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**Critical Discourse Analysis in Intercultural
Communication Research and Education: Case Studies of
Remarks by US/UK Politicians and Chinese Leaders in
Intercultural Contexts**

跨文化交际研究和教育中的批评性话语分析:
英美政客及中国领导人在跨文化语境中的讲话分析

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Ph. D. Dissertation

**Critical Discourse Analysis in Intercultural
Communication Research and Education: Case Studies
of Remarks by US/UK Politicians and Chinese Leaders
in Intercultural Contexts**

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Synopsis

The linguistic turn in philosophy and social sciences in the 20th century made Western scholars rethink the paradigm of traditional scientism. One of the important disciplines contributing to this rethinking movement is “Critical Discourse Analysis” (CDA). CDA is not a complete negation of traditional approaches to discourse analysis; it sees itself as an extension and expansion of the latter, integrating linguistics with other disciplines of social sciences thereby providing a text-based approach to researching various areas of social sciences and changing the traditional ideas of people about the role of language in social life. CDA concerns itself with power relations and inequality in language and aims to explore hidden power relations between discourse and wider social and cultural formations and to uncover inequality, ideologies, injustices, discrimination, bias, etc. in discourse.

This dissertation is concerned with an area that has been increasingly emphasized in the field of foreign language research and education in universities in China: intercultural communication (IC) research and teaching. This author discerns two problems that have not received due attention from scholars, i.e. (1) IC researchers have not legitimized the public speeches delivered by US/UK politicians and Chinese leaders in intercultural contexts as objects of IC study; and (2) scholars on English language studies have not given due attention to the problem of how to analyze the English speeches by US/UK politicians in intercultural contexts from a critical perspective. This author argues that the best ways to tackle these problems is (1) to rationalize the study of those speeches as a legitimate research practice of IC; and (2) to introduce CDA into IC research and education. For this purpose, this writer has built 15 corpora containing remarks by US/UK politicians and Chinese leaders in various intercultural contexts.

Mainstream IC theories have been based on the analyses of differences in languages and cultures. This is due to the impact of “the representationalist” view of communication. In such a view, communication is seen as the simple process of sending and receiving messages; linguistic and cultural differences are seen as differences in perspectives and capabilities of description. Thus, the social-action nature of communication is neglected and a vacuum of power and interest within communication is presumed. CDA emphasizes the role of explanatory critique, an important concept in the philosophy of critical realism, which holds that social sciences must avoid covering up social inequalities in the guise of science, and that only explanatory critique can enable us to study value orientations. CDA

scholars concur with this position in social scientific research.

This dissertation explores the possibility of applying CDA to IC study, particularly the study of remarks in English by US/UK politicians in intercultural contexts. Chapter 2 presents an overview of the main theories on which CDA is based and a brief history of the development of CDA, and discusses the theoretical foundations and the principles of CDA. The differences between CDA and non-critical approaches to discourse analysis are illustrated through a case study of US politicians' speeches in intercultural contexts. Chapter 3 discusses different approaches to CDA and reviews some of the latest applications of CDA to social sciences. Chapter 4 rationalizes applying CDA to IC study by providing a short history of IC study followed by a brief review of the main theories of IC, and then rethinking mainstream theories, methods, and objects of IC study through a re-analysis of data in a previous article on IC and case studies of US politicians' remarks.

Chapter 5 attempts to carry out case studies of remarks by US/UK politicians and Chinese leaders in intercultural contexts. There are CDA studies of intertextuality in remarks by US/UK politicians. 23 proverbial uses were found in the corpora and all in speeches by Reagan and George Bush. There are CDA of metaphors found in the corpora and they are classified according to source domains and analyzed in terms of frequency, tendency of choice, and political motivation. A quantitative study of five ergative verbs is carried out looking into their patterns of use in the transitive, passive, and intransitive forms. Appraisals in the speeches are also analyzed for their dialogistic positioning function. Statistical analyses of politically sensitive words like *free*, *freedom*, and *liberty* (especially in remarks by US/UK politicians in universities in China and the former USSR) show that their appearance and frequency are closely related to the development of international situations and the political motivations of western leaders. Similar conclusions are reached in our analysis of such words as *communism*, *Marxism*, and *socialism*. This research reconfirms that the choice of words and metaphors, the use of proverbs and quotations, as well as resources of evaluation, are important indicators of speakers' political motivations. It illustrates what an important role the evaluations conveyed by these linguistic resources play in forming certain ways of looking at the world and how a critical approach to intercultural discourse can reveal underlying ideologies, attitudes and beliefs and the complex relationship between language, ideology, and social context.

Key words: critical discourse analysis, intercultural communication study, remarks in intercultural contexts

摘 要

20 世纪哲学和社会科学中的语言学转向致使西方学者开始对传统的科学思维进行反思。推动这一反思运动的重要前沿学科之一就是“批评性话语分析”。该学科并非对传统话语分析的全面否定，而是把自身看作是传统话语分析的延伸和扩展，将语言学与其他社会科学直接联系起来，为社会科学各个领域的研究提供了以文本为实证基础的研究方法，同时也改变着人们对语言在社会生活中的作用的传统认识。批评性话语分析家关注的是语言中的权力关系和不平等，探索话语和社会文化形态之间隐藏的权力关系，揭露话语中的不平等、意识形态、不公正、歧视和偏见等。

本文关注的跨文化交际研究与教学，是当代中国高校外语学术界和教育界一个越来越受重视的领域。笔者发现该领域中存在着两个尚未引起学者足够重视的问题，一是我国跨文化交际研究学者尚未把英美及中国领导人在跨文化交际语境中的公开讲话纳入跨文化交际学的研究范围；二是我国英语学术界尚未对如何从批评的视角分析英美政客在跨文化语境中的英文演讲这一课题给予充分的重视。笔者认为解决这两个问题的方法是：(1)论证将英美及中国领导人在跨文化交际语境中的讲话纳入跨文化交际学研究范围的理据；(2)将批评性话语分析引入跨文化交际研究和教育中。为此，笔者收集了大量的英美及中国领导人在跨文化交际语境中的讲话，并按不同的跨文化语境和讲话人建立了 15 个语料库。

国内外跨文化交际学主流理论均以分析语言和文化差异为基础，这是受“表征主义交际观”影响的结果。该交际观把交际看成是信息发出和接收的简单过程，把语言和文化差异视为描述角度和能力的差异，这就忽略了交际的“社会行为”性质，把交际假设成无权力和利益参与其中的“纯净”过程。而批评性话语分析强调的是解释性批评，解释性批评是批评实在论哲学中的一个重要概念。批评实在论认为社会科学不能用科学的假象去掩饰社会的不公正，而能对价值取向进行研究的只能是解释性批评。批评性话语分析信守的正是这样一种社会科学研究理念。

本文探索了批评性话语分析应用于跨文化交际研究(特别是英美政客在跨文化语境中的讲话分析)的可行性。第 2 章系统概述批评性话语分析的主要理论渊源和发展

史，讨论其基本理论和原则，并通过分析美国政客在跨文化语境中的演讲来说明批评性与非批评性话语分析的差别。第 3 章讨论批评性话语分析的不同方法并对批评性话语分析在社会科学研究中的最新应用进行评析。第 4 章先概述跨文化交际学发展史及其主要理论，然后通过对前人研究语料的再分析和对美国政客的讲话分析，对跨文化交际研究的主流理论，方法和对象进行反思，进而论证将批评性话语分析引入跨文化交际研究中的理据。

第 5 章尝试用批评性话语分析的不同方法分析英美政客在跨文化交际语境中的英文演讲，分析演讲中的互文性，如谚语的引用，笔者在本研究的英文语料库中找到 23 处，均出自美国政客里根和老布什之口；对各语料库中出现的隐喻进行分类，分析其使用频率、规律及动机；对 5 个施/受格动词进行及物、非及物和被动使用的统计分析；对讲话中的语篇评价手段进行对话性定位分析；对政治敏感词语(尤其是英美政客在对中国，前苏联大学生所作的演讲中的 *free*、*freedom*、*liberty* 等词)进行统计分析，发现它们的出现频率与国际形势发展和西方政治意图密切相关；另外，在对 *Marxism*、*communism*、*socialism* 等词的统计分析中也发现了类似的问题。本研究进一步阐明词语选择、隐喻的选择、谚语的引用和名人语录，以及评价手段的使用，都是演讲者政治动机的显示器，其评价义和劝导力对听众观念起重要的影响作用，对其进行批评性分析可以揭示隐含在话语中的意识形态、态度和信念，以及语言、意识形态和社会语境之间的复杂关系。

关键词：批评性话语分析；跨文化交际研究；跨文化语境讲话

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