

朗文

常用英语 正误词典

LONGMAN ENGLISH - CHINESE
DICTIONARY OF COMMON ERRORS



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DICTIONARY OF
COMMON ERRORS

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译文   朗文

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前 言

中国人学英语所遇到的困难和常犯的错误是多方面的。其荦荦大端者，如用词、搭配、句法结构；而搭配方面又可分动词与介词（如说“与...不同”，本应是 **differ from**，但常误作 **differ to**）、名词与介词（如说廉价购得某物，本应是 **buy something in a sale**，但常误作 **on a sale**）、动词与名词（如说“收拾行李”，本应是 **pack one's suitcases**，但常误作 **pack one's luggage**）、形容词与介词（如说“对某人很友善”，本应是 **be kind to someone**，但常误作 **be kind with someone**）、形容词与名词（如本应说 **He asked me a lot of questions**，但常误作 **He asked me many questions**）等等。此外还有可数与不可数名词的区别（如本应说 **improve one's knowledge of English**，但常误用了 **knowledges**）、冠词 **the** 之用与不用（如 **Himalayas** 之前不能缺了 **the**，而 **Mount Everest** 之前却误加了 **the**；**play chess** 是对的，但 **play piano/guitar** 就不对）。

以上种种都是中国人学英语感到不易解决的困难，而有一些更是中国人常犯的错误，譬如，中国学生往往会说：“How to spell ‘squirrel’?”（见本书 149 页）或者，“I would really appreciate if you could let me have her address as soon as possible.”（见本书 27 页）。他们又会受到汉语句法的影响，说出“**We all were delighted when we heard the news.**”（见本书 14 页）这样的话。说到“移民”，他们弄不清该用 **immigration** 还是 **emigration** 才是。

对中国人来说，尤其头痛的是，以上的许多难点不知查什么书才能解决。像“**How to spell ‘squirrel’?**”这样的错误，就是花许多时间去查，也未必能从一般词典或语法书上找出答案。

细心的读者不难发现，译者不仅具有丰富的翻译经验，而且具有丰富的英语教学经验。为了照顾不熟悉语法的读者，译者有意避开生僻的语法术语，而另作通俗的解释；有一些过于公式化或过于简化的地方，也不厌其详地加以解释，务求做到深入浅出，通俗易懂。

如果你能找到原文词典来对照，你还会看出，为了使本书对中国读者更具针对性、实用性和准确性，编译者付出了几许心血。

辞典及翻译部

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How to use the dictionary

This book provides learners of English with a quick and easy way of avoiding or correcting their mistakes. When writing an essay or the answers to an exercise, the learner often wishes to use a particular word or phrase but feels uncertain about its correct usage. For example, which is correct 'succeed **to do** something' or 'succeed **in doing** something', '**do** a mistake' or '**make** a mistake', 'He has **much** money' or 'He has **a lot of** money'? Searching for this information in dictionaries and grammar books can take a great deal of time. By referring to the *Longman Dictionary of Common Errors*, the user can find the required information within seconds, and in order to ensure quick and easy reference great care has been taken to keep the explanatory note at the end of each entry as brief and simple as possible. It must be stressed, therefore, that the *Longman Dictionary of Common Errors* is not intended as a comprehensive grammar book. It has the very practical aim of providing all the information required to avoid or correct a particular error, and no more.

如何使用本词典

本词典能帮助学习英语的人,以事半功倍之效,避免或改正学习中所犯的错误。写英文或做作业时,初学者常希望用某个词或短语,但是对其正确用法往往心中无数。例如, **succeed to do something** 和 **succeed in doing something** 究竟哪一个正确? 应用 **do a mistake** 还是 **make a mistake**? 而 **He has much money** 和 **He has a lot of money** 到底是哪一句对? 从词典和语法书中寻找这类解释要费很多时间,但查阅本词典,用不着一分钟就能迎刃而解。为了确保查阅快而方便,编纂时力求每一个词条末尾的解释尽可能做到简单明了。因此,必须着重说明本词典不是一部综合性的语法书,它只是从实用的目的出发,就如何避免或纠正某一错误提供所需的详尽解释而已。

How to find an error quickly

This dictionary is arranged in alphabetical order, the entries beginning with **a** are to be found at the front of the book and the entries beginning with **z** at the back. To help you find an entry quickly, there is a word in heavy type at the top of each page. The word at the top of a left-hand page shows the first entry on that page, the word at the top of a right-hand page shows the last entry on that page.

如何很快查出错误

本词典按字母顺序编排,从书前面的字母 **a** 词条开始到后面的字母 **z** 词条结尾。为了便于很快查到词条,书中每页上首都印有粗体词。左页上首的词表明该页中的第一个词条,右页上首的词即是该页中的最后一个词条。

Where to look

An entry that is made up of more than one word is treated as if it were a single word. For example, the entry for **go out** is placed after **goods** and before **gossip**, not at **go**.

如何着手查找

由一个词以上组成的词条按一个整体词处理。例如, 词条 **go out** 排在 **goods** 之后 **gossip** 之前, 不和 **go** 排在一起, 如下例。

- goods** 1 × The goods was not delivered in time.
✓ **The goods were not delivered in time.**
Goods is a plural noun and takes a plural verb
- 2 × He had very little money and very few goods.
✓ **He had very little money and very few possessions.**
goods=things for sale: 'leather goods'
possessions=all the things a person owns
- go out** × As soon as the bus stopped, he went out.
✓ **As soon as the bus stopped, he got off.**
get on/off a bus/train/plane etc.
- gossip** × She told me gossips about all her relations
✓ **She told me a lot of gossip about all her relations.**
gossip (uncountable)=talk concerned with people's private lives
Note also: 'bits/pieces of gossip'

As a basic guideline, you are advised to look for information in this dictionary in the same way as in any other dictionary. For example, if you are in doubt about whether to write 'marry someone' or 'marry **with** someone', you should look for the relevant information at the entry for **marry**, not at **with**. Similarly, if you feel uncertain about which is correct—'in guarantee' or '**under** guarantee'—you should turn to **guarantee**, not **in** or **under**.

查阅本词典的基本方法一如任何其他词典。例如, 要知道究竟是用 **marry** someone 还是 **marry with** someone 时, 应查词条 **marry** 不查 **with**。同样, 如果没有把握该用 **in** guarantee 还是 **under** guarantee, 应查 **guarantee**, 不查 **in** 也不查 **under**, 如下例:

- guarantee** 2 × May I remind you that the cassette recorder is still in guarantee.
✓ **May I remind you that the cassette recorder is still under guarantee.**
(be) under guarantee, NOT **in**

- noise** × I turned on the radio but there was no noise
 ✓ **I turned on the radio but there was no sound.**
noise=loud unpleasant sounds 'The noise of the traffic gave me a headache'
sound=something noticed by the ear, 'the sound of a guitar', 'the sound of a car engine'

Sub-entries

Sometimes a single word or phrase can produce two or more types of error. In these cases, the entry will be divided into several sub-entries, each dealing with a particular error, and having its own number.

Grammatical errors generally come before errors involving usage or meaning, and errors which are very common are usually placed before those which occur less frequently.

分词条

有时候一个词或一个短语可能产生两种或两种以上的错误。遇到这类情况，词条分成几个分词条，每个分词条涉及一种错误，有独立的编号。一般来说，语法错误安排在用法错误或意思错误之前，常犯错误通常放在不常犯错误之前，如下例：

- no matter** 1 × No matter he tries hard, he never succeeds in passing.
 ✓ **No matter how hard he tries, he never succeeds in passing.**
no matter how much he studies/often he goes/well he plays etc +main clause '
- 2 × No matter the recession, sales remained high
 ✓ **In spite of the recession, sales remained high.**
No matter is ALWAYS followed by a **wh-** word. 'No matter what they did, they couldn't put the fire out.'

When a sub-entry consists of a cross-reference, this always comes last.
 分词条所包括的互见条目总是放在最后，如下例：

- according to** 1 × According to me, we should spend more money on education.
 ✓ **In my opinion, we should spend more money on education.**
According to cannot be followed by **me** or **us**
- 2 See **OPINION**

In each of these cases, the entry is located at the keyword. This is the most important word in a group of words which regularly occur together. Therefore the entry for **in spite of** is to be found at **spite**, the entry for **of/on your own accord** at **accord**, and the entry for **do/make a mistake** at **mistake**.

从上述两例来看, 词条选自词语中最重要的组成部分, 即基本词。因此, 要查 **in spite of** 须找词条 **spite**, 要找 **of/on your own accord** 须查 **accord**, 要查 **do/make a mistake** 须找 **mistake**, 如下例:

mistake 2 × I rarely do more than three mistakes in an essay.
 ✓ I rarely make more than three mistakes in an essay.
 make a mistake, NOT do

On the other hand, if you want to know what is wrong with 'I went **out** the room' or '**at** 1984', you should turn to **out** (not **go** or **room**) or **at** (not **1984**). In these cases, there is no fixed group of words and there is therefore no keyword. Again, the user should follow standard dictionary practice.

另一方面, 如果要知道 I went **out** the room 或 **at** 1984 错在什么地方, 那就应查 **out** 和 **at**, 不查 **go** 和 **room**, 也不查 **1984**, 因为这两例中没有固定的词组, 也就没有基本词。再说一遍, 读者应参照一般词典惯例, 如下例:

out 2 × I felt very cold when I went out the room.
 ✓ I felt very cold when I went out of the room.
Out is an adverb. 'Alan went out, leaving just the two of us in the room.'
Out of is a preposition.
Note that in informal conversation, **out** is sometimes used instead of **out of**. 'I saw someone jump out the window.'

Examining an entry

An entry usually has three parts. As an example, look at the entry for **noise**. The first part is a sentence containing the error. It is printed in ordinary type and has a cross (x) next to it. Beneath this, in heavy type and marked with a tick (✓), is the correct sentence. In many cases, the user will see the mistake when he or she compares the two sentences but there is also a brief explanation at the end of the entry. As already mentioned, this has been kept as short as possible and concentrates on the particular problem underlying the error.

如何查看词条

词条通常有三个部分, 以 **noise** 这一词条为例, 第一部分是错句, 用正常字体印刷, 句前打上 × 号。错句下面是正句, 用粗体印刷, 句前是 ✓ 号。在许多情况下, 读者看了两句就会知道错误所在。尽管如此, 词条末尾还有个简短的解释。如前所述, 解释力求简短扼要, 针对错误根源, 如下例:

When a cross-reference is made to a particular sub-entry the number of the sub-entry is shown

互见条目涉及某一分词条时, 均标明分词条编号。

invitation See AGREE 5

However, when the cross-reference is to both or all of the sub-entries at a headword, then no number is given

然而, 互见条目涉及词目的两个或全部分词条时, 则不再标明编号。

evening See AFTERNOON

Cross-references

You will find a number of cross-references in the dictionary. The purpose of these cross-references is simply to help you find the information you are looking for. For example, in the case of **do/make a mistake**, if you turn to **do** instead of **mistake**, you will find a cross-reference to **mistake**. Similarly, if you want to know what is wrong with **reach an aim** and look under **reach**, you will be directed to the entry at **aim**.

互见条目

词典里有一些互见条目, 旨在帮助读者查到所要找的解答。例如, 遇到 **do/make a mistake** 这种情况时, 如果你先查的是 **do**, 词典就会告诉你参见 **mistake**。同样, 要是你想知道 **reach an aim** 错在哪里而去查了 **reach**, 词典就会指示你去查 **aim** 词条。

reach 2 See AIM 2

Cross-references also help to avoid a lot of repetition in the dictionary. For example, when a small group of words such as **dozen/hundred/thousand/million** or **spring/summer/autumn/winter** follow the same rule or pattern, this is explained just once—at **hundred** and **summer**. If you look up one of the other words in the group, you will find a cross-reference to the entry where the explanation is given.

互见条目也有助于避免词典中的内容重复。例如, 遇到 **dozen/hundred/thousand/million** 或者 **spring/summer/autumn/winter** 这类用法和句型都相同的词, 只在 **hundred** 和 **summer** 词条下加以解释, 要是查到其余几个词时, 就要参见有解释的那个词条。

dozen See HUNDRED 2

Cross-references are also used in entries dealing with British English and American English usage. The way in which this is treated in the dictionary is described below.

互见条目也用于涉及英式英语和美式英语用法的词条。有关这方面的处理方法说明如下:

British and American differences

Whereas speakers of British English say **aerial**, speakers of American English say **antenna**. Pairs of this type have been included in the dictionary, not because either usage is wrong or substandard but simply in order to draw attention to the differences between the two language varieties. Some students are unaware of these differences and make the stylistic mistake of switching from one variety to the other within the same piece of written work.

英美用法上的差异

讲英式英语的人说 **aerial**, 讲美式英语的人则说 **antenna**。本词典之所以将这两词都收, 并不是因为其中有一个词的用法错误, 也不是因为不合乎标准, 纯粹是为了要读者注意这两种语体的差异。有些学生不注意这种差异, 在同一篇文字里混用两种语体, 犯了写作上文体错误的毛病。

In these cases, the entry is placed at the American English variant, while a cross-reference is given at the British English word. Unlike the other entries in the dictionary, no mistake is involved. Both variants are simply shown one above the other with the labels *AmE* and *BrE*.

涉及英美不同用法时, 词条按美式英语变体编排, 而词条下互见条目的词则是英式英语用法。与其他词条不同的是, 这类词条不涉及错误问题, 词条下面的两种变体一前一后, 分别标上: *AmE* (美式英语) 和 *BrE* (英式英语)。

Glossary

If an explanatory note contains a technical word which you do not understand, you should refer to the glossary of technical terms at the back of the book. It should be remembered, however, that the glossary is not intended to be comprehensive. It aims to provide sufficient information for the user to understand the notes, and no more.

语法术语表

如果注释中有你不懂的术语, 可查阅书末的语法术语表。然而, 应该指出, 术语表无意收入全部术语, 事实上读者已可从中理解注释的内容。

Use by the teacher

Although designed primarily for the needs of the learner, the *Longman Dictionary of Common Errors* can also be used by the teacher of English in a number of ways. Some of these are outlined below.

教师如何使用本词典

本词典主要是为满足学生的需要而编，但也可为英语教师提供多方面的用途，试举例如下。

— While students are engaged in writing tasks, the teacher might walk round the classroom, briefly checking the work in progress. Instead of correcting the errors observed and explaining the reasons for their correction, the teacher could simply call students' attention to the appropriate entries in the dictionary. In this way the students become actively involved in discovering and correcting their errors themselves.

—— 学生在课堂上写作时，教师可以巡视，但不必看到错误就加以改正并给予解释，而只需告诉学生参考本词典的有关词条，就能使学生主动地去发现和改正错误。

— The same technique could be used when dealing with errors after written work has been handed in. Instead of writing lengthy corrections and comments on the scripts, the teacher could simply underline the error, adding a brief reference to the appropriate dictionary entry.

—— 对于学生交来的书面作业上的错误，也可采用同样的方法。教师不必在学生的作业上书写冗长的批改，而只需在错误底下画线，另外再加上参见本词典中的有关条目。

— After marking a batch of written work, the teacher might wish to select certain common errors as a focus for remedial teaching. The dictionary provides easy access to clear and concise notes which can serve as a basis for such teaching.

—— 教师在批改一批书面作业后，可以选择某些常犯错误作为辅导教学的重点。本词典提供的解释不仅查阅方便，而且简单明了，有助于进行这类教学。

— Familiarity with the dictionary will also enable the teacher to predict the types of error that students are likely to make when introduced to a new grammatical or lexical item. Such awareness will be of considerable help in the preparation of effective teaching materials.

—— 教师如果熟悉本词典的内容，在向学生讲授语法或词汇上新的项目时，能够预知学生可能要犯的错误，从而大大有助于准备有效的教学材料。

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- a** 1 × I hope you all have a enjoyable stay
 ✓ **I hope you all have an enjoyable stay.**
 (逗留期间, 我希望你们都过得愉快。)

Always use **an** (NOT **a**) before a word beginning with a vowel sound (在元音开始的词之前, 总是用 **an** 而不用 **a**, 例如): 'an egg', 'an envelope'

- 2 × My husband is doing a MSc in civil engineering
 ✓ **My husband is doing an MSc in civil engineering.**
 (我丈夫正在攻读土木工程的硕士学位。)

Use **an** (NOT **a**) before an abbreviation that begins with a vowel sound (在元音开始的缩写词之前用 **an** 而不用 **a**, 例如): 'an MSc' /em es si:/, 'an MP' /em pi:/, 'an FM radio'.

- 3 × Sometimes it is difficult to live a honest life
 ✓ **Sometimes it is difficult to live an honest life.**
 (有时候要老老实实地做人也并不容易。)

Use **an** (NOT **a**) before words beginning with **h** when the **h** is not pronounced (在不发音的 **h** 开始的词之前用 **an** 而不用 **a**, 例如): 'an honour', 'an hour'

- 4 × A bottle of milk is in the fridge
 ✓ **There is a bottle of milk in the fridge.**
 (冰箱里有一瓶牛奶。)
 × A party will be at the language school
 ✓ **There will be a party at the language school.**
 (语言学校将举行一次聚会。)

In many sentences, the verb **be** is used to mean 'exist' or 'take place'. If the subject has not been mentioned before, it is placed immediately after the verb and the sentence begins with **there**.
 在许多句子里, 动词 **be** 用来表示 exist (存在) 或 take place (举行; 发生) 的意思。如上文未提及主语, 那么主语应接在动词 **be** 之后, 句子用 **there** 开始。

a lot of See (见) LOTS

- about** × I was about leaving when the telephone rang
 ✓ **I was about to leave when the telephone rang.**
 (我正要出去, 电话铃突然响了。)

be about+to-v

be about 后面接带 to 的动词。

- above** x There were above a hundred people in the crowd.
 ✓ **There were over a hundred people in the crowd.**
 (这人群有一百多人。)

Do not use **above** with numbers (unless referring to points on a scale) (一般不用 **above** 修饰数字, 例如): 'He is over eighty years of age,' 'I receive over twenty letters a day,' BUT (但在刻度上) 则可与数字连用, 例如: 'Don't let the temperature get above thirty degrees.'

- above-mentioned** x I would be grateful if you would send it to the address above-mentioned.
 ✓ **I would be grateful if you would send it to the above-mentioned address.**
 (如果你把东西送到上述地址, 我将不胜感谢。)

Above-mentioned ALWAYS comes before the noun it modifies (**above-mentioned** 总是放在它所修饰的名词之前, 例如): 'above-mentioned person' (上述的人), 'above-mentioned company' (上述之公司)。

- absent** 1 x The sales manager was absent at the meeting.
 ✓ **The sales manager was absent from the meeting.**
 (销售经理未出席会议。)

absent from, NOT **at**

absent 后接 **from**, 不接 **at**

- 2 x I went to her house at four o'clock but she was absent.
 ✓ **I went to her house at four o'clock but she wasn't in.**
 (我四点钟到她家去, 但她不在。)

absent=not present at something that you are supposed to attend (**absent** 指没有出席理应到场的活动, 例如): 'absent from school'

absolutely See (见) **Tired**

- accept** 1 × These people accept to take risks in order to succeed
 ✓ **These people accept the need to take risks in order to succeed.**
 (为了取得成功, 这些人认为有冒险的必要。)
- Accept** is NEVER followed by to-v
accept 之后从不接带 to 的动词。
- 2 × The company will not accept to buy new machines
 ✓ **The company will not agree to buy new machines.**
 (该公司不会同意购买新机器。)
- We **accept** a person's advice, opinion, or suggestion but **agree** to do something. Compare (**accept** 后接某人的 advice—忠告, opinion—意见或 suggestion—建议, 而 **agree** 后接 to do something, 试比较) 'I accepted her suggestion and agreed to see the doctor that evening.'
- 3 × To tell you the truth, I can't accept people who think about money all the time
 ✓ **To tell you the truth, I can't stand/bear/abide people who think about money all the time.**
 (说老实话, 我受不了那些老是盘算着钱的人。)
- cannot stand/bear/abide**=cannot tolerate (指“无法容忍”、“受不了”)
- accommodation** ✓ **AmE Accommodations in London are very expensive.**
 (美式英语: 伦敦的住宿很贵。)
 ✓ **BrE Accommodation in London is very expensive.**
 (英式英语: 译文同上)
- In British English **accommodation** (= a place to live or spend the night) is ALWAYS uncountable. In American English it can be countable.
accommodation 一词在英式英语中作“供住宿的地方”解时总是不可数名词, 而在美式英语中则是可数名词。
- accord** × People think he resigned on his own accord
 ✓ **People think he resigned of his own accord.**
 (人们认为他是自愿辞职的。)

of your own accord, NOT **on**
of your own accord 中的 **of** 不可用 **on** 替代。

- according to** 1 x According to me, we should spend more money on education
 ✓ **In my opinion, we should spend more money on education.**
 (我的总见是我们应在教育上多花一些钱。)

According to cannot be followed by **me** or **us**
 中文“按照我(们)的意见”不能用 **according to me (us)** 来表达, 换句话说, **according to** 不能后接 **me** 或 **us**。

2 See (见) OPINION

- accuse** x Some unemployed men accuse women for taking their jobs
 ✓ **Some unemployed men accuse women of taking their jobs.**
 (有些失业的男子责怪妇女抢去了他们的工作。)

accuse someone **of** something, NOT **for**
accuse someone **of** something 中的 **of** 不可用 **for** 替代。

- accustomed** 1 x Having lived in England for two years, I am now accustomed myself to the cold weather
 ✓ **Having lived in England for two years, I am now accustomed to the cold weather.**
 (我在英国住了两年, 对寒冷的天气已经习惯。)

be/grow accustomed to something OR **accustom oneself to** something

中文“习惯于”可用 **be/grow accustomed to (something)** 或用 **accustom oneself to (something)** 来表达

Compare (比较) 'He soon grew accustomed to the harsh working conditions.' 'He soon accustomed himself to the harsh working conditions.'

Note the more informal alternative (注意口语体的用法): 'He soon got used to the harsh working conditions.'