

英语精读 2

主 编	纪晓慧				
副主编	都 影	刘 蔷			
编 委	纪晓慧	都 影	刘 蔷		
	白 雪	乔 慧			

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总 序

我们已经进入了一个新的充满机遇与挑战的时代,我们已经跨入了 21 世纪的门槛。

20 世纪与 21 世纪之交的中国,高等教育体制正经历着一场缓慢而深刻的革命,我们正在对传统的普通高等教育理论教学与社会发展的现实需要不相适应的现状作历史性的反思与变革的尝试。

20 世纪最后的几年里,高等职业教育伴随着社会经济、科技以及文化教育本身的迅速发展而崛起,是影响高等教育体制变革的一件大事。在短短的几年时间里,普通中专教育、普通高专教育全面转轨,以高等职业教育为主导的各种形式的应用型人才培养的教育发展到与普通高等教育等量齐观的地步,其来势之迅猛,迫人深思。

无论是正在缓慢变革着的普通高等教育,还是迅速推进着的应用型人才培养的高等职业教育,都向我们提出了一个同样的严肃问题:中国的高等教育为谁服务,是为教育发展自身,还是为包括教育在内的大千社会?答案肯定而且惟一,那就是教育也置身其中的现实社会。

由此又引发出高等教育的目的问题。既然教育必须服务于社会,它就必须按照社会需要的不同领域来完成自己的教育过程。换言之,教育资源必须按照社会划分的各个专业(行业)领域(岗位群)的需要实施配置,这就是我们所熟知的学以致用问题,这就是我们所关注的教育的目的问题。

众所周知,整个社会由其发展所需要的不同部门构成,包括公共管理部门如国家机构、基础建设部门如教育研究机构和各种实业部门如工业部门商业部门,等等。每一个部门又可作更为具体的划分,直至同它所需要的各种专门人才相对应。教育如果不能按照实际需要完成各种专门人才培养的目标,就不能很好地完成社会分工所赋予它的使命,而教育作为社会分工的一种独立存在就应受到置疑。可以断言,按照社会的各种不同需要培养各种直接有用人才,是教育体制变革的终极目的。

随着教育体制变革的进一步深入,高等院校的设置是否会同社会对人才类型的不同需要一一对应,我们姑且不论。但高等教育走应用型人才培养的道路和走理论型(也是一种特殊应用)人才培养的道路,学生们

根据自己的偏好各取所需,始终是一个理性运行的社会状态下高等教育正常发展的途径。

高等职业教育的崛起,既是高等教育体制变革的结果,也是高等教育体制变革的一个阶段性表征。它的进一步发展,必将极大地推进中国教育体制变革的进程。作为一种应用型人才培养的教育,高等职业教育从专科层次起步,进而高职本科教育、高职硕士教育、高职博士教育……,当应用型人才培养的渠道贯通之时,也许就是我们迎接中国教育体制变革的成功之日。从这一意义上说,高等职业教育的崛起,正是在为必然会取得最后成功的教育体制变革奠基。

高职教育还刚刚开始自己发展道路的探索过程,它要全面达到应用型人才培养的正常理性发展状态,直至可以和现存的(同时也正处在变革分化过程中的)理论型人才培养渠道并驾齐驱,还需假以时日;还需要政府教育主管部门的大力推进,需要人才需求市场的进一步完善发育,尤其需要高职教学单位及其直接相关部门肯于做长期的坚忍不拔的努力。新世纪高等职业教育教材编审委员会就是由北方地区近百所高职院校和出版单位组成的旨在以推动高职教材建设来推进高等职业教育这一变革过程的联盟共同体。

在宏观层面上,这个联盟始终会以推动高职教材的特色建设为己任,始终会从高职教学单位实际教学需要出发,以其对高职教育发展的前瞻性的总体把握,以其纵览全国高职教材市场需求的广阔视野,以其创新的理念与创新的组织形式,通过不断深化的教材建设过程,总结高职教学成果,探索高职教材建设规律。

在微观层面上,我们将充分依托众多高职院校联盟的互补优势和丰裕的人才资源优势,从每一个专业领域、每一种教材入手,突破传统的片面追求理论体系严整性的意识限制,努力凸现高职教育职业能力培养的本质特征,在不断构建特色教材建设体系的过程中,逐步形成自己的品牌优势。

新世界高等职业教育教材编审委员会作为一种民间组织形式的联盟,在推进高职教材建设事业的过程中,始终得到了各级教育主管部门(如国家教育部、辽宁省教育厅)以及各相关院校相关部门的热忱支持和积极参与,对此我们谨致深深谢意;也希望一切关注、参与高职教育发展的同道朋友,在共同推动高职教育发展进而推动高等教育体制变革的进程中,和我们携手并肩,与时俱进。

新世纪高等职业教育教材编审委员会

2001年8月18日

前 言

本册教材为高等职业教育基础课程规划教材《英语精读》第二册。本册教材仍以基础知识为主,着重培养学生基本的听、说、读、写、译的能力,同时又把语法知识系统地穿插到每单元的课后练习当中,既方便学生弥补基础知识较差所造成的不足,又可起到复习巩固的作用。

本册教材共分十二个单元,每单元又包括 Text A 和 Text B 两篇课文。Text A 可精讲,Text B 可略讲。每篇文章的长度为 200~250 个单词,所选的文章涉及到旅游、农业、人口、交通、语言、工作、明星、婚姻等方面的内容,既生动有趣,又富有知识性和时代性。

本册教材的每一单元都以一句与课文内容相关的名言开始,课内穿插“快乐学习”,包括谜语、笑话、幽默等,以丰富学生学习内容,提高学生的学习兴趣。

书后附有附录。附录一针对各单元所涉及的语法现象进行了讲解;附录二则收录了本书所涉及的单词及短语,汇总成表,以备查阅。

本册教材适用于高职一年级学生第二学期使用。学生此时应掌握 800~1000 个基本词汇和第一册所涉及的语法内容。通过第一册的学习,学生应具备了基本的听、说、读、写的能力,这样才能更好地完成本册教材的学习。建议高中起点的学生每单元用 4 学时完成,三校生用 6 学时完成。

由于时间仓促,书中难免有不当之处,诚望广大专家、师生提出宝贵意见。

编 者

2002 年 3 月

编写说明

本套教材是根据教育部《高职高专教育英语课程教学基本要求》(试行)以及《高等学校英语应用能力考试大纲和样题》编写的。

本套教材着重培养学生的听、说、读、写、译各项基本技能,使学生毕业后能用英语进行人际交往和对外合作交流,同时使学生具备较强的阅读能力、翻译本专业一般技术性材料的能力及具有初步的写作应用文的能力。

本套教材的培养对象主要是高等应用型人才。考虑到学生入学时对基础知识的掌握程度,所以把培养交际能力、应用能力与传授语言知识结合起来。通过本教材的学习,学生可以掌握适当的学习方法,提高文化素养,并为继续学习英语打好基础。

本套教材的特点是以话题为中心,《英语精读》、《英语泛读》的同一单元都围绕同一个话题展开,主要选择学生感兴趣的集知识性、实用性和时代性为一体的题材。以话题为中心,能使更多地接触、消化、积累与该话题有关的词汇、语言现象,帮助学生更好地使用词汇和语言知识进行口语和其他方面的表达。

本套教材共十五册,包括《英语听说》两册、《英语精读》四册、《英语泛读》四册、《英语综合练习》一册及《英语教师用书》四册。《英语听说》每册十五单元,《英语精读》、《英语泛读》每册十二单元。《英语综合练习》主要为阶段性考试服务,强化训练英语高等学校英语应用能力 A、B 级考试。《英语教师用书》主要内容包括《英语精读》与《英语泛读》的学

习重点提示、练习参考答案及课文译文,供教师参考。全套教材计划课时 280 学时。

本套教材将高职英语教学划分为三个阶段。第一阶段为基础知识培养阶段,包括第一册《英语听说》每周 2 学时,第一、二册《英语精读》及《英语泛读》每周 4 学时,共用 6 学时完成一单元。在培养学生听说技能的同时,还要使学生掌握基本的语音和语法知识。本阶段结束时,要使学生领会式掌握 1500 个左右的英语词汇。

第二阶段为巩固和提高阶段,包括第二册《英语听说》的前半部分,第三册《英语精读》及《英语泛读》,共 6 学时完成一个单元。学生通过这一阶段的学习,英语听说能力应有一定的提高,同时还应掌握一些必要的语法知识。在这一阶段,学生要接触到今后职业涉及的话题以及一般性的科普文章。通过本阶段的学习,要使学生领会式掌握 2300 个左右的英语词汇,达到《高职高专教育英语课程教学基本要求》(试行)所规定的 B 级水平。

第三阶段为综合能力培养与提高阶段,包括第二册《英语听说》的后半部分,第四册《英语精读》及《英语泛读》,共用 6 学时完成一单元。在前三册的基础上,学生通过这一阶段的学习,可扩大知识面,提高阅读、写作、翻译能力并达到《高职高专教育英语课程教学基本要求》(试行)所规定的 A 级水平,领会式掌握 3000 个左右的英语词汇。

由于时间仓促,以及编者对高职英语教学的经验不够丰富,书中难免有不足之处,恳请广大专家、教师和学生提出宝贵意见,以使本套教材更臻完善。

编 者

2002 年 3 月

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Unit 1

*Speech is silver, but silence
is gold.*

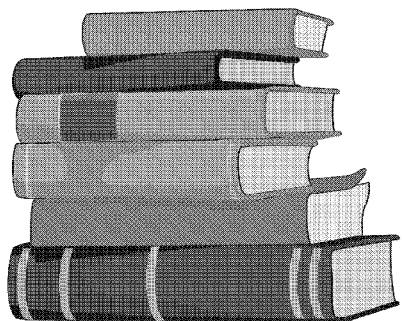
雄辯是銀，沉默是金。

Language

TEXT

A

Pre-reading Questions



*Before reading the text, try to answer
the following questions:*

- ⑤ Can you tell the differences between jokes and proverbs? Give some examples.
- ⑤ Do you know any proverbs? Please explain the meanings of them.

American Proverbs

Most of the jokes told by comedians are soon forgotten. They are not as permanent as the sayings of wise people—sayings that are passed on from generation to generation. Known as proverbs, these words of great wisdom provide quick reminders of how to live properly and happily. ❶ The Chinese and Spanish languages are particularly rich in proverbs, which form an important part of all languages. ❷

In the United States the proverbs written over two hundred years ago by Benjamin Franklin are still being repeated. Benjamin Franklin was one of the original signers of the American Constitution. He also invented bifocal eye-glasses to help us see better, the lightning rod to protect our homes and a new kind of stove to keep us warm. When children want to stay up late, their parents quote Benjamin Franklin: "Early to bed and early to rise makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise."^⑧ When the children want to spend their money on candy, parents again quote Franklin: "A penny saved is a penny earned." Children are also reminded that "God helps them that help themselves," another of Franklin's sayings.

Proverbs are so much a part of language that the student is wise to study the old expressions as well as the newest ones that we sometimes call "slang". If you hear a person say, "The early bird catches the worm," it may be because someone gets up too late. To the person who does not spend money wisely, someone may say, "A fool and his money are soon parted." If you must go to the doctor because of a careless accident, people may remind you that "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush" is a saying to make us think before we trade what we already have for something we only hope to get. People frequently use proverbs to explain their feelings. If they do not want to travel, they will say, "There's no place like home."^⑨ If someone wants them to work, they may reply, "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy."

New Words

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| comedian /kə'mi:dʒən/ | <i>n.</i> a person who plays comedy 喜剧演员 |
| forget /fə'get/ | <i>v.</i> to fail to remember or keep in memory 忘记
forgot/fə'gɒt/ (过去式), forgotten /fə'gɒtn/ 或
forgot(过去分词) |
| permanent /'pə:mənənt/ | <i>a.</i> lasting for a long time 永久的, 持久的 |
| wise /waiz/ | <i>a.</i> having or showing good sense and judgment and
the ability to understand and decide on the right
action 聪明的 |
| generation /ˌdʒenə'reiʃən/ | <i>n.</i> all people of about the same age 一代(人) |
| wisdom /'wɪzdəm/ | <i>n.</i> good sense and judgment 智慧 |
| reminder /ri'maɪndə/ | <i>n.</i> something that makes one remember 提醒的事或物 |
| properly /'prɒpəli/ | <i>ad.</i> appropriately 适当地 |

particularly /pə'tɪkjʊləli/	<i>ad.</i> especially 特别地
original /ə'ridʒənəl/	<i>a.</i> first or earliest 最早的
signer /'sainə/	<i>n.</i> someone who signs 签名者
constitution /kənsti'tju:ʃən/	<i>n.</i> the system of laws and principles usually written down according to which a country or an organization is governed 宪法
invent /in'vent/	<i>v.</i> to make or produce for the first time 发明
bifocal /bai'fəʊkl/	<i>a.</i> designed for looking at both distant and close objects 双焦的
lightning /'laitniŋ/	<i>n.</i> a powerful flash of light in the sky caused by electricity passing from one cloud to another or to the earth , usually followed by a thunder 闪电
rod /rɒd/	<i>n.</i> a long thin pole or bar of any firm materials 杆,棒
protect /prə'tekt/	<i>v.</i> to keep safe , esp. by guarding or covering 保护
stove /stəʊv/	<i>n.</i> an enclosed apparatus for cooking or heating which works by burning coal , oil , gas , etc , or by electricity 炉子
quote /kwəʊt/	<i>v.</i> to repeat in speech or writing the words of (a person , a book , etc)引用
healthy /'helθi/	<i>a.</i> physically strong and not often ill 健康
wealthy /'welθi/	<i>a.</i> rich 富裕的
penny /'peni/	<i>n.</i> a unit of money equal to 1/100 of a pound 便士
save /seiv/	<i>v.</i> avoid wasting something 节约
remind /re'maɪnd/	<i>v.</i> to make one remember 提醒
slang /slæŋ/	<i>n.</i> very informal language that includes new and sometimes not polite words and meanings often used among particular groups of people 俚语
worm /wɜ:m/	<i>n.</i> a small , thin creature with no bones or limbs , like a round tube of flesh 虫
part /pɑ:t/	<i>v.</i> to separate 分开

careless /'keəlis/*a.* not take enough care ; inattentive 不小心的

accident /'æksɪdənt/*n.* something unpleasant or damaging that happens unexpectedly or by chance 事故

ounce /aʊns/*n.* unit of weight; equal to 1/16 of a pound 盎司

prevention /pri'venʃən/*n.* action of stopping or hindering sb./sth. 阻止, 预防

bush /buʃ/*n.* a low woody plant, smaller than a tree and with many stems 矮木林, 灌木丛

trade /treɪd/*v.* to exchange 交换

frequently /'fri:kwəntli/*ad.* often 经常

feelings /'fi:liŋz/*n.* sensations of joy, sorrow, hate, etc. 感情

dull /dʌl/*a.* stupid 愚蠢的

▲ *Phrases and Expressions*

pass on 把.....传给(后代)

be rich in 富饶, 多产.....

stay up 迟睡, 不睡觉

so... that 如此.....以至于.....

as well as 不仅.....而且, 还有

trade A for B 用 A 去换 B

▼ *Proper Names*

① Benjamin Franklin /'bendʒəmin'fræŋklin/ 本杰明·富兰克林

▼ *Notes*

① Known as proverbs, these words of great wisdom provide quick reminders of how to live properly and happily.

被称为谚语的这些睿智的词语能及时提醒人们如何去正确、幸福地生活。

known as proverbs 是过去分词短语, 在句中起状语作用, 如:

Followed by the president, the new teacher came in. 在校长的陪同下, 新老师走了进来。

② The Chinese and Spanish languages are particularly rich in proverbs,

which form an important part of all languages.

汉语和西班牙语中的谚语特别丰富,谚语在所有语言中都是重要的一部分。

which form an important part of all languages 是非限制性定语从句,修饰“proverbs”。又如:

We all like our new English teacher, who is very active.

我们都喜欢新英语老师,他非常活泼。

- ③ Early to bed and early to rise makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise.

早睡早起使人健康、富裕、聪明。

healthy, wealthy, wise 是形容词,在 make + sb./sth. + a. 结构中做补语,意为使某人或物变得……。又如:

The news made her happy. 这条消息使她很高兴。

- ④ There's no place like home. 哪儿都不如家好。

like 为介词,意思是“像……,类似,相似”。又如:

I'm going to be a pop star like Michael Jackson. 我要成为一名像迈克尔·杰克逊那样的流行歌星。

Reading Comprehension

1 Decide whether the following statements are true(T) or false (F) according to the text.

- () 1. The sayings of comedians are permanent.
- () 2. Proverbs can remind people to live properly and happily.
- () 3. Proverbs form an important part of all languages.
- () 4. The British proverbs written by Benjamin Franklin are still being repeated.
- () 5. Whenever children want to spend their money on candy, their parents will think of Franklin.
- () 6. A wise student should learn not only the newest expressions but also the old ones.
- () 7. “Slang” includes both expressions and the newest ones.
- () 8. You can say “All work and no play makes Jack a

dull boy” if you don’t want to do your homework.

Vocabulary and Structure

- 2 Choose the definition from Column B that best matches the word in Column A.

Column A

1. frequently
2. wealthy
3. permanent
4. dull
5. cure
6. original
7. particularly
8. properly
9. save
10. part

Column B

- A. avoid wasting something
- B. especially
- C. separate
- D. rich
- E. make somebody healthy again
- F. lasting for a long time
- G. first or earliest
- H. often
- I. appropriately
- J. stupid

- 3 Fill in the blanks with the words or expressions given below. Change the form where necessary.

☐so that ☐original ☐be rich in ☐reminder ☐pass on
☐wealthy ☐stay up ☐as well as ☐wise ☐properly

1. It is very _____ of you to take his advice.
2. The _____ inhabitants of North America were Indians.
3. She's got a teaching job at night _____ office work during day.
4. The country became _____ because of its oil.
5. The little princess is learning how to dress _____.
6. The waiters were clearing the tables, which served as a _____ that it was the time to leave.
7. It is known that China _____ natural resources.
8. They _____ late to watch the election results on the television.
9. This custom _____ since 18th century.
10. He is _____ fat _____ he could hardly get through the door.

Grammatical Structure

4 Fill in the blanks with proper forms of the adjectives and adverbs given in the brackets.

1. The screen of my TV set is _____ (large) than that of yours.
2. The higher a mountain is, the _____ (difficult) it is to climb.
3. Nanjing Road is the _____ (busy) street in Shanghai.
4. It is autumn; the weather becomes (cold) _____ and _____ (cold).
5. John is the _____ (thin) of the three.
6. Jim's kite is high. Bill's is _____ (high). Tom's is _____ (high) of all.
7. He did much _____ (well) in the exam this time than last time.
8. This is one of the _____ (fine) short stories I have read.
9. This is _____ (interesting) story I have ever heard.
10. The Nile, the Yangtse, the Amazon and the Mississippi are the four _____ (long) rivers in the world.

5 Choose the best answer.

1. The pianos in the other shop will be _____, but _____.
 A. cheaper, not as better B. more cheap, not as better
 C. cheaper, not as good D. more cheap, not as good
2. _____ technique in medicine we have, _____ patients we can save.
 A. The good, the many B. The better, the much
 C. The better, the more D. The best, the more
3. Shanghai is one of _____ in the world.
 A. biggest citys B. the biggest city
 C. biggest cities D. the biggest cities