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Announcements

Paul W. T. Poon

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Chinese databases from Wanfang

The following databases are the first, authoritative documentary databases that comprehensively reflect the dynamics of the Communist Party of China (CPC), the Chinese Government, the National Peoples Congress (NPC), and the Chinese Peoples Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC). They are a result of cooperation among several senior institutions from China, including the People's Daily Press, the Communist Party's Archives Bureau, the Literature Research Center of the CPC Central Committee, the NPC Standing Committee, and the National Committee of CPPCC. Please refer to www.oriprobe.com and www.wanfangdata.com for more information.

Subscriptions to these databases usually include a one-time fee and an affordable annual maintenance cost. Please contact info@oriprobe.com or im@wanfangdata.com.cn for more details.

People's Daily (1946-): The new version of Peoples Daily (1946-) is an authoritative ONLINE resource directly from the Peoples Daily Press. It provides much more search functions and weekly updates. Special subscription deals are available for libraries which have previous versions of Peoples Daily.

The Database (archives) of the Communist Party of China (CPC) contains archives and publications of the Communist Party since its inception in 1921. The following are the main contents:

- 1) Archives of the important, historical documents and party internal files;
- 2) Documents from the Communist Party's National Congress since 1921.
- 3) Publications of legendary leaders including Mao Zedong, Zhou Enlai, Liu Shaoqi, Zhu De, Ren Bishi, Deng Xiaoping, and Chen Yun;
- 4) Who is Who in the Communist Party over the years

The Database of the Chinese Government includes archives and publications of the Chinese central government, its ministries and subsidiaries, and regional authorities.

The Database of the National People's Congresses (NPC) is a collection of archives and documents of the National People's Congress (NPC).

The Database of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCCC) is a collection of documents of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC).

New book from University of Macau and Shanghai Jiaotong University Libraries

Library English : Commonly Used Expressions in the Library

The University of Macau and Shanghai Jiaotong University Libraries have jointly published a book entitled *Library English : Commonly Used Expressions in the Library* 《圖書館英語：圖書館日常用語》. The chief editors are Dr. Paul W.T. Poon, University Librarian of University of Macau and Prof. Chen Zhao-Neng, University Librarian of Shanghai Jiaotong University.

The purpose of the book is to provide a basic text for teaching front-line staff in using simple, but correct and precise, English to help their English-speaking users. The book contains 16 parts, which cover a wide area of what a library assistant needs to know in taking care of library users. Parts include, for example, "Hours of Operation", "Library Rules and Regulations", "Databases and Internet Resources", "English on the Phone", and "Handling Suggestions and Complaints". A particular part is the "Self Evaluation", which is a test to see how much the reader has learnt. At the end of each part, there is a "Situational Dialogue" that presents the contents in a conversational manner. To add flavor to the book, accompanying the book are a number of photos of libraries from different countries.

A very useful feature of the book, which makes it appropriate not just for library staff learning English but for learning Putonghua as well, is the CD that comes with the book. The useful phrases and the "Situational Dialogue" included in the book are recorded in both English and Putonghua in the CD, which can serve as a self-learning audio aid. This feature should be useful for those whose Putonghua is not exactly fluent.

This book will be useful to librarians working in China Mainland, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore and Macau, and will be equally handy to librarians working in countries where a substantial Chinese diaspora lives, such as U.S.A., Canada, Australia and New Zealand. It can facilitate the unfettered exchanges of English and Putonghua when dealing with library work.

There are two versions of this title - one with traditional Chinese characters and one with simplified Chinese characters. The book was introduced in a ceremony held at the University of Macau Library on April 24, 2007 and attracted quite a number of participants from Hong Kong, Macau, China Mainland and Australia.

Should you wish to purchase this publication in either traditional or simplified Chinese character version, please contact:

- The Chinese University of Hong Kong Press (the agent for orders from outside of Macau) (Address: Sha Tin, N. T. Hong Kong, Tel: +852 2609 6508 Fax: +852 2603 7355 / 2603 6692 Email: cup@cuhk.edu.hk -- for **traditional Chinese character version**. (Price: HK\$100). Or,
- Shanghai Jiaotong University Library, Ms. Ji Yi Xin (email: yxji@lib.sjtu.edu.cn, Tel: +86-21-62933232 / 62933266, Fax: +86-21-62820892), (Address: No.1954, Huashan Rd., 200030 P.C., Shanghai, China) for **simplified Chinese character version** (Price: RMB28), published under the title "900 English Sentences Commonly Used in Library".

Please feel free to let me know if I can be of any further assistance. My email address is: wtpoon@umac.mo.

Paul W.T. Poon (PhD)
University Librarian
University of Macau

Editor's Note:

A review of *Library English : Commonly Used Expressions in the Library* written by Meiyun (Annie) Lin, East Asian Librarian at the University of California Davis, will be published in the October, 2007 issue of the *Journal of East Asian Libraries*.