

Chapter 5 Conversion of Voices

1. Frequency of passives in English vs. Chinese

2. Conversion of passive voice into active

A. with passive implication

Ex. 1 If understanding prevails, UNCTAD is in a position to replace confrontation with agreement; it cannot be put off.

若能普遍达成谅解，联合国贸发会议就能用协议取代对抗；这项工作不能再拖延下去了。

Ex. 2 The French supervisor will ordinarily be found in the middle of his subordinates where he can control them.

在法国，主管人员的办公位置通常位于部下的办公位置之中，以便管理。

B. with emphatic structure

Ex. 3 Our International Club was founded a year ago to help foreign businessmen in this city meet together.

我们这个国际俱乐部是在一年前成立的，目的是便于本城的外国商人聚会。

C. with non-subject structure

Ex. 4 Machinery for the just settlement of international differences must be founded.

(...) 必须建立公正解决国际分歧的机构。

It must be admitted that ... (...) 必须承认... ..

It may be safely said that ... (...) 可以有把握地说... ..

It is reported that ... 据 (...) 报道... ..

It will be seen from this that ... (...) 由此可见... ..

D. with subjects

Ex. 5 Americans are cushioned against rising commodity prices by the strong dollar.

美元的坚挺减缓了商品价格上涨给美国人造成的压力。

It was told that ... 有人曾经说过... ..

It is sometimes asked that ... 人们有时会问... ..

It is well known that ... 众所周知... ..

It is claimed that ... 有人宣称... ..

3. Retaining passives

A. typical passive

Ex. 6 Imagine that one or other continent is left out or forgotten, reduced to its poverty and its disorder, what will happen to the others?

设想一下，假如这块或那块大陆被忽视或遗忘，变得贫穷、混乱，

其他大陆将会发生什么情况呢？

A. with converted verbs

Ex. 7 Foreign concessions would be cancelled if they did not accord with the law.

向外国人提供的特许权若不符合法律将予以取消。

4. Conversion of active into passive

Ex. 8 The paper said that foreign agents had infiltrated the then government and engineered the president's overthrow.

该报称，有外国特工打入了当时的政府内部，策划推翻总统。

Ex. 9 His acceptance of bribes led to his arrest.

他因受贿而被捕。

5. Summary