

# 英語の諺（付いろは歌留多）

— 英文法授業の教材として —

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## English Proverbs....app. The Japanese alphabet cards as the Materials in Teaching English Grammar

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### はじめに

私は英語の教師として、その大部分を旧制中学・新制中学・新制高校で過して来た。経験した学校は合計7校——一番短い学校は僅か十一か月、そして一番長期に亘ったのは実に四分の一世紀に及んだ。在職期間の長短はあれ、どの学校も印象深く脳裡によみがえって来る。殊にここ数年間は教え子たちが催してくれるクラス会に出席する機会が多い。その時必ず話題に出るのは授業のことである。教え子たちは最年長者は既に五十路を過ぎている。大学生・高校生・中学生の父親であり、母親である。終戦後しばらくつづいた紙不足で、随分苦勞して作成したガリ版ずりのプリントの話が出る。大へん懐しい。また無味乾燥な文法の授業を少しでも興味をもたせるべく引用した英語の諺・いろは歌留多の英訳などが、今も方寸のカメラにおさまっているとの話がでる。こんな場合、ある時は冷汗をかき、またある時は若かったからこそできた数々のプリント（今ふり返って見ると、つまらない誤があって、ゾっとすることもあるが）骨を惜しまず生徒に与えてよかったなあと、教師冥利を覚える今日この頃である。ともすると dull lecture になりやすい文法の授業を少しでも生徒に興味を持たせるべく、毎時間一回は必ず英語の諺を引用することにした。少々記憶力の弱い生徒でも、例えば「動名詞」がでてくると、にっこり笑って“*There is no accounting for tastes.*”“*It is no use crying over spilt milk.*”が反射的に出て来ると大へん嬉しい。諺により、生徒の道徳的陶冶の一助にもなったのではないかと自負するようになった。

十八世紀のドイツの哲学者ヘルダー (Johann Gottfred von Herder) (1744~1803) は「諺は民族の考え方の鏡である。」—“*Sprichwörter sind der Spiegel der Denkart einer Nation*” (Proverbs mirror the thinking of a nation.) と喝破している。蛇足ながらヘルダーには次の作品がある。

歌謡にあらわれた諸民族の声	(1807)
ドイツ文学断想	(1766~67)
わが旅日記	(1769)
言語起原論	(1772)
シェイクスピア論	(1773)

昭和59年4月本学に参り、英語科の篠田教授と同室という御縁ができた。同教授は誠に温厚

明朗で博学，きわめて学究的である。偶々先生の「英語落穂拾い」「英語の諺・古言の研究」を頂戴し，いかに先生が日頃から英語に深い関心を持って居られたかに驚き感服し，私など足許にもよれないことを痛感したのである。その先生の諺に対する御造詣の深さに心を打たれるとともに次の文章を思い出したのである。（私は長年受験指導をしていたためか，昭和34年度の岩手大学の問題である。）

In the physical sciences it has become a commonplace that discoveries are frequently made simultaneously by two or more minds working quite independently of one another. It is as though the discovery itself has come into existence of its own accord, as the result of the development of knowledge leading up to it, and is as it were waiting to be discovered. Likewise, two or more writers living at more or less the same time may show similar modes of seeing the world and of putting it in the novel.

(自然科学において，互いに全く無関係に研究している二人，またはそれ以上の人々によって，発見が同時に行なわれることがしばしばあるのは当然のことになっている。これは知識の進歩が発見をうながす結果として，ひとりでの発見が行なわれるようなものでありまた，発見の方法が，いわば発見されるのを望んで，待ちもっているようなものである。同じように，ほぼ同時代に生きる二人，またはそれ以上の作家が類似した方法で世界を眺めて，それを小説に描いていることがわかるかもしれない。)

とにも角にも，私が教育に捧げた四十年は長いようでまだ短いものであり，その間英文法の時間に引用したささやかな英語の諺を品詞別にまとめてみた。

### 英語の諺 —— 英文法の教材として ——

#### A. 文型

Extremes meet.	(分別が過ぎると愚にかえる。)
Wonders last but nine days.	(人の噂も75日)
Fair flowers do not remain long by the wayside.	(美人薄命)
Misfortunes never come single.	(弱り目にたたり目)
Fine feathers make fine birds.	(馬子にも衣裳)
Love sees no faults.	(ほれた欲目)
Experience makes even fools wise.	(経験は馬鹿をも賢くする)
Every man thinks his own geese swans.	(我が佛貴し)

#### B. 名詞

##### a. the + 普通名詞 → 抽象名詞

Experience is <i>the</i> mother of wisdom.	(経験は知恵の母)
Industry is <i>the</i> parent of success.	(勤勉は成功の親)

##### b. 抽象名詞 → 普通名詞

Age should be housed.	(年寄り二階へ上らず)
Age breeds aches.	(四十肩に五十腰)

##### c. 副詞(句) → 名詞

'After you' is good manners.	(雁に長小の列あり)
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*From hand to mouth* will never make worthy man. (恒産なければ恒心なし)

*Never* is a long word. (軽卒に否定をする勿れ)

C. 冠詞 (不定冠詞)

a. the same の意味

Two of *a* trade seldom agree. (同業不和)

Birds of *a* feather flock together. (類は友を呼ぶ)

b. per の意味

Christmas comes but once *a* year. (柳の下にいつもどじょうは居ない)

An apple *a* day keeps the doctor away. (一日林檎一個で医者いらす)

c. one の意味

A stitch in time saves nine. (適時の一針九針の手間を省く)

Rome was not built in *a* day. (ローマは一日にしてならず)

d. many *a*...

*Many a* true word is spoken in jest. (嘘から出たまこと)

*Many a* pickle makes a mickle. (ちりも積もれば山となる)

D. 数詞

a. one

*One* good mother is worth a hundred schoolmasters. (一人の賢母は百人の教師にあたる)

*One* hour's sleep before midnight is worth three after. (夜中前の一時間の眠りはその後の3時間に値する)

*One* swallow does not make a summer. (一斑を以て全豹を推す勿れ)

b. two

*Two's* company, *three's* none. (二人なら仲よし, 三人になると仲間割れ)

*Two* heads are better than one. (三人寄れば文珠の知恵)

There are *two* sides to every question (物に表裏あり)

c. three.

*Three* women make a market. (女三人市をなす)

*Three* removes are as bad as a fire. (三度の引越火事より損)

*Three* may keep a secret if two of them are dead. (仲間では秘密は保てない)

d. four

*Four* eyes see more than two. (2つ目より4つ目の方がよく見える)

*Four* make up a mess. (4が一組をつくる)

e. five

A man at *five* may be a fool at fifteen. (十で神童二十過ぎればただの人)

*Five* hours' sleeps a traveller, seven a scholar, eight a merchant, and eleven every knave. (げすの薬は寐薬)

f. six

- It is *six* of one and half-a-dozen of the other. (五十歩百歩)
- Three helping one another bear the burden of *six*. (破るる布も二重は久し)
- g. seven  
*Seven* at a feast, nine at a fray. (宴会には七人, けんかには九人)  
 Rain before *seven*; fine before eleven. (七時前の雨は十一時前に晴)
- h. eight  
 The snow for *eight* days is a mother to the earth, but after a step-mother. (雪は八日間は大地の母であるがそれ以後は健母である)
- i. nine  
 A wonder lasts but *nine* days (in a town). (人の噂も七十五日)  
 Speak *nine* words at once. (立て板に水)
- j. ten  
 He can tell *ten* (or the fingers in his hand) (まんざらの馬鹿でない)  
 the upper *ten* (貴族階級)
- h. twenty  
 As good *twenty* as nineteen (五十歩百歩)  
 In time of prosperity friends will be plenty, in time of adversity not one among *twenty* (繁栄している時は友人が多く, 逆境に陥ると二十人中一人もいない)
- l. thirty  
 Every man at *thirty* is a fool or a physician. (人は皆八十になれば馬鹿か医者になる)  
*Thirty* days have November, April, June and September: February has twenty-eight alone and all the rest have *thirty-one*. (にしむく<sup>まむらい</sup>士)
- m. hundred  
 What some win in the *hundred* they lose in the shire. (爪で拾うて箕でこぼす)  
 When angry, count a *hundred*. (腹の立つことは明日云え)
- n. thousand  
 a man among a *thousand*. (白眉)  
 Good counsel will sometimes do more than a *thousand* men. (よい助言は時々千人以上の力を発揮する)

#### E. 代名詞

##### a. It

##### 1. 形式主語

*It* is a good thing to eat your brown bread first. (若い時の苦勞は買うてもせよ)

- It is a hard task to be poor and leal.* (貧すれば鈍する) [leal=faithful]  
*It is dangerous to feed another man's dog.* (捨て犬ににぎり飯)  
*It is a pity (that) fair weather should do any harm.* (晴天が害になるとは残念だ)  
*It is true that every man says.* (十目の見るところ十指の指すところ)
2. 強調構文
- It is a wise father that knows his own child.* (親馬鹿)  
*It is a long lane that has no turning.* (待てば海路の日和あり)  
*It is an ill wind that blows no man good.* (甲の損は乙の得)  
*It is a skilful workman that never blunders.* (猿も木から落ちる)  
*It is a bad action that success can not justify.* (勝てば官軍)
- b. 不定代名詞
1. one~another  
*One man's meat is another man's poison.* (甲の薬は乙の毒)  
*One bit draws down another.* (一つよければ又二つ)
2. every  
*There is one good wife in the country and every man thanks he has here.* (面々の揚貴妃)  
*When everybody's somebody, then no one's anybody.* (馬鹿があって利口がひき立つ)  
*Every Jack has his Jill.* (われなべにとじぶた)  
*Everybody's business is nobody's business.* (連帯責任は無責任)
3. some  
*None is a fool always, everyone sometimes.* (万年馬鹿も万年利口もない)  
*It is better to lose some things than all.* (曲るは折れるにまさる)  
*Keep some till furthermore come.* (より以上を得るまで幾ばくかを保有せよ)
4. other  
*All came from and will go to others.* (本来無一物)  
*Mind other men but most youelf.* (他人のことよりわがこと)
5. all  
*All for what will you give me.* (金のきれ目が縁のきれ目)  
*Better one die than all.* (小の虫を殺して大の虫を助ける)  
*Who has all in one place has all in the fire.* (一人子と一ばい船は持たぬがまし)

Have God and have <i>all</i> .	(神を持つ者はすべてを持つ)
No living man <i>all</i> things can.	(誰ととも万年をなすことはできない)
6. none	
One of these days is <i>none</i> of these days.	(紺屋のあさって)
One and <i>none</i> is all one.	(一と零は全く同じ)
Today a man tomorrow <i>none</i> .	(槿花一日の栄)
7. both	
<i>Both</i> together do best of all.	(車の両輪)
<i>Both</i> sides are losers.	(両方が負けである)
<i>Both</i> hands are cleaned when the one is washed with the others.	(世は相持ち)
c. 関係代名詞	
Who (先行詞を持たない場合)	
<i>Who</i> digs a pit for others falls into it himself.	(人を呪わば穴二つ)
<i>Whom</i> the gods love die young.	(佳人薄命)
<i>Who</i> spits against wind, spits in his own face.	(因果応報)
2. What	
<i>What's</i> done cannot be undone.	(覆水盆に返らず)
<i>What</i> is learnt in a cradle is carried to the grave.	(三つ子の魂百まで)
<i>What</i> man has done, man can do.	(彼も人なり我も人なり)
<i>What</i> will be, shall be.	(天命を待つ)
3. He who (or that)	
<i>He who</i> tries to please everybody pleases nobody.	(八方美人は誰にも好かれない)
<i>He who</i> touches pitch shall be defiled therewith.	(朱に交われれば赤くなる)
<i>He that</i> knows nothing doubts nothing.	(知らぬが佛)
<i>He that</i> loves the tree loves the branches.	(麦は屋上の馬に及ぶ)
4. 先行詞と関係代名詞の位置	
<i>He</i> laughs best <i>who</i> laughs last.	(早まって喜ぶ勿れ)
<i>He</i> knows not what love is <i>that</i> has most children.	(子を持って知る親の恩)
<i>All</i> is not gold <i>that</i> glitters.	(看板倒し)
<i>All</i> is well <i>that</i> ends well.	(仕上げが肝腎)
5. as	
He is <i>as</i> good a man <i>as</i> ever draw the sword.	(無類の立派な人)
He is <i>as</i> good a man <i>as</i> the earth bends.	(地球上で一番立派な人)

## F. 形容詞. 副詞

### a. 数量形容詞

#### 1. many

Who will not peep a penny shall never (一文銭も小判の端)  
have *many*.

Penny and penny laid up will be *many*. (ちりも積もれば山となる)

Poverty wants *many* things but covetous. (貧欲な底なき鉢に盛れ)

Of one will come *many*. (悪小なるをもってこれをなす勿れ)

Too *many* to be good. (沢山ありすぎて有難みがない)

#### 2. much

There is *much* to be said on both sides. (両方聞いて下知をなせ)

Meat is *much* but manners is more. (食物も大切だが行儀はもって大切)

Make *much* of one, good men are scarce. (立派な人は少いから立派な人を大切にせよ)

Too *much* liberty spoils all. (親の甘茶が毒になる)

*Much* is (a) little. (寸鉄人をさす)

#### 3. few

*Few* men and much meat make a feast (人数が少くて食物が沢山あることは御馳走になる)

*Few* words and many deeds. (寡言実行)

*Few* words show men wise (数を言えば屑を言う)

One is too *few*, three too many. (三人よれば取りのき講)

Who begins many things finishes but *few*. (一念はつぐとも二念は起すな)

#### 4. little

*Little* good soon spent. (谷狭きものは速かに涸る)

*Little* said soon mended. (口は災のもと)

He that has *little* is the less dirty. (少ししか持っていない者は汚さがそれ丈少い)

Every *little* helps. (一寸の糸三寸の繩)

Of a little take a *little*, of a mickle mickle. (有れば有るに従え)

### b. 比較

#### 1. as good as

A miss is *as good as* a mile (五十歩百歩)

An honest man is *as good as* his word (武士に二言なし)

Enough is *as good as* a feast. (十分は饗宴も同然)

#### 2. The 比較級~the 比較級

*The more* danger *the more* honor. (虎穴に入らずんば虎兇を得ず)

*The more* goods *the more* greed. (隴を得て蜀を望む)

*The more* mischief, *the better* sport. (けんかど火事は大きいほどよい)

*The more* reapers *the less* to reap. (うまいものは小勢で食べ)

<i>The more knave the better luck.</i>	(憎まれつ子世にはばかる)
3. better~than	
<i>Better it is to lose cloth than bread.</i>	(食わぬ辛棒はできず)
<i>Better sit still than rise and fall.</i>	(ねてころんだ例しはない)
<i>Better spent than spared.</i>	(宝の持ちぐされ)
<i>A living dog is better than a dead lion.</i>	(死にたる人は生けるねずみに如かず)
<i>A near friend is better than a far-dwelling kinsman.</i>	(遠い親類より近い他人)
4. more~than	
<i>Years know more than books.</i>	(亀の甲より年の功)
<i>There is more in it than you are ware of.</i>	(知っている以上のことがある)
<i>One enemy can do more hurt than ten friends can do good.</i>	(一人の敵が与え得る害悪は十人の友が与え得る益より大きい)
5. best	
<i>Bad is the best.</i>	(凶は大吉)
<i>The best is behind.</i>	(よい花は後から)
<i>The best in the company when there is no more.</i>	(鳥なき里のこうもり)
<i>Make the best of a bad bargain.</i>	(災いを転じて福となす)
<i>Every man loves himself best.</i>	(ひとを思うも身を思う)
6. worst	
<i>We must hope (for) the best and fear the worst.</i>	(最善を予期し最悪を予期しなければならぬ)
<i>No man becomes worst at the first dash.</i>	(何人も一挙に最悪になることはない)
<i>Provide for the worst, the best will save itself.</i>	(転ばぬ先の杖)
<i>A covetous is good to none but worst to himself</i>	(欲は身を失う)
<i>The worst can fall is but a denial</i>	(長者の娘も請うてみよ)
7. most	
<i>Mind other men but most yourself.</i>	(他人のことよりわが事)
<i>Most man are great braggers.</i>	(人はたいていほら吹きである)
<i>Most things have two handles.</i>	(たいていの物には手が二つある)
<i>He that has purchased the devil must make the most of him.</i>	(悪魔を乗せたら悪魔を最大限に活用しなければならない)
8. least	
<i>He is not rich that has much but that covets least.</i>	(足るを知る者は富む)
<i>The least and weakest man can do some hurt.</i>	(どんなに小さい人でも時々は害を与えることはできる)
9. last	



<i>Last</i> in bed best heard.	(後の雁が先になる)
The <i>last</i> straw breaks the camel's back.	(過ぎたるは及ばざるが如し)
One day judges another and the <i>last</i> is judge of all.	(棺を覆いて事定まる)
Let not the shoe-maker go beyond his <i>last</i> .	(靴直しに靴型を越えさせるな)
c. 誘導主語 <i>there</i>	
<i>There</i> are more old drunkards than old physicians.	(酒は百薬の長)
<i>There</i> belongs more whistling to going to plough.	(農耕仕事には口笛を吹くこと以上の仕事がある)
<i>There</i> came never ill of good advisement.	(七度比べて一度裁て)
G. 助動詞	
a. <i>will</i>	
One day <i>will</i> pay for all.	(待てば甘露の日からかさ)
Fill what you <i>will</i> and drink what you fill.	(さかずきに推参なし)
All must be as God <i>will</i> .	(運は天にあり)
Go where you <i>will</i> die where you ought.	(鳥は古巣にかえる)
If one <i>will</i> not, another <i>will</i> ; the market day.	(甲に買う気はなくても乙にはある。あしたは市のたつ日だわい)
b. <i>can</i>	
Man <i>can</i> do what he <i>can</i> and God what he will.	(人間は自分に可能なことをする。神は欲することをする)
A man <i>can</i> do no more than he can.	(器量によりて荷をば持て)
A man <i>cannot</i> be robbed of his learning.	(芸は身につく)
A man <i>cannot</i> be too wary.	(用心には網をはれ)
c. <i>may</i>	
He that will not when he <i>may</i> , when he would he shall have nay.	(好機逸すべからず)
Things must be as they <i>may</i>	(望めど望まれず逃れど逃られず)
Who that <i>may</i> not as they would, as they <i>may</i> .	(似合った屁をひれ)
d. <i>must</i>	
Needs <i>must</i> .	(万やむなし)
He <i>must</i> needs go whom the devil drives.	(せつばつまればできる)
In things that <i>must</i> be it is good to be resolute.	(あらねばならぬ事柄には決然たる態度で臨むのがよい)
e. <i>should</i>	
A joke <i>should</i> not be carried too far.	(冗談にも程がある)

Allow the belly what thou *shouldst*, not what thou mayest. (腹八分に医者いらず)  
 Though you say it, that *should* not say it, and must say it, if it be said. (そんなことをいうべきでない君が言うことなのだが。でも誰かがいうとなれば君がいうよりほかはない)

f. *would*

Do to others as you *would* have others do to you. (己の欲せざる処を他に施すなかれ)  
 Such a man as thou *would* be draw thee to such company. (君がなりたいと思う人、そういう人の仲間入れ)  
 If we *would* avoid a mischief we must not be very kind and familiar with an evil man. (君子危きに近よらず)

H. Verbals

a. Infinitives

It's hard *to teach* an old dog new tricks. (老人は新説と和し難し)  
 It's not good *to wake* a sleeping lion. (やぶをつついて蛇を出す)  
 Always you are *to be* rich next year. (紺屋のあさって)  
 Eat *to live*, not live *to eat*. (食わんがために生きず生きんがために食え)  
 It's never too late *to mend*. (改むるに憚ることなかれ)

b. Participles

A *barking* dog bites little. (吠えつく犬はかまぬ)  
 A *drowning* man will catch at a straw. (溺れる者は藁をもつかむ)  
 A *burnt* child dreads the fire. (あつものにこりて膾をふく)  
*Borrowed* garments never fit well. (借り衣身に合わず)  
*Forbidden* fruit is sweet. (怖いもの見たし)

c. Gerunds

*Borrowing* brings care. (借金は苦の種)  
*Doing* everything is doing nothing. (何でも屋の何にも知らず)  
 It is no *meddling* with our betters. (長い物には巻かれろ)  
 It is no *flying* without wings. (橋がなければ渡られぬ)  
*There is no accounting* for tastes. (蓼食う虫も好き好き)  
*There is no curing* of a grief concealed. (申さぬことは聞えぬ)

I. 前置詞

The highway is never *about*. (本街道は決して迂回していない)  
 Heaven is *above* all. (命は天にあり)  
*After* you is good manners. (雁に長少の列あり)  
 If God be with us who will be *against* us. (天の支えるところは破るべからず)  
 A drowning man will catch *at* a straw. (窮鳥枝を選ばず)

He that follows the lord hopes to go <i>before</i> .	(主人に随行する者は主人の前を進みたがる)
The best is <i>behind</i> .	(よい花は後から)
Praise a hill, but keep <i>below</i> .	(山を讃美せよ、しかしいつも麓に居れ)
On the turf all men are equal — and <i>beneath</i> it.	(冥途の道には王なし)
<i>Between</i> the devil and the deep sea.	(前門の虎・後門の狼)
<i>By</i> others fault men correct their own.	(人の振り見てわが振り直せ)
Everybody <i>for</i> himself and God <i>for</i> us all.	(我先き)
A bolt <i>from</i> the blue.	(青天の霹靂)
Everything is good <i>in</i> its season.	(鬼も十八番茶も出花)
A fool always comes short <i>of</i> his reckoning .	(馬鹿の算用あたることなし)
Pouring water <i>on</i> a duck's back.	(馬の耳に念佛)
Evil that comes <i>out of</i> thy mouth flies into the bosom.	(人を呪わば穴二つ)
Today <i>above</i> ground tomorrow <i>under</i> .	(今日ありて明白のない身)
To kill two birds <i>with</i> one stone.	(一石二鳥)
Keep <i>within</i> your means.	(分相応に暮せ)
Experience <i>without</i> learning is better than learning <i>without</i> experience.	(亀の甲より年の功)

## J. 接続詞

### a. 等位接続詞

Tread on a worm <i>and</i> it will turn.	(一寸の虫にも五分の魂)
Judge not of men <i>or</i> things at first sight.	(人は見かけによらぬもの)
East <i>or</i> west, home is best.	(家ほどよいところはない)
Honey is sweet, <i>but</i> the bee stings.	(ふぐは食いたし、命は惜しし)
Heaven's vengeance is slow <i>but</i> sure.	(天罰てきめん)
Trade knows <i>neither</i> friends <i>nor</i> kindred.	(金銭は他人)

### b. 従位接続詞

<i>While</i> there is a life, there is hope.	(生命あっての物種)
<i>When</i> the cat is away, the mice will play.	(鬼のいぬ間の洗濯)
Health is not valued <i>till</i> sickness comes.	(金の切れ目が縁の切れ目)
A friend is never known <i>till</i> one has need.	人の情は世にある時)
<i>Where</i> there's smoke, there's fire.	(火のないところに煙は立たぬ)
<i>Because</i> is woman's reason.	(「ですから」は女性の理由である)
When in Rome, do <i>as</i> the Romans do.	(郷に入っては郷に従え)

### c. 相関接続詞

As they sow, <i>so</i> let them reap.	(身から出た錆)
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As you make your bed, so you must lie (自業自得)  
on it.

Though thy enemy seem a mouse, yet (小敵と見て侮らず)  
watch him like a lion.

If wishes were truths, then beggars (願望が事実なら乞食も鳥を食べられる)  
would eat birds.

#### K. 否定構文

##### a. 二重否定

It never rains but it pours. (弱り目にたたり目)

No autumn fruit without spring blossom. (蒔かぬ種は生えぬ)

Never too old to learn. (八十の手習い)

It is never too late to mend. (改むるに憚ることなかれ)

##### b. 部分否定

All are not saints that go to church. (寺にも鬼)

All is not gold that glitters. (看板倒し)

Not every man is born with a silver spoon (生まれながらの富貴は少ない)  
in his mouth.

以上浅い拙い経験から at random の感みはあるがまとめてみた次第である。

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#### 付 いろは歌留多

時は江戸時代の中頃, いろはかるたは上方で生れ, 庶民の生活の知恵からにじみでた諺や格言をカルタに仕立てあげられた。その後間もなく江戸でも誕生, 日本人の心からにじみ出て興味深いものである。そこで東西に分けて, 英語と対比してみた。

東	西
い いぬもあるけば ぼうにあたる One cannot sit and wait for good fortune.	いっすんさき やみのよ Who can see into the future?
ろ ろんより しゃうこ Proof is better than argument. (It speaks for itself.)	ろんごよみ ろんごしらず (To stay foolish in spite of studying.)
は はなより だんご The belly is not filled with fair words.	はりのあなから てんのぞく We must take a just step to gain our goal.
に にくまれこ よにはばかる	にかいから めぐすり

Ill weeds grow apace.

ほ ほねおりぞんの くたびれもうけ

It is a Sisyphean labour.

※ Sisyphean (ギリシャ神話) 地獄で岩を山の頂上に押し上げる仕事を課せられた)

へ へをひつて しりつぼめる

What is done cannot be undone.

と としよりの ひやみづ

The old should not try to imitate the young.

ち ちりつもって やまとなる

Many a little makes a mickle.

り りちぎものの こたくさん

The homebody has many children.

ぬ ぬすびとの ひるね

A man is not to be judged by his appearance.

る るりもはりも てらせばひかる

All that is alike is not the same.

を をいては こにしたがふ

As one becomes older, one should pay mere attention to the opinions of younger people.

わ われなべに とぢぶた

Every Jack must have his Jill.

か かつたいのかさうらみ

Sue beggar, and get a louse.

よ よしずみからてんじょうをみる

(to judge from an incomplete perspective)

た たびはみちづれ

A cheerful companion is as good as a coach.

れ れうやく (良薬) は くちにがし

Good medicine tastes bitter to the mouth.

そ そうりやう (総領) のじんろく

First born, least clever.

Insufficient efforts remain without success.

ほとけのかほも さんど

Even stoically patient people become angry when they are repeatedly treated impolitely.

へたのながだんぎ

Brevity is the soul of wit.

とうふに かすがい

It's like water off a duck's back.

ちごくのさたもかねしだい

Money opens all doors.

りんげん あせのごとし

Emperor's words, once given, are not to be rescinded.

ぬかにくぎ

(useless efforts)

るいをもって あつまる

Birds of a feather flock together.

をにも 十八

Everything is good in its season.

わらふかどには ふくきたる

Good fortune enters a gate of laughter.

かいるのつらに みず

It is like pouring water on a duck's back.

よめとおめ かさのうち

All cats are grey in the dark.

たていたに みず

(With great fluency)

れんぎ (連木) で はらをきる

How shiftless to do what is foredoomed to failure!

そでのふりあわせも たしやうのゑん

Even a chance meeting is due to the karma in a previous life.

つ つきよに かまをぬく  
(to be taken completely off one's guard)  
ね ねんには ねんをつかへ  
Look before you leap.  
な なくつらを はちがさす  
Misfortunes never come singly.  
ら らくあれば くあり  
Ease makes thief.  
む むりがとほれば どうりひっこむ  
Where might is master, justice is servant.  
う うそからでた まこと  
Truth out of a lie.  
あ めものにへたも ごぞんじなく  
A man from a good family does not  
know much about the world.  
の のどもとすぐれば あつさわする  
The danger past, the saint mocked.  
お おにに かなぼう  
(to make the strong stronger)  
く くさいものに ふた  
Push (a troublesome problem) under the  
rug.  
や やすものかひの ぜにうしなひ  
Cheapest is dearest.  
ま まけるは かつ  
Sometimes the best gain is to lose.  
け げいは みをたすける  
Learning is never wastad.  
ふ ふみをやるにも かくてはもたぬ  
Much as I want to write a letter, I don't  
know how to write.  
こ こはさんがいの くびつかせ  
Children such the mother when they are  
young and the father when they are old.  
え えてに ほをあげる  
Hoist your sail when the wind is fair.  
て ていしゆのすきな あかゑほし  
The household adapts itself to the tastes  
of the householder.  
あ あたまかくして しりかくさず

つきよに かまをぬく  
(to be taken completely off one's guard)  
ねこにこぼん  
Don't cast pearls before Swine.  
なすときの えんまがほ  
The danger past and God forgotten.  
らいねんのこといへば おにがわらふ  
No one knows what the future will bring.  
むま(馬)の みみにかぜ  
(to fall on deaf ears)  
うちよりは そだち  
Birth is much, but breeding is more.  
あわしのかしらも しんじんから  
Faith can be based on even a head of a  
sardine.  
のみといはば つち  
(to have a very perceptive mind)  
おふたこにおしへられて あさせをわたる  
Good advice sometimes comes from the  
inexperienced.  
くさいものに はいがたかる  
Where there is a smoke, there is a fire.  
やみに てっぽう  
Scarbourough warning.  
まかぬたねは はへぬ  
Nothing comes from nothing.  
げたと やきみそ  
(as like as chalk and cheese)  
ぶしはくはねど たかやうじ  
Better go to bed supperless than to rise in  
debt.  
これにこりよ どうさいぼう  
Let this be a warning to you, Dosaibo!  
えんと つきひ  
Marry in haste and repent at leisure.  
てらから さとへ  
There is a proper order in doing  
anything.  
あしもとから とりがたつ

The foolish ostrich buries his head in the sand and thinks he is not seen.

さ さんべんまはって たばこにせう  
A little neglect may breed great mischief.

き きいてごくらく みてぢごく  
A paradise on hearsay, a hell at sight.

ゆ ゆだん たいてき  
He that is secure is not safe.

め めうへの こぶ  
A thorn in one's side.

み みからでた さび  
As they sow, so let them reap.

し しらぬが ほとけ  
The blind eat many a fly.

ゑ ゑんは いなもの  
Marriages are made in Heaven.

ひ びんぼう ひまなし  
Poor men no leisure.

も もんぜんのこぞう ならはぬきようをよむ  
A good candle-holder proves a good gamester.

せ せにはらは かへられぬ  
Necessity knows no laws.

す すいは みをくふ  
Gay life proves the ruin of many a man.

京

Many things happen unlooked for.

さほのさきに すず  
A chatter box will go on talking for ever.

きじんに おうどうなし  
There is no injustice before a severe God.

ゆうれいの はまかせ  
(to be as crestfallen as can be)

めくらの かきのぞき  
That's quite a vain effort.

みはみで とほる  
We can live on even with an empty pocket.

しはんぼうの かきのたね  
He will make nineteen bits of a bilberry.

えんのしたの まひ  
(labour in the background)

ひようたんから こま  
Many a true word is spoken in jest.

もちほもちや  
Every man to his trade.

せいはみちによって かしこし  
Every man a little beyond himself is a fool.

すずめ百まで おどりわすれぬ  
What is learned in the cradle is carried to the tomb.

京に ゐなかあり  
Rus in urbe.