

日常英语读本

〔美〕罗伯特·丁·迪克逊 编

红 石 译注

EVERYDAY DIALOGUES IN English

吉 林 人 民 出 版 社

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Everyday Dialogues in English

Robert J. Dixon

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译者的话

本书是美国迄今出版的较为实用的会话课本之一。它以美国为背景，以人们日常的各种活动为题材，再现了美国人日常生活的情景。

著者不是为了写口语读本而“编”对话，而是把人们日常生活中的交谈几乎不加修饰地收集起来整理成这个读本，因此通篇朴实无华，容易上口。

每篇对话都包括许多短语和习惯用法。书中共有短语四百多个，口语中常用的短语基本上囊括在内。对话中不时出现的幽默和打趣的话，有助于引起读者学习的兴趣并加深记忆。与此同时，每每可见的较长篇幅的说理与争论，对真正掌握在各种情况下表达自己的能力也是颇有裨益的。当然，对书中个别地方表现出来的资产阶级道德观念，是应该注意批判的。

本书是为已经具备一定口语基础，打算进一步提高会话能力和熟练程度的人编写的，可供大学二年级以上的学生、准备出国留学的预备生、从事口译工作的人员参考使用。为了方便学习，我们把全书译成了中文，并作了必要的注释。译文力求准确、口语化，注释中注意解释了英美用词方面的一些差异。经过译注，本书也可供一般英语自学者学习口语之用。

需要说明的一点是，书中提到的物价和日常生活费用是七十年代初的情况。近十几年来，由于连续不断的通货膨胀，美国的物价和生活费用已大幅度上涨。

此外，本书在译注过程中曾得到英国朋友鲍敦先生(Mr. B. W. Bowden)的热情指点，石家碧同志对全书进行了审校，在此一并表示感谢。

前 言

本书中的对话，包括进食品店买吃的、乘坐飞机旅行以及日常生活中所能遇到的各种情况。书中的词汇都是每日常用的。表达方法、习惯用法也是从美国人口中随时可以听到的。

本书的目的是使读者掌握平时在各种情况下经常使用的词汇及特定讲话方式。比如，一个人怎样在饭馆定饭；到剧场买戏票或进电影院看电影与有关人员对话时遵循些什么；打电话常用的表达方法都有哪些，等等。这些对于任何一个学习英语的人来说，都是十分重要的。对于所有打算进一步完善口语及习惯用法的人来说，本书定会很有帮助。对于那些在美国以外出生，现在生活在美国并感到自己需要扩充词汇、进一步学习使用习惯用法的人，本书也将很有价值。

本书还可以给以旅游身分来美国的人作旅行指南，因为每天活动中所能遇到的各种情况，大多包括在内。旅游者可以从中找到必要的词汇和表达方法使饭店服务员、公共汽车司机、出租汽车司机、以及卖鞋的商人等听懂自己的话。

最后，本书也是要作为一本高级会话课本。全书采用对话形式，每篇对话之后都附有充分的练习，其中包括一系列问题。这些问题给师生之间的进一步对话提供了基础。教师应就这些问题自然地进行展开，向学生提出类似的其它问题。教师还应该变换问题的形式，以便使这些问题更适合于自己那一组学生的具体情况。比如说这个问题是：

On what corner did Mr. Smith get on the bus?
那么教师对下一个学生就应该问:

Mary, where do you get on the bus every morning? Do you prefer the bus to the subway?

对另一个学生教师就可以问:

John, is the bus usually crowded or empty when you get on every morning? Where do you get off the bus?

用这种方法, 围绕这个特定对话的基本词汇, 就会引出大量的对话。继问题之后是词汇及短语练习。

作为本书的语法补充材料, 推荐本人所著的“Graded Exercises in English”(《阶段英语练习》)。进一步学习成语和习惯用法, 可参考本人编著的“Essential Idioms in English”(《基础英语成语》)和“Handbook of American Idioms and Idiomatic Usage”(《美国英语成语及习惯用法手册》)。

罗伯特·J·迪克逊

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1 Mrs. Green Calls at the Bank 格林夫人到银行

- I'd like you to cash this check for fifty dollars for me, please.

请把这张五十美元的支票给我兑成现款。

- Do you have an account with① us?

您在我们这里有户头吗？

- Yes, my husband and I have a checking account②.

I also want to deposit these other checks in

our account at the same time.

有。我和我丈夫立有一个使用支票的存款户头。同时，我还想把另外这些支票存上。

• I see. Have you made out a deposit slip?

好的。您填好存款单了吗？

• (Mrs. Green hands teller deposit slip with checks for deposit) I hope I've made it out correctly.

(格林夫人把存款单连同要存的支票一起递给存款员)
我希望我填得对。

• It seems all right to me. How do you want this other check cashed, Mrs. Green? Will five tens^③ be all right?

我看没错。格林夫人，您的另外这张支票要提取什么样的现款？五张十美元的钞票可以吗？

• That will be fine. (Accepts bills) ^④I also want to ask you about starting a savings account. My husband and I have been thinking of opening a small savings account in which we could put aside^⑤ a few dollars each week.

那很好。(接过钱) 我还想打听一下有关立储蓄存款户头的手续。我和我丈夫一直在考虑立一个零存储蓄户头，以便我们每个星期都能存上几美元。

• The procedure is very simple. You can open a savings account at any time with an initial deposit of five dollars or more. Five dollars is the minimum original deposit. After that you depo-

sit or withdraw money as you wish. You bring your bank book with you each time and the deposit or withdrawal is entered in your book. The account carries interest of 4.5% and the interest is added to your account every six months. That's about all there is to it. If you'd like to open an account®, you can talk with the manager or with one of his assistants. They'll be glad to take care of you.

手续很简单。您随时都可以立一个储蓄存款的户头，但首次存款额要在五美元或五美元以上。五美元是首次存款的最低限额。之后存款取款就随您的便了。您每次来都要把存款折带上，存款和支款额都记在上面。这种存款的利息是4.5%，每六个月息金转入您的存款。关于手续就这么多。如果您打算立一个户头的话，您可以和那位经理或随便他的哪一位助手谈，他们会高兴替您办理的。

• Thank you. But I don't believe^⑦ we are quite ready just yet^⑧. However, I do want to speak with someone about another matter. I received a notice a few days ago from the bank saying that our checking account was overdrawn. With whom should I speak about that?

谢谢，我们不打算马上就开户。不过我倒是想谈谈另一件事。几天前我收到过银行的一个通知，说我的存款透支了。我得和谁去说这件事呢？

• You can talk with the manager if you like. There he is, seated at the desk over near the

window ⑨. He seems to be free at the moment.

如果您愿意的话，您可以和经理谈。他就在那儿，在那边坐在靠近窗子的办公桌前。他现在好象没什么事。

• (Mrs. Green goes over to manager's desk).

How do you do? I am Mrs. Green. About a month ago my husband and I opened a checking account here, and a few days ago I received a notice from the bank saying that our account was overdrawn.

(格林夫人来到经理的办公桌前) 您好！我是格林夫人。大约一个月以前我和我丈夫在这里立了一个使用支票的存款户头。前几天我收到了银行的通知，说是我们透支了。

• (Manager, reaching for the telephone) Just a minute, Mrs. Green. I'll get the record of your account. (Telephones, record of Mrs. Green's account is brought to him) Yes, Your account was overdrawn four dollars on the twenty-third of the month.

(经理，伸手拿电话) 请稍等一下，格林夫人，我把您的帐目记录要来。(打电话，有人把帐目记录送给他) 是的，本月廿三日您的帐上透支了四美元。

• But you didn't return the check to me.

但是您并没有把支票给我退回来呀。

• No, the overdraft was only four dollars so the bank honored the check ⑩. In such cases we simply send the client a notice and assume

that he will reimburse the bank for the amount paid. Of course, if the amount is very large, the bank will return the check and refuse to pay it. Apparently, you took care of the matter because your record shows that on the twenty-fifth a deposit was made which easily covered the shortage.

对。因为透支额只有四美元，所以银行就承兑了。在这种情况下，我们只是给顾主寄去一个通知，认为他会付还银行承兑的款额。当然，如果透支额很大，银行就会退回支票而不予承兑。很显然您注意到了这件事，因为从您的帐目记录上可以看出，廿五日您又存了一次。这样就很容易地把短缺的金额补足了。

• Then there is nothing further I have to do about it, is that correct?

那么说这件事就算完了，对吗？

• You will find a charge of two dollars on your next monthly statement, which you will have to pay. That is a standard charge made by all banks in the case of an overdraft. But otherwise everything has been taken care of. We just hope that in the future you won't overdraw your account.

您在下个月的对帐单上会发现我们收了您两美元。这是所有银行对透支的标准收费。除此之外，就再没有什么了。我们只是希望您今后不会再透支。

• I really can't understand it. I kept a very

careful record of my checks and the total was much less than we deposited.

我真不理解这是怎么回事。我记了很仔细的帐，提取的钱比我们存入的钱少得多。

• But perhaps your husband also wrote some checks.

也许您丈夫也开过一些支票。

• It's possible. I didn't say anything to him about the account being overdrawn because I was afraid he might be angry.

这有可能。我没跟他提起过透支的事，因为我怕他为这件事会生气的。

• It's a joint account, Mrs. Green, and carries two signatures. That means that either you or your husband can write checks against it.

格林夫人，这是一个联名户头，有两个人的签字。这就是说，无论是您还是您丈夫都可以用这个户头开支票。

• I don't suppose it's possible to have a joint account where my husband would just deposit money and I would write the checks®.

两个人开的联名户头，我丈夫只管存钱，由我管开支票取款这不行吧？

• I'm afraid not.

恐怕不行。

• It might be a very good idea. You should think about it. Anyway, I'm very sorry to have bothered you. It was very stupid of me.

那也许还是个好主意呢。您再想想看。不管怎么样，很对不起，打扰了您。我也实在太笨了。

• It was no bother at all. We are always glad to help you. Why don't you take one of our little booklets along with you? They describe the various services which the bank offers. We have a personal loan department, and we sell travelers' checks. Perhaps some day you or your husband may wish to take out a personal loan.

谈不上打扰。我们总是高兴为您帮忙的。对了，您拿一本我们的小册子不好吗？上面说明银行提供的各种服务项目。我们有一个个人贷款部，我们还出售旅行支票。也许某一天您和您丈夫会想来借一笔个人贷款呢。

• I'm afraid that's my husband's department. He takes care of getting the money; I just spend it. Anyway, my husband says that a bank is a place where they lend you money only when you can prove that you don't need it. Is that correct?

恐怕那是我丈夫的事。他管弄钱，我只管花钱。不过我丈夫说，银行这地方就是在你用不着钱的时候才借给你钱。是那样吗？

• Not quite. But tell your husband that we shall be glad to do business with him whenever he has need of our services.

不十分对，不过请转告您丈夫，不管他什么时候需要我