

英文翻譯與寫作

講義

第一回

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第一講 翻譯 (一)

❖ 命題重點 ❖

一、代名詞為中心的構句

(一)

(a) It is natural for her to take care of the old man.

(照顧這老人對她來說是理所當然之事。)

(b) It is very kind of her to take care of the old man.

(她很好意照顧這位老人。)

句型：

(a) It + be + adj. (行為性質) + for + 人 (O) + to + V (原形)

(b) It + be + adj. (人品性質) + of + 人 (O) + to + V (原形)

說明：

上面 (a) (b) 兩句皆以形式主詞 (formal subject) it 當句子主詞。一般翻譯如上面例句所譯，不必譯出 "it"。至於何時使用 "for" 或 "of"，一般要看其前之形容詞而定。若其前之形容詞如(a)句為 natural 是描述行為性質時 (the nature of an action) 則用 for，如果那形容詞係評論人品性質 (如仁慈、聰明、勇敢、關心等) 時則應用 of。

例：

1. It was foolish of you/to do that.

(本句停頓 pause 在 you 後，顯然說話者着重評論人品之性質)

2. It was foolish/for you to do that.

(本句停頓 pause 在 foolish 後，顯然說話者着重評述行為性質)

又 for 與 of 片語可用下列句式代換，其意義相同

1. It is easy for me to do that.

= To do that is easy for me.

= For me to do that is easy. = Doing that is easy for me.

(前兩句用的較普通，後兩句較不普遍)

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2. It is very kind of her to take care of the old man.
= She is very kind to take care of the old man.
= How kind it is of her to take care of the old man!
= How kind of her (it is) to take care of the old man!
(最後兩句爲加強用法)

(二)

- (a) It is certain that they got lost in the woods.
(他們必然在森林中迷失。)
(b) It is strange that they should have got lost in the woods.
(奇怪他們竟然在森林中迷失了。)

句型：

- (a) It is + adj. + that + S + V....
(b) It is + adj + $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{that + S + (should) + V (指現在或未來)} \\ \text{that + S + should have + p.p. (指過去)} \end{array} \right.$

說明：

上面兩個例句“it”仍是形式主詞

- (a) 類構句之形容詞，有 apparent, certain, evident, implicit, likely, obvious, plain, possible, probable, true, well-known 等其後 that 子句中的動詞按直說法實際時式使用。
本句 It is certain that he will come.

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} = \text{Certainly he will come.} \\ = \text{He will certainly come.} = \text{He is certain to come.} \\ = \text{I am certain that he will come.} \end{array} \right.$
(Certain 用法較活，其他字則有限制)

- (b) 類形容詞，是表示驚訝、遺憾、歡欣、失意等意思的表說話者的觀點，或感想不重事實的陳述，故後用 should + V (原式) (表現在與未來) 或 should + have + p.p. (表過去動作或狀態) 此類形容詞有 necessary, essential, imperative, important, vital, urgent 等。

例：

- { It is natural that the Chinese should love China.
 (英式用法)
 { It is natural that the Chinese love China.
 (美式用法省去 should)
 { It is natural that an American speaks better English than
 a Chinese. (事實敘述)

(三)

- (a) It was at the bookstore in front of the station that I bought this English-Chinese dictionary.
 (那是在車站前的書店我買下了這本英漢字典。)
- (b) Where was it that you bought the English-Chinese dictionary?
 (在何處你買了這本英漢字典?)

句型：

- (a) It is....that...(強調名詞，代名詞，副詞片語與子句)
- (b) 疑問詞 + is it + that + S + V. ...? (強調疑問詞的場合)
- (c) { It is....who (that)... (強調...人)
 { It is....which (that)... (加強 物、動物)

說明：

- (a) { It is you that are to blame. (要斥責的是你)
 { cf. You are to blame.
 { It was him that they were looking for. (那是他，他們所要
 { 找的)
 { cf. They were looking for him.
 { It was with great difficulty that he solved the question.
 { (費了很大艱辛，他解決了這問題)
 { cf. He solved the question with great difficulty.
 { It was not till he came back that I left.
 { (直到他回來我才離去)
 { cf. I didn't leave till (until) he came back.
- (b) { Where did you buy the English-Chinese dictionary?
 { (一般問句)
 { Where was it that you bought the English-Chinese dictionary?

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(加強疑問詞之構句)

What is it that you have to buy? (你要買的是什麼)

It is only shallow people who judge by appearances.

(祇有淺薄的人才會以貌取人)

It is only education which will conquer prejudice.

(克服偏見唯有教育)

容易譯錯的句子：

1. It's an ill wind that blows nobody good.

此句不可看作 An ill wind blows nobody good 之加強句，
依 Longman Dictionary 之解釋 "Even bad things may have
some good results". 甚至於不好的事未必人人受到損害，害於
此可能利於彼，如病痛人人厭棄，但利於醫生。

2. It is a wise father that knows his own child.

不譯作：一個聰明的父親了解自己的子女。

應譯為：再聰明的父親，不見得了解自己的子女。

3. It is a good workman that never blunders.

不譯作：從不犯錯的人才是好工人。

應譯為：再好的工人也難免有錯，智者千慮，必有一失。

4. It is a long lane that has no turning.

不譯作：沒有轉彎的巷道是條長巷。

應譯作：任何長巷，必有轉彎，凡事必有變化，否極泰來。

5. It's a good wife that never grumbles.

不譯作：從不埋怨的是好太太。

應譯作：從不埋怨的太太很少。

(四)

- (a) It seems that Father is busy with his work.

(父親似乎忙於他的工作)

- (b) It happened that I saw my teacher at the station.

(湊巧，我在車站看到我的老師)

句型：

- (a) It seems (appears) that + S + V +

- (b) It happened (chanced) that + S + V +

✦ 精選試題 ✦**一、英譯中**

1. It used to be impossible for man to fly in the air at all, but nowadays traveling by air is quite common. Some day it will be possible for us to travel to another planet.
2. It is thoughtless of you to say such harsh words to her when she has owned that she has done wrong.
3. It is very fine of you to offer your sacrifice, but it would be mean and hateful of me to accept it.
4. It is difficult for most of the persons who live in modern industrial societies to comprehend the struggle for mere existence that even today confronts many of the peoples on earth.
5. It is one of the worst things about a holiday that nobody is content to sit still and do nothing.
6. As for her cello playing, it was strange how deeply she could move other people.
7. It is particularly unfortunate that September should be the season of greatest typhoon frequency, for a heavy storm does much damage not only to crops but also to life and property.
8. If we want to consider the effects of the television programs children see, it is evident that we cannot consider only the content of the so-called "children's" programs; we must consider the whole spectrum of adult dramatic programs as well.
9. It is the idle man, not the great worker, who is always complaining that he has no time or opportunity.
10. It is the young man who is not satisfied with what he does, and who is determined to better it every day, that wins.

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11. It is not what we earn, but what we save, that makes us rich.
It is not what we eat, but what we digest, that makes us strong.
It is not what we read, but what we understand, that makes us wise. It is not what we intend, but what we do, that makes us useful.
12. It seems that a number of curious superstitions still survive among us. They are of course more common among uneducated people; but to the intellectual people of the higher classes, superstitions are by no means unfamiliar.
13. It appears that one afternoon, escaping from school earlier than usual, he took up Goethe's poem and read and reread it, and as he read he seemed to see before him the terror of the forest.
14. It once happened that a hungry Lion woke to find a Mouse just under his paw. He caught the tiny creature, and was about to make a mouthful of him, when the little fellow looked up, and began to beg for his life.
15. It is expected that an enormous amount of electricity can be produced in the near future by means of atomic power.
16. It is often said that in prosperity we have many friends, but that we are usually neglected when things go badly.
17. It is well known that time once passed never returns, and that the moment which is lost is lost for ever.
18. They had no way to keep meat from spoiling, so they ate all they possibly could and hoped it wouldn't be too long before they found food again.
19. Before many hours had passed, she learned thirty new words.
(本句意爲 She learned thirty new words after some hours.)
20. It was 1908 before the brothers received full honor in America, when U.S. Army at last accepted a Wright plane.
(本句意爲 Only after 1908 did the people in America fully acknowledge the achievement of the brothers.)