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# Lesson 20 Snake poison

蛇毒 虚拟语气 主语从句

与课文关联的 24 个单词(点击每个单词可查看详细介绍)



**saliva** /sə'laɪvə/ n. 唾液

**digestive** /daɪ'dʒestɪv/  
adj. 助消化的

**defy** /dɪ'faɪ/ v. 使不可能

**analysis** /ə'næləsis/ n. 分析

**prey** /preɪ/ n. 被捕食的动物

**fierce** /fɪəs/ adj. 凶猛的

**tussle** /'tʌs(ə)l/ n. 扭打

**carnivore** /'kɑ:nɪvɔ:(r)/  
n. 食肉动物

**vertebrate** /'vɜ:tɪbrət/  
n. 脊椎动物

**lizard** /'lɪzəd/ n. 蜥蜴

**concoct** /kən'kɒkt/ v. 调制

**potency** /'pəʊt(ə)nsi/ n. 效力

**conversion** /kən'vɜ:ʃ(ə)n/ n. 转变

**arsenic** /'ɑ:snɪk/ n. 砒霜

**strychnine** /'strɪkni:n/  
n. 马钱子碱

**mamba** /'mæmbə/ n. 树眼镜蛇

**cobra** /'kəʊbrə/ n. 眼镜蛇

**venom** /'venəm/ n. 毒液

**neurotoxic** /,njʊərəʊs'tɒksɪk/  
adj. 毒害神经的

**viper** /'vaɪpə(r)/ n. 蝰蛇

**adder** /'ædə(r)/ n. 蝮蛇

**rattlesnake** /'rætlsneɪk/  
n. 响尾蛇

**haemolytic** /,hi:məʊ'lɪtɪk/  
adj. 溶血性的

**viperine** /'vaɪpə,rɪn/ adj. 毒蛇

引出 难度：8 级

※ How it came about that snakes **manufactured** poison **is** a mystery. 主语从句  
套主语从句

『 **come about** to happen, especially in a way that is not planned (意外地事情) 发生 』

- Can you tell me how the accident **came about**?
- How did it **come about** that he knew where we were?
- That **came about** when we went to New York last year. 那件事发生在去年我们去纽约时。

『 **manufacture** (technical) if your body manufactures a particular useful substance, it produces it (身体) 产生, 制造, 分泌 』

- Vitamins cannot be **manufactured by our bodies**.
- Diabetics don't **manufacture enough insulin**.
- It may have been **manufactured** hours or days ago in your lungs. 它可能是几个小时前或几天前在你的肺里制造的。

『 **How it came about that ... is a mystery.** 某个事情怎么发生的, 是个谜 』

- **How it came about that** Maya civilization vanished from the earth **is a mystery.** 玛雅文明是如何突然从地球上消失的, 是一个谜
- **It has never been explained why** Maya civilization vanished from the earth.
- **It has never been explained why** snakes manufactured poison. 课文写法替换

It has never been explained why ...  
谁也无法解释...

**It has never been explained why** Maya civilization vanished from the earth.

※ Over the periods their saliva, a mild, digestive juice like our own, was converted into a poison that defies analysis even today.

『 **defy** be so difficult as to make (sth.) impossible 无法...;使...不可能 』

- Beauty sometimes **defies** description.
- The problem **defied** solution.
- a political move that **defies** explanation
- It's a devastating and barbaric act that **defies all comprehension**.

The beauty of the West Lake **is more than** words **can** describe. be more than ... can / could ...  
是...无法...

『 **be more than ... can / could...** 表达“是...无法...” 』

- When my old friend Brian urged me to accept a cigarette, it **was more than I could** bear.
- Dancing proved to **be more than** the dish **could** bear, for during the party it capsized and sank in seven feet of water.

- The pain **is more than** I can **bear**.
- The story **is more than** I can **believe**.
- The beauty of the West Lake **is more than** words **can** describe.
- The weather turned out to be very good, which **was more than** we **could** expect.

<p><b>defy description</b> 无法描述</p>	<p>The beauty of the Grand Canyon <b>defies description</b>; you simply must see it for yourself. 大峡谷的美景无法描述，你必须亲自去看。</p>
<p><b>defy analysis</b> 无法分析</p>	<p>The chaotic data set seemed to <b>defy analysis</b>, frustrating the research team. 这个混乱的数据集似乎无法分析，让研究团队感到沮丧。</p>
<p><b>defy belief</b> 令人难以置信</p>	<p>His sudden recovery from a terminal illness <b>defies belief</b>, it's nothing short of a miracle. 他从绝症中突然康复令人难以置信，简直就是个奇迹。</p>
<p><b>defy solution</b> 无法解决</p>	<p>The complex political deadlock continues to <b>defy solution</b> despite months of negotiation. 复杂的政治僵局经过数月的谈判仍无法解决。</p>
<p><b>defy explanation</b> 无法解释</p>	<p>The mysterious disappearance of the ship <b>defies explanation</b>, even after extensive investigation. 这艘船神秘失踪，即使经过广泛调查也无法解释。</p>
<p><b>defy understanding/comprehension</b> 无法理解/领会</p>	<p>The advanced physics theory can often <b>defy understanding/comprehension</b> for those without a specialized background. 对于没有专业背景的人来说，先进的物理理论往往无法理解/领会。</p>
<p><b>be beyond sth.</b> 无法...; 不容...</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The rumor is <b>beyond</b> belief. 这个谣言不容置信。</li> <li>• The car is <b>beyond</b> repair.</li> <li>• The situation <b>is beyond</b> my control.</li> <li>• The results <b>are beyond</b> dispute / controversy.</li> <li>• Her beauty <b>is beyond</b> words / description.</li> <li>• His conduct <b>is beyond</b> reproach / criticism.</li> <li>• The pain <b>is beyond</b> human endurance.</li> <li>• Working with you <b>is beyond</b> my wildest dreams.</li> <li>• We might say that justice has been done when a man's innocence or guilt <b>has been proved beyond</b> doubt.</li> </ul>

❖ It was not forced upon them by the survival competition; they could have caught and lived on prey without using poison, just as the thousands of non-poisonous snakes still do.

『 force sth. on / upon sb. 把...强加给... 』

- It's no good trying to **force** a diet **on** someone.
- people who try to **force** their own views **on** you.

<b>impose sth. on / upon sb.</b> 把...强加给...	I don't want them to <b>impose</b> their religious beliefs <b>on / upon</b> my children. 把他们的宗教信仰强加给我的孩子
<b>exert sth. on / upon sb.</b> 对某人施加...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ... ,Advertising <b>exerts</b> a subtle influence <b>on</b> us.</li> <li>• Antique shops <b>exert</b> a peculiar fascination <b>on</b> a great many people.</li> </ul>

『 without using poison 如果不使用毒液 (介词短语充当条件状语) 』

- ...; they could have caught and lived on prey **if** they **had not used** poison, ... 替换
- **Without** it we could not make a living. ⇒ **If** we **didn't have** it we could not make a living.
- **Without** it, nothing could ever be brought to a conclusion; everything would be in a state of chaos. ⇒ **If** we **didn't have** it nothing could ever be brought to a conclusion; everything would be in state of chaos.
- There would be no living things **without** air. ⇒ There would be no living things **if** there **were** no air.
- **In his position**, I would have committed suicide. ⇒ **If I had been** in his position, I would have committed suicide.

『 just as ... still do 就像...仍然在做一样 』

- ... they could have **caught and lived on prey without using poison**, just as the thousands of non-poisonous snakes still **catch and live on prey without using poison**. 课文补全

❖ Poison to a snake is merely a luxury; it enables it to get its food with very little effort, no more effort than one bite.

『 luxury / necessity 奢侈品 / 必需品 』

- Limousines and perfumes are **luxuries** while food, clothing, shelter and transportation are daily **necessities**.

- Mostly they climb as a **necessity** to make money. 他们大多把登山当作赚钱的必经之路。
- Few could afford the **luxury**. 很少有人买得起这种奢侈品。

『 **no more than ...** 仅仅，只不过 』

- His answer was to lift the vessel out of the water by making it ride on a cushion of air, **no more than** one or two feet thick.
- When one seriously studies the social orders that have had the opportunity to develop autonomously, the figure becomes **no more than** an exact and matter-of-fact observation.
- Modern cloth diapers are surprisingly easy to use, almost **no more work than** putting on a disposable.

## ※ And why only snakes (manufacture poison)?

- My brother likes coffee, and I **do**, too. (省略了 "like coffee")
- She is taller than her sister. (省略了 "is tall")
- He eats more than I **do**. (省略了 "eat")
- Just **waiting** (now). (省略了 "I am" 和 "now")
- On the table (it is located). (省略了 "It is" 和 "located")
- You should tell him, but you don't have to. (省略了 "tell him")
- **Ready** for the trip? (省略了主语 "Are you")
- **Given** a choice, which would you pick? (省略了主语和系动词 "If you are" 在状语从句中)

※ Cats, **for instance**, **would be greatly helped**; no running fights with large, fierce rats or tussles with grown rabbits -- just a bite and no more effort needed.

Cats, for instance, would be greatly helped **if they manufactured poison**. 课文补全

『 **running** adj.lasting a long time; continuous 持久的，长时间的 』

- For years he had fought a **running battle** with the authorities over the land.
- He also began a **running** feud with Dean Acheson. 他也开始和艾奇逊院长发生接连不断的争执。
- He said drought had led to severe crop failure for the second year **running**. 他说干旱已连续两年造成严重农作物歉收。

『 **tussles with ...** 与...扭打，搏斗 a fight using a lot of energy, in which two people get hold of each other and struggle 扭打，搏斗 』

- She had a brief **tussle with** her conscience before telling the whole story.
- They began to **tussle with** each other for the coin. 他们为争夺硬币扭打起来。

- The referee booked him for a **tussle with** the goalie . 他和守门员拉扯，因而被裁判记名警告。

※ **In fact, it would be an assistance to all carnivores though it would be a two-edged weapon when they fought each other.**

In fact, it would be an assistance to all carnivores ↔ In fact, it would be an assistance to all carnivores **if they manufactured poison.** 补全课文

『 **two-edged weapon / sword** 双刃剑 』

- As is so often pointed out, knowledge is a **two-edged weapon** which can be used equally for good or evil.
- Mint forex reserve is a **two-edged weapon**, and it causes broad attention from the society. 外汇储备是把双刃剑，如此庞大的数字引起了社会的广泛关注。
- Technology is a **two-edged sword**. 技术是一把双刃剑。

<b>two-edged weapon/sword</b> 双刃剑 (n.)	Social media can be a <b>two-edged sword</b> , offering connection but also distraction. 社交媒体可能是一把双刃剑，既提供了联系，也会分散注意力。
<b>double-edged weapon/sword</b> 双刃剑 (n.)	The new policy is a <b>double-edged weapon</b> ; it boosts profits but damages the environment. 这项新政策是一把双刃剑；它提高了利润，但破坏了环境。

『 **when they fought each other** 当它们互相搏斗时 (when从句充当条件状语) 』

- ... though it would be a two-edged weapon **if they fought each other.** 课文替换
- How can I explain it to you **when** you won't listen?
- **When** I reverse the car, it makes a funny noise.

<b>fight (with) sb.</b> 与...作战	Two guys were <b>fighting (with) each other</b> in the street.
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※ **But, of the vertebrates, unpredictable Nature selected only snakes (and one lizard).**

『 **of** prep. used when comparing related things (用于比较时) 在.....中 』

- I'm surprised that you **of** all people think that.
- A flat tyre today **of** all days what bad luck!
- He's the best looking **of** the three brothers.

※ One wonders also why Nature, with some snakes, concocted poison of such extreme potency.

『 **concoct** v.to produce sth. unusual by mixing things in a new way, esp. a drink or meal 调制 』

- The soup was **concocted from** up to a dozen different kinds of fish.
- What was the most unusual fragrance or flavor you've had to **concoct**? 你配制的最奇怪的香水或者香味是什么?
- But I'm going to need your help to **concoct** a story that will help me save face! 但你得帮我编造个故事, 好给我留点脸面!
- From within, you have chosen to **concoct** a multitude of excuses and a barrier of fear. 从你选择地炮制了许多借口和障碍恐惧。

『 **potency** the strength of sth., esp. a drug, on your mind or body 效力, 强度 』

- Improper storage may decrease the **potency of the drug**.
- The Numbers indicate the **potency** of the ingredient used. 数字是用来表示所用成份的效力的。
- Perhaps his **potency** as a lover also had a physical explanation. 可能是他的性能力强大, 也可能有其他体质解释。

观点 难度: 3 级

※ In the conversion of saliva into poison, one might suppose that a fixed process took place.

『 **In** 在将...转化为...的过程中 (介词 in 表时间) 』

- **In the organization of industrial life the influence of the factory upon the physiological and mental state of the workers has been completely neglected.**
- He walked two hundred and sixty miles **in** eight days. 他在八天里走了二百六十英里。
- The economy was **in** trouble. 经济陷于困境。

『 **the conversion of ... into ...** 转化 ... 名词短语与动词搭配介词相同 』

- the **conversion of** a barn **into** a house 转变用途
- the **conversion of** pounds **into** dollars 兑换
- In the **conversion of** saliva **into** poison 在...转换过程中

『 **take place** v.sth. happens that is planned or arranged (计划之中的事情) 发生 』

- I don't think it will **take place**. 我想那种事是不可能发生的。
- Where is the meeting **taking place**?
- The wedding will **take place at St. Andrew's church**.

※ It **did** not; some snakes **manufactured** a poison **different in every respect from that of others, as different as arsenic is from strychnine, and having different effects.**

『 **be different from ...** 与...不同 』

- His world **seemed so different from** mine. 他的生活圈子与我的似乎是那么的不同。
- London **was different from** most European capitals. 伦敦与大多数的欧洲首都城市不同。
- The new methods **are radically different from** the old. 新的方法迥然不同于旧的方法。
- Her background **is markedly different from** her husband's. 她的背景和她丈夫的截然不同。

『 **in every respect / aspect / way** 在每个方面 』

- The situation is **different in every respect** from last year.
- The two approaches are similar **in many aspects.**

<b>in every respect</b> 在每个方面; 完全地	The new edition of the textbook is an improvement on the last one <b>in every respect.</b> 这本新版教科书在每个方面都比上一版有所改进。
<b>in every aspect</b> 在每个方面; 在各个层面	She is a truly professional athlete, dedicated to excellence <b>in every aspect</b> of her training. 她是一名真正的专业运动员, 致力于在训练的各个方面追求卓越。
<b>in every way</b> 在每个方面; 用所有方法	We tried to support them <b>in every way</b> possible after they lost their home. 我们尝试用所有可能的方法在各个方面支持他们, 在他们失去家园之后。

『 **that of ...** (代指前文的同类名词) ...的那个 』

- His **function** is analogous to **that of a judge, ...**
- The plotline is similar to **that of** many other movies. 该主要情节与其他众多电影的主要情节相似。
- Modern music is often considered inferior to **that of** the past. 现代音乐常被认为不如过去的。

『 **as different as A is from B** 就像 A 与 B 不同一样 (用来补充说明不同程度) 』

Chinese culture is different in every respect from that of America, **as different as the giant panda is from** the bald eagle. 中国文化在各个方面都与美国文化不同, 就像大熊猫与白头鹰不同一样

※ One poison **acts on** the nerves, **the other on** the blood. 独立主格

『 **act on ...** 对...有效; 作用于... (act v.to have an effect or use 有某种效果或作用) 』

- Alcohol **acts on the brain**.
- Disinfectants **act on bacteria** in two main ways.

**act as ...** 作为...而发挥效果; 充当...

Later it was found that there was a type of mosquito which **acted as the carrier of this disease and passed it on to the rabbits.**

『 **the other (acting) on the blood** 另一个作用于血液 (独立主格) 』

- One poison acts on the nerves, the other (acting) on the blood.

## 分析蛇毒 (详述两种毒液) 难度: 5 级

※ The makers of the nerve poison **include** the mambas and the cobras **and their venom is called** neurotoxic.

『 **be called / known as** 被称做、称为 』

- The coastal town **is called** Seaside, due to its location right by the ocean. 这个沿海小镇被称为海边镇, 因为它就在海边。
- The largest galaxy in the cluster **is known as** the Andromeda Galaxy. 星系团中最大的星系被称为仙女座星系。

**be referred to as ...** 被称为...; 被提及为... (强调提及或指代的方式)

In legal documents, the suspect **is referred to as** 'Party A'. 在法律文件中, 嫌疑人被称为“甲方”。

**be addressed as ...** 被称为/称呼为... (强调称呼方式, 常用于人)

In formal settings, the professor should **be addressed as** 'Dr. Smith'. 在正式场合, 这位教授应该被称为“史密斯博士”。

※ Vipers (adders) and rattlesnakes **manufacture the blood poison, which is known as** haemolytic.

『 **被称为是...** 』

- The terrible secret **is called** 'a skeleton in the cupboard'.
- Because of this, they **were known as** 'prize-fighters'.
- People who work in offices **are frequently referred to as** 'white collar workers' for the simple reason that they usually wear a collar and tie to go to work.
- The president should **be addressed as** 'Mr. President'.

※ Both poisons are unpleasant, but by far the more unpleasant is the blood poison. 读出来有押韵效果

『 **by far** (used with comparative or superlative adjectives or adverbs) by a great amount...得多 (修饰比较级或最高级) 』

- The last of these reasons is **by far** the most important.
- The second half of his voyage was **by far** the more dangerous part, during which he sailed round the treacherous Cape Horn.

**Both** books **are** interesting, **but by far the more** interesting **is** 'Harry Potter'. 两个东西都..., 但是更...的多得是...

※ It is said that the nerve poison is the more primitive of the two, that the blood poison is, so to speak, a newer product from an improved formula.

『 **so to speak** 好像, 仿佛, 可以说是 』

- He is, **so to speak / as it were**, a walking dictionary.
- The Han nationality and the minority nationalities are all, **so to speak / as it were**, members of the same family.

Reading is thought to be a kind of conversation between the reader and the text. The reader puts questions, **as it were**, to the text and gets answers. **In the light of** these he puts further questions, and so on. 六级阅读

**so to speak =  
as it were**

- They will be able, **as it were**, to see and hear us in action.
- They can never, **as it were**, lead independent lives, or 'rule the world' by making decisions of their own.
- He gets the solid shape, **as it were**, inside his head—he thinks of it, whatever its size, as if he were holding it completely enclosed in the hollow of his hand.

『 **formula** n.a list of the substances used to make a medicine, fuel, drink etc, showing the amounts of each substance that should be used 配方, 处方 』

- Our products are handmade from traditional **formulas**.
- The **formulas** for the drinks are closely guarded secrets.

※ Be that as it may, the nerve poison **does** its business with man far more quickly than the blood poison.

『 **Be that as it may** used to mean that you accept that a piece of information is true but it does not change your opinion of the subject you are discussing = despite that 尽管如此 (让步状语倒装) 』

- **Be that as it may**, our expenditure is bound to increase.
- "I'm tired." "**Be that as it may**, you have to do some work."
- **Be that as it may**, we do not trust him anyway. 尽管如此，我们还是不信任他。
- The report indicates sales are down this quarter; be that as it may, we should still invest in marketing next year. 报告显示本季度销售额有所下降；尽管如此，我们明年仍应投资于营销。
- **Come what may**, we'll always stand by your side.
- **Come wind or rain**, I will go.

<p><b>However that may be</b> 尽管如此；无论情况如何</p>	<p>The forecast predicts heavy snow; however that may be, the concert will proceed as scheduled. 天气预报预测有大雪；无论情况如何，音乐会按计划进行。</p>
<p><b>Despite that</b> 尽管如此；虽然那样</p>	<p>The training was difficult and intense. Despite that, she managed to finish the marathon in record time. 训练既困难又紧张。尽管如此，她还是设法以创纪录的时间跑完了马拉松。</p>
<p><b>Come what may</b> 无论发生什么；不管有什么后果 (强调决心)</p>	<p><b>Come what may</b>, we are determined to complete this project on time. 无论发生什么，我们都决心按时完成这个项目。</p>
<p><b>Whatever may happen</b> 无论可能发生什么</p>	<p>Whatever may happen, the staff has been instructed to keep the office running as usual. 无论可能发生什么，员工都接到指示要让办公室照常运转。</p>
<p><b>Come wind or rain</b> 无论刮风下雨；风雨无阻 (强调不受天气影响)</p>	<p>The market stalls are always set up at dawn, come wind or rain. 集市摊位总是风雨无阻，在黎明时分搭建起来。</p>

『 **do business with ...** 做生意；(派生、比喻) 发挥效力 』

- I was fascinated by the different people who **did business with** me.
- You will stand to lose if you **do business with** him. 跟他作生意你是要吃亏的。
- I'd rather not **do business with** them. 我宁愿不和他们做生意了。

※ This, however, **means** nothing.

『 **mean nothing** be not important 不重要 』

- Time **meant nothing** to me while I was travelling.
- Your words **mean nothing**. 你的语言毫无意义。
- All the successes and triumphs they achieved **mean nothing** today. 他们所取得的成功和胜利在今日也毫无意义。

※ Snakes **did not acquire** their poison for use against man **but for use against prey such as rats and mice**, **and the effects on these of viperine poison is** almost immediate.

『 the effect / influence / impact of ... on / upon ... ...对...的效果/影响 』

- In the organization of industrial life **the influence of the factory upon the physiological and mental state of the workers has been completely neglected.**

<p><b>the effect of ... on/upon ...</b> ...对... 的效果/影响 (n.)</p>	<p>A recent study examined <b>the effect of</b> sleep deprivation <b>on</b> cognitive performance. 最近的一项研究检验了睡眠不足对认知能力的影响。</p>
<p><b>the influence of ... on/upon ...</b> ... 对...的影响力/影响 (n.)</p>	<p>The exhibition explores <b>the influence of</b> African art <b>on</b> European modernism. 这次展览探索了非洲艺术对欧洲现代主义的影响。</p>
<p><b>the impact of ... on/upon ...</b> ...对... 的冲击/影响 (n. 强调强烈或深远的影响)</p>	<p>The government is assessing <b>the impact of</b> the new trade tariffs <b>on</b> local businesses. 政府正在评估新贸易关税对当地企业的影响。</p>



**throw under the bus.**

出卖、牺牲或背叛某人

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一场孤独的修行，需要相信积累的力量。专注当下、珍惜时间、心怀感恩、顶峰相见。