

語言學小知識：



Author: Anran Cao, Research assistant of Department of Translation, The Chinese University of Hong Kong



作者：曹安然，香港中文大學翻譯系，研究助理

Mongolian language has various writing systems. Traditional Mongolian script, or also called Uigur Mongolian, as shown in the question, was invented in the 13th century, when Mongolians used Uigur letters to write Mongolian. This writing system is still in use today. Ethnic Mongols in China (mainly in the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region) are still using the traditional Mongolian script. Traditional Mongolian script is one of vertical writing systems in existence. The vertical writing system is not widely seen among modern writing systems. The basic order of writing traditional Mongolian script is to spell a word from top to bottom and the words are aligned from left to right.

The writing systems of world languages can be divided into different types: (1) logograms; (2) syllabaries; (3) phonograms. Traditional Mongolian script belongs to phonograms and it is a segmental system, which means that it is alphabetical and each letter represents either a consonant or a vowel. Each letter of Mongolian script has three forms. The three forms represent the same letter but the shape (forms) of the same letter differs when it appears in different positions within a word. The three forms are word-initial, word-medial and word-final forms. For instance, the word-initial form of

letter “a” is , which occurs at the beginning of the Mongolian word  (Latin transliteration: *arun*); the word-





middle form of letter “a” is , which occurs in the middle of the Mongolian word  (Latin transliteration:

naiiman); the word-final form of letter “a” is , which occurs at the end of the Mongolian word  (Latin transliteration: *banana*).

The letter forms and shapes are extremely complicated so the cost of learning traditional Mongolian script is high. Since traditional Mongolian script was invented long ago, it cannot reflect Mongolian phonological changes happened in modern times; this accounts for the large discrepancies between the spoken Mongolian and the traditional script. Due to the above disadvantages of the traditional script, there was a language reform in the Republic of Mongolia. After the language reform, the country started to use Cyrillic letters to write Mongolian since 1941.

蒙古語有好幾種不同的文字系統。題目中的蒙古文被稱為回鶻蒙古文或傳統蒙古文，創立於 13 世紀，當時的蒙古人用回鶻字母書寫蒙古語，一直保留至今。傳統蒙古文現在主要的使用對象為中國境內（主要為內蒙古自治區）的蒙古族。蒙古文是世界上現存的為數不多的豎寫文字之一，書寫的基本順序為從上到下拼寫，文字的排列方式為從左至右。

世界上的文字大概分為幾類：語素文字、音節文字和拼音文字。蒙古文是拼音文字也是全音素文字，每個字母代表一個元音或輔音。蒙古文每個字母都有三種形態，三種形態代表同一個字母，但由於每個字母出現在蒙古語單詞中的位置不同，其形態也不同，這三種形態分別為：詞首形、詞中形和詞尾形。例如，字母 a 的詞首形為

, 出現在  （拉丁轉寫：*arun*）的詞首；詞中形為 , 出現在  （拉丁轉寫：*naiiman*）的詞

中；而詞尾形為 , 出現在  （拉丁轉寫：*banana*）的詞尾。

傳統蒙古文的形態較為複雜因此學習成本較高，而且歷史較久，不能反映現代蒙古語的音變，造成現代蒙古語口語與傳統蒙古文差距較大。由於傳統蒙古文有以上缺點，蒙古國進行了文字改革，並自 1941 年起改用西里爾字母書寫蒙古語至今。

Problem 5 in The First Hong Kong Linguistics Olympiad (2019) Individual Contest Problems (20 points): Mongolian

香港語言學奧林匹克競賽第 5 題：蒙古語地名

Author: Anran Cao, Research assistant of Department of Translation, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

出題人：曹安然，香港中文大學翻譯系，研究助理

You plan to travel in Inner Mongolia. When you read a map of Inner Mongolia, you saw a number of place names in Mongolian and you would like to choose the place you want to go.

Now look at the following place names on the map:

你正在看內蒙古地圖，地圖上有以下用蒙古語寫的地名：

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17

As you may be unfamiliar with Mongolian script, here is an example of the Mongolian word. The Latin transliteration of

Mongolian word (No.0 in the map above) is “mongol”, which means Mongolia

你可能對蒙古文不太了解，因此 18 個地名中有一個例詞。0 號地名 的拉丁轉寫是 “mongol”，在蒙古文中是「蒙古」的意思。

(1) Match each Mongolian name with its Latin transliteration. Fill in the blank by writing down the number of the Mongolian place names listed above.

(1) 請將上面 17 個蒙古文地名與拉丁轉寫以及漢語名稱匹配。請在空格內填上對應的蒙古文地名的序號。

Hint:

As Mongolian scripts reflect Mongolian pronunciations long time ago, different letters in modern Mongolian may be written in the exactly same form in Mongolian scripts.

提示：

蒙古文反映的是古代蒙古語的發音，因此在現代蒙古語中不同的字母在蒙古文中可能會寫成完全一樣的形式。

	蒙古語	拉丁轉寫	漢語翻譯
例	0	<i>mongol</i>	蒙古
a		<i>ordos</i>	鄂爾多斯
b		<i>bugutu</i>	包頭
c		<i>xöndelen</i>	昆都侖
d		<i>jarud</i>	扎魯特

e		<i>tümed</i>	土默特
f		<i>arun</i>	阿榮
g		<i>xaraqin</i>	喀喇沁
h		<i>üjümüqin</i>	烏珠穆沁
i		<i>naiiman</i>	奈曼
j		<i>xoringer</i>	和林格爾
k		<i>buiir</i>	貝爾
l		<i>dalat</i>	達拉特
m		<i>sönid</i>	蘇尼特
n		<i>xölün</i>	呼倫
o		<i>dörbed</i>	杜爾伯特、四子王
p		<i>darxan</i>	達爾罕
q		<i>xoolin</i>	霍林

(2) Write down the correct Latin transliterations for the following place names.

(2) 寫出下列四個蒙古語地名的拉丁轉寫。

Hints:

a. Please use the following vowels: a, e, i, o, u. Answers with vowels outside the list are incorrect.

b. The ending letters of the Latin transliterations of the following four words are different.

提示：

a. 請使用以下字母代表元音：a, e, i, o, u。

b. 下列四個蒙古語地名結尾的字母是不同的。





蒙古語	Latin transliteration 拉丁轉寫
ᠲᠤᠮᠡᠳ	
ᠠᠷᠤᠨ	
ᠬᠠᠷᠠᠭᠢᠨ	
ᠤᠵᠢᠮᠤᠭᠢᠨ	

解答：

(1)

	蒙古語	拉丁轉寫	漢語翻譯
例	0	<i>mongol</i>	蒙古
a	6	<i>ordos</i>	鄂爾多斯
b	16	<i>bugutu</i>	包頭
c	5	<i>xöndelen</i>	昆都侖
d	2	<i>jarud</i>	扎魯特
e	13	<i>tümed</i>	土默特
f	11	<i>arun</i>	阿榮
g	17	<i>xaraqin</i>	喀喇沁
h	8	<i>üjümüqin</i>	烏珠穆沁
i	7	<i>naiiman</i>	奈曼
j	1	<i>xoringer</i>	和林格爾
k	4	<i>buiir</i>	貝爾
l	15	<i>dalat</i>	達拉特
m	3	<i>sönid</i>	蘇尼特
n	14	<i>xölün</i>	呼倫
o	9	<i>dörbed</i>	杜爾伯特、四子王
p	10	<i>darxan</i>	達爾罕
q	12	<i>xoolin</i>	霍林

(2)

Mongolian 蒙古語	Latin transliteration 拉丁轉寫	Chinese translation 漢語翻譯
	<i>xorqin</i>	科爾沁
	<i>jalaiid</i> 或 <i>jalaiit</i>	扎賚特
	<i>oros</i>	俄羅斯
	<i>haiilar</i>	海拉爾