A DICTIONARY OF CURRENT ENGLISH USAGE

(重排本)

外研社・现代英语用法词典

张道真 编

外语教学与研究出版社

FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH PRESS

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(京)新登字 155 号

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外语教学与研究出版社出版发行

(北京西三环北路 19 号)

北京外国语大学印刷厂印刷

新华书店总店北京发行所经销

开本 787×1092 1/16 112 印张 5400 千字 1994 年 10 月第 1 版 1998 年 2 月第 6 次印刷

印数: 50001-60000 册

ISBN 7 - 5600 - 0873 - 9 H•429

定价: 128.00 元

前言

经过几十年艰苦漫长的岁月,这部词典总算初步完成,终于和读者见面了。

我为什么花这么长时间来编写这样一部书呢?这是由于自己在学习英语过程中,深深感到掌握词汇用法的艰难。一般词典由于照顾面很广,对每个词的讲解都比较简略,而实际用法要比词典上反映的复杂得多。虽然也出版过不少用法词典,对我们掌握词汇给了很大帮助,但往往偏重某些侧面,而大量用法上的问题都没有处理。因此渴望有一本能比较全面反映词汇用法的工具书。特别是在写语法书时,感到要真正掌握语法,必须掌握词汇的用法,两相结合才能打好语言基础。1958年我便产生了编这样一部词典的念头,第二年开始搜集资料,经过两年多的准备,1961年开始编写,1965年完成初稿。后来,海外的朋友又寄来了许多新出的书,于是我夜以继日地对本词典进行修改、充实,现在终于完成,可以出版供大家使用了,希望对读者学习英语、掌握词汇用法能起一定的作用。

这是一部着重讲解近一万个常用词用法的词典。这些词仅占英语总词汇量的五十分之一,但却是最基本、最常用、最活跃也是较难掌握的词。掌握了这些词的用法,表达一般思想,应付日常工作,就大体上有了良好的基础。这些词是怎样选定的呢?首先是参阅了许多学者如 Thorndike, Dewey, Palmer, Michael West 等提出的常用词汇表,考虑了各个词的出现率、多义性、结构功能、搭配能力、语义上的重要性及语体上的通用性,订出了 5000 多词的词汇表。在搜集材料的过程中又印证语言实际,进行了调整,最近几年又参照新出的许多词典,如:Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English, Macmillan Dictionary, The Random House College Dictionary, The Family Word Finder 等进行了补充,凡属打好英语基础需要的词都收了进去。

关于词义讲解,并不是有义必录,而是有所选择,有所取舍。凡属陈旧、过偏、少见的用法以及 俚语方言都予以剔除。常用用法,特别是表达我们日常思想需要的词汇,则尽量包括进去。在词义 讲解时没有完全按照外国词典的作法,而是根据中国人的概念,进行必要的归纳组合,使之比较易 于理解。

在处理词汇的过程中,注意结合中国人在学习英语时最容易产生的问题。就动词来说,特意对及物和不及物两类用法进行了区分,注意了后面跟什么样的结构,与什么介词、副词或名词搭配,以及词义的引申变化等。名词处理时注意了可数和不可数问题,用单数还是复数形式,是原义还是转义等。对介词给了较大篇幅,对使用中可能出现的诸如词义、结构、搭配等问题,都试图予以说明。特别是对成语,给予了较大篇幅,如 come 后列出了 come about, come around 等 40 多个成语;在hand 后列出了 at first hand, at hand, by hand, ask for one's hand 等 50 多个成语。有时一个成语中实际上包含了许多成语,例如在 to one's surprise [joy, etc.] 一条后,就有 to one's surprise, to one's amazement [regret, sorrow, relief, amusement, satisfaction, horror, delight]等近 20 条成语。又如在 in 一词后就包括了 in token of, in payment of, in hope of, in celebration of, in support of, in reply to, in response to, in preparation for, in compliance with, in revolt against 等许多成语。成语是中国学生最感困难的问题之一,所以作了较细致的处理。关于同义词的辩析,虽不是本词典重点解决的问题,但也给了一定注意,在必要的地方也作了简单的讲解。由于例句较多,同义词问题有时自然得到解决,不再另行处理。

为了说明词的各种用法,本词典收入了大量例句,少则三五条,多则几十条。为什么要收入这么多例句?一个原因是例句多可以加深印象。我们在教学中讲一个用法,往往需要举七八个例句,或用好些例句进行练习,只有这样学生才能确切掌握用法,留下深刻印象。除此之外,还有词的搭配问题,例如在讲 feel 作系动词的用法时举了 20 多个跟形容词的例子,举了 10 多个跟过去分词的例子,还有 20 多个跟复合宾语的例子,不多举例就不知道能和什么词搭配。此外还要靠较多例句说明确切的词义和灵活的译法,如 cut 一词,通过大量例句说明其可以表示"切","砍","割","剪","裁","伐","削","铰","刺","切除"等概念,回过来又可以掌握"用工具等把一部分从一整体中分出来"这一基本概念。这些例句大多是从现代质量较高的原著中选来的,既是例句又是例证。通过它们可以了解词汇在日常语言中的实际运用。由于篇幅关系,例句没有附汉语译文。这对初学的人会造成一定困难,但对基础稍好的人也有一些好处,就是避免过多依靠汉语,有利于逐步发展用英语思维,不经翻译直接使用英语的能力。

本词典编排力求醒目。在体例上尽量做到不言自明。注音基本上采用 Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English 的系统,因为它照顾了英美读音的差别。但为了与大家习惯运用的注音方法尽量接近,也做了少量调整。现在除了[ou]改为[əu]外,主要是把[əː]改成[ɜː],[ɛə]改成[eə]。另外,[ə]可读[ə],也可不读音。估计大家在使用中不会发生困难。再就是[]中的词通常是替换词,()中的词是省略词。*号表示后面是成语, △号引起的是解释。在个别难句后加了译文(全句或部分)。派生词尽量列在原词后面,而不一定完全依照字母顺序排列。

如何使用本词典,不同的人可作不同考虑。有的人只需结合问题参阅有关部分,有的人则需要通读。一般说来,通读一遍是有好处的,虽然不可能都记住,但可以留下较深印象,以后查考比较方便,在运用语言时可比较自觉。如果可能的话,还可把某些例句译为汉语进行对比。要发展听说及写作能力的人,最好做些记忆工作,以加深印象,同时在语言实践中反复验证,这样认识可逐步加深,最后达到自觉运用的目的。

在编写过程中得到了多方面的帮助,有的领导同志给予鼓励和支持,有些同志帮助看稿子,并提了宝贵意见,有些同志帮助打字、抄写等,对他们特表示衷心感谢。

张消真

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a [ə; 重读 ei], an [ən] (用于元音前) art. (不定冠词) 1. 一个 (= one): Rome was not built in a day. (Prov) There was now not a minute to lose (Bennet) His wages were forty pounds a year. (Wells) △ 有时带有"同一"的意思: Birds of a feather flock together. (Prov) 2. 某一个 (= a certain): I took my things to an hotel in New Street. (Dovle) Then an idea came to him, which he calmly considered. (London) I went into a stationer's to buy a picture. (Scheurweghs) 3. (表类属)某类人或物中的一个 1) 用在表语之类成分中, 说明属哪类人或物: You are a just man. (Greene) He doesn't strike me as being a particularly able person. (Shaw) We knew Moses as an authority on Wagner. (Pollitt) 2) 用在主语中, 代表一类人或物: A knife is a tool for cutting with. (PEG) Does a dog have a keen sense of hearing? (Wood) Can a novelist shut his eyes to the state of his country? (Fox) 3) 用在其他成分中: She endeavored to show him the simple affection of a daughter. (Dreiser) Political power grows out of the barrel of a gun. (Mis) 4. (用在某些物质名词前)一种, 一份: It was a wonderful tea. (Priestley) The bakery makes a very fine rye bread. (Long) A high-grade paper is made from rushes. (Mis) A large coffee for me. (Galsworthy) Oh. you may as well bring me a chocolate too. (Mansfield) 5. (用在表示风雨等的名词前)一阵: It was clear daylight now and a fine rain was falling. (Hemingway) A cold drizzle was falling. (Mis) There's a cold wind this morning. (Du Maurier) 6. (用在某些抽象名词前)一种, 引起某种情绪的事物等: She showed a certain elegance. (Bennet) He felt again a great tenderness for Ruth. (Walpole) That is a great disappointment. (Wilde) It was no longer an embarrassment to face Christine. (Cronin) He was in an ecstasy. (Mis) It is a pleasure to work with you. (Doyle)

7. (用在某些专有名词前)某个叫•••的人,一张•••的画,一个象•••的人 I saw a Mrs. Danvers on the twelfth at two o'clock. (Du Maurier)

He had a van Gogh in the dining room. (Sinclair)

I didn't know I was an ardent Romeo. (Dreiser)

They bought a secondhand Morris for sixty pounds. (Cronin)

You have a very good knowledge of English. (Greene)

He ordered a second Martini. (Cronin)

What a strange London they saw! (Wilde)

Ten minutes later he was there, confronting a queer George in greasy overalls. (Priestley)

When a Forsyte was engaged, married or born, the Forsyte were present. (Galsworthy)

8. 用在某些词组或成语中, 例如:

a little / a few / a bit / a lot / a great many / many a / as a rule / in a hurry / all of a sudden / take an interest in / take a pride in / take a dislike to / to make a fool of oneself / to be in a position to / to have a headache / to be a pity, to have a cold / to have a fancy for / on an average / at a discount

△ 可和形容词最高级连用, 表示"非常":

This is a most beautiful country about here. (Yeats)

△ 也可和一个序数词连用,表示"再一(个,次)":

Then he copied the article a second time. (London)

a-[ə] prefix

1 构成副词:

aside / apart / ashore / aback / afar / asunder / aloud

2. 构成形容词:

ablaze / asleep / alive / alight / astir / aglow / awake / afire / akin

3. 构成动词:

arise / arouse / awaken / abridge / amend

△ 间或与一个分词连用:

He went a begging. (COD)

They set the bells a ringing. (COD)

abandon [ə'bændən] vt. & n.

1 作动词

1. 放弃 (= give up):

He had to abandon his journey before it was well begun. (UED)

She was obliged to abandon that idea. (Dreiser)

He abandoned his search. (London)

He abandoned all hope. (MD)

Perhaps we should also abandon our oil concession? (Aldridge)

The scientist abandoned his research for lack of fund. (FWF)

But the contest could not be abandoned. (Hudson)

Its southern organizing campaign was abandoned. (Foster)

2. 遗弃, 弃掉 (= desert):

The cruel man abandoned his wife and child. (ALD)

I don't think that John would abandon his friends if they were in trouble. (ELD)

The sailors abandoned the burning ship. (DCE)

A good mother will not abandon her baby. (Thorndike)

3. 用于 * abandon oneself to 听任(感情泛濫), 陷入, 沉溺于:

He abandoned himself to grief. (DCE)

He abandoned himself to despair. (Wells)

Only weak and cowardly natures abandon themselves to sorrow. (Mis)

She abandoned herself to a life of pleasure. (ELD)

△ 过去分词可作定语或表语,表示"被遗弃的"或"甘心干坏事的[极 坏的]":

The abandoned house was torn down. (FWF)

The pleasure-seeker led an abandoned life. (FWF)

You abandoned wretch! (ALD)

Is he so abandoned as to feel no shame at such an accusation? (Evans)

Ⅱ 作名词: 主要用于 * with ... abandon 尽情地, 任意地

The girls jumped up and down and waved their arms with abandon. (Thorndike)

The child cried with abandon. (MD)

They were so excited that they jumped and shouted with abandon. (Mis)

The Gipsies danced with gav abandon. (FWF)

abandonment [əˈbændənmənt] n. 放弃

Some critics of the audio-lingual method have advocated the complete abandonment of the structural drill. (AOT)

abash [2'bæ] vt. (通常用过去分词作表语)不好意思, 羞愧

When the little child saw all the room filled with strangers, he was much abashed. (Thorndike)

The poor man felt [stood] abashed at this display of wealth. (ALD)

He was abashed at forgetting his wife's birthday. (FWF)

△ 间或用作状语:

The workman stood abashed as his mistakes were pointed out. (DCE)

abate [ə'beit] vi. & vt.

1. (风、雨等)减弱, 减退 (vi.):

The ship waited till the storm abated before sailing out to sea. (DCE)

The wind has abated. (Harrap)

2. 使减退, 使减弱 (vt.):

Nothing could abate his rage. (MD)

The medicine abated his pain. (Thorndike)

Smith had some ability and he liked work, (Shaw)

aural comprehension and speaking ability. (AOT)

Washington had great ability as a general. (Thorndike)

He had lost all faith in his ability to succeed. (Cronin)

They believed in man's ability to master the world. (Fox)

It's a great ability to be able to hide one's ability. (FWF)

Hardy had the ability to see this and Lawrence had not. (Fox)

His organizing ability is very great. (Hill)

Has he the ability to do the work? (GPU)

△ 后面有时跟一个不定式作定语:

2. (用于复数形式)能力,才能:

They invited her in and questioned her as to her ability. (Dreiser)

Many courses have as a primary objective the development of

The child's reading ability was satisfactory for his age level.

abbreviation His pride was not abated by his many mistakes. (DCE) to abate the anger of the mob (MED) 3 消除(vt) We must abate the smoke nuisance in our big cities. (OSD) abbreviation [a.bri:vi'eifən] n. 缩写[词] "Mr." is the abbreviation of "Mister". (FWF) G.B., CBI, Yorks., and Dr. are abbreviations. (FWF) The abbreviation for mister is Mr. (Neal) ABC [.eibi:'si:] 1. 字母表(不可数). Has the child learned his ABC vet? (DCE) 2. (某方面的)基本知识(和 the 连用, 跟 of 引起的短语): He does not know even the ABC of philosophy. (Mis) begin with the ABC of a subject (Mis) abdicate ['æbdikeit] vt. & vi. 1. 退位 (vt.. vi.): The king abdicated (from) his throne, and the country became a republic. (Thorndike) King Edward Wabdicated to marry a commoner. (FWF) 2. 放弃(职责、权利等)(vt.): He abdicated all responsibility for the care of the child. (DCE) He abdicated his responsibilities and fled. (FWF) abduct [æb dʌkt, əb-] vt. 拐骗 Kidnappers abducted the child. (FWF) The police think the missing woman has been abducted. (DCE) abet [ə'bet] vt. 教唆(犯罪) He abetted the thief in robbing the bank. (DCE) The criminal was aided and abetted by his brother. (FWF) abbor [əb'ho:, æb-] vt. 憎恶, 厌恶, 讨厌 Most people abhor cruelty to children. (DCE) Spitting in the street is a practice I abhor. (ELD) She abhors snakes. (FWF) The pacifist abhored all violence. (MD) abhorrence [əb horəns, (美) - hər-] n. Many people show abhorrence of snakes. (Thorndike) He has a great abhorrence of medicine. (Mis) abhorrent [əb'horənt, (美) -'hor-] adi. 1. 令人憎恶的: Cruelty is abhorrent to him. (DCE) Slavery is abhorrent to a humane man. (McMordie) abhorrent criminal acts (MD) △ 有时表示"憎恶": abhorrent of violence (MD) 2. 截然相反: Cruelty is abhorrent to love. (Thorndike) a suggestion abhorrent to their principles (MD) abide [ə'baid] vi. & vt. (过去时及过去分词: abided 或 abode) 1. (和 by 连用)遵守, 服从 (vi.): We agreed to abide by your judgment. (Galsworthy) He abided by his word. (DEU) We must abide by the rules of the game. (ELD) She will abide by her promise. (EPV) He must abide by the contract. (McMordie) The two men agreed to abide by the referee's decision. (CIE) △ law-abiding 表示"守法" to lead a new and law-abiding life (URW) 2. (和 by 连用)承受 (vt.): You must abide by the results of your mistakes. (DCE) You will have to abide by the consequences. (ALD) 3. (和 can 连用, 用于否定或疑问句)忍受, 受得了 (vt.): I can't abide loud noise. (FWF) I can't abide rude people. (DCE) I can't abide that chap. (ELD) How can you abide him? (ALD)

I cannot abide the place. (DEU)

5. (陈旧用法)等候 (vi.):

1. 能力, 能够(多作不可数名词):

ability [a biliti] n.

4. (比较陈旧文气的用法)居住, 待 (vi.):

Abide with me a while longer. (FWF)

He will abide my coming. (Thorndike) I will abide the coming of my lord. (Tennyson)

He was a man of great ability. (Doyle)

I can't abide to see [abide seeing] such cruelty. (DCE)

He abode in Boston almost all of his life. (Evans)

From each according to his abilities, to each according to his work. (Mis) He also took part in it according to his abilities. (Sinclair) I think most of us could give a pretty accurate appraisal of our own abilities in other languages that we know. (AOT) She experimented with her teaching abilities on me. (Hill) Listening, speaking, reading, and writing abilities. (AOT) 3. 用于 * to the best of one's ability 尽力地: I tried to do my work to the best of my ability. (Cronin) I will carry out your instructions to the best of my ability. (Wood) able f'eibəll adi. 1. (和 be 连用, 跟不定式)能够: The doctors are not able to agree about it. (Sinclair) The patient was soon able to sit up and read. (Sinclair) I shan't be able to come on January 1. (Snow) I haven't been able to get in touch with her. (Mis) She had been able to send home regularly fifteen dollars a week to maintain the family. (Dreiser) △ be able to 和 can 意思相近, 但 be able to 可有更多的时态形式(见 上例), 另外还可以和情态动词或某些系动词连用(a), 也可用于 不定式或动名词短语中(b): a. I ought to be able to live on my salary. (Shaw) You might be able to persuade him. (Dreiser) He seemed able to put complicated thought in simple words. (Maugham) b. I would like to be able to read, but I am too old to learn. (Greene) He said he so much regretted not being able to swim. (Mis) △ 还可用作定语: a patient able to describe his symptoms accurately to the doctor (URW) 2. (作定语或表语)能干, 有才能, 有水平的: Lester was an able man. (Dreiser) Nicola's the ablest man I've met in Bulgaria. (Shaw) The general impression at the studio was that he was able. (Maugham) He made a very able speech. (ALD) Mine is to begin with hack-work and develop into an able author. (London) an able performance (MD) △ 可用于 able-bodied 身体强健的: Any able-bodied citizen can join it. (London) ably [eibli] adv. 能干地、出色地 He could play the horn very ably. (DCE) Still an active woman, she was managing the household ably. (Cronin) able [əbəl] suffix 构成形容词 1. 可以…的, 值得…的(带有被动意思): adorable / advisable (in-) / applicable (in-) / approachable (in-) / believable (in-) / calculable (in-) / conceivable (in-) / curable (in-) / debatable (in-) / despicable / dispensible (in-) / eatable / escapable (in-) / estimable (in-) / evitable (in-) / excusable (in-) / explicable (in-) / laughable / lovable measurable (im-) / movable (im-) / navigable (in-) / notable / noticeable / numerable (in-) / passable (in-) / payable (im-) / penetrable (im-) / practicable (im-) / recognizable (ir-) / reconcilable (ir-) / refutable (ir-) / reliable (un-) / reparable (ir-) respectable / surmountable (in-) / tolerable (in-) unforgetable / variable (in-) / vulnerable (in-) / washable 2. 具有其他意义:

comfortable / knowledgeable 1)和某些动词连用: sizable suitable preferable / agreeable / remarkable want to consult you, Lionel. It's about my boy. (Galsworthy) △ 其中有些可变为副词(e→v); comfortably / preferably / remarka-What's all this about? (Priestley) He told about the intrigues of the Tsar's government. (Sinclair) hlvWhat are you two talking about? (Wilde) abnormal [æb no:məl. (美) - nor-l adi. 不正常 He began to ask her about herself. (Cronin) Is the child abnormal in any way? (DCE) My aunt has often spoken to me about you. (Wilde) It is abnormal for a man to walk in his sleep. (Thorndike) The stillness caught Lanny's attention; it seemed abnormal. What have you been thinking about? (Mansfield) I read about it in the paper. (Walpole) (Sinclair) An abnormal amount of snow fell in October. (FWF) She did not argue further about it. (Wells) abnormal structure of a plant / an abnormal situation (MD) She inquired about my brother. (Snow) aboard [ə'bɔːd、(美) ə'bord] adv. & prep. Father doesn't worry much about me. (Mansfield) I 作副词: 上船[车, 飞机等] You needn't trouble about my children. (Mansfield) All aboard! (Evans) He never complained about working overtime. (London) It's time to go aboard, (ALD) She'll arrange with you about it. (Dreiser) What can you do about it? (Aldridge) When the boat overtook us we got aboard. (Mis) Welcome aboard! (ALD) △ 还有 chat, say, know, write, question, quarrel, grumble, under-She got a seat in one of the cars, and, just as the train was to pull stand, care, learn, hear, agree 等动词可以和它连用。 2) 和某些形容词连用: Out her husband running came along climbed aboard. (Horwill) When I first saw you together, I was so happy about it. (Snow) All 257 aboard died in a DC-10 airliner crash in Antarctica. I'm every bit as sorry about it as you. (Mansfield) (WTYB) We were very anxious about him. (Galsworthy) Ⅱ 作介词: 上(车, 船等) She was somewhat concerned about Constance. (Bennet) They went aboard the ship. (DCE) You are entirely wrong about the whole matter. (Wilde) abolish [ə'bəlif, (美) ə'ba-] vi. 废除, 消除, 取消 What have you been busy about today? (Walpole) They must finally abolish capitalism and establish socialism. (Fos-You are certainly very thoughtful about others. (Wilde) He's keen about it. (Hemingway) ter) New Zealand abolished the death penalty for murder in 1941. I've been feeling awfully bad about it. (Greene) (URW) I am strict about such things. (Llewellyn) Only when capitalism has been abolished will it be possible to abol-He is also enthusiastic about your prose. (Yeats) ish poverty, unemployment and war. (Pollitt) I was uneasy about leaving her alone in that state. (Snow) △ 还有 right. worried, crazy, foolish, calm, reserved, secret, mad, Abraham Lincoln abolished slavery in the United States. (ELD) Many schoolboys would like to abolish homework. (Neal) uncomfortable 等形容词可以和它连用。 Capital punishment was abolished some years ago. (FWF) 3) 和某些名词或词组连用: There are many bad customs and laws that ought to be abolished. That at least is my idea about friendship. (Wilde) (DCE) I am very glad to hear news about the progress of your book. abolition [æbə li[ən] n. 废除, 消除 (Yeats) They work for the complete abolition of capitalist exploitation of I had better give a few particulars about myself. (Wilde) man by man. (Foster) They still have illusions about capitalism. (Foster) He demanded abolition of the privileges of the nobility. (Hazen) Hans never troubled his head about these things. (Wilde) He was a staunch supporter of the movement for the abolition of He said he had to see me about something important. (Greene) slave trade. (Cameron) Then Davy went to London about the union. (Llewellyn) The abolition of slavery in the United States occurred in 1865. Men are in a hurry about such things. (Shaw) (Thorndike) An elderly woman came to consult him about her throat. (Cronin) The M.P. fought for the abolition of income tax. (FWF) They are divided in their opinions about it. (Sinclair) We all hope for the abolition of war. (JED) I have no doubt about that. (Wilde) abominable [əˈbəminəbəl, (美) əˈba-] adj. She knows nothing about music. (London) 1, 可憎的,可恶的: 2. 在 • • · 周围, 围绕: Their cruel treatment of prisoners was abominable. (DCE) There was a white fence about the house. (ELD) Murder is the most abominable crime. (FWF) There was a necklace of coral about her white throat. (Wilde) I went closer, and he put his arms about me. (Llewellyn) The food in this hotel is abominable. (DCE) They stood all about him as he sat. (Wells) The weather was abominable. (FWF) Everything about me was so beautiful. (Wilde) abound [əˈbaund] vi. He saw the water all about him green-blue. (Wells) 1. 有大量的···(和 in 或 with 连用): A moat runs about the castle. (MD) Some languages abound in idioms. (MD) △ 主要用于描绘性文字, 平常多用 round 表示这个意思, 如: She had The park abounds in wild animals. (DCE) a gold chain round her neck. (Wood) The river abounds in fish. (ALD) 3. 在 *** 范围内(到处***): The land abounds in springs and streams of water. (McMordie) She walked and walked for three hours about the London streets. those of us who still abound in good will (URW) (Galsworthy) The hut abounded with vermin, (ALD) After tea I wandered alone about the town. (Davies) This country used to abound with snakes. (McMordie) He got up and strolled about the room. (Du Maurier) Our garden abounds with roses. (FWF) He held my hand as we ran about his yard. (Cronin) He goes about the country lecturing about the evils of drink. The jungle abounds with wild game. (MD) 2. 大量存在: (Wood) Fish abound in the ocean. (Thorndike) The papers were scattered about the floor. (Wood) Wild animals abound in the park. (DCE) 4. 在 • • • 附近(一带), 在身边: Vermin abounded in the hut. (ALD) She was very much like Maxim about the eyes and jaw. (Du Mau-Tulips abound in Holland. (FWF) rier) Buffalo used to abound on the Western plains. (MD) His face was swollen about the eyes and nose. (Llewellyn) Wild flowers abound there. (Wood) This is a most beautiful country about here. (Yeats) Social and cultural activities abound everywhere. (Craig) She is a woman who likes to have her children about her. (Wood) about [ə'baut] prep. & adv. I don't think there's much sense in hanging about here. (Du Mau-I 作介词:

The streets about the castle are full of places of historic interest.

1. 关于(在不同场合有不同译法, 注意各种搭配):

(Wood)

△ 第 2, 3, 4 类意思也可用 around 表示, 特别是在美国。

5. (某人、某地、某物)有某特点:

There was something very gentle about this young Englishman.

There is a strange smell about him. (DCE)

He has a certain way about him. (MD)

What is especially admirable about Bristol is that it is both old and alive (Priestley)

There was something about him that I did not like. (Wood)

There was a certain charm and picturesqueness about the old cottage. (Wood)

6. 在身边、身上(带有某物):

Have you a pencil about you? (Thorndike)

I suddenly realized that I had no money about me. (Wood)

Do you happen to have his letter about you? (Wood)

△ 有时表示"向四周•••":

The professor looked about him uneasily. (Sinclair)

7. 用于成语:

* be about 在干(某事), 忙于(某事)

What are you about? Do come along. (Shaw)

What was he about? What had happened to him? (Walpole)

He knew what he was about. (Greene)

It was eight o'clock and most of the townspeople were already about their business. (CIE)

Do the shopping now, and while you're about it buy yourself a pair of shoes. (DCE)

I do not like to be interrupted when I am about an important piece of work. (Wood)

△ 有时表示"(如何)考虑 (某事)", 在下面句子中可译为"怎么搞的": I can't think what you're about not to take the gentleman's offer! (Wells)

* Be quick about it! 赶快干!

go about (着手)做(某事)

She went about her business of preparation. (Bennet)

Then we went about our respective tasks. (Mis)

All that afternoon Manson went about his work fretfully. (Cronin) Do you know how to go about it? (Mis)

He went about the job half-heartedly. (Wood)

* see about 负责处理

I will see about it. (Dreiser)

I was hurrying to the booking office to see about our tickets. (Cronin)

set about 开始积极地去做(某事)

I must set about my packing. (ALD)

Flanagan set about making tea. (Maugham)

Andrew set about writing his report. (Cronin)

They set about their task with zeal. (Wood)

* What [How] about... ···怎么样, ···怎么办 Of course I'll come. What about Friday? (Walpole)

What about our going to Blackmore for a week? (Walpole)

How about going to bed, eh? (Lewis)

How about sending him a copy? (Ball) .

And how about a cup of tea? (Craig)

What about father? We can't just leave him here.

What about that business we talked about this morning? (Priestley)

Ⅱ 作副词:

1. 到处, 四处(活动):

I am used to going about alone. (Shaw)

She spent the rest of the morning wandering about. (Galsworthy)

The little boy ran about looking for its mother. (ELD)

They strolled about for a time. (Dreiser)

Don't rush about. (Eckersley)

I have been about a good deal in England. (Mansfield)

Richard plays about in school instead of working. (Eckersley)

The little ducks were swimming about in the pond. (Wilde)

He gets about a great deal. (Worrall)

She's always following him about. (Galsworthy)

The visitors sat about on the floor. (DCE)

The birds were flying about and twittering with delight. (Wilde)

I think it a scandal that there's so much racial prejudice still about. (GPU)

2. 在附近:

There were few people about. (Cronin)

Is Stanley about? (Priestley)

Is Miss Smith anywhere about? (Eckersley)

Nobody seemed about, so I went in. (Greene)

It being Thursday afternoon, scarce a soul was about, (Bennet)

The man in charge hadn't been about just at the moment. (Wells)

If he is not here he is about somewhere, (Worrall)

When I got in the village I found nobody about. (Llewellyn)

△ 上面两类意思也可用 around 表示, 特别是在美国。

3. 在[向]四周:

All about was the white snow. (Dreiser)

She glanced about and saw her in earnest conversation with a young man. (Bennet)

The city was fortified all about. (Mis)

That applies to at least nine tenths of the people we see about. (Galsworthy)

Look about and tell me what you see. (Thorndike)

4. 大约, 大概(多和一个数词连用, 表示数量、长度、年龄、时间等):

I shall be with you in about twentyminutes. (Davies)

He is only about five feet high. (Sinclair)

Only about a third of the land is arable. (White)

She was about fifty, quite stout. (Cronin)

He came (at) about 4 o'clock in the afternoon. (Hill)

She got here about half past five. (Walpole)

About ten o'clock the telephone rang again. (Du Maurier)

I shall be in Ireland about the 20 or 23 of Feb. (Yeats)

I expect now to be in London about the second week in January. (Yeats)

5、差不多、大概:

He was about the same age as Philip. (Maugham)

"How are you?" "Oh, I'm just about the same." (Dreiser)

She was about of his own age. (Sinclair)

We must be just about on time. (Lewis)

I've about finished. (Greene)

This is about as far as we can go today. (Snow)

I'm just about half-way through. (London)

It's about the only thing left for me to do. (Cronin)

I'm about ready. (DCE)

6. 用于成语:

* be (up and) about (尤指病后)起来走动, 起床开始活动

Mr. Green is (out and) about again. (ALD)

It's nothing serious. I'll be up and about in no time. (Mis)

It's time you were up and about. (ALD)

He's up and about every morning at dawn. (EPV)

be about to do sth 正要[即将]做某事

Mrs. Gerhardt was about to begin, but Jennie spoke first. (Dreiser) He was about to say something more, and then checked himself. (Wells)

He waited until she was about to leave. (Sinclair)

He met her in the doorway just as she was about to go away. (Galsworthy)

He was about to be transferred to another part of the Province. (Forster)

He is about to go. (Thorndike)

△ be not about to 在美国有时表示"不愿"或"不打算":

Will she come with us?" asked Bill. "She's not about to," answered Mary. (DAI)

I'm not about to stop when I'm so close to success. (DCE)

bring about 引起, 造成, 实现

One must understand the changes in class relationships which the revolution brought about. (Fox)

This brought about a crisis within the labour movement. (Mis)

It would bring about an improvement of their conditions. (Pollitt) I did not fail to give my view as to how Socialism would be brought about. (Pollitt)

come about 发生, 成为现实

Then you will tell us how it all came about. (Wilde)

This is how it came about? (Doyle)

It is truly an amazing change. How has it come about? (Pollitt)

He never really expected that those plans would come about. (Mis) How does it come about that you are here, and not in London?

(EPV) face Iturnl about 向后转、转过身来

You are going the wrong way. Face about. (Thorndike)

He saluted smartly, about faced, and marched out. (Mis)

The ship turned about and left the battle. (DCE) Hearing her name, she turned about. (MD)

About turn! (美 About face!) (ALD)

The ship came about and headed back for safety. (EPV)

△ about-face 可作名词:

He did a complete about-face. (ALD)

* get [be] about

1) (病后)起来走动,起床活动:

He has quite recovered and is able to get about. (McMordie)

Is he about yet? He may still be asleep. (DCE)

2)(谣言、疾病等)流传:

A rumour has got about that he is going to resign his appointment. (McMordie)

The rumor was already about. (Mis)

Smallpox is about. (Mis)

* leave... about 到处乱放[扔]

Don't leave your things about. (Mis)

He is always leaving his papers about. (Palmer)

* order sb about 随便使唤, 对···发号施令

Now there was no one to order him about.

He orders me about as if I were his wife. (PEG)

He didn't want to be ordered about. (Mis)

put about

1) 传播(谣言):

Somebody has put the story about that the Department is being cloed down. (CIE)

Some has been putting rumours about that we are leaving. (EPV) It was put about that he was seeing a great deal of a certain young

lady. (CIE) 2) 使(船)往回转:

The skipper put us about to avoid submarines that had been reported in that area. (CIE)

Some of the ships had been put about and were heading home. (Mis)

* put oneself about [be put about] 发愁

He told her that it was useless for her to put herself about (Mis) I was much put about. (COD)

above [ə'bʌv] prep. & adv.

I 作介词:

1. 在···上方(和 below 相对):

We flew above the clouds, (DCE)

The office was in darkness except for the solitary light above his desk. (Priestley)

The flowers formed an archway above their heads. (Du Maurier)

They lived in a flat above the shop. (Wood)

Above this notice was a landscape painting on the wall. (Macaulay)

The moon was now above the trees in the east. (Dreiser)

The shelf should be six feet above the level of the floor. (Wood)

The chorus was seated above the orchestra. (MED)

The water is smoother above the dam. (MED)

2. 在 *** 之上, 比 *** 高[强], 高于, 超过:

The temperature was only a degree above zero. (Greene)

Henry's work is well above the average. (Eckersley)

He was a head above me. (Llewellyn)

As a scholar, he is far above me. (Wood)

You're far above me in every way. (Mansfield)

The mountain is 1,000 feet above sea level. (Mis)

He was esteemed and beloved above most men in his position. (Hudson)

You can't expect to succeed if you attempt tasks above your ability. (Wood)

It was above my means. (Collins)

She values safety above excitement. (DCE)

A soldier should value honour above life. (ALD)

Labor costs are now some 20 percent above those in the United States. (WTYB)

3. (和数词连用)超过, ***以上:

Above 200 people were there. (Palmer)

That car cost above £ 2,000. (Eckersley)

All children above six years of age must go to school. (ALD)

There were above one hundred present. (Worrall)

It weighs above (over) ten tons. (OSD)

The population of this city is above a hundred thousand. (McMordie)

There is nothing in the shop (at / for) above £ 5. (DCE)

Anything above fifty dollars will be too expensive. (MD)

4. 引起短语作表语:

1) 不致(做出某事), 不屑于: 5 =

He wouldn't steal; he's above that. (He's above stealing.) (DCE) Some of the staff are not above putting their hands in the cash-box.

(CIE)

Don't worry. Father is quite above trying to influence your choice in this matter (CIF)

He is above meanness and deceit. (ALD)

I should think that you would be above anything like that. (Dreiser)

Do you think the Germans are above doing such a thing? (Mis)

He really is unselfish and above small jealousy and hatred. (Mis)

If you want to learn, you must not be above asking questions. (OSD)

A true gentleman is above envy, jealousy or vindictiveness. (Wood) 2) 不致受到, 不容(注意搭配词):

She thinks she is above criticism. (EPV)

His conduct has always been above suspicion. (ALD)

The umpire in the game must be above suspicion of supporting one side over the other. (DAI)

Have you assumed all along that he was above reproach? (Snow)

His handling of Government money during his term of office was not entirely above reproach. (CIE)

△ 有时有其他意思(如"超然于···之上"等):

One could not be above the battle, one fights it out. (Snow)

He was above all nervousness. (一点也不紧张) (Lewis)

5 用干成语:

above all 首先, 最重要的是, 特别是

Above all he was a first-rate mathematician. (Hudson)

He was above all a great Marxian teacher. (Gallacher)

But above all tell me quickly what I have to do. (Doyle)

Workers, above all, will know how to approach the problem correctly. (Pollitt)

And above all, I wanted to show that I did not care. (Cronin)

Above all, it was his earnestness that decided her. (URW)

above all things leverything 比什么都重要的是、最最

What I need, you know, above all things, is criticism. (London) Above all things he wanted to be decent in his treatment of people.

(Dreiser)

He longed, above everything, to be quite alone with her. (Cronin)

be above one [one's head] 太高深, 无法理解

Well, this sort of talk is above me. (Shaw)

This book is above me. (ALD)

The last paper he gave, on the theory of flight, was way above my head. (CIE)

The lecture was above the heads of most of the audience. (Wood)

get above oneself 自以为了不起

Some people argued that to educate the working classes would only lead to their getting above themselves. (Wood)

over and above 除之…外

He gets a number of perquisites, over and above his salary. (Wood) five men over and above the usual crew (MED)

Ⅱ 作副词:

1. 上方(的):

Looking up, he saw the light in the window above. (Priestley)

I want to see Miss Golspie." "The young lady above, isn't it?" (Priestley)

My bedroom is just above. (ALD)

Above, there were four men to a bedroom. (Lewis)

Stars glittered above. (MD) The clouds above began to get thicker. (DCE)

Seen from above, the fields looked like a geometrical pattern. (ALD)

2. 前面(上面)的, 上述的:

All the conditions described above were criticized. (Hazen)

The above-mentioned rule will come into force in June. (Clark)

In the above examples [in the examples above] you can see the usage of "above". (Eckersley)

See the statement above [the above statement]. (ALD)

See the examples given above. (MD)

Please send the parcel to the above address. (Clark)

△ 有时表示"上级的":

Take your complaints to the powers above. (MD)

△ 可用作名词:

I finished writing the above at one o'clock. (Pollitt)

The above will be used to illustrate the theory. (MD)

aboveboard [ə.bʌv'bɔːd, ə'bʌvbɔːd, (美) ə'bʌvbord] adi, & adv, 正大 | 光明(地)

His part in the affair was quite (open and) abovehoard. (DCE)

All his dealings were open and aboveboard. (MD)

The controversy was resolved fairly because everyone acted aboveboard. (MD)

abreast [o'brest] adv.

1. 并排:

The soldiers are marching four abreast. (Thorndike)

They walked two abreast. (MD)

2. 用于 * keep abreast of 跟上:

Read the papers if you want to keep abreast of the times. (DCE)

The reporter must keep abreast of new development. (MD) abridge [a'brid3] vt.

1.缩写缩短:

This story must be abridged. (Thorndike)

an abridged edition of 'David Copperfield' (ALD)

The book was abridged to a more readable length. (MD)

2. 缩小(用于书面语):

No one can abridge your legal rights. (FWF)

The Magna Carta abridged the King's powers. (MD)

The rights of citizens must not be abridged without proper cause. (Thorndike)

abridg (e) ment la bridgmantl n. 缩写(本). 缩小

Have you seen the new abridgement of Gibbon's Roman History? (MD)

He read an abridgement of the long novel. (MD)

The town council voted for an abridgement of the mayor's power. (FWF)

abroad [əˈbrɔːd] adv.

1. 在国外:

Denny was still abroad. (Cronin)

You haven't been abroad before, have you? (Mansfield)

His son was living abroad. (Snow)

He set his heart on pursuing his studies abroad. (Hudson)

They disguise aggression abroad as the defense of this country. (Perlo)

In 1883 the first Russian Marxist organization was formed abroad. (Mis)

On our trip abroad we visited relatives in Belgium. (FWF)

2. 往国外, 到国外:

Why shouldn't we go abroad together (you and I)? (Bennet)

I'm afraid people will be down on me for taking you abroad. (Mansfield)

I think I'll take a trip abroad somewhere. (Cronin)

△ 可和 from 连用,表示"从国外":

They've just returned from abroad. (Mis)

3. 在外面传:

Rumors of victory were abroad. (MD)

The news soon spread abroad that the examination results were ready. (DCE)

There is a rumour abroad that ... (ALD)

△ 间或表示"出外","出门"(这一个用法已较陈旧):

He rarely went abroad by day, but at twilight he would go out. (Wells)

It's unsafe to be abroad at night if you're not wearing something white. (FWF)

abrupt [əˈbrʌpt] adj.

1. 突然的, 猛然的:

The road is full of abrupt turns. (OSD)

I feel that I owe you a great many apologies for my abrupt departure yesterday. (Doyle)

There had been no expectation of war with the Japanese until their abrupt attack on Pearl Harbour. (URW)

The train came to an abrupt stop, making many passengers fall off their seats. (DCE)

The road made an abrupt rise up the hill. (Thorndike)

He made an abrupt turn to avoid another car. (Thorndike)

The cliff made an abrupt descent to the sea. (FWF)

2. 粗鲁, 没礼貌:

He has a very abrupt manner. (ALD)

His manner became less abrupt: he was almost polite. (Long)

He was very gruff and had an abrupt way of speaking. (Thorndike)

His abrupt reply hurt our feelings. (FWF)

sound abrupt on the telephone (OSD)

△ 有时指文意不通順·

The ideas in your composition are good but the style is rather abrunt. (ALD)

abruptly [əˈbrʌptli] adv. 突然地、猛然地

Mr. Povey abruptly left the room followed by Fan. (Bennet)
"You want to be famous?" she asked abruptly. (London)

At this point in his narrative Dr. Finchatton stopped abruptly. (Wells)

He woke up abruptly, as though someone had called his name. (Walpole)

She had come to a resolution. Abruptly she got out of bed. (Wells) abscond [əb'skənd, æb-, (美) æb'skand] vi. 潜逃

The accused man absconded while on bail, (Wood)

The cashier stole money from the bank and absconded with it, but the police caught him. (Thorndike)

The treasurer absconded with the club's funds. (MD)

The thief absconded with the jewels. (FWF)

He absconded with another youth. (Wood)

absence ['æbsans] n.

1. 缺席、不在(不可数):

I did not notice his absence. (Palmer)

Cecily, you will read your political economy in my absence. (Wilde)

I shall take your place in your absence. (Hill)

He acted as Chairman in my absence. (Galsworthy)

During our absence the monkey had passed the crisis of his illness. (Cronin)

The campaign had begun during Martin's enforced absence. (London)

He made up a wonderful story to explain his absence. (Worrall)

She had been dropped from the school for over-absence. (Mis)

His absence from school was caused by illness. (Thorndike)

一次缺席或不在(可数):

She soon found it possible, during his several absences, to do this regularly. (Dreiser)

a long absence / numerous absences from school (ALD)

The sailor returned after an absence of two years. (Thorndike)

3. 没有, 不存在(不可数, 间或加不定冠词):

The police were delayed by the absence of information about the crime. (DCE)

Darkness is the absence of light. (Thorndike)

A major problem is the absence of detailed standard rules of organization (Mis)

True communication implies the absence of external controls. (AOT)

We were obliged to accept it as true in the absence of other evidence.

He shows an absence of initiative. (FWF)

△ absence of mind 指"心不在焉":

Absence of mind may have bad results. (Hill)

absent1 [æbsənt] adj.

1. 缺席、不在:

He was absent from the meeting. (Palmer)

Why were you absent from school yesterday? (ALD)

He arrived home to find his wife still absent. (Priestley)

Three members of the class were absent. (Thorndike)

2. 心不在焉:

He had an absent look on his face. (DCE)

I asked him a question but he looked at me in an absent way and didn't answer. (ALD)

an absent expression on her face (MD)

an absent air (UED)

3. 不存在, 没有:

Snow is absent in some countries. (Thorndike)

In the Manx type of cat, the tail is absent. (DCE)

absent-minded [æbsənt maindid] adj. 心不在焉

You are absent-minded. (Maugham)

Mr. Cave was more absent-minded than usual. (Wells)

He had an absent-minded manner. (Sinclair)

The absent-minded man put salt in his coffee and sugar on his egg. (Thorndike)

An absent-minded movement of his hand caused the cup to fall. (HRW)

absent-mindedly [.æbsəntˈmaindidli] adv. 心不在焉地

He greeted her absent-mindedly. (Cronin)