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The Art of Idioms

英文
慣用語
趣談

Track 01

When I was young, I was a couch¹ potato.² "Couch potato" is an idiom. A couch potato is someone who sits on the couch **all day**. That person is like a potato, because a potato never moves.

My mother said that if I didn't change my habits,³ I might become the black sheep of the family. If a good family has one person who always makes mistakes, that person is the black sheep of the family.

In conversations,⁴ people often use idioms. Some idioms are clever,⁵ some are funny, and some are strange. For example, if you're "under the weather," you feel sick. If a man has no goals **in his life**, we can say he has no direction.⁶ Learning more idioms helps you understand what native speakers* are **talking about**.

◎ 重點單字

1. couch [kʌtʃ] *n.* 沙發

The room has a couch, a chair, and a table.
房間裡有一張沙發、一張椅子和桌子。

2. potato [pə'teto] *n.* 馬鈴薯

David bought a bag of potatoes at the market.
大衛在市場買了一袋馬鈴薯。

3. habit [ˈhebit] *n.* 習慣

Cathy's habit is to wake up very early.
凱西習慣非常早起。

4. conversation [ˌkɒnvəˈseʃn] *n.* 對話

John and Nina had a long conversation.
約翰和妮娜相談甚久。

5. clever [ˈklevə] *adj.* 絶妙的；聰明的

That was a clever joke.
那個笑話好妙喔。

6. direction [dɪ'rekʃn] *n.* 方向

We're driving in the wrong direction.
我們開錯方向了。

參考單字

idiom [ˈɪdɪəm] *n.* 慣用語；成語

native speaker [ˈneɪtɪv] [ˈspɪkə] *n.* 母語人士

◎ 學習焦點

1. all day 一整天

為時間副詞片語，通常置於句尾。

• The book fair will last all day.
那場書展將會持續一整天。

2. in (one's) life 在（某人的）一生當中

life 在此表示「人生」，是不可數名詞。

• You are the most important person in my life.
你是我生命中最重要的人。

3. talk about 談論

後面可接受詞，表示談論的內容。

• Winston and Kelly are talking about last night's baseball game.
溫斯頓和凱莉正在談論昨晚那場棒球比賽。

隨堂測驗・填空題

① Smoking is a terrible _____.

② The _____ is really comfortable.

③ Their _____ was about fashion.





Track 02

When I got older, I became a workhorse. A workhorse is a hard-working¹ person. I'm also an eager^{*} beaver.* Eager beavers are energetic.² They're always excited about work.

These days, I still have bad habits. For example, I go to bed after midnight.³ Therefore,⁴ some people call me a night owl.* When I stay up late, I like to read. I'm definitely a bookworm. English has idioms for almost everything. A snake in the grass⁵ is a sneaky⁶ person. A teacher's pet is a student that the teacher loves. An egghead is a very smart person.

Just remember that it's good to be a workhorse. If you work hard, then someday you might become the big cheese. What does that mean? It means a very important person. **ABC**



重點單字

- 1. **hard-working** ['hɑ:d wɜ:kɪŋ] *adj.* 勤奮的
Bobby is very smart, but he's not hard-working enough.
巴比非常聰明，可是他不夠勤奮。
- 2. **energetic** [,eɪn'etɪgɪk] *adj.* 精力旺盛的
That little dog is so energetic.
那隻小狗精力非常旺盛。
- 3. **midnight** ['mɪd,nait] *n.* 午夜
The rain stopped at midnight.
雨下到半夜就停了。
- 4. **therefore** ['ðeər,fɔ:r] *adv.* 因此；所以
Iris is sick. Therefore, she can't come to class.
艾瑞絲病了，因此她不能來上課。
- 5. **grass** [græs] *n.* 草
The grass in this yard is too long.
這個院子裡的草太長了。
- 6. **sneaky** ['snɪki] *adj.* 隱險的
Tara is sneaky, so nobody trusts her.
塔拉為人隱險，所以沒有人信任她。

參考單字

eager ['ɪgər] *adj.* 热切的
beaver ['hɪvər] *n.* 海狸
owl [aʊl] *n.* 褐頭鷹

學習焦點

1. (Sb) is excited about + N.

(某人)對……感到興奮。

注意介系詞要用 about，其後也可接動名詞 (V-ing)。

- We're very excited about the parade.
我們對這場遊行感到興致盎然。
- Holly is very excited about winning an award.
贏得大獎讓荷莉非常興奮。

2. stay up 熬夜

其後常接副詞 late 表示「熬夜到很晚」。

- I don't want to stay up too late tonight.
我今天晚上不想熬夜熬太晚。

● 重點單字

◎為1200字 ◎為2000字

- 1. **college** [ˈkɔlɪdʒ] *n.* 大學
Vicky got into a really good college.
薇琪進入一間很好的大學就讀。
- 2. **abroad** [əˈbrəd] *adv.* 在國外
Emily went abroad on business.
愛蜜莉去國外出差。
- 3. **apartment** [əˈpɔrtmənt] *n.* 公寓
Do you have your own apartment?
你有自己的公寓嗎？
- 4. **nervous** [ˈnɜvəs] *adj.* 繫張的
Many students are nervous about the big exam.
很多學生對這次的大考都很繫張。

參考單字

expect [ɪkˈspekt] *v.* 期望；預計

● 學習焦點

- 1. (Sb) finds a job as + N.**
(某人)找到一個……的工作。
as在此表示「作為……的身分」。
 - It's easy to find a job as a waiter.
要找到一份服務生的工作很容易。
- 2. outside of (place)** 在(某地)以外
可將之視為副詞片語。
 - Do you ever travel outside of Taiwan?
你曾到過臺灣以外的地方旅遊嗎？
- 3. speak (language)** 說(語言)
speak [spik]的三態為speak-spoke[spok]-spoken [ˈspəkən]。
 - Nobody understands Leo when he tries to speak Chinese.
當里歐試著說中文時，沒有人聽得懂。

● 隨堂測驗・選擇題

Which is true about Becky?

- Before she went to Korea, she only traveled in the US.
- After she went to Seoul, she didn't go back to America.
- She learned Korean before she left home.
- She got the school to find her an apartment.



Track 03

Becky is from a small town in the US. Last year, she finished college¹ and decided to live and work abroad² for a year. She chose Seoul, South Korea.

Before Becky left home, **she found a job as a teacher**. She would teach English at a public school. She also found a pretty cheap apartment³ there.

It was her first time **outside of America**. Becky was both excited and nervous.⁴ She didn't **speak the language**, and she didn't really know what to expect.*





Track 04

During her year, Becky learned many things about Seoul and its people. The city was really big and easy to **get around**. Also, everything moved very fast.

Koreans were always in a hurry. They were also quite¹ shy.² They were afraid to talk to foreigners, but they weren't afraid to stare* at them. However, when Becky got them to talk to her, they were very polite³ and helpful.

In addition, Koreans loved their kimchi, seafood,⁴ and soju. They also never ate or drank alone. Becky really enjoyed living in Korea. 

中文翻譯和測驗解答請見第 159 頁



● 重點單字

◎ 約 1200 字 ◎ 約 2000 字

- 1. **quite** [kwɔɪt] *adv.* 十分；非常
I'm quite tired, so I'm going to bed.
我非常累，所以要去睡了。
- 2. **shy** [ʃaɪ] *adj.* 害羞的
The shy boy didn't say a word to anyone.
那個害羞的男孩沒有跟任何人說一句話。
- 3. **polite** [pə'laɪt] *adj.* 禮貌的
It's not polite to point your finger at someone.
用手指頭指著別人是不禮貌的。
- 4. **seafood** [ˈsi:fud] *n.* 海鮮
Bruce ate bad seafood and got sick.
布鲁斯吃到不新鮮的海鮮而不舒服。

參考單字

stare [stɑːr] *v.* 目不轉睛地看

● 學習焦點

- 1. **get around** 四處走動；行動
 - That place isn't easy to get around.
那個地方交通不方便。
- 2. **(Sb) is in a hurry.** (某人) 趕時間。
in a hurry 是固定用法。
 - Can you drive faster? I'm in a hurry.
可以請你開快一點嗎？我趕時間。
- 3. **in addition** 除此之外
addition「附加」的發音為 [ə'diʃən]。
 - Ed sings really well. In addition, he plays many different instruments.
艾德唱歌很好聽，此外，他還會彈奏很多不同的樂器。

● 隨堂測驗・選擇題

What didn't Becky like about living in Korea?

- Ⓐ Eating dinner by herself.
- Ⓑ Koreans hurrying from place to place.
- Ⓒ The smell of kimchi and soju.
- Ⓓ Koreans looking at her all the time.



● 重點單字

◎ 約 1200 字 ◎ 約 2000 字

- 1. **gold** [gold] *n.* 黃金 (gold rush [rʌf] 指「淘金熱」)
What is the price of gold now?
黃金現在的價格是多少?
- 2. **town** [taʊn] *n.* 城鎮
Erin lives in a small town.
愛倫住了一座小鎮上。
- 3. **village** ['vɪlɪdʒ] *n.* 村莊
I can't find that village on the map.
我在地圖上找不到那座村莊。
- 4. **life** [laɪf] *n.* 生氣；活力
The market is full of life.
那個市場人聲鼎沸。
- 5. **pleasant** ['plezənt] *adj.* 舒適的；愉快的
We found a pleasant place to eat.
我們找到一個舒適的地方用餐。
- 6. **lantern** ['læntən] *n.* 燈籠
The kids are making their own lanterns.
孩子們正在製作他們自己的燈籠。

參考單字

nearby ['nɪər,baɪ] *adj.* 附近的
portion ['pɔrʃən] *n.* (一) 份
teahouse ['ti,haus] *n.* 茶館

● 學習焦點

1. **long ago** 很久以前

為時間副詞片語，適用於過去時態。第三段的 these days 表示「如今；現在」，適用於現在時態。

- Long ago, there were no people here.
很久以前，這裡杳無人煙。
- These days, shops in this area are closing earlier.
這一區的店家這陣子都提早打烊。

2. **get a taste of (sth)** 體驗（某事物）

taste [test] 「滋味；味道」在此是名詞。
此片語字面意思是「嚐一口（某事物）的滋味」，
引申指「體驗、經歷（某事物）」。

- Judy got a taste of the good life at her rich friend's house.
茱蒂在她有錢朋友的家裡體驗到奢華的生活。



The Gold Town of Jiufen

探尋九份的黃金歲月

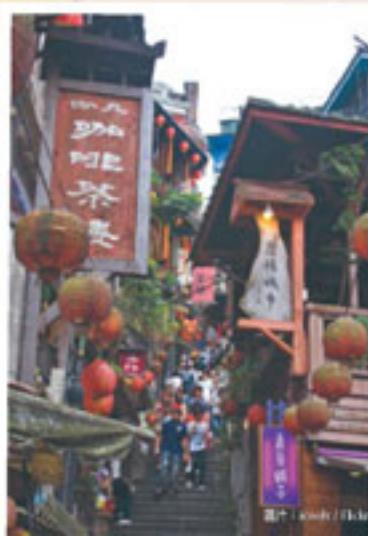


Track 81

Long ago, Jiufen was a quiet little village.¹ It was high in the mountains and hard to get to. Only nine families lived there. They got their food and other things from the nearby* town. They always ordered nine portions.* That gave the village its name.

In the 1890s, someone found gold near Jiufen. That started a gold rush, and the village quickly became a town with thousands of families. They built houses, shops, and hotels. Jiufen was busy and full of life.⁴ People called it "Little Shanghai."

These days, people don't go to Jiufen to look for gold. They go to experience the pleasant⁵ teahouses,* take pictures on the stairs, and see the red lanterns.⁶ They go to get a taste of Taiwan's past.





Track 82

Janet and Lucas are visiting Jiufen.

珍妮特與盧卡斯造訪九份。

(Lucas = L; Janet = J)

L: Say cheese!

J: Cheese! How does the photo¹ look? Do I have a funny smile?²L: Your smile is fine. However, it looks like you went back in time. The buildings³ behind you are old, but your clothes are modern.

J: You're right. It's cool but also a little strange. It looks like I'm in Japan somewhere.

L: So, do you want to go back to Old Street and get some more yummy⁴ taro balls?

J: There are way too many people there. Why don't we go to A-Mei Teahouse?

L: What's special about that place?

J: It's over 100 years old. Also, people say the bathhouse* in Spirited Away came from it.

L: I love that movie!⁵ Let's go have some tea and enjoy the view.*J: Great! We should hurry. The sun will set⁶ soon. ABC

中文翻譯請見第 167-168 頁

● 重點單字

◎為 1200 字 ◎為 2000 字

- 1. **photo** [`foto] *n.* 照片
Who is the woman in this photo?
這張照片裡的女生是誰？
- 2. **smile** [`smail] *n.* 笑容；微笑
Angie has a really pretty smile.
安姬有著非常美麗的笑容。
- 3. **building** [`bildɪŋ] *n.* 建築物；房屋
Lana's family owns many buildings.
拉娜家擁有很多房產。
- 4. **yummy** [`jumi] *adj.* 美味的；可口的
Dinner was super yummy!
晚餐超級好吃！
- 5. **movie** [`muvi] *n.* 電影
I don't have time to watch movies.
我沒有時間看電影。
- 6. **set** [set] *v.* (日、月等) 落下 (set-set-set)
What time does the sun set tonight?
今晚日落的時間是幾點？

參考單字

taro ball [`taro] [bol] 芋圓

bathhouse [`bæθ.haʊs] *n.* 澡堂；公共浴室view [vju] *n.* 風景

● 學習焦點

1. **go back in time** 回到過去

注意介系詞要用 in。

- Would you want to go back in time?
你想要回到過去嗎？

2. **way too many + N.** 實在太多的……

way 在此是副詞「大大地」，修飾後面的 too many，用來強調數量非常多。

- Heidi bought way too many clothes.
海蒂買太多衣服了。

Say cheese.

你知道嗎？

幫人拍照時要請對方「笑一個」，英文常說 Say cheese.。因為講 cheese [tʃiz] 這個字時，嘴型會呈現微笑的樣子，不信的話，你可以自己試試看 ☺



圖片：Anhafan English Resources

Section 1 悅遊文化

Unit 01：英文慣用語趣談

p. 6

小時候，我是一個沙發馬鈴薯，這是一個慣用語，意指某人整天賴在沙發上，就像一顆馬鈴薯一樣，因為馬鈴薯是不會移動的。

我媽媽說如果我不改掉我的習慣，很可能會變成家族裡的黑羊。如果一個優秀的家族裡有個總是犯錯的人，那個人就是家族裡的害群之馬。

在對話中，人們常常會用到慣用語，有些慣用語很巧妙，有些很詼諧，有些則很奇怪。舉例來說，如果你「身處某個氣氛中」，代表你覺得身體不舒服；如果一個人的人生沒有目標，我們就可以說他沒有方向。多學慣用語可以幫助你了解母語人士的對話內容。

測驗解答：1. habit 2. couch
3. conversation

p. 7

長大以後，我成了一匹做粗活的馬，意即工作賣力的人。我也是一個熱心的海狸，熱心的海狸精力旺盛，對工作總是興致勃勃。

現在，我依然有些壞習慣。例如，我都到三更半夜才上床睡覺，因此有些人就叫我夜貓子。我熬夜的時候喜歡看書，我絕對是個書蟲。英文裡幾乎每樣東西都有慣用語可以形容：草叢裡的蛇指的是陰險小人；老師的寵物是指受到老師寵愛的學生；蛋頭則是形容人非常聰明。

切記，成為一匹做粗活的馬是件好事，倘若你辛勤工作，那麼也許有一天你會成為一塊大起司，那是什麼意思呢？它的意思就是大人物。

Unit 02：原來韓國人這樣生活

p. 8

貝琪來自美國的一個小鎮，她去年大學畢業，決定到國外居住和工作一年，她選擇了南韓首爾。

貝琪在離家之前就找到了一份老師的工作，她要在一間公立學校教英文，她也在那裡找到一間相當便宜的公寓。

這是她第一次離開美國，貝琪覺得又興奮又緊張，她不會說當地語言，也不知道會發生什麼事情。

測驗解答：A

p. 9

在貝琪旅居韓國的這一年，她學習到很多有關首爾和當地人民的事情。這個城市很大，交通很方便，再者，每件事情的節奏都很快。

韓國人總是行色匆匆，他們也很害羞，不敢和外國人交談，但他們倒是不怕直盯著外國人看。然而，當貝琪要和他們說話時，他們很有禮貌也很願意幫忙。

除此之外，韓國人很愛自己的泡菜、海鮮和燒酒，而且他們絕對不會一個人吃飯或喝酒。貝琪很享受旅居韓國的生活。

測驗解答：D

Unit 03：生日習俗的由來

p. 10

生日在西方國家是大事，象徵著人們又年長了一歲。人們會和親朋好友一起慶生，他們常會舉辦派對和拆禮物，這些現在才看似普及的習俗，其實早已行之有年。

最先慶祝生日的是古埃及人，當時只有國家領導階層可以慶生。古希臘人遵循埃及人的傳統，他們還會點燃蠟燭以驅趕邪靈，接著壽星會許願、吹蠟燭，藉此感謝神明。

此外，親朋好友可以幫忙保護壽星的安全，他們送生日禮物給壽星，大家一同歡笑、歡呼和玩樂，就像蠟燭的功用一樣，那麼做可以驅趕邪靈。

p. 11

在一七〇〇年代，世界各地的人都在慶祝生日。德國人很喜歡慶生，他們甚至幫孩子們舉辦派對，現代的生日派對就是從那些活動演變而來。

派對的重頭戲之一就是生日蛋糕，蛋糕上會插蠟燭，數量要和壽星的歲數一樣。跟希臘人一樣，壽星會許願，然後吹熄蠟燭以求願望實現，但是當時還沒有人在唱《祝你生日快樂》。

這首知名歌曲最早出現於一九〇〇年代早期，是改編自一首學童們開始上課前要唱的歌，那首歌在一八九三年出版，當時稱作《祝大家早安》。人們一直在開創新的慶生習俗，也許這些在未來也會變得一樣普及。

Unit 04：養成看書的習慣

p. 12

問一問成年人：「青少年空閒時都在做什麼？」大部分成年人的回答不外乎是打電動、看電影、看電視和跟朋友出去玩，不太可能會是閱讀。

這些答案不完全正確。現在看電視或上電影院的青少年愈來愈少，跟以前相比，他們甚至更少跟朋友出去。不過他們沒有比較少閱讀，反而是一直在看東西，事實上，他們看得比父母更勤，只不過他們看的不是書。

青少年看的是電子郵件和訊息，他們也看網路上的文章和社群媒體的貼文，他們有許多東西可以閱讀。但父母擔心讀那些東西並不適當，他們認為書本才是比較好的選擇。

p. 13

任何閱讀素材對青少年都有好處，有助於發展日後所需的技能，他們的記憶力會增強、字彙量會變多。他們在網路上可以找到各式各樣的資料來閱讀，也可以快速找到最新資訊。

然而，書本還是比較好的選擇，讓人比較容易專心。青少年能從書中了解並記住更多資訊，而且看書還有助於避免接觸社群媒體，太常使用社群媒體會導致壓力和憂鬱。

父母可以幫助孩子更常看書。首先，他們要讓家裡的書本垂手可得；然後要唸書給孩子聽或是讓他們有時間看書；最後，父母可以以身作則養成閱讀好習慣，讓孩子以他們為榜樣。

測驗解答：1. searched 2. Copying
3. memory 4. developed

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兩千五百多年前，龍舟比賽首次出現在中國南方的洞庭湖，是為了慶祝一個稱做端午的節慶，端午是每年夏天插秧的時節，人們會划船來祈求稻米豐收。

一八〇〇年代，歐洲遊客來到中國，在端午這天，他們第一次看到龍舟比賽，綿延的龍舟景象十分壯觀，讓那些遊客為之讚嘆。在他們的遊記中提到，他們觀賞的是一場龍舟慶典，意即現在我們所說的端午節。

你或許會以為端午節和龍舟比賽只盛行於亞洲，然而，現今有超過六十個國家會舉辦龍舟比賽來慶祝端午。

測驗解答：

1. Where should I plant the flowers?
2. Valentine's Day is the time to say I love you.