

# 前言

《新一代大学英语》是根据教育部关于大学英语教学改革文件的精神，结合高校大学英语教学实际，针对全国普通高等院校编写的一套立体化通用英语教材。

《新一代大学英语》（发展篇）针对英语基础较好、英语需求较高的学生，已于2015年出版。经过三年的使用，“发展篇”以其先进的编写理念和一流的质量取得了良好的教学效果。“基础篇”与“提高篇”以“发展篇”的成功经验为基础，结合普通本科高校的教学实际进行编写，为更多的学生学习英语提供优质教学资源。

教材以提升学生的英语应用能力为重点，兼顾培养学生的思辨能力与跨文化交际能力，以实现《大学英语教学指南》提出的“基础目标”与“提高目标”教学要求为目标，以《中国英语能力等级量表》的五级能力描述为参照，进行设计和编写，满足不同院校非英语专业学生英语学习的不同需求。

## 编写依据

《新一代大学英语》（基础篇）（提高篇）有效贯彻“分类指导、因材施教”的原则，以适应各高校个性化教学的实际需要。教材依据“基础目标”与“提高目标”要求分阶段设计，既体现不同侧重，又实现循序渐进，支持高校结合院校特点及学生情况安排教学，满足不同水平学生的不同需求。

《新一代大学英语》（基础篇）（提高篇）全面实践“产出导向”教学法，以有效提高大学英语教学效率。教材体现“学习中心”、“学用一体”、“全人教学”的教学理念，以“输出驱动”、“输入促成”和“选择性学习”的外语教学假设为指导，采用“驱动（Motivating）- 促成（Enabling）- 评价（Assessing）”的教学流程，培养学生用英语解决问题的能力。

《新一代大学英语》（基础篇）（提高篇）秉承“搭建智慧课堂，启迪智慧学习”的编写原则，充分利用信息技术给教育模式带来的变革，以全面支持混合式教学模式。教材建设配套数字课程与慕课平台，突出资源共享、师生互动、交互训练、数据反馈等功能，以实现优质慕课资源、在线自主学习与课堂教学的优势互补，全力支持教师进行智慧教学设计。

## 教材特色

### 设计贴合实际，激发学习兴趣

从普通本科高校的英语教学实际和学生学习兴趣出发，设定贴近学生生活、体现实用性的交际场景，选取难度适中、长度适宜的输入材料，设计灵活多样的练习形式，以真实场景与创新设计激发学习积极性。

### 主题内涵丰富，提升人文素养

主题丰富，既涵盖校园生活、休闲娱乐、情感发展、人生规划等话题，又涉及社会发展、历史文化、政治经济和科技创新等方面，提升科学人文素养，助力个人成长；选材内容坚持思想性原则，培养学生正确的价值观，发展其思辨能力；文化视角全面，展现多元文化，注重中国文化，通过比较分析中外文化，坚定文化自信。

### 内容紧扣需求，夯实语言基础

教材设计紧扣普通本科高校学生语言发展需求，关注词汇、搭配、语法、篇章等基础语言知识，注重听、说、读、写、译基础语言技能，并结合微课视频讲解语言学习策略，在线交互练习加强基础语言学习，为学生语言应用能力的发展夯实基础。

### 产出任务先导，实现学用一体

有效实践“产出导向法”，遵循“输出驱动—输入促成—产出评价”的教学流程，以产出任务作为教学起点和教学终点，用输入材料引领学生进行“选择性”学习，有针对性地学习重点词汇、搭配、功能表达、篇章组织等，从内容、语言和结构上为完成产出任务做好准备，最终实现学用无缝对接。

### 混合教学模式，创建智慧课堂

依托“U校园智慧教学云平台”，开发与教材深度融合的移动数字课程以及创新的慕课平台。数字课程采用微课设计，包含视频微课、在线练习、互动讨论等形式，与教材有机结合，相互依托；慕课平台让优质慕课资源在院校间流通共享，形成云端学习共同体。以教材、数字课程、慕课为支撑的智慧课堂既为学生的自主学习提供资源支持，又为教师的教学设计提供数据支持，同时为创建学习共同体与实现智能教学管理提供技术支持，实现线上线下、课内课外的深度融合，助力混合式教学模式实践。

## 教材构成

《新一代大学英语》“基础篇”与“提高篇”分别针对《大学英语教学指南》所设定的“基础目标”和“提高目标”设计。

“基础篇”与“提高篇”分别包含《综合教程》（配教师用书）1-2级和《视听说教程》（配教师用书）1-2级。与教材配套的还有微课视频、数字课程、移动学习应用等资源，有利于实现混合式教学，创设智慧课堂，提升教学效果。

《综合教程》与《视听说教程》每级各8个单元，每单元围绕同一主题展开。《综合教程》每单元以一项真实任务开启学习之旅，带领学生对两段音视频材料与两篇阅读文章进行“选择性”学习，逐步掌握完成任务需要的语言和结构，拓展思维，形成观点，并最终进行产出实践。《视听说教程》每单元提供视角多元、难度适宜的音视频输入材料和循序渐进、全面系统的听力及语音技巧讲解，通过形式多样的听力练习和富有启发性的口语输出活动，帮助学生夯实语言基础，提升英语听说能力。

## 编写团队

《新一代大学英语》（基础篇）（提高篇）系列教材总主编为南京大学王守仁教授。《视听说教程》分系列主编为浙江大学何莲珍教授。教材策划与编写团队来自复旦大学、浙江大学、山东大学、西安交通大学、苏州科技大学、首都师范大学、哈尔滨工业大学（威海分校）等多所高校。权威的编者团队，为本系列教材在有效性、思想性与趣味性等各方面的贯彻与创新奠定了坚实的基础。教材在编写过程中还邀请了全国十余所目标院校进行试用，凝聚了近百位一线教师的经验与智慧。同时，在教材编写和修改定稿的过程中，外籍专家 Wilfred Michael Curtis 参与了审订与指导。

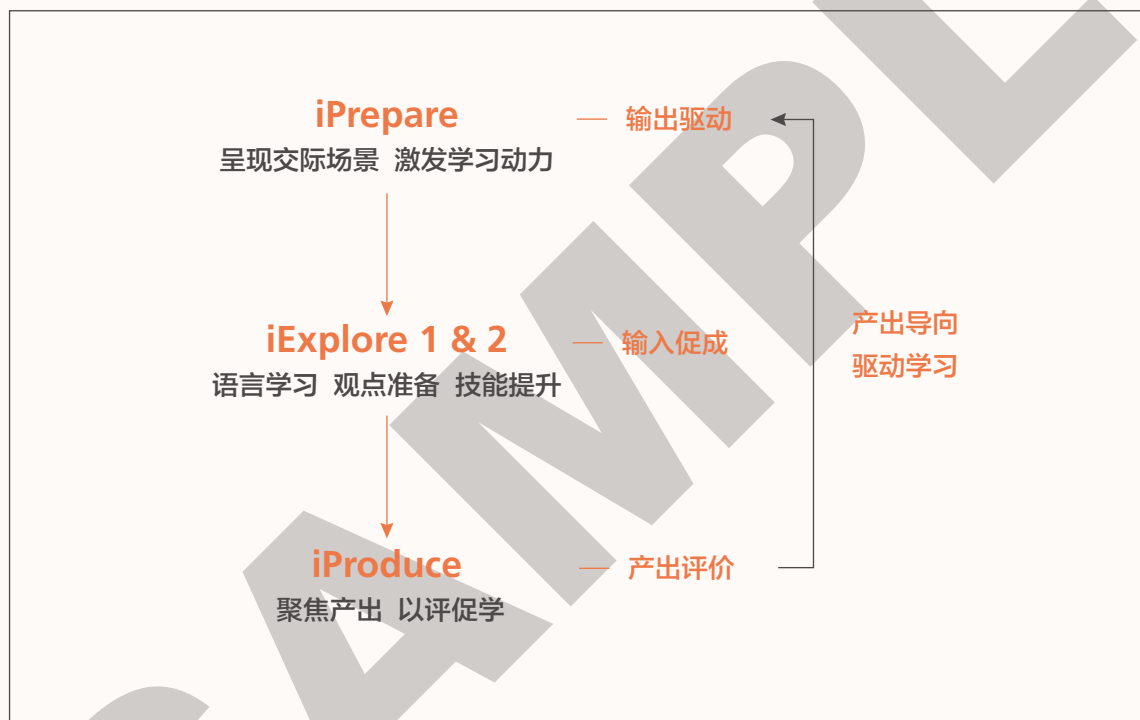
中国特色社会主义进入新时代，国家与社会对新一代大学生的英语学习与英语能力提出了新的要求。《新一代大学英语》（基础篇）（提高篇）专门为新一代的大学生编写，期望能以先进的教学理念与创新的教学模式为新时代的大学英语教学改革注入新的活力，明大学生所思，予大学英语教学所求，成国家及社会所需。我们同时也希望，在教材使用过程中，得到更多院校师生的反馈意见与建议，以便我们不断完善教材，提供全面支持。

# 编写说明

《新一代大学英语综合教程》“基础篇”与“提高篇”分别针对《大学英语教学指南》设定的“基础目标”和“提高目标”教学要求编写，参照《中国英语能力等级量表》的五级能力描述进行设计。“基础篇”与“提高篇”秉承“发展篇”的编写理念，在教材难度、单元主题、练习设计、技能培养、数字资源等方面进行全新设计，完善从“基础”到“提高”再到“发展”的教材体系，满足不同院校非英语专业学生英语学习的不同需求。

## 单元结构

《新一代大学英语综合教程》“基础篇”与“提高篇”共4级：“基础篇”1-2级和“提高篇”1-2级，每级包括8个单元。单元结构基于“产出导向”教学法设计，体现“驱动-促成-评价”的教学流程。单元结构具体如下：



## iPrepare

**Scenario:** 设计真实的交际场景，激发学生兴趣，帮助学生以产出任务为导向，了解完成产出任务需要掌握的知识和技能，从而进行“选择性”学习。

**Learning objectives:** 设定语言、内容、策略等多维度的学习目标，使学生在学习中做到有的放矢。



## iExplore

包括 iExplore 1 和 iExplore 2 两个部分。每个部分包含 Viewing / Listening 和 Reading 两个板块：

- **Viewing / Listening**

以生动的音视频为输入材料，配以趣味性与思辨性兼具的活动，激发学生学习兴趣，激活学生知识储备，为课文学习与交流讨论做好准备。

- **Reading**

- 文章选材注重体现时代特色和思想内涵，主题丰富、视角多元、语言地道，帮助学生提升人文素养和思辨能力；文化视角全面，展现多元文化，注重中国文化，通过比较分析中外文化，坚定文化自信。

- 文章后的练习帮助学生在内容观点、语言表达、语篇结构等方面进行积累提升，为学生完成单元产出任务提供必要的内容、语言和结构支持：

- **Understanding the text:** 引导学生分析与整合文章重点信息，为有效完成产出任务做好内容观点上的准备。

- **Sharpening your skills:** 提炼并系统讲解阅读与写作技巧，并辅以相应的练习，帮助学生逐步提升阅读理解能力和篇章写作能力。

- **Building your language:** 从语言知识运用、词汇学习策略、语言综合应用三个层面提供讲解与训练，形式丰富多样，为有效完成产出任务进行语言积累。

- **语言知识运用：**包含 Words and expressions、

Collocations 和 Language focus 三个部分，提供词汇运用练习、词汇配搭练习与语法练习，帮助学生学习重点词汇与语法。Language focus 提供语法讲解视频与练习，可在 U 校园 App 中通过扫描二维码进行学习。

- **词汇学习策略 ( Vocabulary learning strategies )：**提供词汇学习策略讲解视频与练习，可在 U 校园 App 中通过扫描二维码进行学习，有效帮助学生扩展词汇量，提升学习效率。

- **语言综合应用：**包含 Banked cloze 和 Translation 两个部分，帮助学生综合运用语言知识与策略技巧，提升语言应用能力。Translation 提供翻译技巧讲解视频与练习，可在 U 校园 App 中通过扫描二维码进行学习。



**Sharing your ideas (提高篇):** 结合文章内容, 引导学生有意识地运用所学内容、语言和结构表达观点, 进行跨文化比较和分析, 完成分项产出活动, 为单元产出任务做好准备。

## iProduce

单元最后的 Unit project 呼应单元开篇 Scenario 的任务场景, 聚焦产出任务, 引导学生运用单元所学解决实际问题, 实现学用结合。

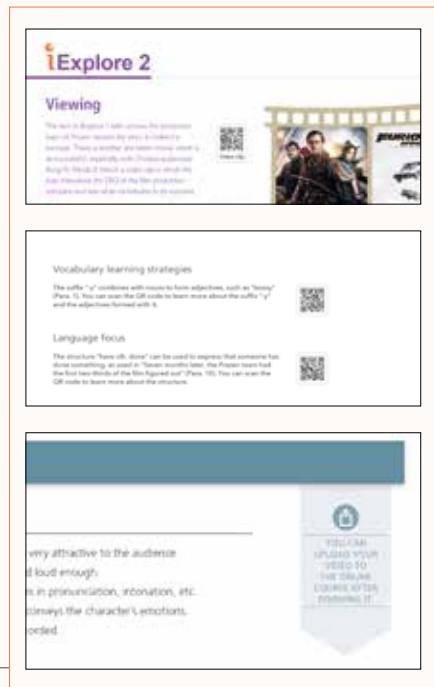
- 重述单元产出任务, 明确任务目标
- 分解任务, 逐步展开, 引导学生运用单元所学, 组织思想, 表达观点, 实现有效产出
- 设计“检查表”, 帮助学生自我检测, 自主提升

## 数字课程介绍

《新一代大学英语 综合教程》(基础篇)(提高篇)充分体现时代特色, 依托“U 校园智慧教学云平台”, 开发与教材配套的数字课程。数字课程充分考虑新一代大学生的学习习惯, 支持 PC 端和移动端两端使用。课程设计遵循混合式教学理念, 将线上自主学习、线下课堂教学以及移动学习有机结合, 通过多元立体、高效便捷的教学工具, 全方位提升学习体验和教学效果。

《新一代大学英语 综合教程》(基础篇)(提高篇)数字课程秉承“走进真实世界, 创建智慧课堂”的设计理念, 采用混合式教学模式, 通过交互式练习、视频微课讲解等形式丰富传统课堂, 帮助学生进行自主学习, 以期实现优质的线上资源与传统课堂的优势互补, 充分调动学生自主学习的兴趣和积极性, 有效提升教学效果。数字课程在内容和形式上与纸质教材深度融合。在学习内容方面, 配套教材提供系统的课文讲解微课和丰富的语言技巧微课及练习, 巩固及内化语言知识; 同时, 课程设置单元自测, 检验学习效果, 有效促进自主学习, 反拨教学。在学习形式方面, 通过扫描教材中的二维码, 学生可以定位至相应微课, 随时随地进行学习; 通过强交互课文学习, 学生可进行课文单句及生词点读, 查看课文翻译及重难点讲解, 提高学习效率。数字课程集学、练、测、评为一体, 结合课堂面授, 形成完整学习闭环。

教材与数字课程深度融合, 学生可在线下单元学习进程中混合线上学习, 进行课文预习、微课观看、展示 project 等活动, 使“课前-课中-课后”的学习进程形成一个“线上-线下-线上”的完整学习闭环



《新一代大学英语 综合教程》（基础篇）（提高篇）数字课程结构如下：



\* ：微课视频

## 数字课程使用模式建议

《新一代大学英语 综合教程》（基础篇）（提高篇）采用混合式教学模式，使用模式建议如下：





2  
Unit

# The magic of words



Language is the key to a new world, just as a famous philosopher once said, “The limits of my language mean the limits of my world.” By acquiring a new language, we can have a chance to see things from a new angle and gain a better understanding of the world. However, learning a new language is never easy. It can be time-consuming and frustrating. What do you think of learning English? Do you find it hard to learn? What would you do if you felt frustrated when learning a new language? Read the two texts and see what insights you can get from them.

## Scenario

You are invited to give a presentation to some overseas students who are learning Chinese in your university. Your presentation is about the features of the Chinese language and some suggestions on how to learn it well. What features of the Chinese language would you like to include? What suggestions can you give in the presentation? You will be able to complete the task after studying this unit.

## Learning objectives

**Upon completion of this unit, you will be able to:**

- talk about language learning using new vocabulary
- use transition words in your writing
- explain some unique features and usages of the English language
- understand the difficulty in learning the Chinese language for a non-native learner
- explain the features of the Chinese language and how to learn it well

## Viewing

Learning a new language is never easy. But with the right methods the task of language learning may be more efficient and more effective. Watch a video clip and see what ways the speaker introduces to learn a new language.



1 Fill in the blanks with what you hear from the video clip.

### Ways to learn a new language

#### Drown yourself to swimming

Go to the place where they speak nothing but 1) \_\_\_\_\_ that you want to learn. Then live there for the next 6-12 months ... you will surely learn how to 2) \_\_\_\_\_ and enjoy some memorable experiences.

#### Immersion

Perhaps easier and also 3) \_\_\_\_\_ is immersion, or when you learn a new language through exposure and 4) \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Mnemonics

Mnemonics is a method to learn new vocabulary by creating 5) \_\_\_\_\_ that makes it easy to remember.

#### Scriptorium

Scriptorium is an exercise in writing. Students 6) \_\_\_\_\_ while simultaneously speaking it out loud.

#### Shadowing

Shadowing is used to learn 7) \_\_\_\_\_. You listen to new words through headphones and try to 8) \_\_\_\_\_, to shadow them out loud as quickly as you can.

2 Work in pairs and discuss the questions.

- 1 Do you think the ways introduced in the video clip work for you in learning English?
- 2 Do you have any other ways to recommend?

## Reading

In the video clip the speaker mentions five ways to learn a new language. Despite the ways which might be helpful to us in one way or another, English remains tough to learn. Many people find it difficult to understand or speak the language even after years of learning it. Read the text and you may find part of the reason.

# English is a crazy language

- 1 English is the most widely spoken language in the history of our planet, used in some way by at least one out of every seven human beings around the world. English has acquired the largest vocabulary of all the world's languages, perhaps as many as two million words. However, it is now time to face the fact that English is a crazy language – perhaps the most crazy of all languages.
- 2
  - In what other language do people drive in a parkway and park in a driveway?
  - Why is it that when we transport something by car, it's called a shipment, but when we transport something by ship, it's called cargo?
  - Why – in our crazy language – can your nose run and your feet smell?
- 3 Language is like the air we breathe. It's invisible, inescapable, indispensable, and we take it for granted. But, when we take the time to step back and listen to the sounds that escape from the holes in people's faces and to explore the paradoxes of English, we find that hot dogs can be cold, darkrooms can be lit, homework can be done in school, nightmares can take place in broad daylight while daydreaming can take place at night, tomboys are girls and midwives can be men, hours – especially happy hours and rush hours – often last longer than

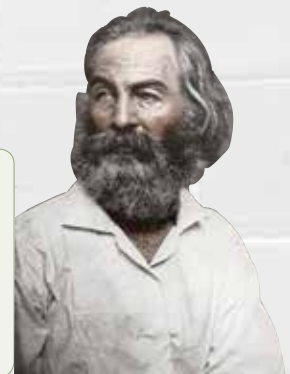


60 minutes, quicksand works very slowly, boxing rings are square, glasses can be made of plastic and tablecloths of paper, and most bathrooms don't have any baths in them. In fact, a dog can go to the bathroom under a tree – no bath, no room; it's still going to the bathroom. And doesn't it seem a little strange that we go to the bathroom in order to go to the bathroom?

- 4 Sometimes you have to believe that all English speakers should be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane.
- 5 A slim chance and a fat chance are the same, but a wise man and a wise guy are opposites. How can sharp speech and blunt speech be the same and quite a lot and quite a few the same, while overlook and oversee are opposites? How can the weather be hot as hell one day and cold as hell the next?
- 6 Why is it that when the sun or the moon or the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible; and that when I wind up my watch, I start it, but when I wind up this essay, I shall end it?
- 7 Still, you have to marvel at the unique lunacy of the English language, in which the sun comes up and goes down, but prices go up and come down – a wonderful and crazy tongue in which your house can both burn up and burn down and your car can slow up and slow down, in which you fill in a form by filling out a form, in which your alarm clock goes off by going on, in which you add up a column of figures by adding them down.
- 8 If the truth be told, all languages are a little crazy. As Walt Whitman might proclaim, they contradict themselves. That's because language is invented, not discovered, by boys and girls and men and women, not computers. As such, language reflects the creative and fearful asymmetry of the human race, which, of course, isn't really a race at all.

#### CULTURE NOTES

**Walt Whitman ( 沃尔特·惠特曼 ):** He was an American poet, essayist and journalist. Whitman was among the most influential American poets, often called the father of free verse ( 自由诗 ). His poetry collection *Leaves of Grass* ( 《草叶集》 ) is a landmark in the history of American literature.



## Understanding the text

**1** The text gives many examples of interesting yet “crazy” expressions in the English language. What does the author want to convey through the examples? Read the text and check (✓) its main idea.

- 1 There are too many special usages in English, which make it difficult to learn.
- 2 The seemingly crazy usages in English are in fact a natural part of the language, as it is in all languages.
- 3 Remembering as many words and phrases as possible is important in learning a language.

**2** The author cites many special usages in English. Read the text again and group these usages under suitable categories.

1 Paradoxes:

---

2 Words / expressions seemingly opposite in meaning but referring to the same thing:

---

3 Same or similar words / expressions referring to opposite meanings:

---

**3** Work in pairs. Read the sentences from the text and discuss the questions.

1 *But, when we take the time to step back and listen to the sounds that escape from the holes in people’s faces and to explore the paradoxes of English ... (Para. 3)*

What does “escape from the holes in people’s faces” mean in this sentence? Why does the author use this metaphor?

2 *And doesn’t it seem a little strange that we go to the bathroom in order to go to the bathroom? (Para. 3)*

What is the difference in meaning between the first “go to the bathroom” and the second “go to the bathroom”?

3 *Sometimes you have to believe that all English speakers should be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane. (Para. 4)*

What does “be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane” mean? What writing skill does the author use in this sentence?

4 *Still, you have to marvel at the unique lunacy of the English language, in which the sun comes up and goes down, but prices go up and come down ... (Para. 7)*

What writing skills does the author use to illustrate the lunacy of the English language?

5 *If the truth be told, all languages are a little crazy. (Para. 8)*

Do you think the Chinese language is “crazy” in some ways? Can you give some examples?

## Sharpening your skills

### WRITING SKILLS

#### Transition words

Transition words and phrases can create smooth links between ideas in writing, making the writing coherent. They are bridges that allow a reader to move from one idea to the next without getting lost in thoughts. Look at the example:

*English has acquired the largest vocabulary of all the world's languages, perhaps as many as two million words. However, it is now time to face the fact that English is a crazy language – perhaps the most crazy of all languages. (Para. 1)*

"However" is a transition word for contrast. It reminds readers that the author is going to talk about something different, as a contrast with what has just been said.

Transition words can be used to introduce an example ("for example," "such as"), a similar idea ("and," "in addition," "similarly," "furthermore," "moreover") or an opposite idea ("but," "however," "in contrast," "on the contrary"), a sequence ("firstly," "first of all," "secondly," "finally"), a fact ("in fact," "actually," "as a matter of fact"), a result ("therefore," "as a result") or a conclusion ("in conclusion / summary," "to conclude").

Complete the passage with the transition words given below. Each word or expression can be used only once.

and                      finally                      first of all                      in fact  
therefore              for example              on the contrary              secondly

Some people seem to have a secret to learning language. They can pick up new vocabulary, master rules of grammar 1) \_\_\_\_\_ learn to write in the new language more quickly than others. So what makes language learning so much easier for them? 2) \_\_\_\_\_, we may discover a few techniques which help us learn language.

3) \_\_\_\_\_, successful language learners are independent learners. They do not wait for the teacher to explain. 4) \_\_\_\_\_, they discover their own way to learn the language and try to find the pattern and rules for themselves. They are good guessers who look for clues and form their own conclusions.

5) \_\_\_\_\_, successful language learners are active in learning, 6) \_\_\_\_\_ they do not wait for a chance to use the languages. 7) \_\_\_\_\_, they find people who speak the language and let those people correct them when they make a mistake. They are willing to make mistakes and try again.

8) \_\_\_\_\_, successful language learners are learners with purpose. They want to learn the language because they are interested in it and the people who speak it. It is necessary for them to learn the language in order to communicate with the people and to learn about their culture.

## Building your language

### Words and expressions

1 Complete the sentences with the words below. Change the form where necessary.

explore                  oversee                  slim                  proclaim  
overlook                indispensable            fearful                contradict

- 1 Welcome to the Electronic Village to \_\_\_\_\_ new ways of language teaching and learning.
- 2 Culture can never be \_\_\_\_\_ in learning a foreign language.
- 3 Without putting in enough time and energy, your chances of success in learning a second language are \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 A good dictionary is \_\_\_\_\_ for learning a foreign language.
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_ of speaking in public, she refused to take part in the English-speaking contest.
- 6 Body language sometimes \_\_\_\_\_ the messages of spoken language.
- 7 He was responsible for \_\_\_\_\_ the project of the new language center.
- 8 Facing the charge of plagiarism (抄袭), Phillips has repeatedly \_\_\_\_\_ his innocence.

2 Complete the sentences with the expressions below. Change the form where necessary.

add up                      fill out                      take place  
slow down                take sth. for granted

- 1 Adjust your reading speed as you read; \_\_\_\_\_ when you want to make sure that you understand a section of the material.
- 2 To join the reading club, you only need to \_\_\_\_\_ the application form.
- 3 Learning can \_\_\_\_\_ everywhere: in a classroom, in a meeting room, or during travel.
- 4 We generally \_\_\_\_\_ children's acquisition (习得) of their mother tongue \_\_\_\_\_. We never thought about what happened behind.
- 5 Learn a few new words every day and they will soon \_\_\_\_\_.



### Nouns which often go after:

<b>acquire</b>	vocabulary	habit
	language	position
<b>explore</b>	paradox	question
	possibility	way

### Adjectives which often go before:

<b>chance</b>	slim	fat
	excellent	high

## Collocations

Complete the sentences with suitable expressions from the collocation box. Make changes where necessary. Sometimes more than one collocation is possible.

- 1 Teachers should be encouraged to \_\_\_\_\_ new \_\_\_\_\_ to improve language teaching efficiency.
- 2 Some linguists think that there is a critical period for children to \_\_\_\_\_ a new \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 He \_\_\_\_\_ of reading a few pages of English novels every day.
- 4 Mr. Brown \_\_\_\_\_ a teaching \_\_\_\_\_ in the foreign languages department.
- 5 With her fluency in English, she has a much \_\_\_\_\_ of getting the job.
- 6 The two universities are \_\_\_\_\_ of setting up a high-level language training center.
- 7 I have a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ of passing the language proficiency test, but I'm determined to have a try.

## Vocabulary learning strategies

Some verbs can be used together with the adverb "up" to form phrasal verbs like "come up" (Para. 7) and "go up" (Para. 7). You can scan the QR code to learn more about these phrasal verbs.



## Language focus

Appositive clause (同位语从句) is a common sentence pattern in English. For example, in the sentence "However, it is now time to face the fact that English is a crazy language – perhaps the most crazy of all languages" (Para. 1), the "that" clause is an appositive clause. You can scan the QR code to learn more about the appositive clause.





## Banked cloze

Complete the passage with suitable words from the word bank. You may not use any of the words more than once.

crazy	explore	creative	visible	contradict
escaped	acquired	invisible	learning	daydreaming

English is the most widely used language in the world. But it is also a(n) 1) \_\_\_\_\_ language and never easy to learn. For one thing, English has 2) \_\_\_\_\_ the largest vocabulary of all the world's languages.

Language is like the air we breathe. It is 3) \_\_\_\_\_ and we often take it for granted. But a close examination of the English language has led to some interesting findings about its crazy usages. For example, people drive in a parkway and park in a driveway. If we 4) \_\_\_\_\_ its paradoxes, we find that nightmare can take place in daylight while 5) \_\_\_\_\_ can take place at night; quicksand works slowly, and boxing rings are square. The list can go on and on.

In fact, all languages are a little crazy in one way or another. Walt Whitman might say that languages 6) \_\_\_\_\_ themselves because language is the 7) \_\_\_\_\_ invention of human beings.



## Viewing

The text in iExplore 1 is a humorous piece of writing about the “crazy” English language. Its “craziness” is probably part of the reason why English is difficult to learn. But English is not alone as a difficult language to learn. In fact, many non-native learners complain that Chinese is the most difficult language. In the video clip the speaker brings some good news about learning Chinese. Watch the video clip and see what the speaker says about her experience.



Video clip

### 1 Answer the questions with what you hear from the video clip.

- 1 How did the speaker get the chance to learn Chinese?
- 2 How long did her family stay in China?
- 3 What does the speaker think is most important in learning a second language?
- 4 How has being able to speak Chinese benefited the speaker?
- 5 A lot of people say Asian languages are really hard, especially the Chinese language. What does the speaker think of that?

### 2 Work in pairs and discuss the questions.

- 1 How does the speaker's experience of learning Chinese impress you?
- 2 What do you think is most important in learning a new language?

## Reading

In the video clip the speaker shares her experience of learning Chinese, including effective ways and the benefits of learning the language. The following text is a funny letter to the Chinese language in which the author complains about the difficulty he met with in learning Chinese. Read the text and find out how hard the author tried to learn the Chinese language. Will the experience in the video clip be helpful to the author in some way?

# An open letter to the Chinese language

Dear Chinese Language,

- 1 I ought to begin by clarifying my understanding of our relationship. I have not had my happiest days working at you; indeed, my best efforts to learn you have, by and large, been frustrating and fruitless.
- 2 I admit I chose you not because I think you are beautiful or particularly literary, but for entirely utilitarian reasons. I think you have a bright future, and I'd like to be a part of it. Plus, I think you could help me find a job but only if our association is a successful one.
- 3 I have invested a lot in you, a lot of time, a lot of energy, and possibly some of my future, too.
- 4 For me, it's been four semesters of dedicated study, countless hours slaving away with flashcards, endless preparation for exams, presentations, tests and for what? To me, you still look like a Rorschach test, and you still sound like a drawer full of silverware being dumped down a flight of stairs.
- 5 I don't feel you are making the same effort to make our relationship a happy and successful one. I mean really, no spaces between your words? That just seems like laziness. Would it really be so hard to use the space? It's the world's most common punctuation, and all the other languages use it. Forgive my going off topic, but I'm sure you understand my frustration.
- 6 For all the hardship, I haven't given up. That's why I'm here in Beijing today: to learn you.

- 7 Our first few weeks living in these close quarters have been a bit difficult, and completely exhausting. Devoting all of my time to a language at which I am worst has been depressing. I find myself often shy, avoiding you, but at the same time, no matter where I am or what I'm doing, I feel as though I'm wasting my time by not spending it with you. It's been hard.
- 8 You should remember that it was even harder before I came to live with you here in Beijing.
- 9 Long-distance relationships are all too often a recipe for disaster, and ours was really no exception.
- 10 I admit, I probably wasn't doing as much as I could have been to keep things going well, but you can rest assured I wasn't fooling around with any other languages while we were apart. I am so over French.
- 11 What I mean to say is that you are difficult. You're hard to read, and all too often I just don't understand you. However, I'm not yet ready to give up.
- 12 I'm told that even talentless individuals, such as myself, can make great progress by living with you, and I believe this to be true. Yes, it's been a pretty few weeks, but I believe things will get better by the time winter arrives in Beijing, and I will do my best to make it happen.
- 13 I'll work hard in my classes, and more importantly, we'll be together as much as possible outside the classroom. I promise I'll set aside plenty of time for us to be alone together, and we can go out with other people, too. I'll try to make some Chinese friends who will let me practice you with them, and I won't spend all my time speaking English to other Americans. That's a promise.
- 14 We've got a long way to go, and I realize that, for now, the onus is on me to improve things. You can expect to hear from me again at the end of this semester, and hopefully the news then will be good. Let's make it work.

Respectfully,  
Samuel duPont

#### CULTURE NOTES

Rorschach test (罗夏测验): It is a personality test consisting of a number of unstructured ink blots presented for interpretation (根据对墨渍图案的反应而分析性格的一种人格测试).

## Understanding the text

- 1 Why does the author think Chinese is hard to learn and what will he plan to do? Read the text and complete the diagram.

### Why does the author think Chinese is hard to learn?

- There are no 1) \_\_\_\_\_ between Chinese words.
- Chinese is difficult and 2) \_\_\_\_\_ to read.

### What will the author plan to do in the future?

- To 3) \_\_\_\_\_ in his Chinese classes.
- To speak Chinese 4) \_\_\_\_\_ outside the classroom.
- To set aside 5) \_\_\_\_\_ to learn Chinese.
- To make some 6) \_\_\_\_\_ who will let him 7) \_\_\_\_\_ with them.
- Not to spend all his time speaking 8) \_\_\_\_\_ to other Americans.

- 2 Works in pairs. Read the sentences from the text and discuss the questions.

- 1 *I have invested a lot in you, a lot of time, a lot of energy, and possibly some of my future, too. (Para. 3)*  
How hard has the author been learning Chinese? Why does the author say he has invested possibly some of his future?
- 2 *To me, you still look like a Rorschach test, and you still sound like a drawer full of silverware being dumped down a flight of stairs. (Para. 4)*  
Why does the author use "a Rorschach test" and "a drawer full of silverware" to describe the Chinese language? What does he want to say?
- 3 *I mean really, no spaces between your words? That just seems like laziness. Would it really be so hard to use the space? It's the world's most common punctuation, and all the other languages use it. (Para. 5)*  
What difficulty is the author talking about in learning Chinese? What is the most difficult part when you learn English?
- 4 *Long-distance relationships are all too often a recipe for disaster, and ours was really no exception. (Para. 9)*  
What problem is the author talking about in learning Chinese? How do you think the problem can be solved?

## Building your language

### Words and expressions

1 Complete the sentences with the words below. Change the form where necessary.

devote

clarify

frustration

exception

exhausting

dedicated

depressing

- 1 A strict, \_\_\_\_\_ teacher is more likely to produce outstanding students.
- 2 The summer language camp in the UK, though \_\_\_\_\_, was really rewarding.
- 3 Halliday was a world-famous linguist who \_\_\_\_\_ all his life to linguistics.
- 4 Learning a second language takes much time and energy and may turn out to be a(n) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 It's really \_\_\_\_\_ that I spent a lot of time learning English, but I still find it hard to speak the language.
- 6 Can you \_\_\_\_\_ the differences between these synonyms ( 同义词 )?
- 7 Loanwords ( 外来语 ) exist in every language, and Chinese is no \_\_\_\_\_.

2 Complete the sentences with the expressions below. Change the form where necessary.

for all

by and large

give up

set aside

be a recipe for

fool around

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_, I think the secret to learning a foreign language lies in using it in real communication.
- 2 Chen draws a clear line between himself and those who skip language classes in order to get more sleep or \_\_\_\_\_ on campus.
- 3 You should \_\_\_\_\_ time to improve your English listening skills.
- 4 Lack of language environment in learning a new language can \_\_\_\_\_ disaster.
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_ the difficulties in learning it, more and more people across the world are learning the Chinese language.
- 6 Learning a second language takes a lot of efforts, but don't \_\_\_\_\_ easily because practice makes perfect.

### Collocations

Identify the words which do not collocate with the words in bold.

- |   |                     |        |            |               |             |
|---|---------------------|--------|------------|---------------|-------------|
| 1 | <b>bright</b>       | future | color      | smile         | energy      |
| 2 | <b>relationship</b> | happy  | successful | long-distance | countless   |
| 3 | <b>make</b>         | effort | attempt    | hardship      | preparation |
| 4 | <b>waste</b>        | time   | resource   | health        | opportunity |
| 5 | <b>improve</b>      | thing  | relation   | quality       | weight      |

## Vocabulary learning strategies

The suffix “-less” combines with nouns or verbs to form adjectives. Adjectives formed in this way describe people or things that do not have or do what is referred to, such as “fruitless” (Para. 1), “endless” (Para. 4), “talentless” (Para. 12); adjectives formed in this way can also describe people or things whose qualities cannot be measured, such as “countless” (Para. 4). You can scan the QR code to learn more about the suffix “-less” and the adjectives formed with it.



## Translation

### 1 Translate the sentences into Chinese.

- 1 I have not had my happiest days working at you; indeed, my best efforts to learn you have, by and large, been frustrating and fruitless.
- 2 I admit, I probably wasn't doing as much as I could have been to keep things going well, but you can rest assured I wasn't fooling around with any other languages while we were apart.
- 3 As more and more people recognize the importance of learning an additional language, those who speak only one language will begin to get left behind in our shift toward a global society.
- 4 David Harrison, a linguistics professor, says technology can not only spread the influence of major languages, but also help save endangered (濒临消亡的) ones.



Translation skills

### 2 Translate the sentences into English.

- 1 随着中国的国际影响进一步加深，全球兴起了学习汉语的热潮。(craze)
- 2 很多人在学习英语很多年后，听说能力仍然比较薄弱。这是困扰中国人学习英语的一大问题。(a big headache)
- 3 对这个职位来说，会说流利英语的求职者有很大的优势。(fluent; have an advantage)
- 4 汉语水平考试(HSK)重点考查汉语为非第一语言的考生在生活、学习和工作中运用汉语进行交际的能力。



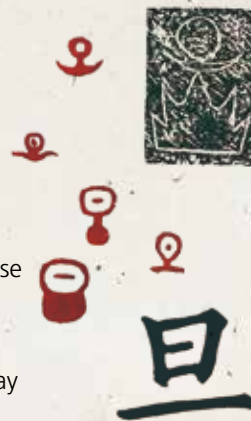
## Unit project

### Giving a presentation

#### Features of the Chinese language

With the discussion of the two texts, you have not only learned about the special usages in English, but also understood the difficulties non-native learners might face when learning Chinese. In your eyes, what are the major features of the Chinese language? Does it have some special usages? How can a non-native speaker learn Chinese well?

Suppose you are going to give a 10-minute presentation about the Chinese language to some overseas students who are learning Chinese in your university. Your presentation shall focus on the features of the Chinese language and suggestions on how to learn it well. The following steps may help you with the project.



#### Step 1 Brainstorm features of the Chinese language

What do you know about the Chinese language? What are its major features? List all the possible features you can come up with. Then try to add some supporting details.

<b>Feature 1:</b> A tonal language	Detail 1: Four tones Detail 2: Different tones indicate different characters.
<b>Feature 2:</b> _____	Detail 1: _____ Detail 2: _____
<b>Feature 3:</b> _____	Detail 1: _____ Detail 2: _____

#### Step 2 Select the features to talk about

From your list in Step 1 and what you have learned in this unit, select two or three features that you find most challenging for overseas students. Then try to explain each feature. Remember to give some examples to support your explanation.

Feature 1: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Feature 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Feature 3: \_\_\_\_\_



### Step 3 Work on the suggestions

What suggestions would you like to give to help overseas students with their Chinese learning? You may refer to the two video clips in this unit and the text of iExplore 2 for ideas.

Suggestion 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Suggestion 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Suggestion 3: \_\_\_\_\_

### Step 4 Organize your presentation

Now that you've got all the ideas, structure your presentation with the help of the outline.

#### Outline

##### Introduction

e.g. *The Chinese language is one of the most widely spoken languages in the world. It has a long history and has many unique features ...*

##### Body

- Main features of the Chinese language
- Suggestions on how to learn Chinese well

##### Conclusion

e.g. *I hope my presentation will help you learn more about the Chinese language and you will find my suggestions useful.*

### Step 5 Give your presentation

Give your presentation to your classmates and ask them for advice. The following checklist may help you improve your performance.

## Checklist

OK    Need  
improvement

- |                          |                          |   |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1 The opening of my presentation is interesting.                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 The body of my presentation is logically developed and with examples. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 The main points of my presentation are clearly stated.                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 My voice is loud enough.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 I have maintained eye contact with the audience.                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6 I have made proper use of gestures.                                   |



YOU CAN  
UPLOAD YOUR  
PRESENTATION TO  
THE ONLINE  
COURSE AFTER  
FINISHING IT.

# Vocabulary

## iExplore 1

### New words

**parkway** /'pɑ:k,weɪ/ n. [C, U] a wide road with an area of grass and trees in the middle or along the sides  
林荫大路

**driveway** /'draɪv,weɪ/ n. [C] the area or road for cars between a house and the street  
私家车道

**shipment** /'ʃɪpmənt/ n. [C, U] a load of goods being delivered, or the act of sending them (运送的) 一批货物; (货物的) 运送

*Her order will be ready for shipment tomorrow.*

**cargo** /'kɑ:gəʊ/ n. [C, U] the goods that are being carried in a ship or plane (一批) 货物

*The ship was carrying a cargo of oil.*

**breathe** /bri:ð/ v. to take air into your lungs and send it out again  
呼吸

*We are getting more and more concerned about the quality of the air we breathe.*

**invisible** /ɪn'vɪzəbl/ a. sth. that is invisible cannot be seen  
看不见的; 隐形的

*This is a secret message written in invisible ink.*

**inescapable** /,ɪn'skeɪpəbl/ a. impossible to avoid  
不可避免的

*Man has an inescapable responsibility for his own actions.*

**indispensable** /,ɪndɪ'spensəbl/ a. sb. or sth. that is indispensable is so important or useful that it is impossible to manage without them  
必需的; 不可或缺

*Police dogs are indispensable in the war on drugs.*

**escape** /ɪ'skeɪp/ vi. to come out of your mouth, although you did not intend it to (不自觉地) 发出, 说出  
*A slight sigh escaped from her lips.*

**explore** /ɪk'splɔ:z/ vt. to discuss, examine, or think about sth. carefully  
检查; 研究; 探讨

*The film explores issues about the aging society.*

**paradox** /'pærə,dɒks/ n. [C] a situation or statement that seems impossible or is difficult to understand because it contains two opposite facts or characteristics  
自相矛盾的情况; 似非而是的说法; 悖论  
*It's a paradox that in such a rich country there can be so much poverty.*

**darkroom** /'dɑ:kru:m/ n. [C] (冲洗胶卷的) 暗室, 暗房, 黑房

**nightmare** /'naɪt,meə/ n. [C] a very frightening dream  
噩梦; 梦魇

*I had a nightmare yesterday about being drowned in a lake.*

**daydream** /'deɪ,dri:m/ vi. to think about sth. nice, e.g. sth. you would like to happen, esp. when this makes you forget what you should be doing  
做白日梦; 幻想; 梦想

*Stop daydreaming and get back to work!*

**tomboy** /'tɒm,bɔɪ/ n. [C] 野丫头; 假小子

**midwife** /'mɪd,wɪf/ n. [C] 助产士; 接生员; 产婆

**quicksand** /'kwɪk,sænd/ n. [C, U] wet sand that is dangerous because it pulls you down into it if you walk on it  
流沙

**plastic** /'plæstɪk/ n. [C, U] 塑料; 塑胶

**tablecloth** /'teɪbl,klɒθ/ n. [C] 桌布; 台布

**bath** /bɑ:θ/ n. [C]

1 (AmE bathtub) 浴缸; 澡盆

*Please wash yourself quickly because I need to clean the bath tonight.*

2 洗澡; 沐浴

*Can you give the kids a bath tonight while I'm away?*

**asylum** /ə'saɪləm/ n. [C] (old use) a hospital for people who are mentally ill  
精神病院

**verbally** /'vɜ:bəli/ ad. by means of language  
言辞上

**insane** /ɪn'seɪn/ a. seriously mentally ill and unable to live in normal society  
精神错乱的; 精神失常的

**slim** /slɪm/ a. very little  
微小的

*She has only a slim chance of passing the exam.*

**sharp** /ʃɑ:p/ a. severe, angry, and criticizing  
尖锐的; 严厉的; 气愤的; 责备的

*Despite his sharp tongue, he gets loyalty from his friends.*

**blunt** /blʌnt/ a. speaking in an honest way even if this upsets people (说话) 不客气的; 直言不讳的; 耿直的  
*His request was met with a blunt refusal.*

**overlook** /,əʊvə'lʊk/ vt. to not notice sth. 未注意到; 忽视  
*You should not overlook the difficulties.*

**oversee** /ˌəʊvə'siː/ vt. to be in charge of a program of work or a group of workers, and check that everything is done correctly 监管; 监察; 监督  
*You must hire someone to oversee the project.*

**visible** /'vɪzəbl/ a. sth. that is visible can be seen 看得见的; 可见的  
*The hills were hardly visible through the mist.*

**essay** /'eseɪ/ n. [C] a short piece of writing about a particular subject, esp. as part of a class at school or college 短文; 论说文; 散文  
*We need to hand in an essay about Chinese culture.*

**marvel** /'mɑːvl/ v. (~ at) to feel great surprise or admiration for the quality of sth. 对...感到惊讶; 叹赏; 钦佩  
*People marveled at how well these animals have adapted themselves to the polar ice caps.*

**lunacy** /'luːnəsi/ n. [U] a situation or behavior that is completely crazy 疯狂的状态 (行为)  
*It must be lunacy to turn down a great offer like that.*

**tongue** /tʌŋ/ n. [C]  
1 a language 语言  
2 舌头

**alarm** /ə'laɪm/ n. [C] (or ~ clock) 闹钟

**column** /'kɒləm/ n. [C] a line of numbers or words written under each other that goes down a page (数字、单词的) 列

**proclaim** /prə'kleɪm/ vt. (fml.) to say publicly or officially that sth. important is true or exists 宣布; 声明  
*The leader has proclaimed a great victory.*

**contradict** /kɒntrə'dɪkt/ vt. if one statement, piece of evidence, story, etc. contradicts another, they disagree and cannot both be true 与...相矛盾; 与...抵触; 违背  
*Smith gave an account that contradicted the evidence that we collected.*

**creative** /kri'eɪtɪv/ a. producing or using new and effective ideas, results, etc. 创造(性)的  
*I enjoy my job because most of the time I can do creative things.*

**fearful** /'fiəfl/ a. (only before noun) causing fear 吓人的; 可怕的  
*There is a fearful storm in the south.*

**asymmetry** /æ'sɪmətri/ n. [U] the appearance that sth. has when its two sides or halves are different in shape, size, or style 不对称

## Phrases and expressions

**at least**  
1 not less than a particular amount or number, and possibly more (数量或数目上) 至少, 起码  
*The disease killed at least 100 people in England last year.*  
2 even if nothing else happens or is true 无论如何; 不管怎样; 至少  
*His parents should at least listen to his explanation.*

**take sth. for granted** to expect that the things or advantages that you have will always exist, and so not pay much attention to them 视某事物为理所当然 (因而对其不太关注)  
*You can never take it for granted that what you read, see or hear from media is true.*

**step back** to stop for a moment in order to consider sth. 退一步考虑  
*Let's step back and have another look at this problem.*

**take place** to happen 发生; 举行  
*I don't know what took place in the classroom.*

**(in) broad daylight** (in) the clear light of day, when it is easy to see 光天化日 (之下)  
*A woman was attacked on a train in broad daylight.*

**quite a lot / a bit / a few** a large number or amount 许多; 大量

**wind up**  
1 to turn sth. such as a handle or part of a machine around and around, esp. in order to make sth. move or start working 摇动, 转动 (把手等); 给 (机器) 上发条  
*He wound up his old watch and let it go.*  
2 to end an activity, meeting, etc. 使 (活动、会议等) 结束  
*As soon as I wind up my visit to America, I will go back home.*

**burn up** to get rid of or destroy sth. by burning 焚毁; 烧掉  
*The fire burned up 100 acres of farmland.*

**burn down** to be destroyed, or to destroy sth., by fire (被) 焚毁  
*The house burned down in the big fire.*

**slow up** (or **slow down**) to become slower or make sth. slower (使)慢下来; (使)减速

*Slow up / down, or you're going to hit that tree!*

**fill in** (or **fill out**) to write all the necessary information in special spaces on a document 填写

*Fill out the form carefully, and keep copies of it.*

**go off** to start making a noise as a signal or warning (警报等)响起来

*I was just lying in bed waiting for the alarm to go off.*

**add up**

1 to calculate the total of several numbers or amounts 把...加起来

*When you add up the numbers in the column, you'll see how big our profit really is.*

2 to increase by small amounts until there is a large total 积少成多

*You will realize that all these little savings soon add up.*

**contradict yourself** to say sth. that is the opposite of what you said before 自相矛盾

*In his confusion, he kept contradicting himself.*

## Proper names

**Walt Whitman** /wɔ:lɪt 'hwɪtmən/ 沃尔特·惠特曼 (1819-1892, 美国著名诗人)

## iExplore 2

### New words

**clarify** /'klærə,faɪ/ vt. to make sth. clearer and easier to understand by explaining it in more detail 澄清; 讲清楚; 阐明

*Could you clarify the first point please? I don't understand it completely.*

**frustrating** /'frʌ,streɪtɪŋ/ a. making you feel annoyed, upset, or impatient because you cannot do what you want to do 令人沮丧 (泄气 / 不快 / 不耐烦) 的

*It's so frustrating not to have a friend to talk to when you feel sad.*

**fruitless** /'fru:tɪləs/ a. failing to achieve what was wanted, esp. after much effort 无成效的; 无结果的

*All their efforts to find her proved fruitless.*

**utilitarian** /ju:,tɪlɪ'teəriən/ a. (fml.) useful and practical rather than being attractive 功利的; 实用的

*His office is very utilitarian in style.*

**semester** /sə'mestə/ n. [C] (大学和中学的) 一学期, 半年

**dedicated** /'dedɪ,ketɪd/ a. spending all your time and effort on sth. 献身的; 一心一意的

*We are lucky to have such a highly skilled and dedicated team.*

**slave** /sleɪv/ vi. (~ **away**) to work very hard with little time to rest 拼命干; 苦干

*We have slaved away for months to read this book.*

**flashcard** /'flæʃ,kɑ:d/ n. [C] 教学卡片; 识字卡

**preparation** /,prepə'reɪʃn/ n. [U] the act or process of preparing sth. 预备; 准备

*I think this game was good preparation for the championship contest.*

**presentation** /,prezn'teɪʃn/ n. [C] a formal talk about a particular subject (关于某主题的) 报告; 演说; 演讲; 陈述

*Our presentation was followed by about one hour of discussion.*

**drawer** /'drɔ:ə/ n. [C] 抽屉

**silverware** /'sɪlvə,weə/ n. [U] knives, spoons and forks made of silver 银器; 银餐具

**dump** /dʌmp/ vt. to get rid of sth. you do not want, esp. by pouring it out 丢弃, 扔掉 (某物)

*Should I dump this tea? It's cold.*

**flight** /flaɪt/ n. [C]

1 a set of stairs between one floor and the next 一段楼梯

2 a trip in an airplane or space vehicle (乘坐飞机或宇宙飞船的) 飞行

**stair** /steə/ n. (~s) [pl.] (楼层之间的) 楼梯

**punctuation** /,pʌŋktʃu'eɪʃn/ n. [U] 标点符号

**forgive** /fə'gɪv/ v. to decide not to blame sb. or be angry with them, although they have done sth.

wrong 原谅; 宽恕; 饶恕

*I'll never forgive you for what you said to me last night.*

**frustration** /frʌ'streɪʃn/ n. [C, U] the feeling of being annoyed, upset, or impatient, because you cannot control or change a situation, or achieve sth. 失意; 失望; 沮丧

*She couldn't stand the frustration of not being able to help that poor lady.*

**hardship** /'hɑ:dʃɪp/ n. [C, U] sth. that makes your life very difficult, esp. not having enough money or food (生活) 艰苦, 贫困

*The new taxes are creating extreme hardship for his family.*

**exhausting** /ɪg'zɔ:stɪŋ/ *a.* making you feel extremely tired 使人精疲力竭的

*The trip has been exhausting and I'll be glad to be home.*

**devote** /dɪ'vəʊt/ *vt.* to give your time, money, attention, etc. to do sth. or help sth. be successful 为某事物付出时间 / 金钱 / 注意力等

*My father wants to devote more time to our family, and less to the business.*

**depressing** /dɪ'presɪŋ/ *a.* making you feel very sad 令人忧愁 / 沮丧的

*Everything is a bit depressing at the moment, but I believe that good times are just around the corner.*

**recipe** /'resəpi/ *n.* [C]

1 (be a ~ for sth.) to be likely to cause a particular result, often a bad one 很可能是造成某事的原因

*The new tax system might be a recipe for economic disaster.*

2 a set of instructions for cooking a particular type of food (某种食物的) 烹饪食谱

**disaster** /dɪ'zɑ:stə/ *n.* [C, U]

1 a complete failure 彻底的失败

*My carefully planned program had been a complete disaster.*

2 a sudden event such as a flood, storm, or accident that causes great harm or damage 灾难; 灾祸

*More bad weather would be a disaster for this year's wheat crop.*

**exception** /ɪk'sepʃn/ *n.* [C, U] sb. or sth. that is not included in a rule, does not follow the expected pattern, etc. 除外; 例外

*Climbers are brave people, and Bob is no exception.*

**assured** /ə'ʃʊəd/ *a.* certain to happen or to be achieved 确定的; 有把握的

*Her victory means that she is now assured of a place in the final.*

**onus** /'ɒnəs/ *n.* [sing.] (the ~) the responsibility for sth. 责任; 义务

*The onus is on the shopkeeper to provide goods which live up to the quality of their description.*

**respectfully** /rɪ'spektf(ə)li/ *ad.* with respect 恭敬地  
*I must respectfully disagree with what you said.*

## Phrases and expressions

**by and large** used when talking generally about sb. or sth. 大体上; 一般地说; 总的说来

*By and large, children master the use of a language fairly quickly.*

**for all** despite sth. 虽然; 尽管

*For all her complaining, I think she actually enjoyed the day.*

**give up** to stop trying to do sth. or work at sth., esp. sth. difficult, without completing it 放弃, 中止 (尤指难事)

*Giving up his dream was the last thing we expected him to do.*

**at the same time** used to introduce a contrasting fact, etc. that must be considered 同时; 也; 然而; 不过

*You have to be firm, but at the same time you should try and be kind.*

**all too often** used to say that sth. sad, disappointing, or annoying happens too much 过于频繁; 屡次三番

*All too often, parents have to leave their children alone at home.*

**rest assured (that)** used to tell sb. not to worry, because what you say about a situation is true 请放心

*You can rest assured that I'll be there on time.*

**fool around** to waste time doing things that are not important 游手好闲; 浪费时间 (做不重要的事)

*They always fool around when the manager is not in the office.*

**set aside** to keep sth., esp. money or time, for a special purpose and only use it for that purpose (为某目的) 留出, 拨出 (钱、时间等)

*Have you set aside some money for your children's education?*

**for now** from now until some future time 暂时; 目前  
*You'll have to stay here for now as it's raining hard.*

## Proper names

**Rorschach** /'rɔ:ʃɑ:k/ **test** 罗夏测验 (根据对墨渍图案的反应而分析性格的一种人格测试)

**Samuel duPont** /,sæmjʊəl du'pɒnt/ 塞缪尔·迪蓬 (人名)