FEATURES OF WINTER OLYMPICS ENGLISH NEWS

Annotation

With the successful hosting of the 2022 Winter Olympics, sports have once again aroused the enthusiasm of the public. More and more sports events at home and abroad have come into the public’s attention. And most of the channels for the public to learn about international sports news depend on sports news reports. However, a large number of international sports news reports rely on English, the international common language. This thesis analyzed the language features of Winter Olympics English news to provide some help to the language analysis of English sports news.

Key words: Winter Olympics news, lexical features, grammar features, rhetoric devices

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Аннотация

С успешным проведением зимних Олимпийских игр 2022 года спорт вновь вызвал энтузиазм общественности. Все больше и больше спортивных событий в стране и за рубежом привлекают внимание общественности. И большинство каналов, по которым общественность узнает о международных спортивных новостях, зависят от спортивных репортажей. Однако большое количество международных спортивных новостных репортажей основано на английском, общепринятом международном языке. В этой диссертации анализировались языковые особенности английских новостей о зимних Олимпийских играх, чтобы оказать некоторую помощь в языковом анализе английских спортивных новостей.

Ключевые слова: Новости зимних Олимпийских игр, лексические особенности, грамматические особенности, риторические приемы

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QISHKI OLIMPIYA O‘YINLARI (2022) TERMINOLOGIYASININeing FUNKSIONAL VA PRAGMATIK XUSUSIYATLARI

Annotatsiya


Kalit so‘zlary: Qishki Olimpiya yangiliklari, leksik xususiyatlar, grammatika xususiyatlar, ritorik vositalar

Introduction. After the 2008 Summer Olympics, the 2022 Winter Olympics was held in Beijing, making Beijing the first “Double Olympic City” in the world. As a global sports media event, the Beijing 2022 Winter
Olympics not only made winter ice and snow sports a focus of public attention, but also made China the center of global media coverage. This article analyzed the Winter Olympics English news from the aspects of vocabulary, grammar and rhetoric devices.

**Literature review.** Sports news reporting is one of the sub-sets of journalistic English. Due to the differences in the field and tenor of discourse, sports news English manifests certain peculiarity as well as similarities to the journalistic English as a whole. Some scholars have done researches on English sports news. For example, Han Hahua analyzed the characteristics of English sports news, Jiang Wenxin analyzed the rhetoric and translation in English sports news, and Wang Xiaojun made a comprehensive analysis of lexical features of sports news. Compared with other written registers of English, sports news has been largely neglected in the field of linguistics. Although much emphasis would be put on the development of the sports, the study of sports language was inevitably be encouraged.

**Research methodology.** This research work adopts descriptive, componential analysis approaches. The examples illustrated in the paper are collected through newspapers with great authority, China Daily.

**Analysis and results.**

1. **Vocabulary Features**
   As a way to record the latest events in this evolving world, news has developed its own unique vocabulary, which is in line with the trend of the times. Therefore, English news writing is the most direct medium for us to read and learn. In order to fully understand sports news, we must have a certain understanding of the vocabulary characteristics of English sports news.

   1.1 Proper Nouns
   Sports news must give readers detailed information about the “place, time, content and people” of news events. In order to convey information more effectively and accurately, news reports inevitably include a large number of proper nouns. Such as:

   Eg.1 Zhangjiakou of North China's Hebei province, as the co-host city of the Beijing 2022 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, will keep forging the Beijing-Zhangjiakou culture and sports tourism belt, officials said at a news release on Thursday.

   China Daily, March 11, 2022

   Eg.2 In the last minute of the first half, Chinese goalkeeper Peng Shimeng saved a close-range header from a corner, ... The goal was initially credited to South Korean forward Choe Yu-ri, but the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) later ruled it as Chinese defender Li Mengwen's own goal.

   China Daily, April 14, 2021

   Eg.3 In short track speed skating in the Capital Indoor Stadium, eight Olympic records have been set, including for the Women's 500 meters by Dutch skater Suzanne Schulting and one for the Men's 1,000 meters by South Korean legend Hwang Dae-heon.

   China Daily, Feb 17, 2022

   Read through the above paragraphs and you’ll find that proper nouns are used frequently. In these examples, there are specific cities, stadiums, events, and players’ names. In this way, the author reports in detail where the games take place, the names of the star athletes, thus providing a brief review with all the most important game information.

   1.2 Sports Term
   The scope of news coverage covers almost all businesses and industries in our society, and therefore, to a large extent, touches on technical or special terms in various fields. Statistically, sports journalism involves more jargon than any other type of journalism. These specific terms range from the rules of the game to technical skills, from various tactics to different sports. Such as:
Eg.1 Qi wins gold in freestyle skiing men’s aerials.

Chinese free skier Qi Guangpu scored 129 points to grab the men’s aerials gold in his fourth Olympic appearance at Beijing 2022 on Wednesday. ...and the third Olympic gold for the Chinese freestyle aerials team in history.

China Daily, Feb 18, 2022

This article mainly introduces the 2022 Winter Olympics freestyle skiing aerials gold medal situation, the article has two sports professional terms.

Eg.2 In the last minute of the first half, Chinese goalkeeper Peng Shimeng saved a close-range header from a corner, but couldn't keep the ball out of the net from a rebound shot.

China Daily, April 14, 2021

If a player is “good at heading the ball”, we can say that someone is good in the air. In addition, there are often “banana kick” and “bicycle kick” in football matches.

2. Grammar Features

Compared with literature and other types of writing, English journalism has its own unique grammatical system that attempts to be accurate, concise and clear.

2.1 Tenses

Generally speaking, the use of verb tenses in sports news writing is less restricted by traditional grammar rules. More specifically, writers of sports stories are not required to follow the order of tenses throughout news articles. Such as:

Eg.1 Halfway through the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics, athletes from all over the world have gone on and on renewing their personal records, ... Beijing’s high-tech venues have played a crucial role in the athletes’ pursuit of career ambitions.

China Daily, Feb 17, 2022

Eg.2 Beijing normally doesn’t have much snow in winter, so artificial snow is being used at venues for the Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games.

China Daily, Feb 16, 2022

In the news above, there are a variety of verb tenses, including past simple, present perfect and present tense. It is not difficult to find that the use of verb tenses in news writing is highly flexible and loyal to the reality of sports events, which is a characteristic of news writing.

2.2 Direct Quotation

The AP’s newswriting guide states that any story lacking quotes at length is as barren as a lunar landscape. Of all types of speech, direct speech is the most primitive and accurate copy of the speaker's speech and thought. It is an effective way to enhance the readability and credibility of news, make the report more intuitive, vivid, and add color to the report. Such as:

Eg. “It's one of the best speed skating rinks in the world, and I can get a good result here to stand on the podium, I am very happy”, said Japanese speed skater Miho Takagi.

China Daily, Feb 17, 2022

In the example given, the news writer drew the reader closer to the skater Miho Takagi, by quoting what the Japanese had said after the games. Let us clearly experience Japanese athlete Miho Takagi's high evaluation of the Winter Olympics venues, showing China's innovative strength.

3. Rhetoric Devices

Hu Zhuanglin, a famous Chinese linguist, once said, “Every language has its own logic, rhetoric and aesthetic uniqueness.” Sports news is no exception. In order to get rid of dull, rigid reports, sports reports are made lively, attractive to readers, entertaining and readable by using various rhetorical devices and expressions
appropriately according to the situation and title.

3.1 Metaphor

It is known to all that there are two figures of speech: simile and metaphor, of which metaphor goes without figurative words and is accordingly named as “compressed simile”. Metaphor helps to make sports reports more interesting and readable. Such as:

Eg. ... hailed the 12,000-square-meter rink of Ice Ribbon as the “fastest ice” in the world for its contribution to the athletes’ amazing performances.

China Daily, Feb 17, 2022

The “fastest ice” in the news refers to the short-track speed skating venue of the Beijing Winter Olympics. It refers to the high-tech venues of the Beijing Winter Olympics where athletes from all over the world constantly set their own personal records, and set a number of Olympic and world records, which is closely related to the ice making technology of the Venues of the Beijing Winter Olympics.

3.2 Pun

As a common rhetorical device, pun is often used in English news translation. The so-called pun is to use one word or sentence to express two different meanings to make the language lively, lively and interesting. Or borrow the issue play, beat around the bush, say this meaning that, full of humor, to achieve the effect of aftertaste. Such as:

Rocket Roars to the 17th Victory Consecutive Victory.
China Daily, March 12, 2021

In this piece of news, the author cleverly uses the word “Rocket” in the Houston Rockets’ team name and the verb Roar to describe the amazing performance of the Rockets, which has won 17 consecutive games in a row. It immediately catches the readers’ attention.

Conclusion. From ancient times to modern society, sports play an important role in human society. A good sports news not only plays a role in conveying information, but also builds a bridge between the peoples of the world. Sports news is a unique news style, which is quite different from other news styles in vocabulary, grammar, and rhetoric devices. This paper made a comprehensive analysis of the language features Winter Olympic English news with concret examples. It is hoped that the result of the research would contribute to the appreciation of sports news.

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