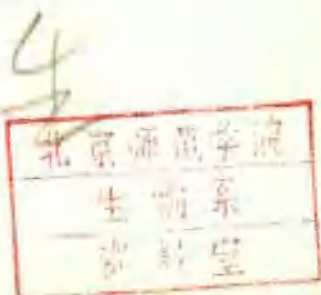


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Certainty 和 Uncertainty 的表达

白 凡

Certainty (肯定) 和 Uncertainty (不肯定) 是指说话者对客观事物的存在、发生、事实性等表示自己主观判断上的肯定程度。不妨从下面两方面来介绍。

一、表达肯定或逻辑的必然

A. 询问是否肯定或必然

1. 用“Can+主语+动词?”表达。例如:

Can the news be true?

Can John's grandfather still be alive?

2. 用“be+主语+certain/sure+that 从句?”表达。例如:

Are you sure Tim has submitted his lab report?

Is your mother certain she will be able to come to this city to see you next week?

that 从句中的 that 在实际口头表达时往往省去。

3. 用“Is it certain+that 从句?”表达。例如:

Is it certain that he first started to learn to play the piano at three years of age?

Is it certain that the department will have no graduating students this academic year?

B. 表达肯定

1. 用“主语+be+sure/certain/convinced+of 短语/that 从句”表达。例如:

I'm sure we will win.

We're certain of Mr Bush's winning the election.

Mary was convinced that she had passed the examination successfully.

I am/'m sure 常可放在句末当插入语,例如:

George will win the competition, I'm sure.

2. 用 "It+be+clear/obvious (to someone)+that 从句" 表达。例如:

It is clear that he has failed her Biology test.

It was obvious to all of us that the whole scheme required re-consideration.

本句型常可转换成简单句,即把从句变成独立的句子,把 clear 等形容词变成相应的副词插入谓语动词之前。例如:

She has clearly/obviously failed her Biology test.

3. 用 "There is no doubt+that 从句" 表达。例如:

There's no doubt that our class will put on an English play.

4. 用 "主语+have no doubt/do not doubt+that 从句" 表达。例如:
John had no doubt that he could reach the small town before
nightfall.

We do not doubt that there is still hope,

Harry did not doubt in the least that his paper would be highly appreciated by his adviser.

5. 用 no/without doubt, definitely, sure enough 等词语表达。例如:

He will no doubt join us if we invite him.

John will definitely go to Austria to spend his winter holidays,

She will sure enough reject the advice.

no doubt 等词语在句中作状语用,其中 definitely 比较正式, sure enough 比较随便。

C. 表达逻辑的必然

1. 用 "主语+must/have (got) to+动词" 表达。例如:

He must be very angry hearing the news.

You've got to be successful since you work so hard.

have got to 多用于英国英语, have to 常见于美国英语。

2. 用 "There must be+名词词组" 表达。例如:

There must be some misunderstanding between the two negotiators.

There must be a lot of troubles caused by the recent strikes.

3. 用“主语+will+certainly/surely等+动词”表达。例如:

You will certainly achieve what you want to if you keep on working hard.

Victory will no doubt come eventually if we persevere.

4. 用“主语+be+certain/sure+不定式词组”表达。例如:

After so much preparation most students are certain to do well in the exam.

5. 用 inevitably, eventually 等副词表达。例如:

Inevitably, he will give up some of the minor items in the task.
Nuclear fission will eventually become one of the major sources of energy in the near future.

inevitably/eventually 用来表达逻辑必然时往往用于将来时的句子中,其位置一般在句首,也可在句末,但在句中时要放在谓语动词之前,助动词之后。

二、表达怀疑或不肯定

A. 表达怀疑

1. 用“主语+doubt+名词词组/if从句/whether从句”表达。例如:

I doubt his intention.

She doubted if her boss would allow her to go.

We doubted whether what he had said was true.

2. 用“*There be*/主语+have+doubts about+名词词组/wh-从句”表达。例如:

There were some doubts about his honesty.

We still have some doubts about what he said.

doubts 后面有时还可以跟“as to+whether从句”,例如:

They had some doubts as to whether the man would keep his promise exactly.

3. 用“主语+be/feel+doubtful+about/of+名词词组/wh-从句”表达。例如:

I'm quite doubtful about/of her sincerity.

The critic was doubtful (about/of) whether the author was alive when his last book was published.

B. 表示不肯定

1. 用“主语+be+not certain/sure等+that从句/whether从句”表达。例如:

I'm not certain that he was an English major.

She was not sure whether she should stay on for the third semester.

2. 用“主语+be+uncertain/unsure (of)+wh-从句”表达。例如:

They were uncertain (of) who would be their supervisor.

We are unsure (of) where we shall go for the summer holiday.

3. 用“主语+be+uncertain of/about+名词词组”表达。例如:

Mary was uncertain of her own capability for the task assigned to her.

The company is uncertain about their stand in the matter.

4. 用“主语+can't help wondering+if从句”表达。例如:

We couldn't help wondering if he was well-intentioned in the transaction.

John can't help wondering if the research should go on.

这里wondering是being doubtful的意思。

5. 用“If I am not mistaken, +主句”表达。例如:

If I'm not mistaken, he has received the award for the third time.

If I'm not mistaken, her grandfather was born in Singapore.

这里“if ...”意为“如果我没有搞错(我的记忆没有错的话)”,说话者对下面所说的事实真实性表示不肯定。

6. 用“I can't/couldn't say for certain, but I suspect+that从句”表达。例如:

I can't say for certain, but I suspect that it was Peter who did it.

I couldn't say for certain, but I suspect that the delegation will not return home via Hong Kong.

本句型语气比较正式、委婉,用couldn't比用can't更婉转。suspect在这里是believe to be true或think likely的意思。

漫谈“词 + and/or + 词”结构的固定短语

顾 煥 鸡

英语中“词 + and/or + 词”结构的固定短语 (fixed phrase), 其前后两个词大都有一定的关系, 或是同义词, 或是反义词, 或是语义上的关联词, 或是押韵词等。这种约定俗成的组合, 是为了起到修辞的作用。现试简单介绍如下:

一、同义词的组合

两个同义词或近义词组合, 通常用 and 连接。组合之后各词一般保留原来的含义, 间或也有转义的现象。例如:

1. first and foremost 首先

First and foremost, we should tackle the problem of raw material. 首先, 我们应该解决原材料问题。

2. well and good (既然……)那也好

If that is what you really think, well and good, we'll let you go ahead. 要是你真的是那样考虑的, 那也好, 我们就让你去做。

3. free and easy 不拘形式的, 随随便便的

It was a free and easy talk with the President. 那是和总统的一次不拘形式的谈话。

4. high and mighty 神气活现的, 不可一世的

I'm fed up with his high and mighty airs. 我讨厌他那种不可一世的神气。

5. down and out 落魄, 潦倒

That year he lost his job and appeared to be somewhat down and out. 那一年他失业了, 看上去有些潦倒失意。

6. ways and means 方法, 措施

The object of the conference was to work out ways and means of promoting international trade. 会议的目的是拟订促进国际贸易的各种办法。

二、反义词的组合

两个反义词组合常用 and 或 or 连接, 间或也有用介词连接的。组合

后所表达的意思往往转为形象化；修辞色彩也较浓。例如：

1. ups and downs 盛衰，浮沉

Her life was full of ups and downs. 她的一生充满了酸甜苦辣。

2. now and then 不时，经常

She comes to visit us now and then. 她常常来看望我们。

3. one and all 个个都，全部

They took part in the May Day celebration, one and all. 他们全都参加了“五一”节庆祝活动。

4. more or less 或多或少，差不多

When we began our study of the English language, the first few weeks were more or less completely devoted to phonetics. 我们开始学习英语时，头几周差不多全部用来学习语音。

5. hit or miss 不顾成败

Hit or miss, we showed up at the tournament. 不顾输赢，我们参加了锦标赛。

6. sink or swim 浮沉全凭自己

Peter's new job was confusing and no one had time to help him learn, so he had to sink or swim. 彼得的新工作很繁杂，又没人有时间帮他学，所以能否胜任便全靠自己。

7. from head to foot 从头到脚地，全身地

The actress was dressed in red from head to foot. 那位女演员上下一身红装。

8. from start to finish 自始至终

These students took part in the building of the ship from start to finish. 这批学生参加了造船工作的全部过程。

反义词 in 和 out 常跟一些时间名词（如 day, week, month, year）连用，由 and 或逗号连接构成短语，通常表示“连续不断”或“有规律地不断”的意思。例如：

9. day in and day out 天天（连续不断）

Day in, day out, the postman is busy delivering mail. 邮递员天天忙于递送信件。

10. year in and year out 年复一年

Every summer, year in, year out, the swallows return to this northern land. 每年夏季燕子都回到这北国地方。

三、意义关联词的组合

两个意义关联词用 and 组合后词义通常都用作比喻,使表达更加生动鲜明。例如:

1. song and dance 不着边际的解释,花言巧语

She gave us a song and dance about her kid's sickness as an excuse for being late. 她以小孩生病为借口来为自己迟到辩解。

2. mom and pop (store) 夫妻(店)

This is a mom and pop candy store. 这是一片夫妻经营的糖果店。

3. skin and bone 骨瘦如柴

She was skin and bone after her long illness. 长期生病后,她瘦得皮包骨头。

4. hole-and-corner 秘密的,偷偷摸摸的

He wanted no part in that hole-and-corner conspiracy. 他决然不参与那种鬼祟的阴谋活动。

四、押韵的词的组合

用于组合这一类短语的词大多是单音节,前后两个词可以是押头韵,也可以是押尾韵,通过增强语言的节奏感达到强调的目的。例如:

1. bag and baggage 连同全部财物,彻底地

Unable to pay their rent, Tom and his family were turned out of the house bag and baggage. 因为付不起房租,汤姆全家被赶出住房,东西也统统被扔了出去。

2. then and there (或 there and then) 当时当地

You should have pointed out his mistakes then and there. 你应该当场指出他的错误。

3. by hook or by crook 千方百计地,不择手段地

The merchant swore to get rid of the sale by hook or by crook. 那个商人发誓要不择手段地把这批货物卖出去。

4. wear and tear 损耗,磨损

Regular maintenance of machine reduces much needless wear and tear. 定期维修机器可以大大减少不必要的磨损。



Menace in the Home

Recently scientists discovered another deadly mixture in smoking. Soil gives off small amounts of radon (氡), a radioactive gas derived from radium. New weather-sealing technologies (密封空调技术) to help conserve energy in our homes can also trap and concentrate this dangerous gas indoors. The Environmental Protection Agency (环境保护局) estimates that up to 20,000 Americans each year may be dying from lung cancer caused by inhaling (吸入) radon in homes and work places.

But when indoor air already polluted with invisible, odorless radon gas is also polluted with cigarette smoke, something even more frightening happens. In clean air the radon's short-lived daughters (短命的子核) tend to attach themselves to walls, rugs and draperies (帷幕). But with tobacco smoke in the air, the radon daughters condense onto smoke particles and remain aloft to be inhaled by smokers and those who breathe secondhand smoke. As a result, the combination of indoor radon pollution and indoor cigarette-smoke pollution may create yet another synergy (协同作用) deadlier than each of the pollutants separately.

Even without radon, those who breathe smoke-clouded air will be dosed with radioactivity from tobacco. At least 50 percent of the radioactive isotopes in cigarette smoke wind up in the air, and a smaller percentage of this and other elements in the smoke are inhaled by those around the smoker. Dr. Takeshi Hirayama of the Institute of Preventive Oncology (肿瘤预防研究所) in Tokyo studied records of more than 91,000 women and found that non-smoking wives of heavy smokers had more than double the risk of dying from lung cancer than did the non-smoking wives of non-smokers.

(From Reader's Digest, March 1986)

Multiple Choice Questions

Tick off the best answer according to the passage.

1. What is the deadly mixture in smoking discovered recently?
 - A. Small amounts of radon derived from radium.
 - B. Polluted cigarette smoke.
 - C. The combination of indoor radon pollution and indoor cigarette-smoke pollution.
 - D. Air trapped indoors by new weather-sealing technologies.
2. Which is deadlier?
 - A. Radioactivity from tobacco.
 - B. Indoor radon pollution.
 - C. Indoor cigarette-smoke pollution.
 - D. Air pollution caused by both indoor radon and cigarette smoke.
3. What percentage of radioactivity from cigarettes does a person around a smoker take in even without radon?
 - A. More than 50 percent.
 - B. Less than 50 percent.
 - C. Almost 100 percent.
 - D. Zero.
4. What is meant by the word "menace"?
 - A. Danger.
 - B. Disaster.
 - C. Threat.
 - D. Poverty.
5. What does this passage suggest?
 - A. Smoking is of great harmfulness to human health.
 - B. It is dangerous for humans to inhale radon.
 - C. Scientists are studying how radon pollutes the air.
 - D. A large number of people in the world die from lung cancer every year.

(For answers see page 19)

(张开平 选编)

词汇与应试

章运椿

各类英语考试中，词汇往往举足轻重。综观近年全国研究生英语入学考试试题（以下简称《试题》），可以看到报考研究生大约需要掌握五千个词，大体上也就是《大学英语教学大纲》所列的那些词汇。对这些词应当分别对待，其中常用的要掌握其用法和搭配关系，并能熟练地拼写；其余部分也必须达到识记。在英语考试中，除词汇项目外，其他如阅读理解、填充等项也都要求考生较好地掌握词汇。因此说，考生掌握词汇的程度如何是能否正确完成各题项的前提和关键。本文以84年以来的《试题》为例，对考前怎样准备词汇提出若干看法。

一、掌握高频度动词的常见搭配及其表示的不同意义。例如：get, put, take, look, give, come 等动词的各种搭配，历年《试题》中都广泛出现。现仅以 get 和 put 为例：

1. The old lady can't hope to _____ her cold in a few days.

A. get away B. get off C. get out D. get over [85年《试题》第10小题，以下简称(85-10)]

答案是 D. get over (痊愈)。

2. There are many inconveniences that have to be _____ when you are camping.

A. put up B. put up with C. put off D. put away (87-8)

答案是 B. put up with (忍受, 容忍)。

3. Hello. Is that 21035? Please put me _____ to the manager.

A. across B. up C. through D. over (87-3)

答案是 C.，因为 put sb. through 是“用电话接通”的意思。

二、注意某些名词和代词的用法及其搭配关系。也就是说，某些名词或代词表示某种意义时，后面要跟特定的介词。例如：

1. He is _____ of an actor.

A. anything B. anyone C. somebody D. something (86-13)

答案是 D. something of, 表示在某种意义(或程度)上。例：I'm something of a carpenter. = I have some ability as a carpenter.

(省略诸木工)。

2. No one who has seen him work in the laboratory can deny that William has great capabilities of research. (87—57)

答案是 D 错，应改为 for，因为 capability 指做某事的能力，与 of 连用时，后接动名词；与 for 连用时，后接名词。

3. When I was about twelve, I suddenly developed a great passion _____ writing poetry.

A. for B. in C. on D. at (85—16)

答案是 A.，句中名词 passion 常接 for 表示“对……的热情(喜爱)”。

三、归纳某些具有习惯搭配的形容词和副词的用法，并掌握其意义。

例如：

1. He is indifferent _____ hardships and dangers.

A. of B. at C. in D. to (84—5)

答案是 D.，句中 indifferent 常与 to 搭配，表示“对……不在乎”的意思。

2. _____ do we go for picnics.

A. Certainly B. Sometimes C. Seldom D. Once (85—6)

答案是 C.，有少数带否定词义的副词如 little, seldom, hardly, scarcely 等置于句首时，主谓语要倒装。本题中 certainly, sometimes, once 虽都是副词，但都不要求倒装，所以不符合本句句子的结构要求。

四、记住某些固定词组的意义。例如：

1. His few personal belongings make it possible for him to move from place to place _____.

A. in ease A. at ease C. with ease D. with easiness (84—13)

答案是 C. with ease (轻易地)。虽然 at ease (悠闲地, 安逸地) 也是固定词组，但不符合本题题意。

2. People do not always know this and are shocked if their good faith is called _____.

A. in difficulty B. in doubt
C. in earnest D. in question (87—39)

答案是 D.，因为 call sth. in question 表示“对某事怀疑”的意思，符

合本题要求，其余如 in difficulty (在困境中)，in doubt (怀疑)，in earnest (认真地)都不能使用。

五、区别某些同义词、近义词在句中的不同意义。例如：

1. Today, housework has been made much easier by electrical _____.

- A. facilities B. appliances
C. instruments D. equipment (84—49)

答案是 B.，“家用电器”用 electrical appliances. facilities 系指“设施”；instruments 指“仪器”；equipment 指“设备”总称。

2. If I take this medicine twice a day it should _____ my cold.

- A. heal B. cure C. treat D. recover (86—37)

答案是 B. cure (治愈)。heal 多指“治愈伤口”；treat 指“治疗过程”；recover 指“身体复原”，所以都不适合本题题意。

3. As scheduled, the communication satellite went into _____ round the earth.

- A. circle B. orbit C. path D. course (87—26)

答案是 B.。虽然 circle 及 path 两词也有天体轨道的意思，但“围绕地球的轨道”通常用 orbit；而 course 是指“路线，航向”。

六、正确辨明词根相同而词类不同或拼法相似而意义不同的词。

1. The football match was televised _____ from the Worker's Stadium.

- A. alive B. life C. live D. lively (84—27)

答案是 C.，本句中 live 是副词，表示“现场播出”。

2. The novelist is a highly _____ person.

- A. imaginable B. imaginative
C. imaginary D. imagined (86—44)

答案是 B. imaginative，表示“富有想象力的”意思。其余几个虽然词形差不多，但 imaginable 表示“可想象的”，imaginary 表示“想象中的”，imagined 表示“被想象的”，均不符合题意。

从以上分析来看，考生应对常用词汇进行收集、归类、对比等艰苦的积累工作，打下扎实的词汇基础，才能取得应试的成功。



Can I Live to Be 150?

Nothing lives forever, right? Wrong. Unbelievable as it may seem①, there are some animals that do not die. They are very simple creatures, too small to be seen without the help of a microscope. While most animals, including human beings, have billions of cells in their bodies, these little death defiers② have only one③. Each cell lives for a certain length of time, and then it splits to form two new animals. The adult animal turns itself into④ two babies! All of the new cells eventually divide, but none die unless they are killed by accident or disease.

There are other cells that avoid aging⑤. Cells from old mice have been transplanted into young mice over and over again each time the body they are in wears out⑥. In their new bodies the old cells seem to begin life over again. They divide and grow just like young cells.

Is there any way to discover the secret of these cells' youth and apply it to human beings? Not yet. But scientists are still searching, and they may be closer than ever⑦ to finding an answer! Of course, some ways to increase your chances of living longer, like⑧ good food and exercise, have been known for years. Progress

① unbelievable as it may seem: 这虽然好像是难以相信。as 引出的让步状语从句要求倒装语序, 表语 unbelievable 提到 as 前面。 ② defier: 挑战者, 对抗者。death defier 意指“不会死亡的生物”。 ③ one: = one cell (一个细胞)。 ④ turn (itself) into: (本身)变成。 ⑤ avoid aging: 防止衰老。(aging = ageing: 变老, 老化)。 ⑥ 全句意思是: 每当老鼠的细胞所在的躯体快要死亡时, 这些细胞已一次次地移植到小老鼠体内。each time 是连接词, 引出时间状语从句。they are in 是定语从句, 修饰 the body, they 指 the cells。wear out 原意是“耗尽, 用完”。 ⑦ than ever: 比过去任何时候都更加(与形容词比较级连用, 表达迄今为止最高的程度)。 ⑧ like: 例如(此处等于 such as)。

against killer diseases^⑨ has already raised the human life expectancy^⑩ to more than seventy years, compared with less than fifty years at the turn of the century^⑪. Now scientists are studying other ways to combat aging.

One researcher found that keeping fish at below-normal temperatures helps them live longer. Rats, kept on a special diet their whole life^⑫, increased their life span^⑬ by 25 percent. Some scientists removed a part of the brain called the pituitary^⑭ from elderly mice. The mice acted younger, though their life span remained the same. This suggests^⑮ that there might be a chemical produced by the pituitary that causes aging. In fact, one researcher thinks he has found such a chemical in the pituitaries of cattle. He calls it DECO^⑯.

None of these experiments is likely to help elderly human beings, however. Most people would probably not accept being chilled^⑰ in order to live longer. And it would take a lot of willpower^⑱ to stay on a diet every day of your life^⑲! Nor is it practical to remove human pituitaries^⑳. The pituitary produces chemicals the body needs for good health. In the experiment with mice these chemicals had to be removed from other animals and injected into the mice without pituitaries. This could never be done with people.

Still, if a chemical that causes aging does exist, we might be able to counteract it someday^㉑. That might keep people young well

⑨ killer disease: 致命的疾病。 ⑩ life expectancy: [美] (根据概率统计求得的) 预计寿命。 ⑪ at the turn of the century: 在本世纪初。 ⑫ their whole life: 在它们整个一生中(作状语)。 ⑬ life span: 寿命。 ⑭ pituitary: (脑) 垂体。 ⑮ suggest: 表明。 ⑯ DECO: (= direct energy conversion operation) 能量直接变换过程。 ⑰ being chilled: 被冷冻(是 chill 的动名词被动式, 作 accept 的宾语)。 ⑱ willpower: 意志力, 毅力。 ⑲ to stay on a diet every day of your life: 一辈子每天坚持进规定的饮食。此动词不定式作主语。 ㉑ 全句意思是: 摘除人的脑垂体也是行不通的。nor 放在句首, 故用倒装语序。 ㉒ 全句意思是: 然而, 如果使人变老的那种化学物质的确存在的话, 有朝一日我们也许能够阻止它起作用。does 在这里起强调作用。 (梁兴智 注)