

主审 © Velva Fallin

ENGLISH

巧用

英语口语动词

主编 © 王悦



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据统计英语中有 5000 最常用基本词汇。如果能完全掌握这些词汇,便能游刃有余地表达各种思想。在这些基本词汇中,有一些基本的常用动词,如 go, take, make, turn,更是这些词汇的重中之重。英语学习者不难发现在字典中这些“小词”及其短语的释义往往多达十几个甚至几十个。这正说明其用法的灵活。

笔者在与以英语为本族语人士的交谈中,也发现这些动词及短语在他们的口语交流中使用得非常频繁。而对于广大中国学生来说这方面的知识却非常欠缺。在中国学生的英语口语表达中,大家都习惯使用“大词”,表达方法(式)很单一。如学生惯用“publish”而不是“turn out”表示出版的意思。再如:depend on(“大词”)→look to(“小词”);rent out(“大词”)→let out(“小词”)。另外,由于英汉思维习惯和表达方式不尽相同。学生常常把汉语的口语习惯应用到英语口语中。比如“我来接电话”,中国学生则会说,“Let me pick up the phone.”而英语的习惯说话是“Let me answer the phone.”或者“Let me get it.”

针对中国学生在口语中的这些问题,本书集中挑选了近 50 个在英语口语中使用最频繁的动词,以功能为主线,根据

流行话题,将这些动词分为多个章节,在每一章中根据其用法及搭配编写出具有时尚特点的对话,并力求简洁明快,符合中国人现实生活。

为了能够真正深入到读者的口语实践中,帮助大家解决口语表达中的实际问题,在书稿完成后,笔者请学生根据自己的口语表达习惯和思维习惯写出他们认为正确的说法。当然这些说法中有些是正确的,符合英语习惯的,但其中不乏不符合英语思维习惯、搭配不当及词义不妥贴等的错误,我们把这些内容并列在正确形式的下面,以求给读者以比较对照的机会,从而避免犯同类的错误。

另外,本书词条的汉语译文具体翔实,力求能体现出每个词及短语的搭配和使用场合。为了给大家提供一些口语表达中地道简炼的表达方式,本书收录了一定量的固定套语,如“who cares?” “You can say that again.”等。如果能在口语中正确运用这些套话,会使自己的口语表达更生动、贴切。

希望读者在阅读本书后能学会这些基本动词的使用方法。更重要的是在今后的英语学习和实践中注意并重视此类动词在口语中的使用,细心积累,将受益匪浅。如果能把这种理念和方法灌输到读者头脑中,笔者将不胜欣慰。

本书由王悦主编,夏慧言担任副主编,参加编写的人员还有:桃格如、李朝红。

由于时间仓促,笔者水平有限,书中不免错误之处,敬请指正。

编 者

2001年8月



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1

Chatting 聊 天

Chatting 聊天 Chatting 聊天 Chatting 聊天 Chatting 聊天 Chatting 聊天 Chatting 聊天 Chatting 聊天 Chatting 聊天 Chatting 聊天 Chatting 聊天 Chatting 聊天 Chatting 聊天

① break sb. up

A: John can really break me up sometimes. I don't know why he has so many funny things to tell me.

B: Look at his eyes, nose and face. He is a born comedian.

笑死人了

A: 约翰有时真把我逗死了。我不知道他怎么会有那么多有趣的事告诉我。

B: 看看他的眼睛、鼻子还有那张脸。他简直就是一个天生的喜剧演员。

② break the news

give bad news

A: Paul had to break the news of

告诉(消息)

A: 保罗必须告诉劳拉她朋友



her friend's death to Laura.

的死讯。

B: It'll be hard to her.

B: 那真会让她受不了。

③ break into

突然开始

A: Did you watch TV last night?

A: 昨晚看电视了吗?

B: No, Anything new?

B: 没看。有没有什么新鲜事?

A: The new mayor hit the nail on the head when he talked on race relations.

A: 新市长谈到种族关系时语言很中肯。

B: And?

B: 那又怎么样?

A: The audience broke into applause.

A: 观众都鼓起掌来了。

B: Well, you can't believe everything he says.

B: 他的话不可全信。

④ bring out

阐明

make... easily understood

A: What do you think of my essay? Is it impressive?

A: 你认为我的文章怎么样? 生动吗?

B: I don't think so. You haven't brought out the meaning of the poem.

B: 我认为不生动。你没有把诗的意思表达出来。

⑤ break

(指声音)(由于激动)而变音

A: That evening her voice broke as she told the dreadful news. Her face became terri-

A: 那天晚上她讲着那可怕的消息时声音都变了, 脸色十分苍白骇人。



bly pale.

B: I believe it. No one can keep calm under these circumstances.

B: 我可以想象得到。谁遇到这种事都很难保持镇定。

⑥ look up and down

A: I noticed that when the boy entered the room he looked him up and down.

B: Why did he do that?

A: Maybe he thought the boy looked like his son.

打量

A: 我注意到当那个男孩进屋的时候 he 从头到脚地打量着他。

B: 你知道他为什么这样做吗?

A: 可能他认为这个男孩长的像他儿子。

⑦ bring up short

make...stop suddenly

A: This morning I was running for the bus when I was brought up short by someone calling my name.

B: Who was he?

A: A friend of mine, (if I can still call him my friend) who had borrowed money two months ago. So I thought he was going to return my money. But to my surprise, he wanted to borrow more money again.

使……突然停下

A: 今天早上我正跑着赶公共汽车, 听到有人叫我的名字就停下了。

B: 谁呀?

A: 我的一个朋友(假如他还算我的朋友的话), 两个月前借了我的钱。所以我想他一定是来还钱的。但是出乎意料的是他又想向我借钱。



B: What a shame!

B: 太无耻了。

⑧ bring oneself to

迫使

force sb. to...

A: She could not bring herself to tell him the tragic news when she heard that he had already lost two family members.

A: 当她听说他已经失去了两个亲人时, 实在不忍再告诉他这个不幸的消息。

B: Yeah. I'm afraid that would be the last straw.

B: 是啊。恐怕这是他最后的希望。

A: Well, you know what they say: Trouble comes in threes.

A: 正如常言所说: 祸不单行。

⑨ bring back

使回忆起

make...remember

A: Listen! That goes our favorite song, Yesterday Once More. How nice!

A: 听! 那正在放我们最喜欢的歌《昨日重现》, 真好听!

B: Yeah. It really brings back the good old days. If only we were young again!

B: 是啊。它使我们想起旧日的好时光。如果能再次年轻该多好!

⑩ bring round

使某人苏醒

A: It was terribly hot yesterday

A: 昨天太热了, 今天很少有人



and today few people are outside.

B: True. Yesterday three women fainted in the heat but were quickly brought round with brandy. And the local hospital became extremely busy.

A: I would rather stay inside than sit in the shade of the trees. The air is so hot that it makes you uncomfortable.

待在外面。

B: 没错。昨天三个妇女中暑昏倒, 不过喝了白兰地后很快就醒过来了。当地的医院昨天很忙。

A: 我宁可在屋里待着, 也不在树荫下坐着。热空气让人感到非常不舒服。

⑪ bring on

A: The weather forecast said the temperature will go up tomorrow.

B: That's good news. We've suffered a lot from the coldness of the early spring these days. I'm looking forward to warm days.

A: Me too. What's more important, the warm weather should bring on the crops.

使庄稼长势良好

A: 天气预报说明天气温将回升。

B: 太好了。这几天我们饱受了料峭的春寒。我希望天气一天一天暖起来。

A: 我也这么想。更重要的是, 这种温暖的天气能促使作物生长。

⑫ hold back

A: Poor thing! You could see

抑制

A: 可怜的人! 你可以看出她



how bravely she was trying
to hold back the tears.

B: But don't you think it's better
to cry at a time like that? I
think holding back your emo-
tions doesn't help at all at
those times.

A: I know. I know. Well, she
held back her tears as long
as she could, and then the
poor thing couldn't help her-
self any longer.

B: And I'm sure she feels a lot
better now.

多么勇敢地不让眼泪流下
来。

B: 但难道你不认为在那样一种
时刻哭出来反而更好?! 我
认为那些时候抑制情绪没有
什么好处。

A: 我知道, 我知道。她只是尽
全力不让眼泪流下来, 但过
后那可怜的人就哭个不停
了。

B: 我肯定她现在感觉好多了。

13 bring back

A: Mary said Bob brought her
back in his car last night and
she was too excited to go to
sleep.

B: It seems Mary has fallen in
love with Bob. We have to
remind her to calm down.
It's impossible for him to love
her.

A: I agree with you. Everyone
knows Bob is a playboy and

带回来

A: 玛丽说昨晚鲍勃开车送她
回家, 她非常兴奋而无法入
睡。

B: 看来玛丽是爱上了鲍勃了。
我们必须提醒她冷静。他不
可能爱她。

A: 我同意你的看法。谁都知
道鲍勃是个花花公子, 他不



he can't be serious with
Mary.

可能是认真的。

14 carry oneself

保持一定的姿势

A: He carries himself like a soldier.

A: 他的举止像个军人。

B: You know he once served in the army.

B: 你知道他曾经当过兵。

15 carry

支撑, 支持

support

A: Why there are two pillars here?

A: 为什么这儿有两根柱子?

B: They carry the whole roof.

B: 它们支撑着整个屋顶。

16 carry

不显出(年老)

A: He carries his age very well.

A: 他看上去一点都不显老。

B: Yes, in fact he's 70 years old.

B: 是的, 其实他已经七十了。

17 carry sb. back

使回忆起

remind

A: His words carried me back to the old times.

A: 他的话使我想起了过去。

B: Time does fly, forty years have passed.

B: 时光飞逝, 转眼间四十年过去了。

**18 carry sb.**

占优势, 占上风

A: In every situation his passions carry him.

A: 在任何情况下, 他总是控制不住自己的感情。

B: Then sooner or later he will face the consequences.

B: 那他早晚要吃亏的。

19 carry on with

与……有暧昧关系

A: Do you know she's been carrying on with the milkman?

A: 你知道她一直在和那个送牛奶的勾勾搭搭吗?

B: No, I don't.

B: 我不知道。

20 carry the can

承担责任, (为某人)背黑锅

carry the burdenA: He carried the can for his roommate.

A: 他为室友背了黑锅。

B: He's too foolish.

B: 他太傻了。

A: No, not at all. He just didn't want to see his roommates fight with each other.

A: 他可一点也不傻。他只是不想看到室友之间打起来。

21 catch sb.

当场抓住(某人在做坏事)

A: I caught him in the act of reading my diary.

A: 他在偷看我的日记时被我撞见了。

B: Really? I always thought he was an open and above

B: 真的? 我一直认为他是个光明磊落的人。



board person.

A: So did I. But now I have an unfavorable impression of him.

B: I think it's very mean to read other's diary without permission.

A: Right. I was very angry at that moment.

A: 我也是。但现在我对他的印象很不好。

B: 我认为未经允许偷看人家的日记是非常卑鄙的。

A: 是的, 当时我非常生气。

22 catch fire

A: What happened to the factory last night?

B: The pipe exploded and the wood placed nearby caught fire quickly.

A: Oh, terrible. And then?

B: Then the firemen came and they put it out.

A: Was it badly burnt?

B: No, not very seriously.

着火

A: 昨晚那家工厂发生了什么事?

B: 管道爆炸, 放在旁边的木材着火啦。

A: 哦, 真糟糕。后来呢?

B: 消防员来了把火扑灭了。

A: 烧得严重吗?

B: 不太严重。

23 catch cold

get

A: Is Linda here?

B: No, she isn't.

A: What's wrong with her?

患病, 感染上

A: 琳达来了吗?

B: 没有, 琳达没来。

A: 她怎么啦?



B: She caught a bad cold.

B: 她得了重感冒。

A: I'm sorry to hear that.

A: 听到这我很难过。

②4 catch one's breath

(由于吃惊害怕而)屏息

A: The news was so unexpected that I caught my breath from shock.

A: 这消息太出乎意料了,我吓得一下子喘不过气来。

B: So did I. I could not quite believe it.

B: 我也是,我还是不太相信。

A: But it's true. She did marry him.

A: 但是它是真的。她确实嫁给了他。

B: Terrible! I still can't believe it.

B: 太糟了。我还是不能相信。

②5 catch sight of

(短暂地)见到,注意到

notice

A: Have you seen her recently?

A: 你最近见到她了吗?

B: Yes, yesterday I caught sight of her downtown.

B: 是的,昨天我在街市里看见了她。

A: Did you have a conversation with her?

A: 你有没有跟她说话?

B: No, we only smiled to each other.

B: 没有,我们只是互相笑了一下。

A: Why not?

A: 为什么没说话?

B: We didn't have time.

B: 没有时间。