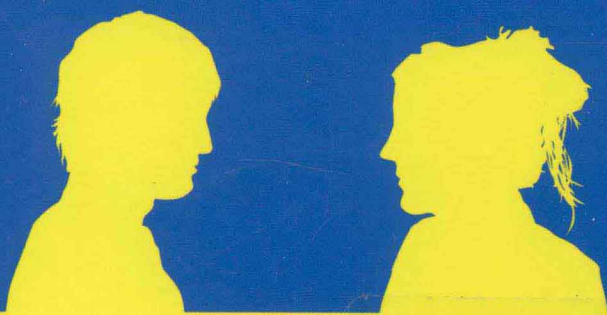


李清如◎编著

老外最想和你聊的 101个英语话题

时事生活篇

The 101 English topics
that foreigners most want to talk to you
Current life



增强语感
扩充词汇
提高翻译水平



原汁原味的交际  解时事生活。

慈善活动

网络游戏

动漫

职业规划

非主流文化

:/

爱车一族



武汉出版社
WUHAN PUBLISHING HOUSE

老外最想和你聊的 101^个英语话题

时事生活篇

李清如◎编著



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Preface



随着时代的发展，我国的综合国力正在不断提高。尤其是在加入WTO以后，经济、文化全面与世界接轨，中外交流合作不断扩大。如何在新经济的世界大舞台上抓住机遇，迎接挑战，语言这个基本要素显得尤为重要，因此熟练掌握和应用英语已经成为很多中国人的学习目标之一。

然而，大部分人的英语口语学习效果总是不尽如人意，要么只会说简单的几句话，要么听起来发音生硬，用词不准确，表达方式不地道。究其原因，是因为传统的英语教材针对性不强，内容陈旧，不能做到与时俱进，因而对于学习者来说实用性不强。英语学习和母语学习一样，都需要语言环境。尽管不是每个人都有在欧美国家真切融入英语语言环境当中的机会，但是我们可以创造这种纯英语语境，聆听、感受英语的魅力，进而在这一特殊氛围中进行英语语言的学习。因此，为了使读者学习到更加实用的英语表达，增强学习者的兴趣和信心，我们推出了《老外最想和你聊的101个英语话题》（时事生活篇）这本书，以满足广大英语爱好者的需求。

从书选材从宏观到微观，涵盖了社会以及日常生活的各方面。全书包括了以下八个部分：社会热点、财经话

题、工作那点事、时尚生活、我型我塑、人际交往、资源环境、天南海北。其中每个部分包括多个具体话题，涉及了生活中的方方面面。每个话题分为三个部分：第一部分为相关背景知识的中英文简介，使读者在了解话题基本含义的基础上学习到很多地道的英语表达。第二部分为关键语句的练习，以加强对于核心词语和句型的理解和运用。第三部分则设置特定场景，通过对话的形式使所学内容更加具有实用性和趣味性，使读者能够更好地体会英语学习所带来的巨大乐趣。

本书所选话题，均为当下各大媒体广泛关注的热点问题，突出趣味性和实效性；语言鲜活，充分彰显个性，表达生动；题材广泛，内容新颖，贴近实际生活，充满时代气息。本书注重从话题解读到实际应用的循序渐进的过程，使读者能够在快速掌握内容的基础上，熟练运用关键词句，做到脱口而出。

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Part 1

Hot Spots of Society 社会热点



Aging Society

老龄化社会

人口老龄化是指总人口中年轻人口数量减少、年长人口数量增加而导致的老年人口比例相应增长的动态过程。人口老龄化作为人口统计学的一个概念，强调人群的老化，而不是个体的老化。个体的老化是单向的，不可逆转的，而人口老龄化则是老年人口在总人口中相对比例的变化，在一定条件下可以逆转。

老龄社会是指老年人口占总人口达到或超过一定比例的人口结构模型。按照联合国的传统标准，一个地区60岁以上老年人达到总人口的10%；新标准是65岁老人占总人口的7%，即该地区视为进入老龄化社会。

Part 1 What is aging society

什么是老龄化社会

Aging society is the population structure model that the elderly population reaches or exceeds a certain percentage of the total population. According to the traditional standards of the United Nations, a region can be considered to enter in the aging society if its elderly population with their age beyond 60 account for 10% of the total population, or its elderly population with their age beyond 65 account for 7% of the total population in accordance with the new standard.

In industrialized countries, the number of people reaching retirement age is growing, while the number of working age people is declining. The number of people aged 80 and older is growing at a faster rate than any other age group worldwide. In 1950, there were 12 people of working age for every person age 65 or older. In 2010, there are only 9 contributing to old age support in their countries. That means that here in the U.S., fewer people are contributing to Social Security and Medicare in proportion to the number of people needing and using those

programs. By the year 2050, there will be almost twice as many older non-working people than there are now, in contrast to the total number of workers.

Many countries will experience aging populations in the next century because of declining birth and mortality rates. China will soon join their ranks. According to the statistics, the aging of China's population will approach its peak by the middle of the next century, with the percentage of the people aged beyond 60 making up 27.4 percent of the total population, which means one out of every four people will be elderly.

As for the issue of aging, its situation has been growing increasingly severe in spite of the fact most people are still ignorant of the problems it brings about. Firstly, with families becoming smaller, it is even graver for families to care for aged members adequately. Secondly, aging causes a relative decline in working force in that fewer people are capable to support the increasing aged people. Consequently, the productivity of the whole society is affected to some extent. Last but not least, the aging of population in China resulted from the successful implementation of family planning has not been synchronized with national economic progress.

The coming aging society has made it more urgent for the adoption of countermeasures. It is no doubt that the most significant measure is to build a solid economic foundation. Meanwhile, more importance should be attached to the overall development of social security, welfare and service. What's more, family care and community services shall also be encouraged.

老龄化的速度(the aging rate)是指社会中60岁或65岁以上老年人口(the old population)的比重增长速度。它主要受出生率(the birth rate)与死亡率(the mortality rate)的制约,在经济发展较快的国家和地区,由于科学技术(science and technology)的进步,营养结构(nutrient structure)的改善和医疗事业(medical industry)的进步而使老年人的体质改善(physical improvement),寿命(life expansion)延长,死亡率降低;同时,由于年轻一代生育意愿(fertility intention)减弱,或国家推行计划生育政策(Family Planning Policy),使人口出生率降低,社会老龄

化的速度大大提高。一些经济发展非常缓慢的国家，由于科技水平(technological level)低下、医疗卫生条件(health condition)恶劣，人们的寿命通常都极低，出生率却比较高，人口老龄化的速度也较缓慢。

Part 2 Key words & Sentences

关键词句全知道

aging society 老龄化社会

the elderly population 老年人(总称)

active labor force 劳动力

pension funds 养老金，退休金

social service 社会福利事业

senior citizens 老年公民

to respect and care for the elderly 尊老爱老

❖ Our country has entered the aging society in the 21st century, so it is urgent to improve inhabitation environmental quality of the old people.

21世纪我国已进入老龄化社会，改善老年人居住环境质量刻不容缓。

❖ It also explores the impact of aging population upon health care system and health policies suitable to the aging society.

探讨了人口老龄化在医疗卫生领域产生的影响和适应老龄化社会的医疗保健对策。

❖ It was felt that the aging of society was socially and economically undesirable.

老龄化对于社会和经济的不良影响呈现出来了。

❖ Aging has become a social problem.

老龄化已成为一个社会问题。

❖ With the speeding up of aging in China, the occurrence of 4-2-1 family mode makes endowment as a social problem.

随着我国老龄化速度的加快，4-2-1家庭结构模式的出现，养老已成为一个亟待解决的社会问题。

❖ The old should share the achievements of the society development, and step into the well-to-do society together.

老年人应分享社会发展成果，同步进入小康社会。

❖ Assuring medical welfare for the old is the key of promoting the quality of their life.

老有所医，是提高老年人生活质量的关键。

❖ Establish a community-centered system of the welfare service for the old.

建立以社区为中心的老年福利服务体系。

❖ Develop the consumption industry for the old, and promote the quality of the olds life

开发老年消费产业，改善老年人生活质量。

❖ Take advantage of the old with ability sufficiently, and make the old talents participate in and devote to the development of the society.

充分利用老年人才，让老年人才参与发展做贡献。

Part 3 Let's Talk! 开始交流吧！

Jack: There seem to be a lot of healthy, active elderly people in China. Every day, you can see them exercising in the public parks and caring for children on the playgrounds.

杰克：中国好像有很多健康且充满活力的老年人，我们每天都能看到他们在公园里锻炼身体或者在操场上照看孩子。

Tom: It is true, but the aging society that caused by the growth of the elderly population also has profound economic implications for Chinese society.

汤姆：没错。但是由于老年人口增多而形成的“老龄化社会”将为中国社会带来严重的经济问题。

Jack: What are the negative effects of this?

杰克：“老龄化社会”会造成什么样的不良后果？

Tom: One problem is that there are fewer people in the active labor force to support those who have retired. Often, pension funds are not enough for seniors to make ends meet and they have to rely on others for support.

汤姆：其中一个问题就是没有足够的劳动力来赡养那些退休的老人。养老金不足以保障老年人的生活，他们不得不依靠其他人来赡养。

Jack: I've heard that aging parents in China still typically live with their adult children. But, just as in other countries, economic and social changes might upset this traditional system of caring for the old.

杰克：我听说在中国，父母到了老年通常都和他们的成年子女在一起生活。但是，正如其他国家那样，随着经济与社会不断发展变化，这种传统的照顾老人的方式也可能被改变。

Tom: Old people are not likely to become completely dependent on social services. But they may begin to increasingly rely on supplemental community-based services.

汤姆：老年人不可能完全依靠社会福利事业，但他们很可能要越来越多地依靠辅助性的社区服务。

Jack: Since senior citizens stop saving and instead begin to spend their savings, this has a serious effect on the macro economy, too.

杰克：由于老龄人群的储蓄不再增加，反而开始花费他们的积蓄，这对宏观经济来说也会产生重大影响。

Tom: Yes. In an aging society, capital accumulation tends to slow down or even reverse.

汤姆：是的。在老龄化社会中，资本积累会放慢甚至出现减少的情况。

Jack: How can societies bring their policies in line with the changing realities of their population structure?

杰克：社会应该如何制定切合结构变化的政策？

Tom: We need to take appropriate countermeasures now. We must strengthen the social attitude of respect and care for the elderly. People should remember that seniors can still make useful contribution to society.

汤姆：我们现在就要采取正确的防范措施。我们必须加强尊老爱老的社会意识，我们应该记住老年人还是可以为社会做出贡献的。

Jack: What about protecting their economic security?

杰克：我们应该怎样维护老年人的经济保障？

Tom: The pension system also needs to be protected against corruption and mismanagement. In addition, a growing economy in general will exert a positive and far-reaching impact on our ability to care for the old.

汤姆：养老金制度也应当受到保护，要防止出现腐败以及管理不善的现象。另外，经济的总体发展也对我们赡养老人的能力产生积极而深远的影响。

Housing

住房问题

住房就是可以供人居住、生活或是工作的房子。住房根据用途一般分为个人住房、商业住房、商住两用住房等。

中国是一个发展不平衡的大国，从具体国情出发，住房保障还需要有针对特殊情况的特殊政策。例如，在大量农村剩余劳动力向城镇转移的过程中，如何解决他们的住房问题；在旧城改造和房地产开发中，大量房屋拆迁造成一部分低收入被拆迁户无力回购新建商品房的问题；老工业基地等社会失业率较高、住房改善速度明显滞后地区的住房问题等。这些问题都是迫切需要我们深入研究并尽快完善的。

Part 1 What is housing

什么是住房问题

A house is a home, building or structure that is a dwelling or place for habitation by human beings. The term house includes many kinds of dwellings ranging from rudimentary huts of nomadic tribes to free standing individual structures. In some contexts, "house" may mean the same as dwelling, residence, home, abode, lodging, accommodation, or housing, among other meanings. The social unit that lives in a house is known as a household. Most commonly, a household is a family unit of some kind, though households can be other social groups, such as single persons, or groups of unrelated individuals. Settled agrarian and industrial societies are composed of household units living permanently in housing of various types, according to a variety of forms of land tenure. English-speaking people generally call any building they routinely occupy "home". Many people leave their houses during the day for work and recreation, and return to them to sleep and for other activities.