

大学英语四级考试710分新题型丛书 丛书总主编 陆薇 曾凡贵

CET4

写作

—— 主编 彭小虎 ——

分
710

湖南大学出版社

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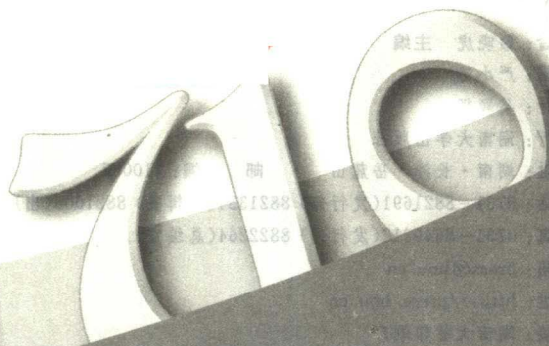
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内 容 简 介

本书根据《大学英语课程教学要求》以及全国新四级统考书面语表达能力的测试标准编写而成。书中详细解析了众多英语学习者在英语写作上的问题,讨论了有效的训练途径和整体提高英语写作能力的方法。书中对于英语作文的用词、造句、段落、结构等的探讨,颇具新意,有一定的实际指导作用。书中各章均配有针对性较强的练习,并附有详尽的解答。本书适用于参加新四级统考的学生。对准备参加大学英语六级统考、研究生入学考试和 PETS 5 级考试的考生也有较好的参考价值。

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——写作

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前言

《写作》是本套丛书之一。本书集编者多年英语写作实践与教学经验编写而成。根据现行大学英语课程教学新要求,四级水平的学生应能完成一般性写作任务,能描述个人经历、观感、情感和发生的事件等,能写常见的应用文,能就一般性话题或提纲在半小时内写出 120 字的短文,内容基本完整,用词恰当,语意连贯,能掌握基本的写作技能。针对部分中国大学生英语写作存在的各种实际问题,如单词不会用、思路打不开、文句不得体、表达欠完整等,作者逐一详细分析,并提出有效的解决方法。

本书着重帮助读者整体提高英语笔头表达能力。根据作文的用词与造句、段落的各种变化和有效的拓展方式分别进行讨论,如怎样拓宽思路,如何造出好的句子及主题句的变化、段落的多种写作模式和不同类型应考作文的写作方法等,读者如细加揣摩和认真训练,在短期内即可有不同程度的收获和进步。

本书各章均配有针对性较强的练习,以巩固和增强学习效果。为便于读者具体了解整篇作文的写作,本书还以实考作文为例,以独特的方式呈现了作文构思、句式编排和段落内容展开的全过程,以供借鉴。书中的作文实例大多比四级作文要求的字数多一些,内容也更为丰富,意在为读者提供更广阔的思路和更多的词、句表达方式。实践证明,经过有效训练,在半小时内完成一篇 180 个词左右的短文绝非难事。

相信本书使用者在通过一段时间的实践后,定能增强信心,写出有特色的好作文。在新四级作文以及其他英语作文考试中取得理想的成绩,并进一步提高语言运用和思想表达的能力,使书面英语交流信息变为现实,并借此开阔视野,加深对世界的了解。

本书从中外有关书刊中选用了一些图画和文字片段,恕未一一注明出处,谨向有关作者致歉、致谢。

限于水平,难免有错误和疏漏之处,敬请读者和同仁不吝指正。

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第一章

词语的运用

英语作文是众多英语学习者颇为头疼的事儿。别说正儿八经写个英语报告或摘要,即便是一般的英语短文,往往一提笔就愣神,究竟写什么,怎么写,脑子里常常一片空白。待定下神来,进入状态,好不容易捕捉些词句,辛辛苦苦地写完,可回头一读,写的究竟是什么连自己也不太明白。套句时髦话来说,那真让人晕。更苦的是批改作文的老师,常常看得一头雾水,改得密密麻麻。按说这英语学了好些年,单词也记了几千个,读的英语课本和资料也有一大摞,一般的作文应当不成问题。但令学习者困惑的是,平时记了又记的词语到了节骨眼上怎么也不听使唤,不是拿不准词义,就是忘了正确搭配,甚至想好了词语又忘了怎么拼写。出于无奈,只好先借助汉语把思路理清楚,再用英语把要表达的意思“译”出来,如果“译”不出,就跟着感觉走,正确与否管不了那么多,能大致表达出来就不错了。整个作文过程从汉语到英语不断来回折腾。有的实出无奈,只好靠临时猛背一些范文或作文模板去对付英语考试,试图以一当十,任题目怎样变化,只管依照背记的模板照葫芦画瓢。可惜实际上能对上号的不多。即使对上了号,也因为作文没有特色而勉强得个及格分,只好自叹运气不佳。凡此种种,都表明一些英语学习者在英语写作上存在着明显的障碍。而最为突出的就是词汇把握不好,不听使唤。

一、常用词语

所谓常用词语,就是指平常听力和阅读中经常遇到的,出现频率较高的词语。要写好作文,首先应力求把常用词语用好用活。这些词语看似简单,但要能恰当运用却并不容易。我们往往有这样的体会,读别人写得好的作文,感觉其中的不少词语都非常熟悉,而且能体会到这些词



语的确用得好。可自己却压根儿不会那么使用,甚至从来就没有尝试着用到自己的作文当中。究其真正的原因,不少学习者所掌握的大量英语词只能是用来阅读,而不能用于表达。试看一例:

例 1

How I Finance My College Education

Many peoples in order their son or daughter to learn more knowledge at college have to work hard. Of course, we students can have different ways to get tuition and fees. We can borrow money from bank, find a part-time job or ask our relatives.

I have a good family. I believe my parents can support my study with their money. I have idea to do everything. So I think the tuitions and fees paid by my parents I feel it's the best way for me. I believe after I leave college I will earn big money to do a lot of things. Certainly, I will lend a lot of money to my parents in future.

这篇短文读来叫人啼笑皆非。但也透出作者的无奈。且不论其他语法等问题,单说最后一句,我们会觉得作者颇不尽情理,对父母之恩竟然以“借钱”来报答,简直匪夷所思。但仔细一想,其实作者肯定不会真的这样“忘恩负义”。主要的原因是作者一时找不到像“offer, give”等极常用的词语或“enable them to live a comfortable life”“thank them with a lot of money”来恰当表达意思,只好违心地用他所想到的单词“lend”来回报父母之恩。由此可见,熟练地运用所学的词语,尤其是常用词语,是练好英语作文的基础。

比较下面的短文,我们发现其用词都不难,句式也不复杂,但给人的感觉则大不一样:

例 2

An Early Morning Walk

One morning I got up earlier than usual, and everything around was as quiet as stone. The morning star was still twinkling in the blue



sky. No people were in sight. Somewhere there came the singing of unknown birds. Walking on the street, I could feel the smell of the early morning.

But when I arrived at the nearby park, I was surprised to see so many people there. Some boys and girls were playing merrily on the grass. Some young people were jogging by the lake. Some old men and women were practicing Taiji boxing under the trees. Their gentle movements were really fascinating.

I never expected that the morning world was so charming, and I became to understand those people who were enjoying themselves in the park. Life comes out of sports. I myself also felt alive and free after the walk. Taking early morning walk makes a man healthy and happy.

描述清晨天气晴朗不一定说“It was a sunny day”。而“No people were in sight”(静悄悄见不到人)比“I couldn't see anyone around”效果要更好。I could feel the smell of the early morning. (清晨的气息)

But when I arrived at the nearby park, I was surprised to see so many people there. Some boys and girls were playing merrily (欢快地) on the grass. Some young people were jogging by the lake. Some old men and women were practicing Taiji boxing under the trees. Their gentle (轻柔舒缓的) movements were really fascinating (引人入胜).

I never expected (没料想到) that the morning world was so charming (迷人), and I became to understand those people who were enjoying themselves in the park. Life comes out of sports. I myself also felt alive and free (精神抖擞, 心旷神怡) after the walk. Taking early morning walk makes a man healthy and happy.

由此可见,常用词语使用得当,可以很好地传情达意。下面的短文描述的是日常用品单车。作者灵活运用常用词汇和恰当的句式,真切地抒发了自己的情怀。

例 3

Bicycle—The Greatest Invention In My Eyes

I grew up in a small mountain village. People there seldom went downtown because the only road in the mountains was challenging. Once a week, the postman would come on a bicycle with mail. This was the happiest time. Everyone was full of hope, expecting possible mail from a son, a daughter, a father or a relative working in a remote town or city. Early before the arrival of the postman, many of the villagers would listen carefully to the familiar bells of his bicycle. The bicycle was old, but it was really a beautiful angel in their eyes.

When I was studying in the middle school far away from my home, I dreamed of a bicycle, because it took almost four hours to go from home to school. I knew it was not easy for father. A bicycle was a luxury for a farmer at that time. But father managed to buy a new one for me. Riding my lovely bike, I finished my junior and senior school life. Occasionally, I would carry my mother downtown, with some cheerful little kids running after us, till we disappeared from their eyesight.

As a college student, I still ride the bike, a mountain bike, from the student apartment to the teaching buildings, from the college to the outskirts of the city for excursions. I know, the bicycle has become part of my life. It has carried me from the village to the town, from the town to the city, and in the future, it will present a more vivid world in front of me. Of all the inventions by human beings, a bicycle is the greatest one in my eyes.

Now, more and more people can afford a car. But still many people choose to travel by bicycle. Every morning, the ringing of bicycle bells sounds like the symphony of the city, thus turning a new page of another day. Every evening, the countless bicycles carry people back to their cozy home, throwing the tiredness of work behind the wheels.

When it rains, the flow of bikes and people with beautiful raincoats looks like colorful floating rainbow. No matter how fast modern transport develops, bicycles will never be replaced by any other transport means.

On holidays, lovers, friends and families will ride bikes to travel to mountains, rivers and lakes. Passing the roads with green trees, crossing the quiet paths, looking at the blue sky and touching the gentle breeze, life becomes more enjoyable.

Wherever I go, I will never say good-bye to bicycles. It is the bicycle that will pave my way for my goal.

海明威是大家所熟知的作家,其作品意境深刻,语言也极具特色。他的名著《永别了,武器》(*A Farewell to Arms*)小说的第一段写道:

In the late summer of that year we lived in a house in a village that looked across the river and the plains to the mountains. In the bed of the river there were pebbles and boulders, dry and white in the sun, and the water was clear and swiftly moving and blue in the channels. Troops went by the house and down the road and the dust they raised powdered the leaves of the trees. The trunks of the trees were dusty and the leaves fell early that year and we saw troops marching along the road and the dust rising and leaves, stirred by the breeze, falling and the soldiers marching and afterward the road bare and white except for the leaves.

仔细读几遍,可以发现用字都极简单,全段几乎没有生僻的词语,即便有个别生字,在普通字典里都可以查到;另外,句子结构也很简单,短短一段里面“and”竟用了十几次,好像天下没有别的连接词可以用似的,现在分词用得较多,定语从句出现多次,状语从句却一个都没有用。

海明威的英文,可以算是非常“simple”。但是英文要写得像海明威的那样简单,实在是多年苦练的结果。海明威生平获益最深的是战后在巴黎的那几年。那时他勤练写作,更幸运的是他结交了几位良师益友,其中,名诗人 Ezra Pound 和名散文家 Gertrude Stein(两人皆为旅法美

侨)给他的启发最深。Pound 拿他的文章大刀阔斧地删改,把有堆砌之嫌的形容词统统砍掉。Stein 女士则务求精确,力斥浮华,对写作别具见解,海明威对她最为佩服。海明威日后所以能自成一派,文章受万人模仿,Stein 女士教诲之功不小。海明威对写作的态度极其严谨,一丝不苟,他这种认真的习惯是在巴黎时养成的。(夏济安《现代英文选评注》)

要把所学的词语用好用活,平时阅读时就一定得注意认真观察,细心体会。虽然阅读的目的主要是为了摄取信息,但如果多加留意,则可以体会到一些用得很有特色的词语。遇到好的词语,不妨抄录下来,多揣摩几遍,并尝试着用到自己的作文中,这样便可逐渐积累一笔不小的财富。请看下面的汉语句式,想一想,再比较英语的表达:

◎ 时间是医治一切创伤的良药。

Time cures all things.

◎ 这美丽的一刻深深印在我脑海中。

This moment of beauty has been firmly locked in my mind.

◎ 这个世界永远属于追梦的人。

The world always makes way for the dreamer.

◎ 不要因为别人相信或否定了什么东西,你也就去相信它或否定它。

上帝赠予你一个用来判断真理和谬误的头脑。运用自己的头脑吧。

Neither believe nor reject anything, because any other person has rejected or believed it. Heaven has given you a mind for judging truth and error. Use it.

◎ 世界的悲剧就在于有想象力又缺乏经验,而有经验的人又缺乏想像力。

The tragedy of the world is that those who are imaginative have but slight experience, and those who are experienced have feeble imaginations.

◎ 我有个朋友,晚餐后常在阳台上独坐。“我爱黄昏的气息”,一次她告诉我。这句特别的话令我难忘。

I have a friend who often sits by herself on the porch after supper.



“I love the smell of sundown,” she told me once, and the odd phrase stayed with me.

- ◎ 他放弃了政治活动,本来他在这方面是可大有作为的。

He gave up politics when he might have made a great career in it.

- ◎ 人无完人。的确,人人都可能犯错误。

No man is perfect. In fact, all men are liable to error.

- ◎ 我们必须接受有限的失望,但我们绝不可失去无限的希望。

We must accept finite disappointment, but we must never lose infinite hope.

- ◎ 要说服别人,先得说服自己。

If you would convince others, you seem open to conviction yourself.

画线的词语看起来都不难,但细细体会,则发现用得实在巧妙。这正是值得我们学习和模仿的。

二、同义词语

作文最怕用词单调。如果一篇文章翻来覆去就那么些词儿,会让人读起来索然无味,昏昏入睡。而让人读不下去的作文,很难吸引读者的兴趣,也不可能在考试中得高分。因此,平时练习作文甚至记单词时就应培养一种意识,绝不能仅仅因为知道用一个词儿或短语来表达某个意思就满足了,相同的概念是可以依上下文而使用不同词汇来表达的。在选择词语时应多想一想,或者查一查词典,看是否还有其他的同义词语。运用熟了,词汇就会越来越丰富。试看下文:

例 4

Time

Time is life. People who love life will treasure time. Just as the Chinese saying goes, “Time is as precious as gold”. Actually, time is so valuable a commodity that it can never be saved. It is unlikely that



we can stockpile time like wood for the winter. No one can sense time directly. Even brilliant scientists and philosophers are not sure how to describe it. Because time is so elusive, it is easy to ignore. Time is perfectly content to remain hidden until we are nearly out of it.

Time is a nonrenewable resource that cannot be purchased with money. If we are out of money, we are able to earn a little extra. But when we're out of time, it never comes back. When this minute is gone, it's gone forever. People who are conscious of the importance of time will endeavor to make the best use of time both in their study and work. In this way, they can accomplish as much as they can during the course of their life. Some people, however, try hard to kill their time by daydreaming or talking nonsense. Undoubtedly, they will be regretful someday.

It is advisable to make out a feasible time schedule for things to be done. Never should we leave today's work till tomorrow. That is, there should be no excuse for ourselves when we fail to **finish what we** plan to do on time. Furthermore, an awareness of the odds of time should be encouraged. On the whole, it pays to spend time efficiently and scientifically.

文中的词语我们绝大部分都认识。再细心比较,会发现有些词语我们固然熟悉,但给人的感觉则不一样。例如:precious 与 valuable, commodity 与 goods, stockpile 与 store / reserve, elusive 与 puzzling / hard to catch, purchase 与 buy, extra 与 more, endeavor 与 try hard, feasible 与 practicable, awareness 与 realization / consciousness 等。如果不能熟练地运用一些同义词语来丰富自己的表达,作文恐怕自己读来都很郁闷。

三、反义词语

无论是记叙文或议论文,都有可能针对一个事物对立的两个方面或

对立的两个事物进行比较和对比。要生动地描述或分析事物的不同或对立,恰到好处地使用反义词语可以给人以鲜明的印象,取得事半功倍的效果。而尽力掌握和运用一些反义词语正是作文基本要求。例如:

Airplanes and helicopters are both important forms of air travel, but there are great differences between them.

The first major difference between airplanes and helicopters is their shape and design. Airplanes, for example, have long, slender bodies with wings while helicopters have round bodies and propellers rather than wings.

Another difference between airplanes and helicopters is their speed. Airplanes can travel extremely fast, reaching speeds of over 1 875 miles (3 000 kilometers) per hour. Helicopters, on the other hand are much slower than airplanes.

The final difference between airplanes and helicopters is their direction of takeoff and flight. Airplanes take off horizontally and can move in a forward direction only. They need a lot of space for takeoff and landing. Airplanes regularly carry several hundred passengers. Helicopters, however, take off vertically and can move in any direction. Helicopters require a very small takeoff or landing space, and most helicopters carry only two to five passengers.

Because of the great differences between airplanes and helicopters, each is used for a specific purpose. Airplanes and helicopters, therefore, are both important forms of air travel.

四、日常用语和书面词语

英语书面语和口语的表达形式有一定区别。口语用词较为简单随意。书面语则颇为讲究,须在恰当传递信息的基础上产生一定的修辞效果。如“go on”, “put up”, “by the way”等常用于口语中,但如果在书面语中则不能随意使用,不然会让人感觉不伦不类。正所谓“什么场合说什么话”。试比较下面两组词语,可发现书面语确有不同。

understanding——recognition

suppose——presume

room——accommodation

begin——commence

have to——be obliged to

punishment——penalty

think——deem

name——designate

get rid of——eliminate

unaware of——oblivious

英国的乔治五去世时,年已 42 岁的爱德华八世继位。因他钟情于美国平民女子辛普生夫人并执意娶其为妻而遭到内阁和教会的反对。在王位和恋人之间,他选择了后者。并让位于他的弟弟乔治六世。这正所谓“爱美人不爱江山”。为说明缘由,他曾向世人发表广播演说:

At long last I am able to say a few words of my own. I never wanted to withhold anything, but until now it has not been constitutionally possible for me to speak.

But you must believe me when I tell you that I have found it impossible to carry the heavy burden of responsibility and to discharge my duties as King as I would wish to do, without the help and support of the woman I love. And I want you to know that the decision I have made has been mine, and mine alone.

这篇致辞用的是很大众化的常用词语,可在第二天报纸上登出的禅位诏书中,这两段话则变成了:

The moment seems ultimately to have arrived when the undersigned, on his own initiative, may issue a statement. At no time have I been inclined to secretiveness, but until now I have been constrained by the Constitution from expressing myself before the forum of public opinion.

But you must accord me credence when I state to you that I found it impossible to endure the heavy burden of responsibility and to consummate the fulfillment of my stewardship as King without the assistance and co-operation of the lady upon whom I have bestowed my affection.

