

Lesson Eleven Oral Practice

1. Talking about what you need to pay attention to when visiting a Chinese family.

- A. 德生, I am invited to visit 劉東's family this weekend. Please tell me what I need to pay attention to when socializing with Chinese people?
- B. Chinese people say "People won't blame you for being too polite". That means Chinese people place a great importance on courtesy.
- A. You mean I need to know more Chinese habits and customs.
- B. Yes, for instance, by all means you should not stand too close to the opposite sex when you are together, and even more you mustn't kiss or hug them in public.
- A. Oh, I see. Chinese people can stand close when the same sex are together, but not the opposite sex. What else in addition to this?
- B. You need to pay special respect to the elders. Don't talk too casually, and pay attention to the way of addressing the elders.
- A. In this way, how should I address 德生's parents?
- B. You can address them as Aunt Li and Uncle Li.
- A. What you have told me is very useful. Otherwise, I would make funny mistakes again. I appreciate it.
- B. You are welcome. Take it easy. Your Chinese is excellent. There'll be no problem at all for you to do it.
- A. Yes, Thanks you.
- B. Ha... You made a mistake. You should say "no no, not yes," then it sounds Chinese.
- A. But what does "no no" mean?
- B. It means that it isn't true that your Chinese is excellent.
- A. Oh, I see. What do you think I should take when I go as an invited guest?
- B. You can take a bottle of wine, some fruit or a cake, etc. But remember don't come too late. They will think that you have a haughty manner if you come too late.
- A. Really? Then I will be there on time.
- B. Good. You got it.
2. At 劉東's home.
- A. 大為, let me introduce my family to you. These are my parents, my aunt and uncle.
- B. How do you do! Nice to meet you all.
- A. Welcome to my home. Take it easy. Regard it as your home.
- B. Thanks. Here is a bottle of French wine for your family. Hope you like it.
- A. You are too polite.
- B. Aunt Liu, your family is really lively. Do you need any help?
- A. Not now. As we have so people here, How about some make dumplings and some prepare dishes. ?
- B. Good idea. I will help making the dumplings.
- (Eating dumplings)
- A. 大為, there are no special dishes today, just ordinary dishes and some
- B. No no, not slow. You are making dumplings quickly, and I am eating them

dumplings. We are a poor host.

quickly, too.

A. Ha... Have some more dumplings, have some more dumplings.

B. Thanks, thanks a lot.