COLLINS COBUILD

柯林斯COBUILD 学生英语词典

new

STUDENT'S DICTIONARY

NEW EDITION
COMPLETELY REVISED

外教社

上海外语教育出版社

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COBUILD

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出 版 前 言

自 20 世纪 80 年代末起,世界各国的英语教学界就对以全新构想编写的"柯林斯 COBUILD 英语词典系列"表示出极大的兴趣,并一致认为,该系列词典开创了高科技时代词典编纂的先河。这一系列词典是在世界著名的哈珀－柯林斯出版社(HarperCollins Publishers Limited)的支持下,由英国伯明翰大学(Birmingham University)词典编纂组经过十余年的努力,精心编纂而成。参与编写工作的有数百名英语教学、词典编纂和电脑软件专家。从词典的研制到出版花费了巨额的资金。

"柯林斯 COBUILD 英语词典系列"之所以被称为"以全新的构想编写而成的新一代辞书",是因为英国伯明翰大学词典编纂组首先意识到电脑时代的到来对于词典编纂的意义,并将大型电脑运用于词典的编纂工作。由于电脑的发展,利用电脑庞大的存储和检索功能对大量语言现象作具体详尽的分析已成为可能。以往,词典编纂人员只能根据个别语言现象推断出词义和用法;现在,他们可以利用先进的电脑设备,输入和检索数以亿万字计的语料,根据大量而确切的语言数据来确定词义和用法。英国伯明翰大学词典编纂组就是根据上述原则,编纂了这一系列新颖独特的词典。

本系列词典中所有的例词和例句均取材于 COBUILD 英语语料库(The Bank of English)。该英语语料库的名称 COBUILD 系 COLLINS BIRMINGHAM UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE DATABASE 的首字母缩略词,如果直译应该是"柯林斯－伯明翰大学国际语料库"。该语料库包含了小说和非小说类的多种语体材料,如广播和电视用语、日常自然会话、报刊杂志文章,也包含了英国英语、美国英语和澳大利亚英语等多种英语方言。

伯明翰大学的词典编纂组正是依据了该语料库所提供的词频,确定了哪些是最常用词,哪些是次常用词;哪些是美国英语用法,哪些是英国英语或澳大利亚英语的用法。《柯林斯 COBUILD 学生英语词典》(新版)选取了最常用的单词和习语,配有详尽的解释,不仅提供该词的语义和语法特征,还辟出专门栏目说明用法,并用真实实用的句子来解释词目和习语。对于部分词条,还配上形象的图示,使读者能通过图示更确切地理解词义,熟悉并全面掌握这些词条。

为了便于读者使用,本词典在正文前增加了词典使用指南。词典的正文中间,还配有语法知识插页,就英语的用法和语境作了较全面的介绍,以帮助

读者提高英语的应用能力。

此外,本词典采用双色印刷,每一条词目都用红色标明,更为鲜明醒目,便于查找。本词典还提供精美插图,帮助读者直观地理解文化背景和分类词汇,便于记忆。

为了提高我国的英语教学和科研水平,更好地为读者服务,上海外语教育出版社引进了"柯林斯 COBUILD 英语词典系列",以让我国广大英语学习者和从事相关工作的人员能够获得更多更新颖的工具书。为此,上海外语教育出版社的编辑与柯林斯出版社的编辑通力合作,对本系列词典中的部分例句进行了修订,使之更符合我国国情。毋庸置疑,如同其他词典一样,本系列词典在编校过程中难免仍有疏漏和失误,敬请广大读者批评指正。

需要说明的是,本系列词典的例证均选自 COBUILD 英语语料库,采用这些例句的目的是为了说明词目的语义和语法特征及用法,并不代表原出版者和本社的观点。

Introduction

A dictionary is probably the single most important reference book that a student of English can buy. This dictionary is especially important, because for many of its users it will be the first dictionary entirely in English that they use.

Like all COBUILD Dictionaries, the New Student's Dictionary is based on the analysis of real language in use. Over the last few years, we have built up a huge collection of text, both written and spoken, called The Bank of English. At present, The Bank of English stands at over 320 million words, and it forms the basis of all the statements that COBUILD makes about the language. It enables the dictionary writers at COBUILD to explore the way in which the language works, and reveals the patterns and systems that underlie the English language.

Because it is all held on computer, The Bank of English provides very fast and accurate access to all sorts of information about the language. One very significant area is word frequency. This information is absolutely vital in helping to prepare dictionary entries, both because it helps in the selection of words that are suitable for use in dictionary definitions, and because it provides a sensible list of words that need to be included and defined.

The words explained in this dictionary account for over 90% of the language that is written and spoken. That is because there is a relatively small number of words which are used over and over again, while there is a larger number of words which are not used very frequently. For example, in this introduction, there are 743 words in total. Of these, the word 'the' occurs 61 times, while 169 words occur only once. In fact, there are only 275 different words in the whole of the introduction. In a much larger amount of text, the words that do not occur very frequently are much less important. That is why this dictionary concentrates on the words that occur over and over again, and why the entries represent the language that students really do need to know and to use.

One of the primary purposes of a learner's dictionary such as this one is to provide information about those words that the user already 'knows', as well as to provide information that the user does not know. Many words have several uses and meanings, and we do not really 'know' a word until we are familiar with its full range of meaning and grammatical behaviour. The information in this dictionary has been carefully chosen and presented in order to enable the dictionary user to be a language user, that is, it enables the student to write better English as well as understand English better.

The entries provide a detailed account of the main uses and meanings of each word. Each of the forms is listed at the start of each entry, along with information about variant spellings where they exist. Explanations are written in full sentences, and reflect typical grammatical behaviour as well as providing a clear description of meaning. And of course, the thousands of

examples are taken directly from The Bank of English, showing typical patterns of use and grammatical structure.

As well as continuing the traditions which have become the hallmark of COBUILD dictionaries over the last 10 years, this new edition of the Student's Dictionary has a number of new features. The most immediately noticeable is the use of colour, which has been introduced to help the entries stand out on a page. Colour is also used in many of the illustrations as a means of highlighting the elements that are being illustrated.

There are a number of usage notes throughout the text which supplement the information already provided in the dictionary entries, and which, in many cases, draw together information that helps to clarify the distinctions that exist between some items.

In the early pages of the book there is a Practical Guide to Using the Dictionary: this lists all the important features in the dictionary, and provides exercises to help the user become more proficient in dictionary use.

We hope that the changes we have made to this edition prove to be useful. As always, we welcome any comments that readers may have about our books, so please contact us if you have any observations, criticisms, or questions. You can contact us from our World-Wide Web site at:

http://www.cobuild.collins.co.uk

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Grammar

Introduction

Nearly all the words that are explained in this dictionary have grammar information given about them. For each word or meaning, its word class is shown in capital letters, just before the definition. Examples of word classes are N-C, VERB, PRON, and ADV.

The sections below contain further information about each word class.

Verbs

VERB

A verb is a word which is used to say what someone or something does or what happens to them, or to give information about them.

eat: *We ate chips every night.*
lose: *My husband lost his job.*
sleep: *She slept till noon.*

PHR-VERB

means a phrasal verb. A phrasal verb is a combination of a verb and an adverb (for example *catch up*) or a verb and a preposition (for example *call for*), which together have a particular meaning. Some phrasal verbs have both an adverb and a preposition, (for example *add up to*). For more information about these verbs see the Reference Page on Phrasal Verbs.

catch up: *I stopped and waited for her to catch up.*
call for: *I shall be calling for you at seven o'clock.*
cut off: *He threatened to cut my hair off.*
add up to: *Profits can add up to millions of dollars.*

PASSIVE-VERB

A passive verb is a verb that is formed using a form of 'be' followed by the past participle of a main verb. Passive verbs focus on the person or thing that is affected by an action.

glue: *She was glued to the television.*
born: *My mother was 40 when I was born.*

LINK-VERB

A link verb is a verb such as 'be', 'become', 'feel', or 'seem'. These verbs connect the subject of a sentence to a complement. Most link verbs do not occur in the passive.

be: *He was the tallest in the room.*
feel: *We felt very happy.*
seem: *He seemed to like me.*

MODAL

means a modal verb such as 'may', 'must', or 'would'. Modal verbs have only one form. For more information about these verbs see the Reference Page on Modal Verbs.

can: *Can I help you?*
must: *I must leave fairly soon.*
shall: *I shall do what you suggest.*

Nouns

N-C

means a count noun. Count nouns refer to things which can be counted, and they have both the singular and plural form. When a count noun is used in the singular it must normally have a word such as 'a', 'an', 'the', or 'my' in front of it.

head: *She turned her head away from him.*
room: *Does the hotel have large rooms?*

N-U

means an uncount noun. Uncount nouns refer to things that are not normally counted or not considered to be individual items. Uncount nouns do not have a plural form, and are used with a singular verb.

help: *I need* **help** *with my homework.*
electricity: ***Electricity*** *is dangerous.*
bread: *Please buy some* **bread** *when you go to town.*

N-VAR

means a variable noun. Variable nouns are uncount when they refer to something in general, and count nouns when they refer to a particular instance of something.

conversation:
I found her in **conversation** *with Mrs Williams.*
I struck up a **conversation** *with him.*

Other variable nouns refer to substances. They are uncount when they refer to a mass of the substance, and count nouns when they refer to types or brands.

shampoo:
...a bottle of **shampoo**.
...bubble baths, soaps, and **shampoos**.

N-SING

means a singular noun. A singular noun is always singular and must have a word such as 'a', 'an', 'the', or 'my' in front of it.

sun: *The* **sun** *was shining.*
wash: *I went upstairs and had a* **wash**.

N-PL

means a plural noun. A plural noun is always plural and is used with plural verbs.

clothes: *His* **clothes** *looked terribly dirty.*

expenses: *They have agreed to pay for travel and* **expenses**.

N-TITLE

means a noun that is used to refer to someone who has a particular role or position. Titles come before the name of the person and begin with a capital letter.

President: *He believes there probably was a conspiracy to kill* **President** *Kennedy in 1963.*
Sir: *...* **Sir** *Christopher Wren.*

N-VOC

means a vocative noun. A vocative noun is a noun that is used when speaking directly to somone or writing to them.

darling: *Thank you,* **darling**.
dad: *How do you feel,* **Dad**?

N-PROPER

means a proper noun. A proper noun refers to one person, place, thing, or institution, and begins with a capital letter.

God: *He believes in* **God**.
Senate: *All of Clinton's cabinet appointments must be confirmed by the* **Senate**.

Adjectives

ADJ

means an adjective. An adjective is a word which is used to tell you more about a person or thing, such as their appearance, colour, size, or other qualities.

white: *She bought a loaf of* **white** *bread.*
angry: *I felt* **angry**.
blank: *He tore a* **blank** *page from his notebook.*

ADJ BEFORE N

means an adjective that is normally

used only in front of a noun. For example, you talk about an 'indoor swimming pool', but you do not say 'The swimming pool was indoor'.

maximum: *We want the **maximum** number of people to attend.*
northern: *Matilda was born in **northern** Italy.*

ADJ AFTER LINK-V
means an adjective that is normally used only after a link verb. For example, you can say 'She was glad', but you do not talk about 'a glad woman'.

alone: *I wanted to be **alone**.*
sure: *I'm not quite **sure**.*

Adverbs
ADV
means an adverb. An adverb is a word that gives more information about when, how, where, or in what circumstances something happens.

tomorrow: *I'll see you **tomorrow**, all right?*
quickly: *He dressed **quickly**.*
home: *She wanted to go **home**.*

Other word classes
PHRASE
A phrase is a group of words which have a particular meaning when they are used together. This meaning is not always understandable from the separate parts.

in the bag: *It's **in the bag**. Unofficially, the job's yours.*
sit tight: *Sit **tight**; I'll be right back.*

PREP
means a preposition. A preposition is a word such as 'by', 'with', or 'from' which is always followed by a noun group or the '-ing' form of a verb.

near: *He stood **near** the door.*
of: *He had little chance **of** winning.*

PRON
means a pronoun. A pronoun is used to refer to someone or something that has already been mentioned or whose identity is already known.

he: *My father is fat. **He** weighs over fifteen stone.*
them: *Did you give it to **them**?*
this: ***This** is what I wanted to say: it wasn't my idea.*
someone: *He has a reputation of being **someone** who is independent.*

CONJ
means a conjunction. Conjunctions are words such as 'and', 'but', 'although', or 'nor', which are used to link two words or two clauses in a sentence.

since: *So much has changed in the sport **since** I was a teenager.*
before: *He phoned on Tuesday, just **before** you came.*

DET
means a determiner. A determiner is a word such as 'a', 'the', 'my', or 'every' which is used at the beginning of a noun group.

an: *We went to **an** art exhibition.*
the: ***The** man began to run towards the boy.*
every: *She spoke to **every** person at that party.*

CONVENTION
means a word or fixed phrase which is used in conversation, for example when greeting someone, apologizing, or replying. Examples of conventions are 'hello', 'sorry', and 'I'm afraid'. For more information about conventions, see the Reference Pages on Offers and Replies, and Greetings and Goodbyes.

QUANT
means a quantifier. A quantifier is a word or phrase like 'plenty' or 'a lot' which allows you say in a general way how many there are of something, or how much there is of something. Quantifiers are often follwed by 'of'.

all: *He was talking to **all** of us.*
enough: *They had **enough** cash for a one-way ticket.*
little: ***Little** is known about his childhood.*
whole: *We spent the **whole** summer in Italy.*

NUM
means a number.

eighteen: *He was employed by them for **eighteen** years.*
billion: *...3 **billion** dollars.*

ORD
means an ordinal. Ordinals are numbers that are used like an adjective or an adverb.

hundredth: *The bank celebrates its **hundredth** anniversary in December.*
first: *There's no time for boyfriends, my career comes **first**.*

PREDET
means a predeterminer. A predeterminer is a word such as 'all' or 'half' which can come before a determiner.

all: *She's worked **all** her life.*
half: ***Half** the letter was in Swedish.*

EXCLAM
means an exclamation. An exclamation is a word or phrase which is spoken suddenly, loudly, or with emphasis in order to express a strong emotion.

oh: *'**Oh!**' Kenny blinked. 'Has everyone gone?'*
gee: ***Gee**, it's hot.*

Some words and meanings have more than one word class. For example:

behind 1: PREP & ADV

This means that 'behind' is a preposition and an adverb for meaning 1.

I put one of the cushions behind his head... She led the way upstairs, with Terry following behind.

Some words and meanings have two word classes, and the definition shows how the word is used in those two word classes. For example:

control 2: VERB & N-U If you **control** a person or machine, or if you have **control** of them, you are able to make them do what you want them to do.

A Practical Guide to the Dictionary

Introduction

These study pages are designed to help you get the most out of the dictionary. Each feature of the dictionary is described and explained, and there are exercises to help you develop your dictionary skills. These are the points covered:

● Entries and guide letters

● Running heads

● Entry order

● Headwords and superheadwords

● Inflected forms and alternative spellings

● Definitions and meanings

● Grammar labels

● Examples

● Style and register

● Pronunciation and wordfinding

● Usage notes

Entries and guide letters

The main text of the dictionary is made up of entries from A to Z. An entry is a complete explanation of a word and all its meanings. For example, the first three entries on page 1 are 'a', 'aback', and 'abandon'.

Entries are listed under the letter that they begin with. A guide letter at the top of every page tells you the first letter of entries on that page. Guide letters look like this: **Ⓐ**

In the table below, the top line shows the guide letters of the dictionary and the bottom line shows the page numbers. The arrow between 100 and C means that the entries on page 100 begin with the letter C.

Exercise 1

a   Look through the Dictionary and find the entries on page 200, 300 and so on, and draw in the arrows to complete the table.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
100___200___300___400___500___600___700___750

b   Which letter has the most entries? ....
c   Which letter has the fewest entries? ....

The answers to these and the other questions in this section are on pages G12 and G13.

Running heads

Next to the guide letter at the top of every page is a word. This word is called a running head. On left-hand pages, the running head is the same as the first complete entry on that page. For example, on page 4 the first complete entry is 'accelerator' and this is the running head at the top of the page. On right-hand pages the running head is the same as the last entry beginning on that page. On page 5, for example, the running head is 'accumulate' because 'accumulate' is the last entry beginning on the page.

The entries are arranged in alphabetical order, so by looking at the running heads on opposite pages, you can see which entries will be found on those two pages.

Exercise 2

Put the words on the left between the appropriate running heads. The first one has been done for you.

1 abroad	a **age** .... **aim**
2 account	b **among** .... **Anglo**
3 acorn	c **antique** .... **appealing**
4 aerosol	d **adviser** .... **against**
5 aged	e **abolish** ....*abroad*......... **accelerate**
6 amaze	f **appear** .... **aptitude**
7 ancestor	g **alpine** .... **amnesty**
8 any	h **aspire** .... **at**
9 approval	i **accelerator** .... **accumulate**
10 assist	j **accurate** .... **activity**

Entry order

In the alphabetical order of entries in the dictionary, spaces, hyphens, apostrophes, and accents do not count. For example:

'check-up' comes after 'checkpoint' and before 'cheek', just as if it was spelled 'checkup'
'director general' comes after 'directorate' and before 'directory', as if it was spelled 'directorgeneral'

In the same way, abbreviations and entries beginning with capital letters are treated exactly like ordinary words, so 'DIY' comes between 'divulge' and 'dizzy', and 'Edwardian' comes between 'education' and 'eel'.

Exercise 3

Put these groups of words into alphabetical order.

1   egg, effortless, e.g. EFL, ego, effort

   ....

2   full-length, full-blown, full, full stop, full-size, full-scale

   ....

.   3   head teacher, head-on, headquarters, head start, head of state, headphones

   ....

4   lasting, last-ditch, last-minute, latch, last, late

   ....

5   newsletter, newsagent, news conference, newscaster, news agency, news

   ....

6   philosophic, phase, PhD, phenomenon, phenomenal, philosopher

   ....

7   rigid, right-handed, rigorous, rightful, right-wing, right-hand

   ....

8   takeoff, takeout, takeover, takeaway, taker, taken, takings

   ....

9   violence, violin, VIP, violent, violet, violate

   ....

10 wording, wore, woolly, word processor, word processing, word

   ....

G4

Headwords and superheadwords

Every entry begins with a headword, starting in the left hand margin of the column. All the headword are printed in red. Some entries are very long and have been divided up into two or more sub-sections. These entries are called superheadwords, and each section has its own headword with information about the meanings contained in that section.

Exercise 4

Look at these superheadword entries and find out how many sub-entries they are divided into.

1	can	10	lead ....
2	close............................	11	mean ....
3	down	12	mind ....
4	even	13	open ....
5	face	14	over ....
6	fancy	15	part ....
7	in	16	post ....
8	just	17	present ....
9	lay	18	right ....

Inflected forms and alternative spellings

Inflected forms are the different grammatical forms that a word can have. Different forms are shown after the pronunciation.

Adjectives and adverbs are shown with their comparative and superlative forms:

happy /'hæpi/ **happier, happiest. 1** ADJ Someone who is **happy** has feelings of joy or contentment. *Marina was a confident, happy child.* ... Irene ... are still happy ... **happily** ADV ...

Nouns are shown with their plural forms:

criterion /kraɪ'tɪəriən/ **criteria** /kraɪ'tɪəriə/. N-C A **criterion** is a factor on which you judge or decide something. *The bank is reassessing its criteria for lending money.*

Where a noun does not change its form in the plural, this information is given in the defintition:

haddock /'hædək/. N-VAR A **haddock** is a type of sea fish. The form 'haddock' is also used as the plural. **Haddock** is the flesh of this fish eaten as food.