

当代美国英语会话

杨鑫南 编著

PRESENT-DAY
AMERICAN
ENGLISH
DIALOGUES

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前 言

《当代美国英语会话》主要是为大专学生,准备赴英语国家学习、工作的人员,以及初级涉外工作者所写的;也可用作成人英语短训班教材。

全书由三部分组成,即“日常英语”(Everyday English)、“国外英语”(English Abroad)和“国内英语”(English at Home)。每一部分有十个单元(题目),每个单元包括四个左右的对话,并附有“课文注释”或“有用词句总结”。

本书注意了下列方面:(一)实用性:本书的题材全部是日常生活中,国外学习、工作中和国内涉外接待中所经常遇到的实际情景;(二)全面性:本书各部分的题材较全面,每个单元中的对话内容覆盖面也较广;(三)知识性:通过对话和注释,较详细地介绍了英语国家,尤其是美国的习俗、人情,这样不但有助于对异国文化的了解,在使用语言时也能更加得体;(四)由浅入深:本书各部分的安排都注意到语言学习由浅入深的特点,这不但照顾到不同水平学员的学习,而

且也有益于打好语言基本功。

曾参加本书第三部分起草工作的还有熊德轶教授、钱青教授和戴显光副教授。我系美国专家 Robyn Goodman 也曾为本书对话部分做过文字修饰。本书手稿的打字整理工作由杨澜担任。在此向他们表示衷心的感谢。

于北京外国语大学英语系

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Part I

Everyday English

Unit One

Greetings and Parting

Dialogue I

(Wang meets Smith in the street.)

- Wang:** Good morning, Mr. Smith.
Smith: Good morning, Mr. Wang.
Wang: How are you?
Smith: (I'm) very well, thank you. How are you?¹
Wang: (I'm) fine, thanks. Where are you going?
Smith: I'm going shopping.² And you?
Wang: I'm going home. Oh, you must come over and see us some time. I'd like you to meet my wife.
Smith: That's very nice of you. I'd be delighted to come.
Wang: Good. Nice to have met you,³ Mr. Smith. Good-bye.
Smith: Good-bye.

Dialogue II

(Jack and Susan meet unexpectedly while shopping in a supermarket.)

- Jack:** Hi,⁴ Susan,⁵ how nice to see you!
Susan: Hello, Jack! How are you?
Jack: Not too bad, thanks, except Anne is laid up with the

flu⁶. So I have to do all the shopping and cooking.

Susan: Sorry to hear that. Is she getting better?

Jack: Yes, definitely. She'll be on her feet soon. ⁷ Well, I'd better finish my shopping.

Susan: All right, Jack. Give my love to Anne. ⁸ I'll come around to see her soon.

Jack: Drop in anytime you like. ⁹ We're at home most evenings. See you.

Susan: Bye-bye. ¹⁰

Dialogue III

(A dinner party)

Betty: Good evening, Wang¹¹! Come on in.

Wang: Thank you. Good evening! Here's something for you. ¹²

Betty: How nice of you! Oh, it's lovely!

Wang: I'm glad you like it.

Betty: Come and sit by the fire. ¹³ How are you doing?¹⁴

Wang: OK, thanks. I don't need to ask how you are. You look the picture of health. ¹⁵

Betty: I'm feeling good. We'll have dinner¹⁶ in a few minutes.

Wang: Thanks.

.....

Wang: I'm afraid I must be going now. I had no idea it was so late. ¹⁷

Betty : It's still early.
Wang: I really must go. I have to get up very early tomorrow morning. You know, all the Chinese students studying in this state will have a get-together tomorrow.
Betty : I won't keep you, then. ¹⁸ It was nice of you to come.
Wang: Thank you for the delicious dinner.
Betty : I'm glad you enjoyed it.
Wang: Good night.
Betty : Good night. ¹⁹ Thanks again for coming.

Dialogue IV

(Wang sees Smith off at the railway station.)

Smith: Hi, Mr. Wang! How are you this morning?
Wang: Fine. I'm afraid I'm late.
Smith: No. The train leaves at 8:30. ²⁰ We still have half an hour to go. ²¹
Wang: You know, I was up very late last night²². And the alarm didn't go off this morning²³.
Smith: It's very kind of you to come to see me off, Mr. Wang.
Wang: Not at all. It's the least I could do. ²⁴
Smith: Thank you.
Wang: It's a pity you're leaving so soon. We hope you'll come back again in the near future.
Smith: I hope so too. Thank you for everything you've done for me during my stay here.

Wang: You're welcome.²⁵ Give my regards to your wife.²⁶
Good-bye, Mr. Smith. I wish you a pleasant journey.²⁷

Smith: Thank you. Good-bye, Mr. Wang.

Notes

1. How are you? 您好吗?
这里的 you 应该重读。
2. I'm going shopping. 我去买东西。
3. Nice to have met you. 见到您好极了。
这是分别时说的话。见面时,应该说 Nice to see you。
4. Hi/hai/ 喂
见面时的招呼语,与 Hello 相同;但是现在美国人较多用 Hi。
5. Susan 苏珊
苏珊是名,不是姓。美国人习惯以名相称。为了表示亲切,对长辈也可直呼其名。
6. Anne is laid up with the flu. 安妮得了流感,病倒在床。
这里须用被动语态。
7. She'll be on her feet soon. 她很快就会恢复健康的。
8. Give my love to Anne. 替我向安妮问好。
在不太熟悉的人们之间,一般说 Give my regards to somebody。
9. Drop in anytime you like. 你想什么时候来访都欢迎。
Drop in 指不必预先打招呼的顺便走访。
10. Bye-bye 再见。

不太正式的告别语,熟人之间常用。

11. Wang

外国人对中国人的名字感到有点儿头痛,因为不好发音。所以在熟人间常以姓相称。

12. Here's something for you. 这是给您的一点儿小礼物。

中国人作客,礼品往往在告别时才赠送给主人。而英美人一进门就把礼品交给了对方。对方可马上打开,并表示欣赏、感谢。而中国主人一般是不当着客人的面打开礼品的。

13. Come and sit by the fire. 来,坐在火炉边。

这里须用 and,不应用 to,因为指的是一个整体概念。类似的说法还有:Come and have a look. Go and see. 等。

14. How are you doing? 您过得好吗?

分别一段时间后,重逢时的常用问候语。意思相同的常用语还有:

How's everything with you? How are things with you? How are you getting along these days? How are you getting on?

15. You look the picture of health. 您看起来身体很健康。

16. dinner 晚餐

Dinner 是指一天中最主要的、最丰盛的一餐,一般是指晚餐。

17. I had no idea it was so late. 我没有想到已经这么晚了。

这句话里的动词用过去时,因为是指说这句话之前的情况。

18. I won't keep you, then. 那我就不留您了。

Then 在这里是语气词,位置在句尾,不重读。

19. Good night 晚安

一般是在晚上睡觉前分别时说的,但美国人有时在下班时也互道一声“Good night”,表示今天不再见面了。

20. The train leaves at 8:30. 火车八点三十分开车。

这里用一般现在时,因为开车时间是火车运行时刻表上所规定的。

21. We still have half an hour to go. 离开车还有半个小时。

22. I was up very late last night. 我昨晚睡得很晚。

23. the alarm didn't go off this morning 今天早晨闹钟没响

24. It's the least I could do. 这是我起码该做的。

25. You're welcome. 不用谢;别客气。

26. Give my regards to your wife. 请替我向您的夫人问候。

27. I wish you a pleasant journey. 祝您一路顺风。

Summary of Useful Expressions

I. When seeing someone:

1. Greetings:

a) Good morning.

—Good morning.

Good afternoon.

—Good afternoon

Good evening.

—Good evening.

b) Hello.

—Hello.

Hi.

---Hi.

How do you do?

--How do you do?

2. Expressing surprise and pleasure in seeing someone:

- a) Hello, Jack. Haven't seen you for a long time (ages)!
How's everything going?
- b) Oh, hello, Wang. I'm so glad to see you. How're you doing?
- c) Hi, John! Nice to meet you here. How are you getting on? (How are things with you?)
- d) Hi, Mary! Fancy running into you here! It's great to see you again. What have you been doing since I saw you last?

3. Inquiring about the health of the other person or of his family, etc:

- a) How are you?
—Fine, (Very well, Not bad,) thank you. And you?
—Just so-so. I have a headache.
—Not too well, I'm afraid.
- b) How's Bob?
How's the family?

How's everybody at the school?

I . When parting:

1. Announcing that you must be leaving:

- a) Well, I must be off. Good-bye.
—Good-bye.
- b) I'm afraid I've got to be going now. So long!
—So long!
- c) Well, I've got to be running along. Cheerio!
—Cheerio!
- d) I'm afraid I must be going now. It was nice meeting you. See you later.
—(I'm) glad to have met you, too. Take care.
- e) Sorry, I'll have to be going. It's getting very late. Good night.
—Good night.
- f) Mr. Smith, thank you for a pleasant evening. I must be going now. See you tomorrow.
—It was nice to have you, Mr. Chang. Good night.

2. When someone is leaving a place for some time:

- a) We'll be sorry to see you go.
It's a pity you're leaving so soon.
We're going to miss you, Mr. Smith.