

English



A COURSEBOOK ON COLLEGE ENGLISH WRITING

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普通高等教育"十三五"规划教材

大学英语写作教程

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张艳虹 主 编 戴功伟 冯 薇 副主编

中國石化出版社

内容提要

《大学英语写作教程》以《欧洲语言共同参考框架:学习、教学、评估》中提出的面向行动的外语教学理念(Action - oriented approach)为指导思想,主要介绍了词语的选用、写作必备语法知识、常见句子错误分析、标点符号、英语句子写作、行文逻辑、段落写作、英语短文写作及类型、学术论文写作九个方面的内容。《大学英语写作教程》可供一个学期共三十二个学时的英语阅读课教学使用。

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787×1092 毫米 16 开本 16.25 印张 358 千字 2018年1月第1版 2018年1月第1次印刷 定价:52.00元 毋庸置疑,英文写作能力对于其他英语技能,如阅读、口语、听力、翻译,都有着极大的促进作用。同时,前人的实际教学经验和研究成果也向我们澄清了一个道理:写作可教。《大学英语写作教程》正是秉持"写作可教"这一理念,结合现代外语教学理念编写而成。

《大学英语写作教程》编写理念明确。在编写过程中主要贯彻了《欧洲语言共同参考框架:学习、教学、评估》中提出的面向行动的外语教学理念(Action-oriented approach),其含义在于把语言使用者和学习者首先定性为社会人,因此他们需要在某一具体的社会行动范围内,根据特定的条件和环境,完成包括语言活动在内的各项任务。该理念重视作为社会人的学习者拥有并运用的认知力、情商和意志力。此外,该教程的编写也参照了教育部高等教育司颁布的《大学英语课程要求》和高等学校外语专业教学指导委员会英语组编写的《高等学校英语专业英语教学大纲》中对学生英语书面交际能力的相关要求,并遵循了任务型教学法的主要理念和原则。

《大学英语写作教程》以中、高级的英语学习者(包括英语专业和非英语专业学习者)为目标读者,旨在切实提高其英文书面交际能力,尤其是能用具有一定质量的英文恰当表达思想,完成规定的写作任务,最终实现交际的目的。

《大学英语写作教程》教材框架为:①词语的选用;②写作必备语法知识;③常见句子错误分析;④标点符号;⑤英语句子写作;⑥行文逻辑;⑦段落写作;⑧英语短文写作及类型;⑨学术论文写作。

以上九个章节的设计主要是为了满足上述中高级英语学习者参加专业四、八级、考研英语、托福、雅思等考试时对于写作能力的需求,力求系统并循序渐进地提高其总体写作水平。每一章节都有不同的子项目,以期重点解决学生在写作中遇到的相应困难。

《大学英语写作教程》由辽宁石油化工大学张艳虹担任主编,戴功伟、冯薇担任副主编,可供一个学期共三十二个学时的英语阅读课教学使用。使用过程中,任课教师可以根据实际的教学时数对教材中的教学项目进行适当取舍。

目 录

Contents

第一	章 词记	吾的选用(1)	
	第一节	词的类型 (1)	
	第二节	词义(3)	
	第三节	一般词汇和具体词汇(6)	
	第四节	习语(7)	
	第五节	修辞格(8)	
第二	章 写何	作必备语法知识 (16)	
	第一节	动词的时态 (16)	
	第二节	被动语态 (29)	
	第三节	定语从句 (45)	
	第四节	名词性从句 (50)	
	第五节	状语从句 (56)	
	第六节	强调句(69)	
	第七节	倒装句 (74)	
	第八节	主谓一致 (79)	
	第九节	虚拟语气	
第三	音 堂!	见句子错误分析 ········ (95)	
		residenti i della comita di la companya (secondo de la companya (secondo de la companya (secondo de la company	
	第一节	汉语式思维 (95)	
	第二节	选词或搭配不当	
	第三节	连写句	
	第四节	不完整句	
	第五节	句子不连贯(106)	
	第六节	前后不一致	
	第七节	垂悬修饰语(108)	

角	育八节	省略性错误	(110)
勞	角九节	标点符号错用	(112)
角	肖十节	修饰语错位	(114)
角	10000000000000000000000000000000000000	指代不清	(115)
穿	有十二节		(115)
第四章	标点	符号	(116)
勞		逗号 (,)	
勞		句号 (.)	
角	育三节	分号 (;)	
角		冒号(:)	(120)
勞	育五节	问号 (?)	(121)
旁	育 六节	感叹号 (!)	(122)
刍	育七节	引号 (""或'')	
9	育八节	圆括号(())	(124)
兮	育九节	方括号([])	
至	育十节	破折号 (一)	(125)
Ś	育十一节		
É	有十二节	斜体字和字下线	(127)
第五章	英语	句子写作	
5	第一节	英语句子	
夸	第二节	英语基本句型	(132)
等	第三节	基本句型的扩展	
萝	第四节	平行结构	(147)
梦	第五节	句子的多样性	(151)
		逻辑	
9	第一节	一致性原则・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・・	(156)
5	第二节	连贯性原则	(158)
5	第三节	充实性原则	(163)
5	第四节	紧凑性原则	(165)
5	第五节	完整性原则	(166)
第七章	段落	写作	(167)

第二节	文中各段的写作方法	(174)
第三节	段落写作的总体构思	(184)
第八章 英语	短文写作及类型 ······	(186)
第一节	英语短文的构成	(186)
第二节	英语短文写作程序	(193)
第三节	英语短文的类型	(202)
第九章 学术	论文写作	(213)
第一节	研究论文	(213)
第二节	学术报告	(219)
第三节	撰写摘要	(222)
第四节	文章概要	(234)
第五节	引文及参考文献格式	(240)
参考文献.		(252)

第一章 词语的选用 Diction

英语词汇极多,《牛津英语词典》就收录了四十多万个词。当然并没有人认识或需要使用这么多词。常人为了一般的目的只用其中很少的一部分。学习用英语写作的学生应先学会使用最有用也最常用的词来表达自己的思想。有时初学者会误用一些词,但他用的词往往并不全错,只是不恰当、不准确、不地道或不生动有趣。因而对选词的方法有基本的了解是会有帮助的。

第一节 词的类型 Word Types

常用的词, 如按文体分, 有正式的、一般的和口语的三种。

正式的词也可称作学术性的词、文雅的词。这类词主要用于正式文体,如学术性或理论性著作,政治和法律文件,以及正式的演讲或报告。这类词多有三个以上的音节,多数源于希腊文或拉丁文。在日常谈话中除非为了特殊目的,否则很少用这类词。下面是这一段文章中包含一些体现正式文体的词汇。

There is nothing new in the recognition, within a given language, of a distinction between common usage and uses of the language for more restricted purposes and often enough, perhaps characteristically, more elevated purposes. The monolithic nature of English is not questioned when literary essayists like Emerson contrast poetry and common speech. The latter is recognized in America to be the proper subject for the investigation of linguists who, however, now show some incipient inclination to investigate poetry, too, and other noncasual utterances in a given language.

-C. F. Voegelin

全段只有三句,每句都长而复杂。其中正式或学术性的词汇颇多,如 recognition, characteristically,elevated,monolithic,investigation,incipient,inclination,noncasual,utterances等。就此文来说,长句和正式词汇是合适的,由于它讨论一个相当复杂的问题,因而需要用这样的词句把理论说得清楚和确切。

但文中多数词还是人们常用的并在多种文体中出现的。正因为如此,这类词便被称作 一般词汇。且看下面一段:

When I was a kid, and reading every science fiction book in the local library, I used to wonder exactly how the future would happen. By that I don't mean what the future would be like—science fiction already told me that—but rather how we'd actually get there. Science fiction books seemed to agree, for example, that in the future there would be no money—all transactions would be made via identity cards and centralized computers. But that seemed dubious to me: how, I wondered, are you going to get everybody to give up money in the first place?

-Michael Rogers

在这一段中,除了一两个口语词,如 kid, 和一两个稍正式的词,如 transactions 和 dubious,所有的词都是通常用的,句子比上一段的句子短得多,也简单得多。这样的句子和词汇很适合本段的内容,因为它描写一个孩子的想法。

有一类词主要用于非正式的、随便的谈话,很少出现于正式文章中。在文学作品中它们会被用来记述人们的想法和谈话。这类词一般很短,只有一两个音节,多数出自萨克逊语(即不是从希腊语、拉丁语或法语借来的),可称之为口语词,如 guts (胆量), guy (男人), hassle (麻烦)。

在下一段中有一些这样的词:

You have your tension. Sometimes you come close to having an accident, that upsets you. You just escape maybe by a hair or so. Sometimes maybe you get a disgruntled passenger on there, and starts a big argument. Traffic. You have someone who cuts off or stops in front of the bus. There's a lot of tension behind that. You got to watch all the time. You're watchin' the drivers. You're watchin' other cars. Most of the time you have to drive for the other drivers, to avoid hitting them. So you take the tension home with you.

-Studs Terkel

这是一个芝加哥出租车司机的谈话。他用一些十分口语化的词和说法,如 there's, you're, by a hair or so, on there, cuts you off, you got to 等。但他用的多数词毕竟还是一般的词。

这样就有了三个类型也可以说是三个层次的词:上面是正式的、学术性的词,下面是

口语词,中间是一般的词。一般的词可用于任何种类的文章;除非为了特殊的目的或效果,正式的词很少用于非正式的文章,而口语词则很少用于正式文章。

这三类词属于正规英语词汇,是受过教育的说英语的人都要用的。还有些词是特别群体的人为了特殊的效果才用的,如俚语、方言词汇以及一些没有受过良好教育的人常用的词。

俚语是很不正式的,可能生动有趣,但是如果用得不恰当,会使作者或说话人显得无 礼或可笑:

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

The big banquet held in honor of the distinguished guests was really neat.

由于用了一些俚语,上面第一句话听起来并不表示同情,而第二句的口气很不严肃。 在下一段中,一位农民因为学校老师把学生带出去实习而说了一些气话:

I'll attend to that myself in th' mornin'. I'll take keer o' 'im. He ain't from this county nohow. I'll go down there in th' mornin' and see 'im. Lettin' you leave you leave your books and gallivant all over th' hills. What kind of a school is it nohow! Didn't do that, my son, when I's a little shaver in school.

-Jesse Stuart

这位农民的发音说明他用的是方言:有的音省掉了,把 - ing 说成 - in,把 care 说成 keer。他用 ain't 代替了 isn't,用 I's 代替了 I'm,用 nohow 代替 anyhow。有些没受过良好教育的人可能用这些词,但他们并非正规词汇。a little shaver 是个俚语说法,意思是一个小孩子。

这种非正规或不标准的词汇和说法在描写受教育不多的人的故事中会常常见到。学英语的外国学生应该懂得它们的意思,但不必在说话和写作中使用。

第二节 词 义 Word Meaning

词义有两个方面:原义和涵义。原义即原来的意思,如词典中所注明的;涵义指词所暗含的感情或想法。

例如 country, nation, state, land 的原义有相同之处,都相当于中文的"国家",但它们的涵义却很不相同。country 指地区、其人口及政府, nation 主要指人民, state 主要指政府及政治组织, land 比 country 的意思广泛些,而且文雅些,并更有感情色彩。

an island country; neighboring countries

In area China is the third largest country in the world.

a peace-loving nation: the awakening nations of Africa

The modernization program has won the support of the whole nation.

state organs: state-owned enterprises

China is my native land.

就此处比较的词义而言,这四个词可算作同义词。英语中同义词非常丰富,原因是它许多世纪以来吸收了其他语言的词汇。但我们要记住一点:很难找到在意思和用法上完全一样的词,它们在文体层次、强调的程度、感情色彩、语气和搭配上总会有些差别。

一般来说,源出盎格鲁·萨克逊语的词比来自拉丁语或法语的词要更加不正式些。试比较:

ask time rise
question age mount
interrogate epoch ascend

每组中第一个词来自盎格鲁·萨克逊语,后两个词来自法语或拉丁语。很明显,第一个词比后两个更不正式或更口语化。

big 和 large 是常用的词,但 large 比 big 稍正式一点,可用来描写特别大的东西,因而比 big 语气重些。huge 比上面两个词文雅一点,意思是"极大",因而比 large 的语气更重。

a big/large city: a big/large house

Wuhan is a very large city in Central China.

The team has got a huge man over two meters tall.

small 和 little 常可互换,但在感情色彩上略有不同。small 作客观的描述,而 little 可能表示喜爱的感情:

They lived in a small town.

I will never forget the little town where I spent my happy childhood

modest 和 humble 都有谦逊的意思, modesty 是好的品德, humbleness 却不是。humble 常表示过分的自卑。因此这两个词语气不同:一个赞美,另一个贬低。

Modest and hardworking, he made very quick progress at school.

Clearly Gompers was overawed by Wilson. His face took on a servile look; his voice was

humble.

有些同义词搭配不同。它们通常和不同的词连用。例如在修饰 amount, number, quantity 这些名词时, 用 large 而不用 big (a large amount of money, a large number of people, a large quantity of beer 等等)。在修饰表示人的品质的名词,如 courage, confidence, ability, wisdom 时,通常不用 big 或 large,而用 great。

上述各种差异说明学习写作的学生要注意同义词的区别。有困难时,应在一本较好的词典中查找有关词的用法及其同义词的解释。下面是同义词辨析的一个例子:

SYN. —proud is the broadest term in this comparison, ranging in implication from proper self-esteem or pride to an overweening opinion of one's importance [too proud to beg, proud as a peacock]; arrogant implies an aggressive, unwarranted assertion of superior importance or privileges [the arrogant colonel]; haughty implies such consciousness of high station, rank, etc. as is displayed in scorn of those one considers beneath one [a haughty dowager]; insolent, in this connection, implies both haughtiness and great contempt, esp. as manifested in behavior or speech that insults or affronts others [she has an insolent disregard for her servant's feelings.] ...

-Webster's New World Dictionary

关于词义中国学生特别要注意一点:不应当把一个英语词的中文译法看作它的确切意思,或者通过中文译法来了解英语词汇。许多英语词的中文译法固然表示它们的原义,但也有许多没有确切的中文译法的英语词,它们在不同的上下文中必须用不同的译法。

就以 send 这个简易的词来说吧。如认为它的意思就是"送", 便会造出这样的句子: He came to send me the letter (应为 He brought me the letter), 或 I sent my friend to the station yesterday (应为 I went to the station with my friend to see him off)。send 的真正意思是使别人到某处去,或使一物被送到某处,但本人 (send 的主语)自己并不去。

为了准确地了解一个英语词的意思,最好查阅有英语释义的词典,看那个词的英语定义。中文翻译并不总是可靠,有时还会导致误解。

有些英语词可译为相同的中文词,但并不是同义词。例如 family 和 home 都可译为 "家",但它们的意思很不一样: family 指亲属,而 home 指住的地方。except 和 besides 都可译为 "除了",但两个词意思相反: except 表示排除在外,而 besides 表示包括在内: We all went to the park except Li (李没有去); Besides Li, Wang and Zhao answered the question correctly (李也答对了)。

第三节 一般词汇和具体词汇 General Vocabulary and Specific Vocabulary

比较而言,有些词比另一些词的意思要具体些。例如 professionals 和 scientists, doctors, teachers, lawyers, journalists 等词相比意思更为广泛,但 scientists 和 physicists, chemists 相比,意思又广泛一些了。chemists 和 biochemists 相比,又没有后一个词具体。

虽然一般词汇和具体词汇都有用,但是学写作的学生应特别下功夫掌握并使用具体词汇。具体词汇有助于使文章清楚、准确、生动和鲜明,因为与一般词汇相比,具体词汇的信息量大些,表达力强些。试比较:

a good man kind, honest, just, generous, sympathetic, warm-hearted, selfless,

brave, honorable

good food tasty, delicious, nourishing, rich, wholesome, fresh, appetizing, a-

bundant

house mansion, villa, chateau, cottage, bungalow, cabin, hut, shack,

shanty, shed, barn

laugh smile, grin, beam, giggle, titter, snigger, chuckle, guffaw, chortle

很明显,右边的具体词汇比左边的一般词汇更细致,更精彩;它们似乎使读者看到、 听到或感到作者所要描写的事物。

运用具体词汇和提供细节应结合起来,这样便可产生有效果的、给人深刻印象的文章。下面有一些例子:

General: It is often windy and dusty here in spring.

Specific: 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.

General: Students do many interesting things after classes.

Specific: Every morning and afternoon the sports fields are alive with energetic students Football and basketball matches, volleyball, and badminton, track-training and gymnastics are all in full swing. Even the alleyways under the trees and around the flower beds provide enough space for enthusiasts to practice. Through the windows comes the pitter-patter of ping-pong balls, the sound of songs and music, or laughter and dis-

cussion.

General: An old Negro woman was walking in the woods.

Specific: 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

—Eudora Welty

General: Not far from the railway there was a cottage with a garden and trees and flowers around it.

Specific: On the outskirts of a little town upon a rise of land that swept back from the railway there was a tidy little cottage of white boards, trimmed vividly with green blinds. To one side of the house there was a garden neatly patterned with plots of growing vegetables, and an arbor for the grapes which ripened late in August. Before the house there were three mighty oaks which sheltered it in their clean and massive shade in summer, and to the other side there was a border of gay flowers. The whole place had an air of tidiness, thrift, and modest comfort.

—Thomas Wolfe

第四节 习 语

Idiom

习语是有特殊意思的固定词组,其意思和组成这个习语的各个词的意思大不相同。例如 read a book 便不是一个习语,因为这个短语的意思就是组成它的三个词的意思的结合,而且 a book 还可以换成别的词,诸如 a newspaper,a novel 等。但 read between the lines 就不同了:组成这个短语的四个词单独都不表示这个短语的意思,而且更换其中任何一个词该词组就不成为一个可以让人看懂的短语。

英语中的习语很丰富。下面各种类型的习语是最常见的:

phrasal verbs

put up with

turn out

look forward to

carry on

come across

n. + prep. + n. a straw in the wind

the apple of one's eye

like a fish out of water

in a world of one's own

prep. + n. in kind

on the air

at length

with flying colors

v. + n. won't hold water

slip one's mind

kill two birds with one stone

go to the dogs

as ···as as easy as pie

as big as life

as different as night and day

as poor as a church mouse

pairs of words wear and tear

high and dry

touch and go

in black and white

sayings One man's meat is another man's poison.

A stitch in time saves nine.

Take it or leave it.

Don't count your chickens before they are hatched.

习语常用于口语和文章中,使得语言自然和地道。使用习语时应注意两点: 1. 大多数习语用于非正式或口语化文体,谈话时可用;但少数是俚语,应慎重使用,如 all balled up (被打扰、弄乱), to cough up (勉强拿出或提供); 2. 很多习语由于用得太多而不再新鲜有趣,如 armed to the teeth, as good as gold,因而以少用为宜。

第五节 修辞格 Figures of Speech

词可以有两种用法:一是按本来的意思用;二是按引申的意用。后一种用法也可说是

比喻的或形象的用法,目的在于激发读者或听众的想象。在 a colorful garden 这个短语里,colorful 是按本来的意思用的;但在 a colorful life 和 a colorful career 这两个短语里,colorful 就是比喻的用法了。Life 和 career 本来都没有颜色:修饰它们的 colorful 有了新的引申或形象的意思:令人激动的、有趣的、变化很多的。这个词把 life 或 career 比作一个有不同颜色的东西(如花园)。正因为引起这一比较,这个词就比 interesting 或 exciting 等按本来意思用的词给人留下了更深的印象。

词的比喻用法有很多种, 称为修辞格。下面列出几种最常见的修辞格:

1. 明喻

明喻(Simile)是一种最简单、最常用的修辞手段。它的基本格式为:"甲事物像乙事物"。明喻往往是把一种事物用另一种性质不同的事物来作比拟,它们只在某一个方面有相似点,而不是各方面都相同。

常用的比喻词有 like, as, as if, as though, such as 等。例如:

My heart is like a singing bird.

He sat all the evening as silent as the sphinx.

In the morning the dust hung like fog, and the sun was as red as ripe new blood.

I was put into the game and stuck to my man like glue.

The guide shooed his charges back along the gravel path as if they were chickens, which was what they sounded like.

明喻有三种用途:描述、启示和说明。

(1) 描述

明喻常用于描述人物、事物、地点、自然景观和行为等。一个好的描述性的明喻可以给读者留下一幅清晰的画面。如:

Her lips were red, her looks were free.

Her looks were yellow as gold.

Her skin was as white as leprosy.

The Nightmare Life-in-Death was she

Who thicks man's blood with cold.

(2) 启示

有的明喻通过暗示等手法使人在更深层次上认识人,事物和问题。如:

He was like a cock who thought the sun had risen to hear him crow. (暗示此人过于自大)

…there was a secret meanness that clung to him almost like a smell. (暗示此人周身显示出卑微的气质)

(3) 说明 dans lutrako u 外

用于说明的明喻比较容易理解。它往往用简单、实在的意象将抽象或复杂的意思浅显地表达出来,这类明喻常用在推理或科技文章中。如:

To release the energy of stores of atoms by bombarding with sub-atomic particles is like shooting birds in the dark in a country where there are very few birds. (说明用亚原子撞击来释放原子能的困难程度)

So compared with any ordinary beam of light, the laser beam is a very ordinary affair indeed. It's like a military march—everyone in step. In an ordinary beam, the waves are like the people in a crowd going to a football match, jostling and bumping into one another. (说明激光束里的光波非常规则有序)

2. 隐喻

隐喻 (Metapher) 和明喻一样,都是将两种不同的东西作比较。不同之处是:明喻要用比喻词 (like, as, as…to);而隐喻则将比较隐含在句子里。试比较:

a brow as white as marble (明喻)

a marble brow (隐喻)

The world is like a stage. (明喻)

The world is a stage. (隐喻)

After the mole devoured its prey, it sank into the earth as a submarine sinks into the water. (明喻)

After the mole devoured its prey, it was a submarine sinking into the water. (隐喻)

Every muscle in my body ached and was *like* a victim crying for mercy. (明喻) Every muscle in my body ached and cried for mercy. (隐喻)

有些修辞学家将隐喻称为"简缩了的明喻",因为它不用比喻词,而是把比喻关系暗含在句子里,隐喻同样有描述,启示和说明的用途。

(1) 描述

The thought was fire in him.

I've got one of my Sahara thirsts on tonight.

(2) 启示

The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with blood of patriots and tyrants. It is its natural manure.