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英语冲击波

KEY ISSUES TO HELP YOU EXPRESS YOURSELF IN ENGLISH

ISSUES 焦点篇

Richard R. Day (美) 编著
Junko Yamanaka (日)



外语教学与研究出版社

FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH PRESS



Impact **ISSUES**



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出版说明

“英语冲击波”系列是外语教学与研究出版社从国外引进的英语口语会话教材，共分三册，分别是《话题篇》、《焦点篇》、《价值篇》，难度略有递增。每一册汇集了最令青年学生感兴趣讨论的近30个话题，共分为五大类主题，关系到人物、情感、家庭、生活、社会等问题，涉及了当前西方社会生活中的多个不同侧面。每一个话题都是开放式的，带有一定的争议性，旨在使学生通过对该话题的领会，了解其中所反映出的价值观念，从而明确自己的看法，并能就此展开深入讨论，以此培养学生用英语思维、表达及交流的能力。

本套教材适合具有一定英语基础、有志于进一步提高口语水平的读者自学使用，也可作为课堂上的英语口语培训教材。每一册的最开始部分都有内容介绍，详尽说明了应该如何自学或在课堂上使用本书。另外本套教材配有CD，随书发行，读者可参照学习。

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From the authors, special thanks go to Mike Rost and Anne McGannon for their extraordinary work and dedication to the project.

HOW TO USE 如何使用本书

Impact ISSUES



致学生

TO THE STUDENT

You can use this book by yourself or in class with other students. Here are some ideas to help you when you use it by yourself:

你可以用本书自学，或者在课堂上与其他学生一起学，下面是帮助你自学的几点建议：

- 1 Look at the **TABLE OF CONTENTS**. What topics do you like? Choose a topic that you really like.
1. 先看“目录 (Table of Contents)”，你喜欢哪些话题？选择一个你真正感兴趣的话题。
- 2 Go to the topic and read the story. Read as quickly as you can, but don't go too fast. Try to understand the story; don't worry if you don't know all the words. And don't stop to look up words in your dictionary! You can look up words that you don't know in the **GLOSSARY** *after* you have finished reading.
2. 翻到这个话题，读它的内容。要尽量快速地阅读，但不要读得太快，尽量弄懂文章的意思。如果不能认识所有的单词也不必担心，也不要停下来去查词典。在你读完文章之后，你可以在书后的“词汇表 (Glossary)”中查找不认识的单词。
- 3 Then listen to the story on the CD. Read along silently as you listen. It is a good idea to do this activity two or three times, because it helps you understand spoken English. It also helps you with the pronunciation of words you don't know.
3. 然后听CD中的这篇文章，一边听一边默诵。最好能这样练习两到三遍，因为这有助于你理解英语口语，也有助于你熟悉所不认识的单词的发音。
- 4 Next, read the **WHAT DO YOU THINK?** opinions. Choose the opinions you agree with.
4. 接下来，阅读“众说纷纭 (What do you think?)”这个部分，选出你认可的观点。
- 5 Then read the instructions for **LOOKING AT THE ISSUE**. Complete the table with your ideas.
5. 然后，读“话题思考 (Look at the Issue)”这部分的题目，根据你自己的观点填好其中的表格。
- 6 Finally, study the **INTERACTION TIP** in the back of the book. When you speak English in the classroom or with someone outside school, try to use the tips you have learned.
6. 最后，学习书后面的“交流技巧 (Interaction Tip)”。当你在课堂上或在校外与其他人交流时，尽量使用这些所学过的技巧。

It is not necessary to start with the first topic and work to the end of the book. You can try any topic you wish. Choose the topics that interest you most.

没有必要从第一个话题开始，从头学到尾。你可以随心所欲地选择任何一个话题。选择那个最令你感兴趣的话题吧。

If you have a friend who wants to speak English, try using this book together. It's fun to compare your ideas with another person.

如果你有朋友也愿意学说英语，试着和他/她一起使用这本书。交流彼此的想法是很有趣的。

Impact Issues is a collection of nearly 30 current topics that young adult students have expressed an interest in discussing. The topics are organized into five "Issues," and each topic is carefully presented with exercises to help students understand the issues and express their own opinions.

There are many ways you can use the material in this book to help your students improve their reading, listening and speaking abilities in English. Here is one possible procedure:

本书收集了当前青少年学生感兴趣讨论的近30个热门话题，共分为5大“焦点(Issues)”。每一个话题都配有精心准备的练习，以帮助学生更好地理解，并有助于他们表达自己的观点。

有多种方式可以使用本书中的材料来提高学生读、听、说的能力。试举下面一例：

- 1 Begin by looking over the Table of Contents. Choose the Issues and the Topics that will be of greatest interest to your students. You don't have to start with the first issue.
 1. 先看目录，选出最能令学生感兴趣的“焦点”与“话题”，不必从第一个开始。
- 2 In class, have the students read the Introduction questions to start thinking about the topic before they read.
 2. 在课堂上，让学生先读“引导性问题”，以便在正式阅读文章之前就能够开始思考。
- 3 Next, have the students turn to the Topic and read the story. Tell them to read quickly, and advise them not to look up words in their dictionaries. They should focus on the parts in bold type, as these are the main ideas of the reading. When they have finished reading, you can give them a couple of minutes to find words they don't know in the Glossary.
 3. 接下来，让学生翻到所选择的话题，开始阅读文章。告诉他们尽量快读，但不要查词典。对粗体字的部分应该特别留意，因为这些都是文章的中心意思。当学生们读完后，你可以给他们几分钟查阅“词汇表”。
- 4 If you have a CD player, you can play the CD and have the students read along silently as they listen. This is an important activity because it helps the students understand the rhythm, stress and intonation of spoken English, as well as the pronunciation of unfamiliar words.
 4. 如果有CD播放机，你可以播放CD，同时让学生边听边跟着默默诵读。这是非常重要的步骤，因为它有助于学生理解英语口语的节奏、重音和语调，以及那些他们所不熟悉的词汇的发音。
- 5 Now have the students read the What Do You Think? opinions. The purpose of this activity is to get the students to think about different opinions or viewpoints on the topic. The opinions are not numbered or ordered logically, to encourage the students to select the opinions they like or agree with.
 5. 现在让学生阅读“众说纷纭”这个部分所列举的观点。这样做的目的是让学生思考关于文章话题的不同的意见和观点。这些观点并没有标号或按逻辑顺序排列，学生可以凭个人喜好自由选择。
- 6 The students then compare the opinion(s) they have chosen with a partner or in a small group. They can either read the ones they have chosen, or try to give the opinions in their own words. There are no right or wrong answers to this activity. The students can consult the Interaction Tips in the back of the book for simple conversation patterns to use when they exchange opinions.
 6. 然后学生可以结成对子或者分成小组，交流他们各自认同的观点。他们可以读出自己所选择的观点，或者尽量用自己的话表达。在讨论中没有正确或错误的答案。在交换意见时，学生可参看书后的“交流技巧”，将它们运用到简单的谈话套路当中去。

7 Finally, have the students try the Looking at the Issue activity. The goal of this activity is to help the students think critically about some aspect of the topic. You can have the students do this activity alone, in pairs or in small groups. If the students work alone, have them share their ideas with their classmates, either in pairs or in small groups, when they are finished. Again, there are no right or wrong answers to this activity.

This entire procedure can take from 30 to 60 minutes, depending on the English ability of your students and how long you want to spend on each activity.

OPTION:

In the back of the book, there are Interaction Tips. These tips present basic vocabulary and grammatical structures to help the students exchange ideas. You can present one Interaction Tip for each topic and demonstrate it with the students. Then you can have them practice in pairs. Remind the students to use the tips when discussing their opinions with their classmates.

Once the students have finished a topic, you can try a follow-up activity:

- a written assignment on the topic that asks the students to express their opinion, summarize and analyze the story or tell a similar story of their own
- a presentation for which the students find similar, current articles to share with the class
- a debate in which the students formally prepare, present and discuss their ideas on the topic

We hope that you and your students will enjoy using this book. We hope that your students' interest and motivation will increase, and that their reading, thinking and discussion ability in English will develop. Please write us with your comments and suggestions. We would love to hear from you.

7. 最后, 让学生做“话题思考”这个部分。这部分的目的是让学生审慎地看待话题中的某些侧面。你可以让学生自己做这个部分, 也可以让他们结成对子或分成小组。如果学生是自己完成这一步的, 还要让他们和同学(或者结成对子, 或者分成小组)交流自己的看法。同样地, 这个步骤也没有正确或者错误的答案。

整个过程需要30至60分钟, 取决于学生的英语水平和你想在每个步骤上花费多长的时间。

可选方案

在本书后面的部分, 罗列了“交流技巧”。这些技巧涵盖了帮助学生们交流思想的基本词汇和句式结构。每一个技巧都可以随一个话题进行讲解, 你可以给学生做示范, 然后让学生结成对子练习运用。在学生彼此间讨论他们的观点时, 要提醒他们使用这些交流技巧。

当学生完成一个话题之后, 还可以接着做练习:

- 就相关话题写一篇作文, 让学生表达自己的观点, 总结和分析相关的话题, 或者讲述他们自己的类似的故事
- 拿出学生们认为类似的当前文章与全班一起探讨
- 组织一场辩论, 让学生们就相关话题做正式的准备, 阐明并讨论他们的观点

我们希望您和您的学生能够乐于使用这本书, 希望学生们的兴趣和学习动力能有所提高, 他们用英语阅读的能力、思考的能力和辩论的能力可以由此得到培养。请告诉我们您的想法和建议, 我们非常愿意听取您的意见。

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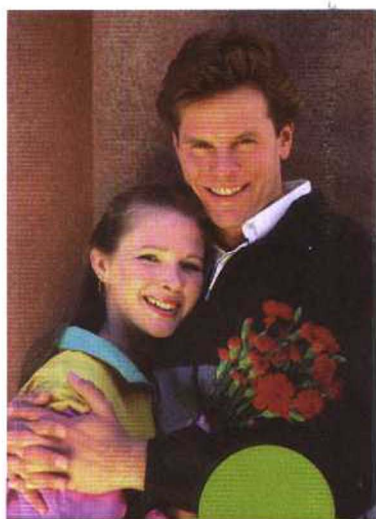
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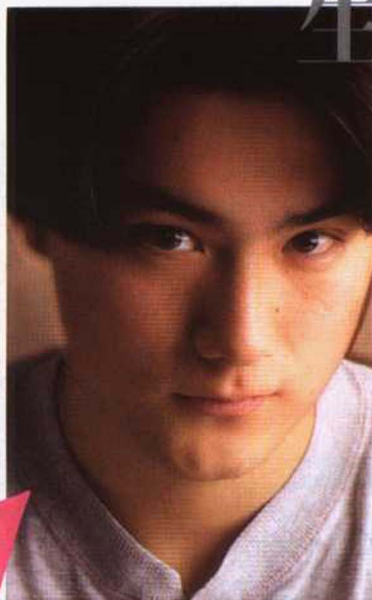
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ISSUES IN LIFESTYLES

生活方式



1 WHY LEARN ENGLISH?

为什么学英语?

- Is learning English necessary?
学英语有必要吗?
- Is it a waste of time?
还是在浪费时间?
- A university student gives his opinion.
一个大学生阐述自己的观点。

2 FOREVER SINGLE

保持单身

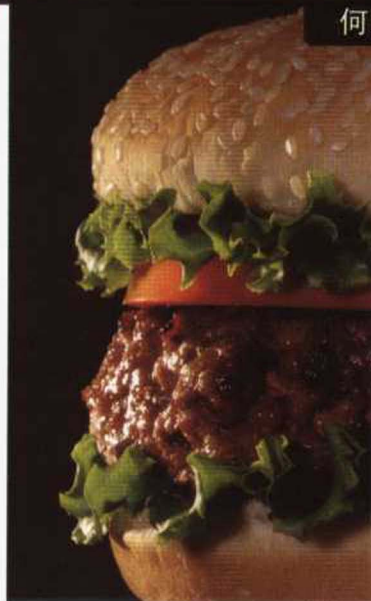
- What do you think about marriage?
你对婚姻有何感想?
- Is marriage a good idea for everyone?
人人都适合结婚吗?
- A young professional woman gives her opinion about marriage and freedom.
一位年轻的职业女性阐述自己的婚姻观。



- Do you like eating meat?
你喜欢吃肉吗?
- Do you think humans need to eat meat?
人类非得吃肉吗?
- A professor of food science gives her views on the topic.
食品专家阐述看法。

3 WHAT'S FOR DINNER?

何以为食?





4

LAST CHANCE

最后的机会

- Are we treating the earth well?
我们在善待地球吗?
- Are our lifestyles dangerous to the environment?
我们的生活方式危害了环境吗?
- A time traveler from the year 2500 returns to earth with a warning.
来自2500年的时空旅游者的警告。

5

TAKE THE MONEY AND RUN

转会风波

- Do professional athletes play only for money?
职业运动员 只为钱比赛吗?
- Is money more important than everything else?
钱比其他的一切重要?
- A sports star has to make a difficult decision.
体育明星的艰难选择。



- What are the problems of having too many cars?
车辆过盛会产生什么问题?
- Can anything be done about these problems?
能就此采取措施吗?
- One Asian city provides a possible solution.
一个亚洲城市的解决方案。

6

TRAFFIC JAM

交通阻塞



为什么学英语?

Why Learn English?

1

*Jin Lee has studied English for a long time. Read the story and find out:
How does he feel about learning English?*

李晋学英语已经有很长时间了,可他对此是怎样想的呢?

I am a fourth-year student at a good university in Korea. I will graduate in four months and take a job with a company in a small town near Seoul. I have spent almost 10 years learning English. And let me tell you, **it has been a waste of time.**

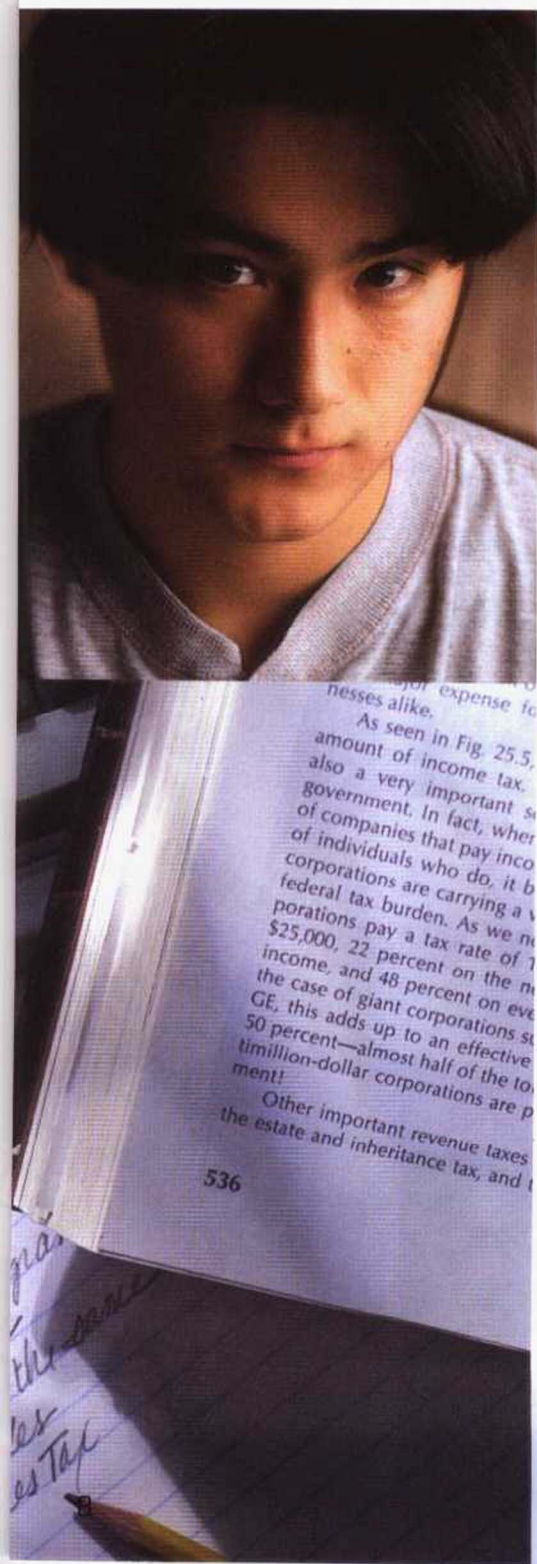
To begin with, **I will probably never use English in my work.** My job will be with a taxi company. Everyone speaks Korean. The owner of the company is Korean and all of the employees are Korean, too. The taxi drivers themselves do not need to speak English because there are very few foreign visitors in our small town.

I don't need English in my free time, either. If I want to read about what is happening in foreign countries, **I can read Korean newspapers and magazines. I can learn all about other countries by reading in my native language, not English.**

And of course all the television stations carry international stories, so **I don't have to watch the news in English in order to understand what is happening all over the world.**

I think of the many hours, days, weeks, even years that I spent in school and at home studying English. **Just think of what else I could have studied instead of English.** I could have studied more history, so that I could understand my country better. Or I could have read more literature, to help me understand the great writers of my country.

Instead, I spent so much time studying English. **And for what reason?** So I could pass examinations? What a terrible waste of time. I really can't understand why people need to study English for so many years.



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

众说纷纭

Which opinions do you agree with?
Check as many as you want.

☐ English is the most important international language. We should all study it until we're good at it, even if it takes several years.



☐ If you need English for work or travel, you should learn it. But not everybody needs to learn it—for a lot of people, it's just a waste of time and energy.



☐ You may think you don't need English now, but who knows? You might need it in the future. So, it's better to be prepared.



☐ I think learning a foreign language is very important. But it doesn't have to be English. Other languages are important, too, especially the languages of neighboring countries.



☐ We should study English but not for so long. The people who really need it can continue to study it if they want.



Now exchange your ideas with a classmate.

TURN TO PAGE 74 FOR AN INTERACTION TIP.

LOOKING AT THE ISSUE

话题思考

Here are some reasons for learning English.
Can you think of an argument against each reason?

For

Against

If you know English, you can travel anywhere.

Not really. There are many places where English is not used.

You can watch American movies.

English is the language for computers.

You can get a good job.

You can have international friends.

your idea:

*F*OREVER SINGLE

保持单身

2

*Hope Hamilton doesn't want to get married.
Read this story and find out why.*

霍普·汉密尔顿不愿意结婚，为什么呢？

Hope Hamilton should be excited. Her boyfriend, Bob, asked her to marry him. But after thinking about it very carefully, **Hope has decided she does not want to get married.**

Hope, an attractive 32-year-old Los Angeles computer salesperson, says she loves her boyfriend. They have lived together for one year and they are happy together. Bob is well-educated, intelligent and kind. He has a well-paying job. And he shares housework with her. **In short, he seems to be the perfect husband.**

"But marriage is for fools and dreamers," says Hope. "I mean, who in their right mind would willingly give up their freedom for another person?"

Marriage changes people, Hope believes. Husbands and wives begin to take each other for granted. Bob helps with the shopping and cooking now, but Hope thinks that this might change if they get married. She might have to do much more of the traditional woman's work—cooking, shopping and housework.

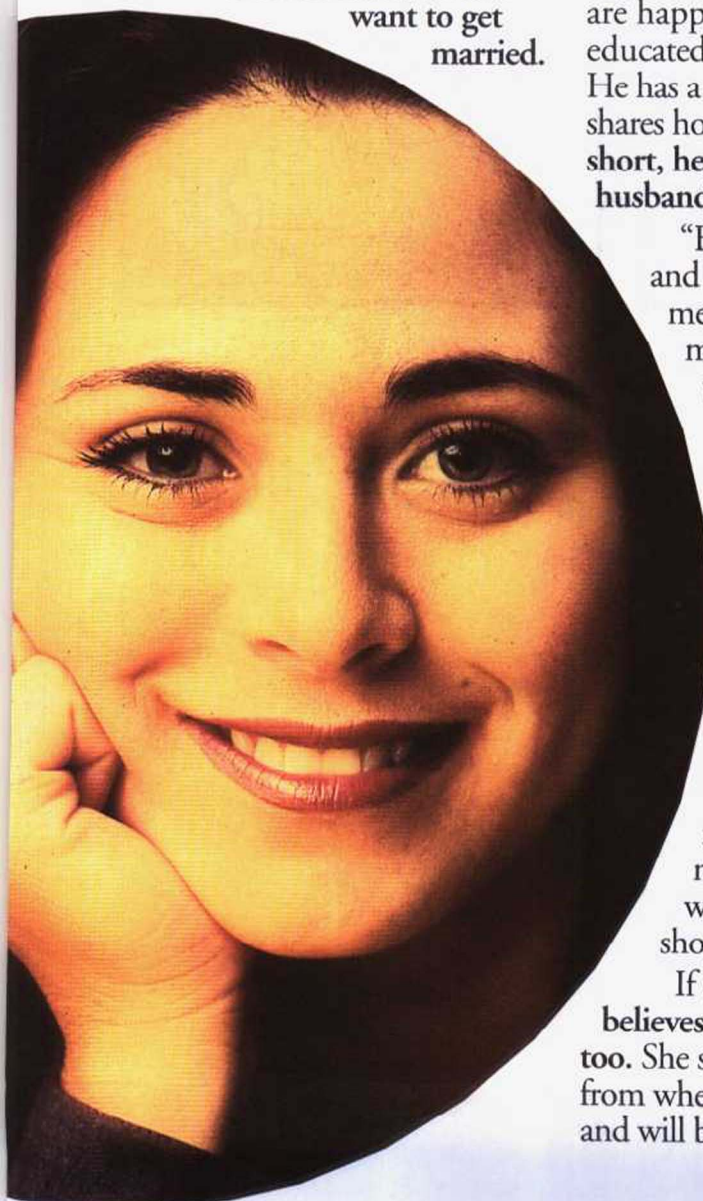
If she gets married, **Hope believes that she will change, too.** She says she is very different from when she was 22 years old, and will be a different person in

10 more years. So she wonders if she can remain happy with Bob.

Hope simply feels that marriage is not the best relationship. "Hey, **almost half of all marriages end in divorce.** And many people who do stay married may not be happy. I have a lot of married friends whose marriages are not very good."

Hope also thinks that marriage will die out in the next century. "So many people all over the world live together now without being married. There is really no need for marriage to continue," she believes.

"Don't get me wrong," Hope explains, "I am not a crazy person who wants to live a life separated from other people, especially men. I love people, and that's another reason why marriage is not the best relationship. There are too many cool people in the world. **I do not want to be tied to just one person all of my life. I enjoy being free.**"



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

众说纷纭

What do you think about marriage?
Check the opinions you agree with.

☐ I don't like marriage because it means "giving up freedom."



☐ Maybe marriage is not a good idea. It's difficult to live happily with one person all your life. People change.



☐ Marriage is important. It keeps society together. It's really necessary.



☐ When you meet the right person, you'll want to get married. It's natural.



☐ If you want to have children, marriage is important. Children need a stable home.



Now exchange your ideas with a classmate.

TURN TO PAGE 74 FOR AN INTERACTION TIP.

LOOKING AT THE ISSUE

话题思考

Should a person stay single or get married?
What are some good reasons for each one?

Staying single is good because...

Many marriages end in divorce anyway.

When you get married, you have to give up your freedom.

People change. You can't love one person forever.

your idea:

Getting married is good because...

If you meet the right person, you will live happily together.

Marriages keep society together.

It's important to bring up children with a mother and father.

何以为食?

What's for Dinner?

Dr. Heidi Cornfield, a professor of food science, is being interviewed about her new book, What's for Dinner? Read the interview and find out: What does she think is wrong with the American diet?

海蒂·科恩费尔德是一位饮食专家，正在就她的一本新书《何以为食》接受采访。她认为美国人的饮食结构有什么缺点吗？

Interviewer: You have some very strong ideas about what Americans eat, Professor Cornfield. Could you tell our audience about some of them?

Cornfield: I'd be delighted. First, I think that **Americans eat too much meat.** We can get protein from other types of food, not just meat. For example, tofu is rich in protein. We really don't need to eat meat to live.

Interviewer: Maybe, but some of our listeners really like nice thick juicy hamburgers. They might not need them, but they sure like them.

Cornfield: I agree with you. **But there are health reasons to stop eating meat.**

Interviewer: What do you mean, Professor?

Cornfield: Eating meat, especially beef, can cause heart disease. Thousands of Americans die from heart disease every year.

Interviewer: That's interesting. Are there other reasons why we should stop eating meat?

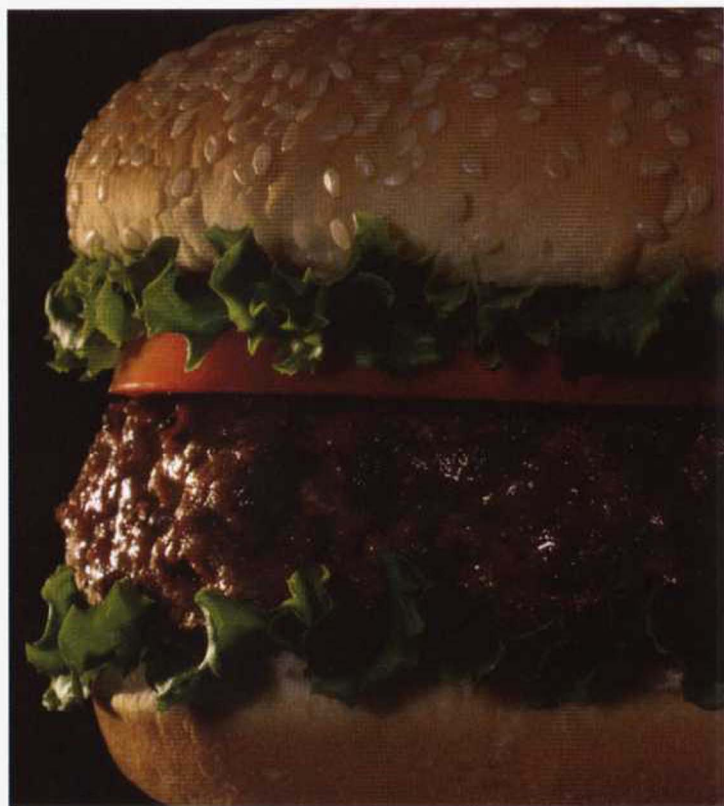
Cornfield: Yes. **Did you know that eating meat hurts, even destroys, the environment?**

Interviewer: I don't understand. How?

Cornfield: It is a fact that **rain forests in Central America are being destroyed to produce cheap beef to export to other countries,** including the United States. And that hamburger you like so much—well, it takes 20 square meters of rain forest for each burger!

Interviewer: Oh, no. But I don't like to eat tofu.

Cornfield: That's OK. There are other good foods to eat.



Interviewer: Well, we're almost out of time. Do you have any final comments?

Cornfield: There are many more interesting facts in my book. Think about this one before you order your next burger: In the last 300 years, Americans have cut down over half of their trees to get land to grow food to feed cattle—all because people think they need meat.