

High Impact College English Conversation

高效英语

会话教程

下册

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湖南人民出版社

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前言

我国大学英语教学在新世纪的目标是“培养学生的综合能力，特别是听说能力，使他们在今后工作和社会交往中能用英语有效地进行口头和书面的信息交流，同时增强其自主学习能力，提高综合文化素养，以适应我国社会发展和国际交流的需要”。然而，高校英语教学的现状却不能令人乐观，特别是口语，学生往往要么是有话说不出，要么是说出来了却语音语法不规范。为了改变这种状况，我们于1999年成立课题组，从英语的特点和英语教学规律两个方面结合起来进行研究。2000年，课题组申报的《英语语言应用能力构架与课程设置的相关性研究》经教育部审查批准列入“新世纪高等教育教学改革工程”。该研究工程共有17个重点资助课题，我们申报的课题是其中之一。2003年10月29日，该课题通过结题验收，其中一部分研究成果获湖南省普通高等学校教学改革成果一等奖。2004年8月，湖南人民出版社出版了《大学英语教学论》，该书完整地反映了我们的研究成果。根据验收专家的鉴定，这些成果主要是：1. 创建了“以培养学生英语语言应用能力为目标”的教学理论框架，完成了体现该教育思想的大学英语课程新设计；2. 创构了融多项技能于一体的大学英语 ITILA 教学模式和“五步双向反思动态互补”实践模式，建立了“主题教学、自主学习、双向反思”教学理念；3. 建立了新的注重教学过程的形成性教学评估体系。

本教材就是在上述背景下诞生的，它的特色在于：第一，教学理念创新。我们已经将专家肯定的全部新的教学理念贯彻于教材编写中。本教材的编写，是我们运用自己创新的教学理念来创新教材的一次实践。第二，教材内容创新。本教材不是传统的学习典范型教材，它是按新的教学理念编

写的学习资源型教材。我们提供的不只是学生学习的典范材料，而是给学生营造了可以自主学习、协作学习、研究性学习的一种环境、一种资源。它像电影的文学剧本，富有弹性，不同的导演，不同的演员，将创造出不同的活剧。第三，教学方法创新。根据主题教学要求和双向互动原则，本教材的每一单元，都在中西文化的宝库中择优选萃，锁定一个主题，设计一串教学环节，创设应用语言的具体情境，提供学与练的具体资料，安排师生互动的具体接口；其图文并茂的版面，激情引趣的内容，使学生能在教师的引导下轻松地学好知识，增长才干。

本教材分上下两册，每册由6个单元组成。每个单元围绕同一个主题，安排了三课教学内容和一个口语模拟测试。这种体例既密切结合大学英语教学要求和专业英语教学的目标，同时也充分考虑到了一般英语口语学习者的需要。本书既是大学生参加全国大学英语口语考试的必备教材，也是到外企求职或从事外事、旅游、参加国际学术交流的人员必须接受的基础口语训练，还是参加全国公共英语口语等级考试以及部分雅思口语考试的基础教材。

本教材已在中南大学部分班级约800多名学生中试用，在试用的基础上进行了反复修改。谨此机会，我们衷心感谢一如既往地关心、支持我们进行这项教改的领导、同行专家、朋友、学生以及为本教材提供出版方便的湖南人民出版社。

由于时间紧迫，本教材的编写还没有达到理想的境界，我们殷切希望广大师生在使用过程中提出宝贵的修改意见，以利我们修订时参考，我们将不胜感激。

编者

2005年5月

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Success

We know we are on the road to success,
And success is within our grasp.



Main topics of this unit:

Factors to Success

Achievements

Happiness

Lesson 1 Factors to Success

Goals

- Talking about factors to success
- Expressing optimism and encouragement

Part One Warming Up

1. Ideals and ambitions

Move around in the class to ask your classmates about their ideals and ambitions.

- 1) Do you think a person should aim high? Why or why not?
- 2) What is your major? Is it part of your ambition?
- 3) Do you think your ambition is well grounded?

2. Reading and refreshing what successful people say

Read the following sayings with special attention to your pronunciation and intonation. Then tell how you feel about them.

- 1) Ideal is the beacon. Without an ideal, there is no secure direction; without direction, there is no life. —Leo Tolstoy
- 2) The important thing in life is to have a great aim, and the determination to attain it. —Johan W. Goethe
- 3) Living without an aim is like sailing without a compass. —Alexander Dumas
- 4) You have to believe in yourself. That's the secret of success. —Charles Chaplin
- 5) Genius only means hard-working all one's life. —Mendeleyer
- 6) Patience is bitter, but its fruit is sweet. —Jean J. Rousseau
- 7) Genius is 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration. —Thomas Edison
- 8) Where there is a will, there is a way. —Thomas Edison

Part Two Learning to Express Yourself

1. Communicative competence

The following expressions are often used to express ambitions, optimism and encouragement.

Read them aloud and learn to use them.



Expressing ambitions and desires

Neutral

I hope / dream to be a doctor / an artist / an excellent interpreter in the future.

I wish I were CEO of a big multinational corporation.

We all desire / long for success and happiness.

I have a dream that one day I'll start a company of my own.

I'd like to develop new products in the Research and Development (R&D) Department.

Informal

If only I were a computer expert!

As long as I can go abroad to study.

Let's hope our country will be thriving and prosperous.

Here's hoping (that) he's able to get the promotion.

I want to become a teacher because I'm interested in teaching.

My ambition is to become a linguist and speak several languages fluently.

Formal

I do hope for a successful career.

I expect (that) he'll break the record.

I'm really longing to become a CEO.

I really desire to get a scholarship from Oxford University.

I should very much like to work in an import and export company.

Expressing optimism	Expressing encouragement
<i>Informal</i>	<i>Informal</i>
Everything will be fine.	Cheer up, boy! Be a man!
It'll all turn out fine / OK.	Keep it up / Stick to it!
That'll be great, I'm sure.	I'm right behind you.
Things will work out alright.	Keep your chin up!

Formal I am very optimistic. I have every confidence in his promotion. I feel quite sure about getting a Ph. D degree. I'm confident that he will take the first prize.	Formal You have our whole-hearted backing. We feel you should go ahead. I think you should keep up your courage. There is no reason to be discouraged.
Neutral I'm sure you'll get the job. Your effort is bound to be successful. You're bound to get the scholarship. I think you're going to have a successful college life.	Neutral Don't give up hope. That's better than I could do. That's fine. You're doing very well.

2. Sample conversations

Everyone wants to be successful, but not everyone can get success. Now Harry (H) and Kate (K) are discussing about factors to success.

Conversation 1 About ambitions

K: Harry, what factors do you think lead to success?

H: Well, first of all, I think you need ambition—you have to be ready to do everything you can to achieve what you want. The second is a strong will. If you keep changing your mind, you'll never get anywhere.

K: Um. Sounds right. Anything else?

H: Well, you need to know how to treat people. No man is an island, as they say, and if you want to get ahead, you need to count on others' help most of the time.

K: What about natural talent? Are some people just born to be more successful than others?

H: I'm not so sure. I think luck probably has more to do with it than talent.

K: So if you are going to choose one factor that's a real key to success, which one would you say is most important?

H: Ambition. Without ambition, you won't have the motivation to do what you have to do to change your life.

K: Do you have any ambition?

H: Sure I have. **I want to be a CEO** in a multinational corporation.

K: Oh, that's a good idea.

H: How about you?

K: **I hope to** become a journalist in the future. But you know, ambition doesn't mean success.

Conversation 2 About the secret of success

K: Harry, have you heard of the formula " $A = X + Y + Z$ "?

H: No, what does it mean?

K: Well, it is the secret of success summarized by Albert Einstein. A means success, X stands for hard work, Y for good methods, Z means ...

H: Wait for a moment. Let me guess: Z stands for opportunities or luck.

K: Oh, not quite. From Einstein's viewpoint, Z means stopping talking and getting down to work.

H: Really? That's interesting. Do you agree with the great scientist?

K: I couldn't agree more. I am sure if we idle away our time, our future will be a failure; but if we are diligent now, we will surely be successful in the future. But everything is still theory without practice.

Conversation 3 Actions speak louder than words

K: I'm sorry, Harry. I failed again in my math test.

H: **Keep it up, Kate.** But do you know what caused your failure, Kate?

K: No. However, I **really desired** to pass it this time.

H: Yes. I know. But don't you think determination doesn't mean success?

K: Of course not. Everybody knows the old saying: "No pain, no gain."

H: Now you get the point. And do you think you've worked hard at the subject?

K: Um ... I'm sorry. I ...

H: **Come on, Kate.** You must remember actions speak louder than words once you have made up your mind to do something.

Conversation 4 Expressing encouragement

K: Hi, Harry. Why do you look so depressed?

H: You know, I failed in the English Speaking Contest in our company yesterday.

K: Oh, no, **don't let that get you down.** Do you know what caused the failure?

H: Well, I was just too nervous to finish my speech on time.

K: **Cheer up!** You just didn't have any experience. Your English is good. **I'm sure you'll do better** next time.

H: Thank you for your encouragement. I'll try my very best.

Part Three Learning to Communicate

1. Pair work

A. Words used to describe people may be positive, negative or neutral. Classify the words below and put *Pos*, *Neg* or *Neu* next to them. Describe a successful person you know with some of the words.

bad-tempered <u>Neg</u>	creative _____	critical _____	moody _____
disorganized _____	punctual _____	generous _____	strict _____
hardworking _____	impatient _____	reliable _____	efficient _____
communicative _____	forgetful _____	talented _____	bossy _____
level-headed _____	serious _____	strange _____	skillful _____
well-educated _____	friendly _____	dependent _____	tolerant _____

B. Work with your partner about your personalities, skills and your own ways of success. The pictures and the questions below will help expand your ideas.



Computer programming



Social work



Job market

Questions:

Do you like...

working in the evenings?
commuting?
tolerating solitude?
changes?
new and creative things?

Are you good at...

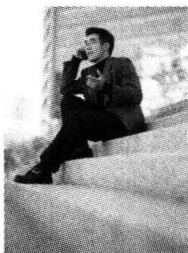
communicating with others?
remembering names?
solving problems?
making decisions quickly?
meeting deadlines?

Do you...

have special skills?
have any experience?
have special certificates or diplomas?
speak foreign languages?

2. Situational practice

Make a similar series of dialogues with the functional sentences about the following situations.



1) I want to...



2) Oh, I failed in the exam!



3) Host your ambition!

Situation 1 You and your partner talk about your ambitions. You two express optimism and good wishes to each other.

Situation 2 Your partner failed in an exam. You try to encourage him / her.

Situation 3 Your partner entered for the campaign to the Student Union. You show him / her your optimism.

3. Group discussion

Divide the class into several groups. Choose either one of the following topics and discuss it in your group.

1) How can you fulfill your ambitions?



Clues for reference:

define your objective

map your strategy

set a deadline

commit yourself

face up to failure

persist

2) How can you live a successful college life?



Clues for reference:

get involved

plan your time

find effective study methods

keep current

seek help

expand your vision or values

4. Communicative skill

Here is the first communicative skill called "Active Listening". Take it in and use it in your successful daily communication.

A. Proverbs:

1) *There is no one so deaf as the one who will not listen.*

2) *The most basic of all human needs is the need to understand and be understood.*

3) *The best way to understand people is to listen to them.*

B. Three techniques for active listening:

1) Paraphrase the speaker's thoughts in your own words;

2) Express understanding of the speaker's feelings;

3) Ask questions for clarification.

C. Sentences to avoid in active listening:

1) You must / should . . .

2) You are wrong. Let me tell you what to do.

3) You are making a big mistake. The best answer is . . .

Part Four Expanding Your Skill

1. Time for fun

I Owe My Success to the Telephone

Artist: Whatever success I have had, I owe it all to the telephone.

Friend: How's that?

Artist: Well, while I was waiting for them to give me the right number I practiced drawing on a pad.

2. Speech making

There are many factors that may contribute to success. Summarize three to five key factors to success in each of the following fields and make a 3-minute speech on your chosen topic.

- 1) Key factors to success in one's study
- 2) Key factors to success in one's career
- 3) Key factors to success in a job interview
- 4) Key factors to success in an oral English examination
- 5) Key factors to success in one's life



Words and phrases for reference:

creativity	intelligence	diligence
ambition	determination	education
honesty	opportunity	self-reliance
far-sightedness	self-confidence	persistence
knowing one's field	family background	special skills
interpersonal relationship	strong will	wide knowledge

3. Debating

Choose one from the following statements and debate with your partner. Give specific reasons.

- 1) It takes a lot of luck to be successful.
- 2) Some people can't be successful because of their background, education, etc.
- 3) Failure can teach us much more than success.

4. Reciting

Here is Mother Theresa's "**Life Is . . .**". Appreciate and recite it.

 **Life Is. . .** 

 Mother Theresa 

Life is an opportunity, benefit from it.

Life is beauty, admire it.

Life is a dream, realize it.

Life is a challenge, meet it.

Life is a duty, complete it.

Life is a game, play it.

Life is a promise, fulfill it.

Life is sorrow, overcome it.

Life is a song, sing it.

Life is a struggle, accept it.

Life is a tragedy, confront it.

Life is an adventure, dare it.

Life is luck, make it.

Life is too precious, do not destroy it.

Life is life, fight for it.

