

献 给有志于从事英汉翻译工作的青年朋友

翻译人

之友



王 仆 编著 蔡卿卿 校订

海洋出版社

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第一部分。关于词法的翻译

第一章 名词、冠词、代词的翻译

第一节 名词的翻译

一、名词词义的选择

需要注意以下几个问题。

- (一)根据上下文的联系、词语搭配或句型以选择其词 义:::::
- 一个词的意义就是它在语言中的使用。每个词当它在新的语言环境中使用时,就是个新词。J.斯威夫特(1667--1745,英国文学家)说: "文风的真谛就是把适当的词放在适当的地方。"中国训诂学有随文异训的说法,说的也是这个道理。所有这一切都说明,语言环境、上下文对于理解词义十分重要。

例如: 名词state (动词词义不在此列):

- 1. Everything was in a state of disorder.
- 一切事情处于紊乱状态。
- 2. That country is now an independent state. 那个国家现在是个独立国家。
- 3. The Korean armistice took place many years ago and south Korea is not an American State.

 (CD)

朝鲜停战发生在许多年以前,而且南朝鲜不是美国的一个州。

4. He lives in a style befitting his state. 他过的一种与其身份相称的生活。

(二) 名词词义的引伸:

同汉语一样,英语往往借助许多修辞手段进行表达,例如明喻、隐喻、换喻等等。翻译其中的名词的时候,往往不能图字面硬译,而要用符合汉语习惯的引伸义把它翻译出来。例如在"The drunkard loves his bottle more than his reputation"中,"bottle"的引伸义是"酒",所以这句话应译为:"醉汉爱酒胜于爱名"。下面再举些例子。

- 1. Spare moments are the golddust of time.

 一寸光阴一寸念。
- 2. The palace should not scorn the cottage 流費者不应该看不起卑贱者。
- 3. The pen is mightier that the sword。
 文化武器
 - 4. Birds of a feather flock together. 物以类聚。
 - 5. Every life has its roses and thorns。 每个人的生活中有甜也有苦。

(三) 名词词义豹褒贬:

詞汉语一样,英语也有褒义词与贬义词之分。有些名词较固定地用于褒义,例如honest(诚实),honour(光崇),nobleness(高尚),fame(名声),pepularity(名望),statesman(政治家、固务活动家)、等等。有些名词较固定地用于贬义,例如arrogance(傲慢),conspiracy(阴谋),obduracy(顽固不化),intrigue(阴

- 谋), seduce (勾引), clamour (叫器), politician (政客),等等。但更多的是两面性的,到底是褒义还是贬义, 那就要根据上下文加以判断了。举例如下:
 - 1. The enemy's scheme went bankrupt. 敌人的阴谋破产了。
 - 2. we have mapped out a scheme. 我们制订了一个计划。

.:

3. Our conference did in the end make detailed plans for the invasion.

我们的会议最后确实制定了进攻的详细方案。

4. The Portuguese Socialist Party" Sternly condemns the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and is deeply concerned about developments in Poland" (CD):

葡萄牙社会主义党"严厉谴责苏联侵略阿富汗,并且深切关注波兰局势的发展。"

5. Charles stands slightly apart from the others, inches taller than his neighbour Xavier, his eyes hard With ambition.

夏尔站得离其他人远一点,比他身旁的扎维埃高出几英寸。他目光严峻,显得很有抱负。

6. When that the poor have cri'd, Caesar hath wept. Ambition should be made of sterner stuff.
Yet Brutus says he was ambitious. (Shak.)

穷人哭泣,恺撒垂泪:

野心应是铁石心肠造成的,

可布鲁特斯却说他有野心。

二、专有名词的翻译

关于专有名词即人名、地名的翻译,必须遵循下列三原则:

(一) 名从主人:

怎样把"England"、"Germany"和"Rome"分别译成汉语呢?根据名从主人的原则,译成汉语应是"英格兰"、"德意志"和"罗马"。

将日本、朝鲜人、地名的英译名译成汉语时,可以不管 英译名,直接采用汉字人、地名,因为日本、朝鲜人、地名 原来就是汉字写法,这也是名从主人。如: "Nagasaki" 译为"长崎"、"Hiroshima"译为"广岛", "Tokyo" 译为"东京"。

『 (二)约定俗成:

大量的专有名词在翻译中是约定俗成的,它们已经成为 "普点营识"了。

怎样把"(Frinklin) Roosevelt"译成汉语呢?
"Roosevelt的发音是"鲁泽佛尔特" [fru:zd velt],可是从三十年代以来一直译成"罗斯福",正如"Churchill"("行契尔" [tfd:t]i:]) 之译成"丘吉尔"一样,它们都是约定俗成,不需更改的了。

下面这些词也是如此,如"the Mediterranean"(地中海),"the Pacific"(太平洋),"Shakespeare"(志主比亚),"Bernard Shaw"(肖伯纳),"Oxford"(牛油),"Cambridge"(剑桥),"Hawaii"(夏威夷)。"San Fransisco"(旧金山),等等。

(三) 遵守译音标准:

除了约定俗成的专有名词之外,所有其他的专有名词都

应根据标准发音进行音译。在英译汉时,外国人、地名可根据新华社修订发行的英汉译音表进行音译。

练 习 1

- 1. Translate the following sentences into Chinese, paying attention to the exact meaning of the word "effort" in each of them: (英译汉, 注意 "effort" 的词义)
- (1) Their remarks seemed to mean more efforts for an anti-hegemonist front in Africa.
 - (2) It doesn't need much of an effort.
- (3) That novel is really a fine literary effort.
- (4) They are contributing largely in material and money to the joint effort of strengthening defence in Western Europe.
- (5) The press secretary recalled the futile and lengthy efforts to reach an agreement with he Russians on SALT. (=Strategic Arms Limitation Talks between U.S.A. and U.S.S.R)
- (6) The Canadian guest says: "One of the pleasures I have had was the first hand knowledge obtained of the great significance attached to Norman Bethune's unselfish efforts by the Government of New China."
- 2. Translate the following sentences, paying attention to the extended meaning of the word

underlined in each of these sentences. (英译汉, 注意划线的名词)

- (1) There was no provocation for such an angry letter.
- (2) Fatty's Restaurant had become an institution in his life in the last seven years.
- (3) The trunk was big and awkward and loaded with books. But his case was a different proposition.
- (4) The wedding which Heyward still remembered with pride, was attended by a who's who of Boston Society.
- (5) The invention of machinery had brought into the world a new era-the Industrial Age. Money had become King.

第二节 冠词的翻译

一、在哪些情况下不译出来

(一)放在单数可数名词前,泛指一类事物,不论定冠或不定冠词,都可以不译出。

举例如下:

1. It is impossible to separate so entirely the business of the grazier from that of the corn-farmer, as the trade of the carpenter is commonly separated from that of the smith. (WN)

不可能把放牧人的活计与谷物种植人的活计完全区别

开, 而木匠手艺与铁匠手艺却是完全不同的。

2. A smith who has been accustomed to make nails, but whose sole or principal business has not been that of a nailer, can seldom with his utmost diligence make more than eight hundred or a thousand nails in a day. (W.N.)

习惯于做钉子, 但他的唯一或主要的活计却不是做钉子的铁匠, 铆上劲儿一天最多不过做干儿八百个钉子。

- (二)在"独一无二的事物"前的定冠词,可以不译出。
 - 1. The earth rotates round the sun. 地球绕日而行。
 - 2. He was sent there by the government. 他是由政府派到那里去的。
- (三) 地理名词或报纸、杂志、机关团体名称前的定冠 词可以不译出。

例如: The Pacific Ocean 太平洋
The Chang Jiang River 长江
The People's Daily 人民日报
The Reader's Digest 读者文摘
The East India Company 东印度公司

- (四) 具体有所指称的不可数名词前的定冠词,可以不译。
- 1. The liberal reward of labour, therefore, as it is the effect of increasing wealth, so it is the cause of increasing population. (WN)

因此,劳动的充分报酬,既是增加财富的结果,也是增

加人目的原因。

2. The steel of Anshan is of very good quality.

鞍山出的钢,质量很好。

- 二、其他则视情况译为"一"、"一个"、"这个(那个)"、"这些(那些)",等等
- 1. A hot, humid from from southern Japan has brought high humidity and increased barometer tric pressure to Beijing and surrounding districts.

 (CD) ("numeral" sense)

日本南部<u>一股湿热锋给北京及其周围地区带来了高湿度</u>和大气压力的增加。

- 2. "A stitch in time saves nine," ("nume-ral" sense)
- "适时的一针,可以省九针。"(或:"小洞不补,大洞叫苦。")
- 3. Once upon a time, a farmer met a snake which was almost frozen to death. ("ristroductory sense)

从前,有<u>一个</u>农夫遇见了<u>一条</u>蛇,那条蛇当时都快冻死了。

4. The machines have been well lubricated. ("definite" sense)

这些机器都已很好地加过润滑油了。

练 习 2

Translate the following paragraph and point

out the reason why the article is understood or expressed in E-C (翻译下列段意, 指出省略或不省略冠词的理由):

About three hundred and thirty years ago, in 1626 to be exact, a ship left Holland (荷兰) for America. On this ship were thirty Dutch (荷兰人) families, one hundred and ten people in all. When the ship reached America, some of the families built their homes on Manhattan Island (曼哈顿半岛) which is at the mouth of the Hudson River (哈德逊 河). They made a small Dutch village where New York City now stands. For three years they lived there until Peter Minuit (彼得·米努依特) became governor (市长). He was a wise and good man. He thought that the Island of Manhattan belonged to the Indians (印地安人) and that the Dutch ought to pay for it. So he asked the Indians to sell the land to him. And the Dutch bought the whole island for twenty-four dollars' worth of beads, ribbons, knives and blankets.

第三节 代词的翻译

一、代词的分类

英语代词共分九类,即人称代词、物主代词、反身代词、指示代词、不定代词、相互代词、疑问代词、连接代词和关系代词。这里分别讨论一下人称代词、物主代词、指示

代词与不定代词,其他有的留待以后讨论,有的则从略。

二、人称代词的翻译

- (一)第一、二人称的省略:
- 第一、二人称"我们"与"你(你们)"如果用作不定 人欲代词。泛指一般的人,则配译时可予以省略,即译为不 定人部句。此种译法尤多见于科技文章。例如:
- large sams of bonuses, we can distribute them according to work; at present, the sums are too small, so we can only distribute them equally."
 This atitde is wrong both in theory and practice.

 ((1D)

有的同志说,"如果有大量的奖金,就能按照工作的好坏分配了;而现在奖金数量太少了,所以只能平均分配。" 这种态度在理论上和实践上都是错的。

2. Subtract four from twelve and you will get eight.

十二城四余人。

(二) 省略重复的主语:

根据汉语习惯,前句与后句作代词的主语如果是同一人或物,后句中的主语可以省略,以免重复。例如:

He (Roosevelt) had to hold Germany at bay until he could present the chance for world conquest to his people in the gaise of a threat to their safety. (W.W.)

他(罗斯福)得先記德國牽制伯(區入绝境),然后以美国的安全受到或协为语口,问美国人民提供征服全球的机会。

(三) 宾语的省略:

英语中有些作宾语的代词,不管前面是否**提到过,翻译** 时往往可以省略。

A) There was tinned beer and liquors-Cutty Sirk and another brand of whisky whose name memory fails me. (CD)

有黨头啤酒与各种酒——"短袍"酒以及另外一种想不 起牌号的威士忌酒。

B) The more he tried to hide his warts, the more he revealed them.

他越是要掩盖疮疤, 就越会暴露出来。

(四)代词的还原:

翻译时按照汉语习惯,可以将代词还原为名词,这也是一种重复法,例如:

1. Jesse opened his eyes. They were filled with tears.

杰西睁开了眼睛, 眼里充满了泪水,

2. Jack was very respectful to Tom, and took off his hat when he met him.

杰克非常尊敬汤姆, 遇见汤姆就脱帽致意。 (resumption)

3. Jack was very rude to Tom, and knocked off his hat when he met him.

杰克对汤姆很不礼貌,遇见汤姆就把他的帽子敲掉了。 (resumption)

注意: "his hat" 在2) 中指"杰克的帽子", 在3) 中指"汤姆的帽子"。

(五) 人称代词的特殊用法:

1. 谦称

英语中多用"we" ("我们")而少用"我",以示 深逊。如"We believe, we have often seen, if we are not mistaken" ("我们相信,我们常常认为,如果我们没有弄错的话")。有时候"the present writer" (笔者,本文作者)或"the undersigned" (署名人,签字者)。或"one"以代替"我"。翻译时要特别注意。例如:

After reading this, one gets a confused feeling about the whole affair. (=1 get...)

误了以后, 使我对全部情况困惑不解。

2. 敬称

Your Honour (to a judg): 阁下 (对法官的尊称) Your Majesty (to a king, a queen, or an emperor): 陛下 (对国正、王后、皇帝的尊称)

Your (His, Hor) Royal Highness (to a prince or a princess): 殿下 (对王子、公主等的尊称)

Your Exectleny (to ambassadors, governers & their wives): 阁下(对大使、总督及其夫人的尊称)

3. 亲昵

My dear sir, my good sir: 亲爱的先生,先生 My dear fellow: 亲爱的朋友,老朋友 My good man (woman): 我的好人(好女人)上述称呼都含有亲昵或讽刺之意。 kid, baby 对爱人或妻子的称呼 my old man 对父亲或丈夫的称呼