

笑话英语通

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序

常春藤又出了一系列好书了。这些书分别是:《新闻英语通》、《书信英语通》、《笑话英语通》、《塑身英语通》、《格言英语通》。

《新闻英语通》

本书将世界知名的通讯社如 AP(美联社)、AFP(法新社)、BBC(英国国家广播公司)的外电报道,及本土英文报纸 China Post(中国英文邮报)的新闻或气象路况报道加以分类,并辅以翻译及批注,可读性极强,是学习新闻英语者不可或缺的一本好书。

《书信英语通》

本书的涵盖面极广,举凡情书、慰问信、感谢函等均列入本书中。作者以浅显易懂的英文撰写,内容生动有趣,适合读者模仿练习。这本书可说是培养书信写作的最佳参考书。

《笑话英语通》

本书搜集各类笑话,每篇笑话均以隽永生动的英文撰写。读者可以将本书当成背诵模板,在适当的场合讲述,一则可以增添轻松的气氛,二则也练就流利的英语口语能力。

《塑身英语通》

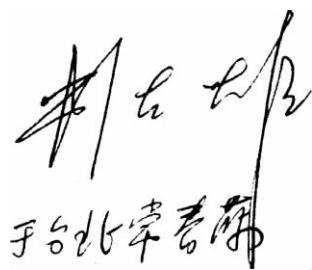
本书是向美国瘦身专家直接购入版权出版的好书。原作者以幽默却不失严谨的文笔道出塑身应有的正确观念。读者念完本书后不仅知道如何瘦身,也可提升英文阅读能力,可谓一举两得。

《格言英语通》

英文的格言若偶尔能运用在写作或口语之中,当可提升读者的形象。本书就是为此目的编写的。每则格言均附应用篇,可供读者模仿练习。

各书均附正确通顺的译文及批注,并附 CD,是不折不扣的有声书。我们相信读者阅读本系列丛书时,当会感受到常春藤中外编辑所付出的心血。但愿好书能与读者分享。

祝大家学习成功!





Chapter 1 Distasteful Disgusting Racial Slurs 各民族趣谈

Unit 1	Kiss Your Troubles Goodbye ! 向你的烦恼说再见 !	2
Unit 2	Black English 黑人英语	7
Unit 3	A Lesson in Finance 财政学的一课	9
Unit 4	Sorry to Hear That 听到那样真令人难过	13
Unit 5	A True Patriot 一个真正热爱祖国的人	15
Unit 6	Umgwalagwala ! 安瓜拉瓜拉 !	19
Unit 7	Have a Shot ! 干一口吧 !	24

Chapter 2 The Animal Kingdom 动物王国

Unit 1	Be Kind to Animals 爱护动物	26
Unit 2	Of Course, There Are Limitations 当然,凡事总有例外	31
Unit 3	Oh, I See ! 喔,我懂了 !	36

Chapter 3 The Joys of English 英语乐趣

Unit 1	Ancient Chinese Wisdom	
	古老的中国智慧	44
Unit 2	And in the Same Vein...	
	另一则寓言笑话	51
Unit 3	Face It !	
	用脸去敲钟 !	56
Unit 4	Trouble with Prepositions	
	介词问题	60
Unit 5	An Uncommon Cold	
	一次特别的伤风感冒	63

Chapter 4 Idiots 傻瓜

Unit 1	I Didn't Take That In	
	我没有把药吃下去	68
Unit 2	You Said What ?	
	你说什么 ?	72
Unit 3	Oh, Good Job !	
	喔,你做得真好 !	76
Unit 4	Look at My Socks	
	瞧瞧我的袜子	80

Chapter 5 Jokes You Can Tell Your Mother 可以说给妈妈听的笑话

Unit 1	Make a Wish !	
	许个愿吧 !	82

Unit 2	A Remarkable Talent	
	一位了不起的天才	85
Unit 3	A Precocious Child	
	一个早熟的小孩	87
Unit 4	City Suckers	
	城里来的傻瓜	89
Unit 5	True Dedication	
	好投入啊！	91
Unit 6	Is This What They Mean by	
	“Second Childhoods ?”	
	老年是人生的第二个童年期吗？	93
Unit 7	A Special Guest	
	特别来宾	94
Unit 8	Jeez, Talk about Luck !	
	好运跟着保险来	96
Unit 9	Thanks a Lot, Sarge	
	多谢了,班长	99
Unit 10	All's Well That Ends Well	
	结局好的就是好	102
Unit 11	And You Think You've Got Problems	
	你认为你有问题吗？	104
Unit 12	Now That Hurts !	
	我的牙齿好痛喔！	106
Unit 13	Sounds Fair	
	听起来还算公平	108
Unit 14	Could You Hurry It up a Little ?	
	你能不能快一点？	110

Unit 15	Don't Get Caught ! 不要被逮着了 !	113
Unit 16	Learning to Share 学习共同分享	116
Unit 17	Aren't Kids Wonderful ? 小孩子实在了不起 !	118
Unit 18	A Lesson in Philosophy 哲学课一则	121
Unit 19	Wow ! That's a Big One ! 哇 ! 那个真是大得吓人 !	123

Chapter 6 The Noble Professions 高尚职业

Unit 1	No Sweat ! 不费吹灰之力 !	128
Unit 2	No Fooling ! 不要瞎混 !	133
Unit 3	Getting into His Work 专注于工作	136
Unit 4	Can't You Be a Little More Supportive ? 你能不能多支持我一点 ?	140
Unit 5	The Perfect Solution 完美解决之道	142
Unit 6	Change of Plan 临时改变主意	145
Unit 7	And Stuff the Cuffs in Your Boots 把裤脚塞到你的靴子里面去	149

Unit 8	Keep Your Head ! 头脑要保持冷静！	152
Unit 9	Home, Sweet Home 还是家里好	156
Unit 10	You Do Have a Problem 你真是有问题了！	158
Unit 11	The Bigger They Are, the Harder They Fall 爬得越高,跌得越重	160

Chapter 7 Totally Tasteless Vulgar Filth 不带颜色的通俗笑话

Unit 1	O. K. , Who Cut the Cheese ? 谁在放屁？	164
Unit 2	At Least You Get a Choice 至少你有所选择	168
Unit 3	Put Yourself in My Place 设身处地替人想一想	172
Unit 4	Play Now, Pay Later 先享受,后付款	174
Unit 5	Down on the Farm 农场趣谈	178
Unit 6	Charity Begins at Home 慈善应由家中做起	180
Unit 7	A Satisfied Customer 一位心满意足的客户	183
Unit 8	Where Do You Keep Yours ? 你的东西放到哪儿去了？	186

Unit 9	We're in the Same Boat	
	同病相怜	188

Chapter 8 Love 性与爱

Unit 1	Age Has Its Advantages	
	老马识途	192
Unit 2	And Modest, Too	
	也要谦虚为怀	199
Unit 3	It's the Law	
	这是个法律问题	201
Unit 4	A Proud Father	
	骄傲的老爸	204

Chapter 9 ... and Marriage 婚姻

Unit 1	No Worries	
	免惊啦！	210
Unit 2	Wait till Next Year	
	等明年再说	211
Unit 3	Aw, How Sweet !	
	喔,真是恩爱的一对！	212
Unit 4	Let's Not Be Hasty	
	别急,慢慢来	214
Unit 5	And Where Did You Meet Your Wife ?	
	你在哪里遇到你太太呢？	215
Unit 6	Thirstin' for Love	
	渴望爱情	217
Unit 7	A Touching Farewell	
	一个感人的告别	220

Chapter 1

Distasteful Disgusting Racial Slurs **各民族趣谈**



Kiss Your Troubles Goodbye ! 向你的烦恼说再见 !

A Jew, an Indian and a black were lined up to enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

Said the Jew to St. Peter, “Frankly, I’m rather surprised to be here. All my life Christians have despised and reviled me.”

“That’s a great sorrow to us,” said St. Peter, “but you won’t find that kind of prejudice here. Here, all are truly equal. Just spell God and you may enter.”

The Jew duly spelled out G-O-D and was waved through the gates.

Next, the Indian came forward and said, “St. Peter, all my life I suffered from poverty and discrimination, and could only live in a reservation. Will I truly be free here?”

“My son, your troubles are over. Just spell the word God and you will be free as a bird.”

The Indian obliged and he, too, entered the Heavenly Kingdom.

Next, the black man strode forward. “St. Peter,” he said, “all my life people looked down on me and treated me unfairly. That won’t happen here, will it?”

“Of course not, my boy. We don't do that kind of thing here. Just spell” onomatopoeia “and the Kingdom of Heaven is yours !”

一位犹太人、一位印第安人和一位黑人列队进入天国之门。

那位犹太人对圣彼得说：“坦白讲，能到这里让我蛮惊讶的，我一辈子一直都受到基督徒的轻视和侮辱。”

“我们实在感到非常遗憾，”圣彼得说，“但我们这里没有那样的偏见，这里每个人都完全平等，只要拼出 God 这个词你就能进入天堂。”

那名犹太人正确地拼出 God 后，被招入门内。

接着印第安人走向前说道：“圣彼得，我一辈子饱受贫穷和种族歧视的打击，而且只能住在居留地内，我在这里能得到真正的自由吗？”

“小兄弟，你的烦恼已经结束了，只要拼出 God 这个词，你就能像小鸟一样自由自在。”

印第安人照着做，不久也被引入天堂。

接着那名黑人跨步向前，“圣彼得，”他说道，“一辈子人们都瞧不起我，不公平对待我，在这里那些事不会发生吧！”

“当然不会，我的弟兄，我们不会做那样的事，只要拼出 onomatopoeia 这个词，天堂之国就是你的了！”

解说

1. kiss sb/sth goodbye 与某人/某物吻别

上述词组当然并不限于 goodbye 一词，其他场合亦可适用，如
“Kiss me goodnight.”（吻我道晚安）。

2. be lined up 被要求排队

line up 排队

cut in line 插队

例: Line up ! Don't cut in line !

(排队！别插队！)

I don't mind if you cut in line, buddy, but would you mind not standing on my foot ?

(我不介意你插队,老兄,但请别踩在我的脚上,好不好?)

3. all one's life 某人一辈子

例: All my life, I've only loved you.

(我一辈子只爱你一个人。)

4. Christian ['krɪstʃən] *n. & a.* 基督教徒 (的)

Buddhist ['bʊdɪst] *n. & a.* 佛教徒 (的)

Catholic ['kæθəlik] *n. & a.* 天主教徒 (的)

Moslem ['mɒzləm] *n. & a.* 回教徒 (的)

denomination [dɪnəməneɪʃən] *n.* 宗教教派 (= sect); (货币) 面值

例: The Protestants are divided among dozens of different denominations.

(新教徒可区分为数十种不同的教派。)

Traveler's checks come in many denominations, from \$ 10 to \$ 1,000.

(旅行支票面值不一,从十元到一千元美金都有。)

5. despise [dɪ'spaɪz] *vt.* 轻视

= look down upon...

look up to... 尊敬.....

= respect

例: Surely people will despise you if you have no respect for yourself.

(如果连自己都不尊重,别人是一定会瞧不起你的。)

6. revile [rɪ'vaɪl] *vt.* 辱骂

例: Anyone hoping to save humanity can expect to be reviled by those he is attempting to save.
(任何人若想拯救世人往往会招到世人的辱骂。)

7. prejudice [ˈpredʒədɪs] *n.* 偏见 & *vt.* 使存偏见

have a prejudice against... 对……有偏见
= be prejudiced against...

例: I admit I am prejudiced against opera; I don't know much about it, but I don't like it.
(我承认我对歌剧有偏见,我歌剧懂得不多,但我也不喜欢它。)

8. equal [ˈiːkwəl] *a.* 相等的; 胜任的

be equal to... 胜任……
= be competent for...
= be cut out for...

例: I don't think that lazy man is equal to that challenging job.
(我认为那个懒鬼无法胜任那项有挑战性的工作。)

9. spell [spel] *vt.* 拼(词)

例: How do you spell that word?
(那个词是怎么拼的?)

10. wave [weɪv] *vt.* & *vi.* 摇动; 挥手

11. poverty [ˈpɒvəti] *n.* 贫穷

poverty-stricken 饱受贫穷打击的

例: Andrew Carnegie emigrated from a poverty-stricken village in Ireland to become one of the richest men in America.
(安德鲁·卡内基由爱尔兰一个饱受贫穷打击的小村子移民到美国,最后成为全美首富之一。)

12. discrimination [ˌdɪskrɪməneɪʃən] *n.* 区别; 歧视

racial discrimination 种族歧视

例: If you've never suffered from racial discrimination, you don't know how infuriating it can be.

(如果你从没遭受种族歧视的痛苦,就不会知道那会多么令人气愤。)

13. reservation [ˌrezə'veɪʃən] *n.* (印第安人的)保留区

14. oblige [ə'blaɪdʒ] *vt.* 遵行(本文即此意) & *vt.* 使有义务(常用被动)

be obliged to V有义务

例: According to the terms of the contract, you are obliged to complete the work by August 1.

(依照合约的规定,你必须在八月一日以前完成这件工作。)

15. stride [straɪd] *vi.* 跨步走

三态为: stride, strode [strəʊd], stridden ['strɪdn]。

例: The outlaw strode down Main Street with his revolvers on his hips.

(这个歹徒腰插着他的左轮手枪大步朝中正路走下去。)

16. unfairly [ˌʌnfəɪli] *ad.* 不公平地

17. onomatopoeia [ɒnə'mætə'piə] *n.* 拟声字(如 bow-wow, cuckoo...等。)

本故事用这个超难的词,只是用以讽刺圣彼得所谓天堂中没有种族歧视只是说词而已。



Black English 黑人英语

The black couple already had eight children, and Lula May was pregnant with her ninth. Finally she convinced her husband to get a vasectomy.

On the morning of the operation, she was surprised to see her husband putting on a tuxedo and getting into a limousine for the short ride to the hospital.

“Say, honey, what’s all this about?” asked Lula May.

“Baby, if you gonna be impo’tant, you gotta look impo’tant.”

一对黑人夫妇已有八个小孩,而鲁拉·梅又怀了第九个小孩,最后她说服了她先生去做男性绝育手术。

手术的早晨,她惊讶地看见她老公穿着礼服,乘坐一辆礼车到不远的医院去。

“亲爱的,这是怎么一回事啊?”鲁拉·梅问道。

“宝贝,如果你想当名大人物的话,就要让人一看就知道你很重要!”

解说

1. pregnant [ˈpregnənt] a. 怀孕的

be pregnant with... 怀了……的身孕

例: The woman is six months pregnant.

(这名妇女怀孕六个月了。)