

新东方学校
雅思考试培训教材

基础培训

IELTENS

雅思考试 写作基础训练

★ 胡 敏 主编
龙 智 编著



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北京新东方学校雅思培训部

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序

六月初，北京的“非典”恐慌气氛一天天淡下去，龙智老师将他这本《雅思考试（IELTS）写作基础训练》送到我家中，请我为这本即将付梓的新书作序。

看到这本书，我的心情有点儿复杂。两年前我编写了一本内部教材《雅思写作基础训练》供参加新东方雅思培训的部分学员使用，但一直因为事务繁忙，无法抽出时间继续完善这本教材，这让我备感遗憾。但龙智老师在那本内部教材的基础上综合了新东方优秀的教学经验，利用“非典”时期为雅思考生奉献出这样一本好书，我由衷地为他感到高兴，也十分感谢他帮助我了却了很久以来的一个心愿。

一直以来，中国考生的雅思写作分数就是一个瓶颈，总也达不到理想的分数，究其原因，我认为主要是因为迷信所谓的真题和考前押题。雅思考试重复使用试题，考生很有可能遇见前一段时间考过的题目。这一特殊现象让相当一部分人觉得找到了一条捷径，并通过各种渠道打探写作“真题”；更有甚者，公然声称可以提前命中下一次考试的题目。考生的注意力转向真题和押题的同时，却忽略了对自身写作能力的关注，无法静下心来把基础打牢。语言功底不扎实，即便是知道了题目，恐怕也很难写出令考官拍案的好文章来。

龙智老师的《雅思考试（IELTS）写作基础训练》系统性强，从文章谋篇布局、段落衔接、语句表达、综合改错等各个细节帮助考生循序渐进地掌握写作的各项基本技能，十分适合考生的实际需要，所以新东方的雅思基础培训班和写作单项班中都将把这本书作为教材使用。以往国内的雅思写作辅导书大多以范文为主体，考生如果使用不当很容易走进单纯背诵范文的误

区。而龙智老师的这本书却独辟蹊径，强调基本写作技能的训练，是范文类写作书的良好补充。考生在加强自身写作能力的同时学习优秀范文，写作水平一定会有大幅度的提升。

顺便要提一句，这本书虽然是雅思考试培训系列教材中的一本，但却借鉴了国内外写作教学的优秀成果，集合了新东方多年的课堂实践和写作教学精华，针对中国学生的写作弱点对症下药，即便是参加其他英语考试，这本书也不失为一本优秀的写作辅导书。

《雅思考试（IELTS）写作基础训练》即将与读者见面，写这篇序言的时候，我又得到一个好消息，因为“非典”而终止的雅思考试六月底将在部分城市恢复。突如其来的“非典”打乱了很多考生的计划，但我相信风雨后必将有美丽的彩虹，只要肯脚踏实地去努力，梦想终会实现。

真诚祝愿所有的考生好运！

是为序。

新东方教育集团总裁

北京新东方学校校长

胡 敏

2003年6月10日深夜于北京

Contents

Part I The Essay Format (文章布局)	1
Exercise One	1
Exercise Two	5
Part II Introduction (文章开头)	6
Exercise Three	6
Exercise Four	8
Exercise Five	9
Exercise Six	10
Exercise Seven	11
Exercise Eight	12
Part III Paragraph Development (段落扩展)	14
Exercise Nine	14
Part IV Cohesion (文章衔接)	19
Exercise Ten	19
Exercise Eleven	21
Exercise Twelve	23
Exercise Thirteen	25
Exercise Fourteen	27
Exercise Fifteen	28

Part V Language Expressions (语言表达)	30
Exercise Sixteen	30
Exercise Seventeen	33
Exercise Eighteen	34
Exercise Nineteen	36
Exercise Twenty	39
Exercise Twenty-one	42
Exercise Twenty-two	44
Exercise Twenty-three	46
Part VI Language Problems (语言问题)	48
Exercise Twenty-four	48
Exercise Twenty-five	50
Exercise Twenty-six	52
Exercise Twenty-seven	53
Exercise Twenty-eight	55
Exercise Twenty-nine	57
Exercise Thirty	59
Exercise Thirty-one	61
Part VII Spelling (英文拼写)	62
Exercise Thirty-two	62
Exercise Thirty-three	64
Exercise Thirty-four	67
Part VIII Punctuation (标点符号)	68
Exercise Thirty-five	68
Exercise Thirty-six	69
Exercise Thirty-seven	71
Exercise Thirty-eight	72
Part IX Essay Writing (文章写作)	73
Exercise Thirty-nine	73

Exercise Forty	75
Exercise Forty-one	76
Exercise Forty-two	78
Exercise Forty-three	80
Exercise Forty-four	81
Part X Proofreading (综合改错)	87
Exercise Forty-five	87
Exercise Forty-six	91
Exercise Forty-seven	95
Part XI Translation (翻译练习)	100
Exercise Forty-eight	100
Exercise Forty-nine	104
Exercise Fifty	106
Part XII Supplementary Readings (补充阅读)	108
(A) Japan and the U. S. A. : Different but Alike	108
(B) Five Evidences of an Education	111
(C) On Doors	115
(D) I Want a Wife	119
(E) How Should One Read a Book?	123
(F) On Leadership	127
Answer Keys (练习答案)	130
Bibliography (参考文献)	181

Part I The Essay Format (文章布局)

Exercise One

Read the following essays and think about the organization of each essay.

(A) Living in the Present

About one of humanity's frailties Thomas Wolfe wrote, "He talks of the future and he wastes it as it comes." This observation is related to a principle by which I try to live. **I believe in living in the present because it is futile to dwell on the past, to worry about the future, or to miss anything in the only reality I know.**

It is futile to dwell on the past. What existed or happened in the past may have been beautiful or exciting and may now bring profound and precious memories; but the past is dead, and it is not healthy for living spirits to linger over a world inhabited by ghosts. The past may also be a place of horror, of regret, of spilled milk. However, it is painful and pointless to fixate on a period that cannot be relieved or repaired. It is unproductive self-punishment. The past must be kept in its place, outlived and outgrown.

It is also useless to worry about the future. People may envision the horrible mushroom cloud; the overpopulated, abused earth gone dead. They may imagine their own lives going away; advancements given to someone else; their houses burned to the ground; everything in their lives, as in a

nightmare, slipping away. There is no end to the disasters, people can worry about when focusing anxiously on the future. There are events in the future, including their own deaths, over which they have little or no control, but which can ruin their lives if they worry about them. The only way out is to live well in the present, not simply by worrying about the future.

The present moment is the only reality I know, and I don't want to miss it. The wild cherry cough drop dissolving in my mouth is sweet and soothing. Even my sore throat and backache have meaning. The cool night air, the crackling noises of my furnace, my cat yawning and stretching—these are the tangible realities I can recognize. They exist in this moment, together with my own breathing, and the warm lamp overhead. Along with these are the realities of other people and of all life on this earth, which matter to me now, not at some past or future time.

Everyone needs a sense of history, I think, particularly a feeling for his or her own roots, but history needs to keep its distance to be appreciated. It is also vital to have some sense of direction, which means making plans for the future but not becoming preoccupied with them. **What is most important, I believe, is living in the present, that is, being alive now.**

(B) Japan: The New Superpower

With the breakup of the Soviet Union and the U.S. economy just coming out of a recession, Japan is in line for superpower status. In the world market, even in the American domestic market, "Made in USA" has been replaced by "Made in Japan" as a mark of a quality product. **Japanese high-tech consumer products are able to dominate the world market because the Japanese are hard working, technologically oriented, and diligent in their efforts to improve products.**

First of all, we know that the Japanese work very hard, often sacrificing their free time to their jobs. According to one report, the Japanese work an average of 42 hours per week while Americans work an average of 35 hours a week. These extra hours certainly increase Japanese productivity and gain an competitive advantage. It is the hard work that contributes significantly to the incredible growth of their industries.

Secondly, the Japanese labor is technologically oriented. For example, many Japanese work as engineers, technicians, or scientists rather than social workers. Most Japanese students choose to major in high-tech fields instead of the humanities. By contrast, the U. S. is less materialistic than Japan. A sizable percentage of Americans work in the areas of humanities and social work. Many college students pursue their dreams instead of profits, majoring in the fine arts, history, and philosophy.

Finally, the Japanese attach much importance to research in an effort to improve their products. For example, well-known Japanese companies finance research work both at home and abroad. Many projects in the American universities like MIT, Stanford, and Cal Tech are funded by Japanese companies who intend to use the research to produce more high-quality products.

In summary, the Japanese can dominate the world market, including the American domestic market, because of their work ethic, technological orientation and their emphasis on research. As a result, high-quality Japanese products have taken the place of American ones to spread to every corner of the world.

(C) What I Have Lived For

Bertrand Russell

Three passions, simple but overwhelmingly strong, have governed my life: the longing for love, the search for knowledge, and unbearable pity for the suffering of mankind. These passions, like great winds, have blown me hither and thither, in a wayward course, over a deep ocean of anguish, reaching to the very verge of despair.

I have sought love, first, because it brings ecstasy—ecstasy so great that I would often have sacrificed all the rest of life for a few hours of this joy. I have sought it, next, because it relieves loneliness—that terrible loneliness in which one shivering consciousness looks over the rim of the world into the cold unfathomable lifeless abyss. I have sought it, finally, because in the union of love I have seen, in a mystic miniature, the prefiguring vision of the heaven that saints and poets have imagined. This is what I sought, and though it might seem too good for human life, this is what—at last—I have found.

With equal passion I have sought knowledge. I have wished to understand the hearts of men. I have wished to know why the stars shine. And I have tried to apprehend the Pythagorean power by which number holds sway above the flux. A little of this, but not much, I have achieved.

Love and knowledge, so far as they were possible, led upward toward the heavens. **But always pity brought me back to earth.** Echoes of cries of pain reverberate in my heart. Children in famine, victims tortured by oppressors, helpless old people a hated burden to their sons, and the whole world of loneliness, poverty, and pain make a mockery of what human life should be. I long to alleviate the evil, but I cannot, and I too suffer.

This has been my life. I have found it worth living, and would gladly live it again if the chance were offered me.

Exercise Two

Brainstorming

When you read a topic, you may find it difficult to turn out a complete and correct essay at once, so putting something down on paper is essential. Brainstorming is a way for you to come up with some ideas to write on later. Look at the following title:

The lottery does more good than harm. Discuss.

The following is a cluster of ideas mingled together on the subject of the lottery. Make a clear list of pros and cons by yourself.

- o Anyone can buy tickets.
- o People can get addicted to it.
- o You can become a millionaire overnight—everyone has the same chance.
- o It doesn't cost very much.
- o It's good fun, very popular, exciting.
- o Lots of money goes to good causes like charities.
- o It offers more job opportunities.
- o Poor people spend more money than they can afford on it.
- o More infrastructure facilities are built.
- o It may lead to corruption.

Part II Introduction (文章开头)

Exercise Three

The following are five introductions to the essay topic:

Technology can contribute to human misery as well as to human success.

However, they have been jumbled. Find the first and second sentences which belong together in each case, to make five different introductions.

- 1) Every country in the world is aiming for technological development.
- 2) It is not, however, the technological development which causes the problems, but rather the fact that societies do not make the necessary adjustments.
- 3) For most people, technological development means an improvement in their life-style.
- 4) However, their governments are usually not able to control the severe negative effects of this development.

- 5) Whenever technological progress is made, there are always people who complain about the problems that this creates.
- 6) However, it is wrong to blame technology for our social problems.
- 7) Technology has brought many changes in people's lives, not all of which are beneficial.
- 8) There are always people who will argue against any kind of technological change.
- 9) In fact, in many cases, people have suffered enormously because of these changes.
- 10) However, while some people enjoy an easier life, others are usually made unemployed as a result of new technology.

Exercise Four

Here are three topics on the same subject, followed by six possible opening sentences, match each topic with the best opening sentence.

- 1) **Children's viewing of television should be controlled.**
 - 2) **Television does more harm than good. Do you agree?**
 - 3) **Discuss the role of television in modern society.**
- a) Television is a relatively recent invention, but it has become a basic aspect of life in all modern societies.
 - b) In modern society, everyone likes watching television.
 - c) Children usually have their favourite television programs, which they like to watch regularly.
 - d) Children in many countries watch television for several hours each day, so it is important to think about what it is they are watching.
 - e) Although television can be a valuable source of entertainment and information, it also has serious drawbacks.
 - f) Television is a system of conveying both sound and picture waves from a studio or other source into people's homes.

Now write another two or three sentences to complete each introduction.