

纺织英语会话

ENGLISH CONVERSATION BETWEEN
TEXTILE WORKERS

徐 捷

一九八二年四月

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致 读 者

在院刊编辑室的敦促下，一年以前动手编写这一套英语会话，当时只觉得这种材料适合纺织界一部分同志英语学习的需要，同时自己也希望对这方面多出点力。上马之后才认识到自己接受的是一件力不胜任的工作。然而已经处于骑虎之势，只得勉强坚持到底。由于语言水平有限，业务知识浅薄，资料少，时间紧，缺乏编写经验，书中错误不当之处会有不少，希望读者批评指正。

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编 者

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1. Prelude

序幕

Mr William Smith and Wang Dahai happened to be on board a CAAC airliner from Guangzhou to Shanghai. They fell into conversation with each other. Here's what they said:

威廉·施密斯先生和王大海搭乘同一架由广州飞往上海的中国民航客机,途中他们攀谈起来。下面是他们的谈话:

S: Smooth flight, isn't it? 飞得挺稳,是吗?

W: Yes, I should think so. 我想是的。

S: I'm glad to find an English-speaking fellow traveller.
我很高兴,遇到了一位会说英语的旅伴。

W: Oh, I'm just learning. 哦,我还在学着呐!

S: My name is William Smith. May I know yours?

我叫威廉·施密斯,可否请你通个姓名?

W: Wang Dahai. Are you from the United States, Mr Smith? 王大海。你是美国人吧,施密斯先生?

S: No, I'm from Canada. Oh, you must've noticed my American accent. Well, I was brought up in the States. 不,我是加拿大人。哦,你一定是听出了我的美国音了。我是在美国长大的。

W: Is this your first trip to China? 这是你初次来中国吧?

S: Yes. And I hope I'll be a frequent visitor here, by and by. 是的。不过我希望以后可以成为这里的常客。

W: Yes? 是吗?

S: Well, you see, I'm the manager of the Textile Department

of a Canadian company. I'm invited by the Textiles Import and Export Corporation of Shanghai. My company instructed me to assess the potentiality of our trade with China in the field of textiles.

你看，我是加拿大一个公司纺织部门的经理，受上海纺织品公司的邀请来的。我的公司指示我了解一下与中国进行纺织品交易的可能性。

W: I see great possibilities in this respect.

我看这方面成功的希望很大。

S: Most probably. I intend to take a look around some of the textile mills during my stay here.

非常可能。在这儿我准备到几家纺织厂去看看。

W: That's a good idea. As a matter of fact, we happen to be in the same line.

这是个好主意。其实，我们还正好是同行呢。

S: Is that so? 是这样的吗?

W: Yes. I work with the Municipal Bureau of Textile Industry of Shanghai, as a technician.

是啊。我在上海市纺织工业局工作，当技术员。

S: What luck! I'm almost tempted to ask you a favor on our very first acquaintance, though, in doing so, I would run the risk of being impolite.

运气太好了！我简直情不自禁地要在我们初次相识就想请你帮个忙，不过这样做有失礼貌。

W: I'd be glad to be of help, but what is it?

能帮点忙我倒是高兴的，不过，究竟是怎么回事呢？

S: It's like this. You've got the technical know-how, and

speak good English. I don't think I could find a better man to help me out with my job. Of course, my company will pay for the loss it will cause you.

是这么回事，你既懂专门技术，英语又说得好。要请个人帮我完成任务，你是最好不过了。当然，我们公司为此要对你支付一定的报酬的。

W: By no means! I regard it as a matter of friendship. But, as you can imagine, it's not up to me to make the decision. I'll have to report it. Excuse me for a moment. (After consulting his superior) Allow me to introduce you to our Director. This is Mr Zhang. (This is) Mr William Smith:

千万不要这样。我把这看成是一桩友好的事情。不过，你也知道，这事我做不了主，我必须向上级汇报。请原谅一下。(请示处长以后)请允许我把你介绍给我们的处长。这是张先生。这是威廉·施密斯先生。

(They exchange 'how do you do's. 他们互相致意。)

Z: I've learned your request, and will get in touch with my superiors to see what we can do about it.

我听说了你的要求，我准备和上级联系，看看我们能做些什么。

S: It's awfully kind of you. Thank you so much.

你真太好了。非常感谢。

W: It seemed just a moment ago that we took off, and Shanghai is already in sight.

我们好象刚起飞不久，上海就已经在我们面前了。

Z: Hope we'll be seeing each other down there.

希望我们在那儿能够常常见面。

S: That's just what's in my mind.

我也正是这样想的。

2. Arriving in Shanghai 到达上海

F: Excuse me, but aren't you Mr Smith from Canada?

请问, 你是从加拿大来的施密斯先生吗?

S: Yes. And you are... 是的, 你是……

F: I am an interpreter from the Textiles Import and Export Corporation. My name is Feng. Our Director, Mr Li has come to meet you.

我是纺织品公司的译员。我姓冯。我们的处长李先生来迎接你了。

L: Welcome to Shanghai, Mr Smith.

欢迎你来上海, 施密斯先生!

S: It's very nice of you to have come to meet me, Mr Li.
多谢你来接我, 李先生。

L: Looks like, you've just had a pleasant trip.

看样子你刚经历了一次愉快的旅行。

S: A most delightful one! 一次使人非常高兴的旅行。

L: Our car is over there. Are you ready to go?

我们的车在那边。你准备停当了吗?

S: Yes. Let's be going. 好了。走吧。

L: We've booked a suite of rooms for you at Shanghai Mansions. 我们在上海大厦为你订了一套房间。

S: Thank you. I'm grateful to tell you that everything

has been satisfactory since I stepped into your great country.

谢谢。我很感激地告诉你，自从我进入你们伟大的国家，一切都是那样令人满意。

L: You are our guest, and to hear that from you is really gratifying. 你是我们的客人。听你这么说真叫人高兴。

S: Where are we now? 我们到了哪儿了?

F: We're passing by the East China Institute of Textile Science and Technology.

我们正在华东纺织工学院旁边经过。

S: Really? What a nice place to pay a visit to! Mr Li, wouldn't it be possible to put this college at the top of our program?

真的! 这可是个参观的好地方。李先生, 是否可以把这所大学放在我们活动日程的优先位置上?

L: That can be managed, I suppose.

这件事我想是办得到的。

F: We're coming to the center of the city.

我们就要到市中心了。

S: It's really not far from the airport.

离机场可真不算远。

F: Here we are, Shanghai Mansions. 到了, 上海大厦。

S: A magnificent building, I should say.

一幢挺神气的大楼。

Z: Mr Smith, some Chinese dishes will surely freshen you up after the journey. Please grant us the pleasure of your company at a dinner party this evening.

施密斯先生，吃一顿中国菜一定会消除你旅途的疲劳。今晚的宴会，请你光临。

S: How nice of you! I'll be delighted to come.

你太客气了！我很高兴来赴宴。

Z: Then, see you this evening. 那末，晚上见了。

S: Good-bye. Thanks again for all the trouble.

再见。给你添了麻烦，再次感谢。

F: This way please, Mr Smith.

请这边走，施密斯先生。

3. Visiting the East China Institute of Textile Science and Technology

参观华东纺织工学院

W: Good morning, Mr Smith. 早上好，施密斯先生。

S: Good morning, Mr Wang. So we meet again.

早上好，王先生。我们又见面了。

W: Just as I expected. Here comes our car.

正如我所料，我们的车子来了。

S: How many textile colleges do you have?

贵国有几所纺织学院？

W: Quite a few, but I don't know the exact number.

很不少哩，不过，确切的数字我不知道。

S: The one we're going to, I mean, the East China Institute of Textile Science and Technology, is the biggest in the country, isn't it?

我们现在去的这所，我是说华东纺织工学院，是全国

规模最大的一个,是吧?

W: Well, it's one of the key universities in the country.
哦,这是全国重点大学之一。

S: Are you familiar with it? 你对那儿熟悉吗?

W: I wouldn't say I'm a stranger there. In fact, I graduated from the Textile Engineering Department of it in 1964. It must have changed a lot since then, though.

我不打算把自己说成是个陌生人。事实上,我是1964年在那里的纺织工程系毕业的。不过,这么多年一定发生了不小的变化。

S: That's positive. What was your major?

那是肯定的。你专修哪一科?

W: Management of Textile Enterprises. Well, here we are. Look, Vice President Xie is waiting for us there. The young man on his right must be an interpreter. He is sure to take a greater part of the load off my shoulders.

纺织企业管理。我们到了。瞧,谢副院长在那儿等我们呢。他右边的那位年青人一定是译员,他肯定可以减轻我一大半负担。

X: Welcome to our Institute, Mr Smith. You are our first guest from Canada.

欢迎您来到我们学院,施密斯先生。您是我们的第一位来自加拿大的客人。

S: I'm glad to have that honor. You'll see more and more coming, I'm sure.

有这份荣誉我很高兴。我敢肯定,到这儿来的人会越来越多。

X: We will welcome everyone of them, open-armed. As an old Chinese saying goes: "Great is the pleasure in receiving friends coming from afar." Now, let's step into the reception room and have a chat over a cup of tea.

我们都会给予热烈欢迎,正如中国的一句古老的俗语所说的那样:“有朋自远方来,不亦乐乎。”现在让我们到接待室去,一边喝茶,一边谈话。

S: It's cheery and cozy in here. 这里面布置得很舒适。

X: To begin with, this institute is still young. It has a history of only 29 years. It is our aim to prepare technical personnel for the country's textile industry. More than 18000 graduates from this institute are working at different posts all over the country. Right now, we have an enrollment of 3000 students, 5% of them being postgraduates.

首先要讲的是,我们这所学院年纪还轻,只有二十九年的历史。我们的宗旨是为我国的纺织工业培养技术人材。本院一万八千多名毕业生在全国各地不同的岗位上工作。目前在校学生三千名,其中研究生占5%。

S: Mr Wang here is one of your graduates. He is quite capable. 这位王先生就是贵校的毕业生。他很能干。

X: We have five departments: the Textile Engineering Department, the Textile Machinery Department, the Automation Department, the Textile Chemistry Department and the Department of Basic Sciences.

我们有五个系:纺织工程系、纺织机械系、自动化系、纺织化学系和基础部。

S: Yours is truly a textile university. How about your teaching staff?

这实际上是一所纺织大学了。你们的师资力量怎么样?

X: We have a rather large faculty, less than 900, with professors and lecturers constituting about 40%. A number of our teachers are engaged in advanced studies in Canada, and several more will soon be on their way there. There is much we can learn from your country.

我们的师资队伍不算小, 将近九百人, 其中教授和讲师约占 40 %。有几位教师现在加拿大进修, 还有几位不久也要去了。有许多东西我们要向你们的国家学习。

S: So we have established close ties between ourselves. Such academic exchanges will surely benefit both our countries.

看来, 我们已经建立了密切的纽带。这种学术交流定会使我们两国受益。

X: Canada is among the first western countries to establish diplomatic relations with us. Let us look forward to greater successes of our cooperation and friendship.

加拿大是最早同我们建立外交关系的西方国家之一。让我们期待两国之间的友谊取得更大的成就。

S: We can depend on it. 这是靠得住的。

W: Now shall we continue with our talking while taking a round of the campus?

现在是不是让我们到校园里走走, 一边继续交谈?

S: Splendid. 好极了。

X: The classrooms are rather scattered. 教室分得比较散。

S: That must be the playground. 那一定是操场喽。
X: Yes, and the workshops are in the south-eastern corner over there. 对, 东南角上都是工场、车间。

S: How are your laboratories equipped?

你们的实验室设备怎么样?

X: We're going to one of them. This is the Textile Material Laboratory.

我们现在就去看一间实验室。这是纺材实验室。

S: These are conventional instruments. 这些是常规仪器。

X: Yes, the undergraduates use them for tests on textile raw materials, yarns and fabrics.

是的。本科学生用它们做纺织原料、纱线和织物方面的试验。

S: I can see, they have been much used, but are kept in pretty good order.

我看得出, 这些仪器利用率很高, 但保养得非常好。

X: This room is for teachers and postgraduates engaged in scientific researches. An X-ray unit is of course indispensable. And we've got an electronic strength tester and a microprocessor in the next room.

这一间是供从事科研的教师和研究生用的。一架X-光仪当然总是少不了的。另外一间还有电子强力机和电子微处理机。

S: They are sophisticated devices. Now, what's this called? 那些是先进设备。哦, 这个叫什么?

X: That's a photoelectric yarn hairiness tester, and it was designed and built by teachers of this laboratory.

那是光电式纱线毛羽仪，而它是由本实验室的教师自行设计和制造的。

S: Really? That explains things. You're keeping abreast of the times.

真的？这就很说明问题了。你们是在与时代一同前进的。

X: We still have a long way to go. And this here is the air-conditioned room.

我们还有很长一段路要走呢！这儿是恒温室。

S: That completes the whole picture. I have been much impressed by all this. You know, in a sense, to see the laboratory is to see a university as a whole. I congratulate you on your successes in this respect.

这么一来就样样齐全了。我对这一切深有感受。从某种意义上说，通过实验室就可以看到一所大学的全貌。我祝贺你们在这方面取得的成就。

X: What you said is really encouraging. I know, we've got a lot more to do to modernize our laboratories, as well as the whole school.

你的话实在使人受到鼓舞。我知道，要使我们的实验室以及整个学校现代化，要做的事还多着呐。

S: Mr Xie, I hate to leave you so soon, but I'm afraid, I have to drag myself away from you now.

谢先生，我真不愿意这么快就向你告别，不过，我恐怕只好硬把自己拉走了。

X: Thank you very much for your visit and the beneficial remarks you made for us.

多谢你来参观，还有你给我们提出的那些有益的见解。

S: It's I that have benefited by this visit. I must admit I am no educator, but I'm a bit interested in the way you run your colleges in this country. Of course, a few hours is too short a time for so big a school like yours;

倒是我通过这次访问受到了益处。我得承认,自己不懂教育,但对你们国家的办学方法有些兴趣。当然啦,对于你们这么大一座学校来说,几小时的访问是太短促了。

X: Then why don't you try to arrange another visit here? 那末,为什么不设法再安排一次访问呢?

S: I'd be glad to. Er, I promise to come again. Next time, I hope, it will be possible for me to sit in on a lecture and have a chat with some of your students.

我很愿意。嗯,我保证再来。下一回,希望能够听一节课,再跟同学们漫谈一下。

X: That's a big idea; In this case, instead of "Good-bye" I'll say "Till we meet again",

这个主意好。既然如此,我就不说"Good-bye"了。我说"下一回见"。

S: Good. Till we meet again; 好! 下回见。

4. Cotton Spinning 棉 纺

W: (Knocking at the door, 敲门)

S: Come in please; Ah; it's you, Wang. You always come in the nick of time. 请进。啊!是你,王。你总是准时来。

W: Punctuality is a virtue; Time is too precious to waste.

守时是个美德。时间太宝贵了，可不能浪费。

S: Well said! Speaking of time, I'm finding it rather pressing. You know, I come here to do business. The visits can only be counted as my "side occupation". We've got to arrange them in a better way.

说得好！说到时间，我可发现我的时间相当紧迫。你知道，我到这儿是来做生意的。这种参观只能看作是我的“副业”。我们可得安排得更好一些。

W: Well, how do you mean? 你的意思是？

S: Take for instance, we may well leave out those formalities of receiving, briefing and chatting, and go straight to the point.

比方说，我们完全可以把接待、介绍情况、漫谈那些形式省掉，单刀直入，开门见山。

W: That suits me fine. We'll just make our rounds of the factory with the host's permission, and leave the moment we've seen what we went there for. Good, I'll see to it.

这可对我的劲，我们只要在主人许可之下，在厂里兜兜，看完要看的東西就离开。好，交给我去办。

S: We have five minutes to go. The car is coming any moment. 还有五分钟。汽车说到就到。

W: Suppose I put a call to them and arrange the visit our way right from today?

是不是我就挂电话，今天起就按我们的办法安排？

S: Why not? Good efficiency.

敢情好。你办事真讲究效率。