

破解英语写作

孔 辉 编著

Successful Access to English Writing Within 15 Days

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前 言

英语,作为世界通行的语言之一,不仅是一把进入知识宫殿的 钥匙,同时也是一张通往大千世界的旅行证。中国的成功"人世" 与奥运申办,势必掀起一股英语学习的热潮。对于大学毕业生来 说,博取体面工作机会的多少与英语学习的好坏有着重要的联系。

通常所言,英语基本功包括听、说、读、写四个方面。如今,英语学习者更强调"听、说"在社会生活中的作用,而忽略了"读、写",尤其是"写"在语言学习中的地位。鉴别语言的能力是以语言的使用来判断的,书面表达能力是人们最终衡量英语水平的标准。教学实践表明:凡是英语学得较好的学生均有较高的写作能力。但实际上,对于母语为汉语的大学生来说,写作是最令人头痛的难题。困扰广大学生的主要诱因体现在以下几个方面。

第一,缺乏系统和规范的语言知识。很多学生有这样的学习误区,认为学习英语就是记忆单词,所以平时把大量的时间用在背诵英语词汇上。精通英语,必须掌握大量词汇,如同修盖高楼大厦需要充足的建筑材料。但如果一味地死记硬背,而不去领悟词的潜在之意、词的分量、词的精神以及词在不同语境(context)中产生的不同语意等,恐怕是徒劳的,甚至常常犯错误。比如,dormitory只能指单身宿舍,不指家属宿舍。掌握好英语写作,就要善于把握英汉两种语义的相互转化,要尽可能地用地道(idiomatic)的英语语言来写作,避免逐字对应(word-to-word correspondence)的汉译英写作。例如:我们常把"科学技术是第一生产力"翻译成"Science and technique are the first producing force.",实际上应译为"Science and technology are the primary force of productivity.";把"我们的当务之急是深化改革"译成"To deepen reform is the most urgent task.",而地道

的英语说法是"To deepen our commitment to reform is the top priority.";对于"这个故事发生在伦敦而不是华盛顿"这句话,学生通常会翻译成"The story happened or took place in London but not Washington.",而地道的语言表达是"The story was set in Landon but not Washington."。

第二,母语思维方式的影响与干扰。由于地域和文化的差异,导致了英语在不同的地方存在着明显的民族特色,譬如:中国人说的英语在英国人、美国人眼中就成了 Chinglish;新加坡人说的英语成了 Singlish;等等。只了解中国文化,而缺乏对外国文化的了解,是写不出美好的英语文章的。

第三,跨文化交流所导致的语言表达方式的差异。语言扎根于文化,从遣词造句、打招呼到交流,语言总带着鲜明的民族文化特征。文化不同,语言是不能够生搬硬套的,如 have butterflies in one's stomach 照字面译成"胃里有蝴蝶",叫人莫名其妙:是误食蝴蝶,还是心中有恋情?实际上意思是"胃部不适,恶心,头晕目眩"。

第四,思想和语言表达能力的有限性。写作是对生活的提炼和升华,但由于我们的教育体制长期以来所强调的重分数而忽视实际能力的偏颇,导致学生面对写作常常觉得没有可写的或无话可说。培根在其仅有505个单词的"读书论"(On Studies)—文中,把读书活动描绘得有声有色,使人感受到作者丰富的思想和敏捷的思维。用英文思维并流畅表达思想,是英语学习者最大的追求,但对于我们非英语国家的学生来说,可谓"高山仰止",但并非可望而不可及之事。坚持大量阅读就是实现这一目标的最有效途径之一。

本书由四部分(section)组成,涉及各种英语文体的写作,即叙述文、议论文、说明文以及应用文。该书遵循英语学习的规律,运用心理学的科学原理,根据各级英语考试的时间进度,每天一个主题(theme)。每个主题分别阐述了其所在文体的本质特点、写作原则、写作规律、写作技巧等,并以丰富详实的范文解析、万能模板、精彩句式等进行了详细的说明与考证,最后结合前面的概括与归

纳,配备了不同风格的写作实践训练,内容包括草拟初稿、润色成文、经典句式、万能模板、核心提示、参考译文等环节,各个环节相辅相承,环环相扣。

读者通过比较性的阅读与鉴赏,通过自己的模仿与实际操练, 辛勤耕耘 15 天,一定能走出写作的困境,逐步写出词语使用精美、 语法表达正确、句式丰富多变、篇章结构完美统一的英语文章。

能与广大英语爱好者共飨学习之美丽,同担学习之艰辛,我感到莫大的荣幸与自豪!本书若有不妥之处,诚挚欢迎斧正。

谨将此书奉献给奔走在自学英语、大学英语、研究生、托福与 雅思等学习道路上的莘莘学子!祝福你们学习快乐、快乐学习!

编著者

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Section One Narrative Style 叙述文体

第1天

知己知彼, 百战不殆

----叙述文体简介

随着大学英语四、六级考试的改革与发展,叙述文体越来越为人们所重视,它打破了传统的以议论文体写作一统天下的局面,真正实现了以人为本的写作理念,体现了写作考试日益人文化、生活化、实际化的终极关怀精神。其实,客观地说,一个连叙述文都写不好的人,是很难写好其他文体的。叙述文写作是写作的第一步,让我们从叙述文开始,揭开英语写作的庐山真面目,全面接触英语写作的基础常识,深刻理解英语写作的内在本质,把握英语写作的规律,真正做到"知己知彼,百战不殆",实现英语考试的胜利突破!

阅读下面两篇文章,然后回答下列问题。

- ① 这两篇文章属于那种文体?
- ② 对这两篇文章进行对比,指出较好的一篇。
- ③ 较好的一篇好在何处?如果要你打分,可以得到多少分数?

Article One

An Early Morning Walk

On a Monday morning, I overjoyed with the morning silence and the red sun was rising in east. When the rest of my roommates were in their dream, I and Guo Xiao, were called the early birds, got up and decided to do morning exercise. It was very quiet outside the dormitory. Working in the noisy daytime and having a good 'sleep overnight.

So I walked directly towards the park felt that there would be few people there. The streets were almost deserted except for a few pedestrians. When I arrived at my purpose, but I found, with my surprise, there are so many people. Some are running. Some were doing morning exercise. Some are playing the badminton. The weather was very enjoyed and the surroundings were warmful and cheerful. Fortunately, I happened to meet with one of my old intimate friends. He was very happy to tell me that his recent experiences and introduced some new friends to me. We chatted about a lot we are interested in, playing the badminton, and danced several social dancing together. We had a good ball in the morning.

On the way back to school, I thought a lot of. Taking early walks are good to our health. Beside, it helps us to know more about the world and open our eyes because only by doing so we can keep up health mentally and physically. If we are ready to take an early morning walk, the world will certainly be energetic and young, and our nation will be stronger and younger.

Article Two

An Early Morning Walk

It was a Monday morning and the red sun was rising in the east. When the rest of my roommates were in their dream, Guo Xiao and I, who have a preference for walking in the morning, got up and decided to do morning exercise. It was very quiet outside the dormitory. Working in the noisy daytime and having a sound sleep

overnight, I overjoyed with the morning silence.

So I walked directly towards the park, assuming that there must be few people there. The streets were almost deserved except a few pedestrians. However, when I arrived at my destination, I found, to my surprise, there were so many people. Some were running. Some were doing morning exercises. Some were playing the badminton. The weather was very enjoyable and the atmosphere was warm and cheerful and soothing. Fortunately, I happened to meet with one of my old intimate friends. He was very happy to tell me that his recent experiences and introduced some new friends to me. We chatted about a lot we are interested in, playing the badminton, and dancing several social dances together. We had a good time in the morning.

On the way back to school, I thought a lot. Taking early walks is good to our health. Moreover, it helps us to know more about the world and widen our field of vision because only by doing so can we keep health mentally and physically. An old saying suddenly crept into my mind: "Early to bed and early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise." If we are ready to take an early morning walk, the world will certainly be energetic and young, and our nation will be stronger and younger.

【回答问题】

- ① 阅读完上面两篇文章,从文体上分析,我们可以判断他们属于叙述文。
- ② 通过将这两篇文章进行对比,我们认为第二篇文章写的比第一篇要好得多。
- ③ 通读完第一篇文章,我们感觉到作者思维混乱、思路不清,行文结构也不连贯,语言错误相当多,其中有一些是严重错误。譬如,作者在表达"I overjoyed with the morning silence"的意思时,与前面的"and the red sun was rising in east"就不衔接。语言表达"I and Guo Xiao"和"Working in the noisy daytime and having

a good sleep overnight"不符合英语语法规范。

通读完第二篇文章,我们深深地感悟到这篇文章思想表达清楚,文字通顺,连贯性较好。作者通过娴熟的遣词,地道的造句,把自己的多感心情、亲切体验与细微观察,惟妙惟肖地表达了出来。比如,preference(偏爱)、deserted(人烟稀少的、荒凉的)、widen(开阔、拓展)、crept into my mind(映入脑海)就显得优雅别致,它们的妙用,使文章灵光闪现。

如果按照四级考试作文评阅标准(见下表)来划分,第一篇文章为6分,第二篇文章为13分。

分数	标 准
0	白卷: 作文与题目毫不相关: 或只有几个孤立的词而无法表达思想
2	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	基本切题;表达思想不清楚,连贯性差;有较多的严重语言错误
8	基本切题;有些地方表达思想不够清楚,文字勉强连贯;语言错误相当多, 其中有一些是严重错误
11	切题;表达思想清楚,文字连贯;但有少量语言错误
14	切题:表达思想清楚,文字通顺,连贯性较好;基本上无语言错误,仅有个别小错

大学英语四级考试作文评阅标准

第2天

全面接触,深入认识

——叙述文体的性质特点

一、什么是叙述文

叙述文,顾名思义,就是记人叙事的文章体裁,即通过作者的笔触,将现实生活中充满情趣或美感的人物、事件、环境和景物,传达给别人,让别人也感受和体验到那种生动的形象、高尚的精神和怡人的乐趣。叙述文主要采用叙述、描写和抒情等方法。

叙述文包括四个最基本的要素,即人物、事件、时间、地点,以及 与此相关的原因、经过、结果、背景等。其中又自然地要求穿插与 人和事有关的动作、言语(对话)、心理活动和景物等的叙述与描绘。

按内容来分,叙述文主要包括描写人物、叙述事件、描写环境与景物三大类。

请阅读下面这篇以写景为主的短文。

A Journey to Beijing

It was a Monday morning on January 20, 2003 when the final examinations came to an end, my mother suddenly decided to take me to Beijing for a trip, who ever worked there for two years. I was far more pleased than I expected.

We went there by train and stayed in my uncle's home. Those days we went to the Ruins of Yuan Ming Yuan, the Temple of Heaven, the Zoo of Beijing, the Summer Palace, the Forbidden City and the Memorial Hall of Chairman Mao. I also witnessed the national flag was raised in Tian'an Men Square.

Beijing is not only a city with a long history but also a very modernized one. She is our political and cultural centre. She has many places of historic interests. We can see high buildings everywhere. Every year lots of Chinese and foreign friends come to visit it.

Beijing's traffic is very convenient. There're a lot of buses, taxis, minibus, trolleybuses and subways.

Beijing is very clean. When I saw a rubbish-bag in my uncle's house, I didn't know what it was for at first. So my uncle told me that each family in Beijing has such bags. They have been used since last year. People put rubbish in them and take them downstairs to a certain place when they are full. Then the street cleaners take them away.

Now, various constructional projects are under construction for 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. I think when the projects are finished, Beijing will be more beautiful!

On my way back to my hometown, I thought a lot. The winter holiday was worthy and interested. Moreover, I was given a patriotic and historical education. If we are always ready to build our cities like Beijing, our country will be much more beautiful than ever.

【范文解析】

文章作者充分地分析了写作提示,很好地把握好了写作的思路,以叙述文体为立足点,独具匠心地采用多段式的写作手法,大大突破了传统的三段式写作,将自己的北京之行交待得清晰明了,描述得错落有致,时间、地点等记叙要素也在文章的开篇就展现给了读者,叙事富有感情,观察细致入微,结尾段议论极大地深化了主题。文章用词准确、贴切,句式多变,比如: modernized(现代化的),convenient(方便的),minibus(面的),came to an end(结束),historic interests(历史名胜),...more pleased than ...expected(比期望的要高兴),以及...not only...but also...(不但……而且),等等。同时,作者对名胜古迹的描述正确,如 the Ruins of Yuan Ming Yuan(圆明园遗址),the Temple of Heaven(天坛),the Summer Palace(颐和园),the Forbidden City(故宫)以及 the Memorial Hall of Chairman Mao(毛主席纪念堂)等,显示了作者良好的文化素养。

二、叙述文的基本写作规则和技巧

很多同学有这样一个认识误区,即我的汉语叙述文写得不错,英语叙述文也一定写得很好。其实,汉语叙述文的写作与英语叙述文的写作完全是两码事。与说明文、议论文等其他文体相比,英语叙述文有其特殊的写作方法与技巧。掌握了这些写作方法和技巧,往往能获得事半功倍的效果。

1. 正确把握语言特征

英语叙述文是用一种与汉语完全不同的语言写成的,它有自己的语言特点。那么,英语叙述文有哪些语言特点呢?先让我们来读下面这篇短文。

It was a Monday morning. A graduate student went to see his teacher, who had just sought an important job and now was coming to wave farewell to him. The teacher asked him how he would behave among the high officials. The graduate said: "I will be all right. I have prepared a hundred high hats, one for each official I meet. I am sure I will succeed." The teacher became angry at the words. "What!" he shouted. "Is this what I have been teaching you for the past ten years? Nothing but a mean flatterer! " "Forgive me, my honored master!" The student rose to his feet and apologized hurriedly. "But you have always been interested in your studies only and do not know how vulgar the world has come to be. Very few men in the world are behaving honestly as you do." "There is something in what you said," the teacher sighed, nodding his head. So they parted on the best of terms, with the graduate's total number of "high hats" being one less.

在这篇 175 个词的短文中,出现了 9 种不同的动词时态,几乎包括了英语中所有的重要时态形式。在这些时态中,又以一般过去时为主。这种复杂的时态特征在汉语叙述文中是根本没有的。但正是这些时态的变化,才使这段文章所叙述的动作有了层次感和立体感。因此,以一般过去时为主,多种时态为辅,合理使用丰富多彩的谓语动词时态是英语叙述文的首要的语言特征。

在写作实践中,我们不难发现:许多同学在写英语叙述文时,时态概念淡薄。有的在文章中用一种时态到底,没有任何变化;有的不顾上下文,随心所欲地使用不同的动词时态。写出的文章没有了动作的先后性、层次感。究其原因,就是在写叙述文时,没有在英语动词时态这一最为重要的语言特点上下功夫。我们必须明白:汉语的动词是没有时态的,但对于英语叙述文来说,动词时态错了,即便你的文字再漂亮,你所记叙的内容也就成了一个没有时间概念的"混乱世界"。

现在,让我们再回过头来看那段短文:在 175 个英语单词中,动词及其变化形式占了 47 个。由于这些动词的存在,整篇短文有

了"动感",而这种让往事再现的"动感"正是优秀叙述文所要追求的。英语动词具有时态、语态、谓语动词和非谓语动词等表现形式,所以就更能醒目地体现出这种动感。

因此,多用动词,特别是动态强的行为动词是英语叙述文的 又一个明显的语言特征。下面这篇曾刊于《上海学生英文报》的 文章就较好地表现出了这一特点。

To Be Honest

It was a Monday morning. When my Grandpa went out, my playmate Mary and I, who was eight years old, naughty and eager to know how the things around us worked, found a little clock in my Grandpa's room.

It had a red hand which kept running and running. I wondered who was there turning the clock. So I took the clock apart. And then I looked carefully and seriously into it with great interest. At last I was delighted that I knew how it worked. But I didn't know how to put the parts together correctly. I tried my best but still a few parts were left. I didn't know where to fit them. So I hid them.

When Grandpa came back, he found the clock didn't work any more. He asked me who had touched it. I said I hadn't, but my heart was beating rapidly because I was lying. Grandpa began to repair the clock. Of course he couldn't make it work again without those missing parts. He was very angry when he realized that someone had once taken it apart. I became quite afraid and took out the parts to him, my face turning red. Then I heard his voice, "Good! That's right. But you should not have told the lie. Remember: if you want to be a true man you must be honest first."

On recalling this up to now, I always think a lot. Grandpa's words are correct. Nothing really counts to us in the world but honesty. Moreover, since then I never tell a lie, because only doing so can I hope to be a true man. If we are always ready to be honest, the

world will certainly be full of more smiles and laughter than ever.

文章用简洁的语言描述了作者孩提时的一件令人难以忘怀 的往事。文章最大的特点在于动词占有全文的近四分之一,因而 文章显得生动活泼,很有动感。

其次,巧用直接引语,精选对话。除了讲究时态、多用动词之外,英语叙述文的另一个语言特点是使用直接引语。直接引语代替了间接的主观叙述,客观、真实地再现了人们的心理活动与精神状态,生动地表达了语言的色彩。请读下面这篇短文,体会直接引语在英语叙述文中的奥妙。

It must have been about two in the morning when I returned home. I tried to wake up my wife by ringing the door-bell, but she was fast asleep, so I got a ladder from the shed in the garden, put it against the wall, and began climbing towards the bedroom window.

"I don't think the windows need cleaning at this time of the night." a sarcastic voice below said when I was almost there.

I looked down and nearly fell off the ladder when I saw a policeman. I immediately regretted answering in the way I did, but I said:

"I enjoy cleaning windows at night."

"So do I", answered the policeman in the same tone. "Excuse my interrupting you. I hate to interrupt a man when he's busy working, but would you mind coming with me to the station?"

"Well, I'd prefer to stay here," I said. "You see, I've forgotten my key."

"Your what?" he called.

"My key," I shouted.

Fortunately, the shouting woke up my wife who opened the window just as the policeman had started to climb towards me.

想象一下,假如上面这篇短文没有了那些直接引语,而代之以间接叙述,那么,文章的生动幽默便会荡然无存。

因此,要写好英语叙述文,就语言运用而言,应该在上述三