

中文基本功

毛澤東詩詞與兒童書法 都用正體而不用簡體

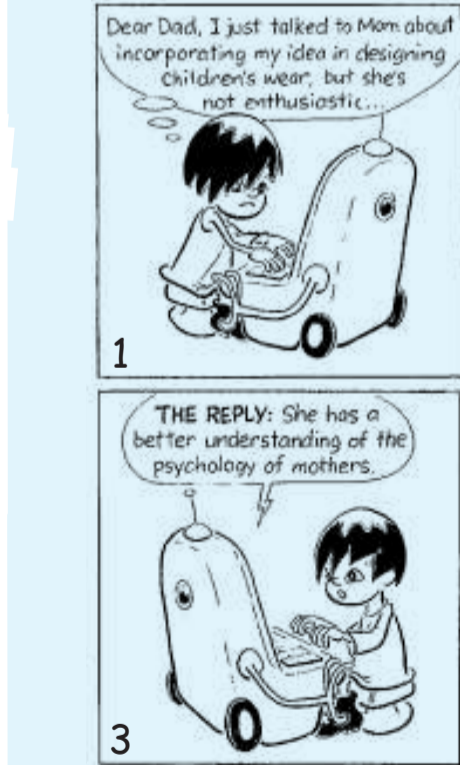
一月十三日零時前，中央電視台(CCTV-1)的字幕，有「為國舍命」一語，天光大白，即有人問我：「這在香港是否可行？」我答：內地所用「為國舍命」一語，在香港是寫成「為國捨命」的。五十年前內地漢字簡化，取「同音代替」之法，以筆畫少的「舍」兼代筆畫多的「捨」，即名詞兼作動詞用。所以中央台字幕的寫法，在當地已成規範。問題在：香港不曾搞過漢字簡化，一直依照原來用正體的寫法，捨身、捨命的「捨」，如寫成房舍、宿舍的「舍」是錯誤的。就文字學來說，正是將名詞當作動詞，抹殺了文字分工，而其後果則造成混亂，影響認知和應用。

法，那是各有歷史淵源，要實事求是，不宜貪簡而不加區別。即在內地，早已推行簡化，也非人人愛簡。我的幾位老師為避開印刷用簡體，其著作都由書法家以正體繕寫然後付刊。再以毛澤東為例，從不把「國」字寫成「国」。有研究毛氏字體的，編成《毛澤東墨蹟大字典》，搜盡毛氏寫的「國」字，凡一百多個，無一簡體。一九六四年，距實施漢字簡化已經八年，《毛澤東詩詞》出版，也無一簡體。到九十年代，我從中央電視台(CCTV-4)看到一個兒童書法比賽的場面，各地參選作品也無一簡體；湖南一名三歲的小孩子劉天樹，持筆寫「振興中華」四個大字，記者錄影了整個書寫過程，但見一筆一畫，個個寫成正體，無一簡體。

在香港，「捨」不以同音字「舍」代替，就像「乾」不以「干」代替，「後」不以「后」代替，「殺」不以「谷」代替，「傳」不以「付」代替……同音不同義，用時要分開；強為假借，不是造成混亂，影響學習與應用嗎？你在香港把「捨」寫成「舍」，老師會打交叉，要你改正。同一個字，在不同地方有不同寫法。

香港的形象。圖中的小女孩撐着一把傘，「撐」這個字在廣東話裡也有支持的意思。傘上面的獅子代表了獅子山，獅子腳下的城自然就是香港。畫中的小女孩代表了作者自己，表達對香港的無限支持。

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Soho Diary

Dear Dad, I just talked to Mom about incorporating my idea in designing children's wear, but she's not enthusiastic... She agrees I have a better understanding of the psychology of children, but insists on having everything her own way. THE REPLY: She has a better understanding of the psychology of mothers. ALL OF THEM ARE RIGHT. BUT FOR CHILDREN'S WEAR, USUALLY THE ONE WHO PAYS IS THE MOTHER.

觸景立畫



經濟超目可賀 勞工制約須解

最新數據顯示日本去年末季GDP環比下降百分之零點三，乃五個季度以來首見負增長，而全年GDP按美元計已少於中國約四千億美元，降為全球第三。日本官方就此表示，鄰國經濟發展快速值得歡迎，可惜助來推動本國發展。這是按市場匯率計算中國GDP首次超越日本，若按購買力平價(PPP)計算，則中國約十年前便已超日。稍前還有美國智庫研究指出，去年按PPP計中國GDP或已超越美國。PPP方法比市價計算較為合理，但也會因計算模式的差異而得出不同結果。其實中國GDP超美超日早無懸念而只是早晚問題，故對此不必過度重視，現時首務反應是如何提高經濟素質，和使中國盡快實現現代化目標。當然，中國仍須注意維持穩定高增長，擴大GDP雖非優先目標，但增長也不宜放慢，因為以人均GDP計中國仍排在全球百餘國家的後段而非前列，且還不到日本的十分一和美國的六分一，顯示如要提高人民生活水平，仍須積極推動GDP增長。

顯然，中國推動GDP增長已不能再靠高投入(尤其勞力)，而要更多依賴提高科技及管理水平和勞力素質，要走向以優質化帶動量增的發展道路。因此強化科技自主創新體系，深化市場化改革以提高效率，和全力開發人力資源等，已成為了中國努力力進的大方向，政府在這些方面理應及早制訂全面的推動政策。在目前，日形緊迫的增長障礙之一是民工荒，對此當局必須及早回應。這個問題去年已隨經濟及出口復蘇浮現，到今年春節後情況更為惡劣，大量回鄉民工不再返回沿海地區應聘，流失率遠高於往年。而且還出現了各地爭搶民工的罕見現象：內陸地區不單拒絕了向沿海輸出勞工的要求，還游說民工留在本地就業。這與開放初期大量民工湧向沿海做盲流問題的情況，可說是個大逆轉。民工荒引致不少評論指中國已到達「劉易斯拐點」，即農村剩餘勞力經已耗盡，並將迎來工資猛漲時代。民工荒是否顯示拐點出現，或只是勞工市場的區域性結構調整尚待釐清，但勞工制約確已成了阻礙發展的重大障礙，必須作有效處理。對民工荒必須從兩個面看：一是成績的反映，二是持續發展的挑戰。中國作為人口眾多的發展中大國，就業難本乃重大問題，可嚴重影響民生社會穩定，現時卻反見到民工荒，乃多年快速發展帶來的突破性成果，實屬可喜可賀。隨此而來的工資上升，更可能為農村及全國進入全面小康社會提供堅實基礎。另一方面，民工荒對企業及全國發展又帶來了新挑戰。由於出現資金過剩而勞工不足，中國必須把產業發展型態由勞力密集轉向資本及技術密集，且由於形勢緊迫，轉變最好能在「十二五」期間完成。在此時期必須加大投資以提升產能的技術及自動化水平，實行以資金代替勞力。此外，企業還須改善人力資源管理，以促使使用效率提升。為長遠計國家還須從三方面着手：(一)開放勞工市場進口外勞。(二)推動產能加快向內陸轉移，以產能流動代替勞工流動。(三)研究應否放寬生育限制，以增加人口及勞工供給。總之，克服勞工制約應成為「十二五」規劃的重點之一。

2011/02/15 大公報社評



The obstacle of labour shortage must be removed

Latest statistics show Japan's gross domestic product (GDP) shrank 0.3% in the last quarter of 2010 from the previous quarter. This is the first negative quarterly growth Japan has experienced in past five quarters. As a result, Japan's GDP for the whole of last year was US\$400 billion less than China's - in terms of the US dollar. In regard to this, the Japanese government said that economic growth in a neighbouring country deserved to be welcomed, as it could help to promote Japan's own development.

This is the first time China has surpassed Japan in GDP in terms of market exchange rates. In terms of Purchasing Power Parity (PPP), China already surpassed Japan about 10 years ago. Earlier a study by a US think tank even concluded that last year China already surpassed the United States in GDP in PPP terms. A comparison based on PPP calculations is more reasonable than that based on calculations by market exchange rate, though different PPP calculation models may result in different results. As a matter of fact, it is just a matter of time before China overtakes Japan and US in terms of GDP. There is no longer any doubt about this and, therefore, should not be given too much attention. Right now, the top priority should be put on how to improve quality of the economy and how to achieve the goal of China's modernisation as quickly as possible. Needless to say, China must continue to devote efforts to sustain high-speed growth. Expansion of GDP is not a priority goal, but growth should not slow down. For, in terms of per capita GDP, China still lags behind many countries in the world, less than one tenth and one sixth of that in Japan and the United States respectively. It is evident that China must still proactively pursue GDP growth if it is to improve people's living standards.

Obviously, in pursuit of GDP growth, China can no longer depend on high input (of labour in particular) but must rely more on application of science and technology and on improvement of management and labour quality. In other words, it should take a new development path by improving quality to stimulate increase in quantity. Therefore, strengthening self-innovation in science and technology, deepening market-oriented reforms to improve efficiency and making all-out efforts to cultivate labour resources have become a new direction for China's advancement. In this regard the Chinese government must work out stimulus policies as early as possible.

At present, a notable obstacle to growth is the shortage of migrant workers. In this regard the government must act without delay. This problem was already evident last year as the economy and exports began to recover. It has worsened during the Lunar New Year season this year. A great number of migrant workers won't come back to work in the coastal areas after returning home for family reunion, resulting in turnover rates much higher than previous years. As a result, there has appeared the rare phenomenon of different regions competing with each other for migrant workers. Inland regions not only refused to export labour to coastal areas but also persuaded migrant workers to stay and work locally. Compared with the problem of "blind influx" of massive migrant workers into coastal areas in the early years of economic reform and opening up, this could be said a huge reversal in trend.

The shortage of migrant workers have led many commentators to point out that China has reached the Lewisian Turning Point, i.e. the surplus labour in the countryside is exhausted and the era of rapid increase in wages is coming. Whether the current shortage of migrant workers is a sign of the coming of the Lewisian Turning Point or just a regional structural adjustment in the labour market has yet to become clear. But labour shortage has indeed become a major obstacle to development and must be tackled effectively. This shortage of migrant workers should be viewed from two aspects. One is that this is a manifestation of economic achievement, and the second is that it is a challenge to sustained development.

China is a big, developing country with a huge population, and as such employment will always be a huge problem which could affect people's livelihood and social stability. Now there is, instead, a shortage of migrant workers. This should be seen as a breakthrough in the high-speed development of past years, which should be celebrated with joy. Inevitable wage rises as a result of the shortage can provide a solid foundation for the countryside and hence the whole country to become a well-off society.

On the other hand, the shortage of migrant workers also poses a challenge to the development of enterprises and the nation. In face of excessive capital and shortage of labour, China must now strive to transfer its industrial development from labour intensive to capital- and technology-intensive. And, as such transformation is pressing, it is better that this is accomplished during the period of the 12th Five-Year Plan (for Social and Economic Development in 2011-15). During the period, investment must be increased to upgrade technology and automation in production, substituting labour with capital. In addition, enterprises must strive to improve management of human resources so as to increase labour efficiency. From a long-term perspective, China must also strive to 1) open its labour market to foreign workers; 2) speed up the transfer of industrial production to inland regions (from coastal areas); 3) reconsider whether birth control policy should be relaxed so as to increase the population and labour supply. All in all, to clear away the obstacle of labour shortage should be a focus of the 12th Five-Year Plan. 15 February 2011

WORDS AND USAGE :

- 1 In terms of sth, in sth terms (idiom) - Used to show how something is explained, described or judged. (以...為單位,就...而言,從...角度來講,根據,依據)
Examples: 1. In terms of money, it is a great job. 2. Now, in terms of your proposal, don't you think you're asking for too much?
2 Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) - 購買力平價,又稱相對購買力指數,是一種根據各國不同的物價水準計算出來的貨幣之間的等值系數,以便對各國的國內生產總值進行合理比較,這種理論匯率與實際匯率可能有很大的差距。一個測量購買力平價的簡單例子就是由《經濟學人》雜誌所創的「漢堡包」指數。該指標比較了各國的麥當勞分店的「巨無霸漢堡包」售價。假如一個漢堡包在美國的價格是4美元,而在香港是18港元,那麼美元與港幣的購買力平價匯率就是18港元=4美元。現在按聯繫匯率1美元等於7.8港元,而根據這種購買力平價理論,真實匯率應該向購買力平價匯率靠攏。
3 Result in sth (phrasal verb) - To bring about something; to cause something to happen. (造成,導致,產生某種效果)
Examples: 1. I hope this will result in the police finding your car. 2. All my effort resulted in nothing at all.
4 Lag behind (sb/sth) (phrasal verb) - to fall behind someone or something; to linger behind someone or something. (落後,落後於...)
Examples: 1. Come on up here. Don't lag behind us or you'll get lost. 2. We are lagging far behind our competitors in using new technology.
5 Lewisian Turning Point - 路易斯拐點,即勞動力過剩轉向短缺的轉捩點,是指在工業化過程中,隨著農村富餘勞動力向非農產業的逐步轉移,農村富餘勞動力逐漸減少,最終枯竭。由諾貝爾經濟學獎得主路易斯(Arthur Lewis, 1915-1991)在人口流動模型中提出。

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中國去年GDP超越日本，成為全球第二，僅次美國。圖為北京繁華的購物街。

A Word Full of Colour (1)

Hark Yeung (yeung@harkyeung.com) Confucius is always quoted for having linked 'food and colour' with 'human nature'. During the Chinese New Year, the most familiar colour is red and we have a lot of food. In Chinese, the word 'colour' can be used in many ways: to 'keep one's colour' means to 'stay young'. How the word 'colour' and 'youth' become the same is very strange. The word also refers to 'sex'. The saying 'colour first, friends second' (重色輕友) means that a person is busy courting the opposite sex and leaving his/her friends alone. If someone says 'that person is going after colour', it is not a very flattering remark. However, the proverb 'the true colour of a hero' (英雄本色) is a real compliment. Here 'colour' means 'courage' and 'what one is made of'. Different colours are tied to the five basic elements in Chinese astrology: metal (gold and silver), wood (brown), water (blue and black), fire (red), and earth (yellow). They can bring good luck to the owner provided that the owner goes well with that colour. For example, I was born in summer and was said to have a lot of fire in my life. So, my best friend advised me not to wear red. When I asked her whether I should write about red, she said, 'do what you want; don't be superstitious.' In imperial China, purple and yellow were reserved solely for the emperor. Even now, we still keep the old tradition of using red and white for happy and unhappy events respectively. When a certain period of time has bred some spectacular cultural products, like the poems of the Tang Dynasty and Latin American literature in the 20th century, we can say, in Chinese, that 'they radiate different colours'.

中國GDP連超意英法德日

GDP即國內生產總值，是衡量一個國家經濟狀況和富裕程度的重要指標。一般來講，GDP增速越快，表明該國經濟狀況越好，貨幣購買力越強；反之，GDP增幅減慢或出現負增長，則表明該國經濟出現衰退、貨幣貶值。根據國際慣例，國內生產總值由4部分組成，即GDP=CA+I+CB+X。其中CA代表消費，I代表私人投資，CB代表政府支出，X代表淨出口額。目前，內地房地產市場是拉動GDP強勁增長的主要動力，按照分類，屬於私人投資；而多年來中國作為世界工廠產生的貿易順差，也是推動20年來中國GDP高速增長的重要引擎。縱觀近年來中國與世界主要經濟體的GDP增速就不難發現，相比美、日、德等傳統發達經濟體年增1%、2%來說，中國近20年，年年高於8%的增速足以讓世界驚嘆：2000年超越意大利，2005年連超英國、法國，2007年超越德國，直至近日超越日本。正如專家預測，超越美國也僅僅是時間問題。與GDP互為補充的另一個重要經濟數據是人均GDP，它較準確地反映該國人民生活水平。其計算方法是本國GDP總量除以人口總數。根據國際貨幣基金組織2010年4月公布的數據顯示，人均GDP最高的國家是盧森堡，中國香港排名25，中國內地排名99。

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通識記憶體

