

英语听力大世界

(一)

地道纯美英语

Idiomomatic American English

领略美国文化、风俗和语言的风采

An Insight into American Culture Customs and Language

听力理解更上一层楼

A Step Forward in Listening Comprehension

王敬华 主编
中国纺织大学出版社

英语听力大世界

(第一册)

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序

我们编写此书的宗旨是帮助广大的在校大学生和英语学习者提高英语听力。本书共分四册,收集了七十六篇词汇故事。通过这四册书的听力训练,相信广大学生和英语爱好者不仅能提高英语听力,而且还能了解美国人日常生活中使用的一些常用语,透过这些日常用语的来龙去脉,能或多或少地了解美国人生活的过去和今天。这对学好美语和恰如其分地使用美语将是有百利而无一弊的。

根据词汇故事的特点,本书每一篇课文安排如下:

第一部分 词汇

考虑到有些词看得懂,但一时不一定能听得懂,因而在编写过程中尽可能多列出一些词和词组。词和词组的意思完全根据上、下文中的意思来注。

第二部分 注释

这部分根据需求而设。如有的课文没有注释的必要,我们就略去了。

第三部分 听力练习

听力练习由练习 A 和 B 组成。练习 A 一般是针对对词和词组的理解而编;练习 B 旨在帮助听者理解整篇文章或文章中的某些细节。有时练习 B 的目的在于帮助听者掌握对词和词组的运用。

第四部分 听写填充

听写填充的设计目的在于帮助听者提高听力的准确性和培养听者作笔记的能力。

参加本书一、二册编写的有王晓宁、王敏华、吴瑾和徐璐璐。参加录音文字翻译的有王敏华、吴瑾、徐璐璐和童祐嵩。主编王敏华。

本书的录音磁带除指令部分另外录制外,由“美国之音”馈赠,因而音质清晰悦耳。

另外本书由美籍教师 Curtis Evans 审阅。他非常认真、仔细地审阅了全书,并且核对了录音和录音文字,对本书中存在的错误和不当之处,提出了修改意见。在此表示由衷地感谢。

如书中存在错误,欢迎指正。

编者

2000/11/9

Words and Their Stories

Unit One A-OKAY

I. Vocabulary

space-age /'speɪsɪdʒ/	a.	太空时代的
astronaut /'æstrənɔ:t/	n.	宇宙航行员
launch /lɔ:ntʃ/	n. & v.	发射,发出
spacecraft /'speɪs-kra:ft/	n.	太空船
liftoff /'lɪft-ɒv/	n.	发射,升空
atomic /ə'tɒmɪk/	a.	原子的
orbit /'ɔ:bit/	n.	轨道
atomic bomb		原子弹
Nevada		内华达[美国州名]

II. Notes

1. NASA National Aeronautics and Space Administration
(美国)国家航空和宇宙航行局
2. *All systems go.* 一切就绪。

III. Listening Exercises

- A. Listen to the tape and match the words or expressions with the correct explanations.

Words and Expressions

Explanations

1. A-Okay () a. count backwards in seconds to zero

2. All systems go. () b. the start of the flight of a spacecraft
3. countdown () c. Everything is in the order. All is ready.
4. burn out () d. The situation is fine, without any cause for worry.
5. liftoff () e. use up all the fuel

B. Listen to the tape and choose the right answers to the following questions.

1. Why do people use "A-Okay" instead of "Okay" in space flight?
- a. Because "A-Okay" sounds more friendly than "Okay".
 - b. Because "A-Okay" can be heard more clearly than "Okay".
 - c. Because the astronauts must use a new language so that others cannot understand it.
 - d. Because "A-Okay" is newer than "Okay."
2. Who first used "A-Okay" publicly?
- a. An American astronaut.
 - b. A journalist.
 - c. A spokesman for NASA.
 - d. A scientist of NASA.
3. When did people first hear countdowns?
- a. In the early 1940's during broadcasts of atomic bombs.
 - b. In the late 1940's during broadcasts of atomic bombs.
 - c. In the 1960's during the space flights.
 - d. In the 1950's during broadcasts of atomic bombs.
4. What does the sentence "The rocket is burnout" mean?
- a. The rocket is burned.
 - b. The rocket is to be fired.

- c. The rocket has been launched.
 - d. The rocket has run out of fuel.
5. Which of the following is NOT true?
- a. "A-Okay" might have begun to be used before the space-age.
 - b. The spacecraft can not be launched until all systems go.
 - c. It is difficult for the public to accept these new expressions of the space language.
 - d. The public first heard "A-Okay" in 1961.

IV. Spot Dictation

Listen to the tape twice and fill in the blanks with the missing words.

_____ became a popular word of _____. Space scientists would count down the _____ until launch. They _____ from 10 seconds, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 and _____. Some _____ say the American people first heard countdowns in the late _____ during _____ of atomic bomb tests in Nevada and _____ in the Pacific. But countdown did not become _____ until the space flights of the 1960's.

Tapescript

中文翻译

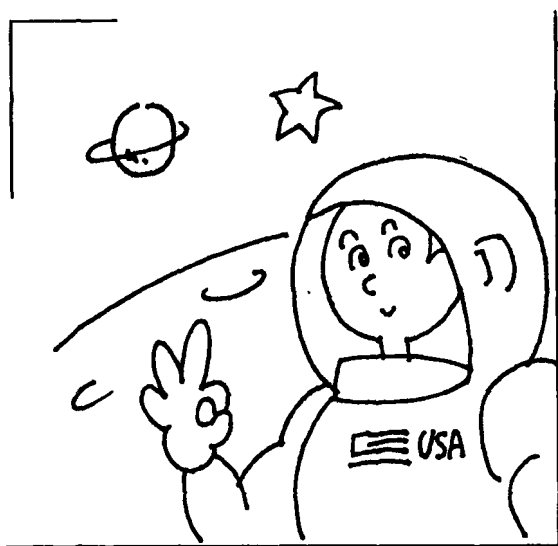
Unit One A-OKAY

第一单元 一切正常

No one really knows when many of our expressions became popular. But others can be easily dated. One such expression is A-Okay. It means the situation is

没有人真正知道我们的很多词语是何时开始流行的，但是有些词语的确可以追溯其根源。“A-Okay”便是其中之一，它的意思是情况很好，

fine; there is no cause for worry. 不需要担忧。



A-Okay is a space-age expression. It was used in 1961 during the flight of an American astronaut. John Powers, a spokesman for NASA, the national space agency, used “A-Okay” to tell the world that everything on the space flight was operating perfectly.

Some experts say the expression did not begin with the space age. One story is that it was first used during the early days of the telephone, to tell an operator that his message had been

“A-Okay”是太空时代的词语,1961 年在一名宇航员的飞行中它首次被使用。美国航空和宇宙航行局的发言人约翰·帕瓦斯用“A-Okay”来向世人宣告宇航飞行一切正常。

有些词汇专家指出这个词语并不是起源于太空时代。有一种说法认为,它诞生于早期电话时代,那时候它用来告诉接线员消息已收到。因为在电话中,“Okay”中的“O”这

received. The sound of the "O" in Okay often was lost in the noise on the telephone line. So the sharper sounding "A" was added to the expression, making a more easily understood "A-Okay".

A-Okay is one of several expressions that may have come into the language earlier but became popular only when they were used in the space program. These expressions quickly became part of everyday speech. This happened because most people had television, and could see and hear all the major events of a space flight.

In the first days of space flight, the astronauts seemed to be speaking a new language. But soon, the public accepted and began to use many expressions of this space language.

One such expression is "all systems go". It means everything is ready, let us begin. NASA uses it to mean that all the systems on a spacecraft have been examined and are working correctly. "All systems go" means the decision

个字母的发音经常因为电话中的噪杂声而听不清楚,所以在它前面加一个清晰的"A",就成了容易听懂的"A-Okay".

有很多像"A-Okay"这样的词语,它们可能很早就存在于我们的语言中,但直到用于宇航项目中,才开始被大众所熟知,而且迅速成为我们日常用语的一部分。这是因为大多数人都有电视,可以看到和听到宇航飞行的所有重要事件。

在宇航飞行的早期,宇航员似乎在说一种大家感到生疏的语言,但大众很快就接受了这种"太空语言",而且开始使用其中的很多词语。

其中一个词语就是"All systems go"(一切就绪)。它的意思是,各方面都准备好了,可以开始了。美国航空和宇宙航行局用这个词语来表示宇航飞船上各个系统都已经检查过,运转正常。这个词

has been made to continue with the launch of the spacecraft.

“Countdown” became a popular word of the space age. Space scientists would count down the seconds until the launch. They counted backwards from 10 seconds, “... 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, liftoff!” Some language experts say the American people first heard countdowns in the late 1940’s during broadcasts of atomic bomb tests in Nevada and on some islands in the Pacific. But countdown did not become a common expression until the space flights of the 1960’s.

Another space expression that has become common in recent years is “burnout.” It meant that a launch rocket had used all its fuel. Space ships were launched by more than one rocket. The first rocket would lift the ship high above the earth. Then it would “burn out” and a second rocket would fire to carry the vehicle into earth orbit.

Soon, people began to use

语意思是已做出决定,可以发射宇航飞船。

“countdown”(倒计时)也是太空时代涌现出来的词语。宇航科学家在发射之前倒数秒钟,从 10 秒开始往前数,9、8、7、6、5、4、3、2、1、发射。根据一些语言学家的说法,20 世纪 40 年代末在对内华达州和太平洋一些岛屿上进行的原子弹爆炸实验进行广播时,美国人首次听到“倒计时”;但是直到 60 年代末,它才成为普遍使用的词语。

“burnout”(耗尽)也是近年来普遍使用的太空用语,指发射出来的火箭用光了所有的燃料。宇航飞船由若干个火箭发射升空,第一个火箭将飞船带至地球上空,然后它会“耗尽”,而第二个火箭继续将飞船带入地球轨道。

人们 很 快 就 开 始 用

burnout to describe what happens “burnout”(精疲力竭)来形容
to a person who works too hard 一个人压力过大,工作过累或
under too much stress for too 过久。这样一个“精疲力竭”
long. Such a “burned out” person 的人就像一个没有燃料的火
is like a rocket with no more fuel. 箭,没有力量或欲望继续工作
He has no energy or desire to 下去。
continue.

答 案

Unit One A-OKAY

Listening Exercises

A. 1. d 2. c 3. a 4. e 5. b

B. 1. b 2. c 3. b 4. d 5. c

Unit Two ACE IN THE HOLE

I . Vocabulary

poker /'pəʊkə/	<i>n.</i>	扑克牌戏
deal /di:l/	<i>v.</i>	分发,分配/发牌
dealer /'di:lə/	<i>n.</i>	发牌人
opponent /ə'pəʊnənt/	<i>n.</i>	对手,敌人
bluff /blʌf/	<i>v.</i>	诈骗,虚张声势以骗人
stack /stæk/	<i>n.</i>	一堆
	<i>v.</i>	堆叠
deck /dek/	<i>n.</i>	一副(纸牌)
vest /vest/	<i>n.</i>	背心
drop out of		退出

II . Listening Exercises

A. Listen to the tape and match the words or expressions with their explanations.

Expressions	Explanations
1. ace in the hole ()	a. trying to trick someone into believing one's lies
2. dealing off the bottom ()	b. the secret held in reserve to turn failure into success
3. bluffing ()	c. cheating in cards or business
4. hold one's card close to one's vest ()	d. Everything is to our disadvantage.
5. The cards are stacked against us. ()	e. face that betrays no emotion
6. poker face ()	f. not to let others know

what one is doing or
thinking

B. Listen to the tape and decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

1. "Ace in the hole" is used only by those people who often play poker games. ()
2. In poker games, all the cards are dealt face down. ()
3. In poker games, the dealer should not deal off the bottom of the stack of cards. ()
4. A "poker face" is very important in poker games. ()
5. In poker, even if one's cards are weaker than others, one still has a chance to win. ()

III. Spot Dictation

Listen to the tape twice and fill in the blanks with the missing words.

In poker and _____, the ace is the highest and most _____ card. It is often a _____. In one kind of poker game, the _____ to each player is dealt _____. A player does not show this card to the other players. The other cards are _____ with the players betting money each time they _____. No one knows until _____ whose hidden card is the winner. Often, the "ace in the hole" _____.

Tapescript

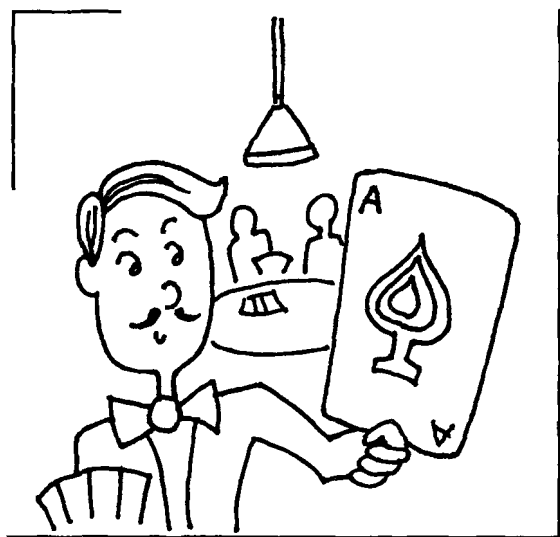
Unit Two ACE IN THE HOLE

中文翻译

第二单元 神秘的王牌

It is surprising how many _____ 美国的很多日常用语都
expressions that Americans use 来自于扑克牌游戏,令人觉得

every day came from the card 不可思议。
game of poker.



For example, you hear the expression “ace in the hole” used by many who would never think of going near a poker table. An ace in the hole is any argument, plan or thing kept hidden until needed, especially when it can turn failure into success.

In poker and most card games, the ace is the highest and most valuable card. It is often a winning card. In one kind of poker game, the first card to each player is dealt face down. A

例如,许多从来都没有打过牌的人也会经常使用“ace in the hole”(神秘的王牌)这个词。“ace in the hole”(神秘的王牌)指那些秘而不宣的论点,计划或东西,需要时它们才被拿出来用,尤其是可以反败为胜时。

在扑克等纸牌游戏中,A纸牌都是最大、最有用的一张牌,它通常是制胜的“王牌”。有一种扑克牌游戏,发给打牌者的第一张牌是正面朝下的,打牌者不会让对手看到这张

player does not show this card to the other players. The other cards are dealt face up with the players betting money each time they receive another card. No one knows until the end of the game whose hidden card is the winner. Often, the "ace in the hole" wins the game.

Smart card players, especially those who play for large amounts of money, closely watch the person who deals the cards. They are watching to make sure he is dealing honestly, that he is not dealing off the bottom of the stack of cards. A dealer who is doing that has "stacked the deck." He has fixed the cards so that he will get higher cards and you will lose.

The expression, "dealing off the bottom," now means cheating in business, as well as in cards. And when someone tells you that "the cards are stacked" against you, he is saying you do not have a chance to succeed.

In a poker game you do not want to let your opponents know

牌。其它牌则是正面朝上的。打牌者每收到一张牌,都要压一次赌注。直到一盘牌结束,才会知道谁的底牌最大。“神秘的王牌”往往会取胜。

聪明的打牌者,尤其是赌注压得很大的人,会紧紧盯着发牌的人,以确保他在公正地发牌,而没有 dealing off the bottom of the stack of cards。如果发牌人这样做,他就是“洗牌作弊”,因为他在牌上做了手脚,他可以得到好的牌,而你就会输掉。

"dealing off the bottom" 这个词语现在不止指打牌作弊,也用来指商业上的欺骗。而如果有人告诉你"The cards are stacked against you"(你手里的牌对你不利),他的意思是,你赢不了了。

打扑克牌时,你往往不想让对手知道你的牌是好是坏,

if your cards are good or bad. So having a “poker face” is important. Now, a poker face never shows any emotion, never expresses either good or bad feelings. One can learn, by looking at your face, if your cards are good or bad. People now use “poker face” in everyday speech to describe someone who shows no emotion.

Someone who has a “poker face” usually is good at “bluffing.” Bluffing is trying to trick a person into believing something about you that is not true. In poker, you bluff when you bet heavily on a poor hand. The idea is to make the other players believe you have strong cards and are sure to win. If they believe you, they are likely to drop out of the game, leaving to you the money they have bet.

You can do a better job of bluffing if you “hold your cards close to your vest”. You hold your cards close to you so no one else can see what you have. In everyday speech, holding your

所以“poker face”(不动声色)非常重要。如果面无表情,对方就无法通过你的表情来判断你的牌是好是坏。现在人们常用“poker face”来形容那些不流露感情的人。

“不动声色”的人总是善于“bluffing”(虚张声势)。“虚张声势”就是设法使别人摸不清你的底牌。在扑克牌中,如果你的牌不好,而你却压了很大的赌注,你就得“虚张声势”,使得对手相信你的牌很大,肯定能赢。如果他们真的相信了你,就有可能退出这场牌,将他们所压的钱全都留给你。

如果你“hold your cards close to your vest”(持牌谨慎),虚张声势的效果会更好。你把牌紧紧攥在自己手里,对手就看不到你的牌。在日常会话中,“持牌谨慎”的意思是

cards close to your vest means not letting others know what you are doing or thinking. You are keeping your plans secret. 将自己的计划保密,不让别人知道你在做什么,在想什么。

We're not bluffing when we say we hope you have enjoyed today's program. 我们希望你喜欢今天的节目,这可不是在虚张声势。

答 案

Unit Two ACE IN THE HOLE

Listening Exercises

- A. 1. b 2. c 3. a 4. f 5. d 6. e
B. 1. F 2. F 3. T 4. T 5. T