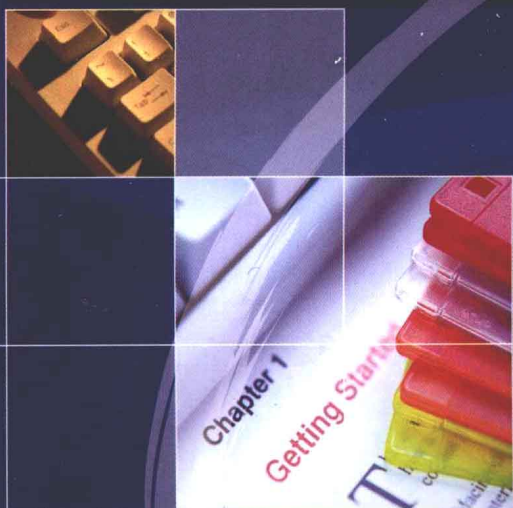




21st CENTURY
实用规划教材

21世纪全国应用型本科计算机案例型规划教材

计算机专业英语



Computer

主 编 张 勇 段君玮



北京大学出版社
PEKING UNIVERSITY PRESS

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内 容 简 介

本书是一本面向 21 世纪的计算机专业英语教材,它主要涉及计算机基础知识、计算机硬件、计算机语言、Windows 编程、软件工程、数据库、Internet、最新操作系统、网站设计、.NET 技术、网络安全、分布式系统以及人工智能等领域的知识和技术。全书以最新的计算机文献和经典的原版教材为基础,选材以突出新技术与实用技术并且难度适当为目标,并配有同步对照的词汇注释、练习题以及实用的科技英语语法,使读者能够快速掌握计算机专业英语的特点和大量的专业词汇,并对相关的计算机领域知识有所扩展。

本书的主要特点是选材所涉及的计算机专业领域广泛且能够及时反映计算机发展的新技术。同时阅读材料难度适当,强调理解与分析。每章还有非常详细的词汇同步注释,即使那些英文水平一般的读者也能轻松阅读,同时配有参考译文及习题答案,能够极大地方便读者的学习和使用。

本书可供高等院校计算机专业及 IT 相关专业的本专科学生使用,也可作为计算机水平考试的考生、计算机爱好者以及 IT 领域的技术人员学习参考。

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前 言

计算机自诞生之日起,就一直以前所未有的速度发展着。作为未来 IT 业的技术人员,必须具有熟练阅读计算机专业文献的能力,以便及时了解计算机的新技术和新动向。因此,高等院校计算机及其相关专业纷纷开设了“计算机专业英语”课程。

本书是计算机及 IT 相关专业人员的重要工具书,也是学习、掌握计算机技术的桥梁。计算机专业英语的阅读、理解能力是衡量一个人计算机技术水平的重要标志之一。由于计算机技术日新月异,新概念、新术语、新资料源源不断从国外引入,文章中直接采用英文术语(或缩写语)的现象越来越普遍。随着 Internet 应用的日益普及,网上拥有浩瀚的英文信息。计算机操作过程中所出现的菜单、提示、帮助及错误反馈信息也常用英文界面,若不能迅速理解其含义,将会严重影响上机、上网和工作。此外,英文操作手册及技术资料均包含有较详细、全面、准确的技术细节,这是任何编译资料所不能代替的。

本书的编写目标是使学生不仅能学到计算机专业英语词汇、扩大知识面,同时能掌握用英文表达专业知识的方法,提高阅读及理解专业英文资料的能力,掌握计算机专业文章翻译的方法和技巧。

本书面向计算机及 IT 相关专业的本专科学生,以最新的计算机文献和经典的原版教材为基础,选材以突出新技术与实用技术并且难度适当为目标,并配有同步对照的词汇注释、练习题以及实用的科技英语语法。

本教材有以下几个方面的特点。

- (1) 选材所涉及的计算机专业领域广泛且能够及时反映新的计算机技术。
- (2) 介绍必要的语法知识及科技文章的翻译方法与技巧。
- (3) 配有非常详细的词汇同步注释,使得那些即使英文水平一般的读者也能轻松阅读。
- (4) 阅读材料难度适当,强调理解与分析。
- (5) 每章都配有习题和参考译文,书后还附有习题参考答案,方便读者学习。

全书共分为 13 章,第 1 章介绍台式计算机和膝上计算机的优缺点以及选择方式;第 2 章介绍计算机硬件的相关知识,包括处理器、存储器、输入/输出等技术;第 3 章介绍计算机语言知识,内容包括计算机语言的类型、流行语言 Java 及 JSP 语言简介;第 4 章介绍 Windows 编程以及窗口、消息机制;第 5 章介绍软件工程,包括软件工程的背景、软件生命周期及设计方法学;第 6 章以微软的最新数据库 SQL 2005 为蓝本,介绍数据库的可伸缩性以及数据库开发的特点;第 7 章是关于计算机网络及网络安全的相关知识,内容包括 Internet 的由来、网络互联、Internet 的常用工具等;第 8 章介绍微软的最新操作系统 Windows Vista 的新特征和使用特点;第 9 章是关于设计网站导航及 XML 语言,内容包括网站导航系统的特点介绍、网站导航的设计框架及在网站设计中流行的可扩展的标记语言 XML 的介绍;第 10 章以微软的 VB.NET 和 C# 为例,介绍 .NET 框架和技术;第 11 章介绍关于 Internet 的工作原理和相关技术;第 12 章介绍分布式系统的特点、面临的问题和挑战以及分布式体系的体系结构模型;第 13 章介绍人工智能的相关知识。

本书由吉林工程技术师范学院及空军航空大学的教师共同编写，其中，第 1、3、6、10、12 章由张勇编写，第 4、8、9、11 章由段君玮、刘国成编写，第 2、5、7、13 章由张春华、崔钢、崔立新、宋小华共同编写。本书的英文资料整理工作及习题参答案的编写由齐玉华组织完成。

本书授课总学时建议不超过 40 学时，其中，第 1 章~第 8 章各授课 2~3 学时，第 9 章~第 13 章各授课 3~4 学时，可根据需要自行安排。

由于编者水平有限，不当之处敬请读者批评指正。

编 者

2008 年 5 月

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Chapter 1 Choosing Your Computer

Section A Choosing Your Computer: Desktop or Laptop?

When it's time to think about buying a new computer, the very first question you must ask yourself (and the other people who will use the new computer) is the one in this section's title: Should I buy a **desktop** (Figure 1.1) or a **laptop** (Figure 1.2)?

desktop ['deskɒp]

n. [计] 桌面, 桌上型电脑

laptop ['læptɒp]

n. [计] 膝上型电脑, 手提电脑



Figure 1.1 A desktop computer



Figure 1.2 A laptop computer

This chapter should help you make that important decision; it explains how to **evaluate** the special features of each type and describe their benefits and drawbacks. Later in this chapter, you can find more details about using each of those features, but right now it's most important to decide whether the lightweight and compact design of a laptop is important enough to sacrifice the lower cost, **flexible construction**, and generally larger keyboard and screen in a desktop system.

What's the Difference?

Before beginning a discussion on the **pros and cons** of each type, it might be useful to define certain terms.

A desktop computer usually has most of its **components** in a **modular** case, with a separate keyboard, video display, mouse, and speakers connected to the case through cables or wireless links. The case for a desktop computer might be either **vertical** or **horizontal**.

A few specialty **manufacturers** offer compact designs that don't meet the industry standards (such as a computer with the **processor** and related parts built into the video monitor package), but most desktop computers **resemble** the ones shown in Figure 1.1.

A laptop computer is a self-contained, lightweight, **portable** unit that can operate on battery power. The most common laptop design is sometimes described as a **clamshell** because it opens up like a big **bivalve**, with the keyboard in the bottom half and the screen in the top. Figure 1.2 shows a typical laptop computer.

The newest portable computers, known as **tablets**, have touch-sensitive screens that are often attached to the keyboard section with rotating hinges. This allows a user to write on the screen with a special **stylus** without opening the clamshell. Microsoft has designed support for tablets into the most recent versions of the Windows **operating system**.

How Do You Use Your Computer?

In most cases, the choice between a desktop and a laptop computer depends on the way you expect to use this particular machine. If you're planning to carry the computer with you when

evaluate [i'væljueit]

vt. 评价, 估计, 求……的值

flexible ['fleksebl]

adj. 柔韧性, 易曲的, 灵活的, 柔软的, 能变形的

construction [kən'strʌkʃən]

n. 建筑, 建筑物, 解释, 造句

pros and cons

正反

component [kəm'pəunənt]

adj. 组成的, 构成的

n. 成分

modular ['mɒdjulə]

adj. [数]模的, 有标准组件的

vertical ['vɜ:tikəl]

adj. 垂直的, 直立的, 顶点的

n. 垂直线, 垂直面, 竖向

horizontal [ˌhɒri'zɒntl]

adj. 地平线的, 水平的

manufacturer

[ˌmænju'fæktʃərə]

n. 制造业者, 厂商

processor ['prəusesə]

n. 处理器

resemble [ri'zembl]

vt. 像, 类似

portable ['pɔ:təbl]

adj. 轻便的, 便携式的

clamshell ['klæmʃəl]

n. 蛤壳

bivalve ['baɪvælv]

n. 双壳类

tablet ['tæblɪt]

n. 写字板, 书写板, 碑, 牌匾, 拍纸簿, 便笺簿, 小块

stylus ['stailəs]

n. 铁笔

operating system

操作系统

you travel for business, or if you want to take the computer on vacation with you to **surf** the Internet while your family surfs the waves on a beach, the choice is obvious: You need a laptop portable. On the other hand, if you are looking for an office machine that never moves away from your workspace, a desktop computer is the better choice.

To make a good decision, think about the way you expect to work with your computer:

- Will you always use it in the same location, or will you carry it from one place to another?
- Do you expect to use your computer away from your own home or office?
- If you're in business, do you expect to use the computer in your **clients'** or customers' offices or on a job site?
- If you're a student, will you take the computer to class and use the same computer at home or in your dorm room? How about taking notes in the library or **laboratory**? Will you want to take this computer home during vacations?
- If you plan to use the computer at home, do you want to carry it from one room to another? If it's portable, will your children take it to their bedrooms and bury it under their toys or laundry?
- Are you buying this computer to share among two or more users who don't always work at the same location?
- Do you want to use this computer in places where **AC** power is not easily accessible?
- Will you have limited space in the location where you expect to use your computer?
- Is **security** important? Do you want to make sure that nobody else can use the computer when you're not there? Do you want to protect the computer (and the data stored on its drives) from theft and damage?

In general, you need a laptop if you expect to move the computer around. That might mean carrying it from one room to the next, or anything in between. If you plan to keep the computer in the same place all the time, a desktop computer is usually the way to go.

It's not always that easy. Sometimes, one type or the other might appear to be more **convenient**, but one or more specific

surf [sɜ:f]

n. 海浪, 拍岸浪

vi. 作冲浪运动

vt. 在激浪上驾(船), 在……冲浪

client ['klaɪənt]

n. [计]顾客, 客户, 委托人

laboratory

[lə'bɒrətəri, 'læbərətəri]

n. 实验室

AC=Alternating Current

交流电

security [si'kjʊərɪti]

n. 安全

convenient [kən'vi:njənt]

adj. 便利的, 方便的

features could drive your choice in the other direction. The rest of this chapter describes specific characteristics of each type that might contribute to your choice.

Summary

When you're thinking about a new computer, it's essential to decide which type meets your specific requirements.

The most important advantages of desktop computers are related to economy and the size of the components inside and outside the case. Bigger keyboards and screens make it easier to use your computer, while the modular construction and extra space inside the box allow you(or your service technician) to repair or **modify** the computer more easily. On the other hand, those big cases and **external** devices are all heavy and bulky, so they're more difficult to move around.

modify ['mɒdɪfaɪ]

v. 修改

vt. 更改, 修改

external [eks'tə:nl]

adj. 外部的, 客观的

n. 外部, 外面

Exercises

I. Fill in the blanks with the information given in the text.

1. A _____ computer usually has most of its components in a modular case.
2. A desktop computer is bigger and more _____ than a laptop.
3. The newest _____ computers, known as tablets, have touch-sensitive screens that are often attached to the keyboard section with rotating hinges.
4. Microsoft has designed support for tablets into the most recent versions of the Windows _____.
5. A _____ computer is a self-contained, lightweight, portable unit that can operate on battery power.
6. The most common laptop design is sometimes _____ as a clamshell because it opens up like a big bivalve, with the keyboard in the bottom half and the screen in the top.
7. In most cases, the choice between a desktop and a laptop computer depends on the way you expect to use this _____ machine.
8. If you are looking for an office machine that never moves away from your workspace, a _____ computer is the better choice.

II. Translate the following passages from English into Chinese.

There's a third alternative that might be worth your attention when you're trying to decide what kind of computer to buy. If you expect to use the computer in a single location most of the time, but you want the convenience of a portable when you take your twice-a-year business trips and on those rare evenings and weekends when you must take work home with you, consider using a laptop with a separate monitor, mouse, and keyboard. In the office, you have the functional benefits of a full-size keyboard and screen, but when it's necessary, you can pull a few plugs out of their sockets and take the computer with you.

Some manufacturers call this category a desktop replacement because the laptop takes the place of a conventional desktop processor case. Many laptops even include a special docking-station connector that takes the place of all those separate cables and sockets.

Section B Pros and Cons of Desktop Computers

Desktop computers are the natural choice when a computer remains in the same place for all of its working life. The modular design of a desktop system makes it **relatively** easy to **configure** it with exactly the right set of features and functions for your specific needs. And if you expect to perform your own work, a computer in a desktop case is much easier to repair and modify than a laptop.

On the other hand, a desktop computer with its separate keyboard, mouse, monitor, and speakers is big, bulky, and **awkward** to move around.

Desktops Cost Less

When price is most important, a desktop computer is the better choice because a desktop computer almost always costs less than a laptop with comparable performance. Even after you add the price of a separate monitor, keyboard, and mouse to the basic system, the total is probably lower than a laptop with the same features. If you're looking for the least expensive computer you can buy, or the least expensive computer at a specific level of performance, a desktop system is the clear choice.

Of course, it is possible to spend more for a desktop computer than the price of a good laptop by choosing a super-fast processor and **graphics controller**, lots of memory, a large **flat-panel** monitor, and other high-end components and features, but that's not a fair comparison. The price of a desktop system is always far less than a laptop machine with similar specifications.

If you can **assemble** your own computer from parts, the savings can be even greater. Major computer builders such as **Dell** and **Hewlett-Packard** may offer very inexpensive models with limited performance for less than the cost of assembling a similar machine yourself, but if you want a system with better performance, you can often find higher-quality parts for less than the cost of an off-the-shelf product. Cases, **motherboards** (Figure 1.3), **disk drives**, **expansion cards**, and other standard parts for desktop computers are easy to find.

relatively ['relatɪvli]

adv. 相关地

configure [kən'fɪgə]

vi. 配置, 设定

vt. 使成形, 使具有一定形式

awkward ['ɔ:kwəd]

adj. 难使用的, 笨拙的

graphics controller

图形控制杆

flat-panel

n. 平板

assemble [ə'sembəl]

vi. 集合

vt. 集合, 聚集, 装配

Dell

戴尔, 著名的计算机生产公司

Hewlett-Packard

惠普, 著名的计算机生产公司

motherboard ['mʌðəbɔ:d]

n. 主板

disk drive

磁盘驱动器

expansion card

扩展卡

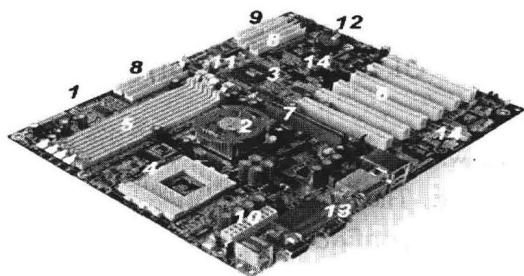


Figure 1.3 Motherboard

So building your own system can be a practical alternative for people who have more time and assembly skills than ready cash, and who want something better than an entry-level system. But there are no **widespread** standards for the size and layout of laptop components, so it's not always practical to look for a **generic** laptop case, keyboard, video display, and motherboard that you can put together yourself.

Desktops Use Standard Parts

The parts inside a desktop computer usually follow one or more design standards, so it's often possible to replace a component that fails with a new one from a different manufacturer. And when you want to add more **memory**, a larger **hard drive**, or maybe a second graphics controller and monitor to your system, you can be confident that you won't have to limit yourself to products from a single manufacturer. Just because the label on the case says Compaq or Gateway, you can still go to a big box-retailer and choose from among many different brands. This combination of modular design and **competition** is one reason that the prices of most desktop computer components are lower than the **comparable**, non-standard parts in a laptop.

In addition, the common parts specifications allow a repair shop to maintain a smaller inventory because they can use the same parts in many different desktop computer makes and models.

Desktops Have a Flexible Design

Desktop computers are modular systems that make it easy to add or replace **individual** parts to meet each user's particular requirements. A computer intended for an **illustrator** or a **computer-aided** designer might have a higher-quality graphics controller and video display, where a purchasing **agent** may not

widespread

[ˈwaɪdspred, -ˈspred]

adj. 分布广泛的, 普遍的

generic [dʒiˈnerɪk]

adj. 属的, 类的, 一般的, 普通的, 非特殊的

memory [ˈmeməri]

n. 存储器, 内存条

hard drive

硬盘

competition [kəmpiˈtiʃən]

n. 竞争, 竞赛

comparable [ˈkɒmpərəbl]

adj. 可比较的, 比得上的

individual [ˌɪndɪˈvɪdʒuəl]

n. 个人, 个体

adj. 个别的, 单独的, 个人的

illustrator [ˈɪləstreɪtə(r)]

n. 图解者, 说明者

computer-aided

计算机辅助的

agent [ˈeɪdʒənt]

n. 代理(商)

use anything more demanding than a word processor and a spreadsheet. Most computer manufacturers let you order exactly the set of features and **specifications** that you want.

When your needs change, it's usually easy to open up a desktop case and reconfigure the system, unless your computer uses **proprietary** parts. You can be confident that the sockets on the motherboard and the mounting holes in the drive bays fit the new **expansion** card or disk drive, and the main printed **circuit board** that controls the rest of the system(the motherboard)works with the new parts.

Modular design also means that you can transfer some old parts to your new computer when you replace your Old Faithful machine that has finally become **obsolescent**. For example, I wrote this book on an old Northgate keyboard that I have moved from one computer to the next for more than fifteen years; I like the way its keys respond to my typing. Northgate stopped making these keyboards many years ago(similar keyboards are still available from other makers, but they're very expensive), but the **plug** on the keyboard's cable still fits the socket on my current computer and it works just fine with a twenty-first century processor and motherboard.

Of course, there are some limits to this flexible design. You can't use a brand-new memory module or the latest disk drives with a 10-year-old motherboard because the designs have changed to **accommodate** newer and better processors and other devices.

Desktops are Easy to Upgrade

You can improve the computer's performance by adding new components and replacing existing parts with new ones that have faster speed, greater capacity, or more features. Once again, the desktop computer's modular design makes it easy to work inside the case. Of course, there's a point of **diminishing** returns where it's better and less costly to buy a new system, but just about every desktop computer has room for **economical** improvement. The most common and effective motherboard has one or more **sockets** for memory modules, so you can increase the total amount of memory by adding one or more new modules to the memory that is already in place. You can also remove the existing memory and replace it with the same number of modules with

specification [ˌspesɪfɪˈkeɪʃən]

n. 详述, 规格, 说明书, 规范

proprietary [prəˈpraɪətəri]

adj. 所有的, 私人拥有的

n. 所有者, 所有权

expansion [ɪksˈpænjən]

n. 扩充, 开展, 膨胀, 扩张物, 辽阔, 浩瀚

circuit board

电路板

obsolescent [ˈɒbsəˌlesnt]

adj. 过时的, 淘汰的

plug [plʌg]

n. 插头

accommodate [əˈkɒmədeɪt]

vi. 适应

vt. 供应, 使适应, 调节, 和解, 向……提供, 容纳, 调和

upgrade [ˈʌpgreɪd]

adv. 往上

n. 升级, 上升, 上坡

diminishing [dɪˈmɪnɪʃɪŋ]

adj. 逐渐缩小的

economical [iːkəˈnɒmɪkəl]

adj. 节约的, 经济的

socket [ˈsɒkɪt]

n. 窝, 穴, 孔, 插座, 牙槽

v. 给……配插座

more memory on each module. Adding memory is easier in a desktop system because there's plenty of space inside the case.

Except for a few very small cases, all desktop computers have two or more internal **drive bays**. Therefore, you can add storage **capacity** by installing another hard drive to the system simply by **mounting** the drive in a vacant drive bay and connecting a couple of cables. It's not necessary to transfer the data already stored on the existing drive first.

The **CPU** chip in a desktop system—the central processing unit that controls everything else—is also relatively easy to remove and replace with a faster CPU with similar architecture, and that fits in the same socket. A new CPU can offer faster processing and better performance than the one that was **originally** supplied with the computer. Unlike most of the other integrated circuits on the motherboard, the CPU mounts in a special socket that uses a **latching** mechanism to hold it in place, so it's not necessary(or possible)to solder a new chip directly to the printed circuit board.

All of these upgrades are easy to perform, but they often require some changes to the computer's hardware or software **configuration**. Before you try an upgrade, consult the computer manual or the motherboard manual for information about jumpers or switch settings on the motherboard, and **adjustments** to the BIOS settings(the BIOS(basic input/output system)is the set of programs the computer uses to test hardware and load Windows or some other operating system).

Desktops Take Up a Lot of Space

Desktop computers do have some drawbacks. A desktop case with a separate keyboard occupies more physical space than a more **compact** laptop computer. For most of us, the space on our desks, or worktables is prime real estate, so a computer with a smaller footprint is highly desirable. This may be less of an issue today than it used to be, because flat-panel monitors are much less **intrusive** than the old **cathode-ray tube** displays that were often 18 inches or more from front to back.

Desktops are Difficult to Transport

Desktop computers are big and heavy. If you ever have to

drive bays

驱动槽

capacity [kə'pæsəti]

n. 容量, 生产量, 智能, 能力, 接受力, 地位

mount [maunt]

n. 乘用马, 衬纸, 山, 装配

vi. 乘马, 爬上, 增长

vt. 爬上, 使上马, 装上, 设置, 安放, 制作……的标本, 上演

CPU

=central processing unit

中央处理单元, 中央处理器

originally [ə'ridʒənəli]

adv. 最初, 原先

latching ['lætʃɪŋ]

n. 闭塞, 闭锁, 关闭

configuration

[kən.fɪgju'reɪʃən]

n. 构造, 结构, 配置, 外形

adjustment [ə'dʒʌstmənt]

n. 调整, 调节, 调节器

compact ['kɒmpækt]

adj. 紧凑的, 紧密的, 简洁的

n. 契约, 合同, 小粉盒

intrusive [ɪn'tru:sɪv]

adj. 打扰的, 插入的

cathode-ray tube

阴极射线管

accessory [æk'sesəri]

n. 附件, 零件, 附加物, 从犯, 同谋者

adj. 附属的, 补充的, 同谋的,

副的

move your desktop system with all its **accessories** and **accouterments** from one room to another, you probably want to use a cart with several shelves, or at least an office chair with wheels. Then you must find and attach at least half a dozen different cables to the back of the box or convince your local computer expert to do it for you before you can use the computer again. Moving a desktop computer is a complicated and **time-consuming** exercise.

accouterment [ə'ku:təmənt]

n. 穿着, 配备, 饰物

time-consuming

adj. 耗时的

Desktops Require External Power

The electrical **circuits**, fan motors, and disk drives in your computer use DC power from the power supply inside the case. On the other hand, the power supply, along with your video display and other external accessories, needs a source of **domestic** AC power (110 volts in North America and Japan, 220 volts in most other places). If there isn't a wall outlet nearby, you need some kind of **generator**, or a big battery with an inverter, or an extremely long extension cord.

circuit ['sə:kit]

n. 电路, 一圈, 周游, 巡回
电路

domestic [də'mestik]

adj. 家庭的, 国内的, 与人共
处的, 驯服的

generator ['dʒenəreɪtə]

n. 发电机, 发生器

Exercises

I. Fill in the blanks with the information given in the text.

1. A desktop computer with its separate _____, mouse, monitor, and speakers is big, bulky, and awkward to move around.
2. You can't use a brand-new memory module or the latest disk drives with a 10-year-old mother-board because the designs have changed to _____ newer and better processors and other devices.
3. When you want to add more _____, a larger _____, or maybe a second graphics controller and monitor to your system, you can be confident that you won't have to limit yourself to products from a single manufacturer.
4. A desktop case with a _____ keyboard occupies more physical space than a more compact laptop computer.
5. A new CPU can offer faster processing and better performance than the one that was _____ supplied with the computer.

II. Translate the following passage from English into Chinese.

By Wintel computers, we mean computers designed around Intel processors (and similar processors made by AMD), and the Microsoft Windows operating system. However, this is not a "How to Use Windows" book that covers every imaginable feature and function in the Windows operating system—there are other books in the Bible series for that. This book may have been specifically written about using your computer with Windows XP (with Service Pack 2 installed), but readers who run their computers with Linux or UNIX and those who have upgraded to Windows Vista can also find a lot of useful information here.

Section C Pros and Cons of Laptop Computers

Laptop computers are compact, lightweight alternatives to full-size desktop machines. Your laptop is a **self-contained** system that can easily fit into a **briefcase** or backpack. When you arrive at your **destination**(or when you want to use the computer along the way), you can open up the clamshell case, turn on the power switch, and start working or playing a game just as soon as Windows completes its startup **routine**.

A laptop computer might be easy to carry around, but that **convenience** comes at a price in ease of use and repair, cost, and security. If you expect to move your computer often, a laptop is the obvious choice. But don't spend the extra money for a laptop until you consider the drawbacks of a portable system.

Laptops are Portable

The whole point of a laptop computer is easy **transport**. If you're a frequent traveler, or if you expect to use a single computer at the office or school and at home, a laptop is far more convenient than a desktop system. A laptop weighs less than a desktop machine with similar performance, and it comes in a smaller package.

Because laptop computers can use **batteries**, you can use them almost anywhere. Combined with a **wireless** Internet link, you can work on your own computer or connect to the rest of the world without the need to find a source of AC power for a few hours.

In addition to the **central processor**, memory, and data storage that are common inside a desktop case, a laptop computer also includes a keyboard, a video display, and a **substitute** for a mouse. Therefore, you don't have to buy those devices separately, and you don't have to connect them to the case before you can start using your computer.

Laptops Have Design Limitations

If laptop computers were better than desktop machines in every way, nobody would bother with a desktop system. However, the same small size and reduced weight that makes a laptop easy to move around often makes it more difficult to use.

self-contained ['selfkən'teind]

adj. 设备齐全的, 独立的, 沉默寡言的

briefcase ['brifkeis]

n. (扁平的, 柔韧的, 用于装文件和书报的)公文包

destination [,desti'neiʃən]

n. 目的地, [计] 目的文件, 目的单元格

routine [ru:'ti:n]

n. 例行公事, 常规, 日常事务, 程序

convenience [kən'vi:njəns]

n. 便利, 方便, 有益, 有用的, 方便的用具、机械、安排等

transport [træns'pɔ:t]

n. 传送器, 运输, 运输机, 激动, 流放犯, 狂喜

vt. 传送, 运输, 流放, 放逐

battery ['bætəri]

n. 电池, 殴打

wireless ['waiələs]

adj. 无线的

central processor

中央处理器

substitute ['sʌbstɪtju:t]

n. 代用品, 代替者, 替代品

v. 代替, 替换, 替代