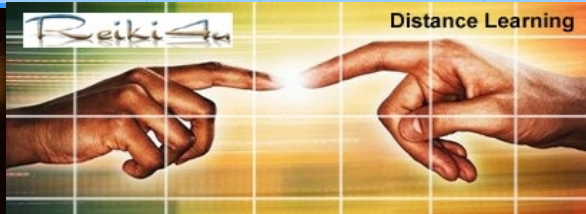
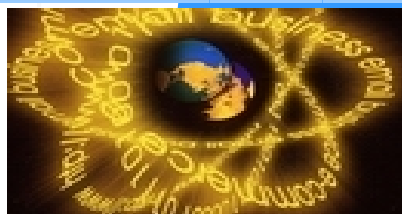


全国高校网络教育公共基础课教材

# 大学英语



专升本阶段

# Unit 5

## *Unleashing the Power of Creativity*

# Contents



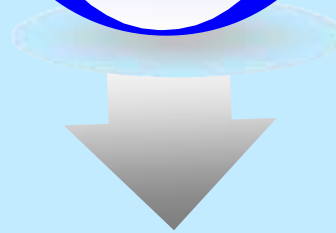
**I. Text Study**

**II. Use of English**

**III. Writing Skills**

**IV. Exercises and Quiz**





## Paras. 1-3



- 1 I've always been an optimist and I suppose that **is rooted in my belief that the power of creativity and intelligence can make the world a better place.** For as long as I can remember, I've loved learning new things and solving problems. So when I sat down at a computer for the first time in seventh grade, I was **hooked**. It was a **clunky** old teletype machine and it could barely do anything compared to the computers we have today. But it changed my life.
- 2 When my friend Paul Allen and I started Microsoft 30 years ago, we had a vision of “a computer on every desk and in every home,” which probably sounded a little too **optimistic** at a time when most computers were the size of refrigerators. But we believed that personal computers would change the world. And they have.
- 3 And after 30 years, I'm still as **inspired** by computers as I was back in seventh grade. I believe that computers are the most **incredible** tool we can use to feed our curiosity and inventiveness—to help us solve problems that even the smartest people couldn't solve on their own.



## Paras. 4-5



- 4 Computers have transformed how we learn, giving kids everywhere a window into all of the world's knowledge. They're helping us build communities around the things we care about and to stay close to the people who are important to us, **no matter where they are**. Like my friend Warren Buffett, I feel particularly lucky to do something every day that I love to do. He calls it “tap-dancing to work.” My job at Microsoft is as challenging as ever, but what makes me “tap-dance to work” is when we show people something new, like a computer that can recognize your handwriting or your speech, or one that can store a lifetime's worth of photos, and they say, “I didn't know you could do that with a PC!” But **for all** the cool things that a person can do with a PC, there are lots of other ways we can put our creativity and intelligence to work to improve our world.
- 5 There are still far too many people in the world whose most basic needs go **unmet**. Every year, for example, millions of people die



## Paras. 5



from diseases that are easy to prevent or treat in the developed world. I believe that my own good fortune brings with it a responsibility to give back to the world. My wife, Melinda, and I have **committed to** improving health and education in a way that can help as many people as possible. As a father, I believe that the death of a child in Africa is no less **poignant** or **tragic** than the death of a child anywhere else. And that it doesn't take much to make an **immense** difference in these children's lives. I'm still very much an optimist, and I believe that progress on even the world's toughest problems is possible—and it's happening every day. **We're seeing new drugs for deadly diseases, new diagnostic tools, and new attention paid to the health problems in the developing world.** I'm excited by the possibilities I see for medicine, for education and, of course, for technology. And I believe that through our natural inventiveness, creativity and willingness to solve tough problems, we're going to make some amazing achievements in all these areas in my lifetime.





# Sentence Analysis







1. (*Para. 1*) I've always been an optimist and I suppose that is rooted in my belief that the power of creativity and intelligence can make the world a better place.

参考译文:

我天性乐观，我想我的乐观天性根植于我坚信人类凭创造力和聪明才智可以让世界更加美妙的信念之中。

- **optimist**: one who usually expects a favorable outcome 乐观主义者
- “that the power of creativity and intelligence can make the world a better place” 是“that is rooted in my belief” 里“that”的同位语从句。
- **root**: vt. to implant by or as if by the roots 使根深蒂固

e.g. Some old ideas are rooted in our mind.

一些旧观念在我们的头脑中根深蒂固。



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**2. (Para. 1) It was a clunky old teletype machine and it could barely do anything compared to the computers we have today.**

**参考译文：**

那还只是一部笨重的老式电传打字机，与我们现在的电脑相比简直一无是处。

➤ **clunky**: clumsy in form or manner; awkward 笨重的

e.g. clunky high-heel shoes

笨重的高跟鞋

➤ **barely**: adv. by a very little; hardly 仅仅；几乎没有

e.g. We barely had time to catch the train.

我们仅有勉强赶上火车的时间。

● **barely 的用法**

**1. barely 用在句首时引起句子倒装。**





2. **barely** 含有否定意义，因此用在反意疑问句中时，句尾的疑问短句要用肯定形式。

3. **barely** 与 **hardly** 和 **scarcely** 意思相近，意为“几乎，勉强，仅能做到”。但如果后面跟有 **ever**, **any**, **at all** 等词，只能用 **hardly** 或 **scarcely**，不能用 **barely**。

● 【辨析】 **barely**, **hardly**, **rarely** 和 **scarcely**

➤ **rarely** 意为“难得，不常” (not often) 。

*e.g.* Rarely have I seen him smile.

➤ **hardly** 往往强调能力上有困难，意为“简直不，很难”。

*e.g.* He can hardly jump over the fence.

➤ **scarcely** 往往强调不足，常同 **enough**, **sufficient**, **any** 等表示程度的词连用，意为“不太，几乎，简直没有”。

*e.g.* He has scarcely any money left.





3. (*Para. 4*) Computers have transformed how we learn, giving kids everywhere a window into all of the world's knowledge.

**参考译文:**

电脑改变了我们学习的方式，为世界各地的孩子们开启了一扇通往世界知识宝库之门。

➤ **transform:** to change markedly the appearance or the nature of 使……改变

e.g. He transformed his garage into a guest house.  
他把他的车库改成了客房。

➤ **window:** *n.* 这里用的比喻修辞法，把电脑比喻成窗户。





**4. (Para. 4) They're helping us build communities around the things we care about and to stay close to the people who are important to us, no matter where they are.**

**参考译文：**

它们（电脑）帮助我们就关注的话题建立起各种（网上）社区，而对于我们至关重要的人来说，无论他们身在何处，我们都能够与他们保持紧密联系。

● **no matter what / who / when / where / which / how: 分别相当于 whatever / whoever / whenever / wherever / whichever / however, 可以引导让步状语从句。Whatever / whoever / whomever / whichever 还可以引导名词性从句。**

**e.g. No matter what happened, he would not mind.**

**(no matter what 也可以用 whatever 替换。)**

**Whatever you say is of no use now.**

**(whatever 引导主语从句，不能用 no matter what 替换。)**





**5. (Para. 5) There are still far too many people in the world whose most basic needs go unmet.**

**参考译文：**

世界上仍有太多的人，他们连最基本的生活需求都无法得到满足。

➤ 修饰形容词和副词的**too**可以被**far**修饰，以示强调。**far too**即表示“实在太，过于”的意思。

*e.g.* **The coffee is far too hot.** 咖啡太烫了。

**He was at the airport far too early.** 他来飞机场来得太早了。

➤ **unmet: adj.** 未满足的，未相遇的

● “**un-**”为否定前缀，与动词的过去分词构成形容词。

*e.g.* **unemployed: adj.** 失业的；

**unacceptable: adj.** 无法接受的；

**uneaten: adj.** 未吃的





6. (*Para. 5*) As a father, I believe that the death of a child in Africa is no less poignant or tragic than the death of a child anywhere else.

参考译文:

作为一个父亲,我认为,在非洲死去一个孩子所带来的痛苦和悲伤丝毫不亚于任何其他地区的孩子死去所带来的影响。

➤ **poignant**: keenly distressing to the mind or feelings 痛苦的

➤ **no less... than**: 不低于, 不少于

➤ **no more... than**: 和……一样不

e.g. Your second point is no less important than the first one.

你第二点的重要性不亚于第一点。

You're no more capable of speaking Chinese than I am.

你我都不会说汉语。





**7. (Para. 5) We're seeing new drugs for deadly diseases, new diagnostic tools, and new attention paid to the health problems in the developing world.**

**参考译文:**

我们看到治疗致命疾病的新药、新的诊断设备不断面世，发展中国家的健康问题得到新的关注。

➤ **deadly:** causing or tending to cause death 致命的，致死的

e.g. **This is a deadly poison.**

这是一种致命的毒药。

➤ **diagnostic:** of, relating to, or used in a diagnosis 诊断的

➤ **pay... attention to:** 关注

e.g. **Attention should be paid to the way of dealing with such problems.**

应该注意这种问题的处理方式。





# Words and Expressions



- **unleash**
- **optimistic**
- **hook**
- **clunky**
- **incredible**
- **unmet**
- **poignant**
- **tragic**
- **inspire**
- **immense**

- **be rooted in**
- **no matter**
- **for all**
- **commit (oneself) to**



# unleash



➤ *vt.* to release or loose from or as if from a leash 解开，放开

e.g.

The old man **unleashed** his dog on the burglar.

老人放狗咬住入室的盗贼

**unleash** one's anger on sb

对某人大发雷霆

## ● 词根leash

*n.* a chain, rope, or strap attached to the collar or harness of an animal so as to lead it or hold it in check (拴) 动物的皮带或链子

*vt.* to restrain with or as if with a leash

用皮条或象用皮条控制



# optimistic



➤ *adj.* believing that good things will happen in the future  
乐观的

e.g.

We are still **optimistic**, whatever the result.  
我们仍然乐观，不论结果如何。

The stockholders are **optimistic** about the company's future.  
股东对公司的前景很乐观。

I am very **optimistic**.  
我很乐观。



# hook



➤ *vt.* to succeed in making sb. interested in sth. or attracted to sth. 沉迷，上瘾

e.g.

I am **hooked** on video game.  
我迷上电子游戏了。

Don't be **hooked** on internet.  
不要上网成瘾。



# clunky



➤ *adj.* heavy and awkward to wear or use 笨重的

e.g.

I don't wear those **clunky** high-heel shoes.

我不穿那种笨重的高跟鞋。

This tool is a little bit **clunky**.

这个工具有一点笨重。



# incredible



➤ *adj.* **extremely good, large, or great** 奇异的，惊人的

*e.g.*

It moved at **incredible** speed.

它以令人难以置信的速度移动。

This balloon ride is **incredible**.

这次乘气球旅行简直令人难以置信。

An **incredible** sound assaulted their ears.

一阵阵难以置信的声音冲进他们的耳中。



# unmet



➤ *adj.* **not satisfied** 未满足的

e.g.

**Some customer's needs remain unmet.**

一部份客户的需求未能得到满足。

**Microfinance market is huge and needs are largely unmet.**

小额信贷市场庞大且很大需求仍未得到满足。



# poignant



➤ *adj.* making you feel sad or full of pity 令人痛苦的

e.g.

I could not erase from my mind the **poignant** thought.  
我无法驱散萦绕在我心头的痛切之感。

Most of them spoke of the past times with **poignant** regret.

大多数人带着沉痛惋惜的语调谈论着过去的一切。

Along the way she tells a **poignant**, bittersweet story.

在路上她讲述了一个辛酸、却又苦乐掺半的故事。





# tragic



- *adj.* a tragic event or situation makes you feel very sad, especially because it involves death or suffering 悲惨的, 悲剧的

e.g.

The famous politician died in a **tragic** accident.

那位著名的政治家死于一场悲惨的意外事故。

Her **tragic** story touched us all.

她的悲惨经历让我们都很触动。

We are stunned by the **tragic** news.

这个噩耗令我们十分震惊。



# inspire



➤ *adj.* to exert an animating, enlivening, or exalting influence on 激发, 启示

e.g.

We should **inspire** the children to think.  
我们应启发儿童思考。

The record of his triumphant passage will **inspire** free hearts for all time.  
他的胜利航程将永远鼓舞着自由的心灵。

Some teachers **inspire** me so much.  
有些老师给我非常大的启发。



# immense



- *adj.* marked by greatness especially in size or degree 巨大的，广大的

e.g.

It's almost impossible to find him in the **immense** ocean.

在无边无际的海洋中要找到他几乎是不可能的。

The stars hang like lamps from the **immense** vault.

星星像一盏盏灯，从那无边的苍穹上垂挂下来。

Her services to the state have been **immense**.

她对国家的贡献极大。



# be rooted in



- **grow roots in (earth)** 植根于（土地）

e.g.

The tree **is** firmly **rooted in** the ground.

这棵树深深扎根在地里。

The plant **is** firmly **rooted in** the garden.

这种植物在花园里生根成长。

- **be deeply ingrained in (one's mind)** 在……中根深蒂固

e.g.

The awareness of environmental protection is **being rooted in** the people's minds.

环保意识正扎根于人们的心中。

The idea of saving face **is** deeply **rooted in** Asian culture.

面子问题在亚洲文化中根深蒂固。



# no matter



➤ **it makes no difference; regardless of 无论，不管……**

e.g.

**No matter** what you may do, do it well.

不论你做什么，好好地做。

**No matter** what he is, he must obey the law.

不论他是什么人，他必须遵守法律。

**No matter** how badly he had slept he was always up early.

他睡得再差也会早起。





➤ **in spite of** 尽管，虽然

*e.g.*

**He never stopped trying for all his failures.**

尽管他失败，但他从没放弃努力。

**For all his years, he is none the less vigorous and active.**

他虽年事已高，但仍然生气勃勃，精神旺盛。

**For all his learning, he didn't know how to cope with the situation.**

他虽然学识渊博，但也不知道如何应付这种情况。



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