英语常用词的特殊用法 与汉语常用词的翻译

SPECIAL USAGE OF COMMONLY-USED ENGLISH WORDS AND TRANSLATION OF COMMONLY -USED CHINESE WORDS

主编 高桂莲 杨 林



ONLY USED ANSLATION SED SPECIAL USAGE OF COMMONLY-USED ENGLISH WORDS AND TRANSLATION OF COMMONLY -USED CHINESE WORDS

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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

英语常用词的特殊用法与汉语常用词的翻译 / 高桂莲,

杨林主编. 一银川:宁夏人民出版社,2007.4

(北方民族大学学术文库)

ISBN 978-7-227-03472-8

Ⅰ. 英… Ⅱ. ①高…②杨… Ⅲ. ①英语—词汇②英语—

翻译 IV. H313 H315.9

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2007)第 052428 号

英语常用词的特殊用法与汉语常用词的翻译

主编 高桂莲 杨 林

选题统筹 杨立国 责任编辑 张 好 封面设计 赵 倩 版式设计 翼 飞 责任印制 来学军

宁夏人民出版社 出版发行

出版人 高伟

地 址 银川市北京东路 139 号出版大厦 (750001)

网 址 www.nxcbn.com

电子信箱 nxcbmail@126.com

邮购电话 0951-5044614

经 销 全国新华书店

印刷装订 宁夏精捷彩色印务有限公司

开 本 880mm×1230mm 1/32

印 张 7.5

字 数 212 千

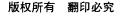
印 数 3000 册

版 次 2007年2月第1版

印 次 2007年2月第1次印刷

书 号 ISBN 978-7-227-03472-8/H•35

定 价 26.00 元





∥前 言∥

正确理解原文是翻译的基础,没有正确的理解就谈不上正确的翻译。就语言本身而论,影响对原文正确理解的主要因素是某些结构特殊的语法现象和某些特殊的惯用法,此处笔者称其为特殊结构。特殊结构往往不能按字面意义或按一般的语法规则去理解和翻译,否则容易译错。有时按字面意义处翻译,会把原意译反。为了帮助大学生、英语爱好者或自学者正确理解和翻译这些特殊结构的句子,笔者收集了常见的特殊结构,如anything, something 等不定代词的特殊结构;more than, so much 等副词的特殊结构;as...as, than 等连词的特殊结构;高光结构;所有,这种人类的对象。本书从学生学习的实际情况出发,通过与型举例说明句子的语法结构、惯用法和译法,结合句型学习翻译,易学、易记、易用、易译。

在编写本书的过程中,编者参考了国内外一些知名学者新近出版的著作、权威辞典和大量的书籍资料,并吸收了一些著名语言学者对现代英语常用

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词特殊用法的研究成果,力争使所选择提取的语料真实、确凿,从而使英语学习者在学习英语常用词特殊结构的同时,也学到地道纯正的语言;同时,本书还搜集整理了大量汉英翻译实践中经常碰到的一些汉语常用词组和结构,语料翔实,覆盖面广,具有很强的实用性,可以为英语学习者在日常翻译活动中提供帮助。

本研究成果将有利于开展高等院校英语专业课程中翻译、写作、泛读以及大学英语等课程的教学,它的问世将会进一步提高学生的英语水平。

本书在出版的过程中,得到了北方民族大学领导的大力支持,在此表示衷心的感谢。

由于水平有限,不妥和疏漏之处,敬请读者、 专家不吝指正。

编 者 2006年12月

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第一部分 英语常用词的特殊用法

一、"anything"结构

不定代词 anything 常常用在疑问句、条件句或否定句中, 表示"什么事(物)""任何事(物)"。但在实际应用中远远 超出这个意义。

1. anything but

anything but = not at all, by no means, far from, 译为"一点也不""根本不""除了……以外任何事(物)"。例如:

That old bridge is anything but safe.

那座古老的桥一点儿也不安全。

He's anything but diligent. 他一点儿也不勤奋。

That kind of person is anything but a Marxist.

那种人根本就不是马克思主义者。

That's anything but true. 那绝不是真的。

He was anything but a hero. 他绝不是一个英雄。

I will give anything but this bike.

除了这辆自行车,我什么东西都可以给你。

I don't mean he is lazy——anything but! 我并不是说他懒惰——绝非如此!

洼 意

- anything but = by no means, 译为 "根本不"。例如:
 His English is anything but correct. 他的英语根本不正确。
- all but = almost, very nearly, 译为"差不多" "几乎"。 例如:

His English is all but correct. 他的英语差不多是正确的。

■ nothing but = only, 译为 "只不过……"。例如: It is nothing but a joke. 这不过是个笑话而已。 It is nothing but a swindle. 那无非是个骗局。

2. anything else

anything else = any other thing,译为"别的东西"。例如: Do you want anything else? 你还要别的什么吗?

He reminded his wife and companion as before in addition to being the mother of his child, and he found that this was worth more than anything else.

他和以前一样,提醒他的妻子——伴侣当好孩子的母亲, 他认为做母亲比别的什么都值得。

洼 意

■ else 常与不定代词连用。例如:
someone else / somebody else = some other person, 译为
"别的什么人"。

anyone else / anybody else = any other person, 译为"任何别的人"。

no one else / nobody else = no other person, 译为"没有他人"。 everyone else / everybody else = every other person, 译为"其他所有的人"。

something else = some other thing, 译为"别的什么东西"。

— I'm afraid I can't help you. You'll have to ask someone else.

恐怕我帮不了你的忙, 你得另找别人。

- There isn't anyone else. / There's no one else to ask. 没有别的什么人。 (没有别人可找了。)
- else 常与副词连用。例如:

somewhere else = in / at / to some other place, 译为"在/到另外一个地方"。

anywhere else = in / at / to any other place, 译为"在/到别的什么地方"。

nowhere else = in / at / to no other place, 译为"没在 / 没到别的地方"。

Are you going anywhere else?

你还要到别的地方去吗?

- else 可以有所有格形式。例如:

I took someone else's coat. 我拿了别人的上衣。

Was anyone else's luggage opened?

还有别的什么人的行李被打开了?

No one else's luggage was opened.

没有别的人的行李被打开。

3. anything like

anything like = at all like, at all, 译为"像……那样的事(物)……" "全然不"。例如:

Is there box anything like what you need?

这个盒子是你需要的那一种吗?

It's not anything like as hot today as it was yesterday.

今天完全不像昨天那么热。

洼 意

■ anything like = at all like, 常用于否定句, 译为"像 …… 那样的 (东西) ……" "根本 (不)" "无论如何 (不)"。例如:

I cannot give anything like a fair description of the exciting scene. 我真无法描绘那激动人心的场面。

The sum is not anything like adequate. 这笔钱无论如何不够。

■ something like = rather like, 常用于肯定句, 译为"有点像"。例如:

The building looks something like a church.

这个建筑物看起来有点像教堂。

He's something like his brother. 他有点像他哥哥。

The airship was shaped something like a cigar.

这艘飞船外形设计有点像雪茄烟。

4. anything of

anything of = a little, just like, not at all, 可根据情况进行翻译。如用于疑问句或条件句时,译为"有点儿像""算得是";如用于否定句时,译为"一点儿不""根本不"。例如:

Is he anything of an artist? 他有艺术家的风度吗?

He will keep his promise if he is anything of an honest man. 他如果还算得上是个老实人,就一定会实现自己的诺言。 I have not seen anything of him just lately. 近来我连他的影子都没见过。

洼 意

- anything of = just like, 译为 "有点儿像"。例如:
 Is he anything of a sportsman? 他有点运动员的风度吗?
- something of = to some extent, 译为 "在某种程度上"。 例如:

He is something of an athlete. 他有几分运动员的才能。 He's something of a carpenter. 他会一点木工。

The soldier found himself something of a hero when he returned to his village. 这个战士回到村子里,发现自己在村民的心目中有点像英雄。

5. anything up to

anything up to = over than, more than, 在衡量时间、数量、重量时, 常译为"大约高到/达……""多到/达……"。例如:

Estimates varied but there must have been anything up to five thousand people at the rally. 对参加这次集会的人数人们估计不一,但总有 5000 人之多。

It will take us anything up to four months to complete the job. 完成这项工作大概要花费我们四个月的时间。

6. as...as anything

as...as anything = quite easy, 译为"非常容易"。该结构

常用于口语; 而 as anything = like something, 译为"像什么似的""不得了"。例如:

He saw as plainly as anything that Butler was a victim of his feeling for Aileen.

他看得清清楚楚, 巴特勒成了艾琳的感情牺牲品了。

Don't worry about it. It isn't final. We'll get a reversal as sure as anything.

别着急,这不是最后的判决,我们一定可以把它推翻。 It's as dark as anything outside. 外面一片漆黑。 He's arrogant as / like anything. 他傲慢得不得了。

7. for anything

for anything = however, 常置于句末, 在句中起加强语气的作用, 译为"绝不"。例如:

I will not give up halfway for anything. 我绝不半途而废。 I would not do it for anything. 这样的事我绝不干。

8. for anything I know

for anything I know = as far as I know,该结构置于句首时,译为"据我所知";如置于句末,可译为"说不定"。例如:

For anything I know, he is a noted scientist. 据我所知,他是一位有名望的科学家。
He is a good man for anything I know.
他说不定是一位好人。

9. if anything

if anything = if there is a difference, 译为"如果说

……, 只不过……罢了""如果稍有区别的话"。该结构 在句子中作插入语,其后常常接比较级状语从句。例如:

He is, if anything, a little taller than I.

如果说我比他高,只不过稍高一点罢了。

His spoken English is as good as mine. If anything, his pronunciation is better.

他的英语讲得和我一样好,要是有什么区别的话, 那就 是他的发音比我好一些。

10. like anything

like anything = something like, to an extreme degree, very hard, 译为"像什么似的""全力地""狠命的"。例如:

The enemy soldiers were scared like anything.

敌人的士兵吓得像什么似的。

Though he ran like anything, he couldn't catch his train.

尽管他狠命地跑,还是没赶上火车。

The thief ran like anything when he saw the policeman.

这个小偷看见警察就拼命地跑。

They work like anything. 他们努力工作。

11. not care anything for

not care anything for = care nothing for, 译为 "不在乎"; 而 not think anything of = think nothing of, 译为 "不以为然"。例如:

He doesn't care anything for walking twenty miles a day.

每天步行二十英里, 他满不在乎。

He doesn't think anything of walking twenty miles a day. 每天步行二十英里,他不以为然。

12. not feel like anything

not feel like anything = not feel very well, 常用于口语,译为"觉得身体不舒服"。例如:

I don't feel like anything today. 今天我觉得身体不舒服。

13. not have anything to do with

not have anything to do with = have nothing to do with, 译为"与……无关系"; have / has something to do with, 译为"与……有关系"。例如:

It has not anything to do with me. 这件事与我毫无关系。

Calculus has / is something to do with mathematics, hasn't / isn't it'? 微积分与数学有关系,是吗?

14. not know anything about sb. / sth.

not know anything about sb. / sth. = know nothing about sb. / sth. 译为"对某人 / 某事毫不知晓"。例如:

She doesn't know anything about current affairs.

她对时事一无所知。

I don't know anything about him. 我对他一无所知。

15. not / never come to anything

not / never come to anything = come to nothing, 译为"毫无结果""彻底失败"。例如:

All my efforts have not come to anything.

= All my efforts have come to nothing.

我的一切努力毫无结果。

The enemy's schemes will never come to anything. 敌人的种种阴谋必将彻底失败。

16. or anything

or anything = like some other thing, 译为"或有别的什么事"; or something = like something 译为"或是什么的"。例如: If you want to call me or anything, I'll be here all day. 你如果想给我打电话或有别的什么事,我整天都在这里。 He said he was going shopping or something. 他说他要去购物或是什么的。

二、 "as...as" 结构

英语中的"as...as"结构是大家十分熟悉的一种形式,也是最常见的一种用法。由于 as...as"结构与其他词语连用时可构成不同的结构,故而用法相当复杂。现将容易译错或比较难译的"as...as"结构归纳如下,以便大家能够正确使用和理解这一结构。

1. as + 形容词 / 副词 + as

as + 形容词 / 副词 + as 是英语中最常用的一种结构,引导比较状语从句。译为"与 …… 相同""像 …… 一样的"。例如:

China is as large as the whole of Europe.

中国和欧洲一样大。

He is as tall as his brother. 他和他兄弟一样高。

You can stay here as long as you want.

你想在这儿待多久就待多久。

The work is not as easy as you imagine.

这工作并不像你想象的那么简单。

Mary speaks French as fluently as Henry.