

# Use of the Function Words in the "History of the Five Dynasties" and the Stylistic Features

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**KeyWords:** "History of the Five Dynasties"; Ouyang Xiu; Use of Virtual Words; Stylistic Features

**Abstract:** The application of function words in classical Chinese is quite extensive. The effective application of function words in classical Chinese can express the stylistic features of classical Chinese, and the use of virtual words to carry out the writing process is also helpful for understanding the author's subjective intentions and thoughts and emotions. Based on the application of virtual words in classical Chinese, this thesis studies and analyzes the use of virtual words in Ouyang Xiu's "History of the Five Dynasties", and discusses the stylistic features of "Five-generation Historical Records" by using the use of virtual words. And to study the use of the virtual words by Ouyang Xiu, compare and analyze the usage rules of the virtual words in the "History of the Five Dynasties" and the use of the virtual words in other articles of Ouyang Xiu, and find out the use of the virtual words in Ouyang Xiu's writing process. When Ouyang Xiu applied the virtual words in the biography of the Five Dynasties, in order to prevent the author's subjective intentions from intervening, the amount of virtual words was relatively small. In the process of commentary writing, because the author's subjective emotional restrictions are relatively small, the author uses a large number of words to express their subjective emotions. This is also the main feature of Ouyang Xiu's application of virtual words according to different styles.

## 1. Introduction

This paper studies and analyzes Ouyang Xiu's "History of the Five Dynasties" and discusses the characteristics of Ouyang Xiu's application of the vocabulary in the process of writing the "History of the Five Dynasties". Based on the application of virtual words, the analysis of the stylistic features of the Five Dynasties Historical Records is of great help to master the application of Ouyang Xiu's virtual words and writing characteristics. This paper analyzes the stylistic features in the "History of the Five Dynasties", studies and compares the use of the virtual words in the biography and the use of the virtual words in the praises. Based on this, we can explore the stylistic features of the use of the use of the virtual words in the Historical Records of the Five Dynasties. It has certain reference value for understanding the writing characteristics of similar articles by Ouyang Xiu.

## 2. Ouyang Xiu and the History of the Five Dynasties

Ouyang Xiu is an academic master of the Song Dynasty. He is also a famous historian. His "Five-Generation Historical Records" compiled by his life includes 74 volumes, which are rich in content, and the writing method has the characteristics of Ouyang Xiu's article. Before Ouyang Xiusheng, he did not make the "Five-generation Historical Records" public, and was only dedicated to the court after his death, so that this work was published. According to relevant historical data analysis, Ouyang Xiu did not make the idea of making the Five Dynasties Historical Records public during his lifetime, mainly based on his work as a private work. Because the "Five-generation Historical Records" is a private work, the methods and materials selected by Ouyang Xiu in the process of compilation are based on Ouyang Xiu's own conception, and the expression techniques are relatively free. In the text, there are many applications of rumors and novels, which have been criticized by later generations. And because Ouyang Xiu was not compiled according to the normal history book type, when he compiled the "Five-generation Historical Records", he abandoned the popular stylistic style at that time, and used the ancient Chinese style that he is good at. "The Five Dynasties Historical Records" is a compilation of Ouyang Xiu's 31-year-old 47-year-old heyday. It is the most representative ancient

works of his youth. Therefore, in the process of research and analysis of Ouyang Xiu's stylistic features, the article in the "History of the Five Dynasties" can be used as the main research data [1].

### **3. Importance of Using Virtual Words in Ancient Chinese**

The vocabulary refers to a vocabulary that has no complete meaning. In the application process of the vocabulary, it cannot be a single sentence, but has certain language and semantic functions. When using virtual words, we must ensure that the virtual words and the real words are effectively combined to fully exert the role of the virtual words. In addition, the virtual words can be attached to the sentences and can also express certain grammatical meanings. In the application process of virtual words, we need to pay attention to the following principles: First, the virtual words cannot be sentenced separately, and the virtual words cannot be directly used as sentences. Secondly, the function word can't be a separate grammatical component. When applying the function word, it must be attached to the real word or sentence to show the semantic meaning. Finally, when using virtual words, you must not overlap [2].

The use of imaginary words in ancient literary works is quite extensive. The commonly used vocabulary words in classical Chinese vocabulary mainly include "and", "like", "he", "is", "and", "if", "their", "for" 18, such as "焉", "因因", "则", "所", "也", "以", "人", "和", "于", "之", etc. In Chinese, the function word does not mean the actual meaning, and it needs to be combined with the real word to complete the grammatical structure. In the works of classical Chinese, the function of the word has an important role that cannot be ignored. These functions are mainly manifested in the following aspects: First, the word is used more. When applying the function words in the classical Chinese, the same word can be used to express different usages, improve the neatness of the overall structure of the classical Chinese, and enhance the flexibility and vividness of the classical Chinese language. For example, the application function of the virtual word "zhi" in classical Chinese mainly includes pronouns, prepositions, conjunctions and auxiliary words. Second, a class of polysemous. The function word itself has no fixed meaning, and its semantic meaning needs to be reflected by the actual words and sentences. This leads to a lot of real words in the application process with greater flexibility, can play its genre characteristics. For example, when the word "zhi" is used as a pronoun, it can mean the personal pronoun you, me, him, and can also indicate the pronoun, this and so on. When "Zhi" is used as a supporting word for application, it can play the role of structural auxiliary words, and can also be used as a supporting auxiliary word. Third, the use of the word is used. In classical Chinese, the use of function words has a stronger tone. The most common way of expression is the use of modal particles at the end of a sentence. For example, in the "Meng Zi Liang Hui Wang Shang", the main role of "the deaf person is in the country, and the heart is deaf and deaf" is to strengthen the tone and have a certain emphasis. In addition, the use of modal words can be used independently to express the meaning of sigh. For example, in Li Bai's "噫吁嚱", the modal particle is used as an exclamatory statement. When modal particles are used together to express meaning, they need to be placed in the beginning or sentence of the sentence [3].

## **4. Use of Stylistic Words in the "History of the Five Dynasties" and Its Stylistic Features**

### **4.1 Use of Function Words in the Biography of the Five Dynasties**

This paper analyzes the use of the lexical words in the biography of the Five Dynasties Historical Records and finds that Ouyang Xiu's vocabulary in the biography of the Five Dynasties is relatively small. The use of imaginary words is mainly reflected in the following aspects: (1) the sighing word "哉" The "five generations of history" is only 1.1 words in the series, the frequency of occurrence is relatively low, and the amount is relatively small. The main reason is that the biography of the Five Dynasties is based on the historical facts of the objective facts, and the emotional expression of Ouyang Xiu's writing process is relatively large. Therefore, when writing, the author will try to avoid the involvement of subjective intentions in the text. The "哉" that expresses the sigh has a strong subjective intention, which is inconsistent with the authenticity and objectivity requirements of the

historical style. (2) The use of virtual words such as “also”, “焉”, “ears” and “er” is also relatively small. The main function of this type of function word is to indicate that it is a type of function word widely used in ancient Chinese. In the biography of the Five Dynasties Historical Records, the use of "also" indicates the meaning of doubts, questions and sighs, and the number is 45.1 words. The "焉" indicating the tone of recognition has 1.6 words in the biography. The "Er" that expresses nothing but the meaning has 5.4 words in the biography of the Five Dynasties. Comparing the usage of the imaginary words in the "History of the Five Dynasties" with the "Old Five Dynasties", it is found that in the biography of the Five Dynasties and the biography of the "Old Five Dynasties", there is only a certain difference in the use of the word "焉", but the difference Not obvious. This is mainly because the main function of the function word is to emphasize, confirm and judge the tone. In the process of writing the historical style, the author's subjective intention and emotional factors are inserted when applying these virtual words. This is the history book style in the writing process. Taboo problem. Therefore, the use and frequency of these vocabulary words and frequencies are relatively low. (3) The amount of “矣” that determines the tone of the tone is 17.5 words in the biography of the Five Dynasties, and 11.9 words in the biography of the Old Five Dynasties. There is no significant difference in the frequency of use of “矣” between the two books. The same is because "矣" mainly means assertion and decision, with obvious subjective intent. Therefore, there are few applications in the history and style. The application of this type of virtual word is also relatively restrictive, and the author will consciously prevent excessive use of these virtual words during the writing process. (4) The main application frequencies of "in" and "situ" in the biography of the Five Dynasties are relatively low. The "then" in the biography of the Five Dynasties has 22.8 words, and "cause" has 12.5 words. The main function of these two virtual words is to align the context. In the process of using these two virtual words, the relationship between the contexts can be guaranteed to be clearer, and the reader's reading process can be reminded to a certain extent. In addition, these two virtual words are also connected virtual words, which will affect the reader's reading process to a certain extent during the use. Therefore, in the biography of the Five Dynasties Historical Records, the use of the "inhibition" and "then" virtual words is also relatively small. (5) The “Ran” indicating the meaning of the transition is 16.9 words in the biography of the Five Dynasties. The use of “Ran” will enhance the influence on readers to a certain extent, but in the process of writing history books, its main purpose is narrative, and it is not seeking readers' recognition of the author's ethics. Therefore, the history books that over-emphasize the reader's feedback and recognition of the thesis are unqualified history books. In order to accurately convey historical events to readers, it is necessary to limit the word "Ran" to prevent the reader from making too many hints and affect the reader's reading effect on objective historical events [4].

#### **4.2 Use of the Words in the Five Dynasties Historical Records**

Ouyang Xiu used a large amount of virtual words in the praise of the Five Dynasties Historical Records. This situation is exactly the opposite of the biography. Because in the "Five-generation history" praise, Ouyang Xiu can directly express his feelings with a large number of virtual words. The use of the vocabulary in the praise mainly includes the following aspects: (1) The use of the slogan as a utterance is relatively large in the praise of the Five Dynasties. Because the use of this utterance can directly express Ouyang Xiu's own emotions. (2) The "哉" that expresses the sigh is 66.9 words in the praise of the Five Dynasties Historical Records, far exceeding the amount of "哉" in the biography. This is mainly because the word "哉" can express the author's emotional attitude to a certain extent, and the connotation of the author's subjective intention is relatively small. Therefore, the use of this word is more. (3) In the praise of the Five Dynasties Historical Records, Ouyang Xiu also used more words on the irony, sigh and interrogative tone. (4) In the "Five Generations of Historical Records", the use of the vocabulary words such as "焉", "尔", "ear" and so on is also used more, because this kind of virtual words express the emotional color of the author, and at the same time render the author himself has a role in questioning the question. In the praise, the author can apply these virtual words in a large amount to express their emotional attitudes.

Based on the study of the application of various types of virtual words in Ouyang Xiu's "History of the Five Dynasties", it will greatly increase the investigation of the use of virtual words in other articles by Ouyang Xiu found that Ouyang Xiu used the amount of vocabulary used when writing styles with less restrictions. This is mainly because Ouyang Xiu can express his emotions in a large number of virtual words in this style of writing. For example, in many questions, such as Ouyang Xiu, the use of virtual words is more. Therefore, its arbitrariness is relatively strong. This is consistent with the application of the vocabulary words by Ouyang Xiu in the praise of the Five Dynasties Historical Records. Using this vocabulary expression technique can convey Ouyang Xiu's own emotional attitude and ideological spirit, which is one of Ouyang Xiu's writing features [5].

## **5. Stylistic Features of the Application of Function Words in The Historical Records of the Five Dynasties**

Ouyang Xiu's essay writing in the "History of the Five Dynasties" has more applications for the utterance "呜呼". "呜呼" is an onomatopoeia that has a strong emotional expression. In the process of writing the praises of the Five Dynasties Historical Records, the main thing is to use "呜呼" as the utterance word. This is because Ouyang Xiu can directly express his emotions by using the utterance of "呜呼". The research and analysis of the virtual words used in the praises of the Five Dynasties Historical Records reveals that in the commentary, the sighing "哉", the "坎" expressing doubts, the "焉", "和", etc. It is relatively large, especially in the analysis of the usage of various types of virtual words in the biography of the Five Dynasties. It is found that the usage and frequency of various types of virtual words in the praises far exceed the use of various types of virtual words in the biography. It can be found that Ouyang Xiu, in addition to expressing his own emotions by means of utterances, will intersperse a large number of vocabulary words in the essays, which also shows the author's emotions in the process of praising. In addition, in the Biography of the Five Dynasties, there are relatively few imaginary words that express the author's emotions. This is mainly because in the biography section, Ouyang Xiu mainly considers the requirements for the transmission of objective historical facts, mainly based on history books. In this case, Ouyang Xiu avoids using the virtual words with his own emotional language to write. In the process of writing the biography, Ouyang Xiu will avoid the use of virtual words as much as possible to prevent the insertion of his own subjective thinking. However, in the part of the commentary that can freely express emotions, Ouyang Xiu liberated from the limitations of the historical and written styles, and used the words in the heart to express the freely. Therefore, the use of function words in the "Five-generation Historical Records" is more common, the frequency is higher, and has a distinct emotional color. This is consistent with Ouyang Xiu's use of virtual words when writing other articles with limited restrictions.

## **6. Conclusion**

All in all, in the process of analyzing and studying the use of virtual words in the Historical Records of the Five Dynasties, it is necessary to study and analyze the characteristics of different styles in the Historical Records of the Five Dynasties to ensure the scientificity and rationality of the analysis of function words. In the analysis of function words, the author studies the stylistic features of the Five Dynasties Historical Records.

The Five Dynasties Historical Records is the work of Ouyang Xiu during the heyday, but before the Ouyang Xiusheng, the "Five-generation Historical Records" was not made public, so the "Five-generation Historical Records" is the private theory of Ouyang Xiu. In the "History of the Five Dynasties", Ouyang Xiu's many unmodified thoughts and emotional attitudes can be used as the best literature on the study of Ouyang Xiu's thoughts and historical views. And to analyze the stylistic style of the "History of the Five Dynasties", we can find that Ouyang Xiu got rid of various constraints in the "Five-generation Historical Records" and built his own ideal style. Through the research and analysis of the biography of the Five Dynasties and the use of the imaginary words in the "History of the Five Dynasties", it can be found that Ouyang Xiu used less of the use of the virtual words in the

"History of the Five Dynasties" and the biography, and used a large number of words in the praise. This is the main style of the "History of the Five Dynasties". In addition, after analyzing the virtual words, we can find that there is a big difference between the characteristics of Xu Wudang's note writing and the Ouyang Xiu attached to the Five Dynasties Historical Records. Therefore, the Five Dynasties Historical Records has obvious characteristics of Ouyang Xiu's style.

In short, when studying the "History of the Five Dynasties", in addition to recognizing its important historical book value, it can also be passed on to the world as an important representative work of Ouyang Xiu's ancient works. And in the study and analysis of different styles in the "History of the Five Dynasties", we can find the characteristics of Ouyang Xiu's flexible use of function words according to different styles. This is the main feature of Ouyang Xiu's ancient charm.

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