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北京大学

学生优秀英语作文选评

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北京大学英语系大学英语教研室 编

(二)

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出版者的话

为总结中国大学英语教学的成果,展示当代大学生的思想境界和英语水平,北京大学出版社隆重推出本套“名校大学生英语习作系列”,分英语专业和非英语专业两类。参编院校包括北京大学、清华大学、南京大学、南开大学、厦门大学等全国各大名校。全套丛书均由一线英语教师与外教精心遴选并对每篇文章进行了认真点评,文章或者选自历年的优秀习作,或者选自各校的征文。选文题材广泛,涉及亲情、友谊、学习、生活、理想、社会、自然、娱乐、生态等众多话题。作文语言流畅,观点清新脱俗,或感人至深,或荡气回肠,全方位反映了当代大学生较高的英语水平和新时代的精神风貌。用地道的英文记述自己的故事、抒发青春的心声,将应试的作文形式与丰富的生活内容相结合是本套丛书的特色。阅读本套丛书对 CET、托福、雅思和全国公共英语等级考试的写作考试无疑将大有裨益。需要指出的是,书中作者的观点仅代表作者本人的观点。

《北京大学学生优秀英语作文选评(2)》

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前 言

写好英语作文是英语学习逐渐成熟的重要标志。为此,北京大学英语系大学英语教研室又编写了《北京大学学生优秀英语作文选评(2)》一书,希望再一次传递这样一个信息:通过阅读与你有相同经历的学生的作文,你会发现英文写作并非难事,只要学习和借鉴他们的写作经验,你也能写出与这些学生作者一样的、甚至比他们更好的文章来。

本书共收集学生作文 70 篇,从内容上分为九个部分。每部分都如同一个窗口,为你展现出北大学子深刻而又丰富的内心世界和绚丽多彩的校园生活;同时,你又可以透过这些窗口,以一个北大学子的视角,看到象牙塔外色彩斑斓的世界。

本书的特色主要体现在以下三个方面:

一、作者颇显才华。本书学生作者多为 2000 级理科学生,然而他们的笔触所表现出对艺术的思考与见解、对人类的忧思与希冀,大大超越了他们的学科范围,充分展示了北大学生文理兼容并蓄的跨学科的素质。而提高这种素质,正是今日大学为满足未来社会需要所刻意追求的目标。

二、文章妙笔生辉。作为刚步入大学一年级且又是非英语专业的学生,能用英语这一非母语进行构思创作,成功地超越汉语的限制,流畅自如地写出多种题材、体裁且思想、语言都具有相当深度的文章,实属不易,就连参与审阅、点评的外籍专家也为之惊叹不已。

三、外教亲自点评。在 70 篇文章中,我们特意挑出 14 篇具有典型意义的文章交由外教点评。此举的目的,是试图让外籍专

家对学生的英语作文做出一个准确、客观的评价,使你了解到中国学生的英语作文在外国人眼中有哪些长处或短处,是否被以英语为母语的外国人所认同,进而从中悟出英文写作的真谛。

本书在排版上,仍保留了第一集的排版风格,即:用下划线显示学生原文中的语法或用词不妥之处,用括号内的黑斜体标示外教^①的修正。

最后,请允许我借此机会感谢北京大学外国语学院院、系领导对本书编写所给予的支持;感谢大学英语教研室所有参与审定和点评的老师(姓名详见编委名单);感谢应邀参与撰写前言、审阅、修改及点评的外籍专家学者:Tom Greer 教授,Michelle Tsao 小姐,Carol Ottesen 女士,Edwina Thedford 女士,Kyle Sessions 教授及诗人 Andrew Sant 先生。同时,感谢北京大学出版社郭力、徐万丽女士在本书编辑出版过程中的大力协助;还要特别感谢此作文系列第一集主编何姝老师,因为正是得益于她的经验和建议以及借鉴了她在第一集中的一些创作模式,此书才得以在短时间内完成征稿、定稿、审稿等工作。当然,最需要感谢的是那些学生作者们,他们的创作激情和优秀作文是激励我们出此续集的源泉和动力。

王 伶

2001 年 9 月 10 日教师节

于北大中关村

Preface

The writing of good compositions is a sign that English learning is approaching an advanced level. Therefore, it is hoped that this collection of *Model Compositions by Students of Peking University* (2), compiled by the College English Section of the English Department of Peking University, delivers such a message. By reading the model compositions written by your peers, you will find that English writing is not as difficult as you might have thought. If you work hard and learn from others' experiences in writing, you will be able to write compositions which are as good as, or even better than, these.

This book collects 70 pieces, which are divided into 9 sections according to their themes. Each section serves as a window, unfolding before you the deep and rich inner world and the colorful lives of the students of Peking University. Through these windows, you can see the splendid and glorious world outside the ivory tower come to life in the words of the students.

These compositions bear the following characteristics:

I. Student versatility. Although they are students of the natural sciences, these student writers have demonstrated their engagement with the arts and their concern for mankind, integrating arts and sciences beyond the boundaries of their own disciplines. Such versatility is a crucial quality for students of Peking University to develop. Indeed, most universities nowadays are pursuing similar goals, to meet the demands of future society.

II. Proficiency in writing. As freshmen and non-English ma-

jors, it is really a miracle that these students can use English, a foreign language, so freely as to write fluent essays of various styles to express their thoughts and ideas. Even the foreign scholars who did the proofreading and commenting were amazed that these students could overcome the obstacles and limits of their mother tongue in order to express themselves so fully.

III. Comments by scholars who are native speakers of English. Out of the 70 compositions, we have chosen 14 pieces to be specially examined and annotated by foreign scholars. The purpose is for these scholars to give an appropriate and objective evaluation of the English compositions written by the Chinese students. You, the reader, can thus learn what native speakers think of the writing submitted by our Chinese students, and whether or not native speakers can understand their thoughts expressed in English. In this way, you can gain an insight into English writing.

This book preserves the writing style of its predecessor. That is to say, the original sentences of each piece remain intact, with some inappropriate parts underlined for modification. The words and phrases inserted by the foreign scholars as correction or refinement are bracketed in italics.

Last but not the least, please allow me to take this opportunity to sincerely thank the directors of the School of Foreign Languages and the Department of English for their support of this collection. I would especially like to thank the teachers involved in examining and commenting on the papers (Please refer to the name list of the compilers). Many thanks also go to the foreign scholars invited to write the foreword, to proofread, modify and comment, namely, Prof. Tom Greer, Ms. Michelle Tsao, Ms. Carol Ottesen, Ms. Edwina Thedford, Prof. Kyle Sessions and Mr. Andrew Sant. Thanks to

Ms. Guo Li and Ms. Xu Wanli of Peking University Press for their efforts and assistance. Gratitude is also owed to Ms. He Shu, the editor-in-chief of the preceding collection, because it is her experiences and suggestions that have made this collection available. And finally, a most special debt of gratitude belongs to the student writers. Their enthusiasm and their excellent compositions are the source and the power that urged and inspired us to publish this second collection.

Wang Ling
Zhongguanyuan, Peking University
Sept. 10, 2001, Teachers' Day

Foreword

The essays in this collection cover the entire spectrum of formal writing. Some of the essays come from memory while others analyze the present and consider the future. Some subjects emerge from personal experience while others tackle social problems. Some of the items in the essays are quite concrete while others are equally abstract.

One of the striking impressions of the essays in this collection is the awareness of “place”. Many of the compositions are about China, as one would expect. However, most of the same essays, and others, reflect the students’ view of China as part of the global community. It is that observation that is most impressive.

The twenty-first century is quite young. Most of the writers of the essays in this collection will have the privilege to live for at least half of that century. Their concern for the problems and opportunities facing their generation is clearly seen in these essays. Cultural identity in a global community is a concern for the youth of the new century. How to live with Westernization from a Chinese perspective is a major theme in the essays. This conflict must remain and must be the content of more and more essays by students.

The young men and women who composed the essays in this collection shoulder the heavy responsibility of making the world a peaceful and safe place to live and work. Their essays clearly reveal that such a responsibility will not be a burden but an opportunity.

Tom Greer

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目 录

CONTENTS

第一部分 爱心表述

Part I Human Affection

- The First Intimate Contact 张遇升(Zhang Yusheng)(3)
- The Fog on Glass 王 莹(Wang Xuan)(6)
- Love 许 轲(Xu Ke)(11)
- There Is Love When We Give 高 瑾(Gao Jin)(13)
- Love Makes the World Go Around 李 柰(Li Nai)(16)
- Let Love Light the World 郭晓麟(Guo Xiaolin)(19)

第二部分 情感实录

Part II True Emotions

- Don't Wait to Show Your Love ... 林萍芳(Lin Pingfang)(25)
- Grandfather and I 张嘉弘(Zhang Jiahong)(27)
- My Father, My Idol 刘揆亮(Liu Kuiliang)(30)
- The Time When Mother Cried 高 隽(Gao Jun)(33)
- Mothers' Day 张蜜蜜(Zhang Mimi)(36)
- The Anecdotes of Mr. Holder 葛鉴桥(Ge Jianqiao)(39)
- Allen Iverson—My Favorite Basketball Player
..... 莫献坤(Mo Xiankun)(42)
- Yesterday Once More 李 珊(Li Shan)(45)

第三部分 网络漫谈

Part III Random Talk about the Internet

- She's on Line 伍君仪(Wu Junyi)(49)

OICQ	李 莎(Li Sha)(52)
What Has the Internet Brought?	
.....	程勇泉(Cheng Yongquan)(55)
What Has the Internet Brought?	丁慧华(Ding Huihua)(58)
Chatting on the Net Makes Trouble	
.....	唐博謩(Tang Bojian)(61)
The Internet: a Blessing to Society ...	申峻嵘(Shen Junrong)(64)

第四部分 燕园畅想

Part IV Free Thoughts in the Yanyuan

My First Month in College	左 娅(Zuo Ya)(71)
Two Letters to My Dearest Penfriend ...	李 燕(Li Yan)(74)
Join Us!	李 楠(Li Nan)(78)
It's You, My Drama	黎 梨(Li Li)(80)
Hard But Exciting	谭 璐(Tan Lu)(82)
Fantasy World	柏晓洁(Bai Xiaojie)(85)
PKU's Creatures	李 源(Li Yuan)(88)

第五部分 文艺浅析

Part V Preliminary Analysis of Art and Literature

A Note on Art	吴 昊(Wu Hao)(93)
Art and Real Life	吴泉声(Wu Quansheng)(98)
My View of Music	冯 娟(Feng Juan)(100)
The Head against the Wall	安 琳(An Lin)(102)
My Favorite Book	周 洁(Zhou Jie)(105)

第六部分 社会瞭望

Part VI Outlooks on Society

A Letter to an American Friend	曾 翔(Zeng Xiang)(111)
--------------------------------------	----------------------

No Competition, No Development

..... 陈少晖(Chen Shaohui)(114)

Should Advertisement Exist? ... 程婉滢(Cheng Wanying)(117)

Human's Enemy 陈 挺(Chen Ting)(120)

To Live in the City or in the Country?

..... 吴 铭(Wu Ming)(123)

Journey to Bashang 丁悦静(Ding Yuejing)(126)

Save Our Forests 李凯玲(Li Kailing)(129)

The Earth Is Crying 赵 博(Zhao Bo)(131)

Only One Earth 刘潇潇(Liu Xiaoxiao)(134)

第七部分 人生感悟

Part VII Insights into Life

Once I Had a Dream 王 星(Wang Xing)(139)

A Sense of Humor 朱 琳(Zhu Lin)(142)

Memories 王蕊寒(Wang Ruihan)(145)

Brave Heart 庞 隽(Pang Jun)(148)

One Million Dog 诸晓萍(Zhu Xiaoping)(151)

Independence for the Young Generation

..... 张 颖(Zhang Ying)(153)

Gloomy Prime 张 巍(Zhang Wei)(155)

The Tragedy of Our Generation 刘 博(Liu Bo)(158)

The Meaning of Death 屠 玥(Tu Yue)(161)

第八部分 话题缤纷

Part VIII Various Topics

The Advantages of Chinese Typical Families

..... 王 潇(Wang Xiao)(165)

Reading 袁 磊(Yuan Lei)(168)

On Examination	黄 越(Huang Yue)	(171)
No "Why" in Physics	吴松楠(Wu Songnan)	(174)
A Magical World	龙 涛(Long Tao)	(177)
On Religions in America	郑 凝(Zheng Ning)	(180)
Is American Religion in Modern Times Confronting a Crisis?	张 恒(Zhang Heng)	(184)
Behind the Back of "Fashion" Label	王圆圆(Wang Yuanyuan)	(188)
The Survival of the Fittest	孙玉香(Sun Yuxiang)	(191)
Between the Past and the Future	朱亦真(Zhu Yizhen)	(194)

第九部分 考试作文

Part IX Exam Compositions

What Is Success?	茆雷磊(Mao Leilei)	(202)
What Is Success?	胡 晓(Hu Xiao)	(204)
China's Accession to the World Trade Organization	周 凤(Zhou Feng)	(206)
China's Accession to the World Trade Organization	刘思达(Liu Sida)	(209)
World Earth Day	李 超(Li Chao)	(211)
World Earth Day	林巍靖(Lin Weijing)	(214)
Pressures in Life	杨晓炜(Yang Xiaowei)	(216)
Pressures in Life	袁 泉(Yuan Quan)	(219)
The Book I Like	吴 昊(Wu Hao)	(221)
The Book I Like	樊 蕾(Fan Lei)	(223)

第一部分 爱心表述

Part I Human Affection

