

《大学英语听力4》

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作者：《大学英语听力》项目组 编

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前言

随着大学英语教学改革不断深入，全国高校对大学英语听说能力的培养也更加重视。2007年颁布的《大学英语课程教学要求》规定：“大学英语的教学目标是培养学生的英语综合应用能力，特别是听说能力，使他们在今后学习、工作和社会交往中能用英语有效地进行交际，同时增强其自主学习能力，提高综合文化素养，以适应我国社会发展和国际交流的需要。”大学英语教学越来越多地加大听说内容的教学，而这方面的大学英语听力教材仍然有待于进一步完善，以适合不同层次学生的英语听力训练。

《大学英语听力》根据《大学英语课程教学要求》编写，以大量的听力材料和多种听力测试题型相结合，为学习者提供了多种多样、并且具有针对性的练习素材。该教材以英美文化背景为切入点，提供了不同语境下原汁原味的表达方式，使学习者接触到真实的语言环境，并训练学习者对文化背景、语境、语言材料的综合理解能力，特别是听力理解能力。学习者在提高听力水平的同时，能更加深入地了解西方文化。从而使他们在真实的语言环境中既学到了语言知识，又学到了文化知识。

教材中的听力材料内容多由幽默故事、趣味故事、童话、寓言、轻松对话和短文等各种文体组成，在主题化框架内展开听说训练。这些材料覆盖面广，涉及历史、文化、科普、名人传记和日常生活等诸多方面；贴近生活，不仅具有趣味性，而且注重知识性、可听性。丰富多彩的听说语料围绕主题反复强化语境，大大提高了语言点的复现率。该教材无论是在素材的选择上，还是在练习的编排上，都体现了新的教学理念和教学模式，使学习者在轻松而真实的语言环境中达到学习训练的目的。

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内容概要

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书籍目录

Unit 1 Section Main Ideas and Important Details Passage 1 Zimbabwe Children Are "Wasting Away" Passage 2 Fashions Passage 3 When Did Americans Begin Sending Greeting Cards? Section Listening-Based Integrated Exercises Passage 1 Manners and Customs in Different Cultures Passage 2 Laziness Passage 3 Direct and Indirect Taxation Section Optional Listening Exercises Passage 1 Jump Passage 2 White and Black Passage 3 The Origin of the Song—"Happy Birthday to You" Unit 2 Section Main Ideas and Important Details Passage 1 The Effects of the Internet Passage 2 Windows XP Passage 3 Internet Blogs Section Listening-Based Integrated Exercises Passage 1 Finding Friends on the Internet Passage 2 Emotion-Sensitive Computer Passage 3 Roborior : A Robot House-Sitter Section Optional Listening Exercises Passage 1 Low-Cost Computer Under Research Passage 2 The Process of Information Transferring Passage 3 Good Aspects of the Disaster Unit 3 Section Main Ideas and Important Details Passage 1 Why Do Sharks Bite Human Being? Passage 2 A Spiders Story Passage 3 The Fish in Great Danger Section Listening-Based Integrated Exercises Passage 1 The Complex Social Structure of Ant Societies Passage 2 Snakes Are Not as Fearful as You May Have Thought Passage 3 Secrets of the Spider Web Section Optional Listening Exercises Passage 1 The Study on Birds Sleep Passage 2 The Biggest Disney World Passage 3 Crime as a Worldwide Problem Unit 4 Section Main Ideas and Important Details Passage 1 The Legal Marriage Age for Young Americans Passage 2 The Nuclear and Extended Family Passage 3 Obama Talks About Fatherhood Section Listening-Based Integrated Exercises Passage 1 Saving for a Baby Passage 2 Problems with Parent-Child Relationships Passage 3 The History of the Custom of Eating with a Fork Section Optional Listening Exercises Passage 1 Why Do Americans Love Uniforms? Passage 2 Pizza : a World Popular Food Passage 3 The Trends of Interdependent Future Unit 5 Section Main Ideas and Important Details Passage 1 The Differences Between Teaching and Learning Passage 2 Being a Writer Is Not Easy Passage 3 A Biography of Alexander Fleming Section Listening-Based Integrated Exercises Passage 1 The Magic Memory Glasses Passage 2 Doubts About Speed Reading Passage 3 Education in China Section Optional Listening Exercises Passage 1 A Love Story in Greek Mythology Passage 2 A Scientific Research on the Power of Positive Thinking Passage 3 Unofficial Strikes in Britain Unit 6 Section Main Ideas and Important Details Passage 1 Are Small Aircraft a Good Alternative? Passage 2 Tour in London Passage 3 Electromagnetic Interference : a Cause of Aircraft Crashes Section Listening-Based Integrated Exercises Passage 1 The Victoria Line : a Special Railway Passage 2 Why Do People Enjoy Traveling? Passage 3 What Will the 2020 Car Look Like? Section Optional Listening Exercises Passage 1 The Wright Brothers and Flying Machines Passage 2 Cars Continued Popularity Passage 3 Who Doesnt Need to Wear a Seat Belt? Unit 7 Section Main Ideas and Important Details Passage 1 Special Methods to Reduce Population in Brazil Passage 2 Its Time to Protect the Earth Passage 3 Beautiful Cities out of Garbage Section Listening-Based Integrated Exercises Passage 1 The Jujube Plant That Will Save Whales Passage 2 The Weather Prediction for Asia in 2050 Passage 3 Lack of Water and Solutions to It Section Optional Listening Exercises Passage 1 Water Erosion Passage 2 The Way to Reducing Car Pollution Passage 3 Agriculture in the U.S.A. Unit 8 Section Main Ideas and Important Details Passage 1 A Guide to Health for Tourists Passage 2 Avian Influenza Passage 3 Cola : a Cure for Headache Section Listening-Based Integrated Exercises Passage 1 Health Is Most Precious Passage 2 Keeping Pets to Reduce the Risk of Heart Disease Passage 3 Concerns over Lack of Sleep in the U.S.A. Section Optional Listening Exercises Passage 1 The Importance of Rest in Athletic Training Passage 2 The Importance of Medical Insurance Passage 3 Negative Attitudes Toward Euthanasia Unit 9 Section Main Ideas and Important Details Passage 1 Visual Communication Passage 2 Forms of Pub-Talk Passage 3 The Way People Communicate Section Listening-Based Integrated Exercises Passage 1 The Advantage of Emails Passage 2 iPod Media Players and MP3 Players..... Unit 10 Key to Exercises and Transcripts

章节摘录

Everyone knows that taxation is necessary in a modern state: without it, it would not be possible to pay the soldiers and policemen who protect us; nor the workers in government offices who look after our health, our food, our water, and all the other things that we cannot do for ourselves; nor also the ministers and members of parliament who govern the country for us. By means of taxation, we pay for things that we need just as much as we need somewhere to live and something to eat. But though everyone knows that taxation is necessary, different people have different ideas about how taxation should be arranged. Should each person have to pay a certain amount of money to the government each year? Or should there be a tax on things that people buy and sell? If this kind of taxation is used, should everyone pay the same tax, whether he is rich or poor? If the second kind of tax is preferred, should everything be taxed equally? In most countries, a direct tax on persons, which is called income tax, exists. It is arranged in such a way that the poorest people pay nothing, and the percentage of tax grows greater as the taxpayers' income grows. In England, for example, the tax on the richest people goes up as high as ninety-five percent! But countries with direct taxation nearly always have indirect taxation too. Many things imported into the country have to pay taxes or "duties". Of course, it is the men and women who buy these imported things in the shops who really have to pay the duties, in the form of higher prices. In some countries, too, there is a tax on things sold in the shops. If the most necessary things are taxed, a lot of money is collected, but the poor people suffer most. If unnecessary things like jewels and fur coats are taxed, less money is obtained but the tax is fairer, as the rich pay it. Probably this last kind of indirect tax, together with a direct tax on incomes which is low for the poor and high for the rich, is the best arrangement.

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