



...antitative goal of oral English course should be ever-present throughout the whole
...t should be emphasized from the start by establishing English as the main

思辩口语

主编 胡继岳 方 卫 李 平



第二军医大学出版社
Second Military Medical University Press

思 辩 口 语

Think & Speak

主 编 胡继岳 方 卫 李 平

副 主 编 贾凌玉 叶 玲 章国英

编 者 徐 劼 张 燕 章志萍
姚艳丹 施 称

审 校 Peter Huston(美)



第二军医大学出版社
Second Military Medical University Press

内 容 简 介

“创新,思辨”是本书的核心理念。内容从有争议的热点问题以及深层次的人生哲理着手,引导学生打破传统的思维模式和框架,以不同的视角和求变的思路来反思问题,让他们通过讨论、辩论的形式用英语表述自我观点,在锻炼学生英语口语表达能力的同时,达到拓展思路、开阔视野的目的。

本书适用于非英语专业大学生、研究生、博士生口语强化培训或相当水平的职业英语口语短期培训。

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

思辨口语/胡继岳,方卫,李平主编. —上海:第二军医大学出版社,2012.8

ISBN 978-7-5481-0456-8

I. ①思… II. ①胡…②方…③李… III. ①英语—口语—高等学校—教材 IV. ①H319.9

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2012)第 166976 号

出 版 人 陆小新

责任编辑 陈 晓 刘 向 高 标

思 辨 口 语

主 编 胡继岳 方 卫 李 平

第二军医大学出版社出版发行

<http://www.smmup.cn>

上海市翔殷路 800 号 邮政编码:200433

发行科电话/传真:021-65493093

全国各地新华书店经销

上海华教印务有限公司印刷

开本:787×1092 1/16 印张:15.5 字数:145 千字

2012 年 8 月第 1 版 2012 年 8 月第 1 次印刷

ISBN 978-7-5481-0456-8/H·022

定价:42.00 元

前言

目前国内高等教育中普遍存在学生思路窄、创新能力差的现象。针对这一问题这本教材从大学生普遍关心的话题,包括有争议的热点问题以及深层次的人生哲理着手,为学生最大限度地提供运用英语表达观点的平台,让他们通过讨论、辩论的形式用英语表述自我观点,洞察他人思维,在深层思想的冲突与碰撞中探讨人生。“创新、思考、辩论”是这本教材的核心理念。运用这本教材教师能更好地引导学生打破传统的思维模式和框架,以不同的视角和求变的思路来反思问题,培养学生批判性思考的能力。这本教材期望在锻炼学生英语口语表达能力的同时,达到拓展思路、开阔视野的目的。本教材适用于非英语专业大学、研究生、博士生口语强化培训或相当水平的职业英语口语短期培训。

本书的主要内容包括:

1. 精选感情、教育、工作等学生感兴趣的话题以及幸福、成功、信念、道德等人生哲理话题,帮助学生在真实愿望的推动下进行深层面的思想表达和交流。
2. 在课前活动中,提供一篇批判性特色的文章作为学生拓展思路的起点,辅以发散性的思考话题,作为信息引导和输入,让学生在进入口语课堂前已经对将讨论的话题有所准备和思考。
3. 提供与话题相关的常用词汇、用法和表达方式,补充学生语言素材上的不足,帮助他们更准确和顺畅地表达思想。
4. 在口语活动前精选一段配合本课话题的视频素材,辅以文字材料,既可作为学生自学或课前预习的内容,以提高学生的学习兴趣,也可用作课堂教学的引入,使教学更生动、立体。
5. 设计三个层次,逐层深入的口语活动:第一层是针对个体学生的记叙性或描写性问题,作为口语活动的热身;第二层是为小组讨论设计的全面思考问题,拓展学生的思路,为辩论做准备;第三层也是本书最具特色的一部分——批判性思考问题,引入争议性的,甚至敏感话题,引导学生挑战传统思维,以批判性的视角思考社会和人生,并进而以辩论的方式展示和探讨思考的成果,使学生的口语表达能力在思想的表达和冲撞中得到锻炼和提高。
6. 作为课堂口语活动的补充和扩展,每个单元都设置了与主题相关的课后任务,要求学生独立或合作完成一项语言展示活动,可作为下次课前表演内容,既培养了学生的自主学习能力,又体现了以学生为主体的教学理念。

7. 设计了一系列关于批判性思考和辩论的讲座,指导学生如何走出常规的思维模式,以辩论的形式锻炼批判性思考能力,突出了本书“以辩求辨”的核心理念。

随书附赠的网络版多媒体光盘,为教师实施多媒体教学创造了条件,又适合学生自学使用。本书光盘既可以在电脑上单机使用,也可以网页形式在网上发布,借助网络语言学习平台的互动、趣味、高效的特点,实现教材的立体、教学个性化、学习自主化、任务合作化和环境多样化。在此,需重申的是,将本光盘的内容以网络课程的形式发布于网上,须征得本书作者和第二军医大学出版社的书面许可。

本教材取名“思辩口语”,并非误用“思辨”一词,而是表达了“思考、辩论”之涵义,以对应英语之“Think & Speak”,敬请读者留意。由于编者的水平和经验有限,教材中难免有不足之处,恳切希望广大师生和读者批评指正,以便我们进一步修订和完善。

编者

2012年5月

Contents

Unit One	Language: Can we build the Tower of Babel?	1
Unit Two	Romantic Love: Is love a red, red rose?	10
Unit Three	Parental Love: Is it selfless?	18
Unit Four	Friendship: Is a friend in need a friend indeed?	26
Unit Five	Fashion: In or out?	34
Unit Six	Food: Live to eat or eat to live?	41
Unit Seven	Travel: 10,000 books or 10,000 miles?	51
Unit Eight	Sports: Can it shape your body and mind?	59
Unit Nine	Happiness: Is it an ideal for all?	66
Unit Ten	Success: No pains, no gains?	74
Unit Eleven	Mass Media: mass or mess?	82
Unit Twelve	Education: Does knowledge change fate?	91
Unit Thirteen	Job: Earns your bread?	99
Unit Fourteen	Disaster: Act of God or Act of Man?	107
Unit Fifteen	Health Care Reform: Toward equality?	115
Unit Sixteen	Morality: Who are evil?	124
Unit Seventeen	Truth: To lie or not to lie?	132
Unit Eighteen	Belief: Who is God?	140
Unit Nineteen	Tradition: Where are we from?	148
Unit Twenty	Her Age: Reality or Fantasy?	156
Appendix	164

An Overall Understanding of Critical Thinking

- Firstly, recognize that **thinking critically does not mean simple criticism**. It means not simply accepting information at face value in a non-critical or non-evaluating way.
- The essence of critical thinking centers not on answering questions but on questioning answers, so it involves questioning, probing, analyzing, evaluating. In his novel “Sophie’s World”, the Norwegian writer Jostein Gaarder notes that: “*The most subversive people are those who ask questions*”.
- Remember that **prominence does not equate to importance**. A newspaper may have made its lead story the rumor of a break-up between Britney Spears and her latest boyfriend, but that does not necessarily make it the most important news item that day. Conversely, in 1914 that tiny story about the assassination of an undistinguished nobleman in some backwater called Sarajevo proved to have rather more influences than most readers first appreciated. Try an experiment: one day, buy five or six national newspapers, compare their coverage of the same stories on the same day, and note the different prominence-and the different bias-given to the same stories.

Unit One

Language: Can We Build the Tower of Babel?

Section One Pre-class Assignment

Part I : Thought-Provoking Reading

Is Language Only A Tool?

A language is unique. Whether it’s a tool or not, or just a tool that we use or a significant part of us is **controversial**. However, here’s some facts to think about:

1. There’s a hypothesis called the Sapir-Whorf **Hypothesis** that argues that the language we speak **underpins** the way we view the world around us. This theory, named after the American linguists Edward Sapir and Benjamin Lee Whorf, is a very influential but controversial theory concerning the relationship between language, thought and

culture. What this hypothesis suggests is like this: our language helps **mold** our way of thinking and, consequently, different languages may probably express our unique ways of understanding the world. Consider the following: in Western cultures it's quite normal to have 7 basic colors (those of the rainbow, the rest we consider their shades). Surprisingly enough, in some Indian languages the basic color set will only include 4 items. And also consider the complexity of the titles that Chinese use to call their relatives on the father's or mother's side. Following this argument, two important points could be captured in this theory. On the one hand, language may determine our thinking patterns; on the other, similarity between languages is relative; the greater their structural **differentiation** is, the more diverse their **conceptualization** of the world will be. For this reason, this hypothesis has alternatively been referred to as Linguistic **Determinism** and Linguistic **Relativity**. Nowadays, two versions of the Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis have been developed, a strong version and a weak version. The strong version of the theory refers to the claim the original hypothesis suggests, emphasizing the decisive role of language as the shaper of our thinking patterns. The weak version of this hypothesis, however, is a modified type of its original theory, suggesting that there is a correlation between language, culture and thought, but the cross-cultural differences thus produced in our ways of thinking are relative, rather than **categorical**.

2. Language is known to participate in the process of thinking. When you think of something, you usually find yourself silently using language to communicate with yourself as if you were speaking without actually opening your mouth. That's called "inner speech". There is no doubt that inner speech represents a central process in consciousness and psychology. People report that approximately one fourth of their conscious waking life is made up of silent verbal thinking. In one study, 96% of all adult participants indicated that they sometimes talk to themselves aloud when alone. Self-directed speech (first as private speech in children and then as inner speech in adults) has been shown to play a primary role in the regulation of thought and behavior. All features of normal language functions (e. g. reading, writing, speaking, calculating) **entail intact** inner speech. Self-talk also plays a role in task switching performance, remembering the goals of action, and self-awareness. When distorted, inner speech is frequently implicated in various forms of psychological disorders such as **schizophrenia**, social anxiety, and depression. However, the extent to which thinking and language are related is not yet fully known.

3. Language plays a major part in one's identity. English is the official language in several countries. Chinese is the language spoken by Chinese people and Danish is how Danes speak. Also, within a country, people in different regions speak with different accents, or so-called "regional dialects". But languages could also be described as different ways of talking due to social background, education, profession, age and sex. A person's language is connected to his social situation. In the movie, *My Fair Lady*,

Eliza, the **cockney** flower girl from **the gutter** does not speak the same language as Professor Higgins, even if English is their common mother tongue. They speak differently in the so-called “social dialect” because they belong to different social worlds. Identity can signify the very special characteristics of a person, something that makes him differ from others. Social dialect is mostly based on class, **ethnicity**, gender, age, and particular social situations. Black English in the United States is an example of a social dialect. What’s more, dialects may be both regional and social. An example is the Chinese spoken dialect and written form called **nvshu**. It apparently was known and used only by women in the village of Jiang-yong in Hunan Province of South China. Women taught **nvshu** only to their daughters and used it to write **memoirs**, create songs, and share their thoughts with each other. While women also knew and used the conventional Chinese dialects of their region, they used **nvshu** to maintain female support networks in their male dominated society.

4. Only a small portion of the information a text may potentially carry is properly accessed by the listener. Try doing this: tell a story (500 words or so, not too long) to a friend and ask him/her to retell it to another person keeping the story as close to the original text as possible. If this is repeated several times with different people, you’ll hardly recognize your story.

5. Words can inform our mind, **caress** and comfort our feelings, excite and thrill our spirit, or warm and kindle the flame of our hearts. They can also slap our face, punch us in the stomach, rattle our nerves, kill our desire, or destroy our self-confidence. Of course this is **metaphorical**, but these metaphors capture in words our physical reactions to what is said, and that is the power of language. It can emotionally move and affect us as powerfully as physical actions. Unfortunately, however, we have yet to recognize and **legitimize** this great power in the way we should, and we are left to deal with language in whatever way we have learned and adopted.

Questions for thinking and discussing

1. What does the allusion “Tower of Babel” imply? Do you think it is possible that one day one single language (English, Chinese or Esperanto or another) will unify the whole world? Why or why not?
2. In what way can different languages determine one’s unique culture and way of thinking? Please take Chinese and English for instances and try to illustrate.
3. It is said, if you want to change yourself to be a different person, then do a self-talk every day and tell yourself that you are this man, and finally the magic happens. Do you really believe this? Why or why not?
4. Do you agree that one dialect is superior to the other because it represents a different regional and social culture, and eventually one will prosper and the other will die? Please explain in details.

5. To illustrate the power of a language, can you tell us a real example (good or bad) about how some words really have changed your behavior or way of thinking?

Text-related words

controversial *adj.* 引起争论的,有争议的
hypothesis *n.* 假说,假设
underpin *vt.* 为(论据、主张等)打下基础;加强;巩固
mold *vt.* 塑造
differentiation *n.* 区分,区别
conceptualization *n.* 概念化
Determinism *n.* 决定论
Relativity *n.* 相对论
categorical *adj.* 绝对的
entail *vt.* 使成为必要,需要
intact *adj.* 完整的
schizophrenia *n.* 精神分裂症
cockney *n.* 伦敦人的方言;伦敦土话

the gutter 贫民窟
ethnicity *n.* 种族地位
nvshu *n.* 女书(流传于中国湖南省江永县的一种由女性创造并只在女性中使用的文字)
memoirs *n.* 回忆录,记事录
caress *vt.* 爱抚,抚摸
metaphorical *adj.* 比喻的
legitimize *vt.* 使合法



Part II : Unit-related words and expressions

oral ability 口语能力
pronunciation 语音
vowel 元音
consonant 辅音
working Languages 工作语言
net-speak 网络用语
native speaker 本族语者
universal language/Esperanto 世界语
sense of language 语感
proverb 谚语,格言
idiom 习语,成语
linguistics 语言学
linguist 语言学家
a slip of the tongue 口误

pet phrase 口头禅
lecturer 演讲者
stage fright 怯场
forget lines 忘词
stick to/persist in 坚持
The words fail to express the meaning. 词不达意。



Section Two Class Activities



Part I : Lead-in Video Appreciation. Take notes while watching.



Part II : Warm-up Oral Expression

1. Narrate something on the following topic:

My English Learning Experience (Painful or Enjoyable)

2. Have you had any difficulties in learning to speak English well and what are the possible ways to improve oral English?

Hints

The difficulties in learning to speak English well.

- Not enough vocabulary
- Poor grammar
- Teachers' poor English oral ability
- Lack of language environment
- No use in reality
- Difficulty in imitating the native pronunciation and intonation

The most effective way to improve oral English is to use the language.

- Talk to yourself
- Record your own voice
- Participate in classroom English activities
- Learn common idioms
- Understand the sounds that your mother language doesn't have
- Practice minimal pairs
- Study word and sentence stress
- Practice tongue twisters
- Make friends with the exchange students on our campus
- Take part in English speaking activities
- Watch English programs as much as possible
- Listen to English broadcasts on the radio
- Make an English speaking foreign friend on the internet



Part III. Comprehensive-thinking Oriented Oral Expression

Conduct group discussions on the following topic:

Ways of English Learning

Hints

The discussion may be conducted using the following aspects:

1. basic aspects of English learning: listening, speaking, reading and writing. For each of them, intensive and extensive methods may be adopted.
2. internal factors, such as interest, motivation, and confidence.
3. external factors, such as environment, financial ability, and modern technology.



Part IV. Critical-thinking Oriented Oral Expression

1. Is it proper to advocate the use of local dialect in TV programs?

Arguments

- ◇ *Local dialects are a part of local culture, and currently cultural diversity (multi-culturalism) instead of cultural monopoly is the trend.*
- ◇ *A lot of cultural events like local operas can only be performed in local dialect.*

Counterarguments

- ◇ *Speaking with a local dialect is often a marker of poor education and can form an obstacle in career development.*
- ◇ *In modern times, mobility is a characteristic of upwardly mobile people. This demands a commonly understood language in a country.*

2. What's behind the dominance of a certain dialect?

Hints

- ◇ *The so-called Putonghua is actually based on a certain local dialect . Basically speaking , no local dialect is better than others .*
- ◇ *It's often the executive power of a government that forcefully imposes a general language upon individuals .*

3. Why is English compulsory in our educational system? What's your understanding?

Hints

- ◇ *English has become a super language.*
- ◇ *On the other hand, we should realize language penetration is an effective way of cultural invasion.*

Section Three After-class Assignment

Search for the latest English words and expressions used on the Internet, sum up the common features of these words and figure out why Netspeak is getting popular and how it has influenced our modern language.

Tips For Critical Thinking (1)

- To understand a news item, **try to give some context to the current event**. For instance, if it is reported that a group of Sunnis today attacked a meeting of Shiites in Iraq, three things are needed to make full sense of the report. First, explanation: what is the difference between Sunnis and Shiites and what proportion of the population do they constitute? Second, history: what is the origin of the division of Sunnis and Shiites in the country and how has the power relationship altered in past years? Third, anticipation: what does the attack mean for future developments such as the formation of a government or the conduct of an election?
- **Check the source**. Who wrote the article or scripted the program? How knowledgeable is the source? Does the source have a particular interest or ‘angle’ or prejudice? Is the source known to you by reputation or previous work? In the case of a web site in particular, it may be difficult to establish the source.

Unit Two

Romantic Love: Is Love A Red, Red Rose?

Section One Pre-class Assignment

Part I : Thought-Provoking Reading

“Naked” wedding: a blessing or a disaster?

“Naked wedding, ” a popular **catch phrase** in China coined amid the background of **skyrocketing** property prices, reflects the reality of many young people in China today. It refers to a marriage without a house, a car, diamond ring, and fancy wedding ceremony—just a nine-yuan marriage certificate.

A recent online poll about “naked weddings” on Sohu. com that released the results on December 24 show over half of the **respondents** would not choose to have that kind of a wedding.

Supporters say: a “naked wedding” should be the normal expectation for youth, while a wedding with everything is a kind of sick misunderstanding of society and the reasons for marriage. A few decades ago, our parents were getting married in a “naked

way.” They have better and happier lives now, so young people should also do so.

Opponents have their own arguments against “naked weddings.” They say a “naked wedding” is a way of cheating yourself; living without a certain material basis also means no interest in romance; marriage on the basis of the marriage certificate, which is a thin piece of paper, can not pass through any tough experience.

For the first question, “Would having a ‘naked’ wedding be an option,” 47 percent of web users supported this, while 43 percent disagreed. The remaining 10 percent were undecided.

When it comes to whether such marriage will be happy, 44 percent voted “Yes” and believed that marriage is based on love not material goods, while the same proportion of “No” voters doubted if this kind of marriage without any physical foundations would work.

“Such a wedding shouldn’t be **tagged** with this title. It is normal for young people. I think the whole society has a twisted concept over marriage and happiness,” a respondent named “Iambest” said.

However, “Anju Guest,” another Internet user opposed the idea and viewed it as a self-deceiving move, contending that “a nine yuan-certificate marriage without material foundation is as fragile as a sheet of paper and cannot **withstand** any obstacles.”

The poll also showed that 80 percent of male respondents liked the idea of “naked weddings,” but 70 percent of women were against it.

Meanwhile, some female respondents were willing to make some compromises.

A woman named “Duyiwei” said she could accept being “half naked” and gave a very vivid analogy: houses can be compared to clothes while cars and wedding rings are like hats and scarves. She explained that she can do without **accessories** but definitely can’t do without clothes.

Although “naked wedding” is a **buzzword** of 2009, this phenomenon does not just belong to young couples born in the 1980s.

“It is nothing to be ashamed of to rent an apartment. In our parents’ generation, they married ‘naked’ and **started** their life **from scratch**,” web user “Xiaoya679” said.

“Naked wedding” has everything to do with the typical young Chinese couple’s dream of owning a house.

“We don’t want to empty our wallets to become slaves to a **mortgage**... I am still young and I hope I will see the day when the property market **bubble** bursts,” wrote Li Fangchao in his story about “naked weddings”.

While this idea is highly **controversial** in China, what about the situation in foreign countries? Let’s have a look at an essay written by an Australian:

What in China is considered a “naked marriage” is simply a normal marriage in Australia. The expectation that a man should provide material goods before a woman will accept him is a completely foreign concept to Australians. In Australia, the likelihood that a couple will have a house or car as soon as they **tie the knot** is remote.