

MODERN ENGLISH

for University Students

现代英语

(第2版)

Reading and Writing

读与写

Student's Book

Level 2

Modern English Revising Team



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现代 英语 读与写

(第2版) 第2级 《现代英语》修订组

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再版前言

《现代英语》(Modern English)系国家教委批准,由中国高等教育出版社与英国麦克米伦出版公司合作编写出版的英语教材,主要供我国高等院校非英语专业的各科学生学习英语使用。这是我国首次与国外合作编写出版大学教材,是英语国家的语言优势与国内大学英语教学经验的结合。这一中外文化交流项目,为国内外语言界、教学界和新闻界所瞩目。

《现代英语》的编写,以现行的《大学英语教学大纲》为指导原则,从国内大学英语教学情况出发,解放思想,在肯定和继承国内大学英语教学的行之有效的经验同时,积极借鉴和引进国外语言学和语言教学的新思想、新理论和新方法。这主要表现在三个方面:

第一、阅读教学从 TALO 向 TAVI 转变

国外语言界提出了阅读教学中的两个重要概念,即文章做为语言实体(Text as Linguistic Object,简称 TALO)与文章做为传递信息的载体(Text as Vehicle of Information,简称 TAVI)。前者表示,阅读材料是用以教授语言知识(语音、词汇、语法等)的形式,后者则表示,阅读材料是传递信息的媒介。因此,在教学实践中,如何处理这两者的关系,便直接影响着教学方法、教学目的和教学效果。在相当长的一个时期内,由于多方面的局限,国内的阅读教学在很大程度上停留在TALO的水平上,体现为以词汇、语法为主线,教师为中心,过分强调了语言知识的传授,却往往忽略了阅读文章所表达的信息。我国英语教学中,甚至在学生毕业后的工作实践中,阅读速度慢、阅读能力较弱这一普遍现象,是与上述的传统教学思想和方法有不可分隔的关系的。须知,人类当前所处的时代是"信息爆炸"的高科技时代,正是在这种情势下,产生了阅读教学从 TALO 向 TAVI转变的观念。这就要求在教学中,不仅要重视语言形式,而且要十分重视通过语言形式所表达出的信息,进而培养学生通过阅读课文获取信息和表达信息的能力。《现代英语》的编写,正是基于英语阅读教学的这一变革,在选材上,打破了以语法为纲的框框,选用多题材、多体裁的真实的(authentic)语言材料,使课文内容知识性强,信息量丰富,从而为学生接触真实的语言材料,获取信息创造良好的条件。

第二, 语言操练从 Usage 向 Use 转变

英国语言学家 H.G. Widdowson 区别了 Usage 和 Use 两个不同的概念,指出 Usage 是语言形式的一个成分,即"用法",而 Use 则是语言交际体系中的一个成分,即"使用"。任何一种语言形式都具有这两种属性,也就是说,用作解释某一语言现象的例证和其自身在交际场合中的使用。语言教学应从 Usage 向Use 转变。这一理论反映在教材中,突出的一点就是练习的设计。迄今国内的传统英语教材中,在练习设计上,所注重的更多的是语法。因之,对语言形式进行的操练,往往是孤立的,或缺乏语境的,多停留在 Usage 的水平上,不是对课文句子的简单模仿,便是机械性的套用,因而显得呆板单调,难以达到巩固、掌握和使用的目的。《现代英语》的编写,发挥中外专家、教师的各自优势,充分合作,在练习设计上既着眼于语言形式,又注重语言形式的具体运用,精心设计和安排了形式活泼的练习。例如课前阅读(Before Reading),在国内现行大学英语教材中,则是首次使用。即使是对一些传统语法项目的练习设计,也力求激发学生的兴趣和动力。使用过《现代英语》的师生几乎都有一个深刻感觉,认为这套教材的练习独具风格,不再是课文的陪衬,在某种程度上可以说是课文内涵的延伸,课文与练习两者自然而紧密地融为一体,相辅相成。

第三,运用语言交际的原则,培养学生的交际的能力

语言是交际的工具,语言教学的最终目的是培养学生能以书面的或口头的方式进行交际的能

力。现行的文理科和理工科两个《大纲》都明确地将这一原则定为教学宗旨。《现代英语》编写的指导思想植根于现代语言学对语言交际理论的研究,注重发展语言技能,大力培养学生的交际能力,即运用语言技能,获取和表达信息。同时,《现代英语》努力体现《大纲》的原则、规定和要求。在交际能力的培养方面,根据国内大学英语教学的现状,把培养学生具有"较强的阅读能力"做为首要目标,同时培养"一定的听和译的能力和初步的写和说的能力"。

《现代英语》为推广先进的教学理论和方法,推动我国大学英语教学的改革、提高教学质量,为促进国内大学英语教材的建设都起到了积极的作用,并以其独特的内容和风貌受到了国内师生的喜爱。

然而,由于《现代英语》是中外首次合作编写出版的教材,难免会存在这样那样的问题,加之第一版主要采取"他编我审"的方式,因此具有较大的局限性。通过四年多的课堂实践,暴露出某些不足之处,主要是有些内容偏专偏难,超出了国内学生当前的接受能力,这突出地反映在《泛读》和《听与说》教材中,有的文章趣味性较欠缺,有的生词量过大;课序安排也不尽如人意,等等,加之配套辅助材料的编写和出版未能跟上等诸多因素,造成使用上的困难。但是,广大师生和读者对《现代英语》给予了客观的和应有的评价,认为尽管存在着若干缺陷,它仍不失为一套学习现代英语的较好教材,因而迫切希望能尽快修订,弥补存在的不足之处,使之为我国大学英语教学更好地发挥作用。

经过多方努力和两年多的准备,《现代英语》1-4级的修订工作已顺利完成。现在、第2版终于和大家见面了。这次修订总结了第1版的经验和教训,采纳了广大师生的意见,顾及中外文化的客观差异,完全立足于国内,着眼于国内大学英语教学的实际需要,由中外英语专家和教师共同参与。修订的宗旨是:注重能力的培养,体现语言共核,增强趣味性,加大信息量,力图使《现代英语》成为一套大学文、理、工各科均为适用的通用教材。具体各书的修订情况是:

《读与写》(Reading and Writing) 首先,对选材和课序分别进行了充实和调整,增加人文社科方面的一般性文章,较之第1版有了大幅度的变化。以第1、2级为例,第1级只保留了第1版的第2、3.和4等3课,对第1版的第5、7和11等3课重新换了课文和练习,另外新选编了《交通灯的来历》《手势语》《埃米琳·潘克赫斯特(人物传记)》《美国人》和《教育新方法》等5课,同时选入第1版第2级的《从牛到纸币》一课。第2级也仅保留了第1版的5课,即第1、2(改名为《母亲和孩子》)、3、4(改名为《土地和人口》)和12等课,对第1版的第7课更换了课文和练习、新选编了《世界上最富有的人》《英国民族》《记忆力:为什么我们记得...为什么我们忘记》《地震与火山》(全新课文和练习)等4课,同时分别将第1版第3级《一个孩子眼中的世界》和第4级《空气船》两课选入。对于所保留下来的课文,在篇幅或内容上都进行了程度不同的增删和修改。如此调整和修改,不仅增强了文章的可读性和可接受性,而且使课与课之间、级与级之间的梯度更加科学合理,符合由浅入深,循序渐进的习惯。其次,用计算机对生词出现率和词汇量加以严格的控制,解决了生词量过大和超纲词汇较多的问题。这一点在《泛读》和《听与说》教材中尤为明显。最后,在练习设计上,本着继承第1版的成功之处和创新的原则,对每一项练习都审慎地予以考虑、改写,直至重新设计,加强了词汇(如动词短语、搭配等)和写作方面的练习,使写作练习成为有指导的写作,严格从句子水平开始,逐步过渡到段落水平上。

《泛读》(Extensive Reading) 每单元的内容主题基本上同《读与写》的相应课配合,以使词汇有一定的复现率。每单元分为三篇难易度不同的文章,力求体现区分度,每篇均配以适量的练习,其中第三篇可供练习快速阅读之用。为了使用方便,第2版的《泛读》将A、B两册合为一册。

《听与说》(Listening and Speaking) 每单元的内容原则上也配合《读与写》,听力材料的生词出现率控制在最低限度,练习形式较之第1级更加生动活泼,注意安排了信息转换性质的练习。录音语速严格按照《大纲》的规定,由英美人士朗读,为学生熟悉不同的英美发音创造条件。

需要说明的是,根据广大师生的要求,在以上各教材中的练习设计上,适当注意与大学英语考试 (College English Test)挂钩。

《教参》(Teacher's Guide) 除提供练习答案之外,还编写了《读与写》每单元课文的简介(Introduction),并尽可能提供背景资料、语音和语言难点、语篇分析、教学建议和教学方法等多项内容,以有助于教师备课。

考虑到国内大学英语教学的实际需要,而《现代英语》基本教材一时又尚难予以满足这一情况、高等教育出版社将另行组织国内力量编写和出版相应的配套辅助教材,其中包括《教师教学参考手册》和《学生练习册》等,这样做无疑将为使用《现代英语》提供更大的方便。

尽管这次修订尽了很大努力,但由于时间仓促,仍难做到尽如人意。我们将不断进取,不断提高,有所创造,有所前进。

《现代英语》这一中外文化合作项目,得到了英国已故首相 Harold Macmillan 勋爵和中国国内有关部门各级领导的极大关怀。这里,要特别提到英国麦克米伦出版公司 Adrian Soar 先生,Terrance Creed 先生,Yiu Hei Kan 先生,Kate Garratte 女士;中国高等教育出版社社长祖振铨先生和总编辑杨陵康先生。由于他们的热情关心、大力支持和悉心指导,保证了本书编写和修订工作的顺利进行。

我们感谢所有为《现代英语》的出版而付出辛勤劳动的各方面的人们。

《现代英语》在编写和修订过程中,得到了许多院校、师生及其他方面人士的关心、支持和帮助。我们特别感谢北京外国语学院、东南大学、重庆大学、西安交通大学、湖北工学院、陕西机械学院、天津轻工业学院、哈尔滨建筑工程学院、南京邮电学院、中国药科大学和郑州粮食学院等院校的大力支持,并要感谢杨惠中、周献桃、赵明瑜、王保清、徐承钟、唐启金、谢叔寒和王志纯等专家和教授的通力合作。我们尤其要感谢全国大学外语教材编审委员会理工科英语教材编审组副组长韩其顺教授的热心指导。正是这些单位和个人给予《现代英语》的积极支持,无论是批评还是建议,促成了这次修订。如果说《现代英语》第2版能得以问世并有所改进的话,那么必然是与所有关心、爱护、支持这套教材的院校、单位和人士分不开的。值此新版问世之际,我们谨向他们表示衷心的感谢,并热诚希望广大读者继续对《现代英语》提出宝贵意见。

先后参加审稿会的还有:包家珍、孙桂香、李五全、周建平、柳明淮、贾丽、谭荣璋等、在此一 并鸣谢。

参加本书修订工作的,英方有: Nicholas Sampson, John Owen, Deborah Veness; Patrick Goldsmith, Donald Watson; 中方有: 罗信群,曹根望,邹长征,李霄翔。

《现代英语》修订组

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CONTENTS

UNIT 1	THE RICHEST MAN IN THE WORLD	1
UNIT 2	OIL	12
UNIT 3	MAKING OPERATIONS SAFE	21
UNIT 4	BUILDING MATERIALS	33
UNIT 5	MOTHER AND CHILD	49
UNIT 6	LAND AND POPULATION	58
UNIT 7	AS MANY TWINS AS YOU LIKE	70
UNIT 8	AIRSHIPS	82
UNIT 9	THE PEOPLES OF BRITAIN	92
UNIT 10	A CHILD'S VIEW OF THE WORLD	101
UNIT II	MEMORY: WHY WE REMEMBER WHY WE FORGET	109
UNIT 12	EARTHQUAKES AND VOLCANOES	119
VOCABU	128	



UNIT 1

1

BEFORE READING

- Before reading the passage, consider and discuss the following:
 - (a) If the need to even consider the cost of things, or even money in general, is taken away from you what effect would this have on your life?
 - (b) If you were the richest person in the world, how would you spend your life?
 - (c) Many people believe that an increase in wealth means an increase in happiness do you agree? Is there a point at which this no longer applies? Does it apply at all?

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TEXT THE RICHEST MAN IN THE WORLD

Para 1 The richest man in the world had rather liked one of the largest hotels in London, the Dorchester Hotel, when he visited it — so he bought it! He also liked one of the most famous hotels in America, the Beverly Hills Hotel, so he bought that as well. Because he liked the idea of always having a room available to him when he went shopping in Singapore, he bought a hotel there too.

Para 2 He decided that he liked playing golf — so he had his own international standard golf course built. A similar thing happened when he had taken an interest in swimming — he built his own Olympic-sized swimming pool.

Para 3 However, sometimes he doesn't only buy or build the biggest and best of things. He didn't like one house that he had owned so he decided to make it smaller — which is possibly a more difficult and expensive job than making a house larger. On another occasion he couldn't find a house that he had bought so he sold it and bought a different one.

Para 4 The richest man in the world, Hassanal Bolkiah, 29th Sultan of Brunei, appears to have very few friends; only people who want to sell him something. Those people who do not have something to sell seem to feel uncomfortable with him. Maybe they feel they are not being pleasant enough or polite enough. Maybe they feel that any remark by them would seem like they were trying to flatter the Sultan so he would give them something. It does, in fact, appear to be very difficult to gain the Sultan's attention. One way, it seems, is to give him a gift — strange though it may seem for the man who has everything — and the best gift-giver has been a man called Adnan Khashoggi, a Saudi weapons dealer. This man has shown the shy and hesitant Sultan how to enjoy himself in the nightclubs and casinos of London and Paris.



- Para 5 Of course, the richest man in the world has to have the most expensive palace in the world. His palace is huge: it was 1,778 rooms (all, of course, with air-conditioners). 257 toilets, a small island where a band plays all the time, three miles of roads around the palace, amongst other things. As well as somewhere to live, the Sultan needs to travel around the world easily — to go shopping or to visit a casino etc. This is no problem as he uses the small national airline of Brunei, Royal Brunei Airlines, as his own private airline. If he wanted to go somewhere, he simply telephoned the airport (or an assistant did) and a plane would be waiting for him to take him anywhere he wanted.
- Para 6 The source of all this wealth is, as is often the case these days, oil. In 1903, oil was discovered in Brunei. At first the quantities were very small but in 1926 a major find was made which was lucky for the only oil company who had stayed there — Shell Oil Company. Even so, it wasn't until the 1970s and the huge increases in oil prices (and the increased use of natural gas) that Brunei and its Sultan became so wealthy. It is now thought that he has 35 about US \$25 BILLION in his personal account (and possibly 2.5 billion higher) — which is more than the foreign exchange reserves of the whole of Australia, India and South Korea added together.
- Para 7 But what of the life of the Sultan? Is he happy? Can he be content with no real challenge or purpose in life? Whatever he wants to have or to do can be achieved without any 40 effort at all. He is in the position that most people in the world dream about — and yet, in reality, he seems to be far from content. What does the man who has everything he wants (and more) dream about?

NOTES

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Olympic(s): International sports meetings (held every 4 years). These competitions have an agreed standard size of swimming pool.

Sultan: The ruler of a Moslem state or country.

Nightclub: A place for drinking, dancing and perhaps gambling which stays open until early morning.

Billion: An English billion is a million million (1,000,000,000,000), but the American billion is a thousand million (1,000,000,000). In America, the English billion is called a trillion.

COMPRE-**HENSION**

- Read each of the following statements and decide whether they are true or 2 false:
 - 1 The Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah

- A is easy to talk to.
- B has everything so doesn't like to be offered gifts.
- C has always been an extrovert (外倾性格的人).
- D owns his own airline.
- E has more personal wealth than the national finances of Australia. India and South Korea together.
- F seems to enjoy life very much.
- 2 Other people
 - A enjoy the Sultan's company.
 - B always try to flatter the Sultan.
 - C usually try to sell him something.
- 3 The Sultan's palace
 - A is built on an island.
 - B is one of the most expensive in the world.
 - C contains the best of everything.
- 4 Brunei
 - A became wealthy when oil was discovered in 1903.
 - B became wealthy in 1926 when a major oil find was made.
 - C became less wealthy when natural gas started to be widely used.
- Make a list of all the items that the passage mentions the Sultan bought or had built and, for each, write down the reason he bought it, for example:

The Dorchester Hotel (London) - He liked it

Now using the information given in the passage and the notes you have made in Exercise 3, try to write a description of what the Sultan is really like (what kind of person is he? Is he happy? What does he actually enjoy doing? etc.) You should try to put yourself in his place and think why he does the things he does and what is he thinking when he does them.

VOCABU-LARY

5

(a) Find words in the passage which mean approximately the same as the following:

para 1: capable of being used (by)

para 2: degree of excellence required for a particular purpose

para 4: to compliment unduly not very confident

Para 5: a building used for gambling Para 7: a trial or contest — a problem to be overcome a reason for doing or being

	(b) Now use the words you have found to complete the following sen-		
	tences:		
•	always make more money than they lose.		
	2 Would you mind telling me what the of your enquiry is?		
	 3 I'm afraid that your work these past few months has not come up to our company's 4 We really needn't have booked tickets — there were plenty of 		
	seats		
	5 It's no good trying to me with flowers and sweet words — the answer is still 'No'.		
	6 It's not that he's a bad public speaker, just that he's too		
•	7 It was because his new job was going to be quite a		
	that he was looking forward to starting it.		
TENSE 6	Find examples in the text of the past perfect tense, e.g.		
REVIEW:	para 1: (he) had rather liked		
PAST PERFECT	para 2 (one example):		
	para 3 (two examples):		
	para 6 (one example):		
	The past perfect tense is used to describe something which happened: 1) before (or 'by') a certain time (day, year, etc.) OR		
	2) before something else happened (even if only a short time before).		
	Here are some more examples:		
	 1 1) I had already got up and taken a shower by 8 o'clock this morning. 2) By the end of the morning I had also drunk some tea, answered the phone and opened the door. 		
	2 1) Once the kettle had boiled I made some tea.		
·	2) I had already answered the phone by the time someone knocked at the door.		
	3) I had switched the kettle on before I went to the bath room to take		
	a shower.		

4) I hadn't finished my shower when the kettle boiled.

In the sentences in Example 2, underline the words which

- 1) give the time AND
- 2) describe something else which happened later or at the same time.

Now look at the examples of the past perfect tense which you have found in the passage; are they accompanied by phrases of time or clauses describing an action?

Write five sentences about yourself using the past perfect tense and phrases of time, and five more sentences using clauses to describe something else which happened later.

PAST 7 PERFECT PROGRESSIVE

- (a) Here are some more sentences based on the examples given in Exercise 6. These sentences use the past perfect progressive tense:
 - 1 1) I had already been sleeping for ten hours by 8 o'clock this morning
 - 2) By the end of the morning I had been working at home for three hours.
 - 2 1) I had been talking on the phone for five minutes by the time someone knocked at the door.
 - 2) I had been waiting for ten minutes before the kettle boiled.

In these sentences, the past perfect progressive tense shows that the first action had been continuing for some time before (1) a certain time, and (2) something else happened.

(b)	Now think	of suitable verbs and use the past perfect progressive
	tense to con	aplete these sentences:
	1	before the car finally started.
	2	before my friend finally appeared at 7 o'clock.
	3	by the time he took the examination last month.
	4	by the time he went to bed at midnight.
	5	before he found the missing keys.

- (c) The following groups of sentences contain the past perfect progressive tense, in addition to the present perfect and future perfect progressive tenses:
 - 1 1) I had been studying English for five years by the time I came to this college.
 - 2) I have now been studying English for seven years.
 - 3) By the time I leave this college in one year's time. I will have been studying English for eight years altogether.

- 2 1) When John arrived I had been waiting for twenty minutes.
 - 2) We have now been waiting for half an hour.
 - 3) When Bill comes in ten minutes I will have been waiting for fifty minutes.

Now complete the following groups of sentences: 3 1) by the time I went to bed last night. 2) I have now been reading the book for three days. 3) By the time I finish it, I will have been reading it for five days. 4 1) He had been taking a shower for twenty minutes by the time I got up. 2) (now) for half an hour. 3) When the hot water runs out in five minute's time, he will have been taking a shower for minutes. 5 1) The Greeks had been using coins made of a mixture of metals for over 100 years before coins made of silver appeared around 700 BC. 2) They have now been using silver coins for approximately ___ years. 3) for about 2,700 years by the time computers are introduced in the next century. 6 1) in London for ten years before I moved to Paris six years ago. 2) I have now been living in Europe for _____years. 3) I in Europe for 18 years when I return to Asia the vear after next.

Now write two more sentence groups, each with three sentences as in the questions above.

WATER TO SWIM IN

8

- (a) In the texts in Modern English you have met many examples of this type of infinitive construction:
 - 1 We need water to drink.
 - 2 Give me some food to eat.
 - 3 I have a lot of money to spend.
 - 4 I haven't got any new clothes to wear.

This type of construction may include prepositions:

- 1) In my kitchen I need a table to sit at.
- 2) I have a cooker to cook on.
- 3) But there are no knives and forks to eat with.

4) I want chairs to sit on and a sink to wash in.

Now read the following sentences which mean exactly the same as the sentences 1) to 4) with prepositions above:

In my kitchen I need a table at which to sit.

I have a cooker on which to cook.

But there are no knives and forks with which to eat.

I want chairs on which to sit and a sink in which to wash.

Write two examples for each of the following, as in the example:

- 1 bed / sleep in
 - 1) I need a bed to sleep in.
 - 2) I need a bed in which to sleep.
- 2 desk / work at
 - 1)
 - 2)
- 3 chair / sit on
 - 1)
 - 2)
- 4 TV / look at
 - 1)
 - 2)
- 5 radio / listen to
 - 1)
 - 2)
- 6 pen / write with
 - 1)
 - 2)
- 7 paper / write on
 - 1)
 - 2)
- (b) This type of construction is very common in scientific writing, but you are going to practice it with some common adjectives which are often followed by prepositions. Look at the example, then change the following sentences in a similar way:
 - 1 Is there anything you are unsure of? Is there anything of which you are unsure?
 - 2 Is there anything we disagree on?
 - 3 This is a suggestion I cannot agree to.
 - 4 There is nothing here I am interested in.
 - 5 Are there any diseases you have suffered from?

Now co	omplete the following sentences:
1 T	his is the car which I travelled from London to
R	ome.
2 H	ave you got the newspaper which I read that story?
3 T	his is a student whom I am proud.
4 T	hat's a studentwhom I'm rather afraid.
5 T	his is an old story which I am very bored.
	passed all my examinations which my teachers were ery surprised.
	hat was a terrible mistake which I'm extremely sorry.
	that the film which we paid \$20?
9 T	his is something which I must apologise.
	is a game which I'm not very good.
	his is the friend whom I went walking last year.
12 T	his is the wonderful news which I must congratulate ou all.
13 T	his is a project which I'm closely involved.
14 T	his is a problem which I take great interest.
	his is just one of the problems which we must be preared.
16 T	here are ten of us whom the cake must be divided.
17 Is	this a subject which you specialise?
18 I	n England we drive on the left; this is one of the many things which you must become accustomed.
19 T	his is the type of sand which sand is made.
20 T	his is a question which I need a dictionary.
posit the t He i	s in a position that most people in the world dream about—yet, in reality, he seems to be far from happy.
in rebeen 1 W g	complete the following sentences. They all contain phrases like vality which introduce contrasts or opposing ideas to what has a said. The first has been done for you. We often assume that the earth is getting cooler; but in fact We often assume that the earth is getting cooler; but in fact it is cetting hotter. If any people think that plants absorb only oxygen; but actually

- 3 It is widely thought that the ancient Greeks invented paper money; however the truth is
- 4 It is often said that the elephant is the largest animal in the world; but in actual fact ...
- 5 We normally assume that mothers carry their babies in their left arms to keep their right arms free; however, the truth of the matter is that ...

SO AND SUCH

- These two words are often used in cause and effect sentences (there are several examples in the first three paragraphs of the text). However, so and such can appear in several slightly different constructions, as shown in the following examples. All these examples describe a careful driver (or careful drivers); after each one write a sentence describing the opposite—careless driver or drivers. The first one has been done for you.
 - 1 1) He is so careful that he never has accidents.
 - 2) He is so careless that he always has accidents.
 - 2 1) So careful is he that he never has accidents.

2)

3 1) He is such a careful driver that I always feel safe in his car.

2)

4 1) Such a careful driver is he that his car has never been damaged.

2)

5 1) He drives so carefully that it takes him a very long time to go a very short distance.

2)

6 1) So carefully does he drive that cyclists often go faster.

2)

7 1) So careful a driver is he that the traffic policemen like him very much.

2)

8 1) Such careful drivers are they that they have won road safety prizes.

2)

9 1) So carefully do they drive that other drivers usually become impatient.

2)

Now write five other sentences about other people who cook, sing etc. well or badly etc.