

美式  
英语  
会话

三

赴美留学会话

A TRIP TO THE  
UNITED STATES

(美) *Ruth Pao-yu Li* 编

外语教学与研究出版社

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〔美〕李保玉 编

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## 内 容 简 介

中央双语教育专家李宝玉教授深切了解中国人学习英语的特殊困难和特殊需要，专门为中国人学习英语而精心设计了一套教材，分初、中、高三级，无论你是什么程度，总有一级适合你目前的需要。

本书内容丰富，包括一切日常生活会话，读之犹如置身于美国社会之中。课文就像剧本，情节生动，轻松幽默，学起来趣味盎然。无须记很多单词，无须背语法规则，辛苦的学习变成了一种享受。只需用功数月，与英美人士交谈，便可对答如流，应付自如。

《美式英语会话》问世以来，海内外教育文化界一致推许，誉为英语教学之突破，学习英语之捷径。有上进心的青年，有事业心的人士，人人乐用。大、中学生，自学者，旅游工作者，尤其是欲赴美留学者，必能从中受到教益。

本书一套三册，另两册为《基础美语会话》和《美语通用会话》。并附全部录音，需者可与北京外国语学院图书馆联系购买。

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# Chapter 1

## Learning English

### 学 英 语

- Burt: What keeps you so busy lately?  
伯特: 你最近怎么这样忙?  
Ruth: Studying English.  
露丝: 在学英语。  
Burt: What makes you study English so hard?  
伯特: 你干吗这么用功学英语呢?  
Ruth: You know I'm planning to go to the United States this coming summer. If I'm lucky enough to be admitted to Miami University, I'm a bit nervous about my English.  
露丝: 你知道, 如果迈阿密大学准许我入学的话, 我打算今年夏天到美国去。我很担心我的英语不行。  
Burt: Your English is very good.  
伯特: 你的英语很好嘛!  
Ruth: Thank you, but I'm afraid my pronunciation isn't accurate enough and that I might get confused.  
露丝: 谢谢, 可是我怕我的发音不够准确, 可能造成误解。



Burt: Don't worry about it. As an American, I understand you quite well. Besides, you've passed the Test of English as a Foreign Language.

伯特: 这你不必担心。就拿我这个美国人来说吧, 你的话我完全听得懂, 再说, 你已经通过了托福考试。

Ruth: Yes, I have passed the TOEFL but I still find the word order very difficult. Sometimes I know every word in an expression, but I don't know what it implies. Honestly, I understand very little.

露丝: 是呀, 我是通过了托福考试, 可是我仍然觉得英语的词序很难。有时, 明明认识一个词组里的每一个单词, 可是它的真正含义却弄不清楚。说老实话, 我的英语差劲得很。

Burt: Yes, it is complicated. Sometimes the sentence structure is awkward for Chinese-speaking people.

伯特: 是呀, 英语是很复杂的。有时它的句子结构对讲汉语的人来说是不顺口的。

Ruth: You know, I'm embarrassed when people lose me in the middle of a conversation or vice versa<sup>1</sup>.

露丝: 你知道, 如果我和别人谈话彼此听不懂时, 我会感到很窘的。

Burt: Relax, Ruth. You shouldn't torture your-

self. Let's take a break.

伯特: 别紧张,露丝,你不要折磨自己了。休息一会儿吧。

Ruth: O.K., fine. Ten minutes.

露丝: 好吧。十分钟。

Burt: Ten minutes. Shall we take a walk to the swimming pool?

伯特: 十分钟! 到游泳池那儿去走走好吗?

Ruth: Swimming pool? What do you intend to go there for?

露丝: 游泳池? 你想上那儿干吗?

Burt: To get some fresh air. You need a rest and so do your eyes. You've been reading a lot lately.

伯特: 呼吸点儿新鲜空气嘛! 你需要休息, 你的眼睛也需要休息。你最近看书看得太多了。

Ruth: Oh yes, my eyes get tired easily. Sometimes after I read too much, I can't see things at a distance.

露丝: 啊, 是呀, 我的眼睛很容易疲劳。读得太久, 有时连远处的东西都看不清楚。

Burt: Have you checked with the doctor? You might be nearsighted.

伯特: 有没有去找医生检查? 你可能近视了。

Ruth: You know, I would hate to have to wear glasses.

露丝: 你知道, 我最讨厌戴眼镜了。

Burt: These days a lot of people wear contact lenses. I'm slightly far-sighted, so I need glasses to read. Contact lenses wouldn't work for me.

伯特: 近来有许多人戴隐形眼镜。我有轻微的远视, 必须戴眼镜才能看书。隐形眼镜可能对我不合适。

Ruth: I'll take your word for it,<sup>2</sup> Burt. I'll make an appointment with a doctor tomorrow.

Ah-choo! (She sneezes.)

露丝: 我相信你说的话, 伯特, 我明天就去看医生。  
阿嚏! (打喷嚏)

Burt: Bless you!

伯特: 上帝保佑你!

Ruth: It's chilly out. Why don't we just stay home and have a little chat?

露丝: 外面有点儿凉。我们就留在家里聊天吧!

Burt: Just as you say.

伯特: 好吧, 听你的。

Ruth: Let me fix some coffee for you. You take it black,<sup>3</sup> right?

露丝: 我给你煮点咖啡吧。你喝咖啡不加牛奶, 对吧?

Burt: Right.

伯特: 对。

Ruth: Make yourself at home. I'll be right with you.

- 露丝: 别太拘束了。我马上就来。  
(Time passes.) (过了一會兒)
- Burt: So, tell me more.
- 伯特: 那么, 接着谈吧。
- Ruth: Well, it's funny. I used to study English for entertainment because I didn't have a special hobby, like playing mah-jongg, to kill time<sup>4</sup>. Now I have a particular purpose for it.
- 露丝: 好的, 说来很有意思。我以前学英语只是为了消遣, 因为我没有特别爱好来消磨时间, 比如说打麻将。可现在我学英语有了特殊的目的。
- Burt: So what's the problem?
- 伯特: 那么, 问题在哪里呢?
- Ruth: The tutor assigned me a bunch of home work. She wants me to memorize all the phrases and expressions.
- 露丝: 我的家庭教师给了我一大堆作业。她要我把所有的短语和词语都记下来。
- Burt: She simply wants you to practice them over and over again until they are fixed in your mind.
- 伯特: 简单地说, 她是要你反复练习, 直到完全记在心里。
- Ruth: Yes, she said it is necessary to drill as much as possible and the more I apply it in real situations the more natural it will

become. Drill is boring!

露丝: 对,她说必须尽可能多地练习,把所学的应用在实际情况中,用得越多,讲起来越自然。可练习实在乏味。

Burt: She is right.

伯特: 她说得对。

Ruth: So, that's the problem. I need so much practice and I'm getting discouraged.

露丝: 问题就在这儿。我得做那么多的练习,真令人扫兴。

Burt: Actually, the fastest way to reach your goal would be to have a record player or a tape recorder.

伯特: 事实上,学英语最快的方法是用电唱机或录音机。

Ruth: Why all of that?

露丝: 用那些干什么?

Burt: Well, the records or tapes have native voices and you can study them by listening again and again and imitating the sounds as many times as you wish.

伯特: 唱片和录音带发音地道,你可以随意一遍一遍地听他们发音,模仿他们的语调。

Ruth: That's a good idea. That way I'm not only training my listening comprehension but also my speaking ability.

露丝: 好主意。用这个方法,不仅能练习我的听力,

还可以练习我的口语能力。

**Burt:** Besides, since English is not your native tongue, you must develop the muscles of your speech organs to produce unfamiliar sounds. When you read, read aloud.

**伯特:** 此外, 因为英语不是你的本国语, 你必须训练你的发音器官, 以便发出那些不熟悉的音。读的时候要大声朗读。

**Ruth:** And the tutor also said that language is an instrument. People use it to express their ideas, thoughts, feelings, etc., and all these are determined by culture. When you understand the cultural background, you can better use the language.

**露丝:** 我的家庭教师也说过语言是一种工具。人们利用这个工具表达观念、思想及情感等等, 而这一切都是由文化决定的。你如果了解文化背景, 就能更好地运用语言。

**Burt:** Yes, language is intimately tied to man's feelings and activities. It is bound up with nationality, religion, and the feeling of self. As groups of men developed in different areas of the world, each group created its own spoken language. However, the written language came about long after the spoken language was created.

**伯特:** 对, 语言和人的情感、活动有着密切的关系。

它与国籍、宗教、个人的感情密切关联着。世界上许多民族由于各自在不同的地区发展，所以就创造出不同的语言来表达他们的思想。可是书面文字都是在语言产生后很久才创造出来的。

Ruth: She said that, too.

露丝: 她也这么说。

Burt: She surely sounds like an expert.

伯特: 看来，她好像是个专家了。

Ruth: She is, I guess. She holds her master's degree in Education and now she is doing research for her dissertation for her doctorate degree.

露丝: 我想她是的。她得过教育学硕士学位，现在正为得博士学位写博士论文呢。

Burt: How marvelous! You're certainly lucky to have her as your tutor.

伯特: 太好了！你很幸运有这样好的家庭教师。

Ruth: I'm glad to hear you say that.

露丝: 很高兴听到你这样说。

Burt: I've enjoyed our talk, but I have to leave now. Why don't you hit the sack<sup>5</sup> for an hour? It would do you good.

伯特: 我们聊得很有意思，可是现在我得走了。你为什么不一睡上一个小时？那对你是有好处的。

Ruth: However, I don't have time for a nap this afternoon.

露丝：可是今天下午我没时间睡了。  
 Burt：Well, take care.  
 伯特：好啦，多保重。  
 Ruth：'Bye.  
 露丝：再见。

## 注 释

1. vice versa ['vaɪsɪ 'vɜːsə] 拉丁语，意思为“反过来”。
2. take your word for it 相信你说的话。
3. take it black 喝咖啡不加牛奶。it 指咖啡。black coffee 不加牛奶的咖啡，white coffee 加牛奶的咖啡。
4. kill time 消磨时间。
5. hit the sack 睡觉。是俚语。sack 睡袋。



## Chapter 2

### An Assistantship

#### 助教奖学金

Burt: Hey, wake up!

伯特: 喂, 你在想什么呢?

Ruth: Oh, hi. I'm still in shock. I just got the green light from admissions and loot to boot!

露丝: 喔, 我还在激动哩。我刚刚收到入学通知书, 还有奖学金呢!

Burt: Fantastic! What did you get—fellowship, assistantship or scholarship?

伯特: 好极了! 你得到的是什么——研究奖学金, 助教奖学金还是普通奖学金?

Ruth: They offered me an assistantship. It's better than I'd hoped for. The stipend will cover tuition, room and board. With that I won't have to sponge off my folks.

露丝: 他们给我提供了助教奖学金。太出乎我的意料了。奖学金包括学费和食宿费用。这样我就不必再依赖父母了。

Burt: That's great! So you only have to provide the round-trip transportation fee, vacation expenses and miscellaneous costs, because