

山东省英语 应用能力 考试学习指导

■ 主编 邢桂丽 林立荣

■ 主审 臧金兰

中国石油大学出版社

山东省英语应用能力考试 学习指导

主 编 邢桂丽 林 华

主 审 臧金兰

副主编 张国玲 程 华

编 者 程 华 党瑞红 刘凤香

林立荣 孙佩艳 邢桂丽

张国玲

江苏工业学院图书馆
藏书章

中国石化大学出版社

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

山东省英语应用能力考试学习指导 / 邢桂丽, 林立荣

主编. —东营: 中国石油大学出版社, 2008.11

ISBN 978-7-5636-2681-6

I. 山... II. ①邢...②林... III. 英语—高等学校: 技术学校—水平考试—自学参考资料 IV. H310.42

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (2008) 第 169591 号

书 名: 山东省英语应用能力考试学习指导

主 编: 邢桂丽 林立荣

责任编辑: 徐 伟

封面设计: 九天设计

出 版 者: 中国石油大学出版社 (山东 东营, 邮编 257061)

网 址: <http://www.uppbook.com.cn>

电子信箱: erbians@mail.hdpu.edu.cn

印 刷 者: 沂南县汇丰印刷有限公司

发 行 者: 中国石油大学出版社 (电话 0546—8391810)

开 本: 185 × 260 印张: 14.25 字数: 335 千字

版 次: 2008 年 11 月第 1 版第 1 次印刷

定 价: 19.50 元

前言

PREFACE

《山东省英语应用能力考试指导》是根据教育部颁发的《高职高专教育英语课程教学基本要求》编写的一本供山东省高职高专学生使用的英语练习册。本练习册就语言能力要求、基础知识以及解题思路与技巧进行讲解归纳,并参照历年山东省英语应用能力考试试题编写了10套模拟试题,强调学生应用能力的培养,有助于学生通过高等学校英语应用能力考试和专升本的英语考试。

本书共包括四章:

第一章 语法精要 详尽地阐述了时态、定语从句、状语从句、名词性从句、非谓语动词、虚拟语气、以及省略、倒装、反意疑问句等,从中筛选出考点并配以练习,供学生及时巩固和加强对语法的理解应用。

第二章 技巧荟萃 涵盖了听力、阅读、写作等方面的应试技巧,在写作部分为学生提供了大量的应用文范例,在帮助学生通过考试指点迷津的同时,也提高了学生的英语实际运用能力。

第三章 强化练习 包括语法结构综合测试题、词汇练习和阅读练习。我们筛选出有代表性的知识点、难点、考点供学生练习,通过做练习来检验自己的英语能力是否达到考试要求,还有哪些不足,以便及时弥补,从而取得良好成绩。

第四章 山东省高职高专英语应用能力考试模拟试题 是按照山东省高等学校英语应用能力考试的要求设计的模拟试题练习,通过提供一定量的、有针对性的试题使考生对考试的形式、要求和内容有所理解和熟悉,以便在考场上能充分发挥自己的英语水平。

本教材配备了立体化的教学资料,包括磁带、光盘等,以方便师生使用。

本书汲取了现行国内同类练习册的优点,并结合山东省高职高专学生的实际情况和教学经验,以我国高职人才培养特点和教学改革成果为依据,突出教学内容的实用性和针对性,将语言基础能力与实际运用能力的培养有机地结合起来,以满足21世纪全球化经济发展对高职人才的需求。

本书凝聚了山东商业职业技术学院外国语学院全体老师的心血和智慧,在本书编写和出版过程中,得到了学校领导和学院老师们的大力支持和帮助,我们表示衷心的感谢。同时,在编写过程中参考了众多书刊、网站的资料,在此一并向这些作者们表示诚挚谢意。本书承蒙山东师范大学臧金兰教授百忙之中审订了全部书稿并提出许多修改建议,我们表示万分感谢。

由于编写时间紧迫,加之编者水平有限,错误和疏漏在所难免,恳请专家和读者不吝赐教。

编者

2008年8月

目 录

CONTENTS

山东省英语应用能力考试学习指导

第一章 语法精要	1
一、动词时态	1
二、定语从句	6
三、状语从句	10
四、名词性从句	13
五、非谓语动词	17
六、虚拟语气	28
七、四大句法	32
第二章 技巧荟萃	43
一、听力技巧	43
二、阅读技巧	48
三、写作技巧	51
第三章 强化练习	73
一、句法结构综合测试题	73
二、词汇练习	87
三、阅读练习	98
第四章 山东省高职高专英语应用能力考试模拟试题	111
Model Test One	111
Model Test Two	120
Model Test Three	129
Model Test Four	138
Model Test Five	147
Model Test Six	156
Model Test Seven	164
Model Test Eight	173
Model Test Nine	182
Model Test Ten	191
KEYS	199

第一章 语法精要

一、动词时态

动词时态一览表

	一般	进行	完成	完成进行
现在	I study English everyday.	I am studying English now.	I have studied English in several different countries.	I have been studying English for ten years.
将来	If you are having problems, I will help you study English.	I will be studying / I'm going to be studying English when you arrive tonight.	I will have studied / I'm going to have studied every tense by the time I finish this course.	I will have been studying / I'm going to have been studying English for over three hours by the time you arrive.
过去	Two years ago, I studied English in America.	I was studying English when you called yesterday.	I had studied a little English before I moved to the U. S.	I had been studying English for ten years before I moved to the U. S.

英语中常见的动词时态有以下几种:

1 一般现在时

一般现在时主要用来表示人、事物的现在状况和特点;表示经常或习惯性的动作,句子中常有 often, always, from time to time 等时间状语;表示客观规律和永恒真理等。

He usually goes to work at 7 o'clock every morning.

The earth goes around the sun.

Guangzhou is situated in the south of China.

考点一 表示永恒的真理,即使出现在过去的语境中,仍用一般现在时。

I learned that the earth goes around the sun when I was in primary school.

考点二 在时间和条件状语从句中,常用一般现在时代替一般将来时表示将来。常用的引导词有:

时间: when, until, after, before, as soon as, once, the moment/the minute, the day

条件: if, unless, provided

If he accepts the job, he will get more money soon.

考点三 在 make sure (certain), see to it, mind, care, matter + 宾语从句中, 从句用一般现在时代替一般将来时。

So long as he works hard, I don't mind when he finishes the experiment.

考点四 在 the more... the more... (越……越……) 句型中, 若主句是一般将来时, 从句通常用一般现在时。

The harder you study, the better results you will get.

2 现在进行时

现在进行时表示说话时或目前一段时间内正在进行的活动; 或表示感情色彩, 加强语气。与频度副词 always, constantly, continually, again 等连用, 表示说话人的某种感情色彩(如赞叹、厌烦、埋怨等)。

The house is being built these days.

The little boy is always making trouble.

考点一 在时间状语或条件状语从句中表示将来正在进行的动作。

Look out when you are crossing the street.

Don't wake him up if he is still sleeping at 7 tomorrow morning.

考点二 表示最近按计划或安排要进行的动作(这时多有表示将来的时间状语)。

Mary is leaving on Friday.

3 现在完成时

现在完成时表示动作发生在过去, 完成在过去, 但强调与现在情况仍有联系, 其结果或影响仍存在。现在完成时有一些标志性的时间状语。

考点一 for + 时间段; since + 时间点

They have lived in Beijing for five years.

They have lived in Beijing since 1995.

考点二 现在完成时常见的不确定的时间状语有: lately, recently, just, already, yet, up to now, till now, so far, these days.

Has it stopped raining yet?

考点三 在表示“最近几世纪/年/月以来……”时间状语中, 谓语动词用现在完成时。

in the past few years/months/weeks/days, over the past few years, during the last three months, for the last few centuries, through centuries, throughout history 等。

I have worked nearly 12 hours every day in the past few years.

考点四 表示“第几次做某事”或在 “It is the best (worst, most interesting) + 名词 + that...” 后面跟现在完成时。

This is my first time that I have visited China.

This is the most interesting film I have ever seen.

4 一般过去时

一般过去时表示在过去某个特定时间发生且完成的动作,或过去习惯性动作,不强调对现在的影响,只说明过去。常跟明确的过去时间连用,如: yesterday, last week, in 1945, at that time, once, during the war, before, a few days ago, when.

考点一 used to + do, 表示过去经常发生但现在已不再维持的习惯动作。to 为不定式, 后接动词原形。

be/become/get used to + doing 表示习惯于……

He used to smoke a lot.

He has got used to getting up early.

考点二 在时间和条件状语从句中,一般用过去时代替过去将来时。

He promised to buy me a computer if he got a raise.

5 过去进行时

过去进行时表示过去某个时间点或某段时间内正在发生的动作。

The boy was doing his homework when his father came back from work.

What were you doing at nine last night?

The radio was being repaired when you called me.

6 过去完成时

过去完成时表示过去某个时间之前已经完成的动作,即过去完成时的动作发生在“过去的过去”,句中有明显的参照动作或时间状语,这种时态从来不孤立使用(往往与 before, after, by, up till 等连用)。

There had been 25 parks in our city up till 2 000.

By the end of last term we had finished the book.

They finished earlier than we had expected.

考点一 用于 hardly/scarcely... when, no sooner... than 句型中,主句用过去完成时,从句用一般过去时。

I had hardly finished my work when he came to see me.

No sooner had I arrived home than the telephone rang. (注意主谓倒装)

考点二 表示“第几次做某事”,主句用过去时,从句用过去完成时。

That was the second time that she had seen her grandfather.

It was 3 years since we had parted.

考点三 动词 hope, expect, think, intend, mean, want, suppose, plan 用过去完成

时,表示未实现的愿望、打算和意图。

I had hoped that I could do the job.

I had intended to see you but I was too busy.

7 一般将来时

一般将来时表示在将来某个时间会发生的动作或情况。常和 tomorrow, next year 等和表示将来的时间状语连用,其表现形式多达 5 种。

London will host the 30th Olympic Games in 2012.

We are going to have a meeting today.

I'm leaving for Beijing.

The boy is to go to school tomorrow.

考点一 一般将来时总是用在一些时间状语从句或条件状语从句的主句中。

We will begin our class as soon as the teacher comes.

(主句用一般将来时,从句中一定要用一般现在时替代一般将来时)

考点二 某些表示短暂性动作的动词如 arrive, come, go, leave, start 等,常用现在进行时形式表示将来。

I am leaving for Beijing tomorrow.

考点三 “祈使句+and/or+句子”,这种结构中 and 后面句子的谓语动词用一般将来时。

Use your head and you will find a way.

考点四 “am (is, are) going to+动词原形”表示打算要做的事或可能要发生的事。

“am (is, are) about to+动词原形”表示按照计划或打算准备着手进行的动作。

“am (is, are) to+动词原形”表示必须、必然或计划将要做的事。

Turn off gas — the soup is about to boil over.

They are to be married next month.

8 将来进行时

将来进行时表示将来某个时间正在发生的动作,或按计划一定会发生的事情。

I'll be doing my homework this time tomorrow.

The President will be meeting the foreign delegation at the airport.

9 将来完成时

将来完成时表示在将来某时刻之前业已完成的事情,时间状语非常明显。

考点一 常用的时间状语一般是 by+将来的时间。如:by the end of this year, by 8 o'clock this evening, by March next year 以及由 by the time..., before 或 when 等引导的副词从句。

By the end of next month, he will have traveled 1 000 miles on foot.

By the time you reach the station, the train will have left.

考点二 在时间和条件状语从句中,将来完成时则由现在完成时表示。

The children will do their homework the moment (as soon as) they have arrived back from school.

10 完成进行时

完成进行时指动作在完成时的基础上还要继续下去。

The company has been promising a rise in salary for ages, but nothing has happened.

The school board listened quietly as John read the demand that his followers had been demonstrating for.

动词时态练习题

- We _____ with you for the time being.
A. will stay B. will be staying C. would stay D. have stayed
- Who sings best in your class?
—Mary _____.
A. is B. does C. do D. sing
- She _____ her pen in her room now.
A. finds B. is finding C. looks for D. is looking for
- What _____ you _____ tomorrow morning?
A. are/going to do B. are/doing C. are/done D. have/done
- It was not long before the water _____ cold.
A. is feeling B. feels C. felt D. was feeling
- I _____ as soon as you come back.
A. went B. have gone C. am going D. shall go
- The scientist _____ Canada and he will give us a talk when he _____ back.
A. has gone to/comes B. has been to/will come
C. has gone to/will come D. has been to/comes
- He found his book this morning, but now he _____ his pen.
A. loses B. is missing C. has lost D. lost
- She _____ to her hometown several times.
A. has been B. has gone C. went D. is going
- It _____ Jane and Mary who helped me the other day.
A. is B. was C. are D. were
- I _____ to bed when the telephone rang.
A. have been B. went C. am going D. was going
- Jane _____ some washing this time yesterday.

- A. is doing B. had done C. was doing D. did
13. When I got to the school, the first class _____.
- A. had begun B. began C. is beginning D. has begun
14. Mother promised she _____ me an English-Chinese dictionary.
- A. is buying B. will buy C. would buy D. has bought
15. She objects to _____ loud music _____ while she reads newspapers.
- A. have/play B. have/played C. having/playing D. have/playing
16. If it _____, we will go to visit the zoo.
- A. not rains B. doesn't rain C. won't rain D. isn't going to rain
17. Our English teacher _____ all the exercise books last Friday evening.
- A. has corrected B. will correct C. had corrected D. corrected
18. —What are you doing under the table?
—I _____ to find my watch.
- A. tried B. try C. am trying D. have tried
19. There _____ an English evening party next Saturday.
- A. is going to be B. will have C. is to have D. is going to have
20. It is getting late. It's time we _____.
- A. go B. went C. are going D. must go

二、定语从句

1 关系代词引导的定语从句

作用 \ 功能	用于限定性定语从句或非限定性定语从句		只用于限定性从句
	代替人	代替物	代替人或物
主语	who	which	that
宾语	whom	which	that
定语	Whose (=of whom)	Whose (=of which)	

1) 关系代词用来指代先行词是人或物的名词或代词。

He is a man who (/that) means what he says.

The people whom (/that) you met in the campus yesterday are from England.

The book which (/that) you are reading is written by a contemporary American novelist.

The bicycle the brake of which was damaged has now been repaired.

2) 关系代词的省略。

作直接宾语时可以省略

The man (whom) you saw just now is our manager.

Is there anything (that) I can do for you?

在“there+be”结构的从句中作主语的关系代词可以省略

This is the only bus (that) there is to that park.

注意: 关系代词放在介词后作宾语时,不能省略。但介词位于句尾时,关系代词可以省略。

This is the girl with whom he worked. (whom 不可省)

This is the girl (whom) he worked with.

3) 如果关系代词紧跟在介词后面,不能用 **who** 或 **that**, 只能用 **which** 或 **whom**。

This is the question about which they have had so much discussion in the past few weeks.

The people with whom he worked was a bit strange.

4) 如果先行词是 **all**, **much**, **anything**, **something**, **nothing**, **everything**, **little**, **none** 等不定代词,关系代词一般只用 **that**。

Have you taken down everything that Mr. Li has said?

All that can be done has been done.

There is little that can be believed about it.

5) 如果先行词被形容词最高级以及 **first**, **last**, **any**, **only**, **few**, **much**, **no**, **some**, **very** 等词修饰,引导限制性定语从句常用关系词 **that**。

It is the first American movie of this kind that I've ever seen.

This is the very good dictionary that I want to buy.

After the fire in his house, the old car is the only thing that he owned.

6) 在非限定性定语从句中,不能用 **that**, 作宾语用的代词也不能省略。

The sun heats the earth, which is very important to us.

There are thirty students in the class, the majority of whom are from the city.

7) **as** 可用表语, 同 **such**, **the same** 连用, 引导限定性定语从句;**as** 也可单独使用, 引导非限定性定语从句, 相当于 **which**。

The town is about the same distance from Nanjing as Yangzhou is.

The question is very difficult, as (/which) indeed it is.

2 关系副词引导定语从句

关系副词也可以引导定语从句,并在从句中分别表示时间、地点或原因等,关系副词意思相当于“介词+which 结构”。

关系副词	被替代的先行词	在从句中的作用
When (=at, in on, during, which)	表示时间的名词	时间状语
Where (=in, at, which)	表示地点的名词	地点状语
Why (for which)	只有 reason	原因状语

He will always remember the day when (/on which) his father returned from America.

I don't know the reason why (/for which) he didn't come to the meeting yesterday

morning.

that 有时也可以代替关系副词 when, where, how 或 why 引导定语从句, 引导表示时间、地点或原因的定语从句时, that 可以省略。

This is the university that (/where) he studied at 20 years ago.

(注意这句用 where 时, 后不可用 at)

Do you still remember the day that (/when) he arrived?

That is the manner that (/how) he deceived her.

I don't like the way that (/in which) he did it.

3 as 在定语从句中的用法

1) 引导限定性定语从句

在限定性定语从句中, as 多和 such 或 the same 连用, 构成“such... as”和“the same... as”结构, 可以代替先行词是人或物的名词。在“the same... as”结构中, “as”也可以用“that”代替。

Such people as were recommended by him were reliable.

Such books as I have read are classical works.

the same... that 虽然在结构上与 the same... as 相同, 但有时句意却不一样。

This is the same book as I read last week. 这和我上周读的那本书是一样的。

This is the same book that I read last week. 这是我上周读的那本书。

as 还可以用在 so 和 as 之后, 构成“so... as, as... as”的结构。这种结构前面的 so 或 as 是副词, 后面的 as 是代词。

In the city, I saw so grand a National Day celebration as I had never dreamt of.

He is as great a painter as ever lived.

2) 引导非限定性定语从句

在非限定性定语从句中, as 作为关系代词代替整个主句。通常译为“正如……一样, 正像……一样”。

As might be expected, John was admitted to the university.

The material is elastic, as shown in the figure.

As is reported, a foreign delegation will visit the city.

(不可说 As it is reported, 因为 as 引导的定语从句同时作主语, it 是多余的)

下面是常见的 as 引导的结构, 一般位于句首, 有时也可位于句中或句尾。

as is well known 众所周知

as is often the case 情况常常如此

as may be imagined 可以想像得出

as has been said before 如前所述

as has been pointed out 正如已经指出的

as is hoped 正如所希望的

as is supported 如所料想的

定语从句练习题

- She is one of the few girls who _____ passed the examination.
A. was B. were C. has D. have
- As many members _____ were present agreed to the plan.
A. who B. that C. which D. as
- You may call on me from one to five o'clock, during _____ I am always at home.
A. the time B. what time C. that time D. which time
- China is the birthplace of kites, _____ kiteflying (放风筝) spread to Japan, Korea, Thailand and India.
A. from there B. where C. from which D. there
- Who _____ has common sense will do such a thing?
A. which B. who C. whom D. that
- All the apples _____ fell down were eaten by the pigs.
A. that B. those C. which D. what
- They asked him to tell them everything _____ he saw at the front.
A. what B. that C. which D. where
- I'll tell you _____ he told me last night.
A. all which B. all what C. that all D. all
- A child _____ parents are dead is called an orphan.
A. who B. who's C. whose D. which
- He has lost the key to the drawer _____ the papers are kept.
A. where B. on which C. under which D. which
- Antarctic _____ we know very little is covered with thick ice all the year round.
A. which B. where C. that D. about which
- It's the third time _____ late this month.
A. that you arrived B. when you arrived
C. that you've arrived D. when you've arrived
- He often helps the students _____ he thinks are not quick at their studies.
A. whom B. who C. when D. because
- I have bought the same dress _____ she is wearing.
A. as B. that C. which D. than
- He is not _____ a fool _____.
A. such/as he is looked B. such/as he looks
C. as/as he is looked D. so/as he looks
- Is that the reason _____ you are in favor of the proposal?
A. which B. what C. why D. for that

17. Some of the roads were flooded, _____ made our journey more difficult.
A. which B. it C. what D. that
18. He must be from Africa, _____ can be seen from his skin.
A. that B. as C. who D. what
19. Is this the museum _____ you visited the other day?
A. that B. where C. in which D. the one
20. Is this museum _____ some German friends visited last Wednesday?
A. that B. where C. in which D. the one

三、状语从句

状语从句包括 10 种, 其中时间、地点、原因状语从句较常见, 在此就不作讲解, 重点介绍其他 7 种状语从句。

1 比较状语从句

引导比较状语从句的从属连词有: than, as... as, not so/as... as, the more..., the more, according as, in proportion as 等。

◆ 在比较状语从句中通常省掉和主句重复的部分

I have as many assignments as you (have).

John runs faster than any other student (does) in our class.

James is a better psychologist than (he is) a philosopher.

◆ 倍数的表达

A is three times bigger than B. or A is bigger than B by three times. 大 3 倍

A is three times the size of B. 大 2 倍

The wire is three times the length of that one.

A is three times as big as B. 大 2 倍

The hotel has twice as many rooms as that one.

◆ 类比句型

As..., so...; A is to B what C is to D 表示两种事物的类似之处。

As the desert is like a sea, so the camel is like a ship.

Just as some people are born artists, so some are born sportsmen.

Wisdom is to the mind what health is to the body.

The pub is to the Englishman what the coffeehouse is to the Italian.

2 结果状语从句

引导结果状语从句的关联词有: that, so (that), such that, with the result that 等。

Have you another sweetheart hidden somewhere that you leave me in the cold?

His anger was such that he lost control of himself.

I was in the bath, with the result that I didn't hear the telephone.

3 目的状语从句

引导目的状语从句的关联词有:so, so that, in order that, in case, for fear that, lest 等。

I'll ring him up at once so he shouldn't wait for me.

Take your umbrella with you, lest it should rain. / in case it rains. / for fear that it should rain.

结果状语从句和目的状语从句的显著区别在于:目的状语从句的谓语通常有情态动词。

4 程度状语从句

引导程度状语从句的关联词有:so (that), such that, as (so) far as, as/so long as, to the degree/extent that, in so far as 等。

His courage is such that he does not know the meaning of fear.

At that time politicians were not known to the degree they are today.

5 条件状语从句(真实条件)

引导条件状语从句的关联词有:if, unless, suppose, supposing that, assuming that, providing/provided that, in the event that, given that, in case that, on condition that, as long as 等。

Providing that there is no opposition, we shall hold the meeting here.

In the event that our team wins, there will be a celebration.

6 让步状语从句

引导让步状语从句的关联词有:though, although, even though/if, while, as, where-as, granting/granted that, in spite of the fact that 等。

Child as he is, he knows three foreign languages.

While I understand your point of view, I do not share it.

Granted that he has enough money to buy the house, it doesn't mean he's going to do so.

7 方式状语从句

引导方式状语从句的关联词有:as, as if, as though, the way, how 等,多放于主句之后。

She closed her eyes as though she were tired.

Do it the way you were taught.

状语从句练习题

1. —What was the party like?

—Wonderful. It is years _____ I enjoyed myself as much.

A. after

B. before

C. then

D. since

2. If we work with a strong will, we can overcome any difficulty, _____ great it is.

A. what

B. how

C. however

D. whatever

3. We'll have to finish the job, _____.
 A. long it it takes however B. it takes however long
 C. long however it takes D. however long it takes
4. Rubber differs from plastics _____ it is produced naturally and not in file lab.
 A. at that B. in that C. for that D. with that
5. _____ I admit that there are problems, I don't agree that they cannot be solved.
 A. When B. As C. While D. Since
6. —I'm going to the post office.
 —_____ you're there, can you get me some stamps?
 A. As B. While C. Because D. If
7. _____ you've got a chance, you might as well make full use of it.
 A. Now that B. After C. Although D. As soon as
8. John may phone tonight. I don't want to go out _____ he phones.
 A. as long as B. in order that C. in case D. so that
9. There wild flowers are so special I would do _____ I can to save them.
 A. whatever B. that C. which D. whichever
10. The WTO cannot live up to its name _____ it does not include a country that is home to one fifth of mankind.
 A. as long as B. while C. if D. even though
11. She found her calculator _____ she lost it.
 A. where B. when C. in which D. that
12. In such dry weather, the flowers will have to be watered if they _____.
 A. have survived B. are to survive C. would survive D. will survive
13. _____, I have never seen anyone who's as capable as John.
 A. as long as I have traveled B. Now that I have traveled so much
 C. Much as I have traveled D. As I have traveled as much
14. —Dad, I've finished my assignment.
 —Good, and _____ you play or watch TV, you mustn't disturb me.
 A. whenever B. whether C. whatever D. no matter
15. Generally speaking, _____ according to directions, the drug has no side-effect.
 A. when taking B. when taken C. when to take D. when to be taken
16. Come and see me whenever _____.
 A. you are convenient B. you will be convenient
 C. it is convenient to you D. it will be convenient to you
17. —Did you remember to give Mary the money you owed her?
 —Yes, I gave it to her _____ I saw her.
 A. while B. the moment C. suddenly D. once
18. He was about to tell me the secret _____ some one patted him on the shoulder.