

英语专业本科学习用书

Modern English Linguistics
Teaching Terminology

现代英语语言学 教学术语

主 编 张文勋 段友国
副主编 陈松松 程文华 向纯武 黄晶晶



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前 言

术语 (terminology) 是在特定学科领域用来表示概念的称谓的集合, 在我国又称为名词或科技名词 (不同于语法学中的名词)。术语是通过语音或文字来表达或限定科学概念的约定性语言符号, 是思想和认识交流的工具。根据国际标准, “术语”一词仅指“文字指称”。

随着社会的发展和进步, 尤其是高等教育的飞速发展, 新概念大量涌现, 必须用科学的方法定义、指称这些概念。术语和文化, 如影随形, 须臾不离。不同的文化要用不同的术语来说明, 吸收外来文化的同时必须吸收外来术语。孔子曰: “名不正, 则言不顺。” “正名”就是术语的规范化。过去主要开展的是自然科学术语的规范化工作, 要使社会科学真正成为科学, 成为与世界相通的学问, 社会科学研究的术语规范化也是不能回避的课题。术语规范化的目的, 不是统一思想, 而是统一表达。社会科学研究的术语规范化, 并不意味着“社会科学学术思想的千篇一律”, 恰恰相反, 术语是学术的前提, 术语的规范化意味着科学的发达, 规范术语是学科建设当中必不可少的重要环节。百花齐放、百家争鸣的学术氛围, 必定要求术语规范化的背景。

国外现代英语语言学理论对我国高等学校英语语言学教学的影响, 已呈越来越深远的态势。在这当中, 作为现代英语语言学研究科学结晶, 术语起了举足轻重的作用。随着现代英语语言学的不断发展, 英语语言学学术语也越来越丰富, 但是随之而来的问题是, 在现代英语语言学教学学术语的使用缺乏统一规范和标准的情况下, 现代英语语言学的研究者和教学者由于对术语的理解角度不同或由于行文的需要, 其术语使用的差别很大。研究现代英语语言学学术语, 出版一本综合现代英语语言学教学学术语书, 对规范英语语言学学术语的理解和教学有一定的理论意义和实践意义, 对英语专业学生参加研究生入学考试也有很大帮助。

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A

Abbreviation

In the study of modern linguistics and morphology, the term refers to letters or shortened forms of words or phrases that are used instead of full words or full phrases. Many long words, especially those that are frequently used, and long technical words, are shortened or abbreviated. A word or a phrase that has been shortened is called an abbreviation. For example, “ad” is the abbreviation of “advertisement”, “flu” is the abbreviation of “influenza”, and “PRC” is the abbreviation of “the People’s Republic of China”.

Ablative

In the study of modern linguistics and traditional grammar, the term refers to a grammatical case of noun that, by means of grammatical inflection, typically expresses such relationships as manner, location or time between the verb and the noun.

Ablaut

In the study of modern linguistics and traditional grammar or morphology, the term refers to the use of systematic variation of vowels to distinguish grammatical meanings of the same word or lexeme in different phonological environments within a paradigm. The English paradigm of “song, sing, sang, and sung” is a good example of ablaut.

Absolute Construction

In the study of modern linguistics and traditional grammar or syntax, the term refers to a nominal phrase that is made up of a noun or a nominal phrase plus a non-finite verb phrase (such as -ing participle, -ed participle, gerund or infinitive), a prepositional phrase or an adjective phrase. Absolute construction often occurs at the beginning of a sentence, and functions as an adverbial to modify the main clause of the sentence, rather than the subject or the verb of the sentence.

Accent (1)

In the study of modern linguistics and traditional grammar or phonology, the term refers to the relatively more energy or force that is placed on the pronouncing of one syllable of a word. The syllable that receives the accent is said to be the stressed syllable of the word. If a word in a sentence is emphasized by receiving relatively more energy or force in its pronunciation, then the word is said to carry the sentence stress. The term means the same as stress in this sense. In orthography, a small mark (a short raised vertical line ") is used as the stress mark and is placed above a vowel to indicate that the syllable is stressed.

Accent (2)

In the study of modern linguistics and sociolinguistics, the term refers to the distinctive feature of pronunciation which indicates the regional, geographical or the social identity of a language speaker. It actually means the distinctive way that words are pronounced by a language speaker rather than his or her vocabulary or grammar.

Accommodation (1)

In the study of modern linguistics and TESL or TEFL, the term refers to the adaptation or simplification of language materials to make them easier to use for the second or foreign language teachers and easier to understand for the second or foreign language learners.

Accommodation (2)

In the study of language testing and test theory, the term refers to a reasonable adjustment or modification of an assessment or a test, or the administration of an assessment or a test in order to improve the degree of validity and reliability.

Accreditation

In the study of language testing and test theory, the term refers to a diploma or a certification that is awarded by an authorized agency concerned to a candidate who has met or satisfied the standards required by the diploma or certification program.

Acculturation

In the study of modern linguistics and cultural linguistics or SLA (second language acquisition), the term refers to the process by which language learners from one language culture adapt to or adopt the different systems of thought, communication, beliefs, emotions, values of another language culture which they have come to learn and acquire.

Accusative

In the study of modern linguistics and traditional grammar, the term refers to a grammatical case of noun that, by means of grammatical inflection, typically indicates the relationship of the direct object to the verb or the relationship of the object to the preposition.

Achievement Level

In the study of language testing and test theory, the term refers to the degree of quality that is used to describe a language learner's competence and performance after the finishing of a language training program. For example, CET-4, CET-6, TEM-4 and TEM-8 in China show different achievement levels of English learners.

Acquisition

In the study of modern linguistics and applied linguistics or SLA, the term refers to the process by which language competence and skills are acquired or developed, particularly the process by which native language competence and skills are acquired or developed by children. The way in which a child acquires his or her native language has long been an issue debated and argued about by psycholinguists and linguists. LAD, which stands for language acquisition device, was first put forward by the famous American linguist Noam Chomsky to explain the innate psychological capacity of human beings for language acquisition. UG, which stands for universal grammar, was later proposed also to explain the innate human grammatical system that enables human beings to acquire their mother tongue. The term is sometimes used as opposed to learning.

Acronym

In the study of modern linguistics and traditional grammar or morphology, the term refers to a word which is formed by putting together the initial letters of a word group. For example, "USA" is the acronym for "the United States of America".

Active Vocabulary

In the study of modern linguistics and TESL or TEFL, the term refers to the vocabulary which a language learner has and is able to put into use in real-life communication. The term is used as opposed to passive vocabulary.

Active Voice

In the study of modern linguistics and traditional grammar or syntax, the term refers to a grammatical category of the verb when it is used to construct a sentence. An active voice sentence is one that has the most typical syntactical structure of subject + verb + object, which indicates that the subject of the sentence is the performer or the doer of the action which is expressed by the verb of the sentence. The term is used as opposed to passive voice. A sentence of passive voice has the most typical sentence structure or word order (in the English language) of subject + be + verb (-ed) + by + noun.

Adaptive Testing

In the study of language testing and test theory, the term refers

to a technique used in making individual testing or assessment in which the succeeding items of the assessment or the test are selected on the basis of the testee's previous performance of response to the items that have been finished by the testee.

Adjacency Pair

In the study of modern linguistics and discourse analysis or pragmatics, the term refers to a basic unit of conversation in verbal communication which is typically made up of an exchange of one turn each by two speakers A and B, usually a question and an answer. The two turns are logically and semantically related to each other in such a way that the first turn of speaker A should require a second turn of speaker B and vice versa.

Adjective

In the study of modern linguistics and traditional grammar, the term refers to one of the eight parts of speech of word which typically qualifies, modifies, or describes a noun or a nominal phrase, so as to make the noun or the nominal phrase more specific in meaning. Besides functioning as modifier of noun or nominal phrase, adjective may also function as noun and play the grammatical role of predictive or complement.

Adjective Phrase

In the study of modern linguistics and traditional grammar, the term refers to a phrase which is built around an adjective with the adjective as the head of the phrase. An adjective can be

modified by an adverb and followed by that-clause or prepositional phrase as its complement, thus formulating an adjective phrase.

Adjunct

In the study of modern linguistics and traditional grammar, the term refers to an optional linguistic element in a grammatical construction. It is a word or a phrase that modifies or completes the meaning of another linguistic element or a linguistic construction. An adjunct is not an obligatory syntactic element in the linguistic construction, and the removing of it from the sentence neither affects the essential meaning of the main clause nor affects the main structure of the main clause.

ADL

In the study of modern linguistics and applied linguistics or language education, the term stands for the advanced distributed learning. ADL's main object is to use the Internet as a convenient and efficient means of language education.

Adverb

In the study of modern linguistics and traditional grammar, the term refers to one of the eight parts of speech of word which typically qualifies, modifies, intensifies or describes a verb, an adjective, another adverb, a prepositional phrase or a clause, so as to make the linguistic element which it modifies more specific in meaning.

Adverb Phrase

In the study of modern linguistics and traditional grammar, the term refers to a phrase which is built around an adverb with the adverb as the head of the phrase. An adverb may be modified by another adverb or followed by a prepositional phrase or a clause, thus formulating adverb phrase.

Adverbial

In the study of modern linguistics and traditional grammar, the term refers to a word or a phrase that grammatically functions as an adverb. An adverbial provides further information about time, location or manner, thus making the clause in which it is more specific in meaning. A sentence or a clause can theoretically contain unlimited number of adverbials. In the English language, an adverbial has no fixed position in a clause or a sentence. Adverbial is usually not the obligatory grammatical element in a clause or a sentence.

Advisory Committee

In the study of language testing and test theory, the term refers to a group of individuals who are appointed or elected to be responsible for the recommendation and administration of policies that are concerned with a certification program.

Affected

In the study of modern linguistics and traditional grammar or

semantics, the term refers to a semantic role of the participant in a sentence or a clause that is directly or indirectly acted upon by the action that is described by the verb in the same clause or sentence. In English, this semantic role of being affected is typical of the direct objects and indirect objects of transitive verbs. But subjects may also be said to be affected participants, particularly in passive voice sentences or clauses.

Affix

In the study of modern linguistics and traditional grammar or morphology, the term refers to a kind of bound morpheme. An affix is a bound morpheme which can only be added to a root morpheme or a stem in the formation of a new word or another grammatical form of the same word. In its broad sense, an affix can be a prefix, a suffix, or an infix. In its narrow sense in the English language, affixes only refer to prefixes and suffixes. Infixes are treated separately in the English language, because there are no real infixes in the English language in its real sense. Ablaut which means variation of vowel to distinguish grammatical meaning of the same word or lexeme in different phonological environments within a paradigm is sometimes treated as infix in the English language.

Affricative

In the study of modern linguistics and traditional grammar or phonetics, the term refers to a consonant speech sound which is in fact a combination or co-articulation of two sounds, an explosive or a stop and a fricative. The explosive or stop and the fricative must be produced in almost the same place of articulation in the oral cavity. An example in the English language is the [tʃ] sound in words like

“chair” and “church”, which is produced like putting a [t] sound (a stop or an explosive) and a [ʃ] sound (a fricative) together quickly in the mouth. In the IPA an affricative is represented by the corresponding stop symbol followed by the fricative symbol. It is important for language learners to know that the two symbols should be regarded as a single consonant phoneme.

Agent

In the study of modern linguistics and semantics, the term refers to the semantic role of an entity (either a person or a thing) that is the performer or doer of an action, an activity or an event that is described by the verb. It is usually the grammatical subject of the verb in an active voice clause or sentence. In a passive voice clause or sentence, the agent is usually the grammatical object following the preposition “by” in the English language.

Agentive Noun

In the study of modern linguistics and traditional grammar or morphology, the term refers to a noun which indicates that it is the agent (performer or doer) of an action, an activity or an event due to its morphological structure in which there is an agent-denoting morpheme. In the English language, these nouns are typically formed by adding the suffix “-er”, “-or”, “-ar”, “-yr”, “-ant”, “-ist” or “-eer” to the root verb.

Agreement

In the study of modern linguistics and traditional grammar or

syntax, the term is a very important concept. The syntactical rules of some natural languages often require that some parts of speech of words in a linguistic construction should share certain grammatical categories with other parts of speech of words in the same linguistic construction, and these rules are what are referred to as agreement in grammar. In other words, agreement means one word in a grammatical construction (a phrase, a clause or a sentence) needs to be inflected because it has to share the grammatical category of another word in the same grammatical construction. For example, in the English language, the subject must agree with the verb in number as in the sentence: *One swallow does not make a summer, but two swallows do make a fall.* In the English language, determiners and nouns must also agree in number within a nominal phrase as in “this man” and “those ladies”. The term means the same as concord in the study of grammar.

Alliteration

In the study of modern linguistics and rhetoric or stylistics, the term refers to a rhetorical device by means of the repetition of the initial consonant sound of at least two words. There are many English idioms and collocations that are created by the exploitation of alliteration. There should be at least two successive repetitions in order to create alliteration. For example: *Peter Piper picked a pack of pickled pepper.* The initial consonant sound [p] is repeated many times. If a syllable is repeated instead of a consonant sound, then it is called assonance.

Allomorph

In the study of modern linguistics and morphology, the term

means one of the two or more variant phonological forms that belong to the same morpheme in a given language. Allomorphs of the same morpheme occur in different phonological or morphological environments and they never occur in the same phonological or morphological environment. For example, the English negative prefix “in-” in words like “intolerable” and “incapable” has the variant form (allomorph) “im-”, which appears in such words as “impossible” and “imperfect”. “In-” and “im-” never occur in the same phonological or morphological environment.

Allophone

In the study of modern linguistics and phonology or phonemics, the term refers to one of the two or more phonetic variants that belong to the same single phoneme in a given language. To make it easier to understand, we can say that it is another pronunciation of the phoneme in a given language that does not distinguish one word from another. For example, the phoneme [p] in the English language has two allophones: one is [ph], in the production of which there is a puff of air from the mouth, and it occurs at the beginning of words such as “pat” and “pot”, and the other is [p], in the production of which there is no puff of air from the mouth, and it occurs after [s] as in “spit” and “spot”. It is very important for language learners to note that allophones in one language may be different phonemes in another language. For example, [ph] and [p] are allophones in the English language, but they are two different phonemes in the Chinese language because they distinguish one word from another, such as the Chinese 包 [pao] and 跑 [p^hao].