

英美慣用語精選

A Glossary of Phrases

鄧樹勳博士著



新栢書社印行

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外語輔導叢書

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PROVERBS

格言

1. A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.
一鳥在手勝于兩鳥在林。
2. A drowning man will clutch at a straw.
Equivalent Chinese saying: to fight with your back against the walls.
背城借一。
(西諺直譯：一個將要溺死的人，見了草都不放手)
3. A fault confessed is half redressed.
Chinese: An error remedied is a good thing
過而能改，善莫大焉。
(西諺：承認了的過失，已經補救了一半)
4. A fool and his money are soon parted.
愚人不聚財。
5. A friend in need is a friend indeed.
True friendship can only be proved in distress. (Chinese)
患難見真情。
6. A miss is as good as a mile.
差之毫厘，失之千里。
(西諺：差了些少許等於差了一厘。)
7. A quiet conscience sleeps in thunder.
Chinese: You don't have to be afraid of a knock on the door at midnight, if your conscience is clear.
不做虧心事，半夜打門也不驚。
(西諺：問心無愧，在雷聲中可以睡覺。)
8. A stitch in time saves nine.
星星之火可以燎原。
(西諺：及時補一針，可以省却九針。)
9. A storm in a teacup.

Chinese: To make an issue of a small matter.

小題大做。

(西諺：茶杯中的風雲)

10. A wise man changes his mind, a fool never will.

Chinese: He who can adjust himself to a new situation is a clever man.

識時務者為俊傑。

(西諺：聰明的人會改變他的主張，愚人就不會。)

11. Actions speak louder than words.

事實勝雄辯。

(西諺：行動比說話更響亮。)

12. All is not gold that glitters.

Chinese: Gold externally, rubbish internally.

金玉其外，敗絮其中。

(西諺：發光的東西，不一定是金。)

13. All is well that ends wells.

Chinese: True lovers always become man and wife.

(Chinese).

吉人天相。

(西諺：好的事情，一定有好的結局)。

14. An idle youth, a needy age.

少壯不努力，老大徒傷悲。

(西諺：年輕懶惰，年老時需要別人的幫助)

15. Beauty is but skin-deep.

色即是雲。(西諺：美色只是皮包骨)

16. Better late than never.

亡羊補牢未為晚，或有心不怕遲。

(西諺：遲一些做，好過永遠不做)

17. Beware of a silent dog and still water.

Chinese: It's difficult to fight an unexpected arrow.

無聲犬咬死人，或暗箭難防。

(西諺：小心一隻沈默的狗以及靜水)

18. Birds of a feather flock together.
 Chinese saying: People of a kind gather together.
 物以類聚。
 (西諺：同一種羽毛的鳥，總是飛在一起)
19. Bitter pills may have wholesome effects.
 Chinese: Good medicine always tastes bitter.
 良藥苦口。
 (西諺：苦的藥會有健全的效果)
20. Charity begins at home.
 幼吾幼以及人之幼。(西諺：慈善在家庭中開始)
21. Diamond cut diamond.
 Confucius: When a good chess player meets another.
 棋逢敵手。
 (西諺：金鋼鑽石遇着金鋼鑽)
22. Do as you would be done by.
 己所不欲，勿施於人。
23. Meet troubles half-way.
 Chinese: The idiot who fears the falling down of the sky.
 杞人憂天。
 (西諺：不要在半路去迎接麻煩)
24. Don't put all your eggs in one basket.
 勿孤注一擲。
 (西諺：不要把你所有的雞蛋放在一個籃子裏)
25. Do wrong once and you'll never hear the end of it.
 Chinese: Slip once and you will regret a thousand years.
 一失足成千古恨。
 (西諺：一次做錯了事，就永無了期)
26. Easy come, easy go.
 悖入悖出。(西諺：來得容易，去得容易)
27. Every cloud has a silver lining.
 Chinese: Hold on. Finally there will be a break, and out comes the moon.

守得雲開見月明。

(西諺：每一朵黑雲的後面都有銀色的夾裏) 。

28. Every man has his faults.

Chinese: No one is perfect.

人孰無過。

(西諺：每個人都有他的過失)

29. Every one to his taste

各適其適。(西諺：每個人都有他的愛好)

30. Extreme right is extreme wrong.

過猶不及。

(西諺：極端的對，也是極端的不對)

31. Faint heart never wins fair lady.

Chinese: If you don't go into the tiger's cave, you can never get the tiger's son.

不入虎穴，焉得虎子。

(西諺：一個膽小的心，永遠贏不了淑女)

32. First come, first served.

Chinese: one who arrives first, gets first.

捷足先登。

(西諺：先到先得)

33. No morning sun lasts a whole day.

Chinese: No prosperity can last forever.

好景不常在，好花不常開。

(西諺：早上的太陽，不能整天的維持)

34. Fortune favours the fools.

庸人多福。

(西諺：財富總是幫助愚人)

35. Fortune knocks only once.

福無重至。

(西諺：幸福只來一次)

36. Great men's sons seldom do well.

Chinese : Rich men's sons always turn out to be bad

eggs.

富家子，敗家兒。

(西諺：名人之子很少有表現)

37. Great minds think alike.

Chinese: Heroes think alike.

英雄之見略同。

38. Handsome is that handsome does.

Chinese: Don't judge a person by his looks.

人不可貌相。

39. Haste makes waste.

Chinese: If you rush things, you will never attain your objective.

欲速則不達。

(西諺：匆忙造成浪費)

40. He who rides a tiger can not dismount.

騎虎難下。

41. Health is better than wealth.

健康勝于財富。

42. Honest men marry soon, wise men not at all.

老人早結婚，聰明人不結婚。

43. Honesty is the best policy.

誠實至上。

44. If you would know the value of money, try to borrow some.

值錢時方知錢的價值。

45. In fair weather prepare for foul.

Chinese: Prepare for rainy days before it rains.

未雨綢繆。

(西諺：在好天的時候，應該為惡劣的天氣而準備。)

46. In the country of the blind the one-eyed man is king.

Chinese: When there is no general, you have to be happy with a corporal.

蜀中無大將，廖化充先鋒。

（西諺：在盲人的國家裏，獨眼就是皇帝）

47. Knowledge is power.

知識就是力量。

48. Let bygone be bygones.

Chinese: What is done is done

既往不咎。

49. Let sleeping dogs lie.

切勿打草驚蛇。

（西諺：睡着了的狗，不要吵醒牠）

50. Give him an inch, and he will take an ell.

得寸進尺。

51. Like father, like son.

有其父必有其子。

52. Live and learn.

Chinese: Learning has no limit.

學無止境。

（西諺：人生在世，必須學習）

53. Look before you leap.

Confucius: Think three times before you act.

三思而後行。

（西諺：跳之前，要看清楚）

54. Make the best of a bad bargain.

Be contented with what you can get. (Chinese)

隨遇而安。

（西諺：在壞的環境中，要看清楚）

55. Man proposes, God disposes.

謀事在人，成事在天。

56. Misfortunes never come singly.

禍不單行。

57. Money talks.

Chinese: Money is all mighty.

金錢萬能。

(西諺：金錢能講話)

58. Murder will out.

Chinese: When the water subsides, stones will appear.
水落石出。

59. No gains without pains.

吃得苦中苦，方為人上人。

(西諺：不吃苦，不會有收穫)

60. Not to advance is to go back.

不進則退。

61. Penny wise, pound foolish.

小錢聰明，大錢胡塗。

62. Practice makes perfect.

熟能生巧。

(西諺：練習方能十全十美)

63. Practise what you preach.

Chinese: Action and words must coincide.

言行一致。

(西諺：實行你所講的道理)

64. Prevention is better than cure.

預防勝於治療。

65. Pride will have a fall.

驕者必敗。

66. Silence is golden.

Chinese: It is better to conceal than expose your ignorance.

獻醜不如藏拙。

(西諺：沈默是金)

67. Six of one and half a dozen of the other.

半斤八兩。

68. Small profits and quick returns.

薄利多買。

69. Sometimes the best gain is to lose.
吃虧就是便宜。
70. Spare the rod and spoil the child.
Chinese: A rotten son; an irresponsible father.
子不教，父之過。
(西諺：不用棍子寵壞孩子。)
71. Speak well of your friend, of your enemy say nothing.
抑惡揚善。
72. Strike while the iron is hot.
打鐵趁熱。
73. Such beginning, such end.
善惡到頭終有報。
(西諺：如此開始，如此結束)
74. Sweep before your own door.
門前掃雪。
75. Take things as they come.
逆來順受。
76. Talk of the devil and he'll appear.
Chinese: Talk of Chao Chow and there he is.
說曹操，曹操就到。
(西諺：講魔鬼，魔鬼就出現)
77. The darkest hour is before dawn.
黎明前的黑暗。
78. The early bird catches the worm.
先到先得。
(西諺：早起的鳥，爭得鳥蟲)
79. Speedy legs reach destination first. (Chinese)
試過方知。
80. The rich knows not who is his friend.
富人無忠友。
81. Things done cannot be undone.
Chinese: The wood had already been made into a boat.

木已成舟。

(西諺：已經做的事，不能取消)

82. Time and tide wait for no man.

光陰一去不復返。

(西諺：時間如潮水，是不會等待人的)

83. To blow one's own trumpet.

自吹自擂。

84. To burn the candle at both ends.

Chinese: Self-destruction.

自暴自棄。

(西諺：一枝蠟燭兩頭點)

85. To bury the hatchet.

重修和好。

(西諺：把斧頭埋藏了)

86. To carry coals to Newcastle. (Newcastle being a main source of coal.)

Chinese: To brandish your fighting weapon before the expert.

班門弄斧。

(西諺：把煤塊運到煤的出產地)

87. To count one's chickens before they are hatched.

實事求是。

(西諺：雞蛋還沒有孵出來，不要作打算)

88. To have (or hold) a wolf by the ears. (So you can neither hold on nor let go.)

勢成騎虎。

(西諺：握住了野狼的耳朵，因此既不能放，又不能繼續握下去)

89. To kill two birds with one stone.

一石二鳥。

90. To make a mountain out of a molehill.

Chinese: To make a fuss over nothing.

大驚小怪。

(西諺：把一座小坵當做大山)

91. To pay a person in his own coin. (To retaliate in the same way as he has injured you.)

以其人之道，還治其人之身。

(西諺：把他自己的錢付還給他)

92. To put the cart before the horse.

倒行逆施。

(西諺：把馬車放在馬的前面)

93. Too many cooks spoil the broth.

Chinese: Too many people...at sixes and sevens.

人多手腳亂。

(西諺：廚子太多，湯亦煮壞了)

94. Two dogs fight for a bone, and a third runs away with it.

Cinese: When the fish is at war, the fishermen benefit.

蚌相爭，漁人得利。

(西諺：兩狗爭骨，給第三者搶去)

95. Two heads are better than one.

一人計短，二人計長。

(西諺：兩個頭腦總比一個好)

96. Two of a trade can never agree.

同行如敵國。

(西諺：兩個人做同一行業，永遠不會協議)

97. Well begun is half done.

事半功倍。

(西諺：一個好的開始，等如完成了一半)

98. When you are at Rome, do as Romans do.

入鄉隨俗。

(西諺：到了羅馬，就要依照羅馬人的習慣生活)

99. When there is life, there is hope.

留得青山在，不怕沒柴燒。

(西諺：只要有生命就有希望)

100. You cannot teach an old dog new tricks.

Chinese: You cannot carve a piece of rotten wood.

朽木不可雕也。

(西諺：不能把新花樣傳授給一隻老狗)

IDIOMS

第二節 慣用句

IDIOMS CONNECTED WITH FOOD AND COOKING

以食物及烹餉構成的習用語

1. He can be trusted, because he is the SALT OF THE EARTH.
他是可信任的，因為他是世界上的老實人。
(註：鹽字即誠實之意)
2. John is a very eloquent man, but I usually take his words WITH A GRAIN OF SALT.
約翰是一個有口材的人，但是我總是懷疑他所講的話。
3. Lee Fung is as keen as mustard about having a Christmas Party.
李鳳對聖誕節的派對非常起勁。
4. Picnic is MY CUP OF TEA.
郊外的旅行最合我胃口。
(註：原文一杯茶，即合胃口之意)
5. Don't get excited; the assignment is a PIECE OF CAKE.
不要緊張，這個任務非常容易。
(註：原文一塊蛋糕，即非常容易之意)
6. John had to work at the evening to KEEP THE POT BOILING.
約翰晚間亦要工作，爲了要維持生活。
7. Having lost his money in the races, he is now IN THE SOUP.
他在馬場輸了錢，弄得非常困窘。
8. Jack, who always lives beyond his means, is forever in hot water.

入不敷出的傑克，永遠都在水深火熱中。

9. She is the **APPLE OF MY EYES**.

他是我的掌上明珠。

10. They will pass the examination, if they are **GINGERED UP A BIT**.

如果加些油，他們會在考試中合格的。

**IDIOMS CONNECTED WITH PARTS OF
THE HUMAN BODY**

以人體各部份構成的習用語

1. Now that I have lost my money, she turned her **BACK ON ME**.
我現在既然無錢了，她就拋棄了我。
2. Make a clean breast of yourself, before it is too late.
坦白說出來吧，現在還來得及。
3. Walls have ears.
隔牆有耳。
4. I am all ears.
洗耳恭聽。
5. The headmaster keeps an eye on the school in the absence of the supervisor.
監督不在的時候，校長管理着學校。
6. An eye for an eye; a tooth for a tooth.
以眼還眼，以牙還牙。
7. The holidays are over, and the headmaster is head over heels with work.
假期過了，校長忙得不亦樂乎。
8. People should keep their heads during a crisis.
在危急的時候，人們應該保持冷靜。
9. He looks tough but he is good at heart.
看上去，他似乎很利害，但是他是一個善良的人。
10. He is a person after my own heart.
他是深得我心的人。
11. The poor man is about to die, so have a heart.
那個可憐的人快死了，做做好事吧。
12. He puts his heart and soul in his work.
他全心全力的在工作。