

SELECTED READINGS

# ENGLISH

NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS

# 英语报刊选读

孙玉芝 冷 慧 编著

AL SERVIZIO  
DELLE AZIENDE LARIANE

Sette le aziende comasche all'Heimtextil

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辽宁人民出版社

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# 前 言

英语阅读能力是英语学习者运用语言获取信息的能力。阅读英语报刊有四大优点：一、开阔视野、丰富知识，通过互联网、报刊等媒介第一时间获取世界许多国家的社会、政治、立场、观点、金融、时尚、文艺、体育、风土人情等第一手资讯；二、直接接触原汁原味的地道英语，为自己随时随地创造一个用英语思维的广阔空间；三、在轻松愉悦的体验中扩大词汇量，习得英语语法，在具体语境下理解英语习惯用语，提高英语的综合能力；四、在博览群书的基础上，提高分析，对比中西文化的能力，避免崇洋媚外、避免狭隘的民族主义。

《英语报刊选读》是根据教育部颁布的英语专业教学大纲而编写的教材，适合读者群为大专院校英语专业学生、具有同等水平的非英语专业以及广大的英语自学成材者。本书的独到之处在于编者为读者创造了与英语报刊积极互动的机会，使读者身临其境，在编者的引领下，主动参与到学习英语报刊阅读策略的活动中，有如在英语学习的世界里，做一次畅快的旅行。

《英语报刊选读》由两部分组成：第一部分为阅读技能、阅读策略培训篇，由七章构成，通过互动的方式，使读者有效地掌握英语报刊文章阅读理解方法，了解新闻写作知识和读报知识；第二部分为应用篇，由新闻报道、论文等不同体裁的十四篇新闻故事组成。

为方便教师在教学过程中使用本书，本书不仅包括大量的英语新闻实例，还系统地介绍了以下内容：

1. 英语报刊阅读方法。该方法不仅适用于报刊文章阅读，也适用于其他非小说类文章的阅读。

2. 英语报刊体裁。书中所选文章包含了英语报刊中常见的各类体裁。

3. 新闻写作知识和读报知识。本书比较详细地介绍新闻写作方法和阅读新闻所必备的背景知识，而且第二部分的每一篇文章后面都为读者提供了与该文章相关的知识链接，以帮助他们更好地理解各篇文章，丰富其新闻知识、培养其新闻阅读能力。

4. 新闻词汇。本书为教师和学生提供了大量的报刊词汇。

通过本书的学习，读者可以获得以下与英语报刊阅读相关的能力：

1. 迅速抓住新闻故事的主要观点；
2. 准确理解报刊标题、新闻故事开端的重要句子；
3. 分辨出新闻故事中的主、次信息；
4. 推测出生词的词义；
5. 判断新闻报道的目的；

### 6. 评价新闻作者的写作初衷。

本书的另一特点是实践性强。通过大量的、循序渐进的练习，本书能培养和巩固学生的阅读英语报刊的方法，大幅度提高学生的阅读能力。

本书是作者多年讲授英语报刊选读课的成果，大部分内容在英语专业三年级学生中使用过，均取得了很好的教学效果。我们相信高校中担任英语报刊阅读课的教师在使用本书的时候会找到得心应手的感觉，使教学工作更轻松、更愉悦。我们也相信学生通过与教师、与教材的互动，提高英语报刊阅读能力也是水到渠成的事实。

借本书出版的机会，向一直关心我们、支持我们的领导、同事和家人表示衷心的感谢！若书中存在遗漏和不妥之处，敬请各位专家和读者不吝指教。

编者  
2008年7月

# Contents

|   |    |
|---|----|
| 前言 .....  | 1  |
| <b>PART ONE STRATEGIES FOR UNDERSTANDING NEWSPAPERS<br/>AND MAGAZINES</b> ..... | 1  |
| <b>Chapter One General Introduction to Newspapers</b> .....                     | 1  |
| I . Background Information: Newspapers in Britain and the US .....              | 1  |
| II . Organization of English Newspapers .....                                   | 3  |
| III . Byline and Dateline .....   | 3  |
| IV . Important Press of the US and Britain .....                                | 5  |
| V . 新闻文体简介 .....  | 6  |
| <b>Chapter Two The Headline</b> .....   | 7  |
| I . Functions of Headlines .....  | 7  |
| II . Features of Headlines .....  | 7  |
| III . Types of Headlines .....  | 10 |
| IV . 新闻写作知识(一) .....  | 12 |
| <b>Chapter Three The Lead</b> .....   | 18 |
| I . Finding the Subject and the Main Verb .....                                 | 19 |
| II . The Rest of Sentence .....   | 21 |
| III . Another Common Sentence Pattern .....                                     | 23 |
| IV . A Final Note About Leads .....   | 27 |
| V . 新闻写作知识(二) .....   | 28 |
| <b>Chapter Four The Content</b> .....   | 30 |
| I . How to Anticipate What a Story Contains .....                               | 30 |
| II . Recognizing Information Introduced Earlier in the Story .....              | 33 |
| III . How to Read the Typical News Story .....                                  | 34 |
| IV . Background and Interpretation .....  | 37 |
| V . 新闻写作知识(三) .....   | 41 |
| <b>Chapter Five The Context</b> .....   | 44 |

## 英语报刊选读

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| I . When Not to Use the Dictionary .....                                      | 44  |
| II . Guessing a Word's Meaning .....  | 46  |
| III . Looking for Explanations .....  | 48  |
| IV . Using the Second Chance .....  | 49  |
| V . 新闻写作知识(四) .....   | 52  |
| <b>Chapter Six Critical Reading</b> .....                                     | 57  |
| I . Judging the Reliability of the Source .....                               | 57  |
| II . 新闻写作知识(五) .....  | 62  |
| <b>Chapter Seven Features and Opinion Writing</b> .....                       | 65  |
| I . The Feature Story .....   | 65  |
| II . Editorials .....   | 68  |
| III . Reviews .....   | 71  |
| IV . Columns .....  | 76  |
| V . 新闻写作知识(六) .....   | 80  |
| <b>PART TWO SELECTED READINGS</b> .....                                       | 84  |
| <b>Reading One Leaders at UN Summit Pledge to Ease Food Crisis</b> .....      | 84  |
| 知识链接 .....  | 86  |
| 新闻写作知识(七) .....   | 88  |
| <b>Reading Two Families Will Make Case for Vaccine Link to Autism</b> .....   | 91  |
| 知识链接 .....  | 93  |
| 新闻写作知识(八) .....   | 95  |
| <b>Reading Three South Korean President Apologizes over Beef Uproar</b> ..... | 97  |
| 知识链接 .....  | 99  |
| <b>Reading Four Editorial</b> .....   | 101 |
| 知识链接 .....  | 102 |
| <b>Reading Five Reuse of Textbooks in Schools Good Scheme</b> .....           | 105 |
| 知识链接 .....  | 107 |
| <b>Reading Six How Global Warming Will Hurt Crops</b> .....                   | 109 |
| 知识链接 .....  | 112 |
| <b>Reading Seven Greater Wealth Does Not Generate More Happiness</b> .....    | 114 |
| 知识链接 .....  | 116 |
| <b>Reading Eight You Gotta Have Friends</b> .....                             | 120 |
| 知识链接 .....  | 124 |
| <b>Reading Nine The Clean Energy Scam(1)</b> .....                            | 126 |
| 知识链接 .....  | 129 |

---

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| <b>Reading Ten The Clean Energy Scam(2)</b> .....                | 132 |
| 知识链接 .....   | 136 |
| <b>Reading Eleven How to Survive a Disaster</b> .....            | 141 |
| 知识链接 .....   | 150 |
| <b>Reading Twelve Mandela: His 8 Lessons of Leadership</b> ..... | 157 |
| 知识链接 .....   | 165 |
| <b>Reading Thirteen Harry Potter 's Portrait Artist</b> .....    | 170 |
| 知识链接 .....   | 174 |
| <b>Reading Fourteen Holy War 101</b> .....                       | 176 |
| 知识链接 .....   | 182 |
| <b>References</b> .....  | 189 |
| <b>Credits</b> .....   | 190 |
| <b>Appendix 1</b> .....  | 191 |
| <b>Appendix 2</b> .....  | 196 |
| <b>Keys to Exercises</b> .....                                   | 197 |



# PART ONE STRATEGIES FOR UNDERSTANDING NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES

## Chapter One General Introduction to Newspapers

---

### I . Background Information: Newspapers in Britain and the US

#### 1. Newspapers in Britain<sup>1</sup>

##### \* National and Local Papers

In Britain there are 11 national daily newspapers and most people read one of them every day. There are two kinds of newspapers. One is large in size and has many detailed articles about national and international events. These newspapers are called serious papers or quality papers. The other kind, called the tabloids, is smaller in size, has more pictures, often in color, and shorter articles, often about less important events or about the private lives of well-known people. Although some people disapprove of the tabloids, more people buy them than buy the serious newspapers. *The Sun*, for example, which is a tabloid, is the biggest-selling newspaper in Britain. People who disapprove of the tabloids very often refer to them as the “Gutter Press”.

There are daily or weekly newspapers in all parts of Britain which cover local news as well as national and international stories. Local papers give information about films, concerts, and other things that are happening in the local neighborhood, including, for example, information about marriages, births, deaths, and arrests. National papers generally give information about film, concerts and other events happening in London. In Scotland, many people read *The Glasgow Herald* or *The Scotsman* and there are Scottish Editions of the tabloids.

There are also many free local newspapers which are delivered to people's homes whether they ask for them or not. These contain a lot of advertisements and also some news.

##### \* Politics

Most national newspapers in Britain express a political opinion and people choose the

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<sup>①</sup>Newspapers in Britain, <http://www.for68.com/new/2006/7/wu296123204176002662-0.htm>

newspaper that they read according to their own political beliefs. Most of the newspapers are right-wing. These are *The Daily Telegraph* (serious newspaper), *The Daily Express*, *Daily Mail*, *Daily Star*, *The Sun and Today* (all tabloids). Of the other serious newspapers, *The Times*, the oldest newspaper in Britain, did not formerly have one strong political view but it is now more right-wing. *The Guardian* is slightly left-wing. *The Independent* is center and *The Financial Times* is right-wing with political issues, but reports on business and financial news. *The Daily Mirror* (tabloid) is left-wing.

**\* Daily and Sunday Newspapers**

Daily newspapers are published on every day of the week except Sunday. Sunday newspapers are larger than daily newspapers, often having 2 or 3 sections. There is also a magazine, called the color supplement. All the Sunday newspapers are national serious newspapers including *The Observer* (which is slightly left-wing), *The Sunday Times*, *The Sunday Telegraph* and *The Independent on Sunday*, *The Sunday Mirror*, *The Sunday Express*, *The News of the World* and *The Sunday Sport* (which is considered to lack much serious information).

**2. Newspapers in the US<sup>1</sup>**

**\* National and Local Newspapers**

There are more than 1500 daily newspapers in the US. Each one is usually sold only in one part of the country, e. g. in a city, but they cover national and international news. In larger cities there is often more than one newspaper and different ones express different political opinions. Some newspapers are sold in nearly all parts of the US, i.e. *USA Today* and *The National Edition of The New York Times*. Two other newspapers, *The Los Angeles Times* and *The Washington Post* are known and respected all over the US but cannot be bought everywhere. Other important newspapers are: *The Boston Globe*, sold in New England, *The Chicago Tribune*, sold in the Midwest, *The Christian Science Monitor* and *USA Today*, both sold nationally, and *The Washington Post* on the East Coast.

There are also weekly newspapers in all parts of the US which cover local news, such as what is happening in the local neighborhood. Fewer people read these than read the daily newspapers.

**\* Daily and Sunday Newspapers**

Daily newspapers are published on every day of the week except Sunday. Sunday newspapers are very big, often having several separate sections. They contain many longer articles and a lot of advertisements. Each section deals with a different subject, e. g. national and international news, sports, travel, lifestyle, etc. One section, the classified has advertisements for jobs and things for sale. Another section is called the comic section, which

---

<sup>①</sup>Adapted from <http://www.en8848.com.cn/yingyu/95/n-85895.html>

contains various cartoons. Often there is also a magazine which is in color.

**\* Alternative Newspapers**

In the 1960s a group of newspapers began to appear that were later called in "alternative press". They expressed extreme political opinions, especially left-wing opinions. Many of the newspapers which were part of this movement, such as *The Village Voice* in New York or *The Reader* in Chicago, are less extreme today and more widely read.

## **II. Organization of English Newspapers**

1. news stories
2. feature stories
3. business section
  - news stories
  - feature stories
  - the stock market report
  - exchange rates for foreign currency
4. sports section
  - news stories
  - feature stories
5. columns
6. editorials
7. letters to the editor
8. reviews
9. schedules
10. cultural events
11. others
  - comics
  - classified advertisements
  - weather reports

## **III. Byline and Dateline**

### **1. Byline**

The byline in a newspaper or magazine article gives the name, and often the position, of the writer of the article. Bylines are traditionally placed between the headline and the text of the article, although some magazines (notably *Reader's Digest*) place bylines at the bottom of the page, to leave more room for graphical elements around the headline.

### **2. Dateline**

The dateline contains three important bits of information. First, where the story was

## 英语报刊选读

written will be given in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS. This is important because it will let you know whether the reporter is actually on the spot of the news story or in an office in another city. The next piece of information is the date of the story. Finally newspapers not only carry stories sent by their correspondents or reporters, but also news dispatches provided by different news agencies, especially for those local or district newspapers. Therefore, news dispatches are the major news source for most of the newspapers. This will be indicated by the agency name/abbreviation in parentheses.

Major news agencies in the world are:

|                  |                            |            |
|------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| <b>AP</b>        | Associated Press           | 美联社        |
| <b>AFP</b>       | L'Agence France Press      | 法新社        |
| <b>ANSA</b>      |                            | 意大利的安莎社    |
| <b>BUP</b>       | British United Press, Ltd  | 英国合众社      |
| <b>DPA</b>       |                            | 德新社        |
| <b>EFE</b>       |                            | 西班牙埃菲社     |
| <b>IRN</b>       | Independent Radio News     | 独立广播新闻社(英) |
| <b>Itar-Tass</b> |                            | 俄通社/塔斯社    |
| <b>Kyodo</b>     |                            | 日本共同社      |
| <b>PA</b>        | Press Association Ltd      | 英国报纸联合社    |
| <b>Reuters</b>   | Reuter's News Agency       | 路透社(英)     |
| <b>TANA</b>      | Trans-Asia News Agency     | 全亚通讯社(美)   |
| <b>UPI</b>       | United Press International | 合众国际社(美)   |
| <b>Xinhua</b>    | Xinhua News Agency         | 新华社        |

Examples:

BAGHDAD, Nov.26 (Reuters) — Iraq's health minister described here today the West's refusal to unfreeze Iraqi assets to allow Baghdad to buy life-saving drugs as "the crime of the century".

LONDON, Nov.22 (UPI) — A dull, unassuming stamp with a smudgy post-mark fetched a record of 33, 000 pounds sterling (\$59, 000) for a 20th century British stamp at a London auction today, Sotheby's Auction said here.

### EXERCISE 1. 1

Why are bylines and datelines important parts of a news article?

#### IV. Important Press of the US and Britain

##### Top 10 daily newspapers in the US, 2007 (Circulation)<sup>1</sup>

1. USA Today 《今日美国报》252万份
2. Wall Street Journal 《华尔街日报》206万份
3. New York Times 《纽约时报》162万份
4. Los Angeles Times 《洛杉矶时报》117万份
5. Chicago Tribune 《芝加哥论坛报》94万份
6. Washington Post 《华盛顿邮报》92.9万份
7. New York Daily News 《纽约每日新闻》77.5万份
8. New York Post 《纽约邮报》74.1万份
9. Denver Post 《丹佛邮报》70.4万份
10. Dallas Morning News 《达拉斯时报》70.2万份

##### 10 important & bestselling US magazines

1. Reader's Digest 《读者文摘》
2. National Geographic 《国家地理杂志》
3. Family Circle 《家族月刊》
4. Time 《时代周刊》
5. People Weekly 《人民周刊》
6. Newsweek 《新闻周刊》
7. American Legion 《美国军团》
8. U. S. News & World Report 《美国新闻和世界报道》
9. Smithsonian 《史密斯森学会杂志》
10. Star 《明星》

In addition, *Fortune* 《财富》, *Business week* 《商业周刊》 and *Far Eastern Economic Review* 《远东经济评论》 are three other significant magazines.

##### Top 10 daily newspapers in Britain in recent years (quality & circulation)

1. Financial Times 《金融时报》
2. Daily Telegraph 《每日电讯报》
3. The Guardian 《卫报》
4. Independent 《独立报》
5. Times 《泰晤士报》
6. Daily Express 《每日快报》

<sup>①</sup>[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_newspapers\\_in\\_the\\_United\\_States\\_by\\_circulation](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_newspapers_in_the_United_States_by_circulation)

7. Daily Mail 《每日邮报》
8. Daily Star 《每日明星报》
9. Morning Star 《晨星报》
10. Sun 《太阳报》

### 10 important & bestselling British magazines, 2006

1. Weekly News 《每周新闻》
2. New Statesman and Society 《新政治家和社会》
3. Spectator 《旁观者》
4. Tribune 《论坛》
5. New Scientist 《新科学家》
6. Listener 《听众》
7. Punch 《笨拙》周刊
8. Economist 《经济学家》
9. Finance 《金融》周刊
10. Private Eye 《私探》双周刊

## V. 新闻文体简介

### 英语新闻文体

英语新闻文体一般分为三个梯级: 第一梯级称为新闻报道 (straight news report) 或硬新闻 (hard news), 包括简讯和电讯稿等, 其纪实性最强; 第二梯级称为软新闻 (soft news), 主要包括一些带讽刺性或艺术性的杂文、小品等, 其纪实性最弱, 而娱乐性最强; 第三梯级称为中间新闻, 兼有纪实性和娱乐性的特点。英美报刊中把中间梯级的各式文章称为“特写”(feature articles / features)。“特写”的形式繁多, 一般有新闻专题报道 (news stories)、采访 (interviews)、人物介绍 (personal profiles)、每周专文 (weekly essays)、新闻述评 (news reviews) 和杂议 (opinion pieces) 等。目前英美报刊的特写就其题材范围而言常常是融新闻、科技、文化、生活、知识等于一体, 讲求既有消息性又有娱乐性。

## Chapter Two The Headline

Newspaper headlines, which are like article titles, have a language of their own. They contain the gist of the article. It is necessary to learn about them if you want to really understand an English language newspaper.

### I . Functions of Headlines

A newspaper usually has dozens of pages. It is unimaginable that a common reader should read the newspaper word by word from the very beginning to the end. Readers read the paper to their taste. Thus, headlines are a “guide” for them, because headlines give the essence of the news.

Headlines help to clarify news articles in the paper to make the pages more readable.

### II . Features of Headlines

Please read the following headlines:

Moscow Official Wounded by Gunmen

Earthquake Rocks Turkey

Husband to Sue Wife

Boy on Cliff Rescued

Young Sudanese Refugees Endured Famine, separations from Family

From the above we can see two prominent features of English newspaper headlines:

a. *Headlines always contain verbs and are almost always in the present tense and even the future events are put in the present tense.*

b. *Headlines generally omit unnecessary words, especially “articles” and the verb “to be”. The word “and” is often replaced by a comma.*

#### 1. Grammatical Features of Headlines

(1) Omission

Omission of grammatical words or functional words, such as articles, conjunction of “and”, link verb of “to be”, etc.

e. g. a. **Top Indian Hotel Angry at BBC** (=A top Indian hotel is angry at the BBC. )

b. **NBC's President Seeks Big Acquisitions, Ventures for Network** (=The NBC's president seeks big acquisitions and ventures for the network. )

c. **Mother, Daughter Share Fulbright Year** (=A mother and her daughter share a Fulbright Year. )

d. **Three Dead after Inhaling Oven Gas** (=Three people were dead after inhaling oven gas)

e. **Financier Killed by Burglars**(=A banker was killed by burglars)

f. **Move to Ban Tobacco Advertising** (=A move has been taken to abolish tobacco advertising)

(2) Tenses

The frequent tenses used in the headline are the simple present, the simple future and the present progressive, whether it is of the past event, in order to add to its freshness and immediacy.

e. g. a. **Longevity Star Dies at 110**

b. **Largest Chinese Trade Delegation to Visit US in Nov.**

c. **Deposits, Loans Rising in HK**

d. **Sun Faces Charge Over "Racist" Cartoon**

(3) Voices

Passive voice in the headline is often represented without the auxiliary verb "be" or "by" phrase. Only the bare past participle will do.

e. g. a. **Two Workmen Injured in Electrical Accident**

b. **War Games Planned**

(4) Punctuation

a. **The comma often functions as the conjunction "and".**

e. g. **China, Japan Seek More Ways**

b. **The dash often functions as quotes, introducing the speaker or the source.**

e. g. **Economy Grows Slowly as Unemployment, Inflation Rise — Economists**

c. **The colon often functions as "saying" or the conjunction of link verb "be".**

e. g. (a) **Bush: US Vows to Combat Terrorists**

(b) **Chinese Acrobats: Masters of Stunts**

## 2. **Wording Features of the Headlines**

(1) **Short and simple, but not lengthy**

Short, simple and concrete words are often used in the headlines to create vividness and accuracy.

e. g. **US Refuses to Back Environment Fund**

**Europe Hold Talks to End Tension in Yugoslavia**

**World Eyes Mid-East Peace Talk**

**Allowance to Be Cut in 200, 000 Families**

(2) **Initials or Acronyms**

a. **For Organizations and Proper Names:**

EEC=European Economic Community



CPPCC=Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference

IMF = International Monetary Fund

UNESCO=United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization

b. For educational topics:

MBA = Master of Business Administration 工商管理硕士

GRE = Graduate Record Examinations 美国研究生入学考试资格考试

TOFEL=Test of English as a Foreign Language 托福考试

GMAT = Graduate Management Admissions Test 国外工商管理硕士

IELTS = International English Language Testing System 雅思考试

SAT = Scholastic Aptitude Test 美国学习能力倾向测试

c. For professions:

PM = Prime Minister

VIP = Very Important Person

*Notes:* Initials in the headlines may not be familiar to the readers. However, the complete forms of the initials can usually be found in the lead or understood through the context. For example,

**US Refuses ME Talks Date Change**

WASHINGTON — The US administration on Thursday turned down Arab requests for setting a new starting time for the Middle East peace talks.

**Alumnus Donates \$ 1 Million to SMU**

A Chinese-American doctor donated \$ 1 million to Shanghai Medical University as a special gift to mark the 60th anniversary of the founding of his Alma Mater.

(3) Shortened Words or Abbreviations

Some commonly used nouns and adjectives are often shortened by clipping to save letters in the headlines, which could be easily detected through the context.

e. g. **overseas co-ops = overseas co-operations**

**hi-tech research = high technology research**

**grad = graduate**

**hosp = hospital**

**bn = billion**

**pc = percent**

**cig = cigarette**

(4) Journalistic Coinages

Journalistic coinages are often made up of a phrase by saving some syllables in order to make a compound.

e. g. **abomb = atom bomb**

**blacketeer = black marketer**