

小书点英语 简易英汉对照读物

触摸英语 感觉原著

LEARN ENGLISH

BY READING ORIGINAL WORKS

LIFE AND KNOWLEDGE

生活新知
(科普知识)

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熊德锐 / 审定



Many a little make a mickie.

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内容提要

您是否经常为缺少一些生活常识而苦恼？您了解自己的身体吗？你知道如何应对逆境吗？您知道哪些是抗癌食物吗？你认为机器人可能成为一个种族吗？

这里我们将这些问题一一揭秘，并为您提供实用的生活新知。我们会对您作全方位的观照：从您生活的环境到您的身体以致于您的精神，会告诉您光与健康，教您如何家庭购物，让您合理安排生活，每天额外多得一小时。我们会关注最前沿的科技情报，让您徜徉于科学的世界里，看伊妹儿传情花开正艳。

本书实惠方便，不但能让人全面掌握与生活息息相关的英语表达，同时还让学会健康、快乐的生活，与周围的环境、物种和谐相处，关心您所关心的，知道您想知道的，这就是我们最大的快乐。

前 言

学习英语,尤其是学好英语不存在速成的捷径,只有勤奋刻苦,循序渐进,日积月累,博览精思,大胆实践,打下坚实的语言、知识基础才可能达到英语学习的理想境界。正所谓“锲而不舍,金石可镂;驽马十驾,功在不舍。”

众多成功者的实践和经验证明:初、中级的广大英语学习者,尤其是中、小学生甚或大学生在打基础的阶段,应该听、说、读、写齐头并进,小学生可侧重听、说,扎扎实实打好基础。读书,读书,最重要的还是读书。学习英语,使用英语的整个过程就是一个不断接触、认真模仿和反复练习的过程,业精于勤,功成于练,而首先是阅读实践(应包括朗读、默读、精读和泛读)。无论古今中外,阅读都是培养语感,养成用英语思维,用英语流畅表达思想的最有效的途径之一。阅读的过程就是记忆单词、扩大词汇量和学习词汇用法的过程。大量阅读也是有效促进和提高其他各项听、说、写、译技能的好方法,而简易读物尤其是英汉对照简易读物对提高阅读理解能力、打好语言基础、全面提高综合运用能力极为有效。为此我们推出了《小书虫简易英汉对照读物》系列丛书。本丛书是为中学生、大学生和广大初、中级英语爱好者、自学者精心策划的一套英文原版课外读物。

本丛书编排形式活泼新颖,文章短小精悍,图文并茂,英汉对照,既方便阅读又宜于携带。

本丛书选材广泛,纵横古今中外,品类齐全,丰富多彩,包罗世界文学名著、优美动人的童话、广为流传的名人轶事和人们所喜闻乐见的影视文(章)网(络)的精彩片段。坚持阅读既可开阔视野、陶冶心灵又可激励人生、奋勇向前。

本丛书的实用性极强,通过阅读增加词汇量,提高阅读理解能力,最重要的是可以受到纯正地道英语情境的熏陶,从而增强语感。

最后,在本丛书的成书过程中,许多中、外朋友都付出了大量的时间和辛勤的劳动。我们在此向他们表示由衷的感谢。

本丛书由司树森教授担任主编,熊德貌教授审订。

尽管我们在尽最大努力做好每一件事,但是不妥之处或错误仍在所难免。敬请广大读者不吝指教,以便修正。

司树森

2006年5月

Learn English By Reading Original Works

触摸英语·感觉原著

Life and Knowledge

生活新知

(科普知识)

主 编 司树森

副主编 刘靖新

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The Questions of Environment

What does an environment contain?

An environment contains the plants and animals in a habitat^① and the physical conditions in the habitat.

How do the changing seasons affect where you find living things?

The changing seasons may provide rain, cold and snow, and great heat. Each of these nonliving^② factors controls the living organisms.

Why do only a few kinds of plants and animals live in the Antarctic?

In the Antarctic^③, the very cold and the lack of available water and nutrients^④ make it difficult for most organisms to survive.

What would happen to people (animals) if all of the plant life of the environment was nearly wiped out?

If all the plant life were nearly wiped out, we would no longer have the fundamental^⑤ producers' goods, but equally important we would no longer have the necessary oxygen. Only green plants can release oxygen into the air as a by-product^⑥ of their food manufacturing^⑦.

How do people change the populations of plants and animals?

People change the populations of plants and animals





环境知识问答



环境包括哪些内容?

环境包括当地的植物和动物及当地的自然条件。

你发现季节变换对生活有怎样的影响?

季节的变换可以带来雨、雪、寒冷和酷热。每一种无生命的因素控制着有生命的生物。

为什么只有极少数的植物和动物生活在南极?

在南极, 极其寒冷和缺少可饮用的水及营养, 使得大多数生物在那里生存十分困难。

如果所有的植物接近灭绝, 对人和动物来说会发生什么?

如果所有的植物接近毁灭, 我们不久将没有了基本的生产资料, 同样重要的是我们将失去必需的氧气。只有绿色植物能释放出氧气到空气中, 这是它们食物加工的副产品。

人类是怎样改变植物和动物的数量的?

人类改变植物和动物的数量的方

New Words

- ①habitat ['hæbitæt] *n.* 居留地, 生存条件
- ②nonliving ['non-'living] *adj.* 无生命的
- ③Antarctic [ænt'ɑ:ktik] *n.* 南极
- ④nutrient ['nju:triant] *n.* 营养
- ⑤fundamental [ˌfʌndə'mentəl] *adj.* 基本的
- ⑥by-product ['baɪ,prɒdʌkt] *n.* 副产品
- ⑦manufacture [ˌmænju'fæktʃə] *v.* 制造



by destroying their habitats, limiting the numbers of these organisms or actually destroying the organisms^① in some areas by poisoning or shooting.

Why have people removed plant and animal habitats?

Plant and animal habitats have been removed for a number of reasons. More roads, garbage dump sites, parking lots, and airports are the principal^② reasons. But subdivisions^③ for homes being built seldom take into the planning the natural lay of the land to permit more of the native animals to remain in the area.

What would you suggest people might do in order to improve the environment of all living things in the city? How can we rebuild and enlarge suitable animal habitats?

Improvement of open areas to provide food, water, and shelter for wildlife is most important. Different species^④ have different requirements. Woodpeckers, for instance, need dead trees for food and nesting sites.

What happens if all the garbage in the city is not picked up and carried away for a whole week?

When garbage is not picked up for a week in any city, it piles up on streets and alleyways^⑤. This invites rats, flies, and other vermin to move in. Flies and other insects may transport diseases and the garbage becomes a source of possible disease that can attack man.

What will happen if people continue to destroy and take



式包括有:毁坏它们的生存条件,限制它们的活动,或者在一些地方投毒或猎杀来破坏它们的生长。

为什么人要改变植物和动物的生存条件?

植物和动物的生存条件被改变有以下一些原因:路、垃圾堆放处、停车场和机场是主要原因。但是极少数按照自然地形建成的居民区可使更多的本地动物仍能在一定的区域内生存下来。

为了改善城市生活环境,你觉得人们能做些什么?人们怎么能重建和扩建舒适的动物生存条件?

改善开放环境,准备食物、水,给野生动物一个居所是十分重要的。不同物种有不同的需要物:例如啄木鸟,需要死树提供食物和窝。

如果城市垃圾一个星期没有清理和运走,会发生什么?

当一些城市一星期没有清理垃圾,垃圾将堆在大街小巷。这将使老鼠、苍蝇及其他害虫乘虚而入。苍蝇和一些昆虫能传播疾病,垃圾成了危害人身的疾病的来源。

如果人类继续肆意地破坏和干涉

New Words

①organism [ˈɔ:ɡənizəm] n. 生物体

②principal [ˈprɪnsɪpəl] adj. 主要的

③subdivision [ˌsʌbdɪˈvɪʒən] n. 小块土地

④species [ˈspi:ʃi:z] n. 种类

⑤alleyway [ˈæliwei] n. 小巷





over animal and plant habitats for their own purposes?

If people continue to take over and destroy plant and animal habitats, we will eliminate^① more species from the face of the earth. If we study the natural organisms, we can appreciate^② the many years of struggle for survival that must have taken place to enable the animal or plant to maintain^③ its place in nature.

Is natural selection occurring today?

Natural selection is occurring all of the time.

How do scientists know that climates have changed?

What are some plants that indicate a tropical^④ climate?

Finding fossils^⑤ of tropical forms in parts of the country that are no longer tropical gives scientists the evidence that the climate has changed during the last thousands of years.

Tree fern fossils, species similar to those now growing in tropical areas, show that the climate must have been tropical in these regions in the early prehistoric^⑥ days.

How do drastic^⑦ environmental changes affect plants and animals?

Drastic environmental changes may kill off many species of plants and animals. Some forms may migrate^⑧ or be carried by water and wind to more suitable environments, a very few may have some characteristics that enable them to survive in the new environment.

Why are deserts often located on the eastern side of mountain ranges?





动物和植物的生存条件会怎样?

如果人类继续破坏和干涉动物和植物的生存条件,人类将使地球表面的许多物种灭绝。如果我们研究自然生物,我们就能认识到,为了适应长期的生存竞争,就必须创造一个适合动植物生长的自然环境。

现在还有自然选择吗?

自然选择存在于任何时候。

科学家怎样知道气候的变化的?

哪些树能显示出热带气候?

在一些国家发现热带化石,这些证据告诉科学家们,在过去的千百年中,这里的气候是变化了的。

科学家熟知沙椶现在是生长在热带地区的,发现的沙椶化石证明,在史前这些地区的气候一定是热带。

环境的强烈改变会怎样影响植物和动物?

强烈的环境改变可能使许多种植物和动物灭绝。另有一些种类可能迁徙或移到水和空气相对适应的环境去,大部分可能具备了适应新的环境而生存下来的特性。

为什么沙漠常常位于山脉的东面?

New Words

- ①eliminate [i'limineit] v. 除去
- ②appreciate [ə'pri:fiit] v. 领会
- ③maintain [mei'tein] v. 保持
- ④tropical ['tropikəl] adj. 热带的
- ⑤fossil ['fɒsəl] n. 化石
- ⑥prehistoric [pri:hi'storik] adj. 史前的
- ⑦drastic ['dræstik] adj. 强烈的
- ⑧migrate [mai'greit] v. 迁徙



As masses of air descend^① from mountain heights, they increase in density^②, in heat, and in capacity^③ to hold water. This would evaporate most of the available water from the land, making the area desert-like. Since the prevailing^④ winds are westerly, this phenomenon occurs mostly on the eastern side of mountain ranges.

How does dumping of waste oil at sea change the ocean environment? How does it affect sea birds?

Waste oil dump at sea may kill the microscopic organisms the first level of all food chains, as well as larger plants along shore and many of the animals. The larger forms get coated with the oil which prohibits^⑤ them from keeping warm or flying and most of the organisms die.

What effects do DDT and other insect-killing chemicals have on animals at the end of food chains, such as bird-eating birds and fish-eating birds?

In some carnivorous^⑥ birds the cumulative effect of insecticides (thought to be DDT, largely) causes them to lay soft-shelled eggs. This makes it impossible to incubate the eggs so the young never hatch.

What adaptations do cockroaches^⑦ have that enable them to live so successfully in man-made buildings? In what other places do they live?

Cockroaches like damp, dark places and eat most kinds of foods. Man-made buildings provide a perfect habitat for these animals. Some species of cockroaches also live





由于大团的空气从山的高处下降,密度不断增加,温度也不断升高和不断吸收水份。这会使地表水被蒸发掉,将这一地域变得像沙漠似的。当吹的是西风时,这种现象大多发生在山脉的东面。

海中的废油垃圾是如何改变海洋环境的?又是怎样影响海鸟的?

海中的废油垃圾可以杀死微生物——所有食物链的第一级,以及靠海岸的大量植物和许多种动物。这些生物的表面被罩上废油,使得它们不能保暖和飞翔,以至于大多数生物死掉了。

DDT 及其他的杀虫化学药品对动物的食物链有什么影响,例如食鸟的鸟和食鱼的鸟?

一些食肉鸟类由于身体里杀虫剂(大多数情况下是 DDT)的累积,所以它们下的是软壳蛋,这就可能造成孵的蛋因为太嫩而永远孵不出。

什么样的适应力使蟑螂能在人们的居所中那么愉快地生活?它们还生活在何处?

蟑螂喜欢黑暗潮湿的地方,吃很多种食物。人们的居所给这些动物提供了非常好的生活条件。一些种类的

New Words

- ①descend [di'send] v. 下降
- ②density ['densəti] n. 密度
- ③capacity [kə'pæsəti] n. 容量
- ④prevailing [pri'veiliŋ] adj. 普遍的
- ⑤prohibit [prə'hibit] v. 使……不可能
- ⑥carnivorous [kɑ:'nivərəs] adj. 食肉(动物)的
- ⑦cockroach ['kɒkrəʊtʃ] n. 蟑螂





under logs and in leaf mold.

If we continue to burn more and more fuels like coal and petroleum^① and thus produce more and more carbon dioxide, how might this affect the atmosphere and weather around the world?

The increase in carbon dioxide^② could be considered a factor that would increase the amount of green plant food since green plants take in carbon dioxide. Unfortunately, we are also increasing pollutants that are killing the plants so that they cannot increase to any great degree. If we decrease the green plants, we also decrease the quantity of oxygen. The respiratory^③ cycles in plant and animal life influence the water, nitrogen, and oxygen. Changes in these basic cycles also change the weather.

Our mineral supply is limited. We cannot grow or build minerals. If we run out of the minerals that are used to make automobiles in 25 years, what might we use for transportation? How would the loss of these minerals affect your community, your home, and your way of life?

The effect such a loss would have would depend on how dependent the community is on automobiles. People would walk more, use bicycles when possible, perhaps horses would become more popular.

What is the importance of forests to our water supply?

Trees and plants depend on the air around them for

