要系统掌握每一规则, 甚至要把

各项目记在心里。

1. 比较级的形式变化, 注意下列词的变化:

big—bigger, thin—thinner, happy—happier, clever—cleverer (more clever),
interesting—more interesting

不规则变化

good (well) — better, best

bad — worse, worst

many (much) — more, most

little — less, least

far — farther, farthest

2. 有些形似比较级, 但实际是固定搭配的结构:

as good as (副词) 几乎: as good as dead

as well as (介, 连) 也, 除……之外: work as well as study

as long as (连) 只要: These books will be enjoyable as long as they are read.

as far as ... be concerned 就……而言: As far as the price is concerned, this car is OK.

有时会遇到下列结构: as long as a year and as short as 24 hours, as wide as 50 meters, as much as 20 percent, as old as 100, as many as 28 nations, 正确的译法是“……达……”, 而不是“同……一样……”。第一词组的意思是“长达一年, 短至 24 小时。”该结构用于强调两个 as 之间的词。

3. as ... as 和 so ... as 的用法:

这两个结构的区别在于后者只能用在否定句中, 而前者常用在肯定句, 两者都表示“与……一样……”, 而 not so ... as 则表示“不如……”。两个 as 之间必须用形容词或副词原形。第二个 as 是连词, 后面可接句子, 而本身又可充当代词, 有的起兼职作用, 请看例句:

Chinese is as difficult as English. (一样难)

Chinese is not so difficult as English. (没有英语难)

This park is as beautiful as is said to be. (跟传说一样美)

Sound doesn't travel so fast as light. (声音的传播速度没有光快。)

I'm not so busy as I used to. (没以前忙)

Beijing is as big a city as Shanghai. (北京是个同上海一样大的城市。)

Boys don't spend so much money on food as girls. (男孩花在吃上的钱没女孩多。)

最后一句是个典型的句子, 中国学生倾向于译成: The money boys spend on food is not so much as girls. 要把形容词修饰的词放在 as ... as 之间。先看译文, 试译下面两句话:

他的饭量没我大。

我读的书没你多。

译文:

He doesn't eat as much as I (do).

I have not read so many books as you have.

所以, 译文要符合英语用法, 不能凭汉语语序。

有的表示不是两者之间的比较,而是两种性质的程度,也可用 as ... as ...

She is as clever as beautiful. (既聪明,又漂亮)

She is as much a housewife as a boss. (既充当家庭主妇,也是老板)

4. “more ... than ...” 的用法:

该句型用于“.....比.....要.....”的意义。要注意的是 more 后面接原型, more clever = cleverer。

Dogs are more sensitive to sound than humans. (狗对声音更敏感)

Children ask more questions than adults.

Planes fly much faster than birds.

This drug is more effective than was once believed. (比传统的看法更有效)

She has more housework than she can finish. (家务多得做不完)

有时为了表示差距大,可在比较级前加量词或程度副词,如:

two years, five meters, much, even, still, far, a lot, a bit, a little, a great deal.

I'm two years older than my brother.

This movie is much better than the one we saw last week.

所以“我感觉好多了”应译为: I feel much better.

另外, more ... than ... 可用于同一人不同特点的比较:

He was more angry than pleased at the news. (不高兴,却特别生气)

Franklin was more than a statesman. (不仅仅是位政治家)

Franklin was more a statesman than a scientist. (与其说是位科学家,不如说是政治家)

More than one thousand workers. (一千多名工人)

试译下列句子:

Computers have much better memories than human beings.

China's population is much larger than that of India.

Children learn things faster than adults.

This reservoir can hold much more water than that one.

Chinese has a much larger number of native speakers than English.

5. 倍数表达法:

公式为:

... time as ... as ...

... time more than ...

... time the size (depth) of ...

最常用的句式是第一种,例如:

This factory can produce three times as many cars as five years ago. (产量是 5 年前的 3 倍)

也可译为: This factory can produce twice more cars than five years ago.

但不能直译为: The car that this factory can produce is three times as many as five years ago. (此句太汉语化)

其他例句有:

There are now five times as many companies in Beijing as ten years ago.

She can make twice as much money as she used to.

This street is twice as wide as that road.

最后一种句型较难, 用非比较级形式表示比较级意义。试比较:

This path is eight times as long as the steepest one.

This path is eight times the length of the steepest one.

倍数后面的词往往是: size, number, width, depth, height, weight, age, volume, length, maximum, dose.

请看同一汉语句子的多种译法:

天安门广场是罗马圣·彼德广场的5倍。

The Tiananmen Square is five times as large as St Peter's in Rome.

The Tiananmen Square is five times the size of St Peter's in Rome.

The Tiananmen Square is four times larger than St Peter's in Rome.

6. 最高级用法:

最高级用于三人或三人以上的比较, 常与介词 of 和 among (.....当中), in (范围) 一起出现。best 和 most 修饰动词时, 不用定冠词。请看例句:

The Yangtze River is the longest river in China.

The Spring Festival is the most important to the Chinese.

Of all the courses, I like physics best.

What impressed me most was their selflessness.

The Imperial Palace is one of the biggest museums I have ever visited.

试比较:

She is the taller of these two girls.

She is the tallest of these girls.

有时在最高级前面加“the second, the third ...”表示“第几.....”如: the second biggest continent, the third longest river.

同一汉语句子的可用比较级不同形式翻译:

Arabic is the most difficult of all natural languages.

Arabic is more difficult than any other natural languages.

No natural language is so difficult as Arabic.

试译: 这是我看过的最动人的影片。

This is the most moving movie I've ever seen.

I have never seen a more moving movie.

No movie is so moving as this one.

有时, 用“by far”修饰最高级, 表示“绝对.....”, 同属第二位的相差很远, 如:

The central TV Tower is by far the tallest building in Beijing.

7. “The more ..., the more ...” 越....., 越.....

例句: The older one grows, the poorer his memory becomes. 人年龄越大, 记忆越差。

The more friends you make, the less time you have. 交的朋友越多, 时间越少。

难点是定冠词后肯定是比较级, 但不一定是 more; 如果 more 修饰某个名词, 该名词要放在 more 之后不能分离, 然后是主语和谓语。有时该句型简化:

The more, the better. 越多越好。The sooner, the better. 越快越好。

其他完整例句有:

The more carefully you work, the fewer errors you make.

The earlier you get up, the more sleepy you feel at class.

8. 中国学生经常出错的一个地方是比较对象的错位。例如:

Your writing is better than me. (×) (正确的是“mine”)

My mother likes the dog better than my father. 此句多意, 原因在于“my father”既可能充当主语, 省略了“does”, 又可理解为宾语, 前面省略了“she does”; 此时, 最好明确写明。

9. 记住 as ... as possible (one can) 结构, 表示“尽……”

run as fast as possible (at one's top speed)

finish it as soon as possible (in the shortest possible time)

make as much progress as possible (取得尽可能大的进步)

10. 记住... than any other ..., 或... than anything (anybody) else.

Gold is believed to be more valuable than anything else. 此句中的“else”不能省略, 否则就矛盾了, 因为“anything”中包括“gold”。

Mary is more hardworking than any other student in the class. 此句中的“other”也不可缺少。

EXERCISES TO GRAMMER

. Fill in the blanks with the proper form.

1. Which book do you like _____ (well), this one or that one?

2. This is one of the _____ (good) concerts I've been to.

3. The _____ (hard) you work, the _____ (much) you get.

4. English is used _____ (widely) than Chinese.

5. She walks twice as _____ (fast) as she used to.

6. China is _____ (prosperous) than ever before.

7. Life is much _____ (valuable) than money.

8. This railway was built in _____ (little) than two years.

9. I'm happy to say I have never been given a _____ (good) gift.

10. Among all the guests present, Tom is by far _____ (old).

. Translation. Put the following sentences into English.

1. 这是我参观过的最大的图书馆之一。

2. 与其说她是位朋友, 不如说她是位大姐。

3. 我在英语上花的时间比你多多了。
4. 这个教室的面积是对面那个的 2 倍。
5. 写汉语要比讲汉语难多了。
6. 她现在同以前一样快乐。
7. 足球比篮球更受欢迎。
8. 医生治疗的病人越多, 其贡献越大。
9. 请尽可能慢些讲话。
10. 多达 5 万人观看了这场比赛。
11. 最困难的事是决定献出生命。
12. 使我最吃惊的是她看上去比以前年轻多了。
13. 欧洲比亚洲小多了, 以致于它被看作是个岛屿。
14. 这个孩子不笨, 挺聪明。
15. 周末公园里的人比平时多多了。
16. 经理每天到公司都比其他人早。
17. 这篇课文是本书所有课文中最长的。
18. 对不起, 我无法做到你要多少就给你多少。
19. 她的运动量没我大。
20. 每天来图书馆借书的人比还书的多。
21. 这台机器要比预料的容易修理。
22. 戒烟要比开始吸烟需要更长的时间。
23. 这口大钟是人高的三倍。
24. 中国正变得日益强大。
25. 食物对于健康如同空气一样重要。

Unit 2

READING TEXT

The Internet

The 1990s has brought on a revolution in the electronic media. This revolution is the result of the computer, telephone, fax, and television. These technologies can be combined to bring many conveniences into the school, home, and office. People talk about “information superhighways” that will soon offer services such as movies on demand, shopping without leaving your living room, picture phones, conversations with friends via computer, a push-button choice of 500 TV programs, bill payments from home, and access to databases (computerized collections of information) from around the world.

The following questions and answers center on the Internet, a new electronic tool for communication and research used by millions of people around the world.

Q: What is the Internet?

A: When two or more computers are linked together to share files and electronic mail (e-mail), they form a network. Some individual networks consist of thousands of computers. The Internet is a network of thousands of networks, linking schools, universities, businesses, government agencies, libraries, nonprofit organizations and millions of individuals. The Internet is much smaller in size than the worldwide telephone network, but because the Internet links computers instead of telephones it has vastly more power.

Q: Is the Internet the same thing as the “information superhighway” everyone is talking about?

A: The Internet is a sort of early model for the data highway. Originally designed as a high-speed communications network for universities and military research, the Internet has now expanded to include private and commercial clients. It may eventually be a backbone for the so-called data superhighway, or it may become the equivalent of Route 66 in American highway history, bypassed by newer and wider roads. The highway will probably consist of computer networks, cable TV, interactive phone services and other technologies.

Q: What can I find on the Internet?

A: If you can imagine it, you can probably find it. You can check the card catalogue of the Library of Congress, retrieve free software, get the latest news, send and receive electronic mail, complain about the Mets with fellow sufferers, view NASA satellite images, reach the world's leading authorities on pandas, and so on. There are literally thousands of "interest groups" on the net.

Finding things in such a vast supply of data, however, is not easy. There is no complete road map or directory. Part of the fun is exploring.

Q: What do I need to get onto the Internet?

A: For now, the requirements are a personal computer, a device called a modem, a communications program, access to a telephone line and an account with an Internet service provider. The computer does not have to be too fancy, although the ability to use Windows software or the Macintosh operating system is a definite plus. The modem should be as fast as possible. A speed of 14,400 bits is OK but a faster one — 28.8 or 56 KBPS — is better.

Q: What is my first step in getting onto the Internet?

A: Go to the bookstore and get an Internet introductory guide. There are at least two dozen of them out there now. Or ask a computer-literate friend to show you how to use the "net".

Q: Who owns the Internet?

A: Nobody owns it. It is a cooperative but often chaotic federation of independent networks. Some regulatory groups set standards for the way the information flows over the Internet, but they are not too effective at present.

NEW WORDS

internet [int net] n.

a network in which DIGITAL computers are connected to those of another manufacturer 一种可以使数字设备公司(DEC)的计算机与另一家计算机制造商的计算机连接起来的网络(系统)

fax [f ks] n.

[f acsimile 的缩略词] 传真(照片, 文件)

combine [k m bain] v.

to bring into a state of unity; merge 使结合使成统一的状态; 合并

convenience [k n vi ni ns] n.

something that increases comfort or saves work 便利设施

superhighway [sup haiwei] n.

a broad highway, often with six or more lanes, used for high-speed traffic 超级高速公路有六个或更多车道的、高速行驶的宽阔公路

via [vai] prep.

by way of 经过