
自学英语

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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 FIFTEEN

Section A

New Words

equal ['i:kwəl] 平等

as...as 像……一样

logical ['lɒdʒɪkəl] 富于逻辑思维

creative [kri'eɪtɪv] 有创造性

agree [ə'ɡri:] 同意

real [riəl] 真正的

physical ['fɪzɪkəl] 身体上的

in general 一般说来

strong 强壮,有力

mean [mi:n] 意味着,有……意思

inferior [ɪn'fɪəriə] 较差,较低劣

ought [ɔ:t] 应该

Text A

Men and Women

Many people believe men and women are equal in every way. They believe women are just as intelligent as men. They also believe that in business women are as logical and creative as men. They don't believe that women are better parents than men. They feel that men can be just as good with children as women.

Most people agree that there are some real physical difference between men and women. In general, most women are not as strong as men. Most

women are not as tall as men. In general, women cannot run or march as fast as men.

But that doesn't mean women are inferior to men in any way. They ought to be equal.

—adapted from **English Alive**

Questions and Answers

- 1) Are men and women equal in every way ?
(Many people believe they are, but others don't.)
- 2) Are women as intelligent as men ?
(Many people believe they are, and I think so, too.)
- 3) Are women as logical and creative as men in business ?
(I think they are.)
- 4) Who are better parents—men or women ?
(It's hard to say. Some women may be better parents than men, but men can be good parents, too.)
- 5) Can men be just as good with children as women ?
(I think they can.)
- 6) Do you agree that there are some real physical difference between men and women ?
(Yes, I do. Everybody can see their physical difference.)
- 7) Are women as strong as men ?
(In general, they aren't, but some women are as strong as men.)
- 8) Who are taller—men or women ?
(Most women are not as tall as men, but some of them are quite tall. Diana is taller than Joe.)
- 9) Can women run or march as fast as men ?
(In general they can't, but some of them run or march very fast, even faster than men.)
- 10) Does all this mean that women are inferior to men in any way ?
(No, it doesn't.)
- 11) So men and women are equal, aren't they ?
(Well, they ought to be equal, but sometimes they are not really equal.)
- 12) Are men and women equal in China ?
(Not in every way, I think. In general, women do more housework than men. Few women make as much money as

Section B

New Words

percent [pə'sent]	百分之……	body ['bɒdi]	身体
armed forces	军(事部)队	rifle ['raɪfl]	步枪
increase [in'kri:s]	增加	uniform ['ju:nifɔ:m]	制服
create [cri'eit]	造成, 创造	size	尺寸, 大小
problem ['prɒbləm]	问题	fit	合适, 合身
military ['militəri]	军事上的, 军方	shoulder ['ʃəuldə]	肩部

Text B

Women in the U. S. Army

In 1980 about 8 percent of the armed forces in the United States were women. The number of women in the armed forces is increasing every year.

Sometimes the physical differences between men and women create problems for the military. Military studies show that women's bodies are not as strong as men's, so the physical exercises for women can't be as difficult as those for men. Women's rifles are 8 pounds while men's rifles are 11 pounds. Women cannot run or march as fast as men because their legs are not as long as men's legs.

The army is working on new designs for women's uniforms. A small size of a man's uniform does not fit a woman. Women's shoulders are not as wide as men's and the legs on women's pants cannot be as long as the legs on men's pants.

—adapted from **English Alive**

Questions and Answers

- 1) Are there many women in the U.S. Army?
(Yes, there are.)

- 2) How many percent of the armed forces in the United States were women in 1980 ?
(About 8 percent of them were women.)
- 3) Is the number of women in the armed forces increasing every year ?
(Yes, it is.)
- 4) Does this create problems for the military ?
(Yes, it does because there are physical differences between men and women.)
- 5) What do military studies show ?
(They show that women's bodies are not as strong as men's.)
- 6) Should the physical exercises for women be as difficult as those for men ?
(No, they shouldn't.)
- 7) Are women's rifles lighter than men's ?
(Yes, they are. Women's rifles are 8 pounds while men's rifles are 11 pounds.)
- 8) Can women run or march as fast as men ? Why ?
(No, they can't because their legs are not as long as men's.)
- 9) Does the army have to design special uniforms for women ?
(Yes, it does.)
- 10) Can't a woman wear a man's small-size uniforms ?
(No, she can't.)
- 11) Why can't she do that ?
(Because a small size of a man's uniform does not fit a woman.)
- 12) Why doesn't it fit a woman ?
(Because women's shoulders are not as wide as men's and the legs on women's pants cannot be as long as those on men's pants.)
- 13) What does the writer want to show in this text ?
(He wants to show there are differences between men and

Section C

New Words

assistant [ə'sistənt]	售货员, 助手	deposit [di'pɒzɪt]	定金, 保证金
model 型号		certainly 确实	
afford [ə'fɔ:d]	出得起, 买得起	price 价钱	
less 较少, 较不		millionaire [ˌmɪliə'neə]	百万富翁
worth 值得		heavy ['hevi]	重
in(on) instalments [ɪns'tɔ:lmənt]	分期付款	careful ['keəfl]	细心, 仔细

Conversation

Mr Lake: I like this record player very much. How much does it cost, please?

Assistant: It's the most expensive model in this shop. It costs sixty-four pounds.

Mrs Lake: That's too expensive for us. We can't afford all that money.

Lake:

Assistant: This model is less expensive than that one. It's only twenty-eight pounds. But, of course, it's not as good as the expensive one.

Mr Lake: I don't like this model. The other model's more expensive, but it's worth the money. Can we buy it on instalments?

Assistant: Of course. You can pay a deposit of ten pounds and then one pound a week for sixty weeks.

Mr Lake: Do you like it, dear?

Mrs Lake: I certainly do but I don't like the price. You always want the best,

Lake: but we can't afford it. Sometimes you think you're a millionaire.

Mr Lake: Millionaires don't buy things on instalments.

Grammar

Comparison of Adjectives and Adverbs (III)

Equality is expressed by the Positive Degree with the help of **as...as** (平等的关系可用原级借助 **as...as** 表示), e. g.

She is as tall as her husband.

Women are as intelligent as men.

It is as hot today as it was yesterday.

He speaks English as well as an Englishman.

The **as...as** construction can also be used in negative sentences though some people prefer the **not so...as** construction (**as...as** 也可用于否定结构, 尽管有些人认为 **not so...as** 更好), e. g.

Bill's garden is not as (so) beautiful as Joe's garden.

It is not as (so) good as the expensive one.

It isn't as (so) hot today as it was yesterday.

I don't speak English as well as you do.

She did not arrive as early as the others.

Sometimes we can use the word **less** to express inferiority (有时我们可以用 **less** 表示“不如”这种概念), e. g.

This model is less expensive than that one (= not as expensive as that one).

They are less careful than before (= not as careful as before).

She is less sociable than her husband (= not as sociable as her husband).

Exercises

1. Learn to read the consonant clusters(学习读好辅音连缀):

[bl-]	[fl-]	[gl-]	[kl-]	[pl-]
blow	fly	glad	class	play
black	flat	glass	close	please
blue	flow	glove	climb	place
blouse	flower	globe	clever	pleasant

2. Answer the questions after the model(仿照例句回答问题):

Model: Is Joe as tall as Diana ?

No, he isn't as tall as Diana. Diana is taller than Joe.

- 1) Is a car as heavy as a truck ?
- 2) Is a dog as strong as a horse ?
- 3) Is a recorder as expensive as a TV-set ?
- 4) Are you as careful as your sister ?
- 5) Do girls run as fast as boys ?
- 6) Did you get up as early as your father today ?
- 7) Is it as cold today as (it was) yesterday ?
- 8) Can you swim as fast as Peter ?
- 9) Is Rose working as hard as before ?
- 10) Did you do as much work as John ?

3. Spelling check:

physical	equal	strong	shoulder	exercise
logical	general	agree	uniform	deposit
inferior	business	ought	create	instalment
intelligent	percent	rifle	problem	assistant
difference	increase	design	military	heavy
millionaire	certainly	careful	afford	worth

4. Retell this passage first orally and then in writing:

William Scott's grandfather was born in 1850. He was born on a farm in Indiana. He lived on the farm all his life. His children were born there. He died at the age of sixty.

He had four sons and one daughter. Three of the sons went to the city. But William Scott's father didn't leave the farm. He was born there in 1875. He died there at the age of seventy.

William Scott was born on the farm, too. He was born in 1923. His children were born on the farm and are still living there. But his son Sam Scott isn't going to stay on the farm. He isn't going to be a farmer. He's going to be an engineer and build bridges. His daughter Ann isn't going to stay on the farm