

新东方学校实用英语丛书

# 英语报刊佳句赏析 *Shangxi*

*Yingyu Baokan Jiaju*

● 胡敏 Paul White 编著



书馆

世界知识出版社

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# Preface

English-language newspapers and magazines from all over the world are becoming increasingly available in China nowadays. But it is often disappointing for a student of English, who may have made good progress in reading English literature, to find that much of the vocabulary and structure of journalistic English is baffling. It is also worth noting that the student will come across the same problem when trying to read news reports via the Internet.

In a nutshell, the style of journalistic English differs from other types of English in its conciseness of sentence structure. This is because it developed along with the printed media—newspapers had to put as much information as possible in restricted spaces on the page. Another feature of journalistic English is its use of the latest colloquialisms—to heighten the sense of talking directly to the reader and of conveying up-to-the-minute news and information.

The study of journalistic English is still in its infancy in China; few college English courses touch on it. Not surprisingly, there are very few textbooks to which the student can turn for help. *Gems*

*of Journalistic English* hopes to fill this gap in a comprehensive and easily accessible way. It is the result of a joint effort by Mr Hu Min, a Chinese expert in the teaching of the English language, and Mr Paul White, a professional journalist from England. The book is divided into eight sections, covering a broad spectrum of newsworthy topics. Each example has been carefully selected from recent newspapers and magazines as typical of the way such an item of news or general interest is phrased in leading journals—a gem, in fact. Every sentence is translated into Chinese, together with notes explaining unusual linguistic features and current usage.

It is the hope of the authors that this book will help students and others to quickly grasp the idiom of English journalistic writing, and enter the 21<sup>st</sup> century fully equipped to master the world of information available in English language news and feature reports.

### ***The authors***

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# **POLITICS & WORLD AFFAIRS**

## **时事政治**

1. The two leaders stated that both countries would develop good-neighborly and friendly relations on the basis of mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit and peaceful co-existence.

**译文：**两位领导人声明，两国将在互相尊重主权和领土完整，互不侵犯，互不干涉内政，平等互利与和平共处的基础上发展睦邻友好关系。

2. The country's stability depends on how well the president can groom a successor.

**译文：**这个国家能否稳定取决于总统能否成功地培养一个接班人。

**注：**groom, 使准备参加竞选, 做好准备, 训练。

3. He accused the prime minister of burnishing his own image while folding under ressure.

**译文：**他指责总理一方面在压力下退缩，一方面给自己脸上贴金。



注: accuse 用在法律上应当翻译成“指控”,如: He was accused of theft. (他被指控犯有偷窃罪); fold, 作不及物动词用时有“关闭”、“垮台”的意思,此处转义“退缩”; burnishing, 原意是抛光、擦亮。

4. The opposition leader's speech stole the headlines from the government.

译文: 反对党领袖的演讲在报纸上大出风头,使政府相形见绌。

注: 直译是:反对党领袖的演讲从政府手里偷走了报纸的通栏大标题。

5. He said that the release of the men gave the green light to terrorism.

译文: 他说,释放这些人,等于向恐怖主义活动开绿灯。

注: 也可以翻译成“等于纵容恐怖主义活动”。

6. The CIA is drawing fire as its director is questioned over press leaks.

译文: 中央情报局被骂得焦头烂额,因为局长正因报界泄密问题接受质询。

注: CIA = Central Intelligence Agency, 美国中央情报局; drawing fire, 原意是“招致猛烈批评”; leaks, 此处显然指“泄密”。

7. Albright played hardball by walking out of the meeting.

译文: 奥尔布赖特以退出会场的方式表示强硬的立场。

注: play hardball, 表示强硬(立场、抗议、反对等), hardball 也可以用作形容词,如: hardball questions, 故意刁难, 非常难回答的问题。

8. While the West goes about its business, Russia gains nothing by going off into a corner to sulk.

**译文：**西方依然我行我素，而俄罗斯一无所获，只好缩在旮旯里生气。

**注：**这个句子非常形象：to go about one's business 的意思是“该干什么还干什么”；go off into a corner to sulk, 直译是“走开到一个角落里生气”；gain nothing, 什么也没有得到。

9. Blair is unlikely to roll back any of the previous ruling party's major economic reforms.

**译文：**布莱尔看来不可能从上届执政党推行的任何重大经济改革中退缩。

**注：**previous, 此处指布莱尔出任英国首相之前的执政党, 即保守党。

10. The whiff of scandal, and particularly the cash-for-questions imbroglio, reminds the electorate that power concentrated in the hands of a single party for too long tends to corrupt.

**译文：**尽管丑闻不大, 而且这些来路不明的款项内情复杂, 至今尚无定论, 却也足以提醒选民: 权力集中在一个政党手中过长就会产生腐败。

**注：**a whiff of scandal, 一个小小的丑闻; imbroglio, 情节复杂、难下结论的事情。

11. A group of pragmatists are reorienting Iranian politics as the revolution fades into history.

**译文：**革命正在成为历史, 一批实用主义者正在为伊朗重新确定政策方向。

注: re-orient 的意思是“为……重新规定方向”; fade into history 直译是“淡入历史”。

12. Legally, most experts agree, the case has some holes.

译文: 多数专家认为,从法律的角度来讲,这个案子有漏洞。

注: holes, 漏洞。

13. The newspaper story was quickly overrun by the White House spin machine [public relations team].

译文: 报纸上的这条新闻很快就被白宫“说谎机器”(即白宫宣传机构)的编造淹没了。

注: spin 的原意是纺织,在美国俚语中引申为“编造谎言”; public relations 的意思是“公关”,但是在资本主义国家,公司、政府等公关机构等于我国的“宣传部”,这同我国一般群众理解的“公关”不尽相同,为了照顾中国人对“公关”的理解,此处将 public relations 译为“宣传”。

14. He blamed leaks for the breakdown in the negotiations.

译文: 他把谈判失败归罪于泄密。

注: blame...for..., 把……归罪于。

15. The negotiators struggled to finalize a deal.

译文: 谈判参加者努力做成一笔交易。

16. Arabs and Jews alike are increasingly at risk in a climate of steadily rising tensions.

译文: 在紧张局势不断加剧这样一种(政治)气候中,无论是阿拉伯人还是犹太人都在冒越来越大的风险。

注: climate,原意“气候”,此处应指“政治气候”。

17. Her husband could be freed on bail within months.

译文: 她的丈夫有可能在几个月内交保释放。

注: bail 还可以用作动词,如: She was bailed out of prison. (她被取保释放)

18. Harassment of minorities remains endemic in some quarters.

译文: 在某些地方,骚扰少数民族的现象依旧司空见惯。

注: minorities,少数民族。我国正式文件中把“少数民族”译为“minority ethnic groups”,如: The Uygurs are one of China's minority ethnic groups. (维吾尔族是中国少数民族之一)

19. The setting up of a credible oversight authority has curbed police brutality.

译文: 由于建立了一个可信任的监督机构,警察暴行受到了遏制。

注: oversight,监督、监管。

20. The number of complaints is down simply because abused citizens have given up.

译文: 投诉减少,只是因为受害公民放弃投诉。

21. If Iraq sticks to the road map laid out for it by the United Nations, sanctions could be lifted without more ado.

译文: 如果伊拉克恪守联合国有关决议,那么无需更多的麻烦就能取消对它的制裁。

注: road map,交通图、道路图;此处直译是“如果伊拉克按照联

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合国的交通图向前走不偏离方向”。ado 是“纷扰”、“麻烦”的意思,如:much ado about nothing,无事生非。

22. To ask that companies in such capital-intensive industries as oil exploration be swayed by the political whims of their home governments would rock business confidence.

译文:要求本国政府用经常是随心所欲的政治决策左右石油勘探等资本密集型行业中的公司,那就会动摇商界信心。

注:capital intensive,资本密集型(technology intensive,技术密集型;labor intensive,劳动密集型);oil exploration,石油勘探。注意:to ask 后面带宾语从句(that...),从句中是虚拟语气。

23. The plan gives the government a useful tool with which to allocate resources optimally.

译文:这项计划为政府优化资源配置提供了有效手段。

注:此处翻译时把英文副词 optimally 当作动词(optimize,优化);allocation 原意是“分配”,“分派”,“划归”,转义“配置”;tool,此处作“手段”。

24. The bribery scandal sparked a squabble between radicals and moderates in the parliament.

译文:这个贿赂丑闻在国会激进派和温和派之间引发了一场争吵。

注:radicals,激进派;moderates,温和派。

25. Recalcitrant backbenchers hamstrung the prime minister's attempt to railroad the bill through the Commons.

译文:不屈不挠的后座议员们挫败了首相操纵下议院匆忙通过这

个法案的企图。

注: backbencher, 指英国下议院坐在后排的议员, 即普通议员 (包括首相在内的现任内阁成员和反对党的影子内阁成员坐在前排); railroad, 此处作动词, 意思是匆忙通过。

26. To end the war in Bosnia, the West abandoned impartiality and junked the idea of proportionate response.

译文: 为了结束波斯尼亚战争, 西方放弃了不偏不倚的立场, 摒弃了均衡反应的主张。

注: proportionate response, 均衡反应, 指对战争(或争议)双方做出在力度、方式上均衡的反应。

27. The West may accommodate zigs and zags in Russian foreign policy as the price for helping Yeltsin keep his job.

译文: 西方国家也许能容忍俄罗斯外交政策曲折多变——这是为帮助叶利钦保住总统职位付出的代价。

注: zig, (行进路线、政策等的)政变方向, 急变; zag(曲折行程中方向的)急转, 方向突变; helping Yeltsin keep his job, 此处 job 指叶利钦的总统地位。

28. Japanese prime ministers tend to have a short shelf life and a weak brand image.

译文: 日本历届首相往往是上台不久就下台, 而且品牌形象也欠佳。

注: 句子中用了两个商业词汇作比喻, shelf life 和 brand image。shelf life, 商品货架期, 即商品摆在货架上出售的最大期限, 例如在欧洲, 面包的货架期最多 3 天, 过期卖不出去的予以销毁; brand image, 品牌形象。对“品牌形象”, 中国人比较熟悉, 但“商品货架期”并不是人人都知道。考虑到中国商

品经济仍然不发达这个现实,为了让读者明白,我们采取了  
解释的翻译方法。此处“首相”用的是复数,指“历届首相”。

29. Without thorough-going reform, no amount of tinkering  
with the rules will get Mexico out of its murky political  
swamp.

译文: 没有彻底的改革, 无论怎样修补(政治游戏)规则也无法使  
墨西哥从尔虞我诈的政治泥沼中摆脱出来。

注: thorough-going, 彻底; tinker, 作名词时的意思是“补锅匠”、  
“小炉匠”, 用作动词时转义为“修补”。

30. The opposition offered to draw a line under the abuses of the  
past, in return for seats in the transitional cabinet.

译文: 反对党建议给过去执政党滥用权力划一条底线, 以此换取  
过渡内阁的席位。

注: the opposition = the opposition party, 反对党(the party in  
power, 执政党)。这句话的意思是反对党为了政治交易, 规  
定追究的最大程度。

31. He is the standard bearer of those who still keep faith in the  
status quo.

译文: 在仍然信守现状的人们中, 他是旗手。

注: standard bearer, 旗手, 如: Lu Xun was the standard bearer of  
the literary revolution. (鲁迅是文学革命的旗手); status  
quo, 现状, 如: to maintain the status quo, 维持现状; keep  
faith in, 信守、坚持。

32. If they think that that clinches the argument against deregulation  
of the economy, they miss a crucial point.

译文：如果他们认为那样做就能证明反对撤消经济调节之说言之有理，那么他们就没有抓住问题的要害。

注：这个句子中有两个 that，第一个是主句与宾语从句的连接词，第二个是宾语从句的主语，意思是“那样做”。clinch 在此处的意思是“有充分证据的证明”；regulation of the economy 的意思是“经济调节”，deregulation 是 regulation 的反义词，即“撤消调节”。另外，调控用 control，如 macro-economic control，宏观经济调控。

33. Confidence is the ingredient needed to revive Nigeria's chastened political fortunes.

译文：如欲复苏尼日利亚历经磨难的政治机运，信心乃是一个不可缺少的因素。

注：chastened, 历经磨难、饱经沧桑的；ingredient, 此处转义“因素”。

34. A country's legal responsibility toward genuine refugees should not be manipulated for political ends.

译文：一个国家对真正的难民所承担的法律责任不应被政治目的所左右。

注：manipulate, 操纵。

35. The voter turnout was small and the margin tiny, in contrast to the previous election, when the Populist Party swamped the opposition, which was widely touted as a pro-business lobby.

译文：选民参选率很低，两党得票差额极小，这与上次选举形成对照：在上次选举中，平民党以压倒多数的选票战胜了反对党，当时反对党被大事张扬地说成是商界利益代言人。



注：这个句子的结构比较复杂。为了把这些关系清楚地表示出来，我们重复了某些关键词。例如 which was widely touted as a pro-business lobby 实际上是在说明上次选举反对党何以一败涂地。voter turnout, 选民参选率；pro-business lobby 中的 lobby 指资本主义国家中的“院外游说集团”，此处转义“代言人”；pro-是“亲……的意思”，如：This is a pro-U. S. group. (这是一个亲美组织)；widely, 广泛地，转义为“大事张扬”；to be touted as, 被吹嘘成。

36. He rose to prominence under the tutelage of a former prime minister, and is cosy with the main ministries.

译文：他是在一位前总理的亲自调教下功成名就的，因此他同内阁主要部门首长谨慎相处。

注：看起来是并列句，但是两个句子的意思内含因果关系。to be cosy with, 谨慎从事；main ministers, 直译是“主要部长”。

37. The State Department countered the accusation with a blizzard of statistics purporting to show improvement.

译文：国务院用大量自称能说明工作有所改进的数据驳斥这一指责。

注：the State Department, 专指美国国务院(相当于其他国家的外交部)，我国国务院的英文译名是 the State Council；blizzard, 原意“暴风雨”、“大风雪”，此处转义；purporting to, 此处有“自称”的意思，如：This book purports to be an original work but it is actually a compilation. (这本书自称是原著，实际上是编纂而成的集子)

38. Talks between the two sides, brokered by the U. S. ambassador, have reached a stalemate.