石澜

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Abstract

To help Chinese graduate students to improve English academic writing,absctract of academic writing and linguistic features throught them were studied. Abstracts are generally used in four occasions and play an important role in academuc papers.Sample abstract such as authentic English ones(Ea), abstracts that are translated from Chinese to English (Ta) and orignal Chinese abstracts (Ca) were picked from various fields and divided through Bhatia’s model to distinguish the sections.A contrastive analysis of Tas and Eas are made and the result shows that Chinese writers have a tendency to express more in introduction,but some parts should be expressed in other sections instead of in the introduction section.There are two tables listed to show the ditribution of verb tenses in the abstracts of Ta and Ea.They obviously show that prominently used tenses in both Ta and Ea are similar for each section because of thr well- defined contents and functions and more past tense and less present simple tense are used in Ta compared to Ea, which may be influenced by their meaning=centered monther tongue ,Chinese,definitely indicating that Chinese writers are not thoroughly aware of the subtlemeaning of tenses and the functions they play although they understand some grammatical rules.The frequency of passive voice verbs was also listed,showing that considerably more passive verbs were used in Ea than Ta due to the reason of passive verbs and the different concepts about the doer of an event.Therefore, teaching materials to meet this requirement should be developed in order to improve the English writing skills for the target learners.

Key words: Abstract,sections, linguistic features, contrastive analyses