



Lesson1.6

Chinese vs English: Words

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Chinese words vs English Words: Overview

table-tables

hit-hits-hit

Words

英语词汇有屈折(inflection)变化，汉语没有；英语词义比较灵活多变，汉语词义相对稳定。汉语是粘着型(agglutinative)语言，词的组合依靠词素(morpheme)的粘着。

e.g.

光(+明) – light

打(+击) – beat

笔：

钢笔、铅笔、圆珠笔、蜡笔、粉笔、毛笔、画笔、电笔
fountain pen, pencil, ballpoint pen, wax crayon,
chalk, writing brush, painting brush, electropen

学习:

学习知识

学习技术

学习外语

学习成绩

学习别人的长处

互相学习

以雷锋为学习的榜样

acquire knowledge

master a skill

study a foreign language

academic records

emulate others' strong points

learn from each other

follow the example of Lei Feng

好:

他是祖国的好儿子。

庄稼长得真好。

他们对我真好。

楼的质量不好。

这个问题很好回答。

啊，好票！

He is a worthy son of our motherland.

The crops are doing well.

They are really kind to me.

The building is not well built.

This question is easy to answer.

Oh, a good seat !



Chinese words vs English words: Three categories

1. Full Equivalence

- ▶ 太阳—sun, 月亮—moon, 星星—star, 吃—eat, 喝—drink, 哭—cry, 笑—laugh, 爱—love, 恨—hate, 花—flower, 树—tree, 海—sea
- ▶ 法律—law, 金融—finance, 知识—knowledge, 信息—information
- ▶ 利润—profit, 保险—insurance, 仲裁—arbitration
- ▶ 著作权—copyright, 全球化—globalization, 世界贸易组织—World Trade Organization (WTO)
- ▶ 离岸价格—Free on Board (FOB), 绩效评估—Performance Appraisal (PA)

2. Partial Equivalence

- ▶ “阿姨”、“姨妈”、“舅妈”、“姑妈”、“伯母”、“婶娘”
- ▶ Aunt
- ▶ “堂兄”、“表哥”、“表弟”、“堂姐”、“表姐”、“表妹”
- ▶ Cousin
- ▶ “内兄”、“内弟”、“大伯”、“小叔”、“姐夫”、“妹夫”
- ▶ Brother-in-law

2. Partial Equivalence

- ▶ Auto insurance or vehicle insurance, as the name implies, is an insurance coverage for cars, trucks and other automobiles. The main purpose of purchasing this insurance is to ensure **policy** protection against any kind of loss or damage incurred by the insured vehicle due to traffic accident.
- ▶ 参考译文： 汽车保险或车辆险，如其名称所示，是为轿车、卡车和其他机动车辆所投的保险。购买此种保险的主要目的，是确保被保车辆发生交通事故时可以获得最高不超过保单金额的赔偿，以避免由交通事故引发的任何损失或毁坏。

- ▶ “粽子” zongzi/ rice dumpling/ a pyramid-shaped dumpling made of glutinous rice wrapped in bamboo or reed leaves
- ▶ “馄饨”
- ▶ wonton/ Chinese dumpling soup
- ▶ “饺子”
- ▶ jiaozi/ stuffed dumplings
- ▶ “火锅”
- ▶ Hot Pot
- ▶ “旗袍”
- ▶ cheongsam/ Chinese-styled long gown with no sleeves
- ▶ “麒麟”
- ▶ kylin; (Chinese) unicorn
- ▶ “拜年”
- ▶ pay a New Year call/visit

3. No Equivalence

To pull one's leg
“开某人的玩笑”

- ▶ “磕头”
- ▶ make a kowtow to sb.; give sb. a kowtow
- ▶ “四合院”
- ▶ Siheyuan/ quadrangle courtyard

- ▶ Halloween 万圣节
- ▶ Achilles' Heel 阿喀琉斯之踵/ 致命要害

- ▶ Named after the Greek hero Achilles . When he was a small child, his mother held him below the surface of the river Styx to protect him against any injury. She held him by his heel, which therefore was not touched by the water. Achilles died after being wounded by an arrow in the heel. 源自希腊神话英雄阿喀琉斯（Achilles）的故事。传说他年幼时，母亲把他浸在斯提克斯冥河中，使他刀枪不入。由于母亲提着他的脚踵，因此他的脚踵没有沾上河水。后来他因脚踵中箭身亡。

- ▶ Easter 复活节
- ▶ Valentine's Day 情人节

3. No Equivalence



Chinese words vs English words: Parts of speech

Verbs (1)

- ▶ It rains everyday recently.
- ▶ It rained yesterday.
- ▶ It is going to rain.
- ▶ It is raining hard outside.

英语里动词有时态变化**Tenses**，汉语里没有时态变化。

Verbs (2)

- ▶ The window was broken.
- ▶ The cup was broken.
- ▶ This pot is made of stainless steel.
- ▶ Measures have been taken.
- ▶ Enough attention has been paid to that problem.

Passive被动 – active主动

Verbs (3)

- ▶ I want to go out for a walk.
- ▶ Being a teacher, he should love his students.
- ▶ Given more money and time, he would succeed.

In English, a lot of **infinitives, participles and nouns** 不定式、分词和名词 are used, while in Chinese **full verbs** 实义动词 are in their place.

Nouns (1)

- ▶ **Custom** 习惯，风俗，习俗 **customs** 海关，关税
- ▶ **Damage** 损坏，伤害 **damages** 赔偿费，损害赔偿
- ▶ **Ground** 场地 **grounds** 理由
- ▶ **Export** 出口 **exports** 出口货物

英语名词有单复数 **singular and plural forms**，且单复数有时候意义不同，汉语名词没有单复数变化。

Nouns (2)

- ▶ Unemployment
- ▶ 失业现象
- ▶ Tension
- ▶ 紧张局势
- ▶ Arrogance
- ▶ 骄傲情绪
- ▶ Shortage
- ▶ 短缺情况

Nouns (3)

- ▶ **A bird's-eye view of London**
- ▶ 鸟瞰伦敦
- ▶ **St. Peter's**
- ▶ 圣彼得教堂
- ▶ **The barber's**
- ▶ 理发店
- ▶ **The butcher's**
- ▶ 肉店

Nouns (4)

- ▶ Efforts should be made to overcome the disadvantages.
- ▶ 应努力克服种种不利因素。

Scientific *exploration*, the *search* for *knowledge* has given *man* the practical *results* of *being* able to shield himself from the *calamities* of *nature* and the *calamities* imposed by other *man*.

科学的探索、知识的追求,使人类获得了避免天灾人祸的实力。

英语里的名词nouns变成了汉语里的动词verbs.

Pronouns (1)

- ▶ He put **his** hands into his pocket.
- ▶ They had **their** lunch at half past twelve today.
- ▶ 英语多用代词，汉语用得少。

Pronouns (2)

- ▶ Anna, **who** was here a moment ago, left this note.
安娜刚才来过，是她留下的这张条子。
- ▶ We used a plane **of which** almost every part carried some indication of national identity.
我们驾驶的飞机几乎每一个零件都有国家的标志。
- ▶ God help those **who** help themselves.
自助者天助之。

Adjectives & Adverbs

- ▶ This magazine is more interesting.
- ▶ This book is the best one.

英语形容词**adjectives** 有比较级和最高级，汉语没有。

- ▶ He is old **enough** to go to school.
- ▶ **Surprising**, he finished it without any help.

英语里大量使用副词**adverbs**, 使语言更**juicy**。

Articles

- ▶ **A cup of tea**
- ▶ **An English book**

- ▶ **He is a student in our class.**
- ▶ 他是我们班的学生。
- ▶ **The end does not justify the means.**
- ▶ 即使目的正当，也不能不择手段。
- ▶ **I like the red one.**
- ▶ 我喜欢那个红的。

英语里冠词大量使用，汉语中没有冠词。

Conjunctions

- ▶ She was **so** excited **that** tears came to her eyes.
- ▶ 她激动得热泪盈眶。
- ▶ 你不走我也不走。
- ▶ **If** you don't leave, I won't leave either.
- ▶ 英语里大量使用连词**conjunctions**, 汉语则不然。

Prepositions (1)

- ▶ He goes to school **at** seven o'clock every morning.
- ▶ **Across** the street, he began to run very fast.

英语里使用大量的“介词+名词” Prep. + n. 结构，构成介词短语。

Prepositions (2)

- ▶ Look after 照顾
- ▶ Look for 寻找
- ▶ Look at 看
- ▶ Take off 起飞, 脱去
- ▶ Take sth. for granted 想当然
- ▶ Take ...for... 误以为
- ▶ Take out 拿出
- ▶ Take in 吸入, 接收

英语里“动词+介词” **verb + prep.** 构成很多动词短语。