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# 轻松 英语词汇 学习法

编者: Peter Kelly (比利时)

李兴华

外语教学与研究出版社

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## Foreword

### 前言

英语词汇的数量之大给英语学习造成了很大的困难。对于英语学习者来说，在掌握了英语的语音和基本语法规律之后，能否用英语交际在很大程度上取决于词汇量的大小。因此，寻求一个有效记忆英语单词的方法一直是英语教育工作者和学习者不断探索的目标之一。

20多年来应用语言学家们从认知原理、学习心理学、心理语言学、神经语言学等领域对词汇的记忆进行了研究并取得了不少成果。本书的特点就是采用了以上领域所发现的单词记忆的原理，结合一些常用单词，向读者介绍运用这些原理的词汇学习方法。

本书介绍了心理意象、词的联想、经常性复习、单词的构词形式、听觉输入、短语动词意义的构成等词汇学习的原理和方法。

本书分为四大部分：学习与科学 (Study & Science)、工作 (Work)、闲暇 (Leisure) 和日常生活 (Everyday Incidents) 中的事件。每一部分由 5 个单元组成。每单元用一篇精心编排的短文配上一幅或一组图画介绍十几个单词，包括它们的习惯用法、搭配关系和记忆方法等。根据所学单词，每单元安排填空、搭配、寻找同义词或反义词等练习。每单元最后部分介绍了一些习惯用法和谚语、真实的故事和幽默笑话，目的是使学习者通过阅读一些轻松有趣的材料增强对词汇的记忆以及对西方文化的理解。

需要强调的是，虽然本书的重点是帮助学习者学好《大学英语课程教学要求（试行）》中包含的词汇，但是不可能做到提供每一个单词的记忆方法。“授之以鱼，不如授之以渔”，本书用具体的单词介绍记忆单词的不同方法，主要目的是让学习者掌握实用有效的方法，轻轻松松地学好英语词汇。最后我们衷心地期望学习者能结合本书介绍的技巧，找到一条适合自己特点的记忆单词的捷径。

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2005年6月

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# Part 1 Study & Science

## Lesson 1 We Are Good at Different Things

He is no good at algebra. He is equally poor at arithmetic. There is no possibility of him succeeding in geometry. He can't even draw a circle.



But he writes excellent love poetry.

### Focus words 重点词

- add ○ algebra ○ arithmetic ○ calculate ○ circle
- divide ○ equation ○ fail ○ geometry ○ mathematics
- multiply ○ pass ○ poetry ○ subtract ○ sum

● Study the pictures, then read the story below, completing the unfinished words as you do so. The unfinished words are in boldface type and you will find several of them among the focus words above. 看图，然后读故事，并填写出未写完全的词（用黑体字标出）。你可在前面给出的重点词中找到一些未写完全的词。

Percy's father is a **fam**\_\_\_\_\_ mathematician and he always wanted his son to study mathematics at **univers**\_\_\_\_\_. Unfortunately, Percy was no good at mathematics; he had always hated the **sub**\_\_\_\_\_ and the last thing he wanted was to go on **study**\_\_\_\_\_ it. He failed the entrance **examin**\_\_\_\_\_ to university but, since his father had a lot of money and extensive **profession**\_\_\_\_\_ connections, poor Percy was accepted against his will. He would spend all day sitting at his desk, trying unsuccessfully to solve the simplest **prob**\_\_\_\_\_ of the three main branches of mathematics: **arith**\_\_\_\_\_, **al**\_\_\_\_\_ and **geo**\_\_\_\_\_. In his spare time, he liked to write **po**\_\_\_\_\_. He wrote excellent love poetry and in the evening would go down on one knee and read it with great passion to a young lady who greatly admired and appreciated his poems. He never passed a **mathe-mat**\_\_\_\_\_ exam and, of course, failed to obtain a degree. But he went on writing poetry and later became a famous poet and wealthy like his father. Needless to say, he married the young lady who had inspired him and encouraged him to adopt this **car**\_\_\_\_\_.



Now listen to the tape and check your answers.

听录音，核对答案。

## WORD MEMORIZATION AIDS

## 记 · 词 · 辅 · 导

**CALCULATE (计算)**

This word comes from the Latin word meaning stone. In ancient times, stones were used for counting purposes, just as wooden balls have long been used in China for the same purpose. Thus, you use an abacus to calculate.

该词来源于拉丁文，原义为石头。古代西方人用石头来计数，就像在中国，人们长期以来用木球来计数一样。所以，中国人计算用算盘。

**CIRCLE (圆周)**

There are many words that you will meet that begin with **circ-**. These four letters mean round. Once you know this, it will help you to recall the meanings of words like the following.

你会遇到许多以 **circ-** 开始的词。**circ-** 这四个字母表示“圆”。一旦你知道这个意义，下列词的意义就容易记了。

**circuit:** *a track for running, racing round a sports ground*

**circulate:** *to send something round to different people*

**circumference:** *the distance round a place or object*

**circumstances:** *the causes or factors (a)round a situation*

The image of a circle underlines the meaning of all these words.

上面这些词的意义里都含有“圆”的意象。

## EQUATION (等式)

You probably already know the word **equal**; if so, associate it with **equation** and this new word will be easier to remember.

也许你已经知道 **equal** (相等的) 这个词; 如果是这样的话, 把它同 **equation** (等式) 联系起来, 那么这个词就比较容易记了。



The two sides of an equation must be equal.  
(cf. adequate, to equate)

## GEOMETRY (几何学)

**geo-** comes from a Greek word meaning earth (cf. geography); the ending **-metry** means measurement.

**geo-** 来自希腊语的一个词, 意为“地球”(比较 geography); 该词的结尾 **-metry** 表示“测量”。

## MATHEMATICS (数学)

Memorize the following sentence:

记住下面这个句子:



He is mad about mathematics.  
(He loves the subject.)

## POETRY (诗歌)

Here associate the ending **-etry** with **-metry**; in much of Western poetry, the length of words, the length of lines has to be measured. Memorize the sentence:

这里把结尾 **-etry** 同 **-metry** 联想起来; 在西方的大部分诗歌中, 单词的长度、诗行的长度都是要符合韵律规则的。记住这个句子:



This poet's poetry consists of short poems.

## ◆ Exercise 1

● Use the following words to fill in the blanks. You will see that there are more words than you need, so you will have to reflect on all the answers. 选词填空。你会发现给出的单词比要填的空多，因此你需要考虑一下所有的答案。

equation

multiply

divide

add

solve

test

geometry

poem

circle

sum

letters

subtract

meaning

1. If you \_\_\_\_\_ two and two you get four.

2. How much did you get for your math(s) \_\_\_\_\_?

3. I am not very good at arithmetic; I can't work out this \_\_\_\_\_.

4. Can you work out this algebraic \_\_\_\_\_?

5. If you \_\_\_\_\_ three from ten, you get seven.

6. She can't \_\_\_\_\_ the problem.

7. \_\_\_\_\_ six by three and you get eighteen.

8. Can you work out the \_\_\_\_\_ of this poem?

9. In algebra we use \_\_\_\_\_ as well as numbers.

10. \_\_\_\_\_ sixty by four and you get fifteen.

## ◆ Exercise 2

● Try and link up the following words and expressions. Some have the same meaning while others have the opposite meaning. 连接下列单词和短语。有些是同义词；有些是反义词。

1. take away

poor

2. multiply

3. calculate

4. hate

5. wealthy

6. famous

love

unknown

divide

subtract

work out

### ◆ Exercise 3

● See now if you can find in this unit synonyms or antonyms for the following words. 在本单元中找出下列单词的同义词或反义词。

1. poor

2. pass

3. principal

4. love

5. test

6. choose

7. enthusiasm

8. give up

### IDIOMATIC EXPRESSIONS AND PROVERBS

—— 习 · 惯 · 用 · 语 · 和 · 谚 · 语 ——

● Here are two common English expressions. Study them and try to work out the meaning. When you have the opportunity, try using them.

下面是两句常用的英语习惯用语。读一读，设法理解它们的意义。有机会试着用一用。

**Nothing succeeds like success.** (一事成功百事顺。)(The best way to succeed in life, your career, your studies, your work is to succeed in what you are doing at the present time.)

**You are running round in circles.** (你在原地兜圈子。)(You are not achieving what you want to do because you keep coming back to where you started from, despite your efforts.)



Do you know the following song sung  
by Sam Cooke?

你知道下面这首 *Sam Cooke* 唱的歌吗?

Don't know much about history

Don't know much biology

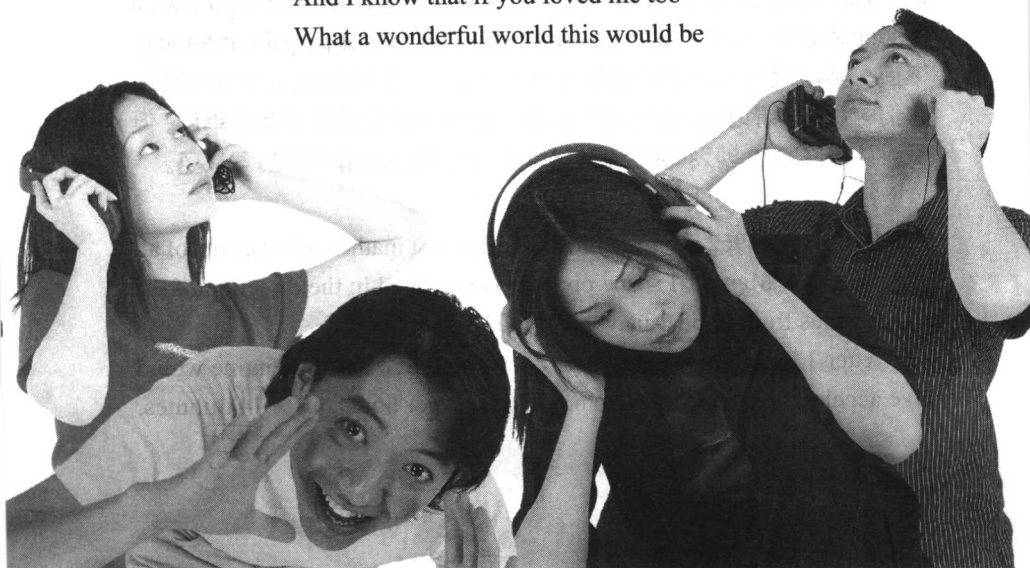
Don't know much about science books

Don't know much about the French I took

But I do know that I love you

And I know that if you loved me too

What a wonderful world this would be



Don't know much about geography  
Don't know much trigonometry  
Don't know much about algebra  
Don't know what a slide rule is for  
But I know that one and one is two  
And if this one could be with you  
What a wonderful world this would be  
Now I don't claim to be an A student  
But I'm trying to be  
For maybe by being an A student, baby  
I can win your love for me.

## T R U E            S T O R Y

### 真 · 实 · 的 · 故 · 事

● The following short report contains one or two words that you may not know. You should be able to guess them from context. Remember that you will probably never know all the words contained in a text. It is sufficient to know 95% to be sure of fully understanding the meaning. 下面一则简短的报道里可能会有一两个生词。你应能从上下文中猜出它们的意义。请记住：你可能永远不会认识一篇文章里所有的单词。但是，认识文章中 95% 的单词就足够保证你完全理解文章的意义了。

On 28 July 1962 occurred one of the greatest mathematical errors of all time when the Mariner I space probe was launched in the direction of the planet Venus from Cape Canaveral in the United States.

After 13 minutes' flight, it was planned that a booster engine would give acceleration up to 25,820 m.p.h. (miles per hour), after 44 minutes,



9,800 solar cells would unfold, after 80 days a computer would calculate the final course correction and after 100 days the spacecraft would circle the unknown planet.

However, Mariner I plunged into the Atlantic Ocean only four minutes after take-off. Inquiries later revealed that a minus sign had been omitted from the instruction fed into the computer.

"It was human error", admitted a spokesman.

This minus sign cost well in excess of 10 million dollars.

## HUMOUR 幽·默

● It is through jokes and funny stories that we gain insights into other cultures. It may happen that we don't find them funny because the values portrayed conflict with ones in our own culture or because of our ignorance of certain features of the foreign culture. At the end of each unit we shall relate one or two jokes or "funny" stories. The purpose is not solely to improve your reading comprehension in an enjoyable way but to help you to understand better salient features of other cultures or the way other cultures perceive them. 读外国的笑话和幽默故事可以帮助我们理解外国的文化。但是，有时我们读这些笑话时并不感到好笑。原因是这些笑话所反映的价值观同我们文化中的价值观相冲突，或是因为我们还不了解外国文化的某些特点。在每个单元的最后我们讲述了一两个笑话或“好笑”的故事，目的不仅是用有趣的方式来提高你的阅读理解能力，而且是帮助你更好地理解外国文化的突出特征。

To be able to appreciate the following joke, it is necessary to have a knowledge of the different cultures involved and how they are viewed by other Europeans. 要理解下面的笑话，必须要知道笑话里所包含的文化差异以及其他欧洲人是如何看待这些差异的。