英语常用词疑难例解

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Peculiarities in Basic English Words

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内容简介

本书针对近年来大学英语教学及各类考试中发现的问题,从英语常用词汇中精选了800多个词的疑难用法,取国内外权威辞典释文的精华,并配以典型例句,辅以同义词用法辨析及常用搭配,旨在帮助广大读者重点掌握英语词汇中常用目常被用错或误解的词,使读者英语水平得到更大提高。

本书所选例句均有汉译,部分词义英汉双解,难点解释及 用法重点突出、简明扼要。

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前 言

词汇是语言的建筑材料。然而,在实际的语言学习和表达中,却往往不是把词汇按照一般的语法规则组合起来即可那么简单,因为在许多情况下,词汇的用法并不是一般语法规则所能完全解决的。笔者多年在英语教和学的实践中深感掌握词汇用法之艰难。因此,编写此书、希望能有助于广大读者对词汇用法的掌握。

本书针对近年来大学英语教学及各类考试中发现的问题,从 英语常用词汇中精选了800多个词的疑难用法。它们的数量虽不 大,却是英语的核心词汇,是英语中最基本、最常用、最活跃的部 分,同时,也最难掌握。它们具有较强的搭配能力,又在不同的搭 配中具有不同的意义。掌握了这些词的用法,对表达一般思想,应 付日常学习及工作,就有了一定的基础;掌握了这些词的用法,对 于提高使用语言的准确性,更好地发挥语言的交际功能,具有重要 的意义。

本书编写过程中,我们舍去了一般用法而着重解释英语学习者容易用错,用混的疑难用法,取国内外权威辞典释义之精华,一般以2~4个例句说明之,例句全部引自国内外各种辞书并加以汉译,以求典型和准确;同时,辅以同义法辨析及常用的搭配;所选词目之部分词义用英汉双解;难点解释及用法简明扼要,重点突出,旨在帮助广大读者掌握好英语常用词汇中那些活跃常用且常被用错或误解的词,使读者的英语水平产生质的飞跃。

本书后附有条目索引,便于读者查找。本书具有较强的针对性及广泛的应用性,它是从事英语学习、研究的广大英语爱好者的必备参考书。

由于编写水平和资料所限,本书中错误及疏漏之处在所难免,

敬请读者指正。

本书所用参考书目列于书后。在此谨向有关作者致意。

编者 1999 年 11 月

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本书所用缩略语

adj. ——adjective 形容词

adv. ——adverb 副词

conj.——conjunction 连接词

n.—noun 名词

prep.——preposition 介词

pron. — pronoun 代词

rel. pron. ——relative pronoun 关系代词

sb. —somebody

sth. —something

v.—verb 动词

vi. ——intransitive verb 不及物动词

vt. ——transitive verb 及物动词

A

abide vt.vi

(1)忍耐;忍受(尤与 can't 或 couldn't 连用)。例: I can't abide such people. 我们不能容忍这样人。 I can't abide loud noise. 我忍受不了大的嗓音。

(2)(文)等待。例:

I abide my time. 我等待时机。

He will abide my coming. 他将等待我的到来。

able adj.

(1)表示能够,与 be 连用,后接不定式。例:

I shall be able to come tomorrow. 明天我能来。

You might be able to persuade him. 你或许能劝说他。

(2) be able to 和 can 意思相近,但前者可有更多的时态形式,还可以与情态动词或某些系动词连用,也可用于不定式或动名词短语中。例:

He seemed able to put it in simple words. 他似乎能用简明的言词表达。

She felt sorry for not being able to come in time. 因为不能按时到达,她感到歉意。

(3)能干,有才能,有水平的,作定语或表语。例:

He is the ablest man I've met in my life. 他是我平生遇到的最能干的人。

The president made a very able speech. 校长作了一次非常漂亮的演讲。

(4)able, capable, competent 均表示具有作某件事的足够能力。 able 多指人,其后通常不接不定式的被动式,着重于行动的 能力,多用于积极意义; capable 指人或物,多用于消极方面, 指接受或适应能力; competent 多指能胜任某工作的足够技 能或其他所需条件。例:

The mistake is capable of being corrected. 这个错误能改正。 (通常不说 The mistake is able to be corrected.)

He is capable of anything. 他什么事都干得出来。

A competent typist is not necessarily a competent secretary.

一个合格的打字员不一定就是合格的秘书。

aboard adv. prep

(1)adv. 上船(车,飞机等)。例:

Welcome aboard! 请上船(或上车,登机)!

It's time to go aboard. 该上船(或上车,登机)了。

(2)prep. 上船(车,飞机等)。例:

They went aboard the ship. 他们已上船。

He got aboard the train. 他们上火车了。

about prep. adv.

- 1.about prep.
- (1)接近,相近。例:

He is about my height. 他的身高与我相近。

She is about the same age as Mary. 她与玛丽的年龄相近。

(2)在…周围,围绕。例:

Her hair hangs about her neck. 她的头发垂于颈部。

There was a white fence about the house. 白色的篱笆环绕着房

子。

(3)在…附近,在身边。例:

He lives somewhere about here. 他住在附近。

I have no money about me. 我身边没钱。

(4)到处。例:

He goes about the city lecturing about the evils of drink. 他在全市到处宣讲喝酒的害处。

The papers were scattered about the room. 房间里到处扔的都是文件。

(5)(某人,某地,某物)有某特点。例:

There is a strange smell about him. 他身上有种怪味。

There was something about him that I did not like. 他有某种我不喜欢的东西。

(6)即将。与 to 连用,后接不定式,此时不可再加表示时间的词。例:

The plane is about to take off. 飞机即将起飞。

He is about to be transferred to another unit of the city. 他即将被调到本市另一个单位。

2. about adv.

(1)到处,四处(活动)。例:

Smallpox is about. 天花流行。

The little boy ran about looking for his mother. 小男孩到处跑, 找他的妈妈。

(2)将近。例:

Supper is about ready. 晚饭就快预备好了。

My stomach is about full. 我的肚子快饱了。

(3)在附近。例:

Is the manager about? 经理在吗?

There were few people about. 当时附近行人寥寥无几。

(4)大约。在有"多少不定"的意思的片语的前面不该再用 about,如不可说,about more than ten, about less than half, about several, about some, about a few. 例:

He is about fifty, quite strong. 他大约 50 岁,非常结实。

He gave me about ten dollars. 他给了我大约 10 美元。

above prep. adv. adj. n.

- 1.above prep.
- (1)超过,在…以上,与数词连用。例:

That car cost above £ 2000. 那部车花费了二千多镑。

The weight of this rock is above 上 one ton. 此石的重量超过 1 吨。

(2)不至(做出某事),不屑。例:

He is above stealing. 他不至于偷窃。

He is above taking profits for himself. 他不屑为自己谋利。

(3)不至受到,超然…之上。例:

He was above all nervousness. 他一点也不紧张。

The child is above reproach. 孩子是无可责难的。

(4)above 和 over 在意思上略有不同。above 不一定有"垂直在上"的含意,over 却有。例:

They live in a flat above the shop. 他们住在这家商店上面的一间公寓里。

There is a bridge over the river. 河上横有一座桥。

2. above adv. adj. n.

表示上方;前面(上面)的,上述的;上级,如上者。例:

My bedroom is just above. 我的卧室恰好在上面。

You can find it in the examples above. 你可在上面的例子中找到。

The policy was imposed from above. 政策是由上级交待下来的。

absorb vt.

(1)并吞,并入。例:

The Roman Empire absorbed many territories. 罗马帝国吞并了许多领土。

That king absorbed the small states into the empire. 那国王将诸小国并入帝国之内。

(2) 收进, 使用。例:

The market absorbed all the automobiles we could build. 市场将我们能生产的汽车都买完了。

That big company absorbed all the grains on the market. 那家大公司买进了市场上所有的谷物。

(3)支付,负担。例:

The company will absorb all the research cost. 公司将负担一切研究费用。

His uncle absorbed all his educational expenses at college. 他叔父负担他大学的学习费用。

(4)理解。例:

It's very important to absorb the full meaning of a remark. 理解一句话的全部意义很重要。

You failed to absorb the text in an hour. 你在一小时内没能理解这篇课文。

abstract vt.

偷(steal)(colloq)。例:

Can you abstract my watch from my pocket without my knowing it? 你能从我的衣袋里把表偷走而不被我察觉吗?

The thief abstracted ₤ 5 from my wallet. 小偷从我的钱夹里偷走了 5 英镑。

abuse vt.

(1)辱骂;诋毁;讲某人的坏话。例:

they abuse each other. 他们相互辱骂。

He was always abusing people. 他光骂人。

(2)辜负(let down; be unworthy of)。例:

I will not abuse your kindness. 我不会辜负你的好意。

he could not abuse their trust. 他不会辜负他们的信赖。

accept vt.

承担…的责任;承兑。例:

The boy accepted full responsibility for breaking the window. 这个男孩承担了打破窗子的全部责任。

The bank will accept the bill of exchange. 银行将承兑汇票。

accessible adj.

(1)可取得的,可达到的。例:

His ambitions are accessible. 他的愿望可以达到。

A telephone should be put where it will be accessible. 电话应安装在容易找到的地方。

(2)易受影响,易受引诱的。例:

He is accessible to bribery. 他易于受贿赂。

An open-minded person is accessible to reasons. 虚心的人易于服理。

accomodate vt.

帮忙解决困难。例:

The bank will accommodate you with a loan. 银行将给你一笔贷款。

When we asked for help, the policeman accommodated us. 我们请求帮助时,警察帮了我们的忙。

accord vt. vi.

给予;赠予。例:

We were glad to be accorded this privilege of visiting your country. 我很高兴能得到这样的好机会来访问美国。

They accorded due praise to him. 他们给他以恰当的称赞。

according adv.

(1)according as 表示"依据…(决定是这样还是那样)","要视… (而决定)"。例:

You may go or stay, according as you decide. 去留随你决定。 You will be praised or blamed according as your work is good or bad. 你将依照你的工作成绩好坏而受到奖惩。

(2)according to 表示"符合,合乎"。例:

Isn't it according to international law? 这符合国际法吗?
A diplomat must act according to circumstances. 一个外交家必须随机应变。

account v.n.

- 1. account vi. vt.
- (1)account for 表示"对…负责","引起…"。例:

The father's carelessness accounted for the child's death. 这孩子的死亡是由于他父亲的粗心大意。

He is very capable, that accounts for his rapid promotion. 他很能干,所以提升很快。

(2)account(vt.)表示"认为",宾语后接形容词或名词作补足语。例:

I account myself well paid. 我认为我得的报酬不菲。

I account him wise. 我认为他聪明。

I account him a wise man. 我认为他是个明智的人。

2. account n.

(1) on account of 表示"因为,由于"。其中的 on,现很少使用 upon。例:

He can not come to the meeting on account of illness. 他因病不能到会。

On account of the snowstorm, the plane was delayed. 飞机因暴风雪误点了。

(2)of···account 表示"有···重要性"。例:

It's of no account. 此事微不足道。

He is a person of no account. 他不是重要人物。

The doctor is a man of some account in the village. 这位医生在村子里是位举足轻重的人物。

(3)常见的一些搭配是:

to call to account 斥责,(为某种错事)作解释

to leave out of account 没考虑到

to put sth. down to one's account 把…记在谁的账上

to settle accounts with 与…算账

to take account of 考虑

to take into account 把…考虑进去

to turn (put) to (good) account 加以利用

accuse vt.

控诉;告发;非难。例:

Man often accuses nature for his own misfortunes. 人常因自身的不幸责怪老天。

Everybody knows he was wrongly accused. 谁都知道他被诬告。

acknowledge vt.

(1)致函表示收到。例:

We should always acknowledge gifts as soon as we receive them. 我们一收到礼物时即应函谢。

Your letter reached me two months ago, I am sorry that I forgot to acknowledge it. 两月前收到你的信,迟复为歉。

(2)答谢,就…表示感谢。例:

We must not fail to acknowledge his services to the town. 我们必须感谢他对市政的功绩。

Mary acknowledged the favour with a letter. 玛丽复信一封以答谢所受的关照。

(3)表示注意到(所受的敬意等)。例:

She acknowledged his greeting by a slight inclination of the head. 她微微点头表示注意到他的问候。

I met him in town but he didn't even acknowledge me. 我在城里遇到他,可他连招呼都没有打一个。

acquaint vt.

acquaint with 意为"使…熟悉;使…明白"。例:

My teacher acquainted him with my intentions. 我的老师把我的意图告诉了他。

Let me acquaint you with the facts. 让我把事实告诉你。

across prep. adv.

1. across prep.

(1)在(河,街等)另一边, across 之后习惯用 from。例:

He lives across the street from my house. 他住在我的房子的对过。

The bank is just across from the school. 银行就在学校的对过。 We shall soon be across the Channel. 我们即将渡过(英吉利)海峡了。

(2)在…全境。例:

I like watching the TV program "Across the Land". 我喜欢看"相国各地"这个电视节目。

Hundreds of shops across the country began selling antique clothing. 全国几百家商店开始卖过时的衣服。

2.across adv.

(1)宽,横。例:

The stream is 10 feet across. 小河宽 10 英尺。
The river is more than a mile across. 这江有 1 英里多宽。

(2)使人理解,讲请楚。例:

He found it difficult to get the idea across to the class. 他发现让全班理解这一概念很困难。

He was unable to get across to the group what he meant. 他无法让那伙人了解他的用意。

act v.

(1)起作用,对…有功效。例:

The brakes wouldn't act, so there was an accident. 刹车失灵, 故发生车祸。

The drug failed to act. 此药不曾生效。

This medicine acts (up) on the heart. 这药品对心脏有功效。

(2)假装,佯为。例:

She is not really crying; she is only acting to get your sympathy. 她并非真哭,她不过是装哭以得到你的同情。

The boys sometimes act being soldiers. 男孩们有时做士兵游戏。 The boy acts the hero. 这个男孩装出英雄气概。 (3)行为,表现,(用作系词),其意思可由一形容词续完;有时亦作"假装得…似的"解。例:

He acts older than he is. 他的举止显得较其实际年龄老。

He acts wise. 他做事聪明。

At first he was a little shy in class, but now he acts more natural. 起初,他在班上有点腼腆,但现在他举止比较自然。

Even elephants have been known to act dead. 据说甚至大象也会装死。

adapt v.

改装,翻修,改作(他用)。例:

We can adapt the barn for use as a garage. 我们能将谷仓改装 为汽车间。

He adapted an old car engine to drive his boat. 他将一台旧汽车发动机改装成船用引擎。

address vt.

用于 address oneself to,表示"致力于…,""论述","向…讲话"。例:

Addressing himself to the principal, he defended the students' behaviour. 在校长面前,他为学生的行为辩护。

He addressed himself to the work. 他致力于此项工作。

There are two questions to which I will address myself in this lecture. 本次讲座我将阐述两个问题。

adhere vi.

adhere to 意指"忠于";"坚持"(一个决心、习惯、意见、政党等)。例:

He adhered to the faith of his fathers. 他忠于他祖先的信仰。

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