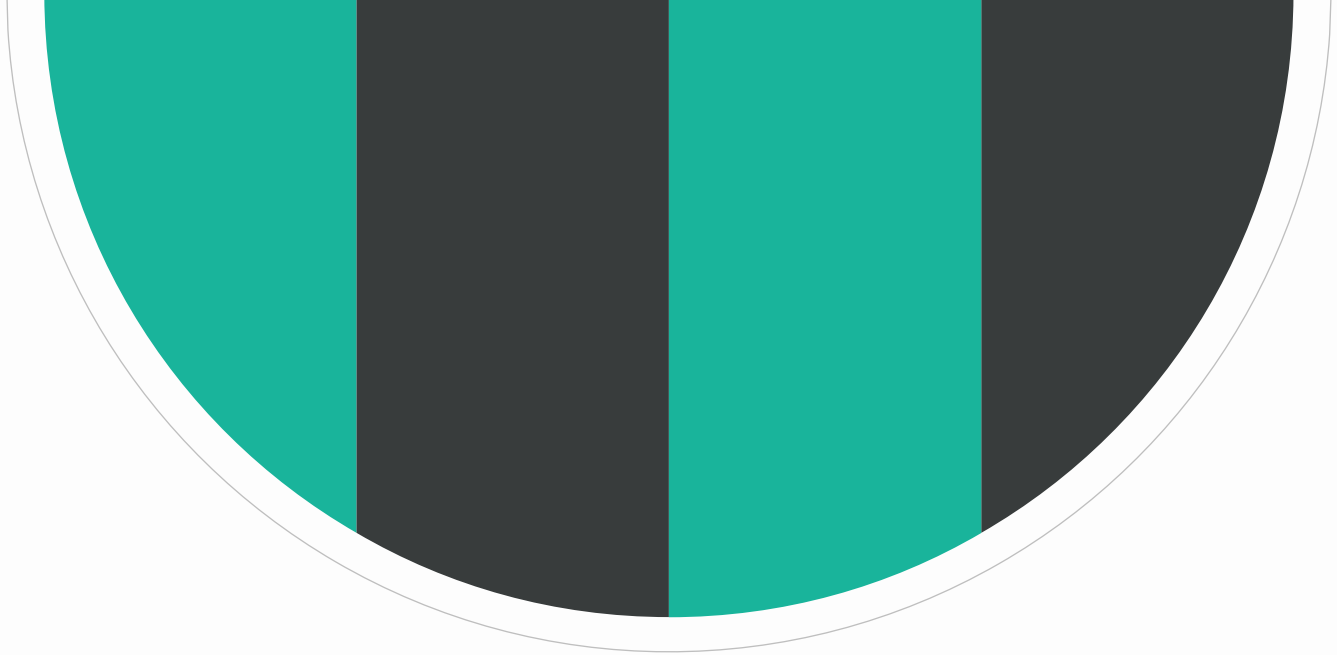


大学学术英语

读写教程(上册)

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Introduction

The *Academic Encounters* Series

Academic Encounters is a sustained content-based series for English language learners preparing to study college-level subject matte in English. The goal if the series is to expose students to the types of texts and tasks that they will encounter in their academic coursework and provide them with the skills to be successful when that encounters occurs.

Students benefit from a sustained content approach

- *Real-word academic language and skills*
- *An authentic, intensive experience*
- *Natural recycling language*
- *Knowledge of common academic content*

Chapter 4

Gender Issues Today

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1 Text

2 Reading Skills

3 Writing skills

4 Vocabulary Skills

5 Academic Success Skills

1 GENDER EQUALITY AT WORK

In the past, women did not have the right to vote, to go to school, to borrow money, to own property, or to work in certain occupations. Women who worked usually made far less money than men. Underlying these inequalities has been a prejudice against women that is based on **sexism**. Over the years, women have fought for their rights, and now gender equality is protected by a number of laws and rulings in many countries of the world.

One of the areas where women have fought for equality is in the workplace. They have made great progress toward this goal. However, women remain unequal to men economically. It is still typical for women to hold lower-status, lower-paying jobs than men. In many traditionally female occupations—such as nursing, teaching, and secretarial work—women work in positions that are subordinate to positions usually held by men.

Thus, nurses are often subordinate to male doctors , teachers to male principals, and secretaries to male executives. Many people still like it this way. One survey asked Americans if they preferred a man or a woman in jobs that are traditionally male or female. Many respondents said they would prefer a woman as an elementary schoolteacher and a man as a police officer and airline pilot.

Many countries have passed laws to prohibit gender discrimination in employment. The United States passed a law against gender discrimination in 1963. This means, for example, that a company may not advertise a job for men only. It also means that employers must pay men and women the same wage for jobs that require the same skill, effort, and responsibility. Similar laws followed in the 1970s and 1980s in Europe and in other parts of the world. Since then, women have made significant gains in the workplace. More women are working, and their pay is higher than ever before.



The continuing gender disparity

The disparity in wages between men and women in employment remains in spite of these laws. Some researchers believe that one reason is women's commitment to the family. One study found:

The majority of women… want to pursue serious careers while participating actively in the rearing of children… most of them are willing to trade some career growth and compensation for freedom from the constant pressure to work long hours and weekends.

However, this is probably not the most important reason. A report by the World Economic Forum found that a major factor is the male-dominated culture in many workplaces. All over the world, women enter the workforce in jobs that are lower paying and have lower statuses than men's, regardless of their level of education. The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development reports that in industrialized countries, men earned an average of 17.6 percent more than women in 2006. The biggest disparity was in South Korea, where the wages for men are almost 40 percent higher than for women. Belgium had the smallest difference at 9.3 percent. Even when women hold the same jobs as men and have equal skills, training, and responsibility, they tend to earn less. In the United States, women's wages are 77 percent of men's wages for the same job.

Women as a growing part of the workforce

In spite of their lower pay, women's overall participation in employment is increasing rapidly. Women now hold over 50 percent of all management and professional jobs in the United States. This is an increase of 26 percent since 1980. A study of 20 industrialized countries shows that women are in the majority in financial and professional services In China, more than 40 percent of private businesses are owned by women. Women currently dominate 13 out of the 15 jobs that are predicted to have the highest growth in the coming decades. However, it is important to note that these are not the jobs with the highest pay.

Why is this happening? It may not simply be a result of laws or a decrease in discrimination. It is possible that the modern, **post-industrial economy** favors women. Industrial jobs favored men's size and strength. In contrast, post-industrial jobs require people with communication and social skills. These are attributes generally associated with women. Many of these new jobs emphasize creativity and working as a team, rather than competition and taking risks. Finally, today's jobs often require a high level of education. Since today more women than men are getting a college education, women are often more attractive to employers.

Gender equality in employment is the law in most Western countries now. However, in reality, the disparity in pay remains. Women have made great progress in closing the gap in recent years, but full equality still remains a goal for the future.

Chapter 4



Reading Skills

- Reading for main ideas
- Thinking critically
- Predicting
- Previewing art
- Thinking about the topic
- Personalizing the topic
- Skimming
- Reading for details

Writing Skills

- Pronoun reference
- Going beyond the text
- Supporting main ideas

Chapter 4

Vocabulary Skills

- Word families
- Describing personality and emotion
- Guessing meaning from context
- Collocations

Academic Success Skills

- Responding to a quote
- Answering definition questions on a test

习题详见Chapter4（下）

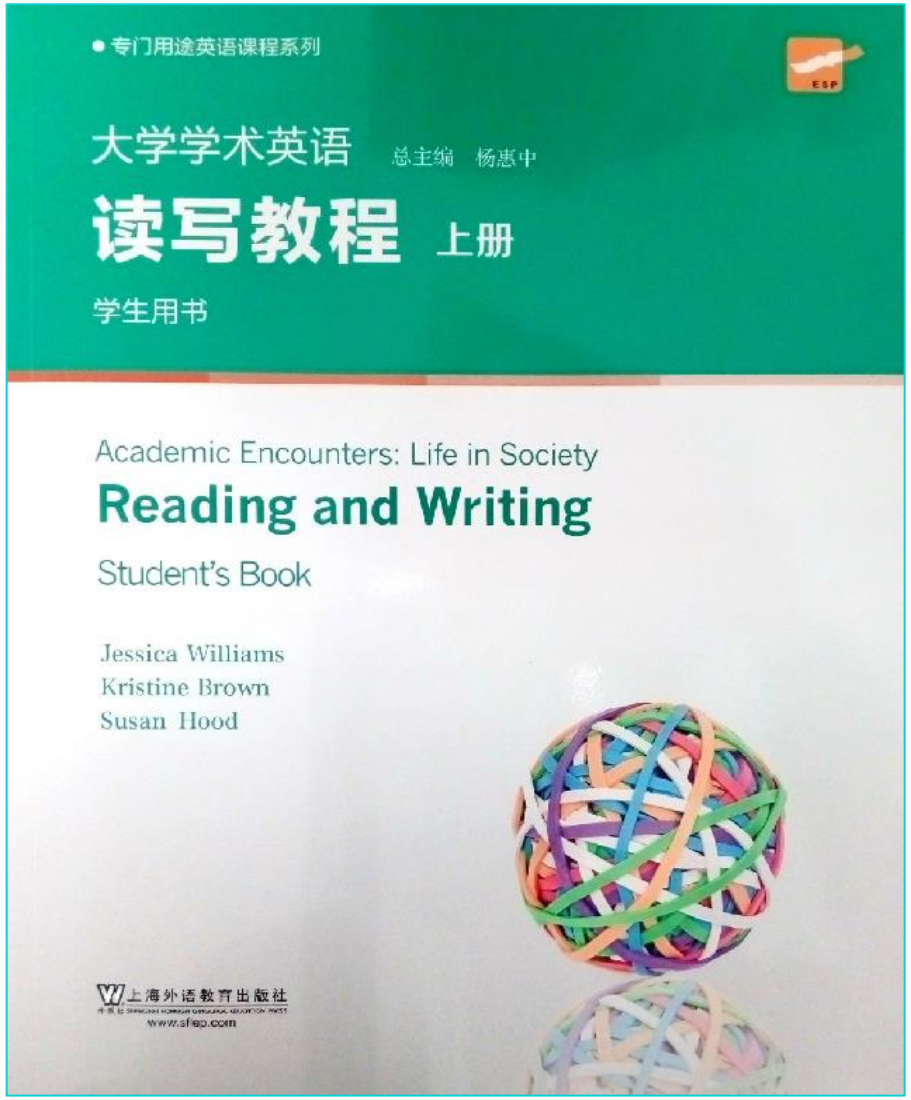
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编者序言(节选)



语言方面，学术英语教材的任务既然是培养学生以英语工具从事学术交流的能力，就要帮助学生提高用英语表达思想的流利程度、准确性、得体性和灵活性，进一步学习会话策略，学会准确得体地表达自己的观点和意见，能够参加讨论和辩论，准确得体地表示同意或反驳别人的意见，能够用正确的语体撰写学术论文等等。为了达到这些目标，学术英语课程应培养学生的学习技能，如记笔记，发言，查阅资料然后进行分析、归纳、整理等。

学术英语教材还要重视发展和培养学生的审辩式思维能力，即对所获取的信息进行分析和评估，决定是否值得接受。学生应当学会对读到、听到或看到的信息进行积极、深入的思考。养成独立思考的能力和习惯，以此应对国际化所带来的挑战。





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