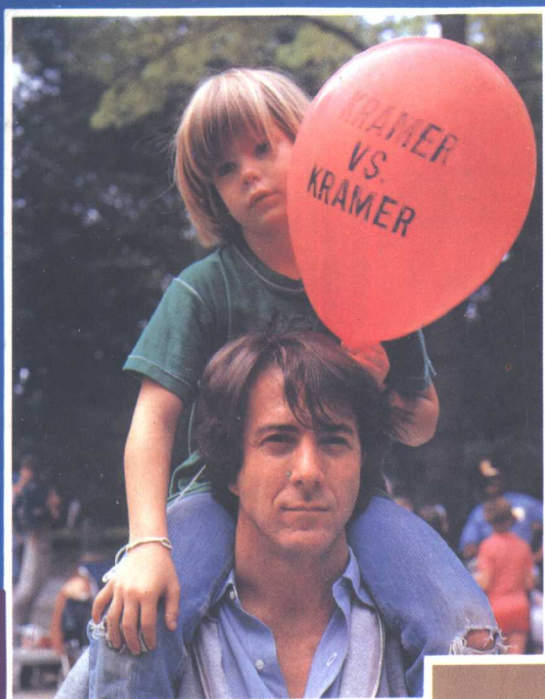


北京外国语学院英语系

吴青 编著

英语视听说教程



*English
Through
Films*

(上册)



外语教学与研究出版社

英语视听说教程

English Through Films (通过电影学英语)

上 册

吴 青 编

外语教学与研究出版社

(京)新登字 155 号

责任编辑:徐建中

英语视听说教程

(全二册)

(上册) 吴 青 编

(下册) 杨立民 王立礼编

* * *

外语教学与研究出版社出版发行

(北京西三环北路 19 号)

新华书店总店北京发行所经销

北京怀柔东晓印刷厂印刷

开本 850×1168 1/32 24 印张 428 千字

1993 年 9 月第 1 版 1993 年 9 月第 1 次印刷

印数:1-31000 套

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ISBN 7-5600-0677-9/G·343

全二册定价:11.90 元

编者说明

English Through Films 是一种新型的视听说综合教程,旨在通过原版电影,对学生进行以听说为重点的语言技巧训练,培养学生在视听过程中的吸收语言和理解的能力,提高用口头连贯地自由表达思想和进行讨论的能力。本书适用于大专院校二年级上以及具有中等英语水平

的自学者。

本书的编写基于以下的认识:

第一,掌握一种语言,听说能力的培养与训练不仅十分关键,而且始终是一大难点;

第二,迄今为止,针对培养学生听说能力的需要所设计的教材以及所使用的方法都有一定的局限,需要尝试新的途径;

第三,学生经过一段基础训练之后,如要进一步提高听说能力,必须有活跃的思想和丰富的知识,将掌握语言和学习文化紧密结合起来。我们使用电影正是为了这一目的。通过电影不仅可以加深了解所学语言国家的文化与社会,扩大知识面,同时可以促使学生思考问题,加强分析批判能力。

第四,学习过程必须充分考虑到学生学习兴趣的重要性,充分调动学生的学习积极性与主动性,使掌握一门

语言的通常充满挫折的苦难历程变成使人乐而忘疲、生动愉快的经历。

本书共分上、下两册，收入电影 12 部。这些影片均有较高的艺术水平，许多是荣获奥斯卡奖的名片，其内容广泛深刻，语言活泼生动。每部电影包括六部分：人物介绍、电影故事梗概、电影中主要对白、词汇表、注释、口语练习（围绕剧情理解的问题以及供讨论的思考题）。如果该书能配以相应的录相带一起使用，最为理想，但如果没有，该书也可独立用作听说或课外阅读教材。

为了更好地掌握每部电影的内容，进行充分的听说训练，建议每部电影用四课时（放映时间除外），两课时用于内容和语言处理，两课时用于口语训练，后者可以分小组进行。

在本书的编写过程中，我们得到了加拿大专家 Ruth Gamburg，美国专家 Joan Pinkham，北京外国语学院英语系陈恕教授，以及 Tobie Mayer，Michael Crook，Faye Rosenbanm 的大力帮助。此外，华显东同志为该书输入电脑，在此，我们一并向他们致以衷心的感谢。

由于电影对白部分没有现成的书面脚本为依据，全凭听写记录，加上编者水平有限，以及录音带的技术和质量问题，书中肯定存在不精确之处以及其它缺点错误，请读者和同行们不吝指正。

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Man, Woman and Child
《男人、女人和孩子》 (1)
2. Kramer vs. Kramer 《克雷默夫妇》..... (66)
3. On Golden Pond 《金色池塘》 (134)
4. One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest
《飞越疯人院》 (204)
5. Trading Places 《打赌》 (247)
6. Passage to India 《印度之行》 (299)

Man, Woman and Child

I. Characters

Bob Beckwith: a professor of literature

Sheila Beckwith: his wife, an editor of a university press

Jessica Beckwith: their elder daughter

Paula Beckwith: their younger daughter

Jean Claude: the illegitimate son of Nicole and Bob

Bernie Ackerman: Bob's close friend, a lawyer

David Ackerman: Bernie's son

Nicole Guerin: Bob's lover, a French country doctor

Govin Wilson: Congressman, an author of the book Sheila is editing

Margo Bedford: Sheila's best friend

Louis Venargues: Mayor of a small French village, Nicole's devoted friend

II. Synopsis

Bob Beckwith is a professor of American Literature at an American university and Sheila, his wife, is an editor. They love each other dearly and always encourage and support each other in their work. They have been married for 15 years and have two daughters, Jessica and Paula. They are extremely proud of their children and feel that theirs is a happy family. In fact, all their friends agree that they are a perfect couple.

Then one day, a long distance telephone call from France

threatens the happiness of this seemingly perfect family. The call is from Louis, an old friend of Bob's in France, who tells him about the death of Nicole Guerin. Louis tells Bob that Nicole had a son, the result of a brief affair she and Bob had had 10 years before. This news forces on Bob a past he had tried so hard to forget — the affair with Nicole, a French country doctor he had met during one of his lecture tours in France. Sheila, who was pregnant at the time had stayed home to look after their first daughter. Nicole had taken care of Bob when he was injured in a car accident. Her beauty and charm, and her independent character impressed Bob very much. This, combined with the romantic French surroundings, led to a brief relationship. Nicole knew that Bob was married and had children. Therefore, she never contacted him again and never told Bob that they had a son. Now that she was dead, however, Louis thought that Bob ought to know.

Bob is deeply troubled by the news, and Sheila, of course, immediately senses that there is something wrong. Bob tells her the story. Naturally, she is deeply hurt and angry. She knows that Bob has told her all this because he feels responsible for the child and thinks he ought to do something about it. Bob's first thought is to visit the child in France, but Sheila sees the problem as a family matter and thinks she should be involved in solving it. Therefore, in order to save her relationship with Bob, she tells him to invite the boy over to spend two weeks with the family in the United States. Bob accepts the offer gratefully.

They decide not to tell their daughters the truth.

Instead, they tell the girls that one of their father's friends has died in France, leaving an orphan, and that they think it might be a good idea to invite him over for the Easter¹ vacation. The girls are excited and want to know everything about their young guest. Bob goes to the airport to meet the boy, whose name is Jean Claude. He is quiet and well-mannered, but also unhappy and lonely due to his mother's death. Bob notices this and has a long talk with him. He tells Jean Claude that he wants to be his friend and that he can always count on him.

Jean Claude's sweet personality soon wins everybody's affection. The girls enjoy his company and think he is wonderful. Bob, of course, makes every effort to make him feel at home and happy. This puts pressure on Sheila, who is distressed and uneasy about the sudden presence of Bob's son by another woman. To Sheila, the boy stands between Bob and herself and the girls.

In this gloomy and angry mood Sheila goes to meet Gavin Wilson on business. He is a famous and charming writer whose book she is editing. Although her best friend Margo, a three-time divorcee, has advised her to forgive and forget Bob's brief affair with Nicole, she still, in a subconscious way, wants to get even with Bob² by having an affair with another man. But when Gavin Wilson tries to seduce her, she realizes that she simply can not bring herself to have an affair with a man who is not her husband, whom she loves very much.

However, Sheila does not want to go home at the usual time that evening. Instead, she visits Margo. Not knowing

this, Bob and the kids prepare a special meal for her and await her arrival. They are disappointed when she calls to say she is not going home. When Bob presses her to go home, she becomes irritated and hangs up on Bob. He immediately drives to Margo's place and demands an explanation. Sheila admits that she is very sensitive to the fact that Jean Claude has come between them and that she finds it difficult to handle the situation. After much shouting, Bob calms down and admits that he wants a permanent relationship with Jean Claude. Having cleared the air, they realize that they still love each other.

Bob and Sheila do not succeed in keeping the true identity of Jean Claude a secret from their daughters for long. David, the son of Bob's friend, has overheard his parents talking about the boy and tells Jessica that Jean Claude is her father's son. Jessica is shocked and doesn't believe him. She runs back home and asks her mother for confirmation. When she finds out it is true, she is angry, and her younger sister Paula, is afraid that their father will no longer love them and will leave them.

Just then, Bob comes home from a walk with Jean Claude. Jessica goes up to the boy, slaps him in the face, and calls him a bastard. Jean Claude is upset and runs out of the house, with Bob running after him. When Bob finally catches up with him, Jean Claude says he wants to return to France the next day. Bob then tells Jean Claude the whole truth about his relationship with his mother, and asks the boy to forgive him for causing him so much misery. The boy's response, however, is unexpected. He tells Bob that he is ac-

tually very happy that Bob is his father, because he had hoped, ever since he first saw Bob, that his father would be someone like him, so good and kind and funny. When they return home, Bob goes to the girls' room and tells them that he is sorry that he has lied to them about Jean Claude. He tells them that they owe the boy an apology, while assuring them that he still loves them very much.

The next day, while Jean Claude prepares to leave, Sheila has a private talk with him, letting him know that she wants to be his friend. Bob drives Jean Claude to the airport. Meanwhile Sheila tells the girls that they still have time to go and apologize to Jean Claude. She says that the most painful part of growing up is discovering that nobody is perfect, not even your parents. The girls are soon persuaded, for deep in their hearts, they like Jean Claude and are ashamed of the way they behaved. The three of them rush to the airport just in time for the girls to make their apology and say good-bye to Jean Claude. They all express the hope that they will soon be together again. Father and son have an emotional and loving farewell.

III. Excerpts

(Bob Beckwith, a literature professor, is giving a lecture on Walt Whitman³ as the film begins. It is clear that he is knowledgeable and popular among his students.

Bob comes back home. He kisses his daughters and his wife, who are preparing supper. There is no mistaking the atmosphere, which is that of a very hap-

py family.)

SHEILA: How'd it go with Larry, honey?

BOB: Well, the University Board⁴ is determined to cut down my Humanities Department.⁵

SHEILA: What does that mean?

BOB: It means they're going to drop nine of our people.

SHEILA: What! You're kidding! Nine? Oh, for God's sake!

BOB: That's what I said.

SHEILA: What are you going to do?

BOB: Try and set up a meeting tomorrow night with some of the other chairmen.

SHEILA: You know who can help you? Steve Nicoles. His wife is one of the ...

BOB: I already thought of her.

SHEILA: Ya, the trustees.⁶

BOB: She's already helping me out.

SHEILA: Oh, I'm sorry about the whole situation.

BOB: It's not me. It's our friends.

SHEILA: I know. But it's awful. (Trying to stop the girls who're arguing and making a lot of noise) Hey, you guys! Come on! Cut it out.⁷ Will you please? (To Bob) Well, listen. I've got some good news for you, at least.

BOB: What's that?

SHEILA: We nailed Gavin Wilson's new book for the university press.⁸

BOB: Hey! Congratulations! That's a real coup,⁹ isn't it?

SHEILA: Oh, God, was I relieved!

BOB: Good for you!

(At dinner table)

JESSICA: Butter, please! Merci.¹⁰

BOB: Je vous en prie.¹¹

JESSICA: Did Mom tell you about my plan?

BOB: What plan?

JESSICA: About Europe.

BOB: What about it?

JESSICA: I'd like to go.

BOB: I'm sure you will some day.

JESSICA: I mean this summer.

SHEILA: You know one of Garber's Teenage Tours.¹²

BOB: She's not a teenager yet.

JESSICA: Oh, Daddy! Don't be punctilious. I'm old enough to go.

PAULA: You're only twelve and a half.

JESSICA: Shut up, birdbrain!

BOB: Come on, you guys. What's the rush, Jessie? Why can't you wait another year?

JESSICA: I refuse to spend another boring summer with Grandma in WASP Cape Cod Society.¹³

BOB: Bourgeois Cape Cod.

JESSICA: Ya. So what if there's a nuclear war? I could die without ever seeing Europe.

BOB: Why don't you write a letter to the President and the Polit-bureau and maybe they'll make an extra effort to keep things quiet for another year.¹⁴

JESSICA: Daddy! You're not taking me seriously.

PAULA: Daddy's saying 'No'.

JESSICA: No, he isn't.

PAULA: He hasn't said 'Yes'.

BOB: He's saying 'Maybe'.

JESSICA: Meaning ?

BOB: Meaning I'll discuss it with your mother.

SHEILA: (Suddenly remembers. To Bob) I forgot to tell you. Louis Venargues called from France.

BOB: Really? What'd he want? Shall I call him back?

SHEILA: No, no. He was on his way to the country. But he said he will call you tomorrow at four o'clock and said at school, our time.¹⁵ Remember, you promised no lectures this summer. (To the girls) Hmmm, didn't he?

PAULA: Ya, you promised.

JESSICA: You promised.

BOB: I know that. Maybe I'm up for a Legion of Honor.¹⁶

PAULA: If she goes to Europe, can I go to Asia?

JESSICA: You're not going to go to Asia, because you pick your nose.

BOB: What's wrong with that? You never pick your nose?

JESSICA: No. That's a disgusting thing. I do not pick my nose.

BOB: You mean you don't get caught at it? I think picking at one's nose is a good and healthy thing, don't you? Would you like some cake?

* * *

(Sheila is in the study working. Bob brings her a drink.)

BOB: Here you go, kid. Take a break.

SHEILA: Oh, thanks, honey.

BOB: I got us all set up at Doug's for tomorrow at 6:30.¹⁷

SHEILA: Mm-hmm. 6:30? What about dinner?

BOB: Gavin's going to make a buffet.

SHEILA: Oh, that's nice. It'll be like a little party, huh?

BOB: Let's hope it's not a going-away party.

SHEILA: Na, come on.

BOB: How does Wilson read?

SHEILA: He's a good writer, you know. But some of his other prose has got more starch in it than laundry.¹⁸

BOB: But if all those guys wrote like Adlai Stevenson,¹⁹ you'd be unemployed, huh? (Puts his arms around her waist from behind)

SHEILA: True. OK, just a minute. Look! I've got one more paragraph. I've got to get it finished.

BOB: Oh, what a shame!

SHEILA: Oh, boy! You know, I missed you today?

BOB: Did you? What a coincidence!

* * *

(At Bob's office, a student is explaining why he has to drop his course on Shakespeare.²⁰)

STUDENT: I'm going to have to drop the Shakespeare course next term, Professor Beckwith.

BOB: Ya, Professor Curtis told me that. That's why I wanted to see you. What is there — a scheduling problem?

STUDENT: No, I'm a physics major.

BOB: I know, but you were a physics major when you registered for the course, right?