

SPOKEN ENGLISH for ADULTS

中英对照

英語五周會話

英 语 五 周 会 话
SPOKEN ENGLISH
FOR ADULTS

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Lesson 1

On Learning Spoken English

Brown: How long have you studied English?

Arita: Quite a few years. But if you mean the study this time, I have been studying for nearly three months.

Brown: I don't quite follow you. What do you mean by that?

Arita: Well, like all Japanese students I studied English in my school days. We learned how to read and translate from English into Japanese and vice versa, but we weren't given enough practice in speaking English. So recently I began to take a course in spoken English.

Brown: I see. Now I understand what you mean.

Arita: Since I've read quite a few English books, I know a good many words and phrases. The trouble is I can't use them in conversation because speaking was entirely neglected at school. I'm suffering from it now.

第 一 课

关于学习英语会话

布朗：你学习英语有多久了？

有田弘：已经有多年了。但是，如果你问的是指这一次的话，那么我已经学习将近三个月了。

布朗：你说的我不太懂，这是什么意思呢？

有田：喔！我像所有的日本学生一样，在学校时就学了英语。我们曾学习如何去阅读，把英语译成日语，或者反过来翻译。但是，我们没有充分地练习英语会话。因此，最近我开始修了一门英语会话课程。

布朗：原来如此。现在我懂得你的意思了。

有田：我曾经读过不少英文书。我知道很多单词和片语。困难的是，我不能在会话中加以应用，因为会话在学校里几乎完全被忽略了。现在，我因此而身受其害。

Brown: That seems to be the trouble with many people. However, it's no use crying over spilt milk. You're not the only one who had a bad start.

Arita: Now that I'm expecting to go abroad shortly, naturally I am very anxious to learn enough to get along with. It must be awful to visit a foreign country without being able to use the language. Half of the pleasure would be gone if one had to live like a deaf-mute.

Brown: I quite agree with you. A great many people imagine that conversational English can only be learned at a mother's knee, but that isn't quite true. You can still get busy and learn to speak it.

Arita: Is there any short-cut, I wonder?

Brown: I'm afraid not. You see, a language art is mainly a skill just as piano playing or automobile driving. We learn to play piano by playing and drive a car by driving. The same is true with learning a language. There is no other way. The more we practise the better we become. Try to learn useful sen-

布朗：这似乎使很多人苦恼。但是，覆水难收。头开得不好的人决不只是你一个人。

有田：我予定即将去国外，当然，我渴望能学到足以应付才行。去访问一个国家而不能使用这个国家的语言，这是很糟糕的。如果像聋哑人那样生活，那么，乐趣将减少一大半。

布朗：我深有同感。很多人都认为要用英语说话，非从小学习不可，其实不尽然。你从现在开始努力学习会话，为时并不算晚。

有田：有没有什么捷径呢？

布朗：我想是没有的。你知道，学习一种语言艺术，正像弹钢琴或驾驶汽车一样，主要在于熟练。我们通过弹奏来学弹钢琴，用驾驶来学习开汽车，学习语言也是同样的道理。没有别的办法。练习时间越多，进步就越大。试着记住一些有用的词句，模仿着造句。任何具

tences by heart, and make other sentences after such models. Anyone who has the ability to learn can learn to speak English. Of course a person who has a good memory will make better progress.

Arita: What about grammar?

Brown: Grammar is useful, but it is wrong to imagine that one can learn to speak a foreign language by rules of grammar.

Arita: Maybe, but many people feel they need some kind of guide and claim that grammar is it.

Brown: Of course, grammar is of help, but it isn't everything. You've got to bear in mind that learning to speak a language is a matter of habit forming. Therefore, constant practice is essential.

Arita: What you mean is that practice makes perfect.

Brown: That's exactly it.

有学习能力的人，都能学会说英语。当然，记忆力强的人进步将更快一些。

有田：那么语法怎么样呢？

布朗：语法是有用的。不过，以为能按照语法规则学会讲外国话，那就错了。

有田：也许是的。不过很多人都觉得他们需要有某种准则，而语法正是这种准则。

布朗：当然，语法也是有帮助的，但是，它并不是全部。学讲一种语言要养成一种习惯，这一点应特别注意。所以，必不可少的是连续不断的练习。

有田：你的意思是说熟能生巧。

布朗：就是这个意思。

生 字

spoken ['spoukn] 说，讲

follow ['fəlu] 跟，领会，听清楚

vice versa ['vaɪsɪ 'vɜ:sə] 反过
来（也如此）

practice n., practise v. ['præktɪs]
练习

phrase [freɪz] 片语

entirely [ɪn'taɪəli] 全然，完全

neglect [nig'lekt] 轻视, 忽略
 suffer from ['sʌfə] 因...受损害
 use [ju:z] 使用
 cry [krai] 哭泣
 spilt [spilt] 泼, 溅
 start ['sta:t] 开始, 开端
 naturally ['nætʃərəli] 当然
 anxious to ['æŋkʃəs] 渴望
 pleasure ['pleʒə] 乐趣
 deaf-mute ['def'mju:t] 聋哑人
 imagine [i'mædʒin] 想象
 conversational [kən've'seɪʃənəl] 会
 话的
 knee [ni:] 膝
 short-cut ['ʃɔ:t kʌt] 捷径
 art [ɑ:t] 艺术
 mainly ['meinli] 主要的
 skill ['skil] 熟练
 automobile ['ɔ:tə'məubi:l] 汽车

useful ['ju:sful] 有用的
 sentence ['sentəns] 句子
 heart [hɑ:t] 心
 after ['ɑ:ftə] 按照
 model ['mɒdl] 模型
 ability [ə'biliti] 能力
 memory ['meməri] 记忆
 progress ['prəʊgres] 进步
 grammar ['græmə] 语法
 rule [ru:l] 规则
 guide [gaɪd] 准则, 指导
 claim ['kleim] 主张
 help [help] 帮助
 habit ['hæbit] 习惯
 forming ['fɔ:mɪŋ] 形成
 constant ['kɒnstənt] 继续, 连续
 essential [i'senʃəl] 必不可少
 perfect ['pə:fɪkt] 完美
 exactly [ɪg'zæktli] 正确

其 他

on learning... 关于学习 ...
 this time 这一次
 I see 原来如此
 a good many 很多
 after such models 仿效
 you see 你是知道的用作插入语。

解 释

How long have you studied? 是“到现在为止学习了多少时间”的意思，用现在完成式表示。如果用现在完成进行式，**have been studying**，则更强调现在仍在继续学习。

How long have you lived in Japan?

（在日本住多久了？）

How long have you been living here?

（住在这里有多久了？）

quite a few 当 **quite** 和 **a few** 连在一起用时，不是“少”，而是“相当多”。同样，**a bit** 是“一些些”，但加了一个 **quite** 就成“相当多”了。

Do you know any people there?

（那里有什么熟人吗？）

Yes, I know quite a few.

（有，熟人相当多。）

Please give me a little bit.

（请给我一些。）

He gave me quite a bit.

（他给了我很多。）

I don't quite follow you. 是不太明白对方的话的意思。

I don't follow you. 从“无法跟随”转译成“听不懂”。

Do you follow me?

（你听懂我的话吗？）

What do you mean by that?

在不了解对方说话的真意时用。

We weren't given 意思与 **We didn't have** 相同，含有“未曾得到这样的机会”之意。例如：

We had only 30 minutes for lunch. 和 **We were given only 30 minutes for lunch.** 虽然两句的意思都是“午餐时间只有三十分鐘”，但隐含说话人的情绪却不同。

a course in spoken English 也能用 lessons 代替 course, 不同的是 course 指某一特定科目, 而 lessons 则泛指一般学习。

be neglected 应予注意而被忽略了, 如果是故意轻视则用 ignore.

I'm suffering from it. 在此 from 表示原因。

He suffers from headaches. (他患头痛病。)

His business suffered owing to his long illness.

(由于他长期生病而使他的事业不振。)

the trouble with many people “很多人感到麻烦的是”, “多数人的问题是”。

The trouble with me is that I keep forgetting new words.

(我感到烦恼的是我记不住生字。)

It's no use crying... 也无济于事的意思。注意, 动词后面必须加 ing.

It's no use worrying about it.

(担心也没用。)

It's no use going there now.

(现在去也无济于事。)

Crying over spilt milk 这成语出典于一个少女的故事。说一少女头顶牛奶桶去卖牛奶, 途中梦想售完牛奶后, 可买这买那, 心神不定, 致使牛奶打翻在地。

It is no use crying over spilt milk.

(牛奶打翻了哭也没用。即, 作无益的后悔, 没有用。)

Now that 现在既然之意。now 是连接词, 一般都伴随 that.

Now that you are here, you'd better stay.

(现在你既然来了, 那就别走了。)

Now that you are well again, you can work.

(现在你既然好了, 那可以工作了。)

I'm expecting to go abroad. 我预定去国外。

expecting to 含有对已决定的将来的事, 有期待的情绪。

be anxious to (do) 渴望

be anxious about 担忧, 焦虑

I am anxious to go abroad.

(我渴望去国外。)

I am anxious about his health.

(我担心他的健康。)

We had a very anxious time until we got a letter.

(我们在接到他来信之前, 一直很焦急。)

learn at a mother's knee “在母亲膝下学习”, 即从幼年开始自然地学习。

get busy and..., 开始工作, 有 get started 之意, 一般用在自身或比自己的辈份或身份低的人。

I must get busy and finish this by Monday.

(我必需开始工作, 到星期一干完它。)

You must get busy and be on the way.

(你得好好地给我干。)

Is there any short-cut, I wonder? = I wonder if there is any short-cut.

我不知道有没有捷径, 意即有什么捷径吗?

I'm afraid not = I'm afraid there isn't any short-cut. 不用 I'm afraid

而说 No, there isn't 当然也可以, 但语气太生硬。

The more... the better “越... 越...”

The faster, the better. (越快越好。)

The cheaper, the better. (越便宜越好。)

The harder you study, the easier it will become.

(学习得越努力, 越觉得容易。)

learn by heart = memorize = commit to memory 背诵, 记住。

grammar is it “语法正是这一准则”。it 在本文是“这一准则”之意。

表示较重的语气。That's it. “就是这”, 附和他人意见时用。

you've got to 如不用 got, 句子意思仍不变, 会话时常用此形式。

You've got to work harder.

(你必须工作得更努力些。)

bear in mind 记住, 不忘

Bear in mind what I say.

(记住我所说的。)

a matter of habit forming 养成习惯的问题。

It's a matter of practice.

(这是一个练习的问题。练习一事最为重要。)

练 习 1

请选择适当词填入下列空白:

1. You must learn useful sentences _____ heart, and make other sentences _____ such models.
2. You can not learn _____ speak a foreign language _____ rules of grammar.
3. The trouble _____ many people is that they were not given enough practice _____ speaking English _____ their school days.
4. I don't know _____ to translate this Japanese sentence _____ English.
5. You must _____ in mind that _____ practice is essential _____ learning to speak a foreign language.

练 习 2

试将下列各句译成英语:

1. 我曾阅读过很多英语书,但在英语会话方面没有充分练习。
2. 日本高等学校中虽教授英语,但对会话一事几乎完全忽略了。
3. “熟能生巧”是甚么意思?
4. 我的意思是说练习得越多越能说得越好。
5. 我学习英语已有相当时间了,但还未学到足以应付的程度。

Lesson 2

General Hints on Conversation with Westerners

In associating with foreigners it is important to know their social customs. This is especially true when carrying on a conversation, for you may offend the other party without actually intending to do so. Here are some general hints.

1. If you don't understand, don't hesitate to ask. Some Japanese seem to feel that it is impolite to ask back even when they don't quite understand. However, it's much better to say that you don't understand than to pretend you understand and answer and very vaguely. When you don't understand or haven't caught what was said, you may ask by saying any of the following:

"I'm afraid I don't understand you. Would you mind saying it again."

"I'm sorry I don't follow you."

2. Always answer when you are asked a question. Westerners con-

第二课 同西方人会话 时一般性的提示

和外国人交往时，重要的是需要了解他们的社交习惯。交谈时特别要注意，因为你可能在无意中触怒对方。这里是一些一般性的提示。

1. 如果你不太了解就毫不迟疑地发问。有些日本人以为反问是不礼貌的，即使他们并不太懂。然而，直率地承认不懂比假装懂得而给予暧昧的回答为好。当你弄不懂或听不清楚对方的话时，你可以依照下列方式发问：

“我不太了解你所说的。你能再重复一下吗？”

“我很抱歉，我不太懂你的话。”

2. 你必须有问有答。西方人认

sider it very rude if a question is not answered. They think it is an insult to ignore a question. It is surprising to find so many Japanese, particularly girl students, merely giggle without saying anything when they are spoken to. This, no doubt, comes from embarrassment, but nothing is more unpleasant for Westerners.

Even if your answer may be a simple "I don't know," or "I don't understand," you must say something. If it is too difficult to answer in English, you may say, "I understand, but I don't know how to answer."

3. Speak out what you think. Westerners express their opinions freely. They feel it is natural for people to have different ideas, and don't mind hearing views that differ from their own. You may express frankly what you think or feel, though, of course, you mustn't be rude in your manner of speech. Flat statements such as "You're wrong," "You're mistaken," "You don't know," etc. aren't exactly bad, but it is preferable to soften the tone. You might say, "I don't think you're right," "I'm

为不回答问题是非常失礼的。他们认为对问题不予置理是侮辱人。使人大为惊异的是很多日本人，尤其是女学生，有人同她们说话时，一声不吭，只是傻笑。无疑，这是因为发窘。不过，就西方人来说，没有比这更不愉快的的事了。

你总得说些什么，即使只是简单地回答“我不知道”或“我不清楚”也好。如果无法用英语回答时，你可以说“我懂了，可是我不知道如何回答。”

3. 毫无顾虑地说出你自己的意见。西方人自由地发表他们的意见。他们认为，人们有各自不同的意见是自然的。因此，听到和自己不同的意见时，也毫不在意。你可以坦率地陈述自己的感觉或想法，当然，你的说话方式决不能粗鲁。“你不对”、“你错了”、“你不会懂的”等这类直截了当的话并不一定坏，但语气缓和些更为可取。你可以说，“我认为你是不对的。”“我担

afraid you're mistaken," or "You don't seem to understand."

4. Don't say only "Yes" or "No". The English use of "Yes" and "No" is the same as in Japanese in affirmative questions, but in negative questions the use is opposite. In ordinary English conversation it is usual to add something after "Yes" or "No" like the following:

Do you understand?

Yes, perfectly.

Don't you know?

No, I really don't.

May I see it?

Yes, by all means.

心你错了,"或者说"你似乎不太了解。"

4. 不要只说"是"或"否"。在英语中"是"或"否"在肯定性的问话中,它的使用法和日语相同。但在否定性的问话中,其用法恰好相反。英语中在"是"或"否"的后面,一般都附加一些话,如:

你知道了吗?

是的,完全知道了。

你不知道吗?

不,我真的不知道。

我能看看吗?

是的,你当然可以看。

生 字

general ['dʒenərəl] 一般性的

hint [hint] 暗示,提示

westerner ['westənə] 西方人

associate [ə'souʃieɪt] 交往

social ['souʃəl] 社会的,社交的

custom ['kʌstəm] 习惯

especially [is'peʃəli] 特别,尤其

offend [ə'fend] 触怒

party ['pa:ti] 一方,当事人,参与者

actually ['æktʃuəli] 实际上

intend [in'tend] 故意

hesitate ['heziteɪt] 迟疑

impolite [impə'laɪt] 不礼貌

even ['i:vən] 即使

pretend [pri'tend] 假装

vaguely ['veɪgli] 暧昧的

consider [kən'sɪdə] 考虑,以为

rude [ru:d] 粗暴

insult [in'sʌlt] 侮辱

ignore [ɪg'nɔ:] 轻视

surprising [sə'praɪzɪŋ] 惊异

particularly [pə'tɪkjʊləli] 尤其
merely ['miəli] 只是
giggle ['gɪɡl] 傻笑
doubt [daʊt] 疑惑
embarrassment [ɪm'bærəsmənt]

迷惑, 发窘

unpleasant [ʌn'plezənt] 不愉快的
simple ['sɪmpl] 简单的
express [ɪks'pres] 表明
freely ['fri:li] 自由地
natural ['nætʃərəl] 自然的
differ ['dɪfə] 不同
frankly ['fræŋkli] 坦率地

manner ['mænə] 方式
speech [spi:tʃ] 言词
flat [flæt] 直截了当
statement ['steɪtmənt] 陈述
mistaken [mɪs'teɪkn] 错误
preferable ['prefərəbl] 更可取的
soften ['sɒftən] 缓和
tone [toun] 声调
affirmative [ə'fɜ:mətɪv] 肯定的
negative ['negatɪv] 否定的
usual ['ju:ʒuəl] 一般的
perfectly ['pɜ:fɪktli] 完全地

其 他

carry on 继续进行
the other party 对方
don't quite understand 不完全了解
ignore a question “轻视问题”也就是“不回答”
speak to 对...说
no doubt 无疑的
speak out 毫无顾虑地说出
the same as... 与...相同的

解 释

Offend the other party 伤害对方的感情。

He is easily offended.

(他很容易生气。)

ask back 反问。不要说 **talk back**, 这是“顶咀”之意。 **call back** 则是在来电话时, 本人不在的情况下用, 意思是“等一会儿让他打过去。”
pretend 装作。有些人在交谈时, 碰到不了解的地方, 由于不好意思问, 而装作懂了, 随口敷衍, 结果答非所问。这个习惯应予纠正。尤其与外国人交谈时更需避免。

nothing is more unpleasant

(没有比这更不愉快的事了。)

Nothing is better than this.

(没有比这更好的了。)

too difficult to ... “太难了, 无法…”

He was too tired to work.

(他太疲倦无法工作了。)

flat statements 这 **flat** 的原意为“平坦”, 引伸为“毫不修饰”, “直截了当”。

He refused flatly.

(他直截了当地拒绝了。)

Yes 和 No 含有否定语的疑问句, 给予肯定的答复时, 要用 **No**。

不能脱口而出地说 **Yes**。用 **Yes** 还是 **No** 要仔细分辨。例如:

Isn't that her idea?

(那不是她的意见吗?)

No, of course not.

(不, 当然不是她的意见。)

Yes, it is.

(是的, 是她的意见。)

Do you mind if I open the window?

(我开这窗你不会介意吧?)

No, I don't.

(不, 我不介意。)

谦虚与谦让是一种美德, 但在和欧美人谈话时, 常常容易造成误解。这点应特别注意。暧昧的回答, 世故的微笑还是避免为好, 因欧美人对这些不习惯, 可能引起不愉快, 或莫名其妙的误解。