

TRANSLATION  
PRACTICE  
FOR CET BAND 4

大学英语强化训练丛书



# 大学英语 四级考试 翻译强化训练

上海外语教育出版社

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编著 王义静 姜 怡  
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## 第一章 翻译技能与翻译题型

### 一、增加翻译题型的目的与意义

大学英语教学大纲明确指出：“大学英语教学的目的是培养学生具有较强的阅读能力、一定的听和译的能力以及初步的写和说的能力”。这里对“译”的能力提出了明确的要求。对学习外语的中国大学生来说，“翻译”是一种非常重要的语言交际能力。但是，由于教学大多受考试的影响，而前些年四、六级测试中又未设翻译这一题型，故使英语教学在不同程度上存在着忽视翻译能力培养的倾向，从而影响了英语教学大纲的全面贯彻落实。我们认为现在在四级考试中增加翻译题型的目的就是要使英语教学重视翻译这一技能的培养，有利于转变应试教学的不良倾向。增设翻译新题型可以促使外语教学质量的全面提高。多年来，英语教学自觉不自觉地片面追求四级考试通过率，应试教学的弊端日益显现，测试什么，就重视什么，就教什么。不考翻译就忽视翻译这一能力的培养。其后果不仅翻译能力得不到培养，阅读理解能力也很难进一步提高。

### 二、增加翻译题型的内容及形式

翻译题型是在阅读理解这一题型中增加的，其目的是通过翻译来检测学生准确理解文章的能力。原四级考试的阅读理解全部采用多项选择(M/C)来检测学生的阅读理解能力。多项选择特有的局限性使之不可避免地存在着不足与弊端。如过分鼓励学生猜测等，难以准确测出实际的阅读能力。另外，多项选择题往往侧重检测学生对所读文章的大意、主题思想、作者观点及文章所传递的信息内容等语篇层次上的理解能力，而忽视对句子层次上的准确理解语言能力的检测，如语言点、语法结构、词组搭配、惯用法和繁、难句等的理解。培养学生语篇层次上的阅读理解能力固然是很重要，但培养学生对句子层次上的阅读理解能力也不可忽视。它是搞好语篇层次上阅读的基础。二者是相辅相成缺一不可的。为验证多项选择的局限性和翻译理解的必要性，我们曾受大学外语四、六级考试委员会的委托进行了对比实验，发现了以下值得深思的问题。

#### 1. 学生能选对答案，但翻译意思错误

【例1】 Money has been as light as bird feathers. It has been as heavy as flat rings of stone. (见附文一)

相应的选择题为：

1. On islands in the Pacific \_\_\_\_\_.

A) people do not use money

B) money has a different function

C) bird feathers and rings of stone have been used as money

D) money is valued for usefulness

选对此题答案(C)的学生占 90%。此句的正确译文为：“钱曾经是很轻的鸟羽，也曾是很有分量的扁形石环。”译对此句的学生仅占 40%，不少学生误译为：“钱像鸟毛那样没用处，但也曾经是很有用的东西”、“钱像羽毛一样轻，像石头一样重”。

【例 2】 The Chinese were the first people to use paper money.

与此句相应的选择题为：

The Chinese \_\_\_\_\_.

A) began to use paper money well after the 1200s

B) were the first to use metal tool money

C) had used paper money before Europeans did so

D) did not use paper money until the 1600s

选对此题答案 C 的学生占 90%，其正确译文为：“中国人是第一个使用纸币的民族。”译对这一句的学生仅占 50%。很多学生将此句误译为：“中国人首先使用的是纸币”，“中国人是一个使用纸币的民族”。

【例 3】 In the building boom that followed the fire of 1871, a group of architects now known as the Chicago school began experimenting with new techniques.

在这句中我们要求学生翻译“the Chicago school(of architects)”，这一短语与 M/C 第 6 题有关，其选择题为：

6. The breakthrough in Chicago in the 1880's was made by a group of architects who \_\_\_\_\_.

A) graduated from Chicago schools

B) were teachers of Chicago schools

C) had the same principle and manners in architecture

D) received similar education in Chicago

选对此题(C)的学生占 85%，而译对这一短语(译文为“芝加哥学派”)的学生仅有 7%。大多数学生都误译为“芝加哥学校”。

【例 4】 This principle has been carried to the ultimate in modern towers with curtain walls that were often large pieces of glass.

与此句有关系的选择题为：

8. With the new method of construction, \_\_\_\_\_.

A) the outer walls look like skeletons

B) the outer walls are built merely to enclose the inside space

C) the outer walls are made of thin bricks

D) the steel structure is freed of its job of bearing the weight of the upper stories.

9. Modern towers \_\_\_\_\_.

A) have used large amounts of glass windows

B) often use glass as walls

C) often use large amounts of expensive glass

D) often have window curtains made of glass fibre



大约有 80% 的学生选对了与这个句子有关的 8(B)、9(B) 题。此句的译文为：“这一原理在现代塔式建筑中得到了充分的体现，经常用大块的玻璃作为幕墙”而只有 10% 的学生能正确地理解翻译此句。

2. 译文完全错误，但多项选择题却难以覆盖这些容易出错的方面，译对译错可能丝毫不影响多项选择。这主要反映在如下几个方面：

1) 专有名词、年代

【例 1】... on islands in the Pacific ...

【正译】在太平洋的一些岛上

【误译】在大西洋的一些岛上

【例 2】in the 1200s; until the 1660s

【正译】在 13 世纪；直到 17 世纪 60 年代

【误译】在 12 世纪/在 1200 年；在 16 世纪 60 年代/在 1660 年

2) 词语搭配

【例 1】... visits at length with the patient ...

【正译】与病人详谈；探望病人

【误译】详细询问患者；守护患者

【例 2】... stay with the patients through his hospitalization ...

【正译】……在患者住院期间与他们住在一起

【误译】……通过住院与病人住在一起

3) 繁杂句

【例 1】Because they tremble at the thought of being seen in public in clothes that are out of fashion.

【正译】因为他们一想到会被公众看到穿着过时的服装，就会发抖。

【误译】因为他们看到公众就发抖。

【例 2】No one can claim that the fashion industry contributes anything really important to society.

【正译】没有一个人认为时装业确实会为社会做出重要贡献。

【误译】没有人主张装饰工业对社会贡献重要。

【例 3】They are always taken advantages of by the designers and the big stores.

【正译】他们总是被设计师和大商店所利用。

【误译】他们总是占大商店和设计师的便宜。

【例 4】There can hardly be a man who hasn't at some time in his life smiled at the sight of a woman shaking in a thin dress on a winter day.

【正译】几乎每个男人都有过这样的经历，都笑话过一个女人冬天穿着一件薄衣衫在发抖。

【误译】有个男人一生中没见过一个女人冬天穿着薄衣裳发抖。（或：几乎没有一个男人笑过一个女人冬天穿薄衣发抖。）

【例 5】Do the constantly changing fashions of women's clothes, one wonders, reflect the basic qualities of inconstancy and instability?

【正译】人们猜想妇女服装款式的不断更换是否反映了妇女性格的多变不稳的基本特点？

【误译】 妇女常换衣服使一个人想反映她们的不稳定性格。

【例 6】 If a patient at this hospital is not responding to treatment, it is not uncommon for his nurse to propose another approach to his doctor.

【正译】 在这所医院,如果一种疗法对于病人无效,通常这位病人的护士会向医生建议施行另外一种治疗方案。

【误译】 ……如果病人不回答治疗……

【例 7】 He quickly found that children as young as four months would learn to turn their heads to right or left if the movement “switched on” a display of lights.

【正译】 他很快就发现 4 个月大的孩子就能学会向右或向左转脑袋,如果这种转头动作能“打开”一串彩灯的话。

【误译】 他很快就发现 4 个月的孩子能向右或向左转脑袋“开灯”。

【例 8】 ...the higher up the consumer takes his or her complaint...

【正译】 ……消费者投诉的级别越高……

【误译】 ……消费者的级别越高……

限于篇幅,我们仅从大量的实验资料中举出了以上数例。但这已足以说明,只重视获取信息的语篇阅读训练固然重要,但却有明显不足。我们还应该抓紧句子层次的语言训练。故我们认为应从词语和句子这两个层次上作进一步的翻译理解训练,也即:

1) 词语方面:包括常用短语、搭配,涉及重要信息内容的名词等。

2) 句子方面:涉及繁杂句、疑难句以及影响准确理解的某些语法结构,如双重否定句、反问句、复杂的被动语态、倒装句、强调句等。

### 三. 翻译题型的增补方法

根据大学四、六级考试中心的设计,英译汉题型是作为阅读理解能力的检测手段使用的,其重点是通过翻译检测阅读理解的正误,而不是比较译文的优劣。当然,若学习中注意翻译练习,就一定会不断提高译文质量。因此,目前的英译汉考题设计如下:

#### 样 题

Reading Comprehension (35 minutes)

Directions: There are 4 passages in this part. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them there are four choices marked A), B), C), and D). You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

Questions 21 to 25 are based on the following passage:

Nursing at Beth Israel Hospital produces the best patient care possible. If we are to solve the nursing shortage (不足), hospital administration and doctors everywhere would do well to follow Beth Israel's example.

At Beth Israel each patient is assigned to a primary nurse who visits at length with the patient and constructs a full - scale health account that covers everything from his medical history to his emotional state. Then she writes a care plan centered on the patient's illness but which also in-

cludes everything else that is necessary.

The primary nurse stays with the patient through his hospitalization, keeping track with his progress and seeking further advice from his doctor. If a patient at this hospital is not responding to treatment, it is not uncommon for his nurse to propose another approach to his doctor. What the doctor at Beth Israel has in the primary nurse is a true colleague.

Nursing at Beth Israel also involves a decentralized (分散的) nursing administration; every floor, every unit is a self-contained organization. There are nurse-managers instead of head nurses; in addition to their medical duties they do all their own hiring and dismissing, employee advising, and they make salary recommendations. Each unit's nurses decide among themselves who will work what shifts and when. Beth Israel's nurse-in-chief ranks as an equal with other vice presidents of the hospital. She also is a member of the Medical Executive Committee, which in most hospitals includes only doctors.

21. Which of the following best characterizes the main feature of the nursing system at Beth Israel Hospital?
- A) The doctor gets more active professional support from the primary nurse.
  - B) Each patient is taken care of by a primary nurse day and night.
  - C) The primary nurse writes care plans for every patient.
  - D) The primary nurse keeps records of the patient's health conditions every day.
22. It can be inferred from the passage that \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) compared with other hospitals nurses at Beth Israel Hospital are more patient
  - B) in most hospitals patient care is inadequate from the professional point of view
  - C) in most hospitals nurses get low salaries
  - D) compared with other hospitals nurses have to work longer hours at Beth Israel Hospital
23. A primary nurse can propose a different approach of treatment when \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) the present one is refused by the patient
  - B) the patient complains about the present one
  - C) the present one proves to be ineffective
  - D) the patient is found unwilling to cooperate
24. The author's attitude towards the nursing system at Beth Israel Hospital is \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) negative
  - B) neutral
  - C) critical
  - D) positive
25. Translate into Chinese the underlined parts in paragraph 2 and paragraph 3.
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

Questions 26 to 30 are based on the following passage:

For some time past it has been widely accepted that babies — and other creatures — learn to do things because certain acts lead to "rewards"; and there is no reason to doubt that this is true. But it used also to be widely believed that effective rewards, at least in the early stages, had to be

directly related to such basic physiological (生理的) "drives" as thirst or hunger. In other words, a baby would learn if he got food or drink or some sort of physical comfort, not otherwise.

It is now clear that this is not so. Babies will learn to behave in ways that produce results in the world with no reward except the successful outcome.

Papousek began his studies by using milk in the normal way to "reward" the babies and so teach them to carry out some simple movements, such as turning the head to one side or the other. Then he noticed that a baby who had had enough to drink would refuse the milk but would still go on making the learned response with clear signs of pleasure. So he began to study the children's responses in situations where no milk was provided. He quickly found that children as young as four months would learn to turn their heads to right or left if the movement "switched on" a display of lights — and indeed that they were capable of learning quite complex turns to bring about this result, for instance, two left or two right, or even to make as many as three turns to one side.

Papousek's light display was placed directly in front of the babies and he made the interesting observation that sometimes they would not turn back to watch the lights closely although they would "smile and bubble" when the display came on. Papousek concluded that it was not primarily the sight of the lights which pleased them, it was the success they were achieving in solving the problem, in mastering the skill, and that there exists a fundamental human urge to make sense of the world and bring it under intentional control.

26. According to the author, babies learn to do things which \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) are directly related to pleasure
  - B) will meet their physical needs
  - C) will bring them a feeling of success
  - D) will satisfy their curiosity
27. In Papousek's experiment babies make learned movements of the head in order to \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) have the lights turned on
  - B) be rewarded with milk
  - C) please their parents
  - D) be praised
28. The babies would "smile and bubble" at the lights because \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) the lights were directly related to some basic "drives"
  - B) the sight of the lights was interesting
  - C) they needed not turn back to watch the lights
  - D) they succeeded in "switching on" the lights
29. According to Papousek, the pleasure babies get in achieving something is a reflection of \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) a basic human desire to understand and control the world
  - B) the satisfaction of certain physiological needs
  - C) their strong desire to solve complex problems

- D) a fundamental human urge to display their learned skills
30. Translate into Chinese the underlined sentence in paragraph 2 paragraph 3

Questions 31 to 35 are based on the following passage:

When a consumer finds that an item she or he bought is faulty or in some other way does not live up to the manufacturer's claim for it, the first step is to present the warranty (保单), or any other records which might help, at the store of purchase. In most cases, this action will produce results. However, if it does not, there are various means the consumer may use to gain satisfaction.

A simple and common method used by many consumers is to complain directly to the store manager. In general, the "higher up" the consumer takes his or her complaint, the faster he or she can expect it to be settled. In such a case, it is usually settled in the consumer's favour, assuming he or she has a just claim.

Consumers should complain in person whenever possible, but if they cannot get to the place of purchase, it is acceptable to phone or write the complaint in a letter.

Complaining is usually most effective when it is done politely but firmly, and especially when the consumer can demonstrate what is wrong with the item in question. If this cannot be done, the consumer will succeed best by presenting specific information as to what is wrong, rather than by making general statements. For example, "The left speaker does not work at all and the sound coming out of the right one is unclear" is better than "This stereo (立体声音响) does not work."

The store manager may advise the consumer to write to the manufacturer. If so, the consumer should do this, stating the complaint as politely and as firmly as possible. But if a polite complaint does not achieve the desired result, the consumer can go a step further. She or he can threaten to take the seller to court or report the seller to a private or public organization responsible for protecting consumers' rights.

31. If a consumer wants a quick settlement of his problem, it's better to complain to \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) a shop assistant
  - B) the store manager
  - C) the manufacturer
  - D) a public organization
32. The most effective complaint can be made by \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) showing the faulty item to the manufacturer
  - B) explaining exactly what is wrong with the item
  - C) stating firmly that the item is of poor quality
  - D) asking politely to change the item
33. The phrase "live up to" (Para. 1, Line 2) in the context means \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) meet the standard of

B) realize the purpose of

C) fulfil the demands of

D) keep the promise of

34. The passage tells us \_\_\_\_\_.

A) how to settle a consumer's complaint about a faulty item

B) how to make an effective complaint about a faulty item

C) how to avoid buying a faulty item

D) how to deal with complaints from customers

35. Translate the underlined sentences in paragraph 1, paragraph 2 and paragraph 4 into Chinese.

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Questions 36 to 40 are based on the following passage:

If women are mercilessly exploited (剥削) year after year, they have only themselves to blame. Because they tremble at the thought of being seen in public in clothes that are out of fashion, they are always taken advantage of by the designers and the big stores. Clothes which have been worn only a few times have to be put aside because of the change of fashion. When you come to think of it, only a woman is capable of standing in front of a wardrobe (衣柜) packed full of clothes and announcing sadly that she has nothing to wear.

Changing fashions are nothing more than the intentional creation of waste. Many women spend vast sums of money each year to replace clothes that have hardly been worn. Women who cannot afford to throw away clothing in this way, waste hours of their time altering the dresses they have. Skirts are lengthened or shortened; necklines are lowered or raised, and so on.

No one can claim that the fashion industry contributes anything really important to society. Fashion designers are rarely concerned with vital things like warmth, comfort and durability (耐用). They are only interested in outward appearance and they take advantage of the fact that women will put up with any amount of discomfort, as long as they look right. There can hardly be a man who hasn't at some time in his life smiled at the sight of a woman shaking in a thin dress on a winter day, or delicately picking her way through deep snow in high-heeled shoes.

When comparing men and women in the matter of fashion, the conclusions to be drawn are obvious. Do the constantly changing fashions of women's clothes, one wonders, reflect basic qualities of inconstancy and instability? Men are too clever to let themselves be cheated by fashion designers. Do their unchanging styles of dress reflect basic qualities of stability and reliability? That is for you to decide.

36. Designers and big stores always make money \_\_\_\_\_.

A) by mercilessly exploiting women workers in the clothing industry

B) because they are capable of predicting new fashions

C) by constantly changing the fashions in women's clothing

- D) because they attach great importance to quality in women's clothing.
37. The writer would be less critical if fashion designers placed more stress on the \_\_\_\_\_ of clothing.
- A) cost
  - B) appearance
  - C) comfort
  - D) suitability
38. According to the passage which of the following statements is TRUE?
- A) New fashions in clothing are created for the commercial exploitation of women.
  - B) The constant changes in women's clothing reflect their strength of character.
  - C) The fashion industry makes an important contribution to society.
  - D) Fashion designs should not be encouraged since they are only welcomed by women.
39. By saying "the conclusions to be drawn are obvious" (para. 4), the writer means that \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) women's inconstancy in their choice of clothing is often laughed at
  - B) women are better able to put up with discomfort
  - C) men are also exploited greatly by fashion designers
  - D) men are more reasonable in the matter of fashion
40. Translate into Chinese the underlined sentences in paragraph 1, paragraph 3 and paragraph 4.
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

#### 附文一

##### Fascinating Facts about Money

Today, we think of money as metal coins and paper bank notes. Money may also be a personal check(支票) or a plastic credit card(信用卡). But in another time or place, money might be something quite different.

On islands in the Pacific, money has been as light as bird feathers. It has been as heavy as flat rings of stone.

In earlier times, money was often useful in itself. Money might be cattle, oxen, sheep, goats, or pigs. It might be animal skins, cloth, nuts or dried fish. It might be metal tools, such as knives, ploughs or hoes. It might even be gunpowder(火药) for battle.

Other things were valued as money more for their beauty than for their usefulness. Shells, beads(小珠), and bracelets(手镯) were prized as ornaments. The precious metals gold and silver came to be valued most. They were often made into coins. But the Incas(印加人) of Peru used gold and silver only for decoration. They did not use money at all. To them, wealth was workers, animals, crops, and rich land.

Roman soldiers once got a daily amount of salt. Later, they were given money instead to buy

salt. Their salt money was called a salarium. It gave us our word salary. Now, to be "worth one's salt" is to be good at one's work and worth one's pay.

Elephants were once the standard of money in Sri Lanka. In ancient Greece, a certain weight of gold was worth an ox. The Latin word for wealth, pecunia, meant "wealth in cattle." It gave us our word pecuniary, which means "having to do with money".

The Chinese were the first people to use paper money. Marco Polo was surprised to see it when he traveled to China from Italy in the 1200s. A piece of paper had no value in itself. People in Europe did not want this kind of money.

They did not begin to use paper bank notes until the 1660s.

Paper money came to Canada in an unusual way. In 1685, the supply of cash(现金) from France to its Canadian colony ran short. To pay French soldiers there, the government used a new form of money — playing cards! The governor signed each card on the back.

#### Comprehension Exercises:

1. On islands in the Pacific \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) people do not use money
  - B) money has a different function
  - C) bird feathers and rings of stone have been used as money
  - D) money is valued for usefulness
2. Which of the following statements is NOT true?
  - A) In earlier times, money might be animals.
  - B) In earlier times, money might be food.
  - C) In earlier times, money might be metal tools.
  - D) In earlier times, money might be houses.
3. Shells, beads and bracelets were used as money because they are \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) useful    B) rare    C) plenty    D) beautiful
4. In early times \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) gold and silver were valued more for beauty than usefulness
  - B) coins were only made of gold and silver
  - C) gold and silver were not precious
  - D) gold and silver were the most valuable metals
5. The Incas of Peru \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) did use money
  - B) did not use gold and silver
  - C) used precious metals as money
  - D) valued workers, animals, crops and fertile land highly
6. The word "salarium" refers to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) the money which the Roman soldiers were given to buy salt
  - B) one's good work and pay
  - C) the amount of salt used as money



- D) a large amount of salt
7. The word "salary" means \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) salt  
B) money to buy salt  
C) pay  
D) salarium
8. The word "pecuniary" means \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) wealth in cattle  
B) rich  
C) connected with money  
D) having a lot of money
9. The Chinese \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) began to use paper money well after the 1200s  
B) were the first to use metal tool money  
C) had used paper money before Europeans did so  
D) did not use paper money until the 1600s
10. In 1685 \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) playing cards were used as money in France  
B) there was a short supply of playing cards in France  
C) the French soldiers in Canada were paid playing cards as money  
D) all the playing cards had the governor's name on the back

## 附文二

### The Race for the Sky

The most revolutionary development in 19th-century architecture — the skyscraper — has sometimes been called the American solution. It was not the invention of any single person. It simply developed in response to changing circumstances. Cities were growing at an alarming rate. Businesses were becoming big businesses that needed ever larger buildings to house their fast-growing administrative staffs. New inventions — the telephone, the typewriter, the electric light, and, most important, the elevator — contributed to the efficiency of accommodating more people in large structures.

But as more and more companies searched for building sites in the large cities, land values skyrocketed, forcing builders to build up instead of out. So while New York City, for example, had few buildings of more than 5 floors in 1865, it was proud of several structures reaching 9 and 10 stories just a decade later.

These new buildings used traditional masonry(砖石) construction methods with outer load — bearing walls to support the upper stories. Thus, just as a dam(坝) must be thickest at its base, the taller a building, the thicker its lower walls had to be. Carried to the extreme, this could have meant a building the lower "floor" of which were solid masonry.