

B2 学术写作训练

学术写作实践精析（二）

STYLE TIPS 把握文字风格的技巧

1. KEEP IT CONSISTENT

- ❖ Good style is consistent. That means it doesn't change in tone from sentence to sentence or from beginning to end.

- ❖ 句子之间从头到尾语气尽量做到一致，保持你文字的个性。

举两个例子对比来看 consistent tone:

- ❖ I believe it is time for all good people to come to the aid of the parade float committee. Now is the time for us to accomplish this considerable and worthy task.
- ❖ Hey, y'all! Now is the time for us to accomplish this considerable and worthy task—making some awesome floats!
- ❖ 通过对比就会发现第二段的内容读起来感觉有点怪怪的。我们在行文当中尽量保持一致的风格，很有可能给读者带来一些阅读的困扰。

2. DON' T BORE YOUR READER

- ❖ Style should be consistent, but you don't want to write the same type of sentence over and over.

- ❖ 写作时需要避免重复相同的内容，这一点同学们一定要注意。

- ❖ Repetitive Sentences

如：I went to the store. I got a carton of milk. I got a loaf of bread. I walked home.

- ❖ 这种句子在初期练习的时候尚可，但如果是提高的部分就会显得写作能力不足，建议大家在写作的时候多多练习写一些比较复杂的结构来更精确地表达自己的意思。

- ❖ 如果我们将上面一组句子改为：I went to the store, where I got a carton of milk. Then I got a loaf of bread. Finally, I went home.
- ❖ 这样的内容相比之下就会显得结构性更明确一些。

- ❖ 再更细致地扩展一下：I went to the store, because I was quite hungry. I picked out a loaf of bread, and then realized that I was also thirsty. So I also snapped up a carton of milk before I went home.
- ❖ 如果改成这样，可读性就变得更强了一些。最开始版本的句子没有对于事件的解释，但是后面的版本添加了很多细节来解释为什么作者会买这些东西。同时，开始的版本中的短句子并列结构让所有事件看起来是一并重要的，因而会有抓不住重点的感觉。但是上面这个改写的结构就显得更有层次感。

3.AVOID WORDINESS AND REDUNDANCY

- ❖ 避免堆砌文字导致文章显得冗余
- ❖ Wordiness is using an excessive number of words. It's best to keep things short, so each word has a big impact.

- ❖ 举个例子：

“He's an extraordinary contortionist(柔术演员) and the best at his craft. There's no contortionist as remarkable in history.”
- ❖ 当我们使用一些不必要的单词时，字里行间的单词就很可能失去了它应有的影响力，你的读者就可能会抓不住重点甚至觉得无聊读不下去。
- ❖ 解决方法就是——尽量去掉不必要的单词，精简你的句子。

- ❖ 把刚刚的内容精简一下可以改为：

He was the most extraordinary contortionist who ever lived.

- ❖ Redundancy is including words that could be omitted without losing the meaning of the passage.
- ❖ 冗余的部分包括可以省略并且省略后内容依然保持完整的单词。

❖ 看来一个例子：

She's the most wonderful, amazing, perfect, fantastic, unbelievable, extraordinary, marvelous runner I've ever seen.

❖ 这个句子当中大家不难发现单词有一些冗余，让每一个词原本的影响力都削弱了一些，所以直接改成简单的：

❖ “She's the most extraordinary runner I've ever seen.”

这样句中的 extraordinary 才能体现出它真正的意义，不会被忽略。

WRITING NARRATIVES 记叙文写作必备技巧

❖ A NARRATIVE is a description of events that are connected to each other—also known as a story. Fiction writers use narrative to describe imaginary events, but interesting stories happen in real life, too. Nonfiction writers use narrative to describe real events. Just like any good story, a good narrative has a **beginning, middle, and end.**

❖ 叙事其实就是对相互关联的事物的叙述，也就是我们常说的故事。小说家用叙事来描写虚构的事件，但是现实生活中也存在有趣的故事。非小说作家用叙事来描写真实事件。好的叙事要有开头、发展和结尾。

❖ 在我们写叙述性文章时，一般都要出现以下元素：

Context and/or setting 背景 / 环境

A point of view 观点（视角）

Characters or actors 角色

Plot 情节

Conclusion 结局

CONTEXT AND/OR SETTING

❖ 读者通常需要上下文和环境背景的设置来帮助他们进入到故事当中并理解其中的内容。关于 context 和 setting 的内容大家可以参考下面几个提示：

- ❖ The **context** of a narrative is:
 - What else is happening at the same time as the story
 - What happened before the story begins that is important for the reader to know so he understands the story
- ❖ The **setting** of a narrative is:
 - When a story happens
 - Where a story happens
- ❖ EXAMPLE:
 - Winter was always tough in the tiny village of Della Gloria, because every year the mountain snow cuts it off from the big town in the valley below. (context)
 - But the winter after the war ended was especially bad. (setting)
- ❖ 我们应该怎么样去设计这个背景环境呢？
- ❖ How to Create a Setting? Answer these questions to begin creating a vivid time and place:
 - What does the setting look like?
 - What does the setting sound like?
 - What does it feel like to be there?
 - What is the historical time and place of the setting?
 - What is going on in the world at that time?

NARRATION

- ❖ 在虚构的故事中，故事都是从叙述者的角度讲述的。

在小说当中，作者通常会从三种最常见的叙述者中选择：

First-person narrator(第一人称叙述)

Second-person narrator(第二人称叙述)

Third-person narrator(第三人称叙述)

First-person narrator(第一人称叙述):

a narrator who is also a character in the story. Authors might use first- person narration if the character of the narrator is important to the story or if the story is best told from a single point of view.

如果叙述者人物本身对故事很重要，或者从这个角度来说故事讲得最好，则可使用第一人称叙述。

Second-person narrator(第二人称叙述)

tells the story as if it is happening to “you.” Authors use second-person narration if they want readers to strongly relate and react to the story.

如果作者希望读者与故事之间产生强烈的联系和互动，则优先选择第二人称叙述。

Third-person narrator(第三人称叙述):

a narrator who is not a character in the story. Authors use third- person narration if they want to explore the points of view of many characters or tell a story that doesn't focus on a narrator's character.

如果作者想探索更多角色的观点或讲述一个不以叙述者角色为中心的故事，则可使用第三人称叙述。

在选择文章的叙事风格时，还可以考虑以下几点：

❖ Subjective Narrative

A subjective narrative style concentrates on the feelings and opinions of the narrator.

EXAMPLE:

It was the most beautiful thing in the world when the surf filled with incredible tiny glowing fish on the first night in August.

❖ Objective Narrative

An objective narrative style conveys the facts with no opinions or slant(倾向性).

EXAMPLE:

On the first night in August, the surf filled with tiny glowing fish.

❖ Trustworthy Narrator

A trustworthy narrator conveys acts and opinions that turn out to be true over the course of the story.

EXAMPLE:

A narrator tells you at the beginning of the story that he is a doctor and all of events of the story confirm that he is.

❖ Untrustworthy Narrator

An untrustworthy narrator conveys facts and opinions that turn out to be false or misleading over the course of the story.

EXAMPLE:

A narrator tells you at the beginning of the story that another character is out to get him, but in fact that character is nothing but kind to him throughout the story.

How to Choose Your Narration Style?

Answer these questions to find the right narration style for a story:

- ❖ Do I want the narration to be objective or subjective?
- ❖ Would it be more interesting for the narrator to be untrustworthy?
- ❖ Would the story be clearer if the narrator is trustworthy?
- ❖ Do I want my narrator's thoughts and feelings to be a major part of the story?
(Create a first-person narrator.)
- ❖ Do I want readers to identify strongly with the narrator?
(Create a second-person narrator.)
- ❖ Do I want the freedom to explore different points of view?
(Create a third-person narrator.)

CHARACTERS OR ACTORS

- ❖ 完成了对于环境背景的描写，接下来你的人物就要出场了。如果你在写非虚构的故事，故事中的参与者是谁？如果你正在写一个虚构的故事，故事中的人物是谁？

- ❖ A character or actor is often introduced the moment the writer shows him or her doing something—or purposely not doing something.
- ❖ 你不必在故事开篇向读者介绍角色时就告诉他们关于人物的一切，但是要记住，除非你告诉他们这些信息，否则观众对角色是一无所知的。观众通常需要对剧中的人物有所了解，才能理解这个故事。

❖ **EXAMPLE:**

Sebastian stared out the window of his family's small cottage. He couldn't run and play in the snow with the other kids, because he'd been born with a crooked leg. What nobody else in town knew, however, was that he'd also been born with something else: the power to fly.

CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

- ❖ 如果你的角色是无趣的，你的故事就不会很有趣。
- ❖ Nobody wants to read a story about a person who doesn't think about much, doesn't care about much, and sits around all day doing nothing.
创造具有生命力的人物很重要—they take action, change, learn, and grow.
- ❖ We also want to have a **full description** of those characters.
- ❖ 比如说你想表达你的角色是 resourceful(足智多谋的)，则需要解释这个词之于这个人物有哪些具体的表现：how they've been resourceful in the past, how they plan so they can be resourceful now—even who taught them how to be resourceful.
- ❖ 人物的描写应该是生动而清晰的，并且挑选出的细节部分需要能够使读者在心中构建出自己的人物画面。
- ❖ 以下这些问题线索可以帮助大家形成一个相应的思维路径。
- ❖ How to Create a Character? Answer these questions to help start to create a dynamic character who is vivid in the reader's mind:
What does my character care about?

What does my character want out of life?

What do other people think about my character?

What does my character like?

What doesn't my character like?

What does my character look like?

What does my character sound like?

How is my character different from everyone else in my story?

PLOT

- ❖ 叙事之所以称之为叙事，就是因为它是一个故事，而不是论证或说明。

The story can have a real or imaginary plot.

- ❖ A PLOT STRUCTURE is the way experiences are organized into a story.

There are a few common plot structures:

- ❖ **Beginning >>>>> End**

Plots can begin at the beginning of the story and continue chronologically to the end.

按照时间顺序从开头到结尾

- ❖ **Beginning <<<<<< End**

Plots can begin at the end of the story and go back to the causes in the beginning.

开头写明结局，后文解释起因。

- ❖ **Beginning <<<<◇>>>>End**

Plots can even begin in the middle of a story and move forward and backward in time.

情节从故事的中间部分展开，在时间上向前或向后发展。

- ❖ 无论如何，逻辑性对于故事发展很重要的，同学们要意识到逻辑性并不意味着所有的事情都必须按时间顺序排列，但是它确实意味着所有的事情彼此是要能有效关联的，并且都与故事的结局相关。

- ❖ 再给同学们提供一个设置情节的思维脉络。

- ❖ How to Create a Plot? Answer these questions to create a solid plot, where all the events make sense in the reader's mind:

Where would it be most interesting for my story to begin?

Where do I want the story to end?

What is the conflict that needs to be resolved?

What change must happen in the plot?

What change must happen in the character?

What does the reader need to know to understand what's happening?

What would be good to keep hidden from the reader to build suspense?

When is the best time to reveal details you've hidden to build drama?

NARRATIVE TECHNIQUES

叙事技巧

To develop characters or narrative experiences, you can use narrative techniques such as:

- ❖ **Dialogue**, which reports the things people say to each other

对话，展现人物的想法和交流方式

EXAMPLE:

"I'm hungry." one of the kids outside of Sebastian's window said.

"So am I," said the girl in the green coat.

"Everybody's hungry this winter. Nobody's been able to get down to the town in the valley for so long. But thinking about it won't make it better. Let's make another snow angel."

- ❖ **Pacing**, which is the speed at which things happen

节奏，控制故事的发展

FAST-PACE EXAMPLE:

The girl in the green coat lay down, waved her arms a few times in the fresh snow, and stood up, leaving the imprint of an angel in the fresh-packed white snow.

SLOW-PACE EXAMPLE:

The girl in the green coat lay down. For a long moment, she stared up at the blue sky, thinking of warmer days, when the hilltop, which was now covered with snow, had been covered with strawberries. The thought of it made her mouth water. Then the hunger in her belly made her eyes water.

After a minute, to distract herself, she spread her arms out in the unforgiving snow and waved them up and down at her sides.

She was so hungry that she wasn't sure if she had the strength to stand. But when the cold of the snow began to bite into the backs of her legs, she found her way to her feet and looked down at the image of the snow angel she had made in the fresh-packed white snow.

- ❖ **Description**, which gives SENSORY(感官的，感觉的) information about characters, places, or experiences. In fact, a good way to describe a scene is to think of how it would be experienced through several of your senses.

描写，形容，给出人物对于细节的感知

How would it feel?

How would it look?

How would it sound?

How would it taste?

How would it smell?

EXAMPLE:

Sebastian always waited until it was too dark for his mother to see anything before he allowed himself to float out of his bed and explore the quiet house. But this time he didn't just explore the house. He flew quickly to the front door, opened it, and flew out into the chilly night. The scent of the pines on the hilltop was strong, but he didn't linger to enjoy it for long. Instead, he dove down the hill, flying at top speed, heading for the city in the faraway valley and the good things he planned to bring back for his family and friends to eat. The piles of fruits and cakes were so clear in his imagination that he could almost taste the sweet and juicy first bite.

CONCLUSION

如果你的故事写得很好，读者一般是会非常渴望知道最后会发生什么的，也就是故事的结局。在叙述中，描写结局需要做两件事：

❖ 1. FOLLOW THE PLOT

What happens at the end needs to follow logically from the events of the story. 一定要在逻辑上讲得通。

❖ 2. REFLECT THE NARRATED EXPERIENCE:

Characters should act in a way that is consistent with their previous actions and thoughts.

人物的结局选择要符合过往的经历，行为和想法。

1. FOLLOW THE PLOT

EXAMPLE:

If Sebastian has to fly down the mountain to get food for his hometown because there was no other way to get there, he can't take the train back. That doesn't make logical sense.

2. REFLECT THE NARRATED EXPERIENCE

EXAMPLE:

If Sebastian hasn't been able to walk before, he shouldn't start walking at the end of the story for no reason. Or if Sebastian has been a genuinely nice guy for the whole story, he shouldn't suddenly turn mean.

- ❖ 人物应该是具有强大生命力的，也就是说，他们应该在故事中成长。然而，一个角色不应该在没有任何解释的情况下突然在结局变得很不一样，但这并不意味着结局不能出现一些惊喜。

EXAMPLE:

After everyone else had eaten their fill, the girl with the green coat came over to Sebastian.

He had to admit to himself that he had hoped she might talk to him after he “found” the food and donated it to the village, even though he didn’t know what he hoped would happen next.

“Sebastian,” she said, pulling his rolling chair around to the side of the house, where nobody else could see them. “I have something to tell you.”

Sebastian’s heart soared. Was she going to confess that she loved him as much as he loved her? Maybe that was too much to hope. Anyway, he thought, the smile on her face was already reward enough.

EXAMPLE:

But to his astonishment, she didn’t do any of this.

Instead, as he watched, her green shoes lifted neatly from the snowy ground, until she was a foot above the earth.

Then two feet.

Then three.

“I can fly, too!” she said.

Like a shot, she disappeared above him into the clear blue sky.