

# 英语中的 超级简单词

徐中强 编著

——流利读写能力必备

上海科学技术出版社

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*To My Daughter, Yi Yang Xu*

## 序

英语词汇中最难的不是那些你在攻克 GRE 时才会遇到的高级词，而是那些你在上大学前就可能已经“认识”的“简单词”。这些单词之所以难，是因为即使你“认识”它们，也不见得能理解它们在某个特定语言环境中的精确含义，或并不能熟练地应用它们。它们是你走向流利英语的一个重大障碍，是让你最感到气馁的一个英语瓶颈。

本书精心收录的就是这样一些词义多变、用法灵活的英语超级“简单词”，以及它们所蕴涵的深层词义。这些词义不为许多中国学生所熟知，却被以英语为母语的人频繁使用。它们在英语中是如此重要，以至于不了解它们必将导致你在英语阅读理解上的困难，而不掌握它们的用法也定会使你的英语写作缺少一份地道。

比如说，如果你不了解“abandon”除了作动词“放弃，抛弃”的解释以外，还有作名词“放纵，狂热，尽情”的含义，你就难以准确理解像这样简单的句子：I ate with wild abandon。同样，假如在你的记忆里“lace”只是“一条鞋带”或“系好带子”，而没有本书中列出来的动词含义“加入或混入以达某种效果”，你就很难把“他说话几乎每句都夹带着英语单词”翻译成“Virtually every sentence he spoke was laced with English words”。

实际上，你的英语水平在很大程度上取决于你对这样一些英语超级“简单词”的理解和应用能力。让我们做一个简单的测试，看看你对这些词的掌握情况和本书对你的价值。当你看到 address, angle, bask, bill, cap, cook, duck, dwarf, ease, engineer 每个单词时，请你花半分钟时间想出它们的所有含义，然后与本书中列出来的词义核对一下，再估算一下有多少个单词自己能像例句那样使用。个数越少，意味着本书对你的价值越大。

彰显本书最大特色的是书中的绝大部分例句选自国外权威报刊,如 *The New York Times* (美国《纽约时报》)、*The Guardian* (英国《防卫报》)、*The Globe and Mail* (加拿大《环球邮报》),以及国外著名教授和学者编著的书籍或学术文章。原汁原味的例句能让你充分领略以英语为母语的人是怎样用我们“熟悉”的单词来表达让我们觉得“陌生”的意思,怎样用不同于我们的思维方式来构建我们不习惯书写的句子。“好例句学出好英语”,相信你在读完本书后一定会有相同的感受。也正因为如此,笔者竭力提倡背诵或默写本书中的原味例句。

本书非常适合具有中级英语水平且有志于向高级水平发展的大学生、研究生和其他英语爱好者使用,也可作为英语教学和研究的参考书。对于那些在提升自己英语水平道路上陷于“山重水复疑无路”、感到无奈甚至绝望的英语学习者,本书为你提供了一条“柳暗花明又一村”的捷径。笔者精选的 700 多个单词的近 2000 条例句可以帮助你轻松克服实现流利英语的两个主要障碍——让你“云里雾里”的一词多义和与中文迥然不同的英语思维和写作方式。理解、熟悉和掌握这本书里的内容,一定会使你的英语迈入“会当临绝顶,一览众山小”的境界。

笔者深信靠中文翻译来理解英语句子会影响英语语感的培养和英语水平的提高。因此,除个别难度较高的句子外,本书没有提供中文翻译,但对疑难或易误解之处都给出了理解提示。如果你需要帮助或对本书有好的建议,你可以通过电子邮件 [stanley\\_z.xu@hotmail.com](mailto:stanley_z.xu@hotmail.com) 与我联系。

英语世界,博大精深,浩瀚无边。由于本人学识有限,虽然在本书的编著过程中,特别是在单词和例句的选择上已竭尽所能,书中不足、缺点乃至错误之处仍在所难免,恳请读者批评指正。

徐中强

2007 年 8 月于加拿大卡尔加里

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# A

## abandon [ə'bændən]

*n.* 放纵, 狂热, 尽情

Handful by handful, she began to pull the contents out of the box, piling them in wild abandon into her lap.

(Believe P505)

理解提示: contents 指“(盒子等)里面的东西”。

After 30 years, these master musicians are still playing this music with youthful abandon and white-hot brilliance.

(The New York Times 02/06/07)

## abuse [ə'bjuz]

*vt.* 虐待

Little known is the fact that she used to be abused by her stepmother.

(本书作者)

A city police officer has been arrested on charges of raping and sexually abusing a child, the authorities said yesterday.

(The New York Times 11/10/06)

*n.* 虐待, 粗暴对待

Personal trauma, from childhood abuse to bereavement, is a particularly marketable commodity.

(The Guardian 16/04/07)

A city man who tortured his cat in a fit of anger was sentenced to three months in jail yesterday for the abuse that ultimately led to the cat having to be put down.

(Metro 15/05/07 P1)

理解提示: put down 意为“使(动物)无痛苦的死亡”。另请参见本书收录的 fit 词条。

*vt.* 辱骂

If he was abused verbally, then he should have ignored it.

(The Guardian 25/10/04)

When Pitt and Jolie tried to leave the hotel, a security guard caught the photographer trying to take their photo, grabbed the man by his neck and verbally abused him.

(The New York Times 08/10/06)

*n.* 辱骂

They, and he, were subjected to verbal abuse and pelted with beer cans.

(The Guardian 18/03/06)

理解提示: 参见本书收录的 *subject* 词条。

She said some boys had been kicking a ball against her car and she asked them to stop but was given a tirade of verbal abuse in front of her two grandchildren.

(The Guardian 01/05/06)

**access** ['ækses]

*n.* 进入(或使用)的权利、能力或许可

He was eventually moved to a larger, quieter room and given access to books.

(The New York Times 27/02/07)

Poorer families often lack access to a car, which they would need to drive their children to a more successful school outside their own locality, according to researchers at the University of Newcastle.

(The Guardian 01/03/07)

**accent** ['æksənt]

*vt.* 使更明显, 使更加突出

The trout is accented with anise, a fragrant herb over the fishy smell.

(本书作者)

She was encased in a dark green strapless sheath accented with spangles that embellished both her perfect figure and the flaming-red hair that cascaded down around her shoulders.

(Show of Evil P66)

理解提示: sheath 这里作“女式紧身衣服”解。

**accord** [ə'kɔ:d]

vt. 给与 (尤其是应该或恰当地), 赠与, 送给

In the 1990s environmental groups are being accorded much more legitimacy than they were in 1960s.

(Introduction to Environmental Studies P7)

The goal of improving health conditions in developing countries has often been accorded a low priority, both by the developing-country governments and by development specialists.

(Economics of Development P272)

**account** [ə'kaunt]

n. 解释, 说明, 报道

He has refused to step down, despite lurid accounts in the newspapers.

(The Guardian 16/10/06)

What compels them to feel thus is a sickness that they find in their souls, a sickness to which they are unable to give utterance and of which they cannot furnish a satisfactory account.

(The New York Times 22/01/06)

理解提示: furnish 这里作“提供”解。

vi. 解释, 说明

Astronomers are still unable to account for that phenomenon.

(本书作者)

This was an avoidable catastrophe, more the fault of man than of nature, Brinkley says, and those responsible must be held to account.

(The New York Times 09/07/06)

**ache** [eɪk]

vi. 渴望

At such moments, and they were frequent, she ached to be married

again.

(Parting Shots P305)

理解提示: they 指 such moments.

Meanwhile Frank Langella, although not looking much like Nixon, by acting skill convinces you this is a solitary man aching for the activity of power.

(The Guardian 22/08/06)

理解提示: Nixon 为美国前总统尼克松。

**acknowledge** [ək'nɒlɪdʒ]

vt. 答谢, 感谢, 致谢

Frank Bruno received an affectionate standing ovation -- acknowledged with a gentle wave -- as he walked into the room.

(The Guardian 16/11/05)

理解提示: wave 这里指 “挥手”。

She clearly had to choke back a tear as she acknowledged the applause of the crowd and warm embrace of her beaten foe.

(The Guardian 08/11/04)

**add** [æd]

vt. 补充说, 又说

“He looked out of place”, Mr. Whitby said, adding that the man was wearing a heavy winter coat in summer.

(The New York Times 22/07/05)

理解提示: out of place 意为 “不协调, 不相称”。

“It's true, Mr. Villiers,” Harry added, trying to sound disappointed, as though his hopes had been dashed as much as the youngster's.

(A Game of Bones P394)

理解提示: 参见本书收录的 dash 词条。

**address** [ə'dres]

vt. 从事, 处理

Many governments work hard to address environmental issues, but public expectations often outstrip results.

(Environmental Performance Report P24)

How a writer chooses to use the material of his or her own life is a subject that could be addressed at length, but that isn't really the point.

(The New York Times 02/07/06)

vt. 对...讲演或发表演说

He blurted out some dirty words when he was addressing the teaching staff.

(本书作者)

Menzies said this showed that his affection for Mr. Kennedy, who will address the conference tomorrow, was shared by the party as a whole.

(The Guardian 18/09/06)

n. 演说, 正式讲演

It was unusual that the president made repeated references to arms race in his televised address.

(本书作者)

理解提示: 参见本书收录的 reference 词条。

She grabbed the national spotlight with her keynote address at the 1988 Democratic National Convention when she was the Texas state treasurer.

(The New York Times 13/09/06)

理解提示: spotlight 这里作“公众的注意力”解; Texas 为美国得克萨斯州。

**administer** [əd'ministə]

vt. 给予, 用药

So it is worse to slap a baby than a horse, if both slaps are administered with equal force.

(Earth Ethics P60)

*Medical Emergencies in the Dental Office* notes the situation with the highest likelihood of fainting is when a female dentist administers local anesthetic to an “anxious ‘macho’ male patient

under 35 years.”

(The Globe and Mail 21/06/05 A01)

理解提示: *Medical Emergencies in the Dental Office* 为一期刊。另请参见本书收录的 *note* 词条。

**admit** [əd'mit]

vt. 接纳, 容纳, 让...进入, 使获得 (某种地位或特权)

But shortly before her 15th birthday, she was admitted to a psychiatric hospital after trying to kill herself.

(The Guardian 27/08/06)

So in the days leading up to June 28, when his country became the 192nd nation admitted to the United Nations, he packed up a few boxes of personal effects, bid farewell to his staff and started his new job – or jobs, as he puts it.

(The New York Times 05/08/06)

理解提示: 参见本书收录的 *effect* 和 *put* 词条。

**advance** [əd'vɑ:ns]

vt. 提出 (理论、看法等)

Much the same argument has been advanced in the context of international trade.

(Business and the Natural Environment P113)

理解提示: 参见本书收录的 *context* 词条。

The finding, they say, fits with a hypothesis they advanced last December when they had data only from 2003.

(The New York Times 19/04/07)

vt. 发展, 推进

The prize is given for advancing the knowledge of spiritual matters.

(The Guardian 16/03/06)

Advancing the technology would be a boon not only for coal-rich Alberta, but also for the Canadian economy as a whole, he added.

(The Calgary Herald 10/02/06 D4)

理解提示: Alberta 为加拿大的一个省。另请参见本书收录的 *add* 词条。

**advise** [əd'vaiz]

*vt.* 通知, 告知

The green light was on, advising him that the spacecraft was ready for blast-off.

(本书作者)

A retired army colonel accused of involvement in a notorious case of human rights abuses has committed suicide, shooting himself after police officers went to his home in Montevideo to advise him he would have to appear in court to face charges.

(The New York Times 12/09/06)

理解提示: 参见本书收录的 *abuse* 词条。

**affect** [ə'fekt]

*vt.* 假装

He greeted me, with an affected smile on his face.

(本书作者)

Mr. McFarlin, easy to spot with his baked red hair and ruddy, freckled skin, paid close attention to the new arrivals, although he affected nonchalance with his wraparound sunglasses and ever-present cherry-flavored cigar and holder.

(The New York Times 21/04/06)

理解提示: Mr. McFarlin 是一位捕鲶鱼 (catfish) 比赛的参赛者 (看谁抓来的鲶鱼最大); *new arrivals* 指新到的 (他人捕到带过来参加比赛的) 鲶鱼。

另请参见本书收录的 *spot* 词条。

**affecting** [ə'fektɪŋ]

*adj.* 感人的, 动人的

Even so, this is a thoughtful book with some memorable and affecting moments.

(The Guardian 04/02/07)

Far truer to the measured, ruminative spirit of this odd but affecting play is Ben's reaction to her departure, and the strange revolution in his soul that almost – but didn't quite – take place.

(The New York Times 11/11/06)

理解提示: 参见本书收录的 *measured* 词条。

本句翻译: 更加真实反映这部离奇但感人剧作之谨慎和反思精神的是 Ben 对她离去的反应, 和在他内心世界里几乎没有真正发生的前所未有的变革。

**afford** [ə'fɔ:d]

*vt.* 提供, 给予

He had reserved an entire floor so that Maia might be afforded a panoramic view of all Venice.

(A Rage to Love P225)

But my father was intensely grateful to this country for the opportunities it had afforded him.

(The New York Times 06/08/06)

**agreeable** [ə'griəbl]

*adj.* 惬意的, 令人愉快的

On the face of it, film location scout would appear to be one of the more agreeable careers.

(The Guardian 07/08/04)

理解提示: “film location scout” 意为 “寻找摄影场地”。

Massive and unique sandstone formations, combined with the region's mostly agreeable weather, attract thousands of climbers a year.

(The New York Times 05/05/06)

*adj.* 易相处的, 和蔼可亲的

Unlike her sisters, Ashley is an agreeable lady.

(本书作者)

He is, as reports invariably describe him, jovial and agreeable, wearing a jacket and jumper combo which suspiciously like the one her wore in newspaper photographs the previous day.

(The Guardian 05/05/07)

理解提示: jacket and jumper combo 可能是 “既像夹克有像套衫的组合物”。

**air** [ɛə]



v. 播送, 播放

The satellite channel aired only about half the message.

(The New York Times 27/07/06)

Sir Martin Sorrell's WPP is to co-produce a drama series starring Tom Berenger that will air on ABC Television in the US.

(The Guardian 17/10/06)

理解提示: WPP (World Press Photo) 是全球著名的广告和传媒集团; ABC 指 “American Broadcasting Company (美国广播公司)”。另请参见本书收录的 star 词条。

vt. 宣扬, 发表

Media consolidation means fewer pipelines are available to distribute news, especially local news, and air differing opinions.

(The New York Times 05/11/06)

理解提示: consolidation 和 pipeline 这里分别作“合并”和“渠道, 传送途径”解。

Toynbee is right that we are not alone, nor unique in this respect yet it is important that this widespread sentiment was aired.

(The Guardian 17/08/06)

n. 外观, 风度

The face resumed the air of a child who has lost his mother but suddenly feels her hand clutch his.

(The Guardian 26/10/06)

“Because she was Greek?” Ferrante spoke with an air of a magician who has just produced a rabbit from his hat.

(A Rage to Love P185)

理解提示: 参见本书收录的 produce 词条。

n. 气氛, 氛围

There was an air of tension at the meeting.

(Kingsoft 2003)

La Rambla is the city's celebrated central artery, and although thronged with tourists and hawkers, it still retains a delightful