

# 558 易用 Easy-to-Use 汉英词典

Chinese/English Dictionary of Words and Phrases

澳门城市大学语言研究所 编委组 编  
北京大学英语系《新意式558易用汉英词典》编撰组

策划人 胡百熙 名誉主编 胡壮麟

Adopts the innovative  
558 Word Retrieving System  
simplifying the process of  
searching for Chinese characters

独有558检字法

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## 图书在版编目(CIP)数据

558 易用汉英词典 / 澳门城市大学语言研究所编委组, 北京大学英语系《新意式 558 易用汉英词典》编撰组编.  
— 杭州: 浙江大学出版社, 2014. 1  
ISBN 978-7-308-10498-2

I. ①5… II. ①澳… ②北… III. ①英语—词典②词典—汉、英 IV. ①H316

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2012)第 207065 号

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北京大学英语系《新意式 558 易用汉英词典》编撰组 编

责任编辑 张 琛

文字编辑 徐 瑾

封面设计 墨华文化

出版发行 浙江大学出版社

(杭州市天目山路 148 号 邮政编码 310007)

(网址: <http://www.zjupress.com>)

排 版 浙江时代出版服务有限公司

印 刷 浙江印刷集团有限公司

开 本 880mm×1230mm 1/32

印 张 22.25

字 数 2300 千

版 印 次 2014 年 2 月第 1 版 2014 年 2 月第 1 次印刷

书 号 ISBN 978-7-308-10498-2

定 价 98.00 元

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浙江大学出版社发行部联系方式: 0571-88925591; <http://zjdxcb.tmall.com>

汉英词典在国内出版已有多种,多半为上乘之作,已可满足国内不同阶层的使用者的需要。那么,为什么还要编写这部词典呢?本词典究竟有何特色呢?

事实上,现在市面上的汉英词典的检索方法仅限于拼音检索和部首检索。这两种检索方法对有深厚汉语基础的中国人来说,由于会讲、会写汉语,自然是相当方便。然而这些词典却忽略了有志学习中文的外国人士的需要。对初学中文的外国人而言,他们大多还没有完全掌握汉语拼音知识,更遑论众多的部首了。可见以往外国人要轻松使用汉英词典真是天方夜谭。现在《558 易用汉英词典》独有的 558 检字法就能满足他们的需要。558 检字法摒弃传统复杂的部首检索方法,将汉字拆分成不同的部件组合,然后再归纳若干种类,能将所有汉字见形解码,大大方便了有兴趣学习中文的外国人。由此,本词典将为汉语文化的传播交流打开一个新局面。

考虑到粤语在我国广东地区、港澳地区和海外华人中是一种重要的交际语,本词典也提供了粤语的拼音,使本词典更具实用性。

就汉语词条的英语对照而言,有时我们会提供多种译文,供使用者根据不同语境,即根据交际的不同目的、不同对象、不同场合、不同方式进行挑选。语言是一种多层次的语言系统,所谓系统,实际上就是把语言看作一种资源,它是使用者在实际生活中大脑中一个又一个积累起来的,在使用时又把它从记忆的语库中挑选出来,完成各种表达任务,但是一个人的记忆力毕竟有限,这时就要依靠外部的社会力量。工具书就是一种形式。在这个意义上,本词典将永远成为您的良师益友。

参加本词典编纂工作全过程的有北京大学英语系郭中、封宗信、赵杨先生和罗爱荣女士;参加组织工作的有北京大学英语系副主任金衡山先生。在机房为集体热忱服务的有刘星云先生。参加审阅校正工作的有加拿大温哥华的胡紫东女士和中国香港的徐志强先生。正是他们日日夜夜的辛苦操劳、亲密无间的协作精神和不厌其烦的多次修改,才使本词典得以完成。在此我要特别提一下郭中先生,他不仅参加词典的编纂工作,更主要的是他对整个计算机的输入程序悉心研究,攻克了一个又一个技术难关,居首功而无愧。本词典

初稿完成后,曾请中国语文出版社的资深专家审阅并提出宝贵意见,根据这些意见我们作了一定的修改,谨在此致谢。对于一些尚未发现的问题,当由我们承担责任。

在整个编辑过程中,我们除自行收集一些语料外,还参考了国内外多种工具书。我们对这些工具书的编者们的出版社的开创性工作除虚心学习外,谨表示衷心的感谢。

最后,该提一下本词典的总设计师胡百熙先生了。当我们为胡百熙先生编写《558 易用汉英词典》时,胡百熙先生已高瞻远瞩,提出进一步编纂本词典的伟大宏图。胡百熙先生原为中国香港负有盛名的律师,一向不忘祖国和东亚地区的文化建设。他曾是原澳门东亚大学(现改名为澳门大学)的创办人之一,积极推动澳门东亚大学于20世纪80年代初期,与中国法学会合作举办中国法律文凭课程,深受港澳法律界人士欢迎。此外,胡百熙先生对汉字检索和粤语语音系统都有精辟之见。在祖国改革开放的历史时期,他充分认识到不同文化、不同民族之间相互交流的重要性,这交流应该是互相平等的、互相尊重的,为此,我们在学习异族文化和他们的语言的同时,也要继承和弘扬民族文化,构成这个民族文化的核心——汉字文化。在某种意义上,东亚文化也与汉字文化有历史的渊源关系,因此,不论是跨文化交际或弘扬民族文化,都必须克服语言的障碍,让本族人和他民族正确认识汉字的功能,帮助他们学好、用好汉语,并了解汉语词语在其他民族语言中的各种表达式。这就是说,我们不仅要有汉英词典,还将有汉法英词典、汉德英词典、汉印英词典、汉日英词典、汉韩英词典、汉马英词典、汉葡英词典、汉俄英词典、汉西英词典、汉泰英词典、汉越英词典等。这些都已经在胡百熙先生的规划和酝酿之中。我对胡百熙先生的这一远大抱负深感钦佩,也正是这个原因,这几年来我对能与胡百熙先生合作、能为胡百熙先生效区区之力感到莫大的荣幸。

胡壮麟

北京大学畅春园

## Foreword (1) to the First Edition

Language is an essential means of communication of mankind and promotes cultural understanding among the peoples in different countries. Chinese language is spoken by the largest single ethnic group in the world and it is being studied by increasing numbers of non-Chinese people across the globe.

The 21st century will usher in a new era with a changing focus on the Asia and Pacific region, of which China assumes a significant position in view of her long history, rich culture, human resources and economic drive. More and more foreigners are making great efforts to acquire their language skills to be able to communicate with Chinese people in various fields including culture, education, business, science and technology.

Chinese language is not easy to learn. Westerners, in particular, find it difficult mainly because of its complex structure of written characters. The *558 Easy-to-Use Chinese/English Dictionary of Words and Phrases* with its 558 Word Retrieving System, which represents a major breakthrough, provides the learners of Chinese language with a simplified process of searching for Chinese characters. The *558 Easy-to-Use Chinese/English*

*Dictionary of Words and Phrases* is hopefully the first of a series of similar publications in other major languages with appropriate English explanations—a gigantic step in the promotion of Chinese culture on a global scale.

Mr. Edward P. H. Woo, inventor of the 558 Word Retrieving System, is the pioneering spirit behind this visionary enterprise and monumental endeavour. A prominent solicitor in Hong Kong, Mr. Woo has made important contributions to the development of education as well as to the understanding of Chinese culture.

I send my best wishes for every success.

S. S. Hsueh

(Former Rector of Asia International Open University, Macau, China)

## Foreword (2)

I grew up and went to school in a place and at a time when it was necessary to learn both English and Chinese. My mother tongue was Chinese. In the course of my studies, my most constant companion was an English/Chinese dictionary. I did not feel the need to look up Chinese words to learn English. My conclusion is that in learning any language, when we encounter words new to us, the most effective solution is to look up the words of the foreign language from a dictionary in which the meanings are given briefly and clearly, and with good examples, in one's own language.

A native English speaker, learning to read or speak Chinese, will therefore have the greatest need of a Chinese/English dictionary, not of an English/Chinese one.

Most of the Chinese equivalents of English "words" are made up of two or three characters. Grouped together, they constitute what are known as compound words. In looking up a dictionary, one needs to look up the first of these characters. Many systems are available. The most common one lists characters by their pronunciation or pinyin. Additionally, it arranges characters under 200 plus "radicals". A student who knows how a character is pronounced can, of course, search for its meaning through pinyin. A student who does not happen to know the pin-yin of a character



will have to search through the radicals. This is by no means an easy task. To be able to use the traditional dictionary, a student is expected to have at least two or more years experience learning Chinese.

In this dictionary, we have adopted a system, which we find extremely user friendly, so much so that even a student in the most elementary level can make use of it.

The *558 Easy-to-Use Chinese/English Dictionary of Words and Phrases* is offered principally to foreign students learning Chinese as a second language in the hope that it will become as useful to them as my own inseparable companion was to me in the days when I went to school in Hong Kong and found myself struggling, more or less successfully, with English.

In the world today, tensions exist principally between two people, who can not easily communicate with each other, understand each other's thoughts and apprehension, or speak to each other in a common tongue. Peace between nations and harmony between two people of different races, ethnic origin, religions can only come when we understand each other better. Understanding can only be achieved when we know something of each other's language and take the trouble to learn it. And perhaps nothing can be more helpful to the student than a dictionary.

Edward P. H. Woo

# 558 检字法使用法

## 中文字体的特征

1. 汉字由笔画组成,笔画看似困难,其实可简单地分为下列五类:  
①横 ②直 ③撇 ④点/捺 ⑤折
2. 把字形从图案的角度来看,一个字可由它的形状是否有全合拢图形(亦作“框”)来辨别。例如:  
“口、日、中、目、血、田、国”等字中有框;  
“夫、天、地、物”等字中则无框。
3. 另一种观察字形的方法是找出某字中是否有或有多少个“交叉”点。例如:  
“大”字有 1 个交叉;  
“夫”字有 2 个交叉;  
“丰”字有 3 个交叉。

## 558 检字法使用规则

步骤 1 及 2: 字的起笔及收笔。

起笔、收笔有五种不同的方法。

号码	笔法	笔形
1	横	一
2	直	丨
3	撇	丿
4	点、捺	丶、八
5	折	㇇ ㇈ ㇉

步骤 3: 合拢图形有八类。

号码	形体	备注	字例	特例
0		无框	人天己华	产齿柳
1	口	框中无框	已决兵口	牙互夷
2	日	框中一横画	聿争寒白	尹月丑
3	中	框中一直画	史舟中央	禹鹿
4	目	框中二横画	耳	佳
5	皿	框中二直画	皿四	
6	田	框中有交叉	骨用	囚毋漓
7	因	框中有三画或以上	母国固具澳	
8	凸	任何不规则框形	凸女又弗西阡	勿摇夜及

**【注意】**

- (1) 如果某字有超过一类合拢图型；如“唱”字，既有第 1 形亦有第 2 形，图形代表号码便顺序列为 12，而非 21。
- (2) 同类图形，只算一次，例如“唱”字是 12，不是 122。
- (3) 7 形内若再有合拢图形不另行处理。“固”字是 7 形，不是 17。
- (4) 如果某字没有合拢图形则属 0。

步骤 4：字的笔画交叉总数。

9 个交叉或以上属 9，无交叉则属 0。

步骤 5：字的总笔画数。

在许多情形下，字的 5 5 8 码已可根据首四个步骤得出，因此并不一定要进行第 5 个步骤。

# Explanation of 558 Word Retrieving System

1. Chinese characters are made up of strokes. As soon as a student begins to learn Chinese, he/she will be taught how to write these strokes in a standard sequence. The rules on how the sequence is arranged are set out at this dictionary. The strokes of a Chinese character may look complicated. In reality, they are quite simple and they fall into 5 categories:

- (1) horizontal;
- (2) vertical;
- (3) slanting to the left;
- (4) slanting to the right, including a dot;
- (5) any stroke with a sharp turn (or a hook).

2. From a diagrammatic point of view, one English alphabet can be distinguished from another by the presence or absence of boxes (or enclosures). For example, the alphabets a, b, d, e, g, o, p, q contain boxes, the other alphabets do not. Similarly, some Chinese characters contain boxes. Most boxes are rectangular in shape, but there are also irregularly shaped ones. Some boxes have 1, 2, or more than 2 strokes inside. Some of the strokes are horizontal and some are vertical. To sum it up, the boxes found in Chinese characters can be grouped into 8 categories. Each category is represented by a number:

<u>Number</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Examples</u>
0	No box at all	夫 天
1	Hollow rectangular box	口
2	Rectangular box with 1 horizontal stroke	日 白
3	Rectangular box with 1 vertical stroke	中
4	Rectangular box with 2 horizontal strokes	目 焦
5	Rectangular box with 2 vertical strokes	皿
6	Rectangular box with 2 strokes at 90 degree	田
7	Rectangular box with more than 2 strokes inside	因 国
8	Irregularly shaped box	凸 女 勿 佛

3. Still from a diagrammatic point of view, a Chinese character can be

categorized by the number of cross-points it contains. The character 大 has 1 cross point, the character 夫 has 2, and the character 丰 has 3.

4. A Chinese character can be distinguished by the total number of strokes it has.

An understanding of these characteristics will enable the reader to use the 558 Word Retrieving System.

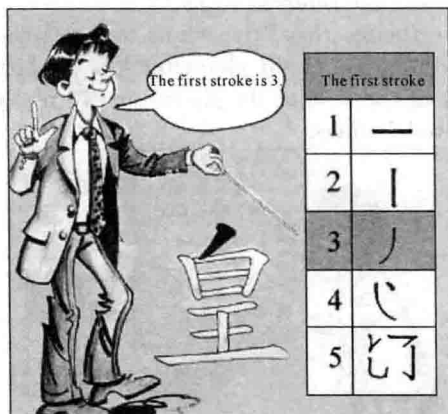
In writing Chinese characters, it should be remembered that:

- (1) a horizontal stroke is written from left to right;
- (2) a vertical stroke is written from top to bottom;
- (3) a stroke slanting to the left is written from top to bottom;
- (4) a stroke slanting to the right is written from top to bottom,  
a dot is written from top left down towards bottom right; and
- (5) any stroke with a sharp turn (or a hook) is written from top to bottom  
and a horizontal top is written from left to right before turning down.

# How to Use 558 Word Retrieving System?

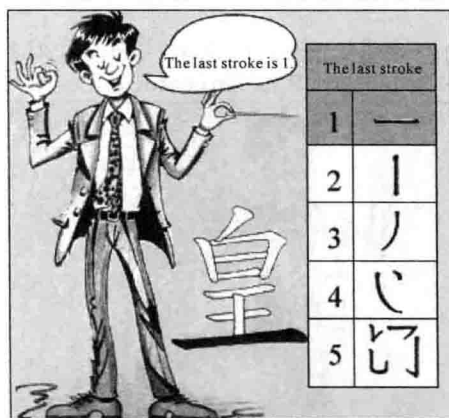
## Step 1

Identify the first stroke. It has to be in one of 5 categories as stated above.



## Step 2

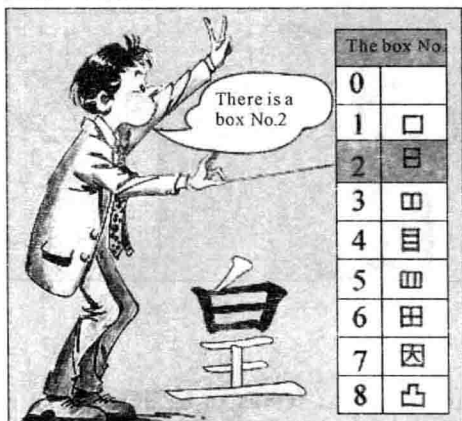
Identify the last stroke. Again, it has to be in one of 5 categories.



## Step 3

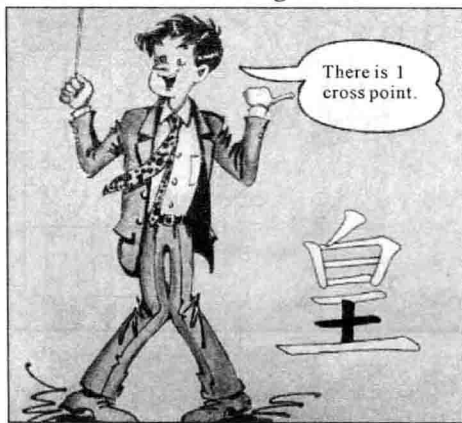
Identify the boxes. As explained above, there are 8 different types of box. But note the following :

- (1) Some characters have more than one type of box. For example, the character 唱 has both box # 1 and box # 2. In such a situation, we identify them as 12, not 21.
- (2) The same box is only referred to once. For example, the character 唱, the boxes are referred to as 12 and not 122.
- (3) Note the principle that "the whole includes the parts". For this reason, in the case of the character 囧, the box is #7, not #17. similarly, in the case of the character 田, the box is #6, not box #1 repeated 4 times.



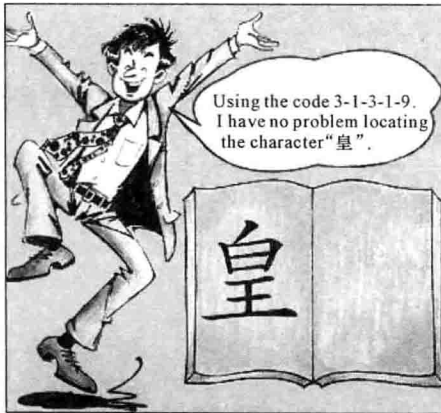
## Step 4

Count the number of cross points. If there is none, the number is 0. The maximum is 9. Over and above 9 is disregarded.



### Step 5

Count the total number of strokes in the character. In many instances, after the first 4 steps, the desired character is often located and one does not have to proceed to Step 5.





# A Study on How Chinese Characters Are Written

## 汉字笔顺规则

请留意下列字句，它蕴藏着汉字笔顺的要诀：

### 三 十 六 小 犬 同 人 四 川

三	代表	从上至下
十	代表	先横后竖、撇、捺或折
六	代表	点在左或上先写
小	代表	先中间主要部份后两边
犬	代表	点在右或下后写
同	代表	从外至内
人	代表	先撇后捺
四	代表	先里面后封口
川	代表	从左至右

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