

2007 年广东商学院高级英语考研复试试题

考研加油站收集整理 <http://www.kaoyan.com>

广东商学院硕士研究生入学考试试卷

考试年度： 2007 年 考试科目代码及名称： 513-高级英语 试卷编号： B 卷

适用专业： 英语语言文学

Your answers to the questions must be done on the answer sheet. Remember to write down the question numbers.

Part I. Proofreading and Error Correction (20% 15 minutes)

Directions: The following passage contains Ten errors. Each line contains a maximum of one error. In each case, only one word is involved. You should proofread the passage and correct it. Write down your corrections on the answer sheet.

The grammatical words which play so large a part in English grammar are for the most part sharply and obviously different from the lexical words. A rough and ready difference which may seem the most obvious is that grammatical words have “less (1) _____ meaning”, but in fact some grammarians have called them (2) _____ “empty” words as opposed in the “full” words of vocabulary. But (3) _____ this is a rather misled way of expressing the distinction. Although a (4) _____ word like the is not the name of something as man is, it is very far away from being meaningless; there is a sharp difference in (5) _____ meaning between “man is vile” and “man is vile”, yet the is the single vehicle of this difference in meaning. Moreover, grammatical (6) _____

words differ considerably among themselves as the amount of meaning (7)

they have, even in the lexical sense. Another name for the grammatical words has been “little words”. But size is by no mean a good criterion for (8) _____

distinguishing the grammatical words of English, when we consider that we have lexical words as *go*, *man say*, *car*. Apart from this, however, there (9) _____

is a good deal of truth in what some people say: we certainly do create a great number of obscurity when we omit them. This is illustrated not (10) _____

only in the poetry of Robert Browning but in the prose of telegrams and newspaper headlines.

Part II. Reading Comprehension (30% 30 minutes)

Directions: Read the passage and answer questions. Write your answer on the answer sheet.

A euphemism is commonly defined as an auspicious or exalted term (like “sanitation engineer”) that is used in place of a more down-to-earth term (like “garbage man”). People who are partial to euphemisms stand accused of being “phony” or trying to hide what it is they are really talking about. And there is no doubt that in some situations the accusation is entirely proper. For example, one of the more detestable euphemisms I have come across in recent years is the term “Operation Sunshine,” which is the name the U. S. Government gave to some experiments it conducted with the hydrogen bomb in the South Pacific. It is obvious that the government, in choosing this name, was trying to expunge the hideous imagery that the bomb evokes and in so doing committed, as I see it, an immoral act. This sort of process - giving pretty names to essentially ugly realities—is what has given euphemizing such a bad name. And people like George Orwell have done valuable work for all of us in calling attention to how the process works. But there is another side to euphemizing that is worth mentioning, and a few words here in its defense will not be amiss.

To begin with, we must keep in mind that things do not have “real” names, although many people believe that they do. A garbage man is not “really” a “garbage man,” any more than he is really a “sanitation engineer”. And a pig is not called a “pig” because it is so dirty, nor a shrimp a “shrimp” because it is so small. There are things, and then there are the names of things, and it is considered a fundamental error in all branches of semantics to assume that a name and a thing are one and the same. It is true, of course, that a name is usually so firmly associated with the thing it denotes that it is extremely difficult to separate one from the other. That is why, for example, advertising is so effective. Perfumes are not given names like “Bronx Odor,” and an automobile will never be called “The Lumbering Elephant.” Shakespeare was only half right in saying that a rose by any name would smell as sweet. What we call things affects how we will perceive them. It is not only harder to sell someone a “horse mackerel” sandwich than a “tuna fish” sandwich, but even though they are the “same” thing, we are likely to enjoy the taste of tuna more than that of the horse mackerel. It would appear that human beings almost naturally come to *identify* names with things, which is one of our more fascinating illusions. But there is some substance to this illusion. For if you change the names of things, you change how people will regard them, and that is as good as changing the nature of the thing itself.

1. What do you know about the structure of the word “euphemism”?
2. Why is a term like “garbage man” “down-to-earth”, and “sanitation engineer” “auspicious” and “exalted”?
3. Can you think of a statement that reiterates the point Postman makes at the beginning of para. 2 when he says “things do not have real names”?
4. How do you understand the sentence “A pig is not called ‘pig’ because it is so dirty”?
5. Do you think Postman is self-contradictory in Para. 2, where he says both “things do not have ‘real’ names” and “a name is usually so firmly associated with the things it denotes”?
6. Do you agree with Postman when he says at the end of Para. 2 “...if you change the names of things, ...the nature of the things itself”?

Part III. Analysis and Review (20% 45 minutes)

1. Write a simple introduction to one of the following authors with a brief discussion of one of his works. Your writing should be no less than 200 words.

A. Robert Frost B. Jane Austen C. Bernard Shaw

D. William Shakespeare E. Mark Twain F. William Faulkner

2. How many functions of language can you tell? List and explain each of them. Your answer will be no less than 200 words.

Part IV. Essay Writing (30% 30 minutes)

Directions: Write a short essay in which you establish an analogy to help explain how practice is so important in the acquisition of a skill, such as learning of a foreign language. Your essay should be as many as 250–300 words. Write your essay on the answer sheet.