英语相关词语辨异词典

胡雄定 编

A DICTIONARY OF ENGLISH RELATED

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前 言

在我国,英语可以说是第一大外国语。各大专院校无一不把英语列为必修课。但是,要想把英语学好,的确不是一件容易的事。比如,在学习过程中我们经常会遇到种种这样那样的困难。别的姑且不说,单就一种成对的相关词语(the related words and expressions in pairs)而论,就够叫我们费神了。

谈到这类相关词语,它们在义蕴含蓄、修辞色彩、语法结构、搭配异同、使用场合等方面,都有所不同。 这类词语往往是既有差异又易混淆。凡是学过英语的 学生,常感觉到难以掌握。

这里不妨举些例子来揭示上述各点。首先试从成对的单词说起, 譬如"accept: receive"这一对, 前者这个动词作"接受"讲, 是有意识的; 后者这个动词作"收到"讲, 是无意识的。试比较如下这对例句:

The official **accepted** bribes from people who wanted favours in return. 这个官员从向他求情的人那里接受贿赂("accept"这个动词是有意识的,所以应是有罪的)。

The official received some bribes from people who

wanted favours in return. 这个官员从向他 求情的人那里收到一些贿赂("receive"这个 动词是无意识的, 所以应是无罪的)

再举"each: every"这一对来谈谈。前者这个定语形容词的基数是"二",而后者这个定语形容词的基数则是"三"(注:在 Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English 这部词典中注有:"Every" cannot be used of only 2 people or things"说明"every"这个形容词不能用来修饰两个人或事物。)。试比较如下这对例句:

Here came **two** pupils and I gave **each** pupil a dictionary as a prize. 来了两个学生,我发给 他们每人一本词典作为奖品。(这一句只能用"each")

Here came **three** pupils and I gave **each/every** pupil a dictionary as a prize.来了三个学生,我发给他们每人一本词典作为奖品。(这一句则两者可以通用)

基于以上的例子来说,作"彼此"讲的"each other" 是指两人,所以不说"every other"就是这个道理(注: 在 **The Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English** 这部词典中注解说"Each other"...often replaced by "one another" when the reference is to a number more than two",即要是数目超过"二"的话,就常把"each other"改为"one another")。

其次,试再把这一对短语"in future: in the future"的意义不同解释一下:前者这个短语是作"今后"讲,而后者这个短语则是"(到)将来"的意思(注:在

The Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English 这部词典中,对前者这个短语的定义是"from this time onwards"从今以后)。试比较如下一对例句。

There is no excuse **in future**. 下不为例。(in future 这个短语,以用于现在时态较为相宜。)

There will be no such a chance **in the future**. 将来就不再有这样的机会了。(in the future 这个短语则以用于将来时态较为相宜。)

再如"as good as: as well as" 这一对词组,前者这个状语是作"几乎"或"不啻"讲。而后者这个复合连词则是"兼又"和"同……一样"的意思(注:在 The Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English 这部词典中把前者这个状语解释为"practically, almost"(简直,差不多),而把后者这个复合连词解释为"in addition to"并且)。试比较如下例句:

They are **as good as** ruined. 他们几乎就将完蛋了。

We shall travel by night **as well as** by day. 我们就 将日夜兼程去旅行了。

就内容来说, 本书就是把这类成对的词语——不论是单词还是词组, 都——加以阐释和辨析的这样一部专题工具书, 以供大专院校广大教师和专业学生参考。秉此设想, 编者不惮年迈, 先后花费了二十挂零寒暑, 才得以收编到 2 096 这类词语——内计单词 898 对和词组 1 198 对。这些多半是从英美语言学家对于现代英语用法的研究成果中搜集来的, 其中也有一部

分则是编者从大量英美名著的研读中以及多年来从事 教学工作的实践中发掘出来的。

为了力求诠注详备,本书(一)遇到同义词和反义词一般加以注明;(二)对与美国英语有出入的义项等,另加批注;(三)在用法方面可以类推的例子,予以列注;(四)必要时,添注英语解释;(五)此外,还注有参考条目以供借鉴和引证。至于所举例句,除了一小部分经过简化改写过的之外,多半照本引诸原文,除个别外,余者恕不一一注明出处。

限于编者水平,缺点差错在所难免,诚恳期待广大 读者和同道们多多予以指正。

编者

PREFACE

Words can form barriers as well as promote understanding — W. T. McLeod

In the realm of the English language there seems to be a sort of no-man's-land where resides the great majority of those points that perplex our Chinese learners of English, i.e. the idiomatic uses of certain related words and expressions in pairs. It is in connection with these turns of expression that most of their mistakes are made; it is in connection with these turns of expression that there stands in the way something that prevents them in the early stages from using these proper related words and expressions in the proper places.

The present work contains, among other features, a carefully selected list of such related words and expressions typical of contemporary English in both its spoken and written forms which aims at helping the Chinese English learners to speak and write correctly and idiomatically, and, at the same time, furnishes them with illustrative examples and adequate explanations of such

related words and expressions arranged in alphabetic order, for consultation.

In consequence, it is solely with such uses that this book is concerned; it is for those who wish to acquire a full mastery of such uses that this book is specially adapted.

The idiomatic uses of these turns in pairs here distinguished have become established in the English language from long and popular usage or from historical tradition. Idiomatic English thus stamped is rarely to be taken into account by, or explained in, any ordinary grammer and dictionary. Many words or expressions, as everyone knows, are used in more or less invariable connection with others. If, for one or other words and expressions, synonymous words and expressions were substituted, the text might still be intelligible, but it would be not English. As the art of literature is quite distinct from the science of language, it is impossible to classify such combinations scientifically. The combination of words and expressions of which they are composed, often seems purely arbitrary and can seldom be accounted for. It is the idiomatic combinations that make a living language simple and vigorous; it is only in such idiomatic combinations that the genius and individuality of a living language mainly consist.

The collection of these related words and expressions contained in this book lays no claims to being com-

plete, or original, or exhuastive, but it is believed to be at least thoroughly trustworthy. And it is sincerely hoped that this book thus compiled will serve to familiarize our Chinese users with the heart and soul of the English language and introduce them into that sanctuary.

editor

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