

A PRACTICAL
ENGLISH-CHINESE
DICTIONARY OF
ENGLISH IDIOMS

实 用
英 汉 习 语
词 典

张春柏 主编

PRACTICAL ENGLISH-CHINESE
DICTIONARY OF ENGLISH IDIOMS

东方出版中心

实用英汉习语词典
A practical English-Chinese
Dictionary of English Idioms

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前 言

语言之间的差异,除了语音和语法以外,主要就是习语的差异。习语集中体现了不同民族的历史、地理和文化习俗。如由于古代中国是个农业国家,所以就有了“骨瘦如柴”、“众人拾柴火焰高”、“竹篮子打水”等习语;而英国是个海洋国家,所以英语中有大量与海洋有关的习语,如“Still water runs deep”(静水流深),“be all at sea”(茫然,困惑,不知所措),“There are more/other fish in the sea”(海里的鱼有的是;这个不成,好的人或事物还有很多)等。

其次,习语是语言中最为活跃的部分。随着时代的发展,旧的习语在消亡,新的习语在不断地产生,而这些新的习语正是我们需要学习掌握的。因此,一部词典要保持其实用性,就要经常修订。

目前书店里找得到的习语词典,大多实用性不强,有的年代已久,不少词目已经过时;有的词典所收词目多多益善,虽然对阅读不无益处,但是到了使用的时候却反而无法判断有关习语是否还“活”着,还在使用;有的则过于简明,不少词目无从查找,例句也偏少,读者常常需要再去查别的词典。这些问题正是本词典力图解决的。

本词典共收集当代英语中使用频率较高的英语习语约六千余条,这些习语包括常用的成语、俚语、谚语和熟语。它的实用性主要体现在以下几个方面:

- 一、本词典收入了大学英语四、六级大纲中所有的英语习语和达到专业英语八级水平应该掌握的英语习语。另外还收入了一些其他常用习语。但对那些只有大型词典里才找得到的较为冷僻的习语,则一律割爱。
- 二、最常用的习语,尤其是大学英语四、六级大纲中列出的习语,均有例句和译文。这些例句的目的有两个:一是帮助读者理解有

2 前言

关习语的意义;二是帮助读者掌握有关的句型和惯用法。

三、排列简明,使用方便。本词典的词目均以中心词的字母顺序排列,如上面两例以 sea 为中心词的习语都放在 SEA 下面(详见“用法说明”)。这一方面便于读者查找,另一方面也避免了不必要的重复。

毋庸置言,由于编者水平的限制,本词典错漏之处在所难免,有待改进之处,敬请广大读者批评指正。

编 者
2001 年 4 月

用法说明

1. 本词典的条目均按各习语的中心词顺序排列,如 *be all at sea* 和 *There are more/other fish in the sea* 这两条习语,中心词是名词 *sea*, 所以都排在 *SEA* 这个词目下。

2. 如果两个以上的习语含有同一个中心词,则按第一个词的字母顺序排列。如上面两例,因为 *be* 按字母顺序排在 *there* 之前,所以 *be all at sea* 排在 *There are more/other fish in the sea* 之前;如果第一个字母相同,则按第二个字母的顺序排列,余可类推。

3. 为了节省篇幅,即使某一个中心词属于不同的词性,也仍然按习语的字母顺序排列,不再根据不同的词性,分开排列。如 *care for* 和 *take care* 两条中的 *care* 一词分别是动词和名词,但是,因为它们的中心词都是 *care*, 所以都排在 *CARE* 这个词目下。

4. 动词和名词搭配的习语,通常排在名词词目下。例如:*take care* 和 *lose courage* 两条分别以名词 *care* 和 *courage* 为中心词,所以排在 *CARE* 和 *COURAGE* 词目下,而不是排在动词 *TAKE* 和 *LOSE* 词目下。

5. 实词和虚词搭配的习语,通常排在实词词目下。动词和介词与副词搭配构成的习语,排在动词词目下。例如:*on order*, *fall into* 和 *fall back* 三条分别排在 *ORDER* 和 *FALL* 词目下。

6. 两个词性相同的词构成的习语,排在第一个词的词目下,如 *rough and ready* 和 *over and above* 就分别排在 *ROUGH* 和 *OVER* 词目下。

略 语 表

〈英〉英国英语	〈副〉副词
〈美〉美国英语	〈贬〉贬义
〈苏〉苏格兰方言	〈缩〉缩略语
〈法〉法语	〈喻〉比喻
〈德〉德语	〈转〉转义
〈口〉口语	〈文体〉行文用体裁
〈方〉方言	〈政〉政治
〈谚〉谚语	〈经〉经济
〈俚〉俚语	〈商〉商业
〈古〉古语	〈哲〉哲学
〈俗〉俗语	〈议〉议会
〈讽〉讽刺语	〈宗〉宗教
〈婉〉委婉语	〈史〉历史
〈行〉行话	〈军〉军事
〈谑〉戏谑语	〈外〉外交
〈蔑〉轻蔑语	〈律〉法律
〈骂〉骂人话	〈海〉航海
〈黑〉黑话	〈猎〉狩猎
〈粗〉粗话	〈生〉生物
〈罕〉罕用语	〈机〉机械
〈废〉已不用的话语	〈体〉体育
〈儿语〉儿童语言	〈技〉技术
〈名〉名词	〈画〉绘画
〈动〉动词	〈剧〉戏剧
〈定〉定语	

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A

from A to Z 从头到尾,自始至终;完全,全部

ABACK

be taken aback 吃了一惊,吓了一跳 [例] John was taken aback when he saw the news on TV. 约翰在电视上看到这消息吓了一跳。

ABANDON

abandon oneself to 陷入,沉溺于 [例] After that, she abandoned herself to grief. 从那以后,她陷入了深深的悲痛之中。

ABEYANCE

be in (或 fall into) abeyance (法律、习俗等)暂时失效,中止,(权利等的)搁置

ABIDE

abide by 1. 遵守,服从 [例] You are expected to abide by all the rules of the game. 你应该遵守所有的游戏规则。 2. 承受 [例] I'm afraid he will have to abide by the results of his mistake. 恐怕他得承担他所犯错误的后果。

ABOUT

be about 在干(某事), 忙于(某事) [例] I did not find him. I don't know what he was about. 我没找到他。不知道他在干什么。

be (up and) about (病后)起来走动, 起床开始活动 [例] He had an accident last summer, but he was up and about again three months later. 去年夏天他出了车祸, 可三个月后他就下床活动了。

be about to (与不定式连用)正要[即将]做(某事) [例] We were about to leave when it started to rain. 我们刚要出发天却下起了雨。

What (或 How) about ...? 〈口〉1. ……怎么样? [例] What about going to Beijing in the summer vacation? 放暑假去北京怎么样? 2. ……怎么办? [例] What about mother? We can't leave her alone at home. 妈妈怎么办? 我们不能把她一个人留在家里。

ABOVE

above all 见 **all**

ABREAST

keep abreast of 跟上, 与……保持并列 [例] In this information age, we must keep abreast of what is going on in other parts of the world. 在当今信息时代, 我们必须时刻了解世界其他地方正在发生的事情。

ABSENT

Long absent, soon forgotten. 〈谚〉别久情自疏。

ABSTRACT

in the abstract 抽象地,从理论上说

ACCIDENT

Accidents will happen in the best regulated families.

(谚)家规再严,事端难免。

by accident 偶然 [例] The bomb exploded by accident.

炸弹意外地爆炸了。

meet with an accident 遭到意外,发生事故 [例]

They had met with an accident on their way here.

That's why they were late. 他们在来这儿的路上出了点事故,所以晚到了。

ACCORD

accord with 与……相一致,相符合 [例] Your story

does not accord with the facts. 你说的话不符合事实。

be in accord (with) 符合,一致

of one's own accord 出于自愿,主动地 [例] He

donated all the money to the poor people of his own accord. 他主动把所有的钱捐给了穷人。

ACCORDANCE

in accordance with 按照……,遵照 [例] His ashes

were poured into the sea in accordance with his wishes.

他的骨灰按照他的意愿撒进了大海。

ACCORDING

according to 按照;根据 [例] According to today's

paper, a plane crashed in the mountains. 今天报纸上

说,有一架飞机在山里坠落了。

ACCOUNT

account for 1. 解释,说明……原因 [例] This might account for the reason why they quarrelled with each other the other day. 这也许可以解释他们那天吵架的原因。 2. 报账,说明(钱是怎么花/挣的) [例] He could not account for the money he had deposited in the bank. 他没能说明他存在银行里的钱的来源。

give an account of 解释(理由) [例] You must give a satisfactory account of your behaviour at the party last week. 你必须对你在上星期聚会上的行为作出令人满意的解释。

leave out of account 没考虑到;不计较 [例] When we were making the plan for the trip, we left out of account that it often rains in this season. 我们计划旅游的时候,没有考虑到这个季节经常下雨。

of ... account 有……重要性 [例] Money is of little account for the happiness of a man. 对一个人的幸福来说,钱并不重要。

keep accounts 记账

on account of 由于,因为 [例] Their first experiment failed on account of their lack of experience. 由于他们缺乏经验,他们最初的试验失败了。

on my (或 your 等) account 为了我[你,等]的缘故 [例] Please don't leave now on his account [on account of him]. 为了他,请你千万不要在现在离开这儿。

on no account (或 not on any account) 无论如何不,绝不要 [例] We won't give up on any account. 我们无论如何也不会放弃。

on that (或 this) account 由于那个[这个]缘故 [例] I refused his invitation on that account. 因为那个缘故我拒绝了他的邀请。

settle (或 square) accounts with somebody 与某人算账,了断恩怨 [例] We would settle accounts with him if he dared beat you. 他要是敢打你,我们就找他算账。

take account of 考虑 [例] We must take account of the fact that he was three years younger than the others in judging the progress he has made. 我们在评判他所取得的进步的时候必须考虑到他比别人小三岁这个因素。

take into account 考虑,把……考虑进去 [例] You should take his opinion into account. 你应该把他的意见考虑进去。

turn (或 put) something to account (或 to good account) 对……[善加]利用 [例] He turned his knowledge of the computer science to good account. 她很好地利用了自己在计算机方面的知识。

ACCUSTOM

accustom oneself to 使……习惯 [例] You must accustom yourself to going to bed early and getting up early as soon as possible. 你必须尽快习惯早睡早起。

ACCUSTOMED

be (或 get 或 become) accustomed to 习惯于 [例] I am not accustomed to Western food. 我不习惯吃西餐。

ACQUAINTANCE

have a bowing (或 nodding) acquaintance with 与某人为点头之交;对……略知一二 [例] I don't know him very well. I only have a nodding acquaintance with him. 我对他不熟悉,只是点头之交而已。

make acquaintance with somebody (或 make

somebody's acquaintance) 与某人结识 [例] Where did you made his acquaintance? 你在哪里认识他的?

ACT

act on (或 upon) 1. 对……有作用;对……发生影响 [例] This drug acts on the brain. 这种药对大脑有功效[影响]。 2. 按照……行动 [例] If you had acted on my advice, you would not have failed in the examination. 你要是听我的劝告,就不会不及格了。

act out 表演(对话、故事等) [例] The teacher asked the students to act out the play. 老师要求学生表演那个剧本。

in the act of (doing something) 正要(做某事) [例] The pilot was in the act of taking off when he heard a strange noise. 飞行员正要起飞,忽然听到了一种奇怪的声音。

put on an act 〈口〉假装,装模作样 [例] He didn't like you at all. He was just putting on an act. 他根本不喜欢你。他只是装模作样而已。

ACTION

Actions speak louder than words. 〈谚〉行动胜于语言。 [例] He promised to help me, but he didn't. Actions speak louder than words. 他答应帮助我,但实际上没有帮。行动胜于语言。

go (或 come) into action 行动 [例] They didn't go into action immediately, because there was still some time. 因为时间还早,他们没有立刻行动。

put something out of action 使……不再有效;使……停止操作 [例] The virus put all the computers of the company out of action. 病毒使公司所有电脑陷于瘫痪。

take action 采取行动;开始行动 [例] The government

is going to take some actions about the strike. 政府将采取行动对付罢工。

ADAM

not to know a man from Adam 与某人素不相识

ADD

add to 加强, 增强 [例] What he did add to the ache of his mother's heart. 他的所作所为使他母亲更加痛苦。

add up 1. 相加, 加起来; 得出正确的答案 [例] The numbers wouldn't add up. 这些数字加起来不对。

2. 〈口〉说得通, 言之成理 [例] What he said did not add up. 他的话说不通。

add up to 1. 加起来总和是 [例] The bill added up to 110 yuan. 账单总额为 110 元。 2. 〈口〉相当于; 意味着 [例] What he said added up to is that he was innocent. 他的话意味着他是无辜的。

ADDITION

in addition 此外; 并且 [例] He had some chicken wings for lunch and some potato chips in addition. 他午饭吃了些鸡翅; 另外还吃了些炸薯条。

,in addition to 除了……之外 [例] I ordered a glass of wine in addition to the chicken and vegetables. 除了鸡和蔬菜以外, 我还叫了杯葡萄酒。

ADDRESS

address oneself to 1. 着手做某事; 忙着做某事; 从事 [例] They addressed themselves to the experiment after the preparation was done. 准备工作完成后, 他们着手做那项实验。 2. 向……讲话, 针对……而说

[写] [例] Actually he addressed himself to all the people in his speech. 他的那个演讲实际上是针对所有人的。

ADHERE

adhere to 坚持, 遵守 [例] We must adhere to the basic principles of Marxism. 我们必须坚持马克思主义的基本原理。

ADJUST

adjust oneself (或 something) to 使自己(或某物)适应……, 调整 [例] You must work hard to adjust yourself to the new environment. 你必须努力工作以适应新的环境。

ADMIT

admit of (多用于否定句)容许; 有……的余地或可能 [例] It is an extremely important document. It does not admit of any mistake. 文件极为重要, 不允许有任何错误。

ADVANCE

be in advance of 在……前面 [例] He ran over ten metres in advance of other sportsmen. 他领先其他运动员十多米。

in advance 提前; 事前 [例] The visit of the minister had been arranged in advance. 部长的访问是预先安排好的。

ADVANTAGE

have (或 give somebody) an advantage over somebody

在某方面比……具有优势;在某方面给某人优势或使之处于有利地位 [例] I have an advantage over John in France. I can speak French. 在法国,与约翰相比我有一个优势。我会说法语。His work experience in the American company gave him an advantage over other candidates for this job. 他在那家美国公司的工作经历使他较之其他求职者处于一种更为有利的地位。

take advantage of somebody 利用(某人的处境或某种弱点),欺骗某人 [例] He took advantage of those people who did not know what had happened. 他欺骗了那些不知情的人们。

take advantage of something 利用(机会等) [例] We took advantage of the meeting in Beijing and visited the Great Wall. 我们利用在北京开会的机会参观了长城。

to somebody's advantage 对某人有利 [例] It is to your advantage to do some physical exercises every day. 每天锻炼对你是有好处的。

turn something to advantage 充分利用;使……发生作用 [例] You must turn your knowledge in American history to advantage when you are teaching English to Chinese students. 在教中国学生英语的时候你必须充分利用你在美国历史方面的知识。

ADVERSITY

Adversity is a good discipline (或 a great schoolmaster). (谚)逆境是最好的老师;逆境最能锻炼人。

AFTER

after all 1. 虽然;尽管 [例] After all our efforts, we were not able to get him round. 尽管我们努力了,但是还是没能使他回心转意。 2. 毕竟,到底