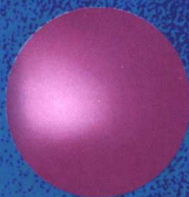


常用英语短语 例解词典

杨信彰 主编

*A Dictionary of
English Phrases and Idioms
with Examples*



厦门大学出版社

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前 言

英语短语是英语语言的一个重要组成部分,出现在日常生活的各个领域。它们是英美人士长期言语交际实践的产物。这些短语不仅出现在口语和非正式的场合,在一些书面语体中也频频出现。英语短语所表达的意思往往与字面上的意思不同,有些英语短语还具有一个短语多种意思的特点,句法结构很难预测。因此对于这样的短语,学生不仅难以理解,而且难以掌握。例如, *eat out of house and home* 的字面意思是“在家外面吃饭”,但实际上含有“把家吃穷”的意思。*wear the trousers* 的字面意思是“穿裤子”,但实际上含有“掌权,当家”的意思。*miss the bus* 虽然具有“未赶上公共汽车”的意思,但它还具有“错过机会,坐失良机”的含义。这些短语成了我国英语学习者学习英语过程中的一大障碍。

初学英语的人在学习过程中遇到短语时,常常犯望文生义的毛病。例如,听到 *The boy dashed out of the bath in his birthday suit.* 这句话,有的人可能把它理解成“这个男孩穿着生日服装从浴室里猛冲了出来。”岂料这一句含有 *in one's birthday suit* 这个短语,整句话的意思是“这个男孩赤条条地从浴室里猛冲了出来。”可见,学习英语的一大任务是理解英语短语的意思和用法。

为使广大英语学习者能更好地掌握和使用英语短语,我们收集了8200多条常用的英语短语,编写了这本词典。这些英语短语有的是短语动词,有的是介词短语,有的是形容词或副词

短语。编写短语词典是个苦差使,既费时间又费精力。不过在收集过程中,我们充分利用了计算机的优势,借助 Excel 将收集到的短语进行分类和排序,并利用 Access 设计了词典编写软件包,大大提高了编写效率。在编写过程中,我们针对中国学生的特点,注意到条目和释义项的选择,避开了生僻的词汇和罕用的释义。为了准确地呈现英语短语的意思和用法,我们在这些短语的每项释义配上例句和相应的汉语译文,必要时还附上注释,例句的选择也力求表现短语的用法,便于读者进一步认识这些短语。

在编写过程中,我们坚持既分工又合作的原则。杨信彰负责整体设计和组织工作,审读全稿,统一体例,并提出了许多修改意见。林立负责字母 C、D、E、F、G 条目的编写,李力负责字母 H、I、L、M 的条目以及 A 的部分条目的编写,邓小玲负责字母 J、K、N、O、R、S 条目的编写,吕云芳负责 B、P、Q、T、U、V、W、Y、Z 的条目以及 A 的部分条目的编写。

本词典是应厦门大学出版社之约而编写的。厦门大学出版社提供了最初的框架方案,并在编辑出版过程中给予大力支持,谨在此表示衷心的感谢。

由于我们的编写水平有限,加上手头掌握的资料不够充足,错误和疏漏之处在所难免,敬请读者批评指正。

编 者

2001 年 4 月

使用说明

1. 本词典所收短语条目按开头字母顺序排列,用黑正体印刷。

2. 每个条目提供释义和例证。释义后收入句子作为例证,例证后附汉语译文。

3. 一个短语有多项不同释义时,各项释义分别列出,前面标以①②③等数码。同一项内词义相近者用逗号分隔,稍远者用分号分隔。

4. 有的条目提供用法注释。

5. 条目中用 one, one's 分别指本人(或自己),本人的(或自己的);用 sb., sb.'s 分别指某人(或别人),某人的(或别人的);用 sth., sth.'s 分别指某事物,某事物的。如: eat one's words 中的 one's 在人称上与动作的主体一致,如 I had to eat my words when he turned up on time after all. seal sb.'s fate 中的 sb.'s 在人称上与动作的主体不一致,如 His father's death sealed his fate — he gave up his hopes of a college education.

6. 释义项中的“见”表示参见另外一个条目,如 steal the spotlight 条中的“见 steal the show (或 spotlight)。”表示参见 steal the show (或 spotlight)条。

7. 释义项中的“同”表示该条目的释义与另外一个条目相同。如 eat for breakfast 条中的“同 eat alive。”表示该条目的释义与 eat alive 的释义相同。

8. “/”用来隔开例句。

9. “()”表示括号内的单词或词组可有可无。如 steal sb. 's heart (away) 条中, 可以是 steal sb. 's heart, 也可以是 steal sb. 's heart away。如果括号内的单词或词组前有“或”字, 表示该单词或词组可以与括号前的单词或词组互换。如 easy (或 hard) on the eyes 条中的 hard 可以代换 easy。

10. “〔注: 〕”用来加注语法或使用方面的补充说明。

A

abandon oneself to 沉涵于,纵情于:He *abandoned himself to* grief. 他不胜悲伤。

abide by 遵守:If you do not *abide by* the regulations, you will get fined. 如果不遵守规则,你就会被罚款。

abound in 充满,富有:The river *abounds in* fish. 这条河里有许多鱼。

abound with 有大量(或极多)的;(害虫、鼠等)成群出现:That jungle *abounds with* wild game. 那座丛林里有大量的野兽。

about (或 around) sb. 's ears 彻底地,猛烈地:His business folded and collapsed *about his ears*. 他的公司关闭,彻底完蛋。

above all 尤其是,最重要的是:And *above all*, don't talk to anybody about it. 最重要的是不要把这件事告诉任何人。/ He longs *above all* to win the election again. 他特别渴望能再次在选举获胜。

above and beyond 远不止,超过:The support given to me by the fund was *above and beyond* what I could have expected. 基金会给予我的支持大大出乎我的预料。

above ground 活着;未安葬的:I'd bet that we'd find him if he was *above ground*. 我敢打赌,只要他还活着,我们总会找到他。

above measure 见 beyond measure.

above one's breath 高声地:He made a reply *above his breath*. 他高声地回答。

above price 无价的,极贵重的:We had a week together, in which she was happy and free from pain, which I regard as *above price*. 我们在一起有一周时间,这段时间里,她很幸福,没有痛苦,我认为这是无比珍贵的。

above sb. 's bend 并非力所能及的;力所未逮的:The task is *above his*

bend. 他干不了这件工作。

above sb. 's head(s) (或 above the head(s) of) ①听不懂;理解不了;The teacher spoke **above the heads of** his audience. 老师讲的话听众听不懂。②危险迫近;The situation has been **above their heads**. 形势对他们来说已经非常危急。

above the head(s) of 见 above sb. 's head(s)。

above (或 below) the salt 在上(或下)席;Leonard took him up **above the salt** and made much of him. 伦纳德请他坐上席,很尊敬他。

above water 摆脱困境(麻烦,债务);Because of her husband's extravagant tastes, they never seemed to be able to get **above water**. 由于她的丈夫生活奢侈,他们似乎总是入不敷出。

abreast of the times 跟上时代;Read the journals if you want to keep **abreast of the times**. 如果你想跟上时代就多读读杂志吧。

absent from 缺席;Students cannot be **absent from** class. 学生不能缺课。

absent (或 leave) without excuse (未经请假而)擅离职守的;Those who are **absent without excuse** will not escape punishment. 那些无故缺席的人是逃脱不了惩罚的。

absent without leave 见 absent without excuse。

absolve from (或 of) 宣布赦免(罪过);免除(履行诺言、责任、罪责等);State education does not **absolve** a parent **from** his responsibilities to his children. 国家公费教育并不能免除家长对孩子的责任。

absolve of 见 absolve from。

absorb in 专心;Mary became **absorbed in** her studies as soon as she entered the university. 玛丽一上大学就专心读书。〔注:常用被动态。〕

abstain from 停止,不(做);The representatives **abstained from** voting. 代表们在投票中弃权了。

accede to 同意,答应;Our boss **acceded to** my reasonable request. 我们老板答应了我的合理要求。

accept the face (或 person) of 徇私;偏爱;偏护;God **accepts the face of** everybody. 上帝对所有人都是公平的。

accept the person of 见 accept the face of。

accommodate oneself to 使自己适应于: He can easily *accommodate himself to* changed circumstances. 他能很容易地适应形势的变化。

accord with 与……相符合, 与……一致: That would *accord with* common sense. 那会与常识相符合。

according to 根据: *According to* the report, the storm will continue until tomorrow. 据报道, 这场暴风雨要持续到明天。

according to one's own lights 按照自己的眼光: *According to my own lights*, your child will be most likely to become the cream of the crop when she grows up. 依我看来, 你孩子长大以后很有可能出人头地。

account for 说明, 证明: My secretary got fired because she failed to *account for* the money she spent on her trip. 我的秘书被开除了, 因为她无法说明她在旅行中所用的钱。

accuse of 控告: They *accused* the witness of lying. 他们控告证人说谎。

acknowledge the corn 承认事实; 认输; 认错: When her error was proved she had to *acknowledge the corn*. 当她的错误被证实时, 她只得认错。

acquaint with ①使(某人)熟悉: We must *acquaint* ourselves *with* these facts. 我们必须了解这些事实。/ Are you *acquainted with* the manager? 你认识经理吗? ②让(某人)了解; 告诉: We'd better *acquaint* them *with* more and more modern science and technology. 我们应该让他们更多地了解现代科技知识。

acquit of 宣告无罪: We *acquitted* him of murder. 我们宣布他没有犯谋杀罪。

across country 横越田野: They marched *across country*. 他们越野行军。

across from 在……的对面: He lives just *across from* us. 他就住在我们对面。

across the sea(s) 见 beyond the sea(s)。

act against 违反: She *acted against* her father's advice on that matter. 在那件事情上, 她没听她父亲的忠告。

act for 代理(某人): In the president's absence, Mr. Hobson will *act for* him. 总裁不在时, 将由霍布森先生代行其职。

act on (或 upon) ①按照(建议、劝告、指示、情报等)行动;根据……行事:The lawyer will *act on* his instructions. 律师将按照他的指示行事。②对……起作用;(药等)有效验:Caffeine is a stimulant which *acts on* the nervous system. 咖啡因是对神经系统起作用的刺激物。

act one's age 行动与年龄相适应,举止与年龄相称;有大人气:Well, if John had *acted his age*, he wouldn't have gotten hurt. 如果约翰举动与年龄相称,就不至于受伤了。/ Oh, *act your age*, Sam! You can't expect to have your own way all the time. 喂,萨姆,像个大人样。你不能老指望凡事总是按照自己的意愿去做。

act out 表演(对话,故事等):He tried to *act out* a play that he had read. 他试图表演他读过的剧作。

act the fool 见 play the fool。

act up ①举止不端;调皮,捣蛋;任性:His mother couldn't trust him not to *act up* when something upset him. 当有事烦他时,他母亲难保儿子不任性行事。②(车、机器等)运转不正常;失灵;出毛病:The speakers seem alright, but the tape-deck's *acting up*. 说话人似乎正常,但是录音机的走带出问题了。③发怒;作痛:Father's leg seemed quite better after his operation, but recently it's been *acting up* again. 父亲的腿病经过手术后似乎好得多,可是近来又发作了。④适当地做出反应:When they tease the kid, she doesn't quite know how to *act up*. 当他们取笑那孩子时,她完全不知道怎样应付才好。⑤表现,炫耀:The chap likes to *act up* for the benefit of anyone who cares to notice. 这小子喜欢在留意到他的人面前表现一番。

act up to 按照……办事;履行;遵行:We hope you'll *act up to* the good advice we've given you. 我们希望你能够按照我们给你提的好建议去做。

act upon 见 act on。

adapt for 使……适合于;为……改写或改编:Difficult books are *adapted for* use in schools. 难读的书常被改编,以适应于学校的教学。

adapt to 适应,适合:You should *adapt yourself to* new ideas. 你必须适应新的想法。

add in 加进去:Should we *add in* the lemon juice before or after mixing

the flour? 我们是在搅拌面粉之前还是之后把柠檬汁加进去?

add insult to injury 进一步伤人感情; She *added insult to injury* when she called her husband a rat after she had already beaten him up. 她把丈夫打了一通之后还管他叫老鼠, 这进一步伤害了他的感情。

add to 增加; I don't want to *add to* your troubles. 我不想给你增加麻烦。

add together 加起来; 总共; When you *add together* all the fees he receives from his various consultancies it makes a very healthy income indeed. 如果你把他收到的各种咨询费都加到一起, 的确是一笔不菲的数目。

add up 加起来; 把……加起来; 加起来得到理想的结果; She's hopeless.

These figures still don't *add up* right! 她没救了, 这些数还是加不对。

add up to (总起来看)说明, 意味着; 结果是; 合计达; His long answer just *adds up to* a refusal. 他那冗长的回答只不过意味着他在拒绝。/ What do all these *add up to*? They add up to \$ 500. 00. 这些加起来是多少钱? 总共 500 美元整。

address oneself to ①专心从事; 着手(致力)做; It's time I *addressed myself to* the business in hand. 是尽快集中精力把手头的事做好的时候了。②对……讲话; 论述; President Clinton *addressed himself to* the committee. 克林顿总统向该委员会发表了讲话。

adept in 擅长, 精于; He is *adept in* music. 他精通音乐。

adequate for 适合, 合乎; That amount will be *adequate for* our needs. 那样的数目够我们用。

adhere to 坚持; We should *adhere to* the truth. 我们应当坚持真理。

adjust to 适应; I think I have finally *adjusted* myself to my new surroundings. 我想我终于适应了新的环境。/ Have you got *adjusted to* the living conditions here? 你已经习惯这里的生活条件了吗?

admit to 承认; Margaret *admitted to* stealing the money. 玛格丽特承认偷钱。

adverse to 反对, 不赞成; I am *adverse to* bringing up the matter again. 我反对再提这件事。

afraid of 害怕; Mr. York was always *afraid of* losing his job. 约克先生

老是害怕失业。/ Are you *afraid of* snakes? 你怕蛇吗?

after (或 in) a fashion 多少, 略微, 勉强; She had done the work *after a fashion*. 她勉强做完了这项工作。

after a little 过了一会儿, 经过一段时间(距离); She came back *after a little*. 她过了一会儿就回来了。

after (或 in) a sort 有几分, 稍微; 可算是: The boy is industrious *after a sort*. 那男孩还勤奋。

after all ① 终于; 终究; 毕竟: We managed to get to the meeting, *after all*. 我们总算赶上参加会议了。/ He didn't get the job *after all*. 他终究还是没得到那份工作。② 要知道; 别忘了(提醒某人时用): You can't expect to master French in a few days, *after all*, it's not easy to learn a language. 你不能指望几天内就掌握法语, 要晓得, 学语言是不容易的。

after hours 工作(营业)时间以后, 下班后; 规定时间后; 工作之余: We are not allowed to buy beer in public houses *after hours*. 规定时间后, 我们不准在酒店买啤酒。

after one's fancy 符合某人心意的: His wife has at last found a dress *after her fancy*. 她妻子终于找到了一件合意的衣服。/ The coffee you gave her is exactly *after her fancy*. 你送她的咖啡正合她的心意。

after one's (own) heart 符合自己心意的; 志趣相投的; 正中下怀的: Peter is a man *after my own heart*. He fights for what he believes in. 彼得和我志趣相投, 他为自己的信仰而奋斗。

after the fashion (或 manner) of 照……的样子; 模仿……的样子: He can speak French *after the fashion of* tradition. 他会按传统方式讲法语。

after the manner of 见 *after the fashion of*。

again and again 再三地, 三番五次地, 反复地: I've told him *again and again* to switch off the computer at night. 我再三告诉他晚上要关掉计算机。

against a rainy day 未雨绸缪的; 以备不时之需的; 事先预备的: He has a couple of thousand pounds kept aside *against a rainy day*. 他有几千英镑储蓄以备不时之需。

against nature 违反自然的(地),反常的(地): They will not submit to tyranny for ever; it's *against nature*. 他们是永远不会屈服于暴政的,因为这是违反自然的。

against one's inclination (或 will) 违心地;无可奈何地: I'm not going to force you to do anything *against your inclination* — if you really have decided to quit the business, then so be it. 我不会强迫你做你不愿做的事。如果你真的要放弃生意,那你就随便吧。

against one's will 见 *against one's inclination*。

against sb. 's grain 见 *against the grain*。

against the collar ①费劲的(地);使人疲劳的(地): It goes *against the collar* to get up early after burning a midnight oil. 晚上熬夜后还要起早是很费劲的。②违背意愿的(地);勉强的(地): It was working *against the collar* for that boy to study. 那男孩的性格不适宜读书。

against the (或 sb. 's) grain ①逆着木材的纹理: She sandpapered the wood *against the grain*. 她逆着纹理用砂纸打磨木材。②(跟某人的性格、感情或愿望)格格不入;违背(自己)心愿(本意);使人不痛快: I don't think he likes to praise men. It goes *against the grain*. 我认为他不喜欢赞美人。这与他的性格格格不入。③使人恼怒;使人不满(或怨恨): It went *against the grain* with me to have to listen to her gossip. 必须听她说长道短使我很恼火。

against the sun 朝着反时针方向: If we go three times round the Church *against the sun*, we'll meet the Devil face to face. 如果我们反向绕教堂三次,就会碰到不吉利的事。

against time ①抢时间;争分夺秒地: They are working *against time* to complete the building by Christmas. 他们正在抢时间争取在圣诞节前夕建完那幢大楼。②拖延时间: The outlaw talked *against time* with him, hoping that his gang would come and rescue him. 这个罪犯利用与他谈话来拖延时间,希望他的同伙来营救他。③测量速度: She told me that the last round would be taken *against time*. 她跟我说最后一个回合用秒表计时。

aghast at 对……感到吃惊的: I'm *aghast at* the little girl's behavior. 那小女孩的行为让我大吃一惊。

agree on (或 upon) 在……上达成一致;意见相同,同意;The committee has *agreed on* an increase in fees. 委员会同意增加收费。/ That's exactly how I feel. I'm glad we *agree on* something now. 我确实是那样想的,真高兴我们现在有意见一致的地方。

agree to 同意;They *agreed to* leave at once. 他们同意马上就离开。

agree to disagree 同意保留不同的意见;We have to *agree to disagree* with the attached conditions. 对于附加条件我们只好同意保留不同意见了。

agree upon 见 agree on。

agree with ①适合;The lunch did not *agree with* me; I felt nauseated. 午饭不合我的胃口,令我作呕。②和(某人意见)相同;His class was absolutely fascinating! I couldn't *agree with* you more! 他讲的课真是棒极了!你讲得真对。

ahead of schedule (比原计划或规定时间)提前;We ended our Northeast vacation *ahead of schedule*. 我们提前结束了在东北的度假。

ahead of the game ①处于有利地位;处于赢家地位;获利,赚钱;Staying *ahead of the game* in those days of rapid technological advancements is no easy task. 在那技术迅猛发展的时代里要想时时处于赢家地位不是一件容易的事情。②太早;预先;When he came to school at an hour early, the janitor said, "You're *ahead of the game*." 他早到校一小时,看门人说:"你来得太早了。"

ahead of time 提前,提早;Whenever I have an appointment I like to arrive a little *ahead of time*. 我一有约会总会提前一会儿到。

aim at ①以……为目的,目的是,打算,希望;This paper *aims at* giving a general outline of the subject. 这篇文章希望能就这个问题提出一个大致的框架。②针对,对……而发;His speech was *aimed at* the girls who had not played fair. 他的讲话针对那些在比赛中没有公平竞争的孩子们。

aim for 希望达到(某个目标);It soon became clear that she was *aiming for* a directorship. 很快就清楚了,她是想达到拿到指挥权的目的。

aim high 胸怀大志;He *aimed high*, but achieved little. 他雄心勃勃,但

成就甚少。

alien to 与……不符: Such an attitude is *alien to* my philosophy of life.

这种态度不合我的人生观。

all abroad 简直莫名其妙,摸不着头脑的: It's no use showing him that book, he's *all abroad* with anything to do with linguistics. 给他看那本书没用,他对语言学一窍不通。

all add up to 总括起来意味着: What do you think it *all adds up to*? 你想这一切意味着什么? / It *all adds up to* the fact that they have been cheated. 这意味着他们被骗了。

all along ① 沿着……的整个长度;沿途,一路: As I climbed the mountain, I saw beautiful flowers *all along*. 我登山时,沿途看到美丽的花朵。② 从开始起(就);自始至终,一直(都): We knew *all along* that we would win. 我们从开始起就知道我们会赢。

all along the line(或 **all the way down the line**) 全线地;在每一点上;处处;完全地: Managerial mistakes were made *all along the line*. 处处存在管理上的错误。

all around(或 **round**) 全面地: Taken *all around* it's not a bad article. 全面地看,这篇文章写得不错。

all at once 突然,忽然: While they were talking, the girl *all at once* screamed. 他们在谈话时,那女孩子突然尖叫起来。

all but 几乎,差不多,差点没,差点就: I have *all but* finished the work. 我几乎做完了工作。/ Poor old Tim, he *all but* fainted as he learned about his daughter's death. 可怜的老蒂姆,当听说女儿的死讯时差点昏过去。

all by oneself 独立地;不需要帮助地: He can finish it *all by himself*. 他能一个人完成这事。

all day long 整天地;一天到晚: *All day long* we unpacked boxes. 一天到晚我们都在把箱子里的东西掏出来。/ On weekends I play table tennis *all day long*. 周末,我整天都打乒乓球。

all flesh 众生;人类: *All flesh* must die in a day. 众生总有一天会死。

all for naught 徒然,无用: I hope that my work doesn't go *all for naught*. 我希望我的工作不会一点结果也没有。

all for the best 往好里想或做: Anyway, they would hope *all for the best*. 无论如何, 他们都希望往好里想。

all hands to the pump 大家都来帮忙; 人人参加斗争: We are late with this schedule; I must call *all hands to the pump*. 我们比预定时间晚了, 我们必须叫大家来帮忙。

all in 筋疲力尽的, 累极的: I had a hard day at the office. I'm *all in* now. 我在办公室忙了一天。现在已经筋疲力尽了。

all in a (或 the) day's work 属于正常的; 不足为奇的: Making spelling mistakes is *all in a day's work*. 拼写出错是常事。

all in all 总而言之, 总体说来; 从整体来看: *All in all*, I had a good time. 总的说来, 我玩得很开心。/ Sometimes he's grouchy, but, *all in all*, he's a good teacher. 有时候他的脾气很坏, 但总体说来他是个好老师。

all in the day's work 见 *all in a day's work*。

all of 至少; 实足; 不少于: The girl could not swim although she was *all of* 16 years old. 那女孩少说也有 16 岁, 可她不会游泳。

all of a glow (脸) 红通通的; 热烘烘的: The girl is *all of a glow* after a hot bath. 那女孩洗了个热水澡, 脸上红通通的。

all of a lump 一齐; 成了一团; 全部肿起: His eyes are *all of a lump* this morning, he must have cried last night. 今天早晨他的眼睛肿起来了, 昨天晚上他一定是哭了。

all of a sudden 突然, 忽然: *All of a sudden* that ship struck a rock. 突然那条船撞在一块岩石上。/ They were walking in the park when *all of a sudden* the rain came. 他们正在公园走着, 突然下雨了。

all one to (对……) 都一样: Do as you like; it's *all one to* us. 你喜欢怎样做就怎样做吧, 对我们来说都一样。

all one's life 一生, 一辈子, 终身: I've lived *all my life* in China. 我一生都住在中国。

all out 全力(以赴): The medical team went *all out* to save the young man's life. 医疗队全力以赴挽救年轻人的生命。

all over ①在……各地, 在整个: I have friends *all over* the world. 我在世界各地都有朋友。②全身, 到处: They've been looking for you *all*