

全国英语等级考试 实用教程

4

A Practical Coursebook for
Public English Test System (PETS)
(Level 4)

总主编\李庆生

主编\刘世平



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主编 李 冰
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中国石化出版社

总主编 廖庆生

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前 言

全国英语等级考试(Public English Test System,简称 PETS)是教育部考试中心设计并负责实施的全国性英语水平考试体系。它是一种以全体公民为对象的非学历性英语证书考试,旨在测试应试者英语交际能力。作为中英两国政府的教育交流合作项目,PETS不但为我国英语教育考试提供了一套科学、合理的评价标准,而且在一定程度上克服了地区、行业自行设置考试成绩互不承认的弊端,实现了考试与社会需求的接轨。由于报考者可以不受年龄、职业以及受教育程度的限制,所以可根据自己的英语水平报名参加任一级别的考试。这一考试也极大地顺应了当今社会终身学习、终身教育的时代潮流。但为了不影响学校正常的英语教学,目前普通中学和大学尚不能组织在校生报考。

全国英语等级考试共有五个级别,其能力与要求大致如下:

初始级(PETS 1):其考试要求略高于初中毕业生的英语水平。(此级别还有一个附属级 PETS 1B。)

中下级(PETS 2):其考试要求相当于普通高中优秀毕业生的英语水平。(此级别笔试合格成绩可替代自学考试专科阶段基础课程英语考试成绩。)

中间级(PETS 3):其考试要求相当于我国学生高中毕业后在大专院校又学了2年公共英语或自学了同等程度英语课程的水平。

中上级(PETS 4):其考试要求相当于我国学生高中毕业后在大学至少又学习了3~4年的公共英语或自学了同等程度英语课程的水平。(此级别笔试合格成绩可替代本科阶段公共英语课程考试成绩。)

最高级(PETS 5):其考试要求相当于我国大学英语专业二年级结束时的水平,是专门为申请公派出国留学的人员设立的英语水平考试。

然而无论初衷如何,PETS 也跟其他考试一样,是对不同级别应试者能力的检验,即:通过某些测试点,对应试者知识或能力进行评估,而不是检查一个人实际掌握了多少东西,更不是教一个人如何学英语。换句话说,即使我们掌握考试中的那些知识或能力点,也不意味着我们就掌握了英语,因为考试试卷中出现的大多是一种脱离语境的、理想化的语言,在现实生活中是并不多见的。从这个意义上说,想通过做模拟试题来学会英语是不现实的,也是一种本末倒置的表现。

正是基于这样的一种认识,我们组织了一些对英语教学与测试经验丰富的中青年教师编写了这套教材,希望应试者通过一段时间循序渐进的学习,逐渐适应 PETS 的考试模式后,不但能够通过 PETS 考试,而且还能较为全面地掌握英语语言的知识体系和相关背景知识,把这些知识变成一种实实在在的能力。

本教程共分五册,分别与 PETS 考试的五个级别对应。主要内容如下:

第一册(Book One)共有 13 个单元,每一个单元覆盖一个与日常生活密切相关的主题,按照对话、课文、单词和短语、注释、练习及答案等顺序排列,其语言素材涉及个人的兴趣、学习与工作、休闲与娱乐等,既贴近生活,又生动有趣,旨在通过这一阶段的学习掌握日常交际的基本技能。

第二册(Book Two)同样有 13 个单元,排列顺序与第一册相同,但每一个单元覆盖的话题有所增加,并更加注意功能与意念的表达。第二册所用的语言素材也有一些变化,涉及英语国家的文化特色,如英语国家的风土人情、文化教育等,其目的在于通过语言的学习了解说英语的国家。

第三册(Book Three)是一个过渡的阶段,共有 15 个单元。在

编排上保留了课文、单词和短语、注释、练习等基本内容,但取消了对话。每一个单元虽然也都有一个大的主题,但语言的难度与语篇的长度都有所增加,语言素材也更加广泛,涉及文化教育、科学技术、经济、社会等方方面面,其目的在于通过学习进一步拓展学习者的知识面和表达能力。

第四册(Book Four)是一个提高阶段,共有 15 个单元。内容的编排与第三册基本相同,每一单元涵盖一个主题思想,如家庭生活、人与自然、社会文化、名人轶事、大众传媒、电脑世界、太空探索等,其语言素材既反映了人类科学技术的日新月异,又体现了天人合一的哲学理念,其目的是通过学习,使读者一方面能够领会西方先进的思想文化,另一方面又能够学会如何表达自己。

第五册(Book Five)是一个高级阶段,共有 15 个单元。内容的编排虽与第三、四册基本相同,但有的主题思想跨越多个单元。鉴于 PETS 5 的对象主要是较高层次的专业人员,所选的文章大多源于经典原著;文章的长度、思想的复杂性以及语言的难度都是前四册所不能比拟的。这样做的主要目的,是想通过原著的学习使学习者能够用西方人的思维方式和独特视角来充实自己。

语言的学习是一个漫长的过程,非一朝一夕能够完成的。我们编写的这套教材只是一个起点。为了帮助大家通过不同级别的考试,在练习部分我们采用了 PETS 的题型,语言素材也与考试基本一致,因此可以达到过关的目的,但要达到娴熟程度,还有待于大家进一步的努力。

编者

2003 年于珞珈山

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Unit 1

Husband and Wife in the West

Text A Male and Female Roles in the United States

From the end of World War II until recent years, the lives of men and women in the United States usually had one form.¹ Usually, men and women married. The man usually worked. He earned the money that the family needed. The woman took care of the children, cooked, and cleaned. In recent years, the role of men and women in the United States has begun to change. Some research has been done to study the changes that have occurred. Let us look at some of the new ways in which these roles are changing.

In the traditional marriage, the man worked at a job to earn money for the family. Most men worked in an office, a factory, or some other place away from the home. Since the man earned the money, he paid the bills. The money was used for food, clothes, a house, and other family needs. The man made most of the decisions. He was the boss.

In the traditional marriage, the woman seldom worked away

from the house. She stayed at home to care for the children and her husband. She cooked the meals, cleaned the house, washed the clothes, and did other household work. Her job at home was very important.

In recent years, many couples continue to have a traditional relationship of this kind. The man has a job and earns the money is for the family. The woman stays at home and cares for the children and the house.² Many Americans are happy with this kind of marriage. But some other Americans have a different impression of marriage and family responsibilities.

The idea of marriage and family as a way of life has changed recently in the United States. First, not everyone tries to get married. Some people decided that they would rather live alone. Second, many people get married, and then find that they are not happy. Sometimes, these people end their marriages. They get a divorce to end the marriage. The number of divorces in the United States has increased in recent years. Marriage has changed in another way. Many people get married, but their marriages are very different from the traditional relationships. The difference in the relationship is the result of different roles played by each spouse.

In recent years, the man has not always been the spouse who worked. Many men now stay at home part of the time. They help to take care of the children and the house. Since the man does not always earn all of the money (or any of it, in some case), both the man and woman may pay the bills. The man is not the most important person in the house. He may share many important decisions with the woman, and sometimes with the children. Sometimes the wife will decide, and sometimes the husband will decide. Or, all the family may decide together to go somewhere or

do something. These are some of the ways that men's roles have changed.

In recent years, more and more women have been working. They may earn money to help their husbands. In some cases, all of the money is for the family. In this way, the woman and the man reverse their traditional roles. The woman earns all of the money, and the man stays at home to take care of the children and the house. More women recently have decided not to have children at all. Some women have children and continue to work. They do not leave their jobs just because they have children. These are some of the ways that women's roles have changed.

There are two important differences in male and female roles now. One is that both men and women have many more choices. They may choose to marry or to stay single. They may choose to work or to stay at home. Both men and women may choose roles that are comfortable for them.

A second difference in male and female roles is that within marriage many decisions and responsibilities are shared. The husband and wife may choose to have children, or they may not. If they have children, the man may take care of them some of the time, or all of the time, or not at all.³ The woman may want to stay at home and take care of the children. Or she may want to go to work. Men and women now decide these things together. Many married people now share these decisions and the responsibilities of their family.

I. Words and expressions

traditional [trə'diʃənəl] *adj.* 传统的

household ['haʊshəʊld] *n.* (集合名词)全家人;家庭

impression [im'preʃən] *n.* 印象, 感觉; 感想, 模糊的观念
 responsibility [ri'spɒnsɪ'bɪlɪtɪ] *n.* 责任; 责任心; 职责, 义务 (of; for); 负担
 divorce [di'vɔ:s] *n.* 【法律】离婚
 e.g. the divorce rate 离婚率; get /obtain a divorce 获准离婚;
 divorce by consent 协议离婚
 spouse [spaus] *n.* 配偶, 夫, 妻; (*pl.*) 夫妇
 in some cases 有时候
 reverse [ri'veəs] *vt.* 调换, 交换, 使成相反的东西, 完全改变
 to stay single 作单身, 不结婚

II. Notes to the text

1. ... the lives of men and women in the United States usually had one form. (在过去)美国男女的生活方式通常只有一种形式。
2. The woman stays at home and cares for the children and the house. 女人呆在家里, 带孩子, 料理家务。
3. ... the man may take care of them some of the time, or all of the time, or not at all. 男人可能带他们[孩子]一段时间, 或者一直带下去, 或者完全不带。

III. Grammar

1. since 引导原因状语从句

since 在用作从属连词的时候有两种意思。课文中“*Since the man earned the money, he paid the bills*”的从属连词 *since* 的意思是“既然”, 引导一个原因状语从句。*Since* 的另一个用法是引导时间状语从句, 如“*Great changes have taken place since China carried out an open-door policy.*”

2. 可数名词与不可数名词的转换

英语的名词可以分为抽象名词与具体名词两大类。一般

而言,具体名词大多为可数名词,而抽象名词则为不可数名词,但有时两者也可以相互转换。如课文中“marriage and family responsibilities”,responsibility 一词源自形容词 responsible,属抽象名词。当用作可数名词的时候,指一件具体的事情,在课文中指“家务”。

IV. Practice

1. Answer the following questions orally:

- 1) When did the family relations begin to change in the United States?
- 2) What causes the families to change?
- 3) What are some of the changes?
- 4) Are such changes also taking place in China?
- 5) What is/are your opinion(s) of such changes?

2. Structure and vocabulary:

- 1) She did so well that it was not difficult to guess what _____ she left on us.

[A] impression

[B] reaction

[C] comment

[D] opinion

- 2) A love marriage, however, does not necessarily _____ much sharing of interests and responsibilities.

[A] take over

[B] result in

[C] hold on

[D] keep to

- 3) Will all those _____ the proposal raise their hands?

[A] in relation to

[B] in contrast to

[C] in excess of

[D] in favor of

- 4) The match was cancelled because most of the members _____ a match without a standard court.

[A] objected to having

[B] were objected to have

- [C] objected to have [D] were objected to having
- 5) I like watching TV _____ to the cinema.
[A] more than to go [B] than going
[C] more than going [D] rather than to go
- 6) Many people complain of the rapid _____ of modern life.
[A] rate [B] speed
[C] pace [D] growth
- 7) American women were _____ the right to vote until 1920
after many years of hard struggle.
[A] ignored [B] neglected
[C] refused [D] denied
- 8) I always _____ what I have said.
[A] get to [B] hold to
[C] lead to [D] see to
- 9) He moved away from his parents, and missed them _____
enjoy the exciting life in New York.
[A] too much to [B] enough to
[C] very much to [D] much so as to
- 10) What _____ would happen if the director knew you felt
that way?
[A] do you suppose [B] you suppose
[C] will you suppose [D] you would suppose
3. Cloze:

In American society today, more and more women are going out to work either because they need the money to help 1 the family 2 because they are more talented 3 doing a certain kind of work. This naturally brings 4 some great changes in the family. Women, if they like, don't have to stay at home, 5 her children and husband. And many of the

husbands are 6 the boss in the family. They have to discuss with their wives when an important decision 7, and quite often they have to stay at home to do 8 was supposed to be done by women alone in the traditional marriage. 9, the concept of family in the United States today is quite different 10 what it was before the end of World War II.

- 1) [A] to keep [B] support [C] raising [D] maintain
 - 2) [A] and [B] nor [C] as [D] or
 - 3) [A] in [B] on [C] for [D] about
 - 4) [A] for [B] out [C] about [D] out
 - 5) [A] taking care of [B] to take care of
[C] caring of [D] taking care for
 - 6) [A] any longer [B] no longer
[C] any more [D] not at all
 - 7) [A] has made [B] was made
[C] has been made [D] is made
 - 8) [A] what [B] which [C] that [D] the thing
 - 9) [A] In another word [B] In a word
[C] In other words [D] In a general word
 - 10) [A] than [B] from [C] on [D] for
4. Writing: Write a short essay of about 160 — 200 words on the following social problem.

The divorce rate is on the increase in recent years both in the West and in China. It is a solution to some family problems, but not all. Give your views of advantages and disadvantages of divorce as a solution to family problems.

Text B Runaway Wives

The dissatisfaction and alienation (疏远) of young American housewives with small children is a major concern of the women's movement. Feminists encourage young wives to do something to get out of the kiddie corner.¹ One clear result has been a sharp rise in the number of runaway wives.

Betty Friedan, in *The Feminine Mystique* (女性奥秘), first described this problem. She called it "the problem that has no name." Many young wives think the American dream is a nightmare (恶梦). They feel unwanted, unneeded, unappreciated, and most of all, unfulfilled. They are out there in suburbia (城郊) slowly going bananas.² And so, some of them are running away.

Ed Goldfader owns and operates Tracers Company of America, Inc., a New York agency that specializes in finding lost persons. He says more wives than ever are running away. This is not because they have found new lovers, but because they are bored and feel there must be more to life than playing handmaiden (侍女) to unappreciative husbands and children.

"Ten years ago," says Goldfader, "we were looking for 300 runaway husbands for every wife who fled."³ By 1973 the number of women caught up to the number of men. And last year we were searching for 147 more missing wives than husbands."

"The amazing thing," says Goldfader, "is that these husbands don't pick up the danger signal their wives send out."⁴ They don't listen to their spouses. Or if they do, they don't take them

seriously. When these women finally run off, their husbands are flummoxed(慌乱).”

When a man comes to Tracers for help, Goldfader interviews him. He asks the husband questions about his wife's personal history and physical appearance. The upset husband often realizes that he knows very little about his wife. He may not be able to remember the color of her eyes. This realization usually is his first sight of the reason she left him.

If the wife does not turn up within a few days, Tracers goes to work. Goldfader says the agency locates about three out of four missing wives. The Agency informs a husband of his wife's whereabouts and of her present living conditions. He usually goes after her. And usually she is relieved to be found and returns home. “But,” says Goldfader, “the pain both have suffered, and his increased awareness of her dissatisfaction makes the marriage a whole new ball game.”

I. Notes to the text

1. Feminists encourage young wives to do something to get out of the kiddie corner. 女权运动者鼓励年轻的妻子行动起来,跳出婆婆妈妈的圈子。
2. They are out there in suburbia slowly going bananas. 她们呆在城外郊区,慢慢地发疯了。
3. ... we were looking for 300 runaway husbands for every wife who fled. 我们寻找出走的丈夫与妻子的比例是三百分之一。
4. ... these husbands don't pick up the danger signal their wives send out. 这些丈夫们没有听出他们妻子发出的危险信号。这里的“pick up”是无线电学中常用的一个术语,意思是“接受(信号)”。