

From Chinglish to English

從中式英語到英語

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出版說明

學習一種外國語言，常常會受到母語的影響。中國人學英語，自然也不例外。有許多人學英語學了不少時間，說的還是中式英語。

本書作者 Janet Adams 女士在她的英語教學工作中，綜合中國學生在講英語時普遍存在的問題以及容易產生的毛病，有針對性地編寫本書，以幫助學習者避免犯中式英語的錯誤，學到較為標準的英語。

本書曾在報上英語專欄連載，頗受讀者歡迎，認為對初學英語或有一定英語程度的讀者，在學好英語會話方面，都有實際的幫助。

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1. Time

時 間

Ann: What time did you get here?

你是什麼時候到達這裏的？

Betty: I got here at one o five (1:05). What time is it now?

我在一點零五分到達，現在是幾點？

Ann: My watch says a quarter past one (1:15). What time is Joan coming?

根據我的錶是一點十五分。阿鍾什麼時候來？

Betty: She doesn't finish work until one thirty (1:30). I think she'll get here at about one fifty (1:50).

她要到一點三十分才下班。我相信她會在一點五十分左右到。

Ann: Well, I've got to meet a friend at two fifteen (2:15), so let's order some food now.

唔，我要在兩點十五分見一個朋友，我們不如現在叫一點東西吃。你

Are you doing anything this afternoon?

Betty: I'd like to take a nap. Last night I didn't get to bed until two thirty (2:30) and I had to get up at ten to eight (7:50) this morning. But I've got a Chinese class at three (3:00).

Ann: How long is your class?

Betty: It's two hours long.

Ann: Afterwards, you can go home and go to sleep.

Betty: I wish I could. But in the evening I have to teach English from seven to nine. And after class I'm meeting a friend for dinner at half past nine. I don't think I'll get home until past eleven. And I should spend an hour or so reviewing my Chinese.

Ann: Hey, it's almost two now. Where's Joan?

今天下午有什麼事情要辦嗎?

我想小睡一下, 昨天晚上我到兩點三十分才上床, 今早七點五十分我就要起床了。但三點我要上中文課。

上課上多久?

兩個鐘頭。

下課後, 你可以回家睡覺。

能睡覺就好了。但在晚上七點至九點我要教英語, 而下課後我約了一個朋友在九點半吃晚飯。我相信不到十一點以後我回不了家, 然後我又要花一個鐘頭左右溫習我的中文。

喂, 現在差不多兩點了。阿鍾到哪裏去了?

Betty: I don't know. It should take only about fifteen minutes to get here. Maybe she has to work a little late today.

不知道。她來這裏只需大概十五分鐘。可能是她今天要遲一點才下班。

Ann: I have to go. Say hello to her for me. See you around.

我要走了。代我問候她。回頭見。

* Telling time in English is really very easy. If you're not sure how to say the time, remember you can always say first the hour and then the minutes: ten o one (10:01), three thirty (3:30), twelve fifty nine (12:59). You don't have to use 'a quarter to', 'twenty past', or 'half past'.

用英語講時間實在是非常容易的。假如你不清楚怎樣講，記住你是大可以先說時，然後說分的：ten o one (10:01), three thirty (3:30), twelve fifty nine (12:59)。你不用說 'a quarter to', 'twenty past', 或 'half past'。

2. Past and Future Time

過去和未來的時間

Ginger: When did you arrive? 你是什麼時候到的?

Helen: I got here three days ago. 我是三天前來到的。

Ginger: What have you been doing? 這幾天忙什麼?

Helen: I spent the day before yesterday sleeping. I was very tired. Yesterday I saw some old friends. 前天我睡了整天。我累極了。昨天我見了一些老朋友。

Ginger: What are your plans? 你有什麼計劃呢?

Helen: Tomorrow I intend to go to the New Territories. 明天我打算到新界去。
The day after tomorrow I'm going to Hongkong Univer- 後天到香港大學去。你
呢? 你有什麼事情要
辦?

sity. What about you? What are you doing?

Ginger: I have exams in a couple of weeks. I'm planning to take a trip to Malaysia and Singapore in a month or two.

Helen: That sounds nice. Have you been to China yet?

Ginger: Yes, I visited Canton about two years ago. Do you know that Frank is going to China in five days? He's going to Shanghai and Peking. He'll be in China for about three weeks.

Helen: I hope I can go sometime. But I want to wait until my Chinese is better. Maybe I'll apply in five or six months.

Ginger: Would you like to see a movie about China? There's one showing now. The next feature starts in about fifteen minutes.

過兩個星期我要考試。
我打算過一兩個月到馬來西亞和新加坡旅行。

聽上去不錯。你有去過中國嗎？

有，大約兩年前我到過廣州。你知道法蘭克過五天要到中國去嗎？他會去上海和北京。他將在中國逗留大概三個星期。

我希望能有一日到中國去。但我想等我的中文好些時才去。或許過五、六個月我去申請。

你有興趣看一部有關中國的電影嗎？現在有一部上映。下一場在大概十五分鐘後開映。

Helen: Can we get there in time?

我們趕得上嗎？

Ginger: Sure, we can get to the theatre in about ten minutes.

當然趕得上，大概十分鐘左右我們就可以到達戲院。

Helen: Okay, let's go.

好的，走吧。

* Remember that when talking about the future it's '*in a day, two months, five years, etc.*', not '*later a day ...*'. In the past, it's '*a month, five days etc. ago*', not '*before five days*'.

記住在說及未來時，要說 '*in a day, two months, five years, etc.*'，而不是 '*later a day ...*'。說過去時要用 '*a month, five days etc. ago*'，而不是 '*before five days*'。

3. Present Tense

現 在 式

Charles: What time do you usually get up?

你通常什麼時候起床?

Peter: It's hard to say. During the week I usually get up at around eight, but on the week-ends I sometimes sleep until ten.

很難說。平日我通常是八點左右起床，但在週末我有時睡到十點。

Charles: You're lucky. I have to be at work at eight, and it takes me an hour to get there. I don't get home until nine at night.

你真幸運。我八點就要開工了，而且到那裏去要花一個鐘頭。晚上不到九點回不了家。

Peter: Do you get any days off?

有假期嗎?

Charles: I get three days off a month.

一個月有三天。

Peter: What do you do on your holidays?

假日你做點什麼事呢?

Charles: Often I go to the movies. Sometimes I go to the New Territories.

通常是去看電影。有時到新界去。

Peter: Do you ever go to the beach?

你有去海灘嗎?

Charles: Very seldom. I don't know how to swim. How about you?

很少。我不會游泳。你呢?

Peter: During the summer, I go at least once a week. Swimming is very good exercise.

夏天我每星期最少去一次。游泳是非常好的運動。

Charles: Well, I get plenty of exercise at work. I'm always very tired. When I get home from work, I eat dinner and often go straight to bed.

唔,我工作時就得到很多運動呢。我時常覺得十分疲倦。下班回家後,我往往吃過晚飯,就立刻上床睡覺。

Peter: Your life is very hard. I finish work at five thirty. In the evening I often go out.

你的生活很艱苦啊。我五點半下班。晚上我經常都有出去。

Charles: What do you do?

出去幹什麼?

- Peter:** Sometimes I go to a ^{the} movie. Sometimes I visit a friend's house. I often go to a park or just walk around. Occasionally, I go shopping. 有時去看電影。有時到朋友家去坐。我經常到公園去或到處逛逛。偶爾也有去買東西。
- Charles:** I hardly ever do any of those things. 這一類事情我幾乎從來也沒有做過。

* Although called 'present tense', the present tense is not used for actions you're doing right now. Instead, it is used for repeated actions. For example, you say, 'I eat dinner at seven every day.' The present tense is also used for statements of fact, e.g., 'The earth revolves round the sun.' Also, notice that in negative sentences you use 'don't' or 'doesn't', e.g., 'I don't get up early.'

雖然稱為「現在式」，但現在式並不是用於表示你現在做的動作的，而是表示一些反覆的動作。例如，你說：'I eat dinner at seven every day'。現在式亦用於說明事實，例如：'The earth revolves round the sun.' 另外要注意否定句要用 'don't' 或 'doesn't' 例如：'I don't get up early.'

4. Present Continuous Tense

現在進行式

Christine: What are you doing?

你在幹什麼？

Sylvia: Nothing much. I'm just watching television. There's nothing good on.

沒什麼。只是在看電視。沒有什麼好看的。

Christine: Where's Charles?

查爾斯在哪裏？

Sylvia: He's still working. He usually doesn't get home until nine.

他還沒有下班。他通常要九點以後才回到家裏。

Christine: It's very quiet. Are the children sleeping?

很靜。孩子們在睡覺嗎？

Sylvia: Jane is doing her homework. John's visiting a friend. So, I'm just relaxing for a little while. I haven't seen you

阿珍在做家課。約翰探朋友去了。因此我正在休息一會兒。很久沒有見你了，克里斯廷。你