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上海交通大学出版社新书介绍

大学英语语法练习与指南

甘露光　谢志民　王同顺　编

本书是根据《大学英语教学大纲》的语法结构表编写的。全书十二节，有重点地编入了中国大学生感到困难的，而且在一般试题中经常出现的各种语法项目。每一节有简明扼要的说明与若干有针对性的练习，并有题解与注释。最后附有三份“自测题”。全书例句及练习题所用的单词，大多选自大纲词汇表。

本书主要供大学在校学生及大学程度的自学者使用，也可供有志参加研究生考试、TOEFL、EPT 等考试的人员参考。本书不仅有助于学习和复习英语语法知识，提高使用语法的能力，而且对阅读与写作能力的提高均有裨益。

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On the Wagon

Every people has its own special words and expressions like the American expression "on the wagon". It means a person who no longer drinks whisky, beer or other kinds of alcoholic drinks. The "wagon" is a water wagon. In other words, a drinker has decided to change from alcohol to water. An Oklahoma (美国俄克拉何马州) newspaper wrote about a man who had a history of heavy drinking on America's Fourth of July holiday. Said the newspaper, "We believed that his experience had lifted him onto the water wagon, but he was even drunker the next Fourth of July."

Why do people decide to go on the wagon? Well, usually because they are alcoholics (饮酒过度的人). They lose control of themselves when they drink. If they take one alcoholic drink, then they want to drink another, and another, until all thought is gone.

Alcoholism (酒精中毒) is a major social problem in countries throughout the world. The United States is no exception. Experts believe that several million Americans are alcoholics today. Their health care needs, car accidents, reduced job performance and other problems cost thousands of millions of dollars every year.

In the early 1900s, many Americans joined in a campaign to make alcohol illegal in the United States. In 1920 an amendment (修正案) was added to the Constitution. It made drinking or selling alcohol a crime. But the new law did not stop people from drinking. Criminals produced or imported alcohol illegally and sold it almost everywhere.

After a few years Americans realized the so-called Prohibition Law (禁酒法) did not work. So in 1933 another constitutional change was made, cancelling the amendment that made alcohol illegal.

In recent years Americans have taken other steps to deal with the problem of alcohol. One important action has been to increase the punishment for people who drive their automobiles after drinking alcohol. Many states now consider this to be a serious crime. Another important step has been to explain to children and students the dangers of alcohol. Many schools now offer special programmes to teach young people about the problem. Doctors have been working to develop new drugs and treatment programmes to help alcoholics. Finally, alcoholics themselves are dealing with the problem of alcoholism. Many of them have "gone on the wagon" and stopped drinking. They have joined the Alcoholics Anonymous (嗜酒者互诫协会) group meeting regularly to discuss their problems and give each other support. "Going on the wagon" is not the only way to conquer alcoholism, but most alcoholics say it is the best way. They must give up alcohol completely so their own body and spirit can survive.

(From *VOA: Words and Their Stories*)

Exercise for Comprehension

1. When a person goes "on the wagon", it means _____.
   A. he has now become a heavy drinker
   B. he has turned from drinking whisky to beer
   C. he has decided to change from alcohol to water
   D. he now takes water with his alcoholic drinks
2. People decide to go on the wagon because _____.
   A. they enjoy having one drink after another
   B. they like the kind of drinks they get on the wagon
   C. they are afraid of losing their self-control in drinking again
   D. they are alcoholics and can control themselves well
3. In the United States today _____.
   A. alcoholism is not a major social problem
   B. there are no more than a million alcoholics

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C. the problem of alcoholism costs thousands of millions of dollars every year

D. alcoholism has caused a million automobile accidents a year

4. In the year 1920, Americans _____.

A. made a new law to legalize drinking alcohol

B. made it clear in the Constitution that alcohol is illegal

C. passed a new law which successfully stopped people from drinking

D. joined in a campaign to prohibit drinking or selling alcohol

5. Another law was made in the United States in 1933 to _____.

A. prohibit alcohol

B. cancel the earlier amendment which made alcohol illegal

C. make it illegal for criminals to sell alcohol

D. carry out the 1920 amendment to the Constitution

6. Americans are now taking steps to solve the problem of alcoholism by _____.

A. decreasing the amount of alcohol drunk by drivers

B. teaching young students how to drive safely after drinking alcohol

C. punishing people more heavily for driving after drinking alcohol

D. giving special courses to teach doctors about new drugs and treatments for alcoholics

7. Alcoholics themselves are also trying to solve their problems. Give *two* ways they are doing this.

(余玛丽　侯树先 选编)

(For answers see page 25)

句末介词

郭德敏

在一些句子结构中，句末出现介词，而介词的宾语在句子的前面。这种介词可能是与特定的动词、形容词或名词连用，也可能是构成状语修饰动词。如：

1) That is what I am looking for. 这正是我在找的东西。 (look for)

2) What are you afraid of? 你害怕什么？ (afraid of)

3) English is the only subject I have a lot of difficulty with. 英语是我遇到很大困难的唯一课程。 (difficulty with)

4) These paper houses are real, big houses for people to live in. 这些纸房子是供人居住的真实的大房子。 (live in these houses)

句末介词主要出现在下列结构中：

1. 短语动词的被动语态

5) Cheaper and better ways of generating electricity are always being looked for. 人们一直在寻求更为经济而有效的发电方法。

6) In this chapter kinetic theory of molecules will be dealt with. 本章将讨论分子运动理论。

2. 特殊疑问句

7) What are you talking about? 你们在谈论什么？

8) Which job are you fond of? 你喜欢哪件工作？

3. 作定语的动词不定式

9) I want a knife to sharpen my pencil with. 我要一把削铅笔的小刀。

10) There are many problems for an engineer to deal with. 有许多问题要工程师去处理。

4. 定语从句

11) The missiles follow the direction that the radar "echoes" come from. 导弹会根据雷达"回波"来自的方向跟踪前进。

12) The gaseous state is the one whose behaviour is the easiest

科技英语写作中“定义”的下法

申保才

在写科技英语文章时，我们常常要使用一些术语，而这些术语对读者来说又可能是不十分熟悉的。因此，就要求我们在写作时下出定义来。有时候，用一个句子下出定义来也就很清楚了。但也有一些时候，我们必须用扩大的定义或段落来说明。

一、用句子下定义

下定义的句子通常包括三个部分：术语＋表种类词＋限定语。限定语可能是定语从句，也可能是分词或介词短语等其他修饰成分。例如：

1) Cement is *a powder which sets into a hard mass after it has been mixed with water.*

2) A thermometer is *an instrument which is used for measuring temperature.*

3) An airport is *a place at which planes can land and take off.*

4) Water is *a liquid consisting of two parts of hydrogen and one part of oxygen.*

5) Aluminium is *a metal produced from bauxite.*

6) A thermometer is *an instrument for measuring temperature.*

7) A pentagon is *a plane figure with five sides.*

8) Glass is *a substance with the property of being transparent.*

二、定义的扩展

一般说来，下得好的定义在逻辑上是完整的。但要让读者了解定义的全部内容，就必须把定义扩大。扩大定义通常有以下几种方法：

to describe and account for. 气态是性能最容易描述和说明的一种物态。

13) The velocity of the liquid flow depends on the diameter of the pipe it flows through. 液体流动的速度取决于它所流经的管子的直径。

1. 句子定义＋例子/用途/主要组成部分

1) An acid is a compound which neutralizes a solution of sodium hydroxide. *Common (or Typical) examples are* sulphuric and nitric acid. (例子)

2) Glass is a substance which has the property of being transparent. *Therefore, one of its main uses is* to make window panes. (用途)

3) A compass is a device used to determine geographical direction. *It usually consists of a magnetic needle or needles horizontally mounted or suspended and free to pivot until aligned with the magnetic field of the earth.* (主要组成部分)

2. 比较和对比法

The flash point of oil is the lowest temperature at which the mixture of oil vapor and air above the surface of the oil will flash up if ignited. *The fire point* is the lowest temperature at which the surface of the oil will catch fire and burn.

3. 段落法

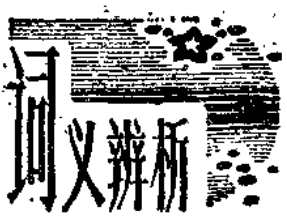
An atom is similar to a biological cell or a microscopic model of a solar system. It is the smallest unit of a chemical element, composed of a central nucleus surrounded by electrically charged particles. The word "atom" derives from a Greek word which, in English, means "indivisible", but one of the scientific breakthroughs of the twentieth century was the successful attempt to split the atom. Splitting atoms produces energy, providing us with alternate source of power to reduce the demand for expensive and diminishing natural sources of energy such as oil and coal.

Never so happy as when my hands are full.

——*Galsworthy*

只有在工作忙得不可开交的时候，我才最快乐。

——高尔斯华绥



"improve" 与 "improve on"

张正新

"improve" 与 "improve on" 在许多英汉/英英词典里都有解释，但由于种种原因它们之间的区别未能得到详尽说明，致使不少人对其缺乏准确的理解。本文打算从含意和用法上把它们作一比较，并予以全面区分。

1. "to improve sth." 的基本意义是 "把……做得更好"，"使……变得更好"，"提高"，"改进"，即 "to make sth. better, to inhance sth. in value or quality"。例如：

1) The workers have been holding meetings regularly to discuss what new methods they can use to improve the quality of their products. 工人们一直在开会讨论用什么新的方法来提高产品质量。

2) The production situation of this factory has been improved tremendously since the Third Plenary Session of the Eleventh National Congress of the Party. 党的十一届三中全会以来这个工厂的生产形势大为改观。

2. "to improve on/upon sth." 意为 "做出比……更好的东西"，"对……进行有益的修改或补充"，即 "to produce sth. better than, to make useful additions or amendments"。例如：

3) Do you know who improved on the carburetor system of the automobile? 你知道是谁改进了汽车的汽化器系统吗？

4) Tom has never improved on his first book. 汤姆再没写出比他的处女作更好的作品来。

3. 由此可见，"to improve sth." 与 "to improve on sth." 有着一定的区别。首先，在内涵上，"to improve sth." 是指对某一事物本身所做的改进和提高，结果不产生第二事物；而 "to improve on sth." 则指以某一事物为基础或以其为比较进行另一番改进和提高，结果产生更高级更完美的第二事物。试比较：

5) a. They have improved black and white television sets in recent

years. 近几年里他们改进了黑白电视机（意味着产品质量的提高或生产工艺的改进）。

b. They have improved on black and white television sets in recent years. 这几年里他们对黑白电视机进行了改进（意味着新产品的出现，例如彩电）。

6) a. I cannot see any improvement in your writing. 我看不出你在写作方面有什么进步（意味着写作能力没有提高）。

b. This essay is a great improvement on the previous one. 这篇文章比起上篇来好多了（意味着两篇文章在质量上的差异）。

第二，鉴于上述原因，在搭配上，"improve" 后通常接含有抽象意义的名词，而 "improve on" 后则通常接含有具体意义的名词。例如：

7) to improve one's health	增强体质
to improve people's life	改善人民生活
to improve one's style of work	改进工作作风
to improve one's oral English	提高英语口语
to improve on a record	刷新纪录
to improve on a play	修改剧本
to improve on an invention	完善发明
to improve on a product	更新产品

一般说来，适用"improve"的地方不宜用"improve on"；而能用 "improve on" 的地方也可用 "improve"，但含意有所不同。例如，我们不可说 "to improve on one's health"，但可以说 "to improve a record"。再比较：

8) a. You must make a serious effort to improve your marks in school. 你必须为提高自己的学业成绩做出认真的努力（marks in school 含抽象意义）。

b. Dick got good marks the first year, but he thought he could improve on them. 迪克第一年的学习成绩不错，但他认为自己还会取得更好的成绩（marks 含具体意义）。

第三，在所指方面，"to improve sth." 强调提高的过程或所做的努力；而 "to improve on sth." 则强调提高的企图或结果。例如：

9) After the four months' compulsive training, these students greatly improved their English in terms of the four skills of

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communication. 经过四个月的强化训练，就四种交际技能而言，这些学生的英语水平有了很大提高。

10) Though computers are capable of learning from their mistakes and improving on their performance, they need detailed instructions from human beings in order to be able to operate. 虽然计算机能够从自己的错误中接受教训，改进运算，但它需要得到人的详尽指令才能工作。

4. 当"improve"用作不及物动词时，它表现出动词及物性转化规则的特性，即不及物动词的主语通常是它们相应的及物动词的宾语。例如：

11) a. His handwriting has improved a lot.

b. He has improved his handwriting a lot.

12) a. Your reading is improving.

b. You are improving your reading.

上例还表明，"improve"用作不及物动词时表示提高的状态，暗示内因作用，因此作主语的通常是物。如果用人作主语，它则泛指人的"体质"或"能力"这种内在的东西的增强。例如：

13) Just think how you have improved in the short time I have known you. 你想想，在我认识你的这段短暂时间里你取得了多大的进步。

14) She improved, but she remained in the hospital for four weeks. 她好些了，但还是在医院里住了四个星期。

Science, by itself, cannot supply us with an ethics. It can show us how to achieve a given end, and it may show us that some ends cannot be achieved.

——*Bertland Russell*

科学本身不能给于我们道德。科学教导我们达到某一定目的的方法，同时，也教导我们有些目的是无法完成的。

——伯特兰·罗素

Science is the knowledge of consequences, and dependence of one fact upon another. ——*Hobbes*

科学是关于研究结果和事物之间相互依存的知识。

——霍布斯

浅谈美国英语与英国英语在语法上的某些差异

齐广武

英美两国用的虽是同一种语言——the English language，但美国英语（AmE）与英国英语（BrE）却不完全一样。本文试谈AmE与BrE语法上的一些差别。

一、虚拟句中should的取舍

在一些表示建议、请求、命令的虚拟句中，AmE常省略从句中的should，直接用动词原形，而BrE则用"should＋V."结构。例如：

AmE: I suggested that Comrade Wang be put forward as the candidate. 我建议推举王同志作候选人。

BrE: He advised that a doctor should be sent for. 他建议我们请医生。

AmE: I suggest we set off straightaway. 我建议马上动身。

BrE: He ordered that all civilians should be evacuated. 他命令撤退所有平民。

二、动词come和go

当动词come和go本身是动词原形或用于祈使句的时候，AmE come和go后的不定式省略"to"，而BrE习惯用and把两个动词连接起来。例如：

AmE: I'll go tell her. 我将去告诉他。

BrE: I had a chance to go and see him. 我有个机会去看他。

AmE: She wouldn't come visit him. 她不肯来拜访他。

BrE: He'll come and have supper with us. 他将来和我们一道吃晚饭。

三、连词like和as (if)

在非正式口语中，AmE用连词like时，BrE则用as if或as。例如：

AmE: It looks like it's going to rain. 天好象要下雨。

BrE: It looks as if it's going to rain.

AmE: Nobody loves you like I do, baby. 孩子，谁也没有象我这样疼你。

BrE: Nobody loves you as I do, baby.

Why Engineers Should Study the Humanities

How relevant are the humanities in today's technical world? Most engineers would probably answer: "Not very". When and how did this attitude develop?

Engineers probably arrived at① this opinion during the academically intensive years of undergraduate study. From an engineering student's viewpoint, required liberal-arts classes② consume valuable time that could better be spent with engineering studies. Therefore, student engineers tend to devote little effort to humanities classes, preferring to instead concentrate on the technical ones. This minimal contact often leads to an incorrect appraisal③ of the relevancy of the humanities in the world today.

What do the humanities offer engineers?

What specific benefits can engineers expect to receive from returning to school and taking humanities classes? What are some companies doing to help their employees gain an awareness of④ the importance of the humanities? And what are some of the ways that an engineer can, on his or her own, secure at least an acquaintance with the humanities⑤?

Attempting to lure⑥ the engineer back to school, liberal-arts colleges usually advertise that a study of the humanities gives an engineer another way of thinking. For example, in the area of prob-

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① arrive at: 得出。 ② required liberal-arts classes: 必修的大学文科课程。 ③ appraisal: 评价。 ④ gain an awareness of: 认识到。 ⑤ 全句意思是：工程师用什么方法能够通过自学至少获得人文学科的初步知识？ ⑥ lure: 吸引。

lem solving, instead of arriving at specific solutions, problems are often discussed to which there may be no solutions or to which all solutions are equally correct.

One's mental view⑦ is expanded from the narrow and specific to the broad and general. Also, a knowledge of the humanities allows one to explore fundamental ideas and concepts, such as where we as a people have come from, where we are, and where we may be going.

These reasons are certainly all valid, but to engineers they may be too nebulous⑧. There are, however, a number of distinct benefits from taking humanities courses that are directly applicable to today's workplace.

First, no matter what specific courses you take, you will find an improvement in your writing ability. Term papers and essay examinations will definitely increase your skill in written communications.

Second, you will learn more about human personalities and how people function from an in-depth study of, for example, Shakespeare's plays than from a dozen company-sponsored supervisory training programs⑨.

Third, classes in art will not only teach you how to look at paintings and sculptures, they will also increase your overall visual awareness⑩. Ordinary items that have surrounded you for years, but which you have really never before noticed, will suddenly become visible. This increase in perception⑪ will give you new ways of looking at old problems.

Fourth, a study of history through the eyes of those with totally different backgrounds and beliefs from your own will impart

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⑦ mental view: 思路。 ⑧ nebulous: 模糊不清的。 ⑨ 全句意思是：第二，例如通过深入研究莎士比亚戏剧，可以比从公司举办的许多管理工作训练班中能更多地了解人的个性和人的活动方式。how people function 是介词 about 的宾语从句。 ⑩ visual awareness: 观察能力。 ⑪ perception: 洞察力。

a willingness to see, if not appreciate, everyday situations from more than one point of view⑫. This flexibility will make you much more tolerant and much less prone to snap-judgments⑬.

Fifth, a class in philosophy may challenge your fundamental beliefs but it will also lead you to explore the logical thought process: the nature of correct thinking and valid reasoning.

Sixth, from literature and music you will gain, respectively, a capacity to understand the symbolism⑭ embedded within famous novels and to appreciate the mathematical intricacies of great musical scores⑮. This ability will not only increase your personal enjoyment of literature and music but will also teach you that, by scratching a little deeper to get below the superficial⑯, new meanings can be found in practically all situations.

Seventh, taking humanities classes will help you to put the modern, pressure-filled working environment into proper perspective⑰. When compared with who and what have shaped our civilization, present day to day activities in the workplace, no matter how important they may appear on the surface, are just barely in the noise level.

(From *Chemical Engineering*, Sept. 28, 1987)

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⑫ 全句意思是：第四，借助经历和信念与你完全不同的人的见解去研究历史，能使你自动地以不止一种观点去观察(如果说不是去评价)每天的局势。 ⑬ snap-judgment: 仓卒判断。 ⑭ symbolism: 象征主义，象征手法。 ⑮ to appreciate the mathematical intricacies of great musical scores: 了解伟大的乐谱所蕴含的确定无疑的复杂内容的(能力)。此不定式短语作定语，修饰 capacity。 ⑯ the superficial: 表面。 ⑰ perspective: 看法。 (孙盛扬 选注)

英语易混形容词十二对

金桂林

英语中有些形容词，虽出于同一词根，但相互之间在意义上大不相同。下面介绍十二对这种易混的形容词，并对其中某些用法上的差别予以适当的比较。

一、**comic** "使人发笑的"、"滑稽的"，描写一个人或一件东西的性质，旨在使人感到有趣而发笑；**comical** "好笑的"、"古怪的"，强调滑稽的、幽默的、古怪的、可笑的效果招人发笑。例如：

Bob Hope is a comic actor.

鲍勃·霍伯是个滑稽演员。

The football player dressed like a chorus girl was comical.

穿得像歌舞团中女孩子的那个足球队员令人感到滑稽可笑。

二、**credible** "可相信的"，含有被动的意味；**credulous** "轻信的"，不加研究和考查就信以为真，含有主动的意味。例如：

It seems hardly credible that your son has grown so tall in one year.

你儿子在一年中就长得这么高，似乎令人不敢相信。

She was so credulous that the other children could fool her easily.

她这般轻信，别的小孩子很容易欺骗她。

三、**economic** "经济的"，指与"政治"并称的"经济"；**economical** "经济的"，与"节约的"同义。例如：

Changes in the economic basis require a corresponding change in the superstructure.

经济基础的改变要求上层建筑也作出相应的改变。

It is more economical and healthful to live in the countryside than in town.

住在乡下比住在城市经济和有益于健康。

四、**historic** "有历史意义的"；**historical** "历史的"（与"传说的"相对），或"有关历史的"。例如：

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