

EASY EXERCISES FOR ORAL SKILLS

英语口语技巧提高教程

(英国) James Oliver 编著

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Introduction

Why a workbook?

At the present, there are still many language learners, high school graduates, or college undergraduates students whose oral English is unsatisfactory, or even poor. Although they have spent years trying to improve their oral English, they can not express themselves fluently and they do not know how to. However, it is possible to conquer language learning difficulties by adopting the following oral language acquisition processes:

1. Listening to native speaking materials at normal speed: By being exposed to genuine native speaking items and sentence patterns at native speed, you will be able to 'build' on previous language acquisitions and use grammatically-correct language occurrences instantly.
2. Imitation: In order to develop a high accuracy of English speech and practice oral English effectively, students must first strive to imitate sample linguistic items. Also, students will learn to use their speech organs to produce unfamiliar sounds by imitating language samples at native speed. Finally, they will reduce the risk of making mistakes (thus boosting their confidence to use the language) and, at the same time, increase the amount of words at their disposal, by learning complete phrases and language segments as opposed to individual words.
3. Substitution: By practicing oral drills and substitution exercises, students will increasingly improve their ability to master and use effectively sentence patterns and language structures. This will in turn

help them start ‘thinking like native speakers’ and communicate effectively with foreigners.

4. Analysis: Although grammatical rules are useful in understanding language functions and constructions, it is often preferable to learn how to use sentence construction patterns in context to acquire overall language skills more quickly. Indeed, successful communication occurs when students can practice simple conversations and role plays. The empirical nature of the workbook and its high level of interaction allow students to discuss and compare their answers with their partners, reflect on their knowledge of a topic, and express their opinions freely.
5. Practice: The workbook incorporates the basic ingredients for successful oral communication. Firstly, it raises the students’ level of awareness about the importance of cultural factors while communicating with native English speakers. Secondly, it introduces commonly used expressions and genuine phrases in English, thus reducing the risk of resorting to what is commonly known as ‘chingleish’. At last, the book helps the students develop their oral English in a practical way, focusing on everyday situations and real communicative tasks.

The purpose of this workbook is to help English learners improve their level of oral competency. It is primarily designed to be used by intermediate to upper-intermediate students who want to improve their listening comprehension skills and oral abilities.

Easy Exercises for Oral Skills primarily focuses on task-based learning, as opposed to more traditional course books that may rely more heavily on methodological explications. Using task-based linguistic functions to make teaching conversation micro skills easier, the book includes topic-based worksheets that are designed to improve micro-skills: It is designed to help students gain more confidence in their ability to

express ideas and communicate orally by using the target language. It includes both listening and speaking materials. The workbook provides a variety of practical tasks and consolidation exercises that develop students' proficiency in speaking, pronunciation and vocabulary. It can be used for both in-class oral practice and homework. Each unit follows the same outline as underlined below. The CD is for use in the classroom or in the language laboratory. It contains recordings for the sample sentences, the sample dialogues, and the listening exercises. The speakers use both North American as well as 'standard' English accents.

Each Unit includes:

1. Learning materials

- a. Pre-tasks
- b. Executing tasks
- c. Reporting tasks

2. Sentence patterns pronunciation practice kit (with CD)

- a. Word bank
- b. Sample sentences
- c. Dialogue samples (including 2 sample dialogue listening comprehension tasks)

· 4 · | 英语口语技巧提高教程

《英语口语技巧提高教程》教材与传统教材不同，主要的重点放在以活动训练为基础的摘要任务型教学。使用任务型语言功能使口语技巧教学简单易学。

该书包括

1. 活动训练习作簿：利用目标语言训练学生在表达思想和口语交流能力方面树立信心，提高技巧。

2. 听说练习簿：提供多方面的实用任务和巩固练习使学生在口语、发音和扩大词汇方面提高语言能力。

3. 课堂口语训练教材及学生课后训练习题：教师课堂教授引导及学生课后练习相结合使学生迅速提高语言能力。

4. 用于课堂及语音室的 CD：CD 中包括以北美和标准英语录制的例句、对话和听力练习。

各单元内容如下：

1. 学习教材

a. 课前任务

b. 实行任务

c. 报告任务

2. 句型结合发音练习 (CD)

a. 单词库

b. 例句

c. 对话 (包括 2 项对话听力理解题)

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Unit 1

Describing Problems

Aim: express grievance about your favorite gripes whilst understanding the different degrees of complaint; expressing bewilderment.

Grammar focus: noun clauses and relative clauses, adjectives, noun clauses beginning with question words like 'why' and 'where' or 'whether' and 'if'

Activity: identify a variety of famous pet peeves and express anger and perplexity about common everyday problems.



Expressing irritation: sentence patterns	Expressing bewilderment: sentence patterns
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It bothers me when people don't listen. 2. I find it annoying when people are late. 3. I find it irritating when a guy stands me up. 4. It bugs me when people spit in the street. 5. It gets on my nerves when I can't find my keys. 6. It makes me angry when people double park. 7. It makes me mad when people hurt animals. 8. It drives me crazy when people are rude. 9. I can't stand it when people argue in public. 10. I hate it when people drink and drive. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I don't understand why people can't stand in line. 2. I can't imagine why there aren't more libraries open to the public? 3. Where they learn to speak like that is a mystery to me. 4. Why shops close so early is something I don't understand. 5. I wonder whether the government will build more subway lines. 6. I wonder if they are going to extend their stay abroad.

Useful Language

- pet peeve (n.) 惹恼, (使) 气恼或恼怒
- gripe (n.) 抱怨, 发牢骚 唠唠叨叨或生气地抱怨, 发牢骚
- stand up (informal): to fail to keep a date with 【非正式用语】失约
- queue jumping (n.) 〈英〉插队, 加塞儿

- double parking (n.) A vehicle is 'double parked' if it is parked on or over the lines separating two designated parking spaces, in effect occupying both spaces. 将(汽车等)并排停放于街道上另一汽车旁
- litter (n.) 随意弃置的垃圾,如废纸
- irritating (adj.) (使)愤怒的,刺激的,气人的
- annoying (adj.) 恼人的,讨厌的
- inconsiderate (adj.) 不顾及别人的,轻率的
- spit (v.) 吐(唾沫),吐出,喷吐
- spike (n.) a sharp rise or increase 激增,猛涨
- decent (adj.): 正派的,端庄的,有分寸的,(服装)得体的,大方的
- invade (v.): 侵害,侵占或侵入,侵犯
- obnoxious (adj.): 不愉快的,讨厌的
- profanity (n.): 亵渎
- let go (v.): 放开,释放
- nuisance (n.): 令人讨厌的东西

Pre-tasks

Task 1: Complete the following quiz.

1. It _____ when people invade my privacy.
a. brings me b. is a bug c. bugs me
2. I _____ when people talk too much at a party.
a. find it annoyance b. find it annoying c. find it anyway
3. It _____ me _____ when people listen to loud music while I'm trying to sleep at night.
a. drive / crazed b. drives / crazy c. drove / crazy
4. It _____ when I have to listen to people who think they are superior to others.
a. no bother for me b. bother me c. bothers me
5. I _____ when a man hurts a woman.
a. can stand that b. can't stand that c. can't stand it

6. It _____ when someone is taking forever to leave a parking space while others are clearly waiting for it.
a. get on nerves b. gets on my nerves c. got my nerves
7. It _____ when I receive obnoxious advertising on my cell phone all the time.
a. makes mad b. make mad to me c. makes me mad
8. I find it _____ when people use profanity.
a. irritable b. irritating c. irritability
9. It makes me _____ when people hurt innocent children.
a. angry b. anger c. angrily
10. I _____ when cashiers let go of your change before you have control of it.
a. hate that b. hate it c. hated

Task 2: How do you generally feel about the following pet peeves? Match the fragment sentences to produce grammatically correct sentences. Then, complete these statements with the words in *italics*.

stand—drives—nerves—mad—bothers—annoying

1. I find it _____ when I read articles in which it • • housing price keep rising.
2. It gets on my _____ when traffic jams get worse • • out at work.
3. It makes me _____ when I go shopping and find • • such an overcrowded city.
4. I can't _____ it when I get stressed • • every day.
5. It _____ me crazy when • • says that the environment is polluted.
6. It _____ me to live in • • out that food prices keep on rising.

Task 3: What are your most common everyday annoyances? Put the following items in order (1 = most important) and add your own favorite complaints.

	spitting in the street		littering in the street
	double parking		PDA (public display of affection)
	noisy neighbors (TV, pets, party)		loud or unruly behavior in public places
	public smoking		queue jumping
	long wait (i.e. for the bus)		overcrowded places/transport
	people talking on their cell phones and driving		food prices going up instead of down
	some people act as if they own the world		some people are overbearing

Executing tasks

Task 4: Use appropriate sentence patterns to complete these sentences with your own information.

Example: ***It gets on my nerves when*** (noun/pronoun + infinitive verb)
people jump the queue at the bank or in other public places.

1. *It bugs me when* I'm on the subway and _____.
2. *It bothers me when* I am at a movie and somebody _____.
3. *It gets on my nerves when* I'm trying to sleep and _____.
4. *It drives me crazy when* men _____.
5. *It annoys me when* women _____.
6. *It really annoys me when* teachers _____.
7. *It really makes me mad when* my supervisor _____.
8. *I find it irritating when* I am at a restaurant and _____.

9. *It drives me crazy when my neighbors* _____.
10. *I find it annoying when my boyfriend/girlfriend* _____.
11. *It gets on my nerves when my best friend* _____.
12. *It drives me crazy when I run to answer the phone and* _____.
13. *I can't stand it when I go to an internet site and* _____.
14. *I can't stand it when people* _____ *while they are eating.*
15. *It gets on my nerves when people* _____ *before they really know me.*

Task 5: Put a tick in the appropriate box for each of the following statements.

a. I can't stand it when people are late.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| () It bothers me a lot | () It bothers me |
| () It is slightly annoying | () It's OK |

b. It makes me angry when people are dishonest.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| () It bothers me a lot | () It bothers me |
| () It is slightly annoying | () It's OK |

c. It drives me crazy when people smoke in public places without asking permission first.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| () It bothers me a lot | () It bothers me |
| () It is slightly annoying | () It's OK |

d. I find it irritating when people call me after 11:00p.m.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| () It bothers me a lot | () It bothers me |
| () It is slightly annoying | () It's OK |

e. It gets on my nerves when you stand on a queue and the queue hardly moves because a minority is constantly pushing in at the front.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| () It bothers me a lot | () It bothers me |
| () It is slightly annoying | () It's OK |

Now, express your surprise and perplexity with appropriate sentence patterns.

Example:

I can't stand it when people speak loudly in public—I *don't understand why* they are so inconsiderate.

- a. I can't imagine why _____.
- b. Where _____ is a mystery to me.
- c. Why _____ is something I don't understand.
- d. I wonder whether _____.
- e. I wonder if _____.

Task 6: How many of the following things are problems in your city? Put a tick in the right box. Compare with your partner.

- | | | |
|---------|--------|---|
| () yes | () no | I find it very difficult to find a parking space. |
| () yes | () no | Public transport services are always overcrowded. |
| () yes | () no | It's difficult to find a shop open late at night. |
| () yes | () no | Queue jumping is quite common (public transport, buying food, etc. . .). |
| () yes | () no | Teenagers are inconsiderate and even rude. |
| () yes | () no | People are cruel towards animals. |
| () yes | () no | The streets are filthy. |
| () yes | () no | Co-workers are too competitive. |
| () yes | () no | People talk about money all the time. |
| () yes | () no | Cars and motorcycles are too loud. |
| () yes | () no | Street crime is becoming a real nuisance. |

Task 7: Complete the following questionnaire on annoying habits individually. Then, ask these questions to your partner and record his/her answers. For each problem identified, suggest a possible solution.

<i>Questions</i>	<i>You</i>		<i>Perplexity</i>
	<i>You</i>	<i>Your partner</i>	<i>I don't understand why. . .</i>
<i>i. e. What bugs me is the train service from Beijing to Nanjing.</i>	<i>overcrowded</i>	<i>too slow</i>	<i>I don't understand why they don't open more intercity rail lines like the one used for the bullet train from Beijing to Tian-jing.</i>
1. What drives you crazy on the subway?			
2. What do you find annoying about your parents?			
3. What bugs you about men or women?			
4. What do you find irritating about your boss?			
5. What do you find annoying about your neighbors?			
6. What is your favorite pet peeve?			
7. What sort of people irritates you the most?			
8. What do you hate most about your city?			
9. What bothers you the most about your job?			

Task 8—Questionnaire: Complete the first column individually. Then, ask the following questions to 3 students. Try not to show the survey to your partner. Instead, repeat the question if necessary.

	You	Inter- viewee 1	Inter- viewee 2	Inter- viewee 3
1. Which of the following problems do you find most annoying? a. Your wife/husband criticizes you in public. b. Your colleagues spread gossip about you in the office. c. Your best friend moves to another city.				
2. Which of the following situations would you find most annoying? a. the TV is on the blink (<i>not working</i>) b. someone stole your bike c. you've lost your car keys				
3. Which of the following types of behavior do you find most irritating? a. spitting in the street b. speaking loudly in public c. using cell phone in public				