

- 简单小故事让你轻松掌握地道美语
- 一本在车上和床上可以随意阅读的书

Sorry, don't  
be too close.



# 说得地道 就是这么简单

Speak American English:  
Straight from  
the Horse's Mouth

张曼君 著

Please wait for  
a second



北京师范大学出版集团  
BEIJING NORMAL UNIVERSITY PUBLISHING GROUP  
北京师范大学出版社



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Miss Wong is a graduate of the University of Southern California, School of Theatre.

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He is a director, writer and a world-known sound designer.

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Marina Tse was the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Office of English Language Acquisition for the United States Department of Education. In this position, she was in charge of all programs for bilingual students learning English as their second language.

张曼君曾任美国教育部英语部助理部长,主管全国双语学生学习英语的各政策和项目。

During that time, Tse was the nation's highest ranking Asian American in Education. Today, she is a professor at the University of Southern California. In addition, Tse was a member of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities. She was also a member of the California Board of Education, the highest educational authority in the state.

在此期间,她为美国教育领域职位最高的亚裔官员。现在,她是美国南加州大学教授。此外,她曾任美国总统的“残障人士就业委员会”委员,亦曾是加州政府最高教育主管机构“加州教育委员会”委员。

Tse was a public school teacher for nearly 20 years, specializing in teaching English as a Second Language and Special Education.

张女士作为教师任职于美国公立学校近 20 年,专职教授英语为第二语言及特殊教育的学生。

Tse earned her Master's Degree from the University of Southern California, and recently received a “Leadership in the New World” diploma from Harvard University.

她取得美国南加州大学的硕士学位,并获得哈佛大学“女性新世界的领导”学位。

Tse's biography is included Marquis' *Who's Who in the World*.

她的传记被列入 Marquis 的“世界名人录”中。

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## Dedication

Dear Marina:

Congratulations on this important accomplishment. Your book is sorely needed at this time in our country's history. I can't think of a more worthy topic for our times.

Your tenure as Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Office of English Language Acquisition at the U. S. Department of Education has put you in good stead for this mission. Combined with the fact that you were the nation's highest ranking Chinese-American in the field of education you have achieved a position of leadership as it relates to the abiding need in these United States for greater mutual understanding between cultures.

You continue to lead the way with your book on the timely topic of intercultural understanding between America and China. There are those who have called the 21<sup>st</sup> Century the Chinese Century because of that nation's vast resources and growing presence in the world economy. Thus, it behooves us to seek a deeper appreciation of China's traditions, societal history and languages.

Having worked closely with you at the Department of Education, I know that you are proficient in both English and Chinese and possess a profound understanding of the many discrepancies that exist between different languages and cultures. Thus, you are in the unique position of having both the knowledge and the skills to help close the gaps between people.

Your book illustrates many of the special ways in which people are able to connect, both culturally and linguistically. And, it is my hope that it will achieve widespread success in furtherance of global understanding.

Sincerely,

Rod Paige

Chairman, Chartwell Education Group LLC

Former U. S. Secretary of Education (2001 – 2005)

张女士：

祝贺您完成了这本重要的著作。从我们国家的过往发展来看，您的书正是当前最迫切需要的。在现在的年代，这本书的主题有它独特的价值。

您担任美国教育部英语部助理部长的经历使该书的内容更加丰富。作为全美教育领域中职位最高的华裔官员，更让您在各种文化相互理解的领域具有领导地位。

在本书中，您继续引导着中美两国间文化相互理解的方向。因为中国巨大的物质资源及其在世界经济中日益增长的实力，有人称21世纪为中国世纪。因此，我们需要对中国的传统、社会历史和语言有更深的赞赏。

因为我在美国教育部和您有过密切的合作，我知道您精通中文和英文，并对存在于不同语言和文化之间的差异有着深邃的理解。因此，您处于一种独特的位置：既有知识，又有技能，可以帮助两国人民缩小文化差异。

您的书提供了许多独特的方式，让人民之间得以沟通，既包括文化范围的，也包括语言范围的。我衷心希望，在促进全球人民的交流上，这本书能够取得巨大的成功。

罗德·佩吉

卡特维尔教育集团董事长

前美国教育部长（2001—2005）

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## **Preface by Chancellor Liu**

China has the largest body of people studying English in world. Years ago, English was regarded only as a compulsory course at school, and the aim of learning was only to get high scores in exams. Even then, if someone got a high score, most probably, he still couldn't speak the language. Later, with the popularization of the functional and communicative approaches in TESOL, people began to attach great importance to listening and speaking; and communicating in English became the emphasis. Now with the development of globalization, there are increasingly more political, economic, social and cultural exchanges between China and the US. The Chinese, especially young people, are not satisfied at merely being able to listen and speak English; in fact, they seek more successful and effective communication with English-speaking people and deeper understanding of their culture. However, many people find that although they can communicate with people in English after overcoming the difficulties of listening and speaking, they are at a stage of fossilization and cannot find any way to approach the proficiency of native

English speakers. When probing into the reasons for this problem, we find that it is due to the fact that they have not truly understood the English language, American culture, and the differences between the Americans and Chinese. Once this problem is solved, they will be stepping forward to approach a native speaker's proficiency.

Ms. Chang Man-chun undoubtedly has the advantages in guiding non-native English speakers to overcome the invisible obstacles in working locations and social interactions, helping them approach the proficiency of native speakers, and better integrating them into the target language and culture. When she was a Deputy Assistant Secretary at the US Department of Education, Man-chun's main responsibility was overseeing bilingual education. As an outstanding character in education, she has aroused attention in America and even the global Chinese society for being the highest official of Asian origin in US Department of Education. Man-chun was born in Guangdong, China and has been living in America for more than 30 years. She has the experience of living and working in the US, and at the same time, she has expertise in the Chinese language and culture, which enables her to have a deep understanding of the differences between the languages and cultures of the two countries.

I got to know Man-chun and became good friends with her when I worked at Chinese Embassy to the U. S. as the Minister Counselor (Educational). And today, by having the advantage of her asking me to write this preface, I have the pleasure to be among the first to read her book *Speak American English: Straight from the Horse's Mouth*. In her book, she starts from the subtleties of pronunciation and intonation, and helps readers to know how to modify them by introducing the characteristics of the pronunciation of American English, and common errors that Asian people tend to commit. Then she comes to the appropriate expressions and little power words, which may help us leave positive impressions on other people during contact with English speakers. Through the 15 cultural



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notes, she helps us understand the American culture and in return, deepen the understanding of our own; and lastly, she introduces 15 slang words and expressions very often used in North America, which may make North American people feel much closer if we use them in suitable context.

Grasping a language is not only about listening, speaking, reading and writing; it is more about experiencing a different culture. In her book, Ms. Chang leads the readers to experience the English language and culture with interesting stories, and helps readers improve the capability of integrating into American society.

I believe that Ms. Chang's book will inevitably further promote understanding between Chinese and American people.

Chuansheng LIU

Chancellor

Beijing Normal University

## 代 序

在中国，有全世界最为庞大的英语学习者群体。多少年以前，英语在学校仅被当作一门课程来学习，学习者的目的仅仅是能够在考试中拿到高分，而即使拿到高分的人，学到的也几乎都是“哑巴英语”。后来，随着功能法、交际法等第二语言教学法的流行，人们越来越重视英语的“听”与“说”，于是怎样能够开口说英语成了英语学习的重点。现在，随着全球化进程的推进，中国和美国之间涉及政治、经济、社会乃至文化的各个层面的交流越来越多。中国人，特别是中国的青年一代学习英语，已经不再满足于仅仅能听会说，而是要求能够更为纯熟地使用英语进行有效的沟通，同时，更为深入地了解与体认英美文化。在突破了初步的听说关后，许多人虽然能够和欧美人进行交流，但是总觉得自己的英语水平到了一个平台期，想要接近英语母语者的水平，似乎总不得其门而

入。其实，究其原因，还是大家没有真正地了解英语，了解英语国家的文化，了解英语和汉语之间的差异。一旦突破了这些壁垒，那么至少迈出了接近英语母语者水平的第一步。

在指导英语非母语者冲破在工作和社会生活中看不见且不易逾越的障碍，把英语水平提高到接近英语母语者的水平，使自己更好地融入英语母语者群体方面，张曼君女士无疑具有绝对的优势。她的著作《说得地道，就是这么简单!》(*Speak American English: Straight from the Horse's Mouth.*)即为此而作。曼君女士作为美国总统布什任命的美国教育部双语司副司长、助理副部长，主管美国双语教育和特殊教育，是美国教育部职位最高的亚裔官员，被誉为美国教育界的一朵“奇葩”，备受美国社会乃至全球华人世界的瞩目。曼君女士出生在中国广东，在美国生活三十多年。她具有在美国生活、工作的经验，又熟谙汉语与中国文化，这样的背景使她深深地了解中国的语言和文化与美国的语言和文化之间的差异。

我在担任中国驻美大使馆教育处公使衔参赞期间，即与曼君女士相识相知。今天她命我为《说得地道，就是这么简单!》一书写序，使我有幸先睹为快。本书一开始便从细微的语音、语调入手，介绍了“美式读音”的显著特点，以及亚洲人说英语容易犯的错误，有助于读者由此知道怎样修饰自己的发音和语调。随后，书中介绍了英语中适当的表达法和功能强大的小词，这些能够帮助我们在用英语进行交流时，给对方留下深刻的印象。15个“文化点滴”让我们能够了解英语国家的文化，反过来加深对自己文化的了解。书中最后介绍了15个北美常用的俚语，相信在适当的场合使用这些俚语能够让英语母语者倍感亲切。

其实，掌握一门语言不仅仅只是能使用它听、说、读、写，更是要通过学习来体验一种异文化。在本书中，张女士以一个个生动

有趣的小故事，让读者轻松愉快体验英语语言与文化，在不经意之间提高学习者融入到英语母语者群体中的能力。

相信张女士这本书对促进中美文化交流与两国人民的相互理解方面，将会起到积极的推动作用。

刘川生

北京师范大学党委书记

于北京

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## Forward

I am very proud to be a Chinese-American, one who has embraced everything about being American, while at the same time retaining much of my Chinese culture.

I was very fortunate to have been taught the Chinese language and culture as a child. My family, especially my father, instilled in me a very strong sense of what it means to be Chinese and a deep appreciation of my roots.

Arriving in United States as a student, I was just like most young people: limited resources, and only a few friends. Although I attended Sacred Heart English School as a child, being a first-generation immigrant in the United States still was a challenge.

I learned that achieving the American Dream means learning a job skill, mastering the English language, and understanding the culture.

I became a public school teacher in 1977. I was interested in local community and civil services. Helping others in similar circumstances—people trying their hardest to succeed in their new homes—has always been a pleasure for me.



After 20 years of teaching, I found myself taking over as one of the highest ranking officials in education at the state level in California. A few years later, I became the highest ranking Chinese-American official in the United States of America in the field of education.

It has been a 30-plus-year journey, one in which I have faced various hardships and barriers, and all the while sitting in positions of high responsibility.

Nevertheless, those challenges were all extremely rewarding and exciting. And during all of those times, there was always a “helping hand” whenever I needed one. I have found that doors open when we knock. That’s because people enjoy helping those who help themselves.

My motive for writing this book was to share some of my experiences of living in the United States; especially those in the areas of culture and language. After nearly four decades, I am acutely aware of the importance of those two areas, just as I am now better aware of the best ways to overcome the challenges they pose.

It is my greatest hope that this book will help promote more mutual understanding and communication among all peoples and nations.

Chang, Man-Chun

## 自序

我以自己是一位华裔美国人而感到很骄傲，因为我身上保留着中国文化的传统。

我很幸运能自幼学习到中国的文化和语言。我的家庭，特别是我的父亲的谆谆教诲，让我深刻地体会到中国人的优良传统，并且对我的“根”有了深刻的认识。

初到美国求学，我就像大多数的年轻人一样：财力有限，朋友也很少。尽管小时候我就读于圣心英语学校，但是作为来美的第一代移民，这仍然是一项挑战。

我体会到实现美国梦需要学习工作技能、掌握英语以及了解当地的文化。

1977年，我成为一名公立学校教师。在社会上，我热爱公众事务。对我来说，帮助那些和我有着相同处境、竭尽心力试图在新国家成家立业的人，一直是一件令人欣慰的事情。执教20年后，我被任命为加州教育系统的最高官员之一。几年后，我成为美国教

育部职位最高的亚裔官员。

30 多年来，我经历了许多艰难险阻，也担负着工作给予我的责任与期望。不过，这些挑战全都非常令人振奋。在这期间，每当我需要帮助时，总是有人帮助我。我发现，有求之时门自开。因为人们喜欢帮助自助者。

我写这本书的目的是想分享一些我在美国的生活经验，特别是在文化和语言方面的经验。在近 40 年之后，我意识到文化和语言这两方面的重要性，我也逐渐掌握了战胜文化和语言挑战的最好方法。

我最大的期盼是这本书能够促进所有民族和国家更多的相互了解与交流。

张曼君



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