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【阿鼻地狱】 ābí-diànyù the Avici Hell—the last and deepest of the eight hot hells (as opposed to the eight cold hells), where the condemned go through endless cycles of suffering, death, and rebirth without intermission

【阿狗阿猫】 āgǒu-āmāo 〈美〉 John Joe / Tom and Tib / Tom, Dick, and [or] Harry—people of small importance 例: 要参加那个俱乐部并非易事——他们只吸收手头阔绰的人,而并不是 ~ 都可参加的。It's not easy to become a member of that club—they want people who have plenty of money to spend, not just every Tom, Dick, and Harry. 亦作“阿猫阿狗”

【阿姑阿翁】 āgū-āwēng 见“阿家阿翁”

【阿家阿翁】 āgū-āwēng father-in-law and mother-in-law / husband's father and mother / the head of a family [house] 辨析: 本语中的“家”通“姑”,意指“丈夫的母亲”,不能念成“jiā”。亦作“阿姑阿翁”

【阿 Q 精神】 AKiū-jīngshén Ah Q spirit—self-blindedness Literary allusion: Ah Q, the main character in Lu Xun's *The True Story of Ah Q* (《阿 Q 正传》), is a victim of social injustice, he always seeks consolation in interpreting his defeats as moral victories.

【阿猫阿狗】 āmāo-āgǒu 见“阿狗阿猫”

【哀兵必胜】 āibīng-bìshèng An army burning with righteous indignation is bound to win. / An army with a grievance is bound to prevail. / An oppressed army fighting with desperate courage is sure to win. / The distressed [oppressed] army will rise to win.

【哀而不伤】 āi'érbùshāng to grieve with restraint / to mourn without heartbreak / deeply felt but not sentimental / mournful but not distressing / pathetic sentiments not carried to the extreme / sentimental but not mawkish / sorrow without self-injury

【哀感顽艳】 āigǎn-wányàn to be simultaneously provided with sadness, sentimentality, quaintness and gorgeousness / to touch the wise and move the dull as well / so pathetic as to move both the wise and the dull 亦作“哀恸顽艳”

【哀鸿遍地】 āihóng-biàndì 见“哀鸿遍野”

【哀鸿遍野】 āihóng-biànyě a land of wailing and despair / a place swarming with famished refugees / disaster victims moaning everywhere / Famine refugees swarm the countryside. / Starving people fill the land. / The land is swarming with starving refugees. / The wilderness is filled

with sufferers. / Victims of the disaster are found everywhere. Origin: *The Book of Odes* · *Small Pleasure* · *Wild Goose* (《诗经·小雅·鸿雁》). “The wild geese are flying, and they are swarming and clamouring for food.” (“鸿雁于飞,哀鸣嗷嗷。”) 例: 要是在旧社会遇上这样大的水灾,早已是 ~ 了。If a flood of such magnitude had hit the land in the old days, victims of the disaster would have been found everywhere. 亦作“哀鸿遍地”,“哀鸿满路”

【哀鸿满路】 āihóng-mǎnlù 见“哀鸿遍野”

【哀毁骨立】 āihuǐ-gǔlì to be emaciated with grief at the death of one's parent / to be worn to a shadow with grief / emaciation resulting from grief at the loss of one's parent

【哀莫大于心死】 āi mòdà yú xīn sǐ 〈谚〉 Have you geer, have you none, tine heart and all's gone. / 〈谚〉 He begins to die that quits his desires. / 〈谚〉 If hope were not, heart would break. / 〈谚〉 If it were not for hope, the heart would break. / It's the greatest tragedy when a person's heart dies. / No grief is greater than the death of one's heart. / No sorrow is greater than despair. / Nothing causes greater sorrow than despair. / Nothing gives so much cause for sorrow as the death of one's heart. / Nothing is more lamentable than a dead heart. / The greatest pity is to lose one's confidence. / There is no grief greater than the death of the mind. / There is no poverty like the poverty of spirit. / There is no grief so great as despair. / 〈谚〉 Tine heart, tine all. / 〈谚〉 Without hope, the heart would break.

【哀恸顽艳】 āitòng-wányàn 见“哀感顽艳”

【哀婉动人】 āiwǎn-dòng rén sad and moving [touching] / 〈意〉 affettivo / pathetic / pathetic / pathos 例: 该剧以最后一场的 ~ 而著称。The play is notable for the pathos of its final scene.

【哀喜交并】 āixǐ-jiāobìng to alternate between joy and grief / to be joyful and sorrowful at the same time / to be overcome partly with sorrow and partly with joy / to have mixed feelings / grief and joy intermingled / joy tempered with grief [sorrow] / mixed feelings of grief and joy / One's feelings are a mixture of joy and sorrow. / One's heart is full of both joy and sorrow. / with mingled feelings of sorrow and joy

【挨风缉缝】 āifēng-jīfèng to be inclined to ask information about sth and curry sb's favor / to look for ap-

proach to an important person / to solicit help from potential backers

【挨家挨户】 āijiā-āihù **door to door / from door to door** / from family to family / **from house to house** / from one house to another / **on the knocker** / 〈主英〉doorstep / door-to-door / house-to-house 例: 那个货郎 ~ 兜售刷子。The pedlar sells brushes *door to door*. / ~ 给小孩打预防针 to go *from door to door* to give children inoculations / 那个流浪汉 ~ 乞讨。The tramp begged *from house to house*. / ~ 推销宝石很快就会成为郊区生活中的一种常见的现象。Selling gemstones *on the knocker* will soon become a familiar feature of suburban life. / ~ 的募捐 a *door-to-door* collection / 把巷头、巷尾全封锁起来, ~ 地查, 赶快! Seal off both ends of the lane; make a *house-to-house* search! 亦作“挨家逐户”, “挨门挨户”, “挨门逐户”

【挨家逐户】 āijiā-zhúhù 见“挨家挨户”

【挨肩擦膀】 āijiān-cābǎng 见“挨肩擦背”

【挨肩擦背】 āijiān-cābèi to be crowded together / to go in a jostling crowd / **to rub elbows** [**shoulders**] (**with**) 亦作“挨肩擦膀”

【挨肩迭背】 āijiān-diébèi shoulder against shoulder, chest against back—very crowded

【挨门挨户】 āimén-āihù 见“挨家挨户”

【挨门串户】 āimén-chuànhù to go from family to family (to...)

【挨门乞讨】 āimén-qǐtǎo to beg from door to door 例: 他们劝我跟他们一道 ~, 可是我丢不起这个脸。They persuaded me to go and *beg from door to door* with them, but I could not cheek it.

【挨门逐户】 āimén-zhúhù 见“挨家挨户”

【挨墙靠壁】 āiqiáng-kàobì to hug close to the wall / to lean on the wall

【唉声叹气】 āishēng-tànxì to groan and sigh / to heave a deep sigh / to heave great sighs / **to moan and groan** / to sigh and moan / to sigh in despair / 〈美俚〉**to sing the blues** 例: 受伤的人们躺在那儿 ~。The wounded men lay there *moaning and groaning*. / 当天晚上, 他们反复合计, 没有好好睡觉, 只是 ~。Sighing and moaning as they discussed ways and means, they hardly slept at all that night. / 那些求婚遭到拒绝的小伙子总是 ~。Young fellows that have got the mitten always *sigh in despair*. / 你如果不更刻苦用功准备入学考试, 明年你就该 ~ 了。You'll be *singing the blues* next year if you don't study harder for your entrance exams. 亦作“唉声叹气”

【挨板子】 ái bǎnzi to be blamed / to be criticized / to get a beating / to get caned

【挨打受骂】 áidǎ-shòumà to be beaten and cursed / to be scolded and beaten / to get beatings and abuse / 〈美口〉**to get the works** / to put up with blows and scoldings / to suffer beatings and endure [receive] scoldings 例: 人家的

奴才跟主子赚些好体面, 我们这等奴才白陪着 ~ 的。Other people's slaves get some reflected credit from their masters. All we *get* for waiting on you is *beatings and abuse*.

【挨打受气】 áidǎ-shòuqì to be bullied and beaten / to suffer beating and insult

【挨冻受饿】 áidòng-shòu'è to endure cold and hunger / to go cold and hungry / to suffer cold and hunger / to suffer from cold and hunger 例: 妈妈若是疼我, 听我的话, 有年纪的人, 自己保重些, 妈妈这一辈子, 想来还不致 ~。If you're fond of me, mother, take my advice and now that you're old, take better care of your health. I can't believe you'll ever *go cold or hungry*. 亦作“挨饿受冻”, “挨饥受冻”

【挨饿受冻】 ái'è-shòudòng 见“挨冻受饿”

【挨饥受冻】 áiji-shòudòng 见“挨冻受饿”

【挨冷熬热】 áilěng-áorè to withstand cold and bear heat

【挨骂受气】 áimà-shòuqì to be scolded and suffer indignity

【挨欺受辱】 áiqī-shòurǔ to be subjected to bullying and humiliations

【皑皑白雪】 ái'ái-báixuě a boundless expanse of glistening snow / an expanse of white snow / white sparkling snow

【唉声叹气】 āishēng-tànxì 见“唉声叹气”

【矮墩墩】 āidūndūn short and sturdy [thickset] / dumpy / pudgy / stocky / stout / stubby / stumpy 例: 一个 ~ 的小伙子 a *short and sturdy* young fellow / 一只 ~ 的小啤酒瓶 a *stubby* beer bottle

【矮人半截】 āirénbànjié to be a grade lower / to be treated as inferiors / to feel inferior to others / **to feel small**

【矮人观场】 āirén-guānchǎng 见“矮子看戏, 随人上下”

【矮人看场】 āirén-kànchǎng 见“矮子看戏, 随人上下”

【矮人看戏】 āirén-kànxì 见“矮子看戏, 随人上下”

【矮人面前莫论侏儒】 āirén miànqián mò lùn zhūrú One doesn't talk about midgets in front of dwarfs.

【矮小精悍】 āixiǎo-jīnghàn compact-built and capable / not of imposing stature but strong and capable

【矮中取长】 āizhōng-qǔcháng to find a giant among dwarfs

【矮子里头选将军】 āizi duili xuǎn jiāngjūn 见“矮子里拔将军”

【矮子观场】 āizi-guānchǎng 见“矮子看戏, 随人上下”

【矮子看戏, 随人上下】 āizi kànxì, suí rén shàngxià A short fellow sees the show—an inexperienced man takes others' ideas as his own. / A short person applauds with audience in theatre [theater] although he cannot see the

play—lacking independent judgment, restricted in outlook. / like a dwarf who can't see the game but adds his cheer to the chorus—to follow the reaction of others without opinion of one's own / the dwarf squeezing himself into the crowd to see the performance on the square—to follow suit without knowing why 亦作“矮人观场”,“矮人看场”,“矮人看戏”,“矮子观场”,“矮子看戏”

【矮子看戏】ǎizi-kànxì 见“矮子看戏,随人上下”

【矮子里拔将军】ǎizili bá jiāngjūn to pick a general from among the dwarfs—to choose the best person available / 〈口〉to separate the men from the boys / 〈口〉to sort out the men from the boys / 〈口〉to tell the men from the boys 亦作“矮子里选将军”

【矮子里挑长子】ǎizili tiāo chángzi to pick the tallest dwarf—to choose the best out of the ordinary

【蔼然可亲】ǎirán-kěqīn to be amiable [amicable] and easy of access / to be gentle and easy to approach / to have a way with one / accessible / affable / amiable / kindly 例:我总觉得他是一位非常 ~ 的人。I've always found him a most amiable fellow.

【艾发衰容】àifā-shuāiróng with a head of white hair and a pale face / with grey hair and wrinkled face / with white hair and pale complexion

【爱不忍释】àibùrěnrshì 见“爱不释手”

【爱不释手】àibùshìshǒu to be fond of and unwilling to part with / to be so delighted with sth that one could hardly bear to put it down / to be so fond of sth that one cannot take one's hands off it / to be so fond of sth that one is reluctant to lay it aside / to be too fond of sth to let go of it / to be unable to tear oneself away from / to be unwilling to let sth out of one's hands / to fondle admiringly / to like sth so much that one cannot bear to part with it / to love sth so much that one is loath to part with it / to love sth so much that one is reluctant to part from it / to love sth too much to part with it / can hardly bear to put (it) down / cannot bear to part with 例:这部传记很有意义,简直令我 ~。The biography is so instructive that I can hardly bear to put it down. / 这是她 ~ 的玉簪。It is a jade hairpin that she can't bear to part with. 亦作“爱不忍释”

【爱才如命】àicái-rú mìng to cherish talent as much as one cherishes one's life / to have a great passion for talent

【爱才若渴】àicái-ruòkě One's love for scholars [talents] is equal to one's thirst for water—a passion for talent. 例:他们发现了佳人并非因为“~”而做婊子的,佳人只为了钱。They discovered that it was money alone, not “a passion for talent” that made beauties turn prostitute.

【爱财如命】àicái-rú mìng to be a moneygrubber / to be actuated by love for riches / to be greedy for money / to flay a flea for the hide and tallow / 〈口〉to flay a flint / to love money as much as life itself / to love money as one loves one's life / to make an idol of wealth / to put money

above everything else / 〈俚〉to rake and scrape / to regard wealth as one's very life / to skin a flea for its hide (and tallow) / 〈口〉to skin a flint / to skin a louse for the sake of its skin / to worship money like one's own life / 〈美口〉(as) tight as a drum / cheeseparer / closefisted / miserly 例:~的守财奴 a miser who puts money above everything else / “好大方!”我叫了起来:“哼,他是个自私可鄙的守财奴,从来就~。”“Generous!” I exclaimed: “Why, he's the meanest little hunk that ever skinned a flea for its hide.” 亦作“爱钱如命”

【爱厂如家】àichǎng-rújiā to love one's enterprise as one loves one's home

【爱答不理】àidǎ-bùlǐ 见“爱理不理”

【爱富嫌贫】àifù-xiánpín to curry favor with the rich and despise the poor / to love the rich and scorn the poor

【爱岗敬业】àigǎng-jìngyè to be committed to one's profession / to love one's job and be dedicated

【爱管闲事】àiguǎn-xiánshì to be a busybody / to be overly interested in other people's affairs / 〈口〉to have a [one's] finger in every pie / to have an oar in every man's boat / to love meddling in other people's affairs / to poke one's nose into everyman's affairs [business] / to poke one's nose into others' affairs [business] / to push one's nose into others' affairs [business] / 〈口〉to put a [one's] finger in every pie / 〈口〉to put one's finger in many pies / to put one's nose into others' affairs [business] / to stick one's nose into others' affairs [business] / to thrust one's nose into others' affairs [business] / bumbling / busy / interfering / managing / meddling / 〈口〉nosey / 〈口〉nosy / officious / polypragmatic / polypragmatical / pragmatic / pragmatism 例:他老是爱管与自己无关的闲事。He was forever sticking his nose into others' business that didn't concern him. / 无所事事而又 ~ 的女人 an idle, busy woman / ~ 的老太婆 an interfering old woman / 非常 ~ 的妇女 a very managing woman / 她是一个 ~ 的女人。She's a nosy woman.

【爱国如家】àiguó-rújiā to love one's country as one's family

【爱国一家】àiguó-yījiā All patriots belong to one big family. / All patriots come together like one family. 例:~,不分先后。All patriots belong to one big family, whether they rally to the common cause early or late.

【爱护备至】àihù-bèizhì to give every attention to / to support and protect in every way / to take good care of

【爱己及物】àijǐ-jíwù to extend love of self to others

【爱理不理】àilǐ-bùlǐ to attend to sb halfheartedly / to be standoffish / to give a cold shoulder to (sb) / to give (sb) the cold shoulder / to leave sb (out) in the cold / to look cold and indifferent / to show indifference / to show (sb) the cold shoulder / to treat with indifference /

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to turn a [the] cold shoulder to (sb) / standoffishly 例: 我很想和她交朋友, 可她总是对我 ~。I've tried to become friendly with her, but she's always giving me the cold shoulder. / 他冷冷地看着那代为求情的人, ~地说: “这事根本与你不相干。”He looked coldly at the pleader and said *standoffishly*: “It's none of your business.”亦作“爱答不理”

【爱美之心人皆有之】 àiměi zhī xīn rén jiē yǒu zhī
Everyone in the world wishes to be pretty. / Loving beauty is part of human nature.

【爱面子】 ài miànzi to be concerned about face-saving / to be keen on face-saving / to be sensitive about one's reputation / to be watchful of saving face / to care too much about one's “face” / to have a strong sense of “face” 例: 这老汉人不错, 就是胆子小, 太 ~。The old man is quite nice. His only defect is that he is overcautious and too *sensitive about his reputation*.

【爱民如子】 àimín-rúzi to love the people [masses] as one's children

【爱莫能助】 àimònéngzhù to be unable to help even for the sake of love / to be willing to help but unable to do so / to feel sorry that one is not in a position to give help / to love but have no ability to render assistance / not to be able to help sb even if one would like to / would be glad to help but cannot 亦作“爱莫为助”, “爱莫之助”, “爱莫助之”

【爱莫为助】 àimòwéizhù 见“爱莫能助”

【爱莫之助】 àimòzhīzhù 见“爱莫能助”

【爱莫助之】 àimòzhùzhī 见“爱莫能助”

【爱钱如命】 àiqián-rúmìng 见“爱财如命”

【爱人打棍子——无害】 àirén dǎ gùnzi—wúhài
〈谚〉 Lover's tiffs are harmless.

【爱人以德】 àirényǐdé to care for people in accordance with the code of ethics / to love others with a due regard to what is right / to love people according to morals

【爱人者, 人恒爱之】 àirénzhě, rén héng ài zhī 〈谚〉
All the world loves a lover. / He who loves others is constantly loved by them. / 〈谚〉 Kindness always begets kindness. / 〈谚〉 Love is the reward of love. 例: ~; 敬人者, 人恒敬之。He who loves others is constantly loved by them; he who respects others is constantly respected by them.

【爱如己出】 àirújǐchū to care for sb as tenderly as one does one's own son / to dote on sb just like one's own child / to give sb the same care and love that one would give one's own children / to love (a child) like one's own

【爱如珍宝】 àirúzhēnbǎo to love as if it were a gem or a pearl 亦作“爱之如宝”

【爱屋及乌】 àiwū-jíwū to love one thing on account of another / 〈谚〉 He that loves the tree loves the branch. / 〈谚〉 He who loves Bertrand loves his dog. / Love for a person extends even to the crows on his roof. / 〈谚〉 Love

me, love my dog. / 〈法〉 Qui m'aime aime mon chien. / The love for a house extends even to the crows perching on it. / 〈谚〉 Who loves me well, loves my dog also. 例: 如果有什么人邀请小马而不请小刘, 小马就不会去, 这真是要求人家 ~了。Xiao Ma never accepted an invitation unless Xiao Liu was included in it. It was a case of *love me, love my dog*.

【爱物仁民】 àiwù-rénmín to be kind to creatures and love the masses / to love all the people and animals

【爱惜羽毛】 àixī-yǔmáo to cherish one's feather—to treasure one's reputation or hono(u)r

【爱憎分明】 àizēng-fēnmíng to be clear about what to love and what to hate / to be clear-cut on what to love and what to hate / to draw a clear demarcation [demarkation] between what to love and what to hate / to draw a clear demarcation [demarkation] between whom to love and whom to hate / to draw a sharp line between love and hate / to have a clear idea of what one should love and what one should hate / to have a clear-cut stand on what to love and what to hate / to know whom to love and whom to hate / to understand what to love and what to hate / to understand whom to love and whom to hate / clear distinction between love and hatred / unequivocal love and hatred 例: 白求恩大夫是一位立场坚定、~的无产阶级战士。Dr Bethune is a proletariat fighter who is firm in stand and *clear-cut on what to love and what to hate*.

【爱之切, 恨之深】 ài zhī qiè, hèn zhī shēn 〈谚〉 The greatest hate springs from the greatest love. / 〈谚〉 They that too deeply loved too deeply hate.

【爱之如宝】 àizhī-rúbǎo 见“爱如珍宝”

【爱之欲其生, 恶之欲其死】 ài zhī yù qí shēng, wù zhī yù qí sǐ If you love anyone, you want him to live; if you dislike him, you desire his death. / Wish a long life unto one's beloved and an instant death unto one's foe.

【爱众亲仁】 àizhòng-qīnrén to love one's fellow men and associate with the virtuous

【碍面子】 ài miànzi to be afraid of hurting sb's feelings / to be afraid to wound sb's sensibilities / for fear of offending [hurting] sb's feelings / just to spare sb's feelings 例: 碍着她爸爸的面子, 我不好说什么。I didn't say anything *for fear of hurting her father's feelings*.

【碍难从命】 àinán-cóngmìng to find it difficult to comply with / cannot follow sb's instruction / cannot obey sb's command [order] 亦作“碍难遵命”

【碍难照办】 àinán-zhàobàn to find it difficult to comply 例: 你们提出的要求我们 ~。We find it difficult to comply with your request.

【碍难照准】 àinán-zhàozhǔn to find it difficult to approve / cannot approve / not to be in a position to approve

【碍难遵命】 àinán-zūnmìng 见“碍难从命”

【碍手碍脚】 àishǒu-àijiǎo to be a drag [hindrance] /

to be in the way / to be one too many / to encumber the free movement of sb's limbs / to get in sb's way / to get underfoot / **to stand in the way** 例: 有了孩子, 会~, 耽搁工夫。Children would *be a drag* and would slow down the work. / 劳驾你让开一点。你~的, 我可忙着呢。Please do make yourself scarce. You *are in the way*, and I'm very busy. / 你留在这儿帮不了多少忙, 反而会~的。Your stay here can't be of much help. On the contrary, you may *be one too many*. / 这张双人床~的, 把它搬到那间屋子里去吧。This double bed is *standing in the way*. Let's move it to that room.

【碍于情面】*àiyú-qíngmiàn* because of face-saving considerations / for fear of hurting sb's feelings / just to spare sb's feelings / out of consideration for sb's feelings 例: 他~不愿揭发她工作中的错误。He would not expose mistakes in her work *for fear of hurting her feelings*.

【安安静静】*ān'ān-jìngjìng* (as) **quiet as a lamb** [mouse] / (as) **quiet as the grave** [tomb] / (as) **silent as a mouse** / (as) **silent as the grave** [tomb] / (as) **still as a mouse** / **dead silence** / **in quiet** / **Silence reigns**. / so quiet [silent] that one can hear a pin drop / still and quiet / **without any fuss** / noiseless 例: 周围~的, 没有任何异常情况。Everything around was *still and quiet*. Nothing unusual happened.

【安安稳稳】*ān'ān-wěnwěn* **on an even keel** / smooth and steady / smoothly 例: 他一贯主张过~的生活。He insists on keeping life *on an even keel*. / 飞机~地降落在跑道上。The plane landed *smoothly* on the runway.

【安安逸逸】*ān'ān-yìyì* 〈口〉(as) **snug as a bug in a rug** / **at (one's) ease** / **roses all the way** 例: 这位退休老工人的生活过得~。The retired old worker is living *at his ease*.

【安邦定国】*ānbāng-dìngguó* to bring peace and stability to the country / to bring peace to the country and have it settled on a firm basis / to make the state stable and safe from disturbances / to rule the country and give peace to the world / to tranquil(1)ize the nation and settle the country 例: 造出一根银尖戟, ~正乾坤。Make a silver sharp halberd in order *to bring peace and stability to the country*, and decide the universe.

【安邦治国】*ānbāng-zhìguó* to effect good administration and stability for the country

【安不忘危】*ānbùwàngwēi* to be mindful of possible danger in time of peace / to be vigilant in peacetime / In peace do not forget danger. / In peace remember the possibility of danger. / In time of security do not be unprepared for the possibility of danger. / Never relax our vigilance while we live in peace. **Origin:** *The Book of Changes · The Systematic Explanation · The Second Volume* (《易·系辞下》). “Therefore, the emperor is mindful of potential danger while living in peace, of losing his country while it

exists, and of ceremonial observances while ruling his country so that his common people may have settled places for their lives and his country can be safeguarded.” (“是故君子安而不忘危, 存而不忘亡, 治而不忘礼, 是以身安而国家可保也。”)

【安步当车】*ānbù-dàngchē* 〈口〉**to foot it** / 〈谚〉**to go by the marrowbone stage** / **to go by Walker's bus** / 〈谚〉**to go on shanks's [shank's] mare** [pony] / 〈美俚〉**to hoof it** / 〈口〉**to leg it** / 〈俚〉**to pad it** / 〈俚〉**to pad the hoof** / 〈谚〉**to ride Bayard of ten toes** / 〈谚〉**to ride in the marrowbone coach** [stage] / 〈谚〉**to ride on horse of [with] ten toes** / 〈谚〉**to ride (on) shanks's [shank's] mare** [pony] / **to shank it** / to stroll leisurely instead of taking a carriage / to stroll over instead of riding in a carriage / **to tramp it** / to walk leisurely instead of taking vehicles / to walk on one's two legs / to walk over leisurely instead of riding in a carriage / to walk rather than ride / 〈谚〉**by shanks's [shank's] mare** [pony] / 〈美俚〉**by the shoe leather express** / 〈谚〉**on foot's horse** / 〈谚〉**on horse of ten toes** / 〈谚〉**on shanks's [shank's] mare** [pony] / 〈美俚〉**on the hoof** **Origin:** *The Records of the Warring States · The Record of the State of Qi · Volume 4* (《战国策·齐策四》). “Late supper is as good as eating meat while walking leisurely as taking vehicles.” (“晚食以当肉, 安步以当车。”) 例: 车站离这儿不远, 我们还是~吧! 好吗? The station isn't far from here. Let's *foot it*. OK? / 我们没有赶上火车, 因此不得不~。We missed the train and had *to tramp it*.

【安插亲信】*ānchā-qīnxìn* to assign faithful followers to important posts / to hand out jobs to one's close associates / to place henchmen in important posts / to put in one's own men / to put one's trusted followers in key positions / 〈主美〉cronyism

【安常处顺】*āncháng-chǔshùn* to be accustomed to normal order and live in favorable circumstances / to be content with a peaceful life one lives / to enjoy a tranquil and stable life / to go along with the status quo / to go along with things as they are / to stick to the status quo / to take the peaceful world as one finds it / **to take things as they are** [come] / **to take things as you find them** 辨析: 本语中的“处”意指“居于, 居住”, 不读“chù”。

【安常袭故】*āncháng-xígù* to be contented with old ways and loath to change

【安定民生】*āndìng-mínshēng* to ensure a stable livelihood

【安定人心】*āndìng-rénxīn* to quiet the public sentiment / to reassure the people / to reassure the public / **to set sb's heart [mind] at ease** [rest]

【安定团结】*āndìng-tuánjié* stability and solidarity / stability and unity 例: 我国的建设、改革和开放, 任何时候都离不开政治上的~。Our construction, reform and

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open policy must never be divorced from political *stability and unity*.

【安渡难关】 āndù-nánguān to pull through / to tide over a crisis / to tide over (the) difficulties / to turn the corner 例: 经济形势确实是严重的,但我们以前曾遇到过同样的情况,也都安渡了难关。The economic situation is certainly serious, but we have faced others just as serious before, and have *pulled through*.

【安分守己】 ānfēn-shǒujǐ to abide by the law and behave oneself / to accept one's position in life / to act dutifully / to act proper to one's status / to be content [contented] with one's lot / to behave discreetly / to follow the straight and narrow / to fulfil(1) one's duty and exercise self-control / 〈口〉 to keep on the rails / to keep one's duty and exercise self-control / 〈美俚〉 to keep one's nose clean / to keep one's place / to keep to one's own line / to know one's place / to mind one's own business / to reconcile oneself to one's situation / to remain in one's proper sphere / clean-living / dutiful / law-abiding 例: 激进分子受到警告,若不~,就可能被清除出工会。The radical members were told that if they didn't *keep to their own line* they might be expelled from the union. / 告诉他,要~而不要自讨苦吃。Let him *know his place* and not make a rod for his own back. / 从此养好了,可要~的,再别胡行乱闹了。Now you have been recovered, you should *mind your own business* and never commit any foolish acts. / 他父母曾一再劝他要~,但他就是不听。His parents had time and again advised him to *remain in his proper sphere*, but he wouldn't listen. / ~的公民遵守交通规则。Law-abiding citizens observe the traffic regulations. 亦作“安分守命”,“守分安常”,“守分安己”

【安分守命】 ānfēn-shǒumìng 见“安分守己”

【安富尊荣】 ānfù-zūnróng to be content with one's wealth and high rank / to enjoy one's wealth and hono(u)r 例: 我常劝你别总听那些俗语,想那些俗事,只管~才是。I'm always urging you not to listen to that vulgar talk or think about those vulgar matters. Just *enjoy your wealth and high rank*.

【安家乐业】 ānjiā-lèyè 见“安居乐业”

【安家立业】 ānjiā-lìyè to establish oneself in / to set up a home and establish a business / to settle down and start one's career / to settle down to business 例: 这个组织意在帮助新来者在这个城市~。The organization aims to help newcomers *settle down to business* in the city.

【安家落户】 ānjiā-luòhù to domicile oneself / to establish oneself / 〈英方〉 to haft / to make one's home / 〈美口〉 to make one's pitch / 〈口〉 to pitch one's tent / to plant oneself / to put down roots / to settle / to settle down 例: 我们已在这里~啦——我们购置了自己的房屋并建立了家庭。We've *domiciled ourselves* here now—we've bought our own house and started a family! / 他们无

论在哪里~,都在那里建立了持续多年的友谊。Wherever they *pitched their tent* they made friendships that lasted for many years. / 他们请他来西西里岛~。They invited him to come and *plant himself* in Sicily. / 好啦,总算在这儿~了。It's good to *put down roots* here at last. / 他们已经在农村~。They have *settled* in the countryside.

【安居乐业】 ānjū-lèyè to dwell under one's vine and fig tree / to earn one's daily bread in peace / to engage in one's pursuits under peaceful conditions / to enjoy a good and prosperous life / to enjoy a happy, secure life / to live a good life / to live a prosperous and contented life / to live and work in peace (and contentment) / to live and work in peace and happiness / to live in peace and enjoy one's work / to live in peace and work in happiness / to live in prosperity and contentment / to live peacefully and be happy in one's work / to make one's daily bread in peace Origin: *Chronicles of the Han Dynasty* (《汉书》). “Each enjoys security in his dwelling-place and takes delight in his occupation.” (“各安其居而乐其业。”) 例: 全国安定团结,经济持续发展,人民~。We have had nationwide stability and unity, the national economy has been developing steadily and our people are now *enjoying a happy, secure life*. / 不数年间,吴王削平祸乱,乡村人各各~。In a few years, Emperor Wu subjugated the rebels. Every villager *lived a prosperous and contented life*. / 希望我全体人民,一律~,切勿轻信谣言,自相惊扰。It is hoped that the people throughout the country will *live and work in peace* and will not give credence to rumours or raise false alarms. / 只有从解放以来,我们才过上了~的生活。Only since liberation have we been able to *live in peace and work in happiness*. 亦作“安家乐业”,“安土乐业”

【安乐窝】 ānlèwō a bed of down / a bed of flowers [roses] / a comfortable niche / a cosy nest / 〈美〉 a cozy nest / a happy retreat / a place for contented living / a place of ease and comfort / an easy, comfortable life / nest / 〈美俚〉 pad / redoubt 例: 婚姻生活并不总是~,磕磕碰碰在所难免。Marriage is not always *a bed of roses*. Disagreements sometimes happen. / 从此以后,冯云卿才知道自己一个乡下财主在~的上海时,就远不及交游广阔的姨太太那么有法力! It was only then that Feng Yunqing realized that a rich man from the country who had come to find himself *a comfortable niche* in Shanghai was not half so powerful as a concubine with her wide social connections. / 这家俱乐部是清一色的女子~。The club was an all-female *redoubt*.

【安良除暴】 ānliáng-chúbào to bring peace to the good people and get rid of the bullies / to give peace to the good people and eliminate the evil / to let people live in peace and weed out the tyrant / to maintain peace and order for the law-abiding citizen and weed out the wicked / to pacify the good and do away with the cruel

【安民告示】 ānmín-gàoshì a notice to reassure the pub-

lic [people] / an advance notice 例: 开会要事先通知, 像出 ~ 一样。Notice of meetings should be given beforehand; this is like issuing a "Notice to Reassure the Public".

【安民济物】 ānmín-jìwù to pacify the people and aid all beings

【安民恤众】 ānmín-xùzhòng to improve the conditions of the people and maintain order

【安内攘外】 ānnèi-rǎngwài to maintain internal security and repel foreign invasion / to maintain internal security and resist foreign aggression / to pacify the interior and resist foreign aggression / to suppress rebellion and resist foreign invasion

【安贫乐道】 ānpín-lèdào to be content with poverty, caring only for one's principles or the Way / to be contented in poverty and devoted to things spiritual / to be contented with one's lot [poverty] and take delight in wisdom / to be happy to lead a simple, virtuous life / to be willing to suffer poverty and unwilling to leave the right track / to find contentment in poverty and joy in one's principle / to live contentedly as a poor scholar **Origin:** *The Chronicles of the Later Han Dynasty · Yang Biao Biography* (《后汉书·杨彪传》). "When one is contented in poverty and devoted to the things spiritual, he will abide by his conviction with tranquility." ("安贫乐道, 恬于进趣。") 例: 劝人 ~ 是古今治国平天下的大经纶, 开过的方子也很多, 但都没有十全大补的功效。Since ancient times urging men to find contentment in poverty and joy in their principles has been one great way of preserving peace and order; but though many prescriptions have been made out, none is completely effective. 亦作“安贫守道”

【安贫守道】 ānpín-shǒudào 见“安贫乐道”

【安然长逝】 ānrán-chángshì 〈婉〉to be at peace / to drop asleep / to expire calmly / to fall asleep / to pass into stillness / to sing one's nunc dimittis

【安然脱逃】 ānrán-tuōtáo to escape scot-free / to get off scot-free / to go scot-free / to keep a whole skin / to run away safely / 〈口〉to save one's (own) skin 例: 窃贼带着赃物 ~。The burglar escaped scot-free with the booty. / 不知何故, 此人被判无罪, 因此他就 ~ 了。Somehow the man was found not guilty so he got off scot-free. / 马用后蹄站了起来, 然后 ~。The horse reared, and then ran away safely.

【安然脱险】 ānrán-tuōxiǎn to be out of danger / 〈口〉to drop on one's feet / 〈口〉to escape scot-free / 〈口〉to fall on one's feet / to fall on [upon] one's legs / to get off with a whole skin / 〈口〉to land on one's [both] feet / 〈口〉to light on one's feet / to light on one's legs 例: 动手术第二天, 医生宣称病人已经 ~。The doctor pronounced the patient out of danger the second day after the operation. / 所有旅客全都 ~。The passen-

gers all escaped scot-free.

【安然无事】 ānrán-wúshì to be safe and sound / to be safe in life and limb / 〈口〉to be sound in life and limb / to be well and in good shape / 〈口〉to get away with murder / to go scot-free / to meet no danger / 〈法〉sain et sauf 例: 我哪怕只犯点微不足道的过失都要受到责备, 她却总是 ~。I am reprimanded for even the smallest transgression, but she gets away with murder. / 他们冒死探险, 现已 ~ 地回来了。They returned sound in life and limb from a dangerous expedition.

【安然无恙】 ānrán-wúyàng to be all right / to be safe and sound / to be safe in life and limb / 〈口〉to be sound in life and limb / to keep a whole skin / (as) right as a trivet / (as) right as ninepence [rain, nails] / completely uninjured / high and dry / home and dry / 〈口〉in a whole skin / in safety / 〈法〉sain et sauf / 〈口〉with a whole skin / 〈口〉without a scratch / without accident / scot-free / unharmed / unscathed 例: 那笔钱一直 ~。The money was safe and sound all along. / 我叫妈妈别再老是诉说自己有这老年病那老年病, 应该为自己还 ~ 感到欣慰。I told my mother to stop complaining that the pains of old age and to be thankful that she was still sound in life and limb. / 他从着火的大楼里 ~ 地逃了出来。He escaped from the burning building with a whole skin. / 两个男孩为洪水所困, 爬上一块突起的岩石, 在那里 ~, 直到人们前去营救。Cut off by the rising waters, the two boys climbed on to a ledge of rock, where they remained in safety until they were rescued. / 两部汽车猛然相撞, 可是幸运得很, 我们竟 ~。The two cars collided heavily but fortunately we got off without a scratch. / 四人 ~ 地设法逃跑了。The four men managed to escape unharmed. / 在这次撞车事故中她幸免于难, ~。She escaped unscathed from the car wreck.

【安然自愉】 ānrán-zìyú to take the rough with the smooth 例: 谁也不能指望形势的发展总是于己有利。困难和挫折在所难免, 但无论顺境逆境, 人都得 ~。You can't expect things always to go in your favour. There are bound to be setbacks and difficult time, but you must take the rough with the smooth.

【安如磐石】 ānrúpánshí absolute tranquil (1) ity / (as) firm as a rock / (as) secure as a huge rock / (as) solid as a rock / (as) steady as a rock / great security / immovable as a huge rock / rockfirm / rock-solid

【安如泰山】 ānrúTàishān to be safe from all danger / (as) stable [secure, solid, steady] as Mount Tai / rockfirm 例: 不要着急, 我们的阵地 ~。敌军要想突破是不可能的。Don't worry. Our position is as stable as Mount Tai. It's impossible for the enemy troops to break it through. 亦作“安若泰山”

【安若泰山】 ānrúTàishān 见“安如泰山”

【安身立命】 ānshēn-lì mìng to nestle oneself in a place

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for a living / 〈古〉 **to range oneself** / to rest one's body and set up one's name / to settle down and get on with one's pursuit [work] / to settle down in one's life and career / to settle down to a quiet life / One's life has the whereabouts and one's spirit has its entrustment. / establishment 例: 那里是用人去处, 足可 ~。There I could get employment and *settle down to a quiet life*.

【安身为乐】 ānshēn-wéilè to be glad to find a settled place for life / to be pleasant to find a job for life / To get a settled place for life is to be pleasant. 例: ~, 无忧为福。To get a settled place for life is to be pleasant and to have no sorrow is to be happy.

【安身之地】 ānshēnzhīdì 见“安身之所”

【安身之所】 ānshēnzhīsuǒ the sort of place where one can live 亦作“安身之地”

【安神养性】 ānshén-yǎngxìng **to contemplate one's navel / to regard one's navel** / navel-contemplation

【安守本分】 ānshǒu-běnfēn to act up to one's duty / **to keep one's place** / to keep to one's own business / **to know one's place** / law-abiding

【安土乐业】 āntǔ-lèyè 见“安居乐业”

【安土重迁】 āntǔ-zhòngqiān to be attached to one's native land and unwilling to leave it / to be reluctant to move from one's native district / to be satisfied to live in one's native land and dislike to remove / to be too rooted down to consider moving to another place / to dislike transfer of population to a new place / to hate to leave a place where one has lived long / to hate to leave one's native land / to love one's homeland and not wish to leave it / not to care to migrate from native land / rather stay in the same old place than change one's residence 例: ~, 黎民之性; 骨肉相附, 人情所愿也。Not caring to migrate from native land is the feeling of the great masses of people; being with one's own flesh and blood is what is inherent in human nature. 辨析: 本语中的“重”意指“看重, 不轻易”, 不能读作“chóng”。

【安危与共】 ānwēi-yǔgòng **to cast (in) one's lot with / to share joys and hardships [sorrows] (with)** / to share safety and danger / **to share weal and woe (with)** / to stick together through thick and thin / **to throw in one's lot with**

【安闲无事】 ānxián-wúshì to have no duties [work] / **at leisure**

【安闲自在】 ānxián-zìzài leisurely and carefree / disengagement

【安详自得】 ānxiáng-zìdé in a placid mood

【安享清福】 ānxiǎng-qīngfú to be in the enjoyment of a happy life / to be unoccupied and enjoying happiness / to enjoy blessing of quiet, peaceful life / to enjoy peace and happiness

【安享太平】 ānxiǎng-tàipíng to enjoy (the present) tranquil(1)ity / to enjoy times of peace

【安心不良】 ānxīn-bùliáng 见“居心不良”

【安心益气】 ānxīn-yìqì to make sb feel at ease and energetic

【安营下寨】 ānyíng-xiàzhài 见“安营扎寨”

【安营扎寨】 ānyíng-zhāzhài to build bastion / to camp / to encamp / to make a stockade / to pitch a camp / 〈口〉 **to pitch one's tent** / to set up a base camp 例: 勘探队员们在工地上 ~。The prospectors *camped* at the worksite. / 伙计! 为什么在山顶上 ~? Why have you *pitched a camp* on the hilltop, young fellow? 亦作“安营下寨”

【安于现状】 ānyú-xiànzhuàng to be content with the status quo / to be content with things as they are / to be reconciled to the situation / to be satisfied with the existing state of affairs / to come to terms with one's existence / **to stick in the mud / to stop at home / to take things as they are [come] / to take things as you find them / do-nothing / stick-in-the-mud** 例: 难道你就不想改善改善生活, 而只 ~无所事事吗? Don't you want to do something better with your life than just *stop at home* doing nothing?

【安于现状, 故步自封】 ānyú xiànzhuàng, gùbù zìfēng to be satisfied with the existing state of affairs and reluctant to move forward / satisfaction with things as they are and inertia to move forward

【安于宴乐】 ānyú-yànlè to feel happy in material pleasures

【安于职守】 ānyú-zhíshǒu to be willing in the discharge of one's duties / **to stay at one's post**

【安枕高卧】 ānzhěn-gāowò to lie peacefully on the pillow

【安枕无忧】 ānzhěn-wúyōu to rest assured without anxiety / to sleep at peace / to sleep without any anxiety

【安之若命】 ānzhī-ruòmìng to bend to one's lot / to bow to one's lot / to submit to one's fate

【安之若素】 ānzhī-ruòsù to bear (hardship, etc.) with equanimity / to bear sufferings nonchalantly / to put up (sth) with grace / to regard (wrongdoing, etc.) with equanimity / to take it very calmly / with equanimity and indifference 例: 有些同志听凭别人宣传主观主义, 也 ~。Some people tolerate subjectivist propaganda and *regard it with equanimity*.

【安坐待毙】 ānzuo-dàibì 见“坐以待毙”

【安坐而食】 ānzuo'érsí to be fed without work

【鞍马劳顿】 ānmǎ-láodùn to be fatigued by a long journey / to be tired because of long travel on horseback / to be weary and tired of the life on horseback / travel-worn 亦作“鞍马劳倦”, “鞍马劳神”

【鞍马劳倦】 ānmǎ-láojuàn 见“鞍马劳神”

【鞍马劳神】 ānmǎ-láoshén 见“鞍马劳神”

【鞍马生活】 ānmǎ-shēnghuó life on horseback / military life

【鞍前马后】 ānqián-mǎhòu to be at sb's service around his horse—to follow closely and wait upon sb carefully / to run before or behind the master's horse—to act as a faithful attendant

【岸然道貌】 ànrán-dàomào 见“道貌岸然”

【按兵不动】 ànbīng-bùdòng to **bide one's time** / to halt [hold] one's troops and wait (for the right moment to strike) / to hold one's troops where they are / **to hold [keep] the ring / to keep quiet** / to keep the troops immobilised [immobilized] / to make no move / to remain inactive [quiet] / to rest one's men for a time / 〈口〉 **to sit on one's hands / to sit tight** / to station one's troops / to stop the advance of an army / to take no action / not to make any move until an opportunity occurs / not to move / not to throw the troops into battle 例: 大家都干起来了, 你却还在这儿 ~。怎么一回事? Everybody else has started work, but you are still here *to bide your time*. What's the matter? / 尽管诸葛亮再三挑战, 司马懿仍然 ~。Despite Zhuge Liang's repeated challenge, Sima Yi still *halted his troops and waited*. / 又听得寨前炮响, 史文恭 ~, 只要等他入来, 塌了陷坑, 山后伏兵齐起, 接应捉人。Reports of guns were heard again in front of the bastion. Shi Wengong *kept the troops immobilized*, waiting for him to come, making the traps collapse, soldiers lying in ambush behind the mountain coming out in all directions to render assistance in seizing him. / 可是就这些指控进行答辩是你的职责, 你可不能 ~! But it's your job to answer these complaints, you can't *sit on your hands*! / 咱们只管 ~, 且看敌方下一步怎么办再说。Let's just *sit tight* and see what our opponents will do next. / 这些头头们善于寻找 ~ 的种种借口。The chiefs were ingenious at finding excuses *not to move*.

【按部就班】 ànbù-jiùbān to act each according to one's duties / **to be in a rut** / to follow the prescribed order / to keep to conventional [fixed] ways of doing things / **to move [run] in a groove [rut] / to stay in a rut / to work like a clock** / to work strictly by protocol / in a proper order / 〈拉〉 **per gradus / step by step** / programmed 例: 如果我们仍然 ~, 怎能保住大坝不塌方呢? If we still *keep to conventional ways of doing things*, how can we save the dam from collapsing? / 为了找出问题所在, 我们就得 ~ 对整个过程作全面检查。In order to find out where the trouble lies, we will have to go through the entire procedure *step by step*. 辨析: 本语中的“部”意指“门类, 部类”, 不能写作“步”。

【按部就班, 循序渐进】 ànbù-jiùbān, xúnxù jiànjìn 〈谚〉 **Creep before you walk. / 〈谚〉 Don't try to run before you walk. / 〈谚〉 First creep and then go. / 〈谚〉 Learn to creep before you leap. / 〈谚〉 Learn to say before you sing. / 〈谚〉 Learn to walk before you run. / first things first / 〈谚〉 You must learn to crawl**

before you walk. / 〈谚〉 You must learn to creep before you go. 例: 他处理事情不会 ~。He was incapable of putting *first things first*. 辨析: 本语中的“部”意指“门类, 部类”, 不能写作“步”。

【按道理说】 àndàolishuō in the ordinary course of events / in the very nature of things / normally 例: ~, 这种病不该有并发症。Normally there are no complications with this illness.

【按方配药】 ànfāng-pèiyào to fill a prescription / to have a prescription filled at the pharmacy / to make up a prescription

【按工计酬】 àngōng-jìchóu to pay according to work

【按功论赏】 àngōng-lùnshǎng to award people according to their contributions / to decide on awards on the basis of merit / to dispense rewards according to merit / to dispense rewards [hono(u)rs] on the basis of merit / to give people awards according to their contributions / to go over the records and decide on awards / **to reward according to sb's deserts** / to reward sb according to his merits

【按户走访】 ànhù-zǒufǎng to make a house-to-house visitation / to visit house to house / to visit household after household

【按计划行事】 ànjì-xíngshì to act upon a plan / to adhere to a plan

【按价付款】 ànjià-fùkuǎn to give value for value 例: 这件雕塑品很精巧, 我愿 ~。It is a fine piece of sculpture and I want to *give value for value*.

【按件计酬】 ànjiàn-jìchóu to pay on a piecework basis

【按劳分配】 ànláo-fēnpèi distribution according to work [labo(u)r] / distribution on the basis of labo(u)r / to each according to his work 例: 真正打破平均主义, 搞好 ~ 到 do away with egalitarianism and correctly implement the principle of *distribution according to work* / 各尽所能, ~ 从 each according to his ability, *to each according to his work*

【按名责实】 ànmíng-zéshí to create the reality that will fit the name / to expect the reality to correspond to the name / to require the reality to correspond to the name / to see that the reality matches the name

【按捺不下】 ànnà-bùxià 见“按捺不住”

【按捺不住】 ànnà-bùzhù 见“按捺不住”

【按捺不下】 ànnà-bùxià 见“按捺不住”

【按捺不住】 ànnà-bùzhù **to be beside oneself (with)** / to be unable to hold back / to be unable to restrain / to be unable to suppress / cannot control [contain] oneself / could no longer contain oneself / could not restrain any longer / irrepressible 例: 这可怜的妇女 ~ 悲痛; 想劝说她也没用。The poor woman was *beside herself with grief*, it was useless to try to reason with her. / ~ 激动的心情 *to be unable to hold back* one's excitement / 翠环此时 ~, 料到一定凶多吉少。Cuihuan *could now no longer contain her-*

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self, and was convinced that some disaster was impending.
亦作“按纳不下”,“按纳不住”,“按捺不下”

【按强助弱】 ànqiáng-zhùruò to curb the violent and assist the weak / to restrain the powerful and help the weak

【按时逢节】 ànshí-féngjié at all festivals

【按时作息】 ànshí-zuòxi **to keep good hours / to keep regular hours** / to work and rest according to the timetable
例: ~有益于健康。Keeping good hours is good for the health.

【按图索驷】 àntú-suǒjì to follow up a lead to solve a problem / to handle [deal with] a matter in a mechanical way / to locate sth by a chart [plan] / to look for a noble steed with the aid of its picture—to try to find sth by following up a clue / to search after sth according to the tracks / to trace... by following the clue 例: 她已经和你谈了一些有关他的情况。你为什么不 ~呢? She has already told you something about his whereabouts. Why don't you trace him by following the clue? 亦作“按图索骏”

【按图索骏】 àntú-suǒjùn 见“按图索驷”

【按下不表】 ànxià-bùbiǎo (in traditional storytelling) Let's suspend the narration for a while.

【按下葫芦浮起瓢】 ànxià húlu fúqǐ piáo to be too busy to attend to all / Hardly has one gourd been pushed under water when another bobs up—to solve one problem only to find another cropping up. 例: 他揽下的活儿太多, ~, 哪一件也没干好。He has taken on so many jobs that he is too busy to attend to all, and always falling short in achieving anything satisfactory.

【按需分配】 ànxū-fēnpèi distribution according to need / to each according to his needs

【按章办事】 ànzhāng-bànshì to act according to regulations / to act according to the rules / **to go by the book [rules] / to play fair / 〔口〕 to play the game** / to suit one's actions to regulation / to work in accordance with established rules / methodism 例: 他这人虽执拗, 但你尽可以放心, 他对你一定会 ~。He is a hard-nosed man, but you can be sure that he'll play fair with you.

【按质定价】 ànzhì-dìngjià to fix the price according to the quality

【按质分等】 ànzhì-fēnděng to grade according to quality

【按质论价】 ànzhì-lùnjià to determine the price according to the quality / to price by quality

【按资排辈】 ànzī-páibèi 见“论资排辈”

【按罪量刑】 ànzui-liàngxíng to proportionate punishments to crimes

【暗暗称奇】 àn'àn-chēngqí silently admire sth rare

【暗暗发笑】 àn'àn-fāxiào **to chuckle to oneself / to laugh in one's beard** / to laugh in one's heart / **to laugh in [up] one's sleeve** / to laugh inwardly 例: 读了她的信, 我不禁 ~。After reading her letter, I could not help laughing

up my sleeve.

【暗察暗访】 ànchá-míngfǎng to conduct a thorough investigation / to investigate secretly and openly / to observe privately and investigate publicly

【暗沉沉】 ànchēnchēn (of sky) dark 例: 在 ~ 的夜里, 伸手不见五指。You can't see your own hand in front of you on such a dark night.

【暗淡无光】 àndàn-wúguāng dim and dark / in dim and dreary colors / intense darkness without light / gloomy / subfusc / subfusk

【暗斗明争】 àndòu-míngzhēng 见“明争暗斗”

【暗度陈仓】 àndù-Chéncāng 见“暗渡陈仓”

【暗渡陈仓】 àndù-Chéncāng to act before another is aware / to advance secretly along [by] an unknown path / to do one thing under cover of another / to do sth behind the facade of / to do sth in secret / (of a man and a woman) to enter into a secret liaison / to have illicit sexual relations with / **to steal a march on [upon]** / to taste secret bliss with 例: 该部队 ~——夜行军, 早袭击, 出奇制胜。The army stole a march on the enemy by marching at night and attacking them in the morning. 亦作“暗度陈仓”, “陈仓暗渡”

【暗访民情】 ànfǎng-mínqíng to inquire secretly into the people's conditions / to make secret inquiries into the condition of the masses

【暗箭明枪】 ànjiàn-míngqiāng to attack by covert and overt means / to snipe in the dark or shoot openly / a stab in the back or an open attack / arrows shot from hiding and spear thrusts in the open—both covert and open attacks / covert or overt persecution

【暗箭难防】 ànjiàn-nánfáng A covert attack is hard to avoid. / An arrow shot from ambush is something difficult to guard against. / An unseen arrow is hard to guard against. / Hidden arrows are difficult to guard against. / It is hard to guard against attacks by a hidden enemy. / It is hard to parry [ward off] a sniper's arrow. / It is not easy to avoid a secret arrow.

【暗箭伤人】 ànjiàn-shāngrén **to hit sb below the belt** / to hurt sb by clandestine means / to injure sb by underhand means / to make a sniping attack / to malign sb behind his back / to slander sb behind his back / **to stab sb in the back / to strike sb below the belt** / to strike sb unfairly / to wound sb with a sniping arrow 例: 你不该当着他老婆提到他喝醉酒的事, 这是 ~。You should have not mentioned his getting drunk in front of his wife. That was hitting below the belt. / 她当面可能举止文雅, 但她 ~ 却毫不手软。She may be pleasant to your face, but won't hesitate to stab you in the back. / 有荼毒生灵的强盗, 有 ~ 的强盗。There are robbers who persecute all living things and there are robbers who wound people with sniping arrows. 亦作“暗箭中人”

- 【暗箭中人】 ànjiàn-zhòng rén 见“暗箭伤人”
- 【暗礁险滩】 ànjiāo-xiǎntān hidden reefs and dangerous shallows / hidden rocks and rapids / hidden shoals and dangerous reefs / submerged reefs and dangerous shoals
- 【暗室不欺】 ànshì-bùqī to be scrupulously honest even when there is no one around / not to be deceitful even in secret abode
- 【暗送秋波】 ànsòng-qiūbō to cast amorous glances at / to cast coquettish glances at / **to cast sheep's eyes (at)** / to convey one's love by stealing a look / 〈口〉 **to give (sb) the glad eye** / 〈口〉 to glad-eye / **to leer at** / **to make eyes (at)** / to make goo-goo eyes (at) / to make secret overtures to / **to make sheep's eyes (at)** / **to ogle at** / to send silent and endearing messages with bewitching eyes / **to throw eyes (at)** / **to throw sheep's eyes at** / **to throw the eye (at)** / secretly cast flirtatious looks at / stealthily send speechless message 例: 他频频向她 ~, 想和她相好。He was *glad-eyeing* her, trying to get off with her.
- 【暗通关节】 àntōng-guānjié to bribe people in power / to make secret deals with
- 【暗通款曲】 àntōng-kuǎnqū to send a secret message (usually of love) / stealthily express one's heartfelt feelings
- 【暗无天日】 ànwútiānrì to be days of darkness / an abyss of darkness / (as if) the sun had been swallowed up in darkness / complete darkness / gross absence of justice / gross lack of justice under misgovernment / pitchy darkness / so cloudy that there is no sun—corrupt politics / total absence of justice / utter darkness / black 例: 旧社会真是 ~。The old society was indeed *an abyss of darkness*.
- 【暗香疏影】 ànxiāng-shūyǐng hidden [secret] fragrance and scarce [dappled] shadows—reference to *meihua*
- 【暗中操纵】 ànzhōng-cāozòng to control in secret / to manipulate surreptitiously / **to pull the ropes** / **to pull (the) strings [wires]** / **to pull (the) strings [wires] behind the scenes** / **to work the ropes [strings, wires]** 例: 我们共同的朋友如何 ~, 我也说不清楚。How our mutual friend *worked the ropes* is more than I can tell you.
- 【暗中策划】 ànzhōng-cèhuà to conspire on the sly / to plot in the dark / to tamper
- 【暗中摸索】 ànzhōng-mōsuǒ to feel about in the dark / **to go darkling** / to grope in the dark / to know things only by guessing / to search about in secret 例: 盲人沿墙 ~ 着走向大门。*Groping in the dark* along the wall, the blind man finds his way to the gate.
- 【暗中盘算】 ànzhōng-pánsuàn to calculate in one's mind / to figure on the sly / secretly calculate 例: 我们 ~ 了一下, 产量将增加 5%。We *figured on the sly* that the output would increase by five per cent.
- 【暗中破坏】 ànzhōng-pòhuài **to bore from within** / to disrupt furtively / to engage in disruptive activities clandestinely / to mine / **to put sand in the wheels [machine]** /

- to undercut / to undermine / 〈澳〉 to white-ant / sabotage
- 【暗中行贿】 ànzhōng-xíng huì **to cross sb's hand [palm] with silver** / to resort to bribery in secret
- 【暗中支持】 ànzhōng-zhīchí to give secret support to / to support under cover / disguised support
- 【暗自高兴】 ànzì-gāoxìng to feel happy inwardly / to keep one's joy to oneself / **to laugh in one's beard** / to laugh in one's heart / **to laugh in [up] one's sleeve** / secret rejoicing
- 【暗自庆幸】 ànzì-qíngxìng to congratulate oneself / to consider oneself lucky / **to hug oneself at [on, for, over]** / to rejoice in secret 例: 她 ~ 自己从未动过赢得约翰欢心的念头。She *hugged herself* for never thinking of making a play for John.
- 【暗自思量】 ànzì-sīliáng **to say to oneself** / **to think to oneself** / **to turn over in one's mind** 例: 我 ~ 起来, “去当演员好不好?” I began *to say to myself*, “What about becoming an actor?”
- 【暗自虚歔】 ànzì-xūxī to sob in secret
- 【黯然告别】 ànrán-gàobié to say good-bye with a heavy heart
- 【黯然魂消】 ànrán-húnxiāo 见“黯然销魂”
- 【黯然泪下】 ànrán-lèixià to find oneself in agony with tears dropping down one's cheeks / to find oneself in the blues with tears dropping from one's eyes / Tears stream down one's cheeks regretfully.
- 【黯然伤神】 ànrán-shāngshén 见“黯然神伤”
- 【黯然神伤】 ànrán-shénshāng to be disheartened / to be grieved / to feel dejected [depressed] / to feel heartbroken [sad] 亦作“黯然伤神”
- 【黯然失色】 ànrán-shīsè to be cast into the shade / to be eclipsed [overshadowed, paled, tarnished] / **to be in eclipse** / to be thrown into the shade / **to fall into the shade** / to fall into the shadow / to lose brilliancy / to pale by comparison / to pale into insignificance / eclipse 例: 他的父亲 ~ 了, 被打发到南方去担任一个小差使。His father *was in eclipse*, exiled to a small post in the south. / 他的阴谋终于败露。他的名誉 ~。In the end his conspiracy was brought to light. His reputation *was tarnished*. 亦作“黯然无色”
- 【黯然无色】 ànrán-wúsè 见“黯然失色”
- 【黯然销魂】 ànrán-xiāohún to be deeply affected / to be overcome with a deadly grief / grief-stricken 亦作“黯然魂消”
- 【昂昂自若】 áng'áng-zìruò to look exalted and composed
- 【昂然而入】 ángrán'érrù to come in walking proudly / to come walking in proudly / to enter in a stately manner / to step grandly in [into] / to stride in, chin up and chest out 亦作“昂然直入”

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【昂然挺立】 *ángrán-tǐnglì* **to stand tall** 例: 在当时有压力的情况下, 他可算得上是一位 ~ 的好汉。He was a true man *to stand tall*, to be counted, when the pressure was there.

【昂然直入】 *ángrán-zhírù* 见“昂然而入”

【昂首阔步】 *ángshǒu-kuòbù* **to hold up one's head and advance by long strides / to keep one's head high and march ahead / to make rapid [great] strides with head up / to march forward, head up, chest out / to march forward with head erect and chest out / to march [stride] forward with one's chin up / to stride proudly ahead / to strut about / to strut like a turkey cock / to swagger (around) / to swell like a turkey cock / 〈口〉 to walk tall / to walk with a soldierly stride / to walk with a strut / with head erect and in broad strides / with one's head raised up and in giant steps / prance / swagger** 例: 这位将军 ~ 进了办公室。The general *walked into the office with a soldierly stride*. / 中国人民 ~ 地在建设四化的大道上前进。The Chinese people are marching forward on the road of building the four modernizations *with head erect and in broad strides*. / ~ 地走 to walk with a *swagger* 亦作“昂头阔步”

【昂首挺立】 *ángshǒu-tǐnglì* **to stand erect, with head held high / to stand firm with raised head / to stand proudly, head erect**

【昂首挺胸】 *ángshǒu-tǐngxiōng* **to carry one's head high / to fling back one's head / to fling one's head back / to hold one's head high [up] / to hold up one's head / to hold up one's head and throw out one's chest / to square one's shoulders and throw back one's head / chin up and chest out / head erect and chest out / head high and back straight / with one's head held high [up]** 例: 她 ~, 顿时就像长高了似的。She *flung back her head* and seemed momentarily to gain height. / 他既然已被证明无罪, 自然又可 ~ 了。Now that he has been proved not guilty, he can *hold his head up* once more. / 他们可以 ~ 四处走动啦。Now they can go about *with their heads held high*.

【昂首望天】 *ángshǒu-wàngtiān* 〈口〉 **to have one's nose in the air / to hold one's head high and gaze at the sky—to disdain to investigate conditions at the lower levels**

【昂头阔步】 *ángtóu-kuòbù* 见“昂首阔步”

【凹凸不平】 *āotū-bùpíng* **to be full of bumps and holes / to be rough and uneven in surface / broken / jagged / lumpy / ragged / ridgy / rugged / scabrous / scraggy / shagged / uneven** 例: 我们在一条 ~ 的小道上踉踉跄跄, 生怕跌倒。We stumbled along the *broken* path, fearful of tripping up. / ~ 的表面 a *lumpy* surface

【嗷嗷待哺】 *áo'áo-dàibù* **clamo(u)ring for food / (of an infant) crying out for the breast / crying piteously for food / crying with hunger / in a hungry case / wailing and waiting for relief / waiting to be fed with cries of hunger / waiting with open mouth to be fed** 例: 郑妈妈刚一进门,

就看到孩子如 ~ 的雏鸟, 直喊肚子饿。On entering the house, Amah Zheng found the child crying for hunger like a young bird *clamouring for food*. 亦作“嗷嗷待哺”

【嗷嗷待食】 *áo'áo-dàishí* 见“嗷嗷待哺”

【熬更守夜】 *áoēng-shǒuyè* **to keep watch all night**

【熬光棍】 *áo guānggùn* 〈美口〉 **to keep bach / (of a man) to live alone / to remain a bachelor / to stay single** 例: 有人推测: ~ 熬急了梁三, 恐怕要做出缺德的事情吧? Some of the villagers wondered whether Liang San, who had *lived alone* for many years, could be intending anything improper?

【熬枯受淡】 *áokū-shòudàn* **to drag through a monotonous life**

【鳌头独占】 *áotóu-dúzhàn* 见“独占鳌头”

【拗曲作直】 *àoqū-zuòzhí* **to confound (the) right and wrong / to distort facts / to give a false account of the true facts / to stand facts on their head(s)**

【傲岸不群】 *ào'àn-bùqún* **to be haughty and standoffish / to be proud and aloof**

【傲骨嶙峋】 *àogǔ-línxún* **of a proud and lonely nature / with a lofty and unyielding character**

【傲慢不逊】 *àomàn-bùxùn* 见“傲慢无礼”

【傲慢少礼】 *àomàn-shǎolǐ* 见“傲慢无礼”

【傲慢无礼】 *àomàn-wúlǐ* **to be insolent and rude / arch / contumelious / contumely / disrespectful / insolent** 例: 他太 ~, 应让他收敛一点。He is too *insolent and rude* and should be pulled down. / ~ 地对待某人 to treat sb with *contumely* / 她用 ~ 的目光朝母亲扫了一眼。She gave her mother a *disrespectful* look. / 他会为自己 ~ 的行为编造某种站不住脚的借口。He'll drum up some lame excuse for his *insolent* behaviour. 亦作“傲慢不逊”, “傲慢少礼”

【傲睨一世】 *àonì-yīshì* **to be overweening / to consider everyone and everything beneath one's notice / to look scornfully at the whole world**

【傲睨自若】 *àonì-zìruò* **to look immensely proud and complacent / to look supercilious**

【傲气十足】 *àoqì-shízú* **to be full of arrogance / to have a high [proud] stomach / extremely haughty / high stomach / proud stomach / hoity-toity** 例: 陈先生 ~, 办公室出纳主任以下的人他都没有放在眼里。Mr Chen has a *proud stomach*, he acknowledges no one in the office lower than the Chief Cashier.

【傲然挺立】 *àorán-tǐnglì* **to stand proudly erect / to tower proudly into the skies** 例: ~ 的山峰 a mountain peak *towering proudly into the skies*

【傲上恤下】 *àoshàng-xùxià* **to be haughty to the proud but kindly to the humble / to swagger in front of (one's) superiors but be kind to (one's) inferiors**

【傲贤慢士】 *àoxián-mànshì* **to refuse to employ talent-**

ed men / to treat talented men arrogantly

【奥秘莫测】 àomì-mòcè to be veiled in mystery

【奥妙无穷】 àomiào-wúqióng to be extremely subtle / to be inexhaustibly profound

【奥旨难明】 àozhǐ-nánmíng The hidden meaning is hardly understandable.

【驽放不羁】 àofàng-bùjī to be reckless and unrestrained

【懊悔无及】 àohuǐ-wújí Lamentations can be of no avail. / Regret will not mend matters. / too late for regrets [repentance] / too late to repent [regret] 例: 现在你不好好学习,将来你会感到 ~。If you don't study hard now, you will find it *too late for regrets* in the future.

A



Bb

【八拜之交】 bābàizhījiāo the relationship between sworn brothers [sisters] / sworn brotherhood / **sworn brothers** [**friends**] 例: 我和他有 ~。He and I are *sworn brothers*.

【八斗才】 bādǒucái 见“八斗之才”

【八斗之才】 bādǒuzhīcái a man endowed with extraordinary talents / a man of great talent / a very gifted person / superb talent / unusual literary talent 亦作“八斗才”

【八方呼应】 bāfāng-hūyìng to echo from all quarters / to respond from all sides / to seek responses far and near [wide] / responses from every direction

【八方支援】 bāfāng-zhīyuán Aid comes from everywhere. / Help comes from all quarters. / Succo(u)r arrives from all directions. 例: 一方有难, ~。When trouble occurs at one spot, *help comes from all quarters*.

【八杆子打不着】 bā gānzi dǎbuzháo to be totally irrelevant / to have nothing whatsoever [at all] to do with / not related in any way 例: 我说的和你说的 ~。The remarks I made *are totally irrelevant* from what you said. 亦作“八竿子打不着”

【八竿子打不着】 bā gānzi dǎbuzháo 见“八杆子打不着”

【八公山上,草木皆兵】 Bāgōngshān shàng, cǎomù jiē bīng to see every bush and tree on Bagong Shan Mountain as an enemy soldier

【八恒河沙】 bāhéngshā (a) **thousand and one** / (as) **numberless as the sand(s)** / (as) **numerous as the sands of the Ganges** / countless / innumerable

【八九不离十】 bā-jiǔ bùlǐ shí about right / **in all likelihood** [**probability**] / most likely / most probably / **nine chances** [**times**] **out of ten** / **nine in ten** / **nine tenths** / **ninety-nine times out of a hundred** / not far out / pretty close / **ten to one** / **twenty to one** / very close [near] / 〈口〉ballpark 例: ~明天会下雨。Ten to one it will rain tomorrow. / 猜个 ~to make a *very close* guess

【八两半斤】 bāliǎng-bànjīn 见“半斤八两”

【八门五花】 bāmén-wǔhuā 见“五花八门”

【八面光】 bāmiànguāng 见“八面玲珑”

【八面见光】 bāmiàn-jiànguāng 见“八面玲珑”

【八面玲珑】 bāmiàn-línglóng to be a good mixer / to be a perfect mixer in any company / to be able to get along well with everybody / **to be all things to all men** / to be smooth and able to win favo(u)r on all sides / to be

smooth and slick (in establishing social relations) / (of speech) to cover all sides beautifully / to dance and sing all weathers / to get on well with all sorts of people / (of character) to manage to please everybody / capable of dealing with all men / clever in dealing with people / 〈谚〉**His mill will go with all winds.** / diplomatic / smooth-faced / tactful / temporizing / worldly-wise 例: 这个推销员 ~。The salesman *is a good mixer.* / ~的商人 a businessman who *is all things to all men* / ~的答复 a *diplomatic* answer 亦作“八面光”, “八面见光”

【八面威风】 bāmiàn-wēifēng to make magnificent appearance / a commanding presence / an aura of awesome might / an awe-inspiring reputation extending in every direction / **pomp and circumstance**

【八面周全】 bāmiàn-zhōuquán satisfactory to every detail

【八难三灾】 bānàn-sānzāi to have one trouble after another / to suffer from one ailment after another / numerous adversities and calamities / (children's) various illnesses and ailments

【八仙过海,各使神通】 bāxiān guò hǎi, gè shǐ shéntōng 见“八仙过海,各显神通”

【八仙过海,各显其能】 bāxiān guò hǎi, gè xiǎn qí néng 见“八仙过海,各显神通”

【八仙过海,各显神通】 bāxiān guò hǎi, gè xiǎn shéntōng to try to outshine each other / to vie with each other / Like the Eight Immortals soaring over the ocean, each of you show your true worth. / like the Eight Immortals crossing the sea, each one showing his or her special prowess 亦作“八仙过海,各使神通”, “八仙过海,各显其能”, “八仙漂海,各显其能”, “八仙飘海,各显神通”

【八仙漂海,各显其能】 bāxiān piāo hǎi, gè xiǎn qí néng 见“八仙过海,各显神通”

【八仙飘海,各显神通】 bāxiān piāo hǎi, gè xiǎn shéntōng 见“八仙过海,各显神通”

【八字还没一撇】 bā zì hái méi yī piě Nothing is definite yet. / Not even the first stroke of the character “八” is in sight—there is no sign of anything happening yet. / There's not even the first stroke of the character “八”—things aren't even starting to take shape yet. / There's not the slightest sign of success yet. 例: 他听说你要盖房,心里边有点活动了,但 ~。When he heard you were building a house, he started to get ideas, but *nothing's*

definite yet.

【八字宪法】 bāzì-xiànfǎ the “Eight-Point Charter for Agriculture”: soil improvement, use of fertilizer, irrigation, better seed strains, close planting, plant protection, better farm implements and field management

【巴不得】 bābude to be only too anxious (to do sth) / to itch / to long to / **as soon as not** / eagerly look forward to / earnestly wish / 〈口〉 **for two pins / if only** / 〈美〉 **too sweet** / would fain 例: 他 ~ 立刻回到工作岗位。He is only too anxious to get back to work right away. / 孩子们 ~ 去看马戏。The boys itch to see the circus. / 我 ~ 辞职。For two pins I'd resign.

【巴高望上】 bāgāo-wàngshàng to have the ambition to rise in society / to seek advancement [promotion] / to want to rise in the world 例: 别说是鸳鸯,凭她是谁,哪一个不想 ~,不想出头的? Every girl, not to mention Yuan-yang, wants to rise in the world and become someone of importance.

【巴人下里】 Bārén-xiàlǐ 见“下里巴人”

【巴山蜀水】 Bāshān-Shǔshuǐ mountains and rivers of Ba and Shu—Sichuan Province 例: 远在天涯海角,难忘那 ~ 故乡情。Though I am at the end of the earth, I can not leave behind sentimental memories of my native Sichuan Province.

【巴蛇吞象】 bāshé-tūnxiàng inordinately greedy

【巴头探脑】 bātóu-tànnǎo to peep furtively from behind / to pop one's head in and look about / to stretch one's head in search [pry]

【拔本塞源】 báběn-sāiyuán to abandon source / to extirpate the root of an evil

【拔萃出类】 bácuì-chūlèi 见“出类拔萃”

【拔刀相济】 bádāo-xiāngjì 见“拔刀相助”

【拔刀相向】 bádāo-xiāngxiàng **to come to points / to draw one's [the] sword against / to pull a knife on / to unsheath one's [the] sword against** 例: 双方立即 ~。Both sides came to points immediately.

【拔刀相助】 bádāo-xiāngzhù to draw a sword and render help / to draw one's sword to give assistance / to take up the cudgels against an injustice / to unsheath one's sword and go to the rescue of another (for the sake of justice) 亦作“拔刀相济”

【拔地参天】 bádi-cāntiān to be tall and spreading 亦作“拔地倚天”

【拔地而起】 bádi'érqǐ to rise abruptly from the ground / to rise abruptly out of the ground / to rise straight from the ground

【拔地倚天】 bádi-yǐtiān 见“拔地参天”

【拔葵去织】 bákuí-qùzhī (of officers) not to scramble with people for wealth / not to struggle with people for gain

【拔来报往】 bálái-fùwǎng to exchange visits / to have

frequent contacts / coming and going busily 辨析: 本语中的“报”通“赴”,意指“急速”,不能读作“bào”。亦作“跋来报往”

【拔类超群】 bálèi-chāoqún 见“出类拔萃”

【拔茅连茹】 bámáo-liánrú to pull up the rushes with [by] their roots—to promote good men who will bring in their associates

【拔苗助长】 bámiáo-zhùzhǎng to help the rice shoots grow by pulling them up—to spoil things by excessive enthusiasm / to pull up a corn by the roots in the hope of making it grow faster—to be over-anxious to have sth grow up / to pull up seedlings in the mistaken hope of helping them to grow—to spoil things because of one's quest for quick results / to try to make seedlings grow by pulling them up—to spoil things by undue haste / to try to make the rice shoots grow by pulling them up—to do harm to a thing by being over-enthusiastic about it **Literary allusion: Mengzi · Gongsun Chou · The First Volume** (《孟子·公孙丑上》) records: Seeing the shoots growing too slowly, a man of the State of Song was so displeased that he pulled them upward for the purpose of helping them grow, the result was that they soon withered away. 例: ~,非徒无益,而且有害。It is not merely useless, but harmful to try to make seedlings grow by pulling them up. 亦作“揠苗助长”

【拔旗易帜】 báqí-yìzhì 见“拔帜易帜”

【拔群出类】 báqún-chūlèi 见“出类拔萃”

【拔刀张弩】 báren-zhāngnǚ 〈口〉 **to be at swords' points / to rattle one's [the] sabre [saber] / 〈口〉 eyeball to eyeball / fingers on the triggers / in a blustering and aggressive manner / ready for a showdown / ready to jump at each other's throat / 〈美〉 saber rattling / The knives are out. / with swords drawn and bows bent [stretched] / 〈口〉 eyeball-to-eyeball / sabre-rattling** 例: 反动政府 ~,叫嚣战争,只能使它在世界上更加孤立。Sabre-rattling by the reactionary government and its war cries can only isolate it still more from the rest of the world.

【拔山扛鼎】 báshān-gāngdǐng to pull up mountains and raise tripods—herculean or great in strength 辨析: 本语中的“扛”意指“用两手举(重物)”,不宜读作“káng”。亦作“拔山举鼎”

【拔山举鼎】 báshān-jǔdǐng 见“拔山扛鼎”

【拔十得五】 báshí-déwǔ to get fifty percent / to get only half of what one asked for 亦作“拔十失五”

【拔十失五】 báshí-shīwǔ 见“拔十得五”

【拔树寻根】 báshù-xúngēn to go to the very source of sth / to trace to very roots

【拔俗超群】 básub-chāoqún to be far above the common and exceed the crowd

【拔腿就跑】 bátuǐ-jiùpǎo to beat it as fast as one can / **to betake oneself to one's heels [legs] / to make the best use to one's legs / 〈口〉 to pick up one's heels / 〈口〉 to**

pull foot / 〈俚〉 **to pull it** / **to show a clean** [fair, light] **pair of heels** / to start running away at once / **to take a clean** [fair, light] **pair of heels** / 〈美俚〉 **to take it on a** [the] **lam** / **to take to one's heels** / to take to one's legs as fast as one can / to turn and scamper off 例: 果园主人来了, 搞水果吃的孩子们 ~。The owner of the orchard appeared, and the boys who were helping themselves to fruits *took to their heels*. / 我叫他们走开, 他们 ~ 了。I told them to clear off, and they *took to their legs as fast as they could*.

【拔宅飞升】 bázhái-fēishēng 见“拔宅上升”

【拔宅上升】 bázhái-shàngshēng to become immortals together with all members of one's family 亦作“拔宅飞升”

【拔赵帜, 树汉帜】 bá Zhào zhì, shù Hàn zhì 见“拔帜易帜”

【拔赵帜, 易汉帜】 bá Zhào zhì, yì Hàn zhì 见“拔帜易帜”

【拔帜易帜】 bázhì-yìzhì to capture enemy's colo(u)r and replace them with one's own flags / to pull up others' flag and replace it with one's own—to take sb's place / to replace sb / to supersede sb 亦作“拔旗易帜”, “拔赵帜, 树汉帜”, “拔赵帜, 易汉帜”

【跋扈飞扬】 báhù-fēiyáng 见“飞扬跋扈”

【跋来报往】 bálái-fùwǎng 见“跋来报往”

【跋前蹇后】 báqián-zhìhòu 见“跋前蹇后”

【跋前蹇后】 báqián-zhìhòu to be beset with difficulties / to be equally difficult to go on or to retreat / **to be in a dilemma** / **to be on the horns of a dilemma** / to encounter obstacles ahead and behind / to meet with hindrances / **between the devil and the deep (blue) sea** / can neither go ahead nor beat a retreat / no freedom in doing things / no freedom in walking 例: ~, 动辄得咎。When one *meets with hindrances*, he is blamed for every move. 亦作“跋前蹇后”

【跋山涉水】 báshān-shèchuān 见“跋山涉水”

【跋山涉水】 báshān-shèshuǐ to cross mountains and rivers / to scale mountains and ford streams / to travel by climbing up hills and wading over rivers / to travel over land and water / to travel over mountains and rivers / over the hills and through the rivers 例: 地质勘探队员 ~ 为祖国寻找地下宝藏。The geological prospecting workers *travel over mountains and rivers* to locate underground treasures for their motherland. 亦作“跋山涉川”, “跋涉山川”

【跋涉长途】 báshè-chángtú 见“长途跋涉”

【跋涉山川】 báshè-shānchuān 见“跋山涉水”

【跋涉之劳】 báshèzhīláo the hardship of journeying over land and across water / the troubles of climbing and wading

【把持包办】 bǎchí-bāobàn to control and monopolize /

to keep everything in one's own hands

【把持一切】 bǎchí-yīqiè to keep everything in one's own hands / to monopolize everything / to seize control of everything

【把方便让给别人, 把困难留给自己】 bǎ fāngbiàn rànggěi biérén, bǎ kùnnán liúgěi zìjǐ to take difficulties on oneself and leave what is easy to others

【把关守口】 bǎguān-shǒukǒu to guard the passes

【把好心当作驴肝肺】 bǎ hǎoxīn dàngzuò lúgānfèi to take an honest man's heart for a donkey's liver and lungs—to take sb's goodwill for ill intent

【把袂之交】 bǎmèizhījiāo a bosom friend / a friendship of sleeve-holding / a very intimate friendship

【把水搅浑】 bǎshuǐjiǎohún to muddy the water(s)—to create confusion

【霸道横行】 bàdào-héngxíng 见“横行霸道”

【掰开揉碎】 bāikāi-róusuì to break apart and crumble to bits—in great detail / **again and again** / repeatedly 例: 我 ~ 跟你说别在那儿玩耍。I've told you *again and again* not to play there.

【白皑皑】 bái'ái'ái (of snow, frost, etc.) pure white / white and clean 例: ~ 的雪铺满田野。The fields were all covered with *pure white* snow.

【白板天子】 báibǎn-tiānzǐ an emperor having no seal of the state / an emperor without the seal of the state

【白璧微瑕】 báibì-wēixiá a slight blemish in one's good character / a slight defect in a person of integrity / a slight flaw in white jade—a minor blemish in a thing of beauty / solar spots / spots in the sun 亦作“白玉微瑕”

【白璧无瑕】 báibì-wúxiá flawless white jade / impeccable moral integrity (said of man's flawless character especially of a girl's virginity) / **without spot (or stain)** / unspotted 亦作“白玉无瑕”

【白吃白喝】 báichī-báihē to eat and drink without pay / Food and drink are served gratis.

【白刀子进, 红刀子出】 bái dāozi jìn, hóng dāozi chū to bury a white blade in sb and pull out a red one—a murder taking place / to fight to the bitter end—till the white knife comes out red / The blade goes in clean and comes out red—knifing sb to death. / The knife is white upon entry and red upon exit—an attempt to resort to dagger or sword desperately. 例: 听说朱老巩和冯兰池为要这座钟, 白刀子进去, 红刀子出来! I heard that Zhu Laogong and Feng Lanchi meant *to fight to the bitter end* over the bell—*till the white knife came out red!*

【白瞪眼】 báidèngyǎn to be anxious but unable to do anything / to look on helplessly / to look on in despair / to look on in impotent fury / to stare bleakly [helplessly] / to watch anxiously but be unable to help

【白发苍苍】 báifā-cāngcāng covered with silvery hair / grey-haired / grey-headed / hoary / hoary-haired / hoary-

headed / white-haired 例: ~ 的老人 a *hoary-headed* old man

【白发红颜】 *báifā-hóngyán* white hair and ruddy complexion—healthy in old age 亦作“白发朱颜”

【白发齐眉】 *báifā-qíméi* to remain a devoted couple to the end of their lives / with white hair and white eyebrows

【白发偕老】 *báifā-xiélǎo* 见“白头偕老”

【白发朱颜】 *báifā-zhūyán* 见“白发红颜”

【白费唇舌】 *báifèi-chúnshé* to speak to the wind / to spend one's breath / to waste (one's) breath [words] / to whistle down the wind 例: “你跟她说过了没有?”——“等于 ~。”“Have you spoken to her?”—“As well speak to the wind.” / 我苦苦磨了三个小时的嘴皮子以讨他个明确的答复,可结果是 ~。I wasted my words trying for three hours to get a definite answer from him. 亦作“白费口舌”,“白费唾沫”

【白费工夫】 *báifèi-gōngfu* to be a wasted effort / to labour in vain / to waste one's time / to work to no avail / 〈拉〉 *Aethiopem lavare* / lost labour

【白费口舌】 *báifèi-kǒushé* 见“白费唇舌”

【白费力气】 *báifèi-lìqì* 〈口〉 to bang one's head against a (brick) wall / 〈口〉 to bang one's head against a stone wall / 〈口〉 to bash one's head against a (brick) wall / to be a fool for one's pains / 〈主英〉 to be a fool to oneself / to be an ass for one's pain(s) / 〈口〉 to beat one's head against a (brick) wall / 〈口〉 to beat a dead horse / to beat the air [wind] / to bite a file / to bite on granite / to blow at a cold coal / to bring coals to Newcastle / to bring owls to Athens / to carry coals to Newcastle / to carry owls to Athens / to carry salt to Dysart and puddings to Tranent / to carry water to the river / to cast stones against the wind / to cast water into the Thames / 〈口〉 to draw a blank / to draw water in [with] a sieve / to fish in the air / 〈口〉 to flog a dead horse / to force an open door / to gnaw a file / to go on a wild-goose chase / 〈口〉 to hit one's head against [into] a brick [stone] wall / to hold a candle to the sun / to knock at an open door / 〈口〉 to knock one's head against [into] a brick [stone] wall / to lash the waves / to number the sand(s) / to plough the air / to plough the sand(s) / 〈美〉 to plow the air / 〈美〉 to plow the sand(s) / to pour water into a sieve / 〈口〉 to run one's head against [into] a brick [stone] wall / to send coals to Newcastle / to send owls to Athens / 〈口〉 to shoe a [the] goose [gosling] / to sow beans in the wind / to sow the sand(s) / to take coals to Newcastle / to wash a blackamoor white / to wash an ass's ears [head] / to waste effort on / to waste one's energy / cask of Danaides / coals to Newcastle / in vain / labour lost / futile 例: 我不干了,再也不想 ~ 啦。I give up. I've beat my head against the wall long enough. / 你所做的一切全属 ~。

All you are doing is to beat the air. / 他向来做事都是一帆风顺,但这次看来像是 ~ 了。He has always been successful, but it looks as though this time he has bitten on granite. / 雨后浇花可谓 ~。The man who waters his grass after a good rain is carrying coals to Newcastle. / 为找那份丢失的文件我搜寻了所有的文件夹,可都是 ~。I searched all the files for the missing document but drew a blank. / 要想改变这伙人的政治信仰,那简直是 ~。To try to change the political convictions of these people would be like running your head into a brick wall.

【白费蜡】 *báifèilǎ* for nothing / in vain / labour lost / futile / useless 例: 我们的辛苦全是 ~。We have had all our trouble for nothing.

【白费唾沫】 *báifèi-tuòmò* 见“白费唇舌”

【白费心思】 *báifèi-xīnsī* to bother one's head for nothing / to hatch plots in vain / to make futile efforts / to rack one's brains in vain / to scheme to no avail / to waste one's contrivances

【白圭微瑕】 *báiguī-wēixiá* a flaw [stain, slight blemish] in a precious stone

【白圭有玷】 *báiguī-yǒudiàn* 〈谚〉 The sun has its spots. / 〈谚〉 There are lees to every wine. / 〈谚〉 There are spots (even) in [on] the sun. 辨析: 本语中的“玷”意指“玉上的污点”,不读“zhān”。

【白圭之玷】 *báiguīzhīdiàn* a flaw in a jade baton—a minor blemish in a thing of beauty / a spot on a white jade—a slight blemish on an otherwise perfect character

【白黑不分】 *báihēi-bùfēn* to confound right and wrong / not to distinguish between right and wrong / White and black are mixed together.

【白黑分明】 *báihēi-fēnmíng* to draw a clear demarcation line between right and wrong / a clear distinction between white and black / as distinct as white from black / as plainly as white and black / black and white / in sharp contrast / with white and black sharply contrasted / black-and-white

【白黑混淆】 *báihēi-hùnxíáo* 见“混淆黑白”

【白糊糊】 *báihūhū* milky / whitish 例: ~ 的雾气 *whitish mist*

【白花花】 *báihuāhuā* shining white / silky white / foaming / gleaming / whitish 例: ~ 的胡子 *silky white beard* / ~ 的银子 *gleaming silver*

【白晃晃】 *báihuànguàng* dazzling white / shining and bright / white and bright / glaring / gleaming

【白晶晶】 *báijīngjīng* sparkling white 例: ~ 的盐霜 *sparkling white salt efflorescence*

【白驹过隙】 *báijū-guòxì* to fleet as a white pony's shadow flashing past a crevice / a glimpse of a white colt flashing past a chink in a wall / (Days flash by as) the glint of a white horse across a chink in the door. / 〈拉〉 *Tempus fugit.* / the flight of time / the swift course of

- time / 〈谚〉 **Time flies.** / Time passes as quickly as it takes a horse to leap a gap. / Time passes quickly like a white pony's shadow across a crevice. 例: 人生一世间, 如~。Man's life in this world is as brief as a *glimpse of a white colt flashing past a chink in a wall*. 亦作“过隙白驹”
- 【白驹空谷】 báijū-kōnggǔ a wise man living in idleness
- 【白蜡明经】 báilà-míngjīng to fail in civil examination again and again / to fail in one's numerous attempts to pass the official examinations
- 【白浪滔滔】 báilàng-tāotāo crashing waves / whitecaps surging
- 【白浪滔天】 báilàng-tāotiān Milky waves roar to heaven. / The white waves rise as high as heaven. / Waves heave to the skies. / White breakers leap to the sky. / white breakers leaping skywards / white-crested waves surging and swelling sky-high 亦作“白浪掀天”
- 【白浪掀天】 báilàng-xiāntiān 见“白浪滔天”
- 【白里透红】 báilǐ-tòuhóng **milk and roses** / white of a red tint / white touched with red / blond
- 【白龙微服】 báilóng-wēifú 见“白龙鱼服”
- 【白龙鱼服】 báilóng-yúfú A nobleman makes his tour in disguise. 亦作“白龙微服”
- 【白露身弗露】 Báilù shēn fú lù Don't expose your chest and back by the time White Dew.
- 【白马素车】 bái mǎ-sùchē white horses and plain cars (in a funeral procession) / white horses and unadorned carriages (used at a funeral)
- 【白马王子】 báimǎ-wángzǐ prince riding a white horse—**Prince Charming**
- 【白茫茫】 báimángmáng a vast expanse of whiteness / an endless whiteness 例: 下了一场大雪, 田野上~一片。After the heavy snow, the fields were a *vast expanse of whiteness*.
- 【白眉赤眼】 báiméi-chiǎn white-browed and red-eyed—for no apparent reason / without any cause or reason / barefaced
- 【白蒙蒙】 báimēngmēng white and indistinct / whitish and indistinct / hazy / misty 例: 雾中~的人影 *white and indistinct figures in the fog*
- 【白面书生】 báimiàn-shūshēng inexperienced young scholar / pale-faced intellectual [scholar] / pasty-faced bookworm [pedant] / scholar inexperienced in affairs of family / stripling of a student 例: 那可有啥办法? 咱们~, 手无寸铁。What can we do? We are *pale-faced intellectuals* with no weapons in our hands.
- 【白跑一趟】 báipǎo-yītàng to make a fruitless [futile] trip
- 【白日不做亏心事, 半夜敲门不吃惊】 báirì bù zuò kuīxīnshì, bànyè qiāomén bù chījīng 〈谚〉 **A clean conscience fears not false accusations.** / 〈谚〉 **A clean**

- [clear] conscience laughs at false accusations.** / 〈谚〉 **A clear conscience is a sure card.** / 〈谚〉 **A good conscience is a constant [continual] feast.** / 〈谚〉 **A good conscience is a soft pillow.** / 〈谚〉 **A good conscience is not afraid.** / 〈谚〉 **A good conscience knows no fear.** / 〈谚〉 **A quiet conscience sleeps in thunder.** / 〈谚〉 **A safe conscience makes a sound sleep.** / He who does nothing wrong will sleep the sleep of the just. / One who hasn't done anything against conscience during the day needs not to be scared by the knocks at the door at midnight.
- 【白日点灯】 báirì-diǎndēng **to burn daylight / to hold a candle to the sun** 例: 别为此事~啦, 我们剩下的时间不多了。Burn not *daylight* about it; we have short time to spare.
- 【白日见鬼】 báirì-jiànguǐ to have a fantasy / to see ghosts in broad daylight / pure fantasy / absurd / imaginary / impossible 亦作“白昼见鬼”
- 【白日梦】 báirì-mèng **aerial architecture / air castle** / 〈美口〉 **pipe dream / waking dream** / daydream / fantasy / 〈英方〉 **gape-seed** / 〈美口〉 **pipe-dream / reverie** / woolgathering
- 【白日青天】 báirì-qīngtiān 见“青天白日”
- 【白日上青天】 báirì shàng qīngtiān 见“白日升天”
- 【白日升天】 báirì-shēngtiān to ascend in broad daylight—to win promotion in one's career abruptly / to ascend to the heavens in daytime—to become supernatural beings 亦作“白日上青天”
- 【白日做梦】 báirì-zuòmèng **to build castles in Spain / to build castles in the air** [skies] / 〈英方〉 **to buy gape-seed / to chase after (the) rainbow(s) / to chase (the) rainbow(s)** / to cherish a fond [pipe] dream / to daydream / to dream daydreams / to dream in broad daylight / to dream with one's eyes open / to indulge in wishful thinking / 〈英方〉 **to plant gape-seed** / 〈英方〉 **to reap gape-seed** / 〈英方〉 **to seek gape-seed** / 〈英方〉 **to sow gape-seed** / to spin daydreams / 〈法〉 **bâtir des châteaux en Espagne** / daydreaming / fantasy / Mitty / spacing out / stargazing 例: 他是在~, 他明明知道自己是根本不可能去非洲旅游的。He's *building castles in the air*, he knows he'll never travel to Africa. 亦作“白昼做梦”
- 【白日做梦, 痴心妄想】 báirì zuòmèng, chīxīn wàngxiǎng an idiot's daydream
- 【白色恐怖】 báisè-kǒngbù **White Terror** 例: 血腥的~ bloody *White Terror*
- 【白森森】 báisēnsēn bleached / pale / white 例: 沙地上~的骷髅 *bleached skull on the sands* / ~的光 *pale light*
- 【白山黑水】 Báishān-Hēishuǐ Changbai Mountains and Heilongjiang River—northeast China / White mountain and Black water—the landscape of northeast China
- 【白闪闪】 báishǎnshǎn flashing [glittering, shining] white 例: ~的刺刀 *flashing white bayonet*

B

【白商素节】 báishāng-sùjié in autumn / 〈美〉 in the fall

【白手成家】 báishǒu-chéngjiā 见“白手起家”

【白手起家】 báishǒu-qǐjiā to build up from nothing / to build up one's fortune from scratch / to rise in life without help / **to run up from a shoestring** / to start empty-handed / **to start at [from, on] scratch** / 〈美〉 **to start from taw** / to start on an empty purse / to start one's business on a shoestring / to start out penniless / 〈口〉 **from scratch** / from-scratch / self-formed / self-made 例: 他的福佑药房是白手成家的。He had *built up* his Fu You Pharmacy *from nothing*. / 很难相信这家大型炼钢厂是近几年才 ~ 办起来的。It's hard to believe that this big steel mill *started from scratch* only a few years ago. / 据说亨利·福特是 ~ 的。It is said that Henry Ford *started his business on a shoestring*. / 他 ~, 靠自己的努力拥有一家大工厂。Starting out penniless, he raised himself by his bootlaces to the ownership of a large factory. / ~ 建立合成纤维工业 to build a synthetic-fibre industry *from scratch* / 这人也是个 ~ 的人, 比起其他老板来还算平和, 为人也还够朋友。He's a *self-made* man. Seems milder than the other proprietors and is quite friendly in a way. 亦作“白手成家”

【白首穷经】 báishǒu-qióngjīng to continue to study even in old age / A hoary head does research in the classics—an aged person still learns. / 〈谚〉 **Live and learn.**

【白首如新】 báishǒu-rúxīn 见“白头如新”

【白首一节】 báishǒu-yījié to preserve one's personality in old age

【白首之盟】 báishǒuzhīméng marriage vow to be [stay] together till death / nuptial vow to stick together until death

【白叟黄童】 báisǒu-huángtóng **old and young** / the aged and the young / white-haired old men and babes / **young and old**

【白头到老】 báitóu-dàolǎo 见“白头偕老”

【白头如新】 báitóu-rúxīn to maintain aloof from each other though associated till the hair is white / to maintain an old acquaintanceship having no real understanding with each other 亦作“白首如新”

【白头如新, 倾盖如故】 báitóu-rúxīn, qīnggài-rúgù There are white-headed men who are like new friends and men for whom one inclines one's canopy who are like old friends—there are some persons whom one may know all one's life without their becoming more than newly-met acquaintances, while there are others who at a chance meeting immediately become old friends.

【白头偕老】 báitóu-xiélǎo to live in harmony till old and grey / to live to a hoary age as husband and wife / to live to a ripe old age in conjugal bliss / to remain a devoted couple to the end of their lives / to remain happily married

to a ripe old age / to stick to each other till the hair turns grey / **to take “for better for worse”** 亦作“白发偕老”, “白头到老”

【白屋寒门】 báiwū-hánmén a thatched cottage—a poor family / an unpainted roughly built hut inhabited by the poor

【白苋紫茄】 báixiàn-zǐqié white amaranth and purple eggplant—leading a simple life

【白雪皑皑】 báixuě-ái'ái an expanse of white snow / Snow gleams white.

【白雪漫漫】 báixuě-mànmàn a boundless expanse of snow

【白雪阳春】 báixuě-yángchūn Spring Snow (melodies of the élite in the State of Chu)—highbrow art and literature

【白眼看人】 báiyǎn-kàn rén to look upon people with disdain / to look upon sb with contempt / to show sb the whites of one's eyes / to treat people superciliously

【白眼相加】 báiyǎn-xiāngjiā Each gives the other a cold shoulder. / Each looks down his nose at the other.

【白眼相看】 báiyǎn-xiāngkàn to despise / **to look down on [upon]** / **to turn up the whites of one's eyes**

【白衣苍狗】 báiyī-cānggǒu 见“白云苍狗”

【白衣天使】 báiyī-tiānshǐ angels in white—hospital nurses

【白衣战士】 báiyī-zhànshì medical worker / warrior in white / white-coated fighter [warrior]

【白鱼入舟】 báiyú-rùzhōu A white fish jumps into the boat—a good omen for military operation.

【白玉微瑕】 báiyù-wēixiá 见“白璧微瑕”

【白玉无瑕】 báiyù-wúxiá 见“白璧无瑕”

【白云苍狗】 báiyún-cānggǒu the vicissitudes of events (like changing cloud formations) / The white clouds suddenly take the shape of a grey dog—the worldly affairs are always changing. / White clouds change into grey dogs—the changes in human affairs often take freakish forms. 亦作“白衣苍狗”, “苍狗白云”

【白云孤飞】 báiyún-gūfēi 见“白云亲舍”

【白云亲舍】 báiyún-qīnshě remembrance of home / remembrance of parents 亦作“白云孤飞”

【白云深舍】 báiyún-shēnshě A house nestles among towering peaks above which float white clouds.

【白纸黑字】 báizhǐ-hēizì **black and white** / black characters on white paper / black letters on white (paper) / **in black and white terms** / what has been put down in black and white / black-and-white 例: 你应当把这一点用 ~ 记下来。You should put this down in *black and white*.

【白昼见鬼】 báizhòu-jiànguǐ 见“白日见鬼”

【白昼做梦】 báizhòu-zuòmèng 见“白日做梦”

【白字连篇】 báizi-liánpiān to be full of incorrect [misspelled] form of words / to be full of wrongly written

words / to make a great number of mistakes in spelling / to teem with wrongly written characters / pages and pages of wrongly written characters / reams of wrong characters / There are a lot of characters wrongly written. 例: 这篇文章 ~。The article is full of wrongly written words.

【百般嘲笑】 bǎibān-cháoxiào to heap all manner of ridicule on / to heap scorn and abuse on / to pour scorn on
【百般抵赖】 bǎibān-dǐlài to try by every means to deny

【百般刁难】 bǎibān-diāonàn to create all sorts of obstacles / to create obstructions of every description / to keep raising objections / to put up innumerable obstacles / to raise all manner of difficulties

【百般奉承】 bǎibān-fèngchéng to flatter by every means / to flatter sedulously / servile [sedulous] flattery / tirelessly fawn upon

【百般劝慰】 bǎibān-quànwèi to try every means to soothe sb / to try in a hundred and one ways to console [solace] / to try to soothe and coax sb

【百般辱骂】 bǎibān-rǔmà to assail sb with every possible kind of abuse / to call all kinds of names / to hurl every sort of insult at sb / to indulge in scurrilities / to shout all sorts of abuse / to yell every form of insult

【百般挑剔】 bǎibān-tiāotì to be particularly fastidious about / to nit-pick / to shoot full of holes 例: 他就一些细节 ~。He nit-picked a few details. / “他就这计划说了些什么?”——“他对这计划 ~。”“What did he say about the plan?”——“He shot it full of holes.”

【百般无赖】 bǎibān-wúlài by all crooked means [wiles] / using all rascally means

【百般无奈】 bǎibān-wúnài to have absolutely no way out / to have no alternative [choice] (but...) / to have no other way out / cannot help it / There is no alternative (but...). 例: ~我才作了让步。I had no other way out but to compromise.

【百般照顾】 bǎibān-zhàogù to show sb every consideration

【百般咒骂】 bǎibān-zhòumà to abuse in every possible way / to heap abuse on [upon] 例: 对她 ~也无济于事。It's no use heaping abuse upon her.

【百般阻挠】 bǎibān-zǔnáo to do one's utmost to obstruct / to try to put a spoke in sb's wheel whenever possible

【百弊丛生】 bǎibì-cóngshēng All kinds of corruptions [social evils] creep in. / All kinds of troubles grow up. / All sorts of abuse are prevalent. / Trouble after trouble comes up.

【百病从口入】 bǎibìng cóng kǒu rù Diseases come in at the mouth. / 〈谚〉 Diseases enter by the mouth. / Illnesses find their way in by the mouth.

【百病丛生】 bǎibìng-cóngshēng All kinds of diseases

and ailments break out. / All kinds of troubles arise.

【百不得一】 bǎibùdéyī not one in a hundred / Not one out of a hundred is acceptable.

【百不失一】 bǎibùshīyī 见“百无一失”

【百不一失】 bǎibùyīshī 见“百无一失”

【百不一爽】 bǎibùyīshuǎng 见“百无一失”

【百步穿杨】 bǎibù-chuānyáng to hit a willow branch at 100 yards by an arrow / to hit virtually any target within a hundred steps / to pierce a willow leaf at a hundred paces / to pierce through a willow leaf with an arrow from the distance of a hundred paces / to shoot an arrow through a willow leaf from a hundred paces away / to shoot with infallible precision / to split a willow wand at a hundred paces

Literary allusion: The Historical Records (《史记》) says: In the state of Chu there was a man named Yang Youji (养由基) who was good at shooting arrows and could make every shot tell when he shot the willow leaves at a distance of one hundred paces. 例: 他们的枪法, 是 ~, 从不落空。They were such good shots they could pierce a willow leaf at a hundred paces and never miss. / 他方知黄忠有 ~ 之能。He heard that Huang Zhong's skill was such that he could pierce through a willow leaf with an arrow from the distance of a hundred paces.

【百步无轻担】 bǎi bù wú qīng dàn 〈谚〉 A light load is heavy to carry far. / 〈谚〉 A straw is heavy in a long journey. / 〈谚〉 In a long journey straw weighs. / 〈谚〉 Light burdens far heavy. / 〈谚〉 Light burdens, long borne, grow heavy.

【百尺竿头, 更进一步】 bǎi chǐ gāntóu, gèng jìn yī bù to amplify one's effort by working a lot harder / to break one's own record / to exert greater efforts and make further progress / to make another step at the highest point / to make still greater progress on top of one's tremendous achievements / to try to do still better after having achieved a fair degree of success / to win still further achievements / further improve one's work 例: 我希望明年你们在提高生产方面 ~。I hope, in the coming year, you'll exert greater efforts and make further progress in promoting production.

【百尺高楼平地起】 bǎi chǐ gāolóu píngdì qǐ High buildings rise from the ground—everything starts from scratch. / Lofty towers are all built up from the ground—great undertakings have small beginnings.

【百川归海】 bǎichuān-guīhǎi A hundred rivers find their way to the sea. / All rivers empty themselves into the ocean. / All rivers flow into the sea. / All rivers meet in the sea. / 〈谚〉 All rivers run into the sea. / All things tend in one direction. / Everyone turns to sb for guidance. / Rivers descend to the sea. 例: 犹如~, 群英毕集于此城。Like rivers descending to the sea, all heroes are gathering in this city.

B