

*A Manual on Exercises and References
of An Introduction
to English Lexicology*

第三版

《英语词汇学引论》

练习及参考指南

林承璋 编著



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前 言

《英语词汇学引论（第三版）》于2005年2月出版后多次重印，受到了广大师生的欢迎。为了配合广大读者对本书的深入学习和掌握，特编写了《英语词汇学引论（第三版）练习及参考指南》一书。全书共分三部分。第一部分：练习篇。按照章节顺序，题型多样化，内容有深有浅，思考题和一般题相结合，达到系统复习和掌握的目的。第二部分：专题篇。共分14个专题进行介绍。从英语小故事集锦专题入手，激发读者对英语词汇的兴趣，继而通过英语语言的体系、什么是英语词、英语的重要性、英语词汇的数量、英美人要掌握多少词汇、英语作为第二语言学习的人要掌握多少词汇、英语词汇的复杂性、英语词汇的控制活动范围、语域、实用日常英语词语搭配、实用日常英语习语、词的来源等14个方面阐述英语语言词汇的理论和实践。这些专题全是从20世纪末和21世纪初英美出版的最新文献中精选出来的，都是原著中的精华部分。作者把这些材料，进行一番筛选，集中起来，让读者有机会集中精力、集中时间阅读有关英语词汇的原著，从而使广大英语学习者对英语词汇有进一步的认识、理解和运用，也是对《英语词汇学引论（第三版）》一书内容的拓宽、加深和运用。第三部分：练习参考答案。读者通过认真读书和系统做题，并对照答案，进一步掌握英语词汇学的基本内容，提高运用英语词汇的能力。

最后，作者要向这14个专题的英美作者及其出版者表示衷心的感谢。感谢他们对本书编写的理解和支持。这些国外英语词汇研



究的最新成果，会对我国英语词汇学教学和研究以及广大学习者对英语词汇学的学习起到指导和推动作用。

林承璋

2007 年 3 月于武汉大学



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练习篇



Part One

Exercises



Chapter 1

Language, Linguistics and Lexicology

1. Can you give the description of the term *language* from different angles?
2. Fill in the blanks with an appropriate word according to the text.
 - 1) Language is a system of symbols based on _____, _____, and _____. It is a special _____ action and carrier of _____ used for human _____ in a society.
 - 2) Language is a _____ of society.
 - 3) Man's thought is _____ to language just as _____ is inseparable from society.
 - 4) There is no _____ character to language itself, but the way in which a person uses a language has an obvious _____ character.
 - 5) The aim of the course in English lexicology is to give a _____ description of the English _____.
 - 6) Without _____ there is no word because every word is a unity of _____ and meaning.
 - 7) Stylistics is concerned with language variety differing according to _____ rather than _____. The same user may use different varieties for _____ purposes, _____ situations, in conversation with _____ people, to produce _____ effects.



- 8) Historical linguistics studies words from the viewpoint of _____, whereas lexicology studies words from the viewpoint of both _____ and _____, but especially of _____.
3. Is it right that language is a product of society? Why? Give your reasons.
4. There are two main forms of language itself, which one is more important?
5. Complete the following statements by adding an appropriate word to each blank.
- 1) A synchronic approach is an approach to the study of a language at one _____ of time, whereas a diachronic approach is an approach to the study of the _____ in a language that took place _____ a period of time.
 - 2) The Latin word *Jānuārius*, meaning _____ in English, was derived from _____, the Roman god of gates and doors. *Jānuārius* means '_____', so January is the _____ of the year.
 - 3) The Latin word *Augustus* was anglicized to _____, the name of the eighth month in English.
 - 4) Diachronically, the terms *Sunday*, *Monday*, etc. existed as _____ in old English.
 - 5) The names of seven days of the week are of the _____ origin, although they have _____ influence in some degree. The early Germanic peoples translated the Latin names into the _____ equivalents.
 - 6) According to the diachrony we know that the Modern English word *fond* meant '_____', but now it means '_____'.
7) The word *comrade* originally meant '_____', but now it means '_____'.
8) Synchronically, we consider words like *eventful*, *talkative*,



Part One Exercises

etc. as _____. Diachronically, they were _____

6. Translate the following terms into Chinese.

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| 1) diachrony | _____ |
| 2) synchrony | _____ |
| 3) hybrid | _____ |
| 4) derivative | _____ |
| 5) compound | _____ |
| 6) word-formation | _____ |
| 7) lexicology | _____ |
| 8) linguistics | _____ |
| 9) applied linguistics | _____ |
| 10) general linguistics | _____ |
| 11) sociolinguistics | _____ |

7. Are there two main approaches to the study of English lexicology? What are they? And give their definitions respectively.

8. What is lexicology?

9. Do you think that English lexicology course is an important course for the majors in the English language and literature, why? Give your opinions.



Chapter 2

The Sources of the English Vocabulary

1. Translate the following definition of the term *etymology* into Chinese.

Etymology is ‘the history of a linguistic form (as a word) shown by tracing its development since its earliest recorded occurrence in the language where it is found , by tracing its transmission from one language to another, by analyzing it into its component parts, by identifying its cognates in other languages, or by tracing it and its cognates to a common ancestral form in an ancestral language. ’ [*Merriam-Webster’s collegiate Dictionary* (Eleventh Edition)] Therefore, as a subject of instruction, etymology is a branch of linguistics concerned with etymologies. In short, etymology is the study of the origin and history of words and their meanings.

2. Why do we say that etymology occupies a very important position in English lexicology course?
3. What is the difference between etymology and etymologies?
4. How did the English language appear and grow?
5. Which of the following is NOT true?
 - a. At the beginning of the fifth century Britain was invaded by the three tribes from Western Europe.
 - b. In the fourth century Britain was invaded by three tribes



from Eastern Europe.

- c. At the beginning of the 5th century Britain was invaded by the three tribes from Northern Europe: the Angles, Saxons and Jutes.
6. Is English classified as a Germanic language? Why?
7. Describe that the English language is of a mixed character.
8. Complete the following statements by adding an appropriate word to each blank.
 - 1) The English language is divided into ____ periods.
 - 2) The period from ____ to 1150 is called the ____ English period. It is known as the period of ____ inflections.
 - 3) The period from 1150 to ____ is known as the ____ English period. We call it the period of ____ inflections.
 - 4) The period from 1500 to ____ is called the ____ English period. It is described as the period of ____ inflections.
 - 5) The Old English word ____ is the same as the Modern English word *stone*, but the ____ is different.
 - 6) The vocabulary of Old English consisted mainly of ____ words. But when the Norman Conquest in ____ brought ____ to England, much of the English vocabulary was replaced by words borrowed from ____ and Latin.
 - 7) The Old English word *mann* appeared in _____. It originally meant '____, person'. Later, in _____, it had another sense, namely, '____ male human being.'
 - 8) The word *wif* was found in _____ English in 800. It had two senses: one is '____', the other is 'wife'.
 - 9) Old English grammar differs from Modern English grammar in _____ and _____, because Old English was a highly _____ language. It had a complete system of declensions with _____ cases and conjugations.



9. What is an analytic language?
10. What is a synthetic language?
11. Is Modern English a synthetic language? Why?
12. Why did England become a bilingual country for a long time in the Middle English period?
13. Why do we say that the nineteenth and twentieth centuries are a period of rapid expansion for the English language?
14. Point out the different combining forms and their meanings in the following words.

- 1) hydrology _____
- 2) radiotherapy _____
- 3) hydrometer _____
- 4) psychology _____
- 5) isometric _____
- 6) telethon _____
- 7) lexicology _____
- 8) microcomputer _____
- 9) macroeconomics _____
- 10) hygroscope _____
- 11) hypnosis _____
- 12) magneto _____
- 13) petrodollar _____

15. Give the Chinese equivalents for the following English terms.

- 1) native word _____
- 2) borrowed word _____
- 3) polysemic character _____
- 4) collocability _____
- 5) word-forming ability _____
- 6) borrowing _____
- 7) loan-word _____

Part One Exercises

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- 8) alien _____
- 9) denizen _____
- 10) translation-loan _____
- 11) semantic borrowing _____
16. Describe four groups of loan-words in English.
17. Translate the following terms into Chinese.
- the Scandinavian element _____
- the French element _____
- the Latin element _____
- the Greek element _____
18. Match the English words with the Danish words.
- | English | Danish |
|----------------|---------------|
| from | bloom |
| shirt | seat |
| sit | skirt |
| drop | fro |
| blossom | raise |
| no | drip |
| rear | nay |
19. How was William crowned King of England on Christmas Day in 1066?
20. When did French begin to enter England?
21. The following French loan-words appeared either in the Middle English period or after the Middle English period. The question is which ones appeared in the Middle English period and which ones appeared after the Middle English period.
- 1) administration _____
- 2) lesson _____
- 3) renaissance _____
- 4) menu _____

- 5) restaurant _____
- 6) black humor _____
- 7) art _____
- 8) orange _____
- 9) color _____
- 10) business _____
- 11) biscuit _____
- 12) dress _____
- 13) common _____
- 14) certain _____
- 15) apply _____
- 16) arrive _____
- 17) according to _____
- 18) to take leave _____
- 19) a chargé d'affaires _____
- 20) communism _____
- 21) limousine _____
- 22. What are the classical elements in the English vocabulary?
- 23. Point out which words belong to the Latin element and which words belong to the Greek element in the English vocabulary?
- 1) drama _____
- 2) semantics _____
- 3) physics _____
- 4) philosophy _____
- 5) hypertension _____
- 6) autograph _____
- 7) history _____
- 8) necessary _____
- 9) candle _____
- 10) lobster _____