

英语成语典故 小词典

● 马贞如 编著
● 广东人民出版社



英语成语典故小词典

ENGLISH IDIOMS AND THEIR STORIES

马贞如 编著

广东人民出版社

责任编辑:戴 和

封面设计:迪 赛

责任技编:黎碧霞

英语成语典故小词典

马贞如 编著

*

广东人民出版社出版发行

广东省新华书店经销

韶关市金启彩印有限公司印刷

(厂址:韶关市陵南路 8 号)

787×1092 毫米 32 开本 17.875 印张 350,000 字

1997 年 6 月第 1 版 1997 年 6 月第 1 次印刷

印数 1—5,000 册

ISBN—7—218—02399—I/J · 104

定价:26.00 元

如发现印装质量问题,影响阅读,请与承印厂联系调换。

INDEX

A

above board	(1)
above the salt	(1)
according to Cocker	(2)
according to Hoyle	(3)
ace in the hole	(4)
Achilles' heel	(5)
add insult to injury	(6)
after one's own heart	(7)
Aladdin's lamp	(8)
all is fish that comes to one's net	(9)
all roads lead to Rome	(10)
all thumbs	(11)
American dream	(12)
the Alpha and Omega	(13)
apple of discord	(14)
apple of one's eye	(16)
apple of Sodom	(17)
apple-pie order	(18)
apple polisher	(19)
armed to the teeth	(20)

asleep at the switch	(21)
an ass in a lion's skin	(21)
ass waggeth his ears	(22)
as Cephalus to Procris	(24)
as shy as Daphne	(25)
at the eleventh hour	(26)
aunt Sally	(27)

B

babes in the woods	(29)
backroom boys	(30)
backstairs influence	(31)
bag and baggage	(32)
baker's dozen	(32)
bark up the wrong tree	(34)
bay at the moon	(34)
the beam in one's own eye	(35)
bear one's cross	(36)
beat around the bush	(37)
beat the air	(38)
beat the band	(39)
be hoist with one's own petard	(39)
(a) bed of roses	(40)
before the flood	(41)
before you could say Jack Robinson	(42)

behind the eight – ball	(43)
bell the cat	(44)
Benjamin's mess	(45)
beside the mark	(46)
better late than never	(47)
between cup and lip	(47)
between Scylla and Charybdis	(48)
between the devil and the deep blue sea	(49)
between two stools	(50)
beyond the pale	(51)
big frog in the pond/puddle	(52)
big stick diplomacy	(53)
birthday suit	(54)
bite off more than one can chew	(55)
bite the bullet	(56)
bite the dust	(57)
black Friday	(58)
black humour	(58)
black sheep	(59)
blaze a trail	(60)
blood is thicker than water	(61)
blow hot and cold	(62)
blow one's own horn	(63)
blow one's top	(64)
blue blood	(64)
blue stocking	(65)

born in the purple	(66)
born with a silver spoon in one's mouth	(67)
borrow plumes	(67)
Box and Cox	(68)
breach of promise	(69)
break the ice	(70)
bring home the bacon	(71)
bring/put under the hammer	(72)
build on sand	(72)
a bull in a china shop	(74)
Buridan's ass	(75)
burn one's boots	(76)
burn the candle at both ends	(77)
bury one's head in the sand	(77)
bury the hatchet	(78)
busman's holiday	(80)
buy a pig in a poke	(81)
by and large	(82)
by cock and pie	(82)
by hook or by crook	(83)
by the cut of somebody's jib	(84)
by the grapevine	(85)
by the skin of one's teeth	(86)

C

Caesar's wife	(88)
cakes and ale	(89)
call a spade a spade	(89)
call the turn	(90)
can't hold a candle to	(91)
can't see the wood for the trees	(92)
cap - and - gown affair	(93)
carry coal's to Newcastle	(94)
cash in one's chips	(94)
cash on the barrelhead	(95)
cast pearls before swine	(96)
castles in Spain	(97)
castle in the air	(98)
a cat has nine lives	(99)
a cat may look at a king	(100)
catch a Tartar	(100)
catch one flat - footed	(101)
catch one red - handed	(102)
caviare to the general	(103)
cheek by jowl	(104)
cheer to the echo	(105)
cherish a serpent in one's bosom	(106)
chew the fat	(107)

chip off the old block	(107)
chip on one's shoulder	(108)
clean hands	(109)
cleanliness is next to godliness	(110)
climb on the bandwagon	(111)
a cock and bull story	(112)
cold shoulder	(113)
come hat in hand	(114)
come to loggerheads	(115)
cook one's goose	(116)
cool one's heels	(117)
corn in Egypt	(117)
the coms come home	(118)
crack a crib	(119)
crocodile tears	(119)
cross the Rubicon	(120)
cry for the moon	(121)
cry over spilled milk	(122)
cry wolf	(123)
curious as Lot's wife	(124)
cut a Dido	(125)
cut no ice	(126)
cut off one's nose to spite one's face	(127)
cut the coat according to the cloth	(128)
cut the Gordian knot	(129)
cut to the quick	(130)

cute as a bug's ear (131)

D

damn with faint praise	(133)
dance attendance on	(133)
Darby and Joan	(134)
dark horse	(135)
Damon and Pythias	(136)
the daughter of the horse - leech	(137)
dead as a door nail	(137)
(as) dead as a herring	(138)
Dead Sea fruit	(139)
deaf as an adder	(140)
devil's advocate	(140)
die hard	(141)
the die is cast	(142)
dine with Duke Humphrey	(143)
a dog in the manger	(144)
donkey's years	(144)
a doubting Thomas	(145)
down and out	(146)
Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde	(147)
draw the longbow	(148)
drive to the wall	(149)
drop the pilot	(150)

drunk as a fiddler	(151)
drunk as a lord	(151)
Dutch defence	(152)

E

easy as rolling off a log	(154)
eat crow	(155)
eat humble pie	(156)
eat somebody's salt	(156)
enter the lists	(157)
every dog has his day	(158)
Everyone for himself and the devil takes the hindmost	
.....	(159)
eye for eye	(160)

F

face the music	(162)
fat is in the fire	(163)
a feather in one's cap	(164)
feel one's ears burning	(165)
fiddle while Rome burns	(165)
Fifth Column	(167)
fight like Kilkenny cats	(168)
filthy lucre	(169)

fish in troubled waters	(170)
fish out of water	(170)
a flash in the pan	(171)
flea in one's ear	(172)
a fly in the ointment	(173)
for crying out loud	(174)
from Dan to Beersheba	(174)
from the bottom of one's heart	(175)
from the housetops	(176)

G

gall and wormwood	(178)
gaze into the crystal ball	(179)
gentlemen's agreement	(179)
get by	(180)
get a drop on someone	(180)
get a person by the short hairs	(181)
get cold feet	(182)
get down to brass tacks	(183)
get in one's hair	(184)
get on one's high horse	(184)
get someone's goat	(185)
get the hook	(186)
get the sack	(187)
get up on the wrong side of the bed	(188)

ghost walks	(189)
gild the lily	(190)
gird up one's loins	(191)
give hostages to fortune/time/history	(192)
give a lick and a promise	(192)
give the green light	(193)
give one a bone to pick	(194)
give a sop to Cerberus	(195)
give pause	(196)
give somebody the ax(e)	(197)
give somebody the creeps	(198)
give the third degree	(199)
glove money	(199)
go on all fours	(200)
go by the boards	(201)
go Dutch	(202)
go haywire	(202)
go in at (off) the deep end	(203)
go through fire and water	(204)
go the whole hog	(205)
go to Bath	(206)
go to Davy Jones's locker	(207)
go to the dogs	(208)
go to town	(209)
go West	(209)
go where the woodbine twineth	(210)

good wine needs no bush	(211)
God helps those who help themselves	(212)
Greek gifts	(213)
It's Greek to me	(214)
green - eyed monster	(215)
grin like a Cheshire cat	(216)

H

a hair of the dog that bit one	(217)
hair stand on end	(218)
ham actor	(219)
hand in glove	(220)
hand over fist	(221)
handwriting on the wall	(221)
half is more than the whole	(222)
hang by a thread/hair	(223)
hanged, drawn, and quartered	(224)
hatchet man	(225)
haul over the coals	(226)
have an axe to grind	(227)
have a bee in one's bonnet	(228)
have a bone to pick	(228)
have a green bonnet	(229)
have an itching palm	(230)
have kissed the Blarney stone	(231)

have many irons in the fire	(232)
have something up one's sleeve	(233)
have the ball at one's feet	(234)
have two strings to one's bow	(234)
He laughs best who laughs last	(235)
heap coals of fire on one's head	(236)
hello	(237)
hide one's light under a bushel	(238)
hide one's talent in the ground	(239)
high jinks	(240)
hit on all six	(241)
hit the nail on the head	(242)
Hobson's choice	(242)
hoe one's own row	(243)
hold one's horses	(244)
hold out the olive branch	(245)
hold the bag	(246)
hole - and - corner	(247)
honeymoon is over	(248)
Homer sometimes nods	(249)
honest Indian/injun	(250)
horse of a different colour	(250)
I cap to...	(252)

I must put on my conjuring cap	(252)
If the hill will not come to Mohammed	(253)
in hot water	(254)
in a Pickwickian sense	(255)
in one ear and out the other	(256)
in one's black/bad books	(257)
in one's good books	(258)
in one's mind's eye	(258)
in sackcloth and ashes	(259)
in the arms of Morpheus	(260)
in the doldrums	(261)
in the groove	(262)
in the hole	(263)
in the red	(264)
in the same boat	(264)
in the seventh heaven	(265)
It's an ill wind that blows nobody good	(266)
ivory tower	(267)

J

Jack of all trades	(269)
Jack the ripper	(270)
Joe Miller	(271)
John Bull	(272)
John Hancock	(273)

Judas kiss (273)

K

keep body and soul together	(275)
keep one's eyes skinned/peeled	(276)
keep one's hair on	(276)
keep one's shirt on	(277)
keep one's powder dry	(278)
keep up with the Joneses	(279)
keep the ball rolling	(280)
a kettle of fish	(281)
kick against the pricks	(282)
kick the bucket	(283)
kill the fatted calf	(284)
kill the goose that lays the golden eggs	(285)
kill with kindness	(286)
King Charles's head	(287)
king stork	(287)
kiss the rod	(288)
knock into a cocked hat	(289)
knock off work	(290)
know a hawk from a handsaw	(290)
know chalk from cheese	(291)
knowledge is power	(292)