

英汉双解精选

英语惯用语词典

Dictionary of English
Idiomatic Expressions
Concise English-Chinese Edition

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前 言

奉献在读者面前的这部《英汉双解精选英语惯用语词典》是根据中国人学习、使用英语的实际需要,参考吸收国内外有关英语工具书、教科书以及托福考试、大学英语四、六级考试有关资料的基础上精选编译而成。

本词典共选录英语惯用语 5000 余条,囊括了日常英语中最常用的动词惯用语、介词惯用语、副词惯用语以及其他一些常用短语、俚语、谚语、俗语等,并且配有大量典型、地道的英语例句。

编译过程中,我们始终坚持“信、达、雅”为一体的原则,做到释义准确、通俗易懂、文笔流畅、简明实用。

本词典注重于培养学习者用英文理解英语惯用语的习惯,有助于学习者准确地把握英语词语的本貌;采取英汉双解的形式,可使学习者在英汉两种语言的比较中甄别异同,选择合适的对应词语,提高英语翻译水平。

本词典一般适用于具有一定英语基础的学习者,因其内容与大学生英语四、六级考试相联系,与托福考试相适应,与出国人员的口语学习相吻合,故而尤其适合我国的大学生及出国人员使用。同时,又因其例句丰富、精炼,且注重规范性,对英语教师的教学也有一定的参考价值。

限于编译者的水平,加之时间仓促,对英语惯用语中的飘逸意韵,恐难驾驭,词典中在所难免,敬请读者批评指正。

在本词典编译过程中,南京大学国际经贸系刘厚俊副教授自始至终给予热情指导并参与全书审定工作;海河大学外语系柏成鹏副教授惠审了部分书稿。对此,我们表示衷心的感谢。

编 者

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A

the ABC of sth the basic facts of a subject; 基础(知识): There are several books available that give you the ABC of home computers. 讲授家用电脑基本知识的书, 可以买到好几种。

亦作 **as easy as ABC**

abide by sth 1. obey or keep a rule or law; 遵守法规: Players must abide by the rules of the game. 运动员必须遵守比赛规则。 2. accept sth such as a decision or judgment without arguing over it; 无条件接受: The company managers and the unions agreed to abide by the findings of the committee on pay and working conditions. 公司的经理们和工会的头头们同意无条件接受仲裁委员会就工资和工作条件所作的调解。

above all (else) especially; most importantly; in addition to all the other things; 尤其, 最重要的是, 特别: When you chose a new car, see that it's big enough for what you want and that it's economical, but above all else, make sure you can afford it! 选购新汽车时, 应该注意大小是否适用, 价格是否经济, 更重要的是, 搞清楚自己是否买得起。

above and beyond more than; in addition to; 更多; 此外: Our soldiers did above and beyond what was expected of them, and they will be rewarded accordingly. 我们的士兵比人们要求他们的干得更出色, 他们将因此受到嘉奖。

above/below par (of sb's health, performance, etc) better/worse than it usually is; (指健康、表现等)比一般好(坏): He said he'd been feeling a bit below par for a few weeks but had not realised that there was anything seriously wrong with him until the doctor told him he had cancer. 他说这几个星期他一直感觉身体不大好, 但在医生告诉他已患癌症之前, 他没有意识到有什么严重的毛病。

亦作 **not up to par = below par**

above/over sb's head too difficult for sb to understand; 无法理解, 超出理解范围: It was clear from the expression on the faces of the audience that the lecture was above their heads. 从听众脸上的表情可以清楚地知道, 他们听不懂这场讲座。

the (absolute) limit (informal) very annoying; intolerable; (口)

非常讨厌;忍无可忍: You children really are the limit! Why can't you ever arrive on time? 你们这些孩子真叫人没办法! 你们为什么就不能准时到呢?

account for sb kill, defeat or overcome sb: 杀死; 征服: He hoped to account for two or three of his attackers before he was captured. 他希望在自己被逮住之前杀死二、三名攻击他的人。That's what you accounted for anyway, I thought, as the heckler sat down without another word to say. 不管怎么样, 这就是你杀的, 我心里想。这时被斥责者坐了下去, 嘴里不再说什么。

account for sb/sth keep and give a record of sb/sth: 记录: With three passengers still not accounted for, rescue operations continued into the night. 由于有三名乘客仍然下落不明, 救援行动继续到夜里。

account for sth be/give a reason or explanation for sth: 说明; 解释: If he was in pain, that would account for his bad temper. 如果他再感觉苦恼的话, 那或许是他脾气糟糕的原因了。

the acid test (of sth) a severe test that proves or disproves the worth, ability, etc (of sth): (对某事的) 严峻的考验: He has done well as a student teacher under supervision. The acid test will come when he has to face a class

by himself. 作为一名实习教师, 他在指导下表现得很好。当他必须独自教课时, 他将受到严峻的考验。

across the board (of changes in prices, taxes, etc) affecting everything or everyone with no exceptions: (指价格、税务的变化) 波及全体; 无人例外: The government has decided to raise oil prices by 8.2% right across the board. 政府已决定在全国范围内把汽油价格提高 8.2%。**across-board** adj. the across-board increase 全面的增长

act/be one's age not act in such a foolish, childish way: 不再孩子气; 行为和年龄相称: Come on, Jenny, stop playing with your food—act your age! 过来吧, 珍妮, 不要再玩你吃的食品——不要这样孩子气!

an act of God an event not caused or controlled by man, especially a natural disaster such as a flood or earthquake: 不可抗力; 天灾: The policy insures your property against acts of God, but not against enemy action in war. 保险单投保你的财物遭受天灾, 但战争时的敌人破坏例外。He was determined to walk the whole way, and nothing less than an act of God could have stopped him. 他决心要一路走下去, 除去天意, 没有什么能把他止住。

act/play the fool behave in a stupid or playful way intended to

amuse; 装傻逗笑: It was impossible to get a decent game of tennis with Frank acting the fool most of the time. 弗兰克大部分时间都在装疯卖傻, 所以, 要想使网球赛正规起来是不可能的。

act/play up (informal) cause trouble in an annoying, tiresome way; (口) 捣蛋; 胡闹: The children are all right with me—they only start acting up when their parents come home. 孩子们和我在一起时总是很好——当他们的父母回来时, 他们才开始淘气。

action stations (an order to go to) the places in which everybody is ready for action; (行动口令) 各就各位: Action stations, everyone! The royal party have just arrived outside! 全体注意, 作好准备! 皇室一行已到门外。

Actions speak louder than words. (saying) what you do matters more than what you say; (谚) 行动比语言更响; 行动胜于言辞。

add fuel to the fire cause or encourage more activity, a stronger emotion or attitude, etc; 火上浇油; 使情绪更加激烈: In an area where there are already strong feelings about discrimination, the smallest incident seems only to add fuel to the fire and produce even further discontent. 在一个对歧视问题已产生激烈情绪的地方, 很小的事似乎都会使火上浇油, 引起更进一步的不满。

亦作 **fan the flames (of sth)**

add insult to injury offend sb's feelings as well as cause him (material) loss or damage; 雪上加霜; 既伤害又侮辱: The tiny sum of money offered in compensation for the damage added insult to injury. 提供的这一小笔赔偿金令人既遭伤害又蒙羞辱。

add up to sth mean sth; 意味着: What all these new restrictions add up to is that I can't invite my friends here any more. 所有这些新的限制都意味着我再也不能请我的朋友到这里来玩。

admit/allow of sth (formal) offer scope or opportunity for sth; (书) 允许; 准许; 留下可能: The terms of the lease do not admit of sub-letting. 契约的条款不允许实行转租。

afraid/frightened of one's own shadow extremely timid and nervous; 害怕自己的影子; 特别胆小害羞: She stays at home all the time and never makes any new friends—she seems to be afraid of her own shadow. 她整天呆在家里, 从不交新朋友——看来她非常胆小。

after all 1. finally; in the end; after everything that has gone before; 最后; 终于: We looked everywhere for the key and then found it in my coat pocket after all. 我们到处寻找钥匙, 终于在我的外套口袋里找到了。2. contrary to what a person first in-

tends to do or expects to happen; 终究; 毕竟: We could have left our coats at home—it didn't rain after all. 我们本该把雨衣丢在家里的, 雨毕竟没有下下来。
3. what is more important in the circumstances (often used with a reason or argument that has been remembered or thought of): 归根到底: Can't I stay up late tonight? After all, there's no school tomorrow! 今晚我为什么不能玩得迟一点? 归根到底, 明天不上课! You got a fair price for your car. It is six years old, after all. 你这辆车已经讨得一个好价钱了, 不管怎么样, 它已经用过六年了。

against one's better judgment although feeling and thinking that your action, decision, is unwise; 有所迁就; 做出让步: I agreed against my better judgment to let the children go swimming on their own and was very uneasy until they returned. 我勉强同意让孩子们独自去游泳, 但在他们回来之前却一直坐立不安。

against the clock (informal) (work, race, press forward, etc) very fast and hard in order to achieve or complete sth by a certain time or before it is too late: (口) 抢时间: With the other competitors now far behind he was running against the clock to try to break the course record. 其他的对手现在被远远地甩在

了后面, 他要抢时间争取打破纪录。

agree to differ allow each other to keep different opinions about sth, especially in order to avoid further argument; 同意各自保留不同意见: "I don't think you'll ever convince me," "OK—let's say we agree to differ, then." "我以为你永远也不会说服我的"。 "好吧——让我们各自都保留意见吧。"

airs and graces affected manners to give an impression of great elegance, but in reality often having the opposite effect; 装腔作势: I'm inclined to suspect anybody so full of airs and graces as she is of being insincere. 对于任何象她这样装腔作势的人, 我都会怀疑他们是否真诚。

an Aladdin's cave a treasure-house; any place where valuable or interesting objects can be found or seen; 阿拉丁的山洞; 藏宝洞: He kept for his private pleasure an Aladdin's cave of stolen masterpieces. 他把一屋子偷来的名画藏好, 供个人独自欣赏。 London toy shops must seem like Aladdin's caves to children from the country. 对从乡下来的孩子而言, 伦敦的玩具商店看上去一定就象藏宝洞。

alive and kicking (informal) alive and well or active; (口) 活泼好动: "Whatever happened to

Fred?" "He's still alive and kicking. I think he's landed a job somewhere in Africa." "弗雷德究竟出了什么事?" "他依旧是非常活泼,我想他已在非洲的什么地方找到了一份工作。”

all along from the start until this particular time: 从一开始;自始至终; I've said all along that this would happen. 我一直都说这件事是要发生的。I knew that all along. 我一开始就知道那件事。

all and sundry everyone; people of any or every kind: 每一个人; 大家; The place would be open to all and sundry if her wishes were fulfilled. 如果她的心愿能够实现,这里将向每一位民众开放。

all at once suddenly: 突然; Everything seemed settled, when all at once he changed his mind. 一切似乎都定了下来,突然他又改变了主意。

all being well nothing unforeseen or unfortunate happens: 如果一切顺利; We'll see you then, all being well, around Christmas. 如果不发生什么意外的话,我们将在圣诞节后来看你。

all but 1. very nearly: 几乎; 很近; I all but fell into the trap. 我险些落入圈套。He himself was all but bankrupt and so couldn't help us. 他自己差不多破产了,所以无法帮我们的忙。2. all the people of things mentioned except: 除了…全部…; All but two

of the boys failed the exam. 除了两个男孩之外,其他人全部考试及格。

all day and every day without change or a break over a period of time: 天天如此,毫无变化; I have to be active—I couldn't sit around all day and every day now I've retired. 我只能表现得积极一点——现在我退休了,不能日复一日地坐着不干事。

all dressed up and nowhere to go (informal) wearing your best clothes and ready for an engagement, party, etc, but not actually going, for example because of a change of plans; clearly ready for an event which does not take place (usually used humorously) (口)准备齐全却不实施;白白准备一场; There's Mrs Barton, all dressed up and nowhere to go as usual. 那就是巴顿夫人,照例是平白无故地打扮得漂漂亮亮。

(all) for the best a good and beneficial result, though this may not be foreseen: 最好的事; 最有利的事; One never knows what may be for the best in this world. If I'd got the job I wanted I might never have met you. 在这个世界上一个人永远不知道什么事可能是最有利可图的,假如我当初得到了那份工作,我想我永远也不会见到你的。

All good things (must) come to an end. (saying) said especially in reference to the end of a happy

holiday, or meeting with friends etc); (谚)好事总有结束时;没有不散的宴席。

all hell breaks loose violent rioting or great, noisy uproar and confusion suddenly start: 骚乱顿时发生; 暴乱突然开始: When the soldiers fired shots into the crowd, all hell broke loose. 当士兵向人群开枪时, 骚乱就开始出现了。

(all) hot and bothered (informal) worried and upset by the need to hurry, too much work, etc: (口)担忧; 担心: Officials at the Defence Ministry are getting all hot and bothered about secrets getting out. 国防部的官员们正担心机密会泄露。

all in 1. (of a price) with everything included, with no extra to pay: (指价格)全部; 一切包括在内: I'll sell you this car for £10,000 all in. 这辆车我卖给你总共一万英镑。These are all-in prices—room, breakfast, service and tax. 这些是“全包”的一房租、早餐、服务费和纳税。2. (informal) very tired, exhausted: 很疲劳: I'll finish digging that patch tomorrow, Mary. Right now, I'm all in. 玛丽, 我明天再把那块地挖完吧, 我现在太累了。

all in a/the day's work sth that a person accepts as normal or to be expected in his daily routine or duties: 普通的事; 日常的事;

To a trawlerman, it seems, a soaking is all in a day's work. 对于一位拖网渔船上的渔夫而言, 下网似乎是家常便饭的事。

all in all 1. taking everything into consideration; 总的说来: All in all, we've done a good day's work. 总的说来, 我们已经干了一整天的活。2. the object of (obsessive) devotion and interest: 宠爱之物: A man can love his wife without her becoming his all in all. 一个男人可以爱他的妻子, 而她却不是他最宠爱的人。

all manner of all kinds of: 各种各样; 种类齐全: The warehouse was stocked with all manner of goods. 仓库里堆放了各式各样的货物。

all of (informal) (used to emphasize an amount such as an age or distance): (口)所有的; 总共; 足足: It took us all of four hours to clear out the garage! 我们足足用了四小时才把车库打扫干净。It must be all of 1000 kilometres from here to Paris. 从这里到巴黎肯定足有一千公里。

all of a sudden (informal) suddenly and unexpectedly: (口)突然间, 出其不意的: I was sitting reading my book when all of a sudden the lights went out. 我正坐着看书, 突然灯灭了。

all one (to sb) or all the same (to sb) make no difference, not matter at all (to sb): 没有区别;

都一样; Clearly, it was all one to him whether we approved or not 很显然, 我们无论赞同与否对他都一样。

亦作 **one and the same**

all over the place / shop (informal) found scattered everywhere: (口) 到处都是; 遍布: Walk along a main street anywhere and you'll see foreign-built cars all over the shop. 随便在什么地方, 如果你走在大街上, 你就会看见到处都是外国造的小汽车。

all right 1. (a way of agreeing to something, which may be willing or not, as shown by the tone of voice and expression on the face): (表示赞同) 是; 行: "Come for your dinner, Billy." "All right, Mum. What are we having today?" "比利, 你来吃晚饭吧"。"好, 妈妈。今天有什么好吃的?" 2. certainly, without doubt (used at the end of a statement, promise, or threat, to emphasize it): (确实, 无疑: Jack's an amusing fellow all right. 杰克确实是个很有趣的家伙。3. in good or satisfactory health or condition; uninjured, undamaged, or in working order: 身体健康, 没毛病: I had a bad cold last week but I feel all right now. 我上周得了重感冒, 不过现在感觉好了。(注: 本短语也常用来回答问候语 How are you?) 例如: "How are you, June?" "All right,

thanks—and how are you?" 如果使用疑问形式。它本身也可作为问候语, 例如: "All right?" "Yes, thanks—and you?" "琼, 你身体好吗?" "还好, 谢谢你——你呢?" 如用升调说就是问话: "好吗?" "很好——谢谢, 你呢?" 4. (only just) satisfactory or good enough; well or satisfactorily enough: 还好, 还可以: "Don't you like the Smith's?" "Peter's all right, but his wife is a bit of a troublemaker." "你不喜欢史密斯一家吗?" "彼德倒还好, 就是他太太是一个会惹麻烦的人。"

5. (used at the beginning of a sentence to show annoyance and impatience): (用于句首, 表示不满) 好; 算了: All right, there's no need to get so angry with me! 算了, 没有必要对我这么气愤。6. Have you understood so far? (used to join parts of an explanation): (与解释话连用) 懂了吗? So you want to get to the station? OK, you turn left at the end and go straight on at the junction. All right? Go down the hill, and there it is. 这么说你想上车站去? 好吧, 你走到头向左拐, 然后一直走到交叉路口。明白了吗? 再走下山坡就到了。

亦作 **right; it's all right; that's/it's all right**

all right (with sb) allowed; convenient (for sb); not an action or arrangement that sb would dislike or object to; 允许的; 方便

的;不反对:“Is it all right to park here?”“可以在这儿停车吗?”“Stay overnight with us.”“Well, if you're sure that would be all right with your wife, we'd be glad to.”“留下来和我们一起过夜吧。”“好吧,如果你肯定你太太不反对的话,我们将很乐意。”

All's fair in love and war. (say - ing) actions sb would usually be blamed for are excused in love or in war: (谚)情场战场,各显所长。(指在一切竞争中,如恋爱和战争,可以不择手段)

All's well that ends well. (saying) if the final result is good, earlier difficulties or setbacks no longer matter: (谚)结果好就一切都好;凡事看其结果。

All the best! (informal) (a wish that sb will be happy, successful etc, used when saying goodbye, at the end of a letter, or when drinking with sb): (口)(祝愿时用)一路顺风;称心如意: All the best, then, Maria, and we'll see you in a fortnight! 就这样吧,玛丽亚,一路平安,半个月后再见。

all the go/rage very much in fashion: 非常流行: Electronic games were all the go that year, and every child wanted one for Christmas. 电子游戏机在那年很流行,每个孩子圣诞节都想买一个。

all the same nevertheless: 不过,仍然: I'm sure your figures will

be correct, but I'll check them all the same, if you don't mind. 我肯定你的数字将是正确的,但我还是要核对一下,如果你不介意的话。

all the world and his wife large numbers of people, especially assembled as guests, spectators, or holidaymakers: 很多人(特指游客、观众度假者): There was no escape on our little holiday beach! All the world and his wife were there. 在我们度假的海滩上真是拥挤不堪,似乎全世界的人都到了那里。

all things considered when everything, especially something bad, connected with a situation or event is considered: 总而言之: The weather was awful for the garden fete, so they did quite well, all things considered, to raise as much as £360. 天气对慈善游园会是很糟糕的,因此说,他们干得很出色,总而言之,募捐款达到360英镑。

all told with all items counted and included: 总共;全部: “How many?” “60 passengers all told.” “有多少人?” “总共60位乘客”。

all too common, often, etc much more common, often, etc than a person likes or is right: 非常普通(频繁,等等): The vegetables were overcooked—an all too common fault in British kitchens. 蔬菜烧得过头了——这是英国人在厨房非常容易犯

的毛病。One meets with such courtesy all too seldom. 一个人受到如此礼遇,真是太罕见了。

all very well/fine (but...) good or satisfactory in some respect-ly: 在一定程度上很好: Camping is all very well if you get good weather. 如果天气不坏,你去露营是一件很好的事。

All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy. (saying) it is not healthy to spend all your time working and never relaxing: (谚)只工作,不玩耍,聪明的孩子也变傻: A conviction began to steal over him that the old saying was really right: all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy. 他开始慢慢相信那个古老的谚语是千真万确的: 只干不玩,变成呆汉。

(always) on the go (of people) busy and active: (指人)忙忙碌碌; 活跃: When you've been on the go all day it's nice to relax in the evenings. 当一个人整天忙个不停时,晚上放松一下是很美的一件事。

amount to sth be regarded as sth, especially after all the points have been considered: 实际上是; 等于: The news agency reported that the agreement between the superpowers amounted to an attempt at gaining nuclear superiority. 新闻社报道说,超级大国之间的协议实际上等于企图谋求核优势。

ancient/past history sth, especially in sb's past, that is no longer relevant or significant: 过去的事; 遥远的过去: Tom's first marriage to Stella is ancient history. 汤姆最初是和史蒂拉结婚的,可这与现在无关。

and all 1. and other (connected) matters; 以及其他; 等等: What with her job and the children and all, Jane's kept pretty busy. 因为要上班,还有孩子,以及其它的事,珍妮一直忙个不停。2. as well; included; too; 包括; 也: They've invited themselves, dog and all, for the weekend. 除了狗之外,他们周末什么人也都没有邀请。3. in spite of; notwithstanding; 尽管; 无论: Crippled leg and all, he's a lot more active than you are. 无论他跛脚与否,他都比你活跃多了。

(and) Bob's your uncle (informal) (and) everything will be all right or just as desired; the job is done; the problem is solved: (口)一切都将解决; 万事大吉: Once you're across the border, Bob's your uncle. 当你走出国界之后,那就万事全消了。

And how! (informal) very much so: (口)非常如此; 尤其是这样: "Would you like a place in the team?" "And how!" "你想加入这个队伍?" "非常想"。

(and) last but not least or **(and) last but by no means least** (used to introduce the final item

in a list to show that this is no less important than the others previously mentioned): 最后但并非最不重要的一点: He thanked everyone by name for the help: Mrs Watkins for preparing the food, Miss Smith for the flowers, Mr Jackson for his speech, and last but by no means least Mr Donnan for arranging the furniture. 他指名道姓向每一个帮忙的人道谢: 沃特金斯夫人准备的食物, 史密斯小姐的鲜花, 杰克逊先生的祝词, 还有最后一位但并非是最不重要的一位, 那就是唐纳先生布置的摆设。

(and) not before time and this is sth that ought to have happened a long time ago: 这是早该发生的事: John has been promoted, and not before time, considering the amount of work he does. 约翰近来晋升了, 考虑到他做过的那么多工作, 这是早就应该有的事情。

and the like and so on; together with things or people of similar kind: 等等, 诸如此类: We bought some meat—pork, lamb, and the like—in preparation for the party. 我们买回了一些肉——有猪肉、羊肉等——准备做晚餐。

an angel of mercy sb who brings help comfort etc just at the right time: 怜悯的天使; 随时肯帮忙的人: No sooner had I realized that

we didn't have a spare tyre in the car than this man came up, a real angel of mercy, and helped us to mend the puncture. 就在我意识到车上没有备用轮胎时, 这人走来了, 真象下了场及时雨, 帮我们补上了轮胎。

angle/fish for sth try to obtain sth such as compliments, an invitation, or information for yourself by hints or other indirect methods: 以暗示取得; 诱取: I could tell from what he was saying that he was fishing for information on what business we were doing with Pane & Co. 从他的话里我能听出来, 他在打探我们同潘氏公司进行何种贸易方面的情报。

answer (sb) back defend yourself when being accused or criticized; reply rudely to sb, such as a parent, teacher, or boss, who is criticizing you or telling you what to do: 为…辩护; 回击: It's easy for the others to blame Jack when he's not here to answer (them) back. 别人要指责杰克是很容易的, 因为他不在这里反击他们。Don't answer back, my lad, and take that grin off your face, too! 小伙子, 不许回嘴, 不要那样凶相毕露。

answer for sb say or promise what sb will do: 为…担保: "Would your husband help?" "I can't answer for him, but I don't see why not." "你丈夫会帮帮忙

吗?”“我无法保证,不过,我看不出有什么不应该的。”

answer for sth (have to) accept the responsibility or blame for sth; 承担责任; 接受指责; He has neglected his health and now he has to answer for the consequences. 他一直忽视身体健康,现在就只得自食其果。That poor woman seems more neurotic every time I see her—her husband's got a lot to answer for. 我每次看见那个可怜的女人她都越发变得神经质了——她的丈夫有很大的责任。

answer to sb (for sth) try to explain or justify (mis)conduct to sb who may punish you (for sth) (often used as a warning or threat); (常用作警告或威胁)解释; 对...负责; If I catch you in here again, it's the police you'll have to answer to. 如果我在这里再抓住你的话,那你就只好去对警察说清楚了。

any amount/number (of) (informal) a large amount/number of; (口)大量的; 很多的; They were a bit stingy with the sandwiches, but there was any amount of drink. 他们预备的三明治有点不足,但饮料却很多。“Who wants to watch rubbish like that?” “Any number of people, I assure you”. “谁会想看那种污七八糟的东西?” “我向你保证,很多很多人都想。”

any day (of the week) (informal)

(used to emphasize a strong preference;)(口)(用于强调)任何时候; I'd rather have him than his brother any day of the week. 无论哪一天我都愿意请他而不是他哥哥作客。

any day of the week (informal) at any time, as frequently as you want; (口)随时; 常常; You can hear that stuff on the radio any day of the week. 你每天都可以在广播里听到这种内容。

anyone's/anybody's guess a matter no one can be sure about; 没有人能肯定的事; Who will win is anybody's guess. 谁将获胜没人敢肯定。

any minute, day, etc now in the next few minutes, days, etc; very soon; 马上; 很快; The car will be here any minute now. 汽车将会随时到达。

any old time, place, where, how, etc (informal) any time, place, manner, etc at all; any time etc that may be convenient for sb, though perhaps not for others; (口)任何时间(地方,办法等); I told him he could drop in and see us any old time. 我告诉他随便什么时候都可以到我家来玩。I want this job done properly, not any old how. 我想让人把这工作圆满地做好,而不是随便怎么干都行。

anything but certainly not; far from; just the opposite of; 当然不是; 正好相反; I wouldn't say he was generous—anything but!

恰恰相反,我不会说他是慷慨大方的。

Anything doing? 1. (informal) is anything happening? (口)有什么事情吗? Anything doing tonight? Do you fancy going to the cinema with me? 今晚有什么事情? 想跟我一起去看电影吗? 2. (informal) can you help? (口)能否帮忙? I need a lift into town. Anything doing? 我需要搭便车进城。能否帮帮忙?

anything goes anything is permitted; there are no rules for work or behaviour; 随便什么都可以; 没有限制: Don't imagine, because you have more freedom than in most schools, that anything goes. 不要因为你在这儿比在大部分学校里享有更多的自由, 就认为什么都可以干。In our modern society, anything goes. 在我们这个现代社会, 一切都沒有定规。[注意本短语的时态形式: It will be(/It was) a case of anything goes. 这将是(/曾是)无法无天的一例。]

anything like at all near; to any degree (used with a negative, in a question, or in an if-clause); 非常象; 随便怎样: He isn't anything like as clever as his brother. 他根本不象他兄弟那样聪明。If this weekend is anything like the summer camp you've told us about, then it will be fantastic. 如果这个周末就象你曾说过的那个夏令营的话, 那真是好极

了。

亦作 **anywhere near** Your car isn't anywhere near as fast as ours! 你的车怎么也比不上我们的快。

an apology for sth an example of bad quality of sth; 勉强凑合: I'm sorry, but this is rather an apology for lunch—we'll have a good meal this evening. 我很遗憾地说, 午餐就勉强凑合着吃了一顿——但晚上我们有一顿盛宴。

the apple of sb's eye a person or thing that is dearly loved, especially treasured; 深受喜爱的人(或物); 掌上明珠: Rosalind is the apple of her father's eye. 露莎琳德是她父亲的掌上明珠。

an armchair critic, expert, cricketer, etc a person who offers criticisms about an art, study, or sport, in which he has never actively taken part; 坐而论道的批评家(或专家、板球员等): He is a well-known armchair strategist. I wonder why you should talk with him so long. 他是有名的专爱纸上谈兵的人, 我搞不懂你竟会同他谈这么长时间。

armed to the teeth (with sth) (informal) equiped with or carrying many weapons or many articles having a definite purpose; (口)武装到牙齿: The tourists stepped out of the coach, armed to the teeth with cameras, binoculars, and guidebooks. 游客们跨出了旅游车, 人人都带着照相

机、望远镜,还有导游图书。

(a) **round the clock** for 24 hours; night and day continuously; 夜以继日; 昼夜不停; Rescue teams have been working around the clock for nearly a week now to try to find any earthquake victims who are still alive. 救援队伍已昼夜不停地工作了将近一个星期,仍在试图寻找活着的地震受害者。

(a) **round the corner** quite close, soon to happen; 最近; 将要; Those engaged in the research believed that success was just around the corner when funds ran out and the laboratory was forced to close. 从事这项研究的人们认为,当基金用完,实验室被迫关闭时,成功已经在望了。

as ... **as the next man, etc** just as ... as any other man, etc; 象普通人(等等)一样; 平常得很; If you have always thought that one electric cooker was as good as the next one, then it's time you visited our showroom. 如果你一直以为电烤箱是很普通的,那现在你该看一看我们的产品展室。I'm as honest as the next man, but I don't see why the government should have this much of my wages in tax. 我很诚实,但也不明白政府为什么把我工资中的相当一部份上税。

as **a last resort** as a means of help or supply only to be used when every other means has been

used; 最后一种手段; I want to spend our savings only as a last resort. 我只是在万不得已时才使用我的积蓄。

as **and when** whenever; at such times as; 无论什么时候; This tap gives you instant hot water as and when required. 这种水龙头可以在任何需要的时候立即提供热水。

as / **like a lamb to the slaughter** appearing not to realize that you are about to suffer death or meet with danger, great difficulty, etc; 象受宰杀的小羊那样; 顺从; Thousands of young men followed the call of the country's leaders when war broke out and were led like lambs to the slaughter. 当战争爆发时,数以千计的年轻人响应国家领导人的号召,他们象受宰杀的羊羔那样顺从。

as **a matter of fact** and that is a fact (used to emphasize a statement or contradiction, often implying that a listener etc might not believe what has been said); 事实上; "Who's going to be the next chairman of the committee?" "As a matter of fact, I am." "谁将是委员会的下届主席?" "事实上,就是我。" **matter-of-fact** adj. unemotional; 实事求是的

as **a matter of form** in a way that is correct or polite but not essential; 形式上; The new constitu-

tion was being drawn up, and Roger asked the former secretary for his views as a matter of form. 新宪法正在起草,作为一种形式,罗杰向前任秘书征求了他的看法。

(as) bald as a coot completely bald or with no hair on the top of the head; 头发光秃; Jackson worked so hard in his life that he turned out bald as a coot before the age of 45. 杰克逊这一生一直勤奋工作,45岁前他的头发就已经掉光了。

(as) bright as a button intelligent, lively, and alert; 聪明; 聪慧: What a pretty child—and bright as a button! 这孩子多漂亮啊——也聪明得很。

as bold as brass impudent(ly), shameless(ly); 厚颜; 无礼; 无耻: As bold as brass, she jumped on the bus ahead of the queue. 她真不害臊,挤到队伍的前面跳上了汽车。He lied to me as bold as brass. 他竟厚着脸皮对我说谎。

as brave, mean, etc as they come very brave, etc; 非常勇敢(等等): He'll have everybody thinking he's in the right and you're in the wrong, for Jack's as cunning as they come. 他将使人人都认为他是对的,你是错的,因为杰克鬼得很呢。

as chance has/had it (formal) as it happens/happened, fortunately or unfortunately; (书)碰巧的是;

幸运的是: "Do you have a room to let?" "As chance has it, we do. Would you like to see it?" "你们有房间要出租吗?" "巧得很,我们有。你想看一看吗?"

as clean as a new pin (informal) very clean and tidy; (口)非常清洁; 非常整洁: The place is in rather a mess, but don't worry—I'll leave it as clean as a new pin when I go. 这地方相当杂乱,不过,请别着急——我出去时将把它打扫得干干净净。

as clean as a whistle (informal) perfectly clean and free from dirt, disease, or rust; (of an action) done very neatly, accurately, or driftily; (口)非常整洁; (指行动)利索,迅速: Arms inspections were held without warning and if your rifle wasn't as clean as a whistle you'd be punished. 武器检查事先没有通知便开始了,如果你的步枪不是非常干净,你就会受到处罚。

as clear as a bell easily heard; having a pure sound; 容易听到; 音质很纯: This deaf-aid is really wonderful. I can hear you as clear as a bell. 这个助听器真是好极了,我能很容易地听见你的声音了。

as clear as crystal pure and transparent; obvious or very easy to recognize or understand; 纯洁透彻: Crossword clues that would puzzle me for a whole afternoon are as clear as crystal to him. 把

我难了整整一个下午的纵横字谜对他来讲肯定容易得很。

as clear as day (light)/noon (day) (informal) plain to be seen; easy to notice, recognize, or understand; (口)一目了然;易于辨认: Although "No dogs allowed" is printed on the door as clear as day, people frequently come in with one under their arm or on a lead. 虽然“禁止养狗”清清楚楚地写在门上,人们还是经常抱着或牵着一只狗走进来。

as clear as mud (informal) not clear at all; difficult to understand; (口)很含糊;难以理解: "The instructions are quite clear." "They're as clear as mud! Here, let me read them for myself." "说明是很清楚的。"“清楚个鬼!给我,让我自己来看吧。”

as cold as charity very cold; (of people or their actions) unfeeling; impersonal; 寒冷; (指人或举止)冷漠; 不为别人考虑: Her words themselves were not impolite but her manner was as cold as charity. 她说的话本身倒也不是不礼貌,但她的态度却是很不近人情。

as cold as ice very cold; (of people) unfeeling; callous; 冰冷; 非常冷漠; 残忍: My feet are as cold as ice, nurse. Can I have a hot-water bottle? 护士,我的脚非常冷,可以给我一只热水瓶吗?

亦作 **ice-cold** adj. a glass of ice-cold beer 一杯冰镇的啤酒 The

look she gave him was ice-cold. 她给他的脸色冷冰冰的。

又作 **as cold as an iceberg; as cold as marble/stone**

as common as muck (informal) (of people) vulgar or coarse in their speech or manners; (口) (指人)言行极为粗俗: She'll work in the kitchen and not meet the hotel guests. As long as she's honest and a good worker, I don't care if she's as common as muck. 她将在厨房干活,不会碰到旅馆的客人。只要她老老实实,做一个好工人,我并不在乎她的言行是否粗俗。

as cool as a cucumber (of people) very cool or calm, especially when the opposite might be expected, for example on a hot day or in a difficult situation; (指人)沉着冷静: In contrast to the glistening sunbathers around her, she wore a long sleeved white dress with a shady hat, and looked as cool as a cucumber. 跟她周围闪光炫目的日光浴者相反,她穿了一件白色的长袖上衣,头上戴一顶遮阳帽,看上去泰然自若。

as cross as two sticks (old-fashioned) very angry or annoyed (about sth); (旧)(对某事)非常生气,很恼火: I wonder what's upsetting Grandma. She's as cross as two sticks this morning. 我不知道什么事使奶奶感到伤心。她今天上午气恼得很。