The Embodiment of The Differences Between Chinese And Western Thinking in Language

Danyang Li
Xi'an Shiyou University, Xi'an, China

Abstract: Culture is the backbone of a country, each country has its own language style, and the way of thinking is the connotation of culture, to more comprehensive understanding of the culture from the most fundamental, only to master the most essential nature of different thinking then will have a more comprehensive understanding of different languages. This paper makes a simple analysis of the embodiment of Chinese and western thinking modes in the language by finding relevant information, browsing relevant papers and ordinary language knowledge accumulation, and concludes that different ways of thinking can more comprehensively understand the essence of the language through different ways of thinking. The cultural customs of the country always affect our way of thinking. And the thinking logic that we have formed reacts on our daily lives. For example: speaking style, behavior habits. These words and behaviors are embodied by the thinking logic formed in our hearts. Thus it can be seen that people's language characteristics reflect their thoughts and cognition. It also reflects a deeper cultural connotation. Language is the shadow of thinking, and thinking logic is the catalyst of language. Only in the thinking mode of the language can more improve the cultural communication among countries, so as to promote the common progress and development among countries.

Keywords: Chinese and Western ways of thinking, The contrast between Chinese and English, The essence of language.

1. Understanding and Thinking About the Language

1.1. The Essence of The Language

Language, simply put, is an expression way of human communication, and it is also the most important communication tool and thinking tool of human beings. Since the world has been a language, there has been communication between different languages. Different countries have different living environments, different cultural backgrounds and different living habits. This creates different ways of thinking in different countries. It is often said that language is the product of thinking, and it is precisely because of these different ways of thinking that produce different languages.

2. The Generation of Thinking

2.1. The Generation of Chinese Curve Thinking

We discussed in the previous chapter that the key factor in the language is the way of thinking. For the deep cognition of language, we should continue to discuss what way of thinking drives the generation of different languages. According to this clue, in this chapter, we want to study the generation of Chinese and western thinking logic. Each country has its own cultural background. Their language and cultural background are closely related, and due to the different cultural backgrounds, the thinking logic of the language must be different. In language, only by fully understanding the similarities and differences of the two different ways of thinking can we better transform the language. The factors affecting the way of language thinking are multifaceted, and we can study the historical and social customs.

Customs refers to the social environment and people form a relatively stable behavior. Social customs largely affect people's thinking logic, thus affecting people's language environment. For example, when Chinese people chat, they always have a long period of greetings. In fact, these greetings to a certain extent, and boring. After saying a bunch of less useful words, people will gradually get into the theme. Usually, even if the Chinese people think that the foreshadowing is not very useful, it still maintains under the influence of social customs. The language habit gradually formed people speak not direct and implicit. We can call this phenomenon a manifestation of the Chinese curvy way of thinking.

The formation of a logic of thinking is often closely related to the history of the country. It is not difficult to see the way of thinking in the most common Chinese chats. For example, when people meet the pleasantry, always after some pleasantries began to cut to the topic. These habits are inseparable from China's way of thinking. The historical process of more than 2,000 years in China is long and tortuous, from the primitive society to the slave society to the feudal society, and then to the semi-feudal and semi-colonial society and finally to the communist society. It is not easy to go along the way, and the road is difficult. This historical journey seems to confirm the curved thinking of the Chinese people. After experiencing so many hard work and hardships, our way of thinking seems to be "tortuous" by assimilation.

2.2. The Generation of Western Linear Thinking

In the last section, we discussed the way of thinking that formed the characteristics of the Chinese language, and concluded that the language habits are closely related to people's social environment and history. People's thinking mode of language is also formed by the social environment and history.

Like the Chinese language people, the formation of English
national language habits is equally influenced by historical and social customs. Historically, the English-speaking nation lived in countries surrounded by the sea. Therefore, their sailing activities are very well developed. You can think about it, when they get to their sailing destination, communicating with the locals will not pave the way again, but it will go directly into the subject discussion. After all, it is risking life, floating thousands of water, how can the mood to pave the way. In the aspect of social customs, Westerners do not have the Chinese implication. This is reflected in many ways. For example, when Westerners get married, they do not send money to the bride and groom. Westerners getting married will make a list of the gifts they need to their friends, meaning to tell their friends that the things on the list are the wedding gifts they want. Maybe you will think it is not appropriate, then you are wrong. What to say, straightforward is the western language style. They don't like nonsense and doing useless things. Just looking at its surface, it is not difficult to know that Westerners value personal thoughts. Paying attention to personal thoughts can also be understood as being good at expressing their inner thoughts and opinions. Since they are self-centered, it is obvious that Westerners do not need to worry about others' thoughts when expressing their own views. Therefore, we can think that the western thinking of speaking and acting is a linear thinking.

The key to Western thinking is to express what is to focus and speak directly. As we all know, Westerners are more bold, for example: they can bathe naked, friends meet and greet a hug or kiss. It is these signs that affect the thinking logic of Westerners, thus having a subtle influence on their language expression, and make the language logic of Westerners become straightforward. Such a linear way of thinking occupies the main part of the English language, and makes the characteristics of the English language are also more obvious, which greatly facilitates the study and research of the English language.

After studying the Chinese curve thinking and the western linear thinking, we can have a deeper understanding of English and Chinese from the perspective of thinking. At the same time, it will facilitate us to do further research on the English and Chinese language.

3. Comparison and Comparison between Both Chinese and English

3.1. Differences between Chinese and English

Obviously, the most obvious difference between the two different languages is in their writing and pronunciation, so we can regard the two languages as symmetrical words. For example, there is a "door" in Chinese, and there is a corresponding "door" in English. Every word is symmetrical with it, so there is no untranslatable words in the world. However, it should be noted that symmetry is not exactly the same, such as English "am, is are, was, were, being, be, be n" are used to express Chinese "yes", and a series of action words about cooking "steamed, fried, braised, vinegar", Chinese people focus on this aspect, so the words about eating is very rich, and the corresponding English words are very limited. However, this does not affect the English-Chinese translation. We can choose the literal translation or Italian translation according to the actual situation. Because every word has symmetrical words, Chinese also has many local dialects, and does not constitute two languages; the simplified Chinese and traditional Chinese characters are not composed of two languages. So pronunciation and writing are not the essential differences in different languages.

As we all know, different language communication is the processing of different language differences. Simply put, the order of relative term words in sentences is different in sentences in different languages. For example: Chinese "I love you."English "I love you."Chinese "I love the kind of you."English "I love you who is kindness."We can see that the essence of English-Chinese translation has nothing to do with words. For example, in the above example, "you" is changed to "Dad" and "Mom". Therefore, the essential difference between the two different languages is caused by the different order of the symmetric words of some modified elements. Modification components are parts other than the backbone, used to represent the state of things. It can also be used to describe a thing or a person, with a more detailed description of the modified thing. When expressing the meaning of the language, we tend to grasp the main content of the sentence first. For the modified part of the words are placed in the second position to consider again. At this time, for two different language habits, their modified words will also change. Previously, we have discussed the Chinese and Western ways of thinking. It is concluded that Chinese language thinking is curvy way of thinking, while western language thinking is linear way of thinking. In a sentence, the backbone is the key to this sentence, and the trunk is the word occupying the main position. So, except for the backbone content, the other parts are some relatively unimportant content. These include the words that modify the modified part. For the same modifier, the use of Chinese curve thinking is to put it in front of the modified part. In general, using Western linear thinking can put it behind the modified part. "A thin man of above average height with bright eyes."English "A slender man of more than average height with gleaming eyes."In the above example, the modified part is the "man". Then, the Chinese curve thinking modifying words should be put in front of "man". According to the western linear thinking, the modifying words should be put behind the "man". For example: Chinese "I love you." is an important sign of a nation's ever-greater comprehensive strength."English "I love you." A major sign of a nation's ever-greater comprehensive strength."The above example also shows that the order of modified words is different in Both Chinese and English. "Important sign" as the modified part. In Chinese, put the modifier in front of the modified part. In English, put the modifier behind the modified part.

In conclusion, we can find that the essential difference between the two languages is not the pronunciation or the writing method. Instead, the modified words are arranged in different orders in different languages.

3.2. Similarities between Both Chinese and English

From the above discussion that the two different languages have symmetrical words, we can see that everything in the world has a mutually symmetrical side. Previously, we compared and found the essential differences between Chinese and English, there must be similarities. Then the next thing to discuss is the similarities between Chinese and English.

English and Chinese share in that the trunk of the sentence is arranged in the same order. That is, the subject predicate object is arranged in the same order."No matter what difficulties I encounter, I will always love you in my
heart. "English ——— , I will love you forever in my heart, whatever difficulties we may confront." Think carefully about the English we have read before, and we found that the English and Chinese subjects + predicate + object arrangement is in the same order.

As for the same order of subject, verb and object arrangement in English-Chinese translation, some people think that there are also general questions, special questions, emphasis sentences and exclamation sentences involving the change of predicate position. In fact, most of these sentence patterns are changing the position of the auxiliary verb, not the order of the predicate itself. So the subject + predicate + object is the same order of Chinese and English sentences. Any sentence of Chinese and its corresponding English language, they are arranged in the same order of subject, verb and object, and the different place is that the position of modifying some words is different.

However, some people may think that in the world, all languages are not arranged in the same trunk order? No, it's not all the same. For example, speaking Japanese and Chinese languages are not arranged in the same trunk order? No, it's modifying some words is different.

It doesn't mean that you love me even if you have got these conditions, for example you invited me to dinner, sent me home, also helped me many times. "Chinese ——— You invited me to dinner, sent me home, but also helped me many times." English puts this important content at the beginning of the sentence, and Chinese first appears is some secondary information, putting the important content in the last position. The result of this Chinese curved thinking style is that the Chinese people's words are very euphemistic and implicit.

"I met my former classmate by accident on the bus when I was on the way home yesterday, whom I have not seen for years." When we see this sentence, we first think of the Chinese and English subjects, and the predicates and objects have the same order. So, the first step should determine what the subject, predicate and object are in the sentence. In the second step, we can put the words modifying the trunk in front of the way of the modified part. The subject, predicate and object of the sentence are "I met a classmate". Other modifiers are "on the bus"," on the way home yesterday" and "not seen in years". Next, we will adjust the order of the words according to the Chinese language habits. Finally: "Yesterday, on the way home, I met my classmates on the bus that I had not seen for many years."

If we do not analyze the structure and composition of sentences step by step, then we will encounter more difficulties in the path of language. After an in-depth analysis of the Chinese curve thinking, although it cannot explain all the English language, it can also ease the difficulty of the English language reading to some extent. Therefore, China's curve way of thinking still has a certain influence in its language. Thus, we can see that thinking according to the curve can deepen the understanding of Chinese sentences to a certain extent.

4. The Impact of Thinking on Language

4.1. The Influence of Curve Thinking on Language

As for the curve thinking of the Chinese people, the scholar Yuan Meiqin once discussed in her article, "The Han nation is used to explaining from the side, explaining the external environment, and finally pointing out the information center of the discourse." Think carefully about the way we usually talk, such as asking our families to buy something for us, and usually we don't just ask them to ask. Instead, first say some nice things or do some housework, render the atmosphere, and finally will talk about the purpose.

Typical examples of Chinese sentences are often seen in newspapers and television. For example, "Under the guidance of XXX, under the care of XXX, and under the efforts of XXX, we..." And not only do we speak now, but also do the ancient Chinese. When expressing your views, you always want to implicitly render the atmosphere first. English ——— "It doesn't mean that you love me even if you have got these conditions, for example you invited me to dinner, sent me home, also helped me many times."Chinese ——— You invited me to dinner, sent me home, but also helped me many times, but with these conditions, also do not mean that you love me."

The core content of the above example is "not that you love me". English puts this important content at the beginning of the sentence, and Chinese first appears is some secondary information, putting the important content in the last position. The result of this Chinese curved thinking style is that the Chinese people's words are very euphemistic and implicit.

"I met my former classmate by accident on the bus when I was on the way home yesterday, whom I have not seen for years." When we see this sentence, we first think of the Chinese and English subjects, and the predicates and objects have the same order. So, the first step should determine what the subject, predicate and object are in the sentence. In the second step, we can put the words modifying the trunk in front of the way of the modified part. The subject, predicate and object of the sentence are "I met a classmate". Other modifiers are "on the bus," "on the way home yesterday" and "not seen in years". Next, we will adjust the order of the words according to the Chinese language habits. Finally: "Yesterday, on the way home, I met my classmates on the bus that I had not seen for many years."

If we do not analyze the structure and composition of sentences step by step, then we will encounter more difficulties in the path of language. After an in-depth analysis of the Chinese curve thinking, although it cannot explain all the English language, it can also ease the difficulty of the English language reading to some extent. Therefore, China's curve way of thinking still has a certain influence in its language. Thus, we can see that thinking according to the curve can deepen the understanding of Chinese sentences to a certain extent.

4.2. The Influence of Linear Thinking on Language

For the implicit euphemism of Chinese articles, the English article style is exactly the opposite. For example, our most common English reading comprehension, when we do this kind of topic, we basically will give the author's clear views in the beginning or in the first two paragraphs, and the following articles are to discuss and analyze the above points of view. It is because of cultural ideas that dominate people's thinking, and these thoughts are shown in the form of language. Previously, we discussed that the linear thinking of westerners is also reflected in the language. "Birth, old, sick, poor or rich, I love you."English ——— "I love you, old or sick, poor or rich."In the above example," I love you " is an important content, implicitly expressed according to the Chinese curve thinking, and the western linear thinking is also straight to the point to say the important content first. It can be seen that the result of western linear thinking on language is to make the expression of English more straightforward and more in line with the characteristics of western style.

"In 1999, China had entered an aging society, which is an important national condition." When seeing this sentence, the first thing to be identified is the subject, predicate and object. The remaining remaining modifier words are placed behind the modifiers in turn. The main part of this sentence is "This is an important national condition." The remainder are modifying words. The various parts are adjusted according to the language order of western linear thinking. It follows: "It is a social reality that China has already stepped into the aging society." It can be seen that the understanding of western linear thinking can also be helpful to the understanding of English language to a certain extent.
5. Summary

There are many cultural differences between Chinese and English, which have a deep or shallow influence on their respective languages. Among them, the way of thinking is a part of the culture. Because there are obvious differences in the material culture and social system culture of different countries, so there is also a very different way of thinking of different countries. This paper takes the influence of different ways of thinking on language, and discusses and studies the thinking logic of China and the West.

At the beginning of the paper, we discussed the nature and decisive factors of language. Find that thinking logic has a close influence on language. Therefore, according to the cultural background and social customs of the two countries, the Chinese and western ways of thinking were compared. Generally speaking, English is about putting important information at the beginning of a sentence. However, Chinese usually puts important information at the end of a sentence. It is not difficult to think that when we write in Chinese, the teacher will emphasize that writing to ambush the pen, to summarize the full text in the last paragraph. Although China and the West are far away, the understanding of the objective world has similarities. So in addition to the differences between Chinese and English, there are also striking similarities. In the third chapter of the paper, we compare and contrast the similarities and differences in Chinese and English. In order to facilitate the next language. After discussing the similarities and differences between Chinese and Western ways of thinking and Chinese and English, we combine the two. It verifies the influence of different ways of thinking on language.

In this paper, the comparison and the study of Chinese and western thoughts and emotions get the Chinese curve thinking and the western linear thinking. Then they connect the two ways of thinking with their own language characteristics. It can be seen that the language under the Chinese curve thinking logic is implicit and euphemistic; while the language under the western linear thinking logic is very direct. Deep into the internal connection between them will be very helpful in our language learning.

References


