

## The Application of Critical Discourse Analysis to English Reading Teaching in College

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**Abstract.** The ability of English reading in foreign language teaching in China has always been valued. It has already become more and more widely and effective reading for us in the information age, therefore, the cultivation of reading ability is more and more important. But China's traditional reading teaching is the explanation of grammar and interpretation of vocabulary in term of sentence, and the operation of sentence structure discontexted, which can't analyze and explain the whole article as the discourse. Based on the previous reading theory, this paper analyses the importance of critical discourse analysis in English Reading Teaching in College through the case analysis.

### The application of critical discourse analysis to English Reading Teaching in College

In this paper a new optimal design of soccer robot control system which is based on mechanical analyses and calculations on the pressure and transmutation states of chip kick mechanics, this new control system with high precision for speed control and high dynamic quality.

The ability of English reading in foreign language teaching in China has always been valued. It has already become more and more widely and effective reading for us in the information age, therefore, the cultivation of reading ability is more and more important. But China's traditional reading teaching is the explanation of grammar and interpretation of vocabulary in term of sentence, and the operation of sentence structure discontented, which can't analyze and explain the whole article as the discourse. Based on the previous reading theory, this paper analyses the importance of critical discourse analysis in English Reading Teaching in College through the case analysis.

### The review of Reading Teaching Theory

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Reading comprehension is a complex process of psychological linguistics, which plays an important role in language teaching. As early as the 19th century, many western psychological linguists and linguists began to study the understanding process in a systematic way. In these theories mainly are bottom-up type. That is conformed to information processing process from the sound, word, sentence to chapter: readers, who are the type of 'from top to bottom' first hypothesis the reading material to check whether the hypothesis is right, then make a new prediction, retrieval; communication mode, namely, reading comprehension, which is the process of language proceeding, and the process of operation according to the reader's background: schema theory, namely, activates similar experience in the memory to understand new experience in reading. The author thinks that the above models have their limitations, mainly put too much emphasis on pieces of language knowledge and abstract understanding, and ignore the discourse as a whole.

Auderman divides the understanding of article into three levels, in the book of *How Do I Teach Reading*: literal understanding level, paraphrasing understanding level and critical understanding level. Lou Virginia, the famous nerve linguists points out in the *Nerve linguistics*: the first two stages of words understanding are mostly within the language rules; however, in the analysis of the whole article discourse understanding, we go beyond the range of linguistics, to the study the psychological process of verbal thought or general cognitive activities." He also pointed out that "analysis of discourse suggests that understanding is the main step.

Using four kinds of reading theory analysis of inner-discourse still stay in the first two phases of language understanding, and the implied meaning of the text that ideology mining is not enough, so that students have not a deepen understanding in the understanding of social and cultural significance, which the sensitive degree to the ideology in the discourse is not enough, understanding level is relatively lower. Now, our government is taking China today is the "turbulent mass education", which not only cultivate the students' language skills, but also cultivate students' ability to solve problems. So this paper will introduce a new discourse analysis mode - criticism discourse analysis into college English reading teaching.

### The Theory of Criticism Discourse Analysis

Critical Discourse Analysis study the relation between language, power and ideology. The main theoretical basis and methods of Criticism discourse analysis is Hallidy's systemic functional linguistics. Fowler said, the critical analysis on discourse should pay special attention to investigation of transitivity, modality, conversion, classification and consistency.

#### 1. Transitivity

The whole and physical property system is part of the content concept. It is the concept of performance the capabilities of a semantic system. It is the foundation to represent the world by language. Its function is to express what we did and heard in the real world into many processes, and point out the participants and environmental component. And it contains six processes: material process, behavior process, mental process, speech process, relation process and existing process. "The process you choose to express a real process may have important cultural, political and ideological significance".

#### 2. Conversion

Conversion mainly study small sentence from syntactic aspects. In the investigation of conversion in the English discourse, criticism linguists are interested in passive and nominalization. The motivation to choose passive is varied. In public discourse, the use of passive may has its political ideological reasons. One of them is to hide senders of action, i.e., agent. Besides, other passive also can effectively weaken the action feeling of the behavior process. Nominalization refers to the person originally can use the verb structure or sentence to express the same meaning, but choose the nominal composition. Nominalization fuzzes the concept of time and converse the participants through the deletion of modal composition to create an impersonal effect. Instead of verbal structure, nominal composition can effectively weaken the action feeling of the whole discourse. It's popular among the official, government and formal discourse.

#### 3. Modal

Modal is an important component of interpersonal function of. Modal system can be used to express the attitudes and opinions of author in order to reflect its authority, dominant and power relations. XinBin thinks that main purpose to investigate the modal system of discourse is to find out the speaker to discourse proposition the responsibility of the authenticity of the degree and the commitment to the future behavior or obligations and understand the speaker and the hearer attitude to scene component. Social distance and power relations between the speaker and the hearer. An important means to express modal is reflected by modal verbs, some adjectives and adverbs, notional verbs, personal pronouns, tenses, direct/indirect speech, etc.

#### 4. Speech reproduction

Speech reproduction is an important reflect of discourse function. News reports are usually divided into event description and talk description. The talk description is an important part of the news. Because the description about insider or authorities can say objectivity and impartiality of the reports to the reader as a strong persuasion. But "if a person provides just report about some event, he must be formed without prior to the event's point of view, that is, he knows nothing about it. However, a thing completely knows nothing will be difficult to use a efficient way to report the incident. He must not know this for what and who, etc. So the reporter is unlikely to completely without personal point of view. Talk description can be used directly or indirect speech. Direct speech often comes from the parties, insider, authorities; the report is reported by precise language, which is a strong persuasion to the reader. Indirect speech is to use words to describe the reporter, insider, authority's point of view; it is easy for reporters to display their own point of view. Of course even direct speech also can't say they are just because who will be interviewed is decided by the reporter.

#### **Case analysis**

Here we will analysis the report "Us Lists Most Wanted Terrorists and Offers reward Of Millions "from The Times. Critical discourse analysis emphasizes on discourse history and social context. The meaning of words can only be acquired from the language structure in the context. So, first of all we should analyze the political history background of the report. After the event 9.11, the United States fight against terrorism in the world scope, and try to capture Bin laden, etc. But American still find out nothing by the carpet search, for this reason the United States issued a reward a hue and cry.

And transitivity contains six different processes. The choice to the process type of discourse could be affected by discourse types and the subject content. But even with the same thing description can also choose different combination process. The title choose of this report is material process. The author wants to render the terrorists wretched and the determination of US to combat terrorism. Corresponding to this, the article appeared 75 verbal components, among which there are 54 physical and behavioral process by verbal with strong action (about 72%), 13 for speech process (about 17.3%). The number of the passive in this discourse is 21, among which there is only one place of these 20places omitting agent to show the sender of the action. This serves to illustrate that the author tried to hide action senders and make people focus on the terrorists, strengthen hate feeling for them. It also shows that the author is for the United States.

Fowler said. "Nominalization and using nouns to refer to action are actually very popular, especially in the official and formal style." The use of nouns can make distance between the word or phrase and the actual movement increase to serve the society and ideology. The paper has eight terms describing the United States. And another 11 terms describing terrorists, because the author is not clear who was the agent, so it's better omit agent by noun.

As for the modal, it expresses attitudes and opinions of the author or media to the things. So it can be regarded as a means to display media position. At the same time, they impose the understanding about the event on the audience through the modal media, forcing the audience to accept their versions of events, so that they remain consistent with the media. This process is authoritative. However, the media authority is not stable. It involves reputation, the credibility and social status of the media. The excessive authority of media may be negative, which causes impersonal of the whole discourse so as to increase the distance between the media and the audience. In this paper, there is a total of 6 places using the modal verbs and their objects without exception are the United States President or officials. Modal verbs have the meaning of "may, maybe "to express the uncertainty that the author not only vindicates the President and officials, but also maintain the interests of the government.

This report describes a conversation involving a total of 13 places, among which 12 places are

indirect speech, 3 places is direct speech. From the interview objects, they are not only the President of the United States but also government official. They are not neutral third party, but they are on behalf of the interests of the United States. Therefore, we can see the position of the author. It is difficult to make sure that who said that, which is effective to avoid the reporter for the responsibility. It can make readers not realize the reporter is imposing will on them, so it's easier to approach them.

## **Conclusion**

This paper mainly discussed the criticism of discourse analysis and its model word reading comprehension foreign literary works, especially the application of media discourse. Through the case analysis, we can find the levels of cultivating students' ability in discourse analysis can make students realize the positive social functions of the language. Language not only reflect the world but also can control and change society. In foreign language teaching, especially in the reading teaching, we should advocate the criticism of discourse analysis.

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