

新編英文作文

本書正確地提供研習英文作文、短篇寫作之
簡明方法及資料



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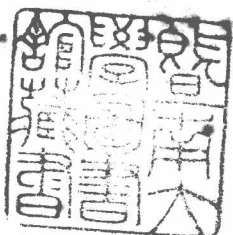


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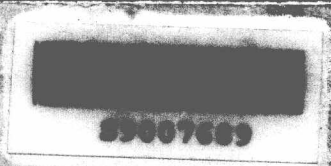
NEW ENGLISH COMPOSITION

新編英文作文

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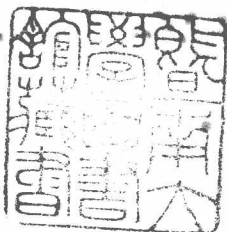


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第一 部

PART 1

文 章 體 例

TYPES & EXAMPLES
OF DISCOURSE

作文概論 Introduction

凡以文字表達一個人的思想、感情、經驗、見聞，以及有關人、事、物、時、空等的一切，均可稱之為作文，而作文應重體裁。廣義的體裁包括風格、文體、模式、方法、風采、語調、時尚、格調、品位、文風、氣質等，甚至作者的品格也包含在內。然而，這裏僅就文章的體裁而言，故以文體方法為主加以探討。

一、四種體裁 (4 Types)

綱 要

作文的四種體裁
(4 Types of Discourse)

- 說明文 (Exposition)
- 描寫文 (Description)
- 敘述文 (Narration)
- 議論文 (Argumentation)

這四種體裁固然可指文章的不同寫作方法，但主要是指它的目的。因此，這四種體裁並不一定是截然分開的；同一篇文章裏可能會有二、三種方式出現。例如，某一篇作文，它的最終目的是說明，但除

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了一般常用的說明技巧以外，它還可以用描寫，甚至於以敘述的方法來表達。同樣地，一篇敘述的文章，裏面免不了有人物，地方，動作等的描寫；議論文也經常用描寫，敘述或說明的方法以求表達完美。

——體例(1)—— 說明文(Exposition)

這一類文章的性質和目的是在解釋，提供知識，和表明觀念；“exposition”這個字的意思就是“explanation”（解釋），既然如此，這類文章最大的要求是清晰；作者可以使用任何方法和技巧，以期能達到清晰明確的境地。

依一般分類，說明文有下列六種：

- (1)定義法 (Definition)
- (2)例說法 (Example)
- (3)分類法 (Classification)
- (4)分析法 (Analysis)
- (5)類比法 (Analogy)
- (6)比較法或對比法 (Comparison or Contrast)

〔註〕說明文中亦可穿插以描寫文與敘述文的寫作方法。

說明文是寫作最常用到的體裁，其最常用的方法就是將事物加以解說。例如，說明事物的過程，說明事物的因果，說明事物的狀態等等。對人物來說，說明該人物的處境，說明該人物的想法，說明該人物的背景等等。如果要將描述文與說明文作一嚴格區分的話，那就是描述文重官能的觀察與感受，而說明文重頭腦的分析與理性的研判。對事物的體驗是一回事，而對事物的徹底了解又是另一回事。體驗是官能的，而了解却是觀念上的問題。聞到花是香的，乃是官能上的，而花為什麼是香的，却是知識性的觀念上的問題。前者是描述文的範圍，後者則是說明文的範圍。

知識性的東西我們可從百科全書，字典辭源，各科手冊，以及語言的文法修辭等書籍來獲得。但這些僅是資料而已，要將資料變成一篇文章還需要文字的組織能力。我們可以這樣說，說明文是一種實用的寫作方法，將人類的知識系統化，這可以說是一種其功至偉的寫作方法。

說明文最簡單的方法就是例證法：將詳細資料表列，一一舉證，以說明什麼是什麼，怎樣發生，結果怎樣。另外兩種較複雜的說明文是分析法與定義法：其方法必用到歸類法與等級法。例如，要說明一件機器的操作，就必須把這件機器加以歸類，引述其功能目的。又如，要了解一條鯨魚，首先要將其歸為哺乳類，因為它是胎生動物而非卵生魚類。而後再進而分析鯨魚中許多不同的類別。定義法以研究其事物的必然性為主，不涉及其他。

說明文中當有比較法與對照法，必須用此類方法的原因，乃是有些抽象事物無法具體歸類，於是只好用類例來比較對照之；即以類例說出與其相關的概念，使讀者容易接受其概念。

◀範文▶ Dreams⁽¹⁾

Men have always been interested in their dreams. In superstitious ⁽²⁾ ages and countries, dreams were regarded very seriously. Every dream was supposed to have a meaning, and it was the business of priests and astrologers⁽³⁾ to interpret people's dreams for them. They were generally looked upon as predictions of the future warnings of coming dangers or sorrows, or prophecies of coming good fortune. Dreams were believed to be supernatural communications from the gods, or the spirits of the dead, and so were divine revelations.

Educated people no longer look on dreams in this way. Some laugh at them as mere illusions, and not worthy of any

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serious consideration; but others find them interesting for psychological ⁽⁴⁾ study. For one thing, dreams prove that in the sleep we are not completely unconscious. Part of our brain is awake and working. We are unconscious of our immediate surroundings in sleep. We see nothing, we hear nothing, and know nothing of what is going on around us. Yet the fact that we dream proves we are not completely unconscious.

It is often interesting to try to discover the cause of dreams. The causes of some dreams are purely physical. A heavy supper which causes indigestion, will give us nightmare, particularly horrible and terrifying kind of dream. Some one knocking at our door may make us dream we are on the battlefield and deafened with the thunder of guns. One man dreamt he was walking near the crater of a volcano and his feet were burnt with the hot rocks; but when he woke up, he found his feet were pressed upon his hot-water bottle!

Most dreams are really confused and disjointed memories of past events in our lives. We can often trace a dream back, and find it was suggested by something we saw or heard or read about only a day or two before. For example, a lawyer, who had been thinking over a case late at night, dreamt when he went to bed of nothing but lizards. When he came to his study in the morning, he found that, while he was thinking out his case, he had been staring unconsciously at his clock, the case of which was decorated with ⁽⁵⁾ the bronze image of a lizard.

Dreams refer to the past, not the future. And they are not supernatural, but only the confused workings of our own imaginations.

<譯文> 說夢

人們對於所做的夢總是很感興趣。在迷信的時代和國家裏，夢被視為非常重大的事情。每一個夢都被認為有一種意義，為人解夢便成為祭師與占星家的責任。夢常被認為是未來的預言——警告將來的危險與悲劇，或是將來吉祥的徵兆。夢被認為是超自然的神旨，或是死人的亡魂，所以是神的啓示。

受過教育的人們不再像古時那樣重視夢了。有些人甚至嘲笑它是幻想，因此根本不值得作任何嚴肅的研究；但有些人却認為夢與心理狀況有相當的關係。舉一個例子來說，做夢證明我們在睡覺時並非完全沒有意識，部份腦子仍是醒着並且工作着的，祇是在睡覺時，我們對於周圍的環境沒有知覺罷了。我們看不見任何東西，聽不見任何東西，並且對發生在我們周遭的事情全然無知。但是我們在做夢的這個事實却證明我們並非完全沒有意識。

試着去探討夢形成的原因常常是非常有趣的。有些夢的成因完全是身體所引起的。晚餐的消化不良，會使我們做惡夢，尤其是一些恐怖嚇人的惡夢；某人在門外敲門，可能會使我們做着置身戰場，充滿震耳欲聾槍砲聲的夢；一個人可能夢到自己走在火山口附近，腳被滾燙的岩石炙燒着，但當他醒來時，發現原來他的腳是被熱水壺壓着。

大多數的夢都只是我們生活上所發生事件之混亂與片斷的記憶。我們如果逆溯一個夢的源流，常發現它可能是我們在一、二天之前所曾經看到、聽過或是讀過的事情。例如，一位律師，當他在深夜絞盡腦汁思索一個案件後，在睡覺時却夢見數隻蜥蜴。第二天早晨當他回到書房後，他發現當他昨晚正在思索那個案件時，他一直目不轉睛地

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盯着他的時鐘，而那時鐘上就裝飾着一條黃銅製的蜥蜴。

夢與過去有關而不是與未來，且也不是超自然的現象，而只是出於我們自己想像力之混淆的作用罷了。

語彙說明

- (1) Dreams (夢)：這篇說夢的文章是從四個方面來加以這說：(A) 夢曾被認為是預卜未來的超自然表現；(B) 夢證明我們睡着了的時候並非全然沒有知覺；(C) 有些夢是因生理上的原因而引起的；(D) 大部份的夢是過去事件的雜亂記憶。
- (2) superstitious：迷信的
- (3) astrologers：占星家；星象家
- (4) Psychological：心理上的；心理學上的
- (5) be decorated with：飾以…；裝飾着…

——體例(2)—— 說明文定義法

定義分兩種：一種是所謂簡單的定義 (simple definition)，也就是一般字典裏所用的，以一個同義詞 (synonym) 或簡單的詞句來解釋某一個字的意思。以一句話來解釋的方法往往牽涉兩個步驟：分類 (classification) 與區別 (differentiation)。

另一種定義是詳細的定義 (extended definition)，通常用來說明抽象的觀念。這種定義和簡單定義不同，沒有任何固定的格式或步驟，完全由作者自由發揮。在這種情況下，作者可以利用說明文的任何方法或技巧，如舉例、分類、比較、分析等等來幫助達到目的。

詳細定義可以是一個段落，一整篇文章，甚至於一整本書。

◀範文▶ The Spirit of Liberty

We have gathered here to affirm ⁽¹⁾ a faith ⁽²⁾, a faith in a common ⁽³⁾ purpose, a common conviction ⁽⁴⁾, a common devotion ⁽⁵⁾. Some of us have chosen America as the land of our adoption⁽⁶⁾; the rest have come from those who did the same. For this reason we have some right to consider ourselves a picked group, a group of those who had the courage to break from the past and brave the dangers and the loneliness of a strange land.

What was the object that nerved⁽⁷⁾ us, or those who went before us, to this choice? We sought liberty⁽⁸⁾; freedom⁽⁹⁾ from oppression⁽¹⁰⁾, freedom from want⁽¹¹⁾, freedom to be ourselves. This we then sought. This we now believe that we are by way of winning.

What do we mean when we say that first of all we seek liberty? I often wonder whether we do not rest our hopes too much upon constitutions⁽¹²⁾, upon laws and upon courts⁽¹³⁾. These are false hopes; believe me, these are false hopes. Liberty lives in the hearts of men and women. When it dies there, no constitution, no law, no court can save it. No constitution, no law, no court can even do much to help it. While it lives there, it needs no constitution, no law, no court to save it.

And what is this liberty which must live in the hearts of men and women? It is not the ruthless⁽¹⁴⁾, the unbridled ⁽¹⁵⁾ will. It is not freedom to do as one likes. That is the denial