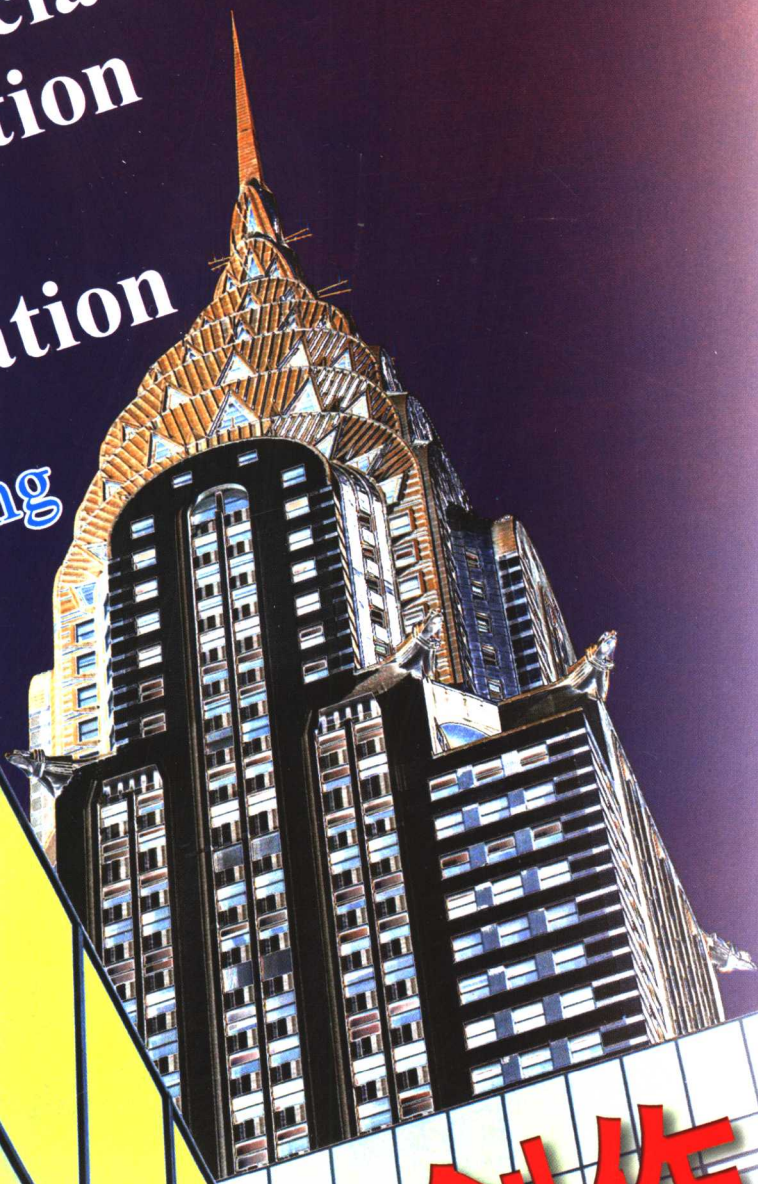


Appreciation Imitation and Creation

College
English Writing
Lectures
& Practice



李争鸣
编著

欣赏·模仿·创作

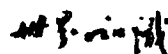
——大学英语写作讲与练

世界知识出版社

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探索有效途径,提高英语写作水平

——写给英语写作学习者的话

(代前言)

一、英语写作的重要性

在谈到英语写作是否重要时,一位在美国耶鲁大学学习的中国留学生是这样回答的:“是的,非常重要!很多来耶鲁大学招聘学生的公司,包括大多数众所周知的华尔街金融与咨询公司,公开声明他们首选那些有着坚实写作能力的应聘者。”

下面一个自然段的内容与上面那个中国留学生的回答有异曲同工之处:

Many students feel that learning to write well is a useless, time-consuming task that has little to do with “real life” – that is, with their future occupations. While this may be true if he or she plans to become an auto mechanic or a waitress. It is certainly not true if you plan to have a white-collar job. No matter what profession you enter – business, engineering, government – you will have to write.

看来,在就业市场竞争异常激烈的今天,一个人能否寻求到理想的职业,并在未来的事业中获得成功,都与自身英语写作水平的高低有着密切的关系。

二、英语写作中普遍存在的三大问题

1. 词汇量有限与用词不准确。1998年1月的全国硕士研究生入学考试写作题是看图作文,图中内容是一只母鸡正在做出承诺,保证它下的蛋有蛋壳、蛋清、蛋黄……作文要求考生用一个自然段的篇幅描述这一画面。但有一位考生由于不知道母鸡(hen)一词如何拼写,只得改用cock's wife来替代。而这种不恰当的替代完全是由于词汇量有限所致。在一次判学生作文的过程中,我读到了这么一句话:“After China opened its door to the outside world, Chinese people have more opportunities to touch foreigners.”显然,此句话中的touch用词有误。该词的“接触”为“触摸”之意,而非与人“交流”、“交往”的“接触”。要表达后者之意,应选用contact或communicate with才对。以上两个反面例子说明,如果词汇量不足或用词不准确,要么会闹出笑话,要么会引起误会。

2. 母语思维与母语干扰。在写作时,学生们或多或少地会先用汉语思维,然后再用英语表达出来;有的学生甚至先用汉语写出整篇文章,然后再将其“翻译”成英语。这样写出来的句子或文章往往会有明显的汉语思维痕迹。请看一个学生作文中的一句话:“Renting a room, you will be living under the house owner's eyes.”这句话虽然无任何语法错误,也不会产生歧义,但就是不符合英语表达习惯。首先,如果将“房屋的主人”逐字逐句地译成英语,的确是the house owner,但在英语中,特指“出租房屋的房主”时,则是landlord或landlady;另外,与汉语“在某人的眼皮底下”相对应的英语表达方式是“under one's nose”,而不是“under one's eyes”。因此,以上那句中国式英语应该为:“Renting a room, you will

be living under the landlord's nose.”

我在判学生们作文的过程中,经常会发现一些中国式英语,例如将“面试”(interview)写成 face examination,将“彩票”(a lottery ticket)写成 a color ticket,将“大风”(strong wind)写成 big wind,把“活到老学到老”(One is never too old to learn.)写成 Living old is study old.

下面让我们进行一次带有知识性和趣味性的小测验。请将下列十个汉语短语译成英语:

(1) 家教	(2) 休息室
(3) 半年	(4) 少儿不宜
(5) 白酒	(6) 步行街
(7) 冷色调	(8) 学知识
(9) 交通工具	(10) 飞吻

译完后,再与老师核对一下答案,看一看我们自己在写作中是否也存在着母语干扰的问题。如果有,计算一下自己的母语干扰率为百分之几。

要想摆脱母语干扰,把文章写得更接近英语,我们需花大量的时间去接触原汁原味的英语材料(本文就此问题还会在后面详谈),这样才有可能逐步养成用英语思维的习惯。要做到这一点确实不易,但经过长期努力,这一目标并非可望不可及。

3. 不了解英语国家的文化背景及语用习惯。英语写作中,最常见的错误是语言错误。但语言作为文化的载体,往往负载着一定的文化蕴意。有些词汇及表达方式除了字面表层意义外,还有深层的文化内涵,不了解这层内涵就有可能犯文化错误(cultural mistake)。

下面是从学生作文中搜集到的一个句子:“If you eat too much and have little moving, you will get fat.”这是一句既有语言错误又有文化错误的典型例子。语言错误和文化错误分别在“have little moving”和“you will get fat”之处。在与英美人士实际交往中,他们对我们的语言错误往往是持宽容、接受态度的,但如果犯了文化错误,则会令他们尴尬、不快、反感甚至恼火。英语中 fat 一词的内涵有“大腹便便”、“脑满肠肥”、“赘肉缠身”之意,因此在表达“胖”这一概念时,应多使用委婉语。以上那句话可修改成:“If you eat too much but do little exercise, you will gain some weight.”

下面再看一个学生写的句子:“The rain was so heavy that we were like chickens.”显然,这位学生想表达的意思是“大雨把我们都浇成了落汤鸡。”这句话挑不出任何语法错误,但是不符合英语的语用习惯。由于中西方文化存在着差异性,因此用动物进行比喻时,也要考虑同一词汇在英、汉两种语言中所各自持有的联想意义。在英语中, chicken 一词所产生的联想意义是“害怕”、“胆怯”。请看例句:“My friend Joe was planning to get married for the fourth time. But at the last moment he chickened out because his first three marriages ended in divorce and he was afraid to take another chance.”当我们形容某个人胆小时,还可以说:“You are so chicken-hearted.”可想而知,当母语是英语的人读到前面那句话时,会颇感费劲。英语中表现“落汤鸡”的习语是 as wet as a drowned rat, 据此,我们可以把那个比喻不恰当的句子改写成:“The rain was so heavy that we were all as wet as drowned rats.”

为了丰富我们用动物进行比喻的表达法,下面分三组进行介绍。

1) 在中西方文化中,联想意义相同或相似的动物及习语有:

- (1) dove
- (2) a bird's eye view (of)
- (3) a dark horse
- (4) scapegoat
- (5) the ugly duckling
- (6) as sly as a fox
- (7) as slow as a turtle
- (8) as busy as a bee
- (9) as dirty and greedy as a pig
- (10) to kill two birds with one stone
- (11) to shed crocodile's tears
- (12) to parrot what other people say

2) 在中西方文化中,联想意义相反的动物及习语及例句有:

动物	汉语的联想意义	英语的联想意义	英语习语/例句
peacock	美丽、吉祥	骄傲、虚荣、趾高气扬	- as proud as a peacock - as vain as a peacock - He puffed himself up like a peacock.
bat	蝠同福	有眼无珠	- You must have been as blind as a bat not to have seen me; I was sitting at the table next to you.
owl	不祥之兆	智慧、聪明	- as wise as an owl - If a clown is not so funny and an owl is not so wise, you might be a workaholic.
dog	多用于贬义	多用于褒义	- man's best friends - a lucky dog - Every dog has its/his day.
dragon	中华民族的象征、腾飞、皇权	邪恶、怪物	- In the legends of North America, the dragon is a threatening animal, but in the tales of China, the dragon represents good luck.

3) 联想意义在一种文化中所特有,在另一种文化中仅仅是一个语言符号:

- (1) You can't go out tonight, for it is raining cats and dogs.
- (2) crazy like a fox
- (3) as wet as a drowned rat
- (4) as poor as a church mouse
- (5) as busy as a *beaver* (河狸)
- (6) as cheerful as *lark* (云雀)

- (7) a white elephant
- (8) He craned his neck to look for his wife in the crowd.
- (9) to sing a *swansong* (天鹅之歌)
- (10) The leopard won't change its spots.

* * * * *

请将下列英语短语和句子译成汉语:

- (1) in like a lion, out like a lamb
- (2) a lion in the way/one's path
- (3) get goose bumps
- (4) The lion is reputed to be the bravest of all animals.
- (5) lion-hearted
- (6) Princess Diana was always dogged by the media.
- (7) From time to time, my four-year-old daughter parrots some commercials from TV.
- (8) I tell you I know for certain that Wendy will be promoted to manager. The boss told me himself, so it's straight from the horse's mouth!
- (9) There are some *conservatives* (保守主义者) who call me pro-China, call me what they term a "panda-hugger".
- (10) The man and his wife lead a cat and dog life, and both are miserable.
- (11) At the conference I was like a fish out of water. All the speeches were in French, a language I never studied.
- (12) The early bird gets/catches the worm.

请将下列汉语译成英语:

- (1) 亚洲四小龙
- (2) 望子成龙
- (3) 第一个吃螃蟹的人(比喻意)

三、写作的功夫在写作之外

中国学生写作时的问题可概况为 *rich in thoughts, but poor in expressions*, 换言之, 他们无法把自己丰富的想法用英语准确无误地见诸笔端。根据语言输入理论, 只有大量输入, 才会有输出, 而且输入量要绝对大于输出量。写作属于输出技能。因此, 要想提高写作水平, 摆脱语尽词穷的困境, 就必须有大量的和规范的语言信息输入, 即从多方面来丰富一个人表达词汇库中的“内存”。

1. 阅读是丰富一个人表达词汇的主要途径。在谈到阅读与写作关系时有如下的至理名言: “读书破万卷, 下笔如有神。” “熟读唐诗三百首, 不会作诗也会吟。” 英语中也有类似的说法: “*Writing is learnt from reading.*” 这都说明两种语言的相通之处在于, 阅读是写作的基础, 预想写出漂亮的文章来, 须先做勤奋的读者。

1) 阅读有助于我们用词准确。

例1. 受母语的干扰, 有的学生将汉语的“鸡心领毛衣”写成 “a chicken-heart-collar sweater”。但下面的句子告诉了我们它的英语表达法: “This officer was standing across a

small counter from a young white boy who was wearing a V-necked sweater.”

例2.不少学生不知如何用英语表达“有些人……”,“另外一些人……”,“还有一些人……”。当我们读到下面的自然段时,问题便迎刃而解了:People spend their weekends in various ways. Some go to the mountains to hike, ski, or just relax. Others prefer the beach to enjoy the seashore activities and to get a suntan. Still others like to relax by staying home and reading a good book.

例3.“参照物”一词怎样用英语表达?请看下面的英语句子:“Like ‘Far East’ or ‘Orient’, either term makes sense only if one takes Europe as the point of reference.”通过阅读我们又掌握了英语的一个表达法。

例4.我们有时可以听到或读到,国外的某个城市被联合国评选为“最适宜居住的城市”,那么与汉语相对的英语词汇是什么呢?读了下面的句子便可一目了然:“America’s most livable cities are San Francisco, Boston and New York...”那么下面两句话怎样用英语表达呢?

(1) 温哥华(Vancouver)曾被联合国评选为(select)世界上最适宜居住的城市。

(2) 通过我们的努力,北京将会被建成一座世界上最适宜居住的城市之一。

例5.中国加入WTO以后,“双赢”一词使用的频率越来越高。在写作中,有的学生按字面义将其写成“double win”,有的按实际含义写成“mutual benefit”。那么英语“双赢”一词的准确说法又是什么呢?在一篇有关求职时如何面谈薪金的文章中有这么一句话:“Be enthusiastic and professional in your negotiations and encourage outcomes that put both you and your future employer in a ‘win-win’ situation.”了解了“双赢”的英语表达法,表达下面的中文句子就容易多了:“通过合作我们可获得双赢。”你是如何表达的呢?

顺便提一下,既然“双赢”一词涉及到了英语数字的表达方法,我们不妨再来了解一些含有数字的英语习语:

(1) His mark in math is second to none in the class. (他的数学在班上名列前茅。)

(2) Habit is a second nature. (习惯成自然。)

(3) A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush. (一鸟在手胜于两鸟在林。)

(3) Two is company, but three is none. (两人成伴,三人不欢。)

(4) One boy is a boy, two boys are half boy, and three boys are no boy at all. (一个和尚挑水吃,两个和尚抬水吃,三个和尚没水吃。)

(5) The war was prevented at the eleventh hour. (战争在最后关头被制止了。)

* * * * *

请将下列含有数字的英语译成汉语:

(1) Don’t you think he has a one track mind?

(2) “Do you have any second thoughts?”

“No. None”

(3) Two heads are better than one.

(4) The wounded soldier crawled on all fours to a nearby village.

(5) Instead of using chopsticks, he simply used his bunch of five.

(6) I don’t care which car you choose; it’s six of one and half a dozen of the other to

me.

- (7) I always believe in my sixth sense.
- (8) The children are in seventh heaven with their new toys.
- (9) Eggs are sold by the dozen.
- (10) Ten to one he will be late.
- (11) The editor made several eleventh hour changes in the magazine.
- (12) That's the last thing he will do.

* * * * *

将下列英语短语或句子翻译成含有数字的汉语:

- (1) That's all Greek to me.
- (2) Look before you leap
- (3) New brooms sweep clean.
- (4) be scattered here and there
- (5) a narrow escape (from death)
- (6) flawless
- (7) My parents' resources are not sufficient to hire round-the-clock nursing.
- (8) Dozens of advertising boards in Paris's metro stations are singing cheerful slogans this week.
- (9) Seeing is believing.
- (10) one in a thousand
- (11) They tried in a thousand and one ways to please their boss.
- (12) It is a wise man that never makes mistakes.
- (13) It is only once in a blue moon that you get an opportunity like that.
- (14) Absolutely true!

2) 在阅读信函过程中学习词汇。几年前,我曾往英国一个大学办的期刊投稿。不久我就收到了一封回信。当我兴奋地撕开信封,阅读信的内容时,得到的却是如下的答复:“... Unfortunately I am not able to accept it for publication in the *LSU Bulletin*. The *LSU Bulletin* is an in-house journal, and as such only publishes articles written by participants on, or graduates of, LSU courses. I am returning the disk and hard copy of the article to you, and I hope you will be able to publish it elsewhere.”虽然我的稿件被退回,但我却学到了一个新的英语表达法:“内部的”(in-house),并温习了旧知识“打印稿”(hard copy)。这样,邮费变了学费,值!

在阅读时,只要我们留意,就会积累到很多我们原本不知道或表达不准确的单词、短语或句子,例如:mentality (心态), a wealth of (许多), self-financed university students (自费大学生), to advance with the times (与时俱进), rarified programs (冷门专业), train of thought (思路)以及 Let nature take its course. (顺其自然)等。

阅读下面几句话,看看自己是否又掌握了几个新的英语表达法:

- (1) I was 53 when I received my doctoral degree in 1989.
- (2) They say they feel fulfilled in life.

- (3) Most people admit to having a love-hate relationship with TV.
- (4) Beauty contests in Canada are declining in popularity.
- (5) Among the necessities of life are food, clothing, and shelter.
- (6) Elle is very excited when she sees Warner, but she pretends to ignore his existence to arouse his curiosity, which turns out to be very effective.
- (7) Competition in the overall national strength has become increasingly fierce.
- (8) The French have a passion for preserving old towns, old architecture. The English are not quite so passionate about it.

3) 阅读使我们的表达更具多样化。

例 1. 在用英语表达“把…归功于…”时,学生们用得最多的习惯搭配是“owe...to...”和“contribute...to...”。阅读下面的句子后,你会学到一个新的习惯搭配:He credits his longevity and health to drinking two ounces of *cognac* (白兰地) daily, along with eating five Danish butter cookies. 你找到了吗?

例 2. 一提到“不同”,大多数人的选词都是 **different**。看看下面这个句子是如何表示“不同”的:Of professor Baker's latest book I can say only that his and my views remain worlds apart....你能用“...remain worlds apart”这一句型造个句子吗?

例 3. 在用英语表达“实现梦想”时,学生们用得最多的表达方式是“I have realized my dream.”和“My dream has come true.”我们在阅读中可以发现,“实现梦想”的表达方法具有多样化。你能在下列句子中找到它们吗?

- (1) The Chinese dream of space travel has at last become reality.
- (2) Sonora gained local support and made her dream a reality one year later.
- (3) The company claims to help customers to turn dreams into reality.
- (4) Luckily I was single and could accomplish my dream about traveling to a faraway country – a dream I had since my childhood.
- (5) We are a free nation, where men and women have the opportunity to achieve their dreams.
- (6) When asked how old we are, we often feel reluctant to answer this question. Actually, we should be proud of our age because life is always offering us, no matter how old we are, opportunities to fulfil our hopes and dreams.

掌握了多种有关“实现梦想”的表达方式后,我们就可以在写作时变换着使用。

2. 通过音像资料积累词汇。当被问到怎样用英语表达“外在的美”和“内在的美”时,学生们的回答多是“outside beauty”和“inside beauty”。地道的英语真是这样表达的吗?答案可以从美国的一个电视新闻报道中找到。节目主持人在报道了一则有关健美运动员生活的消息后,转到了一个新的话题:妹妹决定为生命垂危的姐姐捐献自己的一个肾脏。这位主持人是这样过渡的:“We make a turn now from the search for physical beauty to an inward focus. Last year, John Kenyon met a woman of great inner beauty who was prepared to risk her own life to help her dying sister....”读完这段文字,你知道“外在的美”和“内在的美”怎样表达了吗?

四、学点修辞

英语同汉语一样,也是很讲究修辞的语言。有些名篇佳句就是因为使用了修辞手法,才产生了美妙绝伦的效果。如果我们在英语写作中也适当地运用修辞,同样可以增加文章的文采、提升文章的档次。学习英语修辞首先应从欣赏和模仿开始,然后创作出含有修辞成分的句子或文章来。下面介绍的是英语中比较容易掌握的几种修辞格。

1. 明喻(Simile)。明喻是指将具有某种共同特征的两种不同事物加以对比,用另一种事物比方所要说明的事物。从结构上看,明喻包括“本体”,“喻体”和“比喻词”。本体指被比喻的对象,喻体指用来做比喻的对象,比喻词用在本体和喻体之间起连接作用。下面介绍几种常用的表达方式。

1) “本体 + 动词 + like/as + 喻体”型,表示“A像B一样……”例如:

例 1. Records fell **like** ripe apples on a windy day.

例 2. When the *propeller* (螺旋桨) turns, it pushes the ship forward **as** a wood-screw (木钻) goes into a piece of wood when it is turned.

2) “本体 + 动词 + as...as + 喻体”型,表示“A像B一样……”例如:

例 1. *When it comes to* (当谈及到) eating, I am lucky; I can eat **like** an elephant and stay **as thin as** a snake.

例 2. **as cool as** a cucumber (泰然自若)

例 3. **as plentiful as** blackberries (黑莓)

例 4. **as flat as** a pancake

3) “本体 + 动词 + as if/as though + 喻体”型,表示“A……好像B……”例如:

例 1. The first time I read an excellent book, it is to me **as if** I'm gaining a new friend.

例 2. The wave *dashed* (撞击) on the rocks **as if** in anger.

例 3. I felt **as though** the ground were *slipping* (滑动) beneath my feet.

4) “As/Just as + 喻体, so + 本体 + 动词”型,表示“就像B一样,A也……”例如:

例 1. **Just as** we sweep our rooms, **so** we should sweep backward ideas from our minds.

下面请欣赏一些含有明喻的句子:

(1) The world is **like** a mirror: frown at it and it frowns at you; smile, and it smiles too.

(2) Marriage is **like** a *beleaguered* (被包围的) fortress: those who are outside want to get in, and those inside want to get out.

(3) A house without books is **like** a room without windows.

(4) Reading without reflecting is **like** eating without digesting.

(5) London taxi drivers know the capital **like** the back of their hands.

(6) Learning in old age is **like** writing on sand; learning in youth is **like** *engraving* (雕刻) on stone.

(7) To marry a woman for her beauty is **like** buying a house for its paints.

(8) Bob looks so unhappy, almost **like** a child who's lost his piece of candy.

(9) In the supermarket, the shoppers are just **like** sharks in search of food.

(10) Wealth is **like** sea-water: the more we drink, the thirstier we become; and the

same is true of fame.

- (11) When a man speaks or acts with good intention, then happiness follows him *like* his shadow that never leaves him.
- (12) On May 3 that year I awoke to a green so startling as to be almost electric, as if spring were simply a matter of *flipping* (轻击) a switch.
- (13) In Beijing in the 1980s, we felt *like* birds in a cage.... In my memory, Beijing was *like* a black-and-white photograph.... But when I stepped off the plane in Beijing on 20 September 2001, the black-and-white photograph *exploded* (突变) into bright color and came to life.... Is this Beijing, I wondered, or Hong Kong? I walked and *gawked* (惊呆了), *like* a peasant visiting the city for the first time.

下面是从学生习作中选出的含有明喻的句子:

- (1) After I realized that I had entered the wrong classroom, I stood up and went out, with my face turning as red as an apple.
- (2) The day when I stepped into the university, I felt like a poor man who never went out of his village but suddenly found himself in a big city.
- (3) I got lost on campus. I was so afraid that I just felt like a baby who couldn't find his mother.
- (4) We are all like a piece of blank paper, so we will work hard to draw the most beautiful paintings on it.
- (5) I feel as happy as a bird set free from its cage.
- (6) I also sang some songs though they were tuneless as if a saw sawed another saw.
- (7) I am tired just like a balloon with its air let out.

* * * * *

2. 暗喻 (Metaphor)。暗喻也是一种比喻,但它与明喻不同的是,明喻把本体和喻体说成是相似的,而暗喻不使用比喻词,干脆就把本体说成是喻体。下面请欣赏一些含有暗喻的句子:

- (1) College is a comma in the sentence of life.
- (2) Dress is language.
- (3) Behavior is a mirror in which everyone shows his image.
- (4) Kindness is the golden chain by which society is bound together.
- (5) Diplomacy is the art of putting your feet down without stepping on anybody's toes.
- (6) A warm smile is the universal language of kindness.
- (7) Music is the medicine of the breaking heart.
- (8) Nancy has the microwave smile that warms another person without heat.
- (9) The road *snaked* down the side of the mountain.
- (10) The world is a book, and those who do not travel read only a page.

下面是从学生习作中选出的含有暗喻的句子:

- (1) The university is a stage for us to perform on.
- (2) Our university is an old tree with its roots in the deep earth and its branches in the

sky.

(3) Every day, time is a delicious cake for me, but I don't know exactly how to cut it.

下列自然段中既有明喻又有暗喻,你能找到吗?

The economy is sort of like a balloon: blow in too much air, and it pops. But with too little air, it falls to the floor. Greenspan (格林斯潘) helps decide when to blow more air into the economy. In this case, the air in a balloon is the amount of money in economy. Greenspan can make the economy grow by increasing the money supply, or keep the economy from *inflating* (通货膨胀) too much by decreasing the money supply.

小结:在写作中适当地使用明喻和暗喻,能使我们的语言简练、生动、形象、富有想象力和感染力。同时我们还应注意,在使用明喻时要力争明而不俗,在使用暗喻时要做到隐而不晦。

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3. 拟人 (Personification). 拟人顾名思义就是把原本属于人的特性、品质、行为赋予其他有生命或无生命的东西。恰当地使用拟人手法,可使被描写对象栩栩如生、活灵活现,很容易让读者产生共鸣。请看例句:

- (1) Money **talks**.
- (2) The walls **have ears**.
- (3) The pot is **calling** the kettle black.
- (4) Australia is so kind, just *tickle* (胳肢) her with a *hoe* (锄头), and she **laughs** with a harvest.
- (5) Jazz **tickles** your muscles, but symphonies *stretch* (舒展) your soul.
- (6) He glanced at the dew-covered grass, and it *winked* (眨眨眼睛) back at him.
- (7) As I just said, the first decade in space **saw** accomplishments in science and technology which affected our concept of the entire universe.
- (8) 1990 **found** him working in a small factory.
- (9) A lie can **travel** half way around the world while the truth is **putting on its shoes**. (当真理刚刚穿上鞋子,谎言就可能已经走过了半个世界。)
- (10) Credit cards are **creeping** into China slowly.
- (11) It was a perfectly lovely Tuesday morning in Panama City. The sun **danced** across the waves of the Pacific as the town came to work.

下面是从学生习作中选出的两句含有拟人修辞格的句子,请欣赏:

- (1) Trees are green and flowers are smiling everywhere.
- (2) If you know nothing about what you will do, success will not knock on your door.

请你尝试着将下面三句话用拟人手法翻译出来:

- (1) 中华人民共和国于1949年10月1日成立。
- (2) 2001年9月11日美国遭受到了恐怖主义分子的袭击。
- (3) 12月份一到,我又该给我的朋友们写圣诞卡了。

* * * * *

4. 仿拟 (Parody). 仿拟是指有意模仿一些成语、谚语、名言、警句或俗语等,通过改动其

中的部分词语,表达出一种新的思想。仿拟修辞的运用可给人们带来耳目一新、旧貌换新颜的感觉。请看例句:

例 1. 2003 年 6 月 15 日的《北京青年报》刊登了“国际长城之友”会长 William Lindsay 撰写的题为“Who are we if we cannot CHERISH the Great Wall?”(不爱长城非好汉)的文章,这句话显然是仿拟了毛泽东的著名诗句“Who are we if we cannot reach the Great Wall?”(不到长城非好汉)

例 2. 2003 年 3 月 20 日的《中国日报》刊登了一幅照片,内容是:为躲避美英联军即将发动的伊拉克战争,满载巴格达居民的一辆卡车正在逃离家园。该照片的文字解释是: Country road, take me away from home. (乡村路,带我离家。)该句话是仿拟美国乡村音乐和民谣摇滚歌星约翰·丹佛所唱的一首歌曲 Country roads, take me home(《乡村路,带我回家》)。

* * * * *

下面请欣赏一些含仿拟修辞的句子,以及它们分别被仿拟的成语、谚语、名言、警句或俗语等。

仿拟句	被仿拟句
(1) Using is believing.	Seeing is believing.
(2) Love me, love my book.	Love me, love my dog.
(3) A word in time saves nine.	A stitch in time saves nine.
(4) Thirst comes, Coco-cola serves.	First come, first served.
(5) Necessity is the mother of invention.	Failure is the mother of success.
(6) No blood for oil	Oil for food (石油换食品)
(7) All roads lead to Holiday Inn.	All roads lead to Rome.
(8) To Arm or Not to Arm - That's the question.	To Be or Not To be - That's the question. (生存还是毁灭,这是个问题。)
(9) To Lie or Not to Lie - the doctor's dilemma.	
(10) A government is off the people, buy the people, and fool the people.	Government is of the people, by the people, and for the people. (一个民有、民治、民享的政府)
(11) Behind every unsuccessful man, there are two.	Behind every successful man, there is a woman.
(12) All work and no play makes a dull stay.	All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.
(13) They came, they saw, they were conquered.	I came, I saw, I conquered.
(14) A friend in need is a friend to be avoided.	A friend in need is a friend indeed.
(15) A Tale of Two Hearts.	A Tale of Two Cities.

* * * * *

下面请欣赏学生写出的一些含有仿拟修辞格的句子,边阅读边找出这些仿拟句的被仿拟句是哪些。

- (1) All roads lead to success.
- (2) All roads lead to environmental protection.
- (3) Where there is a job interview, there is a job opportunity.
- (4) Where there is potential, there are attainments.
- (5) No efforts, no success.
- (6) One is never too late to protect the environment.
- (7) A book in need is a friend indeed.
- (8) A forest can not be planted in a day.
- (9) Trees for money.
- (10) Love is power.
- (11) Perseverance is the mother of success.
- (12) For a person who wants to succeed, it's never too early to make preparations.

* * * * *

请将下列仿拟句译成中文:

- (1) Diligence is the mother of success.
- (2) First come, first cut. (注:这是一家理发店门前贴的一则广告。)
- (3) Cloning tech with human cells: To be or not to be?
- (4) Behind every successful man, there's a lot of unsuccessful years.
- (5) One is never too young to learn.
- (6) No personalized research, no Noble Prize.
- (7) Music speaks louder than words.
- (8) An hour in the morning is worth two in the afternoon.

* * * * *

在英语写作中创作出一两句仿拟句并非难事。不久前,我曾看到过一个图表类作文,它的要求是:1)描述中国人出境旅游人数逐年增加的几个数字;2)分析中国人出境旅游的原因。我觉得,中国人出境旅游的原因之一是观念发生了改变。过去人们觉得“在家千日好、出门一时难”,“金窝银窝不如自家的草窝”。而现在人们的生活水平提高了,出境旅游开阔视野便成为一些人的首选。于是我根据“East or west, home is best.”这句英语谚语仿拟了下面这句话“East or west, traveling abroad is best.”

现在让我们也来尝试一下。先阅读一句英语谚语:

“An apple a day keeps the doctor away.”

请根据上面的谚语仿拟下面这两句话:

- (1) 一日一个鸡蛋,疾病不再来捣蛋。
- (2) 每天吃一个胡萝卜,癌症远离我。

* * * * *

5. 移就 (Transferred epithet). 移就也称转移修饰语,是把本来用于修饰甲事物的修饰语用来修饰乙事物,通常是把修饰人的修饰语用来修饰物。移就修辞格运用得当,可使物带

上人的情感。请看例句:

The big man crashed down on a protesting chair. (当这位大块头的男士坐到椅子上时,椅子发出了吱吱嘎嘎的声音,仿佛是在向他提抗议。)

在以上例句中,把用于形容人的词 protesting 放在了 chair 前面,看似违反常规,不合逻辑,但却产生了言简意丰、形式新颖、生动别致、出人意料的效果。

请阅读下列含有移就修辞格的短语和句子,并仔细品味它们是如何加强语言表现力的:

- (1) a sleepless night
- (2) lazy time
- (3) the romantic corners
- (4) a painful journey
- (5) exchange angry words
- (6) After a few days' nervous waiting, Val is informed that he is hired.
- (7) She answered with a helpless smile.
- (8) On that cold and lonely night, I recalled a lot of things from the past.
- (9) He closed his busy life at the age of 80.
- (10) An empty house is a lonely place.
- (11) "Help, let me in, please let me in!" But the houses were cold, closed, unfriendly...
- (12) I talked with the American in hesitant English.
- (13) The old man lay all night on the sleepless bed.
- (14) He is now again seated in his usual sleepy corner.
- (15) Where is my stupid camera?
- (16) He passed many an anxious hour in the train.
- (17) Lazy clouds drifted across the sky.
- (18) He had some cheerful wine at the party.
- (19) She has expensive tastes in clothes.
- (20) The skyscraper has a dizzy height, and you see it has 150 floors.

下面是从学生习作中选出的两句含有移就修辞格的句子。你是怎样理解这两句话的呢?

- (1) That was a romantic, sleepless, and fragrant night.
- (2) I wrote to my mother a thoughtful and chatty letter.

* * * * *

6. 音韵反复 (Repetitions of sounds)。音韵反复是指由于押韵而产生的某一声音的重复出现。在写作过程中,如果我们在选词时还能兼顾该词的音韵效果,不但能产生和谐悦耳的节奏感,而且还能唤起读者的注意。常见的音韵反复形式有以下三种:

1) 头韵,指两个或两个以上邻近的词在词头的押韵。请看例句:

- (1) *Passion and Pain*
- (2) *Pride and Pain of a champion*
- (3) *Beauty and the Beast*

- (4) as *busy* as *bees*
- (5) *Practice* makes *perfect*.
- (6) Without *wisdom* *wealth* is *worthless*.
- (7) No *sweet* without *sweat*.
- (8) *Safe* and *sound*.
- (9) Our *bank* is for your *buck*.
- (10) *Her* career mattered more to *her* than anything - *her* home, *her* husband.
- (11) Ned *needs* a *neat* *net*.
- (12) *She* sells sea-*shell* on the *seashore*.
- (13) *Six* *silly* sleepers slept softly on *silk* sheets.
- (14) *Peter Piper* picked a *peck* of *pickled* *pepper*.
- (15) The sun *shines* on the small *shop* *signs*.

* * * * *

2) 尾韵,指两个或两个以上邻近的词在词尾的押韵。请看例句:

- (1) The sooner, the better.
- (2) Survival on arrival.
- (3) Well begun is half done.
- (4) Haste makes waste.
- (5) When the cat's away, the mice will play.
- (6) An apple a day keeps the doctor away.
- (7) East or west, home is best.
- (8) Good advice is beyond all price.
- (9) A friend in need is a friend indeed.
- (10) First comes love, then comes the marriage, then comes Ken pushing a baby carriage.
- (11) A fall into a pit, a gain in your wit. (吃一堑,长一智。)
- (12) Chongqing: Hot Pot Spot (*China Daily*: May 25 - 26, 2002)
- (13) Mike likes to write by the bright light.
- (14) Genius is one per cent inspiration and ninety-nine per cent perspiration.

尾韵常见于诗歌当中。下面是美国现代著名诗人罗伯特·弗洛斯特 (Robert Frost, 1874—1963) 写的一首名为《雪夜林前驻马》的诗,你能找到它的尾韵规律吗?

Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening

Whose woods these are I think I know.

His house is in the village though;

He will not see me stopping here

To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer (奇怪的)

To stop without a farmhouse near