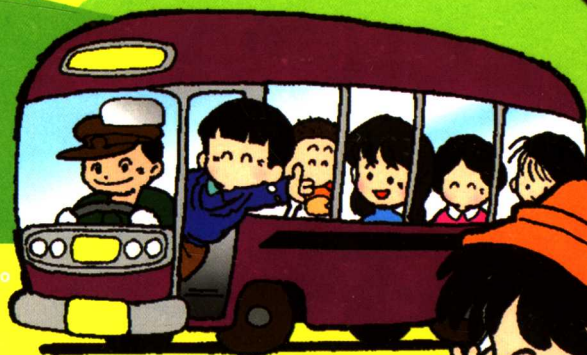


说英语 话家常



刘宇红 编著
湖南人民出版社

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前 言

《说英语，话家常》是一本口语教材，或者说是一本口语读物。全书包括九个部分，涉及日常生活的方方面面，如聊天聚会、出行购物、交通旅游、餐饮住宿等等。当然，日常生活中的谈话内容是远不止这些方面的，大到国家大事，小到鸡毛蒜皮，都可以成为街谈巷议的话题，茶余饭后的谈资。即便是同一个主题，不同的人在不同的场合与不同的对象都可以谈出不同的内容来。所以本书只能尽量做到内容全面，并不奢望穷尽全部的话题，因为这种企图只是徒劳的。

作为教材，笔者考虑到了初学者的困难，所以对较难理解的词句加了注解，辅以例句，读者在读完一篇后可以在假想的情境中举一反三，提高口头表达水平；作为读物，读者可以从前往后逐篇阅读，了解英语本族语者的思维习惯、待人接物的方式和言语应答的技巧，对消除跨文化交际中的焦虑情绪、减少文化冲突会有较大的功效。

语言是交际工具，学习语言是为了掌握一种工具。应试教育在外语教学中的最大流弊就是把一门外语当作一种知识来学，而不是当作交流思想、表情达意的工具来学。前者是“learn a language”，后者是“learn about a language”。指导思想的不同会导致完全不同的学习效率和学习效果。笔者曾经在给某高校外语系一年级学生上课时，用英语向一位同学提了几个问题，但学生并没有回答我的提问，而是将问题一一译成汉语。这说明了一个问题，在这名学生的心中，英语只是一种可以对它进行操作、处理和转换的知识，而不是一问一答中实现沟通的工具，或者说，

英语不是一种操作平台，而是被操作和处理的对象，这名学生只有中文的操作平台。这是外语教学的失败，也是外语教学工作者的失败。

口头语言是语言中最重要的部分，它是书面语言的基础，也是书面语言发展变化的推动力量。这种观念在现代外语教学中已成为共识，虽然对它的落实还远不尽人意。现代语言学理论也早已告别传统语言学将正规的书面语言奉为圭臬的作法，口头语言成为各语言学流派一致的研究对象。笔者作为一位从事语言理论的研究者，深感现实的严峻和责任的重大，但愿本书的出版能有助于扭转时弊，那样一来，笔者心中的不安和忧虑或许也能稍稍缓解。惟其如此，才不枉笔者编写此书之初衷。

本书的编写实在时间紧迫，因为我现在既是授业于人的先生，也是求学于斯的学生。再过半年的时间，我就要戴上我钦羨已久的博士帽，离开复旦大学这美丽的校园，所以赶写博士论文是我的当务之急，但对于本书的编写我还是不敢造次，因为著书一事，必当无愧于己，也无愧于人；无负于时代，也无负于后人。

书中纰漏、不周全之处，敬请读者原谅。

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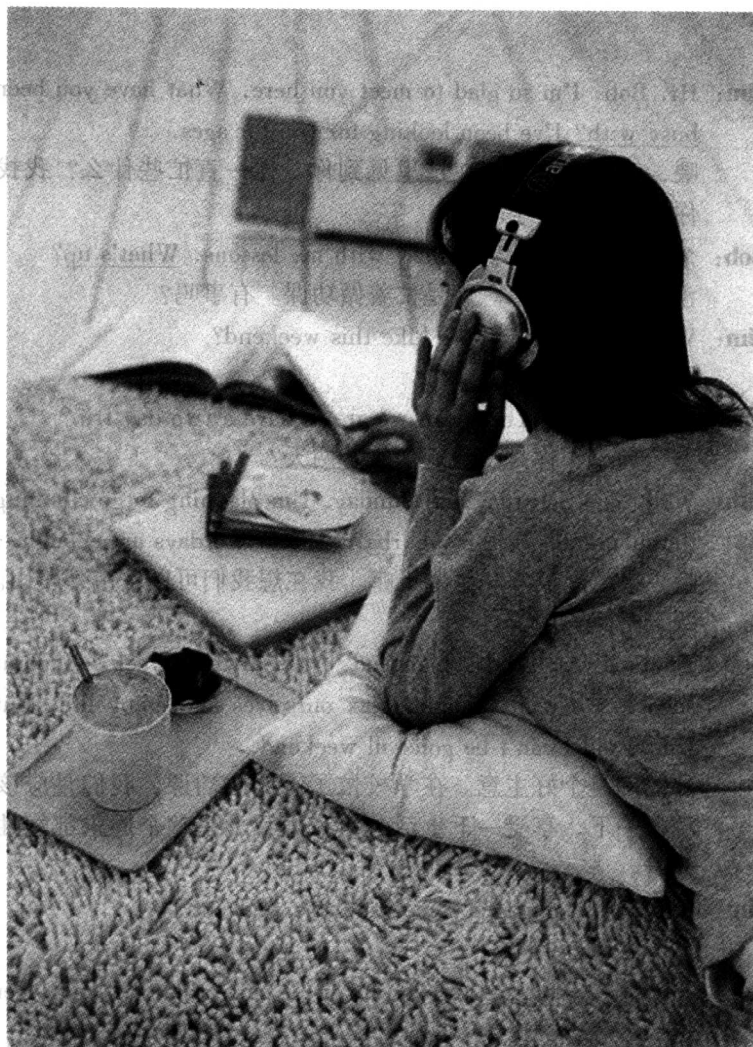
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1. 节假日

Weekend Plans 周末计划



Weekend Plans 周末计划

Jim: Hi, Bob. I'm so glad to meet you here. What have you been busy with? I've been looking for you for ages.

喂，鲍伯。很高兴在这里见到你。你一直忙些什么？我找你找得可辛苦了。

Bob: Nothing special. Just busy with my lessons. What's up?
没什么特别的事。就是忙着做功课。有事吗？

Jim: What about going on a hike this weekend?
周末去郊游你看怎样？

Bob: All weekend? You mean we are to have a two day trip?
整个周末？你是说我们去旅游两天？

Jim: Well, just Saturday and Sunday. I'm planning to go climbing the mountains in the suburbs. I think two days are enough.
哎，也就星期六和星期天嘛。我在想我们可以去市郊爬山。两天时间够用了。

Bob: That's a very good idea indeed. After a whole week's study at school, we really should relax ourselves and enjoy life. But I'm afraid I can't be gone all weekend.
那的确是个好主意。在学校忙了一周的功课，我们是应该放松一下，享受一下生活。但我想我不是整个周末都能抽出身。

Jim: Will you be engaged some time this weekend?
周末你还有事吗？

Bob: Yes, I've promised to help my sister move this weekend. Her

family has just rented a new flat. It's much larger than the one where they are living now. She wanted to carry some of her furniture there and buy some new. She thought I'd be of great help.

是的，我答应周末帮我姐姐搬家。她们家刚租了一套新公寓，比现在住的宽敞多了。她想搬一些家俱过去，另外再买一些新的。她认为我能帮上大忙。

Jim: What a pity! How about Sunday then? I can also help your sister move on Saturday. It'll be quicker with the two of us helping. We could start off early on Saturday morning. One day for a trip is a little bit too short, but at least it's much better than not going at all.

多扫兴！星期天去郊游怎样？那么星期六我可以帮你姐姐搬家，有两人帮忙会搬得快些。我们可以星期六一大早就动手。一天的郊游时间是短了些，但总比不去的好。

Bob: I might be able to do that. With your help, we can save some time. But let me check first and then I'll call you at home this evening. Does that sound OK?

也许我可以去。有你帮忙，我们可以省下些时间。但我得先确认一下，今晚我打电话到你家，你看行吗？

Jim: That's great. I'll be waiting for your call and expecting good news from you.

那好。我就等你的电话，听你的好消息。

Bob: OK! Let's talk it over later. I have to go to my sister's now. They must be waiting for me. See you.

好吧，我们以后再说吧。我现在得去我姐姐家了。他们肯定正在等我。再见。

Jim: So long.

再见。

Bob: By the way, be sure to get prepared for the trip.

另外, 千万要做好去旅游的准备。

Jim: Yes, and you too.

好的, 你也别忘了。

Bob: Sure. I'll do my share.

当然, 我会做好我的准备。

Jim: No problem.

没问题。

注释:

1. **busy with = busy at** 忙着做什么

They are busy with their work.

他们正在忙工作。

Farmers are busy with fighting drought.

农民正忙着抗旱。

2. **the suburbs** /'sʌbə:bz/ 郊区

He lives in the suburbs of Shanghai.

他住在上海郊区。

3. **be engaged (in)** 正在做什么, 正在忙于什么 (与 busy with/at 是近义词组)

Please tell me what you are engaged in now, maybe I can help you.

请告诉我你目前正忙些什么, 也许我能帮你。

4. **be of** 具有

be of help = be helpful

be of much use = be very useful

be of high quality = be good in quality

5. **move = move houses** 搬家

We are to move houses this weekend, could you possibly help me with it ?

这个周末我们搬家，您能来帮忙吗？

6. **talk over something** 讨论，谈论

It's a tough question, we must talk it over before we can arrive at an answer.

这个问题很困难，我们要讨论一下才能解决它。

How to Spend the Summer Vacation? 暑假如何度过？

George: The summer vacation is coming. What's your plan for it, Bob?

暑假就要到了，你打算怎么过暑假，鲍伯？

Bob: I'm planning to go to Beijing, the capital of China for sightseeing.

我计划去中国的首都北京观光。

George: Do you know anything about Beijing?

你对北京了解吗？

Bob: Not much. But I've got some brochure about the scenic spots there.

了解不多。不过我这儿有些那里风景点的材料。

George: Really? Let me have a look. Oh, so many places of interest! What do you want to see first?

是吗？让我瞧瞧。哦，这么多名胜古迹！你想先参观哪里？

Bob: Well, first of all, I'll go climbing the Great Wall. It's said that it's the only human construction on earth that can be seen from the moon. It's considered one of the Seven Wonders in the world.

呃，首先，我先要去爬长城，据说长城是从月球上可以看到的惟一的地表人工建筑。长城是世界七大奇迹之一。

George: Yes. From the picture you can see that it's like a long narrow white silk belt winding on the surface of the earth.

This picture must be taken from the space.

不错。从照片上看，你会发现它像一条又长又窄的白丝带缠绕在地球的表面。这张照片像是从太空拍的。

Bob: You're right. It's like a chain linking thousands of mountain tops.

说对了。它就象一条铁链把千万个山峰给连接起来。

George: But if I were you, I'd rather go to the Tian'anmen Square and the Imperial Palace first. They made up the center of Beijing.

不过我要是你的话，我想先去天安门广场和故宫参观。它们是北京的中心。

Bob: You are right. They 're also regarded as the center of China. As one of the largest squares and museums and as the symbol of China, they're of great admiration of the Chinese people. 是这样。它们也是中国的中心。天安门广场和故宫是中国最大的广场和最大的博物馆之一，深受中国人民的景仰。

George: And of the other peoples of the world as well, I think. They 're an important part of human civilizations. 我想也受世界各国人民的景仰。它们是人类文明的重要组成部分。

Bob: You're quite right. And there're also many other well-known places of both cultural and historical significance, such as the Summer Palace, the Temple of Heaven and so on. 你说得很对。中国还有许多其他富有文化和历史意义的地方，比如颐和园、天坛等等。

George: So it's really a very good idea to go there for sightseeing during the summer vacation. I'd like to go with you. 所以暑假去北京观光实在是一个好主意，我想和你一起

去。

Bob: That's great. Let's make up our mind right now, OK?

太棒了。我们就这么说定了，好吗？

George: OK!

行！

注释：

1. **scenic** /'si:nik/ **spot** 风景区，与下文的 places of interest (名胜古迹) 意义较接近

Guilin is a very famous scenic spot.

桂林是著名的风景区。

China has many places of interest.

中国有许多名胜古迹。

2. **wind** [waɪnd] 蜿蜒，曲折（它与 wind [waɪnd] “风”同形，但读音与字义不同）

The Great Wall winds its way through many mountains in North China.

长城蜿蜒曲折，穿过华北地区的崇山峻岭。

3. **be an important part of** 是……的重要组成部分

This work is an important part of our great project.

这项工作是我们的宏大工程的重要组成部分。

Christmas is Coming! 圣诞节快到了!

Man: Well, Christmas is almost here. So, what do you want from Santa this year?

圣诞节转眼就到了。你说，你今年希望圣诞老人给你什么礼物？

Micky: A toy car and walkie-talkies.

玩具汽车和对讲机。

Man: Really? Well, and what about you, Emily? What do you want for Christmas?

是吗？你呢，艾米莉？你要什么圣诞礼物？

Emily: If I can't have a Barbie radio, um, I would have some fragile dolls. And if I can't have some fragile dolls, it doesn't really matter what I get.

我要芭比收音机，要不就是几个玻璃娃娃。要是玻璃娃娃不行的话，那就随便什么都行。

Man: Wow. Well, I'm excited, and Santa is coming. And how is Santa going to get inside the house, Micky?

明白了。哎呀，我真高兴，圣诞老人就要来了。米奇，你说圣诞老人是怎么进屋的？

Micky: Um, go down the chimney ...

让我想想，是从烟囱进来的。

Man: Okay, so he's going to go down the chimney, and should we prepare anything for Santa?

哦，他会从烟囱下来，那么得给圣诞老人准备什么呢？