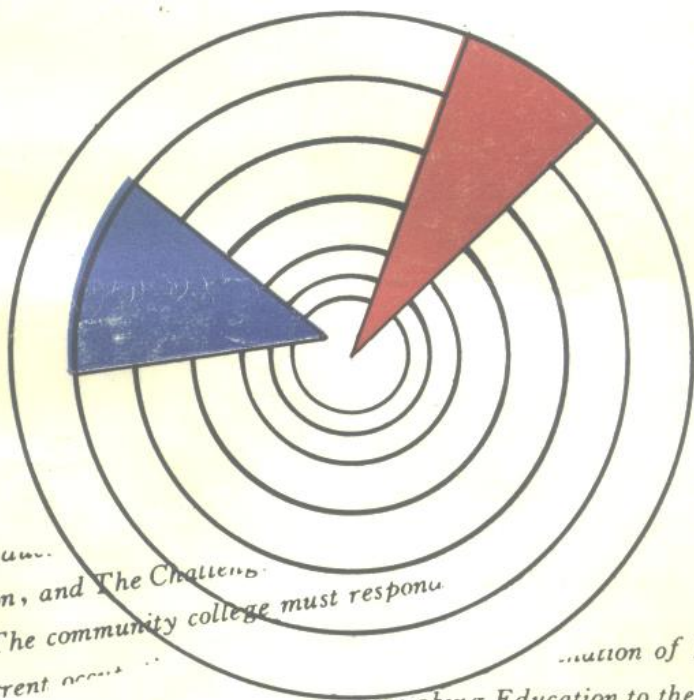


科技英语听读精粹

Highlight of Listening and Reading
in Scientific English

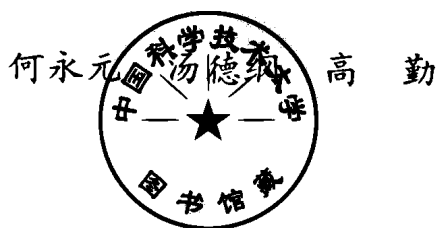
何永元 汤德纲 高 勤



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(浙)新登字 10 号

本书附有二盒录音磁带,定价 12.00 元,邮费 3 元
邮购请寄浙江大学出版社发行科(310027)

2R78/12

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何永元 汤德纲 高 勤

插图编绘 宋纪浔

责任编辑 张 明

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浙江大学出版社出版

浙江大学出版社计算机中心电脑排版

杭州富阳何云印刷厂印刷

浙江省新华书店发行

* * *

787×1092 32 开 10.5 印张 251 千字

1993 年 12 月第 1 版 1993 年 12 月第 1 次印刷

印数:0001—3000

ISBN 7-308-01431-2/H·127 定价:5.75 元

如何使用好本书

通过多年教学实践,我们深知广大同学对听力理解最感困难。为帮助同学们迅速克服听力理解方面的困难,有效地提高听力理解能力,我们选编了《科技英语听读精粹》。所选的文章都是内容完整、语言精练、且生词或听力障碍在十个左右的科技短文。文章内容具有很强知识性和趣味性,特别是听力语速不快属(每分钟不到一百字),属地道美国英语和美语读音。

全部听读内容共28篇,每篇有听力的文字材料,生词注释,三种不同形式的分段巩固练习,为帮助读者深刻理解听读内容,每篇还附参考译文。全书配两盒录音磁带,供读者自我听力训练。练习均附参考答案,可供听读练习完成后自测。

本书每篇均为一完整内容,独立成章,难易程度适中,每课生词十个左右,故是大专院校英语水平三级以上学生和报考“托福”、研究生等的读者作为听读训练极好补充材料,同时也可作训练收听外台节目的辅助材料。编选过程中我们参阅了国内外类似内容的编写,并根据我们多年教学经验作了新的探讨,将听读与多种巩固练习有机结合,力求学习者在使用本书后,能在听读方面收益非浅。

如何使用好本书呢?我们向读者谈几点简要的看法和意见,供参考。

我们知道听和读是人们学习、接收语言两个重要的方面,也是全面掌握一门语言的两个重要手段。本书首先作听力理解用,

为帮助读者顺利听懂,我们把每篇文章分成三部分,学习者可一部分一部分地听。我们还在每篇中做了注释(包括生词和其他听力障碍,如地名、组织机构专用名称等),供使用者听前准备。听力训练一开始,就得排除一切杂念和紧张情绪,自始至终,专心倾听,听完后独立完成针对内容理解而设计的检查巩固练习。如听一遍还不能顺利完成练习,可重复听一遍(但要逐步过渡到只听一遍)。完成练习后,不要急于去查对所提供的参考答案,这时可将听力文字材料按阅读理解要求进行阅读,再完成上述练习,以求巩固。并将此次完成练习的结果与听力理解后完成练习的结果进行对比,最后再对照参考答案,看看自己听力理解和阅读理解的成绩。

如你的练习答对率已达70%以上,这说明文章难易程度对你合适,同时你听读理解也已达到基本要求。

听力理解的重要方面是听懂文章中的词句,并迅速在脑中反映出它的意义,将它紧密与内容含义联系起来,且把它储存在脑中,供以后完成巩固练习用。文中难免有一下子不能听懂、不能理解,甚至没有学过的词语,这时切忌心急,应保持冷静,继续去捕获有关信息,联系上下文猜想,因为上下文内容和后面的信息往往会帮助你理解前面没听懂的材料。总之,耐心仔细全面地听下去,是至关重要的。我们深信,通过把听与读有机结合起来,相辅相成,一定会加深内容理解,全面迅速提高听读能力。

由于我们水平有限,难免有疏漏之处,欢迎使用者批评指正。

编 者

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Part I

A French scientist says he believes all humans developed from an African tribe of Pygmies. The scientist, Gerard Lucot, of the College of France in Paris says his research shows the first human father was a member of an ancient tribe known as the Akka. Members of the tribe still live in the Central African Republic. Other scientists say it still is too early to know who was the genetic father of us all. But at least 6 teams of scientists are involved in attempts to find him. American scientists said 4 years ago they had evidence that everyone alive today came from one woman.

They got the evidence from genetic material called mitochondrial-DNA. It comes only from mothers.

Part II

Scientists said the woman lived in East Africa almost 200,000 years ago. Scientists then began searching for the first father. They studied the Y-chromosome. It is a tiny piece of genetic material found only in males. They looked for differences between the Y-chromosomes of different groups of men. Dr. Lucot used the world's first international collection of Y-chromosomes. It is at the Pasteur Institute in Paris. He found a few small differences in the Y-chromosomes. Then his research group developed a computer program that followed the likely path of these chromosome differences back in time. He says it goes back about 200,000 years to the Akka tribe.

Part III

Dr. Lucot is working now with several groups of scientists to study Y-chromosome differences in other populations. The scientists are from Tunisia, Australia, Japan and South Africa. Other scientists say Dr. Lucot's research is useful only for looking at differences between existing populations. Dr. Lucot admits that his research on

the Y-chromosome cannot tell the date of the first father. He says he accepted the date established by scientists for the first mother. Many scientists also say fossil evidence shows the original home of humans is in East Africa, not the southern part of the Central African Republic as Dr. Lucot claims. Research will continue probably for a long time before scientists agree when and where the first human father lived.

Notes

tribe [ˈraɪb] *n.* 部落

Pygmy, Pygmies [ˈpɪɡmi, ˈpɪɡmiɪs] *n.* 皮格米斯部落

Gerar Lucot [ʒəˈrɑː luˈkɒt] 热拉尔-鲁科特(人名)

Akka [ɑːkɑ] *n.* 阿卡部落

the Central African Republic 中非共和国

genetic [dʒiˈnetɪk] *adj.* 遗传的

genetic father 始祖, 老祖宗

evidence [ˈeɪdɪəns] *n.* 证据

mitochondrial-DNA [maɪtəˈkɒndrɪəl] *n.* 线粒体 DNA

DNA—deoxyribo-nucleic acid 脱氧核糖核酸

Y-chromosome [ˈkrɒməsəm] *n.* Y 染色体

the Pasteur Institute in Paris 巴黎的巴斯德学院

computer program [kəmˈpjʊːtəˈprəʊɡræm] 计算机程序

Tunisia [tjuːˈnɪziə] *n.* 突尼斯

Australia [ɔːsˈtreɪliə] *n.* 澳大利亚

fossil ['fɒsl] n. 化石

.....

Exercises

Task A

Study the notes first. Familiarize yourself with all of them, listen to the whole report carefully for one time and do the multiple-choice exercise below.

1. Some scientists are trying to find out
 - A. the first human father.
 - B. the first human mother.
 - C. the first tribe in Africa.
 - D. where the first human being lived.
2. How many scientists are involved in the work mentioned in this story?
 - A. 6.
 - B. 7.
 - C. 8.
 - D. At least over a dozen.
3. Why did the scientists study the Y-chromosome?
 - A. Because it existed in males only.
 - B. Because it was important in their attempt to find the first human father.
 - C. Because it was different with different human beings.

- D. Because it was interesting to the scientists.
4. Which of the following is true?
- A. The date for the first human father has been established.
- B. The first human father has been found.
- C. The date for the first human mother has been established.
- D. Dr. Lucot's work has been very successful.
5. It seems that many scientists do not agree with Dr. Lucot because
- A. they do not research in the same field with him.
- B. their research has led to different results from his.
- C. his nationality is different from theirs.
- D. he does not want to go on with his research.

Task B

Check your answer with the key. Listen to the whole report once again if you think it is necessary. Then listen to the three parts I, II and III separately, each for two times. Do the multiple-choice exercise after listening to each part.

Part I

1. who is Gerard Lucot?
- A. A French scientist.
- B. A college student.
- C. An African scientist.
- D. An African tribesman.
2. What does Dr. Lucot try to find out?
- A. The development of an African tribe.
- B. The civilization of ancient Africa.
- C. The first human father.

- D. The first human mother.
3. Which of the following is not true of "Akka"?
- A. It is a tribe in South Africa.
- B. It is an ancient African tribe.
- C. It is a tribe from which, Dr. Lucot thinks, the first human father came.
- D. It is a tribe whose members still live in the Central African Republic.
4. What do other scientists say about Dr. Lucot's conclusion?
- A. His research is early.
- B. They reached the same conclusion earlier.
- C. Such a conclusion is too early from the scientific point of view.
- D. It is true though it is a little bit too early.
5. What happened 4 years ago?
- A. Some American scientists found the evidence of the first human mother.
- B. Some American scientists found the genetic material called mitochondrial-DNA.
- C. Some African scientists found evidence of the first human mother.
- D. Some African scientists began to study mitochondrial-DNA.

Part I

1. Scientists believe that the first human woman lived
- A. 10,000 years ago.
- B. 120,000 years ago.

-
- C. 20,000 years ago.
- D. 200,000 years ago.
2. After scientists found evidence of the first human mother, they began
- A. searching for the place where she lived.
 - B. studying the evidence for further proof.
 - C. studying the human history.
 - D. studying the Y-chromosome in search of the first human father.
3. Which of the following is not true of Y-chromosome?
- A. It is tiny.
 - B. It exists in females only.
 - C. It exists in males only.
 - D. It differs with different groups of men.
4. What result did Dr. Lucot obtain from his research?
- A. He established the world's first international collection of Y-chromosome.
 - B. He found that Y-chromosomes were a genetic material.
 - C. He found some differences in the Y-chromosomes.
 - D. He found evidence for the first human father.
5. The purpose of Dr. Lucot's group in developing a computer program was
- A. to trace back the development of differences in the Y-chromosomes.
 - B. to figure out the age of man's civilization.
 - C. to figure out the age of the first human mother.

D. to figure out the amount of time for their research.

Part II

1. Dr. Lucot's present work is to study
 - A. Y-chromosome differences.
 - B. population differences.
 - C. population growth.
 - D. Y-chromosome development.
2. Which of the following countries does not have scientists working with Dr. Lucot?
 - A. Tunisia.
 - B. Austria.
 - C. Japan.
 - D. South Africa.
3. According to other scientists, Dr. Lucot's research is useful
 - A. only to the scientists working with him in Paris.
 - B. Only for the study of humans at his university in Paris.
 - C. only in the study of Y-chromosome differences of African tribes.
 - D. only for the study of the differences between existing populations.
4. What does Dr. Lucot admit about his research?
 - A. It cannot tell the date of the first human mother.
 - B. It can tell the date of the first human mother.
 - C. It cannot tell the date of the first human father.
 - D. It can tell the date of the first human father.
5. Many scientists believe that the original home of humans is in

- A. South Africa.
 - B. South America.
 - C. East Africa.
 - D. Central Africa.
6. What is concluded at the end of the story?
- A. The problem when and where the first human father lived is not easy to solve.
 - B. It will not be long to find the first human father.
 - C. Scientists will not go on with their research for a long time.
 - D. Research will go on for a long time though the first human father will be found soon.

Task C

Check your answer with the key. Listen to the whole report and fill in the following blanks with the exact words you hear from the tape.

1. Dr. Lucot believes all humans _____ an African tribe of Pygmies.
2. He says his research shows the first human father was _____ known as the Akka.
3. American scientists said they had _____ that everyone alive today came from _____.
4. Scientists then began _____ the first father.
5. Y-chromosome is a tiny piece of _____ only in males.
6. Dr. Lucot used the world's first international _____ of Y-chromosome.
7. Dr. Lucot's group _____ a computer program that _____ the likely path of these chromosome differences back in time.