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Writing Skills

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超重点

30)-I

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我与Bruce 及 Pearl 相识多年,对这两位资深优秀老师的肯定自然不在话下。Pearl 一向以教学认真负责闻名,也曾在各大知名学校中任教。她教学一向秉持着百分之百的奉献精神,因此不论教法与教材都备受推崇爱戴,实不愧为师铎奖的名师。而 Bruce 目前任教于台湾大学,多年来更是我广播教学的拍档。他的著作风格正如他的为人与个性,一丝不茍中又带着些许幽默感。因此我相信,与这两位语言教育老手来合作这本书将是最佳的组合。

Bruce 与 Pearl 有感同时学生在填鸭式的教育制度下,背了许多单词短语却不知如何活用,更不用提写文章有多痛苦了。因此作者创作出这样一本写作教材,用最轻松的语气、新世纪年轻人的用语循循善诱,让年轻人有认同感,再逐步教导同学如何分析文章类型、结构,深入剖析我们精心安排的文章,进而了解写作的技巧。各章节中均附有练习题,让同学们即时验收自己学习的成效。相信大家一翻开就可见作者用心之深。

本书能顺利出版当然 Bruce 及 Pearl 两位老师功不可没。在此也特别感谢本社编辑同仁的帮忙、电排部门不厌其烦地修改,以及设计人员的辛劳、才能完成这本好书。

相信读者们只要按部就班,跟着本书的进度勤做练习,必能掌握本书的精髓,更上一层楼。

目录

CONTENTS

| 第一部分 | |
|---------------|--|
| Chapter One | What Is Writing? (总论) ·······················1 |
| Chapter Two | Paragraph Writing (段落写作)3 |
| Chapter Three | Prose Writing (散文写作) ··················10 |
| Chapter Four | Three Basic Writing Styles (写作的基本型式) 14 |
| Chapter Five | Writing Practice (写作练习) ······ 20 |
| | . I. Topic Sentence (主题句) 20 |
| | II. Concluding Sentence(结尾句) ······ 25 |
| | III. Supporting Ideas(支持论点) ······ 30 |
| | IV. Simple Transitional Words (转折语) 36 |
| | V. Stance (人称的一致) |
| Chapter Six | Conclusion (结论) 49 |
| Appendix | 习题解答 |
| 第二部分 | |
| Chapter One | Introduction 67 |
| Chapter Two | The Structure of Writing |
| | A. The paragraph: the basic unit of writing 69 |
| | B. Topic sentences and concluding sentences |
| | C. Supporting ideas 87 |
| | D. Writing styles |
| Chapter Three | Problems in Writing |
| | A. Redundancy 99 |
| | B. Stance |
| | C. Tenses |
| | D. Unity |
| | E. Problems in usage ······· 117 |

| Chapter Four | Old and New Tools for Writing 124 |
|--------------|--|
| | A. Transitional words ······ 124 |
| | B. Cause and effect····· 130 |
| Chapter Five | Different Modes of Writing140 |
| | A. Letter and journal writing ······ 140 |
| | B. Topic sentence writing |
| | C. Guided writing |
| | D. Topic writing |
| | E. Questions and answers144 |
| | F. Summary144 |
| Chapter Six | Conclusion |
| Appendices | 习题解答148 |
| | |

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Chapter One What Is Writing?

I V U

看过这种写法吗?在公交车的椅背上、街头巷尾的涂鸦、观光景点的石头上、树上,处处可见!事实上这样的句子也可算是写作的一种形式。世界上的语言有些是可以纪录下来,有的则否,例如:某些以打猎为主的非洲小部落或南非的丛林地区。他们没有文字来呈现他们的语言,也就是说他们不使用文字来表达语言,而运用线条、涂鸦甚至利用动作来"写字"。

人类为了沟通而发展出语言、文字,但并非每个人都有绝佳的语言能力。若你有口吃的毛病,没关系!用写的。若你遇到异性就说不出话来,怕什么!用 love letter 就解决了。因此,当人们有话说不出口,或是"爱你在心口难开"时,只好用写作来传达。经由报纸、杂志、书本就可以长时间且间接的与广大的读者沟通。就如圣经、可兰经、四书等,它们利用写作的方式流传,且广泛地影响人类的文化。所以写作的理由很多,例如:传张上面写着"I love you"小纸条给所爱慕的"男生、女生",既可传达情意,又可避免正面被拒绝的尴尬。又如广告商为吸引顾客、促销商品,在商品上、店面上写下广告词,也是一种书写的目的。

由上述,我们知道沟通可借由书写的方式来表现,但书写又因为目的不同而有各种形态。如:写报告、文章、诗、讯息、书本、法律、文件、信等,都有不同的写作技巧。本书的目的主要是帮助帅哥、酷妹把英文作文写好,这种英文作文我们称之为 composition 或 essay。这两种写作是正式的写作。这种的正式写作不同于公交车椅背上的涂鸦,或网站中的聊天室的语言。正式写作规则严谨,作者必须遵循固定的规则,如:组织形式和句子表达的架构。换句话说,正式写作应有清楚的架构、正确的语法以及优美的词句。



本秘籍不以教授语法为重心,而是以段落写作为主要重点。为了训练帅哥、酷妹成为一位好作家,帅哥、酷妹需要了解、专心于练习建立有系统,逻辑的文章段落,也就是段落写作。一篇好文章建构于良好的段落上。就如同,万丈高楼平地起,没有基础,大楼无以立。如基因决定遗传,若无基因,生命无法延续。没有适当的段落,即使句子没有语法错误,也不算是一篇好文章,无法有效地与读者沟通。因此我们要有心理准备慢慢地、稳定地加强写作技巧。然而,为了增进写作能力,初期的段落训练是成功的契机。

Chapter Two Paragraph Writing

段落写作

主题句+主体+结尾语

首先,请喊几声 "Cool, cool, cool!" 再仔细地观赏以下两段文章,并猜猜看到底哪一段写得好,A段? 还是B段? 千万用心思考喔! 请不要, 先看答案!

Paragraph A

¹I have an old bicycle which my father gave me for my 12th birthday. ²I received a lot of presents that day, but the bicycle was my favorite one. ³We had cake and ice cream at the party. ⁴Then we rode our bicycles to the park. ⁵Jim had an accident on his bicycle and had to see a doctor. ⁶Then it started to rain. ⁷I rode my bicycle back home and did my homework. ⁸After dinner I took my bicycle out again and rode around the neighborhood. ⁹All my friends wanted to try my new bike. ¹⁰It was my favorite present that day. ¹¹What a busy birthday I had!



Paragraph B

¹My bicycle is old, but it isn't useless. ²Many of my friends and family members tell me that I should buy a new bicycle, but my old one still works well. ³I can ride it to the stores, to the park, and to school. ⁴It is so old that no one will steal it. ⁵Someone might steal a new bicycle, but not an old one. ⁶Last week my mother's motorcycle had a problem, so she borrowed my bicycle to visit her friend. ⁵Sometimes a bicycle is even more useful than a motorcycle! ⁸We should not throw things away just because

they are old. ⁹We should use things till they become useless.

叔叔著

A 段好还是 B 段好?什么?看不出来?提示一下吧! 先看看主题句与结尾句。 笑出来了!嗯!答对了! B 段比较好。



A段的主题是"旧脚踏车",紧跟着的支持论点3,5,6句中提到生日宴会、车祸、气候,与旧脚踏车一点关联都没有。连结尾句(第11句)都没有以旧脚踏车为结尾。另外,第2句与第10句几乎意思是一样的,有点多余。由这几个问题得知,A段不是一篇好文章。

B 段的主题是"脚踏车虽旧,可是还有用",整段文章从头到尾都绕着这两个论点论述,结尾句也是很清楚的说明车子是旧了,但还可以用。没有一点冗句,可说是很好的一篇文章。

帅哥、酷妹! 只看 A、B 二段不过瘾, 再来两段吧!

Paragraph C

The birds were singing early in the morning. They woke me up, and I dressed myself in my new clothes. I had bought them in a department store just the day before. They were on sale, and there were more people in the department store than I had ever seen before. I was lucky to find the clothes I wanted on sale. After breakfast, I went to school and showed off my new clothes.

Paragraph D

¹I heard the first birds singing, but they didn't wake me up. ²Actually, I couldn't get to sleep that night. ³As the first light entered my bedroom, I saw them laid out on my chair, just waiting for me to wear. ⁴The day before I had bought these new clothes on sale at a department

store. ⁵I didn't mind all the people because I found just the clothes I wanted. ⁶I felt so excited because I could show them off at school.

Q&A -

帅哥! 酷妹! 看完了这两篇文章觉得如何? 哪一段写得比较有系统, 比较合乎段落写作呢?

喔, 是吗?

怎么可能, 应该是 D 段较好吧!

为什么?

C 段的主题句 (topic sentence) 是 The birds were singing in the morning, 第 2 句立刻由"鸟叫声"转为"穿衣服"。3-5 句谈衣服,结尾句提到准备上学并"秀"新衣给同学看。整段文章的重点在那里?是鸟叫声?是衣服?或是上学?整段文章看似顺理成章,可是不合段落写作规则。

接着再看看 D 段的文章, 前两句说出故事背景以及卧室的状况。3-5 句解释为什么作者睡不着是因为他急着想穿新衣。第 6 句这名作者急得睡不着的原因是想"秀"新衣服给同学看。

两段文章长度一样,内容一样,两段都没有语法错误。但是 D 段却比 C 段好。所谓的好文章,意指一篇文章能清楚地用有趣的方法来沟通讯息。C 段有点枯燥不清楚, D 段故事顺畅、结构自然、完整。

文章想写得好必须要了解如何组织论点,且要清清楚楚地将这些论点 呈献给读者。因此学会写作不但需要技巧,同时也要有艺术感。如何改 进写作技巧?学会如何在提笔前构思是很重要的一环。一段文章是由一 组句子构成的(一般最少都要 3-5 句才能成段落)。每个段落本身就是一 篇迷你的文章。也就是说,每一段都有本身的结构,反映出好文章的结构。 这种结构就是:

主题句 Introduction

主 体 Development (Body or Supporting Ideas) 结尾句 Concluding Sentence

这种写作结构很重要,一定要记熟。



接着再仔细地来看看这三种结构到底是什么,又为什么这么重要。任何形式的介绍是要让人了解新的人、事、物。通常介绍人时会说,"John, this is Al, my schoolmate."或"Mr. Harrison, I'd like to introduce you to Mark Adams, our general manager."这种介绍是让我们知道对方的名字,以及他与介绍者的关系。我们对对方了解得不多,可是总是一个开端。同样的,段落写作时,也要介绍段落的中心思想让读者能了解,引导出要讨论的主题。前述的 C 段没有清楚地交代中心思想,而 D 段中一句一句引导,如同侦探由线索中抽丝剥茧得到最后的答案。大多数的段落写作,作者会在一开头就把中心思想点出。这种介绍句又叫做主题句 (topic sentence)。让我们一起欣赏下列主题句的写法。

Paragraph E

¹My brother's room is the messiest room in the world! ²If you can open his door, you will first notice that you cannot walk easily inside his room. ³Old magazines and comic books are all over the floor. ⁴I don't think that a dog would sleep in his bed because of all the dirty clothes on it. ⁵His desk looks like a garbage can. ⁶Only a pig would be happy in my brother's room. ⁷Can you imagine a messier room than my brother's?



想想看

为什么作者说: "Only a pig would be happy in my brother's room?"

作者利用哪几句话来说明房间很乱?(请写号码)

Paragraph F

One night last summer was the scariest one of my life. After my family went to sleep, we heard a loud noise that woke everyone up. My father turned on his bedroom light and saw a man standing in the room. The man was trying to steal my mother's necklace, but he had knocked over a small table. My mother screamed and the man ran away, but my

sisters and I were scared to death. Now we sleep with a light on in our bedroom.

| , | Q | & A | | |
|----------|----|-----|----------|--------------------|
| | 你个 | 人认 | 为本段文章人物的 | 安排,像爸爸胆子大先起来开灯,妈妈胆 |
| | 小, | 尖叫 | ,这样合理吗? | |
| | | | □合理 | □不合理 |
| | 推 | 理: | 小偷偷到东西了吗 | ? |
| | | | □有 | □没有 |
| L | | | | لر |

Paragraph G

I don't think housewives should expect their husbands to help them do the housework. A woman at home all day has enough time to take care of the house and her children. She can take a rest during the day when the children are sleeping or at school. Today everyone has many machines to help do the housework. Men work hard all day and should have time to rest at home and play with the children. Only working women should expect their husbands to help them do the housework.



| 想想看 | | ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ | ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ |
|----------------|-----|---|---|
| 这篇文章可能是谁写的? | □男 | □女 | } |
| 作者写这段文章的语气? | □讽刺 | □不以为然 | □生气 |
| | | | ······ |

E, F, G 三段的主題句都很清楚,也都在该段的第一句。刚开始写作时, 最好练习把主题句写在段落的第一句。

E段的主题句: My brother's room is the messiest room in the world!

F段的主题句: One night last summer was the scariest one of my life.

G 段的主题句: I don't think housewives should expect their husbands to help them do the housework.

每个主题句清楚、扼要地告诉我们该段所要说的事情。一般主题句后的句子是来支持该主题句的中心思想;也就是说,之后的句子应讲是说明该中心思想的细节。另外,每一段的结尾还要有一个结尾句。

E 段结尾句 Can you imagine a messier room than my brother's?

F 段结尾句 Now we sleep with a light on in our bedroom.

G 段结尾句 Only working women should expect their husbands to help them do the housework.

再看看下列的 E 段分析表, 就一目了然了!

| 主題句 | My brother's room is the messiest room in the world. |
|----------------------------|---|
| 地说明白,讲清楚本主题)主体(支持主题句的论点,仔细 | If you can open his door, you will first notice that you cannot walk easily inside his room. Old magazines and comic books are all over the floor. I don't think that a dog would sleep in his bed because of all the dirty clothes on it. His desk looks like a garbage can. Only a pig would be happy in my brother's room. |
| 结尾句 | Can you imagine a messier room than my brother's? |

| 40 | - | |
|-----|-----|--|
| æ | æ | |
| 700 | 787 | |

总共有几个论点来支持主题句?__________ 主题句与结尾句以哪些相同的词来连贯?______

E, F, G 三段是范文,每一段各包含一个主题句、数句论点支持句以及一个结尾句,带给这段文章一个合理的、有意义的结尾。这种段落的写作容易阅读,因为有章法、有组织。读者很容易地就知道,到底作者想说些什么。

这就是段落写作的秘诀。知道了这个秘诀之后,就能很顺利地写出一段文章。现在你大概有了一个整体段落写作的概念了吧!若不是了如指掌,请再回头看一看,研究一下,加深印象。

在第四章,将进一步探讨三种基本的写作形式,如:文章的E段属于记叙文(Descriptive 描述人、事、物等),F段属于抒情文(Narrative 记叙故事),G段属于议论文(Argumentative)说服读者支持或反对一个观念见解。

辛苦了! 休息一下, 吃块饼干, 喝瓶可乐吧!



Chapter 3 Prose Writing 散文写作

看完了第二章有效的段落写作之后,进而将这种段落写作的基本的概念运用于散文写作上。本章就是谈论完整散文 (Prose) 的写作,尤其强调文章的主体 (Supporting Idea)。紧接着在第四章中将谈如何写作文的三种基本形式——记叙文 (Descriptive)、抒情文 (Narrative)、议论文 (Argumentative)。

散文写作是每天最常接触到的文章。报章、杂志、书本、商业信函、官方报道、文件、论文、作文等都是属于散文的范畴。至于诗、剧本、科学研究报告、朋友间的信函并不是散文。散文写作是沟通写作的主要格式。

优良的散文写作要有良好的文章架构与组织,目的在于让读者易于 阅读。所谓的好文章就是依照正确的写作格式写出来的文章。请跟着回 顾一下上一章所提的段落架构:

开头 (主题句)

发展 (又称"主体": 支持论点)

结尾 (结尾句)

以上是段落写作的架构、也是散文写作的三大主要结构。

一本优良的教科书,开始要有介绍篇,紧接着要有数章有关这本书的细部申论,书本的最后还要有结尾章节,才算完整。请跟着看看下面的天文学 (astronomy) 这本书的目录就可以清楚地知道整本书的架构,就有如段落组织一般,有系统、合逻辑。

Table of Contents

Chapter One: What Is Astronomy?

Chapter Two: The History of Astronomy

Chapter Three: The Invention of the Telescope