

挑战大学英语口语丛书

大学英语 实用口语教程

井升华 编著

A
Practical Program
of
College Spoken English

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内 容 简 介

本书是一本具有很强操作性的大学英语实用口语教程,在主要针对考完四、六级后的考生参加全国英语口语考试的强化热身的同时着力加强实用英语口语的能力培养。全书共 20 个单元,分别涉及科技、人文、社会生活等热门话题,所选内容独特新颖,体例编排别具匠心,避免了一般英语口语书只重模式忽视内容的误区。全书信息量大,实用性强,是英语教师与英语学习者的必备参考书。

前 言

这本《大学英语实用口语教程》小册子是应北大出版社之约而编写的。目的是为拟参加口语考试的考生提供进行自我准备的辅导用书。书中涉及的20个话题是作者认为与时代、社会以及科技发展同步的内容和热门话题。本书旨在提供与这些内容有关的语言素材和词汇。书中的对话部分参照了大学英语口语全国统考的试题模式,但提问者有的以教师身份、有的以学生互问形式出现。全书20个单元涉及20个话题,每个单元由以下部分构成:

Topic Extract;

Dialogue about the Topic;

Extracts for Group Discussion and for Information;

Topics for Group Discussion and Individual Practice;

Oral Presentation of the Following Topics。

前面3个部分皆有较详细的注释,后面两个部分为操练题,可用于自我练习或小组讨论。读者在使用本书时最好首先阅读每个单元的第一部分,以了解该单元所涉及的话题内容,然后可读对话部分,最后阅读第三部分即有关该话题的背景知识和信息以解决考生在某一方面语言知识和词汇缺乏的状况。**考生可利用每个单元提供的问题进行自我问答练习,在此同时可反复朗读有关部分并加强有关词汇和表达方式的记忆,尤其是许多日常生活中经常碰到却从不知道英语相应说法的语汇在本书中大量出现。**在你熟悉了本书提供的20个单元的内容后,你也许不会再感到口语考试前脑子里似一片空白。它会有效地帮助你通过口语考试并从而提高你参与对外交流的口语能力。**本书既为拟参加口语考试的大学生提供与时代同步的语言知**

识和词汇,亦可作为同样目的的教学用书。

对绝大多数人来讲,学外语的最终目的是参与对外交往,而这种交往又主要涉及表达能力。但有一定表达能力的人如果没有相应的语言素材和词汇,特别是没有与时代、社会、科技发展同步的语言内容知识是无法参与对外交往的。设立英语口语考试的目的无非是为了促进广大青年学生掌握对外交往的能力。1999年新修订大纲对说的能力提出了要求并出台了《大学英语口语考试大纲》,这是大学英语教学所采取的积极一步。它的导向必将会有利于大学外语教学质量的提高,有利于学生口语能力的提高。

随着考试形式逐步转向以学校自行命题考试为主,各校对口语考查的重视程度会日益增加,采用口语考试这种形式会越来越多。外语教学最后应以加强说的能力为主,这是必然的发展趋势,是任何人的主观意志所无法左右的。希望这本小册子能在外语教学的这种转变中起到应急作用。作者希望在此基础上进一步探索,以便使其不断完善。在此,诚恳欢迎广大读者和同行相助。

井升华

龙年春节于南京

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Unit One

Family

(家庭)

Topic Extract

Families exist in some form in every society of the world, and every person is or was a member of some family. Various definitions of the family include special biological, psychological, and social linkages. Biologically everyone has a father and mother. Psychologically most people identify with someone they define as parent, grandparent, brother or sister, uncle, or cousin. Socially most people are members of a group they perceive as “family”—one in which relationships operate in an atmosphere of acceptance, intimacy, support, and trust. To most sociologists and anthropologists, the term family refers to persons related by blood, marriage, or adoption and who share a common residence.

There are many types of families. The smallest family is that of two persons such as a husband and wife, a parent and child, or a brother and sister. These units are kinds of nuclear families. Nuclear families include any two or more persons related to one another by blood, marriage, or adoption and who share a common residence. When the unit includes a husband and wife, it is considered a conjugal family as well. The United States Bureau of the Census defines family as a nuclear family. In 1980 there were 58.4 million families in the United States. Of these, 48.1 million were conjugal, 1.7 million were families headed by a man with no wife present, and 8.5 million were

headed by a woman with no husband present.

Almost everyone is born and reared in a nuclear family unit consisting of self, parents, and sometimes siblings. This particular type of nuclear family is termed a family of orientation, a family in which most basic early childhood experiences and learning occur. When a person marries, a new nuclear (and conjugal) family is formed, a family of procreation. This family consists of self, spouse, and children.

The extended family is simply any family that extends beyond the limits of the family of orientation or the family of procreation. When, for example, a married couple lives with the husband's parents or a grandparent shares a household, the family changes from a nuclear to an extended one. The addition of any persons beyond the nuclear unit makes the family extended.

Research suggests that family systems are moving toward patterns seen in the United States and other developed nations. A number of societies are ahead of the United States in instituting family policies intended to improve the welfare of the society and of families within it. In several Western European countries, legislation provides financial assistance to deal with family or marital problems. In many developing countries governments have participated in planned-parenthood programs to limit and decrease family size. Some evidence suggests that there is a worldwide trend toward greater involvement of women in decision-making processes, and of youth in the selection of their marital partners, an increasing divorce rate, and modifications in extended family patterns. Within the United States three new marital and family lifestyles seem to be emerging in the second half of the 20th century: unmarried partners living together, childless marriages, and dual-career marriages.

Notes

1. Various definitions of the family include special biological,

psychological, and social linkages. 各种不同有关“家庭”的定义包括生物的、心理的和社会的联系。

2. Psychologically most people identify with someone they define as parent, grandparent, brother or sister, uncle, or cousin. 从心理学角度大多数人与他们称作(父)母亲、祖(父)母、弟兄或姐妹、叔叔、堂表兄弟等有认同。
3. one in which relationships operate in an atmosphere of acceptance, intimacy, support, and trust 这个家庭里亲属关系在容忍、亲密、支持以及信任的气氛中相处
4. the term family refers to persons related by blood, marriage, or adoption and who share a common residence “家庭”这个术语系指与血缘、姻缘或收养有关联的一些人,这些人居住在一起
5. nuclear families 小家庭/核心家庭
6. a conjugal family 夫妻(组成的)家庭
7. The United States Bureau of the Census defines family as a nuclear family. 美国人口普查局界定家庭为核心家庭。
8. a family of orientation 适应的家庭
9. a family of procreation 传宗接代的家庭
10. family systems are moving toward patterns seen in the United States and other developed nations 家庭体制正向着在美国和其他发达国家所见到的模式发展
11. legislation provides financial assistance to deal with family or marital problems 立法提供资助以处理家庭或婚姻问题
12. planned-parenthood programs to limit and decrease family size 有计划的家庭规划以限制和降低家庭规模
13. in the selection of their marital partners 在他们婚姻伙伴的

选择上

14. unmarried partners living together, childless marriages, and dual-career marriages 未婚伙伴同居、无子女的婚姻以及复式职业婚姻

Dialogue about the Topic

Teacher (以下所有单元均略为 T): Hello, everybody. This time we are going to talk about the most popular topic Family. Everyone of you may have a warm family. It's said that most of you are the kings and queens of the family, because you are the only child of your parents. In China, according to family planning policy, people who want to be parents are only allowed to have one child. Now, who wants to be the first to introduce your family and to give your opinions of the concept Family?

Student A (以下为 A): Let me try. I have a lovely family. There are five members of our family: my parents, my grandparents and I. But I want to say something about future family in China. Now it's 21st century, the Chinese traditional family concept may disappear and many people perhaps prefer to remain single.

Student B (以下为 B): Don't you want to be single for ever?

A: Well, yes, I don't want to get married and to have a family of my own.

Student C (以下为 C): Don't be silly, I think this is your naive idea at present moment, and you'll certainly change your idea later.

B: Quite right. Perhaps your parents will not allow you to remain single. They would like to have a grandson.

C: That's true. But this traditional culture may be changed.

B: I don't think so. Perhaps this kind of things may happen among some people, but the percentage will not be very high. Because most of Chinese will maintain this culture.

T: Right, I agree with you. It's true that nowadays families in our country are getting smaller. It's due to the family planning policy. But families will still exist. Most people like to have a happy family. This may be called a routine, a regular practice of most of Chinese people. Now let's turn to relationships of family members. Could anyone of you say something about this?

B: I think the relationships among family members in most families on the whole is harmonious. This is partly because most Chinese have very strong feelings for family ties. Of course, in family life, domestic discord is unavoidable. But members should always understand each other. Husband should be considerate of his wife and wife be considerate of her husband.

C: But in the past in our country family relationships were usually based on feudal, patriarchal practices. Now family members are equal.

A: I think the most interesting thing is that now the only child is the authority. Everyone of the family should listen to the child. Even the grandparents may be conducted by the grandson, the king of the family.

B: Really ! For instance in our family when all sit watching TV, the remote control device is always in the hand of my nephew. You could do nothing.

C: In this way the child may be spoiled and it will do him no good.

B: I think you'll be a qualified father later and you seem to have some keys of how to take care of the child.

A: Let's wait and see ! And at that time we'll come to your family to learn how to take care of a child.

B: A, you have just said you don't want to get married and

remain single for ever. Now you want to learn how to take care of a child. You changed so quickly.

T, B, and C: Ha, ha, ha!

Notes

1. family planning policy 计划生育政策
2. Chinese traditional family concept 中国传统家庭观念
3. naive idea 天真的想法
4. traditional culture 传统文化
5. this may be called a routine, a regular practice 这可称作常规,都会这样
6. harmonious 和谐的
7. in family life, domestic discord is unavoidable 在家庭生活中,家庭纠纷是不可避免的
8. understand each other 相互谅解
9. most Chinese have very strong feelings for family ties 大多数中国人家庭观念很重
10. Husband should be considerate of his wife and wife be considerate of her husband. 丈夫体贴妻子,妻子体贴丈夫。
11. were usually based on feudal, patriarchal practices 通常建立在封建家长式作风上
12. the authority 权威
13. the remote control device 遥控器
14. the child may be spoiled 孩子会给宠坏了
15. you'll be a qualified father later and you seem to have some keys of how to take care of the child 你将成为一个合格的父亲,似乎在如何带孩子上有一些诀窍

Extracts for Group Discussion and for Information

1. The family not only is more permanent than other social institutions but also usually provides the care and love best suited to teaching children the skills, values, and norms of the society and subculture. Regardless of the excellence of hospitals, child-care centers, and nursery and elementary schools, they cannot perform the socialization and learning functions as satisfactorily as the well-adjusted family.

2. American families typically have what is called a modified extended family structure. When couples marry they are likely to form a household separate from either set of parents. Yet they maintain close ties with their families of orientation. While the newly created nuclear family units do not reside in an extended family household, they do exchange phone calls, letters, and holiday or birthday greetings and turn to one another for assistance. In this sense a nuclear family becomes a modified form of an extended one though not in terms of residence.

3. Interactions with relatives beyond the nuclear or modified extended family are termed kin, or kinship, relationships. All societies have rules for defining kin groups and how these relationships are organized—who lives together; who is the head of the family; who marries whom; how mates are selected; which relatives, family, and kin groups are most important; and how children are to be reared and by whom. While these rules and systems vary greatly, certain general rules determine the statuses and roles.

4. No society exists or survives without general rules, re-

ferred to as norms, that define certain patterns of marriage, family, and kinship as correct and proper. A wide range of family and kinship patterns exists and these patterns are considered appropriate and workable in their particular situations.

5. Affection and emotional support are extremely important, and most adult family members provide this affection and support for their children while often overlooking them in their relationships with other adults. While some people prefer doing things alone, most people need others who care, show affection, share joys and sorrows, and give support in times of need. This sharing and support may be provided as well by friends, neighbors, coworkers, or government agencies, but none of these appears to be as effective or as permanent as a family.

6. The manner in which families are organized and the accompanying rules influence family functions. A number of functions are generally regarded as basic to the family unit: socialization, affection and emotional support, sexual regulation, reproduction, and social placement among others. While other institutions—religious, educational, political, and economic—may assist in the fulfillment of these functions, the family has the primary responsibility.

7. Most married couples have or want to have children. Voluntary childless marriages are uncommon but increasing. In 1990 there were 4.2 million births, a rate of 16.7 per 1,000 population. Like marriage rates, birthrates fluctuate with wars, socioeconomic conditions, and other variables, as was evident in the “baby boom” following World War II. By about 1900 the birthrate was more than 30 per 1,000 population, decreasing to 19.4 in 1940, and increasing to 25 by the mid-1950s.

Notes

1. the skills, values, and norms of the society and subculture
社会和亚文化的技能、价值观和准则
2. Regardless of the excellence of hospitals, child-care centers, and nursery and elementary schools, they cannot perform the socialization and learning functions as satisfactorily as the well-adjusted family. 不管医院、儿童护理中心、托儿所以及小学多么优越,这些机构都不可能起到一个完全适应环境的家庭那样令人满意的社会生活和学习的作作用。
3. a modified extended family structure 变更的大家庭结构
4. the newly created nuclear family units do not reside in an extended family household 新建的小家庭单元不居住在大家庭里
5. a nuclear family becomes a modified form of an extended one though not in terms of residence 虽然不住在一起,小家庭成了大家庭的一种变化形式
6. kin, or kinship, relationships 亲属或亲属关系
7. No society exists or survives without general rules, referred to as norms, that define certain patterns of marriage, family, and kinship as correct and proper. 没有哪个社会不依靠一般规章而建立、存在的,这种规章被指称为准则,这些准则确定了某些形式的婚姻、家庭以及亲属关系为合法和正常的。
8. a wide range of family and kinship patterns 各种家庭和亲属关系的模式
9. affection and emotional support 爱心和情感的支撑
10. sexual regulation, reproduction, and social placement among

others 性约束、生殖以及在其他功能中的社会定位

11. Voluntary childless marriages are uncommon but increasing.
自愿不要孩子的婚姻并不普遍但在不断增加。
12. “baby boom” following World War II 二次世界大战后的
“生育高峰”

Topics for Group Discussion and Individual Practice

1. Would you introduce your family? Do you have a family of your own?

2. Do you like your family? Do you often have homesick? If you have, what would you do then?

3. What is a world-wide trend toward a family?

4. What is a nuclear family? What is extended family? Which one do you prefer?

5. After your marriage, do you want to live with your parents? Why?

6. What do you think of the future of the family? Give your imagination or creative idea of the future family.

7. Have you any idea about the future family of your own? What is your imagined lifestyle of your own family?

8. What do you think of the lifestyle of our Chinese family at present?

9. What do you think of the lifestyle of our Chinese family in the past?

10. Do you think the family system will exist for ever or will