



◎ 宋健榕
谭伟民 主编

REAL ENGLISH

某时、某地、某情境，最精准、得体的一句。

现代美国 口语句典

Speaking
English
The American
Way



世界图书出版公司

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前言

编者的话

“问渠哪得清如许？唯有源头活水来。”要说得一口地道纯正的美国口语，当代美国人在日常生活中的真实言谈无疑是唯一鲜活的源泉。

由世界图书出版公司出版的这本《现代美国口语句典》，可以说是国内迄今为止最庞大最系统的美国口语 Corpus（语集）。它并非简单的几千个英语句子，而是分列了总共**760个话题**，每个话题又分为**非正式表达**和**正式表达基本句型**十句左右，若干个相关话题之后又有总结性的**实用对白**数则，**复杂表达**十余句，另附**关键性的词汇**和**短语列表**。这样的编排体现了美籍作者的良苦用心，大大方便了读者的学习和查找。本句典涵盖面极广，几乎涉及了美国日常生活中方方面面的话题，也就是说，它收录的不仅仅是简单的生存英语口语（Survival Oral English），它的内容足以构成整个丰富多彩的人生：从衣食住行到工作娱乐以至恋爱家庭，处处透着浓厚的美国生活气息和情趣。

从书中随处可见当代美国口语发展的最新趋向。就词汇而言，很多单词进入口语后，其词义都发生了很大的改变，比如 terrific, awesome, incredible 等美国人说话频繁使用的词，差不多都已经失去了本意，而变成了表示“棒极了，妙极了”的惊叹词。甚至可以说这已经成为主导的、即在说话者那里第

一唤起的意思，如果死译成“令人恐怖的”、“可怕的”、“难以置信的”，其结果不是谬误就是欠当。美语中的赞叹词之多是令人惊叹的，Great! Terrific! Awesome! Gorgeous! Fabulous! Incredible! Marvelous! Superb Splendid! Spectacular!...，于此当代美国口语之丰富可见一斑。一般中国人熟悉的大概只有略显陈旧的 wonderful 和 excellent 吧。再如 mad 一词，在口语里面也差不多变成了 upset, angry 的同义语，要是光学教科书，只知道 mad 是疯狂，那就连最简单的句子 are you mad with me 都无法解释了。

从语言学的角度讲，以完整的句子和对话为中心的“句典”体现的就是对语言的 **function (功能)** 和 **context (上下文, 场合)** 的重视，即学习英语的实际运用比死记硬背词义更重要。不清楚表达的具体功用和使用情境容易造成泥而不化的死英语，就会只见树木不见森林，闹出張冠李戴的笑话。本句典中的每一句话都有它所属的特定场景和功能，什么意思、用在什么地方一目了然，这样就能让学习者避免走入英语学习的误区。

本书由从事 TESOL 教学系统的美籍华人 Sue Lueng 提供全力写作协助，华南师范大学博士谭伟民先生配合译审，尽可能做到了语言的完整与地道，特别适合需要学习美国口语的初级、中级读者使用。

编者 2006 年 10 月

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