
自学英语

社会科学文献出版社

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前 言

1992 年应社会科学文献出版社和中央电视台社教部的邀请，编写出版了《电视英语》，在全国播放了三年（两轮）。至今已快十年了。数以百万计的英语学习者借助这套书熟练地掌握了英语这一现代生活必备的语言工具，给自己的升学和就业插上了翅膀。近十个年头过去了，一批又一批的英语学习者对这套书的钟爱并未减退。而在这十年中，国内英语学习及教材等方面有了许多新的变化，日益加快甚至赶上世界英语学习的步伐。我虽离开英语教学第一线但仍关心国内的英语教学。这些年来经常来往于美国和深圳两地，继续从事英语方面的研究，积累了大批最新资料和研究心得。正因如此，当社会科学文献出版社决定在原《电视英语》基础上编写面向广大英语自学者的教材时，我欣然接受并在较短时间内编写了这套定名为《自学英语》的教材。这套教材循序渐进，按不同学习水平和深度分为四册。

第一册：包含 1200 多词汇和最基本的语法，学完后可说打好语言的初步基础。

第二册：也包含 1200 多词汇和主要的语法项目，学完后可以看多种简写读物。此时英语已接近中学毕业水平。

第三册：也包含 1200 多新词，主要语法项目都已学到，学完可以看浅易原著，相当于大学公共英语一年级水平。

第四册：积累词汇约为 5000，加上读物中出现的词，可能有 6000 词汇，接近公英二年级水平，能看多种知识性阅读材料，经过一段熟悉过程，可以看所学专业材料。

这套书有下面主要特点：

1. 课文短小精悍：一般一二十行，生词约为十一、二个。文字尽量口语化。要尽量做到大部分都能背下来。只有把课文背熟，生词才能记住，语法也才能巩固。要反复背，定期复习，课文背得愈熟，基础打得愈好。

2. 内容反映现代生活，包括常用的现代词汇，学了就能用，所学词汇可表述现代生活的方方面面，强调语言材料的实用性。

3. 注意口语练习：每课除有对话练习、句型练习、问答等之外，还有附录

中的口语练习。练习除了起复习巩固的作用外，还可打好初步口语基础，必要时可干一些初级的口语工作。

4. 配有录音及录象资料，便利学员自学，同时保证发展正确的语音、语调，为发展全面的语言能力打好基础。录音要反复地跟，务使自己有正确的语音语调。

5. 每课有详细的辅导材料，包括课文译文，课文注释，语法讲解，语音说明，练习答案，以利自学。

6. 有丰富的附录，主要包括练习及复习材料，各类读物（包括儿歌，小诗，故事等）来发展阅读能力，并巩固所学内容。本书可说是精泛并举。

这套教材是为英语自学者设计的，对职称考试、就业应聘及其他英语学习者也有很强的普适性、针对性，同时对在校大中小学生及教师的英语学习或教学也具有参考价值。至于学习这套书要用多少时间可以因人而异。如果是中学毕业生、在家待业，时间比较充裕，一年学完四本也是可能的。（学完四本后考大学，英文可望获得高分，如考英语专业，口语也可能通过。）如中学英语没基础，这四本书可细水长流地学，学三、四年也可以。问题是真正学透，若按要求学，学完后可申请干与英语有关的工作。

除此之外，还欢迎各地培训班利用此书作教材，想必能取得良好的效果。大学公英教师也欢迎你们利用部分材料来充实教学，特别是在语言实验室中使用，可能对发展学生的语言能力起一些积极作用。

张道真

2001 年 12 月于深圳

LESSON ELEVEN

Section A

Words and Expressions

contribute [kən'tribju:t] 对……有益

rare [reə] 稀有的, 罕见的

strange [streɪndʒ] 奇怪的

contain [kən'tein] 包含, 里面有

interest 使(某人)感兴趣

wish [wiʃ] 愿意, 希望

reader 读者

take away 拿走, 带走

dig up 挖掘出

once [wʌns] 一度, 曾经

bury ['beri] 埋, 埋葬

earth 土

Text A

The British Museum

A visit to a museum contributes to our education. The British Museum is a great building in London, not far from London University. Thousands of visitors go to it every year to see the rare, strange and beautiful things it contains. What interests many people more than anything else is the large library, in which there are millions of books. You can find any English book you want there, and many books in foreign languages or



translated into English. The library is also a reading room, with tables and chairs for students who wish to study; but if you want to borrow books to read there you must first get a reader's ticket from the office. One cannot borrow books to take away.

In other parts of the museum there are rooms and halls containing things which have been brought from countries all over the world. They help us to understand the history of foreign lands, and the people who live in them. Some of the things which have been dug up in places where old cities once stood, and put in the museum, were being worn or used by men and women many thousands of years ago. These cities now lie buried, covered with many feet of earth.

On the way out you can buy pictures of the most interesting things that are shown in the museum.

—adapted from **A Direct Method English Course**

Questions and Answers

- 1) Do you like to visit museums ?
(Yes, I do.)
- 2) Why do you like visiting them ?
(Because visits to museums contribute to our education.)
- 3) Which is a world famous museum ?
(The British Museum is.)
- 4) Where is it ?
(It's in London, not far from London University.)
- 5) Do many people go there ?
(Yes, thousands of visitors go to it every year.)
- 6) Does it contain many interesting things ?
(Yes, it does. It contains many rare, strange and beautiful things.)
- 7) What interests people more than anything else ?
(Its library does, which is very large and contains millions of books.)
- 8) What kinds of books can we find there ?
(We can find any English book we want there. And there are many books in foreign languages or translated into English.)
- 9) Are there any books in Chinese there ?
(Yes, there are thousands of books in Chinese there. Some of them are rare even in China.)
- 10) Has the library got a reading room ?
(Yes, it has. People can study there.)

- 11) Can we borrow their books to read there ?
(Yes, we can, but we must get a reader's ticket from the office.)
- 12) Can we borrow books to take away ?
(No, we can't.)
- 13) Why not ?
(Because we might lose them.)
- 14) What's there in other parts of the museum ?
(There are rooms and halls containing things which have been brought from countries all over the world.)
- 15) Are these things worth seeing ?
(Of course they are. They help us to understand the history of foreign lands, and the people who live in them.)
- 16) What else can we see there ?
(We can also see things that have been dug up in places where old cities once stood.)
- 17) Can we see clothes worn by people thousands of years ago ?
(Yes, we can. We can also see things used by these people long, long ago.)
- 18) Where are these cities now ?
(They lie buried, covered with many feet of earth.)
- 19) Can we buy pictures of the most interesting things that are shown in the museum ?
(Yes, we can.)

Section B

Words and Expressions

dull 暗黑,沉闷,乏味	drop (雨)珠,一滴
thunderstorm 雷暴	apologize [ə'pɒlədʒaɪz] 道歉,表示歉意
umbrella [ʌm'brelə] 雨伞	lack 缺乏
suggest [sə'dʒest] 建议	discipline ['disiplɪn] 纪律
agree [ə'ɡri:] 同意	right 权利
pleasure ['pleʒə] 愉快(的事)	educational 教育的

Text B

In the Museum

Dark black clouds in a dull sky meant one thing only: There was going to be a thunderstorm. No one of us had brought an umbrella, or even a raincoat, so when Jack suggested we should go to a museum, we all agreed immediately. As we had been shopping all morning and were now feeling very tired it would be a pleasure to sit down. We took a bus and arrived just as large drops of rain were beginning to fall.

The museum was very peaceful. We sat down in the main hall and listened to the rain beating against the windows. Suddenly a large group of school-boys were led in by a teacher. The poor man was trying to keep them quiet, but they did not pay any attention. The boys ran here and there. Apologizing for this lack of discipline, the teacher explained the boys were “rather excited”. Finally we decided to leave.

As Jack said when we were walking in the rain, the boys had more right to be in the museum than we had. After all, they had come on an educational visit, while we had just wanted to get out of the rain.

—adapted from **A First Book in Comprehension Precis and Composition**

Questions and Answers

- 1) What was the weather like when the writer was out one day ?
(There were dark clouds in a dull sky.)
- 2) What did that show ?
(It showed that there was going to be a thunderstorm.)
- 3) Where was the writer at the time ?
(He was probably somewhere in town with his friends.)
- 4) Had they brought umbrellas ?
(No, not one of them had. They hadn't even brought a raincoat.)
- 5) What did Jack suggest ?
(He suggested they should go to a museum.)
- 6) Did the others agree ?
(Yes, they all agreed immediately.)
- 7) Why did they all agree ?
(Because they were feeling very tired and it would be a pleasure to sit down.)

- 8) What had they been doing ?
(They had been shopping all morning. That's why they were feeling tired.)
- 9) Was there a museum nearby ?
(No, there wasn't.)
- 10) What did they do then ?
(They took a bus and arrived at a museum.)
- 11) Had it started raining yet ?
(It was just beginning to rain. Large drops of rain were beginning to fall.)
- 12) Was the museum peaceful at the time ?
(Yes, it was when they arrived.)
- 13) What did they do in the museum ? Did they look around ?
(No, they didn't. They just sat down in the main hall and listened to the rain beating against the windows. They wanted to have a rest.)
- 14) What suddenly happened ?
(A group of school-boys were led in by a teacher.)
- 15) Were the boys very quiet ?
(No, they were very noisy. They ran here and there.)
- 16) What did the teacher do then ?
(He tried hard to keep them quiet.)
- 17) Did he succeed ?
(No, he didn't. The boys didn't pay any attention to what he said.)
- 18) How did the teacher feel and what did he do ?
(He felt very bad. He apologized for this lack of discipline and explained the boys were "rather excited".)
- 19) What did the writer and his friends finally do ?
(They finally left the museum.)
- 20) Was it still raining ?
(Yes, it was. So they had to walk in the rain.)
- 21) What did Jack say ?
(He said the boys had more right to be in the museum than they had because they had come on an educational visit while they had just wanted to get out of the rain.)

Section C

Words and Expressions

would rather 宁愿(做某事)	nowadays ['naʊədeɪz] 现在
There you are. 到了。	figure ['fɪɡə] (做的)小人,人形
statue ['stætʃu:] 塑像,雕像	cock 公鸡
ancient ['eɪnfənt] 古代	crow [krəʊ] 啼叫
Egyptian [i'dʒɪpjən] 埃及的	remind 使想到,提醒
Egypt ['i:ɢɪpt] 埃及	keep from 使……不能

Conversation: In the British Museum

Marian: Here is the British Museum.

Sally: Oh, I don't want to spend the whole morning in there. It's too big and dark. It's a lovely day. Can't we go to the zoo instead?

Marian: No, Sally. We'll go there another day. They've got some of the most beautiful things in the world here. Hello, Mr. Blunt! I never expected to see you here.

Blunt: I come here to work in the reading room. You're showing your little sister round, aren't you?

Marian: Yes. But Sally would rather go to the zoo.

Blunt: If you like animals, Sally, you'll find plenty here. Come along. I'll show you some. There you are! Now that's a fine horse's head.

Sally: He's beautiful, isn't it?

Blunt: And there are the statues of ancient Egyptian kings.

Marian: Yes, aren't they enormous?

Blunt: Some of them have been rather badly damaged.

Marian: If you went to Egypt, would you still find things like this?

Blunt: Oh, yes, lots of them. Well, Sally seems happy enough now. She's fascinated by everything.