

英汉汉英 谚语格言警句辞典

An English-Chinese and Chinese-English
Dictionary of Proverbs, Mottoes and Epigrams

商务印书馆 国际有限公司

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前言

不少从事英语翻译工作的朋友可能都有过这样的体验：每当要找与一条汉语谚语、格言或警句相对应的英语译文，或与一条英语谚语、格言或警句相对应的汉语译文时，总是十分困难，有时以失败告终。尤其是即席口译时，遇到突然出现的一条谚语、格言或警句，往往难以准确地表达出来，这使人相当尴尬。究其原因，就是缺少一部适用的工具书。长久以来，我们在书店里找不到这样一部辞典。其实，英语和汉语一样，都有非常丰富的既形象生动又言简意赅的谚语、格言和警句。这就使我们萌生了要编一部《英汉汉英谚语格言警句辞典》的想法。

5年前我们开始收集积累这方面的资料。大量的谚语、格言和警句分散在为数众多的辞典或著作中，找起来并非易事。经过这几年的努力，我们总共收集了约12,000条谚语、格言和警句。

《英汉汉英谚语格言警句辞典》是一部可供双向查阅的辞典，从任何一条英语谚语、格言或警句均可以查到相对应的汉语译文。常见的汉语谚语、格言或警句也可以找到相应的英语表达方式。

在编写过程中，我们收集到部分国家、地区（如美国各个州）、机构和大学的格言，也一并收录进本辞典中。

我们编写这部辞典只是一个开始，还有不少英语或汉语谚语、格言和警句没有收录进来。我们今后仍将继续注意收集这方面的条目，对本辞典进行补充增订，使之不断完善。

朱和中

体例说明

1. 本辞典共收录谚语、格言及警句约 12,000 条。英汉部分词条按照字母顺序排列，汉英部分词条按照拼音顺序排列。

2. 有的词条对应两条或以上译文，这些译文之间用斜线分隔。

3. 圆括号的用法：

(1) 表示内容方面的补充说明。

(2) 表示括号中的内容可有可无。

4. 英语词条或译文中如有替代内容，用“(or...)”表示；汉语词条或译文中如有替代内容，用“(或：……)”表示。

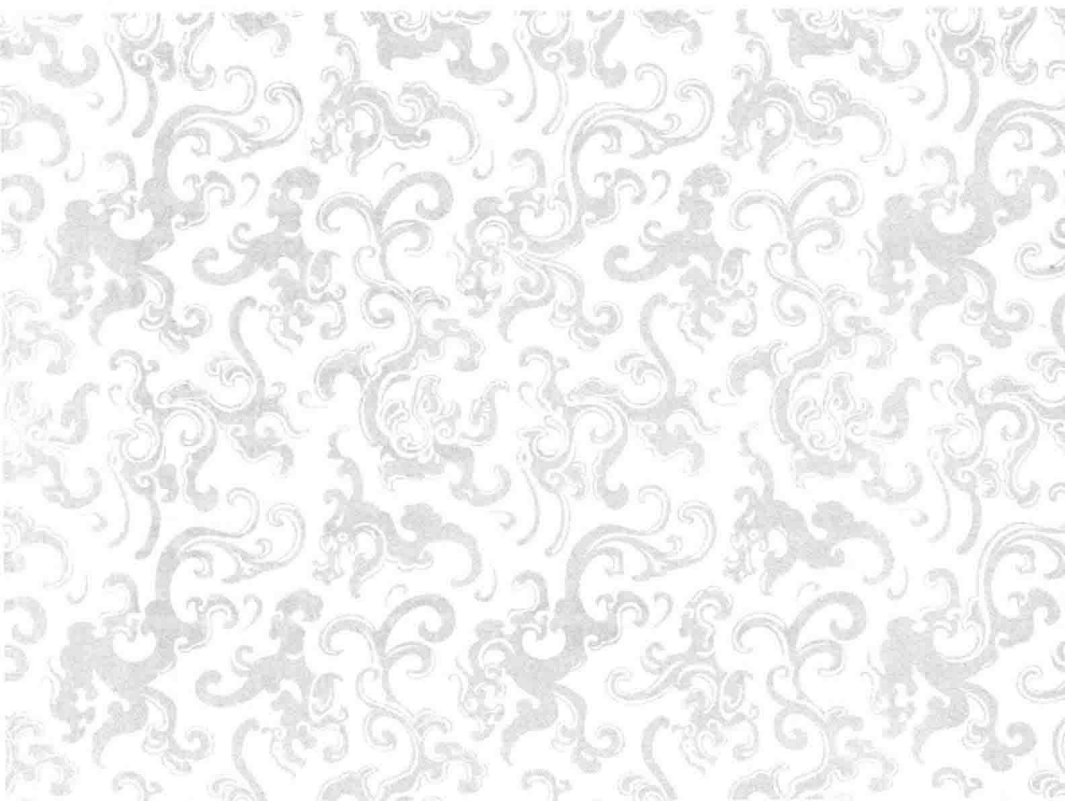
5. 对英语中的古词、诗歌用词及方言词语，如 *thy*, *ne'er* 等，均加以注释；对谚语、格言或警句的典故、寓意和使用场合，酌情加注。

〈古〉	古词	〈诗〉	诗歌用词
〈法〉	法语	〈书〉	书面语
〈方〉	方言	〈英口〉	英语口语

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英汉部分





A bad agreement (or compromise) is better than a good lawsuit.

吃亏的和解也比胜诉强。/冤家宜解不宜结。

A bad beginning makes a bad ending.

恶其始者必恶其终。/不善始者,不善终。

A bad conscience is a snake in the heart.

做贼心虚(或:做贼心虚,良心自诛)。

A bad custom is like a good cake, better broken than kept.

坏习惯像甜蛋糕,分食要比保存好。/蛋糕莫保留,恶习要除掉。

A bad day never has a good night.

白天不行善,夜晚难安眠。

A bad habit in a child should be nipped in the bud.

应该尽早把孩子的坏习惯改过来。

A bad Jack may have a bad Jill.

坏丈夫配坏婆娘。

A bad man in office is a mischief to the public.

坏人当道,百姓遭殃。

A bad master makes a bad servant.

有其主,必有其仆。

A bad padlock invites a picklock.

锁坏招人撬。/开门揖盗。

A bad penny always comes back.

伪币迟早归原主。

A bad shearer never had a good sickle.

劣工尤器。

A bad thing never dies.

坏事遗臭万年。

A bad workman (or craftsman) blames his tools.

拙匠总怪工具差。/人笨怨刀钝。/不会撑船怪河弯。/劣工尤器。

A bad year has thirteen months.

坏年头有十三个月。/ 在艰难的日子里, 人们总嫌时光过得慢。

A baited cat may grow as fierce as a lion.

被逼急的猫儿凶得像头狮子。/ 狗急跳墙。/ 人急造反, 狗急跳墙。/ 困兽犹斗。

A bald head is soon shaven.

秃子的头发剃得快。

A bargain is a bargain.

达成的协议不可撕毁。/ 说话算数。/ 君子一言, 快马一鞭。/ 一言既出, 驷马难追。/ 一诺千金。/ 一言为定。

A barleycorn is better than a diamond to a cock.

对公鸡来说, 一颗麦粒比一颗钻石更好。

A beggar can never be bankrupt.

乞丐永远不会破产。

A big head, little wit.

头大智贫。

A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.

双鸟在林, 不如一鸟在手。/ 鹬三不敌见二。/ 多得不如现得。

A bird is known by its note and a man by his talks.

闻歌知其鸟, 闻言知其人。/ 鸟以声闻, 人以言知。

A bit in the morning is better than nothing all the day.

早晨吃一点, 总比整天不吃强。/ 聊胜于无。

A biting dog does not bark.

咬人的狗不叫。

A black hen lays white eggs.

黑鸡能下白蛋。/ 丑妇能生俊女。

A blind man who leans against a wall imagines that it's the boundary of the world.

坐井观天。

A blind man will not thank you for a looking glass.

瞎子不谢赠镜人。/ 秋波送盲, 白费痴情。

A blossom (or single flower) doesn't make a spring.

一花独放不是春。

A blossom full of promise is life's joy that never comes to fruit.

悦人的鲜花不结果。

A boaster and a liar are all one.

吹牛和撒谎本是同宗。

A boaster and a liar are cousins-german.

吹牛和撒谎本是同宗。

A body without knowledge is like a house without a foundation.

人无知识犹如房屋无地基。

A boisterous horse must have a rough bridle.

烈马必须配结实的笼头。

A bold attempt is half success.

大胆尝试是成功的一半。

A book holds a house of gold.

书中自有黄金屋。

A book is a friend.

以书为友。

A book is like a garden carried in the pocket.

书本犹如随身携带的花园。

A book is the same today as it always was and it will never change.

好书千载常如新。

A book that remains shut is but a block.

书本不常翻，犹如一块砖。

A boon cannot be handed to one who will not accept it.

恩典不可强授。

A borrowed cloak does not keep one warm.

借来的斗篷不暖身。

A bosom friend afar brings a distant land near.

海内存知己，天涯若比邻。

A bow long bent at last waxeth weak.

良弓张久必弛。

[注] waxeth: 〈古〉wax 的第三人称单数现在式

A boy living next to a temple knows the litany by heart.

近朱者赤，近墨者黑。

A brave man may fall, but he cannot yield.

勇敢者可能跌倒，但不会屈服。

A

A brave retreat is a brave exploit.

勇敢的退却也是勇敢的行为。

A bride is diligent for three days.

新官上任三把火。

A broken friendship may be soldered, but will never be sound.

破裂的友谊可以重圆,但决不会牢固。

A bully is always a coward.

虚张声势的人必定是胆小鬼。/ 色厉内荏。

A burden of one's choice is not felt.

爱挑的担子不嫌重。

A burnt cat shuns the fireplace.

吃亏学乖。/ 吃一堑,长一智。/ 一次被咬,下次胆小。/ 一朝被蛇咬,十年怕井绳。

A burnt child dreads (or fears) the fire.

吃亏学乖。/ 吃一堑,长一智。/ 一次被咬,下次胆小。/ 一朝被蛇咬,十年怕井绳。

A busy mother makes a lazy daughter.

母亲勤快,女儿懒惰。

A caged bird longs for clouds.

笼中之鸟,渴望云天。

A candle lights others and consumes itself.

蜡烛燃烧自己,照亮别人。

A cat has nine lives.

猫有九命。/ 吉人自有天相。

A cat in gloves catches no mice.

猫儿戴手套,耗子捉不到。/ 四肢不勤,一事无成。

A cat may look at the king.

猫也有权看国王。/ 小人物也有权利。

A cent defeats a hero.

一分钱难倒英雄汉。

A centipede though dead will not fall.

百足之虫,死而不僵。

A change from bad to good luck.

时来运转。

A change in fortune hurts a wise man no more than a change of a moon.

时运变迁,犹如日月盈亏,但都无损于智者。

A change of work is as good as a rest.

调换一下工作就是很好的休息。

A cheerful wife is the joy of life.

快乐的妻子是生活的乐事。

A child's service is little, yet he is no little fool that despises him.

孩子的贡献不大,但是谁要是轻视他,就是大傻瓜。

A clean hand wants no washing.

身正不怕影子斜。/手净不用洗,无罪何须辩。

A clear fast is better than a dirty breakfast.

宁为清贫,不为浊富。

A clever fellow will extricate himself from a disadvantageous position whenever possible.

光棍不吃眼前亏。

A clever man changes his mind and a fool never will.

智者通权达变,愚者刚愎自用。

A clever man has his stupid moments.

聪明一世,糊涂一时。/老虎也有打盹的时候。/智者千虑,必有一失。

A closed book never makes a scholar.

不读书的人绝对成不了学者。

A closed mouth catches no fly.

病从口入,祸从口出。

A closed mouth makes a wise head.

聪明莫过于沉默。/智者寡言。/大智若愚。/真人不露相,露相非真人。

A clown enriched knows neither relatives nor friends.

小人发迹,六亲不认。

A cock is always valiant (or bold or brave) on his own dunghill.

站在粪堆上,公鸡也称王。/夜郎自大。

A cocksure army is doomed to defeat.

骄兵必败。/满招损。

A colt you may break, but an old horse you never can.

马驹可驯,老马难教。

A common danger begets unity.

同仇敌忾。

A common danger causes a common action.

同仇敌忾。

A common horse is always lean.

公用之马，骨瘦如柴。

A common trouble with people is that they are too eager to assume the role of teacher.

人之患在好为人师。

A concentrated mind will pierce a rock.

集中注意力，其力能穿石。

A constant guest is never welcome.

常客令人烦。/ 常客如鲜鱼，三天就变臭。/ 久住非佳宾，常来不欢迎。

A contented ass enjoys a long life.

知足的傻子长命百岁。/ 知足常乐。

A contented mind is a perpetual feast.

知足常乐。

A contented mind is the greatest blessing a man can enjoy in this world.

知足是人生最大的乐事。

A cool head and warm feet are the cause of a long life.

头凉脚暖，长寿之道。

A cornered dog will leap over a wall.

狗急跳墙。/ 人急造反，狗急跳墙。/ 困兽犹斗。

A cornered rat will bite a cat.

老鼠逼急了也会咬猫。/ 狗急跳墙。/ 人急造反，狗急跳墙。/ 困兽犹斗。

A country may go to ruin, but its mountains and rivers remain.

国破山河在。

A courageous foe is better than a cowardly friend.

宁要勇敢的敌人，不交胆小的朋友。

A covetous man is good to none but worse to himself.

贪夫损人不利己。

A cow does not know what her tail is worth until she has lost it.

牛丢掉了尾巴才知道它的珍贵。/ 有时不爱惜，失去空叹息。

- A cow in another pasture gives plenty of milk.**
别人牧场的奶牛产奶多。/ 这山望着那山高。
- A coward's mother does not weep.**
懦夫的母亲从来不必为他哭泣。
- A cracked bell can never sound well.**
破钟无好音。
- A crafty fellow never has any peace.**
狡诈之徒, 永无宁日。
- A crafty knave needs no broker.**
狡猾的流氓不需居间人。
- A creaking cart goes long.**
吱嘎作响的马车耐用。/ 病夫多长寿。
- A creaking door (or gate) hangs long on its hinges.**
户枢不蠹。/ 病夫多长寿。
- A credulous thing is love.**
爱情容易使人上当受骗。
- A crooked stick makes (or has or throws) a crooked shadow.**
身不正, 影必斜。/ 上行下效。/ 上梁不正下梁歪。
- A crow is never the whiter for washing herself often.**
乌鸦再怎么经常清洗自己也不会变白。
- A crown is no cure for the headache.**
王冠难治头痛病。
- A crying child obtains milk.**
会哭的孩子有奶吃。
- A cunning lawyer beats the devil.**
精明的律师能战胜魔鬼。
- A daily guest is a great thief in the kitchen.**
常客天天访, 食物被吃光。
- A damaged plate laughs at a broken one.**
五十步笑一百步。
- A danger foreseen is half avoided.**
隐患早预见, 危险减一半。
- A daughter married is a daughter lost.**
嫁出去的女, 泼出去的水。

A day is a miniature of eternity.

一天是永恒的缩影。

A dead goat does not fear the knife.

死羊不怕刀子割。/ 死猪不怕开水烫。

A dead man does not bite (or Dead men bite not).

人死口闭。/ 死人不会告密。

A dead man pays no debts.

一了百了。/ 人死百债了。

A debt of gold we can repay, but debt of kindness lasts through life.

金债可偿, 人情债难了。

A deceiver deceives himself.

骗人终骗己。

A discontented man knows not where to sit easy.

不知足者永无宁日。

A disease known is half cured.

病情确诊, 病好一半。/ 对症下药, 药到病除。

A dog in hunger swallows dung.

饿狗会吃屎。/ 饥不择食。

A dog in the manger.

占着茅坑不拉屎。

A dog that puts up many hares kills none.

样样都要, 全部失掉。

A dog will not howl if you beat him with a bone.

骨头打狗狗不叫。

A dog with full mouth does not bark.

正在吃食的狗不叫。/ 吃人家的嘴软, 拿人家的手短。/ 受人之礼, 受制于人。

A dog's mouth emits no ivory.

狗嘴里吐不出象牙来。

A dollar saved is as good as a dollar earned.

积少成多。/ 集腋成裘。/ 聚沙成塔。/ 节约就是增收。/ 省钱就是挣钱。

A donkey is donkey even he wears a saddle, and an old woman, no matter how she adores herself, does not become a young one.

驴子就是配上鞍还是驴子, 老太太怎么打扮也成不了少女。

A door must be either shut or open.

门不关上就得开着，二者必居其一。/ 非此即彼。

A drowning man will catch (or clutch at) a straw.

溺水者甚至连一根稻草也要抓。

A drowning man will even grasp the foam.

溺水者甚至连一个泡沫也要抓。

A drunk heart lies never.

酒后吐真言。

A dull ass near the home needs no spur.

蠢驴快到家门口，不用加鞭也快走。

A dwarf on a giant's shoulder sees the farther of the two.

巨人肩上的侏儒看得远。

A faint heart ne'er won a fair lady.

懦夫难赢美人心。

[注] ne'er: 〈诗〉 = never

A fair death honors the whole life.

死得其所，百世流芳。

A fair face is half a portion.

一张漂亮的面孔值半份嫁妆。

A fair face may hide a foul heart.

笑里藏刀。/ 人面兽心。

A fair flower springs out of dunghill.

艳丽的鲜花是用粪土培育的。

A faithful friend is hard to find.

知音难觅。

A faithful wife does not marry again.

好女不嫁二郎。

A fall into a pit, a gain in one's wit.

吃亏学乖。/ 吃一堑，长一智。/ 一次被咬，下次胆小。/ 一朝被蛇咬，十年怕井绳。

A false tongue will hardly speak truth.

虚伪者不会说真话。/ 狗嘴里吐不出象牙。

A family out of debt is out of danger.

无债一身轻。