

# 美语会话 学习辅导用书

• 中央电视台教育节目用书 •

AMERICAN SCENES

上海外语教育出版社



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## 前 言

《美语会话》(American Scenes) 的出版和播讲受到了广大英语学习者, 尤其是那些对美国英语感兴趣的自学爱好者的普遍欢迎。与此同时, 他们也提出了一些建设性意见, 希望有一本用英语注释讲解、增添有关美国情况的知识、便于理解运用的学习辅导用书。

《美语会话》学习辅导用书就是根据广大英语学习者的上述希望而编写的。本书安排如下:

1. 各课难点注释及背景知识全部用通俗易懂的英语写成。增加了难点注释和背景知识; 注意用不同的方式来意译同一语言难点; 尽量讲清字词句的涵义。

2. 每课会话均译成汉语, 附在难点注释之后, 便于初学者对照阅读, 准确理解。

3. 每一课的练习都包括 Aural Comprehension, Grammar, Situational Dialog, Colloquial Expressions, Language Functions 等部分; 此外, 每课会话均用汉语改编成叙述文, 以汉译英的形式编入练习, 目的在于进一步培养学生的英语叙述能力。

4. 全书最后部分为各课练习的答案。

这本学习辅导用书的难点注释是在《美语会话》课本的基础上, 参考了一些英语课本而写成的。在此, 我们对参与《美语会话》课本编写工作的中山大学的陈永培、翁显雄和林连书三位老师表示感谢。

中央电视台委托陕西省外国语师范专科学校汪可生副教授负责编写这本《美语会话》学习辅导用书, 并聘请上海外国语大学李观仪教授审阅了全部书稿, 在此一并致谢。希望

使用本书的同志随时把意见寄给我们，以便今后修改订正。

中央电视台教育节目部

1994.3.

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## Unit 1

# Mr. Grouch

### Notes to Text

#### 1. Mr. Grouch

The title contains a play on words. The writer purposely chooses the word "grouch" as the name of the man to imply that he loses his temper easily and likes to complain about everything.

#### 2. This place is a madhouse!

Mr. Grouch compares the place to a madhouse without using "like". Instead of saying "This place is like a madhouse", he shouts, "This place is a madhouse!" Here you can sense his strong dissatisfaction and anger with everything around him.

#### 3. Everybody is pushing and shoving!

"Shove" is a much stronger and more emotional word than "push". It means to push especially in a rough and careless way. The two words are used together for emphasis.

#### 4. I want a ticket to New York.

This is an impolite way of asking for a ticket. Mr. Grouch could have been more polite by saying, "I'd like a ticket to New York, please."

#### 5. One-way or round trip?

This is American English. In British English it would be: "Single or return?"

(1) **round trip** (BrE return): (of a ticket or its cost) for a trip from one

place to another and back again.

(2) **one-way** (BrE single): (of a ticket or its cost) for a trip from one place to another but not back again.

6. **I don't want to hang around here any longer.**

The phrasal verb "hang around" means to stay near (a place or person) with no clear purpose or activity. This sentence indicates that Mr. Grouch is anxious to leave the place as soon as possible.

Look at how "hang around" is used in sentences:

- a. The principal warned the students not to hang around the corner drugstore after school. (He told them not to gather in or near the drugstore.) (校长提醒学生放学之后，不要在拐角处的杂货店附近闲呆着。)
- b. I wish he would stop hanging around and do something useful. (我希望他不要闲呆着，而是做点有用的事情。)
- c. I hung around for an hour, but he didn't come. (我闲呆了一个小时，可他却没来。)

7. **It's too spread out.**

It's too big. It covers a wide area. Most cities in America are more compact, so the distance across the city is not very long. But Los Angeles covers a large area of land—you can drive for hours in L.A..

8. **Cold cash** (also called **hard cash**): ready money, e.g.

We wanted to give him a check, but he demanded cold cash (hard cash).

9. **I don't believe in plastic money or credit cards, or any of that.**

(1) **believe in**: to have faith or trust in (something or someone), e.g.

- a. Christians believe in God and Jesus. (基督教徒信仰上帝和耶稣。)
- b. I don't believe in ghosts. (我不信鬼。)
- c. Jim believes in fresh air and exercise for his health. (吉姆相信新鲜空气和锻炼对他的身体健康有好处。)

(2) **credit card**: a card issued by a business firm. The person with the

card can get goods and services without paying any cash. The cost is recorded (written down, noted) in his account and paid later.

Many Americans often pay for things with credit cards. Credit cards are small rectangular plastic cards. Banks or credit agencies issue these cards to their customers. Usually you must pay an annual fee for these credit cards. When a customer buys something at a store, he shows his credit card. This authorizes the store to charge the bank for the customers' purchase. The bank collects all the charges for each customer and pays the creditors. Then once a month the bank requires the customer to pay all the charges for that month. The bank doesn't force the customer to pay the full amount. It allows the customer to pay for charges in several payments over a period of time. However, the bank requires the customer to pay interest on the unpaid part of the charges. In this way the bank allows customers to buy things that they can not afford at one time. People can use the cards to buy what they want and pay for it over a period of time. They also do not need to carry a lot of money.

(3) **plastic money**: Credit cards are referred to as plastic money because they are made of plastic.

(4) **any of that**: anything of that kind

10. Listen, can you hurry it up?

Listen, can you do your work faster (quickly)?

The pronoun "it" stands for the work the clerk is doing. Maybe she is counting the money or checking the computer for available flights and seats.

11. **You're taking forever! : You're very slow!**

**take forever**: take a very long time, i.e., do things very slowly

12. **last time I checked in...**: Last time I came here to buy a plane ticket / to make a flight reservation

**check in**: to report one's arrival, as at a hotel desk, airport, etc., e.g.

- a. What time am I supposed to check in? (我应该什么时候去办理登机手续?)
- b. Please check in not later than 10:20 a.m.. (办理登机手续请不要迟于上午 10 时 20 分。)
- c. You go and check in while I pay the taxi drive. (你去登记, 我去付出租汽车司机的钱。)
- d. Everyone has to check in at the factory by nine o'clock. (每个人都得在 9 点钟之前去工厂报到。)

**13. I'm supposed to get a special meal.**

"Be supposed to" means almost the same as "should". It is used to talk about what people have to do according to the rules or the law (because of duty, responsibility, or other conditions) or about what is expected to be done, e.g.

- a. You're supposed to start work at 8:30 every morning. (你应该每天早晨 8 点 30 分开始工作。)
- b. Everyone is supposed to wear a seat belt in the car. (车里的每个人都应该系上安全带。)

"Not supposed to" often expresses prohibition, e.g.

- a. People under eighteen aren't supposed to buy alcoholic drinks. (不满 18 岁的人不准购买含有酒精的饮料。)
- b. You're not supposed to smoke in here. (你不能在这儿抽烟。)

Note that "suppose" has a special pronunciation in the expression "supposed to": /sə'pəʊst tu:/, not /sə'pauzd tu:/. The same thing happens with "used to".

**14. Now last time I had a special salad plate.**

The adverb "now" is used to get attention or give an order, e.g.

- a. Now what do you mean? (你到底是什么意思?)(不耐烦的口气)
- b. Now listen to me. (且听我讲。)(命令口气)

**15. We need twenty-four hours' notice for special meals.** We can't prepare special meals for anybody unless we're told about this twenty-four hours before. / You should request special meals twenty-four hours be-

fore. / If you want to have special meals you should let us know twenty-four hours before (in advance).

**notice:** a warning or information about something to happen, e.g.

Can you be ready at 10 minutes' notice / at short notice? (= if I tell you only 10 minutes / a short time before) [10 分钟前通知你 (一接到通知), 你能准备好吗?]

#### 16. What!

The interjection "what" is used to show surprise, anger, annoyance or disbelief, e.g.

What! He didn't come? (什么! 他没来?)

17. **Well, I don't give up so easily.**: I don't believe your words at all. I won't stop trying to ask for special meals. Don't think that I'm an easy person to deal with.

**give up:** to stop trying to do something, e.g.

a. I won't try any more. I give up. (我再也不尝试了, 我认输。)

b. I argued with him for hours, but had to give up in the end. (我和他辩论了几个钟头, 最后只好认输。)

c. Don't give up. You may still succeed. (不要泄气, 你还有成功的可能。)

## [参 考 译 文]

### 第 1 课 牢骚先生

办事员: 下一位! 早上好, 您要去哪儿的机票?

格劳奇: 这个地方简直是个疯人院! 人人都在你推我搡!

办事员: 是的, 我知道。我们缺少人手, 今天这里的客人又很多。请问您要去哪儿的机票?

格劳奇: 一张去纽约的机票。

办事员：好。要单程票还是来回票？

格劳奇：当然是单程票。我可不想再在这儿呆下去了。去年我来洛杉矶就不喜欢它。每年因公来这里都觉得讨厌。这地方太大，太热，烟雾太多！

办事员：总共是375美元。您怎样付机票费？

格劳奇：当然是用现款。我不喜欢用塑料钱，也就是信用卡，或者诸如此类的东西。喂，我说你能不能快点？你怎么慢吞吞的！上次我来办乘机手续，办事员只用了几秒钟就办好了。

办事员：先生，我尽量快。您要靠通道的座位还是靠窗口的座位？

格劳奇：靠窗口的座位。

办事员：您要吸烟区还是非吸烟区的座位？

格劳奇：当然是非吸烟区的！你看我像个抽烟的人吗？难道我这双眼睛是抽烟人的眼睛？哦，顺便说一句，我得吃特定的食物。这是医生的嘱咐——我不能吃肉。上次就是给了我一盘特制生菜色拉。这次我还想要一盘那样的生菜色拉！

办事员：对不起，我没有办法帮您解决。要提前24小时通知，我们才能供应特殊伙食。

格劳奇：什么？你们不能给我供应我要的特制色拉？

办事员：对不起，我是想这么做，但我实在无能为力。

格劳奇：那好，我可不是那么容易就此罢休的。你们的主管人在哪儿？他在哪儿？

办事员：是她！

注：Grouch一词在题目中是意译，而在对话中改为音译，以后各课凡属类似情况，均照此处理。

## Exercises

## I. Aural Comprehension

A. Decide whether the following statements are true or false. Write T / F in the parentheses provided for a true / false statement.

- ( ) 1. The airline has plenty of help at the check in counter.
- ( ) 2. Mr. Grouch wants a round-trip ticket to New York.
- ( ) 3. Mr. Grouch comes to Los Angeles on business once a year.
- ( ) 4. Mr. Grouch wants to pay by credit card.
- ( ) 5. Mr. Grouch can't get a special meal.

B. Answer the following questions based on the information you got from viewing:

- 1. What's the airport like?
- 2. What does Mr. Grouch think of Los Angeles?
- 3. Why does he hate Los Angeles?
- 4. What does he start complaining to the agent about?
- 5. How long did it take him to check in the last time he flew?
- 6. How come he needs to order a special meal?
- 7. What was he given the last time he flew?
- 8. Why can't he get a special meal this time?

## II. Grammar

Fill in each blank with the appropriate form of the verb in the parentheses:

A: \_\_\_\_\_ (Be) anything wrong?

B: I just \_\_\_\_\_ (talk) to my mother. My father \_\_\_\_\_ (have) a heart attack and he's in the hospital. I \_\_\_\_\_ (have) to go home.

A: Gee, I \_\_\_\_\_ (hope) it's not serious. \_\_\_\_\_ (Be) there anything I can do?

B: No, I \_\_\_\_\_ (not think) so, but thanks anyway.

A: When \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (leave)?

- B: I \_\_\_\_\_ (not know). I haven't make a reservation yet.  
 A: When \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (want) to go?  
 B: Tonight if I can get a reservation. Otherwise I'll go tomorrow.  
 I \_\_\_\_\_ (guess) I'd better call and find out.

### III. Situational Dialog

Give polite and friendly responses to the lines:

Clerk: Good morning. May I help you?

Mr. Smith: \_\_\_\_\_.

Clerk: Okay. One-way or round trip?

Mr. Smith: \_\_\_\_\_.

Clerk: That'll be \$ 375. How would you like to pay?

Mr. Smith: \_\_\_\_\_.

Clerk: Fine. Smoking or nonsmoking section?

Mr. Smith: \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ ? (Requests a special meal.)

Clerk: I'm sorry. We need twenty-four hours' notice for special meals.

Mr. Smith: \_\_\_\_\_.

Clerk: I'm sorry. We'd like to help, but there's no way.

Mr. Smith: \_\_\_\_\_.

### IV. Colloquial Expressions

Use the following colloquial expressions to complete the dialogs:

take forever, hang around, any longer, by the way,  
 plastic money, shorthanded, give up, madhouse

1. A: Can you believe this? This place is a \_\_\_\_\_ today!  
 B: I know, and I think they're \_\_\_\_\_ today, too. I see only two customs officers behinds the counter.  
 A: Well, this is \_\_\_\_\_. I can't wait \_\_\_\_\_. I'm really in a hurry.  
 B: I don't think you have a choice!
2. A: C'mon. Let's get out of here.  
 B: What do you mean? You haven't gotten your ticket yet!  
 A: This is \_\_\_\_\_. I don't want to \_\_\_\_\_ here \_\_\_\_\_.  
 B: Don't \_\_\_\_\_ yet. It'll only take a few more minutes.  
 A: Oh, I suppose you're right.  
 B: \_\_\_\_\_, did you bring enough cash with you in case they don't accept your credit card?  
 A: Oh, don't be silly! Everyone takes \_\_\_\_\_ these days.

## V. Language Functions

A. Check the answers that are appropriate:

1. You are a passenger on board a plane. How could you ask the flight attendant for another cup of coffee?  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Give me another cup of coffee.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Could I get another cup of coffee?  
 \_\_\_\_\_ I'd like another cup of coffee, please.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ I want another cup of coffee.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ How about some more coffee?
2. You are the flight attendant. How could you accept the above passenger's request?  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Sure.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Yes, of course.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Okay.
3. You are going over a report with one of your business associates. How could you ask her for a copy of the report?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you think you can give me a copy of this?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Give me a copy of this.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Could I trouble you to give me a copy of this?
4. You are the above person's business associate. How could you turn down the request for a copy?
- \_\_\_\_\_ No, I can't.
- \_\_\_\_\_ No, I'm sorry.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I'm sorry. Our copy machine is broken.

B. Complete the dialog below, using the following expressions to express dislike:

I don't (particularly) care for...

I'm not fond of...

I'm not crazy about...

I don't like...

I can't stand...

I hate...

1. A: Aren't you eating anything?  
B: No, \_\_\_\_\_ airline food.
2. A: Do you want to go to see a war movie with me tonight?  
B: Oh, forget it! \_\_\_\_\_ war pictures.
3. A: Are you planning to study law or accounting?  
B: Law, \_\_\_\_\_ accounting.
4. A: Help yourself to some cheese.  
B: Oh, no, thank you. \_\_\_\_\_ cheese.

**VI. Translate orally the following passage into English, using the words or expressions given below:**