

# **The Study of Computer English Language Characteristics and Chinese Translation Skills**

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**Abstract.** Along with the continuous development of network technology, computer has been widely used. Many new concepts, terminologies, and information related to computer are constantly introduced from abroad, and most of these data is written in English, so if we don't understand computer related English knowledge, we can't work smoothly future. Based on this, we have to learn computer application. This paper will mainly discuss computer English language features and Chinese translation skills from the perspective of computer profession.

The current network technology is developing rapidly and computer technology is changing. In order to make our domestic computer level increase further, there is a need to constantly introduce from abroad computer related new concepts and information. In concrete computer operation process, we often see a lot of English terms, namely abbreviations. Computer operation menu and mistakes and feedback information in the process of computer operation are conducted in English tips. If we are not able to quickly understand the English meaning, it would make serious impact on our normal work and study. English computer operation manual covers very detailed information and technical details, and this cannot be replaced by any information. To master computer technology, one must master computer language characteristics and Chinese translation skills so as to directly read data in English.

## **I. THE IMPORTANCE OF COMPUTER ENGLISH**

For computer major students, computer English is their compulsory course. To explain from the narrow sense perspective, computer English described contents involve English words and expressions in the field of computer concepts and each link. [1]. Under normal circumstances, the content of computer English contains computer knowledge related English listening, speaking, reading and writing. Computer English course needs the brief introduction of basic computer operation skills and basic knowledge of to carry on the, and students need to achieve learning goals is to develop good study habits, and master the computer English learning methods.

Compared with other professional English, computer English is has its own unique characteristics, such as it need to be rigorous, objective and more accurate and synthesis of new words. And in computer English will be a lot of long sentences, equations, figures, etc. Computer English learning is to be built on a solid basis of computer technology, so you can better understand the contents of a computer. Students in the learning process bear some new computer vocabulary for in-depth understanding and memory with a combination of computer related knowledge for further understanding and memory, so that their own computer English can constantly be improved.

## **II. THE MANIFESTATION OF COMPUTER ENGLISH LANGUAGE FEATURES**

English itself is mainly composed of words and sentences, so is computer English. It belongs to science and technology English. It contains very rich content, such as computer security, network communication, and electronic commerce, etc [2]. But in the process of concrete computer practice, we often encounter a lot of complex difficult long sentences with strong profession. To smoothly translate these sentences, we have to analyze and master computer English language characteristics, and accurately translate the related content of computer English on this basis.

### *A. Computer English vocabulary characteristics*

In computer English vocabulary, most are closely linked to the characteristics of computer itself. We put computer English vocabulary roughly into acronyms, compound words and ordinary words:

#### 1. Popular words with strong professional characteristic

This kind of words lasts longer time, and they already exist. They are only with new meanings and new usages in computer. Popular words with professional quality in computer English are endowed with new meaning, but they are out of the meaning of the word itself. Therefore, the important tasks of the study of this kind of words, instead of rote learning, students should learn to transfer the meaning. In computer common popular words of strong professional characteristics are: case, which means a question or problem that will be dealt with by a law court, or box; here it refers to the computer case; power, which means the ability or right to control people or events; monitor, which means someone whose job is to watch an activity or a situation to see how it changes or develops, here it refers to the computer display.

#### 2. Pure computer English vocabulary

Pure computer vocabulary frequency is very low. It has the characteristics of very rigorous and single meaning with high specialized degree and is generally common in the world. Letters spelling is very long, and the meaning of the words is becoming narrower with the length of the word [3]. They can have specialized representative meaning in computer profession, such as: bandwidth, pixels; and object oriented.

#### 3. Vocabulary relates to basic subjects

Computer subject is established on the basis of physics and mathematics, etc. In computer major, there are a lot of related knowledge about physical circuit and analog electronic, even involve other related disciplines knowledge [4]. In computer English, therefore, there are a lot of basic English vocabulary relating to subjects such as physics and mathematics. For example: hexadecimal; electric pulse; Density: density, etc.

#### 4. Computer English abbreviations and derivatives

In computer English, derivative frequency is very high. Compared with several other types of vocabulary, they are the most occurrences. For instance, in computer knowledge: macro, meaning a set of instructions for a computer, stored and used as a unit. As a prefix, it can be derived as: macrodefine, macrocode. In computer English, abbreviations appear more and more because of the continuous development of computer technology which asks for some long terms to express new ideas. The use of abbreviations can simplify the expression in computer. Abbreviations are often composed of the first letter or the first two letters of each word in the computer profession, and some first letter of some function words. The common abbreviation words in the computer are CPU (Central Processing Unit): CD-ROM (Compact Disk Read Only Memory), DVD-ROM (Digital Versatile Disk Read Only Memory): DVD player, etc. In a computer, there also will be some operation commands which are also expressed in acronyms, such as: Change Directory: CD; Make Directory: MD, and so on.

### *B. Computer English sentence characteristics*

Specific characteristics in computer English are mainly in the following several aspects: first is that the use of declarative sentence is more. When make statements about computer knowledge related concepts and computer experiment, declarative sentences are used. Second, the imperative sentences are used. Computer major involves experiment guidance, technology introduction and equipment use knowledge, so in concrete introduction, clear who is the subject in the process. Again, the use of passive voice in the sentences. Computer knowledge belongs to science, and it generally describes objective facts. Using subjective voice will make the person produce a feeling of first and most lasting impressions.

### **III. THE MANIFESTATION OF COMPUTER ENGLISH CHINESE TRANSLATION SKILLS**

In the process of Computer English Chinese translation, we must make it easy to understand, and we need to completely express the peculiarity of computer English, so we need to grasp some specific computer English localization skills according to characteristic of computer words and sentences. In the process of concrete translation, we need to follow certain requirements and must follow correct logic, formula and data to be accurate, and professional words and Chinese should be consistent.

#### *A. Computer English vocabulary Chinese translation skills*

Computer English vocabulary Chinese translation need to master the following skills: (1) choose the right meaning. Meanings of some words in computer science and other disciplines are different, so the translation of this type of words needs to be combined with the major content to determine the specific meaning, and then choose the right words. For instance, character means the particular combination of qualities that makes someone a particular type of person; in the translation it is a letter, mark, or sign used in writing, printing, or on a computer. (2) Unified translation. For some professional terms, usually combined with the usage for each professional translation, therefore in translation process, there is a specific need to adopt a unified translation; (3) some new words translation. If meet some new computer words you have never seen before, a translation according to its own meaning is needed. For example, a binary unit is a bit, Chinese meaning is BiTe. Or in the way of free translation, such as microcomputer can be translated to Weiji. Also we can adopt the hybrid way of translation, such as BASIC language, which is a common kind of symbolic instruction code for beginners.

#### *B. Computer English sentence Chinese translation skills*

##### **1. Passive sentence translation**

Similar to other science and technology English, there is extensive use of passive structure in computer English sentences. According to related statistics, a third of the sentences in scientific English will use passive voice. Passive voice can be widely used in computer English is because that it can be an emphasis on the results, melting man's subjective role. In addition, use passive voice can make a whole sentence look more short and concise, which conforms to the principle of computer English as simple and accurate, but we rarely use passive when study Chinese, so we try to consider of Chinese grammar habits in the process of translation, and turn them into active voice. In translation, for example: and off is implemented by the network to give the users freedom of motion beyond limited wireless coverage area while they are communicating. In translation of this sentence, we will adjust the position of the subject to avoid the use of passive voice so as to make the sentences clear it should be translated like this sentence: network, through the switch, lets users enjoy unlimited mobile free coverage in the process of communication. If in the process of translation, we cannot find what the core of the sentence is, the translation will lose the information gravity of the original.

##### **2. Sentence translation with rhetoric devices**

There is a lot of knowledge which is the objective description of the facts in computer science, some are detailed explanation and illustration of functions and properties, therefore exclamatory sentences are rarely used. Sentence rhetoric such as subjunctive mood and imperative mood are frequently used, such as: Backing up your files safeguards them against loss if your hard disk fails or you accidentally overwrite or delete date.

### **V. CONCLUSION**

With the continuous development of computer, computer major can involve some new concepts and new contents introduced from foreign countries, and most of the content is rendered in the form of English, so we have to learn computer English. To learn computer English well and improve the

ability of Chinese translation, one must firmly grasp computer English vocabulary and sentence characteristics, and on this basis, improve his Chinese translation skills.

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