







纪念版

中华现代学术名著丛书



# A GRAMMAR OF SPOKEN CHINESE

Yuen Ren Chao



创于1897

商務印書館

The Commercial Press

2017年·北京



图书在版编目(CIP)数据

中国话的文法=A GRAMMAR OF SPOKEN CHINESE:  
英文/赵元任著.—北京:商务印书馆,2017  
(中华现代学术名著丛书:120 周年纪念版)  
ISBN 978-7-100-15168-9

I.①中… II.①赵… III.①汉语—语法—研究—英文  
IV.①H14

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2017)第 213406 号

权利保留,侵权必究。

中华现代学术名著丛书  
(120 周年纪念版)

中国话的文法  
(英文本)  
赵元任 著

---

商务印书馆出版  
(北京王府井大街36号 邮政编码100710)  
商务印书馆发行  
北京冠中印刷厂印刷  
ISBN 978-7-100-15168-9

---

2017 年 12 月第 1 版 开本 710×1000 1/16  
2017 年 12 月北京第 1 次印刷 印张 54

定价:265.00 元



First Edition 2017

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, now known or to be invented, without permission in writing from the publishers, except for brief quotations by reviewers.

ISBN 978 - 7 - 100 - 15168 - 9

© 2017 The Commercial Press

*Published by*

The Commercial Press

36 Wangfujing Road, Beijing 100710, China

[www.cp.com.cn](http://www.cp.com.cn)





Courtesy of The Bancroft Library of University of California Berkeley

Yuen Ren Chao

(1892—1982)



# 中华现代学术名著丛书

(120 周年纪念版)

## 出版说明

商务印书馆自 1897 年始创,以“昌明教育,开启民智”为宗旨,于建馆翌年便出版了《马氏文通》,这部学术经典既是中国学术现代化的标志之一,也开启了商务印书馆百年学术出版的序幕。

其后,商务印书馆一直与中华现代学术相伴而行,出版了大批具有鲜明原创精神并富于学术建树的经典著作,诸多开山之著、奠基之作都是在本馆首次问世。这些学术经典的出版,使本馆得以引领现代学术发展,激动社会思想潮流,参与民族新文化的构筑,也分享中国学界的历史荣光。

1949 年以后,本馆虽以译译世界学术名著、编纂中外辞书为侧重,但原创学术著作的出版从未止步。2009 年起,我馆陆续出版“中华现代学术名著丛书”,全面整理中华现代学术成果,深入探寻现代中国的百年学脉。

丛书收录上自晚清下至 1980 年代末中国原创学术名著(包括外文著作),以人文社会科学为主,涵盖文学、历史学、哲学、法学、政治学、经济学、社会学、教育学、地理学、心理学、科学史等众多学科。意在辨章学术,考镜源流,收录各学科学派的名家名作,展现传统文化的新变,追溯现代文化的根基。丛书立足于精选、精编、精校,冀望无论多少年,皆能傲立于书架,更与“汉译世界学术名著丛书”共相辉映,昭示中华学术与世界学术于思想性和独创性上皆可等量齐观,为中国乃至东方学术在世界范围内赢得应有的地位。

2017年2月11日,商务印书馆迎来了120岁的生日。为纪念本馆与中华现代学术风雨同行的这段历程,我们整体推出“中华现代学术名著丛书”120周年纪念版(200种),既有益于文化积累,也便于研读查考,同时向长期支持丛书出版的诸位学界通人致以感激和敬意。

“新故相推,日生不滞。”两个甲子后的今天,商务印书馆又站在了一个新的历史节点上。传承前辈的出版精神,迎接时代的新使命,且行且思,我们责无旁贷。

商务印书馆编辑部

2017年11月



## 凡 例

一、“中华现代学术名著丛书”收录晚清以迄 20 世纪 80 年代末,为中华学人所著,成就斐然、泽被学林之学术著作。入选著作以名著为主,酌量选录名篇合集。

二、入选著作内容、编次一仍其旧,唯各书卷首冠以作者照片、手迹等。卷末附作者学术年表和题解文章,诚邀专家学者撰写而成,意在介绍作者学术成就,著作成书背景、学术价值及版本流变等情况。

三、入选著作率以原刊或作者修订、校阅本为底本,参校他本,正其讹误。前人引书,时有省略更改,倘不失原意,则不以原书文字改动引文;如确需校改,则出脚注说明版本依据,以“编者注”或“校者注”形式说明。

四、作者自有其文字风格,各时代均有其语言习惯,故不按现行用法、写法及表现手法改动原文;原书专名(人名、地名、术语)及译名与今不统一者,亦不作改动。如确系作者笔误、排印舛误、数据计算与外文拼写错误等,则予径改。

五、原书为直(横)排繁体者,除个别特殊情况,均改作横排简体。其中原书无标点或仅有简单断句者,一律改为新式标点,专名号从略。

六、除特殊情况外,原书篇后注移作脚注,双行夹注改为单行夹注。文献著录则从其原貌,稍加统一。

七、原书因年代久远而字迹模糊或纸页残缺者,据所缺字数用“□”表示;字数难以确定者,则用“(下缺)”表示。



我长么  
一不造神就说出些  
中国话的文坛  
的  
绝好的例子

所以我  
敢称这部书

给我长么



## CONTENTS

|                                                                                    |     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| LIST OF TABLES .....                                                               | 7   |
| PREFACE .....                                                                      | 9   |
| USAGES OF THIS BOOK .....                                                          | 13  |
| 1. Characters Used .....                                                           | 13  |
| 2. Glossing .....                                                                  | 15  |
| 3. List of Symbols .....                                                           | 17  |
| 4. Abbreviated Characters .....                                                    | 21  |
| 5. Abbreviated References to Frequently Cited Works .....                          | 24  |
| 6. Abbreviations for Frequently Occurring<br>Morphemes and Grammatical Terms ..... | 27  |
| Chapter 1 INTRODUCTION .....                                                       | 29  |
| 1. 1. Grammar .....                                                                | 29  |
| 1. 2. Spoken Chinese .....                                                         | 40  |
| 1. 3. Phonology .....                                                              | 47  |
| Chapter 2 THE SENTENCE .....                                                       | 80  |
| 2. 1. General Observations .....                                                   | 80  |
| 2. 2. Minor Sentences .....                                                        | 83  |
| 2. 3. Structure of the Full Sentence .....                                         | 90  |
| 2. 4. The Grammatical Meaning of Subject and Predicate .....                       | 92  |
| 2. 5. The Logical Predicate .....                                                  | 101 |
| 2. 6. Subject and Predicate as Question and Answer .....                           | 104 |
| 2. 7. The Full Sentence as Made Up of Minor Sentences .....                        | 105 |
| 2. 8. Types of Subjects .....                                                      | 106 |



|                                                          |     |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| 2. 9. Types of Predicates .....                          | 110 |
| 2. 10. Full Sentence (S-P) Predicates .....              | 118 |
| 2. 11. Compound Sentences .....                          | 127 |
| 2. 12. Complex Sentences .....                           | 131 |
| 2. 13. Pivotal Constructions .....                       | 147 |
| 2. 14. Planned and Unplanned Sentences .....             | 152 |
| <br>Chapter 3 WORD AND MORPHEME .....                    | 159 |
| 3. 1. General .....                                      | 159 |
| 3. 2. Free and Bound Forms .....                         | 166 |
| 3. 3. Prosodic Aspects .....                             | 169 |
| 3. 4. Substitution and Separation .....                  | 178 |
| 3. 5. Words in Functional Frames .....                   | 183 |
| 3. 6. The Word as a Unit of Meaning .....                | 189 |
| 3. 7. Word Identity and Morpheme Identity .....          | 192 |
| 3. 8. Definitions and Tests for the Syntactic Word ..... | 205 |
| 3. 9. Synoptic Tables of Word-Like Units .....           | 210 |
| <br>Chapter 4 MORPHOLOGICAL TYPES .....                  | 214 |
| 4. 1. General .....                                      | 214 |
| 4. 2. Reduplication .....                                | 218 |
| 4. 3. Prefixes .....                                     | 230 |
| 4. 4. Suffixes .....                                     | 239 |
| 4. 5. Infixes .....                                      | 276 |
| <br>Chapter 5 SYNTACTICAL TYPES .....                    | 277 |
| 5. 1. Expressions and Constructions .....                | 277 |
| 5. 2. Coordination .....                                 | 281 |
| 5. 3. Subordination .....                                | 292 |
| 5. 4. Verb-Object (V-O) Constructions .....              | 319 |



|                                                     |     |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-----|
| 5. 5. Verbal Expressions in Series .....            | 342 |
| 5. 6. Verb-Complement Constructions .....           | 366 |
| Chapter 6 COMPOUNDS .....                           | 375 |
| 6. 1. Nature and Classification of Compounds .....  | 375 |
| 6. 2. Subject-Predicate (S-P) Compounds .....       | 384 |
| 6. 3. Coordinate Compounds .....                    | 388 |
| 6. 4. Subordinative Compounds .....                 | 397 |
| 6. 5. Verb-Object (V-O) Compounds .....             | 430 |
| 6. 6. Verb-Complement (V-R) Compounds .....         | 449 |
| 6. 7. Complex Compounds .....                       | 494 |
| Chapter 7 PARTS OF SPEECH SUBSTANTIVES .....        | 509 |
| 7. 1. General Observations on Parts of Speech ..... | 509 |
| 7. 2. Nouns .....                                   | 518 |
| 7. 3. Proper Names .....                            | 526 |
| 7. 4. Place Words .....                             | 532 |
| 7. 5. Time Words .....                              | 545 |
| 7. 6. D-M Compounds .....                           | 563 |
| 7. 7. N-L Compounds .....                           | 574 |
| 7. 8. Determinatives .....                          | 575 |
| 7. 9. Measures .....                                | 595 |
| 7. 10. Localizers .....                             | 631 |
| 7. 11. Pronouns .....                               | 638 |
| 7. 12. Other Substitutes .....                      | 668 |
| Chapter 8 VERBS AND OTHER PARTS OF SPEECH .....     | 673 |
| 8. 1. Verbs (Including Adjectives) .....            | 673 |
| 8. 2. Prepositions (K) .....                        | 755 |
| 8. 3. Adverbs (H) .....                             | 772 |



|                                  |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| 8. 4. Conjunctions .....         | 793 |
| 8. 5. Particles .....            | 798 |
| 8. 6. Interjections .....        | 817 |
| SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY .....      | 822 |
| INDEX .....                      | 829 |
| SYNOPSIS OF TONAL SPELLING ..... | 856 |



## LIST OF TABLES

|                                                                                                    |         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Table 1. Initials .....                                                                            | 50      |
| Table 2. Finals .....                                                                              | 52      |
| Table 3. Finals in All Tones .....                                                                 | 58      |
| Table 4. Syllabic Types .....                                                                      | 59      |
| Table 5. Retroflex Finals .....                                                                    | 72—73   |
| Table 6. Morphemes .....                                                                           | 212     |
| Table 7. Morpheme Complexes .....                                                                  | 213     |
| Table 8. Correlation Between Compounding and Lexicality .....                                      | 380     |
| Table 9. German Separable Prefixes and Chinese Directional<br>Complements, Types 1, 2, and 3 ..... | 472     |
| Table 10. Parts of Speech .....                                                                    | 517     |
| Table 11. Monosyllabic Determinatives After Prepositions .....                                     | 539     |
| Table 12. Dissyllabic Position Words .....                                                         | 541     |
| Table 13. Relative Time Words .....                                                                | 558     |
| Table 14. <i>Shanq-</i> and <i>Shiah-</i> as Applied to <i>Shyuechi</i> .....                      | 559     |
| Table 15. Complex D-M Compounds .....                                                              | 568—569 |
| Table 16. Quantitative Determinatives and Measures .....                                           | 596—597 |
| Table 17. Types of Measures .....                                                                  | 631     |
| Table 18. Classification of Verbs .....                                                            | 675     |
| Table 19. Schematic Table of Prepositions .....                                                    | 773     |
| Table 20. Skewed Functions of <i>hao</i> and <i>nan</i> .....                                      | 783     |
| Table 21. Demonstrative and Interrogative Adverbs .....                                            | 793     |



我长么  
一 不活神就说出些  
中国话的文坛  
的  
绝好的例子

所以我  
致林这部书

给我长么







# CONTENTS

|                                                                                    |     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| LIST OF TABLES .....                                                               | 7   |
| PREFACE .....                                                                      | 9   |
| USAGES OF THIS BOOK .....                                                          | 13  |
| 1. Characters Used .....                                                           | 13  |
| 2. Glossing .....                                                                  | 15  |
| 3. List of Symbols .....                                                           | 17  |
| 4. Abbreviated Characters .....                                                    | 21  |
| 5. Abbreviated References to Frequently Cited Works .....                          | 24  |
| 6. Abbreviations for Frequently Occurring<br>Morphemes and Grammatical Terms ..... | 27  |
| Chapter 1 INTRODUCTION .....                                                       | 29  |
| 1.1. Grammar .....                                                                 | 29  |
| 1.2. Spoken Chinese .....                                                          | 40  |
| 1.3. Phonology .....                                                               | 47  |
| Chapter 2 THE SENTENCE .....                                                       | 80  |
| 2.1. General Observations .....                                                    | 80  |
| 2.2. Minor Sentences .....                                                         | 83  |
| 2.3. Structure of the Full Sentence .....                                          | 90  |
| 2.4. The Grammatical Meaning of Subject and Predicate .....                        | 92  |
| 2.5. The Logical Predicate .....                                                   | 101 |
| 2.6. Subject and Predicate as Question and Answer .....                            | 104 |
| 2.7. The Full Sentence as Made Up of Minor Sentences .....                         | 105 |
| 2.8. Types of Subjects .....                                                       | 106 |