

高考竞赛用书

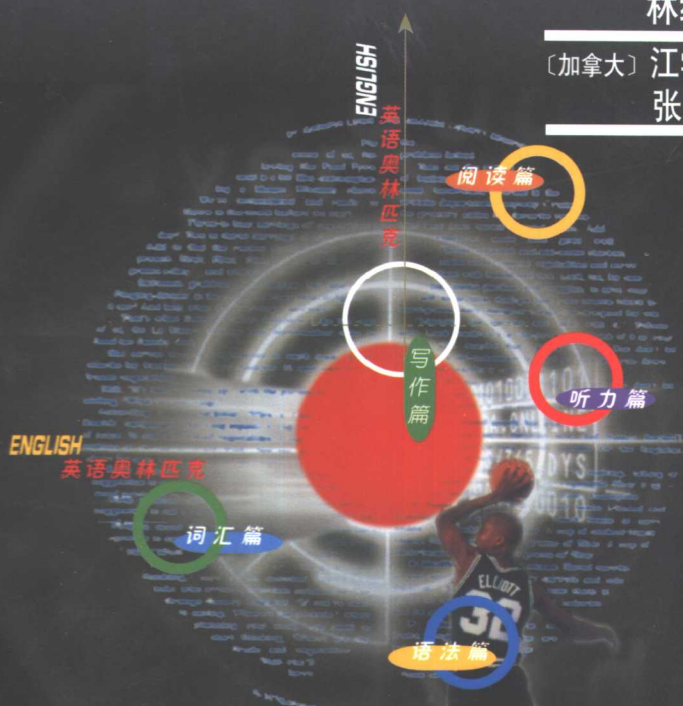
英语奥林匹克

高中

写作篇

林继玲 主编

〔加拿大〕江学勤 编著
张亚军



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内 容 简 介

本书第一部分主要讲述了英文写作的技巧及各种文体,包括:英文写作规则,英汉文化差异,英文写作风格,以及记叙文、描述文、说明文、应用文等的写作。第二部分主要讲述高考英语写作的特点,列举近年高考英语作文真题,以及部分省市中学英语作文竞赛试题及部分英语优秀作文。

前 言

学习英语,听、说、读、写四个环节当中,“写”是比较难掌握的。为此,我们编写了这本有关英文写作方面的教学辅导参考书。本书分为九个部分:分别涉及英文写作规则、英汉文化差异、英语写作流畅性与写作风格、短文写作、记叙文写作、描述文写作、说明文写作、应用文写作、议论文写作等。考虑到高三毕业生的实际需要,我们用了较大的篇幅在第八章谈到高考的书面表达,包括如何写出高质量英语作文,高考英语写作的特点,列举高考英语作文真题,详细介绍如何提高高考英语写作水平。第九章选登部分省市中学英语作文竞赛试题和部分高校英语口头作文试题以及高考北京地区部分英语优秀作文。

本书集知识性、指导性、可读性、趣味性、文学性于一体,读者对象为高中二、三年级较高英语水平学生和大学低年级学生,也可以作为广大英语教师教学参考用书。本书的英文讲解部分主要由江学勤完成。他是加拿大籍华人,自幼随父母移居加拿大,后在美国耶鲁大学(Yale University)攻读英国文学。近几年曾在北京大学附属中学和北京四中任英文写作课的外籍教师,并多次在有关的正式出版物发表文章。本书的突出特点是英文占用绝大部分篇幅,中文占用较小篇幅,主要目的是让读者学会用英语阅读,用英语思维,培养英语语感,通过英语学习英语,提高英文写作水平。

我们相信,在全国实施素质教育的今天,这本书对于扩大学生英语词汇量,培养英语语感,增强阅读能力,开拓知识视野,提高英文写作能力等都会有重要作用。

由于时间仓促,书中一定会有疏漏不妥之处,请广大读者批评指正。

张亚军

2001年6月



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第一章
英语写作常规和
英汉文化差异

WRITING RULES &
CULTURAL PROBLEMS





第一节 写在前面的话

Forward

在英语的教学过程中,我们发现中国学生对待英语作文有两种不同的态度和认识:一种观点认为,写英语作文没有什么特殊的规则和技巧,道理很简单,英语作文与汉语作文的写作方法和技巧很相似,汉语怎么写,英语就怎么写;另一种观点认为,英语写作特别难,经常出现一动笔写就有犯错的尴尬局面,于是,他们望英语作文兴叹。事实上,这两种观点都有失偏颇,犯了“只见舆薪,不见泰山”的逻辑错误。持第一种观点的同学写出来的英语作文连讲英语的人士(English native speakers)都看不懂,原因是什么呢?原因就在于英语写作受到英语的词法、句法、语法、英语语言习惯表达法的制约,而且还受到政治、经济、历史、文化、风俗、传统等诸多因素的影响,尽管在某些方面的中英文表达是一致的或者说是相似的,但是,就更广泛的意义来说,中英文表达有很大的差异。持第二种观点的同学,对英语写作的态度是悲观的,事实上,英语写作不是我们某些同学所想像的那样难,只要遵循一些写作方法和规律,掌握某些写作技巧,加上平常有意识地练练笔,英语作文一定能够写得很好。本书作者之一江学勤谈到自己在国外的生活经历,可谓是酸甜苦辣:

My family and I immigrated to Toronto, Canada in 1983. Sometimes, I smile and think that leaving for Canada was the best thing that ever happened to me. Sometimes, I look high up at the sky and wish that I had never left China. Often, I would like to forget my childhood in Toronto. I didn't have any friends. My English was bad, and I stuttered a lot; the other students would always make fun of me and laugh at me. My grades were poor. Everyone thought I was a stupid student so I thought I was a stupid student. Because I thought I was a stupid student, I was a stupid





student. I had no talents. I had no skills. I could do nothing well.

Then, in grade five, I discovered I could do something. I could read. In fact, I could read more than any of my classmates could. Reading made me proud of myself. At the beginning of the school year, our teacher told us to record the number of pages we had read. By the end of the school year, I had read the most pages in the class. For the first time in my life, I had won something. After that, I read more and more because I really enjoyed reading. Reading allowed me to see new things, meet important people, explore unusual places, and learn interesting facts. Reading startled and stunned me as it taught and nurtured me. It made me think about myself. I learned that I had my own ideas and I wanted to tell them to other people. I still stuttered, so no one listened to me. Then, I began writing. I wrote because writing was the only way I could express my ideas, my own views. Writing made me feel empowered. Each word that I wrote made me feel important. I felt important. I felt free. I felt alive. I thought. I dreamt. I wrote.

Now, I know that writing is power. Writing gives me the power to communicate my own ideas to other people. Writing gives me the power to teach, to delight, and to inspire other people. Most importantly, when I write, I feel in control of my life. If I am very angry or quite sad, I just pick up the pen and start writing. Then I am once again calm and content. When I express my personal thoughts and ideas, I feel free. When I write, I am free.

请记住：

LANGUAGE IS POWER, AND
WRITING HAS
THE POWER OF EXPRESSION
AND GIVES YOU FREEDOM





第二节 英语写作常规和英汉文化差异

Writing Rules & Cultural Differences

For Westerners, the purpose of the essay is to convince. If your purpose is to convince the reader of your idea, then you must be linear because, if you wander, then the reader will wander too, forgetting your idea. If your purpose is to convince the reader of your own idea, then you must be direct and use ACTIVE sentences to make your writing interesting and clear. If your purpose is to convince the reader of your idea, then you cannot doubt your own idea because doubting yourself will make the reader doubt you as well. You must always control what you say.

Chinese writing is very different from English writing, because of the large cultural differences. The differences are so great that good Chinese writing is often bad English writing. While writing in English, you must remember a few writing rules.

的确,汉语和英语是两种不同的语言文字体系,它们在表达上有很大的差异。因为汉语是表意文字,而英语则是表音文字,这两种文字表达受语言思维、语音学、语义学、语言逻辑、行文逻辑等因素的影响,甚至还受讲语言的国家的的风俗传统、文化历史等诸多因素的影响。以下介绍的是英语表达的 15 个方面的行文规则,仅供参考。

1. Write in a Line, not a Circle. Organize Your Thinking!

Chinese think in circles, thinking one thing and then thinking another thing. As a result, a good Chinese essay often spins in circles, containing many thoughts. However, a good English essay must be a straight line. If the writing is not a straight line, and then it is DIGRESSING, which means that the writing talks about many ideas when it should be only talking about one idea. Transition words such as





“therefore” and “however” make the writing linear. If you write linearly, the reader can follow you easily and understand the main idea clearly. If the reader can follow and understand what you say, he will believe what you say.

为了便于帮助读者直观地比较汉语和英语在行文上的差异, 以下多以列表的形式表述出来。

CIRCLE	LINE
I like basketball and tennis. Tennis makes me think hard. Tennis and basketball are both fun games. Basketball makes me work hard.	I like basketball and tennis. Basketball and tennis are both fun games. Basketball makes me work hard. Tennis makes me think hard.
I went to the zoo. Later, I went to the park. The zoo was very fun.	I went to the zoo. The zoo was very fun. Later, I went to the park.
I think studying is important. Playing sports is also important. It makes us healthier. Studying makes us smarter.	I think studying is important. It makes us smarter. Playing sports is also important. It makes us healthier.
When we see litter on the streets, we must pick it up. We can make our streets clean if we all pick up litter. If we do not pick up litter, the streets will only become dirtier. Litter is everywhere.	Litter is everywhere. When we see litter on the streets, we must pick it up. We can make our streets clean if we all pick up litter. If we do not pick up litter, the streets will only become dirtier.

2. Always Be Direct and Frank. Be Honest.

In a good English essay, you must mean what you say, and say what you mean. Westerners believe that you should be direct for two reasons. First, you write an essay to convince your readers of your idea. To convince your readers of your idea, you must be first convinced of the idea yourself. If you are indirect, then that may mean that you doubt your own idea. Second, Westerners, especially Americans, have a long cultural tradition of respecting those who are direct and frank. If you are direct and frank, then your readers will listen to you. Do not say things such as “do





not like" or "not very fond of"; instead, say "hate" or "dislike."

INDIRECT	DIRECT
I do not like English.	I hate English.
I do not think writing is that interesting .	I think writing is boring .
One purpose of the essay is to show that your idea is a not bad .	The purpose of the essay is to convince .
I always try to be modest , but sometimes I am afraid that people may not understand me.	I need to be direct so people can understand me.

3. Use Active Sentences.

Chinese write in passive sentences. However, a good English essay requires that you write in active sentences.

PASSIVE: **Indirect and Unclear**

ACTIVE: **Direct and Clear**

Using active sentences instead of passive sentences makes the essay easier to understand and more interesting to read.

John was laughed at by Mary. **UNCLEAR AND BORING**

Mary laughed at John. **CLEAR AND INTERESTING**

Avoid passive sentences in your English writing.

PASSIVE	ACTIVE
When writing in English, a few writing rules must be remembered .	When writing in English, you must remember a few writing rules .
Grammar must be understood.	You must understand grammar .
Passive sentences should not be written .	You should not write passive sentences .
The street is littered . The litter should be picked up .	He littered on the street . He should pick up his litter .
Tests are not done well in if no studying is done.	If you do not study, you will not do well in tests.





在很多情况下, 中国人进行英文写作时喜欢用被动语态表达主动语态的意思, 这一点刚好与英美人士的语言表达习惯相反。在英语里, 当我们不知道、不了解或者说没有必要知道谁是动作的执行者的时候, 我们可以用被动语态。例如: 他是一个好人。我们可以说“*He is a good guy.*”(主动语态), “*He is said to be good guy.*”(被动语态), 我们还可以说“*It is said that he is a good guy.*”(被动语态)。特别需要指出的是在科技英语中使用被动语态的比例远远大于使用主动语态, 这是科技英语行文的一种习惯和特色。另一方面, 在有的情况下, 汉语习惯用主动语态方式表达而不用被动语态方式表达, 甚至在用被动语态的句子中避免用那些表示被动的字词。例如: 据报道, 如果按照目前的经济发展速度, 在 21 世纪上半叶, 中国的经济实力将超过英、法、德和日本等西方国家, 从而成为仅次于美国的世界经济大国。我们可以翻译为: “*It is reported that China will take the places of Great Britain, France and Japan and become the world second strongest economic giant only after the States during the first half of the 21st century.*” 又例如: *Word came that the Clinton Administration would grant China permanent normal trade relations (PNTR)*. 我们可翻译为: “有消息说, 克林顿政府将给予中国永久性最惠国待遇。”

4a. Do not be Modest. Be Confident.

In a good Chinese essay it requires you say “I think” before saying your opinion. This is only modest and true because it is only your opinion and you may be wrong. In an English essay, you should never say “I think.” First, Westerners believe that the phrase “I think” is pointless because everyone knows the essay is your opinion anyway. Second, instead of expressing modesty, you are expressing doubt when you say “I think.” “I think this is right” can also mean “I think this is wrong.” You should not be modest because, for Westerners, modesty means doubt. If you doubt your own idea, you will cause the reader to doubt you.

这是一条十分重要的规则, 读者在实际应用过程中要注意。





4b. Be Certain of Your Idea.

Good English writing requires that you never doubt your own idea. Also, you must not allow your reader to doubt your idea. So you must use active sentences instead of saying things like “I think,” and be direct. You also should not say things like “Most of the time, this is true.” If it is true that most of the time it is true, then it is also true that some of the time it is not true—making the reader doubt your idea. You should not say anything that will allow the reader to doubt you. The reader must always say “yes,” must always agree with you.

UNCERTAIN	CERTAIN
My plan may work.	My plan will work.
We should practice our English every-day.	We must practice our English every-day.
I think that my English is very good.	My English is very good.
I believe that I can usually succeed if I work hard.	I can succeed if I work hard.
Most of the time , this idea is true.	This idea is true.

这一点强调的是写英文作文时,语言表达一定要肯定,表现出十分有把握,而不能模棱两可,似是而非,用一些“也许”、“大概”、“差不多”、“之乎者也”之类的模态词语。

5. Use Correct PUNCTUATION.

In Chinese culture, writing and speaking are very different. However, in Western culture, writing and speaking are the same thing. As a result, PUNCTUATION is a cultural difference. PUNCTUATION is very common and important in English writing because it lets the reader understand the writing clearly and easily. It tells the reader when to stop and when to begin; it tells the reader how to speak the writing. Periods (.) and commas (,) tell the reader to stop. Periods (.) give the reader a long



break to breathe and commas (,) give the reader a short break.

(1) *The sentence stops here. The reader can take a long break. Then the reader can begin again.*

(2) *Some sentences are long and do not stop so that the reader must continue to read and so the reader will be very uncomfortable because he will not know when to stop reading.*

Use PUNCTUATION often to write both short and long sentences to make your writing interesting and clear.

正确使用标点符号在英语表达中十分重要, 标点符号使用正确与否直接影响到读者在阅读过程中深刻体会或领略作者的喜、怒、哀、乐等复杂的思想感情, 言为心声的道理对于每个人来说并不陌生。

6. Do not say "AND SO ON."

I've read many sentences such as "I like swimming, football, and so on." The phrase "and so on" must never be used. If you write "and so on," that means that you are lazy. "I like swimming, football... and I can't think of anything else, but I'm sure that there is something else, so instead of thinking about it, I'll just say... and so on." Never use the phrase "and so on" because, if you do, you will make your reader feel you are not thinking. Never use "etc." either. You may use "such as" instead of "and so on" or "etc.", but remember that it is different from "for example."

INCORRECT	CORRECT
I like swimming, football, and so on .	I like sports such as swimming and football.
The bookstore sells pencils, pens, books, etc .	The bookstore sells many things such as pencils, pens, and books.
He is a clever student, for example , he speaks English very well.	He is a clever student. For example , he speaks English very well.



7. Do not use BRACKETS ().

Never use brackets in your essay (like this) because if you use them (like this), then the reader will not pay any attention to the sentence (are you paying any attention right now?). If it is an important idea, put it into the main sentence. If it is not important, leave it out.

INCORRECT	CORRECT
I like to read good English books (I also like Chinese books). My favorite authors are Charles Dickens and Jane Austen.	Besides Chinese books, I also like to read good English books. My favorite authors are Charles Dickens and Jane Austen. OR I like to read good English books. My favorite authors are Charles Dickens and Jane Austen.
My favorite writer is Charles Dickens (I hate Jane Austen). He tells very interesting stories.	I do not like Jane Austen. I like Charles Dickens. He tells very interesting stories. OR My favorite writer is Charles Dickens. He tells very interesting stories.

汉语写作我们经常会用到括号,表示解释或者说明前面的内容,当然,汉语的解释说明也可以使用破折号。英语写作一般不使用括号,但可以使用破折号,也可以使用非限制性定语从句,还可以使用插入语,用逗号隔开。例如:

(1) *The Third Session of the Ninth National People's Congress—it convened on March 5th in the Great Hall of the People and concluded on March 15th—successfully carried out its critical events, which was the focus of the whole country.*

