

看笑话

学英语 (三)

王小朱 主编

目 录

Tips for Northerners Moving South	1
北方人搬迁到南方的告诫	3
An Episode in the Train	6
火车中的插曲	8
Not to Be Taken Out.....	9
概不外借.....	9
I don ' t know her.....	10
我还不认识她	10
The Ball-point Pen.....	10
圆珠笔	11
George Washington and the Horse.....	12
乔治·华盛顿和马.....	13
Goethe ' s Tolerance.....	13
歌德的容忍	14
Contractors.....	14
承包商	15
Death in the Army.....	16
在军队里宣布去世的消息	17
Definitions of " Obvious "	17
“ 明显 ” 的多种定义.....	18
Diplomacy with the Police I.....	19
交通警察的外交辞令	19
Diplomacy with the Police II.....	20
警察的外交辞令 2	21
Don ' t need it now, but maybe Someday!	22
现在不需要，终有一天会用到.....	22
Dope in the Supreme Court	23

最高法院里的吸毒者	23
Drinker ' s Fault-Finding Guide	24
酒鬼的问题解决指南	26
Drinking and Driving	27
喝酒和开车	28
Driver Gets a Stiff Fine	29
司机受到严厉的惩罚	29
Newspaper Headlines	30
新闻标题	30
Easily Offended Old Ladies	30
容易被冒犯的老太太	31
Education and War	31
教育和战争	32
Excerpt from Book about Canada and the USA	32
摘自一本有关加拿大和美国的书	33
Fermat ' s Last Flight	34
佛麦特的最后一次飞行	34
Fish Story	35
钓鱼的故事	36
Food for Thought	36
需要认真考虑的问题	38
Finding a Cop	40
找警察	40
Ovulation versus Cretinism	41
卵生还是白痴	42
The Old Man in the Phone Line	43
排队交话费时遇到的老人	44
The Pope and the Colonel	44

教皇和上校	45
The Three Dogs	46
三只狗	47
His Bag is Not a Toy	47
他的包不是个小问题	49
This Really Happened in Church... ..	50
教堂里发生的真实的故事	50
Three Men and a Car	50
三个男人和一辆汽车	51
Tour of Moscow	51
莫斯科之旅	52
Truth in Advertising	53
讲真话的广告	53
Two Lions Escape from the Zoo	53
两只从动物园逃跑的狮子	54
Two to One	55
二比一	55
Banking Quip... ..	56
对银行的讽刺	56
Unified Field Theory	56
统一场论	58
High	59
高	60
Valentine Letter	61
情 书	62
Wait till Next Year... ..	64
等到明年	65
After Seeing the Forrest Gump	65

阿甘正传后遗症	66
Should Thank whom in Soviet.....	67
在苏联应该感谢谁	68
Who is the Greatest?	68
谁是最伟大的人	69
Japanese Lecture on Industrial Management	70
日本人关于工业管理的演讲	71
About Speed... ..	72
关于速度	72
Romanians.....	73
罗马尼亚人	73
“ Wife ’ s Bill	73
“ 妻子 ” 的账单	74
Cowboy and the Horse	75
牛仔与他的马	76
Trains.....	77
火 车	78
Lion doesn ’ t Eat Rabbit	79
狮子不吃兔子	80
Zen and the Art of Bicycle Riding.....	81
禅宗和骑车的艺术	82
Iraqi Flag	83
伊拉克的国旗	83
Foreign Languages	83
外 语	84
God or Devil	84
是上帝还是魔鬼	84
How to Tell a Polish Joke	84

怎么讲一个波兰笑话	85
TV Land	85
电视里的世界	88
Good Job	89
干得不错	91
Enough Windows	92
窗户够了	93
Aerial Photography	93
空中摄影	94
Keep if the God Wants	95
如果上帝想要的话就拿去	95
Just Say No	96
就不承认	98
Poor Postman	99
可怜的邮差	99
Seen on a Birthday Card	99
一张生日卡片上写到的	100
Computer Salesmen	100
电脑销售员	100
Hooks in Water	101
水里的钩子	101
The Way of Scot Drink Coffee	101
苏格兰人喝咖啡的方式	102
Free Service	102
免费服务	102
Who Sent the Flowers?	103
谁送的花?	103
On Being Prepared for Marriage	104

做好结婚的准备	104
A Letter to a Girlfriend	104
致女朋友的一封信	105
Spend All	106
全花光了	107
Buying a Dress	107
买衣服	108
A Letter from an Reader	109
一封读者来信	109
Better Understanding of Law	109
通晓法律	110
True Microsoft Story	110
微软趣事	110
Making a Selection	111
做选择	111
A Matter of Perspective	111
懒得观察	112
Visually Challenged	112
视觉挑战	112
Friendly New York City	113
友好的纽约	113
Bad Idea(II)	114
不明智的想法	114
Too Late	115
太晚了	115
Answer Changes	115
答案变了	116
The Real Reason Nobody Ever Sees Santa	116

没有人看到过圣诞老人的真正原因	116
Kids Selling Lemonade	117
卖柠檬汁的孩子	117
Iraq Attack	118
伊拉克的攻击手段	118
Memorial Day	119
阵亡将士纪念日	119
The Pop Quiz	120
突然测验	120
Fish Story	121
钓鱼趣事	121
Election Day	122
大选当天	122
My Hand is Numb	123
我的手麻了	123
Ask, and yet shall Receive.....	124
尽管开口要吧	124
Catholic Tastes	125
天主教徒的品味	125
Manners in the Army.....	126
军队中的礼节	126
How Many Flats Did They Bring?.....	127
他们带了几个胎？	128
New Lawyer Jokes	128
新律师闹笑话	129

Tips for Northerners Moving South

1 . Save all manner of bacon grease. You will be instructed later how to use it.

2 . If you forget a Southerner ' s name, refer to him (or her) as " Bubba " . You have a 75% chance of being right.

3 . Just because you can drive on snow and ice does not mean we can. Stay home the two days of the year it snows.

4 .Don ' t be surprised to find movie rentals and bait in the same store.

5 . Do not buy food at the movie store.

6 . If it can ' t be fried in bacon grease, it can ' t worth cooking, let alone eating.

7 . Remember: " Y ' all " is singular. " All y ' all " is plural. " All y ' all ' s " is plural possessive.

8 . There is nothing sillier than a Northerner imitating a southern accent, unless it is a southerner imitating a Boston accent.

9 . Get used to hearing, " You aren ' t from around here, are you? "

10 . People walk slower here.

11 .Don ' t be worried that you don ' t understand anyone. They don ' t understand you either.

12 . The proper pronunciation you learned in school is no longer proper.

13 . Be advised: The “ He needed killing ” defense is valid here.

14 . If attending a funeral in the South, remember, we stay until the last shovel of dirt is thrown on and the tent is torn down.

15 . If you hear a Southerner exclaim, “ Hey, y ’ all, watch this! ” Stay out of his way. These are likely the last words he will ever say.

16 . Most Southerners do not use turn signals, and they ignore those who do. In fact, if you see a signal blinking on a car with a southern license plate, you may rest assured that it was on when the car was purchased.

17 . Northerners can be identified by the spit on the inside of their car ’ s windshield that comes from yelling at other drivers.

18 . The winter wardrobe you always brought out in September can wait until November.

19 . If there is the prediction of the slightest chance of even the most minuscule accumulation of snow, your presence is required at the local grocery store. It does not matter if you need anything from the store, it is just something you ’ re supposed to do.

20 . Satellite dishes are very popular in the South. When you purchase one, it is to be positioned

directly in front of your trailer. This is logical bearing in mind that the dish cost considerably more than the trailer and should, therefore, be displayed.

21 . Tornadoes and Southerners going through a divorce have a lot in common. In either case, you know someone is going to lose a trailer.

22 . Florida is not considered a southern state. There are far more Yankees than Southerners living there.

23 . You can ask a Southerner for directions, but unless you already know the positions of key hills, trees and rocks, you ' re better off trying to find it yourself.

北方人搬迁到南方的告诫

(注：这篇生活小常识是写给即将要从美国北方搬到南方的人，藉由这样子的方式，你可以多了解一些美国南方人的生活习惯。当然其中不免有些夸大，但也多少透露出北方人对南方人的一些刻板印象。)

1 . 把你所有的熏肉油 (bacon grease) 都留着，稍后就会有人教你如何用它。(南方人太喜欢吃熏肉油了。)

2 . 如果你忘了一个南方人的名字，你就叫他(或她) “ Bubba ”，就会有 75% 的机会被你猜对。(因为南方人很多都叫 Bob ，不然就是 Bobby。)

3 . 你能在雪地中开车不代表我们就能。一年中唯一

下雪的两天你就待在家里休息吧。(南方很少下雪, 一年最多下个两三次, 但几乎每次一下雪就放假一天。)

4 .当你发现录像带出租店居然在卖鱼饵时, 不要太惊讶。(乡下地方不都是这样?)

5 .不要在录像带店买食物。(因为你买到的可能是鱼饵!)

6 .如果某样食物不能用熏肉油来炒, 那它就不值得烹调, 更不用说拿来吃了。(暗讽南方人什么都要用熏肉油炒来吃。)

7 .记住, “Y ' all ”是单数, “All y ' all ”是复数, “All y ' all ' s ”是复数所有格。(南方人喜欢用 y ' all 来代替 you, 正如同北方人喜欢用 you guy 来代指 you 是一样的, 例如 see you later 你就可以说成 see y ' all later。)

8 .没有任何一件事是比北方人模仿南方人口音更愚蠢的事了, 除非是南方人想去模仿波士顿口音。(南方人有一种特殊的口音, 而且很难模仿。而北方口音中则以波士顿这个地方最具代表性。)

9 .习惯听人家这么说, “你不是从这里来的, 对吧?” (北方人来到南方由于生活习惯的不同, 一下子就会被认出来。)

10 .这里的人都走得比较慢。(南方的生活步调通常都比较慢。)

11 .不用担心你不了解其它人在讲什么, 他们同样也听不懂你在讲什么。(南方口音有时候还真的是蛮难听懂的。)

12 .你在学校中所学到的正确发音再也不正确了。(讲的也是南方人的口音很重。)

13. 接受一下这个建议, “他需要杀戮”也算是正当防卫的一种。(南方人许多人家里都有枪, 不要随便闯入别人家里。)

14. 如果你在南方参加一个葬礼的话, 一定要等到最后一铲土放下去, 帐篷都拆掉了才能走。(反正南方人有的是时间。)

15. 如果你听到一个南方人大喊, “喂! 看看这个东西。” 那么你最好离他远一点, 因为这很可能是他这一生最后的一句话。(开车走路不专心, 后果自行负责吧!)

16. 大多数的南方人都不喜欢用方向灯, 就算有人用, 其它人也会忽略它。事实上, 如果你看到有一台车的方向灯在闪的话, 那么你可以确定这一定是从这辆车买来之后, 方向灯就一直闪着的。(南方人开车很随兴, 才不用什么方向灯呢! 如果有人闪方向灯, 那一定是方向灯坏掉了。)

17. 你可以从挡风玻璃上的口水分辨出谁是北方人, 因为他们总是对着其它的司机大吼大叫。(北方人生活步调快, 开车也快, 当然不习惯南方人那样优闲的开车方式。)

18. 你九月份买的过冬衣柜可以等到十一月才开始用。(南方的天气很暖活, 不像北方那样寒冷。)

19. 如果天气预报说, 有一点点可能性会积一点小雪的话, 那你就赶快去超市买东西。你需不需要什么东西倒无所谓, 反正你去就对了。(这实在说得太深刻了, 每次预报说可能会下一点雪, 这里超市的生鲜食品立刻就被抢购一空, 因为只要一下雪, 人们就足不出门了, 所以要赶紧囤积食物。)

20. 在南方, 卫星天线是很受欢迎的, 而且当你买

了一个之后 ,你就应该把它放在你拖车屋 (trailer) 的前面。这是很合乎逻辑的 ,因为通常卫星天线比你的拖车还贵 ,所以值得展示。(南方有许多人是住在拖车屋里——trailer house 或简称 trailer。基本上这就是所谓的货柜屋 ,但是你可以请一台拖车——trailer 把它到处拖着跑 ,所以有点像是现代的游牧民族。)

21 . 龙卷风跟南方人要离婚在很多方面是很像的 ,不管是哪一种情况 ,都有人会失去拖车屋。(龙卷风会把屋子吹走 ,而离婚呢当然就要把财产分一分了。)

22 . 佛罗里达不被认为是南方的州 ,住在那的北方人远比南方人来的多。(传统上的南方是指乔治亚、田纳西、阿肯色、阿拉巴马、密西西比、路易斯安那这些地方。佛罗里达算是观光盛地 ,很多的居民都来自北方。)

23 . 你可以向一个南方人问路 ,但除非你对那里的一草一木都很熟悉 ,不然你还是要自己找路。(南方算是比较乡下的地方 ,所以没有明显人为的地标 ,例如高楼、加油站等。所以他们都会用大树或是石头来当作指路的地标。)

An Episode in the Train

Michael and Derek are good friends, but they like to pull each other ' s leg sometimes. One day during the holidays they decided to go to London together. They went to the station and bought their tickets. When the train came in, Michael boarded it first and, without knowing it, dropped his ticket

on the platform as he got in to the carriage. Derek, who was close behind, saw the ticket fall and quickly picked it up. Without a word to his friend, he put it in his pocket.

After they had been in the train a little while, they heard the ticket inspector coming down the corridor, shouting, "Ticket, please!" Michael looked for his and of course couldn't find it.

"Oh dear, I can't find my ticket, Derek," he said.

"Have another look, Michael; it must be somewhere," said Derek.

"No, I can't find it anywhere. Whatever shall I do?"

"Perhaps you had better hide under the seat; then the inspector won't know you are here."

So Michael crawled under the seat as far as he could and lay perfectly still. Presently the door opened, and in came the inspector. "Tickets, please," he said.

Derek handed him two tickets, and said, "This is mine. The other belongs to my friend, who prefers to travel under the seat."

火车中的插曲

迈克尔和德雷克是好朋友，但有时候他们喜欢捉弄对方。假期中的一天，他们决定一块儿去伦敦。他们来到车站并买好了车票。火车进站后，迈克尔先上了车。他走进车厢时，不小心将自己的车票掉在了月台上。德雷克紧跟着他，看到车票掉了就赶快给拾了起来，但他没告诉自己的朋友，而是不动声色地将票装进了自己的口袋。

上车后不久，他们听到查票员沿着车厢过道在验票：“请把票拿出来！”迈克尔四处翻找，当然找不到他的票。

“天哪，我的车票找不着了，德雷克。”他说道。

“再找一遍，迈克尔，一定在什么地方。”德雷克说。

“不，没有，我哪儿都找遍了，我该怎么办呢？”

“也许你最好藏在座位下面，那样查票员就不会知道你在这儿了。”

于是，迈克尔就尽量匍匐在座位下面，一动也不敢动。门很快打开了，查票员走了进来。“请把票拿出来。”他说道。

德雷克递给他两张票，说道：“这张是我的，另一张是我朋友的，他更喜欢呆在座位下面旅行。”

Not to Be Taken Out

Mark Twain once went to borrow a certain book from a neighbor in Tarry town. "May I borrow a book from you?" He asked politely. "Yes, you're more than welcome to it," the neighbor told him. "But I must ask you to read it here. You know I make a rule never to let any book go out of my library." Some days later the neighbor wished to borrow Twain's machine for cutting grass in the garden. "Why, certainly," Twain told him, "You're more than welcome to it. But I must ask you to use it here. You know that I make it a rule never to let it go out of my garden."

概不外借

在特里镇，马克·吐温有一次去一位邻居那儿借本书。“我可以向您借本书吗？”他礼貌地问道。“当然，非常乐意，”邻居告诉他，“但我要求你在这儿读。你知道我有一条规定，那就是决不让一本书拿出我的图书室。”几天后，这位邻人想从吐温那儿借台割草机。“噢，当然，”吐温告诉他，“非常乐意借给你。但我要你在这儿用。你知道我从来不允许它拿出我的花园。”