

Abstract

Metaphors have always played a role in language which cannot be ignored in human beings' lives. In traditional views of metaphor, metaphors are regarded as rhetorical means. Cognitive linguists consider metaphor in essence, as the use of one object to understand and experience another object. Metaphor on the one hand manifests the cognitive world of mankind. On the other hand, it also influences one's thinking. Lakoff&Johnson's *Conceptual Metaphorical Theory* has opened a new era for metaphor study. Ever since Conceptual Metaphorical Theory, metaphor has been seen as pervasive in our thought, action and language, and an important cognitive instrument, by which human beings categorize and conceptualize the world.

Animals are one of the closest companions to human beings. Mankind sometimes view animal as a friend or as an enemy or as a source of food supply. Animal and mankind co-exist together and their activities intertwined, influencing each other. Mankind found in animal certain characteristics and images which are similar, leading to an analysis of their similarities to make sense of one's experience and relationship with one's surrounding. There are many phrases and expressions on animal metaphors in different languages. Animal metaphors, which frequently appear in communication, play a vital role in enriching the language. Animal metaphors are a basic way for people to cognize and understand the world, and it deserves more attention. Animal metaphor refers to metaphorical expression hidden in language. Generally, it can be understood by the people living in the same community. However, the different geography, culture, and thinking pattern present a certain difficulty in translation of animal metaphors. In order to understand animal metaphors of different languages better, it is necessary to investigate Chinese and English animal metaphors.

On the basis of Lakoff and Johnson's Conceptual Metaphor Theory, this paper aims to study the similarities and differences between Chinese and English animal metaphors, and sexism reflected from them by analyzing animal images. At the same time this paper hopes to make a certain contribution to high-quality cross-cultural communication.

Key words: conceptual metaphor animal metaphor animal image sexism

摘要

一直以来隐喻都对人们的生活起着不容忽视的作用。在传统隐喻观点中，隐喻被视为修辞手段。认知语言学认为隐喻在本质上是通过一种事物来理解和体验另一种事物。隐喻一方面体现了人类所要认知的世界，另一方面隐喻又影响人的思维方式。概念隐喻理论开创了隐喻研究的新纪元。从此隐喻被视为普遍存在于人类日常生活、思维和行为中，是一种重要的认知工具，人类通过概念隐喻感知、认识世界的事物。

动物是人类最亲密的伙伴之一，人类或视动物为敌、或视动物为友、或视动物为肉食来源，动物与人类相生相克，息息相关。人们发现动物的形象和某些本质特征与人类社会中的各种现象存在着某种相似之处，这引发了对两者之间的相似性进行思考。各种语言环境中都不乏具有隐喻意义的动物词语。动物隐喻在人类语言中占据着重要地位。它们在人们的日常交流中频繁地出现，极大地丰富了人类的语言。动物隐喻是人类认识世界和了解世界的基本方式，它理应引起关注。动物隐喻属于语言中蕴含的隐喻化表达。一般来说，生活在同一语言社区的人能够理解其内涵。然而地理环境，文化差异以及人类思维方式的不同给动物隐喻的了解带来了一定的难度。要达到较好地理解不同语言的动物隐喻，系统地研究中英动物隐喻很有必要。

本文在莱考夫和约翰逊提出的概念隐喻理论的基础上，以动物形象对比研究为基础，对英汉动物隐喻异同的原因作出对比分析，并讨论及其折射出的性别歧视现象。同时，本文希望为实现高质量的跨文化交流做出一定贡献。

关键词：概念隐喻 动物隐喻 动物形象 性别歧视

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