

最新

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漢英詞典

THE NEW LIN YUTANG CHINESE-ENGLISH DICTIONARY

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黎明 林太乙 編纂

EDITED BY LAI MING AND LIN TAI-YI



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編纂簡介

黎明 國立中山大學文學士。美國哥倫比亞大學教育碩士。曾任聯合國秘書處翻譯專員，香港政府新聞處處長，香港中文大學出版社社長。著述有：「中國文學史」（英文本），在英國、美國出版；「風暴十年」（英文本編譯）在美國出版。

林太乙 現任讀者文摘中文版總編輯。曾受聯合國文教組織委託，將中國古典名著「鏡花緣」譯成英文，在英美兩國出版。她著有小說六部，均以英文撰寫，並已譯成八種其他文字出版。

About the Editors

Lai Ming is a graduate of National Sun Yat-sen University, Canton, China and received his M.A. degree in education from Columbia University in New York. He has held the positions of translator for the United Nations, Director of Government Information Services, Hong Kong, and Director of the Chinese University Press, Hong Kong.

He is the author of "A History of Chinese Literature", which was published in the United States and Britain. He is also the editor and translator into English of "Ten Years of Storm", which was published in United States.

Lin Tai-yi is the Editor-in-Chief of the Chinese Edition of the Reader's Digest, and the author of six novels written in English which have been translated into eight other languages. She also translated the classic Chinese novel "Flowers in the Mirror" into English for UNESCO. The book was published in the United States and in England.

序

我們起初預計以一年的時間編纂這部詞典，不想，着手以後，受到理想驅使，不斷增益、改進詞典的內容和編排的形式，結果，用了四年時間才完成了這項工作。

我們要編的是一部適應一般讀者需要的詞典：選收所有常用的字、詞以及短辭、成語、用流行的淺顯英文正確地加以解釋，要編排清晰美觀，又要易於查檢。

這裏選收常用字所根據的是一九八二年六月二十日教育部頒佈的「常用國字標準字體表」所錄常用字。另外並參考國立編譯館主編的「國民學校常用字研究」和其他幾種常用字表，酌選其「常用國字標準字體表」所未列的常用字，再加異體字，簡筆字，俗字等等，共收六千三百多個單字。

在發音方面，每一個字都以簡化國語羅馬字、國語注音符號和威-翟（Wade-Giles）羅馬拼音，三種不同的音標注音。如果發音不同，意義即因之有異，就將它們分開排列，以便查檢。

我們又從報章、雜誌、文學創作、學術論著和各種詞彙、字典中擷取常見的文言和白話的複合詞、短辭、成語六萬多個，用簡化國語羅馬字注音，作為詞條，並依字母次序排列，務求一目了然，易於查閱。

字，詞的意義，本詞典都以當代淺顯的英文翻譯，或對譯或解釋，務求曲達原意。短辭，成語則大多先為直譯，然後譯出真正的意義，希望可以帮助讀者體會這些短辭，成語的韻味。

為了使讀者便於查檢，這部詞典還編有五種檢字索引，排印在詞典本文之前，使無論熟習其中那一種檢字法的讀者都可以順利查檢，使用這部詞典。

編纂詞典是一項艱巨的工作，我們根據林語堂先生一九七二年編的「當代漢英詞典」，並參照這十五年來中文，英文的字、詞在意義和使用上的演變，以及新造、流行的單字、複合詞和短辭，審慎編纂，或增刪，或修訂，或創新，千頭萬緒，難免掛一漏萬，希望讀者不吝指正，使我們在再版時得據以修訂。

這部詞典沿襲了語堂先生膾炙人口的創舉：訂定中文的字和詞的詞類。他經過數十年研究後發明的「上下形檢字法」也用來排列這部詞典的單字。這種檢字法經過修訂後已為台灣規模甚大的神通電腦製作公司採用為所製電腦的輸入法，用途日廣。

我們要感謝香港中文大學校長馬臨博士鼎力支持，使我們能夠出版這部詞典。中文大學出版社社長助理兼業務經理鄺子器先生在設計方面提供了寶貴意見，給我們很大幫助。香港讀者文摘（遠東）公司中文書籍總編輯李勉民先生在出版及其他方面自始至終給我們熱誠幫助，該公司美術主任鍾士峰先生和書籍製作經理邱志清先生在設計和製作方面給我們很多幫助，都是我們要特別致謝的。王家華先生和霍達文先生除了細心校對之外，還在編輯方面提出意見給我們參考，難能可貴，我們也要感謝他們幫忙。

黎 明 林太乙
一九八七·夏 香港

Foreword

The compiling of this Dictionary, we thought, would take a year. As we worked along, however, we found ourselves getting more and more involved. In our quest for excellence in both content and style, it was four years before we could put the project down.

Our goal was to produce a Dictionary which includes all the characters, idioms and phrases that are most likely to be needed by persons who use Chinese for general purposes. Their definitions should be given in clear, accurate English. The Dictionary should be easy to use.

More than 6,300 head words, or characters, and their variations are included here. These include the characters in the "List of Standard Forms of Frequently Used Characters" promulgated by the Ministry of Education, Republic of China, in June 1982, and other characters taken from other lists of frequently used characters.

Three kinds of phonetic notation are listed after each character: the Simplified Guoryuu Romatzyh, the Wade-Giles Romanization and the Mandarin Phonetic Symbols. If a character has more than one pronunciation and so pronounced bears a different meaning from the first, each pronunciation is given a separate listing for easy finding.

More than 60,000 idioms and phrases are included here. They were culled from newspapers, magazines, literary and scholarly works, and by consulting other dictionaries and glossaries. The user will find here definitions of idioms and phrases used not only in vernacular Chinese, but also in *Wen Yen*, the literary language. The pronunciations are given in Simplified Guoryuu Romantzyh and listed in alphabetical order.

Characters and compound characters are given English equivalents whenever possible, or full explanations of their meanings. An idiom or phrase is usually given a literal translation followed by an explanation of the meaning and, often, an example sentence to help the user understand its usage.

There are five indexes in the front part of this Dictionary to help the user find the character he wants by the system he is most familiar with.

Compiling a dictionary is an arduous task. This Dictionary is derived from the "Lin Yutang's Chinese-English Dictionary of Modern Usage" published in 1972. Language is in a constant stage of flux, and since that time, in both Chinese and English, words have taken on new meanings, and new compound nouns and phrases been coined. All this we have taken into consideration in the meticulous task of compiling this Dictionary. But there are bound to be omissions and improvements to be made. We welcome suggestions from users, so that they may be incorporated when this Dictionary goes into a second edition.

Unique to this Dictionary is the Instant Index System for finding characters invented by Dr. Lin Yutang. It is "the culmination of five decades of research." The Instant Index System has been adapted as the input system for Chinese computers by Mitac, Inc., one of Taiwan's largest computer companies. Thus, it is gaining wider and wider recognition.

We would like to thank Dr. Ma Lin, Vice-Chancellor of the Chinese University of Hong Kong, for making the publication of this Dictionary possible. We would also like to thank Mr. Patrick Kwong, Assistant to the Director and Business Manager of the Chinese University Press, whose advice on design was of great help, and Mr. M. V. Lee, Chinese Books Editor of Reader's Digest Association Far East Ltd. for helping significantly in seeing this Dictionary to publication. Mr. Roger Chung, Art Director, and Mr. John Yau, Production Manager (Books), both of Reader's Digest Association Far East Ltd., have helped greatly in the design and production of this Dictionary. Mr. Charles Wang and Mr. Fok Tat Man have not only conscientiously proof-read this Dictionary but also made useful suggestions. To them we also express our thanks.

Lai Ming Lin Tai-yi

Summer, 1987
Hong Kong

凡 例

一、字彙：

本詞典共收常用國字六千三百餘個，複合詞，短辭，成語六萬餘個，包括一般讀者日常可能讀到或需要應用的字，詞和成語。

二、排列：

單字依林語堂博士發明的「上下形檢字法」排列。本詞典並特別設計「上下形檢字法簡易檢字圖釋」協助讀者查檢單字。一個單字有兩個或兩個以上讀音而意義亦因之不同時，則每一讀音均分開排列，每一單字並加注數碼，以資識別，例如：稱₁ *cheng* (名稱)，稱₂ *chehng* (同秤)，稱₃ *chehn (also chehng)* (稱心)；但讀音雖多而意義不變時，則讀音並列以資參考。

複合詞，短辭，成語均依簡化國語羅馬字注音所用字母的先後次序排列，例如：古往今來 *guuwang-jinlair* 排在古為今用 *guu-weir-jin-yuhng* 之前。

三、注音：

本詞典用林語堂先生改良的簡化國語羅馬字注音，但是中國地名仍沿用久已通用的威-翟(Wade-Giles)羅馬拼音。例如廣東 *Kwangtung*，上海 *Shanghai*。單字並加用國語注音符號及威-翟羅馬拼音注音。

四、英文解釋：

本詞典用流行的淺顯英文解釋字，詞和成語，或者是對譯，例如：人 *ren, n., man, men, human being(s)*；或者是解釋，例如：箬帽芒鞋 *ruohmauh-marngshier, n., bamboo hat and grass sandals, characteristic costume of peasant, hermit.* 投資 *tourtzyh, ① v.t., invest: 投資電子工業 invest in electronics industry. ② n., investment: 虧蝕了全部投資 lost the entire investment.* 在翻譯短辭，成語的時候，大多先直譯字面的意義，然後再譯出它真正的意義，使讀者更能體會這些短辭、成語的韻味。

五、索引：

本詞典有下述五種檢字索引：一、字碼索引；二、簡化國語羅馬字索引；三、威-翟羅馬拼音索引；四、國語注音符號索引；五、部首索引。各種索引均排印在詞典正文之前，俾便查檢。

六、附錄：

本詞典有下述各項附錄：A. 甲子週期；B. 二十四節氣；C. 計量單位簡表；D. 中國歷史年代簡表；E. 化學元素表。

七、簡寫符號：

請參閱下文英文說明。

Introduction

1. Vocabulary:

This Dictionary has more than 6,300 frequently used characters and more than 60,000 compound characters, phrases and idioms. They are what general readers are likely to encounter or likely to use in their daily lives and studies.

2. Arrangement of characters:

All the characters are listed according to the Instant Index System invented by Dr. Lin Yutang (1895-1976). A simple diagram guide has been especially designed to help the user quickly find the character he wants. Where a character has more than one pronunciation and the meaning of the character changes in accordance with sound, it is listed as two or more entries, each marked with a numeral, thus 稱₁ *cheng*, n., Name: 名稱 name of person or thing; 稱₂ *chehng*, n., weighing scale, steelyard (interch. 秤 90A.10); 稱₃ *chehn* (also *chehng*), v.t., Fulfill, satisfy: 稱心 *chehn-shin*, adj. gratifying, satisfactory; but if a character has more than one pronunciation and the meaning does not change with the pronunciation, it is listed as one entry and all the variant sounds are listed under it for ease of reference.

Compound characters, phrases and idioms are spelt in Simplified Guoryuu Romatzyh and arranged according to the order of the alphabet.

3. Pronunciation:

The Simplified Guoryuu Romatzyh is used except for Chinese place names which are spelt in accordance with the Wade-Giles system of romanization, thus 廣東 Kwangtung, 上海 Shanghai. For head words, the Mandarin Phonetic Symbols and the Wade-Giles Romanization System are also listed.

4. English definitions:

Current English is used to define the meanings of entries in the Dictionary. Where possible, English equivalents are given, e.g., 人 *ren*, n., man, men, human being(s); otherwise, explanations and often, example phrases or sentences are given, e.g., 箬帽芒鞋 *ruohmauh-marngshier*, n., bamboo hat and grass sandals, characteristic costume of peasant, hermit. 投資 *tourtzyh*, ① v.t., invest: 投資電子工業 invest in electronics industry; ② n., investment: 虧蝕了全部投資 lost the entire investment.

In giving the meanings of phrases and idioms, literal translations are in most cases listed first, followed by definitions in current English.

5. Indexes:

There are five indexes in this Dictionary: 1) Numerical Index; 2) Simplified Guoryuu Romatzyh Index; 3) Wade-Giles Romanization Index; 4) Mandarin Phonetic Symbols Index; 5) Radical Index.

They are listed in front of the text of the dictionary for easy usage.

6. Appendices:

Included in the Dictionary are the following appendices: A) The Sexagenary Cycle; B) The Twenty-four Solar Terms; C) Units of Weights and Measures; D) A Brief Chinese Chronology; E) A Table of Chemical Elements.

7. Abbreviations and Symbols:

abbr.	abbreviation	LL	literary language
AC	Ancient Chinese	math.	mathematics
allu.	allusion	mech.	mechanics
anc.	Ancient, -ly	med.	medicine
arch.	archaic	MC	Middle Chinese (earlier vernacular found in poems, plays and novels)
astron.	astronomy		
bot.	botany	mil.	military
biol.	biology	min.	mineralogy
Budd.	Buddhism	modn.	modern
callig.	calligraphy	mus.	music
cen.	century	myth.	mythology
chem.	chemistry	NS	"not split" characters
Chin.	Chinese	obs.	obsolete
Christ.	Christian	occa.	occasionally
cong.	cognate	oft.	often
coll.	colloquial	opp.	opposed to
comb.	combination	orig.	originally
comm.	commercial	p.p.	past participle
comp.	compound	phil.	philosophy
complim.	complimentary	phr.	phrase
Confu.	Confucian, -ism	phys.	physics
contempt.	contemptuous	physiol.	physiology
court.	courteous	poet.	poetic
derog.	derogatory	pop.	popular
dial.	dialect	pr.	pronunciation
dist.	distinguish from	pres.p.	present participle
dyn.	dynasty	psych.	psychology
econ.	economics	rel.	religion
Eng.	English	related	related to
equiv.	equivalent to	rhet.	rhetorical
err.	erroneous	S	"split" characters
esp.	especially	Sanskrit	Sanskrit
euphem.	euphemism	satir.	satirical
excl.	exclamation	sl.	slang
facet.	facetious	s.o.	some one
fig.	figurative 引伸	spec.	specifically
fin. part.	final particle	s.t.	something
Fr.	French	translit.	transliteration (譯音)
gen.	general	u.f.	used for 假借 (古文)
geog.	geography	usu.	usually
geol.	geology,	var.	variant
geom.	geometry	vulg.	vulgar
Ger.	German	vern.	vernacular
gram.	grammar	wd.	word
interch.	interchangeable	wr.	written
	with 通	zoo.	zoology
joc.	jocular	↑	see above
lit.	literally	↓	see below
litr.	literary		

· Precedes an unaccented syllable (*mar'fan*)

: Followed by example of definition

The Instant Index System 上下形檢字法

All Chinese characters are grouped without exception by their left tops (Initials) and right bottoms (Finals). There is only one rule. 所有的字, 取其左上, 右下. 沒有例外.

<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> 40S 戰 71 </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 100px; margin: 5px auto;"></div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> 40S.71 </div>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> 10A 揚 50 </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 100px; margin: 5px auto;"></div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> 10A.50 </div>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> 10 責 80 </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 100px; margin: 5px auto;"></div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> 10.80 </div>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> 10 鬱 91 </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 100px; margin: 5px auto;"></div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> 10.91 </div>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="text-align: center; margin-right: 10px;"> left top 左上 </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; position: relative;"> <div style="position: absolute; top: 0; left: 0; width: 100%; height: 100%;"></div> </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-left: 10px;"> 右下 right bottom </div> </div>
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THE THIRTY-THREE LETTERS OF THE CHINESE ALPHABET 三十三個上下形

The habitual left tops and right bottoms form the 33 letters of the Chinese alphabet — the key to the whole system. They are divided into 10 groups (from 00 to 99). The numbers are naturally suggested by their corresponding Chinese characters (了 for 00, 十 for 10, 廿 for 20, etc.). 上下形33個, 分爲十類, 即了十廿三四五六七等本來形體.

(1) **Geometric determination.** The tops are defined as the *geometrically highest*; the bottoms are the *geometrically lowest*. They are not the first and last strokes in writing. 只分高低, 不談筆順.

The highest stroke of 中 光 由 is 丨 (22)

The lowest stroke of 我 成 is 乚 (71)

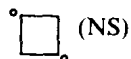
The highest and lowest strokes of 道 are 丶 (80) and 乚 (83)

(2) **Split and Non-split Characters.** If characters are split vertically right through into right and left components, they are called "split" (S); if not split right through, they are "non-split" (NS). The rule of left top and right bottom for both S and NS is the same: 字可截然分左右旁者名爲S; 不截然到底分左右旁者名爲NS.

羊義 (NS); 詳祥佯 (S)

其基 (NS); 棋淇期 (S)

楚起 (NS); 松樹折地 (S)



(3) **The Fifth Digit: Top of Remainder.** A group of four digits like 81A.40 may have several characters. The characters within this group are arranged in accordance with the "top of remainder" (character minus "radical"). 同上下形之字, 以餘部上形爲次序.

鋁 81A.40-4 (top of remainder 呂 4)

鎔 81A.40-6 (top of remainder 容 6)

鎔 81A.40-8 (top of remainder 倉 8)



Other groups with same tops and bottoms are also so arranged: top of remainder is indicated by arrow pointing up. 餘部上形, 以↑爲號.

開 𠂔 𠂔 𠂔 𠂔

THE FIFTY RADICALS 五十部首

Fifty Radicals. Most of the 214 Kangshi radicals stand on the left or the top of a character and thus belong to the Initials. 50 of the most common radicals are designated A, B, C, D. All the rest (uncommon radicals) are grouped with the split characters, marked 10S, 41S, 93S, etc.

When the usually left radicals do not stand at the left, but are elsewhere, they do not count as radicals. Thus 警 comes under 犛 (20), not under 言 (60A); 業 comes under 乚 (21), not under 水. 康熙字典 214部首, 取其常用者50, 其餘盡併爲S類, 部首必在上形, 不在上形者, 仍爲S類, 例如「警」上形犛 (20), 不在「言」部, 「業」上形乚 (21), 不在「水」部.

Remarks on Top and Bottom Forms

- (1) The written form is standard: 示衣尸 are considered 𠂔 𠂔 尸 (63); 其 is considered 其 (10); 倉 is considered 倉 (00); 令 is considered 令 (63). 檢字以楷書爲主.
- (2) 囗 囗 are containers: 囗 (41) includes 西酉由甘國; 囗 (42) includes 月再內同兩升凡. 外殼爲主.
- (3) 口 (40) includes the modified forms 凸凹 and 呂. 口 (40) 包括凸凹及呂
- (4) 川 川 (22) includes multiple vertical tops 北凡川悲世帶 and multiple vertical bottoms 川非兼弗肅齊. 凡多數豎筆屬 22.
- (5) 厂 厂 are 51 and 51A; 尸 尸 are 52 and 52A. 厂 厂 爲 51 及 51A; 尸 尸 爲 52 及 52A.
- (6) 丿 (50) includes 勾母乃鳥. 丿 (50) 包括 勾母乃鳥.

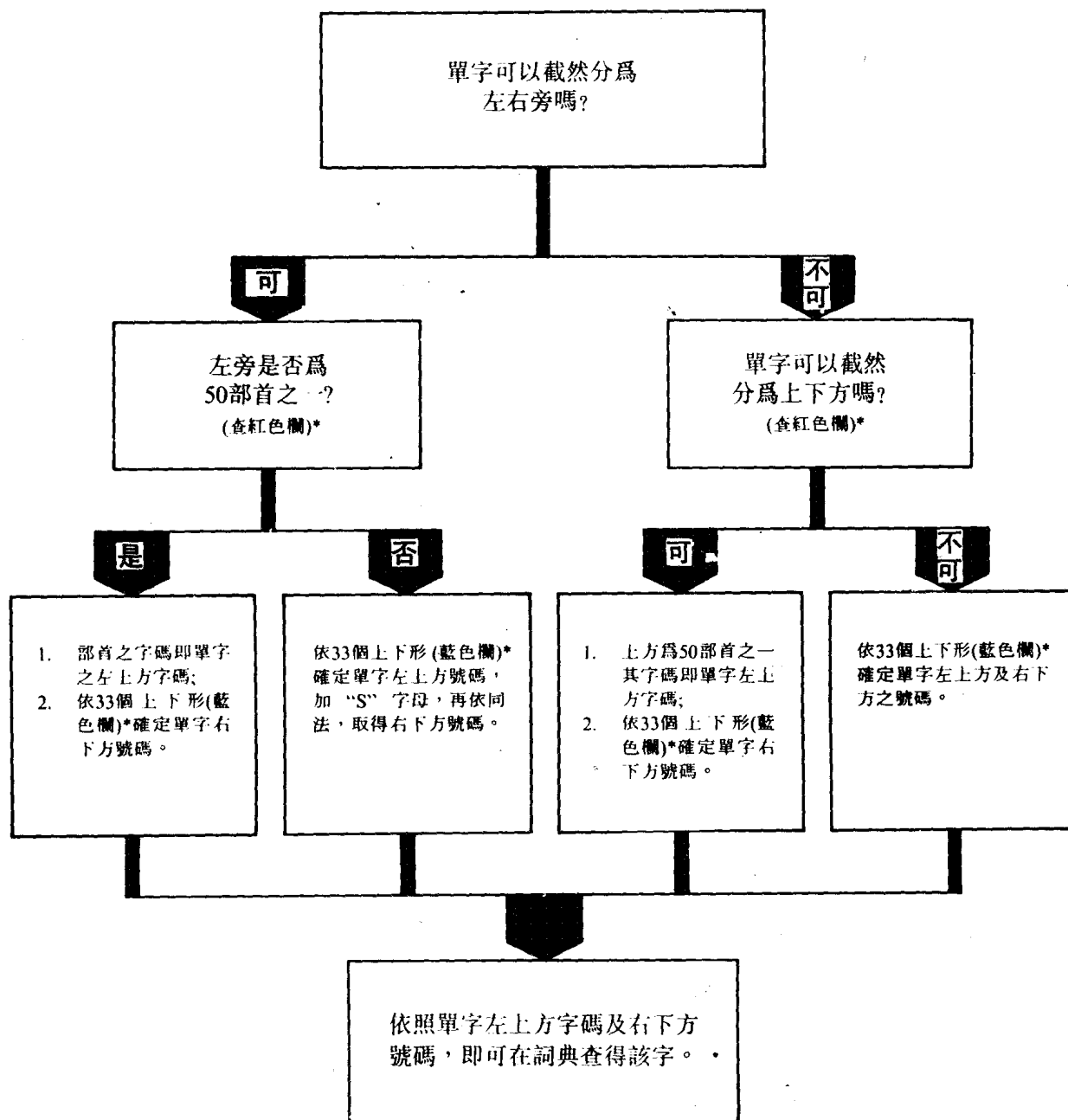
- (9) ㄠ (90 千兵受與) is a short horizontal stroke; but ㄣ (91 井イオ勇火九白鳥) is a vertical slant.
ㄠ(90) 是短破筆; ㄣ(19) 是通常撇筆.

50部首與33個上下形及其變形字例表

CHINESE ALPHABET 上下形33個			50 RADICALS 部首					EXAMPLES OF VARIATIONS OF INITIALS AND FINALS 上下形舉例表		
NS			A	B	C	D	S	MODIFIED 變形	INITIALS (上形)	FINIALS (下形)
丿	00	丿					S P L I T C H A R A C T E R S	7		子 川 月 弓
	01	小						木 木		示 未
	02	乚						乚 乚 小		水 乚 水
十	10	十	才	木	牛	車		牛 十 牛	先 表 丰 丰 告 喪 牛	斗 牛 牛 本
	11	土	土					土 土 圭	衰	生 佳
	12	ナ						大 夫 夫	犬 吏 夾 友 有 祭 春	
廿	20	廿	艸	華				廿 廿 廿	其 共 華 昔 曹 草	井 井
	21	山	山					山 山 山	上 庠 款 山 出 幽 幽 林	亡 廬 山 出
	22	巾	巾	米	虫			五 山 川 川	米 韋 悲 弗 北 兆 川 州 世	斤 不 弟 非 弗 川 亦 兼
一	30	一							云 豆	工 丑 日 皿 金
	31	フ	玉	石	雨			フ 工	而 平 再 亞 頁 歹 至 聖	
	32	冫						フ フ 乙	冫 乃 冫 承 又 登 迅	今 夕
口	40	口	口	足				呈 罍 凸 凹	呂 官	
	41	囙	日	目	貝	四	日	國 圓 思 黑 母 甲	國 由 甘 酉 酉	
	42	岡	月	骨			月 几	月 爰 且 骨 丹 風	月 岡 內 兩 岡 凡 丹 再	
冫	50	冫	冫				冫	刀 双 羽	勿 冫 母 冫 乃	
	51	冫	冫	馬			冫 工	展 長 臣 臣 牙		
	52	冫	冫	門			冫 巴 冫 臣	已 臣 巴 門 門 君 眉 辟		
一	60	一	言					方 玄 言		
	61	广	广				广	府 疾 病		
	62	一	穴				一 穴	巽 寓 竊		
	63	冫	冫	冫	冫	冫	冫 冫 冫 冫	冫 冫 冫 冫	冬 冫	
乚	70	乚					儿 乙		允 荒 鼠 九 虱 風	
	71	乚						乚 咸	乚 我 咸 賊	
	72	心							必 患 患	
八	80	八					ソ	并 公 送 欲 答	貝 具 共	
	81	人	金	食			人	內 肉 从 众	大 奧 矣 食	
	82	乚					又	又 希 殺	又 交 友	
	83	へ					へ		又 夜 走 爪 瓜	
一	90	一	禾				千 兵 凶	禾 兵 興 受		
	91	冫	冫	冫	冫	冫	冫 冫 冫 冫	冫 冫 力 九 央 火 白 鳥	冫 少 尸 户 尹	
	92	冫	竹	竹	魚		冫 夕 冫	欠 多 舟 監 泉		
	93	く	女	女			女 女 女	女 女 車 車	女 去 虫	

Please see pages XVI, XVII for A Simple Guide to Finding a Character in the Dictionary according to the Instant Index System.

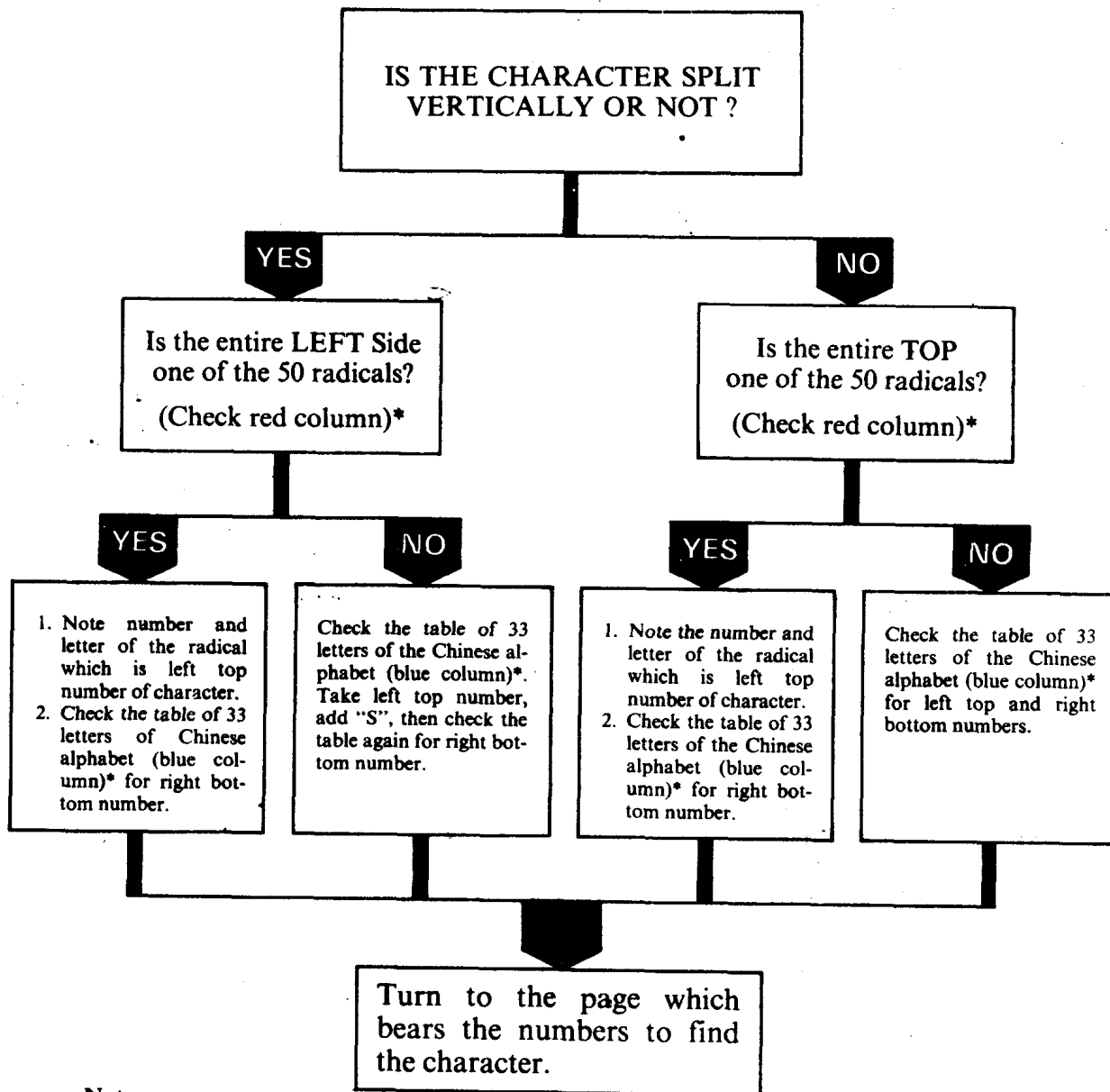
上下形檢字法簡易檢字圖釋



註:

- * “紅色欄”或“藍色欄”指 (xv) 頁 50 部首與 33 個上下形及其變形字例表的紅色或藍色一欄。
- + 本詞典約有百分八十單字，可以截然分成左右或上下方，故均列 50 部首及 “S” 之下，熟悉 50 部首之後，則查此類單字時，立即可知其左上方字碼，僅需查其右下方號碼即可查得該字。

A Simple Guide to Finding a Character According to the Instant Index System



Note:

- * "Red column" or "Blue column" refers to the red or the blue column in the Table of 50 Radicals and 33 Letters of the Chinese Alphabet, Their Modified Forms and Variations on page (xv).
- + About 80 % of the characters in this Dictionary are either vertically or horizontally split characters, and listed under the 50 radicals or "S" (split) category. Familiarity with the 50 radicals will make it easy to find the left top number of a character, making the looking up of a character a one-step process — finding its right bottom number.

簡化國語羅馬字方案

無論那一種人們聽得懂的語言，加以注音之後讀出來，照樣可懂，要不然，準是注音錯了。注音的方法越準確，唸的人就越容易知道如何讀法。一九二八年頒佈的國語羅馬字就是一種準確的注音方法，而這部詞典採用的則是加以簡化的這種方法。它本身有注明聲調的方法，不必另加發音符號。這種準確的可以用打字機打的注音方法，極為方便，而且不論在用電報、電傳打字機、電腦傳遞資訊時都可以使用。

(一) 這種本身具有注明聲調的方法很簡單，不像正式的國語羅馬字那麼複雜多變：

陰平	—	<i>a</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>i</i>	<i>o</i>	<i>an</i>	<i>ang</i>
陽平	—	<i>ar</i>	<i>er</i>	<i>ir</i>	<i>or</i>	<i>arn</i>	<i>arng</i>
上	—	<i>aa</i>	<i>ee</i>	<i>ii</i>	<i>oo</i>	<i>aan</i>	<i>aang</i>
去	—	<i>ah</i>	<i>eh</i>	<i>ih</i>	<i>oh</i>	<i>ahn</i>	<i>ahng</i>

這即是說一個字的四聲，陰平不必加字母，陽平，在元音之後加 *r*；上聲，重覆元音；去聲，在元音之後加 *h*；遇到雙元音的字，則它的上聲要重覆主要的元音，如 *iaa*, *iee*, *ioou*, *aa*, *oo*, *aai*, *eei*, 毫無例外。

(二) 為清楚劃分音節，每一音節都以聲母開始。如果一個音節以 *u* 或 *i* 開始，則 *u* 改為 *w*, *i* 改為 *y*, 如 *wa*, *wei*, *wen*, *wan*, 及 *ya*, *you*, *yen*, *yau*; 如果一個音節只以 *i*, *u* 代表，則 *i* 改為 *yi*, *u* 改為 *wu*. 一個字的第二個音節如果以 *a*, *o*, *u* 起始，則前面應加連字號，例如：*shi-an*, *shi-ou* 兩個音節之間的聲母一定屬於第二個音節，例如：*jiinshehn*, *taihkung* (謹慎，太空)。

(三) 用 (') 號表示輕音，例如：*mar'fan* (麻煩), *fan* 看起來聲調是陰平，加上 (') 却表示是輕音。

* 林語堂先生於一九二三——一九二四年參加擬訂國語羅馬字，首先提出注明聲調之基本方式 (*a*, *ar*, *aa*, *ah*) 及修訂形式如以 *ae* 代替 *aai*, *ao* 代 *aa*, *ay* 代 *aih* 及 *y-e-ih*, *w-o-uh* 系列，均經採納，列入國語羅馬字方案，鑒於這些修訂形式，如為 *iou-you-eou-iouh*，及 *uei-wei-oei-uey* 使學習的人易生混淆，他決定改採原來的簡易方法。