

跟着新闻学听力

英语新闻听力每日一练

科技篇

余高峰 华 燕 张 蒙 / 主编

南开大学出版社

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跟我听

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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

Scientists, Engineers Reflect on Space Progress in 50 Years since Sputnik

Words and Expressions

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. geology 地质学 | 2. cosmonaut 宇航员 |
| 3. lunar surface 月球表面 | 4. mind-boggling 十分惊人的 |
| 5. terrestrial 地球的 | 6. joint projects 共同项目 |
| 7. convergence 会聚；会合点 | 8. synergy 协同作用 |
| 9. aerospace 航空与航天的 | 10. perspective 观点 |

The Main Idea

The space age began 50 years ago this October, when the former Soviet Union launched the first satellite, Sputnik, sparking a U.S.-Soviet space race. Scientists and engineers gathered at the California Institute of Technology Sept. 20 and 21 to talk about space milestones of the past and future exploration. The correspondent reports, they say the next 50 years should be even more exiting than the last 50.

Key Points

1. Harrison Schmidt would go there himself in December, 1972, on the Apollo 17 mission. He and fellow astronaut Eugene Cernan were the last two people to walk on the moon.
2. Former astronaut Harrison Schmidt says humans have shifted their perspective and opened new options.
3. NASA hopes to return humans to the moon by 2020, and officials have announced updated plans for a lunar habitat, including rovers capable of two-week journeys.

Unit 2

Why do So Few Women Reach Top Ranks in Science?

Words and Expressions

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. disparity 差异 | 2. endow 授予；赋予 |
| 3. cognitive 认知的 | 4. in light of 根据；依从 |
| 5. prestigious 著名的 | 6. discrimination 歧视 |
| 7. seminar 研讨会 | 8. velvet monkey 黑长尾猴 |
| 9. tenure 终身在职权 | 10. veterinary 兽医的 |

The Main Idea

The Nobel science prizes were announced this week, and as is often the case, there were no women among the winners. Many women have risen to the top ranks in science and engineering, but many disciplines—especially in the physical sciences and engineering—have remained solidly male bastions. The correspondent reports that there is a lively debate about why that is.

Key Points

1. Is it because of sex discrimination, or preference, or innate ability? Many scientists don't see any significant gender differences that would explain the disparity.
2. The report of the prestigious National Academy of Sciences found that women were well-represented as students in many fields of science and engineering, but were less likely to advance to senior faculty jobs at top universities.
3. Some areas of science—mechanical engineering, for example—remain overwhelmingly male. Women have done much better in medicine and the life sciences.

Unit 3

Spit Tests could Soon Replace Some Blood Tests

Words and Expressions

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. dental 牙的；牙科的 | 2. saliva 唾液 |
| 3. protein 蛋白质 | 4. abundant 丰富的 |
| 5. biomarker 生物标记 | 6. sophisticated 精密的；复杂的 |
| 7. diabetes 糖尿病 | 8. cardiovascular disease 心血管疾病 |
| 9. monitor 监视 | 10. proteome research 蛋白质组学研究 |

The Main Idea

When you're sick and go to the doctor, frequently the doctor will stick you with a needle, draw some blood, and use that to help diagnose your problem. Rose Hoban reports on new research that might make some of those painful needle pricks a thing of the past.

Key Points

1. James Melvin is a dental researcher at the University of Rochester, and he's been looking into the use of saliva as a way to diagnose disease.
2. Melvin says he thinks the proteins in saliva could be used as markers for other diseases, the same way proteins in blood are.
3. Melvin cautions that this research is still early and that low-cost and efficient techniques still need to be devised to do testing with saliva.

Unit 4

Astronomers Seek Ways to Divert “Killer Asteroids” that could Threaten Earth

Words and Expressions

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. asteroid 小行星 | 2. slam into 撞击 |
| 3. dinosaur 恐龙 | 4. geosynchronous 同步轨道的 |
| 5. deflect 转移；使偏斜 | 6. rendezvous 会面地点；集结之地 |
| 7. nudge 推进 | 8. bear down on 向……进逼 |
| 9. astrobiology 天体生物学 | 10. esoteric 难理解的；限于小圈子的 |

The Main Idea

The U.S. space agency, NASA, says it doesn't have the money to track the asteroids and comets that could potentially hit the Earth, even though it has the technical ability to do so. The announcement followed a recent symposium at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science where experts described how a killer asteroid could be deflected, if it's found in time.

Key Points

1. An asteroid striking Earth is more than just a theoretical worry or, for that matter, the plot of a Bruce Willis movie. Asteroids have hit our home planet repeatedly.
2. They'll continue to keep an eye on Apophis. Meanwhile, NASA has identified about 130 asteroids that might hit the Earth.
3. NASA's David Morrison, the senior scientist at the space agency's Astrobiology Institute, says today's list of potentially threatening asteroids is a big step from the generic concern and mathematical probabilities that were cited only a few years ago.

Unit 5

French, German Scientists Win Nobel Physics Prize

Words and Expressions

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. magnetoresistance 磁电阻 | 2. electrical resistance 电阻 |
| 3. a fraction of 一小部分 | 4. turn out to 结果证明 |
| 5. convert 转换 | 6. binary 二进制的 |
| 7. microscopically 微小地 | 8. magnetize 使磁化 |
| 9. coveted 令人渴望的 | 10. venerable 庄严的 |

The Main Idea

The 2007 Nobel Prize for Physics has been awarded to Albert Fert of France and Peter Gruenberg of Germany for discoveries that have helped fuel explosive growth in the storage capacity of computer hard disks. Nobel week continues with the announcement of the chemistry prize on Wednesday and literature on Thursday.

Key Points

1. Albert Fert and Peter Gruenberg are honored with this year's Nobel Prize in Physics for their work in a field they named "giant magnetoresistance" or GMR.
2. GMR quickly turned out to be a perfect tool for reading data from computer hard disks, where information registered magnetically has to be converted to electric current.
3. It is a Nobel tradition that winners receive the coveted phone call from Stockholm just minutes before the announcement is read to the assembled press.