



附：高级英语自学考试大纲

高级英语（下）

组编／全国高等教育自学考试指导委员会
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全国高等教育自学考试指定教材
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组 编 前 言

当您开始阅读本书时,人类已经迈入了 21 世纪。

这是一个变幻难测的世纪,这是一个催人奋进的时代,科学技术飞速发展,知识更替日新月异。希望、困惑、机遇、挑战,随时随地都有可能出现在每一个社会成员的生活之中。抓住机遇,寻求发展,迎接挑战,适应变化的制胜法宝就是学习——依靠自己学习,终生学习。

作为我国高等教育组成部分的自学考试,其职责就是在高等教育这个水平上倡导自学、鼓励自学、帮助自学、推动自学,为每一个自学者铺就成才之路,组织编写供读者学习的教材就是履行这个职责的重要环节。毫无疑问,这种教材应当适合自学,应当有利于学习者掌握、了解新知识、新信息,有利于学习者增强创新意识、培养实践能力、形成自学能力,也有利于学习者学以致用、解决实际工作中所遇到的问题。具有如此特点的书,我们虽然沿用了“教材”这个概念,但它与那种仅供教师讲、学生听,教师不讲、学生不懂,以“教”为中心的教科书相比,已经在内容安排、形式体例、行文风格等方面都大不相同了。希望读者对此有所了解,以便从一开始就树立起依靠自己学习的坚定信念,不断探索适合自己的学习方法,充分利用已有的知识基础和实际工作经验,最大限度地发挥自己的潜能达到学习的目标。

欢迎读者提出意见和建议。

祝每一位读者自学成功。

全国高等教育自学考试指导委员会

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编写说明

《高级英语》(上、下册)是根据全国高等教育自学考试指导委员会制定的《高等教育自学考试英语专业考试计划》(试行)对于“高级英语”课程所规定的任务编写的。

“高级英语”课程的重点是:一、提高阅读理解和词汇运用能力,即能掌握和使用所学的词汇,特别是同义词、近义词的区分和使用,正确理解文章的内容和主题思想,抓住文章的要点,分析文章的结构、语言技巧和修辞特点。二、提高语言表达能力,即能用英语解释并能用汉语翻译文章中的难句,用英语归纳文章的主题思想,并能对文章进行简单的分析、评论。

学生的学习任务是读懂上、下册中的 32 篇课文,并在此基础上完成课文后的练习。学生借助字典和其他工具书独立解决语言和文化背景知识方面的问题,提高自学能力,增加文化知识,尤其是英、美等国的背景和文化知识,更好地使语言和文化结合在一起。

这一阶段教学的重点是提高理解和运用语言的能力,因此学生的注意力应该从语法、句法转移到对通篇文章的正确理解以及对语言的正确使用。

本书的框架结构是:

一、课文导读:用汉语写的课文导读目的在于帮助学生了解课文的基本内容和主题。

二、课文:32 篇课文的文字由浅入深,篇幅由短到长,循序渐进。

三、词汇表:每篇课文均有词汇表。在释义时,课文词义在前,其他词义在后。每册末尾有总词汇表。

四、注释:学生在学习课文时应先借助字典理解难点。仍不能

理解时,再看注释。这样做有助于提高理解能力。凡是用英语注释不易理解的,就用汉语注释。有的注释用双语,有的全用英语。下册的注释较多地采用了英语。

五、练习:练习分课文问答题、词汇练习、翻译练习、用英语解释句子和写作练习五类。每篇有八至十个课文问题,目的是帮助学生掌握课文内容,进行口语练习。翻译练习包括汉译英、英译汉。英译汉的句子完全出自课文。写作练习实际上是用150~200字简要复述课文的主要内容。用英语解释句子有两个目的:检验学生是否正确理解,训练学生用英语解释英语词句。

由于种种客观原因,这两册教材的编写是在紧迫的时间内完成的,错误和不足之处请使用此教材的教师和学生指正。

编 者

1999年11月

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单元音和双元音

音标	例词	音标	例词	音标	例词
ɪ	bit	i:	beat	eɪ	make
ʌ	but	ɑ:	car	aɪ	buy
ɒ	hot	ɔ:	born	ɔɪ	boy
ʊ	put	u:	moon	əʊ	go
ə	about	ɜ:	bird	aʊ	now
e	let			ɪə	real
æ	cat			eə	pair
				ʊə	sure

辅 音

音标	例词	音标	例词	音标	例词
p	pen	f	five	h	how
b	bed	v	view	m	man
t	tea	θ	thin	n	no
d	day	ð	then	ŋ	sung
k	key	s	so	l	let
g	get	z	zoo	r	red
tʃ	chair	ʃ	ship	j	yet
dʒ	jump	ʒ	measure	w	wet

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Lesson One

The Company in Which I Work

by Joseph Heller

约瑟夫·海勒(Joseph Heller)是当今美国著名的黑色幽默大师。本文选自他的第二部小说《某些事发生了》(*Something Happened*)。黑色幽默的特点是把被讽刺的对象置于痛苦、病态或有些可笑的不合理事件中,进行戏剧性地辛辣讽刺。它把人的痛苦视为荒唐与无奈,而不是给予同情。在本文中,作者描写公司里人人自危、相互惧怕的心态;销售人员俯首听命却又牢骚满腹,为追逐名利不得不承受巨大的工作压力;市场调研处弄虚作假,昧着良心进行欺骗性的宣传;第一人称“我”临近退休年龄,对工作已极端厌烦,对前程甚至人生都已绝望。作者通过描写他们荒唐可笑或乏味无奈的行为以及痛苦的心态等等,讽刺了大公司对人性的摧残,讽刺了为争名夺利而牺牲了人的尊严的可悲。

Text

In the company in which I work, each of us is afraid of at least one person. The lower your position is, the more people you are afraid of. And all the people are afraid of the twelve men at the top who helped found and build the company and now own and direct it.

All these twelve men are elderly now and drained by time and success of energy and ambition. Many have spent their whole lives

here. They seem friendly, slow, and content when I come upon them in the halls and always courteous and mute when they ride with others in the public elevators. They no longer work hard. They hold meetings, make promotions, and allow their names to be used on announcements that are prepared and issued by somebody else. Nobody is sure anymore who really runs the company (not even the people who are credited with running it), but the company does run.

In the normal course of a business day... I am afraid of Jack Green because my department is part of his department and Jack Green is my boss; Green is afraid of me because most of the work in my department is done for the Sales Department, which is more important than his department, and I am much closer to Andy Kagle and the other people in the Sales Department than he is.

Green distrusts me fitfully. He makes it clear to me every now and then that he wishes to see everything coming out of my department before it is shown to other departments. I know he does not really mean this; he is too busy with his own work to pay that much attention to all of mine, and I will bypass him on most of our assignments rather than take up his time and delay their delivery to people who have an immediate need for them. Most of the work we do in my department is, in the long run, trivial. But Green always grows alarmed when someone from another department praises something that has come from my department. He turns scarlet with rage and embarrassment if he has not seen or heard of it.

In my department, there are six people who are afraid of me, and one small secretary who is afraid of all of us. I have one other person working for me who is not afraid of anyone, not even me, and I would fire him quickly, but I'm afraid of him...

The people in the company who are most afraid of most people

are the salesmen. They live and work under pressure that is extraordinary. When things are bad, they are worse for the salesmen; when things are good, they are not much better.

They are always on trial, always on the verge of failure, collectively and individually. They strain, even the most secure and self-assured of them, to look good on paper; and there is much paper for them to look good on. Each week, for example, a record of the sales results of the preceding week for each sales office and for the Sales Department as a whole for each division of the company is kept and compared to the sales results for the corresponding week of the year before. The figures are photocopied and distributed throughout the company to all the people and departments whose work is related to selling. The result of this photocopying and distributing is that there is almost continuous public scrutiny and discussion throughout the company of how well or poorly the salesmen in each sales office of each division of the company are doing at any given time.

When salesmen are doing well, there is pressure upon them to begin doing better, for fear they may start doing worse. When they are doing poorly, they are doing terribly. When a salesman lands a large order or brings in an important new account, his elation is brief, for there is danger he might lose that large order or important new account to a salesman from a competing company the next time around. It might even be canceled before it is filled, in which case no one is certain if anything was gained or lost. So there is crisis and alarm even in their triumphs.

Nevertheless, the salesmen love their work and would not choose any other kind. They are a vigorous, fun-loving bunch when they are not suffering abdominal cramps or brooding miserably about the future; on the other hand, they often turn cranky without warning and complain a lot. Each of them can name at least one superior

in the company who he feels has a grudge against him and is determined to wreck his career.

The salesmen work hard and earn big salaries, with large personal expense accounts that they squander generously on other people in and out of the company, including me. They own good houses in good communities and play good games of golf on good private golf courses. The company encourages this. The company, in fact, will pay for their country club membership and all charges they incur there, and rewards salesmen who make a good impression on the golf course.

Unmarried men are not wanted in the Sales Department, not even widowers, for the company has learned from experience that it is difficult and dangerous for unmarried salesmen to mix socially with prominent executives and their wives or participate with them in responsible civic affairs. If a salesman's wife dies and he is not ready to remarry, he is usually moved into an administrative position after several months of mourning. Bachelors are never hired for the sales force, and salesmen who get divorced, or whose wives die, know they had better remarry or begin looking ahead toward a different job.

Strangely enough, the salesmen react very well to the constant pressure and rigid supervision to which they are subjected. They are stimulated and motivated by discipline and direction. They thrive on explicit guidance toward clear objectives. For the most part, they are cheerful, confident, and gregarious when they are not irritable, anxious, and depressed. There must be something in the makeup of a man that enables him not only to be a salesman, but to want to be one.

The salesmen are proud of their position and of the status and importance they enjoy within the company, for the function of my

department, and of most other departments, is to help the salesmen sell. The company exists to sell. That's the reason we were hired, and the reason we are paid.

The people in the company who are least afraid are the few in our small Market Research Department, who believe in nothing and are concerned with collecting, organizing, interpreting, and re-organizing statistical information about the public, the market, the country, and the world. For one thing, their salaries are small, and they know they will not have much trouble finding jobs paying just as little in other companies if they lose their jobs here. Their budget, too, is small, for they are no longer permitted to undertake large projects.

Most of the information we use now is obtained free from trade associations and some governmental organizations, and there is no way of knowing anymore whether the information on which we base our own information for distribution is true or false. But that doesn't seem to matter; all that does matter is that the information come from a reputable source. People in the Market Research Department are never held to blame for conditions they discover outside the company that place us at a competitive disadvantage. They are not expected to change reality, but merely to find it if they can and suggest ingenious ways of disguising it. To a great extent, that is the nature of my own work, and all of us under Green work closely with the Sales Department and the Public Relations Department in converting whole truths into half truths and half truths into whole ones.

I am very good at these techniques of deception, although I am not always able anymore to deceive myself. In fact, I am continuously astonished by people in the company who fall victim to their own propaganda. There are so many now who actually believe that what

we do is really important. This happens not only to salesmen, but to the shrewd, capable executives in top management. It happens to people on my own level and lower. It happens to just about everybody in the company who graduated from a good business school with honors. Every time we launch a new advertising campaign, for example, people inside the company are the first ones to be taken in by it. Every time we introduce a new product, or an old product with a different cover, color, and name that we present as new, people inside the company are the first to rush to buy it—even when it's no good.

It's a wise person, I guess, who knows he's dumb, and an honest person who knows he's a liar. And it's a dumb person who's convinced he is wise. We wise grownups here at the company go sliding in and out all day long, scaring each other at our desks and trying to evade the people who frighten us. We come to work, have lunch, and go home. We goose-step in and goose-step out, change our partners and wander all about, and go back home till we all drop dead. Really, I ask myself every now and then, depending on how well or poorly things are going at the office or at home with my wife, or with my retarded son, or with my other son, or my daughter, or the colored maid, or the nurse for my retarded son, is this **all** there is for me to do? Is this really the **most** I can get from the few years left in this one life of mine?

And the answer I get, of course, is always—Yes! . . .

I am bored with my work very often now. Everything routine that comes in I pass along to somebody else. This makes my boredom worse. It's a real problem to decide whether it's more boring to do something boring than to pass along everything boring that comes in to somebody else and then have nothing to do at all.

Actually, I enjoy my work when the assignments are large and urgent and somewhat frightening and will come to the attention of many people. I get scared, and am unable to sleep at night, but I usually perform at my best under this stimulating kind of pressure and enjoy my job the most. I handle all of these important projects myself, and I rejoice with tremendous pride and vanity in the compliments I receive when I do them well. But between such peaks of challenge and elation there is monotony and despair. (And I find, too, that once I've succeeded in impressing somebody, I'm not much excited about impressing that same person again; there is a large, emotional letdown after I survive each crisis, a kind of empty, tragic disappointment, and last year's threat, opportunity, and inspiration are often this year's inescapable tedium. I frequently feel I'm being taken advantage of merely because I'm asked to do the work I'm paid to do.)

On days when I'm especially melancholy, I began constructing tables of organization...classifying people in the company on the basis of envy, hope, fear, ambition, frustration, rivalry, hatred, or disappointment. I call these charts my Happiness Charts. These exercises in malice never fail to boost my spirits—but only for a while. I rank pretty high when the company is analyzed this way, because I'm not envious or disappointed, and I have no expectations. At the very top, of course, are those people, mostly young and without dependents, to whom the company is not yet an institution of any sacred merit but still only a place to work, and who regard their present association with it as something temporary. I put these people at the top because if you asked any one of them if he would choose to spend the rest of his life working for the company, he would give you a resounding No!, regardless of what inducements were offered. I was that high once. If you asked me that same question today, I

would also give you a resounding No! and add:

“I think I'd rather die now.”

But I am making no plans to leave.

I have the feeling now that there is no place left for me to go.

Words and Expressions

abdominal /æb'dɒmɪnəl/ *adj.*

腹部的, 腹部中的

bachelor /'bætʃələ(r)/ *n.*

单身汉, 光棍

brood /bru:d/ *vi.*

思虑, 沉思

bypass /'baɪpɑ:s/ *vt.*

绕过, 规避, 回避

corresponding /,kɒrɪ'spɒndɪŋ/ *adj.*

相应的, 相当的, 同一的

courteous /'kɜ:tɪəs/ *adj.*

有礼貌的, 谦恭的

cranky /'kræŋkɪ/ *adj.*

古怪的, 任性的

cramp /kræmp/ *n.*

痉挛, 抽筋

distribution /,dɪstrɪ'bju:ʃən/ *n.*

经销; 分发

elation /ɪ'leɪʃən/ *n.*

兴高采烈, 得意扬扬

envious /'enviəs/ *adj.*

嫉妒的

fitfully /'fɪtfulɪ/ *adv.*

一阵阵地, 不时地

gloomily /'glu:mɪli/ *adv.*

沮丧地, 心灰意冷地, 忧郁

地; 昏暗地

goose-step /'gu:step/ *vi.*

正步走; 按上级命令行动

gregarious /grɪ'geəriəs/ *adj.*

合群的; 群居的

grudge /grʌdʒ/ *n.*

怨恨, 恶意, 不满

honors /'ɒnə(r)s/ *n.*

(复数) 学位考试成绩优秀

异; 给予优等生的荣誉

graduate with honors

以优等的学位考试成绩毕业

inducement /ɪn'dju:smənt/ *n.*

诱使, 诱惑; 引诱物, 诱因

inescapable /ɪni'skeɪpəbl/ *adj.*

不可避免的, 难以逃避的

ingenious /ɪn'dʒiːnjəs/ <i>adj.</i>	机灵的;有创造性的
malice /'mælɪs/ <i>n.</i>	恶意,敌意,怨恨
melancholy /'melənkəli, -ləŋk-/ <i>adj.</i>	忧郁的,哀伤的
monotony /mə'nɒtəni/ <i>n.</i>	单调乏味;千篇一律,一成不变
motivate /'məʊtɪveɪt/ <i>vt.</i>	给以动机,激发;促使
mourning /'mɔːnɪŋ/ <i>n.</i>	悲哀,哀伤
photocopy /'fəʊtəʊ,kɒpi/ <i>vt.</i>	影印
photocopying /'fəʊtəʊ,kɒpiŋ/ <i>n.</i>	影印,影印本
resounding /rɪ'zaʊndɪŋ/ <i>adj.</i>	发出回声的;声音洪亮的
retarded /rɪ'tɑːdɪd/ <i>adj.</i>	发育迟缓的,智力迟钝的 (残疾的委婉说法)
scarlet /'skɑːlɪt/ <i>adj.</i>	鲜红的,猩红的
scrutiny /'skruːtɪni/ <i>n.</i>	细察,详细审查、查验
shrewd /fruːd/ <i>adj.</i>	精明的,有判断力的
squander /'skwɒndə(r)/ <i>v.</i>	浪费,挥霍,乱花
tedium /'tiːdʒəm/ <i>n.</i>	单调乏味,冗长乏味,厌烦
vanity /'væntɪ/ <i>n.</i>	虚荣,自负
widower /'wɪdəʊə(r)/ <i>n.</i>	鳏夫
wreck /rek/ <i>vt.</i>	毁灭,毁坏

Notes

1. **Joseph Heller** (b. 1923) is an American novelist and dramatist. He began his writing career as the author of short stories but won immediate acclaim with his novel *Catch-22* (《第 22 条军规》, 1961; film, 1970). A masterpiece of black humor, *Catch-22* satirizes the horrors of war and the power of modern society, especially bureaucratic institutions, to destroy the human spirit.

Since its publication, "Catch-22" is used both as a noun and adjective to refer to a paradoxical rule or situation. Heller's second novel, *Something Happened* (1974), from which this text is chosen, is a dark satire on the capacity of the modern corporation world to crush the individual. His later works include *We Bombed in New Haven*, a play produced on Broadway in 1967, *Good as Gold* (1979), *God Knows* (1984), *Poetics* (1987), and *Picture This* (1988).

2. **In the company in which I work, each of us is afraid of at least one person.**—In this and the next few paragraphs, the author is satirizing the horrible mental condition the company inflicts upon its employees—they work in constant fear.
3. **All these twelve men are elderly now and drained by time and success of energy and ambition.**—All of them are elderly now and are exhausted, both physically and mentally, by long years of striving to fulfill their ambition for success.
4. **They seem...always courteous and mute when they ride with others in the public elevators.**—They always show good manners and do not say a word when they ride with others in the elevators that all company members can use. In many buildings of large corporations there are also private elevators for use only by top executives. Hence the public elevators here.
5. **They...make promotions...**—They...decide who are given higher positions...
6. **...and allow their names to be used on announcements that are prepared and issued by somebody else.**—These announcements have to bear their names to be authoritative. Although they do not prepare and issue these announcements, they must allow their names to be used on them.
7. **Nobody is sure anymore who really runs the company (not even**

the people who are credited with running it), but the company does run.—Even the managers at different levels who are thought to be managing the company don't know who really manages the company. This is because their responsibilities are limited. They are also afraid of their superiors. They appear to be running the company, but they do not have the final say. Nevertheless, the company goes in working order.

8. **Green distrusts me fitfully.**—Green distrusts me from time to time.

9. **...I will bypass him on most of our assignments rather than take his time and delay their delivery to people who have an immediate need for them.**—... I will ignore him on most of our assignments and deliver them directly to people who need them. I prefer to do so because I do not want to take up his time and delay their delivery.

第一人称“我”表面上说绕过格林是因为不愿意占用他的时间，好像是同情格林太忙似的，实际上是因为他知道格林对他的工作根本无暇顾及，更因为他不怕格林。

10. **He turns scarlet with rage and embarrassment if he has not seen or heard of it.**—His face turns red because of rage and embarrassment. He is extremely angry because the narrator does not show due respect to him as his boss. He feels embarrassed because it is considered his neglect of duty not to have seen or heard of it.

11. **They are always on trial...**—They are always examined to see how well they do...

12. **They strain...to look good on paper; and there is much paper for them to look good on.**—They work hard...to make their performances look good in written form, even if their performances may not be that good in reality. And there are a lot of