

前 言

学习汉语的外国学生，当他们初步掌握了汉语的语音、词汇、语法和文字时，很想进一步提高自己的汉语水平。怎样提高呢？一件重要的事就是需要掌握一些汉语语言中最有特色的东西——例如成语、谚语、歇后语、典故和古诗。这些东西既和汉语汉字有密切关系，又和中华民族的文化背景有密切关系。掌握了它们，不但能够丰富外国人汉语的表达能力，而且也能够增强他们汉语表达的本土特色。简而言之，他们所掌握的汉语就更像汉语了。这就向成为一个“中国通”迈出了重要的一步。

为以上目的，我们给这样的外国学生编了一套“博古通今学汉语丛书”，包括“成语 101”、“谚语 101”、“歇后语 101”、“典故 101”和“古诗 101”。

本套书精选汉语中最有价值的、常用的、表现力强的成语、谚语、歇后语、典故和古诗各 101 则。每则均附英文释义，每则配一幅精美插图，另有一些难解词语中英文注释。随书附 MP3 光盘。

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成语 101

101 Common Chinese Idioms and Set Phrases

Àntú-suǒjì

1. 按图索骥

Looking for a fine steed with the aid of its picture



春秋时代（公元前 770—公元前 476），秦国有个识马的能手，大家叫他“伯乐”。他把识别马的知识和经验写成了一本书，还在书上配合文字画出了各种好马的形态。而他的儿子一点也不懂得识马的知识，只凭着书上画的图像去寻找好马，找来找去，一匹好马也没有找到。

“按图索骥^①”这个成语用来比喻没有实践经验、只知道机械地按老规矩办事。

In the Spring and Autumn Period (770-476 BC), there was a man in the State of Qin called Bo Le, who was an expert at judging horses. Based on his experience and knowledge of horses, he wrote a book in which he introduced the characteristics of fine horses both in words and illustrations. His son, having no first-hand experience of horses, set out to look for fine horses according to the illustration in the book. However, he could not find any.

This idiom is used metaphorically to describe someone lacking practical experience and doing things mechanically by following set rules.

① 骥：好马。(fine horse)

Bǎifā-bǎizhòng

2. 百发百中**A hundred shots, a hundred bullseyes**

春秋时代，楚国有个人叫养由基，他射箭的技术非常高超。有人在柳树上选择了高低不同的三片叶子，分别注上“一”、“二”、“三”的记号。养由基站在百步以外的地方，拉开弓，搭上箭，果然第一箭射中“一”叶，第二箭射中“二”叶，第三箭射中“三”叶，丝毫不差。

“百发百中”这个成语，形容射箭技术高超，每次都能命中。以后常常用来比喻做事有充分的把握，总能达到预期的目的。

In the Spring and Autumn Period, there was an excellent archer in the State of Chu called Yang Youji. To test his skill, someone chose three leaves at different heights on a willow tree, and challenged him to hit them all, one after another. Yang Youji stood more than one hundred paces away and hit the three leaves in three shots.

This idiom describes excellent marksmanship. Later it became used to refer to great precision and perfect assurance.

Bānmén-nòngfǔ

3. 班门弄斧

**Showing off one's proficiency with the axe
before Lu Ban the master carpenter**



古代有一个建筑和雕刻技术非常高超的人，名叫鲁班，木匠行里尊称他为祖师。传说他曾用木头制作了一只五彩斑斓（bānlán）的凤凰，能够在空中飞翔（xiáng）三天不掉下来。在鲁班门前摆弄斧子，当然显得有些自不量力了。

“班门弄斧”这个成语，用来比喻在行家面前显示本领。

Lu Ban was supposed to be a consummate carpenter in ancient times and regarded the master of carpentry. It is said that he once carved a wooden phoenix that was so lifelike that it actually flew in the sky for three days. Thus it was considered the height of folly to show off one's skill with an axe in front of Lu Ban.

This idiom excoriates those who show off their slight accomplishments in front of experts.

Bēigōng-shéyǐng

4. 杯弓蛇影

Mistaking the reflection of a bow for a snake

晋朝（公元 265—420）时，有一个叫乐广的人，请他的朋友到家里喝酒。朋友端起酒杯喝酒的时候，忽然看见杯子里面有条小蛇的影子，他当时勉强将酒喝下，但回家后总是想起这件令人恶心的事，以至于生了病。乐广知道后，就把朋友再次请来，还是坐在原来的地方喝酒。那位朋友这才弄明白了，原来杯中的蛇影，是墙上挂着的一张弓映照出来的。事情弄明白了，病也就好了。

这个成语比喻疑神疑鬼，自相惊扰。

In the Jin Dynasty (265-420), a man called Yue Guang once invited a friend to have a drink at his home. When the friend lifted his cup, he saw a small snake in the wine, yet he still forced himself to drink it. Back home, the friend couldn't get the incident off his mind, and felt so disgusted that he fell ill. Hearing about this, Yue Guang invited his friend to his home again. He asked him to sit in the same place and drink. When his friend sat down, he saw that the image of the snake in the cup was actually the reflection of a bow hung on the wall. Realizing this, his friend recovered quickly from his illness.

This idiom describes a condition of being overly suspicious and thus bringing trouble upon oneself.