

SPEAKING CHINESE

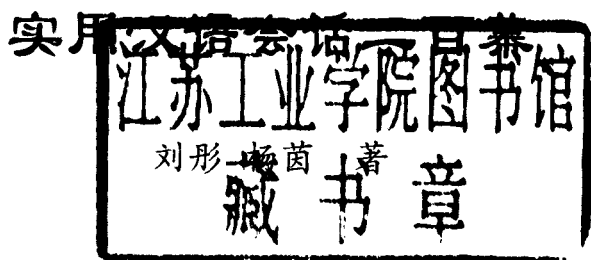
200 Situational Dialogues

实用汉语会话二百幕



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200 Situational Dialogues



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前言

在教学实践中,我们发现很多外国人学了多年的汉语,考试成绩也不错,可是一旦在中国办事,就觉得学过的汉语说不出口。一个学了两年汉语的学生,对服务质量不满意也不知道如何提意见。造成这种状况的原因就是我们的汉语教科书大多从教学出发,注重汉语语法、阅读和写作的训练,缺少实用场景的介绍和训练,缺少同一语义不同表达法的训练,所以实用性较差。为了满足这种需要,我们从人们的日常生活中收集了 200 个较常用的生活场景组成对话,编写了这本《实用汉语会话 200 幕》。这 200 个对话涵盖了外国人在中国可能遇到的各种情形,如遇险呼救、看病住院、旅游购物等等,并且都配有汉语拼音和英文解释。另外我们还为你介绍了许多关于中国文化的背景小常识。我们相信这本书不仅能做你学习汉语的课本,还能成为你在华的生活指南。

编写这样一本书,在我们还是一个尝试,虽然我们有多年的教学经验做基础,仍难免个别地方欠妥,恳请同行及读者批评指正。

作者

1998 年 9 月于北京

Foreword

From our teaching experience, we found many foreigners who had learned Chinese for quite a long time and had a rather good test record of the Chinese language cannot really express themselves and make themselves understood when communicating with the Chinese. We have such a student who had studied the Chinese language for more than two years in school does not know how to complain about the poor service quality. The reason for this kind of situation is that most of our Chinese course books consider schooling the most important element in learning a language, they put most stress on the grammar, reading and writing skill of Chinese language while neglecting the situational practice and training of the different expressions for the same meaning. Therefore those text books are not very practical to use in daily life. To meet such requirements we collect 200 frequently happened situations from daily life of the Chinese and compiled this book. All the 200 dialogues in the book have pinyin and English equivalents, which covering almost all the situations that a foreigner might come across in China, such as calling for the police, seeing the doctor and hospitalization, touring and shopping, and so on. Besides, we introduce to you some useful background information of Chinese culture. We believe that this book will not only be your Chinese text book but also a pragmatic guide book for your stay in China.

Compilers

Beijing, September 1998

A Few Notes About the Language

1. The characters.

China developed advanced pictorial techniques several thousand years ago in the Stone Age. The designs used in this era in a certain way constituted the dawn of writing. The designs were limited to representation of objects; whereas feelings and other abstract ideas could not as yet be expressed. In 1890, in Henan Province bones and tortoise shells bearing engraved characters dating back to the Shang Dynasty (around the 17th century B. C. – the 11th century B. C.) were unearthed. Altogether, around 3,500 ideograms from this period have been identified, though only 1,500 of them are in a sufficient state of preservation to be accurately interpreted.

Since their primitive beginnings, Chinese characters have greatly changed. Though their strictly representational nature has largely disappeared, the original underlying structure remains. Today, about 50,000 ideograms exist, of which 5,000 or so are in common use.

All the dialects of Chinese, spoken by 94% of the population, are known as *hòn yǔ*. Because a number of these dialects are mutually unintelligible, the Chinese government appointed a set of standard Mandarin Chinese, known as *pǔ tōng huà*, so that Chinese from all parts of the country can communicate verbally. The written language is the same, and is understood by all.

After 1949, the Chinese government set up a committee for the reform of Chinese writing. This committee has succeeded in simplifying the form of a large number of characters in everyday use by reducing the number of strokes. In 1958, the National People's

Congress also approved a system for the transcription of Chinese characters into the Latin alphabet, called pinyin (the transcription you will find in this book). Traditionally, Chinese was written in columns and read vertically, and right to left. Nowadays, however, the standard is to write horizontally from left to right.

2. Guide to pronunciation.

There are four basic tones in Mandarin Chinese:

ˉ 1st tone (high level): is high pitched and the voice neither rises nor falls;

ˊ 2nd tone (rising): starts with the pitch of the voice lower but ends up as high as in the first tone;

ˇ 3rd tone (falling-rising): starts with the voice lower than the second tone, dips and then rises in a rather drawn-out way;


ˋ 4th tone (falling): the voice falls from high to low.

Every syllable in Chinese has a definite tone, and every syllable is pronounced according to one of the four tones, except when it is unstressed. In this case the tone distinctions disappear, and the pronunciation of the unstressed syllable is light and short. The difference in tone indicates the meaning of words. For example, mā with high level tone means "mother," mó with rising tone means "linen," mǎ with falling-rising tone means "horse," and mò with falling tone means "curse."

The following is a comparison which illustrates the pronunciation of Chinese vowels and consonants using English.

How to Use This Book

* We suggest that you start with the “Guide to pronunciation”, because this helps you become familiar with pronunciation.

* Consult the Contents pages for the section you need. In each chapter you’ll find situational conversation, travel facts, and useful information, which is marked with the symbol  , for your stay in China.

* In the black brackets [] you’ll find the situation to each conversation. Attached to each conversation there are one or two sentence patterns and two examples, we suggest that you learn them by heart. With these most frequently-used sentence structures in mind you can draw inferences and produce various sentences yourself.

* After some situational conversations there are the “Useful Phrases and Expressions” that do not appear in the conversation but may help you talk with the Chinese.

* Most sentences in this book appear in three forms: English, Chinese and pinyin. This will help you pronounce the word and, in case you cannot make yourself understood, you can find the sentence you need and show the characters to the Chinese recipient.

* The “Quick Reference Page” at the end of this book provides you with a list of basic vocabulary which enables you to go around with no difficulty.

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The following is a comparison which illustrates the pronunciation of Chinese vowels and consonants using English.

Vowels

Letter	Approximate pronunciation
--------	---------------------------

- | | |
|------------|--|
| a | like a in car (but with no r -sound) |
| e | like e in her (but with no r -sound) |
| i | 1) like ee in bee
2) like c, s, z, ch, sh, zh, r , like e in her (with no r -sound) |
| o | like aw in saw |
| u | like oo in spoon |
| ü | similar to German ü or u in French " lune "; round your lips and try to say ee |
| ou | as in soul |
| ian | like yen |
| ui | like way |

In compound vowels the pronunciation starts from one vowel and "glides" to or towards another vowel e.g. **i, ia, iao**.

Consonants

The consonants are pronounced approximately as in English, with the following exceptions:


- | | |
|-----------|--|
| c | like ts in its , followed by a strong puff of breath |
| ch | like ch in church , but with the tip of the tongue turned up and back to touch the roof of the mouth |
| g | like g in give |
| h | like ch in Scottish loch |
| j | like j in jeer (strongly fronted: pronounced as near to the front of the mouth as possible) |
| q | similar to ch in cheap |

- r** like English **r**, but with the tip of the tongue turned up and back to touch the roof of the mouth, so that it sounds something like the **s** in **pleasure**
- s** like **s** in **sit**
- sh** like **sh** in **shoe**, but with the tip of the tongue turned up and back to touch the roof of the mouth
- x** like **sh** in **sheep** (strongly fronted), but with lips widely spread
- y** like **y** in **yard**
- z** like **ds** in **lids**
- zh** like **j** in **jug**, but with the tip of the tongue turned up and back to touch the roof of the mouth

The three consonants **p**, **t** and **k** should be pronounced with a strong puff of breath.

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第一章 日常用语

Chapter One Daily Expressions

场景 1 问候 Greetings

(1) 【遇到一个人:】

【When meeting one person:】

A: 你* 好!

Nǐ hǎo!

Hello!

B: 你好!

Nǐ hǎo!

Hello!

(2) 【遇到两个人:】

【When meeting two people:】

A: 你们好!

Nǐmen hǎo!

Hello!

B、C: 你好!

Nǐ hǎo!

Hello!

(3) 【遇到认识的人, 中国人常说:】

【When Chinese meet an acquaintance, the greeting goes like:】

A: 吃饭了吗? / 去哪儿?

* The nǐ form is the general word for "you." The special polite form nín should be used when talking to an older person, a business partner, or anyone else to whom special respect should be duly given.

Chī fàn le ma? /Qù nǎr?

Have you eaten yet? /Where are you going?

B: 吃了。* /还没呢。

Chī le. /Hái méi ne.

Yes, I have. /Not yet.

【如果你不想告诉他你去哪儿,那么你可以这样说:】

【If you'd rather not tell him where you are going, you can say:】

B: 我出去一下儿。

Wǒ chūqu yíxiàr.

I'll just go out for a while.

常用短语及表达法 Useful Phrases and Expressions

你好吗?

Nǐ hǎo ma?

How are you?

很好,谢谢。

Hěn hǎo, xièxie.

Fine, thank you.

你呢?

Nǐ ne?

And you?

很高兴认识你。

Hěn gāoxìng rènshi
nǐ.

Nice to meet you.

怎么样,忙吗?

Zěnmeyàng, máng
ma?

How is life? /How is it
going?

还可以。

Hái kěyǐ.

Not bad. /So so.

场景 2 表示感谢 Expressing Thanks

A: 谢谢你!

Xièxie nǐ!

Thank you!

B: 不客气。/没事儿。

Bú kèqì. /Méi shìr.

You are welcome.

* The Chinese do not say "yes" and "no", instead they repeat the verb. e.g. Have you eaten yet? I have eaten. or I haven't eaten yet.