

智能英语



BETTER WAYS
with

Verbs

动词

约翰·普拉特



外文出版社

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写在前面的话

动词是日常交往中重要的组成部分。可是,我们有时对于动词并未给予足够的重视。通常我们强调的只是动词的形式,其实,考虑动词在不同情况下如何使用也十分重要。本书对话中的人物对于使用哪个动词或哪种动词的形式也不是十分有把握,有时两、三个人对什么是“正确的”发生争执。在书中,我们会详尽地讨论他们的难题,并提供大量的例句加以说明。同时,我们还会对在不同情况下如何正确使用动词提出建议。

最重要的一点是:非正式的、通俗的英语并没有什么错误。世界各地的人们会根据不同的情景说出和写出不同的英语。而我在这本书中谈到的可以称做“国际通用英语”,这种英语在那些说英语的主要国家里通用。

当然,两个主要不同的英语变体是英式英语和美式英语。尽管美式英语对英式英语和其他各种英语变体的影响正日益加深,但是,它们之间的区别仍然存在。一般来说,我谈的是英式用法,但在必要时我也给出了有关美式用法的例句。

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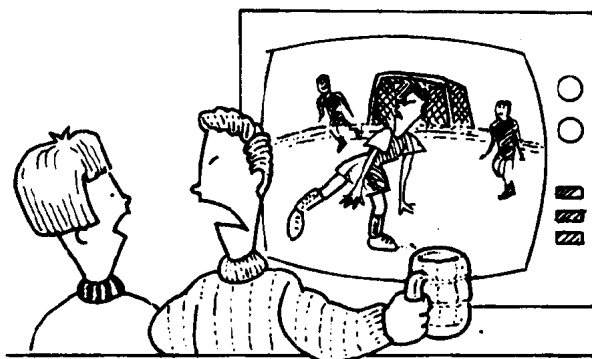
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1

Getting up or Gets up?



DAVID: Look, Chong gets up now!

JOAN: You mean 'he's **getting up**'. You can't say 'he **gets up**'.

SPORTS COMMENTATOR (on TV): Chong is on the ground. Now he gets up.

DAVID: (annoyed): Why can he say **gets up** and why can't I?

琼坚持让大卫说 he's **getting up** 是对的, 而不

应该说 **gets up**。动词可以分成两类,即:静态动词和动态动词。而动态动词中的重要一部分是表达活动的动词。**get up** 是一个活动动词。当它在表示某事正在进行之中时,就应使用动词表示进行的 **-ing** 形式,例如:He is getting up 或 He's getting up。其它的活动动词还有:eat, drink, buy, come, go。

假如我们把一个活动动词用在一般现在时的形式中,如: **gets up**, 它通常表示这个活动有规律地发生,如: He gets up at seven every morning。下面的几个例子可以说明这两种形式的区别。

1. I can't disturb her. She's **eating** her lunch. (意味着: 在这个时刻)

但是:

She always **eats** two rolls for breakfast. (一件经常发生的事)

2. Look, he's **coming** now! (我们实际上看见他走过来)

但是:

He **comes** every Thursday to collect the rent. (一个经常发生的事件)

当然,一般现在时或进行时态都能表示将来。我们会在以后的单元中讨论这一点。

当体育评论员说到“Chong gets up”这句话时,他说得对吗? 并不完全对。因为在评论中,特别是电台和电视台有关体育事件和活动的评论中,这种动态动词一般时形式的使用是特殊的用法。有时

它是用来给观众或听众一种紧张的或戏剧性的感觉。比如：

And now the President steps out of his car, he waves to the crowds, he walks slowly past the guard of honour. . .

但是,如果把这种在媒体中用来取得戏剧性效果的形式放在日常说话中就未免有些滑稽。如：

Now Dad gets out of his car, he walks along the path towards the house, he waves to Mum. . .



Have or Having a headache?



DORIS: I'm **having** a headache.

MARY: You mean, you **have** a headache.

DORIS: Yes, that's what I mean. I'm **having** a very bad headache.

MARY: But you can't say that!

DORIS (aggressively): Why not? It's my head. I should know.

为什么多丽丝不能说 I'm **having** a headache?
我们已经在第一单元里看到了动词可以分为两类。
除了表示活动和过程的动态动词以外,还有另一类

动词,叫做静态动词。静态动词用来表达情感、知识和信仰等,比如: **love, hate, know**, 以及表示关系的动词,如: **belong to, equal, own**。由于静态动词通常描述的是事情的状态,那么,他们就不会出现在进行时 - **ing** 的形式中。比如:人们通常不说 **I'm owning a house** 而说 **I own a house**。我们可以说 **I know him**, 而说不说 **I'm knowing him**。但有时也有些动词被当作动态动词来用,也有时又被当作静态动词来用。动词 **have** 就是其中的一个。

在这种情况下,多丽丝经历了一种不愉快的感觉 — **she has a headache**。这应被视为事情的状态。句中的 **have** 是静态动词,因此玛丽是对的。多丽丝应该说 **I have a headache** 而不是 **I'm having a headache**。

然而,当 **have** 被作为动态动词来用时,也就是说它描述的是一种活动,那么它就可以用 - **ing** 的形式。比如:

A: There's a lot of noise next door.

B: Oh, they're **having** a party.

另一个既可用作静态又可用作动态的动词的词是 **think**。比如:

I think it's going to rain. (**think** 在句中表达的是一种意见。我们可以把它称为是一种“头脑的状态”)

但是:

I'm thinking hard about how to solve the problem. (在这里 **think** 表示的是一种“智力活动”)

有关感官的动词,如:**hear, smell feel 和 taste** 是很特殊的,我们将在第 35 单元和第 36 单元里详细讨论。

3

The plane arrives or The plane will arrive?



JOSIE: Oh, we've plenty of time. Peter's plane only **arrives** at six.

HELEN (*firmly*): You can't say that. You should say "Peter's plane **will arrive** at six."

JOSIE (*puzzled*): Why?

谁说得对呢,是乔西还是海伦?这就要看实际情况了,而是每个人究竟想要强调的是什。

假如即将到来的事件是经常发生的,那么,就