

# 标准美语发音的

Accent

Ann Cook @ 著



# 谁最需要这本书?

- 如果你是一个想学地道美语发音的人

如果你是一个留学生、商务人士、出国旅行者
 ⇒ 13个秘诀助你攻克美语发音难关!



製製物

# 标准美语发音的

Accent





# STREET, STREET, ST.

I-was respected

THE RESIDENCE

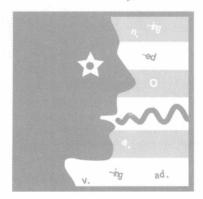
17920051111111

# 标准美语发音的 100 个秘诀 American Accent Training

Accent

Ann Cook ● 著

李 華●译



#### 图书在版编目(CIP)数据

标准美语发音的 13 个秘诀 / (美)库克(Cook, A.)编著;李莘译. 一北京: 群言出版社, 2008.8 书名原文: American Accent Training ISBN 978-7-80080-908-8

I. 标··· Ⅱ. ①库···②李··· Ⅲ. 英语一发音一美国
 IV. H311

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2008)第 118728 号

版权登记:图字01-2007-3986

AMERICAN ACCENT TRAINING BY ANN COOK, ILLUSTRATED BY HOLLY FORSYTH, AUDIO BY BUSY SIGNAL STUDIONS

Copyright: © 2000 BY ANN COOK

This edition arranged with American Accent Training, Inc.

through BIG APPLE TUTTLE-MORI AGENCY, LABUAN, MALAYSIA.

Simplified Chinese edition copyright:

2008 QUNYAN PUBLISHING HOUSE

All rights reserved.

# 标准美语发音的 13 个秘诀

出版人范芳

责任编辑 周 雯

封面设计 赵文康

出版发行 群言出版社(Qunyan Press)

地 址 北京东城区东厂胡同北巷1号

邮政编码 100006

网 站 www. qypublish. com

电子信箱 qunyancbs@126.com

总编办 010-65265404 65138815

编辑部 010-65276609 65262436

发 行 部 010-65263345 65220236

经 销 新华书店

读者服务 010-65220236 65265404 65263345

法律顾问 中济律师事务所

印 刷 北京画中画印刷有限公司

版 次 2008年9月第1版 2008年9月第1次印刷

开 本 880×1230 1/32

印 张 7.5

字 数 358 千字

书 号 ISBN 978-7-80080-908-8

定 价 28.00元

#### ▲ [版权所有 侵权必究]

如有缺页、倒页、脱页等印装质量问题,请拨打服务热线:010-62605166。

# 新表示 NEW ORLENTAL 图书策划委员会

主任 俞敏洪

委员 (按姓氏笔划为序)

王 强 王文山

包凡一 仲晓红

李 杜 邱政政

沙云龙 汪海涛

陈向东 周成刚

徐小平 窦中川

Welcome to *American Accent Training*. This book and CD set is designed to get you started on your American accent. We'll follow the book and go through the 13 lessons and all the exercises step by step. Everything is explained and a complete Answer Key may be found in the back of the text.

#### What Is Accent?

Accent is a combination of three main components: *intonation* (speech music), *liaisons* (word connections), and *pronunciation* (the spoken sounds of vowels, consonants, and com-binations). As you go along, you'll notice that you're being asked to look at accent in a different way. You'll also realize that the grammar you studied before and this accent you're studying now are completely different.

Part of the difference is that grammar and vocabulary are systematic and structured— the *letter* of the language. Accent, on the other hand, is free form, intuitive, and creative— more the spirit of the language. So, thinking of music, feeling, and flow, let your mouth relax into the American accent.

#### Can I Learn a New Accent?

Can a person actually learn a new accent? Many people feel that after a certain age, it's just not possible. Can classical musicians play jazz? If they practice, of course they can! For your American accent, it's just a matter of learning and practicing techniques this book and CD set will teach you. It is up to you to use them or not. How well you do depends mainly on how open and willing you are to sounding different from the way you have sounded all your life.

A very important thing you need to remember is that you can use your accent to say *what* you mean and *how* you mean it. Word stress conveys meaning through tone or feeling, which can be much more important than the actual words that you use. We'll cover the expression of these feelings through intonation in the first lesson.

You may have noticed that I talk fast and often run my words together. You've probably heard enough "English-teacher English"—where ... everything ... is ... pronounced without having to listen too carefully. That's why on the CDs we're going to talk just like the native speakers that we are, in a normal conversational tone.

Native speakers may often tell people who are learning English to "slow down" and to "speak clearly." This is meant with the best of intentions, but it is exactly the opposite of what a student really needs to do. If you speak fairly quickly and with strong intonation, you will be understood more easily. To illustrate this point, you will hear a Vietnamese student first trying to speak slowly and carefully and then repeating the same words quickly and with strong intonation. Studying, this exercise took her only about two minutes to practice, but the difference makes her sound as if she had been in America for many years.



Please listen. You will hear the same words twice.

Hello, my name is Muoi. I'm taking American Accent Training.

You may have to listen to this CD a couple of times to catch everything. To help you, every word on the CD is also written in the book. By seeing and hearing simultaneously, you'll learn to reconcile the differences between the *appearance* of English (spelling) and the sound of English (pronunciation and the other aspects of accent).

The CD leaves a rather short pause for you to repeat into. The point of this is to get you responding quickly and without spending too much time thinking about your response.

#### **Accent versus Pronunciation**

Many people equate *accent* with *pronunciation*. I don't feel this to be true at all. America is a big country, and while the pronunciation varies from the East Coast to the West Coast, from the southern to the northern states, two components that are uniquely American stay basically the same—the speech music, or *intonation*, and the word connections or *liaisons*. Throughout this program, we will focus on them. In the latter part of the book we will work on pronunciation concepts, such as Cat? Caught? Cut? and Betty Bought a Bit of Better Butter; we also will work our way through some of the difficult sounds, such as TH, the American R, the L, V, and Z.

#### "Which Accent Is Correct?"

American Accent Training was created to help people "sound American" for lectures, interviews, teaching, business situations, and general daily communication. Although America has many regional pronunciation differences, the accent you will learn is that of standard American English as spoken and understood by the majority of educated native speakers in the United States. Don't worry that you will sound slangy or too casual because you most definitely won't. This is the way a professor lectures to a class, the way a national newscaster broadcasts, the way that is most comfortable and familiar to the majority of native speakers.

# "Why Is My Accent So Bad?"

Learners can be seriously hampered by a negative outlook, so I'll address this very important point early. First, your accent is *not* bad; it is nonstandard to the American ear. There is a joke that goes: What do you call a person who can speak three languages? *Trilingual*. What do you call a person who can speak two languages? *Bilingual*. What do you call a person who can only speak one language? *American*.

Every language is equally valid or good, so every accent is good. The average American, however, truly does have a hard time understanding a nonstandard accent. George Bernard Shaw said that the English and Americans are two people *divided* by the same language!

Some students learn to overpronounce English because they naturally want to say the word as it is written. Too often an English teacher may allow this, perhaps thinking that colloquial American English is unsophisticated, unrefined, or even incorrect. Not so at all! Just as you don't say the T in *listen*, the TT in *better* is pronounced D, *bedder*. Any other pronunciation will sound foreign, strange, wrong, or different to a native speaker.

# Less Than It Appears ... More Than It Appears

As you will see in Exercise 1-21, Squeezed-Out Syllables, on page 18, some words appear to have three or more syllables, but all of them are not actually spoken. For example, *business* is not (*bi/zi/ness*), but rather (*biz/ness*).

Just when you get used to eliminating whole syllables from words, you're going to come across other words that look as if they have only one syllable, but really need to be said with as many as three! In addition, the inserted syllables are filled with letters that are not in the written word. I'll give you two examples of this strange phenomenon. *Pool* looks like a nice, one-syllable word, but if you say it this way, at best, it will sound like *pull*, and at worst will be unintelligible to your listener. For clear comprehension, you need to say three syllables (pu/wuh/luh). Where did that W come from? It's certainly not written down anywhere, but it is there just as definitely as the P is there. The second example is a word like *feel*. If you say just the letters that you see, it will sound more like *fill*. You need to say (fee/yuh/luh). Is that really a Y? Yes. These mysterious semivowels are explained under Liaisons in Chapter 2. They can appear either inside a word as you have seen, or between words as you will learn.

# Language Is Fluent and Fluid

Just like your own language, conversational English has a very smooth, fluid sound. Imagine that you are walking along a dry riverbed with your eyes closed. Every time you come to a rock, you trip over it, stop, continue, and trip over the next rock. This is how the average foreigner speaks English. It is slow, awkward, and even painful. Now imagine that you are a great river rushing through that same riverbed—rocks are no problem, are they? You just slide over and around them without ever breaking your smooth flow. It is *this* feeling that I want you to capture in English.

Changing your old speech habits is very similar to changing from a stick shift to an automatic transmission. Yes, you continue to reach for the gearshift for a while and your foot still tries to find the clutch pedal, but this soon phases itself out. In the same way, you may still say "telephone call" (kohl) instead of (kahl) for a while, but this too will soon pass.

You will also have to think about your speech more than you do now. In the same way that you were very aware and self-conscious when you first learned to drive, you will eventually relax and deal with the various components simultaneously.

A new accent is an adventure. Be bold! Exaggerate wildly! You may worry that Americans will laugh at you for putting on an accent, but I guarantee you, they won't even notice. They'll just think that you've finally learned to "talk right." Good luck with your new accent!

I'd like to introduce you to the pronunciation guide outlines in the following chart. There aren't too many characters that are different from the standard alphabet, but just so you'll be familiar with them, look at the chart. It shows eight *tense* vowels and six *lax* yowels and semiyowels.

#### Tense Vowels? Lax Vowels?

In some books, tense vowels are called long and lax vowels are called short. Since you will be learning how to lengthen vowels when they come before a voiced consonant, it would be confusing to say that hen has a long, short vowel. It is more descriptive to say that it has a lax vowel that is doubled or lengthened.

					_				
70	0	179	0	0	W	or	JAJF.	al	0

Lax Vowels

Symbol	Sound	Spelling	Example	Symbol	Sound	Spelling	Example
ā	εi	take	[tak]	ε	eh	get	[get]
ē	ee	eat	[et]	i	ih	it	[it]
Ī	äi	ice	[is]	ü	ih + uh	took	[tük]
ō	ou	hope	[hop]	Э	uh	some	[səm]
ū	ooh	smooth	[smuth]				
ä	ah	caught	[kät]		Semi	vowels	
æ	ä+ε	cat	[kæt]	ər	er	her	[hər]
æo	æ + o	down	[dæon]	9]	ul	dull	[dəºl]

Although this may look like a lot of characters to learn, there are really only four new ones: æ,  $\ddot{a}$ ,  $\eth$ , and  $\ddot{u}$ . Under Tense Vowels, you'll notice that the vowels that say their own name simply have a line over them:  $[\bar{a}]$ ,  $[\bar{e}]$ ,  $[\bar{i}]$ ,  $[\bar{o}]$ ,  $[\bar{u}]$ . There are three other tense vowels. First,  $[\ddot{a}]$ , is pronounced like the sound you make when the doctor wants to see your throat, or when you loosen a tight belt and sit down in a soft chair—aaaaaaaah! Next, you'll find [æ], a combination of the tense vowel  $[\ddot{a}]$  and the lax vowel  $[\bar{e}]$ . It is similar to the noise that a goat or a lamb makes. The last one is [æ0], a combination of [æ] and [o]. This is a very common sound, usually written as ow or ou in words like down or round.

A tense vowel requires you to use a lot of facial muscles to produce it. If you say  $[\bar{e}]$ , you must stretch your lips back; for  $[\bar{u}]$  you must round your lips forward; for  $[\bar{a}]$  you drop your jaw down; for  $[\bar{e}]$  you will drop your jaw far down and back; for  $[\bar{a}]$  bring your lips back and drop your jaw a bit; for  $[\bar{1}]$  drop your jaw for the ah part of the sound and pull it back up for the ee part; and for  $[\bar{o}]$  round the lips, drop the jaw and pull back up into  $[\bar{u}]$ . An American  $[\bar{o}]$  is really  $[\bar{o}\bar{u}]$ .

Now you try it. Repeat after me.  $[\bar{e}]$ ,  $[\bar{u}]$ ,  $[\bar{a}]$ ,  $[\bar{a}]$ ,  $[\bar{a}]$ ,  $[\bar{a}]$ ,  $[\bar{o}]$ .

A *lax vowel*, on the other hand, is very reduced. In fact, you don't need to move your face at all. You only need to move the back of your tongue and your throat. These sounds are very different from most other languages.

Under Lax Vowels, there are four reduced vowel sounds, starting with the Greek letter epsilon  $[\varepsilon]$ , pronounced eh; [i] pronounced ih, and [ii] pronounced ih, which is a combination of ih and uh, and the schwa,  $[\mathfrak{d}]$ , pronounced uh—the softest, most reduced, most relaxed sound that we can produce. It is also the most common sound in English. The semivowels are the American R (pronounced er, which is the schwa plus R) and the American L (which is the schwa plus L). Vowels will be covered in greater detail in Chapters 3, 8, and 11.

#### Voiced Consonants? Unvoiced Consonants?

A consonant is a sound that causes two points of your mouth to come into contact, in three locations—the *lips*, the *tip of the tongue*, and the *throat*. A consonant can either be *unvoiced* (whispered) or *voiced* (spoken), and it can appear at the beginning, middle, or end of a word. You'll notice that for some categories, a particular sound doesn't exist in English.

Initial		Medi	al	Final		
Unvoiced	Voiced	Unvoiced	Voiced	Unvoiced	Voiced	
parry	<u>b</u> ury	a <u>pp</u> le	a <u>b</u> le	тор	mo <u>b</u>	
<u>f</u> erry	<u>v</u> ery	a <u>f</u> raid	a <u>v</u> oid	o <u>ff</u>	o <u>f</u>	
<u>s</u> tew	<u>z</u> 00	ra <u>c</u> es	rai <u>s</u> es	fa <u>c</u> e	pha <u>s</u> e	
<u>sh</u> eet		pre <u>ss</u> ure	plea <u>s</u> ure	cru <u>sh</u>	garage	
<u>t</u> wo	<u>d</u> o	pe <u>t</u> al	pe <u>d</u> al	no <u>t</u>	no <u>d</u>	
<u>ch</u> oke	joke	gau <u>ch</u> o	gouger	ri <u>ch</u>	ri <u>dg</u> e	
<u>th</u> ink	<u>th</u> at	e <u>th</u> er	ei <u>th</u> er	too <u>th</u>	smoo <u>th</u>	
<u>c</u> ome	gum	bi <u>ck</u> er	bigger	pi <u>ck</u>	pig	
#10		a <u>cc</u> ent	e <u>x</u> it	ta <u>x</u>	tags	
	<u>y</u> es		player	13/18/1	day	
	<u>w</u> ool	e and	sho <u>w</u> er		no <u>w</u>	
<u>h</u> is		a <u>h</u> ead			ne de	
	<u>l</u> ate		co <u>ll</u> ect		towe <u>l</u>	
	<u>r</u> ate		co <u>rr</u> ect		towe <u>r</u>	
	<u>m</u> e		swi <u>mm</u> er		sa <u>m</u> e	
	<u>n</u> ext		co <u>nn</u> ect		ma <u>n</u>	
		291 L	fi <u>ng</u> er		ring	

#### **Pronunciation Points**

- 1. In many dictionaries, you may find a character that looks like an upside down V, [A] and another character that is an upside-down e [3], the *schwa*. There is a linguistic distinction between the two, but they are *pronounced* exactly the same. Since you can't hear the difference between these two sounds, we'll just be using the upside-down e to indicate the schwa sound. It is pronounced *uh*.
- 2. The second point is that we do not differentiate between [ä] and [o]. The [ä] is pronounced *ah*. The backwards C [o] is more or less pronounced *aw*. This aw sound has a "back East" sound to it, and as it's not common to the entire United States, it won't be included here.
- R can be considered a semivowel. One characteristic of a vowel is that nothing
  in the mouth touches anything else. R definitely falls into that category. So in the
  exercises throughout the book it will be treated not so much as a consonant, but
  as a vowel
- 4. The *ow* sound is usually indicated by [äu], which would be *ah* + *ooh*. This may have been accurate at some point in some locations, but the sound is now generally [æo]. *Town* is [tæon], *how* is [hæo], *loud* is [læod], and so on.
- 5. Besides *voiced* and *unvoiced*, there are two words that come up in pronunciation. These are *sibilant* and *plosive*. When you say the [s] sound, you can feel the air *sliding* out over the tip of your tongue—this is a sibilant. When you say the [p] sound, you can feel the air *popping* out from between your lips—this is a plosive. Be aware that there are two sounds that are sometimes mistakenly taught as sibilants, but are actually plosives: [th] and [v].
- 6. For particular points of pronunciation that pertain to your own language, refer to the Nationality Guides on page 201.

Throughout this text, we will be using three symbols to indicate three separate actions:

- Indicates a command or a suggestion.
- Indicates the beep tone.
- Indicates that you need to turn the CD on or off, back up, or pause.

# Telephone Tutoring 电话指导

初级诊断分析

语音分析旨在识别你的美国口音的优缺点。如果你在自学本书,请拨打免费电话(800)457-4255或登录www.americanaccent.com进行咨询或进行电话语音分析。诊断分析的目的在于评价你目前的言语特点,并告知你的口音是否标准。



Track3

Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_\_.I'm taking American Accent Training. There's a lot to learn, but I hope to make it as enjoyable as possible. I should pick up on the American intonation pattern pretty easily although t he only way to get it is to practice all of the time.

2. cat, matter, laugh 3. take, say, fail 4. get egg, any		6. it, milk, sin 7. eat, me, seen 8. work, girl, bird	10. smooth, to 11. took, full, 12. told, so ro	would	14.boy, oil, toy	
A	В	C	D	$\mathbb{E}$	$\mathbf{F}$	
1.pit	1.bit	1.staple	1.stable	1.cap	1.cab	
2.tear	2.veer	2.refers	2.reverse	2.half	2.have	
3.sue	3.zoo	3.faces	3.phases	3.race	3.raise	
4.sheer	4.din	4.cashew	4.casual	4.rush	4.rouge	
5.tin	5.gin	5.metal	5.medal	5.hat	5.had	
6.chin	6.thn	6.catcher	6.cadger	6.rich	6.ridge	
7.thin	7.gut	7.ether	7.either	7.bath	7.bathe	
8.cut	8.race	8.bicker	8.bigger	8.tack	8.tag	
9.yellow	9.breed	9.million	9.correction	9.say	9.sore	
10.would	10.man	10.coward	10.surprise	10.how	10.peeper	
11.him	11.nam	e 11.reheat	11.summer	11.soul	11.palm	
12.lace		12.collection	12.runner	12.people	e 12.can	

13.kingdom

1. Go upstairs

13.bleed

2. I am going to the other room.

13.supplies

1 all long caught 5, ice, I'll, sky

- 3. My name is Ann.
- 4. It is the end of the bad years.
- 5. Give it to his owner.
- 1. Go<sup>(w)</sup> wupstairs.
- 2. I(y) yam going to thee(y) yother room.
- 3. My nay mi zæn.
- 4. Idiz the(y) en d'v th' bæ dyearz.
- 5. G'v' to (w) i zon'r.

#### 1. Betty bought a bit of better butter.

13.sing

9. come, front, indicate 13. out, house, round

#### 2. Beddy bada bida bedder budder.

3. Italian	Italy
4. attack	attic
5. attomic	atom
6. photography	photograph

7. bet	bed	

# Read This First 致读者

欢迎阅读《标准美语发音的13个秘诀》。本书及其配套CD都是为你的 美音学习而设计的。你将通过13个课程及其练习一步一步地跟随这本书来 学习美音。本书对所有的发音问题进行了解释、书后配有完整的答案。

# What Is Accent? 什么是口音?

口音主要包括三个成分:语调(说话音调)、连音(词的连读)和发音(元音、辅音和混合音的发音)。当你学习这本书的时候,要换一个角度来看待口音。你会注意到以前学的语法和现在学的口音是完全不同的。

这些不同一方面在于语法和单词是系统性和结构性的——是语言的文字,而另一方面在于口音是一种自由的、直觉性的、且具有创造性的形式——它更多的是一种语言精神。所以,想想音调、感觉和气流的流动,让你的嘴放松地发出美国口音。

# Can I Learn a New Accent? 我能学会一种新的口音吗?

一个人真的能学会一种新的口音吗? 很多人认为过了一定的年龄, 学习新的口音是不可能的。古典音乐家能演奏爵士乐吗? 如果他们练习的话, 他们当然能! 那么对于你的美国口音来说, 就只是一个学习和练习技巧的问题了, 本书及其配套CD将会帮助你, 这取决于你是否使用它们。你能学到多好, 主要取决于你的开放程度和是否乐意发出不同于你以往所发出的声音。

有件重要的事你要记住:你可以用你的口音表达你的意思并决定你所要 表达的程度。词的重音是通过声调或情感来传达意思的,这一点比你实际使用 的单个的词要重要得多。我们在第一章将讲解如何通过语调来表达这些情感。

你也许已经注意到了,我说话时语速很快,而且经常连读。你也许已经听了太多"英语老师的英语"——这种英语把每个音都发出来,我们不必太专注就能听得清。那也是为什么我们在CD录音中用母语者的自然表达方式、用一种正常的对话语调来说话的原因。

母语者也许经常会告诉那些正在学习英语的人要"说慢点"、"说清楚点"。毫无疑问这是出于好心,但这样的要求确实和学生们真正需要做的相反。如果你说得相当地快,而且带有强烈的语调,别人将更容易听懂你的话。为了说明这一点,你将会听一个越南学生先试着用慢速很仔细地说话,然后快速地、带着强烈的语调重复同样的单词。她只花费了大约2分钟来练习,但后一种说话方式使她的声音听起来好像她已经在美国待过很多年了。

▼ 下面你将会听到两遍同样的句子。

Hello, my name is Muoi. I'm taking American Accent Training.

你也许要把这盘CD多听几遍才能达到透彻的理解。为了帮助你理解,CD 上的每个单词在本书中都有体现。通过听和看的同步进行,你的书面英语(拼写)和美语发音(发音以及口音的其他方面)将会达到和谐一致的程度。

CD录音中供你进行重复的停顿时间非常短。这样做的目的是让你能快速 作答,并且不花费太多的时间来思考你的回答。

# Accent Versus Pronunciation 口音与发音的区别

很多人把发音和口音等同起来。我认为这是不对的。美国是个大国,从东海岸到西海岸,从南部各州到北部各州,人们的发音是不同的,但是美国口音的两个独特成分——说话的音调,或叫做语调,以及单词的连接,或叫做连读——基本上是相同的。在本书中,我们将重点讲解这两个方面。在本书的后半部分,我们将讲解发音概念,如:Cat? Caught? Cut? 和 Betty Bought a Bit of Better Butter,我们还会涉及一些较难发的音,如:TH, R的美式发音, L, V和 Z。

# "Which Accent Is Correct?" "哪种口音是正确的?"

《标准美语发音的13个秘诀》这本书的写作初衷是帮助人们发出纯正的美音,来进行讲座、面试、授课、商业场景应用和一般的日常交流。虽然美国有很多地区性的发音差别,但你将要学习的口音是美国标准发音,能够为大多数在美国受过教育的母语者使用和理解。别担心你的发音太俚语化或太随意,因为事实上人们并不会这么认为。这是教授在课堂里讲课的方式,是国家新闻广播员广播的方式,也是大多数母语者感觉最舒服和最熟悉的方式。

# "Why Is My Accent So Bad?" "为什么我的口音这么糟糕?"

学生有可能受负面观点的严重影响,所以我要先说明此点。首先,你的口音并不糟糕,只是美国人听起来觉得不标准而已。这里有个笑话:我们把能讲三种语言的人叫做什么?三语者。我们把能讲两种语言的人叫做什么?双语者。我们把只能讲一种语言的人叫做什么?美国人。

每一种语言都是有效的和美好的,所以每一种口音都是美好的,虽然一般的美国人确实很难理解非标准口音。肖伯纳曾说过,英国人和美国人是用同一种语言分开的两类人!

有些学生在发音时往往会咬文嚼字,因为很自然的,他们想把每个音像写下来似的发得清清楚楚。通常英语老师会允许这种情况的发生,也许他们认为美国口语是浅显的、粗俗的,甚至是不正确的。但事实绝对不是这样! 正如你在listen这个单词中不会发 "T"这个音,而better中的 "TT"发 "D"的音一样。对于母语者来说,其他任何发音听起来都是不同的、格格不入的、奇怪的或错误的。

# Less Than It Appears ... More than It Appears 少发和多发的音节

正如你将看到的19页上的练习 1-21——被挤出来的音节部分, 有些词看起来有三个或三个以上的音节, 但并不是每一个音节都发音。例如, business 并不是读作(bi/zi/ness), 而是读作(biz/ness)。

当你习惯了不读出词语的所有音节,你将会遇到其他看起来似乎只有一个音节的词语,但实际上却要发出三个音节的音!另外,并不属于这个词语的某个字母带来了插入的音节。我将举两个例子来说明这个奇怪的现象。Pool看起来是个很一般的单音节词,但如果你正常发音,最好的情况也只是听起来像是pull,最坏的情况是你的听众根本不理解。为了被准确地理解,你需要发出三个音节(pu/wuh/luh)。那个W从哪儿来呢?当然它并没有被写在任何地方,但他就像P一样,是确实存在的。第二个例子是单词feel。如果你只按照拼写来发音,那么听起来就会像fill。你需要这样发音(fee/yuh/luh)。真的有个Y吗?是的。这些神秘的半元音将在第二章的连音部分进行解释。它们会出现在你见过的词语中,也会出现在你将学到的词语之间。

# Language Is Fluent and Fluid 语言既要流利,又要流畅

就像你的母语一样,英语口语有着非常顺滑和流畅的发音。想象一下,你正闭着眼睛行走在一片干涸的河床上。每次你遇到一块岩石,你都会被它绊倒,于是停下来,然后又继续走,又会被下一块岩石绊倒。这就是一个普通的外国人说英语的方式。它会非常缓慢,非常笨拙,甚至非常痛苦。现在,想象一下,你是一条大河,通过同样的河床——岩石不是问题,对吗?你只要从它们上面和周围滑过去,而无需打破你顺滑的水流。这就是我想让你在说英语时所具有的感觉。

改变你过去的说话习惯与从手动档改为自动档十分相似。是的,有一段时间你仍然在找变速杆,脚也在寻找离合器踏板。但是不久你就会停止这么做。同样,在一段时间内你仍然将call(kahl)说成"telephone call"(kohl),但是这个阶段将很快过去。

你也会不得不比现在更多地想到你说话的内容。类似的,当你第一次学习 开车时,你很清醒和敏感,但你最终会放松下来,并能同时应付不同的情况。

学习一个新的口音就是一次冒险。勇敢些! 夸张些! 你也许会担心由于加上了口音,美国人会笑话你,但我向你保证,他们根本不会注意到。他们只会认为你终于学会如何正确地谈话了。祝你在学习新口音的路上一路顺风。

# A Few Words On Pronunciation

# 浅谈发音

下面介绍下方表格中的发音指南概要。这里没有太多和标准音标的不同,但这样你会熟悉它们的,看看表格吧。表格显示8个紧元音、6个松元音和半元音。

# Tense Vowels? Lax Vowels? 紧元音? 松元音?

有些书把紧元音称为长元音,把松元音称为短元音。因为你即将学习如何 拉长浊辅音前的元音,这时如果你说hen有一个长的短元音就会令人感到迷惑 不解。更准确的描述是,它有一个被双次发音或延长发音的松元音。

111	v	-	-	-
-12	æ	7	~	
25	re:	J	L	=

松元音

Symbol	Sound	Spelling	Example	Symbol	Sound	Spelling	Example
ā	εi	take	[tak]	ε	eh	get	[get]
ē	ee	eat	[et]	i	ih	it	[it]
Ī	äi	ice	[is]	ü	ih + uh	took	[tük]
ō	ou	hope	[hop]	Э	uh	some	[səm]
ū	ooh	smooth	[smuth]				
ä	ah	caught	[kät]		Semi	owels	
æ	$\ddot{a} + \varepsilon$	cat	[kæt]	ər	er	her	[hər]
æo	a + 0	down	[dæon]	9]	ul	dull	[də <sup>ə</sup> l]

虽然看上去要学习很多音标,其实只有4个新的音标: æ, ä, ə, ü。在紧元音里,你会注意到5个元音音标的发音就只在它们本身字母的上面标了一条线: [ā], [ē], [ŋ, [ō], [ū]。另外还有3个其他的紧元音。首先, [ä]的发音就像医生要看你的喉咙时你发出的声音,或者就像你解开紧勒住你的带子惬意地坐到软椅上时发出的声音——aaaaaaaah!下一个是[æ],是紧元音[ä]和松元音[c]的结合体,很像山羊或绵羊发出的声音。最后一个是[æ0],它是[æ]和[o]的结合体,这个音很普通,通常在单词里被写成ow或ou,如: down或round。

发紧元音时,要求你使用很多面部肌肉。如果你发[ē]这个音,你必须向后拉紧你的双唇,发[ū]这个音时,你要把你的双唇向前团成圆形,发[ä]这个音时,你要把下颚向下拉,发[a]这个音时,你要把下颚向下向后拉,发[a]这个音时把你的双唇向后拉,下颚稍向下;发[i]这个音时,你要把下颚向下拉发出ah的音,然后将下颚向上拉回,发ee的音;发[ō]的音时,团起嘴唇,下颚下拉,然后再向上拉回发出[ū]的音。美音的[ō]实际上发的是[ōū]音。

▼ 现在你来试一下。跟我一起重复: [ē], [ū], [ā], [æ], [ä], [i], [ō]

另一方面,松元音的发音是弱化音。事实上,你一点都不需要使用面部肌肉。 你只需移动你的舌头后部和使用你的喉咙。这些发音和其他语言的发音迥异。

在松元音里,有 4 个弱化元音,都是以希腊字母[ɛ]开头的,发eh的音;[i]发ih的音;[i]发u的音,是ih和uh的结合体,非中央元音[ə]发uh的音——它是我们能够发出的最轻、最弱、最放松的音,也是英语中最常出现的音。半元音是指美音的R(发er的音,由非中央元音加上R组成)和美音的L(由非中央元音加上L组成)。我们将在第 3 、8 和11章中详细讲解元音发音。

# Voiced Consonants? Unvoiced Consonants? 油辅音? 清辅音?

辅音是使你嘴中的两点相接触于三个地方——双唇、舌尖以及喉咙——的音。辅音分为清辅音(不发声)和浊辅音(发声),出现于词首、词中和词尾。你会注意到,在英语的某些分类中某些音并不存在。

词首		词中	l	词尾		
Unvoiced	Voiced	Unvoiced	Voiced	Unvoiced	Voiced	
parry	<u>b</u> ury	a <u>pp</u> le	a <u>b</u> le	mop	mo <u>b</u>	
<u>f</u> erry	<u>v</u> ery	a <u>f</u> raid	a <u>v</u> oid	o <u>ff</u>	o <u>f</u>	
<u>s</u> tew	<u>Z</u> 00	ra <u>c</u> es	rai <u>s</u> es	fa <u>c</u> e	pha <u>s</u> e	
<u>sh</u> eet	(4,98)	pre <u>ss</u> ure	plea <u>s</u> ure	cru <u>sh</u>	garage	
<u>t</u> wo	<u>d</u> o	pe <u>t</u> al	pe <u>d</u> al	no <u>t</u>	no <u>d</u>	
<u>ch</u> oke	joke	gau <u>ch</u> o	gouger	ri <u>ch</u>	ri <u>dg</u> e	
<u>th</u> ink	<u>th</u> at	e <u>th</u> er	ei <u>th</u> er	too <u>th</u>	smoo <u>th</u>	
<u>c</u> ome	gum	bi <u>ck</u> er	bigger	pi <u>ck</u>	pig	
		a <u>cc</u> ent	e <u>x</u> it	ta <u>x</u>	ta <u>gs</u>	
21.0	⊻es		player		day	
	<u>w</u> ool		sho <u>w</u> er		no <u>w</u>	
<u>h</u> is		a <u>h</u> ead			E-1/A-6	
	<u>l</u> ate		co <u>ll</u> ect		towel	
1940)	<u>r</u> ate		correct	200	towe <u>r</u>	
	<u>m</u> e		swi <u>mm</u> er		sa <u>m</u> e	
	<u>n</u> ext		connect		ma <u>n</u>	
		4123	fi <u>ng</u> er		ring	