

THE WORLD OF AMERICAN
SPOKEN ENGLISH

美国口语 大观

Leo Folsom (PhD)(美) Beatrice Folsom (BS)(美)

杨力 姜萍 编著

(第二版)



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内 容 简 介

本书共分十一部分,包括:交际,日常生活,感觉与感情,旅行与交通,社会,工作,商务,语言、文学和艺术,教育,科学与技术 and 会话索引。其中每小节均分基本表达句和情景会话两部分,每一部分均提出主句,每一小节后均有注释、解答疑难及背景区别。其中表达句选择美国最新口语,而会话则来自美籍教师在中国及美国的生活体验。

全书内容丰富,结构清晰,语言生动,形式活泼,充分体现了中美英语教学专家携手合作的优势。全书在版式上采用了中英文双栏对照编排,更便于读者高效率自学。学习者可将其作为范本;旅游者可将其作为指南;商务人员可用于借鉴;英语爱好者可用于消闲。

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

美国口语大观:中英文对照/(美)弗桑(Folsom, L.), 杨力等编著. —2 版. —合肥:中国科学技术大学出版社, 2001. 4

ISBN 7-312-01277-9

I. 美… II. ①弗… ②杨… III. 英语, 美国—口语 IV. H319.9

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2001)第 15664 号

中国科学技术大学出版社出版发行

(安徽省合肥市金寨路 96 号, 230026)

中国科学技术大学印刷厂印刷

全国新华书店经销

开本: 850mm×1168mm/32 印张: 16.75 字数: 676 千

2001 年 4 月第 2 版 2002 年 1 月第 9 次印刷

印数: 76101—87100 册

ISBN 7 312-01277 9/H·198 定价: 20.00 元

PREFACE

We have spent two extremely enjoyable years teaching English at universities in China, our last year being spent at the University of Science and Technology of China. Our students were very able and had been well taught in their various middle schools. There was one problem that we encountered, however. The schools wanted us to teach "American" English as spoken in North America, but nearly all the English books we came across were based on "Cambridge English". Many of us are not aware of the many differences between versions of the English language as spoken in various countries of the world, specifically in England and in North America. Not only is the pronunciation different, but also the grammar, spelling, vocabulary, idioms and expressions. Since it seemed to be the desire of the English Department at the universities, as well as the students themselves to learn "American English", we thought a book of dialogues using American English in an American setting would be useful, informative, and we hope interesting.

During our second year in China we met and worked with Yang Li and Jiang Ping. Although native Chinese, they are career communicators who have

both spent time living in the United States and are very familiar with American culture and way of life. Yang Li teaches at the University of Science and Technology of China and Jiang Ping is in charge of the English radio programs there. Yang Li originated the idea for this book and developed the format. He then consulted with us and asked if we would join him in authoring the book. We were delighted to work with him in this endeavor since his American English was among the best of any English teacher we met while in China. Not only is he an excellent teacher of English, but he has a great many successful experiences working as an interpreter for English-speaking businessmen and visitors.

This work may be used as a textbook. It may also be used as supplemental material to enrich and clarify, to introduce western personalities to their friends in China and give insight into the culture and traditions of the United States. The subject matter is organized so as to give information on the social and civil structure of the country as well. Some of the dialogues might be memorized to give the student a feel for the language as commonly used. Memorizing dialogues will also encourage the student to speak with the proper meaningful stress and expression. Slang expressions are avoided for the most part, but occa-

sionally some slang words and phrases are used when the context seems to demand it.

Our many friends, who are now in China teaching English, tell us they are using this book in their classes. It is our hope that it will not only be helpful but also informative and interesting.

We would like the Chinese student learning English to get a feel for the people in the United States, their traditions, culture and way of life. We believe that to KNOW someone is to like them. Certainly that has been our personal experience. The spoken language is the tool for developing abiding friendships. Hopefully this will help Chinese know a little about us and that will be one small step in developing friendships and closer ties between two great nations.

Leo and Beatrice Folsom

From U. S. A.

前 言

“我要当面对他谈一谈”。语言的力量,常常须亲口一谈,才能得以发挥。在日常生活中,与人交往、传递感情、协商事务、交流信息,口头交谈往往是最有效的一种方式。学习英语的人,无论是刚刚入门,还是修业多年,常常最想知道的就是:某件事情用英语到底该怎么说。

很久以来,我们一直想写一本书,介绍美国人日常会话交谈的用语和方式,为中国广大的英语学习者提供一些实用的借鉴。此次有机会与美国的弗桑博士夫妇合作,终于夙愿得偿。里奥·弗桑博士的专业是心理学,比特丽丝·弗桑夫人在美国是语言教师。他们对英语的应用和教学均深有造诣。他们怀着对中国人民友好的感情,来中国教授英语;并以自己丰富的经验,为英语学习者的学习与提高指出了一条路径。

《美国口语大观》内容涉及广泛的生活领域。它以会话的形式,展现美式口语的风格;同时为读者提供多种信息,介绍美国人的文化、传统和生活方式以及中美人民之间的相互交往。本书把各种情景下较常见的基本话语以醒目的形式分句列出,读者一目了然,便于模仿,举一反三。另外,每一主题篇章内的生动会话可使读者对口语的实际应用更增加一层感受。我们希望本书能为读者学习美国口语提供有益的帮助,使大家都能用道地的英语“和美国人当面谈一谈”。

杨 力

于中国科学技术大学

CONTENTS 目 录

PREFACE	(1)
----------------------	-----

前 言	(5)
------------------	-----

1 COMMUNICATION 交 际

1.1 Meeting, Greeting and Parting	会面、问候、告别… (2)
1.2 Talking About Other People	谈论别人 …… (11)
1.3 Family and Relatives	家人与亲戚 …… (17)
1.4 Home	家 …… (23)

2 EVERYDAY LIFE 日常生活

2.1 Daily Activities	日常活动 …… (30)
2.2 Time and Appointments	时间与约会 …… (35)
2.3 The Weather	天气 …… (41)
2.4 Talking on the Telephone	打电话 …… (47)
2.5 Finding the Way	问路 …… (56)
2.6 Social Occasions	社交场合 …… (62)
2.7 Looking for Housing	找住房 …… (71)
2.8 Shopping	购物 …… (79)
2.9 Clothing	服装 …… (88)

2. 10 Eating and Drinking	饮食	(95)
2. 11 Cooking	烹饪	(105)
2. 12 At a Bank	在银行	(116)
2. 13 At the Post Office	在邮局	(124)
2. 14 At a Barbershop or Beauty Shop	在理发店 或美发厅	(131)
2. 15 Medical Care	医疗保健	(138)
2. 16 Family Finances	家庭财务	(147)
2. 17 Hobbies	业余爱好	(155)

3 FEELINGS 情 感

3. 1 Happiness or Sadness	高兴或悲伤	(162)
3. 2 Likes or Dislikes	喜欢或厌恶	(168)
3. 3 Sympathy or Indifference	同情或冷漠	(174)
3. 4 Feeling Energetic or Tired	精力充沛或疲劳	(179)
3. 5 Feeling Nervous or Relaxed	紧张或松弛	(185)
3. 6 Anger	愤怒	(189)

4 TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION 旅行与交通

4. 1 Passports and Visas	护照与签证	(194)
4. 2 Travel Plans	旅行计划	(204)
4. 3 Vacations and Sightseeing	度假与观光	(212)
4. 4 Staying at Hotels and Motels	住旅馆	(222)

- | | | |
|-----|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 4.5 | Going by Plane, Train or Bus | 乘飞机、火车或
大客车旅行…… (228) |
| 4.6 | Driving a Car | 开汽车…………… (239) |

5 SOCIETY 社 会

- | | | |
|-----|------------------------------|-----------------|
| 5.1 | The City and the Countryside | 城市与乡村…… (246) |
| 5.2 | Around the World | 世界各地…………… (254) |
| 5.3 | Holidays and Festivals | 节日…………… (264) |
| 5.4 | Sports | 体育运动…………… (278) |
| 5.5 | The Mass Media | 大众传播媒体… (292) |
| 5.6 | Law and Order | 法律与秩序…… (306) |
| 5.7 | Aspects of Society | 社会面面观…… (315) |
| 5.8 | American History | 美国历史…………… (328) |

6 WORK 工 作

- | | | |
|-----|----------------------------|-----------------|
| 6.1 | Finding or Losing a Job | 找工作或失业… (338) |
| 6.2 | Agricultural Work | 农业工作…………… (345) |
| 6.3 | Factory Work | 工厂的工作…… (351) |
| 6.4 | Engineers' Work | 工程师的工作… (359) |
| 6.5 | The Boss and the Secretary | 老板与秘书…… (364) |
| 6.6 | Resigning and Retiring | 辞职与退休…… (368) |

7 BUSINESS 商 务

- | | | |
|-----|------------------------------|---------------|
| 7.1 | Business and Business People | 商业和商人…… (376) |
|-----|------------------------------|---------------|

7.2	Market Research	市场调查·····	(390)
7.3	Advertising	广告·····	(399)
7.4	Stock Market	股票证券市场···	(405)
7.5	Insurance	保险·····	(414)

8 LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND ART 语言、文学和艺术

8.1	Talking about Language	谈论语言·····	(424)
8.2	Talking about Literature	谈论文学·····	(432)
8.3	Talking about Arts	谈论艺术·····	(437)
8.4	Using the Library	使用图书馆·····	(446)

9 EDUCATION 教 育

9.1	Schools	学校·····	(454)
9.2	Student Life	学生生活·····	(468)
9.3	Teaching	教学·····	(477)

10 SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY 科学与技术

10.1	Computers	计算机·····	(493)
10.2	High Technology	高技术·····	(501)
10.3	Protection of the Environment	环境保护·····	(506)

●	Index to Conversations and Talks	会话索引·····	(513)
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1

COMMUNICATION

交 际

1.1 Meeting, Greeting and Parting 会面、问候、告别

Part I Basic Expressions

基本表达

[A] How are you?

你好吗?

Response: I'm fine, thank you. And you?

答: 我很好, 谢谢。你好吗?

Please compare [A] with the following exchanges of greetings (from formal to informal):

请把[A]句与下列问候做比较
(形式由正式到较随便):

1. How do you do?

你好。

R: How do you do? (It's nice to see you.)

答: 你好。(见到你很高兴。)

2. How are you doing?

你好吗?

R: Good, thanks. How about you?

答: 很好, 谢谢。你好吗?

3. How's it going?

你好吗?

R: All right.

答: 挺好。

4. How are things?

你(情况)好吗?

R: Everything's fine.

答: 一切都挺好。

5. Good morning, Jack.

杰克, 早哇。

R: Good morning, Mary.

答: 早, 玛丽。

6. Hi, Paul.

保尔, 你好。

R: Hi, Jack.

答: 你好, 杰克。

[B] How's your little girl?

你的小姑娘好吗?

R: She's fine, thanks.

答: 她很好, 谢谢。

When you're asking about somebody or something, you may also say:

当问候他人或询问某事物时, 你也可以这样说:

- | | |
|--|------------|
| 1. How are your friends? | 你的朋友好吗? |
| R: They are pretty good. | 答: 他们都很好。 |
| 2. How's your work? | 你工作情况怎样? |
| R: It's all right. | 答: 情况挺好。 |
| 3. How are your Chinese lessons going? | 你的汉语课进展如何? |
| R: I'm working on them. | 答: 我正努力学呢。 |
| 4. How's your new car? | 你的新车好吗? |
| R: It's wonderful. | 答: 棒极了。 |

[C] It's nice to meet you.	见到你很高兴。
----------------------------	---------

Here are more expressions of greetings: 以下是另一些致意的表达:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. (It's) Good to see you. | 看到你很高兴。 |
| 2. It's a pleasure to meet you. | 和你见面十分高兴。 |
| 3. How nice to see you. | 见到你真高兴。 |
| 4. (I'm) Very glad to see you. | 见到你我真高兴。 |
| 5. Pleased to meet you. | 很高兴见到你。 |
| 6. (I'm) Delighted to see you. | 看到你十分愉快。 |
| 7. Very happy to meet you. | 认识你非常高兴。 |

[D] I'd like you to meet Ms. Susan Bird, my colleague at General Motors.	我想请你见一见我在通用汽车公司的同事苏珊·伯德女士。
--	----------------------------

When you're making an introduction, you may also say: 为人做介绍时,也可以这样说:

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| 1. I'd like to introduce you to Mr. Jim Kent, president of my company. | 我想介绍你认识我的公司总经理吉姆·肯特先生。 |
| 2. Have you met Li, my friend from China? | 你见过我的中国朋友力吗? |
| 3. This is Sally, my roommate. | 这是我的室友萨丽。 |

[E] Where are you from?	你是哪里人?
-------------------------	--------

You may also ask:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Which country do you come from? | 你也可以这样问:
你是哪国人(你从哪国来的)? |
| 2. Are you from China? | 你是中国人吗(你从中国来吗)? |

3. Which part of China are you from?

你从中国哪个地区来的?

[F] My name's Leo Wang?

我叫里奥·王。

You can also say the following about names:

关于姓名,也可说下面的话:

1. Please call me Leo.
2. How do you pronounce your last name?
3. How do you spell your surname?
4. My last name is spelled W-A-N-G.
5. I don't have a middle name.
6. We have the same first name.
7. In China, we put our surname first.

请叫我里奥。
你的姓怎么读?
你的姓怎样拼写?
我的姓拼成 WANG。
我没有中名。
我们的名字一样。
在中国我们把姓放在前面。

[G] It was a pleasure meeting you.

认识你很高兴。

I hope we'll meet again.

我希望我们以后还会再见面。

At the end of a meeting, you may also say:

会面结束时,你也可以这样说:

1. (It's) Good meeting you.
(I hope to) See you again.

和你见面很高兴。
(我希望)以后再见。

2. Nice talking to you.
We'll meet again some time.

和你谈话很高兴。
我们以后找时间再见面聊聊。

[H] I have to leave.

我该走了。

When you're leaving somebody, you may also say:

与人告别时,你也可以这样说:

1. I'm leaving.
2. I'm going to go.
3. I had better take off.
4. Good-bye, have a good evening.
5. Bye-bye, have a nice day.
6. Bye-bye, take care(of yourself).
7. Bye. Good luck.
8. Bye, see you later.

我要走了。
我准备走了。
我最好动身了。
再见,祝你晚上愉快。
再见,祝你愉快。
再见,多保重。
再见,祝你好运。
回头见。

9. So long.

再见。

[Notes]

1. pretty 很,挺,十分(作副词) 应与其形容词用法区别。
2. work on (习语) 从事,致力于 也说成 work at。
3. Ms. [mɪz] 女士 冠在姓名前,不表明婚姻状态。
4. General Motors 通用汽车公司(简称) 全称是:General Motors Corporation。英语中许多公司名以简称出现时,将“公司”一词省去。
5. introduce sb. to sb. 把某人介绍给另外的人
6. name 姓名 英文姓名由 first name(也叫 given name), middle name 和 last name 三部分构成。中间名有时以首字母形式出现在全名中,如:Bill H. Smith。华人人乡随俗,中西合璧,常起一个英文名,但许多人仍保留原姓。
7. It was a pleasure meeting you 这是见面结束时的话,应区别于刚见面的问候。
8. had better 最好 后接动词原形,表示现在或将来的行为。
9. take off (习语) 离开,动身,出发
10. take care of (习语) 照顾(某人),处理(某事)

Part I Conversations 会话

1. A Meeting of Professors

Professor Shrader: Dr. Li, I'd like you to meet Dr. Reed, Chairman of the Chemistry Department. Dr. Reed, this is Dr. Li. She's a visiting professor from the University of Science and Technology of China.

Dr. Li: How do you do, Dr. Reed?

Dr. Reed: It's a pleasure to meet you, Dr. Li. I'm very glad that we finally have the opportunity to meet.

一、教授会面

史瑞德教授:李博士,请你见见化学系主任里德博士。里德博士,这位是李博士。她是从中国科学技术大学来的访问教授。

李博士: 你好,里德博士。

里德博士: 见到你真高兴,李博士。我非常高兴我们终于有机会见面了。

[Note]

Dr. 对有博士学位者的称呼。在美国大学里,这种称呼较常见。以教授称呼则较少。另外,医生的称呼也相同。

2. Take It Easy

George: Hi John, how's it going?

John: Not too bad. How about yourself?

George: I'm exhausted. I had to work until 2 o'clock this morning.

John: Take it easy. Don't work too hard.

George: No way. I must get everything ready before noon.

John: Then, take this afternoon off.

二、悠着点

乔治: 嗨, 约翰, 你好吗?

约翰: 还可以。你怎么样?

乔治: 我累死了。我一直得干到今天早上 2:00。

约翰: 悠着点。不要操劳过度。

乔治: 不行啊, 我必须在中午前把一切都做好。

约翰: 那么, 今天下午就休息一下吧。

[Notes]

1. take it easy (习语) 不要太紧张、太激动、太着急

2. how about “……怎么样”(引导省略句) 例: How about your TV?

3. no way (俚语) 行不通, 没门儿

4. take (time) off (习语) 抽出时间(离开所从事的活动。)

3. Long Time No See

Leo: Hi Anita, long time no see.

Anita: Yeah, where have you been lately?

Leo: I've been in China working on a new project.

Anita: Oh, I see. I've had lots of work to do here in New York too.

三、好久不见了

里奥: 嗨, 安妮塔, 好久不见了。