英语形容词用法

ADJECTIVES



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学英语小丛书

英语形容词用法

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内容简介

本书是根据美国麦克米伦出版公司出版的The key to English, Adjectives I、I (1971年第5版)编译的。书中对定语与表语,形容词两大基本用法,叙述特别着力、透彻,有不少独到之处。尤其对于不同性质的前置定语的语序问题,通过实例与图表加以说明,给予读者最明晰的印象。书中举例充分,练习(附答案)丰富。因此,它具有扩大词汇量的效果,不仅为教师提供教学方便,而且为读者丰富词汇搭配,从而提高理解与表达能力,提供有力帮助。

本书适合中等及高等水平的英语读者使用,可作为自学辅助读物,也可用作教师课堂教学的补充参考资料。

原书序言

本书可供具有中等水平和高等水平的英语读者使用。它 既可作为自学读本,又可作为正式的课堂教学之外的补充或 参考教材。

本书采用现代结构派方法讲解形容词。虽然词形就其本 身而言可用作判断标准,但本书论述仍以句法而不以词形、 词义为依据。本书讲述形容词定义需符合以下两种结构;

- 1. 置于名词限定词与名词之间, 如 the old man。
- 2. 置于系动词之后,而又不在另一名词之前,如 the man seems old。

本书确定了上述定义之后,进而通过讲解及操练材料以 介绍形容词在上述两种主要句型中的用法。

书中前半部分(第一至第十一课)包括与形容词密切相关的某些结构,如程度副词(某些语法分析学家称之为修饰词) very, rather, quite, a little, too等; 形容词后带有for和to的结构,及形容词后某些类型的从句和介词短语。本书还讲了形容词用法中很棘手的问题,即名词前形容词修饰词的词序(如 that pretty little old white house),以及名词限定词的分析。

后半部分(第十二——二十三课)进一步探讨形容词比较级、构词法(加前、后级)以及区分真正形容词和有关类似形容词结构的特殊问题。尤其对作为形容词修饰语的-ing

形式及过去分词,进行了较详尽的分析,并将已变为真正形容词的 -ing 形式及过去分词(如 charming, confused) 和那些仍旧保留 动词 特征,仅限于修饰语 的词 (如 running, killed) 仔细加以区别,书中还讨论了副词与形容词相似之处或在句中与形容词连用等问题。最后探讨如何区分副词修饰语和形容词修饰语等难题 (如 The man is awake.而不能说the awake man)。

本书内容一般由浅入深,宜前后连贯学习,以取得最佳效果。但教师如需要某项具体语法内容的操练材料单独使用 某课,可不按顺序使用该课。

为了使本书适应于不同的读者,为了充分收集材料,词汇不受限制。本书不少读者,特别是在学习后半部分时,可能需要查阅字典。但这并不是个缺欠。相反,还可以扩大读者的形容词词汇量。这也是学习中一个非常重要的目的。

目 录

第		课	英语形容词	(1)
茅	=	课	怎样分辨形容词	(13)
第	Ξ	课	"名词限定词、形容词、名词"或	
			" (名限) +形+名"词组	(20)
第	四	课	与"(名限)+形+名"词组连用	
			的程度 副词	(27)
第	五	课	"系动词、形容词"或"系+形"词组	(35)
第	六	课	与"系+形"词组连用的程度副词	(41)
第	七	课	在"系+形"词组后带 for 和 to 的结构 ········	(50)
第	八	课	用于形容词后的某些 that 连接的	
			从句和介词短语	(60)
第	九	课	形容词性从句	(70)
第	+	课	"(名限) ÷ 形 + 名"词组中	
			形容词的排列次序	(81)
茅	+-	-课	名词限定词	(95)
第	+=	课	形容词的比较级别((107)
茅	+ <i>=</i>	课	比较级和最高级(一)((118)
茅	十四	课	比较级和最高级 (二)((126)
茅	十.五	课	形容词构词后缀 (一)((135)
茅	十六	课	形容词构词后缀 (二)(146)
茅	+ +	课	形容词构词后缀(三)((15 5)

第二十二课 第二十三课	其它结构中的形容词 ····································	
第二十一课	一些和形容词类似的结构	
第二十课	起名词修饰语作用的过去分词	
第十九课	起形容词作用的 - ing 形式	(174)
第十八课	用于形容词的前缀	(104)

And the second s

第一课

英语形容词

前盲

本书通过考察词组中各个单词用法,以探讨形容词的定义和语法作用。本书尽可能避免仅根据词义解释形容词的作法。语言是一个复杂的体系,所有特征几乎同时出现。很难象在显微镜下分析标本样品那样,单独地把某一独特的特点分出来加以讨论。语言是有生命的,至少可以说它是人类表达他们必不可少的思想、感情的方式之一。因此纯客观地使用语言就会歪曲原意。只有在连贯的语流中,我们才能领会形容词所充分起到的作用。当把它从语流中抽出来加以研究的时候,它再也不是活的语言了,而只是写在一张纸上的一组字母,或是一串几乎没什么词义的读音。

一、对于形容词定义的探讨

我们听或读大量英语的时候, 很快就 会发现 beautiful (美丽的), important (主要的), delicious (美味的), careless (粗心的) 和 sick (有病的) 等形容词在句中词序 安排上的规律性和局限性。它们共有四种方式:

(一) 位于名词之前

假设我们已确定句中哪些词是名词,我们就会发现我们

所探讨的形容词恰恰就出现在这些名词之前,如: beautiful scenes (美好的景色), important men(重要的人物), delicious meals (美味可口的饭菜), careless behavior (粗心大意的行为), sick children (生病的孩子)。但是这还不足以证明这些词就是形容词,或是其它什么词类,因为各种各类的词都可能出现在名词之前。因此在确定这些词是什么词类之前,还不得不了解一下它们在其它词组中使用的情况。

(二) 位于名词限定词和名词之间

英语中大约有50个左右习用词,它们的作用是指出位于其后的词是名词。因此我们称这些词为"名词限定词"。这些词是 a, an, the, his, three 等等,(可参看第十一课)。上面的形容词都出现在这些词和名词之间,如。a beautiful scene (一派美好的景色), the important men (这些重要人物), this delicious meal (这顿美餐), his careless behavior (他粗心大意的行为), three sick children (三个生病的孩子)。

(三) 位于系动词之后

英语中有一种词叫系动词,其后可接一些用来说明主语的词。这些系动词是 be, seem, become, taste 等等,所有形容词均可位于其后,如: It was beautiful。(很美丽。) It seemed important。(似乎很重要。) The food tastes delicious。(这个食品尝着很可口。) His behavior seemed careless。(他的行为似乎很马虎。) The children were sick。(孩子们当时有病)。

(四)位于程度副词之后

程度副词即 very (非常), rather (相当), quite(完全, 十分), somewhat (有点, 稍微) 这一类词。我们所探讨的形容词也位于这些词的后边。 如: very beautiful (很美的), rather important (相当重要的), quite delicious (相当味美的), somewhat careless (有点粗心的)。

二、形容词的定义

从整个英语语法上来看,区分出所有能用于上述四种情况的词是非常有用的。因为这些词有许多共性,了解这些共性将大大地提高我们说、写和理解英语的能力。本书认为: 能用于上述四种情况的词叫做形容词。仅能用于上述四种情况中的只有某几种,而不是全部四种的词,除此之外,则不能认为是真正的形容词*。

三、练习

(一) 翻译下列词和词组

1. good

2. long

good book

long road

a good book

that long road

this good book

^{*}有一例外,就是类属形容词,将在第 10 课讨论。这些词,如French (法国的), naval (海军的), Shakespearean (莎士比亚的)等等,它们把所修饰的词加以分类或归类,而不是加以形容或描述。因而这些词不能与程度副词连用。如果它们一旦与程度 副词一起出现,其词义就发生了变化。(如,我们说"She is very French."我们的意思是说她的性格,而不是指她的国籍。)严格 地 说,这些词不是真正的形容词。但是由于既要考虑到词义,又要考虑到词形,在本书中也把它们列入形容词类。

- 3. red
 red dress
 the red dress
 that red dress
- 5. green grasssome green grassthis green grass
- 7 short
 short test
 some short tests
 those short tests
- 9. flat
 flat shoes
 some flat shoes
 those flat shoes
 (二) 翻译下列词和词组
- 1. heavy
 heavy desks
 some heavy desks
 both heavy desks
- early hour
 an early hour
 that early hour
- 5. foolish

- 4. old house an old house that old house
- hot dayssome hot days
- bad dream
 a bad dream
 that bad dream

- 2. famous men
 the famous men
 all famous men
- 4. rural
 rural towns
 some rural towns
 five rural towns
- 6. careful

foolish child a foolish child each foolish child

- 7. humid humid days some humid days those humid days
- 9. joyful
 joyful news
 some joyful news
 this joyful news
 (三) 翻译下列各句
- The class is large.
 It's a large class.
 It's very large.
- 2. The students are intelligent.

 They are intelligent students.

 They are very intelligent.
- 3. My teacher is interesting.

 He's an interesting teacher.

 He's quite interesting.
- 4. The man is tired.

 He's a tired man.

 He's very tired.
- 5. Your room is dark.
 It's a dark room.

careful girls
the careful girls
those careful girls

8. cloudy
cloudy skies
the cloudy skies
these cloudy skies

It's too dark.

- 6. My books are heavy.
 They're heavy books.
 They're pretty heavy.
- 7. This weather is uncomfortable.

 It's uncomfortable weather.

 It's awfully uncomfortable.
- 8. That man is handsome. He's a handsome man. He's very handsome.
- 9. The road is smooth.

 It's a smooth road.

 It's quite smooth
- 10. That lawyer is skillful.

 He's a skillful lawyer.

 He's rather skillful.
- Both knives are sharp.
 They are sharp knives.

They are awfully sharp.

They are narrow streets.
They are too narrow.

12. Each street is narrow.

- 13. His job is easy.

 It's an easy job.

 It's pretty easy.
- 14. Ann's letters are neat.

They are neat letters. They are very neat.

and the very hear.

15. Our city is crowded.

It's a crowded city.

It's rather crowded.

(四)翻译下列句子,注意句中不同的系动词

1. The floor is rough.

The floor seems rough.

The floor feels rough.

The floor looks rough.

The floor appears rough.

2. The man was frightened

The man seemed frightened.

The man became frightened

The man looked frightened

The man sounded frightened.

3. This meat is bad.

This meat seems bad.

This meat tastes bad.

This meat smells bad.

This meat looks bad.

4. The sidewalk is wet.

The sidewalk looks wet

The sidewalk feels wet

The sidewalk seems wet

The sidewalk appears wet,

5. The speaker was boring.

The speaker became boring.

The speaker got boring.

The speaker sounded boring.

The speaker seemed boring.

(五)翻译下列句子,注意句中程度副词的位置

1. That job is very dangerous.

That job is quite dangerous.

That job is rather dangerous.

That job is pretty dangerous.

That job is too dangerous.

2. My brush is too stiff.

My brush is quite stiff.

wy brush is quite still.

My brush is very stiff.

My brush is rather stiff.

My brush is pretty stiff.

3. Those lights are pretty bright.

Those lights are rather bright.

Those lights are quite bright.

Those lights are very bright.

Those lights are awfully bright.

4. This bus is rather slow.

This bus is too slow.

This bus is quite slow.

This bus is awfully slow.

This bus is very slow.

5.	These boxes are quite full.
	These boxes are very full.
	These boxes are rather full.
	These boxes are pretty full.
	These boxes are too full.
	(六) 下列每对句子中, 第一句中都有一个形容词。挑
出该	形容词并填在第二句的空白处。
	示例: Inventors usually have clever ideas.
	The fox is a clever animal.
1.	This cup of coffee is too hot.
	coals can burn your hands.
2.	This class has many intelligent students.
	Do the pupils seem very?
3.	The nurses looked quite tired.
	I wasafter walking ten miles.
4.	Does that hook have complete informaion about the
	museum?
	You can read thestory in the newspaper.
5.	Those cars have powerful motors.
	The elephant is a veryanimal.
6.	Does this milk taste sour to you?
	we can sweeten grapefruit with sugar.
7.	Don't try to clean the blackboard with a dusty
	eraser. The shelves in the kitchen are
	most of the time.
8.	Have you ever met any famous people?
	— 9 —
	J