Ruth Gairns and Stuart Redman

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等漢英语词汇 Oxford Word Skills







牛津英语词汇 Oxford Word Skills



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Introduction 导语

什么是牛津英语词汇?

牛津英语词汇系列一套三册, 旨在帮助学生更好地学习、练习及复习生词。

初级:	初级和初中级[欧洲语言学习统一标准(CEF)的A1和A2水平]
中级:	中级和中高级[欧洲语言学习统一标准(CEF)的B1和B2水平]
高级:	高级[欧洲语言学习统一标准(CEF)的C1和C2水平]

每册收录生词或词组2000余个,可供课堂教学或自我学习使用。

本书是如何设计的?

每册分为80个单元,每个单元根据话题所涉内容长短占1~3页不等。我们为学习者选取了适量的生词,并紧接练习加以巩固。每5~10个单元按相同主题归为一大板块。每板块最后设复习单元,并安排了深度练习以便单词学习者复习和自测。

本书的附录包括:

- 构词表
- 练习答案(主观题除外)
- 单词表,其中包括单词或词组的音标指南及其所在单元标注

每册书附有CD-ROM一张。内容涉及单词朗读及课外练习,其中包含一部分听力练习。

含有哪方面的词汇?

中级英语词汇涉及:

- 更为宽广的常规话题。例如:金钱、健康话题、关系
- · 社交中的单词及短语。例如:发表观点、安排会面
- 词汇语法。例如:前缀、后缀、连接词

本书聚焦日常英语口语及不同形式书面语中的高频词汇,例如:求职广告、杂志文章、网页和警告标志等。在高阶英语词汇中学习者们还将接触到更多的词汇喻意、惯用语以及词组搭配。

牛津3000常用词收录了教师及学生在教和学的过程中最应掌握的3000个单词,而本系列几乎囊括了所有这些词汇。单词的选取基于其出现的频率及实用性,并由牛津大学出版社结合语料库及70多位来自语言学习和教学领域的专家提供的信息作进一步的改进和整合。此外,我们还收录了大量的高频词组(don't bother, I haven't a clue)以及特殊语境中的常用词条(a filling at the dentist's)。

我们为学习者提供了精确的插图、定义及例句以确保他们能够理解所有出现在特殊语境中的生词和词组。学习者应当注意有些英语单词含有多义。另外,同一名词在有些情况下为可数,在另一些情况下则不可数。如需知晓这些单词的其他含义、结构或可数性,则可通过查阅词典获取信息。(可参考开篇单元中的"如何学习生词")

教师该如何运用本书进行课堂教学?

本册主要借助不同的短文形式引入生词,有时也会通过表格或图片阐述说明。前者将统一归纳在每单元的词汇表下集中释义。如遇重点或需附加信息的条目,我们会在词汇要点一栏中做特别说明,便于学习者理解。

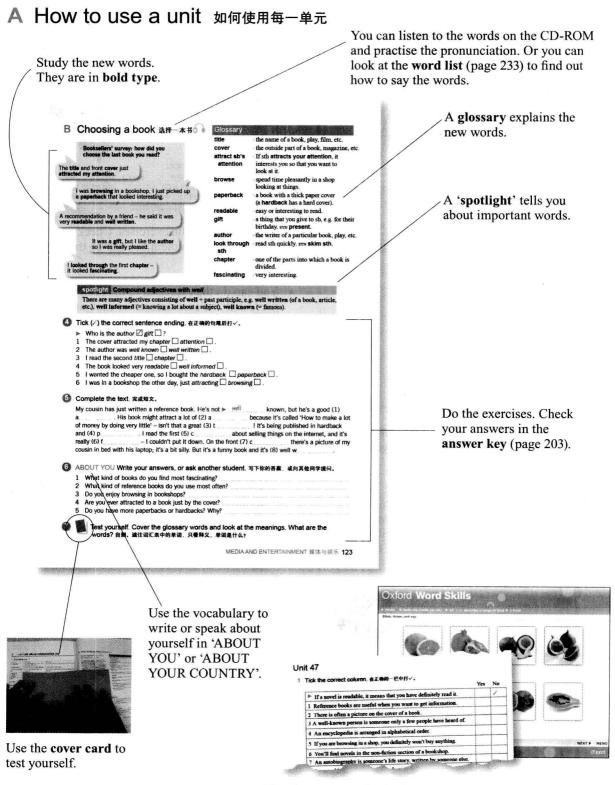
教师可遵循以下教学流程:

- 让学生自主学习5~10分钟(如有必要时间可稍作延长)。
- 回答学生关于生词的疑问,需要时可提供音标。
- 让学生做第一个练习,他们可根据书后的答案自行检测,也可在你的带领下全班一起核对。
- 若没有问题,可试着让学生在你的监督下独自或组对完成深度练习,并在需要时提供帮助。
- 当学生们完成书面练习后,他们可以通过另一种方式进行自测,看看究竟是否掌握了新学的词汇。单元中的材料经过版面设计,学生可将目标词条和单词定义中的任意一方遮住,互推单词和释义,从而加深印象巩固知识。这种自测方式简单快捷,便于反复操作,因此教师也不用费心为学生寻找不同的练习。
- 几天或一周时间过后,你可以利用复习单元中的练习题对学生掌握的知识进行深层巩固和测试。
- 也许你已经注意到以"ABOUT YOU"和"ABOUT YOUR COUNTRY"为标题的练习。这类主观练习帮助学生将所学的新单词运用到个人生活的语境中去。他们可以采用书面形式作答,或是两两问答锻炼口语。如果你在教学中采用口语问答方式,则可要求学生写下自己或搭档的答案作为课后练习。

学生该如何运用本书进行自学?

本书经过精心设计,既适用于课堂教学,也适合学生自学。如果用于自学,学习者应先浏览开篇部分。我们建议他们搭配CD-ROM一起使用。CD-ROM配备了单词朗读、课外练习及相应的答案,以便学习者自查自纠。相对于课堂教学,自学的优势在于学生自主性更强,他们可以自由选取感兴趣或有帮助的话题来学习以扩大词汇量。

Starter 开篇

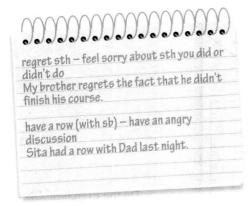


There's more practice in the **review** units and on the **CD-ROM**.

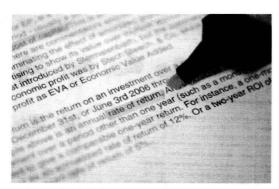
B How to learn new words 如何学习生词



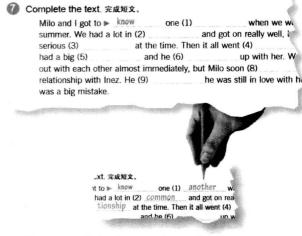
 Repeat the words and phrases two or three times to help you remember them.



- Write down new words in a notebook, with the meaning in English or your own language, or draw a picture.
- Write down any other important information about a word or phrase, e.g. words that often go together (a serious relationship) or constructions with verbs (regret the fact that). Write your own example sentences.



 Use a highlighter pen to help you remember difficult words.



- Use a pencil for the exercises. Check your answers, then rub them out and do them again a week later.
- You can do the exercises in the review units, or the CD-ROM exercises, after each unit. Or do them a month later to test yourself, perhaps after you've studied all the units in that module (e.g. 'The world around us').
- Look at the vocabulary building tables at the back of the book (page 202).
- Go to the website (www.oup.com/elt/wordskills) for more useful materials and more practice.

Buy a good dictionary for your level. The *Oxford Wordpower Dictionary* (Oxford University Press) is very good for intermediate learners.



C Abbreviations and symbols 缩写与符号

N	noun		usually	
V	verb		countable noun (A countable noun can be	
ADJ	adjective	510.	used with a/an and can have a plural form.)	
ADV	adverb		uncountable noun (An uncountable noun	
OPP	opposite (for example, <i>modest</i> is the opposite of <i>arrogant</i>)		cannot usually be used with <i>a/an</i> and usually has no plural form.)	
SYN	synonym (a word that means the same as another word; for example, <i>drawback</i> is a		past tense (the past simple form of an irregular verb)	
	synonym of disadvantage)	PP	past participle	
informal (If a word or phrase is informal , you use it when you are speaking to friends		sth	something (used in glossaries and tables, e.g. <i>regret sth</i>)	
	or people you know well.)	sb	somebody (used in glossaries and tables, e.g. <i>dismiss sb</i>)	
FML	formal (If a word or phrase is formal, you			
	use it at important and serious times with people you don't know well, or in written English.)	etc.	used at the end of a list to show there are other things, but you aren't going to say them all	
PL	plural	e.g.	for example (as in: jewellery, e.g. earrings,	
SING	G singular		necklace)	

Vowels

i:	see	/si:/
i	happy	/ˈhæpi/
Ι	sit	/sɪt/
e	ten	/ten/
æ	hat	/hæt/
a:	father	/'fa:ðə(r)/
D	got	/gpt/
3:	saw	/so:/
U	put	/put/
u	casual	/ˈkæʒuəl/
u:	too	/tu:/
Λ	cup	/kʌp/
3!	bird	/bs:d/
Э	about	/əˈbaut/
еі	say	/seɪ/
ອບ	go	/gəʊ/
aı	five	/faɪv/
au	now	/nau/
)I	boy	/lcd/
ıə	near	/nɪə(r)/
еә	hair	/heə(r)/
ບວ	sure	/ʃuə(r)/

Consonants

p	pen	/pen/
b	bad	/bæd/
t	tea	/ti:/
$\frac{t}{d}$	did	/dɪd/
	cat	/kæt/
$ \frac{g}{tf} $ $ \frac{d3}{f} $ $ \frac{f}{v} $ $ \frac{\theta}{\delta} $	got	/gpt/
t∫	cheap	/t∫i:p/
d ₃	jam	/dʒæm/
f	fall	/fɔ:l/
V	verb	/v3:b/
θ	thin	/θın/
ð	this	/ðis/
S	so	/səu/
Z	zero	/zɪərəu/
C	shoe	/ʃu:/
J		
<u>3</u>	television	/'teliviʒn, teli'viʒn/
$ \begin{array}{c} s \\ z \\ \hline S \\ 3 \\ h \end{array} $		
m	television	/ˈtelɪvɪʒn, telɪˈvɪʒn/ /hæt/ /mæp/
m	television hat	/ˈtelɪvɪʒn, telɪˈvɪʒn/ /hæt/
m n	television hat map no sing	/ˈtelɪvɪʒn, telɪˈvɪʒn/ /hæt/ /mæp/ /nəʊ/ /sɪŋ/
m n	television hat map no sing leg	/ˈtelɪvɪʒn, telɪˈvɪʒn/ /hæt/ /mæp/ /nəu/ /sɪŋ/ /leg/
m n	television hat map no sing	/'teliviʒn, teli'viʒn/ /hæt/ /mæp/ /nəu/ /siŋ/ /leg/ /red/
m	television hat map no sing leg	/ˈtelɪvɪʒn, telɪˈvɪʒn/ /hæt/ /mæp/ /nəu/ /sɪŋ/ /leg/

1 I can talk about vocabulary learning 词汇学习

A Reading 阅读

Tips for reading

When you're reading in a **foreign** language, you should try to get the **gist** of the **text**. You will meet vocabulary you don't **recognize**, but you can often **go through** the text again. If so, try this:

- Identify the new words and phrases which seem to be important. Try to guess the meaning from the context, and/or use a dictionary.
- Keep a record of the words in a notebook, and, if possible, make a note of any special information.
 For example, is the word formal or informal? Is it used in a particular kind of construction, e.g. a verb that is often followed by a preposition?
- Write a translation if you think it helps; sometimes it isn't necessary.

spotlight formal

We use **formal** language to appear serious or official, or sometimes when we don't know people well. OPP **informal**. **formality** N. OPP **informality**.

Glossary	000
foreign	 from a country that is not your
	own (a person is a foreigner).
gist	 sing The gist of sth is the general
meaning but not all	the details.
text	 the written part of a book,
	newspaper, etc.
recognize sb/sth	 know who sb is or what sth is
	because you've seen or heard
	them before. recognition N.
go through sth	 read sth carefully from
	beginning to end.
identify sth	 recognize sth and decide what it
	is.
guess sth	 give an answer to sth without
	being sure of the facts. guess N.
context	 the words before and after the
	new word or phrase that help you
	to understand the meaning.
keep a record of sth	1.5
	remember it. record sth v.
make a note of sth	 write sth down quickly to help
	you remember it.
construction	 the way words are used together
	in a sentence. construct sth v.

a text that has been changed

translate sth v.

from one language into another.

0	Replace the words in italics with a single word that has the same meaning. 用同义词替代斜体部分。							
	1 2 3 4	I looked at the pictures but didn't understand the written parttext I understood the general meaning of the text We couldn't recognize and decide what language they were speaking The way you use words together to make a sentence in German is different He is from another country.						
	5	You can guess the meaning from the words before and after the new word.						
	6	There was a text which I had to change from one language into another.						
2	Co	omplete the dialogues. 完成对话。						
		Is 'How do you do' formal ? ~ Yes, we usually just say hello .						
	1	Did you know the answer? ~ No, I had to						
	2	Did you understand everything? ~ No, but I got the of it.						
	3	Did you everyone? ~ There were one or two people I didn't know.						
	4	Were there many $? \sim No$, all the people were from this country.						
	5	Did you understand the text? ~ Yes, but can we through it again?						
	6	Do you make a of new words? ~ Yes, I keep a in my notebook.						

translation

B Speaking and listening 听说 🕟

- · In a conversation, you can often ask someone to repeat words or phrases you don't understand, and explain the meaning to you.
- Repeat new words to yourself, so you know how to pronounce them.
- · Look for opportunities to practise them when you're speaking. Don't be afraid to experiment with new language, and don't worry about making mistakes.
- · It's important to revise new vocabulary. If not, you may forget it quite quickly.
- Remember: there isn't a correct method of learning vocabulary. Do what works for you.

spotlight

conversation, chat, discussion, argument

A conversation is a talk between two or more people. You can also have a chat with sb, which is a friendly informal conversation (chat v). A discussion about sth is when you talk about something seriously (discuss sth v). An argument is a discussion in which people disagree, often angrily.

	(2) 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10								
	repeat sth say sth again. repetition N.								
	explain sth • make sth clear or easy to understand. explanation N.								
	pronounce sth • make the sound of a word or letter. pronunciation N.								
	opportunity a time when it is possible to do sth that you want to do. syn chance								
	experiment with sth • try sth to see what result it has.								
	make mistakes ont do mistakes.								
	revise sth study sth again (you do revision).								
	method a way of doing sth.								
	work • get or have the result you want.								
3	What nouns are formed from these verbs? 写出动词构成的名词形式。 ▶ discuss discussion 2 pronounce 4 revise 1 repeat 3 explain 5 chat								
)	Circle the correct answer. 圈出正确的答案。								
	 If you explain something, you make it easy to say/understand. If you revise something, you say it again/study it again. If something works, it is successful/difficult. If you experiment with something, you try something/find something. You can do/make a mistake. A method is an opportunity to do something/a way of doing something. A chat is a formal/an informal conversation. 								
	Complete the sentences. 完成句子。								
	We had a conversation on the phone last night. We had a serious in class today about politics. My brother's got an to work in Paris next year. Lucky him. I saw Joelle in town and we had a quick . She told me about the wedding. I used a new method for cooking the rice and it really . You must try it. Do you think we'll have a to go shopping when we're in Milan?								
	Test yourself. Cover the glossary meanings and look at the words.								

What are the meanings?自测。遮住词汇表中的释义,只看单词,其释义是什么?

进步与目标

I can describe my progress and aims

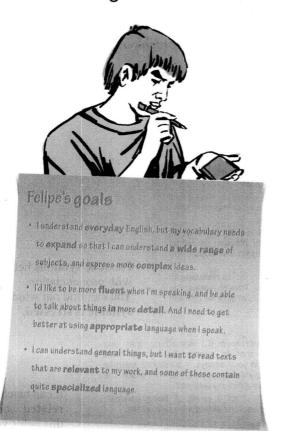
A Making progress 取得进步 6 0

When I started learning English, I was very enthusiastic and motivated, but I found the pronunciation difficult and people couldn't always understand me. After a while my pronunciation improved and I was able to express basic ideas quite effectively. It was obvious that I was getting better,

and that was very encouraging. But at intermediate level, I made slower progress. There were so many new words and phrases, but also words that I could understand but couldn't use accurately. I think I was more aware of my mistakes, which was good - but also frustrating.

ı	Glo	ssary					
	enth	usiastic		very interested in sth or excited by it. enthusiasm N .	obvious	0	easily seen and understood. syn clear.
		ivated		If you are motivated , you really want to do sth. motivation N .	encouraging	0	If sth is encouraging , it give you hope and makes you wan
	after impr			after a period of time. become better, syn get better ,			to continue. encourage v. encouragement N.
	1.51			make progress. improvement N.	accurately	0	with no mistakes. accurate A
	75.0	ess sth		say or show what you think or feel. in a way that gives you the result	be aware of sth		If you are aware of sth, you know about it.
	01100	ouvery		you want. effective ADJ.	frustrating	0	making you annoyed because you cannot do sth you want to do. frustration N.
0				e sentences using the words on the E确形式完成句子。	e right in the cor	re	ect form.
	1 2 3 4 5 6	He gave I think n My mot It's He does	ny ne ne	e work very <u>effectively</u> . ne a lot of English is r speaks English very when you can't understand. t have much when I started.	EFFECTIVE ENCOURAGE IMPROVEMEN ACCURATE FRUSTRATION MOTIVATED ENTHUSIASM	٧	
2				underlined word or phrase with a wo 《短语替代划线部分。	rd or phrase that	h	as the same meaning.
	\triangleright	She sho	WS	s lots of interest and excitement. ent	nusiasm		
	1	Do you t	thi	nk your English is improving?	7		
	2	I didn't v	NC	orry about my mistakes after a period o	of time.		***************************************
	3	Where a	re	you making the most improvement?			
	4	It's clear	tl	hat he doesn't know the difference bet	ween lend and bo	orr	ow.
	5	She can	sp	peak French without mistakes.			
	6			knows about the problem.			
	7	I can say	y r	most of the things I need to.	and the same of th		
	8	I make a	l	ot of mistakes, which is annoying.			

B Future goals 未来的目标 6



Glossary

goal a thing you want to be able to do in the future. syn **aim**.

everyday normal or usual.

expand become bigger or make sth bigger.

a wide range a large number of different things.

complex not simple; often difficult to understand. syn **complicated**.

fluent able to speak a foreign language easily and well. fluently ADV.

in detail fully and including a lot of information.

appropriate right or suitable in a particular situation. OPP **inappropriate**.

relevant to sth useful for and connected to sth. OPP irrelevant.

specialized having or needing a lot of special knowledge.

spotlight contain and include

We can often use **contain** or **include** with the same meaning.

The film contains/includes scenes of violence. Sometimes we can only use one of the verbs.

The box contains magazines. (There are magazines inside the box.)

dinner.

of topics.

The price **includes** service. (Service is one part of the price.)

				CONTRACTOR OF STATE O
4	Re	eplace the underlined words with a synonym	. ,	用同义词替代划线部分。
	>	The story is complex. complicated		
	1	I speak Russian very well.	4	The business got bigger.
	2	It's part of <u>normal</u> life.	5	It's not suitable here.
	3	It isn't connected to my work.	5	My goal is to get to university.
5	Cc ▶	omplete the dialogues with a suitable word. # Was the information important for your report?		
	1	Did you explain it fully? ~ Yes, I described it in		
	2	It wasn't a suitable word to use. ~ I agree, it w	as	AND
	3	Is it a simple problem? ~ No, it's quite	arána	ACCULATION AND ACCURATE AND ACCURATE AND ACCURATE ACCURAT
	4	Is this yoghurt bad for you? ~ No it doesn't		any fat.
	5	Is her vocabulary getting bigger? ~ Yes, it's defi	ni	tely

6 ABOUT YOU Write down your learning goals, or tell another student. 写下你的学习目标,或告诉其他同学。

Do you need any special knowledge? ~ Yes, it's very
 Is the hotel room expensive? ~ Yes, but the price _____

8 Were there many subjects? ~ Yes, quite a wide

I can understand a learner's dictionary



How can a learner's dictionary help you? These examples are from Oxford Wordpower Dictionary.

Different meanings of the word are given in the definitions, which are in simple English.

The dictionary helps you avoid making mistakes, and helps with grammar.

Idioms and phrasal verbs are at the end of the entry.

Examples of usage are provided.

Win /wm/ verb (winning; pt, pp won /wʌn/) 1 [I, T] to be the best, first or strongest in a race, game, competition, etc.: to win a game/match/ championship • I never win at table tennis. Which party do you think will win the next election? 2 [T] to get money, a prize, etc. as a result of success in a competition, race, etc.: We won a trip to Australia. • Who won the gold medal? • He won the jackpot in the lottery.

Note that we earn (not win) money at our job: I earn £15 000 a year.

IDM win/lose the toss > toss you can't win (informal) there is no way of being completely successful or of pleasing everyone: Whatever you do you will upset somebody. You can't win.

PHR V win sb over/round (to sth) to persuade sb to support or agree with you: They're against the proposal at the moment, but I'm sure we can win them over.

Phonetic symbols help with pronunciation. You can find out which syllable is stressed.

? mistake1 /mr'sterk/ noun [C] something that you Words that are often used think or do that is wrong: Try not to make together (collocations) are any mistakes in your essays. . a spelling mistake · It was a big mistake to trust her. · I made the given in bold. mistake of giving him my address.

IDM by mistake as a result of being careless: The terrorists shot the wrong man by mistake.

OTHER WORDS FOR

Error is more formal than mistake: a computing error. When you make a mistake you do sth wrong: I got the answer wrong. • You must have the wrong number (= on the phone). Fault indicates who is responsible for sth bad: The accident wasn't my fault. The other driver pulled out in front of me. Fault is also used to describe a problem or weakness that sb/ sth has: a technical fault.

It can teach you related words: this helps you build your vocabulary and select the correc word for your needs.

It helps you with style: for instance, whether words are formal, informal, slang, offensive, etc.

guy /gai/ noun 1 [C] (informal) a man or boy: He's a nice guy. 2 guys [pl] (informal) used when speaking to a group of men and women: What do you guys want to eat?

Glossary

definition an exact statement of what a word or phrase means. define sth v.

avoid doing sth If you avoid doing sth, you try not to do or experience it.

idiom a group of words whose meaning is different from the meanings of the individual words (also

entry one of a list of items included in a dictionary, list, etc. (There are three dictionary **entries** on this page.) **provide sth** give sth to sb or make sth available for sb.

style the way sth is written or spoken (e.g. an informal style, a formal style).

for instance SYN for example.

slang very informal words or phrases used in spoken

offensive rude and likely to upset sb. offend sb v.

symbol a letter, number, or sign that has a particular meaning (e.g. the **symbol** /ʃ/ is pronounced 'sh').

syllable a part of a word which contains a vowel sound. (Go has one syllable and prefer has two syllables.)

relate sth to sth connect sth to sth. related ADJ. build sth make sth bigger; increase sth.

select sth syn choose sth (but select is more formal). selection N.

spotlight stress and emphasize

Both verbs mean to say a syllable, word, or phrase with extra loudness.

The related nouns are stress (on sth) and emphasis (on sth).

The stress is on the first syllable. Don't emphasize every word.

They are also used to say that sth is important.

The newspapers stressed the need for urgent action.

The emphasis is mainly on education.

	721 121 2 22				
(A)	Is the meaning the same	or different? Write	SorD	以下句意是否相同?	用S或D表示。
400 DDD	to the mounting the came	or annorone: Trite		Or I TORKE HIMIT.	112 -14 .54.2.0

	The city is fantastic: for example, the buildings are very impressive.	The city is fantastic: for instance, the buildings are very impressive.	5
1	That's a useful idiom to know.	That's a useful expression to know.	100
2	Is that collocation correct?	Is that definition correct?	
3	What she said was very rude.	What she said was offensive.	
4	Does he use a lot of slang?	Does he use a lot of idioms?	
5	Can you avoid mistakes?	Can you define mistakes?	
6	Make sure you select the right number.	Make sure you choose the right number.	
7	The stress is on the first three letters.	The emphasis is on the first three letters.	7.13
8	It doesn't give all the answers.	It doesn't provide all the answers.	

Complete the sentences with a word from the box. 用框中的单词完成句子。

symbols offending related entry 🗸 selection instance stress idiom provide build collocations entry

	In a dictionary, foreigner comes after the	entry for foreign.	
1	Dictionaries have many uses: for	, to find out meaning, or check	c pronunciation.
2	Does your local bookshop have a good	of dictionaries for sale?	
3	Some dictionaries can help you words.	your vocabulary if they	synonyms and
4	A dictionary can tell you which words are	rude so that you can avoid	people.
	You can check the pronunciation of any warm and noting which	vord in the dictionary by looking at th	
6	Good luck! is given as an ir	the dictionary, at the end of the	for luck.
7	Dictionaries often tell you which words go and take a photo.	together. Examples of	are make a mistake
8	In the word emphasis, the	is on the first syllable.	

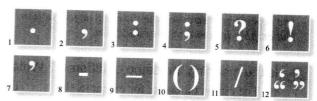
Now look at the dictionary entries on the left-hand page. Answer the questions. 阅读左页的词典词条,并回答问题。

▶	Which syllable is stressed in mistake? The second syllable	
1	Which related words are given for mistake and make a mistake?	
2	How many definitions are there in the entry for guy?	
3	What style is the idiom You can't win?	
4	Is guy an offensive word?	
5	Which phonetic symbols are given for guy?	
6	Are these sentences correct?	
	a) I haven't got the keys, but it's not my fault; Jo lost them.	
	b) My dad wins a lot of money in his job	

I can talk about English punctuation 英语标点符号

Α	Punctuation	marks	标点符号	60
---	--------------------	-------	------	----

- 1 full stop
- 2 comma
- 3 colon 4 semicolon
- 5 question mark
- 6 exclamation mark
- 7 apostrophe
- 8 hyphen
- 9 dash
- 10 brackets
- 11 slash
- 12 quotation marks



- ❶ Complete the words for the punctuation marks. 将表示标点符号的单词补充完整。
 - ▶ com m a
 - 1 full s
 - 2 col
 - 3 hyp____
 - 4 bra

- 5 question m____
- 6 excla____m
- 7 semi____
- 8 apo
- What punctuation is used in 1-8 below? You don't need to repeat full stop each time. 以下句中使用的是什么标点符号?
 - We went home early. full stop
 - 1 She had long, blonde hair.
 - 2 What are you doing?
 - 3 Congratulations!
 - 4 It's too late.
 - 5 I looked in the fridge; it was empty.
 - 6 Someone (not me) left the door open.
 - 7 A five-minute walk and he still took a taxi.
 - 8 'It's only me,' he said.
- Test yourself. Cover the words and look at the punctuation marks. What are they? 自测。遮住单词,只看标点符号,说出单词。
- B Punctuation rules 标点规则 6

SOME IMPORTANT PUNCTUATION RULES

A full stop is used at the end of a sentence that is not a question or an exclamation, and is sometimes used in abbreviations. Each new sentence must begin with a capital letter.

A comma in writing is like a pause in speech. It is used:

- to separate parts of a sentence, e.g. After we left, someone tried to phone us.
- between adjectives, e.g. A big, expensive car.
- to separate words in a list, though it is often omitted before and, e.g. I went to France, Germany, Italy and
- when words or phrases interrupt the normal progression of a sentence, e.g. I decided, however, that I needed something to eat first.

A colon is often used to introduce further details such as an explanation or a list, e.g. The shop is full of antiques: dining tables, chairs, wardrobes, mirrors, and so on.

A semicolon is sometimes used instead of a full stop when two sentences are very closely connected, or to separate two main clauses, especially ones that aren't joined by a conjunction such as and or but, e.g. I went round this morning; nobody was there.

A slash separates words or phrases that are alternatives, e.g. single/married.