

ENGLISH HUMOR AND ORAL PRACTICE



邱耀德 王淑香 编著

英语幽默与口语表达训练

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英中对照

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前 言

《英语幽默与口语表达训练》(English Humor And Oral Practice)一书是集幽默与口语表达训练为一体的教材性书籍。我们编写此书的目的：一是在提供一些地道英文幽默的同时，为读者寻找一条能够较快提高语言能力的路子。二是为广大读者提供一定数量的、能集中进行语言训练的材料，从而满足读者进行自我口语训练的需要。此书也为读者在阅读欣赏方面奠定了一定的基础。

本书适合于广大英语爱好者，特别适合于有志报考大学英语专业的学生。同时，它也是一本参加外企求职考试、成人高考、高等学校自学考试的重要口语训练辅导书。

书中的词汇注解意在帮助读者运用自己所学过的英语替换学习新词、难词，从而达到温故知新之目的。故事后边的提问为读者理解故事的发展，掌握故事的内容提供了依据。此外，我们根据原文列出了重点词汇、短语，帮助读者既复述了故事，又能掌握一些常用词语及其用法。最后的热门话题部分，为读者之间展开讨论，提高表达能力，了解社会动态等方面都不无帮助。

本书在编辑过程中得到了很多同行的指点和帮助。首都师范大学英语系的外籍专家 Thelma Jones 教授对本书的语

言、文字做了全面的审查。邹力同志在本书的翻译工作中也给予了我们不少的帮助。在此，我们向他们表示深深的谢意。

由于时间仓促，在本书的编辑过程中难免会出现错误，望广大读者给予指正。

编 者

1995 年 6 月

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1. QUALIFICATION

"What makes you think you're qualified to be a night watchman?" asked the personnel director.

"Well, for one thing," replied the job applicant, "I'm a real light sleeper."

1) NOTES

watchman; guard

applicant; person who applies for a position

personnel director; person who is in charge of hiring and training employees, administering their benefits

2) QUESTIONS

Where were you at the moment?

What did you want to do?

Who spoke to you?

What did he ask you?

What did you answer?

3) RETELL THE PASSAGE WITH THE FOLLOWING WORDS

went to look for a job/ the personnel director asked the applicant/
what makes you think/ the applicant answered/ a real light sleeper

4) TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

What are the qualifications needed for a night watchman?

Can anybody be a night watchman?

Do you prefer working at night? Why or why not?

Would you hire this man? Why or why not?

2. AN APPOINTMENT

A man called his doctor's office for an appointment. "I am sorry," said the receptionist, "we can't fit you in for at least two weeks."

"But I could be dead by then!"

"No problem. If your wife lets us know, we'll cancel the appointment."

1) NOTES

receptionist; person employed in a certain place to receive guests

cancel; cross out

2) QUESTIONS

Whom did a man call?

Why did he call his doctor?

What did the receptionist say?

What did the man answer?

What ~~was~~ the answer?

3) RETELL THE PASSAGE WITH THE FOLLOWING WORDS

called his doctor for/ the receptionist answered/ can't fit you/ could be dead by then/ no problem/ if your wife lets us know/ cancel the appointment

4) TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

Doctors and their receptionists should treat their patients seriously.

What do you think?

Are you satisfied with the doctors you've met so far?

Do you know some doctors who are not up to standard? Why not?

3. WRONG PLACE!

While working in the psychology department at a Community College in Centerville, Michigan, I was asked to enlarge a chart for a meeting. I called the copy room and asked, "Can I get something blown up down there?"

After a pause the voice on the line replied, "I think you want the chemistry lab."

1) NOTES

psychology: science study of the mind and its processes

Centerville: place name in Michigan (a state in U. S.)

enlarge: make or become bigger

chart: a sheet of paper with information, in the forms of curves, diagrams,

blow up: enlarge greatly; explode

pause: stop for a second

2) QUESTIONS

Where did you work?

What were you asked to do one day?

What place did you call?