

Conquer English Prepositions

征服英语介词

〔美〕温志达 编著

北京大学出版社

· 北 京 ·

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I. 简单介词(Simple Preposition)概论

1. 介词宾语

英语八个词类中,最困难的是动词、冠词,以及我们即将研究的介词。

介词有三种形式:

- 1)简单介词(Simple Preposition)(约 70 个):如 along, beside, down, except, in, next, on, over, past, since, than, till, under, upon。
- 2)分词介词(Participial Preposition)(约 10 个):如 respecting, saving, touching, wanting, considering。
- 3)成语介词(Preposition-Phrase)(约 500 个):according to, ahead of, apart from, by dint of, by virtue of, face to face with, in an agony of, with an eye to, at the age of, at the cost of, for the good of, in the event of, to the delight of。

介词后面一般须有宾语(Object)紧跟着。这宾语必须是名词或名词等同语(Equivalent)(即有同样作用的词、短语或分句),共有 11 种类型:

1.1 名词(Noun)

We played in the park.

Don't talk to that drunkard.

She goes out with her boyfriend every day.

1.2 代词(Pronoun)

I told her about myself.

Joan writes to all of them every week.

Dick prefers this house to that.

1.3 动名词(Gerund)

He makes lots of money by begging, borrowing and stealing.

She spends all her money in learning music.

Dick is fond of talking.

Liz is afraid of seeing a doctor.

1.4 不定式(Infinitive)

We have no choice (*or alternative*) but to keep silent.

She never goes into town except to buy some food.

We are permitted to do anything except (to) curse.

Bob does nothing save (to) drink and sleep.

She could do no otherwise than (to) shed tears.

We would sooner be killed than (to) surrender.

(不定式,除 but, except, save, than 之外,不用于其他介词之后,而且后面若有 do 字, to 字往往可省略。)

1.5 疑问词(Interrogative)+不定式

The question of where to find a job is a big headache.

Success in business depends on how to treat the workers.

Nobody told Rose about what to do during a job interview.

Her aunt often teaches her concerning how to behave.

1.6 时间或地点副词(只用于成语中)

You will see before long what will happen.

They must have got married by now.

Let us sleep on the floor for now.

Helen Keller's name will live for ever.

From now on we shall live happily.

Our family was really miserable from then on.

Susan has studied the computer since then.

Max hasn't paid me up to now.

Many came from far and near to see the performance.

Some relatives came from afar to see my new baby.

My daughter called me from abroad.

(用于副词前的介词不多。)

1.7 形容词(只用于成语中)

After all, you get something and lose nothing.

He is at best a hypocrite.

At first he said yes; at last he said no.

'She has at most three lovers!' 'No, at least five.'

In brief, we should not any more trust this man.

Don't talk so loud in public.

In short we have become slaves.

Nobody saw him of late.

1.8 介词短语(Prepositional Phrase)(“介词+宾语”的合称)

Some foreigners bring cheap articles from beyond the border and sell them to us.

Someone cried help from behind the door.

This adverb-phrase may be moved to before the subject (*or after the predicate*).

Jane has studied art for over ten years.

Bob usually enjoyed himself till after midnight.

I can sell this diamond for above five thousand dollars.

Nora usually drives at between 50 mph and 70.

This bridge was formerly built by from 300 to 500 workers.

1.9 由“that”领头的从句(That-Clause)

Rose knows everything about her husband except that he

loves Liz.

Sandy would like to stay home in that she hates noisy streets.

My son would have studied abroad but that his mother wants to keep him by her.

Notwithstanding that (= Although) he has been defeated four times, he refuses to quit.

(除 *except, save, in, but, notwithstanding* 以外, 其他介词不可放在 *that-clause* 之前。)

1. 10 由疑问词领头的从句(*Interrogative-Clause*)

Two managers are talking about how they should treat the employees.

These tourists want to be informed (of) which restaurant is good.

Dean is writing a treatise on what is the meaning of life.

Your future depends upon whether some VIP will back you up.

Let me know (*as to*) where I can rent a car.

Joan's mother is anxious (*about*) who is to be Joan's husband.

(疑问词前介词有时可省略。)

1. 11 名词+形容词或其等同语

这种宾语, 常跟在介词 *with* 之后, 表示伴随的情况。

We sleep on the same bed with dreams different. (形容词)

Nora is waiting with a heart sad and heavy.

With nobody by, he stole a gold watch. (地点副词)

A funny stranger passed by with boisterous children behind.

With his influential father behind him, he often criticized the city hall. (介词短语)

With her husband still in bed, she cooks breakfast in the kitchen.

An earthquake suddenly happened with the whole village falling into a panic. (现在分词)

In the park, Nora sat on the bench with her three children playing about her.

With his wallet stolen by a pickpocket, he walked home dejected. (过去分词)

Joan was sent to the hospital with her eyes terribly injured.

Bob lived in a gloomy hut, with not a relative to accompany him. (不定式)

He stayed up with something important to discuss with his friend.

I live alone at a cottage with a cat my only companion. (同位语)

I enjoyed my vocation in the mountain with Shakespeare's works, Hamlet and A Midsummer Night's Dream.

2. 地点副词与介词的分别

有不少介词用做地点副词,但有时这种用法,不容易认出来,区别是这样:介词必有宾语,而副词必无,可是必须指出,如此副词,可能就是省略了宾语的介词——省略了是因为宾语可由上下文推想出来。

介 词

副 词

Many peasants pass (不及物动) Many peasants passed by.

词)by this pagoda.

(读者或听者知道by 后省掉了 this pagoda)

We ran after the thief.

We ran after.

My house lies between these red houses.

My house lies between.

They often come across the border.

They often come across.

Children run around the park.

Children run around.

We drove along the river bank.

We drove along.

They hid inside the jungle.

They hid inside.

He tried to climb up the cliff.

He tried to climb up.

We drove (及物动词) our car down the mountain.

We drove our car down.

We often drove drunkards outside the bar.

We often drove drunkards outside.

The view (名词) before my house is a boundless sea.

The view before is a boundless sea.

The gang leader behind the murder has been caught.

The gang leader behind has been caught.

但是地点副词可能指地点以外的事物。若然,这副词就不可视为省略了宾语的介词。

The production suddenly dropped off (= decreased).

His great name faded out after his death.

He gets up at six in the morning.

When I asked about her past, she blew up (= lost her temper).

We must ease down on this muddy road and shouldn't drive fast.

He will crack up and be sent to hospital if he continues to work so hard.

He likes to show off in front of the ladies.

If you are not able to get on, give up.

其次,在“V + O + ?”(动词 + 宾语 + ?)的动词短语中;“?”一定是副词,绝不是介词;例如:He gave the plan up. / He pulled the mail off. / He put his clothes on.

如果O是代词,这“?”就是副词;例如:He gave it up. / He threw them out.

但是在“V + ? + O”的短语中,“?”是副词还是介词,就不易解答了。例如:We drove up the mountain. / We pushed down the boat. / We brought along all our friends. / We put on our best clothes. 这些带下划线的字是副词,还是介词呢?

一般说来,如果在这短语中,V是经常用做及物的动词,或“?”是常作地点副词的副词,则此“?”是及物动词后的副词,而不是介词。

2.1 及物动词 + 地点副词

1) This window brought up her children with great hardship. (bring 用做及物动词)

The joke brought down the house.

They brushed aside my proposal.

We often buy off the police.

Dean cast aside his homework and joined his playmates.

He is chewing over this matter.

Nora carried off the prize.

Doctor cut off his leg.

The commander delivered up the city and surrendered.

We must drive off the enemy.

My grandfather handed down the medical secret to me.

We must keep up the morale.

Dick kicks around his employees.

I was laid up with a stomachache for three days.

The police locked up all the suspects.

I made over my property to my eldest son.

He marked down all goods.

经常不及物的动词,偶然会例外地用做及物,但这情况不可视为常规。

He had to cough up \$ 50 damages.

She cried out her eyes at the bad news.

He hates to work. He would like to dream away his life.

The audience hissed down the singer.

He just laughed off their criticism.

They shouted down the political speaker.

I sweated out the cold by taking aspirins.

Let us talk over this matter.

Think over the price and quality, and decide to buy or not.

I must walk off the fat in my belly.

- 2) They take apart everything I do. (以下举出的地点副词是永久用做副词,不可误认为亦可用做介词的副词如: up, on, above, between 等)

Liz lays aside every dollar she earns.

I have sent abroad all my children who want to study.

The storm swept away almost all the hut in this village.

Now cut away the dead branches.

We cannot hold back the aggression, but we must.

Put back the toys, Ed, before you eat dinner.

The tree is putting forth new leaves.

Bob put forward a radical proposal and shocked everybody.

I have brought here the photos you want to see.

Don't leave out John and Mary in this party.

Let her pick out the best ones for us. (美国人有时当 out 为介词)

Bob is piecing together a jigsaw.

Put together all these facts and you get the answer.

Pull upward the lid of the pot, not sideward.

但在“V + ? + O”的短语中,如果 V 是经常用做不及物的动词,或“?”是经常用做介词的介词,则此“?”是不及物动词后的介词,而不是副词。

2.2 不及物动词 + 介词

1) We arrived at the station in the afternoon. (arrive 经常用做不及物的动词)

Dean always clings to his belief.

The bill came to \$ 30.

We can compete with big companies.

She often corresponds with me.

Bob crowed over his rival.

This child is crying for his mother.

Some bandits fell upon this small village.

She glanced at his lover's long letter and then threw it into a waste-paper basket.

My can went into a lamp-post.

What has happened to his family?

I never interfere in trivial matters.

To get permission I have to kowtow to government officials.

Don't laugh at my mistake; I'm a newcomer.

Sandy leaned on her lover's shoulder.

Something dirty lies behind this expression.

I must look after the patient; I can't leave.

We can't prevail over our opponents.

Wolves prey upon sheep; shepherds should be cautious.

He slept soundly on his wedding day, he was never excited.

Don't reach for the moon.

His pride resulted in failure.

The child smiled at the new toy.

I am always waiting for good luck.

2) Something was shooting at the crowd. (at 经常用做介词)

I have been fighting against poverty all my life.

The town lies among the mountains.

The bell rang during the night.

We went for a picnic last Sunday.

I heavily sweated from arguing with him.

So many companies went into bankruptcy.

She danced like a fairy.

I read of this accident in the newspaper.

We sailed till midnight and then took dinner.

Some of us were dancing to the music.

We sailed toward the west to avoid pirates.

I never haggle with those people.

照上述方法，“?”是介词或副词，往往不一定可以认出。若还认不出来，就只好比较“及物动词 + 副词”的意义和“不及物动词 +

介词”的意义，看哪一意义更为合理。在“I rolled down the mountain”一句中，若把 rolled down 视为“不及物动词 + 介词”，则全句解作“我从山上滚下来”，算是合理。若视为“及物动词 + 副词”，则全句解作“我把山从上面滚下来”，就不合理了，因此，down 在句中是介词，而不是副词。

3. 介词的位置

介词正常的位置是在其宾语之前，从上面许多例句，可以看到。

I am talking to a friend.

He is fond of reading novels.

但介词也可以远远地放在其宾语之后，在通俗语句中，尤其如此，介词放在宾语后有六种情况：

3.1 说话者心中最先想到宾语。

This beautiful view, I could look at all my life.

(正常句: I could look at this beautiful view all my life.)

Women and liquors, he has lost interest in.

Teaching, I am not qualified for.

Wealth and fame, people think too much of.

3.2 宾语是疑问代词。

What do you work so hard for?

(文雅语句: For what do you work so hard?)

Which library do you borrow this book from?

What subject do you major in?

‘Buy it.’ ‘What for?’ (= What do I buy it for?)

‘She goes out every evening.’ ‘Who with?’

‘Open the can.’ ‘What with?’

3.3 宾语是名词从句中之疑问代词。

I ask what you work so hard for.