

博 古 通 今 学 汉 语 丛 书
Gems of the Chinese Language Through the Ages

101 Common Chinese Idioms and Set Phrases

成

语

尹斌庸 编著
韩 晖 翻译



101



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前 言

学习汉语的外国学生，当他们初步掌握了汉语的语音、词汇、语法和文字时，很想进一步提高自己的汉语水平。怎样提高呢？一件重要的事就是需要掌握一些汉语语言中最有特色的东西——例如成语、谚语、歇后语和典故。这些东西既和汉语汉字有密切关系，又和中华民族的文化背景有密切关系。掌握了它们，不但能够丰富外国人汉语的表达能力，而且也能够增强他们汉语表达的本土特色。简而言之，他们所掌握的汉语就更像汉语了。这就向成为一个“中国通”迈出了重要的一步。

为以上目的，我们给这样的外国学生编了一套“博古通今学汉语丛书”，包括“成语 101”、“谚语 101”、“歇后语 101”和“典故 101”。

本套书精选汉语中最有价值的、常用的、表现力强的成语、谚语、歇后语和典故各 101 则。每则均附英文释义，每则配一幅精美插图，另有一些难解词语中英文注释。

Preface

What comes next for a student of the Chinese as the second language after mastering its phonetics, grammar, and most of its vocabulary? The next highly desirable step would be to study some of the more typical Chinese expressions—such as its idioms and set phrases, two-part allegorical sayings, or even its classical poetry. These expressions are so closely related to the Chinese language and Chinese culture that once one has mastered them, one will not only be able to speak idiomatic Chinese and sound more like a native speaker, but will also be able to penetrate deeper into Chinese culture and gradually become a “China Hand”.

For this purpose, we have compiled this series *Gems of the Chinese Language Through the Ages* which comprises the following four titles:

101 Common Chinese Idioms and Set Phrases

101 Pearls of Chinese Wisdom

101 Chinese Two-Part Allegorical Sayings

The Stories Behind 101 Chinese Idioms

These idioms and sayings have been chosen for the frequency with which they are used, their practical value and their expressiveness. Each is accompanied by an English translation and an illustration. Some of the more obscure expressions have been further annotated in both Chinese and English.

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成语 101

101 Common Chinese Idioms and Set Phrases

Àntú-suǒjì

1. 按图索骥

Looking for a fine steed with the aid of its picture



春秋时代（公元前 770—公元前 476），秦国有个识马的能手，大家叫他“伯乐”。他把识别马的知识和经验写成了一本书，还在书上配合文字画出了各种好马的形态。而他的儿子一点也不懂得识马的知识，只凭着书上画的图像去寻找好马，找来找去，一匹好马也没有找到。

“按图索骥^①”这个成语用来比喻没有实践经验、只知道机械地按老规矩办事。

In the Spring and Autumn Period (770-476 BC), there was a man in the State of Qin called Bo Le, who was an expert at judging horses. Based on his experience and knowledge of horses, he wrote a book in which he introduced the characteristics of fine horses both in words and illustrations. His son, having no first-hand experience of horses, set out to look for fine horses according to the illustration in the book. However, he could not find any.

This idiom is used metaphorically to describe someone lacking practical experience and doing things mechanically by following set rules.

① 骥：好马。(fine horse)