

THE MOST
HELPFUL
AMERICAN
WORDS

校 董 编 德 陈
董 爱 国

美国英语
常用词
手册

陕西人民出版社

美国英语常用词语手册

THE MOST HELPFUL
AMERICAN WORDS

陈 德 编

董爱国 校

陕西人民教育出版社

美国英语常用词语手册

THE MOST HELPFUL AMERICAN WORDS

陈 德 编

董爱国 校

陕西人民出版社出版发行

(西安长安路南段376号)

新华书店经销 西安新华印刷厂印刷

787×1092毫米 1/32开本 9.25印张 4 插页 245千字

1992年2月第1版 1992年2月第1次印刷

印数: 1—1,000

ISBN 7—5419—1425—3/Z·66

定价(简精): 5.10元

FOREWORD

It is with great pleasure that I accept the offer to write a Foreword to Chen De's THE MOST HELPFUL AMERICAN WORDS. My pleasure in the task results not only from the production of the volume itself, but also from the sense of pride in seeing Chen develop his scholarly and intellectual talents in such a helpful and meaningful way.

My awareness of the need for a dictionary such as this started when I was teaching English to Visiting Scholars at Penn State University during the period 1982-1985. The Visiting Scholars classes were typically populated almost entirely by research scholars and teachers from the People's Republic of China, and the proficiency levels which they demonstrated in English were erratic and inconsistent; some were quite adept, while others were virtually handicapped in their communication skills. It was clear to me that their education in the English language had a long way to go. Being in an American university was one of the best remedies, of course. But it seemed to me that something much more fundamental needed to be done, both in China and in the U. S. , to improve the overall proficiency of the visiting scholars.

A persistent problem among all the students in these classes was their lack of familiarity with

common vocabulary items in everyday English. I made several attempts to systematize vocabulary lists for them, but the results were simply not impressive, and the reason was clear: what was needed was a systematic, carefully chosen lexicon of terms that native speakers of Chinese would need to know in order to function in everyday American life. Such a list, I came to realize, had to be composed by a native speaker of Chinese who had professional training in applied English linguistics and experience in an American university setting. I particularly remember an exercise which I gave to my students to watch a televised news conference of the President of the United States, and to be prepared to discuss the contents of the conference in the next class. When in the next class I began to question the students about the conference, it was immediately clear that they had not understood much of the language which they had heard from the news conference. To me, as the instructor, the task appeared hopeless. There was simply no way for me to know exactly what words, or types of words, my students were lacking in their vocabularies. And try as I did, I could only provide ad hoc solutions to the individual everyday problems that these people faced in their English language progress.

It was with these memories firmly in mind that I greeted Chen's proposal for THE MOST HELPFUL AMERICAN WORDS. Chen had the clear vision of a native speaker cast into a foreign environment,

but his view was not naive, as is often the case with well-meaning native speakers of any language who seek to remedy perceived deficiencies in the educational scheme. His view was that of the informed teacher. And Chen is not only an English teacher, but one who is familiar with the practices of modern linguistics and the methodology employed in adult second-language teaching. With these skills and background, Chen proposed to draw up a dictionary of terms that could be easily consulted by Chinese adults trying to learn American English. Drawing up such a list is by no means an easy task. It requires careful review of major publications, such as newspapers and news magazines, as well as a familiarity with important terms which are likely to occur in broadcast news programs on the television and radio.

Chen's methodology of choosing the words contained in this dictionary is entirely appropriate, and the results of his careful work are evident. The words he has chosen, the meanings they are given, and the format in which they are represented in the dictionary are all designed to ensure easy and convenient use by native Chinese speakers in an American setting. I have no doubt that this dictionary will prove to be a useful tool for many years to come.

Philip Baldi
University Park, Pa.
March, 1988

说 明

为了帮助广大学生及具有一定英语基础的读者正确、快速地阅读美国出版的各种英文报刊、书籍；为了帮助大学生、研究生及出国进修人员在托福（TOEFL）和英语水平考试（EPT）中取得好成绩，我们精选了一千多个使用频率极高、生命力强的词汇，汇编成《美国英词常用词汇手册》。

本《手册》具有以下特点：

一、因本书旨在帮助已有一定英文基础的读者，所以，精选出的词汇不包括那些司空见惯的词类。如：food, table, father, floor等等。

二、精选的词汇大都选自当代美国报刊、杂志、广播、电视中的用语，内容涉及政治、文化、法律等社会科学方面，可为赴美学习和进修人员扫除生词障碍，帮助他们尽快地通过语言关。

三、精选的词汇在托福（TOEFL）和国家英语水平测试（EPT）中屡次出现，因此，对准备参加这类考试人员有一定的参考价值。

四、《手册》的编写体例以词条按英文字母顺序排列，词条用黑体印刷；每一词条标有国际音标，音标用圆括弧（ ）括起，音标后注明词性：名词（n.）、动词（及物动词v. t.，不及物动词v. i.）、形容词（adj.）、副词（adv.）；每一词条有中、英文两种释义并附有例句，例句选自国外教材、权威性词典或词汇手册；每一例句均附有汉语译文，例句中所释的词条用斜体印刷，一词多义的词条，以阿拉伯数字顺序排列。另外，大部分词条附有同义词，同义词（synSYN）用黑正体印刷；同义词辨析（-syn）用黑正体印刷，同时

就部分难辨的同义词做了较为清晰的解释，便于读者触类旁通，扩大词汇量。

本书的编写基于编者几年来的教学实践。在教学中编者发现让学生直接接触一些美国较常用的词汇，对进一步扩充他们的词汇量是极为必要的，因此，编者在美国留学期间经过一年的筛选，从美国报刊、杂志*The New York Times*（纽约时报）、*News Week*《新闻周刊》、《*Times*》（时代周刊）等中共收集了三千多个单词。在征求中美两国学者意见和参考美国学者编著的*1000 Most Practical Words*和*Words In Action*两本词汇手册的基础上，选定一千多个词为常用词汇。本书初稿曾请美国宾州州立大学语言学系主任Philip Baldi教授审阅，他提出了许多宝贵意见并为本书撰写了前言，在此谨表谢意。

编 者

1988年2月

abandon (ə'bəndən) v. t. 1 to give up entirely. 彻底放弃 She *abandoned* her hope of being a nurse. 她放弃了当一名护士的愿望。SYN: relinquish, renounce, drop, discard. 放弃 2 to desert, forsake, or leave without intending to return. 抛弃, 不再回来。A good mother would not *abandon* her baby. 一位好母亲不会抛弃她的婴儿。SYN: quit. 放弃 3 to give (oneself) up completely (to a feeling or impulse); surrender. 陷于, 放纵。The lost child *abandoned* himself to despair. 那个迷路的孩子陷于绝望中。

abate (ə'beit) v. v. t. 1 to make less in force or intensity; decrease; diminish. 减少; 减退: The medicine *abated* his pain. 药物减轻了他的痛苦。2 to put an end to (a nuisance or an action). 废除, 废止。We can *abate* the smoke nuisance by heating with gas. 我们可以用煤气取暖, 消除讨厌的煤烟。Although the rain has *abated* somewhat, the wind is still blowing hard. 雨是小了, 可是风仍然刮得很猛。SYN: lessen 减轻。

abdicate ('æbdikeit) 1 v. t. to give up (office, power, or authority); renounce formally (a right, claim, or duties); resign. 放弃 (职位, 权利或统治地位), 正式宣布辞职。When the king *abdicated* his throne, his brother became king. 国王弃位后, 他的弟弟继承了王位。SYN: relinquish, surrender. 放弃 2 v. i. to renounce office, power, or authority; resign. 放弃权位, 辞职。Why did the king *abdicate*? 国王为何退位? 3 to withdraw oneself (from). 脱离。Those who *abdicate* life socially will soon

abdicate from life itself. 那些远离社会的人将会很快脱离生活。

abet (ə'bet) v. t. 1 to encourage or help, especially in doing something wrong. 帮助, 尤指做坏事。One man did the actual stealing, but two others *abetted* him by attracting the attention of the storekeeper. 有一个家伙是在行窃, 但还有另外两个家伙转移了店主的注意力来帮助他。SYN: support. 支持

2 to urge on or assist in any way. 驱策, 或以任何方式帮助。Lawson is here *abetted* by Billy Butterfield. 由于贝利·巴特费尔的纵容, 劳森来到这里。

abhor (əb'hɔ:) v. t. to shrink away from with horror, feel disgust for. 憎恨, 厌恶。Many people *abhor* the thought of war. 很多人厌恶任何战争的念头。SYN: loath, detest. 憎恨。

abject ('æbjekt) adj. 1 so low or degraded as to be hopeless, wretched, miserable. 悲惨的。Many people still live in *abject* poverty. 许多人(现在)仍然还生活在悲惨的贫困中。2 deserving contempt; despicable. 下贱的, 卑鄙的。Shame on you for your *abject* fear! 可卑的怯懦真丢人! SYN: degraded, contemptible. 下贱的。

ablaze (ə'bleiz) adj., adv. 1 on fire; in a blaze. 着火, 燃烧。The forest was set *ablaze* by lightning. 闪电使得那座森林燃起了大火。2 shining brightly; flashing or brilliant. 光辉明亮。The hotel was *ablaze* with lights. 宾馆里灯火通明。3 in great excitement. 兴奋。The students were *ablazed* with enthusiasm when the football match started. 那

场足球赛开始时，学生们情绪极为高昂。

abolish (ə'bolɪʃ) v. t. to put an end to, do away with (a law, institution, or custom) completely. 废止, 废除 (法律, 宪法, 风俗). Many people wish that nations would *abolish* war. 很多人都希望国与国不再有战争. Slavery was *abolished* in the United States in 1865. 美国在1865年废除了奴隶制. -Syn: annihilate, extinguish. 废除 Abolish now usually applies to man-made things other than concrete objects, such as laws or customs, usually in long distance. Abolish 这个词用于指废除人为制定的东西, 而不是具体事物. The college students voted to *abolish* all secret societies. 大学生投票废止所有秘密团体. Annihilate, more general in application, suggests the use of force and retains its literal meaning of reducing to nothing or of destroying completely. Annihilate 这个词较为通用, 指使用武力来彻底消灭. Three survivors told us how the enemy *annihilated* the regiment. 三位幸存者告诉了我们敌人歼灭这个团的经过. Extinguish, rather formal word in this sense, applies to things or ideas which die or are blotted out by overpowering force or circumstances. Extinguish 这个词属于书面词, 指依靠强大的力量或环境来消除某些事物或观念. You may *extinguish* liberty, but not the love of liberty. 你可以消灭自由, 但不能消灭人们对自由的热爱.

abort (ə'bo:t) v. i. 1 to fail to develop or come to completion, end a mission, test, or experiment prematurely; 早期终止, 遭遇挫折; The rocket flight *aborted*. 火箭飞行未能如期完成. 2 to give birth before the embryo can live outside the mother's body

because it is still dependent upon her body system to support its own; miscarry; 流产: This woman *aborted* in a car-crash accident. 这位妇女在一次汽车撞车事故中流产. v. t. to end or abandon (mission, test, or experiment) before completion; 中止, 结束(任务, 试验等): The two Americans *aborted* their around-the-world balloon voyage. 两位美国人中止他们的环球气球旅行.

abrogate ('æbrəgeɪt) vt. to abolish (a law, treaty, or custom) by an authority act; repeal; cancel; 废止; 废除(法律、条约、或风俗): When war broke out, our country *abrogated* its trade agreements with the enemy country. 战争爆发后, 我们国家废止了与那一敌对国的贸易协定. SYN: annul, nullify, invalidate, avoid. 使无效, 废弃.

abscond (əb'skɒnd) v. i. to go away hurriedly and secretly, especially to avoid punishment; go off and hide; 潜逃; 逃亡: The dishonest cashier *absconded* with the bank's money. 那个不诚实的出纳员携带银行款子逃走了. When the police arrived, the thief had *absconded* with the jewel. 警察赶到时, 那个小偷已携带宝石潜逃. SYN: flee, escape, decamp. 逃跑.

absolve (əb'zɒlv) v. t. 1 to declare free from sin, guilt, or blame or their penalties or consequences; 宣布赦免罪过: My brother was *absolved* of blame for the accident. 已经宣布了我哥哥对这次事故是没有责任的. The priest *absolved* the man after he confessed his sin and did penance. 他忏悔了自己的罪过, 作出了自我惩罚后, 神父宣布赦免了他的罪恶. SYN:

exonerate, acquit. 免罪. 2 to set free (from a duty or obligation); release: 免除 (履行诺言, 责任); I absolve you from your promise. 我免除你许下的诺言. SYN: exempt. 免除.

absorbed (əb'sɔ:bd) adj. very much interested; completely occupied; engrossed: 全神贯注的; I was so *absorbed* that I didn't hear the bell ring. 我太专心了, 竟没听见门铃响. He eyed the coming tide with an *absorbed* attention. 他入神地观看着滚滚而来的潮水. Bill did not hear the telephone because he was completely *absorbed* in his reading. 比尔埋头看书, 没听见电话响.

abstain (əb'steɪn) v.i. 1 to do without something; hold oneself back; refrain (from): 戒除; 禁绝: If you *abstain* from eating candy and rich foods, you will not be so fat. 你如果克制不吃糖果和油腻的食物, 就不会太胖了. SYN: forbear, desist. 克制. 2 to refrain from voting: 弃权 (投票); Six members voted in favor of the motion, five members voted against it, and four members *abstained*. So the motion was adopted. 六位会员投票赞同这项提议, 五位会员投票反对, 四位弃权, 因此提议得到了通过.

abyss (ə'bis) n. 1 a bottomless or very great depth; 深渊: The mountain climber stood at the edge of a cliff overlooking an *abyss* four thousand feet deep. 那个登山者站在悬崖边上俯视4000英尺深的深渊. SYN: chasm. 深渊, 峡谷. 2 Figurative. anything too deep or great to be measured; lowest depth; 喻义: 深不可测: Failure after failure plunged him into an *abyss* of despair. 一次又一次的失败把他抛向

绝望的深渊。

academic (ækə'demik) adj. 1 having to do with schools, colleges, universities, and their studies; scholarly; 学校的, 大学的, 学术的; The *academic* year begins when school opens in September. 九月份学校开学, 学年也随之开始。2 not arising in practice; not practical; 不够实际的; Wilson, one of the least *academic* of our critics, is also one of the most thorough. 威尔逊在我们的评论家中最少讲究气, 同时也最富有一丝不苟的精神。SYN: speculative. 纯理论的。

accelerate (ək'seləreit) v. 1 to cause (anything in motion or process) to go or move faster; speed up; 加快速度; The engineer *accelerates* a train by turning on more power. 工程师开动更大的马力加快火车速度。SYN: hurry, quicken. 加速。2 to cause to happen sooner, hasten; 使尽早发生; Sunshine, fresh air, and rest often *accelerate* a person's recovery from sickness. 阳光、新鲜空气、休息能够使人更快从疾病中恢复健康。SYN: expedite. 加速发展。

accentuate (æk'sentjueit) v. t. 1 to call special attention to; emphasize; intensify; 加重; 强调; The *twinkle* in her eyes *accentuated* her smile. 她炯炯的目光使她的微笑更引人注目。2 to increase the severity of; aggravate 使严重; 恶化; The problem is *accentuated* by a shortage of teachers and class rooms. 教师和教室的缺乏使问题更加严重。

access (ækses) n. 1 the right or privilege to approach, enter, or use; admittance; 有权接近; 进入。All children have *access* to the library during

the afternoon. 所有的孩子都可以在下午进入图书馆。

SYN; admission. 允许. 2 approach to places, persons, or things: 接近人或物, 通路: *Access* to a mountain town is often difficult because of poor roads. 由于道路不好, 去山城总是很困难. Have you *access* to people who can help you get work? 你有机会接近能帮助你找到工作的人吗?

accessory (æk'sesəri) n. 1 an extra thing added to help something of more importance; 附件; A heater is a useful *accessory* to a car. 暖气设备是小汽车的有用设备. SYN; adjunct. 附件. 2 (Law). a person who has helped in a crime or has helped to hide it; (法律)同谋, 帮凶: By not reporting the theft he became an *accessory*. 因未举报那次盗窃案件, 他成为从犯。

acclaim (ə'kleim) n, v. 1 to welcome with loud approval, praise highly, applaud; 欢呼, 喝采, 称赞. The crowd *acclaimed* the fireman for rescuing two people from the house. 群众为那个消防员从房里救出两人而喝采. to proclaim or announce with sign of approval, hail; 欢呼, 喝采; The newspapers *acclaimed* the fireman a hero. 报纸上称赞那位消防员是一位英雄. n. a shout or show of approval, applause, welcome; 欢呼, 鼓掌, 欢迎: The astronaut was welcomed with great *acclaim*. 人们热烈鼓掌欢迎这位宇航员。

accommodation (əkəmə'deɪʃən) n. 1 anything that supplies a want or gives aid, a help, favor, or convenience; 有益之物, 帮助, 方便之处: It will be an *accommodation* to me if you will meet me to-

morrow instead of today. 您若能改为明天见我, 那将会帮我很多忙。 2 often, accommodations, room or lodgings and sometimes food as well; 住所, 膳宿: Can we find accommodations at the hotel for the night? 我们能在这家旅馆找到房子过夜吗?

accomplice(ə'kʌmplis) n. a person who knowingly aids another in committing a crime or other wrong act; 帮凶, The thief had an accomplice who let him into the building. 这个小偷有一个帮凶让他溜进了大楼。 He was an accomplice in the murder of the German foreign minister. 他是谋杀德国外交部长的一个帮凶。 -SYN: (legal) Accomplice, confederate, accessory in technical use mean partner in crime. Accomplice, confederate, accessory 这三个词在法律中均指帮凶。 Accomplice applies to a person who deliberately gives help of any kind in connection with an unlawful act of crime, whether before, during, or after the act (of crime) itself; Accomplice 这个词指某人无论在案前、案中或案后有目的地给犯罪活动提供帮助。 Without an accomplice to open the door the thief could not have got into the building so easily. 没有一个同谋将大门打开, 那个小偷便不会这么轻而易举地溜进楼。 Confederate applies to a person who joins with others, or another, for the purpose of committing an unlawful act; Confederate 这个词指某人伙同其它一人或几人从事犯罪活动; The head of the smuggling ring has not been found, but his confederates are in jail. 那个走私集团的头目虽然还没有抓到, 但其同伙却已经入狱。 Accessory applies to a person not present during a criminal act who hides the criminal

or helps him escape. Accessory 这个词指某人未直接参与犯罪活动, 但却帮助罪犯潜藏或逃跑。

accomplish(ə'kɒmplɪʃ) v. t. to succeed in completing, fulfill, perform, or carry out (an undertaking, plan, or promise): 成功地完成; 执行, 完成 (一项事业、计划、诺言): Did you *accomplish* your purpose? 你达到了你的目的没有?

accord(ə'kɔ:d) v. i. to be in harmony, be consistent, agree with; 一致; 符合: His account of the accident *accords* with yours. 他所述的故事经过与你所述的的一致。SYN: correspond, harmonize, award 一致: v. t. to grant freely; award; 给予; 奖励: *Accord* him praise for his good work. 表彰他出色的工作成绩。n. agreement, harmony; 一致; 符合: Most people are in *accord* in their desire for peace. 大多数人要求和平的愿望是一致的。

account('əkaunt) n. 1 a statement telling in detail about an event or thing; 详细地叙述: Please give me an *account* of everything as it happened. 请详细叙述事情的始末。SYN: story, narrative. 叙述。2 a statement of reasons, causes, explaining some event, 解释: No satisfactory *account* has yet been given of these phenomena. 对于这些现象至今没有令人满意的解释。v. t. to hold to be; consider; 认为; 考虑: In law, an accused person is *accounted* innocent until he is proved guilty. 在法律上, 在未证明其有罪之前, 一个被告应是无罪的。

accredit(ə'kredit) v. t. 1 to give credit or authority to; 官方认可: The president will *accredit* you as his representative. 总统将任命你为他的代表。2