

ENGLISH READING & LISTENING COMPREHENSION

CNN 英语精读精听

【科技篇 I】

- 权威新闻
- 深度报道
- 精读精听
- 全面提高英语水平

ENGLISH READING & LISTENING COMPREHENSION

CNN 英语精读精听

【科技篇 I】

世界图书出版公司

北京 · 广州 · 上海 · 西安

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

CNN 英语精读精听——科技篇 I/《CNN 英语丛书》编委会编.

—北京:世界图书出版公司北京公司,2004.2

ISBN 7-5062-6319-X

I. C... II. C... III. ①英语-阅读教学-自学参考资料②英语-听说教学-自学参考资料 IV. H319

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2003)第 125451 号

CNN 英语精读精听——科技篇 I

编 著:《CNN 英语丛书》编委会

责任编辑:赵大新

装帧设计:赵 畅

出 版:世界图书出版公司北京公司

发 行:世界图书出版公司北京公司

(地址:北京朝内大街 137 号 邮编:100010 电话:64077922)

销 售:各地新华书店和外文书店

排 版:北京名人时代

印 刷:北京世图印刷厂

开 本:787×1092 1/16

印 张:7

字 数:150 千字

版 次:2004 年 2 月第 1 版 2004 年 2 月第 1 次印刷

ISBN 7-5062-6319-X/H·665 定价:13.00 元

版权所有 翻印必究



《CNN 英语丛书》编委会

主任

李松

委员

于 航 张晶义 孙延凤 雷玉清
马 骥 王德宾 赵大新 丁海英

编辑

夏 燕 刘 枫 翟 峥 许 玲
王 芳 徐丽玉 徐向红 叶 钢

[美] Dasha Migunov

[美] Mark Cole

[美] Nicholas Kripendorf

[美] Darlene Lee



前言

很多大学生朋友常向我们诉苦，说他们的课外英语读物仅局限于 19 世纪和 20 世纪上半叶的经典文学作品，没有新鲜的、流行的、既跟得上国际国内形势又能轻松阅读的材料，而国外的英文报纸和杂志生词太多，令人望而生畏。针对这一情况，我们从美国 CNN(Cable News Network) 的经典栏目中挑选了一些精彩内容，编辑整理了《CNN 英语精读精听系列》。

CNN 是全球最大传媒集团时代华纳(AOL Time Warner)旗下最著名的有线电视新闻频道，以 24 小时连续播报最及时、最权威的国际资讯而著称，是世界上最受推崇、最可靠的新闻及信息来源之一。CNN 除了为观众提供深入的现场报道及剖析突发事件外，也制作财经、娱乐、健康、科技及访谈等多元化节目。

《CNN 英语精读精听系列》分为《时事篇》、《人物篇》、《娱乐篇》、《文化篇》、《科技篇》和《财经篇》六本，既是一个有机结合的整体，又相对独立，读者可根据自己的兴趣喜好，随意选择。

本系列书还有以下显著特点：

一、每一本书中的每一篇文章都相对独立，读者不必从头至尾地阅读，完全可以把它作为课外休闲读物，随兴所至，任意翻阅，使学习和休闲娱乐得到最充分的结合。

二、在内容安排上，每一篇文章分导读(Before you read)、提问(Questions)、正文、答案(Answers)四部分。导读大致概括了文章主题。提问中给出 2~4 个问题，读者带着这些问题进行阅读，可以大大提高阅读理解能力。在独立思考之后，读者可参考





附在正文之后的答案,以验证自己的理解是否正确。针对文章的正文,我们还提供了丰富的注释,其中有对文字的解释又有对关键语句的理解,有对重要的、常用的单词和短语的举例说明,又有对相关背景和文化的注释,真正体现了既学习语言又学习文化的宗旨。

三、由于大多取材于 CNN 的访谈节目,因此本系列书语言地道、平易近人,还有显著的口语特征。我们在整理加工时,只删去了那些过于累赘的、与主要内容无关的话,保留了其口语的特征,使读者在阅读的同时还能体会和学习真正地道的英语口语。

四、我们随书配有英语国家专家的朗读录音,使本系列书不仅可以用做阅读理解,还可作为练习听力的好材料。

就每一本书而言,它们各有特点。《时事篇》融和了时效性和可读性,既有伊拉克战争、阿富汗局势等热点问题,也有评论施瓦辛格参政等相对轻松的话题。

《人物篇》既有鼎鼎大名的政治人物如本·拉登、希拉里·克林顿,还有体坛明星老虎·伍兹、贝克汉姆,以及一些既平凡而又伟大的人物。

《娱乐篇》既有已成传奇的影视歌坛巨星,如凯瑟琳·赫本、格里高利·派克,也有当红的天王天后,如哈里·贝瑞、朱丽亚·罗伯茨,可谓星光耀眼。

《文化篇》既包括对妇女地位、同性恋婚姻的讨论,也包括印度的选择性堕胎现象以及俄罗斯新富阶层的生活方式和观念。

读者对科技类读物一般会敬而远之,但在《科技篇》中,不管是对火星之旅这类高科技还是对修葺茅草屋这种生活小事的介绍,都深入浅出、通俗易懂。

《财经篇》在本丛书中更为特别一些。文章篇幅稍短,有全文



⇒⇒⇒⇒⇒

翻译,还有配套的影像资料。内容包括一些国际知名企业家的访谈录,和对一些国家和地区的经济形势和前景的分析与预测。

总之,我们希望《CNN 英语精读精听系列》能让读者在学习英语的同时,享受阅读的乐趣。由于时间有限、编者水平有限,书中难免会有一些错误,敬请专家及广大读者批评指教。

编 者

2004 年元月于北京



⇒⇒⇒⇒⇒

目录 Contents

1. Is There Life on Mars?	1
2. Missions to Mars	6
3. Do UFOs Exist?	9
4. UFO Crash at Roswel?	13
5. Conjoined Twins	19
6. How to Prevent Heart Disease?	28
7. Traditional Medicine and Modern Medicine	34
8. Computer Companies Begin Computer Recycling Program	39
9. Satellite Radio	43
10. Costa Rica's "Pure Life"	46
11. Eco-tourism in Couran Cove	50
12. Diesel or CNG.....	53
13. New Concept Cars	56
14. Geothermal Power in Tuscany	60
15. A Blessing in Disguise	63
16. Cuba's New Energy Resources	67
17. Flavor of the Sun	71
18. Life in the Outback of Australia	74
19. Fog Harvesting in Chile	78
20. Fresh Water From Sea Water	82
21. Hydroponics Revived	85
22. Fish out of Sewage	88
23. SARS Changes Hong Kong's Buildings	92
24. Straw Houses in Cape Town	96
25. Factory Inside Game Sanctuary	98

SAC86/01

1.

Is There Life on Mars¹?

Before you read

火星上有生命吗？多少年来，人类一直不断地在问。现在，科学家们相信他们已经找到了这个问题的部分答案。火星上曾经有过生命，现在生命在火星表面上已经消失，但有可能在火星的地下发现一个完整的生物群。

QUESTIONS

1. Why has Mars intrigued generations of human beings, especially astrophysicists?
2. On what evidence have scientists drawn the conclusion that there used to be life on Mars?
3. What are the upcoming landers going to do in search of life on Mars?

JONATHAN MANN, CNN ANCHOR

Several planets can be seen with the naked eye², so Mercury, Venus, Jupiter, Saturn and Mars³ have all had a very primary place in cultures around the world. But Mars somehow **stands out** among them. No one ever talks, for example, about being attacked by little green men from Jupiter.

Joining us now from New York is Neil Tyson. He's an astrophysicist⁴ and director of the Hayden Planetarium of the American Museum of Natural History⁵.

What is it that so excites people's passions, going back centuries, about Mars?

1. Mars: 火星。
2. naked eye: 肉眼。
3. Mercury, Venus, Jupiter, Saturn and Mars: 水星、金星、木星、土星和火星。
4. astrophysicist: 天体物理学家。
5. the Hayden Planetarium of the American Museum of Natural History: 美国自然历史博物馆的海顿天文馆。

stand out: 显著, 杰出
e. g. Does your work stand out from that of others?
你的工作比别人的突出吗?

6. polar icecaps: 在火星两极的冰层。

7. rotates once every 24 hours: 每 24 小时自转一次。

8. science fiction writers: 科幻小说作家。

9. inhabited: 有人居住的。

10. consensus: 一致意见。

11. jumped on it: 迫不及待地接受这一观点。

12. aliens: 外星人。

13. Martians: 火星星人。

14. lush vegetation: 茂盛的植被。

15. faulty: 错误的。

16. large swaths of green on the surface: 火星表面上大片的绿色植物。

17. retina: 视网膜。

18. Combine ... sees. (他想象火星的表面上有大片的绿色植物。这也许是因为他脑子里有这样的印象, 或他的视网膜上有东西, 或者他的天文望远镜有问题。)把这三个因素相加, 再加上一个睡意朦胧的天文学家在半夜三更观测天文, 描绘所见景象, 你就可以知道这些植物的起源了。

19. close-up views: 近距离的观察。

20. human bias: 人类的偏见。

capture one's imagination / attention: 引起某人的想象 / 注意
e.g. This advertisement will capture the attention of readers everywhere.

这个广告将可引起各处读者的注意。

bear / give / show evidence for/of: 有……的迹象

e.g. When the ship reached port, it bore abundant evidence of the severity of the storm.

船抵港时, 船上满是饱受风雨肆虐的痕迹。

NEIL TYSON

Well, Mars, among the planets that we know and love, it's got polar icecaps⁶, it rotates once every 24 hours⁷, so it has seasons. For these reasons, and since it's one of the two planets closest to us, it seems to have **captured people's imagination**, especially the imagination of novelists and science fiction writers⁸. So it's been with us for quite some time.

MANN

The idea that Mars might be inhabited⁹ is taken seriously by scientists today. But did the science fiction writers—did the popular imagination wait for scientists to reach some kind of consensus¹⁰ about that, or was that first in the novels?

TYSON

Oh, no. They jumped on it¹¹ from very early on. You go back to not only “War of the Worlds,” where the deadly aliens¹² were in fact Martians¹³.

MANN

How much of what scientists and science fiction writers have believed about Mars has simply been untrue? I can recall reading a theory—until recently, it was believed that there was actually lush vegetation¹⁴ on the planet.

TYSON

Well, that went away long ago. I mean, lush vegetation was a product of a lot of the faulty¹⁵ observations that Christopher Lowell made of Mars. He imagined these large swaths of green on the surface¹⁶, and it was all like in his brain or on his retina¹⁷, or something wrong with his telescope. Combine all three with a sleepy astronomer at night, sketching what he sees.¹⁸ None of his observations were able to be confirmed by others. But what we do know, when we finally visited Mars and got close-up views¹⁹, is that there is **evidence for** there once having been running water, liquid water. And we have this sort of human bias²⁰ that if we're going to look for life, life somewhere else ought to need what we know we need,



which is liquid water.

So Mars, since those observations have come forth, has only stoked the flames of our imaginations²¹. Not only that of science fiction writers, but of scientists as well. So it's been a consistent target for us for the entire history of the space program.

MANN

Is there any consensus among scientists about what the evidence suggests? Does everyone have an open mind²²? Do most people believe that it's far-fetched²³ and unlikely? Do most people believe that it's probably there?

TYSON

I think the scientific consensus is that we're unlikely to find life on the Martian surface right now. There's no liquid water, and it's bathed daily in radiation from the sun and from space that's hostile to biology²⁴.

But maybe the water that was once there seeped down through the surface²⁵ and has become a kind of permafrost²⁶. Maybe under pressures, there are running riverbeds²⁷, running aquifers²⁸, beneath the surface. And if that's the case, perhaps there's a whole biota, a whole subsurface biota, that we have yet to discover²⁹.

MANN

Now, I have read—tell me if this is true or not—that one of the reasons that scientists, astrophysicists, are so intrigued³⁰ about this possibility is that, going back millions of years, the earth and Mars were much more similar than they are today.

TYSON

Yes. We have no other way to think about Mars but that it was a pretty tame environment³¹, because of the presence—because of the record of there having been running water there, which might have been that way for billions of years. It might have been gentle to life earlier than earth was.³²

21. stoked the flames of our imagination; 激发了我们的想象。

22. have an open mind; 思想开放。

23. far-fetched; 牵强的, 不沾边儿的。

24. it's ... biology; 它整天受着来自太阳和太空的辐射, 而这些辐射是适合生物生存的。

25. seeped down through the surface; 渗透过地表。

26. permafrost; 永久冻结带。

27. running riverbeds; 流动的河流。

28. running aquifers; 有液态水流动的蓄土层。

29. if ... discover; 如果是这样, 我们将来可能发现一个完整的地下生物群。

30. intrigued; 对……感兴趣。

31. We ... environment; 我们认为火星以前是一个适合生物生存的环境。

32. It ... was. 它适合生物生存的时期比地球的还早。

33. transferred; 迁移, 移动。
 34. Martian meteorite; 火星陨石。
 35. tantalizing evidence; 使人浮想联翩的证据。
 36. controversial; 有争议的。
 37. the solar system; 太阳系。
 38. Martian descendents; 火星人的后裔。
 39. realm; 界, 范围
 40. The Martian surface ... place. 火星表面仍不适合生物生存。
 41. landers; 降落舱。
 42. trapped water; 地下水。
 43. creepy crawler creature type life; 爬行动物类生命。
 44. bacteria; 单数为 bacterium, 细菌。
 45. posthaste; 特快的。
 46. astrobiology; 太空生物学。

owe sth. to; 把……归功于
 e. g. He owes his success to good luck more than to ability. 他的成功多半靠运气, 少半靠能力。
 To whom do we owe the discovery of the American continent? 美洲大陆的发现应该归功于谁?

give credit (to sb.) (for sth.); (为某事) 认可、称赞或赞许(某人)
 e. g. I gave you credit for being more sensible. 我未料到你会如此懂事。
 One must give credit where it is due. 该赞许的就得赞许。

And now we know that rocks have actually transferred³³ from one planet to the other, as the famous Martian meteorite³⁴ ALH84001. That meteorite had evidence, tantalizing evidence³⁵. There are features in the cracks of that rock, that tell us that Mars might have once had life, at a time when that rock was thrown off from the surface of the planet.

And so, now, while those ideas are still controversial³⁶, the fact remains that if rocks can move from Mars to Earth, and Mars was friendly to life sooner than Earth in the history of the solar system³⁷, it may be that all life on earth **owes its origins to** life on Mars—we might all be Martians, or Martian descendents³⁸.

MANN

That's an extraordinary thought. What are the chances that we find out that there was life on Mars and that we're just, say, 100,000 or several hundred thousand years too late to the party, and all that life is dead? Is that within the realm³⁹ of what's still possible?

TYSON

Well, yes, I mean, like I said, we're pretty sure if anything was on the surface, it's dead now. The Martian surface is still a hostile place.⁴⁰

So part of the mission of upcoming landers⁴¹ is to have them bring some kind of digging devices to get down in there, or to land on the sides of where there are cracks in the surface, or valleys—the sides of high cliffs, where you can look deeper down below the surface of the planet, to see whether there is trapped water⁴².

Every place we have ever looked on Earth, if we found liquid water, we have found life. And life has proven to be much healthier than we ever **given it credit for** in the past.

When I say life, I don't mean creepy crawler creature type life⁴³. I mean bacteria⁴⁴. A whole new branch of life has been discovered that just love high pressures, high temperatures, high radiation, cold temperatures, all kinds of things that would kill us posthaste⁴⁵. So that's the future of astrobiology⁴⁶ right there.



MANN

So it could be alive, whatever's there?

TYSON

It could be. It could be. And one thing you want to **make sure of**, is whatever you're sending there isn't contaminating⁴⁷ the surface, so that we **end up discovering** our own germs⁴⁸ and saying, oh, look, life on Mars is just like us.

So we've got to be really careful as we start probing the solar system. If life is the experiment we're going to conduct, we've got to make sure we're not just stumbling on our own skin cells or our own bacteria that we sneezed up in the craft when we were putting it together⁴⁹.

MANN

That's intriguing stuff. Neil Tyson, of the Hayden Planetarium, thanks so much.

47. contaminating: 污染。

48. germs: 微生物。

49. we're not just ... together: 我们研究的不是我们在飞船上打喷嚏时洒落的自己身上的皮肤细胞和细菌。

make sure of / that ...: 确信, 做必要之事以证实、得到某物

e. g. I made sure he would be here.

我确信他今天会到这儿。

There're aren't many seats left for this concert; you'd better make sure of one / make sure that you get one today.

这音乐会剩下的票不多了; 你最好今天定要一个位子。

end up doing sth.: 以……告终 / 结尾

e. g. If you don't ask the way, you'll end up losing yourself in the city.

你要是不问路, 会在城里迷路的。

ANSWERS

1. Because it is the planet closest and most similar to earth, and thus, it is possible that life or traces of life might one day be found on it.

2. Evidence has been found that there used to be running water on the surface of Mars and that there are polar icecaps and maybe running rivers underground. And a Martian meteorite bears features in its cracks that show there used to be life on Mars when it was thrown off the planet.

3. Since scientists are now sure there is no life on the surface of Mars, the upcoming landers will have to search down below the surface. They will bring some kind of digging devices to get down in there, or to land on the sides of where there are cracks in the surface, where they can look deeper down below the surface of the planet, to see whether there is underground water.

2.

Missions to Mars

Before you read

人类对火星这颗红色行星一直热情不减。过去几十年中, 尽管各种火星探测器十有六七都以失败告终, 各国科学家仍毫不气馁, 不断从失败中总结经验教训, 向火星发起了一次又一次的挑战。科学家已掌握充分证据证明火星上曾经有水, 现在火星地下也可能有水。这为外太空生命的存在提供了丰富的想象空间。要是哪天那个头插天线的火星叔叔马丁真的出现在你的面前, 你会怎么反应?

1. craters: 环形山。
2. sustain: 维持。
3. Mars is no pushover. 火星并不是那么容易征服的。
4. Martian atmosphere: 火星的大气。
5. skipped out into deep space: 跳到了外层空间。
6. keep your fingers crossed: 祈祷。
7. plucky: 有勇气的。
8. clam: 蚌, 蛤。
9. Charles Darwin: 查尔斯·达尔文, 英国博物学家, 进化论的创始者。
10. theory of the evolution of life on earth: 地球生物进化理论。

miss the / one's mark: 未打中目标, 失败
e. g. We were all disappointed to see the experiment had missed the mark again.
实验再次失败, 我们都很失望。

on one's way to: 在去……路上
e. g. Would you please pick me up at my dormitory on your way to work?
能请您在上班的路上到我宿舍把我给捎上吗?

QUESTIONS

1. Why do you think human beings are so enthusiastic about Mars?
2. What have we gotten to know about Mars?
3. Why does the author say the launch of the Beagle 2 was also the launch of a space race of sorts?

Mars sounds like an interesting place. It has a pink sky, mountains that are more than 20 kilometers high, and craters¹ that are thousands of miles wide. But can it sustain² life?

Mars is no pushover.³ 34 times, humans have sent spacecraft to our planetary neighbor. Only 11 times have the vehicles not crashed or burned up in the Martian atmosphere⁴ or **missed their mark** entirely and skipped out into deep space⁵. So keep your fingers crossed⁶ for a plucky⁷ little machine named for a dog, operated like a clam⁸ and no heavier than a human child.

It's called Beagle 2 and it's **on its way to** Mars right now. The first Beagle was the ship that took Charles Darwin⁹ on the trip that led to his theory of the evolution of life on earth¹⁰. The Beagle 2 is to address a question that could equally shake us up and our view of ourselves and the



universe. Is there life on Mars?

If all goes well, it will go into orbit¹¹ around Mars just before Christmas. It's one of the three expeditions taking advantage of Mars' closest approach to Earth for many years. Two NASA¹² landers and a Japanese satellite¹³ are due to be launched later this month. It's all in aid of answering one simple question¹⁴: is there or was there life on another planet?

Planetary geologists¹⁵ have seen pretty convincing evidence that water once played a part in eroding the Martian surface¹⁶, but there's been none there for 4 billion years. But it may still be underground. Recent data from NASA's Odyssey spacecraft suggested that. The European orbiter¹⁷ will try to prove it with its ground penetrating radar¹⁸ that can look several kilometers below the surface. The best hope, though, is the lander, Beagle 2. It will drop through the thin atmosphere to land on Christmas Day, bouncing to a halt¹⁹, protected by huge airbags.

It's got everything you need to look for life. Finding water is not enough, so Beagle 2 has a mole²⁰ that can drill for samples²¹, and it's got what's being dubbed the paw²², packed with cameras and instruments that can lift the samples aboard and test them, looking for carbon 12 or carbon 13²³. It's a bit like carbon dating²⁴. Living things have an excess²⁵ of 12 in them. If Beagle 2 finds that, it will be **nothing less than** one of the biggest scientific discoveries of all time.

The launch of the Beagle 2 was also the launch of a space race of sorts.²⁶ It is reported that later this month Japan and the United States are also going to be dispatching²⁷ missions to Mars. Japan launched one a few years ago. That one, though, took an unplanned detour²⁸ and is actually still on its way. Technology has advanced since then. The new missions will not take nearly as long.

At the Kennedy Space Center, twin rovers²⁹ are going through the final checkout. In June, two Delta rockets³⁰, launched three weeks apart, will start the rovers on a seven-month journey to Mars. After breaking through the atmosphere, giant airbags will deploy³¹, surrounding the spacecraft, which like an over inflated soccer ball will land and bounce on the Martian surface. In 1997, the Pathfinder mission used airbags to successfully land

11. go into orbit; 进入轨道。

12. NASA: National Aeronautics and Space Administration, 美国国家航空和宇宙航行局。

13. satellite; 卫星。

14. in aid of answering one simple question: 帮助回答一个简单的问题。

15. planetary geologists: 行星地质学家。

16. eroding the Martian surface: 侵蚀火星表面。

17. orbiter: 绕天体做轨道运行的宇宙飞船或人造卫星。

18. ground penetrating radar: 能穿透地层的雷达。

19. halt; 停止。

20. mole; 隧道全断面掘进机。

21. drill for samples: 钻孔取样。

22. what's being dubbed the paw: 被称作爪子的东西。

23. carbon 12 and carbon 13: 碳 12 和碳 13。

24. carbon dating: 放射性碳素断代, 碳定年。

25. excess: 超额。

26. The launch of ... sorts. Beagle 2 的发射几乎引起了一场太空竞赛。

27. dispatching: 派遣

28. detour: 迂回路。

29. twin rovers: 两个漫游者。

30. Delta rockets: Delta 火箭。

31. deploy: 展开。

nothing less than: 不亚于

e.g. Jane was very much pleased to find that her new house was nothing less than a palace.

简欣喜万分地发现她的新家简直就是一座宫殿。

32. sampling Mars; 给火星取样。

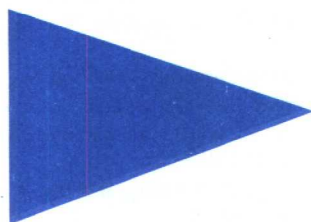
on Mars. Two years later, the Polar lander was lost during landing. That mission did not use airbags. So NASA engineers went back to a method they knew would work. At landing sites thousands of miles apart, these roving geologists will spend 90 days sampling Mars³².

□ ANSWERS

1. The living conditions on earth are deteriorating and scientists are very worried about the future of human beings. They are trying to find out an earth-like planet for the ever-increasing population, and Mars is their best choice.

2. We now know quite a lot about Mars. It is the planet most similar to the Earth. It rotates once every 24 hours and thus has seasons. Looking from the earth, it is red. It has mountains that are more than 20 kilometers high and craters that are thousands of miles wide. Above all, we've got convincing evidence that there used to be water on Mars, and it may still be underground.

3. Because soon after the European launch of the Beagle 2, both Japan and the United States are going to send missions to Mars.



3.

Do UFOs¹ Exist?

Before you read

上个世纪屡有不明飞行物造访地球的报道，每次都激起不小的争论。这些不明飞行物究竟是人类的飞行器还是外太空的探测器？它们来自何处？它们的目的何在？目击者和官方报道总是各执一词，而各种媒体添油加醋的报道更为它们披上了一层神秘的面纱。有人不禁质疑政府：到底是怎么回事儿？政府为什么总是遮遮掩掩？他们究竟在掩盖什么？

QUESTIONS

1. What can you gather about Roswell, New Mexico, from the questions and answers?
2. What is the U. S. government's attitude towards the rumored UFO sightings?

QUESTION

Don't you think stories about the aliens being small people with large heads and large eyes and small mouths just came out of the experiments the military were doing after the war? They used children's bodies to investigate the effects of radiation² on the human body.

ANSWER

The Air Force, in its continuing effort to provide alternative explanations³ and theories, reached a ridiculous level in 1997, on the 50th anniversary, when it was suggested that these were anthropomorphic wooden crash dummies⁴. And until they are able to provide a single witness **contrary to** our own, as evidenced by⁵ Jessie Marcel's father and others that we have interviewed and have signed sworn affidavits⁶, until they can

1. UFOs: unidentified flying objects, 不明飞行物。
2. radiation: 辐射。
3. alternative explanations: 不同的解释。
4. anthropomorphic wooden crash dummies: 做撞击实验用的木制假人。
5. as evidenced by: 像……证明的一样。
6. signed sworn affidavits: 在(经陈述者宣誓在法律上可采作证据的)书面陈述上签字。

contrary to: (复合介词) 反对, 和……相反
e. g. What you have done is contrary to the doctor's orders.
你所做的和医生的指示相反。
I won't allow you to do what is contrary to my interests.
我不会允许你做对我不利的事。