



English Fast Reading Series
for the 21st Century

21世纪英语快速阅读系列

胡余君 周岸勤 编译 上海科技教育出版社

教育 与 就业

EDUCATION & JOB SEEKING

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编 译/ 胡余君 周岸勤
责任编辑/ 张 磊
装帧设计/ 童郁喜

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Foreword

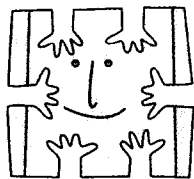
前言

在全球化的进程中，中国人已愈来愈离不开英文了。幼儿园的小朋友、在校学生、上班族等组成了一支庞大的英语学习大军。姑且不说“英语可以变成你打开世界的钥匙”这类高深莫测的场面话，但它至少已是升学、就业等方面实现愿望的基本要件了。

入门容易提高难。英语学习者在结束入门阶段的学习后，由于受汉语思维模式的影响，直接阅读英文报刊上的原作一般总是不得要领。为了让读者提高英语阅读水平，熟悉英语表达习惯，掌握英语语言规律，我们专门编译了“21 世纪英语快速阅读系列”这套丛书。

“21 世纪英语快速阅读系列”包括《自然与科技》、《饮食与保健》、《人生与情感》、《教育与就业》4 分册。每分册由 30 篇左右相关主题的短文组成，它们大都选自新近出版的英美报纸和杂志，题材多样，内容广泛，语言规范而又生动。考虑文章的篇幅，有的短文是经过对原文删减而成的，但均未作任何旨在降低阅读要求的改写。在每篇短文后有 4 道针对该短文的阅读自测题，每题提供 4 个选项（A、B、C 和 D），其中有一个最佳选项，其答案附在自测题后。为了帮助读者更好地理解原文的句子结构，获得准确的相关主题信息，又给出了其参考译文。对短文中一些在

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词典中查不到的新词、较生僻的单词、词组,以及一些在文中有别解的常见单词,都给出了英汉双语注解。

该丛书提供了一套全新的阅读训练程式:快速浏览→理解自测→阅读汉译文→学习单词与短语。它既可以提高英语学习者的阅读理解水平,又能扩大他们的词汇量,做到了泛读与精读的统一,是中学生、大学生和白领阶层提升英语阅读水平,掌握新颖的英语表达方式,获得自然与科技、饮食与保健、人生与情感、教育与就业等方面最新信息的理想读物。

由于编译者水平有限,书中难免存在错误或疏漏,敬请读者朋友谅解并不吝赐教。

编译者

2003年12月

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啊,西部! 前进吧,大学生!



1. UK Tuition Fee Increase Means Drastic Change



One

快速浏览

The UK Government last week proposed a sharp increase in university tuitions in a bid^① to improve finances and make schools more competitive internationally.

A White Paper entitled “The Future of Higher Education” that appeared last Wednesday proposes letting individual universities determine their own fee level from 2006, up to a cap^② of 3,000 pounds (US\$4,800) per undergraduate degree.

Fees are currently pegged at 1,100 pounds (US\$1,760).

The government has decided against an upfront payment system, allowing students to pay the fees after they graduate.

The White Paper also proposes an interest-free loan. This would be income-contingent^③, and would not have to be repaid until the student began earning 15,000 pounds a year.

The long anticipated announcement follows a great deal of sharp debate.

Supporters of the tuition increase say the cash injection

would allow British colleges to improve research programmes and attract the best brains from Britain and overseas.

Opponents, many of them students, say the increase would make higher education elitist^④ and impose a heavy burden on graduates.

Paul Lewis, president of the Cambridge University Student Union, said the system meant some students would leave university with big debts and would create a class system among UK's universities.

"Cambridge already has a problem with attracting students from lower income backgrounds and that problem is going to be worsened," said Lewis. "It is a disaster for access."

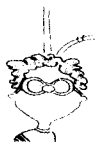
But, the UK Government says it hopes to improve access. Charles Clarke, the government's education secretary, said that there were no other options to overhaul^⑤ Britain's lagging college system and to provide equal access to students from all backgrounds. The government wants at least 50 per cent of English and Welsh children to enter higher education — currently about 40 per cent do.

Up to 40 of Britain's universities have said they will introduce full top-up fees as soon as they can, the *Guardian* has reported.

Colin Campbell, the vice-chancellor of Nottingham University said: "I think a large group of universities will get to 3,000 pounds straight away."

"The money we are talking about under this regime is infinitesimally small compared to what's available in North American universities. I think higher fees will be necessary still," he said.

Some critics say the White Paper also challenges British



people's popular attitudes to higher education.

"In the US, students are proud of 'working their way through college.' They see education as a personal investment. In Britain, young people borrow to buy a house or a car. They must now also be prepared to borrow to go to university," said Vernon Bogdanor, professor at Oxford University.



Two

阅读自测

- That students are allowed to pay their tuition after they graduate is a good precondition for _____.
 - individual universities to decide their own level
 - the rising of tuition fees
 - interest-free loan
 - British colleges to provide for better education programs
- The expression "income-contingent" (Para.5, L.2) probably means _____.
 - earning income as the condition
 - using income
 - earning income
 - with income shortage
- The positive outcome that tuition raise may bring about is that _____.
 - advanced education resulted from more financial investment will produce better graduates
 - schools will make more profits with the raised tuition
 - fewer students are enrolling at universities because of the high fees
 - high tuition will force graduates to work harder

4. Which of the statement is not true?

- A. At present the highest fee in universities is 1,100 pounds.
- B. Universities in Britain are expected to raise their tuition fees very soon.
- C. Once tuitions get raised, universities will lose much access.
- D. It is possible for British governments to provide equal education chances for all students.



Three

答案

1. B 2. A 3. A 4. D



Four

参考译文

英国大学学费增加意味着急剧变革

上周英国政府提出了要大幅增加大学学费,以提高财政收入,使学校在国际上更具有竞争力。

上周三发表的题名为“高等教育的未来”的白皮书建议让各大学从2006年开始自行决定它们的收费标准,每一学士学位封顶收费为3 000英镑(4 800美元)。

目前收费限制在1 100英镑(1 760美元)内。

政府已决定改变预付款制度,允许学生毕业后还款。

白皮书还建议无息贷款,这主要针对那些将来可能会有收入的学生,他们在每年赚取15 000英镑前,不必还贷。

在激烈的争辩之后,才产生了这份预期中的冗长声明。

支持增加学费的人说资金的注入将使英国大学改善研究项目,以吸引国内外最优秀的学生。



反对者中许多是学生,他们说学费增加将使高等教育变成精英们的专利,沉重的负担将加诸到大多数大学毕业生的身上。

剑桥大学学生联合会主席保罗·刘易斯说,这种收费制度将使部分学生因为沉重的债务而退学,还将在英国大学中培植出等级制度。

“剑桥大学在吸引低收入家庭背景的学生方面早已存在问题,而且这个问题正在恶化,”刘易斯说,“对那些学生来说,入学是种灾难。”

但是,英国政府说它将改善入学办法。查理斯·克拉克是政府教育大臣,他说没有别的办法来彻底改造英国滞后的大学体制,以保证各种不同背景的学生享有平等的入学资格。政府希望至少有50%的英格兰孩子和威尔士孩子能接受高等教育,但目前却只有40%。

《护卫者》杂志报道,英国有40所以上的大学宣布,只要有可能,他们将实行最高限额的学费标准。

科林·坎贝尔是诺丁汉大学的副校长,他说:“我想一部分大学将马上实行3 000英镑的收费标准。”

“我们所讨论的收费在现行体制下比起北美大学的收费是微乎其微的了,我认为高收费仍然是必要的。”他说。

有些批评家说白皮书也是在向英国人对高等教育的普遍观念挑战。

“在美国,学生为‘独立完成大学学业’而骄傲,他们将教育看成是个人投资。在英国,年轻人借钱去买房子和车,而他们现在也必须要准备着去借钱上大学。”牛津大学的弗农·博格达纳教授说。



Five

词语注释

① bid: v. to make an offer to pay or accept a specified price 出价;叫

牌;[美] 投标,争取

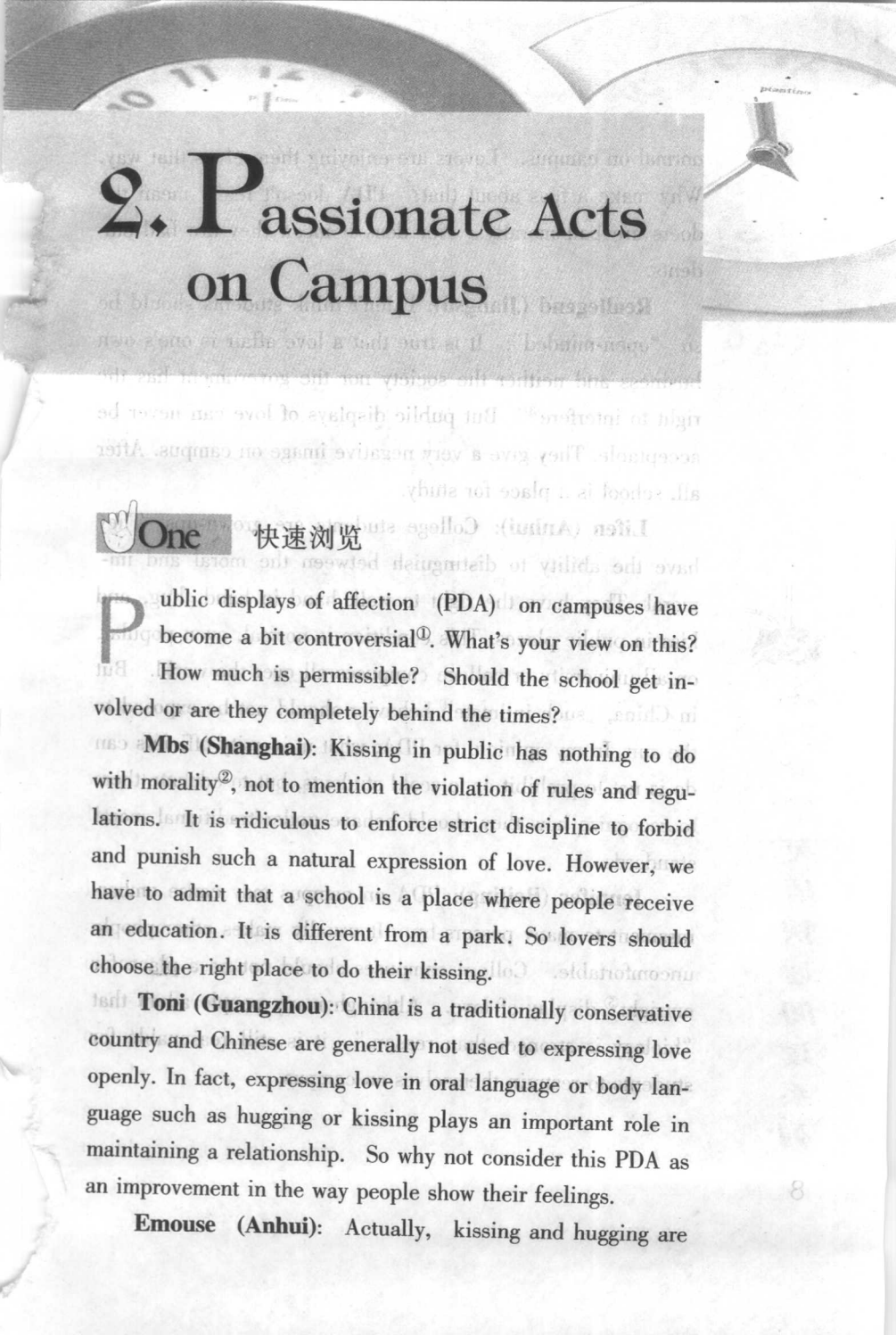
② cap: *n.* an upper limit; a ceiling 最高限额;上限

③ contingent: *adj.* true only under certain conditions 伴随的

④ elitist: *n.* 优秀人材,杰出者

⑤ overhaul: *v.* to examine or go over carefully for needed repairs 检查,
大修;翻修,拆修





2. Passionate Acts on Campus



One

快速浏览

Public displays of affection (PDA) on campuses have become a bit controversial^①. What's your view on this? How much is permissible? Should the school get involved or are they completely behind the times?

Mbs (Shanghai): Kissing in public has nothing to do with morality^②, not to mention the violation of rules and regulations. It is ridiculous to enforce strict discipline to forbid and punish such a natural expression of love. However, we have to admit that a school is a place where people receive an education. It is different from a park. So lovers should choose the right place to do their kissing.

Toni (Guangzhou): China is a traditionally conservative country and Chinese are generally not used to expressing love openly. In fact, expressing love in oral language or body language such as hugging or kissing plays an important role in maintaining a relationship. So why not consider this PDA as an improvement in the way people show their feelings.

Emouse (Anhui): Actually, kissing and hugging are

normal on campus. Lovers are enjoying themselves that way. Why make a fuss about that? PDA doesn't really mean the doers are bad morally. Nor does it mean they are bad students.

Reallegend (Jiangsu): I don't think students should be so "open-minded". It is true that a love affair is one's own business and neither the society nor the government has the right to interfere^③. But public displays of love can never be acceptable. They give a very negative image on campus. After all, school is a place for study.

Lifen (Anhui): College students are grown-ups. They have the ability to distinguish between the moral and immoral. They have the right to walk hand in hand, hug, and kiss in public places. This condition is normal, even popular, on all university or college campuses all over the world. But in China, such intimate^④ behavior should not be exposed to the sun. In my opinion, for PDA, what university officials can do is not to prohibit or to scold students, but to educate them to recognize how they should behave under traditional moral standards.

Jennifer (Beijing): PDA on campus may cause embarrassment to many passers-by. It usually makes other people uncomfortable. College campuses should not be a place for outright^⑤ display of love. Although many people admit that "biology is stronger than reason," it is still reasonable for students to restrain themselves on campus.





Two

阅读自测

- Whose views are against PDA?
 - Reallegend and Jennifer.
 - Toni and Reallegend.
 - Emouse and Jennifer.
 - Toni and Jennifer.
- Which of the following is not an evidence for the rightness of PDA?
 - PDA shows a development of revealing human feelings.
 - PDA is an index for the strong feelings of individualism.
 - PDA has nothing to do with morality.
 - PDA is normal on campus.
- The word "conservative" (Para.3, L.1) probably means _____.
 - preservative
 - progressive
 - cautious
 - traditional
- We can infer from the passage that _____.
 - PDA has become a noticeable phenomenon on campus
 - there exists consensus about PDA
 - students are either for or against PDA
 - schools may not have taken measures on PDA



Three

答案

1. A 2. B 3. D 4. C