

专门用途英语 (ESP) 系列

WTO

文本英语

ENGLISH FOR WTO DOCUMENTS

刘法公 编著
陈明瑶



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WTO

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刘法公 陈明瑶 编著

 国防工业出版社
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内 容 简 介

WTO 文本英语是 WTO 内外交流活动的专业语言,是 WTO 成员之间开展贸易和解决争端的工作语言,其词汇、术语、句法、语体等方面均有明显特色。掌握 WTO 文本英语是从事国际贸易和与 WTO 成员交流的必要条件。本书向读者提供纯正的 WTO 文本英语语料,主要涉及“WTO 介绍”、“WTO 决策程序”、“货物贸易”、“服务贸易”、“知识产权”、“WTO 农业协议要略”、“WTO 与中国的关系”、“WTO 协议问题”、“争端解决”等专题。

本书适于作高等院校外贸英语、商务英语、国际贸易、国际金融、国际经济管理等专业方向的教材,也可作非涉外专业学生的选修课教材,或外经贸部门和经济管理部门的工作人员的 WTO 英语培训教材或自学参考书。

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前 言

专门用途英语(English for Specific Purposes)是与某种特定职业、学科或目的相关联的英语。从语言学的角度看,专门用途英语属于不同学科范围内所使用的英语变体,因其有独特的词汇、术语、句法和表达特点,所以掌握普通英语的人必须经过专门学习和训练,才能掌握专门用途英语。这就是为什么懂得英语与懂得专门用途英语是两个概念。专门用途英语需要我们单独学习,专门研究,以便掌握这种英语在使用过程中由于行业、团体、功能等因素而产生的变体及其规律。

《WTO 文本英语》作为专门用途英语系列教材之一,把 WTO 文本中使用的英语通过阅读、分析、辨析、翻译、比较等语言学习过程逐步让读者认知,使读者熟悉 WTO 领域内英语的术语、协议的表达特点、贸易的各环节运作规律。中国加入 WTO 的现实要求我国高等院校培养的英语专业毕业生既要有过硬的英语运用能力,也要有扎实的 WTO 国际商务知识。WTO 文本英语是 WTO 谈判、协议、争端解决等环节的工作语言,词汇、句法、词义等方面的特殊性非常明显,涉外专业的学生不专门学习 WTO 文本英语是难以从事相关的交流工作的。近年来,许多高校开办的外贸英语、专门用途英语、实用英语、科技英语等课程都努力把某一学科的专业知识与英语技能相结合,培养学生的实用型综合能力。本书可以帮助学生比较全面地熟悉和掌握 WTO 框架内英语的表达方式和术语使用规律,了解该领域英语的词汇、语法、风格的特殊性,使学习者能够看懂,写出,译好,讲出 WTO 文本英语,同时也可学到 WTO 相关的背景知识和法律法规条款。

《WTO 文本英语》一书是为培养复合型英语专业学生而编写的。鉴于 WTO 文本协议翻译的难度高,本书通过提出问题、辨析词汇、阅读理解、填词成句、讲解翻译技巧、做翻译练习、对比英汉译文等手段,全面提高学生的 WTO 文本英语的“说、读、写、译”能力。每章提供的“背景知识”和总结出的“语言特点”旨在补充学生 WTO 的知识点,提示 WTO 文本英语的特殊性。这两项内容是同类教材中鲜见的。

本书适于作高等院校外贸英语、商务英语、国际贸易、国际金融、国际经济管理等专业的教材,也可作非涉外专业学生的选修课教材,以及外经贸部门和经济管理部门的工作人员的 WTO 英语培训教材或自学参考书。

本书由浙江工商大学外国语学院刘法公教授、陈明瑶教授联合编写。刘法公

教授负责本书的总体策划、设计和文字统稿,并编写了第7、8、9、10单元和本书的前言与目录;陈明瑶教授编写了第1、2、3、4、5、6单元,浙江工商大学外国语学院袁林老师参编了第6单元30%的内容。编写人员团结合作,在近两年的编写过程中不断研讨、修改,为编好该书,编出特色,做出了不懈努力。

本书的编写资料多取材于最新的WTO的公开文本、中国商务部的WTO网站商贸法律法规,以及国内外新闻媒体上的WTO专题文章,同时我们还参考了《加入世界贸易组织法规文件汇编》(国务院法制办公室编,中国法制出版社,北京,2002年)、《世界贸易组织概论》(肖云南等主编,北方交通大学出版社,北京,2002年)等相关书籍,在此一并表示感谢。

本书已列入浙江省重点教材资助基金项目,得到浙江省教育厅和浙江工商大学的大力支持。没有他们的支持,本书的编写和出版难以实现。

本书的体例和内容可能有不足之处,欢迎批评指正。

编 者

于浙江工商大学博士楼



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ENGLISH FOR WTO DOCUMENTS

必修/选修课教材
英语培训教材
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Unit 1

The WTO in Brief

PART A

Pre-reading Questions

- I. What is the location of WTO?
- II. What is the time of WTO establishment?
- III. What is the number of WTO membership countries?
- IV. What is the number of WTO secretariat staff?
- V. Who is the head of WTO?

1.1 What is WTO?

The World Trade Organization (WTO) is the only international organization dealing with the global rules of trade between nations. Its main function is to ensure that trade flows as smoothly, predictably and freely as possible.

The result is assurance. Consumers and producers know that they can enjoy secure supplies and greater choice of the finished products, components, raw materials and services that they use. Producers and exporters know that foreign markets will remain open to them.

The result is also a more prosperous, peaceful and accountable economic world. Virtually all decisions in the WTO are taken by consensus among all member countries and they are ratified by members' parliaments. Trade friction is channeled into the WTO's dispute settlement process where the focus is on interpreting agreements and commitments, and how to ensure that countries' trade policies conform with them. That way, the risk of disputes spilling over into political or military conflict is reduced.

By lowering trade barriers, the WTO's system also breaks down other barriers between peoples and nations.

At the heart of the system — known as the multilateral trading system — are the WTO's agreements, negotiated and signed by a large majority of the world's trading nations, and ratified in their parliaments. These agreements are the legal ground-rules for international commerce. Essentially,

they are contracts, guaranteeing member countries important trade rights. They also bind governments to keep their trade policies within agreed limits to everybody's benefit.

The agreements were negotiated and signed by governments. But their purpose is to help producers of goods and services, exporters, and importers conduct their business.

The goal is to improve the welfare of the peoples of the member countries.

Exercises 1

1. Mark each of the following statements True or False according to your understanding of the text above.

- ____ (1) There are many international organizations dealing with the global rules of trade between nations, and WTO is the most important one.
- ____ (2) The main function of WTO is to ensure that the global economy develops rapidly.
- ____ (3) Producers and exporters of the member countries know that foreign markets are easily accessible.
- ____ (4) Most of the decisions in the WTO are taken by consensus among all member countries and they are ratified by members' parliaments.
- ____ (5) Since WTO is an international organization, any disputes may escalate into political or military conflicts between nations.
- ____ (6) WTO agreements are the basic legal principles for international commerce.
- ____ (7) WTO agreements force governments to keep their trade policies within agreed limits to everybody's benefit.
- ____ (8) The goal of WTO is to improve the living conditions of the peoples of the member countries.

2. Choose the best from the A, B, C, D to make a good sentence.

- (1) The World Trade Organization (WTO) is the only international organization dealing with the global rules of trade between _____.
A. nations B. enterprises C. companies D. agents
- (2) Almost all decisions in the WTO are taken by the _____ agreement of the member countries.
A. consensus B. unanimous C. altogether D. majority
- (3) In settling disputes, the WTO focuses on _____ agreements and commitments.
A. translating B. clarifying C. explaining D. renewing
- (4) Trade disputes may lead to political or military conflicts. The WTO aims to _____ the risk.
A. extinguish B. avoid C. reduce D. terminate
- (5) The WTO agreements are essentially _____ guaranteeing member countries important trade rights.
A. instructions B. rules C. contracts D. guidebooks
- (6) The WTO agreements _____ governments to keep their trade policies within agreed limits to everybody's benefit.
A. help B. bind C. force D. persuade
- (7) The WTO is established to provide better _____ for the people of member countries.
A. facilities B. equipment C. care D. living conditions
- (8) From this passage we know that trade policies of member countries should _____ the WTO

agreements.

A. support

B. contradict

C. serve

D. comply with

3. Put the following phrases into proper Chinese.

(1) finished products

(2) member countries

(3) trade friction

(4) dispute settlement process

(5) trade policies

(6) military conflict

(7) trade barriers

(8) the multilateral trading system

(9) international commerce

(10) conduct business

4. What is the ministerial conference? Put a proper word in each blank.

matters; two; decision-making; trade; members

The topmost _____ body of the WTO is the Ministerial Conference, which has to meet at least every _____ years. It brings together all _____ of the WTO, all of which are countries or customs unions. The Ministerial Conference can take decisions on all _____ under any of the multilateral _____ agreements.

5. Reading comprehension. Please choose one of the A, B, C, D after reading the following passage.

Passage 1

What is the World Trade Organization?

The World Trade Organization (WTO) is the only international body dealing with the rules of trade between nations.

At its heart are the WTO agreements, negotiated and signed by the bulk of the world's trading nations. These documents provide the legal ground-rules for international commerce. They are essentially contracts, binding governments to keep their trade policies within agreed limits.

Although negotiated and signed by governments, the goal is to help producers of goods and services, exporters, and importers conduct their business.

The system's overriding purpose is to help trade flow as freely as possible — so long as there are no undesirable side-effects. That partly means removing obstacles. It also means ensuring that individuals, companies and governments know what the trade rules are around the world, and giving them the confidence that there will be no sudden changes of policy. In other words, the rules have to be "transparent" and predictable.

Because the agreements are drafted and signed by the community of trading nations, often after considerable debate and controversy, one of the WTO's most important functions is to serve as a forum for trade negotiations.

A third important side to the WTO's work is dispute settlement. Trade relations often involve conflicting interests. Contracts and agreements, including those painstakingly negotiated in the WTO system, often need interpreting. The most harmonious way to settle these differences is through some neutral procedure based on an agreed legal foundation. That is the purpose behind the dispute settlement process written into the WTO agreements.

- (1) WTO agreements are essentially contracts binding the governments to _____.
A. keep their trade policies conformed.
B. limit their trade policies
C. carry out their trade policies less freely
D. implement their trade policies in a limited area
- (2) One of the WTO's most important functions is to serve as _____.
A. a court to decide which party is on the wrong side
B. a meeting place for trade talks
C. a general company for all-side benefit
D. a general office of lawyers offering legal support for the members
- (3) Contracts and agreements, including those painstakingly negotiated in the WTO system, often need interpreting. This sentence means that _____.
A. they need to be translated into the member country language
B. they should be translated into an internationally popular language
C. they need proper explanation
D. they should be orally translated

Passage 2

When companies establish foreign operations, it nearly always means a surge in the number of their U. S. employees. In 1950, Caterpillar Tractor Co. was struggling to fill its U. S. and foreign orders from two American plants with 25,000 employees. Today there are 12 overseas Caterpillar plants employing 27,000. But, meanwhile, the company has grown to 14 U. S. plants employing 62,000 — of whom some 24,000 own their jobs solely to foreign orders.

A promising foreign market can be lost by not setting up a foreign factory at the right time. In 1960, Du Pont was exporting 34 million pounds of polyethylene to Europe, but decided not to build a plant there. Its European sales of polyethylene soon dropped to the vanishing point, while its foreign competitors moved in and built the market up to 4 billion pounds a year — “a growth.” Du Pont says “that the U. S. economy and its workers did not share in.”

Du Pont learned the lesson well. Today it has 44 principal foreign plants employing 32,000 people. Total 1974 sales outside the U. S. amounted to 2.17 billion, of which US \$800 million were U. S. exports. As a result, at least 15,000 new jobs were created in the U. S.

These and numerous others examples underline the fact that multi-nationals are good for the U. S. economy, consumer and worker. A U. S. government study covering 300 of the major multi-nationals reveals that when these companies were rapidly expanding their employment abroad, they also raised their U. S. work force at a rate of 2.7 percent a year — well above the average growth in American industry. At the same time, they averaged paying their U. S. workers substantially more per hour than U. S. companies without foreign operations.

This is only part of what multi-nationals do for us. They are in the forefront of helping the nation compensate for rising costs of basic raw materials we must import, particularly petroleum. By selling abroad, they earn large amounts of foreign currencies we need to buy scarce materials from other countries. In addition, American companies operating abroad returned home royalties and foreign earnings of US \$ 21.4 billion — three times the outflow of dollars for foreign investment.

- (4) This passage is mainly about _____.
A. the ways multi-nationals operate
B. the drawbacks of multi-nationals