

A

Dictionary

of

Elaborate Explanation
of English Usage

英语用法精解词典

Editors by Xue Yongku

薛永库 • 主编

中国书籍出版社

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前 言

《英语用法精解词典》是为大、中学生和英语爱好者的需要而编写的,其宗旨是帮助他们改正使用英语时常犯的错误。本书共收入约 2000 词条,但涉及的词汇约 5000 个。

词条按本词、词性、释义、正误例句、说明和常用词组顺序排列。列出病句;用正确的句子代替病句;对必要的问题给予言简意赅的说明,以明确正确用法;个别词条附有注译。例句通俗易懂、语言准确,内容健康;并为方便读者附有汉译。

在编写过程中,我们参考了国内外出版的许多辞书,因限于篇幅,恕不一一列举,谨在此致谢。

由于编者水平有限,疏漏舛错在所难免,欢迎专家和读者批评指正。

编 者

1999 年 2 月

体例说明

一、词条

词条按本词、词性、释义(英汉)、正误例句、说明和常用词组顺序排列。

二、本词

本词排黑正体。

三、词性

本词后注明词性,排白斜体。词性用英语缩略形式,共分十类(见略语表)。一个词若有多种词性,除第一个词性外,各词性前标以白体破折号。按其用法,各类动词分别标以 *vt.*, 或 *aux. v.* 等,若一个动词兼有及物和不及物两种用法,则标为 *v.*。

四、释义及正误例句

释义和正误例句排白正体。本词如有几个不同正误用法,各正误用法前面用白正体标有序号 1.2.3. 等。错误例句前面标有“×”,符号排白正体。

五、说明和注

说明和注排白正体。用正确的句子代替病句,对必要的问题给予言简意赅的说明;个别词条附有[注]。[注]字排黑正体。

六、常用词组

常用词组排黑正体,一般按其第一个词的首字母先后次序排列。用“||”符号和正误用法隔开。

略语表

<i>a.</i>	adjective	形 容 词
<i>ad.</i>	adverb	副 词
<i>art.</i>	article	冠 词
<i>aux. v.</i>	auxiliary verb	助 动 词
<i>conj.</i>	conjunction	连 词
<i>inf.</i>	infinitive	不 定 式
<i>int.</i>	interjection	感 叹 词
<i>mod. v.</i>	modal verb	情 态 动 词
<i>n.</i>	noun	名 词
<i>num.</i>	numeral	数 词
<i>pref.</i>	prefix	前 缀
<i>prep.</i>	preposition	介 词
<i>pron.</i>	pronoun	代 词
<i>prov.</i>	proverb	谚 语
<i>sb.</i>	somebody	某 人
<i>sth.</i>	something	某 物
<i>suf.</i>	suffix	后 缀
<i>v.</i>	verb	动 词
<i>vi.</i>	intransitive verb	不 及 物 动 词
<i>vt.</i>	transitive verb	及 物 动 词
<i>&</i>	and	和

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A

a, an *indef. art.* one; any; each (每) 一 (个); 任一

1. × I saw a black and a white cow.

I saw a black and white cow.

我看见一头黑白花乳牛。

根据例句的汉译, 第一个例句错了。

一般说来, 用一个“a”(或“an”), 指一个人或一个事物; 而同时用两个“a”(或“an”), “an”, 指的是两个人或两个事物。鉴于此, 第一个例句应译为: 我看见一头黑乳牛和一头白乳牛。

【注】

- ① 为了加强语气, 也有用两个“a”(或“an”), 指一个人或一个事物的。如:

He is a teacher and a writer.

他是一位教师兼作家。

- ② 成对的名词连用的, 如果不强调, 可以只用一个不定冠词。如:

I heard a doctor and nurse talking.

我听到一位大夫和一位护士在谈话。

2. × He walks twelve miles a hour.

He walks twelve miles an hour.

他每小时走 12 英里。

“a”用于辅音音素开始的词前; “an”用于以元音音素开始的词前。hour 的开首字母“h”不发音, 读作“[’auə]”, 是以元音音素开始的词, 应用 an hour。

3. × Go and ask Mr. Smith for help, for he’s a MP.

Go and ask Mr. Smith for help, for he’s an MP.

去找史密斯先生帮忙, 因为他是议员。

MP (Member of Parliament 英国下院议员) 是缩略语。英语中缩略语前面的冠词, 其形式与读音取决于该缩略语第一个字母的读音。a MP 应改为 an MP [ən em’ pi:]。

4. A computer is a useful tool.

The computer is a useful tool.

计算机是有用的工具。

这两个句子都对。不定冠词和定冠词都可和可数名词单数连用, 代表一类人或东西。

【注】另外, 可数名词的复数形式也可用来表示类属。上面的例句也可写成:

Computers are useful tools.

5. × She can recite English poems. This is not bad for the pupil.

She can recite English poems. This is not bad for a pupil.

她能背诵英语诗歌,这对小学生来说已不差了。

定冠词 the 表示特指事物或人,这里用不定冠词 a 统指小学生。

6. × She was awarded the title of a model teacher.

She was awarded the title of model teacher.

她被授予模范教师的称号。

在 title 和 rank 后和介词 of 连用的名词常不加冠词。

7. × Be honest. Don't tell lie.

Be honest. Don't tell a lie.

要诚实,不要说谎。

to tell a lie 是固定短语,也可以说 tell lies。类似的短语有 to have a smoke, to make a fuss, to take a bath 等。

8. × Your victory is great inspiration to the peoples of the advancing countries.

Your victory is a great inspiration to the peoples of the advancing countries.

你们的胜利对发展中国家各民族是很大的鼓舞。

inspiration 是抽象名词。抽象名

词在用来表示一般概念时,通常不加冠词。但是当它用来表示“一种”,表示某种动作的一次,或表示引起某种情绪的事时(本例句属于这种情况),要加不定冠词。

9. I saw a quite long snake.

I saw quite a long snake.

我看到一条相当长的蛇。

这两个句子都对,a(或 an)可以用在 quite 的前面,也可用在它的后面。在口语里,“quite a(或 an)…”比 a quite…普通。

【注】rather 和 quite 的用法一样。如:

a rather fat cat; rather a fat cat

-n. the first letter of English alphabet 第一个英语字母

|| from A to Z 自始至终;完全

We watched the game from A to Z.

我们自始至终观看了这场比赛。

ability *n.* power to do 能力

1. × Congratulate you on the excellence of your English and the ability of writing it.

Congratulate you on the excellence of your English and the ability to write it.

对你的极佳英语和英语写作的能力表示祝贺。

在 ability 后面通常接不定式,很少接“of + 动名词。”

【注】但可以说: writing ability(写作能力);也可以说: the ability in writing.

2. ability and capacity

这两个词都表示人的“能力”,“才能”。

ability既指天赋的能力,也指学习而得的本领。该词主要用于人,尤其指人的思维能力及实际应用上的才能;而 capacity用于人时,则是指潜在的能力,尤其指理解上的能力,如对于知识和思想的理解力,又如对于事物的忍耐力或宽容力。后面接不定式或接 for 或 of + 动名词。此词也用于物,指容纳、接受的能力。如:

He has unusual ability in science.
他具有非凡的科学天才。

Her capacity for remembering things is interesting.

她的记忆力令人感兴趣。

The theatre has a capacity of 1,000 (people).

这戏院能容纳一千人。

|| to the best of one's ability 竭力;

尽力

这个词组在句中多用作状语。

如:

I will do it to the best of my ability.
我要尽力去做这件事。

abnormal *a.* any departure from normal, not normal 反常的,变态的,不规则的。

× He is abnormal to have done such a foolish thing.

It is abnormal for him to have done such a foolish thing.

他做出这样愚蠢的事真是不正常。

这是一个受汉语句法影响而致的错句子。在英语中 abnormal 不能用人作主语,只能用事物作主语。如:

It is abnormal for a man to be seven feet tall.

一个人身高七英尺即为超常。

about *ad.* near in number, time, degree 差不多,大约

1. × There are about more than ten horses in the field.

There are more than ten horses in the field.

田间有十多匹马。

在有表示“多少不定”的意思的词语前面不该用 about。

2. × We set off about 4 o'clock or so in the morning.

We set off about 4 o'clock in the morning.

我们在清晨大约四点钟时出发的。

about 和 or 不可重用。又如, 不能说: It happened about the 7th or 8th of August. 应该说: It happened on either the 7th or the 8th of August. 或 It happened about the 7th of August.

3. 在修饰时间、数目时, about 和 almost, nearly 在意思上不同。

There are about twenty students in the classroom. 教室里有 20 个左右学生(可以多于 20 个, 也可以不足 20 人)。

There are almost(nearly) twenty students in the classroom.

教室里差不多有 20 个学生(不足 20 人)。

|| **be about to**(通常接不定式)就要, 即将……

She was about to leave when someone knocked at the door.

她正要离开, 突然有人敲门。

【注】

- ①用 be about to 时, 不可再加表示时间的副词。

× They are about to set off at once (or next morning).

They are about to set off. (= They will set off very soon.) 他们就要出发了。

- ②也可去掉 to 接动名词。

He was about jumping into the water.

他正要跳进水里。

- ③在美国口语里, 常把 about 同 just 一起使用。

He was just about speaking (or to speak).

他正(打算)要说话。

- ④在美国英语中, be not about to 可以表示“不愿意”。

I am not about to go swimming with her.

我不愿意和她一起去游泳。

above prep. in or to a higher place; higher than over; too good for, more than. 在……上面, 超过, 胜过, 多于

1. × His loyalty is beyond suspicion.

His loyalty is above suspicion.

他的忠诚是毋庸置疑的。

above 比较强调本身凌驾于一般的标准之上, 而 beyond 偏重客观事物非本身能力所能达到或完成的。如:

Earthquake is a natural disaster beyond our control.

地震是一种我们无法控制的自然灾害。

2. × A plane is flying over the clouds.

A plane is flying above the clouds.

飞机飞行在云层之上。

above 在表示空间或物体位置时, 指两物不接触; 而 over 可指两物体接触, 而且表示一物盖在另一

物正上方。如:

She put her handkerchief over her face.

她用手帕罩住自己的脸。

He spoke to her over his shoulder.

他侧过肩与她说话。

|| **above all** 首先,最重要的是,特别是 如:

Fluency is important, but above all you should express yourself clearly.

流利诚然重要,但首先要传情达意。

be above one (one's head) 太高深,无法理解 如:

This book is above me.

这本书我无法理解。

abridgement *n.* abridging; sth, esp. a

book that is shortened 节本、摘要

× This book is the abstract of the novel "Gone with the wind."

This book is the abridgement of the novel "Gone with the wind."

这是小说《飘》的节本。

abstract是指书、文、档案的摘要或概要,反映了最基本的内容,一般用作原文的索引,有较大的改动。如:

The professor found he had forgotten to bring the abstract of his speech.

教授发现自己忘了带演讲摘要。

abridgement是指较大著作而浓缩

的节本。它删除了次要部分,但主要内容及风格保持不变,对原作的改动很少。

abroad *ad.* in or to a foreign country or countries;

far and wide, everywhere. 在(去)国外;到处

1. × Why shouldn't we go to abroad together?

Why shouldn't we go abroad together?

我们一起去国外不好吗?

abroad在这里是一个副词。“去国外”要说:“go abroad”,不可说:“go to abroad”。

2. × China tea sells well at home and in abroad.

China tea sells well at home and abroad.

中国茶叶畅销国内外。

at home and abroad(在国内外)为固定词组,不可改为:at home and at(in)abroad.也不可改为:abroad and at home.

|| **be all abroad**(口语)感到莫名其妙,离题 如:

I'm all abroad.

把我弄糊涂了。

absence *n.* being away(from); lack, non-existence 缺席、不在(场);缺乏,

没有

1. × Business made my absence necessary of home.

Business made my absence necessary from home.

公事使我必须离家外出。

2. × His absence from mind during driving nearly caused an accident.

His absence of mind during driving nearly caused an accident.

他驾驶时心不在焉,几乎出事故。

在 absence 表示“缺席”时常用介词 from。如:

absence from class(缺课), absence from school(没上学)

而在表示“没有,不存在”时,则与介词“of”连用。如:

absence of order(无秩序), absence of light(没有光)

absent *a.* not present; lost in thought; abstracted 缺; 旷

1. × The sales manager was absent at the meeting.

The sales manager was absent from the meeting.

销售经理没出席会议。

当“absent”表示“缺席”时与介词“from”连用而不能用其他介词如:

The pupil was frequently absent from

class.

那学生经常缺课。

2. × She was absent from school.

She was absent at school.

她到学校去了,不在家。

absent 后接介词 from 为:不在、缺席。absent at(in)有两种情况:如果主语是不能活动的东西,absent at(in)表示“在……,没有……”

如:

Snow is absent in some countries.

有些国家见不到雪。

如果主语是可以活动的东西(一般是人)时,absent at(in)就表示:“(某人)不在场,而在介词 at(in)所表示的地点”如:

She is absent in London.

他外出了,现在伦敦。

absolutely *ad* completely, unconditionally 完全地、无限地、无条件地

- × He is right absolutely in refusing to do it.

He is absolutely right in refusing to do it.

他拒绝做那件事是完全正确的。被 absolutely 所修饰的形容词都要放在 absolutely 之后。如:

His calculation is absolutely wrong.
他的算法完全错了。

【注】此外,absolutely 也常常单独使用。如:

Do you think so? Absolutely.

你是这样认为的吗? 绝对地。

absorb *vt.* soak up; take up the whole attention of (a person) 吸收; 吸引; 使全神贯注于

× He was completely absorbed at his work.

He was completely absorbed in his work.

他完全专心于他的工作。

“be absorbed in”“专心于”是一个固定词组,其中介词 in 不能用别的介词替换。

academic *a.* scholarly literary; too much concerned with theory, logic, not sufficiently practical 学术上的,学术性的

1. This is an academic approach to pop music.

This is an academical approach to pop music.

这是对流行音乐的一种学术探讨。

“academic”主要是指“学术上的,学术性的”。academical 指与大学或学院有关的,许多词典认为二者可互换使用,但 academic 更常用。

2. × The question of whether you should go to America is completely academ-

ical—without the knowledge of English, you would not get a job.

The question of whether you should go to America is completely academic—without the knowledge of English, you would not get a job.

你是否应该去美国这完全是个不切实际的问题——不懂英语你就连工作也找不到。

在表示“只重理论的,不切实际的”意义时,只能用 academic,而 academical 不能表示此意。

accept *v.* take sth. offered; believe in or agree on 接受,领受;承认,同意

× It is reported that three senators have received \$ 500, 000 from the Oil Company.

It is reported that three senators have accepted \$ 500, 000 from the Oil Company.

据报,有三位参议员接受了那个石油公司 50 万美元的贿赂。

receive 表示“收到,接到”,不表示“答应”或“承诺”的意思。如:

I received a letter from Beijing.

我收到一封从北京发来的信。

而 accept 表示“领受、接受、答应”。如:

I received their invitation, but did not accept it.

我收到他们的请柬,但没有接

受。

accessary(**accessory**) *n.* sth. additional;

a person who helps sb. esp. a criminal 同谋者, 帮凶; 附属品, 附件

以前 **accessary** 表示: 同谋、帮凶; **accessory** 表示: 附加物。现在, 这两个词已无区别, 可以互换, 不过现在多用 **accessory** 而很少用 **accessary**。如:

His accessories escaped punishment.

他的同谋逃避了惩罚。

She wore matching accessories.
她戴着与身分相符的饰物。

accident *n.* an unexpected happening, often harmful, causing injury, etc. 事故、意外伤害

1. × He had an incident at work.

He had an accident at work.

他上班时出了意外事故。

accident 指“意想不到的或突然发生的事故。”如受伤、车祸等事故。**incident** 指事出有因的事件, 特指个人的事情, 可用作重大的政治或外交争端或战争的事件。如:

He resolved never to tell anyone about the incident.

他决定不把这件事告诉任何人。

2. × Many were injured but none died in

the traffic event.

Many were injured but none died in the traffic accident.

这起交通事故中有许多人受伤, 但没人死亡。

交通事故要用 **accident**, 而不能用 **event**。**event** 常指重大事件, 也指事件发生的事实。如:

Two events received national attention during the year.

这一年有两大事件引起了全国的注意。

|| **by accident** 偶然地; 意外地 如:

Columbus discovered America by accident.

哥伦布意外地发现了美洲大陆。

acclaim *vt.* welcome with shouts of approval; applaud loudly 欢呼、喝彩; 称赞

× We warmly exclaimed the opening of the conference.

We warmly acclaimed the opening of the conference.

我们热烈欢呼代表大会的召开。**acclaim** 与 **exclaim** 词形与读音相近, 容易混淆, 词义也相近, 但区别还是明显的。“**acclaim**”表示“欢呼、喝彩”, 而“**exclaim**”表示“呼喊、大声说”。如:

“What?” he exclaimed, “Are you leaving without me?”

“什么?”他大叫道,“你要丢下我独自离开吗?”

-n. acclamation 欢迎;认可

× The play received great critical acclamations.

The play received great critical acclaim.

该剧极获好评。

acclaim 作名词时与 acclamation 有细微的差别,acclamation 一般表示有实际欢呼声及对喝彩声的赞同,所以说:“通过口头表决方式”用 by acclamation;而 acclaim 不一定非要特指表示赞同的实际欢呼声及喝彩声。现在此词多表示“欢迎、称赞、认可”。如:

There were all the acclamations of the crowd.

到处是群众的欢呼声。

accompany *vt.* go, be or do with (sb. or sth.); play a musical instrument; go along with (a singer, etc.) 伴随、陪同;伴奏

1. Mr. Green accompanied the singer at the piano.

Mr. Green accompanied the singer on the piano.

格林先生用钢琴给那位歌唱家伴奏。

以上两个句子都对,但在大多数

情况下,特别是美国英语多用介词 on.

2. × The singer was accompanied by a piano.

The singer was accompanied with a piano.

歌唱家在钢琴的伴奏下演唱。

注意用什么乐器给某人伴奏时用: be accompanied with sth. 在表示由某人给伴奏时用: be accompanied by sb. 如:

The singer was accompanied by a pianist.

歌唱家在钢琴家的伴奏下演唱。

3. × I shall accompany them to go to the airport.

I shall accompany them to the airport.

我将陪同他们去机场。

英语通常不说: accompany sb. to go to, 而是把“to go”删去不用。

4. × I accompanied with the guests to the gate.

I accompanied the guests to the gate.

我陪客人到大门口。

accompany 作“陪送”时讲,用作及物动词,后面不可接 with,而是直接跟宾语。

accomplish *vt.* complete sth. successfully (较正式)完成(任务),达到(目