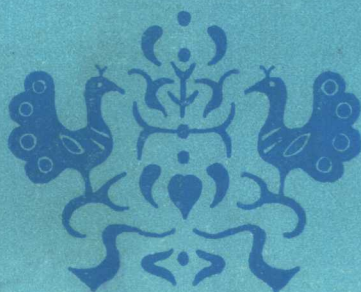


英语常用词辨析

桂扬清 著



北京师范大学出版社

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说 明

在学习英语的过程中，我们常常遇到一些意义相近的词，有时由于弄不清它们之间的区别，以致影响到对英语的正确理解和运用，尤其在从事英语教学工作的时候，更加会感到说不清楚。为了给一些中学英语教师和已有一定基础的英语学习者提供一些参考资料，我着手编写了这本《英语常用词辨析》。在编写过程中，注意了以下几个方面：

一、针对上述对象，书中所收入的200余组词，共计500多个单词，都是常用词。选择各组词时，从中国人学习英语的实际需要出发，不局限于同义词，收入了一些一般不认为是同义词而只是我们容易混淆的词。

二、每组词的解释和说明注意结合中国人学习英语的情况，着重于实用。解说力求简明扼要，通俗易懂，突出说明词与词之间的主要区别，不求详尽。

三、为了使解释和说明更加清楚起见，在每个词的下面都有例句。例句力求针对解释和说明，做到层次分明，主次有别。同时，所用例句力求浅近易懂，避免深奥难解。

由于本人水平有限，注意了的事情未必都已做到，书中缺点错误在所难免，欢迎读者批评指正。

桂扬清

1981年7月于南京

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§ 1. ability capacity talent

ability 的意思是能力、才能。它可以指作某事的能力，这种能力是可以通过学习或锻炼而获得或提高的，也可以指聪明，才智。例如：

I do not doubt your ability to do the work. 我不怀疑你有担任这项工作的能力。

He acquired the ability to run a machine in three weeks. 他在三个星期之内学会了开机器（意即他在三个星期之内获得了开机器的能力）。

At an early age he showed much ability for mathematics. 他年轻的时候就表现出对数学很有才能。

capacity 也有能力的意思，但通常是指学习、理解或接受能力。它有时可与 ability 通用，如上面第三个例句中的 ability，也可以用 capacity。例如：

She has a capacity for learning languages. 她有学习语言的能力。

He has a mind of great capacity. 他接受能力很强。

talent 的意思是才能、才干，通常指某种比较特殊的、高超的才能。例如：

He has a talent for drawing. 他有绘画的才能。

He is a man of great talent. 他是个大有才干的人。

§ 2. above over on upon

这几个词用作介词表示位置时,都有在……之上的意思,但各有其不同的涵义。

above 的意思是在……之上,着重指在……上方,不一定含有垂直在上的意思。例如:

The sun rose above the horizon. 太阳上升到了地平线之上。

The aeroplane flew above the clouds. 飞机在云层上空飞行。

over 的意思也是在……之上,常常可以和 above 替换,但它含有垂直在上的意思。例如:

The sky is over (above) our heads. 天在我们的头顶上。

A lamp hung over the table. 桌子上面吊着一盏灯。

over 还可以表示盖在……上面,或铺在……上面。用于此义时,不能用 above 代替。如: Spread the tablecloth over the table. 把台布铺在桌子上。

on 也表示在……之上,但含有和表面相接触的意思。例如:

The book is on the desk. 书放在桌子上。

There is an oil painting on the wall. 墙上有一幅油画。

upon 也表示在……之上，也含有和表面相接触的意思。它与 on 没有多大的区别，只是较为正式的用语，口语中较少用。例如：He laid his hand upon the boy's head. 他把手放在孩子的头上。

[注] up 与以上几个词不同，表示向上方或高处，含有由下而上，由低而高的意思，常和表示运动的动词连用。它也可以用作副词，表示在上方或高处。例如：

We run up a hill. 我们跑上山。

The plane was high up in the air. 飞机在高空
中。

§ 3. accept receive

accept 的意思是接受，它所表示的这种行为是由主观意愿决定的。例如：

I accepted it without question. 我毫无疑问地接受了它。

We have accepted his proposal. 我们已经接受了他的建议。

receive 的意思是接到、收到、受到，它所表示的这种行为与主观意愿没有什么关系。例如：

I received a letter from him. 我接到他的来信。

He received the present, but he did not accept. 他收到了礼物，但没有接受下来。

He received a good education. 他受过良好的教

育。

〔注〕在表示接待、接见时，我们通常用 receive，而不用 accept。如：We often receive foreign guests. 我们经常接待外宾。

§ 4. accident incident

accident 可以表示事故的意思，通常指不幸的意外事件。它还可以表示偶然的事件。例如：

Twenty people were killed in the railway accident. 在这次火车事故中，有二十人死亡。

He met with an accident in riding. 他在骑马时出了事。

It was quite an accident. 这完全是偶然的事。

incident 的意思是事件，尤指与较为重大的事件相比显得不重要的事件。它还用以表示引起国际争端或战争等的事件。例如：

It is a quite common incident. 这是很普通的事。

The Lugouqiao incident occurred on July 7, 1937. 芦沟桥事变发生于1937年7月7日。

§ 5 accurate exact correct

correct 的意思是正确，指按照一定的标准或规则没有错误。在这三个词中，它的语意最弱。例如：