



高等学校英语应用能力提升系列 

北京第二外国语学院资助出版教材

英语写作范例集萃

主 编 高 峰

副主编 栗小兰 杨欣然 薛 锦 张晓东 吴建设

 Selection of Good English
Essays by College Students



北京第二外国语学院
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前言

英语写作,作为英语学习者必须掌握的听、说、读、写四种技能之一,在英语学习过程中占有举足轻重的地位。因此,培养和提高英语学习者的写作能力,是英语教学必不可少的任务。

英语写作是大学英语专业学生在二年级和三年级必须系统学习的专业必修课程。英文写作如何教,如何才能培养学生清楚、完整、自然地用英语表达自己的思想,一直是大学英语专业教师和学生关心的问题。为了确切地了解英语专业学生对英语写作课的需求,笔者于2011年对186名英语专业二年级学生进行了问卷调查,其中22%的学生提出希望老师在教学中增加使用优秀写作为范文。同时,笔者和其他多位从事英语写作教学多年的同事也感受到,在教学中使用学生自己写的优秀作文作为范文点评,往往更能激起学生的兴趣,能起到较好的教学效果。比如在笔者(以下访谈中用字母“F”代替)于2011年5月3日和学生(以下访谈中用字母“N”代替)做的关于其英语写作学习经历的访谈中,该学生就谈及学习其他同学的优秀作文给自己学习写作带来的诸多好处。以下为访谈部分内容:

N: 我以前没有这个意识,就是没有意识到这个文章写得好以及写得好在哪儿。然后就是一次您给我们展示的那篇范文,我就觉得那篇文章写的,也不是说突然一下觉得他写得特别特别好,就是感觉他写得特别顺,读起来舒服,然后整篇读下来没有什么让我不理解,或者是特别复杂的那种东西,然后就觉得这种文章应该就是好的吧。

F: 是哪篇文章?

N: 四月中旬的一天,好像是×××去了个公园的那篇。

F: 哦,就是同班同学写的,对吧? 后来我又展示了一篇 native speaker 写的。

N: 嗯,对。可是那个毕竟是 native speaker 写的。

F: distance 比较大,对吧?

N: 对,你身边的人写出来的,你就有一个至少可以向他学习的目标吧,

就在我身边,就是他是怎么写的,我可以直接向他学习,就这样。

F: 哦,就还是觉得同班同学的文章让你觉得更有可能达到那个 level?

N: 对,自己就觉得同样都是在这里学习的学生,他可以达到,那我也可以达到。然后就可以给自己一个动力,这样子。

和学生的对话让笔者认识到我们不仅需要给学生提供一些母语为英语的作者写的一些文章作为范文,我们更应该给学生提供一些他们周围同学写的优秀作文作为范文,这样既为他们提供了现实的、可模仿的模版,又可以增强他们英语写作的信心,进而提高他们对英语写作的兴趣。

在以上原因的推动下,笔者和其他八位同事选编了北京第二外国语学院英语学院2002级到2011级学生写的148篇优秀作文,并逐一加以细致的点评。本书遵循以学生的需求为中心、努力实现创新性和示范性的编写原则,将这148篇优秀作文按照其文体类型分为五个章节,并将这五个章节依据学生学习这些文体的先后顺序排列。编写分工具体如下:

高峰:第一章 英语记叙文;

吴建设:第二章 英语描写文;

杨欣然:第三章 英语说明文;

张晓东:第四章 英语议论文(一);

薛锦:第五章 英语议论文(二)。

笔者作为本书的主编,还负责了全书的总体框架设计和最终的统稿及定稿。

本书能够顺利出版,得益于多方面的支持和帮助。首先,本书有幸被选为北京第二外国语学院“2013年校级资助出版教材”(2013zc0102),并获得了北京市教委2013年度科技创新平台“新形势下英语学科发展及理论创新促进平台”(PXM2013-014221-000033)和“2010校级英语写作教学团队项目”的联合资助。其次,还要感谢所有参与本书编写的老师和所有与我们分享优秀作文的学生们。在这里,尤其要感谢栗小兰老师为编写本书所做的大量前期工作。

由于本书成书仓促,书中难免还存在错误、疏漏和不足之处,敬请广大读者提出宝贵意见和建议。我们真诚地希望本书能给广大从事英语写作教学的教师和学习英语写作的学生们提供一定的范例来参考和借鉴。

高峰

2013年7月



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第一章

英语记叙文

高峰



写作方法

如果你选择叙述一个故事,它应该是你或者你熟知的人的亲身经历。你应该避免简单地罗列事件。一个好的故事需要有选择性地描述。如果你描述一个事件,你需要证明它为什么值得描述。这个故事应该是关于事件人物的,是关于他们所作出的决定和这些决定所导致的结果。

记叙文是一个移动的图片。这就要求作者的描述和叙述必须具有丰富的纹理细节,使读者能“看到、听到、闻到或触摸到”。读者在阅读时感觉到身临其境,而不是简单地听到这个故事。

在叙述一个故事时,我们通常会加入时间因素:从故事的开端开始叙述,然后将其后续发生的事件按照时间顺序一一描述。然而,不同于这个常规模式,还有一种有效的写作模式是从故事的中间开始叙述,然后用倒叙的手法填写背景信息。这种方法对吸引读者的注意力,是特别有效的。

在写记叙文时要避免两个极端:第一个极端是非常简单地讲故事,仅仅罗列事件,不提供任何细节描写和对话;另一个极端是在叙事时,试图说明一切,详细描述每一个场景,引用事件人物的所有对话,甚至猜测事件人物的想法。一个好的记叙文包含一定的细节,但这些细节应该是点到为止的而不是无穷无尽的。毕竟,我们需要给读者留有一定的空间,这样他们可以用自己的想象力来填写一些细节。而给出太多的细节不仅淹没了读者的想象力,也减缓了叙事的节奏。

“节奏感”是写作中一个重要的概念。作者有时候放慢叙事节奏是为了描写更多的细节,但有时作者也会为了加快叙事节奏而忽略一些细节。一个判断应该在哪里放置细节和在哪里省略细节的方法,就是把记叙文想象成一个由多个小片段串联起的长故事。当你把你的故事分成几个短片段时,你不仅需要考虑每个片段中的细节,还要考虑片段间的连贯性。读者可以沉迷于这些片段,但同时他们也需要一定的导向,而这里就体现了过渡句的功能。

在叙述过程中,视角也是很重要的。故事是从谁的角度讲述的?一种便是以叙述者的身份来讲故事。叙事者不是作者,而是整个故事的亲身经历者。有时故事是从第三人称的角度讲述的,这意味着故事中出现的所有角色都被称为“他”,或“她”,或者“他们”。故事有时是从第一人称的角度讲述的,这意味着叙述者称自己为“我”或是故事的参与者。

不是所有的叙述者都令读者信服。叙述过程越复杂,叙述者就需要考虑更多的问题。当叙述者以第一人称讲述故事时,故事的细节就可能会引起读者对叙述者的怀疑,其结果往往是讽刺的。当作者和读者对叙述者都持批判态度时,或当读者知道的比故事中的叙述者和其他角色还要多时,叙述的语境多是具有讽刺意味的。

具体而言,写记叙文应遵循以下六个步骤:

(1)准备好讲故事。基本上,写记叙文就是讲故事。记叙文中最重要的组成部分就是故事情节。在你确定文章主题后,就开始构思故事情节。

(2)选择一定的故事背景。故事的背景是变化的。但是,你需要确定你的故事是从哪里开始的。你可以用描述性的词语甚至是比喻和想象来帮助你描述这个故事发生的情境。

(3)确定故事中的角色。尽管你的故事中可以出现多个角色,但是,你应始终坚持将注意力集中在一个或两个角色身上。这样,可以减少写作的压力。尽量详细地描写故事中主要角色的形象,包括他们的言语、行为以及他们和别人有什么不同。

(4)考虑如何设计故事中的高潮和转折。它可能是一个角色的死亡,或者是一个秘密的揭示等。不要把故事的高潮突兀地放在文章的开头,你需要让读者有准备地慢慢地读到高潮,并一直把对高潮的疑问带到故事的结束。这会让读者一直保持兴趣读到文章的最后一句话。

(5)在铺垫高潮时,应该给读者一些小提示。所以,当高潮出现时,读者就会

尖叫起来:“我知道了,他就是!”

(6)生动地描述所有的情况,让读者身临其境。作者可以从五种感官的角度来描写。它们是:视觉,听觉,触觉,嗅觉和味觉。



本章导读

由于记叙文是英语写作中最基本的文体,英语专业学生在系统地学习英语写作时,第一个练习的文体就是记叙文。所以这里所筛选的优秀的记叙文作品都来自英语学院二年级的学生,包括2002级、2008级、2009级和2011级。应该说所有被选中的文章都符合语言流畅、叙事清晰的要点,然在具体写作上又各具特点。所选的11篇文章按其内容、结构和语言上的突出优势分为三个部分:

一、内容篇

[1]时装同学(2008级7班)的“High Heels”选择了非常有趣的生活经历,读罢令人忍俊不禁。

[2]安琪圳同学(2009级8班)的“A Miserable Interview”选择了一个普通又不普通的题材。

[3]张墨琳同学(2011级5班)的“My First Date”是篇少见的完全虚构的故事,整个故事情节新颖、高潮迭起。

[4]刘燚同学(2011级5班)的“My First Date”故事性强,选材新颖。

二、结构篇

[5]姜晓林同学(2002级7班)的“Judge Before You Do It”结构清晰且完整,具有记叙文应该有的逻辑。

[6]冯超良同学(2009级4班)的“An Unforgettable Flight”运用适当的连接词,使时间顺序清晰、明了。

三、语言篇

[7]宋梦婷同学(2002级7班)的“A Lesson from My Experience”文章选词很好,各种词语使用贴切,语言生动。

[8] 谢天意同学(2008 级 3 班)的“An Unforgettable Experience”使用丰富的词汇(形容词、动词),并适时地使用了问句,使这篇短文很有吸引力。

[9] 常静同学(2011 级 3 班)的“My Classmate Felt Ill”语言简洁流畅,对事件的讲述较为清晰完整。

[10] 高迪同学(2011 级 5 班)的“My First Date”语言自然流畅,描述清晰准确。

[11] 杨健雄同学(2011 级 5 班)的“My First Date”对主角的感情描写生动、细腻,让读者不由自主地回忆起自己初恋的感觉。



学生范文

一、内容篇

1. High Heels

2008 级 7 班 时装

I still remember the day I first wore my high heels—it was tiring and uncomfortable. And it just happened a few days ago. I used to wear pumps, and I had never tried high heels, especially those about 10 cm high. Anyway, I bought them for I had a crush on the style and the price was reasonable. I decided to wear them at night so that nobody would notice I was just a beginner. [批注:心理刻画符合人物身份] About 5 p. m. I left the dorm and went toward to the computer class. I carefully stepped my foot on the stairs and went downstairs as slowly as possible. It was much more difficult than I had thought. The two-floor stairs seemed endless to me. I had to take all my senses on my feet so that I could keep balance. When finally reaching the ground, I was tired and exhausted. My feet were aching and my ankles were about to break! [批注:细节描写真实可信] I felt like I was marching on needles. [批注:比喻形象、贴切] There's no way I could bear it another second. So my first high-heel experience just lasted for about 10 minutes. And now I wonder if I will ever wear high heels again.

评语:

作文题目要求写自己“最尴尬/难忘的经历”(my most embarrassing/unforgettable experience),作者选材很得当。用 high heels 做标题很醒目,引发联想,具有视觉效果。更何况早有几部同名或类似名字的外国(英语/西班牙语/韩语等)电影。

非常有趣的生活经历,读罢令人忍俊不禁。若非亲身体验,断不能如此精彩。段落结构清晰,叙事完整、生动,其中心理描写的小细节很传神,符合女学生的心态。

虽然语言表达时有不到位的地方,语法也有些许问题,但是作为二年级第一学期初始的段落习作,应该说还是很不错的。

(推荐教师:吕海玲)

2. A Miserable Interview

2009 级 8 班 安琪琳

My life is cluttered up with many important events I'd like to recall, most of which brought me the fullness of completion and satisfaction of overcoming a difficult challenge. But the most memorable one is a miserable one. That is an extremely important interview in Nakai University.

It happened in the winter of 2008. The strange city welcomed my parents and me with a heavy snow. It was the first time for me to come to Tianjin. And first formal interview was waiting for me, which was regarded as a vital one in that an excellent performance in this interview could guarantee me to be enrolled in Nankai University.

That was a freezing cold winter afternoon. Covered with snow, the whole campus became more delicate and peaceful. Without appreciating the beautiful scenery, I walked through the campus with my parents, listening to their encouraging and comforting words. But these words seemed to be of little use to me, for I was overwhelmed with anxiety and uneasiness. I tried to remember some classic English sentence patterns, but I failed to concentrate. The ten-minute walk to the examination building seemed to be as long as an hour. Finally, I arrived there, taking a deep

breath, working up the courage, and went into my “battlefield”.

It was about two o'clock. I was arranged to sit in a large hall, waiting for my turn, as well as other students. I was a little bit relieved and tried to talk with other students, finding that they were also pretending to be self-confident in the same way. I was the eighth one to be interviewed, not having to wait for too long. As the number drew near “eight”, the nervousness emerged in my heart again. I took great efforts to calm down, but its little effect seemed to fail to drive away my nervousness completely. One hour later, my number was called by an assistant and I stood up, together with other three or four students. We were led to a small classroom and sat down separately. I noticed that on the desk lay one paper and seven paper tapes. “Ten minutes for reading the passage on the paper and preparing for the two topics you have chosen.” After hearing this sentence, all of us started to prepare. The ten-minute preparation seemed to be as short as two minutes. I nearly did not finish it. Then we students were distributed into different rooms, in which the interviewers awaited us. “Sit down, please.” One of the seven interviewers sitting in the middle said to me. “OK.” I replied. The interviewer sitting in the middle was an old professor, holding a paper in his hands and said to me, “First of all, please introduce yourself.” Because it was the question I had prepared, I did my self-introduction in a confident tone and I even saw another interviewer smiling at me, nodding her head. “Next, answer the questions about the passage.” That was my second task. I guessed the pronunciation of a few words and accomplished it. “Finally, show your opinions about the two topics.” My lack of preparation resulted in a too brief answer.

I forgot what happened next except the goodbye I said to the interviewers politely. When I was in the bright sunlight again, I could hardly believe I had already finished one of the most important interviews in my life. I did not feel relieved at all.

When I looked back upon this experience, I thought it meant a lot to me. It revealed my lack of ability to keep myself in a peaceful mood when facing with pressure. And it suddenly dawned on me that the more nervous I was the worse I would do. I performed better during the next interview at BISU, at least not so nervous as last time. I am grateful that my first interview has taught me so much. It deserves to root in my heart so long.

评语:

文章结构完整,脉络清晰。第2、3、5段中寥寥数语的天气、景物描写(如加波浪线部分文字所示)很好地烘托了人物的内心感受。面试场景中恰当地引入人物的对话,增强了故事感。用词和句式变化比较丰富,语言表达流畅。

(推荐教师:吕海玲)

3. My First Date

2011级5班 张墨琳

Hi, I'm Meg. If you can see me, you'll know I'm a quiet college girl with blond hair. Many people think blond girls are stupid and usually spend a lot of time on boys. But I don't think that's an appropriate comment on me because actually, I'm a girl who is shy and consider the happiest thing as reading on the grass by a river in the sun. But this ideal moment did not often happen to me because my best friend, Vanessa always destroyed my reading plan. She often pulled me to the shopping malls after class and asked me to give some advice on her new clothes before dating her "Miffy" (she called her boyfriend Miffy). She was charming, she was popular and she was an opposite of me.

"Everybody, everybody wants to love. Everybody, everybody wants to be loved." Yes, I really wanted a boyfriend to stop my "relationship" with my books, especially when I had dinner with V and her boyfriend, or every time I looked out the window of our dorm, discovering that those couple were having the unwilling-to-part goodbye kiss. How perfect they were for each other! I couldn't help thinking about myself and sometimes felt mad at myself, for I had destroyed the beauty of a blond girl.

So I decided to find someone on a very popular website among us which called "Find You". I didn't expect to find my Mr. Right, but hoped at least to find someone who was willing to be with me and made me happy. I took off my glasses, smiled as sweet as I could and finally took a picture of me to put it on the website. Not hard was I invited by a few boys. I quickly skimmed through their profiles and chose a boy named Stan who was in the same university with me.

Two weeks later, I was so surprised to find that our relationships went on smoothly although I hadn't had any experience of being in love with someone. I immediately told this wonderful news to Vanessa and made her keep the secret. Since then, guessing who was that Stan has become our favourite part while walking around campus. We peered at every boy around us and imagined what would happen next. One day, V said to me that Stan and I should have a date and she would dress me up. "It has been 2 months," I considered, "It's time to have my first date." After all, to tell you the truth, I unconditionally fell in love with Stan by his humor and debonair manner.

Three days before my first date in my life, I began to be nervous. I couldn't sleep well and tasted everything like water because there were too many "what if" in my mind. "Take it easy, Meggie. It's no big deal. He will definitely be regretful if he misses you." Finally, I beg Vanessa to go with me and followed us secretly wherever we go.

I really had to look up on Vanessa for her world-class making up skill. Looking myself in the mirror, I saw a girl look just like the girl on the magazine cover. I didn't know that I could be a real blond girl and become such a new me. The attractive appearance of myself made me much more confident and I could even feel the admiring twinkle from Vanessa.

I had planned to arrive at the restaurant 10 minutes later. But in order to show my good manner, we stepped into the restaurant on time. Stan hadn't come. Although I was a little bit disappointed, I smiled to every man walking in my direction and did what ladies did. Vanessa was sitting in the corner where we can see each other clearly just in case of the emergency and we could run away easily. After one minute or so, a man I was familiar with came and sat in front of me. I looked at him for 2 seconds and quickly realized that "Stan" was "Miffy". Remember? My best friend's boyfriend!

Before I could figure out all the mess, Vanessa had rushed towards us, grabbed a bottle of water and poured it all to Miffy. Then without a word, Vanessa ran away. The whole tragedy lasted about 10 seconds. I left quietly but didn't chase after her.

It was all over. My 10-second first date.

Or maybe it was a start for me, for Vanessa and for both of us.

评语:

本文是一篇虚构的小故事,虽然存在少量的语言问题,但是整个故事情节新颖,高潮迭起,叙事流畅。

(推荐教师:高峰)

4. My First Date

2011 级 5 班 刘熒

The first date is a beautiful memory for all of us. No matter successful or not, it will be unforgettable. My first date was really dramatic, I'll never forget it all my life.

For a long time I'd had my eye on Thomas. My shyness, though, had kept me from saying much to him until one day. It was a rainy day, we met at the subway station. I decided to tell him all my feelings and asked him to have a date with me. He said yes, and I felt extraordinarily happy.

When the big day arrived, I was very nervous. I dressed up carefully and put on my new high-heeled shoes. The shoes were not fit because they were smaller than my size. I bought them just for matching today's dress, but I felt a little uncomfortable. I went downstairs and he was waiting for me on a motorbike. He gave me a helmet, but I felt embarrassed because I was dressed in a mini-skirt.

"We'd better grab a taxi," he looked at me and said. Then, we arrived at a shopping mall and we decided to watch a movie. When we were walking on the street, I could not walk anymore because of my smaller high-heeled shoes and I nearly fell down. He asked, "Are you OK?" "I'm OK." I pretended. Without a word, he ran away. I didn't know where he was going, so I had to wait for him there. Suddenly, I heard a voice from my back. Someone was calling my name. I turned around and found that it was my ex-boyfriend. "How's it going these days? Why didn't you contact me? We still can be friends," he said. I said, "You betrayed me. I don't want to keep in touch with you. My life is good now." At the same time, Thomas came back with a