

北京核心教育文化研究中心《核心英语》课题组

# 核心英语

*Kernel  
English*

高考阅读  
Reading

GK



东北师范大学出版社

北京核心教育文化研究中心《核心英语》课题组

# 核心英语

## KERNEL ENGLISH

高考 / 阅读

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# UNIT 1

## ♥核心目标:

1. 熟悉有关叙述人物事件的短文的常用语言。
2. 了解mean, as, than等单词的用法。
3. 掌握有关结构复杂从句的翻译。

## Exercise 1

When automobiles swept the nation in the 1930s, trolleys began disappearing from American city streets. But now the electric-powered streetcar is back in favor. Like its ancestors<sup>①</sup>, modern trolleys run down the middle of the street and are powered by electricity from overhead wires. They are clean, cheap and easy to build.

Trolleys thrived<sup>②</sup> in America in the first three decades of the 20th century. They became fixtures of American life almost as soon as electricity replaced horses as the dominant<sup>③</sup> source of power for transportation. Soon, every major American city was wired for streetcars. But then came the convenient, gasoline-powered automobile, which quickly killed the trolleys.

Some critics have accused rubber companies of conspiring to put streetcars out of business so they could sell more automobile tires. But the truth of the matter is that getting on or off a streetcar was too dangerous with cars speeding by.

How times change! Today, the car is considered a great hazard<sup>④</sup> in many cities. Not because it goes too fast,

## ♥核心词汇:

① *n.* 祖先

② *v.* 兴盛

③ *adj.* 占统治地位的

④ *n.* 危险

- A. they were replaced by automobiles  
 B. electricity replaced horses as the dominant source of power for transportation  
 C. the car today is considered a great hazard in many cities  
 D. none of the above
- ( ) 4. One of the first modern trolley systems was built in \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. Washington State                      B. Oregon  
 C. California                                D. Canada
- ( ) 5. Trolleys don't carry as many people as subways and \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. they can't travel as fast              B. they're less expensive to build  
 C. they run on electricity                D. none of the above

## Exercise 2

In 1852, Franklin Pierce seemed to his fellow Democratic<sup>①</sup> ideal choice for the government. He was a northerner with southern sympathies<sup>②</sup> and could therefore engender<sup>③</sup> credibility in both regions in this year marked by continuing debate over slavery. But "Handsome Franklin Pierce" also had an almost pathological<sup>④</sup> impulse to please, and that trait, combined with his willingness<sup>⑤</sup> to listen to pro-slavery extremists, served the country poorly once he was in office. The most obvious case in point was his support of the Kansas-Nebraska Act in 1854, which opened an area once closed to slavery to settlement by slaveholders<sup>⑥</sup>. The result was armed violence<sup>⑦</sup> in Kansas and a sharp opposition between North and South. As for Pierce's reputation, many fellow northerners could not find words cruel enough to describe this man who seemed to be selling out<sup>⑧</sup> his own region. While Ralph Waldo Emerson

### ♥ 核心词汇:

① *adj.* 民主的

② *n.* 同情心

③ *v.* 产生

④ *adj.* 病态的

⑤ *n.* 情愿

⑥ *n.* 奴隶主

⑦ *n.* 暴力

⑧ 出卖

I had not more than 10 dollars with me. 我身上至多有 10 美元。

## 2. mean 的用法。

做动词时，mean 可以和动词-ing 分词搭配，表示“意味着”。

例如：Some people will smoked even if it means killing themselves.  
即使抽烟意味着自杀，有人还要抽。

但 mean 和动词不定式搭配却表示“打算”，“意欲”。例如：

I didn't mean to hurt your feelings. 我当时无意伤你的感情。

作为名词，mean 有“手段”，“方式”，“方法”的意思，其复数形式仍为 means。例如：

The most popular means of transport for the villagers remains the bicycle. 村民们最欢迎的交通工具仍是自行车。

### ♥ 核心解读：

By looking into their past, citizens in both countries have rediscovered a cheap, clean and efficient means of transportation for the present. 回首过去，城乡居民都重新发现了一种廉价、洁净而有效率的交通手段。

### ♥ 核心测试：

阅读短文，从每题所给的四个选项中选出最佳选项。

- ( ) 1. The main idea of the article is \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. trolley cars are making a comeback in American cities
  - B. trolley cars are dangerous because passengers must get off in the middle of the street
  - C. rubber companies conspired to put trolley companies out of business
  - D. trolley systems are far less costly to build than a subway
- ( ) 2. The most expensive part of building a trolley system is \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. buying the cars
  - B. carrying commuters and shoppers from suburbs to the city
  - C. installing overhead wires
  - D. building trolley stations, which are no more than roofs supported by pillars
- ( ) 3. Trolleys disappeared from American streets in the 1930s because \_\_\_\_\_.



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accused<sup>⑨</sup> him of “imbecility<sup>⑩</sup>”, another characterized his administration as the “lickspittles<sup>⑪</sup>” of southern rapaciousness<sup>⑫</sup>.

Franklin Pierce was known to very few Americans before his presidential nomination, and a top priority for his supporters, following his Democratic endorsement in 1852, was to secure portrait images of him for distribution to the general public. That task was carried out with great efficiency. “Portrait,” reported his friend and campaign biographer Nathaniel Hawthorne, “is everywhere and in all the shop windows on wood, steel and copper, on horseback, on foot...in iron medallions, in little brass medals and on handkerchiefs.” It is thought that this daguerreotype<sup>⑬</sup> served as one of the models for the flood of Pierce likenesses.

⑨ 控告

⑩ n. 低能, 愚笨

⑪ n. 奉承者, 献媚者

⑫ n. 强取, 贪婪

⑬ n. 银板照相

### ♥核心语法:

as for 与 as to 都有“至于,说到”之意,用来介绍新话题或发表看法,因此常常放在句首。其中 as for 多用于表示缺乏兴趣或不喜欢。例如:

As for me, I shall not return there. 至于我,我不会回到那里了。

另外,as to 还可表示“关于”,后面跟名词、代词或从句。例如:  
He asked my advice as to what to do next. 关于接下来做什么,他征求了我的意见。

### ♥核心解读:

1. pro-slavery extremists 极端主义分子,支持奴隶制的
2. The most obvious case in point 能说明问题的一个最明显的例子
3. Ralph Waldo Emerson: 爱默生(1803—1882),美国著名评论家、哲学家、诗人。
4. Franklin Pierce: 皮尔斯·富兰克林(1804—1869),美国第十四任总统(1853—1857)。他没能解决却加强了使美国分裂的奴隶制问题



change of job to acting was quite by chance.

One day, he came across in the paper an advertisement for a leading actor to appear in the film named "Wedding Feast". Full of excitement, he answered the job ad by telephoning the director of the film, Mr Li An. It was this telephone call that had changed all his life. At last the director decided him to be the very person for the role. That he could be chosen owed much to his good command of English, natural manners and low pay for his work in the film.

The film "Wedding Feast" proved to be a hit<sup>②</sup>. It won the German Golden Bear Award and entered the competition for one of the Oscar Academy Awards. Also, it was the first Taiwan Province film that was permitted to be shown in the U.S. . Thanks to the film, Zhao Wenxuan became popular in Taiwan, Hong Kong and southeast Asia.

In 1994, Mr Zhao acted as a leading role in the Hong Kong film. "Red Rose and White Rose", in which many film stars like Ms Chen Chong from U.S. and Ms Ye Yuqing from the local area participated. This film was named for 10 prizes of the Taiwan Golden Horse Prize and at last it was awarded five prizes for the best play, actress and music. Zhao has regarded the film as one of his favourite films since he stepped into the acting circle.

Since 1993, Mr Zhao has taken part in the shootings of 13 films, most of which are thought highly of.

Mr Zhao said that Taiwan should think to cooperate<sup>③</sup> much with the mainland in the film producing industry and it would benefit each other. In recent years he often came to

② n. 风行一时的作品 (或电影、歌曲、演出等), 轰动一时的成功人物 (或事物)

③ v. 合作, 协作

the mainland for film shooting<sup>④</sup>. He has just completed his performance in the film "Love Affairs" directed by Mr Li Xin, a director from the Shanghai Film Studio.

④ n. 电影, 电视, 剧本

♥核心语法:

1. on the staff of an airline in Taipei

其中 on 可表示“在……供职”。例如:

He is on the People's Daily. 他在《人民日报》报社工作。

2. come across 偶遇

I come across grandfather's diary in an old box. 我在一个旧盒子里看到了祖父的日记。

3. thanks to 幸亏, 由于

Thanks to your help, we accomplished the task ahead of schedule. 多亏你的帮助, 我们提前完成了任务。

4. award sth. 授予……奖品

He was awarded the prize for being the fastest runner. 因为跑了第一, 所以他得到了奖品。

5. think highly of sb. 对某人评价很高

I always thought well of this man. 我一直很欣赏这个人。

♥核心解读:

1. His change of job to acting was quite by chance. 他转入演艺行业很偶然。
2. That he could be chosen owed much to his good command of English, natural manners and low pay for his work in the film. 他能被选择很大程度上是由于他良好的英语运用能力、自然的举止和在电影中要求较低的报酬。

♥核心测试:

阅读短文, 从每题所给的四个选项中选出最佳选项。

- ( ) 1. When he was very young, Zhao Wenxuan \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. was a movie fan                      B. wanted to be a photographer  
C. would love to be an actor          D. was eager to be a painter
- ( ) 2. Why could Zhao Wenxuan play the leading role in the movie "Wedding Feast"?  
A. Because he liked to see films very much.  
B. Because he was a famous actor at that time.

- C. Because he could speak English very well, acted naturally and gave no thought to the pay for his work in the movie.
- D. Because the director of the movie knew him very well.
- ( ) 3. The word "career" in the fourth sentence of the first paragraph means \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. profession    B. post    C. life    D. interest
- ( ) 4. The text suggests that \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. "Wedding Feast" is just an ordinary film
- B. the film "Wedding Feast" disappointed people greatly
- C. Zhao Wenxuan became a famous movie star because of the film "Wedding Feast"
- D. a lot of the Taiwan films are shown in the U.S. every year
- ( ) 5. Which of the following is the right order for Mr Zhao Wenxuan's experiences?
- a. He joined in the film "Red Rose and White Rose" in Hong Kong.
- b. he worked in an airline in Taihei.
- c. He suggested Taiwan and the mainland should film more together.
- d. When he was a boy, he often went to the cinema.
- e. He has just finished the film "Love Affairs" in Shanghai.
- f. He acted an important role in the film "Wedding Feast".
- A. d, b, f, a, e, c    B. a, b, d, f, e, c
- C. b, c, f, a, d, e    D. c, b, e, a, f, d

## Exercise 4

At five he was collecting old newspapers to make money. And when he was 15 he signed his schoolmates up to start a baby-sitting circle. ♥核心词汇:

Now 20, third-year Cambridge University student, Peter Blackburn is managing director of a company with a £30 000



plan. And he thinks it will make more than £15 000 by next summer.

He set up Peter Blackburn Ltd. last year to bring out a new, colour termplanner that now students all over the UK are using.

"I left that most of the planners going around were pretty unimaginative<sup>①</sup>," he says. "I believed that I could do a better job and decided to beve a go."

① *adj.* 不可想象的

Blackburn admits that he is putting far more effort into business than his computer studies course at university. While fellow students are out with their friends, he keeps in touch with his business office in Lancashire by movable phone. Before he set up the company he spent one holiday preparing a plan that would persuade his bank to lend him money.

"Most students work hard for a good degree<sup>②</sup> because they believe that will help them get a job to support themselves," he says. "I work hard at my company, because that is what will support me next year, after I leave college."

② *n.* 学位

Friends believe that Blackburn will make £1 million within 5 years.

He is not quite so sure, however. "There's a lot to be done yet," he says.

♥ 核心语法:

than 的用法: 用在比较级、副词之后。例如:

She's happier than she has ever been. 她比以前任何时候都幸福。

Last year terrorist activities were worse than in any of the precious decade. 去年的恐怖分子活动比前十年里的任何一年都严重。

♥核心解读:

1. Before he set up the company he spent one holiday preparing a plan that would persuade his bank to lend him money. 在他建立公司之前,他花了一个假期准备计划,以使银行贷款给他。
2. Most students work hard for a good degree because they believe that will help them get a job to support themselves. 大多数学生努力学习是为了得到一个好学位,因为他们相信这会帮助他们找到一份可以自给自足的好工作。

♥核心测试:

阅读短文,从每题所给的四个选项中选出最佳选项。

- ( ) 1. Choose the right order of the facts given in the passage.
- a. He spent his holiday preparing a plan.
  - b. He collected newspapers.
  - c. He set up his own company.
  - d. He asked the bank for money.
  - e. He set up a baby-sitting circle.
- A. e, b, c, a, d                      B. b, e, a, d, c  
C. b, e, d, a, c                      D. b, e, c, a, d
- ( ) 2. When he was quite young, Blackburn \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. already made a lot of money
  - B. already had a business brain
  - C. was already managing director of a company
  - D. already set up his own business
- ( ) 3. The underlined expression in the fourth paragraph "have a go", here means \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. give up this job and have a new one
  - B. leave the company
  - C. have a try
  - D. develop my business quickly
- ( ) 4. In spite of a college student, Blackburn \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. spends more time on his business than on his studies course
  - B. keep in touch with his business office by movable phone



- C. seldom goes out with his friends  
 D. often spends whole holiday preparing business plan
- ( ) 5. Which of the following best explains why Blackburn works hard at his company?
- A. He wants to do more business practice before he leaves college.  
 B. He wants to make more money before he leaves college.  
 C. He wants to get a good job like most students after he leaves the college.  
 D. He depends on the company for his living in the future.

## Exercise 5

Grandma Moses is among the most famous twentieth century painters of the United States. Yet she had only just begun painting in her late seventies. As she once said: "I would never sit back in a rocking-chair, waiting for someone to help me."

She was born on a farm in New York State. At twelve she left home and was in a service until, at twenty-seven, she married Thoma Moses, the tenant<sup>①</sup> of hers. They farmed most of their lives. She had ten children, of whom five survived<sup>②</sup> in 1927.

Grandma Moses painted a little as a child and made embroidery<sup>③</sup> pictures as a hobby, because her hands had become too stiff to sew and she wanted to keep busy and pass the time. Her picture were first sold at an exhibition, and were soon noticed by a business man who bought everything she painted. Three of the pictures were shown in the Museum of Modern Art, and in 1940 she had her first exhibition in New York. Between the 1930's and her death

♥ 核心词汇:

① n. 佃户, 承租人

② v. 幸存

③ n. 刺绣