英语教程初探

中　　册

杉　友　编著

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数学教程初探

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写 在 前 面

本书是根据许国璋主编的高等学校教材《英语》第二、三、四册（1979年重印本）而编写的一套教学参考书。共分上、中、下三册，分别与《英语》二、三、四册相对应。

本书是以作者多年教学的教案为基础，并参阅了某些兄弟院校的有关资料，按册逐课编的。

《初探》的特点是实践性强。为便于教师精讲多练，使学生通过大量的语言实践掌握教材的重点和难点，《初探》在各课除简要介绍作者和背景知识外，还针对语言要点，逐段讲解课文，补充了大量例句，并通过问答、对话、翻译、听写等多种形式提高学生运用语言的能力。每课补充的练习，均在各课后附有参考答案。为使学生在语法方面打下坚实基础，《初探》在上册各课对基本语法点均配有专项练习，并附有答案。其它两册考虑到教材中的语法部分主要是通过综合练习加以巩固，因此不专门列出语法练习。原教材各册上的全部各项练习，除针对课文的问答题外，其余均在书后另附参考答案。

此外，本书中使用的缩写词，如 n = noun；v = verb；adj = adjective；ad = adverb 等与教材相同，因而本书就不一一注明了。

本书在编写过程中曾得到北京师范大学外语系 郑儒鋮

教授的热情支持和帮助，特此表示衷心的感谢。

由于水平所限，本书定有不少不妥和欠缺之处，希望广大读者指正。特别希望使用这套课本的教师提出宝贵意见。

1982.5.10

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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 Lieutenent-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 peope'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 after 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 ber-

ries 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 'Thrre 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 forgotton 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 potators. /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 re-

port 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 reported 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 11 (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 I (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.