



The 50 Hottest Topics in America

美国人 最喜欢和你聊的 50个话题

美国专业英语讲师MP3教你地道美语
中英双语精选趣文、短句品读

Andy Kline 著
华凯佳 译


用英语和美国人沟通看这本就够！
安迪教你学地道美语

 中国纺织出版社



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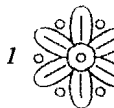
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作者序

This book was written to give the reader the ability to talk confidently to Americans or about America to native English speakers, as well as, to give the reader a clearer understanding about America.



Each chapter has an introduction so the reader knows what the chapter will be about as well as information about the topics. There are five parts to each topic in the book. The first part, "Sentences", consists of simple sentences dealing with the topic and the dialogues. The second part is the dialogues about the topic. Most topics have two dialogues each. The dialogues were written as regular conversations that you would probably encounter talking about the topics with a native speaker. The third part is "Pronunciation Practice" where the reader can practice his/her pronunciation with words and reduced form phrases from the dialogues. This part was made with lower level speakers in mind, but certainly upper level students will benefit from this section as well. In addition, I have put reduced forms in the pronunciation section to help the reader speak more naturally. Every native speaker speaks in reduced form and if the reader can speak in this way, his/her speaking will become much more natural and impressive. The fourth part, "Natural Words and Phrases" are slang, idioms and proverbs taken from the dialogue and explained. Sometimes the reader will see "Extra Uses", which is meant to give either a clearer understanding of the natural word or phrase so the reader can understand and use it correctly in his/her own speech or how the word or phrase is used in a different way. The fifth and last part is



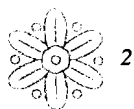
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called, “Andy’s Answer” which is a section where I talk more in detail about the topics covered in the section. My aim is to broaden the readers’ knowledge about the topics to understand its context in American culture better. This section is meant to provide the resources for the reader so when he/she talks about these subjects with a native speaker, the reader has enough background knowledge to talk intelligently and accurately about each topic.

Finally, a CD recording has been included with the book so the reader can listen to native speakers’ accents, intonation and most importantly—feeling! The audio will help the reader’s pronunciation, accent and listening. After reading and hopefully enjoying the book, the reader should be able to use the Natural Words and Phrases, improve his/her pronunciation and listening and have enough knowledge to join or start a conversation with any native speaker the reader encounters.

Special thanks to Hua Kaijia (Wei Chunmei) for the translation of this book. Thank you for your interest in this book and I hope you find it useful and enjoyable.

Andy Kline
August 29, 2010



译者序

如果你也热爱语言,喜欢文化,厌烦了传统的教科书式的英语,既不愿上什么英语培训班,又想说一口地道而流利的英语,那么,这本由土生土长的美国人创作的《美国人最喜欢和你聊的 50 个话题》,绝对是你的最佳选择。这里面都是美国人最喜欢聊的话题,有搞笑的对话和很“美国”的说法。



学地道的英语,要看纯正地道的英语书。

一边读,一边听,一边说,一边乐。

就这一本,让你的英语阅读、口语、听力通过关,同时提起你学英语的兴趣,因为它就是这么地生动而有趣。

就这么轻轻松松地,让老外的俚语、习语、口头禅都从你嘴里冒出来。本书中的发音和短语部分会教会你很多美国人特有的说法,如果在与他们交谈时你能用得上,一定会让他们大吃一惊,他们会竖起大拇指夸你“very good”。

读着这本书就像是一次快乐而有收获的美国之旅,让读者花一本书的钱,来享受一次美国“话题游”。书中每一个话题就像一个靓丽的景点,这里有风趣的对话,有不一样的文化。50 个话题,正如 50 个别有风味的景点。最重要的是我们的导游 Andy 是美国人,他一定不会让你空手而归的!

华凯佳

2010 年 8 月



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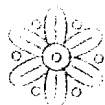


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Chapter 1

American culture: Rainbow country

美国文化：那里是彩虹国度



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To understand a language, it is essential to at least know a little about the culture in which the language is used. This will enable the speakers to understand why and when certain idioms or slang are used as well as communicate with native speakers better. Therefore, the first chapter of this book was written to help the readers understand a little about Americans and American culture.

要学习一种语言,首先了解一点儿这种语言所处的文化环境是很有必要的。这会帮助读者明白他们说话时为什么要用,以及什么时候会用到方言和俚语,同时,也会帮助你而那些以英语为母语的人士更好地交流。因此,本书的第一章就让你了解一些关于美国人和美国文化的知识。





1. The minds of American 美国人的思维



Sentences

绝对美句

Make the most of your life.

充分利用好你的生活。

She's a little materialistic, but she's my girl.

尽管她有些追求物质,但她还是我的女友。

Whatever you want to be is up to you.

你想要成为什么样的人,这完全取决于你自己。

America seems so divided sometimes.

美国人的观点有时很不同。

I started with nothing and now own my own business.

我白手起家,但现在已有了属于自己的公司。



Dialogues

时尚对话

Dialogue 1

The American dream

美国梦

Chris: What do you want to do after graduation, Jenny?

Jenny: I want to develop my own tech system and **beat out** *Microsoft*.

Chris: Ha! Good luck!

Jenny: Hey, I grew up poor, earned a scholarship to Harvard and graduated at the top of my class. In this country, if you work hard and are creative, **the sky's the limit**. What do you want to do?

Chris: Nothing. I want to travel and experience real life. I'm **clueless** about what I want to do with my life.

克里斯:珍妮,毕业后你打算做什么?

珍妮:我想开发一套自己的技术系统,然后打败微软公司。

克里斯:哈!祝你好运!

珍妮:嗨,我是在穷困的环境中长大的,获得过哈佛大学的奖学金,并以班级第一名的优异成绩获得毕业。在这个国家里,如果你肯努力,有一定的创新精神,你就会前途无量。那你想做什么?

克里斯:没什么。我想去旅行,体验真实的生活。我真的不知道以后要干什么。



Pronunciation Practice

scholarship (n.) ['skɒləʃɪp] 奖学金

graduate (v.) ['grædʒueɪt] 毕业

clueless (adj.) ['klulis] 没有线索的;一无所知的



Natural Words and Phrases

beat out: to defeat, or overcome, take the place of. 意思是“打败,征服,取代……的地位”。

the sky's the limit: there are no limitations. 字面意思是“天空是限制”,实际在说根本没有界限,没有限制。类似于中国所说的“前途无量”。

clueless (*adj.*): have no idea or information about something. 意思是“对某事一无所知,没有一点线索”。

Dialogue 2

Material Girl

拜金女

Chris: My girlfriend is such **high maintenance**.

Jenny: How so?

Chris: She measures success by how much **stuff** you own. She's **sending me to the poor house!**

Jenny: I don't see how **you guys** get along. She's so materialistic and you're so **down-to-earth**.

Chris: Yeah, I know. But that's how we **get off on** each other.

Jenny: **Whatever floats your boat.**

克里斯:我的女朋友真是太难伺候了。

珍妮:怎么难伺候?

克里斯:她是通过财富的多少,来衡量一个人的成功与否。我的钱都快被她花光了!

珍妮:我真不明白你俩怎么能处得来。她那么追求物质,而你却这么简单现实。

克里斯:是的,我知道。但正是这样使得我们对彼此很感兴趣。

珍妮:你喜欢,那你就这样吧。

