

I. Translation (40%): The translated texts will be evaluated on their content, coherence, language use, vocabulary, and mechanics.

A. English → Chinese Translation: translate the following English passage into an equivalent Chinese passage. (20%)

Linguistics has changed a good deal over the 20 years since this journal [*Applied Linguistics*] was founded, and this raises questions as to what implications this has for applied linguistics as, in some degree at least, a dependent area of enquiry. One obvious change is that linguistic analysis appears to have got closer to language experience in that it has broadened its scope to take in the externalized language of actual use. Since applied linguistics is concerned with language problems as experienced in the real world, it might appear that the two areas of enquiry in effect converge into one. This article examines two examples of such apparent convergence, corpus linguistics and critical discourse analysis, where linguistic description makes claims to be directly relevant to 'real world' problems in language use and learning. It argues that in both cases what we have is linguistics applied whereby such problems are reduced and resolved by the imposition of necessarily partial linguistic account on the reality of language experience. This, it is argued, needs to be distinguished from applied linguistics, a mediating activity, more ethnographic in character, which seeks to accommodate a linguistic account to other partial perspectives on language so as to arrive at a relevant reformulation of 'real world' problems.

(The passage was taken from the abstract of H. G. Widdowson's "On the limitations of linguistics applied," *Applied Linguistics*, 1999, 21(1), p. 3.)

B. Chinese → English Translation: translate the following Chinese passage, again an abstract of a paper, into an equivalent English passage. (20%)

本研究採「語料分析」的方式，探討英文作文課上使用電子郵件以增進英文習得之議題。最近國內外學界常有使用電子郵件以輔助寫作教學之論文；電子文本是新興之文類，語言學家對其特徵很感興趣。然能結合有系統的語言分析及英語習得兩項關懷於研究重點者，尚不多見，本研究目標在此。所分析的語料是十六位亞洲某國家大學生和國外筆友為期一學期所寫的電子信件；分析的方法採量及質兩方面的標準：如語法錯誤分析、信件內容主題範圍、及溝通過程中的互動關係。研究發現學生學到書面互動之策略，語法錯誤也有減少趨勢。最後本文提出一些教學應用及未來可行之研究方向。

II. Reading and Writing (60%)

Directions

Read the following passage. After you have read it carefully, write a critical essay in English in response to it. In the first 2 to 3 paragraphs of your essay, summarize the main ideas of the original passage in your own words. Immediately following your summary, write a critique of at least 3 to 4 paragraphs in which you respond to the main ideas of the original passage with your own ideas and interpretations. Your entire essay should be at least 6 paragraphs long.

In addition to its summarization of main ideas, your critical essay will be evaluated for its length, focus, organization, logical development, coherence, syntax, and diction. Your essay will not be evaluated for its point of view.

Passage

One of the greatest merits of democracy is that it allows the impossible to happen. Taiwan is beginning to benefit from its fast-growing democracy with the election of Chen Shui-bian as the 10th President of the Republic of China last Saturday. A dissident lawyer-turned politician and an avowed Taiwan independence activist, he sent the local stock market to a record dive when his election victory was sensed. And he was officially rejected by Beijing. His winning transforms Taiwan to a free-wheeling democracy and ends the 54-year rule of the Kuomintang. His critics call him a chameleon, because he swiftly changes his political coloring. One of his first moves after election was to announce that from now on he will not be involved in affairs of his Democratic Progressive Party, a move apparently meant to distance himself from the DPP's pro-independence platform.

President Chen, after inauguration on May 20, will be the ROC's first chief of state to be conciliatory toward the Chinese Communist regime in Beijing. Before campaigning officially started in January, Chen surprised his rivals in both Taipei and Beijing by running ads in Hong Kong newspapers proclaiming that we will promote peace, not war, and all-out cooperation with the mainland. Announcing his mainland policy during the campaign, he pledged to establish "direct trade, postal and shipping links" with the mainland as soon as possible and not to declare Taiwan's independence if elected, a drastic deviation from the established policy of the government as well as that of his own party. Upon election, he thanked the public for electing him to serve as "the 10th President of the Republic of China," the name of the Chinese state he was long known to shun.

Most interesting of all is his pledge to become "Taiwan's Nixon," and make a "journey of peace" to personally convince Beijing's leaders of his goodwill and peaceful intentions. And he has publicly appealed to Lee Yuan-tseh, president of the Academia Sinica to serve as his premier, in an apparent move to turn the Nobel laureate into his Kissinger. (Richard Nixon was the conservative Republican President of the US who surprised the world with his move to open diplomatic relations for the US with Communist China; Henry Kissinger was Nixon's Secretary of State.) Dr. Lee, a well-known and respected scholar in the US and mainland China, was reluctant but did not

turn down the offer. Without Dr. Lee's endorsement during the final stage of the election when he was locked in a three-way tie in the polls, Chen would not have won the race, considering his mere 2 percentage points lead over James Soong, who took 37 percent of the votes. Democratic politics and political maturity have changed him within a few months, from an independence advocate to "a peacemaker, not a troublemaker," in his own words. An easy explanation is that he places political interests ahead of political ideals. Or as his "Kissinger" has cautioned him: "place national interests above that of political parties." And he is not a majority president because he won only 39 percent of the votes cast by a record 83 percent of the 13 million eligible voters.

Rivals have brushed off his changes as campaign tricks. However, different languages mean different policies. Even the most suspicious minds in Beijing reacted to his election in a measured way, saying they will "listen to his words and observe his deeds." Very possibly, Chen's overtures have made it difficult for Beijing to bluntly carry out its threats against Taiwan's electing a candidate with a "separatist" label.

His election has also touched off a new round of debates in Washington over US policy toward Taiwan and mainland China. Under the current "ambiguity strategy," in place since the '70s, Washington refrains from specifying the circumstances under which it would defend Taiwan from a Chinese Communist attack, thus encouraging both Taipei and Beijing to repeatedly play the brinkmanship game, threatening peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait. The proposed "clarity strategy" calls for the US to sit idly if Taiwan declared independence and mainland China reacted by invading the island; and the US would defend the Chinese state in Taiwan if Beijing attempted to annex the island by force. There would be no more room for adventurism for Taipei and Beijing.

Retaining Taiwan's Chinese-ness is vital to the island republic's security. Realism has to take into account the location of Taiwan, which is only miles away from the mainland. If Taiwan was located somewhere, say like Guam, then it would be different. Taiwan cannot expect the American people to go to war with Communist China over the question of whether Taiwan has formal sovereignty. Also, Taiwan shouldn't keep prospering democracy all for itself, but rather should spread this hard won experience and share it with the 1.3 billion fellow Chinese on the mainland.

Compassion, courage, and wisdom can make Taiwan's Nixon and Kissinger successful. Before dialogue is resumed with Beijing, mutual mistrust has to be cast away. Distance from pro-independence and identifying with the Republic of China is a good beginning. To avoid using phrases like "Taiwan has long been a sovereign and independent state" is a necessary follow-up. Not to reject eventual reunification with a democratized mainland is a guiding principle.

Barely four days after his historic victory, the president-elect has learned to show a smiling face, speak in a softer voice and lower his profile. His track record shows he is a quick learner who can grasp the essentials easily. Taiwan needs a statesman of common opinions and uncommon abilities to preserve and improve.