



普通高等教育英语“十二五”规划教材

# 大学英语口语

## 进阶 (2)

徐坤银 罗敏 主编

COLLEGE  
ORAL ENGLISH

Step By Step



华中科技大学出版社

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徐坤银 罗 敏 主编

策划编辑: 刘 平

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封面设计: 范翠璇

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# 前 言

为适应大学英语教学的新形势,深化教学改革,提高教学质量,满足社会对人才培养的需要,教育部在2007年颁发了《大学英语课程教学要求》,作为高等学校非英语专业本科英语教学的主要依据。《大学英语课程教学要求》在论及教学模式改革时指出“新教学模式应能使学生选择适合自己需要的材料和方法进行学习,获得学习策略的指导,逐步提高其自主学习的能力”。针对这一大学英语教学改革要求,各高校积极探索培养学生自主学习能力的有效途径。语言自主学习中心的创建为学生训练听说能力提供了硬件上的保障。《大学英语口语进阶》作为大学英语自主学习中心的系列辅助教材,其编写旨在配合大学英语教学改革,努力丰富完善自主学习中心在听说能力培养上的软件建设,为学生在自主环境下培养听说能力给予切实指导。

在呼声越来越高的个性化大学英语教学要求下,《大学英语口语进阶》的编写贯彻了“教师为主导,学生为主体”的教学思想,体现出导学式大学英语口语教学模式。其鲜明特色如下。

## 一、注重以学生为主体,话题多彩,活动多样

话题结合学生生活实际,激发学生强烈的课堂参与欲。本教材话题丰富广泛,反映了大学生多姿多彩的课内外生活,引入诸多大学生感兴趣的讨论主题。结合大学生活不同发展阶段,本教程全四册分为拥抱校园(Embracing Campus Life)、畅游校园(Enjoying Campus Life)、超越校园(Beyond Campus Life)、走出校园(Farewell to Campus Life)四个分册,贯穿了初识大学校园、爱上大学生生活、成长年轻心智、告别大学走向社会等全程大学生生活。

口语输出任务设计多元立体化,拓展学生课堂发挥空间。全四册汇集十余种多元化口语活动形式。活动设置有梯度,难度逐步推进。结合不同年级特点,在一、二分册设计情景剧、角色扮演、影片配音、模拟访谈、对话讨论、英语游戏、看图说话等活动;在三、四分册倾向于演讲训练、戏剧表演、歌曲配景、诗歌品鉴、辩论实战、创编故事、专题报告等形式。多元立体化的活动体现了学生在语言和思维发展上的逐步契合,并提供学生展现自己语言交际的能力。

## 二、强调以教师为主导,拓展人文,训练思维

加大语言文化信息输入量,明确语言发展的目的。本教程输入环节全面涵盖了语言知识、语言技能和文化拓展三个方面。全四册每单元遵循统一模式,在 Word Bank & Useful Expressions 中提供讨论该单元话题所需的词汇及多种口语表达方式;在 Demonstration 中展示实例对话,演练口语交流技巧;在 Background 和 Cultural Notes 中介绍与话题相关的文化知识,在 Watch & Discuss 环节推荐资料库中

与话题相关的英文影片供学生欣赏观摩,为学生创设听说学习的文化环境。统一分明的单元模式设计使学生通过发展语言,培养人文思想,最终完成跨文化口语交际活动。

**口语任务的设计渗透思维训练。**通过指导学生完成要求较高的故事创编、演讲、辩论、专题报告等口语任务,引导学生从学会组织语言到学会组织思维,从而最终培养学生分析问题、解决问题的能力以及语言沟通能力。

本教材由多年从事大学英语口语教学的资深教师编写:刘玲玉(第1册UNIT 1—UNIT 5)、何敏(第1册UNIT 6—UNIT 10)、徐坤银(第2册UNIT 1—UNIT 5)、罗敏(第2册UNIT 6—UNIT 10)、习强毅(第3册UNIT 1—UNIT 5)、陈国良(第3册UNIT 6—UNIT 10)、田颖(第4册UNIT 1—UNIT 5)、李鹏(第4册UNIT 6—UNIT 10)。

本教材的顺利出版要特别感谢武汉轻工大学外国语学院领导和全体同仁及华中科技大学出版社对口语教学改革和教材编写工作自始至终的关心和大力支持。

由于时间仓促,编者水平有限,书中不免有各种不足之处,恳请广大读者及同行不吝赐教。

编者

2013年4月28日

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# Unit 1 Happy Lunar New Year!

## I. Background

Chinese traditional festivals have evolved through the centuries from past major events. For instance, long ago when people had a bountiful harvest, they gathered and celebrated their good fortune with gala performances. When natural disasters struck, they offered sacrifices to the gods and their ancestors, hoping for a blessing. The change of the seasons, flowers in spring, and the bright moon in autumn could arouse their longing for a more beautiful life. Thus, creative activities were held to signify these events. Gradually these activities developed into festivals.

The most important festival in China is the Spring Festival. It is said that the Spring Festival evolved from an activity known as the Winter Sacrifice. It was a custom practiced by the people of primitive society to celebrate the receding of the winter and the beginning of the spring.

The Lantern Festival is closely related to the Spring Festival, and it marks the end of the celebrations of the New Year celebrations, after which everything returns to normal.

The Qingming Festival is the day for mourning the dead. It corresponds with the onset of warmer weather, the start of spring plowing, and of family outings.

The Duanwu Festival is known as the Dragon-Boat Festival, because dragon boat races are the most popular activity during the festival, especially in Southern China, with drums beating, colorful flags waving, and thousands of people cheering.

The Double-Seventh Festival is not so well-known to many young people, but the related sad love story about the poor cowherd and the Girl Weaver has been passed down from generation to generation.

Another very important festival is the Mid-Autumn Festival. It falls on the 15th day of the eighth lunar month, because Chinese ancestors believed that the seventh, eighth, and ninth lunar months belong to autumn.

The Double Ninth Festival is based on the theory of *Yin* and *Yang*, the two opposing principles in nature. *Yin* is the feminine, negative principle, while *Yang* is masculine and positive. The ancients believed that all natural phenomena could be explained by this theory. Numbers are no exception. Even numbers belong to

*Yin* and odd numbers belong to *Yang*. The ninth day of the ninth month is a day when two *Yang* numbers meet. Since *Chong* means double in Chinese, it is called *Chongyang*.

In a time when foreign cultures in developed countries, especially the American culture, are invading developing countries, such as China, it is of great importance for every Chinese person to know more about the Chinese culture, and value the priceless treasures descended from our ancestors — traditional festivals.

## II. Warm-Up

### Activity 1

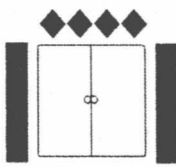
Look at the following pictures. They may remind you of the memory of the Spring Festival.



Picture 1



Picture 2



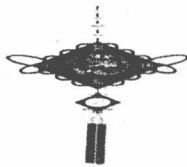
Picture 3



Picture 4



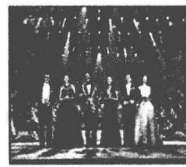
Picture 5



Picture 6



Picture 7



Picture 8

### Task 1

- ① Form groups of four or five.
- ② Brainstorm vocabulary on the Spring Festival in groups.
- ③ Each group sends a team member to write down as many words as possible on the blackboard within 5 minutes.
- ④ Each related word in correct spelling scores one point, and the group that scores the most wins.

### Task 2

- ① Form groups of four or five.
- ② Have students describe to their partners the customs, foods, drinks, and celebrations during the Spring Festival in different places. Vote for the best to compete with other groups.



- ③ If the customs, foods, drinks, and celebrations described are of great differences from others, and the audience need illustration, just explain them.
- ④ Vote for the most creative and interesting description.

### Activity 2

Fill in the blanks in the following table. Each blank scores one point. The total score is 12. The one who gets the most correct answers in the shortest time wins.

Traditional Chinese Festivals

Chinese Names	English Names	Date
春节		Jan. 1st of the Chinese lunar calendar
元宵节		
清明节		
端午节		
七夕	The Double-Seventh Festival	
中秋节		
重阳节		

## III. Section A

### 1. Demonstration

#### Conversation 1

- A: I'm so glad that the Spring Festival is near at hand.
- B: Me too! I like the festival best of all.
- A: Think of the big feast on the Eve!
- B: And the special TV programs, firecrackers, and the games to play!
- A: Hey, do you know any mysterious beliefs about the festival?
- B: Such as?
- A: You know why firecrackers are set off during the festival?
- B: Why! To welcome the new year, of course.
- A: And also to frighten away evil spirits.
- B: Really?
- A: And my parents say the whole year will be as good or as bad as New Year's Day itself, and bad or rude words on the day will bring a bad year.
- B: Oh, that's why my parents never scold me that day. They always try to avoid

tears and quarrels.

### Conversation 2

A: What's the biggest holiday in China?

B: The Spring Festival. It's also called Chinese New Year. It's celebrated according to the lunar calendar.

A: In which month is it in the solar calendar?

B: It varies every year. It comes either at the end of January or the beginning of February.

A: That's fascinating. How do you celebrate it?

B: Well, all shops are closed and everyone seems to stay at home. It's the time for family reunions, you know. On New Year's Eve, many people stay up the whole night.

A: What about the children?

B: It's really a great holiday for children. They dress up in their best and play with firecrackers in the streets.

### Conversation 3

A: When I was in northern China I celebrated my first Spring Festival. It was really a bit of a shock.

B: How come?

A: I couldn't see where the spring was. There was snow and ice everywhere, and a constant northwest wind.

B: Anything else that surprised you?

A: Yeah. I learned something else during that time. In Beijing, despite the snow and ice, it was often sunny during the Spring Festival so I liked to go out for a walk in the snow around the Summer Palace or to go skating on Kunming Lake.

B: Uh huh.

A: Then we came home and found that old friends had called on us while we were out. So gradually we learned the rules of the Spring Festival — the first day (chuxi) is for feasting at home, the second and third days are for paying and receiving visits.

B: That's right. In China, we start our Spring Festival season weeks before by shopping, cleaning and decorating. Then, on New Year's Eve (da nian ye), the evening before the first day (chuxi), we have a family reunion for eating, drinking, setting off firecrackers and fireworks and waiting for the clock to

strike midnight.

#### Conversation 4

A: The Spring Festival seems to be the most important holiday in China.

B: Yes. It's just like Christmas in America.

A: One question that troubles me most is why so many people are busy buying pictures of the tiger.

B: Oh, you really have a sharp observation. It is related to the Chinese Zodiac culture. In the Chinese lunar calendar, the coming new year is the year of the tiger. It's a tradition to decorate their rooms with pictures of the animal of the year.

#### 2. Word Bank & Useful Expressions

Eve of Lunar New Year 除夕	the Spring Festival 春节
lunar January; the first month by lunar calendar 正月	to get rid of the ill-fortune 去晦气
taboo 禁忌	to offer sacrifices to one's ancestors 祭祖宗
spring-cleaning 扫房	special purchases for the Spring Festival 买年货
Chinese knot 中国结	family reunion dinner 团圆饭
to bid farewell to the old year 辞旧岁	to make jiaozi 包饺子
family reunion 家人团聚	CCTV Spring Festival Gala 中央电视 台春节联欢晚会
dumpling / jiaozi 饺子	gift money 压岁钱
staying-up 守岁	firecrackers and fireworks 爆竹烟花
New Year's visit 拜年	Spring Festival couplets 春联
to propose a toast 敬酒	Lunar New Year's paintings 年画
red packet 红包	to go skating 去溜冰
lion and dragon dance 舞龙舞狮	to set / let / touch off firecrackers and fireworks 放鞭炮和焰火
paper-cut 剪纸	
rice cake 年糕	
feasting at home 在家设宴	
(the clock) to strike twelve (钟) 敲十二下	
to observe the day 庆祝这个日子	
to stay up late or all night on New Year's Eve 除夕守夜	

① The door is decorated with a big character "Happiness". 门上贴上大“福”字。

② How many days do you take off for the Spring Festival? 春节你休几天假呀?

③ What will you do on New Year's Eve? 除夕晚上你打算怎么过呢?

#### 3. In-Class Activities

##### Task 1

① Students form groups to share knowledge about the origins, customs,

celebrations and symbols of the Spring Festival.

- ② Review the origins, customs, celebrations and symbols of Christmas.
- ③ Compare the similarities of these two holidays.
- ④ Contrast the differences of these two holidays.
- ⑤ Each group elects a reporter to share their opinions with the class.

Sample:

The Spring Festival is	Christmas is
— having a big meal	— playing in the snow
— setting off firecrackers	— angels singing
— putting on one's best clothes	— turkey roasting
— receiving a red envelope	— tree lights glittering
— making a snowman	— opening presents
— watching CCTV Gala	— sending and receiving cards
— making and eating dumplings	— visiting friends
— visiting relatives and friends	— family gathering

### Task 2

- ① Students form groups to discuss the following questions:  
Has the Spring Festival changed over these years?  
Is the Spring Festival now the same as the one you liked as a child?  
What are the differences about the Spring Festival now compared with your childhood?  
Now that you've grown up, have you found any change about the Spring Festival?
- ② Each group chooses a reporter to write down the main points and states them to the class.
- ③ If time permits, students may explain whether they welcome these changes.  
Why or why not?

### Task 3

*Role-play.*

- ① A is a Chinese college student.  
B is an American student studying in a Chinese college.  
C and D are A's parents.  
Suppose it is the Spring Festival. A is going to invite B to his / her home to enjoy a typical Chinese dinner on the Eve of the Spring Festival. Discuss in detail about how to treat the guest and what dishes to prepare. On the Eve of the Spring Festival, they have dinner together and B asks a lot about the

origins, customs, celebrations and symbols of the Spring Festival. They have a good time together and B thanks C, D and A for their hospitality.

② A, B, C and D are classmates.

The Spring Festival is coming. A and B are hopeful for it — the happy atmosphere, the food, the celebrations, the CCTV Gala, the family reunion, and the visits to relatives' home. However, C and D don't have such high expectations for the festival, because they think all these are nothing but routines. They argue heatedly and both try to persuade the other side.

③ A, B, C and D are college students from the northern, southern, eastern and western cities in China respectively.

With different climates, customs, and traditions, people in different cities in China celebrate the Spring Festival in different ways. A, B, C and D are eager to share their experiences with each other.

## IV. Section B

### 1. Demonstration

#### Conversation 1

(A, Xiaoming, is a Chinese student; B, John, is a Canadian, and an exchange student in China.)



A: What's the date, John? Do you know?

B: Don't you know that today is the International Children's Day?

A: Oh, gosh, I totally forgot it. But it's natural, you know. We are grown-ups; we don't celebrate such a day. Do you know that after the Children's Day, we will have a traditional festival in China?

B: Yes. Xiaohua told me that Duan Wu Jie is approaching, which is known to the world as the Dragon-Boat Festival. It is important for the Chinese people.

A: Right. It falls on the fifth of May on Chinese lunar calendar and is celebrated in memory of the well-known ancient poet Qu Yuan.

B: Qu Yuan? I have heard of this person. Can you tell me more about the

background of this tradition?

A: Sure. Qu Yuan is a patriotic minister of China's Warring State Period. According to the historical records, Qu Yuan drowned himself while in exile from a corrupt court. Since then, people held various activities to remember their beloved poet.

B: Oh, I see. Qu Yuan is really a great man. And I notice that traditional holidays are a time for entertainment, as well as a time for serious cooking and eating in China. What kind of food do you often eat on such an occasion?

A: We always have zongzi, sticky rice dumplings wrapped in bamboo leaves, on that occasion. And zongzi were originally used to provide Qu Yuan's soul with food by dropping them into the river where he drowned himself.

B: But today, this special food is consumed by living people, instead of Qu Yuan!

A: (Laugh) Yes! According to another tradition, zongzi were dropped into the river to provide food for the fish in case that they would eat the dead body of Qu Yuan.

B: Oh, that's very interesting. But how does this festival connect with a dragon and a boat?

A: Ah, I forget to tell you that we often have boat races on the rivers to mark this occasion. The race boats are shaped like dragon. So we call it dragon boat. There is going to be a Dragon-Boat Competition on June 10th. Have you got any special arrangements on that day?

B: Nothing special.

A: That's great. Our classmates would like you to come and join us on that day to watch the competition. I'm sure you would have a wonderful time.

B: Thank you very much for your kind invitation. I'll be looking forward to its approaching. Bye.

A: Bye.

## Conversation 2

(A, an American named Jack, is studying Chinese in Wuhan. B, Linlin, a Chinese student, is studying English.)

A: I heard your National Day is October 1st, and before National Day you have a traditional festival called the Mid-Autumn Festival, or the Moon Festival.

B: That's right. The Moon Festival is observed on August 15th in the Chinese lunar calendar. So this festival is also called the Mid-Autumn Festival.



- A: Does this festival have something to do with the moon?  
B: Yes. The moon is believed to be at its brightest that night. And it's a tradition for the Chinese people to eat moon cakes during this festival.  
A: Moon cakes?  
B: Ah, they are little round cakes shaped like a full moon.  
A: I see. How did this festival come into being?  
B: That goes back to the Mongol rulers of Yuan Dynasty. The Han people tried to overthrow them.  
A: So what does this have to do with moon cakes?  
B: Well, messages to signal the revolt against the Mongols were hidden in festival cakes and exchanged as gifts.  
A: Oh, I see.  
B: Now, It's a time for close friends to get together for feasts. And after the meals, we will sit together, chatting and eating the fruits and moon cakes, while enjoying the bright moon cakes.  
A: How about those who can't go back on that day?  
B: Perhaps they will phone home. They must be homesick.  
A: I see.  
B: By the way, the Moon Festival is coming. Would you like to come over to my home for such an occasion?  
A: Thank you very much for your invitation; but my tutor, Miss Wang and her husband, invited me to have a dinner in their home on that day.  
B: That sounds great. Have a good time!

### Conversation 3

- A: I'm still feeling pretty homesick.  
B: Me too, especially on this Mid-Autumn Festival.  
A: The Shanghainese are going home. They are so happy.  
B: Have you phoned your parents?  
A: Not yet. How about you?

B: I have. Shall we go to the snack bar on campus?

A: That's right. Just wait a few minutes. I want to call my mom and dad first.

B: OK. Take your time.

## 2. Word Bank & Useful Expressions

the Dragon-Boat Festival 端午节

the Mid-Autumn Festival 中秋节

patriotic 爱国的

in exile 流放

dumplings made of sweet rice 汤圆

traditional opera 戏曲

exhibition of lanterns 灯会

riddles written on lanterns 灯谜

the Lantern Festival 元宵节

the Double-Seventh Festival; the Chinese Valentine's Day 七夕

the Double Ninth Festival 重阳节

historical 历史上的

memorial 纪念的

eight treasures rice pudding 八宝饭

variety show; vaudeville 杂耍

- ① Will you name some Chinese festivals?
- ② Are you familiar with Chinese festivals?
- ③ Will you tell us some Chinese festivals?
- ④ What festivals do you have in China?
- ⑤ What do you plan to do at the Mid-Autumn night?
- ⑥ Can you say something about the origin of the Dragon-Boat Festival?
- ⑦ How many days do you take off for...?
- ⑧ Where would you like to go for our vacation this year?

## 3. In-Class Activities

### Task 1

*Make up dialogues according to the situations given below with a partner.*

- ① The Lantern Festival is around the corner. Your American classmate asks you to the best lantern party. He / She is very curious about it and asks a lot of questions. You are friendly, patient and, above all, knowledgeable, and you have a good time together.
- ② The Qingming Festival is coming. Your friend asks you about the meaning of "Qingming" and the custom of tomb visiting on that day.
- ③ The Mid-Autumn Festival is approaching. You and your friend have a good talk on its origins, the moon cake, the fairy tales of the Goddess in the Moon(嫦娥), the jade rabbit, and Wu Gang, and the related poems.

### Task 2

*Role-play.*

- ① A is a Chinese student abroad.



B is the host / hostess of a TV program.

C, D, and E are the audience.

A is now in a Western country and is invited to give a talk about Chinese festivals. A has chosen to talk about the Spring Festival, the Qingming Festival, the Dragon-Boat Festival, and the Mid-Autumn Festival (i. e. the Moon Festival). Tell the class what their origins are and how the Chinese people celebrate them. The audience may be given time to ask questions.

② A, B, C, D and E are good friends.

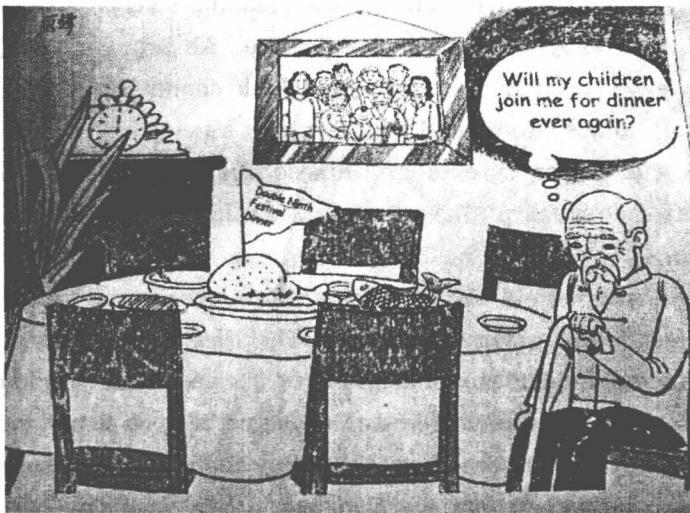
A has been studying abroad and has just returned home in China during the vacation.

B and C are crazy about western festivals, such as the Valentine's Day, Christmas, the Mother's Day and the Father's Day.

D and E strongly believe that there should be more government efforts to emphasize the importance of Chinese traditional festivals and promote these festivals among Chinese people, especially among children and the youth.

## V. Look and Say

Look at the following picture and tell a story of no less than 150 words.



## VI. Cultural Notes

### 春节—The Spring Festival

New Year season lasts for fifteen days. The first week is the most important and most often celebrated with visits to friends and family as well as greetings of