

The Origin, Derivation and Development of New Sports Words and Phrases in Contemporary Chinese Sports

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Abstract: This paper collects 11 dictionaries of new words and new phrases and some new sports words and phrases in the network report, builds a corpus, and conducts an all-round investigation and description on these new words and new phrases. Firstly, they are classified according to their range. Then their characteristics in terms of source, mode of production, semantics and pragmatics are analyzed. Finally, the reasons for the large-scale production, the development and spread of new sports words and phrases in the contemporary Chinese vocabulary system are explained from the perspectives of sociolinguistics and cognitive linguistics.

1. Introduction

The new words and new phrases mainly refer to the newly created words in contemporary Chinese since China's reform and opening-up, the words borrowed from other national languages, the words borrowed from the dialect words, professional jargon and domain words in the national language and the old words or phrases that produce new meanings and new usages, etc[1]. The new sports words and phrases refer to the new words and phrase that have been included in the new word dictionary and occur in the sports event reports and comments.

Chen Yuan believes that linguists should "observe the variation of language from the changes in social life", and also explore the changes and pictures of social life from the changes in language or "the remains of language." [2]It can be said that the emergence and development of new sports words is a faithful record of the social reality that all sports are deeply involved in daily life. Meanwhile, new sports words belong to specialized field vocabulary, which has certain particularity in terms of source, word formation, semantics and pragmatics. The study on new sports words helps to deepen the understanding of new words in various specialized fields that have emerged in recent years, and also to enhance the overall cognition of new words and new phrases. It is of great significance to enrich and construct the vocabulary system of contemporary Chinese.

2. The range of the new sports words and phrases

The new sports words and phrases are mainly used in sports news and comments, which refer to a wide range. After statistics of the collected new words, they can be divided into four categories according to their contents:

2.1. The name of the emerging sports program

The track and field competition of the 2018 Jakarta Asian Games started its fourth day today. In the women's heptathlon competition, Chinese athletes Wang Qingling and Shen Muhan also played well.

The 2018 Taiyuan International Jiu-Jitsu Championship will be held the Red Lantern Stadium in Taiyuan, Shanxi in more than a month.

2.2. Names of the sports institutions or events

On January 11th, the 15th round of the 2018-2019 season table tennis super league (for women) continued.

2.3. Competition details and technical actions

The "Derby Game" is always the most eye-catching and most topical contest on the pitch.

2.4. Outside the arena

The Bucks officially announced that head coach Jason Kidd was dismissed.

Terry officially announced that after 23 years as a footballer, he has decided to retire from playing.

3. Characteristics of new sports words and phrases

As a vocabulary used in specialized fields, new sports words have some characteristics that are different from ordinary new words and new phrases.

3.1. A large number of loanwords

Vocabulary borrowing is the inevitable result of language contact. Many of the new words and phrases in contemporary Chinese are loanwords[1]. Since many sports and events originated from abroad, there is a large number of loanwords in the new sports words and phrases, and the proportion of loanwords is higher than that of ordinary new words.

3.1.1. Types of loanwords

According to the borrowing method, the loanwords in the new sports words can be divided into four categories: transliteration, free translation, literal translation and zero translation. The loanwords in sports are mainly literal translation and zero translation.

A. Transliteration, such as: 蹦极 - bungee, 跆拳道 - Tae Kwon do,

B. Free translation, such as: 冰壶 - curling, 禁赛 - suspend,

C. Literal translation

Literal translation is "a word-for-word (word, morpheme) translation of the meaning of words in one language." [3] Such as: 高低杠 high-low bars; 全能冠军 all-round champion; 戴维斯杯 Davis Cup, etc. There are some affixes that are also generated by literal translation. Such as "female", "male", "single", "double", "mixed", "half", "super", "cup" and so on.

D. Words of zero translation. There are many terms of zero translation in new sports words, such as:

PK: player killing

MVP: most valuable player

The loanwords zero-translated avoid naming things with complex phrases, which is one of the concrete manifestations of the economic principle of language in the new sports words and phrases.

3.1.2. The loanwords are assimilated by the Chinese when borrowing

When introducing loanwords, in order to make them more in line with Chinese language habits, a certain degree of localization and transformation is very necessary.

For example, in the Italian Football League, the first four levels are Serie A, Serie B, Serie C1 and Serie C2, which are translated into 意甲, 意乙, 意丙 and 意丁. Similarly, there are also 英甲, 英乙, 德甲, 德乙, 德丙, 西甲, 西乙, 西丙 and 西丁.

For another example, the name of the venue for each sport in English is completely different. When they are translated into Chinese, they are freely translated in a more Chinese way: sports name + field (attribute word). Such as rink - 冰球场, pitch - 棒球场, football field - 足球场, court - 网球场 and links - 高尔夫球场.

This kind of free translation adopts the Chinese cognitive and word structure, and by analogy, a series of words that are uniform in form and semantic structure are created.

3.1.3. The influence of loanwords on new sports words and phrases

(1) The derivation of loanwords

How a loanword can be regenerated within the recipient language is influenced not only by the internal rules of the language, but also by the elements beyond the language. For example, "the psychological or social factors of the masses, in many cases, can determine the emergence, diffusion, continuity and disappearance of a borrowing component" [4].

Taking the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games as an example, after the success of the Olympic bidding, many new words related to the Olympics began to appear in the newspapers. According to the monitoring of Chinese new words from 2007 to 2009[5], there were 13 new words related to the Olympic Games in 2007; in 2008, there were 14 new words related to it. While, in the first year after the Olympic Games, that is, in 2009, the number of new relevant words monitored was zero. These new words composed of foreign morphemes have continued to spread in the Chinese vocabulary system during the preparation and continuation of the Olympic Games. The number reached the peak in the year of the Olympic Games, and then stopped developing with the end of the Beijing Olympic Games and gradually disappeared.

(2) Competition of synonyms

In the early stage of borrowing some loanwords, due to the influence of the Hong Kong-Taiwan translation method or the introduction of different translation methods, there is no uniform form, and some synonyms appear. Such as "canyoning", the existing translation forms are: 蹦谷, 溪降, 峡谷漂流, 峡谷探险, etc. The final form has not yet been determined. There are competing relationships between the above several nouns that represent the same kind of things.

(3) Affecting the way to name new things

Loanwords are the preservation of different cultures and the crystallization of cultural contacts.[6] There are some new Chinese words that mimic foreign words to name new things. For example, the Modern Chinese Dictionary (Seventh Edition) includes the letter word "CBA" (Chinese Basketball Association) and "CUBA" (Chinese University Basketball Association).

3.2. The influence of metaphor on sports new words

Cognitive linguistics has proved that metaphor embodies the essential characteristics of the conceptual system on which people rely on thinking and action, and is the basis for people's understanding, thinking and even behavior. Metaphor refers to "understanding and experiencing another thing through one thing" [7]. There are a large number of words borrowed from other fields in the new sports words, and new usages or new meanings are generated through metaphors. Taking the 2002 Supplement of "Modern Chinese Dictionary" as an example, there are 29 new sports words increased, of which 11 are formed by metaphor, accounting for 48% [8]. There are two main effects of metaphor on sports new words:

3.2.1. Metaphor produces new words

In the process of recognizing new things, people consciously use the existing empirical knowledge to compare new things, explore the similarities and differences between old and new things, establish the concept of new things and test cognitive results in social communication activities[9]. Many sports are named for their similarities with other things, such as "Triathlon", "Devil Race" and so on. There are also a lot of competition equipment named by other things similar in shape, such as: vault, pommel horse, discus, javelin and so on.

3.2.2. Metaphor produces new meaning

The cognitive basis of metaphors to generate new words is the similarity between the two, and similarity is the basis for the evolution of meaning. After a word comes into being, users will continue to expand and extend its basic meaning through metaphor[10], and finally generate new meaning through semantic generalization.

Among the new words in contemporary Chinese, there are a large number of sports proper nouns, which have been semantically extended through metaphor and eventually generalized into general

vocabulary, which is also a common process of new word development.

Vehicle insurance supervision continues to be under high pressure, Multi-places is relaying inspection and rectification actions.

The state explicitly prohibits entrapment, but there are always drivers who are repeatedly entrapped.

These examples demonstrate that the semantic expansion of terminology is an important channel for the formation of new meanings. Diving, endgames, post-wars, short-lived, out-of-games, marathons, races, games, fouls, violations, summits, bottom lines, restricted areas, playing Tai Chi, kicking the ball, blocking shots, etc., have gradually spread from sports news to the field of social news.

Specialized terms in other fields are also constantly spreading into the field of sports. The wide use of war words in sports reports is influenced by the metaphor of "competition is war". Such as:

Zhang Yudong, with a strong momentum, followed up a victory with hot pursuit and won three consecutive games successively in the fourth game by 11-7.

The Eighth Seed Upset hero bluntly said that the two teams were the enemy of the warriors, and the double-hit attack made the difficulty of the Golden State Warriors breakout in the west increase sharply.

Commonly used war words are conquest, spike, cover, coach, goalkeeper, encircle and suppress, march troops to war, the horse stumbles, join forces, bloodbath, Waterloo, internal strife and so on. The speaker hopes to enrich the expression with more accurate and concise words. The listener also needs to gain a quick understanding of the game situation. The purpose of communication between the two sides is effectively realized through metaphor, which promotes the expansion of lexical meaning and the creation of new meaning.

3.3. The influence of metonymy on new sports words

Metonymy is not only a universal linguistic phenomenon, but also a more basic way of thinking and behaving than metaphor.[11] The conceptual system on which our thoughts and actions depend is fundamentally of the nature of metonymy. If metaphor is the similarity based on the two concepts, then metonymy reflects the relevance of the two concepts or elements based on the proximity of the two concepts within the same cognitive framework[12]. Since people always pay attention to the most prominent and easily identifiable features of things, it is easier to establish psychological connections with those remarkable things, and then the phenomenon of replacing the whole thing with its prominent features appears.

There are also many words formed by metonymy in new sports words, such as:

National champion and football player on the national team. From the point of view of metonymy, the athlete's "hand" and "foot" as the body parts of the hitting ball are highly significant, so they can replace the whole with parts to form new words. In addition, there are "hanging boots", "hanging shots", "handling whip", "whiplash", "swinging whistle" and so on. Some monosyllabic morphemes have gradually begun to combine with color words with color meaning, resulting in "golden whistle", "black whistle" and so on.

3.4. A large number of abbreviations

The principle of economics is considered to be the internal driving force for the development of the language movement. The general motivation for linguistic change is the principle of expression and the principle of validity[13]. Abbreviation is the lexicalization of language caused by the interaction of expressive principle and validity principle. Some abbreviations in new sports words are zero-translated loanwords, such as:

BPG: Blocks per game

KO: Knock Out

Some of them are abbreviated loanwords, such as:

女冰: Women's ice hockey

半马: half marathon

Some of them are inherently composed of Chinese, such as:

Super League: China Football Super League

Youth baseball: Youth baseball

As phrases expressing fixed meanings, abbreviations have been "solidified" or "lexicalized". In sports reports, the original lengthy phrases are replaced by short abbreviations, and the richest amount of information is conveyed by the least coding, so that the dissemination of information is quickly and accurately realized.

4. Conclusion

The vigorous development of sports and the public's high attention to sports events make the new sports words constantly in a state of changing and developing. The extensive observation and in-depth study on new sports words from the perspectives of origin, word formation, semantics and pragmatics can help us to understand the characteristics and reasons of new sports words different from ordinary new words and words in other special fields, and also enable us to have a deeper understanding of the characteristics and development rules of new words in specialized fields.

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