

英 汉 对 照

趣味英语问答

ENGLISH CHINESE

Why Does a Geyser Erupt?

喷泉为什么会迸发?

What Makes Wind Blow?

风是什么引起的?

Where Does Dew Come from?

露水是从哪里来的?

Are Elephants Afraid of Mice?

大象害怕老鼠吗?

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前 言

本书是根据美国近几年的报刊资料编译而成的科普类读物，适合我国广大青少年学生以及其他兴趣广泛的读者阅读。

本书的特点是知识性和趣味性很强。全书共收入134个问答题。这些问题内容丰富，题材广泛。既有天文、地理、生物等方面的基本知识，也有日常生活中常见的有趣现象。语言通俗简练，篇幅短小精悍，适合读者利用零星时间，随手翻阅浏览。

为了方便读者学习英语，原文中的常用词组、固定句型和语法结构都作了详细的注释，并有译文供参考。书末还附有总词汇表，供查阅。有一定英语基础的读者，可以通过阅读原文，扩大词汇量，提高英语表达能力；英语刚刚入门的读者，可以通过阅读本书，学到更多的有用词组和句型，增加语法知识；甚至尚未学英语的读者，也可以通过阅读译文，来丰富自己的知识。总之，本书对各种不同的读者都有所裨益。

本书由王援朝、黄小群、潘建军编译和注释，
并由华中师范大学外语系林金辉副教授审校。

由于译者水平有限，本书一定会有不少缺点和
不妥之处，希望广大读者批评指正。

1985年8月于武昌桂子山

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1 Why Can't We See the Back of the Moon

From the earth, you never see the back of the moon. This is because, as the moon circles the earth, it also turns on its axis¹ to keep the same face toward the earth². The moon takes about one month to travel once³ around the earth. The moon takes just about the same amount of time⁴ to turn around once on its axis. As a result⁵, about half of the moon's surface is never turned toward the earth.

Notes 注释

1. turn on its axis 自转。
2. to keep the same face toward the earth 总是使同一面朝着地球。不定式短语作状语，表示结果。
3. take (some time) to do sth. 花（多少时间）做某事，做某事需要多少时间。travel once 运行一周。
4. the same amount of time 相同数量的时间。the same amount of (+ 不可数名词) 相同数量的……
5. as a result 结果，作为一个结果。

1 为什么人们看不见月亮的背面

在地球上，人们永远看不见月亮的背面。这是因为当月亮围绕地球运行的同时，它也在自转，结果总是同一面朝着地球。月亮围绕地球运转一周大约需要一个月时间，而月亮自转一周正好也需要相同的时间。结果，大约有二分之一的月球表面永远不会朝着地球。

2 Why Do We Sneeze

Usually we sneeze to get rid of¹ an irritation in the air passages² of the nose. Cold germs can irritate the tender lining of the nose. So can dust or pollen from grass or flowers³. That's when we feel that irresistible tickle and ... AH—CHOO⁴! During a sneeze, the muscles that help us breathe send out⁵ a blast of air. And out goes the bothersome irritation from the nose⁵.

Notes

1. to get rid of 消除, 除掉。不定式短语作目的状语。
2. air passages 呼吸道。
3. so can ... flowers 这是“so + 动词 + 主语”结构。意为: 也一样, 也那样。又如: They can swim across the river, and so can we. 他们能游过河去, 我们也能。
4. That's when ... 那就是人们感到那种痒得无法忍耐的时候。when引导表语从句。AH—CHOO 是打喷嚏的声音。
5. send out 送出, (这里是指) 喷出。