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新编大学英语·精析

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前言

由外语教学与研究出版社出版的《新编大学英语》面世以来,迅速在全国高校中推开,“以学生为中心的主题教学模式”受到了广大师生的好评。它符合新修订的《大学英语教学大纲》的要求,也经历了大学英语四、六级考试的检验,对于全面推进我国的大学英语教学工作发挥了重要作用。

为使学生更好地理解和掌握这套教材的教学目的和要求,使学生在听、说、读、写、译诸方面都得到提高,结合我们使用这套教材的教学实践和四、六级考试的规律,针对学生在学习中遇到的普遍问题,我们编写了这套与《新编大学英语》教材配套的学习辅导教材。

本辅导教材共分4册,每册12个单元,与《新编大学英语》课文相对应,每个单元由以下7部分组成:

一、文化背景知识 旨在提供作者简介、写作背景及其他一些相关的文化背景知识,以利于学生更好地理解课文内容,扩大他们的知识面。

二、课文赏析 包括课文内容概要、课文结构风格两部分,旨在从语篇的角度分析写作特点与篇章风格,以便指导学生更好地理解课文,提高他们的写作水平和语篇分析水平。

三、核心词汇与短语 依据《大学英语教学大纲》,精选课文中的重点词语,从词性、例句、相关词汇、习惯用法等方面多角度加以详解。

四、难点释疑 针对课文中具有一定难度的句子,从语法

结构、句子特点入手进行详细分析,并配有中文译文。

五、巩固与提高 针对课文中出现的知识要点,根据四、六级考试试题类型与命题规律,通过典型练习与训练,使学生对所学知识真正达到融会贯通的程度。在习题之后,配有参考答案。

六、练习简析 对教材中的一些偏难练习进行了简明扼要的解答分析,以利于学生自学。

七、参考译文 综合运用各种翻译手段和技巧,反复推敲,再三斟酌,提供了包括课内阅读文章与课后阅读文章在内的全部参考译文。

本辅导教材对《新编大学英语》进行了全方位、多视角的精心分析,既围绕课文内容的重点和难点进行讲解释疑,又注意联系四、六级考试的规律和特点进行巩固训练,是编著者长期从事教学实践的经验总结,相信会对学生的英语学习和四、六级考试起到事半功倍的作用,成为学生的良师益友。

编著者

2002 年 5 月

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Unit One

Happiness

一、文化背景知识

Happiness is defined as a feeling of contentment coming from being well or doing well or as a feeling of satisfaction at having got what one wanted. Even based on these definitions, we can see that happiness can be a moment of joy or a more lasting state of mind.

Everyone wants to be happy but it would appear that some people are more prone to happiness than others. Certain personality traits, inherited or otherwise, seem to increase one's propensity for happiness. Positive attitudes with regard to our own strengths and weaknesses and with regard to the world around us make us more likely to be happy.

Throughout the ages, people in cultures have sought and achieved material success, always hoping that with wealth comes happiness. However, there are innumerable folktales and true life stories that prove that neither wealth nor power are guarantees for happiness.

二、课文赏析

1. 课文内容概要

本文讨论的是与每一个人紧密相关的“快乐”问题,通过列举和分析社会科学家的调查结果,指明了一些传统的快乐观的错误和不科学,最后得出结论:快乐幸福与人的年龄、性别以及收入水平没有明显直接的关系;判断一个人是否快乐,更好的依据是了解他具有什么性格,以及他是否有一个良好的人际关系网支持他。

2. 课文结构与风格

这是一篇议论文。首先,以设问开头,吸引了读者的注意力。接着展开讨论。这一部分可谓是全文的主体,论据充分。先是反驳了关于快乐幸福的几种观点,然后又从正面就快乐的人具有的四个特征进行分析和讨论,最后得出结论,与开头相呼应,回答了问题。全文结构严谨,层次清晰。本文的长句和复杂句式较多,语言略显正式。我们应注意到这些文体特点,在以后写作时可根据不同的文体,使用适当的词法和句法,进一步提高我们的写作水平。

三、核心词汇与短语

1. changeable *a.* 易变的,不安定的,变化无常的,可改变的
changeable weather 变化无常的天气

His temper's been very changeable this week, so you'd better not annoy him.

他这个星期脾气喜怒无常,最好不要惹他。

【反义词】changeless *a.* 不变的,无变化的,固定的,一定的

2. committed *a.*

(1) 忠于……的

a committed doctor 尽责医生

Mary is a committed teacher.

玛丽是一名尽责的教师。

(2) 承诺的

Edward has been committed to going there for a long time.

爱得华很久以前就答应要去那里的。

【相关词汇】commit *v.* 作(奸),犯(科),承诺; commitment *n.* 承诺,承担责任

3. contemplative *a.* 沉思的,冥想的

a contemplative mood 沉思的情绪

be contemplative of 注视,仔细考虑

【相关词汇】contemplate *v.* 注视,沉思,企图; contemplation *n.* 注视,沉思,企图

4. empower *v.* 给(某人)权利,授权于[+名词(人)+ to do] (常使用被动语态)

The chairman is empowered to call a meeting.

主席有召开会议的权利。

This college is empowered to grant degrees.

该学院有权授予学位。

5. engender *v.* 造成,酿成

Flies carry dirt, and dirt engenders disease.

苍蝇带脏物,脏物酿成疾病。

Racial inequality engenders conflict.

种族不平等导致了冲突。

6. explode *v.*

(1) 推翻,戳穿

Such rumors have only recently been exploded.

这些谣言只是最近才被揭穿。

(2) 爆炸

The time bomb exploded but nobody was injured.

定时炸弹爆炸了,但没有人受伤。

(3) 使(感情)爆发,大发雷霆

Mary decided that she had better leave before she exploded.

玛丽决定她最好在大发雷霆之前离开。

(4) 激增,迅速扩大

The population exploded to 40,000 during the tourist season.

在旅游季节,人口激增到 4 万。

【相关词汇】explosion *n.* 爆炸,爆发,冲突; explosive *a.* 会爆炸的,易爆发的 *n.* 爆炸物,炸药

7. exterior

a. 外部的,外面的

the exterior door 外面的门

n. 外面,外表,外部

the exterior of the house 这所房子的外部

8. fluctuate *v.* (物价)变动,波动,动摇

The price of gold fluctuates daily.

黄金的价格每天都在变动。

House prices fluctuated wildly in the 80s.

在 80 年代,房屋价格波动非常大。

【相关词汇】fluctuation *n.* 变动,起伏,波动; fluctuating *a.* 变动的,起伏的,波动的

9. gloomy *a.*

(1) 暗的,幽暗的,阴沉的

a gloomy day 阴暗的日子

(2) 忧郁的,悲观的

I feel gloomy about the future.

我感到前途暗淡。

【相关词汇】gloom *n.* 黑暗, 忧郁; gloomily *ad.* 黑暗地, 忧郁地

10. pursuit *n.*

(1) 追逐, 追求

pursuit of profit 追逐利润

(2) 工作, 研究, 嗜好

daily pursuits 日常工作

One of my father's holiday pursuits is gardening.

父亲的假日消遣之一是莳花种草。

【相关词汇】pursue *v.* 追赶, 追求, 从事; pursuer 追捕者

【习惯用法】in pursuit of 追……, 寻求, 追求……; in hot pursuit 穷追不舍, 拼命追求(of + 名词)

11. rebound *v.* 弹回, 跳回 *n.* 反弹

The ball rebounded off the wall and I caught it.

球从墙上弹回, 我把它接住了。

【习惯用法】rebound on / upon somebody 对某人产生报应;
on the rebound 在反弹回来时, 失败后立即行动

12. restraint *n.*

(1) 抑制, 遏制, 约束

His rage was beyond restraint.

他怒不可遏。

(2) (常含贬义) 克制物

He hates the restraints of life in a small town.

他讨厌小镇生活的约束。

【相关词汇】restrain *v.* 抑制, 遏制, 阻止 (常与 from 连用);
restrained *a.* 克制的, 遏制的; self-restraint 自我克制, 自我约束

13. soar *v.*

(1) 高飞, 翱翔

Seagulls were soaring above the rocks.

海鸥在岩石上空飞翔。

(2) 飞涨, 暴涨

The temperature soared to 80 F.

气温高升到 80 华氏度。

(3) 高耸, 矗立, 屹立

Here the cliffs soar feet above the sea.

这里的悬崖高出海平面数英尺。

14. subjective *a.* 主观的, 个人的

man's subjective initiative 人的主观能动性

subjective experience 个人经验

【反义词】objective *a.* 客观的

15. virtuous *a.*

(1) 有品德的, 善良的, 正直的

He described them as virtuous and hard-working people.

他把他们描写成正直、辛勤工作的人。

(2) 清高的, 自以为是的

a virtuous statesman 清高的政治家

【相关词汇】virtue *n.* 善, 美德, 优点; virtuously *ad.* 正直地, 清高地

【习惯用法】by virtue of 由于, 凭; make a virtue of necessity 心甘情愿地做非做不可的事

16. be grounded in 以为……基础, 以……为根据

The study of history must be grounded in a thorough knowledge of the past.

研究历史必须以对过去有彻底的了解为基础。

The assumption is well grounded in the box office receipts.

这个设想以可靠的票房收入为坚实后盾。

17. in short in a few words, briefly 总之,简而言之

You can't order me !I'll not do it. In short, No.

你不能命令我,我也不愿做,总之一句话,不。

四、难点释疑

1. In later centuries, some sages have suggested that happiness comes from living a virtuous life, and others, from indulging pleasures; some that it comes from knowing the truth, and others, from preserving illusions; some that it comes from restraint, and others, from getting rid of rage and misery.

【释义】 In the following centuries, many sages had a pursuit of happiness but they reached different conclusions.

【汉译】在此后的几个世纪里,一些智者认为快乐源于高尚的人生,而另一些则认为快乐来自尽情享受;一些智者认为快乐源于知情达理,而另一些则认为快乐来自一直存在的幻想;一些智者认为快乐源于自律,而另一些则认为快乐在于摆脱愤怒和痛苦。

【解析】此处的 suggest 并非“建议,而是“认为,指出”之意,因此从句中不需要用虚拟语气。本句虽然长,但结构并不复杂,作者一连用了三组并列句, some... other... 表明不同的人对幸福有不同的看法。每一组并列句的后一分句都省略了谓语动词,语言简练,结构紧凑。

2. Yet knowing someone's age gives no clue to the person's lasting sense of well-being.

【释义】 However, whether a person enjoys lasting happiness does not necessarily depend on his age.

【汉译】但是一个人是否幸福,他的年龄并不能给予任何启示。

【解析】 give no clue to ... : not suggest..., not indicate or show ... **并不能说明……**; well-being **相当于** happiness.

3. There are gender gaps in misery: When troubled, men more often become alcoholic, while women more often think deeply and get depressed or anxious.

【释义】 There is indeed a big difference between men and women when they are in trouble. In this case, men are more likely to indulge themselves to drinking, while women tend to think deeply and become gloomy and upset.

【汉译】 但是, 处于痛苦时, 男女的反应确有差别: 烦恼时, 男人更喜欢借酒消愁, 而女人则容易胡思乱想, 变得沮丧或焦虑不安。

【解析】 when-clause 中主语省略, 是由于从句的主语和主句的主语一致。另外, while 在这表示对比。

4. It seems that people become less satisfied over time with a given level of income.

【释义】 As time goes on, it seems that people become less happy with a given level of income.

【汉译】 随着时间的推移, 人们似乎不怎么满足于已有的收入水平。

【解析】 become satisfied with **满足于, 满意于, 如:**

She is not satisfied with the new car her husband bought her.
她对丈夫为她买的新车并不满意。

given *a*. **已知的, 一定的, 特定的(置于名词前), 如:** at a given time **在既定的时间**; under a given condition **在特定的条件下**

5. Deprived of control over one's life — a phenomenon studied in prisoners, nursing-home patients, etc. — people suffer lower morale and worse health.

【释义】 According to some studies, when some people, for example, prisoners or nursing some patients, lose the control over their own life, they feel frustrated and their health is worse.

【汉译】一旦失去了生活的自主权,人们就会意志消沉,健康恶化,这一现象曾在囚犯、疗养院里的病人等群体中进行过研究。

【解析】 deprived of 是过去分词,表示被动,它的逻辑主语是主句的主语 people; 句子中的插入部分起进一步的解释作用。

6. Although we might have expected that introverts might live more happily in the serenity of their less-stressed contemplative lives, extroverts are happier... whether living and working alone or with others and whether living in rural or metropolitan areas.

【释义】 We might think that introverts are happier because of their more tranquil and less stressed lives. However, this is not true. Extroverts usually live a happier life no matter where they work and live.

【汉译】尽管我们也许会以为内向者过着沉思默想、不太紧张的宁静生活,可能日子过得会更幸福,但是,外向的人更快乐,无论是独自一人或是与他人一同生活和工作,无论是住在乡村或者是都市。

【解析】“might have done”表示对过去发生的事情不大肯定的推测。whether... or... 不管还……还是……,在此处引导状语,接句子、短语、词均可。

7. Depending on our outlooks and recent experiences, our happiness fluctuates around our happiness set point, which disposes some people to be ever cheerful and others gloomy.

【释义】 Our happiness depends largely on our outlooks and re-

cent experiences, and it will rise and fall around our inherited happiness level. And this inherited happiness level determines whether we are happy or not.

【汉译】快乐程度在人生观和目前经历的影响下,会在一个我们固有的快乐值左右变动,这个固有的值使一些人常常快乐,而另一些人则愁肠百结。

【解析】分词短语 depending on outlooks and recent experiences 的逻辑主语是 our happiness; set point 固定值,固定点,在这指“遗传因素”; dispose 使(人)愿意……,使(人)易于……, dispose somebody to do something or dispose somebody to something, 如: Her advice disposed me to accept her offer of help. 由于她的劝告,使我愿意接受她的帮助。

8. Is marriage, as is so often supposed, more strongly associated with men's happiness than women's?

【释义】Does marriage, as people usually think, have more effect on men's happiness than on women's?

【汉译】婚姻是否如同人们通常认为的那样,对男性快乐比对女性快乐的影响大?

【解析】句子中的插入部分 as is so often supposed 是修饰名词 marriage 的。实际上本句是 Marriage is often supposed to be more strongly associated with men's happiness than women's 的疑问句形式。

9. Although a bad marriage may be more depressing to a woman than to a man, the myth that single women report greater happiness than married women can be ignored.

【释义】A woman may feel more depressed with an unsuccessful marriage than a man, however, it is absolutely unreasonable to think that a single woman is happier than a married

woman.

【汉译】尽管一个失败的婚姻可能使女方比男方更沮丧,但认为单身女性比已婚女性更快乐的观念是完全站不住脚的。

【解析】句子中的 that-clause 作 the myth 的同位语,句子的主干是 the myth can be ignored.

五、巩固与提高

Part I Vocabulary and Structure

- His _____ friends now regarded him with contempt.
A. committing B. committed C. committal D. committable
- _____ people are usually easy-going and they always look on the bright side of something.
A. extravagant B. extrovert
C. introvert D. extraordinary
- The most _____ technological success in the twentieth century is probably the computer revolution.
A. solemn B. prevalent C. prominent D. prosperous
- His feelings _____ excitement and fear.
A. fluctuate B. fluctuate between
C. fluff D. flunk
- His new book has _____ much controversy.
A. given B. enacted C. led D. engendered
- After losing the game, the team's _____ was incredibly low.
A. morale B. morality C. mortality D. motto