

# 大学英语4级考试与辅导

细化单项要点

精选典型例题

梳理常考题型

突破重点难点

功

力

卷

▶ 写作

定制训练方案

导引学习路径

外语教学与研究出版社

FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH PRESS

# 大学英语四级考试与辅导

## 功力卷：写作

总 主 编 井 升 华  
本 册 主 编 高 圣 兵

外语教学与研究出版社  
FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH PRESS

**(京)新登字 155 号**

**图书在版编目(CIP)数据**

大学英语四级考试与辅导·功力卷:写作/井升华总主编;高圣兵本册主编. - 北京:外语教学与研究出版社, 2001

ISBN 7-5600-2243-X

I. 大… II. ①井… ②高… III. 英语-写作-高等学校-水平考试-自学参考资料  
IV. H310.42

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2001)第 033332 号

**大学英语四级考试与辅导**

**功力卷:写作**

总 主 编: 井 升 华

本册主编: 高圣兵

\* \* \*

责任编辑: 周海鹏

出版发行: 外语教学与研究出版社

社 址: 北京市西三环北路 19 号 (100089)

网 址: <http://www.fltrp.com.cn>

印 刷: 北京大学印刷厂

开 本: 787×1092 1/16

印 张: 9.25

字 数: 214 千字

版 次: 2001 年 9 月第 1 版 2002 年 1 月第 2 次印刷

书 号: ISBN 7-5600-2243-X/G·1025

定 价: 9.90 元

\* \* \*

如有印刷、装订质量问题出版社负责调换

制售盗版必究 举报查实奖励

版权保护办公室举报电话: (010)68917519

## 总 前 言

我受外研社委托，组织了江苏部分高校大学英语教学的精兵强将，主持这套“大学英语四级考试与辅导”丛书的编写工作。目前反对应试教育的呼声越来越响。但是客观地讲，无论何时，测试也是职业外语教师的必要职责，是教学工作中的一部分。关键是如何使测试与教学更好地结合。何况，1999年9月出版的《大学英语教学大纲（修订本）》的第五部分“测试”作了重要的、令人感到意外的新规定：“考试形式可以是学校自行命题、试题库测试和全国统一考试等。”它表明，修改过的大纲鼓励自行命题，即各校自行设计试题，这是一个积极的措施，它有利于调动教师教学和学生学习的积极性。因此，本丛书结合统一考试，但又不仅仅局限于此。它依据大学英语考试的共核内容，在系统复习、巩固大学英语基础知识和提高技能的同时，针对四级标准化试题的题型特点与考核内容，为教师和考生提供了一些很有实用价值的分析和解答各种试题的思路与技巧。无论是自行命题、采用试题库测试还是参加统一考试的学校，均可使用本套丛书进行考前辅导。

本丛书编写的目的就是帮助广大考生进行全面、系统的复习，巩固语言知识，掌握解题方法与技巧，以进一步提高应试能力，从而顺利通过各种四级考试。为了做到“有的放矢”，在编写过程中，我们在一定程度上分析了以往统考曝光题的题型特点及出题规律，并进行了归纳分类。而且，为了做到真正意义上的“有的放矢，讲练结合”，我们力求把大学英语教学大纲规定的相关内容按四级统考的要求凝炼为精讲要点、实例分析和练习检测，以便既概括出内容重点又解决考生难点。

全套丛书分功力卷和冲刺卷两部分，共五册。功力卷由听说、词汇·语法·完形填空、阅读理解、写作四册组成，系统讲解有关大学英语考试的各种题型及其所涉及的语言基本功，通过实例分析与练习提供与各种解题思路相关的分析方法；冲刺卷一册涉及出题趋势与综合解题技巧，突出实战演练。

本丛书由江苏一些从事大学外语教学的、经验丰富的教师编写，《听说》分册由东南大学外语系程俊瑜主编，《词汇·语法·完形填空》分册由无锡轻工大学外语系陈海忠主编，《阅读理解》分册由扬州大学外国语学院倪均为主编，《写作》分册由南京农业大学外语系高圣兵主编，《模拟训练》分册由南京邮电学院外语系周建平主编。

值得一提的是，考试制度作为评估与选拔的手段（并非惟一的），古已有之。学校中增强学习能力、提高自我素质的活动很多，非只答试卷一种，竞争本无所不在。但学习和赛跑不一样，要战胜的是自己，而不是别人。如果大家能认识到这一点，借此丛书通达学路，登顶揽胜，我们便可聊以自慰了。

井 升 华

2001年9月

## 前 言

本册为《功力卷：写作》分册。全书根据大学英语四级考试中作文的命题方式，从中国大学生英语写作的实际水平和需要出发，总结了写作要点。对段落和短文写作的基本理论作了较为详细的阐述，同时精心设计了循序渐进的段落和短文写作训练方案，同时还提供了相关的解题策略。

本书的特点主要包括以下几个方面：

重点突出。以段落写作为重点，介绍了写作的基本知识。

全面而实用。对不同文体和不同命题方式的写作方法和解题策略作了系统介绍。同时基本覆盖近年四级统考中写作题材，而且对常用实用文也作了充分讲解。

实例充分。通过大量的段落及短文范例，阐述了写作的基本方法。实例规范，叙述详尽。

题材新颖。所用例文题材广泛，有时代气息，涉及海外留学、知识教育、语言学习、海外风情、宗教文化、体育娱乐、人物描写、社会问题、妇女解放、环境保护、感情友谊、婚姻家庭、现代通讯、计算机、电子商务、克隆技术等等。例文语言规范地道。

练习精当。每章节后均配有相应作文题，全书最后附有所有练习的参考范文。

本书从一定程度上将可以说是一部综合性的大学英语实用写作教材，对本专科生、研究生、各类出国人员、晋升技术职务英语应试人员以及广大的英语爱好者均具有实用价值。我们特别希望本书能为改进目前大学英语教学现状略尽绵薄之力。

由于作者水平有限，本书疏漏与不足之处在所难免，诚请广大读者和同仁批评指正。

编 者

# 目 录

第一单元 大学英语作文要求	1
1. 大纲要求	1
附: CET-4 作文样题	1
2. 评分标准	2
3. 评分样卷	2
第二单元 段落结构	7
1. 段落主旨与结构	7
2. 主题句	8
3. 扩展句	19
4. 结尾句	21
5. 小结	21
第三单元 段落的一致性和连贯性	27
1. 段落的一致性	27
2. 段落的连贯性	29
3. 小结	37
第四单元 段落的展开方法	43
1. 定义法	43
2. 分类法	46
3. 过程分析法	48
4. 例证法	50
5. 因果关系法	51
6. 比较对照法	54
7. 综合法	57
8. 小结	59
第五单元 常见文体的写作	61
1. 记叙文	61
2. 描写文	63
3. 说明文	65
4. 议论文	67
第六单元 写作测试的常见题型	71
1. 段首句续写作文	71
2. 关键词作文	74
3. 情景作文	76
4. 图表作文	79
5. 命题作文	84
6. 概要和摘要	85

7. 信函 .....	91
<b>第七单元 提高写作能力的步骤与策略 .....</b>	<b>99</b>
1. 审题 .....	99
2. 选材 .....	99
3. 拟订提纲 .....	99
4. 初稿 .....	100
5. 修改 .....	100
<b>第八单元 用词造句中常见错误 .....</b>	<b>101</b>
1. 结构不完整 .....	101
2. 修饰语错位 .....	101
3. 垂悬修饰语 .....	102
4. 结构不平衡 .....	103
5. 主谓不一致 .....	103
6. 逗号错误 .....	104
7. 累赘 .....	105
8. 指代不清 .....	105
9. 词汇误用 .....	106
10. 非英语表达法 .....	107
<b>第九单元 常见语篇错误 .....</b>	<b>111</b>
1. 偏离主题 .....	111
2. 缺少统一性 .....	111
3. 缺少连贯性 .....	112
4. 句型缺少变化 .....	113
<b>参考答案 .....</b>	<b>117</b>
<b>参考书目 .....</b>	<b>141</b>

## 第一单元 大学英语作文要求

《大学英语教学大纲》[修订本]（高等学校本科用）（简称《大纲》）明确规定了大学英语教学的目的，即“培养学生具有较强的阅读能力和一定的听、说、写、译能力，使他们能用英语交流信息……”。大学英语写作是大学英语教学不可分割的一部分。为检查教学大纲执行情况、评估教学质量、不断提高教学水平，大学英语四、六级考试均设有短文写作，以考核学生的语言基本功和书面表达能力。

### 1. 大纲要求

《大纲》把大学英语教学分为基础阶段（一至二年级）和应用提高阶段（三至四年级）。基础阶段的教学分为六级，教学要求分为基本要求和较高要求，达到四级为基本要求，达到六级为较高要求。《大纲》对各阶段写作能力要求如下：

能在阅读难度与课文相仿的书面材料时做笔记、回答问题、写提纲，能就一定的话题或提纲在半小时之内写出 120—150 词的短文，能写短信或便条，表达意思清楚，无重大语言错误。

《大纲》规定，“大学英语教学必须把重点放在打好语言基础上”，包括语言知识和语言应用能力。因此，基础阶段的写作教学应视为整个大学英语写作教学的重点。

大学英语四级考试（CET-4）的主要目的在于全面考核大学英语基础阶段教学是否达到了《大纲》所规定的各项指标。根据《大学英语四级考试大纲》，CET-4 的命题方式包括：给出题目、规定情景、给出段首句续写、看图作文、给出关键词等等。要求能够正确表达思想，语义连贯，无重大语法错误。写作的内容包括日常生活和一般常识，不同专业背景的学生都有东西可写，如 Women in the Modern World, Television, Pollution, Is Failure a Bad Thing 等。不会出现专业性太强的题目。

#### 附：CET-4 作文样题：

*Directions:* For this part, you are allowed 30 minutes to write a composition about **Television** in three paragraphs. You are given the first sentence of each paragraph and are required to develop the idea in completing the paragraph. Your part of the composition should be about 100 words, not including the words given. Remember to write clearly. You should write this composition on the Answer Sheet:

#### Television

Television presents a vivid world in front of us. \_\_\_\_\_

Television can also play an educational role in our daily life. \_\_\_\_\_

However, television can also be harmful. \_\_\_\_\_

参考答案：

#### Television

*Television presents a vivid world in front of us.* For example, we can learn what is happening



throughout the world, visit a great number of tourist attractions in different nations, enjoy colorful sports matches, music, and many other TV programs. In one word, sitting before a TV is the same as traveling around the world.

*Television can also play an educational role in our daily life.* This means, through watching TV programs, we can gain information, widen our knowledge, be aware of the changes around us, and learn how to be a man. All these will surely be helpful in our daily life, and accordingly be the guide of our behavior.

*However, television can also be harmful.* As we all know, spending too much time on TV may have bad effects on our work and health, especially on our eyes, while the “blue programs” might lead children, particularly the youth to “Hell”. Therefore, we should be aware of when to watch, how to watch and what to watch.

## 2. 评分标准

CET-4 作文评阅采用总体评判的方法。阅卷人并不按语言点的错误多少来给分，而是从内容和语言两方面对文章进行综合评估。内容方面要看是否切题，主题是否突出，表达思想是否正确、充分，选材是否恰当等等；语言方面要看表达思想是否清楚确切，是否自然连贯，语言错误是否妨碍理解等等。

CET-4 作文满分为 15 分，评分标准共分五等。具体标准如下：

2 分——条理不清，思路紊乱，语言支离破碎或大部分句子均有错误，且多数为严重错误。

5 分——基本切题，表达不够清楚，连贯性差，有较多严重语言错误。

8 分——基本切题，有些地方表达思想不够清楚，文字基本连贯，语言错误较多，其中有一些是严重错误。

11 分——切题，表达清楚，意思连贯，有少量语言错误。

14 分——切题，表达清楚，文字通顺，连贯性较好，基本无语言错误，仅有个别小错。

说明：

(1) 白卷，作文与题目无关，或仅有几个孤立的词而无表达思想，判为 0 分。

(2) 非常优秀的作文可评满分。

(3) 对规定三段的作文，只写一段者：0—4 分；只写两段者：0—9 分。

(4) 题目中已给出的主题句、起始句、结束句，均不得计入所写字数。

(5) 字数不足者酌情扣分。

CET-4	90—99	80—89	70—79	60—69	50—59	< 49
扣 分	1	2	3	5	7	9

(6) 根据阅卷标准，对照样卷评分，先将学生作文归入某一分数段，再根据情况可增加或减少 1 分，但不增减 0.5 分。

## 3. 评分样卷

以下是 CET-4 写作题目一篇，并配有五篇例文的评估。

CET-4 (1987 年 6 月)

*Directions:* For this part, you are allowed 30 minutes to write a composition about **Women in the Modern World** in three paragraphs. You are given the first sentence of each paragraph and are

required to develop the idea in completing the paragraph. Your part of the composition should be about 100 words, not including the words given. Remember to write clearly.

### Women in the Modern World

Women are playing an increasingly important part in society today. \_\_\_\_\_

With the changes in their social role, women's position in the family has been improved as well. \_\_\_\_\_

In spite of these changes, the liberation of women has not been completely realized. \_\_\_\_\_

#### [样卷 1]

### Women in the Modern World

*Women are playing an increasingly important part in society today.* Long age, women only did something in the kitchen or at home. Now many of them have serious jobs to serve for people. What men can do so can women.

*With the changes in their social role, women's position in the family has been improved as well.* Today in the family, the welf often lots her husband to do something at home bat ago, only women did something. Men are foned of doing something at home.

*In spite of these changes, the liberation of women has not been completely realized.* Sometimed, the matter, the husband hitting has welf, often happered. In the factory the women to as much as the men, but they are paid less than the men. Some people have not completely realized the liberation of women.

评分：2 分

评语：内容表达不清楚，未能按所给主题句来展开文章，思路混乱，没有条理；语言错误严重，语句结构混乱，词不达意，常用词的拼写错误满篇皆是。

#### [样卷 2]

### Women in the Modern World

*Women are playing an increasingly important part in society today.* In today, many women have a work. They worked as wella as men playing an important part in factories. There are many women in govener also. They lead other people comtral, and make out plans. There are many women scientist also. They event new things to improve our life.

*With the changes in their social role, women's position in the family has been improved as well.* In ancient, women's position in family is pity. They had to looks after their children, did every how husband ordered her to. But now it is changed. They are equal to her husband. They have the right of speeking of idea, discussion things with her husband, do what she wants to do.

*In spite of these changes, the liberation of women has not been completely realized.* We also should realize, women's likerty are limited. For example, many factories want men become its workers, but the chance of women is less than men. Everyone should do their best to change this condition. I'm sure, the liberation of woman would be increased.

评分：5 分

评语：基本切题，有一定思想内容。虽然读者能基本理解其大意，但思想表达不清楚，不连

贯。严重的语言错误较多，有些还造成理解上的困难。

[样卷 3]

**Women in the Modern World**

*Women are playing an increasingly important part in society today.* Many women today are playing an important part at works that was thought only could be done by the man before. For an example, some women are not secratary in the office, instead, they become manager of a company.

*With the changes in their social role, women's position in the family has been improved as well.* In the world today, more and more women have their own job. They get their own salary, and become more independent from their hushand, with the economic snitation improved, their family position is improving.

*In spite of these changes, the liberation of women has not been completely realized.* Many husbands only want his wife to saty at home and do housework or do some shopping. They only want them wife to be a housewife, but not a manager of a company.

评分：8 分

评语：基本切题，思想表达比较清楚，基本连贯通顺；有不少拼写错误，有不少语病和用词不当，但为数不多的严重语言错误，未造成理解困难。

[样卷 4]

**Women in the Modern World**

*Women are playing an increasingly important part in society today.* More and more women go to work to earn money instead of keeping the house or looking after the children, women have entered many fields of society including scientific field. As we know, many women sports teams have won the world's champions such as Chinese women's volleyball team.

*With the changes in their social role, women's position in the family has been improved as well.* Husbands are not the masters of wives in many places. Husbands and wife are equal now. They join together to overcome difficulties and share happiness.

*In spite of these changes, the liberation of women has not been completely realized.* Also in some places, women are considered being "things" belong to men. They have little chance to find jobs. They don't get equal pay for equal job. This is problem nationday must will be solved not only by society but also by women themselves.

评分：11 分

评语：切题，思想表达较充分，观点明确，意义连贯；注意到了句型的变化，但仍有少量语言错误，特别是 women are considered being "things" belong to men 这样的结构错误。但这样的错误不影响意思的理解。

[样卷 5]

**Women in the Modern World**

*Women are playing an increasingly important part in society today.* In many countries, more and more women are acting as workers, farmers, scientists and even leaders. We can say that almost all jobs which men can do are done perfectly by women. Women are no longer looked down upon by society.

*With the changes in their social role, women's position in the family has been improved as well.*

Husband and wife are now equal in the family. They cope with problems of daily life together, and share happiness with each other. Also, you can hardly find out that in today's families, women are being busy with dinners, whereas men are comfortably sitting in armchairs, reading newspapers.

*In spite of these changes, the liberation of women has not been completely realized.* A number of men still jealously guard their rights, and regard women as incapable creature. Few women are allowed to attend important international meetings dominated by men. That's really the problem we should solve immediately.

评分：14 分

评语：切题，论述充分，条理清楚，连贯通顺；语言规范，用词准确恰当，句子结构有变化。



## 第二单元 段落结构

从《大纲》对大学英语写作的要求、评分原则和评分标准来看，大学英语写作的重点已从句子水平（语法词汇）上升到语篇水平（联句成段和联段成篇）。主要看作文是否表达了一定的思想内涵，文章各部分之间的关系是否自然，是否具有一定的逻辑性和连贯性。因此，这一阶段写作的关键是学习如何写好段落，并在此基础上掌握谋篇布局的方法，即思想内容在全文的分布和组合方式。

### 1. 段落主旨与结构

#### 1) 段落的主旨思想

段落是由表达完整意义的一组句子（有时也可是一个句子）组成，是文章结构的基本独立单位。段落只表达一个主旨思想，互不相关的内容不能放在一起，以免造成段落内容庞杂、条理不清，缺乏逻辑性，不易理解；段落所表达的思想内容应是完整的，一个主旨思想宜集中在一个段落，不宜把它分散在几个段落，使段落内容残缺不全。

请注意下面短文范例中段落主旨思想的表达。

[例文 1] (CET-4, 1992 年 12 月)

#### **The Positive and Negative Aspects of Sports**

Sports play a very important role in our life. They can not only keep people healthy, but train their characters as well. However, we can't neglect some negative aspects of sports.

Generally speaking, sports can keep people healthy and strong. Physical exercises may speed up blood circulation and help digestion. Sports can also train our characters. For example, football, basketball, and volleyball all need teamwork, which means cooperation. To be good players of any sport, we need hard training and painstaking efforts.

However, sports also have their negative aspects. Some sports, such as boxing and car racing, may be very dangerous. Sometimes, indulging in sports may make some people neglect their work and study. Since sports have both positive and negative aspects, we should try to make full use of the advantages and pay attention to the disadvantages.

该例文中第 1 段点明全文主题，即“运动的益处和不利之处”，引入下文文章主体。第 2、3 两段分别详细叙述运动的两个方面，两段相互独立，又有内在联系；两段中所有细节都服务于各自的主旨大意。最后一句阐明作者的观点，总结全文（也可另起一段）。

[例文 2] (CET-4, 1990 年 1 月)

#### **What Would Happen if There Were No Power**

Ever since early this century, electricity has become an essential part of our modern life. It has played a decisive role in the fields of modern industry, agriculture, science and technology, national defence and education. It's electricity that has made our modern life possible.

If there were no electric power, most of the factories would be closed; agriculture and education would be greatly affected; there would be no way to carry on the research of advanced science and technology. We would have no washing machines, no refrigerators, no TVs ... In one word, there would

be no modern life at all.

Therefore, we should do our utmost to develop electric power and to set up more power stations. We should, in particular, try our best to make full use of water, coal and solar energy to develop the electric power in the countryside to make the peasants' life more colorful and more interesting.

该文第1段从正面集中说明“现代生活中电的重要性”，第2段从反面集中说明“如果没有电会给现代生活带来什么样的影响”，最后一段得出结论，阐述我们应该怎么做。各段逻辑思想既相互独立，又有内在联系。可见，段落的主旨思想具有单一性和相对完整性。

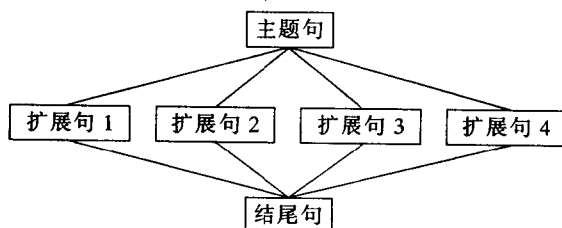
## 2) 段落的结构

英文段落在结构上也有一定特征，即在段落对某一主旨思想进行阐述的一组句子中，往往有一句起到概括该主旨大意的作用，该句称为主题句 (topic sentence)；段落内其他各句均对该主题句所概括的大意进行进一步阐述和论证，这些句子称作扩展句 (developing sentence, 也叫辅助句, supporting sentence)；有时，在论证最后，还有一句话对全段进行总结归纳，该句称作结尾句 (concluding sentence)。

在例文1中第1段第1句首先概要表述“运动有利于身体健康”这一主题，随后再对这一主题进行扩展，作进一步阐述；同样地，第2段第1句首先简要提出“运动也有不利的方面”这一主题，在后面的几句中，对这一主题详细阐述。

在例文2中第1段第1句首先概要表述“电已成为现代生活的重要部分”这一主题，为该段主题句；第2句对以上主题作举例说明，为扩展句；最后一句总结全段，指出“是电使得现代生活成为可能”，与主题句相照应，为结尾句。

由此可见，英文段落一般由一个主题句、若干扩展句和一个结尾句组成。段落的这一结构特征可以图示如下：



应当注意的是，这是英文段落的典型特征，并非所有的段落都有明显的主题句，而结尾句更是并非不可或缺，扩展句的多少要根据思想内容表达的需要来定。

## 2. 主题句

主题句在英语各类文体的文章中都很常见，特别是说明文和议论文。

[例文3]

*Lasers have other uses, too. They can light up ocean depths. Ordinarily light illuminates a few meters of deep water. A laser beam, however, can light up several hundred meters of water. The superlight will help scientists study deep-sea animals and ocean currents. Engineers can use the straight beams to guide their tunnel machines when cutting through rock. The superheat of the laser beam mends and joins pieces of metal and burns away the dirt from stone buildings.*

[例文4]

*But the happy dream soon turned into a nightmare. From the day he got the prize, he never had a single day of peace. All his friends and relatives wanted a share of the cake. They poured into his house*

to offer their congratulations, and true to our Chinese tradition, they all demanded to be treated to a feast. At first Mr. Li was quite willing, and the very next day he gave a big banquet in a posh restaurant. But that proved to be only a beginning; not only all his relatives, friends, and colleagues had to be satisfied, but many mere acquaintances also made claims on his generosity. Many were not satisfied to be his guests for only once, but insisted on being treated by him again and again. All sorts of excuses were found for him to play the host...

例文3为说明文的一段,首句便概述该段主题思想:“激光的其他用途”;然后细述了激光的三个具体用途。

例文4则是记叙文的一段,第1句先对主题思想作概要表述:主人公中彩后却带来一连串麻烦。然后再详细叙述中彩后的美梦如何一步一步演变成恶梦的。

一篇通畅的英语文章,其主要段落常有主题句。根据《大纲》对写作的要求及题样,在短短的100多字(通常是三段)的短文内要流畅地表达完整的思想内容,文章一定要精炼,各段论述一定要主题突出。因此,大学英语写作中关键的一环无疑在于写好主题句。我们有必要进一步了解主题句的作用和特征。

### 1) 主题句的作用

主题句有两个重要组成部分:一是主题词,即该段落所阐述的对象;另一是表达主题思想的关键词。主题句就是通过这两个重要成分来概括大意,限定某一段落阐述的范围,规定该段落的发展方向。因此,主题句所表达的段落主题思想也叫做“主旨思想”(controlling idea)。

例文1第2、3段中:Generally speaking, sports can keep people healthy and strong 和 However, sports also have their negative aspects 这两个主题句的主题词是 sports,关键词分别是 keep people healthy and strong 和 (have) their negative aspects,两段也分别仅在“运动使人健康”和“运动的不利方面”的范围内进行阐述。

例文3的主题句是:Lasers have other uses, too,主题词是 lasers,表达主题思想的关键词是 (have) other uses,限定了段落扩展的方向和范围。发展句只能用来解释和扩展主题句所概述的主题思想,而不能是与“激光的其他用途”无关的句子。扩展句所列举的三个用途如下:

用途1: The superlight will help scientists study deep-sea animals and ocean currents.

用途2: Engineers can use the straight beams to guide their tunnel machines when cutting through rock.

用途3: The superheat of the laser beam mends and joins pieces of metal and burns away the dirt from stone building.

可见,主题句是全段思想内容的中心。主题句的存在有利于突出主题,有利于实现段落思想表达高度的统一性和严密的逻辑性,也能有效地启发读者紧跟作者的思路进行思考和理解。

### 2) 主题句的位置

从以上例文中可见,主题句大多出现在句首,如例文1的第2、3段,例文2的第1段,例文3和例文4。但主题句的位置比较灵活,可以在段首、段尾、段中,也可以是隐含的,并不明显地出现在段落中。

#### (1) 主题句在段首

主题句常置于段落的开头,这是英语语篇思维的典型特征。开门见山先提出主题思想,再进行具体分析说明。这种“先总后分,先概括后具体”的演绎法,符合大学英语写作的基本要求。初学



者可多采用这种方法。例如：

[例文 5]

*There is one thing that everybody should value most, and that is good health.* No matter how learned a man may be or how rich he may be, all his learning and riches are useless if he is in bad health. He simply cannot make good use of his abilities and riches. He will gradually lose all his interest in life due to sickness.

该段主要说明有关健康的重要性。首句便概括地提出“我们应该珍视健康”。其后两句对健康的重要性进行具体说明和论述。第1句即该段的主题句。

[例文 6]

*The problems of the elderly are attracting greater attention largely because the American population is growing steadily older as the proportion of its aged members increases.* At the time of the first United States census in 1970, half of the people in the country were 16 or younger. By the turn of the 20th century the median age of the population had risen to 22.9 years; by 1970, it was 27.7; and by 1977 it had reached 28.9; the median age had reached 35 by the year 2000, and will approach 40 by the year 2030. At present there are 23 million aged Americans, or about 1 person in every 10. By the year 2030 this number will have doubled to some 52 million people, or 1 in every 6.

census 人口普查; median age 中位数年龄

该段要说明有关美国老龄化问题。第1句便明确提出“老年人在美国人口中的比例越来越大”这一问题。接着从1970年首次人口普查一直谈到2000年，并且对2030年进行了预测。文中所用数据具体说明了日益严重的老龄化问题，令人信服。该段主题句在段首，开门见山，使段落主题思想突出，易于理解。

[例文 7]

*Londoners are great readers.* They buy vast numbers of newspapers and magazines and even of books — especially paperbacks, which are still comparatively cheap in spite of ever-increasing rises in the costs of printing. They still continue to buy “proper” books, too, printed on good paper and bound between hard covers.

该段首句为主题句，点明“伦敦人好书”这一主题思想。接着用若干事例说明这方面的具体表现。全段主题明显，思想内容统一连贯。

(2) 主题句在段尾

主题句有时也出现在段尾。段落开始时，只罗列或陈述一些具体细节，最后一句进行归纳，点明全段的主旨。此时主题句实际上与结尾句重合。

[例文 8]

After the ceremony, students often chat with their teachers, friends, and relatives who come to congratulate them. They take pictures of each other. They will show each other these pictures a few nights later at the graduation prom. *Graduation is a memorable event.*

该段从毕业典礼后的一系列活动说起，最后得出“毕业是难忘的”这一结论。

[例文 9]

Proteins are built up from approximately twenty food elements called “amino-acids”, which are found more abundantly in animal protein than in vegetable protein. This means you have to eat a great deal more vegetable than animal food in order to get enough of these amino-acids. A great deal of the vegetable food goes to waste in this process. *So from the physiological point of view, there is not much to*