

Part 1

Suprasegmental Phonemes

Unit 1 Sense Group

Unit 2 Sentence Stress

Unit 3 Liaison

Unit 4 Assimilation

Unit 5 Sound Voicing



Unit 1

Sense Group

Sense Group（意群）是指几个相邻的、在意义和语法结构上紧密联系、表示整体意思的一组词语。一个句子可以按照意义和语法结构分成几个部分，每一个部分称为一个意群。意群是根据语义、语法和语调来划分的。从语义和语法上讲，意群必须是表达某种意义的（组）词、短语、分句、主句或者从句。从语调上说，意群是可以用降调、升调或平调来朗读的语调单位。

意群阅读是快速阅读技巧的重要基础。采用意群阅读法不仅可以提高阅读速度，还可以提高对句意理解的准确度。

意群在句子中具有语义、语法和语调三种特征。因此，正确划分意群也是准确口语表达的关键。在说话或朗读时，哪个部分意思相对独立，就把它当成一个意群，然后根据意群来确定停顿。意群之间可用竖线“|”隔开。要注意：意群与意群之间只需稍加停顿，不可停太久。另外，同一个意群内的词要连起来读或说，不能停顿，也就是要连贯。

意群的划分规则一般如下：

1. 名词词组

1) 冠词与名词划为同一意群。

A professor | discovered this difference.

The dog | carefully carried the bag | in his mouth.

2) 名词与名词划为同一意群。

Professor Green | discussed his opinions | with us.

My parents and I | have dinner together | every Friday night.

3) 指示代词与名词划为同一意群。

This book is interesting.

Do you know | that girl | over there?

4) 不定代词与名词划为同一意群。

Some children | were playing | in the park.

We discussed the weather and | other topics.

5) 形容词与名词划为同一意群。

Paul is interested in | **natural science**.

He doesn't have | **enough money** | to buy it.

6) 形容词化的分词与名词划为同一意群。

The **disappointing news** | depressed me a lot.

Look at | her **shocked look**.

7) 数词与名词划为同一意群。

The house on the lake | was built | **forty years** | ago.

Ten teachers | have a master's degree.

2. 短语

1) 介词短语划为一个意群。

From now on, | I will begin to write my homework.

With an effort | she controlled her temper.

2) 副词短语划为一个意群。

Our parents are worrying about us | **day and night**.

She thanked him | **again and again**.

3) “副词+介词短语”划为一个意群。

They will meet her | at the office | **early in the morning**.

We kept on | discussing the matter | **far into the night**.

4) “副词+动词”或“动词+副词”划为一个意群。

I'm afraid that | you don't **quite understand** | the moral of the story.

Now that | you are a brother, | you must | **behave better**.

5) 动词短语划为一个意群。

She helped the girls | **get ready** | for school.

Go ahead | with your plan. | We're all for it.

3. 句型

1) 系表结构：系动词与表语划为一个意群。

How to finish this | **is a problem**.

The weather | **became colder**.

2) 主谓结构：用于简短语句时，主语与谓语划为一个意群。

They stand up.

We study hard | for our country.

3) 动宾结构：用于简短语句时，主语与谓语和宾语划为一个意群。

She can ride a bike.

People have equal rights.

4. 从句

1) 名词性从句

主语从句: **Whether he'll come here** | isn't clear.

宾语从句: She asked | **who we would go to the zoo with.**

表语从句: The problem is | **how we can get the things we need.**

同位语从句: The news | **that he couldn't come** | makes us upset.

2) 定语从句

Do you know the fact | **that they were talking about?**

This is the reason | **why I was late for school.**

3) 状语从句

She stopped | **when she saw her husband.**

He was so tired | **that he couldn't go any further.**

Since everyone is here, | let's start.

Exercises

I. Read the following sentences, paying attention to the pause.

1. The story has a satisfying ending.
2. A child is playing in a room with the TV on.
3. Early to bed and early to rise makes a man healthy, happy, and wise.
4. After he did that, all of us were surprised.
5. Unless he were my friend, I should not expect his help.
6. They asked me where they can find her.
7. Last night I happened to meet Karen in the street, who seemed to be very busy.
8. The fact is that nobody takes it seriously.
9. College students have more freedom than before and they also grow more and more mature in physically and mentally.
10. I've been a computer programmer for two years. I'm very acquainted with the field.

II. The following is an excerpt from *David Copperfield* by Charles Dickens. Try to use pauses to separate units of information.

'Whether I shall turn out to be the hero of my own life, or whether that station will be held by anybody else, these pages must show. To begin my life with the beginning of my life, I record that I was born (as I have been informed and believe) on a Friday, at twelve o'clock at night. It was remarked that the clock began to strike, and I began to cry, simultaneously.

In consideration of the day and hour of my birth, it was declared by the nurse, and by some sage women in the neighborhood who had taken a lively interest in me several months before there was any

possibility of our becoming personally acquainted, first, that I was destined to be unlucky in life; and secondly, that I was privileged to see ghosts and spirits; both these gifts inevitably attaching, as they believed, to all unlucky infants of either gender, born towards the small hours on a Friday night.'

