

2008 最新版

余高峰 华燕 / 主编

# 美国之音

VOA STANDARD ENGLISH

## 标准英语

### 经济与金融篇

国内英语等级考试 / 出国能力认证考试必备

- ★ 精心选材，原汁原味
  - ★ 题材广泛，译文准确
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  - ★ 开阔视野，强化听力
- 听美国之音，学地道美语

MP3 版

大连理工大学出版社

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## 图书在版编目(CIP)数据

美国之音标准英语. 经济与金融篇 / 余高峰, 华燕主编. — 大连: 大连理工大学出版社, 2008. 4

ISBN 978-7-5611-3938-7

I. 美… II. ①余…②华… III. 英语—听说教学—自学参考资料 IV. H319.9

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2008)第 028467 号

## 大连理工大学出版社出版

地址: 大连市软件园路 80 号 邮政编码: 116023

发行: 0411-84708842 邮购: 0411-84703636 传真: 0411-84701466

E-mail: dutp@dutp.cn URL: <http://www.dutp.cn>

大连华伟印刷有限公司印刷 大连理工大学出版社发行

---

幅面尺寸: 145mm×210mm	印张: 6.75	字数: 209 千字
附件: MP3 光盘一张		印数: 1~5000
2008 年 4 月第 1 版		2008 年 4 月第 1 次印刷

---

责任编辑: 庄晓红

责任校对: 王 颖

封面设计: 王付青

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ISBN 978-7-5611-3938-7

定 价: 18.80 元

# 前言

## Contents

英语学习者都知道,听、说、读、写是英语学习的基本要素。而其中“听”则是学习英语当中最基础、最重要也是最困难的环节之一,同时它也最能体现出一个人的英语水平。目前我国,英语学习已相当普及,从未学过英语的人屈指可数,可谓全民同学英语。然而,真正学好英语的人却为数不多,或者说相当多的人学习效果不甚理想,究其原因,主要是语言学习环境较差。我们知道,语言是思想交流的工具,其主要作用是沟通、交流,一旦起不到其作用,语言学习也随之失去了意义。为了帮助英语学习者攻克英语听力这道难关,本书编者精心挑选了VOA经济与金融方面的最新新闻报道资料,供广大英语学习者巩固英语听力之用。

编者相信,如果能用心学习此书,掌握本书的所有内容,在今后收听VOA、BBC或使用英语交流时,定会收到意想不到的效果,使自己的听力水平跨上一个新的台阶。

本书在编写过程中得到赵学年、杨正民、刘云声、张卫成、周晴晴、赵天飞等同志的大力支持,在此向他们表示最衷心的感谢!

由于编者水平有限,加之编写内容较新,如有不妥之处,敬请批评指正。

编者

2008年4月

# 目 录

## Contents

	<i>Tests</i>	<i>Scripts &amp; Versions</i>	<i>Keys</i>
Unit 1	2	82	191
Unit 2	4	84	191
Unit 3	6	87	192
Unit 4	8	89	192
Unit 5	10	91	192
Unit 6	12	93	193
Unit 7	14	98	194
Unit 8	16	101	194
Unit 9	18	106	194
Unit 10	20	108	195
Unit 11	22	110	195
Unit 12	24	113	196
Unit 13	26	117	196
Unit 14	28	119	196
Unit 15	30	122	197
Unit 16	32	125	197
Unit 17	34	128	198
Unit 18	36	131	198
Unit 19	38	132	198
Unit 20	40	133	198
Unit 21	42	136	199



	<i>Tests</i>	<i>Scripts &amp; Versions</i>	<i>Keys</i>
Unit 22	44	138	199
Unit 23	46	141	200
Unit 24	48	143	200
Unit 25	50	146	200
Unit 26	52	148	202
Unit 27	54	152	201
Unit 28	56	154	201
Unit 29	58	156	202
Unit 30	60	158	202
Unit 31	62	161	202
Unit 32	64	165	203
Unit 33	66	169	203
Unit 34	68	171	204
Unit 35	70	174	204
Unit 36	72	177	204
Unit 37	74	180	205
Unit 38	76	182	205
Unit 39	78	186	206
Unit 40	80	188	206



**美国之音**

VOA Standard English

标准英语

**经济与金融篇**

# Tests

## Unit 1

### US Communities Ponder Economic Future After GM Lays Off Thousands

#### Words & Expressions

ponder <i>v.</i>	仔细考虑; 沉思
lay off	(因为不景气等)暂时解雇
profitability <i>n.</i>	赢利; 利润
sit back	无所事事; 歇息
shrink <i>v.</i>	缩小
revamp <i>v.</i>	改制; 翻新
sag <i>v.</i>	下跌; 消沉
fuel-thirsty <i>a.</i>	渴望燃料的
address <i>v.</i>	致力于……; 把注意力放在……
prosperity <i>n.</i>	繁荣
pension <i>n.</i>	养老金

#### Exercises

**I** Answer the following questions according to what you have heard from the report.

1. What did Bob Alexander think about the GM's job cuts?
2. What did the labor organizers call on General Motors to do?



3. According to analysts, what makes GM cars more expensive than those from foreign competitors?

**II** Decide whether the following statements are true or false. If they are false, please correct them according to what you have heard.

- ( ) 1. According to Rick Wagoner, in order to save General Motors, slashing billions of dollars in costs is unnecessary.
- ( ) 2. The layoffs cut about 17 percent of GM's 173,000-person workforce.
- ( ) 3. The union thinks it is fair for workers to pay the price for management blunders.
- ( ) 4. GM's percentage of car sales has fallen as Toyota and other European-based auto-makers have gained market share.
- ( ) 5. Expert Keith Crain thinks what General Motors is doing is necessary, but what General Motors is doing today can't guarantee their profitability and their prosperity.

*Notes:*



## Unit 2

### Survey: Britain Seen as Best Place to Start New Businesses

#### Words & Expressions

variable <i>n.</i>	易变物; 不确定要素
terrific <i>a.</i>	极好的; 很棒的
enforce <i>v.</i>	实施
startup <i>v.</i>	(生产或操作的) 开始; 启动
enclave <i>n.</i>	少数民族集团
equity market	股本市场; 产权投资市场
securitization <i>n.</i>	安全性
diversify <i>v.</i>	使多样化; 做多样性的投资
diffuse <i>v.</i>	使分散
hallmark <i>n.</i>	标志; 特点; 特征
tier <i>n.</i>	阶层; 等级
some-odd <i>a.</i>	以上的 (修饰数字, 放在修饰数字的后面)
dismal <i>a.</i>	阴郁的; 凄凉的

#### Exercises

**I** Fill in the blanks with the information you have heard from the report.

1. Jim Barth says through the survey of \_\_\_\_\_ variables, the country which does very well is the \_\_\_\_\_.
2. In the survey, Hong Kong and \_\_\_\_\_ rank \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ because they have created a business-friendly \_\_\_\_\_ with strong access to capital.

3. The co-author Glenn Yago says in order to \_\_\_\_\_ an economy, you need modern \_\_\_\_\_ technologies, just like you need \_\_\_\_\_ technology or you need modern technology in \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Mr. Barth said, in the United States, they found a lot of \_\_\_\_\_ that wanted to \_\_\_\_\_ a business \_\_\_\_\_ on their own personal credit cards.

**II** Decide whether the following statements are true or false. If they are false, please correct them according to what you have heard.

- ( ) 1. The UK has a great rule of law. One knows that one can get contracts enforced in the UK.
- ( ) 2. The survey in this report covers 120 countries.
- ( ) 3. According to Mr. Barth, other countries can benefit by making credit cards unavailable to individuals that want to start a business.
- ( ) 4. In this survey, the United States ranks 6th, China, ranked 38th.

*Note:*



## Unit 3

### Team Spirit Extends to Doors, Pencils, Lunch Boxes

#### Words & Expressions

polished <i>a.</i>	擦光的; 擦亮的
smack <i>n.</i>	迹象; 含义
signify <i>v.</i>	表示; 表明; 有……的意思
prestigious <i>a.</i>	有威望的; 有声望的
alumnus <i>n.</i>	男校友; (机构、组织的) 前成员
rabid <i>v.</i>	狂热的; 偏激的
insignia <i>n.</i>	徽章; 标记
magnet <i>n.</i>	磁铁
binocular <i>n.</i>	双目镜; 双筒望远镜
barbecue grill <i>n.</i>	烧烤架
mascot <i>n.</i>	吉祥物
alligator <i>n.</i>	短吻鳄
chisel <i>v.</i>	凿; 雕
hypnotic <i>a.</i>	催眠的; 引起睡眠的
ingenuity <i>n.</i>	巧妙
decadence <i>n.</i>	堕落; 衰落

#### Exercises

**I** Answer the following questions according to what you have heard from the report.

1. What is carved in the middle of the photograph of a door?
2. What does the letter G stand for?

3. In the University of Florida, if you can buy different products about Gator, what can you infer?

**II Fill in the blanks with the information you have heard from the report.**

- ( ) 1. If you see a letter G in the middle of a door, it doesn't \_\_\_\_\_ that the \_\_\_\_\_ is Mr. Green or Ms. Grable.
- ( ) 2. Now, sports teams around the world \_\_\_\_\_ rabid followers, who wear team \_\_\_\_\_ and insignias. But some Americans \_\_\_\_\_ their sports loyalties to \_\_\_\_\_.
- ( ) 3. Plenty of people go to Florida \_\_\_\_\_ dressed from head to \_\_\_\_\_—and we do mean tail—in a green alligator \_\_\_\_\_.
- ( ) 4. Team gear exposes the \_\_\_\_\_ and decadence of lives so \_\_\_\_\_ that people spend good money on Gator \_\_\_\_\_ diapers and Gator front doors.

*Notes:*



## Unit 4

### Online Gift Registries Multiply as Goodie Wish Lists

#### Words & Expressions

registry <i>n.</i>	登记; 注册
multiply <i>v.</i>	增加; 繁殖
treasure <i>v.</i>	珍惜
crib <i>n.</i>	摇篮; 幼儿床
fret over	为……烦恼; 着急
pop up	突然出现; 突然发生
bar mitzvah	为 (男孩) 举行的犹太成人仪式
cyberspace <i>n.</i>	因特网世界
guesswork <i>n.</i>	猜想; 猜测
stubborn <i>a.</i>	顽固的

#### Exercises

**I** Fill in the blanks with the information you have heard from the report.

- Once upon a time in America, \_\_\_\_\_ was part of the delight when people \_\_\_\_\_ gifts.
- When giving a present, people usually \_\_\_\_\_ presents with care and \_\_\_\_\_, and hoped the giftees would \_\_\_\_\_ them.
- \_\_\_\_\_, for gift-givers, meant no more fretting over what the \_\_\_\_\_ couple might like as they start life together, or what would be \_\_\_\_\_ for Babykins.
- Now, online, people can register their every \_\_\_\_\_ desire—not just the gifts they'd love to get for \_\_\_\_\_ and baby parties—but also their \_\_\_\_\_ for bar mitzvahs, holidays, etc.



**II** Decide whether the following statements are true or false. If they are false, please correct them according to what you have heard.

- ( ) 1. In the past, in America, when people received a gift, they had clear idea what was wrapped in the pretty paper.
- ( ) 2. Then came the Internet, and online registries popped up like mushrooms before a Spring rain.
- ( ) 3. Gift registries will record one's family's material dreams—just in case somebody wants to give someone something.
- ( ) 4. Gift registries can save shopping time, but they will take a lot of guesswork of giving.

*Note:*



## Unit 5

### Outgoing US Central Bank Chief Repeats Warning on High Deficits

#### Words & Expressions

deficit <i>n.</i>	赤字
curtail <i>v.</i>	削减
investor <i>n.</i>	投资者
portfolio <i>n.</i>	有价证券
endorse <i>v.</i>	支持; 赞成
globalization <i>n.</i>	全球化
integration <i>n.</i>	结合; 融合
pernicious <i>a.</i>	有害的; 恶性的
fiscal <i>a.</i>	财政的
arrest <i>v.</i>	制止; 阻止
compound <i>v.</i>	使……增加错误; (由互让而) 解决争端
tenure <i>n.</i>	任期

#### Exercises

**I** Answer the following questions according to what you have heard from the report.

1. How old is Mr. Greenspan?
2. In Mr. Greenspan's London speech, what did he warn?
3. When will Mr. Greenspan's tenure as chairman of the Federal Reserve come to an end?

**II** Decide whether the following statements are true or false. If they are false, please correct them according to what you have heard.

- ( ) 1. According to Mr. Greenspan, the U.S. budgetary balance will worsen unless Congress curtails government spending.
- ( ) 2. Mr. Greenspan thought there could be severe consequences from failing to take action to reduce the budget deficit.
- ( ) 3. Mr. Greenspan said although foreign investors had not as yet significantly slowed their financing of U.S. capital investments, they had observed a decline in the value of the dollar and reduction in the share of dollars, since early 2001.
- ( ) 4. Mr. Greenspan was strongly against globalization, the process of ever expanding economic integration across national borders.

Note:

