A Handbook for Writing Model English Compositions



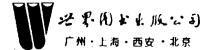
颜元叔 编著

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模范英文作文写作手册

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序

高中学生学习英语作文是我鼓吹了许多年的事,有人甚至说大学联考考英语作文是我搞出来的大灾难——教作文难,改作文难,作文评分更难。我没有那么大的能耐;但是,连托福都加考作文,可见大家要重新认识作文的重要性。

用英语作文,最关键的问题,不是写什么,而是怎么写。学生脑子里有许多话要说,可是怎么用英语说出来呢?英语作文的问题就在这里。这本"模范作文",从课文到会话到例句,便提供了相当丰富的英语表达方式(English expressions)。学英语不是搞发明,而是搞模仿。外国人怎么说,我们就怎么说;"模范作文"怎么写,我们就怎么写。

这本"模范作文"的题材都是日常生活英语,因为这类 英语是高中学生应该学的——也是考试应该考的。(一般高 中英语课本多自国外取材,内容不合本地学生模仿的需要。) 要模仿得好,模仿得精确(例如该用多数或单数,该用哪个 介词,该用名词或动名词等等),那就必须读得熟,背得出。 学英语绝对不能用学数理化的方式来学。简单直率地说, "学英文不用背",只是骗大人小孩子的钱而已。

> **颜元叔** 于台大外文系

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1. A SELF-ACCOUNT

1. 自迷

1. I am short and thin

I am fully fourteen years old, but I'm only a hundred and fifty-two centimeters tall. My height is below average in my class. My limbs are very thin. My biceps are not developed yet.

1. 我是矮而瘦的

我整整十四岁了,可是我只有一百五十二厘米高。我的 身高在班上是低于一般水平的。我的四肢很瘦。我的二头肌 还没发展出来。

2. My face

My face is not ugly. I have a straight nose and thin lips. Dark eyebrows and a rather square chin give my face a tougher look. But the pimples on my cheeks and forehead spoil everything. They give the impression of having uncleanly habits.

2. 我的脸

我的脸不丑。我有挺直的鼻子和薄嘴唇。黑黑的眉毛和一个相当方的下巴给了我的脸比较刚强的模样。但是我颊上和额上的粉刺破坏了一切。它们造成有不爱清洁习惯的印象。

3. School work

I am interested in English and math. But I haven't been doing well in either subject. I believe I've worked hard enough. But my effort doesn't seem to produce good results. Maybe my father is right: I should take the earphones off while studying.

3. 学校学业

我对英文和数学感兴趣。可是我在这两门课中成绩一直不好。我相信我已经够努力了。但是我付出的努力似乎没产生好成果。也许我爸爸说得对:我念书的时候该把耳机取下来。

4. My hobbies

You may say I have a lot of hobbies. I like to collect stamps, raise tropical fish, and go bird-watching with my friends. Also, more than all these, I love to watch television and play video games. But these two are usually not regarded as healthy hobbies.

4. 我的嗜好

你可以说我有许多嗜好。因为我爱收集邮票、养热带 鱼,和朋友一同去观赏鸟。而且,比这些都有过之的,我爱 看电视与玩电视游戏。但是两项通常都不被认为是健康的嗜 好。

【词汇】

centimeter ['sentimita] n. 厘米 height $\lceil \text{hait} \rceil n$. 高度 limb [limb] n. 肢 biceps ['baiseps] n. 二头肌 develope [di'veləp] v. 发展 straight [streit] adj. 直的 eyebrow ['aiıbrau] n. 眉毛 square [skweə] adj. 方的 chin [tfin] n. 下巴 tough [tʌf] adj. 刚强的; 凶悍的 pimple ['pimpl] n. 粉刺 forehead ['forid] n. 貓 spoil [spoil] v. 糟塌 impression [im'pre[ən] n. 印象 uncleanly [ʌn¹klenli] adi. 不爱清洁的 effort「'efət] n. 为某一目的付出的努力 result [ri'zʌlt] n. 结果 earphone ['iəfoun] n. 耳机 hobby ['hobi] n. 癖好 collect [kəˈlekt] v. raise [reiz] v. 饲养 tropical ['tropikəl] adj. 热带的

【词组】

self-account 自述
below average 低于一般水平
give the impression of… 造成…的印象
uncleanly habits 不爱清洁的习惯
do well in… 在…方面表现得好
work hard 努力
produce result 产生结果
take off 取下; 脱掉
tropical fish 热带鱼
video game 电视游乐游戏
bird-watching 观赏乌
collect stamps 集邮

【讲解】

- 1. average 意思是"一般水平", below average 是"低于一般水平"; above average 是"高于一般水平"。如:
 These students are above average. (这些学生是中等以上水准的。)
- 2. thin 的意思是"细瘦的"。另外, slim 意指"修长的; 苗条的"; skinny 指"极瘦的; 皮包骨的"。
- 3. give…a…look, 意思是"使…有副…的样子"。如: The white paint gives the house a clean look. (白油漆 使房子看来很洁净。)
- 4. On my cheeks and forehead (在我面颊和额上的) 修

- 饰 the pimples, 述明粉刺是长在什么部位。
- 5. give the impression of…"造成…的印象"。of 之后所述的即是印象的内容。所以, of 的受词其实是与 the impression 同位的。
- 6. haven't been doing 是现在完成进行式,表示自过去一直持续到现在未停止的行为。
 形容词 either 意思是"两者中任一的",所以被修饰的词必为单数。
- 7. 副词 enough 通常是置于被修饰的副词或形容词之后。 此处即修饰 hard, 又如: That's good enough for me. (那个对我而言够好了。) enough 修饰 good。
- 8. while studying 是 while I am studying 的省略式。因为 while 子句的主语和主要子句主语是同一者,while 子 句可采省略式。如:He listened to music while writing the letter。(他写这封信时在听着音乐。)
- 9. to raise…与 to go…与 to collect…是平行的,后两者都 省略了 to。
- bird-watching 是以 bird 与 watch 组成的名词, 其他类似结构的字很多, 如: mountain-climbing (登山), grass skiing (滑草)等。
- 11. more than all these 是副词短语,修饰 love to…games,表爱看电视与打电视游戏到什么程度。因为 love to…很长,若把 more than…放在后面,可能会混淆不清,所以挪前。由于 more than 脱离的惯有位置,必须在前后标逗点,表示是插入的。这两个逗点的功用与括弧相同。all these 指的即是前句所述的三件事。

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【句型练习】

1. My height is below average in my class.

He is above average in the group.

他在这团体里是中上程度。

David is better than I in the class.

大卫在班上比我好。

She is famous in our school.

她在学校很出名。

2. Dark eyebrows and a rather square chin give my face a tougher look.

Long hair gives him an untidy look.

长发使他看来不整洁。

Deep blue clothes gives you a gloomy look.

深蓝色的衣服使你看来很沉郁。

Heavy makeup gives her an older look.

浓妆使她看来比较老。

3. I haven't been doing well in either subject.

She hasn't been feeling well lately.

她最近一直感觉不适。

He has been very busy all morning.

他一上午都很忙。

I have been working in the backyard.

我一直在后院里工作。

4. I believe I've worked hard enough.

I believe he has studied long enough.

我认为他已经读得够久了。

I think the boy is not clever enough.

我想这男孩不够机灵。

We thought the room was not big enough.

我们认为这房间不够大。

5. My effort doesn't seem to produce good results.

She doesn't seem to notice us.

她似乎没注意我们。

You don't seem to like it.

你似乎不喜欢它。

They seem to enjoy the game.

他们似乎很喜欢玩这游戏。

More than all these, I love to watch television and play video games.

More than everything else, I love to travel.

我爱旅行甚于其他一切:

Besides tennis, I can play basketball and beseball.

除了网球,我也会打篮球和棒球。

Except my father, everyone in the family watches cartoon.

除了我爸爸, 家中每个人都看卡通影片。

7. These two are usually not regarded as healthy hobbies.

I don't regard it as important.

我不认为它是重要的。

She regards her parents highly.

她很尊敬父母。

[Conversation]

Tom: I don't think I can come to your barbecue tomorrow.

Mike: That's a shame! But why?

Tom: It's obvious, if you look closer at my face.

Mike: You mean the pimples?

Tom: What else?

Mike: They don't look any worse than usual.

Tom: At least a dozen big ones sprung out overnight.

Mike: Did you actually count them?

Tom: How could I help not to? They prick my skin like little needles.

Mike: You'll forget the pain when we're having our barbecue.

Tom: The pricking doesn't bother me much. I'm worrying about how I'd look.

Mike: You'll look your old self—tough and cool.

Tom: Give me a break, will you?

Mike: My sister once said that rough skin made a boy look tougher.

Tom: Oh, you're putting me on.

Mike: Listen! Just act naturally, and nobody will notice.

【会话】

汤姆, 我明天大概不能来参加你的烤肉活动了。

麦克,真遗憾!可是为什么呢?

汤姆: 很明显呀, 如果你更仔细看我的脸。

麦克: 你是指粉刺吗?

汤姆:还会是别的吗?

麦克:它们不比平常看来糟嘛。

汤姆,至少有十几粒突然冒出来了。

麦克: 你还真的数过它们吗?

汤姆:我怎能忍住不去数呢?它们像小针一样刺我的皮肤。

麦克: 我们烤肉的时候你会忘记这些痛的。

汤姆: 刺痛倒不是很困扰我。我担心的是我会是什么模样。

麦克: 你看来将是你一向的本色——又强又帅。

汤姆:少来了,好吗?

麦克: 我姐姐曾说过, 粗糙的皮肤使男孩子看来更刚悍。

汤姆:唉,你在唬我啦。

麦克: 听我说! 你只要举止自然, 就不会有人注意你了。

2. MY PARENTS

2. 我的父母亲

1. My father

My father is a journalist. He goes to work in the afternoon and does not come home until nearly midnight. He doesn't read much, but he keeps volumes of newspaper clippings. And he never gets tired of watching television news.

1. 我爸爸

我爸爸是新闻工作者。他下午去上班,要到将近午夜才回家。他不常阅读书籍,但是他存有好几本剪报。而且他看电视新闻从来不会感到厌烦。

2. My mother

My mother is a dentist. She and two other dentists have their own clinic. It is on the first floor of our apartment building. So she often goes to work in baggy slacks and plastic slippers. I've never seen her in high heels. The reason is probably that she is one centimeter taller than my father.

2. 我妈妈

我妈妈是牙科医师。她和另两位牙科医生开了自己的诊 所。诊所在我们公寓大楼的一楼。所以她常常穿着宽大的长 裤和塑胶拖鞋去上班。我从未看过她穿高跟鞋。原因也许是 她比我爸爸高一厘米。

3. They often quarrel

My parents are in their early forties. But they still act like children sometimes. They often quarrel over who is to blame for a certain matter. And the quarrel doesn't end unless one of them gives in.

3. 他们常争吵

我父母亲都是四十出头。但是他们有时候行为仍像小孩子。他们时常为了某件事是谁的错而争吵。除非他们俩有一个人认输,否则的话争吵不会结束。

4. Causes for their quarrel

My father is a gourmet. He is also the best cook in our family, although it's usually my grandmother who does the cooking. Hence he likes to entertain. But my mother prefers to keep our home quiet. This is one of the two causes of their quarrel. The other one is me.

4. 他们争吵的理由

我爸爸是个美食家。他也是我们家烹饪技术最好的一个,虽然通常都是我外婆在料理三餐。因此,他喜欢请客。但是因为我妈妈比较喜欢保持我们家里安静,这乃是引起他们争吵的两个原因之一。另一个原因就是我。

【词汇】

journalist ['dʒəːnəlist] n. 新闻工作者;记者

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