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Film for Fluency
电影视听英语教程

吴 耘 编著

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前 言

近几年来,我国大学生、研究生的英语水平,尤其是阅读水平有了很大的提高。他们中有许多人都顺利通过了全国英语四、六级考试,部分学生甚至在托福考试中也取得骄人的成绩。但是,我在长期的大学外语教学、特别是硕士研究生的外语教学中却发现,这些学生的实际应用能力、特别是口头表达能力,与他们在各种英语资格考试中所获得的高分非常不相称,很不尽人意。同时,他们自己也为这一“高分低能”而困惑和苦恼,常常在课上课下向我询问,如何能够在资格考试之后进一步继续提高自己的实际应用英语的能力,特别是听和说的能力。

根据自己十多年来讲授研究生英语听力的经验,我发现在他们这个水平阶段,《走遍美国》(*Family Album USA*)这类视听材料略显简单,而新闻类听力材料又相对单调。他们普遍对语言素材多样的英语原版电影感兴趣,但其深厚的文化背景和社会内容,快速流畅的语速和不合书面语法的表达方式,都令他们望而生畏。因此,他们虽然爱看原版电影,但通常是根据中文字幕和说明来理解内容,或者是根据人物的体态语言和面部表情来猜测剧情,从语言学习的角度来讲,收效不大。

如何针对学生的兴趣,因势利导,利用相对丰富的英语影视资源,提高学生的英语听说能力,是我一直思考的问题。为此,我在研究生视听课教学中,有意识地补充自己从海外访问中收集到的影视资料、特别是电影资料。经过几年的实践,同学们普遍反应学习英语的兴趣大为提高,英语语感明显加强,听说能力改善许多。同学们的这一反应,进一步加强了我科学地利用电影资源改进英语视听教学的决心和信心,也正是同学们的肯定鼓励了我,使我能

够在两年的时间里编著出眼前这本视听教材。

《电影视听英语教程》(*Film for Fluency*)精选八部美国近年来出品的较为优秀的影片,它们题材广泛,内容多样,涵盖了当代美国家庭、社会、教育、政府、法律和网络技术等生活中的各个方面。根据视听教学的特点和中国学生水平,从各部影片中筛选出适合进行听说训练的三至四个片断。每个片断都有一至两个场景,相对独立。所选片断语速适中,并包含了许多教科书中不常出现但实际生活中却经常使用的词汇。通过反复练习,学生可望进一步提高听力水平,了解英语口语的基本特点,使自己的口语表达更自然、更地道。

全书分八个单元,一部电影为一单元,每个单元包含三至四个章节。每个单元的开头有英文和中文的剧情简介,还有在各个片断中出现的主要人物。每一章的教学设计如下:

第一部分:**Words and Expressions** (生词和词组)。这些词语有不少经常出现在口头对话和电影对白中,而学生因接触机会较少,无法听懂。

第二部分:**Comprehension Check** (理解测试)。学生在看完或听完该章节后,可以进行自测,找到影响理解的听力障碍,然后有针对性地再次进行视听。

第三部分:**Transcript**(录音文字)。供学生自学时参考。对于听力基础差的学生,不妨边听磁带,边看文字,从而进一步掌握地道的英语发音,纠正自己因发音不准造成的听力障碍。

第四部分:**Practice Section**(练习)。该项包括各种形式的词汇练习和供学生进一步思考的讨论题。学生通过练习将对电影中出现的词汇有更深的印象,对电影中涉及的背景知识有更好的了解。

第五部分:**Supplementary Cultural Background or Characteristics of Spoken English** (补充文化背景知识或口头英语特点介绍)。

口语特点介绍主要列举听力材料中的口语表达。学生可反复聆听电影中的这些句子,直至自己能脱口而出。

本书适合大中专院校中高年级学生和研究生、英语专业学生,特别是已通过托福、雅思等考试,但仍想进一步提高听说的英语学习者。

在编写本书的过程中,我得到了很多外国朋友无私的帮助,对此我深表谢意;Elizabeth Bowditch 博士多年来一直为我收集原版录像带提供帮助;Sam & Mary Pearson 夫妇、Jennifer Latham 和来自英国的刘民权教授帮助我解决了若干审听中的疑难问题。我也感谢南京大学研究生院对我工作的支持,允许我为研究生开设同名选修课,使我能够通过教学实践来完善这一教材。我特别要感谢南京大学—霍普金斯大学中美文化研究中心教授任东来博士,他以一个多年的英语学习者和美国问题研究者的身份给我提供了宝贵的意见和建议。

吴 耘

2001 年 4 月于南京大学

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Unit One

Sleepless in Seattle

(西雅图不眠人)

【Synopsis】

Inspired by the 1957 film *An Affair to Remember*, *Sleepless in Seattle* is a light romantic comedy. Sam lost his wife and can not get it over. He suffers terribly from insomnia. One Christmas Eve, his son Jonah calls a radio psychologist to ask what his dad should do. When Sam is called to the phone, he opens up to the psychologist and shows such emotions that hundreds of women listeners across the country are moved. One of them is a recently engaged journalist named Annie. She attempts to contact him and even sets out on a cross-country trip to meet him. However, Sam is not interested in meeting anyone. Later Jonah receives Annie's letter, and likes what she says in the letter. With a strong will, the boy succeeds in bringing the two together.

《西雅图不眠人》是一部浪漫的轻喜剧，其灵感来源于1957年好莱坞拍摄的著名电影《金玉盟》。影片主人公山姆中年丧偶，彻夜难眠，痛苦不堪。圣诞前夜，山姆的儿子乔纳打电话给主持电台节目的心理医生，询问帮助爸爸解脱痛苦的良策。医生要山姆亲自接电话，在医生的引导下，山姆一时难以自制，悲痛之情倾泻而出。其情之切，感动了全国无数的女性听众，其中有一位叫安妮的

新闻工作者。尽管她已经与男友定了终身,但仍忍不住从东海岸的纽约飞到西海岸的西雅图,不远千里来相会山姆。不幸的是,山姆无意见任何人。但后来乔纳收到安妮的来信,他非常喜欢安妮的安排。于是他决心促成爸爸与安妮的姻缘,经过一番周折,他终于如愿以偿。

【Main Characters】

ANNIE: a journalist in Maryland

SAM: an architect whose wife passed away

JONAH: Sam's son

WALTER: Annie's boyfriend

BARBARA: Annie's mother

CLIFF: Annie's father

DENNIS REED: Annie's brother

BETZY REED: Dennis' wife

IRENE REED: Annie's cousin

HAROLD REED: Irene's husband

SUZY: Sam's friend

GREG: Suzy's husband

Chapter One Annie's Announcement

I. Words and Expressions

sneeze 打喷嚏

be allergic to 对……过敏

hypodermic 皮下注射器

adrenaline 肾上腺素

nut 坚果

swell up 肿胀

salmon 鲑鱼

parole 假释, 有条件释放

spray 喷杀虫剂

cucumber salad 黄瓜色拉

line 台词

reference 提到, 提及

propose a toast 提议举杯庆祝

II. Comprehension Check

1. What's Annie's announcement?

- A. She was married to Walter the day before.
- B. She is engaged to Walter.
- C. Walter is going to propose a toast.
- D. Walter has been promoted.

2. How does Walter feel when he sneezes at the dinner?

- A. Sneezing makes him feel better.
- B. Sneezing makes him relaxed.
- C. He feels terrible to sneeze.
- D. He has no idea why he sneezes.

3. Why does Walter sneeze after Annie's announcement?

- A. He is allergic to the flowers.
- B. He gets excited at the news.

- C. It's chilly in the room.
D. He always sneezes at important moments.
4. What is Harold allergic to?
A. He is allergic to every type of flower.
B. He is allergic to every type of bee.
C. He is allergic to salmon.
D. He is allergic to watermelon.
5. What will probably happen to Walter if he eats one tiny piece of nut?
A. He will have stomachache. B. His mouth will swell up.
C. His head will swell up. D. He will keep coughing.
6. When will Annie and Walter get married?
A. In early June. B. In late June.
C. In early July. D. In late July.
7. Annie and Walter will probably have their wedding _____.
A. in the church B. in the garden
C. in the park D. in Walter's house

III. Transcript

(Christmas Eve. Annie and Walter drive to Annie's parents' house for Christmas dinner.)

BARBARA: Everybody! Annie has an announcement—

ANNIE: Walter and I are engaged!

(With Annie's announcement, everyone cheers. They shake hands with Walter to congratulate him. But Walter sneezes all at once.)

CLIFF: Are you all right?

WALTER: It's nothing. Nothing.

ANNIE: Maybe maybe the flowers.

BARBARA: We'll move them. . .

WALTER: No, don't touch them! I feel terrible sneezing at a time like this. This is a very important moment for me.

ANNIE: He's allergic to everything, don't worry about it.

HAROLD: Bees. I'm allergic to bees.

IRENE: Harold is allergic to every type of bee. We always have to carry a hypodermic of adrenaline whenever we go.

ANNIE: If he eats even one tiny piece of a nut—

WALTER: My head swells up like a watermelon and I drop dead.

IRENE: It's the same with Harold and bees.

CLIFF: Your mother and I had salmon at our wedding, and I really think a wedding without cold salmon—

WALTER: I'm not allergic to salmon.

ANNIE: Oh! You are not allergic to salmon.

WALTER: I don't think. But you never know.

HAROLD: You never know.

IRENE: Harold wasn't always allergic to bees.

BARBARA: Oh, honey, what a shame. We had some champagne and what we use it for?

DENNIS: Uncle Milton's parole—

UNCLE MILTON: And it was delicious.

BARBARA: It was, wasn't it, Milton darling?

BETSY: When are you getting married, Annie?

CLIFF: In early June. In the garden.

HAROLD: Does it have to be in the garden?

IRENE: What about Harold and bees?

HAROLD: I'm allergic to bees.

BARBARA: We'll spray you. ①

CLIFF: Cold salmon. A lovely cucumber salad. Strawberries.

WALTER: I'm afraid I'm allergic to strawberries.

ANNIE: Is that all right with you, Walter?

WALTER: (The Lou Gerig line) Today I consider myself the luckiest man man man on the fa fa face of the the the earth.

ANNIE: The Lou Gerig line! Remember, remember Dad? The Lou Gerig line from the . . .

WALTER: Pride of the Yankees.

ANNIE: Pride of the Yankees.

CLIFF: Pride of the Yankees.

MILTON: Baseball. It's baseball. An historical reference.

DENNIS: I would like to propose a toast. To my kid sister.

CLIFF: To Walter and my baby.

BARBARA: To Walter and Annie.

(Everyone toasts them and gives good wishes.)

BARBARA: Everyone please eat before it gets cold.

IV. Practice Section

Choose a word or a phrase to complete the following sentences, making changes in form if necessary.

sneeze allergic nut swell up parole reference
propose a toast

1. Usually the bride's father _____ to the health of the bride and groom.
2. When you develop a throat infection or catch a cold the glands _____

① We'll spray you; 我们在你身上喷上杀虫剂。

(腺) in the neck _____.

3. People _____ when they have a cold, or if something irritates their nose.
4. _____ and seeds are good sources of vitamin E.
5. Although sentenced to life, he will become eligible for _____ after serving 10 years.
6. This line from the movie has become a historical _____, which is often quoted by people.
7. In spring some flowers can cause _____ reactions in some children.

Chapter Two Barbara Shows a Dress

I. Words and Expressions

folks (口语)双亲,家属	like clockwork 顺利的,有规律的
takeout (餐馆等)供应的外卖	fiddle-de-dee 无聊话,无稽之谈
tuna 金枪鱼	rip open 撕开

II. Comprehension Check

- Who was the first owner of the dress in the attic?
 - Annie's mother.
 - Annie's grandmother.
 - The Historical Society.
 - A local antique store.
- Where do Walter's parents live?
 - Seattle.
 - Baltimore.
 - Washington D.C.
 - The State of Washington.
- Where does Walter work?
 - In a restaurant.
 - In a cafeteria.
 - In a university.
 - In a publishing house.
- Which of the following is Walter allergic to?
 - White bread.
 - Whole wheat bread.
 - Lettuce.
 - Tomato.
- What did Annie's father do when he was dating Annie's mother?
 - He was between jobs.
 - He was working in a casino in Atlantic City.
 - He was working in the restaurant.
 - He was in a clock repair shop.

6. What does Barbara think of her marriage?
- A. Their marriage is full of ups and downs.
 - B. Everything has been working fine since the beginning.
 - C. They were at the brink of divorce in the first few years.
 - D. There was less harmony in the first few years of the marriage.
7. What do we know about Barbara from her talk with Annie?
- A. She is a sensitive woman.
 - B. She is a superstitious person.
 - C. She is quite nostalgic.
 - D. She is quite inward.
8. How does Annie explain that she and Walter ordered exactly the same sandwich one day?
- A. It's a coincidence.
 - B. Destiny takes a hand.
 - C. It's a sign.
 - D. It is magic.

III. Transcript

(Christmas Eve. Annie just announced her engagement to Walter. Now Barbara takes Annie to the attic. They open a box. It's a beautiful antique dress.)

BARBARA: Here it is. The Historical Society wanted this and I never would give it to them.

ANNIE: Oh, Mom.

BARBARA: I notice these things are back in fashion.

ANNIE: Grandmother's dress.

BARBARA: Oh, honey. He's a lovely man, Annie.

ANNIE: I know. He's wonderful, isn't he?

BARBARA: Are his folks nice?

ANNIE: You'll love them. We're going down to D.C. tonight to be with them Christmas morning.

BARBARA: How did it happen?

(Barbara starts to unbutton the dress.)

ANNIE: It's silly, really. I mean, I'd seen him at the office, obviously I'd seen him, he's the associate publisher. And then one day we both ordered sandwiches from the same place, and he got my lettuce and tomato on whole wheat^①, which of course he was allergic to, and I got his lettuce and tomato on white^②.

BARBARA: How amazing.

ANNIE: It is, isn't it? You make millions of decisions that mean nothing and then one day you ordered takeout and it changes your life.

BARBARA: Destiny takes a hand. ^③

ANNIE: Mom. Destiny's just something we've invented because we can't stand the fact that everything that happens is accidental.

BARBARA: Then how do you explain that you both ordered exactly the same sandwich except for the bread? How many people in this world like lettuce and tomato without something else like tuna?

ANNIE: Well, it wasn't a sign. It was a coincidence.

(Barbara starts to button the dress on Annie.)

① whole wheat; whole wheat bread 指全由小麦做的面包。

② white; white bread (精白面粉做的) 白面包。

③ Destiny takes a hand: 这是命运的安排。take a hand: 参加, 起一份作用。