

Lesson 37 A new laptop (一台新的笔记本电脑)

1. 学习场景:

两个小伙伴由其中一位新买的笔记本电脑聊起双方的偏好差异。

2. 原文回顾:

A: Did you just buy a new laptop? It looks really high-end. (你刚买了一台新的笔记本电脑吗? 它看起来真的很高端。)

- **laptop** /'læptɒ:p/ (n.) 手提电脑, 便携式电脑, 笔记本电脑
 - **desktop** 台式计算机
- **high-end** /,haɪ'end/ (adj.) (产品) 高端的, 高档的
 - **low-end** (产品) 低端的; 初级的
- **Do you have a Mac or a PC?** 你的电脑是 Mac 还是 PC?
 - **Mac** 通指苹果笔记本电脑
 - **PC** 通指 Windows 笔记本电脑

B: Yeah, this model just came out. It was really worth the wait. (是的, 这款刚刚上市。等待的确是值得的。)

- **came out** /keɪm aʊt/ (v.) 上市, 出版, 发行
 - 同义词: **release**
 - I can't wait for the new Taylor Swift song to **come out** / **release**. 我等不及要听泰勒·斯威夫特的新歌了。
- **worth** /wɜːθ/ (adj.) 值得.....
 - This house **is worth** about 3 million US dollars. 这所房子大约值 300 万美元。
 - **be worth doing sth.** 值得做某事
 - This plan **is worth considering**. 这个计划值得考虑。

中教重点补充:

- **worth** (adj.) 某物值多少钱, 值得花费时间和精力做某事
 - Our house is **worth** £200,000. 我们的房子价值 20 万英镑。

- I think this matter is **worth** our attention. 我觉得这件事值得我们注意。
- There's nothing **worth** reading in this newspaper. 这份报纸中没什么值得一读的。
- **worthy / worthwhile (adj.)**
 - **worthy** 和 **worthwhile** 也可以表达“值得”的含义，但它们的用法和 **worth** 有所不同；
 - **worthy** 的常用结构是 "be worthy of", 表示“值得花费时间或精力做某事”；
 - Two points in this report **are** especially **worthy of** notice. 这份报告中两点特别值得注意。
 - **worthwhile** 的常用结构是 "be worthwhile to do..."
 - It **is worthwhile to** include really high-quality illustrations. 把真正高质量的插图包括进去是值得的。

A: It looks nice, but what do you need such a fancy computer for? (看起来不错，但你要这么好的电脑做什么？)

- **fancy /'fænsi/ (adj.)** 昂贵的；豪华的
- 和 **fancy** 有关的表达
 - a **fancy** car 一辆高级的车
 - a **fancy** electronic device 一件高级的电子产品
 - a **fancy** name 一个漂亮的名字
- **It..., but what...for?** 先肯定，然后表达疑惑
 - **It** looks fancy, **but what** do you need it **for**? 它看起来很漂亮，但你要它做什么？
 - **It** looks fancy, **but what** is it **for**? 它看起来很漂亮，但（你要它）为了什么呢？
- **What for?** 为什么呢？
 - You bought such a fancy computer? **What for**? 你买这么高级的电脑？为什么呢？

B: Well, I use it to play games and edit photos. What about you? (嗯，我用它来玩游戏和编辑照片。你呢？)

- **edit photos /'edit 'fotooz/ (v.)** 编辑照片
- 用动词不定式来描述目的和用途
 - **to play games** 玩游戏
 - **to edit photos** 编辑照片
 - I use my tablet **to play video games**. 我用平板电脑玩电子游戏。

A: Oh, my laptop is super old. I only ever use it to print documents. (我吗？我的笔记本电脑超级旧。我只用它来打印文件。)

- **print documents /print 'dɑ:kjəmənts/ (v.)** 打印文件
- **document (n.)** (官方) 文件

B: Yeah, I think I've only ever seen you use your phone. (是的，我想我只见过你用手机。)

中教重点补充：

- see 的用法
 - see sb. do sth. 表示看见了动作的全过程，强调一种状态和结果，“看见某人做了某事”。
 - I **saw** you **put** the key in your pocket. 我见你把钥匙放进了口袋里。
 - see sb. doing sth. 强调动作正在进行中，“看见某人正在做某事”。
 - From the window we could **see** the children **playing** in the yard. 从窗口看去，我们可以看见孩子们正在院子里玩耍。

A: That's because my phone's enough for checking emails and paying bills. (那是因为我的手机足以收发邮件和支付账单。)

- checking emails /tʃeɪkɪŋ 'i:meɪlz/ (v.) 查收邮件
- paying bills /peɪɪŋ bɪlz/ (v.) 支付账单
- ...be enough for doing... (for V-ing 表目的和用途)
 - GarageBand **is enough for** simple sound editing. GarageBand 足以进行简单的声音编辑。

B: Mhm...I prefer laptops for checking emails and writing at work. (嗯.....我更喜欢在工作时用笔记本电脑查收邮件和写作。)

- prefer 的用法
 - 当前文已提到所谈论的选项，prefer 后面只跟偏好的选项，无需提及另一选项

中教重点补充：

- prefer (v.)
 - prefer 表示“更喜欢，更倾向于”。
 - Do you **prefer** a particular sort of music? 你有某种特别喜欢的音乐吗？
 - prefer 常和介词 to 搭配，prefer A to B 表示“比起 B 来，更喜欢 A”。
 - I **prefer** jazz **to** rock music. 比起摇滚乐，我更喜欢爵士乐。
 - prefer 还经常和 rather than 搭配使用，表示“更喜欢做某事，而不是另一件事”，也可以表示“宁愿做某事，也不愿做另一件事”。
 - Professors **prefer** to do research, **rather than** teach. 教授们更喜欢做研究，而不是教书。
 - I **prefer** to do some sports **rather than** stay at home. 我宁愿做运动也不愿呆在家里。

A: Oh, right. I forgot that your job is to write for websites. (噢，对。我忘了你的工作是为网站写东西。)

- I forgot / I forget
 - 事实性陈述
 - I **forgot** you are a writer. 我忘了你是个作家。

- 非事实性陈述

- Boss: Just in case **I forget**, please set a reminder for me, Xiao Wang.
老板：小王，以防我忘记，请帮我设置一个提醒。

B: Yeah. A nice big screen makes it easier to read and correct my writing. (是的。一个漂亮的大屏幕使阅读和纠正我的写作更容易。)

- **correct** /kə'rekt/ (v.) 改正

- **Correct** me if I'm wrong. 如果我错了就纠正我。【如果我没说错的话（委婉地表示不同意）】

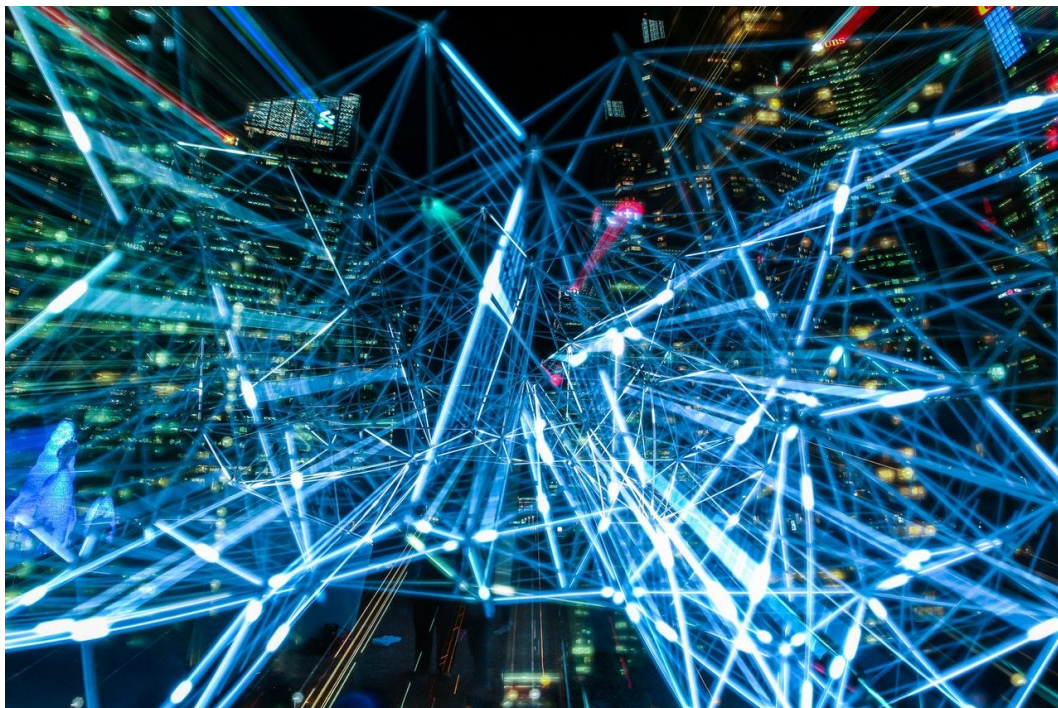
- **correct** /kə'rekt/ (adj.) 正确的

- the **correct** answer 正确的答案

3. 单词总结：



laptop /'læptə:p/ (n.) 手提电脑，便携式电脑，笔记本电脑



high-end /ˌhaɪˈend/ (adj.) 高端的； 高档的



worth /wɜːθ/ (adj.) 值得.....的



fancy /'fænsi/ (adj.) 昂贵的；豪华的



edit photos /'edit 'fotooz/ (v.) 编辑照片



print documents /print 'dɑ:kjəmənts/ (v.) 打印文件



checking emails /tʃeɪkɪŋ 'i:meɪlz/ (v.) 查收邮件



paying bills /peɪɪŋ bɪlz/ (v.) 支付账单



correct /kə'rekt/ (v.) 改正

4. 全文稿:

Hi, I'm Peter. Welcome back to OpenLanguage. In today's lesson, we'll be discussing electronics. I just love electronics. Computers, cellphones, tablets. They're all great ways to communicate with the world. You're using an electronic device to watch me right now. Shopping for new electronics can be fun, but it's important to know what you need before you make a purchase. Check out this dialogue between Ann and her friend Bill. Listen carefully and try to answer this question: What does Ann use her laptop for?

Ann: Did you just buy a new laptop? It looks really high-end.^{[1][2].SEP}

Bill: Yeah, this model just came out. It was really worth the wait.^{[1][2].SEP}

Ann: It looks nice, but what do you need such a fancy computer for?

^{[1][2].SEP}Bill: Well, I use it to play games and edit photos. What about you?

^{[1][2].SEP}Ann: Oh, my laptop is super old. I only ever use it to print documents.^{[1][2].SEP}

Bill: Yeah, I think I've only ever seen you use your phone.^{[1][2].SEP}

Ann: That's because my phone's enough for checking emails and paying bills.^{[1][2].SEP}

Bill: Mhm...I prefer laptops for checking emails and writing at work.^{[1][2].SEP}

Ann: Oh, right. I forgot that your job is to write for websites.^{[1][2].SEP}

Bill: Yeah. A nice big screen makes it easier to read and correct my writing.

So what does Ann use her laptop for? Ann said she only uses her laptop to print documents, but

Bill needs his laptop to do more than just printing.^{[1][2].SEP}

Ann asked Bill, "Did you just buy a new laptop? It looks really high-end."

A "laptop" is a computer that is small enough to carry with you easily. It lets you work anywhere. You can use your laptop in a café, on a train, at home, or anywhere you can sit down. Are you sitting down? If you are, look down at your legs. The flat part on the top of your legs there, between your waist and your knees, is called your "lap." You can put a small computer on the top of your lap, and that's where the name "laptop computer" comes from.

If you have a traditional, bigger computer that sits on the top of your desk, we call that a "desktop." A desktop computer is heavier and more difficult to move around. You won't be putting that on your lap. You'll want to leave your desktop computer at your home or office. Like any products, computers can be high-end or low-end, depending on how much money you want to spend and what your needs are.

A "high-end" laptop is usually powerful and expensive. A "low-end" laptop is less powerful and cheaper. When you shop for a computer, there are many things to consider, so it's important to know exactly what you need to do with your computer before you decide if you want to spend more money on a high-end computer, or spend less money on a low-end one.

Bill wants a computer that can play games and edit photos. He wants something high-end. Ann just wants to print documents. She can definitely use a low-end laptop for that. When we are talking about computers, another question you will hear is "Do you have a Mac or a PC?"

^[L]_{SEP}A "Mac" is an Apple computer and a "PC" usually means a Windows computer. Some people think that Mac computers are well-designed and fashionable, but they're often more expensive.

^[L]_{SEP}You can also ask, "Do you use Mac or Windows?" when talking about the computer's operating system.

I have a high-end Mac laptop I use at work to edit videos and a low-end Windows desktop I use at home to read news and watch movies. What kind of computer do you have and what do you use it for? Tell us in the comments below.

Bill said, "Yeah, this model just came out. It was really worth the wait."

^[L]_{SEP}When we are talking about a machine, "What model is that?" means "What kind is that?"

For example, maybe your colleague has a new phone.^[L]_{SEP}

A: Nice phone! What model is that?^[L]_{SEP}

B: Oh, thanks. This is a Samsung Galaxy S7.

When you're asking about the model, you're asking about the name of the product.^[L]_{SEP} With computers, it's the same thing.^[L]_{SEP}

A: Oh, you have a new Mac. What model is it?^[L]_{SEP}

B: It's a 2019 MacBook Pro.

So in the dialogue, when Bill said, "this model just came out," that means the model is new and the company has just started selling it. You can ask, "When will something come out?" "When did something come out?" or, "Has something come out yet?"

A: When did the 2020 MacBook Pro come out?^[L]_{SEP}

B: It came out last spring.^[L]_{SEP}

A: Has the 2021 MacBook Pro come out yet? I want to buy that.^[L]_{SEP}

B: No, not yet.

A: Oh. When will it come out?^[L]_{SEP}

B: That will come out sometime next year.^[L]_{SEP}

You can also ask, "When will something be released?" "When was something released?" or, "Has something been released yet?"

This has the same meaning and sounds a little more formal than "come out." We use "come out" and "release" when we're talking about songs or movies, too. I can't wait for the new Taylor Swift song to come out. I'm really excited.

Bill said, "It was really worth the wait."^[L]_{SEP}

"Something is worth the wait" means "it's good enough to wait for." My mom takes five hours to make an apple pie, but the pie tastes so delicious. It's really worth the wait. You can also say, "Something is worth waiting for."

A: Here, try my apple pie. So, was it worth the wait?

^[SEP]B: Mhm, it's delicious. It really was worth the wait! Or,

A: Here, try my apple pie. So, was it worth waiting for?

^[SEP]B: Mhm, it's delicious. It really was worth waiting for!

If something isn't good enough, you can say, "Something isn't worth the wait," or, "Something isn't worth waiting for." I waited all year for that new action movie to come out, but after seeing it, I think it wasn't worth the wait.

We use the word "worth" to talk about something's value. Often we use "worth" with money, like "How much is that house worth?" or "It's worth about three million US dollars." But we don't only value money. We also value our time and how we spend it.

If we say something is "worth doing," that means it's worth spending money or time on it, or both. "If you're in London, it's worth visiting the British Museum. It's really interesting." "It's worth studying for an MBA."

Next, Ann said, "It looks nice, but what do you need such a fancy computer for?"^[SEP]

Here, "fancy" is like high-end. "Fancy" means something looks nice, it's good and probably expensive. "Look at that fancy car." "This is a very fancy house." "She's wearing a fancy dress."^[SEP] "What do you need something for?" means "Why do you want it and how will you use it?"

A: What do you need a job for?

^[SEP]B: I need a job to pay my rent and buy things.^[SEP]

A: What do you need clothes for?^[SEP]

B: I need clothes to wear so I don't feel cold and don't scare people on the subway again.

By adding an adjective, we can make the question more specific, such as "What do you need a tall boyfriend for?" or "What do you need a purple sweater for?"

And you can use "such" to add further emphasis, like "What do you need such a big house for?" or "What do you need such beautiful flowers for?"

For short, you can ask, "What's this for?" or "What's that for?" And if you want to just ask the reason for something, you can ask, "What for?" This means "why?"

I see you're studying English. What for? What do you need English for? Tell us your reason in the comments below. You may see people with similar answers, and you may even meet a new friend. Now it's time to try some translation. How would you say this sentence in English? Remember what I said about high-end products.^[SEP]

OK, time's up. If you said, "It looks high-end, but what do you need such a good phone for?" you're right! Great translating.

Bill said, "Well, I use it to play games and edit photos. What about you?"^[SEP]

Here, Bill is talking about how he uses his laptop. I use something to do something, or, somebody uses something to do something. "I use my phone to order food." "My teacher uses the whiteboard to teach her class." "You're using your ears to listen to me talk."

"Edit photos" means "change photos," usually on a computer. People often crop photos to change the photo's shape, resize photos to change the photo's size, or touch up photos to improve some details, such as changing colors or removing skin problems.

Photoshop is the name of a popular photo editing app, and you can use the word "photoshop" as a verb. "Photoshop a photo" means "edit a photo." "I photoshopped my hair longer." "Can you photoshop my teeth whiter?" "I'm going to photoshop my green hat out of this picture, it's embarrassing."

One time I saw a photo of a shark riding a skateboard and I thought it was so cool. Then my mom told me it was photoshopped. That really sucked. It's so hard to know what's real and what's not these days!

Now let's try an exercise. Think for a moment, then fill in the blanks with the correct answers.^[SEP]

If you said, "I use my phone to take pictures," excellent job, you're ready to be a photographer.

You can start by taking my picture. Cheese!

Next up, we have a translation exercise. Translate the following into English.

If you said, "I use my Kindle to read," you got it! Good job! I use my Kindle to read, too. It's so convenient.

Ann said, "Oh, my laptop is super old. I only ever use it to print documents."

^[L]_{SEP}Here, "ever" means "at any time." The sentence "I only ever use it to print documents" means "I only use it to print documents at any time." A "document" is some paper that has information about something. ^[L]_{SEP}It can be an essay, a job contract, a resume, or a list of things to do. I had to sign my name on many documents when I bought a car. A document can be on a computer, too. When we save our writing on Microsoft Word, that file is called a "document."

It's too bad that I only ever use Saturday nights to stay home with my pet squirrel. That girl from work never called me back. My love life is more low-end than Ann's laptop.

^[L]_{SEP}Bill said, "Yeah, I think I've only ever seen you use your phone." ^[L]_{SEP}

So again, "ever" means "at any time." Bill thinks he has only ever seen Ann use her phone for daily computer things, like checking emails or watching videos. Of course, Ann must have a smartphone to do these things, which is really like a small computer. You can say, "I've seen somebody do something," like, "I've seen my mom make apple pies."

We can also say, "I've seen somebody doing something," when we want to describe having seen a continuous action. For example, "I've seen my friend sleeping in my front yard," or "I've seen an elephant running down the road," or "I've seen my friend sleeping in my front yard and an elephant running down the road. My friend woke up and started screaming because the elephant was chasing him." That was a really strange weekend.

I think it's worth your time to see WJ teach grammar. He's super smart! Let's check out Diving Deeper!

Ann said, "That's because my phone's enough for checking emails and paying bills." ^[L]_{SEP}"Checking emails" means reading emails. "Paying bills" can mean paying for the water, gas, electricity or internet in your home. You probably have a cellphone bill too.

A "bill" is a piece of paper that says you need to pay for something. Bills are the worst, but don't forget to pay them. I forgot to pay my water bill last month, so now I have to shower at my neighbor's house. Don't tell my neighbor though. He'll probably call the police again.

If something "is enough for doing something," that means you don't need anything else to do it.

Ann's phone is enough for checking emails and paying bills. That phone is all she needs. She doesn't need a fancy, high-end laptop to do it. Something is enough for verb + ing something.

"This shirt is enough for keeping me warm." "I don't need a car. The subway is enough for getting to work." "I don't need a girlfriend. My pet squirrel is enough for keeping me happy." OK, that didn't sound good. I mean, the squirrel and I have good talks. That squirrel understands me.

Let's try it in an exercise. Listen carefully, then fill in the blanks.

If you said A, "A smartphone is enough for both making phone calls and taking photos," you got it!

Here comes a translation exercise. Translate the following sentence into English.

^[L]_{SEP}Time's up! If you said, "A smartphone is enough for reading e-books," great job! ^[L]_{SEP}

Bill said, "Mhm...I prefer laptops for checking emails and writing at work."

^[L]_{SEP}Remember, "prefer" means you like something more. I prefer chocolate ice cream to vanilla ice cream. Ann said her phone is enough for her, so Bill can reply by saying he prefers laptops for checking emails and writing at work. Bill doesn't need to say "I prefer laptops to phones," because we know what Ann said, and we understand that Bill is comparing his choice to it.

A: Cars are a great way to travel! ^[L]_{SEP}

B: I prefer horses. ^[L]_{SEP}

A: Hamburgers are delicious! ^[L]_{SEP}

B: I prefer pizza. ^[L]_{SEP}

A: Taking a bath is relaxing.

^[L]_{SEP} B: I prefer long conversations with good friends, while slowly drinking wine at the beach in summer. I prefer listening to the sound of the sea. I prefer watching the wind gently kiss the sea goodnight, as the summer sun goes down.

^[L]_{SEP} In that moment, I remember that the meaning of life is to choose my own meaning, try my best, and try to love every minute of it.

But yeah, I agree with Bill about the laptop. It's way better for checking emails and writing. My phone's screen is too small and my fingers are too big. Stupid fingers. I'm always typing the wrong thing on my phone.

Ann said, "Oh, right. I forgot that your job is to write for websites."

^[L]_{SEP} Here, this means Ann already knew that Bill's job is to write for websites, she forgot it and now she remembers. Notice the use of the past tense verb here.

This describes a completed event. ^[L]_{SEP} "I forgot that something" means "I forgot before, but oh yeah!

I remember it now." "I forgot that you work here." "Sorry, Miss. I forgot that I have a girlfriend."

"I forgot that my team won the 1975 World Championship."

When I was growing up, one kid who lived on our street was a big bully. He used to always steal my lunch at school and beat me up. I hated him. I wished I could forget all about him. Last Sunday I saw him in the parking lot at KFC. Ooh, I wanted to tell him how angry I was about all the bad things he used to do to me, but when I talked to him, all I could say was, "Oh, I forgot that you're so big." He picked me up and put me in a garbage can, just like old times. ^[L]_{SEP}

We use "forget" when talking about events in the present or future. "I always forget my own birthday." "I hope I won't forget to brush my teeth tonight." And we use "forgot" to describe events in the past. "I forgot my favorite pillow at the office. I have to stop taking naps there."

A very common expression is "I forgot where I put my something." "I forgot where I put my keys." "I forgot where I put my phone." "I forgot where I put my pants."

If you forget something a lot and it becomes a habit, you can say, "I keep forgetting something."

"I keep forgetting where I put my money." "I keep forgetting to call my brother." "I keep forgetting my colleagues' names!"

If you forget things a lot, people will say that you are "forgetful." So, if you're forgetful like me, I suggest you write things down.

OK, we've made it all the way to our final exercise. Fill in the blank with the correct answer. ^[L]_{SEP} ^[L]_{SEP}

If you said, "Sorry! I forgot. I didn't pick up your laptop from the repair shop," you're right! I'm happy that you didn't forget your grammar. ^[L]_{SEP}

^[L]_{SEP} Bill said, "Yeah. A nice big screen makes it easier to read and correct my writing." ^[L]_{SEP} Here, Bill is using "correct" as a verb. To "correct" something means to see that something is wrong and make it right. For example, if you make a mistake on your test, your teacher may tell you, "That answer is wrong. Correct it." That means "change the wrong answer to a right answer." "Correct" is also an adjective, so after you correct your mistakes, you can ask the teacher, "Is this correct?" This means "Is this right?" A polite way to say this is "Correct me if I'm wrong, but..." This shows that you are not sure if it is correct or not, and you can accept someone else telling you that you're wrong and giving you the right answer.

"Correct me if I'm wrong, but isn't ice cream healthy?" "Correct me if I'm wrong, but I think Taylor Swift is the best singer in the world." If you agree, just write "correct" in the comments below. I'm sure Taylor will be happy to read that.

I prefer watching Diving Deeper to not watching Diving Deeper. That's why I'm excited that we get to watch it right now!

OK, we've reached the end of another action packed lesson. Let's review today's key points.

We talked about the word "fancy" and asked the question "What is it for?" You have a fancy smartphone. What is it for? It's for watching me? Great!

Then, we talked about "I use it to do something," like Bill uses his laptop to play games and edit photos, and I use this class to teach English and make friends.

Finally, we talked about "something is enough for doing something." For example, my laptop is

old and low-end, but it's enough for printing documents.

I hope you've enjoyed this lesson, and as always, if you have any comments or questions, please feel free to write them below. Until next time, I'm Peter Burns. Thanks for studying with me!