

ENGLISH EVERY DAY



陈德彰 杨玲娟 编著

3

英语套餐



北京航空航天大学出版社

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内 容 简 介

此书为趣味英语读物,其中包括“天南海北”、“语言一角”、“寓言”、“故事”、“幽默”、“笑话”、“双关语”、“谚语”、“诗歌”、“科学”、“常识”、“动脑筋”等十多个栏目。编者将这十多个栏目下的内容进行了精心的组合,使读者每翻开一页都有新的感觉。此书内容丰富,可读性强,对知识点的讲解细致深入,还附有精美插图。它能让读者在轻松和快乐中把英语学得更好。

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Some Idiomatic Common Comparisons (一些常见的比较习语)



as *black* as coal, ink, jet,
midnight, pitch, soot
as *bright* as day, noonday,
the light, silver

as *cold* as charity, frog, ice, marble, a stone,
a cucumber

as *hard* as flint, marble, a stone

as *light* as air, a butterfly, a feather, thistle-
down

as *red* as blood, a cherry, fire, a rose

as *silent* as the dead, the grave, the stars

as *smooth* as butter, oil, glass, velvet

as *swift* as an arrow, lightning, thought, the
wind

as *thick* as a cable, hailstone, blackberries,
thieves

as *ugly* as a scarecrow, a toad

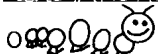
as *weak* as a baby, a cat, a kitten, water

as *white* as a sheet, snow, wool



FRIENDSHIP(友谊)

QUOTATIONS



语录

Friendship,
compounded of esteem and
love, derives from one its
tenderness

and its permanence from the other.

—Samuel Johnson

Friendship is the golden thread
that ties the hearts of all the world.

—John Evelyn

A friend is a neighbour of the heart.

—Blanche Harris

True friendship foresees the needs of others
rather than proclaims its own.

—Andre Maurois

Those who bring sunshine to the lives of
others cannot keep it from themselves.

—James Barrie

To hear the whispered voice
of another's heart
and understand unspoken words
are talents of those lucky few—
people who are precious to the world.

—Theresa Ann Hunt

Small service is true service while it
lasts;



Of friends, however humble, scorn not
one;

The daisy by the shadow that it casts
Protects the lingering dew-drop from the
sun.

—William Wordsworth

After the verb to love, to help is the most
beautiful verb in the world!

—Bertha von Suttner

A friend is one who:
pushes you in the swing,
pulls you in the ladder,
pats you on the back
and hugs you good-bye.

—Katherine N. Davis



Right Hand and Left Hand



Many studies have been made recently about hand preference in humans. They have brought interesting results. It has been found that many more men than women are left-handed; that all children use both hands about equally until they are three years old; and that hand preference is not clearly marked until age six. Above that age, most people favour one particular hand.

Definitions by Some Philosophers

HUMOUR



Bore , n. A person who talks when you wish him to listen.

Brain , n. An apparatus with which we think that we think.

Calamity , n. Calamities are of two kinds: misfortune to ourselves, and good fortune to others.

Cannon , n. An instrument employed in the rectification of national boundaries.

Debauchee , n. One who has so earnestly



pursued pleasure that he has had the misfortune to overtake it.

Egotist, n. A person of low taste, more interested in himself than in me.

Future, n. That period of time in which our affairs prosper, our friends are true and our happiness is assured.

Genealogy, n. An account of one's descent from a man who did not particularly care to trace his own.

Hand, n. A singular instrument worn at the end of a human arm and commonly thrust into somebody's pocket.

Marriage, n. The state or condition of a community consisting of a master, a mistress and two slaves, making in all two.

Patience, n. A minor form of despair, disguised as a virtue.

Peace, n. In international affairs, a period of cheating between two periods of fighting.

Philanthropist, n. A rich (and usually bald) old gentleman who has trained himself to grin while his conscience is picking his pocket.



Some Intransitive Verbs Used Transitivity



1. He *dreamed* a terrible dream last night.

他昨天晚上做了一个可怕的梦。

2. He *slept* the sleep of the just.

他问心无愧,睡得很踏实。

3. She *smiled* her acquiescence.

她微笑了一下,表示默许。

4. His father *looked* his consent.

他父亲表示同意地看了一眼。

5. He *looked* the thanks he could not express.

他的眼光表示了一种他说不出来的感谢。

6. He said nothing, but *looked* all love and sympathy.

他什么也没有说,目光里充满了慈爱和同情。

7. Mr. Astor said nothing, but *laughed* dissent.

阿斯特先生一声也不响,只是笑了笑表示不同意。

8. They *talked* the night away.

他们一直谈到天亮。

9. I took to bed early and *slept* my headache off.

我很早上床,睡了一觉,头疼就好了。

10. He was doing nothing but *dream* the hours



away.

他只是做梦般地在那儿消磨时间。

11. The baby *cried* itself to sleep.

孩子哭着哭着就睡着了。

12. The old woman almost *cried* her heart out.

老妇人哭得伤心极了。

13. His playmates *laughed* him out of his funny clothes.

他的伙伴们都笑他的衣服古怪,他只好不穿了。

14. The audience *laughed* the speaker down.

听众哗然大笑,把演说者轰下了台。

15. The giant *looked* him into submission.

他在巨人的目光下屈服了。

Darkness



Darkness is quiet.

It creeps like the fog,

It wades through the sky,

It blows through the street,

It brings the moon to rest in place

Upon the starlight's gleaming face.

Darkness comes after light

When the stars are shining bright,

But then the darkness crawls away

To wait till after day.



Robot Poet

Students of India's Birla Institute of Technology have developed a device that writes poetry at the touch of a button.

The device has been built around a \$ four microprocessor. One of the poems it has composed runs like this:

"Must be from some divine word this rose's day,

Flowers see the firs,

Some utterly lovely fear."

Simple Communications

简单的信息



None are so fond of secrets as those who don't mean to keep them.

不想保守秘密的人对秘密最感兴趣。

He has good judgement who relies not wholly on his own.

不仅仅依赖自己的判断的人能做出好的判断。

Wisdom is good purchase, tho we often pay dear for it.

尽管有时要付很大的代价,智慧还是值得买的。



Each bird loves to hear itself sing.

所有的鸟都喜欢听自己唱歌。

If you think twice before you speak once,
you will speak twice better for it.

说话之前多想一遍,说出来的话就会更好一倍。

Memory tempers prosperity, consoles adversity,
cautions youth, and delights old age.

记忆是成功的考验,是逆境中的安慰,是青年的提醒者,是老年人的快乐。

The tongue of Slander slays three: the
Speaker, the Spoken To, and the Spoken Of.

诽谤者的舌头杀了三个人:说话人、听的人和被说的人。

Two things a man should not be angry at:
what he can help, and what he cannot help.

有两件事一个人不该生气:他能做到的和他无法做到的。

Glass, china, and reputation are easily
cracked, and never well mended.

玻璃、瓷器和名誉容易破裂也永远修补不好。

Quarreling is the weapon of the weak.

吵架是弱者的武器。

There is no man so bad but that he secretly
respects the good.

再坏的人暗里也尊敬好人。

Bad neighbours count a man's income, but
not his expenses.

坏邻居只计算别人的收入,从来不算他的支出。



Some Invented Words (几个发明出来的词)

BLUB a laudatory ad, especially on a book jacket (印在书护封上的)溢美之词

This word was coined by American humorist Gelett Burgess (1866—1951). At the turn of the century, it was customary to adorn the cover of a novel with the picture of a young woman. When his latest book was about to be distributed at a 1907 booksellers' convention, Burgess redesigned its jacket. He placed the requisite female on the cover, added a winsome(迷人的, 可爱的) smile and otherwise enhanced her appearance, and christened her Miss Blinda Blub. The name stuck.

COUNTDOWN a backward counting before the start of an event 倒计时读秒

This expression was first used by director Fritz Lang in his early sci-fi film *The Lady in the Mirror*.

GÖBBLEDYGOOK language characterized by circumlocution and rhetoric, especially in government reports 官样文章, 官腔

The word was coined by Texas congressman

Maury Maverick in 1944; Maverick, appropriately enough, is a descendant of the Samuel Maverick after whom the word **maverick** (a non-conformist (无党派政治家)) came into being.

SQUAWK a low, harsh cry 嘎嘎叫

This is a portmanteau word (混成词) created by English author Lewis Carroll from **squall** and **squeak**. Carroll also coined the term "portmanteau word".

How Old Is She?

她多大?



A woman was having some trouble with her heart, so she went to see the doctor. He was a new doctor, and did not know her, so he first asked some questions, and one of them was, "How old are you?"

"Well," she answered, "I don't remember, doctor, but I will try to think." She thought for a minute and then said, "Yes, I remember now, doctor! When I married, I was eighteen years old, and my husband was thirty. Now my husband is sixty, I know. And that is twice thirty. So I am twice eighteen. That is thirty-six, isn't it?"

Sun, Moon, and Birthdays

太阳、月亮和生日



Of course you know the day, month, and year in which you were born. Could it have been the 2nd of Abh,¹ 5710?

That doesn't sound familiar to most of you, does it? But it is a perfectly reasonable calendar date—not on the Gregorian calendar² with which you are most familiar, but on one of the many other calendars still in use by the peoples of the world today. Abh is the eleventh month on the Hebrew calendar, which dates from 3,760 years and 3 months before the beginning of the Christian Era.³ In addition to the earlier Year One, the Hebrew year begins in the middle of September during the harvest time.

Ways of reckoning time were developed slowly through the ages by many peoples. Ancient men could observe that there are three important units of time: the day, the month, and the year. The day and the year depend on the rotation of the earth and its movement around the sun. The month depends on the moon's journey around the earth.



To fit these three units of time into a reliable plan was a great task which took men many centuries to finish. As a matter of fact, the task is really not finished yet since our calendar is not yet perfect. Many people are still trying to change it.

[注释]

1. Abh: 希伯来历法的 11 月。
2. Gregorian calendar: 格里历(即目前通用的公历)
3. dates from 3,760...the Christian Era: 从公元前 3,760 年又三个月为其历法的开始。

Why Is It Difficult to Beat Habit?

(为什么习惯不易改变?)

Habit is most difficult to defeat. If you delete the first letter, it does not change "a bit." Delete another, and you still have a "bit" left. Take off still another, and the whole of "it" remains. But if you take off another, it is wholly used up. This goes to prove that if you want to get rid of habit, you must throw it off altogether.



Rock Music Can Damage Your Health



天南海北

NOTES FROM ALL OVER

Stereo equipment¹ is a booming industry. In more ways than one, sophisticated amplifiers and speakers reproduce the sounds of music with great accuracy and at very high volumes.² Some rock music reaches sound levels of more than 120 decibels.³ And this volume can cause pain and permanent damage to the hearing.

Now rock fans⁴ and musicians can buy special ear plugs to protect their hearing. If you wear Sonic II Noise Filters⁵ in your ears you can hear most normal sounds, rhythms and tones. And at the same time the ear plugs filter out dangerous high level noises. You can still hear sounds as quiet as whispers and you can even hear a voice on the telephone. But inside the ear plugs, there is a tiny diaphragm which picks up only the dangerous, high sounds, absorbs them and protects the inner ear from them. This is a new approach to ear plugs. The Sonic II Noise Filter may give neighbours and parents a whole new approach to rock music too.