# 英文動詞成語精萃 ENGLISH VERBAL IDIOMS

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# 英文動詞成語精萃

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凡是學習英文的人,都知道動詞在英文中所佔的重要性。凡是 有志於語文的人,都知道成語的恰當運用,可爲一篇文章或一段談 話增加華麗的光彩和動人的力量。由是,動詞成語的熟語和巧用, 在英文寫作和會話中具有重要的地位,是無可置疑的。

近卅年來,英文領域中不斷有新的辭彙形成,更不斷在原有的辭彙上增賦新義;而國內辭書之出版往往望塵莫及,乃使學習英文的人增加一種困難。其次是「美式英語」(American English)的興起,在英文範疇中自闢徯徑,亦使人有撲朔迷離之感。再次,英語中的俚語(slang)亦在不斷增加。俚語雖然有其巧妙的達意功能,有時爲典雅用語所不及,然兩者之間究有界限,粗俗之語無法應用於嚴肅的會話和寫作上,學者自宜加以辨別。最後,英文固然是一種口說的語文,但寫作的(literary)和口說的(colloquial)英文之間亦並非完全一致。凡是造詣較高者,均顧講究其間的差別,進而作適當的抉擇。凡此種種,都是促成作者編撰此書的動機,其唯一心顧乃是幫助學者克服其中一部份的困難。

本書蒐集動詞成語一千二百則,及新顯實用例句四千句,並附 以銓釋及漢譯。自覺在內容上具有下列各項特色:

- 1.一般辭書所既有者,本書力避重複。其所缺如者則儘量納入。 其包羅不以量勝,而以質爲重,故可補現有辭書之不足。
- 2. 英式與美式、俚語與典詞、口語與寫作以及非正式的與嚴謹的 寫作等之間的區別,本書特予標明,使讀者一目了然。
- 3.若干動詞成語以用主動語態爲主,被動者或勉强可用,或少用,或不用,亦經逐一註明,以助讀者辨別。
- 4.本書對成語涵義之銓釋,力求周詳明曉,各例句之漢譯旨在烘 托其眞義,顯示其允當的用法。故對會話及寫作均有裨益。
- 5. 篇末附有索引,由其詞性之關鍵字,可以觸類旁通,索得所需之成語,增加查閱之便利。
- 6.本書之編排,爲便讀者索檢,暫仍照辭書形式,惟版本仍按一般圖書規格,蓋便讀者隨與閱讀。

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方 有 恒 敬 白

# PREFACE

There are numerous verbal compounds in English, the meaning of which could not be easily deducted from a knowledge of the normal meaning of the constituent words. There are also different ways of speech between British and American people to indicate the same idea, which pose a confusion to students taking English as a foreign language.

While over the past two or three decades new meanings have been added to some of the existing idioms and new idioms have been emerging in the practical daily use, local English-Chinese dictionaries, either in their revised or new editions, are found to be paying little attention to this fact. This constitutes another problem to many Chinese students learning English.

This volume is intended primarily for helping its readers to get familiar with such verbal compounds through its Chinese translations both in definition of meaning and in illustrative examples.

Yet this book does not set out to be exhaustive. The aim has been rather to provide a guide to what might be called "ordinary written and spoken English." Consequently, I have admitted only the few that have become a normal part of everyday English and can be used with safety, provided the speaker or writer realizes at what level of expression they are acceptable.

Moreover, in presenting this volume I have taken consideration of the following features which readers could readily recognize:

- Metaphorical uses have not generally been entered if they could be easily deducted from a knowledge of the literal meaning; otherwise, they have been included.
- 2. If an idiom can be used in both active and passive voices, there is an example for each, while where a student might suppose that a passive might be possible, but where in actual fact one is rarely or never used, a note to that effect is appended.
- 3. Where it is appropriate, after the definition of meaning a note appears that the idiom or construction is literary, colloquil, or slang. If no such note is given it may be assumed that the expression may be used in both normal spoken and written English.

To sum up, this work of colorful expressions, slang phrases, and colloquilisms should enable its readers to write and speak with greater precision, effectiveness, and fluency.

# A

#### ABIDE

此字本義爲居留、居住;在口語上使用時則指忍受、容忍。但通常僅用於否定句 I can't abide that fellow.(我無法容忍那個橡伙。)She couldn't abide to live in poverty.(她無法忍受貧困之生活。) 應注意僅 用於主動語氣,且爲接於助動詞或作爲動詞 一部份之 can (包括各種時態和形式)之後的不定詞。

# ABIDE BY

近守,信守。

Having made our decision, we must abide by it.(我們既經決定,便須建行。) You must abide by the regulations.(你必須遵守規章。)

此字之過去式及過去分詞爲 abided.

He abided by his word.(他言出必行。)

They have always abided by their promises.(他們始終信守諾言。) 不用於被動語氣。

# ACCOUNT FOR

(1)對如何使用受託保管的財物提出說明。

She had to account to her husband for every penny she spent. (她對所花用的每一分錢,都必須向丈夫提出說明。)

The librarian has to account for each book in his charge.

(圖書管理員對於每一册經管的圖書‧都必須提出說明。)

All the missing volumes have now been accounted for。(所有遺失的書 ②提出解釋 現都有了說明。)

How do you account for the accident?

(你對這次意外事故有何解釋?)

The disappearance of the papers has never been accounted for. (試卷失踪的原因始終未見提出解釋。)

# ACQUIT ONESELF

此詞必跟有副詞或副詞片語如:well, ill, creditably, with credit, with distinction等,意指善(未)盡一己之本分,亦卽盡其在我,達到某種結果。

Considering its lack of training, our team has acquitted itself well. (思及我除缺乏訓練,今有此成績,可謂已盡其所能矣。)

應注意僅用於主動式。

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# ACT ACCORDING TO (one's principle, profession, etc.)

Act up to 為英式假語。意爲行爲之方式符合一己之原則等。亦即按原則行事。

He professes to have very high principles, but he does not always act according to them.(他自稱特有崇高原則,但並不始終按原則行事。)

He professes to have very high principles, but he does not always act up to them. (他自稱持有崇高原則,但未見始終堅守耳。) (英國慎語)

通常不用被動式。惟在英國語文中偶亦見之。如:

Principles mean very little unless they are acted up to. (原則如不堅守,直同無原則,或治無意義可言。)

# ACT THE FOOL: ACT THE GOAT

故作優人行徑,以博取一笑,或旨在賣弄。(主要用於口語。)

Act the fool 現爲英、美二國語文中所共用。然 Act the goat 乙用於本義,僅見英國人用之。在美國係指色情行徑而言。

For goodness' sake stop acting the fool; it annoys people. (千萬勿作此雙人行徑,因其令人心煩。)

He would be quite a likeable fellow if only he wouldn't act the goat so much.(他倘能收斂其色情行徑,就能令人喜愛。)

在美國,如飲表達「僕人行徑」之意,須以 act the fool代 act the goat. 應注意不用被動式。

#### ADD UP TO

一切皆已計及之後的合計。(口語)亦即「總而言之」。

She gave many excuses, but what they added up to was that she did not wish to be troubled.(她提出改多記詞,但總而言之,無非不願類累而已。)

# AGREE WITH: AGREE TO

對人和對事之同意。對人用 agree with 即兩人意見相同。對事則 agree with 和 agree to 並用。agree with 意即「贊成」。

I agree with all you say. (君所言者, 余皆贊同。)

I don't agree with giving children expensive presents.

(給兒童以昂貴的禮物,余不以爲然。)

Agree to 意即同意 (give consent to). 對不贊成之事亦可勉强同意,如:

They agreed to the proposal only under protest.

(他們同意此建議,惟內心不服。)

The workers threatened to strike unless the employers agreed to the terms within twenty-four hours

(工人們揚言,僱主在廿四小時內如不同意所提條件,即行罷工。)

Agree with 现不用於被動式, agree to 則可。如:

The terms have now been agreed to.(所提條件現已獲同意。)

近年來,被動式 省略介系詞的用法漸見盛行。如:

Terms for the settlement of the dispute have now been agreed. (解決爭議之條件現已獲同意。)

#### AIM

(F) aim 之常用介系詞為at, ("The marksman aimed at the center of the target."射者瞄準目標之中心。)但for有時亦用以表示强調心目中之最後目標。

We are aiming for London, though it is doubtful whether we shall reach it before nightfall.

(雖然入晚以前能否到達,尚屬疑問,我們仍向倫敦前進。)

It soon became clear that he was aiming for a directorship. (他有意角逐漸中戰,不久漸見明則。)

(2) aim 亦可取投射物爲其受詞。如:

He picked up a stone and aimed it at the dog. (他取石在手,以之投向該大。)

(3) aim at 可用於被動式,但 aim for 則否。如:

Everything aimed at has now been achieved.(一切目標現均已達成。) We all realized whom that remark was aimed at.

(我們均覺緊此種言論影射何人。)

(4) 在美式英語中,常用aim to do something, 在英國之應用亦且趨普遍。

The party aims to contest every constituency in the nest election. (該黨在下屆選舉中,志在逐鹿每一選圖。)

然而英國人在說和寫時,均未接受此種成語。英人慣在at 之後加上動名詞。如:

The party aims at contesting every constituency in the next election. (該黨志在下屆選舉中逐題每一選區。)

The city council aims at demolishing all the slum areas within the next five years.(市議會志在未來五年內拆除所有貧民窟。)

# AIR ONE'S GRIEVANCES

公開表達並討論痛苦。

Much of the ill-feeling is caused by the fact that there is no recognized means by which the workers can air their grievances.

(很多不平之氣都是因爲工人們缺乏公認之途徑,以申訴他們的痛苦而造成。)

有時得用被動式,但並不通行。如:

The management instituted a system of consultation with the staff so that any grievances might be aired.

(百方創立一種與職工協商之制度,期使各種指苦得能申訴。)

# AIR ONE'S VIEWS, OPINIONS

公開表示意見,常有行事的建議,對不願聽取的人,不免煩擾。

She is not the kind of person one can introduce into company; she is too fond of airing her opinions.

(她不是那種可以介紹同遊之人;她太爱提意見了。)

ANGLE FOR

計誌;用間接手段獲取想望之物。(取驟自釣魚。)

We did not take his expression of interest in our ideas too seriously, for we suspected he was merely angling for votes. (我們對他所表現的興趣,並不認質考慮,因爲我們懷疑他無非爲了賺取選票而已。) 使用主動式。

ANSWER BACK

頂撞;反踐;言詞冒犯;反駁(對他人之請求加以指示或訓斥)。例如:

"Will you get me the telephone directory, please?"---"Get it yourself!"

(「請你將電話號碼簿拿給我好嗎?」——「你自己去拿!」) 其答覆即係反駁。

The mother reprimanded the child for answering her back. (母親貴備孩子出言页撞。)

#### ANSWER FOR

行其音;取其咎。

I cannot answer for other people's mistakes. (他人之錯誤不能由我負其責。)

You may get away with this kind of thing now, but you will have to answer for it someday.

(你做了這種事,現在固然可以逍遙法外,可是將來勢必自取其咎。) 極少用被動式。

# APPROVE(OF)

同意; 通過。

The Council has now approved the scheme for the erection of a new public library.(議會現已通過建造一所公共圖書館的計劃。)

If the scheme is approved, work on the project will start immediately.(此計劃如獲通過,便可立即着手工作。)

approve of 亦有贊同之意,如:

Her father did not approve of her going to dances and not returning until midnight. (她父親並未赞成她外出跳舞至午夜始歸。)
She would never do anything that was not approved of by her parents. (姚決不做雙親所不贊成之事。)

ARGUE ONE INTO SOMETHING 参閱 TALK INTO.

ARGUE ONE ROUND 参閱 BRING AROUND.

#### ASK AFTER

探問某人的健康等。(通常出於一種禮貌或一般的興趣,而非爲某種特定目的,問明究竟。) When I met Mrs. Smith this morning she asked after you and the children.(今天上午我遇見史密斯太太,她探問你和孩子們好。) 不用韵動式。

#### ASK FOR

(1)要,索,索購,品領。

She walked up to the counter and asked for a pound of sugar. (她走向櫃臺,要了一磅食糖。)

Everything that was asked for has now been sent.

(所請各物現均已寄發。)

The motorist was asked for his name and address. (要應車人留下 (2)求見,要見。

Go to the receptionist and ask for Mr. Johnson. (請向接待員說明要見江森先生。)

Here is a gentleman asking for the manager.

(這位先生求見經理。)

註:被動式極窄用。

(3)招致(麻煩、危險或疾患)。

He is foolish to behave in that way; he is asking for trouble.

(他這樣愚蠢行事,會招致賴煩。)

If you go out without a coat in this weather you're asking for pneumonia.

(這種天氣出外不穿外衣,你會招致肺炎。)

不用被動式。

#### ASK OUT

邀請外出 (通常至他人家中作客)。

Mr. and Mrs. Brown are not at home; some friends have asked them out.(|) 前先生和太太都不在家;因有朋友邀請他們前往作客。)

I am going to look after my daughter's children; she and her husband have been asked out for the evening.

(我要照距我的芥甥,因她和丈夫今晚被邀外出作客。)

餐會或社交活動之名稱(如午餐、下午茶、晚餐、舞會等)可以列連於後。如:

We have been asked out to dinner next Thursday evening.

(我們已應邀於星期四出外晚餐。)

# ATTEND ON : ATTEND TO

Attend on 為英式英語,即陪侍(wait upon)之意。

At least a dozen people attended on the bride of the wealthy prince. (至少有十二人陪侍若這位富豪親王的新娘。)

Wherever she went she was attended on by a large number of followers and servants.(她無論走到那裏,都有一大絜跟班和僕役陪侍着。) "attend"。而不用 "attend on"。故前二句中之 on 均予省略。 Attend to 有下列各種用法:

(1)處理 (deal with).

The manager himself is attending to the matter. (經理親自處理這件事。)

All the urgent matters have now been attended to. (一切緊急事務現均有人處理。)

②注意 (take notice of. give one's attention to). You must attend carefully to these instructions. (你必須仔細注意這些指示。)

She didn't attend to what I was saying.(她並未留心我所說的話。) No one likes giving lectures that are not attended to by a large part of the audience.

(如有大部份聽衆不注意聽講,無人願意講演。)

(3)照料 (take care).

Attend to the details while Mr. Murray arranges the microphones on the desk.

(莫雷先生在佈置桌上麥克風時,請照料一應細節。)

AVAIL ONESELF OF 利用。

> I shall avail myself of your kind offer.(我會善用你的好心賜與。) You should avail yourself of every opportunity of traveling abroad。(你當窨用每一次出國旅行的機會。)

領注意 avail 的主詞如爲人稱代名詞(如上述二例)時,則其受詞必爲相關的反身 代名詞;但如主詞並非人稱代名詞,則其受詞得爲普通人稱代名詞或名詞。如:

All his efforts availed him nothing.(他的一切努力使他並無所獲。) His plea for leniency did not avail the prinsoner.

(他請求從寬發落,並未對犯人有何效用。)

# B

#### BABY-SIT

爲近年新見之動詞,係從 **baby-sitting** 反潮演變而來。意即坐於他人家中,照料其嬰兒或幼童,俾其父母得以外出。

Some women university students are willing to baby-sit for a few dollars an evening. (有些女大學生願意充當臨時褓姆,每晚收入後塊錢。)

She baby-sits for her daughter every Thursday evening. (她每星期四晚上都爲她女兒充當臨時褓蝦。)

#### BACK

(1)指審本而實:加裝封面以保護者頁。此一價蓋僅英式英語中用之,部份英國人和所有美國人均說 "cover a book" (加裝書本之封面)。

All scholars must back their books with a sheet of strong brown paper.(全體學者均須用厚實的牛皮紙作爲也們著作的封面。)

All our books have now been backed.(現時我們所有書籍都已加裝封面。)

(2) 抬賽馬而言:以睹注押於某一匹馬。

I've been lucky today; every horse I've backed has come in first.(我今天運氣很好,所押的每一匹馬都得勝了。)

The favorite was backed by hundreds of people, but they all lost their money. (那匹熱門馬有幾百人押法,可是他們全都輸了。)

由此聲喻借用在口語上,乃有所謂 to back a winner之說法,意即從事一種企業,結果其發達及獲利情形較預期者更甚。

In putting this new product on the market, the firm has backed a winner. (這家公司有此新產品上市,獲利之豐出乎意料。)

在這種醫喩的用法上,決不可使用被動式。故不可說:

"A winner was backed by the firm."

(3) 指計劃和運動而言:支持。

The association is backing the campaign to cut down smoking.

(該協會支持幫少吸菸的運動。)

In his early days Hitler was backed by powerful financial interests in Germany.(希特勒在執政初期,頗受德國實力雄厚的財團所支持。)

(4)指鏡選而言:屬意某人必定當選。如上節(2)項之引伸用法,亦係口語。

Of the four candidates, I am backing Mr. Jackson.

(在四名候選人之中,我擁護傑克生先生。)

He is being backed by a number of other people, too. (他亦受到一些以他人上的支持。)

#### BACK DOWN

參閱 BEAT A RETREAT.從攻得之 陣地撤退;撤囘或部份撤囘某項權利、主張或論點。 At first he was very aggressive in his attitude, but when he saw that he was likely to meet with stiff opposition he began to back down.(起初他的態度非常凌厲,但整及可能遭遇强勁的反對時,他就開始軟化了。)

#### BACK OUT

(1)撤退,放棄,與 retreat 同義。 (口語)

Those who were most insistent that we should undertake the project were the first to back out when they saw that difficulties were likely to arise. (那些主張我們應該從事此項計劃最力的人,一見可能引起困難,也就是最先放棄的人。) (不用被劃式。)

(2)退出,放棄。(口語)

Mr. Shaw back ed out of his scheduled appearance in the musical at the very last moment. (蕭先生在最後的一刻,放棄了他預定在歌舞劇中的亮相。) (不用被動式。)

(3)倒退出來。

The car backed out of the driveway. (汽車從車道上退了出來。)
The man backed out of the cave, as he kept his eyes on the snake coiled in front of him.

(那人一面從山洞中倒退出來,一面注視着盤曲在他面前的那條蛇。)

The car was backed out of the driveway by Pete's father. (彼特的父親將汽車從車道上倒退出來。)

#### BACK UP

支持。(口語)

I'll put the suggestion to the meeting, if you'll back me up. (倘若你能支持我,我就將建議在會中提出。)

He had a good deal of evidence to back up his story. (他有許多證據可以支持他的說法。)

He was not backed up by his friends to the extent that he had hoped to be.(他朋友對他的支持,不到他所希望的程度。)

#### BAG

參閱 SNAG.

# BAIL OUT : BALE OUT

(1)假釋,交保候傳。

The prisoner was remanded in custody, and all attempts by his friends to bail him out were unsuccessful.

(那犯人交付選押,朋友們盡一切努力保他均告失败。)

He was sent to prison overnight, but was bailed out the next morning.(他被發監過夜, 翌晨卽告保釋。)

(2)緊急時從飛機中跳出,藉降落傘之助而脫險。

Because they realized that the airplane was likely to crash, the crew bailed out.(機員們發覺飛機可能墜毀,就跳傘脫離機艙。) 在英國慣語中,此字應拼作 'bail out', 不過 'bale out' 現亦爲一般人所接受。字源係從船艙內戽水類倒船外,爲: bailing out a boat,或 bailing the water from a boat.就飛機而言,動詞始終爲不及物式。

此为试读,需要完整PDF请访问: www.ertongbook.com

#### BAN DY WORDS

爭論;拌嘴(較少用)。

I refuse to bandy words with a person who cannot keep his temper. (我不願與脾氣不好的人爭論。)

極少用被動式。

#### BANK ON

仰仗;依憑。(口語)

The withdrawal of their support is a great blow to us; we were banking on that.(他們撤銷支持,是對我們的重大打擊,因爲我們仰賴這種支持。)

We are banking on an attendance of at least five hundred.

(我們所憑恃的是至少有五百人參加。)

I'll help you if I can, but don't bank on it.

(只要辦得到,我會幫助你,可不能有恃無恐。)

一般不用被動式。

#### BARGAIN FOR

原義為同意對某物支付某一價格,口語中用以指期待獲得某物。

When I undertook to mend his watch for him I didn't bargain for all this trouble.(我答應替他修錄時,並不預期會有這一切廠煩。)

If you try to intimidate us by threats, you'll get more than you bargained for (你如想用威脅來恫嚇我們,則後果會出乎你所預期者。)

They found that the trouble they were put to was more than they had been bargained for.(他們發覺所遭遇的麻煩,比所預期者爲多。)

# BARK ONE'S SHIN, NOSE, etc.

擦破一層皮(原意爲剝去樹上的皮)。(口語)

In climbing over the rocks he barked his shins.

(他在攀緣岩石時,擦破了脛骨的表皮。)

可用被動式,但並不常用。

Both his shins were badly barked.

(他的二條脛骨皮傷甚重。)

# BARK UP THE WRONG TREE

弄錯抨擊或努力的對象。(口語)時態僅限現在分詞形式。

In blaming us for what has happened you are barking up the wrong tree; we had nothing whatever to do with the affair.

(你為了所發生的事而責怪我們,無異找錯了對象,因爲我們與這件事毫無關係。)

不用被動八。

#### BASH

(1)狠擊,猛鬥。(俚語)

He bashed in the painting. (他猛擊那幅畫。)

(2) To have a bash 是美國俚語,意指舉辦盛大的宴會。

We're going to have a big bash tomorrow night (明晚我們要辦一次盛大宴會)

(3)在英國慎語中,任何成語結構都不把 bash一字用作動詞,可是却有 to have a bash at something 的說法,意即即使成功不太可能,仍將一試。

I don't think I could ever learn Chinese, but I'm willing to have a bash at it.(我自度決難學會中文,可是很顯一試。)

#### BAWL OUT

(1)叫喊,與 cry out 同義。

Jimmy bawled out the names more loudly after Jack prodded him with a kick.

(原克踢了他一脚之後, 吉美叫贼名單更大聲了。)

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The bus driver bawled out the child for running into the street. (那公車司機叱責跑入街心的兒童。)

#### BE AFRAID

(1) afraid + 不定詞: afraid of + 動名詞。

不定詞表示某人從事某事時內心的恐懼。如:

She was afraid to cross the road. (她怕穿過馬路。)

Some children are afraid to go upstairs in the dark. (有些孩子怕在黑暗中上樓去。)

連用of,再加動名詞,係表示某人對一種行為或活動之後果的恐懼。如:

She did not say all she thought, for she was afraid of offending him。(她並未說出全部想法,唯恐因此得罪了他。)

They dared not set foot on the icy pavement, for they were afraid of falling down.(他們不敢在結冰的馬路上擧步,因爲怕摔倒。)

(2) Afraid之後接名詞片語,亦用來表示陳述一件事情時的抱歉或躊躇。如:

I am afraid that we shall have to decline the invitation. (我怕我們勢必要謝却還次邀請。)

I am afraid we are going to have a poor summer again. (我怕我們今年暑期又會過得很貧乏。)

I am afraid he cannot be trusted. (我怕他這人難於信託。)

上述用法僅限於說話或書信中,通常均用於第一人稱。惟有時原先的第一人稱在間接引述時 便可能成爲第三人稱。如:

He said he was afraid that he would have to decline the invitation.(他說他怕勢必要謝却這次激請。)

# BE FRIENDS WITH (SOMEONE)

與某人友好。應注意所用的複數名詞,即使所提到的是某一人與另一人之間的關係,亦不例外。

I have been friends with him ever since our schooldays. (我和他從學生時代起就極友好。)

與 make friends with 同義。

# BE IN WITH(SOMEONE)

極友好,受人喜愛。(口語)

He stands a good chance of getting the position, as he is in with the more influential members of the committee.

(他處於有利的機會,可以獲得這個職位,因為他與委員會中較有影響力的委員都極友好。) 亦作 get in with, keep in with.

英人價語中作 be well in with, get well in with, keep well in with.

#### BE OFF

走開,離開,動身。(口語) 此語之正確用法,在英美人士並無困難,但外國學生則須 稍加注意。因並非各種時態或各種情況均可使用。其習慣用法約如下列數例所示: (1)命令式。

Be off, before I call the police.(亦常作 Be off with you!)(快走,不然 (2)不定詞。 我要報警了。)

We hope to be off by eight o'clock. (我們希望於八時前動身。) To be off by that time, we shall have to get up early. (爲了那個時刻動身,我們勢必要早起。)

③作爲 must, ought, would, should, had better等之不定詞。

We must be off early tomorrow morning. (明天一早我們就得動身。) You ought to be off by now. (你現在就該動身。)

You needn't be off just yet, need you? (你難道還不需要動身?)

If all goes well, we should be off soon after day-break.

(如果一切進行順利,天亮之後我們就應該動身。)

We had better be off before it gets dark.(我們最好在天黑前動身。)

(4)作爲過去、現在,或將來時態。

I'm off to town now. (現在我動身進城。)

We're off to the Rio Grands (我們要動身前往里約格蘭德。)

On receipt of the message he was off like a shot.

(他一接到電報,就立刻火速動身。)

We shall be off to Paris by this time next week. (下调此刻我們就要動身赴巴黎。)

(5)現在時態提到將來之事。

We are off for our holidays on Saturday.

(我們要於星期六動身出外度假。)

(6)在習慣上需要時,用作假定語氣。

(但願我能赴海濱

I wish I were off to the seaside instead of to the office.而不要上班。) 注意:(1)由於此語中之 off 含有現在分詞之意義,故不用動詞 to be 的進行式,或與過去分詞相連所構成之時態。

(2) To be off 不論用作何種時態,僅能指某一特定時刻之情況——或爲說話 時,或爲所提到的過去或將來,而不能指一種連續或延伸的活動。故可說:

Just as I was off to work I received an urgent telephone call. (當時我正動身去上班,突然接到緊急電話。) 或可說:

Look at all those people; they are off to the football match. (請看這許多人,都是動身去看橄欖球比賽的。) 但不可說:

While he was off to work he met with an accident. 而該說:
While he was going to work,或 On his way to work.....

其理由是 while 並不意示某一特定時刻,而是一段時間或時期。

#### BE UP TO

(1)能; 勝任; 具有從事某一工作之必要 技能或知識。

After a few weeks' trial he was shifted to another department, as he was not up to the work that had been given him.

(經過數週的試用,他被調往另一部門,因爲他無法勝任所交付的工作。)

Will he be up to teaching that class?(他能教這一班級嗎?)

I am sure he is really up to the work, if only he would put his mind to it. (我敢說他確能勝任此工作,只要他心神貫注在工作上。)

(2)做。 (口語)

What are those children up to?(那些兒童在做什麽?)

He is always up to mischief.(他總是行爲失檢。)

Be careful what you're up to with that stick, or you'll be injring someone.(拿了那根拐杖,你得留心行事,否則便會傷人。)

(3)美語中 "up to much" 一詞爲上節(2)之引伸,意即 "doing much".

Alice hasn't been up to much since she broke her arm.

(艾麗絲自從折臂以來,做事不多。)

Has John been up to much lately, or has he been taking it easy, as the doctor ordered?(約翰近 來忙於工作?還是照醫生所屬秦然處之?)

(4) "Up to much" 意為狀況令人滿意或達於令人滿意的標準,在英式英語中主要用於否定句,偶亦用於肯定之間句,但從不用於肯定之敍述句。(口語)

On the whole we had a good holiday, but the weather was not up to much. (大體而言,我們度假尚稱愉快,但天氣並不理想。)

She is quite good at French, but her Latin is not up to much.

'她的法文頗有造詣,但拉丁文則並不出色。)

How is your sister today? --- Not up to much.

(令妹今天好嗎?---並不怎麼好。)

Are your roses up to much this year? (今年你的玫瑰花開得令人滿意嗎?)

# BEAR A GRUDGE

久懷怨恨,不願忘却。

I always have a feeling that for some reason she bears a grudge against me.(我始終覺得她爲了某種理由對我久懷怨恨。)

He is not the kind of person to bear anyone a grudge.

(他不是那種對人久懷怨恨的人。)

極少用被動式。

# BEAR THE BRUNT

負擔(一件任務、一次比賽等的)主要責任或壓力。

The Prime Minister will have to bear the brunt of the Opposition's attack on the policy of the Government.

(反對黨抨擊政府的政策,總理勢必將負其主要責任。)

一般不用被動式,惟亦可說:

"The brunt of the attack was borne by the Prime Minister." (被人抨擊的主要責任係由總理承擔。)

#### BEAR LEFT/RIGHT

於道路交叉處,取左(右)邊的一條。

When you come to the church, bear right. (你到達教堂時,可取右邊道路前進。)

#### BEAR OUT

佐證;確證;證實。

The fact that there was tire marks in the drive bears out the theory that the thieves used a car to take away the stolen property. (車道上有輪跡之事實,可以證明盜賊係用一輛汽車搬運偷得之財物的說法不虛。)

The belief that there was a Roman settlement there in ancient times was borne out by the discovery of a number of Roman coins.(該地古代有羅馬移民之信念,已由若干羅馬錢幣之發現予以證實。)

Bear out 亦得採用人稱受詞,但僅限於主動式。

I am sure my friend will bear me out in all that I have said. (我可斷言,我朋友將可證實我所說的一切。)

#### BEAR UP

在艱難困苦中保持高昻心志。

How are you today? -- Not very well, but managing to bear up. (你今天可好?——不太好,不過力求振作而已。)

She is bearing up as well as one can expect after her bereavement. (她喪偶之後,保持振作一如他人所期望者。)

#### BEAT A RETREAT

參閱 BACK DOWN。撤退;倉皇狼狽而逃。

The boys beat a hasty retreat when they saw the truant officer approach. (孩子們一看訓導主任走來,立即倉皇狼狽而逃。)

When the majority of the company was captured, the few remaining soldiers beat a retreat. (一連人馬多半被俘,少數殘餘士兵即倉皇撤退。)

#### BEAT ABOUT THE BUSH: BEAT AROUND THE BUSH

迂迥而談,不切正顧。

We would understand you better if you said exactly what you meant, instead of beating about (around) the bush.

(你如能直捷明確言之,而不作迂迥之談,我們更易瞭解。)

#### BEAT DOWN

(1)與人交易而抑低其價格。

At first he asked fifty dollars, but I beat him down to forty-five. (紀初他索價五十元,但我還價爲四十五元而成交。)

They were gradually beaten down to little more than half of what they had originally asked. (價格經逐漸殺滅至原索者一半有奇。)

(2)用作不及物動詞時,係指陽光强烈照射之意。

In summer the sun beats down on the roof, so that the upper rooms become unbearably hot.

(夏日驕陽逼射屋頂,樓上各室熱不可耐。)

The crowds stood there for over an hour, with the sun beating down on them.

(羣衆鵠立一小時餘,頭頂有烈日逼射。)

#### BEAT IT

(1)倉皇走避;急離。 (俚語)

June beat it after she broke the sugar bowl.

(瓊妮打破糖碗後倉皇離去。)

Valentine threw the hand grenade and then beat it around the corner as fast as he could.

(范倫丁扔出手榴彈後,即儘速走避至轉角背後。)

(2) 今燕。広击。

Donald beat it home so that he wouldn't miss dinner.

(唐納趕回家去,以免錯過晚餐時間。)

(不用被動式)

#### BEAT UP

狠打使人受傷。(主要爲口語,但寫作時亦見之。)

He was surrounded by a gang of youths, who beat him up and then stole his money.

(他被一羣青年包圍,他們狠狠揍了他一頓,然後把他的錢抄去。)

When discovered by the police he said that he had been beaten up by two masked men.

(他一見警察,就說曾遭二個蒙面人狠揍。)

#### BEATEN TRACK

(1)熟悉或常行之路;老路。(华文式。)

We had better follow the route we know; if we once get off the beaten track we may lose ourselves.

(我們最好走熟路,因爲一旦走離了老路,便會迷失方向。)

(2)任何追求,事業,或任務所常取的方式;成規。 (譬喩式。)

Nearly all the students follow much the same course in their reading; very few venture off the beaten track.

(幾乎全體學生在閱讀時都採用同一方式,極少有人嘗試放棄成規。)

#### BEG

(1)索惠。 (口語)

May I beg a cigarette from you? (討根香菸好嗎?)

We only managed to get there in time by begging a lift in a neighbor's car. (我們要求搭乘鄰人便車,才能及時趕到。)

(以上自屬 beg 原義之引伸用法,與討錢 to beg for money、求恕 to be g one's pardon 無異。) 不用於被動式。

(2) Beg off 要求特准暫離辦公室。 (口語)

Half-past four is an awkward time for me to attend a meeting, as I don't finish work until five, but I will try and beg off for an hour.(四點半鐘要我出席會議,是一個驅脫的時間,因爲我的工作在五點以前不會做完;可是我會設法請准早退一小時。)

(3) A begging letter 乞求贈金、捐物的信,或爲自己,或爲慈善事業。

As soon as it became known that he had innerited a fortune he received scores of begging letters.

(他繼承了一筆財產的消息一經傳出,他就接到很多請求捐贈的信。)

(4) Going begging無人要;侯領或由人據爲己有。(口語)

If that piece of cake is going begging, I'll have it. (假如這塊蛋糕無人要,我就要了。)

There have been no applications for grants from the fund for the past three years, so a considerable sum of money has accumulated, and is going begging.

(選筆經費過去三年來均無人申請贈與,積存爲數可觀,現在任何人皆可申請。)

#### BEHAVE

此字可用作不及物,亦可以反身代名詞爲受詞,但反身受詞始終用在命令式之後(如 Behave yourself,檢點你的行爲)和有命令意味的不定詞之後。如:

I told them to behave themselves.(教告誠他們要檢點自己的行爲。)

She knows that she has got to behave herself.

(她知道必須檢點自己的行為。)

有時亦用以暗示可能的推動或監督,以期確實做到預期的行為,如:

I will see that the children behave themselves.

(我要求孩子們自己檢點行為。)

John and Sheila can come with us if they behave themselves. (約翰和謝拉如能自己檢點行為,可以和我們同行。)

如無要求某種行為的意思,受詞照例可省略,不過亦得加上。由是可說:

He knows how to behave in company. 或 He knows how to behave himself in company. (他知道在夥伴中如何檢點行為。)

受詞之使用或係暗示遠爲有意識的努力。如接有比較式時,通常均不用受詞。如:

He behaved like a lunatic. (他的行為有如狂人。)

Don't behave like that.(勿作此種行徑。)

Why can't you behave like this little boy?

(你的行爲爲何竟不如遺個幼童?

此種不及物的用法中, **behave** 意指「黑某種方式行動或學動」;此種方式或爲我們所賛成 或不贊成者,但 behave oneself 则除非月加級述,均暗示正確或可以接受之行爲。

#### BELT

(1)抽打,狠揍。(俚語)

They set to and belted each other.(他們動起手來,相互狠揍。) I lost my temper and belted him.(我發了脾氣,將他責打。)

(在英式價語中,除非所用之武器確係皮帶,通常皆說: "belted into him。") 此或係當初用皮帶抽人演變而來,今雖用拳頭,而說法仍齒,此詞有時且借用以表示責駕或

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