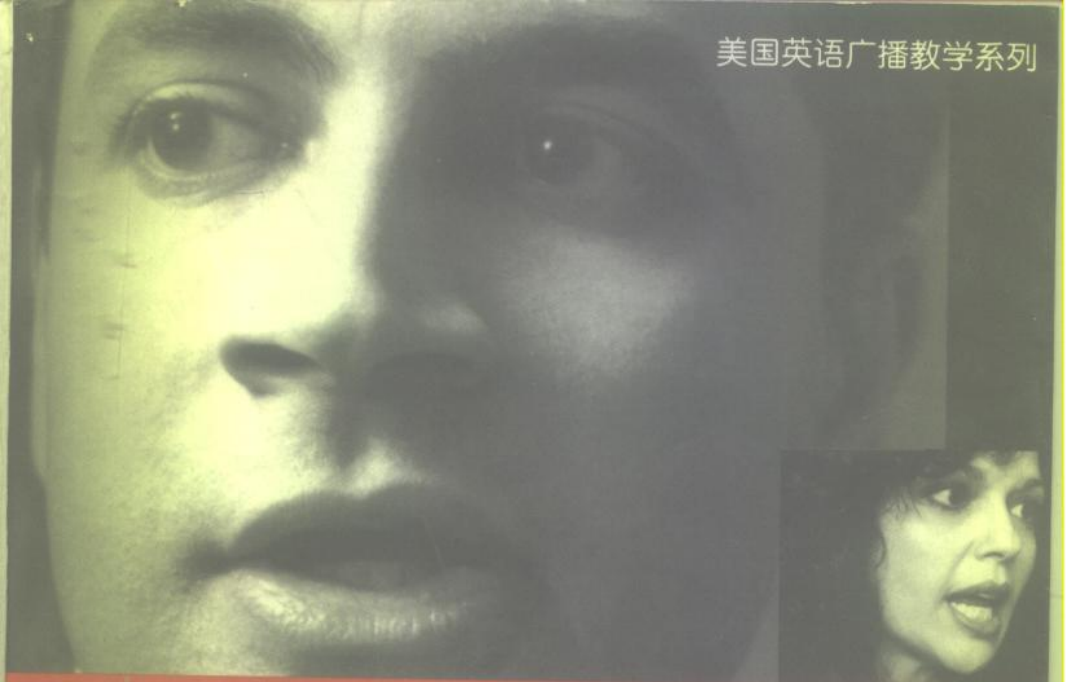


美国英语广播教学系列



美国成语俗语

A M E R I C A N I D I O M S



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• 美国英语广播教学系列 •

美国成语俗语 1

American Idioms

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美国英语广播教学系列 丛书简介

由于我国改革开放的力度不断加大,同时美国英语在国际交往中的应用也日益增多,我国广大群众直接向美国人学习地道、纯正、实用的美国英语的愿望越来越强烈。为适应这种形势,中国对外翻译出版公司经“美国之音”授权,推出了这套“美国英语广播教学系列”丛书及录音带。

这套系列教材全部采用地道的美国英语,用纯正的美国语音播出,例句也多为美国人实际生活中常用的。这套节目在美国之音的四个频道上反复播出。其中包括:

一、《中级美国英语》Intermediate American English

二、《美国成语俗语 1》American Idioms 1

三、《美国成语俗语 2》American Idioms 2

四、《美国词语掌故》上 Words and Their Stories

《美国词语掌故》下 Words and Their Stories

五、《时事英语成语》Idioms in the News

六、《空间与人》Space and Man

七、《科技新闻讲坛》Science in the News

八、《美国风情录》American Mosaic

九、《一个国家的成长》The Making of a Nation

十、《美国历史漫谈》In Search of Historical Highlights

《中级美国英语》是美国之音继播出《英语九百句》之后,着力推出的又一部普及美国英语的力作。内容由浅入深,浅中见

深,适用于高中生、大学生和部分研究生,及具有相当程度的自学者。

《美国成语俗语》和《美国词语掌故》以及最新播出的《时事英语成语》则适用于大学生和具有大学以上文化程度的自学者。读者在阅读美国报刊书籍时,若将其作为常备工具书,有时可以意外地发现许多字典中查不到的东西。

学习《空间与人》、《科技新闻讲坛》,对于许多只擅长读写科技英文的科技工作者和科技爱好者来说,是迅速提高听说能力,实现与外国同行当面交流经验的捷径。

《美国风情录》、《一个国家的成长》,不仅锻炼你的听力,进一步提高你的英语水平,还能使你了解美国的历史和民情。

《美国历史漫谈》则将你带到美国历史上的各个转折点,让你亲耳聆听大发明家爱迪生以及尼克松、福特、基辛格等人的原声讲演。

这套“美国英语广播教学系列”丛书和录音带,由浅及深,完全可以靠自学完成。读者既可全套学用,也可根据自己的程度和需要单本选用。学完这套丛书,相信你就可以自由地与美国人进行文化交流了。

这套“美国英语广播教学系列”丛书在美国之音广播和中国对外翻译出版公司配制录音带的辅助下,使你能够跟美国人学习地道的、纯正的、实用的美国英语。

美国英语广播教学系列丛书

助君早日进入美国英语的自由王国。

中国对外翻译出版公司

1997 年

出版前言

本书系“美国英语广播教学系列”中的一种，由美国之音广播的《美国英语成语俗语 80 讲》和《美国英语成语俗语续编 1》合编而成。它详细讲解了约 300 个英语成语俗语，例证丰富生动，皆取自美国当今口语；随文介绍有关文化背景知识，可补各大英文辞书之缺憾；附有精彩译文，略示翻译之道；配备原声录音磁带，方便学习地道美音。总之，其目的就是要帮助我国广大英文学习者正确理解、运用地道的美国英语。

本书前有目录，后有索引，既可诵读，亦可备查。

本书承蒙美国之音中文部提供文字材料，并得到美国使馆文化处的鼎力协助，此谨表衷心感谢。

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1. Lock, Stock and Barrel

每一种语言都有它独特的成语和俗语。而学习外语的人经常在理解这些习惯用语时会感到很困难。这是因为你不可能从组成某个习惯用语的字面上来懂得它的意思。本书就是专门介绍日常生活中遇到的成语或俗语。比如,美国人经常说:

“Give me hand?”

按照字面来理解, Give me hand 就是“给我一只手”。可是,它的意思却是“帮我一下忙”。另外一个例子是:

Foot the bill.

Foot 的意思是“一只脚”,而 bill 在这儿的解释是“帐单。”Foot the bill 并不是把帐单踩在脚底下,而是付帐的意思。

另外,有时候,一个词儿有好几种解释。就拿下面一句话来做例子吧:

“We arrived two hours late at the big blow-out for Charle's birthday because our car had a blow-out.”

这句话里第一个 blow-out 是指规模很大的聚会,第二个 blow-out 是指汽车的轮胎爆了。整个句子的意思是:“由于我们车胎爆了,所以我们晚了两个小时才到达查理举行生日宴会的地方。”

还有一些习惯用语从字典上的意思来看是相同的,但是它们使用的场合却不同。下面两个习惯用语就是很好的例子。一个是:

Lock, stock and barrel.

另外一个:

Hook, line and sinker.

Lock, stock and barrel 和 hook, line and sinker 都是全部的意思,可是用法却不同。我们先来举一个 lock, stock and barrel 的例子。

“Mr. Rockefeller bought the whole oil company lock, stock and barrel.”

这句话的意思是:洛克非勒先生把整个石油公司买了下来。换句话说,也就是他买了这个石油公司的大楼,油井和其它属于这个公司的资产。

Hook, line and sinker 虽然也和 lock, stock and barrel 一样是全部的意思,可是它还带有受骗的意思。例如:

“I warned Sally not to believe that man's stories about how rich he was, but she swallowed them hook, line and sinker. After she married him, she found out he owed money to everybody in his office.”

他说:“我告诉沙利不要相信那个男人说的他多么有钱之类的话。可是沙利却一点都没有怀疑他。等到结了婚才发现这个人几乎向每个同事都错了钱。”

今天我们讲了在学英语过程中经常会碰到的一些问题。有些习惯用语从字面上看不出它们的确切意思,例如:give me a hand 和 foot the bill。另外还有一些习惯用语在不同场合却表达不同的意思,如 blow out。还有一些俗语,它们在字典上的解释是相同的,但是它们却有不同用法,就像 lock, stock and barrel 和 hook, line and sinker。以后我们每次讲解两个成语、俗语或其他习惯用语。

2. Greasy Spoon & Potluck

今天我们要讲两个和吃东西有关的词。第一个是：

Greasy spoon.

Greasy 是油腻的意思, spoon 是指调羹, 也就是汤勺。Greasy 和 spoon 这两个字合在一起就是指那些有点像夫妻老婆店那样的小饭馆。这些小饭馆一般来说菜谱上花式品种并不多, 碗筷也好像不那么干净, 装潢也不讲究, 但是菜的味道倒不错, 价钱也很公道。下面我们来举个例子。这是一个丈夫在对他的妻子讲话:

“Honey, let me take you out to dinner. But I don't feel like dressing up to go someplace fancy. How about just going down the street to the greasy spoon and getting hamburgers.”

他说: “亲爱的, 让我带你去外面吃晚饭吧。不过, 我实在不想穿得板板正正地去那些大饭馆。咱们就上街那头那个小饭馆去吃汉堡包, 怎么样?”

下面我们再举一个例子, 这是一个人在和一个朋友说话:

“Mike, you ought to try the potstickers at that little Chinese joint on New York Avenue. It looks like a greasy spoon but the potstickers are great and the price is cheap.”

他说: “麦克, 你得上纽约大街那个中国小饭馆去尝尝他们的锅贴。那饭馆看起来不像样, 可是他们的锅贴味道真好, 价钱又便宜。”