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许国璋英语 教程详解

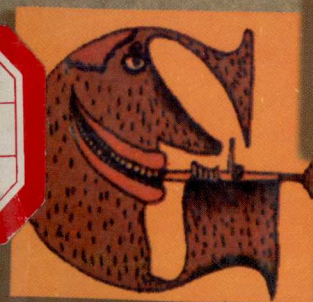
刘宝英 刘幼怡 编著

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复习与指导

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前 言

本书是根据许国璋主编的《英语》第一册至第四册内容编写的一套教学参考书。

本书于1982年以《英语教程初探》(上、中、下三册,与《英语》第二、三、四册内容相对应)为名出版以来,一直深受广大读者的欢迎。在当前改革开放的新形势下,为了满足更多读者学习《英语》的迫切需求,北京师范大学出版社决定聘请原书编写者对原版的三册书进行必要的修订和补充,并增编了第一册的相应内容,从而构成一套形式完整,内容翔实、由浅入深、简明实用的教学参考书。

在编写和修订过程中,本书的编写者始终坚持以多年教学的教案为基础,突出实用性为原则,并适当参阅有关参考资料,使这套书与《英语》教材环环紧扣,相得益彰。

这套书的一、二两册配合《英语》第一、二册内容,使初学者通过大量的练习和反复实践,在语音、语法、词汇及句子基本结构等方面打下坚实的基础。其中,第一册分两大部分,第一部分属语音阶段,根据《英语》第一册第一课至第十二课的内容综合编写为语音、语法、句型和课文四大项,并分别配以练习材料,为学生掌握基本技能技巧打下初步基础。从第一册的第二部分开始(包括第一册的第十三课至第二十四课和第二册全部),编写者针对各课的语言要点,逐段讲解注释,有选择地对一些惯用法作了对比说明,补充了大量例句,通过句型、问答、对话、听写、翻译等形式多样的练习提高学生运用语言的实际技能。为使学生系统掌握

英语语法基本知识，各课对相关的语法点均有详细的讲解和专项练习，以增强学生使用语法的实践能力。此外，为了便于学生更好地理解课文，编写者对课文的作者或背景材料作了简要的介绍。

第三、四两册除根据课文需要有选择的保持以上内容外，更着重于句子结构练习和对句子或段落的释义。考虑到《英语》教材三、四册中语法部分主要是通过综合练习加以巩固，因此不再专项列出语法练习。

《英语》各册书上的全部练习（针对课文的问答题或口头练习除外）均在书后附有参考答案。这套参考书中补充的课文和语法等练习答案则分别附在各课之后。

这套参考书的特点是突出实践性，它不仅为教师提供了适于精讲多练的参考资料，对于广大自学者来说，它还是一套学好四册《英语》不可多得的辅导用书。

限于水平，加之修订和编写时间匆促，缺点和不足之处在所难免，热切欢迎读者批评指正。

编写者

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Lesson 1 A Sweet Potato Plot

Introductory Remarks

What does the story "A Sweet Potato Plot" tell us?

It tells us something about the Red Army.

What kind of army was the Red Army?

The Red Army was a people's army. It was organized by the Party and led by the Party. It was different from the KMT reactionary army. It served the people whole-heartedly and followed Chairman Mao's thinking. It marched from victory to victory. Now this army has changed its name into the People's Liberation Army. But it still has the revolutionary traditions of the Red Army.

This text is based on a story told by Lieutenant-General Wu Hsien-en. It's about an event which probably took place during the Second Revolutionary Civil War (1928-1937).

There are two important points in the theme of the text. They are: 1 / the Red Army's strict discipline — only the people's army led by the Party could have such strict discipline. 2 / the people's love for the Red Army — When the people realized that the Red Army was their own army, they

loved it and supported it fully and whole-heartedly.

Explanation of the Text

Paragraph 1

1. At the top of the mountain there were thirty of us comrades.

thirty of us comrades: thirty in all

The author was one of them, one of the thirty. There were altogether thirty Red Army men.

cf. thirty of our comrades: the total number was more than thirty, the author was not one of the thirty.

2. At the foot of the mountain was a whole battalion of Kuomintang soldiers, surrounding us in a tight ring.

Note the inverted order. Give the normal word order: A whole battalion of Kuomintang soldiers was at the foot of the mountain.

surrounding us in a tight ring: who surrounded us and formed a circle around us (a present participial phrase used as an attribute).

The author was a Red Army man. Once they were surrounded by the KMT troops.

They were at the top of the mountain while the enemy were at the foot of the mountain.

By the way, do you know how many men a battalion has? (400 or 500)

Judging from the number of the KMT soldiers, things were

difficult to the Red Army men. But what happened then?
Let's come to the next sentence.

3. We had given the enemy a hard time.

What does this imply?

The enemy were having a hard time because the Red Army men were fighting bravely.

Why were they so brave?

Because they were fighters of the people's army and they knew that they were fighting for the liberation of the people.

It was not powerful weapon but the revolutionary heroism that made the Red Army men fight so bravely against so many KMT soldiers. Note: The word 'enemy' is a collective noun here. It can also be used in the plural to indicate individual persons. But generally we say the 'enemy', not 'enemies'.

4. They dared not come after us, but we could not get away.

= They were not brave enough to come up to fight us. But we couldn't get away from the mountain because there were too many enemy soldiers around us. We were greatly outnumbered. We couldn't leave. We couldn't escape.

Paragraph 2

1. Three days passed, with no fighting.

= Three days passed, and there was no fighting.

Does this mean that the battle was over?

No. "There was no fighting" does not mean that the battle was over. It was only because the enemy dared not come af-

ter the Red Army men. And in order to keep their own strength for the revolution, the thirty Red Army men had to wait for a chance to make a breakthrough.

2. It was clear that they meant to starve us out. The enemy surrounded us in a tight ring and broke off our relations with the people. In this way the enemy wanted to make us die of starvation. They wanted to starve us to death. They wanted to make us die of hunger. That was quite clear. 'It' stands for the that-clause. 'Starve' can be *vt.* or *vi.* Here the verb is used transitively.

'Out' is an adverb, expressing completion.

3. Did the Red Army men have much food with them? How did they live? How did they manage to keep alive?

What did they eat?

Could they find much fruit?

Could they find anything else to eat? Why not?

In order to live, they had to eat wild fruit, for there was nothing else in the mountain especially when winter was coming.

Note: The word 'fruit' is an uncountable noun here. It can be used in the plural to indicate different kinds of fruit.

A brief Summary of Section 1 (paragraphs 1, 2)

Once a group of thirty Red Army men were surrounded by a whole battalion of KMT soldiers. They fought so bravely that the enemy didn't dare to come after them. And yet they couldn't find much to eat.

Paragraph 3

1. One evening, as we were searching for berries and apricots, Little Tsai suddenly shouted, "Hey, look what I've found here! Sweet potatoes!"

= One evening when they were looking for berries and apricots, one of the soldiers Little Tsai suddenly shouted and told them he had found some sweet potatoes.

2. Before we could stop him, he had rushed on to a potato plot and dug up one of the potatoes.

= Little Tsai rushed so quickly to the potato plot and dug up one of the potatoes that they couldn't possibly stop him. It was too late for the comrades to stop him.

Paragraph 4

1. "Don't touch them!" we called out.

The comrades shouted to Little Tsai and asked him not to touch the potatoes.

Why did the comrades ask him not to touch the potatoes?

It was against the army discipline to touch other people's things.

One of the 'Three Main Rules of Discipline' is 'not to touch a single needle or piece of thread from the masses.'

2. "We'll ask the political commissar what he thinks about it."

= We'll ask the political commissar for his opinion. / We'll ask him whether he thinks we should dig up the plot and could eat the potatoes.

3. Why did Little Tsai feel ashamed of himself?

Did he think he had been right when he had dug up the sweet potatoes?

(No, he didn't. It was against the Red Army's discipline to touch other people's things and Little Tsai saw his mistake.)

Why had Little Tsai forgotten army discipline?

(His hunger had made him forget army discipline.)

Paragraph 5

1. There was a heated argument among the comrades.

= The comrades argued the questions with great enthusiasm.

/ They argued with each other excitedly. / They were having a heated discussion and they were all rather excited.

What were they arguing about?

They were arguing about whether they should eat the potatoes or not.

2. Some said we should eat the potatoes; others thought not.

= Some comrades said they should eat the potatoes. Other comrades thought they should not eat the potatoes. / Some

were for eating the potatoes; others were against eating the potatoes.

3. But before the political commissar had a chance to speak, two of our scouts returned to report that the situation was favourable for a breakthrough.

= The comrades were having a heated argument about whether they should eat the potatoes or not. The political commissar also joined them in the discussion. Just as he was going to speak, suddenly two of the scouts rushed in and re-

ported that the situation was favourable for a breakthrough. What does 'the situation was favourable for a breakthrough' mean?

This means that the situation had changed and it was possible for them to break through the enemy lines and get away.

Compare 'our scouts' with 'us comrades':

Was the author one of the two scouts?

Was the author one of the thirty comrades?

4. We decided to fight our way out that night.

⇒ We decided to fight the enemy and try to get away from the place.

A brief summary of Section II (paragraphs 3,4,5)

One day, Little Tsai was searching for wild fruit when he came upon a sweet potato plot. The soldiers were discussing whether they should eat the sweet potatoes when two scouts came round and said there was a chance for them to break through the enemy lines and they decided to do so.

Paragraph 6

1. Three months passed and we found ourselves back in a village at the foot of the same mountain.

Had the thirty Red Army men succeeded in breaking through the enemy lines?

(Yes, they had. When the situation was favourable for a breakthrough they immediately made the decision to fight their way out. And they had succeeded in breaking through the enemy encirclement.)

Where were they now?
(They were back in a village at the foot of the same mountain.)

Had they been to this place before?
(Yes, they had. Only three months before they were fighting the KMT troops on that mountain.)

Well, they knew this area quite well, didn't they? But it was the first time they entered this village. Three months before they had been at the top of the mountain. So that's why the indefinite article a is used before the word 'village'; but the definite article the is used before the word 'mountain'.

2. We were just preparing to pass the night in the open when an old man came up to us, and insisted that we should stay in his home.

= The Red Army men planned to pass the night in the open. At that time an old man came up to them and asked them again and again to stay in his home for the night.

...when ...: at that time

A farmer's daughter was once carrying her pail of milk to the farmhouse when she began to think and plan.

One morning the Giant was lying awake in bed when he heard some lovely music.

I was reading my lesson when I heard my name called.

3. We were a little surprised, for this was a newly-liberated area, and we had not expected to meet with such kindness from the villagers.

= The KMT reactionaries had spread rumours about the Red Army. The village had just been liberated and the villagers did not know much about the Red Army men. They did not trust the Red Army men. So the Red Army men had not expected that people would receive them so warmly. / They had not thought that the villagers of a newly-liberated area would treat them so kindly. / It was surprising and unexpected that the villagers of this newly-liberated area should treat them so kindly.

Paragraph 7

1. When we entered his house, the old man asked us to sit down, and began serving us tea.

= When we entered his house, the old man made tea and poured it out for us.

2. We were feeling more puzzled than ever when he began to explain.

= The old man treated them so warmly that they felt more puzzled. Just then the old man began to explain why he should treat the Red Army men so warmly.

When were they first puzzled? (When they were invited by the old man to stay in his house for the night.)

A brief summary of Section III (paragraphs 6,7)

Three months later they were back at the foot of the mountain again. It was a cold winter night. Nearly every door in the village was bolted. Just as they were preparing to sleep in the open, an old man came up and invited them to

pass the night in his house. They felt a little surprised because they hadn't expected that anyone in the area should be so kind to them.

Paragraph 8

1. "I'll tell you a queer story," he said.

= "I'll tell you something strange," he said.

'Story' doesn't always mean 故事 in Chinese.

2. I had a plot of sweet potatoes up there and I was worried about it.

= I had a plot of sweet potatoes up on the mountain and I was worried about my potatoes. I was afraid that my potatoes might be stolen.

3. Several times I tried to go up the hillside to have a look, ... Did the old man go up? (No, he tried to go up the hillside to have a look at his potatoes.)

cf. Several times I went up the hillside...

Did he go up? (Yes, he did.)

Paragraph 9

1. One night there was the sound of firing.

= One night we heard several shots.

2. I thought the Red Army men had fought their way out, and I was right.

= I thought the Red Army men had made a breakthrough. They had broken through the enemy's lines. The enemy had tried to starve them out but they failed. On the contrary the Red Army men had succeeded in breaking through the ene-

my's encirclement.

Paragraph 10

1. I cursed my luck and began digging up those that were left.

= I said to myself that I was so unlucky that my sweet potatoes had been dug up and I began digging up the rest of the potatoes, the ones that hadn't been dug up.

2. But the first thing I dug up was a piece of white cloth, and wrapped in it were five silver dollars!

= But the first thing I dug up was a piece of white cloth, and five silver dollars were wrapped in the piece of white cloth.

Inverted order: wrapped in it were five silver dollars

3. written on the cloth: a past participial phrase used as an attribute modifying 'something'.

4. We have eaten your potatoes. Please accept these five dollars with our thanks.

= Please take these five dollars from us and we thank you very much.

A brief summary of Section IV (paragraphs 8,9,10)

Then the old man told the soldiers a strange story. He had a plot of sweet potatoes on the hillside. He was quite worried when fighting was going on near the place. After the fighting was over, he went to the plot and found that some of his potatoes had been dug up. While he was trying to dig up the rest of the potatoes, he found a note together with five silver dollars from some Red Army men. It said they had