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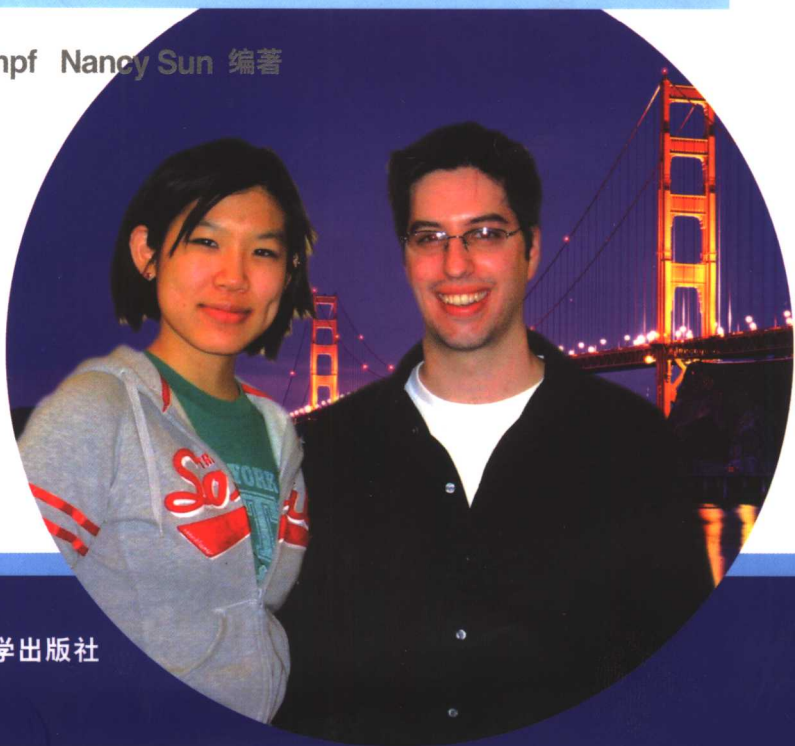
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Drew and Nancy's
American Daily Life

Nancy的 美国生活英语

两个老美Drew，Nancy为你写的书。讲述真实鲜活的语言、文化和故事。本书展示了当代美国年轻人的真实生活。既是你在美国的生活向导，又是你学习地道英语的良师益友。读过本书，你可以全方位的体验美国年轻人的吃穿住行和交友娱乐

Drew Kumpf Nancy Sun 编著



大连理工大学出版社

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马建军 时真妹 审译



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Preface



Drew and I wrote this book with the intent of giving Chinese students a better understanding of American culture while learning English. As former English teachers in China, we were frequently asked about our lives at university, what young people in the US did for fun, and what was 'in' and 'out'. Our students frequently wanted not only to learn English that was grammatically correct but also English that they commonly heard in movies and on their favorite TV shows. They wanted a better understanding of the jokes people told and the lifestyle in which Americans lived. Drew and I created this book in order to give more students learning English that insight. We learned so much about the life, culture, and youth of China while living here and learning Chinese that we thought this would be the perfect way to give something back. We want to share our American lives, culture, and experience with you with the same generosity you showed us.

In this book, you will learn English words and phrases commonly used in everyday conversation. While most Chinese students are well-educated in the fundamentals of English grammar, we found that many did not have the vocabulary necessary for daily living. While Chinese students could discuss the cultural differences between Eastern and Western cultures in English, for example, they did not know how to order food, buy clothes, or purchase toiletries. We wrote this book to give our readers that basic vocabulary and provide them a glimpse into the day-to-day lives of twentysomethings in the United States. While it is great to talk about complex issues with native English speakers, it is important to first know



A girl with a large leaf on her back, possibly a fairy or a character from a story, is positioned in the top left corner. The background is decorated with scattered leaves and faint floral patterns.

how to build friendships with them through common activities such as living, eating, shopping, and traveling together.

We introduce you to these activities through the eyes of Lo, a Chinese student working abroad in the United States. In each section of this book, Lo's helpful American coworkers and colleagues help him to understand living in America. Following each dialogue, we offer you further insight to the U.S. with 'Culture Minute,' a short passage about some aspects of American culture which are different from those of China. We also remind you not to commit some common Chinglish mistakes in 'Beware the English!' These are mistakes that Chinese students learning English frequently commit because they are used to thinking in Chinese and simply translating those Chinese thoughts into English. We use this section to help you begin thinking in English so that your language skills can improve more rapidly. We do not want you to lose your way of thinking, we just want you to be able to communicate those ideas more clearly so that native English speakers can understand you.

We hope that you are able to use all of these sections in your English studies. This book is the perfect resource for readers who want to understand more about the U.S., make American friends, or are planning to study abroad.

Thank you again for choosing this book and good luck with all your English endeavors!

Best,

Drew Kumpf and Nancy Sun

The Authors

2006.3

使用 锦囊

本书为你熟练掌握原汁原味的美国真实生活英语提供了一条捷径。本书不同于市面上其他的按照所谓口语场景和套路编写的图书，在每个真实的场景下，你见不到所谓惯用句型和一些很不地道的英语表达。一个个真实场景下的故事，一句句风趣实用的英语，帮助读者在领略美国年轻人生活的同时，掌握英语最地道最时尚的表达。

本书的使用方法如下：

妙计一：跟我一起来异域文化采风

全书按照衣食住行四大方面来安排图书内容。每个方面下面安排了若干活动。建议你先学习每个场景下面的文化采风，告诉你在这种场景下秀你的英语时你必须掌握的文化细节。

妙计二：聆听对话。

建议读者听两遍录音。体会其中的地道表达，再看书中的语言文字内容。对于你第一次看到的表达方式和说法，一定要标注出来。这里的语言才是纯正的。

妙计三：来词汇超市转转。

这里给读者提供了这个场景下可能出现的所有单词，而且场景的设计是全美国式的。给你最充分的语料保证你在说英语时“言之有物”。单词的分类方式实用方便。你来超市按照分类挑你自己想学习的词汇吧。

妙计四：小心掉进语言陷阱。

来看看中国人有哪些中式英语的表达方式吧。看懂了以后你记得告诉你的朋友，别再这样讲英语了！





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Chapter One

Living in America

住在美国

王先生(Lo)来自中国,第一次来美国做实习医生。接下来他会带着你认识他的室友Kevin,并发生一连串有趣的故事……

在本章中,王先生开始住酒店,接着租公寓。跟着他,你会了解美国的居住文化以及真实的语言表达, Come on, Are you ready?





Booking a Hotel Room

预订房间



异城文化聚网

Cultural Minute

Cash, credit, or debit? 美国的无现金交易

When paying for a hotel, food, or anything in America, you will often be asked, "Cash, credit, or debit?". Here, the cashier is asking you your payment method: if you would like to pay your bill in cash or with a credit or debit card. The United States is fast becoming a cashless society. People here do not often carry a large wad of cash in their wallet; they prefer to keep it safe in a bank and deal with their transactions on a card. This way they do not have to worry about loose change and have a record of what they spend with their credit card company or with their bank. Many stores and restaurants are catering to credit and debit cards by even letting you tip on your card and offering to give you cash back. When you pay with your debit card and the cashier asks if you want cash back, he or she is asking if you want to withdraw money directly from your bank in addition to paying your bill. In this way, certain stores even act as ATMs (Automated Teller Machines)!

When using a credit or debit card, though, be careful to watch what you spend. Often times people forget how much money they are



spending because they are not watching their wallet get thinner and thinner. Still keep track of your budget so you won't be surprised when your monthly credit card bill and bank statement arrive!

在美国,住旅馆、买食物或为其他东西付款时,您经常会碰到这样的问题:“现金、信用卡还是银行卡?”这里,出纳员是问您支付的方式:用现金、信用卡还是银行卡支付。美国正在飞速地朝无现金社会演变。在那里,人们不会在钱包里放很多钱,他们宁愿把钱放在银行里,用一张卡进行交易。这样人们就不必担心准备零钱了,并且对自己花的钱还有个记录。许多商店和饭店专门使用信用卡和银行卡,他们甚至允许顾客用信用卡和银行卡支付小费和提取现金。当您用银行卡支付时,出纳员会问您是否要“取回现金”,他/她其实是在问您除了支付账单,是否还要从您的银行账户上提钱。这样,有些商店甚至扮演着自动取款机的角色!

使用信用卡或银行卡时,一定要注意看您都买了什么东西,花了多少钱。人们时常忘了花了多少钱,因为他们看不到钱包越来越瘪了。清楚掌握您的预算,这样在一个月一次的信用卡账单和银行报表来到时,您就不会吃惊了!

Dialogue 聆听对话

Lo just arrived at a hotel after taking a taxi from the airport. He has just arrived in the United States for the first time after flying from Beijing. He has come to the U. S. to do an internship. 罗刚刚打车从机场来到了旅馆。他是第一次坐飞机从北京来到美国。他来美国是做实习医师的。



★ Requesting a Hotel Room 住店

- Virginia: Welcome. My name is Virginia and thank you for choosing the Hudson Inn. How can I help you? 欢迎您。我是维吉尼亚。谢谢您选择了哈德森旅馆。您要住店吗?
- Lo: Hi! I would like a room please. 你好! 请给我一个房间。
- Virginia: Alright. We have quite a selection for you to choose from. There are double rooms with twin beds, rooms with king-sized beds, suites, or, if you'd like, our presidential suite on the top floor. 好的。我们有很多房间供您选择。有双人标准间,有带特大号床的房间、套房,如果您喜欢的话,我们顶楼还有总统套房。
- Lo: A king-sized bed sounds great. 特大号床听起来不错。
- Virginia: Alright sir. How many nights will you be staying with us? 好的,先生。你要在这住几个晚上?
- Lo: A few nights—I'm not quite sure of my schedule yet. 就几个晚上——我也不确定我的时间表。
- Virginia: OK. I'll just need to see a credit card and some form of picture I. D., driver's license, passport... 好的。我需要看一下您的信用卡和有照片的证件,如身份证、驾照、护照等。
- Lo: Here you are. 给你。



★ Discussing Room Quality 讨论房间的质量

- Lo:** What is the rate for a room with a king-sized bed for one night?
- Virginia:** Since it is low season, we are running a special rate right now of \$75 per night. That rate also includes a free continental breakfast in the morning and free access to our workout room and indoor pool.
- Lo:** What about the features in the room?
- Virginia:** Our rooms are newly remodeled and include a coffee maker, television set, heat and air-conditioning, and a bathroom.
- Lo:** Does the TV have cable?
- Virginia:** Yes, sir. Our cable includes all the major networks, movie channels and a special hotel channel with information on local tourist attractions.
- 特大号床的房间一晚上多少钱?
- 因为现在是淡季,我们打特价,每天晚上75美元。这个价格包括免费的欧式早餐和免费进入我们的健身房和室内游泳池。
- 房间设施怎么样?
- 我们的房间都是新改造的,里面有咖啡壶、电视机、暖气和空调,还有一个浴室。
- 电视是有线的吗?
- 是的,先生。我们的有线包括所有主要的网络、电影频道和一个特殊的旅馆频道,这个频道有关于当地旅游景点的信息。

- Lo: Sounds great! 听起来不错啊!
- Virginia: Here is your card and passport back, Sir. My, that's a large suitcase! I'll have the bellboy help you bring that up to your room. You are staying in room 719 which is on the seventh floor. Elevators are straight back through the lobby. 这是您的信用卡和护照,先生。天啊,这个手提箱可真大啊!我会叫服务员帮您把箱子送到您的房间里。您是在7楼的719房间。穿过大厅,后面就是电梯。
- Lo: Thanks very much! 非常感谢!

★ Requesting Information 询问信息

There is a knock at the door—Lo opens it. 有人敲门,罗去开门。

- Lo: Oh, hello! 哦,你好!
- Bellboy: Luggage for Mr. Wang. Where would you like your suitcase, sir? 王先生的行李。给您放在哪,先生?
- Lo: You can just put it on the bed, thanks. 你先放在床上就行了,谢谢。
- Bellboy: Do you like your room, sir? 先生,您喜欢您的房间吗?
- Lo: Oh, yes. It's very comfortable, just a bit stuffy. 哦,是的。很舒服,就是有点不通风。
- Bellboy: Let me open the window for you. 我帮您打开窗户吧。

- Lo:** Also, before you go, could you tell me where to eat around here? I'm trying to find a good place to have dinner.
- Bellboy:** Certainly. Our hotel lobby has an excellent restaurant and we also offer room service whose selections can be found on the menu in the folder on top of your desk. In addition we have a few local restaurants that will deliver to your room and can be contacted through our front desk. Is there anything else?
- Lo:** No, thank you. That will be all. Here's a tip for your troubles.
- Bellboy:** Much appreciated, sir. Have a great stay.
- 离开前,能告诉我一下这附近有什么吃饭的地方吗?我想尽量找一个不错的吃饭的地方。
- 当然了。我们旅馆的大厅有一家很好的餐馆。我们还提供送餐服务,这些在您桌子上的小册子中的菜单条目里都介绍了。另外,我们还有一些送餐上门的当地餐馆,您可以通过前台跟他们联系。还有其他事情吗?
- 没了,谢谢你。没事了。这是给你的小费。
- 太感谢了,先生。祝您愉快。



Vocabulary Bank 词汇超市

Types of Hotel Accommodation 宾馆类型

bed n' breakfast		住宿加(次日)早餐
hotel	n.	旅馆, 大旅社
inn	n.	(尤指乡村或公路边的) 旅馆, 客栈
motel	n.	汽车旅馆

Types of Room Accommodation 客房类型

double room		双人标准间
stuffy ~ 不通风的		双人标准间
penthouse	n.	高级住房
single room		单人间
suite	n.	套房

Room Amenities 房间中的设施

balcony	n.	阳台
heat	n.	暖气
air conditioning		空调
remote (control)	n.	遥控器
twin bed		单人床(两张一式的)
double bed		双人床
king-sized bed		最大号床
mattress	n.	床; 床垫
toiletries	n.	洗漱用具
bathrobe	n.	浴衣
slipper	n.	拖鞋
toothbrush	n.	牙刷
toothpaste	n.	牙膏
shampoo	n.	洗发精
continental breakfast		欧式早餐
complimentary/free ~		免费赠送的欧式早餐



“What is the meaning of...?” or “What do you mean?”

Often times Chinglish speakers will ask “What is the meaning?” when they don’t understand something that was said in conversation. If they don’t understand what a word means, for instance, they will say “What is the meaning of...?” Although this sentence is grammatically correct, this sentence pattern is usually used for asking deep, philosophical questions like “What is the meaning of life?” If you simply are asking someone to rephrase their thoughts or clarify a word, however, saying “What do you mean?” or “What does... mean?” is more appropriate.

在用英语的交谈中,当不明白对方某个词或某句话的意思时,你通常会怎么问?你是这样问的吗?“What is the meaning (of...)?”这就是中国英语学习者的习惯。其实,“What is the meaning of...”此句型符合语法,但常用于询问比较深奥、哲理性强的问题。比如你可以说“What is the meaning of life?”(人生的意义是什么?)那么我们到底该怎样问普通事物是什么意思呢?只要说“What do you mean?”或是“What does... mean?”就可以了。下次记得别说错了啊!