

英语口语



流行话题52

Weekly English 52 Hot Topics



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主编

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英语口语流行话题



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前言

“申奥”、“入世”、“全球经济一体化”、“与国际接轨”等等这些词语在中国人的心目当中非但不陌生,反倒日益深刻。因为,人们清醒地认识到这些词语所带来的既是机遇又是挑战。如何在新经济的世界大舞台上抓住机遇、迎接挑战,语言作为工具这个基本要素显得尤为重要。难怪当今中国,英语学习盛行,孜孜不倦者不计其数。

然而,遗憾的是英语口语学习总是不尽人意,要么说起来只会说上眼前几句;要么听起来语言呆板、用词不当、交流吃力。究其原因,我们认为主要是没有按照语言学习的规律有效地去学习和锻炼此项技能。

语言教师都知道,口语表达是语言输出的一部分,语言输出的内容来源于大量的语言输入,在某种意义上来说,输出的“质”取决于输入的“量”。我们也正是根据这一输入与输出的基本规律编写了这本《英语口语流行话题 52》以飨读者。我们想通过此种尝试告诉读者:如果你想突破某一话题的口语表达,请你将此话题的相关内容常听听、多看看,听懂了、看多了,然后你再去模仿谈一谈。“读书破万卷,下笔如有神”的道理就在于此。在我国目前还没有良好的语言环境的情况下,提高英语口语尤其需要借助于听、读的大量输入。因此,我们将每个话题分为读、听、说三大板块,如:第四周话题:世界各地——读一读:奇绝风景出荒漠;听一听:人间乐土“迪斯尼”;谈一谈:世界各地真奇妙。

在阅读版块里我们力求内容有深度,文字有难度;而在听力版块里,内容浅显、文字简单。换言之,在开口模仿和讲之前,从听、读两个输入渠道尽可能地去获取有关话题的信息,熟悉其表达内容,从而为“谈一谈”打下基础。

在输出版块中,我们设计了三个对话段落,从短到长,由易到难,读者既可参照有关对话加以模仿,又可以根据已掌握的有关信息发挥表达,这样有的放矢地加以训练,逐渐走向“地道”、“自然”的表达境地,从而促进英语思维的发展与提高。当然,学会了英语思维就不愁用英语流利地去表达思想了。

为了吸引读者有效地利用此书的形式,我们特意选编了当今的热门话题,如:全球化、高科技、追星族、电子商务、网上情缘、纳米、艾滋病等等。为方便学习,每个话题除归纳词汇以外,我们还设置了流行句卡片,以供读者口译训练及掌握有关话题的核心句式,及与人交流时使用。

本书的读者对象为具有英语中级或中高级水平以上的读者。根据一年有52周,设计了52个热门话题。按一周七天设置七个学习项目。星期一——学习词汇;星期二——文章阅读;星期三——听力训练;星期四——对话模仿(1);星期五——对话模仿(2);星期六——对话模仿(3);星期日——流行句卡片。但愿读者能天天坚持学,周周有收获,一年结硕果。

鉴于本书的编写形式与内容都有新的尝试与探索,因此,唯恐有考虑不周或谬误之处,恳请同行与读者惠予指正。

编者

2002年10月



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Week One

第一周

● Adventure 冒险

词汇

glamorous 有魅力的

aviation 飞行

sheer 纯粹的

ascension 攀升

dirigible 可驾驶的

carnival 狂欢

debut 初次表演

aerobatic 特技飞行的

legendary 传奇的

rivalry 对抗

loop 翻筋斗

gorge 峡谷

innovation 创新

impose 强加

instinct 本能

parachute 跳伞

scare 恐惧

surf 冲浪

spin 旋转

render 导致

unconscious 失去知觉

disoriented 迷失的

inherent 内在的

astronaut 宇航员

lift-off 起飞

airsick 晕机

float 漂浮

wedge 楔入, 挤进



Part I Input 信息输入

Reading 读一读 飞行表演苦与乐

Bold Young Men

Exhibition flight, one of the most glamorous phases of aviation, started with the very beginning of flight. Flying for entertainment, thrills, prizes, or for sheer joy is a different dimension of flight than general aviation, military flying, or test flying.

Much early exhibition flight was connected with ballooning. The first free balloon ascension of the Montgolfier brothers in Paris was an exhibition flight. The history of ballooning and dirigible flight is filled with exhibition flights, including carnival shows, racing, and record attempts.

Early in 1910 the Wright brothers formed an exhibition team that made its debut in Indianapolis. Two of the most famous pilots on this team were Arch Hoxsey and Ralph Johnstone, The Heaven Twins. Their daring aerobatic skills thrilled spectators until they were killed within a month of each other late in 1910. Glenn Curtiss also formed an exhibition team which included Eugene Ely and Bechwith Havens, as well as the legendary Lincoln Beachey. The rivalry between the two teams generated interest throughout the country.

Lincoln Beachey, who had been a dirigible pilot, became the most famous exhibition flyer of those early years. After training with the Curtiss team, he made his first exhibition tour in early 1911. He soon developed the techniques that were to make him famous. His complete lack of fear, coupled with his great flying skill and showman's talents, allowed him to do things in an airplane that had hitherto been believed impossible. He was the first American to do a loop and the first to fly upside down. He often flew in front of the crowd at minimum altitude with both hands off the controls. He usually concluded his act by performing his death dip, diving vertically from about 5,000 feet, pulling out at the last possible second and landing right in front of the grandstand.

On one occasion, he flew over Niagara Fall, down onto the gorge, and under the bridge. He also traced his airplane against cars driven by Barney Oldfield and Eddie Rickenbacker. In one year Beachey performed 1,000 loops before 17 million people in 126 cities. Beachey was killed in 1915 when the wings fell from his new monoplane while he was performing a vertical-S over San Francisco Bay.



大胆的年轻人

飞行表演这种最富有魅力的航空项目,几乎是和飞行同时开始的。天空翱翔为的是寻求刺激、奖励,或者纯粹是为了娱乐。这与一般的航空、军事飞行及试飞是完全不同的飞行活动。

最早的飞行表演与坐气球飞行有关。孟高尔费兄弟在巴黎坐气球的第一次自由飞行就是第一次飞行表演。乘气球和飞行的历史就是充满飞行表演的历史,包括杂技表演、比赛和破纪录之举。

早在1910年,莱特兄弟就成立了一支飞行表演队,并在印第安纳波里作首场表演。队中最有名的两位飞行员是阿奇·霍克西和拉尔夫·约翰斯通,外号叫“天生的一对”。他们玩命的特技争斗惊呆了在场的观众,直至1910年末他们在一个月内相继死亡。格伦·克迪斯也成立了一支表演队,当中有传奇人物林肯·比奇。两个队之间的竞争在全国各地激起了极大的兴趣。

林肯·比奇曾是一位驾驶员,后来成了早期最著名的飞行表演者。在克迪斯队训练后,他于1911年初进行了首次巡回演出。不久他的技术更加完善,声名大振。他的无畏,加上高超的技艺和表演天赋,使他操纵飞机完成了至今仍然不可想象的表演。他是翻筋斗和仰飞的第一位美国飞行员,他经常超低空双手离开操纵杆在观众面前飞行。他一般在表演结束前要做出“死亡骤降”(从5000英尺高空垂直下降)动作时,总是在最后一刻才停止降落,并且正好在大看台前着陆。

有一次,在飞跃尼加拉瓜瀑布时,他纵机进入山谷,并且从桥下飞过。他还与巴尼·奥德费尔德和埃迪·里彻克尔驾驶的赛车进行过比赛。一年之内,比奇在126座城市1700万观众面前表演了1000余次翻筋斗。1915年在旧金山海湾,比奇在驾驶他的新型单翼飞机进行垂直S形翻滚表演时,由于机翼脱落而不幸遇难。



Listening 听一听 太空探险的经历

- 1) What has caused Duke's heart to beat faster than usual at the time of lift-off?
- 2) What did Duke feel in the condition of zero gravity?
- 3) Where did astronauts have to eat?

On Sunday morning, April 16, 1972, Duke and the other astronauts were ready in a command module at the top of a 360-foot-tall rocket. Normally the heart beats about 70 times a minute. But Duke was excited! "Right at lift-off I guess I was up to about 140 heartbeats," he said.

At the moment of lift-off, the rocket was shaking madly from side to side. It was like being on an old train swaying from side to side. In 13 minutes, they were in orbit. And although there was too much to do to spend much time sightseeing, Duke does remember looking out of the window a couple of times within the first hours.

"There were three colors that stand out in my mind," the astronaut said. "The pure white of the snow and the clouds, the brown of the land and the blue of the water." And, at 18,000 miles out, he said there is no sign of civilization on Earth.

After sightseeing, it was time for the astronauts to take off their space suits and get to work. "In zero gravity there are two responses you can have," he said. "One is 'Yahoo! This is the most fun I've ever had.' And the other is, 'Don't get close to me. I'm going to get seasick.'"

In addition to doing experiments and playing, they also had to eat in space. Their dried out "instant food" came in bags—just add water. To get water into these bags, the astronauts used a special gun that could be set for hot or cold water. They added water and then let go of it while they worked on another bag. And that cause problems, explained Duke. "You'd sit there working on another bag or whatever, and your soup would just float off somewhere, and you'd have to find your soup."

Space Adventure



Tapescript



Part II Output □ 语表达

Speaking 谈一谈 只为刺激才冒险

Dialogue One Extreme Sports

Bruce: Daddy! What does it mean by "extreme sports"?

Father: Ok, boy, let me tell you. Extreme sports are nontraditional sports and activities. They allow and encourage individual creativity in the innovation of new maneuvers and in the stylish execution of existing techniques.

Bruce: I heard it is very dangerous, is that true?

Father: Of course it is. They require participants to well combine excellent athletic skill with pronounced risk. The main challenge is imposed by the inherent difficulty of the activity.

Bruce: What is the most important thing for the extreme sports enthusiasts?

Father: They must know their own physical abilities and understand how well they can block the natural instinct of fear. Participants should have experience, and must know what they will do in an emergency.

对话1 极限运动

布鲁斯: 爸爸,“极限运动”是什么意思?

父亲: 好吧,儿子,让我来告诉你。极限运动是非传统的体育活动。它们允许并鼓励个人在花样翻新和现有技巧上进行创新。

布鲁斯: 我听说这非常危险,是真的吗?

父亲: 那当然了。极限运动要求参与者把高超的运动技巧与极大的冒险精神完美地结合起来。极限运动的主要挑战来自于活动本身内在的困难。

布鲁斯: 对于极限运动爱好者来说,什么是最重要的?

父亲: 他们一定要明白自身的体能,知道自己抵挡本能的恐惧的程度。参与者应该经验丰富,并且必须知道在紧急情况下自己该怎么做。



Dialogue Two Injured

- Peter:** Hello. I'm Peter. It looks like you had an accident.
- Linda:** Oh, Yeah. Glad to meet you. I'm Linda. Right at the beginning of the skiing season.
- Peter:** That's too bad. Then, how did you break you arm?
- Linda:** Well, I guess you could say I fell off a mountain.
- Peter:** What happened?
- Linda:** I was in a ski-jumping competition. I landed the wrong way and fell the rest of the way down.
- Peter:** Wow! How far did you fall?
- Linda:** I am not sure, but it was far enough to break my arm.
- Peter:** When can you ski again?
- Linda:** Probably in about two months. You know, I'm really mad at myself. Last year I broke my ankle in another ski-jumping competition.
- Peter:** Terrible! Why did you enter these contests, anyway?
- Linda:** Well! For the fun of it, of course. I like risk very much.

对话2 受伤了

- 彼得:** 你好! 我是彼得。看起来你好像出了点事故。
- 林达:** 哦, 是啊。见到你很高兴。我是林达。而且还是在刚可以滑雪的时候出这种事。
- 彼得:** 太遗憾了! 那末, 你的胳膊是怎么给弄骨折的?
- 林达:** 唉, 我想可能是从山上摔下来的吧。
- 彼得:** 那是怎么一回事?
- 林达:** 我参加一项滑雪跳比赛。落地时没站稳, 就摔下来了。
- 彼得:** 哇! 你摔了多远?
- 林达:** 我也不太清楚, 不过也够远的, 把胳膊都摔坏了。
- 彼得:** 那你什么时候才能够再参加滑雪比赛呀?
- 林达:** 也许得在两个月以后吧。你知道, 我特别生自己的气。去年才在参加滑雪跳比赛中扭伤了脚踝。
- 彼得:** 太不可思议了! 那你为什么还要参加这类比赛呢?
- 林达:** 哦, 当然是因为好玩了。我喜欢冒险。

**Dialogue Three I Like Running Risk**

Gary: Come here please, Kevin! Look! There are so many equipments here. I think there's something for every sport.

Kevin: I'll say! I have never seen so many before. Pretty good! Oh, but there are no parachutes! Have you ever tried parachuting?

Gary: Parachuting? Oh no, I've never done that. How about you?

Kevin: I've done that four times.

Gary: You must be joking. When?

Kevin: The summer after I got the bachelor degree.

Gary: It must be very thrilling. Were you scared?

Kevin: Oh, Yeah. I was terrified! But to tell you the truth, it was really exciting.

Gary: Lucky old you! I really admire you have such a chance. What other things have you tried?

Kevin: I used to go bungee jumping before I fell in love. Have you done that?

Gary: Lots of time. I still do it every chance I get. I love it. It's really fantastic, and I like the feeling of being up and down. How do you like it?

Kevin: It's really challenging risk. Only at that time you can believe that you are a true man.

Gary: By the way, why did you give it up?

Kevin: My girlfriend says I might get hurt.

Gary: But you know, as so popular an extreme sport, bungee jumping is considered one of the least dangerous activities of the extreme sports.

Kevin: But my girlfriend allows nothing wrong with me. You are still single, aren't you?

Gary: No. I'm married, but my wife has a very interesting hobby. She goes sky surfing whenever she can.

Kevin: Wow! She is great! Sky surfing is dangerous because the board is difficult to control. Sky surfers must concentrate on using their bodies and the board to avoid spins that can render them unconscious or disoriented during a fall.

Gary: Yes. What she likes is the inherent thrill of the activity.