

跟我听

英语新闻听力每日一练

经济篇

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余高峰 华 燕 / 主编

南开大学出版社

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导听说明

本书作者根据多年来教授英语的经验，以“美国之音”标准英语为材料精心编写出《跟我听》英语系列丛书，其独具匠心的设计主要体现在导听部分。这部分包括：本段报道的中心思想和三个内容要点，以及十个生词和短语。导听文段也可以说是新闻标题的扩展形式，可以使听者直接了解本段报道的大意，提高听力理解的准确性和听力效果，满足不同层次英语水平听者的不同需求。具有中级英语阅读水平但听力不够好的人，可以阅读导听段，再开始听全文。这种有导向的听力训练可以避免盲听，提高效率，增强信心，从而逐步提高英语听力水平。听力基础较好的听者则可以直接听全文，然后再通过阅读导听段或者录音文本来检查自己听力的准确度。

本系列丛书适用于具有中级英语水平的英语学习者以及准备参加英语专业四、八级考试和大学英语四、六级考试的学生，也可以作为英语专业、大学英语和研究生英语听力课程教材，其中的视频听力资料还可以作为英语视听课教材使用。同时，对于参加出国能力认证考试如托福、雅思等的考生来说，本系列丛书也是难得的训练用书。衷心地希望本书对广大的英语爱好者能有一点点帮助。

在本书编写过程中得到石天麟、郭永霞、朱占庭、韩旗峰、余晨光、刘玉捷、黄志荣等同志的大力支持，在此向他们表示最衷心的感谢！

由于编者水平有限，时间紧，加之内容较新，如有不妥之处，敬请批评指正。

编 者

2008年5月于上海理工大学

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PART I

LISTENING GUIDE

Unit 1

Investors in Asia Worry about Fallout from Possible US Recession

Words and Expressions

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. recession 衰退 | 2. volatile 动荡不安的 |
| 3. plummet 猛跌 | 4. deterioration 恶化 |
| 5. persistent 坚持不懈的 | 6. inflationary 通货膨胀的 |
| 7. accelerate 加速 | 8. ultimate 最终的 |
| 9. liquidity 流动资产 | 10. subprime mortgage 次级房贷 |

The Main Idea

Japan's Nikkei Index rose for the third straight day following gains overnight on Wall Street and a week of fluctuation amid global worries about a possible U.S. recession. As correspondent reports from Hong Kong, financial analysts say concern is steadily growing among investors and officials in Asia about just how damaging the predicted recession will be.

Key Points

1. Analysts say expectations of continued decline in the U.S. economy are likely to cause a further deterioration of market value because investors in Asia are expecting a possible U.S. recession to last a long time.
2. Low interest rates can accelerate inflation because companies and consumers are willing to spend more and take on more debt when rates are low.
3. Leung says he believes the U.S. is already in the early stages of recession, and that it could last up to two years.

Unit 2

Russia's Gazprom to Further Cut Gas Supplies to Ukraine

Words and Expressions

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. transit 运行; 转送 | 2. accuse ... of 控告 |
| 3. parliamentary 议员 | 4. consume 消费 |
| 5. eliminate 消除 | 6. intermediary 中间商 |
| 7. joint venture 合资公司 | 8. transparent 透明的 |
| 9. corrupt 腐败 | 10. substantial 大量的 |

The Main Idea

The government of Ukraine will meet Wednesday to consider options in the face of further reductions in natural gas deliveries from Russia. The correspondent reports that Russia's state-run energy giant, Gazprom, is assuring customers in Europe that their supplies will not be affected.

Key Points

1. Speaking at a morning news conference in the Russian capital, Gazprom spokesman Sergei Kupriyanov said the company would reduce Ukraine's gas supplies by another 25 percent Tuesday evening.
2. On Monday, Ukraine's First Deputy Prime Minister Oleksandr Turchynov accused Russia of failing to pay his country as much as \$700 million in pipeline transit fees for gas deliveries to Europe.
3. The opposition Regions Party issued a statement on its website accusing the Tymoshenko government of excessive ambition.

Unit 3

Britain's Biggest Bank Takes \$17 Billion Hit on US Credit Woes

Words and Expressions

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. write off 冲销 | 2. extreme strain 极度的冲击 |
| 3. massive 大规模的 | 4. brokerage 经纪人的业务 |
| 5. stellar 主要的 | 6. scuttle 奔跑 |
| 7. provision 供应 | 8. bad debt 坏账 |
| 9. restructure 改造 | 10. regulatory 监管机构的 |

The Main Idea

Britain's largest bank, HSBC, has written off \$17.2 billion in bad debt after the U.S. housing market slide hit the value of its loans in 2007. The annual loss is the largest reported amongst Britain's big five mortgage lenders.

Key Points

1. The record HSBC write off is larger than the next four British banks combined.
2. Market analyst David Buik from the London brokerage firm BGC Partners says wise choices outside of the U.S. more than covered the debt damage.
3. HSBC is restructuring its operations there. It has reduced the amount of credit it extends and it is closing about 400 of its U.S. branches.

Unit 4

OECD Downgrades US Economic Outlook

Words and Expressions

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. downgrade 把……降级; 下调 | 2. premature 不成熟的 |
| 3. hamper 妨碍 | 4. credit crunch 信贷紧缩 |
| 5. slump 暴跌 | 6. indicator 指示物; 标示 |
| 7. euro-zone economy 欧元区经济 | 8. downbeat 悲观的; 令人沮丧的 |
| 9. prognosis 预测 | 10. prediction 预测 |

The Main Idea

The Paris-based Organization for Economic Development and Cooperation (OECD) published a grim assessment Thursday of the United States economy, saying it was close to recession. However, the OECD suggested European economies will likely fare better this year.

Key Points

1. The OECD downgraded its estimates for U.S. growth to just 0.1 percent for the first quarter of this year.
2. Elmeskov said the U.S. economy would be extremely weak for at least the first half of this year, hampered by a credit crunch and the collapse of the U.S. housing market.
3. The OECD said the so-called euro-zone economies—those European Union economies using the euro as their currency—have brighter prospects, and kept the prediction of 1.5 percent growth unchanged.

Unit 5

Patent Applications Soar in North East Asia

Words and Expressions

1. patent 专利
2. annual 每年的
3. filing 文件
4. commitment 承诺
5. hub 中心; 中枢
6. geographical coverage 地理覆盖面积
7. explosive 爆炸性的
8. dynamic 精力充沛的
9. technological powerhouse 技术的强大动力
10. a long way out in front 遥遥领先

The Main Idea

A new report finds North East Asia is fast becoming the most innovative region in the world. The World Intellectual Property Organization says there has been an explosion of patent filings from countries in the region. The WIPO report finds the three fastest growing technical fields are medical, audio-visual and information technology.

Key Points

1. Francis Gurry says China increased its patent filings by almost 33 percent over 2004, bumping it into third place in the rankings.
2. Gurry says the increase in patent filings reflects the country's commitment to becoming a hub of innovation.
3. While North East Asia continues on its dynamic path, Gurry tells VOA the United States remains the world's technological powerhouse.