

English

Spoken English

全国高等教育英语专业自学考试指导丛书

全新英语自考口语 基本技能训练

■ 张小玲 编



西安电子科技大学出版社
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2000

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

全新英语自考口语基本技能训练/张小玲编.

—西安:西安电子科技大学出版社,2000.5

ISBN 7-5606-0852-3

I. 全… I. ① 张… II. 英语-口语-高等教育-自学考试-习题

N. H319.9-44

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2000)第 22930 号

责任编辑 毛红兵

出版发行 西安电子科技大学出版社(西安市太白南路 2 号)

电 话 (029)8227828 邮编 710071

http://www.xduph.com E-mail: xdupfxb@pub.xaonline.com

经 销 新华书店

印 刷 西安电子科技大学印刷厂

版 次 2000 年 5 月第 1 版 2000 年 5 月第 1 次印刷

开 本 850 毫米×1168 毫米 1/32 印张 6.6875

字 数 163 千字

印 数 1~4 000 册

定 价 6.50 元

ISBN 7-5606-0852-3/H·0090

*** 如有印装问题可调换 ***

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内 容 简 介

本书依照国家教委最新制定的《高等教育自学考试英语专业考试计划》并参考历年来英语自考口语真题编写而成。全书内六类口语基本技能训练题组成,包括短文朗读、情景会话、信息复述、情景故事、看图说话及话题论述。

本书不仅能帮助考生学习基本的口语会话知识,更能在假设的考试环境中使考生熟知考试的细则和要求,使考生真正做到把考试搬回家。考生只要严格按照要求进行学习及训练,定能做到举一反三,应变自如。

本书除适用于参加高等教育英语自学考试的学生外,同时对参加大学英语专业及非英语专业四、六级口语考试的学生也有很大的帮助。

前言

本书依照国家教委最新制定的《高等教育自学考试英语专业考试计划》并参考历年来英语自考口语真题编写而成。

全书由六类口语基本技能训练题组成,是所有参加英语自考口语考生的必备复习资料,更是考生考前热身训练的最佳选择。短文朗读部分包括 30 篇短文,每篇短文后附即兴问答题二到四题,考生可依考试程序先念后答,再对照题后所附参考答案对照检查。情景会话部分包括 30 个具有代表性的情景,每个大的情景下又配有三道活学活用题,考生可在掌握大情景会话后,按这三道题的模式再举出更多的情景会话题。信息复述部分和情景故事部分是以往考试中没有出现过的。信息复述题可训练考生将现有的词组先连贯成句,再用标准的英语表达出来的能力;情景故事题要求考生在既定情景下,发挥自己的想象力和创造力,用最自然真实的语言表达自己在该情景下的所思所想,预计在不久的将来这两种形式都极有可能出现在口语考试中。看图说话是最近出现的考试题型,本书选编了 30 篇训练题并附有参考答案,考生可先自行训练,再对照参考答案找出差距。话题论述是考生最为惧怕的考试项目,本书选编了 30 个最具有代表性的话题,为更好地帮助考生,每道题后附有三种参考答案,其中斜体字部分为考生可直接引用的句子或关联词组。

在以往的口语考试中，老师常常会帮助考生“共度难关”，其表现为老师常常对考题给予解释，针对考生不会的表达给予提示，并会立即纠正考生的错误。近年来，口语考试正逐步过渡到由考生自己唱独角戏，老师不再参与的状况。老师按要求出题后，将不再给考生任何提示，对考生提出的与考题无关的问题不予回答，对考生的错误在考试中不予纠正。这无疑增加了考试的难度，但对考生而言也有其有利的一面，口语考试成为一种可准备及可预测的考试。考生不必担心老师突如其来的问题，也不必为老师的纠错感到紧张或尴尬。

考虑到口语考试中出现的这一新变化，作者精心收集了口语强化训练所必备的代表性题材，特编写了此书。本书具有以下三大特点：首先，内容新，题型全。本书选编的口语训练题除涵盖了已往常见的考试题型外，更包括了近几年内可预测的、潜在的考试题型，旨在帮助考生熟悉每一种考试题型，真正作到胸有成竹，心中有数。其次，语言在难易程度上与真题相当。这就为考生考前自测提供了可参照的依据，同时有助于帮助考生选择相关的复习材料。最后，为方便考生自测，每道题后附有一到三种参考答案。考生可通过自测对照检查，发现错误并立即纠正。

本书作者长期从事大学英语教学及英语自考口语辅导工作，有丰富的教学和实践经验。书中所选试题材料力求做到以点代面、精益求精。同时，作者想对所参阅的大量国内外书籍的作者们致以深深的谢意。

本书在编写中难免有疏漏之处，敬请各位同行及考生不吝赐教，予以指正。

编者

2000年3月

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西安电子科技大学出版社发行部

邮编: 710071 电话: (029) 8227828、8202945 传真: (029) 8213675

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Basic Skill 1

Passage Reading

Directions: *Read the following passages with proper pronunciation and intonation, and then answer the examiners' questions by what you have learned from the passage.*

1 . In the United States almost everyone talks about time. People spend a great deal of time explaining that there isn't enough time. There is always too little time to do what one wants, or to do what one feels one should do.

Qs: 1. What do people talk about in the United States?

2. How do people feel about time?

As: 1. They talk about time.

2. They feel that there is always too little time to do what one wants, or to do what one should do.

2 . Walt Whitman was not fully accepted during his lifetime as a poet or as a person. To many nineteenth century readers his poems did not sound like poems, and some of his ideas shocked the people of his time.

Qs: 1. Who is talked about in the passage?

2. Why people in the nineteenth century did not fully accept him as a poet or as a person?

As: 1. Walt Whitman.

2. To them, his poems did not sound like poems, and some of his ideas shocked the people of his time.

3. Every day, in all kinds of weather, many thousands of men and women jog. Most joggers begin because they hear it is very good exercise. Jogging makes the heart stronger and helps people lose weight. It can also help them feel better about themselves.

Qs: 1. What do people do every day?

2. How does jogging help people?

As: 1. Many thousands of men and women jog.

2. It makes the heart stronger and helps people lose weight. It can also help people feel better about themselves.

4. What is the name of the science that deals with the study of weather? It's meteorology. Therefore, a person whose job is to think and talk about what is going on high in the air is a meteorologist. We usually call him a weatherman.

Qs: 1. What is the name of the science that deals with the study of weather?

2. What is another name for meteorologist?

As: 1. It's meteorology.

2. It's weatherman.

5. From childhood I was fond of reading and spent all the little money I had on books. My father's little library consisted chiefly of books on religion. I read most of them, but as I was not going to become a clergyman, I have often felt sorry that I had had no

chance to read more proper books.

Qs: 1. What was the writer fond of from childhood?

2. What were the major books that made up the father's little library?

As: 1. He was fond of reading books.

2. Religious books.

6. Some errors that appear in inexperienced writers' paragraphs are serious because they confuse the message. However, some other errors are serious because they make the writer seem ignorant or stupid. If the reader feels this way about the writer, he will not be interested in the writer's ideas, no matter how good the ideas are.

Qs: 1. Why some errors in writing are serious?

2. What are some other serious errors mentioned in the passage?

As: 1. Because these errors confuse the message.

2. Those errors that make the writer seem ignorant or stupid.

7. Two hundred years ago, many American farmers were always moving on, farther and farther west. They found it cheaper to buy a new acre than to fertilize an old one. But George Washington loved the land he had, poor as much of it was. He was determined to improve his large farm of 8,000 acres in Virginia.

Qs: 1. Why American farmers moved west?

2. What did George Washington do with his farm in Virginia?

As: 1. They found it cheaper to buy a new acre of land than to fertilize an old one.

2. He was determined to improve his farmland.

8. The standard dialect has some special functions. It is usually used in print, and spoken by educated native speakers and used in news broadcasts, official documents and publications and on other formal occasions. It is also the variety that is normally taught in schools and to non-native speakers learning the language.

Qs: 1. What is discussed in the passage?

2. Can you give three examples for the usage of the standard dialect?

As: 1. The standard dialect.

2. It is used in print, news broadcasts, official documents and publications, spoken by educated native speakers, taught in schools and to non-native speakers learning the language.

9. English is a complex language, and there are few absolute rules regarding sentence structure. But two essential elements of good writing are precision and economy, and applying a few simple rules of sentence structure can help you to achieve economy and precision in your writing.

Qs: 1. What are the two essential elements of good writing?

2. What can help writers to achieve economy and precision in their writing?

As: 1. They are precision and economy.

2. To apply a few simple rules of sentence structure.

10. In the United States, most women work because they need to

work. Of all working women in the country, 25% are unmarried. Nineteen percent are divorced or their husbands are dead. Eighteen percent are married, but the husband's income is less than \$ 10, 000 per year.

Qs: 1. Why most women work in the United States?

2. Can you give some specific reasons why women work?

As: 1. They work because they need to work.

2. Some work because they are unmarried and they need to support themselves; some work because they are divorced or their husbands are dead; some others work because their husbands cannot earn enough to support the family.

11 . In the United States, life is changing at an ever-faster pace. People often move from one part of the country to another because of their jobs, or sometimes even without any reason. But not all Americans lead rootless lives. Many families are deeply attached to a particular region where they have lived for generations.

Qs: 1. How is life changing in the United States?

2. Are all Americans lead rootless lives?

As: 1. Life is changing at an ever-faster pace.

2. No, many people live in the same place for generations.

12 . The Student Union has recently agreed to set up a Swimming Club. It aims to encourage swimming, to raise swimming standards and to form a college swimming team. During the summer there will be a number of lectures and demonstrations. Mr. Wu, the swimming coach at Xi'an Physical Culture Institute, has agreed to

give training to the participants.

Qs: 1. What has the Student Union decided to set up?

2. What are some of the purposes of setting up the Swimming Club?

3. Who is Mr. Wu?

As: 1. It has decided to set up a Swimming Club.

2. It aims to encourage swimming, to raise swimming standards and to form a college swimming team.

3. He is a coach at Xi'an Physical Culture Institute, who has agreed to give training to the participants of the Swimming Club.

B . Business letters in English have to follow a certain form. They inform in a formal way. There is always a definite reason for writing such letters. For example, we might want to ask for an application, or order a pair of shoes. We need to state the reason clearly and directly. This reason often comes first in the body of the letter.

Qs: 1. In what way should business letters inform?

2. What are some of the reasons for writing a business letter?

3. Where should we put the reason in the business letter?

As: 1. They should inform in a formal way.

2. We might want to ask for an application, or order a pair of shoes.

3. We should often put it first in the body of the letter.

H . The White House, the official home of the President of the

United States, was designed by the architect James Hoban, who is said to have been influenced by the design of a palace in Ireland. The building was begun in 1792 and was first occupied by President and Mrs. John Adams in November 1800. The house received its present name when it was painted white after being damaged by fire in 1814.

- Qs:** 1. Who designed the White House?
2. Who was the first president to occupy the White House?
3. When was the White House damaged by fire?

- As:** 1. The architect James Hoban.
2. President and Mrs. John Adams.
3. It was in 1814.

15. The women's liberation movement was started by women who didn't want to stand behind successful men. They wanted to stand beside men, with the same chances for success. The movement is quite new, and many American women do not agree with its purposes. But it has already made several changes in both women's and men's lives.

- Qs:** 1. Who started the women's liberation movement?
2. How does the movement affect people's lives?

- As:** 1. It was started by women who wanted to stand beside men, with the same chances for success.
2. It has made several changes in people's lives.

16. In reporting accidents, especially automobile accidents, the reporter must use words carefully. Care must be exercised using

such words as crashed, collided, demolished, destroyed. Only moving objects collide and falling crafts crash. A statement that a person is not expected to live should be reported as critically injured. Fact reporting and careful language will help the reporter write without expressing an opinion on the person responsible for an accident.

Qs: 1. What should reporters do when reporting automobile accidents?

2. What words can be used to mean a person who is not expected to live in an accident?

As: 1. They must use words carefully.

2. The person can be reported as critically injured.

17. Some overseas visitors come to the Grand Canyon each year. They like the boat ride down the Colorado River. They also like bird watching and nature study. The overnight mule trip is an unforgettable experience for them. They collect fossils and study the rock layers in the Canyon walls. In the evening, they have dinner. They order steak, and they also have ice cream. There is plenty for them to do at the Canyon.

Qs: 1. Who come to visit the Grand Canyon each year?

2. What are some of the activities preferred by the visitors?

As: 1. Some overseas visitors.

2. They like the boat ride down the Colorado River; they like bird watching and nature study; they also like the overnight mule trip.

18. The ancient Egyptians had nothing like our machines to lift