


# 英语动词

## ENGLISH VERB

黄子文 编著  
(修订本)

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 商务印书馆

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商 务 印 书 馆

2002年·北京

图书在版编目 (CIP) 数据

英语动词/黄子文编著. —修订本. —北京:商务印书馆, 2002

ISBN 7-100-03378-0

I. 英... II. 黄... III. 英语—动词 IV. H314.2

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (2001) 第 069751 号

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英 语 动 词

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黄子文 编著

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商 务 印 书 馆 出 版

(北京王府井大街 36 号 邮政编码 100710)

商 务 印 书 馆 发 行

中 国 科 学 院 印 刷 厂 印 刷

ISBN 7-100-03378-0 / H·857

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2002 年 5 月 第 1 版

开本 787×960 1/32

2002 年 5 月 北京 第 1 次印刷

印张 8 5/8

定价: 12.00 元

## PREFACE

Grammar being a generalization of usage, a grammar book introducing both grammar and usage will especially be useful to students of English who desire improvement in their studies. The verb is the most important part of, and hence the key to, English grammar, because it gives shape to the sentence and yet its grammar and usage is comparatively complicated. It should therefore be mastered before everything else in grammar. This book is designed to provide information in this respect as a book of study for undergraduates and postgraduates and one of reference for junior teachers. The information supplied may still be fundamental, but the book does impart some basic knowledge of materials which are generally useful, and which may help to understand passages to be found in original works of grammar by Western authors, when reference to these is required.

*Huang Ziwen*  
Shanghai Institute of  
Maritime Transport  
November 1979

## Preface to the Second Impression

The original printing mistakes, together with other errors detected, have been corrected. In conformity with changes in current usage, a number of alterations have been made in the last chapter in connection with prepositional collocations. Thus, some illustrative examples are deleted; others are transformed and shifted from the category where they are outmoded to the one where they properly belong now. Besides, a few examples are added where proper.

*Huang Ziwen*

Shanghai, October 2001

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## INTRODUCTION

Language is a process of usage, which is changing forever. It is the work of usage. Grammar generalizes usage by deducing some rules, which are meant not to prescribe, but to guide. Where usage predominates, grammar complies. When usage changes, grammar is revised to account for the new usage. Grammar is thus not a set of dead rules, but merely some temporary guiding principles, which are to be valid for the time being. In the short run, therefore, grammar does serve to teach one how to write and speak conformably to usage. The compiler is ever of opinion that grammar should be taught with especial reference to usage.

It is the verb that forms the frame of an English sentence. The verb is the most important part of English grammar. And existing books on grammar do devote a considerable portion of space to its treatment. The grammar about the English verb usually covers such topics as kinds of verbs, tense, mood, voice and the non-finites. Of course, there is nothing wrong with the inclusion, but the