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# 中学 英语 常用 词汇 手册

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## 前 言

我们在多年来的英语教学实践活动中深深体会到：学生在学习英语的过程中学会并习惯于使用英文词典本身就是一种极为可取的学习方法。实践证明，这种方法事半功倍，行之有效。经常查阅英文词典不仅能让学主更准确地了解每个词的意义，更重要的是学生的自学能力因此可以得到培养和提高。为此我们编辑了这本《中学英语常用词汇手册》（英·英）（以下简称《手册》）。在编辑的过程中，我们查阅了中外几十本词典。英语解释大都来自原文资料（少数解释因考虑学生的实际作了适当的修改）。

编辑本《手册》遵循如下几条原则：

1. 编写的指导思想是坚持“三实”：即面对中学生的实际；具有充分的实用价值；培养学生实际运用语言的能力和自学能力，为今后高级阶段的英语学习打下坚实的基础。

2. 词条基本上来源于中学英语新教材和中学英语统编教材。

3. 英语解释力求意义准确、语言简炼，通



俗易懂。

4. 动词和词组一般配有例句。选例力求实用, 不偏于某一专业, 尽量照顾不同层次的学生。例句大多数来源于近年出版的英语书刊, 查有实据。

5. 本《手册》除了面对中学学生外，还可供中学英语教师教改和备课时参考，并可供社会青年自学。

本《手册》完稿后经武汉大学英文系研究生部袁锦翔教授审阅，在此表示衷心的感谢。

由于我们的水平有限，加之时间仓促，书中疏漏与错误之处在所难免，敬请读者批评指正。

本及丁群藏印建此。高其咏养编修者西此  
商不遇)(英·英)《册年正同1987年9月中》

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## Short forms used in the hand-book

<i>adj.</i>	<i>adjective</i>
<i>adv.</i>	<i>adverb</i>
<i>&amp;</i>	<i>and</i>
<i>C</i>	<i>countable</i>
<i>conj.</i>	<i>conjunction</i>
<i>E</i>	<i>East</i>
<i>esp.</i>	<i>especially</i>
<i>etc.</i>	<i>et cetera; and so on</i>
<i>interj.</i>	<i>interjection</i>
<i>N</i>	<i>North</i>
<i>num.</i>	<i>numeral</i>
<i>pl.</i>	<i>plural</i>
<i>pref.</i>	<i>prefix</i>
<i>prep.</i>	<i>preposition</i>
<i>pron.</i>	<i>pronoun</i>
<i>S</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>sb.</i>	<i>somebody</i>
<i>sing.</i>	<i>singular</i>
<i>sth.</i>	<i>something</i>

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<i>U</i>	<i>uncountable</i>
<i>US</i>	<i>America; American English</i>
<i>usu.</i>	<i>usually</i>
<i>v.</i>	<i>verb</i>
<i>vi.</i>	<i>intransitive verb</i>
<i>vt.</i>	<i>transitive verb</i>
<i>W</i>	<i>West</i>

## A

**abacus** *n.* a calculating instrument with beads sliding on rods or wires; the oldest kind of computer used in China centuries ago

**aboard** *adv.* in or on a ship, train, plane, etc.

**about** *prep.* here and there; on every side of  
*adv.* around; on all sides

**above all** especially; more than anything else

*e.g.* Never waste anything, but **above all** never waste time.

**Abraham Lincoln** (1809—1865) the sixteenth president of the U.S.

**absorb** *vt.* to take or suck in (a liquid); take in (heat, light, knowledge, etc.)

*e.g.* Paper that **absorbs** ink is called blotting-paper. Dry sand **absorbs** water.

The clever boy **absorbed** all the



## 2 /abstract

knowledge that his teacher could give him.

**abstract** *adj.* separated from what is real; thought of separately from facts, real things or special examples

**accent** *n.* a way of pronouncing

**accept** *v.* 1) to agree to take (sth. offered)

2) to admit

3) to receive with favour

*e.g.* He received the present, but he didn't *accept* it.

Darwin was not ready to *accept* the usual teaching about how things developed.

**accident** *n.* 1) something not expected, and which hurts people

*e.g.* John met with an *accident* in a car yesterday.

2) happening which is not expected

*e.g.* We met in the shop by *accident*.

I didn't know that John would be in the shop. Our meeting was *accidental*.

We met *accidentally*.

**accomplish** *v.* to finish successfully

**according to** *prep.* in agreement with

*e.g.* You will be paid **according to** the work you do.

**account** *n.* explanation; reason

**on account of** because of

*e.g.* I have come to see you **on account of** my son, he is ill.

**a chain of** number of connected things,

(etc.)

*e.g.* We can see a chain of mountains.

**ache** *v.n.* (to have) a pain which keeps on hurting one

*e.g.* I must go to the doctor because my ear **aches**.

**achieve** *v.* to complete; get sth. done; get or reach by effort

**achievement** *n.* achieving; something achieved

**across** *prep.* from one side to the other side of

**act** *v.* to play the part of, as in a play

*e.g.* Can you get someone to **act** the woman teacher in the play? Yes I can ask the student whose acting is the

#### 4/acting

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best among the girls in my class.

**acting** *n.* the manner in which actors play their parts

**action** *n.* the state or process of doing; act or deed; movement or manner of movement

**active** *adj.* able to do things; in the habit of doing things; moving rather quickly much of the time; (.be) always ready to do things

**take an active part in** participate; have a share in

**actual** *adj.* real, as a fact

**actually** *adv.* really; in actual fact

**adding machine** a machine used for adding one number to another

**address** *n.* the name of the place where one lives

**admire** *vt.* to regard with pleasure and respect; have good opinion of

*e.g.* I admire his learning. I admire him for his learning.

**adoption** *n.* the act of adopting; the state of being adopted

**advance** *v.* to go forward

*e.g.* The soldiers *advanced* towards the town.

**advanced** *adj.* far developed; (of knowledge) developed over the ordinary level

*e.g.* The Institute for *Advanced* Study  
**advice** *n.* opinion about what to do, how to behave

*e.g.* If you take my *advice* and study hard, you will pass the examination.

**affair** *n.* anything done or to be done; anything or matter or happening,

△ **affectionate** *adj.* loving; showing affection

△ **affectionately** *adv.* in an affectionate manner

△ **afford** *v.* to find enough time or money for

*e.g.* We can't *afford* a holiday this summer.

If you want to pass the examination, you can't *afford* time for the cinema.

**Africa** *n.* second largest continent, in the Eastern Hemisphere, south of Europe



## 6 /after all

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**after all** in spite of everything; all things considered

**after a while** 1) after a short time

2) later, at some time in the future

*e.g.* "Dad, will you help me make this model plane? "

"*After a while*, son, when I finish reading the newspaper."

**afterwards** *adv.* later

**against** *prep.* not in favour of; in opposition to

*e.g.* Are you for or *against* the proposal?

**age** *n.* the period of time a person has lived or a thing has existed

*e.g.* He is 17 years of *age*.

**a good many** a large number (of)

*e.g.* He knows a good many people in this city.

He called you up a *good many* times yesterday.

**a great deal** very much; a lot

**agree** *v.* 1) to accept an idea, etc.; say

"Yes"

2) to have the same opinion(s)



*e.g.* We *agreed* that we should start early.

I quite *agree* with you.

We *agreed* to their proposal.

**agriculture** *n.* farming; the art or practice of farming, esp. of growing crops

**ahead** *adv.* in front; forward; in advance in or into the future

**aid** *n.* support; help

*v.* to give support to

*e.g.* We should *aid* the developing countries.

**aim** *n.* a thing aimed at; a purpose

*e.g.* My *aim* is to become a doctor.

*v.* to point (a gun, etc.) towards

**air** *n.* what we breathe

*e.g.* We cannot live without *air*.

**airport** *n.* a place for airplanes to land and start from

**alarm** *n.* 1) sudden fear; excitement caused by fear of danger

2) a warning of danger

**Alaska** the largest state of the U.S., which is in the extreme of the

## 8 / Albert Einstein

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NW North America

**Albert Einstein** American physicist and mathematician (1879—1955) who gave the world a famous theory—Theory of Relativity

**Alfred Wallace** (1823—1913) British naturalist

**alive** *adj.* having life; not dead; living  
**keep sb. alive** to cause sb. to continue living

*e.g.* Air, water and food *keep us alive*.

Without them we can't live.

**all one's life** throughout one's life

**all over the country** over the whole surface of the country

**allow** *v.* to let sb. do sth.; permit

*e.g.* Please *allow* me to go home.

No smoking *allowed* here.

**all the time** day and night

**ally** *v.* to combine; unite (*e.g.* families in marriage, countries in making war)

*e.g.* England *allied* herself (with France in the Great War.

England and France were *allied* in

World war II.

*n.* person or country allied to another

*almost adv.* nearly

*alone adj.* by oneself; not with other people

*aloud adv.* with a loud voice; loudly

*alphabet n.* the letters used in writing a language, arranged in order

*e.g.* There are twenty-six letters in the English *alphabet*.

*Alsace n.* a region and former province of NE France

*although conj.* though; even if; in spite of the fact that

*e.g.* *Although* he was tired, he could not sleep.

*altogether adv.* 1) on the whole  
2) completely

*amazement n.* filling with great surprise

*amazing adj.* causing great surprise or wonder

*amber n.* clear yellowish-brown gum used for making ornaments, etc.; its colour

## 10/ambulance

**ambulance** *n.* a large car (or boat or airplane) to carry sick or wounded persons to hospital

**America** *n.* 1) the United States of America

2) North America and South America

**among** *prep.* in the number of; in the group or class of

**amount** *n.* the result of adding; the total sum

**amuse** *v.* to cause to laugh or smile; entertain

**amusement** *n.* 1) condition of being amused

2) something that makes time pass pleasantly

**ancient** *adj.* far back in history, belonging to the past

**anger** *n.* a fierce feeling of displeasure, usu. leading to a desire to hurt or stop the person or thing causing it

**angle** *n.* a corner; place (space) where two lines, sides or surface meet

**announce** *v.* to make something known

*e.g.* The news was *announced* by Radio