

当代美国 俚语词典

(第2版)

Contemporary American Slang

(Second Edition)

(美) 理查德·A·斯皮尔斯 (Richard A. Spears, Ph.D.) 著

清华大学出版社



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Contemporary American Slang

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F 出版前言

FOREWORD

学习掌握纯正而又时尚的美式英语，是许多英语学习者的共同愿望。人们在学习的过程中会发现，在美语中存在着大量的习语、俚语和固定词组搭配。这一方面使得语言丰富多彩，另一方面却对非本土（本族）的学习者构成了巨大的障碍。此时，一本权威而规范的美语词典就非常必要。清华大学出版社外语分社精心策划的“纯正美语系列”词典便应时而生，帮您全面解决这方面的难题。

该系列原版词典由世界知名的麦格劳-希尔（亚洲）教育出版公司及旗下 NTC 公司出版，清华大学出版社独家引进。词典编纂者理查德·A·斯皮尔斯原是美国西北大学语言学教授，是词典编纂学领域的专家，后长期担任 NTC 公司词典部主任。

这些词典有一个共同的目标：为使用者学习美国英语中的习语、俚语和短语动词提供精确、实用的帮助，为实现这一目标，编者努力使词典主要实现以下特色：

1. 所收词条来源于当代美国人日常使用的语言，具有清新现代之风；

2. 词条的释义简洁明了，所附例句和每一种词义相配合，提示其正确用法；

3. 在短语动词方面特别注重搭配，每一词条都附有完整的搭配形式，并对于后接的不同性质宾语（人或物）给予明确提示；

4. 所收词条均提供相互参照注释，以方便使用者查阅相关的同义词或近义词。

本系列词典既有大部头，又有袖珍本；在内容上它们相互补充，既可以作为案头的工具书，也可以在您需要的时候方便携带、随时查阅，更可以作为实用的教科书，值得从头至尾逐字逐条仔细阅读学习。我们衷心希望本系列词典能够成为您工作、学习和生活中的小帮手。

祝您学习进步、事业成功！

清华大学出版社外语分社

2006 年秋

E 专家推荐

XPERT'S WORDS

这是一本很有实用价值的俚语词典。除准确而简洁的解释和大量贴切的例句外，它还提供了有助于准确掌握所收录的俚语语义和用法的关键性指导信息，以括号标出，放在注解后面。如 (usually objectionable) (通常会令人反感)；(Italian) (来自意大利语)；(collegiate) (高校学生用语) 等。

本词典对于俚语的注解大多采用了直接给出相应的标准语同义词的形式，因此学习者在学到俚语的同时，更可以学到在教材和一般书籍上很难见到的，但是很有用的一些英语标准表达法。

我相信通读一遍会有多方面的益处。比如我们大都知道“A skeleton in the closet”是什么意思，也知道“come out of one's closet”一般的意义，但许多人对于后者在俚语中可用作“公示自己为同性恋者”的意思就不一定了解了。除去许多活跃在当代美国口语中的有趣表达法外，细心的读者还会发现一些或许难

以解释的语言现象，如表达“呕吐”意思的说法多得惊人；而在美国这样一个几乎人人有车的社会里，“车”与“开车”在美国俚语中却几乎没有任何反映。所有这些，可以从不同侧面帮助我们思考并更深入地认识美国社会。

北京外国语大学

申 丕

Guide to the Use of the Dictionary

1. Entry heads are alphabetized according to an absolute alphabetical order that ignores all punctuation, spaces, and hyphens.
2. Entry heads appear in **boldface type**. When words or expressions that are not entries in this dictionary are cited, they appear in *italics*. Function codes [see No. 8 below] and examples appear in *italics*.
3. An entry head may have one or more alternative forms. The alternatives are printed in **boldface type** and are preceded by "AND." Alternative forms containing commas are separated by semicolons, otherwise by commas.
4. Definitions are in roman type. Alternative or closely related definitions are separated by semicolons.
5. Some definitions contain restrictive comments in square brackets that help to make the definition more clear. These comments limit the context in which the expression can be used.
6. Sometimes the numbered senses of an entry refer only to people or things, but not both. In such cases the numeral is followed by "[with *someone*]" or "[with *something*]."
7. A definition may be followed by comments in parentheses. These comments give additional information about the expression, including cautions, comments on origins, or cross-referencing. Each numbered sense can have its own comments.
8. Every expression is followed by a function code that indicates the grammatical or syntactic function of the expression. These codes are in *italics*. The function codes provide a way of determining the grammatical or syntactic function of a particular expression as it occurs in its examples. Expressions functioning as nominals (nouns, noun phrases, etc.) are marked *n*. Expressions serving to modify, restrict, or qualify (adjectives, adjective

phrases, adverbs, adverb phrases, etc.) are marked *mod.* Expressions that are transitive verbs or transitive verb phrases (a transitive verb, its auxiliaries, object[s], and modifier[s]) are marked *tv.* Expressions that are intransitive verbs or intransitive verb phrases (an intransitive verb, its auxiliaries, and any modifiers) are marked *iv.* Other abbreviations are explained in the following section titled "Terms and Abbreviations."

9. Many expressions have more than one major sense or meaning. These meanings are numbered with boldface numerals.
10. Sometimes a numbered sense will have an alternative form that does not apply to the other senses in the entry. In such cases, "and" plus the alternative forms follow the numeral.
11. Entry heads that contain unfamiliar words or whose spellings are misleading have an indication of pronunciation in IPA symbols. See the symbols and their values in the "Pronunciation Guide."
12. In some entries, comments direct the user to other entries for additional information through the use of the terms "compare to" or "see also." The expressions mentioned are in this type.
13. Many of the examples utilize "eye-dialect" spelling to indicate that certain words are contracted or shortened in the slangy speech style of the examples. These words are *gimme* "give me," *gonna* "going to," *kinda* "kind of," *lemme* "let me," *oughtta* "ought to," *outa* "out of," *sorta* "sort of," *wanna* "want to," and *ya* "you."

Pronunciation Guide

Some expressions in the dictionary are followed by a phonetic transcription in International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) symbols. These expressions include words whose pronunciations are not predictable from their spellings, difficult or unfamiliar words, and words where the stress placement is contrastive or unique. The style of pronunciation reflected here is informal and tends to fit the register in which the expression would normally be used. A [d] is used for the alveolar flap typical in American pronunciations such as ['wɒdə] “water” and [ə'naɪələdəd] “annihilated.” The transcriptions distinguish between [ɑ] and [ɔ] and between [w] and [ʍ] even though not all Americans do so. In strict IPA fashion, [j] rather than the [y] substitute is used for the initial sound in “yellow.” The most prominent syllable in a multisyllabic word is *preceded* by the stress mark, [']. There may be additional prominent or stressed syllables in compounds and phrases, but their weight and placement varies from speaker to speaker and utterance to utterance.

The use of “...” in a transcription indicates that easy-to-pronounce words have been omitted. Parentheses used in a transcription either correspond to parentheses in the preceding entry head or indicate optional elements in the transcription. For instance, in ['ɑ:tsi 'kræf(t)si] “artsy-craftsy,” the “t” may or may not be pronounced.

The following chart shows the American English values for each of the IPA symbols used in the phonetic transcriptions. To use the chart, first find the large phonetic symbol whose value you want to determine. The two English words to the right of the symbol contain examples of the sound for which the phonetic symbol stands. The letters in boldface type indicate where the sound in question is found in the English word.

[ɑ] { stop top	[ɜ] { bird turtle	[n] { new funny	[tʃ] { cheese pitcher
[æ] { sat track	[f] { feel if	[n] { button kitten	[θ] { thin faith
[aʊ] { cow now	[g] { get frog	[ŋ] { bring thing	[u] { food blue
[aɪ] { bite my	[h] { hat who	[o] { coat wrote	[ʊ] { put look
[b] { beet bubble	[i] { feet leak	[ɔɪ] { spoil boy	[v] { save van
[d] { dead body	[ɪ] { bit hiss	[ɔ] { caught yawn	[w] { well wind
[ð] { that those	[j] { yellow you	[p] { tip pat	[ʍ] { wheel while
[dʒ] { jail judge	[k] { can keep	[r] { rat berry	[z] { fuzzy zoo
[e] { date sail	[l] { lawn yellow	[s] { sun fast	[ʒ] { pleasure treasure
[ɛ] { get set	[l] { bottle puddle	[ʃ] { fish sure	[ˈ] { 'water ho'tel
[ə] { but nut	[m] { family slam	[t] { top pot	

Terms and Abbreviations

□ (a box) marks the beginning of an example.

▮ marks the beginning of an example that shows the alternative word order of a phrasal verb, i.e., the difference between *call something off* and *call off something*.

AND indicates that an entry head has variant forms that are the same or similar in meaning as the entry head. One or more variant forms are preceded by AND.

acronym is a set of initials pronounced as a single word, as with *UNESCO*.

black describes an expression typically used by or originated by black Americans.

blend is an expression made up of sounds from two other words, like *smoke* + *fog* = *smog*.

catchphrase describes an expression meant to catch attention because of its cleverness or aptness.

collegiate describes an expression that is typically heard on college campuses.

combining form is a form of a word used only in combination with another word.

compare to means to consult the entry indicated and examine its form or meaning in relation to the entry head containing the "compare to" instruction.

derogatory describes an expression that insults, mocks, or abuses someone or a class of people.

elaboration is an expression that is built on, or is an expansion of, another expression.

entry head is the first word or phrase, in boldface, of an entry; the word or phrase that the definition explains.

euphemism is a *euphemistic* expression. See the following.

euphemistic describes an expression that is used as a substitute for a less acceptable expression.

exclam. exclamation.

eye-dialect is a class of spelling variants that attempts to capture colloquial pronunciation or indicates that the person who uttered the words or phrases is illiterate.

function code is an indication of the grammatical or syntactic potential of a particular sense of an expression. See No. 8 in the "Guide to the Use of the Dictionary" and *exclam.*, *iv.*, *interj.*, *interrog.*, *mod.*, *n.*, *phr.*, *prep.*, *pro.*, *sent.*, and *tv.* in this section.

iv. intransitive verb. Expressions that are intransitive verbs or intransitive verb phrases (an intransitive verb, its auxiliaries, and modifiers) are marked *iv.*

interj. interjection.

interrog. interrogative.

jocular describes an expression that is intended to be humorous.

military describes expressions that are, or were originally, used in the U.S. military services.

mod. modifier. Expressions serving to modify, restrict, or qualify (adjectives, adjective phrases, adverbs, adverb phrases, etc.) are marked *mod.*

n. nominal. Expressions functioning as nominals (nouns, noun phrases, etc.) are marked *n.*

phr. phrase.

play on refers to wordplay that is based on a particular expression. For instance, "monolithic" is a play on "stoned."

prep. preposition.

pro. pronoun.

Terms and Abbreviations

see also means to consult the entry indicated for additional information or to find expressions similar in form or meaning to the entry head containing the “see also” instruction.

sent. sentence.

standard English is the widely known and accepted style or register of English taught in schools.

streets describes an expression originating in the streets of urban America.

taboo indicates an expression that is regarded as out of place in public use.

teens describes an expression used typically—but not exclusively—by teenagers.

term of address describes an expression that is used to address someone directly.

tv. transitive verb. Expressions that are transitive verbs or transitive verb phrases (a transitive verb and its auxiliaries, objects, and any modifiers) are marked *tv.*

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24-7 Go to twenty-four, seven.

404 Go to four-oh-four.

411 Go to four-one-one.

5-0 Go to five-oh.

773H Go to seven-seven-three-aitch.

86 Go to eighty-six.

⑨ 数字型词条：指被用作俚语的一些数字，类似中国口语中的 119、114 等。