

大学英语易混淆词汇辨析

COLLEGE ENGLISH CONFUSING WORDS DISCRIMINATION

倪琪琪 编著 龚文灏 审校

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前 言

大凡英语学习者都深感词汇量扩大的重要,以及词义确切掌握的困难。纵观一九八四年以来的大学英语教学,尽管已取得了长足的进展,历年统考成绩也逐年递升,但对大多数英语读者来说,面对庞大的英语词汇基本上仍然是束手无策。虽然学习英语多年,仍未能领悟到词汇学习的诀窍和科学的记忆方法,更未能在测试和实际工作中具备运用自如的能力。

目前社会上已有不少有关词汇方面的书籍出版,它们各有千秋,为读者正确掌握和运用词汇提供了许多有益的方法和材料,但应该说,英语词汇的学习和研究仍在探索中,远未达到成熟的程度。

本书以英语词素、词义研究为基础,根据大学英语教学大纲的要求,精选了近形、近音、近义等易混淆的词逐一归类、比较、辨析。为读者迅速掌握大学本科生四、六级和研究生一、二级测试所必须的词汇提供了可遵循的思路和有代表性的实例,也为其他同等水平的读者铺设了一条迅速掌握英语词汇的捷径。

为适应读者的不同需要,本书全部例词采用英汉双解,例句附有译文,练习附有答案和译文。

本书选词严谨,注释得当,辨析清楚,例句采自英、美原著,是一本难得的英语词汇学习参考书。

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abdicate/abrogate/renounce

abdicate *vi.* give up the throne, as most commonly by a monarch of the throne
 King Edward VIII abdicated in 1936 and was created Duke of Windsor. 放弃王位
 英王爱德华八世于1936年放弃王位并受封为温莎公爵。

abrogate *vt.* cancel (formal)
 abrogate a trade agreement 废止(正式用语)
 废除一项贸易协定

renounce *vt.* consent formally to give up (a claim, right, possession)
 He renounced his claim to the money. 正式同意放弃(要求、权利、财产)
 他正式放弃要这笔钱。

abolish/abscond/absent

abolish *vt.* do away with; put an end to 废除; 废止
 There are many bad customs that ought to be abolished. 有许多坏风俗应该废除。
 abolishment *n.* 废除

abscond *vi.* go away suddenly and secretly because one has done sth. wrong 逃亡; 潜逃
 The dishonest cashier absconded with the bank's money. 那个不老实的出纳员带了银行的钱款潜逃了。
 absconder *n.* 潜逃者
 abscondence *n.* 潜逃

absent *adj.* (from), not present (at) 缺...; 旷...
 Mary was absent from work yesterday. 玛丽昨天旷工。
 absence *n.* (U) being away (from) (不可数名词) 缺席
 In the absence of Miss Ling the headmaster is in charge of our class. 林小姐不在期间, 校长负责管理我们班。

Her repeated absence from school is worrying. 她常常旷课,真令人担忧。

abolish/dispose/exterminate/abstain

abolish *vt.* make nonexistent; do away with

NOTES: The word refers to the end of custom, or the conditions of human existence, rather than to purely physical objects.

There are many bad customs and laws that ought to be abolished.

不复存在;废除

注:这个词是指习惯、人的生存条件的不复存在,而不是用于纯物质的东西。有许多坏的习惯和法规应该被废除。

dispose *vt.* place (persons, objects) in good order or in suitable position; arrange; (of sb. /sth.) get rid of

He disposed the chairs in a semicircle.

All the furniture has been disposed of.

置(人、物)于适当位置;布置;处理掉

他把椅子安放成半圆形。所有的家具都被处理掉了。

disposition *n.* arrangement; placing in order

排列;布置

exterminate *vt.* make an end of (disease, ideas, people's beliefs); destroy completely

He exterminated insects with an insecticide.

消除(疾病、观念、信仰);消灭

他用杀虫剂灭虫。

extermination *n.*

消除;消灭

abstain *vi.* (from) keep oneself from eating, drinking

His doctor told him to abstain from smoking and wine.

戒除(吃、喝)

医生要他戒烟和酒。

absorbed/attentive/prudent/watchful

NOTES: 'Absorbed' derives from the verb 'absorb', used with 'in, by' meaning to take up all the attention, interest, time of. The corresponding noun is 'absorption'.

I was absorbed in a book and I didn't hear you call.

Complete absorption in playing cards interfered with his work.

'Attentive' is an *adj.*, used with 'to', meaning taking careful notice; listening carefully. The corresponding noun is 'attention'.

Monica was very attentive to her teacher in class.

Pay attention to what I am saying.

'Prudent' is an *adj.*, meaning careful to consider one's advantage, esp. by avoiding risks, difficulties. The corresponding noun is 'prudence'.

It's prudent to take a raincoat when the weather is wet.

Prudence is wisdom in everyday life.

'Watchful' is an *adj.*, used with 'against, of', meaning careful to notice things, alert. Both its corresponding noun and verb are 'watch'.

You must be watchful of your health.

A mouse is always watchful against a cat.

注: 'absorbed' 来自动词 'absorb', 和 in, by 搭配使用, 意思是 '吸引注意力、兴趣、耗费...的时间、使专心'. 相对应的名词是 'absorption'.

我全神贯注地看书, 没有听见你叫我。

全心专注于打牌妨碍了他的工作。

'attentive' 是形容词, 和介词 to 搭配使用, 意思是 '注意的、留心的'. 它相对应的名词是 'attention'.

蒙妮卡上课时非常专心地听老师讲课。

请注意我现在说的话。

'prudent' 是形容词, 意思是 '谨慎的'. 它相对应的名词是 'prudence'.

天气潮湿的时候带件雨衣不是多余的。

在日常生活中, 谨慎即智慧。

'Watchful' 是形容词, 和 of, against 搭配使用, 意思是 '注意的、警戒的、提防'. 它相对应的名词和动词是 'watch'.

你必须注意健康。

老鼠总是提防猫的。

accidental/casual/incidental/random

accidental <i>adj.</i> happening unexpectedly and by chance	偶然的;意外的
Our meeting was quite accidental.	我们的会见十分偶然。
casual <i>adj.</i> The word strongly stresses absence of prearrangement and it tends to make the implication of chance not clear. As applied to persons, their actions, their clothes, it often implies indifference.	这个词强调缺乏事先安排,因此使偶然性不明显。用于描写人、人的行动和衣服时有马虎大意的意思。
a casual visitor	一位不速之客
casual clothes	便服
incidental <i>adj.</i> (to) happening or appearing irregularly or as a less important part of sth. important which spreads over a period of time; (sth. esp. a fact or detail which is) unimportant	附属的;附带的;微小而较不重要的
NOTES: The word mainly implies a real and often a designed relationship, which is secondary and unimportant.	注:这个词包含了一种实实在在的和预定的关系,这种关系是附属的和次要的。
incidental expense	杂费
incidental music to the performance	演出的配乐
random <i>n.</i> without aim or purpose, eg at random	无目的或目标,随便地
<i>adj.</i> made or done aimlessly, without any plan	任意的
a random sample	任意抽取的样品
random remarks	随便说的话

accurate/actual/certain/sure

accurate *adj.* careful and exact; exactly correct

We must be accurate in what we say.
Clocks at schools should be accurate.

精确的; 准确的

我们说话应该精确。
学校的钟应该准确。

actual *adj.* existing in a real fact

The actual amount of money was not known although he knew it was large.

实在的; 真实的

虽然他知道那笔款子的数目很大, 但确切的数字他不知道。

certain *adj.* (pred. only) of which there is no doubt; convinced; confident

(attrib. only) not named, stated; some, but not much

It is certain that four and four make eight.

I am not certain where Tom went yesterday.

There are certain laws about driving.

Thurston makes a certain profit from his business but he'll never be rich.

(作表语用) 无疑的; 确信的; 深信的

(仅作形容词用法) 未指明的、未说明的; 某一些、少许
四加四等于八是确定无疑的。

我不敢确定昨天汤姆到哪里去了。

关于开车驾驶还有某些法规。

瑟斯顿做生意获得一点利润, 但他永远成不了富翁。

sure *adj.* having no doubt; knowing and believing

be sure to do sth. ; be sure and do sth. ; don't fail to do sth.

I'm sure he will come.

Be sure to come and tell me all about it.

NOTES: Both 'sure' and 'certain' have the sense of 'having no doubt', but 'I'm sure' is used when one has only a strong hope or

无疑的; 确信的

务必、一定要

我确信他会来的。

你明天一定要来并告诉我整个事情。

注: 'sure' 和 'certain' 都有 '无疑的' 意思, 但是 'I'm sure' 是在一个人对一件

belief; 'I'm certain' is used when one really knows the truth.

事有强烈的愿望或信心时用的。'I'm certain' 是确实了解事实真相时用的。

ache/pain

NOTES: Either 'ache' or 'pain' is the sensation of bodily discomfort. An 'ache' can be dull, sharp and continuous, and is often used in compounds, as a 'headache', 'toothache', 'stomach-ache' or 'backache'. 'To ache' is to suffer from a continuous dull pain. A 'pain' is a feeling of suffering or discomfort in a particular part of body, a feeling resulting from severe injuries or disease, as 'to have a pain in one's back, chest...'. A 'pain' is sharp rather than dull, and is sudden and usually of short duration. 'To pain' is to cause pain to or to cause to feel pain in the mind.

注: 名词 'ache' 和 'pain' 都有 '身体不适的感觉'。'Ache' 是一种 '隐约感到的或剧烈的或持续的疼痛'。它常用在复合词中, 如 'headache 头痛, toothache 牙痛, stomachache 胃痛或 backache 背痛'。动词 ache 有 '持续地隐隐作痛' 的意思。'pain' 是身体某一部分的疼痛, 是剧烈的痛而不是隐隐作痛。它常常是突发性的或短时间的疼痛。这种疼痛的感觉是由于重伤或重病而引起的。它的用法是 'to have a pain in one's back, chest ...'。动词 pain 有 '使痛苦'、'引起思想上的痛苦' 的意思。

My head aches.

我头痛。

I suffer from the toothache.

我牙痛。

I have a pain in my shoulder.

我肩疼。

His impolite behaviour caused his parents a great deal of pain.

他那不礼貌的行为使他的父母极为痛苦。

My leg is still paining me.

我的腿还在痛。

pained *adj.* displeased; hurt in one's feelings

难过的; 痛苦的

Mary looked pained when I refused her gift.

当我拒收玛丽的礼物时, 她显得很痛苦。

painful *adj.* causing pain
My back is still painful.

痛的;使痛苦的
我的背仍在痛。

adaptable/adequate/suitable

adaptable *adj.* able to make oneself suitable for a new use, need, situation, etc. 能适应的

He is an adaptable man and will soon learn the new work. 他是有适应性的人,因此他很快就学会了新的工作。

adapt *vt.* make suitable for a new use, need, situation, etc. 使适应;使配合;改编;改写

When you go to a new country, you must adapt yourself to new manners and customs. 你到他国时,必须使自己适应新的风俗习惯。

adaptation *n.* state of being adapted 适应;适合

adequate *adj.* satisfactory; sufficient

令人满意的;足够的

Are you getting an adequate wage for the work you're doing? 你是否满意你现在的工资待遇?

suitable *adj.* right for the purpose or occasion 适合的;恰当的

Is she suitable for the job? 她适合做这项工作吗?

adjustment/amendment

adjustment *n.* the act of setting right, making suitable or convenient for use 调整;调节;适用

Try to make some adjustment of your differences so that you can work together without quarrels. 设法把你们的分歧作些调整,以便你们可以不吵闹而在一起工作。

adjust *v.* put (sth.) into the correct order; become suited (to new conditions) 调节;使适合

phr. sth./oneself to sth.

You can't see well through a telescope unless it is adjusted correctly to your sight.

除非你把望远镜准确地调节到适合你的视力,否则你就看不清楚。

amendment *n.* (U) change proposed or made (to a rule, regulation, etc.)

Your plan needs some amendment before it can be made public.

改善;改良;修正(与 to 连用,后接某规则、条例等)

你的计划需要作些修正才能公布于众。

amend *vt.* correct an error in (sth.); become better

He'll have to amend his style of living.

修正;改善;改良

他将不得不改变生活方式。

adopt/designate/elect

adopt *vt.* take (someone, esp. a child) into one's family as a relation for ever; take an idea or custom and use

As they had no children of their own, they adopted an orphan.

I adopted their method of making the machine.

adoption *n.*

收养;采纳

他们没有亲生儿女,就收养了一个孤儿。

我采纳了他们制造这种机器的方法。

收养;采纳

designate *vt.* mark or point out (sth.) clearly; give a name or title to appoint to a position or office

'Adj.' designates an adjective in this dictionary.

She has been designated as the Minister for Education.

designation *n.*

标明;命名;任命;指派

'adj.' 在这本词典中标明为形容词。

她被任命为教育部长。

任命;委派

elect *vt.* choose (sb.) by vote

He was elected chairman.

election *n.*

选举

他被选为主席。

选举

advertise/advise/announce

advertise *vt. vi.* make sth. known to the public, as in a newspaper, or on film or television; (for) ask (for someone or sth.) by placing a notice in a newspaper

They advertised an old house for sale.

I should advertise for a teacher of English to help my son with his English lessons.

advertisement *n.*

为…做广告;登广告;登广告征求

他们登广告出售一所旧房子。

我应该登广告找一位英语教师帮助我儿子学习英语。

登广告;广告

advise *vt. vi.* tell (someone) what one thinks should be done

I advise waiting till Mr Smith arrives.

I advise her to eat less.

She advised me that I should go to the dentist.

劝告;建议

我建议一直等到史密斯先生来。

我劝她少吃一些。

她建议我应该去看牙医。

advice *n.* (U) opinion about what to do, how to behave

If you take my advice you will get well.

(不可数名词) 劝告;忠告;建议

如果你听我的劝告,你将会痊愈。

announce *vt.* make known publicly; make known the arrival of

The principal announced that he

宣布;通告;发表
宣告…的来临

那位校长宣布过他将辞职。

would resign.

The secretary announced Mr and Mrs Morley.

那位秘书通报莫利夫妇已到。

announcement *n.* sth. said, written or printed to make known what has happened or what will happen

通告;布告

announcer *n.* a person who reads news or introduces people, acts, esp. on radio or television

广播员、播音员、广播或电视节目主持人

aged/antique/elderly/senile/senior

aged *adj.* very old

年老的

The aged man is bent and can't walk at all.

那位老人腰弯背曲一点也走不动了。

antique *adj.* belonging to the distant past; connected with the ancient world

古老的;古代的

This antique table was made in 1764.

这张古桌制作于1764年。

antique *n.* material (eg. a piece of furniture, jewellery, or a work of art, etc.) that is old and therefore becoming rare and valuable

古董、古物(如家具、珠宝、艺术品等)

elderly *adj.* getting old; rather old; past middle age

渐老的;老年人的;年逾中年的

She's very active for an elderly woman.

对老龄妇女来说,她算是很活跃的。

NOTES: 'Aged' is more formal than 'old' and is used of very old people who are physically weak. If one wishes to be respectful, one can describe old people as 'elderly'.

注: 'aged' 比 'old' 正式, 它用于身体虚弱的老人。假如你想有礼貌点, 可用 'elderly' 来描述老人。 'antique' 常用于 '东西、物品'。这个物品是过去存留下来的, 因此就稀有和珍贵了。

'Antique' is usually used of things. It describes an object which has survived from the past and is therefore rare and valuable.

senile <i>adj.</i> suffering from bodily or mental weakness because of old age I keep forgetting things; I think I'm getting senile. senility <i>n.</i> (U) weakness (of body or mind) in old age	因年老而身心衰弱的 我老是健忘,我想我是在衰老了。 身心衰老
senior <i>adj.</i> (to sb.) older in years; higher in rank and authority She is five years senior to me. Vincent is the senior partner in the firm.	年长的; 权位等较高的 她比我年长五岁。 文森特是这家公司的老板。
a great (good) many/a great (good) deal of/ a large amount of/ (a) part of a great (good) many; a large number of (used with pl.) I have a good many things to do today. a great (good) deal of; much (used with uncountable nouns) He has given this question a good deal of thought. a large amount of; large quantity or sum (used esp. with uncountable nouns) A large amount of damage to the crops was done by the storm in a very short time. (a) part of; some but not all of a thing or number of things We spent (a) part of our holiday in Suzhou.	很多的(与复数名词连用) 我今天有许多事情要做。 许多(与不可数名词连用) 他对这个问题考虑了很多。 大量(尤其用于不可数名词) 那次暴风雨在短期内对农作物造成了大量的损失。 部分 我们假期的一部分是在苏州度过的。

alimony/ allowance

alimony *n.* (U) money that a man has been ordered to pay regularly to his (former) wife after they have been separated, divorced in a court of law (经法院判决分居或离婚后男方对女方所付的)赡养费

allowance *n.* (C) sum of money allowed to sb. 津贴; 特别经费

Your allowance will be reduced from a pound a week to ten shillings. 你的津贴将从每周一英镑减少到十先令。

alive/ living/ viable/vital

NOTES: 'Alive' and 'living' are applied to organic bodies which have life as distinguished from those who are dead. The chief difference between these two words is that 'alive' follows the noun it modifies either directly or as a predicative adjective. 注: 'alive' 和 'living' 用于活的有机体, 以和死的有机体加以区分。这两个词的主要区别是, 'alive' 直接在它所修饰的名词后面或者作为表语形容词用。

She was still alive when I reached the hospital. 我到医院时她还活着。

English and French are living languages. 英语和法语是活的语言。

viable *adj.* able to exist; capable of developing and surviving without outside help 能生存的; (没有外界的帮助) 能生长发育的
Is the newly created State viable? 这个新诞生的国家能生存下去吗?

vital *adj.* usually means 'indispensable, absolutely necessary', but it can also mean 'full of life' 通常为 '不可缺少的', '极端需要的', 但也可表示 '充满生机的'
Their co-operation is vital to the success of the scheme. 他们的合作对这项计划取得成功是至关重要的。