

A
DICTIONARY
OF
COMMONLY USED
ENGLISH IDIOMS
AND PHRASES
WITH BILINGUAL EXPLANATIONS

英汉双解

英语常用短语词典

孙桂香 主编

南京大学出版社

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前 言

英语短语繁多,浩如烟海。正确理解和使用英语短语是学习英语的关键之一。

但是,在长期的英语教学中,我们发现许多学生对英语词组记不住,用不准。特别是近年来,在大学英语四、六级国家统考中,学生在词组、短语方面问题较多。普通词典由于照顾面较广,对每个词组的讲解比较简略,所给例句又很少。在语言的实际应用中,词组的用法又是很复杂,不同的情景,不同的搭配具有不同的含义。为了帮助大学本科生更熟练更准确地应用英语短语,我们编写了这本英语常用短语词典。本词典对于参加大学入学考试、研究生入学考试、托福考试(TOEFL)以及出国人员英语水平考试(EPT)等各类人员也有很好的参考价值。

本词典所选的英语短语都是英语中最基本、最常用、最重要、也是中国学生对他们的含义和搭配感到比较棘手的短语。

每个短语都有较详细的英汉释义和例句。英汉释义力求齐备、简洁、准确、实用、易懂。例句力求结构简单,语言新颖,丰富多样,能够清楚地说明该条目的各种用法。例句选自于国内外出版的辞书、教材、科技书刊、杂志等,力求规范、道地、并且附有汉语译文。

本词典由孙桂香主编,承担了四分之三的编写工作,并负责全书的统稿、审稿、定稿等工作。参加该词典部分词条编写的还有朱菊芬、葛文宏、徐广联、苏根林、王贵林同志。

南京大学杨治中教授对本词典进行了认真细致的审阅。

由于水平有限,疏漏、错误之处在所难免,敬请读者惠予批评指正。

编 者

使用 说 明

1. 本词典按字母顺序编排。每个条目均以短语的第一个词的第一个字母的顺序来排列,例如 a bit of 放入 A 部,make a fortune 放入 M 部。

2. 条目里的符号/后面的的词表示是替换词。

3. 词条中括号内的内容通常表示可省略。

4. 释义里括号中的内容通常是说明。

5. 缩写词:

sb. = somebody

sth. = something

esp. = especially

usu. = usually

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A

a bit

1. rather 相当地; 有点(用作状语)

I am a bit tired. 我有点累了。

She calmed down a bit. 她冷静一点了。

2. not at all; not in the least (用于否定句中) 一点不

He didn't care a bit about the matter. 他一点儿也没把这件事放在心上。

a bit of

a small piece or amount of 少量的; 少许的(常用于修饰不可数名词)

She gave me a bit of good advice. 她给了我一些好的建议。

I know a bit of Spanish. 我懂一点西班牙语。

a bit of a

to some degree 有点; 稍有

He is a bit of a thief. 他有点贼头贼脑的。

The young man is a bit of a scholar. 那个年轻人有点学者派头。

a couple of

1. two 二个

I'll come back in a couple of weeks. 我两周后就回来。

2. several 几个

Let's have a couple of drinks. 我们喝几杯吧。

a great deal

a very large amount 很多东西(情况、事情); 很多

I have learned a great deal from

you. 我向你学到了许多东西。

It has rained a great deal recently. 最近雨水很多。

a great/good deal of

much; a large amount of 许多的; 大量的

He spent a great deal of time in writing the book. 他写这本书花了大量的时间。

a great/good many

many 很多的

They have known each other for a great many years. 他们相识已经有许多年了。

a long way off

1. at a long distance 相距很远

The town is a long way off. 那个城市在很远的地方。

2. far in the future(在时间上)离现在远

Christmas is still a long way off. 圣诞节还早着呢。

3. far from 远非

The novel is a long way off perfection. 这部小说远非完美之作。

a lot

I feel a lot better today. 我今天感到好多了。

a lot of

lots of; many or much 大量的; 许多的(后接可数名词或不可数名词)

He wasted a lot of time in those years. 那些年他浪费了很多时间。

I bought a lot of valuable books in

the second-hand bookstore. 我在那家旧书店里买了许多很有价值的书。

a short cut

a quicker and more direct way 近路; 捷径

They took a short cut through the fields. 他们走捷径穿过田野。

There is no short cut to success except by diligence. 成功没有捷径, 唯在勤勉。

abandon oneself to

give oneself up completely to a feeling or desire 放任; 纵情; (感情)陷于; 沉溺于

He abandoned himself to grief. 他陷于悲伤之中。

Never abandon yourself to despair. 切勿自暴自弃。

You mustn't abandon yourself to pleasures. 你不该一味享乐。

abide by

1. be faithful to; obey; keep to; adhere to 严守; 遵守; 坚持

If you join the club, you must abide by its rules. 你参加这个俱乐部就得遵守其规章。

I expect him to abide by his decision to help us. 我希望他能坚持他帮助我们的决定。

Both sides should strictly abide by the contract. 双方应恪守本合同。

Californians and New Englanders abide by the same federal laws. 加利福尼亚人和新英格兰人遵守同样的联邦法律。

2. fulfil 履行

Having made our decision, we must abide by it. 我们既已作出决定, 就应该照着办。

She will abide by her promise. 她会履行诺言的。

3. suffer the consequences of 承担...的后果

You two will have to abide by the inevitable. 你们两个人不得不承受那无可幸免的事。

He said he'd abide by all possible consequences. 他说他将承担一切可能的后果。

You must abide by the results of your mistakes. 你必须承担由你的错误所造成的后果。

abound in/with

1. exist in plenty 盛产; 富于

The lake abounds in fish. 湖里鱼很多。

The district abounds with mineral deposits. 这地区的矿藏很丰富。

That region abounds with rain all the year round. 那个地区终年多雨。

2. be full of 充满着

The book abounds in printing mistakes. 该书中印刷错误比比皆是。

abundant in

having a great quantity of; having more than enough 大量的; 丰富的
China covers a vast territory and is abundant in natural resources. 中国地域辽阔, 资源丰富。

The ocean floor near the continents is abundant in mineral and oil deposits. 靠近大陆的海底矿藏和石油藏量丰富。

above all

1. especially; before everything else 尤其

He loves music, and above all classical music. 他喜欢音乐, 尤其是

古典音乐。

Never waste anything, but above all never waste time. 任何东西都不可浪费,尤其不可浪费时间。

2. most important of all 最重要的是

In choosing the curtains for a room, you should consider the weight, its pattern—but its colour above all. 在挑选窗帘时,要考虑布料的质地、轻重、图案,但最重要的是颜色。

I should like to rent a house, modern, comfortable, above all in a quiet neighbourhood. 我想租一幢现代化的舒适的房子,最重要的是环境要幽静。

above suspicion

beyond doubt 无可置疑

His conduct is above suspicion. 他的行为是无可置疑的。

abreast of

knowing all the time the most recent facts 了解最新信息;跟上最新发展

We should be abreast of the time. 我们应跟上时代的发展。

The reporter must keep abreast of new developments. 记者必须跟上最新发展。

absent from

not present 缺席;未到场

She was absent from the meeting yesterday. 她昨天未出席会议。

accede to

1. give approval to (a request, agreement, an application, etc.) 同意;批准;应允(要求、请求、申请等)

We are ready to accede to your re-

quest for further information. 你们如果还需要资料,我们乐于随时提供。

She did not accede to my request. 她不曾答应我的请求。

My application was acceded to. 我的申请获得了批准。

2. follow sb. and take (a position); enter upon (an office) 接任;就职

Last week she acceded to the mayor. 上星期她就任市长。

The prince acceded to the throne. 这位王子继承了王位。

3. join (a party, an agreement, a country, etc.) 加入;参加(党派、协议、国家等)

They have acceded to the Party. 他们入党了。

according as

in a manner that depends upon 依照;根据(后接从句)

You may take an oral or written exam according as you prefer. 你可根据你的喜爱进行口头或笔头考试。

One may succeed according as one has ideal and will power. 人的成功全在于理想和意志。

according to

1. in accordance with 根据

According to his uncle, the boy is a good-for-nothing. 据男孩的叔父说,他是个无用之人。

2. in agreement with; corresponding to 依据;依照;与...相符(后接名词)

We must be prepared to modify our plans according to any new circumstances that may arise. 我们务

必准备根据可能出现的新情况改变计划。

absolve from

declare sb. free from (guilt, blame, duty) 解除; 赦免; 开脱

He is absolved from the crime. 他被赦免了。

The manager absolved him from an obligation. 经理免除了他一项责任。

absorb into

take in 吸收

Many intellectuals have been absorbed into the Party. 许多知识分子被吸收入党了。

Animals absorb foods into their bodies. 动物将食物吸收进体内。

absorbed in

giving all one's attention to 沉湎于; 全神贯注于

Time passes quickly when you are absorbed in reading a good book. 当你沉醉于阅读一本好书时, 时间会过得很快。

He was so absorbed in his work that he didn't see me. 他全神贯注于工作之中, 没有看到我。

abstain from

prevent oneself from doing sth. 避免; 避开

His family have always abstained from drinking. 他一家人从来不喝酒。

The leader asked his workers to abstain from voting. 那位领导人要求工人们放弃选举。

abstract from

take sth. out of sth. else; separate 提取; 抽出; 摘录...的要点

The article was abstracted from a

longer book. 这篇文章是一本厚书的提要。

Scientists can abstract precious medicines from some ordinary plants. 科学家们可以从一些普通的植物中提取珍贵的药品。

It is known to all that metal can be abstracted from ore. 众所周知, 金属能从矿石中提炼出来。

The thief abstracted the purse from her pocket. 这个小偷从她的衣袋中偷走了钱包。

accept as

believe that (sb. or sth.) is (what he/she/it is claimed to be) 承认; 认可; 同意

I accept this statement as truth. 我认为这个判断是正确的。

The king accepted the man as his son. 国王承认那人是他的儿子。

accord with

match; be in agreement with 一致; 符合

That does not accord with what you said yesterday. 那件事和你昨天说的不一样。

What he did doesn't accord with what he said. 他言行不一。

It also accords with the general law of development of things. 这也符合事物发展的普遍规律。

account for

1. explain; give a reason for 解释; 说明...的原因

How do you account for the accident? 你如何解释这次事故的原因?

We asked him to account for his conduct. 我们要他对自己的行为加以解释。

2. give a statement to show how money or goods have been dealt with 说明(钱等的)用途

You have to account for losing such a large sum of money. 丢了这么一大笔钱,你务必解释清楚。

We must account for every cent we spent. 我们花掉的每一分钱,都要有个交代。

3. be responsible for 负责

The librarian has to account for each book in his charge. 图书管理员应对所管的每一本书负责。

You will have to account for the misprints in the article. 你必须对文章中的印刷错误负责。

It will take him 20 years in prison to account for such a terrible crime. 他犯有严重罪行,将在监狱中监禁20年。

4. occupy; amount to (数量)占; 共计达

In that country, the production of raw materials accounts for a considerable proportion of the national economy. 在那个国家,原材料生产在国民经济中占相当大的比重。

League members account for the majority of the students in the class. 团员占这个班学生的大多数。

accuse of

blame; say that sb. is guilty of; charge sb. with breaking the law 谴责;控告

We accused him of having broken his promise. 我们指责他没有遵守诺言。

She accused her brother of stealing

the jewels. 她指控弟弟偷了珠宝。
He was accused of treason. 他被指控有叛国罪。

Everybody knows he was wrongly accused of. 谁都知道他受到诬告。

accustomed to

used to; being in the habit of 习惯于(to后面接名词、动名词或动词原形)

He is accustomed to working hard. 他工作很努力,已经成习惯了。

She isn't accustomed to public speaking. 她不太习惯在公开场合讲话。

She was not accustomed to leave home during the winter. 她过去不习惯冬天离家。

acquaint with

1. make familiar with 熟悉

We acquainted him with our plan. 我们将计划告诉了他。

You should acquaint yourself with the facts before making a decision. 在作出一项决定之前要熟悉各种情况。

These books acquaint Chinese readers with the ancient cultures of these lands. 这些书帮助中国读者了解这些地区的古代文化。

2. make sb. know 认识;知道

I am not acquainted with the lady. 我与这位女士不相识。

He quickly got acquainted with his new duties. 他很快地熟悉了新工作。

acquit of

declare that sb. is not guilty of doing wrong 宣告…无罪

They acquitted him of murder. 他

们宣布他没犯谋杀罪。

The young man was acquitted of the crime. 那个年轻人被宣判无罪。

act as

1. do the work of; serve as 当作; 充当

A trained dog can act as a guide to a blind person. 一条经过训练的狗可以给盲人当向导。

This kind of tea acts as an aid to digestion. 这种茶助消化。

2. play the role of 担任...的角色

One of his friends acted as the go-between. 他的一个朋友充当了中间人的角色。

act for

serve as an agent of; represent 代理

He will act for the chairman on the matter. 他将代理主席处理这件事情。

Since Mr. Wang fell ill, his son has been acting for him in all his affairs. 因王先生生病, 他的儿子一直代他处理一切事务。

act on/upon

1. exert influence on 产生影响

The medicine acted on his fever at once. 这种药很快使他退烧了。

2. follow; behave according to 遵照(行事)

She acted on the doctor's advice. 她遵医嘱行事。

You should act upon this letter at once, or it will be too late. 你应该马上按这封信的意思去做, 不然就会太晚了。

act up to

put into practice; behave in such a

way that one's actions are in accord with (expectations, a promise, one's reputation, etc.) 按照(期望、诺言、自己的声誉等)行事

What you say means very little unless you act up to it. 你要是说而不做, 你的话就没有多大意思了。

I hope you'll act up to the good advice they've given you. 我希望你能按照他们给你出的好主意办。

adapt to

make suitable; become used to 使适应

We must adapt ourselves to the changed conditions. 我们必须使自己适应改变了的环境。

We must adapt our thinking to the new circumstances. 我们必须使自己的思想适应新的情况。

It is difficult to adapt to sudden changes of temperature. 要适应突然变化的气温是很难的。

add on

add as an extra or extras 追加

Would you please add these names on to your list? 请把这几个名字补加到你的名单里好吗?

Add the other items on at the bottom of the page. 把别的项目加在这页的下端。

add to

make greater; increase 增加

We can add another room to the house. 这所房子我们还可以加盖一个房间。

Two added to five makes seven. 2加5等于7。

This adds to their difficulties. 这增加了他们的困难。

I don't want to add to your trou-

bles. 我不想给你增加麻烦。

add up

1. put together 加起来

Add these figures up and see what the total is. 把这些数字加起来,看看总数是多少。

The numbers wouldn't add up. 这些数字加起来与总数不符。

2. assess; help 估计; 权衡; 有所帮助

They added up all the advantages and disadvantages and tried to come to a decision. 他们权衡了所有的利弊得失, 试图做出决定。

Doing morning exercise every day will add up. 天天做早操有益于健康。

3. make sense; present a reasonable picture 有意义; 合情合理

His excuse just doesn't add up. 他的借口简直没有道理。

Nothing he does seems to add up. 他的所作所为似乎没有意义。

His story didn't add up. 他的故事不合情理。

add up to

1. amount to; make a total of 合计, 总共

The money he spent added up to more than \$1,000. 他花的钱合计超过了1000美元。

The bills add up to exactly £1,000. 这些账单加起来正好1000英镑。

Eight and ten add up to eighteen. 8加10等于18。

2. mean; signify 意味着; 意思是

The evidence all adds up to a case of murder. 全部证据都表明这是一件谋杀案。

The rain, the mosquitoes and the crowded cabin all added up to a spoiled vacation. 下雨、蚊子和拥挤的小屋, 意味着这假期过得糟透了。

His long answer just adds up to a refusal. 他的冗长的回答实际上意味着拒绝。

addicted to

1. very much interested in 沉溺于; 醉心于

Alice is addicted to music. 爱丽丝酷爱音乐。

2. having increasing need of (esp. taking drugs) (吸毒等) 成瘾

He became addicted to the drug. 他吸毒成瘾。

address oneself to

1. work at; be busy with 着手(致力于)做; 忙于

It's time we addressed ourselves to the business in hand. 是动手做我们手上事情的时候了。

2. speak to; talk to 向...讲话

The president addressed himself to the public on TV. 总统向公众发表电视讲话。

We addressed ourselves to the dean that we were eager to work in Tibet. 我们对系主任说, 我们盼着去西藏工作。

adhere to

1. stick to 粘住

Wet clothes adhere to the skin. 湿衣服会贴在身上。

2. follow steadily; be faithful to 坚持; 忠实于

They adhered to the original plan of climbing the mountain in spite of the bad weather. 尽管天气恶劣,

他们还是坚持原先的登山计划。

The mass line must be adhered to.

一定要坚持走群众路线。

He resolutely adhered to what he had said at the meeting; he had not changed his mind anyway. 他坚持他在会上说过的话,一点也没改变主意。

adjust to

1. become used to 适应于

He can't adjust easily to the life in North China. 他不容易适应中国北方的生活。

She will have to adjust herself to new conditions. 她必须使自己适应新的环境。

2. change sth. to fit 调整;调节

You can adjust the belt to the size you want. 你可以根据自己的需要调整安全带。

admit of

leave room for 容许;有…的余地;有…可能

This work admits of no delay. 这件工作不得延误。

This admits of no excuse. 这是不容辩解的。

This regulation does not admit of our doing that. 按规定我们不能这样做。

Your problems did not really admit of any solution. 你的问题真是没有解决的可能。

admit to

1. allow to enter 许可入场(入会、入学等)

You have to pass the professional examinations to be admitted to the society. 要加入这个学会你得经过专业考试。

2. tell the truth about; confess to 承认

She admitted to being easily annoyed. 她承认自己易生气。

The young man admitted to stealing the money. 那个年轻人承认偷了钱。

He admitted to taking these goods without paying for them. 他承认他拿了这些东西没有付钱。

adopt as

take (sb., esp. a child) into one's family as a relation 收养

The family have adopted three children as their own. 这个家庭已经收养了3个孩子。

advance on/upon

threaten by moving towards 逼近;靠近

The enemy advanced on Rome, and at last conquered it. 敌军向罗马城逼近,最后攻陷了它。

adverse to

1. unfavourable to 对…不利

The judgement was adverse to the plaintiff. 判决不利于原告。

2. contrary to 与…相反

His opinion is adverse to mine. 他的观点同我的相反。

advise about/on

give sb. advice about; give advice to 劝告;向…提意见

Doctors advise about many things other than medicine. 除了用药之外,医生还劝告人们注意许多别的事情。

Experienced sailors will advise you about sailing in this weather. 有经验的水手会对如何在这种天气行船给你提出忠告。

Have you advised on making our plan? 你对我们制定计划提过什么建议吗?

advise of

give information or warning about 告诉;提醒

I'll advise you of her coming and going. 我会告诉你她的行踪。

The company has advised the drivers of the thick mists on the mountains. 公司提醒驾驶员注意山上的大雾。

afraid of

fearful of 担心;害怕

He is afraid of hurting her feelings. 他怕伤她的感情。

He was probably afraid of embarrassing me. 他可能不愿使我难堪。

This young man is afraid of nothing. 这个年轻人什么也不怕。

afraid to

worried; filled with apprehension 不敢;因害怕会有…结果而不敢做

He is very much afraid to go out alone at night. 他很害怕晚上一个人出去。

after a fashion

a little; not very well 勉强;马马虎虎

She can speak Russian after a fashion. 她勉强能讲点俄语。

after all

1. everything being considered 毕竟;总之

After all, he is your father. 他毕竟是你的父亲。

Don't get discouraged by setbacks; we are new to the work after all.

别因挫折而灰心,这工作对我们来说毕竟还是新的。

2. nevertheless; in spite of what has happened 到底

He hasn't finished the work, but, after all, he is a very busy man.

他还没有完成那项工作,但说到底他是一个很忙的人。

She failed after all. 她到底还是失败了。

Bob thought he couldn't go to the party because he had too much homework, but he went after all.

虽然鲍勃因有太多的家庭作业而认为不能参加聚会,但他最终还是去了。

again and again

repeatedly 一再

I advised him again and again not to do it. 我再三劝告他不要做那件事。

against a rainy day

in anticipation of, and as a provision for, some event that is expected to occur in the future 未雨绸缪;以备不时之需

We must save up some money against a rainy day. 我们必须积蓄一些钱以备不时之需。

against one's will

contrary to one's desires or wishes; unwillingly 不情愿地;勉强地

He was married against his will. 他违心地结了婚。

agree on/upon

1. have the same opinion about 就…取得相同的意见

Musicians rarely agree on the way a piece of music should be played. 对于一支曲子应该怎样演奏,音

乐家们很少有相同的意见。
The two sides agreed on a cease fire. 双方达成了停火协议。

2. decide on 决定
We agreed on leaving there the next day. 我们一致同意第2天离开那里。

We've agreed on fighting the evil in society. 我们决定同社会上的邪恶作斗争。

agree to

approve; say "yes" to; consent 同意; 赞同; 接受(想法、计划、建议等)

Do you agree to my plan? 你赞同我的计划吗?

The committee has agreed to his arrangement. 委员会已同意了他的安排。

agree with

1. have the same opinion as; approve of 同意

I can't agree with you on this matter. 在这个问题上我不同意你的意见。

I don't agree with a single word that you have said. 你刚才说的话,我一点也不赞成。

2. suit; be good for 适合; 适宜

The climate there does not agree with her. 那里的气候对她不适宜。

Rich food doesn't agree with her. 油腻的食品不合她的胃口。

3. coincide with; be the same as 相一致; 相等

The bill does not agree with your estimate. 账单与你原来的估计不符。

His explanation agrees with the

facts. 他的解释同事实是相符的。

4. approve of 赞成

I don't agree with people drinking brandy all day long. 我不赞成人们成天喝白兰地。

aim at

1. point or direct (gun, etc.) towards 瞄准; 对准

The marksman aimed at the centre of the target. 射手瞄准了靶心。

2. make an effort towards; try to gain 立志要; 目的在于

He aimed at becoming a professor. 他立志要当一名教授。

This dictionary aims at explaining the most common mistakes in word use. 本词典旨在解释用词上最常见的错误。

aim for

have as the ultimate objective 以...为最终目的

This year they are aiming for 250 million yuan. 今年他们的目标是2亿5千万元。

We aim for the completion of the task by the end of the year. 我们的最终目的是到今年年底完成这项任务。

alert to

warn sb. about 使警觉; 提醒某人注意

We must alert the people to the dangers facing our country. 我们必须提醒人民注意国家所面临的危险。

We must alert them to the need to solve these problems. 我们必须提醒他们有必要解决这些问题。

alive to

1. knowing about 感觉到

He is alive to the dangers of the work. 他清楚地知道这件工作的危险性。

2. sensitive to 对…敏感

He is alive to the consequences. 他对这些结果很敏感。

all alone

1. by oneself; independently 自己; 独立地

He has completed the task all alone. 他独立完成了这项任务。

2. being the only one; without others 独自地; 孤零零地

The small cabin stands on the hill-side all alone. 那房子孤零零地座落在山坡上。

She sat in her room reading all alone. 她独自坐在房里看书。

all along

1. for the whole length of 一路; 沿途

We saw green hills and forests all along the way. 沿途所见, 皆是青青的小山和森林。

2. all the time; from the beginning 一直; 自始至终

The manager said he suspected the man of stealing the paper all along. 经理说他一直都怀疑是那个人偷了文件。

You've been nice to me all along, and I appreciate it very much. 您一贯对我好, 我非常感激。

all at once

1. all of a sudden; suddenly; unexpectedly 突然; 出乎预料

All at once they found themselves surrounded by the enemy. 他们突然发现自己被敌人包围了。

All at once she decided she wasn't

going. She didn't explain why. 她突然决定不去了, 她没有讲明理由。

All at once we heard a shot and the soldier fell to the ground. 突然我们听到枪声, 接着士兵就倒下去了。

2. at the same time; together 同时; 一起

When he heard the news, he was happy and sad all at once and didn't know what to do. 听到这消息, 他悲喜交集, 不知所措。

She couldn't tell them more about the accident. Everything just seemed to have happened all at once. 她不可能向他们讲述更多的事情, 一切都似乎是同时发生的。

3. without delay 马上; 即刻

We just can't decide such an important thing all at once. 我们只是不能马上决定这样一件重要的事情。

all but

1. all except 除…外; 都

All but three of the girls have passed the examination. 除了3个女生, 其余的学生都通过了考试。

The shipwrecked people were rescued all but one. 船只失事, 遇难者除一人以外全部得救。

2. almost; very nearly 几乎

He was all but bankrupt and couldn't help us. 他几乎破产了, 不能帮助我们。

The girl was all but run over by the car. 那女孩差点被那辆小汽车压过去。

all ears/eyes

attentive (by listening or looking