



# 农业英语 自修读本

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杨永华主编

农业出版社

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## 前 言

编写本书的目的在于帮助具有初级英语基础的农业科技人员提高阅读英文农业书刊及英译汉的能力。

全书共三册，分阅读篇及语法篇两大部分。

第一、二册为阅读篇，共五十课。每课包括课文、单词、注释、参考译文及练习。课文及例句均选自英美近年出版的农业科技书刊。书后附有练习答案。第三册为语法篇，系统讲解课文中的语法问题及一般农业科技书刊中常见的语法现象。

本书除供农业科技人员自学英语外，还可作为农林、水产、畜牧等专业及生物系师生自学科技英语时参考。

参加本书编写的有杭州大学外语系韩玉书、郭正唐、何善庚、张明敏、李志华以及项加贤、陆道三、张万方、杨信德等同志。全书由杨永华主编。

浙江农业大学高明尉同志以及张载人、陈原真等同志对本书的编写及修改提出了许多宝贵意见，特此致谢！

由于编者水平有限，书中差错与缺点在所难免，请读者批评指正。

编 者

1980年7月

## Contents

### Preface

Lesson 1	The Soil .....	1
Lesson 2	Soil Conservation .....	9
Lesson 3	Irrigation .....	18
Lesson 4	Pore Space and Soil Water .....	28
Lesson 5	A Modern Dairy .....	37
Lesson 6	A Holiday in The Country .....	46
Lesson 7	Food Preservation .....	57
Lesson 8	Concrete Cows .....	67
Lesson 9	Soil Erosion .....	78
Lesson 10	Monster or Fish .....	88
Lesson 11	Farming .....	97
Lesson 12	Crop Rotation .....	106
Lesson 13	Farm Machinery .....	116
Lesson 14	Crop Husbandry .....	125
Lesson 15	Forage Crops and Root Crops .....	137
Lesson 16	Livestock Farming .....	150
Lesson 17	World Population .....	164
Lesson 18	Fishing Industry .....	177
Lesson 19	Fish and Human Life .....	190
Lesson 20	Forest and Timber .....	203
Lesson 21	Rice .....	213
Lesson 22	Wheat .....	227
Lesson 23	Cotton .....	238

Lesson 24 Legume Inoculation ..... 251

Lesson 25 Rape ..... 265

## Appendix

1. Phrases and Expressions ..... 278

2. Vocabulary ..... 282

3. Key to Exercises ..... 311

## Lesson 1 The Soil

All our food comes from the soil. Some of us eat meat, of course; but animals live on plants. If there were no plants, we should have no animals and no meat. So the soil is necessary for life.

The top of the ground is usually covered with grass or other plants. There may be dead leaves and dead plants on the grass. Plants grow in soil which has a dark colour. This dark soil is humus.

Humus contains materials taken from dead plants, and the waste matter from animals also falls on it. This gives it its colour. The soil under the humus is not dark. This lighter soil is rather like sand; it is made of bits of rock.

### New Words

soil [sɔɪl] *n.* 土壤

animal ['æniməl] *n.* 动物

plant [plɑ:nt] *n.* 植物

necessary ['nesisəri] *a.* 必需的, 必要的

top [tɒp] *n.* 上部, 顶部

ground [graʊnd] *n.* 地上, 地面

cover ['kʌvə] *vt.* 遮盖

grass [grɑ:s] *n.* 草; 草地; 禾本科植物

dead [ded] *a.* 已死的, 凋谢的

leaf [li:f] *n.* 叶, 复数 leaves

\*grow [grou] *vi., vt.* 生长, 增长

dark [dɑ:k] *a.* 黑暗的, 深色的  
 colour ['kʌlə] *n.* 颜色 (美国拼法 color)  
 humus ['hju:məs] *n.* 腐殖质, 腐殖土  
 contain [kən'tein] *vt.* 包含, 含有  
 material [mə'tiəriəl] *n.* 物质, 材料  
 waste [weist] *a.* 废弃的  
 matter ['mætə] *n.* 物体, 物质  
 \*fall [fɔ:l] *vi.* 落下, 降落  
 light [lait] *a.* 浅色的, 轻的  
 rather ['rɑ:ðə] *ad.* (与形容词联用时) 相当  
 sand [sænd] *n.* 沙  
 bit [bit] *n.* 小块, 小粒  
 rock [rɒk] *n.* 岩石, 大石块

### Phrases and Expressions

of course            当然  
 live on ...          以...为生  
 be covered with ...    长满, 生满  
 be made of ...        由...组成

### Notes

1. ... but animals live on plants.  
 live on 为惯用语, 意为: 以...为食, 以...为生。  
 如: Silkworms live on mulberry leaves.  
 蚕以桑叶为生。  
 Employees live on their salary.  
 雇员靠薪水过活。
2. If there were no plants, we should have no animals and no meat.



这是虚拟语气的主从复合句。主句与从句中的谓语都用过去时态，但无一般过去时态的意义，而只是表示虚拟语气。

如，If there were no soil and water, there would be no human life.

如果没有土和水，也就没有人类的生命。

3. So the soil is necessary for life.

句中的 So 用作连接词，表示与前一句所表达的内容有因果关系。

So 在本句中的用法及意义同 therefore; that is why.

如，All our food comes from the soil, so it is necessary for human life.

The dark soil is humus, so plants grow well in it.

4. There may be dead leaves and dead plants on the grass.

leaves 的单数形式是 leaf.

这种变化的名词不多，常见的有：

calf — calves 牛犊      half — halves 半

knife — knives 小刀      life — lives 生命

wife — wives 妻子

5. Plants grow in soil which has a dark colour.

这是带定语从句的主从复合句。

主句是 Plants grow in soil

定语从句是 which has a dark colour.

6. Humus contains materials taken from dead plants, ... on it.

1) taken 是 take 的过去分词。

taken + from dead plants 称为过去分词短语，用来修饰名词 materials.

这种放在被修饰名词后面的定语称为后位定语。

2) ... and the waste matter from animals ...

from animals 称为介词短语，用作定语，修饰名词 matter.

7. This gives it its colour.

1) This 是指上句陈述的内容。

it 是指上句中所说的 soil.

its 是物主代词, 在本句中相当于名词所有格 Soil's

2) give... colour 的意思是: 使...呈...色。

8. The soil under the humus is not dark.

这句中的 under the humus 是修饰名词 soil 的后位定语。

如果改换词序, 即 Under the humus the soil is not dark.

那么, under the humus 用作地点状语。句子的含义也有所改变。

9. This lighter soil is rather like sand;

1) 这句中 lighter soil 指颜色较浅的土壤, 因为有上文 dark soil 相对照。

在土壤分类中 light soil 指松砂土, 相对应的是 heavy soil 重粘土。

2) "rather" 与形容词联用时作“相当”解。

"rather like..." 译成“相当象...”比“very like...”的程度较轻。

## 参 考 译 文

### 土 壤

我们的一切食物都来自土壤。当然, 我们有人吃肉, 然而动物也是依靠植物为生的。如果没有植物, 我们就没有动物和肉食。所以土壤是生命非有不可的基础。

地表通常长满草类或其他植物。草地上可能有植物的枯枝败叶。植物生长在黝黑的土壤上。这种黝黑的土壤就是腐殖土。

腐殖土含有枯株败叶形成的物质, 并且动物的排泄物也掉落在腐殖土上。这样就使腐殖土显出它特有的颜色。腐殖土下面的土壤色不深。这种较浅色的土壤很象砂子; 它是由细微的岩石碎粒组成的。

## Exercises

### I. 写出下列名词的复数形式并注明词义:

rock	sand	soil	ground
top	matter	colour	material
grass	plant	animal	meat
food	leaf	life	bit

### II. 写出下列名词的意义及单数形式:

leaves	calves	lives
halves	shelves	knives

### III. 选择适当的介词填充:

in, on, for, from, with, of, under

- 1) Sand is made ... bits of rock.
- 2) The dead leaves fall ... the ground.
- 3) Plants grow well ... the dark soil.
- 4) There are many sheep ... the grass.
- 5) The man ... the big tree is a farmer.
- 6) All kinds of meat are taken ... animals.
- 7) Some wild animals live ... fresh meat.
- 8) All our food comes ... the soil.
- 9) The ground is covered ... snow.
- 10) Air, sunshine, and water are necessary ... life.

### IV. 划出下列句子中的介词短语:

如: The top of the ground is covered with plants.

- 1) Soils are formed by the weathering of rocks.  
岩石风化而形成土壤。
- 2) It is difficult to alter the mineral matter in a soil.

改变某种土壤中的矿物质是很困难的。

- 3) Organic matter in the soil may be increased by growing leys.

种牧草可以增加土壤的有机物质。

- 4) The amount of organic matter in a soil can vary very considerably from time to time.

土壤中有机物质的总量时常有很大的变化。

- 5) In most fertile soils the amount of organic matter is about 3-5% of the dry weight of the soil.

在最肥沃的土壤中，有机质的总量大约等于土壤干重的3—5%。

- 6) Increasing the humus content of a soil is the best way of increasing its water holding capacity.

增加土壤的腐殖质含量是提高土壤蓄水量的最好方法。

- 7) The chemical make-up of humus is not fully understood but its effects on the soil are well-known.

对腐殖质的化学组成尚未完全弄清，但它对土壤的作用是显而易见的。

- 8) There are very many different types of soils and subsoils.
- 有许多多种不同的土壤和心土。

- 9) The water in the soil comes from rainfall, or, in dry areas, from irrigation.

土壤中的水分来自降雨，在干旱地区，则来自灌溉。

- 10) The roots of trees sometimes grow into the spaces in rocks.
- 树根有时候长入岩石缝隙中。

V. 将下列句子译成汉语：

- 1) Loose (疏松的) top soil is sometimes called mould.

- 2) Dead plants and dead animals may decompose (分解) to give humus.

- 3) Plants, animals and micro-organisms (微生物) leave many organic substances in the soil.
- 4) A soil profile (剖面) is a section taken through the soil down to the parent rock.
- 5) Humus is finally broken down by an oxidation (氧化) process which is not fully understood.
- 6) A good farmer should understand what soils are and how they were formed.
- 7) The addition of more organic matter often does not alter the humus content (含量) appreciably.
- 8) Clay soils have a greater pore space (孔隙) than sandy soils, so the clay soil can hold more water.
- 9) Soils are very complex natural formations (形成物) which make up the surface of the earth.
- 10) Organic matter is broken down most rapidly in warm, moist soil which are well limed and well aerated (通气).

**VI. 将下列短文译成汉语:**

The main constituents of soils are mineral matter, organic matter, water and air.

The mineral matter or more solid phase consists of rock fragments, formed by physical and chemical weathering, in various stages of decomposition. Intimately mixed with this material is organic matter. The organic matter is an accumulation of vegetable and animal residues in an active state of decay. Much of organic matter in soils is present as a dark coloured amorphous substance called humus.

**注意:** 1) formed by physical and chemical weathering 是过去分词短语, 用作后位定语, 修饰名词 fragments.

2) in various stages of decomposition 是介词短语, 也

用作后位定语，修饰名词 fragments。

3) constituent —— 组成物

solid phase —— 固体状物质；固态相

fragment —— 碎片

intimately —— 亲密地，紧密地

amorphous —— 无定形的

## Lesson 2    Soil Conservation

All soil needs food. If we do not give it any, the plants will be weak. Animal waste is the best food for the soil; but chemical fertilizers are also very useful. The same crop ought not to be grown in the same place every year; it is better to have a different crop. A change of crop and the use of a good fertilizer will keep the land in good condition.

When the soil is dry, the wind blows it away. Some of the humus is lost; and if this continues, the land will soon look like a desert. The farmer ought to prevent this. He can grow trees near his fields. These will stop the force of the wind, and then it cannot blow the humus away.

Sometimes after heavy rain, the water carries the humus down to a river. This often happens if the field is on the side of a hill. The water rushes down the hill and the river carries the humus away to the sea. The farmer cannot make any more humus quickly, but he can prevent this if he makes his fields level.

### New Words

need [ni:d] *vt.* 需要

weak [wi:k] *a.* 衰弱的

chemical ['kemikəl] *a.* 化学的

fertilizer ['fə:tilaizə] *n.* 肥料

same [seim] *a.* 同样的

crop [krɒp] *n.* 作物  
ought [ɔ:t] *v.aux.* 应当  
different ['dɪfrənt] *a.* 不同的  
change [tʃeɪndʒ] *n., vt.* 改变, 更换  
keep [ki:p] *vt., vi.* 保持  
land [lənd] *n.* 土地, 陆地  
condition [kən'dɪʃən] *n.* 状况, 状态  
dry [draɪ] *a.* 干燥, 干旱  
wind [wɪnd] *n.* 风  
blow [bləʊ] *vi.; vt.* 吹, 刮风  
lose [lu:z] *vi.; vt.* 失去, 丧失  
continue [kən'tɪnju(:)] *vi.* 继续, 延长  
desert ['dezət] *n.* 沙漠  
prevent [prɪ'vent] *vt.* 预防  
near [niə] *ad., prep.* 靠近, 近  
force [fɔ:s] *n.* 力量  
sometimes ['sʌmtaɪmz] *ad.* 有时, 不时  
heavy ['hevi] *a.* 重的  
rain [reɪn] *n.* 雨  
carry ['kæri] *vt.* 带, 运  
river ['rɪvə] *n.* 河, 江  
happen ['hæpən] *vi.* 发生  
side [saɪd] *n.* 坡, 侧边  
hill [hɪl] *n.* 小山, 丘陵  
rush [rʌʃ] *vi. vt.* 冲刷; 急进  
level ['levl] *a.* 平的, 平坦

### Phrases and Expressions

look like... 看起来象...  
make fields level 平整土地



## Notes

1. If we do not give it any, the plants will be weak.

这是带条件状语从句的主从复合句。当主句中的谓语用现在时态或将来时态时，If 条件状语从句中的谓语要用现在时态。

如：If the soil is very dry, the germinating seed may be killed.

如果土壤非常干燥，正在发芽的种子可能干死。

If soils are adequately fertilized, the rice will grow well.

如果土地施足肥料，水稻将生长良好。

(请与 Lesson 1, 注 2 的条件状语从句作比较)

2. The same crop ought not to be grown in the same place every year.

这句的谓语是 ought not to be grown.

ought 是变化不完全的助动词，无词形变化。

3. ... it is better to have a different crop.

It is (was) + 形容词 + 动词不定式是一种常用句型，如：

It is difficult to increase the humus content in the soil.

It is hard to make the field level.

It 在这种句型中无具体词义，故称为形式主语。这种句型中的动词不定式称为实际主语。动词不定式用作主语时，则句子的结构改变如下：

To increase the humus content in the soil is difficult.

To make the field level is hard.

4. ... will keep the land in good condition.

此句中的 keep 是及物动词，land 为宾语，in good condition 为宾语补足语。

及物动词 + 宾语 + 宾语补足语结构的还有本课最末一句，... if he makes his fields level.

5. ... if this continues, the land will soon look like a desert.