

主 编: 程建山

主 审: David John Clarke(英)

高级篇

New Point College

Spoken English



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新机造

New Point College Spoken English

主 编: 程建山

副主编: 彭家玉 陈卓国

涂光朴 李新民 崔更生

主 审: David John Clarke(英)

编 委: 王家芝 杨夷平 彭家玉 陈卓国

涂光朴 李新民 崔更生 程建山





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序

《新视点大学英语口语教程》即将出版,主编和责编都希望我能为之写篇序言,我既感盛情难却,又觉勉为其难。我之所以有勉为其难之感,主要原因是,本人已逾退休之年,自觉落伍感赶不上时代的飞速发展,而本书的内容恰恰又是突出了新视点。加之我和主编又是第一次见面,出版社留给我研读此作和认真思考的时间又相当短暂,我怕妄下雌黄,褒贬失当,于心不安。既然盛情难却,我只好根据自己与主编、责编的面谈和我所看书稿的重点,写下如下三点意见,我只敢说是吾之真情实感或肺腑之言。至于是耶,非耶,也只能待高明读者和莘莘学子予以判断了。

一、"盖文王拘而演《周易》;仲尼厄而作《春作》;屈原放逐,乃赋《离骚》;左 丘失明,厥有《国语》:孙子膑脚,兵法修列:不韦迁蜀,世传《品览》:韩非囚奏, 《说难》、《孤愤》:《诗》三百篇,大抵圣贤发愤之所为作也。"司马迁在其名文《报 任安书》中的这几句话,是我一贯很喜欢的。他一连列举了我国历史上这么多 名人、名作,我想,他无非是想强调说:只有经逆境而杰出非凡的人才会被后世称 颂,传世之作大多是圣贤发愤之后而成的作品。现在,我为今人程建山主编的大 作作序,一开头就引用司马迁的上述名言,无意于把今人新作与古代名人名作同 日而语或相提并论,而是想强调表明一个相似之点:不分古今中外,谁人想写出 一部益于社会有助人群的作品,谁就要首先有益于公众的动机、社会责任感和艰 苦奋斗的工作精神。程氏有幸生活在祖国空前繁荣的时代,无需经历司马氏所 说的那些厄运和逆境,他固然不需"发愤",但必须"奋发",只有奋发,方可有为。 多年来,程建山一直比较关注我国外语教学的形势和万千学子学习英语的现实。 他曾这样写过:"进入新的世纪,我国的外语教学又步入了一个新的历史时期。 值得高兴的是,随着大学英语教学的不断发展,特别是近几年的大学英语课程改 革以来,我国在校大学生的英语水平较之以前有了很大的提高。但遗憾的是,英 语教学的一个重大历史问题仍未解决,那就是大学生的英语口语问题。除了英 语专业的大学生基本能流利地说英语之外,非英语专业的大多数学生基本不能 用英语流利地交流。"这清楚表明,他之忧乐所系,多在我国大学英语教学形势。 因此,"究竟如何才能快速地提高英语口语能力呢",便成了程建山和他的合作 者们这几年认真考虑解决的问题,包括"说"什么的问题,怎么"说"的问题,为什 么要"说"的问题,和"和谁说"的问题。至少在近三年来,他们千方百计,对资料 多方收集,认真撰写,终于成就了诸君手头的这个以"新"为突出特色的本子。

二、程作之"新"主要体现在3个方面,即内容新,体例新和方法新。这个 "新"的意思,用英文形容词表示,不仅是 new(新近)而且是 novel(新颖)。内容 新主要体现在: 书中大量材料来自电脑因特网(internet)和英语国家的 native speakers,具有很强的时代气息,目前国内外人们关注的种种问题和最新社会现 象,书中均有涉及。如: Nuclear Energy(核能), Studying Abroad(留学), Computers and the Internet(上网), Keeping Pets(宠物), The City or the Countryside(城 乡), Advertisements (广告), Begging (乞讨), Following the Fashion (时尚), Jobhopping(跳槽), Retirement(退休), Capital Punishment(死刑), Euthanasia(安乐 死), Human Cloning(克隆人), Private Cars(私家车), Plastic Surgery(整形术), Single-sex Class(单性课堂), Gun-possession(私家持枪), Quality-oriented Education(素质教育), Economic Globalization(经济全球化)和 Economic Development and Environment Protection(经济发展与环境保护)等等,总共不下30个方面,每 个方面都选有适当的英语口语材料,可谓既实用又地道。体例新主要体现在书 中(上、下册)30个单元的编排上。我曾用抽样研读的方法,较仔细地看了第一 和第十六单元,发现每单元同样由9部分组成,即 Introduction, Listening, Reading.Interview, Talk Show, Debate, Functional Devices, Writing 和 Glossary。用汉语 表达,就是:(关于主题的)介绍、听力、阅读、采访、谈话节目、辩论、功能用语、写 作和词汇。且每单元还配有不只一幅与内容相关又妙趣横生的插图,均为美术 学院专业人员的匠心之作。方法新主要体现在:师生可以灵活有趣的方式参与 教学,而且综合体现了我国目前大学英语教学中新近使用的任务型教学法、交际 教学法、情景教学法和功能意念教学法等多种方法。 给我印象尤深的 是书中各 部分的语言材料,语体得当,具有鲜明的英语口语特色。如:句式简单而不单调. 可以琅琅上口:用词多为小词和英语固有词汇,特别是在 Functional Devices 这部 分的句式和用语上,除个别处欠妥之外,均表现出作者们(包括以英语为母语的 一位外国专家)扎实的专业素质。

三、主编程建山,生在武汉,长在武汉,读英语专业本科和研究生阶段,也都在武汉。他基于在高校学习和教授英语的经验,以及立足我国英语教学、放眼世界的责任感,经过三载奋斗和潜心钻研,终于在全国大学英语四、六级考试刚刚完成首次改革之际,使其大作得以面世,这对于每年数以百万计的考生来说,的确不失为一大福音。我相信,此书的出版,定会对广大考生提供及时帮助,可谓功德大矣!

武汉大学英文系教授、湖南理工学院外语系特聘教授

2005年5月底至6月初于东湖和南湖畔

前言

一、缘起

在我国实行了17年之久的大学英语四、六级考试即将进行首次改革了。改革的目标是更准确地测量我国在校大学生的英语综合应用能力,尤其是英语听说能力。

改革后的四、六级考试中,听力的比重占 35%。比以前的 20% 提高了很多。尽管目前还未硬性规定口语考试,但可以预见口语在英语综合能力中的重要性。为了提高现代大学生的口语能力和交际能力,培养更多具有实际英语能力的人才,我们依据最新大学英语四、六级考试大纲编写了这套大学英语口语教材。

二、理论依据

本书的主要理论依据来源于国内目前最新的任务型教学法、交际教学法、情景教学法、功能意念教学法、Krashen 的输入假设和 Swain 的输出假设,以及合作学习理论。

- 1. 任务型教学法:注重教会学生如何在完成一系列任务的过程中学习语言。学生是学习的主体,应积极的参与任务活动,集思广义,团结一致,完成任务。教师的作用表现在对任务活动的组织策划,在学生完成任务的过程中给予指导和帮助,并对学生完成任务的质量进行评估和总结。可以说整本书都是按照任务型教学法来设计的。在课堂上,学生需要相互合作来完成一系列的任务,从而在这个过程中掌握知识,掌握语言。
- 2. 交际教学法:交际法视语言为交际工具,外语教学的目的是培养学习者的交际能力。在语言教学中学习者不但要学习语言结构,更重要的是对结构的使用,对语言功能的掌握,强调交际中意义的传递。根据交际教学法的原理,本书设计了大量真实的、有实际意义的交际任务,让学生在完成这些任务的过程中学习语言。
- 3. 情景教学法:情景反映现实生活对语言的需要,是语言交际的社会背景。 语言是在情景中表达其意义的,情景是揭示语言所表示意义的基本因素 之一。脱离了社会情景,语言就难以恰当地表述意义,发挥其表情达意

进行交际活动的本质功能。因此,情景需要语言,语言需要从情景教起。 本书在"Talk Show"这一部分中设置了大量的语言情景,让学生在这些 情景中学会表情达意。

- 4. 功能意念教学法:根据言语行为理论,语言不仅可以用来传递信息,还可以用来做事,即以言行事。因此语言具有行事的功能。本书把人们在实际生活中的大部分需要表达的意念和与其相应的功能用语单独列出来,供学生在表达时参考使用。
- 5. Krashen 的输入假设: Krashen 认为可理解输入是第二语言习得的惟一途径,并提出理想语言输入应当符合"i+1"公式,即教学的主要任务是提供充足的可理解输入,其中既包括学生已掌握的知识"i",又包括一点新的知识"1"。本书包含有大量的听力、阅读、辩论和写作资料供学生参考使用。
- 6. Swain 的输出假设:Swain 却强调了语言输出的重要性。他认为,输出不仅可以提高语言流利性,而且还可集中学习者的注意力,进行假设验证和自觉反思以调整自己的学习策略等功能,从而提高其使用语言的准确性。在大量语言输入的基础上,本书又设计了很多口语练习供学生训练,以增加语言输出量,提高语言流利性和准确性。
- 7. 合作学习理论:合作学习就是在教学中运用小组,使学生共同开展学习活动,以最大限度地促进他们自己以及他人的学习的一种学习方式。所有的合作学习模式具有两个共同的本质特征:一是积极的相互依赖,也就是说,合作学习需要小组成员积极进行分工协作,个体的学习成功依赖于小组的学习成功;二是个体的可依赖性,即学习小组的成员必须明确自己在学习中承担的任务,并且各负其则,各尽其力。本书充分利用合作学习理论,设计了很多小组讨论。实际上本书的每一部分都需要学生在课堂上分组讨论,然后再陈述出来。

三、本书特色

本书的特色可简单概括为三个字:"新"、"特"和"活"。

1. 新(Novel)

内容新颖,它吸收了目前国内外讨论的最多的问题和争议性较大的问题。如,2004 年华中师范大学教育学家陶宏开教授在全国范围内掀起的一场挽救上网成瘾青少年的活动。他成功地挽救了无数个上网成瘾的青少年,使他们重新走向课堂,重新开始正常的生活。那么他究竟是怎样把许多老师和家长们怎么也解决不了的问题解决了呢?国外的讨论如公民的持枪问题,经济全球化和核能问题,等等。更多的例子在此不——列举。

2. 特(Special)

本书的特别之处在于本书的结构安排。咋一看,以为本书是一套综合英语教程,因为他包括有听、说、读、和写四个方面。也许你以为它不是一本口语教材,但这正是编者的匠心所在。听说读写四种能力是不能绝对分开的。它们的关系是互相补充和互相促进的,就像人身上的各种器官一样,缺一不可。本书是一套以口语教学为主,其他的训练都是为口语服务的教材。

3. 活(Lively)

本书活在教学方式灵活,学生学得轻松灵活,可供学生发挥的余地很大。本书采用了国内外最时尚的话题讨论法。采访(Interview),现场谈话(Talk Show),和辩论(Debate)三种模式。学生的自由度很大,发挥的余地也很大。教材只是起一种抛砖引玉的作用,更重要的是引导学生发表自己的看法。由于提供的信息很充分,学生也不必担心无话可说。另外,本书还配备了大量的漫画插图,使教材更活泼、动感,让学生在轻松愉快的气氛中学习口语。

四、致谢

在本套教材的编写过程中,我们参考了大量的国内外相关英语口语教材,吸收了很多优秀的成分。查阅了大量的书籍,报刊和杂志和世界各国的权威网站,由于参考数目实在太多,编者无法如实记录,敬请谅解。在此我谨向这些作者和出版社表示忠心的感谢。

英国专家和教授 David,审订了这套书的上、下册,提出了许多宝贵的修改建议;湖北美术学院的三位学生为本书作了精美的漫画插图;在此对他们辛勤的工作表示衷心的感谢。

还要感谢湖北大学外语学院几位教授的亲切指导和帮助,特别是徐秋梅、张庆宗、刘国枝、杨夷平等教授,他们给了我们莫大的鼓励与支持。

由于时间仓促,加上编者的水平有限,本书一定有不少的疏漏之处。我们恳切地希望专家、同行和教材使用者对本套教材提出批评和建议,以便我们再版时修改。如对本书有任何意见或建议可直接与本书主编联系。邮箱地址是: chengjianshan79@ sohu. com/sina. com

程建山 2005年5月 于湖北大学外语学院

使用说明

本册书共15个单元,可供一学期教学使用。计划每个单元使用三个学时,即三节课。在前两个学时里可完成第一至第四部分,然后利用第三个学时完成第五至第九部分。可根据学生的实际情况,调整教学计划,适当的加快进度或减缓进度。

第一部分话题介绍(Introduction)由老师在课堂上给学生讲解。老师可参考教材内容并根据自己的理解来讲解这一部分,并可通过提问等方式让学生集中注意力。

第二部分是听力(Listening)。录音可放一至三遍。让学生边听录音边填空。教师最后再公布答案。

第三部分阅读(Reading)共有两篇短文,每篇短文后有几个问题供学生讨论。一般来说,学生在课堂上只须完成一篇即可。其余一篇由学生在课下自学。 教师可根据需要任意挑选一篇文章在课上讨论。

第四部分采访(Interview)可按照教材上的提示采用小组讨论的模式,每组选取一个采访者和秘书,其他的同学为被采访者,由采访者选取几个有兴趣的问题向被采访者提问,秘书做记录,最后选取几组在全班演讲。也可以采用更为灵活的形式进行,如两个人就他们感兴趣的问题编一个对话,等等。

第五部分是谈话节目(Talk Show)。同样先把全班分成几组,每组中一个人充当一个角色。每个人都发表自己的看法,最后由主持人总结。但是要注意的是要求每个人都能进入自己的角色进行演讲。为了帮助谈话顺利进行,教材给出了大量的提示,但学生最好能用自己的话说出来,而不要简单地阅读这些提示。这是一个集体的任务,要求小组各成员密切配合,相互协调,互相帮助,共同提高。

第六部分的辩论(Debate)是本书最难的一项任务。如果学生水平较高,可按照课本提示采用标准的辩论模式进行分组辩论或者全班范围的辩论。但是如果学生的口语水平不太高的时候,也可采用其他的形式进行。如可以不搞小组或全班范围的辩论,而采用两个人之间的一个小辩论或讨论;也可以两个人编一

段对话;还可以一个人进行口头作文。

第七部分的功能用语(Functional Devices)和第八部分的写作(Writing)以及 第九部分的词汇(Glossary)主要是方便学生自学使用的。

编者

2005年4月

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Unit Sixteen

Following the Fashion

Part One



(Women are the main body of fashion.)

Fashion, in its narrow sense, refers to the clothing in style at a particular time. But the broad meaning refers to the prevailing behavior, thought, or custom that is considered most to be admired and imitated during a period or at a place.

Some fashions can be interesting, amusing, weird¹, or funny. Others are boring, re-

petitive and depressing². Fashion is followed by the public, and in particular the youngsters. Fashion is always admired and imitated by the public, but that doesn't mean there's no criticism of it.

Fashion changes extremely fast all the time. Perhaps, today's fashion will be forgotten and mocked tomorrow. Just as a fashion designer said, when fashion is accepted by most people, it's out of style. We can imagine how fast fashion changes.

Fashion reflects the society of which it is a part. Fashion is influenced by a lot of factors, such as politics, economy, culture, religion, art, war, and so on. Individual personalities have also had an impact on fashion. For instance, in the 20th century media stars have emerged as leaders of fashion. Fashion reflects the changes of times. French writer Anatole France said that if he could come back to Earth 100 years after his death and have only one thing to read, he would choose a fashion magazine because that would show him the way people lived.

Anyhow, many people like to follow the fashion. For example, the young students always imitate the clothing style, hairstyle, cosmetics, or even the manner of speaking or doing of a famous star. And also many people would like to dress in fashion. They often wear strange or even weird clothes to make themselves unique and special.

Why do people like to follow the fashion? Most people follow the fashion because they want to become beautiful, attractive, or special and unique. Also there are other reasons, such as the hype of the press, and the masterpieces of the fashion designers. They set fashions which are followed by the public.

So is it good or bad to follow the fashion? This is a difficult question to answer. If you can catch on to the new fashion at the right time, or understand a new trend before it becomes widely visible, it can be clever, and profitable³. Many clever inventers or fashion designers just predict the exact trend of the development of something, and then they create new things that are understood, admired and further imitated by people.

But don't follow the fashion blindly. As fashion is changing all the time, it's very

hard to predict the trend of the development of it. So if you mispredict the fashion, the result can be painful and you will suffer a great loss sometimes. For example, the fashion of dress changes every year. If you want to follow the fashion, perhaps you will find that you've bought a lot of clothes which are "out-of-style" after only a short time. Surely, you will suffer a great loss.

So the best suggestion for you is not to follow the fashion. Don't do what everybody else is doing. Don't believe in trade jargon⁴, trendy brands, miracle⁵ tools or "good for all" solutions that aren't good for anyone. Take time to look into the facts and learn from reality, experiment carefully before any ambitious objectives are set and follow simple and clear strategies, based on specific know-how and practical experience.

Blank Filling

Directions: Listen to this conversation three times. The first time, listen to get the general idea; the second time, the tape will be stopped frequently. During the pauses, fill in the blanks with what you hear from the tape. The last time, listen to the whole conversation again to check your answers.

(Two girls are talking about the fashion this summer.)	
Cathy: Hello, Lily, long time no see!	
Lily: Yeah, I haven't seen you for a long time, either. How are you getting on these	se
days? Cathy: Pretty well, thanks. You1 with that low-necked white shirt matche	
to the light blue floral ⁷ and floating chiffon ⁸ skirt. It's see-through ⁹ ! You loc so tender and feminine ¹⁰ .	
Lily: Thanks very much. This is	



(Fashion shows are very popular all over the world.)

Cathy: Where did you buy them?

Lily: In Hong Kong. You know, I made a trip there during this Labor Day holiday with my parents and bought this suit.

Cathy: Oh, it's fantastic. Let me see it clearly.

Lily: OK, please do.

Cathy: It's strange that the shirt lacks one sleeve11.

Lily: Yes, that's true. It's said that asymmetric 12 clothing is in style this summer.

Look, my short dress hemline 13 is asymmetric, too. The hemline on the left is longer than the hemline on the right. Do you see?

Cathy: Yes, I see it. It's 3. Few people dress like you in our college. You are admired by the rest of us.

Lily: Thank you very much. Do you want to have one?

Cathy: Sure! I want to become as beautiful as you. But...

Lily: What's wrong?

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Cathy:	You know,4 that I can hardly follow it. Actually, I bought a tight mini jeans skirt last summer, but it's out of style this summer. This summer,
	long and see-through skirts like yours are in fashion. So I can't decide wheth-
	er I should go to buy one.
Lily:	Yes. That's the problem. Fashion changes too quickly. I have5,
	but now I'm afraid of wearing them.
Cathy:	I have the same feeling as you. It's rather embarrassing to wear out-of-style
	clothes. But I am not willing to throw them away.
Lily:	Yes, these clothes are expensive and still new. Just keep them. Perhaps
	6 You see, long skirts were a fashion several years ago, and they
	are in fashion again this year.
Cathy:	OK, we just wait. But shall we not follow the fashion?
Lily:	I don't want to follow the fashion anymore. Perhaps 7 are those com-
	mon and ordinary ones which will never become out-of-date.
Cathy:	I think so.

Part Three Reading

Directions: Read the following passages, and complete the comprehension and discussion questions after the passages. You can also use the information in these passages for your later discussion.

Passage One Fashion

There have always been fashions. They are part of human behavior and aren't, per se, a problem. Some fashions are amusing, intriguing 14, maybe whimsical 15, but fun. Others are boring, repetitive and depressing. They can be quite harmful when they turn into manias or cultural diseases. But they are there, it can be useful to understand them — and of course there is always someone around trying to exploit them.

"Fashion" in its strictest meaning, the clothing industry, is a weird environment. "The rag trade", as it's called in the grapevine, is full of cloak-and-dagger conflicts, but publicly surrounded by monotonous praise and admiration. Everything is always wonderful, beautiful, fantastic. The most uninventive and unwearable of the fashion shows is invariably acclaimed 16 as a stroke of genius.

Fashion and luxury goods are big and profitable business (especially for exporting countries, such as mine.) But that's not a good reason for treating everything related to fashion as an idol¹⁷ that requires perennial¹⁸ reverence¹⁹ and submission²⁰, with no room for any criticism or independent opinion.

If this happened only for clothes, accessories²¹, hairdos and cosmetics, I guess we could live with it — as long as we don't lose our sense of humor. But a "fashion mentality²²" is prevailing in almost everything, including the economy, politics, culture and information. And it's rampant²³ in most of the hype²⁴ about the Internet.

It can be clever, and profitable, to catch on to a new fashion at the right time — or, even better, to understand a new trend before it becomes widely visible.

For instance... when Mary Quant invented the miniskirt, forty years ago, she didn't only have the bright intuition that the time had come when many women wanted to show their legs. She also exploited a tax advantage. In the UK children's clothes were exempt from purchase tax (that was before VAT) and the exemption was based on the length of the garment, not the age (or the size) of the person wearing it.

But it's dangerous to *follow* fashion. And anyhow it isn't easy. It's hard to understand which fashions or trends have relatively deep roots and can last for a while — and which are just whims that can come and go quite unpredictably.

One of the problems is the senseless amplification²⁵ of fashions in mainstream²⁶ media. Quite often the media echo reaches it's peak when a trend is dying. Imitation and fashion-following are often direct roads to failure.

The remedy is quite simple. Don't follow fashions. Don't do what everybody else is