

计算机英语教程

司爱侠 张强华 编



电子工业出版社

内 容 提 要

本书旨在切实提高读者实际使用英语的能力。本书立足实用,软、硬件并重,同时兼顾发展热点。

本书在体例上以单元为单位,每个单元由以下几部分组成:课文、单词、词组、难句讲解、语法、习题、技能训练、阅读材料,书的最后附有习题答案。书中的课文及阅读材料几乎全部来自实际。因此,读者当完本书后,再阅读其他资料时,会感到它们好象是本书中的一段。

本书既可作为大、中专学生的专业英语教程,也可供使用计算机的人员自学。

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前 言

计算机技术是当今最具生命力的技术领域之一。其极高的发展速度、强有力的渗透能力、高附加值的经济价值使计算机技术进入了日新月异的发展时期。这也就决定了计算机领域中的新技术有着较短的生命周期。具体而言,微机的硬件每三年左右更新一代,而软件大约一年更新一次版本。这就要求计算机行业的从业人员必须更快地掌握最新的技术。因此,计算机专业技术人员的外语水平比其他传统领域中同类人员的要求要高得多。可以毫不夸张地说,外语水平如何,是决定计算机技术人员成就大小的因素之一。

本书旨在切实提高读者实际使用英语的能力。本书立足实用,软、硬件并重,同时兼顾发展热点。

本书体例上以单元为单位,每个单元由以下几部分组成:课文——这些课文选材广泛、风格多样;单词——给出课文中出现的新词,读者由此可以积累计算机专业的基本词汇;词组——给出课文中的常用词组;难句讲解——讲解课文中出现的疑难句子;语法——每单元一个核心,系统地讲述计算机领域中常见的语法;习题——既有语法练习,也有针对课文的练习,还有部分选作练习以针对“计算机水平考试”;技能训练——模拟了一个工作环境,以训练读者运用语言的能力;阅读材料——进一步扩大读者的视野。

本书中的课文及阅读材料几乎全部来自工作实际。因此,读者学完本书之后,再阅读其他资料(如:设备操作手册、软件使用说明等)时,会感到它们好象是本书中的一段。

书后的“英语基本句型”提供了常用的英语句型,以帮助助读者在“汉译英”时心中有数;“英语单词速记法”会有效地增加读者的词汇量,尤其是便于“破译”那些新构造出来的单词;同时附有本书全部习题的答案。

本书既可作为大、中专学生的专业英语教程,也可供使用计算机的人员自学。

目 录

第一课

课文

Computer Hardware Basics (1)

单词..... (4)

词组..... (6)

难句讲解..... (7)

语法

定语从句..... (8)

1. 限定性定语从句 (9)

2. 非限定性定语从句 (10)

3. 限定性定语从句与非限定性定语从句的区别 (11)

4. 介词前置的定语从句 (11)

习题..... (12)

技能训练..... (14)

阅读材料

Today's Most Advanced Computer (15)

第二课

课文

DOS Commands (19)

2-1 DEL Command (19)

2-2 COPY Command (20)

单词..... (25)

词组..... (26)

难句讲解..... (27)

语法

状语从句..... (29)

1. 时间状语从句 (30)

2. 地点状语从句 (30)

3. 原因状语从句 (30)

4. 目的状语从句 (31)

5. 结果状语从句 (31)

6. 条件状语从句 (32)

| | |
|------------------------------------|------|
| 7. 让步状语从句 | (32) |
| 8. 比较状语从句 | (32) |
| 9. 方式状语从句 | (33) |
| 习题 | (33) |
| 技能训练 | (38) |
| 阅读材料 | |
| Software Development DOS 6.3 | (39) |
| What's new in PC DOS 6.3 | (40) |

第三课

课文

| | |
|---------------|------|
| Windows | (43) |
|---------------|------|

| | |
|----------|------|
| 单词 | (46) |
|----------|------|

| | |
|----------|------|
| 词组 | (47) |
|----------|------|

| | |
|------------|------|
| 难句讲解 | (48) |
|------------|------|

语法

| | |
|-------------|------|
| 动词不定式 | (50) |
|-------------|------|

| | |
|-----------------------|------|
| 1. 动词不定式在句子中的作用 | (50) |
|-----------------------|------|

| | |
|--------------------------|------|
| 2. 带有连接代词和副词的不定式结构 | (55) |
|--------------------------|------|

| | |
|----------------------------------|------|
| 3. 动词不定式的否定式、完成式、进行式和完成进行式 | (56) |
|----------------------------------|------|

| | |
|---------------------|------|
| 4. 动词不定式的被动形式 | (57) |
|---------------------|------|

| | |
|----------|------|
| 习题 | (57) |
|----------|------|

| | |
|------------|------|
| 技能训练 | (62) |
|------------|------|

阅读材料

| | |
|---|------|
| FDREAD (Use Disks with Higher Capacity) | (63) |
|---|------|

第四课

课文

| | |
|--------------------|------|
| Unix History | (65) |
|--------------------|------|

| | |
|----------|------|
| 单词 | (67) |
|----------|------|

| | |
|----------|------|
| 词组 | (68) |
|----------|------|

| | |
|------------|------|
| 难句讲解 | (68) |
|------------|------|

语法

| | |
|------------|------|
| 现在分词 | (70) |
|------------|------|

| | |
|------------------|------|
| 1. 现在分词的构成 | (70) |
|------------------|------|

| | |
|----------------------|------|
| 2. 现在分词在句子中的作用 | (70) |
|----------------------|------|

| | |
|---------------------------|------|
| 3. 现在分词的否定式、完成式和被动式 | (74) |
|---------------------------|------|

| | |
|----------|------|
| 习题 | (75) |
|----------|------|

| | |
|------------|------|
| 技能训练 | (79) |
|------------|------|

阅读材料

| | |
|------------------------------|------|
| NetWare Features Guide | (80) |
|------------------------------|------|

第五课

课文

| | |
|---------------------------------|------|
| BASIC Language: Variables | (85) |
|---------------------------------|------|

| | |
|---------|------|
| 单词..... | (88) |
|---------|------|

| | |
|---------|------|
| 词组..... | (89) |
|---------|------|

| | |
|-----------|------|
| 难句讲解..... | (90) |
|-----------|------|

语法

| | |
|-----------|------|
| 过去分词..... | (91) |
|-----------|------|

| | |
|------------------|------|
| 1. 过去分词的构成 | (91) |
|------------------|------|

| | |
|----------------------|------|
| 2. 过去分词在句子中的作用 | (92) |
|----------------------|------|

| | |
|-----------------------|------|
| 3. 现在分词与过去分词的区别 | (95) |
|-----------------------|------|

| | |
|---------|------|
| 习题..... | (96) |
|---------|------|

| | |
|-----------|-------|
| 技能训练..... | (101) |
|-----------|-------|

阅读材料

| | |
|---------------|-------|
| HD-COPY | (102) |
|---------------|-------|

第六课

课文

| | |
|------------------|-------|
| C Language | (107) |
|------------------|-------|

| | |
|---------|-------|
| 单词..... | (113) |
|---------|-------|

| | |
|---------|-------|
| 词组..... | (114) |
|---------|-------|

| | |
|-----------|-------|
| 难句讲解..... | (114) |
|-----------|-------|

语法

| | |
|----------|-------|
| 动名词..... | (115) |
|----------|-------|

| | |
|--------------------|-------|
| 1. 动名词的定义和特征 | (115) |
|--------------------|-------|

| | |
|---------------------|-------|
| 2. 动名词在句子中的作用 | (116) |
|---------------------|-------|

| | |
|------------------------|-------|
| 3. 带有名词或代词的动名词结构 | (119) |
|------------------------|-------|

| | |
|----------------------|-------|
| 4. 动名词的完成式和被动式 | (120) |
|----------------------|-------|

| | |
|----------------------|-------|
| 5. 动名词与现在分词的区别 | (121) |
|----------------------|-------|

| | |
|---------|-------|
| 习题..... | (122) |
|---------|-------|

| | |
|-----------|-------|
| 技能训练..... | (127) |
|-----------|-------|

阅读材料

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| AutoCAD for Networking Notes | (127) |
|------------------------------------|-------|

第七课

课文

| | |
|-----------------------|-------|
| FoxPro | (131) |
| 7-1 ASORT() | (131) |
| 7-2 APPEND FROM | (132) |
| 7-3 DELIMITED | (134) |

| | |
|---------|-------|
| 单词..... | (136) |
|---------|-------|

| | |
|---------|-------|
| 词组..... | (136) |
|---------|-------|

| | |
|-----------|-------|
| 难句讲解..... | (137) |
|-----------|-------|

语法

| | |
|---------------------|-------|
| 倒装句..... | (138) |
| 1. 概述 | (138) |
| 2. 常用倒装句的几种情况 | (139) |

| | |
|---------|-------|
| 习题..... | (144) |
|---------|-------|

| | |
|-----------|-------|
| 技能训练..... | (149) |
|-----------|-------|

阅读材料

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| DoubleSpace | (149) |
|-------------------|-------|

第八课

课文

| | |
|------------------|-------|
| Anti-Virus | (153) |
|------------------|-------|

| | |
|---------|-------|
| 单词..... | (157) |
|---------|-------|

| | |
|---------|-------|
| 词组..... | (157) |
|---------|-------|

| | |
|-----------|-------|
| 难句讲解..... | (158) |
|-----------|-------|

语法

| | |
|------------------|-------|
| it 的用法 | (159) |
| 1. it 作代词 | (159) |
| 2. it 作引导词 | (160) |
| 3. 构成强调句型 | (162) |

| | |
|---------|-------|
| 习题..... | (163) |
|---------|-------|

| | |
|-----------|-------|
| 技能训练..... | (166) |
|-----------|-------|

阅读材料

| | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| CONFIG. SYS Commands | (166) |
|----------------------------|-------|

第九课

课文

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| Multimedia — Myth or Reality | (169) |
|------------------------------------|-------|

| | |
|---------|-------|
| 单词..... | (171) |
|---------|-------|

| | |
|---------------------|-------|
| 词组 | (172) |
| 难句讲解 | (173) |
| 语法 | |
| 被动语态 | (174) |
| 1. 被动语态的构成 | (175) |
| 2. 科技英语中主要时态的被动语态形式 | (175) |
| 3. 常用被动语态的几种情况 | (177) |
| 4. 情态动词的被动语态 | (178) |
| 5. 双宾语的被动语态 | (178) |
| 6. 短语动词的被动语态 | (178) |
| 7. 被动语态的译法 | (179) |
| 习题 | (180) |
| 技能训练 | (182) |
| 阅读材料 | |
| Pin Printer | (183) |

第十课

课文

| | |
|--------------------|-------|
| Quality Management | (191) |
|--------------------|-------|

| | |
|----|-------|
| 单词 | (194) |
|----|-------|

| | |
|----|-------|
| 词组 | (195) |
|----|-------|

| | |
|------|-------|
| 难句讲解 | (196) |
|------|-------|

语法

| | |
|----|-------|
| 介词 | (197) |
|----|-------|

| | |
|----------|-------|
| 1. 介词的类型 | (197) |
|----------|-------|

| | |
|----------|-------|
| 2. 介词的宾语 | (198) |
|----------|-------|

| | |
|----------------|-------|
| 3. 介词短语在句子中的作用 | (200) |
|----------------|-------|

| | |
|------------|-------|
| 4. 有关介词的比较 | (202) |
|------------|-------|

| | |
|----|-------|
| 习题 | (204) |
|----|-------|

| | |
|------|-------|
| 技能训练 | (210) |
|------|-------|

阅读材料

| | |
|---------------|-------|
| Laser Printer | (210) |
|---------------|-------|

第十一课

课文

| | |
|---------------|-------|
| The CASE Wars | (215) |
|---------------|-------|

| | |
|----|-------|
| 单词 | (217) |
|----|-------|

| | |
|----|-------|
| 词组 | (218) |
|----|-------|

| | |
|------|-------|
| 难句讲解 | (219) |
|------|-------|

语法

| | |
|--------------------|-------|
| 数词..... | (220) |
| 1. 基数词 | (220) |
| 2. 序数词 | (221) |
| 3. 分数词 | (222) |
| 4. 倍数 | (222) |
| 5. 数词在句子中的作用 | (224) |

| | |
|---------|-------|
| 习题..... | (225) |
|---------|-------|

| | |
|-----------|-------|
| 技能训练..... | (229) |
|-----------|-------|

阅读材料

| | |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Bubble Jet Printer | (230) |
|--------------------------|-------|

第十二课

课文

| | |
|---|-------|
| Software 2000 —— a View of the Future | (237) |
|---|-------|

| | |
|---------|-------|
| 单词..... | (242) |
|---------|-------|

| | |
|---------|-------|
| 词组..... | (243) |
|---------|-------|

| | |
|-----------|-------|
| 难句讲解..... | (244) |
|-----------|-------|

语法

| | |
|---------------|-------|
| 同位语和插入语 | (245) |
|---------------|-------|

| | |
|--------------|-------|
| 1. 同位语 | (245) |
|--------------|-------|

| | |
|--------------|-------|
| 2. 插入语 | (247) |
|--------------|-------|

| | |
|---------|-------|
| 习题..... | (248) |
|---------|-------|

| | |
|-----------|-------|
| 技能训练..... | (251) |
|-----------|-------|

阅读材料

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| PhotoStyler | (251) |
|-------------------|-------|

| | |
|-----------------|-------|
| 附录一 英语基本句型..... | (255) |
|-----------------|-------|

| | |
|------------------|-------|
| 附录二 英语单词速记法..... | (263) |
|------------------|-------|

| | |
|---------------|-------|
| 附录三 习题答案..... | (281) |
|---------------|-------|

第一课

课文

Computer Hardware Basics

Your AAA computer is made up of many parts called hardware. Hardware refers to the parts of the computer that you can see and touch.

1. *The Computer*

Your AAA computer contains a microprocessor, memory, disk drives, and other electronic components. The microprocessor and memory of your computer are located inside the computer. The microprocessor, also called a processor, is the "brain" of your computer. This is where your computer interprets and processes information.

The electronic components inside your computer are organized in the most logical and efficient way possible, much like the plumbing system in a building. If you have to locate a part inside your computer, you can frequently find the switches (jumpers), upgrade sockets, and related components in the same section of the system board. This same principle applies to your power supply, the unit that channels electrical power into your computer. You can always find the cooling fan, voltage-selection switch, and power connector in the same location on the back of your computer.

2. *Memory*

Your computer comes with factory-installed permanent memory called ROM (read only memory). The basic operating instructions are stored in ROM and are not erased when the computer is turned off. In the past, it has been impossible to change the instructions stored in ROM without changing the ROM modules, or the system board in the computer. Your computer has a module, called the flash EEPROM (electrically erasable programmable read-only memory), that can be updated. The BIOS (basic input/output system) instructions and the Configuration Utility program are stored in the flash EEPROM in your computer.

In addition to permanent memory, your computer also has a temporary type of memory. You

might have heard computer memory referred to as RAM for random-access memory. The instructions that your computer gets and the information your computer processes remain in RAM during your work sessions.

Computer memory is measured in kilobytes or megabytes of information. (A byte is the amount of storage needed to hold one character, such as a letter or a numeric digit.) One kilobyte (KB) equals approximately 1024 bytes, and one megabyte (MB) is about 1 million bytes. Software requires the correct amount of RAM to work properly. If you want to add new software to your computer, you can usually find the exact memory requirements on the software packaging.

RAM is not a permanent storage place for information. When you turn your computer off, the information you entered during the work session does not remain in memory. Since RAM is only active when the computer is on, your computer uses disk drives to store information even when the computer is off.

3. *Displays*

The display screen is the most common output device used to show you what the computer is doing. The display screen shows messages from the POST (power-on self-test) , the Configuration Utility program, your operating system, and your application programs. The display screen also echoes (copies) the characters as you type them on the keyboard.

Displays come in many sizes and types. Your computer's SVGA video controller supports a wide range of monochrome and color displays.

4. *Disk Drives*

The AAA computer comes with a diskette drive that uses 3.5-inch diskettes. Your AAA computer also supports a second diskette drive that uses 5.25-inch diskettes, or 3.5-inch diskettes, depending upon the type of drive installed.

There are two common types of disk drives: a hard disk drive (sometimes called a fixed disk drive) and a diskette drive (sometimes called a floppy disk drive). The hard disk drive is built into your computer. (Some models might not have a hard disk drive.) With a hard disk, your computer can store large amounts of information (called files) in one convenient place. Using a hard disk, your computer can save and retrieve information much faster than with a diskette drive. A diskette drive uses a removable diskette, which has less storage space than a hard disk.

Each disk drive has a letter assigned to it, so you can tell your computer where to find information. For example, if your computer has two diskette drives, one is called drive A, the other is called drive B. If you have a hard disk drive, it is called drive C.

5. *Keyboards*

If you are familiar with a typewriter, you'll find the layout of the computer keyboard very similar. You can use your keyboard for many purposes:

- . Typing information
- . Entering numbers with the numeric keypad
- . Requesting specific functions
- . Performing system functions with key combinations
- . Moving around the computer screen

The keyboard has letter keys, punctuation keys, and a spacebar. It also has function, numeric, and arrow keys. How you use the keys depends on the software installed on your computer. The documentation that comes with your software has information about specific key functions.

You will probably notice a difference between the touch (response) on a computer keyboard and the response of a typewriter. A computer keyboard is so responsive that you can type using a light touch. When you hold down a character key, the character continues to type. This is called the typematic effect of a computer keyboard.

6. Adding Hardware

Ports (sometimes called connectors) are sockets on the back of the computer. When you set up your computer, you connected the display, keyboard, and mouse into ports. Your computer also has ports for adding hardware such as a printer or an external modem. Adding an external modem to your computer requires a serial port; adding a printer typically requires a parallel port.

6.1 The Serial Port

The serial port is a connector on the back of the computer. You can use it to add hardware to your computer, such as a plotter, serial printer, or external modem. You have two serial ports in your computer, Serial B and Serial A.

6.2 The Parallel Port

The parallel port on the back of the AAA computer lets you connect a printer to your computer.

6.3 The Mouse

The mouse is a pointing device for selecting items on a computer screen. You can use it instead of the keyboard to do many tasks on your AAA computer. In many cases, a mouse makes your program easier to use. With the mouse, you control the pointer that selects items on the screen.

6.4 Printers

Printers vary not only in quality, speed, and graphics capability, but also in the type of fonts (type styles) supported.

6.5 The Modem

A modem is used to communicate with another computer over telephone lines. Some modems are installed inside the computer; others attached to the outside using a serial port. Modems send and receive information at different speeds (baud rates).

单词

| | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| [1] computer | 计算机, 电脑 |
| [2] hardware | 硬件 |
| [3] basic | 基础 |
| [4] touch | 触摸 |
| [5] contain | 包括, 包含 |
| [6] microprocessor | 微处理器 |
| [7] memory | 内存, 存储器 |
| [8] disk | 磁盘 |
| [9] drive | 驱动器 |
| [10] electronic | 电子的 |
| [11] component | 部件, 元件 |
| [12] locate | 定位 |
| [13] processor | 处理器 |
| [14] process | 处理 |
| [15] interpret | 解释, 翻译 |
| [16] information | 信息 |
| [17] organize | 组织 |
| [18] logical | 逻辑的 |
| [19] efficient | 效率高的 |
| [20] plumbing | (建筑物内的)水管装置 |
| [21] frequently | 常常, 时常 |
| [22] jumper | 跳线插头 |
| [23] upgrade | 升级, 更新 |
| [24] socket | 插座 |
| [25] related | 相关的 |
| [26] system | 系统 |
| [27] principle | 原理 |
| [28] channel | 引导 |
| [29] voltage | 电压 |
| [30] connector | 连接器 |
| [31] permanent | 永久的 |

| | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| [32] instruction | 指令 |
| [33] store | 存储,贮存 |
| ~ [34] erase | 删除,擦除 |
| [35] module | 模块 |
| [36] program | 程序 |
| ~ [37] flash | 快速的 |
| [38] temporary | 暂时的 |
| [39] kilobyte | 千字节(缩写为:KB) |
| [40] megabyte | 兆字节(缩写为:MB) |
| [41] digit | 数字 |
| ~ [42] approximately | 大约 |
| [43] software | 软件 |
| [44] active | 活动的,有效的 |
| [45] display | 显示;显示器 |
| [46] echo | 回显;回声 |
| [47] keyboard | 键盘 |
| [48] size | 大小,尺寸 |
| [49] monochrome | 单色 |
| [50] file | 文件 |
| [51] save | 保存 |
| [52] removable | 可移动的,可换的,可取下的 |
| ~ [53] typewriter | 打字机 |
| [54] layout | 布局 |
| [55] function | 功能,函数 |
| [56] screen | 屏幕 |
| [57] spacebar | 空格键 |
| ~ [58] documentation | 文档汇编 |
| [59] port | 接口 |
| [60] mouse | 鼠标 |
| [61] printer | 打印机 |
| [62] modem | 调制解调器 |
| [63] external | 外部的 |
| ~ [64] serial | 串行的 |
| ~ [65] parallel | 并行的 |
| ~ [66] plotter | 绘图机 |
| [67] pointer | 指针 |
| ~ [67] font | 字体 |

词组

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| [1]be made up | 由... 组成 |
| [2]refer to | 涉及,关于;指的是;参考 |
| [3]disk drive | 磁盘驱动器 |
| [4]electronic component | 电子部件,电子元件 |
| [5]be located in | 位于 |
| [6]system board | 系统板,主板 |
| [7]power supply | 电源 |
| [8]cooling fan | 冷却风扇 |
| [9]voltage selection switch | 电压选择开关 |
| [10]power connector | 电源插座 |
| [11]ROM(read only memory) | 只读存储器 |
| [12]turn off | 关闭 |
| [13]turn on | 打开 |
| [14]EEPROM(electronically erasable programmable read-only memory) | 电擦除可编程只读存储器 |
| [15]BIOS(basic input/output system) | 基本输入/输出系统 |
| [16]Configuration Utility | 配置应用(程序) |
| [17]in addition to | 除... 以外 |
| [18]be referred to as | 称为,被称为 |
| [19]RAM(random-access memory) | 随机存储器 |
| [20]work session | 工作对话(期) |
| [21]be measured in | 以... 测量,以... 计量 |
| [22]software packaging | 软件包 |
| [23]output device | 输出设备 |
| [24]input device | 输入设备 |
| [25]POST(power-on self-test) | 加电自检 |
| [26]operating system(缩写为:OS) | 操作系统 |
| [27]video controller | 视频控制器 |
| [28]depend on | 依靠,依赖,取决 |
| [29]hard disk drive | 硬盘驱动器 |
| [30]fixed disk drive | 固定盘驱动器 |
| [31]floppy disk drive | 软盘驱动器 |
| [32]be familiar with | 熟悉 |
| [33]numeric keypad | 数字小键盘 |
| [34]move around | 绕... 移动 |
| [35]letter key | 字母键 |

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| [36]punctuation key | 标点符号键 |
| [37]numeric key | 数字键 |
| [38]arrow key | 箭头键 |
| [39]function key | 功能键 |
| [40]set up | 建立 |
| [41]serial port | 串口 |
| [42]parallel port | 并口 |
| [43]pointing device | 定位设备 |
| [44]instead of | 代替 |
| [45]not only ... but also | 不但 ... 而且..., 不仅 ... 而且... |
| [46]communicate with | 与 ... 通信 |
| [47]baud rate | 波特率 |

难句讲解

[1] The microprocessor, also called a processor, is the "brain" of your computer.

also called a processor 是现在分词短语做非限定性定语,对 microprocessor 进行补充说明。

本句意为:

微处理器,也叫处理器,是计算机的“大脑”。

[2] This is where your computer interprets and processes information.

where your computer interprets and processes information 是一表语从句,它和 is 一起构成句子的谓语。

This 指上句中提到的 microprocessor。

本句意为:

这就是计算机解释和处理信息的地方。

[3] In the past, it has been impossible to change the instructions stored in ROM without changing the ROM modules, or the system board in the computer.

句中, it 是形式主语, has been impossible 是谓语, 真正的主语是动词不定式短语 to change the instructions stored in ROM。该短语中, stored in ROM 是一过去分词短语作定语, 修饰 the instructions。

without changing the ROM modules, or the system board in the computer 是一介词短语作状语。

本句意为:

近些年来, 不换 ROM 模块或不换计算机系统板就不能改变存在 ROM 中的指令。

[4] You might have heard computer memory referred to as RAM for random-access memory.

might have done sth. 表示对过去的推测和判断。

情态动词 + have done sth. 表示对过去的推测和判断。其中 must 的语气最强, 表示“一定...”。它的否定句和一般疑问句要用 can。might 的语气最弱。请看下例:

He must have finished his work.

他一定完成了他的工作。

Can he have gone to the office?

他可能去办公室了吗?

He can't have finished the work in such a short time.

他不可能在这么短的时间内完成他的工作。

He might have gone to sleep.

他也许去睡觉了。

本句中, referred to as RAM for random-access memory 是一个过去分词短语, 作定语, 修饰 computer memory。在此短语中, 介词短语 for random-access memory 作 RAM 的定语。for 的意思是“代表”。

本句意为:

你也许听说过被称为 RAM 的计算机内存, RAM 代表随机存储器。

- [5] The instructions that your computer gets and the information your computer processes remain in RAM during your work sessions.

主语是 The instructions and the information, 谓语是 remain in RAM。that your computer gets 和 your computer processes 两个定语从句分别作 instructions 和 information 的定语。

本句意为:

工作对话期间, 计算机所得到的指令和计算机所处理的信息都保存在 RAM 之中。

语法

定语从句

在复合句中, 修饰某一名词或代词的从句叫做定语从句。定语从句所修饰的词叫做先行词。定语从句放在先行词的后面。请看下例:

【例】Do you know the man who will give us a talk on computer science tomorrow?

你认识明天要给我们作关于计算机科学的报告的那个人吗?

句中, who will give us a talk on computer science tomorrow 是定语从句, the man 是先行词。

【例】This is the software that I would like to buy.

这就是我想买的那个软件。

that I would like to buy 是定语从句, the software 是先行词。

【例】He will never forget the day when he bought his own computer.

他永远都不会忘记买到自己计算机的那一天。

when he bought his own computer 是定语从句, the day 是先行词。