

HOT - DAY100

天天向上系列

# 英语阅读

# 100天

主编 杨莉  
编著 韩麓

HOT100 英语



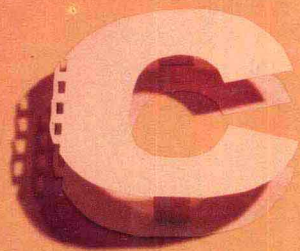
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# 英语阅读100天



中国人以前见面问好喜欢说：吃了吗？无论早上还是深夜，无论单位还是厕所。这其实是一句特别经不起推敲的问好，好像我们无时不在吃饭，但是我们生活在这样的语言氛围中，也没有觉出什么不便。同样，英、美人也有他们的语言风格和文化。比如，英美人见面喜欢就天气为话题开始交谈，也不见得他们对天气有多深的研究。生活在远离英语语言环境的我们想要熟悉了解英语的文化氛围和真实语境，就要多阅读英美的原文文章。

这便是写作《英语阅读100天》的初衷。书中特意营造了日常的生活场景，希望读者在寻常的日子里，都能以轻松的心情坚持每天学习5个最常用的最简单的短语。不出100天，你将读完100篇200词左右的精彩文章。希望每个读者在第100天里合上本书，舒展一下双臂，得到一个结论：

“English has none of difficulty!”

编 者

2003年3月1日





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## DAY 1

Okay  
行

· 英 · 语 · 文 · 化 ·



### Questions

Read the following questions before reading and then answer them after reading:

1. Do language experts agree on the origin of the word “okay” ?
2. What were well developed?
3. How did the Choctaw tribe make a living?
4. How did the chief show his agreement?
5. What's the meaning of “the word is pure American” ?



### Text

The word “okay” is known and used by millions of people all over the world. Still, language experts do not agree on<sup>1</sup> where it came from.

Some say it came from the Indian peoples. When Europeans first came to America they heard hundreds of different Indian languages. Many were well developed.

One tribe especially had a well-developed language. This was the Choctaw tribe. They were farmers and fishermen who lived in the rich Mississippi valley in what is now the state of Alabama. When problems arose, Choctaw leaders discussed them with the wisdom of the tribal chief.<sup>2</sup> They sat in a circle and listened to the wisdom of the chief.

He heard the different proposals, often raising and lowering his head in agreement, and saying “okay” meaning “It is so.”

There are still many different explanations. But there is one thing about “okay” that the experts agree on: that the word is pure American and that it has spread to almost every country on earth.

## N

## Notes

1. agree on/upon 就……达成一致意见/看法
2. the tribal chief 部族首领/酋长

## K

## Key of the questions

1. No, they don't.
2. Many Indian languages were well developed.
3. They made a living by working as farmers and fishermen.
4. He often raised and lowered his head, and said "okay" to show his agreement.
5. It means that the word was first used in America.

## 译

## Text Translation

全世界成千上万的人都懂得并会使用Okay（“行啊”、“对”、“好”）这个词。可是，关于它的来源，语言专家们却莫衷一是。

有人说这个词来自于印第安人的语言。欧洲人刚到美洲时听到了各不相同的印第安语，其中许多已经相当成熟。

有一个部落的语言特别发达，即乔克托部落。他们住在肥沃的密西西比河谷，即现在的阿拉巴马州境内；他们以耕作、捕鱼为生。每逢出现问题时，部落的首领们就去找酋长商量。他们围坐成一个圆圈，听取酋长的意见。

酋长听着他们发表不同的意见，频频点头以示同意，一边说“okay”，意思是“是这样”。

虽然还有其他不同的解释，但是专家们在有一点上是意见是一致的：它是纯粹的美国话，而且现在已经传播到了地球上的每一个国家。





## DAY 2

Hello  
你好

· 英 · 语 · 文 · 化 ·



### Questions

Read the following questions before reading and then answer them after reading:

1. What word is used most often in the world?
2. How often do people use "hello" ?
3. Did Thomas Edison like talking much?



### Text

Hello. This is as good a way as<sup>1</sup> any to welcome you to this book.

The word "hello" is probably used more often than any other one in the English language. Everybody in the US and elsewhere uses the word, again and again, every day of the week.

The first thing you hear when you pick up the phone is "hello" unless the caller is an Englishman who might say, "Are you there?"

Where did the word come from? There are all sorts of beliefs. Some say it came from the French, "ho" and "la" — "Ho, there!" This greeting may have arrived in England during the Norman Conquest<sup>2</sup> in the year 1066.

As time passed, it changed into "hullo". And during the 1800's this was how people greeted each other in America.

The American inventor, Thomas Alva Edison, is believed to be the first person to use "hello" in the late 1800's, soon after the invention of the telephone.

At first, people had greeted each other on the telephone with, "Are you there?" They were not sure the new instrument could really carry voices.

Thomas Edison was a man of few words. He wasted no time. The first time he picked up the phone he did not ask if anyone was there. He was sure someone was, and simply said, "Hello".



From that time on—only about 100 years ago—the “hullo” became “hello” as it is heard today.

## **n** Notes

1. as good a way as 实际上等于
2. The Norman Conquest 诺曼第人征服英国

## **K** Key of the questions

*the Norman conquest*

1. The word “hello” is used most often.
2. It is used again and again every day of the week.
3. He didn't.

## 译文 Translation

你好！这是一个再好不过的词来欢迎你阅读这本书。

“你好”大概是英语中用得最多的一个词。在美国和世界上其他地方，每个人每天都在不断地使用它。

你拿起电话，首先就听到“你好”，除非给你打电话的是英国人，他也许会说“你听见了吗？”

这个词到底是从哪儿来的呢？众说纷纭。有人认为他来自于法语的“ho”和“la”意思是：“喂，那边的！”这个打招呼的用语也许是在1066年诺曼第人征服英国时带去的。

随着时间的流逝，它逐渐演变成了“hullo”。在19世纪，美国人见面时就用此互相打招呼。

据说美国发明家托马斯·爱瓦·爱迪生是第一个使用“你好”的人，那是在19世纪末电话发明后不久的事。

起初，人们拿起电话后首先相互询问：“你听见了吗？”他们还不太确信这种新设备真能传送说话的声音。

然而，托马斯·爱迪生是个沉默寡言的人。他从不浪费时间。他第一次拿起话筒就不问别人是否听得见。他确信有人在听，于是简单的说了声“你好”。

从那时起，只不过大约过了一百年，当时的“hullo”就变成了现在听到的“hello”。





## DAY

## 3

### A New Language for the EC

一种为“欧共体”产生的语言

· 英 · 语 · 文 · 化 ·



#### Questions

Read the following questions before reading and then answer them after reading:

1. Which language is supposed to be the official language of the EU?
2. Which language was the other choice?
3. What can be improved in English?
4. How long will the improvement take?
5. What is the name of the new language?



#### Text

The European Community<sup>1</sup> has just announced an agreement whereby<sup>2</sup> English will be the official language of the EU<sup>3</sup> rather than German, which was the other possibility.

As part of the negotiations, Her Majesty's Government<sup>4</sup> conceded that English spelling had some room for improvement and has accepted a five-year phase-in<sup>5</sup> plan that would be known as Eurenglish<sup>6</sup>.

After the fifth year, we will have a really sensible written style. There will be no more trouble or difficulties and everyone will find it easy to understand each other.

