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<u>口袋书有声系列</u>

英语看招

Keys to Learning English



吉林科学技术出版社

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Preface

Believe it or not, learning English can be a lot of fun! Talking to foreigners in their own language is an exciting way to learn about other cultures. But studying a new language can also be a lot of hard work — memorizing vocabulary words, learning grammar, etc. Sometimes it seems the harder you study, the more frustrated you get. Well, don't study harder—study smarter. Knowing how to study English will help you improve more quickly.

Keys to Learning English will teach you ways to study smarter. In order to really know English, you can't just memorize it. You have to practice it! This book

gives you many tips for practicing and improving all your English skills, including conversation, vocabulary, reading and writing.

Unfortunately, there's no magic way to learn English. The lessons in this book make English easier and more fun, but there's still a lot of work to do. So what are you waiting for? Let's get started.

Your Friend.

Doris Brougham

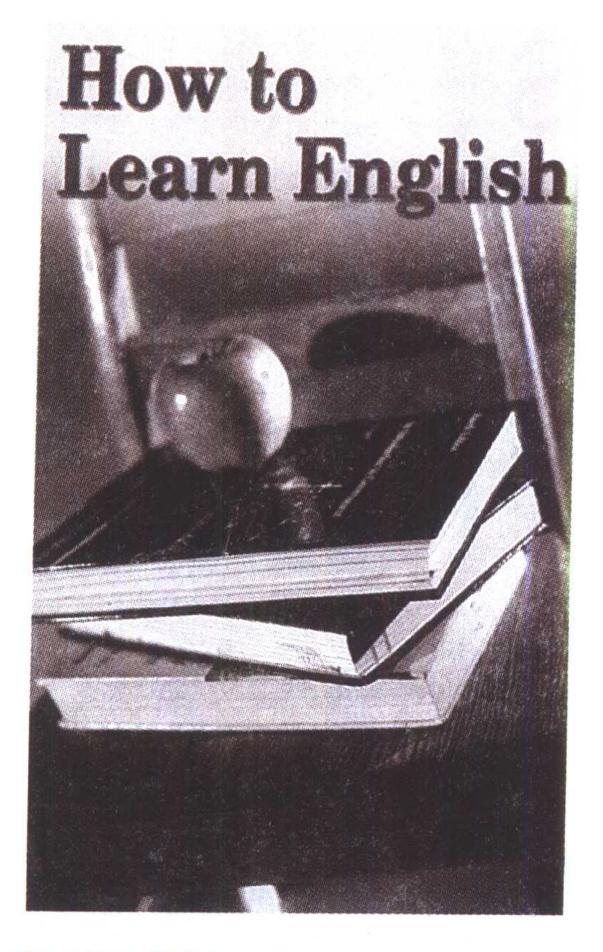
Doris Brougham

Contents

How to Learn English ····································
Tips on Using an English-English Dictionary
Finding Opportunities to Practice ·······17 找机会练习
How to Improve Your Conversation Skills ······23 如何提升你的会话技巧
Pronunciation Primer ······31 发音入门
How to Improve Your Vocabulary ······· 37 如何增加你的词汇

目录

Confusing Words ······ 43 令人混淆的词
Properly Speaking ······51 让演讲更出色
Listen Up! 57 仔细听
Don't Read This! ······63 别读这篇文章
How to Develop Your Writing Skills ······69 英文写作技巧
Tips on Writing Personal Letters ·75 写个人书信的诀窍
Grammar Relief ·······85 减轻学语法重担
How to Study Studio Classroom ······91 如何研读«空中英语教室»
中文翻译······98



How to Learn English

So you want to learn English? I guess that goes without saying if you're reading this article. First of all, you need to ask yourself, "How badly do I want to?"

Some students treat English as a content subject, like history, geography or literature. All you do is memorize a lot of facts and you've got it, right? Actually, becoming *proficient* in a foreign language is more like learning to play the piano. It takes practice. A *lot* of practice.

But some of you are saying, "I just don't have any language aptitude." Oh, come now. If you can read this, you have plenty of aptitude for learning a language. The more important question is whether or not you have the motivation. Many people only want to learn

English to pass tests in school. That's not enough. Experts tell us that the most successful language learners have a strong desire to communicate with people in the <u>target culture</u>.

By the way, what do you want to be able to do with your English? Have a conversation with a foreigner? Understand movies without reading the Chinese subtitles? Read an English newspaper? Study abroad? If you determine why you want to learn English, it will help you know where to start. Learning English requires a number of very specific skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing. Think about which skill you need to brush up on the most.

In this series, "Keys to Learning English," we want to give you some principles to help you improve your lan-

guage learning skills. But there is no magic *formula*. You can't just wake up one morning, say a few magic words, and instantly turn into a *fluent* English speaker. You have to <u>apply yourself</u>. And you can't give up. If you use the "keys" in this series, they will help you unlock the door to the world of English. I promise.

WORD BANK

proficient(adj)

[prə'fiʃənt]

精通的

aptitude(n)

['æptə_tjud]

才能

motivation(n)

[motə ve∫ən]

动机

subtitle(n)

['shb_taitl]

电影字幕

formula(n)

[formjələ]

公式

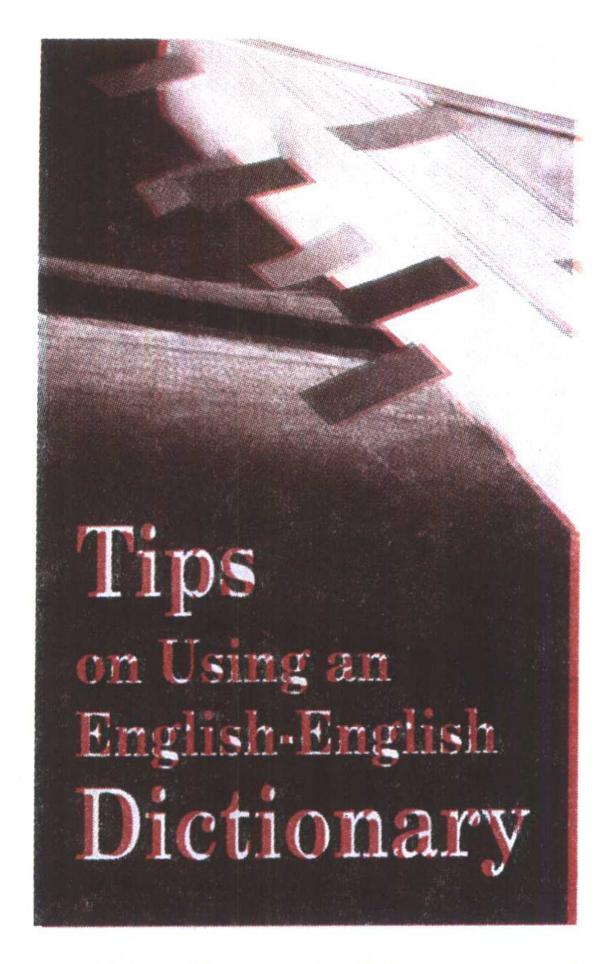
fluent(adj)

['fluənt]

流利的

—— MORE INFORMATION

content subject(n phr)
科目
target culture(n phr)
锁定文化,此指某个追求的文化目标
brush up on (v phr)
温习;加强
apply yourself(v phr)
全力以赴



Tips on Using an English-English Dictionary

hat is the meaning of tintinnabulary? Oh, you don't know? Well, to find out, go to one of the most valuable reference books—a dictionary. But wait! Is there an English-English dictionary on your shelf? There should be! Here's why.

When looking for correct meanings of English words, an English-English dictionary works best. Why? Because a word in one language doesn't always correspond to one word in another language. Also, an English-Chinese dictionary may not always have the correct English meaning of words. An English-Chinese dictionary is fine for a quick reference, but also check an English-English one.

Your vocabulary will also increase more quickly if you use an English-English

dictionary. You can learn other words that are associated with a key word. Learning the meanings of words in English will help you think in English, too.

Some dictionaries for native speakers will be too hard for you. Companies like Oxford and Longman publish dictionaries for English learners. Use a dictionary aimed at your level of English. Trying to use one that's too difficult will only discourage you.

A dictionary gives much more information than *merely* definitions of words. You can find pronunciations, parts of speech, example sentences, charts, illustrations and sometimes the history of the word.

The pronunciation of each *entry* follows it. For example, in the *Longman Dictio*-