

# 大学英语 四级后口语教程

*A Spoken English Course for  
Post Band 4 College Students*

严诚忠 穆家骅 编著



华东理工大学出版社

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## 内 容 简 介

近年来,非英语专业学生的英语水平有很大提高。但是,由于多种原因,大学生运用所学英语的综合能力仍有很大的欠缺,特别是英语口语表达与沟通技能尚不能达到改革开放形势的要求。为数不少的学生在通过了大学英语四级考试后,对于英语的继续学习、巩固和提高甚感困惑。针对这种状况,在反复研讨、探索和大量教学实践的基础上,编纂了这本口语教程,旨在帮助已有一定英语功底的学生通过自己学习和适当辅导,达到强化和提高英语口语能力的效果。本书的结构与体例有不同于传统会话或口语教材的明显特点,针对性很强,适于作为大学英语四级考试通过后学生的口语教材。

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严 诚 忠 · 穆 家 骅 编 著

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## 前 言

近年来,在国家教委和各大专院校师生的普遍重视下,我国大学生对英语学习之热情和努力程度空前高涨。在现行大学英语四级、六级考试制度引导下,非英语专业学生的词汇量、听能、阅读理解等能力均有很大的提高。但是,由于教学资源条件、教学组织和传统的外语学习方法等的局限,大学生运用所学英语的综合能力仍有不少的欠缺。特别是英语口语表达与沟通技能尚不能达到改革开放新形势的要求。为数不少的学生在通过了大学英语四级考试以后,对于英语的继续学习、巩固和提高甚感困惑。各类学校设置的高年级专业英语课程,也只是停留在专业文献的阅读与理解上,即使安排一些资料翻译,也同完全意义上的应用英语作为交际工具之学习目标相去甚远。如何加强对于“四级后”学生的英语学习指导,使学生耗费大量时间、精力所奠定的英语基础能有机地、更好地同应用英语的目标结合起来,真正做到学以致用业已成为大学英语教学所面临的一个重要课题。

针对这个现状,我们在反复研讨、探索和大量教学实践的基础上,编纂了这本《大学英语四级后口语教程》(A Spoken English Course for Post Band 4 College Students),旨在帮助已有一定英语功底的学生通过自主学习和适当辅导,达到强化和提高英语口语能力的效果。

本书的基本指导性思路是:强调从阅读或朗读到口头表达的转变过程,改变“不声不响、埋头苦读”的传统学习模式;充分发挥学生已有的阅读理解能力,从教材中汲取可供口头表达的结构思路 and 适当语言的材料;注重口头表达能力的培养;并置重点于语句组织及“命题表述”。一个学了多年英语的大学生能讲零星的几句英语或者在讲话中夹进一些时髦的单词或词组,并不能说明其口语能力所达到的程度。我们的信念,而且希望引起使用本教材的

同学重视的是：能按照既定的话题(The given topics)组织好为时五分钟左右的讲话来有条理地表达自己的想法才能符合口语能力、开发的基木要求。有了这个基础，通过不断地实践，英语口语或会话技能的培养和运用就是自然而然的事了。

本书的结构与体例有其不同于传统会话或口语教材的明显特点。本书共分十六个单元，每个单元由四个部分组成：核心课文、示范性情景对话、口语操练实践和补充练习。每个单元话题与各部分内容有一定的相关性，各个单元主题的布局涉及社会与学校生活常见的热门话题，并注意收集多种口语表述的文体。考虑到已通过大学英语四级考试学生的英语理解能力，我们在教材中尽量避免用汉语注释和翻译，以营造微观的英语环境。已有实践证明，认真按照各单元的编排和要求进行实践性学习，会有明显的效果。

当然，英语口语能力的提高不是一个知识性的问题而是技能性的问题，还需要突破一定的心理障碍。因此，对使用本教材的读者，我们提出以下四点要求或希望。

第一，本教材在有经验的教师指导与组织下，通过强化实践训练的学习，以每周四学时计约需一个学期能够收到预期效果。

第二，个人的主观能动性极为重要。在加强朗读的前提下，自信心和不怕讲错的勇气是学好口语的必要条件。最好面对众人练习口头表达。

第三，学习是一个点滴积累和温故而知新的过程。练习口语更需要恒心和耐心。绝对不要满足于“弄懂弄通就行”的传统学习标准。“上了口才是你的”，“熟能生巧”是最基本的规律。

第四，创造性地组织语言材料(structuring)是口语学习的关键环节。在“边想边讲”的过程中，既要注意用词达意和语言的流畅，也要注意讲话内容之间逻辑联系和布局的合理性。

这本教材是对提高我国大学生英语口语技能的一种探索，向读者提供的也只是按照较新的思路设计的语言材料和操练要求而已。学习的最终成果之获取，还在于学习者本人，外语口语学习，尤其如此。

由于编写者的水平有限,时间仓促,书中疏漏和缺陷在所难免,希望得到各方面专家、学者和读者的批评与指正。

本书由华东理工大学经贸英语系主任严诚忠主编,穆家骅老师参加了体例设计与各单元内容的编写。王晓光老师为本书的审校与初稿打印提供了可贵的智慧与精力。对于从各方面给本书以指导与帮助的华东理工大学各位领导与同仁,在此谨表示衷心的感谢。

编 者

一九九七年六月

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# UNIT 1

## SECTION A The Core Text

### The Business of Johnson's

John H. Johnson, the black founder of the Chicago-based Johnson Publishing Company, states, "Failure is a word I don't accept." With this concept in mind he has managed to skip many rungs on the ladder of success to become one of the wealthiest businessmen in the United States.

In 1942 Johnson, then an office boy in a black insurance company, came up with an idea to publish a magazine with stories about blacks. The format was to run along the lines of Reader's Digest.

However, breaking into the publishing business was not easy for Johnson and he needed capital to get his idea off the ground. The first thing he did was pawn his mother's furniture for \$500. This money was used to send out inquiries through a mailing list of twenty thousand blacks to determine how many people would like to read a black magazine. Those interested were offered a charter subscription for \$2. Some three thousand replied and Johnson received \$6,000, which was enough to get his idea off to a running start. This capital base enabled Johnson and his wife Eunice to prepare the first five thousand copies of Negro Digest.

The next obstacle Johnson ran up against was arranging distribution. He approached Charles Levy Circulation Company and was turned down. The owner, Levy, said no one would but a black

magazine and the Negro Digest would fall through.

To give the impression that the magazine was in fact popular, Johnson got thousands of friends to go around Chicago newsdealers and corner shops asking for the magazine. Soon there were enough calls from newsdealers to convince Levy that the magazine was in demand. Then Johnson held off paying the printer and gave money to friends so they could buy all the magazines on the newsstands. Newsdealers were again taken in and put in for more orders. Within a year Negro Digest was selling fifty thousand copies a month.

In 1945 Johnson came out with probably the best known of his periodicals, Ebony. Ebony concentrates on black family life, achievement, and cultural activities. This magazine, along with several related publications and other business enterprises, has created an empire that now grosses approximately \$100 million a year.

From the beginning, Johnson used Ebony and other periodicals as a vehicle to break down stereotypes and project a positive image of the black person in America. His success in doing so has perhaps been his greatest contribution to this country.

## **I. Words and Expressions**

come up with	to think of, find, or produce a suggestion, idea, right answer, etc.
format n.	the general plan or arrangement of something
run along the lines with	to follow the example or basic principles of
break into	to enter or force one's way into; to have a share in as by competition
get one's idea off the ground	to put one's idea, etc. into operation or practice

pawn v.	to leave something of value with a person (pawnbroker) as a promise that one will repay the money he has lent one
charter subscription	the right of receiving a newspaper or magazine by regular payment
run up against	to meet, encounter, or to come face to face with
turn someone down	to refuse to accept
fall through	to fail to have the intended or desired result
hold off doing	to delay doing
come out with	to become well known or notable as a result of
vehicle n.	something by means of which something else can be done
stereotype n.	a fixed pattern which is considered to represent a type
project v.	to represent oneself, one's qualities, etc. outwardly, usually in a way that has a favorable effect on others

## II. Comprehension

1. Do you think Johnson was a very enterprising young man? Why do you think so?
2. How did Johnson start his publishing business?
3. What were the tactics Johnson used in promoting the sales of his magazines? How do you think about his tactics?
4. Of what importance is the success of Johnson?
5. Tell a story about someone you know to illustrate the theme of

this passage.

### III. Make sentences by using the following words and expressions

- |                   |                  |                 |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. come up with   | 2. break into    | 3. pawn         |
| 4. run up against | 5. turn down     | 6. fall through |
| 7. hold off       | 8. come out with |                 |

## SECTION B Sample Situational Dialogues

### Taking a Taxi

Mrs. Rider needs a taxi to take her and her heavy luggage to the railway station. Here are her conversations with the dispatcher and then the driver.

#### PART I

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| Mrs. Rider | Excuse me. Is this the Red, White, and Blue Taxi Service?   |
| Dispatcher | Yes, it is. You'll have to speak a little louder. We have a bad connection.   |
| Mrs. Rider | I need a taxi, please. I'm taking a train to-day, and my bags are too heavy to carry on and off the bus.                |
| Dispatcher | What time do you need a <u>cab</u> , ma'am?   |
| Mrs. Rider | My train leaves at 6:15, but I think I should arrive at the station no later than 5:30. How long is the ride from here? |
| Dispatcher | From where? I don't know where you live.  |
| Mrs. Rider | I'm sorry. I live at 435 Riverside Drive. And I have three medium-sized bags.   |

Dispatcher                      Let's see. Well, since it's rush hour, I'd say that the ride would take about thirty minutes, more or less. We should probably pick you up about 5:00. Is that okay?

Mrs. Rider                      Yes, that will be fine. The driver will help me with my bags, won't he?

Dispatcher                      She. The driver is a she, ma'am, and yes, she'll help you with your bags.

## PART II

Mrs. Rider                      (The doorbell rings at 4:55.) Oh, I'm glad to see that you're here on time, miss. These are my bags. (They put the bags into the taxi and then get in.) How much is this going to cost me?

Driver                              Watch the meter. My guess is that it'll cost you about five or six dollars, but if we get stuck in rush hour traffic, it could go higher.

Mrs. Rider                      I thought you used to charge by the number of zones you drove through. Sometimes it seems unreasonable.

Driver                              We used to do it that way, but we changed to the meter system a few years ago. Has it been long since you took a taxi last time?

Mrs. Rider                      More years than I care to remember. How long have you been driving?

Driver                              I've been driving for about six years now. It's a good living. I get to meet interesting people; most weeks the business is good;



I'm out in the air instead of behind a desk.  
 There are a lot of reasons why I like it.

Mrs. Rider      Watch out for that truck! And the left side  
 motorcycle.

Driver      How about letting me alone do the driving?

Mrs. Rider      Well, well! I'll take a rest now and keep  
 silent.

### A List of Useful Expressions in the Dialogues

- to carry sth. on and off the bus
- no later than
- more or less
- to pick sb. up
- My guess is that ...
- to get stuck
- to charge by
- to be out in the air
- to watch out for
- how about ...?

**Learn the expressions by heart and try to use them in your own talks.**

## SECTION C Oral Practice Tasks

### A Difficult Experience

#### I. Read the Passages Aloud

##### Passage 1

The Johnson Brothers usually sing very well, but they didn't sing very well last night. In fact, they sang very badly. While they were singing, their parents were sitting in the audience and waving at them.

It was a difficult experience for The Johnson Brothers. They realized they weren't singing very well, but they couldn't do anything about it. They were too embarrassed.