

**GAINING**

**G**raduate  
**R**ecord  
**E**xamination

**WORD POWER**

**G R E**

字彙之鑰

傅冶天 編著

# 序 言

讀者或許要問：「市面上已有這麼多關於GRE 字彙的書了，為什麼你還要寫這一本呢？」我的答覆是：當我也是考生的時候，切盼有一本「有組織、有系統」的書，能將我的時間、精力做最有效的利用，但是未能如願；現在，我在素享盛譽的美加為同學解惑四年之後，更感到坊間大部分的GRE 字彙卻像是一本本的字典，有的甚至連例句都付之厥如。學生們為了應付這項重要的考試，硬著頭皮生吞活吞的往腦子裏塞，最後是GIGO (Garbage in, garbage out)，效果不彰；而少部分在語文 (Verbal) 部分考得好的人都知道，充實自己的實力主要是靠「系統化的學習」。這本書便是遵循教學原理 (Pedagogy) 和方法學 (Methodology) 中所推崇的系統歸納法寫成的，有豐富的例句、仔細的解說、和活潑的練習，套句慣用語 "It makes a difference!"

本書取材極審慎而廣泛，將GRE 出題來源的學術著作與期刊論文中出現頻率最高卻較艱澀的 600 個關鍵字，按照以下的主題分成 29 類計 40 課：

Words From Proper Names; Appearances and Attitudes (I, II, III, IV, V); Words About Groups; Sounds Italian; Job and Professions; Mythology (I, II); Social Sciences; From Sunny Spain; Time On Our Hands; Short But Challenging Words; Medical Science; Animal World; Countdown—Words With Numbers; Legal Language (I, II, III); Mystery and Occult; Size and Shape (I, II); Words With Tales Attached; Of Loves and Fears and Hates; Science—"Ology" Words; Foreign Terms (I, II); C'est Français; Crossword Puzzle Words; Language; Speech; History and Government (I, II); Travel; Foods and Taste; Philosophy and Logic; Beliefs and Religion.

#### IV 序 言

除此之外，更配合以嚴謹優美的豐富例句、詳盡的解說，學習者不但能感覺興味，也可因學得快，記得牢而順利考好類比（Analogy）和反義字（Antonym）兩種題型，更可藉此克服閱讀測驗（Reading Comprehension）中專業用語（Terminology）所造成的答題障礙。而本書精選的例句，難度恰與GRE填充題型（Sentence Completion）的難度吻合；因此能引領讀者深入命題核心，通過GRE考試，進而了解美國的文化層面。由於本書選字除前述原則外，主要是搜集歷次考試的資料，予以整理。所以，假如你要說它是考前猜題，也未嘗不可！

作者深信各種型式的單字學習法中最有趣（不枯燥，富邏輯，易記憶）而能收實效的便是本書提供的整合式學習法（Integrated study method）。慎選專家設計的教材，由仔細地解釋和分析中徹底瞭解單字的精微字義（Shading meaning），再由夠水準的例句中揣摩用法及熟悉句型，最後習作各種類型的練習題以求融會貫通。這樣學習英文才是合乎自然法則的，也惟有如此的記憶程序，才能讓惱人的單字鮮明地存在你的記憶庫中，成為永恒的智慧（字彙）。

本書書末所附的「讀者意見調查卡」，是您和作者溝通的橋樑，希望您賜教、指正、提供卓見。如果您對GRE考試甚或留學美國有任何問題，作者亦將竭誠答覆，此外，凡是寄回此卡之讀者，亦將由作者寄贈最新資料，讓您領先群雄。請逕寄：台北市安和路76巷28號4樓傅治天先生收。

最後，作者要感謝陳俊明、傅士珍兩位專家，在酷暑中揮汗為本書精心校正，而作者自己則主校科學用語，務求各展所長，達到無錯誤，零缺點的目標。也要向中央出版社林在高先生及全體同仁致最深的謝忱和敬意，他們的專業和執著使我不敢稍有懈怠！

敬祝

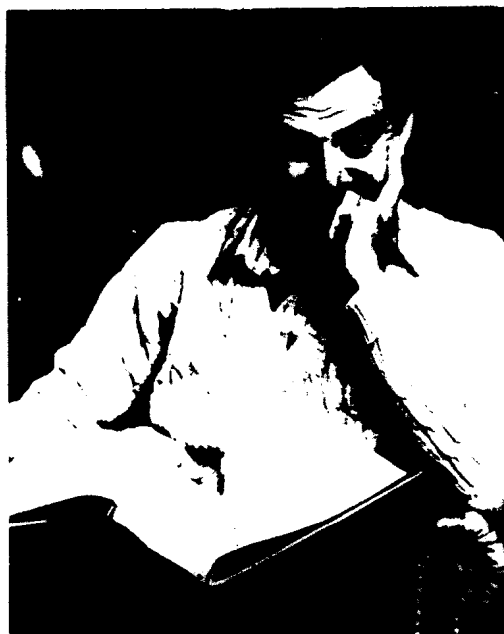
親愛的讀者順利成功！

傅 治 天

民國七十五年父親節於台北安和寄寓

專家的指引是人類智慧經驗的結合，是通往成功的捷徑，作者在此處特別介紹美國文粹大字典（The American Heritage Dictionary）總編輯東尼·藍道博士的一篇小品文——How to Improve Your Vocabulary（如何增進你的字彙），提供本書的讀者閱讀參考。本文摘自“*How to Use the Printed Words*”。（ANCHOR PRESS）

(We asked Tony Randall, who is on the American Heritage Dictionary Usage Panel and loves words almost as much as acting, to tell us how he has acquired his enormous vocabulary.)



## *How to Improve Your Vocabulary*

*by Tony Randall*

Words can make us laugh, cry, go to war, fall in love.

Rudyard Kipling called words the most powerful drug of mankind. If they are, I'm a hopeless addict, and I hope to get you hooked, too.

Whether you're still in school or you head up a corporation, the better command you have of words, the better chance you have of saying exactly what you mean, of understanding what others mean and of getting what you want in the world.

English is the richest language—with the largest vocabulary on earth. Over one million words.

*You* can express shades of meaning that aren't even *possible* in other languages. (For example, you can differentiate between "sky" and "heaven." The French, Italians and Spanish cannot.)

04-2-101



Yet the average adult has a vocabulary of only thirty thousand to sixty thousand words. Imagine what we're missing!

Here are five pointers that help me learn—and remember—whole *families* of words at a time. They may not *look* easy, and won't be at first, but if you stick with them, you'll find they *work*.

What's the first thing to do when you see a word you don't know?

### *1. Try to Guess the Meaning of the Word from the Way It's Used*

You can often get at least *part* of a word's meaning just from how it's used in a sentence.

That's why it's so important to read as much as you can—different *kinds* of things: magazines, books, newspapers you don't normally read. The more you expose yourself to new words, the more words you'll pick up *just by seeing how they're used*.

For instance, say you run across the word "manacle":

"The manacles had been on John's wrists for thirty years. Only one person had a key: his wife."

You have a good *idea* of what "manacles" are, just from the context of the sentence.

But let's find out *exactly* what the word means and where it comes from. The only way to do this, and to build an extensive vocabulary *fast*, is to go to the dictionary. (How lucky that you *can*; Shakespeare *couldn't*. There *wasn't* an English dictionary in his day.)

So you go to the dictionary. (NOTE: Don't let dictionary abbreviations put you off. Up front you'll find what they mean. You'll also find a guide to pronunciation symbols there, as well as an abbreviated version on each page.)

### *2. Look It Up*

Here's the definition for "manacle" in *The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language*.

**man·a·cle** (măn'ə-kəl) *n.* Usually plural. 1. A device for confining the hands, usually consisting of two metal rings that are fastened about the wrists and joined by a metal chain; a handcuff. 2. Anything that confines or restrains. —*tr.v.* **manacled**,

**-cling, -cles.** 1. To restrain with manacles. 2. To confine or restrain as if with manacles; shackle; fetter. [Middle English *manacle*, from Old French, from Latin *manicula*, little hand, handle, diminutive of *manus*, hand. See **man-<sup>2</sup>** in Appendix.\*]

The first definition fits here: "a device for confining the hands, usually consisting of two metal rings that are fastened about the wrists and joined by a metal chain; a handcuff."

Well, that's what you *thought* it meant. But what's the idea behind the word? What are its *roots*? To really understand a word, you need to know.

Here's where the detective work—and the *fun*—begins.

### 3. Dig the Meaning Out by the Roots

The root is the basic part of the word—its heritage, its origin. (Most roots in English come from Latin and Greek words at least two thousand years old, which come from even earlier Indo-European tongues.)

Learning the roots: (1) helps us *remember* words; (2) gives us a deeper understanding of the words we *already* know; and (3) allows us to pick up whole families of *new* words at a time. That's why learning the root is *the most important part of going to the dictionary*.

Notice that the root of "manacle" is *manus* (Latin), meaning "hand."

Well, that makes sense. Now other words with this root, *man*, start to make sense, too.

Take *manual*—something done "by hand" (*manual* labor) or a "handbook." And *manage*—to "handle" something (as a *manager*). When you *emancipate* someone, you're taking him "from the hands of" someone else.

When you *manufacture* something, you "make it by hand" (in its original meaning).

And when you finish your first novel, your publisher will see your (originally "handwritten") *manuscript*.

Imagine! A whole new world of words opens up—just from one simple root.

The root gives the basic clue to the meaning of a word. But there's another important clue that runs a close second: the *prefix*.

#### 4. Get the Powerful Prefixes Under Your Belt

A prefix is the part that's sometimes attached to the front of a word. Such as—well, “*prefix*.” There aren't many—less than a hundred major prefixes—and you'll learn them in no time at all just by becoming more aware of the meanings of words you already know. Here are a few. (Some of the vocabulary-building how-to books will give you the others.)

• 參看附錄

PREFIX *		MEANING	EXAMPLES	
( <i>Lat.</i> )	( <i>Gk.</i> )			( <i>Literal sense</i> )
com, con	sym, syn	with, very,	conform	(form with)
co, col, cor	syl	together	sympathy	(feeling with)
in, im,	a, an	not,	innocent	(not wicked)
il, ir		without	amor- phous	(without form)
contra, counter	anti, ant	against, opposite	contravene antidote	(come against) (give against)

Now see how the prefix (along with the context) helps you get the meaning of the italicized words:

“If you're going to be my witness, your story must *corroborate* my story.” (The literal meaning of *corroborate* is “strength together.”)

“First you told me one thing—now you tell me another. Don't *contradict* yourself.” (The literal meaning of *contradict* is “say against.”)

“Oh, that snake's not poisonous. It's a completely *innocuous* little garden snake.” (The literal meaning of *innocuous* is “not harmful.”)

Now you've got some new words. What are you going to do with them?

#### 5. Put Your New Words to Work at Once

Use them several times the first day you learn them. Say them out loud. Write them in sentences.

Should you “use” them on *friends*? Careful. You don't want them to think you're a stuffed shirt. (It depends on the situation.

You *know* when a word sounds natural and when it sounds stuffy.)



("The more words you know, the more you can use. What does 'corroborate' really mean? See the text.")

How about your *enemies*? You have my blessing. Ask one of them if he's read that article on pneumonoultramicroscopic-silicovolcanoconiosis. (You really can find it in the dictionary.) Now you're one up on him.

So what do you do to improve your vocabulary?

Remember: (1) Try to guess the meaning of the word from the way it's used; (2) look it up; (3) dig the meaning out by the roots; (4) get the powerful prefixes under your belt; (5) put your new words to work at once.

That's all there is to it. You're off on your treasure hunt.

*Now* do you see why I love words so much?

Aristophanes said, "By words, the mind is excited and the spirit elated." It's as true today as it was when he said it in Athens—*twenty-four hundred years ago*.

I hope you're now like me—hooked on words forever.

*Tony Randall*



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# 第 I 單元

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# 第一課

## 由人名衍生的字

jingoist  
lothario  
maverick  
nemesis  
philanderer  
philippic  
procrustean  
protean  
Pyrrhic  
quixotic  
saturnine  
solecism  
spoonerism  
sybarite  
tawdry

1. **jingoist** ['dʒɪŋɡoɪst] n. 好戰者；主戰論者；侵略主義者；狂熱之愛國者。

a. The senator lost because his constituents rejected his **jingoistic** policies.

這參議員落選了，因為他的選民拒絕了他的主戰政策。

b. "Jingoism," to paraphrase Samuel Johnson, "is the last refuge of a scoundrel."

“主戰論”，引述薩米爾·強生的話，“是一無賴漢的最終避難處”。

2. **lothario** [lɒ'θɛrɪo] n. 色魔；登徒子。

a. The aging playboy thought of himself as a sophisticated **lothario**.

這年紀漸長的花花公子自詡為一老練的登徒子。

b. I tried out for the role of the young **lothario**, but they cast me as the butler.

我爭取飾演年輕的登徒子，但他們分派給我僕役長的角色。

3. **maverick** ['mævɪk, 'mævərɪk] n. 持異議者；不隨俗者；特立獨行者；言行與眾不同者。

a. When you defend unpopular causes, you get the reputation of being a **maverick**.

當你為不受歡迎的理由辯護時，你將得到特立獨行者的稱謂。

b. The president said that he didn't want yes-men or **mavericks** in his cabinet.

總統說他不希望內閣成員中有凡事無意見者或凡事皆持異議者。

4. **nemesis** ['nɛməsɪs] n. ①希臘神話中司復讐的女神；②天罰；公正的懲罰。



4 第 I 單元

- a. No matter how great a team we fielded, little Calhoun Tech always proved to be our **nemesis**.

不論我們派遣多強的隊伍與賽，小 "Calhoun Tech" 總能使我們敗下陣來。

- b. Math is my **nemesis**, constantly reminding me that I'm not as bright as I imagine.

數學是我的“天罰”，持續地提醒我不若自己所想般聰明。

5. **philanderer** [fə'ləndərə] n. 不真誠地戀愛的男子；調戲女子的男子。

- a. When Mrs. Greene wanted to find out if her husband was a **philanderer**, she hires a detective.

當格意林太太想瞭解她先生是否為一“不真情的男子”時，她僱了一名偵探。

- b. At the age of 40, Eric switched from part-time **philanderer** to full-time, domesticated husband.

在40歲的時候，艾瑞克由部份時間的不真誠戀愛的男子，轉變為全部時間習於家庭生活的丈夫。

6. **philippic** [fə'lɪpɪk] n. ①雅典 Demosthenes 之攻擊馬其頓王的演說；②猛烈的抨擊；漫罵演說。

- a. My **philippic** against higher taxes was reported on the local radio station.

我對於高稅率的猛烈抨擊受到本地電台的報導。

- b. The leader of the rent strike mounted the platform to deliver an effective **philippic** against the management.

鼓吹“房租罷繳”的領導者登上講台發表一場對管理不滿的有力而強硬的抨擊演說。

註：rent strike (美語) 房租罷繳 (以抗議增加租金及服務不佳等)。

7. **procrustean** [pro'krʌstriən] adj. 硬使與預定之理想或制度等相合的；激烈的；施暴力以令服從的。

- a. Our mayor takes various suggestions and gives them a **procrustean** treatment to fit his philosophy.

我們的市長接受了不同的建議並且加以獨斷處理以求符合他的哲學。

- b. Your **procrustean** attitude does not allow for disagreement.

你的激烈固執無法容忍意見上的歧異。

**Procrustes** [pro'krʌstɪz] n. 古希臘神話中一強盜，捕得旅客後將之束縛於床上，然後或砍其腿，或使之伸長以適合其床。

8. **protean** ['prəʊtɪən] adj. ①變化自如的；多變化的；②一人演數個角色的。

- a. I resent your **protean propensity** for changing your mind whenever you feel like it.

我憎惡你隨興之所至更改意見的善變習性。

- b. The stage designer received an award for his **protean** construction which lent itself to the play's various moods.

這舞台設計師因為他富於變化而能配合劇中不同情節之佈景構造而獲獎。

**Proteus** ['prəʊtɪjəs] n. 希臘神話中之海神，據傳能隨意變為各種形狀。

9. **Pyrrhic** ['pɪrɪk] a.

- a. The workers seemed to triumph at the end of the strike but it was a **Pyrrhic** victory.

工人們在罷工結束後似乎贏得勝利，但這却是一場以重大的犧牲而獲得的勝利。

- b. Although we won the championship, it was a **Pyrrhic** victory because of the crippling injuries we suffered.

雖然我們贏得了錦標，但是由於我們遭受了削弱實力的傷害，這只能算是一場以重大犧牲而換來的勝利。

- c. **Pyrrhic victory** 以重大的犧牲而獲得的勝利。

10. **quixotic** [kwɪks'ɒtɪk] a. ①如吉珂德的；愚俠的；傳奇的。

②幻想的；空想的；不實際的。

- a. Margo's **quixotic** behavior was upsetting to her family because she had always been so level-headed.

馬果不切實際的行為使家人為她煩惱，因為她以往一直穩健。

- b. The City Planning Commission's ideas were labeled

**quixotic** by the skeptical editors.

都市計劃委員會的意見被持疑的總編輯指為空幻不實。

11. **saturnine** ['sætənəm] adj. 憂鬱的；沉默的；嚴肅的。

a. Uncle Dave's constant **saturnine** expression drove my lively Aunt Pearl up the wall.

德維姑丈的長期憂鬱使我快活的玻爾姑媽束手無策。

註：to drive (or push) to the wall 使無助；使束手無策。

b. While awaiting the jury's verdict, my client had a **saturnine** appearance.

在聽候陪審團裁決之時，我的訴訟委託人顯出鬱悶的表情。

12. **solecism** ['sələsɪzəm] n. ①違反語法；文法錯誤；②舉止失態；失禮；背理。

a. There are some word forms that my teacher considers **solecisms** but I feel are acceptable.

有一些字型老師認為違反語法，但我認為行得通。

b. "Ain't she sweet" is a **solecism**--ain't it?

“她不甜美嗎”這句英文犯了文法錯誤，不是嗎？

13. **spoonerism** ['spunərɪzəm] n. 講話或讀書時，因不小心而使二字或二字以上之部份聲音之互換。如 It is kistomary to cuss the bride. 為 It is customary to kiss the bride. 之誤。

a. My cousin collects **spoonerisms** that he hears on the radio, and he hopes to publish them.

我堂兄收集了一些從收音機上聽來的“聲音互換之誤讀”，他希望能集印成冊。

b. The candidate's unfortunate **spoonerism** shocked his elderly audience and cost him their votes.

這候選人不幸的誤讀使年長的聽眾驚異，也因此喪失了他們的選票。

14. **sybarite** ['sɪbərart] n. 奢侈逸樂者。

a. Rudy was criticized for living as a **sybarite** while others of his family were starving.

盧比受人批評為在他的家人瀕臨餓死之際仍然過著奢侈逸樂