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51 Predicting预言,预测 the future 预测未来

Predicting the future is notoriously（adv.）著名地，众所周知地 difficult. Who could have imagined, in the mid 1970s, for example, that by the end of the 20th century, computers would be as common in people's homes as TV sets电视机?

→could + have done（不定式完成式）：表示“过去没有实现的可能性：某事可能发生，但是却没有发生”。

→as common… as… 和……一样普通，通俗。

In the 1970s, computers were common enough, but only in big business, government departments, and large organizations. These were the so-called（adj.）所谓的，号称的mainframe（n.）（大型电脑的）主机，中央处理机 machines.

Mainframe computers were very large indeed, often （occupying占（空间/时间） whole air-conditioned空气调节机；空调设备 rooms）, （employing full-time专职的 technicians技师） / and （run on specially-written software）. Though these large machines still exist, many of their functions have been taken over接替；接任；接手 by small powerful personal computers, （commonly通常地；一般地 known as PCs）.

→句中「现在分词」短语occupying.…，employing…和「过去分词」短语run…，均作“定语”，修饰computers。

正常情况下，「分词短语」作“定语”应直接置于所修饰词之后，即computer之后，但这里由于3个分词短语一起构成的定语很长，而谓语部分相对较短，为使句子平衡，就如句中那样，将整个作定语的分词短语，置于全句的句后。这里「现在分词」occupying和employing表示“当时的经常性动作和状态”。

In 1975, a primitive原始的；发展水平低的 machine （called the Altair牵牛星）, was launched推出，发布（新产品） in the USA. It can properly适当地；恰当地 be described as the first 'home computer' / and it pointed the way to the future. This was followed, at the end of the 1970s, by a machine called an Apple.

→point…to…：把…指向…，为…指出…，

如：A loaded gun was pointed to me. 上满子弹的枪对着我。

→this 这里指的是上面提到的“第一台家用电脑”的出现；A is followed by B：是“A以后出现了B”的意思。即：Altair（牛郎星） was followed by a machine called……（苹果机）

In the early 1980s, the computer giant巨人, IBM produced the world's first Personal Computer. This ran on an 'operating system' （called DOS）, （produced by a then small company （named Microsoft））. The IBM Personal Computer was widely copied.

→run （…）on…：在…上跑；靠…运转（…）；在…上进行（…）

From those humble粗陋的；简陋的 beginnings, we have seen the development of the user-friendly界面友好的，用户容易掌握使用的 home computers / and multimedia machines （which are 表in common use today）.

→in use被用，正被使用。表示进行意义的介词短语，含“被动”含义，多作「主语补语」或「后置定语」，如：

The instruments are in use. 那些仪器正在使用中。

Considering考虑到，就…而论 how recent these developments are, it is even more remarkable {that as long ago as早在 the 1960s, an Englishman, Leon Bagrit, was able to predict预言，预测 some of the uses of computers which we know today}.

Bagrit dismissed对…置之不理，不考虑 the idea {that computers would learn to 'think' for themselves / and would 'rule the world', which people liked to believe in those days}.

Bagrit foresaw预见;预知 a time （when computers would be small enough 目的状to hold in the hand, when they would be capable of providing information about traffic jams塞车，交通拥塞/ and suggesting alternative二中择一；可供选择的事物 routes, when they would be used in hospitals 目的状to help doctors to diagnose诊断;断定 illnesses, when they would relieve缓解，减轻，解除（不愉快的情绪或形势） office workers and accountants会计 of dull, repetitive反复的；重复乏味的 clerical办公室工作的,文书工作的 work）.

→someone or something relieves you of an unpleasant feeling or difficult task, v. 使解脱;使摆脱

someone relieves you of something, 使（从…中）解脱出来

someone is relieved of their duties or is relieved of their post, 解除（或免除）…的职务

→Bagrit foresaw a time （when computers ...，when they would……，when they would be used …，when they would relieve…）

time后，连续出现的4个when从句均为time的「定语从句」。

All these computer uses have become commonplace平凡的,普通的,寻常的事物. Of course, Leon Bagritcould not possibly have foreseen the development of the Internet, the worldwide system （that enables us to communicate instantly with anyone in any part of the world [by using computers （linked to telephone networks）]）.

Nor could he have foreseen {how we could use the Internet to obtain information on every known subject主题,学科,科目, so we can read it on a screen in our homes / and even print it as well [if we want to]}. Computers have become smaller and smaller, more and more powerful / and cheaper and cheaper.

This is 表从what makes Leon Bagrit's predictions（n.）预言；预言的事物 particularly remarkable. If he, or someone like him, were alive today, he might be able to tell us what to expect [in the next fifty years].

（这就是莱昂.巴格瑞特的预测非凡的地方。）

→句中从属连词if引导「非真实性条件状语从句」，从句中的were 和主句中的might be able均为「虚拟语气」用法。

1. Though these large machines still exist, many of their functions have been taken over by small powerful personal computers, （定语commonly known as PCs）.

commonly known as PCs为「过去分词」短语，作「非限定性定语」 （相当于一个非限制性「定语从句」which are commonly known as PCs），用来补充说明computers，如非限定性「定语从句」那样，用作「非限定性定语」的分词短语，与被修饰词之间需用:“逗号”分开，再如：

In these years，many brilliant records have been scored，indicating very rapid progress.

这些年创造了许多优秀成绩，说明进步是快的。The substance，discovered almost by accident，has revolutionized medicine. 这种物质几乎是偶然发现的，却使医学发生了革命性的变化。

1. jam [dʒæm] v. 挤满，拥挤；堵塞；发生故障

vehicles jam a road, v.（车辆）堵住，堵塞（道路）

1. 关于「宾语补足语」

某些vt.及物动词的宾语后面，还需要有一个补足语，意思才完整，宾语和它的补足语构成「复合宾语」。而复合宾语的第一部分通常由名词或代词充当，第二部分表示第一部分的名词或代词发出的动作或身份、特征等，称为「宾语补足语」。

例如：I'm going to paint it pink. 我打算把它涂成粉红色

句子中的“it”显然是宾语。但是主语将要做的并不是it，而是“paint it pink”。“pink” 是句子中的「宾语补足语」。它和宾语之间是逻辑上的“主谓关系”，让句子意思更加完整。这里的宾语it与宾补pink的关系，是系动词与表语的关系（即主系表结构），如大家所知，“主系表结构”是为了呈现主语的特点特征、状态、身份等信息。本质意思是it is pink，形式表现是it pink。

句子中的“pink”是形容词做「宾语补足语」。能够充当「宾补」的大致还有：不定式to do，现在分词-ing，过去分词-ed，副词，介宾短语。一般情况下，「宾补」通常紧跟在宾语之后。

比如：

I find learning English difficult.（difficult是形容词做「宾补」）

I saw the kite <up and down>.（up and down是副词做「宾补」）（kite [kaɪt] n. 风筝；鸢（猛禽））

Tom made the girl cry.（cry是省略不定式符号to的「动词不定式」）

→注意：当感官动词和使役动词，如：see，hear，notice，watch，feel，observe（感官动词）make，have，let，（使役动词）接「宾语补足语」时，不定式的符号to必须省略。

不定式作get的「宾语补足语」时，不省略to；

在help后，不定式可以带to，也可不带。

→适用

1. 在表示“心理状态”的动词后，作「宾语补足语」。

这类动词有：consider，think，believe，discover，find，imagine，judge，suppose，prove等。这类动词后的不定式通常是“to be+形容词或名词”结构，think，consider，find后的to be常可省略。

We consider him (to be) a good teacher. （系表结构：he is a good teacher）我们认为他是一个好老师。

2. 在表示“情感状态”的动词后，作「宾语补足语」。

这类动词有：love，like，prefer，hate，want，wish，expect等。

I'd prefer you <to leave him alone>. 我希望你不要打扰他。

3. 注意：hope，demand，suggest等动词后面，不能接“不定式”作「宾语补足语」。

I hope you can give me a hand. 我希望你能帮我一把。

52 Mud烂泥;泥浆 is mud 实事求是

My cousin堂[表]兄弟姊妹, Harry, keeps a large curiously奇异地；奇怪地-shaped bottle 宾补on permanent永久的 display陈列着，展览着 in his study书房. Despite the fact that the bottle is tinted给染色 a delicate（颜色）柔和的，淡色的 shade色度 of green, an observant善于观察的；观察力敏锐的 visitor would soon notice that it is filled with {what looks like a thick稠密的；不透明, grayish浅灰色的 substance物质;物品;东西}.

→on display陈列着，展览着。介词短语，在keep…on display 短语中，作动词keep后所随宾语的「补足语」。该短语常用作句子的「主语补语」或「后置定语」，如：

These pictures are on display in the shop windows. 这些画片，陈列在商店的橱窗里。

They praised highly of the Chinese lacquer wares （on display）. 他们对展出的中国漆器，给予很高的评价。

→a delicate shade of green浅灰绿色。

If you were to ask Harry what was in the bottle, he would tell you that it contained perfumed芳香的；有香味的 mud. If you expressed表露,表达 doubt or surprise, he would immediately invite you 宾补to smell it / and then to rub涂抹；搽 some into your skin.

→if，从属连词，这里引导一个非真实性「条件状语从句」。从句中的 were和主句中的would tell为「虚拟语气」用法。（下句中if、 expressed 与 would invite 也如此。）

This brief简短的；短暂的 experiment would dispel驱散，消除 any further doubts （you might have）. The bottle really does contain perfumed mud. {主语How Harry came into the possession of this outlandish稀奇古怪的 stuff材料，原料 } makes an interesting story （which he is fond（adj.）喜欢;喜爱 of relating叙述；讲述）.

→you are in possession（n.）of something, 占有；拥有

→come into possession of something 获得某物 （没有the是主动）

come into the possession of…（被……）占有/获得（……）， （有the就是被动）

如：

The document came into the possession of the Daily Mail. 这份文件由《每曰邮报》所获得。

Being the only child，he came into possession （of a great deal of property） [when his father died].

→you are fond（adj.） of someone,喜欢;喜爱

you are fond（adj.） of something, 喜欢…的;爱做…的

Furthermore, the acquisition（n.）获得，收购 of this bottle cured治愈；矫正 him of a bad habit （he had been developing for years）.

→an action or event cures someone of a habit or an attitude, v.矫正，使放弃(习惯或态度)

Harry used to consider it a great joke {to go into expensive cosmetic（n.）化妆品 shops / and make outrageous令人无法容忍的；骇人的 requests for goods （that do not exist）}. He would invent捏造；虚构 fanciful空想的；异想天开的 names [on the spot立刻；当场]. On entering a shop一走进商店, he would ask for a new perfume香水 （called 'Scented清香的;芬芳的 Shadow'） / or for 'insoluble不可溶解的 bath cubes洗浴香精块'.

→On entering a shop 一走进商店。这里 on entering a shop 意即 as soon as he entered a shop.

If a shop assistant told him {she had not heard of it}, he would pretend to be considerably相当,非常,颇 put out恼怒的；烦乱的. He loved to be told {that one of his imaginary products was temporarily out of stock脱销，没现货} / and he would faithfully忠实地；诚心诚意地 promise to call again [at some future date], but of course he never did.

→you feel put out, 恼怒的；烦乱的

The traveller was much put out by the loss of his bag. 由于丟失了提包，这位旅游者极为烦恼。

→be out of stock 脱销，没现货 （stock n.,v. （商店）存（货），储备）

How Harry managed to keep a straight face板着面孔，一本正经 [during these performances] is quite beyond me.

→keep a/one’s face straight 板着面孔，一本正经

→beyond one超出某人（能力等）

Harry does not need to be prompted敦促,激励 to explain {how he bought his precious bottle of mud}. One day, he went to an exclusive高档的,奢华的，独有的,独享的 shop in London / and asked for 'Myrolite', the shop assistant 系looked puzzled（adj.）困惑的，糊涂的，茫然的/ and Harry repeated the word, slowly stressing强调,重音,重读 each syllable音节.

→prompt sb. to do… 促使/鼓励某人做…

When the woman shook her head [in bewilderment（n.）迷惑，糊涂], Harry went on to explain that 'myrolite' was a hard, amber琥珀；琥珀色-like substance （which could be used to remove freckles雀斑）. This explanation evidently显然地，明显地 conveyed传达；表达；传递 something to the woman （who searched shelf架子，搁板；棚 after shelf）.

→in bewilderment为难地。作「方式状语」，修饰shook。

→convey… to… ：向…转达…，使…知道…

She produced出示；拿出；亮出 all sorts of weird奇异的，古怪的 concoctions调制品；配制物, but none of them met满足（要求/需要），达到（目标） with Harry's requirements. When Harry put on his act装模做样 of being mildly轻微地 annoyed, the assistant promised to order点，叫（饭菜等）；订购 some for him. Intoxicated陶醉，得意忘形 by his success, Harry then asked for perfumed mud. He expected the assistant 宾补to look at him [in blank astonishment（n.）惊讶，惊奇；令人惊讶的事物或人].

→put on an act装模做样

→in blank astonishment茫然发愣地。

However, it was his turn to be surprised, for the woman's eyes immediately lit up / and she fetched several bottles （which she placed on the counter柜台） for Harry to inspect检查；审视. For once只有一次, Harry had to admit（常指不情愿地）承认，供认 defeat（n.）战败;失败. He picked up {what seemed to be the smallest bottle} / and discreetly谨慎地 asked the price.

→your face or your eyes light up，现出吃惊的神情；露出喜色

He was glad to get away离开，脱身 with a mere twenty pounds / and he beat赶在…前面；抢先 a hasty仓促完成的；急忙的；草率的 retreat退避；后退；离开, 方式状clutching（通常因害怕或担心）紧握，紧抓 the precious bottle under his arm. From then on, Harry decided that this little game （he had invented） might prove to be expensive.

（从那以后，他认识到自己发明的小小恶作剧是要付出很大的代价的。）

→you beat a retreat, 匆匆离开；仓皇撤退

beat a hasty retreat 匆忙溜走

The curious bottle, which now adorns装饰，打扮 the bookcase in his study, was his first and last purchase of rare cosmetics化妆品.

1. out-rage-ous [aut-'rei-dʒәs] a. 令人无法容忍的；骇人的，出人预料的；令人不悦的。

I must apologise for my outrageous（adj.） behaviour... 我必须为自己极端无礼的行为道歉。

Charges for local telephone calls are particularly outrageous. 本地电话资费贵得出奇。

1. put out

（1）令……不安，令……不快，令……不适：

She never gets put out [even by the most difficult matters]. 即使最困难的事，也不会令她不安。

She was so put out by his rudeness that she didn’t know what to say. 他的无礼令她十分不快，她都不知道该说什么了。

（2）熄灭，将火扑灭：

She put out all the lights [when she left the building]. 她离开大楼时，将所有的灯都关了。

It took the firemen ten hours to put out the fire. 消防队员用了 10个小时才将火扑灭。

（3）使……不便，给……带来麻烦：

Are you sure it won’t put you out [if I stay to dinner] ? 你肯定 我留下来吃晚饭不会给你带来不便吗？

She never puts herself out to help people. 她从不为帮助别人，而自找麻烦。

（4）发表，公布，广播：

The sinking ship put out a call for help over its radio. 那艘下沉的船，通过无线电发出了求救信号。

The police has put out a statement denying these rumours. 警方已经公布了一项否定这些谣言的声明。

1. evi-den-tly ['evi-dәn-tli] ad.显然地，明显地

The man wore a bathrobe / and had evidently just come from the bathroom... 那个男子穿着浴袍，显然是刚刚从浴室出来。

1. defeat用作名词的基本意思是表示“战胜”的行为。从胜方角度看可表示“战胜”; 从败方角度看可表示“战败”。具体译法根据上下文特别是谓语动词而定。

you defeat someone, v.击败;战胜

beat v.赶在…前面；抢先

They were trying to beat the midnight deadline... 他们要努力赶在午夜的最后期限之前完成。

Those （who shop on Sunday to beat the rush避开高峰） are wasting their time. 那些为了在抢购高峰前下手，而在星期天购物的人，是在浪费时间。