

A Pocket Dictionary of Proverbs in
English-Chinese and Chinese-English

简明 英汉-汉英 谚语词典

陈璞 周茜 王欣 唐新秀 编著

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前 言

谚语,是口语中常用的现成话。狭义的谚语是生活实践中总结出来的带有实践经验的话,如常识谚、事理谚、气象谚等。广义上的谚语则大体上相当于俗语,包括歇后语和惯用语等。在表达思想感情时恰当地使用谚语,可以增加语言的鲜明性、生动性和感染力。

每个民族都有自己的谚语。生活习俗不同,文化背景不同,谚语也不同。即使同一思想内容的谚语,不同民族也可有不同的说法。

根据笔者多年的经验,我国的英语学习者学习英语的时间不可谓不长,掌握的词汇量不可谓不多,但要说出或者写出文采飞扬、妙趣横生的地道英语却不是很容易。解决的办法诚然很多,而熟练掌握一些地道的英语谚语不失为一条捷径。本词典则在一定程度上满足了这种需要。

本词典在编写上本着以下的原则:

①不仅收录常见的汉语谚语,而且收录大量的英语谚语。这里有两种情况,一是英谚本身有对应的汉谚,二是虽没有成熟的汉谚,但其汉译有较强的哲理性,且可为国人接受,也一并收录。

②翻译上取直译为主,意译为辅,尽可能保持原汁原味,又最大限度地做到简洁、流畅、琅琅上口、易学易记。

③以汉语拼音字母为序排列,版式简洁明快,便于读者翻检查考,真正做到开卷有益。

限于编者水平,本词典必定存在一些错误与疏漏,诚望读者批评指正。

编 者

2001.8 北京

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A

A bad beginning makes a bad ending.

恶始必有恶终。

A bad bush is better than the open field.

林木稀疏也比空地好。

A bad compromise is better than a good lawsuit.

胜诉不如和解。

A bad custom is like a good cake, better broken than kept.

好蛋糕莫保留,坏习气要除掉。

A bad day never has a good night.

白天做坏事,夜晚睡不安。

A bad excuse is better than none at all.

辩解总比不辩好。

A bad gardener quarrels with his rake.

拉不出屎来怨茅房。

A bad husband makes a bad wife. /As is the husband, so is the wife.

不是一家人,不进一家门。

A bad penny always turns up.

无用之人,不受欢迎。

A bad shearer never had a good sickle.

拙匠无利器。

A bad thing is dear at any price.

好货不便宜,便宜没好货。

A bad thing never dies.

坏事传千年。

A bad workman always quarrels with his tools.

人笨怪刀钝。

A bald head is soon shaven.

秃头剃得快。

A bargain is a bargain.

买卖一言为定。

A barking dog is better than a sleeping lion.

犬吠不咬人,狮睡须提防。

A barley-corn is better than a diamond to a cock.

对公鸡来说麦粒胜过钻石。

A beard well lathered is half shaved.

良好的开始是成功的一半。



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A beggar can never be bankrupt.

乞丐决不会破产。

A beggar may sing before a footpad.

乞丐尽可在拦路贼面前高唱。

A beggar's purse is bottomless.

乞丐的口袋没有底。

A beggar's scrip is never filled.

乞丐无足时。

A best marksman may miss.

智者千虑,必有一失。

②

A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.

双鸟在林不如一鸟在手。

A bird is known by its note, and a man by his talk.

鸟以声闻,人以言知。

A bird may be known by its song.

闻其言而知其人。

A bird never flew on one wing.

孤掌难鸣。

A bird that loves to sing does not make a nest.

爱叫的鸟儿不做窝。

A bit in the morning is better than nothing all day.

哪怕有一点,也总比全部落空好。

A black hen lays a white egg.

丑妇生俊儿。

A black plum is as sweet as a white.

喜欢的就是好的。

A blate cat makes a proud mouse.

猫儿腼腆,老鼠翻天。

A bleating sheep loses a bite.

说话太多,错过良机。

A blind man may perchance hit the mark.

盲人也可能偶然射中目标。

A blind man will not thank you for a looking glass.

盲人不会谢你的镜子。

A blind pigeon may sometimes find a grain of wheat.

瞎眼鸽子有时也会找到一粒麦子。

A blithe heart makes a blooming visage.

人逢喜事精神爽。

A blunt knife may be sharpened on a stone, but if a man is stupid there is no help for his stupidity.

刀钝可磨,人蠢无药。

A blustering night, a fair day.

一夜风吹狂,次日天晴朗。

A boaster and a liar are cousins-german.

吹牛的和撒谎的是表兄弟。

A body without knowledge is like a house without a foundation.

人无知识犹如房屋没有地基。

A boisterous horse must have a rough bridle.

烈马要套粗笼头。

A bonny bride is soon buskit, and a short horse is soon curried.

俊俏的新娘好梳妆,矮小的马儿好梳理。

A book is like a garden carried in the pocket.

书是随身携带的花园。

A book is the same today as it always was and it will never change.



好书千载常如新。

A book that remains /shut is but a block.

书本不常翻,犹如一块砖。

A borrowed loan should come laughing home.

借人钱,笑着还。

A bosom friend afar brings a distant land near.

海内存知己,天涯若比邻。

A bow long bent at last waxes weak.

人不是铁打的。

④

A bow long bent grows weak.

弓拉长久会变松。

A brave retreat is a brave exploit.

勇退即勇绩。

A bride is diligent for three days.

新官上任三把火。

A broken pot is better than none.

破锅总比没锅强。

A bully is always a coward.

残暴者最怯懦。

A burden of one's choice is not felt.

爱挑的担子不嫌重。

A burnt child dreads the fire.

一朝被蛇咬,十年怕井绳。

A busy mother makes a lazy daughter.

忙碌的母亲女儿懒。

A busy man is plagued with one desire, but an idle one with a thousand.

忙人为一个欲望而苦恼,闲人被无数欲望所折磨。

A buxom widow must be either married, buried or shut up in a convent.

寡妇门前是非多。

A candle lights others and consumes itself.

蜡烛照亮了别人,毁灭了自己。

A carpenter is known by his chips.

什么样的木匠干什么样的活。

A carper will cavil at anything.

爱挑剔的人对什么都挑剔。

A case well-stated is half-tried.

充分陈述的案件能省去一半的审问。

A casual remark sounds significant to a suspicious listener.

言者无心,听者有意。

A cat has nine lives.

猫有九命。

A cat in gloves catches no mice.

四肢不勤，一事无成。

A cat may look at a King.

猫也可以看看国王。

A centipede does not topple over even when dead.

百足之虫，死而不僵。

A chain is no stronger than its weakest link.

一环薄弱，全盘皆输。

A change is as good as a rest.

变换工作等于休息。

A cheerful look makes a dish a feast.

脸上笑嘻嘻，便饭成筵席。



A cheerful wife is the joy of life.

欢乐之妻，人生乐趣。

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A child is better unborn than untaught.

生儿不教，不如不生。

A child may have too much of his mother's blessing.

母爱过多则宠坏孩子。

A chronic disease is difficult to treat.

宿疾难医。

A clay idol fording a river is hardly able to save itself.

泥菩萨过河，自身难保。

⑥

A clean conscience fears not false accusations.

身正不怕影子歪。

A clean fast is better than a dirty breakfast.

宁为清贫，不为浊富。

A clean glove often hides a dirty hand.

绣花枕头一包草。

A clean hand wants no washing.

清洁之手无需洗涤。

A clean mouth and an honest hand will take a man through any land.

礼貌待人,事事顺利。

A clear conscience is a sure card.

不做亏心事乃万全之策。

A clear conscience is absolutely essential to happiness.

问心无愧,事事开心。

A clear conscience laughs at false accusations.

只要问心无愧,旁人的指责可以一笑置之。

A close mouth catches no flies.

病从口入,祸从口出。

A coach and four may be driven through any Act of Parliament.

法令漏洞很大,可行马车六驾。

A cock is valiant on his own dunghill.

公鸡总在自家的粪堆上称雄。

A cold April the barn will fill.

四月凉,谷满仓。

A cold hand and a warm heart.

刀子嘴,豆腐心。

A cold May and a windy May makes a full barn and a findy.

五月刮风天气冷,五谷丰登装满囤。

A colt you may break, but an old horse you never can.

小驹犹可驯,老马不可调。

A common danger causes common action.

同舟共济。



A common danger produces unity.

共同遇危难,可促进团结。

A common servant is no man's servant.

众人之仆乃无主之仆。

A conceited man will fail; an arrogant man is ignorant.

自满自败,自矜者愚。

A constant guest is never welcome.

常客招人厌。

A contented mind is a continual feast.

知足者常乐。

A contented mind is a perpetual feast.

知足之心犹如不散的筵席。



A contented person is happy with his status quo.

满足现状,心情舒畅。

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A cornered cat becomes as fierce as a lion.

走投无路的猫会变得和狮子一样凶猛。

A corpse cannot be buried in snow.

雪地里埋不住死孩子。

A courtesy is a flower.

礼貌犹如鲜花。

A covetous man is good to none but worse to himself.

贪婪之徒,与世无益,尤害自身。

8

A coward considers difficulties as a heavy burden on his back, but a valiant fighter turns difficulties into a stepping-stone for his advance.

懦夫把困难当作沉重的包袱,勇士把困难化作前进的阶梯。

A coward's fear may make a coward valiant.

恐惧能使胆小鬼变得勇敢。

A crabbed knot must have a crabbed wedge.

难砍的节疤要用利斧。

A cracked bell can never sound well.

破钟敲不响。

A cracked bell never sounds well.

朽木不可雕。

A crafty knave needs no broker.

狡猾的无赖无需中间人。

A crafty person has more than one hideout.

狡兔三窟。

A creaking cart goes long on the wheel.

病夫多长寿。

A creaking door hangs long on its hinges.

吱嘎作响的门用的时间反倒长些。

A crook thinks every man is a crook.

在贼的眼里,人人都是贼。

A crooked man should sow beans, and a wud man peas.

应该让跛子点蚕豆,让疯子点豌豆。

A crow is never the whiter for washing herself often.

乌鸦不管怎样经常洗澡,也不会变白。

A crow remains a crow, no matter how hard it tries to deck itself up with the feather of a peacock.

不管乌鸦用孔雀的羽毛怎样装饰自己,乌鸦毕竟是乌鸦。

A crown is no cure for the headache.

王冠难治头痛。

A curst cow has short horns.



恶牛角短。

A danger foreseen is half avoided.

预见危险,免去一半。

A daughter is fairer than her fair mother.

青出于蓝而胜于蓝。

A deceitful peace is more hurtful than an open war.

虚假的和平比公开的战争危害更大。

A deep-rooted tree is leafy; an ambitious man is vigorous. /

A deep-rooted tree abounds in leaves; an ambitious man is full of vigour.

根深叶才茂,志壮干劲高。

A deformed body may have a beautiful soul.



身体虽残缺,心灵可美好。

英
汉

A delay is not necessarily a denial.

延迟未必是否定。

—

A diamond on a dunghill is a precious diamond still.

粪堆上的钻石仍然是珍贵的钻石。

汉

A disarmed peace is a weak peace.

解除武装的和平是软弱的和平。

英

A disease known is half cured.

弄清了病情,等于治好了一半。

谚

A disease should be treated early; an evil must be rooted out.

治病要趁早,除害要除了。

10

A dog has his a day.

人人都有走运的一天。

A dog is made fat in two meals.

三年清知府,十万雪花银。

典

A dog that barks at random makes all the street bark in earnest.

一犬吠影，百犬吠声。

A dog that is bemired tries to bemire others.

沾上污泥的狗尽力要把污泥弄到别的狗身上。

A dog that will fetch a bone will carry a bone.

对你说别人坏话的人也会说你的坏话。

A dog will not howl if you beat him with a bone.

肉骨头打狗狗不叫。

A donkey looks beautiful to a donkey.

物以类聚。

A door must be either shut or open.

非此即彼。

A drowning man will catch at a straw.

病急乱投医。

A drunkard's purse is a bottle.

酒鬼身上钱，全部扔酒店。

A dry May and a dripping June bring all things into tune.

五月天晴，六月雨来，万物合拍又和谐。

A duck will not always dabble in the same gutter.

一只鸭子不会常在同一条水沟中玩水。

A dwarf going upstairs getting higher step by step.

矮子上楼梯，步步登高。

A dwarf on a giant's shoulders sees the farther of the two.

矮子站在巨人肩上，比两个人看得都远。

A fair death honours the whole life.

死得高尚，一生荣光。

A fair exchange is no robbery.



公平交易,并非强夺。

A fair face but foul heart.

金玉其外,败絮其中。

A fair face is half a portion.

姿色艳,嫁妆半。

A fair face may hide a foul heart.

漂亮的面孔后面可能藏着一颗龌龊的心。

A fair wife and a backdoor will quickly make a rich man poor.

娇妻和后门,使人富变穷。

A fair woman without virtue is like palled wine.

无德之美,淡酒一杯。



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A faithful friend is hard to find.

忠实朋友实难求。

A fall into the pit, a gain in your wit.

吃一堑,长一智。

A false friend and a shadow attend only when the sun shines.

伪善的朋友像阴影,阳光下才能显露出。

A false friend is worse than an avowed enemy.

假朋友比死对头还坏。

A false tongue will hardly speak truth.

12

假舌头说不了真话。

A fat kitchen makes a lean purse.

大吃大喝使人贫穷。

A fault confessed is half redressed.

承认错误等于改正了一半。

A fault denied is twice committed.