

美國最常用俗語

The Commonest American Colloquialism

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于青編

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Colloquialism

于 青 編

華 聯 書 店 印 行

序 言

我們看電影（自然指美國電影）也好，聽美國人講話也好，總感到有些地方無法領略個中奧妙，英文根底問題又作別論，即或英文寫得異常漂亮的人，也會有此同感。

其實，美國人在口頭上用的字句常常是很簡單的，甚至拿一句來分析一下，沒有一個單字不認識，可是連在一起由他們說出來時，我們往往就會弄得莫明其妙，譬如“on the house”以為是：“在屋頂上”……；“Gold brick”以為是“金磚”……等等，真是不勝枚舉，請看這兩個例子沒有一個單字是生字吧，可是連在一起再由美國人講出來，就不是那麼一回事了！這到底是什麼原因呢？無他，就是“俗語”在作祟。

美國俗語（Colloquialism）與俚語（Slang）不同，俗語是到處通行的語言（指美國），是一種最習慣最親切的說話，要是你能說上些美國俗語，美國大孩子準會拍拍你跟你親熱萬分了；俚語則是一種低下層階級應用的口頭話，曾至被目為不肖者所使用的，而且通行範圍較小，僅限於某些地區而已，要是說出俚語來，很多場合要被視作有失身份的。

本書收集美國最常用的俗語約九百句，以擔任編譯工作之經驗，再三推敲，並承納哈斯先生協助及史徒金格先生逐句改正校對始成此書，希望讀者切勿忽略此一十足道地的美國俗語書籍，本着學習精神，隨身攜帶，隨時熟記，則對你的會話一定有意想不到的成功！

編 者 謹 識

五十二年十一月於臺北市

A

All dressed up

He is all dressed up for
the party.

Are you telling me

Are you telling me? I know
all about it.

Apple polish

You don't need to apple
polish him.

Are you going to a fire

What is the hurry, buddy,
are you going to a fire?

Anything under the sun

We could do practically
anything under the sun.

All lined up

It is all lined up. Let us
go.

All turn out

Don't worry all will turn
out all right.

At your disposal

I am at your disposal now.

As clear as crystal

It is as clear as crystal
now.

Always the case

穿得很漂亮

他穿得很漂亮地赴會。

用不着告訴我了

我都知道了，要你告訴
我嗎？

拍馬屁

你不要向他拍馬屁。

你幹甚麼？

朋友你爲甚麼這樣忙，
好像要去救火一樣？

無事不可爲

我們幾無事辦不通。

停妥

事事定當我們去罷。

如願以償

不要怕，都很好了。

由你支配

我現在任由你支配。

像水晶般清楚

現在是十分清楚了。

常常是這樣 /

That is always the case,
don't you know it?

All gone

My goodness! My money
is all going.

All out

All out now, I am afraid
you have to come tomorrow.

All-out

All-out effort to win the
war.

Around

Around five o'clock.

Don't worry, he will be
around.

All you have to do

All you have to do is to
sign your name.

Attaboy!

Attaboy! that is the stuff.

Absent minded professor

You are just like an absent
minded professor.

All fed up

Don't ask me again I am
all fed up.

A bit trying

He is a bit trying at times.

Ace

常常是這樣，你不是知
道嗎？

失掉

天呀！我的錢不見了。

都沒有了

都賣完，恐怕你要明天
來了。

用全力

用全力以爭取勝利。

約；到來

約五點鐘。

不要怕，他就要來了。

祇要

你祇要簽名就行了。

要得

要得，是這樣做的。

無頭蒼蠅（表示亂頭亂腦
的人）

你真是一個亂頭亂腦
的人。

討厭極了

不要再問我討厭極了。

有些苦惱

他有時感覺有些苦惱。

最能幹（橋牌中最高一個牌）

He is an ace flyer.
 All burn up
 He is really burnt up.
 That burns me up.
 At my expense
 It will be all done at my expense.
 Alibi
 That is just an alibi. I am not going to believe in it.
 Ambulance chaser.
 He is nothing but an ambulance chaser.
 Are you kidding me?
 Are you kidding me? I have to think it over.
 All bark and no bite
 Don't be afraid, he's all bark and no bite.
 At my finger tips
 It is at my finger tips, I think I can give it to you right now.

他是一個優秀飛行員。
 發脾氣
 他真發脾氣了。
 真使我發脾氣。
 由我出費用
 用了多少錢由我出就是。
 藉口
 這是一種藉口我是不信的。
 下等律師（常辦傷人案件唯利是圖）
 他不過是一個下等律師。
 不要開玩笑（帶有不要騙我之意）
 不要開玩笑，我要考慮一下。
 祇動口不敢動手的人
 不要怕，他是不敢動手的。
 很熟
 我很熟現在我就可以告訴你。

B

Blind date

盲目約會（指與自己沒有見面的人約會）

Don't you like to have a
blind date?

Boogie woogie

All the girls like boogie
woogie music.

Break the ice

You got to talk to the
girls to break the ice.

Boiling point

I think they are at boiling
point now.

Bring back the good old days

Let us have a glass of beer
to bring back the good old
days.

Bud (Buddy)

He is my bud, boy.

Black sheep

He is the black sheep in
his family.

Boss

Don't you like to meet my
boss?

Boogie man

He is a boogie man, scares
all children away.

Big bluffer

He is nothing but a big
bluffer.

你喜歡找一個盲目約會
嗎？

靡靡之音

大抵一般女子都喜歡靡
靡音樂。

打開僵局，打破沉默

你要與她們談談以資接
近。

沸點(指愛情沸點)

我看他們的愛情現在到
了最高點了。

回憶當日好時光

我們大家喝一杯啤酒回
憶當日快樂的情形。

朋友(指知己)

須知他是我的知己朋友

害群之馬

他算家中的一個不肖
人。

老板

你願意和我的老板會面
嗎？

嚇人的人

他是可怕，把小孩們都
嚇光。

吹牛之輩

他祇曉吹牛。

Believe it or not

He is worth two millions
believe it or not.

Be a good sport

Be a good sport and sing
us a song.

Beat around the bush

Let us be frank, don't beat
around the bush.

Backseat drivers

I don't like backseat dri-
vers.

Brush up

Let us brush up our En-
glish for the examination.

Busy as a bee

Let us not bother him, he
is busy as a bee.

Beat him by miles

I beat him by miles.

Brain storm

He was considered the
brain storm in these days.

Bet it is

You bet your life it is.

Brand new

It is a brand new one.
What are you talking about.

信不信由你

信不信由你他擁資兩百
萬。

爽快一點

爽爽快快唱我們一首歌。

不關痛癢言不切題

我們坦白點吧，不要這
樣不關痛癢了。

坐車後指揮司機（人家最
不高興的）

我最不喜的是坐車後指
揮司機的人。

準備

我們將英文準備考試。

像蜜蜂一樣忙

他這樣忙不要攪他罷。

較勝多了

我比他好得多。

聰明

當日他最有腦筋的。

當然是

你可以打賭是這樣的。

完全新的

你曉得甚麼這是全新
的。

Business is business

Business is business, You
got to take my money.

Brush off

You got to brush him off
this time.

Boil down

Why don't you boil them
down.

Boost up

Let us boost him up this
time.

By golly

By golly, did you think I
kid you?

Big shot

small potato

You think you are a big
shot, but I think you are
just a small potato.

Born with a silver spoon in
the mouth

How can you compete with
him who was born with a
silver spoon in the mouth.

Bungling

He has been bungling along.

公事公辦 (含有不講私情
之意)

公事公辦，你非拿我的
錢不可。

撇開

這回你要把他撇開才是
。

撮要

爲什麼不將之縮減一
點。

吹牛

我們這回把他吹一下。

天啦！(常用以表示不稱
心之意)

天啦！你以爲我騙你
嗎？

大人物

芝麻綠荳官(形容渺小)。

你自命爲大人物，我看
你不過芝麻綠荳吧。

世家子弟

他是承父兄的餘蔭，不
易與之爭衡的。

錯誤百出

他就此混下去。

Booze

He is full of booze now.

Big style

He always does thing in big style.

Bawled out

Yesterday he came to see me and I bawled him out.

Bottle necked

Time and again I have been bottle necked by him.

By hook or by crook

He will do it by hook or by crook.

Back down

If you should challenge him, he will back down right away.

Build castles in the air

It is no use to build castles in the air.

Bull dog

He is just like a bull dog, very hard to get along with.

Broke

He is flat broke now.

醉(不作酒講)

他已經喝醉了。

大派頭

他做事很漂亮。

碰釘子

昨天他來求我，我罵他一頓。

阻撓

我被他阻撓好幾回了。

不擇手段祇求成功

他為求成功計將不擇手段。

退縮

如果你向他挑戰，他一定不敢出來。

空中樓閣(表示不切實際)

空中樓閣是沒用的。

難相處的人

他是一個很不容易相處的人。

破產；拮据(buck一塊錢)

他現在不名一文。

I am rather broke now, I shall appreciate getting a few bucks from you.

Be a good sport

Be a good sport and subscribe one hundred bucks this time.

Banker

Let him be the banker this time.

Burn one's finger

If you mess around with her you'll get your fingers burned.

Blackmail

We have been blackmailed.

Boot-legging

He is in the boot-legging business.

He is a boot legger.

B. T. O. (Big time operator)

He is a B. T. O.

Bull session

We had a bull session last night.

Bury the hatchet

Let us bury the hatchet and forget about it.

我現在手頭很緊希望你
能借我幾塊錢。

爽快一點

這回你大量一點捐一百
塊錢。

付賬人

你們這回讓他先代付
賬。

燒焦了指頭(指碰釘子之
意)

要是向她亂來;你準會
碰釘子。

敲竹槓(指敲詐)

我們被人敲竹槓。

私自賣酒

他做私酒生意。

他是一個賣私酒的人。

浪費時間無所事事

他是一個無所事事的。

長談

昨天晚上我們談了很久。

言歸於好

我們忘却舊恨言歸於好
吧。

Cutie

Oh, here comes the cutie.

Coeds

I like the way the coeds
are dressing.

Come up and see me some-
time

Why don't you come up
and see me sometime.

Chicken hearted

He is so chicken hearted I
don't think he could do
much in there.

Can imagine

You can imagine how it
is.

Cocksure (take for granted)

Don't be too cocksure or
take things for granted.

Columbus discovered Ameri-
ca

Let us not talk about it.
Columbus discovered Ameri-
ca.

Chip of the old block

He is a chip of the old
block.

嬌小玲瓏的女子

噢！嬌小玲瓏來了。

女同學（指大學裏女學生
而言）

我最愛女同學的裝束。

有暇請來坐談（含有幽會
之意）

爲甚麼有暇不來看看我
呢？

膽小如鼠

他是這樣膽小我相信他
在那邊不會做甚麼事情
出來。

可想見了

你一猜就知其中情形如
何了。

深信（硬以爲是）

不要太過自信硬以爲是
這樣。

哥倫布發現新大陸（表示
很久以前的事）

我們別談這些故事吧。

不肖如乃父

他與他父親同出一轍。

Catch up with

We have got to catch up with them.

Cram

He crammed all last night.

Can manage

I think I can manage it.

Can't help it

I am sorry, I can't help it.

Comes out right

It comes out right now.

Catchy

That song is very catchy.

I like it.

Call it off

Since he doesn't come let us call it off.

Check up

I think it needs a little check up.

Chat

Let us have a chat some day.

Come across

Did you ever come across anything like this?

Cut throat,

迎頭趕上

我們非努力迎頭趕上不可。

爲考試用功

昨晚他不睡覺準備考試。

有辦法

我相信我有辦法

沒有辦法（已成事實）

我十分抱歉，我實在無法可想。

對了

現在算是對了。

快而又好聽

那首歌很好聽，我喜歡它。

取消

他既來我們把他取消罷。

檢討一下

我看非檢討一下不可了。

談一談，作閒談

找一天我們談談。

看過，記得

你從前有看過這些東西嗎？

害人（含有用不公平方法去應付人之意）

I am afraid he is going to
cut your throat this time.
I simply don't like cut
throat business.

Cocky (snub)

He is very cocky and wants
to snub me.

Cuckoo

I think he is just cuckoo.
Cheap skate

What a cheep skate!

Cut it out

Cut it out, I had enough
of it already.

Come and get it

If you think I owe you,
come and get it.

Can't stand any longer

I can't stand any longer, I
think I am going to quit.

Clean house for him

some of these days I am
going to clean house for
him.

Cozy

I think it is very cozy
place.

我恐怕這回他會害你。

我最不高興的就是幹害
人的勾當。

神氣活現(帶紳士樣子，
像英國人一樣)

他是一個驕傲的人想不
睬我。

傻瓜

我看他是一個傻瓜。

卑賤；寒酸(指經濟方面
的拮据)

何等寒酸！(多寒酸！)
算了，不要說了

算了我够受了。

試一下拿罷(含有些拿不
到之意)

倘你以為我是欠你的，
那麼來拿吧。

再不能忍受了

我再不能忍受，我預備
辭職了。

同他算賬

總有一天我要和他算
賬。

舒服(指地方而言)

我看這是一個很舒服的
地方。

Crack

The government is sending its crack armies to the front.

Cranky

He is a cranky fellow.

Cover up

I know every thing, so do not try to cover up.

Camouflage

I think it is a camouflage.

Crook

He is a crook.

Cook up a story

You put me on the spot I have to cook up a story this time.

Cumshaw

The cumshaw business in our country has got to be stopped.

Can't be wrong

One hundred bucks, You can't be wrong on that.

Cheer up; chins up

Let us cheer up and keep our chins up.

Cross my heart

I cross my heart that I never read your letter.

精銳

政府已經遣調精銳部隊到前方去。

發脾氣

他是一個脾氣不好的人。

掩飾

我已知道了，不要掩飾吧。

假裝

我看這是假裝吧。

騙子

他是一個騙子。

造一故事

你呆了我，這一回我要找一個藉口了。

貪污，要錢

我國現行揩油的陋習非立刻革除不可。

不會太貴

一百塊錢不會上當的。

振奮起來；不要喪氣

我們振作起來不要氣餒吧。

不騙你

我是沒有看過你的信，相信我吧。

Cheap joints

You can always find some
in one of these cheap jo-
ints.

Close shave

I'll say that was a close
shave.

Check out

I don't like this business
and I want to check out
now.

Can't get away with it

I am going to do some-
thing. He can't get away
with it.

Cop

Here comes the cop.

Chew rag

Don't chew rag in here.

Come to the point

Let us be frank and come
to the point.

Call names

He often calls names.

Canned music

What I like is a real or-
chestra and not canned
music.

Cooties

下流地方

你常常可以在下流地方
找到。

危險，差不多要死

誰不說那是危險的事
情。

退出

我不喜歡這種事情故想
退出了。

法網難逃

我就要動手想他沒法脫
逃。

警察

警察來了。

講是非

不要在這兒講是非吧。

到題(含爽快一些意思)

我們坦白一些一言到題
吧。

罵人

他常罵人。

留聲機唱片

我愛真的音樂不喜歡留
聲機唱片。

跳蛋

I never saw so many cooties in my life.
 Call it quits
 Let us call it quits, what do you say?
 Counterfeit (queer; phony)
 Be careful, he may give you some counterfeit money.

我從來沒有看過這樣多跳蚤。

算了
 我們就算了吧好嗎？

贗物，假冒的
 要當心，他會給你假鈔票的。

D

Dame
 He has a dame with him.

Date
 I have a date tonite.

Die-hards

I simply don't like the die-hards in Shanghai.

Duck soup
 It is duck soup to me.

Damn right
 You are damn right, he is pretty good in that,

Don't look it so dumb.
 My goodness! you don't look so dumb.

Do your stuff

女人
 她有一女人同行。

約會
 今晚我有約會。

頑固的外人，尤其指英國人

老實不客氣，我不喜上海的頑固外國人。

易如反掌
 我是沒有問題的。

當然是
 他是不錯，你說得對

看來不是這樣笨
 天呀！你看來不是這樣笨的。

拿出本領來（帶有否則失却機會之意）