大学英语四级考试综合指导

(下册) 阅读理解与翻译



刘明东 刘 彬 编著

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第一部分

英译汉

一、概述

新修订的《大学英语教学大纲》对我国非英语专业大学生在基础阶段(1~2年级)的译的能力提出的基本要求为:"能借助词典将与课文难度相仿的英语短文译成汉语,理解正确,译文达意,译速为每小时300个英语单词。能借助词典将内容熟悉的汉语文字材料译成英语,译文忠实原意,无重大语言错误,译速为每小时200个汉字。"较高要求为:"能借助词典将与课文难度相仿的英语译成汉语,理解正确,译文达意,译速为每小时350个英语单词。能借助词典将内容熟悉的汉语文字材料译成英语,译文忠实原意,无重大语言错误,译速为每小时200个汉字。"

大学英语四级考试的第一批新增题型"英译汉"从属于"阅读理解"部分,从"阅读理解"的四篇文章中分别选择一个或两个句子组成一题,共五题,要求考生在15分钟内将这五题译成汉语,每

题 2 分,共计 10 分。翻译时可参阅"阅读理解"部分相关文章,以便了解上下文。"英译汉"主要考核考生对英语书面材料的确切理解能力。

二、翻译的标准

翻译是学习外语的重要手段之一。它是运用一种语言把另一种语言所表达的思维内容准确而完整地重新表达出来的语言活动。在这一特殊的语言活动中,需要有一定的标准来进行衡量,从而确保翻译实践有"章"可循,以减少盲目性和随意性。

目前,我国翻译界通行的、讨论最多的翻译标准是清末新兴资产阶级启蒙思想家严复参照古代翻译佛经的经验,根据自己翻译的实践所提出的著名的"信、达、雅"翻译标准。"信"指的是"意义不倍(背)本文",即译文应忠实于原文;"达"指的是不拘泥于原文形式,尽译文语言的能事以求原意明显;"雅"指的是译文要古雅。对于非英语专业大学生来说,主要应遵循前面两点,具体说来应为:

(1) 忠实

忠实指的是译文应忠实于原文的内容和结构,使译文读者能准确把握原文所表达的内容和精神实质。也就是说,在翻译时应将原文的思想内容、情感色彩,乃至文体与风格完整而准确地表达出来,不得加以丝毫的削弱、冲淡或夸大。

(2) 通顺

通顺指的是译文的语言文字必须规范,用词造句应符合译语的习惯。理想的译文必须是纯正的中文,没有文理不通、逐词死译和生硬晦涩的现象。要做到行文流畅通顺应该在深刻领会原文意思的基础上,尽量摆脱原文形式的束缚,选用符合译语习惯的表达方法,把原意清楚明白地表达出来。

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三、翻译的过程

简单地说,翻译过程包括理解、表达和校核三个连续的环节, 其中理解和表达是核心。

(1) 理解

翻译要达到"忠实、通顺"的标准必须以正确理解原文为前提。要正确理解原文,应注意以下几点:结合上下文,推断词义;辨明语法结构,理解原文所涉及的事物。

[例一]

There is company downstairs.

[正]楼下有客人。

[误]楼下有公司。

分析: company 有"公司"、"访客"、"客人"之意,作可数名词时意为"公司",作不可数名词时意为"客人"。

「例二]

All that glitters is not gold.

[正]发光的未必都是金子。

[误]发光的都不是金子。

分析:本句是以全部否定的形式来表示事实上的部分否定。 [例三]

John can be relied on. He eats no fish and plays the game.

[正]约翰为人可靠,他既忠诚又正直。

[误]约翰为人可靠,他一向不吃鱼而且经常玩游戏。

分析: to eat no fish 出自一个曲故,指英国伊丽莎白女王时代, 耶酥教徒为了表示对政府忠诚,拒绝遵守反政府的罗马天主教徒 在星期五只吃鱼的习俗。因此, to eat no fish 表示"忠诚"之意。to paly the game 和 to play fair(规规矩矩地比赛)同义,转义为"公平

对待"、"为人正直"。

(2) 表达

表达指的是将原文的内容在正确理解的前提下用译语准确地 进行重现。表达是理解的结果,但要恰如其分地进行表达需运用 一些具体的方法和技巧(后面将分别阐述)。

(3) 校核

表达阶段过后便应对原文和译文进行比较,依据"忠实"、"通顺"的翻译标准,看是否有漏译、误译的情况,同时进行一些适当的修改或润色。

四、翻译的方法

翻译主要有两种方法:直译和意译。直译指的是译文采取原文的表现方法,既忠实于原文内容,又考虑原文形式。例如:

The field of mechanical engineering may be divided into two major areas; thermosciences and design.

机械工程的范围可分为两个主要方面: 热学和设计。

意译指的是译文忠实于原文的内容,而不拘泥于原文的形式。 例如:

Don't cross the bridge till you get to it.

不必担心太早。(不必自寻烦恼)

在具体的翻译实践中,在能确切地表达原作思想内容和不违 背译语语言规范的前提下,采用直译法比较可取。但英汉两种语 言存在着较大差异,有时无法在翻译中照顾好原文的形式,这时便 须采用意译法。

五、英译汉的常用基本技巧

(1) 转换法

由于英、汉两种语言在语言结构与表达形式方面各有其自身的特点,因而在翻译时为了译语通顺常常需要进行词性的转换。 例如:

 Λ change of state from a solid to a liquid form requires heat energy.

从固态变为液态需要热能。(名词转译为动词)

They drove home a bit after midnight, over the river and through the lovely old sleeping town.

时过午夜,他们驱车回家。先<u>过了河,又穿过了</u>这个在酣睡中的古老而可爱的城市。(介词转译为动词)

In such a case the patient is often desirous to be operated on.

在这种情况下,患者常常渴望接受手术。(形容词转译为动词)

The oil in the tank is up.

桶里的油用完了。(副词转译为动词)

It is well known that water-soluble vitamins act differently from fat-soluble vitamins.

众所周知,水溶性维生素的作用不同于脂溶性维生素。(动词转译为名词)

They were considered insincere.

他们被人认为是伪君子。(形容词转译为名词)

The clinical trial was quite a success.

临床试验非常成功。(名词转译为形容词)

Acupuncture anesthesia developed in China has been highly

appreciated all over the world.

中国发明的针麻术,在全世界获得了高度的评价。(副词转译为形容词)

Little by little the surgeon removed the pus and freed the adhesions, making careful observation all through.

外科医生一点一点地清除脓液,剥离粘连,并一直<u>仔细地</u>观察着。(形容词转译为副词)

When he catches a glimpse of a potential antagonist, his <u>instinct</u> is to win him over with charm and humor.

只要一发现有可能反对他的人,他就<u>本能地</u>要用他的魅力和 风趣将这人争取过来。(名词转译为副词)

He is physically weak but mentally sound.

他身体虚弱,但思想健康。(副词转译为名词)

(2) 增补法

有一些词(或成分)在英语中可省略,但在翻译时必须增补出来才符合汉语的表达习惯。还有一些词(或成分)根据英语表达习惯是十分明白的,但译成汉语却不通顺,这时也需要进行增补。例如:

Without a sense of your fault, how can I forgive you?

如果你不能意识到自己的错误,我怎么能够原谅你呢?

In the evening, after the banquets, the concerts and the table tennis exhibitions, he would work on the drafting of the final communique.

晚上参加宴会、出席音乐会、观看乒乓球表演之后,他还得起草最后公报。

The person in the picture is wrinkled and black, with scant grey hair.

图片上的那个人,满脸皱纹,皮肤很黑,头发灰白稀疏。

From the evaporation of water people know that liquid can turn into gases under certain condition.

根据水的蒸发<u>现象</u>,人们知道液体在一定条件下能转变成气体。

The very earth trembled as with the tramps of horses and murmur of angry men.

连大地都震了,仿佛万马奔腾,千夫怒吼。

The author recounts his views on the anatomy, physiology, and pathology of the varicose veins of the lower limb.

作者详细论述了他对下肢静脉曲张的解剖学、生理学以及病理学三个方面的见解。

(3) 省略法

由于英汉语言用法上的差别,有些词(或成分)在英语中是必不可缺的,但在汉语中却是多余的,在翻译时须省去不译以使译文更严谨,更精练,更明确。例如:

At present, Chinese medicinal herbs are used to treat hepatitis. They prove to be very effective for the disease.

目前,中草药用来治疗肝炎,证明非常有效。(省译 they)

He shrugged his shoulders, shook his head, cast up his eyes, but said nothing.

他耸耸肩,摇摇头,两眼看天,一言不发。(省译 his)

It was in the small hours when the accident took place.

事故发生时正是深更半夜。(省译 It)

Sometimes surgeons make their rounds in the morning and perform operations in the afternoon.

有时外科医生上午查病房,下午做手术。(省译 in)

There was no snow, the leaves were gone from the trees and the grass was dead.

天未下雪,但叶落草枯。(省译 from the trees)

- (4)被动语态的翻译
- ① 译为汉语被动句,例如:

Many substances, when dissolved in water, undergo dissociation, that is, some of the molecules are broken into charged particles or ions.

很多物质溶解于水时受到离解,即一些分子被分解成带电粒 子或带电离子。

② 译为汉语主动句,例如:

It also can be passed in blood products or from a pregnant woman with AIDS to her developing baby.

它还可以通过血制品传播,也可以从一位患艾滋病的孕妇身上传染到她的妊娠婴儿身上。

The potential use of the laser in medicine is demonstrated by its increasing application in clinical ophthalmology.

在医学上采用激光的可能性,可以从它在临床眼科上日益增长的应用看出来。

③ 译为汉语的"把"、"使"和"由"字句,例如:

Since the wingspan of the twin-engine bombers was too wide for the ships elevators, they couldn't be stored below.

由于这种双引擎轰炸机翼展超过了升降机的宽度,所以不能 把它们放在甲板下的机库内。

Gasoline may be separated from other components of crude oil by distillation.

用蒸馏方法可使汽油与原油的其他组成部分分离出来。

Local liver anoxia with resulting hepatic necrosis may be caused by pressure of retractor on the right border of the gastrohepatic omentum.

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肝脏局部缺氧并导致肝坏死可由手术牵引器引迫肝胃韧带的 右缘所造成。

④ 当被动语态的主语带有补语时,可采用增译法,增添"人们、我们、有人"等作为译文的主语,例如:

With the development of modern electrical engineering, power can be transmitted to wherever it is needed.

随着现代化电气工程的发展,人们能把电力输送到所需要的 任何地方。

⑤ 对于"It + be + 及物动词过去分词 + that 从句"中的被动语态常采用惯译法,将其译为汉语"据"字结构,无主句或增添泛指主语,例如:

It is estimated that he will be appointed Minister of Education in the new cabinet.

据估计,他将被任命为新内阁的教育部长。

It is understood that we should meet at six.

不用说,我们要在六点钟会面。

It is believed that fever and the conditions that accompany it are protective reactions to overcome the effect of toxins on the body.

人们相信,发烧及其伴随的症状是人体克服毒素效应的保护性反应。

- (5) 定语从句的翻译
- ① 前置法

Some recent research also suggests that we remember everything that happens to us.

某项新近的研究表明,我们能记住所有我们经历过的事情。

But that Christmas, which my father had planned so carefully, was it the best or the worst I ever knew?

可是,我父亲如此精心安排的那个圣诞节,是我一生中所经历

的最好的一次还是最糟的一次圣诞节呢?

② 分译法

At each end of a skeletal muscle the connective tissue blends with the strong connective tissue that anchors it to the structure on which it pulls.

骨骼肌两端的结缔组织(肌腱),与坚韧的结缔组织(骨膜)融合为一体,而骨膜又将肌腱嵌入骨骼肌牵动的组织结构上。

It had taken him nine months, of which the sailing time was 226 days.

他一共花了九个月的时间,其中航行时间为226天。

③ 融合法

Food is taken in through the mouth, where it is chewed and mixed with saliva. Then it passes down the esophagus to the stomach, where the food collects.

食物经过口摄人,在口内被咀嚼并与唾液拌和。然后它经食道下行进入并聚集于胃。

A case in point is students in New York state who faced criminal misdemeanor charges for possessing and selling advance copies of state Regents Examinations.

一个明显的例子就是纽约州的一些学生,因为拥有并出售州 教育董事会的考卷样本,受到了刑事轻罪指控。

④ 偏正法

There was something original, independent and heroic about the plan that pleased all of them.

这个方案有创造性,而且别出心裁,又有魄力,所以深得他们大家的喜欢。

He became desperated for work, any work, which would help him to keep alive his family.

他极其迫切地要求工作,不管什么样的工作,只要能以此养家 糊口就行。

This information, which is not readily quantitable nor transferable from one patient to another, is vital in the interpretation and analysis of data in shock.

这些资料,虽然不易用数量来表示,也不能从一个病人身上搬用到另一个病人身上,但对于有关体克资料(数据)的解释和分析却是非常重要的。

(6) 长句的翻译

原译法

Those who had the pleasure of watching Benny Goodman at work saw a rather ordinary looking man in rimless glasses and conservative business suit; but they also saw a human being who could play the clarinet like no one before or since.

那些荣幸地观看过本尼·古德曼工作的人,看到的是一个容貌颇为寻常的男子,戴一副无框眼镜,穿一身旧式商人服装;但他们也同时看到了一个人,他的单簧管吹得无人可与伦比。

② 逆译法

It was our view that the United States could be effective in both the tasks outlined by the President—that is, of ending hostilities as well as making a contribution to a permanent peace in the Middle East—if we conducted ourselves so that we could remain in permanent contact with all of these elements in the equation.

如果我们采取行动以便能够继续与中东问题各方始终保持接触,那么我们美国就能有效地担当起总统所提出的两项任务,那就 是在中东结束敌对行动以及对该地区的永久和平作出贡献。这就 是我们的观点。

③ 分译法

After settling in Italy in mid-twenties Pound became more and more obsessed with his hatred of American finance and of the "usury" or moneyed interests which he blamed for the degeneration of American life since the time of Jefferson.

庞德 20 年代中期定居意大利以后,对美国财政和"高利贷"即利滚利越来越深恶痛绝。他认为这是从杰弗逊时代以来美国生活的堕落。

④ 综合法

The paradox I have discovered, in writing and in reading the writing of others, is that the more you respect and focus on the singular and strange, the more you become aware of the universal and the infinite.

在写作或阅读别人作品的时候,我时常发现事与愿违。你越重视和强调特殊性、新奇性,就越是得到其普遍性和一般性。

六、英译汉样题及评分标准

英译汉题型主要包括 4~5 组句子,每组句子由 1~2 个句子 组成,每组句子为一个小题,句子全部从阅读理解文章中选出,本 题共 10 分,考试时间为 15 分钟。

本题型每小题为2分(有时为2.5分)。其中,句子的整体结构0.5分,每个要点0.5分(一般含3个要点)。一般情况下只要全句整体通顺达意,要点未译错就可以得满分,既有标准译文,也有可以认可的译法。

「样题]

Translation from English into Chinese

Directions:

In this part, there are five items which you should translate into

Chinese, each item consisting of one or two sentences. These sentences are all taken from the reading passages you have just read in the Third Part of the Test Paper.

You are allowed 15 minutes to do the translation. You can refer back to the passages so as to identify their meanings in the context.

1. (Lines 1 ~ 3. Para. 1. Passage 1)

Researchers have established that when people are mentally engaged, biochemical changes occur in the brain that allow it to act more effectively in cognitive(认知的) areas such as attention and memory.

2. (Lines 2 ~ 3, Para. 2, Passage 1)

And someone with a history of doing more rather than less will go into old age more cognitively sound than someone who has not had an active mind.

3. (Lines 1 ~ 2, Para. 5, Passage 2)

Too often we believe what accounts for other's success is some special or a lucky break(机遇). But rarely is success so mysterious.

4. (Last sentence, Passage 3)

The latter ignores the higher cost of providing full services to a scattered community and the cost in both money and time of the jour-

neys to work for the suburban resident.
5. (Lines 4 ~ 5, Para. 2, Passage 4)
For the population as a whole, we must be more concerned with
the delayed effects of absorbing small amounts of the pesticides that
invisibly pollute our world.
[参考答案]
1. (Lines 1 ~ 3, Para. 1, Passage 1)
Researchers have established that when people are mentally en-
gaged, biochemical changes occur in the brain that allow it to act more
effectively in cognitive(认知的) areas such as attention and memory.
研究人员证实人们 <u>在动脑筋时</u> ,头脑里会产生生化变化,使 0.5
头脑在注意力和记忆力 <u>这类认知领域中</u> 更加有效地活动。(全句 0.5 0.5
结构 0.5)
可以认可的译法:
研究人员(已经)证实人们 <u>在动脑筋时,</u> 头脑里会产生生(物) 0.5
化学变化,(这种变化可以)使头脑在(诸如)注意力和记忆力
(的) <u>这类认知领域中</u> <u>更加有效地(进行)活动。(全句结构 0.5)</u> 0.5 0.5
2. (Lines 2 ~ 3, Para. 2, Passage 1)
And someone with a history of doing more rather than less will g
14