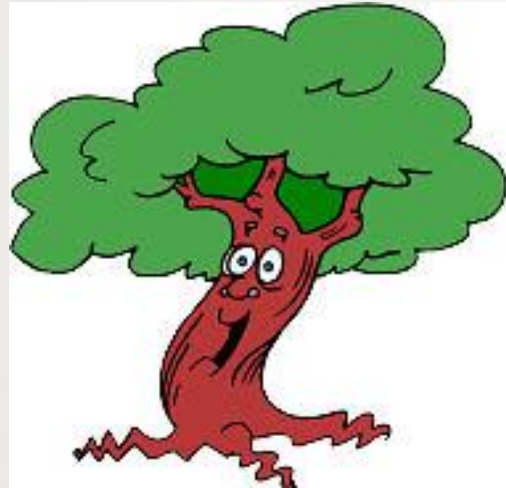




Basic Differences Between English and Chinese – 2

Two *plants*?

- Use two kinds of *plants* to describe the characteristics of Chinese and English





- 英语句子**主谓机制**突出，提挈全句。其他成分借用各种形式手段连接在**主轴**之上；句子成分随时可加以修饰，而修饰语种的某成分又可被别的成分修饰，形成“参天大树”。



- 汉语句子的重语感、重变通，组句的自由度很大。句子长长短短，**结构松散**。像一根竹子，一节一节地接下去，按时间等顺序层层递进。

汉译英——

化“竹节式”结构为英语的“树状”结构

关键是找出中文句子间隐含的**逻辑关系**，增加英语**连接词**。

- 我这个样儿，只装出来哄他们，好在外头布散与老爷听，其实是假的。（《红楼梦》第三十四回，贾宝玉挨打之后，林黛玉去探视他时，贾宝玉说的一句话）。
- I'm...just putting on an act **to** fool them **so that** word of it will get out to my father, **all of which** is shamming actually. (杨宪益、戴乃迭)

- 英译汉——


- 化“树状”结构为英语的“竹节式”结构


- Both men and women, nine times out of ten, are firmly convinced of the superior excellence of their own sex.


- 不论男女，十之八九，都深信自己的性别优越无比。

- It is people like this, they believe, who have built up our modern civilization, benefiting not only themselves, but society as a whole.

- 他们认为，正是这样一些人创建了现代文明，不但给他们自己也给整个社会带来了益处。

- 
- I am heartened by the assurance which your Government has repeatedly given that the arrangements for Hong Kong contained in the Agreement are not measures of expediency.
 - 贵国政府一再表示，协议中有关香港的安排不是权宜之计，这种保证使我感到鼓舞。

- 
- 这种鸭，觅食力强，能适应当地湖荡水网的饲养条件，而且生长速度快，产卵能力好，肉白、细嫩、味美，是优良的卵肉兼用鸭。
 - Raised along local rivers and lakes, this kind of ducks can find their own food and grow fast. It is tender and delicious and is used both for meat and eggs.

- 
- 生日蛋糕很重要，可以小一点，粗制一点；也可以很大，精美，但是要在室内准备一份，在上面点上蜡烛。
 - The birthday cake is very important. It can be simple and small. Or it can be large and highly decorated. But it must always be there in the room with lighted candles on it.

一 英汉句式结构上的差异：形合与意合



英语的形合法：
Hypotactic
句中的词语或分句之
间用语言形式手段
(如关联词) 连接起
来，表达语法意义和
逻辑关系。



汉语的意合法：
paratactic
词语或分句之间不用
语言形式手段连接，
句中的语法意义和逻辑
关系通过词语或分
句的含义表达。

英汉语的形合，意合手段比较

例1: **If** winter comes, can spring be far behind?

冬天来了,春天还会远吗?

例2: 不知苦中苦,哪知甜中甜?

If you have never tasted the bitterness of gall,

how can you know the sweetness of honey?



汉语‘意合’手段的体现——‘无主句’

- **第一种情况：表达客观、科学、公正的语气**

汉语用在科技材料或法律条文中的无主句，主要是为了使表达内容显得更加客观、公正。译成英文，一般都转成被动语态。

- **例1：在海拔3000米的高空采集到了这种空气样本。**

The air sample has been collected at the altitude of 3,000 meters.

- **例2：要制造飞机，就要考虑空气阻力问题。**

Air resistance has to be taken into consideration when an airplane is to be made.

第二种情况：表达不满但又不失礼貌的语气

在委婉语使用上，汉语是比较擅长的。在英语中，就用被动语态，只有动作和动作的接受者。

- 例1：只许州官放火，不许百姓点灯。(谁许？)

While the magistrates were free to burn down houses, the common people were forbidden to light lamps.

- 例2：学这一套，不如去学照相。

It is better to learn photography than to learn this stuff.

第三种情况：省略第一人称主语“我”或“我们”

这类句子经常在正式场合或书面报告中

- 例1：希望一切问题都会迎刃而解。

I hope that all problems will be readily solved.

- 例2：在新的历史时期，要继续发扬尊老爱幼、勤俭节约等中华民族的优良传统。

In the new era, we will carry on traditional Chinese virtues like respecting the old and cherishing the young as well as working hard and being frugal.

第四种情况，是一些谚语或表示哲理的句子。

主语可用one 或we, 或译成there be 结构, 或it is ..+ to do..的结构。

- 例1：活到老，学得老。

It's never too old to learn.

One is never too old to learn.

《荷塘月色》的英汉版本赏析

这几天心里颇不宁静。今晚在院子里坐着乘凉，忽然想起日日走过的荷塘，在这满月的光里，总该另有一番样子吧。月亮渐渐地升高了，墙外马路上孩子们的欢笑，已经听不见了；妻在屋里拍着闰儿，迷迷糊糊地哼着眠歌。

The last few days have found me very restless. This evening as I sat in the yard to enjoy the cool, it struck me how different the lotus pool I pass every day must look under a full moon. The moon was sailing higher and higher up the heavens; the sound of childish laughter had died away from the lane beyond our wall, and my wife was in the house patting Run'er and humming a lullaby to him.

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