

Advanced Oral English

— CULTURE AND COMMUNICATION

配光盘

高级英语口语

—— 文化与交际

王善平 杨晓清 常鹏 编著



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前

言

《高级英语口语——文化与交际》旨在培养和提高大学生跨文化交际的能力,从功能、交际和文化的角度出发,分门别类,循序渐进地为学生提供实用英语口语交际的话题和相关精彩内容,使学生能从口语活动中正确、全面和充分地理解英美文化及其在英语交际中的影响,从而克服片面学习语言而脱离文化背景,或者片面学习文化而脱离语言的弊病,使学生能知其然,又能知其所以然,在学中用,用中学,学用互济,知行相长。本书共分为15单元,其范围广度涵盖英美历史、宗教、教育、家庭、饮食、风土人情和价值观等诸多方面,其特色是主题鲜明,内容生动新颖,操作性强,联系生活紧密,能将英美文化知识融入口语实践。本书适用于教师指导下以学生为中心的教学模式,同时教师讲解、学生讨论、演讲报告、影视欣赏等活动的结合,也是本书的另一特色。

本书适用于非英语专业本科和研究生学习中、高级英语口语的目的,也可以作为同等程度自学者的口语学习用书。

本书以独立的话题而分为15单元,每单元分为以下几个部分:

1. 课前练习

该部分提供了一些与主题相关但相对比较简单有趣的问题,作为热身练习,用以激发学生的兴趣,引发他们对目标话题的思考,抛砖引玉,循序渐进地引入正题。

2. 阅读与视听(光盘)

该部分由简短的文章和视听节目组成,题材广泛,内容新颖,原汁原味,贴近生活。

3. 课堂活动

该部分是语言技能训练的核心部分。学生结合以上短文或视听内容进行多种形式的交际活动,形式多样,丰富多彩,包括对话、小组讨论、演讲、辩论以及角色表演等课堂活动。由于可供学生选择的问题较多,所以课堂活动的开展将十分灵活和有趣。

4. 词汇、短语与表达

该部分提供了大量的与主题相关的且经过精心遴选的词汇、短语和警句名言(为了节约篇幅只提供部分译文),有助于学生顺利、有效地表达思想,成功地进行交际,是该书不可或缺的组成部分。

5. 背景知识

该部分提供相关文化背景知识,内容广泛,图文并茂,生动有趣,便于学生深入了解英美等国的文化和与话题相关的百科知识。

6. 交际要略

该部分提供交际策略和交际活动中常用的一些表达法,妙语连珠,地道生动,易于模仿,可以较快提升学生的口语表达能力。

7. 影视推荐



该部分向学生推荐与主题相关的一些优秀经典影视节目,在帮助学生进一步理解西方文化的同时,培养学生对英语口语的兴趣,寓教于乐,听说兼顾,一举两得。学生按照个人兴趣,可以在课外自行观看影片。

8. 推荐书目

该部分为学生提供与主题相关的课外阅读书目。

9. 课后练习

该部分给学生布置一些课外口语训练项目,形式不拘一格,有采访、对话、演讲等,目的是为了帮助学生巩固本单元所学的内容与技能。

10. 视听的书面资料

该部分为学生提供有声资料的文字参考,有助于学生对各种语音语调的辨析和模仿,以促进学生的听力理解能力。

由于本书内容丰富,可供交际训练的题目较多,教师在教学过程中可针对课堂的实际情况做出相应的取舍和调整。

本书在编写过程中得到厦门大学出版社的热情支持。澳籍教师 Patrish Boman 女士百忙中审阅了书稿,并提出宝贵意见。在此一并向他们表示诚挚的感谢。

本书编写必有疏漏和不妥之处,敬请读者批评指正。

编 者

2006 年 7 月



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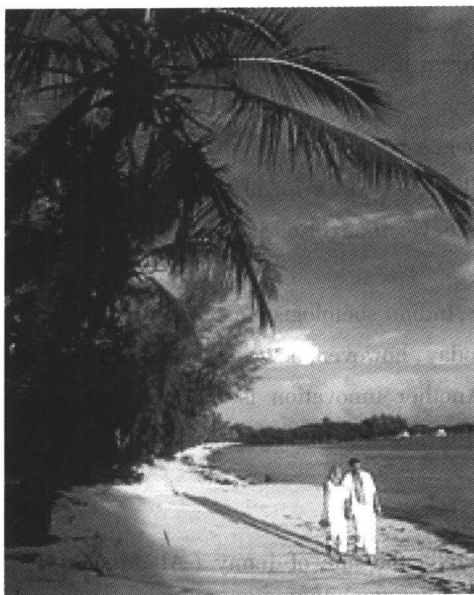
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The course of true love never did run smooth.

—Shakespeare

真诚的爱情之路永不会是平坦的。

Unit 1

Family and Marriage

I . Warm-up Questions

1. Could you tell me something about your family?
2. Do you feel it difficult to communicate with your parents? Is there anything in your mind that you would rather not tell them?
3. Do you prefer big families or small families? Give the reasons.
4. What do you think of the phenomenon that college students fall in love with each other?
5. What type of man or woman would you like to make friends with?
6. What do you think of the same sex marriage?
7. What do you think of the idea of adults living together without being married?
8. Why do so many people divorce today?

II . Read/ Listen the Following Passages

1. East Is East and West Is West

After Arun Bharat Ram returned home with a degree from the University of Michigan, his mother announced that she wanted to find him a wife. Arun would be a good “catch” anywhere: 27 years old, good education, well mannered, intelligent, handsome— and, not incidentally, heir to one of the largest fortunes in India. Nonetheless, Arun would not consider selecting a wife on his own.

Arun’s mother already had someone in mind. Manju, who came from a solid, middle-class family, was also a college graduate. Arun and Manju met in a coffee shop in a luxury hotel—along with both sets of parents. He found her pretty and quiet. He liked that. She was impressed that he





didn't boast about his background.

After four more meetings, the parents asked their children if they were willing to marry. Neither had any major objections.

The prime minister of India and fifteen hundred other guests came to the wedding.

"I didn't love him," Manju says. "But when we talked, we had a lot of things in common." She then adds, "But now I couldn't live without him. I've never thought of another man since I met him."

Although India has undergone extensive social change, Indian sociologists estimate that about 95 percent of marriages are still arranged by the parents. Today, however, as with Arun and Manju, couples have veto power over their parents' selection. Another innovation is that the couple are allowed to talk to each other before the wedding—unheard of just a generation ago.

2. Movie: *Love Story* (1970)

One of the most popular tearjerkers ever, *Love Story* tells the tale of Jenny (Ali McGraw), a poor college student from Rhode Island, and Oliver (Ryan O'Neal), a rich law student from Boston, who fall in love while attending college. Despite opposition to their relationship from Oliver's wealthy father, the two get married. After graduation, Oliver takes a job at a prestigious legal firm in New York, and everything seems to be going well for the couple. However, tragedy strikes when Jenny is diagnosed with a fatal illness. As a result, Oliver must face a future without the woman he loves. This timeless film, based on Erich Segal's novel, featured the famous tag line "**Love means never having to say you're sorry.**"

3. Britain's Prince Charles to Marry Camilla Parker Bowles (listening)

III. Class Activities

Discussion:

1. What is your opinion of the marriage of Arun and Manju?
2. Does the story of Arun and Manju still happen in China today?
3. If you have seen the movie *Love Story*, what do you think of the marriage of Oliver and Jenny?
4. If your parents were strongly opposed to your marriage with somebody, what would you do?
5. What are your major considerations when you plan to get married?
6. What type of family do you think is an ideal one?
7. What are the responses of the Queen Elizabeth and Prince Phillip to the Marriage between Prince Charles and Camilla? And how about the Prime Minister Tony Blair, the Archbishop, and Britons?
8. What have you learned from the passage about Mrs. Parker Bowles? What did princess Diana think of her? Will she be the Queen when Charles becomes monarch?



**Role Play:**

Break the students into different groups. The students of each group are supposed to work together and crank out a short drama based on the episodes provided above. Then let the students themselves play various roles and act out their dramas in the classroom.

Debating:

1. Love and money.

The affirmative team would argue: Love can be bought by money. The negative team would argue: Love can not be bought by money.

2. Love at first sight.

The affirmative team would argue for the idea while the negative team would argue against it.

3. Spare the rod and spoil the child.

Divide the class into two groups and debate on the idea, which is still popular in many people's minds.

IV. Useful Words and Expressions

1. monogamy 一夫一妻制
2. polygamy 一夫多妻, 一妻多夫
3. nuclear family 核心家庭
4. extended family 大家庭, 尤指三代以上同堂者
5. problem child 问题儿童
6. generation gap 代沟
7. sandwich generation 指上有老, 下有小的一代人
8. the ex-spouse 前配偶
9. remarriage 再婚
10. matchmaker 媒人
11. bride 新娘
12. bridegroom 新郎
13. best man 男傧相
14. bridesmaid 女傧相
15. clinging vine 依附男人的女人
16. white knight 白马王子
17. cohabitation 同居
18. mixed marriage 异族通婚
19. empty nest syndrome 空巢综合症(子女在外老夫妻形影相吊的凄凉情状)
20. courtship 谈恋爱
21. romantic love 带有情欲色彩的爱情
22. gay 男同性恋; lesbian 女同性恋; straight 非同性恋者
23. date 约会或恋爱对象
24. a blind date 男女双方互不认识由他人介绍的约会



25. lovesick 害相思的
26. a lady killer 女人倾心的男人
27. for love or money 无论如何,无论出什么代价(常用于否定句)
28. May and December 老少恋
29. footloose and fancy-free 自由自在,随心所“欲”,指单身汉的状态
30. prince charming 白马王子
31. marry a fortune 与有钱的女人结婚
32. marry money 与有钱人结婚
33. marry your match 与你相配的人结婚,龙配龙,凤配凤
34. fall in love at first sight 一见钟情
35. have a big crush on 爱上
36. take a shine to 热恋上,迷恋上
37. have a fancy for 喜欢上,爱上
38. be gathered to one's father 见祖宗去,死
39. like father, like son 有其父必有其子
40. a chip off the old block 一个模子倒出来(多指男孩相貌/脾气和父母一样的)
41. old wives' tale 无稽之谈
42. be one's father's son 不愧是父亲的好儿子
43. every mother's son 人人,大家
44. Love me, love my dog. 爱屋及乌。
45. No money, no honey. 有钱才有爱。
46. Marry in haste, and repent at leisure. 匆匆结婚,慢慢后悔。
47. Marriages are made in heaven. 姻缘天注定。
48. Marriage may be compared to a cage; the birds outside despair to get in and those within despair to get out. 婚姻好比一个鸟笼:笼子外的鸟儿疯了一样地想进去,笼子里的鸟儿疯了一样地想出来。
49. Keep your eyes wide open before marriage, and half shut afterwards. 结婚前要把眼睛睁得大大的,婚后则要睁只眼闭只眼。
50. Happiness in marriage is entirely a matter of chance. Wives are young men's mistresses, companions for middle age, and old men's nurses. 婚姻幸福靠的是运气。妻子是男人年轻时的情人,中年时的伴侣,老年时的护士。
51. Where there's marriage without love, there will be love without marriage. 哪里有没有爱情的婚姻,哪里就会有没有婚姻的爱情。
52. Men marry because they are tired; women because they are curious. Both are disappointed. 男人结婚是因为他们累了;女人结婚是由于她们好奇。双方都会在婚后失望。
53. Wedlock is a padlock. 婚姻犹如一把锁。





V. More Information

Types of Families

There are many types of families. The smallest family is that of two persons such as a husband and a wife, a parent and a child, or a brother and a sister. These units are kinds of **nuclear families**. Nuclear families include any two or more persons related to one another by blood, marriage, or adoption and who share a common residence. When the unit includes a husband and a wife, it is considered a conjugal family as well. Almost everyone is born and reared in a nuclear family unit consisting of self, parents, and sometimes siblings. There are also the **family of orientation** (the family in which an individual grows up) and the **family of procreation** (the family formed when a couple have their first child).

Nuclear and conjugal families as isolated and independent units are very rare in the world. In most societies the **extended family** is the norm. This type goes beyond the nuclear family unit of parents and children to include relatives such as grandparents, aunts, uncles, or cousins. American families typically have what is called a **modified extended family** structure. When couples marry they are likely to form a household separate from either set of parents. Yet they maintain close ties with their families of orientation.

Interactions with relatives beyond the nuclear or modified extended family are termed **kin, or kinship, relationships**. All societies have rules for defining kin groups and how these relationships are organized—who lives together; who is the head of the family; who marries whom; how mates are selected; which relatives, family, and kin groups are most important; and how children are to be reared and by whom. While these rules and systems vary greatly, certain general rules determine the statuses and roles.

Forms of Marriage

A fundamental variation in families is the norm that defines the number of spouses. Every society permits some form of marriage. The most common form of marriage is that of an exclusive relationship between two people. This is termed monogamy and is the only norm that is universally recognized. It is also the predominant form even in societies where norms permit other forms to exist.

Several alternatives to monogamy can be found in various parts of the world. Marriage to more than one person is referred to as **polygamy**, which includes both the marriage of one man to more than one wife (polygyny) and one woman to more than one husband (polyandry). **Polygyny** is common, whereas **polyandry** is rare. Also rare is group marriage, in which a number of men are married to a number of women. Group marriage exists chiefly among subcultures. Within the United States three new marital and family lifestyles seem to be emerging in the second half of the 20th century: unmarried partners living together, e. g. **nonmarital heterosexual cohabitation**, childless marriages, and dual-career marriages.

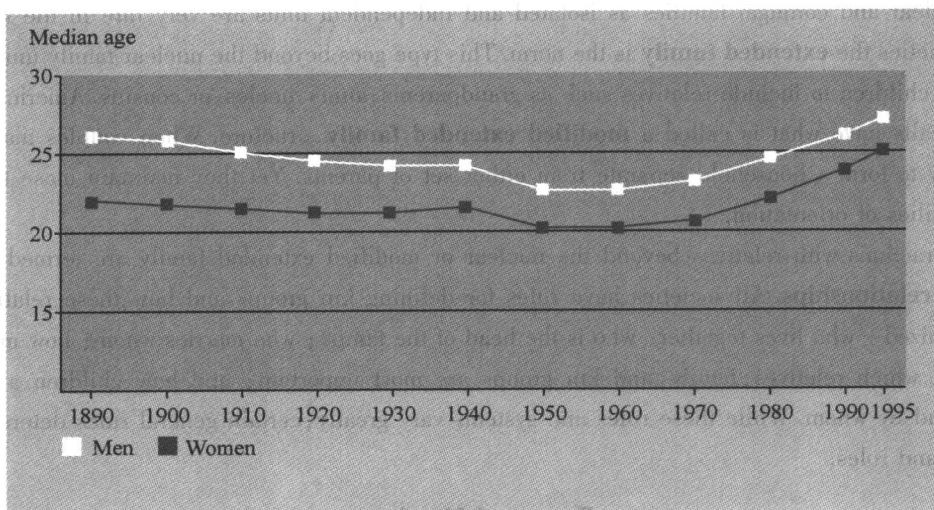




Marriage Laws

The marriage laws of most Western nations are the products of **Roman Catholic canon law** that has been greatly modified by the changed cultural and social conditions of modern life. Modern marriage law regards marriage as a civil transaction and allows only **monogamous** unions. In general, the legal capacity of a person to marry is the same all over the Western world and is subject only to impediments such as blood relationship and, in some cases, mental incapacity. The minimum age limits for marriage, which were previously 12 years or even younger, have been revised upward in most countries to between 15 and 21 years of age.

As the following Figure shows, in the wake of a sharp decline during and after World War II (1939 – 1945), the age at which men and women in the United States first marry has steadily increased. In the mid – 1990s, the age of first marriage for women was higher and closer to the age at which men first marry than at any time in the previous 100 years.



Choice of Marriage Partners

All societies have rules concerning the appropriateness or unacceptability of certain types of marriage partners. These rules can be divided into two categories: **exogamy**, in which people must marry outside their group, and **endogamy**, which requires that people entering marriage should share certain group characteristics.

Wedding Vows

Male

I _____, take you _____, to be my wedded wife. To have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness or in health, to love and to cherish 'till death do us part. And hereto I pledge you my faithfulness.

Female

I, _____, take you _____, to be my wedded husband. To have and to hold, from this day



forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, 'till death do us part. And hereto I pledge you my faithfulness.

Wedding Ceremony

There is no end to the number and types of wedding ceremonies. Some are steeped in tradition. Others are as new as new age. Taking into consideration your faith, denomination, and the requirements of the governing body and/or the minister or official who is going to perform the ceremony, you must determine how much leeway (回旋的余地) you will be given in modifying traditional vows or whether or not you will be given the opportunity of creating your own ceremony and/or vows.

The elements of a wedding ceremony are somewhat universal although they may be embellished and their chronology be modified from ceremony to ceremony. Here are some of the major elements:

- 1) The Greeting;
- 2) The Declaration of Intentions (Wedding Vows);
- 3) The Exchange of Rings;
- 4) Blessings and Readings;
- 5) The Pronouncement.

The Status of Same-sex Marriage in the U. S.

Currently, only one man and one woman can be joined in matrimony and have their marriages recognized by the state, except for a few same-sex couples in Massachusetts who successfully won a court battle for the right to marry. Same-sex couples can marry in San Francisco since February 12, 2004, because of an action by their mayor. However, the state of California refuses to register the marriages. Similar actions have been taken in New Mexico and New York. By November of 2003, 37 states have enacted *Defense of Marriage Acts* (DOMAs) that ban same-sex marriage. Other states have similar legislation pending. The status of same-sex marriage across the U. S. by November of 2003 is shown as follows:

No states allow same-sex marriages, although Vermont does allow civil unions. The Massachusetts supreme court struck down a ban on same-sex marriages in November 2003 and turned the issue over to state lawmakers. The 1996 Defense of Marriage Act effectively bars the federal government from recognizing same-sex unions, but marriages are certified by states, not the federal government. Here is a state-by-state look.

