

# 大学英语 阅读与文化翻译

# 2



College English:  
Reading and  
Cultural Translation 2

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副总主编 杨 颖  
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高等教育出版社

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Daxue Yingyu Yuedu yu Wenhua Fanyi 2

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# 前言

在英语诸多技能的实践中,阅读实践无疑是非常重要的,因为无论是从丰富词汇量还是扩展文化知识的角度来说,阅读都是重要而又方便的信息来源。根据外语学习理论,外语学习者使用外语的水平取决于他所接受的外语信息输入的数量与质量,学习大量的、可理解的、真实而又实用的英语阅读材料是英语学习进步的基本保证。此外,随着中国国力的增强,中华文化走出去战略的重要性日益彰显,因此介绍中华文明和文化已经日益成为英语学习的重要目的之一。但长期以来,国内的英语教学重点主要放在如何解读国外的各种科学技术和文化信息上,对于如何教会学生用规范的英语介绍中国的现代文明和传统文化方面做得还不够,甚至许多英语专业的毕业生都无法较为自如地用英语表达中国的文化精粹。因此,本套教材的编写紧密围绕英语阅读技能训练和中华文化相关话题的汉译英技能训练这两个当今英语教学的核心问题,充分注意了阅读材料的题材和体裁多样化、真实性和实用性,尽量广泛地涉及日常英语使用中的各种话题。对于汉译英的训练,编者采用了展示中华文明与体现天津特色相结合的方法,每册将汉译英的训练分为两个部分:第一部分精心选取了中国历史文化中最有代表性的 20 个话题和参考译文供学生学习领会文化翻译的特点,第二部分则选取了天津区域文化的 10 个话题,要求学生模仿第一部分中的参考译文对这 10 个话题的内容进行翻译。

本套教材的另一个特点就是在训练材料的内容和难度编排上都贴近大学英语四六级考试的基本要求,使教材更好地服务于大学英语教学。本套教材的全体编写人员都具有丰富的英语教学经验,感谢他们在繁忙的教学工作之余牺牲自己的休息时间,多次开会探讨编写方案,反复修改初稿,最终编写出了这套特色鲜明而又实用的教材。两位总主编负责审定全部稿件,杨颖重点审定英语阅读部分,顾钢重点审定汉译英部分。我们尤其要感谢美国专家 Harris Ives 教授对于天津区域文化部分的参考译文所给予的修改建议。高等教育出版社相关工作人员孙宁、郎建国责任编辑的认真工作也为本教材增色不少,在此一并感谢。

总主编 顾钢

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## Greetings and Small Talk



### Part One

### Reading Comprehension

#### Section A

#### Matching

Match the words in the left column with their appropriate explanations in the right column.

1. appropriateness

2. accuracy

3. data

4. evaluate

a. something produced by a cause or from a set of conditions

b. to get at; gain access to

c. a sign graphic symbol on a computer display screen that suggests the purpose of an available function

d. something or someone to be affected by an action

5. consequence

6. target

7. consent

8. ethical

9. access

10. analytical

11. icon

12. incentive

13. explicit

14. register

15. hotlink

or development

e. the condition of being suitable or compatible

f. skilled in or using analysis in thinking or reasoning

g. to determine or fix the value of

h. freedom from mistake or error

i. information in numerical form that can be digitally transmitted or processed

j. agreement as to action or opinion

k. something that spurs on determination or action

l. to enroll formally esp. as a voter or student

m. direct link in an HTML file to a file on another server

n. involving or expressing moral approval or disapproval

o. fully revealed or expressed without vagueness, implication or ambiguity

## Passage A

Read the passage and do the exercises.

Going online is a favorite recreation for millions of American children. Almost 10 million of America's 69 million children are online. The Internet both entertains and educates children; however, there are some possible negative 1 for children who 2 kid-based Websites. Advertising on kid-based Websites has become both a rapidly growing market for consumer companies and a concern for parents. With a click on an 3, children can link to advertisers and be granted tremendous spending power. Children are an important 4 group for consumer companies. They influenced \$160 billion of their parents' incomes.

Many critics question the 5 of targeting children in Internet advertising and press to require that children be treated as a "special case" by advertisers. Because children lack the 6 abilities and judgment of adults, they may be unable to 7 the 8 of information they view, or understand that the information they provide to advertisers is really just 9 collected by an advertiser. Children generally lack the ability to give 10 to the release of personal information to an advertiser,



or even greater problem for children when they are offered 11 for providing information, or when personal information is required before they are allowed to 12 for various services. Children may not realize that in many cases these characters provide 13 directly to advertising sites.

The Internet does present some challenges for advertisers who want to be 14 in their marketing practices. Marketers, therefore, should make 15 about their purpose when advertising to children on the Internet.

(252 words)

### Filling the Blanks

Select one word for each blank from the word bank given below. Each choice in the bank is identified by a letter. You may not use any of the words in the bank more than once.

A) ethical	B) consequences	C) incentives	D) appropriateness
E) target	F) analytical	G) explicit	H) accuracy
I) consent	J) data	K) icon	L) register
M) evaluate	N) access	O) hotlinks	

## Section B

### Finding Indexes

For each sentence, try to decide some words and phrases as indexes to help you locate the sentence in Passage B.

1. American women usually “hold their own” in conversations while Asian women tend to be shy and modest.
2. The word hobby is usually associated with very young teenagers or old retired people.
3. To know how to make small talk at such occasions is an important skill for both survival and having fun in America.
4. It is important to sound excited when Americans talk about their “After work” activities.
5. It is helpful to know vocabulary and some knowledge of at least two or three different

subjects.

6. This article can help the Asian students understand some basic techniques for making friends at parties in America.
7. In America, silence is often used to express anger or disinterest.
8. It is just necessary to choose our favorite subjects and learn the important vocabulary before we attend a party.
9. We usually answer with our career title plus additional information.
10. People have a career of some kind and an active social life outside of work.

## Passage B

Read the passage and do the exercises.

### Small Talk at Cocktail Parties

- A** Americans often socialize. Artists go to gallery openings where drinks are served and people chat. Athletes and sports fans often go drinking after a game to talk over the action. Business people have parties in their homes for office associates and their families, or attend conferences and office parties. On campus students have dances and dorm parties to make new friends. To know how to make small talk at such occasions is an important skill for both survival and having fun in America.
- B** Although people everywhere are basically the same, each culture has its own style of party conversations. This article can help the Asian students understand some basic techniques for making friends at parties in America. Travelers will find this information useful in Australia, England, or just about anywhere English speaking people gather together.
- C** The first point to remember is the difference in the role of women in American society versus most Asian societies. In the U.S., women are expected to “hold their own” in conversations. To be silent, when spoken to, can be a sign of ignorance and / or rudeness. When a woman does not participate actively in the conversation people may think she is either stuck up or snobbish. Therefore the first challenge for women in most Asian countries or regions abroad is to overcome her shyness and modesty and learn to participate fully.
- D** When Americans introduce themselves, everyone wears at least two hats. It is assumed people have a career of some kind and an active social life outside of

work. Therefore, people should be prepared to talk about themselves in two ways, as a professional and a private person. By private, I do not mean very personal things, but of an activity outside of work like painting, fishing, baseball, travel, etc.

- E** The two most common questions at parties are “What do you do?” and “What do you do for fun?”. “What do you do?” means “What is your job?”, but is more open-ended, to include being a student, a musician, an actor, or some other way an individual may see themselves professionally. We usually answer with our career title plus additional information. For example, “I am an art student. I love to paint, and hope to be a professional oil painter someday.” or “I am an English teacher in Japan. I specialize in teaching art students how to talk about their work in English.”
- F** Although “What do you do for fun?” is usually interpreted “What is your hobby?”, this is not the best way to ask this question. The American word “hobby” means “doing something small with your hands in your spare time”, like collecting postcards, making model airplanes, or perhaps knitting. Hobbies usually do not include activities like sports, fine arts, music, etc. and the word is often associated with very young teenagers or old retired people.
- G** When Americans talk about their “After work” activities it is important to sound excited. We say “All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.” We expect people to have an interest or two outside of work. Someone who only talks about his or her job is usually considered boring. Because we are responsible for the careers we choose and interests we have, people are expected to be authorities or at least enthusiastic about their area of interest. For example, if you say you study art, people may ask you “What kind of art do you like?”, “Who are your favorite artists?”, “Have you seen the latest show at the museum?”, etc. If you say you like baseball, people may ask you “Who is your favorite team?”, “What position do you like to play?”, or “Who do you think will win the pennant?”, etc.
- H** We recommend students carefully study the vocabulary for their specialty. For example an artist may want to talk about their favorite medium, what they like and dislike in art, or which artists influenced them, etc. If you can talk about your work and interest with sincerity and enthusiasm, people will feel relaxed with you and want to talk. If you are silent, or answer questions with one word or “yes and no” answers, people will assume you are not friendly. In America, silence is often used to express anger or disinterest, and one word answers are usually a sign of rudeness, meaning “Go away, I don’t want to speak to you!”

- I** Sometimes the conversation may be going in a direction you are not interested in. It is helpful to know how to change the subject. For example, you may not like discussing politics, religion, or an area you know nothing about. Simply say, "I know little about ... (the subject you don't like) but would like to talk about ... (the subject you like)." In this way you can direct the conversation to an area you feel comfortable.
- J** This is why it is helpful to have vocabulary and some knowledge of at least two or three different subjects. You may make small talk about sports and find the handsome man or beautiful woman you are talking to is not interested in sports, with proper preparation you can easily switch to art, music, etc. The trick is, the more subjects you know about, the greater the possibility of finding a common interest.
- K** Many people feel they have little to talk about, but actually we all know lots of things about many subjects. It is just necessary to choose our favorite subjects and learn the important vocabulary before we attend a party. With knowledge of two or more subjects we can easily find friends with similar interests at almost any American party. A little preparation goes a long way.

(951 words)

## Note

**All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.** (谚) “只工作不玩，聪明的孩子也会变傻。”在美国是一种流行的说法。而其他国家也有与其类似谚语。诚然，我们大家都需要娱乐。每个人都有自己的放松方式。也许最流行的方式是参加体育活动。有很多团队运动能达到这种效果，如棒球、篮球、足球等。也有单人参与的体育运动，如打高尔夫球和游泳。此外，登山、钓鱼、滑雪和登山也对喜欢户外活动的人有很大吸引力。

## Comprehension Checking

Read these ten statements again. Each statement contains information given in one of the paragraphs. Identify the paragraph from which the information is derived. You may choose a paragraph more than once. Each paragraph is marked with a letter.

1. American women usually “hold their own” in conversations while Asian women tend to be shy and modest.
2. The word hobby is usually associated with very young teenagers or old retired people.
3. To know how to make small talk at such occasions is an important skill for both survival and having fun in America.
4. It is important to sound excited when Americans talk about their “After work” activities.
5. It is helpful to know vocabulary and some knowledge of at least two or three different subjects.
6. This article can help the Asian students understand some basic techniques for making friends at parties in America.
7. In America, silence is often used to express anger or disinterest.
8. It is just necessary to choose our favorite subjects and learn the important vocabulary before we attend a party.
9. We usually answer with our career title plus additional information.
10. People have a career of some kind and an active social life outside of work.

## Section C

### Finding Alternatives

Choose the words or phrases with the same meaning for the italicized words or phrases in each sentence.

1. “Do you live in London?” can be answered with a simple “yes” or “no”, which is not good for *breeding* conversations.  
 A. raising                                      B. producing                                      C. bringing up
2. But if a person asks “Where do you live?”, there is a *scope* for a longer and, hopefully, more interesting reply.  
 A. space or opportunity for an activity



- B. extent of an activity  
C. range of operation
3. Sparking up a conversation can be seriously **tricky**, especially when two people involved appear to have nothing in common to talk about.  
A. cheating                      B. difficult to deal with      C. interesting
4. If there is nothing obvious to talk about it can be hard to **break the ice** and start a conversation.  
A. smash the ice into pieces  
B. turning ice into water  
C. make a start by getting over initial difficulties
5. What is so useful about having these topics **up your sleeve** is that you do not need to always keep up the conversation by yourself.  
A. hidden in your clothe  
B. on the outer side of your sleeve  
C. hidden or secret but ready at hand

## Passage C

Read the passage and do the exercises.

There is a common misconception that a person who is good at talking to others always has amazing stories to tell and is full of jokes. In fact, most people want a two-way dialogue with interaction, not just one person talking the whole time.

A good way of creating good dialogues is by asking questions in a specific way. For example, questions like "Do you live in London?" can be answered with a simple "yes" or "no", which is not good for breeding conversations. But if a person asks "Where do you live?", there is a scope for a longer and, hopefully, more interesting reply. This is what is called an open-ended question. If you are looking for something a little deeper and more involved then you could try out probing questions. These questions start with words like "how", "why" and "in what way".

Avoid starting questions with "are" or "do" since these are closed questions, which will only require a "yes" or "no". Questions which begin with "what", "where", "which", "who" and "when", are open questions, usually requiring fuller answers.

Sparking up a conversation can be seriously tricky, especially when two people involved appear to have nothing in common to talk about. If there is nothing obvious to talk about it can be hard to break the ice and start a conversation. However, there

are four topics of conversation that are always helpful for such difficult situations: family, work, sports or hobbies and education. These topics can be used in almost any situation since most people have a family, job, do things in their spare time — even if it is watching television, go or have gone to school at some point in their lives. Everyone will be able to talk about at least one of these subjects.

What is so useful about having these topics up your sleeve is that you do not need to always keep up the conversation by yourself. If you are interested in what the other person has to say you can join in enthusiastically; otherwise you can sit back and listen to what is being said — the options are there.

(355 words)

## Comprehension Checking

Choose the best answer from the four choices given below according to the passage.

1. A good dialogue is one in which \_\_\_\_\_
  - A. a person who is good at talking to others.
  - B. a good story or joke is told.
  - C. people can communicate mutually.
  - D. each person can talk in his own way.
2. The right way of creating good dialogues is by \_\_\_\_\_
  - A. asking questions that require an answer.
  - B. asking questions which need to be answered with more contents instead of simply “yes” or “no”.
  - C. leaving the questions open.
  - D. leaving the questions closed.
3. According to the author, sparking up a conversation can be seriously tricky because \_\_\_\_\_
  - A. the speakers cannot find something that interest them both.
  - B. cannot share opinions with each other.
  - C. they are too different from each other.
  - D. they cannot agree on the same thing.
4. There are four topics of conversation that are always helpful for such difficult situations because \_\_\_\_\_
  - A. nobody can avoid these four situations.

- B. they are things that people have to experience.  
 C. no one fails to watch television.  
 D. everyone may have experience in one of the situations.
5. According to the last paragraph, if you want to make the dialogue successful, you \_\_\_\_\_
- A. always keep up the conversation by yourself.  
 B. can choose to be active or passive in the conversation.  
 C. should remain free.  
 D. can leave the questions unanswered.



## Part Two

## Chinese-English Translation

### Section A

#### Translation Study

Study the following passages of Chinese-English translation.

#### 段落 翻译

#### 灯谜

对平常人而言，灯笼会在除夕夜 (the eve of the Spring Festival) 挂起，一直到元宵节 (the Lantern Festival) 才会摘下来。在很多城市，灯会是元宵节当天颇有吸引力的一项活动。如果想看灯会，可以到北京、南京、西安、上海或者杭州。这些城市在元宵节都举办各自独特的灯会。灯会上，很多人最钟爱的是灯谜 (riddle)。猜出答案的人会得到小奖品。灯会之所以吸引人是因为灯谜本身而不是奖品。有趣的灯谜给灯会锦上添花。

1

#### 参考 译文

#### Lantern Riddles

For common people, lanterns are hung up from the eve of the Spring Festival and not removed until the Lantern Festival. The Lantern Show is an attractive activity on the Lantern Festival in many cities. If you want to see the lantern show, you may find featured shows in Beijing, Nanjing, Xi'an, Shanghai and Hangzhou during the festival. On the lantern show, many

people love “lantern riddles” most. Anyone who can answer the riddle would get a souvenir as a reward. The lantern show attracts people because of the riddle itself rather than the souvenir. Interesting riddles make the lantern show more colorful.

## 段落 翻译

### 卢沟桥之石狮

人们对卢沟桥最感兴趣的是雕刻在桥身望柱 (column) 上的石狮子。这些狮子栩栩如生 (lifelike), 极其神似。每一根望柱顶上都有一个大狮子, 四周围绕着许多小狮子, 最矮的不过几厘米高。它们有的站立在大狮子头上或背上; 有的躺在大狮子脚下或是在大狮子的怀抱里; 还有的只露出半个头, 一张嘴。狮子们或坐、或卧、或站、或蹲 (crouching), 真是千姿百态, 形象生动。因此, 人们常说“卢沟桥的石狮子——数不清”。

## 参考 译文

### The Stone Lions of Lugou Bridge

What interests people most about Lugou Bridge is the stone lions carved in the columns. The lions are extremely lifelike. Each column is topped with a big stone lion surrounded by many small ones, and the smallest is only a few centimeters high. Some of the small ones stand on the head or back of the big ones; some lie under the feet or in the embrace of the big ones; and some show only half their head or only their mouth. Vividly, the stone lions are carved in different poses —sitting, lying, standing and crouching, hence the simile, “as many as the stone lions of Lugou Bridge, —too numerous to count”.