



最实用的话题 最地道的表达

100 Topics
Relevant
for Foreigners



老外最想与你聊的 100英语话题

100个话题、200篇对话、最实用的词汇，助您突破英语口语瓶颈
实现与老外进行深层次对话和交流

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等编著

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审定



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Preface

A common problem for English students in China is how to carry on a conversation with a foreigner after introductions. They don't know what topics are appropriate or interesting to foreigners.

This book aims to address the problem by offering some discussion topics favored by foreigners in conversational English.

This book includes 100 chapters. Each chapter is based on an interesting topic for everyday English and includes a list of useful expressions, key words and two dialogues often between a Chinese and a foreigner or between two foreigners. These dialogues cover topics centered on daily life, and range from campus life to social issues. They are not only easy to understand, but can also serve as an icebreaker when you want to talk to a foreigner. Conversational English as presented in this book gives readers the advantage over those who study English and devote the bulk of their language study to memorizing vocabulary lists and reading texts, leading to what's sometimes called the "Mute English," by placing an emphasis on oral expression.

The book is very special in two ways. First, it has been written by English majors (postgraduates in China Foreign Affairs University and Beijing Foreign Studies University) and native speakers who have had several years experience in China teaching at top universities. It is a book of good teamwork. Second, there is an emphasis on expressions. There is a wealth of daily expressions used by native speakers which will enable readers to directly use them in daily conversation.

This book can be used in many ways. Role play is one good choice; you can find a partner to practice the dialogues with, or you can study by yourself by assuming different characters in the dialogues. As each topic is independent of the others, you can study them piece by piece. Take the few minutes you're kept waiting to cover a topic. Take a look at the book when you get stuck in traffic. Squeeze out one or two minutes here and there and you'll be amazed at how your English will have improved after you finish all the topics.

I would like to thank my co-writers, Mr. Brett C. Griffin, Coco Lee, Zheng Na, Wu Zhou, Cai Bo, Sun Lan, Song Mengting, Yue Xiaoling. Without his enormous encouragement and support, this book would not have become a reality. I'm also grateful to Ms. Nellie Connolly and Mr. Logan M. West, the language consultants, who helped make the language more idiomatic and polished. Finally, my best friends Jin Huinian and Feng Jing have made constructive comments, which in turn, have made the dialogues more interesting.

At last, I also wish to thank every reader who buys this book. I hope you will enjoy reading it.

Editor

前言

在中国，很多学英语的人都会遇到这样一个问题：和“老外”聊天时，互道姓名之后，接下来聊些什么合适呢？哪些话题是“老外”最感兴趣的呢？我们需要什么样的英语口语学习书呢？

《老外最想与你聊的 100 英语话题》正是这样一本书。本书收录的情景对话紧紧围绕外国人喜欢的话题，让你在遇到外国人时能打破僵局，快速找到投缘的话题，愉快地用英语进行交流。

本书包含 100 个话题。每个话题都包括常用句子、重点词汇以及两段情景对话。对话涵盖生活的方方面面，有校园生活、日常生活和社会热点问题等。语言通俗易懂，话题生动而不失深刻。本书以对话为主，注重口语，不必死记硬背、死啃课本，最后导致“哑巴英语”，在遇到外国人时仍旧张不开嘴。

本书具有两大特点。首先，作者中有来自英语国家的纯正“老外”，他们在中国的著名高校任教，有着丰富的教学经验；也有来自外交学院和北京外国语大学的青年学者，他们对中国学生在英语学习过程中存在的问题有切身体会。其次，每节都有大量地道的、原汁原味的句子，读者可以在与“老外”的日常交流中直接运用。因此，本书可谓是集体智慧的结晶，中西文化交流融合的成果。

本书的使用方法多种多样。读者既可以进行角色扮演式学习，找个语伴一起练习；也可以一个人扮演不同的角色，独立自学。本书每个话题都独立成篇，不需要按章节顺序依次学习。当你在排队等候时，可以趁机看一两个话题；当你遇上堵车时，也可以抽空瞄一两眼。每天挤出几分钟的时间进行学习，一段时间之后，你就会惊讶地发现自己的英语已经取得了很大的进步，开口讲英语的信心也随之倍增。遇到“老外”时，你发现自己也可以滔滔不绝、畅所欲言了。另外本书还配有由北京外国语大学专家配音录制的 MP3 光盘，相信他们地道纯正的发音会使您的听力得到很大提高。

在此，感谢参与本书创作的其他合作者：格里芬先生、李科科、郑娜、吴洲、蔡波、孙澜、宋梦婷和岳晓玲。另外还要感谢本书的语言顾问康纳利女士和韦斯特先生，他们的审读使本书增色不少，语言更加地道贴切。最后，还要感谢我的好朋友靳慧年和封靖，在本书的创作过程中，他们给予了很多宝贵的建议，使对话更加贴近生活。

最后，还要感谢每个购买本书的读者，希望本书能够让你获得乐趣，帮助你实现英语学习的目标。

编者

CONTENTS

目 录

Love and Marriage 爱情婚姻

1 First Impressions 初遇相识	1
2 Dating 与爱相约	4
3 Cyber Love 网络情缘	7
4 Office Romance 职场恋歌	10
5 Staying Together 把爱留住	13
6 Getting Married 执子之手	16
7 Childless Couples 丁克一族	19
8 Mixed Marriages 跨国婚恋	22
9 Home, Sweet Home 甜蜜之家	25
10 Divorce 离婚之痛	28

Traveling 行者无疆

11 Plan and Preparations 计划出行	31
12 On the Way 踏上旅途	34
13 DIY Tour 自助旅游	37
14 Natural Scenery 自然风光	40
15 City Sightseeing 城市漫步	43
16 Factory Tour 工业旅游	46
17 Asking for Help 旅途求助	49
18 Shopping 快乐购物	52
19 Taking Photos 拍照留念	55

20 Farewell 依依惜别	58
------------------------	----

Interpersonal Relations 人际交往

21 Neighbor Relations 左邻右舍	61
22 Friends Standard 择友标准	64
23 Living in the Dorm 宿舍生活	67
24 Among Colleagues 同事之间	70
25 Giving a Gift 礼尚往来	73
26 Friendship Forever 友谊万岁	76
27 Reunion with Old Friends 老友重逢	79
28 Team Work 团队合作	82
29 Parties 聚会派对	85
30 Chatting Online 网上聊天	88

Food and Life 饮食人生

31 Table Manners 餐桌礼仪	91
32 Healthy Eating 饮食与养生	94
33 Local Flavors 特色小吃	97
34 Fast Food 西式快餐	100
35 Junk Food 垃圾食品	103
36 Let's Go Dutch AA 制	106
37 At the Bar 情迷酒吧	109
38 Tea Talk 茶香四溢	112
39 Coffee Life 咖啡情调	115
40 Vegetarian 素食主义	118

Campus Life 菁菁校园

41 New Semester New Student 新生见面	121
42 Courses 选修课程	124
43 Examination 期末考试	127
44 Hobbies 个人爱好	130
45 Part-time Job 勤工俭学	133
46 Studying Abroad 留学海外	136

47	Graduation Ceremony 毕业典礼	139
48	Lifelong Learning 终生学习	142
49	IQ & EQ 情商和智商	145
50	Learning Chinese “汉语热”	148

Cultural Issues 文化漫谈

51	Learning to Bargain 讨价还价	151
52	Horoscope 星座物语	154
53	At the Dinner Table 餐桌文化	157
54	Tea Culture 茶色茶香	160
55	Drinking 杯酒人生	163
56	Culture Shock 文化冲击	166
57	Keeping a Pet 宠物情缘	169
58	Horror Movies 恐怖电影	172
59	Valentine's Day 浪漫时分	175
60	When in Rome 入乡随俗	178

Fashion and Entertainment 休闲时尚

61	The Digital Era 数字时代	181
62	Discomgoogolation and Infomania 谷歌依赖症和资讯癖	184
63	Blogging 博客热	187
64	Talent Show 选秀节目	190
65	Shopping Onlin 网上购物	193
66	Health and Fitness 运动健身	196
67	Everyone Loves TV 人人爱电视	199
68	Movies 电影艺术	202
69	Clothes and Fashion 服装与时尚	205
70	Music and Stars 歌星与粉丝	208

Sports 运动健身

71	Beijing Olympics 北京奥运	211
72	Air Liu 飞人刘翔	214
73	Chinese Kung fu 中国功夫	217

74	Chinese Table Tennis 国球雄风	220
75	Sports Stars 球星璀璨	223
76	Football 绿茵纵横	226
77	Mind Sports 智力运动	229
78	My Favorite Sports 我之最爱	232
79	Bicycling 骑车兜风	235
80	Sports and Health 运动健康	238

Career 人在职场

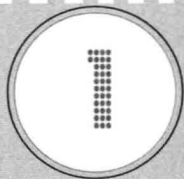
81	Job Application and Interviews 求职面试	241
82	Career Planning 职业规划	244
83	SOHO SOHO 一族	247
84	Entrepreneurship 自主创业	250
85	Floater 漂泊一族	253
86	Overseas Returnees “海归”一族	256
87	Job-hopping 体验跳槽	259
88	Promotion and Pay Raise 升职加薪	262
89	Working Mother 职场母亲	265
90	On-the-job Training 职场充电	268

Social Issues 社会广角

91	Food Safety 食品安全	271
92	Natural Disasters 自然灾害	274
93	Energy Crisis 能源危机	277
94	Holiday Budgeting 假日经济	280
95	The Environment 环境保护	283
96	Weather 天气状况	286
97	Traffic 城市交通	289
98	Inflation 物价上涨	292
99	Housing 住房问题	295
100	Happiness in Old Age 幸福晚年	298

Love and Marriage

爱情婚姻



First Impressions

初遇相识

Background Information

漫漫人生，有多少人曾在你的记忆中标划过，有多少人曾让你为之感动。茫茫人海，相遇即是缘，佛说，前世的五百次回眸才换来今生的一次擦肩而过。“于千万人之中，遇见你所遇见的”，“一见如故”抑或“相见恨晚”，珍惜这相识之缘，感激你生命中的过客 (Passing visitors)。怀着初遇时的激情，让美好的形象与回忆永存心间 (Good memories will live on)。人生若只如初见……

Useful Expressions

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1. I love meeting interesting new people when I travel. | 1. 我喜欢在旅途中结识有趣的人。 |
| 2. Richard is very easy-going. | 2. 理查德很随和。 |
| 3. Susan is in her late sixties, but she is aging well. | 3. 苏珊快 70 岁了，但她保养得很好。 |
| 4. You look younger than your age. | 4. 你看上去比实际年龄小。 |
| 5. He is young, handsome and successful. | 5. 他英俊潇洒、年轻有为。 |
| 6. She's a total fox. | 6. 她真性感。 |
| 7. She is well-endowed. | 7. 她长得很丰满。 |
| 8. I like girls with long hair. | 8. 我喜欢长发飘飘的女孩。 |
| 9. She has an outgoing personality. | 9. 她性格很外向。 |
| 10. She is a tall, slim woman with lovely smile. | 10. 她个子高挑，笑起来很甜。 |
| 11. She is somewhere between 25 and 30 years old. | 11. 她快 30 岁了。 |
| 12. She is a total doll. | 12. 她长得真美。 |
| 13. She has a lovely character. | 13. 她很可爱。 |

Dialogue 1

Steve: Mary, how was your date with John?

Mary: It's Ok. It seems we have a lot in common.

S: Oh, really. That is great news. What does he look like?

M: He is tall and slim, fair-haired.

S: Sounds like he is pretty cute. What do you think of him?

M: He is a nice guy and very considerate. I was impressed with how smart he was and he has a great sense of humor.

S: Oh, it's love at first sight. When will you see each other again?

M: He didn't say, but he said he would call me.

S: Maybe he is busy with his work. Just wait and try not to think about it too much!

M: Oh, Steve. Stop it! I am a bit nervous! What if he doesn't call?

S: Come on, Mary, you're a total catch. I bet he will call you. Don't worry.

M: Thank you, Steve. You're always so encouraging.

S: That's what friends are for.

斯蒂夫：玛丽，你和约翰的约会怎么样啊？

玛丽：还可以。我们好像很投缘。

S: 真的吗？太好了。他长得怎么样？

M: 他身材高挑，金黄色的头发。

S: 听起来长得很帅，那你对他印象怎么样啊？

M: 人不错，非常体贴，知识渊博，又很幽默。

S: 啊，看来你是一见钟情了，下次什么时候见面啊？

M: 他没说明，不过他说会给我打电话的。

S: 也许他现在工作比较忙，等等吧，别太想人家啊！

M: 哎，苏珊，人家本来就很紧张了。如果他不打电话怎么办呢？

S: 别这样，玛丽，你这么讨人喜欢，我保证他会打电话的，别担心。

M: 谢谢你，斯蒂夫，你总是不断鼓励我。

S: 别说这些，我们是朋友嘛。

Words Storm

fair-haired	金色头发的
cute	有吸引力的
guy	小伙子
considerate	体贴的
impress	给人深刻印象
smart	聪明伶俐的
nervous	紧张的
catch	值得嫁或娶的人
encouraging	令人鼓舞的

Phrases

in common	共有的
tall and slim	身材高挑
sense of humor	幽默感
love at first sight	一见钟情

Dialogue 2

- S:** You know, Mary, I feel we meet somewhere before. Where were you born?
- M:** I was born in Beijing, but I spent most of my childhood in London.
- S:** What was your childhood like?
- M:** I had a pretty strict upbringing, and my parents taught at universities so they have extremely high expectations for me.
- S:** Where did you go to university?
- M:** My parents wanted me to stay in Beijing, but I decided to go back to England. I graduated from University of Newcastle upon Tyne with a degree in Cross Culture Communication.
- S:** What is your current occupation?
- M:** I am a journalist. I write for China Daily.
- S:** Did you know that you wanted to be a journalist right after your graduation?
- M:** No, I didn't. I started working at a university in London but as time went by, I found I did not really like my job. I decided to explore other fields. Journalism is a great fit for me as well as a challenge.
- S:** Do you like your current job?
- M:** Yes. I came to Beijing two years ago looking for new opportunities. I was lucky because my friend introduced me to my current company.
- S:** 玛丽, 你知道吗, 我觉得好像在哪儿见过你, 你是在哪里出生的?
- M:** 我在北京出生, 后来去了伦敦。
- S:** 你的童年生活怎么样?
- M:** 我小时候家教很严, 我父母以前是大学老师, 对我期望特别高。
- S:** 你在哪里上的大学?
- M:** 我父母想让我留在北京, 可是我决定回英国。后来我从纽卡斯尔大学毕业并且拿到了跨文化交流专业的学位。
- S:** 那你现在做什么工作呢?
- M:** 我做记者, 在《中国日报》工作。
- S:** 那你一毕业就想知道自己想当记者吗?
- M:** 没有。我最初在伦敦一所大学教书, 可后来我觉得自己并不喜欢当老师。于是就决定尝试一下其他领域。新闻工作对我来说不失为一种新的尝试和挑战。
- S:** 那你喜欢你现在的工作吗?
- M:** 是的, 两年前我来到北京, 希望找到新的机会。当时很幸运, 一个朋友介绍我进了现在的公司。

Words Storm

childhood	童年
pretty	相当
upbringing	儿童期的教养
expectations	期望
current	现在的
occupation	工作
graduation	毕业
explore	探索
journalism	新闻工作
challenge	挑战

Phrases

graduate from	毕业于
Cross Culture	跨文化交流
Communication	
China Daily	中国日报
go by	(时间) 流逝
look for	寻找

2

Dating 与爱相约

Background Information

每个人都要经历相识、相知、相恋、相伴一生的过程。没有经历爱情的人生是不完整的，没有体味约会爱情是索然无味的。约会 (dating) 是爱情的开始，从这一刻起，缘份不断延伸，甜蜜不断蔓延。在红烟绿雾的小溪畔，在清风涂来的凉亭边，在层林尽染的山坡上，在白雪飘舞的幽巷里，我们明白了：有一种幸福叫“与你相约”。

Useful Expressions

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1. He is my prince charming. | 1. 他是我的白马王子。 |
| 2. Jack has fallen head over heels in love with Jane. | 2. 杰克迷上了简。 |
| 3. He is always on my mind. | 3. 他总在我的脑海中盘旋。 |
| 4. She's so lovesick she can't even eat. | 4. 她饱受相思之苦，茶饭不思。 |
| 5. Tom is stuck on Marry. | 5. 汤姆爱上玛丽了。 |
| 6. I get embarrassed and my face starts to turn red. | 6. 我尴尬地羞红了脸。 |
| 7. I am walking on air. | 7. 我兴奋得飘飘然。 |
| 8. I can't wait to see him. | 8. 我迫不及待地要见他。 |
| 9. He must have been all over you the first time he saw you. | 9. 他对你一定是一见钟情。 |
| 10. James fell in love with Sue on a blind date. | 10. 相亲时詹姆斯就看上了苏。 |
| 11. There are plenty of fish in the sea. | 11. 天涯何处无芳草。 |
| 12. My girlfriend dumped me. I am so sad because she is a total babe! | 12. 我女朋友把我甩了。我太难过了，因为她是个大美人。 |
| 13. Andrew has a crush on Jane. But Jane likes John. | 13. 安德鲁爱上了简，可是简却迷上了约翰。 |
| 14. Jack really turns me on. | 14. 杰克很让我着迷。 |
| 15. I'm crazy about her. | 15. 我疯狂地爱上了她。 |

Dialogue 1

Isabella: I wonder what he looks like. Oh, I can't wait to see him! His e-mail said he'd be wearing a white hat. (looking around for him) Oh, there he is.

Logan: Hey, Isabelle...

I: Logan! Why on earth are you hiding here? White hat! Come on! Don't tell me you're the guy! It can't be true.

L: ...Yes, I'm the guy.

I: What a bummer! You set me up?

L: Let me explain. I didn't mean to hurt you...

I: How dare you! (starts to walk off)

L: Hang on one second. Hear me out, just this once, Isabella!

I: Why did you lie to me in the e-mail?

L: I didn't lie. You just didn't ask me my real name.

I: I should have known it was you. No wonder all the 20 questions were answered correctly. I thought I might have found the one for me.

L: I'm sorry. It was cruel of me. But I promise it will never happen again. Look, there's a nice restaurant. Let me take you to dinner and we can talk things over.

伊莎贝拉：我真想知道他长得什么样，真想马上见到他。他在电子邮件里说他会戴白帽子。（四下张望）啊，他在那儿。

洛根：嗨，伊莎贝拉……

I: 洛根！你躲在这儿干什么？白帽子！天啊！别告诉我你就是那个人！

L: ……没错，我就是。

I: 无聊！拿我当猴耍吗？

L: 你听我解释，我不是有意的……

I: 你竟敢骗我！（就要离开）

L: 等一下！听我说完，伊莎贝拉，就这一次。

I: 你为什么在邮件里骗我？

L: 我没有。是你没问我的真实姓名。

I: 我早知道应该是你。怪不得 20 个问题你全答对了。我还以为自己找到知己了。

L: 对不起，是我不好。我发誓决不会有第二次。看，那个餐厅看上去很不错。走，我请你吃饭，然后慢慢给你解释。

Words Storm

e-mail	电子邮件
hide	藏起来，躲藏
lie	撒谎
cruel	令人痛苦的
explain	解释
promise	保证
restaurant	餐厅

Phrases

look around	四下张望
what on earth	到底怎样
what a bummer	真讨厌
what for	为什么
walk off	走开
hang on	稍等
hear sb. out	听某人说完

Dialogue 2

- L: The band is pretty good. How do you like the music?
 I: It's very nice. I haven't heard live music in a while. This is fun.
 L: Well, then, may I invite you for the next dance?
 I: Of course. But I'm afraid I'm not much of a dancer...
 L: Don't worry. I'm not much of a dancer myself.
 I: You're dancing so well.
 L: You dance beautifully too.
 I: When did you learn to dance?
 L: In college. But I don't dance very often. What's your favorite dance?
 I: It's hard to say. It depends. But I love the waltz.
 L: How about tango?
 I: Oh, I like it. It's such a beautiful dance, but I can't do it well. What about you?
 L: Tango is my favorite. Anything but hip-hop or the foxtrot. (the music has stopped)
 I: Thank you for the dance.
 L: My pleasure. Let's go and have a drink.
 I: Ok.

- L: 乐队不错啊。你喜欢这支曲子吗?
 I: 挺喜欢的。我很久没在现场听过音乐了, 感觉很不错。
 L: 好吧, 那我可以请你跳下一支舞吗?
 I: 当然, 但是我不怎么会跳舞。
 L: 别担心。我也不怎么会跳。
 I: 你跳得真好。
 L: 你跳得也不错。
 I: 你什么时候学的跳舞?
 L: 大学时学的。不过我很久没跳了。顺便问一下, 你最喜欢什么舞?
 I: 很难说, 看情况吧。不过我比较喜欢华尔兹舞。
 L: 那探戈呢?
 I: 也喜欢。探戈舞很美, 不过我不怎么会跳。你呢?
 L: 我最喜欢跳探戈舞。都还行, 除了街舞和狐步舞。(音乐停了)
 I: 谢谢你请我跳舞。
 L: 不客气。我们喝一杯怎么样?
 I: 好的。

Words Storm

band	乐队
fun	有趣的事
college	大学
favorite	最喜欢的
waltz	华尔兹舞
tango	探戈舞
hip-hop	街舞
foxtrot	狐步舞

Phrases

live music	现场音乐
in a while	一段时间
not much of a	不太好的
It depends.	那得看情况。

3

Cyber Love

网络情缘

Background Information

有人说：一旦上网 (surf on the Internet)，学会聊天 (chatting)，那么，或早或晚，准会发生一段网恋故事。不论你认识多少人，准会为网中的某个人，有茶饭不思的时候。也许是心无所依，寻找慰藉；也许是网络太过神秘，难抵诱惑；也许只是不经意之间，你就被深深俘虏，堕入了网恋的深渊。然而，生活不能远离现实，爱情不能只求缘分，但愿你能够明白网络情缘只能有多远走多远……

Useful Expressions

1. I sign on to the internet everyday.

1. 我每天都挂在网上。

2. I need to change my password.

2. 我需要修改我的密码。

3. When I don't feel like talking to certain people online I pretend that I'm offline.

3. 如果我不想和某些人聊天，我就会假装离线。

4. Dial-up is too slow so I use wireless broadband.

4. 拨号上网太慢，我用无线宽带上网。

5. I have a webcam on my computer so I can see my friends on the internet while chatting with them.

5. 我的电脑上装了摄像头，这样我就可以和朋友视频聊天了。

6. I've just invited you to join my buddy list.

6. 我已经把你加入我的好友名单了。

7. Remember to meet in a public place and don't give out your personal information

7. 记得在公共场合见面，别把个人信息给他。

8. You can't fall in love with someone you've never met!

8. 你从来没见过他，怎么会爱上他呢？

9. It's just a crush.

9. 这只是一时迷恋。

Dialogue 1

Lily: You are dressed to kill. You look gorgeous, Alexander.

Alexander: Thanks. This is my power suit. I have a dinner date tonight.

L: How did you meet each other?

A: She's a friend of Amy. We met at Amy's birthday party.

L: Is this your first date?

A: Yes. I hope it pans out. Cross your fingers, Lily.

L: Sure it will. Oh, no, it's seven fifteen already. I'm going to be late for my date.

A: Oh... So you buried the hatchet with Steven?

L: Absolutely not! He's a cheater. I will never talk to him again. I'm over with him. He's history!

A: Then who will you meet tonight?

L: A guy I met on the Internet three months ago.

A: Really? Are you sure that is a good idea?

L: Please don't be so fussy! I didn't just meet him yesterday.

A: I know, but remember to meet in a public place and don't give out your personal information.

莉莉：盛装打扮啊！亚历山大，你看上去帅呆了！

亚历山大：谢谢，这是我的“权利套装”，我今晚有约。

L: 你们怎么认识的？

A: 她是艾米的一个朋友。我们在艾米的生日晚会上认识的。

L: 这是你第一次约会吗？

A: 是的，我希望一切顺利。祝我成功吧，莉莉。

L: 当然，你一定会成功的。哎呀，已经 7 点 15 了，我约会迟到了。

A: 噢……难道你和斯蒂文和好了？

L: 怎么可能！他是个骗子。我再也不会搭理他了。我和他已经结束了，他是过去时了！

A: 那你今晚见谁呢？

L: 一个三个月前在网上认识的人。

A: 是吗？这可以吗？

L: 别这么大惊小怪！我又不是昨天才认识他的！

A: 我知道，但是记着在公共场合和他见面。别把你的个人信息给他。

Words Storm

gorgeous	好极了
cheater	骗子
cautious	小心的
fussy	大惊小怪的
history	不再相关的人或事
Mr. Right	白马王子

Phrases

power suit	权利套装
dinner date	晚餐约会
birthday party	生日晚会
pan out	事情发展情况
cross your fingers	祈求成功
bury the hatch	和好
have fun	玩得开心点