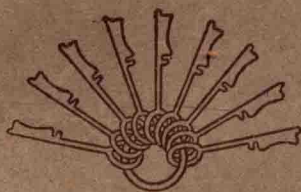


初中學生文庫
日用英語會話

編者 Clarinda Smith



中華書局編印

EVERYDAY ENGLISH CONVERSATION

By

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Everyday English Conversation

LESSON I

TEA

Will you have a cup of tea?

Yes, thank you.

Do you like your tea strong or weak?

I do not like strong tea.

Will you have some hot water?

A little, please.

Will you have sugar and milk?

I will have two pieces of sugar, but not any milk.

Will you have some cake?

Yes, please.

Which kind will you have?

I will have a piece of cream cake.

Do you like your tea?

Yes, very much.

Will you have some more tea, or another piece of cake?

No, thank you. I have had a very nice tea,
and it is six o'clock and I must return home.

Shall I see you tomorrow?

Yes, at three o'clock.

LESSON II

PENS

Have you a pen?

Yes, I have a box of pens.

What kind of pens have you?

I have stub pens.

I am sorry I cannot use stub pens.

Why?

Because I always blot my copy-book when I use a stub pen.

What kind of ink do you use?

I always use Waterman's ink.

I like Carter's black ink to write with.

You write very well. How long have you been in school?

I have attended school five years.

When do you graduate?

I graduate next year.

Are you going to college?

Yes, I expect to go to Hongkong University.

Well, it is nearly two o'clock, and I must go back to school. Good-bye!

Good-bye!

LESSON III

THE FAMILY

Good morning! How are you?

I am very well; I have just returned from the country.

Did your family return with you?

No, they are still in the country.

How are your wife and children?

They are all well.

How are your mother and father?

They are very well too, thank you.

How many brothers and sisters have you?

I have two brothers and four sisters.

Where do they live?

They are all here in Shanghai.

Will you come and have tiffin with me?

I cannot come today, but I can come tomorrow.

All right, meet me at the Astor tomorrow at 12.30.

All right.

Cheerio!

Cheerio!

LESSON IV

SEAPORTS

What is a seaport?

A seaport is a town or city situated near, or on, the sea.

For what purpose is a seaport?

A seaport is a town or city that has a large harbour where ships from different parts of the world anchor and receive and discharge their cargo.

Can you tell me the largest seaport in the world?

London is the largest seaport in the world.

What is the largest seaport in America?

New York is the largest seaport in America.

What is the largest seaport of Scotland?

Glasgow is the largest seaport of Scotland.

The largest in Belgium?

Antwerp.

In Germany?

Hamburg.

In France?

Marseille.

In Italy?

Genoa.

In China?

Shanghai.

How does Shanghai compare in size to the other large seaports?

Shanghai is the fourth in size.

Do we have many different kinds of ships in the harbour here in Shanghai?

Yes, we have ships from all parts of the world.

Why?

Because Shanghai is the largest seaport in the Far East.

In going to America, which is the quickest route?

The ships called the Empress boats are the quickest.

How many days does it take?

It takes sixteen days if you have fine weather.

What is another route?

You can go to San Francisco.

How long does that take?

The route to San Francisco takes from twenty-one to twenty-three days.

Can you go by another route to America?

Yes, you can take one of the Dollar ships to New York passing through the Suez Canal and via Europe to New York City.

LESSON V

BOOKS

Where have you been this morning?

I have been to the Public Library.

You have four books with you, what are their names?

One of my books is called "The Merchant of Venice".

What is the author's name?

Shakespeare wrote the Merchant of Venice.

Do you like Shakespeare?

Yes, very much.

Why?

Because we are studying it in school, and once a week we give an act of the play, and the best boys take the different characters. It is great fun, especially, when one of the boys has to play the part of Portia.

Who was Portia?

Why, Portia is the leading woman's part in the play.

Does one of the boys play the part?

Yes, and it is very funny to hear one of the boys try to pitch his voice high so that it will sound like a woman speaking.

What are the names of the other three books?

One book is by *Sir* Walter Scott.

What is the name?

It is called *Ivanhoe*.

Is it interesting?

Yes.

What are the other two?

One book is on English history and the other is fiction.

What does fiction mean?

The word fiction means a novel or an invented story.

Where are you going now?

I am going home, because I have much home-work to do to-night.

Good night!

Good night.

LESSON VI

THE MONTHS OF THE YEAR

How many months are there in one year?

There are twelve months in one year.

What are they called?

They are called January, February, March,
April, May, June, July, August, September,
October, November and December.

Please tell me the names of the months that have
31 days.

The months that have 31 days are January,
March, May, July, August, October and
December.

What are the names of the months that have 30
days?

The names of the months that contain 30 days
are April, June, September and November.

How many days in February?

February has 28 days, but every fourth year
it has 29 days.

Can you explain the reason why February every fourth year has 29 days instead of 28 days?

Yes, I can if you will listen very carefully, because it may be hard for you to understand.

The earth performs a revolution in its orbit about the sun in 365 days-5 hours-48 minutes and 46 seconds.

Now as the year consists of 365 days and a fraction, and 365 is a number that cannot be divided by 12, it is impossible that the months can all be of the same length and at the same time include all the days of the year, therefore the extra hours cannot be included in the year until they have accumulated to one whole day. As soon as this has taken place an additional day must be given to the year, and therefore the extra day is made up in February every four years, and that is called Leap Year.

How many days in a Leap Year?

There are 366 days in a Leap Year.

LESSON VII

SILVER

What is silver?

Silver is a metal found in silver mines, and will melt at 1000 degrees Centigrade.

Where is the most silver found?

Over two-thirds of the world's supply of silver is derived from Mexico.

What other countries produce silver?

In United States silver is found in Colorado, Nevada, Montana, . . . Idaho; in South America it is found in Bolivia and Chili.

Is silver found in Europe?

Yes, it is found in Germany and Austria, also in Russia and China.

Is silver pure silver?

No. Even the best "fine silver" of commerce contains a few thousandth parts of copper or other base metals.

What is silver used for?

Silver is used to mount jewelry and for many things, but its principal use is for making money.

LESSON VIII

COAL

Will you please tell me where, and how, coal is found?

Coal comes from mountainous countries, and it is dug out of the earth sometimes many feet below the earth's surface. It is taken from mines or collieries by men who are called miners. Shafts are dug deep down into the earth, and these men are fitted with small lamps on the front of their caps. When digging for coal they lay on their backs and dig the coal out of the ground above them with pick-axes. The coal is then hauled by mules through narrow passages to the shafts, and then hauled up by machinery. Some of these mules never see daylight, but sleep and are fed below the ground all their lives.

Are there different kinds of coal?

Yes. There is anthracite, or hard coal, which is opaque and comes in thin slices and is

very black. There are different grades of soft coal which vary in colour from light brown to black.

What is the difference between hard and soft coal?

Hard coal burns slowly with hardly any smoke and throws out much heat, while soft coal burns up very quickly and sends out much smoke which has a disagreeable odour.

In America, especially New York City, no one is allowed to burn soft coal and any person found burning soft coal is given a heavy fine.

We here in Shanghai burn a great deal of soft coal, because hard coal is so very expensive.

Will you please tell me the names of the countries where coal is found?

In United States coal is found in Pennsylvania, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas, and also along the line of the Rocky Mountains and continued into Canada, also in Nova Scotia, Alaska and Mexico.

In South America coal is found in Venezuela, Columbia and Peru.