

The Subjunctive Mood in French

法 语 虚 拟 式

汤 中 坚

(外语教研室)

提 要

本文通过用英语解释的办法来学习法语的虚拟式,以便避免本民族语言对学习外语时的干扰。文中所举例句采取法、英、中三种文字对照,这样则可探索出各种不同语言之间的特点。

法语的虚拟式是法语中五个语式之一,它与表示事实的直陈式相反,只是表示一种想象、感觉或意愿的语式,也可说是表达内心的活动。

本文分两大部分:第一部分介绍了虚拟式的用法,其中包括在从句(名词性从句,形容词性从句和状语从句)和主句中的用法;第二部分介绍了虚拟式的现在时、未完成过去时、完成时和过去时的四种时态的形式和应用,最后提到了虚拟式的时态配合。

The Subjunctive Mood (虚拟语气)

The subjunctive is the mood of will and thought. It is used in both principal and subordinate clauses. The nature of statement contained in the principal clause will decide whether the verb in the subordinate clause is to be in the indicative or in the subjunctive mood. When the statement implies a fact, a probability, or a truth in the mind of the speaker, the indicative is used in the subordinate clause. But if the statement expresses in the principal clause suggests that the idea contained in the subordinate clause is contrary to fact, or simply possible but not probable, or is uncertain, or contrary to truth, or at least doubtful, the subjunctive must be used in French.

虚拟式是一种表示意愿和设想的语气,它既可用于主句中也可用于从句中。从句中的动词到底是用直陈式还是用虚拟式,这取决于主句动词的性质。如果在说话人的思想上指的是一个确定的事实,一种可能的事实或一个真理,这时在从句中就用直陈式。如果主句中所陈述的暗示包含在从句的意思中是与事实相反,或虽有可能实现但非常偶然,或不敢肯定,或与真理相违背,或至少是表示怀疑,这时在法语从句中就要用虚拟式。

I. The Uses of the Subjunctive (虚拟式的用法)

(1) IN THE SUBORDINATE CLAUSES (用在从句中)

The subjunctive mood is ordinarily used in the subordinate clause, but also appears in the principal clause.

A subordinate clause is either a noun, an adjectival, or an adverbial clause. In each of these sorts of clauses, the subjunctive is required when the principal clause to which they are subordinate contains some expressions of desire, necessity, doubt, etc.

虚拟式通常用在从句中,但有时也出现于主句中。所谓从句就是指名词性从句,形容词性从句或状语从句。在每一类从句中,如果它们所从属的主句含有某些表示愿望、需求、怀疑等意思时,就要求用虚拟式。

A. IN A NOUN CLAUSE (用在名词性从句中)

A noun clause takes the place of a noun. As a noun may be either the subject or object of a sentence, a noun clause may exercise both of these functions. Thus.

名词性从句取代一个名词。一个名词在句中可作主语或宾语,那么名词性从句也可起到主语和宾语的作用。

Est-il certain qu'il soit mort? Sa mort est-elle certaine?

Is it certain that he died? Is his death certain?

他的死是确信无疑吗?

Je désire qu'il réussisse. I desire him to succeed.

我希望他成功。

Note: Noun clauses are usually introduced by *que* after the following various verbal forms.

在下列各动词形式之后,名词性从句通常由*que*引出。

1. In the form of impersonal verbs (verbal expressions), the most common ones are: 用在无人称动词(动词短语)中,这类动词(动词短语)最普通的有:

il est préférable	it is better
il est nécessaire	it is necessary
il est important	it is important
il est possible	it is possible
il est douteux	it is doubtful
il est heureux	it is fortunate

Examples (举例)

Il est temps que vous alliez.

It is time for you to go.

现在是该你去的时候了。

Il est possible qu'il nous surprenne ce soir.

It is possible for him to surprise us this evening.

今晚他可能会出其不意地访问我们。

Il est heureux qu'il ne soit pas parti.

It is fortunate that he didn't leave.

他没有离开真是幸福。

Il faut que nous partions tout de suite.

We must leave immediately.

我们必须马上出发。

Note: (1) Also after il y a and all impersonal verbs with an adjective denoting evidence, certainty, or probability, when they are used in a negative, interrogative, or conditional clause.

注(1): 在il y a 和表示确信、肯定、或然性的具有形容词性的无人称短语动词之后, 同时用于疑问句、否定句或条件句中。

Y a-t-il un mortel qui puisse dire qu'il soit toujours heureux?

Is there a mortal who can say that he is always happy?

有没有一个人能说他总是幸福的人?

Est-il sûr qu'il ait tort?

Is it certain that he is wrong?

可以肯定他是错了吗?

Il n'est pas sûr qu'il ait tort.

It is not certain that he is in the wrong.

尚无把握说他是错了。

Note--(2) In familiar speech il est is often replaced by C'est.

C'est dommage que vous ne soyez pas venu plus tôt.

It is a pity that you did not come earlier.

注(2): 在普通说话中, il est经常由C'est所代替:

你没有更早一点来, 真是一个损失。

2. In the form of personal verbal expressions or verbs:

用在人称动词短语或人称动词中:

Je suis content qu'il réussisse.

I am glad that he succeeds.

我对他的成功感到满意。

Il est fâché qu'elle soit arrivée en retard.

He is angry that she arrived late.

她对她的迟到感到生气。

Nous regrettons que vous ne vouliez pas venir.

we regret that you don't want to come.

我们对你的不愿光临感到遗憾。

Je suis charmé que vous soyez venu me voir.

I am delighted that you have come to see me.

你来看我,我感到非常高兴。

Je ne doutais pas qu'il arrivât avant vous.

I did not doubt that he would arrive before you.

我不怀疑他会先于你到达。

J'empêcherai qu'il ne sorte.

I will hinder him from going out.

我要阻止他外出。

Je m'étonné qu'il n'ait pas reçu ma lettre.

I am astonished he has not received my letter.

他没有接到我的信使我感到惊奇。

3. In the form of verbs or verbal expressions in the negative or interrogative;

用在有些动词或动词短语的否定式或疑问式中:

Je ne dis pas que vous soyez mécontents.

I am not saying that you are discontented.

我没有说你不高兴呀。

Je ne crois pas qu'elle vienne.

I do not think she is coming or I do not think she will come.

我相信她不会来。

* Observe that there is no distinction of present and future in the subjunctive mood. (可见在虚拟语气中没有现在时和将来时之分。)

B. IN ADJECTIVE CLAUSES(OR RELATIVE CLAUSES)(用在形容词性从句中)

An adjective clause limits like an adjective and is usually introduced by a relative pronoun.

一个形容词性从句类似一个形容词并且通常由一个关系代词引出。

1. Whenever the verb in the principal clause suggests a purpose not yet attained.

当主句中的动词提出一个尚未达到的目的时。

Je cherche un homme qui puisse m'aider.

I am looking for a man who can help me.

我正在物色一位能够帮助我的人。

Lisez des ouvrages qui puissent former votre goût.

Read such books as can form your taste.

读一读这几本能够适合你的口胃的书本吧。

Choisissez un appartement où vous soyez à votre aise.

Choose an apartment where you may be comfortable.

选一套你感到舒适的房间吧。

Nous voulons une maison qui soit assez grande pour nous.

We want a house large enough (that would be large enough) for us.

我们想有一所够我们住得下的房屋。

BUT: Nous avons acheté une maison qui est assez grande pour nous.

We have bought a house big enough (that is big enough) for us.

但：我们已买下了一所够我们住的房屋。

2. The verb of a relative (adjective) clause, the antecedent of which is a superlative adjective, is put in the subjunctive when the relative clause only expresses an opinion.

在先行词带有最高级形容词，并且关系从句只表达一种看法时，这时关系从句中的动词就要用虚拟式。

C'est le plus beau jardin que je connaisse.

This is the most beautiful garden I know.

这是我所知道的最漂亮的花园。

C'est le meilleur soldat que je connaisse.

This is the best soldier that I know.

这是我所了解的最好的战士。

Ce sont les seuls livres qu'il ait lus.

These are the only books that he has read.

这是他念过的仅有的书籍。

However, when the superlative is followed by des the predicate noun and if the thing is represented as certain or as a matter of fact, the indicative mood is used because all uncertainty disappears from the principal clause.

然而当最高级形式后面紧跟des + 表示范围的名词，如果事情（东西）所表示的是确定的或是事实，那么就要用直陈式，因为这时主句中的不肯定意思已不复存在。

C'est le meilleur des soldats que je connais.

He is the best one of the soldiers that I know.

他是我所了解的战士当中最好的一位。

Ce sont les seuls livres qu'il a lus.

These are the only ones of the books that he has read.

这些是他念过的书中仅有的几本。

3. The subjunctive is used after ordinal numbers (as le premier, le

second, etc.) and after le dernier, unique, seul, rien, and personne.

在序数词(如第一、第二等)和le dernier, unique, seul, rien 和 personne 之后用虚拟式。

Vous êtes le premier ami que j'aie rencontré à Paris.

you are the first friend I have met in Paris.

你是我在巴黎遇到的第一位朋友。

C'est l'unique espoir qui me soit resté.

This is the only hope that remains to me.

这是留给我的唯一的希望。

Je ne connais personne qui soit aussi heureux que lui.

I know nobody who is as happy as he is.

我还不知道有象他一样幸福的人。

Il n'y a rien qui puisse me rendre malheureux.

There is nothing that can make me unhappy.

没有任何使我不幸的事情。

4. Whenever the compound relatives and indefinite clauses have a concessive value,

当复合关系从句和非限定从句具有让步意义时。

Qui que vous soyez.

Whoever you may be.

不管你是谁。

Quoi qu'on puisse dire, vous avez raison.

Whatever people may say, you are right.

不管别人说什么,你都是对的。

Quels que soient vos talents, il faut travailler.

Whatever your talents may be, you must work.

不管你怎么有天分,你也必须工作。

Où que vous alliez, vous trouverez des difficultés.

Wherever you may go, you will find trouble.

无论你走到哪里,你都会遇上困难。

C. IN ADVERBIAL CLAUSE (用在状语从句中)

An adverbial clause, as suggested by its name, may exercise the function of an adverb. It is then usually introduced by a conjunction which intimates some specific condition that requires the use of the subjunctive mood in the subordinate clause. Thus,

状语从句,正如它本身的名称表示的那样,可以起副词的作用。它通常由在从句中

要求用虚拟语气的某一特定条件的连词引导。

1. A conjunction of time may introduce an action as possible but not yet materialized and thereby may express uncertainty;

时间连词可以引出一个可能存在但尚未实现的行为, 因而它表示不肯定性。

Il viendra me voir avant qu'il (ne) parte.

He is coming to see me before leaving.

在他出发之前可能会来看我。

Amusez-vous en attendant qu'il vienne?

Have you a good time until he comes?

在他到来之前你会过得愉快吗?

2. A conjunction of purpose may introduce an action or fact as intended and possible, but not yet realized, and thereby may be uncertain;

表示目的连词可以引出一个打算和可能但尚未实现的行为或事实, 因而是肯定的。

Vous faites cela pour qu'il soit content. Mais, le sera-t-il?

You do this in order that he may be happy. But will he be happy?

你做此事为的是使他高兴——但是他会高兴吗?

Il faut étudier de manière que vous appreniez quelque chose.

You must so study that you may learn something.

为了学会某种事情, 你应该这样来进行学习。

3. A conjunction of condition or assumption may introduce an action or a fact as dependent in its fulfillment upon a restriction, a reservation which suggests doubt;

由表示条件或假设的连词引出一个受到限制和保留的行为或事实, 因而是表示怀疑的。

Il partira demain, à moins qu'il ne soit malade.

He will leave tomorrow unless he is sick.

除非他有病, 否则明天他将启程。(如果他不病, 明天他将出发。)

Je vous payerais, pourvu que vous ayez fini votre travail.

I shall pay you provided you are through with your work.

假如你完成了工作, 我会付给你报酬。

4. A conjunction of concession may introduce an action or a state as possible, although a concession is necessary for its realization;

让步连词引出一个行为和可能的状态, 尽管这一让步对它的实现是必须的。

J'ai fini mon devoir quoiqu'il fût pénible.

I did my duty although it was painful.

尽管煞费苦心, 我还是完成了任务。

5. A conjunction of negation may introduce an action or a fact as

contrary to reality:

否定连词引出一个表示与真实情况相反的行为或事实。

Je puis me tirer d'affaires sans que vous m'aidiez.

I can get along without your help.

没有你的帮助,我也能取得进展。

HERE SOME MAIN CONJUNCTIONS

附: 某些引出虚拟式的主要连词。

- | | | |
|------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. of time: | avant que | before |
| | jusqu'à ce que | until |
| | en attendant que | until |
| 2. of purpose | afin que | in order that |
| or result | pour que | so that, in order that |
| | de façon que | so that |
| | de sorte que | so that |
| | de crainte que | for fear that |
| | de peur que | for fear that |
| 3. of condition | au cas où | in case that |
| | en cas que | in case that |
| | pourvu que | provided that |
| | supposé que | suppose that |
| | à moins que | unless |
| 4. of concession | bien que | although |
| | quoique | although |
| | encore que | although |
| | malgré que | although |
| | soit que...soit que | whether...or |
| 5. of negation | no que | not that |
| | no pas que | not that |
| | sans que | without |
| | loin que | far from |

If the subject of the principal clause is the same as that of the adverbial clause, a preposition followed by the infinitive must take the place of the conjunction + the verb in the subjunctive.

假如主句的主语与状语从句中的主语相同,就用介词加不定式代替虚拟式中的连词 + 动词。

Je lui parlerai avant de partir.

I shall speak to him before leaving.

在我出发之前，我将同他说说。

Il pense avant de parler.

He thinks before he speaks.

他三思而后言。

(2) IN THE PRINCIPAL CLAUSES

(用在主句中)

The subjunctive mood, although less often than in subordinate clauses, also appears now and then in principal clauses. Its functions are:
虚拟语气虽然用在主句中比用在从句中要少，但有时也出现于主句中，其作用是：

1. To express a wish; 表示愿望

Vive le Parti Communiste Chinois !

Long live the Chinese Communist Party !

中国共产党万岁！

Puisse-t-il réussir! May he succeed !

愿他成功！

Ainsi soit-il! Be it so!

但愿如此！

2. To denote a command, a prohibition, or an exhortation;

表示命令、禁止或规劝：

Qu'il sorte tout de suite !

Let him leave at once !

叫他立即出发！

Surtout qu'il ne vienne jamais !

Above all, let him never come back !

要他永不回来！

Qui m'aime me suive !

Let those who love me follow me !

喜欢我的人就跟我来！

3. To intimate indignation, a supposition, or a concession;

表示愤慨、假设或让步。

Soit le triangle A B C.....

Suppose the triangle A B C.....

假设三角形A B C.....

Advienne que pourra.....	} Come what way.....	
Quoi qu'il advienne.....		
		不管发生什么事情.....

II The Tense of the Subjunctive

虚拟式的时态

(1) Formation of the Subjunctive Tenses

虚拟式时态的构成

The subjunctive mood possesses four tenses: the present, the imperfect, the perfect, and pluperfect. Two of these tenses are simple, the present and the imperfect and two are compound, the perfect and the pluperfect.

虚拟语气有四种时态, 即现在时, 未完成过去时, 完成时和愈过时, 现在时和未完成过去时为简单时态, 过去时和愈过时为复合时态。

(a) The present subjunctive is usually derived from the third person plural present indicative. Drop *ent* and add the endings of the present subjunctive, *-e*, *-es*, *-e*, *-ions*, *-iez*, and *-ent*, to the remaining part of the present indicative.

虚拟式现在时通常是由直陈式第三人称复数变来的, 即去掉词尾 *-ent*, 把 *-e*, *-es*, *-e*, *-ions*, *-iez* 和 *-ent* 加在直陈式现在时剩下的部份便构成虚拟式现在时各人称。

Present Subjunctive (and Future)

虚拟式现在时 (将来时)

(that) I may speak

je parle

tu parles

il parle

nous parlions

vous parliez

ils parlent

(that) I may finish

je finisse

tu finisses

il finisse

nous finissions

vous finissiez

ils finissent

The auxiliaries *avoir* and *être* have forms of their own.

助动词 *avoir* 和 *être* 有它们本身的变化形式。

(that) I may have

j'aie

tu aies

il aie

nous ayons

vous ayez

ils aient

(that) I may be

je sois

tu sois

il soit

nous soyons

vous soyez

ils soient

(b) The imperfect subjunctive is usually derived from the second person singular of the past definite. After dropping *-s*, add *-sse*, *-sses*, *-ât*, *-ssions*,

-ssiez, -ssent.

There is no irregular forms in the imperfect subjunctive.

虚拟式未完成过去时通常是由简单过去时第二称单数变来, 先去掉词尾-s, 然后加上-sse, -sses, -ât, -ssions, -ssiez和-ssent。

(that) I might speak

je parlasse

tu parlasses

il parlât

nous parlussions

vous parlassiez

ils parlassent

(that) I might have...

j'eusse

tu eusses

il eût

nous eussions

vous eussiez

ils eussent

(that) I might finish

je finisse

tu finisses

il finit

nous finissions

vous finissiez

ils finissent

(that) I might be...

je fusse

tu fusses

il fût

nous fussions

vous fussiez

ils fussent

Note. The imperfect subjunctive is often rendered by the past indicative in addition to the above mentioned form.

除上述形式外, 虚拟式未完成过去时经常由直陈式过去时表达之。

(c) The perfect and the pluperfect, being compound tenses, are formed with the present or imperfect subjunctive forms of avoir or être+the past participle which follows the general rules of agreement of participles.

虚拟式的完成时, 愈过时是一种复合时态, 是由助动词avoir或être的虚拟式现在时或未完成过去时+过去分词构成。分词要按照一般规则进行(人称、性、数)配合。

Perfect Subjunctive

(that) I might have spoken...

j'aie parlé, etc.

nous ayons parlé, etc.

(that) I might have gone...

je fusse parti(e), etc.

nous soyons parti(e)s, etc.

Pluperfect Subjunctive

(that) I might have finished...

j'eusse fini, etc.

nous eussions fini, etc.

(that) I might have left...

je fusse parti(e), etc.

nous fussions parti(e)s, etc.

Note. The imperfect and pluperfect, with the exception of the

third person singular, are eliminated from informal speech. The present or perfect subjunctives are substituted for them. Often the whole sentence is recast to avoid these tenses.

注: 虚拟式未完成过去时和愈过时, 除了第三人称单数外, 在一般非正式会话中都不采用。虚拟式现在时和完成时态代替上述两种时态(即未完成过去时和愈过时)。经常整个句子都要进行改写以避免用到这些时态(即未完成过去时和愈过时)。

(2) The Uses of The Tenses of The Subjunctive

虚拟式时态的用法

The tenses of the subjunctive has four tenses, the present, imperfect, perfect, and pluperfect, of which the most important ones are the present and perfect because they are more frequently used.

虚拟式有四种时态, 即现在时, 未完成过去时, 完成时和愈过时, 在这四种时态中最重要的是现在时和完成时, 因为这两种时态用得更为经常。

1) The present subjunctive. The present subjunctive has the value of a present or a future.

It usually follows a present tense verb in the principal clause.

虚拟式现在时。这一时态具有现在和将来的时态意义。

在主句中它通常跟一个现在时态的动词。

Je veux qu'il vienne. I wish him to come (now).

我但愿他到来。(现在)

Il est possible qu'il ne vienne pas.

It is possible that he will not come (tomorrow).

他可能不会来。(明天)

Je ne crois pas qu'elle vienne.

I do not think she is coming.

我想他不会来。

Desirez-vous qu'il vienne dans huit jours?

Do you wish him to come in a week?

你希望他在一周之后来吗?

2) The imperfect subjunctive. When the verb in the principal clause is the imperfect, past definite, perfect of the indicative or condition present, the verb in the subordinate clause must be in the imperfect subjunctive.

虚拟式未完成过去时。如果主句中的动词用的是直陈式的未完成过去时、简单过去时、完成时或是条件式现在时, 从句动词就要用虚拟式未完成过去时。

Je regardais sans que personne ne s'en aperçût.

I was looking without anybody noticing it.

看我得清清楚楚没有任何人发觉它。

Il cria pour qu'on ouvrit la porte.

He shouted so that someone might open the door.

他大声喊叫为的是让人来开门。

Aimeriez-vous qu'il vint?

would you like him to come?

你喜欢他来吗?

3) The Perfect Subjunctive. This tense simply intimates a completed action, a "fait accompli" in the present or the future, without denoting any particular shade of thought.

虚拟式完成时。这一时态表示一种在现在或将来已经完成了的动作,一件完成了的事情,而不表示任何特定的思想色彩。

Je regrette qu'il ne soit pas venu.

I regret he hasn't come.

我遗憾他没有到来。

Elle est heureux que vous ayez acheté une télévision en couleurs.

She is happy that you bought a colour TV set.

她因你买了一部彩色电视机而感到高兴。

The perfect subjunctive expresses sometimes an order, a command with the connotation of a future anterior.

Que vous soyez couchés avant onze heures, n'est-ce pas?

You will be in bed before eleven o'clock, won't you?

在11点以前你就上床睡觉,是这样吗?

4) The Pluperfect subjunctive. It expresses anteriority of a completed action over another equally completed.

虚拟式愈过时。它表示一个在另一个动作完成之前已先完成了的动作。

Je ne pensais pas qu'il eût vendu sa maison avant son départ.

I didn't think he would have sold his house before his departure.

我想他不会在他出发之前把他的房屋卖掉。

Qui n'espérait que vous eussiez échappé à l'accident.

Everybody had expected you to escape the accident.

人人都期待你避免那一事故。

(3) Sequence Of Subjunctive Tenses

(虚拟式时态的配合)

The tense of a verb in the subjunctive in a subordinate clause depends upon the tense of a verb in the principal clause. This principle is called the

sequence of tenses, and is comprised in the following rules;

在从句中虚拟式动词的时态要根据主句中动词的时态而定。这一规则称为时态的配合。它包括下列规则:

a) If the verb of the principal clause is in the present, future, or future perfect, that of the subordinate clause will be in the present or in the perfect subjunctive.

如果主句的动词用的是现在时,将来时或将来完成时,那么从句中的动词就用虚拟式的现在时或完成时。

Je suis content que vous veniez me voir.

I am happy that you are coming to see me.

我非常高兴你来看我。

Il voudra que vous l'accompagniez.

He will wish you to accompany him.

他希望你奉陪他。

Je doute qu'il soit parti à temps.

I doubt that he left in time.

我怀疑他已按时离开。

Il voudra que vous ayez fait cela ce soir.

He will want you to have done by this evening.

他希望你今晚前就把这件事情办好。

b) If the verb in the principal clause is in the past tense of the indicative or conditional mood, the verb of the subordinate clause will be in the imperfect or pluperfect subjunctive, unless, in familiar speech, it will be replaced by the present or perfect subjunctive.

如果主句中的动词是直陈式过去时或条件式(现在时或过去时),从句中的动词就要用虚拟式未完成过去时或愈过去时,除非在日常会话中,它可由虚拟式现在时或完成时所取代。

Il était temps que vous arrivassiez.

It was time that you arrived.

是该你到达的时候了。

Nous regrettions qu'il fût parti.

We were sorry that he had left.

我们感到遗憾他已经走了。

OR或:

Il était temps que vous arriviez.

It was time that you arrived.

Nous regrettions qu'il soit parti.

We were sorry that he left.

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