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論文題目(中文)：英語母語及非母語者轉折連詞之篇章關係：  
以語料庫為本的研究

論文題目(英文)：Discourse Relations of Adversative Connectives in the Writing of  
Native and Non-native Speakers of English: A Corpus-based  
Study

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The purpose of the study is to examine the use of the four adversative connectives (ACs), *on the other hand*, *in/by contrast*, *on the contrary*, and *nevertheless* in the *Corpus of Contemporary American English* (COCA) and the *International Corpus Network of Asian Learners of English* (ICNALE). The hypothesis is that although these ACs are defined as the ‘adversative’ type, they could be differentiated through analyzing their patterns in the co-texts.

The data were analyzed from two perspectives. One was to probe into the discourse relations of ACs. The present study explored whether the co-texts preceding and following the ACs reveal certain discourse relations. The idea of discourse relations derived from the concept of antonym, which signifies that different antonymous relations of co-texts appear tend to appear separately among each ACs. Then the discourse relations were divided into three main categories, ‘contrast’, ‘addition’, and ‘presupposition’. Under the ‘contrast’ category, there were four subcategories: ‘gradable pair’, ‘complementary pair’, ‘different pair’, ‘denial pair’. The other perspective was to investigate the discourse topics between the ACs. The consistency of topics was first examined and then the topics were generally categorized into different types such as ‘behavior’, ‘viewpoint’ and ‘attribute’. The aim is to see if ACs occur in some specific topics.

In terms of the patterns of the four ACs in COCA, the findings first showed that *on the other hand* frequently occurs in a ‘different’ discourse relation, which means

that the *on the other hand* is often used to denote two different but not completely opposite ideas. The topics of *on the other hand* are usually about ‘viewpoint’ and ‘behavior’. As for *in/by contrast*, the AC tends to be the ‘gradable pair’ in discourse relations and the topics of *in/by contrast* are usually related to ‘phenomenon/fact’. Next, *on the contrary* is often viewed as ‘the denial pair’ and the topics are much more various, including ‘phenomenon/fact’, ‘behavior’, and ‘viewpoints’. Last, *nevertheless* often appears in the discourse relations of ‘presupposition’ and the consistency of topics of *nevertheless* is relatively low. The topics are more about ‘attribute’ and ‘behavior’.

Students’ use in learner corpus, ICNALE, was also examined in order to compare with the *patterns* in COCA. Among the data from Taiwan, the outer circle, and the inner circle, *on the other hand* is the most frequently used and the discourse relation is prone to compare two different sides of one topic/subject, which is similar to the pattern of COCA. In addition, the uses of *on the contrary* and *in/by contrast* are too few to judge the patterns, both in the writing of NS and NNS. This might be due to the fact that the two ACs could be seldom used in writing in nature or students might not be truly capable of using the ACs in their writing. As for *nevertheless*, it is seldom used by NS writers in the present study. Although the NNS writers used more *nevertheless* in their writing, about one third of uses are considered to be misuse.

The present study adopts corpus analysis to present the patterns of ACs in both native corpus and learner corpus. Consequently, the outcome is regarded as being capable of rendering valuable implications for EFL/ESL teachers and learners as well as researchers. Unlike the previous research on different types of ACs in Chapter 2, the present study conducts an in-depth research on the four ACs, tries to identify the patterns of discourse relations and topic categorization, and helps learners distinguish the similarities and differences.