OFFICIAL LANGUAGES DIVISION, CIVIL SERVICE BUREAU



### It's Greek to me!

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Shakespeare's plays were not published during his lifetime, and we can assume that the greatest English playwright did not expect his dramatic texts to be widely disseminated, or remembered, after his death. But now, for

four centuries, generations of English-speaking children have read, memorised or even performed his plays as part of their education. Inevitably, many quotations from these plays have crept into everyday English usage. I believe the Bard\* would have been amused by this.

With some of these commonly used quotations, most people are no longer aware of their Shakespearean origins and they have become simply like other idioms. When you speak to a fresh graduate in law who is also fluent in three languages, you might say to him "The world is your oyster" (i.e. 'You have a world of opportunity in front of you'), without being conscious of its origin in The Merry Wives of Windsor. You may arrange to complete all your difficult errands in a single morning in Central, thinking "I'll do that at one fell swoop" ('all at one time'), without thinking of Macbeth. Nor would you necessarily think of As You Like It when you are "laying it on with a trowel" (maybe excessively flattering your mother-in-law to stay in her good books, or exaggerating the difficulty of your situation at work to get sympathy from others); or indeed when you comment about your friend's old shoes that they have "seen better days" ('are worn out').

In other cases, we may be well aware that we are referring to a Shakespeare play, but as the quotation has become something like an idiom, we do not take care to quote correctly. If someone is behaving a little crazily, but seems to be doing it for some good, hidden purpose, we often say something like "There's a method in his madness". Or if we have to treat someone harshly for his own good, we may say "You have to be cruel to be kind". Again, if someone seems to be insisting on his innocence in a certain situation, but does it so energetically that it just increases our suspicion, we may say that person is "protesting too much". All these are partial quotations from *Hamlet*, where when we use them, we probably remember the original circumstances in the play that gave rise to them and expect the person we are talking to do the same.

The use of a quotation of this kind from a tragedy, particularly Shakespeare's most famous tragedy, Hamlet, can have a humorous or ironic effect if we are aware of its origin but apply it to a relatively trivial situation. So if you think something has been handled a little dishonestly in your office, or even if there is simply a bad smell in your fridge, you might say "There's something rotten in the state of Denmark". Asking someone to switch out the overhead light, you might use Othello's words before murdering Desdemona: "Put out the light, and then put out the light". We might find that we reverse Shakespeare's original intention for ironic effect. For example, Lady Macbeth feared that her husband was "too full o' the milk of human kindness" to follow through his (or her) ambition ruthlessly enough. We are more likely to use her phrase to refer to someone who is far from "full of the milk of human kindness" to criticise, say, a politician, or the office tyrant. Or if we say in relation to a particular female "Her voice was ever soft/ Gentle and low, an excellent thing in a woman" (King Lear), we are more likely to be talking ironically about someone forceful like Margaret Thatcher than about a genuinely gentle and soft-spoken woman.

Sometimes a quotation has been wrongly remembered, or even misunderstood in the first place, and so has gone into common usage in an incorrect form. When, say, a woman is checking her appearance in a mirror at an inappropriate time, her friend may say "Vanity, thy name is woman". However Hamlet, bewailing his mother's immoral behaviour, in fact said "Frailty, thy name is woman". A person whose friend was next to him a moment earlier, and then vanished might be heard to shout "Wherefore art thou, Romeo?". But the original *Romeo and Juliet* words mean "Why are you Romeo?" (i.e. 'Why is your name Romeo?"), not "Where are you, Romeo?".

If we "forgive and forget" (King Lear), love someone "for ever and a day" (The Taming of the Shrew and As You Like It), do something "in the twinkling of an eye" (The Merchant of Venice), see "no rhyme or reason" in someone's decision (As You Like It), or refuse to "budge an inch" (The Taming of the Shrew), we may well be quoting from Shakespeare. These phrases certainly occur in his plays, and may have originated in them — but, of course, Shakespeare may have borrowed them from someone else. In some cases, we will never know.

\* A bard is a poet. People sometimes refer to Shakespeare as the Bard.



# 個人主義與新戲劇

### 譚國根教授談現代戲劇之父易卜生

挪威劇作家亨利克·易卜生(Henrik Ibsen)在其五十年創作生涯中,共發表了二十六部劇本,題材廣泛,思想深刻,技巧精湛,對世界各國劇壇產生深遠影響。今年適逢易卜生逝世百周年,世界各地均有紀念演出麼意易卜生對戲劇藝術以至近代文化思潮產生了什麼影響?香港中文大學英文系譚國根教授對易卜生素有研究,編輯小組特地訪問了譚教授,現把所得資料整輯成文,藉此一窺這位"現代戲劇之父"的非凡識見與創新精神。

### 問題劇

易卜生擺脱歐洲傳統悲劇、喜劇的模式,開創嶄新形式的"問題劇"(the Problem Play),在劇中提出某些問題,讓不同角色表達不同觀點,在劇中進行討論甚至激辯。迥異的思想互相衝擊,但劇終並沒有任何結論,劇中人的觀點也不會分出對錯,呈開放式結局,讓觀眾自行判斷,打破了傳統戲劇必須"有始有終"的模式。

《玩偶之家》(A Doll's House)寫於一八七九年,主角娜拉表面生活幸福美滿,但在經歷家庭變故後,醒覺到自己在家中只是扮演丈夫的"玩偶"角色,毅然從囚籠似的家庭出走,去尋找更寬廣的世界。娜拉與丈夫托華特的衝突最終沒有解決,究竟誰對誰錯?娜拉最後出走,前途未卜,能否自力更生?抑或選擇回家?劇終提出很多問題,但沒有提供答案,問題劇令戲劇變成向觀眾提問的藝術形式。

在新結構背後,是易卜生對現代生活的體會:現代生活複雜,人們面對的矛盾,不可能一一化解。在理性時代,人們以為科學能為所有問題找到答案,但生活其實充滿矛盾混亂,變幻無常。易卜生劇作的重點,正在於呈示不同思想、觀點的碰撞。

這種手法影響了整個歐洲的戲劇創作。西方劇作家種

### 引發思考

易卜生另一些劇作,例如《野

鴨》(Wild Duck)、《羣鬼》(Ghosts),探討社會建制、法律、家庭、宗教、道德價值,激發觀眾思考,社會意義深遠。易卜生針對十九世紀末挪威社會的問題,指出人們在新時代必須正視如何界定個人自我。他的思想在歐洲、北美、亞洲都引起回響。當時正值傳統社會過渡至以個人為中心的社會,易卜生的劇作集中探討個人空間,提出人要面對自我。百多年過去,劇作仍不斷上演,可見當年提出的問題,在現代社會依然存在,例如人如何面對自我,主體意識如何形成等,都是當代哲學界探討的課題,具有普遍意義。

#### 對中國新文化的啓示

易卜生在中國的影響,首先是對現代中國文化思想產生衝擊。《玩偶之家》不但震撼當時的歐洲社會,在二十世紀初的中國,更掀起新文化浪潮。傳統中國文化以家庭為中心,重大我,輕小我,例如儒家思想着重倫理綱常:君君臣臣父父子子,強調個人的位置從屬於家庭和社會的角色。又如"修身齊家治國平天下",表明士人修業的目標,不在於自我實現,而在於為家國服務。

一九零七年,魯迅藉評論《人民公敵》(An Enemy of the People)一劇,指出易卜生作品重視個人價值,希望鼓動國人無懼傳統社會文化的壓力,追求自主獨立。一九一九年五四運動前夕,胡適和北京大學學生領袖藉翻譯和評介易卜生劇作,呼籲年輕一代覺醒,擺脱社會家庭的枷鎖,追求個人自由、個性解放。

當時話劇成為討論婦女解放、尋求個人自由的重要園地。《玩偶之家》對個性解放、婦女解放等運動的影響尤深。娜拉莊嚴地聲稱"我是一個人"後,毅然走出家門,掙脱社會指定的角色,追求獨立自主。娜拉成為中國新女性的典範,離家出走成了實現自我的途徑。

### 歷久常新

易卜生的作品經歷百年而不衰,時至今日 仍能引起觀眾共鳴。今年六月初美國馬布礦場 劇團來港重新搬演《玩偶之家》,起用身材矮小 的男演員,在名副其實的玩具屋中,肆意指揮 體形高大的女演員。在強烈的對比下,以諷刺 誇張的手法,道出在男性主導的社會中,女性 無奈屈從的處境。

> 所謂"戲如人生,人生如戲", 雖 説 戲 假 ,但人情 世 故 ,盡 在 其 中。劇作家通過敏鋭的觀察,以巧 妙的語言呈現人生百態,用對話與 觀眾直接交流,啓發思考。易卜生 之後百年間,話劇這門表演藝術, 一直緊扣時代脈搏,成為探討當代 社會文化課題的重要論壇。



All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players.



### Good Show!

"Life is like a play", Roman philosopher and dramatist Lucius Annaeus Seneca (5 BC - 65 AD) said nearly two thousand years ago. His famous remark forms an interesting complement to Aristotle's observation that drama is an imitation of man in action. Indeed, the relationship between life and drama is close, as evidenced by a host of play-related idioms in our daily language.

For example, did your friends *play a part* in organising your birthday party? Did you have a moment or two of *stage-fright* when you addressed your guests? Did you get angry with someone who *stole the show* from you that evening?

Someone who *steals the show* gets more attention or praise than the person that is expected to receive most attention. Such a person may be referred to as a *show-stealer*. In the same vein, if someone *steals the limelight* or *scene*, he does something that makes people pay more attention to him than to other people.

Stage-fright was originally a theatrical term to describe the nervousness of an actor on the stage, especially when he is making his debut. First-night nerves means more or less the same as stage-fright (though it relates only to the first performance of a run), and even great public speakers like Winston Churchill could not escape it. He often suffered *first-night nerves* on the eve of an important debate in the House of Commons.

A show in a theatre is a performance for the public. If you *get the show on the road*, you put a plan or idea into effect. If you *keep the show on the road*, you ensure that the plan or idea continues to operate successfully. In the theatre, there is a tradition that *the show must go on*, whatever happens, even in the case of accident. This well-known idiomatic expression means that one must fulfil one's obligations whatever the cost to one's own feelings.

To ensure the success of a theatrical performance, a lot of work has to be done *behind the scenes*. Something that is done *behind the scenes* is done in private or in secret, rather than publicly.

In former times, when an act of a play ended, a bell was rung as a signal for the curtain to be lowered. Accordingly, something that *rings* or *brings down the curtain* on an event or situation causes or marks the end of it. And surely the audience's warm applause, with cries of "Good show!", is what the performers long for when they take their bows at the end of the play.

# 補關拾遺

# 句必有主?

漢語和英語屬於不同的語系,語法上差異不小,主語的運用即為一例。在古漢語裏,常見主語省略的例子。反觀英語,特別是書面語,主語往往不可或缺,只有少數句型,如祈使句 "Come in, please"、"Be careful"等例外。試看唐代詩人賈島《尋隱者不遇》一詩:

(詩人) 松下問童子, (童子) 言師採藥去,

(師父) 只在此山中, (師父) 雲深不知處。

括號內是省略了的主語。省略主語不用,語意仍然明確。同樣,在現代漢語裏,句子的主語可從上下文推斷,例如:

九寨溝位於四川,(它)以獨特的風光聞名於世。

(我們)下車以後, (我們)先到賓館,要是(賓館)有房間,當然很好。

假如大家下筆為文,或把英語譯為漢語時,總覺得不 用主語,語法就不夠精確,文意有欠清晰,那大概是受了 英語"句必有主"的觀念影響。

誠然,漢語句子的主語省略與否,首重交代清楚。有時候句子沒有主語,文意會晦澀不明。例如《古詩十九首》的"思君令人老,歲月忽已晚,棄捐勿復道,努力加餐飯",究竟是男子捐棄女子,還是女子叫男子不要再想她?是自己要多吃一點,還是叫對方保重身體,努力加餐?實

在難有定論。又如杜甫《酬韋韶州見寄》的"養拙江湖外,朝廷記憶疏",是杜老對朝廷的記憶疏淡了,還是埋怨朝中無人牽掛他?兩解都通。這自然是主語不顯的結果。

話説回來,漢語行文以簡潔為尚,主語可省則省。主 語的省略,是指邏輯上有主語,形式上無主語。主語該省 而不省,會令文章囉唆累贅,甚至有害文意。舉個例子:

老陳對小李説,他樂意跟他到上海走一趟。

這句第一個"他",指的是老陳抑或別有所指?如果指的是老陳,就有必要刪除,以免引起誤會。濫用主語,尤其是以人稱代詞充當的主語,有時會使文意含糊,容易引起誤解。

事實上,在現代漢語裏,省略主語而又語意明晰的語句,俯拾皆是。以散文大師梁實秋《講演》一文為例:"生平聽過無數次講演,能高高興興的去聽,聽得入耳,中途不打呵欠不打瞌睡者,卻沒有幾次。聽完之後,回味無窮,印象長留,歷久彌新者,就更難得一遇了"。這一段文字都是"無主句",不但文意精確清晰,文氣也簡潔清暢。

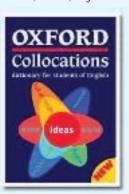
總而言之,主語不該省而省,以致語意不明,固然欠妥;應刪而不刪,使文章累贅,文 意模棱兩可,也非為文之道。



# Use the Right Word, Say the Right Thing

Collocation is the way words combine in a language to produce natural-sounding speech and writing. Hence a good knowledge of collocations is vital to communicative competence in English. For example, when native English speakers need to describe an action to do with an *application*, they usually have no difficulty coming up with such verbs as *approve*, *file*, *lodge*, *make*, *receive*, *reject*, *submit* and *withdraw*, depending on the idea they want to express, and an appropriate preposition to go with *application* — *by*, *for*, *from*, *on* or *to* — will also come to mind naturally. This, however, is not always the case for non-native speakers.

If you are not sure about the correct word combinations once in a while, the *Oxford Collocations Dictionary* may come in handy and useful. Based on the British National Corpus, a large corpus of modern English, this dictionary contains over 150,000 collocations for nearly 9,000 headwords. It shows all the words that usually go together with each headword: nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs and prepositions, as well as



gives common phrases formed with each headword. It also provides users with over 50,000 examples, indicating how the collocations are used in context. For fast-changing areas of language such as computing, the most up-to-date collocations are drawn from the Internet. With a distinct page layout grouping collocations according to part of speech and meaning, the Dictionary provides

users with ready reference to the headword they have in mind and to the collocation they need.

If you are looking for a collocations dictionary with Chinese explanations, A Dictionary of English Collocations (Augmented Edition) published by江蘇教育出版社would be a good choice. Edited by Chinese scholars, the Dictionary

offers about 190,000 examples of collocations grouped under around 12,000 headwords, with a Chinese translation for each entry. These entries, mainly nouns, verbs and adjectives, are arranged in such a way that users can locate at first sight the part of speech, meanings, and possible collocations of each headword. With its source material collected from a number of dictionaries and



corpora of contemporary English, the Dictionary aims to be as exhaustive as possible, showing collocations commonly used in most English-speaking communities. Appended to the Dictionary is a list of compound words with Chinese definitions, which learners of English will find useful.

Both the Oxford Collocations Dictionary and A Dictionary of English Collocations (Augmented Edition) are intended to be handy aids to better English writing. They are practical tools for students, teachers, writers, translators and those who wish to express their ideas cogently in idiomatic English.



# 心心息大

### 劇名翻譯選談

中國傳統並無話劇,只有戲曲。西方話劇在二十世紀初才傳入中國。自此翻譯劇在中國劇壇一直佔有重要席位。

上世紀六十至九十年代,翻譯劇在香港劇壇大行其道, 劇作數量凌駕本地創作劇。單是香港話劇團,一九九七至二 零零四年搬演的翻譯劇目便過百齣,當中不乏經典名作,例 如愛爾蘭劇作家奧斯卡·王爾德(Oscar Wilde)的喜劇名作The Importance of Being Ernest,自一九八五年首演以來已數度 重演,公認為劇團戲寶。

余光中的譯本《不可兒戲》對白妙趣橫生,例如巴夫人這樣提起新近喪偶的哈夫人:"從沒有見過一個女人變得這麼厲害;看起來她足足年輕了二十歲"。演員的趣問怪答,每每令觀眾嘻哈絕倒,難得的是,王爾德對十九世紀英國時人時事的戲謔,今日仍能令觀眾產生共鳴,笑聲此起彼落。劇名譯為《不可兒戲》確是一絕,觀畢此劇,方知劇名純屬反話,劇中世界荒謬可笑,有歪常理,觀眾對劇情、台詞,以至結局千萬不可認真。

一九八六年公演的《日月精忠》,譯自英國劇作家羅拔·寶德(Robert Bolt)的作品A Man for All Seasons,劇名採自一九六六年同名影片,實屬明智之舉。其他譯名有《良相佐國》、《四季之人》。《良相佐國》與劇情不符,《四季之人》更是莫名其妙,譯猶不譯。原文以季節更迭暗喻時移勢易,但主角托馬斯·摩爾堅守節操,毫不動搖。譯名《日月精忠》同樣以大自然物象作喻,日月常喻指時光流轉、物是人非,用以對比摩爾忠心耿耿、至死不渝的情操,貼切不過。

《日月精忠》根據史實改編。英王亨利八世見異思遷,決心離婚再娶,遂與羅馬教皇斷絕聯繫,以免受到天主教規條制約。亨利八世要求大法官托馬斯·摩爾在離婚法令上簽字,以示認許。摩爾為人正直,自知陷入兩難。為了堅守原則,他拒絕簽字,同時保持緘默,不公開抨擊亨利八世貪新忘舊,但最終仍遭陷害而死。摩爾面對強權,誓不低頭,成為現代劇壇偉大的悲劇英雄。



## 戲劇裏見真性

公務員事務局 法定語文事務部 一級法定語文主任黃敏思

初踏台板那年,只有十七歲。這種年紀可演什麼角色 而能令人入信?只能是一個迷失方向的黃毛丫頭而已。

記得有一場戲,滿頭白髮的導演要求我在人羣散去後 跑出來,拾起地上死去的鳥兒痛哭。他問我見過別人痛哭 失聲沒有,我說沒見過,倒是試過一次。導演目光炯炯,



《遇上1941的女孩》劇照

婚後有了自己的家,工作如常,我以為只要好好守在 家裏,就是莫大的幸福。誰知當人不能真正面對自己時, 不是無病呻吟,就是百病叢生。我是後者。

二零零年,本地原創音樂劇《遇上1941的女孩》重演,我獨自入場看了幾次。每次在回家的路上,我總在想,戰火中的人未得溫飽,尚且有夢,我既得溫飽,卻不敢有夢。到底是因自卑而放棄,還是因自欺而忘記?猶記初踏台板的滋味,於是決定重投戲劇世界,尋找出路。

重返舞台,首次參與的製作是一齣描述晚清傳奇人物 胡雪巖的話劇。這次演出,台前幕後共有六十人參與。我

沒當演員,卻當了服裝助理,與另外三名服裝助理,跟隨服裝設計和服裝主任安排戲服。對我這個後台新人而言,這份工作可謂挑戰重重。雖然該劇演員只有二十八人,但全劇共有三十二個分場、七十六個角色。故事述説胡雪巖由冒起到失敗的四十年光景,只胡雪巖一角就有十多套戲服。每場演出,我們四個服裝助理不是在服裝間忙於整

理,就是抱着一大堆戲服跑到台後或台侧,"貼身"幫助一些因出場頻仍而趕不及回後台的演員更衣。

以前當演員,總覺背誦台詞頗為 吃力。後台人員不用背誦台詞,但必須 熟記分場,隨時留意廣播,才能配合前 台演員的一舉一動。演後座談會上,編 劇、導演、演員把演出感想娓娓道來, 我們在後台仍然爭分奪秒,趕忙收拾。 在三天演期中,星期六、星期日兩天設

日夜兩場,台前幕後都加倍忙碌,然而大家一塊兒忙裏忙外,只有一個共同的目標——好好完成五場演出。可以昂然站在聚光燈下,與觀眾交流,固然是美事;能在環環相扣的"有機"團隊裏當一根"螺絲釘",也會滿心歡喜。

這幾年的探索中,體會到演員在台上,唯有不計成敗,才能真正享受演戲的樂趣。或許,我在台下也該學會不計得失,好好享受生活的樂趣。《遇上1941的女孩》劇中歌曲《逆夢之行》有這樣一段歌詞:"原來夢境之邊另有天地,尋回自己縱是決不完美,不想放棄,心早預備,飛奔去美夢迷離境地"。或許,人人心裏都有一個通向夢想的出口,但願大家都能發現。

The theatre, when all is said and done, is not life in miniature, but life enormously magnified, life hideously exaggerated.

**Henry Louis Mencken** 



尊龍(John Lone)在電影中 扮演蝴蝶君

美籍華裔劇作家黃哲倫轟動一時的作品M.Butterfly,同屬真人真事改編,處處影射意大利歌劇作家吉亞卡摩·普契尼(Giacomo Puccini)的作品Madama Butterfly(《蝴蝶夫人》),情節怪誕,匪夷所思:法國外交官與京劇紅伶談情說愛二十年,竟然不知對方男扮女裝。"M."這個縮女可獨可點,既可指法語尊稱女士的"Madame",也可指法語尊稱女士格生的"Monsieur"。一九九二年在港公演,譯本取名《蝴蝶君》,

可謂恰到好處,"君"指男女皆可,與"M."同樣曖昧,令人難辨雌雄。

美國劇作家尤金 • 奧尼爾(Eugene O'Neill)名劇Long

Day's Journey into Night 一九七八年在港上演,取名《長路漫漫入夜深》。在這齣家庭悲劇中,時間富含象徵意義。全劇情節在十多個小時內發生,由早上八時三十分開始,至午夜後終結。隨着時間推移,一家人的過去逐漸呈現。夫婦、父母子女愛恨交纏,互相折磨。時間由白天轉為黑夜後,劇中人越發陷入痛苦的回憶,由光明步入黑暗。《長路漫漫入夜深》正好帶出前無出路的悲哀與絕望。

精彩的翻譯劇名比比皆是,不勝枚舉。一些劇名只要字字對譯便可,如美國劇作家亞瑟·米勒(Arthur Miller)作品Death of a Salesman譯《推銷員之死》,莎劇A Midsummer Night's Dream譯《仲夏夜之夢》。另闢蹊徑的,也不乏佳作,如另一莎劇Othello不譯《奧賽羅》,改譯《嫉》,點出整齣悲劇的成因。美國劇作家祖·馬斯達洛夫(Joe Masteroff)作品Cabaret中譯本捨現成的《歌廳》而取名《有酒今朝醉》,既親切地道,又能表現二次大戰前夕德國柏林紙醉金迷、逃避現實的社會氛圍。劇名寥寥數字,最見匠心。



## 劇壇泰斗曹禺



曹禺(1910-1996),原名萬家寶,生於天津一個封建家庭,少年時候因其父的工作關係,目睹了官僚腐化的時弊。曹禺從小喜愛文學戲劇,求學時已開始寫作新詩小説,更參與劇團演出,於清華大學西洋文學系畢業後,繼續鑽研戲劇。曹禺遍閱古今中外名著,深受希臘三大悲劇作家,以及莎士比亞和俄國劇作家安東•契訶夫(Anton Chekhov)等文豪的劇作所吸引,一生著作甚豐,當中尤以《雷雨》、《日出》及《原野》一系列優秀作品最為人稱道。

《雷雨》以上世紀二十年代初舊中國一個封建家庭為背景。礦廠董事長周樸園的後妻蘩漪不堪封建禮教的壓迫,與大少爺周萍私通,周萍卻又與其弟周沖同時愛上了使女四鳳,在四人之間,是錯綜複雜的情感糾葛。四鳳的母親侍萍三十年前在周家當使女時被周樸園誘騙,生下周萍和大海後復遭遺棄。後來侍萍帶着大海嫁給魯大海則在周樸園礦廠做工,還當了罷工領袖。不料三十年前侍萍的悲劇又在四鳳身上重演。在雷雨交加的黑夜裏,當身世之謎揭開後,犯下不倫之罪且懷有周萍骨肉的四鳳自尋短見;另外,周沖觸電身亡,周萍開槍自盡,魯大海從此失蹤,蘩漪發了瘋,來到周家訪尋女兒的侍萍在目睹這悲慘情景後,也變得痴呆,獨剩周樸園在這分崩離析的罪惡家庭裏。

曹禺在《雷雨•序》中説:"《雷雨》所顯示的,並不是



《雷雨》劇照

因果,並不是報應,而 是我所覺得的天地間的 '殘忍'……宇宙正像一 口殘酷的井,落在裏 面,怎樣呼號也難逃脱 這黑暗的坑。"《雷雨》 與希臘悲劇傳統一脈相 承,表達了生而為人卻

無法主宰自己命運的宿命論。《雷雨》發表於一九三四年,其時年僅二十三歲的曹禺在中國文壇上,仍然是寂寂無聞的耕耘者。巴金看過《雷雨》的原稿後,感動落淚,破格在《文學季刊》一次過刊載該四幕劇,令曹禺的處女作得以問世。《雷雨》以平地一聲雷之勢,轟動文壇,其藝術成就在曹禺三部曲之中堪稱最高。

《日出》是繼《雷雨》之後另一齣多幕劇,發表於一九三 六年,描寫上流社會交際花陳白露在豪華大飯店裏所過的糜 爛生活,以及三等妓院"寶和下處"的妓女翠喜和一個剛賣身 的女孩"小東西"的命運。年輕美麗的陳白露在婚姻失敗後, 走上了當交際花的不歸路。她一直享受醉生夢死的生活,直 至對她滿懷愛意的方達生出現,才有機會審視自身。紙醉金 迷的生活沒有令陳白露全然墮落,當她遇上被惡棍打得遍體 鱗傷的"小東西"時,尚未泯滅的善良本性驅使她挺身而出, 施以援手。可惜,"小東西"最後不欲委曲求全,自縊身亡。 陳白露明白到自己根本無力改變現實,只好接受自身的悲劇 命運。方達生指引的道路,她無力同行;在經濟支柱潘月亭 破產後,她寧願仰藥求死,告別痛苦的人生。方達生空有理 想,以為能給陳白露帶來新希望,能對抗惡勢力代表金八 爺,能從火海中救出"小東西",能為黃省三這些受壓迫的小 人物請命,最終卻無法扭轉他們的悲劇命運。曹禺在《日出• 跋》中指出,該劇"諷刺的對象是我自己,是與我有同樣書呆 子性格,空抱着一腔同情和理想,而實際無補於事的'好心 人'"。對作者而言,相對於日出之前潛藏於黑暗的腐朽勢 力,個人的力量終究顯得渺小。

《原野》發表於一九三七年,描述舊中國農村兩個家庭的恩怨情仇。惡霸焦閻王覬覦友人仇榮的田產,不惜串通土匪,把友人活埋,奪其土地。仇榮的兒子仇虎給打瘸了腿,被誣為土匪而下獄八年。仇虎妹妹被賣至外省,淪落為娼,結果上吊而死;與仇虎有婚約在先的戀人花金子,則被逼嫁為焦閻王的獨生子焦大星的繼室。受盡苦難的仇虎逃獄後潛回家鄉,此時焦閻王已不在人世,為報兩代冤讎\*,仇虎手刃焦大星償命,而大星的瞎子母親焦大媽護家心切,卻錯殺唯一的孫兒小黑子。仇虎帶着花金子逃出焦家,被偵緝隊包圍在黑林子中,花金子最終雖逃出生天,仇虎卻不欲再戴着鐵鐐度日,用匕首刺進自己胸膛,了結悲慘的一生。焦大媽抱着斷了氣的小黑子在林中為他招魂,最後不知所終。曹禺在《原野》中繼續探索悲劇命運,並解釋該劇非以復仇為主題,而是要道出在對抗命運的過程中,"受盡封建壓迫的農民的一生和逐漸覺醒"。

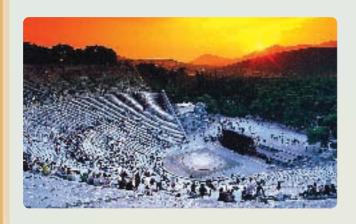
曹禺的其他劇作包括《蜕變》、《正在想》、《北京人》、《明朗的天》、《王昭君》,以及改編自巴金激流三部曲之《家》的同名劇本。曹禺的劇作對後世影響深遠,不但屢被搬上舞台,更改編成電影、電視劇,甚至歌劇和芭蕾舞劇,而中學教材也節錄其部分,讓青年學子賞析大師名作。曹禺的經典劇作,不但在中國深入民心,而且譯成多國文字,以饗外語讀者。在中國話劇發展史上,曹禺有"中國莎士比亞"之稱,是劇壇的泰山北斗,其藝術光芒,將繼續照耀後世。

\*"讎",粤音"籌",同"仇"。

一個作家總逃不脫時代精神的影響,或者是反映了 □ 時代精神,或者是反對時代精神。

# 震古鑠今

### 古希臘戲劇



古希臘戲劇源於民間歌舞和宗教儀式,題材大都來 自希臘神話和英雄傳說,全盛時期約為公元前六世紀末 至公元前四世紀初。當時雅典是古希臘的戲劇中心,城 中上演的悲劇和喜劇相信是後來戲劇形式的濫觴。

古希臘劇場都是露天的,分舞台、景屋和觀眾席三部分。觀眾席建於小山坡上,呈半圓形,舞台設於山腳,景屋的功能則相當於後台。劇場的半環設計有助傳聲,演員不必借助任何擴音器具,只要大聲背誦,台詞即可傳入觀眾耳中。劇場規模龐大,可容納觀眾多達一萬七千人。由於與觀眾相距甚遠,演員要頻繁更換服裝和面具來吸引觀眾,並且穿上厚底靴子增加身高,有時還戴上顏色鮮豔的手套,讓觀眾清楚看見自己的手勢。

面具是古希臘戲劇一大特色,每個角色都有獨特的面具。悲劇用的面具往往帶痛苦或哀悼的表情,喜劇用的面具則通常展露笑容。古希臘喜劇深受時人喜愛,但傳世作品甚少,原因之一,是語言比較粗俗,難登大雅之堂。另外,時移世易,劇中針砭\*時弊的笑話,也難以引起後人共鳴。

古時戲劇是指"由演員扮演人物,在觀眾面前演出故事",最初採獨腳戲形式,由一人分飾多角,扮演某角色時,就戴上那個角色的面具。後來,演員增至兩人,彼此便可以對話了。舞台上沒有幕,演員登台擺好姿勢,待配樂奏起,便開始演戲。台上另有合唱隊,以歌聲表達劇作家的思想,介紹劇情,營造氣氛。戲好,大家看戲;戲不好,大伙兒就喝酒吃肉;戲着實太差了,就衝着演員大喊"下去!下去!"

戲劇節是古希臘重要的節日,每年有三次,最盛大的要數三四月間雅典舉行的"酒神大節"。其間政府不辦公,人人都跑到劇場去看戲。雅典法律規定,看戲是雅典人的神聖權利。古希臘教育並不普及,不少人目不識

丁,戲劇既然屬於大眾的藝術,劇場便成為宣揚政治主張、哲學觀點的場所。

舉例來說,在《安提戈涅》(Antigone)這齣戲中,先知對專橫的君主說:你是君王,我是平民,但是我們有相同的發言權。當中明確表達了古希臘的民主精神:在法律面前人人平等,人人都有發言權。另外,《特洛伊婦女》(The Trojan Women)取材自荷馬(Homer)《史詩》(Odyssey),可說是世界上第一齣反戰戲劇。

希臘悲劇與宗教密不可分,劇作多藉藝術手法表現希臘人的宗教精神。大多數宗教所景仰的神祇都是大能而性善的。希臘人觀念中的神剛好相反。希臘諸神大能但性惡,喜嘲諷人類的不幸,故意與人為難。索福克勒斯(Sophocles)的代表作《伊狄帕斯王》(Oedipus Rex),主題正是命運弄人。伊狄帕斯弒父娶母,罪孽深重,但他犯下彌天大罪,完全出於無知;雖多番逃避,但阿波羅可怕的預言最後竟一一應驗。

古希臘悲劇的立意在於嚴肅,而不是悲慘。劇作往往給觀眾帶來強大的震撼力,令觀眾產生驚恐與憐憫,使積存在心中的恐懼宣泄出來,疏導隱憂。這就是亞里士多德(Aristotle)所提出的"淨化作用"。

古希臘悲劇背後有其獨特的價值觀,就是謳歌經受苦難、與神對抗的悲壯美。埃斯庫羅斯(Aeschylus)的名作《被縛的普羅米修斯》(Prometheus Bound)即充分體現了希臘悲劇的精神:普羅米修斯把偷自天上的火苗帶到人間,供人類煮食、取暖、照亮黑夜,因而受到天神之首宙斯懲罰,給綁在高加索山的懸崖上,肝臟被神鷹天天啄食。當河神勸他與宙斯和解時,普羅米修斯答說"不,決不和解!宙斯的王權不倒,我的苦難就不會完結!"從中可見古希臘人喜歡歌頌英雄,特別是遭惡運播弄、身陷困境仍然不屈不撓的勇者。

古希臘的劇場和劇作對西方戲劇以至文化發展產生了深遠的影響。古希臘三大悲劇作家埃斯庫羅斯、索福克勒斯、歐里庇德斯(Euripides),經典之作歷久不衰,至今仍在世界各國公演。索福克勒斯的《伊狄帕斯王》更被譽為"最完美的悲劇"。

精練的語言、傳奇的故事,是古希臘戲劇無窮魅力之所在。當中蘊含深邃的哲理,刻畫人性細緻入微,對觀者啓迪至深。

\*"砭",粤音"邊",治病用的石針,引伸為批評、批判。

悲劇將人生的有價值的東西毀滅給人看, 喜劇將那無價值的撕破給人看。





# 話劇為花筒

以下十組句子都提到中外劇壇上某些重要的人物、作品或地方,可有興趣 從下表抽取適用的單字,組成完整句子?每個字均可重複使用。



萬	差	洪	林	屈	莫	
深	田	亞	老	太	欽	
大	滙	原	丁	漢	保	
夏	百	久	哀	士	里	
比	郎	衍	西	莎	臣	

1.	歐陽予倩、	、洪深被譽為中國話劇三大奠	基人。
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2.	俄國劇作家果戈理在一八三六年發表諷刺喜劇《	
	深刻地揭露當時官場的醜態。	

- 3. 郭沫若是中國現代歷史劇的開拓者,重要劇作有《》,描述 一位楚國詩人可歌可泣的一生。
- 四大悲劇之一《哈姆雷特》取材於丹麥故事,以丹麥 王子為父復仇為主要骨幹。
- 憑獨幕劇《一隻馬蜂》在上世紀二十年代一舉成名,擅於 製造喜劇效果,風格幽默含蓄而不失細膩;另有劇作《親愛的丈夫》及 《等太太回來的時候》。
- 6. 的劇作具有現實主義特色,《心防》、《法西斯細菌》和《芳草 天涯》是他在抗日戰爭時期的三部優秀作品。
- 的劇作充滿了對勞苦大眾的關愛, 代表作包括《大寺學校》、《秋草故事》等。
- 包羅全美最好的劇場、最優秀的演員,其發展歷史可說是 美國當代戲劇發展的縮影。
- 9. 中國早期的話劇又稱新劇或文明戲,一九二八年由 提議定名
- 10. 是法國十七世紀最偉大的喜劇作家,代表作品有《偽君 子》、《吝嗇鬼》等。

請在空格內填上正確答案,連同下列個人資料,在二零零六年十一月十三 日前寄回"香港金鐘道66號金鐘道政府合署高座2310室公務員事務局法定語文 事務部《文訊》編輯委員會",即有機會獲得書券一張,名額五個。答案及得獎 名單下期公布(答案以《文訊》公布者為準)。

姓名:	
部門:	
職位:	電話:
地址:	

# Not-a-Mindbogg

### Solution

#### Issue No. 24

- 1. whirlwind
- 2. precipitation
- 3. squalls
- 4. cloudburst
- 5. Rainfall
- 6. Meteorologists
- 7. lightning
- 8. Thunder
- 9. overcast
- 10 icicles
- 11. Fahrenheit
- 12. torrid
- 13. sunshine
- 14. foggy
- 15. cumulonimbus

### The following winners will be notified individually by post:

#### Name

### (Department)

Vu Man-wai, Jenny (Food and Environmental Hygiene Department)

Chan Chin-wa (Hong Kong Police Force)

Lui Ka-yun, Linda (Housing Department)

Wong Lai-fun (Labour Department)

Kenneth Chan (Trade and Industry Department)

### 更正啓事

上期《風微煙淡雨蕭然》一 文第十段第五行"這闕詞"應為 "這闋詞",特此更正。

#### 中文顧問 康寶文博士 英語顧問 Dr Gillian M. Humphrevs

委員 譚天恩女士

執行編輯 魯曼華女士

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