

雅思写作素材：常见中文俗语 PDF转换可能丢失图片或格式，建议阅读原文

https://www.100test.com/kao_ti2020/179/2021_2022__E9_9B_85_E6_80_9D_E5_86_99_E4_c7_179859.htm 许多中国人爱用俗语、

成语、俚语。由于中美两国文化、风俗、思想、习惯的差异，如果照字直译，或把单字「堆在一起」，老外听了，也许就会「满头雾水」、「迷迷糊糊」，成了他们所说的「只有你们中国人听得懂」的「中国英文」(Chinese English)。在此，把一些常见的中文俗语与一般老外的说法相对比较，或许可供有兴趣的读者参考。

1. 人山人海：有人直译为：People mountain people sea. 这就是「中国英文」，老外很难理解。他们指「人多」时，通常只说：「There is a large crowd of people.」如果看到电影院门前大排长龙，也只说：「There is (was) a long movie line.」不过在诗词用语 (poetic expression) 里，老外也有使用：「a (the) sea of faces」，颇有咱们「人山人海」的味道。例如：Looking out upon the sea of faces, Mr. A delivered a touching speech. (望着一片人山人海的听众，A先生发表一篇动人的演说。) Standing at his podium, President Clinton saw a sea of faces waving at him. (柯林顿总统站在讲台上看到人山人海的人群挥手向他致意。) 可见，说话者通常要在台上或高处，才有「人海」的感觉。因此，可以说：I saw a sea of faces from the top of the building. 但在平地的人群中，就不说：「I saw the sea of faces.」也不说：「There is a sea of faces.」只说：「I saw a large crowd of people.」

2. 家家有本难念的经：有人译成：Every family cooking - pot has a black spot. (意思是：每个家庭的锅子都有黑色的污点) 这样说法，老外恐怕不能充分了

解。不过老外最常说的是：Many families have skeletons in the closet. (许多家庭的衣柜里都有骨骸) (骨骸就是指家丑)或者说：Every family has its own source of shame. (每个家庭都有自己的丑事)说白些，就是：Every family has its own problem. 3. 天下无不散的宴席：有人直译为：There are no feasts in the world which do not break up at last. 老外听后，也许很难体会其中意义。如果按照美语说法，也许更易理解：All good things come to an end. (意思是：所有好的事情，总有结束的一天。) 假如是指好友最后也有分别的一天，那么可以说：Eventually, all bosom friends will drift apart. (bosom friend 是指知心的好友) 4. 平时不烧香，临时抱佛脚：有人照字直译为：When times are easy, we do not burn the incense, but when the trouble comes, we embrace the feet of the Buddha. 这种说法，老外也会「一知半解」。美语里一般说法是：Worship God every day, not just in times of adversity. (要每天敬拜神，不是只在困难时。) 对学生也可以说：If you study hard every day, exams will not seem overwhelming. (如果你每天用功，考试就不会形成压力。) 5. 挂羊头，卖狗肉：有人照字直译为：He advertises mutton, but sells dogs flesh. 或 He hangs up a sheeps head at the shopfront and sells dog meat. 这两种译法，恐怕老外都难理解，尤其谈到「狗肉」，他们更会「反感」，因为狗是他们最爱的宠物，不过老外倒有相近的说法：He applied bait-and-switch tactics in business. (他经商的策略是先引诱顾客来，再改变货物的品质。)(Bait-and-switch 当名词用) (也可不用连字号) This store uses bait and switch policy. 或者简单的说：Let the buyer be aware! (让消费者提高警觉) . 或 Say one thing and do another. 6. 一言既出

，驷马难追：有人译成：One word lets slip and four horses will fail to catch it. 或 A statement that once let loose cannot be caught by four galloping horses.这两种说法，中文味道嫌重，老外未必理解。不过他们倒有类似的说法：A word once let go cannot be recalled.或者说：You can not take back what you have said. (你说出的话，就不能再收回来。) 7. 祸从口出，言多必失：有人译为：The mouth is the gate of misfortune and evil. 老外听了，恐怕不能完全理解。最好说成：Careless talk leads to trouble. (不小心说话，会带来麻烦). 或 The less said the better. (说的愈少愈好)甚至也可以说：Shut the mouth and open the eyes. (闭嘴少说，张眼多看。) 100Test 下载频道开通，各类考试题目直接下载。详细请访问 www.100test.com