

地 道 英 语 从 书

THE SERIES OF  
IDIOMATIC ENGLISH

陆 克 主 编

# 地道英语

IDIOMATIC  
ENGLISH • 习语会话  
ABOUT IDIOMS

中国书籍出版社

CHINA BOOK PRESS

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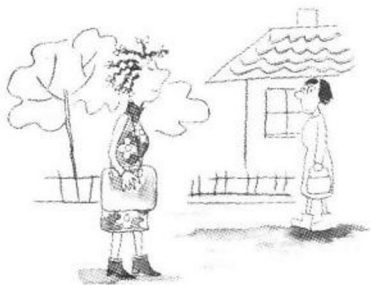
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长期以来,英语习语一直是令我国英语学习者感到头痛的一件事。鉴于此,我们编写了这本书。

书中收录了大量的现代英语常用习语——包括一些谚语和俚语。为了使读者便于学习,我们采用了“流畅表达、灵通会话、注释、关键词、跟踪模练、答案”的格式。使读者从不同角度去了解、熟悉、运用习语。考虑到读者随时查阅习语的需要,每一单元的题目,我们以该单元的第一个关键词作题目。并且每单元的关键词都以每个习语的第一个单词的首字母为序排列。



习语的学习离不开具体的语境。因此做一定的练习是必要的。为此,我们在“跟踪模练”中出了大量练习。各种类型的练习均有所涉及。希望本书的编写能够在学习习语方面为读者助一臂之力。

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## Unit 1 A dark horse

### 第一单元 黑马



#### 流畅表达

1. You may come as a **dark horse** out of the exam.  
这次考试你可能成为黑马。
2. I come to **one fag end** after another.  
我总是一事无成。

3. Why can't you ever think of giving me **a fair shake**?

你怎么就不能对我公平点?

4. Some so-called happiness is but **a flash in the pan**.

有些所谓的幸福不过是昙花一现。

5. That's **a piece of cake**.

那是轻而易举的。

6. **A red carpet welcome**.

隆重欢迎。

7. It was **a real red letter day** for you.

那天对你来说,可真是个大喜的日子。

8. He kept coming in here **accidentally on purpose**.

他可是醉翁之意不在酒啊。

9. When the feast was at its merriest, a man suddenly burst in the hall and threw himself on his knees before Prince John, who was sitting **above the salt**.

当宴会进入最欢乐的时刻,一个男人突然冲进宴会厅,跪在了正坐在上席的约翰王子面前。

10. I was **all in all** then to him, or would he have given up his fortune, his family, as he nobly did to make me happy?

当时他心里只有我,要不然他怎么肯那么不自私,为着我的快乐,舍弃他的财产,舍弃他的家庭呢?

11. She is a capable woman. After her arrangement, everything was **in apple-pie order**.

她是个能干的女人,经她安排之后,一切都弄得井井有条。

12. The black currant trees were **the apple of Joseph's eye**, and she had just fixed her choice of a flower bed in the midst of them!

这些黑醋栗树是约瑟夫的宝贝,她偏偏在这些树当中选了布置她的花圃的地方。

13. The accused, **armed to the teeth** with lawyers, evidence and wit-

nesses etc. appeared in court. It seemed that he really was innocent.

被告出席了,带着律师、证据、证人等全副武装,好像他真的无罪一样。

14. His deeds do not **answer to his words**.

他言行不一。你怎么能指望他呢?

15. That car is in A-1 condition, but it would cost **an arm and a leg**.

那辆车很棒,不过看起来很昂贵。

16. The bottom line is that stores like yours are **a dime a dozen**.

最多不过是像你这种店,到处都有罢了。

17. He knows how to **accommodate himself to** situations in which he is involved and how to deal with intricate matters.

他知道怎样使自己适应于他所处的各种形势并且知道如何处理错综复杂的事情。

18. If I had an opportunity to address myself to all company managers in China, I would advise them to **address themselves to** both their business and upgrading their levels of education.

如果我有机会向中国所有公司的经理们发表讲话,那么我就会建议他们不但要致力于把自己的生意做好,更要重视提高自己的文化水平。

## ☞ 灵通会话

## *Applying Conversations Flexibly*

### Dialogue 1

A: Did you go and ask Dad?

那事儿你去问过爸爸了吗?

B: No, I haven't had time. I'm busy preparing for my entrance exam.

还没有,我这几天忙着准备大学考试,哪儿有工夫问啊。

A: You may ask him after the exam. By the way, are you confident

**about the exam?**

那就考完试再问吧,对了,考试有信心吗?

B: I don't know. I usually don't do well in exams, I always get a fright in exams.

心里没底儿。我从来都考不好,一想起考试就害怕了。

**A: But you may come as a dark horse out of the exam.**

没准儿这次考试你能成为黑马呢。

B: I hope so.

但愿如此吧。

## **Dialogue 2**

**A: I'm wondering why I come to one fag end after another.**

真不知道我为什么总是一事无成。

B: I think you are not trying your best.

我觉得你还不够努力。

**A: Why? You are too rude to me. I used to think that I had a considerate wife.**

为什么?你对我太不客气了。我还以为找了个体贴的老婆呢。

## **Dialogue 3**

**A: John, can you make a thing right?**

约翰,你就不能做对一件事吗?

B: Yes, I can and I am doing the right thing.

我能,而且我现在干的就是对的。

**A: You should go and see how Mark handles it.**

你真该去看看迈克是怎么干活的。

B: It's that Mark again! Why not ever think of giving me a fair shake?

又是迈克!你怎么就不能对我公平点?

### Dialogue 4

A: Some happiness is long-lived, and some so-called happiness is but a flash in the pan.

有些幸福可以长久,而有些所谓的幸福不过是昙花一现。

B: For example, happiness built on bucks won't last long.

比方说建立在金钱基础上的幸福就不会长久。

A: You're right. Bucks can't buy everything after all.

没错,毕竟有钱买不到的东西。

### Dialogue 5

A: I remember that you will give me a treat this evening.

我记得今晚你要请我吃饭。

B: That's right. But do you have a particular place in mind?

是有这么回事儿。你想去哪儿吃?

A: Maybe we can go to the Great Wall Restaurant. The atmosphere is soothing and the price is reasonable. But do you think you can afford a bottle of French Champaign?

去长城饭店怎么样?那里的气氛很好而且价格也适中。但请你得起法国香槟吧?

B: That's a piece of cake. I've been longing for it since last May.

小意思!自从去年五月份以来我就一直想去了。

### Dialogue 6

A: How can they be so cold to me?

他们怎么能对我这么冷淡!

B: Then what are you expecting? A red carpet welcome?

那你还想怎么着?让他们列队欢迎你?

A: Not exactly, but at least they should be friendly to me.

倒也不是,至少他们得对我友好一点儿吧。

B: Don't take it too much to heart. You will find them very helpful when you need them.

别太放在心上。你会发现用得着他们的时候他们还是挺帮忙的。

## Dialogue 7

A: My son came home from three years in the navy, I tell you.

我跟你说,我儿子在海军服了三年役,终于回家了。

B: It was a real red letter day for you.

那天对你来说那可真是个大喜的日子。

A: Yeah. We rolled out the red carpet to welcome him home.

的确如此,我们简直把他当贵宾一样来欢迎。

## Dialogue 8

A: That man has come in here three times to pick your brains.

那个人来了三次向你请教问题。

B: But I don't think he really has questions to ask me. It's indeed unnatural.

但是我觉得他并不是真的有问题要问我。这太不正常了。

A: That's right. He kept coming in here accidentally on purpose.

His real purpose was to come in and have a look at you.

这就对了,他可是醉翁之意不在酒啊,进来那么多次是来看你的。

B: Nonsense! I don't know him, and he doesn't know me, either.

胡说,我不认识他,他也不认识我。

A: Maybe he thinks you're a knock-out. He has a crush on you!

也许他觉得你很漂亮,迷上你了。

## Dialogue 9

A: That car is in A-1 condition, but it would cost an arm and a leg.

那辆车很棒,不过看起来很昂贵。

B: I didn't know you were in the market for another car.

我不知道你想买车。

A: I'm thinking about it, but for the time being, I'll use this jalopy. It'll do in a pinch.

是啊,不过目前还是开这部破车,有总比没有好。

B: I'm sure a new one will set you back \$ 10,000. That's a lot of money!

新车要一万美元,是一大笔钱呢!

## Dialogue 10

A: I hate to break the news to you but I'm calling it quits.

我不想让你吃惊,但我要告诉你,我不干了。

B: I see you're beside yourself, but don't throw in the towel.

我知道你有点焦躁,但不要放弃。

A: I have to. Sales have fallen off and I'm sitting around twiddling my thumbs. Business stinks.

我不得不放弃。业绩下降,而我只能坐在那儿乘凉。生意实在很差。

B: The bottom line is that stores like yours are a dime a dozen.

像你这种店有这样的结果是很普遍的。

## Notes 注释

1. a dark horse “黑马”的意思。相传在英国的一场赛马比赛中,一匹不为人所看好的黑色的马一举夺魁。从此,人们就用“黑马”来指:出人意外的获胜者,或是实力难测的竞争对手。

2. a fag end “一事无成”的意思。fag end 原义是指布匹头尾的散口边,通常没有什么实用价值,该习语由此引申为“没有成效,没有结果”,意即“一事无成”。
3. a fair shake “公平的待遇”的意思。shake 在口语中有“处置、对待”的意思。当 fair 的意思为“公平的”时,这个短语的意思就是“公平交易,公平的待遇”,而当 fair 的意思是“顺利的、有益的”时,它的意思还可以是“好机会”。
4. a flash in the pan “昙花一现”的意思。flash 原义是指(火药)在枪内发火而子弹打不出来;pan 指的是旧式步枪上的火药池。该习语的字面意思是“火药池里的火药一闪,子弹却没能射出”,由此而引出了“昙花一现”以及“虎头蛇尾”的意思,不仅指存在的短暂,还强调一时的辉煌终归失败。
5. a piece of cake “轻松容易的事情”的意思。一块蛋糕味道甜美,又绵又软,吃起来也毫不费力,因此当一件事情被形容为“a piece of cake”时,一定是轻松、愉快的。
6. a red carpet welcome “隆重的欢迎”的意思。在迎接贵宾时,人们通常都会在路上铺红地毯,因此铺了红地毯的欢迎就很隆重了。
7. a red letter day “大喜日子”的意思。日历上圣徒礼拜日及节日均红字标明,因此 a red letter day 往往指特别重要的日子,如结婚、胜利或接受荣誉称号等。
8. accidentally on purpose “貌似偶然,实则有意”的意思。  
该习语的意思是有目的地偶然地(去做某事),意指有目的地制造机会,使之看起来像是偶然发生的一样。
9. accommodate oneself to... 是较正式的英语习用语,意思是改变自身以便与某种情况相一致,即“使自己适应于……”比如:  
我很容易使自己适应变化了的形势。I can easily accommodate myself to changed circumstances.  
与本习语意思相近的习语还有: adapt oneself to ..., adjust oneself to... 等,其语意虽有侧重,但意思基本相同。

10. address oneself to... 是一个较为正式的习惯用语。此语中的 address 是个及物动词,有“专心、努力地从事……”或“向……讲话、演说”等意。当此语中介词 to 之后所跟随的是某事的时候, address oneself to... 意指“致力于……”或“把注意力集中在……”。
- We should address ourselves to the business in hand as soon as possible. 我们应该尽快集中精力把手头的事做好。
- 但是,如果跟随 to 之后的是某人的时候, address oneself to... 则指“向……讲话”。比如:

President Clinton addressed himself to the committee and assured all the committee members of his determination to solve these social problems. 克林顿总统向该委员会发表讲话,并向委员会的所有成员表示了他要解决这些社会问题的决心。

此外,该习语的第二义项也可引申喻指“在讲话或演讲中提及到……”。比如:

He promised that he would bring forth the issues of our concern, but to our disappointment, he didn't address himself to the issue.

他答应说他会在这次的会议上把我们所关心的问题提出来,但使我们大失所望的是,他并没有提及此事。

## Key Words 关键词

a dark horse	黑马
a red carpet welcome	隆重的欢迎
a red letter day	大喜日子
accidentally on purpose	貌似偶然,实则有意
a fag end	一事无成
a fair shake	公平的待遇
a flash in the pan	昙花一现
a piece of cake	轻松容易的事

above the salt	在上席,居于尊敬的地位,列于上宾之席
all in all	一切的一切;头等大事;最重要的或最宝贵的事物或人
in apple-pie order	井然有序
the apple of one's eye	最心爱的人或物;掌上明珠
armed to the teeth	全副武装;全套装备
answer to	跟……符合
an arm and a leg	非常昂贵
a dime a dozen	多得不希罕
accommodate oneself to...	使自己适应于……
address oneself to...	专心从事……;对……讲话

## Follow Me 跟踪模仿

### 1. 完成下列对话:

1) A: Is the Japanese team taking the lead?

B: No, it's the Chinese team.

A: The Chinese teams always \_\_\_\_\_ (出人意料).

B: Well, their team work is well worth learning.

2) A: What do you think of this actress' acting?

B: She did play successfully in the film, but it was just \_\_\_\_\_  
(昙花一现).

A: I guess, you're right. But I was impressed deeply with the latent violence under her calmness.

3) A: That Mike. From now on, I'll break completely with him.

B: What's the matter?

A: During my illness, I got badly behind in my schoolwork. I dreaded failing the final examination. He promised to help me last week.

But when I asked him for help this morning, he said "No".

B: \_\_\_\_\_ (他言行不一). How can you bank on him to for help?