

# 英漢商用書信

櫻庭一郎等編著 莊以淳譯

中流出版社有限公司出版

#### 內容簡介

在本書中,將英文信分作「開頭」、「本文」、以及「結尾」 等三個主要部分,按32項具有代表性的情况,再分三章羅列其範例進 行解釋。讀者可從每一部分分别選擇其中一則適當的範例組合起 來,即可構成一封完整的英文信。第四章關於 Telex 的基本知識是 介紹直通電報的寫作要訣。

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# 譯者的話

「萬事起頭難」,大凡作文,最傷腦筋的,每每是頭一句或頭 一段,這是人所周知的共同經驗。

作詩、作文,有「起、承、轉、結」這一基本原則,自然也可以應用之於寫信。由於中文信與英文信彼此都有不少共通的地方, 只要在文法和習語上已有一定的水平,學習寫英文信,其實並非一 件難事。

英文信,尤其是商業上的信件,是最重「效率」的一種文體。 它既有一定的習語(慣用句),也有一定的格式和次序。所謂「次 序」者,就是「起、承、轉、結」了。

本書第一章所收錄的是「開頭部分」,即信件中的「頭一段」, 亦即相當於「起」的部分。

第二章則是信件中的「主文」,即相當於「承」與「轉」的核 心部分。

第三章則分別列舉信尾最後一段的範例,表示如何結束一封信的最後一段,這就是「結」。雖然並不一定是「結論」,往往是一些形式上的客套話,但作爲一封信的「結尾」,也是既不可或缺,亦不容忽視的一個部分。

茲就譯文方面略予解釋如下:

1. 如果把和英文範例對照的中文全部譯成「白話」體,乍看之下,就簡直有如中學生寫信學做生意一般,十分不倫不類。因此,唯 有依照一般商家的習慣,基本上採用了「半文言」的「尺牘」體。 與此同時,更盡量採用商業上的「行話」,以資能與商業英語的 特殊語氣互相配合。這樣做,相信更符合實際情况。

- 2. 唯有「慶賀類」、「弔唁類」等,大多盡量採用「文言」,俾能 表達「鄭重」的意思。這也是符合我們現行習慣的。
- 3. 中文部分,不一定與英文部分完全對照。由於中、英文的結構與 表現方式時或有大不相同的場合,詞語的次序、先後並不經常一 致,故爾大部分只能「意譯」。在不損及中文結構、或不影響及 中文大意的範圍內,一部分也採用了近乎「直譯」的方式,以便 初學者更易於互相對照了解。
- 4.對較爲常用或罕用而又值得記下來應用的習語、短句、表現方式等,均盡量加上\*號予以注解。必要時,另在〔備考〕中詳加解釋。
- 5. 特别是商業通信文中常用的一些短句,例如:
  - (1) This is to inform you that .....; Please be kindly advised that.....; We are (或I am) pleased to inform you that...... [相當於中文的「逕啓者」或「啓者」]
  - (2)(I)We regret that ····; (I)We regret to hear (that) ···; (I)We regret to say that ···; It is (much)regret-table that ··· [相當於中文的「我(們)覺得遺憾(抱歉)的是…」或「我(們)因···而感到遺憾(抱歉)」]
  - (3) I (We ) appreciate…; I (We ) will (would, shall) appreciate…; Your…would be (highly) appreciated. etc. [相當於中文的「……爲感;……至以爲感;……爲荷;……是荷。」]

等等,均未以同一的譯詞予以統一。本來,諸如此類的句子, 是完全可以「規格化」的,但這未免使中文過分流於呆板。同 時,爲了使初學者了解「同一」的意思可以有好幾種「不同」 的譯法或寫法起見,譯者相信,不予以統一,反而更加切合實 際。翻譯和寫作,也是必須通過「實踐」來「領會」的。

6. 英語的「代詞」有變化,漢語則無。從表面上看來,英語似較漢 語複雜。但英語的I,可以是中文的「我」,也可以是「弟」, 甚至「兒」、「女」、「姪」、「甥」、「晚(生)」、「鄙人」…。而you 又相當於「你、您、妳、兄(台)、足下、閣下、台端、先生…」等的單數與「你們、諸位、貴公司、貴行、貴廠、實號…」等的複數。可見漢語的代詞可也不太簡單。在本書中,應該用哪一個中文代詞,一般視乎該範例的內容而定。例如語氣格外鄭重者,則以「閣下」對應you,「鄙人」對應I。其次者,則改用「足下」與「弟」。商業書信We譯做「敝公司、敝行、敝廠、小店」等,而you則譯爲「貴公司、貴行、貴廠、實號」等等,以資讀者對照參考。

最後,譯者於早年雖也曾先後擔任過中、英、日等文的通信業務工作凡十載有奇,對 Commercial Correspondence 尚自信略有心得,惟學海無涯,限於個人水平,譯文是否恰當,猶望海內外廣大讀者隨時指正,俾便重版時參考修訂。

一九八三年九月 譯者識於香江

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## 第一章 商業通信的開頭部分

#### § 1 一般場合

1 我們謝謝你的大力支持。

We thank you for the patronage you extend to us.

- \*patronage 有"庇護;贊助,資助"甚至生意來往上的"光顧,惠顧" 等種種意思。
- 2 我收到八月二日來札,謝謝你懇切的合作。

I am in receipt of your letter of August 2. I thank you for your kind cooperation.

3 此際,我恭賀你新張大吉。

I congratulate you on your opening your own store this time.

4 未審近况何如。我們趁此機會,謝謝你的垂靑光顧。

We wonder how you are getting along. We take this opportunity to thank you for your patronage.

5 我冒昧寫信給你,是希望你能成全我的請求。

I take the liberty to write you a letter in the hope that I may have my request met by you.

- \*take the liberty to~冒眛(做)~。
- \*meet 有"使滿足,使符合"的意思。
- 6 謝謝你日前來港時惠賜的訂單。

Thank you for the order you gave us when you came to Hong Kong the other day.

7 謝謝你(們)垂青光顧。現距歲晚日子無多,我們很了解你 (們)是如何繁忙的。

We thank you for your patronage. There are not many days left before the end of this year. We understand how busy you are.

8 日前承擲下商品目錄乙份,謝謝。

Thank you for the catalog which you sent us the other day.

9 多承 貴公司鼎力協助,我廠製品的銷路已漸有起色。我們藉 此機會,謹向 貴公司之大力推銷表示謝忱。

Thanks to your cooperation, the sales of our products have been on the rise. We take this opportunity to express our gratitude for your sales efforts.

10 頃接 貴號來函催付欵項,我們對因付欵遲誤而致使 貴公司 有所不便,殊覺歉仄。

We are in receipt of your letter urging payment of our account. We regret we have been inconveniencing you through our delay in payment.

11 由於我方取消訂單,致使 貴號大感爲難,我們非常抱歉。

We are sorry that we have caused you great inconvenience through the cancellation of the order.

[備考] 雖然是商業上的來往信件,中文信習慣在開頭部分寫一些"比維、履祉綏羊,財源偕春……"或"敬維、起居納吉,是所欣禱……"之類的寒喧成語。但英文商業信件,則大多以(We) Thank you for your letter dated~或 In reference to~等等諸如此類的句子開頭,直接答覆對方或單刀直入地談生意即可。如果是熟客或已有多次交易的來往戶,在信尾稍稍提及時令之類就可以了。大凡英文商業信件,切忌冗長,必須以簡潔清楚、有條不紊爲宗旨。再者,"敝公司,敝廠,敝號"等一律用 we;"貴公司,貴廠,貴社"等也一律用 you便可。

#### § 2 慶賀類

1 聽說令郎已經成婚,我很高興。耑此向你和令郎衷心表示祝賀。

I am glad to hear that your son has married. I wish to extend my sincere congratulations to both you and your son.

2 謝謝來函通知結婚喜訊,我由衷地恭喜你。

Thank you for your letter informing me of the marriage. I congratulate you from the bottom of my heart.

3 聽說你已經痊愈了,我很高興。

I am glad to hear that you have \*recovered from the illness.

4 奉悉你晋升爲貴社東京分行經理之職,爲慰爲頌。耑此致賀。

I am glad to hear that you have been promoted as manager of Tokyo branch of your company. I extend my best wishes to you.

I am glad to hear that your new factory has been completed in construction, and you have started operations. I congratulate you on the completion.

6 辱承 貴行邀請參加新辦公大樓落成剪綵典禮,耑此致謝。

Thank you for your invitaton to the ribbon-cutting ceremony for your newly built office.

#### § 3 賀年類

1 恭賀新禧。

A Happy New Year.

2 祝你新年愉快。

I extend my best wishes to you on the New Year's Day.

3 我衷心恭祝你新年快樂。

I wish you my hearty wishes for your happiness in the New Year.

4 祝你新年愉快。

I extend my best wishes to you on the New Year.

5 祝你新年快樂。

Let me wish you a Happy New Year.

6 祝你聖誕快樂,新年愉快。

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you!

7 但願今年是你最好、最快樂的一年。

May this year turn out to be the happiest and the best to you.

8 我們現正居喪,故爾不便致質。

We are in mourning. So we refrain from sending any congratulatory message.

#### § 4 慰問類(水、火災等)

1 我因從今朝的電視新聞中獲悉 貴市發生了一場大火災而感到 痛心。可不知道你的情形怎麼樣?

I regret to have learned from television news this morning that a big fire broke out in your city. I wonder how you are.

2 我因從電視新聞中獲悉 貴市發生了一場大火災而感到痛心。 我很想知道你是否安然無恙。

I regret to have learned in the television news that a big fire broke out in your city. I wonder if you are safe.

3 日前當此地發生大火之際,謝謝你親切的慰問。

Thank you for your kind word the other day when a fire broke out here.

4

4 當六月八日我廠發生火災之際,謝謝你(們)的慰問。十分感 激你(們)的關懷。

Thank you for your enquiry after us when a fire broke out at our factory on June 8. I appreciate your thoughtfulness.

5 日前,當我們辦事處附近發生火災之際,謝謝你來信慰問我。

Thank you for your enquiry after me when a fire broke out near our office the other day.

6 我從報上看到有一陣大型颱風襲擊貴地,並引起一場大災難。 我很想知道你的情形如何。

I read in the newspaper that a big typhoon attacked your district, causing a great disaster. I wonder how you are doing.

7 我從電視新聞獲悉 貴州遭受了一場洪水氾濫。我很想知道你 是否安然無恙。

I learned from television news that your state suffered a big flood. I wonder if you are all right.

8 我因獲悉你一直得病臥床而感到痛心。

I regret to learn that you have been ill in bed.

9 我因獲悉你自本月中旬起患病住院而感到遺憾。倘使我早些知道此事,早就該向你慰問的。

I regret to learn that you have been ill in hospital since the middle of this month. If I had known this earlier, I should have inquired after you much earlier.

10 我們因聽說你生病而感到震驚,並且非常掛念你現在情况如何。

We are much surprised to hear of your illness, and are very anxious to know how you are at present.

11 我很高興能夠告訴你,我現已快將痊愈,相信不久就會完全好 渦來的。 I am happy to say that I am on a fair way of recovery and hope I shall be all right before long.

#### § 5 弔唁類

1 聞悉聲夫昨日仙浙,哀悼萬分。

I was saddened to hear that your husband passed away yesterday.

2 奉聞尊夫人逝世,不勝惋悼。請接受我由衷的弔慰。

I am grieved to hear that your wife has passed away. Please accept my sincere sympathy.

3 聞悉令尊大人經久病之後鶴駕西歸,曷勝悲悼。請接受我對你 衷心的同情。

I was saddened to hear that your father passed away after a long illness. Please accept my sincere sympathy with you.

4 聽聞 貴公司經理威廉·安德森於六月十日因交通意外去世, 不勝哀悼。耑此敬向 貴公司總經理暨全體職員表示弔慰。

I regret to hear that Mr. William Anderson, manager of your company, was killed in a traffic accident on June 10. I \*sympathize with the president and all other staff members of your company.

- \*sympathize with ~ 同情~,對~表示同情。
- 5 貴公司總經理約翰·史密斯因意外去世,噩耗傳來,深感哀悼。 我們(敝公司)謹向 貴公司暨全體職員表示甚深的弔慰。

We feel so sorry at the news that Mr. John Smith, President of your firm, has died from an accident. We would like to express our deep sympathy with you and your staff.

#### § 6 酬謝類

1 日前,謝謝你來機場相送。我在十月廿日下午五點即安抵北京機場。

Thank you for seeing me off at the airport the other day. I arrived at Beijing Airport at 5:00 \*P.M. on October 20.

- \*P.M. 下午〔拉丁文 post meridiem 之略〕。 A.M. 上午〔拉丁文 ante meridiem 之略〕。
- 2 日前,當我離開紐約之際,難得你前來肯廼廸機場相送,至深 感激。我已於昨晚安抵香港。

It was very kind of you to see met off at Kennedy Airport the other day when I left New York. I arrived in Hong Kong yesterday evening.

3 日前,承你特地爲我設宴歡送,萬分感謝。(我能有此宴會, 不勝榮幸。)那天我過得非常愉快。

Thank you for the farewell party held for me the other day. (It was a great honor for me to have such a party held.) I enjoyed it very much.

4 我在 貴國逗留期間,承你盛情欵待,非常感謝。帶着此行愉快的回憶,我現已安然返抵中國了。

Thank you very much for all you did for me during my stay in your country. I have returned to China safely with happy memories of my trip.

5 我們很高興接到 貴社友好的賀信。我們同人鬧此向 貴社表 示謝忱。

We have pleasure in receiving your nice letter of congratulations. We partners here extend to you our thanks.

## 第二章 商業通信的主文

#### § 1 請託類

1 當 貴公司有意在此地購買中國商品之際,歡迎 貴公司和我們接洽。深信我們的每一樣貨品都會獲致 貴公司的滿意。

Your contact with us would be appreciated when you purchase Chinese goods here. We are sure every item of ours will \*meet your satisfaction.

- \*meet one's satisfaction 使某人满意。
- 2 請將花邊窗簾布連同商品目錄與價目表一併擲下爲荷。如蒙迅 即關注及此,則不勝感激。

Please send us samples of lace curtain cloth with catalogs and \*price lists. We appreciate your prompt attention to this matter.

- \*price list 價目表,定價表。
- 3 請按下開價格購買下列貨品交由貨船運來為荷,一切費用及風 險當由敝公司負其全責。

We ask you to purchase the following goods at the price quoted below and ship them to us on our account and risk.

4 我們業已及時收到 貴公司三月三日發出的估價單。 貴公司 迅即關注,非常感激。茲隨函附上敝公司定單乙紙,祈請查收。

We are duly in receipt of your \*proforma invoice dated March 3. Your prompt attention is highly appreciated. Enclosed please find our order for purchase.

- \*pro-forma invoice 估價單。
- 5 請確認我們發給 貴公司的電報:請購買 300 噸生鐵並交由最早開出的一艘貨輪裝載。請盡可能以最低價格買入為感。

Please confirm the cable we despatched asking you to purchase 300 tons of pig iron and effect shipment by the first available vessel. We appreciate your making the purchase at the lowest possible price.

- \*effect shipment 是商業用語,即"裝運"、"付運"。這 effect 是動詞,有"實現~"、"使~生效"等義。

We have recently introduced our new model Swan Brand Electric Home Sewing Machine, which is \*enjoying a good reputation and sale. We have heard of your name as a dealer in sewing machines, so we are writing you in the hope that you may handle our machine. Enclosed please find the details of the \*general terms and conditions of business, and price list. We are looking forward to hearing from you.

- \*enjoy a good reputation 享有盛譽。
- \*general terms and conditions of business 一般買賣條款,普通交易 條件。
- 7 敝公司自××銀行東京分行經理約翰·錢德勒先生處獲悉 貴公司現正物色一可靠之代理商在此地收購手提品體管收音機。敝公司能以最佳服務爲 貴公司之收購代理。

We have heard from Mr. John Chandler, manager of the Tokyo Branch of x x x x Bank that you are looking for a reliable local \*agent here to purchase portable transistor radios. We can offer our best services as your purchasing agent.

\*agent 代理商(店、人)。

8 敝公司擬擴展業務至美國市場。希望 貴公司將對中國陽傘、扇子、以及其他竹製品有興趣之紐約當地可靠的貿易商行列成一表 (擲下)為盼。尚祈鼎力合作為感。

We are planning to \*expand our business to the U.S. market. We wish you would make a list of reliable trading firms in New York who are interested in Chinese parasols, fans, and other bamboowares. Your cooperation will be appreciated.

- \*expand business to~market 擴展業務(生意)至~市場。
- 9 請按照敝公司本日另郵寄上之樣品代購 500 件為盼。一俟接獲來電,當即滙上馱項。

We ask you to purchase 500 pieces \*as per sample we sent you today under separate cover. Upon receipt of your cable, we will remit to you.

\*as per~ 按照~。

10 為希與 貴公司開始業務來往,特草此函聯繫。敝公司係一鏈 鎖式聯號,屬下有卅家零售店遍佈全國。敝公司專營各式男女裝衣服、內衣及其他有關商品。對 貴公司製品感到興趣,惟未審是否 可由敝公司經手銷售。隨函附上介紹敝公司聯號業務的小册子,及 一般買賣條款之細則以供參考。

We are writing to you in the hope that we may \*open an account with you. We are a chain store, operating 30 stores across the country. We handle men's and women's apparaels, underwears and other related goods. We are interested in your products and wonder if we can handle them in our chain outlet. We are enclosing a leaflet introducing our chain business, and the details of the general terms and conditions of business for your information.

- ☀open an account with 和~開始生意來往;在~(銀行)開(來往) 帳戶。
- 11 敝廠之新A型中耕機自首次面世以來一直幸獲好評。敝廠現擬在貴地市場推銷,惟未審 貴公司對代理事宜有無興趣。關於一般交易條件之詳情,請參閱附件之小册子。耑此佇候佳音。