

WORD POWER

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哈尔滨工业大学出版社

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词汇的动力

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前 言

在当今世界,由于国际政治的多极化、社会生活的信息化和经济活动的全球化,英语能力已经成为中国参与国际竞争所必须具备的一种软实力。学习和掌握英语,一方面可以促进心智、情感、态度与价值观的发展以及综合人文素养的提高;另一方面,掌握英语这样一种重要的国际通用语可以为学习国外先进的文化科学知识和进行国际交往创造条件。简言之,英语语言是 21 世纪中国人必备的基本语言素养之一。

在英语学习中,词汇是构筑英语语言能力的基础,也是语言学习的最基本和最重要的组成部分。词汇是语言学习,即语音、词汇和语法的最直接表现形式。语音必须附着于词汇上;语法规则因精辟的词藻才显出语言的美丽与魅力。语音和语法的掌握是有限的,词汇的积累却是无限的。学习者能够在相对较短的时间内掌握语音和语法,而积累并能准确运用词汇却始终伴随着持续一生的语言学习。因此,词汇能力始终是语言学习者孜孜以求的目标。

根据英语语言学习的基本规律,依据教育部最新颁布的《大学英语教学课程要求》,编写而成此书。

本书的特点如下。

一、遵循英语语言的构词特点

英语语言有其自身的构词特点。掌握一定量的词根和词缀,既有利于读者举一反三,以点带面,又有利于了解英语文化,更深入地了解英语。因此,本书详列了大量词根和词缀,并进行了单元分类,利于学生记忆、归纳、总结和查询。同时,由于词组和短语始终是英语语言学习的重要组成部分和难点所在,故本书详尽的解析能够帮助读者对词组搭配一目了然。

II WORD POWER 词汇的动力

二、适应对象广泛,习题编写灵活

在目前中国的英语学习中,语言测试始终伴随着各级和各类型的教育。本书所列举的词汇涵盖了大学英语四级考试、六级考试,英语专业四级考试、八级考试,研究生入学英语考试,以及其他相关考试。此外,每一章节后面的相应练习,都根据语言的准确性以及社会生活的开放性特点,设计为被动型、半主动型和主动型练习。被动型要求准确严密地掌握词汇,选择是惟一的;半主动型利用词与词和句与句的干扰性,进一步激发学生准确运用词汇的能力;主动型是开放性的,能够充分调动学生的语言思维,唤醒大脑中沉睡的词汇,具有极强的前瞻性。

三、原创型例句,地道、精辟

英语学习的最终目的是准确地运用英语,即具备英语语言的综合运用能力。本书所精选的例句,均由编者精选而成,并由外籍专家逐一删增或创作,语言地道、精辟。

本书共分两部分,第一部分共三章,主要涉及构词法,其中包括词根和词缀;第二部分共两章,主要涉及词组和搭配,其中包括动词词组和介词词组的搭配。此外,我们单列了一章讲述缩略语,以帮助学生了解有关缩略语的知识。本书中用分号“;”将同一单词的不同含义或不同词性分割开。

本书由哈尔滨工业大学和哈尔滨商业大学近 10 位一线教师合作编写,由美籍教师审阅修改而成。

由于编者水平有限,书中的疏漏之处,恳请专家、读者批评斧正。

编 者

2005 年 9 月于哈工大

Author's Introduction

A note to the student

This book has been designed to make your life easier. It is designed for quick and efficient learning of English words—to impart to you the maximum amount of learning in the minimum amount of time. Properly used, it will raise your scores on the CET Bands 4 and 6, as well as Bands 4 and 8 for English majors, in addition to the TOEFL, GRE and related tests. It will improve your academic performance in all courses that require English in any form, no matter what your major. Making substantial improvements in your English will raise your standing in your class among your peers, and help to get you a much better job when you graduate. It is the avowed purpose of this book to raise you far beyond the minimums, to expand your intellect by giving you not only a vocabulary of words but a vocabulary of thought, expressions and even of ideas.

I could have given it the title of one of my earlier books—a conversational English book I wrote for Tsinghua University Press, which I called *Lazy English*. Why lazy? Because learning a single word root is like learning dozens of words at the same time! This is real economy in language learning.

The meaning of meaning

It is no accident that the French word for meaning is *veuxdire*—to want to say. It is our aim to give you variety and range—the ability to truly communicate to your listener what you want him to understand, and understanding in return. The most frustrating experience for a new language learner is the inability to get his meaning across.

What do we mean by “word power”?

“Word power” is not just a catchy title. It means exactly what the words imply. Facility in language—first one's own, then in a foreign language—is a

2 WORD POWER 词汇的动力

great power.

The ability to select just the right word, whether in a casual conversation, a formal speech or a written essay, ensures fruitful and efficient communication with others. It gives one real power to convince, to persuade, to change minds, to alter an opinion or sway an audience. It will help you gain respect from your peers and your teachers at university, and your co-workers and superiors in the working world. Everybody gains by this—yourself, your colleagues, your employer, your country. It is, in every sense of the word, a *win-win* situation.

But remember: before you can convey meaning to another mind properly and efficiently, you must first be sure of your own meaning, first in your own language, then in your acquired second language. Not being understood and not understanding can give you a feeling of futility, of inferiority, of great frustration. It reduces your self-esteem—your feeling of self-worth. It consumes your energies. Your frustrated listener, straining to understand you, may become sad or even angry; your leaders will underestimate your abilities and may lose respect for you; nobody gains. It is, in all senses, a *lose-lose* situation.

The associations, the relationships between the word roots, prefixes and suffixes, and the many words you will learn from them, will help you to develop the rare skill of creating a formidable vocabulary of subtle and precise ideas to be transmitted to your listeners.

This book will work well both for self-teaching and for classroom teaching. A comprehensive set of exercises is given at the end of each 10 entries, and these exercises comprise three types of learning: 1) passive knowledge; 2) semi-active knowledge, and 3) active knowledge. If you do these exercises diligently, results are assured.

Passive knowledge vs. active knowledge

Passive knowledge requires only a degree of familiarity with the word or concept, and can be brought forth through certain associations. Such knowledge is not immediately available; when we are searching for just the right word but cannot quite find it, we often say it is “on the tip of the tongue”. But

when we see close approximations to it we can recognize it—and that is what makes multiple choice tests so desirable for Chinese students. *Active knowledge*, on the other hand, which requires far more study and concentration, is in the forefront of consciousness—directly and fully available—“at one’s fingertips”. Throughout the book, from beginning to end, we challenge you with both kinds of recognition and recall.

Associations and cumulative learning

As you go through the whole book: roots, prefixes, suffixes, prepositional phrases, collocations, etc. doing the exercises, there is no question that your vocabulary will increase by leaps and bounds, and your test scores will rise significantly. You will save hundreds, possibly thousands of hours spend in futile, brute memorization, and will begin to build strong and useful *associations* among the words that you have learned that will help you to gain a real foothold on your English learning—because these associations *reinforce each other* and the result is cumulative learning—the *royal road to language learning*. As these associations build and accumulate, your skill and competence in English will increase exponentially; by learning a relatively small number of roots you will be able to understand the meaning of many thousands of words, technical and otherwise—many that you may have never seen. Your peers, superiors and especially your foreign associates will be amazed at the ease and the power with which you can derive meaning from even the most technical and obscure writing—and speaking.

It is my firm belief that this power will gain you respect and open many doors of opportunity to you in your career, whether in government, education or private industry. As China’s powerful presence in the global community becomes progressively evident, people with these skills will be increasingly in demand—they will be able to “write their own ticket”.

Test-taking in the real world—the CET Bands 4 & 6

Most Chinese students believe that brute memorization, one word at a time, is the only way to prepare for these CET test, and, frequently putting it off to the last possible minute. Most resign themselves to the unpleasant and

laborious prospect of cramming, stuffing and force-feeding their minds with extraneous, superfluous vocabulary words, soon to be forgotten, that may give them a fleeting passive knowledge of certain words just sufficient to get them a minimal score on the test. *Such learning, if indeed it can be called learning, contributes absolutely nothing to skill and mastery of the language.*

Although I roundly disapprove of the entire philosophy of “teaching to the test”, the stark reality is that your English performance is still judged on the basis of those tests, and that a low score will remain on your record permanently, decrease your opportunities, and negatively affect your life in one way or another. So, until a better way of evaluating language competence is instituted, one of our tasks is to help you make the highest possible scores. This book, properly used and studied like any other text book, will do the trick!

If a student's entire future depends largely upon the achievement high test scores in a fiercely competitive environment, that student may feel compelled to concentrate all his energies upon achieving that goal, and some are sorely tempted to shortcut the process—in a word—to cheat. That's definitely the wrong message! Other students, many of whom would prefer to remain honest, see their peers getting ahead by this means, and often feel compelled to follow suit. The message for many is unmistakable: honesty is not the best policy; it pays to cheat or “get around” the rules by any means. This sends a cynical message that rules were made to be broken, and that stealth, craftiness and willingness to take advantage of others are the surest way to get ahead; a message of “every man for himself” and “idealism is for fools”. Unfortunately, this message is prevalent throughout society. An upcoming generation of cynical self-seekers who have no respect for the rules does not bode well for a society that the rest of the world must increasingly look up to for leadership and guidance.

One of our reasons for creating this book has been to address this crisis directly and provide solutions. A textbook which makes your learning more efficient can help allay those temptations, and give you noticeable results in a short time, leaving you a lot more time to concentrate on your other courses, more time for rest and recuperation, more time to have a life!

A few hours spent learning the roots will give you a tremendous advantage. Why? Because the test-taker's favorite kind of question—multiple choice—abounds in the CET tests; a large proportion of the point scoring questions are multiple choice—easily acquired passive knowledge—meaning that you don't have to learn it all by heart, only enough to recognize it. Learning a few hundred of these roots, prefixes and suffixes will allow you to recognize many thousands of words you might not have been able to learn in a lifetime of study.

You are the future of China. Your generation will produce the leaders of the new China, an awakening giant destined to lead the world in the 21st century in commerce and virtually every other area of human endeavor. The high leaders in your society wisely want to see you become world citizens with cultural sophistication and a global perspective, having built the character traits of honesty and diligence, having learned respect for knowledge and learning, and having acquired a good mastery of one or more languages in addition to your own. It wants you to develop and cherish these ideals, and to set an example for all the other nations.

I dedicate this book to you, the youth of the new China, and I wish you success in your endeavors and fulfillment of your dreams.

CONTENTS

CHAPTER ONE	Roots 词根	(1)
CHAPTER TWO	Prefixes 前缀	(206)
CHAPTER THREE	Suffixes 后缀	(268)
CHAPTER FOUR	Verb Phrases and Collocations 动词词组与搭配	(348)
4.1	Collocation of Verbs and Prepositions 动词与介词的搭配	(348)
4.2	Collocation of Verbs, Nouns and Prepositions 动词、名词与介词的搭配	(373)
4.3	Collocation of Verbs and Adverbs 动词与副词的搭配	(385)
4.4	Collocation of Verbs, Adverbs and Prepositions 动词、副词与介词的搭配	(422)
4.5	Collocation of Verbs and Gerunds 动词与动名词的搭配	(438)
4.6	Collocation of Verbs and Infinitives 动词与动词不定式的搭配	(450)
CHAPTER FIVE	Prepositional Phrases and Collocations 介词词组与搭配	(462)
5.1	Collocation of Adjectives and Prepositions 形容词与介词的搭配	(462)
5.2	Collocation of Nouns and Prepositions 名词与介词的搭配	(495)
5.3	Collocation of Prepositions and Adjectives 介词与形容词的搭配	(544)
5.4	Collocation of Prepositional Phrases 固有介词组成的介词词组	(546)
5.5	Collocation of Compound Prepositional Phrases 复合介词词组	(674)
CHAPTER SIX	Common Abbreviations 常用缩略语	(677)
6.1	Shortening 缩略法	(677)
6.2	Back-formation 逆生法	(683)
6.3	Common Abbreviations 常用缩略语	(684)
附录一	常用缩略语	(687)
附录二	计算机网络缩略语	(696)
参考答案	(699)

CHAPTER ONE

Roots 词根

词汇的主体是词根。英语词根大部分来自拉丁语。在词汇学习中了解一定数量的词根,配合所掌握的前缀和后缀,将有助于丰富自身的构词法知识,加深对单词含义的理解,为今后的词汇学习奠定扎实的基础。而且,运用掌握词根的方法来学习英文单词,不仅可以从本质了解词的构成,而且使记忆过程变得轻松、简单。

Unit 1



1. *acid*, *acr* = "sour 酸的, sharp 锐利的"

► **acid** *adj.* 酸, 酸的

【例】Vinegar is an acid. 醋是一种酸。

► **acidize** *v.* 用酸处理, 使酸化

【例】The drug is used to acidize water. 这种药品是用来使水酸化的。

► **acidity** *n.* 酸度, 酸性

【例】High acidity levels in the water mean that the fish are not so large.
水的酸度太高意味着鱼不会太多。

► **acidly** *adv.* 不悦地, 心地不良地

【例】"I suppose you expect me to thank you for coming," he said acidly.
"我推想你期待我会感谢你的来临," 他不悦地说。

2. *act* = "to act 行动"

► **action** *n.* 动作, 战斗, 行动, 举动, 行为

【例】We must take action to deal with the problem before it spreads to other areas. 在该问题传播到其他的区域之前, 我们一定采取行动处理它。

► **active** *adj.* 积极的

【例】Older people should keep active. 年长的人应该保持活跃。

► **activity** *n.* 活跃, 活动性, 行动, 行为

【例】There was a sudden flurry of activity when the director walked in.
当领导走入的时候, 人们突然慌张地活动起来。

► **react** *v.* 起反应, 起作用, 反抗

【例】When danger arises, react quickly!
当危险发生的时候, 很快地做出反应!

► **actor** *n.* 男演员, 行动者, 参与者

► **actress** *n.* 女演员

3. **acu, acr** = “needle 针, top 顶端, tip end 尖端, extreme 极端”

► **acute** *adj.* 敏锐的, 急性的, 剧烈

【例】She has an acute mind. 她有敏锐的头脑。

► **acupuncture** *n.* 针刺疗法, 施行针刺疗法

【例】Acupuncture originated in China. 针灸开始于中国。

4. **ag** = “do 做, act 行动”

► **agent** *n.* 代理

【例】Please contact our agent in Spain for further information.
想要进一步的信息, 请联络我们在西班牙的代理人。

► **coagent** *n.* 共事者, 合作者, 帮手

► **agenda** *n.* 议程

► **agile** *adj.* 敏捷的, 轻快的, 灵活的

【例】an agile mind 机敏的头脑

【例】The dancer is agile in her movements. 跳舞者的动作敏捷。

► **agitate** *v.* 搅动, 摇动, 煽动, 激动

5. **agogue** = “leader 领导者”

► **demagogue** *n.* 煽动政治家

【例】A demagogue is a leader who obtains power by means of impassioned appeals to the emotions and prejudices of the populace.
一个煽动者是靠激起人们的情绪和偏见获得力量的领袖。

► **pedagogically** *adv.* 教师地, 教育学地, 教学法地

【例】The minister's reforms are pedagogically questionable.

部长的改革在教学方面很值得推敲。

6. *agri* = "field 田地"

► **agriculture** *n.* 农业, 农艺, 农学

【例】Agriculture is involved in growing food. 农业涉及种植食物。

► **agronomy** *n.* 农艺学, 农学

► **agronomic** *adj.* 农艺学的, 农事的

► **agrarian** *adj.* 有关土地的, 耕地的

► **agrestic** *adj.* 乡土的, 粗野的

7. *al, ol, ul* = "nourish 滋养"

► **aliment** *n.* 食物, 滋养品

【例】Aliment is something that nourishes. 食物是提供营养的东西。

► **adolescence** *n.* 青春期

【例】He had a troubled adolescence. 他的青春期很不平静。

8. *alt* = "high 高的"

► **altitude** *n.* (尤指海拔)高度, (等级, 地位等的)高等

【例】Cirrus clouds are at a very high altitude. 卷须云在很高的海拔上。

► **exalted** *adj.* 尊贵的, 高位的, 兴奋的, 高尚的

【例】She rose to the exalted post of Foreign Secretary after only three years in the government.

她在政府只工作了3年就被提升到尊贵的外交部长的职位。

► **altar** *n.* 祭坛, (基督教教堂内的)圣坛, 祈祷祭拜的地方

► **altimeter** *n.* 高度计

► **alto** *n.* 女低音, 次高音, 次高音歌手

9. *alter, ali* = "other 其他的"

► **alter** *v.* 改变

【例】We had to alter our plan since he could not show up.

他不能来了, 我们不得不改变计划。

► **alternative** *n.* 可供选择的办法、事物

【例】I'm afraid I have no alternative but to ask you to leave.

除了要求你离开之外, 恐怕我没有其他选择。

10. *am* = "to love 爱"▶ **amateur** *n.* 业余爱好者, 业余艺术家

【例】He was an amateur singer until the age of 40, when he turned professional. 他是直到 40 岁才由业余歌手变为专业歌手。

▶ **amorous** *adj.* 多情的, 恋爱的, 表示爱情的【例】Amanda has rejected his amorous advances.
阿曼达已经拒绝了他的求爱。▶ **amateurish** *adj.* 业余的, 非职业的, 不熟练的▶ **amatory** *adj.* 恋爱的, 情人的▶ **enamour** *vt.* 迷住, 使迷恋▶ **amorist** *n.* 情人, 情, 擅于谈情说爱者, 爱情小说作者

EXERCISES 1.1

Questions 1 ~ 10: Passive knowledge

Multiple choice: Choose the word which most closely expresses the meaning.

- Fish can not live in the water in high acidity levels.
A. sour B. tartness C. bitterness D. sourness
- She has to accept the consequences of her conduct.
A. behaving B. actions C. act D. activity
- The problem of poverty is particularly acute in rural areas.
A. sharp B. subtle C. trenchant D. astute
- In her agony she forgot to leave a message.
A. hurt B. heartache C. anxious D. anguish
- For a man of 80, he has a remarkably quick mind.
A. alert B. skillful C. agile D. adroit
- An true statesman differs from a demagogue in that the latter's utterances are frequently deceptive.
A. designer B. rabble-rouser C. anthropoid D. ambassador
- The area depends on farming for most of its income.
A. agriculture B. industry C. commerce D. husbandry
- An teenager is a young person who is developing into an adult.
A. adolescent B. stripling C. infant D. grown-up

9. We are currently flying at a height of 10 000 metres.

- A. altitude B. stature C. loftiness D. elevation

10. This tennis tournament is open to both amateurs and professionals.

- A. outsiders B. specialists C. fans D. laymen

Questions 11 ~ 15: Semi-active knowledge

Select the suitable word from the box below.

sour	acid	amateurish	behave	sourness	immature
clever	active	reflect	skills	action	agility
industrial	bitterness				

11. When she spoke her tone was _____.
12. Their website looks _____.
13. This problem calls for prompt _____ from the government.
14. This job requires considerable mental _____.
15. The country's economy is mainly _____ and depends on crops like coffee.

Questions 16 ~ 20: Active knowledge

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

16. _____ is a treatment for pain and illness in which thin needles are positioned just under the surface of the skin at special nerve centres around the body.
17. An _____ is a person who takes part in an activity for pleasure, not as a job.
18. Mountain climbers use oxygen when they reach higher _____.
19. We could go to the Indian restaurant, or _____, we could try that new Italian place.
20. I'll say the words and you can mime the _____.

Unit 2



1. *ang* = "to strangle 扼死, 勒死, 窒息"

► **anguish** *n.* 痛苦, 苦恼, 使极苦闷

【例】His anguish at the outcome of the court case was very clear.

法院的判决结果出来后他显然很痛苦。

► **anxious** *adj.* 担忧的, 渴望的, 盼望的

【例】My mother always gets a bit anxious if we don't arrive when we say we will. 当我们说来不来的时候, 我的母亲总是有一点担心。

2. *angl, angul* = "angle 角"

► **angular** *adj.* 有角的

【例】Her features were too angular, her face a little too long to be considered beautiful. 她的脸太有棱角, 而且也太长。

► **rectangle** *n.* 长方形, 矩形

【例】The place is shaped like a rectangle. 这块地方是长方形的。

► **triangle** *n.* 三角形, 三人一组, 三角关系

【例】Which earrings did you buy in the end—the triangular ones or the round ones? 最后你买了什么样的耳环——三角形还是圆形?

3. *anima* = "life 生命, mind 心"

► **animal** *n.* 动物

【例】Animals evolved differently in Australia.

澳洲动物的进化与众不同。

► **animated** *adj.* 活生生的, 愉快的

【例】His drawings are animated. 他的图画是活生生的。

► **animator** *n.* 给予生气者, 鼓舞者, 漫画家

【例】Walt Disney is the most famous animator of feature-length films.

沃尔特·迪斯尼的长篇漫画电影是最出名的。

► **animacule** *n.* 微生物

► **animality** *n.* 动物性, 兽性, 动物界微生物

► **disanimate** *v.* 使灰心, 使失去生命

4. *ann, enn* = "year 年"

► **anniversary** *n.* 周年纪念

【例】We always celebrate our wedding anniversary with dinner in an expensive restaurant.

我们总在一家很贵的餐馆庆祝我们的结婚纪念日。