

Essential Idioms  
in English

# 英语基础成语

曾雁翔 陈 梹 编译



 中南大學出版社

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## 前 言

英语成语辞典目前在我国书市到处可见,它们大都和普通英汉辞典一样按字母顺序排列词条,主要供查阅之用。

《英语基础成语》(*Essential Idioms in English*)一书是编者根据自己多年的教学经验编写而成的,它不同于其他英语成语辞典的地方是将英语中常用成语按其在学习及生活中出现的频率大小和难易程度排列成课文内容的。有释义,有具体例句,并且每课后有各种形式的练习以巩固该课中所学内容,还分单元设置总复习。因此,这本成语书不同于一般成语辞典只是专供参考,而是作为教材让学生学用并掌握常用习语。初、高中及大学学生可以将它常备案头,循序渐进地学习以提高英语阅读和写作能力。对于英语自学者来说,更能收到无师自通的功效。

本书的每一成语都为英语双解,除了在目录中按课文分列各项词条外,还在书后索引里将全部成语条根按字母顺序排列以方便读者按所标明的课目查找该项词条。

在我国将成语按循序渐进的方式编成教材尚属罕见,这一编写方式既符合认知规律,又实际有效,这是本书的一大特色与优点,值得推荐。

周定之

2004年3月9日

## 序

英语基础成语(*Essential Idioms in English*)是我们学习英语不可缺少的语言材料,要使英语的说和写都能做到与使用自己本国语言一样,掌握英语成语是非常重要而不可缺少的。

我们学了英语语法,也掌握了一定量的词汇,但对于英语的常用成语却没有实践知识与经验;如:to put out, to get along, to call for, to look up to, to look over, to look down up, to make good, to make good time, 等等。其中每个单词我们都熟悉,基本意思也知道,但若掌握不纯熟,用起来就难免不得得心应手。所以学习成语与懂语法、熟记单词是同等重要的。

与我们汉语一样,英语成语之多浩如烟海,本书只能有选择性地摘取其中一小部分。所谓基础的(essential),自然是重要的、通用的,而不包括专业用的成语,如:lines of level(平面交切线——地理学);line of the head(智纹——指纹学);line of the heart(情纹——指纹学)。至于典故成语,如:to carry coals to Newcastle(无益之举,多此一举);to wash one's dirty linen in public(宣扬家丑);wash one's dirty linen at home(家丑不外扬)等较难理解的成语,考虑到将是深入学习的内容就未选入本书。

本书不是语法参考书,未对成语下定义,也未对习语的性质做理论探讨,只简单地说明,成语就是一组词,其意思与其组成的各个单词的原意不一定一致,不能逐字译意,否则会歪曲该成语的原意与内涵。

全书共分初、中、高三部分,第一、二部分是极常见的成语,这是有经验的英语教师达成共识的。第三部分即高级部分,因专业

不同编选时带有一定的倾向性,这是不可避免的。

每部分有 10~11 个单元,每单元有 10~14 个成语,以及相应解释,每个成语有 1~3 个例句。每单元和每部分都设有练习,旨在巩固知识点。

因本书的成语不是按字母顺序选编的,为了查阅方便,所以书后附有按字母顺序编排的成语索引表。读者可以据字母顺序索引成语出现的相应正文单元。

编译者

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## Chapter I (Elementary)

### Unit One

1. **to get up:** (to rise from bed or rise to one's feet) 起床, 坐起, 起立
  - a. He gets up at 5 o'clock every morning.  
他每天早晨五点起床。
  - b. The old man was so weak that he was unable to get up.  
这位老人体弱得站不起来。
  - c. What time does your grandparent usually get up?  
你的爷爷(奶奶)通常什么时候起床?
2. **to get on:** (to enter, board) 上车/船, 登机
  - a. He gets on the subway at the same station every morning.  
他每天早上在同一个车站上地铁。
  - b. He got on the bike, and rode away.  
他骑上单车走了。
  - c. Ms. Wang got on the plane to Beijing yesterday.  
王女士昨天乘飞机去了北京。
3. **to get off:** (to leave, dismount from) 下车/船, 从……下来
  - a. At what station does your father usually get off the subway?  
你父亲通常在哪一站下地铁?
  - b. Yesterday I got off the bus and walked home.  
昨天我下了公共汽车, 然后走回家的。
  - c. The bus stopped and the old man got off.

车一停,这位老人就下车了。

4. **to turn on:** (to start/begin) 起动, 打开(扭开开关)

a. Turn on the light. I can't see.

打开灯,我看不见。

b. Please turn on the radio, I want to listen to the music.

请打开收音机,我想听音乐。

c. I turned on the radiator in the room, while they were out.

他们一出去,我就把暖气打开了。

5. **to turn off:** (to stop, terminate, extinguish) 关上, 停止, 灭掉

a. Please turn off the radio, she wants to work.

请关掉收音机,她要工作。

b. Shall I turn off TV, or are you still watching it?

我可以把电视关了吗? 还是你还要看?

c. Why don't turn off the lights? There isn't anyone here.

这儿一个人也没有,为什么不关灯?

6. **to put on:** (to place on oneself, said particularly of clothes) (自己)

穿/戴(衣帽服饰等)

a. My father put on his hat and coat and left the room.

我父亲穿上大衣,戴上帽子出去了。

b. I put on my glasses to read the newspaper.

我戴上眼镜看报。

c. Why is your husband putting on his hat and coat?

你丈夫穿大衣戴帽子干什么?

7. **to take off:** (to remove, said also of clothes) 脱/取下(衣着)

a. Are you taking off your coat because it is too warm in this room?

你想要脱上衣是因为房里太热吗?

b. William took off his hat as he entered the room.

威廉进房就把帽子脱了。

8. **to call up:** (to telephone) 打电话

a. I'll call you up this evening.

今晚,我会打电话给你。

b. I forgot to call up Mr. Smith yesterday although I promised to call him up exactly at seven o'clock.

尽管我昨天说好准七点打电话给史密斯先生,我却忘了。

c. Did anyone call me up while I was out?

我不在时,有人给我电话吗?

9. **to pick up:** (to take, especially with the fingers) 捡起(特指用手)

a. Why didn't you pick up your books which lay on the floor?

你为什么把你地上的书拾起来?

b. John picked up the pen which was on his desk.

约翰拿了他书桌上的钢笔。

10. **right away:** (immediately, at once, very soon) 立刻,马上,很快

a. Would you come home right away?

你立刻就回家吗?

b. Mother says that dinner will be ready right away.

妈妈说马上就吃饭了。

c. Do it right away!

马上干!

11. **at once:** (immediately, very soon, right away) 立刻,马上

a. Ask him to send this telegram at once.

要他马上把电报发出去。

b. Please come to my office at once.

请立刻来我办公室。

12. **at first:** (originally, in the first instance) 原始,首先

a. At first this student seemed to find English very difficult, but later he made very good progress.

起初这个学生好像觉得英语很难学,但随后他的进步很快。

b. At first I didn't like her but now I do.

最初我不喜欢她,但现在喜欢了。

### *Exercises*

**A. Substitute, in place of the underlined word or words, the corresponding idiomatic expressions indicated in parentheses:**  
按括号内所示的成语替换句中的划线部分:

1. He arises at the same time every morning. (get. . . )  
Example: He gets up at the same time every morning.
2. She telephoned me very late last night. (call. . . )
3. Helen said that she was going to mail the letter immediately.  
(right. . . )
4. Besure to extinguish the light before you leave the room.  
(turn. . . )
5. Helen placed on herself her new hat and stood admiring herself in the mirror. (put. . . )
6. Remove your overcoat and sit down a few minutes. (take. . . )
7. Originally, I thought it was John who was calling me. (at. . . )
8. We boarded the bus at Broadway and 79th Street. (get. . . )
9. The bus was so crowded that we had difficulty in leaving. (get. . . )
10. John took with his fingers the pencil which was lying on the floor.  
(pick. . . )

**B. Answer these questions, making use in your answers of the idiomatic expressions studied in this unit:**

用本课所学习语回答问题:

1. At what street do you get on the bus or street-car every morning?  
你每天早上在哪条街乘公共汽车或电车?
2. At what street do you usually get off?  
你通常在哪条街下车?
3. Is it easy or difficult to get on a bus which is crowded?  
汽车上拥挤时,上车容易还是难?
4. Is it easy or difficult to get off a bus which is crowded?  
汽车上拥挤时,下车容易还是难?
5. Which of your friends called you up last night?  
昨晚你哪位朋友打电话给你?
6. Whom did you call up last night?  
昨晚你给谁打电话?
7. Did Henry say that he would return right away or much later this evening?  
亨利是说今晚很快回来,还是说会回得很晚呢?
8. Do you generally put on your hat and coat when you leave or when you enter your home?  
你一般是在到家的时候,还是在出门的时候,戴上你的帽子穿上你的大衣?
9. When do you generally take off your hat and coat?  
你通常什么时候把帽子和上衣脱掉呢?
10. When you arrive at school each day, do you immediately put on your hat and coat or take off your hat and coat?  
你每天到学校时,是立刻戴上帽子,穿上大衣,还是脱掉它们呢?

What do you do when you leave school each day?

每天离校时呢? (离校时你又如何做呢? 是穿戴衣帽还是脱掉它们呢?)

11. If you wish to hear some music, do you turn on or turn off the radio?

如果你想听音乐, 你是开收音机还是关掉它?

12. What do you do when you finish playing the radio turn it on or turn it off?

你听完了(音乐)后如何办, 打开还是关掉?

13. At what time do you get up every morning?

每天早上你什么时候起床?

14. At what time do your brothers and sisters get up?

你的兄弟姐妹什么时候起床?

## Unit Two

1. **to look at:** (to watch, direct the eyes toward) 看, 注视, 望着
  - a. I like to walk in the park and look at the stars at night.  
我喜欢夜里在公园散步, 看天上星星。
  - b. The teacher told us to look at the blackboard and not at our books.  
老师要我们看黑板, 不要望着书。
2. **to look for:** (to search for, seek) 寻找, 搜寻
  - a. I've been looking for you.  
我一直在找你。
  - b. I have lost my gloves. Will you help me look for them?  
我的手套不见了, 你帮我找找好吗?
3. **to look after:** (to take care of) 照顾
  - a. Who looked after your baby while you were out?  
你不在家时, 谁照顾你的小宝宝?
  - b. I can look after myself, don't worry.  
放心吧, 我会照顾自己的。
4. **to call on:** (to visit) 拜访, 看望
  - a. How many students call on Professor Wang every day?  
每天有多少学生来访问王教授?
  - b. Last night some friends called on us.  
昨夜有几个朋友来看我们。
5. **to wait for:** (to await, expect) 等待, 期盼
  - a. He waited for us for more than half an hour and finally left.  
他等了我半个多小时才走。
  - b. We will wait for you at the gate of the school.

我们会在校门口等你(们)。

6. **to find out**: (to learn or discover, get information) 知道, 发现, 获得讯息

a. The boy was unable to find out the name of the man who called.  
这孩子无法知道那位来访人的姓名。

b. Please try to find out for me what time Flight Number 747 arrives in Beijing.

请代查一下 747 飞机到北京的时间好吗?

7. **tired out**: (extremely tired) 很疲倦, 累极了

a. I have worked very hard today and am tired out.

今天工作太累, 现在疲倦极了。

b. Father was tired out after his long trip to Kunming.

爸爸去昆明长途旅行后, 累极了。

8. **all right**: (satisfactory, correct) 很好, 对的, 没错, 行

a. I'm all right.

我很好(我没事)。

b. Things will probably go all right.

事情很可能没问题。

c. Do you feel all right after your long walk?

走了这么久, 你还好吧?

d. Will it be all right with you if I give you that money tomorrow instead of today?

那笔钱今天不给你, 明天再给你没问题吧?

9. **never mind**: (do not mind, do not pay attention to it) 没关系, 不要紧, 不介意

a. "Never mind!" she said when I offered to open the window for her.

我说替她把窗子打开, 她说“没关系”。



- b. When William wished to return the money which he owes you, why did you say: “Never mind! Wait until next week when you receive your salary.”  
当威廉想还你钱时,你为什么说,“没关系,等下星期你发了工资再还吧。”
10. **at last**: (finally) 最后,终于
- a. It is done at last.  
终于完成了。
- b. We waited and waited at last he arrived.  
我们等呀,等呀,终于他来了。
11. **as usual**: (as always, customarily) 如常,如习惯地
- a. As usual Deng Yaping won first prize in the contest.  
照常,又是邓亚平获冠军。
- b. Peter is late for class again as usual.  
彼得照常上课又迟到。
12. **little by little**: (gradually, by degrees, slowly) 渐渐地,逐步地,慢慢地
- a. The cost of living is increasing little by little.  
生活费用逐渐上涨了。
- b. If you study regularly each day, little by little your vocabulary of English words will increase.  
你每天按常规学习,你的英文词汇量会慢慢增加的。
13. **right here, right there, right now, etc.**: (exactly here, exactly there, etc.) 就这么,就在那儿,正是现在
- a. Do it right now.  
立刻干!
- b. Right then I saw very clearly that he was not telling the truth.  
正是那时,我明明知道他在说谎。