## 外研社。柯林斯 英汉汉英词典

新版 New Edition

### FLTRP-COLLINS

English-Chinese Chinese-English Dictionary

外语教学与研究出版社 FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH PRESS

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- 二、特设"语义提示"。本词典在多义项词条的每个义项之首提供了"语义提示",方便读者对释义的检索。例如,

开张 kāizhāng [动] 1(开业) open a business 2(开门) open for business > 这个小店每天上午9点开张。Zhège xiǎodiàn měi tiān shàngwǔ jiǔ diǎn kāizhāng. This shop opens for business at 9 a.m. every day. 3(喻) (重新开始) start again > 失败了不要紧,可以重打鼓另开张嘛! Shībài le bù yàojǐn, kěyǐ chóng dágǔ lìng kāizhāng mɑ! Don't worry about losing—you can always have another go!

(开业)、(开门)和(重新开始)三个"语义提示"能帮助读者迅速锁定需要的英文翻译,避免选词时的困惑,更杜绝因选错词而闹笑话。

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综上所述,《外研社·柯林斯英汉汉英词典》(新版)在设计上匠心独具,充分考虑到读者方方面面的实际需求,相信必然会给广大英语学习者带来裨益。

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Compared to most European languages, learning Chinese is a challenge. However, in some ways Chinese is not particularly complicated. For example, words do not change with gender, number, case or even tense, and there are not many complicated grammatical traps for the unwary. A lot of the time, there is a pleasing directness about this fascinating and unique language. There are, however, many other things about it that make it hard for native English speakers to learn.

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#### **Chinese Pronunciation**

#### The Four Tones agreed the action of the second control of the second of

Chinese is a tonal language – that is, the pitch at which any given syllable is spoken affects the meaning of the word. There are four tones: first tone (high, even pitch); second tone (rising pitch); third tone (falling and then rising) and fourth tone (falling pitch). There is also a fifth tone (or neutral tone), generally pronounced so quietly and quickly that there is no discernible tone at all.

\* English nashje su cakers çantı çe the phonetik alımabet (So. alimnudiri The tones are a very important part of the pronunciation – and wrong tones can cause real confusion.

Examples o	of differences in	tones:		. H. OVVIII ale (11625)
First tone	Second tone	Third tone	Fourth tone	Neutral tone
mā	má	mă	mà , , , , , , , , , , ,	ma Historialia
妈	麻	马	骂	吗
mother	hemp	horse	curse; swear	[question particle]

Sometimes it can get very confusing, as below: or these are a formy. Isome are so old that even the meaning and assume

măi	mài o	natio) and an eday aced ner that interiors raughtly popoletic
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It may seem unnatural to native speakers of English to have pitch so rigidly attached to words, but the tone is as fundamental a part of any syllable as are its vowels and consonants. While Chinese people will generally, after some thought, be able to piece together the meaning of a sentence pronounced utterly without tones, using tones (even if not 100% accurate) will at least increase the likelihood of your words sounding recognisably Chinese.

Finally, a word of warning. Although a beginner learning Chinese is likely to feel that he or she is already facing too many challenges without having to deal with tones, anyone who is considering not bothering with tones for the present may like to consider that it is *much* easier to spend a little extra time to learn the right tone than it does to un-learn a tone that you have become accustomed to using wrongly!

#### **Pinyin**

Pinyin is a phonetic system for transcribing the Chinese language, which was first introduced to help children learn to write characters, and foreigners and speakers of non-Mandarin dialects to pronounce Standard Chinese correctly. It is also very useful for dictionaries such as this one, as it means that characters can be sorted into alphabetical order, which makes it much easier to find them.

However, pinyin is not in common, day-to-day use, and even educated Chinese people are often not very proficient in it. This is only reasonable – after all, how many English native speakers can use the phonetic alphabet? So, although in China you may see signs written in pinyin from time to time, do not assume that people can read it fluently. Most Chinese people would be hard put to write their own addresses in pinyin. Moreover, other Chinese-speaking countries do not use the pinyin system at all. For this reason, it should not be regarded as a substitute for learning Chinese characters. It is, however, a good, accurate guide to pronunciation once you are used to it.

#### **Chinese Characters**

The Chinese script has a written history that goes back over three thousand years, and there are over 80,000 characters in the Chinese dictionary Cihai. A lot of these are archaic (some are so old that even their meanings are subject to debate), and an educated person will know roughly 4000–6000 characters. A knowledge of about 3000 characters is generally considered sufficient for basic literacy (newspapers and the like).

Each of these characters has to be learned individually – and the shape of the character, the sound of it and the meaning are learned together as a unit. This is particularly trying for westerners, who already have to deal with the unfamiliar sounds and grammatical features of the language. But if you want to learn to read and write Chinese, it is unavoidable.

There is no way of predicting the sound and meaning of an unknown Chinese character with any degree of accuracy. This does not mean, however, that there is no system behind the characters at all. All characters contain at least one of the component parts known as "radicals", and almost all radicals have an element of meaning; if you are familiar with these, not only will using a dictionary be much easier, it will also help you identify more of the building blocks of the characters you are trying to learn. The radical of a character is not always a reliable guide to the character's meaning. For example, the radicals in the Chinese word for rose, 玫瑰, are the jade radical 王; and the verb to give 给 is based on the radical 糸 for silk. Some radicals are more dependable than others though. For example, things containing the 'rain' radical 雨 almost always have something to do with the weather, and things containing the 'tree' radical 木 are generally either to do with wood or trees.

People who grow up in China have a much better start than their overseas counterparts when it comes to learning characters, as they can see Chinese writing wherever they go, and they are already familiar with the Chinese language by the time they start school. Even so, it takes a Chinese child a good many years to master reading and writing Chinese, and the amount of memorization needed to learn enough Chinese characters to be literate colours the entire education system. This – as well as historical causes – is perhaps one reason why 8.72% of China's adult population is illiterate.

A Chinese child who is learning to read and write is given homework every evening, which will involve copying out a number of characters five or more times each, to reinforce the characters in his or her memory. Everybody has their own preferred methods for learning Chinese characters – for most, it is a combination of reading and writing exercises to reinforce the character while helping the student to understand the context in which it is used, and flashcards with the character on one side and the *pinyin* and meaning on the other.

As with all languages, the most efficient way to learn Chinese characters is little and often. Ten minutes each day spent with a few flashcards is going to be far more productive in the long run than an afternoon's cramming every fortnight – and you will be far more likely to remember it later on. It is also important to remember that Chinese people too need regular exposure to Chinese writing to keep their Chinese in top form – even highly educated people start forgetting their characters if they spend too long overseas, in an environment where they neither see nor write them.

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#### **Simplified and Complex Characters**

The government of the People's Republic of China carried out a programme of simplifying the Chinese script in 1956 and another in 1964, in an effort to improve the literacy rate by making characters easier to write. It is these simplified characters which are used in this dictionary. However, for various cultural and political reasons, many regions outside the PRC did not accept these changes, and continued to use the old system. Taiwan still uses complex characters. So do Hong Kong and Singapore, although the simplified characters are now in increasingly common use. Overseas Chinese communities have tended to use complex characters, though that may change in the future, as the changes that are taking place in mainland China make it much easier for people to come to the West for work or study.

Anyone who wants to work as a translator or academic needs a working knowledge of both simplified and complex Chinese characters. But learning one form at a time is more than enough of a challenge for most learners. Which one you end up studying will depend on textbooks available, and the parts of the Chinese-speaking world with which you wish to communicate. Fortunately, the majority of characters are the same or nearly the same in both systems – it does not take long for someone who can read in one system to adjust to reading the other.

#### Writing Chinese Women and the state of principles and burings

You may ask 'do I really need to learn to write Chinese?'. That depends on what you want to do with it! If you are learning it as part of a university course, you will probably be made to learn Chinese writing, whether you want to or not. If you are learning on your own, or as preparation for a stay in China, you may have no desire or time to learn the script. If you want to know a few everyday phrases to ease your way through a short holiday, then learning the script is probably not for you. If you decide not to learn characters, you should be able to navigate your way around the dictionary well enough by using *pinyin* and the four tones.

Learning Chinese is a lot easier if you do not have the extra work of memorizing characters, at least in the initial stages. On the other hand, if you do not learn the characters, you are going to find some things more confusing as you progress. A lot of Chinese characters look completely different and have totally different meanings, but sound just the same, as a quick glance at the *shi* or *yi* section of your dictionary will show.

One of the more cheering things about learning the Chinese writing system is that most words are made up of two or more characters. This means that once you get beyond a certain point, you encounter more and more characters you know already, just in different combinations. New words and expressions consequently become easier to learn. For someone who is not learning characters, however, every new word will just be a collection of vowels, consonants and tones -the element of meaning that the characters give is lost. They also lose out on the enjoyment involved in reading and writing Chinese, which is rather like the pleasure of doing a crossword puzzle or a difficult jigsaw.

To people who do not want to learn the Chinese script, I usually say that the two most necessary characters to learn are 男 nán (male) and 女 nǔ (female), as the inability to distinguish between these two in public places can lead to severe embarrassment! Reductancies

#### Chinese Grammar

Compared to a lot of other languages, Chinese grammar is not particularly complicated. It is not an inflected language – that is, words do not change according to gender, number or case the way they do in many European languages. Sentence structure is generally straightforward, and there are not many exceptions to the grammatical rules (unlike, say, English).

What makes the Chinese language difficult for a native speaker of English is its unfamiliarity. Not only does it sound very different from English, making it hard to guess unfamiliar words the way we often can with languages like French and German, parts of Chinese grammar are very counterintuitive to a native speaker of English. Although there is nothing very complex about Chinese grammar, it takes a while to get accustomed to it, and to learn to adapt to some of its more unfamiliar features.

#### **Talking about Time**

It is sometimes said of Chinese that it has no tenses. This is not quite true, but speakers of Chinese talk about time in a way that is quite different from ours. The English tense system is based on the idea of before and after the point of view of the narrator. Things that happened before the time in which we are talking take the past tense, those that are in the process of going on, the present, and things that have yet to take place, the future. This is shown by a change in the verbs. Chinese verbs, on the other hand, do not change with tense, but an aspect

marker is placed before or after the verb. Some of the most common are 了le (for completed actions — usually but not always in the past), 过 guo (for events that have already taken place), 要 yào (for things that are going to happen) and 在 zài (for things that are in the process of happening). These are no more than generalizations, however, and it is important not to use them indiscriminately as substitutes for English tenses, as that is not what they are for.

Adverbs of time are often used to show what time relation events have to each other, such as 已经 yǐjing (already), 曾经 céngjīng (once), or specific times or dates.

明年我去中国。

Míngnián wǒ qù Zhōngquó.

(literally: Next year I go China).

I'm going to China next year.

#### Redundancies

Chinese is very sparing in its use of words. If a word can be guessed from the context of the surrounding text, it will seem redundant to a Chinese speaker, and so is likely to be omitted. Most languages do this to a certain extent, but speakers of Chinese will cheerfully leave out things that may seem essential to a speaker of English, such as

你吃晚饭了吗?

zi z Nĭ chī wănfàn le ma?

Have you eaten supper?

Ting a **吃了。**edil zegishgnalminaraniea — ...a. juli a itavrove mili ng ip a zza in a

man, parer ut Concese grammar ser valor auntaliarella distribut la caracteria de Chi le. a caracteria de la caracteria del la caracteria de la

Luter[l've] eaten [it]: ruode reigno - yrev pointon zi erer a buerth, it ill ill ere

When talking about causes and consequences, there is also a tendency to miss out the words for "if... then"

旧的不去,新的不来。

Jiù de bú qù, xīn de bù laí.

(literally: Old not go, new not come).

If the old does not go, then the new cannot come.

This can be initially confusing, but the omissions are mostly pretty obvious and easy to follow.

#### **Measure Words**

These are not unique to Chinese – you occasionally see something similar in English.

a gaggle of geese a piece of fruit six pints of milk etc.

They do not occur very often in English. In Chinese, however, measure words are mandatory when giving a number of nouns. It is important to remember to put them in – and also to get them right, as there are a lot of measure words in Chinese.

一只青蛙 yī zhī qīngwā one frog 三部电影 sān bù diànyǐng three films 五封信 wǔ fēng xìn five letters

#### **Word Order**

Because of the less specific nature of the Chinese view of time, the tendency to avoid redundancy and the lack of cases to show what function words have in the sentence, word order is extremely important in Chinese. It generally follows a subject-verb-object pattern, although there are certain particles or rhetorical constructions that change the order slightly. If the word order is wrong, it can be very hard to unscramble the sense of a phrase or sentence.

This leads to the question of long sentences. Textbooks introduce the learner to Chinese with short, easy sentences, sensibly laid out. However, a lot of real-life texts – especially journalistic texts and political speeches – are prone to long, convoluted sentences, with many long, linked clauses, some of which may have other clauses embedded within them. However, thanks to the strict word order of Chinese, it is possible to tell which part belongs to which from its position in the

sentence. So long as the student does not panic, it is usually possible, with a bit of care and thought, to unscramble the sentences, and mentally split them into more easily manageable sections.

All this seems very intimidating to a beginner – and there is no point in trying to pass Chinese off as an easy language. However, the challenge of learning Chinese is in direct proportion to the pleasure of being able to use it. Not only is it an absorbing and intriguing language, which can express both brutal frankness and extreme delicacy, it also brings with it great opportunities to explore and understand a country and culture that is very different from that of the west. And there could be no better time to begin that exploration than now, when China is increasingly opening up.

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Esther Tyldesley, University of Edinburgh

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#### How to use the Dictionary

2 Radical and character index

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#### CHINESE-ENGLISH SIDE

#### 1 Order atmi feministra 4 65% control best for a stato desile de Proteccesión entrole en

1.1 On the Chinese side, head entries are ordered traditionally, that is by singlecharacter entries with multiple-character entries beginning with the same character S C SSS TRIBLERCES nested below them.

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这	zhè
这个	zhège
这里	zhèli gazanta kvagan a vizan a di
这么	zhème
这些	zhèxiē
这样	zhèyàng
这种	zhèzhŏng
蔗	ni. 441 Nepanesse The name of the chiefcelor in
蔗糖	zhàtána
//// VII	znetung

1.2 Single character entries are ordered by pinyin, that is alphabetically and then by tone. In Chinese, there are four tones, each represented by a different mark above the relevant vowel: "The 1973 Gia to solo in visits to equal towards a grand character crimes), but there are a critically sined

_	first tone	(flat tone)	mā
1	second tone	(rising tone)	má
•	third tone	(falling rising tone)	mă
	fourth tone	(falling tone)	mà
	light or no tone		ma

Where characters have the same pinyin and tone, they are ordered by the number of strokes in the characters, with the smallest number of strokes first.

> 召 zhào 兆 zhào 照 zhào w a man tha apartition and an apartition and ar

Where characters have the same pinyin, tone, and number of strokes, they are ordered by the first stroke in the character, as follows:

a speak in the transfer of the second second

1.3 The multiple-character entries nested below single-character entries are similarly ordered by pinyin (including tone), and then by number of strokes. 4.3 | Acadina divisions

蒸	zhēng
蒸馏	zhēngliú
蒸气	zhēngqì
蒸汽	zhēngqì

ing all company [II to be and asked

#### How to use the Dictionary

#### 2 Radical and character index

If you do not know the pronunciation for the Chinese character you are looking for, you can use the index before the start of the Chinese-English side. For further information on how to use the radical index, see the introduction to that section.

#### 3 Cross-references

Polyphones, that is characters with more than one pronunciation, are cross-referred to the alternative pinyin.

供 gōng [动] 1(供应) supply 2(提供) provide → 另见 gòng

供 gòng I[动] 1(供奉) lay (pt, pp laid) ▷供奉祭品 gòngfèng jìpǐn lay offerings 2(招供) confess ▷他 供出了主犯的名字。Tā gòngchūle zhǔfàn de míngzi. He confessed the name of the chief culprit.

→另见gōng

#### 4 The structure of entries

On the Chinese side there are two levels of entry (single-character entries and multiple-character entries), but these are essentially structured the same way:

#### 4.1 Pinyin

Pinyin romanization is given for all single-character and multiple-character entries as well as for phrases.

#### 4.2 Grammatical information

4.2.1 Parts of speech appear in square brackets after the pinyin. Where a word has more than one part of speech, Roman numerals are used:

早 zǎo I [名] morning II [副] a long time ago ▷这 事我早就知道了。Zhè shì wǒ zǎo jiù zhīdào le. ì knew about this a long time ago. III [形] early ▷你早点来。Nǐ zǎodiǎn lái. Come early.

For a full list of parts of speech used, see page xxxiv.

4.2.2 Parts of speech are not given for head idioms (chengyu and other idioms), since these are often phrasal.

#### 4.3 Meaning divisions

4.3.1 Where a word or grammatical category has more than one meaning, it is divided into categories which are shown by an Arabic numeral.

**是** zhèn I[动] 1(震动) shake (pt shook, pp shaken) 2(激动) be excited II[名] earthquake ▷余震 yúzhèn after-shock

#### How to use the Dictionary

pedestrian crossing pedestrian pedestrian crossing pedestrian crossing pedestrianized pedestrian precinct

#### 2 Homonyms

2.1 Words which are written in the same way but have different pronunciations are shown as separate headwords and differentiated by the use of numbers:

bow¹[bəu] N[c] 1(knot) 蝴蝶结 húdiéjié[个 gè]
2(weapon) 弓 gōng[把 bǎ] 3(Mus) 琴弓
qín:gōng[个 gè]
bow²[bau] I N[c] 1(of head, body) 鞠躬 jūgōng
2(Naut)(also: bows) 船首 chuánshǒu II vi (with

2.2 Words which are written in the same way and have the same pronunciation are treated at the same headword:

bear[bɛər] (pt bore, pp borne) I N [c] (animal) 熊 xióng [头 tóu] II vT 1 (liter: carry) [+ object] 携带 xiédài 2 (support) [+ weight] 支撑 zhīchēng 3 [+ responsibility] 承担 chéngdān 4 [+ cost] 负担 fùdān 5 (tolerate) [+ person] 容忍 róngrěn

2.3 Where the stress in a word changes according to which part of speech it is being used in, the different parts of speech are treated under the same headword, and the change of stress is indicated in the phonetic transcription:

escort [n'ɛskɔːt, vbɪs'kɔːt] In[c] 1(Mil) 护卫

#### 3 Alternative forms of headwords

3.1 Part of a headword may be placed within round brackets to indicate that it is optional:

among(st) [ə'man(st)] PREP 1 (surrounded by,

3.2 Spelling variants of headwords are entered as headwords and cross-referred to the primary form thus:

maneuver [məˈnuːvə<sup>r</sup>] (US) vt, vi, N = manoeuvre

3.3 American spellings of words are always shown, at the headword which is spelled in the British way:

axe,(US) ax[æks] In[c] 斧fǔ[把bǎ] II vī 大