

華 英 繙 譯 捷 訣

A MANUAL OF TRANSLATION

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY LESSONS

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## PREFACE

As a means of literary discipline, both in one's own and in a foreign language, and as an exercise in the accurate and idiomatic reproduction of the thought in another language, the value of translation cannot be too highly estimated. It enables us to see the defects and excellencies of our own language by constant comparison with another; it teaches us to be precise in our language, leading to precision of thought; it enlarges our vocabulary, and at the same time, what is more valuable, compels us to employ it in the best way, taxing our powers of memory and invention to find the best and exact equivalent of the foreign word in our own language and vice versa.

Students in England and America pursuing the ancient and the modern languages are greatly helped by such books as Gildersleeve's and Smith's "Latin Exercise Books," Harris's "German Composition," Allinson's and Grandgent's "Greek and French Prose Composition," and others of a similar nature. So far, however, nothing in this line has been done for Chinese students trying to master the English language, especially for beginners.

The author has had some experience in teaching translation, and has felt, at times acutely, the want of a suitable manual for the use of Chinese students and Westerners who desire to learn to *write* Chinese.

The accompanying lessons, one hundred in number, have been carefully compiled from classroom exercises. They have, therefore, been practically tested, and their difficult points (in the eyes of a Chinese student), noted and adequately expounded.

The aim has been to make the selections progressive in character, interesting in subject matter, practical and elegant in style, neither vulgar on the one hand, nor pedantic on the other. Allowing two lessons a week, the student will have ample time to cover the book in two years.

For the convenience of the student, marks (◦) have been inserted in the first thirty or so Chinese lessons to show where a semicolon in the English version may be used. Each sentence begins with a new line.

The exercises are too simple to admit of, or necessitate, the formulating the requisites of a perfect translation. Let it be remembered that the version must be exact, if not literal; beginners, especially, should keep this in mind. An exact and literal rendering does not, however, mean bad grammar and an unnatural style. The translation must reproduce as closely as possible the feeling and spirit of the original, the thought as it lay in the mind of the writer. Lastly, wherever possible, idioms and other peculiarities of one language should be represented by what is of a corresponding nature in the other.

W. W. Y.

ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY,  
SHANGHAI.

## PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION

The cordial welcome extended by educators to this little volume has encouraged the author to issue a second revised and enlarged edition. Twenty new lessons have been added, consisting mainly of extracts from treaties, official dispatches, etc., which will afford the student some practice in documentary translation. A new feature of the book is the use of italics in the English and of ▲'s by the side of the Chinese text, to specify words and phrases fully explained in the notes.

W. W. Y.

APRIL, 1905.

# A MANUAL OF TRANSLATION

## 訣 捷 譯 繙 英 華

### LESSON I. 第一課

Than, 較

Some, 有; 數

Move around the sun, 繞日而行

If, 假如; 使; 苟; 設若

Change, 別; 更; 變

Another, 另; 更

Turn around, 旋轉

As, 如; 似; 宛如; 彷彿

Top, 菱角; 旋螺; 地黃牛

The earth is larger *than* the moon, the sun is larger *than* the earth, and *some* of the stars are larger *than* the sun. The earth *moves around the sun*, and the moon moves around the earth. *If* the earth did not move or revolve around the sun, we should have no *change* of seasons.

The earth has *another* motion; it *turns around* as a *top* spins.

### LESSON II. 第二課

論, on; about.

每, each; every.

有, to have; to be comprised of; to consist of.

是也, i.e.; viz.

月, moons.

正月, the 1st Moon.

生, to come to life again.

之時, the time when.

枯, to dry up; to wither.

也。爲十、物七、物四、生二、每夏、每、  
 冬。十、熟八、長五、之三、季秋、年論、  
 物一、之九、之六、時月有冬、有四季、  
 枯十二時也。爲月也。爲春。月也。四季、  
 之時月秋、夏。物正、春、

## LESSON III. 第三課

When, 當  
 Throw . . . high, 高拋  
 Something, 一物  
 Invisible, 不能見; 無形  
 Without, 若無  
 Power, 力; 勢力  
 Brought to, 吸至; 帶至

Same, 同一; 一式  
 Do you know, 抑知; 汝知 . . . 否  
 Attraction, 吸力是也  
 Knowledge, 學問; 學  
 May be obtained, 可 . . . 而得焉  
 By, 由; 自; 從  
 Geography, 地理誌

When you throw your ball *high* in the air, it is brought back again by *something* which you cannot see, by an *invisible power*; *without* this power, your ball would never come back to you.

When you throw a stone into an apple tree in the autumn, the apples are *brought to* the ground by the *same* invisible power. *Do you know* what we call it? *Attraction*.

A *knowledge* of different countries, mountains, and places on the earth *may be obtained* by studying *geography*.

## LESSON IV. 第四課

出落, to rise and set.  
 觀於, to look at.  
 辨, to distinguish.  
 四方, the four points of the compass.  
 蓋, for (conjunction).  
 當 . . . 之時, when; at the time when.

面向, if we face; if our face be turned toward.  
 則, then.  
 左手, on our left.  
 借, by means of.  
 定, to settle; to establish.  
 之法, the way of; the art of.



方此南方、左、則、時、蓋、方、即、故、方、生、日  
 向、借、方、右、手、背、面、當、可、人、落、熱、體、論  
 之、日、手、則、向、向、日、以、觀、於、出、發、日  
 法、以、則、爲、西、東、升、辨、於、西、於、光  
 也、定、爲、北、方、方、之、四、日、方、東、而

## LESSON V. 第五課

Bell the cat, 繫鈴於貓

Consider, 議; 斟酌; 互商

To save themselves from the cat,

以免貓之害; 以免受殺於貓

To talk over, 舉

Worth much, 補事; 可取; 足用

Proposed, 陳辭; 擬

Should, 當; 須; 宜

Whenever, 不論何時; 每逢; 每值

Run, 馳驅; 趨; 奔

The proposition, 斯旨; 斯計

Applauded, 稱許; 歎美; 鼓掌

Till, 迨後

Not hitherto spoken, 未舉片言, 未嘗

啓齒

Asked quietly, 悄然詰曰

Who was going, 孰將; 誰將

Bell, 繫鈴

*Bell the Cat*

The mice held a meeting to *consider* what they should do *to save themselves from the cat*. Several plans were *talked over*, but not one seemed *worth much*. At last a young mouse *proposed* that a little bell *should* be hung round the cat's neck, so that *whenever* she was coming, they would hear her and could *run* into their holes. *The proposition* was much *applauded*, *till* an old mouse, that had *not hitherto spoken*, *asked quietly* *who was going* to bell the cat.

## LESSON VI. 第六課

## A

雞, cock, rooster.

司, (literally, to control, to have charge of), to announce.

禽, fowl.

釀, to work; to make.

吐, to spin.

尙, even.

守夜, to watch *by* night.

蟲, a worm and an insect.

物, creatures.

可以, ought, should.

不如, to be inferior to; to be not as useful as.

如人用物釀吐蟲蠶能犬能雞  
物而可尙蜜絲也與守獸司禽  
乎不以有能能蜂夜也晨也

## B

勝, to conquer.

智, reason; intelligence.

雖, although; though.

力不如, is not as strong as.

豹, leopard.

設計, by employing stratagem.

擒, to capture.

之設人之爲熊故智而不人而獸智  
也計皆獸有豹獅勝能如雖無有勝  
擒能而力皆虎之以獸力智力

## LESSON VII. 第七課

Cross the ocean, 渡越重洋

Nothing . . . but the water and the

sky, 水天而外別無他物

Cut through, 剪 . . . 而遠颺

Rolling waves, 捲浪; 騰波

Rocking chair, 轆椅; 搖椅

Beat over the ship, 澎湃舟次

Which, 此舟

Covered, 覆; 掩

Passengers, 旅客

Or, 否則

Washed overboard, 沖入海中矣

If you should *cross the ocean*, you would see *nothing* about your ship *but the water and the sky*; and as the vessel should *cut through* the *rolling waves*, it would go up and down like a *rocking chair*. In a storm, however, the waves rise terribly high and *beat over the ship*, which tumbles and rolls violently; sometimes she is nearly *covered* over with the waves. Then the *passengers* must go downstairs, *or* they would be *washed overboard*.

## LESSON VIII. 第八課

國家, the government.

除, to exterminate.

內盜, internal robbers.

禦, to ward off.

性命財產, life and property.

吾輩, us.

輕視, to despise.

盡力, to exert our utmost.

一旦, if suddenly.

協力同心, with united hearts and hands.

庶不愧, thus not to disgrace ourselves.

忠, loyalty.

丈夫, men.

勇敵。心、有保中、吾可輩、兵財保除國、  
 之庶執、事、護自、輩輕之、者、產吾內、家、  
 丈不、干、則其、當居、視人、即、者、盜、養、  
 夫愧、戈、協國。盡此、之吾、保、也。之、兵、  
 矣。爲、以、力一、力國、乎。輩、護、然、性、  
 忠、禦、同、旦、以、之、且、豈、吾、則、命、患、以

## LESSON IX. 第九課

Are killed, 死於; 受殺

Harpoons, 魚叉; 鯨標

Bombs, 彈; 礮子

Fired, 怒發; 放出

Many, 多矣

Whaling ground, 捕鯨場

Lookout, 望臺; 守望者

To station, 設; 派

Discovered, 訪得

As soon as, 當... 卽

Lowered, 垂放

Each crew, 各班水手; 每艇水手

Utmost strength, 全力

Harpooner, 魚叉手; 鯨標手

Every time, 每次

Rush at him, 向之衝去

Again and again, 再四; 一而再再而三

Till he die, 至魚死而已

*Many whales are killed by means of harpoons and bombs fired from cannons, which the ships carry with them. When a ship arrives in the vicinity of the whaling ground, a lookout is stationed at the masthead. As soon as a whale is discovered, the boats are lowered, and each crew exerts its utmost strength to reach him*

first. When the boat nears the whale, the *harpooner* hurls his harpoon at him with all his strength. *Every time* the whale rises to breathe, the boats *rush at him*, and the men strike him *again and again* with harpoons *till he dies*.

## LESSON X. 第十課

振作, be diligent.

之事, what; that which; the things which.

蓋恐, for fear that; lest.

或有, you may have; perhaps you will have.

不暇, to have no leisure.

天下事, of all things in the world.

智者, the wise; wise men.

恃, to rely on.

有, having.

明日, "to-morrow."

也。恃<sup>△</sup>智<sup>△</sup>難<sup>△</sup>天<sup>△</sup>事<sup>△</sup>爲<sup>△</sup>事<sup>△</sup>日<sup>△</sup>之<sup>△</sup>至<sup>△</sup>之<sup>△</sup>今<sup>△</sup>  
 有<sup>△</sup>者<sup>△</sup>預<sup>△</sup>下<sup>△</sup>耳。今<sup>△</sup>將<sup>△</sup>或<sup>△</sup>蓋<sup>△</sup>明<sup>△</sup>事<sup>△</sup>日<sup>△</sup>振<sup>△</sup>  
 明<sup>△</sup>不<sup>△</sup>料<sup>△</sup>事<sup>△</sup>日<sup>△</sup>不<sup>△</sup>有<sup>△</sup>恐<sup>△</sup>日<sup>△</sup>勿<sup>△</sup>能<sup>△</sup>作<sup>△</sup>  
 日<sup>△</sup>敢<sup>△</sup>故<sup>△</sup>最<sup>△</sup>之<sup>△</sup>暇<sup>△</sup>他<sup>△</sup>明<sup>△</sup>爲<sup>△</sup>待<sup>△</sup>爲<sup>△</sup>

## LESSON XI. 第十一課

Had fallen into, 失足落

In vain, 而不能; 徒然

By and by, 後; 既

To quench her thirst, 以解渴; 解渴

Seeing below, 俯見

Good, 甘

Leave off, 捨; 止; 棄

Without a moment's thinking, 不暇三思

Scrambled on, 攀緣

Poor fool, 可憐之蠢物

Half as much as, 半於; 一半之多

Before you leap, 而後躍矣

## THE FOX AND THE GOAT

A fox that *had fallen into* a well tried *in vain* to get out again. *By and by* a goat came to the well to *quench her thirst*. *Seeing the fox below*, she asked, "Is the water good?" "Yes," answered the cunning

creature, "It is so good that I cannot *leave off* drinking." Thereupon the goat, *without a moment's thinking*, jumped in. The fox at once *scrambled on* her back and got out. Then, looking down at the *poor fool*, he said coolly, "If you had *half as much* brains as beard, you would look *before you leap*."

## LESSON XII. 第十二課

親恩, the kindness or love of parents.	思之思之, think of this.
飢, if hungry; when hungry.	在家, at home.
自食, to feed one's self.	孝敬, filial and respectful.
將如之何, what is he to do? What	又不, and; moreover; not.
would become of him?	忍, to bear with composure.

乎。	悅。	又。	不。	母。	若。	之。	若。	思。	欲。	衣。	自。	人。	親。
其。	心。	不。	知。	之。	年。	何。	無。	之。	出。	有。	食。	生。	恩。
於。	心。	知。	孝。	恩。	長。		父。	思。	不。	語。	寒。	時。	
心。	學。	勤。	敬。	在。	而。		母。	之。	能。	不。	能。	飢。	
忍。	以。	在。	家。	忘。	父。		將。	此。	行。	能。	自。	不。	
		塾。	既。				如。	時。	言。	自。			

## LESSON XIII. 第十三課

Bad company, 損友; 惡伴  
 Just sown, 新播; 方撒種  
 Cranes, 鷺  
 After some time, 越時許; 既  
 Found, 見有; 得; 獲  
 Stork, 鸛  
 Please spare me, 祈教我; 請饒我命

Kind to my parents, 孝於親者也; 善事  
 雙親  
 And—", 嘵嘵不已; 云云  
 Would, 願; 欲  
 It is no business of mine, 無關於我者  
 也, 與我無涉者也  
 Among thieves, 賊叢中  
 Suffer, 受刑

*Bad Company*

A farmer, who had just sown his fields, placed a net to catch the cranes that came to steal his corn. After some time he went to look at the net, and in it he found several cranes and one stork. "Oh, sir, please spare me," said the stork, "I am not a crane, I am an innocent stork, kind to my parents and—." The farmer would hear no more. "All that may be very true," he said, "but it is no business of mine. I found you among thieves, and you must suffer with them."

## LESSON XIV. 第十四課

居, living; since he lives.

不可不知, should not be ignorant of.

古人, the ancients.

方, flat.

其實, in fact; in reality.

空氣, atmosphere; air.

上下前後左右, in every direction; on all sides.

山川, mountains and rivers.

人物, human beings and things; things living and dead.

惟, because.

其圓, that it is round: its roundness.

不體川左其球之地不而古可人  
 覺極人右其上中浮然地人不居地  
 其大物皆下形於方云知地形  
 圓故惟有前圓空其天地上  
 也人其山後如氣實圓形不

## LESSON XV. 第十五課

Ocean, 宏洋; 滄海

Dotted here and there, 星羅棋布

Which contain, 其上

Etc., 等

All different from, 皆大異乎

Over land and sea, 越地超海; 行陸航海

Some places, 有地; 數境

Clear weather, 天朗氣清

Cloudy, 重雲護日

Rainy or stormy, 或風或雨

You would be surprised to find, 有 Covers, 占

使爾驚異者即 . . . 見

In constant motion, 搖動不息

Rush rapidly, 捷渡

In the ocean, *dotted here and there*, you may see islands, *which contain trees, hills, lakes, people, birds, animals, etc., all different in appearance from any you have seen before, and you would be surprised to find that as you rush rapidly over land and sea in a balloon, some places have clear weather; others, cloudy; and still others, rainy or stormy, all in the same day.*

The ocean *covers* three fourths of the earth's surface. Its water is salt and *in constant motion*.

## LESSON XVI. 第十六課

發光, luminous.

大者, the large ones.

金木水火土, Venus, Jupiter, Mercury,

Mars, Saturn.

轉動, to revolve.

曰, to be called.

行星, planets.

恆星, fixed stars.

常也, immovable; stationary.

宿, constellations; stellar mansions.

北斗七星, Seven stars of the Ursa

Major.

今人見天上發光之  
物大者謂之日月小  
者謂之星其實日月  
與星皆星也  
行星有轉動不息者  
曰行星如月與金木  
火土五星之類而地  
球亦行星之一也  
有常居一處而不移  
者曰恆星  
二十八宿與北斗七  
星之類  
之一也

## LESSON XVII. 第十七課

Seacoast, 海濱; 海岸

Find, 見; 目擊; 目睹

Shipyards, 船塢; 船廠; 船澳

Ribs or curved timbers, 脊木或即彎木

Sides, 旁; 身; 體

Supported, 撐住; 支住; 頂住

Where, 於斯; 是地; 是處

Timber, 木

Keel, 底骨; 船底木

Called, 俗名, 人稱之謂

Inclined track, 偏斜軌道; 斜坡徑面

Fastened, 釘緊; 緊繫安住

Stocks, 司托格司

Covered, 加; 包; 覆

Water line, 水面; 喫水線

Plates, 皮; 板; 片

Metals, 五金質; 金類

On the *seacoast* or on the banks of a river, you will sometimes *find* a *shipyard*, where ships are built.

To build a ship men lay a great long *timber*, called the *keel*, on an *inclined track* or platform. To this keel are *fastened* the *ribs* or *curved timbers*, which form the *sides* of the ship. The whole is *supported* or surrounded by a great frame, called the *stocks*.

The ribs are then covered with thick planks, and those planks which are below the *water line* are covered with *plates*, or sheets of copper or other *metals*.

## LESSON XVIII. 第十八課

中國, "The Middle Kingdom."

蠻夷, barbarians.

戎狄, savages.

既, since; when; both.

又, moreover; and; besides.

邊, sides.

以爲, the idea was; they meant.

正中, center; middle portion.

不皆, not all; some not.

且, moreover; besides.

不可謂, cannot be said to be.

我 國 古 人 既 不 知  
 地 形 之 圓 又 見 其  
 時 蠻 夷 戎 狄 皆 在  
 東 南 西 北 四 邊 故  
 自 名 曰 中 國  
 以 爲 我 國 居 地 之  
 正 中 其 四 邊 皆 蠻  
 夷 戎 狄 也  
 其 實 地 球 之 上 大  
 國 甚 多 不 皆 蠻 夷  
 戎 狄  
 且 地 形 既 圓 何 國  
 不 可 謂 中 耶



## LESSON XIX. 第十九課

Squire, 鄉士; 鄉紳	Certainly, 何不可; 諸
Scotch, 蘇格蘭	Away rushed, 急趨
Out riding, 命騎而出; 在路馳騁	For a spade, 尋鏟
Man, 從; 僕	Dug furiously, 狂掘; 猛掘
Opposite, 面; 面對	With an amused look, 面帶笑容, 微
Stopped, 止馬	哂之
John, 約翰 (僕名)	At last, 竟; 既; 末後
I, 予; 吾	Cannot find, 不得而見。
Badger, 土猪; 狸	You, 子; 爾; 汝
Go in there, 入斯穴焉	Surprised, 驚異; 駭異
Did you? 果爾乎	Ten years, 十越寒暑
Will you hold? 請牽	Since, 而後; 自

## THE Squire AND HIS SERVANT

A Scotch squire was one day out riding with his man. Opposite a hole in a steep bank the master stopped, and said, "John, I saw a badger go in there." "Did you?" said John; "will you hold my horse, sir?" "Certainly," answered the squire, and away rushed John for a spade. He got one and dug furiously for half an hour, the squire looking on with an amused look. At last John exclaimed, "I cannot find him, sir." "I should be surprised if you could," said the squire, "for it has been ten years since I saw him go in."

## LESSON XX. 第二十課

古時, in days of old; in the olden times.	彫板, to carve on wood.
未有, did not possess; did not have.	於是, then; thereupon.
刻, to carve; to engrave.	一板, one set of boards or blocks.
印書, to print books.	萬, myriad.
	部, volume.