金版大学英语

体裁写作教程

范文·赏析·翻译·训练

人间传说・神话故事・童年时光・生活真趣・真情流露

叙述文

毛荣贵 张萍 张韧弦 编著

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前 言

参加大学英语四六级英语考试阅卷,笔者曾仰面慨叹:写作,你的名字是弱者!

参加全国高校英语专业八级考试阅卷 笔者曾俯首低吟: 佳作, 于呼万唤始出来!

笔者曾执教英语写作多年,对习作,精批细改,点评滴析;编教材,博采众长,独立研编。1998年曾出版拙作《英语写作纵横谈》 (上海外语教育出版社)。

应美国驻华大使 James R. Sasser 之邀,笔者曾有幸遍访美国 20 多所大学,与美国同行们一起探讨英语写作的教学。访美归来,笔者和美国费城的 Dorine Huston 教授在中美之间用 email 搭桥,合编了一部《中国大学生英语作文评改》(上海交通大学出版社 1997年出版)。

读者来信,称《英语写作纵横谈》与《中国大学生英语作文评改》是"姊妹篇",一张一驰,一破一立。正面的理论指导和反面的借鉴提醒导到了最佳结合点。

然而,我内心却深藏遗憾。

文章,有体裁之别,一如春夏秋冬之分明。说明文(exposition)、描写文(description)、叙述文(narration)和议论文(argumentation)等等,各有各的风景,各有各的魅力,各有各的写法。

融各类体裁的写法于一书,如同集"春夏秋冬"之美景于同一长卷!也许,这个思路本身就有缺陷,也并非上策。

2001年2月1日, 韧弦和我应吉林大学出版社之邀, 远飞长春, 实现了和吉林大学出版社的第一次握手。

2月3日,出版社的杨枫同志陪同我们去参观长春的旅游景点

之一: 伪皇宫。窗外, 坚冰封路, 车内, 笑语正酣。

此刻,杨枫同志跟我们谈起了他思考已久的一个选题:分体裁编写英语写作教程。

他的这个提议,不正和我几年来的内心遗憾遥相呼应吗?

次日,甲方和乙方再度牵手。《金版大学英语体裁写作教程》(丛书)如良种播入沃野,如轻舟驶出长江夔门……

多位同仁,焚膏继晷;一帮"江南才子",精诚合作,甚至 Bill Hofmann, Rosemary Adang 和 Dorine Huston 等美国教授也热忱加盟我们的编写:提供范文,解疑答难。

《金版大学英语体裁写作教程》丛书,按照不同的文体共分四册:说明文(exposition)、描写文(description)、叙述文(narration)和议论文(argumentation)。每册精选 25 篇经典美文,它们表达地道、文体鲜明,是理想的写作范文。每册的 25 篇范文又按不同的内容分为五个单元。

本册是叙述文分册。叙述文主要是用来叙述单个或多个事件的 发生、发展和结果的文章。对这种文体我们也比较熟悉,例如各种 故事、传记都是叙述文的代表。叙述事件的要素有人物、时间、地 点、环境。叙述的顺序有正叙、倒叙、插叙等。情节的展开一般包 括开端、发展、高潮、结果等阶段。叙述文写作的基本要求是叙述 生动、结构合理。

在编排上,每个单元前配有内容简介和每篇文章的中文导读, 寥寥数语,提纲挈领。希望能借此帮助读者在阅读之前对范文内容 有一个大致的了解。

每篇范文都采取方便阅读的左右分栏形式。左栏是正文,右栏是眉批。眉批主要是对生词难词的注释。注释分两种形式:对于一般的词汇尽量采用浅易的英语注释,对于专业性较强的词或专有名词则采用汉语释义,以逐步培养学生的语感。除此以外,眉批还有对文章遣词造句的精彩点评,有助于学生触类旁通,激发阅读兴趣。

每篇范文配有"精彩表达"、"文体特色"、"参考译文"和"写

2 金版大学英语体裁写作教程

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作训练"四个栏目:

精彩表达: 萃选范文精彩句子或段落, 作画龙点睛式的分析, 作激情洋溢的演绎。使学生学会欣赏、领略陶醉, 同时, 又能切实掌握实用的文章技法。

文体特色:针对叙述文的特点,以范文为例详加解释,使学生在读完 25 篇范文后,对该文体的写作特点做到了然于心。

参考译文:供学生对照阅读,加深对范文的理解,同时,还可兼学翻译技巧。

写作训练:以理解为中心,以写作为目的,三种练习形式新颖、 高效、实用:

完形填空 要求选取文中出现的词语填入短文中的缺项,使学生掌握重要单词的用法。另外,完形填空部分的短文也是一篇全文的概要(summary),读者可进行有针对性的学习。

回答问题 针对文中若干遣词造句上的特点提出启发性的问题,使读者在思考后悟出英语写作的某些文字技巧。

模仿造句 掌握一定数量的有用句式对英语写作也有很大的帮助。这部分就通过文中例句的示范,要求读者反复练习,加深印象。

除了主观性较强的回答问题外,完形填空和模仿造句都配有练习答案。但答案很可能不是唯一的,仅供参考,以期举一反三。

张韧弦同志曾求学于上海交通大学外国语学院英语系。毕业后,以优良成绩考入复旦大学外文系,攻读硕士学位。在他紧张学习之余,与我有频繁合作。本套丛书的基本框架和大多数内容就是韧弦搭就的。他的出色工作让我坚信:江山代有人才出!

中南大学外国语学院的范武邱副教授学术任务繁重,也为本书提供了许多精彩范文,山东建筑工程学院外语系的张萍老师应邀主持了丛书的部分范文翻译工作,即将来上海交通大学外国语学院英语系攻读硕士学位的王勇同志也应邀参加丛书的部分范文翻译工作。其余参加本套丛书编写工作的还有:姚艳菊,韩芳,冯春环,刘广霞,于红英等同志。

吉林大学出版社的领导对本套丛书给予了高度的关心和支持, 杨枫编辑在成书过程中不断给予我们鼓励,并对丛书的编写工作提 出了不少有益的建议。

除了对上述同志表示诚挚的谢意之外,本丛书的两位主要编者 毛荣贵和张韧弦还要对他们的师友、家人和同事表示真挚的感谢, 感谢他们在物质上和精神上的理解、支持、协助和耐心。

本书的编者殷切地期待着读者朋友的批评指正!

毛荣贵 2001 年 7 月于上海交通大学东川花苑

Contents

| <u>民间传说</u> 1 | The Fisherman's Widow | <i>3</i> |
|------------------|--|----------|
| | The Story of the Greek King and the Physician Douban | 14 |
| | The Moon and the Great Snake | 23 |
| | The Story of the Young King of the Black Isles | 32 |
| | The Poets and the Housewife | 44 |

| 神话故事 | The Story of Moses | <i>57</i> |
|------|-------------------------|------------|
| | Ullikana | 66 |
| | Apollo and Daphne | 7 6 |
| 55 | Athena — The Goddess of | |
| 33 | Wisdom | <i>86</i> |
| | The Sphinx | 98 |

| | Why He Was Whipped | 109 |
|------|------------------------|-----|
| 童年时光 | The Soldier's Reprieve | 126 |
| 467 | Babouscka | 143 |
| 107 | The Fun They Had | 158 |
| | A Night of Violence | 170 |

<u>生活真趣</u> 177

| Kitchen Scene | 179 |
|----------------------------|-----|
| "Now it's Your Turn to Try | |
| and Catch Me!" | 185 |
| A Dance Concert | 192 |
| Modern Courtesy | 199 |
| The Baggy Yellow Shirt | 209 |

<u>真情流露</u> 221

| My Father's Shadow | 223 |
|-----------------------|-----|
| A Tale for a Frosty | |
| Morning | 234 |
| The Promise That Grew | 248 |
| The Perfect Picture | 255 |
| A Wing and A Prayer | 264 |

民间传说

在中国民间, 牛郎织女的故事几乎家喻户晓。而在外国, 民间也流传着许多类似的美丽传说, 如一颗颗璀璨的珍珠, 镶嵌在各国的文坛桂冠上。以下收录的五则民间传说来自世界各地, 阅读它们的同时你会感到浓浓的异国情调。

The Fisherman's Widow 因意外搭救海 马,神奇的海马答应满足她三个愿望。善良 的寡妇用前两个愿望改变了村子和村里人, 却为自己选择了死亡。故事当然不会以悲剧 收场,因为在"海底龙宫",她有了一番新的 奇遇。

The Story of the Greek King and the Physician Douban 讲述的是一个治病的故事。国王得了麻风病,群医束手无策。神医Douban 却称他不用内服外敷就能使国王痊愈,疗效之神奇恐怕会令用 X 光武装起来的

现代医生汗颜。

接下来,一位叫 War Eagle 的印第安老人将抽着烟斗,给你讲一个 The Moon and the Great Snake 的故事。原来 Sun 和 Moon 是夫妻,但巨蛇却充当了第三者, Moon 有没有被蛇拐走,Sun 发现后如何处置 Snake? 还是请你自己看吧。

在 The Story of the Young King of the Black Isles 中,由于一场错误的婚姻和一次意外,会施魔法的王后把国王变成了石头,又把他的臣民变成了鱼。远道而来的苏丹听完这段辛酸的故事后,决定拔剑相助。且看智勇双全的苏丹如何战胜阴险的女巫。

而 The Poets and the Housewife 之间 又会发生什么故事呢?两位诗人因灵感枯竭 而外出寻找素材,适逢暴雨,两人却宁愿在 外淋雨而不肯进屋躲避。农妇永远不会明白 诗人的目的,那么你我都明白了吗?这则故 事究竟要告诉我们什么?这恐怕也是个见仁 见智的问题。

The Fisherman's Widow

Long ago, an old fisherman's widow 寡妇 lived by the sea. She had no children to help her, and the villagers, embittered by perpetual poverty, spared her little if any food.

suffered from 长年的

One day she fished on the beach, not far from a few young maidens. Noticing some commotion among them, the old woman saw that a wounded hippocampus was thrown by the waves onto the sand. The girls laughed at the unhappy animal, and one even threw a stone at him. Angry at such cruelty, the old woman went to comfort the hippocampus and dressed his wound. She gave him some water, and sat by his side, cradling his beautiful white head on her lap.

包扎

少女

骚乱

海马

抚抱

Eventually the hippocampus began to recover. He lifted his head and spoke:

"You saved my life. In return, I will grant you three wishes."

"Anything I want?" asked the widow.

"Anything you desire. I give you my promise you word."

"Then I want you to make this village a

prosperous place."

繁荣的

As soon as this was said, the poor village changed. The houses looked well-kept, and little vegetable gardens sprouted around them. The fishermen's boats sparkled, perfectly repaired and painted. The girls on the beach wore beautifully embroidered dresses.

emerged

绣花的

"My second wish, hippocampus, is to make the villagers kind and good. Nobody should ever be turned away from their doors."

被拒之门外

As soon as this was said, the girls changed. Tears came to their eyes and they rushed forward to help the hippocampus. The old woman saw windows and doors thrown open, and people hugging each other in the street.

"Don't you want anything for yourself?" asked the hippocampus.

"Yes, one thing," said the old woman.
"I want death."

"Why? Look how you changed these girls with your kind wish. They seem concerned for both of us. Surely life will be good now in this village?"

"Not for me. My life is over, hippocampus. I have suffered too long and I am very old. Other people will benefit, I hope, but I have nothing left to do in this village," said the widow.

"I cannot give you death," said the hippocampus.

"You gave your word, hippocampus. Anything I want."

"Then you must follow me to my land. My Prince can give you death."

The girls tried to stop her, but the widow would not listen; she walked to the edge of the water with the hippocampus. The setting sun threw an orange streak of light on the sea, and it looked like a long golden road into the horizon. As the hippocampus and the old woman stepped on the streak of light, the sea opened, revealing broad stone stairs leading deep down. The girls retreated, terrified.

moved back

道

地平线

Never looking back, the old woman walked into the sea, and found she could breathe as comfortably as she did on land. They descended the stairs for a long time, finally reaching the Land Beneath the Sea, which we call Atlantis

The old woman had never seen such beauty. The light turned the bottom of the sea into an aquamarine paradise. A profusion of sea anemones fluttered and waved in the underwater gardens, colorful

碧绿的天堂
A profusion of: A lot of
anemones: 海葵

fishes swam everywhere, and many mermaids and mermen passed by, each riding a white hippocampus. Finally the widow and the hippocampus entered a magnificent palace made of pearls and shiny shells. Inside, on a huge golden throne, sat the handsome Prince of Atlantis, surrounded by his court. The hippocampus bowed, and related the story and the widow's request. The Prince listened attentively, smiled, and said:

fluttered: 摇曳 男女美人鱼

炒珠

王座 朝臣

told

"This is a wonderful story, my hippocampus friend. But where is the kind old woman who saved your life and wanted nothing for herself in return?"

"Why, Your Highness, I am the old woman," said the widow, astonished.

Everyone laughed, and the Prince handed her a jeweled mirror; from it smiled the face of her youth, when she was the village beauty and life was full of the promise of joy.

"No one grows old in Atlantis," said the Prince kindly, "and no one dies unless they want to. Look around you and decide. Do you still want death, my dear? Or would you rather live?"

"I would rather live, Your Highness, since you have given me the opportunity of

a new life," said the widow. "But what will become of me? I do not want to go back to my village. My life there is finished."

happen to

"For a hundred years I have been looking for a special woman to be my wife, as it is the custom of the Royal House of Atlantis to choose their spouses from the World above the Sea. If I search the world for another hundred years I will not find anyone as selfless, wise, and beautiful as you," said the Prince. "Will you be my wife and the Princess of Atlantis?"

And so it was. And in the old village they have erected a statue in her honor, 立起一座雕像 which can still be seen today, if you just go far enough up the coast of this little Greek Island where it all happened, long ago.

精彩表达

Everyone laughed, and the Prince handed her a jeweled mirror; from it smiled the face of her youth, when she was the village beauty and life was full of the promise of joy.

译文: 全场大笑。国王递给她一面镶着珠宝的镜子, 镜子里映 出了她年轻的笑脸,年轻时她是村子里的美人,生活充满了欢乐和 希望。

全篇故事非常优美动人。渔夫的遗孀心地高远,精神崇高,当 全村旧貌换新颜时,她却要求赐她一死。但是最后,她还是同意抛 齐死的愿望。在这个转变的过程中,上句是关键。上句的精彩不仅 在于内容,而在于其成功的表达,或曰,其流畅的语势,真可以"语 势如瀑"来写之,高屋建瓴,一泻千里!

如此语势的获得依靠的是什么?

这是一个值得细究的问题。

据笔者观察, 其中, 结构倒装(inversion)的 from it smiled the face of her youth 一句是关键。按照正常语序, 其表达应该是: the face of her youth smiled from it。

假若我们将这个正常语序的句子重新"嵌"入原句。那将获得 怎样的效果呢?试读:

Everyone laughed, and the Prince handed her a jeweled mirror; the face of her youth smiled from it, when she was the village beauty and life was full of the promise of joy.

这时, the face of her youth smiled from it 与上下文原本自然的连接嘎然中断! 再读一遍,发现: the face of her youth smiled from it 与上文的承接虽然变得不太自然,但还能读通,但是,它与下文就根本不能读通,需要改写了。

由此可见倒装的作用,因为倒装,from it 的提前,使之与上文的 a jeweled mirror 靠紧,行文紧凑平稳; 因为倒装,her youth 被置于句末,正巧与定语从句的关系副词 when 靠紧,使 her youth 很自然地成了定语从句的"先行词"(antecedent)!

言及英语倒装句的修辞功能,上句可作典型例句之用。

文体特色

1/ The setting sun threw an orange streak of light on the sea, and it looked like a long golden road into the horizon. As the hippocampus and the old woman stepped on the streak of light, the sea opened, revealing broad stone stairs leading

8 金版大学英语体裁写作教程