

中国物资出版社



实用汉译英手册

李辛 编译

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中国人汉译英常见错误

由于各民族风俗习惯、文化背景的不同,中国人在学习英语时,常常按本民族的思维习惯去套用英语,出现一些中国式英语;经常犯的错误主要包括名词用法错误、代词用法错误、冠词用法错误、介词用法错误、动词用法错误、比较级用法错误、否定用法错误、标点与大写字母错误等。

一、名词用法错误

名词用法错误主要有:主谓不一致的错误和名词复数使用错误。

(一)英语名词的可数性与不可数性

	概念	含义和用法
可数名词	凡是可论件(个)数的名词	表示的是数,词前可加:a、one、two、a large number of、plenty of、等。
不可数名词	凡是不能论件(个)数的名词	表示的是量,词前不能直接加a或任何数词,只能用much、a little、a large amount of、plenty of等。

(二) 名词用法常见错误

为避免“主谓不一致”和“名词复数使用”方面出错，必须牢记一条重要规则，就是：动词要在“数”和“人称”上与主语保持一致。

1. 没有掌握谓语动词的真实主语而出现错误。

例句 1: 桌上有箱鸡蛋。

误: A box of eggs are on the table.

正: A box of eggs is on the table.

例句 2: 汤姆和玛丽要帮助他们。

误: Tom and Mary is to help them.

正: Tom and Mary are to help them.

2. 集合名词:

“集合名词”代表一群人或物，当这群人或物做为整体看时，这种名词后的谓语形式用单数；当它们做为若干个体看时，谓语动词要保持一致，用复数。

例:

The third-year class has only twenty students.

三年级那个班只有 20 名学生。

The class have all gone out to play.

全班学生都出去玩了。

还有一些集合名词比较复杂，同一个集合名词有时甚至既可看作整体，又可看作若干个体，它们通常有单、复数两种形式，复数形式为单数+es(or)s。某些单数形式的集合名词有时也可表示复数概念，如上“class”一词。

3. 主语重叠错误

例 1: 我和汤姆走了远道。

误: Tom and I we took the long road.

正: Tom and I took the long road.

例 2: 玛丽的父亲把卡车开回家。

误: Mary's father he has taken the truck home.

正: Mary's father has taken the truck home.

4. 将没有单数的复数名词误用作单数。

在英语中一些名词没有单数,永远是复数,故谓动词应相应用复数。

annals	clothes	entails	lees
ashes	dregs	goods	links
billiards	eaves	leavings	nuptials
oats	shears	wages	
obsequies	snippers		
pants	suds		
pliers	thanks		
pincers	thongs		
proceeds	tongs		
remains	trousers		
riches	tweezers		
scissors	victuals		

5. 具有复数形式,但其意义多为单数,谓动词相应用单数。

acoustics	dynamics
aeronautics	economics
alms	esthetics
analytics	ethics
athletics	hydraulics
bellows	hydromechanics
civics	linguistics

comics	magnetics
mathematics	phonetics
means	phonics
measles	physics
metaphysics	pneumatics
molasses	poetics
mumps	politics
news	ricketts
optics	spherics
statics	
United States	whereabouts

二、代词用法错误

代词常见的用法错误主要有人称代词的位置和主谓一致性方面的错误。

(一)人称代词的位置和使用顺序

在英语中,两个以上的人称代词连续用于一处时,有一定的排列规律。单数人称,其顺序是“第二人称”→“第三人称”→“第一人称”。复数人称,其顺序为“第一人称”→“第二人称”→“第三人称”。

例 1:我、约翰和史密斯准时到达。

误:I, John and Smith arrived on time.

正:John, Smith and I arrived on time.

例 2:你们、我们、他们一同去上学。

误:You, we and they go to school together.

正:We, you and they go to school together.

(二) Every one 和类似代词的用法

代词 everyone, everybody, someone, one, no one, somebody, nobody 等都是单数,使用时谓语动词也要用单数。

例 1:每个人都承担其个人的责任。

误:Everybody accept their responsibilities.

正:Everybody accepts his responsibilities.

例 2:在这些玩耍者中,没有一个人想努力工作。

误:No one among the players want to work hard.

正:No one among the players wants to work hard.

(三)当 both, few, many, several 用作主语时,其后的谓语动词要求用复数。

例 1:两个孩子同时进教室。

误:Both of children enters the classroom.

正:Both of children enter the classroom.

例 2:富人少,穷人依然多。

误:Few gets rich, many remains poor.

正: Few get rich, many remain poor.

三、冠词使用中常犯的错误

英语冠词只有两种,一种是定冠词“the”,另一种是不定冠词“a”和“an”。

(一)“a”和“an”使用错误

“a”用于“辅音音素”前,而不是“辅音字母”前;而“an”用于“元音音素”前,而非“元音字母”前。

例 1:光阴似箭。

误:Time flies like a arrow.

正: Time flies like an arrow.

例 2: 这是一把雨伞。

误: This is a umbrella.

正: This is an umbrella.

(二) 定冠词“the”的用法

定冠词“the”的用法是特指某些事物或某些人,以区别于同类的事或人。

例 1: 汤姆送给我一件衬衫,是中国生产的。

误: Tom presented me a shirt, a shirt is chinese make.

正: Tom presented me a shirt, the shirt is chinese make.

例 2: 你会弹钢琴吗?

误: Can you play piano?

正: Can you play the piano?

在乐器前,一般用定冠词“the”,而在谈运动项目时,一般不用定冠词。

例 3: 史密斯先生很善于打排球。

误: Mr. Smith is very good at the volleyball.

正: Mr. Smith is very good at volleyball.

在谈到世界上“独一无二”的物质时,其名称之前通常要用定冠词“the”,如“the sun”,“the moon”,“the universe”,“the earth”等。

例 4: 太阳在月明之前落下。

误: Sun usually sets before moon rises.

正: The sun usually sets before the moon rises.

河流、山脉、海洋及用普通名词构成的国名前,要用定冠词“the”。

例 5: 从太平洋漂来的湿润的空气带来很多雨水。

误: The moist air from Pacific brings us much rain.

正: The moist air from the Pacific brings us much rain.

四、动词用法错误

动词用法错误有多种,主要有时态、语态、语气三大方面的错误。

(一)英语动词的时态

英语动词的时态主要有三个主要时态和三个从属时态,三个主要时态是:现在时,过去时和将来时,三个从属时态是:现在完成时,过去完成时,将来完成时。这六个基本时态的各种形式变化如表所示:

时 态	概 念	变化形式	
现在时	表示和现在有关的行为	I work You work He works	We work You work They work
过去时	表示和过去有关的行为	I worked You worked He worked	We worked You worked They worked
将来时	表示和将来有关的行为	I shall work You will work He will work	We shall work You will work They will work
现在完成时	表示在过去发生而其结果延续到现在的行为	I have worked You have worked He has worked	We have worked You have worked They have worked

时 态	概 念	变化形式
过去完成时	表示在过去某一特定时刻以前发生的行为,即过去的过去	I had worked We had worked You had worked You had worked He had worked They had worked
将来完成时	表示在将来某个特定时间以前将已发生的行为	I shall have finished You will have finished He will have finished We shall have finished You will have finished They will have finished

在学习英语过程中,光记住英语的六种基本时态还不够,还应熟记英语动词的三种基本形式,即现在形式、过去形式和过去分词形式,特别要记住不规则动词的三种变化形式。在使用动词时,要注意时态的一致性。

例 1:我想他病了。

误: I thought that he is ill.

正: I thought that he was ill.

例 2:地主非常贪婪,他给长工吃得很少。

误: The landlord was very greedy. He gives his formhands very little to eat.

正: The landlord was very greedy. He gave his formhands very little to eat.

(二)英语的语态

英语的语态分主动语态和被动语态,英语中常用的被动语态有以下几种:

1. 一般现在时的被动语态:I am taught.
2. 一般过去时的被动语态:I was taught.
3. 一般将来时的被动语态:I shall be taught.
4. 现在完成时的被动语态:I have been taught.
5. 过去完成时的被动语态:I had been taught.
6. 将来完成时的被动语态:I shall have been taught.
7. 现在进行时的被动语态:I am being taught.
8. 过去进行时的被动语态:I was being taught.

在英语中,并不是所有的主动句都可以改为被动句,在上述时态中,“将来进行时”和过去将来完成时”的被动语态就很少用,“完成进行时”和“将来进行时”的被动语态根本不用,而且并不是所有的被动语态的句子都是从主动语态的句子转变而来的,有些“被动语态”的句子是独立的,主动语态的句子,并不都能改为被动语态。在学习英语时要特别注意上述原则。

1. “静态及物动词”被误用做被动语态。

例 1:这个礼堂可容纳一千人。

误:A thousand people are held by this hall.

正:This hall holds a thousand people.

例 2:他们有一个美丽的花园。

误:A beautiful garden is had by them.

正:They have a beautiful garden.

例 3:他缺乏信心。

误:Confidence is lacked by him.

正:He lacks confidence.

例 4:确切的日子我记不清了。

误:I have been escaped by the exact date.

正:The exact date has escaped me.

例 5:他们互相帮助。

误:Each other is helped by them.

正:They help each other.

例 6:这盘磁带正合我意。

误:My purpose is served by this tape.

正:This tape serve my purpose.

例 7:你的头发该洗洗了。

误:Washing is wanted by your hair.

正:Your hair wants washing.

2. “say”, “calculate”, “repute”等动词的只有被动语态的句型。

例 1. 据说她英语讲得很好。

误:They say her to speak English very well.

正:She is said to speak English very well.

例 2. 人们都称她为歌唱家。

误:They reputed her to be a singer.

正:She was reputed to a singer.

例 3. 大家计划让他去北京。

误:They calculated him to go to Beijing.

正:He was calculated to go to Beijing.

(三)英语动词语气

英语的动词语气可分为三种:直陈语气、虚拟语气和祈使语气。

直陈语气表示说话人认为所说的事是一个事实。祈使语

气表示说话人对对方的命令、请求等。虚拟语气表示和事实相反的情况或表示一种愿望。虚拟语气的变化形式较多,因此比较容易出错。

虚拟语气用在表示条件的从句中和表示结果的主句中时各自的动词形式变化如下:

	条件从句	结果主句
与现在事实相反	If I (we, you, he, they) + 动词过去式 (be 的过去式用 were)	I (we) should He would You would They would } + 动词原形
与过去事实相反	If I (we, you, they) + had + 过去分词	I (we) should he would You would They would } + had + 过去分词
与将来事实相反	If I (we, you, he, they) + 动词过去式 (be 的过去式用 were)	I (we) should He would You would They would } + 动词原形

1. 虚拟语气在条件从句和结果主句中的用法。

例 1. 假如我是你,我马上去看牙科医生。

误: If I was you, I will go and see the dentist at once.

正: If I were you, I should go and see the dentist at

once.

例 2. 要是你早来几分钟的话,你就见到他了。

误: If you came a few minutes, you would have met him.

正: If you had come a few minutes, you would have met him.

例 3. 杯子掉下来会打碎的。

误: If you will drop the glass, it would break.

正: If you dropped the glass, it would break.

例 4. 明天要是星期天,我会去看望在那里的我的朋友。

误: If it is Sunday tomorrow, I would go to see my friends there.

正: If it were Sunday tomorrow, I would go to see my friends there.

2. 在笔语中条件从句有时可以不用连词 if, 而把 were, had 或 should 移至主语之前, 称为省掉 if 的条件从句。

例 1. 他要是来了, 让他给我打个电话。

Should he come, tell him to ring me up.

例 2. 如果我处于你的地位, 我就去。

Were I in your position, I would go.

例 3. 如果没有他的帮助, 我们的试验会失败的。

Had he not helped us, our experiment would have failed.

3. 省去从句或主句的虚拟结构。

例 1. 那就太好了。

That would be fine. (省去了 if you should do it.)

例 2. 我是不会做那件事的。

I would not have done it. (省去了 if I were you.)

4. 在 It is natural(necessary, strange, important)that 句中,that 引导的主语从句中谓语动词要用 should+原形。

例 1. 真奇怪,他没有通知我们就走了。

误:It is strange that he have gone away without telling us.

正:It is strange that he should have gone away without telling us.

例 2. 必须马上解决这个问题。

误:It is necessary that the question was settled at once.

正:It is necessary that the question should be settled at once.

5. 动词 demand, suggest, order, insist, propose 等后面的宾语从句用 should+动词原形表示虚拟语气。

例 1. 我建议今晚开个会。

误:I suggest that we hold a meeting tonight.

正:I suggest that we should hold a meeting tonight.

例 2. 多数同学坚持要多上历史课。

误:Most students insist that they have more history classes.

正:Most students insist that they should have more history classes.

6. 由 as 或 as though 所引导的状语从句表示比较或方式时,从句中的谓语动词要用虚拟语气。

例 1. 我母亲照料这个孤儿象自己的孩子一样。

误:My mother looked after the orphan as if he is her own child.