汉英语音和词汇对比在国别化汉语教材编写中的功用

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汉英语音和词汇对比在国别化汉语 教材编写中的功用

The functions of Chinese-English phonetic and lexical contrast in the writing of Chinese textbooks for the country specific

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摘要

本文主要探讨了汉外对比中的汉英对比在国别化汉语教材编写中的功用, 具体包括:如何在汉英对比分析的基础上,确定适用于美国教材的语音教学内 容、教学顺序;如何通过汉英高频词的对比来筛选美国汉语教材适用的词语, 如何在词语基础上确定教材的用字范围,以及如何确定汉字和词语的等级;如 何基于汉英高频词的话题标注来筛选出高频的文化项目: 如何有效运用汉英对 比形式进行语音、汉字、词汇、文化的教学。在分析探讨汉英对比之功用的过 程中,还涉及到若干深层次理论问题的探讨,主要包括: Stockwell 和 Bowen 的语音难度等级是基于印欧语系内部,不适用于汉、英这样差异巨大的语言。 林焘、王理嘉的实证研究结果显示,汉语的语音难度等级应当以"生理属性" 为对比点,依据汉英对比结果来进行划分,这一方法具有准确、简便、易操作 的特点。"轻声、儿化"等语音项目的教与不教涉及到"何为标准汉语"的深层 次问题。我们主张,对于只追求汉语交际目的的学生而言,没必要高标准要求, "轻声、儿化"这样的语音内容可以不编入教材。海外的汉语教学课时很有限, 海外汉语教学要讲究经济原则。现有汉语教材绝大多数是词本位,忽略了字的 地位和作用,或割裂了字、词的教学。我们尝试着提出,海外汉语教学中的语 法功能类可为字类而非词类,目的在于让学生充分意识到字的功能,灵活组合 汉字,还有助于解说清楚词内部的结构关系。"词"重新界定为:"由字构成, 是双音节或双音节以上单位的固化组合,中间不能再插入任何成分",词等同于 最小的语块进行教学。海外汉语教学的语言层级单位从小到大依次可以是:字、 词、短语、句、篇,语素保留在现代汉语语法研究体系中。文化内容编写中首 先要界定清楚一般性知识和文化知识,一般性知识是对客观事物的客观介绍, 告诉人们某个东西是什么; 文化知识则主要包含人们对某个事物的已有观念或 看法。我们主张教材中应该编入文化知识而不是一般性知识,以介绍中国文化 为主,辅以中美文化差异的对比。

无论是语音难度序列、单元音 19 个对比点、辅音 21 个对比点,教材用字 用词分级列表还是文化分级列表,通过汉英对比所得到的上述研究结果,对于 母语为英语的海外教材编写具有重要参考价值。论文中涉及到的对比过程、对 比步骤可以为其他海外教材编者提供如何进行汉外对比的有益借鉴。本论文中 对汉英对比作用的探讨,不仅解决了对美汉语教材编写中的具体问题,而且使 人们重新认识到对比分析的理论价值,并自觉拓展对比分析在汉语作为外语教 学中的运用领域,从而丰富对比语言学的理论内涵。

汉语国际推广中的一大难题是教材问题,送到海外的汉语教材不适用。如何解决这一问题呢?就是要加强教材的针对性,实现教材的国别化,其实现手段就是汉外对比。许多学者都在著述中提到了汉外对比的重要性,但究竟该如何进行对比,具体步骤、方法如何,却少有人涉及。本文通过汉英对比的实践和理论探讨,试图来解答这一问题。汉英对比,推而广之为汉外对比,在海外汉语教材编写中有着广泛的用途。语音项目的内容和顺序、汉字和词语的编选范围和层级、文化项目和文化层级、语法项目和难度序列,等等,都可以通过汉外对比来加以确定,这样的对比结果具有针对性,以此为基础编写出来的教材才能真正做到国别化。

关键词: 汉英对比 功用 语音难度 词汇对比 文化层级

Abstract

This dissertation mainly discussed the functions of the contrast between Chinese and English belonging to the contrast between Chinese and foreign languages in the writing of Chinese textbooks for specific country. The details include: how to make decision on the phonetic contents and order appropriate for the Chinese textbooks in USA in the basis of contrast and analysis of Chinese and English; how to fix words suitable for the textbooks by the comparison of high frequency words between Chinese and English, and how to fix the character scale based on the selected words and how to work out the hierarchic rank of characters and words; how to find out the cultural items with high frequency in the basis of tagging those high frequency words of Chinese and English; how to effectively apply the pattern of Chinese and English contrast into the teaching of phonetics, words and culture. In the process of discussing the contrast of Chinese and English, we have also done some deeper analyses on several theoretical issues. Stockwell and Bowen's phonetic difficulty serial is based on the inside of Indo-European, and is not applicable for languages with such great discrepancy as Chinese and English. Lin Tao and Wang Lijia's experimental research result had shown that Chinese phonetic difficulty grades should be partitioned according to the physiological properties, and this standard has the features of accuracy, convenience and easy operation. Whether the phonetic items like light tone and er-ending should be taught or not concerns the complicated problem of what is the standard Chinese. We claimed that high standard requirements are not necessary for those American students who just pursue the goal of good communication, so some phonetic items like light tone and er-ending could be removed from the textbooks. The time for Chinese courses abroad is very limited, and accordingly the Chinese teaching oversea needs pay attention to the economical principle. Most of current Chinese textbooks are written by the word-base, and neglect the status and function of Characters, or dissevered the teaching of characters and words. We attempted to put forward that grammar functional type could be character class not

word class in teaching Chinese as a foreign language overseas in order to have the students fully realize the functions of character, and combine characters flexibly, and this assumption would be very helpful for clarifying the constructional relationship inside a word. Word is defined newly as a double-syllable or above solidified unit, which is composed of characters and nothing could not be inserted into its inside. Word could be taught as the smallest chunk. From the bottom to the top, the linguistic hierarchical serial in teaching Chinese as a foreign language overseas could be character, word, phrase, sentence, and paragraph. Morpheme could be kept in system of modern Chinese grammar research. The first step for writing cultural contents is to draw a clear distinction between general knowledge and cultural knowledge. General knowledge is a kind of objective introduction for things and tells people what a thing is, while cultural knowledge is a kind of existed concepts and opinions. We think that the textbooks should take in the cultural knowledge not the general knowledge, and should mainly introduce Chinese culture and take the contrast of differences between Chinese and USA's culture as assistance.

Whatever the phonetic difficulty serial, 19 comparing points of single vowel, 21 comparing points of consonant, hierarchical character list and word list available for textbooks, or hierarchical culture list, those research results above got through the contrasts between Chinese and English would provide an important reference in the editing of Chinese textbooks abroad for native English learners. Furthermore, the contrast processes and steps involved in this dissertation could also provide a valuable example for other overseas Chinese textbook editors on how to make comparison between Chinese and foreign languages. The discussion on the function of contrast between Chinese and English not only solve the detailed problems existed in the writing of Chinese textbooks for USA, but also have people realize the theoretical value of contrastive analysis over again, and consciously expand the application fields of contrastive analysis in the teaching of Chinese as a foreign language, so as to enrich the theoretical connotation of contrastive linguistics.

One big problem in pushing Chinese internationally is about the textbooks, and those textbooks sent overseas are inappropriate. How can this problem be solved? The

key is to strengthen pertinence of textbooks, and to accomplish that different countries have their respective textbooks. The approach of fulfillment is the contrast between Chinese and foreign languages. Many scholars have mentioned the importance of contrast in their works, but few were mentioned about how to do the contrast actually, and what the concrete steps and measures are. This dissertation tried to answer this question by the practice and theoretical discussion on the contrast between Chinese and English. Contrast between Chinese and English, extendedly contrast between Chinese and foreign languages, has broad application and usage in the writing of overseas Chinese textbooks. The contents and order of phonetic items, selecting scale and ranks of characters and words, cultural contents and grades, grammar items and difficulty serial and so on, all those above could be fixed by the contrast between Chinese and foreign languages. Such contrastive results have great pertinence and the textbooks based on it could really achieve the goal that different countries have their respective textbooks.

Key words: Chinese-English contrast; functions; phonetic difficulty; lexical contrast; cultural hierarchy

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第一章 绪论

第一节 选题来源和研究背景

(一) 选题来源

国家语言资源监测与研究中心厦门大学教育教材语言分中心承担着教育部 "中国语言生活绿皮书 2010"的年度调查研究,苏新春教授于 2009 年启动了该研究项目。作为他的博士研究生,笔者有幸以立项人身份,承担了其中一个子课题的研究,该子课题为《英语母语国家海外汉语教材研究》(课题号 2010E0608)。同时笔者有幸于 2010 年 3 月获得厦门大学研究生院的资助到美国访学,访学期间,走访了多所学校,从小学、中学到大学,各个层次的都有,并旁听了一些汉语课。在与当地教师的交流中了解到,国内编写的汉语教材送到美国之后,往往都因为不适用而束之高阁,问题主要在于缺乏针对性,不符合美国当地的学制、不能激发学生的兴趣、内容过时不实用等等。如何加强教材的针对性?多位学者在总结自己编写海外教材的成功经验时都提到了汉外对比,有效的汉外对比能够极大增强教材的针对性,可是在教材编写中究竟该怎么运用对比,却言之不详。笔者就萌生了一个想法,想要深入探究在海外汉语教材的编写中,究竟该怎么进行汉外对比,如何有效利用汉外对比。

借着在美国访学的机会,笔者接触到几套美国当地的汉语教材,如《中文听说读写》、《互动汉语》、《大卫和海琳在中国》,发现它们在汉英对比方面做得比国内教材好,但仍有欠缺,主要是对比量太少,对比面也过于狭窄。不过这些教材是由美国当地的汉语教师编写,他们对美国学生的情况和需求有着充分的了解,因此这些教材在字词选用、话题选择、文化项目选择和介绍方面有着不同于国内教材的特点,将这些特点与国内教材进行对比,一定能发现国内教材的不足或优势所在,从而取长补短,有助于编写出更适用于美国的汉语教材。苏教授领导的课题组购得几套美国教材,为本人的比较研究提供了极大便利。此外美国Brigham Young 大学的 Mark Davies 教授在"当代美国英语语料库"的基础上编撰有《当代美国英语高频词典》,其中有最高频的前 5000 个英语词汇,还有根据不同主题而排列的高频词汇,每个词条下面都列有 20 至 30 个高频搭配。这些词

汇和主题都是美国人在日常生活中最频繁涉及的,将这些词汇与国内的《汉语国际教育用音节汉字词汇等级划分》进行对比,有助于确定适用于美国教材编写的词汇范围和条目。词汇可以折射出所谈论的主题,而主题与文化相关联,通过英语 5000 高频词所涉及的文化项目与《汉语国际教育用音节汉字词汇等级划分》中词汇所涉及的文化项目进行分析对比,有助于找出美国汉语教材编写中适用的文化内容。鉴于以上有利条件,笔者拟以美国大学的汉语教材编写为研究对象,通过汉英语音、词汇对比的实际操作,探讨在美国汉语教材编写中该如何进行汉英对比,以此为基础,进一步探讨国别化汉语教材编写中汉外对比的方式、角度。

(二)研究背景

1. 汉语国际推广中的教材瓶颈

国家于 2005 年开始推行"国际汉语推广"战略,同年 7 月,首届世界汉语大会在北京召开,向全球 25 所"孔子学院"授牌。截止 2009 年底,已有 88 个国家和地区建立了 282 所孔子学院和 272 个孔子课堂。直到今天,想与中国合作举办孔子学院的申请依然络绎不绝。据美国外语教学委员会的统计,2007 至 2008学年,全美中小学学习汉语的学生人数已达 6 万人,是学生人数增长最快的外语;2004年,有 69 个对外汉语教师被派到海外,2006年,这一数字增加到 1000,同时还派出了 1000 名志愿者;2005年,海外参加汉语考试的人数达到 3 万,2006年则增加了一倍。目前在华留学生约有 14 万,全球学习汉语的总人数已达 4000万^[1]。汉语国际推广的发展势头良好,然而"三教"之一的"教材"问题却正日益成为制约汉语国际推广的一大瓶颈。

陈绂对海外实习的汉语国际教育专业硕士进行调查时发现,这些赴海外的汉语教师感到最困难的是缺少可用的教材,最急需的也是合适的教材^[2]。第十届人大常委会副委员长许嘉璐去了七个国家、十几个孔子学院视察,发现没有一个地方使用国内编写的汉语教材,往往是当地汉语教师凭着对所在国和所教学生的了解,利用自身已有的知识,以过去已有的汉语教材为基础,自编教材。国内有些教材虽然编得挺好,但在海外不适用^[3]。国家汉办主任许琳认为,汉语国际推广事业发展得很快,但能力建设不够,主要表现在"教师问题、教材问题、教学法问题"这三个方面,归根结底就是教师和教材问题。挪威、荷兰、德国这三个国家的教育部部长都要求帮助他们开发汉语教材^[4]。

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