

Learn English the Hard Way



Lesson 1 A puma at large

Pumas are large, cat-like animals which are found in America. When reports came into London Zoo that a wild puma had been spotted forty-five miles south of London, they were not taken seriously. However, as the evidence began to accumulate, experts from the Zoo felt obliged to investigate, for the descriptions given by people who claimed to have seen the puma were extraordinarily similar.

in a small village where a woman picking blackberries saw 'a large cat' only five yards away from her. It immediately ran away when she saw it, and experts confirmed that a puma will not attack a human being unless it is cornered. The search proved difficult, for the puma was often observed at one place in the morning and at another place twenty miles away in the evening. Wherever it went, it left behind it a trail of dead deer and small animals like rabbits. Paw prints were seen in a number of places and puma fur was found clinging to bushes. Several people complained of cat-like noises at night and a businessman on a fishing trip saw the puma up a tree. The experts were now fully convinced that the animal was a puma, but where had it come from? As no pumas had been reported missing from any zoo in the country, this one must have been in the possession of a private collector and somehow managed to escape. The hunt went on for several weeks, but the puma was not caught. It is disturbing to think that a dangerous wild animal is still at large in the quiet countryside.

Pumas are large, cat-like animals which are found in America. (SVP)

#### 简写形式:

Pumas are large, cat-like animals found in America.

课文原译:美洲狮是一种体形似猫的大动物,产于美洲。

译文改进:美洲狮是一种产于美洲的、体形似猫的大型动物。

#### 对比:

- Pumas are large, cat-like animals which are found in America.
- Pumas are large, cat-like animals, which are found in America.
- I love Larry who is such a cool guy.
- I love Larry, who is such a cool guy.



### 定语从句,有时候是很让人蛋疼的:

- Pumas are large, cat-like animals which are found in America.
- Pumas are large, cat-like animals, which are found in America.
- Pumas which are found in America are large, cat-like animals.
- > Pumas, which are found in America, are large, cat-like animals.

# Pumas are large, cat-like animals which are found in America. (SVP)

### 定语从句,有时候是很让人蛋疼的:

- Pumas are large, cat-like animals which are found in America. 美洲狮是一种产于美洲的体形似猫的大型动物。
- Pumas are large, cat-like animals, which are found in America. 美洲狮是一种体形似猫的大型动物,(这种体形似猫的大型动物)产于美洲。
- Pumas which are found in America are large, cat-like animals. 产于美洲的美洲狮是一种体形似猫的大型动物。
- Pumas, which are found in America, are large, cat-like animals. 美洲狮,其产于美洲,是一种体形似猫的大型动物。

When reports came into London Zoo that a wild puma had been spotted forty-five miles south of London, they were not taken seriously. [SV]

#### 句末重心原则:

> When reports came into London Zoo that a wild puma had been spotted forty-five miles south of London...

#### 语序还原:

> When reports that a wild puma had been spotted forty-five miles south of London came into London Zoo ...

However, as the evidence began to accumulate, **EXPERTS** from the Zoo felt obliged to investigate, for the descriptions given by people who claimed to have seen the puma were extraordinarily similar. (SVP)

#### 关于 however 的用法:

- ① however 的【副词性用法 VS 连词性用法】:
- > I love Sally; however, Sally doesn't love me. (adv)
- > I love Sally. However, Sally doesn't love me. (adv)
- > I love Sally, however, Sally doesn't love me. (adv)
- > However hard she tried, she couldn't make it. (conj)
- ② however 最常见的用法是和分号搭配:
- > The weather was bad; however, we decided to go out anyway. 天气很糟糕,但我们还是决定出去。

However, as the evidence began to accumulate, **EXPERTS** from the **Zoo felt obliged** to investigate, for the descriptions given by people who claimed to have seen the puma were extraordinarily similar. **(SVP)** 

### 对比:

- > ..., for the descriptions given by people who claimed to have seen the puma were extraordinarily similar.
- > ..., for the descriptions given by people claiming to have seen the puma were extraordinarily similar.

The **hunt** for the puma began in a small village where a woman picking blackberries saw 'a large cat' only five yards away from her. [SV]

#### 对比:

- > The hunt for the puma began in a small village where a woman picking blackberries saw 'a large cat' only five yards away from her.
- > The hunt for the puma began in a small village, where a woman picking blackberries saw 'a large cat' only five yards away from her.
- ▶ 搜寻工作是从一个小村庄开始的,当时村里的一位妇女在采摘黑莓时看见了一只离她仅仅5码远的"大猫"。

#### 真正"准确"的翻译:

> 搜索工作是从<mark>一个当时正在摘黑莓的妇女看见了一只离她仅仅**5**码远的"大猫"的<mark>时庄</mark>开始的。</mark>

#### 对比:

- > The hunt for the puma began in a small village where a woman who was picking blackberries saw 'a large cat' only five yards away from her.
- > The hunt for the puma began in a small village where a woman picking blackberries saw 'a large cat' only five yards away from her.

immediately ran away when she saw it, and experts confirmed that a puma will not attack a human being unless it is cornered. [SV + SVO]

#### 对比:

- > ... that a puma will not attack a human being unless it is cornered.
- > ... that a puma would not attack a human being unless it was cornered.

#### 时态混用:

- > Last month I went to Beijing, which was a great city.
- > Last month I went to Beijing, which is a great city.

immediately ran away when she saw it, and experts confirmed that a puma will not attack a human being unless it is cornered. (SV)

#### 进一步掌握好时态混用:

This time last year, I arrived in Hawaii. The moment I saw the golden sandy beaches, I realized this <u>is</u> the very paradise. Coconut palms swayed gracefully, as if dancing for the summer. Sunlight bathed the land, and the sea breeze carried a faint scent of coconuts, creating a refreshing atmosphere that filled the heart with joy. After spending three days in Hawaii, I understood why everyone <u>loves</u> coming here, because it<u>'s</u> truly beautiful.

The <u>Search</u> <u>proved</u> <u>difficult</u>, for the puma was often observed at one place in the morning and at another place twenty miles away in the evening. [SVP]

### prove的系动词用法:

> The search proved difficult. ≈ The search was difficult.

#### 你可能不太熟的系动词:

- > I feel hot.
- Things went worse.
- > The mountain stands tall.
- > Dishes lie dirty in the sink.
- > The crowd fell silent.

Wherever it went, it left behind it a trail of dead deer and small animals like rabbits. (SVO)

#### 句末重心 or 强调【补语/状语】:

- > It left a trail of dead deer and small animals like rabbits behind it.
- > It left behind it a trail of dead deer and small animals like rabbits.
- > When is has been decided where we are going to drill, we put up an oil derrick at the surface.
- When it has been decided where we are going to drill, we put up at the surface an oil derrick.
- > On the occasions when they have pushed an unconscious human being to shore they have much more likely done it out of curiosity or for sport, as in riding the bow waves of a ship.
- > On the occasions when they have pushed to shore an unconscious human being they have much more likely done it out of curiosity or for sport, as in riding the bow waves of a ship.

Paw <u>prints</u> were <u>seen</u> in a number of places and puma <u>fur</u> was <u>found</u>

clinging to bushes. [SV + SV]

- Puma fur was found clinging to bushes.
- Sally was seen dancing on the roof.
- > Those bandits were found already dead.
- The puma was spotted preying on an antelope.

#### 补语 VS 状语 VS 定语

- > The puma was spotted behind the door.
- The puma was spotted behind the door.
- The puma was spotted by hunters behind the door.

Several people complained of cat-like noises at night and a businessman on a fishing trip saw the puma up a tree. [SVO + SVO]

### 介词短语的灵活用法:

- > A businessman on a fishing trip saw the puma up a tree.
  - 一位去钓鱼的生意人看到了那只美洲狮在树上。

Up a tree, a businessman on a fishing trip <u>saw</u> the puma.

在树顶上,一位去钓鱼的生意人看到了那只美洲狮。

The <u>experts</u> were now fully <u>convinced</u> that the animal was a puma, but where had it come from? [SVP + SV]

### 宾语从句? 状语从句?

- > The experts were now fully convinced that the animal was a puma.
- > The experts were now fully convinced that the animal was a puma.

### 过去完成时 VS 一般过去时

- > ..., but where had it come from?
- > ..., but where did it come from?

As no pumas had been reported missing from any zoo in the country, this one must have been in the possession of a private collector and somehow managed to escape.

[SVP + SVO]

#### 情态动词 + 动词完成式:

> He could/may have done it.

他本应该这么干的。【虚拟语气】

He could/may have done it.

他是可能干出这种事情来的。【表示对过去的推测】

#### must + 动词完成式, 只能表示推测:

- > He must have been through a lot.
- > This puma must have been in the possession of a private collector.



[SV + SV]

It is disturbing to think that a dangerous wild animal is still at large in the quiet countryside. [SVP]

#### 形式主语/宾语:

- > I consider it necessary to tell her the news.
- > It is of great importance to master English.
- > It's no good talking with him.
- > It is not known what makes Larry so cool.
- > We have to make it clear whether Larry is still the coolest guy.
- > It doesn't make sense that there are some guys saying that Larry is not cool.