

English Press Readings for China Undergraduates
高等院校英语报刊阅读教材

新世纪英语新闻阅读

(第2册)

An English Press Anthology for the New Century Vol.2

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福建师范大学教材建设基金资助

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*An English Press Anthology
for the New Century*

Vol. 2

新世纪英语新闻阅读
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国防工业出版社

· 北京 ·

内 容 简 介

全书共5个板块,分为22单元,每单元由Text A和Text B构成。所选文章主要是英文报刊2007年至2008年的热点新闻,世界政治、经济、文化、环境生态、教育、卫生、科技等诸多方面的情况介绍,体现当今世界和平、合作与发展的主题。

本书适合大学英语及涉外专业学生选修,也可供参加英语等级考试和研究生入学、托福、雅思、商务BEC等考试的学生及英语爱好者选读。

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前 言

在教育部颁布的高校英语专业教学大纲中的四、六、八级阅读项目中,明确将学生阅读美英报刊水平作为评定阅读能力的标准。为提高大专院校英语专业和涉外专业学生及从事外事、国际问题研究、报刊翻译等方面的读者阅读与理解英语报刊和英语新闻的能力,经全体编者的共同努力,《新世纪英语新闻阅读》(第2册)与广大读者见面了。

本书每单元的 Text A 选编主要来自英文报刊 2007 年至 2008 年的热点新闻(中国的四川汶川大地震、2008 年奥林匹克运动会、“神舟”七号发射和世界金融危机),世界政治、经济、文化、环境生态、教育、卫生、科技等诸多方面的新闻,体现当今世界和平、合作与发展的主题。登载各方面的新闻出于传递更多信息之目的,并不意味着赞同其观点或证实其描述。文章内容仅供参考。Text B 主要介绍英语报刊方面的基础知识。

课文尽量按照由浅入深的难度顺序编排。为方便阅读,每页课文下附有注释,主要引用百科全书与历史、文学等著作的论述以及高科技、计算机、信息产业发展等领域的新闻词汇等。课文后还附有背景知识、新闻链接、语言与文化、阅读理解练习、主题讨论、报刊常用词汇练习和参考答案等。

本书适合大学英语及涉外专业学生选修,也可供准备参加英语等级考试和研究生、托福、雅思、商务 BEC 等考试的学生以及英语爱好者选读。

《新世纪英语新闻阅读》(第2册)为福建师范大学教材建设基金资助项目。在编写的过程中,福建省图书馆、福建师范大学图书馆等为我们提供了很多资料。我们全体编者对我们提供资助、帮助和指导的老师和同行们表示衷心的感谢。

本教材定有错误与不妥之处,恳请使用本书的师生和读者多提出宝贵意见和建议,以便今后时事英语教材的编写质量能得到不断的提高。

编 者

于福建师范大学外国语学院

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Unit 1

Text A In Sleek Cars and “I Love China” T-shirts, a New People’s Army Pours Out to Help Victims of the Quake

By Jane Macartney, Sophie Yu Beichuan

Wearing “I love China” T-shirts, they unload the injured from ambulances. Driving their Hondas and their Audis, they deliver water to the homeless.

The devastating earthquake in China has given birth to a phenomenon unseen before in the country: a volunteer army.

Thousands upon thousands of Chinese, horrified at the death and devastation wreaked^① by last week’s 7.9 magnitude quake, have raced to do what they can for the survivors.

The death toll is approaching 32,500 and is expected to hit 50,000 once the final tally^② is collected across this beautiful corner of mountains and steep valleys, where landslides have cut off dozens of hard-hit communities. Only two people were pulled out from under the ruins yesterday and one woman had to have her legs amputated^③.

Volunteer health workers from all over the country have become a vital part of the rescue work, assisting the People’s Liberation Army wherever they can. In the

① wreak *v.* cause to happen or to occur as a consequence 发生

② tally *n.* record 记录

③ amputate *v.* remove surgically 切断

town of Beichuan they can be seen, noses covered with masks, spraying disinfectant^① over the ruins. Others wait on the edge of town to help exhausted refugees to trudge^② out of this valley of desolation^③.

One after another the volunteers repeat a favourite slogan: “If disaster strikes in one place, then people will come from eight places to help.”

Hu Yaxu, a 24-year-old music student from the Sichuan provincial capital, Chengdu, is working at the Pengzhou People’s Hospital. A special volunteer badge is pinned to a T-shirt printed with a map of China and the words “One China!!!”. Emerging after carrying the injured from the ambulance to the emergency room, he said: “I saw the disaster on television and I felt terrible. I had to come.”

A team of volunteers from Britain were moved by the same sentiment^④, but they got only as far as Hong Kong. The Chinese Government denied visas to the 10 specialists of International Rescue Corps, arguing that it lacked the resources to manage their work.

“It is frustrating,” said Willie McMartin, director of the charity. “When you are handed a sheet of paper from the Chinese Government requesting specialist equipment and you have it available at no cost to them in Hong Kong, and they will not let you in—it is just such a pity.”

In a village of wood-ear mushroom farmers, everyone is homeless. A convoy^⑤ of cars, sleek sedans with tinted^⑥ windows driven out from the city, draws to a halt. Well-dressed city dwellers emerge to hand out bottled water and biscuits to forlorn^⑦ peasants who shove and push for the food.

One man in a Pajero said: “This disaster is at our door. We can’t just look on^⑧ and say we feel bad about it. We have to do something real.”

He and his companions, mostly private businessmen, made contact on the in-

① disinfectant *n.* an agent (as heat or radiation or a chemical) that destroys microorganisms that might carry disease 消毒剂

② trudge *v.* walk heavily and firmly, as when weary, or through mud 蹒跚地走

③ desolation *n.* the state of being decayed or destroyed 荒废

④ sentiment *n.* tender, romantic, or nostalgic feeling or emotion 情绪,感情

⑤ convoy *n.* a procession of land vehicles traveling together 护送

⑥ tinted *adj.* colored lightly 带色彩的

⑦ forlorn *adj.* marked by or showing hopelessness 孤独的,悲惨的

⑧ look on observe with attention 旁观

ternet and decided to do their bit^①. The roads towards the epicenter^② are clogged^③ with such convoys.

Most just set out under their own steam^④ to offer aid. More and more are co-ordinating with the Chinese Red Cross to find out which villages are most in need of aid and what to bring.

On a dusty road in the heart of what was the town of Yunhua, a group of farmers drove four hours to ladle out steaming rice and bowls of potatoes braised with chicken. One woman said: "We bought 500lb of rice and spent a day peeling potatoes because we thought we should do something to bring relief to victims of this disaster."

China Mobile has pitched in^⑤. Dial a number, press 1 and you can donate one yuan (0.07p) for disaster relief. Chinese, traditionally reluctant to give blood because of a belief that it weakens the body, have queued in cities across the country to donate.

Today the entire country will mourn the dead. The State Council, or Cabinet, has declared three days of national mourning and at 2:28p. m.—the exact time the earthquake struck last Monday—air-raid sirens, horns of vehicles, trains and ships will wail^⑥ in grief and 1.3 billion people will observe three minutes of silence.

Amid deepening despair, the hordes^⑦ of volunteers and soldiers are no longer preparing to find survivors, only bodies. This will not prevent people from picking through the rubble to find loved ones whom they can now smell below the crumbled^⑧ concrete.

An insurance company salesman in desolate and empty Beichuan said: "I know my colleague is dead under here but I owe it to him to find him."

A Week of Grief

Monday, May 12

Sichuan province is hit by a quake measuring 7.9 on the Richter scale at

① do one's bit do what one should do 做自己份内的事

② epicenter *n.* the point on the Earth's surface directly above the focus of an earthquake 中心

③ clog *v.* become or cause to become obstructed 堵塞

④ under one's own steam without help from others 凭自己的力量

⑤ pitch in make contribution, work together 协力,作出贡献

⑥ wail *v.* cry weakly or softly 悲叹

⑦ horde *n.* a vast multitude 群

⑧ crumble *v.* to break into crumbs or small pieces 弄碎,粉碎,崩溃

2:28p.m. local time. The tremors^① rocked buildings as far away as Shanghai, Bangkok and Hanoi. As many as 900 children are reported buried in a high school in Dujiangyan, as the initial death toll is put at 8,600.

May 13

Rescuers reach the epicenter of the earthquake in the evening, having struggled against heavy rain and blocked roads.

May 14

Two thousand troops rush to the Zipingpu dam, upriver of Dujiangyan, which was damaged in the quake and threatens to burst and swamp^② the town and its 600,000 residents.

May 15

The Communist Party leadership told officials to “ensure social stability” as the disaster spawned^③ rumours of chemical spills, dam bursts and torrid^④ scenes of collective grief.

May 16

The official death toll rises to 22,069 as the Chinese President, Hu Jintao, visits the quake-hit area. Lin Deyun, a 50-year-old driver, is pulled alive from rubble 100 hours after the earthquake.

May 17

An aftershock measuring 6.1 on the Richter scale shakes the area. The death toll approaches 32,500.

Today

A three-minute memorial silence will be held.

(Abridged from The Times, Monday, May 19, 2008)

I . Background

专家:四川汶川地震属浅源地震 破坏力度较大

朱鹏英 杨维汉 谭浩 隋笑飞

5月12日下午,四川省汶川县发生7.8级地震,上海、宁夏、云南、重庆等10

① tremor *n.* a small earthquake 震动

② swamp *v.* fill quickly beyond capacity; as with a liquid 淹没

③ spawn *v.* to give rise to; engender 造成;使产生

④ torrid *adj.* characterized by intense emotion 强烈的,热烈的

多个省区市均有震感。有关专家对此次地震形成的原因、进一步发展趋势和今后应注意的问题作出了初步分析。

据中国地震局地震预测研究研究员张国民介绍,这次汶川发生地震是我国大陆内部地震,属于浅源地震,其破坏力度较大。

张国民说,地震可按照震源深度分为浅源地震、中源地震和深源地震。浅源地震大多发生在地表以下 30 公里深度以上的范围内,而深源地震最深的可以达到 650 公里左右。其中,浅源地震的发震频率高,占地震总数的 7% 以上,所释放的地震能量占总释放能量的 85%,是地震灾害的主要制造者,对人类影响最大。

专家表示,全球 7 级以上地震每年 18 次,8 级以上 1 次至 2 次。我国受印度板块和太平洋板块推挤,地震活动比较频繁。张国民说,从大的方面来说,汶川地震处于我国一个大地震带——南北地震带上,中部地区的中轴地震带位于经度 100 度到 105 度之间,涉及地区包括从宁夏经甘肃东部、四川西部、直至云南,属于我国的地震密集带。从小的方面说,汶川又在四川的龙门山地震带上。因此,这里发生地震的几率较高。

在地震学中,一般发生的震级越高,其破坏力度越大。这次汶川地震 7.8 级,其震中地区的破坏力度在 10 度左右,会造成房倒屋塌、地质滑坡和地面裂缝等灾害。由于一般地震不可能一次释放所有能量,因此四川周边地区有可能发生余震。

但对于关于北京局部地区将发生 2 级到 6 级地震的传言,专家表示可能性不大。中国科学院青藏高原研究所研究员丁林表示,这次汶川地震释放的能量很大,所以其他地区有震感,北京也受到了影响,但此后受到波及的可能性不大。

张国民说,一般情况下,余震要比主震低 1 级以上,一般不会超过主震,但有可能在附近地区,也可能造成新的灾害,要防备余震造成的灾害影响。因此,目前需要提防山区发生滚石、滑坡、交通堵塞、地面破坏等次生灾害,避免引发更大的灾害。

目前,中国地震局已启动一级预案。中国地震应急搜救中心总工程师曲国胜说,中国地震局抗震救灾指挥部已向四川汶川地震灾区派出救援队伍。

(Abridged from <http://www.Chinanews.com.cn/>2008 年 5 月 12 日新华网)

II . News Interlinkage

世界历史上最大哀悼活动感动全球

莽九晨 乔生 文凯 李洁思

环球时报·环球网消息 5 月 19 日 14 时 28 分,距离汶川特大地震爆发整

整七天的时刻。这一刻,在中国各地,国旗低垂,汽车、火车、舰船笛声长鸣,防空警报在城市上空鸣响;这一刻,在天安门广场,自发赶来的民众高喊“中国加油”、“祖国万岁”;这一刻,13亿中华儿女的泪水让世界感受到他们的悲伤。

而当中国经历了这场世界历史上最大规模的集体哀悼活动后,留给世界的,是中国人的坚强。

美国有线电视新闻(CNN)在中国举国默哀3分钟后,发表了题为《情感在中国举国默哀中流淌》的报道。文章说,在四川省的省会城市成都,数千百姓的情感在哀悼活动中得到了宣泄。在180秒的哀悼活动中结束后,他们高喊着支持灾区的口号。CNN现场记者口述说:“在静默的那一刻,所有人的手紧紧握在一起,一些人哭泣着……他们对于如此多人的遇难感到难以置信和震惊。”

英国路透社记者从四川平通镇发回报道说,从四川省城市的抗震帐篷中到北京天安门广场上,警报悲鸣、亿万中国人静立3分钟为上万名在四川大地震中遇难的同胞默哀。报道说,在大地震中几乎被完全损毁的平通镇,一位警察何琳(音)说:“我认为这3分钟十分重要,它代表着每一个同胞,从中央到每一名百姓都在牵挂着我们,因为此次地震比一场战争还要惨烈。”在北川,数百名的救援人员低头鞠躬,而用小树枝做成花圈平铺在地上。“我们感到特别心痛,许多人没有能够获救。”一位战士站立在学校的废墟上说道。

日本媒体从18日听到“哀悼日”的消息后,马上就作出相应报道,基本都将中国政府决定原文一字不落地进行报道。19日全国默哀后,网上马上就介绍了全中国一片哀悼肃穆的场面。

在北京,欧盟欧洲委员会驻华代表团降半旗向地震灾区遇难者致哀。

13亿中国人的集体默哀也感动了世界各国的人们。

在地震多发国日本,民众对中国举国默哀的表达方式感同身受。

一位日本中年律师对《环球时报》记者说,中国政府与人民的默哀,不仅是感情真实流露,也是人道理性的表达。他还说,此次汶川大地震是人类共同的灾难,不仅中国,世界各国都应表达这种哀悼。

另一位研究东洋美术专业的大学女教师说,她喜欢四川的石窟等文化遗产,每次到四川都要去卧龙的大熊猫基地。她说,她在四川拍摄到的那些栩栩如生的石雕佛像都像是自己的老朋友,她惦记着它们。“我们悼念那些死难的亡灵,也不要忘记存在于此宝贵的人文和自然遗产。”

莫斯科时间19日上午10时28分(北京时间14时28分),中国驻俄罗斯大使馆举行了哀悼仪式,俄罗斯弗拉基米尔州艺术团团长塔吉亚娜·奥兹多耶娃女士当时恰好在使馆附近。“听见使馆里传出来的哀鸣声,我觉得非常哀伤”,塔吉亚娜说,因为近期要到中国去,她很关心中国地震的事情,希望中国能将损失降

低到最低。

在俄罗斯联邦委员会工作的叶莲娜·巴达耶娃对《环球时报》记者说,中国人举国默哀的一刻,她的心情很沉重。“衷心希望所有的中国朋友和家人平安无事。”

在首尔,韩国外交安保研究院教授丁相基对《环球时报》记者说,看到地震灾害让中国人民饱受磨难,作为中国的邻国,韩国国民心里也感到十分难受。中国政府规定全国哀悼日,让每一个中国人表达了心中的悲伤之情,而每一个中国人的凝聚力也变得更增强了。

(Abridged from <http://yule.sohu.com/>2008年5月20日环球时报·环球网)

III. Language and Culture

预防地震灾害小常识

黄连华改编

人民网·天津视窗 5月12日电:

1. 地震知识

地震是一种自然现象,目前人类尚不能阻止地震的发生。但是,我们可以采取有效措施,最大限度地减轻地震灾害。

由于地球不断运动,逐渐积累了巨大能量,在地壳某些脆弱地带造成岩层突然发生破裂或错动,这就是地震。

地震前兆指地震发生前出现的异常现象,如地震活动、地表的明显变化以及地磁、地电、重力等地球物理异常,地下水位、水化学、动物的异常行为等。

地震烈度是距震中不同距离上地面及建筑物、构筑物遭受地震破坏的程度。我国将地震烈度分为12度。地震烈度和地震震级是两个概念,如唐山7.8级地震,唐山市的地震烈度是11度,天津中心市区的烈度是8度,石家庄的烈度是5度。

3度,少数人有感。

4度—5度,睡觉的人惊醒,吊灯摆动。

6度,器皿倾倒,房屋轻微破坏。

7度—8度,房屋破坏,地面裂缝。

9度—10度,桥梁、水坝损坏,房屋倒塌,地面破坏严重。

11度—12度,毁灭性破坏。

2. 发生有感地震应急行动

有感地震是指发生的地震级别较低,有明显震感,没有造成破坏和重大破坏的地震。

应急要点

○发生有感地震后,室内人员在震发瞬间不知道地震强弱的情况下,应迅速按预先选定的○较安全的室内避震点分头躲避。

○震后快速撤到室外,注意收听、收看电视台、电台播发的有关新闻,做好防震准备。

○了解震情趋势,不听信、传播谣言,确保社会稳定。

3. 发生破坏性地震应急行动

破坏性地震是指发生地震级别较大,造成一定的人员伤亡和建筑物破坏或造成重大的人员伤亡和建筑物破坏地震。

应急要点

○住平房的居民遇到级别较大地震时,如室外空旷,应迅速跑到屋外躲避,尽量避开高大建筑物、立交桥,远离高压线及化学、煤气等工厂或设施;来不及跑时可躲在桌下、床下及坚固的家具旁,并用毛巾或衣物捂住口鼻防尘、防烟。

○住在楼房的居民,应选择厨房、卫生间等开间小的空间避震;也可以躲在内墙根、墙角、坚固的家具旁等易于形成三角空间的地方;要远离外墙、门窗和阳台;不要使用电梯,更不能跳楼。

○尽快关闭电源、火源。

○正在教室上课、工作场所工作、公共场所活动时,应迅速抱头、闭眼,在讲台、课桌、工作台和办公家具下边等地方躲避。

○正在野外活动时,应尽量避免开山脚、陡崖,以防滚石和滑坡;如遇山崩,要向远离滚石前进方向的两侧方向跑。

○正在海边游玩时,应迅速远离海边,以防地震引起海啸。

○驾车行驶时,应迅速躲开立交桥、陡崖、电线杆等,并尽快选择空旷处立即停车。

○身体遭到地震伤害时,应设法清除压在身上的物体,尽可能用湿毛巾等捂住口鼻防尘、防烟;用石块或铁器等敲击物体与外界联系,不要大声呼救,注意保存体力;设法用砖石等支撑上方不稳的重物,保护自己的生存空间。

4. 地震时切忌惊慌

我们感觉到的地震,大多数是有感、强有感地震,少数能造成轻微破坏,造成严重破坏的地震是极少数。因此,当遇到地震时切忌恐慌,要沉着冷静,迅速采取正确行动。特别在高楼和人员密集场所,就地躲避最现实。我国有过地震并没造成任何破坏,但惊慌失措的人们互相拥挤踩踏造成重伤甚至死亡的教训。

○不要跳楼

○要相互关爱

- 人员密集场所不要拥挤
- 学生要听从指挥

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IV . Reading Comprehension

1. What has the devastating earthquake given birth to according to this article?
 - A. A phenomenon unseen before in the country.
 - B. A volunteer army.
 - C. Unhealthy babies.
 - D. Both A and B.
2. How many people were pulled out from under the ruins yesterday?
 - A. Only one.
 - B. Two.
 - C. Three.
 - D. Four.
3. Which of the following is NOT true about volunteer health workers from all over the country?
 - A. They have become a vital part of the rescue work.
 - B. They assist the People's Liberation Army wherever they can.
 - C. They spray disinfectant over the bodies.
 - D. They help exhausted refugees to trudge out of the valley of desolation.
4. Why did the volunteers from Britain get only as far as Hong Kong?
 - A. The Chinese Government denied visas to them.
 - B. They lacked the resources to manage their work.
 - C. They didn't have the special equipment requested.
 - D. All of the above.
5. Which of the following will wail in grief at 2:28 p.m. to mourn the dead?
 - A. Air-raid sirens.
 - B. Horns of vehicles.
 - C. Trains and ships.
 - D. All of the above.

V . Discussion Topics

1. What do you think about the volunteer army?
2. What did volunteers do?
3. What is the favorite slogan of the volunteers? What do you think about it?
4. What was on your mind while mourning the dead on May 19th?
5. What will you do to help the victims in the earthquake?