



全国翻译专业资格(水平)考试指定教材

# 英语笔译实务

主编 卢敏  
副主编 杨平

2级

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# 英语笔译实务

## (二级)

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## Unit

## One

## Text 1

**Benjamin Franklin: “The First American”<sup>1</sup>**

*How does one characterize Benjamin Franklin? Journalist, scientist, educator, politician, writer, administrator, philosopher — he truly seemed to be able to do almost everything. His accomplishments and the talents and interests which he displayed during the course of his long life — 1706 to 1790 — have caused him to be called both “the first American” and “the last universal man.”<sup>2</sup>*

Historian Samuel Eliot Morison gives this view of the man: “Franklin’s secret, the thing that ‘made him tick’ and pulled every aspect of his mind together, was his love of people.<sup>3</sup> He talked with English and French statesmen as an equal; he was as homely and comfortable as an old shoe.<sup>4</sup>” Morison even speculated that if we had been alive in 1776 and had made a call upon Benjamin Franklin, he would have made us feel at home. He would have asked about our parents, and probably would have known them, or at least about them; he would then have asked us about ourselves, drawn us out, and sent us away with some good advice, a handshake, and a smile.<sup>5</sup>

Benjamin was one of 17 children, all of whom were expected to help support the large Franklin household.<sup>6</sup> As a young child, he worked in the shop of his father, a soap and candlemaker, but this work did not appeal to a boy who loved to read and study. Therefore, when he was 12, Benjamin was sent to assist his half-brother James who had a printing shop.<sup>7</sup> There, surrounded by books, young Ben would often stay up late into the night reading on a wide range of subjects; and as he read, he practiced



improving his own style of writing.

In 1721, James began publishing a newspaper, the *New England Courant*. Benjamin secretly wrote articles for the paper under the pen name of "Dame Silence Dogood,"<sup>8</sup> putting them under the door of the print shop late at night so that his brother would not know the articles were his. They were full of humor and wise observations of life in Boston, Franklin's birthplace, and they immediately became popular with the public.

When James was jailed for criticizing the British authorities, young Benjamin took over the publishing of the paper.<sup>9</sup> In defense of freedom of speech and the press, he courageously printed a quotation from a London newspaper: "Without freedom of thought, there can be no such thing as wisdom; and no such thing as public liberty without freedom of speech; which is the right of every man as far as by it if he does not hurt or control the right of another."<sup>10</sup>

After a quarrel with James, Benjamin left Boston to seek his own fortune. Failing to find work in New York City, the 17-year-old boy went on to Philadelphia where he found a job as a printer's apprentice and soon had a wide circle of friends.<sup>11</sup> Within a few years, Franklin had married, had started his own printing shop, and was looked upon as a successful young businessman.<sup>12</sup>

In 1729, Franklin purchased the newspaper, *The Pennsylvania Gazette*. Besides the regular news, Franklin included his own articles and editorials alive with humor and wisdom; and soon the paper was the most widely read in all of colonial America.

At the same time, Franklin involved himself in community projects. He founded, for example, the Junto, a discussion group that met weekly to debate the issues of the day.<sup>13</sup> The Junto was active for 30 years and developed into the American Philosophical Society. He also founded the country's first subscription library and organized America's first fire-fighting and fire insurance companies. He helped to improve the local police force and to establish a hospital and a college which later became the University of Pennsylvania. He once said of his activities, "I would rather have it said, 'He lived useful,' than 'he died rich.'..."<sup>14</sup>

In 1732, Franklin began the publication of an almanac under the name Richard Saunders (an English astrologer). He continued to publish it annually for about 25 years, and it came to be known as *Poor Richard's Almanac*.<sup>15</sup> As Franklin said in his autobiography: "I endeavored to make it both entertaining and useful.... I considered it a proper vehicle for conveying instructions among the common people who bought scarcely any other books; I therefore filled all the little spaces that occurred between the remarkable days in the calendar with proverbial sentences chiefly such as inculcated industry and frugality."<sup>16</sup>

By his own admission, Franklin's proverbs were not original but drawn from "the wisdom of many ages and nations." In his pursuit of this wisdom, he taught himself to read French, Spanish, Italian, German, and Latin. Some of the devices Franklin used to give the sayings a sharpness and impact were

(a) the change of one or more words to a more graphic word or phrase, (b) the use of a shorter, more concise construction, and (c) the use of alliteration. The following are examples:

(a) Original: Many strokes fell great oaks.

Franklin: Little strokes fell great oaks.

(b) Original: The greatest talkers are the least doers.

Franklin: Great talkers, little doers.

(c) Original: Waste not, want not.

Franklin: Sloth and silence are a fool's virtues.<sup>17</sup>

These practical words of advice to the people, improved by Franklin's talent for simple, humorous writing, had universal appeal. Many of them, in one form or another, are still quoted today. *Poor Richard's Almanac* achieved worldwide fame and was published in many languages.

As to his proverbs on industry and thrift, Franklin practiced all he preached; and by 1748, at the age of 42, he was able to retire from business to devote his life to public service and the study of science. Little did he know that he was entering the most important period of his life.<sup>18</sup>

As an experimenter and practical user of scientific facts, Franklin looked for easier and better ways to do things. He invented an open stove, the Franklin stove, which gave more heat and wasted less fuel than a fireplace.<sup>19</sup> He also made the first pair of bifocal glasses and invented a musical instrument called the glass harmonica<sup>20</sup> and the stepladder chair.

Franklin is especially famous for his contributions in the field of electricity. The commonest terms used in electricity today are Franklin's words: battery, brush, armature, charge, condense, conductor, plus, minus, positive, negative — terms he made up as he made observations or conducted experiments<sup>21</sup>. He is best known, however, for his discovery that electricity and natural lightning are the same. Flying a silk kite during a summer thunderstorm, Franklin was able to attract an electrical spark to a key tied to the kite string.<sup>22</sup> By comparing the characteristics of the natural spark with the man-made charge, Franklin was able to prove the similarity of electric matter and lightning. Using this knowledge, he invented the lightning rod which today protects millions of buildings from lightning.<sup>23</sup>

He also did pioneer work in the field of weather observation. Few people know that it was Benjamin Franklin who discovered the movement of storms from west to east upon which all weather forecasting today has been based. He also made the first scientific study of the Gulf Stream, that mysterious body of warm water that flows up the eastern coast of the United States and then heads off for Europe.<sup>24</sup>

## Notes

1. 这是一篇传记性文字,语言朴实无华、简洁明了,作者娓娓道来,没有藻饰和造作,一个可亲、可敬,却又无比高大,须仰视才见的伟人形象跃然纸上。翻译时要注意作者的这种叙事风格,努力再现富兰克林既平易近人,又超凡脱俗的人格魅力。
2. 本句的翻译需注意英汉语叙事方式的差异和不同搭配习惯两个问题。就叙事方式而言,一般说来,英语讲究开门见山,而后借助从句以及其它句法手段加以解释说明,整个叙述结构紧凑,逻辑严密;而汉语则往往按照时间顺序或逻辑顺序展开,借助动词,一项一项地交待,整个叙述明快简练、清晰明了。就搭配习惯而言,英汉语往往有很大差异,英语中自然的搭配到了汉语可能就不自然了。如, **He has great ears and eyes.** 若译成“他有了了不起的耳朵和眼睛”就不如译成“他耳聪目明”自然地道。因此,在参考译文中,以“在他漫长的生命历程中”引领全句,并选用“取得成就”、“展现才能”、“赢得称号”等搭配,都是从英汉不同叙事方式和搭配习惯出发处理译文的。
3. 本句需注意具体化和抽象化引申的问题。如:“**gives this view of the man**”译为“这样评价富兰克林”为具体化引申;“**made him tick**”译为“令他如此具有活力”则为抽象化引申。这是翻译实践中一对非常重要的技巧,应注意学习。
4. **He talked with English and French statesmen as an equal; he was as homely and comfortable as an old shoe:** talk在这里主要是指与英法政治家的“对话”。此外,本句的翻译还要注意词类转换技巧的应用。试比较:
  - A) 他就像一只穿旧的鞋子让人感到普通而又舒适。
  - B) 他就像一只旧鞋子一样普通和舒适。
5. **He would have asked about our parents, and probably would have known them, or at least about them:**这里需注意区分know them 和know about them的含义,在汉译时加以体现。
6. **Benjamin was one of 17 children, all of whom were expected to help support the large Franklin household:** 本句可有两种处理方法,一是像参考译文那样,译成“本杰明家有17个孩子”;二是译为“本杰明有16个兄弟姐妹”。但应避免直译成“本杰明是17个孩子中的一个”,这样不太符合汉语的表达习惯。
7. **Therefore, when he was 12, Benjamin was sent to assist his half-brother James who had a printing shop:** 富兰克林的妈妈是其父亲的第二个妻子,因此,这里有half-brother之说。此外,这里还应注意定语从句的译法。参考译文采取的是“顺译法”,即不考虑关系代词,由先行词与从句部分直接衔接,顺势而译。当然该句还可将从句单独译出,全句译为:“于是12岁的时候,本杰明就被送到同父异母的哥哥詹姆斯那里帮忙,詹姆斯开着一家印刷所。”但效果不如参考译文。
8. **Dame Silence Dogood:** 根据译名法则,人名、包括笔名,一般应音译,但考虑到富兰克林

起此笔名的用意（一、避免哥哥猜疑；二、幽默效果；三、创作意图），这里可考虑意译。参考译文译为“想做好事的沉默女士”。

9. 因《新英格兰报》自创立以后一直发表自由主义思想言论，引起殖民政府的不满，詹姆斯最终于1722年被捕，在狱中被关押一个月，并被禁止出版该报。于是，很长一段时间内，报纸由本杰明接手经营。
10. **by it**: it这里指the right, **by**这里不仅仅是“通过”之义，而且含有take advantage of之义，翻译时应予以体现。
11. **A wide circle of friends**: 也说a large circle of friends, 交游甚广之义。
12. 此处应特别注意上下文语气上的衔接。
13. **the Junto**: junto一词系junta的变体, junta主要指政变或革命后掌权的军人集团。junto的意思为“团体、派别、小圈子”，这里作为一个团体的名称，可以音译，也可以意译，参考译文采取了后者。此外，the day = his age。
14. 本句的结构特别像毛主席为刘胡兰的题词“生的伟大，死的光荣”，可用来套译。
15. **Poor Richard's Almanac**此书的中文译名通常为《格言历书》。本文中，因后面谈到富兰克林到法国寻求法国人民对美国革命的支持时，要提到撰写智慧格言的“穷人里查德”，故此参考译文将其译为《穷人里查德历书》。
16. 《富兰克林自传》是一部没有写完的书，尽管如此，它仍被看作他人生活和品格的缩影，被看作美国文学史上第一部优秀传记。全书共由四部分组成，主要记述了富兰克林白手起家、发财致富的过程，因而成为后世美国青年追求美国梦的教科书。
17. 这些格言警句的翻译要特别注意与上文提到的方法相对应，译文要讲究，须多动脑筋。
18. **Little did he know that he was entering the most important period of his life**: 该句的倒装结构起强调作用，翻译时应尽可能将强调的语气译出来。试比较以下两种译文：
  - A) 连他自己也不曾料到
  - B) 他几乎不知道
19. 本句翻译需注意英汉表达习惯的差异，**which gave more heat and wasted less fuel than a fireplace**不宜直译为“这种火炉比壁炉发出的热量更多，而且浪费的燃料却比壁炉少”。这样译虽然很忠实，但不是地道的汉语。试比较“这种火炉比壁炉更暖和，而且节省燃料。”
20. **the glass harmonica**: 玻璃琴。
21. 这里要特别注意有关电的术语译名的准确性。
22. **Flying a silk kite during a summer thunderstorm, Franklin was able to attract an electrical spark to a key tied to the kite string**: 该句译成汉语时需注意句子结构的整合。参考译文译为“在夏季一个风雨交加的日子，富兰克林将一只丝绸风筝放上天空，风筝线上拴着一把钥匙，钥匙吸引了电火花。”
23. **Using this knowledge, he invented the lightning rod which today protects millions of buildings from lightning**: 这里的定语从句具有结果状语从句的职能，翻译时应注意这种隐含

的逻辑关系。参考译文译为“利用这一知识,富兰克林发明了避雷针,才使得今天数以百万计的建筑物免遭雷击。”这样的情况在英语里很常见,如, *Altogether, in 1955, the Party developed an acute crisis of revisionism which almost destroyed the Party.* 可译为“党(指美共)1955年发生了一次严重的修正主义危机,使党几乎遭到毁灭。”(引自张培基等《英汉翻译教程》第136页,上海外语教育出版社,1980。)

24. the Gulf Stream: 指墨西哥湾流。

## Text II

### 容 闳<sup>1</sup>

容闳,生于公元1828年,卒于公元1912年。号纯甫。广东香山通八达(今中山县)人。<sup>2</sup>近代中国著名的爱国者、杰出的社会活动家和向西方学习的先驱<sup>3</sup>。

容闳出生在贫苦农民家庭,童年时,父亲为把他培养成买办,设法将他送到澳门,在英国人创办的一所小学里受启蒙教育。<sup>4</sup>

1847年,在香港的一些英美人士的赞助下,容闳赴美留学,进入了马萨诸塞州孟松学校<sup>5</sup>。毕业后,他又考入了美国著名的耶鲁大学。在大学里,他发愤苦读,克服了数学基础差和费用不足的种种困难,终于以优良的成绩<sup>6</sup>获得了文学学士学位。容闳是第一个毕业于美国大学的中国留学生。

容闳长年学习生活在海外,大学毕业后,他的生活习惯和内在气质,都已与中国同胞截然不同。<sup>7</sup>但是他没有忘记自己是炎黄子孙<sup>8</sup>,对祖国始终充满了爱。为了用自己的知识报效祖国,离开耶鲁后,容闳毅然拒绝了留在美国的劝诱,回到了祖国的怀抱。<sup>9</sup>

容闳回国后,看到了清政府的腐朽落后和国家的贫弱。面对现实,他忧国忧民。对比中西社会,他认识到,要使中国富裕强盛,就必须向西方学习。当时他的主张主要有两点:一是培养通晓西方文化科学知识的各种人才<sup>10</sup>,二是引进西方先进技术,发展民族工业和交通运输业。为了实现自己的主张,容闳不辞辛劳、四处奔走、<sup>11</sup>寻觅可行的途径。就在这时,曾国藩为了兴办洋务<sup>12</sup>,广泛招聘人才。向容闳发出了邀请。1863年9月,容闳应邀到达安庆,入曾国藩大营。

到安庆后,容闳向曾国藩提出了建立机器工厂的建议,这个建议与曾国藩建立近代兵工厂的想法基本一致,曾国藩即授予他出洋购办机器的全权。<sup>13</sup>1865年,容闳从美国订购回了一百多种机器,为江南制造总局提供了主要设备。

除了兴办近代工业企业,容闳还十分注重培养西学人才。他两次提议清政府派遣留学生赴美



学习。清政府采纳了他的建议，几年内先后派遣了120名官费留学生，还任命容闳任中国留学事务所副监督。

晚年，容闳定居美国，但他对于国家的命运与前途依然极为关注。对孙中山领导的资产阶级革命运动，他给予了极大的支持<sup>14</sup>。直到去世前夕，他还不忘叮嘱<sup>15</sup>自己的两个儿子，一定要放弃在美国的职业，回国服务。梁启超曾经说容闳“舍忧国外，无他思想，无他事业也。”<sup>16</sup>美国人特韦契耳也评论容闳说：“他从头到脚，身上每一根神经纤维都是爱国的。”对于这些称誉，容闳是当之无愧的。

## Notes

1. 散文往往兼顾叙事与抒情，有的侧重于叙事，有的侧重于抒情，也有的在夹叙夹议中流露出作者的或赞许或批评的意向。《容闳》是一篇描写人物的叙事性散文，它以平铺直叙的文字叙述容闳是怎样的一位爱国者，字里行间流露出对这位热忱的爱国者和社会活动家的赞许，没有一句浮夸之词。翻译时应注意把握其语言特征，尽力以朴实流畅的文字和简洁紧凑的结构来再现容闳这一爱国者的形象。
2. 本句的翻译有两个方面需要注意，一是句子结构的调整；二是“号”这一典型中国文化内容的传达。就句子结构而言，汉语好比一根竹子，形状是一节一节的，每一节说明一件事情，而后连成一体。而英语则像是一棵树，有主干，有分支，主干、分支有机结合，阐明事情。因此，本句的参考译文将容闳的“号”提前，而后将他的出生地与出生日期合并，从而形成一个主干突出、结构紧凑、意义完整的陈述结构。此外，中国古代人名通常分为名、字、号。字一般是根据名中的字义另取的别名，英语作style name；“号”，也叫“别号”，指人名字以外的自称，英语作literary name。比如姓苏，名轼，字子瞻，号东坡。英语可译成Su Shi, styled Zizhan, was also known by his literary name Dongpo。故这里容闳的号可译为literary name。
3. 此处“向西方学习的先驱”应当理解为“积极倡导或鼓励”向西方学习的先驱。
4. 本句的理解要特别注意其让步的内涵意义，即“（虽然）容闳出生在贫苦农民家庭，（但）童年时，父亲为把他培养成买办，……”需要指出的是，汉语属意合语言，句子之间的逻辑关系主要靠句子本身的意义来实现，而英语属形合语言，句子之间的逻辑关系主要靠形式标记词来体现。因此，如果将该句译成Rong Hong was born into a poor peasant's family. When he was a child, his father, in the hope of making him a comprador, managed to ..., 那它内在的逻辑意义就不存在了，英语读者会觉得莫名其妙。此外，这里还要注意“买办”的准确表达和“启蒙教育”的正确理解。
5. “孟松学校”作Monson Academy。
6. 英语里“以优异成绩毕业”、“优秀毕业生”，均为graduate with honors。

7. 该句的翻译有三个方面的问题需要注意。一、“在国外”的具体化；二、句子间因果关系的体现；三、“大学毕业后”的理解。对于第一个问题，参考译文将“在国外”具体化为in the United States，符合原意；第二个问题，参考译文采用分词短语结构表示原因，同时省略一个主语，是十分地道的英语表达法；第三个问题，参考译文作by the time he graduated from the university，是真正意义上的忠实于原文。如果按字面译成after he graduated from the university，则意为他在大学毕业后才开始形成那些不同于其同胞的生活习惯和内在气质，与原文的内涵意义相去甚远。
8. 该句中“炎黄子孙”有两种译法：一是采取直译法，保留炎帝和黄帝的形象，译为a descendant of Yandi and Huangdi，但是这种译法对于不了解中国历史文化的读者来说，还需要加注予以说明（如Yan-Huang: referring to Yandi and Huangdi, legendary rulers of China in remote antiquity, ancestors of the Chinese people）；二是采取意译法，不保留炎帝和黄帝的形象，直接引申为a Chinese descendant。这里两种译法都是可行的。
9. “为了用自己的知识报效祖国，离开耶鲁后，容闳毅然拒绝了留在美国的劝诱，回到了祖国的怀抱。”这里须特别注意英汉语逻辑演进的不同方式，否则英译文就会显得突兀和混乱。试比较：
- ① Upon graduation from Yale Rong Hong was offered opportunities to stay in the United States but, urged by his desire to apply what he had learned to the well-being of his motherland, he rejected the offers and returned to China.
- ② In order to use his knowledge to serve his motherland, after graduation from Yale, Rong Hong rejected the offers to stay in the United States and returned to the bosom of his motherland.
- 表面上看，译文②似乎比译文①更忠实，但仔细品读，则可看出，无论是对原文语义和逻辑意义的忠实，还是英语的地道程度，译文②都远不及译文①。
10. 本文在三个地方提到了“人才”一词，翻译时请注意它们的不同内涵。
11. 汉语中常常运用词义的重叠来加强语言的气势，实现语言的均衡美、节奏美，英译时可根据英语语言的特点和审美需要或译出，或不译。
12. 洋务：该词有两种解释，一是清末指关于外国的和关于模仿外国的事务；二是香港等地指以外国人为对象的服务行业。这里主要指“模仿外国的事务”，即西化，可译为westernization drive。
13. 本句较长，需注意结构的安排。
14. 这里“极大的支持”只是一种精神、道义上的支持，不包括物质赞助，翻译时须明示。仅译为extended great support易造成语义的扩展，引起误解。
15. 这里要注意原文语气的体现。原文中“直到去世前夕，他还不忘叮嘱……”从词语层面表现出对行为的强调。译文也应注意通过某种词法或句法手段加以再现。参考译文也是从词语层面（kept telling）再现原文的强调语气的，可供参考。

16. 此处应注意段落的切分，因为随后的内容是别人对他的评论，按照英语语篇构造的习惯，应当另起段落，加以突出。此外，这句话是对容闳一生的概括。梁启超用了一个“舍”、两个“无他”强调容闳的品格，语言简洁、有力，翻译时应注意突出这种强调的效果。

## Translation Skills

### 译者的修养

做一名合格的译者需要多方面的修养，因此，作为本书的开篇，我们想讲一讲译者的修养问题。

翻译是一门综合性学科，它集语言学、文学、心理学、文化学、信息理论等于一身，涉及社会、政治、经济、文化、科技、宗教等诸多领域。因此，要成为一个好的译者，至少要具备以下几个方面的修养：

#### 一、合理的知识结构

这里所说的知识结构，至少包括以下三个方面的内容。

1. 坚实的语言功底。这里所说的语言功底，首先是指英汉语本身的修养，其次是指对双语异同的敏锐把握。就英汉语本身的修养而言，译者应尽量多读中英文文章、著作，通过阅读，增加词汇量，积累地道的表达法，提高对两种语言的敏感性。没有足够的阅读，仅靠学习翻译技巧，从长远看，对提高翻译水平是不会有太大帮助的。就双语异同的敏锐把握而言，译者应加强对对比研究，注意英汉语在词汇、句法、篇章构造等各层面上的差异，因为正是这些差异给翻译带来了种种困难。从词汇层面讲，英语以名词、介词见长，而汉语则以动词见长；英语有冠词[a(n), the]，而汉语没有冠词；英语没有量词，而汉语有量词等等，这就造成了两种语言在用词倾向、词序排列、搭配习惯等方面都存在很大差异。因此，在英汉互译时，应充分注意两种语言在词汇层面上的这些差别，合理、巧妙地应用词汇转换的各种技巧，准确地传达原文的意思。从句法层面讲，英汉两种语言属不同语系（英语属印欧语系，汉语属汉藏语系），因此它们在句子结构的形式，主从句之间的时间顺序（英语中时间的排列顺序比较灵活，而在汉语中，一般是按照事件发生的先后顺序安排的，即先发生的先说，后发生的后说）和逻辑顺序（英语的逻辑排列顺序较为灵活，可先因后果，先条件后结果，也可先果后因，先结果后条件，而汉语一般为先因后果，先条件后结果）也不完全相同。翻译时可能需要在简单句与复合句之间进行转换，句子的时间顺序和逻辑顺序进行重新调整等操作。此外，一个合格的译者还应具有扎实的语篇知识，对英汉语篇不同的



构造特点和叙事方式要有明确的认识,否则,译出来的文章就可能句句正确,但整体读来却逻辑混乱,含混不清,这种情况在一些译文中是常有的事情。

2. 百科全书式的“杂学”知识。一名合格的译者所具备的知识不仅要专,而且要博,要成为一名“杂家”。吕叔湘先生在《翻译工作和“杂学”》(《翻译通讯》,1951年卷第一期)一文中指出,要做好翻译工作,必须对原文有彻底的了解,而要了解原文,必须通过三道关:第一关是词汇语法关;第二关是熟语(idioms)关;第三关“就是字典不能帮忙的那些个东西:上自天文,下至地理,人情风俗,俚语方言,历史上的事件,小说里的人物,五花八门,无以名之,名之曰‘杂学’。翻译中最费事的就是这‘杂学’了。”“要解决这些问题,当然得多查书和多问人……但是最重要的还是每人自己竭力提高自己的素养,有空闲就做一点杂览的功夫,日积月累,自然会有点作用。”当然,一个人的精力毕竟是有限的,在现实生活中,通晓一切的人是没有的。但是,我们至少可以对自己所从事的业务范围之内的事情了解得精一些,广一些。

3. 作为一个合格的译者,还要拥有深厚的双文化底蕴。对于真正成功的翻译而言,双文化能力比双语能力更重要,因为词语只有从它们赖以存在的文化的角度看,才有意义(奈达语)。王佐良先生在《翻译中的文化比较》一文中也指出,翻译者必须是一个真正意义上的文化人。人们会说:他必须掌握两种语言,确实如此;但是,不了解语言当中的社会文化,谁也无法真正掌握语言。他不仅需要深入了解外国文化,而且还要深入了解自己民族的文化,更重要的是他还要不断地把两种文化加以比较,因为在翻译中,他处理的是个别的词,他面对的则是两大片文化。的确,如果只掌握两种语言,而没有深厚的文化底蕴,王先生也就不可能译出《论读书》、《温泉胜地》等脍炙人口的佳作了。

## 二、学习一些翻译理论

有人认为“翻译无理论”或“翻译理论无用”,搞翻译,只要精通两种语言就可以了。这种认识是不符合实际的,或者说是片面的,甚至是偏激的。翻译理论,其实就是翻译观的问题。任何一个译者的翻译实践,小到一个词的处理,大到篇章的组织,都是在一定翻译观的支配下进行的,只是有时不自觉罢了。事实上,翻译理论,特别是应用翻译理论(翻译技巧)本身就是译者实践经验的总结和升华,了解并掌握基本的翻译理论,不仅能够解释许多翻译现象,而且能够帮助译者提高翻译能力。因此,一个译者不仅要了解、学习一些基本的翻译理论,能够灵活运用各种翻译技巧,而且还要不断总结自己的实践经验,提升为理论,供他人学习借鉴。台湾著名学者何伟杰在其著作《译学新论》中曾经把理论与实践的关系比作绿叶与红花的关系,认为翻译理论可以帮助译者克服自身对翻译实践的认识中可能有的片面性。这种看法值得广大的翻译工作者思考。

## 三、了解翻译的不同种类

翻译活动所涉及的范围很广,作为一名译者,应对自己所从事的翻译实践的种类有明确的认识,因为不同的翻译类别在翻译标准、翻译方法上有不同的要求,了解翻译的不同类别,对于解释翻译现象、揭示翻译本质、探讨翻译方法,都有帮助。比如,外译汉与汉译外对译者的要求就不尽相同。虽然二者在理解和表达两个方面的要求都很高,外译汉时正确理解原文显得非常重要,当然,表达也绝非易事;但汉译外时在表达方面的要求就特别高,因为用好的外语表达思想和情