实用商务英语系列

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主编 王关富 蒋显璟



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实用商务英语系列

实用商务英语写作

王关富 蒋显璟 主编

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前 言

《实用商务英语写作》是专门为复合型英语人才的培养而设计编写的,是对外经济贸易大学出版社推出的"实用商务英语系列"教材之一。

随着我国经济改革向纵深发展,经济全方位对外开放,我国社会和经济已取得举世瞩目的成就,并已跻身世界经济大国行列。经济的发展与飞跃同时凸显出人才培养的紧迫性,尤其是培养复合型商务英语人才的任务显得更为紧迫。实践证明我国经济的大发展、全面的开放以及经济的全球化急需大量既熟悉国际商务业务和法规又精通语言技能和善于跨文化沟通的复合型商务英语人才。我们衷心地希望《实用商务英语写作》的出版能为复合型商务英语人才的培养贡献微薄之力。

就目前市场上商务英语写作的教材而言,可以说已经种类繁多、数量相当可观。作者们编写的目的不尽相同,视角彼此有别,内容各有侧重,编写态度也千差万异,因此最终的作品自然也是不一样的。当然,现在的市场或者说市场潜力还是很大的,这些有那么多差别的商务英语写作教材和书籍也许在不同的程度上能适合不同读者的需求。从这个意义上说,商务英语写作教材种类的增多对读者是有益的。我们写这本书的目的就是想再给读者增加一种新的选择。我们力求本书在内容上适应现代经济和商务的发展,在结构上合理得当、自成体系,在语言上简洁实用、规范严谨。希望该书能满足广大读者的期望和要求,不仅能使在校学生和各种学习班的学员很快掌握商务英语写作的框架、要领和技能,打下扎实的基本功,为未来的职业发展增强竞争力,同时也能成为广大国际商务实际工作者自学的良师益友,帮助解决工作中的一些实际问题,提高工作效率和成就感。

《实用商务英语写作》共分为十章,其中第一章涉及商务英语写作的一些基础知识,即商务英语写作的一些重要语言手法和写作技巧。这些基础知识的学习十分必要,能提高商务英语写作的学习效果,起到"画龙点睛"或"锦上添花"的作用。其他的章节则都是实用性很强的商务应用文写作,包括备忘录、摘要、图表信息、公关与友好社交信、日常商务办公信件、求职信件、推销信和商务报告等。这些章节的主要内容包括:对每一种商务应用文的详尽讲解;精心筛选的范例和对范例的分析与点评;形式多样的练习题,书后提供了详尽的练习答案。

本书的编者为对外经济贸易大学的两位资深教授。他们从事了多年商务英语写作课程的教学。授课的对象包括研究生、本科生、大型企业高管培训班学员、国内各地 BEC 学

员等。王关富教授编写了第一、五、六、七、八、九和十章, 蒋显璟教授则负责编写第二、三 和四章。

在编写过程中,我们得到了许多朋友、学生和相关人士的支持和帮助,特别要提出致谢的是曾经参与资料收集和文字输入等工作的赵振琴、刘丽、张中宁、张淑玲、贺娜、王蕾和张萌等。

最后,由于我们的水平有限,再加上时间比较紧迫,书中难免会有一些疏忽或不妥之处,恳请各位读者指正。

王关富 2008 年初夏 于对外经济贸易大学惠园

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第一章

商务英语写作 语言手法与写作技巧

在商务英语写作中,我们必须十分重视其写作技巧与文体。这不仅能丰富语言的表 达和提高语言的效果,而且还能提高商务工作人员的工作效率,促进企业的繁荣与发展。 下面介绍一些商务英语写作中常用的语言技能、写作技巧和文体知识。

一、语言手法

1. 比较

在商务英语写作中,比较(Comparing)是经常使用的一种语言手法。它使被比较对象之间的特点突出,差异分明,有利于读者对事物的判断,有利于作出正确的决策。比较的具体语言表现形式有很多种,但最常用的有:

1) 等比

等比(Comparison of Equivalence)是同等事物之间的无差别比较,可以指数量和质量上的,也可以指程度和强度上的。经常用来表示这种等比的短语有: as... as, the same as, as much of... as, identical with, similar to 等。现看下面的例句:

- ① Our competitor produces **as many models as** we do. 我们竞争对手和我们生产的产品型号一样多。
- ② **As much** (**of capital**) is raised at home **as** abroad. 国内筹集的资金和国外筹集的一样多。

- ③ I agree with you as much as Mr. Robert. 我和罗伯特先生一样同意你的观点。
- ④ She may be **as lucky as** she hopes. 她可能跟自己希望的那样幸运。
- ⑤ Our product is **identical** in specifications **with** the Japanese make. 我们的产品在规格方面与日本货完全一样。
- ⑥ The turnover of the company in the second quarter remained **the same as** that of the corresponding period last year. 该公司今年第二季度的销售额与去年同期持平。
- ⑦ Our views are not quite **similar to** those of our trading partners. 我们的观点与我们贸易伙伴的不尽相同。

上面的例句分别通过句中的黑体部分进行比较,但两者之间是同等的关系,几乎没有多少优劣之分。

2) 比较级和最高级

所谓比较级和最高级(Comparative and Superlative Degrees)是指不同事物之间的差别比较,即被比较的事物之间是有大小、多少和优劣之分的。用于这种比较的语言形式和短语有:better, less; the best, the least;-er, the -est; more, less; the most, the least; 和 the..., the...等。请看下面的例句:

- ① The quality of our products is **much better than** that of competing ones. 我们产品的质量要比竞争产品的质量强得多。
- ② This is **the most competitive** market in the whole world. 这是世界上竞争最激烈的市场。
- ③ The conditions imposed on us are **even less acceptable.** 强加在我们头上的附加条件更难以接受。
- ④ The bigger the project, the higher the cost. 项目越大,成本越高。
- ⑤ The facts speak **louder than** words. 事实胜于雄辩。

上述五个句子分别通过黑体部分的比较级或最高级达到比较的目的,取得语言的预期效果。下面一例是有关复印机的一份表格。它对三种复印机(分别是 Zenton, Arrow



Specifications		Zenton	Arrow	Berta
(1) Price	(Pound)	1 595	1 816	1 600
(2) First copy time	(secs)	8.4	9.0	11.4
(3) Output	(hour)	600	750	500
(4) Weight	(kg)	38	34	22
(5) Width	(cm)	70	68	74
(6) Reliability	(☆)	公公	74	\$ \$ \$

和 Berta) 在价格、首页复印时间、每小时印数、机重、机宽以及可靠性进行了比较。

根据表格的内容,我们可以将前两项进行如下比较:

- ① Berta is more expensive than Zenton, but less expensive than Arrow. Arrow is the most expensive and Zenton is the least expensive.
- ② Arrow is faster than Berta, but slower than Zenton. Zenton is the fastest and Berta is the slowest.

3) 其他的比较形式

有些短语虽然不像上面所述的几种比较形式那么直接了当,但却都明显含有比较意义,因此比较也完全可以通过它们得以实现。这些短语包括 superior to, inferior to, over, beyond, so that, such that, too, enough, exceed, 和 surpass 等。现看下列范例:

- ① The home-made machine is **superior to** the imported one in many aspects. 国产机器在许多方面优于进口机器。(superior to 相当于 better than)
- ② In the first half of 1988 the monthly deficits consistently **exceeded** \$ 2 billion mark. 1988 年上半年每月赤字始终超过 20 亿美元的界限。
 (exceed 在此含有 be more than 的意思)
- ③ It is not advisable to live **beyond** one's means. 生活费用超出收入是不可取的。 (to live beyond one's mean 等于 to spend more than what one earns)
- ④ He is experienced enough to understand the trap.他有足够的经验识破此陷阱。(experienced enough 可以理解为 have more experience than not to)
- (5) It moves too quickly for most people to see.

它飞得太快了,绝大多数人看不见。

(too quickly 相当于 moves more quickly than)

- 6 It is flying so fast that it may beat the speed record. 它飞得如此之快,有可能打破速度记录。 (我们可以将这句话理解为: It may be flying faster than the speed record.)
- (7) It is such a good chance that we mustn't miss it.

这么好的机会,我们绝不应该错过。

(此句等于说:It is a much better chance than we should miss.)

从上面七个例句中可以看出,虽然它们没有直接使用明显的比较形式,但各句的黑体 部分都分别隐含着一种比较的意思。在商务英语写作中应该充分注意这一点。

练习一

4)

I. 把下列词或短语组合成完整并符合逻辑的等比句子:

- 1) as I thought/he is not/a help/so much of/
- 2) the new management approach/before/their/their attitude/the same as/toward/was
- 3) running a loss/are/as many/making a profit/as/of enterprises/are/
- 4) those/of the same/other/we are/developing countries/as/opinion/from/
- 5) last week/this copy/identical with/is/you bought/the ones/
- 6) you met with/today/very similar to/the problems/five years ago/we are facing/those/ are/
- 7) the Japanese market/as difficult/the Korean market/to enter/as/is/

Ⅱ.挑选下列形容词按照复印机表格前两项内容的例子对第三至六项的内容进行比

挑选	下列形容词按照复印机表格前两项内容的例子对第三至六项的内容进行比较:
A TON	high, reliable, heavy, deep, low, wide, narrow, light
1) E	Example: Berta is more expensive than Zenton, but less expensive than Arrow.
A	Arrow is the most expensive and Zenton is the least expensive.
2) E	Example: Arrow is faster than Berta, but slower than Zenton. Zenton is the fastest
a	and Berta is the slowest.
3)_	
_	

	5)	
	6)	
ш	FFI 1	听给的词、短语或句型将下列句子译成英语:
ш.		你掌握的信息越全面准确,你就越可能作出正确的决策。
	1,	(the, the)
	2)	今年世界的钢铁产量比去年高出 15%。
	۷)	(higher than)
	3)	他对别人的关心远远胜过对自己的关心。
	3)	(much more concerned aboutthan)
	4)	世界贸易组织与以前相比变得更为强大和有效了。
	')	(the World Trade Organization, morethan)
	5)	在我们所接到的报盘中,你们的最没有竞争力,因此也是最不能接受的。
	- /	(offers, the least, the most)
	6)	他的工作表现比我们公司的其他雇员好得多。
		(perform much better than)
IV.	在	下面所给的词和短语中,选择一个适当的填入下列句子空格内:
	To the	superior, surpassed, inferior, beyond, so that, such that, too, enough
		The gap is still wide for the two sides to make up.
	2)	An assistant manager is in position to a manager.
	3)	They are only to us in number, not in other aspects.
	4)	Anything concerning law goes our control.
	5)	The business report is easy for everyone to read.
	6)	Our trading partner is tough in the negotiation it is unlikely for
		us to reach an agreement soon.
	7)	The response to our financial appeal anything we had expected.
	8)	There was a panic about the financial crisis everybody was
		converting their money into the US dollar.

第一章 商务英语写作语言手法与写作技巧 5

2. 因果关系

因果关系(Cause and Effect)是商务英语写作中不可缺少的语言手法,使用得非常普遍,尤其是在有关问题或事故的分析性商务英语报告中。它能使有关人员迅速而清楚地了解全面情况,及时采取必要的措施。但是,要想有效地运用这一手法,我们必须了解经常用来表示因果关系的短语和表达方式。

经常用来表示因果关系的短语有: because of, owing to, due to, cause, lead to, result in, be caused by, result from 和 be attributed (attributable) to 等。需要特别注意的是, owing to 一般用于句首,假如用在主句之后,该短语前则需要加一逗号; due to 既可与 be 动词一起使用,也可引导一个状语。现看下列句子:

- ① The failure of the Suggestion Scheme is **due to** the low reward. 建议计划失败的原因是奖励太低。
- ② The American measures **led to** immediate reaction from the world. 美国的措施引起了世界的迅速反应。
- ③ Owing to our joint efforts, the transaction was successfully concluded. 由于共同的努力,我们成功地达成了此笔交易。
- ④ Ineffective management **caused**/ **resulted in** poor profits. 低效的管理导致了极差的利润。
- (5) The collapse of the company was caused by/ resulted from a strategic mistake by the president.
 - 公司倒闭是由总裁的战略性失误引起的。
- ⑥ The delivery was delayed **because of** rough weather. 交货延误的原因是恶劣的天气。

在叙述因果关系的时候,我们可以通过使用不同的短语变换表示原因和结果的短语的位置,例如第一句也可改成:The low reward caused the failure of the Suggestion Scheme. 其他的例子也是一样。所以说表示原因和结果的短语的位置是比较灵活的,但需要使用不同的短语。



I. 选择一合适的词或短语把下面 A 和 B 两部分连接起来:

cause, be caused by, result from, result in, lead to

Δ

- 1) Imprecise terms of reference
- 2) Low demand
- 3) The high level of leasing
- 4) Lack of interest in the new production plan
- 5) The success of the report
- 6) The unsuitable photocopy service

В

- a) unsatisfactory report
- b) expensive product
- c) higher level of taxation
- d) low staff morale
- e) careful planning
- f) poor maintenance of equipment
- Ⅱ. 选择一合适的短语将 A 和 B 两部分组合成六个既完整又符合逻辑的句子:

because of, owing to, due to

A

- 1) The training center was established
- 2) The failure of the report was
- 3) The training course was canceled
- 4) Output went down
- 5) Conditions everywhere have been seriously worsened
- 6) Efficiency was increased
- 7) The crops completely failed

В

- a) difficult trading conditions
- b) imprecise terms of reference
- c) low staff attendance
- d) a disease that had set in
- e) low level of supervisory knowledge
- f) improved training methods
- g) the postwar rise in prices

3. 条件

在错综复杂的商务活动中存在着各种不同的条件(Condition)。只有通过对各种条件的分析,才能作出判断和估计,以便作出相应的决策或采取相应的行动。用来表示条件的基本句型有以下几种:

1) 表示普遍的情况(Simple Present + Simple Present),例如:

If the junior recruiters work more than four hours overtime, they receive overtime payments.

如果初级雇员加班超过四个小时以上,他们获取加班费。

- 2) 表示可能的情况(Simple Present + Simple Future),例如: If business starts to improve, salaries will be increased. 如果业务情况开始改善,薪水将会提高。
- 3) 表示假设的情况(Simple Past + Would form),例如:
 If Site A was chosen, 30 square meters of parking space would be lost.
 假如 A 地段被选中,将失去 30 平方米的停车场地。
- 4) 表示过去的假设情况(Past Perfect + Would have done),例如:
 If the increase in salaries **had been** more moderate, profitability **would have been kept** pace with the rise in turnover.
 如果加薪幅度更小一些,利润率就会与营业额保持同步增长了。

◆ 练习三 选用前面的条件句型组合句子:

- The company/ advertise/ overseas last year
- Employees/ live/ more than ten Km away from the office
- 3) We/choose/Site B
- 4) Managing Director/ resign/ now
- 5) The company/ pay/ less commission
- 6) We/ receive/ architects' plan/
- 7) Employees/ work/ more than ten hours overtime
- 8) He/ be/ Managing Director
- 9) There/ be/ fewer management staff
- 10) We/ not build/ rest room

- a) it/ be/ more competitive/
- b) they/ receive/ a travel allowance
- c) the building/ finish/ by April
- d) the company/ benefit/ immediately
- e) profits/ be/ higher/ last year
- f) the building/ complete/ next April
- g) they/ get/ an extra day's holiday
- h) the company/ collapse
- i) more work/ do
- i) the employees/ strike

4. 对比

在商务英语写作中我们经常需要在前后两个句子或一个句子的前后两部分表达不同或截然相反的意思。对比(Contrast)正是用来表达或区别好与坏、优与劣、强与弱或分析事物本身长短处的有效方法。用来表示对比的词和短语有: although, even though, whereas, while 和 however 等。However 用于对比相反的思想、事物和情况; although 用来表示一种让人惊讶的对比,与 even though/if 基本相同,只是语气稍微弱些; while/whereas则一般用于相同思想、事物和情况之间的对比。现举下面的句子为例:

- ① Turnover increased. **However**, profitability fell. 营业额上升了,但是利润率却下降了。
- ② Although turnover increased, profitability fell. 尽管营业额上升了,但利润率下降了。
- ③ Profitability fell (even) though turnover increased. 即使在营业额上升的情况下,利润还是下降了。
- ④ It would be difficult to ventilate(使……通风)Site B, while/whereas the exterior position(外部位置)of Site A would improve ventilation.
 B 场地很难通风,而 A 场地的外部位置则会改善通风状况。
- ⑤ While I know the good opportunity in the proposed investment, I fully realize the risks that may be involved in it. 虽然我知道所提议的投资是一次极好的机会,但我也充分意识到其中可能涉及的风险。

上述五例都为对比的句子。前面三句讲述同样的内容,但语气各不相同,第三句的语气最重。第四和第五句则是相同事物间的对比。

练习师 选用上述方法把下面的两部分组合成对比句:

前半句

- 1) There are only six recruiters.
- 2) Site B would be easy to build on.
- 3) Salaries have been fixed for two years.
- 4) The recruitment agency concentrated on the UK.
- 5) There are ten managers.

<u>后半句</u>

- a) They do most of the work.
- b) Site A would require new foundations.
- c) They will be revised if business improves.
- d) Its competitors turned to foreign markets.
- e) Only the Managing Director has the decision-making power.

· 10 实用商务英语写作

- Working conditions are above average.
- 7) The Recruitment Managers received a basic salary of \$7 250
- 8) Prospective clients were offered discounted rates for the first year of business.
- 9) There are eight managers.
- 10) Site A would be easy to ventilate.

- f) There is no rest room.
- g) They benefited from high rates of commission.
- h) Many of these new clients continued to pay less after the first contract year.
- i) There are only seven non-management staff.
- j) Site B would be exposed to fumes from the shop floor.

5. 举例

通过使用 for example, for instance, such as, like 或 or 等词或短语进行举例 (Example)以表述文章上下文关系也是商务英语写作中一种重要的语言手法。它使抽象 笼统的叙述具体化,更有说服力,更能引起读者的兴趣。现举例如下:

- ① The British fleet prevented Germany from importing **such** essentials **as** foodstuffs, petroleum, cotton, rubber, and tin, so necessary in the war. 英国舰队阻止了德国进口战争所需的诸如食品、石油、棉花、橡胶、锡这样的必需品。
- ② In a friendship **such as** ours a few slips are of no consequence. 在像我们这样的友谊中几个失误是不会产生不良后果的。
- 3 Some trade unions, the Electrical Trades Union for example, gave us their full support in the labor dispute.
 - 一些工会,例如电器行业工会,在劳资纠纷中给予了我们毫无保留的支持。
- ④ The world needs international economic bodies **like** the World Trade Organization to regulate the economic and trade development.
 世界需要像世界贸易组织这样的国际经济机构来规范经济与贸易的发展。
- ⑤ This semester¹ several useful and interesting courses have been offered. An Introduction to European Culture², **for instance**, gives us a lot of background knowledge³ of the history of European philosophy, literature, and arts. From time to time we see slides shows⁴ of famous paintings and hear tapes of famous pieces of music, and they make the lectures all the more interesting. American Society and Culture⁵ is another course that attracts

a large audience. The teacher, who visited the United States not long ago discusses new trends and change in American life as well as American history and traditions. We like these and other courses very much, because they help us not only to improve our English but also to broaden our vision⁶.

注 释

① 学期 ②《欧洲文化导论》 ③ 背景知识 ④ 幻灯片 ⑤《美国社会与文化》 ⑥ 扩大视野

在上面这些例句中,第一至第四句通过黑体部分的短语举出具体的例子,第五例则用 for instance 这一短语举出了两个例子:即《欧洲文化导论》和《美国社会与文化》这两门实用又有趣的课程。

有的时候在写作中不用表示举例的词或短语而直接举例也是可以的。请看下面一例:

Knowledge often results only after persistent investigation(坚持不懈的调研). Albert Einstein, after a long examination of the characteristics(特征) of matter and energy, put forward his famous theory of Relativity(相对论). After years of work Annie Jump Cannon perfected the classification(分类) of some 350,000 stars. Investigations into the causes of different diseases provide us with the means for prevention and cure(预防与治疗) of the disease only after many years of research.

在这一段中,作者并没有使用像 for example 和 for instance 这样的短语,但从上下文看举例的使用还是很明显的。作者用了三个例子来说明知识的产生需要进行长期大量的调研工作:一是爱因斯坦提出相对论;二是坎农完善对星球的分类;三是人类预防和治疗疾病。

◆ 练习五 将下列各题组合成完整并符合逻辑的句子:

- 1) particularly those/ doctors recommend/ like reading, typing, or sewing/ that/ who spend many hours/ everyone exercise everyday/ doing sedentary work/
- 2) training animals/ more dangerous than/ for instance/ jobs/ truck driving/ there are/
- 3) automobiles and computers/ to export/ such as/ more and more/ they have shifted/ high-tech products/
- 4) extended family/ in most countries/ are/ such things as/ out of date/