



主编 李照国

ENGLISH THROUGH READING

《通过阅读学习英语》

精解



上海中医药大学出版社

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《通过阅读学习英语》精解

English Through Reading: Comprehension and Explanation

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序

闻知照国先生十几年前编写的一部书稿将出版,颇感欣慰。照国先生虽然已经出版了数部专著,但《〈通过阅读学习英语〉精解》却是他编写的第一部书。经过10多年的教学实践和补充完善,今日展现在读者面前的无疑是一部精品。在本书出版之际,照国先生嘱我写几句话,对此我感到既惶恐又激动。

我对英语一知半解,不敢妄加评论。但我倒很乐意谈几句题外的话。

在照国先生39年的人生旅程中,我与他相识、相知、相依、相怜与相与的时间就有24年。相似的经历、相同的志趣、相近的性格,使我们彼此间可以不受任何限制地进行感情交流、物质互助与思想观点探讨。虽然我的年龄长于他,但在与他的交流过程中,我的收益却都较他为多。1999年夏,由于工作的原因,照国先生举家迁往东方明珠塔下,而我依然固守大秦帝国的都城。幸好现代的信息传递可以让我们全天候地进行交流。我虽然不能亲睹他那憨实的笑容,但他却可以清晰地听到我10多年惯称他“照先生”的音符。

不了解“照先生”的人,很难将他的外在与内在统一起来。可能很少有人相信他那双外形粗拙的手曾经用纤针毫丝绣出过虫草花卉,曾经能较为熟练地缝补裁剪,能绘出近似专业的油画、漫画和素描,能徒手将树叶撕成惟妙惟肖的各种造型……

实际上,“照先生”是位很会创造,也很能结合的一个人,并且在结合中创造出了一个又一个的奇迹。其一,生长在渭北高原、说了19年秦语秦调的农家弟子,他竟然考入了将汉语与英语结合起来的高等学府——西安外国语学院,而且结合得非常出色,成为班上的佼佼者;其二,在陕西中医学院任教期间,他又斗胆地学起中医来,而且学得津津有味,颇有成效,迈出了不同学科相结合的重要一步;其三,1991年春,他突然告诉我说,他在中国传统医学与英语相结合方面已做了初步的探索,有关成果已被某权威刊物采用。从此,他在这一结合的道路上便迈开了大步,并越走越快、越走越远,最后将英语和中医有机地结合起来,从而走上了他求学生涯的最高领域。

其实,“照先生”富有创造性的结合还不止这些。

“照先生”的刻苦与勤奋精神是很令人赞叹和值得学习的。他在大学4年期间,除了读书学习外,没有别的爱好,几乎把所有可以利用的时间都用在了学习上。在走上工作岗位以后,他也没有空耗过一天,即使是在寒暑两个假期里,也很少给自己留出闲暇用以消遣玩乐,他的几部专著或由他主编的大作,大都是在假期或利用公休日完成的。我清楚地记得,1996年暑假里,他就完成了一部40

多万字书稿的撰写。他这种以工作替代休息，视艰涩的理论探讨为乐趣的精神，足以说明他已步入了超脱的境界。用他自己的话说，是“劳心不劳神”。能有这种境界者，将无往而不胜。

虽然我在大学里及后来外出进修学习时，将许国璋先生编写的英语教程先后学过几遍，但连“照先生”这本大作的任何一页都无法顺利地读下去。虽然我不能将该书的基本情况介绍给各位亲爱的读者，但我却能将作者的基本情况真实地介绍给大家。其实，读人比读书更为重要。

最后，我真诚地祝愿“照先生”笔耕不休、大作叠出！

狄方耀

2000年10月28日于世界屋脊日光城

前 言

这本书初稿写于1987年。

1987年夏,兵器工业部202研究所举办“出国人员英语培训班”,请我讲授精读课,教材为English Through Reading(译作《通过阅读学习英语》,有的译作《英语精读文选》、《通过阅读掌握英语》等)。根据教学的需要,我编写了一本讲义。1988年,该所又举办了第二期培训班,在教学中对讲义作了进一步的补充和修改。

1988年秋,陕西中医学院教务处拟举办“教师英语提高班”,安排我讲授精读课,教材仍为English Through Reading。负责“提高班”教务工作的屈榆生先生跟我商量编写一本学习手册,以供学员课后自学和复习之用。在屈榆生和张栓两位先生的帮助下,我将以前编写的讲义修改补充为《英语精读自学参考》(以下简称《参考》)。该《参考》于1989年3月由陕西中医学院教务处油印,供学员学习参考。

从1993年至1996年,我在陕西中医学院为研究生讲授公共英语和专业英语课,公共英语教材仍为English Through Reading。教学相长,通过几年的讲授,我对这本教材的语言特点和思想内容有了更深入的了解和体会,《参考》也得到了进一步的补充和完善。

1999年冬,上海中医药大学出版社姜水印先生见到这本《参考》,认为仍有一定的出版价值,鼓励我对其再作修订。姜先生认真地对照阅读了原书和我编写的《参考》,与我一起研究编写体例和修改方案,提出了许多宝贵意见和建议。今年暑假期间,我对原《参考》进行了系统的修改和补充,增加了注解和例句,编为《〈通过阅读学习英语〉精解》(以下简称《精解》)。为了便于读者理解和掌握有关短语和词语的意义和用法,例句均附有译文。

在本书的修订过程中,河南中医学院朱忠宝教授、江苏省宿迁职业技术学院李相敏、北京金融学院侯宝琴和西安财政会计学校白晋慧等老师提供了宝贵的资料,在此表示感谢。

最后,我要特别感谢西安外国语学院英语系的老师们。我以前编写的讲义、《参考》以及现在编写的《精解》都是根据我在该系读书时做的笔记编写的。我于1980年至1984年在西安外国语学院英语系学习,记得大学三年级时以English Through Reading为精读教材,主讲教师为于丽华老师。她细致的讲解和精辟的分析给我留下了深刻的印象。我的这本《精解》在很大程度上得益于她的讲解和分析。

李照国

2000年8月26日于上海

原油印稿前言

在浩如烟海的英语教材中, *English Through Reading* (《通过阅读学习英语》) 以其内容丰富、语言优美、涉猎面广及题材多样等特点为一般英语教材所不及。该书所收集的 20 篇文章大都出自名家之手, 程度较深, 语言难度较大, 一般读者不易理解。目前尚无比较系统地讲解该书的辅导材料。鉴于此, 笔者根据自己几年来讲授该书所撰写的讲稿, 并参阅了有关资料, 编写了这本《英语精读自学参考》(以下简称《参考》)。考虑到本书的读者一般都具有一定的英语基础, 所以本《参考》采用全英语形式编写, 以便能更忠实地表达原作的思想。本《参考》对每一课的讲解分为 3 个部分:

作者简介 简要介绍作者的生平事迹及代表作(由于资料不足, 有几位作者暂时未作介绍)。

语言要点 这是本《参考》的主要部分, 主要对课文中比较难理解的句子作了释义(paraphrase)和语法分析。另外, 对课文中出现的一些短语和重要的词语作了解释和用法举例。

练习答案 答案主要来自于我在西安外国语学院读书时的笔记。

本《参考》在编写中得到了咸阳师范专科学校外语系许建忠, 西北轻工业学院外语教研室武宝良和西安外国语学院李本现等先生的帮助及陕西中医学院教务处的的大力支持, 张栓和屈榆生同志为印刷本《参考》做了大量工作, 在此一并致谢。

由于水平所限, 错误在所难免, 敬请读者多提批评意见, 以便更正。

李照国

1989 年 3 月于陕西中医学院

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1. CIVILIZATION and HISTORY 文明与历史

I. About the author 作者简介

C. E. M. Joad (1891—1953): British philosopher, author, teacher and radio personality; one of Britain's most colourful and controversial intellectual figures of the 1940s; a pacifist and an agnostic until the last years of his life; a champion of unpopular causes and a writer of popular philosophical works. He became widely known to the British public as an agile participant in the BBC "Brains Trust" program from 1941 to 1947. *Guide to Philosophy*, *Guide to the Philosophy of Moral and Politics*, *Recovery of Belief* are his most important works.

II. Paraphrase and Language Points 语言要点

1. *Most of the people who appear most often and most gloriously in the history books are great conquerors and generals and soldiers, whereas the people who really helped civilization forward are often never mentioned at all.* (para. 1)

Great conquerors and generals and soldiers are the people who are glorified most frequently and honorably in history books, but the people who really promoted the development of civilization are often never mentioned in history books at all.

whereas (conj.): but; while; on the other hand 但是、然而、另外

(1) Some people like fat meat, whereas others hate it.

有些人喜欢肥肉,然而其他人却不喜欢。

(2) They want a house, whereas we would rather live in a flat.

他们想要一座房子,而我们则想要一套房子。

help something forward: promote something to make progress 促进

(1) International experts have done a lot to help agriculture forward in Africa.

各国的专家们为促进非洲农业的发展作了大量工作。

(2) As a foreigner, Edgar Snow did a great deal to help the Chinese revolution forward.

作为一个外国人,埃德加·斯诺为促进中国革命的发展作了大量工作。

2. *We do not know who first set a broken leg, or launched a seaworthy boat, or calculated the length of the year, or manured a field; but we know all about the killers and destroyers.* (para. 1)

History books do not tell us about those who really made contributions to the development of civilization. So we do not know the men or women who first correctly fixed the bone in a broken leg, who first made a boat suitable for sailing, who first measured the

length of a year (or decided how many days included in a year) and who first spread manure in the field; but they tell us in great details about the great generals and conquerors who in fact killed many people and destroyed much civilization.

seaworthy (adj.): (boat or ship) suitable for sailing 适合于航行的

(1) Early in the primitive society, people invented seaworthy boat.

早在原始社会,人们就发明了航海用船。

(2) In some tribes in Latin America, seaworthy boats are made of straw or reed.

在拉丁美洲的一些部落里,航船是用稻草或芦苇编成的。

calculate (v.): to work out or find out something by using numbers; to count; to compute 计算

(1) Have you calculated the result?

你计算结果了吗?

(2) I have calculated that we would arrive at 6:00 p.m.

我估算我们下午6点可以到达。

manure (n., v.): when used as a noun, manure means waste matter from animals which is put on the land to make it produce better crops; when used as a verb, it means to put manure on the land. 用做名词时,指肥料;用做动词时,指给地里施肥。

(1) In order to increase the yield of crops, people living in the rural areas usually get up early to collect animal droppings and other waste matter as manure.

为了提高产量,乡下人通常很早起床,收集动物粪便和其他废料做肥料。

(2) Before sowing seeds, you should manure the land first.

播种之前,你得首先给地里施肥。

3. People think a great deal of them, so much so that on all the highest pillars in the great cities of the world you will find the figure of a conqueror or a general or a soldier.
(para. 1)

People so respect them that they have carved the statues of generals or conquerors or soldiers on the highest pillars in the great cities of the world.

think a great deal of: think a lot of somebody, think highly of somebody 对……评价很高

(1) The president seems to think a great deal of your work.

总统似乎对你的工作评价很高。

(2) He thinks a great deal of his students.

他对自己的学生给予很高的评价。

so much so that: to such a degree that 达到如此程度……以致

(1) He is very obstinate, so much so that nothing on earth can persuade him to make a compromise.

他太顽固了,顽固得谁也无法使他妥协。

(2) Young people tend to worship film stars and famous singers, so much so that some of them even have received operation in order to make them look like their

image.

年轻人总是崇拜电影明星和歌星,以至于他们中有些人去做手术以使自己看起来像心目中的偶像。

4. And I think most people believe that the greatest countries are those that have beaten in battle the greatest number of other countries and ruled over them as conquerors. (para. 1)

So I feel that it is the belief of most of the people that the greatest countries are those that have defeated in war the greatest number of other countries and governed them as conquerors.

beat (v.): to defeat; do better than 打败、超过

(1) The enemy was badly beaten.

敌人被打得惨败。

(2) I will beat you to the top of that hill.

我将先于你爬到山顶。

rule over: govern; have authority over 统治

(1) An emperor is a monarch who rules over an empire.

皇帝就是统治一个王国的君主。

(2) Britain used to rule over many countries in the world.

英国曾经统治着世界上很多国家。

5. It is just possible they are, but they are not the most civilized. (para. 1)

Because they are strong enough to defeat others and therefore can rule over them as conquerors. However, in terms of civilization they are in fact still backward.

civilize (v.): to cause to come from a lower stage of development to an highly developed stage of social organization 开化、文明

(1) The Romans hoped to civilize all the tribes of Europe and thus make them want to join their empire.

罗马人想使欧洲所有的部落都开化,这样就能使他们愿意加入罗马帝国。

(2) In some fictions you may read stories about how a giant tries to civilize savages.

在一些小说中,你会读到一个巨人如何使野蛮人开化的故事。

6. Animals fight; so do savages; hence to be good at fighting is to be good in the way in which an animal or a savage is good, but it is not civilized. (para. 1)

Animals fight; savages also fight. Therefore those who are good at fighting are behaving just like animals or savages. But what they have done is not civilized.

good at: skillful; having the ability to do something 善于

(1) He is good at languages.

他在语言方面很擅长。

(2) Minorities are good at singing and dancing.

少数民族的人民擅长唱歌跳舞。

7. Even being good at getting other people to fight for you and telling them how to do it most efficiently—this, after all, is what conquerors and generals have done—is not being

civilized. (para. 1)

Even if you are sophisticated in persuading other people to fight for you and teaching them how to fight most efficiently, you are still not civilized. Because what you have done is the same as what the conquerors and generals have already done in history.

fight for: to fight for somebody or something 为……而战

(1) In the 60s of the 20th century, the Africans were fighting for their independence and freedom.

20 世纪 60 年代, 非洲人民为争取独立和自由而战。

(2) For many times the American Indians were forced to fight for their land.

美国印地安人被迫多次为保卫自己的土地而战。

8. People fight to settle quarrels. (para. 1)

People try to end their quarrels by means of fighting.

settle (v.): make an agreement about; decide or determine 解决、决定、了结

(1) The affair is not satisfactorily settled.

这件事还没有完满地解决。

(2) You ought to settle your affairs before you go into hospital for treatment.

你去医院接受治疗之前应该先了结一下你的事情。

9. Fighting means killing, and civilized peoples ought to be able to find some way of settling their disputes other than by seeing which side can kill off the greater number of the other side, and then saying that that side which has killed most has won. (para. 1)

Fighting means to kill people, so civilized peoples should be able to solve their quarrels by other means instead of by seeing which side can kill more people of the other side. And then the side that has killed more people of the other side is regarded as the winner.

find way of doing something: try to do something 设法……做……

(1) You have to find some way of improving your English.

你应该设法提高你的英语水平。

(2) The United States is trying to find way of normalizing the relation with North Korea.

美国正在寻求与北朝鲜关系正常化的途径。

other than: not; anything but 不同于、除了

(1) I will stay here other than going to town.

我宁可呆在这儿也不愿进城。

(2) The truth is quite other than what you think.

事实真相同你想的完全不同。

kill off: destroy in large numbers 大量屠杀

(1) The flood of hunters killed off most of the elephants in that area.

大量涌入的狩猎者将该地区的大象几乎捕杀光了。

(2) The trees were killed off by the severe winter.

严寒的冬天将树都冻死了。

10. *And not only has won, but, because it has won, has been in the right.* (Para. 1)

And it not only has won the battle, but because it has won the battle, so it has the justice in its side.

in the right: to have justice on one's side (the opposite is "to be in the wrong")在正义的一方(相反的说法是“在非正义的一方”)

- (1) We must find out who was in the right.

我们必须搞清楚谁是正义的。

- (2) The winner is not necessarily always in the right.

胜利者并不总是正义的一方。

11. *For that is what going to war means; it means saying that might is right.* (para. 1)

For this is the reason why people launch wars. Launching war means to believe that only those who are powerful are in the right.

might (n.): power; strength; force 力量、势力

- (1) The army fought bravely, but it was crushed by the might of its powerful enemy.

这个军队奋勇作战,但最后还是被强大的敌人打败了。

- (2) He tried with all his might to move the heavy rock from the road.

他竭尽全力将那块沉重的石头从路上搬开。

12. *That is what the story of mankind has on the whole been like.* (para. 2)

That is what the history of mankind has been like in general.

on the whole: in general 总的来讲

- (1) On the whole it seemed best to cut the meeting short.

总的来看,会议还是缩短为好。

- (2) On the whole, I like it.

总的来说,我喜欢它。

13. *Even our own age has fought the two greatest wars in history, in which millions of people were killed or mutilated.* (para. 2)

Even in our own time there broke out two greatest wars in the world and millions of people were killed or wounded during these two great wars.

the two greatest wars: The wars here refer to World War I and II. 指第一次和第二次世界大战。

mutilate (v.): to damage by removing a part of; to destroy the use or form of 致残

- (1) She was mutilated in the accident and now has only one leg.

她在事故中受伤,现在只剩下一条腿。

- (2) Many of the people were killed or mutilated in the World War II.

第二次世界大战中,死亡和伤残了许多人。

14. *And while today it is true that people do not fight and kill each other in the streets—while, that is to say, we have got to the stage of keeping the rules and behaving properly to each other in daily life—nations and countries have not learnt to do this yet, and still behave like savages.* (para. 2)

However, it is true that people today do not fight against each other and kill each other in the streets—it means that we have already learnt to follow certain social rules and act in a proper way to each other in our daily life—, but there are still some nations and countries that have not learnt how to behave properly to each other in daily life and still behave in the way in which savages tend to do.

get to the stage of: reach the point or period of 到达……阶段或程度

(1) We have already got to the stage of speaking fluently in English.

我们已经达到熟练讲英语的程度。

(2) I don't know when we shall get to the stage of completely eradicating war.

我不知道什么时候才能彻底消除战争。

keep rule: follow the rules; observe the discipline or public order 遵守纪律

(1) These rules are difficult for children to keep.

小孩很难遵守这些规定。

(2) I remember the first lesson we had at the primary school was how to keep rules.

我还记得我们上小学的第一节课是如何遵守纪律。

15. But we must not expect too much. (para. 2)

But we must not expect a great deal of civilization at this stage.

16. After all the race of men has only just started. (para. 2)

In spite of that, we must be aware of the fact that the history of mankind is really very short.

after all: in spite of everything 无论如何、不管怎样

(1) So you see I was right after all.

你看,我还是对的。

(2) I know he hasn't finished the work, but, after all, he is a very busy man.

我知道他没有完成工作,但不管怎么说,他是个非常忙碌的人。

17. From the point of view of evolution, human beings are very young children indeed, babies, in fact, of a few months old. (para. 3)

According to the theory of evolution, human beings are still very young, just like children, or even like babies of a few months old.

from the point of view of: according to; based on 从……观点来看

(1) From the point of view of dialectics, everything has two sides.

从辩证法的观点来看,任何事物都有两个方面。

(2) From the point of view of economy, agriculture is of high cost but low profit.

从经济学的角度来看,农业是高投入低效益。

18. Scientists reckon that there has been life of some sort on the earth in the form of jelly-fish and that kind of creature for about twelve hundred million years; but there have been men for only one million years, and there have been civilized men for about eight thousand years at the outside. (para. 3)

Scientists consider that there has been life of some kind on the earth in the style of jel-

ly-fish and creatures of that kind for about twelve million years; but there have been men on the earth for just one million years and there have been civilized men on the earth for only eight thousand years at the most.

reckon (v.): to consider; regard 考虑、看待

(1) He is reckoned to be a great actor.

他被看作是一位了不起的演员。

(2) She was reckoned as a friend of warriors.

她被认为是战士的朋友。

of some sort: a certain kind of 某种

(1) Whenever he visits a city, he would collect relics of some sort for future study.

每当参观一个城市时,他总要收集一点古董以备将来研究之用。

(2) Scientists expect to find life phenomena of some sort on Mars.

科学家们希望在火星上找到某种生命现象。

in the form of: in the style of 以某种形式……

(1) In the ancient times, record of ideas and events was made in the form of tie knots.

在古代,人们的思想和活动是通过结绳这种形式记录下来的。

(2) They have agreed to help us in the form of cooperation.

他们答应以合作的形式帮助我们。

at the outside: at the most; at the highest reckoning 最多、至多

(1) There were only fifteen people there at the outside.

那儿最多有 15 个人。

(2) He estimated that his rate of profit would be 10 percent at the outside.

他估计利润率最多为 10%。

19. These figures are difficult to grasp; so let us scale them down. (para. 3)

These numbers are difficult to understand; so let us put them on a smaller scale.

grasp(v.): to succeed in understanding 掌握、理解

(1) I think nobody can grasp your meaning.

我想没有人能理解您的意思。

(2) We have grasped the main points of his speech.

我们理解了他演讲中的主要观点。

scale down: reduce according to a fixed scale or proportion 按比例减少

(1) Imports will have to be scaled down until exports begin to rise again.

应该削减进口,直到出口开始回升为止。

(2) All wages were scaled down by 10 percent.

所有的工资都降低了 10%。

20. Suppose that we reckon the whole past of living creatures on the earth as one hundred years; then the whole past of man works out at about one month, and during that month there have been civilizations for between seven and eight hours. (para. 3)

Let's just take the history of living things on the earth as one hundred years; then the whole history of mankind will be just about one month according to this supposition. And during that month civilizations have accounted for only seven to eight hours.

work out at: to come to (an amount); arrive at by calculation(计算)达到

(1) The cost works out at \$ 6 a night.

每晚费用达 6 美元。

(2) He has worked out the amount of material required.

他已经算出了所需材料的总量。

21. So you see there has been little time to learn in, but there will be oceans of time in which to learn better. (para. 3)

From this analysis you can understand that men actually have not had enough time to learn how to behave properly in the past, but there will be much more time for men to learn better in the future.

oceans of: lots of 大量

(1) Though poor now, he is confident that he will have oceans of money in the future.

虽然现在很穷,但他相信将来会有很多钱。

(2) After my retirement, I will have oceans of time to develop my hobby.

退休后我将有大量时间来培养我的爱好。

22. Taking man's civilized past at about seven or eight hours, we may estimate his future, that is to say, the whole period between now and when the sun grows too cold to maintain life any longer on the earth, at about one hundred thousand years. (para. 3)

If we imagine that man's civilized history is only about seven or eight hours, we may foretell that he still has one hundred thousand years to come. This long period refers to the time between now and the end of the earth.

estimate: form a judgment about; calculate 估计

(1) The company estimated the cost of the new house at \$ 3 000.

公司估计新房子的费用为 3 000 美元。

(2) We estimate that it would take three months to finish the work.

我们估计完成这项工作得花 3 个月的时间。

the sun grows too cold to maintain life any longer on the earth: This sentence simply means "from now to the end of the earth".

23. Thus mankind is only at the beginning of its civilized life, and as I say, we must not expect too much. (para. 3)

Therefore the civilized life of human beings has just started, and as I say, we should not be so strict with human beings.

24. The past of man has been on the whole a pretty beastly business, a business of fighting and bullying and gorging and grabbing and hurting. (para. 3)

Generally speaking, the past of mankind is a very cruel history, a history full of fight-

ing, frightening, extravagantly eating, robbing and hurting.

pretty beastly business: In this expression, “business” means history.

III. Key to the exercises 练习答案

Comprehension - I

1. The beginning of the third. (The point of view changes here.)
2. Conquerors and generals have been our most famous men, but they did not help civilization forward.
3. Mankind is only at the beginning of civilized life; so we must not expect a great deal of civilization at this stage.
4. The man who first set a broken leg; the man who first launched a seaworthy boat; the man who first calculated the length of the year; and the man who first manured a field.
5. They both fight to settle disputes.
6. Yes; people today do not fight in their daily life.
7. Jelly fish and creatures of that kind.
8. When the sun grows too cold to maintain life on this earth.
9. Different meanings: (1) statue; (2) number.
10. Yes. ‘There will be oceans of time in which to learn better’, and other similar expressions.

Comprehension - II

1. (c); 2. (b); 3. (d); 4. (d); 5. (c); 6. (a); 7. (b); 8. (d); 9. (a);
10. (c)

Spelling

1. evolution; 2. appear; 3. believe; 4. conquerors; 5. forward; 6. pillar;
7. general; 8. civilized; 9. savage; 10. creature; 11. dispute; 12. quarrel

Vocabulary - I

1. savage; 2. manured; 3. figure; 4. dispute; 5. might; 6. race;
7. jelly-fish; 8. reckon; 9. beastly; 10. hurting

Vocabulary - II

1. (g); 2. (j); 3. (e); 4. (f); 5. (h); 6. (b); 7. (i); 8. (c); 9. (a); 10. (d)

Vocabulary - III

Sort; for; to grasp; down; as; on; see; beginning; too