

大 學 用 書

新聞英文寫作

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新聞英文寫作

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前 言

本書是為那些對新聞英文寫作感覺興趣的學生而編纂的。本文是用中英文合寫，目的在使學生能自由活用兩種文字。

但兩種文字的相似，不是直接的譯述，而是彼此的補充。它們相輔相成，學生或可藉此學習兩種文字的交替運用。

誠如本書題旨所示，它的主旨是在協助學生撰寫英文新聞。因此所有的例句都由英文出之，不加中文註釋。

教師或可提供更多更切時宜的例句，從任何題材上，促使學生練習測驗。所有這些習題，自然都得是英文的。

本書的內容，無論是習題或本文，都祇是手段，藉以協助學生自己去磨練他們自己的英文寫作格調，就像是記者，或學習記者那樣。

記住練習是必經之路，其間並無捷徑。

朱耀龍 敬識

六十九年三月於臺北

FOREWORD

This book is compiled to fill the needs of Chinese students who are interested in learning journalistic writing in English. The text is written in Chinese with English supplements. So students may easily shift between the two languages.

However, supplement is not, strictly speaking, a direct translation; the two texts rather complement each other. They are closely correlated so students may become familiar with the interchangeability of the languages.

As this book's title indicates, its theme is to aid students in writing news articles in English. Therefore all examples given in the book are in English only, with no Chinese equivalents.

Teachers may offer more adequate and up-to-date examples on any particular subject for student practice or exercises. All this, of course, must be carried out in English only.

The examples, along with the text, in a book like this, are merely vehicles for students to build on and to shape their own English writing styles on as reporters, or rather student-reporters.

Remember practice is important; there is no short cut.

YLC

Taipei, March 1980

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第一章 怎樣學習寫新聞英文？

(HOW TO LEARN TO WRITE JOURNALISTIC ENGLISH?)

新聞英文的寫作，當然要從看懂英文開始。但學習新聞英文寫作，更能促進閱讀英文報紙的能力。

英文報紙跟中文報紙有相當的不同，能瞭解這些異同，也是有趣的事。很多學者在國內大專院校開課傳授新聞英文的閱讀和寫作，這不但有助於把新聞視作專業的學生，而且也有助於一般臺灣的讀者。因為他們會習慣於瞭解報紙內容，並用以表達他們的意見。

One must first learn to read the English language before learning to write news articles in English. However one's facility in reading English newspapers can conversely be improved by learning how journalistic English is written.

Learning the differences between English and Chinese newspapers is a fascinating study. It is also of such great value that many scholars advocate teaching newspaper reading and writing in colleges and universities in the Republic of China. Such study would be valuable not only for prospective Chinese journalists but

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also for people from all walks of life in Taiwan. They would then understand the newspapers that they make daily use of and on whose reporting they base most of their opinions.

新聞的內涵

簡單一點說，新聞英文是指英文報紙或英文新聞刊物上的寫作。

本書的目的是在幫助同學們如何去練習寫作報章雜誌上常見的各種英文報導、簡短的特稿和評述等。

不過寫作是必須不斷的練習才好，沒有捷徑可循。但大致上說，以寫作而論，新聞英文的寫作比一般的寫作，特別是文藝性的寫作，要便捷得多。

Journalistic English Writing may be defined as the kind of writing that is published in English language newspapers and news magazines.

This book's aim is to show students how to write the various kinds of news stories, factual reports and simple commentaries that are daily seen in newspapers and magazines.

Practice is the most essential thing in learning how to write. There are no short cuts. In general, however, journalistic writing is relatively easier than other kinds of English composition, particularly literary writing.

那末，新聞英文寫作跟其他的英文寫作有什麼不同呢？有人認為新聞英文大大地不同于其他的英文寫作。還有人說新聞英文有點旁門左道，不成格調。其實都是不對的。新聞英文祇是用英文這種文字來敘述

新聞。它並沒有什麼特別的格調，特別的字彙，更無所謂特別的結構了。祇是新聞英文必須在較短的時間內迅速地，自然地把特定的事故寫出來，包括新聞所需的陳述、描述或解析。

What then is the difference between journalistic English writing and other kinds of English composition? Many persons speak of journalistic writing as if it were an unusual form of literary gymnastics. Some falsely accuse it of being a cheaper, shoddier kind of writing. It is none of these. Journalistic English is merely the use of the English language to recount current events. It has no special style, no special vocabulary, and seldom has a special structure. It is done on the spur of the moment for a definite practical purpose -- that is, to put on paper quickly and easily a narrative, descriptive, or expositive account of a current event.

當然新聞寫作是有關時間性的東西，是有關今日發生的事。它很少報導過去的事，除非跟現在有關的事；也很少預測未來的事，除非跟現在有關聯的事。所以它的主題就是今天！

Naturally journalistic writing is concerned with timely things, with today's happenings. It has little time to talk about the past, except in connection with the present, and little time to try to foretell the future; beyond pointing out the significance of the present. Its subject is today!

新聞寫作是寫事實。新聞記者很少表達他的私見，也很少推理。他祇是尋求事實，報導事實。所以新聞寫作有四大要旨：

(一) 它是無私的——執筆人從不以自己為主。

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(二) 它是客觀的——執筆人祇以讀者為重。

(三) 它的主旨是報導和傳播新聞——不是說教、訓誨，或辯論。

(四) 它是專供閱讀的，不是朗誦的；它毋須考慮文字上的音韻關係。

Journalistic writing is primarily concerned with facts. The journalist seldom writes his opinion or what he thinks. He has little time to philosophize. Facts he seeks and facts he tells. As a result journalistic writing has these four essentials:

- (1) It is impersonal -- the writer is not thinking of himself.
- (2) It is objective -- the writer always has the reader in mind.
- (3) Its purpose is to inform and to disseminate -- not to preach, exhort, or argue.
- (4) It is to be read silently, rather than aloud, and has little use for oratorical devices.

時間和篇幅的重要性

大家知道新聞寫作要迅速。其他的作家，可以成年累月地去推敲他們的題材和表達的方式，但記者則必須要立刻把他應寫的寫出來。他知道，不管新聞如何的重要，到了明天都會成為明日黃花，因此他必須立刻寫出來。要不然，就別寫。

所以記者經常為時間和篇幅兩大限制所苦。不過，他爭取時間，並不是說要盲目的快，而是要適時動筆寫作。他控制篇幅，祇是說他要在指定的字數內完成他的寫作。

Speed and Space Is Vital. Journalistic writing is done rapidly.

Other writers may spend months or years pondering over their subject and deciding upon its form. The journalist must be able to immediately write whatever he has to say. He is urged on by the fact that his information, though of great importance today, will no longer be of interest tomorrow. It is now or never!

A journalist is always conscious of the limitations of time and space. He fights time, not so much in having to write fast, as in having to write now. He fights space in that he must cover his subject in a limited number of words.

流暢的格調

原則上，新聞寫作是沒有特定的公式、格調，或技巧。初學的時候，最好把一切格調和技巧都忘掉。假如初學者為格調所囿，結果必然流為呆板虛飾。所以想寫什麼，就以最自然流暢的方式寫出來就好了。祇是要注意下列各點：

- (一) 寫作當時的情況。
- (二) 資料運用的方式。
- (三) 任職報館的寫稿習慣和規格。
- (四) 讀者的知識程度。
- (五) 讀者大眾的興趣。

Easy Style. In its essence, journalistic writing has no characteristic form, style, or technique. A good starting point, however, is to forget all about style and technique. If the beginner allows himself to think of style, he will very likely acquire disagreeable

affected. He should think only of what has to be said and then say it in the easiest and most natural way. The principal factors that he should have in mind are:

- (1) The conditions under which he writes.
- (2) The form in which the material is to be used.
- (3) Practices, usages and methods required in his newspaper.
- (4) His reader's general level of intelligence.
- (5) The taste of his reading public.

第二章 英文是工具，不是目的

(ENGLISH LANGUAGE, A MEANS, NOT AN END)

在報導英文新聞的時候，記者是用英文來傳達消息。對他來說，英文是工具，不是目的。對有些作家而言，如詩人和散文家，美麗的詞藻十分的重要。但記者祇是運用文字來報導他的所見所聞，因為他瞭解：讀者祇關心他報導的事實，不關心怎樣把它報導出來。

In writing news articles in English, the journalist uses the English language merely to transmit facts. To him, the means of expression is a tool, not a goal in itself. To such writers as poets and essayists, beautiful words and sentences are of the greatest concern. But the journalist uses language simply to tell what he has seen and heard. He realizes that his reader cares more for the things he tells than for the way in which he tells him.

不過，工具也好，目的也好，新聞裡的英文也得符合一般英文的要求。它也得講究簡潔和生動；重點和獨創性；以及明晰和正確性。當然這些名詞也很難有明確的定義，而且文章的好壞，也難有明規，但下面一些實際的問題，還是值得注意。

whether it is a tool or a goal, the English language used in newspaper reports has to accept recognized rules of English. It also strives for certain qualities of style: simplicity and vividness; emphasis and originality; and clarity and accuracy. These qualities cannot be sharply defined. They afford no specific rules to follow in achieving excellence and distinction in writing. Some general principles of news style, however, can be illustrated:

(一) 避免多餘的字 (Eliminate Superfluous Words)

(甲) 不必要的冠詞 (Unnecessary Articles):

Weak: The Cabinet members met in an urgent meeting Monday night.

Strong: Cabinet members met in an urgent meeting Monday night.

(注意: 後面的不定冠詞 an 仍然需要。)

Weak: Mr. Chang returned a part of the money to Mr. Lee.

Strong: Mr. Chang returned part of the money to Mr. Lee.

(注意: 這一句把前面的不定冠詞省略, 但保留了後面的冠詞 the, 情況恰好和前句相反。)

(乙) 迂曲的動詞 (Circuitous Verb Forms):

Weak: The Committee of Foreign Affairs of the Legislative Yuan will hold a regular meeting on Wednesday.

Strong: The Committee of Foreign Affairs of the Legislative Yuan will meet regularly Wednesday.

(丙) 形容詞、副詞、介系詞 (Adjectives, Adverbs, Prepositions):

Weak: Both automobiles made by Ford Motor Company were completely destroyed.

Strong: Both Ford-made cars were destroyed.

Weak: A tall and magnificent 88-story building.

Strong: An 88-story building.

Weak: She stepped off of the train.

Strong: She stepped off the train.

Weak: The Flight 808 of the China Airlines is scheduled to reach
San Francisco on Saturday.

Strong: CAL's Flight 808 will reach San Francisco Saturday.

(丁) 連接詞 (Connectives):

Weak: The official said that he would attend the conference.

Strong: The official said he would attend the conference.

Weak: The rocket and the missile and the satellite.

Strong: The rocket, missile and satellite.

(戊) 衆所週知的地名 (Well-known Places):

Weak: The militia came from Kinmen and Matsu, Fuchien province.

Strong: The militia came from Kinmen and Matsu.

(己) 片語 (Phrases):

Weak: The accident involved many cars occurred at the intersection
of Chungshan North Road and Nanking East Road.

Strong: The multi-car accident occurred at Chungshan N. Road and
Nanking E. Road.

(庚) 子句 (Clauses):

Weak: All citizens who are qualified should vote in December.

Strong: Citizens qualified (or Qualified citizens) should vote in
December.

Weak: The drought which occurred in the United States last year