

最表里不一的 英语俚语 365

The Quite Different English Slang

赵冬 著

哈尔滨出版社
HARBIN PUBLISHING HOUSE



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作 者: 赵 冬 著

责任编辑: 路 嵩 魏英璐

责任审校: 李 战

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A

001. a cat-and-dog life

【字面意思】一种猫和狗的生活

【真正含义】经常吵吵闹闹的生活=a life in which sb. are frequently or constantly quarrelling

【 Eg 】 The boy said his parents had been living a cat-and-dog life for a few years, they never care his feeling.

【译 文】那男孩说他父母经常吵吵闹闹已经好几年了，从不在意他的感受。

002. Achilles' heel

【字面意思】阿喀琉斯的脚踵

【真正含义】致命伤；弱点=one's weakness; disadvantage

【 Eg 】 Rose: Mum, I would like to attend the beauty contest in October.
But I have a weakness. I am a little fat now.

Mum: Yes, that's your Achilleus' heel. You must overcome it.

Rose: Ok, Mum. I should eat less and lose weight right now.

【译 文】露丝：妈妈，我想参加十月的选美大赛。但现在有点胖，这是我的弱点。

妈妈：是啊，那是你的致命伤，你必须得克服。

露丝：好吧，妈妈。我应该立刻少吃，开始减肥。

【 注 】源自《荷马史诗》所记载的希腊神话故事。据说阿喀琉斯的母亲想让儿子健壮，便捏着他的脚踵在冥河里浸泡，因此，阿喀琉斯刀枪不入，只有没被泡到的脚跟是他的致命弱点，以至于后来他被暗箭射中脚跟而死。这句俚语由此被沿用。

003. a closed book

【字面意思】一本合着的书

【真正含义】高深莫测的事物=know nothing about it

【 Eg 】 Son: Mum, could you explain this problem to me?

Mum: Sorry, my honey. Nuclear physics is a closed book to most of us. Go and ask your physics teacher about it tomorrow, please.

【译文】儿子：妈妈，你能给我解释一下这个问题吗？

妈妈：对不起，宝贝。我们大多数人对核物理学一窍不通。明天去问你的物理老师吧。

004. Adam and Eve

【字面意思】亚当和夏娃

【真正含义】相信=believe

【 Eg 】 Tom: Honey, cross my heart, I won't lie to you to hurt you nor to break you any more.

Rose: That isn't the first time, and it won't be the last. I won't Adam and Eve it.

【译文】汤姆：亲爱的，我向你发誓，我再也不会骗你，再也不会伤你心了。

露丝：这不是第一次，也不会是最后一次。我不会相信你说的话了。

005. all-singing, all-dancing

【字面意思】大家一起唱歌，一起跳舞

【真正含义】华而不实的，花哨的=having many attractive but perhaps not truly valuable characteristics

【 Eg 】 Tony: Why so noisy?

Mike: The all-singing, all-dancing party team has hit the gate of a company and seems intent on meeting the coming of a very important person.

【译文】托尼：为什么那么吵闹？

迈克：吹吹打打的一伙儿人来到了公司的大门口，好像准备迎接一位重要人物。

006. an arm and a leg

【字面意思】一只胳膊和一条腿

【真正含义】高昂的代价=high price for sth.

【 Eg 】 Rose: You got a new house with a beautiful garden?

Terry: Yeah, the price of it is also wonderful and I paid an arm and a leg for it.

【译 文】露丝：你买了所带漂亮花园的新房子吗？

特里：是的，价钱也同样惊人，我花血本买了它。

007. a piece of banana / a piece of cake

【字面意思】一片香蕉/一块蛋糕

【真正含义】小菜一碟，非常容易，不成问题=the easiest thing to do; not a problem, a easy game

【 Eg 】 Jack: Tony, can you repair your bike by yourself?

Tony: Yes, a piece of banana / a piece of cake.

【译 文】杰克：托尼，你自己会修自行车吗？

托尼：会，小菜一碟。

008. a hill of beans

【字面意思】堆积如山的豆子

【真正含义】没有多大价值=be not valuable, it's no use doing sth.

【 Eg 】 Daughter: Mum, dad is a heavy smoker and often coughs at night. Could you persuade him to give up smoking?

Mum: It's not worth a hill of beans to persuade him give up smoking. He is stubborn (=it's worth very little.)

【译 文】女儿：妈妈，爸爸吸烟那么频繁而且夜里常常咳嗽。你能否劝他戒烟呢？

妈妈：劝他戒烟没有多大价值。他是个老顽固。

009. a happy camper

【字面意思】快乐的露营者

【真正含义】高兴的人，心满意足的人；乐天派= a person who always feels

satisfied or joyful.

【 Eg 】 Lily is always a happy camper.

【译 文】莉莉是个乐天派。

【注 】人们常用not a happy camper来形容那些不愿意与人合作的人。多有讽刺和贬低的意味。

【 Eg 】老板对辛迪说：“Cindy, you was not a happy camper yesterday.”
辛迪却莫名其妙地看着老板说：“我昨天没出去露营呀，我一直在办公室。”老板笑了起来，原来老板的意思是说辛迪昨天因为某件事情心情不好，不太愿意与人合作。

010. A-list

【字面意思】名单，清单

【真正含义】（尤指名流中的）顶尖层，佼佼者=the best or most prestigious group, excellence of celebrities

【 Eg 】Tom: Jacky Chen has made it to the A-list of Hollywood celebrities largely because of his hard work and persistence.

Kevin: Yeah, he is great. I think we young men should follow him as a good example and learn from him.

【译 文】汤姆：成龙得以跻身于好莱坞上流社会贤达之列，主要靠他的努力和执着精神。

凯文：是啊，他很棒。我想我们年轻人应该以他为好榜样并向他学习。

011. apple of one's eye

【字面意思】眼睛中的苹果

【真正含义】掌上明珠=the dearest

【 Eg 】A child is always the apple of mum's eye.

【译 文】孩子永远是妈妈的掌上明珠。

012. a safe belt

【字面意思】安全带

【真正含义】肯定成功的事情=thing that is certain to be successful

【 Eg 】Tom: Do I wear a black suit for the party, Lucy?