



英语国际人 知性英语·自信表达

# 英语畅谈 时事热点 50主题

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## 50 Topics On World Current Issues

内知国情，外知世界  
融语言技巧与谈话情趣于一体  
再现原生态的口语交流情景

Graham Paterson 著 张满胜 译

 外文出版社  
FOREIGN LANGUAGES PRESS



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**英语畅谈时事热点 50 主题**

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作 者 Graham L. Paterson (澳)  
翻 译 张满胜

选题策划 蔡 管  
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电子信箱 [info@flp.com.cn](mailto:info@flp.com.cn)/[sales@flp.com.cn](mailto:sales@flp.com.cn)

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Graham Paterson和他的油画作品

## Graham Paterson

Graham Paterson来自澳大利亚，曾在中国讲授大学英语口语、英语写作、商务英语以及公共演讲等课程，长期致力于英语教学和语言文化的研究。他很了解中国学生在英语学习方面的状况，目前已在中国出版了两本关于英语学习方面的书。他说：“我一直渴望帮助中国学生提高英语，这第三本书的创作，正是这种渴望的延续，同时，也是为了表达我对中国人民的感激之情，感谢他们给予我的热情和友谊。”



作者在剑桥大学毕业典礼上

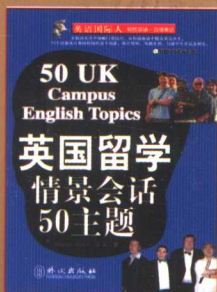
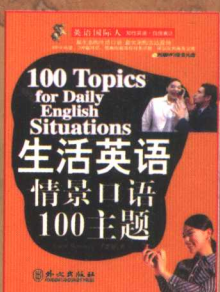
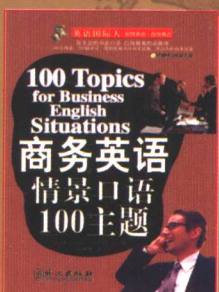
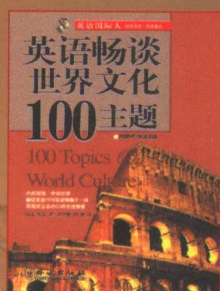
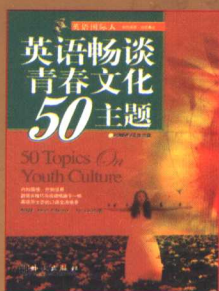
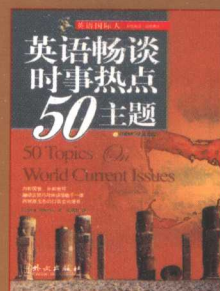
## 张满胜

英国剑桥大学英语硕士，北京新东方学校“新思维语法”培训创始人；拥有十多年的英语教学和研究经验，长期致力于中英文思维表达差异的研究，深刻了解中国学生英语学习的问题、症结和困惑；从2003年以来，一直在《新东方英语》杂志主持“语法新思维”专栏，深受读者厚爱和推崇；著作有：《考研英语语法新思维》、《英语语法新思维——走近语法》、《英语语法新思维——通悟语法》、《英语语法新思维——驾驭语法》、《英语语法新思维》。





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封面设计:

红十月设计室  
NEW OCTOBER STUDIO  
13901105614  
hongshiyue@vip.sina.com

# Forword

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The purpose of this book is to help the reader improve their English ability, particularly, in the conversational use of the language and, also, their comprehension of modern colloquial English. At the same time, each topic will try to be informative by offering a valid point of view that might arouse the reader's curiosity. The main subjects represent issues that are current and, many of the related topics deliberately raise questions that need answers.

## Dialogue

It is hoped the reader will get a feel for the dialogue because it has been written as realistically as possible to represent an example of how two people might discuss the topics.

Each topic is discussed by different people. Sometimes it is a man and a woman; another time it might be two men, occasionally, it is a father and son discussing issues where the generational gap is reflected in the dialogue.

The dialogue is liberally sprinkled with a small collection of idioms because, idiomatic speech is the natural, and common, way native speakers use the language. English idioms can create problems for learners both, in understanding their meaning and trying to use idioms correctly. Until the learner becomes fully conversant, and comfortable, with the way idioms are used, it is best to avoid their use.

The dialogue has allowed the occasional use of a few mild English swear words. Some native speakers tend to use swear words as a normal part of their speech and, although the use of such words are unnecessary, the student does need to be aware of how they are used.

## Background Reading

The background reading is, by necessity, brief and certainly does not cover any of the topics in depth. Where appropriate, this reading has deliberately tried to jog the reader's curiosity, possibly, even challenging their existing understanding of the issues raised.

## Exercise

The exercises that accompany this book are designed to be informative, at the same time as they provide the opportunity to apply the reader's knowledge in a practical way.

## Acknowledgements

I wish to acknowledge the encouragement, and assistance, provided by my publisher Cai Qing and to my friend, Clint Zhang Mansheng, for his patience, and generosity, in providing his services as translator.



Graham L. Paterson

# 前言

.....

本书的主要目的是为了帮助读者提高英语能力，尤其是英语口语的使用和理解能力。书中所讨论的每个话题，都力求做到信息丰富、观点正确，并能够激发读者的兴趣。文章选材涵盖了当今世界的热点话题。其中，对很多话题，作者特意提出问题供读者自己思考并寻求答案。

## 对话

在创作书中对话时，作者尽可能地贴近实际，以反映就某个话题两个人如何展开讨论。希望读者对此能够细心体会。

书中对话双方的角色不尽相同，有男女之间的对话，有两个男人间的对话，也有父子间的对话（以便反映代沟问题）。

在日常英语交流中，人们很自然地会使用一些成语、俗语，因此，在本书的对话当中也融入了一些俗语方言。在英语成语的理解以及正确使用方面，中国读者往往会感到比较棘手。因此，我的建议是，除非你已经完全理解并掌握了英语成语的使用并能够运用自如，否则最好还是避免使用。

另外，在对话中还偶尔使用了一些比较委婉的粗口，因为这些粗口用词也往往是人们说话的一种习惯方式。当然，因为这些词语的使用并非必不可少，所以读者只需了解即可。

## 背景阅读

每个话题都配有“背景阅读”，内容简短，只是作为前面对话的必要补充。其目的不是为了深入探讨话题内容，而是为了引发读者兴趣，促使读者对该话题的进一步思考。

## 练习

每个话题还配有阅读理解练习，这既可以进一步丰富读者知识面，也可以为读者提供一个活学活用的机会。

## 感谢

最后，我要感谢我的出版人蔡箬女士给予我的鼓励与帮助。同时也要感谢我的好朋友张满胜先生，感谢他的耐心与慷慨相助，以及为本书的翻译工作付出的大量心血。

格雷姆·L·帕特森

# 学习指南

.....

巧学活用本书能达到以一当十的效果，你至少可以做以下练习：

**语音练习：**选取你最感兴趣的课文，尽力模仿录音中的语音语调，把自己的朗读录下来和录音比较，找出差距反复模仿，直到乱真。

**口语练习：**利用书中对话做两人对练，或者和录音对练。就书中的主题换一个论点或谈话思路进行开放式对话创作。

**听力练习：**利用随书的 MP3 录音做精听和泛听练习。常用的内容精听，即反复听直到听懂每一个字并能流利跟读为止；其他内容泛听，能听懂大意并基本能跟读即可。

**听写练习：**听写能力表现在做课堂笔记和讲座笔记、会议记录等。利用本书的 MP3 可以做听写练习，反复听写直到没有错误为止。

**语汇练习：**利用书中的词汇表，并摘录课文中精彩实用的句型或用法，建立自己的主题词汇库。

**翻译练习：**利用书中句型和对话做汉译英或英译汉练习，口译或笔译均可。

你可以根据自己的英语水平、工作需要和学习习惯将各种方法融会贯通，形成最适合自己的学习方法。当然，如果仅限于书本，再多的练习也只是纸上谈兵。如果你有找人开练的强烈愿望并付诸行动，离你的学习目标也就不远了。



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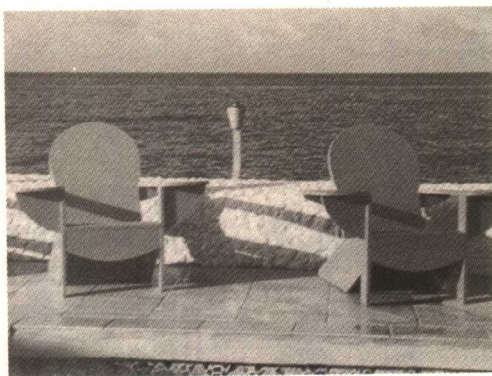
# 英语畅谈 时事热点50主题

50 Topics On  
World Current  
Issues



## 1. Health and Happiness

### 健康与快乐



#### Dialogue

- A: Good health is always the harbinger of happiness; don't you think?
- B: Well, I doubt that anyone could be too happy if they're in poor health.
- A: But, don't you believe they always go together?
- B: Oh, no. Happiness entails a lot of other things besides being healthy. Being healthy certainly helps.
- A: Yeah. When I think about it, I suppose you are right. No! The more I think about it, you definitely are right.
- B: I think relationships are the key to real happiness. Unfortunately, they can also be the cause of a lot of unhappiness as well.
- A: There are a lot of things that can make people unhappy but, I'd rather look on the positive side of life and talk about happiness.
- B: So, what do you think makes people happy?
- A: There are a stack of things that make people happy but, it all depends on the individual.
- B: Well, being in love would make a lot of people happy. And, having a lot of money would be a certainty.
- A: Those two things could make people happy but, it may not always happen.
- B: They'd sure make me happy.
- A: Provided you were healthy, provided your love was mutual and, provided you came by your money honestly.
- B: Now who's being negative? I thought we were going to look at the positive side of things?
- A: OK. Point taken. But there are so many other things that are involved with happiness. Things like, job satisfaction, achieving your goals, respect and family relationships.
- B: Yes. That's right. Those things do matter and every one of them can have a tremendous influence on a person's life.

- A: And, you don't have to have money to find happiness.
- B: I think you need enough to live on and to be able to look after your family. If you don't, at least, have that, life would be hard.
- A: Modern society has lost a lot of the enjoyment we used to find in the simple pleasures of nature. We are surrounded by them every day but, people are too busy to see them.
- B: Unfortunate, but true. As they say, "Beauty is in the eye of the beholder" and, I guess, that is just as true for happiness.

## 对话

- A: 健康总是福啊，你说呢？
- B: 是的，如果没了健康，我想人们很难快乐起来。
- A: 你不觉得它们总是相辅相成的吗？
- B: 哦，那可不一定。幸福除了健康还包含很多其他东西。当然了，健康的确有助于人们感到幸福。
- A: 对，没错。我仔细想来，还真觉得你说得有道理。不，应该说是越想越觉得你是对的。
- B: 我认为人与人之间的各种关系是获得真正幸福的关键。不过，遗憾的是，它同样也是不幸的根源。
- A: 有很多事情都能使人们不快乐，但是我更愿意积极地看待生活，说一些开心的事情。
- B: 那么，你认为什么能使人们幸福快乐呢？
- A: 很多事情都能使人们快乐，但是也因人而异。
- B: 是的，恋爱会使很多人幸福，有很多钱也是确实能使人幸福的。
- A: 这两者可能会使人幸福，但也不一定总会让人开心。
- B: 它们显然会让我开心的。
- A: 但条件是你得有健康，恋爱还得是彼此相爱，钱要来得正当。
- B: 你瞧，现在谁变得消极了？我还以为我们都是积极看待生活的人呢。
- A: 好，同意。但是，有很多其他的事情跟幸福有关。例如，工作上的成就感，追求自己的目标，受人尊重和美满的家庭。
- B: 是的。这些的确很重要，其中任何一项都会对一个人的生活产生重大的影响。
- A: 还有，你不是非得有钱才能幸福啊。
- B: 但我认为你得有足够养家糊口的钱吧。如果没有这最基本的经济保障，生活会很艰苦。
- A: 以前我们有的那种简单的快乐，在现代社会已无从找到了。即使我们天天被快乐围绕，但也因为太忙而无暇顾及。
- B: 这虽有些遗憾但却是事实。就像人们常说的，“情人眼里出西施”，我想，幸福快乐也是一样，在于每个人内心的感受。



## Background Reading 背景阅读

### A Healthy Life 健康的生活

A healthy lifestyle is one ingredient that will promote happiness but, happiness does not depend on that alone. Being healthy, and staying healthy, requires a level of discipline to avoid overindulgence. Eating the right foods and getting regular exercise are regarded as essentials for staying fit. A diet of fresh fruit and vegetables, coupled to a suitable intake of protein, will contribute to good health. Another essential is to drink an adequate amount of water each day to replace the natural loss of body fluids.

健康的生活方式是激发快乐的重要因素而非唯一的因素。保持健康的状态需要有很强的自制力，不能放纵自己。合理膳食和适量运动被公认为是保持健康的重要条件。多吃新鲜的水果和蔬菜以及蛋白质的适量摄入都对健康有好处。另外重要的一点就是，每天都要饮用足够的水来弥补身体日常的水份消耗。

### Family 家庭

The family can be the most enduring source of happiness for many people. An intrinsic part of family life is the unselfish love shared between family members. Close family relationships are there to support each other, to provide comfort when comfort is needed and, to share all the joys, and sorrows, that are part of everyone's life. Every family will have its ups and downs but, there is a bond in blood relations that is very hard to break.

家，对很多人而言，是恒久幸福的源泉。家庭成员之间彼此无私的爱，是家庭生活最为重要的部分。家庭和睦，关系密切，相互支持，彼此安慰，快乐可以一起分享，悲伤可以一起共担。即使家庭成员之间出现摩擦，但是血浓于水，血缘关系难以打破。

### Material Wealth 物质财富

There is no doubt that, having the material things which ease the burden of daily living, will definitely contribute to one's general wellbeing. Having the material wealth to add some luxuries to the necessities can, also, make life more fulfilling. However, material things, in themselves, do not, necessarily, produce happiness. Happiness, and contentment, are more likely to be achieved when there is someone to share the benefits of those material objects.

不容置疑，拥有物质财富能够减轻日常生活的负担，切实保障人们的生活安宁。充足的物质财富，若还能够给人们带来些奢侈享受，那生活就更加富足。但是，物质本身并不一定能给人们带来幸福。物质财富，在有人与我们分享时，才会使人倍感幸福和满足。

### Achievements 成就

Most people have a need to find a purpose in their life. For that reason, they need to have a goal in front of them which they can aim to achieve. Being successful in achieving goals does provide people with satisfaction but, usually, happiness also becomes part of that satisfaction when those goals also benefit other people. Before any goals can be achieved, they must first be set and, to do that, requires a plan of action. Having a plan and, knowing where you are going, are the first steps toward achieving anything.

在生活中，人们往往需要找到生命的意义和目标。因此，他们的生活需要有既定的目标，并且努力去达到。成功达到目标确实使人们感到满足，不过，若其目标的实现又能够为他人造福，则他不仅是满足，更会感到幸福。我们首先要设立目标，然后是计划、行动，最后才能实现目标。有计划，并且知道自己的行进方向，这才是通往成功的第一步。





## Exercises 练习

Answer these questions.

1. Name any two items necessary for a healthy life?
2. What is essential for achieving one's goals?

Translate these sentences into English.

1. 很少有人身体不健康还很幸福。
2. 快乐的家庭生活对每个人都是很大的一笔财富。
3. 物质财富不是总能够保证幸福快乐。
4. 人们有责任尽可能地努力保持健康。
5. 良好的食物、饮食和运动能够促进健康。
6. 工作满意有助于幸福快乐。
7. 实际上如果我们用心关注，就会发现周围存在很多乐事。
8. 每个人在一生中都需要一些目标指引他们的方向。

Complete this paragraph with suitable words.

contented action sign always satisfaction people  
seeking believe

Good health and happiness is the 1 of a 2 man. Life is full of challenges but, if 3 can develop a plan of 4 to guide them in 5 the goals they set for themselves, there is every reason to 6 they will be successful. Even if they don't 7 achieve what they set out to do, there is 8 in knowing they have tried their best. The next step is to readjust the plan and try again.



## Answers 答案

Answer these questions.

1. Good food, exercise, fruit, vegetables, protein and water
2. A plan of action.

Translate these sentences into English.

1. Few people will be happy if they are in poor health.
2. A happy family life is a wonderful asset for anyone.
3. Material wealth does not always guarantee happiness.
4. People are responsible for trying to stay as healthy as possible.
5. Good food, good diet and good exercise promote health.
6. Job satisfaction can contribute to happiness.
7. There are many pleasures in nature if we look for them.
8. Everyone needs some goals in life to give them direction.

Complete this paragraph with suitable words.

1. sign 2. contented 3. people 4. action
5. seeking 6. believe 7. always 8. satisfaction

## 词汇表

harbinger

先驱, 预兆

entails

使必需, 使蒙受

stack

一堆

beholder

目睹者, 旁观者

ingredient

成分, 因素

overindulgence

过分放纵

protein

蛋白质

enduring

持久的

intrinsic

固有的, 内在的

burden

担子, 负担

wellbeing

康乐, 安宁

contentment

满意, 知己

glimpses

一瞥, 一看

fragrance

芬芳, 香气

## 2. Charity

### 善 举



#### Dialogue

- A:** Did you read the recent story about Bill Gates, and Warren Buffet, giving millions of dollars to the charity foundations they set up?
- B:** I did read the story about Bill Gates and his wife, and how they are going to help the people of Africa, but, who is Warren Buffet?
- A:** He's an American billionaire who made his money from investing.
- B:** Well, it's a good thing they're using their money to help other people. After all, what can you really do with billions of dollars except to make more money?
- A:** What do you think motivates people to be charitable?
- B:** I suppose, that depends on the individual. Often, it's just the desire to help others, sometimes it's an act of gratitude and, sometimes, it's just for the pleasure of giving.
- A:** I saw that story about Liang Wenchong, who gave his 150,000 yuan winner's prize, to help develop young golfers in China.
- B:** That was a really generous gesture. There wouldn't be too many people who would do that sort of thing.
- A:** I don't know. Think about all the people who volunteer to help others. They may not have much money to give but, they can still help a lot of people.
- B:** It's often said that, it's better to give than to receive. Do you think that's true?
- A:** That begs the question; how do you get in the first place before you can give?
- B:** Well, that's a thing. I hadn't thought of that.
- A:** There is another saying I have heard; to quote, "If you can't look after yourself, what right have you to look after anyone else?"
- B:** I guess that's right. There's no point in the blind leading the blind.
- A:** Apart from that, a lot of people have their pride and they resent being offered charity.

- B:** That may be alright, up to a point. If it's only yourself you have to worry about and, you still have enough belief in your ability to survive then, go for it.
- A:** If others depend on you then, sometimes, you have to face reality and not let your pride get in the way of accepting a helping hand when it is offered.

- A:** 你最近听说比尔·盖茨和沃伦·巴菲特的事儿了吗？他们为自己的慈善基金会捐赠了数百万美元。
- B:** 我倒是读到了比尔·盖茨和他妻子的报道，是关于他们如何帮助非洲人民的。但是沃伦·巴菲特是谁？
- A:** 他是美国的一位亿万富翁，专门从事投资挣钱的。
- B:** 他们用钱来帮助别人是件好事儿啊。毕竟，这数亿美元除了钱生钱，还能干嘛呢？
- A:** 你觉得是什么动机让人们大发善心的？
- B:** 我觉得这是因人而异的。人们往往都会有帮助他人的愿望，有时是出于感激之情，而有时则完全是为了在奉献中获得乐趣，是乐于奉献！
- A:** 我曾经看过一篇关于梁文冲的报道，他把自己的15万元奖金都捐赠出来，用于培养中国的年轻高尔夫球手。
- B:** 这可真是个慷慨之举。估计没有多少人会乐意那样做的。
- A:** 这个我可不敢说，你想想那些主动帮助他人的志愿者，尽管他们没有什么钱，但仍然可以帮助很多人。
- B:** 人们常说：给予比索取更好。你觉得对吗？
- A:** 这里就有这么个问题：在你有能力给予他人之前，你是怎样获得的呢？
- B:** 确实是个问题。我还真没想过。
- A:** 我还听过另外一种说法，就是说“要是你连自己都照顾不好，又有什么权力去照顾他人呢？”
- B:** 我觉得是对的。让瞎子给瞎子指路，简直就是无稽之谈。
- A:** 除此之外，很多人都有自己的自尊心，他们不愿意接受别人的帮助。
- B:** 这么做有一定的道理。如果要照顾的人就你自己一人，而且你对自己的谋生能力有足够的信心，那么你就自力更生吧。
- A:** 但是如果你还得供养他人，那你就必须面对现实，不要因为你自尊心而拒绝接受别人伸出的援助之手。