

Idioms



枕戈待旦

刘琨是西晋末年魏昌人，他不仅武艺高强，而且很有抱负。

有一次，他听说朋友祖获被朝廷任命了官职，就给亲属写信说：“我每天都是枕着兵器睡觉，随时准备杀敌报国。可惜祖获比我先一步建功立业。”后来刘琨当上了并州的刺史。

这则成语的意思是，形容报国心切，一刻也不放松。

zhěn gē dài dàn
枕戈待旦

Sleep on spear till morning

Liu Kun was a man from Weichang in the late Western Jin Dynasty. He was not only good at martial arts, but also very ambitious.



One day he learned that his friend Zu Huo was appointed to an official post by the imperial court. He wrote a letter to one of his relatives, saying: "I use my weapons as my pillow every day, ready to fight the enemy to defend our country. But it's a pity Zu Huo created exploits ahead of me." Later, Liu Kun was appointed Governor of Bingzhou Prefecture.

This idiom means a person eagerly wants to defend his country without any rest.

zhěn		gē		dài		dàn	
枕		戈		待		旦	
Sleep on		spear		wait for		morning	
Sleep on spear till morning (Be ready for battle and highly alert)							
liú kūn	shì	xī jìn		mò nián		wèi chāng rén	,
刘琨	是	西晋		末年		魏昌人	
Liu Kun	is	Western Jin Dynasty		late		Weichang people	,
Liu Kun was a man from Weichang in the late Western Jin Dynasty.							
tā	bú jǐn	wǔ yì		gāo qiáng		ér qiě	
他	不仅	武艺		高强		而且	
He	not only	martial arts		excellent		but also	
hěn yǒu	bào fù	。					
很有	抱负						
very	ambitious	.					
He was not only good at martial arts, but also very ambitious.							
yǒu	yī cì	,					
有	一次						
have	once						
One day							
tā	tīng shuō	péng yǒu zǔ tì		bèi	cháo tíng	rèn mìng le	guānzhí ,
他	听说	朋友祖述		被	朝廷	任命了	官职，
He	heart	a friend named Zu Ti		was	imperial court	appointed	official post
he learned that his friend Zu Huo was appointed to an official post by the imperial court.							
jiù gěi	qīn shǔ	xiě		xìn		shuō :	
就给	亲属	写		信		说：	
to	relatives	wrote		letter		say:	
He wrote a letter to one of his relatives, saying:							
wǒ	měi tiān	dōu shì		zhěn zhe		bīng qì	shuì jiào ,
我	每天	都是		枕着		兵器	睡觉，
I	everyday	always		sleep on...as pillow		weapons	sleep ,
"I use my weapons as my pillow every day,							
suí shí		zhǔn bèi		shā	dí	bào	guó
随时		准备		杀	敌	报	国。
at any time		prepare		kill	enemies	defend	country
ready to fight the enemy to defend our country.							
kě xī	zǔ tì	bǐ	wǒ	xiān yī bù		jiàn gōng lì yè	,
可惜	祖述	比	我	先一步		建功立业	
pity	Zu Ti	than	I	earlier		created exploits (fixed expression)	
But it's a pity Zu Huo created exploits ahead of me."							
hòu lái	liú kūn	dāng shàng le		bìng zhōu de		cì shǐ	
后来	刘琨	当上了		并州的		刺史	
Later	Liu Kun	was appointed		Bingzhou (name of a place)		governor	
Later, Liu Kun was appointed Governor of Bingzhou Prefecture.							



zhè ge 这个	chéng yǔ 成 语	de 的	yì si 意 思	shì 是		
This	idiom	of	meaning	is		
This idiom means						
bào 报	guó 国	xīn qiè 心 切	yí kè 一 刻	yě 也	bú 不	fàngsōng 放 松
defence	country	eagerly	an instant		no	rest
A person eagerly wants to defend his country without any rest.						

Key words

zhěn gē dài dàn

枕 戈 待 旦 : sleep on spears as pillow till morning. A person eagerly wants to defend his country without any laches.

bú jǐn ér qiě

不 仅 …… 而 且 …… : not only……but also……

bào fù

抱 负 : ambition

zhǔn bèi

准 备 : prepare