

A Study Of English Rhetoric

英语修辞手册

李诗平 著

蒋坚松 审校

Julie Mackay [英]



实用外语学习丛书 24

英语修辞手册

A STUDY OF ENGLISH RHETORIC

第一章 同义修辞 (Literary Devices)

李诗平 著

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序

李诗平副教授所著《英语修辞手册》是一部论述英语修辞格的佳作，与同类书相比，它有诸多特色。

一、内容丰富，系统性强。本书探讨了40种辞格，可谓集英语修辞格之大成，其中有些辞格虽散见于各种讨论修辞和写作的书，但这么多辞格集中在一部书中探讨，却很少见。作者将40种辞格分为词义修辞格、结构修辞格、音韵修辞格、其他修辞格，分门别类进行讨论，内容全面，研究系统。

二、体例合理，科学性强。每种辞格的名称均有词源考证，继而对该辞格作了简明定义或解释，然后是大量精选的例句。从词源考证，到简明定义，到举例说明，编排合理，深入浅出。

三、例句地道，取材广泛。本书例句多引自英美原作和现代英语报刊，语言地道。通过例句既可学习辞格，又可增强语感，了解英美和西方文化背景，一举多得。

四、针对性强，适用面宽。本书对英语辞格的探讨既具理论深度，又面向中国读者和使用者，适合他们的需要。首先，它的阐释部分用汉语写出，使一般读者看起来不吃力；其次，它的例句除个别的只有解释外（如有关双关语的个别例句），其余的都译成汉语，为一般读者带来了方便；再次，书后有练习和测验题并附参考答案，满足了中等程度的自学者的需要。由于有以上特点，本书既可作为英语专业学生的英语修辞课本或辅助教材，又

可作为中等以上英语程度的自学者的自修读物。

本书作者长期在高校英语专业执教，并多次在国内外进修，对英语修辞进行专题研究。本书是作者多年教学和科研的结晶。此前曾作为试用教材在作者所在学校连续使用三次，效果很好。这次经修订正式付梓，定会受到读者和使用者的欢迎。

蒋坚松

1997年1月于湖南师范大学外国语学院

PREFACE

Mr. Li Shiping's "A STUDY OF ENGLISH STYLISTIC DEVICES" is the result of most careful and extensive research. It is definitely an essential companion for serious students of English.

In it he guides the reader smoothly through even the most complicated subject matter. For he not only gives us comprehensive definitions of zeugmas, synecdoches and such like, but also vivid examples of their use from a wide variety of sources including many classical and modern western texts. In addition to such quotations relevant explanations are included for greater clarity.

This easy - to - use manual is clearly organized into appropriately different sections such as lexical and syntactical stylistic devices. It also incorporates a useful glossary of the different figures of speech and consolidatory exercises.

Whether for reference, detailed study or plain amusement this book will certainly serve a purpose. Furthermore, it is with much pleasure that I endorse Mr Li's book as a valuable and lively contribution to what is commonly viewed as a rather complicated and dull area of study.

Julie Mackay

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第一章 词义修辞格

(Lexical Stylistic Devices)

一、simile (明喻)

明喻 (simile) 一词源于拉丁语的 *similis* (像……)。明喻就是把甲事物直接比作乙事物，尽管甲乙两事物有很多不同之处，但在一定的对比含义上却有相同之点。明喻一般由三部分组成：(1) 本体 (tenor / subject)；(2) 喻体 (vehicle / reference)；(3) 比喻词 (用来联接本体和喻体；the comparative word / indicator of resemblance)。采用明喻可使事物的形象更加生动、逼真。常用的比喻词有：like, as, than 等。比喻的表达方式较多，现将一些较为常见的列举如下：

1. 用 like 表示。

(1) He sleeps like a log and works like a beaver (= He sleeps soundly and works diligently).

他睡觉睡得香，干活干得欢。

注：在美国，海狸 (beaver) 常被认为是一种极勤奋的动物，因此，人们常用 “to work like a beaver” 来比喻 “十分勤奋地工作”。

(2) Love is like the measles; we all have to go through it.

(Jerome K. Jerome)

爱情如出麻疹，人人都必须历经。

(3) The irregular houses were like the broken exteriors of cliffs
lining deep gulches and winding streams. (O. Henry)

那些参差不齐的房屋好像起伏不平的悬崖峭壁，排列在深沟峡谷和迂回曲折的河流旁。

(4) The scorn in her voice was like a dagger thrust through his heart.

她那轻蔑的口吻好像一把利剑，刺破了他的心脏。

(5) Reading a translation is like looking at a tapestry on the wrong side. (Cervantes)

读一篇译作犹如从反面看一幅挂毯。

★ (6) He was like a cock who thought the sun had risen for him to crow. (George Eliot)

他这个人就像一只骄傲的公鸡，以为太阳升起是为了它的啼鸣。

(7) Dictionaries are like watches, the worst is better than none, and the best cannot be expected to go quite true.

(Samuel Johnson)
字典犹如钟表，拙劣之至者犹胜于无，出类拔萃者难保万无一失。

(8) You have a memory like a sieve.

你记忆力极差，什么也记不住。

2. 用 as 表示。

(1) Love goes towards love, as schoolboys from their books;
But love from love, towards school with heavy looks.

(Shakespeare)

赴情人的约会，像学童抛开书本一样；

和情人分别，像学童板着脸上学堂。

(2) Duty is as enduring as life.

义务和生命一样持久。(意为：活着就要尽义务。)

★(3) You are as welcome as flowers in May (= You are very welcome).

你很受欢迎。

(4) But gradually we appeared to melt down and run together, conversationally speaking, and then everything went along as comfortably as clock. (Mark Twain)

可是我们渐渐融洽起来，彼此很接近——这是从谈话的角度来说的——然后，一切都像时钟一样进行得非常顺利。

(5) She was as fit as a fiddle.

她身体非常健康。

(6) My brain is as powerful as a dynamo, as precise as a chemist's scales, as penetrating as a scalpel. (Max Shulman)

我的头脑像发电机那样强大有力，像化学家的天平那样分毫不差，像手术刀那样锐不可当。

在这种 as + 形容词 + as + 名词的比喻中，常见的有两百多条。在实际运用中，第一个 as 可以省掉，因此有些词书在条目中不把它列出来，或给它加上圆括号。

as crafty as a fox 狡猾得像狐狸

as stubborn as a mule 非常执拗

as soft as dove's down 像鸽子的绒毛一样柔软

as old as the hills 天长地久；年深日久

as proud as a peacock 像孔雀一样骄傲

as motionless as a statue 像一尊塑像一样纹丝不动

as thin (lean) as a rake 骨瘦如柴

as clear as crystal 水晶般明澈；极其明白

as plump as a partridge 像鹌鹑一样胖

as open as the day 光明正大

as smooth as glass 平滑如镜

as mute as a fish 噤若寒蝉

as ugly as a toad 丑如癞蛤蟆

as rich as a Jew 极其富有

as cool as a cucumber 泰然自若

as dumb as a fish 默不作声

as safe as houses 十分安全

as pleased as Punch 十分高兴

as wise as Solomon 非常聪明

as slippery as an eel 非常狡猾

as keen as mustard 极其热心；极感兴趣

as like as two peas in a pod 一模一样

as hard as nails 像铁钉一样硬

as poor as a church mouse 一贫如洗

3. 用 than 表示。

(1) A home without love is no more than a body without a soul.

没有爱的家庭无异于一个没有灵魂的躯体。

(2) He had no more idea of art than a cow (= He knew nothing of art).

他对艺术一窍不通。(他对艺术像牛对于艺术一样，一无所知。)

(3) We have no more right to consume happiness without producing it than to consume wealth without producing it.

我们不创造幸福就无权享受幸福，正如不创造财富也就无权享用财富一样。

✱ (4) A student can no more obtain knowledge without studying than a farmer can get harvest without ploughing.

学生不学习不能获得知识，正如农民不耕种不能得到收获一样。

(5) Nations are not to be judged by their size any more than individuals.

国家正如个人一样，不能以其大小来论优劣。

4. 用 *as if* 或 *as though* 表示。

(1) He was a beautiful horse that looked as though he had come out of a painting by Velasquez. (Hemingway)

这匹马雄骏非凡仿佛是从一幅维拉斯奎茨的油画里跑出来的一样。

(2) He speaks as if there were a frog in his throat. (= He speaks in a hoarse voice).

他说话声音嘶哑。

(3) Although Baoyu lay as still as he could, his buttocks were smarting as if scorched by fire, pricked by needles, or cut by knives. The slightest movement wrung a groan from him.

宝玉默默地躺在床上，无奈臀上作痛，如针挑刀挖一般，更热如火炙。略辗转时，禁不住“暖哟”之声。

(4) ...he had given me the impression of absolute rigidity, as though he had swallowed a poker. (J. Conrad)

他给我的印象是，态度非常呆板僵硬，好像肚子里吞下了一根拨火棍似的。

5. 用 and 表示。

✱ (1) Love and cough can not be hid. ——proverb

恋爱如同咳嗽，难逃人们耳目。

(2) Truth and rose have thorns about them. ——proverb

真理像玫瑰那样多刺。

(3) Truth and oil are ever above. ——proverb

真理，跟油一样，总是要升到上面来的。（意即：真理必克谎言。）

(4) Fish and visitors stink in three days. ——proverb

鱼放三天发臭，人住三天生嫌。

(5) A word and a stone let go cannot be recalled. ——proverb

说出的话就像抛出去了的石头，是收不回的。（近似于：

✱ A word spoken is past recalling. 一言既出，驷马难追。）

（以上五例中的 and，如果理解为“和”，“以及”，显然是不通的。它是表示明喻的一种特殊形式，在英语成语和谚语中颇为常见。）

6 用 what 表示。

其常见句型有：

A is to B what X is to Y.

可译为：A 之于 B 犹如 X 之于 Y。

What X is to Y, A is to B.

可译为：正如 X 之于 Y，A 对于 B 亦然是如此。

例如：

(1) Regulation is to a school what the law is to a nation.