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英语习语基础

Robert J. Dixon

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徐式赞 译编

ESSENTIAL IDIOMS
IN ENGLISH

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徐式赞 编译

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前 言

很多同志学了几年英语已有了丰富的词汇和语法知识，但对于有些句子仍把握不住它的确切含义；说话写文章总让人感到不够地道，不够自然，有时甚至会闹出笑话来。发生这种情况的原因若不是词汇、语法、语调的问题，那就多半出在习语上。习语是经过长时间的使用而锤炼出来的固定词组或短句，是约定俗成的东西，因而不能任意组合或更改，也不能根据字面的意思推测其含义。它言简意赅、活泼生动，是人民智慧的结晶。同样的意思若用别的方式表达就会显得累赘乏味，词不达意。使用习语就会显得简洁有力。它们有的意思明显，有的比较含蓄，意在言外。一条习语使用的场合不同，上下文的具体情况不同，它的含义也就不同。这就说明要想使自己的言谈文字符合英语的习惯，非掌握一定数量的习语不可。这本《英语习语基础》正是为了向同志们提供这方面的学习材料。

本书依Robert J. Dixon的 *Essential Idioms in English* 为主要参考材料编译而成。所用语言比较规范，适合初具英语基础的同志使用。为了方便读者，例句均附有译文，并尽量依例句直译，以便于了解习语的意义和用法。

由于水平所限，错误不妥之处恳请读者不吝指正。本书编译过程中疑难之处曾得到新西兰专家特纳夫妇 (T.W. & R.E. Turner) 和南京大学朱庆伟夫妇的帮助，谨在此表示衷心感谢。

编译者

1984年元旦

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Lesson 1

1. to do one's best: 全力以赴, 尽其全力

- 1) If you *do your best* to learn English, you'll succeed.

如果你尽全力学习英语, 你会成功的。

- 2) He is *doing his best* to scale the new height.

他正全力以赴去攀登那新的高峰。

2. ahead of time: 提早, 提前

- 1) Our work began ten minutes *ahead of time* today.

今天我们的工作提早十分钟开始了。

- 2) The new building was finished *ahead of time*.

新建筑物提前完工了。

3. to get on: 坐上, 乘上(车, 船等)

- 1) I always *get on* the bus at 34th Street.

我总是在第三十四街搭公共汽车。

- 2) William *gets on* the subway at the same station every morning.

威廉每天早上在同一车站坐地铁。

4. to get off: 下车

1) Helen *got off* the bus at 42nd Street.

海伦在第42街下车。

2) At what station do you usually *get off* the subway?

你乘地铁通常在哪一站下车?

5. to put on: 穿上, 戴上 (尤指衣着) (S) 注 见330页注

1) The boy took off his clothes and *put on* his pajamas.

这男孩脱了衣服换上睡衣。

2) You'd better *put* your coat on; it's cold outside.

你最好穿上你的大衣, 外面很冷。

3) He *put on* his hat and coat and went out.

他穿上大衣戴好帽子出去了。

6. to take off: 脱下, 脱去 (与to put on 相对) (S)

1) Won't you *take off* your coat?

请把外衣脱了好吗?

2) Helen is *taking off* her coat because it is too warm in the room.

海伦正在脱大衣, 因为室内太热。

3) It is sultry, *take your sweater off*.

天气闷热, 脱下你的汗衫吧!

7. to call up: 打电话 (S)

1) I'll *call you up* this evening.

今晚我打电话给你。

2) Did anyone *call me up* while I was out?

我出去时有人给我打电话吗?

- 3) I forget to call up Mr. Jones yesterday, although I promised to call him up exactly at three o'clock.

昨天我忘记给琼斯打电话了，虽然我答应三点准时给他去电话。

8. to turn on: 打开(收音机、电灯等), 扭开(自来水、煤气等) (S)

- 1) Jack turns on the water.

杰克扭开自来水。

- 2) Do you know who turned the lights on?

你知道是谁开的电灯?

- 3) Someone turned on the radiator in this room while we were out.

我们外出时，有人打开过这房间的取暖电炉。

9. to turn off: 关掉, 关上(收音机、电灯等), 关紧(自来水、煤气等) (S)

- 1) Please turn off the water.

请把自来水管关住。

- 2) Shall I turn the oven off?

我把炉子关上吧?

- 3) Shall I turn off the radio or are you still listening to it?

我要关收音机，你还听吗?

10. right away: 马上, 立刻

- 1) His mother told him to do his homework right away.

他母亲叫他立刻做功课。

2) She says that dinner will be ready *right away*.
她说午饭马上就好。

3) Can William come to my office *right away*?
威廉能立刻到我办公室来吗?

12. to pick up: 拾起, 捡起 (S)

1) During the morning John *pick up* the newspaper which was on his desk.

早晨约翰拿起摆在他桌上的报纸。

2) Don't scatter your clothes, *pick them up*.

不要把你的衣服乱丢, 把它们拾起来。

3) Why didn't you *pick up* that pencil which lay on the floor?

为什么你不把地板上的铅笔拾起来?

13. at once: 立即, 立刻, 马上

1) I'm leaving for Beijing *at once*.

我马上到北京去。

2) Phil came *at once*, but Annetta stayed in the sandpile a little longer.

菲尔即刻就来了, 而安妮塔在沙堆里玩了一会儿才来。

13. to get up: 坐起来, 站起来, 起床 (S)

1) What time does your mother usually *get up*?

您母亲通常几点钟起床?

2) You should *get up* when an older person comes in.

有年长者进来时，你应当站起来。

- 3) The man was so weak that the nurse was unable to get him up.

这人是这样的虚弱以致护士没能把他扶起来。

14. at first: 最初，一开始

- 1) At first I thought it was John who was telephoning to me.

最初我以为是约翰给我打的电话。

- 2) At first, did he believe what you told him?

一开始他曾相信你给他谈的事吗?

Exercises

A. 将句中斜体字换上括号中提示的相应习语

1. He *arises* at the same time every morning.
(get _____)

Example: He *gets up* at the same time every morning.

2. She *telephoned* me very late last night. (call)

3. Helen said that she was going to mail the letter *immediately*. (right away)

4. Be sure to *extinguish* the light before you leave the room. (turn off)

5. Helen *placed on herself* her new hat and stood admiring herself in the mirror. (put on)

6. *Remove* your overcoat and sit down a few minutes. (take off)

7. Originally I thought it was John who was calling me. (at first)
8. We boarded the bus at Broadway and 79th Street. (get on)
9. The bus was so crowded that we had difficulty in leaving. (get off)
10. John took with his fingers the pencil which was lying on the floor. (pick up)
11. I tried really hard to learn English when I visited New York. (do my best)
12. My English class began ten minutes early today. (ahead of time)

B. 用本课所学习语回答下列问题:

1. At what street do you get on the bus or subway every morning? Ninth
2. At what street do you usually get off?
3. Is it easy or difficult to get on a bus which is crowded?
4. Is it easy or difficult to get off a bus which is uncrowded?
5. Which of your friends called you up last night?
6. Whom did you call up last night?
7. Did Henry say that he would return right away or much later this evening?
8. Do you generally put on your hat and coat

when you leave or when you enter your home?

9. When do you generally *take off* your hat and coat?
10. When you arrive at school each day, do you immediately *put on* your hat and coat or *take off* your hat and coat?
11. What do you do when you leave school each day?
12. If you wish to hear some music, do you *turn on* or *turn off* the radio?
13. What do you do when you finish using the radio or television, *turn it on* or *turn it off*?
14. At what time do you usually *get up* every morning?
15. At what time do your brothers and sisters *get up*?

Lesson 2

1. of course, 自然, 当然

1. of course, 自然, 当然

1) The rain came pouring down, and *of course* the track meet was canceled.

大雨倾盆, 田径赛自然取消了。

2) *Of course* you know what that means.

你当然知道那是什么意思。

3) *Of course*, I like to read Shakespeare.

当然, 我喜欢读莎士比亚的书。

2. from now on, 今后, 从今以后

1) Please be prompt *from now on*.

今后要快一点儿。

2) We should work still harder *from now on*.

从今以后我们应该更加努力地工作。

3. to wait for, 等, 等待

1) Time waits for no man.

岁月不待人。

2) We waited for him more than an hour and finally left.

我们等了他一个多钟头, 最后才离开。

3) We were waiting for a bus.

我们等公共汽车。

4. at last, 最后, 终于

1) At last we reached London.

最后我们到了伦敦。

2) We waited and waited and at last John arrived.

我们等了又等, 约翰终于到了。

3) Has he finished that work at last?

他最后完成那工作了吗?

5. as usual, 通常, 照常, 如往常, 一向

1) As usual, he got to work on time.

通常, 他总是准时上班。

2) George is late for class again as usual.

乔治象往常一样, 上课又迟到了。

3) As usual Dora won first prize in the swimming contest.

象往常一样, 多拉获得游泳比赛的一等奖。

6. to find out, 发现, 查明 (S)

1) Will you please try to find out for me what time that train arrives?

请代我查一下那次火车什么时候到达好吗?

2) Mary was angry when Jane found out her secret.

玛丽很生气, 珍妮发现了她的秘密。

7. to look at, 注视, 凝视, 看

- 1) The teacher told us to *look at* the blackboard and not at our books.

老师叫我们看着黑板，不要看书。

- 2) I like to walk along a country road and *look at* the stars at night.

我喜欢沿着乡村小路漫步，也喜欢夜间凝视着星星。

8. to look for; 寻找，寻求

- 1) He has spent an hour *looking for* the pen which he lost.

他已花了一个小时寻找他丢失的钢笔。

- 2) I have lost my gloves. Will you help me *look for* them?

我的手套丢了，你能帮我找找吗？

- 3) We have *looked all over for* you.

我们已到处找你。

9. all right; 好，对，顺利，令人满意

- 1) He said that it would be *all right* to wait in this office for him.

他说，在这个办公室等他就对了。

- 2) Will it be *all right* with you if I pay (back) that money tomorrow instead of today?

要是那钱我今天不还你明天还，你会同意吗？

10. right here, right there, right now, right then等。

就在这儿，就在那儿，立刻，立即

- 1) He said that he would meet us *right here* on this corner.