天津广播电视大学科技英语翻译专业

基础英语

天津人民出版社

天津广播电视大学科技英语翻译专业教材

基础英语

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刘壮翀 刘煜宗 刘文昌 编著

天津人民出版社

天津广播电视大学科技英语翻译专业 基础 英语

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天津人民出版社出版 天津市新华书店发行 天津新华印刷二厂印刷

开本787×1092毫米 1/32 印张 10 一九八三年九月第一版

一九八三年九月第一次印刷

书号: 7072 1286

定价: 1.05元

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Lesson One

Man and His Environment

Animals make use of their environment. They need food, oxygen, water, and shelter. They feed on plants, or on other animals. And they return materials to the environment.

Living things take from their environment and give back to their environment. In other words, living things and their environment are interdependent. Living things take matter and energy from the environment. They return matter and energy to the environment.

Man also is interdependent with his environment. He takes matter and energy from the environment. He returns matter and energy to the environment. In this he is like other living things.

However, there is one way in which man is different. Other living things do not change their environment the way man does. Man is not only adapted to the environment. He changes his environment in complex ways. This is part of man's kind of interdependence.

Man is different in another way from other living things. Man can live in different environments. For instance, man can live under water, but not as a fish does. He is not fitted for that. He invents an underwater breathing system to meet his special needs.

Man cannot live in cold, airless space. But he invents a spacecraft to keep him alive in this environment which is death to living things.

How is it that man can change his environment, as no other living thing can? It is because of his brain. With his brain, man learns.

Man's brain makes it possible for him to record what he learns. He puts his records in words, in pictures, in sounds. In this way man can pass on what he learns to other men. They can build on this learning. You see now why we want to know everything we can about how man learns.

Words and Expressions

- environment
 [in'vaiərənmənt] n.
 周围; 环境
- 2. shelter ['ʃeltə] n. 隐蔽处: 遮蔽
- 3. feed [fi:d] v. 以…为食物;以…为能源
- 4. return [ri'tə.n] v. 返回; 恢复
- 5. back [bæk] ad. 回
- 6. interdependent [,intedi'pendent] a.

- 互相依存的
- 7. like [laik] v. 喜欢 prep. 象; 跟…一样
- 8. complex ['kompleks]
 a. 复杂的,综合的
- 9. fish [fi] n. 鱼
- 10. underwater ['ʌndə'wo:tə] a. 在水下的
- 11. special ['spe∫əl] a. 特殊的; 专门的
- 12. cold [kəuld] a. 冷的

- 13. airless ['səlis] a. 缺少 [18. brain [brein] n. 脑 空气的;没有空气的
- 14. space [speis] n. 空间;太空
- 15. spacecraft ['speis'kra:ft] n. 宇宙飞船
- 16. alive [ə'laiv] a. 活着的
- 17. death [deθ] n. 死

- 19. record ['reko:d] n.
- [ri'ko:d] v. 记录 20. pass [pa:s] v.

穿过:交流 make use of 利用 in other words 换言之:换句话说 for instance 例如

Notes

1. Other living things do not change their environment the way man does.

旬中 the way 是修饰谓语 do not change 的状语; man does 是修饰 way 的定语从句; does 是代替 change 的代动词,在这里表示 changes their environment(改变 环境)的意思。

整个句子如照字面翻译, 就是"其它生物不以人类改变 环境的方式改变他们的环境",如译得较灵活些,可译作"其 它生物改变环境的方式与人类改变环境的方式不同"。

- 2. ..., but not as a fish does. 句中的 does 是代动词,代 替前面 live under water (生活在水里)。
- 3. Man's brain makes it possible for him to record what he learns.

句中的 it 是形式宾语, 代替后面的动词 不定式短语 for him to record what he learn. 介词短语 for him 是不定式 to record 的逻辑主语; what he learns 是

record 的宾语从句。

整个句子可译作"人类的大脑使他们能够记录下他们学到的东西"。

4. You see now why we want to know everything we can about how man learns.

这是一个比较复杂的句子,分解如下:

- 1) You see now 一主句
- 2) Why we want to know everything 谓语 see 的宾语从句
- 3) We can = We can know 修饰 everything 的定语从句
- 4) about how man learns. 介词短语 修饰 everything。介词后边构成短语的是由 how 引出 的从句。

整个句子可译作"现在你看到为什么我们想要知道我们能够知道的有关人类如何学习的每一细节了"。

语 法

代替和省略

代替和省略是科技文献中避免重复而经常采用的写作手段。例如用一个代词来代替前面已经出现过的名词,就属这种用法。从总的方面说,英语和汉语都是如此,但在具体作法上,两种语言却不尽相同。以省略来说,有时英语出现省略的地方,汉语却不能省;而汉语不必说出来的词语,在英语中却又不可少。弄清这一点,对我们理解原文是很重要的。

现在从已学过的课文中摘取一些句子来说明代替和省略的情况,更多的内容将在以后补充。

一、代替

- 1. 用代词 it, one, that, this 代替前一句或本句前半部已出现的名词(如该名词是复数形式,则以they(them), ones, those, these 代替).
 - 例 1-1 The world we live on is a big round ball. *It* is turning all the time. (第一册第二课) It 代替名词 ball
 - 例 1-2 The sun shines on the earth, the rain falls on it, the wind blows over it. it 代替名词 earth.
 - 例 1-3 There are other worlds, too, but the one we live on is called the earth. (第一册第二课) one 代替名词 world
 - 例 1-4 The floors of the ocean contain many riches. They can be used by men. (第一册第九课) They 代替名词 riches.
 - 例 1-5 The potential energy of a body is that due to its height or position. (第一册第二十一课) that 代替名词 energy
- 2. 用代动词 do (does, did) 代替前面已出现的动词。
 - 例 1-6 Other living things do not change their environment the way man does. does 代替 change
 - 例 1-7 For instance, man can live under water, but not as a fish does. does 代替 live

- 二、省略 在一个英语句子中,同一个词在第二次出现时,可以 省去,这种情况常常发生于相同的谓语中,如谓语带 有助动词(be, do, have, will)或情态动词(can, may, must)时,只留下助动词或情态动词。
 - 例 1-8 Counters differing only in position were replaced by symbols differing only in position, so that in the written number 222, for instance, the first 2 represents 200, the second 20,... (第一册第十九课)在 second 之后省略了 represents.
 - 例 1-9 The second, of course, was the abacus, and the first, man's own fingers. (第一册第十九课)在 first 之后省略了 was.
 - 例 1-10 How is it that man can change his environment, as no other living thing can?在 can 之后省略了 change.
 - 例 1-11 You see now why we want to know everything we can about how man learns. 在 can 之后省略了 know.

词 汇

1. way n. 1. 路, 道路; 2. 方法; 方式; 3. 方面

way 是一个常用的词,词义很多,在我们已学过的课文中,way 的词义多是"方式"和"方面",常与介词 in 连用,构成介词短语,在句中作状语;有时也不与 in 连用,前面只有冠词 the。

way 之前可以有形容词和指示代词 (that, this); 在它之后可以有定语从句。引导定语从句的关系代词可以写出, 也可以省去。

例 1-12 In this way man can pass on what he learns to other men.

人类能够以这样方式把学到的东西传给其他的人。 (way 的词义是"方式",与介词 in 连用)

例 1-13 He change his environment in complex ways.

他以复杂的方式方法改变环境。(way 的词义是"方式",与介词连用)

例 1-14 Other living things do not change their environment the way man does.

其它生物改变环境的方式与人类改变环境的方式不同。(way 的词义是"方式",没有介词,但其后有从句,关系代词被省略)

例 1-15 It responds to forces and motions in the same way the real thing responds. (第一册第十五课)

它(模型)对力与运动反应的方式与实物反应的方式相同。(way 的词义是"方式",前有介词 in,后有定语从句,关系代词被省略)

例 1-16 There is one way in which man is different.

有一个方面人类是不同的。(way 的词义是"方面") 例 1-17 Man is different in another way from other living things. 人类在另一方面与其它生物不同。(way 的词义是 "方面", 前面有介词 in).

- 2. in prep. 1. 「表示空间]在…里;
 - 2. [表示时间]在…期间;
 - 3. [表示范围、领域、方面]在…之内;在…方面
 - 4. [表示地位、形式、方式等]以、按照;
 - 5. [表示数量、程度、比例]按

in 是使用很广的介词,表示的意义很多。在我们已学过的课文中, in 所表示的词义是上列几种。例句如下:

例 1-18 We do not usually notice the changes in the earth. (第一册第三课)

我们通常不注意地球内的变化。

例 1-19 The amount of oil in the world is not known. (第一册第四课)

世界上石油的总量还不知道。(注意 in the world 译作'世界上的')

例 1-20 From the moment you get up in the morning you are changing things. (第一册第七课)

从早晨你起床那一刻起,你就在改变事物了。

例 1-21 Electric cars are now on the road, and there probably will he more of them in the future. (第一册第十课)

电动汽车现在已在路上行驶,将来可能会更多。

例 1-22 Models are used in science to explain things. (第一册第十五课)

模型在科学上用来说明事物。

例 1-23 In our everyday life we see many

moving things. (第一册第十二课)

在我们目常生活中我们看到许多运动的东西。

例 1-24 He puts his records in words, in pictures, in sounds.

他用语言,图画,声音作记录。

例 1-25 The doors and windows of the actual building will be in the same scale. (第一册第十六课)

实际建筑物的门窗将是按同一比例。

构词常识

英语单词数量极大,而且还在不断出现新的单词。要能顺畅地阅读英语资料,非掌握一定量的词汇不可,而要记住大量词汇是有一定困难的。如果我们具有一些构词知识,则对我们记忆单词,理解词义会有不少帮助。从本课起,我们将陆续介绍一些构词常识。

英语单词中,有的只有两三个字母,有的有一二十个字母,较长的单词可以分解成若干部分。这些部分叫做词素。一般说来,大致可分为三大部分,前缀、词干、后缀。每一个单词不一定都具有这三部分,但最少得有词干。例如:

man 词干 a-round 前缀 词干 magnet-ism 词干 后缀