

让我们一起进入今天的近义词辨析的课程吧。

## outline/ summary

这两个词都有“概要”的相关含义。

### outline /'aʊt,laɪn/

1. an explanation that includes the general points about something, but not the details (概要, 梗概)

例句: The proposals were given in outline by the Secretary of State.

国务卿对提议进行了简要的概述。

2. a line that shows the outer edge or shape of something [(尤指模糊的) 轮廓, 外形]

例句: He could see only the hazy outline of the goalposts.

他只能看见球门柱模糊的轮廓。

### summary /'sʌməri/

1. a short account of something that gives only the most important information and not all the details (总结, 摘要, 概括)

例句：Milligan gives a fair summary of his subject within a relatively short space.

米利根用比较小的篇幅对他的课题作了一个清晰简要的概述。

**辨析：**outline 指的是“要点”，“大纲”，“概要”，将内容概括成几个点，它还可以表示“轮廓”等意；而 summary 指的是“总结”，“摘要”，指用寥寥数语概括文章或者讲话的要点，不考虑原文的风格。

### conform / comply

这两个词都有“遵守”的相关意思。

**conform** /kən'fɔ:m/

1. to behave in a way that most people think is correct or suitable (按规矩形式，顺从)

例句：He did not feel obliged to conform to the rules that applied to ordinary men.

他觉得自己不必遵守那些适用于普通人的规定。

2. to obey something such as a rule or law (遵守，遵从，符合)

例句：The meat market can continue only if it is radically overhauled to conform with strict European standards.

肉类市场只有经过彻底的大检查，严格遵守欧洲标准，才能继续营业。

3. to be similar to an idea of what is usual or normal (非常相似, 一致, 相吻合)

例句: Like most 'peacetime wars' it did not conform to preconceived ideas.  
如同大多数“和平时代的战争”一样, 这与我们的预想不同。

**comply** /kəm'plaɪ/

1. to obey a rule or law, or to do what someone asks you to do (服从, 遵守)

例句: There are calls for his resignation, but there is no sign yet that he will comply.

有人要求他辞职, 不过还没有迹象表明他会屈从。

**辨析:** conform 多表示按要求命令去做, 依从, 听从, do as one is requested; 而 comply 表示符合或遵守公认的规则, 准则等, keep to or comply with generally accepted rules, standards.

**classic/classical**

这一对词语都有“古典的”意思。

**classic** /'klæsɪk/

1. a classic song, book, play, television program, etc. is very good and has been popular and had a lot of influence for a long time (经典的, 典范的, 最优秀的)

例句: During the festival, we'll be showing 13 classic oldie films.

我们将在电影节期间展映 13 部经典老片。

2. completely typical (典型的)

例句: The debate in the mainstream press has been a classic example of British hypocrisy.

主流媒体上的辩论是英国式虚伪的典型例子。

3. classic style is simple and traditional and is not affected by changes in fashion (传统式样的, 典雅的)

例句: It is a classic style of Gothic buildings.

这是哥特式建筑的典型样式。

**classical** /'klæsɪk(ə)l/

1. following the original or traditional standard for something (传统的, 正统的, 古典的)

例句: Fokine did not change the steps of classical ballet; instead he found new ways of using them.

福金没有改变传统芭蕾舞的舞步, 而是另辟蹊径对这些舞步加以运用。

2. classical music is music that is considered to be serious and of lasting value [(音乐) 古典的, 严肃的]

例句: The radio station has to include a substantial proportion of classical music.

该电台不得不播放大量的古典音乐。

3. relating to the languages, literature, and cultures of ancient Greece and Rome (古典文化的, 古希腊古罗马文明的)

例句: It's a technological achievement that is unrivalled in the classical world.

这是古典时期一项无可匹敌的技术成果。

4. used for referring to an ancient form of a language used during a time when important literature was written (古文的, 文言的)

例句: Although the official language is classical Arabic, about 40 percent of the population still speaks Berber.

虽然官方语言是阿拉伯文, 但约有四成人口仍讲柏柏尔语。

**辨析:** classic 的主要用法一个是表示“典型的”、“有代表性的”, 即是某个事物具备同类事物的所有特征或特色, 可以作为该类事物的代表, 另一个意义是“精辟的”、“优秀的”, 表示某个作品 (特别是文章或电影) 是同类中最优秀的作品, 口语中也会用到 classic 这个词, 用来表达赞美; 然而 classical 的意义是“古典”, 指一些古典时间的作品, 或指一些属于古典风格的作品, 特别应用于形容音乐或文学, 通常表示这些作品具有长远历史, classical 也带有“传统”的意义, 特别是指一些传统学派。

## torture / torment

这两个词都有“痛苦”的意思。

### torture /'tɔ:tʃər/

1. extreme physical pain caused by someone or something, especially as a punishment or as a way to make someone say something (折磨, 痛苦, 苦恼, 拷问)

例句: I believed that in civilized countries, torture had ended long ago.

我原以为在文明国家, 严刑拷打早已销声匿迹。

### torment /'tɔ:ment/

1. severe physical or mental pain that someone suffers, often caused deliberately by someone else (极度痛苦, 折磨, 苦恼万分)

例句: The torment of having her baby kidnapped is written all over her face.

因孩子被绑架所受的万分折磨全写在她脸上。

2. someone or something that makes you suffer severe physical or mental pain (使人痛苦的事, 折磨人的事)

例句: Sooner or later most writers end up making books about the torments of being a writer.

或早或晚，大多数作家最终都会著书讲述身为作家的苦恼。

**辨析：**torment 一般强调烦恼或痛苦的长期性；而 torture 的语气比 torment 强，指在精神或肉体上受到的折磨所产生的痛苦。

### at last / at length

这两个短语都有“最后，终于”的意思。

#### at last

多指经主观努力，克服各种困难后才终于达到目的。

例句：I'm so glad that we've found you at last!

我们终于找到你了，我真是太高兴了！

At last he was free from the financial bloodsuckers.

最后他终于摆脱了那些吸金者的经济剥削。

#### at length

强调经历一段长时间后终于完成，侧重在时间部分。

例句：At length, weary with wandering, they fell asleep.

最后，因为游逛得很疲乏，他们都睡着了。

At length the young lady raised her head and looked steadily at his intelligent face.

那个年轻妇女终于抬起头,目不转睛地盯着他心领神会的脸。

