

求实高职高专英语专业系列教材

英 语 阅 读 教 程 2

主编 辛柯

重庆大学出版社

内 容 提 要

《英语阅读教程》共4册,属于“求实高职高专英语专业系列教材”。本书为第2册,其阅读素材为本书主要作者罗伯特·杰克逊先生所写的随笔,内容涉及作者对童年的回忆、家庭亲情、同事和朋友之间的友情、参观访问游记等。编者针对中国高职高专学生的具体情况,将罗伯特·杰克逊先生的每篇文章以 Version 1 和 Version 2 的形式安排在每个单元,其中 Version 1 的语言较 Version 2 简单,这就方便学习者根据自身实际情况灵活使用。Version 1 和 Version 2 后面是与文章内容相关的阅读理解练习、翻译练习和写作练习。编者还在每单元最后安排实用文体(如个人简历、文章摘要、求职信等)的阅读,突出了高职高专教学“实用为主”的原则。本书活动的设计和练习的编排把说、读、写、译结合起来,能有效地提高学生的阅读理解能力和语言综合应用能力。

本教程既可供高职高专英语专业学生使用,也可供高职高专非英语专业学生使用,同时也可作为英语中高级读物,供具有一定基础的英语自学者和英语爱好者使用。

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主 编 辛柯

责任编辑:罗 亚 王 艺 版式设计:牟 妮

责任校对:邹 忌 责任印制:秦 梅

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重庆大学出版社出版发行

出版人:张鸽盛

社址:重庆市沙坪坝正街174号重庆大学(A区)内

邮编:400030

电话:(023) 65102378 65105781

传真:(023) 65103686 65105565

网址: <http://www.cqup.com.cn>

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Clifford Fan(樊恒夫)

My English friend Robert G. Jackson is a living book and his life and work makes a good story.

Robert was born in Croston, a small village in the Northwest of England. He began school on his third birthday and, when he was ten years old, won a scholarship(奖学金) to Ormskirk Grammar School. At the age of 17 he won a state scholarship to Liverpool University where he studied Mechanical Engineering. He graduated in December 1942 and began his first job in January 1943, as a Junior Scientific Officer at the Royal Aircraft Establishment (英国皇家飞机公司) . There he did research on aircraft engines to find ways to improve their performance (性能) .

In 1946 he joined the staff of a research centre of the Shell International Petroleum Company (壳牌国际石油公司) , where he worked on a variety of projects concerned with the performance of fuels. In the years that followed, he made a number of trips to Holland, France, Germany, Japan, the United States, Brazil and New Zealand, to visit Shell or Continental activities in those countries.

As a part of his duties Robert first came to China in 1993, and we began to know each other on his second business trip to Xi 'an in October 1994. Since then we have been working , as friends and partners, in promoting some coal-gas power generating (发电) projects he and his company have worked on. He has, however, been able to watch Xi 'an, and China, grow and has felt for much of the time that he is a part of a great adventure. Currently he is a Senior Vice President of EPIC and Chief Representative of the EPIC Agency in Xi 'an. In 1996 he met a Chinese engineer who became his wife in 1997. His new wife brought into his life her beautiful daughter who he adopted in 2001.

He became associated with the GL Information Technology College of NPU in 1999 as a guest speaker and began to teach senior students the correct way to speak and write English. He is now a guest professor of GL-IT College of NPU and an advisor in teaching English for the College 's International Exchange Programme.

前 言

《英语阅读教程》(1—4)的主要作者罗伯特·杰克逊先生出生在英国,作为英壳牌公司高级技术专家在美国工作和生活了20多年,又在中国生活和工作了十几年,周游了24个国家,阅历丰富。本书内容涉及作者的童年、家庭亲情、同事和朋友之间的友情、参观访问游记等。作为一名高级科技人员,他对环境污染、野生动物保护、煤的气化、液体火箭推进剂的研究和发展都发表了自己的看法,并进行了论述。他现在的妻子是中国人,他对中国光明的前途充满了信心,对中国在发展中存在的丑恶现象深恶痛绝。他写进这本书的内容实际上是东西方文化碰撞的结果,是作者丰富的人生阅历和渊博的知识的反映,也是他人生价值观的反映,读起来不光有趣味性、知识性,而且可以欣赏到各种异国风光。

本教程的其他主要编者均是从事外语教学和研究30年以上的教授、副教授或译审,都有丰富的教学或翻译经验;他们的学识和经验成为提高本教程质量和实用性的重要保证。

从英语教学的角度看,每篇文章都是独立的故事。作者文笔流畅,语调诙谐幽默。本书词汇丰富而常用,知识面非常广,涉及现实生活的方方面面,可以说上至天文,下至地理,无所不包。有时候非常复杂的事理,作者能用简单的英语句子和词语表达清楚。

我们把《英语阅读教程》作为泛读教材在两届学生中使用之后,根据教师 and 广大学生的要求,简写了原来较复杂的一些科技文章,把原来的2本书变成4本,主要是依据语言学家 Crision 的“ $i + 1$ ”原则,使输入由易到难。此外,在保持原风格、原主要内容的基础上,又增加了许多实用文体的文章,例如个人简历、日记、求职信、商务推销广告、表格、文章摘要、读书报告、事故报道、各种便函等,其目的不光是让学生熟悉这些应用文体的写作方式,更是要达到学以致用目的。我们编写这套阅读教材,除了因为其内容新颖、语言地道、文笔流畅外,主要想让学生通过一个外国人对许多异国风土人情的描写、自身丰富经历的叙述,来扩大知识面、词汇量,包括科技词汇,从而能达到跨文化交际的目的。

根据编者多年的教学经验,外语学习和本族语学习一样,谁也不能违背听、说、读、写这样一个自然学习顺序;听说永远是第一位的,其实践量远远大于读写。但是,外语学习者由于不能在一个真实的环境中依靠听真实的语言材料来获取大量的信息,只有通过阅读来弥补信息缺损量,特别是词汇量。在一定的学习阶段,英语词汇

量成为英语专业学生和其他专业学生的主要障碍。把被动词汇转化为主动词汇,听、说、读、写、译的大量实践是惟一的途径。我们在编写教材时,考虑到以上外语学习的特点,安排了阅读理解问题、讨论和写作练习、翻译练习,便于教师在实际操作中把听、说、读、写、译有机地结合起来,从整体上提高学生的语言实用能力。

读什么一直是大家争论的主要问题,有人主张读文学名著,有人主张读报纸、杂志,有人主张读诗歌。但是,不管读什么,我们作为语言教师,一直为之奋斗的是如何培养学生有效的语言输入能力(即听、读能力)和输出能力(即说、写能力),从而最终能有效地使用所学语言。在我们强调语言输出能力时,决不意味着忽视输入能力,而语言输入的信息量永远大于输出量,也就是说,学习者在听和读时获得的信息量中,只有很少部分被消化理解,变成能运用的东西;要确保输出能力,首先要确保大量的语言输入量。语言作为一种文化载体和交际工具,自然要通过学习和实践运用才能掌握。但是在学习过程中,最重要的是所输入的语言信息必须贴近现实生活,必须实用,这样学习者才感兴趣,才易于掌握。而我们所编写的这套阅读教材就满足了这一要求。

有些人错误地认为掌握了语法规则、语音知识、一定的词汇量,就能和外国人交流了;其实,情况并非如此。当前社会上千千万万的人自称精通英语,而真正能熟练用口语和笔语与外国人进行有效交流的人并不多。原因之一是许多人对每个词汇所涵盖的文化信息没有弄清,对不同的情景下如何说话得体所涉及的文化背景没有弄懂。原因之二,在较高层次的外语学习上,许多人不能把本族语学习中获得的大量技能迁移到外语学习中,因而在外语口语和笔语表达的准确性和逻辑连贯性方面,总是底气不足。大量阅读外文,也能有效地提高本族语的水平,而本族语的提高又能促进外语的提高。原因之三,外语学习到了一定的阶段,知识面的宽窄直接影响到外语水平的进一步提高。外语学习者不可能成为许多领域的专家,但完全可以成为科普知识丰富的“杂家”。《英语阅读教程》无论是从文化背景知识方面、词汇覆盖面方面、科普知识方面,还是从听、说、读、写、译的结合方面,都是一套难得的英语中高级读物。我们希望学习者在阅读后能长见识,增词汇,能实实在在地提高英语语言应用能力。

另外,考虑到个性化教育和高职学生的个体差异大这一特点,我们希望部分学生通过使用简写本能达到教学最低要求。

编者

2004年7月

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1 Reflections

※简评※:

在本文中，作者缕缕情思穿越时光又回到了北威尔士自己全家曾居住的小镇——德威志菲尔其。他用饱蘸浓情的笔悉心描绘了英国小镇的古朴、恬静。一山、一树、一水、一物都蕴涵着作者的思念之情。行文之中穿插了他们生活在小镇的轶事趣谈和英国乡村小镇的历史风情。念及前妻的骨灰抛撒仪式，作者禁不住哀思绵绵。

本文风格舒缓，介绍了英国当地的历史和文化，有助于中国英语学习者了解域外风土人情。

Version 1

There is a small town in North Wales of which I have many happy memories and one last sad one. There, my family spent many happy holidays when our children and grandchildren were small, and where Olive, my wife, found her last resting-place.

While there, we stayed at a roadside restaurant and guesthouse, which rented out a small bungalow on its grounds. A short distance away a footbridge, over the road and railway, provided easy access to the shore and the sea and the children had no hesitation in playing in the water, although the temperature would be no more than 15 degrees.

The characteristic we most liked about the situation was the hills behind the guesthouse. The hill immediately behind was called Blueberry Hill, not surprising considering it was covered with Blueberry bushes, which, always at the time we were there would be thick with ripe fruit. Not far away was a narrow road, at the end of which were

a small church and an abandoned inn. On another farm track behind the guesthouse, there was a genuine Druids Circle. Fifteen large stones, there must have been many more originally, stood or lay in a circle as they had done for many centuries.

When we moved to Hornchurch, Dwygyfylchi, for that was the name of the town, became a memory and remained so until our children were grown and our family split between England and Ponca City, USA. In 1984 it was decided that, together with our youngest son and his family, we should go back to Wales for a family holiday.

We had to seek a large house and after our daughter-in-law found one our son telephoned to tell us about it. After he finished we asked where it was and he said, “ It is in North Wales at a place with a funny name ” which he spelled for us. D-w-y-g-y-f-y-l-c-h-i. “ Dwygyfylchi ”, my wife exclaimed. “ How delightful, but it is the village where we spent our holidays when you were children ”. We enjoyed our vacation but the house was rather small.

The next time we went to Wales it was to the village of Ddualt and a house sitting well up a hill, accessed by a steep and winding road. It had been built in the 1500s by a family of sheep rustlers and would, at that time, have been virtually impossible to reach unless invited.

For many years the house lay in ruins until a retired army officer, Major Campbell who specialised in explosives, bought it and renovated it. Beside, but slightly above the house, was a narrow gauge railway built over 100 years earlier. Major Campbell received permission to use the line to haul the materials he needed to renovate the house and the right for any occupants of the house to use the railway for free. As a result we made many trips on that train.

The name of Major Campbell ’s magnificent house was Plas Ddualt. The fireplace was a huge recess in the wall, with more than enough room to either stand upright or lie down in any direction. The house walls were made of stone and were more than half a metre thick. The tiny windows had obviously been built so that the original rustler inhabitants could easily defend themselves.

Our next visit was in October 1992, when my sons and my daughter joined me to scatter my wife ’s ashes in her native Wales and a small promontory alongside the road over the Sychnant Pass was chosen. There, with Dwygyfylchi lying below us we scattered her ashes in the presence of her British relatives and many good friends. They had gathered with us, to pay their respects to one who they had known, and whose qualities they had appreciated.

That was the last time I visited Wales. Indeed I have not been to Britain since that October and I know that many changes have taken place there, but that is a different story.

Now answer the reading comprehension questions printed after version 2.



For those who want to know the whole story, and those who are advanced English learners, the complete version can be read below.



Version 2

There is a small town in North Wales of which I have many happy memories and one last sad one. There, my family spent many happy holidays when our children and grandchildren were small, and where Olive, my wife, found her last resting-place.

While there, we stayed at a roadside restaurant and guesthouse, which rented out a small bungalow on its grounds. It was well off the road and had all its own facilities, so the children could play safely outside while we prepared the meals or they became bored with the inside.

A short distance away a footbridge, over the road and railway, provided easy access to the shore and the sea. Britons and Welshmen are hardy folks (my wife was half Welsh) and the children had no hesitation in playing in the water, although the temperature would be no more than 15 degrees. We had a dog as well, Pluto, who delighted all as he rushed into the water to recover anything the children threw there.

The characteristic we most liked about the situation was the hills behind the guesthouse. They rose majestically towards the sky and were covered by small tracks along which we could walk with care, as did the sheep that originally created most of them. It was fascinating to turn a corner on these tracks, and see a sheep and her lamb nestled in a small hole beside the track.

The hill immediately behind was called Blueberry Hill, which was not surprising considering it was covered with Blueberry bushes and, always at the time we were there,

would be thick with ripe fruit. One can go a long way in life to find anything tastier than freshly picked blueberries and fresh cream.

Not far away was a narrow road, it was a little more than a track, which could be used by the Morris Mini we had at that time. At the end of the road, set back on the hill, were a small church and an abandoned inn. The church could hold no more than ten people but it was said that on Sundays, the whole village population from the valley below came to this place to worship in the morning and to drink the local beer in the afternoon, an activity that was then illegal in Wales.

On another farm track behind the guesthouse, which wound its way up and over the Blueberry Hill, there was a genuine Druids Circle. Fifteen large stones, there must have been many more originally, stood or lay in a circle as they had done for many centuries. Wales was a land of mystery and even today the Druids meet to celebrate the beginning of spring and other seasons in this and other circles around the land. Perhaps the most famous is Stonehenge, on Salisbury Plain in the South of England.

From the top of any of these hills, not so far in the distance, one could see the Isle of Anglesey across the Menai Strait, which separates it from the mainland.

When we moved to Hornchurch, Dwygyfylchi, for that was the name of the town, became a memory and remained so until our children were grown and our family split between England and Ponca City, USA. In 1984 it was decided that, together with our youngest son and his family, we should go back to Wales for a family holiday. But we did not choose Dwygyfylchi rather it was chosen for us.

We had to seek a large house, which could be rented, from the information in a catalogue sent to us by our daughter-in-law. We made a choice and sent off the information. Some time later, when we were preparing to buy our air tickets, arrange our rental car and arrange our itinerary, we found that our son in England had procrastinated and the house we had chosen was gone.

At short notice, our daughter-in-law found another one and our son telephoned to tell us and describe the house to make sure that we were to be satisfied. When he had finished the description we asked where it was and he said “ Oh it is on the North Wales coast at a place with a funny name ” which he said he could not pronounce but would spell it for us. D-w-y-g-y-f-y-l-c-h-i. “ Dwygyfylchi ”, my wife exclaimed. “ How delightful, but you should have remembered it as the village where we used to spend our holidays every year when you were children ”. We enjoyed our vacation but the house was rather too small for two children, two daughters-in-law and four small grandchildren and we never went again

until a sadder occasion years later.

We did not desert Wales, however, and the next time we found ourselves in the most interesting of houses. It was near the village of Ddualt and sat well up a hill, accessed by a steep and winding road. It took a lot of practice to drive a car up it without many stops and manoeuvres. It had been built in the 1500s by a family of sheep rustlers and would, at that time, have been virtually impossible to reach unless invited.

For many years the house lay in ruins until a retired army officer, Major Campbell who specialised in explosives, bought it and renovated it. Beside, but slightly above the house, a narrow gauge railway built over 100 years earlier, provided an alternative access. The railway was originally built to carry slate from Blaenau Ffestiniog to Porthmadog but fell into disuse when other methods of transportation developed.

Like others of its kind, it had been purchased by a group of enthusiasts who, with the sweat of their own brows, much of their own money and some in the form of gifts and grants, had converted it, stage by stage, into a tourist attraction. Initially it carried passengers from Porthmadog to Ddualt. Later it was extended to Blaenau Ffestiniog and Major Campbell, in return for providing some expert assistance, received permission to use the line to haul the materials needed to renovate the house. He also received the right for him and any occupants of the house to use the railway for free. As a result we made many trips on that train.

Strangely enough some years earlier my wife, accompanied by our eldest son and Debbie, a young lady from Oklahoma, had chanced upon the station at Ddualt. They found it because they were lost and stopped to ask a policeman the way. “ You are here to see the Princess, ” he said, much to their surprise, as their only purpose in stopping was to get on their way.

They had, in fact, stumbled on the very place where Princess Margaret, the Queen of England ’s younger sister, was that day declaring the rebuilt station open. They took lots of photographs to show the folks in Oklahoma, including one of Debbie standing by the bareheaded policeman, while his helmet rested on her young head.

The name of Major Campbell ’s magnificent house was Plas Ddualt. The fireplace was a huge recess in the wall, with more than enough room to either stand upright or lie down in any direction. The house walls were made of stone and were more than half a metre thick. The tiny windows had obviously been built so that the original rustler inhabitants could easily defend themselves.

It was reputed that Oliver Cromwell, the leader during Britain ’s civil war, slept in

one of the rooms, on his way to a battle. In addition it was rumoured that two of his soldiers were buried in the wall besides the fireplace. No one ever heard any ghostly sounds when we stayed there, but it is a good story to tell.

We spent a family vacation in Plas Dduallt two years in succession, the first time with our son and his family, the second with our daughter and her family, and both times with our eldest son and his family. We all grew to love it, and Mr. and Mrs. Evans who owned it by then. They were potters, and I think every family household has a mug, or a pot, crafted by them. Sadly, we were never all together again in Wales.



Words and Expressions

bungalow
facility
footbridge
access
majestically
nestle
blueberry
bush
wound
genuine
Druids
itinerary
procrastinate
exclaim
manoeuvre
rustler
virtually
renovate
gauge
slate

haul

stumble

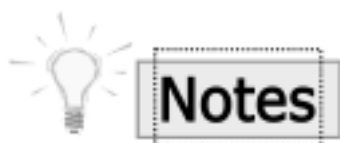
helmet

recess

reputed

rumour

succession



1. Salisbury Plain: 索尔兹伯里, 英国最著名的开阔平坦地区之一。在英格兰威特郡。面积 775 平方公里, 大部为无树地带, 多史前遗迹, 其中最著名的是巨峰。
2. Stonehenge: 巨石阵, 又译圆形石林, 将巨大石块竖立按圆形排列的纪念物, 周围环有土堤, 建于史前时代, 约从公元前 3100 年开始, 坐落在英国威尔特郡索尔兹伯里以北约 13 公里处。
3. One can go a long way in life to find anything tastier than freshly picked blueberries and fresh cream. 在漫长的一生中, 人们难得享用到把新摘的乌饭树紫黑浆果浸泡在新鲜奶油里那样的美味。
4. But we did not choose Dwygyfylchi rather it was chosen for us. 然而, 我们并未刻意地选择德威志菲尔其, 确切地说, 是别人为我们选择了它。



I. Questions for Comprehension

1. What are the places the author mentioned they've lived in the article?
 - A. Salisbury and Anglesey.
 - B. Porthmadog and Ffestiniog.

- C. Dwygyfylchi and Duallt.
 - D. Hornchurch and Ponca City.
2. What are the characteristics the author's family liked about the situation?
- A. It was a safe place.
 - B. It was easy to get to the sea.
 - C. The hills behind the guesthouse.
 - D. Blueberries and fresh cream.
3. Where are the places in which they've stayed located?
- A. Salisbury Plain.
 - B. North Wales.
 - C. The Isle of Anglesey.
 - D. England.
4. Why does the author introduce so much about the house?
- A. It had a very special history.
 - B. It was built by thieves.
 - C. Oliver Cromwell stayed there.
 - D. It provided free rides on the train.
5. What was the main aim when the author came back to Wales in October 1992?
- A. To visit the Sychnant Pass.
 - B. To photograph the Druids Circle.
 - C. To scatter his wife's ashes.
 - D. To buy mugs from Mr. and Mrs. Evans.
6. What was the original use of the railway and what is it used for now?
- A. To carry slate to Portmadog and tourists today.
 - B. To carry miners to work and now housewives to shop.
 - C. To carry materials to Major Campbell's house but now return Mr. and Mrs. Evans visitors to Portmadog.
 - D. To take Princess Margaret to Duallt, now to carry policemen to Blaenau.

II. Translations from English into Chinese

1. There is a small town in North Wales of which I have many happy memories and one last sad one.
2. A short distance away a footbridge, over the road and railway, provided easy access to the shore and the sea. Britons and Welshmen are hardy folks (my wife was half

Welsh) and the children had no hesitation in playing in the water, although the temperature would be no more than 15 degrees.

3. They rose majestically towards the sky and were covered by small tracks along which we could walk with care, as did the sheep that originally created most of them.
4. Like others of its kind, it had been purchased by a group of enthusiasts who, with the sweat of their own brows, much of their own money and some in the form of gifts and grants, had converted it, stage by stage, into a tourist attraction.
5. The fireplace was a huge recess in the wall, with more than enough room to either stand upright or lie down in any direction.

III. Topics for Discussion and Writing

It is important that students are not only able to pick the correct answer out of four choices, they also should be able to answer the questions in the form of a short paragraph that summarises the answer in about 50 words.

1. What are the places the author mentioned they 've lived in the article?
2. Where are the places in which they 've stayed located?
3. Why does the author introduce so much about the house?
4. What was the main aim when the author came back to Wales in October 1992?
5. What was the original use of the railway and what is it used for now?

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Good Study Habits

(1) Study is an effort to learn about any subject. Studying is an important part of learning because your achievement in school depends greatly on how much you study. You cannot expect to learn everything you need to know about a subject only from a teacher in a classroom. You must also study the subject outside of class. The combination of classroom learning and regular study outside of class determines how well you do in school. Study becomes more important as you move from elementary school to high school and on to college.

(2) Good study habits can help you improve your study wherever you are. This article

offers suggestions on how to develop good study habits. You can use these suggestions to improve your grades in school. Good study habits can also help you learn new job skills or simply investigate a subject that interests you.

(3) Most people can study almost anywhere if the subject fascinates them. But they have difficulty concentrating on something they consider uninteresting. Therefore, your study area should be as free as possible of noise and visual distractions. On the other hand, what distracts one person may not affect another. Some students feel they can study better with soft music in the background. However, others cannot study effectively with music playing. Find out what distracts you and remove it from your study area.

(4) Students should study regularly throughout the school year. You will remember more about a subject if you study it soon after it has been presented in class. Never wait until just before an exam to start reviewing the work for the entire period to be covered by the test. Anything you learn by such cramming is usually soon forgotten.

(5) You may find it helpful to plan a weekly study schedule. Many students write down the times they are in school or are involved with other activities. They then set aside a certain time each day for study. It is easier to keep up with your schoolwork if you have the habit of studying at the same time daily. Two points to consider in developing a study schedule are ① the best time of the day for studying and ② the length of each session.

(6) The best time of day for study depends on your personal preferences, the kind of life you lead, and your family situation. Many students prefer to study immediately after arriving home from school. Others have a job or participate in sports and other activities after school, and so they study in the early evening. Some students study later at night, or in the morning before school, because their home is too noisy early in the evening.

(7) How to study. Ask yourself two questions before you start to study: “Why am I studying this topic?” “What do I want to learn about it?” You cannot study effectively unless you understand what you are supposed to accomplish. Simply memorising dates, mathematical formulas, or a passage in literature does not make you a good student.

(8) Many good students sometimes have trouble concentrating on their work. There are several study methods that can help keep your mind from wandering. For example, you should study the most difficult subjects first, when you are the most mentally alert. You should also take breaks between subjects. A short walk or some pushups, stretches, or other simple exercises can help freshen your mind. If you still have trouble concentrating, work on such tasks as writing out next week’s study schedule or reviewing the previous day’s work.