

大学英语指南

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山东科学技术出版社

大 学 英 语 指 南

刘煜宗 朱恩怀 编
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序

《大学英语指南》是一部供文、理、工、医各科高年级学生和研究生使用的指导性读物，内容包括教育部规定的大学及研究生院英语课应涉及的各个方面。

本书是在外交部熊德兰教授指导下写成的。熊教授亲自遴选写作人员，确定写作原则和具体内容，并欣然接受担任顾问的聘请。《大学英语指南》包括以下内容：1.文选，2.注释，3.英译汉例解，4.会话，5.语法剖析，6.英文写作，7.在国外用语。

文选 20 篇，均为文字精当的英、美作家原著。读者可在注释的帮助下，确切理解原文的各层意思。“英译汉例解”是以中国学生在翻译英、美原著时经常遇到的实际问题为例，介绍若干翻译方法；同时，通过英汉对比，为读者指出一条学习英语的有效途径。每篇文选之后，均有以本篇文章内容为主题的会话，以指导口语实践。语法和英文写作两大部分，实例大都取自 20 篇文选，各为一完整体系，分别论述一般语法书及课本未能深入讨论的关键性语法问题及写作问题。“在国外用语”是帮助计划出国留学的学生在语言、生活等方面做好必要的准备。

限于水平，如有不当处，恳请专家和读者不吝指正。

作 者

1986 年 10 月 1 日

目 录

• 第一部分 • 文选、注释、英译汉例解、会话	1
1. Civilization and History.....	2
2. Big Numbers and Infinities	14
3. An Observation and an Explanation.....	23
4. Making Surgery Safe.....	42
5. Three Days to See.....	68
6. The Land and Its Limits.....	90
7. Urban Renewal or Suburban Sprawl	105
8. The Scientific Attitude.....	118
9. "Directed" Research.....	127
10. Science and the Future.....	137
11. Efficiency in Engineering Operations (Optimum Conversion)	151
12. Water Supplies — A Growing Problem	163
13. Quasars and the New Universe.....	174
14. A Single Culture.....	187
15. A People on the Move (I).....	206
16. A People on the Move (II).....	226
17. Higher Education (I).....	243
18. Higher Education (II).....	259
19. University Methods (I).....	272
20. University Methods (II).....	285
• 第二部分 • 语法剖析	299
1. 有关名词、代词、副词等的几种语法现象	300
2. 若干动词身兼数任；某些时、体兼具特异表现力	337

3. 从句虚拟语气与动词非限定形式的相对时性; 非限定形式等构成复合结构	356
4. 关联词与从句; 语气状语; 省略	383
• 第三部分 • 英语写作	421
1. 引言	422
2. 文体	422
3. 提纲	423
4. 开端	432
5. 常用的几种技巧	438
6. 结尾	456
7. 文摘写法	460
8. 书信写法	464
9. 实验报告和科学论文写法	470
• 第四部分 • 在国外用语	471
1. At the Airport.....	472
2. At the Hotel.....	473
3. Round Beijing.....	474
4. Travelling Abroad	476
5. Renting a Room	479
6. In the Room.....	481
7. At Breakfast.....	481
8. Tea Time	483
9. At Dinner.....	484
10. In the Street.....	485
11. In the Building	485
12. In an Office.....	486
13. In Another Office	487
14. Taking a Bus	488
15. Taking a Taxi.....	489
16. What to Take	490

17. Buying a Radio	491
18. At the Chemist's Department	492
19. Buying Stationery	493
20. At the Bank.....	494
21. At the Post Office	495
22. At the Barber's.....	496
23. In a Restaurant.....	497
24. On Christmas Day	498
25. Seeing a Doctor: First Appointment	499
26. Second Appointment	501
27. The Last Supper	502

第 一 部 分

文选、注释、英译汉例解、会话

1. Civilization and History

Most of the people who appear most often and most gloriously in the history books are great conquerors and generals and soldiers, whereas the people who really helped civilization [5] forward are often never mentioned at all. We [5] do not know who first set a broken leg, or launched a seaworthy boat, or calculated the length of the year, or manured a field; but we know all about the killers and destroyers. People [10] think a great deal of them, so much so that [10] on all the highest pillars in the great cities of the world you will find the figure of a conqueror or a general or a soldier. And I think most people believe that the greatest countries [15] are those that have beaten in battle the great- [15] est number of other countries and ruled over them as conquerors. It is just possible they are, but they are not the most civilized. Animals fight; so do savages; hence to be good at fight- [20] ing is to be good in the way in which an [20] animal or a savage is good, but it is not to be civilized. Even being good at getting other people to fight for you and telling them how to do it most efficiently—this, after all, is what [25] conquerors and generals have done—is not being [25] civilized. People fight to settle quarrels. Fighting means killing, and civilized peoples ought

to be able to find some way of settling their
disputes other than by seeing which side can
[30] kill off the greater number of the other side, and [30]
then saying that that side which has killed most
has won. And not only has won, but, because it
has won, has been in the right, For that is
what going to war means; it means saying that
[35] might is right. [35]

That is what the story of mankind has on
the whole been like. Even our own age has
fought the two greatest wars in history, in
which millions of people were killed or muti-
[40] lated. And while today it is true that people [40]
do not fight and kill each other in the streets-
while, that is to say, we have got to the stage
of keeping the rules and behaving properly to
each other in daily life-nations and countries
[45] have not learnt to do this yet, and still behave [45]
like savages.

But we must not expect too much. After all,
the race of men has only just started. From the
point of view of evolution, human beings are
[50] very young children indeed, babies, in fact, of [50]
a few months old. Scientists reckon that there has
been life of some sort on the earth in the form
of jelly-fish and that kind of creature for about
twelve hundred million years; but there have
[55] been men for only one million years, and there [55]
have been civilized men for about eight thou-
sand years at the outside. These figures are

difficult to grasp; so let us scale them down.
 Suppose that we reckon the whole past of
 [60] living creatures on the earth as one hundred [60]
 years; then the whole past of man works out at
 about one month, and during that month there
 have been civilizations for between seven and
 eight hours. So you see there has been little
 [65] time to learn in, but there will be oceans of [65]
 time in which to learn better. Taking man's
 civilized past at about seven or eight hours,
 we may estimate his future. that is to say, the
 whole period ^{between} between now and when the sun
 [70] grows too cold to maintain life any longer [70]
 on the earth, at about one hundred thousand
 years. Thus mankind is only at the beginning
 of its civilized life, and as I say, we must not
 expect too much. The past of man has been on
 [75] the whole a pretty beastly business, a business [75]
 of fighting and bullying and gorging and grab-
 bing and hurting. We must not expect even
 civilized peoples not to have done these things.
 All we can ask is that they will sometimes
 [80] have done something else. [80]

注 释

1. 第 1、2、14 行, most pron. 大多数; adv. 非常; adj. 大多数的

第 1 段中共用了 4 个 most。第 1 句连着用了 3 个 most, 显然是一种强调手法, 但同是一个 most, 语法功能却不同。most of the people 中的 most, 是代词, 作“大多数”解; most often,

most gloriously 中的 most, 是副词, 作“非常”, “十分”、“最”解; 第 14 行里 most people 中的 most, 则是形容词, 作“大多数的”解。

2. 第 1 行, **people** 人们; 人民

people 的前边没有定冠词 **the**, 作“人们”解; 而 **the people** 则往往指“人民”。这里, **the people** 前面的 **the**, 是因后面有定语从句“**who appear ...**”才加上去的, 因此这个 **people** 也作“人们”解。

3. 第 1、4 行, **who** rel. pron. 引出定语从句 **... who appear most often and most gloriously in the history books ...**, 和 **... the people who really helped civilization forward ...** 在语法上说, 两个 **who** 都是关系代词, 都引出定语从句; 但从句子的内容上讲, 第一个的确可以作定语从句来理解和翻译, 但第二个则不一定非作定语从句来理解。比如, 可以理解为“有些人, 尽管实实在在促使了人类文明向前发展, 却并未留名青史”。

4. 第 4~5 行, **helped ... forward** 使……获得发展, 得以进步。

to help ... 后跟别的副词, 这些副词的含义应根据上下文而作不同的理解。

5. 第 6 行, **set a broken leg** 使骨折的腿复位

6. 第 7 行, **launch** vt. 发射, 发送, 发动; 使(船)下水; 把(宇宙飞船等)发送上天

7. 第 7 行, **seaworthy** adj. 适于航海的, 经得起海上风浪的。

8. 第 8 行, **manure** vt. 给土地施肥, 尤指人畜粪便作肥料。

9. 第 9~10 行, **people think a great deal of them** = **people think highly of them** 人们认为他们非常了不起; 人们对他们有很高的评价。

如写成 *people think of them a great deal*, 就成了“人们非常惦记他们”, 或“人们经常想念他们”。

10. 第 11 行, ... *on all the highest pillars in the great cities* ...

虽然放在前边, 却是 *you will find the figure of ...* 的补语。放在前边是为了强调。

11. 第 12~13 行, *a conqueror or a general or a soldier* 与上面第 3 行的 *conquerors and generals and soldiers* 前后呼应。接连用两个 *and* 或两个 *or*, 都是为了加强语气, 而且这三个词属于同一性质, 从上下文的内容来看, 作者对之有贬意。

12. 第 15 行, *in battle* 作战中, 有抽象意义 *in a battle*, 在一次战役中, 这里的 *battle* 是具体名词。*in battle* 和 *at school, to go to school* 一样, 都不指具体的战役、具体的学校, 而是指从战役、学校抽象出来的概念: 作战中、在读书、去上学。本文第 34 行的 *what going to war means* 中的 *going to war*, 也有抽象意义: 参军去, 从军参战。

13. 第 17 行, *just adv.* 勉勉强强

I can just reach the window on tiptoe. 这窗户我踮着脚才勉强够着。

14. 第 19~26 行, *to be good at fighting ... is not being civilized* 系词 + 表语结构, 表状态而不是被动动作、行为

to be good at ... 和 *being good at ...*, 有时不定式和动名词可以换用, 意思无甚差别。但在第 22 行的 *being good at ... this, after all, ... is not being civilized* 中, 主语是动名词, 表语就不宜用不定式: *this, after all, ... is not to be civilized* (见语法剖析 3.6, 3.7)。

15. 第 28~29 行, *some way of ... other than by ...* 以某种方法解决争端, 而不是看哪一方杀掉对方更多的人

16. 第 35 行, *might is right* 强权即公理

17. 第 36 行, **mankind** 人类

mankind, society 社会, **history** 历史, **man** 人类, 这类词都作为抽象名词来用, 故一般不加冠词。

18. 第 37~38 行, **our own age has fought the two greatest wars**

our own age 作主语, 是一种拟人化的用法。还有写作 “**our own age has seen ...**” 等的。

19. 第 47 行, **expect vt.** 预期, 等待; 期待

expect 一般用来表示对将发生的事情的估计和判断; 而 **wish** 和 **hope** 则表示说话者主观上愿意发生的事:

I expect to fail the entrance exam. 估计我入学考试通不过。

We are expecting a storm. 我们正等着暴风雨(来临)。(天气预报说有暴风雨; 或已有风雨欲来之势)。

20. 第 57 行, **at the outside = at most** (至多)

21. 第 58 行, **scale ... down** 把(数字、尺寸、大小)按比例缩小。**to scale ... up** 把(数字等)按比例放大。

22. 第 61~62 行, **works out at about one month, ...** 算起来, 加在一起, 只有一个月。

下面第 66 行还有一句 “**Taking man's civilized past at about seven or eight hours.**” 第 68 行起 “**we may estimate his future, ..., at about one hundred thousand years.**” 把人类有文化的历史算作, 比如说, 只有七、八个小时; 我们估计人类的未来……很可能还有百万年。请注意, 这里的 **to work out ... at**, **to estimate ... at**, 介词 **at**, 表达到某个数量、价格、速度、程度, 指的都是一段时间。三个 **at** 可根据不同的上下文, 有不同的译法。

23. 第 64~66 行, **... there has been little time to learn in, but there will be oceans of time in which to learn better,** 没有多少时间来得及学好, 今后还有大量的时间可供(我

们) 学得更好些。

上列句子说明, to learn in 和 in which to learn 可以互换; 要想把意思说得更清楚些, 可写成 There will be oceans of time for man to learn in 或 there will be oceans of time in which to learn. 现在原文意思很清楚, 故可省去 for man.

oceans of time 海水那么多的时间。显然是一种夸张手法。英语中这类手法还有: a sea of people(red flags), 人(红旗)的海洋; a troop of(an army of) friends, 朋友众多。

24. 第 72 行, at the beginning of its civilized life 刚刚开始它的文明生活

如果用 in the beginning of its civilized life, 则意指“在它文明生活初创时期。at 和 in 都可表示时间, 但 at 表示时间的一点, 而 in 则表时间的一段; at the age of sixty, 花甲之年; in his happy old age, 欢度晚年期间。

25. 第 75 行, beastly adj. 野兽般的
beastly business, 一段兽性未泯的历史

26. 第 76~77 行, bully vt. 威吓; gorge v. 狼吞虎咽地吃; grab vt. 攫取, 霸占; hurt vt. 伤害, 危害; 使……伤心

作者在本句中一连用了 4 个 and, 把 5 个坏字眼连在一起, 以起到特别强调的作用。

英 译 汉 例 解

1. 第 1~5 行, Most of the people who ... are often never mentioned at all.

文章开头第 1 句, 作者运用重复(3 个 most; 及 conquerors and generals and soldiers 中的两个 and)、对比(whereas) 等修辞手段, 将意图、爱憎, 明白地摆在读者面前, 且文字有力, 结构严谨。

翻译这类句子, 要仔细揣摩原文, 融会于心, 然后充分发

挥汉语“意合”的优势，慎于遣词，工于照应，以求译文更贴近原文的意思，传达原文的气势，试比较下列两个译文：

译文 I：

历史记载最多并赋予最崇高荣誉的人物，大部分都是伟大的战胜者、将军和勇士，而对真正推动文明发展的人民却经常是只字不提。

译文 II：

在卷帙浩繁的史书中，撰者连篇累牍，语多溢美者，尽是些伟大的征服者，伟大的将军和战士，而有些人，虽则确实将人类文明推向前进了，却并未留名青史。

2. 第 4~5 行, **the people who really helped civilization forward are ...**

这是个定语从句，与第 1 行的 **who appear most often and most gloriously in the history books are ...** 结构相同。但揣摩其深层含义，却寓着作者对真正推动人类文明向前发展的人们的深切同情：他们尽管做了实事，由于史家无意为之作传，致使后人对他们竟一无所知。

定语从句的这种译法，能使译文更准确地传达原文意思，试看以下例句：

We know that a cat, whose eyes can take in more rays of light than our eyes, can see clearly in the night. 我们知道，由于猫的眼睛比我们人的眼睛能吸收更多的光线，所以猫在黑夜也能看得很清楚。（表原因）

There was something original, independent, and heroic about the plan that pleased all of them. 这个方案富于创造性，独出心裁，很有魄力，所以使他们都很喜欢。（表结果）

Following the side-band filter is an amplifier which makes up for the filter insertion loss. 边带滤波器后面接了一个放大器，用来补偿边带滤波器的插入损耗。（表目的）

A gas occupies all of any container in which it is

placed. 气体不管装在任何容器里，都会把该容器填满。（语法上并非让步从句，但可作让步从句来译）

3. 第6~8行, ... **who first set a broken leg, or ... manured a field; ...**

从属连词 **who** 在原文里只出现一次，后面都省略了，但汉译中这个“**who**”却不能省，一省，则语气便不连贯了：……谁第一个使骨折的腿复位？谁最先集木造船，扬帆出海？谁首次算出一年的跨期？谁第一个给田地施上了粪肥？我们都一无所知。

4. 第11行, **the highest pillars**

这里的 **the highest** 似乎是形容词的最高级，实际是一种夸张手法。汉译时要注意透过表层结构，将作者的意图恰当地表达出来，试比较：

译文 I：

把他们的雕像竖在最高的柱子上，立在世界重要城市里。

译文 II：

在世界的各个大城市里，他们的雕像被塑在那高耸入云的石柱上。

5. 第17~18行, **It is just possible they are, but they are not the most civilized.**

翻译必须注意上下文，遇到在句子、文章里起关键作用的词、语时，尤其要注意它和左邻右舍的关系。本句中 **just** 一词，原意为“勉强”，但联系到上文中的两个“**the greatest**”以及句子中的“**... they are**”，如果照字面意思，译成“虽然勉强算是最伟大的，但它们却并非是最文明的”，似乎平淡些。之所以平淡，是 **just** 这个词的关键作用没有得到充分表达，能不能译成，然而，伟大是伟大了，但它们却并非是最文明的。

6. 第31~35行, ... **saying that that side which has killed most has won, ... saying that might is right.**