

英文文法

Until 的用法

中和高中英魁工作坊

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Until 的用法

當我們想說，「我愛你直到天荒地老」，或「直到遇見你，我才找到真愛」，這樣的情話，都要把 **until** 學會，這樣寫情書就無往不利了！

I. 持續的動作

首先，「朗文字典」中寫道：If something happens **until** a particular time, it **continues** and then stops at that time. 所以，until 用在主要子句的動詞為「**持續的動作**」上。

例如：

➤ I waited **until** she finished talking on the phone.

我一直等到她講完電話。

所以，until 表示「**一直等到...**」

也可以想成 S+V+until ...某人做一動作**一直進行直到...**

II. until+時間；until+句子

until 可以接**一個時間**，也可以接**一個句子**。

➤ The new timetable will remain in operation **until** July 2015. (**一個時間**)

➤ The new timetable will remain in operation **until** we have another task. (**一個句子**)

III. up until

可以用 up until 加強語氣！

例如：**Up until** yesterday, I didn't even know this place.

until 和 till 幾乎同義，但 till 用在「較口語」的情形中。

例如：I'll be here **till** you come back.

IV. “until” VS “not until”

注意：until 和 not until 的不同。

通常 **not until** 都翻譯成「**直到...才...**」

not until 用在主要子句的動詞為「**瞬間或短暫性的動作**」上。

- People **don't** know the importance of health **until** they lose it.

直到失去健康才知道健康的重要性。

→know 知道是瞬間的動作！

- The war didn't come to an end until 1918.

直到 1918 戰爭才結束。

→end 結束是瞬間的動作！

not until 也可以改成其他的句型表達，使文章結構更有變化。例如：分裂句的句型，用於加強語氣，也就是套上 It isthat 的結構。把原句要加強的部分寫在 it is 的後面，其餘的寫在 that 後面就對了。

It is/ was+加強+ that+其他.

- **It was** not until 1918 **that** the war came to an end.

直到 1918 年戰爭才結束。

→或：not until 置於句首，因為是 not 否定副詞，主要子句的主詞和動詞就必須**倒裝**。

否定副詞移到句首的倒裝句

[否定詞 + 助動詞/ be + S + V]

- **Not until 1918** did the war come to an end.

直到 1918 年戰爭才結束。

也就是說：如果你要造一句「我昨晚到一點才睡」，你可以寫成下面三種都對。

- I didn't go to bed until one o'clock last night.

=It is not until one o'clock that I went to bed.

=Not until one o'clock did I go to bed.

有同學會搞不清楚，until 和 by 的用法。其實，它們的意思是不同的。until 表示**延續到**某個時刻的狀態或情形；而 by 則強調到未來某個時間**之前**所發生的事。

例如：Kate: Can I return you the magazine **until** next Saturday?

我可以下星期六前還你雜誌嗎？

Sue: Sure, but you must give it to me **by** next Sunday.

當然，但是你一定要下星期日前還我。

Exercise

1. 直到寫完功課你才能看卡通

You _____ watch the cartoon _____ you finish your homework.

= Not _____ you finish your homework _____ you watch the cartoon.

= It is _____ you finish your homework _____ you can watch the cartoon.

2. Mary 寫完作業才離開教室。

Mary stayed in the classroom _____ she finished her homework.

= Mary did _____ leave the classroom _____ she finished her homework.

3. It was not until we go home _____ we found we lost our bags. (A) which (B) where (C) that (D) when

4. Not until 2:00 a. m. _____ to bed. (A) I went (B) was I going (C) did I go (D) I didn't go

5. I stayed with Mary _____ midnight yesterday. (A) when (B) before (C) until (D) since

6. As the train will not leave _____ one hour later, we can have a bite at the snack bar. (A) by (B) until (C) before (D) while

7. Not until all the fish died in the lake _____ how serious the pollution was. (A) the people realized (B) the people did realize (C) didn't the people realize (D) did the people realize

8. _____ Jack knew the typhoon had stricken Taiwan that he started to get prepared. (A) Only when (B) Not until (C) It was not until (D) As soon as

9. 請重組下列單字以組成一合文法及語意的句子。(忽略大小寫與標點符號)

(A)until (B) realize (C) how important it is (D) I didn't (E) you told me

10. 請重組下列單字以組成一合文法及語意的句子。(忽略大小寫與標點符號)

(A) last week in Taipei (B) each other for years (C) they (D) until they met accidentally (E) had not seen

Answer

1	cannot (can't), until ; until, can; not until, that			2	until; not, until				
3	(C)	4	(C)	5	(C)	6	(B)		
7	(D)	8	(C)			9	(D)(B)(C)(A)(E)		10 (C)(E)(B)(D)(A)