

Notes to C. E. Eckersley's

ESSENTIAL

ENGLISH

《基础英语》

注释

4

外语教学与研究出版社

《基础英语》注释

(四)

Notes to C.E. Eckersley's
Essential English
for Foreign Students

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瞿梅华 瞿福熙

外语教学与研究出版社

《基础英语》注释（四）

朱次榕等 注释

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说 明

1. 《基础英语》注释》是专为自学艾克斯利 (C.E.Eckersley) 所编的《基础英语》(Essential English) 的人而编写的。
2. 注释的内容包括:
 - 1) 生词注释
 - 2) 语法及重点词汇用法注释
 - 3) 难句译注
3. 这一套《注释》汲取了原书教师手册的精华, 并加进了注者本人使用此书进行教学的点滴经验。考虑到自学者各方面的需要, 注释力求详尽周到。但由于注者学力有限, 疏漏谬误之处仍在所难免。谨请读者批评指正。

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Lesson One 第一课

Frieda and Jan Break the News

弗丽达和简透露（他们订婚的）消息

I. Vocabulary 词汇

approach [ə'prəʊtʃ] *vt.* 同…打交道

attractive [ə'træktɪv] *a.* 吸引人的

bless [bles] *vt.* 保护, 使免于

capital ['kæpɪtl] *n.* 资本, 资金

darling ['dɑ:lɪŋ] *n., a.* 亲爱的(人)

device [di'vaɪs] *n.* 装置, 器件

income ['ɪŋkəm] *n.* 收入, 所得

labour-saving ['leɪbə,seɪvɪŋ] *a.* 减轻劳动的, 省力的

lettuce ['letɪs] *n.* 莴苣

poke (one's nose) [pəʊk] *vt., vi.* 瞎管,

干涉

proportion [prə'pɔ:ʃən] *n.* 部分, 份儿

rent [rent] *n.* 租金, 房租

satisfaction [sætɪs'fækʃən] *n.* 满意, 称心

trust [trʌst] *n., v.* 信任, 信赖

twice [twais] *ad.* 两次, 两倍

vacant ['veɪkənt] *a.* 空的, 未被占用的

whereas [hwɛər'æz] *conj.* 而, 却, 反之

will [wɪl] *n.* 遗嘱

II. 难句译注

1. Readers of the earlier books of *Essential English* I, II, and III will remember that the lessons are built round a little group of characters, (p.1) 学过《基础英语》前三本一、二、三册的读者一定记得, 本书的课文是围绕着……这样一群人物而展开的。

注: “are built round . . .” 等于 “are developed round”, 即: 围绕着……而展开。

2. Book IV completes the story of the students, and when this book closes we shall have seen them all leaving Mr. Priestley and going out into the world. (p.1) 第四册将完成对学生情况的叙述, 当本书结束时, 我们将看到所有的学生离开普里斯特利先生而走向生活。

注, “shall have seen” 是 “see” 的将来完成时态形式, 表示将来某一特定时刻某一动作已经完成。在本句中, 这一将来的特定时刻是以 “when this book closes” 这一时间状语从句来表示的。

3. At the end of Book III we saw that Frieda and Jan had fallen in love with each other; so, naturally, Book IV opens with the announcement of their engagement. (p.1) 在第三册末尾, 我们看到弗丽达和简互相产生了爱慕之情, 因此, 第四册自然应以宣布他们订婚而开始。

注: “had fallen in love with each other”: 相互恋爱, 如: Jan had fallen in love with Frieda. “open with ...” 等于 “begin with ...”, 意为: 以……开始, 其反义词为: “close with ...”, “end with ...”, “conclude with ...”, 以……而告终。

另外, “announcement” 一词由动词 “announce” 加后缀 “-ment” 变来, 表动作, 在 “the announcement of their engagement” 这一短语中, “of” 表动宾关系, 在意义上, “their engagement” 是 “announcement” 的宾语, 故可译作 “宣布他们订婚”, 而不是 “他们订婚的宣布”。在 “their engagement” 中 “their” 与 “engagement” 之间在意义上是主谓关系, 故译作 “他们订婚”, 而不是 “他们的订婚”。“announce” 加 “(e)r” 变成另一名词, 指人, “announce” 的用法如下:

- 1) The visitors arrived and the servant announced “Mr. and Mrs. Lang”. 客人到达, 仆人报告 “兰先生与兰太太到”。
- 2) The loud-speaker at the airport announced the departure of the plane for Paris. 机场的扩音器广播道飞往巴黎的班机即将起飞。
- 3) Her sister is a radio announcer. 她的姐姐是电台播音员。

又, “engagement” 是由动词 “engage” 加后缀 “-ment” 变来。动词 “engage” 有下列句法, 请注意其词义的变化:

- 1) They are engaged. 他们已经订婚了。
 - 2) Jan is engaged to Frieda. 简与弗丽达订婚了。
 - 3) I was engaged in correspondence with him. 我与他有通信往来。
 - 4) The office manager is engaged with a visitor at the moment. 经理此刻正忙, 在接见一位来访者。
4. Frieda and Jan Break the News (p.1) 弗丽达和简透露 (他们订婚的) 消息

注: 这是本篇的题目, 题目中所用动词 “break” 与不同的宾语搭配, 词义也不同, “break the news” 等于 “make it known”, 透露消息, 披露消息。这里用 “break” 一词其内在含义是, 以巧妙的方式透露消息, 以免使听者感到吃惊。这里指的是好消息。也可用来指坏消息。请注意下列 “break”

的动宾搭配:

break the back of... 完成某事中最困难(或最大量)的部分

break the bank 耗尽资源

break camp 撤营, 拔营

break someone's heart 令人心碎, 令人绝望

break the ice 打破沉默, 开个头

break new/fresh ground 开辟新天地, 开创新事业

break wind 放屁

5. Frieda and I are engaged to be married. (p.1) 弗丽达和我已经订婚了。

注: “engaged” 一词在此是形容词, 意为 “having agreed to marry”, 后面的 “to be married” 可加可不加, 加了意思更清楚。这句也可以说: Frieda and I have got engaged.

6. Congratulations and best wishes! (p.1) 祝贺你们!

注: “congratulations” 读 [kənˌgræˈjuːleɪʃnz], 此字在这里是感叹词, 也是名词, 在向人表示祝贺时, 必须用复数形式。此字可以单用, 也可以与 “best wishes” 连用, 以加强语气。例如: It's your birthday today? Congratulations! 今天是你的生日吧, 向你祝贺! We thanked him for his congratulations and left. 我们感谢了他的祝贺, 然后告辞离去。

7. You are the first people we have told—except for my parents. (p.1) 除了我的父母之外, 我们首先告诉了你们。

注: “except for” 在此意为 “but for”, 表示被除外的人或物与被包括的人或物不同。亲属与朋友有所不同, 一人之双亲是亲属, 一人之师长属友人。因此这里用 “except for”。如果被除外的人或物与被包括的人或物相同, 则应用 “except”。试比较: except for the spelling mistakes, his essay was good. 除了拼写错误之外, 他的文章写得不错。

“except for”

Pedro's essay was good except for one or two spelling mistakes. 除了一两处拼写错误之外, 彼得罗的文章写得不错。(拼写错误与文章是两回事) “except”:

All the students were early except Hob. 除了霍布之外, 所有的学生都来得很早。(霍布也是学生之一)

“except” 也可作动词用, 例如:

When I say all the students are working hard I except Hob, of course.

在我说所有的学生学习都很努力时, 我当然把霍布排除在外。

8. ...I wrote to Frieda's father a week ago, telling him we wanted to get married and asking for his permission. (p.1)一周前我写了封信给弗

丽达的父亲，告诉他我们想结婚，并想征得他的同意。

注：注意本句中的句式：“... wrote to ..., telling ... and asking for ...”。在英语里，句中主要动作(写)用谓语动词(wrote)表示，次要动作(告诉与请求)用非谓语动词(telling 与 asking)表示。“telling ... and asking”是现在分词，做状语，表目的。

另外，“marry”这一动词有两个意思，例如：

- 1) Jan is going to marry Frieda. 简打算与弗丽达结婚。
 - 2) The Rev. J.R. Thompson is going to marry them. J·R·汤普逊牧师将为他们主持婚礼。
 - 3) I married my grand-daughter this afternoon. 今天下午我把我的孙女嫁了出去。
9. ...; it's all right and they are very happy about it. (p.2)……; 事情很顺利，他们对此感到很高兴。

注：“right”一词有下列习惯用法：

- 1) I feel all right. 我感觉良好(或我没事儿)。(注：意即不累(not tired)或没病(not ill)。)
- 2) Will you help me?—All right. 帮我一下好吗?——可以。
- 3) I'll come and see you tomorrow.—Right you are! 我明天来看你。——行!
- 4) He's not right in the head. 他脑子有点毛病(或他神经有点不正常)。
- 5) I didn't feel very well yesterday, but I went to bed early and today I feel as right as rain. 昨天我有点不舒服，不过我早早就寝多睡了会儿。今天就感觉很好了。

注：在“feel as right as rain”这一短语中，“right”与“rain”都以字母“r”开头，为双声。这一短语的意思是“in perfect health”。

- 6) I'll come right away. 我马上就来。

注：“right away”等于“immediately”。

- 7) This apple was rotten right through. 这个苹果已经烂透了。

注：“right”等于“completely”。

- 8) He turned right round. 他正转过身来(即转了180度)。
 - 9) He stood right in the middle of the road with the traffic on both sides of him. 他站在路正中央，两边车辆来来往往。
10. You don't look very surprised at the news. (p.2) 听到这消息你好象并不感到惊讶。

注：“feel surprised at ...”是一句型，“at”意为“when you hear ...”

或 “when hearing...”。

11. I'm not surprised—I'd expected it for months—but I'm very pleased indeed. (p.2) 我并不感到惊讶——我已经期待了好几个月了——不过，我感到非常非常的高兴。

注：“I'd expected it for months”是插入语，说明不惊讶的原因。“I'd”等于“I had”。“but”接“I'm not surprised”，表转折。

12. I might as well admit that it's a complete surprise to me—I never notice things even when they are right under my nose—but I'm really delighted at the news. (p.2) 我该承认，这事对我来说太意外了——我连发生在我鼻子底下的事情都没注意到——不过听到这消息我确实感到高兴。

注：“may as well”或“might as well”加动词原形 (admit) 在这里意为“have no strong reason not to (admit)”，例如：There's nothing to do, so I may as well go to bed. 既然没事干，我还不如去睡觉。另外，“admit”有两个意思：承认，让……进。例如：

- 1) The man finally admitted that he had stolen the money. 那人终于承认钱是他偷的。
- 2) Hob will never admit that he is lazy. 霍布决不会承认他很懒。
- 3) Spectators will not be admitted to the football field before two o'clock. 两点以前不会放观众进足球场的。

“admit of”意为：允许，可能。如：

- 1) This business admits of no delay. 这事不能耽搁。
- 2) His words admit of no other meaning than that he is planning to ruin you. 他的话不能作别的解释，只能被看作是想毁坏了你。

动词“admit”的名词形式是“admission”，例如：

- 1) Admission to the meeting is by ticket only. 只要有票就可进入会场。
- 2) After the thief's admission of guilt he was sent to prison. 小偷认罪以后被送进了监狱。

动词“admit”的另一名词形式是“admittance”，例如：

No admittance except on business. 非公莫入。

13. I think you are very lucky, Jan, to get such a girl as Frieda. (p.2) 简，能得到象弗丽达这样的姑娘，我看你是很幸运的。

注：“such”在这里是形容词，用在不定冠词“a”之前，又如：

- 1) I have never met such kind people as they are. 我从来没有遇到象他们这样的好人。
- 2) Don't be in such a hurry. 不用这么着急。

“such”也可做代词，如：

1) Jan is the captain of the cricket team; and as such, must decide who is to bat first. 简是板球队的队长；作为队长，他必须决定谁先出场。

2) Hob's carelessness is such as to make it unlikely that he will pass the examination. 霍布太马大哈了，看来他考试难以及格。

“such as”用来表示列举，如：

They export a lot of fruit, such as oranges, lemons, etc. 他们出口许多水果，例如橘子、柠檬等等。

“such ... as”用于带领定语从句，这时，“as”是关系代词，如：

I never heard such stories as he tells. 他讲的这些事情，我过去从来没听说过。

“such ... that”用于带领表示结果的状语从句，如：

It was such a warm day that I took off my coat. 天太暖和了，我外衣都穿不住了。

14. Are you thinking of getting married soon? (p.2) 你们想很快就结婚吗？

注：“think of doing ...”：想（或考虑）做某事。

15. Well, that's one of the things we are not agreed on. (p.2) 呃，这是我们没有取得一致看法的事情当中的一桩。

注：“are agreed”等于“have agreed”。动词“agree”有下列句法：
agree to sth.

agree with sb.

agree with sb. on sth.

agree with sb. that ...

agree to do ...

例如：

1) I think we are now agreed on all points. 我看现在我们在各方面意见都一致了。

2) I asked him to help me and he agreed. 我请他帮助我，他同意了。

3) I agree to what you say. 我同意你所讲的意见。

4) Hard work doesn't agree with Hob. 霍布不适宜于艰苦的工作。

5) He never eats cheese; he says it doesn't agree with him. 他从来不吃奶酪；他说奶酪使他感到反胃恶心。

注：在例4)与例5)中，“agree”意为“suit the health or condition of”，对某人的健康或情况是否适宜。这样用时，句中主语多为物。

16. As you know, Jan is starting at London University in October to study to

become a doctor. (p.2) 您知道, 简十月份将开始在伦敦大学学习, 攻读医科。

注: “at London University in October” 是地点与时间状语, 插在 “is starting ... to study ...” 这一谓语之中。谓语动词用现在进行时态表示将来, 表示即将做的事情。

17. I would rather wait for a year or two — at any rate until Jan has taken his first examination. (p.2) 我宁愿等一、两年——无论如何也得等到简参加了第一次考试之后再结婚。

注: “wait ... until”: 等到……时候才……做……。 “would rather” 后用动词原形 (wait), 意为: 宁愿 (more willingly), 这一句式后常有 “than” 跟着, 例如:

I would rather wait for a year or two than get married immediately.

也可以说:

Rather than get married immediately, I would wait for a year or two.

其意思是: 我宁愿等一、两年, 也不马上就结婚。

18. But what's the point of waiting? (p.2) 等有什么意思呢? (或: 干吗要等呢?)

注: “point” 一词在此意为 “sense”, 即 “what's the sense of waiting?” 也可以说 “There is no point in waiting.” 等毫无意思 (必要)。“point” 的用法如下:

- 1) I don't see the point of the joke. 我看不出这有什么可笑的。(即: 我领悟不了可笑点在何处。)
- 2) Why don't you come to the point? 你应该直截了当地说。(你应该开门见山。)
- 3) Try to see the matter from my point of view. 你应该从我的观点去看这事儿。
- 4) The traveller was at the point of death when he was rescued. 旅客在垂危的时候得救了。
- 5) You should make a point of answering letters promptly. 你应该及时复信。
- 6) His remarks were very much to the point. 他说到点子上了。(即: 他的话很切题。)
- 7) Your remarks were quite off (beside) the point. 你没说到点上。(即: 你的话不切题。)
- 8) That was the turning-point in his career. 这是他事业的转折点。

19. So that you can really work hard. (p.2) 为的是你能真正好好地学习。

注：弗丽达这句话是对简的问题的回答，同时也是接她的上句而说的，连起来应为：I would rather wait... so that you can...

20. Don't you think, Mr. Priestley, that he would think about his work more if I wasn't there? (p.2) 我要不在简身边，他可以把心思更多地放在学习上，普里斯特利先生，您说是吗？

注：“Don't you think... that...?” 是反诘句，注意在“that...”带领的从句中，动词“would think”，“wasn't”表示虚拟语气。

21. But don't you see that if we were not married I should be thinking about you all the time and wanting to be with you instead of working. Whereas if we were married — (p.2) 我们要是不结婚，我会老想着你，老想跟你在一起，脑子走神而学不下去，这一点难道你不明白？而如果我们结了婚的话——

注：注意“that...”引导的从句做动词“see”的宾语，在“that...”从句中，“were not married”，“should be thinking about... and wanting to...”表示虚拟语气。

22. That's a fine thing to hear from a man you have just become engaged to. (p.3) 瞧，刚跟一个男人订婚，就听他说这种好话，那还了得。

注：“fine”在这里是反语，实为“poor”，例如：

That's a fine excuse. 那倒是个好藉口。

23. Dear me, this sounds terrible. What is the further cause of disagreement? 我的老天，这听起来真可怕。还有什么使你们意见不一致的？

注：“further”在这里意为“additional”，“more”，进一步，深入，更多。如：We must get further information. 我们必须获得更多的消息。

24. A friend told me of a small flat in the centre of London overlooking King's Cross station that will be vacant in October. (p.3) 一位朋友告诉我，伦敦市中心有一个小套间十月份将空出来，那个套间在高层，可以俯瞰金士架车站（按音义译名）。

注：“a small flat”是“of”的宾语，“in the centre of London”说明“flat”的地点，“overlooking...”是“flat”的补足语，“that...”从句是定语从句，修饰“flat”。

25. I'd much rather have a little house in the country looking out on fields, where I can breathe fresh air and see trees and hear birds singing. (p.3) 我宁愿在乡间拥有一幢面对田野的住宅，在那里我可以呼吸到新鲜的空气，看到林木，听到鸟语。

注：“in the country”说明“house”的地点，“looking out on...”修饰“house”，“where...”引导的从句为非限定的定语从句，附加修饰“house”。

26. But a flat is so much more convenient. (p.3) 但套间更方便啊。

注：“convenient”读 [kən'vi:niant]，方便的。

“so much more convenient”后省略“than a house in the country”。

27. We could get some labour-saving devices that would save you a lot of housework, and there are lots of little restaurants near King's Cross where we could go out for something to eat in the evening so you wouldn't need to cook meals. (p.3) (住套间)我们可以买些省力的机器，免去你许多家务活；金士架车站附近有许多小餐馆，晚上我们可以出去买吃的，这样你就不必做饭。

注：句中所用“could”，“would”都表示虚拟语气。

28. But I want to cook meals. I'm really quite a good cook, ... (p.3) 可我愿意做饭。说实在的，我饭还做得很好呢，……

注：这里“cook”一会儿作动词用，一会儿作名词用，请注意这一点。同时，“to be a good cook”等于“I can cook very well”。

29. Besides, I looked at the flat you are talking about and I didn't like the look of it at all. (p.3) 此外，我看过你说的那个套间，我根本不喜欢那套间的样子。

注：“the look of it”等于“what the flat looks like”或“the appearance of the flat”，意即：套间的模样。

30. You know, I don't like the idea of paying rent. (p.4) (你知道)，我讨厌付房租这种主意。

注：“you know”是插入语，是一种口头禅，在此并无实义，仅起缓和语气的作用，这样用时，“you know”要用逗点隔开。试比较：You know I don't like the idea of paying rent. 这时，“I don't ...”是“know”的宾语从句，这样用时，语气强烈。

31. They've paid enough to buy the house twice over and yet they don't own a single brick of it. (p.4) 他们付的房租足够买两幢那样的住房还有余，然而连住房的一块砖也不属于他们。

32. I should like to buy a house, but we haven't the money, at least not now; ... (p.4) 我想买一幢房子，但是我们没有钱，至少现在没有钱买房子；……

注：“at least not now”在口语里是附加语，意即：也许将来会有钱。

33. My grandfather, my mother's father—he was a Scotsman—left me a

sum of money in his will, and some useless property, a factory; but the money is in trust until I am twenty-five. (p.4) 我的外祖父,我母亲的父亲——他是个苏格兰人——在他的遗嘱里给我留下了一笔钱,同时还给我留下了一份毫无用处的财产,一所工厂;可是那笔钱现在是托付给别人保管的,要等我到二十五岁才属于我。

注:“trust”有许多意思,例如:

- 1) He trusts in God. 他信上帝。
- 2) I trust him more than I trust his brother. 我相信他,而不怎么相信他的弟弟。
- 3) I have trust in him. 我信赖他。
- 4) He holds a position of trust. 他处于受信赖的地位。
- 5) You don't need to pay for the goods yet; I will trust you for three months. You can have the goods on trust. 你要的东西现在先不用付款,我可以赊卖给你三个月。你可以赊买这些东西。
- 6) Jan's grandfather made a trust to provide for Jan's education. 简的(外)祖父为简的教育建立了信托财产。

34. ...with a bit struggle, it will just about keep us both—at least I hope so. (p.4) ……省吃俭用,这点钱(指从信托的那笔遗产而得的收入)大概刚够养活我们两人——至少我希望如此。

注:“it”指“the income from the money (in trust)”。

又:“least”有下列用法:

- 1) We have no hope of buying a house, at least not for five years. 我们希望买房子,在五年内无论如何是没希望买房子的。
 - 2) Let's pay the least. 那就让我们付得越少越好。
 - 3) Least said, soonest mended. 少说为佳。
 - 4) You ought to have lessons twice a week at least. 你每周至少应上两次课。
 - 5) He has behaved carelessly to say the least of it. 少说他也是行为不检。
35. Oh dear, I do wish I could have a house all to myself, ... (p.4) 唉,我多么希望自己有一幢房子啊!

注:“Oh dear”是感叹语,表忧伤或哀怨。“have... all to oneself”是句型,意为:拥有完全可以由自己占有支配的……。

36. I was so looking forward to it. (p.4) 我一直期望能有这样一幢房子。

注:“was... looking...”表虚拟语气,实指目前的一种愿望。

37. Isn't there any way we could buy one? (p.4) 有没有办法买一幢房子呢?

注：“any way we could...” 等于 “any way (in which) we could...”, “we could...” 是定语从句，定 “way”, “could” 表虚拟语气。

38. I don't want to look as if I was poking my nose into what isn't my business, but——(p.4) 我并不要显得好象我在多管闲事，但是——

注：“was poking my nose into...”：干涉，多管闲事。注意在 “into” 之后跟的是以 “what...” 带领的名词从句。“what isn't my business” 相等于 “your business”，但语气更为委婉。

又：“nose” 一词有下列习惯用法：

- 1) The merchant saw that I wanted the picture and he made me pay through the nose for it. 那商人看出我想买那幅画，因而抬高售价，敲我竹杠。
 - 2) You can't understand why he is doing this! It's as plain as the nose on your face. 他为什么这样做你不明白！这不（就跟你脸上的鼻子一样）是显而易见的吗。
 - 3) I wouldn't let anyone lead me by the nose as his wife leads him. 我可不愿意让人牵着鼻子走，就象他事事都要听他老婆的指使一样。
 - 4) One gets annoyed with people who can't see beyond their own noses. 跟鼠目寸光的人打交道实在令人生气。
 - 5) If you refuse to go to the party, which you would really enjoy, just because you don't like one of the guests, you are cutting off your nose to spite your face. 只是因为你讨厌某位客人而不参加你会过得很愉快的聚会，那只会损害你自己。
39. Yes, rather! (p.4) 嗯，当然愿意！

注：“rather” 在此等于 “very much”。

40. Hurrah! (p.5) 嗨！

注：“Hurrah” 读 [hu'ra:]，感叹词，欢呼声，表惊喜，赞许。

41. You look round, choose the house you want to buy and then approach the Building Society. (p.5) 你四处打听打听，选中了你想买的房子之后就去找房产部门商榷。

注：“approach” 在这里意为 “open negotiations with”, “go to talk about”。

42. You put down a proportion of the money——say ten per cent——and pay off the rest at so much a month. (p.5) 你先付一部分款——例如付百分之十——然后每月付若干，直到付清余款为止。

注：“pay off the rest at so much a month”：逐月支付若干到付清余款为止。