



西北工业大学研究生高水平课程精品教材

研究生英语 口语教程

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主编 刘美岩 李琳

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Way to Speak 2

研究生英语口语教程

(2)

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【内容简介】 本书由15个单元组成,以热点话题为主线,内容涵盖留学、职业规划、性别差异、影视戏剧、时尚潮流、生活方式、社会问题、科学技术、动物世界、人品个性、爱情故事、探索发现、明星生活、文学艺术、神话传说等备受人们关注的话题。每个单元均设有八大板块:①热身听力;②开口说说;③图片描述;④多情景角色扮演;⑤热门话题讨论及辩论;⑥欣赏、娱乐;⑦拓展阅读;⑧相关词汇及表达。

本书立足学生,立足需求,视角独特,易于操作,话题涵盖面广,集信息、趣味、实用为一体,可供研究生课堂及课外使用,也可供雅思、托福备考者使用,还是同等水平的其他英语爱好者自学口语的教材。

研究生英语口语教程

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前言

为了满足新时期研究生创新教育的需求,配合当前研究生英语高水平课程建设,培养具有英语交际能力的国际化复合型人才,我们特意编写了这套《研究生英语口语教程》,旨在全面提高研究生的英语口语表达能力和对社会生活问题的思辨能力。本套教材共两册,每册 15 个单元,可以单独使用,也可以配套使用。本套教材以学生为中心,以热点话题为主线,由浅入深、循序渐进,不但注重学生语言水平的提升,更注重交际能力的培养。

本书为本套教材的第二册,内容涵盖出国留学、职业规划、性别差异、影视戏剧、时尚潮流、生活方式、社会问题、科学技术、动物世界、人品个性、爱情故事、探索发现、明星生活、文学艺术、神话传说等备受人们关注的话题。每个单元均设有 8 个板块,分别为:

Part I Warm up: 听一篇短小精悍的文章,为学生提供与话题相关的背景信息,为即将开始的讨论或辩论提供必要的素材,启发即将开展的口语活动。

Part II Challenge to Speak: 通过内容丰富、形式多样的情景练习,学生可从不同侧面对话题展开全面的讨论。

Part III Picture Description: 提供了相关题材的漫画,让学生在观察的基础上,借助引导词有的放矢地轻松畅谈。

Part IV Role-play/Drama: 精心设计了有趣的场景(包括情景剧表演),有利于学生积极地展开交流,表达思想。

Part V Group Work: 包括讨论和辩论,是对话题的深入探讨,有助于提高学生的思辨能力和对话题进一步讨论的能力。

Part VI Recreation and Appreciation: 包括绕口令、歌曲、诗歌、笑话、字谜、游戏、谚语、格言、小测验等趣味横生的内容,有助于学生提高学习兴趣。

Part VII Further Reading: 提供两篇从不同角度反映主题的文章,选材新颖、耐人寻味,为学生提供了更多的语言文化素材和知识,有助于扩大学生的知识面,开阔学生的认知视野。

Part VIII Language Points: 提供了与本单元话题相关的词汇和表达法,以便丰富学生的词汇量,从实质上提高学生的语言质量。

本书由 6 位长期从事研究生英语教学工作且具有丰富教学经验的老师合作完成。编写分工如下:刘美岩负责整体策划和审稿工作,李琳编写第 7,10,11 单元,田小玲编写第 4,6,9 单元,汪建丽编写第 2,5,8 单元,任炯编写第 12,13,15 单元,韩荣编写第 1,3,14 单元。

本套教材是研究生高水平课程建设的重点内容之一,其编写与出版得到了西北工业大学

研究生院的大力支持。美籍专家 Andras Molnar, Patricia Donohoe, John Donohoe 对本套教材进行了审校。在此,表示诚挚的感谢。

本套教材立足学生,立足需求,视角独特,易于操作,话题涵盖面广,集信息、趣味、实用为一体,可供研究生课堂及课外使用,也可供雅思、托福备考者使用,还是同等水平的其他英语爱好者自学口语的教材。

由于水平有限,书中难免有不足之处,恳请批评指正。

编者

2012年9月

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Unit 1 Studying Abroad

Part I Warm up

Listen to a short passage and retell it in your own words.

Studying abroad has been a hot topic among students of different ages in recent years in China. Higher learning, including the pursuit of bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees in some western countries, such as America, Germany and the UK, has long been the goal of many Chinese students. Meanwhile, universities and institutions within these countries are going to great lengths to attract more Chinese students.

Since 2011, the number of candidates registering for the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) has been growing rapidly. Some insiders say this trend is likely to continue in the following year.

Statistics reveal that in the city of Nanning alone, about 3200 students participated in the 17 IELTS tests carried out in 2010, while 4 300 students participated in the 22 IELTS tests carried out this year. And it's estimated that about 5 000 students will attend the 25 IELTS tests scheduled to take place in 2012.

With Chinese rapid economic growth and the increasing number of students who want to pursue further education abroad, many western countries have gone to great lengths in the hope of attracting Chinese students, for example, by continuously lowering requirements and loosening the restrictions on prospective students.

It's said that some countries will continue to lower their requirements for prospective international students in 2012, including Australia, the U. S. and Canada.

Aside from applying for bachelor's and master's degree programs, the number of Chinese students who want to attend doctorate programs broad is steadily increasing. In a recent international doctorate education exhibition in Beijing, more than 2 000 prospective students booked time to hold talks with universities from ten countries including America, Canada, Germany, France and the UK. And more than 80 percent of these universities promise to provide various scholarships in order to attract more Chinese students.

Part II Challenge to Speak

Practice

Ming was a young man from China who had a big choice to make. A prestigious American university had invited him to come and study. They would pay for his studies, housing and travel expenses. Ming could not believe his good fortune. There was just one problem. There was a girl in his hometown that he loved very much. They had grown up together and they had already talked about getting married someday. Ming was torn. Going to study abroad was a once-in-a-life-time opportunity that other students would 'kill' to have. On the other hand, he believed that this girl was his true soul mate and he was afraid of losing her.

What should Ming do?

1. If you were Ming, what would you do?
2. What is more important in life? Love or career?
3. Do you think that there is any chance for their love to last once they separate for a long time?
4. What would you say if you were Ming's girlfriend? How would you feel?

Part III Picture Description

Describe the picture below in your own words.



研究生英语口语教程(2)

Words and expressions for reference:

study abroad 出国留学
 to hope one's children have a bright future 望子成龙
 to have great ambitions for one's children 望子成龙
 the process of application 申请过程
 English training 英语培训
 Study-abroad Agency 留学中介
 tuition 学费
 school expenses 上学的开支
 beyond one's ability 力所不及
 affordable / unaffordable 支付得起 / 支付不起
 unrealistic 不现实, 不实际
 deserve 值得
 scholarship 奖学金

Part IV Role-play**Situation**

Interview for College. Student A plays the role as a college interviewer and Student B plays the role as an interviewee. The following common interview questions can be your reference. You may adjust these questions and your answers according to your own situation.

1. Tell me about yourself.
2. Why are you interested in our college?
3. What can you tell me about our college?
4. Who in your life has most influenced you?
5. Why do you want to major in...?
6. What will you contribute to our campus community?
7. Tell me about a challenge that you overcame.
8. What do you do for fun in your free time?
9. What do you see yourself doing 10 years from now?
10. Does your school record accurately reflect your effort and ability?

11. Recommend a good book to me.
12. If you could do one thing in high school differently, what would it be?
13. How do you define success?
14. What can our college offer you that another college can't?
15. What do you hope to do after graduation?

Part V Group Work

Discussion 1

Which age do you think is the best time for studying abroad?

Discussion 2

Do you think it is tough or easy to study abroad? Why do you think so?

Discussion 3

Do you think it is easy to make friends with the native students while you are in a foreign country?

Discussion 4

Some people choose the agency to apply the university for them, but some of them choose to DIY the application document by themselves. Which do you prefer? What do you think about these agencies?

Part VI Recreation and Appreciation

Section 1 Enjoy the Following Interesting Joke

"I can always tell an undergraduate class from a graduate class," observed the instructor in one of my graduate engineering courses at California State University in Los Angeles. "When I say 'good afternoon', the undergraduate respond, 'good afternoon', but the graduate students just write it down."

Section 2 Enjoy the Following Poem

Homesick Hillbilly

By Ellen Bailey

I left my West Virginia home to find a job
 I visited many cities and a number of miles I logged
 I traveled until my feet were sore and my legs ached
 Farther and farther I ventured from my home state

I left behind my family, my neighbors and friends
 When I departed the little town I grew up in
 I left behind my classmates too
 And the teachers who taught me in school

I left behind the mountain scenery I loved so much
 Like the changing colors of the fall leaves and such
 I miss the winter snows, believe it or not
 For I now live in a place that is forever hot

I found a good job and made lots of bread
 But many a time I often wished instead
 That I could have stayed in my mountain retreat
 Where I could feel the soil beneath my feet

There are many others just like me
 Who left the state out of necessity
 It doesn't say much for the leaders of a state
 When its inhabitants must head for the Interstate
 But now that my career is coming to an end
 I have a longing to return to where I began
 So, if at my present address I cannot be found
 Then you'll know that I am West Virginia bound

Part VII Further Reading

Passage 1

How to Write Your Personal Statement

Explain why you want to study the course you are applying for. If you mention your personal interests and hobbies, try to link them to the skills and experience required for the course.

The personal statement could be used as the basis for an interview, so be prepared to answer questions on it. This may be your only written work that the course tutor sees before making a decision; make sure it is organized and literate. Get the grammar, spelling and punctuation right. A statement filled with errors will give a negative impression of your skills and the effort you have put in to being accepted.

The Undergraduate Admissions manager at The University of Nottingham told us:

"These types of skills are the basics that academics will expect from someone at this level of education. Incorrect spelling, poor grammar and punctuation can make a poor impression on the reader. For courses such as English, these skills are of paramount importance."

Writing about yourself is probably not something you do very often, so you might need to practice writing in this particular style. It is a good idea to list your hobbies and achievements, and then you can decide which ones demonstrate your strongest skills and personality.

Two of the most important things to include are:

Why you're applying for the course you've chosen: this is particularly important when you're applying for a subject that you have not studied before. Tell the university the reasons why that subject interests you, and include evidence that you understand what's required to study the course, e. g. if applying for psychology course, show that you know how scientific the subject is.

Why you're suitable for the course: tell the universities the skills and experience you have that will help you to succeed on the course.

Also think about how your current or previous studies relate to the course(s) that you have chosen. Any activities that demonstrate your interest in the course(s).

Skills and achievements

Universities like to know the types of skills you have that will help you on the course, or generally at university. They also like to see if you've been involved in any accredited or non-accredited achievements. Include non-accredited skills and achievement which you have gained through activities.

Hobbies and interests

Think about how your hobbies, interests and social activities demonstrate your skills and abilities. If there's anything that relates to your course or to the skills needed to complete a higher education course, include it — the more evidence the better.

The assistant registrar for Undergraduate Admissions from University of Warwick says that: "The strongest applicants are those who can link their extra-curricular activities to their proposed course of study." Your statement will be more convincing and personal, if you write about why an experience, activity or interest makes you a good candidate for the course. Include enough additional information to make it interesting and to demonstrate your own interest. Try to provide context and show what you have learnt.

Work experience

Include details of jobs, placements, work experience or voluntary work, particularly if it's relevant to your chosen course(s). Try to link any experience to skills or qualities mentioned in the entry profiles.

International students

If you're an international student, use the personal statement to tell universities why you want to study in the UK. Also try to answer these questions in your statement:

- Why do you want to study in the UK?
- How can you show that you can successfully complete a higher education course that is taught in English? Please say if some of your studies have been taught or examined in English.
- Have you taken part in any activities where you have used English outside of your studies?

Future plans

If you know what you'd like to achieve after completing a university course, explain how you want to use the knowledge and experience that you gain.

Passage 2

Personal Statement for Computer Science and Application (Sample)

It is my constant belief that interest is the best teacher. I used to be a person engaged in the process of questing for success until I came into touch of the concept of the "computer vision", an area that might affect the whole course of my life and become my most favorite subject.

I first got to know the concept of computer vision when I was helping with a promotional exhibition for the Chinese King handwritten Chinese recognition system. Then I became the only undergraduate student to participate as an assistant in a computer vision research project. The project was about using the computer vision technology to detect defects in cloths and then categorize and remove the defects.

With the development of theoretical researches, more application prospects of computer vision emerge before me, such as the automatic harvesting farm machinery, farm produce quality inspection, quality control of industrial production line, etc., the Intelligent Traffic System (ITS), in particular, has the most development and expansion potential. With ITS, traffic administrative authorities is able to monitor the traffic flow, and control and manage the traffic signals so as to direct the traffic, detect vehicles that violate the traffic rules, prevent and dispose traffic accidents in a timely fashion. Individuals can also use the information provided by the ITS system to make outgoing plans and driving routes so as to arrive at destinations in the soonest possible time.

In my paper, I will present a vehicle-inspecting algorithm based on background deviation as a way to check vehicles in a closed-circuit television monitoring system. Via counting the traffic flow on multiple driveways and recognizing the sizes of vehicles, this algorithm provides real-time information about traffic conditions.

Four years of specialized study in computer has laid a solid theoretical foundation, fostered me a strong logically reasoning capability and the ability of solving academic problems independently, most important of all that I've found my own highly efficient learning method. In addition, my excellent English proficiency will facilitate my studies there greatly, 2 380 scores in GRE and the winning of third place in the English speech contest of college students in Hubei province offers me the source of confidence.

Archimedes once said, "Give me whereon to stand, and I will move the earth." As for me, the standing point is my determination to devote my whole life to the research of computer vision, and the earth is the bright future of the computer vision in China and the world.

Part VIII Language Points

Section 1 Expressions and Phrases about Studying Aboard

- ID(Identification Card 身份证):证明该证持有者是学生的卡片。该证一般由学院或大学在注册登记时发给,在校园内外(特别是校内)是证明身份的一种重要证件。
- interdisciplinary major(跨学科主修课):综合学习两种或多种学科或系的学习项目。
- junior(三年级生):高中、学院或大学的三年级学生。
- leave of absence(准假):准许学习成绩优良的学生请假一段时间,然后继续学业。
- liberal arts:泛指人文学科。
- lower division(低年级):大学本科一、二年级。
- major(主修科目):学生集中攻读的科目或专业领域。大学本科生通常在头两年学习文理科普通课程,然后再选择一门主修科目。
- master's degree(硕士学位):高等院校向获得学士学位后修满至少一年课程并达到一定学术要求的学生颁发的学位。
- matriculate(录取):由大学或学院正式招收入学。
- mid-term(期中考试):学期中间举行的考试。
- non-matriculated student(不拿学位的学生):大学或学院的学生,入学时即明确不拿学位,又称“non-degree” student。
- Pass / Fail Grading System:只记“通过”satisfactory(“pass”)或者“不通过”unsatisfactory(“fail”)不记成绩等级的评分法。
- prelims(预试):“Preliminary Test”的缩写。由一教授委员会主持的口试,考生必须通过这一考试才有资格攻读博士学位。“预试”主要是评估考生对他要攻读博士学位的学科领域具备何种知识水平。
- professional school(专业研究生院):专门攻读工商管理、医科、牙科、法律之类专业的研究生院。
- quarter(一学年四学期制的学期):为时10~12周的学期。
- letter of recommendation, 也称“personal recommendation”“personal endorsement”或“personal reference”(推荐信):由了解申请人品质、学习水平、工作水平的教授或雇主撰写的评价申请人资格的信。
- registration(注册选修课):选择本学期要上的课程。
- required courses(必修课程):学生为获得特定学位所必须学习并取得合格成绩的课程。
- research paper(研究论文):书面报告,阐述研究成果和独创见解。
- scholarship(大学本科生奖学金):通常向大学本科生提供的一种奖学金形式的经济资助,可以是免交学费和/或学杂费。

- semester(一学年两学期的学期):为时 15~16 周,通常相当于半学年。
- seminar(研讨课):专供大学本科四年级生和研究生学习的一种小组教学形式,把独立研究与教授指导下的课堂讨论结合起来。
- senior(四年级生):高中、学院或大学的四年级学生。
- sign-up sheet(报名单):登记参加某项活动的一种非正式办法。对某项活动感兴趣的人可在一张专用名单上签名(“sign up”)表示参加。
- Social Security Number(SSN)(社会保险号码):美国政府为个人编写的号码,用于在其工资中扣除老年、遗眷和残疾保险费,同时也用于有关的税款事宜。任何有固定工作的人或有银行账户的人都必须有这样一个号码。许多学校把社会保险号码作为鉴定学生身份的号码。
- sophomore(二年级生):高中、学院或大学的二年级生。
- take-home exam(课外考试):学生可把试题带回家或在宿舍完成的书面考试。
- thesis(论文):学士学位或硕士学位候选人撰写的、包含某一特定课题研究成果的书面文章。
- transcript(成绩单):记载学生所学课程名称、学分数和每门课程最后分数的经证明的学业清单。正式的成绩单还写明授予学位的日期。
- trimester(一学年三学期制的学期):为时 16 周,每学年可分为时间大致相等的三个学期。
- true-false exam(是非题考试):一种形式的试题,答案写在考卷上,学生只需标明“对”或“错”即可。
- undergraduate(大学本科生):高中毕业后进入学院或大学,尚未获得学位的人。
- upper division(高年级):大学本科三、四年级。
- withdrawal(休学):休课或离开学校。
- zip code(邮政编码):邮寄地址中表明收信人在哪个邮区的一系列数字(或是 5 位数字、或是 9 位数字)。

Section 2 Useful Sentences for Picture Description

- This picture shows us something happening in the park.
这幅图画描述的是发生在公园里的事。
- In this picture we can see a well-dressed gentleman on his way home at night.
从图画中可以看到一个穿着考究的先生晚上走在回家的路上。
- From this picture we can see that robbery is a big social problems in western countries.
从图中可以看出抢劫在西方国家是个严重的社会问题。
- From everything in this picture we can see, this is a big social problem.
从图中可以看出,这是一个严重的社会问题。
- In this picture we can also see a screen standing behind the couch.
从图中还可以看到在椅子背后有一个屏风。

Section 3 Tips for Picture Description

Before you describe a picture, you should observe the picture carefully and figure out the theme of the picture. That is, you should, first of all, understand what the picture is about. Then describe the picture according to the information portrayed in the following way:

- describe where and when does the story happen
- describe the characters and their facial expressions, clothes, actions and so on
- describe why they carry such facial expressions, wear such clothes and act this way
- what's the relation between characters, between characters and the surroundings and other scenes in the picture
- what does the picture imply and try to depict
- give reasonable comments about the topic revealed