

The background of the cover is a photograph of the Statue of Liberty, showing her head, crown, and the torch she holds in her right hand. The statue is green and set against a light blue sky.

VOA

Special English

美国英语听力 80 篇

庄玲 编



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上海外语教育出版社

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前 言

根据高等学校外语专业教学指导委员会所编制的最新教学大纲,大学英语专业一年级学生和大学非英语专业学生必须把听懂VOA作为一项基本听力要求。具体要求是:听懂VOA慢速新闻广播和文化节目,抓住主要内容,能在15分钟内听写根据已学知识编写而成或选用的录音材料(词数150个左右,念四遍,语速为每分钟100个单词,错误率不超过10%)。

本书听力材料为标准美国英语,语音标准、清晰、优美,速度适中,而且不带任何美国地方口音,所以它既是上乘的听力材料,又是喜爱美语口音者的最佳模仿材料。

本书包含八个栏目,分别是:“美国百图”(American Mosaic),这是一个内容比较丰富的栏目,包括美国经济、社会、文化及美国人熟知的成语故事、历史故事、人文景观等等,语汇丰富;“社会发展”(Development Report),报道美国及世界各国在科学、人文、经济、产业等各个方面取得的进步,报道人们正在形成的最新观念;“环境保护”(Environment Report),这是当今的热门话题,也是各国科学家的科研重点,涵盖TOEFL、GRE、中国的大学四、六级英语考试的词汇,对学生扩大词汇以及增强对这些词汇的听力理解、语篇理解有很大帮助;“异域探索”(Exploration),讲述一些尖端领域的新发现,例如医学、生物学、天文学等新发现,拓宽人们的视野,使人们重新认识世界;“风云人物”(People in America),讲述美国现代和历史上为国家作出独特贡献的人物故事,使您对这些人物有感性的了解;“科学报道”(Science Report),报道科技领域新成果,一些词典上还未出现的新词会在这里出现;“世界报道”(World Report),这些新闻特写报道世界各地的发展进步,也曝光世界的黑暗面,涉及生活、文化方面的词汇较多;“美国

历史”(American History),以浅显、生动的语言,讲述发生在美国历史上的重大事件,听来如闻其声,如见其人,帮助您了解美国的过去。

本书根据材料编出数种题型,有选择题、填充题、简答题、是非判断题、表格填充题等等,各种题型都是针对初级听力中的难点设计的,如数字、常见地名、人名理解等。本书针对听力要素,即“**What, Who, Why, How, Where, When**”,培养系统科学的听力理解习惯,有助于听者达到中级听力程度。中学高年级、大学低年级学生可以把它当作听力辅助教材。本书也适用于自学听力人士。

作为同等难度的听力材料,本书无听力难易之差,各篇之间的差别在于篇幅略有不同,词汇涉及面各有偏重。本书帮助您尽快听懂美国之音的特别英语节目,它的词汇全部在这个节目的词汇范围中。

全书分为文字部分和录音部分。文字部分就在本书中,书的前半部分是生词和练习题,后半部分是录音的文字材料和练习答案。您在使用中可先熟悉词汇,再根据词汇猜测将会听到的内容,然后听录音。各人的学习方法不同,最普遍的做法是听一遍,然后做习题;再听一遍,修正补充已做的习题,至多听两至三遍,做完全部习题,个别填充题可以反复听。本书配有录音磁带,预计听完全书需半个学期。

在本书的编辑和录音带的制作过程中,编者得到了苏州大学外国语学院电教室主任、高级工程师石以人老师在网络和软件等技术方面给予的大力支持,在此表示衷心的感谢。

编者

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1. American Mosaic

- 1) Leap Year
- 2) Erin Brockovich
- 3) Computer Virus
- 4) Memorial Day (A)
- 5) Memorial Day (B)
- 6) National Guard
- 7) Parachuting (A)
- 8) Parachuting (B)
- 9) Senate
- 10) Winterthur
- 11) Easter Holiday (A)
- 12) Easter Holiday (B)

1) Leap Year

Vocabulary:

leap year
calendar / 'kæləndə(r) / n.

闰年
年历

priest / pri:st / n.	祭司
exception / ɪk'sepʃən / n.	例外
pope / pəʊp / n.	主教
Julian / 'dʒu:ljən /	(人名)
Julius Caesar / 'dʒu:ljəs 'si:zə /	恺撒(古罗马统帅)
Gregory / 'ɡregəri /	(人名)
Easter / 'i:stə(r) /	复活节

Exercises:

I. Tell if the following statements are true or false. Write "T" for "true" and "F" for "false":

1. (F) The last day of the past February was twenty-eighth.
2. (F) "Leap Day" is added to some years to make the year of 365 days.
3. (T) Julia Caesar was the first man to develop a solar calendar.
4. (F) There is one leap day every ³ four hundred years.
5. (F) Julia Caesar made a great mistake while writing the calendar.
6. (T) Gregorian Calendar was invented by a Pope.
7. (F) Today we are using Julian calendar.

II. Fill in the blanks with the missing words you hear on the tape:

Pope Gregorian calendar continued to have leap days every 4 years, with an exception. Years ending in 00 were leap years only if they could be divided by 400. So this year is a leap year, but 1900 was not. Feb 21, 2000 will be the first leap day in a century year since

the year 1600. The next leap day to fall at the beginning of a century will be Feb 29, 2400.

2) Erin Brockovich

Vocabulary:

accuse	/ə'kjuz/	v.	指控
chromium	/'krəʊmjəm/	n.	铬
uterine	/'ju:təraɪn/	a.	子宫的
asthma	/'æzmə/	n.	哮喘
hexavalent	/,heksə'veɪlənt/	a.	六价的
microgram	/'maɪkrəʊgræm/	n.	毫克
Erin Brockovich	/'erɪn 'brɒkəvɪtʃ/		(人名)
Shep O'Neal	/'ʃep əʊ'ni:l/		(人名)
Hinckley	/'hɪŋkli/		(地名)
Hodgkin's Disease			(病名)

Exercises:

Choose the best answer to complete each of the following statements:

1. There was a movie _____.
C a) telling a story about Erin Brockovich who won a prize
b) winning the highest box office so far in the United States
c) telling a story about a woman who helped people with gaining money from an energy company
d) telling about people in a town accusing a company of violating the smuggling law
2. The company's name was _____.
A

- a) Pacific Gas and Electric b) Chromium VI
- c) Hinckley d) Shep O'Neal

3. The chromium victims suffered from many diseases, except _____.

- a) breast cancer b) uterine cancer
- c) Hodgkin's Disease d) diabetes

4. The energy company paid \$ _____.

- a) 300,000 b) 300,000,000
- c) 303,000 d) 303,000,000

5. Scientists thought that _____.

- a) it was impossible that hexavalent chromium leak caused people's diseases of all kinds
- b) it was possible that hexavalent chromium leak caused people's diseases
- c) hexavalent chromium was responsible for asthma
- d) hexavalent chromium in groundwater causes many health problems

6. Officials at the United States Environmental Protection Agency do not permit chromium six to be present in amounts larger than _____ micrograms.

- a) 100 b) 200 c) 300 d) 400

7. Studies show no evidence that chromium six brings damage to _____.

- a) liver b) muscles c) kidneys d) nerves

3) Computer Virus

Vocabulary:

virus / 'vaɪrəs / n.

病毒

the Philippines /'fɪlɪpiːnz /

菲律宾

Exercises:

I. Choose the best answer to complete each of the following statements:

A There is a computer virus that is called "_____".

- a) I Love You
- b) May Fourth
- c) Memory
- d) the Philippines

B The virus caused as much as \$ _____ in destroyed information and lost computer work time.

- a) 10,000,000
- b) 10,000,000,000
- c) 100,000,000
- d) 1,000

3. Experts hold that _____.

- a) this virus inventor may live in the United States
- b) there are no laws against computer virus making in the Philippines
- c) there are laws against computer virus making in the Philippines
- d) as many as 50,000 computers have been attacked by the virus

II. The following phrases show how the computer virus worked, put them in the right order:

- 1. mailing copies of itself ①
- 2. destroying electronic pictures ③
- 3. finding the address book ②
- 4. searching and stealing secret words ④

4) Memorial Day (A)

Vocabulary:

taps /tæps / n.

丧葬号音

funeral /'fju:nərəl / n.	葬礼
cemetery /'semɪtəri / n.	墓地
burial place /'berɪəl 'pleɪs / n.	墓穴
observance /əb'zɜ:vəns / n.	仪式
rolling /'rəʊlɪŋ / a.	起伏的
grave /greɪv / n.	墓地
cabinet /'kæbɪnɪt / n.	内阁
supreme court n.	高等法院
monument /'mɒnjumənt / n.	纪念碑
Memorial Day	阵亡将士纪念日
Decoration Day	纪念日
Arlington /'ɑ:lɪŋtən /	阿灵顿(美国城市)
Virginia /və'dʒɪniə /	弗吉尼亚州
Potomac River	(美国东部河流)
William Howard Taft /'wɪliəm 'hauəd 'tæft /	塔夫脱(美国前总统)
John Kennedy /'dʒɒn 'kenɪdi /	肯尼迪(美国前总统)
Vietnam Veteran /,viət'næm 'vetərən /	越战退伍军人
Jan Scruggs /'dʒæn 'skrʌgz /	(人名)
Maya Lin /'maɪjə 'lɪn /	(人名)
Yale University /'jeɪl juːni'vɜ:səti /	耶鲁大学

Exercises:

I. Multiple choice:

1. The beginning music was called "_____".
a) taps b) caps c) maps d) maps
2. The music is to honor _____.
a) dead people b) wars

- c) dead presidents
- d) military soldiers and people who died in wars

3 The Memorial Day holiday started in _____.
 a) 1866 b) 1868 c) 1688 d) 1686

4 The first yearly observance of Memorial Day was at the
 National Cemetery in the State of _____.

- a) Vermont b) Virginia
- c) Washington d) Connecticut

5 Two American presidents are buried at Arlington National
 Cemetery. They are _____.

- a) Lincoln and Washington b) Franklin and Roosevelt
- c) Kennedy and Taft d) Jefferson and Truman

6 The Vietnam Veterans Memorial was the idea of _____.

- a) Jan Scruggs b) Maya Lin
- c) a group of former soldiers d) some art judges

II. Fill in the gaps according to what you've heard:

1. The purpose of the Memorial Day was to honor soldiers killed during Civil War.
2. Today, Memorial Day honors the men and women who served in American military.
3. Back then, the holiday was called Decoration Day because people died in the war.
4. Around the National Cemetery, the scenery is beautiful, the landscapes include _____, _____ and the graves are lined with _____.

5) Memorial Day (B)

Vocabulary:

statue / 'stætju: / n.

holy / 'həʊli / a.

塑像

神圣的

congress / 'kɒŋɡres / n.	国会
a series of	一系列的
support troop	后勤部队
<u>remembrance</u> / rɪ'membərəns / n.	纪念
captured / 'kæptʃə(r)d / a.	被俘的
legislation / ,ledʒɪs'leɪʃən / n.	立法
<u>fountain</u> / 'faʊntən / n.	喷泉
individual / ,ɪndɪ'vɪdʒʊəl / n.	个人
<u>glass panel</u>	玻璃板
Frank Gaylord / 'frænk 'geɪlərd /	(人名)
Ronald Reagan / 'rɒnəld 'reɪɡən /	罗纳德·里根(美国前总统)
Wilma Vaught / 'wɪlmə 'vɔ:t /	(人名)
Michael Manfredi / 'maɪkəl 'mænfredɪ /	(人名)
Marion Gail Weiss / 'mærɪən 'geɪl 'waɪs /	(人名)

Exercises:

Multiple choice:

- BA The two black stone walls form a wide letter "_____".
 a) B b) V c) T d) E
- C 2. On the stone walls, _____ names are cut into them.
 a) 54, 220 b) 5,800,020,020
 c) 58,220 d) 58,002
- C 3. About _____ people visit the Memorial every year.
 a) 1,000,000 b) 500,000
 c) 1,500,000 d) 15,000
- D 4. The Korean War happened between _____ and _____.
 a) 1945...1995 b) 1955...1958