

ENGLISH

WRITING

挑战大学英语考试辅导丛书

大学英语 四级写作

李 玮 主 编

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北京大学出版社

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前 言

《挑战大学英语考试辅导丛书》是根据国家教委颁布的大学英语教学大纲所编写的一套应试辅导丛书。其宗旨是帮助学生提高阅读、写作、翻译、听力等方面的能力,并顺利地通过全国大学英语等级考试。

《大学英语四级写作》由两大部分组成:第一部分是写作。英文写作对于中国学生来说是一大薄弱的环节。由于没有系统的课堂训练,又无实际的应用环境,绝大多数人不知道如何去写一篇好作文。全国大学英语四级统考要求考生在 30 分钟之内写出一篇至少 120 字以上的满分为 15 分的命题作文。并且明确规定,不能放弃不写,如果低于 6 分,则影响其整个试卷的成绩。

写作部分正是为解决学生在写作方面所面临的困难而编写的,由七个章节组成。通过这一部分的阅读和实践,学生可以了解高分作文的标准,而且还能依据各档次作文的标准,诊断出自己存在的问题,确定自己的努力目标。除此之外,学生不仅可以掌握基本的写作技巧,例如,如何选词、如何组句、如何成段等,还可以了解各种不同类型的作文题目及其对策。针对学生在写作时常出现的一些错误,编者进行了总结、归纳,并提出了问题解决办法。

本书的第二部分是简短回答问题。

简短回答问题(Short Answer Questions)是近年新创的题型,许多考生对此并不十分熟悉。因为这种形式的题目要求考生在阅读完一篇文章之后,对所提出的五个问题进行简洁而精确的回答,这就要求考生具备较强的驾驭文字的能力,能够将自己对文章的理解快速准确地表述出来。

编者曾多次参加简答题的改卷工作,比较了解学生在完成这部分试题时存在的弱点和问题,因此在总结归纳的基础上提出了一些相应的考试对策,相信这对学生做好这部分试题有实际的指导意义。练习中所选的阅读文章,体裁题材多样,文章长短与难易程度均符合大纲要求。

全书具有针对性强、实践性强、模仿性强等特点。书中所给出的写作练习都针对全国大学英语四级考试大纲中的作文要求而编写的,所选题目均是社会热点问题,体裁基本上都是考试中常见的议论文和说明文等。大量的练习,可以使学生进行不断的训练,以弥补课堂训练的不足。练习后所附的范文或答案,学生可以借鉴学习,在自己独立完成之后与之进行比较、对照,从而找出差距。

由于编者水平及经验所限,书中错误及不当之处难免,敬请广大读者批评指正。

编 者

1999 年 9 月

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上篇 四级写作

第一章 如何提高四级作文的写作水平

写作是一种创造性的活动(creative writing),不应该拿某个框框去套。但由于统考的命题作文有其独特的要求,故在对策上也要有所侧重,发现自己的问题,找出解决的办法。本书根据四级作文的标准,总结历年考生出现的问题,建议大家从以下五个方面入手,有意识地训练自己的写作能力。

1. Content

要求切题 (Topic: to the point), 表达观点清晰明确, 涵盖所给出的各项内容。近年常考的议论文, 以提纲式为主, 一般给出三条提示, 这便是考生写文章时必须包括的要点, 若有遗漏, 则要因为内容不完整而丢分。那么, 是否完全按照三条指示行文, 不能做任何变化呢? 没有如此绝对的教条, 考生可以在此基础上根据自己的构思, 写出切题的内容, 但要注意不要为了凑字而生搬硬套, 以致文不对题, 画蛇添足。在内容方面, 也要切忌一个意思翻来覆去地说个没完, 这种车轱辘话暴露出写作能力的不足, 实为作文大忌。简明扼要, 切中要点即可。

2. Structure

在结构方面, 并不要求完完全全按照三段论的模式, 也不必统统写成八股文式的千篇一律的文章。原则应该是在保证布局谋篇完整的前提下, 根据行文需要, 在段与段之间做必要的安排和调整。但要注意的是, 整体构架要完整 (complete), 思路要有逻辑性 (logical), 过渡要自然连贯 (coherent), 不能有头无尾, 颠三倒四, 还要注意避免重复, 保证结构的玲珑剔透。

3. Language

语言问题是应该列为重点并且需要下大功夫练习的一个方面, 因为所有的思想观点都是通过语言来表达、阐述的。如果语言运用能力不强, 纵然脑中有奇思妙想和精辟论述也无法表达出来, 或者只是中文思维模式的照搬。那么, 如何改进呢? 语言的功夫不是一天造就的, 也不是突击一下就万事大吉的。具体到考试过关这个层面, 大家可以从以下几个方面着手训练:

(1) 力求做到表述清楚、正确 (express clearly and correctly)。要求语法知识掌握得较好, 写作文时细心, 写完后复查。这是最最基本的一点, 尤其要注意十八类经常出错的方面, 详见本篇第四章的《常见错误类型及改正》。

(2) 在行文正确的基础上, 注意句型(pattern)与措词(diction)的灵活多变性(variation)。这一点可以显示出对语言的实际运用能力, 使得文章有闪光点, 不呆板。如果通篇使用 SVO 句型(主谓宾式), 就非常单调, 应该根据需要恰当地运用主从句、倒装句、强调句等有些特色的

句型。

在措词方面,应该避免逮住某一个词,一用到底,好像除了这个词,就不知道还应该用什么词了。这是语言贫乏的表现。为了改正,可以有意识地记住一些有用的同义或反义的词或词组及表达式,在适当的时候派上用场,为文章增色。例如表示“减少”的词语,除了 decrease 之外,还有: abate, reduce, drop, sink, subside, shrink, decline, dwindle, diminish, lower, fall, curtail, make less, cut into, go down 等等。

在追求语言灵活性的时候,也要注意不要生硬、频繁地使用自己不明其意,不知其用途的冷僻大词、怪词,一定要在已经掌握的基础上再加以“灵活”运用。

4. Example

举例一定要恰当,要能够帮助自己更好更深入地说明论点,而不能随便地硬摆在文章中。例子用得好,能够增强说服力;但若用得不好,其反作用必然会影响作文的效果,倒不如不用了。现在以 Don't Hesitate to Say No 这篇作文为例,来看看下面两个例子。

A. 东郭先生与狼的故事

B. 雨天,弟弟要与哥哥一起打伞去上学,哥哥应该“Don't Hesitate to Say No”。

不用细说,大家可以体会出例 A 妙用了众所周知的故事,体现出本篇作文的主题,有很好的说服力,且有趣味性。而例 B,非但无法帮助说明主题,反而有些不近情理了。

例子在议论文中的作用很大,应该好好掌握如何运用生动贴切的例子,使之更好地为文章主题服务。

5. Individual Style

个人风格是指文章要有自己个性,避免大众化的套式写作。因为所有应试考生都是就同一个题目、按同样的提纲内容来写作,这样一来,要想在短短的 30 分钟内,写出与众不同的文章很难,除非有自己的绝招——style。这不是短期之内靠老师教出来的,而是需要自己平常多读佳作,多练多写,慢慢地锤炼出自己的风格。

第二章 应试作文类型

第一节 段首句作文

段首句作文又称主题句作文。既给出作文的题目,又给出段首句,要求考生续写,完成一篇思想内容统一,句子连贯,表达得当的作文。

段首句作文有三种类型:

第一种是每段的段首都给出主题句。例如:

题目: Science and Life

1. Science has affected our lives directly.
2. On the other hand, science has an unfavorable effect on us.
3. However, science itself is not harmful.

第二种是前面两段段首给出主题句,最后一段段首只给出一个短语。例如:

题目: Should College Students Take Up Part Time Jobs?

1. Having a part time job could be beneficial to college students.
2. However, we find that more and more college students are turning their minds to ways of making money.
3. In my opinion,

第三种是前两段段首给出主题句,最后一段给出结论句。例如:

题目: Bicycle—An Important Means of Transportation in China

1. Chinese people have good reasons to ride bikes to work or school.
2. There are more distinct advantages in riding bikes than driving cars.
3. _____
Bicycles will be a popular means of transport in China for a considerable amount of time.

段首句作文的基本技巧

1. 认真审题,明确主题

审题是完成任何形式作文的第一步。不搞清楚题目要求及所提供的有关线索,就匆忙动笔写,容易偏离主题,而在四级考试中对内容的要求相当严格,规定很细。作文所给的题目往往是高度概括的,如例1中的标题。要搞清楚写什么,更需要仔细阅读每段所提供的段首句,分析段首句所包含的信息,明确写作的范围和重点,从而获得整篇文章的发展思路。

根据例 1 中所提供的段首句,我们可以明确,这篇作文可以从科学对我们生活的影响这个角度来展开,科学如何直接影响我们的生活,科学给我们的生活带来的一些负面影响,最后总结对科学的态度。

审题时,我们不仅仅要仔细琢磨题目的含义和范围,还要仔细阅读要求中所提供的信息,充分利用有关线索,明确文章的主要思想内容,紧紧围绕着主题内容进行展开,这样就为写一篇内容切题、思想统一的短文打好了基础。

2. 理解段首句,找出关键词

正确理解段首句,找出段首句中的关键词语是续写作文成败的关键。段首句中的关键词语本身体现了每一段落的主要内容,因此我们在展开主题句时,必须围绕着关键词语调整自己的思路,组织词句。如例 3 中的第一个段首句,仔细阅读句子,我们会发现其中的关键词语是 reasons,我们在展开主题句时,应该围绕人们为什么骑车上上班。第二个段首句中的关键词是 advantages,段落的中心思想应是骑自行车上班与开车上班相比有哪些优越之处。

在阅读段首句时,要反复推敲句子的含义,找出其中的关键词语,围绕关键词语扩大、延伸,使展开的段落主题明确、重点突出。

3. 展开段首句,写好扩展句

段首句是段落的主题句,说明这个段落的主要内容,本身是不成段落的,要求我们用丰富的内容说明段首句,使每个句子的内容与段首句紧密联系起来。用以阐明、展开、补充主题句的句子,称之为扩展句。扩展句应回答怎么样和为什么的问题。写好扩展句要以段首句中的关键词语为始点,紧扣主题思想,深化主题句内容。

4. 运用逻辑关系,合理组织思想内容

在展开主题句时,往往有丰富的思想内容,但要达到结构上的连贯,必须按一定的逻辑顺序来安排思想内容。在写叙述性短文时,可按时间顺序;写描写性短文时,可按空间顺序;写说明性和议论性短文时,可按归纳或演绎顺序。如果在思想内容安排上能注意一定的逻辑顺序,就能做到内容丰富又可达到结构的连贯。

5. 运用连贯手段,使句际间衔接自然

任何段落都是由若干单句组成的,句子之间的相互连接要清楚自然,前后呼应。句与句的衔接可以通过各种连贯手段来实现,如使用转承词语、代词提及、同义词重复等。注意内容组织的逻辑性,恰当地运用连贯手段,可以达到段落的连贯性。

下面是以上三个例子的样文:

例 1:

Science and Life

Science has affected our lives directly. A case in point of this is the domestic electrical equipment, such as radios, TV sets, refrigerators and washing machines. With these appliances at home, we live more comfortably. Another case is the plane. We can fly to other cities in a short time and it makes journey pleasant. In a word, science has greatly improved our lives and made our lives much easier and happier.

On the other hand, science has an unfavorable effect on us. For example, an atomic bomb can kill thousands of thousands of people in a split second. In addition, the air pollution produced

by cars and factories has already done a great deal of harm to us.

However, science itself is not harmful. What's important is how to use it. In my opinion, we should make use of it for peaceful purposes, such as explosive for civil engineering, atom for power stations and so on. Only in this way, can science serve us better.

例 2:

Should College Students Take Up Part Time Jobs?

Having a part time job could be beneficial to college students. Apart from making money to facilitate their studies, college students could gain practical work experience. They could, at the same time, get to know the society better. Having a part time job is worthwhile if the student's studies are not affected.

However, we find that more and more college students are turning their minds to ways of making money. They accept one part time job for a start, then they would go on looking for more profitable part time jobs. Making money is the ultimate goal for these students to work part time. They give less or no consideration to their studies. Eventually they find it is too late to realize that their part time jobs have jeopardized their studies.

In my opinion, college students should be advised and supervised as far as part time jobs are concerned. If their academic work-load permits, students should be encouraged to work part time, but not for the sake of making money only.

例 3:

Bicycle—An Important Means of Transport in China

Chinese people have good reasons to ride bikes to work or school. It is very fast and convenient for people to ride bikes to factories, schools and shopping centers, especially during the rush hours. Besides, bicycles are reasonable in price and most of Chinese families can afford to buy them. What's more important is that riding bicycles benefits one's health as a means of physical exercises. In a word, Chinese people prefer to ride bicycles to anywhere they like in town.

There are more distinct advantages in riding bikes than driving cars. Although a bicycle runs much more slowly than a car, it can take one to any place he likes in town and does not need a large parking place. One will keep a bike much more cheaply than he does a car, for bikes need no gasoline at all. Thirdly, the car causes air pollution but the bicycle does not.

However, bicycles also have brought some problems. A large number of bicycles on the road make the streets crowded and sometimes cause the accident. In addition, some bicycle riders park their bicycles here and there, leaving the city in a state of disorder. Nevertheless, as long as these problems are taken care of, bicycles will still be a popular means of transport in China for a considerable amount of time.

第二节 关键词作文

关键词作文指的是通过给出关键词或词组要求考生构思写出一篇短文。关键词是作者在文章中用来表达思想,陈述事实的核心词汇,是文章不可缺少的。因此,在写作时,应充分理解所给的关键词,反复推敲各关键词词意之间的联系,充分发挥想象力,确定文章中心,然后紧紧围绕这一中心展开自己的思路。

关键词作文的写作步骤:

1. 认真揣摩关键词,理清文章展开的思路

关键词作文的审题重点是揣摩所提供的关键词或词组,推敲关键词要表达的意思、相互之间的关系,把握关键词与题目的关系,确定文章展开的思路。请看下面的例子。

Television

Key words: vivid and true world, harmful, well-informed, current events, news program, sports and games, educational role, distract, sex and violence, therefore, college, no stress, negative, learning a foreign language, housework

以上题目非常概括,内容抽象宽泛,很难下笔。我们可以分析所提供的关键词的意义及所包含的信息,弄清关键词所涉及的范围和重点,明白短文要表达的意思,使笼统概括的内容具体化。从关键词 vivid and true world, well-informed, educational role, harmful, negative 等,我们不难看出题目设计者要求我们从电视给我们带来的好处和害处这两方面展开主题。Television 这一标题下,如果没有这些关键词所提供的信息,不同的作者可能会从不同的角度来展开主题。但有了这些关键词所提供的信息,帮助我们确定了应从哪个角度来展开这一主题。因此,揣摩关键词,弄清关键词与题目的关系,分析关键词所包含的信息,确定文章展开的思路,是完成关键词作文的第一步。

2. 重新排列关键词,弄清关键词之间的关系

在分析关键词与题目之间的关系、确定短文展开思路的基础上,要分析关键词之间的关系,重新排列关键词,把表达同一概念的关键词排列在一起。这样做,一方面可以保证在作文中不遗漏任何一个所给出的关键词,另一方面可以使我们明确阐明、补充、说明段落主题的内容,并以此为基础进行展开和扩充。如以上题目的关键词可做如下重新排列:

A. vivid and true world	B. educational role	C. harmful
well-informed	educational program	distract
current events	learning a foreign language	sex and violence
news program	housework	negative
games and sports	college	
	no stress	

把所提供的关键词语按照其所表达的意义,同一概念的排列在一起,可以使我们更加明确在段落展开时要写些什么内容,也为下一步草拟提纲做好准备。

3. 草拟提纲

草拟提纲是关键词作文中不可或缺的一个步骤。提纲可以保证短文前后内容的一致,上下文连贯,前后呼应。提纲可以用简略的词语完成,中英文均可。依照前面关键词的重新排列,我们可以用中文草拟这样的提纲:

I. 电视使我们消息灵通

A. 新闻节目

B. 时事报道

II. 电视所起到的教学作用

A. 教学节目

1. 语言学习

2. 家务处理

B. 观众没有压力

III. 电视的弊端

A. 分散注意力

B. 暴力对观众的负面影响

有提纲做指引,我们在写作时,不容易偏离主题,能保证短文前后内容的一致,达到文章思想内容的统一。当然在写作时,有些地方还可以增加一些关键词所表达的信息以外的内容,但要与主题相关,与已有信息不发生矛盾。

4. 写好主题句

主题句是顺利铺开和扩展段落的前提。主题句要围绕着某个说明段落主题内容的关键词,如 Television 中第一、二和三段的主题句可以分别围绕 vivid and true world, educational role 和 harmful 组句。它们可以分别是:

(1) Television presents a vivid and a true world in front of us.

(2) Television can also play an educational role in our daily life.

(3) However, television can be harmful, too.

5. 展开段落

围绕主题句展开段落。可以充分利用相关的关键词所提供的信息,有所扩充,只要不偏离主题。下面是 Television 样文:

Television

Television presents a vivid and a true world in front of us. TV news programs always keep us well-informed of current events happening in the world and tell us all the things that are going on outside our own world. By watching TV we enjoy seeing interviews of famous people or sports games in other parts of the globe or lovely films made in other countries. In a word, we enjoy seeing many things without bothering to go outside of our own homes.

Television can also play an educational role in our daily life. TV presents people with a wide range of educational programs: from learning a foreign language to doing some repair work; from

doing some research to dealing with housework. Unlike schools or colleges, TV can involve as many people as possible. In addition, TV educational programs will never bore the audience or place stress on the viewers, for it is always at the mercy of the viewers.

However, television can be harmful, too. Those who become addicted to TV will be distracted from their work and studies. They tend to spend too much of their time in front of the TV set and do much less than they should. Moreover, films about sex and violence on TV will have some very negative effects on many people, especially children and teenagers. Therefore, we should watch TV in moderation and never let it stop us from doing what we need to do.

第三节 提纲作文

提纲作文指的是根据所给出的中、英文提纲或中、英文提示来进行英语写作。它要求考生依据所给提纲或提示展开思路,确定文章中心思想,然后紧紧围绕所确定的中心思想写出可用来说明这一中心思想的细节。

提纲作文的步骤:

1. 分析提纲,弄清文章的思路

提纲为我们提供了文章展开的思路,为我们在浩瀚的信息海洋中寻找适合的素材提供了线索。因此在面对提纲作文时,我们要正确理解所提供的提纲内容,考虑提纲内容之间的联系,明确文章的整体思路,确定文章的体裁。

例文:

My Attitude towards Advertising

Your composition should be based on the outline below and should start with the given opening sentence: "Today advertisements are perhaps most omnipresent in big cities."

Outline:

1. present state
2. its positive and negative aspects
3. my attitudes

这种提纲作文要求我们从三个方面来展开主题:我对广告的态度。第一方面是现状,这里指的广告的现状;第二方面是广告所带来的利弊;最后是说明自己对广告的态度。从这几方面的内容来看,我们可以确定把文章写成议论文形式。

2. 发挥想象,挖掘素材

提纲已提示了文章展开的思路与重点,为了扩展、补充、说明主题,必须要有足够的素材。因此,围绕提纲所确定的重点,发挥想象,挖掘素材。比如以上例子中,在确定了第一部分是阐述广告现状这一主题时,必须寻找出一些素材来展开讨论,可以从电视、报纸、公共场所的广告等方面来说明广告无处不在,而不能只是简单地重复主题的内容。第二部分讨论广告的利弊,

必须用一些具体的好处或害处来说明主题,使提纲中抽象的内容具体化。

3. 写好主题句与扩展句

文章的主题、素材都做好了准备,就可以下笔。从写好每一段的主题句开始,然后围绕主题句中的关键词,利用已准备好的素材,展开每个段落。

下面是 My Attitudes towards Advertising 的样文:

Today advertisements are perhaps most omnipresent in big cities. When we read newspapers, watch TV, and walk in the street, we are flooded with advertisements. We are exposed daily to so many advertising messages that we can hardly find places where we can find tranquillity.

Advertising does good not only to manufacturers but also to consumers. With advertisements, manufacturers can promote the sale of their products, hence establishing a firm home market. With advertisements, consumers save a lot of time in shopping, looking for jobs and renting an apartment. With advertisements, newspapers, commercial radios and television companies can offer service to the public at lower prices.

While people are enjoying benefits brought about by advertisements, they are also complaining about them. Sometimes, advertisements are simply misleading and cheating. They are filled with flowery phrases and empty promises. Fake advertising cheats consumers and, in some serious cases, threatens gullible people's lives.

Advertising is a new, booming industry. It has already played an important role in our economic life. It will benefit the society more if more regulations are imposed on it.

练习:

Leisure Activities

Directions: Write a composition entitled "Leisure Activities" based on the following hints:

1. 体育活动
2. 智力活动
3. 结论: 两者应结合起来,以求得体力和智力两方面的锻炼和促进

范文:

Physical activities and intellectual activities are the two basic ways in which we spend our leisure time.

Physical recreation affords us the opportunities to strengthen our bodies and to satisfy our competitive nature. Activities range from violent sports such as running, playing basketball, or boxing to moderate sports like swimming, jogging. Yet their special benefits may vary according to different individuals.

Likewise, intellectual activities can also be beneficial to people. Some people undertake reading as a kind of private pleasure because they think that books are a necessary nourishment for mind and spirit. Traditionally, listening to music is a popular hobby. Besides indoor games such as playing chess, cards and table tennis, other hobbies such as gardening and stamp-collecting are

also enjoyable.

I prefer a balance of these activities to provide both the physical training and mental stimulation. I need to face the daily grind. As for my opinion about the choice of leisure activity, I'd choose travel in preference to anything else not only because I shall feel much happier and more energetic after having relaxed with traveling, but also because I can learn a lot from it through my personal experiences.

第四节 命题作文

命题作文就是根据所给出的题目,写出切题表意的文章。这种作文题除了标题以外,不提供任何形式的提示,不加任何条件限制,没有任何导向性语言或背景材料,有利于作者的任意发挥,能够比较真实地反映写作水平。

写作步骤:

1. 审题

认清题目意思,抓住题目中心思想。命题作文的题目有时是以句子的形式出现,例如: Companies Should Not Judge the Job Applicants Solely by Their Educational Certificates。以句子形式出现的大标题往往会给我们一些提示。通过对题目中关键词的理解,可以抓住文章的中心思想,以此进行构思,组织材料。例如上面这一题目中的关键是对其中的 solely 一词的正确理解。solely 在这里的意思是“仅仅”。因此,该标题的实质内容是:公司不应该仅仅以申请工作人员的学历去评价他们。根据这样的理解,我们在写文章的时候,应首先承认学历的重要性,然后再讨论学历之外的东西。如果在这篇短文中否定学位的重要性或根本不谈学位的问题,那么文章就会背离主题。因此,我们在审题时,一定要认清题目的意思,抓准题目的中心思想。

2. 构思

在已确定文章的中心思想的基础上,要开动脑筋,启动联想,选择与主题相关的素材,考虑如何开头,如何发展,如何结束。

有时命题作文提供的标题是词语,例如: City Life。这类题目往往比较概括,范围广,内容泛。对待这类命题作文时,不妨先考虑就这题目所能想到的素材,依据素材来确定写作重点和范围。比如我们在看到 City Life 这一题目时,会想到城市生活的便利,想到城市生活中存在的一些问题,想到城市生活比农村生活的优越之处等等。就这一题目,产生的联想会有许多,我们必须选择自己最善于表述的部分,确定主题,进行构思,展开讨论。如果针对 City Life 这一主题,自己最熟悉的是城市生活的便利及城市生活的一些弊端,那么在这一题目下,可以从这两方面来讨论,这样根据这一标题的作文主题也就确定了。

3. 拟订提纲,进行写作

任何一个题目都会使我们产生很多联想,从而得到很多的素材。为了保证文章内容的前后一致,文章内容的排列要符合一定的逻辑关系,在写作前应草拟提纲。提纲可以帮助我们在写作时保持思路清晰,确保不偏离主题。在全文写作时,语言方面注意使用简单明了的句子,约定俗成的英语句型,准确恰当的词语,写出切题表意的短文。

以下是两篇样文:

例 1:

**Companies Should Not Judge the Job Applicants Solely
by Their Educational Certificates**

When evaluating a job applicant, most companies would place much weight on one's educational certificates. Of course, one's education or one's educational certificate does tell something about the applicant. However, it is not the only means through which we can judge whether the applicant is qualified for the new position or not.

From the applicant's educational certificate we may know what kind of education he or she has received and the major area in which that person may do well. Nevertheless, his other abilities or capabilities which may have great influence on his performance in doing a particular job are not possibly shown only with that piece of paper.

There is enough evidence showing how invalid the certificate is in evaluating the overall capabilities and qualities of an applicant and therefore, we should consider many other facets of an applicant's qualifications rather than feeling satisfied with just the paper certificate.

例 2:

City Life

To live in a city is a great fortune itself. One enjoys the benefits of the latest scientific achievements in every respect. One travels in cars or buses and saves the trouble of walking upstairs by taking an elevator. When one wants to go to other cities in the shortest time, he telephones the airlines agents for a ticket and flies wherever he likes.

There are other more important conveniences. There are modern hospitals in a city where the experts are available to take care of almost all kinds of illnesses. One can go to the cinema, the concert or the night club. If one likes to stay at home, he can also enjoy himself by watching TV.

However, there are also disadvantages. The air in the city is usually polluted and there is too much noise. Because of heavy traffic, it is very dangerous to travel in town by car or on foot. The room is not spacious. These problems have to be solved before a better life can be enjoyed in the city.

第五节 看图作文

看图作文要求我们用简洁生动的语言把图中所传递的信息完整而又准确地表达出来。这就要求考生不仅有一定的英语写作能力,同时还要具备较强的观察力、分析能力和一定的想象力。看图作文的要求是主题明确,图文一致。

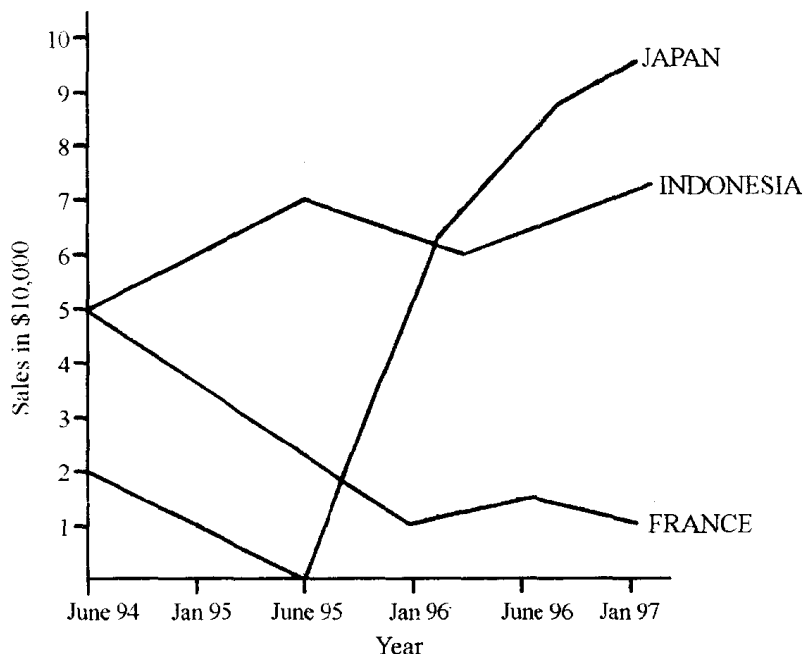
看图作文有以下两种形式:

一、图表作文

例如:

Directions: The graph below shows the sales of your product in your three major international markets in the period between June 1994 and January 1997. A new marketing strategy was introduced in June 1995.

Using the information from the graph, write a short report on changes that occurred during the period June 1994 to January 1997.



图表作文所提供的图表可以是多种形式的,比如线型图、柱状图、圆型图、饼图、三维立体图等。在完成这类作文时,我们应注意:

1. 认真研读作文标题和写作要求,从写作要求中找出线索,确定写作目的。如以上的例子要求我们写一篇报告,说明在1994年6月至1997年1月期间销售变化。
2. 仔细阅读图表中所标出的具体数据,考虑数据所提供的信息及要说明的问题。
3. 明确文章展开的思路,构思文章的整体结构。

在弄懂了图表所提供的信息之后,需要构思文章的整体结构。通常,这种短文可以通过三段式的原则来构思整篇短文:第一段交待该图的性质及所示的主要内容。注意这段要简单、明确。第二段阐述图中所示要点及相互联系。这是短文的主体。要注意的是不必把信息全部罗列,要对比说明的只是那些重要的、显现出明显差异或变化的信息和内容。第三段通过前一段落的说明、比较、分析得出结论,提出看法或建议。请看样文:

The graph shows us the changes of the sales of our products in our three major international markets.

In June 1994, we had a good start with the total sales of \$ 120,000 in Japan, France and Indonesia. But a year later, in June 1995, our sales in the same markets dropped sharply to \$ 95,000. Our soft bottom lied in Japan and France. Our sales in Japan dropped to zero, and in