



新托福系列丛书
iBT TOEFL XI LIE CONG SHU



新托福 写作突破

iBT TOEFL
Writing Breakthrough

(美) Howard·Lynn·Jessop (审)

主编 姜登祯 侯新民

世界图书出版公司

新托福系列丛书

新托福

写作突破

iBT TOEFL
Writing Breakthrough

(美) Howard · Lynn · Jessop (审)

主 编 姜登楨 侯新民

编 著 新托福研发小组 (按姓氏笔画排序)

牛 玮	王维刚	王 楠
乔 晶	刘文华	朱云汉
张 瑞	张 璐	李海霞
赵 予	锁马莉	鲁利萍
樊春玲		

世界图书出版公司

西安 北京 广州 上海

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

新托福写作突破/姜登楨,侯新民主编.—西安:世界图书出版西安公司,2008.1

ISBN 978-7-5062-8987-0

I. 新... II. ①姜...②侯... III. 英语—听说教学—高等教育—自学参考资料 IV. H319.9

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2007)第 167438 号

新托福写作突破

主 编	姜登楨 侯新民
丛书策划	李 丹 李林海
责任编辑	李林海 门莉君
视觉设计	吉人设计

出版发行	世界图书出版西安公司
地 址	西安市北大街 85 号
邮 编	710003
电 话	029-87214941 87233647(市场营销部) 029-87232980(总编室)
传 真	029-87279675
经 销	全国各地新华书店
印 刷	陕西新世纪印刷厂
开 本	889×1194 1/16
印 张	20.75
字 数	410 千字

版 次	2008 年 2 月第 1 版 2008 年 2 月第 1 次印刷
书 号	ISBN 978-7-5062-8987-0
定 价	29.00 元(本书配 1 张 MP3)

☆如有印装错误,请寄回本公司更换☆

前言

托福考试(TOEFL)由美国教育考试服务中心(ETS)开发,用于测试母语为非英语的考生在校园环境中理解和使用英语的能力。托福考试是一种标准化英语水平测试。目前全球各地约有4500多所大专院校和相关机构要求学生入学时提供托福考试成绩。托福成绩也是获取奖学金的重要条件之一。对于准备出国深造的人,托福成绩将是获得签证的重要依据。

托福在中国已有二十多年的历史,从2005年开始,托福考试作了一系列重大改革。改革后的托福测试,在时间、题型、考试方式及计分方法等方面都有相应变化。为了帮助托福考生尽快熟悉新托福,掌握必要的应试技巧,提高应试能力,我们特编写了此套新托福考试系列丛书。这套丛书由《新托福指南》、《新托福突破听力》、《新托福突破阅读》、《新托福突破写作》、《新托福突破口语》、《新托福全真模拟测试题集》六册构成。

这套丛书的特点有以下几个方面:

1. 循序渐进,由易到难

本套丛书,除《新托福全真模拟测试题集》外,每册均有托福试题简介(包括试题形式、内容、要求等)、基本功训练、专项训练及讲解、应试技巧及模拟测试等部分组成。语言简明扼要,深入浅出、内容由易到难,循序渐进。考生可以逐步了解考试全貌,并逐步提高应试能力。

2. 内容丰富,覆盖面广

本套丛书,包括了托福考试的方方面面,既有听、说、读、写,又有全真模拟测试题集。考生可先进行单项训练,再进行专项训练,最后进行综合模拟测试训练,以期达到扎实的语言基本功和较高的语言运用能力。

3. 有的放矢,实用性强

本套丛书主要针对托福考试的四个部分,即听、说、读、写的内容、任务、要求进行细致的讲解,所提供的应试策略方向明确,易于操作,实用性强。

本套丛书选用的资料涉猎英国、美国、加拿大及澳大利亚等国家的社会、文化、历史等方面。资料来自英语国家的多种媒体,如广播、报纸、杂志等。

本套教材不但有助于在短期内提高托福考生的应试能力,同时也可以作为英语专业学生的专项训练丛书。

参加本套丛书编写的人员都是长期从事英语出国考试研究与教学工作的一线骨干教师,他们对托福应试培训有着丰富的经验。

由于我们的时间和水平有限,在编写上难免有疏漏和不足之处,恳请广大读者和同行提出宝贵意见,以便日后对本套书作出修订,使之更加完善。

编者

2008年1月2日

C O N T E N T S

Chapter One

An Introduction to iBT TOEFL Writing	1
新托福写作考试简介	

Chapter Two

Writing Fundamentals and Skills	5
写作基础与技巧	

Chapter Three

Specific Training for iBT TOEFL Writing	77
新托福写作考试专项训练	

Chapter Four

Errors in iBT TOEFL Writing and Analysis	193
新托福写作考试常见错误与评析	

Chapter Five

Practical Techniques for iBT TOEFL Writing	233
新托福写作考试应试技巧	

Chapter Six

Model Tests	247
模拟测试题	
Answer Key 答案	259
Appendix	299
附录	

Chapter One

An Introduction to iBT TOEFL Writing

新托福写作考试简介

1. An Introduction to TOEFL Tests 托福写作考试简介

托福考试是美国许多大学用来评估那些母语不是英语的本科和研究生入学申请者英语水平的一种考试 (An examination required by many U. S. universities to evaluate the English proficiency of undergraduate and graduate school applicants whose first language is not English)。托福考试也是北美和世界上其他一些国家和地区的学校考察大学本科生和研究生入学申请者英语水平的一个参考标准。写作考试是测试语言表达能力的重要方式,托福考试自 1987 年起增加写作测试,目前,大多数国外院校要求申请入学的学生提供 TWE (Test of Written English) 即写作的成绩。

新托福考试的英文名字是 internet Based Tests TOEFL(简称 iBT TOEFL),意思是以互联网为技术平台的 TOEFL。iBT TOEFL 2005 年 9 月首次在北美开考。2006 年 9 月 15 日,新托福考试在中国大陆首次正式实施。ETS(美国教育考试服务中心)官方网站公布了新旧托福分数换算表以及北美各大学对新托福考试成绩要求。大学本科教育方面以波士顿大学管理学校为例,该学校对考生在新托福考试中阅读最低必须获得 25 分,听力 21 分,口语 23 分,写作 22 分。研究生教育方面以宾夕法尼亚州立大学为例,该校研究生院要求申请者的新托福考试总分必须达到 80 分,并且口语部分成绩至少应达到 23 分。美国一些名校对新托福的要求看似并不高,只要求 80 分,相当于老托福考试的 550 分。但实际上,新托福是听、说、读、写四项成绩,对每个单项都有最低限度的要求,这增加了申请留学美国的难度。阅读和听力部分是中国托福考生的强项,但现在 ETS 公布的美国大学录取分数要求对考生阅读和听力方面的要求有所降低,对写作和口语的要求提高了。因此,此项变动对中国的留学申请者而言难度大大地提高了。新托福考试成绩分项要求十分重视考生的口语与写作能力。这两项恰好是中国考生的弱项。

一般而言,TOEFL 考试的写作题不带任何偏见,不涉及政治、种族或性别歧视等问题,通常都是关于学生在学习与生活等方面的话题,考生不愁无话可说。同时 TOEFL 作文主要侧重(新要求参见 1.2) 测试考生的学术性写作能力方面,关心的是今后在国外学习时是否具备一定的学术写作能力以便顺利地完学业。文章要求一定的长度,但评卷的标准主要是语言的质量,内容的贴切和写作的技巧。

在考试结构上大致这样分布:阅读部分有 3-5 篇文章,听力部分有 2 段对话与 4 个课堂演讲,口语部分有 6 个题,写作部分有 2 道题。在听力结束后有 10 分钟的休息时间。

总体来说,iBT TOEFL 写作部分的考试目的是:注重测试考生的实际运用英语语言的能力。具体而言,新托福测试的是考生是否具有在美国大学校园的学习和生活中所需的英文听、说、读、写四

种技能。试题大多与美国大学校园生活相关的事情有关。美国大学生在校期间,面对的事情内容丰富,范围广阔,如听教授讲课,完成教授布置的读、写方面的作业,在课堂上发言、讨论等等。新托福考试正是考查考生是否具备在美国大学生活所需的英语交际能力,考查母语为非英语的学生在美国和其他英语国家是大学学习时,能否较好地写出论文。就指定命题而言,能否有逻辑地写出要点和细节;听完演讲或读完文章后,能否较好地写出概要及评价。所以,从另一个角度看,考生在准备新托福考试和参加新托福考试时,最好把它看成是培养自己在美国大学生活的英语交际能力的一个过程,而不应该把它看成是单纯的考试。

2. Change and New Requirements of iBT TOEFL 新托福考试的变化和要求

It tests all four language skills that are important for effective communication: speaking, listening, reading, and writing. The emphasis will be on using English to communicate. Some tasks require test takers to combine more than one skill. To succeed academically in English speaking colleges and universities, students need to be able to combine their language skills in the classroom. New integrated questions, or “tasks” help students build the confidence needed to communicate in the academic environments they plan to enter. The new integrated tasks will ask test takers to: read, listen, and then speak in response to a question-listen, and then speak in response to a question-read, listen, then write in response to a question.

The iBT TOEFL test includes an independent Speaking section. This section includes six tasks, and test takers wear headphones and speak into a microphone when they respond. The responses are digitally recorded and transmitted to ETS's Online Scoring Network, where human raters evaluate them. The raters are carefully monitored for accuracy, so test takers and score recipients can be assured of the reliability of the Speaking scores.

The Writing section has been expanded. The new test requires test takers to write a response to material they have heard and read, and to compose an essay in support of an opinion. Human raters also evaluate the responses to the Writing tasks via ETS's Online Scoring Network.

Note taking is allowed. Test takers can take notes on any section of the test and they can use those notes when answering the questions. After testing, notes are collected and shredded before the test takers leave the test center.

The new scores will be reported online. Test takers will now be able to view scores online 15 business days after the test, as well as receive a copy of their score report by mail. Colleges and universities will also be able to view scores online, but they will also continue to receive scores via their current delivery method.

新托福考试包括四个部分:听力(listening)、阅读(reading)、口语(speaking)、写作(writing)。结合试题我们可以看出:

(1) 注重表述、交流能力测试。在新托福考试题中,客观题(如选择和是非题)被减至仅占总题量的10%-15%,语言或文字表达的主观题成为主导,考查学生们如何在真实的学术环境中交流。例如词汇和语法的测试已被取消,代之以口语测试,通过2道独立观点题及4道综合语言运用题来检测考生的表达能力。

(2) 注重逻辑分析、组织能力及语言驾驭能力的考查。从以前的注重语言知识(如词语比较等等)和单句,转变为注重语境、信息、思想表达及语言驾驭能力,通过语言的使用,了解、分析并运用

语言来处理信息,分析利弊,表达思想。例如阅读部分新增加了根据文章内容完成表格的表格题和用句子概括文章内容的篇章总结题;在听力中,增加了重放题;口语及写作部分的独立考题,要求学生某个问题发表独立的见解,而新增加的综合考题融入了听与读的信息,由学生按要求进行表达。

(3) 注重综合语言运用能力测试。考试不再把听、说、读、写四个部分完全孤立开来,而是在说和写部分融入了听与读。对说和写的考核,旨在测试考生真实语言场景中的理解能力、捕捉信息的能力以及怎样消化这些信息为自己所用的能力。例如新托福考试中新增加的4道口语综合题及1道综合写作题融入了听、读的信息,一旦未能正确理解或遗忘听力及阅读材料中的信息,势必影响到口语水平的发挥。

(4) 注重语言的真实与整体连贯考查。以真实的校园情景对话及课堂演讲作为考试素材,与以前为考试而截取部分内容的短对话及阅读文章相比,更体现了语言的真实性、完整性;同时为了增加真实感,还会出现口吃、重复或停顿等较为自然的现象,而且也有可能将全球的各种英语语音加入其中。新托福考试取消了单句(语法与词汇部分)及短对话(听力),阅读的文章减少到3-5篇,而文章长度增加到了700字左右,问题增加到12-14道题,这使语言更具整体性和连贯性,同时对考生理解及储存信息的能力也是一个挑战。

(5) 评分原则的改变。新托福考试对主观题型采取的是整体评分的原则,从表达能力、语言能力、思路的连贯性、是否切题等方面全方位客观评判口语和写作答题的总体质量,而不是按语言要素的错误数目扣分。

(6) 分值变换。过去的纸笔考试(PBT)满分为677分,CBT TOEFL为300分,iBT TOEFL为120分。

(7) 新托福写作考试难度明显增加。除了与传统相同的题型外,新托福增加了阅读听力相结合的综合性写作。同时测试四种语言能力中的三种:阅读、听力、写作;以前给出的题目是纸面上看得到的,新托福则需要根据所听到和看到的内容发表看法;以前写作要求的题材一般是议论文,新托福则引入了应用性的文章。

3. iBT TOEFL Writing 新托福写作考试

There are two types of writing tasks in the new Writing section. One is an integrated writing task, and the other is an independent writing task. Typing is now required for both writing tasks.

写作考试在新托福考试的第四部分。写作共有两部分:(一)Integrated writing (综合写作),(二)Independent writing(独立写作)。具体分析如下:

第一部分 Part 1.	综合写作 1 integrated task	一个问题 1 question	时间:30分钟 30 minutes (20 minutes to write a response)
第二部分 Part 2.	独立写作 1 independent writing task	一个问题 1 question	时间:30分钟 30 minutes
合计 Total	两个部分 2 tasks	两个问题 2 questions	时间:60分钟 60 minutes

The integrated writing task requires test takers to read a short text of approximately 250 - 300 words, and then listen to part of a lecture related to that reading passage. Note taking is allowed. After that, test takers will respond to a question using the information from the passage and the lecture. You will be given 20 minutes to prepare and write your response, which should be 150 to 225 words in length. The question

does not ask you to express your personal opinion, and you will be able to see the reading passage again when it is time for you to write. The response will be scored on the basis of the quality of your writing and on how well it presents the points in the lecture and their relationship to the reading passage.

Skills needed: Reading, Listening

Writing: summarizing, paraphrasing

第一部分:这是一种新型考试题目。给考生3分钟时间,让考生读一篇学术性文章(大概200-300字,可以边读边做笔记),3分钟后阅读文章就会从画面中消失。然后听一段2-3分钟的讲座录音,通常读和听的材料是同一个话题的,听到的内容是反驳或补充所读文章的论点。读和听大约需要10分钟时间。然后在20分钟内,要根据听到和读到的内容,写出一篇150-225字的作文(只能打字)。典型的问法是:Summarize the points made in the lecture you just heard, explaining how they cast doubt on point made in the reading。听力材料大约持续2-3分钟,听力结束后,阅读部分会再次出现并保留在电脑屏幕的左半部分,可以重新阅读,考生便可以开始写作。如果时间结束之前就已经回答完毕,可以点击next键跳到下一道题。评估分数是0到5分。评分标准可以概括为两点:1)列出讲座中的要点,并要讲清楚讲座中的要点与所读文章中要点之间的差别。2)逻辑清晰,结构合理,语言流畅。这道题,无论从形式还是内容难度方面讲,对考生都是全新的挑战。这道题主要考察考生听、读、总结的能力,要求考生听懂演讲者就某一主题发表的观点,读懂一篇谈论相同主题的文章,能把演讲者和文章的观点综述在一起,并准确、简明地表达清楚。所以也可以看作复述+论述题,是一种综合性测试。

The second type of writing task is called the independent writing task. It is similar to previous TOEFL CBT Test essay writing requirements. You will be given 30 minutes to write a short essay of approximately 300 words on an assigned topic. Scratch paper will be available for making notes. The essay will be evaluated on the writer's ability to organize and support ideas, and to use standard written English. Special knowledge of the topic is not needed to write the essay. The essay will be read by two qualified essay readers who will rate it on a scale from 0 to 5.

第二部分:给考生一个题目,要求在30分钟内写一篇300字以上的文章。这篇作文和旧托福的作文要求没有什么大的区别,惟一的区别是考生只能在键盘上打字,而不是用笔在纸上写。

典型的问法是:Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? 或 Which do you prefer? 或 Why? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

托福考试时,首先要求考生确认是否已经戴好耳机,接着会指出写作部分的结构:第一题是先阅读提示文章,在听一段课堂演讲,然后回答问题;第二要根据自己的知识和经验答题。

新托福考试的写作部分要求考生在键盘上打字,要求考生在1小时完成2篇文章。字数要求较高,时间较紧。两篇作为评分有个共性,是按照百分位数法(percentile)给分。

由此看来,与原来的托福写作部分考试相比,新托福考试写作题有三个明显的不同之处。第一,时间增长。时间由原来的30分钟增加为60分钟。第二,写作方式不同。旧托福要求考生用手握笔在纸质卷面上写,而新托福要求考生在计算机屏幕前用手敲打键盘上的键来“写”。第三,内容增多,难度增大。内容由一道题变成两道题。

Chapter Two

Writing Fundamentals and Skills

写作基础与技巧

Many people today feel deeply inadequate or discouraged or even resentful when it comes to the subject of writing. They have some misconceptions or mistaken ideas about writing that lead them to underestimate or misjudge badly their own talents for writing.

说到写作,很多人都会为之皱眉,甚至谈之色变。其实,每个人都有组词成句,缀段成篇的能力,只是我们思想上存在的一些误区左右了我们对自我的判断。

托福考试中的写作,不论是综合写作部分测试还是独立写作测试,最后形成的是由几个段落组成的,有说服力的一个小论文。俗话说,万丈高楼平地起,本节结合托福写作考试要求,先从基础谈起。虽然准备新托福考试的考生已经具备了一些英文写作基础或技巧,但是仍需对这些技巧(能)进行系统地梳理。从用词、造句,到段落篇章。本节将有针对性地重点解决段落和篇章问题。

一、Diction 词的运用

English is a language with a large quantity of words. It has a huge vocabulary that there are tens or even hundreds of synonyms for you to choose from when you are trying to express something. However, each of them can only be used in its own context, and you have to select words suited to your situation—that is, your purpose, your meaning, and your readers' backgrounds, interests, and expectation. As is stated by a French writer, whatever you want to say, "There is but one word to express it, one verb to give it movement, one adjective to qualify; you must seek until you find this noun, this verb, this adjective." To choose the exact word, it must be clear about the clear senses of a word, its denotation and connotation, the differences between the general and specific words, abstract and concrete words, and have a good mastery of English idioms.

英语中的词汇浩如烟海,要选择出确切的词,必须了解词的外延和内涵,一般词和具体词、抽象词和实在词的差异,熟练地掌握大量的惯用语,并能避免陈词滥调。所以选择词汇要注意,还要切合语境,缺一个则短,增一个则长。本章节就从这里开始,寻求词语锤炼的门径。

(一) The Diction 措(用)词

Words play a vital role in expressing people's idea exactly and clearly. It is no exaggeration to say that words are important to writing and speaking, as bricks are to building. Similarly, when writing sentences and paragraphs and essays, you choose words of different styles to go well with the whole paragraphs and essays.

写文章离不开措词(choice of words / diction)。措词就是选择词汇,表达准确的意思。措词是造句的基础,也与文章好坏有密切关系。在英语写作中,要做到:

1. Using the Specific Word 用词要具体明确

词的意义越具体,越能给读者留下鲜明的印象。具体词汇信息量大,表达力强,使用起来有助于使文章清楚、准确、生动和鲜明,是语言学习者特别应下功夫去掌握的。例如:professionals 和 scientists, doctors, teachers, lawyers, journalists 等相比意思要更为宽泛,而 tasty/delicious/nourishing/rich/wholesome/ fresh/appetizing abundant food 和 good food 相比,在描述上则更为具体,明确,更容易让读者看到、听到或感到作者所要描述的事物。

所以具体词汇比一般词汇更细致,更精彩,而且和细节描述结合起来,就可以产生有效果的,给人留下深刻印象的文章。试比较以下两例:

— 一般:It is often windy and dusty here in spring.

具 体: In spring there is often a very strong northwest wind. It carries so much fine dust with it that sometimes the sun becomes obscure. There is no escape from the fine dust; it gets into your eyes, your ears, your nostrils, and your hair. It goes through the cracks of closed windows and covers your desks and chairs.

这里通过对春天的大风,遮蔽的日光和扬起的灰尘,迷了人的眼睛,钻入人的耳朵、鼻孔,弄脏人的头发,以及落满桌(椅)面的描述,使人对 windy 和 dusty 的春天有了更深切的感受。

— 一般:An old Negro woman was walking in the woods.

具 体:Far out in the country there was an old Negro woman with her head tied in a red rag, coming along a path through the pinewoods. She was very old and small and she walked slowly in the dark pine shadows, moving a little from side to side in her steps, with the balanced heaviness and lightness of a pendulum in a grandfather clock. She carried a thin, small cane made from an umbrella, and with this, she kept tapping the frozen earth in front of her. This made a grave and persistent noise in the still air, that seemed meditative like the chirping of a solitary little bird.

这里是作者应用肖像描述(old, small, in red rag), 动作描写(walk slowly, moving a little from side to side, carry, keep tapping), 和情景描述(like the chirping of a solitary little bird), 把一位蹒跚而行的老妇人活灵活现地展现在读者面前。

另一方面,具体和抽象是相对而言的。一个单词在这个语境中是具体的,在另一个上下文中却是概括的。试比较下列两例,注意划线的单词。例如:

① There are many trees in the park. (恰当)

There are 98 elm trees, 87 cedar trees, 86 pine trees, 70 apple trees, 96 crabapple trees in the park. (不恰当)

② If there were no electric power, recreational activities would be canceled and household appliances would become useless. (恰当)

If there were no electric power, seeing movies, watching TV, listening to music, dancing would be canceled and TV set, recorder, telephone, refrigerator, washing machine, air conditioner would become useless. (不恰当)

2. Using the Right Word for Meaning 用词要适当得体

一个孤立的词无好坏之分,但在具体的语境中,一个词却有抽象与具体,正式与非正式,雅与俗,褒与贬之分。写作中的选词是否适当得体,要看该词是否与作者表达的内容、对象、目的相吻合,是否与文章的题材、风格、要求相适合。具体地讲,写作正式文体的作文时,要用正式的词(例如:

commence), 而不用非正式的词(例如: begin); 不宜用缩略式(例如: don't)和缩略词(例如: TV); 少用短语动词(例如: come across), 多用单个动词(例如: encounter)。例如在雅俗问题上, 下面句子由于使用俚语, 反而使作者或说话者的表达显得无礼或可笑:

① On hearing that his father had *kicked the bucket*, we wrote him a letter to express our sympathies.

② This big banquet held in honor of the distinguished guests was really *neat*.

3. Choose Concrete and Specific Word 用词要简洁精练

写作不同于口语, 也不同于小说。正式文体的作文宜选用简洁、朴实、准确的大众化词语, 避免使用矫饰、复杂、故弄玄虚的词语; 不要把句子写得冗长、乏味, 而要写得意赅文简, 辞约事丰。试比较下面两句的表达:

① A few yellow flowers were among the green leaves.

→ A few yellow flowers dotted the green leaves.

② Mary's parents were unable to commence their journey to her place of residence because of inclement weather conditions.

→ Mary's parents could not come because it was snowing.

4. Using Standard Word 用词要地道准确

中国学生的母语是汉语, 而不是英语。他们用英语写作时, 往往受汉语的影响, 写出一些中国式的英语。用英语写作时, 应尽量写地道准确的英语。例如下面的句子:

① I did one or more times, but I failed.

→ I tried a couple of times, but I failed.

② How to improve our English level?

→ How to improve our English skills?

5. Avoiding Worn-out Word 避免使用“死”词

“死”词主要是指一些陈旧的、过时的或隐晦的表达(或词语)。英语中有些表达式对于中国学生看起来可能是新鲜或有表现力的, 但是对于英美人来说, 可能显得陈腐, 是些陈词滥调(clichés), 如下列常见的表达式:

avoid like the plague,	sell like hot cakes,	spread like wildfire,	down but not out,
all work and no play,	hustle and bustle,	cool as a cucumber,	light as a feather,
quick as a wind,	bite the dust,	burn the midnight oil,	work like a dog,
last but not least,	slow but sure,	few and far between,	by leaps and bounds,
crystal clear,	no sooner said than done,	vicious circle etc.	

另外, 还要避免使用一些过于隐晦的表达, 如委婉语、行话等。这种原本文过饰非的表达式使用不好, 反而会起到反作用, 不利于直接表明立场、观点。例如:

The government is extremely concerned about human resources development. (unemployment)

The candidate issued a press release declaring that her earlier remarks about her opponent were now to be considered inoperative. (untrue)

类似的表达式还有:

under the influence (drunk);

expecting (pregnant);

teacher (learning facilitator);

economically deprived (poor);

stretch the truth (lie);

woman of the streets (prostitute);

exceptional student (slow or fast student);

finalize (complete), etc.

(二) 练习题

1. 改正下列句子中的斜体词。

- 1) Excessive smoking will injure your *body*.
- 2) The *big* wind blasted the cherry blossoms.
- 3) *Through* inquiry, we learn that he was elected to a new leading post.
- 4) The price of the house is too *dear*.
- 5) We are going to *visit* the exhibition next week.
- 6) The teacher was walking *forward and backward* as if there was something on his mind.
- 7) Peg has the *allusion* that she will one day be a big star; I expect that she is living in a fool's paradise.
- 8) I do not know who is *smiling* in the next room.
- 9) I prefer *red* tea to green tea.
- 10) A strange man came in, "May I *borrow* your telephone?" he asked.

2. 去除多余的词或短语,修改下列句子。

- 1) The candidate repeated the answer again.
- 2) The location was more preferable to that one.
- 3) His solution was equally as good as one.
- 4) The package, rectangular, lay on the counter.
- 5) The council member proposed a discussion of the amendment, but that proposal for a discussion was voted down after they had discussion it for a while.
- 6) He will present the report to the committee presently.
- 7) We need an addition on the math building for additional space.
- 8) He expressed a number of clever expressions much to the audience's delight.
- 9) The exam was very trying, and I kept trying to finish on time without making too many errors.
- 10) In the movie *Apocalypse Now* there were several dull parts that I found boring.
- 11) Her gossip was of a sordid and ugly character.
- 12) He glanced at her in a suspicious manner.
- 13) Other things being equal, it is my opinion that all of these oil slicks, whether they are massive or not so big, do damage to the environment to a greater or less degree.
- 14) Because of the fact that I wanted to major in the field of business, so I proceed to take several courses in the area of accounting in the period of my sophomore year. During the time when I was a junior, I was still of the belief that business was my best choice for the purpose of making a living.
- 15) His father had an executive type of position.

3. 下列各句中都有两个书斜体词,请选出合适的词。

- 1) Though she had grown up, her behavior is often *childlike* \ *childish*.
- 2) A few listeners were *disinterested* \ *uninterested* and dozed off.
- 3) I am quiet *jealous* \ *envious* of your opportunity to study at such a famous university.
- 4) Is that *odd* \ *eldly* woman \ *lady* sitting on the bench your mother?
- 5) Empress Dowager Cixi was *famous* \ *notorious* for her cruelty.

- 6) They all felt *sympathy* \ *pity* for the victim of the disaster and make donations.
- 7) The enemy troops were driven back when they *attempted* \ *tried* to cross the border.
- 8) My uncle became *fat* \ *stout* as he grew older.
- 9) I am so sorry to *refuse* \ *decline* your invitation.
- 10) The servile man was especially *modest* \ *humble* when he was talking with his superiors.

二、The Sentence 句子

The writer's most basic tool is the sentence. A sentence is a complete statement made up of a group of words that begins with a capital letter, ends with a period, question mark, or exclamation point, and makes sense by itself.

句子写作是段落的基础,也是文章写作的基石。如果我们把一篇英语文章比作一座漂亮的大楼。那么一个个英文句子就是建造这座大楼的建筑材料:砖头、钢筋、混合水泥等。一座大楼的优劣在很大程度上取决于建筑材料的好坏。同样,一篇文章的优劣在很大程度上取决于一个个句子的好坏。如果一篇文章有很好的结构,合理的布局,但是有许多句法错误,那它也是不能成为好文章的。因此,写好每一个句子是写好文章的必备条件,同样地,写好句子是提高英语写作能力的关键。

我们表达思想,首先要选择需要的词汇,再按照一定的顺序和语法关系,将词组成句子。句子的把握较之词汇来说,更为复杂,因为语句不仅在结构上传递作者的意思,同时根据不同句式的调配和修辞方法的应用,句子还会被赋予各种生动的感情色彩。

写好文章应当从写好句子开始。

(一) Types of Sentences 句子的类型

Sentences can be classified in several different ways: grammatically, functionally, or rhetorically. Grammatical classification groups sentences according to how many and what types of independent statements they contain. Functional classification groups them according to whether they make a statement, ask a question, give a command, or express an exclamation. Rhetorical classification groups them according to where in the sentence the main idea is located. Understanding these methods of classification can help you analyze and evaluate your sentences as you write and revise.

句子的类型多种多样,一般来说,英语句子可以按照不同的结构、交际功能、修辞或长短分为不同的类型。

1. 句子按照结构可以分为简单句 (simple sentence)、并列句 (compound sentence) 和复合句 (complex sentence) 三种。简单句是构成各类句子的基础;两个或两个以上的意义相关的简单句可以联结成并列句;简单句的句子成份(除谓语外)可以扩展成从句而构成复合句。

(1) 简单句 (simple sentence) 一般只包含一个主语和谓语,但有时一个句子可包含两个或两个以上并列主语或谓语的,也是简单句。例如:

- ① She wrote a long letter to her parents. (一个主语和谓语)
- ② My friends and I often play golf on holidays. (并列主语)
- ③ I enjoyed playing badminton and looked forward to it every weekend. (并列谓语)

(2) 并列句 (compound sentence) 包含两个或两个以上的互不依从的主谓结构,从意义上讲,独立分句 (independent clause) 是同等重要并相互关联的。在语法结构上,他们是平行且相互间没有从属关系的。并列句常用并列连词 (coordinating conjunctions), 连接副词 (conjunctive adverbs) 和分号 (semicolon) 连接在一起。例如:

① I hate jogging, but I love hiking. (使用并列连词)

② Punctuation is important; therefore, don't forget to use a comma before the coordinating conjunction in a compound sentence. (使用连接副词)

③ This is the best book I have ever read; it kept me up all night. (使用分号)

(3) 复合句 (complex sentence) 是由一个主句 (main clause) 和至少一个从句 (subordinate clause) 构成的。主句是整个句子的主体部分, 从句只是整个句子的一个成分, 在句法关系上从属于主句。从句必须用关联词 (connective) 引导来表明与主句的关系。例如:

① Although many people have been unknown to each other before, they have got acquainted with each other through e-mail.

② Most westerners who travel to the Orient for the first time will experience culture shock.

2. 按照句子的交际功能, 又可以划分为陈述句 (declarative sentence)、疑问句 (interrogative sentence)、祈使句 (imperative sentence) 和感叹句 (exclamatory sentence)。

(1) 陈述句 (declarative sentence) 用来表达观点或事实, 是英语中最常见的句子, 包括肯定 (affirmative) 结构和否定 (negative) 结构, 句末使用句号。例如:

Browsing on the internet is my favorite pastime. (肯定结构)

Bill sent out many applications for a job, but hasn't got any replies yet. (否定结构)

(2) 疑问句 (interrogative sentence) 用来提问。主要分为一般疑问句 (general question)、特殊疑问句 (special question)、选择疑问句 (alternative question) 和附加疑问句 (tag question) 四种类型。例如:

① Did you hear about the new project? (一般疑问句)

② What's today's exchange rate for US dollars against Japanese Yen? (特殊疑问句)

③ Is your favorite winter outdoor activity skiing or skating? (选择疑问句)

④ The youngster's values are quite different from their parents' at present, aren't they? (附加疑问句)

(3) 祈使句 (imperative sentence) 用来表达命令、要求、请求、劝告或建议。它的主语一般是第二人称 you, 在句中通常省略。祈使句的谓语用单词原形, 其否定结构为 "don't + 动词原形"。句末一般使用句号或感叹号。例如:

① Be sure to take your personal belongings before getting off the train.

② Let's not waste our time arguing about the current topic.

(4) 感叹句 (exclamatory sentence) 用来抒发强烈的感情, 如表达喜悦、赞叹、惊异、愤怒、厌恶、痛苦之情等, 句末用感叹号。一般有两种形式: what 用来修饰名词; how 用来修饰形容词、副词或动词。例如:

① What a pity (it is)!

② How beautiful the scenery is!

③ How fast things are changing here!

④ How I miss you!

3. 从修辞的角度看, 句子还可分为松散句 (loose sentence)、圆周句 (periodic sentence) 和对偶句 (balanced sentence)。

(1) 松散句是把主要意思放在次要意思之前, 先说最重要的事情。

(2) 圆周句则恰好相反: 把最重要的意思放到最后面, 并且知道最后一个词时句子的结构才完整, 只有看完整个句子才知道它说什么。例如:

① She decided to study English though she was interested in music. (松散句)

② Although she was interested in music, she finally decided to study English. (圆周句)

一般来说,松散句比较明白、简单、自然和直接;圆周句比较复杂、着重、正式和文雅。

(3) 对偶句的特征是有两个结构相似但意思相反的平行从句。对偶句的语气强劲有力、声调和节奏优美,往往会给读者留下深刻的印象。例如:

① On hearing the news, he was angered, and I was sad.

② The politician is concerned with successful elections, whereas the statesman is interested in the future of his people.

4. 从句子的长短看,可以分为短句(short sentence)和长句(long sentence)。一般而言,短句语气重;长句适宜于表达复杂的思想,因为它含有许多修饰语。短句可以陈述重要的事实和想法;长句则易于解释观点和理论或描写有很多细节的事物。下面一段文章充分地利用短句来表达思想:

Our city is on the threshold of a great era. Of this we can be sure. But in order to fulfill the promise of the future, we must be willing to work and to spend. We need a larger police force for public protection. We need a modernized fire department. We need an enlarged library. We need to increase the pay scale of teachers in the public schools. We need to improve our water supply, for all these needs there is but one solution. We must see that the bond issue is approved by the voters in the November election.

文章中的每个短句都提出一个重要的建议,简洁、清楚、易懂。假如把这些建议组合到两三个长句中,这些建议便失去了原有的力度。请再看下面长句的例子:

But only in part is this account about television, which I don't mean to cast as an evil appliance. Often I will be describing phenomena that appear on television, but they are also on the radio and in magazines and everywhere else, because they are parts of modern life. The amount of territory that television covers in 24 hours is extraordinary. I could find fifty reference to any topic that interested me.

这个段落仅有三句。一个复合句,一个并列复合句和一个并列句。句子结构复杂且有较强的韵律,但读起来琅琅上口,给人深刻的印象。

(二) Effective Sentences 好句子的标准

1. Unity 句子的完整性

A sentence is thought to be unified when all its component parts contribute to making one clear idea or impression. In other words, sentence unity means that only one idea or thought can be expressed in one single sentence. All the parts of a unified sentence form a perfect whole, so that a clause, a phrase, or even a word cannot be changed without disturbing the clarity of the thought and the focus of the impression.

完整的句子表达完整的思想(a complete thought)。它不应包含并不紧密相关的意义,也不表达本身不完整的思想。所以只能把紧密相关的内容放在一个句子里,不要让过多的细节冲淡句子的中心思想,尽可能避免使用混乱或蹩脚的句子结构。试比较以下例句:

(1) Li Bai was one of the greatest poets.

→ Li Bai was one of the greatest poets of the Tang Period.

[点评]: 第一句的句意是李白是一位伟大的诗人,但是它所表达的思想并不完整:时代和国家都没有提到。加上 the Tang Period 句子的意思就清楚了:李白一位伟大的唐代诗人。

(2) Born in a small town in South China in the early 1950s, he grew up to be a famous musician.

→ He was born in a small town in South China in the early 1950s. In his childhood he liked to sing songs. Later he entered a conservatory. In the 1970s he became a famous musician.

[点评]: 第一句的两句之间没有逻辑上的联系,因为在 50 年代出生在华南一个小镇的一个人

并不一定会成为有名的音乐家,句子因此缺少完整性。修改后的第二句就解释了那个人怎样成为音乐家的。

2. Coherence 句子的连贯性

A well-written English sentence should be one that expresses a complete idea clearly and logically. However, problems often arise when the predicate of a sentence does not clearly and fully explain its subject, leading to incoherence of the sentence. Meanwhile, when some parts of a sentence are misplaced, or when modifiers are not properly placed, the sentence will also be illogical and thus incoherent. Much attention should be paid to these aspects so as to keep the sentence coherent and understandable.

句子的连贯是指句子各部分之间清楚(clear)而合理(reasonable)的联系。句子中的词语和部分之间应当恰当地衔接,之间的关系应该十分清楚,做到衔接自然,意思通畅而没有歧义。

句子的不连贯通常表现出下列几个方面问题:平行结构有缺点(faulty parallel constructions),代词指代不清楚(pronouns with ambiguous reference),修饰语和被修饰语的关系不明确(dangling or misplaced modifiers),在人称、数、语态、时态或语气上有混乱(confusing shifts in person and number, or in voice, tense, and mood)。通常可以采取下列办法加以改正,例如:使用同义词、代词、过渡词,重复关键词,使用平行结果等方法。请看下面的例子:

(1) There is a stiff penalty for breaking that law, and it is a fair punishment. (同义词重复)

(2) Television, with their wide availability and rich media with image and sound, is difficult to ignore and even seductive in its appeal. (使用代词)

(3) A low score means failure, and that test taker will not likely be admitted. Therefore, in order to be successful, one should prepare for the tests and work hard, because a good education will provide him with a good job and an opportunity to accomplish some of his goals and dreams. (使用过渡词语)

(4) You can fool some of the people all of the time, and all of the people some of the time, but you cannot fool all of the people all of the time. (重复使用关键词)

(5) Life is a mystery and adventure which man shares with all living things. (使用平行结构)

3. Conciseness 句子的简洁

A sentence should contain no unnecessary words. If the idea is fully expressed, the fewer words are used, the better. Wordiness only obscures, instead of clarifying, the idea. But one often uses more words than necessary, so it is a good habit to reread what has been written to see if there are words that can be deleted without affecting the meaning expressed.

写作表达过程中,不必要的词不应出现。用词过多只会使句子意思模糊,而不是更明晰,切记重复或啰嗦的表达。应当注意:(1)尽可能将短语转化为单词;(2)尽量避免不必要的从句,而使用分词、动名词、不定式或介词短语来替代;(3)尽量使用主动语态;(4)尽量不使用委婉曲折的表达;(5)尽量避免出现累赘。

下面试比较:

(1) The opinion of the teacher.

—The teacher's opinion (短语转化为单词)

(2) The report, which was released recently,...

—The recently released report... (避免使用不必要的从句)

(3) It was earlier demonstrated that heart attacks could be caused by high stress.

—Researchers earlier showed that high stress can cause heart attacks. (使用主动语态)