

让我们再来向本周的这 5 组近义词语进发吧！

compel/ constrain

这两个词都有“强迫”的相关意思。

compel /kəm'pel/

1. to force someone to do something, or to get something from someone using force (强迫, 逼迫)

例句: Nothing can compel me to do such a thing.

没有什么可以强迫我做这件事。

constrain /kən'streɪn/

1. to limit someone's freedom to do what they want (限制, 约束)

例句: Don't constrain yourself only to class study.

不要把自己的学习只局限于课堂。

2. to force someone to do something that they do not want to do (强迫, 强使)

例句: For some reason he felt constrained to lower his voice.

不知怎么的, 他觉得自己必须得压低声音。

辨析：compel 常表示运用权利、力量迫使对方做某事，有时也表示“别无办法，不得不做”，而 constrain 意思与其相近，但更多强调内心情感（如道德、怜悯等）的强迫和限制作用，一般用于比较正式场合。

component / element

这两个词都有“组成成分”的相关意思。

component /kəm'pəʊnənt/

1. the components of something are the parts that it is made of; one of the different parts that a machine or piece of equipment consists of (成分，组成部分，部件，元件)

例句：They were automotive component suppliers to motor manufacturers.
他们为汽车制造商供应汽车零件。

element /'elɪmənt/

1. the different elements of something are the different parts it contains (成分，组成部分)

例句：The exchange of prisoners of war was one of the key elements of the UN's peace plan.

交换战俘是联合国和平计划的一个重要部分。

2. an important basic part of something complicated, for example a system or plan (要素, 基本部分)

例句: Fitness has now become an important element in our lives.

现在健康已经成为我们生活中的一个要素。

3. a substance that consists of only one type of atom (元素)

例句: Carbon is an element, while carbon dioxide is a compound.

碳是一种(化学)元素, 而二氧化碳则是一种化合物。

4. a small but important amount of a particular quality or feeling (些许, 一些)

例句: These reports clearly contain elements of propaganda.

这些报告明显带有一些宣传的意味。

5. the part of a piece of electrical equipment that produces heat (电热元件, 电热丝)

例句: With its unique heating element it makes perfect coffee.

其独特的电热元件使它能够煮出非常美味的咖啡。

辨析: component 多是在体积上比 element 大, 比如说一辆车是由哪些元件组成, 一般不用 element, element 一般指的是小到不能再分割或拆开的, 而 component 强调的是完整系统的一部分。此外, element 还有一些其他的释义, 我们要注意它们在实际应用中的不同用法。

alert/ cautious

这一对词语都有“小心谨慎”的相关含义。

alert /ə'lə:rt/

1. able to think in a clear and intelligent way (敏捷的, 敏锐的, 机灵的)

例句: He's remarkably alert for his age.

对于他的年龄, 他可是相当敏锐了。

2. paying attention to what is happening and ready to react quickly if necessary (警觉的, 警惕的, 留神的, 机敏的)

例句: The rabbit seems to be very alert all its life.

兔子似乎一生都小心翼翼, 十分警觉。

cautious /'kəʃəs/

1. careful to avoid problems or danger (谨慎的, 慎重的, 小心的)

例句: The scientists are cautious about using enzyme therapy on humans.

科学家们对在人身上使用酶疗法非常慎重。

辨析： alert 多表示“警惕的”、“留神的”，一般多表示可以迅速反应，十分敏锐；而 cautious 的意思中主要强调的是 careful，表示“小心”、“谨慎”，避免出现问题、危险、状况等等。同学们仔细看几遍它们的英文解释，感受下它们在意思表达上的不同。

wait / await

这两个词都有“等待”的意思。

wait /weɪt/

1. to stay in one place because you expect or hope that something will happen; to delay doing something until someone arrives or until something else happens (等待, 等候)

例句: I walk to a street corner and wait for the school bus.

我走到街角等校车。

2. to be ready for someone to take or use (准备妥当, 可获得, 可使用)

例句: When we came home we had a meal waiting for us.

我们到家时, 有一顿美餐正等着我们享用。

await /ə'weɪt/

1. to wait for something that you expect to happen (等候, 等待)

例句：Very little was said as we awaited the arrival of the chairman.

我们等候主席到来的时候都没怎么说话。

2. if something awaits you, it will happen to you (即将发生于, 将降临到.....身上)

例句：A nasty surprise awaited them in Rosemary Lane.

在罗斯玛丽巷，一起严重的意外事件正等待着他们。

辨析：

它们之间用法的区别主要可以总结为以下几点：

1) await 是及物动词，后面直接接宾语；wait 虽然也可用作及物动词，但在现代英语中，一般作不及物动词用，与 for, to, till, until 等词连用。

2) await 的宾语大都是抽象名词，如：decision, reply, arrival, announcement, return 等；wait for 的宾语一般是人或事物。

3) await 之后接动名词；wait 之后接动词不定式。

4) await 多用于书面语；wait 多用于口语。

具体的使用方法还是要通过大家在更多的实践应用去领会。

at ease / with ease

这两个介词短语的意思和使用场合并不相同。

at ease

意思是“安逸地”，“安心地”，“自在地”，feeling confident or relaxed.

例句：

His mind was at ease and he felt confident in the future.

他心情舒畅，对前途很有信心。

They sprawl at ease across the sofa, arms draped over the back.

他们惬意地躺在沙发上，胳膊搭在后面。

with ease

意思是“轻松地”，“容易地”，“轻而易举地”，easily or without difficulty.

例句：

Anne was intelligent and capable of passing her exams with ease.

安妮很聪明，能够轻松通过考试。

This toy can be taken apart and put together with ease.

这个玩具可容易地拆开再装起来。