

EVERYDAY IDIOMS

口语， 你最好！

30篇与日常生活息息相关的短文
生活情境一网打尽
常用表达一目了然
例句丰富、释义详尽
语境细分、用法多样

(下)

掌握英语口语，
进行顺畅交流

Betty Kirkpatrick MA 著 马晓燕 译

附赠MP3录音光盘



 外文出版社
FOREIGN LANGUAGES PRESS



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[下]

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介绍

Introduction

- Learners usually find that it is more difficult to master spoken English than written English. Yet it is important that they do acquire a skill in spoken English so that they can engage in fluent communication. This is the goal ultimate aimed at in learning a language.
- This book is intended to aid the acquisition of such a skill and the achieving of such a goal. It presents a series of 30 passages all of which deal with a situation which is commonly found in the course of everyday life. The passages are modern, interesting and lively. Passages can, of course, convey the style and language of conversations much more vividly than individual example sentences can.
- Each of the passages contains the expressions, which are most commonly associated with the particular situation and which learners require to know in order to be able to cope with the situation. The passages have all been specially written in the book and are both lively and realistic.
- Immediately following each passage is an explanation section. This section defines or explains each of the expressions given in bold type in the passage. It also gives two example sentences, to give students more usage guidance. Where relevant, further language help has been given. This additional help might, for example, take the form of another expression which is used in a similar way or take the form of an equivalent American English expression.

英语学习者通常发现习得英语口语远较习得书面英语来得困难。然而，英语口语是一项主要的语言技能，只有获此技能，学习者才能进行顺畅的交流。这是语言学习的终极目标。

本书力图为学习者习得英语口语技能并达致顺畅交流之目的提供助力。本书撷取了日常生活中常见之情形，汇总了30篇小文。这些小文时尚、有趣而生动。与单独的例句相比，这些小文能够更加鲜活地展现口语会话的风格和语言。

每篇小文包含了粗体彩色印刷的表达法，这些表达法与特定场合紧密相关，学习者需习得这些表达法以应对不同场合。这些小文生动活泼、客观实用，专为本书而作。

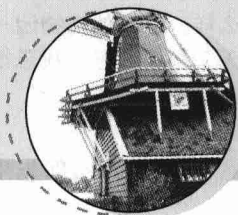
紧随每篇文章的是注释部分。这一部分界定了文中粗体彩色印刷表达法的含义或为此提供解释。随后是两个例句，指引学生如何应用。同时也提供了相关的进一步语言辅助。这些额外的辅助可能是类似语境下使用的相似表达或对等的美式表达。



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1 The day out that never happened

无法实现的周末出游

It was a holiday weekend and the Brown family were planning a day out. Over breakfast they discussed where to go.

‘Basically, we have to think of somewhere that we’ll all enjoy,’ said Mr Brown as everyone made suggestions.

‘Easier said than done,’ replied Mrs Brown. ‘We all enjoy different things. What will suit the younger children might not suit the older ones, not to mention the grandparents.’

‘Well, don’t let’s waste the day thinking about it,’ said Mr Brown. ‘Let’s see. What about a visit to the zoo? It’s a long time since we’ve all been there.’

‘You’re wrong there, Dad. As a matter of fact I was there just last week,’ said Jane, the Brown’s youngest daughter. ‘We went on a school outing. I don’t want to go again so soon.’

‘In all honesty, I’m not very keen on zoos,’ said Mrs Lane, Mrs Brown’s mother. ‘I know that the animals are well looked after, but I can’t bear to think of wild creatures being locked up.’

这是一个周末，布朗一家打算外出玩一天。吃早餐的时候他们讨论了要去哪里。

大家都在提建议的时候，布朗先生说：“最重要的是我们得找到一个大家都能玩得高兴的地方。”

“说得容易做到难啊，”布朗太太回答，“我们每个人的喜好不同。适合小孩子的也许对于大人可能就不合适，更别提爷爷奶奶了。”

“好了，我们不要把时间浪费在考虑这个问题上了，”布朗先生说，“让我想想看……去参观动物园怎么样呢？我们全家上次去那里已经是很久以前的事情了。”

“哦，不，爸爸，你错了。事实上我上个星期刚刚去过，”布朗家最小的女儿说，“我们学校出游就去的那里，我可不想这么快就再去一次。”

“说老实话，我也不太想去动物园，”布朗太太的母亲莱恩说，“我知道动物们理应被好好地看管起来，但我实在无法理解为什么要把野生动物锁起来。”

'I agree with Gran,' said Anne, the Brown's middle daughter. It's horrible to think of animals being shut up. In any case, the zoo will be horribly crowded today. It's a lovely day and I dread to think how many people will have decided to spend the day there.'

'Ok, so that's the zoo out,' replied Mr Brown. 'Any other ideas? Where would you like to go, Mark?' he asked his elder son.

'I'm easy!' said Mark, 'but I have to be back by 5 o'clock at the latest. I'm going to a barbecue at Jack's house.'

'I'll have to be back early, too,' said Mary, the Brown's elder daughter. 'I promised to go to the cinema with Sara.'

'For goodness sake!' said Mr Brown. 'There's no point in going anywhere if we have to be back that early. I think we should forget the day out and you can all do what you want. I'm going to read the paper in the back garden.'

"我同意姥姥的话," 布朗家的二女儿安妮说, "想到把动物们关起来我就觉得恐怖。不管怎么样, 今天的动物园一定无比拥挤。今天天气这么好, 我恐怕很多人都已经决定要去那儿了。"

"好吧, 那就排除动物园," 布朗先生说, "还有其它点子吗? 马克, 你想去哪儿呢?" 他问大儿子。

"我随便!" 马克说, "但最迟5点我就得回来, 我还得去杰克家烧烤呢。"

"我也得早回来," 布朗家的大女儿玛丽说, "我已经答应和萨拉去看电影了。"

"我的天哪!" 布朗先生说, "如果还要考虑早早回来的话, 我们就不必讨论去哪里玩了。我想我们干脆不提外出游玩这件事了, 你们都去忙你们想忙的, 我就待在后院读我的报纸。"



Useful Expressions | 常用表达法

1

basically 最主要的、最重要的

basically 用于要表达最主要的、最重要的 (特征或情况)。

■ 'Why did Anne decide not to marry Jim?' 'Basically, because she fell out of love with him.'

"为什么安妮决定不跟吉姆结婚了呢?" "主要是她不爱他了。"

■ Basically, Jim has recovered well from the accident, although he still has a slight limp.

基本上吉姆已经从事故中恢复过来了, 尽管走起路来还是有点儿一瘸一拐的。

语言点

basically 在引入即将要提的话题时没有具体意思。

■ Basically, we have no holiday plans as yet.

到目前为止我们没有假期的计划。

2 in any case 无论如何

in any case 用于表达无论发生什么情况，原来的事实或情况不发生改变。

- The flight may be delayed, but we've to check in at the usual time **in any case**. 航班推迟了，但无论如何我们还是得在通常的时间办理登机手续。
- I'll give you a lift to the city, if you want. I'm going there today **in any case**. 如果你需要，我可以顺路送你到城里。反正我今天也要去一趟。

3 I dread to think 我不敢想象

I dread to think 用于强调你认为某种情况会很糟糕。

- **I dread to think** what would happen if there was a fire in this building. The fire doors are all locked. 我不敢想象如果这座建筑着了火会怎么办。所有的防火门都被锁上了。
- **I dread to think** what my father will say when he hears that I crashed his car. 我不敢想象我父亲如果听说我把他的车撞了会说什么。

I hate to think 也可用于这种情形中。

- I hate to think how much money Mary owes the bank. 我真不敢去想玛丽到底欠了银行多少钱。

4 easier said than done 说得容易做到难

easier said than done 说得容易做到难，用于表示很难的事情。

- 'Try not to worry about your daughter.' 'That's **easier said than done**. She's over three hours late and she always phones if she's going to be late.' “别担心你姐姐了。”“说得容易做到难啊。她已经迟到3个多小时了，如果她迟到的话一般会打电话的。”
- 'We'd like you to book two single rooms at a local hotel for us.' '**Easier said than done!** It's the middle of the tourist season and accommodation's in very short supply.' “我想让你帮我们在当地的酒店预定两间单人间。”“说得容易做到难啊！现在正逢旅游旺季，住宿非常紧张。”

5 I'm easy! 我随便

用于非正式场合,如果你面临多种选择时而不介意选择的结果,就可以用 I'm easy! 来表达。

- 'Would you rather go to the theatre than the cinema?'
'I'm easy! You choose.'
 - 'Would you like tea or coffee?' 'I'm easy! I'll have what you're having.'
- “比起看电影你更愿意去看歌剧吗?” “我随便,你来定好了。”
- “你点茶还是咖啡呢?” “我随便,你喝什么我就要什么好了。”

6 as a matter of fact 事实上

as a matter of fact 用于表示“实际上,实际情况是……”,通常与之前的话题相反。

- 'Your hotel was in the middle of town and so I suppose it was rather noisy.' 'No, **as a matter of fact** it was very quiet. They have good double glazing and we had rooms at the back.'
 - 'I suppose your daughter will have left home by now.' 'No, **as a matter of fact** she's still at home. She's studying at the local university.'
- “你们的酒店位于小镇中心,所以我想一定很吵吧。” “哦,不,事实上这里非常安静。我们有双层玻璃窗,而且我们的房间都在后面。”
- “我想你女儿现在一定离开家自己生活了吧。” “不,事实上她还住在家里。她在当地的一所大学读书。”

语言点

当你想要为你刚刚所说的话补充有趣或者令人惊讶的信息时,也可以用这个词组。

- I've decided to go to accept the job offer. **As a matter of fact** I start on Monday.
- 我已经决定了接受这份工作。事实上我这周一就可以上班了。

7 for goodness sake 我的天哪

当你非常惊讶、震惊或者生气的时候,可以用 for goodness sake 来表达。。

- **For goodness sake**, Jane You can't go to a formal party wearing those jeans.
 - **For goodness sake**, hurry up. We'll miss the plane if we don't leave now.
- 上帝! 简,你可不能穿着这条牛仔裤去参加正式的聚会。
- 我的天哪! 快点儿! 如果我们现在不走的话就会误飞机了。

8 in all honesty 说实话

in all honesty 用于强调所说的全是事实，无一假话。

- Jack studies hard, but, **in all honesty**, he's not a good enough student to get into university.
- You can certainly apply for the job, but, **in all honesty**, I don't think you'll get it.

杰克学习很努力，但说实话，他还不足以能考上大学。

你当然可以申请这份工作，但说实话，我认为你申请不到。

9 not to mention 别提……；更不用提……

not to mention 当你想就某一话题再添加信息时可以用这个词组。

- Jim has a lot of property. He owns three flats in London, **not to mention** a house in the south of France and one in Scotland.
- Why are you buying more clothes? You have a wardrobe full of them, **not to mention** the ones in the attic.

吉姆有很多房产。他在伦敦拥有三套公寓，更不用说他在法国南部的一所房子和苏格兰的一所房子了。

你为什么又买衣服了？你的衣柜已经满满的全是衣服了，都不用提阁楼上的那些。

10 let's see 让我想想看

当你在考虑某件事或者试图回忆起某事时可以说 let's see。

- You say that you're looking for accommodation for the night. **Let's see.** You could try the George Hotel on the High Street.
- 'Can you recommend a good local restaurant that's not too expensive?' 'Let's see. There's two or three, but I think Shrimps by the harbour is the best — if you like fish.'

你说你要找晚上住的地方。让我想想看……你可以试着去高街的乔治酒店看看。

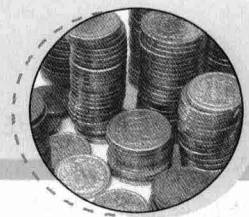
“你能给我推荐一个价格不算贵的当地饭馆吗？”“嗯，让我想想看……有两三家，如果你喜欢吃鱼的话可以去港口边上最好的叫作‘虾’的那家。”

语言点

也可以用 let me see 来表达相同意思。

- **Let me see.** where did I put my purse?

让我想想，我把钱包放哪里了？



2 Money worries

对钱的担忧

Jack had decided that he wanted to spend a year travelling around the world after he had finished school. He was fairly certain that he would do well enough in his final exams to get into university, but he was going to take a year off first. There was, however, a major problem. He had very little money.

‘Hi Jack! How’s it going?’ asked Bob when he and Jim met Jack on the way to school. ‘Did you get much studying done at the weekend?’

‘It’s not my schoolwork that’s worrying me,’ replied Jack. ‘It’s how to get enough money to go abroad after the exams.’

‘You’ll need a lot of money to do that,’ said Bob. ‘I always seem to spend an incredible amount of money whenever I travel.’

‘Tell me about it!’ replied Jack, ‘and at the moment I’ve only got about £200 — give or take a few pence.’

‘You could always get a part-time job between now and the exams,’ suggested Jim. ‘You sound as though you’re quite well ahead with your studying.’

杰克决定毕业之后花一年的时间去周游世界。他非常肯定他的毕业考试足以让他考上一所大学，但他还是打算毕业之后先休息一年。然而问题也随之而来，很大的一个问题是几乎没什么钱。

鲍勃和吉姆在去上学的路上遇到了杰克，鲍勃说：“嗨！杰克！最近怎么样啊？周末做了很多功课吗？”

“学校的功课对我来说并不是什么难事，”杰克说，“让我苦恼的是考试之后怎么能筹到足够的钱出国呢？”

“那你可需要很大一笔钱，”鲍勃说，“我每次旅行的时候所花的钱总是多得惊人。”

“那还用说！”杰克回答，“可是现在我身上只有大概两百英镑，上下差不了几个便士。”

“那你应该趁着考试之前这段时间做一份兼职工作，”吉姆提出建议，“能听出来，你的学习进展得还很顺利吧。”

‘Fat chance!’ replied Jack. ‘I’m sure I could easily get a job, but I **hate to think** what my parents would say about it. They’re not very happy about my taking a year off before university, but they would be furious if I suggested taking a part-time job to pay for it.’

‘You never know. Perhaps they’ll be so pleased if you do well in your exams that they’ll lend you the money,’ suggested Jim.

‘Not on your life!’ replied Jack. ‘My father never changes his mind about anything.’

‘So what are you going to do?’ asked Bob. ‘There’s not much time left.’

‘I haven’t the foggiest!’ said Jack. ‘What I do know is that I will be on a plane as soon as the exams are over!’

“机会太渺茫了!” 杰克说, “我肯定能轻而易举地找到一份工作, 可是我不敢想象我父母会怎么看待这件事情。他们本来就不太愿意让我毕业之前先休学一年, 如果他们听说我要先找一份兼职工作来支付这段时间的花销, 那他们一定会大发雷霆的。”

“世事难料啊。如果你的考试成绩非常好的话, 或许他们会很高兴, 而且还会借钱给你呢。” 吉姆说。

“休想吧!” 杰克说, “我父亲是从来不会改变他的主意的。”

“那你打算怎么办呢?” 鲍勃问, “也没有太多时间来考虑这问题了。”

“我一点儿也不知道该怎么办!” 杰克说, “我只知道考试一结束, 我要上飞机去旅行。”



Useful Expressions | 常用表达法

1

you could always 你可以随时

you could always 用于给别人提出建议做某事。

- If you need a place to stay tonight **you could always** have our spare room.
- If you’re looking for a job **you could always** try the local factory. I heard they were looking for people.

如果今晚你需要一个住的地方, 你可以用我们的客房。

如果你要找工作, 可以试试当地的那家工厂。我听说他们在招人。

2

Fat chance! 休想吧!

在非正式场合中, 当你认为某件事情没有可能性的时候, 可以用 **Fat chance!** 表示机会很渺茫。

- 'Do you think that the boss would let us leave early to watch the football match?' 'Fat chance!'
- 'I wonder if mum and dad would let us have a party while they're away.' 'Fat chance!'

“你认为老板会让我们早下班去看足球赛吗?”“休想吧!”

“我想知道爸爸妈妈走后我们能不能在家里搞一个聚会。”“休想吧!”

3 I haven't the foggiest 我可不知道

在口语中 I haven't the foggiest 强调你不知道问题的答案。

- 'How often do the trains run to the city?' 'I haven't the foggiest! I always go by car.'
- I haven't the foggiest where Jack's working now.

“火车多久进一趟城呢?”“我可不知道!我总是开车进城。”

我不知道杰克现在在哪里工作。

语言点

这个词组的完整形式是 I haven't the foggiest idea, 用法与之相同。
另一种非正式表达法 I haven't the faintest 的意思和用法也与之相同。

4 give or take 大概

give or take 表示列举的数字不太确切,但或多或少差不多。

- Mark's been with the firm ten years, give or take a couple of months.
- It's 300 kilometres to the city, give or take a kilometre or two.

马克在这家公司干了大概10年了,左右差不了两三个月。

到城里的路有300千米,左右差了一两千米。

5 How's it going? 怎么样啊?

How's it going? 在口语中用于问对方怎么样或者事情进展得如何。

- Hi Jack. how's it going? I haven't seen you for ages.
- I hear you're studying French at university. How's it going?

嗨,杰克!最近怎么样啊?我好几年都没有见到你了。

我听说你正在大学学法语,学得怎么样啊?

更正式的表达法是 How are you? 或者 How are you getting on?

6

I hate to think 我不敢想象

I hate to think 用来强调你认为某种情况很糟糕。

- **I hate to think** what might have happened if the policeman hadn't stopped the drunk driver.

我不敢想象如果警察不来制止那位醉酒驾车的司机到底会发生什么事情。

- **I hate to think** how noisy the children's party will be.

我不敢想象孩子们的聚会是多么嘈杂。

I dread to think 与之用法相同。

- **I dread to think** how badly I've done in that exam.

我不敢想象我的考试有多糟糕。

7

you never know 世事难料；说不定呢

you never know 用于表示尽管认为某事不太可能发生，但仍有一定的可能性。

- **You never know.** They might offer you the job even although some of the rest of the candidates are better qualified.

这可说不定。或许他们会给你这份工作的，尽管剩下的候选人会更合适一些。

- The hotel's fully booked for the whole of August, but **you never know.** There may be some cancellations.

酒店整个8月份的客房已经全部订出了，但谁也说不好，说不定会有取消预定的呢。

8

Not on your life! 当然不了！

Not on your life! 用于强调非常肯定地不打算做某事。

- 'Are you going to work this weekend?' '**Not on your life!** I'm going to spend the day at the beach.'

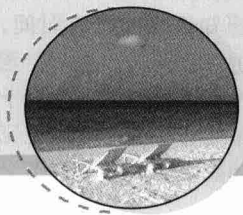
“你这个周末回去工作吗？”“当然不了！我要去海滩度周末呢。”

- ‘Would you like to help with the garden?’ ‘**Not on your life!** I hate gardening.’ “你愿意在花园帮忙吗?”“哦,不!我讨厌园艺劳动。”

9 Tell me about it! 可不是嘛!

Tell me about it! 在非正式场合中强调你非常赞同某人的见解,通常情况下是因为你跟说话人有着相似的经历。

- ‘It takes so much work to keep a garden of this size tidy.’ ‘**Tell me about it!** I’m having to pay someone to look after mine and I can’t really afford it.’ “要想让这么大的花园保持整洁得花太多工夫了。”“可不是嘛!我花钱雇了一个人帮我照看,现在都快付不起了。”
- ‘Rents in this town seem very high!’ ‘**Tell me about it!** Most of my salary goes on rent.’ “这个小镇的房租真高呀!”“可不是嘛!我的工资大部分都交房租了。”



3 An unexpected holiday

出乎意料的假期

Lucy has some exciting news for her friend Jill in Toronto, Canada.

Dear Jill,

You'll never guess what's happened! I've won the lottery! Well, I didn't win the main prize, but I won enough to treat myself to a holiday. Talk about surprised! I nearly fainted when I heard the news!

I've been a bit depressed and I've decided to take a holiday. There's nothing to touch a holiday to cheer people up. I thought I might come and see you in Toronto and perhaps stay with you for a couple of days. I'm hoping to come for a month, but most of the time I'd stay with my mother's sister who lives just outside Toronto.

Believe it or not, my boss has agreed to let me take a month off work, although I've not anywhere near that much holiday left to take this year. Of course, the extra time off is without pay, but I'm surprised he didn't refuse to give me it. Wonders will never cease!

露西有激动人心的消息要告诉在加拿大多伦多的朋友吉尔。

亲爱的吉尔：

你绝对猜不到发生了什么事情！我中彩票了！嗯，只是，我没有中最高的奖项，但我中的奖项也足够支付我去度假了。这真是太神奇了！我听到这个消息的时候差点儿晕过去呢！

我最近的情绪有点儿低落，所以我决定了要去度假。度假是最能让人振作起来的事情了。我想我可能去多伦多看你，大概能在你那待两三天，但大部分时间我还是跟姨妈在一起，她住在多伦多郊区。

信不信由你！尽管今年实际上我根本就没有那么多假期可以休，但没想到老板还是同意了我休假一个月。当然，多休的那些天算不带薪休假，但是我还是很惊讶他没有拒绝我的请求。太不可思议了！

I'm hoping to come next month when I can still get a cheap flight. After that it's peak season, and the fares are much more expensive. I wondered if you could perhaps get a few days holiday to act as my tourist guide... *What about it?* Please don't worry if that's not possible. We can always meet up in the evenings and leave my aunt to show me the sights.

Heaven knows when I'll ever have enough money again to come over and so I hope my visit comes at a good time for you. If it doesn't please *feel free* to say so. I know that you're often very busy at work. Let me know as soon as you can.

My mother has just had what she thought was a brilliant idea. She suggested I take my younger brother, Paul, with me! Fortunately, I managed to persuade her that this was just not possible. *Fancy* having to look after a teenage boy in a strange city!

I hope to hear from you — and see you — soon.

Love
Lucy

* Informal letters are written in the same style as spoken English

我希望下个月就能到,这样可以买到很便宜的机票。再往后就是旺季了,票价就会高很多。我想知道你能否有时间,休几天假给我导游带我转转。这个主意怎么样呢?如果没有可能的话,你也千万别烦恼。我们总能在晚上的时候见见面吧,可以让我姨妈带我去游览一下。

天晓得什么时候我能攒够钱再次拜访,所以希望我的这次拜访在时间上对你来说能够合适。如果你的时间不合适的话随时告诉我。我知道你平时上班很忙。方便的时候尽早答复我吧。

我母亲刚刚想出了一个她自认为是美妙的好主意。她建议我带上我的弟弟保罗一起去!还好我最终成功地说服了她,带上保罗根本就不现实。想象一下在一个陌生的城市里,还得照看一个十来岁的男孩!

希望能收到你的来信,期待着很快能见到你。

爱你的露西

* 非正式信件与口语的写作风格相同。



Useful Expressions | 常用表达法

1

not anywhere near 无论何处也不;根本不

not anywhere near 用于否定语气的强调。

■ I've not done anywhere near enough work to pass the exam. 我根本没为通过考试付出努力。