

1 Career Development

Unit

PART I

Teaching Focus and Topic Exploration

Teaching Focus

	TEXT A	TEXT B
Theme	Room for the Future	What's Your Job, Daddy?
Vocabulary	secure, dependent, income, disposable, revise, depressed, anticipate, courage, reserved, assignment, reevaluate, glory	data, possibly, everyday, production, construct, elevator, vital, afterwards
Phrases and Expressions	result in; make all the difference; hold sb./sth. back; by nature; no matter (how, what, where, etc.); make room for	fall apart; in effect; wear out; think of... as...; at any moment; think over
Grammar	1) How to use the words “instead” and “somehow” (“Focusing on Sentence Structure”) 2) How to use transition words and expressions showing time order (“Basic Writing Skills”)	
Writing	Understanding and writing ads for a product (“Practical Writing”)	

Topic Exploration

Text A actually includes two topics: adult crisis and adult training. A modern society is full of competition: young people are competing for good jobs and middle-aged people are competing to hold down their jobs. Companies are being set up and falling apart, so downsizing is a common occurrence. Just as the author in Text A tells us, he had been working for a major bank for 22 years, but he had been thrown out of job. Instead of being depressed or bitter, he decided to return to college and become an adult student. So the loss of his job brought about some positive changes in his life. Like the author, we should always remember: “Change is good, change is progress.”

PART II

Understanding and Learning

Section A

Suggestions for Teaching Text A

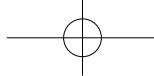
What Text A describes is a widespread tendency. Nowadays in China so many young people are keen on studying in their free time. There is certainly a need for this, because no one's future is as secure as it used to be. We have to learn something new to cope with changes in our life.

The teacher may start teaching Text A by asking students to answer the questions included in the **Exploring the Topic** part in the **Student's Book**. These questions are related to their personal experience, and therefore are not difficult for them. If students' English proficiency and class time permit, a discussion about life purposes or what success means is also an interesting alternative.

Text Structure

This is a narrative essay, which has a point to make, that is, its thesis: "Change is good, change is progress." The teacher can draw students' attention to the way Text A is structured. The whole text is made up of three parts: Introduction, Body and Conclusion, whose component paragraphs and main ideas are shown in the following chart:

Text Parts	Paragraphs	Main Ideas
Introduction	1—3	Introducing the background: After working for a major bank for 22 years, I had become a disposable employee.
Body	4—9	1) Presenting the thesis: "Change is good, change is progress" (or its revised version: "Accept the change and make the most of it"). 2) Two decisions: a) "to return to college and graduate"; and b) "to reevaluate my life".
Conclusion	10—12	Reaffirming the thesis of the essay



Detailed Study of Text A

Room for the Future

1. Room for the Future (Title)

Meaning:

possibility or scope for one's future development

2. After twenty-two years of working for a major bank, a downsizing wave resulted in the elimination of over one hundred jobs, mine being one of them. (Para. 2)

Meaning:

Having worked for a big bank for twenty-two years, I lost my job, together with more than one hundred of my colleagues because the bank wanted to reduce the number of its employees.

downsize

v. **reduce the number of people that a company or an organization employs in order to reduce costs** 裁员; 紧缩编制

They plan to carry out a **downsizing** project. 他们打算执行一个精简机构的计划。

The recent depression has resulted in a **downsizing** wave throughout the region. 近来的经济萧条造成了整个地区的裁员风潮。

result in

cause; make (something) happen 导致; 结果是

The measure will **result in** good effects. 这项措施将产生良好的效果。

The game **resulted in** another victory for our team. 比赛的结果是我们队又赢得了一场胜利。

elimination

n. **[U] the process of removing something** 消除; 排除

The **elimination** of poverty is the greatest challenge facing the world today. 消除贫困是当今世界面临的最大挑战。

The company announced the **elimination** of 500 jobs in March. 该公司在三月份宣布解除500个职位。

eliminate

vt. **remove or get rid of something/someone** 消除; 排除

Credit cards **eliminate** the need to carry a lot of cash. 有了信用卡就用不着携带大量的现金了。

We **eliminated** the possibility that it could have been an accident. 我们排除了一起可能会发生的意外事故。

3. My once secure future now seemed insecure. (Para. 3)

Meaning:

I had always thought my future was safe, but it seemed unsafe now.

» Please notice “secure” and “insecure” are a pair of antonyms (反义词).

secure

adj. a situation that is secure is one that you can depend on because it is not likely to change 稳固的；可靠的；稳定的

There is no such thing as a **secure** job these days. 现在已没有稳定的工作这种事情了。

Estate in this city is a **secure** investment. 在这座城市，地产是可靠的投资。

insecure

adj. not giving one a feeling of safety; likely to be lost 令人无安全感的；无保障的

an **insecure** job 无保障的工作

Running a small business is a very **insecure** occupation. 做小买卖是一个没有什么保障的职业。

4. I was not a single parent, nor dependent solely on my income, but just like the other ex-bankers, I had become a disposable employee. (Para. 3)

Meaning:

I was neither divorced with children to raise alone, nor relied only on my income; but just like my former bank colleagues, I had been dismissed.

be dependent on

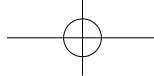
need the help or support of someone or something else 依靠；依赖

Health is largely **dependent on** good food, regular exercise and enough sleep. 健康很大程度上靠的是营养的食品、经常锻炼和充足的睡眠。

The success of the sports meet **is dependent on** whether it rains or not. 运动会能否成功取决于当天是否下雨。

income

n. [C; U] money which one receives regularly, usually as payment for one's work or interest from investments 收入；收益



Most of her **income** is spent on clothes. 她大部分的收入都用来买衣服。

The government has tried a lot to help those families with low **income** / **low-income families**. 政府花了大力气帮助低收入的家庭。

ex-banker

n. [C] **the person once working for a bank** 前银行工作者；前银行雇员

» Please notice that “ex-” means “former and still living”.

ex-wife/ex-husband 前妻/前夫

the **ex-president** 前总统

disposable

adj. **intended to be used once or for a short time and then thrown away** 一次性的；用完即可丢弃的

disposable chopsticks / lenses 一次性筷子/抛弃型隐形眼镜

We should use as few **disposable** paper cups as possible. 我们应尽可能少用一次性纸杯。

He became a **disposable** employee in his boss's eyes. 在老板眼里他成了一个可随时解雇的员工。

5. My belief has always been “change is good, change is progress”, but when it affected my life, I had to revise it to “accept change and make the most of it”. (Para. 4)

Meaning:

I have always believed in this saying “change is good, change is progress”, but when it affected my life, I had to change it into “accept change and get the most advantage from it”.

revise

vt. **change a piece of writing by adding new information, making improvements, or correcting mistakes** 修订；修正

He **revised** his lectures for publication. 他对讲座文稿作了修订，以便出版。

Our original report should be **revised** because of the new changes. 因为有了新的变化，我们最初的报告应该作修改。

make the most of

get the most advantage from 最大限度地利用

We are only in Melbourne for a day so let's **make the most of it**. 我们在墨尔本只待一天，因此我们要充分利用。

Make the most of your free time and have a good rest. 充分利用空余时间好好休息。

6. From the beginning, I chose to look at this occurrence not as a misfortune,
but as a welcome opportunity. I refused to become depressed or bitter;
instead, I eagerly anticipated doing something new and different. (Para. 4)

Meaning:

From the start, I tried to regard my unpleasant condition not as bad luck, but as a good chance; I didn't become sad or angry, but rather, I expected to do something new and different.

choose to do sth.

decide or prefer to do something 决定做；愿意做

We **choose to** ignore her rudeness. 我们决定不理睬她的无礼。

He **chose to** learn German rather than French at school. 他上学时选择学习德语而非法语。

look at (sth./sb.) as...

regard... as... 把……当作；把……看成

Don't **look at** me **as** an expert. 别把我当作专家。

We always **looked at** him **as** our model. 我们总是把他看成我们的典范。

occurrence

n. 1) **[C] something that happens or exists** 发生的事

Street-fights are a common **occurrence** in this area of the city. 在城市的这个区域，街头斗殴是常发生的事。

His arrival was an unexpected **occurrence**. 他的到来是一件令人意想不到的事。

2) **[U] the fact of something happening or existing** 发生

The **occurrence** of cancer increases with age. 癌症的发生随着年龄的增长而增加。

They will take measures to prevent the **occurrence** of similar incidents in the future. 他们将采取措施避免将来发生类似事件。

misfortune

n. 1) **[C] an unfortunate accident, condition or event** 不幸的遭遇（事）

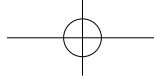
Misfortunes never come singly. 祸不单行。

She believed that the greatest of her **misfortunes** was that she had never had any children. 她认为她最大的不幸是没有孩子。

2) **[U] bad luck** 不幸；运气不好

She's suffered a good deal of **misfortune** over the years. 多年来，她遭受了许多不幸。

His failure in business was due not to **misfortune**, but to his own mistakes. 他生意失败不是因为运气不好，而是因为他自己犯的错误。

**depressed**

adj. 1) **feeling very unhappy** 沮丧的；消沉的；忧郁的

You looked rather **depressed**. 你看上去精神不太好呀。

He's been feeling **depressed** for several weeks. 他感到精神不振已有好几个星期了。

2) **suffering from low levels of business activity, employment, etc.** 萧条的；不景气的

Trade is rather **depressed**. 贸易很不景气。

They are working in the **depressed** areas of the country. 他们在国内经济不景气的地区工作。

eager

adj. **very interested and excited by something that is going to happen or about something that you want to do** 热切的；渴望的

Everyone in the class seemed **eager** to learn. 班上的每一个人好像都很好学。

She sounded very **eager** to meet you. 她听起来非常渴望见到你。

eagerly

adv. 热切地；渴望地

He shook hands **eagerly** with the scientist. 他热切地和科学家握手。

He found himself looking forward more and more **eagerly** to their arrival. 他觉得自己越来越热切地期待他们的到来。

anticipate

vt. **think likely to happen; expect** 预期；期望

Are you **anticipating** any trouble when the factory opens again? 你能预料到工厂重新开工时会有什么麻烦吗？

We **anticipate** that we will meet a certain amount of resistance to our plan. 我们预料我们的计划会遇到些阻力。

» Notice that the verb *anticipate* should be followed by an *-ing* verb. So the above sentence can be rewritten as the following without any change of meaning:

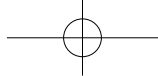
We **anticipate** meeting a certain amount of resistance to our plan.

7. Having a positive attitude made all the difference in the way I perceived the future. (Para. 5)

Meaning:

Being optimistic(乐观的) considerably changed the way I looked at my future.

» Please notice the subject of this sentence is a gerund phrase “having a positive attitude”; and the sentence “I perceived the future” is used to modify “the way”.



make all the difference

have an important effect on a thing or a situation 有很大影响；使大不相同

Having a good friend has **made all the difference** for her. 她有个好朋友后情况完全不一样了。

perceive

vt. **understand or think of something in a particular way** 理解；领悟

Do you **perceive** what I mean? 你明白我的意思吗？

People now **perceive** that green issues are important to our future. 人们现在认识到环保问题对人类未来的重要性。

8. Doing this at my age took more than a little courage. (Para. 5)

Meaning:

To a man of my age, doing this needed great courage.

courage

n. **[U] the ability to be brave in the face of danger, pain, misfortune, etc.; bravery** 勇气；胆量

We need great **courage** to climb the mountain. 我们需要极大的勇气去爬那座山。

Don't lose your **courage** when facing difficulties in life. 生活中遇到困难可别失去勇气。

9. Not being a graduate had never held me back in my career with the bank, but now it was a personal goal I longed to achieve. (Para. 5)

Meaning:

Although I didn't have a college degree, so far this had never affected my banking career. But now getting a college degree was my goal that I eagerly wanted to achieve.

hold (someone/something) back

1) **prevent the development of** 阻碍；妨碍

You could become a doctor, but your lack of patience is **holding you back**. 你有可能成为一名医生，但是缺乏耐心在阻碍你的发展。

What's **holding you back** from being promoted? 是什么因素在妨碍你升迁？

2) **make someone or something stop moving forward** 阻挡；抑制

They built banks of earth to **hold back** the rising flood water. 他们筑起土堤，阻挡上涨的洪水。

Police horses were used to **hold back** the crowd. 骑警的马匹被用来阻止人群前进。

- 3) **prevent the expression of (feelings, tears, etc.); control** 控制 (感情、眼泪等)

Jim was able to **hold back** his anger and avoid a fight. 吉姆控制住了怒气, 避免了一场打斗。

She was unable to **hold back** her tears, and wept freely. 她忍不住眼泪汪汪, 痛哭了起来。

long to do sth.

want to do something very much 渴望做某事

I'm **longing to** see her again. 我迫切希望再次见到她。

You seem to be **longing to** say something to me. 你好像很想对我说点什么。

10. Oral presentations were often required for one class. (Para. 6)

Meaning:

For one particular class that I took, we were often required to give oral presentations.

presentation

- n.* [C] **a speech or talk in which a new product, idea, or piece of work is shown and explained to an audience** 介绍; 演讲; 报告

The sales manager will give a **presentation** on the new products. 销售经理会对新产品做一个介绍。

The speaker gave an interesting **presentation** on urban transport. 演讲者做了一个很有趣的关于城市交通的报告。

11. I remember thinking that if I had known this beforehand, I would have taken something else to achieve my required credits. (Para. 6)

Meaning:

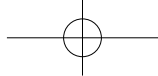
I remember thinking that if I had known oral presentations were often required for one class in advance, I would have taken some other classes to earn the credits needed to get the diploma.

- Please notice the subjunctive mood (虚拟语气) used in this sentence.
beforehand

adv. **before something else happens; in advance** 事先; 预先; 事前

He was informed **beforehand**. 他预先得到通知。

You should have told me **beforehand** that you might be late. 你本应事先告诉我你可能会迟到。



12. By nature, I am a rather reserved individual, and speaking in front of people terrified me. (Para. 6)

Meaning:

I was born a quiet person and afraid of speaking in public.

- Please notice the mixed use of the simple present tense and simple past tense in this sentence. The simple present tense is used to show that the author is naturally a reserved person.

by nature

born with certain character 生性；本来；生来

She is a sociable person **by nature**. 她生来是个爱社交的人。

I like challenges **by nature**. 我生来喜欢挑战。

reserved

adj. 1) **not liking to talk or to show feelings** 矜持的；拘谨的；沉默寡言的

He is very **reserved**; you never know what he's thinking about. 他沉默寡言；你永远不知道他在想什么。

She was a shy, **reserved** girl. 她是个腼腆、矜持的姑娘。

2) **kept for the future or special use** 预定的

May I sit here, or is this seat **reserved**? 我能坐在这里吗？这个位置是否有人预定了？

The **reserved** seat for you is beside the window. 靠窗的位子是为您预留的。

individual

n. [C] **a single person or thing, considered separately from the rest of the group or society that they live in** 个人；个体

Each **individual** should try his/her best to protect the environment. 每一个人都应该努力保护环境。

Each **individual** is equal to others. 人人都是平等的。

adj. **separate or particular; existing as an individual** 个别的；单独的

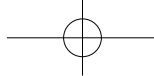
Each **individual** window has been broken by stones. 每一扇窗都被石头打破了。

terrify

vt. **fill with terror or great fear** 使……感到惊恐；使……感到恐惧

The thought of flying **terrified** him so much that he decided to go by train. 想到乘飞机他就害怕，于是决定乘火车去。

All the while she was **terrified** by the fear that she had stomach cancer. 一直以来，担心自己患了胃癌的念头让她心生恐惧。



13. As I stood in front of the other adults with whom I shared a common goal, my knees were visibly knocking, and my heartbeat almost audible. (Para. 6)

Meaning:

When I stood in front of the other adults who had the same aim, everyone could see my knees shaking and could almost hear my heart beating.

visible

adj. **able to be seen** 看得见的, 可见的

The building is **visible** from miles away. 几英里之外就能看到这栋建筑。

Most stars are not **visible** to the naked eye. 大多数星星肉眼看不见。

visibly

adv. **in a way that is easily noticeable** 易察觉地; 明显地

He was **visibly** shocked. 看得出他很震惊。

The Princess, **visibly** moved, kept her head bowed during the ceremony. 仪式上, 公主一直低着头, 看得出她很感动。

heartbeat

n. **[C; U] the movement or sound of the heart as it sends blood around the body** 心跳

a rapid/regular/steady **heartbeat** 快速的/有规律的/稳定的心跳

Your **heartbeat** slows down when you are asleep. 睡着时, 你的心跳会减慢。

audible

adj. **able to be heard** 听得见的

The new teacher was so shy that her voice was hardly **audible**. 新来的老师特别害羞, 声音小得几乎听不见。

His happy laughter was **audible** to everyone in the room. 屋子里的每个人都听得到他高兴的笑声。

14. Later in the year, I even interviewed a local reporter for an English assignment, much to the amazement of my teacher. (Para. 6)

Meaning:

Later in the year, I managed to finish a piece of English homework by interviewing a local reporter, much to my teacher's surprise.

assignment

n. 1) **[C] a piece of work that is given to someone** (分配、指派的) 任务; 作业

The **assignment** for the weekend was to write a report. 这个周末的作业是写一篇报道。

His **assignment** is to drive the car. 他的任务是开车。

2) [U] **the act of giving or deciding on a task** 分配；指派

He went to America under **assignment** by the company. 他受公司的委派去美国。

He didn't know his **assignment** to a new post until the manager came back. 直到经理回来，他才知道自己被委派到新的岗位。

amazement

n. [U] **a feeling of great surprise or wonder** 吃惊；惊奇

To my **amazement**, he remembered me. 我很惊讶，他还记得我。

She shook her head in **amazement**. 她惊愕地摇着头。

amaze

vt. **cause someone to be extremely surprised** 使惊奇；使惊诧；使惊愕

It **amazed** her that he could be so calm at such a time. 她很惊讶，他在这样的时刻能如此平静。

It never ceases to **amaze** me how he can work for so long without getting tired. 他怎能工作那么长时间却不感到疲倦，这一直让我很惊讶。

15. My confidence level rose. (Para. 6)

Meaning:

I became more confident.

16. During this time, I realized that no matter what life throws our way, personal growth never stops. (Para. 7)

Meaning:

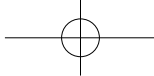
At this time, I came to know that no matter what troubles life creates for us, we should always keep on studying and improving ourselves.

» Please notice the simple present tense is used after “realized” to show that what the author says in the object clause is always the truth.

17. It comes from within, and needs only to be challenged in order to surface. (Para. 7)

Meaning:

The personal growth comes from inner drive, and needs only to be challenged in order to be achieved.



surface

vi. **become known about or easy to notice** 显露；暴露

She **surfaced** again years later in London. 多年后她又出现在伦敦。

The truth gradually **surfaced**. 真相慢慢显露出来。

n. **[C] the outside or top layer of something** 表面；表层

The **surface** of the lake was quite still. 湖面十分平静。

He looks only at the **surface** of things. 他只看事物的表象。

18. It is entirely possible to step out of one's comfort zone to learn something new. (Para. 7)

Meaning:

It is completely possible for one to quit his former easy life to learn new things.

zone

n. **[C] an area that is different from other areas in some way** 区域；地区；地带

We have arrived at the war **zone**. 我们已经到达战区。

We are going to visit the free trade **zone** next week. 我们下星期要去参观自由贸易区。

19. My experience of going back to school ended up being far more valuable than just acquiring a diploma. (Para. 7)

Meaning:

What I achieved by going back to school was not just getting a diploma, but something far more useful and meaningful.

end up

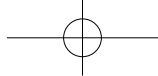
be in the stated place, condition, etc. in the end 结果为……；以……结束

He worked very hard and **ended up** head of the firm. 他工作很努力最后成了公司的主管。

We didn't like it at first, but we **ended up** cheering. 一开始我们并不喜欢它，可最后我们却为之欢呼。

If he doesn't stop driving like mad, he'll **end up** dead. 如果他继续疯狂驾车，最终会把命丢掉。

He spent money carelessly and **ended up** heavily in debt. 他花钱随便，最终负债累累。



► Notice that “end up” can be followed by a “verb+ing” form, a noun, an adjective or a prepositional phrase.

far

adv. **very much (used together with comparative adjectives or adverbs for emphasis)** (与比较级连用, 表示强调) 非常; 太

We have achieved **far** better results than we expected. 我们取得的结果远比事先预料的好。

diploma

n. **[C] a document showing that a student has successfully completed high school or college education** 毕业文凭; 学位证书

She has obtained a **diploma** in education. 她取得了教育学文凭。

Getting a college **diploma** is not easy for him. 对他来说, 取得大学文凭并非易事。

20. The second thing I did to improve my inner self was to reevaluate my life. (Para. 8)

Meaning:

Another thing I did in order to improve my inner self was to judge my life again.

inner

adj. **private and secret; not expressed or shown to other people** 精神的; 心灵的; 内心的

He found it difficult to find out about her **inner** feelings. 他发现难以了解她的内心情感。

self

n. **[C; U] the whole being of a person, taking into account their nature, character, abilities, etc.** 自我; 自己; 自身

He put his whole **self** into the job, working night and day. 他夜以继日地把全部身心都投入到那项工作中去了。

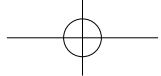
Knowledge of **self** increases as one gets older. 随着年龄的增长, 一个人对自己的认识也会增加。

reevaluate

vt. **consider or judge the value or degree of something again** 重新评价; 重新评估

Please **reevaluate** the experiment results. 请对实验结果重新作个评价。

I can't **reevaluate** the real worth of this vase, since experts have already put a price on it. 既然已有专家对这个花瓶作了估价, 我无法对其真正的价值再作评估。



21. Now, instead of working towards materialistic things and personal glory, my heart and life are firmly linked around people I care about. (Para. 8)

Meaning:

Now, instead of working hard to earn more money and personal honor, my heart and life are closely connected with people I love.

materialistic

adj. **caring only about money and possessions rather than things of the mind such as art, religion, or moral beliefs** 实利主义的; 物质主义的

He's so **materialistic**. 他太实利主义了。

glory

n. **[U] great fame, honor, and admiration** 荣誉; 光荣

They died in **glory** by fighting bravely in battle. 他们在战争中英勇奋战, 死得光荣。

He earned **glory** for his country by winning a gold medal in the Olympics. 他获得奥运金牌, 为他的祖国争得了荣誉。

22. Yes, having a fulfilling career is important, but it is no longer my reason for being. (Para. 9)

Meaning:

Yes, having a successful career is important, but it is no longer my reason for existing in the world.

fulfilling

adj. **making you feel satisfied and useful** 使人满意的; 使人有成就感的

Is a **fulfilling** career the most important thing in your life? 你生活中最重要的东西是不是成功的事业?

Being an interpreter is thought to be a most **fulfilling** career. 做口译被认为是一个使人有成就感的职业。

23. When I rejoin the “rat race”, it will be on my terms, as developing my soul is my first priority. (Para. 9)

Meaning:

When I get involved in social competition again, I will behave in the way I think right, no longer regarding material success or personal glory as the most important thing; instead, I will focus on improving my inner self.

rejoin

vt. **join someone/something again after leaving them** 重新加入

She left briefly but **rejoined** the company last year. 她短暂地离开了一阵子，去年又重新加入了公司。

The path goes through a wood before **rejoining** the main road. 这条路穿过一片树林后重新回到了主干道上。

rat race

the unpleasant situation experienced by people working in big cities, when they continuously compete for success and have a lot of stress in their lives（商界、政界中）无休止的激烈竞争

An executive from an international company has given up the **rat race**. 一家跨国公司的主管已退出激烈竞争。

Every young man will join the **rat race** as soon as he graduates from university. 每个年轻人从大学一毕业就将参与到无止境的社会竞争中。

on one's terms

according to the condition that one asks for 按照某人（要求）的条件

I will teach this lesson **on my terms**. 我要按照自己的想法来教这门课。

We will negotiate **on our terms**. 我们会按照我方的条件来谈判。

24. Having simplified my life, I am enjoying living now, instead of just existing to make a living. (Para. 9)

Meaning:

Now that I have made my life simpler, I'm actively participating in life, doing things that I enjoy, rather than just passively existing in the world, doing things to make a living.

simplify

vt. **make something less complicated and therefore easier to do or understand** 使简化；使简易

He tried to **simplify** the story for the children. 他试图为了孩子们简化这个故事。

The application forms have now been **simplified**. 申请表格现在已经简化了。

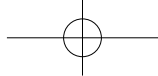
25. You bet there is. (Para. 10)

Meaning:

Of course there is.

you bet

of course; certainly 当然；一定



—Can we make a fortune from this business? ——我们能从这笔生意中赚大钱吗?

—**You bet.** ——那还用说。

—Has she done the right thing? ——她做得对吗?

—**You bet.** ——当然。

26. Revisiting the past made room for the future. (Para. 11)

Meaning:

Looking back on and reevaluating my past life provides possibility and space for my future personal growth.

revisit

vt. 1) **consider (a situation or problem) again or from a different perspective**

重新考虑; 再讨论

The purpose of this article is to **revisit** the problem from a new perspective. 这篇文章的目的是从一个新的角度来重新讨论这个问题。

A special committee has been formed to **revisit** the feasibility of the project. 为了重新讨论这个项目的可行性, 成立了一个特别委员会。

2) **come back or visit again** 再访; 重游

I revisited **Prague** last month. 我上个月重游了一次布拉格。

Please continue to **revisit** the website as new information is being added nearly every day. 请继续再访这个网站, 因为几乎每天都会增加新的信息。

make room for

give space (or time) to 为……腾出空间(或时间)

Move along and **make room for** me! 往前点儿, 给我腾点儿地方!

Move the piano to **make room for** the sofa. 把钢琴挪一挪, 给沙发腾点儿地方。

27. And, I have only just begun. The best is yet to come. (Para. 12)

Meaning:

And, I have just started and the biggest success has not come yet.

Section B

Suggestions for Teaching Text B

In teaching Text B, the teacher should draw students' attention to the following facts as reflected in the text:

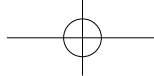
1. There is a shift from the manufacturing economy to the service economy in many countries nowadays, just as Paragraph 2 of the text says, "a few fathers still fix engines and build tables, but most do not." Is this statement also true of China? The teacher can ask the students to answer this question with specific examples.

2. There have appeared many new jobs unheard of in the past, just as Paragraph 3 of the text shows: "I sell space." "I do market research." "I am a data processor." "I am in public relations." "I am a systems analyst." Ask the students whether they understand what these jobs are, and if yes, ask them to describe these jobs.

A related question to ask is "What kind of new jobs have been created in your city or town?" The teacher can encourage the students to list the new jobs. Or are there any traditional jobs that have disappeared from our life?

3. Many things produced now really fall apart easily. Some people believe that this can promote consumption and sales. The manufacturers, of course, will be happy to see that people buy new things instead of having them repaired, but what about the consumers? Are they willing to buy products that will fall apart quickly and become unusable?

Apart from these questions concerning the text, the teachers are advised to draw students' attention to the colloquial style of this text, just as the title's wording indicates. Many things in the text are told in children's tone, for example, all the documents, contracts, invoices, minutes, memos, etc. that are needed in offices are represented in the text by one word "paper". This really points out an essential fact—paperwork is the center of office life. The use of "paper" here also reflects children's way of looking at office work.



Detailed Study of Text B

What's Your Job, Daddy?

1. Nowadays... Most fathers sit in glass buildings doing things that cannot be understood by children at all. (Para. 2)

Meaning:

At the present time, most fathers are office employees working on things that their children cannot understand at all.

nowadays

adv. **at the present time; in these modern times** 现在；现今；现时

Nowadays people are more aware of environmental issues than they used to be. 如今，人们比以往更加注重环境问题。

It seems you're not allowed to smoke anywhere **nowadays**. 现今似乎在哪儿都不让吸烟。

2. The answers to the question "What kind of work do you do, Daddy?" are likely to be utter mysteries to a child. (Para. 2)

Meaning:

The answers to the question "What kind of work do you do, Daddy?" are probably beyond a child's understanding.

utter

adj. **(especially of something bad) complete** 完全的；全然的；十足的

He is an **utter** fool! 他真是个大笨蛋！

What **utter** rubbish he talks! 他完全是一派胡言！

vt. **make (a sound) or produce (words), sometimes with difficulty** (有时吃力地) 发出声音；说；讲

The wounded man **uttered** a cry of pain. 那个受伤的人发出痛苦的叫喊声。

She didn't **utter** a word all night. 她整个晚上没有说一句话。

3. I am a data processor. (Para. 3)

Meaning:

My job is storing and dealing with data.

data

- n.* [plural; U] **facts; information in a form that can be processed by and stored in a computer system** 数据; 资料

Where can I find the relevant **data**? 我在哪儿能找到相关的数据?

We can't tell you the results of the survey until we have looked at all the **data**. 只有等看完所有资料, 我们才能告诉你调查结果。

processor

- n.* [C] **a person who processes information or items** (信息) 处理者; (信息) 加工者

She is a word **processor** in a big company in London. 她是伦敦一家大公司的文字处理员。

The firm is one of the largest **processors** of animal skin and fur. 这家公司是最大的动物皮毛加工商之一。

process

- vt.* **put (information, numbers, etc.) into a computer for examination** (计算机) 处理 (数据等)

It is easier to **process** the data by computer. 用电脑处理数据要容易得多。

My new computer can **process** information much more quickly than my old one. 我的新电脑比旧电脑处理信息快得多。

4. I am in public relations. (Para. 3)

public relations

the work of forming in the minds of the general public a favorable opinion of an organization 公共关系; 公关工作

She's a **public relations** officer in a big company. 她是一家大公司的公关人员。

Giving money to the local theatre will be good for our company's **public relations**. 资助本地剧院有利于维护我们公司的公共关系。

5. I am a systems analyst. (Para. 3)

analyst

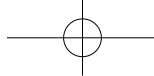
- n.* [C] **a person who makes an analysis, e.g. of chemical materials** 分析者; 分析员

data **analyst** 数据分析师

quality **analyst** 质量分析员

analyze

- vt.* **(analyse, BrE) examine (something) by dividing it into its separate parts, in order to learn about its qualities, meaning, etc.** 分析



They **analyzed** the situation carefully before making a decision. 他们做决定之前，对形势进行了认真分析。

The teacher tried to **analyze** the cause of their failure. 老师试图分析他们失败的原因。

6. Such explanations must seem **nonsense** to a child. (Para. 3)

Meaning:

Such explanations must seem totally meaningless to a child.

nonsense

n. [U] **speech or writing that has no meaning or cannot be understood** 无意义的话（或文字）

Computer programs look like complete **nonsense** to me. 在我看来，电脑程序就像是天书。

I don't intend to waste any more time listening to him talk **nonsense**. 我不想再浪费时间听他胡说八道。

7. How can he **possibly** imagine anyone analyzing a system or researching a market? (Para. 3)

Meaning:

It is impossible for the child to imagine that someone's job is to analyze a system or to research a market.

» Notice that this is a rhetorical question (反诘句). A rhetorical question is not a real question; it is a question in form, but actually it is a powerful statement. So it does not require an answer.

possibly

adv. **likely to happen or be true, but not certain** 可能；也许

You can't **possibly** walk 20 miles in an hour. 你不可能在一小时内走20英里。

“Will you come with us tomorrow?” “**Possibly**, I'm not sure yet.” “你明天和我们一起吗？” “也许会，我不能肯定。”

8. In the common **everyday** job, nothing is made any more. (Para. 4)

Meaning:

In these common, ordinary jobs, people do not manufacture things as they used to do.

everyday

adj. **ordinary, common and usual** 日常的；普通的；常见的

Accidents and small injuries are an **everyday** occurrence in this job. 从事这个职业，事故和小伤害是常见现象。

After the earthquake it was some time before the town resumed its **everyday** routines. 地震发生后，经过一段时间，城里生活才恢复常规。

9. The machines make things in such a fashion that the things will quickly fall apart. (Para. 4)

Meaning:

The machines produce things in such a way that the products will quickly fall to separate parts and thus cannot be used.

fall apart

break because of being old or badly made 散架；坏

The toy just **fell apart** in the boy's hands. 这玩具到了那个男孩手里就散架了。
I've read the book so often that it's **falling apart**. 我常看这本书，它都快散架了。

10. In effect, the machines are making junk. (Para. 4)

Meaning:

In fact, the machines are making low-quality things that do not last long.

in effect

1) **in fact, although perhaps not appearing so** 实际上

In effect, she has passed the Chinese examination. 实际上，她语文考试及格了。

In effect, we have been living in America for thirty years. 实际上，我们已经在美国生活30年了。

2) **in operation** 有效；生效

That law is no longer **in effect**. 那项法律已经失效了。

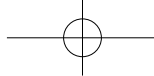
The new rule has been **in effect** for a week. 这项新规定已实行了一个星期。

junk

n. **[U] old or unwanted things, usually of low quality or little use or value** 废旧杂物

How could you stay healthy if you live on such **junk** food day by day? 你天天吃这类垃圾食品，身体怎么会健康？

I bought this old table in a **junk** shop. 我在旧货店里买了这张旧桌子。



11. The handful of people remotely associated with these machines can, of course, tell their children “Daddy makes junk.” (Para. 5)

Meaning:

A small number of people whose work is slightly connected with machine production can tell their children that they are making junk.

handful

n. 1) [C] **a small number (of people)** 少数(人); 几个(人)

Only a **handful** of students passed the exam; maybe the questions are too difficult. 只有少数学生通过了考试; 也许是题目太难了。

Only a **handful** of people spoke at the meeting. 只有少数人在会上发言。

2) [C] **an amount of something that can be held in one hand** 一把(东西)
a **handful** of small change 一把零钱

She is holding a **handful** of nuts. 她手里抓着一把坚果。

12. Most of the work force, however, is remote from junk production. (Para.5)

Meaning:

Most of the workers, however, are doing jobs that have little to do with making low-quality, low-value products.

production

n. 1) [U] **the process of making products** 生产

Automobile **production** is a large industry in Japan. 汽车生产是日本的一大产业。

The new factory is scheduled to go into **production** at the end of this month. 新工厂预定本月底投产。

2) [U] **output** 产量

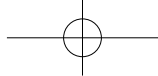
There is a sharp fall in the yearly **production** of the farm. 该农场年产量大幅下跌。

Statistics show that steel **production** is up this month. 统计数字显示, 本月钢产量上升。

13. Consider the typical twelve-story glass building in the typical American city. (Para. 6)

typical

adj. **showing the main signs or qualities of a particular kind, group, or class; representative of its type** 典型的; 有代表性的



This painting is **typical** of his early works. 这幅画是他早期作品的代表作。

A **typical** Shanghai summer is hot and stuffy. 典型的上海夏天很闷热。

14. Constructed as a piece of junk, the building will be discarded when it wears out, and another piece of junk will be set in its place. (Para. 6)

Meaning:

The building is put up as another piece of junk that will be given up when it becomes old, and then, another junk building will be built at the same place.

construct

vt. build; make by putting together or combining parts 建造；构筑；组成

One good way to learn English words is to **construct** sentences. 学习英语单词的一个好办法就是造句。

Another new bridge will be **constructed** over the river. 河上还会建座新桥。

discard

vt. get rid of as useless 丢弃；抛弃

Old friends cannot be **discarded**. 老朋友不能丢。

She **discarded** a lot of old clothes yesterday. 她昨天扔掉了许多旧衣服。

wear out

1) **use something a lot so that it no longer works, or can no longer be used** (使) 磨损；用坏

Those clothes will **wear out** quickly. 那些衣服很快就会穿破。

When a field is **wearing out**, the corn will grow shorter and bear fewer ears. 如果一块土地使用过度，玉米就会长得矮，穗也结得少。

2) **make someone extremely tired** 使疲乏；使精疲力竭

These children are **wearing me out**. 这些孩子把我弄得精疲力竭。

I feel quite **worn out** after all those exercises! 经过所有那些训练之后，我感到精疲力竭。

15. Still, the building is filled with people who think of themselves as working. (Para. 7)

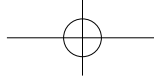
Meaning:

The building is still full of those people who believe they are doing meaningful things.

think of... as...

regard... as... 把……当作……；认为

We all **think of** Mr. Black **as** our captain. 我们都认为布莱克先生是我们的队长。



Think of me as a friend. 把我看作朋友好了。

16. Most of these conversations will be about paper, for paper is what occupies nearly everyone in this building. (Para. 7)

Meaning:

The people who work in this building will talk a lot about paper on the telephone, because paper makes almost everyone busy in this building.

17. Some persons telephone other persons and ask that paper be sent to them. (Para. 9)

Meaning:

Some persons call and ask other persons to send paper to them.

» Please notice the subjunctive mood used after “ask”, which means “require,” “request”. The above sentence can also be written as:

Some persons telephone other persons and ask that paper should be sent to them.

18. The elevators are filled throughout the day with young men carrying paper from floor to floor and with vital men carrying paper to be discussed with other vital men. (Para. 10)

Meaning:

All day long the elevators are full of young men carrying paper from one floor to another and of important men carrying paper to be talked about with other important men.

elevator

n. (*lift, BrE*) an apparatus in a building for taking people and goods from one level to another 电梯

I took the **elevator** to the 18th floor. 我乘电梯上了十八楼。

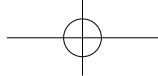
In going up and down in the office building, some people don't ride an **elevator** to have more exercise. 在办公楼上上下下，有些人不乘电梯，为了能多多运动。

vital

adj. **very important and necessary** 极重要的；必需的

The **vital** step is to be patient. 关键一步是要耐心。

Choosing the right place is **vital**. 选择合适的地点十分重要。



19. What is a child to make of all this? (Para. 11)

Meaning:

How does a child understand all this?

make... of someone/something

understand something in a particular way 理解；了解；看待

I don't know what to **make of** his strange behaviour. 我不知道如何理解他奇怪的举止。

Nobody can **make anything of** the strange pictures on the wall. 没人能看懂墙上奇怪的画。

20. His father calls for paper. (Para. 12)

Meaning:

His father requests that paper be sent to him.

call for

demand; request 要求；需要

The opposition have **called for** an immediate inquiry into the behavior of the police. 反对党要求立即调查警方的行为。

The situation **calls for** prompt action. 形势所迫，必须立即采取行动。

21. Perhaps he scowls at paper. (Para. 12)

Meaning:

Perhaps he looks at paper angrily.

scowl

vi. (at) make a threatening expression of the face showing anger or strong disapproval 怒视；生气地皱眉

He **scowled** at his daughter and pretended to beat her. 他瞪着眼睛看着他的女儿，作势要打她。

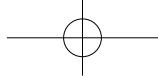
His rude words made her **scowl** at him. 他粗鲁的言辞令她对他怒目而视。

22. Perhaps he makes an angry red mark on paper. (Para. 12)

Meaning:

He may be angry and makes signs on paper with a red pen.

» Please notice the figurative use of “angry” in this sentence. It is a transferred epithet (修饰语转移). A “mark” cannot be angry or happy. It is the person that is angry, not the mark. So “angry” is transferred to modify the “mark”.



23. ... they had better lunch over paper. (Para. 12)

Meaning:

... they had better discuss paper when they are having lunch.

over

during 在……期间

hold a meeting **over** dinner 边吃饭边开会

He was relaxing **over** a cup of coffee. 他一边喝咖啡一边休息。

24. Back at the office, the father orders the paper retyped and reproduced and then sent to another man for comparison with paper that was reproduced last year. (Para. 13)

Meaning:

When the father is back at the office, he orders one of the staff to type the paper again and make a printed copy of it and then send it to another person to compare it with last year's paper.

retype

vt. type (text) again on a computer, especially to correct errors 重新打(字)

It is far quicker to edit the few mistakes than to **retype** the document. 校订几个错误比重新键入文件要快得多。

I accidentally deleted the report and had to **retype** it all over again. 我不小心删除了报告，不得不重新又把它输入一遍。

reproduce

vt. make a copy of a picture, piece of text, etc. 复制；复印

The machine can **reproduce** a key in two minutes. 这台机器两分钟就可以复制一把钥匙。

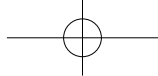
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comparison

n. 1) [C; U] the act of comparing two or more people or things 比较；对照

They made a **comparison** between the two plans and decided that Plan A had more advantages for their purpose. 他们对两个计划作了比较，断定对他们的目的来说，计划A具有更多优势。

By/In comparison with the French, the British eat far less fish. 与法国人相比，英国人吃的鱼少得多。



2) **the fact of considering something similar or of equal quality to something else** 相似；可比性

There is no **comparison** between the two. 两者不能同日而语。

His **comparison** of the heart to a pump helped the children to understand its action. 他把心脏比作泵，帮助孩子们了解心脏是如何工作的。

He's a good writer but he doesn't bear **comparison** with Shakespeare. 他是一个优秀的作家，但他没法和莎士比亚相比。

25. Imagine his poor son afterwards thinking over the mysteries of work with a friend, who asks him "What's your father?" (Para. 14)

Meaning:

Let us imagine such a scene: later when his friend asks him "What does your father do?" the boy will have difficulty answering it even though he thinks hard about what his father's work is, for it seems so mysterious to him.

afterwards

adv. **later; after that** 以后；后来

They left China, and soon **afterwards** their mother died. 他们离开中国后不久，母亲就去世了。

He graduated from the university and went to study abroad **afterwards**. 他从这所大学毕业后就出国留学了。

think over

think about very carefully 认真考虑；细想

Think it over and then you will find out the solution. 好好想想，你会找到解决办法的。

Before you say something about the problem, you should **think it over** in your mind. 你先要在脑子里想好，再对问题发表意见。

Section C

Suggestions for Teaching Section C

Section C of this unit aims to help the students to understand English advertisements. The students will learn how to read and understand different kinds of advertisements in English.

The teacher is advised to draw students' attention to the structure of English advertising. A written advertisement is generally composed of three parts:

Headline: The eye-catching line(s) can attract readers and highlight the main attractions of a product. For example: *A word to the wealthy.* (headline of a Citibank ad); *You once said "I do", now you say "I'm glad I did."* (headline of a diamond ring ad).

Main Body: The main body is a further explanation of the headline. It can be classified into emotional type and reason-why type (or: soft-sell type and hard-sell type). *Sample* in Section C of **Student's Book** is a case in point.

Bottom Line: Bottom Line includes slogan, trademark, address, etc. The slogan is most important. It can have a long-lasting influence on potential customers and thus help promote sales. The slogan should be short, persuasive, and appealing to ears or eyes. For example: *The world newsmagazine (TIME)*; *Things go better with Coca-Cola*; *Just do it (Nike)*; *Let's do it better (Philips)*.

Advertising media include newspapers, magazines, radio and television, and outdoor advertising.

Two notes for the teachers:

1. Advertisement English will be discussed in Section C of Unit 2, but try to encourage the students to find some language features by themselves from the sample in this unit.
2. If possible, the students are supposed to be exposed to some advertisements from English newspapers and magazines. Try to ask some questions to make sure that they can understand the information conveyed by those advertisements.

PART III

Key to Exercises

Section A

Reading Out

- | | | |
|--------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 1) no matter | 2) personal growth | 3) in order to |
| 4) out of | 5) ended up | 6) diploma |

Getting the Message

1. He has worked for a bank for twenty-two years.
2. Because there was a downsizing wave and altogether over one hundred employees were dismissed, including him.
3. His belief about changes has always been “change is good, change is progress”.
4. He decided to return to college and get a diploma.
5. Oral presentations were often required.
6. He is a rather reserved man and he is afraid of speaking in public.
7. He interviewed a local reporter for an English assignment.
8. The second thing he did to improve his inner self was to reevaluate his life.

Using the Right Word

1. B 2. A 3. C 4. A 5. D 6. C 7. D 8. C

Working with Expressions

- | | | | |
|-------|---------|--------|---------|
| 1. in | 2. on | 3. for | 4. back |
| 5. up | 6. With | 7. by | 8. of |

Focusing on Sentence Structure

- A** 1. If you don't want to go, I'll go instead.

2. There is no coffee left—would you like a cup of tea instead?
3. If I hadn't got a cold, I wouldn't be lying here in bed but working instead.

- B**
1. It won't be easy, but we'll get across the river somehow.
 2. Somehow the dog had escaped.
 3. I know what we're doing is legal, but somehow it doesn't feel right.

Translating

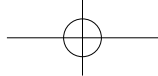
- A**
1. It is known to all that she is proud by nature.
 2. You'll only get one chance, so you'd better make the most of it.
 3. The accident resulted in the death of two passengers.
 4. Having a good teacher has made all the difference for him.
- B**
1. 我在一家大银行就职22年，在一次裁员潮中有一百多名员工失去工作，其中便有我。
 2. 没有大学文凭并没有影响到我在银行的职业生涯，但获得学位确实是我的平生夙愿。
 3. 现在，我工作不再是为了“名利”，我的身心与我所关心的人紧紧地连在一起。
 4. 当我细细琢磨我的信条“变化是好事，变化是进步”时，我意识到我已接受了这一“变化”，并在充分利用这一“变化”。

Using Topic-related Terms

- | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1) fulfilling career | 2) register | 3) adult students |
| 4) assignments | 5) acquire a diploma | 6) materialistic |
| 7) personal glory | | |

Basic Writing Skills

1. First I want to establish some basic points. Then we can discuss the problem in detail.
2. At first he denied all he had done. Later on he admitted he had cheated in the exam.
3. My friend failed in the exam last year. From then on he worked much harder.
4. The plane was delayed by heavy fog for several hours. Finally it took off at six o'clock.



5. He was driving fast all the way back from his university. He reached home before long.
6. He left for the United States in 1999. Since then I have not heard a word about him.
7. The man made a speech on the current economic situation in China. Following that there were several minutes for questions.
8. He rushed to the hospital immediately after he heard that her mother was critically ill.

Section B

Getting the Message

1. They either made or fixed something at work.
2. No, they cannot understand what is meant by market research or systems analysis.
3. Most things are made not by hand, but by machine.
4. Because the products made by machines will easily fall apart.
5. They will discard them instead of fixing them.
6. Because it is too expensive to repair them.
7. Paper occupies nearly everyone in those buildings.
8. The elevators are filled with young men carrying paper from one floor to the other and with managers carrying paper to be discussed with other managers.

Using the Right Word

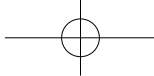
- | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. everyday | 2. nowadays | 3. occupied | 4. nonsense |
| 5. production | 6. afterwards | 7. vital | 8. possibly |

Working with Expressions

- | | | | |
|--------|--------|-------|---------|
| 1. of | 2. out | 3. of | 4. in |
| 5. for | 6. at | 7. in | 8. over |

Cloze

- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. B | 2. A | 3. C | 4. B | 5. D |
| 6. A | 7. B | 8. A | 9. C | 10. D |
| 11. C | 12. A | 13. D | 14. A | 15. D |



Section C

- A** 1. Sony Handycam (a camcorder).
2. Soft-sell type.

- B** 1. D 2. C 3. H 4. J 5. E
6. B 7. F 8. I 9. G 10. A

- C** 2 4 3 5 1

PART IV

Translation

Text A

未来发展的空间

在45岁时，我一向有条不紊的生活风云骤起，充满变数。

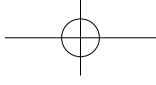
我在一家大银行就职22年，在一次裁员潮中有一百多名员工失去工作，其中便有我。

我曾经安全的未来现在不那么安全了。然而，我还是幸运的。我不是单亲家长，工资也不是我唯一的收入来源，但是正像其他前银行职员一样，我成了一名可有可无的雇员。

我的信条一直是“变是好事，变是进步”，但是当它真地影响到我的生活时，我不得不将之改为“接受变化并善加利用之”。从一开始我就把这件事视为一个很好的机会，而不是一种不幸。我不让自己抑郁、愤懑，而是热切地期望尝试新的不同的事物。

这种积极的态度使我对未来的看法完全发生了转变。首先，我决定重返大学，拿下毕业文凭，尽管已晚了几十年。这个年龄采取如此行动是需要拿出些勇气的。没有大学文凭并没有影响到我在银行的职业生涯，但获得学位确实是我的平生夙愿。我有些忐忑不安，但决心很大，我在夜校报了名，成为了一名成人学生。

有一门课程常常要求学生进行口头陈述。记得我曾想过，如果事先知道这一要求，我会选择别的课程来修够学分。我天性少言寡语，在众人面前说话令我十分畏惧。当站在与我有着共同目标的成人面前时，我的双膝直打颤，心都快跳到嗓子眼



儿了。但我终于开了口，努力把陈述做了下来。第二次就容易多了。不久，我开始有点儿喜欢上这种课堂活动了。后来，我竟为完成一项英文作业采访了当地的一位记者，令我的老师惊叹不已。我的自信大增，突然间我感觉没有我做不成的事情。

在这期间，我意识到，不管我们在人生的旅途中有何种遭遇，个人的成长是无止境的。它是内在的需要，只有迎接挑战，才能自我发展。跳出自己的舒适圈去学些新的东西是完全可能的。重返学校，我收获良多，远远不止一张学位证书。

完善自我的第二件事是重新审视我的生活道路。过去我的生活常被没完没了、有时是毫无意义的事情填满。现在，我工作不再是为了“名利”，我的身心与我所关心的人紧紧地连在一起。

是的，事业有成是重要的，但它已不再是我的生活目标。如果重返“激烈竞争”，那必须是按照我的条件，把精神发展视为第一要务。简化生活之后，我是真正在享受生活，而不是为生计而生存。

银行生涯之后还有生活吗？当然有。

失去工作促成了我生活中一些积极的变化。审视过去为未来打开了空间。当我细细琢磨我的信条“变化是好事，变化是进步”时，我意识到我已接受了这一“变化”，并在充分利用这一“变化”。

新生活刚刚开始。最精彩的还在后面。

Text B

爸爸，你是做什么的？

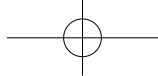
在并非很久以前，当父亲说他去上班了，孩子会很清楚将要发生的事情是什么。他的父亲不是制作就是修理东西。父亲可以把孩子带到工作地点，让孩子看着自己修理汽车或是制作桌子。

现在，仍有为数不多的父亲在修理发动机和制作桌子，但大多数父亲已不是这样了。他们大多坐在玻璃大楼里做着孩子们根本不懂的事情。“爸爸，你是做什么的？”对这个问题的回答很可能会使孩子如坠云雾。

“我销售空间。”“我从事市场调查。”“我是数据处理员。”“我处理公共关系。”“我是系统分析师。”这些解释对孩子来说毫无意义。他怎么能够想象得出一个人分析系统或调查市场的情形呢？

现今一般性的日常工作已不再是制造东西。产品由机器生产，也没什么可修补的东西。机器造出来的东西很快就会四分五裂，修补又太昂贵。所以购买者被鼓励弃旧换新。事实上，机器是在生产垃圾。

那些少数勉强和机器生产有联系的人当然可以对他们的孩子们说“爸爸生产垃圾。”但是大部分的劳动者和垃圾生产没有太大联系。他们究竟做什么呢？



Unit 1

想象一下典型美国城市里的典型12层高的玻璃大厦，里面既不生产产品也不修理东西。大厦本身也是如此，也是一个用旧后就可以扔掉的垃圾，然后原地会再竖起一个垃圾。

可是，大楼里还是有很多人，他们都自以为是在工作。一天中的任何时候，大约有一三分之一的人在打电话。这些对话大多与文件有关，因为这座大楼里的人几乎都为文件忙碌着。

有些工作需要人在纸上填填写写。有人往纸上打字；有人阅读文件并在空白处做笔记；有人复印文件；其他人则分发文件。

一些人邮寄文件。一些人打电话要求其他人将文件送给他们。其他人则打电话确认文件应送达何处。一些人讨论文件。在最豪华的办公室里，有人批准某些文件而否决其他文件。

一整天电梯里挤满了拿着文件从一层楼到另一层楼去的年轻人，或是拿着文件去和其他重要人物讨论的重要人物。

孩子将如何理解这一切呢？他的父亲也许是重要人物，午饭都在和别人讨论文件。假设他把儿子带到工作地点给他一些直观的概念，这个小孩子会看到什么呢？

他的父亲要来文件，然后进行阅读。他也许紧皱眉头，或可能怒气冲冲地在文件上用红笔做记号。他打电话给另一个人说他们最好午餐时讨论文件。

他们边吃边讨论。回到办公室，他的父亲吩咐重新打印文件，然后送给另一个人以便与去年的文件进行比较。

想象一下事后这个可怜的小孩被他的朋友问及“你的爸爸是做什么的？”的时候，他苦思冥想这一神秘工作的情形，该如何回答呢？

