

研究生英语系列教材

# 高级英语 读写译教程

编著/ 孙书兰 翁建秋 蔡旭东

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· 南京 ·

## 内 容 简 介

《高级英语读写译教程》是研究生英语系列教材之一,是继学完大学英语教学大纲规定内容后的提高阶段教材。此教程的编写充分考虑了非英语专业硕士研究生的实际水平。书中课文主要选自国外近年书刊,题材广泛,经典耐读,内容涉及现代科学技术、社会文化等方面,具有较强的知识性和趣味性。全书包括 12 个单元,每单元有两篇阅读文章,分别配以形式多样的练习,有利于学生复习巩固语言知识,训练提高语言运用技能。

本书适用于各类非英语专业硕士研究生使用,也可供具有中等以上英语水平的读者自学进修使用。

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# 高级英语 读写译 教程

## 出版说明

《高级英语读写译教程》由东南大学外国语学院研究生英语教研室组织编写,是研究生英语系列教材之一。此教程的编写充分考虑了非英语专业硕士研究生的实际水平,适合各类非英语专业硕士研究生以及具有中等以上英语水平的读者自学进修使用。本系列教材还包括《高级英语视听说教程》。

本教程的编写目的在于进一步扩大和巩固学生的常用词汇和语法基础知识,增强学生的阅读理解能力,训练和培养学生的写译能力以及一定的口头表述能力,使学生运用英语的各项技能得到进一步的提高,以满足日益增长的国际交流与合作的需要。

本教程中所选课文题材广泛,内容丰富,主要涉及现代科学技术、社会文化等方面,经典耐读。文章大多选自国外近年来的书刊,有较强的知识性、科学性和趣味性。学生可以不囿于自己专业的狭小天地,广泛涉猎各种读物,在扩大知识面、增加对文化背景了解的过程中,达到对英语的习得。

本教程的练习部分突出了对学生运用语言能力的培养。每单元有两篇分别适合于精读和泛读的文章,每篇文章后分别配以阅读理解、词汇、完型填空或改错、写作和中英互译等语言技能的运用练习。练习形式多样,单项和综合练习兼而有之,并吸收了全国研究生英语入学统一考试、大学英语六级考试、TOEFL、SAT 等测试题型的长处。

全书共有 12 个单元,由孙书兰负责选材组稿。第 1、3、6、7、11、12 单元的 Section A 部分由翁建秋编写,第 2、4、5、8、9、10 单元的 Section A 部分由蔡旭东编写,12 个单元中的 Section B 部分由孙书兰编写。

本教程在编写过程中得到了东南大学外国语学院和东南大学出版社的鼎力支持和热情关怀,在教材编写过程中提出了宝贵建议,在此一并表示诚挚的谢意。

尽管我们在本书的编写中尽了最大的努力,但恐难以做到尽如人意。由于水平有限,加之时间紧迫,错误和疏漏之处在所难免,热忱欢迎各位同行和广大读者朋友在本书的使用过程中给我们提出宝贵意见并加以指正。

编者  
2011.8

# 高级英语

## 读写译

### 教程

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# Unit 1

## Section A Intensive Reading and Writing

### The Green Banana

*By Donald Batchelder*

[1] Although it might have happened anywhere, my encounter with the green banana started on a steep mountain road in the interior of Brazil<sup>1</sup>. My ancient jeep was straining up through spectacular countryside when the radiator began to leak, ten miles from the nearest mechanic. The over-heated engine forced me to stop at the next village, which consisted of a small store and a scattering of houses. People gathered to look. Three fine streams of hot water



spouted from holes in the jacket of the radiator. "That's easy to fix," a man said. He sent a boy running for some green bananas. He patted me on the shoulder, assuring me everything would work out. "Green bananas," he smiled. Everyone agreed.

[2] We exchanged pleasantries while I mulled over the ramifications of the green banana. Asking questions would betray my ignorance, so I remarked on the beauty of the terrain. Huge rock formations, like Sugar Loaf<sup>2</sup> in Rio<sup>3</sup>, rose up all around us. "Do you see that tall one right over there?" asked my benefactor, pointing to a particular tall, slender pinnacle of dark rock. "That rock marks the center of the world."

[3] I looked to see if he was teasing me, but his face was serious. He in turn inspected me carefully to be sure I grasped the significance of his statement. The occasion demanded some show of recognition on my part. "The center of the world?" I repeated, trying to convey interest if not complete acceptance. He nodded. "The absolute center. Everyone around here knows it."

[4] At that moment the boy returned with my green bananas. The man sliced one in half and pressed the cut end against the radiator jacket. The banana melted into a glue against the hot metal,

plugging the leaks instantly. Everyone laughed at my astonishment. They refilled my radiator and gave me extra bananas to take along. An hour later, after one more application of green banana, my radiator and I reached our destination. The local mechanic smiled. "Who taught you about the green banana?" I named the village. "Did they show you the rock marking the center of the world?" he asked. I assured him they had. "My grandfather came from there," he said. "The exact center. Everyone around here has always known about it."

[5] As a product of American higher education, I had never paid the slightest attention to the green banana, except to regard it as a fruit whose time had not yet come. Suddenly on that mountain road, its time and my need had converged. But as I reflected on it further, I realized that the green banana had been there all along. Its time reached back to the very origins of the banana. The people in that village had known about it for years. My own time had come in relation to it. This chance encounter showed me the special genius of those people, and the special potential of the green banana. I had been wondering for some time about those episodes of clarity which educators like to call "learning moments", and knew I had just experienced two of them at once.

[6] The importance of the rock marking the center of the world took a while to filter through, I had initially doubted their claim, knowing for a fact that the center was located somewhere on New England<sup>4</sup>. After all, my grandfather had come from there. But gradually I realized they had a valid belief, a universal concept, and I agreed with them. We tend to define the center as that special place where we are known, where we know others, where things mean much to us, and where we ourselves have both identity and meaning: family, school, town and local region.

[7] The lesson which gradually filtered through was the simple concept that every place has special meanings for the people in it; every place represents the center of the world. The number of such centers is incalculable, and no one student or traveler can experience all of them, but once a conscious breakthrough to a second center is made, a life-long perspective and collection can begin.

[8] The cultures of the world are full of unexpected green bananas with special value and meaning. They have been there for ages, ripening slowly, perhaps waiting patiently for people to come along to encounter them. In fact, a green banana is waiting for all of us who leave our own centers of the world in order to experience other places.

### *Notes to the Text*

1. **Brazil**—a country of eastern South America. The largest country in the continent, it was ruled by Portugal from 1500 to 1822 and was an empire until 1889, when a republic was established. Brasília has been the capital since 1960; São Paulo is the largest city. Population, 119,002,706. 巴西,首都为巴西利亚,最大城市是圣保罗。
2. **Sugar Loaf**—i. e. Sugar Loaf Mountain, a granite mountain at the entrance to the harbor of Rio de Janeiro.
3. **Rio**—i. e. Rio de Janeiro, a city of southeast Brazil on Guanabara Bay, an arm of the Atlantic Ocean. According to tradition, it was first visited in January 1502 by Portuguese explorers who believed Guanabara Bay to be the mouth of a river and therefore named the city Rio de Janeiro



- (River of January). It became capital of the colony of Brazil in 1763, of the Brazilian empire in 1822, and of the independent country in 1889. In 1960 the capital was transferred to Brasília. Population, 5,090,700. 里约热内卢(巴西港市, 州名)
4. **New England**—a region in the northeastern corner of the United States consisting of the six states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut. New England is bordered by the Atlantic Ocean, Canada (the Canadian Maritimes and Quebec) and the State of New York.

## Part I Comprehension of the Text

1. Why did the villagers gather to look when the author was forced to stop on the mountain road?
2. What is “a learning moment”? What are the two learning moments the author experienced?
3. Why did it take a while for the author to understand the significance of the rock marking the center of the world?
4. What did the author think of the green banana before and after the encounter with it?
5. What lesson did the author draw from his experience?

## Part II Vocabulary

### A. Choose the one from the four choices that best defines the underlined word or phrase.

1. As later Stone Age people migrated out of Africa, they encountered new environments with different climates or plants and animals.  
A. removed from      B. confined by      C. exposed to      D. met with
2. A long, screaming run was capped with a spectacular jump that threw sparkling sheets of water into the air!  
A. breathtaking      B. eye-catching      C. everlasting      D. far-reaching
3. Other animals sometimes have, or seem to have, conflicting desires, but we alone are able to reflect on the possible consequences of different actions.  
A. predict      B. consider      C. diminish      D. eliminate
4. In exchange, Edward would commit to serving his benefactor in whatever ways he should need assistance for life.  
A. superior      B. advisor      C. helper      D. savior
5. He doubted if her fair skin had ever glimpsed the sun or her slender fingers performed hard labor.  
A. slim      B. flexible      C. delicate      D. swift
6. Some of the boys teased him about his lack of athletic ability when he attempted to play games on the playground.  
A. made a play for      B. made a fuss over      C. made fun of      D. made mention of
7. The message he sought to convey to his readers was that they should remove their prejudice toward people of different religions.  
A. show off      B. get over      C. carry through      D. put across

8. We all expected that the horse was killed, but to our astonishment, when the load was taken off him, he arose to his feet and appeared to be but little injured.  
A. great surprise      B. great delight      C. great anger      D. great fear
9. Scientists in Hawaii have made a breakthrough in developing a stronger disease-resistant pearl oyster.  
A. complete failure      B. sudden appearance      C. vital discovery      D. total destruction
10. Finally we used a particular specification of the model to discuss a number of policy issues from the perspective of developing countries.  
A. supposition      B. viewpoint      C. expectation      D. direction

**B. Choose the one from the four choices that best completes the sentence.**

1. A good balanced meal would \_\_\_\_\_ of some lean protein, some vegetable or fruit portions and maybe a starch.  
A. assist      B. consist      C. insist      D. resist
2. The teacher, with dispassionate authority, \_\_\_\_\_ the boy on the head and sent him back to his place.  
A. struck      B. beat      C. patted      D. slapped
3. Nothing further was known about the incident, but the captain \_\_\_\_\_ the passengers that the crew would be conducting a thorough investigation.  
A. assured      B. insured      C. assumed      D. ensured
4. The importance of \_\_\_\_\_ design becomes evident when we realize how much time we spend surrounded by four walls.  
A. internal      B. external      C. interior      D. exterior
5. Some of the members demanded to know why they had been kept in \_\_\_\_\_ of the true facts until they reached the present critical stage.  
A. connection      B. opposition      C. preparation      D. ignorance
6. All good ideas start somewhere and need a goal in order for them to flourish and reach their \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. destitution      B. desperation      C. destination      D. designation
7. The parallel sides of streets, the parallel tracks of a railroad, and the parallel tops and bottoms of walls all seem to \_\_\_\_\_ as they recede into the distance.  
A. converse      B. submerge      C. disperse      D. converge
8. The legacy of Persian history and the enduring popularity of its art have \_\_\_\_\_ to every corner of the globe.  
A. filtered through      B. broken through      C. carried through      D. got through
9. To maintain production levels, we must \_\_\_\_\_ and develop or acquire new oil and gas reserves to replace those depleted by production.  
A. search      B. examine      C. identify      D. locate
10. If things do not \_\_\_\_\_ as expected, there will be a fall in the market value and the investor may suffer a capital loss.  
A. turn out      B. work out      C. make out      D. come out

**C. Complete each sentence with the proper form of the word given in the parenthesis.**

1. These fires have wreaked havoc in the community, caused tremendous property damage, and caused \_\_\_\_\_ suffering. (calculate)
2. This scenario was even suspected by many scientists in the decades after Darwin's theory won \_\_\_\_\_. (accept)
3. The medal is given annually to one outstanding individual in \_\_\_\_\_ of personal and significant contribution to European science. (recognize)
4. If you follow these steps as you evaluate contractors, you will know that you have contracted with \_\_\_\_\_ and confidence. (clear)
5. The working panel of the meeting was attended by the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Danish shipping lines and journalists. (represent)
6. Consequently, our goal is to review the existing empirical literature to better assess those factors that may affect the \_\_\_\_\_ of the research. (valid)
7. Most of the crops in this field are \_\_\_\_\_ but those over the circular enclosure ditches are still growing and show up as green bands. (ripe)
8. The most spectacular ice \_\_\_\_\_ are those in alpine caves where the cave's ambient temperature stays at or below the freezing point year-round. (form)
9. The theoretical model was created showing the \_\_\_\_\_ of financial valuation methods depending on investors. (apply)
10. Endeavours within the fields of arts and humanities are also of great \_\_\_\_\_ for human well-being. (signify)

**Part III Cloze**

**Directions:** Read the passage through. Then go back and choose one suitable word or phrase for each blank in the passage.

There are a great many differences between the United States and China; at times you may not understand the actions of Americans or particular facets of the American society. When you first 1 in the United States, you, like students from other countries, may 2 "culture shock"—a feeling of disorientation or 3 that often occurs when someone leaves a familiar place and moves to an unfamiliar one. This is 4 and you should not be disturbed by it. As you become more 5 to life in the United States and to American attitudes, uncomfortable feelings should 6. Americans usually are willing to answer questions and explain 7 which may be unfamiliar to you, so never 8 to ask for assistance.

It is difficult to 9 about characteristics of Americans as US society is 10 of persons who come from 11 social and cultural backgrounds, who live in varying economic situations and 12 ways of approaching and living life differ 13. The items mentioned below are offered 14 to encourage you to "become American", but to help ease your 15 to life in the United States.

1. A. reach                      B. travel                      C. arrive                      D. get

- |                    |                |                  |               |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| 2. A. experience   | B. exercise    | C. express       | D. suffer     |
| 3. A. surprise     | B. dilemma     | C. discomfort    | D. confusion  |
| 4. A. common       | B. normal      | C. ordinary      | D. universal  |
| 5. A. accustomed   | B. satisfied   | C. familiar      | D. interested |
| 6. A. disappear    | B. distinguish | C. diminish      | D. vanish     |
| 7. A. environments | B. conditions  | C. circumstances | D. situations |
| 8. A. attempt      | B. hesitate    | C. afraid        | D. intend     |
| 9. A. generalize   | B. conclude    | C. think         | D. generate   |
| 10. A. consisted   | B. made        | C. combined      | D. composed   |
| 11. A. several     | B. enormous    | C. numerous      | D. much       |
| 12. A. some        | B. whose       | C. their         | D. the        |
| 13. A. radically   | B. slightly    | C. scarcely      | D. merely     |
| 14. A. also        | B. only        | C. both          | D. not        |
| 15. A. reluctance  | B. effort      | C. adjustment    | D. suffering  |

## Part IV Writing

**Directions:** Develop each of the following topics into an essay of about 200 words.

1. Travel can be an excellent complement to one's education. Do you agree? Explain.
2. What is your favorite way of traveling?
3. On Eco-travel

## Section B Extensive Reading and Translation

### Culture Shock

By Kalvero Oberg

[1] Culture shock might be called an occupational disease of people who have been suddenly transplanted abroad. Like most ailments, it has its own symptoms and cure.

[2] Culture shock is precipitated by the anxiety that results from losing all our familiar signs and symbols of social intercourse. Those signs or cues include the thousand and one ways in which we orient ourselves to the situation of daily life: when to shake hands and what to say when we meet people, when and how to give tips, how to make purchases, when to accept and when to refuse invitations, when to take statements seriously and when not. These cues, which may be words, gestures, facial expressions, customs, or norms, are acquired by all of us in the course of growing up and are as much a part of our culture as the language we speak or the beliefs we accept. All of us depend for our peace of mind and our efficiency on hundreds of these cues, most of which we do not carry on the level of conscious awareness.

[3] Now when an individual enters a strange culture, all or most of these familiar cues are removed. He or she is like a fish out of water. (1) No matter how broad-minded or full of goodwill you may be, a series of props have been knocked from under you, followed by a feeling of frustration and anxiety. People react to the frustration in much the same way. First they reject the environment which causes the discomfort. "The ways of the host country are bad because they made us feel bad." When foreigners in a strange land get together to grouse about the host country and its people, you can be sure they are suffering from culture shock. Another phase of culture shock is regression. The home environment suddenly assumes a tremendous importance. To the foreigner everything becomes irrationally glorified. All the difficulties and problems are forgotten and only the good things back home are remembered. It usually takes a trip home to bring one back to reality.

[4] Some of the symptoms of culture shock are excessive washing of the hands; excessive concern over drinking water, food dishes, and bedding; fear of physical contact with attendants; the absent-minded stare; a feeling of helplessness and a desire for dependence on long-term residents of one's own nationality; fits of anger over minor frustrations; great concern over minor pains and eruptions of the skin; and finally, that terrible longing to be back home.

[5] Individuals differ greatly in the degree in which culture shock affects them. Although not common, there are individuals who cannot live in foreign countries. However, those who have seen



people go through culture shock and on to a satisfactory adjustment can discern steps in the process. During the first few weeks most individuals are fascinated by the new. They stay in hotels and associate with nationals who speak their language and are polite and gracious to foreigners. This honeymoon stage may last from a few days or weeks to six months, depending on circumstances. (2) If one is very important, he or she will be shown the show places, will be pampered and petted, and in a press interview will speak glowingly about goodwill and international friendship.

[6] But this mentality does not normally last if the foreign visitor remains abroad and has seriously to cope with real conditions of life. It is then that the second stage begins, characterized by a hostile and aggressive attitude toward the host country. This hostility evidently grows out of the genuine difficulty which the visitor experiences in the process of adjustment. There are house troubles, transportation troubles, shopping troubles, and the fact that people in the host country are largely indifferent to all these troubles. They help, but they don't understand your great concern over these difficulties. Therefore, they must be insensitive and unsympathetic to you and your worries. The result, "I just don't like them". You become aggressive, you band together with others from your country and criticize the host country, its ways, and its people. But this criticism is not an objective appraisal. (3) Instead of trying to account for the conditions and the historical circumstances which have created them, you talk as if the difficulties you experience are more or less created by the people of the host country for your special discomfort.

[7] You take refuge in the colony of others from your country which often becomes the fountainhead of emotionally charged labels known as stereotypes. This is a peculiar kind of offensive shorthand which caricatures the host country and its people in a negative manner. The "dollar grasping American" and the "indolent Latin Americans" are samples of mild forms of stereotypes. The second stage of culture shock is in a sense a crisis in the disease. If you come out of it, you stay; if not, you leave before you reach the stage of a nervous breakdown.

[8] (4) If the visitors succeed in getting some knowledge of the language and begin to get around by themselves, they are beginning to open the way into the new cultural environment. Visitors still have difficulties but they take a "this is my problem and I have to bear it" attitude. Usually in this stage visitors take a superior attitude to people of the host country. Their sense of humor begins to exert itself. Instead of criticizing, they joke about the people and even crack jokes about their own difficulties. They are now on the way to recovery.

[9] In the fourth stage, your adjustment is about as complete as it can be. The visitor now accepts the customs of the country as just another way of living. You operate within the new surroundings without a feeling of anxiety, although there are moments of social strain. Only with a complete grasp of all the cues of social intercourse will this strain disappear. For a long time the individual will understand what the national is saying but is not always sure what the national means. (5) With a complete adjustment you not only accept the food, drinks, habits, and customs, but actually begin to enjoy them. When you go home on leave, you may even take things back with you; and if you leave for good, you generally miss the country and the people to whom you become accustomed.

## Part A Translate English into Chinese

I. Translate the underlined sentences in the above text into Chinese.

II. Translate the first two paragraphs in the above text into Chinese.

## Part B Translate Chinese into English

I. Translate the following sentences into English with the words or phrases in the passage in Section B.

1. 神经即将崩溃的症状之一是相信自己的工作极端重要, 休假将会带来种种灾难。
2. 未来旅游业的发展将以政府投入为主, 发挥市场配置资源的基础性作用, 全力推进旅游基础设施和配套设施建设。
3. 约翰穿着打补丁的裤子和破旧的皮夹克, 和这些衣冠楚楚的人在一起, 觉得一点也不自在。
4. 每个人都可以分清好坏, 可以通过同情之心培养道德之心, 因为人性本善。
5. 同时, 应该鼓励年轻人和他们的同龄人交往, 发展他们的交际能力, 这将帮助他们极大地减少对父母的依赖并且保持健康的精神状态。

II. Translate the following paragraph into English.

我能想象的惟一的希望就是:我们都同意去信仰我们所希望的,去崇拜我们所选择的,但是我们要承认每一个人都和我们一样是人,都值得受到同样的尊敬和关爱。在生物学、生理学和心理学方面,人类是完全一样的:我们都需要爱、和平、安全、食物、衣服和住所;我们都必须睡眠、繁衍后代,我们做这一切的方式一样,结果也一样。在镜中,你可以看到我,我可以看到你,但我们所接受的文化却以它们独特的方式告诉我们要注意我们在肤色、语言、服饰、饮食、婚姻、信仰等方面的不同,这使我们彼此分隔开来。

# Unit 2

## Section A Intensive Reading and Writing

### How to Write with Style

By Kurt Vonnegut



[1] Newspaper reporters and technical writers are trained to reveal almost nothing about themselves in their writings. This makes them freaks in the world of writers, since almost all of the other ink-stained wretches in that world reveal a lot about themselves to readers. We call these revelations, accidental and intentional, elements of style.

[2] These revelations tell us as readers what sort of person it is with whom we are spending time. Does the writer sound ignorant or informed, stupid or

bright, crooked or honest, humorless or playful? And on and on.

[3] Why should you examine your writing style with the idea of improving it? Do so as a mark of respect for your readers, whatever you're writing. If you scribble your thoughts any which way, your readers will surely feel that you care nothing about them. They will mark you down as an egomaniac or a chowderhead—or, worse, they will stop reading you.

[4] The most damning revelation you can make about yourself is that you do not know what is interesting and what is not. Don't you yourself like or dislike writers mainly for what they choose to show you or make you think about? Did you ever admire an emptyheaded writer for his or her mastery of the language? No.

[5] So your own winning style must begin with ideas in your head.

#### 1. Find a subject you care about

[6] Find a subject you care about and which you in your heart feel others should care about. It is this genuine caring, and not your games with language, which will be the most compelling and seductive element in your style.

[7] I am not urging you to write a novel, by the way—although I would not be sorry if you wrote one, provided you genuinely cared about something. A petition to the mayor about a pothole in front of your house or a love letter to the girl next door will do.



## 2. Do not ramble, though

[8] I won't ramble on about that.

## 3. Keep it simple

[9] As for your use of language: Remember that two great masters of language, William Shakespeare<sup>1</sup> and James Joyce<sup>2</sup>, wrote sentences which were almost childlike when their subjects were most profound. "To be or not to be?" asks Shakespeare's Hamlet. The longest word is three letters long. Joyce, when he was frisky, could put together a sentence as intricate and as glittering as a necklace for Cleopatra<sup>3</sup>, but my favorite sentence in his short story "Eveline" is this one: "She was tired." At that point in the story, no other words could break the heart of a reader as those three words do.

[10] Simplicity of language is not only reputable, but perhaps even sacred. The *Bible*<sup>4</sup> opens with a sentence well within the writing skills of a lively fourteen-year-old: "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."

## 4. Have guts to cut

[11] It may be that you, too, are capable of making necklaces for Cleopatra, so to speak. But your eloquence should be the servant of the ideas in your head. Your rule might be this: If a sentence, no matter how excellent, does not illuminate your subject in some new and useful way, scratch it out.

## 5. Sound like yourself

[12] The writing style which is most natural for you is bound to echo the speech you heard when a child. English was Conrad's<sup>5</sup> third language, and much that seems piquant in his use of English was no doubt colored by his first language, which was Polish. And lucky indeed is the writer who has grown up in Ireland, for the English spoken there is so amusing and musical. I myself grew up in Indianapolis, where common speech sounds like a band saw cutting galvanized tin, and employs a vocabulary as unornamental as a monkey wrench.

[13] In some of the more remote hollows of Appalachia<sup>6</sup>, children still grow up hearing songs and locutions of Elizabethan times. Yes, and many Americans grow up hearing a language other than English, or an English dialect a majority of Americans cannot understand.

[14] All these varieties of speech are beautiful, just as the varieties of butterflies are beautiful. No matter what your first language, you should treasure it all your life. If it happens to not be standard English, and if it shows itself when you write standard English, the result is usually delightful, like a very pretty girl with one eye that is green and one that is blue.

[15] I myself find that I trust my own writing most, and others seem to trust it most, too, when I sound most like a person from Indianapolis, which is what I am. What alternatives do I have? The one most vehemently recommended by teachers has no doubt been pressed on you, as well: to write like cultivated Englishmen of a century or more ago.

## 6. Say what you mean

[16] I used to be exasperated by such teachers, but am no more. I understand now that all those antique essays and stories with which I was to compare my own work were not magnificent for their datedness or foreignness, but for saying precisely what their authors meant them to say. My