



现代英语妙语语林

Modern English
Expressions In Spotlight

中级本

汪福祥 / 著

石油工业出版社

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内 容 提 要

本书系国内首次出版的将习语、口语、俚语、谚语以及名人名言和双关语融为一体的妙语语林之著。

全书共分 19 课，每一课均由名人名言、课文、语言练习、习语的学习与使用、语言游戏和辅助阅读材料六个部分组成。各部分前后呼应、相互补充。本书习语高度集中，而且都在具体的语言情景中出现，不但使读者在较短的时间内获得大量丰富、地道的习语词条，而且还为这些习语的正确使用提供了幽默生动的语言情景。

该书既可作为高等院校讲授英语习语课程的教材，也可作为具有一定英语水平的广大英语爱好者必备的参考书。

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They've Gotta Have It



What Spike Lee's film did for African Americans,
Smoke Signals aims to do for Native Americans

By JEFFREY RESSNER LOS ANGELES

OUR RESERVATION IS BEAUTIFUL this morning—it's a good day to be indigenous," crows a disk jockey at the beginning of *Smoke Signals*, the first commercial feature film entirely written, directed and acted by Native Americans. It's also a good time to be Sherman Alexie, the film's 31-year-old screenwriter, who previously penned eight books of verse and three highly acclaimed works of fiction, and is now bringing his contemporary tribal sensibilities to Hollywood.

In movies and on television, Indians

characters ruminate about everything from *Dances with Wolves* to a native staple known as fry bread. They also shoot hoops, eat at Denny's and conjure mystical visions. "Sure we have different specific cultural customs," says Alexie, "but we also read Stephen King and watch *ER* like everyone else."

A big (1.88 m) man with a soft lisp and a gift for gab, Alexie is an enrolled member of the Spokane tribe, though he also speaks proudly of his father's Coeur d'Alene heritage. Chatting in a plush Beverly Hills, California, hotel lobby shortly before the movie's release, he's clearly stoked at the prospect that it

They've Gotta Have It



他们应该得到这个荣誉

这是发表在美国《时代周刊》1998年7月20日刊上一篇以口语 (Colloquialism) 题材为标题的文章。标题中的 gotta 是 got to 的变形形式, 与 have 连在一起, 形成 have gotta do 的句式, 常见于英美等国非正式的口语会话场合。在诸如美国《时代周刊》、《新闻周刊》以及其它较有影响的英美报刊上, 以口语语言为标题的文章俯拾即是。这也是我们在此书中向读者介绍英语口语表达法的原因之一。

Bad Blood in the Badlands



Apted and Altman score

A thriller set on an Indian reservation in the 1970s, *Thunderheart* has both passion and power, enough to compensate for its sometimes murky plotting and a fair dose of melodramatic hokum. John Fusco's script, inspired by the real, bloody clashes between pro-government Indians and the radical traditionalist American Indian Movement, sends a hot-shot young FBI agent from Washington, Raymond Levoi (Val Kilmer), to investigate the murder of an Oglala Sioux at the Bear Creek "Res" in the Badlands of



Bad Blood in the Badlands

贫穷的土地，逆反的情绪

这是发表在《新闻周刊》1992年5月18日刊上的一篇文章的开头。该文以口语 Bad Blood (厌恶感) 为标题，专文讨论印度国内激进派与保守派之间所发生的冲突。事实表明，英语口语有其独特的语言魅力和感染力，无论是在日常的口语会话中，还是在报刊文章中，口语都扮演着十分重要的角色。这就是我们希望读者大量接触并掌握好英语口语表达法的原因之一。

Talk Your Head Off

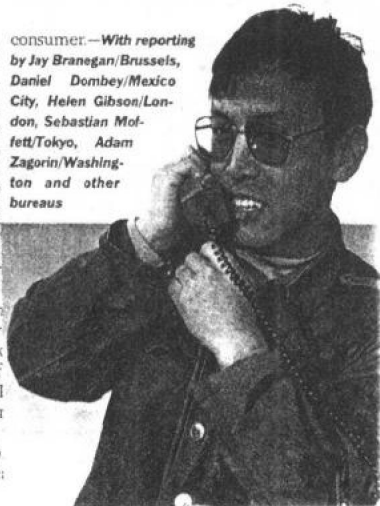


A new global phone agreement will mean tougher competition for telecoms, gentler prices for callers

By RAHUL JACOB

PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON CALL "landmark." World Trade Organization director-general Renato R. predicted it would boost global comes by \$1 trillion in the next ten. The object of their enthusiasm was the WTO telecommunications agreement by 69 countries on Feb. 15. The pact paves the way for more foreign investment competition in telecom markets. In the hype and the big numbers bandied about, the deal essentially stamps a trend already underway in the telecommunications industry. Governments everywhere are making telecommunications a priority. "It used to be hard to get a license from the Ministry of Telecommunications," says T. Yamada, president of Japan's Telenor, which plans in June to offer calls to the U.S. at one-tenth the price of its country's flagship international carrier. "Now, it's easy."

CONSUMER.—With reporting by Jay Branagan/Brussels, Daniel Dombey/Mexico City, Helen Gibson/London, Sebastian Moffett/Tokyo, Adam Zagorin/Washington and other bureaus



Talk Your Head Off

你可以尽情唠叨了

这是发表在美国《时代周刊》上的一篇文章。该文以脍炙人口的习语Talk Your Head Off (唠叨个不停)作为醒目标题,专文评述全球电话通讯业中的激烈竞争。英语习语 (Idioms) 是英语语言中最重要的组成部分,也是我国学生在学习英语过程中一个不可忽视的语言现象。我们在此书内以大量的篇幅讨论介绍现代英语的习惯用语,其目的是使读者能更快更好的掌握英语习语,为大家尽快提高英语水平提供一条行之有效的学习途径。

SPECIAL REPORT

In a breathtaking reversal of fortunes, Clinton's popularity soars while Starr gets stuck in the mud

By NANCY GIBBS

*Do you think the friendship of me would be unalloy'd satisfaction?
Do you think I am trusty and faithful?*

—Walt Whitman, *Leaves of Grass*



Clinton's popularity soars while Starr gets stuck in the mud

克林顿的声望日益上升，
斯达尔却深陷泥潭而难以自拔

这是发表在美国《时代周刊》1998年2月9日刊上一篇文章的标题。在该文的标题中，作者使用了一条脍炙人口且形象生动的习语：get stuck in the mud (陷入泥潭而难以自拔)。我们在此书中集中介绍英语习语，希望能为读者尽快提高英语水平提供一条行之有效的学习途径。

Is Al Too Good at Passing the Hat?



The Vice President has a problem: how to get money without getting muddy

By RICHARD LACAYO

IT WAS THE FALL OF 1995, AND THE DEMOCRATIC National Committee had a problem. Faced with the cost of its massive early media strategy, it needed a quick \$1 million or so. A senior White House official had a solution: get the President to call some well-padded contributors. At the White House, Bill Clinton was presented with a list of 10 names. But the President, who has an aversion to dialing for dollars, managed to busy himself with other things. The next stop for officials looking for a willing fund raiser for the mini telethon: the office of Vice President Gore. No

Despite his stiffness in public, Gore is a born pitchman. Last year he brought the party more than \$15 million. "If we needed someone to go to a fund raiser," says a campaign official, "he'd always volunteer." If Gore runs in 2000, many of those donors, their names resting in the personal database the DNC, will be tapped;



Is Al Too Good at Passing the Hat?



爱尔搞募捐真的是有过之而无不及吗?

这是发表在美国《时代周刊》1997年3月3日刊上的一篇文章。仅在该文的主标题和副标题中，作者就用了三条习语：too good at (过分地干)，pass the hat (募捐)，get muddy (弄得一身的麻烦)。翻开英美等国的任何一本杂志，不仅标题中的习语处处可见，文章中的习语更是俯拾即是。由此不难看出，学好用好英语习语对提高英语水平是何等的重要！

Advice for Investors: Play It Safe in '98



The stock market has had the right stuff for years, but nothing lasts forever

INVESTORS REGULARLY TRIP UP IN DOZENS OF WAYS. THEY act on stock tips from in-laws, send money to brokers they've never met, check their mutual-fund balances too often and lose patience too soon. Such popular gaffes will, no doubt, remain popular in 1998. But my guess is that this year's most common mistake will be the way, in their minds, investors classify the past few years of robust U.S. stock gains. Some lost souls will view the spoils as perfectly normal and expect more of the same. God bless them. But even those with a sense of history may regard the period as merely unusual when, in fact, the stretch has been unprecedented.

Does that mean it can't go on? That stocks finally must tumble in 1998? No. Perhaps the market's bounds will keep stretching like the elastic belt on your holiday trousers. But it does suggest that the risk of a retraction is more acute. It may make sense to favor bonds for a while. I'd certainly be slow to invest any new chunks of cash—say, a year-end bonus—all in the stock market. I'd even consider selling some stocks and replacing them with Treasury bonds. More on that later.

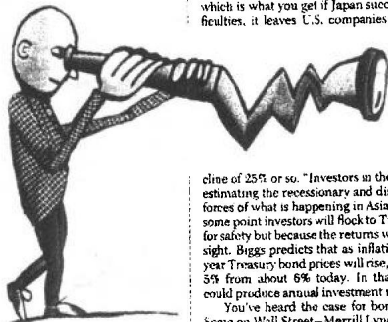
First, let's take stock of the times. The Standard & Poor's 500, including dividends, rose 33.4% last year, 23.1% the year before and 37.6% the year before that. This is the first time

downs is one of the dozens of ways that investors trip up. Few can do it.

On the other hand, there's nothing wrong with a little skepticism, which might prompt you to lock in some profits now and sell down to your sleeping level. Let's face it—no party lasts forever. How much would it hurt if the market suddenly fell 20% or 30% and stayed down for months or even years? Don't think it can't happen. I'm baffled that problems in Asia have been so roundly dismissed in the U.S. Tiger currencies are half what they were relative to the dollar just a few months ago. That means those nations enjoy dramatically lower production costs and can sell goods in the U.S. at far lower prices. On a limited scale that's good news. It helps keep U.S. inflation in check. But on a large scale, which is what you get if Japan succumbs to the region's difficulties, it leaves U.S. companies at a severe pricing disadvantage and saps their profits.

Barton Biggs, chief global strategist at Morgan Stanley Dean Witter, believes profits for large U.S. companies will sink 5% this year, triggering a stock-market decline of 25% or so. "Investors in the West are grossly underestimating the recessionary and disinflationary-deflationary forces of what is happening in Asia," he says. If he's right, at some point investors will flock to Treasury securities not just for safety but because the returns will beat everything else in sight. Biggs predicts that as inflation recedes this year, 30-year Treasury bond prices will rise, driving the yield down to 5% from about 6% today. In that environment, T-bonds could produce annual investment returns approaching 20%.

You've heard the case for bonds before? Fair enough. Some on Wall Street—Merrill Lynch, most notably—pound-



Advice for Investors: Play It Safe in'98

忠告投资商：98年投资要慎重

这是发表在美国《时代周刊》1998年1月12日刊上的一篇文章。该文以典型的英语习语 Play It Safe (办事要谨慎) 为标题，论说当前世界的股市行情。

TWO'S COMPANY



When Fidel Ramos steps down July 1, the country will have a rarity for Asia: a pair of ex-Presidents

By SANDRA BURTON



PEOPLE'S CHOICE Cory Aquino, campaigning for her party in Pampanga, is treated like a head of state even though she left office six years ago. She and Ramos plan to press for reform

Two's Company



两人成伴

这是发表在美国《时代周刊》1998年4月27日刊上的一篇文章的开头。该文的标题来自 Two's company, three is none (两人成伴, 三人不欢) 这条谚语的前半句。在英美报刊中, 以谚语作为标题的文章随处可见。这也是我们在本书中大量介绍英语谚语的原因之一。

Spare the Rod?

A study indicates a halt to spanking the level of violence in the U.S.; ci

By MICHAEL D. LEMONICK



BAD OLD DAYS? Not necessarily. In certain situations, say many pediatricians, a whack on the bottom may be good parenting.



Spare the Rod?

不用打孩子？

用谚语或取一条谚语的一部分作为文章的标题在英美报刊中并非罕见。这就是发表在美国《时代周刊》1997年8月25日刊上取 **Spare the rod and spoil the child** (孩子不打不成器) 这条谚语前半部分为标题的一篇文章的开始。从这一点，我们也不难领略到谚语在英语中的重要位置和重要性。

前 言

随着我国改革开放的不断深入，广大的语言工作者针对现有外语教学机制与社会迅猛发展的脱节现象，掀起一场轰轰烈烈的外语教学的改革。在这些立志于外语教学改革的语言工作者当中，有的孜孜探索新的教学方法，有的潜心研究新的教学模式，还有的投身于新型语言教科书和参考书的编写工作。作为在大学专门从事英语教学和研究的汪福祥同志，率先在英语教科书和参考书的编写方面做出了探索。他目前出版的这套《现代英语妙语语林》，可以说是个可贵的尝试和不小的成绩。

对于我国的广大英语爱好者来说，欲速而不达的现象烦扰着众多的英语学生，而为砥砺苦读多年但所获甚微的现实所感苦恼的人也绝不占少数。追究其因，大概可归为以下三点：其一可能是因为我国学生对英美人的思维方式，对他们的思想表达习惯以及对英美文化的内涵缺乏深入透彻的了解；其二可能是因为学生们学习所依照的英语教科书和参考书在内容的编排和学习方法的指导方面缺乏系统性和启发性；其三可能是因为学习方法不当而把大量的时间浪费在单词的记忆上。也许是由于意识到上述现象的存在并决心改变这种状况，汪福祥同志才着手以全新的角度编写教科书和参考书。这也就是《现代英语妙语语林》一书与众不同的三大特点。

第一，我国学生对英美人的思维方式和思想表达的语言习惯缺乏透彻的理解。把“我送你回家”说成 I'll send you home, 把

“干苦差事”说成 *do bitter work*, 把“学习很多知识”说成 *learning a lot of knowledge* 等等, 都是由缺乏了解英语表达习惯所致。为了解决这个问题,《语林》一书把大量的习语、口语、谚语以及俚语, 用短文或对话的形式介绍给读者, 使读者在具体的语言环境中获得英语习惯表达以及英美人思维方式的有关知识。更为重要的是, 该书作者把心理学有关记忆的理论付诸于教科书编写的具体实践之中, 使某些常用的习惯用语在不同的语言情景中反复出现。这样, 不但有助于加深学生们的记忆, 而且也为学生了解英美人的思维方式和获得准确使用英语习语的语感提供了足够的机会和具体的语言情景。

第二,《语林》一书在内容编排和材料的选择方面较传统的教材相比有较明显的突破。书中课文均由作者自己编写, 其内容都是围绕一个具体的思想话题展开的。每篇课文中融入了大量的习语、口语、俚语和谚语, 把这些精美的短语或短句自然和谐地贯穿于思想表达的整体课文之中, 使课文既有实用性很强的精美的习语和谚语, 又不乏思想的丰富性和创新意识。课文之后的谚语语林、习语语林、口语语林、俚语语林以及名人名言, 不但语篇短小精炼、妙语和习语成林, 且都是围绕一个具体的思想话题而展开的。这样的著述风格确实给人以耳目一新的感觉。更值得提及的是,《语林》一书中的课文和被称之为“语林”的短文或对话, 由于所囊括的习语或短语都是贯穿于具体的语言情景之中, 因此为读者提供了正确使用这些习语或短语的必要的语言环境。这一点是很多教科书所不及的。

第三, 编写教材既考虑到教材内容的丰富性和内容安排的科学性, 又考虑到教材使用者的切身利益和教材的可操作性, 可谓《语林》一书的另一大特点。纵观全书的课文、短文和对话, 作

者对重要的单词和词组都做了注释，这就为读者节省了查词典所需花费的大量时间。此外，书中对学生们应该掌握的词组或固定搭配都用黑体字标出，使人一目了然。这对提高学生的学习兴趣和加深学生的记忆都是个可贵的尝试。

作为一个在大学从教的教授来说，看了汪福祥同志的《语林》一书，我深刻体会到，作者有着深厚的写作和创作基础：他全面透彻地分析了教学实践中所出现的弊端，同时又十分了解学生在学习过程中所遇到的困难和障碍。他不但懂得时代的需求并具有教材编写框架更新的创新意识，同时也能把握并高度重视教材的可操作性并且熟悉正确引导学生学习英语的方式方法。正因为此，《语林》一书的作者才有可能在更新外语教材内容和结构的尝试中捧出这样的一颗果实。我相信，展现在读者面前的这本《现代英语妙语语林》一定能够成为广大英语爱好者的良师益友。

马登阁

1999年5月31日于北京

A Note of Recommendation

The appropriate use of idioms, proverbs, slang, famous quotations and other fixed expressions is notoriously difficult for non-native speakers, and for this reason language textbooks traditionally limit their content to vocabulary and grammar.

Why then does Professor Wang Fuxiang's book "Modern English Expressions in Spotlight", almost uniquely among English textbooks, concentrate on mastery of these expressions? There are many reasons for this. First, the use of these expressions gives the practical advantage of being able to convey quite complicated ideas in a short phrase, and thus increases communicative efficiency.

Their use is also one of the distinguishing characteristics of natural language. The ability to master even a small number of idioms or phrases can thus add greatly to the naturalness, sophistication, and liveliness of language expression.

Most importantly however is that a knowledge of these expressions is essential for comprehension of both conversation and written material. This comprehension occurs on two different levels. On one hand, such knowledge enables the listener or reader to understand the specific meaning of particular sentences or utterances. On the other hand, since each expression contains within it some historical or cultural reference, and often implies some set of values, a

study of these expressions provides a powerful means of learning to understand the world from the point of view of another culture.

This book is not only one of the few to concentrate on teaching these valuable English expressions, it is also very distinctive in its approach. As important as idioms, proverbs, or other phrases are to the learning of English, individual expressions generally occur too frequently in normal speech or writing to allow students sufficient opportunities to master them. Professor Wang Fuxiang's book, by contrast, provides extensive material where such expressions occur at a much higher rate than normal. This gives the student the chance to thoroughly learn individual phrases by seeing them repeated several times in different contexts. More importantly however, the sheer number of expressions used in each passage, forces the reader to abandon normal literal comprehension strategies, and instead to develop the ability to understand the language in a more intuitive way typical of native speakers. In a word, Professor Wang Fuxiang's book is uniquely a practical new textbook and distinctively well-structured work that enables readers of English to master idiomatic English expressions with comparatively high efficiency. For this reason, as a native speaker of English, I highly recommend this book.



Stephen Ginpil

May 31st, 1999

专家的话

正确使用英语习语、谚语、俚语、名言古训以及其它固定搭配词组，对于非英语国家的外国学生来说是极其困难的。正因为此，语言教科书的内容才一贯局限于单词的学习和语法的掌握。

由汪福祥教授所编写的这本书，在所有英语教科书中，可谓是独树一帜。那么该书为什么要集中传授英语习语和短语的掌握方法呢？其原因有很多。首先，使用这些短语在语言应用中有利于通过较短的词组传递颇为复杂的思想概念，因而有助于提高交际的效率。

习惯用语的使用还具有语言自然表达的最明显的特征。能够掌握哪怕是为数不多的习语或固定搭配词组，都能使语言的自然表达大放异彩并增添语言表达的活泼生动性。

更为重要的是，了解这些固定搭配词组对理解言谈话语和书面语言材料的内容是至关重要的。对言谈话语以及书面语言材料的理解表现在两个不同的层面：其一，这种理解能使听者或读者懂得某一特定语句或话语的具体含意；其二，由于每一个固定搭配词组本身包含着特定的历史或文化内涵，且时常含有特定的文化价值观，因此，研学这些固定搭配词组能为学生学会从另外一种文化的视角理解这个世界提供一种十分有效的途径。

这本书在集中传授这些具有很高实用价值的固定搭配词组的知识方面不仅是少见的，而且其著书的方法也是独具匠心的。对于英语学习来说，介绍习语、谚语和其它搭配词组固然重要，但