

A CONCISE DICTIONARY
OF SPOKEN ENGLISH

简明 英语口语词典

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编 者 的 话

学习英语关键是掌握英语口语。然而,要想突破口语这一关,并不是一件容易的事。它需要长期的积累和专门的训练。

本词典就是为帮助读者提高英语口语能力而编写的一本实用性较强的工具书。共收录例句 5800 余句。本词典的第一部分收录了近 1000 个常用英语单词,这些单词都以短语的形式出现,包括名词短语、形容词短语、短语动词、副词短语、介词短语等,同时还摘选了各类成语、俚语和一定数量的谚语。选录的单词都配有口语性较强的例句,供读者模仿学习。本词典第二部分编写的是各种情景会话,包括购物、理发、餐饮、旅游等人类生存交往活动的各方面。

本词典适合各层次的读者,包括高中生、大学生,以及英语教师和具有中级水平的读者。

南京大学外语系英语教授许志成先生对本词典的原稿进行了审校,在此表示衷心感谢。在编写过程中曾参考了一些相关的英语词典和英语书籍,吸收了其中的一些精华,使本词典更具特色。也在此对各有关词典书籍编写者表示感谢。

由于编者水平所限,本词典中的缺点与谬误之处在所难免,希望广大读者批评指正。

编 者

一九九八年五月

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Part One: Oral Expressions

第一部分：口语表达法

A

aback [ə'bak] *ad.* 突然地

be taken aback 吃一惊

I was taken aback by the thunder. 我被那声音吓了一跳。

abandon [ə'bændən] *vt.* 放弃

abandon oneself to sth. 沉湎于某事

He has abandoned his native language. 他不再讲本国语言。

The lost child abandoned himself to despair.

迷途的孩子陷入了绝望。

abbreviate [ə'brɪ:vɪt] *vt.* 简略, 缩写

"Monday" is abbreviated to "Mon". "Monday" 写为 "Mon".

ability [ə'bɪlɪtɪ] *n.* 能力, 有才能

Do you have the ability to speak German? 你会讲德语吗?

He is a man of ability. 他颇有才能。

This ability is important to us all.

这一能力对我们大家来说是重要的。

able ['eɪbl] *a.* 有能力的

be able to ... 能, 会

We shall be able to finish the work tomorrow.

我们可以在明天完成这工作。

He has not been able to come. 他未能来。

Will you be able to finish your work by noon?

中午以前你能把工作做完吗?

about [ə'baʊt] *prep.* 关于; 近于 *ad.* 大约

be about to ... 即将 *How about ...?* ……怎么样

What is all this about? 这究竟是怎么回事?

That's about it. 差不多。

Ok, I'm about to leave. See you on Monday!

好,我要走了,星期一见!

How about playing tennis now? 现在来打网球怎么样?

I'd like a cup of tea. How about you, Lily?

我想喝杯茶,你呢,丽丽?

above [ə'ʌv] *prep.* 在……上面 *ad.* 在上面;以上

above all 首先,首要

We must be polite, above all, to old people.

我们要有礼貌,尤其对老年人。

account [ə'kaʊnt] *vi.* 做出解释,做出说明

account for 说明

He could not account for the time spent away from his post.

他无法解释自己职务之外的时间是如何度过的。

That accounts for it. 原来是这么一回事。

across [ə'krɒs] *prep.* 穿过;在……的另一边

across from 在……的对面

The government set new laws across the country.

政府在全国制订了新法律。

The post office is just across the street. 邮局就在马路对过。

The bank is across from the bookstore. 银行在书店对面。

It is across to you. 这是你的事了。

addition [ə'dɪʃən] *n.* 加;增加

in addition 另外 *in addition to* 除……之外

You do that in addition? 这是你额外的工作吗?

In addition to bananas you asked for, I bought you some oranges.

除了你要的香蕉以外,我还给你买了一些桔子。

advance [əd'vɑ:ns] *n.* 预付

in advance 预先 *in advance of* 在……之前

You should have told me in advance. 你本该事先告诉我。

His educational ideas were far in advance of his time.

他的教育思想远远超过了他所处的时代。

advantage [əd'vɑ:ntidʒ] *n.* 有利条件,优点

have the advantage of 胜于,优于 **take advantage of** 利用

You have the advantage of me in experience. 你在经验方面胜过我。

I'm afraid you have the advantage of me. 对不起,我不认识你。

(在别人招呼自己后因不认识其人而用的客套语,含有认错人
之意)

We should take a good advantage of this opportunity.

我们应该充分利用这次机会。

afraid [ə'freid] *a.* 恐怕

I'm afraid I am late! 我恐怕迟到了吧!

I'm afraid not! 恐怕不是这样吧!

I'm afraid so. 恐怕是的。

after ['ɑ:ftə] *prep.* 在……以后;在……后面

after all 毕竟,终究

After lunch we can go. 午饭后我们就可以去了。

You come after me in line. 你排在我后面。

After you! (客套语)您先请!

We have finished the task after all. 我们毕竟完成了这项任务。

Day after day they worked on. 他们日复一日地工作下去。

again [ə'gein] *ad.* 再一次,又一次

again and again 再三地

as many (或 much) again as (比……)多一倍

time and time again 一再,屡次

Say it again, please. 请再说一遍。

Again and again I've warned you not to come late.

我一再告诫你不要迟到。

He has half as many books again as I do. 他的书比我的多一半。

I have told you time and time again that I don't like onions.

我已一再告诉你我不喜欢吃洋葱。

Again, there is another matter to consider.

其次,还有一件事得考虑一下。

age [eidʒ] *n.* 年龄

act one's age 举止和年龄相称 **of an age** 同年的

What's the age of that old temple? 那座古刹历史有多久?

You are a big boy now. Act your age.

现在你是个大孩子了,做事要有大孩子的样子。

We are both about of an age. 我们俩年龄相仿。

agree [ə'gri:] *vi.* 同意,赞同

I quite agree with what you said. 我很同意你所说的。

Do you agree to this arrangement? 你赞成这个安排吗?

We are all agreed that the proposal is a good one.

我们都认为这个建议很好。

Agreed! 同意!

air [ɛə] *n.* 空气;做作的姿态;广播

in the air 未决定 **on the air** 广播 **put on airs** 摆架子

The date of the wedding is still up in the air.

婚礼的日期尚未确定。

Is that radio show still on the air? 那个广播剧还在播送吗?

That would be putting on too many airs.

那样的话可就是过分摆架子了。

all [ɔ:l] *pron.* 全体;每个 *a.* 一切的,所有的

all along 始终,一直

all but 几乎,差不多

all right 良好的(指健康)

all the same. 仍然,依然

and all that 以及诸如此类

at all 丝毫;根本

in all 总共,合计

We know all along that he is going to make it.

我们始终认为他会成功的。

The film is all but three hours long. 这部影片差不多放了3小时。

I was ill for a week, but I'm all right now.

我病了一个星期,但现在好了。

He is often rude, but I like him all the same.

他时常很粗鲁,可我依旧很喜欢他。

He knows a lot about politics and all that, but not too much about real life. 他对政治那类事懂得不少,可实际生活却懂得不多。

I didn't enjoy it at all. 我对此毫不欣赏。

There were 100 people in all. 总共有 100 人。

alone [ə'ləun] *a.* 单独的;孤独的 *ad.* 单独地;孤独地

go it alone 独自干 *let alone* 更不用说

She was alone in that dark room. 她独自一人呆在那黑屋子里。

I'm lonely, because of alone. 我因孤独而寂寞。

He likes to go it alone in everything. 他凡事都喜欢单枪匹马去干。

You are too ill to get out of bed, let alone go shopping.

你病得都不能起来,甭提上街买东西了。

along [ə'lɒŋ] *prep.* 沿着 *ad.* 沿

all along 始终;一直

I knew that he was telling lies all along. 我知道他一直在撒谎。

We went for a walk along the road after supper.

晚饭后我们沿着公路散步。

always [ˈɔ:lweɪz] *ad.* 总是;一直

as always 如平常一样 *for always* 永远

since always 一向以来,一直

He's not always at home in the evening. 他晚上总不在家。

His brother was wearing as always his faded army uniform.

他哥哥如平时一样穿着那件褪了色的军服。

He will stay here for always. 他将永远留在这儿。

Our family has been here since always.

我们家长期以来就住在这里。

and [ænd] *conj.* 和;又

and that 而且 *and what not* 诸如此类,等等

He is a worker and militiaman. 他是工人又当民兵。

This comrade speaks English, and that very well.

这位同志会讲英语,而且讲得很好。

We loaded the car with tents and pots and pans and what not.

我们把帐篷、锅、盘等东西装上了汽车。

any ['eni] *a.* 一些;任何的 *pron.* 那一个;那些

any time 很快,不久 **if any** 若有的话 **any more** 再,还

The car will be here any time now. 汽车马上就到。

Correct the errors in his composition, if any.

如果他的作文里有错,请你改正。

I haven't got the toys any more. 我再也没有得到过这种玩具了。

anything ['eniθiŋ] *pron.* 任何事(物),一切

anything but 根本不…… **anything like** 全然(不)……

anything of 一点儿 **like anything** 拼命地

I will do anything but that. 我决不干那件事。

I cannot give anything like a fair description of the exciting scene.

我真无法描绘那激动人心的场面。

I have not seen anything of him just lately.

近来我连他的影子也没有见到过。

We ran like anything to get away. 为了逃脱,我们拼命奔跑。

as [æz] *ad.* 同样地,一样地 *prep.* 作为;当作

conj. 当……时;以……方式

as for 至于 **as it is** (或 **was**) 实际上 **as it were** 可以说

as if 好像,仿佛 **as of** 在……时 **as though = as of**

As for my past, I'm not telling you anything.

关于我的过去,我什么都不会告诉你。

I thought things would get better, but as it is they are getting

worst. 我原来以为情况会改善,但实际上情况变得越来越糟。

I'm a sort of unpaid adviser, as it were, to the committee.

可以说,我是委员会的义务顾问。

He treats me as if I were a stranger. 他待我如陌生人。

As of this writing, no reply has been received.

到写这封信时为止,还没有得到回音。

ask [a:sk] *vt.* 问,打听;请求 *vi.* 要求,问候

ask after 探问 **ask for** 要求

I asked the policeman the way to the museum.

我向警察打听去博物馆的路。

May I ask you a favor? 我能不能请你帮一个忙?

The headmaster asked after the living conditions of the students.

校长询问了学生的生活状况。

If someone asks for help, can you be here on time?

如果有人要求帮助,你能按时赶到吗?

available [ə'veiləbl] 可利用的;可获得的; a. 有效的

All the available money has been used. 手头所有的钱都用完了。

If I am not available when you phone, ask for my secretary.

你打来电话时如果我不在,可叫我的秘书代接。

The ticket is available on the day of issue only.

此票仅(发售)当天有效。

avoid [ə'void] *vt.* 避免;避开

You should avoid being late for your class. 你应该避免上课迟到。

I walked carefully to avoid the puddles in the road.

我小心行走以避开路上的水坑。

I cannot avoid meeting him. 我无法避而不见他。

await [ə'weit] *vt.* 等候,期待

I await your answer. 我等候你的答复。

We have awaited your coming for days.

我们等待着你的到来已有多天了。

The scheme awaits attention. 这项计划等待着处理。

away [ə'wei] *ad.* 远离;……去

get away 别瞎说! 滚开!

He is away in the countryside. 他下乡去了。

The airport is ten li away from here. 飞机场离这儿有十里路。

He was phoned for and away he went. 有电话要他去,他就走了。

What? Just get away! I owe you 20 dollars?!

什么? 去你的吧,我欠你 20 美元?!

B

back [bæk] *n.* 后面;后部 *vt.* 使后退;使倒退;

vi. 后退;倒退 *ad.* 向后;回原处

at sb.'s back 作某人后盾 *at the back of* 作为……背后的原因

back and forth 来回地;反复地 *back of* [美口] 作……后盾

behind sb.'s back 背着某人 *on one's back* 卧病在床

He has the whole country at his back. 他有全国人民作后盾。

Someone must be at the back of this.

这事一定有什么人在背后捣鬼。

He paced back and forth in his room. 他在房间里来回踱步。

Many powerful men are back of him.

许多有权有势的人做他的后盾。

He did it behind my back. 这事他是背着我干的。

His mother has been on her back for two months.

他的母亲卧病在床已有两个月。

bad [bæd] *a.* 坏的,不好的 *n.* 坏;坏事物

go to the bad 堕落;没落 *in bad* 处于困境

too bad [美口] 可惜,不幸 *to the bad* 亏损

feel bad about 抱歉,感到不安

He's gone to the bad since he got rich. 他发财后就堕落了。

Anytime you're in bad, I'm glad to be of service.

你不论什么时候遇到麻烦,我都愿意帮忙。

Too bad that you couldn't come last night.

太遗憾,昨晚你没能来。

John was sixty dollars to the bad. 约翰亏损了六十美元。

I feel so bad about not being able to help you.

没能帮上您,我深感不安。

balance ['bæləns] *n.* 平衡,均势

balance of mind 正常的神志 *on balance* 总的说来

be (或 hang) in (the) balance 安危(或成败)未定

strike a balance 找到折中办法

She took her own life when her balance of mind was disturbed.

她神经错乱时自杀了。

The future of his career is in the balance.

他事业的前途在风雨飘摇之中。

On balance, we will gain more than we will lose.

总的说来,我们得到的将比失去的多。

We should strike a proper balance between work and rest.

我们应做到劳逸结合。

ball [bɔ:l] *n.* 球;狂欢作乐

ball up (使)变得紊乱 **carry the ball** [美口] 承担主要任务

on the ball 留心着,注意着 **have a ball** 尽情作乐

start the ball rolling 开始某种活动(常指谈话)

He was so tired he balled up on even simple problems.

他太累了,以至连简单的问题都搞不清楚。

Some good friends are carrying the ball for us.

几个好友在为我们挑重担。

Did somebody get on the ball about theatre tickets?

买戏票的事有人去办了吗?

Perhaps I should start the ball rolling, gentlemen.

诸位先生,或许该由我来开个头。

I really had a ball at your party. 我在您的晚会上玩得真开心。

bang [bæŋ] *n.* 猛击;猛撞 *vt.* 猛敲;猛撞 *vi.* 猛敲;猛撞

bang away 连续发出砰砰声 **bang in** 使劲把……推进去

bang on 极好

with a bang 成功地

A brass band is banging away in the park.

铜管乐队在公园里吹吹打打。

The driver banged the clutch in. 司机用力把离合器杆推进去。

I'd been to Hawaii for a holiday, and I think it was bang on.

我去夏威夷度了假期,我认为过得极好。

The performance went over with a bang. 演出极为成功。

base [beis] *n.* 基底;基础;根据

at base 本质上 **off base** 错误的;荒谬的

touch base [美口] 逗留

His wife is a sensible woman at base.

从根本上说,他的妻子是一个通情达理的人。

You're way off base. 你大错特错了。

These people came to the United States without touching base in England. 这些人没有在英国逗留便来到了美国。

beauty ['bju:ti] *n.* 美丽;美人

Beauty is in the eye of the beholder. [谚] 情人眼里出西施。

Beauty is only skin deep. [谚] 美貌不过一张皮。

believe [bi'li:v] *vt.* 相信;认为 *vi.* 相信

believe in 信仰;信任 **believe it or, not** 信不信由你

I know you'll hardly believe it of me, but it's true.

我知道你不大可能会相信我的话,可那是千真万确的。

I believe him innocent. 我认为他是无辜的。

I believe it's going to rain. 我看快要下雨了。

Christians believe in Jesus. 基督教信仰耶稣。

I believe in him. 我信任他。

Believe it or not, the hotel is in the downtown area.

信不信由你,那个宾馆在商业区。

bell [bel] *n.* 钟;铃

ring a bell 引起模糊回忆

The name rings a bell, but I can't quite think who he is.

这名字倒耳熟,可就是想不起他是谁。

beside [bi'said] *prep.* 在……旁边

beside oneself 若狂,发狂

She was beside herself with joy at the news.

听到这一消息她欣喜若狂。

best [best] *a.* 最好的,最优秀的 *n.* 最好的事物,最大好处

for the best 出于好意 **at one's best** 处于最佳状态

had best 最好,顶好 **make the best of** 充分利用

with the best 跟任何人一样好

I did it all for the best. 我是完全出于好意这么做的。

He is at his best in emergencies. 出现紧急情况时尤显他的干练。

We had best do it at once. 我们最好马上就干。

You should make the best of this opportunity.

你们应该充分利用这次机会。

Old as he is, he can play tennis with the best.

他虽然年纪大了,可是打起网球来不比任何人差。

better ['betə] *a.* 更好的 *n.* 较好者

better off 境况好起来 **get the better of** 战胜

had better 应该;最好 **no better than** 仅仅

Since my husband was made the manager, we are better off.

自从我的丈夫被任命为经理以来,我们的境况好转了。

My curiosity got the better of me. 我克制不住自己的好奇心。

You had better set off at once. 你还是马上动身的好。

The settlement is considered to be no better than fair.

那样的解决被认为不过如此而已。

So much the better. 这样就更好了。

Better late than never. [谚] 迟到总比不到好。

bit [bit] *n.* 一点儿,少许

a bit 有点儿,相当 **a bit much** 太多一些

a bit of 微不足道的一个

My foot is better but it still hurts a little.

我的脚伤好一点了,不过还有一点疼。

That's a bit much to pay. 那可太贵了一点。

We are having a bit of a party next week.

下星期我们准备请几位客人小聚一次。

black [blæk] *a.* 黑的 *n.* 黑色

black and blue 遍体鳞伤 **in the back** 赢利

That fellow was beaten black and blue.

那个家伙被打得遍体鳞伤。

The shop is running in the black. 那家商店营业有盈余。

block [blɒk] *n.* 街区 *vt.* 堵塞,阻塞

block off 封锁,封闭 **do the block** 逛马路

She lives on our block. 他住在我们那个街区。

The post office is just two blocks away. 过两条马路就是邮局。

The fire brigade had the street blocked off.

消防队把这条街道封锁了。

We are going to do the block this afternoon. Will you go with us?

我们下午打算去逛街,你愿意同我们一起去吗?

blow [bləu] vt. 诅咒

blow (it) 真讨厌! 真烦人 **blow me (down)** 哎呀

Blow! I've left my car-key in the car!

真烦人! 我把车钥匙落在车里了!

He's won again, well, blow me down! 他又赢了,哇,真可以!

boil [boil] vi. 沸腾 vt. 煮沸 n. 煮沸;沸腾状态

boil away 汽化;煮干 **boil down to** 表明是;归结为

boil up 烧热;煮滚 **come to a boil** 开始沸腾

on the boil 在沸腾;在兴奋中

All the water has boiled away. 所有的水都煮干了。

What it boils down to is a little word called "love".

归结起来,那可以用一个叫做“爱”的小字眼加以说明。

I'll boil you up some nice fish soup. 我将为你煮一些美味鱼汤。

After the water comes to a boil add the noodles.

水开之后把面条放入。

The restless students are on the boil again.

不安分的学生们又处于激动之中。

book [buk] vt. 预订

a closed book 无法理解的事情(或人) **be booked for** 预订……

be booked up 被预订一空的

The flight is fully booked. 这次航班的票已全部预订完了。

Please book me a through ticket to Shanghai.

请你给我订一张直达上海的车票。

Have you booked the room in advance? 你预先订好房间了?

I'd like to book a double room for Monday.

我想预订星期一的一间双人房间。

Can I book you to lecture to the society on 25 September?

我能约您在9月25日对学会作一次演讲吗?

For Mary, literature is a closed book. 玛丽对文学一窍不通。