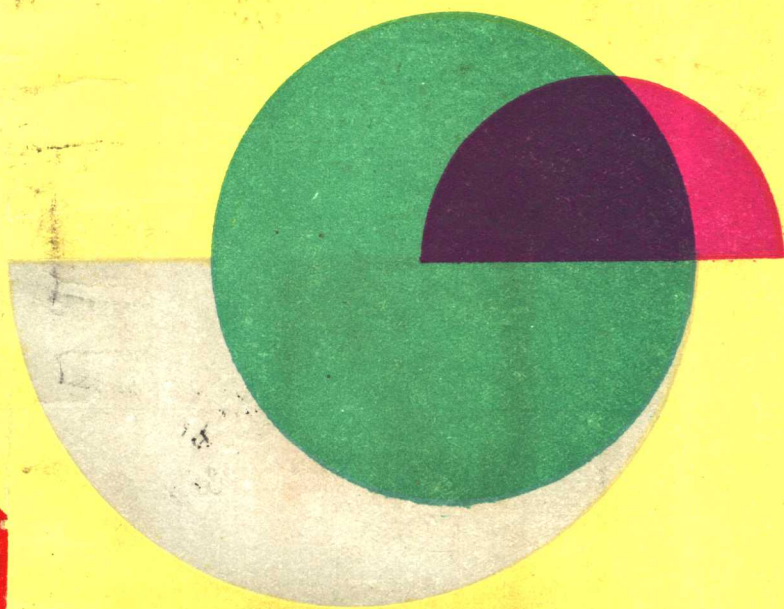


英语用法 比较实例

DIFFERENTIAL
EXAMPLES IN
ENGLISH USAGE

升学、出国英语考试参考书



应启慎 编著



上海译文出版社

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编 者 的 话

多年来,在大学英语教学实践中,在出国班的培训工作和报考硕士学位研究生的辅导工作中,深感中国学生学习英语有不少特殊的困难。《英语用法比较实例》就是针对这些特殊困难编写的。书中所讨论的一百多个实例涉及词的用法、句子结构、习惯用法等问题。以专题讨论的形式,通过词与词、词语与词语、结构与结构之间的比较来说明问题,解答问题。本书可以作为理工科大学生、专业教师 (science teachers) 以及大、中学英语教师的参考书;也可作为具有相当水平的广大自学英语读者的自修课本。

本书在编写过程中注意对英语的用法进行客观的描述;阐明英语发展过程中出现的某些新的语言现象,分辨英国英语与美国英语的某些差异,指出托福 (TOEFL) 一类考试中某些特殊要求等。

本书对每个专题的讨论尽量适应读者自学的特点。文字力求简明扼要,层次分明,条理清楚。也正是为了适应自学的特点,本书提供了较多的例句。选用的例句力求典型、实用、说明问题。并有汉语译文。例句中多为常用词汇,不偏于某一专业。而且大多数例句摘自近年出版的英语原版书刊。特别应该提出的是,本书英语例句均由汪洁同志译成汉语。

为了巩固专题所讨论的内容,本书第三部分选配了六份供复习用的试题 (Practice Tests)。试题来源于国外 Nelson

English Language Tests, TOEFL, First Certificate in English Practice Tests, 以及国内历年攻读硕士学位研究生考试英语试卷等。试题后附答案。

本书在编写过程中参考了一些国内外英语语言方面的著作, 其中主要有 A. J. Thomson and A. V. Martinet 的 A Practical English Grammar, Frederick T. Wood 的 Current English Usage, Michael Swan 的 Practical English Usage。

由于水平有限, 不到之处, 敬希读者不吝赐教。

应启慎

1986 年 10 月于西子湖畔

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Part I: Sentence Structures in Comparison

I. 冠词、名词与代词

1. Go to school 与 go to the school 等

Compare these sentences:

1. Do you *go to school*? No, I work.

你在读书? 不, 我在工作。

2. Are you *going to the school*? No, to the shops.

你到学校去吗? 不, 到商店去。

go to school (没有定冠词 *the*) 是一种习惯用法, 意思是“上学读书”, 即指的是与学校这种建筑物有关的首要目的。句 1. Do you go to school? (注意是一般现在时)意思是“你在读书(还是在工作)?”。否定的回答自然是 No, I work. 但我国学生往往由于没有掌握 *go to school* 的真正含义, 不能对上述这一简单的问句作出自然的反应, 会作出 No, to the shops. 等一类错误的回答。

go to the school (有定冠词 *the*), 意思是: 到学校去访问或为别的事情到学校去。the school 是指学校这个地方。句 2. Are you going to the school? 意思是: 你去学校吗? 否定的回答自然是: No, to the shops. 等。

与 *go to school* 同类的有 *go to hospital*, *go to church*, *go to prison*, *go to bed* 等表达法:

go to school to study

go to hospital (as patients)

go to church / chapel to worship

go to prison / jail (as prisoners)

go to bed to sleep

例如:

- 1) I *go to school* twice a week to learn English. 我每周去上两次英语课。

试比较: I sometimes *go to the school* to speak to the headmaster. 我有时

到学校去找校长谈谈。

- 2) I'm going to hospital to have a check-up. 我将去医院体检。

试比较: I'm going to the hospital to leave these X-rays. 我要去医院把这些X光照片放在那里。

- 3) More and more people go to church only at Christmas. 越来越多的人只在圣诞节去做礼拜。

试比较: I went to the church to see the carvings. 我到教堂去看那些雕刻品。

- 4) The murderer went to prison for fifteen years. 这个杀人犯被监禁15年。

试比较: The criminal's wife went to the prison to visit her husband. 犯人的妻子到监狱去探望丈夫。

- 5) I go to bed at eleven o'clock. 我11点睡觉。

试比较: Please don't sit on the bed. 请不要坐在床上。

可以说 go to school, 也可以说 go to elementary / grade / high / secondary / graduate school, 也可以说 go to college. 但 go to university 是英国用法, go to a / the university 主要是美国用法, 例如:

- 1) Her youngest son is now going to elementary school. 她最小的儿子要上小学了。
- 2) If John hadn't been drafted, he would have gone to graduate school. 如果约翰没有应征入伍, 那么他该上研究生院了。
- 3) He went to grade school in New York and high school in Chicago. 他是在纽约上小学, 在芝加哥上中学。
- 4) William has made up his mind not to go to college this year. 威廉已决定今年不读大学。
- 5) If you expect to go to the university, you should apply now. (美国用法) 如果你要上大学, 你现在就该申请。

与 go to school 一样, 在 in school (在学校读书), graduate from school (从学校毕业)等语中, school 前也不用冠词, 例如:

- 1) Most American students spend 12 years in school before attending a university. 美国绝大多数学生在校读12年书, 然后才能上大学。
- 2) In elementary school, the child learns to read and write. 在小学里, 孩子们学习读书和写字。
- 3) In secondary school, children get more advanced knowledge. 在中学里, 孩子们获得较深一些的知识。

- 4) *In college I majored in science.* 在大学,我主修理科。
5) *After I graduated from college, I spent three months in Europe.* 我大学毕业之后,到欧洲去过3个月。

6) *A large number of students in America continue their education after graduation from high school.* 美国许多学生中学毕业之后,继续深造。

与 *go to hospital* 一样,在 *be taken to hospital* (送医院), *in hospital* (在医院治疗), *leave hospital* (出院)等语里 *hospital* 前也不用冠词,例如:

- 1) *He broke his right leg and was taken to hospital a few weeks before Christmas.* 在圣诞节的前几周,他右腿摔坏被送进医院了。
2) *He dreaded having to spend Christmas in hospital.* 他害怕在医院里过圣诞节。
3) *The doctor consoled him by telling him that he would be able to leave hospital in time for New Year's celebrations.* 医生安慰他说他可能赶在新年庆祝活动之前出院。

与 *go to bed* 一样,在 *in bed* (在床上睡觉), *get out of bed* (起床)等语里, *bed* 前也没有冠词,例如:

- 1) *What time do you go to bed?* 你什么时候睡觉?
2) *After he got out of bed, he got dressed.* 他起床之后,穿好衣服。
3) *He spent a miserable day in bed thinking of all the fun he was missing.* 他难过地在床上睡了一天,想着他正错过的欢乐。

试比较: *Exhausted by his work, he lay down on the bed to take a rest.* 他工作干得精疲力尽,躺在床上休息。

与 *go to prison* 一样, *be in prison* (坐牢), *be, sent / taken to prison* (关进监狱), *be put in prison* (监禁于狱中), *escape from prison* (越狱)等语中, *prison* 前也不用冠词,例如:

- 1) *He has been in prison for five years.* 他已坐了5年牢。
2) *He was sent / taken to prison for failing to pay his debts.* 他因为不能偿付债务而被关进监狱。
3) *The soldiers were put in prison because they refused to obey orders.* 因为这些士兵拒绝听从命令,所以被关进了监狱。
4) *The police were searching for the man who had just escaped from prison.* 警察正在寻找那个刚越狱的人。

但这种冠词省略的惯用语是有相当限制的,我们不能从 *go to school* 推出 *go to office*, 我们总得说 *go to the office* 或 *go to one's office*。例如:

The secretary always goes to the office a few minutes earlier. 这位秘书总

是提前几分钟到办公室。

2. Such a beautiful poem 与 such beautiful poetry

Compare these sentences:

1. She has written *such a beautiful poem* that it is hard to believe she has never had a formal education. 她这首诗写得这么美,简直很难相信她从未受过正规教育。
2. She has written *such beautiful poetry* that it is hard to believe she has never had a formal education. 她的诗写得这么美,简直很难相信她从未受过正规教育。

such 后面有时有 a(n), 有时没有 a(n)。这个问题与英语名词的可数与不可数有关。如句 1. beautiful poem 中的 poem 是可数名词单数,所以前面用 such a; 句 2. beautiful poetry 中的 poetry 是不可数名词,所以前面用 such。其规则是:

such a + 形容词 + 可数名词单数

such + 形容词 + 不可数名词

(A) 下面句子中的 book, job, family, dog 等显然是可数名词,所以用 such a(n):

- 1) It was *such an interesting book* that he couldn't put it down. 这本书这么有趣,他看得放不下。
- 2) It was *such a big job* that he had to ask for help. (不可说 such a big work) 这项工作规模这么大,他不得不请人帮忙。
- 3) The other house had only one bathroom, and it was always a problem for *such a large family*. 另一幢房子只有一间浴室,对这么大的一个家来说,这始终是一个问题。

- 4) They had *such a fierce dog* that no one dared to go near their house.

他们家的狗这么凶没有人敢走近他们的房子。

- 5) This car has *such a powerful motor*. 这辆汽车有一只功率很大的发动机。

下面句子中的 time, journey, vacation 等也是可数名词,因而也与 such a(n) 连用:

- 1) He spoke for *such a long time* that people began to fall asleep. 他讲话讲了这么长时间,人们都开始打瞌睡了。
- 2) It was *such a long journey* that we felt tired when we arrived. 这次旅程这么长,到了以后我们觉得很累。
- 3) He had *such a terrible vacation* that he'll never go back to that place.

他假期过得那么糟，他再也不会到那个地方去了。

(B) 下面句子中的 *luck*, *progress*, *music*, *hair* 等为不可数名词，所以前面用 *such*：

1) Perry has had *such bad luck* that he's decided not to gamble. 佩里运气这么不好所以他决定不再赌博。

2) The reason Michael has made *such great progress* is that he has never wasted his time. 麦琪儿能取得这么大进步的原因就在于他从不浪费时间。

3) "Did you enjoy the concert, Anne?"

"Oh, yes, they played *such beautiful music*."

"你喜欢这个音乐会吗，安妮?"

"噢，是的，他们演奏了如此美妙的音乐。"

4) She has *such pretty hair* that we all enjoy looking at it. 她的头发这么美我们都很喜欢看它。

5) Newspapers exert *such tremendous influence* that they can even overthrow a government. 报纸造成的影响如此之大，甚至能够推翻一个政府。

比较下面各句中的 a), b) 两句：

{ a) This is *such an ugly chair* that I am going to give it up. (*chair* 为可数名词) 这把椅子这么难看，我打算不要它。

{ b) This is *such ugly furniture* that I am going to give it up. (*furniture* 为不可数名词) 这些家具这么难看，我打算不要了。

{ a) It is *such an unusual work of art* that everyone wants to have a look at it. (*work of art* 中的 *work* 为可数名词) 这件艺术品非同一般，于是大家都想看一看。

{ b) This is *such difficult homework* that I will never finish it. (*homework* 为不可数名词) 家庭作业这么难，我永远也完成不了。

{ a) This is *such a hot climate* that we have to go to the beach. (注意：常说 a(n)...climate) 气候这么炎热，我们不得不到海边去。

{ b) It's *such nice weather* that I'd like to take a walk. (注意：weather 前不用 a) 天气这么好，我想去散散步。

3. Butcher's 与 butcher's shop

Compare these sentences:

1. I must go to the *butcher's* this morning. 今天早上我得去肉店买肉。
2. I must go to the *butcher's shop* this morning. (同上)

上面两句意思相同,句1.中的 *butcher's* 等于句2.中的 *butcher's shop*. *butcher's* 等是名词所有格,是一种经常使用的省略形式,即当谈到商店、办事处、教堂、学校和杂志时,经常把中心词 (headword) 省去,如句1.把 *butcher's* 后面的 *shop* 省去。

例如:

- 1) She's going to the *photographer's* to have her photograph taken. (= *photographer's shop*) 她打算到照相馆去拍照。
- 2) We spent a whole day visiting *St. Paul's*. (= *St. Paul's Cathedral*) 我们在圣保罗教堂参观了一整天。
- 3) Send him to the *baker's* to buy the bread. (= *baker's shop*) 叫他到面包店去买面包。
- 4) He was educated at *Merchant Taylor's*. (= *Merchant Taylor's school*) 他在泰勒商业学校受过教育。

当谈到某人的家或者从事某种职业的地点时,常用 *-s* 这种省略形式,例如:

- 5) I went over to *Paul's*, but he was at his *sister's*. (= *Paul's house*, his *sister's house*) 我到保罗家去,但保罗在他妹妹家。
- 6) I have been to the *doctor's* about my headache. 我已去医生那里看了我的头痛病。

有时为了避免重复,也用 *-s* 这种省略形式:

- 1) She put her arm through her *brother's*. (= *her brother's arm*) 她挽着她兄弟的手臂。
- 2) *William's* is the only homework that is never badly done. (= *William's homework*) 只有威廉的家庭作业一贯做得很好。
- 3) "Whose book is this?" "It's *John's*." (= *John's book*) "这是谁的书?" "约翰的。"