

☆☆☆ 创新研究生英语系列教材

国际学术交流英语教程

主 编 © 郭月琴 武学锋 郑 琳

 中国人民大学出版社

创新研究生英语系列教材

国际学术交流

英语教程

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依托山东省研究生教育创新计划项目“基于 CLIL 理念的研究生 ESP 教学实践探索”和山东省研究生教育优质课程“基础外语”质量提升计划建设项目
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中国人民大学出版社“创新研究生英语系列教材”之一《国际学术交流英语教程》，是依托山东省研究生教育创新计划项目“基于 CLIL 理念的研究生 ESP 教学实践探索”和山东省研究生教育优质课程“基础外语”编写而成的。

《国际学术交流英语教程》以国际学术交流为主线，结合 CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning) 教学理念，尽力将学科内容和语言学习融合在一起进行教学，详细介绍了国际学术交流活动的准备工作、操作惯例和相关规则，包括学术英语论文写作、国际学术会议、出国留学三部分。旨在培养学生的跨文化交际意识和国际学术交流能力，为研究生参加本专业领域内的国际学术交流活动提供智力支撑。《国际学术交流英语教程》具有如下特点：

系统性：系统介绍国际学术交流活动的各个环节，涉及国际学术会议的筹备、学术信件的往来、会议主持和发言等不同方面。

实用性：通过丰富的范例构建出学术交流的真实场景，引导学生学以致用、培养语言综合应用能力，提高国际学术交流技巧。

合理性：内容编排合理，听、说、读、写、译等语言技能在不同章节各有侧重。教师可根据教学需要调整教学内容，合理安排教学活动。

此教程将论文撰写、国际会议、出国留学等相关内容和知识进行了梳理和介绍，每一章节的主要内容分为五个部分：Brainstorming, Relevant Information, Sample Demonstration, Language Focus 和 Exercises (个别章节除外)，重点突出、内容新颖、涉及面广、实用性强，既适用于硕士研究生和博士研究生，也适用于需要撰写学术论文参加国际会议的在职人员等。

在教材编写过程中，我们借用了很多专家学者的资料，在此对于各位作者及出版机构一并表示由衷的感谢，后面所列参考文献若有遗漏，敬请谅解。

读者若需本书练习题参考答案，请登录中国人民大学出版社外语分社主页 <http://www.crup.com.cn/wy>，搜索本书后下载，或与 010-62513265，010-62515580，chengzsh@crup.com.cn，jialk@crup.com.cn 联系索取相关教学资源。

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Part One

Academic Writing

The term *academic writing* consists of many different text types and genres, ranging from a research article written for publication in an academic journal to a MSc dissertation to an essay written for a university course.

However, there are **certain features** which appear to be typical of academic writing. For example, academic texts answering a specific question, or questions, using a set of well-structured, logical arguments. The arguments are often based on research carried out by the writer or other researchers. Academic texts contain references to previous research, which are documented at the end of the text. Academic texts are written in an impersonal, objective style, and are characterized by **certain language** features such as the avoidance of personal and contracted forms, a high lexical density, frequent nominalisations and the use of the passive.

Academic writing is usually of formal style. For example, full form *do not* should be used instead of contraction *don't*. Single-word verb *tolerate* should be used instead of phrasal verb *put up with*, a more-colloquial one. Standard or formal words and expressions such as *depart, resign, fatigued, laboratory* are preferred compared with informal or non-standard ones such as *leave, quit, tired, lab*. And concrete words and expressions *the right action/procedure* should be used instead of vague or imprecise term *the right thing*.

Academic writing is of objective style. When expressing an opinion or belief, try to use impersonal constructions such as passive voice *it can be seen that* instead of *you can see that*. And avoid the first person pronoun "I". *It has been observed that ...* is better than *I have observed ...* If the first person pronoun cannot be avoided, use "we" instead of "I", or use the third person reference, like "the writer, the present author, or this author".

Academic writing is of concise style. Find the most direct way to express the idea. Use as few words as possible. Avoid repetition of ideas. Concentrate on the topic. Anything that is irrelevant and unnecessary, no matter how well written it is, should be deleted.

Thesis Title

A title is the name of a thesis, which can convey the theme and the main idea of the thesis.

As the saying goes, a good beginning is half of success. A good title will probably lead to a successful thesis likewise. With an appropriate title, the thesis you write can draw the most attention of the readers within the shortest time. That is to say, it is of great importance to make a good title for your thesis. The title, which can reflect the academic sensitivity of the student, is the soul of the thesis, and can give an accurate description of the thesis by using concise language.

It is not an easy job, however, to make a good title, though there are only a few words in it. You have to have a very clear knowledge of what you've written in your thesis and what exactly you want to express by your thesis. In addition, it is necessary to improve your application of language so as to make a satisfactory title.

Before we get to an in-depth study of it, do the following practice and see how much you know about the choice of the title.

I. Brainstorming

1. Look at the following titles and choose an appropriate one.

Development of Petroleum Geology in China

Petroleum Geology

Petroleum geology features and research developments of hydrocarbon accumulation in deep petroliferous basins

2. Compare the following titles and choose a better one.

Restricting carbohydrates to fight head and neck cancer—is this realistic?

A new research on restricting carbohydrates

3. Look at the good titles below and analyze them.

English idioms—A mirror reflecting British culture

Structural features and petroleum geology of the fold-thrust belt in the southern Tarim basin, China

II. Relevant Information

The primary objective of a thesis title is to present succinctly the subject and argument of one's thesis. And the thesis title is the last to consider in academic writing because one does not entirely know the course of a thesis's argument until the thesis has reached completion.

The best title is to use the least words to give an accurate description of the thesis. How can we choose a good title for the thesis?

1. Getting a clear idea of the thesis

The title should express the main idea of the thesis, which means that the readers can get the information of what you have written or what you want to express in the whole thesis. To achieve that, you should know clearly about what you have written, and summarize it in accurate words.

2. Trying to create a good title

A good title can quickly draw others' attention, which asks for your good capacity of using words. To improve that kind of ability, you should pay attention to rhetorical devices in daily life and try to use figures of speech to write with your own words.

Writing a thesis title is an art form, and one should craft a title carefully. The writers should try to generate several possible titles and choose the one that most aptly describes the thesis. Generally speaking, to make an appropriate title, you'd better have the following tips in mind.

(1) The structure of the title

As far as structure is concerned, there are three types of titles: “phrase” type, “colon” type, and “title-subtitle” type. Usually, the title of the thesis is presented in phrase, especially noun phrase, which means that the title is made up of one or several nouns with pre-modifiers or postpositive attributes. A key word should be confirmed at first, after which modifiers can be added according to the key word. In general, a title is not a declarative sentence, which may have a potential meaning of judgment. In some circumstances, however, a question can be used as a title, because it can arouse interest of readers.

(2) The number of words in the title

A title should be short and accurate, usually within 10 content words. But it doesn't mean that the shorter, the better, because you should make sure the title has clearly expressed and summarized the gist of your thesis. And the title should be specific; a title like “*On Pride and Prejudice*” is so general that the readers cannot see your point clearly at the first sight.

(3) The capitalization of the first letter of words in the title

The first letter of each content word in the title should be in the capital form, so it is with the function words made up of more than 5 letters. As for the first word of the title, no matter what kind of word it is, the first letter of it should be written in the capital form.

3. A good title should satisfy the following principles

- (1) Correct and appropriate in form
- (2) Working as a comprehensive summary of the whole thesis
- (3) Specific and concise
- (4) Capable of intriguing readers

4. Establishing a working title

A working title is a title that you initially think of in order to establish a focus for your research and writing. As you read and become more involved in the subject of your project, your viewpoint may change. This is all part of the process of developing your ideas, and thus part fine-tuning your research skills. You may decide to go back and change your plan, and your final title may differ somewhat from your working title.

5. Avoiding asking a question in the title

In most cases, the thesis writer should avoid asking a question in the title, because the title should claim authority over the subject. For example, the title *Samuel Clemens, the Man Behind the Pen: A Closer Look at the Non-Literary Life of Mark Twain* seems much more authoritative than the title *Who Was Samuel Clemens, and Why Did He Choose a Pseudonym?* The distinction between declarative and interrogative titles may seem subtle, but declarative titles usually do seem stronger, and the reality exists that readers will decide the thesis writer's competence based at least partially on the writer's ability to write a strong title.

6. The use of the colon

The example above also illustrates another method writers use to create strong thesis titles. That method is the use of the colon. Before the colon, one may write a witty phrase related to the subject of the thesis in order to grab the reader's attention, and after the colon, one may explain that witty phrase academically in order to show what precisely the thesis discusses.

III. Sample Demonstration

Sample 1

Title page contains short, descriptive title of the proposed thesis project (should be fairly self-explanatory) and author, institution, department, research mentor, mentor's institution, and date of delivery.

TITLE PAGE (SAMPLE)

Your Tentative Thesis Title Here

by

Your Full-name

Degree Sought

Department of Study
Name of Your Supervisor

Date of Submission

Title: A Black Woman's Fight for Not to Be a Woman

Abstract: Toni Morrison's *Sula* is written under the background of the Civil Rights Movement and the second wave of feminist movement. The novel mainly portrays two black female characters' whole life. The main character Sula's life is a lifelong fight. This thesis mainly analyzes Toni Morrison's *Sula* from a feminist approach, especially from the angle of androgyny.

Toni Morrison, as a black woman, is a Nobel Prize and Pulitzer Prize-winning American writer, and her novels typically concentrate on black women. Her second novel *Sula*, which is nominated for the National Book Award, portrays two black female characters Sula and her friend Nel's whole life in a black community of South America from 1919 to 1965. At that time, America was experiencing the Civil Rights Movement which called for equal rights between the black and the white, and in the 1960s, the second wave of feminist movement began, which spawned American feminist literary criticism and then the black American feminist literary criticism.

In this novel, the protagonist Sula can be seen as a black feminist, who fights for equal rights not only between the black and the white, but also between men and women. She even fights for not to be a woman. In order to achieve her final goal, during her life-long fighting, she abandons some of her feminine characteristics, and gains a great deal of masculine characteristics.

Androgyny is an important concept in feminist literary criticism which is firstly introduced into literature by the English female writer Virginia Woolf. Her major comment on this concept is in *A Room of One's Own*, and she fashioned it into a critical tool that has earned the interest of many modern scholars. In short, androgyny is a natural fusion of masculine and feminine elements in one single person, and this phenomenon exists in everyone's body and mind. To achieve balance between masculine and feminine elements is the ideal situation.

In the novel, Sula's friend Nel looks like a traditional good girl, good wife and also a good mother which are the main roles for a black female during her whole life.

However, Sula is quite different, weird, and even evil in her community's eyes. As a black female, she spends a lifelong time fighting for her identity, and while doing so, she slowly abandons some of her feminine characteristics and gains more masculine elements.

Sula's masculine elements reflect on her challenging of her traditional roles, and the first one is to challenge her role of a good girl. In the traditional culture, a female in her girlhood should be lively, gentle, kind, and also delicate. But Sula is totally different from that picture. When she and Nel were twelve, and on their way home after school, they were teased by four white boys. After ducking them for weeks, Sula suggested going home at their old route, and they met these four boys again. This time, she pulled out a knife, pulled the slate towards herself and pressed her left forefinger down hard on its edge. And she said to those boys in a quiet voice: "If I can do that to myself, what you suppose I'll do to you?" Those four boys were scared away. When facing the white and male power, Nel acts quite like a black little girl, that is to escape. But Sula chooses to go the different way, that is to face them directly, and abandon her delicate girly identity, and finally she does successfully protect herself and her good girl friend.

Then, her challenge of feminine characteristics is reflected in her refusing to be a wife and a mother. If she is somewhat compelled to abandon her feminine characteristics when facing those white boys, she subjectively chooses to challenge the tradition when she becomes an adult. A traditional good wife in patriarchal society needs to be gentle, kind, virtuous, and loyal to her marriage. Besides, to be tolerant and giving are added to the quality of a good mother. Therefore, Sula's challenge seems unacceptable and is even seen as evil in her community: she refuses to get married. When she returns to her community at the age of 29 after ten years' leaving, her grandma Eva suggests: "when you gone to get married? You need to have some babies. It'll settle you.' 'I don't want to make somebody else. I want to make myself.'" For Eva, a woman needs to be settled, to get married and to have some babies, but for Sula, marriage is a bandage during her way of realizing her self-worth. At that time, Sula began to try to break the social convention and to abandon her identity as a wife and mother consciously.

...

Exercise:

Answer the following questions.

- 1) What can you learn about the theme of the thesis according to the title?

- 2) Is the title appropriate or not, and why?
- 3) Can you make another title for the thesis?

Sample 2

Title: Development of Petroleum Geology in China: Discussion on Continuous Petroleum Accumulation

Abstract:

Petroleum exploration targets are extending gradually from the single conventional trap reservoirs to the large-scale unconventional continuous accumulations. Oil and gas reservoirs have been divided into two types based on the trapping mechanism and distribution of oil and gas: conventional single-trap reservoirs, such as the Daqing oil field in Songliao Basin and the Kela-2 gas field in Tarim Basin; and unconventional continuous petroleum accumulation, such as Upper Paleozoic tight gas and Mesozoic tight oil in Ordos Basin, and Upper Triassic tight gas in Sichuan Basin. Two typical geologic characteristics of continuous petroleum accumulation involve: (1) coexisting source and reservoir, petroleum pervasive throughout a large area tight reservoirs, and no obvious traps or well-defined water-oil and gas contracts; (2) non-buoyancy accumulation, continuous petroleum charge, and no significant influence by buoyancy. Continuous petroleum accumulation generally has nm-scale pore throats, and the diameters range of 10-500 nm. The geometry and connectivity of these pore throats has significant impact on the migration and distribution of oil and gas in continuous petroleum accumulation. China has numerous continuous petroleum accumulations containing various petroleum deposits, and the exploration of continuous resources is very promising. Unconventional petroleum geology will become an important new subject in petroleum geology in future, and the nano-technology will function greatly on research, exploration and development of the hydrocarbon accumulation in nano-pore-throats.

Key Words: continuous petroleum accumulation, unconventional petroleum geology, nano-pore-throat, tight gas, tight oil

Exercise:

Answer the following questions.

- 1) What's the meaning of the title?
- 2) Make comments on the title.

3) Can you make a conciser title for the thesis according to the abstract and key words?

IV. Language Focus

Simplify Your Sentences

In academic writing, the avoidance of personal and contracted forms, a high lexical density, frequent nominalisations and the use of the passive are common language features. Besides, simple language is also a language feature of academic writing. Of course, thesis titles may often seem long in comparison to other types of titles, such as novel titles or newspaper headlines. Whereas headlines probably only contain a few words, thesis titles may legitimately contain several dozen words, as long as they fit together syntactically and make sense as a title. However, simplicity and conciseness are also important for academic writing.

Albert Einstein once said: “If you can’t explain it simply, then you don’t understand it well enough.” That comes from the guy who summed up the equation below with $e=mc^2$.

A sentence that is simplified, generally speaking, is clear, and easy to understand, but simple writing is easier said than done. It’s especially hard for the writer. Then, how to simplify your writing?

First, you should understand that “simple” doesn’t mean “dumb”. Instead it means easy to understand. If the reader has to work so hard to understand what you’re trying to say, it’ll distract them from your message. You’ll lose out in the end.

Then, here are some tips for you to simplify your sentences.

1. Writing as you speak.

Although the language of academic writing is usually formal and objective, casual language, colloquial expressions, personal anecdotes—they sometimes make your writing sound more human. And humans relate to one another.

The general takeaway message here: People like when you write like you speak.

2. Using examples and illustrations.

One of the best ways to make a point come across is to show an example or an illustration. Remember: Showing someone is often better than telling someone.