

A Chinese-English Dictionary of Popular Words

大众雅俗语英解辞典

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编者的话

大众语是活跃在普通大众口头上 的一种洗练、含蓄、通俗、形象、生动、 幽默的语言。它主要来源于俗语中的 惯用语、部分歇后语、俏皮话、俚语、绰 号、委婉语以及外来语等。其中以惯 用语为例子,它不是一般的词组,有自 已的定型构造。它通过比喻途径,往 往表达虚指的意义,其表义能力,大多 超越了所构成词组的本身含义。大众 语就是由这些人民群众代代相传,凝 炼而成的词汇所构成。它之所以受人 喜爱,是因为它感染力强,有语出惊人 的语言效果,在于它总结了为人处世 之道,包含了生产劳动和社会生活的 经验;它言简意赅,富于哲理,隽永有 趣,不论在工作、在学习中或在生活交 往中贴切地使用大众语,总会收到意 想不到的语言效果。

本书是专为大、中专学生、教师、 广大英语爱好者、翻译工作者以及来 华留学生编写的。本书对来华留学生 鉴于社会上汉英对照的此类书籍并不多见,编者在几年前就着手收集材料,至今已约有6000条,勉强成书。希望本书的面世能起到抛砖引玉的作用,今后能看到更全面、更权威性的此类书籍面世。

本书在释义、翻译和用例上,限于 编者水平,疏漏之处在所难免。恳请专 家、学者和广大读者不吝指正。

本书在编写中参考、引用了众多专家、学者的研究成果,在此表示衷心感谢。

编著者

说明

一、立目

(一)本书以汉语词条立目。如:

回马枪、替罪羊、出血、活守寡、黑马、子弹、回娘家、晾衣 竿、零件、叩头虫、四眼狗、空架子、招风耳。

(二)立目的汉语词条主要以意译为主。

夸海口:talk big

眉毛胡子一把抓:try to attend to big and small matter all at once

闷坛子: a man of few words

棉花耳朵: have no definite views of one's own 偶尔英语中恰好有对应的表达法,本书尽量采用。如:

糖衣炮弹:a Greek gift

跑江湖:dance a bear

敲竹杠:Jew sb. down

鲁智深: a rough diamond

二、排列

(一)词目以汉语词条的字首拼音字母排列。如:

挨 āi

挨板子: take a beating; get a thrashing

挨刀货: one who often pays penalty

矮 ǎi

矮子林中充霸王: big frog in a small pond

爱 ài

爱面子: be concerned about face-saving; be sensitive about one's reputation...

三、词条的构成

- (一)词目由汉语词条和英语释文或英语相应的表达式构成。若一些词目具有多种意思时分别标上①、②、③等。如: 打招呼:①greet sb.;say hello;②notify;let sb. know;③ warn;remind
- (二)不少词目还配有例句,便于读者参考。如: 狐狸精:witch; fox spirit;旧社会,性感而泼辣的妇女常被 看成是狐狸精。In old society,a seductive,outspoken and forthright woman was usually looked upon as a fox spirit.

A

ā

阿斗 (无能的人) fool; a weak-minded person

阿飞 (衣着怪异,举动轻狂的青少年流氓) a youth given to rowdy behavior and queer dress; teddy boy; hoodlum; mug; snake; yap; yob

άi

挨板子 (见挨棍子) take a beating; get a thrashing

挨刀货 (常受惩罚的人) one who often pays penalty

挨棍子 (受到批评或打击) be bludgeoned or be criticized

挨烙铁 be severely attacked

挨闷棍 (受到严厉的打击) be hard hit

挨日子 suffer day and night; drag out a miserable existence

ăί

矮半截 (低人一等; 相差一点) feel inferior to someone; a little difference (between...)

矮爬爬 (轿车) car; limousine; sedan

矮一头 (见矮半截) having a bowed head; inferior to ...

矮子 ankle-biter; arprint; dwarf

矮子林中充霸王 big frog in a small pond

ài

爱面子 be concerned about face-saving; be sensitive about one's reputation

碍面子 (怕伤情面) for fear of hurting sb.'s feelings; just to spare sb.'s feelings

碍手脚 (妨碍别人做事) be in the way; be a hindrance

ān

安钉子 (给对方设置障碍) erect a barrier; hinder someone

安墩子 (设机关害人;设圈套) plot a frame-up; frame; springe; pull a fast one on sb.; trepan; 给人安墩子 come(put) Yorkshire over sb.

安根子 (打通关节,暗中行贿) work the oracle

安乐死 euthanasia

安乐窝 a bed of roses; cozy nest; pad; bed of down (flower)

安琪儿 angel

àn

按手印 (旧时的文盲以按手印代其签名) Christ cross

暗号 high sign; 你一准备就绪就给我们发暗号。Give us the high sign as soon as you are ready.

暗箭 (暗地里害人的诡计)a stab in the back

暗箭伤人 stab-in-the-back business

暗流 (潜伏的思想倾向或社会动态) latent political inclination or developments in society

暗门子 (①不正当途径;②暗地里卖淫的妇女) ①an improper way; ②women who, in the old society, used to secretly prostitute themselves

άo

熬日子 go through years of suffering

熬心血 (费尽心思和精力) give it all one has; put a lot of effort into something

àο

拗口风 (不中听的话) words unpleasant to the ear

拗手瓜 arm wrestling 我们爱看电视播出的拗手瓜比赛。We enjoyed arm wrestling on television.

傲资格 (摆架子) assume great airs; put on airs

奥援 (暗中撑腰的力量) force of backing up secretly



B

bā

巴儿狗 sycophant; toady

巴结 (极力奉承) make up to sb.; curry favor with; bag-play; cotton up to;有些人靠巴结上司往上爬。Some tried to get on by making up to the boss.

巴谱 (说话写文章有点切题) be somehow relevant to the subject in writing and speaking

笆篱子 (监狱) prison; jail; gaol; big house;那人因盗窃罪而坐了几年笆篱子。That man has served his sentence in jail for burglar for a couple of years.

八拜交 (拜把子的关系) sworn brotherhood; relations of sworn brother

八辈子 (永远的意思) a very long period of time or eternity

八成 (多半的意思) most probably

八斗才 man of great talent; a person endowed with extraordinary talents;汤姆的确是个能人,但不是八斗才。Tom is indeed a capable man but not that sort of person endowed with extraordinary talents.

八哥嘴 (指油嘴滑舌的人) smoothy; conversationalist; 这男孩能说会道,人称八哥嘴。The boy has a glib tongue and he has been considered as a smoothy.

八股 the eight-legged composition

八股文 gobbledy gook; 八股文为流行于封建社会的一种文体。
Gobbledy gook is one of types of writing, which is popular in the feudal society.

八九不离十 pretty close; very near; about right; 就那个谜语而言, 他猜个八九不离十。He makes a pretty close guess about that riddle.

八面锋 (①措词圆滑,好像占理;②具有无比的效力,无往而不利)① couched in smooth and evasive terms;② have an incomparable efficiency

八面光 (世故圆滑,应付周到) be smooth and slick (in establishing social relations); a smooth article; 别为他担心,他是那种八面光的人,很会处理人际关系。Don't worry about him; He is that person who is smooth and slick in establishing social relations.

八旗子弟 sons of the rich or powerful

八字脚 splayfoot

八字没一撇儿 (事情还没有眉目) has not yet begun; even the draft has not been made

bá

拔不开腿 (脱不了身) not be able to get away

拨钉子 remove the thorn in one's flesh

拔短筹 (有始无终,半途而退) give up halfway; leave sth. unfinished.

拔短梯 (与人合作时,无端中途退出) part company halfway 拔河 (一种游戏) tug of war; 一群孩子正在公园里拔河。A group of children are playing tug of war in the park.

拨虎须 (撩拨强有力的人) beard the lion in his den

拔尖儿 (①突出个人;②出众)①put oneself to the front; ②tiptop; top-notch

拔了舌头 (不讲话) not say a word;平时他很善长言谈,但真正在会上该他发表意见时,他却像被人拔了舌头。Ordinarily he has a gift of tongue, but when it's time for him to express himself at the meeting, he seems unable to say a word.

bă

把风 stand guard(sentry);为盗贼把风也算是一种犯罪。To keep watch for burglar is at last a criminal offence.

把关 (严格检查,防止差错) check on

把家虎 (把自己家的东西看管得很严) one who watches carefully over his things

把头 (把持某种行业,从中剥削的人) labor contractor; gang-master

把稳舵 hold the helm properly

把戏 (花招;蒙蔽人的手法) cheap trick; game; 玩鬼把戏 play dirty tricks

把兄弟 sworn brothers

bà

把子 (说话时所带的习惯性脏话) habitual four-letter words in one's speech; dirty words;他一张口就把子连天。There are too many dirty words in his speech.

- 霸道 (特别好强;猛烈、蛮横) wonderful; excellent; first-rate; tiptop; potent; strong; terrible; formidable; fierce; vigorous; arbitrary; rude and unreasonable
- 霸主 (在某一领域或地区最有声势的人或集团) a most powerful person or clique in a certain field or area

bāi

- 掰不开镊子 (不知如何处置,拿不出办法) be at a loss for what to do
- 掰交情 (朋友之间感情破裂) break up a friendship;朋友间常无缘 无故地掰了交情。People often break up for nothing.
- 掰面子 (私人间的情分和感情受到伤害) harm one's friendship with sb.

掰手腕 (掰腕子)hand wrestling

bái

白痴 idiot; cretin; chowder-head

- 白吃饭 (只吃饭不干事) those who, besides eating, want to do nothing
- 白搭 no use; no good;和他争辩也是白搭。It's no use arguing with him.
- 白瞪眼 (无可奈何,毫无办法) helpless; unable to do any thing
- 白丁 (没功名的人) a man of no official rank; common people
- 白费劲 waste one's energy; go a lot of trouble for nothing; flog a dead horse; hold a candle to the sun;那样做是白费劲。To do that is just like flogging a dead horse.

白费口舌 waste one's last(words); whistle down the wind; waste one's breath

白费蜡 (浪费、空耗财物和精力) do sth. in vain; draw a blank

白虎星 (指给家庭带来灾难的妇女)(in old China)the women who would bring misfortune to a family

白干儿 (白酒) white spirit

白骨精 (乔装打扮, 惯施阴谋, 损害他人的坏人, 多指女性) individuals (usually women) who, prefend to be honest, but who only want to harm others; ogress

白金 (指银子)silver

白开水 (讲话或文章内容淡而无味) pedestrian writing or insipid conversation; familiar talk

白嚼蜡 (讲无聊的话) make silly remarks

白脸 harsh and severe;唱白脸①play the villain;②pretend to be harsh and severe

白脸狼 (忘恩负义的人)yellow dog;白脸狼用来专指那种忘恩负义之人。Yellow dogs here just mean the ungrateful.

白马王子 (女子理想中的求婚者) charming prince

白面儿 (海洛因) heroin

白面书生 pale-faced young scholar

白煤 (用做动力的水流)current used as motive force;我国的江河 蕴藏着大量的白煤。Rivers in our country are rich in current used as motive force.

白名单 white list; 老板的白名单上没他们的名字。Their names did not appear on the boss'white list.

白磨牙 (空费口舌) take a lot of talking in vain to do sth.

白旗 (表示投降) surrender

白日梦 day-dream; pipe dream; reverie; castle -building; castle in the

R

air

白日做梦 (幻想根本不能实现) Illusion is impossible to realize

白日撞 (大白天私闯民宅的贼) a thief who rushes into sb.'s house by daylight

白热化 (事态发展到了最紧张的阶段)turn white -hot

白沙 (①光头;②打扑克得零分)①bald-head;②get goose-egg in playing poker

白色 (政治上的反动) reactionary in politics

白身 (无足轻重的人) creep; a negligible quantity

白市 white market

白事 (丧事)funeral arrangements

白手起家 start from scratch; be built from scratch; 工人们白手起家办起这个工厂。This factory was built from scratch by workers; 我们厂是白手起家的。Our factory started from scratch.

白头浪 white horse;白头浪对泳者极有危险。White horses are dangerous to swimmers.

白头翁 (指满头白发的长者)silver

白辛苦 work for a dead horse

白眼 (看不起人的一种表情) supercilious look; disdain; expression of looking down upon sb.; 白眼看人 treat people superciliously; look upon people with disdain

白衣战士 medical worker

白嘴儿 (光吃菜不吃饭或光吃饭不吃菜) eat rice without any other dishes and vice versa; only eat vegetable dishes or only eat cooked rice

白字 (别字) wrongly written or mispronounced character;这篇文章 内容虽丰富,但白字太多,没法子刊用。Though this article

is rich in content, there are too many mispronounced characters. So it cannot be carried.

băi

百宝丹 cure-all

百宝箱 (装有个人所喜爱的各种物件的箱子) box where one puts certain items that are special to him; grab box

百尺竿头 make still further progress

百科全书 encyclopedia; thesaurus

百年大计 a project of vital and lasting importance

百年之后 (指死亡) lifetime; after sb.'s death; when sb.'s has passed away

百事通 know-all; knowledgeable person

百元钞票 big cheese

柏舟之节 (夫死后,女誓不嫁人)(of married woman) swear not to remarry after her husband's death

摆布 order about; manipulate;多数人都讨厌被人摆布。Most of people feel sick of being ordered about.

摆长蛇阵 deploy the troops in a long line; string out in a long line 摆到桌面上 (当众公开自己的观点或问题) place the problem on the table; bring the issue out into the open

摆架势 (向人们显示出某种姿态) assume certain airs

摆架子 put on airs; act the lord; assume great airs; put on the dog; talk through one's nose; have too much sides; be too big for one's boots; put on frills; do the grand; pile on lugs; panache; keep one's state; swank; airs and graces; give oneself airs; attitudinize