而安克通大學 研究生创新教育系列教材

高级口语教程

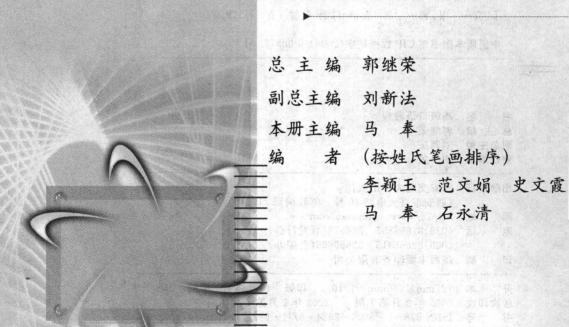
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研究生创新教育系列教材

高级口语教程



西安交通大学出版社 西安 · 西安 ·

内容提要

《高级口语教程》从功能与交际的角度着眼,以一系列的任务设计为主线,汇集了学生感兴趣且乐于交谈的主题。

本教材共有 12 个单元,内容包括节日,旅游,饮食,理财,教育,婚恋,体育,交通,环保,求职,健康,互联网等。

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创新是一个民族的灵魂,也是高层次人才水平的集中体现。因此,创新能力的培养应贯穿于研究生培养的各个环节,包括课程学习、文献阅读、课题研究等。文献阅读与课题研究无疑是培养研究生创新能力的重要手段,同样,课程学习也是培养研究生创新能力的重要环节。通过课程学习,使研究生在教师指导下,获取知识的同时理解知识创新过程与创新方法,对培养研究生创新能力具有极其重要的意义。

西安交通大学研究生院围绕研究生创新意识与创新能力改革研究生课程体系的同时,开设了一批研究型课程,支持编写了一批研究型课程的教材,目的是为了推动在课程教学环节加强研究生创新意识与创新能力的培养,进一步提高研究生培养质量。

研究型课程是指以激发研究生批判性思维、创新意识为主要目标,由具有高学术水平的教授作为任课教师参与指导,以本学科领域最新研究和前沿知识为内容,以探索式的教学方式为主导,适合于师生互动,使学生有更大的思维空间的课程。研究型教材应使学生在学习过程中可以掌握最新的科学知识,了解最新的前沿动态,激发研究生科学研究的兴趣,掌握基本的科学方法,把教师为中心的教学模式转变为以学生为中心教师为主导的教学模式,把学生被动接受知识转变为在探索研究与自主学习中掌握知识和培养能力。

出版研究型课程系列教材,是一项探索性的工作,有许多艰苦的工作。虽然已 出版的教材凝聚了作者的大量心血,但毕竟是一项在实践中不断完善的工作。我 们深信,通过研究型系列教材的出版与完善,必定能够促进研究生创新能力的培 养。

西安交通大学研究生院



半个多世纪以来,世界各国都在强调创新,并已形成日益强大的竞争优势。中国也把提高自主创新能力作为提高国家竞争力的中心环节,把建设创新型国家当作一项重大战略。

高等教育是国家教育体系中的重要组成部分,而研究生教育又是我国高等教育的重要组成部分。作为国家创新体系中的核心力量,研究生创新教育肩负着为21世纪培养高层次创新型人才的重任,因而具有十分特殊的重要意义。与此同时,研究生外语教育作为研究生教育的重要组成部分,也就成为培养21世纪高层次创新型人才的必要基础和重要内容。因此,研究生的外语能力与专业知识技能具有同等重要的地位。

2005年1月,教育部发布了"关于实施研究生教育创新计划加强研究生创新能力培养进一步提高培养质量的若干意见",同时实施了研究生教育创新计划项目。为了培养出能满足社会需要的高层次创新型人才,西安交通大学大力推进研究生的外语教学改革,并支持立项进行深入调查和研究。大量数据表明,当前社会对学生的需求以及学生自身的学习状况和发展特点都需要我们在研究生阶段的外语教育中着重培养三个方面的能力,即(1)获取信息的能力——外语的载体价值;(2)沟通交流的能力——外语的工具价值;(3)创新思维的能力——外语思维能力价值。

在充分论证和深入研究的基础上,我校的研究生英语教学逐步完成了课程体系改革,并受到了学生及专家的普遍好评。同时,作为研究生创新教育的重要支撑,我们组织编写了这套"研究生创新教育英语系列教材",包括《综合英语》(I、II),《高级口语教程》、《实用英汉互译教程》、《国际学术交流英语》、《西方文化渊源》和《西方文化名著选读》。教材作(编)者都是活跃在教学一线的骨干教师,并直接参与了教学改革的研究与实践。他们具有高度的责任感与使命感,业务精良,年富力强,思维活跃,专业理论基础扎实,知识结构合理,具有一定的研究能力和学术水平,他们为完成系列教材的编写倾注了大量的心血。从项目申报到教材编写的各个环节中,西安交通大学研究生院都给予了大量的支持与帮助。专家评委认真

听取课题申报和各项汇报,仔细审查相关内容,分析可行性与合理性,帮助项目组严把质量关。西安交通大学外国语学院领导也非常重视和关心该项目的进展情况,并从时间上及设备上保障课题的顺利进行。同时,感谢西安交通大学出版社给予的大力支持。另外,我们在编写过程中,参考了一些国内外的图书、报刊、杂志和网站文章,在此向原作者表示感谢。

"研究生创新教育英语系列教材"的编写是一项开创性的工作。由于我们经验不足、水平有限,错误之处在所难免,希望广大教师和读者在使用中提出宝贵意见和建议,使本系列教材在今后的修订中得到进一步的提高和完善。

郭继荣 2007年8月



口语表达能力的培养是外语教学中一个非常重要的方面。近年来,随着国内教学条件的不断改善,及先进的语言教学理念的传播与推广,中国学生的英语口语表达能力已经有所提高。但相当一部分学生往往止步于使用所学的书面表达方式进行口语交流,结果,口语表达既生硬又不甚得体,不能达到预期的交际目的。

我们编写的这本《高级口语教程》教材旨在借助各种有效手段,提高中国学生的英语口语运用能力,帮助学生解决用英语进行交际时,词不达意,言之无物的难题。

《高级口语教程》从功能与交际的角度着眼,以一系列的任务设计为主线,汇集了学生感兴趣且乐于交谈的主题。其具体特点如下:

- 1. 课文主题与现实生活密切相关,多是学生感兴趣,有体会并乐于交谈的问题,从而能激发起学生的学习兴趣和口头表达的欲望。
- 2. 根据任务式教学特点,为各个主题都设计了大量的语言交际任务,注重启发学生互动来完成交际任务。
- 3. 构成交际任务的输入材料形式活泼多样。每个主题都设计了情景对话,句 型精洗,词汇,短语,扩充阅读,格言警句及幽默短文等供学生模仿。
- 4. 为培养学生全面的口语表达能力,在体裁设计上涵盖了讨论,辩论,对话, 访谈,演讲,叙述等多种方式。

本教材共有 12 个单元,内容包括节日,旅游,饮食,理财,教育,婚恋,体育,交通,环保,求职,健康,互联网等。

本教材在试用期间获得了师生的丰富反馈,普遍认为本教材设计精心,体裁多样,题材广泛,易教易学,有效实用。

本教材由郭继荣,李颖玉,史文霞,范文娟,石永清,马奉等编写。由于编者水平有限,疏漏之处,恳请批评指正。



Dialogue

The following dialogue happens between a young husband and his wife one morning before the winter vacation. They are exciting about the coming holiday and making a plan for it.

- W: Hey, darling! It's snowing outside!
- H: Really! No wonder there is so much noise outside.
- W: So beautiful! And the winter vacation is coming soon, we can enjoy our holidays as we like!
- H: What is your plan, my dear?
- W: I am not clear about it yet. Do you have any good ideas?
- H: To be frank, I feel very tired and I prefer to stay at home and lie in bed.
- W: Don't you think that would be a waste of time?
- H: We are so busy during the year and we deserve to ...
- W: We deserve to spend some money and enjoy life, right? Why not go out visiting some interesting places?
- H: OK. I have no complaint.
- W: Oh, my dear. Don't be so discouraging. Fresh air and beautiful sceneries are good for people's health. I'm sure you will feel completely relaxed-physically and psychologically.
- H: Sounds not too bad. So what is the place in your mind?



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- W: If you would like to go abroad, we can go to Hawaii, or maybe Australia-that is always my dream.
- H: How about Ha'erbin? Ice-engraving there is pretty famous!
- W. Won't it be too cold?
- H: Of course it will be, but don't you like a place with snow and ice everywhere?
- W: Yeah. But
- H: And we have just bought a warm and thick coat for you, right? If we get another one for me, there would be no problem.
- W: Sounds fine.
- H: Anyway, you name the place, whatever you like is my choice!
- W: Naughty boy! You always try to force your ideas and pretend to be a loving husband.
- H: Well, that's exactly where my charm lies!
- W: Humph ... Anyway, I have to get some information from a travel agency first.
- H: And I will search for some information on the Internet!
- W: Whatever it will be, let's go out to play with snow first!

Sentence Patterns

- ... is the most important holiday/a traditional festival/a very busy day of the year in
- ... has been a national / international / local celebration in ... for ... years.
- It is a day when people ...
- A typical activity on ... is to ...
- Going out to dinner has become a tradition on ...
- Many families will get together for a big meal at
- This traditional festival is related with an interesting legend.
- There are a lot of stories about this traditional activity / food.
- ... are popular traditional gifts for
- This festival is a cheerful occasion.
- · A happy festival atmosphere pervaded the whole town.

Activities

Task 1

Description

Spring Festival, the lunar new year, can be regarded as the most important holiday in China. Describe it to your partners including the following information:

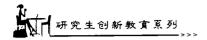
- 1) How is the date of Spring Festival determined?
- 2) Why do Chinese regard this festival as very important?
- 3) How do people celebrate it now—what to eat; what to do; what to wear; etc.?
- 4) Are there differences between the ways that people celebrated Spring Festival in the past and at present in China?

Task 2

Survey

Have an interview of at least three of your classmates and try to survey the problem-feature, function, and value about holidays. Fill in the table.

Classmate	feature	function	value
A			
В			
С			



Task 3

Comparison and Contrast

Among the holidays, there are many similarities and dissimilarities. Compare the following festivals from as many angles as possible:

- 1) Spring Festival & Christmas
- 2) Valentine's Day & Qiqiao Festival
- 3) Mother's Day & Father's Day

Task 4

Personal opinion

Think about the following questions and prepare for a speech. Then work in pairs and exchange your idea with your partners.

- 1) Do you think festivals will disappear? Why or why not?
- 2) Will western festivals take the place of those similar Chinese festivals, such as Spring Festival vs. Christmas; Qiqiao Festival vs. Valentine's Day? Why or why not?
- 3) Do you enjoy western festivals? Why or why not?
- 4) What do you think of the so-called "golden week" in China today?

Task 5

O Discussion

Form small groups and have a discussion of the following questions. Then you'll choose a speaker from each group to give a brief report to the whole class.

- 1) Were there and will there be any changes to festivals? How?
- 2) What do you think of the newly-introduced holidays in recent years, such as Christmas, Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, etc.?



Task 6

Story-Telling

Many traditional holidays are related with legends. Please tell a story about the legend of any holiday you know to your partners.

Task 7

Mini-Ecture

There are three important elements in composing a holiday: specific date, object and activities. Please choose a holiday you know pretty well and prepare a three-minute lecture, including at least the above three elements about it.

Task 8

As we know, there are four origins of holidays: religion, the birthday or the death date of a hero; historic events or people; the shifts of seasons or the time of plants ripeness. Now please do as follows:

- 1) List 10 holidays you know;
- 2) Classify them according to their origins;
- 3) Choose one from each and tell your partners about the origins of them.

Task 9

Listen to the following program from VOA. This is America-Mother's Day, 2001, fill in the blanks below and summarize what you have heard to your partner.

Date of Mother's Day			
Activities	1) give		, or they might
How long has it been celebrated?			years
	Nation celebrated it first		
	Goddess honored		Cybele-the of
History	person most responsible for it		
	year in which people reached		
Popular Gifts			

Words and Expressions

Some Holidays

元旦 New Year's Day 情人节 Valentine's Day 国际妇女节 International Women's Day 愚人节 April Fools' Day 清明节 Tomb-sweeping Day 国际劳动节 International Labor Day

中国青年节 Chinese Youth Day

国际儿童节 International Children's Day

国庆节 National Day

圣诞节 Christmas Day

复活节 Easter Day

母亲节 Mother's Day

父亲节 Father's Day

感恩节 Thanksgiving Day

春节 Spring Festival

元宵节 Lantern Festival

端午节 Dragon-Boat Festival

乞巧节 Double-Seventh Day / Qiqiao Festival

中秋节 Mid-Autumn Festival

重阳节 Double Ninth Festival

© Related Words and Phrases

新年前夜;除夕 new year's eve

情人节礼物 valentines or love tokens

愚人节玩笑 hoax / practical jokes

复活节彩蛋 Easter egg

火鸡和辅料 turkey and dressing

春联 Spring Festival couplets

买年货 special purchases for the Spring Festival

敬酒 propose a toast

烟花爆竹 fireworks and firecrackers

红包 red packets

守岁 staying-up

拜年 pay New Year's call; give New Year's greetings; New Year's visit

压岁钱 gift money; money given to children as a lunar New Year gift

团圆饭 family reunion dinner

饺子 jiaozi; dumplings

汤圆 tangyuan; sweet dumplings

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粽子 zongzi; a pyramid-shaped dumpling made of glutinous rice wrapped in bamboo or reed leaves

八宝饭 eight treasures rice pudding

糖果盘 candy tray

什锦糖 assorted candies-sweet and fortune

灯笼 lantern

灯谜 riddles written on lanterns

灯会 exhibit of lanterns

赛舟会 regatta

银河中的鹊桥 a bridge of magpies across the Milky Way

九九登高 climbing mountains on the Double Ninth Festival

化妆舞会 masquerade parties

万圣节南瓜 Halloween pumpkins

圣诞卡/树 Christmas Card / Tree

圣诞老人 Christmas Father / Santa Claus

Supplementary Readings

Reading 1

90% Calls for Traditional Festival Holidays

A national survey has found that nine out of 10 people believe the Chinese traditional Mid-autumn Day, or Moon Festival, should be a national holiday and 86% call for a day off on that day.

The survey, conducted by the Beijing-based China Youth Daily and online portal sina. com. cn, also found the Spring Festival, with 27% support, tops all traditional festivals as the most valued festival. Mid-autumn Day comes the second, getting 22% support.

Analysts attribute the low support percentages to the misunderstanding of those traditional festivals. In modern days, lack of time to observe the traditional festivals has reduced them to days of merely a big meal.

Echoing the people's will, deputies of the National People's Congress

(NPC) proposed in their March session this year to legalize the Chinese traditional festivals and to officially declare national holidays. But the bill has been submitted to the State Council, China's cabinet, but no decision has been made yet.

"Chinese people need to understand their traditional culture through observing the traditional festivals," said Ji Baocheng, president of the Renmin University of China and also an NPC deputy. "We need more traditional holidays other than the Spring Festival."

Besides the Moon Festival that comes every August 15 on Chinese lunar calendar, Dragon Boat Festival (May 5 on the lunar calendar), Double Nine Festival (September 9 on the lunar calendar) and Lantern Festival among others are all traditional ones bearing the profound Chinese culture.

As China opens further to the outside world, Western festivals as the Valentine's Day, have become very popular, particularly on the young, who seem to care more about Western festivals than the traditional ones.

The 4% supporting rate for the Chinese Double Seven Festival (July 7 on the lunar calendar), or Chinese Valentine's Day, draws a sharp comparison to the breathtaking scene on the Western Valentine's Day when crowds pack flower shops for roses.

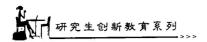
A notion of spending those traditional festivals by enjoying delicious food has spread across the country. People have taken it for granted that eating rice dumplings on the Dragon Boat Festival or rice glue ball on Lantern Festival is the main purpose after a day's work or study.

"It is necessary to bring new meanings to those traditional festivals such as Double Nine and Qingming Festival to keep pace with the times," said Ji Baocheng.

Reading 2

The Moon Cakes and Mid-Autumn Festival

One of the most important Chinese festivals is the Mid-Autumn Festival. Chinese ancestors believed that the seventh, eighth, and ninth lunar months belong to autumn. So the Mid-Autumn Festival falls on the 15th day of the eighth



lunar month.



Mid-Autumn Festival celebrations dated back more than 2,000 years. In feudal times, Chinese emperors prayed to Heaven for a prosperous year. They chose the morning of the 15th day of the sec-

ond lunar month to worship the sun and the evening of the 15th day of the eighth lunar month to hold a ceremony in praise of the moon. In the western district of Beijing is Yuetan Park, which originally was the Temple of Moon. Every year, the emperor would go there to offer a sacrifice to the moon.

In mid-autumn, farmers have just finished gathering their crops and bringing in fruits from the orchards. They are overwhelmed with joy when they have a harvest and at the same time, they feel quite relaxed after a year of hard work. So the 15th day of the eighth lunar month has



gradually evolved as a widely celebrated festival for ordinary people. When the night falls, the land is bathed in silver moonlight. Families set up tables in their courtyards or sit together on their balconies, chatting and sharing offerings to the moon. Together, they enjoy the spell of night.

People in different parts of China have different ways to celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival. But one traditional custom has definitely remained and is shared by all the Chinese. This is eating the festive specialty: cakes shaped like the moon.

There is a story about the moon cake. It says that in the 14th century, Chinese peasants could no longer bear the cruel rule of the Mongolians. They secretly planned an uprising on the night of the Mid-Autumn Festival. The peasant leaders took advantage of the custom of sending moon-cakes as festive presents. They left messages on paper about the plan and placed the messages under the moon-cakes. So all the peasants were informed about the uprising and finally, they won the battle.

Originally, moon-cakes were a family tradition. But gradually they began to appear at markets and stores. The moon-cakes made in various parts of the country have very different flavors. For instance, Beijing moon-cakes have a thin