

初级篇 第二册

New View  
College  
Spoken English

# 新视点

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## 口语教程

主 编：程建山      主 审：Caroline [美]



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# 序

《新视点大学英语口语教程》初级篇即将出版，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。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，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（第一、二册）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7部分组成，即 Introduction, Listening, Pair Work, Group Work, Role-play, Cultural Salon, Writing。用汉语表达，就是：（关于主题的）介绍、听力、配对谈话、小组谈话、角色扮演、文化沙龙和写作。且每单元还配有不止一幅与内容相关又妙趣横生的插图。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，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，经过多年奋斗和潜心钻研，终于在全国大学英语四、六级考试完成改革之时，使其大作得以面世，《新视点大学英语口语教程》高级篇第三、四册已于2005年出版，反响很好。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



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## Unit One

# Success

“The definition of success—To laugh much; to win respect of intelligent persons and the affections of children; to earn the approbation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends; to appreciate beauty; to find the best in others; to give one’s self; to leave the world a little better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch, or a redeemed social condition; to have played and laughed with enthusiasm, and sung with exultation; to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived—this is to have succeeded. ”

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

## Part One

## Introduction

People have been striving for success all their life, and many achieving success, but others are not so fortunate. Many have been pursuing success for years, and others start towards it and seem to find it almost immediately.

The meaning of success comes in many forms, and many definitions. It depends on what you are searching for in life, and searching for in business. Athletes may have one definition of success, and a stay-at-home mom may have another. A musician may see success as a number one hit, and a doctor may see success as a surgery that went well. It really depends on the perspectives of life you have. Perspectives on success are as numerous as the stars.

Success to most people is when you have an ongoing string of

accomplishments that when put together, add up to a major obtainment in life known as success. The addition of all the accomplishments in a person's career or life can be viewed as success in their life and business.

Success then is an ongoing realization and obtainment of worthy desired results, concerning actions, life, business, wealth, or a worthy ideal. But how can we achieve success?

At first, you should find out your strengths and weaknesses. Which would help you to achieve it? Which of your weaknesses is a barrier, and does it go against your values? Success is a journey. It has multiple peaks and not one ultimate pinnacle. One success builds on another. Setbacks and mistakes will also help you build success. At different periods of your life, success is defined differently.

## Part Two **Listening**

Listen to and read the following two dialogues carefully.

### ● **Dialogue 1**

(Two students are talking about success.)

A: You look gloomy, today. Is anything wrong?

B: Yes. I failed the CET4.

A: Oh, what a pity! But don't worry.

B: I had thought that I could pass it, but when I got the result I really got frustrated.

A: Don't be sad. Perhaps next time you can pass it.

B: I don't have the confidence.

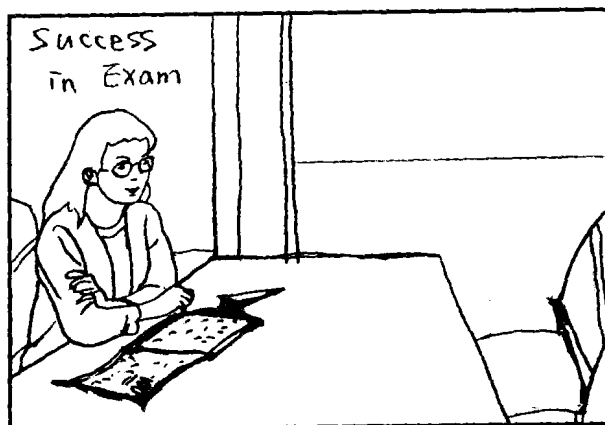
A: You should. Failure is not final and you should try, try, and try again.

B: I know it. But I have prepared it for nearly half a year, actually.

A: Don't lose confidence. I believe next time you can do better. You know, Edison failed a thousand times when he finally found the suitable material for filament.

B: Yes. Maybe I should have worked harder.

## ● Dialogue 2



(Two students are discussing the determining factors of success.)

A: What factors do you think are important to achieve success?

B: There are many. You may say determination, a strong will, perseverance, and so on.

A: I agree with you. Determination is very important. At first, you should have to set a goal and then work hard toward it.

B: Yes. But only determination is not enough. Many people have a strong determination, but once they encounter setbacks, they give up.

A: Sure. Most people behave like this. They can't persist to the end. So perseverance is also important. Once we do something, we should never give up until we complete it.

B: That's right. There is one more thing I think very important to success.

A: What is it?

B: We should learn from our failures.

A: Yes. Failure is definite on the road to success and failure is not that terrible. The most important thing is that we should learn from it.

## Part Three

## Pair Work

Take turns to ask questions with your classmates, and then make up a dialogue.

**Topic:** What Is Success?

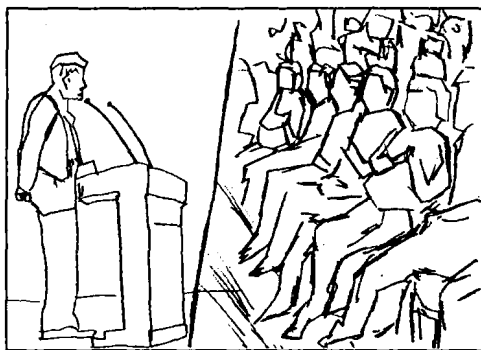
**Questions:**

1. What's the definition of success in your opinion?
2. Can you give any examples of success you've ever achieved in your life?
3. If you try your best to pursue something, such as making efforts to pass an exam, but in the end you fail. What will you do? Will you be seriously frustrated and give up your aim?
4. What lesson can you learn from failures? How should we overcome failures in our life or career?

## Part Four

## Group Work

In this part, you need to form groups with three or four students in each



group, and take turns to speak.

**Topic:** How to Achieve Success?

**Situation:**

Steve Chen (Chen An'zhi) is the first Chinese speechmaker of Successology (the study of success). He emigrated to America with his parents at the age of 12 and then he went to school while working in America. Later, he dropped out from school and changed 18 jobs from printer, supermarket worker, filling station worker, to businessman. But he never succeeded. When he was 21 years old, there was nearly no money in his bank account, so he had no money for house rent and there was little oil left in his car. He felt almost despaired. And then he wanted to learn from the world famous speechmaker Antonio Robin, who however, refused to accept him as an apprentice. After Steve tried 85 times, Antonio finally accepted him. One year later, he became a speechmaker in America. When he was 27 years old, he became a millionaire. Now, he has established a company in Shenzhen, spreading Successology and helping more people become successful. One of his famous sayings is:

Why don't you succeed? Because you are not determined;

Why haven't you succeeded? Because you have not been determined.

Why haven't you succeeded until now? Because you have not been determined until now.

For more information about Steve Chen and Successology, you can surf the following websites:

[www. success001.com](http://www.success001.com)

[www. chenanzhi. net. cn](http://www.chenanzhi.net.cn)

**Questions:**

1. What are the determining factors in Steve Chen's experience of success?
2. What can you learn from Steve Chen's experience of success?
3. What do you think are the determining factors of success in your opinion, chance, practice, hardworking, or diligence?
4. Can you tell a story of success of your own or a successful person? How did you or he/she achieve success? What can you learn from your own

experience or his/her experience?

## Part Five

## Role-play

In this part, you need to perform a small drama with your classmates. Each of you plays a role in this drama.

### Situation:

Suppose you were born from a poor family. You studied very hard and entered a university, in which you continued studying hard and at the same time you did part-time jobs to support yourself. After graduation, you worked hard in an electronic company and two years later, you were promoted as the sales department manager since you had increased the sales volume greatly and contributed a lot to the development of the company. Now, as a successful businessperson, you give a lecture about the secrets of success, encouraging more people to achieve success.

Role A: You are the manager. You tell your own story of success about how you developed from a poor student, a junior salesperson to the present successful manager. You think that a great aim, determination, and perseverance are all important to achieve success. You encourage more people to work hard to succeed.

Role B: You are a college student. You are eager to become successful but you don't know what you should do. You admire the manager very much and ask him a lot of questions. You especially want to know whether the manager has had any experience of failure and how he dealt with it.

## Part Six

## Cultural Salon

Read the following passage about success. Try to answer the question:  
“What is success and how do we achieve it?”

## What Is Success and How Do We Achieve It?

To be clear about what success is must be the first step to achieving success.

So far, the best definition I have come across is: "Success is the completion of anything intended." In other words success is finishing what you planned to do.

The above definition of success shines a light on failure and success. Make a plan and follow it and you will succeed. Make a plan and do not follow it and you will fail.

This gives a yard stick for judging every day of our lives. We can say at the end of the day "I have failed" or "I have succeeded".

This may seem very obvious but it is amazing that only about 85% of the human race end up doing what they intended.

I asked several people what they thought success was. One person said that "Success is making loads of money". Another said that "Success is achieving your goals". Someone else said that "Success is fulfilling your potential". An interesting answer was that "Success is making others jealous".

Brian Tracy agrees with the connection between success and goals. He has said, "Success is goals and all else is commentary." Tracy believes that people with clear, written goals, accomplish far more in a shorter period of time than people without them.

Stuart Goldsmith in "The Midas Method" has an important section on how to set goals so that they are achieved using the full power of the subconscious mind.

Maria Nemeth gives this definition of success: "Doing what you said you would do, with ease."

"Doing what you said you would do" is currently not achieved by the majority of the human race especially politicians! Doing it with ease is achieved by even fewer and requires making the most of the subconscious mind.

Jim Rohn argues that success is just a few simple disciplines practiced daily.

The power of daily discipline is HUGE. Because the discipline is



practised daily the effect is cumulative. The good practice is carried out 365 times a year with, perhaps, a few lapses.

It cannot fail to have tremendous influence. Once the discipline becomes a daily habit, it can be forgotten about until the rewards start coming in.

The writer who writes every day has written well over 300 pages by the end of the year. If he or she does not write every day they lose momentum and inspiration. If they keep up the writing (even just a few words a day) a magnet for relevant thoughts develops.

Recently a Liverpool student of American media studies applied for 600 jobs and received only one interview which he failed. He decided to write a novel. He determined to complete ten pages a day. He worked in the evenings at a dead end job to make money and then wrote until about 5 in the morning at his novel which has now become famous. It also looks like becoming a Hollywood blockbuster film.

He points out that if you write only one page a day for 100 days you can write a screen play. He wrote his novel by studying the structure of two other novels and noticing how they were structured and wrote his screenplay after studying video of films and noticing how long each scene lasted before there was a change.

I can't remember his name or the name of his book as I just happened to hear part of his interview on television.

## Part Seven

## Writing

Write a short article based on the topic "How to Overcome Failure". You may begin the article like this:

Everyone strives for success, but sometimes we are not so fortunate. How to overcome failure? Should we give up our dreams? I think we should keep our goals and learn from our failure...