

高级篇 上册

New View
College
Spoken English
(修订版)

新视点

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口语教程

主 编：程建山

主 审：David John Clarke(英)



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序

《新视点大学英语口语教程》即将出版,主编和责编都希望我能为之写篇序言,我既感盛情难却,又觉勉为其难。我之所以有勉为其难之感,主要原因是,本人已逾退休之年,自觉落伍感赶不上时代的飞速发展,而本书的内容恰恰又是突出了新视点。加之我和主编又是第一次见面,出版社留给我研读此作和认真思考的时间又相当短暂,我怕妄下雌黄,褒贬失当,于心不安。既然盛情难却,我只好根据自己与主编、责编的面谈和我所看书稿的重点,写下如下三点意见,我只敢说是吾之真情实感或肺腑之言。至于是耶,非耶,也只能待高明读者和莘莘学子予以判断了。

一、“盖文王拘而演《周易》;仲尼厄而作《春秋》;屈原放逐,乃赋《离骚》;左丘失明,厥有《国语》;孙子膑脚,兵法修列;不韦迁蜀,世传《吕览》;韩非囚秦,《说难》、《孤愤》;《诗》三百篇,大抵圣贤发愤之所为作也。”司马迁在其名文《报任安书》中的这几句话,是我一贯很喜欢的。他一连列举了我国历史上这么多名人、名作,我想,他无非是想强调说:只有经逆境而杰出非凡的人才会被后世称颂,传世之作大多是圣贤发愤之后而成的作品。现在,我为今人程建山主编的大作作序,一开头就引用司马迁的上述名言,无意于把今人新作与古代名人名作同日而语或相提并论,而是想强调表明一个相似之点:不分古今中外,谁人想写出一部益于社会有助人群的作品,谁就要首先有益于公众的动机、社会责任感和艰苦奋斗的工作精神。程氏有幸生活在祖国空前繁荣的时代,无需经历司马氏所说的那些厄运和逆境,他固然不需“发愤”,但必须“奋发”,只有奋发,亦可有为。多年来,程建山一直比较关注我国外语教学的形势和万千学子学习英语的现实。他曾这样写过:“进入新的世纪,我国的外语教学又步入了一个新的历史时期。值得高兴的是,随着大学英语教学的不断发展,特别是近几年的大学英语课程改革以来,我国在校大学生的英语水平较之以前有了很大的提高。但遗憾的是,英语教学的一个重大历史问题仍未解决,那就是大学生的英语口语问题。除了英语专业的大学生基本能流利地说英语之外,非英语专业的大多数学生基本不能用英语流利地交流。”这清楚表明,他之忧乐所系,多在我国大学英语教学形势。因此,“究竟如何才能快速地提高英语口语能力呢”,便成了程建山和他的合作者们这几年认真考虑解决的问题,包括“说”什么的问题,怎么“说”的问题,为什么要“说”的问题,和“和谁说”的问题。至少在近三年来,他们千方百计,对资料多方收集,认真撰写,终于成就了诸君手头的这个以“新”为突出特色的本子。

二、程作之“新”主要体现在3个方面,即内容新、体例新和方法新。这个“新”的意思,用英文形容词表示,不仅是 new(新近)而且是 novel(新颖)。内容新主要体现在:书中大量材料来自电脑因特网(internet)和英语国家的 native speakers,具有很强的时代气息,目前国内外人们关注的种种问题和最新社会现象,书中均有涉及。如:Nuclear Energy(核能), Studying Abroad(留学), Computers and the Internet(上网), Keeping Pets(宠物), The City or the Countryside(城乡), Advertisements(广告), Begging(乞讨), Following the Fashion(时尚), Job-hopping(跳槽), Retirement(退休), Capital Punishment(死刑), Euthanasia(安乐死), Human Cloning(克隆人), Private Cars(私家车), Plastic Surgery(整形术), Single-sex Class(单性课堂), Gun-possession(私家持枪), Quality-oriented Education(素质教育), Economic Globalization(经济全球化)和 Economic Development and Environment Protection(经济发展与环境保护)等等,总共不下30个方面,每个方面都选有适当的英语口语材料,可谓既实用又地道。体例新主要体现在书中(上、下册)30个单元的编排上。我曾用抽样研读的方法,较仔细地看了第一和第十六单元,发现每单元同样由9部分组成,即 Introduction, Listening, Reading, Interview, Talk Show, Debate, Functional Devices, Writing 和 Glossary。用汉语表达,就是:(关于主题的)介绍、听力、阅读、采访、谈话节目、辩论、功能用语、写作和词汇。且每单元还配有不止一幅与内容相关又妙趣横生的插图,均为美术学院专业人员的匠心之作。方法新主要体现在:师生可以灵活有趣的方式参与教学,而且综合体现了我国目前大学英语教学中新近使用的任务型教学法、交际教学法、情景教学法和功能意念教学法等多种方法。给我印象尤深的,是书中各部分的语言材料,语体得当,具有鲜明的英语口语特色。如:句式简单而不单调,可以琅琅上口;用词多为小词和英语固有词汇,特别是在 Functional Devices 这部分的句式和用语上,除个别处欠妥之外,均表现出作者们(包括以英语为母语的一位外国专家)扎实的专业素质。

三、主编程建山,生在武汉,长在武汉,读英语专业本科和研究生阶段,也都在武汉。他基于在高校学习和教授英语的经验,以及立足我国英语教学、放眼世界的责任感,经过三载奋斗和潜心钻研,终于在全国大学英语四、六级考试刚刚完成首次改革之际,使其大作得以面世,这对于每年数以百万计的考生来说,的确不失为一大福音。我相信,此书的出版,定会对广大考生提供及时帮助,可谓功德大矣!

武汉大学英文系教授、湖南理工学院外语系特聘教授

郭著章

2005年5月底至6月初于东湖和南湖畔

使用说明

本册书共 15 个单元,可供一学期教学使用。计划每个单元使用三个学时,即三节课。在前两个学时里可完成第一至第四部分,然后利用第三个学时完成第五至第九部分。可根据学生的实际情况,调整教学计划,适当地加快进度或减缓进度。每个单元又包括以下 9 个部分:

第一部分话题介绍(Introduction)由老师在课堂上给学生讲解。老师可参考教材内容并根据自己的理解来讲解这一部分,并可通过提问等方式让学生集中注意力。

第二部分是听力(Listening)。录音可放一至三遍,让学生边听录音边填空,教师最后再公布答案。

第三部分阅读(Reading)共有 1 篇短文,短文后有几个问题供学生讨论。

第四部分采访(Interview),可按照教材上的提示采用小组讨论的模式,每组选取一个采访者和秘书,其他的同学为被采访者,由采访者选取几个有趣的问题向被采访者提问,秘书做记录,最后选取几组在全班演讲;也可以采用更为灵活的形式进行,如两个人就他们感兴趣的问题编一个对话,等等。

第五部分是谈话节目(Talk Show)。同样先把全班分成几组,每组中一个人充当一个角色。每个人都发表自己的看法,最后由主持人总结。但是要注意的是要求每个人都能进入自己的角色进行演讲。为了帮助谈话顺利进行,教材给出了大量的提示,但学生最好能用自已的话说出来,而不要简单地阅读这些提示。这是一个集体的任务,要求小组各成员密切配合,相互协调,互相帮助,共同提高。

第六部分的辩论(Debate)是本书最难的一项任务。如果学生水平较高,可按照课本提示采用标准的辩论模式进行分组辩论或者全班范围的辩论。但是如果学生的口语水平不太高的时候,也可采用其他的形式进行。如可以不搞小组或全班范围的辩论,而采用两个人之间的小辩论或讨论;也可以两个人编一

段对话;还可以一个人进行口头作文。

第七部分的功能用语(Functional Devices)和第八部分的写作(Writing)以及第九部分的词汇(Glossary)主要是方便学生自学使用的。

编者

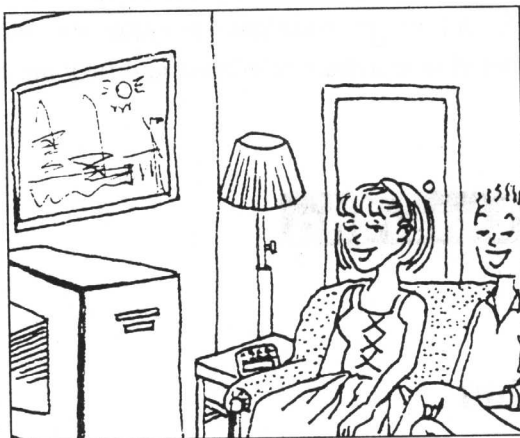
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Unit One

Watching TV

*Part One***Introduction**

▲ Watching TV is the main source of entertainment for most families.

Television is now playing a very important part in our lives. But television, like other things, has both advantages and disadvantages. Do the former outweigh¹ the latter? Television is not only a convenient² source of entertainment³, but also a comparatively cheap one. All you need to have is a television set and an antenna⁴ or cable satellite connections, and then you

can enjoy TV programs from the whole world. You can sit comfortably at home with almost unlimited entertainment and information available⁵ instead of going out searching for amusement⁶ elsewhere. You don't have to pay for expensive seats at the theater, the cinema or the opera. All you need to do is to push a button, and then you can watch wonderful plays, films, operas, and the latest exiting football games, not to mention the political discussions. Briefly, you can be completely passive and have everything presented⁷ to you without any effort on your part.

However, there are many other arguments against television. Firstly, television is always blamed because it wastes large amount of people's time. In order to watch their favorite TV programs, some people put down or delay their important work. Some people even stay before the television for more than ten hours at one time without any break. For instance, during the Olympic Games and other significant⁸ matches, some sports fans would love to watch television all the time, and some people even wait until very late at night or they would get up at midnight to enjoy the wonderful games. Children can be addicted to watching television and they are likely to neglect⁹ their studies.

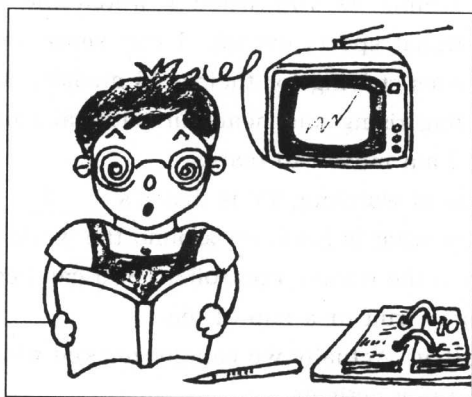
Part Two **Listening**

● **Blank Filling**

Directions: *Listen to this conversation three times. The first time, listen to get the general idea; the second time, the tape will be stopped frequently. During the pauses, fill in the blanks with what you hear from the tape. The last time, listen to the whole conversation again to check your answers.*

(Two students are talking about news sources.)

A: In modern society, we have all kinds of news sources. We have radio,



▲ Watching TV may distract students from studying.

TV, the Internet, magazines, newspapers, etc.

B: Yes. But what is 1 for most people today, do you know?

A: I bet it's TV. Is that true? Because nearly all families have TV sets at home and almost all people watch TV, 2. Even very old people can understand TV, and it seems that little babies like watching TV, too.

B: What you say is quite right. According to a recent survey, nearly 72 percent of people watch TV, and only 12 percent read newspapers for daily news.

A: Oh, perhaps that's because TV is a very 3 for news and entertainment. You just need to buy a TV, pay little money, and then you can enjoy thousands of TV programs.

B: You have a point there. Besides, when it comes to getting daily news, I'll say nothing is 4. Turn on TV, and you will see what's going on all over the world in vivid pictures.

A: You're right about that, and TV can provide the latest news, domestic and overseas—no other media can match it in speed.

B: That's true. Although the Internet can do this as well, I doubt if anybody has the mood to 5 before a computer's screen the minute he gets up.

A: Through watching TV, we can get a feeling of being personally at the scene. For example, the opening ceremony of the Olympic Games looks

more attractive than the boring words or on the computer screen.

B: I get the same feeling as you when I watch the Olympic Games or important international sports events. I can sense the 6 while watching our athletes striving for their gold medals. Many times, when I see our national flag rising and hear our national anthem playing during Olympic Games, I am moved to tears.

A: Another advantage of watching TV is that it's 7. I can sit or even lie in bed to watch what is going on around the world. All I have to do is to press a button in the remote controller. So I can keep my hands free to help myself to some fruit or a cup of tea.

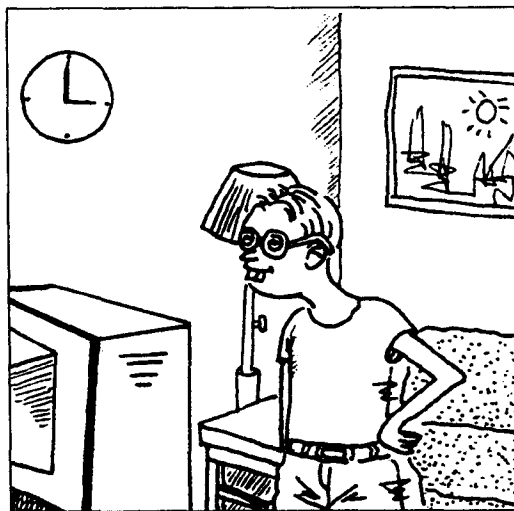
B: I'll go along with that. Actually we can get relaxed when we watch TV, as we don't need to think actively.

A: Do you think it's a good idea to get a TV set for our dorm?

B: Great!

Part Three

Reading



(Watching too much TV is bad for health.)

Directions: *Read the following passage and complete the comprehension and discussion questions.*

• **Advantages and disadvantages of watching TV**

From my point of view, television exemplifies¹⁰ unlimited source of various news and knowledge showing aspects of our lives.

As many people know, we can divide watching TV into situations where it is useful and helpful for us and those unfortunately harmful. I will start with the good points. I can only say, that I usually derive beneficial¹¹ information from this kind of mass media. Some programs really deserve¹² our attention. Within a space of year digital TV has appeared. It brought more interactive functions, so we are capable of being involved in the action (for instance, maybe in future we will be able to move a camera in the movie), sounds good, doesn't it? Now you do not have to be a passive viewer—at last. Of course, only in a specific dimension, now. It is clear that we have to pay for these extra options, but that should not be a hindrance¹³. We ought not to forget that TV has an extraordinary level. For example: if you dream of journeying around the world to see many countries with a lot of attractions, I suggest taking your remote control and pressing an appropriate button. After this you can move into exotic beauty. You can watch animals and the greatest monuments, let's see (National Geographic Channel?) . It will take you wherever you want to go. But if you have enough money, throw away your TV-set, and take a plane to visit these places.

I do not want to write them (as far as I am concerned TV is my ally) , but I have to enumerate¹⁴ the bad points of TV. It is really necessary, even though a few people worry about it. So what do we have here... ?

To begin with, we should mention problems caused by unsuitable programs, especially for children (also X-rated, huh, huh). I think that parents have to supervise children's TV watching, because while they are rowing up, they are incredibly susceptible to everything which surrounds them. As a result, they can get into addiction¹⁵ (by the way, do you remember Robert Palmer's song "You are addicted to Love?", I am sure it a

good addiction). Instead of having eyes glued to the TV screen, they should be playing in the open air.

In summary I would like to add, that nowadays TV is indispensable¹⁶. I foresee that by the year 2010 we will have been one way nearby (Mobile Internet—WAP or some stuff from UMTS) to communicate with people, awesome, isn't it?

Comprehension and discussion:

1. According to the author, what are the advantages and disadvantages of watching TV?
2. What are the advantages and disadvantages of digital TV?
3. What is the extraordinary level use of TV?
4. What are the disadvantages of watching TV to children?
5. What is the prospect of TV in the near future according to the author?

Part Four Interview

Topic: What are the advantages and disadvantages of television?

Procedures:

1. The class should divide into groups of 4 or 5 students.
2. Choose one student from each group as the interviewer, others as interviewees, and one as secretary to take notes.
3. The interviewers ask their interviewees some questions about the topic.
4. The secretaries take notes about the interviewees' opinions.
5. After the interview, each group makes a report and delivers it to the class.

Here are some questions you might use in your interview:

1. Do you like watching TV? Why do you like or why don't you like watching TV?
2. How many hours a day do you spend watching TV?
3. What kinds of TV programs do you like watching?
4. Could you describe one kind of TV program you like?

5. What can you learn from watching TV?
6. What are the advantages and disadvantages of watching TV?
7. Could you give some advice for those who are addicted to watching TV?
8. Do you like watching films on TV or videos or going to cinema? What are the differences between them?
9. What are your comments about Chinese TV programs? Could you give some suggestions for their improvement?
10. Do you know the differences between Chinese TV programs and Western TV programs?

Part Five **Talk Show**

A talk show is an informal kind of debate among the most ordinary people we may meet in everyday life. The only difference is that a talk show has to be programmed or monitored by a host so that the discussion can progress at the desired pace or in the desired fashion.

Neither the guest speakers nor the audience have to use formal language or use a strict format, as is the case with a formal debate. Casualness, liveliness and freedom of speech constitute the major characteristics of a talk show. For a clearer picture of what a talk show is, refer to the CCTV Program “实话实说”(Tell it like it is).

Procedures:

1. Several students should go to the front of the class, each representing one of the roles.
2. Firstly, the host makes an introductory speech, and then the guests deliver their own speeches.
3. The host should manage the talk well to make it progress smoothly.
4. The audience can ask questions of the guests or comment on their views.
5. The host makes a speech summing up the talk.

Talk Show in Class

Topic: The advantages and disadvantages of watching TV

Roles: a host, a housewife, a middle school boy, an educationalist

Suggestions for speeches:

The housewife first expresses her views on watching TV. She is a full-time housewife, so she has time in which she watches television. She says that watching television brings her a lot of pleasure. Television is a faithful companion to her. Her favorite TV programs are soap operas and variety programs. She can watch television for a whole day without break. When she watches television, time passes away very quickly before she notices.

The middle school boy also loves watching television. In his spare time after class, he would like to sit in front of the TV for very long time. His favorite TV programs are cartoons and the swordsmen series. He is so absorbed in watching TV that he is always absent from his classes and his achievement in study declines strikingly. Therefore, he is always criticized by his parents and teachers. But he cannot change his habit.

Lastly, the educationalist delivers his views on watching television. He points out that in effect, television plays a very significant role in modern life. But on the other hand, TV can also be harmful. For example, too much violence and sex may affect the healthy growth of children. TV takes up too much of people's time, and perhaps the most painful thing about TV is that the quality of TV programs is so poor. The producers can't find a balance between interest and meaning. Some TV programs just cater for the taste of a bored audience, but they neglect the most fundamental thing, that is—quality.

Part Six

Debate

Everybody knows that there are both positive and negative answers to a question. However, in the debate, once you have chosen your point of view,

all of your evidence and examples should be chosen to support and prove your point of view. You should not support your opponent's point of view.

In fact, there is no right or wrong in a debate. The teams who can argue eloquently and fluently and convince the audience will be the winners.

Topic: Does television play a positive or negative role in people's lives?

Procedures:

1. The class should divide into groups with five students in each group.
2. Each group is further divided into two teams as the positive and negative teams, and the last student acts as the panel.
3. Within each team, one student acts as the first speaker, and the other student acts as the second speaker.
4. The first positive speaker stands up and delivers a 2—3 minute speech.
5. After the speaker sits down, the first negative speaker stands up and delivers a 2—3 minute speech.
6. The second positive speaker stands up to start the free debate session. Students take turns to speak. Everyone must wait for the speaker to sit down before standing up to speak, and the time limit for each speaker is no more than 2 minutes.
7. At the end of the debate, the second negative speaker makes a summary of their team's speech and then the second positive speaker makes a summary.
8. The panel of each team declares who can speak next in the two teams and decides on the winner team and the best debaters.

Here are some positive and negative arguments for your reference:

Positive arguments: (Television plays a positive role in our lives.)

1. Television serves as a very important source of entertainment and leisure. When people feel tired and bored, they can choose what they like to watch from the various kinds of programs.
2. Television is comparatively cheap. What you need to do is to buy a television set and then you can enjoy wonderful programs or films in it. However it's very expensive to watch films in the cinema.
3. Television provides us with a wide range¹⁷ of knowledge about the