



全国翻译专业资格(水平)考试指定教材

英语笔译综合能力

主编 汪福祥

[新版]

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英语笔译综合能力

(二级)

[新版]

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前 言

《英语笔译综合能力》(二级)第一版于2004年5月出版发行后,读者断续致电出版部门,询问涉及该书与《考试大纲》内容出现偏差问题的原由。在此,我们有必要就此事向大家作一简要说明:2003年,全国翻译专业资格(水平)考试英语专家委员会讨论通过的《考试大纲》对“笔译综合能力”的考题模块明确了三个内容:(1)语法词汇,(2)阅读理解,(3)概要写作。这便是《第一版》用了较大篇幅专门讨论“概要写作”的原因所在。然而,当《第一版》已付梓之时,《新大纲》问世,不但取消了“概要写作”,而且增加了“完形填空”的题型。本人得到《新大纲》一周内,立即召集编委开会并按《新大纲》的要求着手修订本的策划、构思和编写工作。因此也就有了目前这本《英语笔译综合能力》(二级)新版的问世。

《新版》的编写,基本上是按照《新大纲》的内容进行安排的。较之《第一版》相比,《新版》在保留《第一版》前三个单元内容的基础上,重新编写了其余的单元,即便是附录中的模拟试题也属新编内容。纵观全书,大抵可用“面目全非”概括之。现谨将该书的内容安排以及使用方法向大家介绍如下。

首先,《新版》在《第一版》的基础上增加了第四单元的“概说英汉翻译技巧”(Some Issues in the Skills of E-C Translation)、第五单元的“概说汉英翻译技巧”(Some Issues in the Skills of C-E Translation)和第六单元的“英汉互译自检测试”(Self-Evaluation Tests in E-C and C-E Translation)的内容。在针对翻译意识、翻译技巧、翻译能力的提高的讨论和介绍方面,更趋具体化,更具指导性和启发性。特别是第五单元的“概说汉英翻译技巧”,我们用了较长的篇幅讨论涉及汉译英的几大方面,比较全面地介绍了汉译英的特点以及与之相关的重要事项。第二,《新版》增加了第七单元的“词汇与阅读理解”(Vocabulary and Reading Comprehension)、第八单元的“单词的习得与使用”(The Acquisition and Use of Words)、第九单元的“词汇及语法测试”(Tests in Vocabulary and Grammar)等内容,不但与目前考试内容靠得更紧,而且也为大家词汇的习得和词汇量的稳步提高提供了颇有价值的指导。第三,《新版》详尽讨论了与“完形填空”(Cloze Test)相关的内容:第十单元的“概说完形填空与技巧”(On Cloze Tests and Skills)既介绍了“完形”的理论依据和理论背景,也讨论了与之相关的做题技巧;第十一单元的“完形填空的能力与提高”(Improving Your Ability in Doing Cloze Tests)是在第十单元的基础上通过实例逐一讨论了与之相关的技巧;而第十二单元的“完形填空自检测试”(Self-Evaluation in Doing Cloze Tests)为大家自检、自测提供了较好的“标尺”。应该说,在国内讨论“完形填空”的大多数出版物中,《新版》所涉及的内容,其系统性、深入性和实用性都是比较突出的。第四,尽管第十三至十五单元仍保留了原书的部分内容,但新增加的阅读理解练习无疑提高了这本教材的使用价值和实用价值。更值得一提的是,本书的第十六

单元和附录中的试题不仅为大家的“模拟”提供了较贴近“实战”的素材，而且也为大家的应考准备指出了比较具体的自学方向。就主编人自己的感觉而言，《新版》，无论是编写的思路还是内容的安排，与《第一版》相比，既有了量的提升，更有了质的提高。

现在就该书的使用方法向大家介绍以下三点：一是单元内提供的题例及注释，二是单元内围绕翻译意识的培养所提供的思考路向，三是练习与意识、能力提高的关系。首先，每单元内提供的“注释”犹如“授人以渔”(Teach people to fish.)之“渔”(To fish)，关系到翻译能力的提高，因此静下心来体会注释中的道理是至关重要的；第二，每单元内提供的“思考路向”是对“授人以渔”之“渔”的延伸，是提高翻译技能和强化翻译功夫的重要前提；第三，书中提供的各项练习可谓是“授人以渔”之“渔”的“用武之地”，是掌握知识、检验知识运用能力的重要“战场”。更重要的是，善学者以“勤”为基，而会学者则在“勤”的基础上更“善思”、“善悟”、“善索”。有道是：善思者明辨；善悟者明察；善索者日日出新。我们谨希望大家能在“勤”的基础上以“思”为纲，以“悟”为路，以“索”为目标，朝着能力和功夫稳步提高的终点一进再进。

最后需要向读者说明的是：我们对本书的成稿做了不懈的努力，但仍不可避免地会出现内容讲解方面的挂一漏万和知识结构的残缺不全。因此，若书中出现这样或那样的“残疾”，敬请指正。与此同时，希望大家以“去粗取精”的精神避免让书中可能存在的“糟粕”影响对“精华”的提取。当然，若读者能为本书质量的进一步提高提出相关的建议，我们将以实际行动答谢大家的赐予。

汪福祥

二〇〇五年十二月于
北京第二外国语学院

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语言与翻译

Language and Translation

语言不仅仅是思想交流的工具，而且也是信息载体和传播媒介。人类思想的交流靠的是语言，信息的承载、传播靠的也是语言。首先，思想的交流靠的是特定的语言符号：只有通过特定的语言符号，思想的交流才能产生。同样，源于人类绝大多数信息的承载、传播靠的也是语言。但应该指出的是，人们常说的语言不单纯是口述语(Spoken Language)和书面语(Written Language)，语言还包括手势语(Gestures)、标记语(Signs)以及空间语(Space)在内的非文字语言(Nonverbal Language)。就翻译(笔译)而言，所接触的当然是书面语，而书面语无疑是以语言符号为载体的思想的交流和信息的传播或记载。这就意味着说，翻译的任务就是把一种语言符号转换成另一种语言符号并将其承载的思想和信息用另一种语言符号承接过来。要做到这一点，译者首先应对语言承载信息的特点有个概括性的了解。

第一，人的思想或信息是靠语言符号来传达和承载的，而语言符号的组成又根据人类思想或信息交流或传达的复杂需要构建而成。其中，词、词组、句、段、章就是最基本的符号构建。但传达信息的媒介还不止这些，标点符号、文体、语气以及时态等，也是符号系统的重要组成部分。这些同样是符号，同样承载着思想、信息和意义。

第二，语言文字所承载的思想或信息不仅受特定语言语法编码的制约，而且还具有民族文化、社会习惯的“排他性”(Exclusiveness)。仅就英语语法编码而言，其 to be done 的句式不但为思想或信息的表达或传达确定了“方向”，而且还为人们的思维确定了“轨迹”。就语言的“排他性”而言，汉语的歇后语或四字语有“排他性”，同样，英语的 humor 和 puns 也有“排他性”。即便是词语层面的，汉语中“感慨”的语言形式有“排他性”，英语中的“privacy”或“dilutee”也有“排他性”。因此，搞翻译的需要不断地深入了解这些，以提高排除这些具有“排他性”语言内容的能力和化解矛盾的技能。

第三，两种语言的同质性和异质性也是译者应熟悉和了解的语言知识。事实上，在任何两种语言之间，既存在很多的同质性(如对自然世界的描述)，也存在着很大程度的异质性(如心理和情感描述)。这就意味着说，在 A 语言中存在的表达或表示法在 B 语言中既会有相应的表示法，也会有不尽相同的表示法或表达法。以修辞为例，任何两种语言都有独到之处：汉语口语中的“扫帚星”是汉语特有的，而 jinx 则是英语特有的。切勿认为你说的 She is a comet. 在英美人听来就是你要表达的意思。同样，英美人笔下 yellow publications 的意思和你所认为的“黄色出版物”也绝不是一码事。

第四，人类复杂的思想和信息潜藏在每种语言符号系统的各个角落。有的依附在结构上，有得则依附在字里行间；有的隐含在时态上，有的则隐含在词与词的碰撞之时或组合之中，还

有的隐藏在标点符号之中。这就如同一个人的“善良”，有显而易见的，也有隐藏在内心世界的。因此，搞翻译的人既需要把握住语言符号系统“明露”出的信息，也需要窥测出“隐藏”在符号系统中那些隐约的信息。

总之，“拿本词典就能当翻译”的想法是对翻译的一大误解，而“得意忘形”也是一种错误的认识。虽然每个译者不能把握某一种语言庞大符号系统中的方方面面，但也绝不能忽视其中的方方面面。你对一种语言庞大符号系统的行为了解得越多，你在翻译中犯的错误就会越少，这也是译者应该努力实现的一个目标。同样，每个民族的语言信息和意义都是通过某一种符号系统来传达的，因此，符号的构建和意义的表达是“身和影”的关系。这一点应该引起特别的注意。在本单元内，我们想通过实例和亲身体验使大家对上述有个更好的理解。

1.1 符号与符号群的关系

A Symbol and the Symbols

英语语言符号的最小单位是字母，如 M 或 F。尽管有些此类的符号已具备词义，但大多数单个字母的意义需要语境或“语场”(field)的衬托，需要其它字母的配合。单词也如此。一个孤立的单词已具有某种意义，但当一个单词与另一个单词组合在一起时，其意义也许就和原来这两个单词各自的意义相距甚远了。以 black (黑) 和 diamonds (钻石) 两词为例。当这两个词以词组的形式出现时，其意思指的是“煤”，和原来两个词各自的意思就大不相同了。由此看来，符号的意义取决于符号群或“语场”(language field)，而更大的符号群的意义又取决于更大的“语场”。本节安排的练习就是使大家对这方面的知识有个概括性的了解和认识。

一、符号与语境

Directions: Take a look at the following groups of symbols, get a feel of how the context affects the meaning of the individual symbols. Then, translate each of the groups of symbols into Chinese.

[第一组] From N to S, from E to W.

[第二组] Your Sex: (M) (F)

[第三组] U-shaped iron; T-shaped steel

[第四组] U.N documents; USA soldiers; CPC members

[第五组] Class-A management; suit to a T

[第六组] The structure: S + V + O; A VIP hotel

[第七组] GRE test; TOFLE scores

[第八组] VOA news; From A to Z

[第九组] A course in P.R; China's GNP

[第十组] A MA candidate; DNA research

二、符号与符号群：单词与词组

Directions: Read the following colloquialisms, study how the word changes in meaning when in connection with other words. Then, translate each of the collocations into Chinese.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. agree to disagree | 11. a blessing in disguise |
| 2. get the upper hand | 12. cook the books |
| 3. cost an arm and a leg | 13. bring down the house |
| 4. pay through the nose | 14. put a bug in sb.'s ear |
| 5. fall asleep at the switch | 15. carry a chip on one's shoulder |
| 6. bring home the bacon | 16. be hot under the collar |
| 7. more bark than bite | 17. feel like a million dollars |
| 8. like a bear with a sore head | 18. handle with kid gloves |
| 9. have a bee in one's bonnet | 19. keep a stiff upper lip |
| 10. make sb.'s blood boil | 20. have someone's number |

三、单词、词组与语境

Directions: Translate each of the following paragraphs into Chinese.

练习一

The Contemplation of Excellence

Whoever has so far formed his taste, as to be able to relish and feel the beauties of the great masters, has gone a great way in his study; merely from a conscientiousness of his relish of the right, the mind swells with an inward pride, and is almost as powerfully affected, as if it had itself produced what it admires. Our hearts, frequently warmed in this manner by the contact of those whom we wish to resemble, will undoubtedly catch something of their way of thinking; and we shall receive in our own bosoms some radiation at least of their fire and splendour. That disposition, which is so strong in children, still continues with us, of catching involuntarily the general air and manner of those with whom we are most conversant. [参考译文一]

练习二

Altruism

The strength of altruism lies in the fact that altruistic acts undeniably occur in any society and that moral codes universally advocate altruism or benevolence and condemn selfishness. The issues surrounding altruism include the following. Given the self-preserving tendency of human nature, how are we to account for the existence of altruism? Even if we can understand how altruism occurs, is it morally justified? Are altruistic acts merely apparent and really motivated by self-interest? Since one

should reasonably pursue one's own interest, does the good of others itself provide reason for an agent to promote that good? Given the difficulty in understanding another person, how can altruism really serve the good of others? [参考译文二]

练习三

A U.S. Made Genius

In his early ballets, Robbins favored clear-cut dramatic situations. "What really interests me," he said in 1958, "is the conduct of man, the rites he performs to face the mysteries of life." *The Cage* portrays a tribe of ferocious, insect-like women who kill the men with whom they mate; *In Afternoon of a Faun*, two dancers meet in a studio for a sensuous yet self-absorbed encounter that ends in an oddly tentative kiss. Later, Robbins adopted the plotless style of Balanchine, his mentor and idol, firmly denying that his new works were "about" anything but movement and music. Dancegoers knew better. *Dances at a Gathering* may not have a plot, but it is full of vividly drawn characters who relate to one another in abstract yet deeply emotional ways.

Offstage, Robbins was a self-made enigma who gave interviews rarely and only on his own terms, meaning no personal questions. Though his homosexuality was an open secret, he never discussed it in public, going so far in 1951 as to become engaged to the ballerina Nora Kaye. (They never married. Interestingly, he cast her as the novice man killer in *The Gage*.) It took a subpoena to get him to talk about his private life: He testified before the House Un-American Activities Committee in 1953 about his involvement with a communist group of the '40s, naming eight other party members. "I feel I'm doing the right thing as an American," he explained. But many left-wing friends never forgave his apostasy, doubtless reinforcing his inclination to keep the outside world at a safe distance.

Dancers constantly swapped tales of his high-handed behavior at rehearsals. "I know I'm difficult," he told the cast of *West Side Story*. "I know I'm going to hurt your feelings. But that's the way I am." Painstaking to the point of mania, he often cast his ballets at the last minute, usually after trying out several dancers in each role. "His work was the primary thing in his life," says Edwards Villella, who created major roles in *Dances at a Gathering* and *Watermill*. "and anybody who was connected with it had to think in those terms too. It was life and blood and humanity, and everybody else was raw material for his genius."

Robbins took his final curtain call in May, at opening night of the New York City Ballet's revival of his *Les Noces*. The once vital choreographer had grown frail, but his snow-white beard still glowed like a beacon, and when the dance was over, he made his careful way to center stage, hobbled by age and illness but radiating undimmed authority. More than a few onlookers wept, knowing that the golden age of ballet — the starlit century of Sergei Diaghilev, George Balanchine, Antony Tudor, Sir Frederick Ashton and Jerome Robbins — was drawing at last to a close. [参考译文三]

1.2 单词与语境

Words and Contexts

单词的意义不但为人所赋予，而且也深受语境的影响。以 apple 一词为例：尽管英美人赋予 apple 这组语言符号的意义是“苹果”，但在 (1) He worked for the Apple. (2) She is the apple of her father's eye. (3) The Apple is a noisy place. (4) She ran into a wise apple. (5) One apple a day keeps the doctor away. 这五句中，apple 的意指已脱离了人赋予该词的原意，其实际意义受到了语境或“语场”的限定。事实上，即便是一部小说的名字，如 Catch-22，其意指仍依赖于语境提供的参照。比如，在 That was obviously a Catch-22 for the corporation. 一句中，其意义因受语境的影响而发生了变化。再以为大家所熟知的 nurse 一词为例。在 (1) She is a nurse. (2) She is nursing the hope of buttering up her boss. (3) He is nursing his elbow. 这三句中，该词的意指都因语境的变化而发生了变化。由此可见，译者要确定单词的意义，语境是最好的参照之一。

Directions: Translate each of the following paragraphs into Chinese, get a feel of how context affects the meaning of words.

练习一

Television has changed the importance of issues. It can be argued that since the 1960 presidential debates we have elected people, not platforms. This is a major departure from earlier years. Franklin Roosevelt's radio charisma cannot be denied, but he was swept to power by one issue — the Great Depression.

思考：(1) What do “issues” in the first line and the “one issue” in the last line respectively mean? The translation?

(2) What is your translation of the phrase “not platforms”?

练习二

So why build it? There are good political reasons for doing so. It will provide work for the thousands of unemployed defense workers who depended on the Cold War for their jobs, and who make up a substantial proportion of voters in both Russia and the U.S. It will also help keep American/Russian ties strong — another reason NASA believes the space station is a good investment.

And then there is the legacy of the Cold War. The Berlin Wall may have fallen, but NASA and the U.S. government still seem to believe in the ideal of one nation's superiority in space. Indeed, NASA describes the space station as “a powerful symbol of U.S. leadership”. (From the article *Space Politics*)

思考：What does the word “legacy” mean by the dictionary, and does it mean the same thing in this

passage? And your translation?

练习三

Government bureaucracies and large corporations account for most of the global expenditures on research and development, and they have the resources to take innovations from the laboratory bench through the testing stage and into widespread use. They are thus the prime actors in the development and application of new technologies. Public influence over this process is exercised chiefly through purchasing power in the marketplace — which is itself shaped by the advertising budgets of the industries that develop new technologies — and through political pressures in the halls of government. Usually however, public influence is limited to attempts to curb the use of technologies that are already well along the path to development, such as nuclear power or supersonic transportation; there is little opportunity for individuals to have much impact on the processes that lead to the generation of new technologies. (From *The God That Limpes: Science and Technology in the Eighties*)

思考: Consult the dictionary for the directional meaning of the word “bureaucracies” and see if one of the provided definitions fits into your translation of the paragraph. Can you work out the meaning of that word in this context?

练习四

As the Union armies pressed forward Lincoln gave increasing attention to the problem of restoring peace when victory was achieved. It must be done, he said in his second inaugural address, “With malice toward none; with charity for all...” Desiring a speedy reconstruction of a united republic, he set forth a simple plan. Ten percent of the voters in a Confederate state, if they took an oath of allegiance to the United States, could organize a government and resume their old place in the federal union. By 1865 several states were putting the plan into operation. But strong opposition had developed in Congress. Many Republicans believed that such generosity was unrealistic. They felt that there should be more punishment for Southern traitors and more protection for freed slaves. The whole question of Reconstruction remained unsettled at the time of Lincoln’s death. (From *Abraham Lincoln and the American Civil War* by Don E. Fehrenbacher)

思考: Can you translate the word “developed” into “发展” in this paragraph? If not, which Chinese phrase you can use for the word in this context?

练习五

Sweden’s foreign-policy establishment, however, is in a stew. It fears that Sweden will now be on the defensive in the negotiations that will begin next month over a constitution for the EU. Without Mrs. Lindh, a less experienced minister will have to handle them. And the government is bracing itself

to resist demands for a referendum on any new EU constitution too.

Big business is also taken aback. Companies like Ericsson have given warning that, in the long run, foreign investment in Sweden will dip. And some economists fear that the country may forgo a boom in trade within the euro zone. Swedish voters, however, heard all these arguments before the referendum and were plainly unimpressed. As one voter in the far north told Swedish television on election night, "It is too soon to make a decision. Come back in 20 years and ask me again."

- 思考: (1) What is your translation of the word "establishment" and "arguments" in this context?
(2) What influences your decision?

1.3 单词具体指意的确定

The Specific Meanings of Words

如前面(1.2项)所示, 单词的具体指意有赖于语境所提供的参照。当然, 语境有“近语境”(Immediate Environments)和“远语境”(Remote Environments)之分。“近语境”指某个词的邻词; “远语境”指距离某词较远的语言成分。以 This area is highly developed. 一句为例。确定 developed 一词的具体指意有赖于 this area 这个“近语境”所提供的参照。而在确定 She had been taking very good care of all the letters she has received from the Chairman... But she burnt all these documents, not knowing why. 一句中 documents 一词的具体指意时就有赖于“远语境”所提供的参照了。在该句中, documents 无疑是指“这些信件”, 而非“文件”。下面通过练习体会在确定单词具体指意时需要注意的事情。

练习一

单词与词组

Directions: Take a look at the following phrases, translate each of them into Chinese, paying special attention to the different shades of meaning of the phrases.

- | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. light fingers _____ | 2. a light adaptation _____ | 3. light bobs _____ |
| 4. a light car _____ | 5. a light chain _____ | 6. a light bomber _____ |
| 7. a light eater _____ | 8. light colonel _____ | 9. light artillery _____ |
| 10. a light box _____ | 11. a light cruiser _____ | 12. light air _____ |
| 13. a light touch _____ | 14. a light step _____ | 15. a light heart _____ |
| 16. a light mistake _____ | 17. light foods _____ | 18. light smell _____ |
| 19. light work _____ | 20. a piece of light bread _____ | |

练习二**单词与句子**

Directions: Take a look at the following sentences, translate each of them into Chinese, paying special attention to the different shades of meaning of the word "communicate".

1. As the president of the corporation, he is always able to **communicate** his ideas to his subordinates and through whom to all the employees of the corporation.
2. The accused was forced to **communicate** all the underground activities and dirty dealings of the "net" to the police.
3. In order to **communicate** information about motions, standards of length and time are certainly highly necessary.
4. Of the governor's motions, purposes, or plans, she knew nothing, and so had nothing to **communicate**.
5. In order to change the financial situation of the company, the manager called for a meeting and asked all the participants to **communicate** their ideas about the matter.
6. His passion and affection had easily **communicated** to all those people around him.
7. Her language is singularly agreeable to me, and the information she **communicates** is often just what I wish to gain.
8. I shook hands with the chairman, hoping to **communicate** his firmness of his stand to him.
9. The United States Navy is investigating the use of fiber optics for **communicating** with submerged submarines.
10. The only way you can motivate people is to **communicate** with them, letting them know how you care for their enthusiastic participation in the development of business of the company.

练习三**单词与篇章**

Directions: Translate each of the following texts into Chinese.

(一)

Meanwhile, we'll continue sending probes to Mars, as well as to its moons, the asteroid belt and the moons of Jupiter. The probes will be robots, directed by human and artificial intelligence to explore and to perform tasks similar to those we did as astronauts during the Apollo program. Computer engineers and automation experts will be needed to design these machines.

Man will eventually step onto the surface of Mars — but not merely to plant a flag and come back home. Mars is 49 million miles from the Earth. Bridging this gap takes nine or more months; the round trip is nearly two years. (From the essay *Your Future in Space* by Alan L. Bean)