

SUGGESTED CORRECTIONS TO TEXTBOOK ENTITLED: “LANCAR NGOBROL MANDARIN UNTUK WISATA”

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Abstract

The aim of this article is to suggest corrections to a published book. The writer analyzed a book entitled “Lancar Ngobrol Mandarin untuk Wisata” (“Fluently Speaking Chinese for Tourism”). The writer found many mistakes in this book, which he classified as follows: 1. phonetics, 2. characters, 3. choice of words. The mistakes are discussed and the corrections are suggested. Therefore, the writer suggests that becoming Chinese book writers should have a sufficient knowledge, so that such kind of mistakes will not happen.

Key words: *mistakes, corrections, phonetics, characters, choice of words.*

Introduction

Indonesia consists of thousand islands, it is placed in a tropical climate region, and it has many beautiful sceneries. Besides that, Indonesia also has many cultures which are different from one island to another island. These are the reasons why many tourists come to visit Indonesia. Many tourists are from western part of the world and eastern part of the world. Nowadays, many tourists who are from China also come to visit Indonesia. Therefore, many writers write Chinese books to meet the need of those who want to communicate with Chinese tourists, like: tourist guides, receptionists, waiters or waitresses and so on.

One of the Chinese books which is available in the bookstore is “Lancar Ngobrol Mandarin untuk Wisata” (“Fluently Speaking Chinese for Tourism”). The data of the book are as follows: a) the title is “Lancar Ngobrol Mandarin untuk Wisata” (“Fluently Speaking Chinese for Tourism”); b) the writer is Muryani J. Semita; c) the editor is A.S. Sudjatna; d) the edition is the first edition, 2016; e) the publisher is Saufa, Yogyakarta; f) ISBN: 978-602-391-011-3; g) the total pages are 252 pages.

After reading this book, the writer found many mistakes in this book; therefore he would like to suggest corrections to this book. If tourist guides, receptionists, waiters or waitresses and so on read this book, they will not learn Chinese language well because the book that they read has many mistakes. Thus the writer considered that it was very important to do the corrections so that many people would learn Chinese language well.

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According to Ross and Jing-heng (2006), the syllable in Chinese language is made up of three parts: an initial consonant, a final, and a tone. For example: the syllable 鼻 “bí” (nose) is made up of the initial b, the final i, and the second tone. Some syllables do not have an initial consonant. For example: the syllable 饿 “è” (hungry) is made up of the final e and the fourth tone. Some syllables that do not have a tone are called as having neutral tone.

Chen (2005) states that Chinese language has four tones, each of which expresses different meanings of a syllable, for example: 交 “jiāo” (hand in), 嚼 “jiáo” (chew), 脚 “jiǎo” (feet), 叫 “jiào” (call). On the other hand, Liu (2004) describes that there are four basic tones in common speech, represented respectively by the following tone marks: “(ˉ)” for the first tone, “(ˊ)” for the second tone, “(ˇ)” for the third tone, and “(ˋ)” for the fourth tone. Liu (2004) also states that there are some syllables that are unstressed and are pronounced in a “weak” tone in the common speech of modern Chinese. This is called as the neutral tone and is indicated by the absence of a tone mark. For example: 吗 “ma” (particle used at the end of a question).

Bucknell and Yang (1999) argue that Chinese language has polyphonic characters. The term “polyphonic character” refers to a Chinese character that has more than one reading or pronunciation, each with its particular associated meaning and area of usage. For example: the character “重”. It can be read as “zhòng” which means “heavy; important”, or it can be read as “chóng” which means “to repeat; again”. So the way to read the character “重” depends on the context.

About the characters of Chinese language themselves, Zhang (1999) states that every Chinese character has its pronunciation but its written form does not show it. Instead, every Chinese character shows the semantics. Different forms show different meanings even when the pronunciation is actually the same. For example: 八 “bā” (eight); 扒 “bā” (hold on); 疤 “bā” (scar). These three Chinese characters have the same pronunciation, but they have different forms, so their meanings are also different.

However, many Chinese characters have different pronunciation and forms, but they have similar meanings. Yang & Jia (2005) analyze the similarities, differences between synonyms and near synonyms. For example: 非常 “fēi cháng” and 很 “hěn”. 非常 “fēi cháng” means “very; extremely; highly”, while 很 “hěn” means “very; very much; quite”. One can say number 1 or number 2 as follows:

1) 我跟她见过一面，她是个非 常热情的人。
wǒ gēn tā jiàn guo yí miàn tā shì ge fēi cháng rè qíng de rén。

2) 我跟她见过一面，她是个很热情的人。
wǒ gēn tā jiàn guo yí miàn tā shì ge hěn rè qíng de rén

Both number 1 and number 2 have the same meaning as follows: “I met her once, she was a very warm person.” On the other hand, one can say number 1 but can not say number 2 as follows:

1) 爸爸最近身体不很好。

bà ba zuì jìn shēn tǐ bù hěn hǎo

2) *爸爸最近身体不非常好。

bà ba zuì jìn shēn tǐ bù fēi cháng hǎo

The meaning of number 1 is: “Father’s health is not very good.” One never speaks number 2 to say “Father’s health is not very good.” In this case, this is also related to the collocation.

Methodology

There are 11 lessons in “Lancar Ngobrol Mandarin untuk Wisata” (“Fluently Speaking Chinese for Tourism”). The writer marked the mistakes and then classified the mistakes based on 1. phonetics, 2. characters, and 3. choice of words. After that, the writer discussed the mistakes and the corrections.

Findings and Discussion

The mistakes that the writer found in “Lancar Ngobrol Mandarin untuk Wisata” (“Fluently Speaking Chinese for Tourism”) are elaborated as follows:

1. Phonetics.

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* 我去过了法国。

wǒ qù guò le fǎ guó

Saya pernah ke Prancis.

I have been to France.

The phonetic of character “过” in this sentence is written “guò” (in the fourth tone). It should be written “guo” (in the neutral tone). Based on Chinese English Dictionary (CED) (1998 : 455-456), 过 “guò” (in the fourth tone) means “1) cross; pass, 2) spend (time)”, while 过 “guo” (in the neutral tone) means “1) particle (used after a verb to indicate the completion of an action), 2) particle (used after a verb or an adjective to indicate a past action or state). Therefore, it should be written as follows:

我去过了法国。

wǒ qù guo le fǎ guó

Page 40

* 他是一个老师，对不对？

tā shì yī ge lǎo shī duì bú duì
Dia adalah seorang guru, benar tidak?
He is a teacher, right or not?

Li & Li (1999) argue that character “一” is pronounced in the second tone (“yī”) when it is followed by a fourth tone – syllable or a syllable in the neutral tone changed from the fourth tone, for example 一块 “yī kuài”, 一个 “yī ge”. Besides that, Cheung (1994) states that the negative marker “不” becomes unstressed in the affirmative-negative question. In the sentence above, the phonetic of the character “一” should be in the second tone (“yī”), while the phonetic of the character “不” should be in the neutral tone (“bu”). Therefore, the phonetic of the sentence should be written as follows: 他是一个老师，对不对？

tā shì yī ge lǎo shī duì bu duì

Page 57

* 别着急，。。。。

bié zhe jí
Janganlah cemas, ...
Don't worry,...

Based on CED (1998 : 1592), 着急 “zháo jí” means “get worried; get excited; feel anxious”. There is no 着急 “zhe jí” in the dictionary. Therefore, it should be written as follows: 别着急，。。。。

bié zháo jí

Page 62

* 妈妈买了一张新床。

mā ma mǎi le yī zhāng xīn chuáng
Ibu telah membeli sebuah tempat tidur baru.
Mother has bought a new bed.

Li & Li (1999) argue that character “一” is pronounced in the fourth tone (“yì”) when preceding first tone, second tone, and third tone syllables, for example: 一斤 “yī jīn”, 一毛 “yī máo”, 一起 “yì qǐ”. Character “一” in the sentence above should be written in the fourth tone (“yì”) because it comes before the first tone. Therefore, the phonetic of the sentence should be written as follows: 妈妈买了一张新床。

mā ma mǎi le yì zhāng xīn chuáng

Page 120

*Penumpang Z: 高兴认识您。

gāo xìng rén shì nín

Senang mengenal Anda.

It is nice to meet you.

Based on CED (1998 : 1030), 认识“rèn shì” means “know; understand; recognize”. The phonetic of character “认” in “认识” is in the fourth tone (“rèn”), there is no 认 “rén” (in the second tone) in the dictionary. Therefore, it should be written as follows: 高兴认识您。

gāo xìng rèn shì nín

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*Tamu Hotel 3: 。。。, 有空房间吗?

yǒu kōng fáng jiān ma

..., apakah ada kamar kosong?

..., is there any vacant room?

Based on CED (1998 : 687 & 690), 空“kōng” (in the first tone) means “1) empty; hollow; void, 2) sky; air”, while 空“kòng” (in the fourth tone) means “1) leave empty or blank, 2) unoccupied; vacant”. The character “空” should be read in the fourth tone (“kòng”) which means vacant. Therefore, the correct sentence should be written as follows: 。。。。, 有

yǒu

空 房 间 吗 ?

kòng fáng jiān ma

Page 214

*Teller Bank :。。。。, 请数一数。

qǐng shǔ yī shǔ

..., silakan dihitung.

..., please count it.

The phonetic of character “一” is written in the first tone (“yī”). However, Cheung (1994) argues that the reduplication for monosyllabic verbs has a variant pattern which places a neutral tone numeral “yi” in between. Therefore, it should be written as follows: 。。。。, 请数一数。

qǐng shǔ yī shǔ

2. Characters.

Page 35

*。。。。, 爸爸就耐心的给我讲。

bà ba jiù nài xīn de gěi wǒ jiǎng

..., ayah dengan sabar menjelaskan kepada saya.

..., father patiently explains to me.

Li & Cheng (2003) point out that attributives should be followed by 的 “de”, while adverbial adjuncts should be followed by 地 “de”。耐心 “nài xīn” is an adverbial adjunct, so it should be followed by 地 “de”. Therefore the correct sentence should be written as follows: 。 。 。 , 爸 爸 就 耐
bà ba jiù nài

心 地 给 我 讲 。

xīn de gěi wǒ jiǎng

Page 91

* 听 得 清 除 吗 ？

tīng de qīng chu ma

Apakah dapat didengar dengan jelas?

Can it be heard clearly?

Based on CED (1998 : 990), 清除 “qīng chú” means “clear away; eliminate; get rid of”, while 清楚 “qīng chu” means “1) clear; distinct, 2) be clear about; understand”. In the sentence above, the phonetic of character “除” should be in the second tone (“chú”), while the phonetic of character “楚” is in the neutral tone (“chu”). Therefore, it should be written as follows: 听 得 清 楚 吗 ？

tīng de qīng chu ma

Page 136

* 载 海 关

zài hǎi guān

Di Pabean atau Bea Cukai

At customs

Based on CED (1998 : 1564 & 1566), character 载 “zài” means “carry; hold; be loaded with”, while character 在 “zài” means “be at; in or on (a place).” Therefore, it should be written as follows: 在 海 关 .

zài hǎi guān

Page 155

* 接 任

jiē rén

Menjemput Orang

Pick somebody up

Based on CED (1998 : 1021, 1022 & 1028), character 任 “rén” means “a surname”, while 人 “rén” means “1) human being; person; people, 2) an adult human being.” Therefore, it should be written as follows: 接 人 .

jiē rén

Page 191

* 我 想 游 览 这 城 市 的 名 声 。

wǒ xiǎng yóu lǎn zhè chéng shì de míng shēng

Saya ingin jalan-jalan ke objek wisata di kota ini.

I would like to visit the scenic spot in this city.

Based on CED (1998 : 842), 名声 “míng shēng” means “reputation; repute; reknown”, while 名胜 “míng shèng” means “a place famous for its scenery or historical relics; scenic spot.” In the sentence above, the phonetic of character “声” should be in the first tone (“shēng”), while the phonetic of character “胜” is in the fourth tone (“shèng”). Therefore, the correct sentence should be written as follows: 我 想 游 览 这

城 市 的 名 胜 。

wǒ xiǎng yóu lǎn zhè
chéng shì de míng shèng

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*Pengujung 1: 这 里 有 什 么 拿 手 好 菜 呢 ？

zhè lǐ yǒu shén me ná shǒu hǎo cài ne

Apa masakan spesial di sini?

What is the special dish here?

Based on CED (1998 : 109 & 111), character 采 “cǎi” means “1) pick; pluck or gather, 2) mine; extract, 3) choose; select”, while 菜 “cài” means “1)vegetable; greens, 2) (non-staple) food, 3) dish; course.” In the sentence above, the phonetic of character “采” should be in the third tone (“cǎi”), while the phonetic of character “菜” is in the fourth tone (“cài”). Therefore, the correct sentence should be written as follows: 这 里 有

什 么 拿 手 好 菜 呢 ？

zhè lǐ yǒu
shén me ná shǒu hǎo cài ne

3. Choice of words.

Page 47

*Petugas A : 您 要 头 等 还 是 二 等 ？

nín yào tóu děng hái shì èr děng

Anda menginginkan kelas bisnis atau ekonomi?

Do you want first class or economy class?

According to Li (2009 : 110), the terms used for plane tickets are 头等舱 “tóu děng cāng” for first class and 经济舱 “jīng jì cāng” for economy class. Besides that, based on Xiandai Hanyu Cidian (2012 : 504), the phonetic of character “是” in “还是” is in the neutral tone (“shì”). Therefore, the correct sentence should be written as follows:

Petugas A : 您 要 头 等 舱 还 是 经 济 舱 ？

nín yào tóu děng cāng hái shì jīng jì cāng

*Pemesan : 有没有第一个飞行的?
yǒu méi yǒu dì yī ge fēi xíng de
Apakah penerbangan yang pertama ada?
Is there the first flight?

*Petugas B : 真对不起没有了。座位已经预
zhēn duì bu qǐ méi yǒu le zuò wèi yǐ jīng yù
订空了。
ding kōng le

Dengan sangat menyesal, tidak ada. Semua tempat
duduk sudah habis dipesan.
Sorry, there is not. All seats are already fully booked.

*Pemesan : 没关系。
méi guān xī
Tidak masalah.
No problem.

First, based on Xiandai Hanyu Cidian (2012 : 881), character “有” in “没有” is generally read in the neutral tone (“you”). Second, Li & Li (1999) state that “一” is pronounced in the second tone (“yī”) when it is followed by a fourth tone – syllable or a syllable in the neutral tone changed from the fourth tone, for example 一块 “yí kuài”, 一个 “yí ge”. Third, based on CED (1998 : 341 & 470), 飞行 “fēi xíng” means “(of an aircraft, missile, etc. or of a pilot) fly; make a flight”, while 航班 “háng bān” means “scheduled flight; flight number”. Fourth, based on CED (1998 : 687 & 808), 空 “kōng” means “1) empty; hollow; void, 2) sky; air”, while 满 “mǎn” means “full; filled; packed.” Finally, based on CED (1998 : 817), the phonetic of “没关系” is “méi guān xi.” Therefore, the correct sentences should be written as follows:

Pemesan: 有没有第一个航班的?
yǒu méi yǒu dì yī ge háng bān de

Petugas B : 真对不起没有了。座位已经预
zhēn duì bu qǐ méi yǒu le zuò wèi yǐ jīng yù
订满了。
ding mǎn le

Pemesan: 没关系。
méi guān xi

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*他的父母亲有多少孩子？

tā de fù mǔ qīn yǒu duō shao hái zi
Orang tuanya mempunyai berapa anak?
How many children do his parents have?

Cheung (1994) states that there are two numeral interrogatives in Chinese: 几 “jǐ” and 多少 “duō shao”. 几 “jǐ” is used for an anticipated number smaller than ten and 多少 “duō shao” is used for any number. 几 “jǐ” is generally used for asking about a person’s children, and 几 “jǐ” is usually followed by a measure word. In this case, the measure word is 个 “ge”. Besides that, based on Xiandai Hanyu Cidian (2012 : 405 & 920), the phonetic of character “亲” in “父母亲” is generally read in the neutral tone (“qīn”). Therefore, the correct sentence should be written as follows: 他

tā

的父母亲有几个孩子？

de fù mǔ qīn yǒu jǐ ge hái zi

Page 181

*Tamu Hotel 3: 两个人。

èr ge rén
2 orang.
2 persons.

Li & Cheng (2003) state that although the number “2” can be represented by 二 “èr” or 两 “liǎng” in Chinese, the two are different in that 二 “èr” can be used in isolation, whereas 两 “liǎng” can not. “2” is read 两 “liǎng”, when it is followed by a measure word. In this case, 个 “ge” is the measure word. Therefore, it should be written as follows: 两个人。

liǎng ge rén

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*丽丽善良地请我们都进来。

lì lì shàn liáng de qǐng wǒ men dōu jìn lai
Lili dengan ramah mempersilakan kami semua masuk.
Lili warmly invited us to come in.

Based on CED (1998 : 1066), 善良 “shàn liáng” means “good and honest; kind-hearted”, while 热情 “rè qíng” means “warm; fervent; enthusiastic; warmhearted”. Besides that, based on Xiandai Hanyu Cidian (2012 : 800), the phonetic of character “丽” is in the fourth tone (“lì”). Therefore, the correct sentence should be written as follows: 丽丽热情地请我

lì lì rè qíng de qǐng wǒ

们都进来。

men dōu jìn lai

*Satpam Hotel: 星期日常常人太多。

xīng qī rì cháng cháng rén tài duō

Hari Minggu biasanya pembeli sangat banyak.

On Sunday there are usually many buyers.

First, based on CED (1998 : 136 & 1235), 常常 “cháng cháng” means “frequently; often”, while 通常 “tōng cháng” means “1) general; usual; normal, 2) generally; usually; ordinarily.” 通常 “tōng cháng” in this sentence is an adverb, therefore it should be placed in front of a verb or an adjective. Second, based on CED (1998 : 805 & 1021-1022), 人 “rén” means “1) human being; person; people, 2) an adult human being”, while 买主 “mǎi zhǔ” means “buyer; customer.” Finally, based on Kamus Besar China - Indonesia (1995 : 341 & 836), 太 “tài” means “terlalu; kelewat”, while 很 “hěn” means “amat; sangat”. Therefore, the correct sentences and their translations could be as follows:

1) 星期日人通常很多。

xīng qī rì rén tōng cháng hěn duō

Hari Minggu orang biasanya sangat banyak.

On Sunday there are usually many people.

2) 星期日买主通常很多。

xīng qī rì mǎi zhǔ tōng cháng hěn duō

Hari Minggu pembeli biasanya sangat banyak.

On Sunday there are usually many buyers.

Conclusion

The mistakes in “Lancar Ngobrol Mandarin untuk Wisata” (“Fluently Speaking Chinese for Tourism”) can be ranged as follows: 1) phonetics, 2) characters, 3) choice of words. The writer suggests that becoming Chinese book writers should have a sufficient knowledge, so that such kind of mistakes will not happen. Besides that, becoming Chinese book writers should have read many reference books, in order they can write Chinese books well.

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