



鲁常英 / 编著

这个词 是怎么来的

THE ORIGINS OF
ENGLISH WORDS

英语单词起源趣谈

- 二十六个字母的神奇排列
- 近千个单词的记忆密码
- 揭露单词背后的起源和故事
- 带你感受快速记忆的非凡体验
- 敲开单词学习成功的大门

 中国纺织出版社

014043327

H313.9
06

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北航

C1731496



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图书在版编目 (CIP) 数据

这个词是怎么来的: 英语单词起源趣谈 / 鲁常英编
著. —北京: 中国纺织出版社, 2014.7

ISBN 978-7-5180-0553-6

I. ①这… II. ①鲁… III. ①英语—词源—通俗读物
IV. ①H313.9-49

中国版本图书馆CIP数据核字 (2014) 第064229号

这个词是怎么来的
鲁常英
中国纺织出版社

策划编辑: 张向红 朱健桦

责任编辑: 张向红

责任设计: 林昕瑶

责任印制: 储志伟

中国纺织出版社出版发行

地址: 北京市朝阳区百子湾东里A407号楼 邮政编码: 100124

邮购电话: 010-67004461 传真: 010-87155801

http: // www.c-textilep.com

E-mail: faxing@c-textilep.com

北京睿特印刷厂印刷 各地新华书店经销

2014年7月第1版第1次印刷

开本: 880×1230 1/32 印张: 15

字数: 450千字 定价: 36.80元

凡购本书, 如有缺页、倒页、脱页, 由本社图书营销中心调换

前言

你知道afaid原指的是“从安静中惊醒”，一般是指被轰隆隆的打雷声或是被尖锐的噪声惊吓，直到十四世纪后才用来指“害怕”的吗？

你知道buddy本来指的是在同一煤矿里干活的伙伴吗？

你知道honcho是第二次世界大战的时候从日本传入的吗？

你知道prestige刚开始的意思是“骗局”、“假象”，直到十九世纪才完全摆脱了贬义色彩，变成“威信”、“声誉”的吗？

……

从小学开始，我们就接触英语。但是有多少人直到，英语单词并不是随意排列的字母组合，而是各有其构词根据及演变过程。每个英语单词都有它自己的一段历史，经历了时间的洗刷，有着它自己独特的历史背景和文化内涵。不少单词在发展的过程中，形成了一个个引人入胜的故事，其中很多来自古希腊、罗马的传说，这是英语语言中的一份重要的且丰厚的遗产。

英语词汇间自古以来存在着必然的联系，词汇量随着语言的发展而逐步庞大起来，我们在学习英语的同时，要明确地将词汇和历史与发展关联起来，这样才能有效地记住英语词汇。探索英语单词的起源和词义的演变，从词源

的角度追本溯源，使学习者能够知其然也知其所以然；将历史背景和文化内涵贯穿追根溯源之中，不仅仅可以开拓读者的语言视野，引发读者的学习兴趣，加强对词的记忆和理解，还能从中领略英语国家的人们的幽默和智慧，让你在奥妙无穷的单词世界中作一次引人入胜的探源之旅！

面对这些历史渊源久远、文化内涵丰富、寓意深刻多样的词，本书从希腊语、拉丁语、法语等的渊源说起，涵盖了神话传说、历史逸闻、风尚习俗和科技发现等等，词汇覆盖面广，涉及历史、文化、社会各个方面，以通俗易懂的语言，向你呈上近2000个英语单词的有趣故事，是一本不可多得的集实用性、知识性、可读性、趣味性以及学术性于一体单词起源介绍书籍。

编著

2014年3月

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