

英译汉课程

第一周第二周

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2019-09-11

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Part I

作业

1 正文 (部分)

Grand openings

Changes that will bring scientific discovery more freely into the public domain are happening. About time too.

IN 2001 a meeting on scientific publishing held in Budapest by what was then called the Open Society Institute (now the Open Society Foundation) coined the phrase “open access”. The gathering official statement asked the world to “share the learning of the rich with the poor and the poor with the rich, make this literature as useful as it can be, and lay the foundation for uniting humanity in a common intellectual conversation” — in other words, to make scientific papers free to users.

A noble aspiration, but one which cynics might have thought had little chance of coming to fruition. The rich, they would observe, include academic publishers, who have enjoyed three centuries of dominion over the dissemination of scientific work and who often have profit margins approaching 40%. They had every incentive to scupper change.

Cynicism, however, is not always correct. The open-access movement which the meeting helped spawn now looks unstoppable. All seven of Britain’s research councils, for example, now require that the results of the work they pay for are open-access in some way. So does the Wellcome Trust, a British charity whose medical-research budget exceeds that of many scientifically successful countries. And by 2016 every penny of public money given to British universities by the government will carry the same requirement.

Elsewhere, the story is the same. In 2013, after years of wrangling in America’s Congress, the White House stepped in to require federal agencies that spend more than \$100m a year on research to publish the results where they can be read for free. Countless universities, societies and funding bodies in other countries have similar requirements.

2 第一版

2.1 翻译

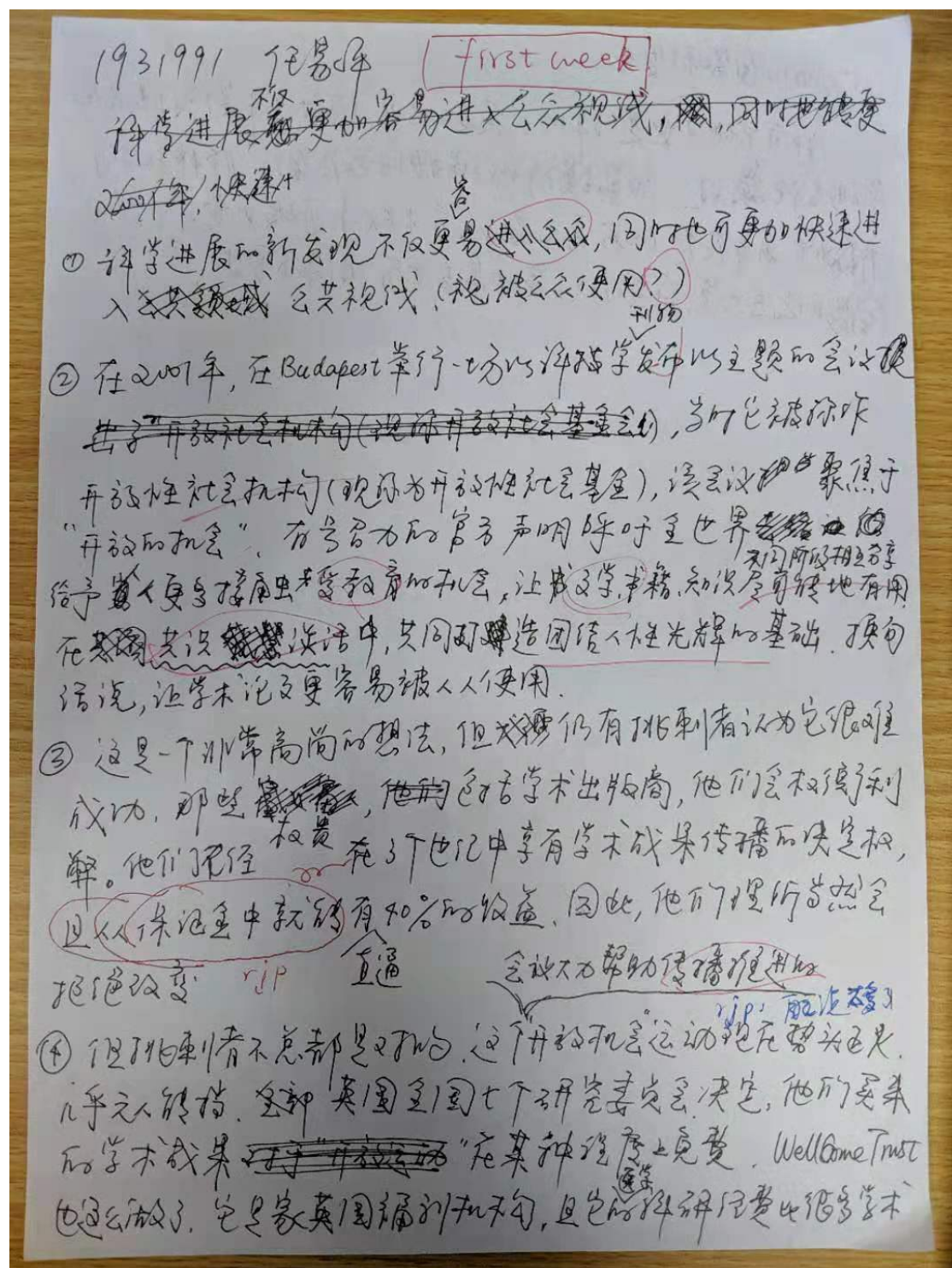


图 1: 第一版翻译 _01

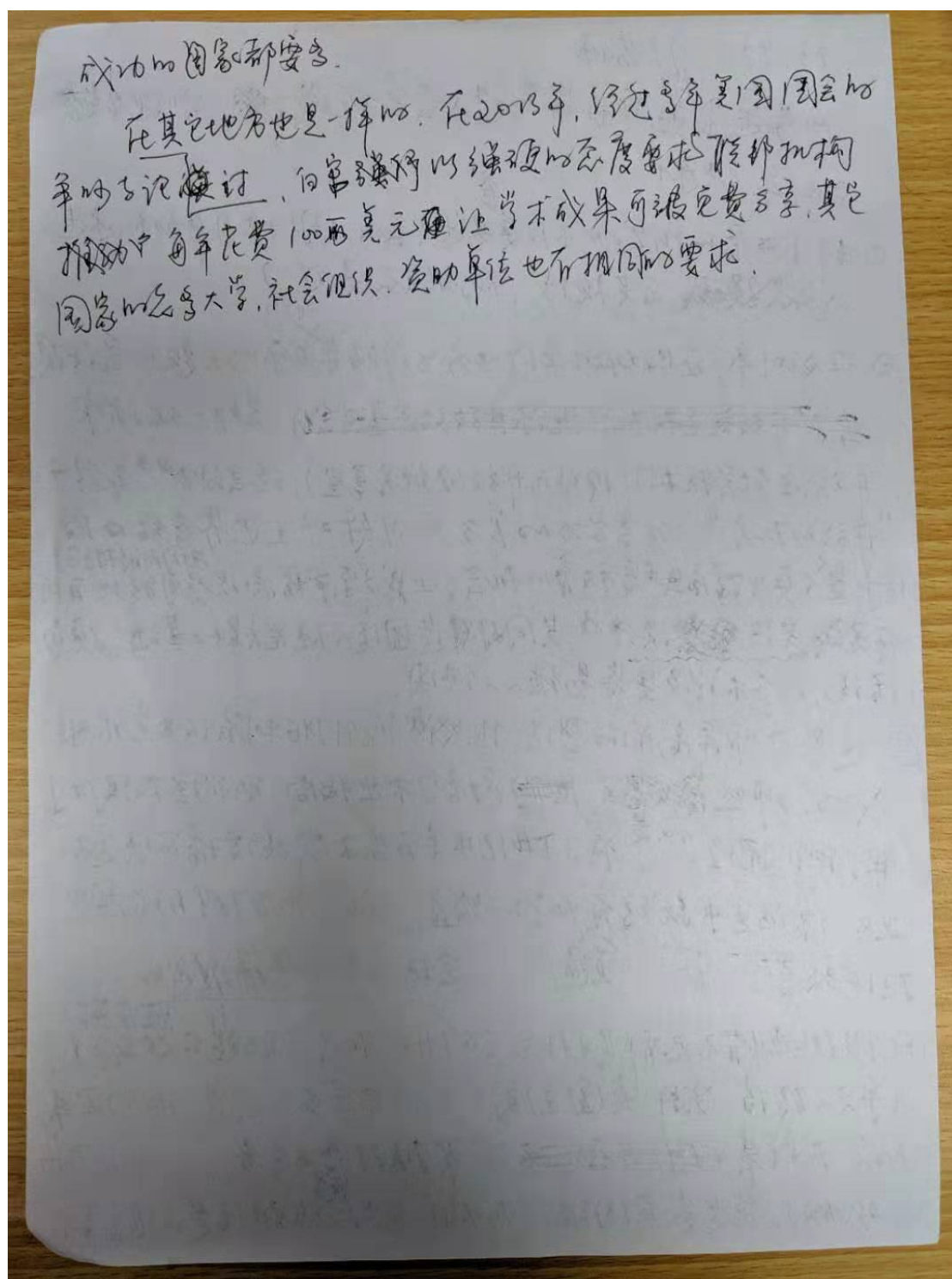


图 2: 第一版翻译 _02

2.2 反思

1. public domain 公共领域

- 我的翻译：公共视线
- 一开始我翻译的是‘公共领域’，然后又改成了‘公共视线’：这说明我自己其实也不知道怎么翻译，还是因为见的太少。

2. **About time too.** It's about time to make this change too.

- 我的翻译：对比上文中的‘more freely’将其翻译成‘更快’。在课堂上又思考了稍许，将其与‘time that ... is happening’作对比，译作‘时代’。
- 统统都不对，这句话更偏向是口语中的‘是时候了’。还是见的太少。

3. **the learning of ...** 知识, 科学刊物

- 我的翻译：受教育
- 抽象地太多。翻译的时候更应注重上下文的衔接。

4. **literature** 论文, 知识

- 我的翻译：文学
- 千万不能直译，一定要联系上下文。

5. **common intellectual conversation** 学术交流

- 我的翻译：共同智力会谈
- 感觉在翻译的时候脑子乱掉了。遇到这种第一遍不懂得东西，理应去用上下文联想。

6. **humanity** 人类

- 我的翻译：人性
- 平时见到 humanity 基本都是人性，所以没多想直接翻译成人性，就有了很搞笑的人性光辉的翻译。

7. **margins** 顶, 边

- 我的翻译：保证金
- ‘margin’在中文有‘顶, 边’的意思，平时看英文也经常见到这个单词，课堂上是真的慌了。

8. spwan 产生

- 我的翻译：传播
- 脑子里对很多词的意思都是模糊的，只记了个大概。所以就翻译错了。

翻译的很差，关键点都是乱翻的。自己觉得全文的难点就在于概述和第一段。如 ‘common intellectual conversation’ 很考验译者理解能力，具体表现在联系上下文的能力。同时也启发我，有时候碰到这种高上大的名词，如果直译的意思完全沾不上边，就应该去发挥自己想象力，因为这个短语极可能与文章或是报道的主题有关系。算是一种翻译技巧。

同时看的東西少，也缺乏很多翻譯的自信，會猶豫不決，甚至會改變業界的慣性翻譯，這在專業人士眼裡會顯得十分業餘且可笑。總而言之，不專業，也正正好符合自己業外人士的身份。

所以顯得十分真實。

3 第二版

3.1 翻译

科学进展的新发现将更容易进入公共领域,也是时候做出这样的改变了。

2001 年,在 Budapest 举行了一场以科技刊物发表为主题的会议,当时它被称作开放社会研究所(现在被称作开放社会基金)。在这个会议上提出了‘开放获取’的概念。这个具有号召力的官方声明呼吁全世界不同阶级相互分享,更应让社会底层拥有接触科技文献的机会,让文献尽其所用,这为之后人类的学术交流打下了坚实的基础。换句话说,让学术刊物更容易被大众使用。

这是一个十分崇高的理念。但仍有不少挑刺者认为它不可能实现。那些包括学术出版商在内的权贵们,他们会权衡利弊,因为他们已经在三个世纪中享有学术成果的传播决定权,并从中获取逼近 40% 的利益。因此,他们理所当然会拒绝改变。

然而这些挑刺者不总是对的。这个被会议促成的‘开放获取’运动无人能挡。比如,英国全部七个研究委员会要求他们的学术成果在某种程度上免费获取。Wellcome Trust 是一家英国的慈善机构。它的医学研究预算已经超过了多个科学发达国家。在 2016 年之前,有英国政府补助的科研成果也应该免费向大众开放。

其他地方情况也差不多。在 2013 年,经过美国国会多年的激烈讨论,白宫介入,要求联邦机构每年多花 100 万美金去让科技成果文献免费为大众开放。其他国家很多的大学,社团和基金都如此要求。

3.2 反思

这回在翻译前,好好把各种名词查了一遍,所以条理更加清晰。比如‘Open Society Institute’(开放社会研究所)和‘open access’(开放获取)的翻译,这种词汇应该是有公认的翻译,但如果第一次翻译,不去上网查找资料,很容易就会翻译出‘别名’(开放社会机构,开放机会)。不知道这种情况在专业的翻译中,是否允许。在翻译的同时,也对第一次翻译的错误进行了纠正,译文读起来就流畅了许多。

翻译的核心还是要理解整个文章内容。如果是我自己做的话,肯定有很多地方翻译不到位。也正巧有了这节课的点拨,对于文章难点部分如何理解翻译,提供了新的方法与思路。同时自己也要注意翻译的态度,要把它当做自己的一份作品而非草稿去完成,态度要摆端正,不能因为自己是业外人士就嘻嘻哈哈,降低要求。课下也应该多看看 NY Times 或是 Guardian 这类的报纸。

之前买了几本上海高口的教材,虽然老师点评证书的含金量不高,但是阅读

教程里的大部分文章质量很高. 我也花了两个星期大概把第一章里的文章过了一遍, 仍然有很多地方不懂, 课上也给了我一些关于翻译方法的启发, 希望能靠自己把问题解决.

接下来对文章的某些句子的翻译记录一下想法. 在第一版反思中提到的在此不赘述.

1. rich, poor

如果两者在 ‘and’ 前后出现, 可以一起译作 ‘不同阶级’. rich 单出现可译作 ‘权贵’, poor 可译作 ‘底层’. 同时要注意类似词语的词性, 因为它们是反义词, 只要翻译出其中一个, 可以根据反义词推出另一个. rich 在此广义指的是在科技文献获取机会上占优的一方, poor 理所当然就成了在科技文献获取机会上劣势一方, 至于具体用中文的哪些词语代替 rich 和 poor 就是考察译者语文功底了.

2. observe

根据上下文, 译作 ‘权衡利弊’. 全文主题是开放获取, 科技文献免费对公众开放, 那么利益受损的必然是权贵们. 这就是看懂文章核心内容之后的逻辑. 后面的一系列定语从句, 看上去虽是对权贵的描述, 但结合本段第一句, 这些定语从句描述的是为什么挑刺者会对运动会抱有悲观的解释. 这就是这一段的逻辑结构. oberseve, 直译是观察, 开放运动掀起, 权贵们在观察, 这么翻译不通顺, 因此译为思考或是观望更为准确, 思考什么呢? 思考运动开始, 自己获利减少, 为了保持自己利益不变, 所以要拒绝改变, 拒绝这场开放获取运动, 即 observe 本质是为了利益, 把思考, 利益, 观望放在一起, 权衡利弊呼之欲出.

3. ‘by 2016 ... same requirement’

没有直译, 在这里 ‘every penny of ...’ 直译是 ‘英国政府在科研上投入的每一分钱’. 如果直译就成了, 英国政府在科研上投入的每一分钱也要遵守同样的要求. 显得很奇怪, 这里 ‘同样的要求’ 指的是上文所说免费向大众开放. 那么 ‘英国政府在科研所投入的钱’ 就可以理解为有英国政府补助过的或是经过英国政府资助的科研成果. 因此整个句子翻译为 ‘有英国政府补助的科研结果也应该免费向大众开放’.

4. ‘on research ... for free’

同上, 不能直译, 直译后的句子很不流畅.

Part II

补充性材料

4 正文 (全文)

Grand openings

Changes that will bring scientific discovery more freely into the public domain are happening. About time too.

IN 2001 a meeting on scientific publishing held in Budapest by what was then called the Open Society Institute (now the Open Society Foundation) coined the phrase “open access”. The gathering official statement asked the world to “share the learning of the rich with the poor and the poor with the rich, make this literature as useful as it can be, and lay the foundation for uniting humanity in a common intellectual conversation” — in other words, to make scientific papers free to users.

A noble aspiration, but one which cynics might have thought had little chance of coming to fruition. The rich, they would observe, include academic publishers, who have enjoyed three centuries of dominion over the dissemination of scientific work and who often have profit margins approaching 40%. They had every incentive to scupper change.

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Publishers, though they have often dragged their feet, are adjusting. This week the oldest, the Royal Society, and arguably the most prestigious, Nature Publishing Group (NPG)—both based in London—joined in. Each will now publish a journal that readers do not have to pay to look at.

Who will publish, and who perish?

Open-access publishing actually began in 2000, a year before the Budapest meeting, with the launch, in Britain, of BioMed Central, and in America, of the Public Library of Science (PLOS). The open-access business model shifts the cost of producing the journal from subscribers, such as university libraries, to researchers themselves, who pay an article-processing charge (APC) to appear in print or its electronic equivalent. Either way, the taxpayer picks up the bill in the end. But open publication makes research more widely accessible, which is a public good in its own right.

One problem open access brings is a shift in incentives. More published articles means more revenue from processing charges. Rejection rates at high-end paid-for journals often exceed 90%. A commercial open-access publisher (which PLOS, a charity, is not) might be tempted to publish anything that came his way, in order to pocket the APC—and many have, giving open access a fly-by-night feel to some academics.

For example, in a survey conducted by NPG, of 27,000 authors of papers in its journals, 44% expressed some concern about the quality of open-access publishing and more than a third agreed with the notion that it was associated with less prestige. Yet those perceptions may be misguided. A study of Nature Communications (which was, until this week's announcement, a hybrid between open access and traditional subscription, but is now pure open access) shows that its open-access papers enjoyed a slightly higher number of citations and significantly more downloads and online views than their non-open-access brethren.

To foster prestige, champions of open access have launched efforts such as eLife, an online journal with an array of academic bigwigs at its helm. They hope to create a top-tier publication by sheer weight of bigwiggery. But eLife and its kind

cannot force the change alone, because publishing with the requisite due diligence is not cheap.

The Public Library of Science has found a way out of this by copying the more-the-merrier approach, but in a controlled way. Until 2006 it was a producer of high-impact but loss-making publications. Then it started PLOS ONE, a different kind of journal altogether. Instead of acting as an arbiter of the importance of scientific work, PLOS ONE claims only to ensure that articles are scientifically sound. With less effort going into peer review, PLOS ONE publishes many more papers (in 2013, it carried more than 31,000 articles, 36 times as many as the next-most-prolific PLOS journal) while simultaneously charging less for them and becoming a cash-cow that helps pay for the rest of the outfit. The Royal Society hopes to recapitulate this idea with its new offering, Royal Society Open Science.

Free hits

Whether the experience of Nature Communications will overcome researchers' misgivings remains to be seen. Despite the Wellcome Trust's requirement that its grantees publish in open-access journals, only 70% do so. To ensure compliance, the trust has had to introduce punitive measures, such as withholding money.

Some researchers just don't care, though. A survey by Taylor & Francis, a publishing firm, asked American and British scientists if they had published under open-access policies; 44% and 32%, respectively, did not know. More than half responded they did not know if they would in future. But many do know, and resist.

The point about prestige is not mere snobbery. The league table of journals is as finely graded as that of football, and, at the moment, has far less scope for promotion and demotion. Grant-awarding bodies and appointment committees know this and, in a wonderful display of doublethink, promote open access but also promote those who eschew it by publishing in top-notch, non-open journals

Only when that changes will open access's victory be complete. This could happen either by new open-access journals acquiring the necessary kudos, or by old ones, seeing the game is up, becoming open access themselves. Though Nature

Communications is a successful and well-regarded publication, it is not NPG's top product. And Royal Society Open Science is untested. At the moment, then, both the Royal Society and NPG seem to be hedging their bets. When the society's Proceedings, and NPG's eponymous flagship, Nature, are both free for anyone to read, then open access's partisans really will be able to declare victory and go home.

5 翻译

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然而这些挑刺者不总是对的。这个被会议促成的‘开放获取’运动无人能挡。比如,英国全部七个研究委员会要求他们的学术成果在某种程度上免费获取。Wellcome Trust 是一家英国的慈善机构。它的医学研究预算已经超过了多个科学发达国家。在 2016 年之前,有英国政府补助的科研结果也应该免费向大众开放。

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6 总结