

英语同义词辨析

王海银 主编

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English



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前 言

英语在其漫长的发展变化过程中,由于大量地吸收外来词汇以及原有词汇词义的不断引申和扩展,产生了许许多多同义词和近义词。因为这些同义词和近义词,学习者常常感到困惑和头痛。阅读原文时,如何区分这些同义词的细微差别,以便正确地理解原文;使用英语时,又如何正确地选词,以便准确地表达思想——这些都是学习者经常遇到而又无法回避的问题。我们在教学实践中,深切地感到非常需要一本较好的、专门讲述英语同义词的工具书。

鉴于此,我们根据多年的教学经验和体会,结合中国学生学习英语的特点,选了286组常用的同义词和近义词;参阅了大量的资料,编写这本《英语同义词辨析》奉献给读者,希望广大读者从中受益。

我们在编写每一组词时,总是力图找出这些同义词之间在词义和用法上的不同之处,且它们往往涵义非常接近,只是因属于不同的词源,或使用于不同的场合,或带有不同的感情色彩及各异的语法特征等而产生了在词义、用法、修辞、习惯用法等方面的细微差别。要把所有这些问题弄个“水落石出”绝非易事。本书仅就常见的语言现象和一些普遍认可的解释作些说明。当然也恰恰是这样一些内容为初级和中级英语水平的读者所迫切需要。希广大读者在阅读本书过程中,去揣摩、体会,从而加深对这些词汇的理解,全面提高英语的理解和运用能力。

本书由王海银副教授主编,张文凤、朱平、沙新惠、李树人、谢若铭等同志参加编写,吴骅同志担任审稿。

限于作者水平,本书肯定会有疏漏和不当之处,恳请读者批评指正。

编 者

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Ability Capability Capacity Talent (n.)

这组词都表示“能力”、“才能”。

Ability 能力；才能 词义最广，既可指生来就有的能力，也可指后天学习或锻炼而获得的能力和本领。例如：

He shows considerable ability in (for) organization. 他颇有组织能力。

Tom acquired the ability to run a machine in three weeks. 汤姆在三周内就学会了开机器。

His mental ability is very great. 他的才智过人。

Capability 能力；才能 在表示天赋的能力时，与 ability 相通，但不能表示学得的能力。例如：

The task is above (beyond) his capability (ability). 他胜任不了这项工作。

The essay is a proof of the writer's capability of using the right word in the right place. 这篇文章证明作者能在适当的地方用适当的词。

Capacity 能力；承受能力；容纳能力 可指人的学习、接受、理解等方面的潜在能力或对工作的承受能力，也可指无生命的事物的承受容纳能力。例如：

He has a capacity for mathematics. 他有学习数学的能力(指脑子的容纳能力)。

The capacity of the bottle is one quart. 那只瓶子的容量是一夸脱。

She has a big capacity for work. 她的工作潜力很大。

Talent 天才；天资 通常指某种比较特殊的、高超的才能。例如：

He has a talent for drawing. 他有绘画才能。

He is a man of great talent. 他是一个很有才干的人。

Able Capable Competent Qualified (adj.)

这组词都表示“能够”或“有能力的”。