POLYSEMY OF THE MONOSYLLABIC ADJECTIVE "YING"

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Abstract: By comparing the meanings of "yìng"in common Chinese dictionaries and its English counterpart "bitter" in English dictionaries, we use the theories of meta-structure and object-structure to re-demarcate and describe the adjectival meaning of the word "yìng"and explain its phenomenon of adjectival polysemy and derivation, in an attempt to achieve completeness in the division of the meaning and to improve the accuracy in the depiction of the meaning, so as to provide some references for the lexicon and for the guidance of the teaching of Chinese language in the international context.
Keywords: Corpus; Object structure; Paraphrase of denotations

1 INTRODUCTION

As Chinese language teaching continues to heat up, Chinese learning dictionaries and their research have also received some attention. However, China has not yet However, there is no outward-looking learning dictionary in China that is as popular among second language learners as English learning dictionaries such as Oxford Advanced Dictionary of English and Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English, and the compilation of Chinese learning dictionaries is basically at the primary stage. At present, the compilation of Chinese as Foreign Language dictionaries is still in the primary stage, and "there is no systematic theoretical support for the structure, style and interpretation of CFL dictionaries"[1].

"Paraphrasing is closely related to people's daily study, life and work. Paraphrasing exists not only in lexicography, but is also common in daily language communication"[2]. Paraphrasing is the soul of a dictionary, and it is a core issue that lexicographers should pay attention to. Li and Yuan [3] take "screen" and "record" as an example, pointing out the incompleteness of the relevant dictionaries in the division of noun meanings. Li and Yuan take "screen" and "record" as examples, pointing out the incompleteness of the dictionary's classification of nouns. Similar situation also exists in the interpretation of adjectives in Chinese dictionaries. In this paper, taking "yìng" as an example, from the current status of interpretation, there is still the phenomenon of inconsistency in the interpretation of language dictionaries; through the annotation and analysis of the corpus, it is found that the "present Chinese" is not the same as the "present Chinese". Therefore, this paper tries to combine the theory of generative thesaurus with corpus technology in the form of a case study, taking the character "yìng" as an example. This paper tries to explore the completeness of its meaning division and the accuracy of its depiction, hoping that it can It is hoped that this can draw attention from some compilers of learning dictionaries and lead to the compilation of a high-level Chinese learning dictionary as soon as possible[4].

2 REVIEW OF RELEVANT RESEARCH

In the 1990s, Prof. Pustejovsky of Brandeis University proposed Generative Lexicon Theory. The main idea of this theory originated from Aristotle's "four causes" in ancient Greece [5]. It is a lexical semantic means of expression to depict what the lexical referent object consists of what it points to, how it is produced, and what use or function it has. Specifically, object structure consists of four main levels of semantic knowledge, which are summarized in four qualia roles [6]. The four qualia roles are "formal role, which describes the properties of an object that distinguish it from other objects in the larger cognitive domain, including orientation, size, shape, dimension, and color; the constitutive role describes the relationship between an object and its constituent parts, including material, weight, parts and components; the agentive role describes depicts how an object is formed or produced, such as creation, cause and effect, etc. the telic role that is, the description of the object's use and function." Yuan[7] proposed to depict the semantic structure of Chinese nouns with the Objective Structure Theory; and the semantic structure of Chinese verbs, adjectives, and other predicates with the Theoretical Meta-Structure Theory in an attempt to devise a semantic representation framework for nouns, and verbs, and adjectives, and to provide a reliable resource for the application of the Semantic Knowledge System to automatic computer analysis. Zhang and Song[8] examined the object modification relations of modern Chinese morpho-nominal compounds using object structure theory and found that morphosyntactic elements selectively constrain the different object roles of nominal elements, and that the distribution and highlighting of the different object roles of nouns have an impact on adjective interpretation. Wang and Yuan analyze the distribution of object roles of "color + noun" compounds, analyze the semantic agency of adjectives, and try to construct a template for adjective interpretation. Li and his team tried to explain the meaning of adjectives such as "flat", "bad", "straight", etc. By using the theory of object structure and other adjective sense items were classified and depicted by the Objective Structure Theory.

3 RESEARCH DESIGN

3.1 Analysis of the Adjectival Senses of "Yìng " in Contemporary Chinese Dictionary

3.1.1 Adjective: the internal organization of an object is so tight that it does not easily change shape when subjected to external forces

The original meaning of "yìng" is "hard", which is a tactile perception of the properties of an object that can be perceived directly by a person (skin). The definitional pattern of the item in the Modern Chinese Dictionary emphasizes the formal role of "yìng" as "tightly organized internally", the exertion role as "acted upon by an external force", and the behavioral role as "not easily changed in shape". "do not change shape easily". The collation of the corpus reveals that there are 236 entries denoting this sense. The Oxford Advanced Learner's English-Chinese Dictionary (10th edition) defines "yìng" as "solid or stiff and difficult to bend or break. In this sense, "solid or stiff" belongs to the formal role and "difficult to bend or break" is its evaluative role. Referring to the English dictionary, according to the labeled corpus, we find that "hard" emphasizes the formal role of the subject theorist when the subject theorist of "yìng" points to something concrete.

3.1.2 Adjective: strength of character; determination

When the subject element of "yìng" points to something solid, "yìng" emphasizes the formal role of concrete things, "hard, solid"; when the subject element of "yìng". When the subject thesis element of "hard" points to non-physical abstract things, according to the principle of interpretation of the adjective "subject thesis element + physical role", when the subject thesis element changes, i.e., the "thing" changes, its physical role will also change accordingly. When the subject element changes, i.e. "thing" changes, its material role will also change accordingly, and then "yìng" will produce the phenomenon of multiple meanings. Therefore, according to the different subject elements modified by "yìng"and the activated object roles, it is proposed to reclassify and depict this item into the following five new items:
① Adjective: strength of character; determination. The organization of the corpus shows that when the subject described by "yìng" points to abstract nouns such as "character", "temperament", "action", "means", "words", 'will', "hard" is projected from the concrete tactile domain to the behavioral domain. "means", "words", 'will' and other abstract nouns, "11" is projected from the concrete tactile domain to the behavioral-verbal domain and the abstract psychological domain. Behavioral and verbal domains and abstract psychological domains, talent domains, hard objects, "not easy to change the characteristics of the external force" and the human character of strong, strong-willed, resolute, unshakeable, "yìng"highlights the subjective positive evaluation of the subject, belonging to the Evaluating the role, the meaning of "(behavior, character, words, etc.) strong, firm, unshakable" was created.
"yìng" is also projected from the tactile domain to the abstract psychological and talent domains. However, because hard objects may bring uncomfortable feelings to people, similar to the fact that a firm and strong person is unwilling to compromise, will not give in, and is also likely to bring bad feelings to others, "yìng" highlights the subjective negative evaluation color of the subject, which will produce "(behavior, personality, words, etc.) hard, serious, When "hard" emphasizes the subjective negative evaluation color of the subject, it will produce the meaning of "(behavior, character, words, etc.) hard, serious, stubborn", and if it exceeds a certain limit, it can even produce the meaning of "stubborn, strong, cold and vicious", which belongs to the negative evaluation character.
② Adjective: (Body part) Firm, stiff. When the subjective element of "yìng"is directed to "human body parts", the characteristic of the object's "tight internal organization" makes the object strong and sturdy, which is similar to the human body's "strong and robust". This characteristic is similar to the strength of the human body. When "hard" is projected from the domain of objects to the domain of human bodies, and when it highlights the subjective positive evaluative color of the subject, it gives rise to the meaning of "(body parts) strong and powerful, (blood, physical strength, etc.) robust and strong," which belongs to the evaluative roles.
When the two characteristics of "yìng", "tightly organized internally" and "not easily changed by external forces", are simultaneously projected from the object domain to the body domain, the characteristics of the object that is not soft and not easily moved are similar to those of the stiff and uncoordinated limbs of a human or an animal. When these two characteristics are simultaneously projected from the object domain to the body domain, there is a similarity between the object's inflexibility and immobility and the stiffness and incoordination of the limbs of a human or an animal, which gives rise to the meaning of "stiff and in coordinated (of a human or an animal's body part)". When "hard" is used with "head/brain", 'hard' does not refer to the hardness of the "head/brain" but rather It modifies the "thoughts" in the "head/brain", stimulates the functional role of the "head/brain", and emphasizes the inflexibility and rigidity of the "head/brain". The metaphorical meaning of "(thought) is conservative and lacks innovation" arises from the inflexibility and rigidity of "head/brain".
③ Adjective: Powerful (in writing or calligraphy, line, light). When the characteristic of "yìng", "not easily changed by external force", is projected from the object domain to the line domain, there is a similarity between the non-soft and stiff nature of the object and the hardness and strength of the line, which gives rise to the meaning of "strong and powerful" (in writing or calligraphy, line, light) strong and powerful". When "yìng" is paired with "writing or

calligraphy/line〞, it stimulates the formal role of "writing or calligraphy/line〞, emphasizing the rigidity of "writing or calligraphy/line〞 is an evaluative role that emphasizes the hardness and strength of "writing or calligraphy/line".
④Adjective: (Fate) Dangerous and torturous. When "fate" and "yìng"form a phrase, it refers to a person's fate that is uneven and tormented, or a person's birth character that is bad and prone to character's relatives. The word "hard and strong" can be associated with the word "yìng", which means "a person's fate is perilous and tormented".

3.1.3 Adverb: determined or obstinate

The main function of adverbs is to modify verbs or adjective words, so the change of adverbial items is often related to the properties of the modified verbs or adjective words. When the feature of "yìng", "not easy to change after external force", is projected from the domain of physical properties to the domain of specific behaviors, "11" is usually put in front of the verb and emphasized to highlight the subjective feeling of the subject and to emphasize the subject's theory of doing things. The subjective feeling of the subject is emphasized, highlighting the subject's characteristic of doing things too violently and too quickly, and forcing actions without method, thus giving rise to the meaning of "forcibly, obstinately".

3.1.4 Adverb: reluctantly (do something).

When "yìng" is not easily changed by external forces, this characteristic is projected from the domain of physical attributes to the domain of abstract talents. "Toughness" refers to the strong will of a person, which is not easily shaken by the outside world, and when it exceeds a certain limit, "yìng"forms the meaning of "forcefulness, obstinacy", which can be reflected not only in one's own behavior, but also in one's demands on others. "yìng" forms the meaning of "forcefulness, obstinacy", which can be reflected not only in one's own behavior, but also in one's demands on others, generating the meaning of forcing to do something against the will of others". The adverbial term "yìng" is used to describe the extent to which people do things, equivalent to "reluctantly, with all one's might, with effort".

3.1.5 Adjective: (competence) strong; (quality) good.

When "yìng" modifies the object to point to "ability", 'goods', "competence", "team", "technology", "education", "discipline", "learning". "talent" and other terms, "yìng" is projected from the domain of concrete objects to the abstract domain of talent, highlighting the subjective element of "yìng", "ability, quality" and its evaluation role "strong, good". Similar to the quality of a product and the skill of a person, "yìng" emphasizes the meaning of "strong ability, strong enough to accomplish a certain goal; good quality, not easily damaged".

3.1.6 Adjective: rigid

Examination of the corpus reveals that the subject element of the item "yìng" usually points to abstract nouns such as "target" "task" "plan" "constraint" "fact" "currency", etc., and highlights its formal role. "constraints" "facts" "currency" and other abstract nouns, and highlights the role of materiality differently, here mainly highlights its formal role 〝immutable and inescapable〞. Therefore, the interpretation of "subject thesis element + formal role" is adopted, and in order to avoid the interpretation of "Modern Chinese Dictionary", which is based on the interpretation of words and combinations, it is suggested that the definition of this item be modified by means of depiction to read as follows: adjective: immutable, inescapable.

3.2 Redistribution of The Meaning of The Word "Yìng" After Depiction

Through the analysis of the collected corpus, we found that there are still 40 items of "yìng" that cannot be explained by the existing items in the "Present Han", and accordingly, we think that we should add one new item for the interpretation of "yìng" in modern Chinese:

3.2.1 Adverb: indeed, truly

By organizing the corpus, it is found that the word "yìng" in a total of 40 items cannot be interpreted by "forcibly, obstinately; reluctantly, to the best of one's ability", so it is obvious that the interpretation of the existing adverbial items in Modern Chinese is not accurate enough and comprehensive enough. According to the statistics, the word "yìng" is usually placed before the predicate and modifies the verb to emphasize and affirm the meaning. The original meaning of "yìng" is to describe an object that is strong, hard, and not easily damaged when subjected to external pressure, but in the process of language use over a long period of time, it has gradually developed into a more subjective tendency, which means "really, truly" for certainty and emphasis.

4 CONCLUSION

To summarize, the steps of describing adjectival items by applying the theory of material structure are: firstly, determine the subject element modified by the adjectival items in the corpus article by article, then classify the subject elements, then analyze the material structure of the adjectival items and the subject elements as well as the association between the two, and finally describe the items by adopting the interpretation mode of "subject element + material role" according to the activated material roles of the adjectives to achieve the purpose of descriptive discourse interpretation. Finally, according to the role of object activated by the adjective, the item is described by the interpretation mode of "subject theorist + object role", which achieves the purpose of using descriptive discourse to interpret meanings. The theory of object structure can more comprehensively and accurately depict the semantic features of the adjectival denotations of monosyllabic adjectives, which helps to optimize the lexical interpretation and facilitate the understanding of lexical meanings by dictionary users.

Due to the limitations of knowledge and reference materials, the author has only conducted a preliminary study on the distribution of meaning items of the word "yìng" , which is still incomplete in many aspects, such as insufficiently selected corpus, insufficiently diversified reference dictionaries, and so on, and I hope that will be able to throw out bricks to draw in jades and provide useful references for the subsequent researchers. The size and quality of the corpus have a direct impact on the results of the study, and the study in this paper has some limitations, such as the relatively small size of the corpus, the lack of rich and comprehensive samples, and the single reference dictionary, etc. Therefore, future research can start from expanding the size of the corpus to include more languages, so as to obtain more accurate and comprehensive results. Therefore, future research can start from expanding the size of the corpus and adding more languages to the lexicon for comparison, so as to obtain more accurate and comprehensive research results.

COMPETING INTERESTS

The authors have no relevant financial or non-financial interests to disclose.

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