

實用中學英文法

MASTERING ENGLISH THROUGH DRILL

FOR

MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

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萬君和編

# MASTERING ENGLISH THROUGH DRILL

FOR

MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

COMPILED BY

WAN CHUN HO

*Compiler of "The Same Word Used as Different  
Parts of Speech," etc.*

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## PREFACE

In the deluge of English grammars which have flooded the text-book mart in recent years, the teacher of a junior middle school is often at a loss as to which one to choose. Most of these texts attempt to be all-inclusive, and the average good student finds himself lost in a labyrinth of intricacies. Is it not a wiser method to select for these youngsters a text which is content to limit itself to essentials?

A cursory glance at Mr Wan's *Mastering English through Drill* has convinced me that this book is sufficient for a student to grasp the essentials of English grammar. A minimum of rules, simple definitions, clear examples, abundant exercises—these are a few of its excellent features. Add to these a selected vocabulary with idiomatic examples, and the result is a good grammar. This is precisely what Mr Wan has given us.

Since the position relegated to English in the curricula of most schools is less important now than formerly, it is always gratifying to learn that a new English book is being presented by Chinese teachers. It shows that there still exists a keen interest in the English language. It is to be hoped that Mr Wan will publish in the future such other books as he may feel so disposed to present.

DAVID GRAY POSTON.

Soochow Academy,  
February 30, 1936.

## PREFACE

So far as I know, most teachers of English often have difficulty in choosing a suitable grammar for middle school students, especially for those junior middle school ones. Not that there is no such grammar in China, but that there are *too* many grammars for middle school students, I should say. However, a grammar that is suitable especially for the junior middle school students in the truest sense of the word is yet conspicuous by its absence.

Now, Mr Wan has ingeniously removed the difficulty for the teachers of English by bringing out a grammar for both junior and senior middle school students. He is a purely self-made young English scholar and is particularly interested in the studies of grammar, and therefore is nicknamed a "grammarian" among our "fellow-fools". On reading the book in manuscript, I find that it has features all its own and at the same time feel sure that the book is bound to be a success. But on being asked why he should like to ask so insignificant a teacher of English as I to write a preface for him, instead of asking some doctor to do so, he seemed at a loss but at last broke out humourously, "Why, if I ask some doctor to write a preface for me, then I think I should write a book on medicine instead of an English grammar. And what the doctor says may be taken for a prescription rather than a preface."

C. S. CHOSEN TSOU (郝朝潜).

Kunshan Middle School,  
Kunshan, Kiangsu,  
February 30, 1936.

## COMPILER'S PREFACE

The *Mastering English through Drill* is prepared for the use of either the junior middle school student of the third year grade or the senior middle school student of the first year grade in this country. The compiler has taken great care in the selection of material for exercise, simplification of definitions and explanations, and inclusion of a number of common idiomatic expressions in order that the student may not only understand easily the essentials of grammar but also acquire a practical vocabulary. Grammatical terms have been avoided as far as possible.

This book, consisting of fifty lessons, may be finished in one year. Practically every lesson is divided into three parts. Part One gives the working principles for the exercise. Part Two, Exercise Set A, is intended for the teacher to go over orally with the students so that they may have a clearer idea of what they are to do. Part Three, Exercise Set B, is to be, or rather must be, taken by the students themselves, inasmuch as it serves to show their ability in applying the working principles.

The compiler wishes to acknowledge his deep indebtedness to his friends, Messrs D. G. Poston and C. S. Chosen Tsou, each of whom kindly read and revised the whole manuscript and favored him with an appreciative preface.

WAN CHUN HUO.

Soochow, Kiangsu,  
February 30, 1936.

# CONTENTS

LESSON	PAGE
1. The Sentence - - - - -	1
2. Subject and Predicate - - - - -	3
3. Nouns - - - - -	6
4. Common and Proper Nouns - - - - -	9
5. Pronouns - - - - -	12
6. Articles - - - - -	15
7. Number of Nouns - - - - -	18
8. Case of Nouns - - - - -	22
9. Modifiers - - - - -	27
10. Adjectives - - - - -	29
11. Comparison of Adjectives - - - - -	32
12. Comparison of Adjectives ( <i>Continued</i> ) - - - - -	35
13. Irregular Comparison of Adjectives - - - - -	38
14. Verbs - - - - -	41
15. Transitive and Intransitive Verbs - - - - -	44
16. The Indirect Object - - - - -	47
17. Person and Number of Verbs - - - - -	50
18. Tense of Verbs - - - - -	53
19. The Principal Parts of Verbs - - - - -	56
20. How to Form the Past Tense - - - - -	60
21. Complements - - - - -	63
22. Active and Passive Voices - - - - -	67
23. Verb-Phrases - - - - -	69
24. Progressive Forms - - - - -	72
25. Completed Tenses - - - - -	75
26. Apposition - - - - -	78
27. Adverbs - - - - -	82
28. Adverbs Modifying Adjectives and Adverbs - - - - -	85
29. Comparison of Adverbs - - - - -	88

---

30.	"Shall" and "Will"; "Should" and "Would"	-	90
31.	Infinitives - - - - -	-	95
32.	Infinitives as Modifiers - - - - -	-	98
33.	Participles - - - - -	-	101
34.	Participles ( <i>Continued</i> ) - - - - -	-	106
35.	Uses of Participles - - - - -	-	108
36.	Gerunds or Verbal Nouns - - - - -	-	111
37.	Infinitives and Gerunds- - - - -	-	115
38.	Prepositions - - - - -	-	118
39.	Prepositions ( <i>Continued</i> ) - - - - -	-	121
40.	Prepositions ( <i>Continued</i> ) - - - - -	-	123
41.	Prepositions ( <i>Continued</i> ) - - - - -	-	128
42.	Conjunctions- - - - -	-	130
43.	Conjunctions ( <i>Continued</i> ) - - - - -	-	133
44.	Interjections- - - - -	-	135
45.	Phrases - - - - -	-	137
46.	Clauses- - - - -	-	141
47.	Relative Pronouns- - - - -	-	145
48.	Relative Adverbs - - - - -	-	150
49.	Indirect Quotations - - - - -	-	153
50.	Indirect Quotations ( <i>Continued</i> ) - - - - -	-	155



# MASTERING ENGLISH THROUGH DRILL

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## LESSON 1

### THE SENTENCE

Read the following groups of words, and tell whether each expresses a *complete thought* or not:

1. Dogs bark.
2. The girl in the green dress.
3. We eat rice.
4. No students.
5. Many Boy Scouts are on the campus.
6. I tell a fairy tale.
7. At school.
8. They do much work.
9. In that kennel.
10. We play many kinds of games

It seems that the second, the fourth, the seventh; and the ninth group of words do not express complete thoughts, do they?

**A group of words expressing a complete thought is called a sentence.**

## EXERCISE

*Are you sure that you know a sentence when you see one? Tell which of the following are sentences and which are not:*

## SET A (SCORE: 100-5x

1. Shines at night.
2. The chickens spoiled the vegetable garden.
3. On my way home.
4. Jack jumps.
5. In the heart of Tientsin.
6. We lead a happy life.
7. Are made of steel.
8. Many bees in the air.
9. He often takes a nap after lunch.
10. Good fruits grow in California.
11. Over the flower-bed. -
12. The radio receiver on the bench.
13. A former schoolmate of mine.
14. Into the Black Sea.
15. Has thirty-two bones.
16. My clothes were wet with rain.
17. The duster is not in my study.
18. The English alphabet has twenty-six letters.
19. Down the long narrow street.
20. More than seven thousand students assembled on the playground.

## SET B (SCORE: 100-5x      -      )

1. He is at home.
2. The blackboard on the wall.

3. To the post office.
4. We were all there.
5. Up the Yangtze River.
6. A basket of sweet potatoes.
7. He has saved much money.
8. The tops of distant hills.
9. Talked to my companion.
10. My house has a tile roof.
11. On page seventy-seven.
12. We passed through a lane.
13. Went to see the burning house.
14. Asia is the largest continent.
15. To learn something useful.
16. I knocked at the back door.
17. In the province of Yunnan.
18. Rats squeak.
19. The most industrious people in the world.
20. He was born in 1902.

## LESSON 2

### SUBJECT AND PREDICATE

Read the following sentences:

1. Cocks crow.
2. The little bird sang in that tall tree.
3. Many foreigners have come to the new stadium.
4. Industrious people work with care.

5. The rat bit my book to pieces.

6. I drove it away.

Do you see that each sentence above may be divided into two parts?

*Cocks, bird, foreigners, people, rat, and I* are the names of the persons and things spoken of. They are called *subjects*.

*Crow, sang, have come, work, bit, and drove* all say or assert something about the subjects. They are called *predicates*.

The name of the person or thing spoken of is called the subject.

What is said about the subject is called the predicate.

Every sentence must have a subject and a predicate.

### EXERCISE

*Separate the subject and the predicate of each sentence below by drawing a vertical line between them. Every word in each sentence belongs either to the subject or to the predicate; as:*

The big airplane | flew very fast.

SET A (SCORE: 100-5x      -      )

1. The next train will arrive soon.
2. James has forgotten to write his lesson on ruled paper.

3. His cheeks are as brown as oak leaves.
4. The story is about a brave fireman.
5. Some trees do not bear fruit.
6. The sunset lighted up the streets.
7. This thermos is a wedding present.
8. The cobbler should stick to his last.
9. William began to read on the fortieth page.
10. The house of the merchant was built of brick.
11. You should keep off the grass.
12. The fierce wind has been blowing all day long.
13. Edward sat on a three-legged stool.
14. A washbasin was stolen last night.
15. The foreman of the factory was badly hurt.
16. Each of us takes the *Chung Hwa English Weekly*.
17. The price of anthracite is going up.
18. The funeral procession passed down the street.
19. Men of courage are much needed in this country.
20. I often work at my desk from morning till night.

## SET B (SCORE: 100-5x      -      )

1. Plants wither in the fall.
2. Napoleon was defeated at Waterloo.
3. A large black dog barked at the newcomer.
4. The rain is beating against the windows.
5. Father has come back from the North.
6. She learns typewriting in a night school.
7. The young travelers will start on their journey.
8. The defeated team are going back to their homes.
9. He used to watch the sky at the twilight hour.
10. Their red cottage stands beside a general's castle.
11. Necessity is the mother of invention.

12. The flowers in the garden were covered with dew.
13. My parents have not yet got back.
14. Some guests did not come on time.
15. Wang's face is bright with smiles.
16. Americans always wear rubbers in wet weather.
17. Her head often aches badly.
18. Washington was a great reader in his boyhood.
19. The palace was constructed of marble.
20. The alumni of this school will meet on Saturday evening.

### LESSON 3

#### NOUNS

Read the following sentences; tell what words are names of persons, what words are names of places, and what words are names of things:

1. Soochow is a famous city.
2. A strong nation is made up of strong people.
3. The boys planted forty seeds in the garden yesterday.
4. Dr Sun Yat-sen was a native of Canton.
5. The children often play football in the field.
6. Madrid is the capital of Spain.

7. Many spectators witnessed the game.
8. The tailor made a coat and a shirt.
9. The tourists saw nearly all the sights of Hangchow.
10. Most foreigners do not like green tea.

Words that are used as *names* are called *nouns*. The word *noun* means *name*.

A noun is a word used as the name of a person, place, or thing.

### EXERCISE

*Pick out the nouns in the following sentences, and tell whether each noun is the name of a person, place, or thing:*

SET A (SCORE: 100-5×    —)

1. Edison was a world-famous inventor.
2. Some animals live in the mountains.
3. The sick child is attended by a modern doctor.
4. There are twenty-two clerks in the bank.
5. The Chinese are a peace-loving people.
6. The policeman watches the building every night.
7. Wang has many relatives in Tientsin.
8. The tramcars do not run on this street.
9. Confucius was the greatest sage of China.
10. The province of Kiangsu produces much rice.
11. Eighty tanks were bought from Germany.
12. The clock hangs on the wall.
13. That district abounds in coal.
14. Chang writes English very well.

15. Fine fruits are raised in the southern part of this country.
16. The book was written for beginners of French.
17. General Chiang Kai-shek flew to Chinkiang yesterday.
18. There is always snow on the Himalaya Mountains.
19. The three-legged chair is near the bed.
20. George lives on Nanking Road.

## SET B (SCORE: 100-5x      -      )

1. Thirty soldiers were killed by the bandits.
2. Napoleon led a great army over the Alps.
3. The fox said that the grapes were sour.
4. Iron is the most useful of all metals.
5. John dropped the saucer on the floor.
6. How many horns has an ox?
7. The mad dog bit the watchman fiercely.
8. Much money makes many friends.
9. A mound stands in front of my house.
10. The library is built of granite.
11. The moon is high up in the sky.
12. A river is larger than a brook.
13. The girl tries to keep a diary in English.
14. Tibet is on the western border of China.
15. This dollar is made of gold.
16. A cat is a domestic animal.
17. The baby put the watch in the box.
18. There are many warships in the harbor.
19. The principal stands motionless on the platform.
20. Mary lives in that high building.



## LESSON 4

## COMMON AND PROPER NOUNS

Read the following sentences and point out the nouns:

1. Yo Fei was a resourceful general.
2. Peiping is a big city.

Here the noun *Yo Fei* refers to a particular person, but the noun *general* may be applied to any other general as well as to Yo Fei. We call *Yo Fei* a *proper noun* and *general* a *common noun*.

In the same way *city* is a common noun because it is a noun applicable, or common, to Paris, London, Tokyo, Moscow, Peiping, and all other cities in the world. But the word *Peiping* is a proper noun because it is the name of a particular city. The word *proper* means *one's own*.

A common noun usually applies to a large number of persons, places, or things; as, *man*, *plant*, *bird*, *book*, *cat*. All *men*, for example, are not exactly alike, but they are so much alike that one name applies to them all. Such a group of persons is called a *class*. Common nouns are class nouns.