

洋话连篇宝典

Modern English Survival Guide

Eastern English Services
东方外语服务

Norm Roy
Chief editor
主 编

Book 1
上篇

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欢迎来到“现代美语”世界！什么是“现代美语”呢？你也许会问。“现代美语”就是北美国家的人日常使用的口语，也是人们现在正在使用的口语。一旦你掌握了现代美语，那么土生土长的老外们就会明白你说什么，而你听起他们的话来，也就不费吹灰之力了。读这本书，你会进入一个包罗万象而又丰富多彩的英语世界。而且所有的篇章都以简单易学的谈话形式展开的。

你即将进入的是一个有益实用的英语口语宝藏。《洋话连篇宝典》都是本着同一宗旨：帮助中国人民提高他们的英语口语技巧而编写的。就像你即将看见的那样，本书不会教大家那些枯燥无味的基本语法、词汇或者是写作技巧，尽管有时为了达到让你明白的目的，我们会多少涉及一些类似的内容。本系列丛书囊括了以英语为母语的人们在各种生活情景中常用到的上百个短语、词组和句子。同时还有大量的附加材料来帮助你理解本书的主要内容。针对每个话题，我们附加了大量的解释、例子，讲述了一种表达方式的多种用法，以及同一情景的多种表达方式。在本书中，我们还罗列了有关文化背景的介绍、不同话题的一些常识，5个W(即何时、何地、何人、何事、何因)，以及根据不同环境设计的相关情景对话。最后也是本书最重要的部分——语音部分。在这部分，你将知道每个关键句型的正确的口语发音。经过专家的精心设计，这个基于国际音标系统的语音标注部分，为你提供了通向正确发音道路的指南。

为什么本书要以对话为重点呢？其原因是据我们了解，有很多中国人在大学毕业时，已经学了5年到10年的英语，因此他们对于英语的语法都十分精通，也掌握了上千个英语单词。然而在日常对话中，尤其是与外国人对话时，多数人仍感到困难重重。这其实是可以理解的，因为大多数中国人没有找到一条能让自己掌握英语口语能力的有效途径：与以英语为母语的人交谈。大多数人可能没有条件天天与老外对话，怎么办？没关系。这套《洋话连篇》能弥补你的这种遗憾。因为这本由正宗北美老外们编写的书收录了生活中几乎所有经常用到的口语对话，这将使你的英语更加流利自如。

以前我们提到过口语对话的概念吗？你在本书中所看到的英语都是最地道的北美口语，因为它们是由来自美国和加拿大的老外们撰写和编辑的。自我介绍一下：我出生在加拿大并在那里长大，有很多与学习英语的人们打交道的经验（在来中国之前，主要接触的是学习英语的加拿大籍法国人）。我也颇精通计算机技术。Tony是我们的另一位语言专家。他来自美国的芝加哥，而且已经掌握了7种语言（这个数字还在增加哦！），他对计算机也毫不陌生，并取得了物理学的学士和硕士学位。William则为我们带来了基于在真实生活情景下学习语言的全新理念。他来自美国旧金山，取得过心理学的学位。

总之，我们已经尽我们所能为您奉献了一部高质量的“现代美语”书籍，为我们这套丛书大家庭又添一员。所有本系列丛书及其配套服务项目的宗旨都是：帮助中国人提高英语口语技巧。其他产品及服务项目包括极受欢迎的电视系列节目《洋话连篇》，配套的VCD产品，英语口语课（采用中外教师双语授课，这是一种已被证实为效果显著、愉快轻松的教学方法），会员课（同样采用双人双语教学）以及即将成立的网站。您可以期待更多。

好了，现在请您翻开我们的书，开始愉快轻松的现代美语之旅吧！

Norm Roy
主编

Welcome to Modern English! What's Modern English, you may ask? Well, it's English that is used by North American native speakers, it's colloquial, and it's what people are saying these days. Once you know Modern English, native speakers will understand what you are saying, and you will understand them. It's colorful and fun to use. It's all about conversation.

You are about to discover a wealth of useful, practical, and, above all, conversational English. The Survival Guide book series was designed with one important goal in mind – to help Chinese people improve their conversational English skills. As you will quickly see, these books are not about teaching basic grammar or vocabulary or reading and writing skills, although some elements of these are included when necessary for explanatory purposes. What you will find inside each book is hundreds of phrases/terms/sentences, grouped by situational content, that native speakers use on a regular basis. There is also plenty of supporting material to help you understand the primary content. There are explanations, examples, multiple usage descriptions, alternate expressions, and more. There is culture information, general knowledge, the 5 W's, and conversational passages relevant to each situation. Last, but definitely not least, there is the pronunciation section. Here you will find a representation of the correct colloquial pronunciation for each of the key sentences. Designed and implemented by a language expert, this IPA-based system also includes a comprehensive pronunciation guide to take you through the steps of correct pronunciation.

Why this emphasis on conversation? Because it's been my experience that many Chinese people are quite proficient in English grammar, and some know many thousands of words. By the time they graduate from college, many students have already spent 5 to 10 years or more studying English. However, they often have difficulty using the language for ordinary conversation, especially if the conversation is with a foreigner. This is understandable, since most Chinese people do not have access to the main thing which can help them to master English communication: a native speaker. The Survival Guide is the next best thing to having a live conversation with a native speaker, because all of the English content has been written by native speakers to help you become more fluent in the language.

Did I mention colloquial speech before? All of the English that you will find in this Guide is typical, colloquial North American English, written and edited by native speakers from the United States and Canada. I was born and raised in Canada, and have lots of experience dealing with people learning the English language (mostly French-Canadians, prior to arriving in China). I'm also well versed in computer technology. Tony is our language expert. He's from the Chicago area of the United States, and already knows 7 languages (and counting). He's no stranger to the sciences either, and holds degrees in physics. William brings a novel approach to language learning based on the concept of absorbing a language through conversations in real-life situations. He's also an American, from the San Francisco area, and holds a degree in psychology.

Together, we have endeavored to produce another quality Modern English product, joining a growing family of products and services which have been designed with the same goal: helping Chinese people to improve their communication skills in the English language. Other products and services include our popular TV programs, VCD's, conversation classes (based on our popular and proven technique of using native speaker and Chinese co-teachers), member classes (also with co-teachers), and a forthcoming web site, among others.

Now , it's time for you to turn the page and start enjoying Modern English!

Norm Roy
Chief editor

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GENERAL INFORMATION
梗概

The Modern English Survival Guide series is a set of books designed to help Chinese speakers learn useful, modern English. Native English speakers from the United States and Canada have written and verified all of the English content in each book. Except where otherwise noted, the words, terms, expressions, and examples reflect current usage by most of the people from these two countries.

The main content is based on 10 major topics, and each major topic is divided into a number of sub-topics. There are 50 'units' in each book, each dealing with a different sub-topic. Every unit contains ten key sentences, expressions or terms, and lots of supporting material. To make your learning experience more useful and enjoyable, the entire Survival Guide is built around a story line and a cast of characters going about their daily lives. Each unit leads to the next in a natural, believable sequence, and the characterizations allow us to show you how people use normal, everyday English in their day-to-day conversations.

Each unit is divided into 4 sections: an Introduction section, a Usage section, an Options section, and a Pronunciation section. Following are descriptions of the contents of each section, of the connection between the unit material and other Modern English products, and of the supporting material included in the book.

《洋话连篇宝典》是为了帮助中国人学习有用的现代美语而度身订做的。每册书的内容是由来自美国和加拿大的英语专家编写并查证的。除了一些特殊标注的之外，本书中所介绍的词汇、专有名词、表达方法和所举例子，都是这两个国家的人现在常用的。

本书的主要内容是以 10 大主要标题为基础的。每个题目分为若干个小题目。每册书有 50 个单元，每一单元包括 10 个主要句子（或者表达方法或词组），还包括与其相关的补充内容。为了使大家的学习过程更有效并且妙趣横生，《洋话连篇宝典》围绕着一个故事的线索以及一群主人公的日常生活而展开。每一单元都自然可信地与下一单元连接，同时通过对人物性格的刻画描写，人们在日常生活中如何运用这些普通的日常用语得以诠释。

每一个单元分为四个部分，他们分别是：单元介绍、用法、重点和发音四个部分。在下面的一页，我们将大体介绍一下每一部分的内容以及这些内容与本公司其它服务的联系，还有一些辅助材料。