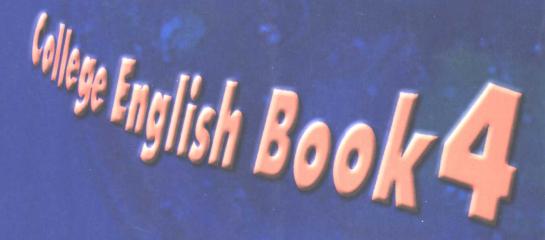
高校英语专业精读精讲精练

(下册)

郭正行 汪庆庚 编著



A Guide Book For English Major
COLLEGE ENGLISH BOOK 4





高校英语专业精读精讲精练 (College English, Book 4)

郭正行 汪庆庚 编著

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前 言

本书为杨立民、徐克容所编《大学英语教程》(College English)第四册(修订本)的自学手册,目的在于帮助自学者理解课文和扩大实践。每课由五部分构成:

I 课文注释(NOTES TO THE TEXT):对课文中的难点给以解释,并归纳一些词或短语的用法。

I 单词及短语(WORDS ANE EXPRESSIONS):按出现顺序列出课文中的生词和短语,用英、汉两种语言解释,以帮助学生更好地理解词义并向使用英语原文词典过渡。重点词配有例句。

■练习答案(KEY TO EXERCISES):给出词汇练习、语法练习及复习题答案。

N课文译文(TRANSLATION OF THE TEXT)

V 补充阅读(SUPPLEMENTARY READING):选用有关作者或者有关课文内容的英语材料,供使用者扩大阅读使用。

由于编者水平所限,书中错误在所难免,欢迎使用者指正。

2000 年 1 月 南开大学

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Lesson 1

The Pleasure of Learning

I. NOTES TO THE TEXT

1. It is an Ought, even worse, a Must,...

句中的 ought 和 must 都是名词,ought 的词义为"应做的事",must 的词义为"必须有的东西;必须做的事",如:

Warm clothes are a must in the mountain.

Green's new novel is a must for all lovers of crime fiction.

- 2. Some delightful films made by the late Dr. Arnold Gesell of Yale University show little creatures who can barely talk investigating problems with all the zeal and excitement of explorers, making discoveries with the passion and absorption of dedicated scientists. 耶鲁大学已故的阿诺德·盖塞尔博士拍摄的一些颇为有趣的影片描写了一些小生灵,他们几乎不会说话,却以探险者的热情和激动研究问题,以具有献身精神的科学家的激情专心致志地做出发现。
 - 1)全句的主语是 films(后面带有一个以 made 开始的分词短语作定语),谓语动词是 show,宾语是 creatures(后面带有一个由 who 引导的定语从句),有两个分词短语(分别由 investigating 和 making 开始)作宾语补足语。
 - 2)the late:已故的,如:

She was an admirer of the late president.

- 3)盖塞尔(Arnold Lucius Gesell, 1880-1961)是美国心理学家,主要研究儿童心理学,曾试图从数量上去研究人类从出生到青少年时期的发展过程,并创造了发展商数(development quotient),广泛用来测验儿童的智力。
- 3. the underground railway, say, ... 比如说地铁……
 - 1) 句中的 say 的意思是"比如说,假定说",用来提出估计、建议等,如:

You may learn to play the violin in, say, three years.

Let's take any writer, say Dickens.

- 2)the underground railway: 地铁,也可只说 the underground;此外还可说 subway (AmE)或 the tube (BrE),专指巴黎的地铁还可说 the Metro。
- 4. Much unhappiness has been suffered by those people. . 那些人感到很不愉快……

注意动词 suffer 的不同用法:

1)suffer from sth. 患(病),感到(悲哀)

Do you suffer from headache?

She suffers from loss of money.

2)suffer sth. 经历,遭受

They suffered huge losses in the financial crisis.

The driver suffered pain/trouble/defeat.

3)suffer(不接宾语或介词短语)变坏,受损失

Her business suffered when she was ill.

Your studies will suffer if you play too much football.

- 5. porch swing:门廊下悬挂的秋千椅,供人们休息时坐。
- 6. No learner has ever run short of subjects to explore. 爱学习的人从来不会感到没有课题可以探讨。

run short (of):用尽

Go and get some more oil so we don't run short.

Let me know if you run short of money before then.

I. WORDS AND EXPRESSIONS

- 1. compulsory /kəmˈpʌlsəri/a. obligatory 强制的,义务的
- 2. enforce /in fors/v. to force to obey 推行,强制实施

The police are there to enforce the law.

They enforced payment by threats of legal action.

- 3. rigid / rid3id/a. firm; not easy to change 僵硬的,死板的
- 4. discipline / disiplin/n. a system of rules governing conduct or practice 纪律
- 5. resist /ri'zist/v. to oppose 抵抗

The window resisted his efforts to open it.

He resisted all inducement to commercialize his work.

- 6. surrender /səˈrendə/n. the giving of something into the power of another thing 屈从
- 7. external /ik'stə;nl/a. coming from outside 外来的,外部的
- 8. enslavement /in sleivment/n. the act of making a slave 奴役
- 9. inborn /in'bo:n/a. existing in a person from birth 固有的,与生俱来的
- 10. instinctive /in'stinktiv/a. not based on reasoning 本能的
- 11. mental / mentl/a. of or in the mind 精神的,智力的
- 12. **implant** /im'pla;nt/v. to fix into a person's mind 灌输 How do you implant good manners in young children?
- 13. delightful/di laitful/a. giving joy 令人愉快的
- 14. creature /'kri:tʃə/n. a living thing 生物
- 15. barely /'bɛəli/ad. scarcely 几乎不,勉强能
- 16. **investigate** /in'vestigeit/v. to try to discover by detailed study 调查,研究 We might be able to help you; I'll investigate the possibilities. One of his men investigated the affairs.

- 17. zeal /zi:1/n. enthusiasm; keenness 热情
- 18. explorer /ik'splo:rə/n. a person who explores 探险者
- 19. absorption /əb'sə:pʃən/n. holding the attention fully 全神贯注
- 20. dedicate /'dedikeit/v. to devote 奉献

He dedicated himself to the cause of science.

He dedicated his life to the abolition of slavery.

- 21. investigation /in vesti gei Jən/n. investigating 调查,研究
- 22. heart-felt/'ha:tfelt/a. sincere 衷心的
- 23. **specific** /spilsifik/a. not general 特定的
- 24. gravity /ˈgræviti/n. the natural force by which objects are attracted to each other 万有引力,地心吸力,重力

specific gravity — 比重

- 25. displacement/dis'pleisment/n. taking the place of something 取代
- 26. bathtub /'ba:θtΛb/n. a container in which one sits to wash the whole body 浴缸 .
- 27. leap /li:p/v. to (cause to) jump over 跳跃

The thief leaped the wall and escaped.

The rider leaped the horse.

28. **prompt** /prompt/v. — to inspire or cause 激起,引起 He was prompted by patriotism.

What prompted you to ask that question?

- 29. outburst / 'autbə:st/n. sudden violent expression 进发
- 30. gratification / grætifi'kei sən/n. satisfacition 满足
- 31. incurious /in'kjuəriəs/a. not inquisitive 不好奇的
- 32. isolation / aisə'leifən/n. being separated from others 孤立
- 33. **routine** /ruˈtiːn/n. fixed and regular way of doing things 常规
- 34. poverty / povəti/n. the state of being poor 贫穷
- 35. toxin / toksin/n. poisonous substances 毒素
- 36. riches / rit fiz/n. wealth; being rich 财富;富有
- 37. ephemeral /ilfemərəl/a. living or lasting for a very short time 短暂的,生命短促的
- 38. trivial / triviəl/a. that has little importance 琐细的
- 39. resolution / rezə'lu: [ən/n. determination 决心,坚决
- 40. guidance / gaidəns/n. leadership; direction 指导
- 41. tedious / ti;diəs/a. long and tiring 冗长的
- 42. Congress / kangres/n. the law-making body 国会
- 43. earnest /'ə:nist/a. determined and serious 认真的
- 44. convey /kən'vei/v. to make known to another person 表达

Words cannot convey how delighted I was.

Please convey my good wishes to your mother.

- 45. **metaphor** / metəfə/n. the use of a word or phrase to indicate sth. different from the literal meaning 隐喻
- 46. lump /lnmp/n. a mass of something solid 堆
- 47. lifeless / laiflis/a. never having had life 无生命的
- 48. inaudible /in/b:dəbl/a. that is too quiet to be heard 听不见的
- 49. range/reind3/n. the distance within which one can see or hear 视域,听域
- 50. **stereo** / stiəriəu/n. a sound system with three-dimensional effect 立体声音响设备
- 51. volume /'vəlju:m/n. a book, esp. one of a series 书籍,卷
- 52. active /ˈæktiv/a. able or ready to take action 积极的
- 53. cowboy / kauboi/n. a man employed to look after cattle 牛仔
- 54. thoroughly / θΛrəli/ad. in every way 彻底地
- 55. canyon /'kænjən/n. a deep narrow steep-sided valley 峡谷
- 56. alert /ə'lə:t/a. watchful 警觉的
- 57. rather than instead of 而不是

I think I'll have a cold drink rather than coffee.

It's management that's at fault rather than the work force.

- 58. image /'imid3/n. someone's appearance as seen by other people 形象
- 59. appreciate /ə'pri:ʃieit/v. to understand and enjoy the good qualities of 赞赏,赏识 A sensitive mouth is necessary to appreciate wine.

You can't fully appreciate foreign literature in translation.

60. acquire /əˈkwaiə/v. — to gain by efforts 获得

Sophia has acquired confidence.

He has acquired an extraordinary command of the English language.

- 61. hideous / hidiəs/a. very ugly; frightful 讨厌的;可怕的
- 62. architecture /ˈɑːkitektʃə/n. the art and science of building 建筑学
- 63. constant / kənstənt/a. going on all the time 永恒的,稳定的
- 64. craft /krq:ft/n. a job or trade needing skill 工艺,手艺
- 65. book-binding / bukbaindin/n. putting covers to books 书的装订
- 66. relaxation / ri:læk seifən/n. the act of becoming less active 放松;休息
- 68. fasten /'fa:sn/v. to secure firmly 固定,系牢

Have you fastened all the doors and windows?

She fastened a brooch on the blouse.

- 69. backstrip /ˈbækstrip/n. a piece of cloth on the back of a book 书背布条
- 70. precision /prilsi3ən/n. exactness and clarity 精确(度)
- 71. neatness /ˈniːtnis/n. tidiness 整洁
- 72. throughout /fru: 'aut/ad. during the whole duration 自始至终,彻头彻尾
- 73. initially /i'nifəli/ad. at the beginning 起初,开始

- 74. **printing** / 'printing/n. the art of printing 印刷术
- 75. as for with regard to 至于

As for the hotel, it was very uncomfortable.

As for you, you ought to be ashamed of yourself.

- 76. apprehend / pepri hend/v. to understand 理解
- 77. unexpected /'Anik'spektid/a. not expected 预料不到的
- 78. deepen /ˈdiːpən/v. to (cause to) become deep 加深;变深
- 79. underground /'Andəgraund/a. below the surface of the earth 地下的
- 80. northward /'no:8wəd/ad. towards the north 向北方
- 81. impel /im'pel/v. to force or urge 迫使,驱使

Impelled by feelings of guilt, John wrote to apologize.

The Chairman's speech impelled the nation to greater efforts.

82. reconstruct /ˈriːkənˈstrʌkt/v. — to build again; create again 重建;重现 The city council decided to reconstruct the ruined abbey. Police are trying to reconstruct the crime.

- 83. resolute /'rezəlu:t/a. showing great determination or firmness 坚决的
- 84. organizer /ˈɔːgənaizə/n. a person who forms parts into a whole 组织者
- 85. thankful /ˈθæŋkful/a. grateful 感谢的

You should always be thankful to your parents for giving you a good education.

- 86. fugitive /ˈfjuːdʒitiv/n. a person who is escaping 逃亡者
- 87. astronomer /ə'strənəmə/n. an expert in the study of heavenly bodies 天文学家
- 88. peacefully /'pi:sfəli/ad. quietly, calmly 安宁地
- 89. **observatory** /əb'zə:vətri/n. a building from which the stars, the weather, etc. can be observed 天文台
- 90. exploration / eksplə rei sən/n. the activity of exploring 探险、探索
- 91. starry /'starri/a. lighted by stars 星光照耀的
- 92. astronomical / westrə nomikəl/a. of the study of heavenly bodies 天文(学)的
- 93. **refraction** /rilfrækfən/n. the bending of a ray when it passes slantwise from one medium into another 折射
- 94. mortal /'mo:tl/a. that must die 必死的
- 95. multitude / maltitju:d/n. a large number 大量,许多
- 96. tread /tred/v. to walk on or along 踩,踏

Every day he trod the same path through the woods to school.

- 97. feast /fi;st/n. a splendid public meal 宴会
- 98. dimension /dilmenson/n. a measurement in any one direction 尺寸,维
- 99. cumulative /ˈkjuːmulətiv/a. increasing by successive additions 累计的
- 100. **diminish** /di^lminiʃ/v. to (cause to) become smaller (使)变小 His illness diminished his strength.

The amount of water in the pond will diminish as the dry season continues.

101. **provided** /prə'vaidid/conj. — if and only if 只要

They may swim provided an adult accompanies them.

We'll visit Europe, provided we have the money.

- 102. **integrate** /'intigreit/v. to form into a whole 使结合
- 103. harmonious /haːˈməuniəs/a. having the parts agreeably related 和谐的
- 104. glee /gli:/n. a feeling of joyful satisfaction 欢快
- 105. **choral** / kɔːrəl/a. of or performed by a chorus 合唱的
- 106. engineering / endzi'niəriŋ/n. the science of an engineer 工程(学)
- 107. architectonic / a:kitek tənik /a. of architecture 建筑上的
- 108. aesthetic /i;s'θetik/a. concerning the sense of beauty 美学的
- 109. symmetry /'simitri/n. balanced proportions 对称
- 110. dissociate /di'səusieit/v. to separate 使分离,脱离

Can the private and public lives ever be dissociated?

Many mothers working at home feel dissociated from real life.

- 111. **unity** /ˈjuːniti/n. the state of being one complete whole 统一;联合
- 112. solvent / solvent/a. not in debt 有偿付能力的
- 113. wholeness /'həulnis/n. the state of being complete 完整
- 114. confer /kən'fə:/v. to give 授与

The queen conferred a noble title on her faithful minister.

- 115. virtue /'vəːtʃuː/n. goodness; moral excellence 美德
- 116. capacity /kəˈpæsiti/n. ability 能力
- 117. attain /əˈtein/v. to achieve 达到

He attained success through hard work.

I hope you will attain your object.

- 118. deliberate /di'libərit/a. intentional 有意的
- 119. earthly /ˈəːθli/a. of this world 尘世的,现世的
- 120. expansion /ik'spænson/n. the action of becoming greater in size or importance 膨胀
- 121. confront /kənˈfrʌnt/v. to face threateningly 面对

A soldier has to confront danger.

We must confront the future with optimism.

- 122. laziness /'leizinis/n. the state of being unwilling to work 懒惰
- 123. sloth /sləuθ/n. laziness; idleness 懒散
- 124. stupidity /stju: 'piditi/n. the state of being silly 思蠢
- 125. shutter / ʃʌtə/n. a movable panel to keep out light 百叶窗
- 126. **seep** /si;p/v. to flow slowly through a substance 渗漏

Oil is seeping out through a crack in the tank.

127. swamp /swomp/n. — soft wet land 沼泽

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128. **abandon** /ə'bændən/v. — to give up completely 放弃 She was obliged to abandon that idea.

The scientist abandoned his research for lack of fund.

- 129. drain /drein/v. to (cause to) become dry (使)抽干
- 130. glumly /'glamli/ad. sadly 阴郁地
- 131. porch /poit \int /n . a covered entrance to a building 门廊
- 132. swing /swiny/n. a seat for swinging on 秋千
- 133. rewardingly /ri'wo:diŋli/ad. worth doing 得益地
- 134. **preserve** /pri¹zə:v/v. to keep in an unchanged condition 保持 In times of danger he always preserves his calmness.

 Policemen preserve order in the streets.

Proper Names

- 1. Arnold Gesell /ˈɑːnld gəˈzel/ 阿诺德・盖塞尔
- 2. Yale University /'jeil ju;ni'və;siti/ (美国)耶鲁大学
- 3. Archimedes /ˌaːkiˈmiːdiːz/ 阿基米德
- 4. Library of Congress (美国)国会图书馆
- 5. Butler Library /'ba:tlə 'laibrəri/ 巴特勒图书馆
- 6. Columbia /kəˈlʌmbiə/ 哥伦比亚
- 7. Glasgow /ˈglɑːsgəu/ 格拉斯哥(英国城市)
- 8. Ptolemy / təlimi/ 托勒密

II. KEY TO EXERCISES

Key to Vocabulary Exercises

Proofreading:

- a) appretiate → appreciate
- b) intergrate → integrate
- c) Its → It's; routin → routine
- d) Government; resolution → resolution
- e) aesthaatic → aesthetic
- f) aquire acquire
- g) maintainance → maintenance
- h) promt → prompt
- i) compulsary → compulsory; cause → course; tidioud → tedious
- j) Forebidden → Forbidden; cemetery → symmetry

k) inetially \rightarrow initially; tention \rightarrow tension; emmigrants \rightarrow immigrants Give corresponding nouns of the following: enforcement resistance surrender enslavement investigation observation displacement leap gratification possession survival isolation ride appreciation content/containment apprehension integration conveyance conflict abandonment attainment collection extension guide/guidance confinement dedication absorption 3. Put in the right form or derivative of the word in the brackets: a) harmoniously b) harmony; tolerant c) disharmony d) intolerable; promptly e) astronomical f) tolerate g) appreciative h) appreciation i) apprehension i) apprehensive k) resistance 1) irresistible m) heat-resisting n) reward o) rewarding p) reward q) observation r) instinctively; curiosity s) unacceptable t) observant; instincts 4. Replace the italicized word with another word or phrase without changing the basic meaning of the sentence. a) inborn - natural/inherent/inherited b) essential — basic/vital c) tiny - little; barely - hardly/scarcely d) dedicated — devoted; zeal — passion/eagerness/enthusiasm e) pure — sheer; abandoned — given up f) attaining — acquiring/achieving; preserving/keeping — retaining g) glumly — gloomily/moodily h) chief — main; danger — peril; confronting — facing; sloth — laziness; routine — monotony; stupidity — foolishness i) diminished — decreased; contest — competition; provided — as long as j) Initially — At first/At the beginning/Firstly; confined — limited k) vision - view 1) conferred - gave/granted

m) dimensions — aspects

n) contradictory — in conflict

5. Fill in the blanks with words that fit in the context:

a) compulsory/required

b)irregular

c) flexible

d)internally

e) bright/smart; diligent; curious

f)important/serious

g) drunk

h)inaudible

i) disintegrated/divided

j)ignorant/ill-informed

k) decreased

l)inability

m) earnest

n)manual

6. Translate the following:

解决问题,表达思想,接受所提供的帮助,指导某人的思想,集邮,实施条例规定,抵抗敌人,调查案件,观察结果,奖励(某人付出的)努力,给予奖学金,使理论结合实际,达到目标,得到结果,放弃斗争,加深理解,含有毒品,减轻痛苦,把门关紧,获得知识,保持高标准,改变句子结构,保持年轻外貌

7. Translate the following:

发展经济,发展教育,发展服务行业,逐步形成计划,开发新技术,提出理论,提出战略,开发人力资源,养成习惯,形成新的想法,开发新药,发展成心脏病,冲洗胶卷,锻炼肌肉,从其他动物发展演变而来,发展成一场危机

8. Translate:

- a) The first task of the government is to maintain law and order.
- b) This museum is maintained with a public fund.
- c) All other speakers still insisted that the Boxers' Rebellion was an anti-imperialist revolutionary movement. However, he maintained that it was essentially similar to the Red Guard movement in the 60's.
- d) That book contains lots of garbage, but the last chapter is worth reading.
- e) The waste water of that factory contains some useful things as gold and silver.
- f) The equipment will be shipped there in a container.
- g) You have to contain your anger. Losing temper will get you nowhere but make things worse.
- h) These words are meaningless. They do not really convey anything to me.
- i) It was hard to convey my feeling at the moment. I felt that I could die for her.
- j) When you see him, please convey my heartfelt gratitude to him.
- k) I'm sure our country will develop into a great economic power, as long as we keep our population growth under control.
- 1) All great theories are defended by their believers. But the best way to defend a theory is perhaps to develop it and make it practical in reality.
- m) In the past few years we have developed a new teaching method.
- n) One effective way to raise fund is to develop our land resources.
- o) Three years later, he began to develop AIDS symptoms. At first he thought that it was just

a bad cold.

p) This political crisis might develop into a civil war.

- p) This pointed crisis inght develop into a civil w
- q) Everything is in order. When shall we start?
- r) The communication system is out of order. We have lost contact.
- s) Sometimes you have to forget the past in order to remember the present and the future.
- t) They decided to make the new railway go through that poor area in order that the local economy could be developed more quickly.

10. Translate. Pay attention to how the same word can mean different things in different contexts.

- 9. Choose the right word(s):
 - a) avoid

b) reserved

c) conserve

- d) preserved
- e) rely/depend
- f) depends on

- g) comprehension
- h) apprehensive
- i) special

- j) extendm) hideous
- k) expandn) tedious

acquire
 limited

- p) confined
- a) 她曾和她已故的丈夫住在这里。
- b) 我去的信很快就得到了公司的答复。
- c) 迅速致富的欲望常常驱使人们犯法。
- d) 现在人们已经一致同意,在教育上的投资能带来高得多的回报:
- e) 这个跨国公司经营的商品范围很广。
- f) 她是一个兴趣广泛的人。她的兴趣从天文、哲学到艺术和音乐。
- g) 两省之间有一条山峰迭起的山脉。
- h) 双方都承诺履行决议。
- i) 请仔细看好,因为我不会重复示范。
- j) 他的生活很没有规律,如果再这样继续下去的话,他会把身体搞垮的。
- k) 我们银行不提供顾客的资料,你的要求不符合规定。
- 1) 它们是按时间顺序排列的。
- m) 这一大宗订货救活了我们工厂。
- n) 他们从未接到无条件投降的命令,因此他们不知道战争在 20 年前就结束了。
- o) 他马上汇给他一张 5000 美元汇款单。
- p) 他们不清楚在和平时期是否有必要维持这样庞大的一支军队。
- q) 有些科学家依然坚持认为人们过高地估计了"温室效应"。
- 11. Choose the appropriate word or words for each blank space:
 - (1) play
- (2) for
- (3) While

- (4) average
- (5) beyond
- (6) degree

- (7) vary
- (8) how
- (9) favorable

- (10) status
- (11) Although
- (12) On

- (13) stay
- (14) that
- (15) in

12. Proofread the following passage:

- (1) go \rightarrow going
- (3) sometime \rightarrow sometimes; this \rightarrow it
- (6) speed → speed up
- (8) defines → defines it
- (9) preview → previewing
- (10) weather → whether
- (12) word → words; move → moves
- (14) the outlines \rightarrow the outlines,; tiles \rightarrow titles
- (15) headings → headings
- (19) hole → whole
- (20) readers → reader's

Key to Grammar Exercises

1. Choose the appropriate adverb of degree for each blank.

- a. far b. only c. fairly d. rather e. fairly
 f. rather g. quite h. quite i. rather j. rather
 k. much l. too m. fairly n. rather o. quite
- p. much q. fairly
- 2. Translate, using would rather.
 - a. He would rather go to the theater than stay at home watching TV.
 - b. She would rather work for another hour to finish the work than leave it for tomorrow.
 - c. The salary they offered is very attractive, but she would rather stick to her present job than accept their terms.
 - d. In order to protect her son, she would rather be punished than reveal her identity.
 - e. He would rather remain single than marry for money.
 - f. At this sad moment she would rather stay alone for a while.
 - g. I would rather you told me the truth than repeat that everything is perfect.
 - h. We would rather you remained silent than say something that might spoil the friendly atmosphere.
 - i. His family would like him to accept a job that may offer him more opportunities rather than a job that provides him with high wage.
 - j. I'm sure she would rather you stayed at home than accompany her to the hospital.

3. Rewrite the following sentences after the model.

- a. Such behavior patterns are probably inherited rather than learned.
- b. She's preferred to come in September rather in August.
- c. It is him rather than me that ought to be criticized.

- d. The school decided to cancel the beauty contest rather than just put it off.
- e. She seemed quite pleased rather than annoyed.
- f. Contrary to everybody's expectation, the university authorities promoted Joe rather than dismissed him.
- g. She always prefers to start early rather than leave everything to the last minute.
- h. The writer wanted to buy the whole of the oyster rather than just the pearl in it.
- i. One of the witnesses would call the murderer's eyes gray rather than blue.
- 4. Put in articles where necessary.

(1) the	(2) a	(3) the	(4) a	(5) a
(6)/	(7) /	(8) A	(9) A	(10) /
(11) a	(12) /	(13) a	(14) /	(15) /
(16) a	(17) the	(18) /	(19) /	(20) /

N. TRANSLATION OF THE TEXT

学习的乐趣

随着今天大批学校的建立,学习成了人人应做的事情。它是一种责任,说得更严重一些,它是由有规律的课时和严格的纪律约束的一种必须做的事。年轻人对这种责任嗤之以鼻,全力抵抗这种必须做的事。这种感觉往往贯穿着他们的一生。对于我们之中的许多人来说,学习似乎是使我们的意志屈从于外来的指挥,是一种奴役。

这是一个错误。学习是一种与生俱来的、本能的自然乐趣,是人类的基本乐趣之一。你观察一下年龄太小而没有通过训练形成任何思维习惯的幼儿吧。耶鲁大学已故的阿诺德·盖塞尔博士拍摄的一些颇为有趣的影片描写了一些小生灵,他们几乎不会说话,却以探险者的热情和激动研究问题,以具有献身精神的科学家的激情专心致志地做出发现。在每次成功的研究之后,每张小脸都露出纯真的、发自内心的喜悦的表情。

当阿基米德观察自己身体排出浴缸中的水这一现象而发现比重原理时,他高兴地跳了起来喊道:"Eureka, Eureka!"("我发现了,我发现了!")引起他这种迸发的本能以及他感到满足的喜悦,是所有的儿童都具有的。

但是,如果学习的乐趣是普遍存在的,那么为什么在世界上还有那么多迟钝的、不爱深究细问的人呢?那是因为不良的教育、孤僻、日常工作的束缚使他们变得迟钝,有时也是由于辛苦工作和贫困的压力或是财富以朝生暮死而微不足道的欢乐毒害使之迟钝。然而由于幸运、决心和受到指引,人类的智慧不仅能幸免于贫困,也能战胜财富。

这种乐趣不局限于往往令人感到枯燥的课本学习。它还包括从书中学习。有时,当我置身于一家大图书馆(如国会图书馆或是哥伦比亚的巴特勒图书馆)时,环顾那数以百万计的书籍,我便感到一种严肃的、热切的喜悦,这种喜悦除了用隐喻以外难以用言语表达。这不是一摞摞无生命的纸张,而是活现在书架之间的智慧。每一本书都发出其自身的声音,犹如电波传送我们的听觉无法听到的声音。正像我们触摸音响设备的一个按钮就会使房间充满音乐一样,当你打开一卷书时,就可以听到从遥远的时空传来的声音,听它诚恳地讲述,进行思想交流。

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