



昂立托雅教学系列丛书

IELTS

雅思口语



8分直达

蒋继刚 周立 主编

上海交通大学出版社

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雅思口语 8 分直达

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前 言

雅思考试的口语部分历来是中国雅思考生的薄弱环节,仅仅是第二部分的 independent long talk 就已经让考生难以招架。究其原因,我们发现中国雅思考生在口语上有三大问题:

第一,无话可说。很多雅思口试话题对学生的知识面提出了挑战,笔者发现即便是用中文,许多考生也没有什么观点可以陈述,更不要说是使用英语流畅表达自己的思想了。很多时候考生的回答空洞无物、支离破碎,甚至是彻底跑题。

第二,无“句”可依。没有地道的句型和套句,考生往往在口试中疲于奔命。实战中有太多的观点要表达对考生来说其实也是非常痛苦的,很多人竭尽所能地生硬翻译,结果却是考官听不懂你要说的话。连翻译都做不好的学生就更惨了,他们往往只能一个一个单词的往外挤,甚至有时要尴尬地停顿数秒。

第三,无章可循。在完成指定任务的时候,没有经过系统培训的考生往往是一厢情愿地按照自己的思路组织观点和内容。这么做往往会暴露自己的缺点,考试的时候拿不到理想分数。毕竟口语是雅思考试中考生可以有更多控制权的部分,说什么和怎么说是考生可以自己决定的,所以有章可循、扬长避短才是雅思口试需要追求的目标。

为了帮助广大考生高效系统地学好雅思口语,笔者综合众多雅思培训讲师的经验和雅思各高分学员的心得编纂了这本《雅思口语 8 分直达》,旨在帮助广大雅思考生全方位解决上面提到的三方面问题,为雅思考生的口语备考指明方向。本书共有五大特色:

第一,全面总结实考真题,指明将来命题方向。

第二,系统分析口试特点,提供权威解决方案。

第三,海量模拟试题练习,真实再现考试场景。

第四,细致分类话题词汇,加强场景背景知识。

第五,独家高分版本汇总,一书解决雅思口语。

最后,希望本书能够帮助大家开拓思路,强化表达,增强信心,攻克雅思口语!

对于书中尚存在的疏漏或谬误之处,敬请广大使用者批评指正。

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编 者

2008 年 8 月

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Guide to Self-study

Review Lectures and Strategic Advice

How does one prepare for the test? Well, for starters, review the advice and discussions from a good course on IELTS. This will help you to anticipate the test and build strategies. There are plenty of benefits to be enjoyed from the lectures of an IELTS class.

Integrate the other modes (i. e. listening, reading and writing)

Next, it is important to have a program for integrating the modes of language (i. e. listening, reading, writing and speaking). For example, after writing an essay, why not try to discuss it?

While listening to a dialogue, why not try and repeat it or try to copy the tone and rhythm of the sentences? After reading a passage, it may be helpful to discuss it with a friend.

Create a Language Environment Yourself

Try to create an English environment with partners. It is nice to have language partners who are native speakers, but if this is not possible, then try and create opportunities to communicate with IELTS classmates who are at about your English level. In fact, a lot of researches suggest that learners of a second language can actually improve their communication better by speaking with people close to their level, rather than with people whose English level is either too low or too high. Set aside regular times to conduct mock interviews with each other. One good way is to use the time to tell your partner about a news story, movie or novel you have read or heard, and that provides a theme for your discussion.

Another type of English environment is one created by your thoughts. You can set aside 10-15 minutes each day to just think in English. It may be best to do this just before you go to bed at night.

Collect good input (i. e. readings, listening, movies, etc.)

Intensive listening and reading of English that is meaningful, interesting, and full of dialogues is very important. Research shows that second language output (i. e. writing and speaking) is very much a result of the quantity and quality of what comes into the ears and eyes. Be hungry for dialogues in English and you will find them.

Practice Mini-speeches based on topics

To prepare yourself for dealing with a range of topics that may be unpredictable, you should have a great deal of practice. It is important to practise monologues on a variety of topics. You sharpen your ability to quickly implement strategies to prolong a discussion. Stage 2 topics can be practised alone. Simply choose topics randomly that someone else prepares beforehand. Setting a goal of making perhaps two hundred 1-2 minutes speeches in one month might be great practice for stage 2 and good preparation for university study or even work.

Practise Oral dictation—pronunciation

This is an old-fashioned but vitally important process of playing dialogues and stopping individual statements just after they are played, and then trying to imitate them. The goal is not to understand the meaning of the dialogue but to try, as best as possible, to get into the pattern of sound that the native

speakers on tape have. You will find that after a short while you will develop good pronunciation patterns by imitation.

Build your own vocabulary dictionary that is relevant and conversational

Many people take the approach that they need to study a source or special dictionary. The problem is that a dictionary does not know what words are necessary for you. It is best to keep a record of the words you believe you will need for the topics you are expecting to discuss. The best way to organize these words is generally by topic or theme. When you build your dictionary, be sure to include a number of sample sentences. It is not enough to provide the Chinese translation. You also need to demonstrate how to use it in a number of ways.

Record your strengths and weaknesses

It is important to analyze strengths and weaknesses in one's English. When they are known, one can work towards displaying the former and avoiding the latter. How can one know strengths and weaknesses? Quite easily! Take a tape recorder and listen to a recording of an answer to a specific question. Read it for smoothness, grammar, and pronunciation. Which parts were done well, and which were done poorly? Repeat the same answer into the recorder and listen for improvement.

Trust your English

Finally and most significantly, it is important that you begin to trust your English! The important thing to say to yourself is "I have come this far, I have achieved a lot in English, I can communicate, and this test will bring out my strengths in English". This positive thinking will soothe you as you step into the office and face your examiner.

In Summary

The IELTS oral examination is challenging, but it is fair, and generally is something that good preparation can immensely help. It is also a more interesting part of the whole IELTS examination. After all, an end goal of all those years of study should be to communicate in a way that a native speaker can understand.

As mentioned, students need to be confident, smooth, in control, natural, and reasonably accurate. Each stage is distinct and has a different aim. Performance in each stage can get better through practice, anticipation, analysis, intensive reading and listening, and through confidence. Even if, after you finish your speaking test, you receive a band level score lower than what you expected, the process of preparing for it will not be in vain. Any practice in English will, in one way or another, help you to prepare to survive in a foreign country, and, in the end, that is the important issue.

Stage 1 Introduction

Sample Interview

I=Interviewer C=Candidate

- I: Hello, my name's Dan, and what's your full name, please?
- C: My full name is Liang Wei. You can call me Mary. That's my English name.
- I: OK, Mary, and where are you from?
- C: I'm from Dalian in Liaoning.
- I: And can I see your ID? OK, I'd like to start by asking you a few questions about your hometown. What kind of place is it?
- C: It's a nice place near the sea. It's quite clean and open.
- I: What interesting places are there to see?
- C: Well, there are lots of good beaches and it's a nice place to walk around. You can go to Zhongshan Square at night because there are lots of musical shows there and you can dance and play badminton in the dark.
- I: Is there anything you don't like about Dalian?
- C: Well, I'm not trying to boast, but I just can't think of anything that's really bad in Dalian. If you don't like humid weather, you might not like it.
- I: OK, what about you? What do you do, are you working?
- C: No. I'm a student at the Dalian Maritime University. I'm in my 3rd year and I major in international trade.
- I: Good, and do you like your major?
- C: Yeah. It's a lot of work but it's interesting and the professors are all quite lively and fun to listen to. I'm pretty happy there most of the time.
- I: What do you do in your spare time?
- C: I like going on the Internet. I often go on the ICQ and chat with my friends. It's fun and I've made a few new friends this way.
- I: Do you enjoy reading?
- C: I used to like reading a lot, especially love stories and mysteries, when I was a middle school student, but now it seems I never have the time.

Outline

Process(流程):

- 1) Exchange greetings
- 2) Examiner introduces himself/herself
- 3) Check candidate's identity (name, place of origin, ID)
- 4) Ask first topic and 1-4 questions
- 5) Ask second topic and 1-4 questions
- 6) Ask third topic and 1-4 questions

It lasts for about 4-5 minutes, and it may go by much more quickly than you thought. Usually the interviewer has time to talk about three separate topics, although there may be fewer or more depending on the number of questions. Usually about 6-9 questions are asked. If the interviewer asks more or less, it will be hard to adhere to the 4-5 minute time requirement.

Purpose(目标):

To see if the candidate can engage in a social conversation about his or her current activities, habits, and plans; and the important people, objects, and places in his or her life.

Requirements(要求):

- 1) Talking about current activities and routines (e. g. studies, work, spare time) and providing simple details (what kind, when, where, which, who, how long/often)
- 2) Giving short descriptions (e. g. hometown, company)
- 3) Describing a process briefly (e. g. typical day at work)
- 4) Expressing likes, dislikes and preferences (e. g. plane versus train)
- 5) Comparing advantages and disadvantages (e. g. big city or small city)
- 6) Explaining changes (e. g. changes in your hometown)
- 7) Expressing your opinions (e. g. impression of Beijing)
- 8) Explaining the reasons (briefly)
- 9) Expressing plans

Self-study Strategies

To start with, in the first stage, it is important to know that the interviewer forms an impression of a candidate's English very early, sometimes after only 3 or 4 sentences. Thus, it is important that the first few sentences be spoken with confidence, smoothness, and accuracy. In some aspects it is an easier stage to prepare than others. There are, of course, only so many questions one can ask about your background, current life and future. However, be also mindful of the fact that the interviewer is going to be particularly vigilant in examining to see that the candidate is not speaking from some memorized script.

Too often, candidates force themselves into long speeches about their aims and background and become frustrated with all the words they can't remember. This is not advisable, because the first stage is when you are most nervous and vulnerable to mistakes. On the other hand, the interviewer will be expecting that the answers go beyond a simple, one sentence answer. Aim for one or two complex sentences, three is great, but no more than four.

The best way to self-study stage one is to get experience talking about your personal situation and your plans. It is also vital to learn a variety of key words and expressions that relate to the key topics of hometown, spare time, work/study, future and English.

Sentence extension(句子拓展)

- 1) Add features:
e. g. My hometown is Harbin. It's an industrial city that's famous for its ice festival.
- 2) Add durations:
e. g. I study at Beijing University. I've been studying there for 3 years.
- 3) Add locations;

e. g. I live in a flat. My flat's located in the North-east of Beijing, near the 4th road.

4) Add comparisons:

e. g. Yes, I like reading. I enjoy it more than other activities because I think it is more imaginative than watching TV.

5) Add opinions:

e. g. I usually go swimming in my free time. I think swimming is the best way to keep in shape.

6) Add reasons:

e. g. The main food of China is rice. This is because China has suitable farmland for it and it's a traditional crop.

1. Extending answers to 2-4 sentences(拓展成 2-4 句的答案)

Reminder(提醒):

In an interview, you should aim for an average of 2-4 sentences.

Give more detail than just a few words, but do not make speeches.

Example 1: Do you like your job?

Add features: "Yes, I like my job. There are many duties involved."

Add duration: "Yes, I like my job. I've been working for 5 years, so I'm used to it."

Add opinions: "Yes, I like my job. I think it is very interesting and fun."

Add reasons: "Yes, I like my job because there are many good opportunities to advance."

Add comparisons: "Yes, I like my job. It is better paid than many other jobs."

Add people: "Yes, I like my job. You know, my colleagues are very kind."

Practice:

Now, answer all the questions by giving as much information about yourself as possible. Try to extend it by using duration, location and etc.

- 1) Whereabouts do you come from?
- 2) How long have you lived here/there?
- 3) Are you a worker or a student?
- 4) What do you do in your spare time?
- 5) How often do you read?
- 6) Are you planning to go overseas?
- 7) Do you have any hobbies?
- 8) Have you changed much in the last 10 years?
- 9) Did you like middle school?
- 10) Do you like movies?

2. Expressing likes, dislikes, opinions, preferences(表达爱好、憎恶、观点和偏好)

Reminder(提醒):

Expressing likes, dislikes, preferences and opinions in stage one only requires simple expressions and reasons. It is helpful if you don't like something to say why and what you prefer.

Expressions:

- 1) I like... , because...
- 2) I like... , but I find it...
- 3) What I like most about... is that...
- 4) I'm not that keen on...
- 5) I don't like... , because it's too...
- 6) I find... very...

- 7) I prefer. . .
- 8) I'd rather. . .

Practice:

What do you think of the following: Tell your partner about your feeling in 1-3 sentences.

- 1) Studying English
- 2) Your hometown
- 3) Going out to a restaurant
- 4) University life
- 5) Having a big family
- 6) Public transportation in your hometown
- 7) Going to movies
- 8) Eating in fast food restaurants
- 9) Living in a big apartment
- 10) The Internet

3. Talking about habits(谈论习惯)

Reminder(提醒):

Since stage 1 is focused on you, you need to be able to express your habits in an effective way. As always, practice makes perfect. The following expressions can help.

- 1) I usually just. . . and then. . .
- 2) During. . . , I often. . .
- 3) Whenever I can, I. . .
- 4) While I'm. . . , I usually. . .
- 5) When I'm not. . . , I usually. . .
- 6) My. . . usually involves. . .
- 7) I often go. . .
- 8) If I have . . . , I might. . .

Example:

Interviewer: When do you usually get up in the morning?

Candidate A: Six o'clock.

Candidate B: I normally get up at six o'clock, since it takes me about an hour to go to work from where I live.

Comments: Candidate B not only offers a habit statement but also a reason.

Practice:

Use the above statements to see if you can talk about the following topics.

- 1) A typical day at work or university
- 2) What you do when you get home from work or classes
- 3) How you usually study English
- 4) Your eating habits
- 5) Your shopping habits
- 6) What you usually wear to work or class
- 7) What you like to do with friends
- 8) Your traveling habits
- 9) How you usually travel around your hometown
- 10) What entertainment you usually have

4. Expressing changes(表达变化)

Reminder(提醒):

Often you are asked to express statements of changes. These changes do not require any deep explanation, but it is helpful if you give a simpler reason for why you think the change has taken place.

- 1) Yes, there have been some big changes. ... is/are less... than before.
- 2) Yes, ... has changed a lot. ... is/are getting more and more...
- 3) ... are now a lot... er/more... /... has changed a lot because...
- 4) More and more... are... /but ... hasn't changed much because...
- 5) Some big changes have taken place... /... are not as... as before.

Example:

The following is an example of two candidates expressing changes.

Interviewer: Can you tell me how transportation in your hometown has changed in the last few years?

Candidate A: Well, I think roads are wider and... uhhhm... more cars.

Candidate B: Yes, there have been some big changes. Roads are now a lot wider, and more and more people are driving a car to work, so traffic jams are becoming a serious problem.

Comments: Candidate B made use of more "change" statements and it is extended with a consequence of the change.

Practice:

Describe the changes of any of the following topics.

- 1) Your hometown
- 2) Transportation systems
- 3) Your life
- 4) Traffic in your hometown
- 5) Your friends
- 6) People's eating habits
- 7) People's clothing habits
- 8) Housing situation in your country
- 9) Entertainment habits
- 10) Education

5. Top 10 grammar mistakes in Stage 1 (第一阶段 10 个最常见的语法错误)

Reminder(提醒):

Sometimes being aware of common mistakes can help you to avoid them. Most of the mistakes relate to translation.

Error correction 1:

- 1) I very like my job.
- 2) In my hometown there have many shops.
- 3) It is more cheaper.
- 4) I like to go to shopping.
- 5) I must to find an apartment.
- 6) Computers are getting more and more.
- 7) I have been to Dalian last year.
- 8) Last year I go to the university.
- 9) I with my friends play football.
- 10) I applied to the university of Leeds.

Correction 1:

- 1) I like my job very much.
- 2) In my hometown there are many shops.
- 3) It is cheaper.
- 4) I like to go shopping.
- 5) I must find an apartment.
- 6) Computers are getting more and more popular.
- 7) I was in Dalian last year.
- 8) Last year I went to the university.
- 9) I play football with my friends.
- 10) I have applied to the University of Leeds.

Error correction 2:

- I: Tell me about your family.
C: Yes, I got married. I've been married for 5 years.
I: Where are you planning to study?
C: I will choose Britain. Last year I decided to go there.
I: What do you like doing in your spare time?
C: I enjoy to go shopping.
I: Tell me about a typical day at work.
C: I usually going to work at 6:00
I: What are the people in your hometown like?
C: The people in my hometown is very kind.
I: Why did you choose Australia to study?
C: Because I don't have many money to go to England.
I: Which country do you plan to go to?
C: I want to go to British.
I: How often do you watch TV?
C: Not often. I find the time to study is not enough.
I: Do you have any concerns about living overseas?
C: I am worried I cannot communication with people overseas.
I: What is the most challenging thing about living overseas?
C: I think it is getting used to the food. I've heard the food in Britain is not so well.

Correction 2:

- I: Tell me about your family.
C: Yes, I have got married and I've been married for 5 years. We haven't decided when to have a child, so for the time being there is just two of us, my and my wife, Kathy.
I: Where are you planning to study?
C: I am planning to study in Great Britain. In fact, I decided to go there last year when I was traveling there.
I: What do you like doing in your spare time?
C: I enjoy shopping just like the other girls. Since I don't have too much money to spend, window-shopping is OK for me.
I: Tell me about a typical day at work.
C: A typical day at work to me is just like a battle. I usually go to work at 6:00, which is very early indeed. My routine may involve meeting customers, sorting out email, giving promotional lectures,

and even distributing catalogues on the street. If everything goes fine, I may leave the office at 5:30 or I may have to work overtime, which is also part of a typical day.

- I: What are the people in your hometown like?
- C: The people in my hometown are very kind. They are always ready to offer a hand when you are in trouble. Many people who have been to my hometown often speak of my country folks' hospitality and kindness.
- I: Why did you choose Australia to study?
- C: Because I didn't have enough money to go to England, I finally had to choose Australia. Now I feel it's a wise choice. The Australian climate is far better than the British and I did save a lot of money.
- I: Which country do you plan to go to?
- C: I want to go to Great Britain as many British universities offer first class academic quality. As for the price, many people complain about the high living cost and tuition there, but I think all these things are acceptable.
- I: How often do you watch TV?
- C: Not often. I find the time to study is not enough, so I don't often have time to sit before the TV. Maybe when I finish my study, I may do this every night.
- I: Do you have any concerns about living overseas?
- C: I am worried I cannot communicate with people overseas. I am shy and I just have no idea how to leave a good impression at the first sight. So this might be a major concern.
- I: What is the most challenging thing about living overseas?
- C: I think it is getting used to the food. I've heard the food in Britain is not so good and after so many years of life in China, I am already used to the rich flavors of Chinese cuisine. But I believe it will be fine, it is just a matter of time.

Expressions and Exercises

1. Asking for repetition(请求重复)

Sorry, could you repeat that, please?

Could you say that again, please?

I'm sorry, would you mind saying that again?

Sorry, I didn't quite catch that.

I beg your pardon?

2. Hesitation devices(停顿技巧)

What is my favourite sport? Hmm... let me think about that for a second.

That's an interesting question I've never thought about it. Let me think.

That's a difficult question because there are so many different things I will do on the weekend.

Well, I guess the best way to study English is to practise it.

You see, I don't have that much time to read, so I guess the only thing I read these days is the newspaper.

You know, doing overtime is quite natural for people in my field.

How shall I put it, being a doctor means you have to live up to high demands.

So...

That's difficult to say, but I guess...

What do I like reading? Hmmm I guess...

Actually, to be frank, I really don't...

Well I guess you could say...

(Note that hesitation is a natural part of using a language. Please do not over-rely on any one of these and try to use a variety.)

3. Recovery from a mental block(思路中断恢复)

Sorry, I'm a bit nervous. Let me just think about this for a second.

Sorry, I've lost my train of thought. Let me think.

Let me see if I can gather my thoughts for a moment.

Just give me a second to collect my thoughts.

4. Personal information(个人信息)

For the last 3 years I've been studying at Beijing University.

I've been studying English now for a year.

At the moment, I'm working at a private college.

I am currently preparing for my college exams.

These days I mainly spend my time studying English.

Now write in your own answers:

For the last _____ years I've been _____

I've been _____ now for _____

At the moment, I'm _____

I am currently _____

These days I mainly spend my time _____

5. Offering Background Information (提供背景知识)

Before that I studied/worked at Fudan University/ a multinational company.

After I graduated, I went on to work for my father.

About three years ago, I was working at a factory.

5 years later I resigned.

Now write in your own answers:

Before that I studied/worked at _____

After I graduated, I went on to _____

About three years ago, I was working at _____
_____ years later I _____

6. Talking about habits or routines (谈论习惯与日常事务)

In my spare time I usually just relax at home and watch TV.

Whenever I want, I like going traveling to interesting places.

When I'm not studying, I usually like to go on the Internet.

I often go swimming with my family.

During the afternoons I often play sports with my friends.

I usually get up around 8 o'clock and then get ready for work.

While I'm at work I usually wear casual clothing.

Now write in your own answers:

In my spare time I usually just _____

Whenever I can, I like _____

When I'm not studying, I usually like to _____

I often go _____ with my _____
During the afternoons I often _____ with _____
I usually get up around _____ and then _____
While I'm at _____ I usually _____

7. Talking about durations (谈论持续时间)

I've been living in Beijing for about 6 years.
I studied there for about three years.
I stayed in Kunming for about two weeks.
I tried and tried to learn it and then finally I succeeded.
I've been working now for 4 years.

Now write in your own answers:

I've been living in _____ for about _____ years.
I studied there for about _____
I stayed in _____ for about _____
I tried and tried to learn _____ and then finally I succeeded.
I've been working now for _____

8. Talking about changes (谈论变化)

Tourism is getting more and more popular among the middle-classed in China.
More and more people are beginning to have smaller families.
I've changed a lot in the past ten years, and I think most of the changes are good.
Beijing has become more cosmopolitan in the last few years.
Buildings have been getting bigger and bigger.
The main changes that have taken place are in the IT industries and with the roads.

Now write in your own answers:

_____ is getting more and more popular among _____
More and more people are beginning to _____
I've changed a lot in the past years and I think _____
_____ has become more _____ in the last few years.
_____ have been getting _____ and _____
The main changes that have taken place are in the _____

9. Describing places (描述地方)

It is located in the Northeast of China.
It is a small apartment in the city centre.
My hometown is beautiful with a lot of places to visit.
Most people are employed in the automobile industry.
My hometown is famous for its beer.

Now write in your own answers:

It is located in the _____ of China.
It is a _____ in the _____
My hometown is _____ with a lot of _____
My hometown is famous for its _____

10. Talking about advantages and disadvantages (谈论优点和缺点)

The advantages of living there are that it's comfortable and cheap, but the disadvantages are the

lack of space and privacy.

The good thing about my major is that it's interesting. The bad thing about it is that it's a lot of work.

While it may be nice to live so high up, I think it is also quite inconvenient to travel up so high all the time to get there.

Now write in your own answers;

The advantages of living there are that it's _____, but the disadvantages are _____

The good thing about my major is that it's _____

The bad thing about it is that it's _____

While it may be nice to _____, I think it is also quite _____

11. Stating likes, dislikes and preferences (陈述爱好与偏爱)

I like books best because they are more imaginative than films.

What I like most about living in a big city is that there are many job opportunities.

Yes, I like my job because it's very challenging.

I don't like TV because it's too boring. I prefer listening to music.

I like it a lot, but I think I'd like a new challenge.

To be frank, I'm getting a bit bored of it now, and I'd rather do something else.

My favourite is spring because it's more comfortable.

I prefer a flat to a house because it's easier to maintain.

I'm not that keen on watching TV because the shows are so shallow. I'd rather read.

I find English very challenging.

Now write in your own answers;

I like _____ best because they are more _____ than _____

What I like most about _____ is that _____

Yes, I like _____ because it's very _____

I don't like _____ because it's too _____. I prefer _____

I like it a lot, but I think _____

To be frank, I'm getting _____ now, and I'd rather _____

My favourite is _____ because it's (more) _____

I prefer _____ to _____ because _____

I'm not that keen on _____ because _____. I'd rather _____

I find _____ very _____

12. Giving opinions and reasons (给出观点以及原因)

I think it's an important thing to learn a foreign language, because it opens up many doors for you.

I believe it's a good place to live, because there are a lot of opportunities.

In my opinion/Personally/As far as I am concerned/From my own point of view, living in the city is better than in a village because the wages are higher.

Now write in your own answers;

I think it's an important thing to _____, because _____

I believe it's a good place to live, because _____

In my opinion, _____ is better than _____, because _____