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Family matters

家庭事务

Compared with other languages, English has a **paucity** of terms for

kinfolk

与其他语言相比，英语中有关亲属关系的词汇很少

【1】 "Merry Christmas from the Family", a country song by Robert Earl Keen **released** in 1994, tells the tale of a **sprawling** festive get-together, **replete** with **champagne punch**, carol-singing and turkey. Many listeners will recognise the **chaos** the **narrator** describes; even more than that, they may **identify** with his **struggle** to **recall** how he is related to the **various guests**. "Fred and Rita drove from Harlingen," Mr Keen croons. "Can't remember how I'm kin to them."

1994年，罗伯特·厄尔·基恩（Robert Earl Keen）发行了一首乡村音乐作品《家人祝你圣诞快乐》，歌词描述了乱哄哄的节日聚会场面：人们痛饮香槟，高唱颂歌，享用火鸡。许多听众都能感受到歌里唱的混乱场面，甚至可能会对他绞尽脑汁想要厘清与各位宾客之间的关系这件事情产生共鸣。基恩低声吟唱道："佛瑞德和丽塔从哈灵根驾车而来，可我记不起自己跟他们是什么关系。"

【2】 That may have something to do with the English language. It is often joked that anyone around your age is a "cousin", **regardless** of actual **relation**, and anyone older is an "**uncle**" or "**aunt**". English is rather **bare** in its terms for family members. Other languages pay far more **attention** to the details.

出现这种搞不清亲戚关系的情况可能与英语本身有关。人们常开玩笑说，不管实际是什么关系，只要和你年龄相仿的人都是"cousin"，比你年长的人都是"**uncle**"或"**aunt**"。有关家庭成员的英语称谓是相当贫乏的。其他语言则更注重精确地称呼。

【3】 Take "brother" and "sister". Societies that value age-order highly often have different terms for older brother, older sister, younger brother and younger sister. These are ge, jie, di and mei in Mandarin (usually doubled in speech, as in didi), or ani, ane, ototo, imoto in Japanese.

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paucity /ˈpɔːsɪtɪ/ n. 少量;缺乏;不足 The **paucity** of fruit was caused by the drought.水果缺乏是由于干旱造成的。

kinfolk /ˈkɪnfəʊk/ n. 亲属 All our **kinfolk**s came to the wedding.我们所有的亲戚都来参加婚礼。

1

released /rɪˈliːst/ v.释放,放出,放走,放开,松开,使自由移动(或飞翔、降落等),发泄,宣泄release的过去分词和过去式 The bird was **released** from the cage. 鸟从笼子里放出去了。

sprawling /ˈsprɔːlɪŋ/ adj.蔓延的,杂乱无序伸展的v.伸开四肢坐(或躺),蔓延,杂乱无序地拓展sprawl的现在分词 He sprawled his signature over the paper.他在纸上潦草地签了名

replete /rɪˈpliːt/ adj. 充满的；装满的 n. 贮蜜蚁 He was **replete** with food and drink.他吃喝得饱饱的。

champagne /ʃæmˈpeɪn/ n. 酒 This skylit "**champagne**" pool features bubbling jets.这skylit"酒"池特征是泡沫喷出。

punch /pʌn(t)ʃ/ vt. 用拳猛击 打孔 n. 猛击, 拳打 冲床, 穿孔机 力量 Punch潘趣(英国木偶戏 Punch and Judy 中的主角) 时 态: punched, punching, punches The **punch** left him dazed and bleeding.这记重拳打得他眼冒金星，还流了血。

chaos /ˈkeɪɒs/ n. 沌，形容词: chaotic I lost my bag in the ensuing **chaos**.我在随后的中丢了包。

narrator /nəˈreɪtə/ n. 叙述者；解说员 Bad pronunciation is a liability in being a **narrator**.不良的发音是做解说员的不利条件。

identify /aɪˈdentɪfaɪ/ vt. 认出, 识别 支持, 同情 vt. & vi. 等同于; 有关联 时 态: identified, identifying, identifies 形容词: identifiable 副 词: identifiably 名 词: identifier The children **identify** themselves with their parents.孩子们支持他们的父母。

struggle /ˈstrʌɡ(ə)l/ vi. 挣扎；奋斗，努力 n. 努力，奋斗；竞争 vt. 使劲移动；尽力使得 The room bore evidence of a **struggle**.这房间里有搏斗过的迹象。

recall /rɪˈkɔːl/ vt. & vi. 回忆起, 回想 vt. 召回, 收回 n. 召回, 唤回 记忆力 时态: recalled, recalling, recalls 形容词: recallable I don't **recall** where to meet her.我不能记起在哪儿见过她。

various /ˈveərɪəs/ adj. 各种各样的；多方面的 副 词: variously The Bible lends itself to **various** interpretations.《圣经》有不同的阐释

guests /gest/ n. 客人；来宾（guest的复数）v. 招待；款待（guest的单三形式） The foreign **guests** were motored from the airfield to the guest house. 汽车把外宾从机场送到宾馆。

2

regardless /rɪˈɡɑːdlɪs/ adv. 不顾后果地 不管怎样, 无论如何 副 词: regardlessly 名 词: regardlessness We will persevere **regardless** of past failures.尽管以前我们失败过，但仍要坚持下去

relation /rɪˈleɪʃ(ə)n/ n. 关系；亲属关系；叙述；故事 We maintain cordial **relation**s with our neighbors.我们与邻里保持亲切友好的关系。

uncle /ˈʌŋk(ə)l/ n. 伯父, 叔父, 舅父, 姑父, 姨父 There are no flies on your **uncle**.你舅舅是个非常可靠的人。

aunt /ɑːnt/ n. 伯母；阿姨；舅； My **aunt**'s coming in a fortnight's time.我姨将在两周后到这儿来。

bare /beə/ adj. 光秃秃的, 无遮蔽的 赤裸的 刚好够的, 勉强的 vt. 使赤裸, 使露出, 使暴露 比较级: barer, barest 名 词: bareness In August the heat is **bare**ly tolerable.8月的炎热让人难以忍受。

attention /əˈtenʃ(ə)n/ n. , 专心, 留心 殷勤, 厚待 Saunders stood stolidly to **attention** .桑德斯笔直地立正。

3

generic /dʒɪˈnerɪk/ adj. 一般的；属的；类的；非商标的 副 词: generically The Latin term"Vulpes"is the **generic** name for the various type of fox.拉丁术语"Vulpes"是不同种类狐狸的属名。

alternatives /ɔːlˈtɜːnətɪv/ n. 替代选择（alternative的复数）；可供选择的事物 This kind of newspaper is alternative press.这种报纸是非正统性报刊。

certain /ˈsɜːt(ə)n/ adj. 无疑, 肯定 某, 某些 She felt a **certain** ambivalence towards him.她对他态度有些矛盾。

situations /ˌsɪtʃʊˈeɪʃnz/ n. 状况；情境；局面（situation的复数形式） We have all been in similar embarrassing situations. 我们都遇到过类似的尴尬局

though **generic alternatives** exist for **certain situations** (like the **abstract concept** of "**siblings**"), not specifying a **specific** person's **seniority** in these languages would be **odd**.

以"兄弟"和"姐妹"为例。在高度重视年龄顺序的社会，年长的兄弟、年长的姐妹、年幼的兄弟和年幼的姐妹分别对应不同的称谓。这些关系在普通话中对应"哥"、"姐"、"弟"和"妹"(口语中常采用叠词形式，如"弟弟")，在日语中对应"ani"、"ane"、"ototo"和"imoto"。虽然在某些情况下也会使用通用的称呼(比如"兄弟姐妹"这一笼统的称呼)，但在这些语言中，不明确表示一个人的长幼尊卑会显得不合规矩。

【4】Then take marriage **relations**. English just adds the rather cold -in-law to refer to a relationship through a **spouse**. French has the rather warmer beau- or belle- (belle-mère for mother-in-law, beau-frère for brother-in-law, and so on), but at least it means "beautiful" rather than **implying** a **bureaucratic shackle**.

再以婚姻关系为例。英语中通过增加冷冰冰的后缀"-in-law"来指代通过配偶建立的关系。法语则更有温度，会在称呼前加上前缀"beau-"或"belle-" (belle-mère 表示配偶的母亲，beau-frère表示配偶的兄弟，等等)，但至少这个前缀的意思是"美丽"，而不像英语中的后缀那样暗含束缚之义。

【5】Other European languages have **distinct** words for the many different relatives by marriage. A Spanish-learner must memorise cuñado/cuñada, yerno, nuera, and suegro/suegra for brother-/sister-, son-, daughter- and father-/mother-in-law (the terms are similar in Portuguese). Spanish even distinguishes cuñado (brother-in-law by blood **relation** to your **spouse**) from concuñado, your **spouse**'s **sibling**'s husband—something like "co-brother-in-law". It also has the term cuñadismo, brother-in-law-**ism**, or talking about things you know little about as though you were an **authority**—the phrase is akin to "mansplaining" in English.

其他欧洲语言有众多的称呼词汇用以描述不同的姻亲亲属。学西班牙语的人必须要记住配偶的兄弟/姐妹是cuñado/cuñada,女婿/儿媳是yerno, nuera，配偶的父亲/母亲是suegro/suegra，(葡萄牙语的表达和西班牙语差不多)。西班牙语甚至将cuñado(与配偶有血缘关系的兄弟)和concuñado(配偶的兄弟姐妹的丈夫，相当于连襟)相互区分。西班牙语中还有一个词cuñadismo，表示姻亲兄弟主义，也有不懂装懂的含义，这个表达类似于英语中的"男人式说教"。

【6】Things get much more **complicated** from there. Arabic **accounts** for which side of the family the **speaker**'s **uncles** and aunts come from: an amm or amma is an **uncle** or **aunt** on your father's side, while a khal or khala is on your mother's. But those who marry into the family do not marry into those titles. Your amm's wife does not become your amma, but is called a zawjat al-amm, "**uncle**'s wife", **lest** you should forget which of the pair is your father's **sibling**. The same goes for cousins, who have no **distinct** term, but are the son or daughter (ibnor ibna) of

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面。

abstract /'æbstrækt/ n. 抽象；摘要；抽象的概念 adj. 抽象的；深奥的 vt. 提取；摘要，使......抽象化 vi. 做摘要；写梗概 Modern **abstract** art is outside my province.我对现代抽象艺术是外行。

concept /'kɒnsept/ n. 概念；观念；想法 Crofts New Hall is an amazing **concept**.克萝芙新庄园是个了不起的概念。

siblings /'sɪblɪŋz/ 同科 **siblings** by blood.嫡系亲属

specific /spə'sɪfɪk/ adj. 特殊的，特定的；明确的；详细的；具有特效的 n. 特效药；细节；特性 He speaks in concepts rather than **specific**s.他讲话时尽用抽象概念,而不谈具体。

odd /ɒd/ adj. 奇怪的；古怪的 单的 奇数的 临时的 余下的；零头的 比较级：odder, oddest 副 词：oddly 名 词：oddness I almost OD'd on mushroom salad.我几乎过量食用了蘑菇色拉。

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relations /rɪ'leʃənz/ n.关系,(人、团体、国家之间的)联系,交往,(事物之间的)关联,亲戚,亲属relation的复数 本课程出自公众号：考研英语外刊学习，制作不易，尊重原创，愿诸君上岸！

spouse /spaʊz/ n. 配偶,夫或妻 时 态: spoused, spousing, spouses Her **spouse** will come to see her on Sunday.她的配偶星期天要来看她。

seniority /siːnɪ'ɒrɪtɪ/ n. 年长；职位高 年资,资历 Promotion in the job was by **seniority**.这种工作得按资历晋升。

implying /ɪm'plaɪɪŋ/ v.含有……的意思,暗示,暗指,说明,表明,必然包含,使有必要imply的现在分词

bureaucratic /ˌbjʊərə'krætɪk/ adj. 官僚的，官僚主义的，官僚作风的 She planned a way to circumvent all the **bureaucratic** red tape.她计划避开官僚体制下的繁文缛礼

shackle /'ʃæk(ə)l/ n. 手铐,脚镣,镣铐 束缚,羁绊 vt. 给(某人)带上手铐或脚镣 束缚 时 态: shackled, shackling, shackles Therefore then can any restraint, not **shackle**, but comfortable, trapes.于是便能不受任何约束、缠缚而自在、消遥。

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distinct /dɪ'stɪŋ(k)t/ adj. 截然不同的，完全分开的 清晰的, 明白的, 明显的 副词: distinctly 名 词: distinctness Peipheral T-cell Lymphoma with Distinct Perifollicular Growth Pattern. A Distinct Subtype of T-cell Lymphoma.具有明显滤泡旁生长方式的外周T细胞性淋巴瘤--T细胞性淋巴瘤的又一特殊亚型?

sibling /'sɪblɪŋ/ n.兄弟姐妹,兄,弟,姐,妹 **sibling**s by blood.嫡系亲属

authority /ɔː'θɒrɪtɪ/ n. 权力, 职权 官方, 局 权威, 专家 Through eclectic model effectiveness function is obtained change eclectically **authority**, expanded thereby change **authority** method.通过折衷型效用函数获得折衷变权，从而扩展了变权方法。

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uncles /'ʌŋkl/ n. 叔伯 Jackson is leaning over backwards to persuade his wealthy uncle.杰克逊想尽种种办法去讨好他那个有钱的叔叔。

complicated /'kɒmplɪkeɪtɪd/ adj.复杂的,难懂的v.使复杂化complicate的过去分词和过去式 She apprehended the **complicated** law very quickly.她很快理解了复杂的法律。

accounts /ə'kaʊnt/ 账目,账号 We offer accounting as a subsidiary course.我们开设会计课，作为副修课程。

speaker /'spiːkə/ n. 扬声器；说话者；演讲者；说某种语言的人 名 词: speakership Banana plug-compatible **speaker** terminals grace the amplifier outputs, facilitating the use of audiophile-quality **speaker** cables.香蕉插头兼容的扬声器终端宽限期放大器输出，促进利用高保真品质扬声器电缆。

ism /'ɪz(ə)m/ n. 主义；制度；学说；论 ISM abbr. Industrial Security Manual 工业安全手册 The microorgan-**ism**s employed include mainly chemical conversion bacteria,phototropic bacteria and alga.化学转化细菌、向光性细菌和藻类。

lest /lest/ conj. 唯恐，以免；担心 I fear **lest** we commit an inexcusable blunder.我为我们会犯不可原谅的错误而担忧。

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distinctions /dɪs'tɪŋkʃənz/ n.差别,区别,对比,优秀,杰出,卓越,特质,特点,不同凡响distinction的复数 本课程出自公众号：考研英语外刊学习，制作不易，尊重原创，愿诸君上岸！

complex /'kɒmpleks/ adj. 复杂的；合成的 n. 复合体；综合设施 Complex formation with multidentate ligands is called chelation, and the **complex**es are called chelates.复杂地层与多齿配位体被称作整合，并配合被称为整合物。

relative /'relətɪv/ adj. 相对的；有关系的；成比例的 n. 亲戚；关系词；相关物；亲缘植物 Relative pronouns and adverbs introduce attributive clauses.关系代词和关系副词引导定语从句。

your amm, amma, khal or khala, as the case may be.

还有更复杂的情况。阿拉伯语会区分父系亲属和母系亲属：amm或amma表示父亲那边的叔叔或阿姨，而khal或khala表示母亲这边的叔叔或阿姨。但这亲属的配偶又不能直接照搬这些称呼。amm的妻子不能叫amma，要称呼为zawjat al-amm，这样你就记得住哪一方是你父亲的兄弟姐妹了。表亲的称呼方式也是如此，阿拉伯语对这些人没有特定的称呼，视情况称呼为amm, amma, khal或khala的儿子或女儿（ibnor ibna）。

【7】Chinese makes many of the same **distinctions**. But its system is even more **complex**, as in many cases it requires the **speaker** to remember whether a **relative** is older or younger than they are, whether relatives of their parents are older or younger than they, and so forth. There are many **armchair** theories about the relationship between language and culture that do not hold up to **scrutiny**. The East Asian languages' focus on **seniority**, however, is quite plausibly related to the importance Confucianism places on the **virtue** of respecting your elders and forebears.

中文中也有很多类似的区分方式。但中文的区分体系甚至更复杂，因为在许多情况下，它要求说话人记住这个亲戚比自己年长还是年轻，这个亲戚的父母辈比自己的父母辈年长还是年轻，等等。很多关于语言和文化之间关系的研究都是纸上谈兵，经不起推敲。然而，东亚语言对论资排辈的重视似乎与儒家思想强调尊敬长辈、敬奉祖先有关。

【8】Finally, it is a **curious** fact that English lacks a word to describe the **crucial** relationship between the parents of a married couple. Hebrew and Yiddish, though, have mehutanimand machatunim, and Spanish offers consuegros for this **critical** relationship. Anglophones, meanwhile, are **forced** to say something **awkward** like "my son's wife's parents".

最后，还有件奇怪的事，英语中没有可以用来称呼婚姻双方父母之间关系的词汇。希伯来语和意第绪语分别用mehuanimand 和machatunim来称呼，西班牙语是用consuegros来称呼，与此同时，以英语为母语的人只能用一些拗口的话来表达，比如"我儿子老婆的父母"。

【9】The focus that some cultures put on **labelling** every possible **relation** with a **distinct** term does not mean that those who lack those terms do not pay **heed** to **familial networks**. Every English-speaking family seems to have at least one **armchair genealogist** who can tell you that Henry Ford was a great-great-great **uncle** or fourth cousin five times removed. But each family also has members who couldn't care less, **waving** a hand and saying "**uncle**" or "cousin".

强调亲属关系的文化对每一种可能存在的关系都有确切的称呼，但这并不意味着那些没有这些称呼的文化就不注重家庭关系。在讲英语的国家，几乎每个家庭都至少有一位纸上谈兵的族谱专家，他能告诉你亨利·福特是他的高叔祖父或者是隔了五辈四房的远亲。但是每个家庭也有毫不在乎这些称呼的人，他们挥手打招呼时就叫

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armchair /ɑːˈmtʃeə/ n. 扶手椅 That **armchair** is comfortable but not very aesthetic.那张扶手椅坐起来舒服，但不太美观。

scrutiny /ˈskruːtɪnɪ/ n. 监视；详细审查；细看；选票复查 The press has intensified its **scrutiny** of the candidate's background.新闻界已增强了对该人背景的调查

virtue /ˈvɜːtjuː/ n. 美德, 德行 优点, 长处 She's a pattern of all the **virtue**s.她是一切美德的楷模。

curious /ˈkjʊərɪəs/ adj. 好奇的, 好求知的 奇妙的, 稀奇的 副 词: curiously 名 词: curiousness A **curious** child is a teacher's delight.老师喜欢有求知欲的孩子。

crucial /ˈkruːʃ(ə)l/ adj. 决定性的；重要的；定局的；决断的 副 词: crucially Money will be **crucial** to the accomplishment of our objectives.要实现我们的目标，钱是至关重要的。

critical /ˈkrɪtɪk(ə)l/ adj. 批评的，爱挑剔的；决定性的；危险的；临界的；鉴定的；评论的 副 词: critically We must inherit in a **critical** way.我们要以批判的方式继承。

forced /fɔːst/ adj.被迫的,不得已的,勉强的,不真诚的v.强迫，迫使(某人做某事),用力，强行(把...移动),使发生(尤指趁他人尚未准备)force的过去分词和过去式 The enemy was **forced** to ground arms.敌人被迫放下武器。

awkward /ˈɔːkwəd/ adj. 笨拙的；尴尬的；棘手的；不合适的 副 词: awkwardly 名 词: awkwardness I landed **awkward**ly and twisted my ankle.我笨拙地跌在地上，扭伤了脚踝。

familial /fəˈmɪljəl/ adj. 家庭的；家族的；遗传的 We report one family, suffered from the **familial** exudative vitreoretinopathy, two genertions five subjects examined.本文报告一罗患家族性渗出性玻璃体网膜症的家族病例。

labelling /ˈleiblin/ v.贴标签于,用标签标明,(尤指不公正地)把...称为label的现在分词 The influence of a palladium catalyst on the microwave tritium **labelling** reaction and dehalogenation or addition of the starting materials are discussed.讨论了引入钯催化剂对微波氚标记,及微波氚标记过程中脱卤和加成作用的影响。

heed /hiːd/ vt.注意,留心,听从(劝告或警告)n.注意,留心 They gave little **heed** to the rumours.他们对流言蜚语不予理睬。

genealogist /ˌdʒiːniˈælədʒist/ n. 系谱学者,系谱专家 "It is common to find people of French Canadian descent to be related to large numbers of other French Canadians," said **genealogist** Christopher Child, who conducted the research.有关共和党总统竞选人约翰?麦凯恩的研究结果可能没那么令人惊讶。研究发现，他是第一夫人劳拉?布什的第六代表亲。

networks /ˈnet,wɜːk/ n. 网络；广播电视网（network的复数形式）v. 用网覆盖；在广播网联播（network的三单形式） In this paper, we propose a new network model-self-similar circumfluent network.文章提出了一种新的光网络模型-自相似式流网状网。

waving /ˈweivɪŋ/ v.挥手,招手,摆手,挥臂,挥手指引，挥手示意(方向),挥舞,挥动(手中之物)wave的现在分词 The carrier wave has got out of phase with the signal wave.载波同信号波是异相的。

permit /pəˈmɪt/ vi. 许可；允许 vt. 允许；许可 n. 许可证，执照 The law **permits** (not **permits** of) camping on the beach.法律允许（不能用 permits of）在海滩上宿营。

amount /əˈmaʊnt/ vi. 总计，合计；共计；相当于；产生...结果 n. 数量；总额，总数 A large **amount** of amorce was needed.需要大量的起爆剂。

listener /ˈlisnə/ n. 倾听者，收听者 He would brook no interruptions from his **listener**s.他不能容忍听众打岔。

labels /ˈlebl/ n. 标签；分类（label的复数形式）v. 贴标签于；把...称为（label的三单形式） He attached **labels** to all his bags.他在所有的袋子上都系上标签。

etch /etʃ/ vt. 蚀刻；鲜明地描述；铭记 vi. 蚀刻 n. 腐蚀剂；刻蚀 Jo watched the outline of the town **etch**ed against the sky.乔望着在天空映衬下十分醒目的整个城镇。

croon /kruːn/ vt. & vi. 带感情地唱(古老的流行歌曲等) 低声吟唱 时 态: crooned, crooning, croons 名 词: crooner The mother **croon**ed her baby to sleep.母亲低声哼着哄婴儿入睡。

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①短语：1.原文：Compared with other languages, English has a paucity of terms for kinfolk
词典：Compared with与……相比较
例句：It's much easier **compared with** last time.
这与上次相比容易得多。

【10】All languages **permit** you to describe relationships in any **amount** of detail your **listener** would like. But those that require highly **specific labels** for **kinfolk**, forcing you to **recall** the details every time you speak, surely **etch** those facts deep in the mind. That makes an Arabic singer much less likely to **croon** "can't remember how I'm kin to them" than an American one.

所有的语言都可以根据听者注重细节程度的偏好来描述关系。但是那些对亲属关系叫法精准、迫使你每次说话都要思考描述亲属关系的词汇的语言肯定会让人们把相关关系铭记在心。因此，跟美国歌手相比，阿拉伯歌手更不可能哼唱"可我记不起跟他们是什么关系"。

今日词汇
project['prɔdʒekt]
n. 方案、工程、项目；专题研究
v. 投射、放映；计划、规划
考研出现次数：15+
考频：★★
考点回顾
阅读考点真题例句：
[例] Databases used by some companies don't rely on data collected systematically but rather lump together information from different research projects. （2009年英语一 29题）
[译] 很多公司采用的数据库并不是依靠系统收集的数据建立起来的，只是不同研究项目中所收集信息的混杂。

②长难句
1. 原文：**The focus** that **some cultures** put on labelling **every possible relation** with a distinct term **does not mean** that **those** who **lack those terms do not pay heed to familial networks**.

2. 分析：该句主句的结构为主（**The focus**）谓（**does not mean**）宾语从句（**that those who lack those terms do not pay heed to familial networks**）第一个**that**引导了定语从句，定语从句的结构是主（**some cultures**）谓（**put on labelling**）宾（**every possible relation**）。第二个that引导了宾语从句，从句的结构是主（**those who lack those terms**）谓（**do not pay heed to**）宾（**familial networks**）who引导了定语从句，从句的结构是主（**who**）谓（**lack**）宾（**those terms**）。

3.译文：强调亲属关系的文化对每一种可能存在的关系都有确切的称呼，但这并不意味着那些没有这些称呼的文化就不注重家庭关系。

1. 原文：**Every English-speaking family** seems to have at least **one armchair genealogist** who **can tell you that Henry Ford** was a great-great-great uncle or fourth cousin five times removed.

3. 分析：主句的结构为主（**Every English-speaking family**）谓（**seems to have**）宾（**one armchair genealogist**）who引导了定语从句，先行词是one armchair genealogist，定语从句的结构是主（**who**）谓（**can tell**）宾（**you**）宾补（**that Henry Ford** was a great-great-great uncle or fourth cousin five times removed）。

3.译文：在讲英语的国家，几乎每个家庭都至少有一位纸上谈兵的族谱专家，他能告诉你亨利·福特是他的高叔祖父或者是隔了五辈四房的远亲。

④背景知识：
1.Confucianism：儒家思想。是先秦诸子百家学说之一。儒家思想也称为儒教或儒学，由孔子创立，最初指的是从事丧葬行业的司仪，后来以此为基础逐渐形成完整的儒家思想体系，成为中国传统文化的主流，影响深远。它是中国影响最大的流派，也是中国古代的主流意识。儒家学派对中国，东亚乃至全世界都产生过深远的影响。"儒学"、"儒家"、"儒教"这些概念要分清。儒学作为一种学说，儒家作为一个阶层，儒教作为一种信仰，三者相同也不同，需要区分开来。

段落大意：

2. 原文：That may have something to do with the English language.
词典：have something to do with 与……有关
例句：In the 1950s, African American writers had few chances to demonstrate that they had any knowledge of life that did not **have something to do with** Black.
在20世纪50年代，非裔美国作家几乎没有机会证明他们对生活的了解与黑人无关。

3. 原文：It is often joked that anyone around your age is a "cousin", regardless of actual relation, and anyone older is an "uncle" or "aunt".
词典：regardless of 不顾，不管
例句：Everyone has the right to good medical care **regardless of** their ability to pay.
无论支付能力如何，每个人都有权得到良好的医疗

4. 原文：Other languages pay far more attention to the details.
词典：pay attention to 注意，重视
例句：You should always **pay attention to** personal grooming.
你应随时注意个人仪容。

5. 原文：but at least it means "beautiful" rather than implying a bureaucratic shackle.
词典：at least 至少
例句：**At least** he knew right from wrong.
至少他明白是非。

6.原文：but at least it means "beautiful" rather than implying a bureaucratic shackle.
词典：rather than 而不是；宁可……也不愿
例句：He will drain, **rather than** enrich, the country.
他将耗尽而不是增加国家的财富

7. 原文：the terms are similar in Portuguese
词典：be similar in 在某方面与……相似
例句
Stars with similar masses might not **be similar in** size because they have different densities.?
相似质量的恒星可能在大小上有所不同，因为它们有着不同的密度。

8. 原文：It also has the term cuñadismo, brother-in-law-ism, or talking about things you know little about as though you were an authority—the phrase is akin to "mansplaining" in English.
词典：be akin to 与……同类的；近似的
例句：This process **is akin to** piecing together a jigsaw puzzle.
这过程类似于拼七巧板。

9. 原文：Arabic accounts for which side of the family the speaker's uncles and aunts come from
词典：account for 对…负有责任；对…做出解释；说明……的原因；导致；（比例）占
例句：The gene they discovered today doesn't **account for** all those cases.
他们今天发现的那种基因解释不了所有的那些情况。

10. 原文：There are many armchair theories about the relationship between language and culture that do not hold up to scrutiny.
词典：hold up (论据或理论等)经受得住检验
例句：Democrats say arguments against the bill won't **hold up**.
民主党人说，反对这项议案的论点站不住脚。

11. 原文：The focus that some cultures put on labelling every possible relation with a distinct term does not mean that those who lack those terms do not pay heed to familial networks.
词典：**pay heed to 注意（留意）**
例句：
That new world is another reason to **pay heed to** these writers.
那个新的世界是令我们关注这些作家的另一个原因。

③写作技巧：1. the phrase is akin to "mansplaining" in English.译文：这个表达类似于英语中的"男人式说教"
the terms are similar in Portuguese译文：葡萄牙语的表达和西班牙语差不多
akin和similar都可以表达"相似的"的含义，在写作中可用不同的词汇进行同义替代，丰富文章表达。

【1】人们可能会对《全家共度圣诞节》中作者想要厘清与各位宾客之间的关系这件事情产生共鸣。
【2】出现这种搞不清亲戚关系的情况可能与英语本身有关。
【3】不同语言对"兄弟"和"姐妹"的称呼。
【4】不同语言对婚姻中存在的关系的称呼。
【5】欧洲语言有众多的称呼词汇用以描述不同的姻亲亲属。
【6】阿拉伯语会区分父系亲属和母系亲属。
【7】中文的亲属称呼区分体系比阿拉伯语更加复杂。
【8】英语中没有可以用来称呼婚姻双方父母之间关系的词汇。
【9】有亲属关系称呼与注重家庭关系之间没有必然联系。
【10】描述亲属关系词汇丰富的语言会让人们把相关关系铭记在心。