

# 英语成语习语双解词典

主编 张 雪

辽宁师范大学出版社

*A* DICTIONARY  
OF ENGLISH IDIOMS

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# **英语成语习语双解词典**

A DICTIONARY OF ENGLISH IDIOMS

(Bilingual Interpretations)

主 编 张 雪

副主编 井卫华

**辽宁师范大学出版社**

1996 年 · 大连

(辽)新登字 18 号

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**A Dictionary of English Idioms**  
(Bilingual Interpretations)

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出版: 辽宁师范大学出版社

电话: (0411)4206854

发行: 新华书店

责任编辑: 江 山

开本: 787×960 1/32

印张: 21

版次: 1996 年 4 月第 1 版

社址: 大连市黄河路 850 号

邮编: 116029

印刷: 沈阳市第二印刷厂印刷

责任校对: 马 彪

字数: 722 千

印数: 5000

印次: 1996 年 4 月第 1 次印刷

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ISBN 7-81042-104-2/Z · 8

定价: 22.00 元

编写人员(按姓氏笔划为序)

于国风 马 涛 井卫华

王庆国 石晓杰 李迎安

张 冰 张 雪 金贵彬

贺 平 祖 虎 霞

## 序

英语习语体现了英语语言的精粹,故而成为语言学家关注的重要课题;英语习语数量繁多,故而成为词典学家不可或缺的编纂内容;英语习语反映了英语国家的风土人情,故而成为文化学家研究的必要内容;英语习语言简意赅,故而操英语的人不可不用;英语习语传情达意,故而英语作家用之不舍。

然而,对于把英语作为外语来学习的学生来说,浩繁的英语习语结构特殊、用法独特,是英语学习的难点之一。大连外国语学院张雪、井卫华副教授等年轻教师在繁忙的教学工作之余,收集整理了一万余条英语习语,以双解词典的形式结集出版,为我国的英语学习者提供了一本有用的参考书,体现了年轻教师的敬业精神和业务实力。

正如编者在前言中所指出的那样,“编此词典最难之处莫过于翻译”,词典的解释只能局限于该习语的大意,其确切的翻译只能取决于各种应用场合的具体上下文和文体色彩。所以,词典的使用者只能在掌握某个习语的大意的基础上灵活运用,才能译出该习语的准确意义。所以,我倒希望本书的编者将来能够在现有的基础上,收集大量的例句,编出一部例证充实、实用性更强、参考价值更大的词典。本书的编者年轻力壮、基础扎实、精力充沛,完全可以有实力编出这样的巨著来的。我翘首以待。

汪榕培

1995年12月3日

# 前 言

成语、习语乃是语言之精华，是劳动人民千百年来在劳动实践中和日常生活中提炼出来的固定表达法，自然也是语言之结晶，它们的应用或有历史渊源，或是约定俗成，英语成语和习语亦不例外。如：“pan out”这一动词习语即源于 19 世纪中叶美国的淘金热。当时，美国的淘金者都用简陋的工具，平锅（pan）来淘金沙，当淘到了金子，人们可说“pan out（well）”，现在这一习语就指某事结果很好或比较成功。再如：“as mad as a wet hen”，当一只母鸡浑身是水时，它自然发疯般地急于抖干湿漉漉的羽毛，所以，这个比喻既形象又贴切，自然也就脍炙人口、约定俗成了。

爱因斯坦曾说过：“不要做成功的人，而要做有价值的人。”我多年来一直信奉着这一名言。这本词典的编纂也就是基于这种想法的，想其将对社会有所用途。

编此词典也是经过一番熟虑的。虽坊间不乏成语、习语词典，但似乎少于收入词条较全的成语词典，其体例或简或繁者不为鲜见，且所收词条较少，赘语颇多，难以满足读者的需要，据此我们组织编纂了本词典。诚然，这本词典也是吸取了诸家所长才编纂成的，在此我向同行前辈们表示我的谢意。

在编纂过程中，我们力求多收词条，使读者有一书在手，读写皆易之感。另外，编此词典最难之处莫

过于翻译。在翻译过程中,我们尽力将英语成语译成汉语成语,以便于读者选用,自然又不能使之牵强。对每个词条的解释也尽量使之全面些,以便于读者参考。

在仓猝之中编纂了这本词典,亦因本人学识不至,难免书中有些疏漏或错误,因此欢迎广大读者和英语界同仁提出宝贵意见,以便使这本词典更臻完善。

张 雪

1995年11月20日

## 体 例 说 明

1. 在编纂本词典的过程中,由于版面有限,我们并未把成语的例句编写在内,但力求把每个成语、习语的意义解释完整而全面地收入本词典,以便给读者更多的机会去选择成语的意思。

2. 每个成语或习语都是用黑体排版的,并用斜体标出了它们的词性。词性的标注主要是根据它们在句子中的作用而判定的。但有些无法判定词性的独立句子或短语在书中不宜标出词性,也就只好不加词性。

3. 无论是英文还是汉语不同解释之间皆由分号(;)隔开。如果某一个成语之后有一个或多个同义成语,则用箭头(→)标出,并用逗号(,)将各个成语隔开。

4. 编此词典旨在为广大读者提供一部便于参考的工具书,它的使用对象不仅仅是学英语的专业学生和理工科学生还包括中学生和初学者,故而在词条排列过程中,把虚词也考虑在内了,以便于查找。

5. 为方便读者,我们把动词短语的两种用法都收入词典,如: **back (someone or something) up**, **back up (someone or something)**, 但为了节省篇幅,只在 **back (someone or something) up** 后给予解释,如果读者查到 **back up (someone or something)**, 就会看到 **see back (someone or something) up**, 这时读者就可以查 **back (someone or something) up**。其它成语也有互见的情况。

6. 如果两个同义成语相邻,用 **see the previous entry** 或 **see the following entry** 标出;请读者去查前一个或后一个词条。

7. 本词典中的禁忌语用 *taboo* 表示;俚语用 *slang* 表示,旧



时用法用 *old use* 表示, 法律用语用 *law* 表示, 军事用语用 *mil* 表示, 航海用语用 *naut* 表示, 文学用语用 *literary* 表示, 不规范用语用 *nonstandard* 表示, 委婉语用 *euph* 表示, 不太标准用语用 *substandard* 表示, 口语用 *colloq* 表示, 幽默用 *humour* 表示, 现在少用用 *now rare* 表示。

8. 本词典中, 词性的标注如下:

- |                      |       |
|----------------------|-------|
| a. <i>v phr</i>      | 动词词组  |
| b. <i>n phr</i>      | 名词词组  |
| c. <i>adj phr</i>    | 形容词词组 |
| d. <i>adv phr</i>    | 副词词组  |
| e. <i>prov</i>       | 谚语    |
| f. <i>prep phr</i>   | 介词词组  |
| g. <i>clause</i>     | 从句    |
| h. <i>n</i>          | 名词    |
| i. <i>adj</i>        | 形容词   |
| j. <i>pp phr</i>     | 分词短语  |
| k. <i>pron phr</i>   | 代词短语  |
| l. <i>interj</i>     | 感叹词   |
| m. <i>conj phr</i>   | 连词短语  |
| n. <i>adv clause</i> | 状语从句  |
| o. <i>interrog</i>   | 疑问语   |
| p. <i>bibl</i>       | 圣经用语  |

9. 本词典所用缩略语:

- |                   |        |
|-------------------|--------|
| a. <i>fml</i>     | 正式     |
| b. <i>infml</i>   | 非正式    |
| c. <i>not fml</i> | 不正式    |
| d. <i>BrE</i>     | 英国英语   |
| e. <i>AmE</i>     | 美国英语   |
| f. <i>AusE</i>    | 澳大利亚英语 |
| g. <i>CanE</i>    | 加拿大英语  |
| h. <i>ScotE</i>   | 苏格兰英语  |
| i. <i>usu.</i>    | 常常     |
| j. <i>esp.</i>    | 尤其     |

## A

- A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.** *prov* a proverb meaning that something you already have is better than something you might get 双鸟在林不如一鸟在手
- a chip off the old block** *n phr* a person (usually a male) who behaves in the same way as his father or resembles his father 与父毫发不爽的儿子; 与父亲一模一样的儿子
- a cut above (someone or something)** *n phr* a measure or degree better than someone or something else 强于...; 高于...; 胜人一筹
- a drop in the bucket** *n phr* see the following entry
- a drop in the ocean** *n phr* → **a drop in the bucket** just a little bit; not enough of something to make a difference 沧海一粟; 杯水车薪
- A Fool and his money are soon parted.** *prov* a proverb meaning that a person who acts unwisely with money soon loses it 用钱不慎的人; 不精明的人; 不懂生意经的人; 败家子
- A friend in need is a friend indeed.** *prov* a proverb meaning that a true friend is a person who will help you when you really need someone 患难见真情; 患难之交
- a la** *prep phr* in the same way as; like 如法炮制; 像...一样
- a little** *n & adj phr* a small amount (of) 一些; 很少; 点滴
- A little bird told me.** learned from a mysterious or secret source 从何处得知的是个秘密
- A little knowledge is a dangerous thing.** *prov* a proverb meaning that incomplete knowledge can embarrass or harm someone or something 一瓶不满, 半瓶晃
- A penny saved is a penny earned.** *prov* a proverb meaning that money saved through thrift is the same as money earned by employment 省一分等于挣一分
- A rolling stone gathers no moss.** *prov* a proverb which describes a person who keeps changing jobs or residences and, therefore, accumulates no possessions or responsibilities 滚石不生苔, 转业不聚财
- a stone's throw away** *n phr* a short distance; a relatively short distance 短距离; 一箭之地
- A watched pot never boils.** *prov* a proverb meaning that concentration on a problem will not help solve it 心急水不沸

- a number** *n phr* a rather large number; numbers 大量; 大批
- abandon to** *v phr* to give (something, someone, or oneself) completely to (something, such as a feeling or condition, or someone), often with a loss of effort or hope 陷入; 沉溺于…
- abase oneself** *v phr fml* to make oneself humble; to lower oneself morally 谦卑; 堕落
- abbreviate to** *v phr* to shorten (usu. a word) to (a shorter form) 缩写成…
- abet in** *v phr* to help (someone) in (usu. wrong doing) 为虎傅翼; 为虎作伥; 助纣为虐
- abide at** *v phr* see **abide in**
- abide by** *v phr* to accept and obey; be willing to follow 遵守
- abide in** *v phr* → **abide at** to live or stay in (a place) 逗留; 住在…
- abide with** *v phr* to stay with (usu. someone) 与…同住
- able to breathe again** *adj phr* → **able to breathe easily again**, **able to breathe freely again** able to relax and recover from a busy or stressful time; able to catch one's breath (在紧张以后) 安下心来; 宽心的; 松口气儿
- able to breathe easily again** *adj phr* see the previous entry
- able to breathe freely again** *adj phr* see **able to breathe again**
- able to do (something) blindfolded** *adj phr* → **able to do (something) standing on one's head** able to do something easily and quickly, possibly without even looking 可轻而易举地做某事; 闭上眼睛都能干; 一蹴而就
- able to do (something) standing on one's head** *adj phr* see the previous entry
- able to make (something)** *adj phr* able to attend an event 能出席; 能到场
- able to take** *adj phr* able to endure something; able to endure abuse 承受得了; 唾面自干; 能忍胯下之辱; 忍辱负重
- able to take a joke** *adj phr* to be able to accept ridicule good-naturedly; to be the object or butt of a joke willingly 能承受别人的取笑; 乐于成为笑料
- able to take just so much** *adj phr* able to endure only a limited amount of discomfort 忍耐是有限的; 忍无可忍
- abound in** *v phr* to exist in quantity in (somewhere); to be full of (something) 盛产; 富于; 充满
- abound with** *v phr* → **abound in**, **swarm with**, **teem with** to be full of (something) 充满
- about one's ears** *adv phr* → **around one's ears** to or into complete collapse, defeat, or ruin; to the destruction of a

- person's plans, hopes, or happiness 一败涂地; 万念俱灰
- about time** *adv phr* finally, but later than it should have been; at last 最终; 最后; 终于
- about to** *adj phr* close to; ready to; having a wish or plan to 将要; 准备; 意欲
- above all** *adv phr* of first or highest importance; most especially 首先; 首要; 举足轻重; 至关紧要; 尤其
- above and beyond the call of duty** *adj phr* → **beyond the call of duty** in addition to what is required; more than is required in one's job 分外之事; 额外要求
- above board** *adj phr* → **honest and above board, open and above board** in the open; visible to public; honest 公开的; 有目共睹; 诚实的
- above suspicion** *adj phr* too good to be suspected; not likely to do wrong 毋庸置疑; 不容怀疑的
- abscond from** *v phr fml* to go away from (a place) suddenly and secretly, esp. because one has done something wrong; to avoid (a duty) by leaving 潜逃; 逃避
- abscond with** *v phr fml* to go away secretly taking (something or someone) without permission; steal (something) 出走; 私奔; 盗窃
- absent from** *v phr fml* to keep (oneself) away from (something) on purpose 借故缺席
- absent without leave** *adj phr* → **AWOL** absent from a military unit without permission; absent from anything without permission 开小差的; 私逃的; 擅离职守
- absolve from** *v phr fml* to declare (someone) free from (guilt, blame, a duty, etc.) 赦免; 宽恕; 免除
- absorb in** *v phr* → **be absorbed in** to give all one's attention to (something or doing something) 专心于...; 全神贯注于...
- absorb into** *v phr* to make (a substance) melt into or become part of (something such as part of the body); to make (someone or something) gradually become part of (a large group) 融合; 溶入
- abstain from** *v phr* → **forbear from, refrain from** to prevent oneself from (doing something); avoid (something or doing something) by choice, but often with an effort 避免; 避开; 戒掉
- abstract from** *v phr* to take (something) out of (something); separate; reduce; to steal (something) from (something or someone) 提取; 分离; 缩减; 窃取
- abut against** *v phr* to come to an end at (somewhere such

- as a point) 停在; 靠近
- abut on** *v phr* → **border on, verge on** *fml* (of land or building) to lie next to; touch (something) 邻接; 毗连
- Acapulco gold** *n phr slang* (drug culture) marijuana of an exceptionally high quality 一种特别高质量的大麻烟
- accede to** *v phr fml* to follow someone and take (a position, etc.); to give approval to (a request, agreement etc.) 就任; 同意
- accept as** *v phr* → **acknowledge as** to believe that (something or someone) is (what he/she/it is claimed to be) 承认; 认可
- acclimatize to** *v phr* → **adapt to** to accustom (someone or oneself) to (different weather, ideas, etc.) 使适应气候; 适应
- accommodate to** *v phr* → **adapt to** *fml* to change (something) to suit (something else) 使适应; 使迁就
- accommodate with** *v phr* to provide (someone) with (something), often as a favor 供给; 提供; 给予
- accompany with** *v phr* to add to (something) (something done or happening same time) 伴随; 随之而来
- accord with** *v phr* to match or suit (something) 使一致
- according as** *conj phr* depending on which; whichever; depending on whether; if 根据…而…; 按照…而…; 如果; 视…而定
- according to** *prep phr* so as to match or agree with; so as to be alike in; on the word or authority of 一致; 使之相同; 根据…所说; 按照
- according to all accounts** *adv phr* → **by all accounts** from all the reports; everyone is saying 据所有报道; 众人皆云
- according to Hoyle** *adv & adj phr* by the rules; in the usual and correct way; regular 按理; 公正规矩地; 正常的
- according to one's own lights** *adv phr* according to the way one believes; according to the way one's conscience or inclinations lead one 自信不疑; 凭良心…
- according to (someone or something)** *adv phr* as said or indicated by someone or something 据…所说
- account for** *v phr* to be or give a reason for (something or doing something); explain; to kill, shoot, or catch (aeroplanes, people, animals); to give back money or suffer punishment for (a wrong doing) 讲明理由; 解释; 击落; 杀死; 捕杀; 退赔
- account for preferences/tastes** *v phr* to be able to explain people's likes and dislikes 善于解释人们的好恶

- account for tastes** *v phr* see the previous entry
- account to** *v phr* see **answer to (someone)**
- accredit to** *v phr fml* to state that (something) belongs to, was done by, or is connected with (someone) 把...归咎于...
- accredit with** *v phr* see **credit with**
- accrue to** *v phr* (esp. of money) to come to (someone), by right, etc. (尤指钱) 自然增长; 按权可得
- accuse of** *v phr* to say that (someone) is guilty of (something wrong) 指控; 控告
- accustom to** *v phr* → **habituate to, use to** to make (someone, oneself, or something) used to (something or someone) 使习惯于...; 使适应于...
- ace in the hole** *n phr* an ace given to a player face down so that other players in a card game cannot see it; someone or something important that is kept as a surprise until the right time so as to bring victory or success 底牌; 出奇制胜; 王牌
- ache for** *v phr* to feel pity for (someone); to have a great desire for (something or someone) 想念; 惋惜; 渴望
- acid head** *n phr slang* (drug culture) a regular user of LSD on whom the hallucinogenic drug has left a visible effect 服用迷幻药的人
- acid rock** *n phr slang* (drug culture) a characteristic kind of modern jazz in which loudness and beat predominate over melody; especially such music as influenced by drug experiences 现代梦幻爵士舞
- acknowledge as** *v phr* see **accept as**
- acknowledge receipt** *v phr* see the following entry
- acknowledge receipt of (something)** *v phr* → **acknowledge receipt** to inform the sender that what was sent was received 通知发货人货已收到; 寄去回执
- acknowledge (someone) to be right** *v phr* to admit or state that someone is correct about something 承认某人是正确的
- acquaint with** *v phr* → **be acquainted with** to make (someone or oneself) familiar with (something); to know (someone or something) 开始认识; 开始了解
- acquiesce in/to** *v phr* → **agree to fml** accept or give no opposition to (something such as a plan) 默认; 默许
- acquiesce to** *v phr* see the previous entry
- acquire a taste for (something)** *v phr* to develop a liking for food, drink, or something else; to learn to like something 已经喜欢吃(喝)某种食物; 慢慢喜欢某物
- acquit of** *v phr* to declare that (someone) is not guilty of (blame, a crime, etc.) 宣判...无罪

**acquit oneself** *v phr* achieve a result by one's efforts or conduct 履行; 完成; 不负苦心

**across from (someone or something)** *adv phr* facing or opposite someone or something 面对; 对面

**across the board** *adv phr infml* so that equal amounts of money are bet on the same horse to win a race, to place second, or third; including everyone or all; so that all are included 以平均的数目赌一匹马可赢前三名; 全部包括; 总括

**across the tracks** *adv phr* see the tracks

**act as** *v phr* to fulfil the purpose of (something) 达到目的

**act as (someone)** *v phr* to perform in the capacity of someone temporarily or permanently 担当; 担任; 替代

**act for** *v phr* → **appear for, plead for** to represent (someone); perform duties as a lawyer, etc., in the place of 代表某人; 行使律师的职责为某人讲话

**act high and mighty** *v phr* to act proud and powerful 盛气凌人; 趾高气扬

**act of faith** *n phr* an act or deed demonstrating religious faith; an act or deed showing trust in someone or something 虔诚的举动; 表示信任的行为

**act of God** *n phr* an occurrence (usually an accident) for which no human is responsible; an act of nature such as a storm, earthquake, or windstorm 意外事故; 不可抗力(如风暴, 地震等)

**act of war** *n phr* an international act of violence for which war is considered a suitable response; (figuratively) any hostile act between two people 兵戎相见; 大动干戈

**act on** *v phr* to perform on (something); to have an effect on (something); to behave according to; follow (something); take action as a result of (something) 对某事采取行动; 对…起作用; 按…行动

**act one's age** *v phr* → **be one's age** to do the things that people expect someone of your age to do; not act as if you were much younger than you are 做出适龄行为; 做符合自己年龄的事

**act out** *v phr* to show an idea, story, or happening by your looks, talk, and movements; to put into action 指手划脚表达之; 实践; 实现

**act the fool** *v phr* → **act the goat** deliberately act in a foolish manner, often with the idea of entertaining or showing off 自嘲; 成为傻瓜; 胡闹; 常有取乐和卖弄之意; 耍弄

**act the goat** *v phr* see the previous entry

**act up** *v phr infml* to behave badly; act rudely or impolite-

ly; to work or run poorly (as a machine); skip; miss 行为不端; 举止不雅; 运转不良; 跃过; 错过

**act up to** *v phr* → **live up to** behave in such a way that one's actions are in accord with one's principles, etc. 按照自己的原则办事; 信守诺言

**Actions speak louder than words.** *prov* what you do shows your character better and is more important than what you say 事实胜于雄辩

**adapt as** *v phr* to change (something) to become (something else) 使适应; 改编; 改写

**adapt for** *v phr* to change (something) to suit (something else) 使适应于...

**adapt from** *v phr* to change (something) from (its former state) 由...改编而成

**adapt to** *v phr* → **acclimatize to, accommodate to** to become used to; change (something, someone, or oneself) to suit or be able to deal with (usu. something) 适应于...; 使适合于...

**add fuel to the flame** *v phr not fml* to make a bad matter worse by adding to its cause; spread trouble; increase anger or other strong feelings by talk or action 火上浇油; 益增情热; 激怒; 抱薪救火

**add in** *v phr* to add (something), usu. in the middle of a mixture or calculation; include 把某物添加在内; 包括

**add insult to injury** *v phr not fml* to hurt someone's feelings after doing him harm; to make bad trouble worse 使含垢忍辱; 肆加凌辱; 雪上加霜; 在伤口上撒盐; 使每况愈下

**add on** *v phr* to add (something), usu. at the end of a calculation or list 加上; 添上

**add to** *v phr* to make a sum of (one figure and another or others); put (something) with (something) so as to increase it; to increase (something) 加之; 增加; 增长

**add together** *v phr* to make a total or whole 总括; 加起来

**add up** *v phr* to (cause to) make a total of (numbers); to make sense 总数; 合情合理

**add up to** *v phr infml* to make a total of; amount to; to mean; result in 总共; 总计; 显示; 意味; 导致

**addict to** *v phr* → **be addicted to** to be dependent on; have increasing need of (a habit-forming drug); to like (something or doing something) very much 依赖于...; 吸毒成瘾; 沉溺于...

**address oneself to** *v phr* to speak to (someone); to make (oneself) busy with; turn the attention of (oneself) to (some-



thing)向某人讲话;使自己忙于;转移视线

**address (someone) as (something)** *v phr* to talk to or write to a person using a particular title; to treat a person you are talking with in a particular manner 称呼;谈吐;以特殊方式与人谈话

**address to** *v phr* to send (a letter, etc.) to (someone) by putting his name and address on the outside; to send; aim (speech or writing) to (usu. someone) 写姓名地址;致函;向某人讲话

**adjourn for** *v phr* to delay the completion of (something already started) for (a purpose or length of time) 中止;休(会)

**adjourn to** *v phr* to leave (what one is doing) and go to (another place) or wait until (another time) 中止至下次

**adjudicate in** *v phr* → **arbitrate in** to act as a judge in (a disagreement) 裁定;判决;仲裁

**adjudicate on** *v phr* → **arbitrate on** to act as a judge on (a matter causing disagreement) 裁定(事件);仲裁

**adjust to** *v phr* to become used to (something or someone) to change (something) to fit (something or someone) 习惯于...;使适应于...

**administer to** *v phr* to give; serve (something) to (someone) 给予;提供;有助于...

**admit of** *v phr* → **allow of** to give the possibility of (something) 容许有...

**admit to** *v phr* to allow (someone) to enter (a place, event, membership, profession, etc.) 接纳;招收

**adopt as** *v phr* to take (someone, esp. a child) into one's family as a relation for ever and to have the full responsibility in law of the parent; to accept (someone else's child) at (a certain time in its life); to choose (someone) as (representative) 领养;收养;采用

**adorn with** *v phr* → **decorate with, ornament with** *fml* to ornament (oneself, someone, or something) with (something attractive or valuable) to make finer or more beautiful 装饰;使生色;使增色

**advance on** *v phr* to threaten by moving towards (usu. a place) 向某地进击;逼近

**advance to** *v phr* to reach; come as far as (usu. a place) 到达;抵达

**advance towards** *v phr* to come nearer (something, someone, or a place); to begin to become or reach (something such as a state) 向...挺进;达到

**advanced in years** *adj phr* old; elderly 年老;年迈;老朽