

GRAMMAR OF CONTEMPORARY ENGLISH

RANDOLPH QUIRK SIDNEY GREENBAUM FREY LEECH

SVARTVIK

当代英语语法

下 册

伦道夫·夸克 西德尼·戈林鲍姆 杰弗里·利奇 简·斯瓦特威克

王中浩 徐 钟 译 阅泰达 赵宇辉 审校

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伦道夫・夸克 西德尼・戈林鲍姆 杰弗里・利奇 衛・斯瓦特威克

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引言

12.1

补语(包括为使动词的意思完整而不可缺的分句结构成分)已在前面各章节中论述过,特别是 2·3ff, 7·1ff 和11·13ff。本章将研究动词补足的三个方面: 语态,即主动被动的关系、短语动词和介词动词以及动词补足的类型。最后一部分包括某些比较重要的动词的分类表。

语态

12:2

语态的定义

语态(voice)是一个语法范畴,它可以使我们从两种角度来看句中的动作,而所说的事实不变:

- (a) The butler murdered the detective
- (b) The detective was murdered by the butler (a)是主动语态, (b) 是被动语态。

主动被动的关系和两种语法 "层次 (levels)" 有关: 动词短语和分句。3·12ff论述过的动词短语中,D型(被动的动词短语) 和其他的类型 (主动的动词短语) 形成了对照,例如:

	生动	被动	
现在时:	kisses	~is kissed	
过去时:	kissed	~was kissed	
情态:	may kiss	~may be kissed	V - 2

完成体:

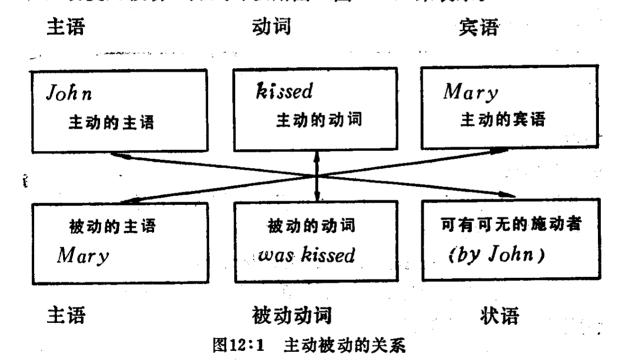
进行体:

has kissed ~has been kissed is kissing ~is being kissed

情态 + 完成体: may have kissed \sim may have been kissed 动词短语的两种语态区别是,被动语态由助动词 BE 的某种形式 加上主要动词的过去分词(即-ed)形式。

就分句来说,变被动语态涉及到要重新安排两个分句成分以及另外加一个成分。这就是(a)主动语态中的主语变成被动语态中的施动者;(b)主动语态中的宾语变成被动语态中的主语;

(c)在施动者前面加上介词dy。被动语态句中的施动者介词短语是可有可无的句子成分。一个含有名词性宾语的单一及物句子从主动变为被动的方式可以用图(图12:1)来表示。



语态的转换也可以由下面的公式来表达:

名词短语:+主动的动词短语+名词短语;

~名词短语,+被动的动词短语+(by 名词短语,)

"主语"、"宾语"、"施动者"这些名称,对于说明诸如主语和动词的一致(7·23)或用代词宾格形式(4·107)的现象 是很有用的。尽管句子的结构在语态转换时发生变化,但意思不变。在

John kissed Mary 和 Mary was kissed by John 两种语态中, John 都是"动作执行者"。但在句子结构上,主动语态中的主语相当于被动语态中的施动者。

12.3

被动助动词

被动助动词通常是 BE。唯一可以和它相比的是 GET。但是, GET 一般只用于没有表达出生物施动者的结构中。试比较下列句子:

The boy got hurt on his way home from work

*The boy got given a violin by his father 在正式语体中避免将 GET 用于被动语态。即使在非正式语体的 英语中,用 GET 的被动语态也远不如用 BE的被动语态常见:

Our house is getting painted

If they make such criticisms they will get treated with the contempt they deserve

This story eventually got translated into English 更为常见的现象是, GET 作为"结果系动词" (resulting copula) (见12·32), 用于表面上看起来象被动语态, 但不能有施动者的句子中(参见12·17):

We are getting bogged down in all sorts of problems
(非正式语体)

I have to get dressed before eight o'clock(= "dress")

I don't want to get mixed up with the police again

Your argument gets a bit confused here

试把 He got taught a lesson ("it served him right") 和下面的句子比较:

He \begin{cases} \text{was} \ *got \end{cases} taught the lesson on the subjunctive \text{(by our new teacher)}

作为结果系动词,GET 常常等于 BECOME, 后者 用来表示逐渐的变化,并常常为 more and more, increasingly 等修饰语所加强:

Our technique is becoming increasingly specialized These four phases became telescoped in a single, coordinated phase of activity.

语态的限制

12.4

虽然总的来说及物动词的句子可以是主动的也可以是被动的,但是有一些例外。在这些例外中,主动和被动之间的关系不能单纯地互换。下面,我们把与动词(12·5-7)、宾语(12·8—10)、施动者(12·11)、意思(12·12)和使用频度(12·13)有关的五种"语态的限制"加以区别。

动词的限制

12.5

只有主动语态

对于动词来说,用于被动语态比用于主动语态有更多的限制。除了从来没有被动语态的等同(equative)动词和不及物动词外,某些及物动词(至少在某些用法中)也不能用于被动语态,例如:

They have a nice house

He lacks confidence

The auditorium holds 5000 people

This dress becomes her

The coat does not fit you

Will this suit you?

John resembles his father.

12.6

只有被动语态

与前面相反,某些动词只有被动语态的用法(参见12.56):

12.7

介词动词

在英语中,介词动词 (prepositional verbs) (详见 $12 \cdot 19ff$) 常常可以用于被动语态,但是不如用在主动语态时自由。试比较下列包含介词动词的句子:

The engineers went very carefully into the tunnel

The problem was very carefully gone into by the engineers

They arrived at the expected result the splendid stadium

~{The expected result | was arrived at

在上述句子中,显而易见,可以按照被动语态中的主语是具体的还是抽象的来决定句子是否能够成立。GO INTO, ARRIVE AT, LOOK INTO 和其他许多介词动词只有在比喻用法中才有被动用法。

如果不墨守成规,即使是具体的东西作主语,也可以将这种

动词用于被动语态中。这种情况在平行结构中尤其如此:

This private correspondence of mine has been gone into and rummaged so many times that it is totally disarranged

对于另外一些介词动词来说,不能用上面同样的理由来解释为什么它们不能用于被动语态:

在论述介词动词的 12·19ff 中,我们提出了不同 程度 的 "粘合力":虽然根据定义所有的介词动词都能和带 who(m)或 what 的代词性疑问句形式连用,但只有一些介词动词有被动词用法。那些有被动用法的是有高度粘合力的介词动词,包括在12·27 列出来的大部分介词动词。另外,下列这些也是:

Though something very different from ordinary forest management is called for, the trees in the parks do need the forester's skilled consideration.

This matter will have to be dealt with immediately.

Other possibilities are talked of by many of our colleagues.

If a woman with a university education rejects a career for marriage, her mind is not to be thought of as thrown away unless we count the family arena of no importance.

还有:

ASK FOR

HOPE FOR

TALK ABOUT

BELIEVE IN

LOOK AT

TALK TO

CATER FOR

STARE AT

WONDER AT 等

因为被动用法给动词短语多添了一个成分,人们常常感到它比相应的主动语态要笨拙。尤其要避免 be 和 being 连用。试比较下列两对句子:

The Conservatives won the election

~The election was won by the Conservatives

The Conservatives have not been winning seats lately

~(?) Seats have not been being won by the Conservatives lately.

宾语的限制

12.8

名词性宾语和分句性宾语

动词后面既可以有名词性宾语又可以有分句性宾语 $(7\cdot1ff,11\cdot13)$ $ff,12\cdot44ff$):

名词性宾语

名词短语 John loved Mary

分句性宾语

限定性分句 John saw that she was pretty 非限定性分句

不定式 John hoped to kiss her

分 词 John enjoyed seeing her.

12.9

主语和名词性宾语互参

主语和名词性宾语互参会妨碍语态转换为被动。这种情况出现在: 当宾语中 (a) 有反身代词(reflexive pronoun), (b) 有相互代 词 (reciprocal pronoun), (c) 有物主代词时。然而,带有其他名词性宾语的及物动词通常都能转变成被动语态。

- (a) John could see { Paul | himself } in the mirror
- ~{Paul *Himself }could be seen in the mirror
- (b) We could hardly see each other in the fog

 ∼*Each other could hardly be seen in the fog
- (c) The handsome, bald doctor shook her head his head

doctor.

[注]

因为反身代词和相互代词是宾格替换词,所以在被动句的主语位置上根本 不会出现这样的代词。

12.10

分句性宾语

在分句性宾语中,只有由限定性分句作宾语的句子才能经常转化 为被动结构。试把12·8中的主动句与下列被动句作一比较:

Mary was loved (by John)

Mary was cared for (by John)

(It was seen (by John) that she was pretty

?That she was pretty was seen (by John)

{*It was hoped (by John) to kiss her

*To kiss her was hoped (by John)

{*It was enjoyed (by John) seeing her

?Seeing her was enjoyed (by John)

由 that, whether或 if 引导的限定性分句宾语通常用 it 作主语的这种"外置"结构来构成被动语态,这就是说,分句仍旧处于被动句中动词后面的位置,但由作主语的先行词 it引导。当 that-分句不用先行词 it, 而自己作为主语出现在句首时, that 必须保留:

It could hardly be expected (that) Ruth would be on time

~That Ruth would be on time could hardly be expected

分词不能用带先行词 it 的结构, 但有时不定式能 用 这 种 结 构 (参见12·49):

It was desired to have the report delivered here.

12.11

施动者的限制

和主动句的主语不同,施动者短语是可有可无的。事实上,英语的五个被动句中大约有四个被动句的施动者是不表达出来的。在这种情况下,施动者不知是谁或和句子意思不相关,例如:

The Prime Minister was attacked last night in the debate

如果施动者表达出来成为多余的话,也常常删去,例如:

Jack fought Michael last night and Jack was beaten 在这样的上下文中,施动者短语 by Michael 显然是不必要的, 甚至是用不上的。

因为施动者通常不表达出来,有时就不能转换为主语。这意 味语态由被动转换为主动是受很大限制的: Order has been restored without bloodshed and without concessions

12 · 12

意思上的限制

如果动词短语含有的助动词不止一个意思,如shall,will 和 can (参见 $3\cdot43ff$),那么它的语态转换可能引起意思上的变化:

John cannot do it

It cannot be done (by John)

在主动句中,通常把 can 解释为表达能力;而在被动句中,它常常被解释为表达可能性。即使 can 在主动句和被动句中具有同样的词义,句子的意思也可能发生变化:

John can't be taught ("He is unable to learn")

He can't teach John ("He is unable to teach John")

12.13

频度上的限制

除了上面几节提到的语态在结构上的限制以外,还可以看到一种语态在"频度上的限制"。主动语态和被动语态在频度上是有明显的差别的。一般来说,主动语态比较常用。但是,在个别的文章中,情况也会有很大的不同。在一篇文章中见到的被动句子也会是另一篇文章中的十倍。主要影响被动语态出现次数多少的语体上的因素似乎与文章是知识性的还是想象性的有关,而不是与话题或口语和笔语的差别有关。一般来说,被动语态在知识性文章中比在想象性文章中用得更普遍,尤其是在纯客观的非人称语体的科学文献和新闻报导中。

被动的范围

12.14

在形式上能叫做被动的范围($12\cdot 2f$)是非常广泛的。例如,下列所有的句子都是被动形式:

This violin was made by my father [1]

This conclusion is hardly justified by the results[2]

Coal has been replaced by oil [3]

This difficulty can be avoided in several ways [4]

We are encouraged to go on with the project [5]

John was interested in linguistics [6]

The modern world becomes more highly indus-

trialized and mechanized [7]

这些句子虽然在形式上符合"被动"的定义,但是它们显示了不同的语态关系。

12.15

施动被动

句〔1〕和句〔2〕都有直接从被动变为主动的关系。这两句的区别是第一句的施动者是人而第二句的施动者不是人(参见6·41):

My father made this violin

[1a]

The results hardly justify this conclusion

[2a]

被动句〔3〕有两种转换为主动的办法,这取决于对 *by-*短语的解释。(方括号中是添上的主动主语。)

Oil has replaced coal

[3a']

[People in many countries] have replaced coal
by oil
[3a"]

句 [3a'] 是句 [3] 的主动形式,它和 [2a] 一样,也用了一个非人施动者。句 [3a"] 也是句〔3〕的主动形式,在这个句子中, by-