

英语外台听力教程

新美国之音

主编：程 工
编者：刘向东
于 军

标准英语

VOA STANDARD ENGLISH



第2册

上海外语音像出版社

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(第二册)

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总 序

“美国之音(The Voice of America, VOA)”始建于1942年,最初是战争情报办公室(the Office of War Information)属下的一个新闻机构,1953年起隶属新建的美国情报署(the United States Information Agency, 又称“美国国际交流署”),是美国从事对外宣传的最主要的官方广播业务单位。它以介绍美国的价值观和生活方式、反映美国政府的观点和政策为己任。因此,它的报道有很强的选择性,而且时常夹杂有攻击中国政府内外政策的内容。尽管如此,从英语学习的角度来看,它不失为一个极具价值的工具。它因播音时间较长、播放频道较多、语音质量较好、内容比较丰富而成为中国英语学习者熟悉、学习外台英语的重要途径。实践证明,美国之音的英语新闻不仅有利于巩固与提高学生的听力和语言基本功,而且有助于了解时事,丰富有关所学语言国家的政治、经济、科技、文化等方面的知识。美国之音英语新闻的教学价值得到了广泛的认同,成为很多院校英语听力课程重要的组成部分,同时也是国家教育管理部门指定的训练内容和能力指标的重要组成部分。1988年,原国家教委在其颁发的高等学校英语专业基础阶段和高年级阶段的教学大纲中,明确地把能够基本听懂“美国之音”和“英国广播公司(BBC)”的新闻节目当作英语听力技能的一个主要目标。

美国之音的英语新闻分特别英语(Special English)和标准英语(Standard English)两种。特别英语在语言难度上受到人为控制,它的语速慢(每分钟约 90 个词),词汇量小(1500 词左右)。句子结构简单,内容简略;易为母语为非英语的听众所接受。标准英语则是美国人日常使用的正式文体英语,语速每分钟 140 个词,常用词汇量约 6000 词。句子长而且结构复杂,内容详尽而难词多。另外,它还包括大量的现场记者报道(correspondent report)。这些报道必须首先通过电话线路传输到播音室,所以信号有所衰减,背景杂音较大,在用词、语速、甚至语音等方面也有因人而有一定的差异,这无疑增加了理解的难度。特别英语和标准英语的新闻虽然相差很大,但两者在内容、语言(尤其是关键词)和篇章结构上有一定的相通之处。因此,特别英语不仅有自身的新闻和语言价值,而且是通向理解标准英语的一个必要的基础和有效的捷径。

《VOA 英语新闻系列》旨在帮助广大的英语爱好者和学习者熟悉并掌握美国之音的新闻广播。它由特别英语和标准英语两套分册组成,定期陆续出版。

本书的编者都是专业的英语听力教师,在英语听力、尤其是外台英语训练方面深的心得。不夸张地说,作为一个整体,我们在外台英语训练方面处于国内的领先地位,近年来全国四、八级英语统测听力部分的外台英语试题都是我们选编、设计的。在长期实践的基础上,我们对如何提高外台英语的理解水平有以下几点体会:

一、必须贯彻由浅入深、由易及难、循序渐进的步骤。具体地说,就是特别英语在前,标准英语在后;重大事件、热点问题、主要国家的报道在前,次要事件、偶发事件、非热点地区的报道在后。

二、最好采用分类新闻的训练方法。研究表明,同类新闻中除人物、地点、时间有变动外,在基本语言格式上往往大同小异。而美国之音在播发新闻时一般按重要性排列,每条新闻之间往往没有内在的联系。分类新闻能使学习者集中听取相互关联的报道,有助于尽快掌握各类新闻的基本格式和有关用语,尽早总结出规律,并加深印象。

三、练习和书面新闻稿本有助于理解水平的提高。设计良好的练习可以帮助学习者了解自己对新闻整体的把握和对细节的理解是否正确,书面新闻稿则有助于更精确的理解。当然,对练习和书面新闻稿的使用应该有一定的限制。比较合理的步骤是:先听,总结出新闻的大意并书面记录一些细节信息,之后开始阅读并完成练习题,在此之后,再反复收听几遍,然后才可参阅书面新闻稿。另外,学习者还应逐步减少乃至最终摆脱对文字的依赖,把重点真正落实到听的能力的提高上。无论如何,不能低估练习和书面新闻稿的作用,只要使用得当,它们对提高听力水平的价值还是很明显的。

本册书按不同的题材将新闻分成四大类即政治、经济、军事及杂类新闻。每一大类又按不同的新闻内容分成许多小单元,并在每个单元前进行简单提示。每条新闻设有注释(包括词汇、专有名词和背景知识简介等)和

理解性的检查练习,书后附有练习答案和书面新闻稿。它不但可供在校学生进行外台听力课教学使用,而且可供自学者进行自学。我们希望并相信,本书有益于提高理解外台英语的水平。

上海外语音像出版社的陈坚林主编和吴畏编辑为本书的出版付出了艰巨的劳动,他们专程从上海赶赴洛阳,洽谈本书的出版事宜,促成了双方的合作。我们学院的领导也给了大力的支持。单红卫、李黎两位女士每天收录,源源不断地为我们提供素材。在此,对他们一并表示诚挚的感谢。

最后,我们衷心祝愿本书的使用者尽早跨过外台英语广播的门槛,登堂入室,达到轻松悠然听懂英语广播的自由境界。有什么意见和建议请反馈给我们,以便我们及时改进,使本系列丛书越编越好。

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International Relations

Talks and Visits

Item 1

Words and Expressions

1. handover *n.* 移交
2. evacuation *n.* 转移(这里可理解为“返还”)
3. hamper *v.* 妨碍
4. missing in action 作中战中失踪的人员
5. the Pentagon *n.* 五角大楼,即美国国防部
6. Pyongyang *n.* 平壤(朝鲜首都)

I. Multiple Choices

1. US and North Korean officials are to meet in Beijing to discuss _____.
 - a. where to hand over the remains of US soldiers.
 - b. who should be blamed for the lost remains of US soldiers.
 - c. how to evacuate the remaining US soldiers.
 - d. when to send back the remaining US soldiers.
2. The handover used to take place _____.
 - a. in the United States

- b. in Pyongyang
 - c. at a UN institution in South Korea
 - d. at UN headquarters
3. North Korea would like the handover to take place at _____.
- a. Beijing.
 - b. Seoul.
 - c. Washington.
 - d. Pyongyang.

II. Blank-Filling

Since joint US and North Korean evacuation efforts began _____ ago, the remains of _____ soldiers have been recovered. More than _____ US servicemen are still listed as missing in action from the Korean War. Nick Simeone, VOA News in Washington.

II. Questions

1. How are the recovery efforts on the remains of US soldiers going?
2. Why will a senior Pentagon official travel to Pyongyang later this month?

Item 2

Words and Expressions

1. normalization *n.* (关系的)正常化
2. spokesman *n.* 发言人
3. envoy *n.* 外交使节, 特使
4. vice *n.* 副职的
5. coordinator *n.* 协调者
6. sideline *n.* 附带做的事情(这里指附带讨论的议题)
7. to set the stage for 为……做准备
8. the State Department *n.* (美国)国务院

I. Multiple Choices

1. The talks between the US and North Korea in the next week will _____.
 - a. be attended by a high-level North Korean official
 - b. be delayed until next month
 - c. focus on the normalization of diplomatic ties between the two countries
 - d. make preparations for a visit to the US by a North Korean official
2. Which of the following is TRUE about next month's meeting in Washington?
 - a. The meeting will take place in New York.
 - b. The meeting will help to improve the two

- countries' relationship.
- c. The main issue will be antiterrorism.
 - d. North Korean vice foreign minister will attend the meeting.

II. Blank-Filling

1. US State Department spokesman James Rubin says next month's meeting will cover a series of issues central to _____.
2. US officials say the question of _____ will be discussed on the sidelines. US counter-terrorism coordinator Michael Sheehan is expected to inform North Korea of steps it must take to be _____ from the US list of countries engaged in international terrorism.

Item 3

Words and Expressions

1. Catholic *adj.* 天主教的
2. Orthodox *adj.* 东正教的
3. ecumenical *adj.* 全基督教的
4. patriarch *n.* (东正教的)大公
5. Georgia *n.* 格鲁吉亚
6. Georgian *adj.* 格鲁吉亚的
7. Tbilisi *n.* (格鲁吉亚)首府第比利斯
8. Alexiy 格鲁吉亚东正教大公伊利亚

9. to stay away from 避开

I. Multiple Choices

1. Pope John Paul calls for _____ during his visit in Georgia.
 - a. the recognition of divisions between different Christian churches
 - b. an end of hostility between Roman Catholic and Orthodox Churches
 - c. the unity of all different faiths
 - d. reconciliation between governments and churches

II. True or False

1. The Georgian Patriarch agreed to the Pope's proposal of reconciliation. ()
2. The Georgian Patriarch praised the Pope for helping to spread Christianity. ()

Bilateral and Multilateral Relations

Item 4

Words and Expressions

1. expel *v.* 驱逐
2. resume *v.* 恢复
3. imposition *n.* 实施

4. Taliban *n.* 塔利班
5. Afghanistan *n.* 阿富汗
6. Osama bin Laden 恐怖分子本拉登

I. Multiple Choices

1. The relations between the US and Afghanistan can be normalized if Afghanistan _____.
 - a. arrests bin Laden
 - b. gives up bin Laden
 - c. withdraws its support of terrorism
 - d. stops its terrorist actions around the world

II. Blank-Filling

The deadline set by the UN Security Council is _____.

Item 5

1. shorten *v.* 变短
2. revision *n.* 更改
3. tilt *n.* 倾斜
4. foe *n.* 敌国
5. perennial *adj.* 长期的
6. Greece *n.* 希腊
7. Greek *adj.* 希腊的
8. Athens *n.* 雅典

I. Multiple Choices

1. The revision of Mr. Clinton's visit to Greece was a result of _____.
 - a. security concerns
 - b. worsening bilateral relations
 - c. his health problems
 - d. NATO's military action in Yugoslavia
2. According to Mr. Clinton, _____ proposed the delay of the scheduled visit.
 - a. his advisors
 - b. he himself
 - c. Greece
 - d. Turkey
3. The protestors are angered by _____.
 - a. NATO bombing of Yugoslavia
 - b. America's favor of Turkey
 - c. America's role as a world leader
 - d. both a and b

II. Spot Dictation

Anti-American demonstrations _____ by _____ groups have _____ the Greek capital for the past several days. Protestors have expressed _____ over this year's NATO bombing of Yugoslavia as well as what they _____ as the US tilt toward Turkey, Greece's