

第三部：时下话题 *Book Three Current Issues*

# 最新流行英语口语

# Take 5

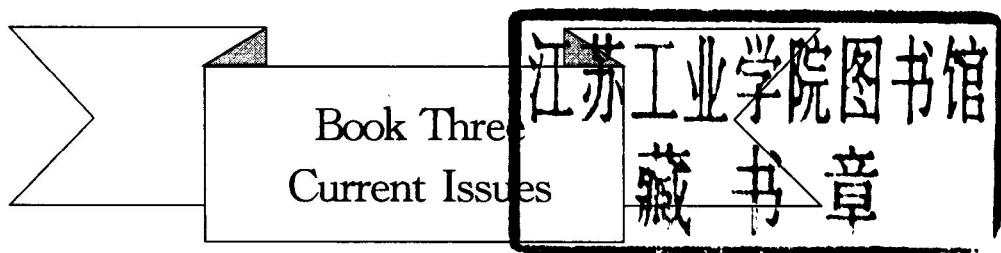
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广东人民出版社

# 最新流行英语口语

第三部:时下话题



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# The Internet

## ◆ Preview of Dialogue

*This is the first unit for Book III of the Take 5 series. In this unit, Mr. Pan has a hot discussion with a group of foreigners about the usefulness of the Internet. From this unit, you will become aware of the importance of using the Internet on one hand, and its side effects on the other. In this way, you will get a clear picture about this all-purpose tool.*

## ◆ Study Objectives

*While studying this unit, you will:*

- A. Learn 3 new fashionable phrases.
- B. Learn how to ask questions about the Internet.
- C. Learn some Internet-related words and phrases.
- D. Learn some basic information regarding the Internet.



## ◆ Language Focus

### A. Most fashionable spoken English

#### *Fashionable Phrases*

1. **To have a downside to something**
2. **take the good with the bad**
3. **By a longshot**

#### *Traditional Meanings*

1. There's a bad side of something, a negative point.
2. We must accept both the pos. and the neg.
3. By a large amount

### B. Topic-related phrases

1. **The Internet:** Network of computers across the world, connected by cables and satellites.
2. **The World Wide Web:** The part of the Internet where most web pages are found.
3. **Information age:** Nickname given to the time we are living in now.

### C. Introducing patterns

#### How to ask a question about the Internet

**What's the first thing that comes to mind \_\_\_\_\_?**

Example:

——What's the first thing that comes to mind when you think about the Internet?

——The first thing I think about is the World Wide Web.

#### A way to state an opinion

**It seems that \_\_\_\_\_.**

Example:

——It seems that the Internet has been growing faster than I expected.

## ◆ Dialogue

Mr. Pan: Hey, Sean! What're you doing here?

Sean: Surfing **the Net**.

Mr. Pan: Oh, what's the first thing that comes to your mind when you hear that word Internet?

Sean: Porn- Oh!... I mean research... you know, for reports and stuff. You'd be surprised those kinds of things you can find on the World Wide Web sometimes.

Jen: Hmm, the first thing I think about is Email. I think that's the most useful part of the Internet for me.

Doug: Not me. You can get a lot of entertainment from the Internet. I'd say that's what I use it for the most.

James: Entertainment, eh Doug? What kind of entertainment?

Doug: Well... I'd rather not say...

Dave: People often joke about that, but that's a very big part of the Internet. Pornographic material makes up about 30% of all Internet content or so I've been told.

Mr. Pan: That's right, Dave, and it is a problem, especially for children who might find it by accident. This is definitely *a downside to* the Internet.

Jen: Well, you have to *take the good with the bad*, right? In this case, it seems that the good outweighs the bad *by a longshot*.

Sean: Imagine how slow mail would be without Email!

James: The Internet definitely makes life more convenient. This is, after all, the "**information age**", isn't it?

Doug: I'd say that really sums it up. Information is moving faster and more freely than it used to be.

Dave: It's certainly hard to ignore the reality of how much the Internet has affected our lives. It seems that no matter where you turn, you can't get away from it.



## Dialogue Focus

### A. Comprehension questions

a) What is the first thing that comes to Sean's mind when he hears the word "Internet"?

---

b) What makes up 30 % of all Internet content?

---

c) What does Doug use the Internet for?

---

d) What does Mr. Pan say is a downside to the Internet?

---

e) What comment does Dave make at the end?

---

### B. Points of interest

#### a) *Pornography*

It is hinted that both Doug and Sean use the Internet for the same purpose, pornography. Sean actually says he looks at porn on the net; whereas, Doug says he uses the net for "entertainment". How do you think Jen feels about her boyfriend, Doug, looking at pornography?

#### b) *Slow mail*

Before the Internet, most people sent messages by mail. This is now referred to as "slow mail" or sometimes as "snail mail".



## Practice

### A. Quick practice

a) What's the Internet?

b) What are the uses of the Internet?

c) Are you connected to the Internet? If so, how often do you use it?

d) If you've never used Email, would you like to? Who would you write to?

## B. Asking questions and then answering them

Mr. Pan begins this discussion with the question, “*What’s the first thing that comes to mind when you think of the Internet?*” This is a common way to phrase a question that requires an immediate response.

**Examples:** What’s the first thing that comes to mind when *I say chocolate?*

Answer: It has a good taste.

a) What’s the first thing that comes to mind when \_\_\_\_\_ rabbit?

Answer:

b) What’s the first thing that comes to mind when \_\_\_\_\_ music?

Answer:

c) What’s the first thing that comes to mind when \_\_\_\_\_ terrorists strike the USA?

Answer:

d) What’s the first thing that comes to mind when \_\_\_\_\_ financial crisis?

Answer:

e) What’s the first thing that comes to mind when \_\_\_\_\_ AIDS.

Answer:

## C. Match the words on the left with the explanations on the right

1. Web pages	a. to transfer information from one computer to another
2. <u>maryv@cal.edu</u>	b. documents you can view on the World Wide Web
3. <u>http://www.cup.org</u>	c. equipment that sends information along telephone lines
4. hypertext	d. the main page within a Web site
5. homepage	e. a URL, the address for a Web site
6. to download	f. an Email address
7. to surf the Net	g. special words linked to documents on the Web
8. modem	h. to browse or look around the Internet

## D. Stating an opinion

At the end of the dialogue, Dave says: “It seems that/like no matter where you turn, you can’t get away from it.” This is a common way to begin a sentence



## Unit 1 The Internet \_\_\_\_\_

that will state your opinion.

This sentence should not be taken literally (I'm fairly sure that Dave does not have Internet in his bathroom).

**Examples:** (1) It seems that the NBA is getting more popular in Asia.

(2) It seems like there are too many porn sites on the Web.

Make 5 more example sentences related to the Internet.

- a) It seems that \_\_\_\_\_
- b) It seems that \_\_\_\_\_
- c) It seems that \_\_\_\_\_
- d) It seems that \_\_\_\_\_
- e) It seems that \_\_\_\_\_

## ◆ Hot Discussion and Activity

### A. Pair work

The Internet and computer technologies in general, have grown so quickly in the last ten years that few experts can predict what life will be like in 50 years. With a partner, answer the questions below with your predictions about life in the future.

- a) How will people go shopping?
- b) What will your house look like?
- c) What will television be like?
- d) How will schools change?
- e) Will movies be the same?
- f) Where will you go on vacation?
- g) What will you eat and how will you prepare the food?
- h) Will people still have dogs and cats as pets?
- i) How transportation systems will be operating?
- j) What will change in the entertainment industry?

### B. Activity

Divide the class into groups of 3 – 5 students. Each group should design

(draw on a blank piece of paper) a web page cover for their class. Try to describe as much as you can about the class and the teacher. When everyone is finished, each group should present their web page to the class.

### **C. Critical thinking**

Today, countless people use the Internet, which is fast becoming an integral part of our personal and professional lives. Through the Internet, you can 1) stay in touch with a close friend living abroad, 2) watch movie clips, 3) do research, or 4) take orders from customers. What makes the Internet so exciting is that it can mean different things to different people. It is an all-purpose tool that you can shape to fit the contours of your own lifestyle, work and interests. However, the Internet only provides us with the virtual world, which is still different from the real world. So, the following questions seek your critical thoughts:

a) For what reasons do many people in the world spend a large amount of time in front of the computer each day?

b) Do you believe that the Internet has successfully strengthened global co-operation by building a connection in every corner in the world? Why or why not?

c) Today, many people think that the Internet has an important influence on our daily lives not only now, but also in the future. Can the Internet help people in different countries learn English? Why or why not?

d) There is an old saying in Chinese: "Water can carry the boat and can also overthrow it." Is it suitable for us to compare the function of water with the Internet? Why or why not?

## **Test Yourself**

**A. The name for the time we live in, when computers are more and more important is called \_\_\_\_\_.**

- a) "the information age"
- b) "the super infomercial"
- c) "the time of the season"

B. "A *downside to something*" is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) the bottom
- b) a bad thing about it
- c) the price

C. "By a *longshot*" means \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) "by cheating"
- b) "being lazy"
- c) "by a large amount"

**BANK of Idioms(1)**

***Have a fresh start***

If you make a fresh start, it means that you begin something all over again.

***For example:***

By changing schools, you will ***have a fresh start***. You can begin a new life.

# The Internet Technologies

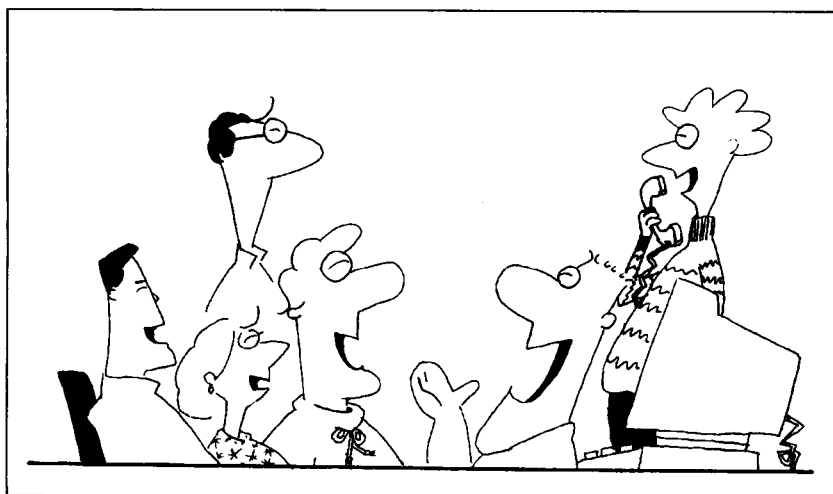
## ◆ Preview of Dialogue

*Dave continues the topic of the Internet and asks a couple of questions to his friends. From this unit, you will get in touch with the multiple functions of the Internet and its impact to our daily lives.*

## ◆ Study Objectives

*While studying this unit, you will:*

- A. Learn 3 new fashionable phrases.
- B. Learn how to ask questions about the Internet technologies.
- C. Learn how to answer questions about the Internet.
- D. Learn more vocabulary about Internet technologies.



## ◆ Language Focus

### A. Most fashionable spoken English

#### *Fashionable Phrases*

1. A ton of money
2. What something boils down to
3. To know-it-all

#### *Traditional Meanings*

1. A large sum of money
2. The main idea of something
3. To know everything

### B. Topic-related phrases

1. **Information is power:** an expression that has become popular since the dawn of the Internet and the information age.
2. **E-school:** schools on the Internet.
3. **On-line trading:** buying and selling stocks or commodities over the Internet.

### C. Introducing patterns

#### How to ask a question about the Internet use

How long are you \_\_\_\_\_?

Example:

- How long are you on the Internet each day?
- At least two hours.

#### Another way to ask a question

How much has \_\_\_\_\_?

Example:

- How much has the Internet impacted our lives?
- A great deal.



## Dialogue

- Dave: So Doug, how **long are you on the Internet each day?**
- Doug: Oh, I don't know, at least an hour or two. Why?
- Dave: You see **how much the Internet has impacted on our lives? Everyday, we're on the net.**
- Sean: Of course, we are. Just look at how much fun we can have.
- Doug: The Internet isn't just for fun, Sean. I used to spend a lot of money calling my family, but now I use the Internet and it saves me ***a ton of money.***
- James: Sounds like you're a slave to the net. Not me, I use it as a tool, it doesn't use me.
- Mr. Pan: It's not about Email though, guys. The Internet is the biggest source of information we have, as they say "**Information is power**".
- Jen: Better, faster, and more information. There are on-line libraries and **E-schools** on the Internet that have virtually unlimited amounts of knowledge.
- Dave: Yeah, but that's not all. Just the other day, I did some on-line banking. It surely makes life convenient.
- James: I've also heard that E-business is pretty big these days, too. You know, **on-line trading**, placing orders over the internet, and so on.
- Sean: But really, ***what*** all these ***boil down to is*** the freer movement of information. That's it.
- Jen: You big ***know-it-all.***
- Sean: Well, maybe not "all", but at least most.
- Mr. Pan: He's right, Jen, and it just goes to show how important information is in this day and age. Just as coal and steel used to be the backbone of business, now it's information.
- Doug: You guys are starting to confuse me, so ***cut it out.*** I only know how to use Email, and that's good enough for me.

## Dialogue Focus

### A. Comprehension questions

- a) How much time does Doug spend on the Internet each day?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- b) Does Sean like the Internet? How do you know?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- c) What does Dave use the Internet for?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- d) What does Mr. Pan mean by "Coal and steel used to be the backbone of business"?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- e) How well does Doug know how to use the Internet?  
\_\_\_\_\_

### B. Point of interest

#### a) *I use it as a tool*

When James says that he uses the Internet as a tool, it doesn't use him, he is saying that he is in control of his usage of the Internet. This is important because many people tend to become addicted to the Internet these days and spend too much time using it. In fact, children in most Internet developed countries are spending more time on the Internet than they are playing with other children. They are even spending close to the same amount of time on the Internet as they spend in school.

#### b) *What do people use computers for?*

A word processor is a computer used to prepare documents or letters, etc. Many people use their computers for word processing, e.g., writing letters and reports. A lot of business people use spreadsheets, which are a program used to enter and arrange numbers and financial information, and databases programs, which allow you to store, look at or change a large amount of information quickly and easily. Some people also use graphics which are the pictures and symbols a computer program can produce.

## ◆ Practice

### A. Answer the following questions with any answer that fits

- a) How much time do you spend on the Internet everyday? Do you feel that it is important to spend that much time on the Internet?
- b) Have you noticed that you tend to spend more and more time on the Internet as time goes on? Why do you think this is?
- c) Do you have special site that you normally go to? If you have one for work and one for leisure, list them both.
- d) Have you ever tried or actually made your own Website? What is it for and why would you make one? Do you think that anyone besides you ever uses it?
- e) What is the strangest thing that you have ever seen or heard of on the Internet?

### B. Complete this description of using a computer for word processing









I wrote a report on the (1) computer this morning. When I finished, I (2) \_\_\_\_\_ two copies—one for me and one for my boss. Then, without any warning, the computer (3) \_\_\_\_\_, and unfortunately I lost the whole document. This is very unusual, because I almost always (4) \_\_\_\_\_ the data while I'm writing and then make a (5) \_\_\_\_\_ copy when I'm finished; this morning I forgot.

Anyway, I gave the report to my boss, hoping that she would not ask me to make any changes. She did. She thought it was too long and said it would be better if I use more (6) \_\_\_\_\_ to illustrate some of the written information. She also thought it would make the report look more attractive.

I went back and removed most of the report when the computer was OK, only did I (7) \_\_\_\_\_ part of the middle section, which was fairly repetitive, and I added extra (8) \_\_\_\_\_ as my boss advised. It did look better by the time I'd finished, and this time, I remembered to (9) \_\_\_\_\_ it and make a (10) \_\_\_\_\_ copy.



**C. Match these symbols with the computer commands**

1. Cut	a)	
2. Copy	b)	
3. Paste	c)	
4. Open a new document	d)	
5. Open an existing document	e)	
6. Save the data	f)	
7. Print	g)	
8. Check spelling	h)	

**D. Your opinion**

- What do you think of the new rise of Email and Web based business?
- Do you think that the idea personal relations has left the society?
- What do you think about the impact of the Internet on our lives and what do you think would improve the situation?

## ◆ Games

Here are some games to play. As you remember from the first two books, games can be a great way of learning, no matter how old you are.

**A. Help or not?**

What would you do if you received an Email saying that you were needed to help people in Nigeria to smuggle \$ 30 million out of Africa? Even if they said that the money was found during an audit of the central government and nobody knew it existed and all they wanted from you was for you to send them your bank number so that they could put the money into your account. They also said that they will share 20% of the money with you.

What would you do? Discuss your answer with the rest of the students. How