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发明专利号: 201010151412.7 实用专利号: 201020164593.2

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大学英语四级考试

外台英语新闻

总主编 王迈迈

各个击破

APCTIME
时代出版

时代出版传媒股份有限公司
安徽教育出版社

6.80元 赠光碟

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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

轻松搞定四级考试. 外台英语新闻 / 陈金平编译.

—合肥: 安徽教育出版社, 2010. 12

ISBN 978 - 7 - 5336 - 5763 - 5

I. ①轻… II. ①陈… III. ①英语 - 高等学校 - 水平
考试 - 自学参考资料 IV. ①H310.42

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2010)第 252417 号

书名: 轻松搞定四级考试. 外台英语新闻

作者: 陈金平

出版人: 朱智润

选题策划: 王迈迈

责任编辑: 吴芬

责任印制: 王云云

装帧设计: 奚雄军

出版发行: 时代出版传媒股份有限公司 [http://www. press-mart. com](http://www.press-mart.com)

安徽教育出版社 <http://www. ahep. com. cn>

(合肥市繁华大道西路 398 号, 邮编: 230601)

营销部电话: (0551) 3683010, 3683011, 3683015

时代迈迈教育出版传媒武汉公司 (<http://www. wmmenglish. com>)

营销部电话: (027) 87733739, 87733959

排 版: 安徽创艺彩色制版有限责任公司

印 刷: 武汉市新华印刷有限责任公司

(如发现印装质量问题, 影响阅读, 请与印刷厂商联系调换)

开本: 787 × 1092 1/32

印张: 4

字数: 122 千字

版次: 2011 年 1 月第 1 版

2011 年 1 月第 1 次印刷

ISBN 978 - 7 - 5336 - 5763 - 5

定价: 6.80 元

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序

拒绝四六级考试复习备考的沉重负担,轻松搞定四六级考试是本套丛书编写的宗旨。

本系列丛书具有下列 5 大特点:

1. 针对性强:按试卷测试项分 8 个类别编撰,能让学生针对自己的弱项自由选择其中一项或几项,在短时间内进行强化训练,达到预期效果。

2. 语料新颖:本系列中的 16 本书均选自国内外最新材料。材料大多出自国外原版期刊和原版英语网站。

3. 短小精悍:将试卷复杂内容分解编撰成短小的单行本,符合考生心理需求,能让考生以轻松心情应对,在轻松之中将四六级备考之繁重任务各个击破。

4. 内容充实:本系列丛书短小精悍,却不失容量充足。四六级训练书籍通常为十套试卷,而本系列丛书每本的容量一般都超过 10 套:《作文与翻译》作文 30 篇,翻译 25 套;《快速阅读》10 套;《听力对话》12 套;《听力短文与填空》各 12 套;《外台英语新闻》42 篇;《选词填空》25 套;《简短回答》25 套;《仔细阅读》10 套 20 篇;《完形填空》15 套。

5. 实用性与前瞻性:认真分析最近两年的四六级考试真题试卷,可以发现听力短文的测试已经将外台英语新闻的内容纳入了测试范围,故本系列丛书专门编撰了《外台英语新闻》,以提高该书的针对性和实用性,强调英语新闻在大学英语听力测试中的地位。同时也凸显其前瞻性,英语新闻也是正在试点的大学英语四六级机考的主要内容。

愿“轻松搞定四六级考试”系列丛书助备考大学英语四六级的考生一臂之力,祝朋友们以轻松之心情快快搞定四六级考试!

编者

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轻松搞定

外台英语新闻

Part I

命题特点与应试策略





一、英语新闻听力命题特点

在四、六级考试的短文听力部分,近几年又出现了一个标志性的变化,那就是听力短文已逐步将英语新闻内容纳入了测试范围。可见英语新闻在大学英语听力测试中的地位越来越重要。

英语新闻具有许多鲜明的特点,比如时效性强、语速较快,连读、弱化、吞音现象比较普遍,还需要考生掌握一定的专用术语和背景知识。而由于此前英语新闻主要针对英语专业考生(英语专业四级和专业八级考试),非英语专业考生对此接触较少,所以从现在开始,参加大学英语四级考试的考生就必须重视对英语新闻听力的训练,熟悉新闻词汇、专业术语、新闻播报语速和常见内容,同时还要掌握英语新闻听力的必要技巧。



二、英语新闻听力应试策略

根据收听英语新闻的实践经验,要较快适应英语新闻听力,首先要熟悉新闻英语的特点,进行大量的听力训练;同时,掌握一定的听力技巧也是十分重要的。在这里要特别强调指出的是:大量的、不间断的进行听力训练是第一位的,学会和掌握听力技巧是第二位的。只有坚持收听和训练,并灵活运用相应的技巧,才能收到事半功倍的效果。



1. 了解英语新闻的特点

一篇标准的新闻报道,通常包括六大要素,可概括为“5个W和1个H”,

具体如下:

When——新闻发生的时间;

Where——新闻发生的地点;

Who——新闻涉及的人物;

What——所发生的新闻内容;

Why——为何会发生这一新闻;

How——新闻事件的背景,如何会诱发、促成这一事件;后续情况如何等等。

因此,考生如果善于在听的时候把握以上新闻六要素,就可轻松理清头绪,条理清晰地掌握新闻内容。

新闻的结构大多采用“倒金字塔法”和“时间顺序法”。倒金字塔法(inverted pyramid form),也称为倒叙法,即按新闻事实重要性的程度由要点到细节逐步扩展,安排全文。把最重要的事实置于全文的第一个句子中,这个句子被称为新闻导语(the news lead)。它告知听众最关心最重要的事实,即上述的“5个W和1个H新闻六大要素”。新闻导语是整条新闻的高度浓缩形式,听懂了导语,也就听懂了新闻的主要内容。当然,由于新闻报道的侧重点不同,有时新闻导语也可能只包含其中几个要素。时间顺序法(chronological style),即按照事件发生时间的先后顺序,通常由开头、事实、结尾构成。值得注意的是:有时一条新闻中这两种方法交叉运用。

另外英语新闻的题材范围非常广泛,新闻的内容包罗万象,政治、经济、文化、教育、体育、娱乐等等方面,可以说无所不包。

新闻的词汇量也非常大,据VOA的VOICE杂志称,其Standard English可能用到的词汇量为90000个,实际常用词汇量也需要20000个左右。而且新闻的词汇也有几个明显特征:一是频繁使用缩略词,比如UN, IMF, WHO, EU等等;二是专有名词多,比如Capital Hill(国会山)指美国国会,而White House(白宫)指美国政府;三是数字出现概率非常高,尤其是billion(十亿)、million(百万)、thousand(千)、hundred(百)等词经常出现。

同学们也可以在训练过程中自己总结英语新闻的特点,逐渐弄清它的规律,并不断适应,才能提高听力水平。



2. 进行有针对性的英语新闻听力训练

提高英语听力的技巧和途径很多,而且因人而异;但英语新闻听力有些通用的技巧可以供大家参考。

1) 积累新闻背景知识

新闻即是时事,所以平时要多看报、多听广播,及时了解当今世界发生的政经大事,尤其是一些热点问题:比如2010年11月份发生的朝韩炮战、韩美军演、美日军演等等。对于背景知识要长期不断地积累,收听、收看、阅读各种媒体提供的信息,积累各种背景知识。一旦收听的内容与已知的背景知识相关联,就能很快地把新旧知识融合在一起,即便个别细节听不懂,大致内容也可以基本上把握。

2) 熟记常用新闻词汇

据VOA的VOICE杂志称,Special English常用的词汇量是1500个左右,而要听懂各种分类不同的Special English则需要大概3000个单词。VOA或BBC中大量的专有名词和相关背景知识,构成了新闻听力的巨大障碍。这些专有名词涉及的范围很广,包括人名、地名、国家、政党、组织、传媒机构、宗教、武器装备、缩略语等。

人名在新闻中出现的频率极高,这些重现率极高的人名大多是各国元首、政府首脑、外交部长、国防部长、各大组织机构领导人和一些风云人物。在听的过程中,要重点抓住其国籍和职位或身份,姓名抓个音即可。

地名主要指大洲、大洋、海域、河流、岛屿、国家及首都,还有历史名城等。它们的出现率也极高,所以平时要注意积累,熟记于心。

3) 精听与泛听相结合

精听要求详细记录文章内容,强调正确性,可以反复多次的听,完成后校对、修改。这样的练习不但有利于熟悉新闻英语所常用的词汇、句法结构,而且加强了听音、辨音的能力,纠正自我发音错误,提升在语调、重音、连读、爆破等非语言方面的修炼。但另一方面,也要坚持泛听,每天早上或者晚上听广播,记录主要内容。这样可以增加词汇、语法规则和语言知识点的复现率,有助于克服遗忘,增强记忆,不仅不会影响语言知识点的学习,反而有助于对语

对知识点的更深入更确切的理解和更深刻的记忆。精听和泛听相辅相成,相互促进,达到熟练的听力能力两者缺一不可。

4) 先易后难,循序渐进

要根据自己的实际情况,科学合理制定训练计划,切不可一味追求速度。练习英语新闻听力可以先从 VOA News in Special English 开始。这套节目是专为母语非英语的学习者设计的,句式短小简单,词汇量在 1500 以内,语速 90WPM,比正常速度慢三分之一。经过一段时间训练后,再逐渐过渡到 VOA News in Standard English。这套节目语速正常,约为 146WPM,词汇量在 4000 以上。BBC 与 VOA Standard 相似。

5) 掌握必要的应试技巧

首先,要注意听新闻中的语音语调。要了解语音方面的知识,诸如重读、弱读、连读、省音、不完全爆破、同化等语音现象,可以帮助听懂新闻。

第二,对于句法和词汇,要善于抓住关键词。关键词在新闻中一般重读、语流较强、语速较慢、易听清,这样可以抓住中心意思。

第三,要充分运用推测能力。要借助逻辑、常识、语法结构、语境和新闻的背景知识,来猜测没有听懂或漏掉的单词、词组,甚至句型。

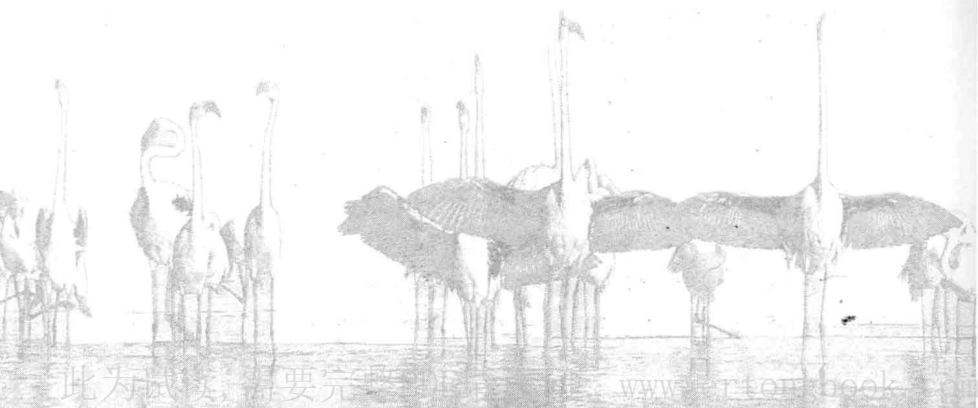
第四,要边听边看,边听边记。这里的“看”指的是要看试题,要尽可能在听的间隙中浏览各选项,特别是其中的关键词,以便明确听的目标,捕捉重点,从而减少盲目记忆,提高正确率。特别要听好新闻的开头,以确定它是用倒金字塔法还是用时间顺序法。这里的“记”指的是养成边听边记的习惯,特别是时间、日期、人名、地名等。

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外台英语新闻

Part II

外台英语新闻模拟训练



Unit 1

News Item 1 (VOA Special)

听录音, 根据所听新闻从 A、B、C、D 四个选项选择一个最佳答案。

1. How many dollars were Chinese exports more than Germany last year?
A. One trillion. B. Two thousand eight.
C. About thirty billion. D. One million.
2. Which country is the second large economy according to the news?
A. The US. B. China. C. Germany. D. Japan.
3. Which search engine takes the biggest share of Chinese search market according to the news?
A. Google. B. Baidu. C. Yahoo. D. Sina.
4. How much share does Google take in Chinese search market?
A. 30%. B. 60%. C. 10%. D. 90%.
5. Which one is not correct according to the news?
A. Only Google was attacked in China.
B. Google earned too little money in China.
C. Google has stayed in China for 4 years.
D. Google will not censor search results.

News Item 2 (VOA Special)

听录音, 根据所听新闻从 A、B、C、D 四个选项选择一个最佳答案。

1. Which company will sell 3-D printers in January?
A. Stratasys. B. Hewlett-Packard. C. Boeing. D. Makerbot.
2. How much money did Stratasys charge for one 3-D printer last year?
A. About \$ 15,000. B. About \$ 50,000.

- C. About \$ 5,000. D. About \$ 1,000.
3. Which one is not mentioned as a product directly manufactured by 3-D printing?
A. Artificial limbs. B. Airplane parts.
C. Leather shoes. D. Furniture and art.
4. What is the limit of 3-D printer according to the news?
A. It is too expensive. B. It is difficult to print plastics.
C. It have no much wider market. D. It is difficult to print metals.
5. Which company is now selling kits for 3-D printer?
A. Boeing. B. Makerbot.
C. Stratasys. D. Hewlett-Packard.



News Item 3 (VOA Standard)

听录音,根据所听新闻从 A、B、C、D 四个选项中选择一最佳答案。录音播放两遍。

1. Which one is not indicated in the news?
A. US commander in South Korea visited Yeonpyeong island.
B. North Korea launched artillery shell on Yeonpyeong island.
C. The South's chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff landed on Yeonpyeong island.
D. North Korea's artillery shell lasted for several days.
2. What is the attitude of General Sharp towards the artillery attack?
A. Violation of the armistice agreement by North Korea.
B. Violation of the armistice agreement by South Korea.
C. Territory dispute between North Korea and South Korea.
D. Continuation of Korean War.
3. What is the reaction of South Korea after the attack?
A. To hold six-party talk immediately.
B. To evacuate its military forces on the island.
C. To bomb Pyongyang.
D. To move more military forces to the border.

4. How many artillery shells were fired by the two sides?
 A. 80. B. 180. C. 100. D. 160.
5. Why did North Korea fire the shells according to the news?
 A. To reoccupy the island.
 B. To escalate in military tensions.
 C. To respond to South Korea's shell in military drill.
 D. To push the Korean peninsula to the brink of war.



News Item 4 (BBC)

听录音, 根据所听新闻从 A、B、C、D 四个选项中选择一最佳答案。录音播放两遍。

1. How many people have been sent to hospital because of cholera in Haiti?
 A. 1,000. B. 10,000. C. 16,000. D. 1,600.
2. Why did Britain announce a financial settlement with former terrorism detainees?
 A. Because the detainees are British citizens or residents.
 B. Because the Justice Secretary put pressure on the court.
 C. Because the government wanted to avoid a lengthy court battle.
 D. Because the government did not want to make the case known to the public.
3. How many suspects have Britain detained?
 A. 60. B. 16. C. 6. D. 66.
4. Who announced the payments?
 A. The detainees. B. British parliament.
 C. Mr. Kenneth Clarke. D. Mr. Rob Watson.
5. Which one is not correct according to the news?
 A. The British government did not admit mistake in the case.
 B. The terrorism suspects are all British citizens or residents.
 C. The British government did not want to risk national security
 D. The terrorism suspects had withdrawn their allegations.

Unit 2

News Item 1 (VOA Special)

听录音,根据所听新闻从 A、B、C、D 四个选项选择一个最佳答案。

- When did the twenty leaders make a declaration?
A. Friday. B. Wednesday. C. Thursday. D. Monday.
- What did the leaders urge developed countries to do?
A. To make competitive devaluation of currencies.
B. To launch so-called currency wars.
C. To avoid disorderly movements in exchange rates.
D. To set target amounts for national trade balances.
- Which country rejected the idea of setting target amounts for national trade balances?
A. The US. B. Japan. C. South Korea. D. India.
- What will the leaders ask their finance ministers to do early next year?
A. To let market forces drive currency exchange rates.
B. To avoid competitive devaluation of currencies.
C. To guard against disorderly movements in exchange rates.
D. To develop a set of "indicative guidelines".
- Which one is not correct according to US President Obama?
A. China should let the value of its currency rise.
B. Chinese yuan is undervalued.
C. Chinese currency is the competitor of US dollar.
D. China will continue to make progress on its currency.

News Item 2 (VOA Special)

听录音,根据所听新闻从 A、B、C、D 四个选项选择一个最佳答案。

- What broke out in Haiti?
A. Hepatitis. B. Gastritis. C. Cholera. D. Pneumonia.

2. What kind of people have cholera most been found in?
 - A. Those who had not left the capital for at least a year.
 - B. Foreign visitors to the Haitian capital.
 - C. The UN peace keepers in Haiti.
 - D. Those who arrived in Port-au-Prince already sick.
3. What will cholera cause according to the news?
 - A. Fever.
 - B. Diarrhea.
 - C. Cough.
 - D. Sore throat.
4. How will people get infected with cholera?
 - A. Drink water with cholera bacteria.
 - B. Touch people already infected with cholera.
 - C. Talk with people already infected with cholera.
 - D. Eat together with people already infected with cholera.
5. What is the problem now?
 - A. People can not get help immediately.
 - B. Cholera can kill people within hours.
 - C. People are already in weakened conditions.
 - D. Cholera is not treated.

News Item 3 (VOA Standard)

听录音, 根据所听新闻从 A、B、C、D 四个选项选择一个最佳答案。录音播放两遍。

1. Which one is not mentioned in the news?
 - A. H1N1 epidemic.
 - B. National election.
 - C. Cholera.
 - D. Earthquake.
2. Why are the streets full of campaigners and fanfare in Haiti?
 - A. Because people run out of earthquake.
 - B. Because people have no houses to live in.
 - C. Because people are afraid of cholera.
 - D. Because people are involved in the election.
3. Why does Mathieu Tranquilor want to run for the election?
 - A. Because he wants to be the President of Haiti.
 - B. Because he does not want to be a senator any longer.
 - C. Because he wants to help the country recover.

- D. Because he wants to get the help of the international community.
4. What is Haiti famous for according to the news?
- A. The poorest country in the Western hemisphere.
B. Corrupt officials and waste of money.
C. Earthquake.
D. Cholera epidemic.
5. What is the present anticipation of Haitian people according to the news?
- A. More money from the international community.
B. Punishment of rampant corruption.
C. A good leader.
D. Economic development.



News Item 4 (BBC)

听录音, 根据所听新闻从 A、B、C、D 四个选项中选择一个最佳答案。录音播放两遍。

1. What will European finance ministers discuss in the emergency talks in Brussels?
- A. The admission of Ireland into eurozone.
B. The admission of Portugal into eurozone.
C. Consultation with global financial institutions.
D. Debt crisis in some vulnerable EU members.
2. Which country is regarded as vulnerable member of the eurozone?
- A. Belgium. B. Spain. C. Britain. D. Portugal.
3. Where did the fetuses come from in Thailand?
- A. A Buddhist temple. B. A Thai village.
C. Illegal abortion clinics. D. Bangkok.
4. How many fetuses has the temple collected together?
- A. 300. B. 10. C. 30. D. 13.
5. What happened in Egypt according to the news?
- A. Police have found dead foetuses in a temple.
B. A Muslim crowd set fire to a village.
C. Police set fire to a small village.
D. There is a small temple in the south of the country.