

初级英语报刊 阅读教程

An Elementary Textbook for English
Newspaper Reading

王慧玉 主编



南京大学出版社

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Newspapers Reading

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前 言

随着中国全球化进程日趋加快,对作为全球广泛使用的交流工具——英语的学习需求蓬勃发展,对全球发展态势的了解需求也在日益增强。《初级英语报刊阅读教程》面向英语学习需求,读者对象为英语专业本科低年级或非英语专业本科和硕士生、英语报刊阅读课教师、语言服务行业相关从业人员、英语学习爱好者。

根据《大学英语教学指南》(教育部 2017 最新版),大学英语根据三级教学目标提出三个级别的教学要求。而这三个级别的要求中,都提到了英语报刊文章的阅读理解要求。由此可见,传媒英语的学习是英语学习的重要环节。传媒英语“题材广泛,内容新颖,语言现代,地道实用”,是英语语言学习和跨文化交流学习的首选素材。《初级英语报刊阅读教程》旨在帮助英语学习者初步了解和掌握英语报刊语言的基本知识,培养英语报刊阅读的兴趣和批判思维意识,为更深入广泛的外刊阅读打下语言能力基础和媒介素养基础。

本教材立足于作者近年来在高校报刊英语教学过程所总结的理论、方法与技能,选材全部出自近年英美知名报刊。教材从报刊英语在词、句、篇等层面的特征入手,讲解报刊英语阅读的原则与方法,并辅以不同主题的新闻报道阅读与思考练习。课文内容包括 10 个单元 20 篇英美报刊选篇,话题涵盖了经济、政治、科技、文化、社会生活等各个层面。练习设计方面,从背景知识口头练习,到阅读理解选择题训练、长难句解释、简短问答,再到语言特点分析和对比、专题研究报告写作,由易到难,注重思考,有助于学习者在提高语言能力的同时,了解英美重大报刊的体裁特色和报刊英语语言特色。

教材框架如下:

本书共十单元。每个单元围绕一项报刊语言知识点展开教学。第一单元:报刊特色总体介绍;第二单元:新闻标题;第三单元:新闻导语;第四单元:小标题;第五单元:篇章结构;第六单元:用词;第七单元:数据的引用;第八单元:图片的使用;第九单元:新闻价值;第十单元:新闻倾向性。每个单元的教学又围绕一

个热点话题展开语言知识点的学习和实战练习。第一单元:比特币;第二单元:大数据;第三单元:移民;第四单元:垃圾处理;第五单元:跨种族婚姻;第六单元:转基因技术;第七单元:婚前同居现象;第八单元:美国校园枪击案;第九单元:电动汽车;第十单元:“棱镜门”事件。

本教材的特点主要表现为:

1. 紧密结合时代需求。首先,本教材的练习多处需要学习者利用互联网等课外资源完成,培养学习者在多媒体学习环境下的自主学习能力。其二,为适应教学改革的需求,提高教学效果,本书配备了语言知识讲解部分的微课视频材料,可供学生课前预习使用。

2. 培养批判思维。本教材在批判思维的培养方面有两点优势:(1) 通过讲解和练习引导读者思考和分析新闻背后的来龙去脉和发展态势;(2) 关于同一话题的新闻选材涵盖来自不同国家和背景的媒体,引导学习者在对比阅读和分析中对新闻报道进行更加深刻的解读。

3. 选用最新新闻报道。本教材选用的文章来源涵盖英国和美国知名报刊或媒体,所有文章都是近五年出版的报道。

4. 知识点实用,框架合理。本教材的框架构建与知识点的选取基于作者自身的理论与实践经验以及对学习者的近距离观察与互动,力求合理、实用。

5. 写作语言为英语。有利于提升学习者相关目的语表述,也更加符合英语教学,尤其是英语专业教学的课堂要求。

教材编写过程中,我们得到了很多人的大力支持和帮助,包括编写团队所在单位国防科技大学国际关系学院的领导和前辈,以及南京大学出版社的编辑老师,还有我们的家人,在此深表谢意。特别感谢报刊教学界泰斗,德高望重的端木义万教授,在教材编写初期设计和最后成型阶段给予的悉心指导和无私帮助。

由于编者水平有限,错漏之处在所难免,敬请读者不吝赐教,也欢迎读者来函交流英语报刊教学或学习的心得。编者邮箱:jadewhy2013@126.com。

编者

2017年8月

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Unit 1

A General Introduction to News Language Features

(Topic: Bitcoin)

I . Warm-up activities

1. Questions

- 1) What are the features of news language?
- 2) Do you know anything about bitcoin?
- 3) What do you think is the future of bitcoin? Why?

2. A video clip: Germany Endorses Bitcoin

- 1) How is bitcoin expected to be governed?
- 2) What do bitcoin speculators worry about?

3. A presentation: Bitcoin (given by a group of students)

II . News language feature: a general introduction to news language features

Firstly, news language should be specific by using the details of the facts. Secondly, accurate language should be used in news instead of

ambiguous language so that the news content will not be distorted. Finally, the conciseness of language is also needed in news. In this way news language can be logic and coherent. As to the news sentence, euphemism is preferred. Wide use of parenthesis, pre-modifier, apposition noun, attributive clause and interpretative language is quite common.

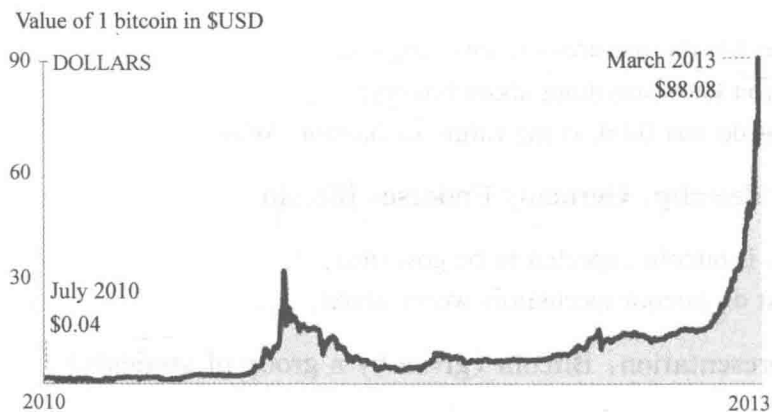
All in all, characteristics of news language should include the following items: Timeliness(时效性), Importance(重要性), Prominence(突出性), Proximity(接近性), Oddity(奇异性), Human interests(人情味).

Generally speaking, news language always contains strong political flavor.

III. Text A

Bitcoin Prices Surge Post-Cyprus Bailout¹

By Maureen Farrell @maureenmfarrell March 28, 2013, CNN²



Shares of the cyber-currency bitcoin have surged in the past week as investors seek safe havens following the unprecedented bailout of Cyprus' banks.

Bitcoin is an unusual place to seek security. It's a four-year-old digital currency developed by a hacker who still remains anonymous.

But these are unusual times. Depositors in the tiny island nation of

Cyprus are struggling to gain access to cash stored in the nation's banks, and some face losses on their deposits. The situation has caused investors all over Europe to question the safety of the banking system.

The price of one bitcoin has **popped** 87% since Cyprus began discussing **tapping** deposits as part of the bailout by the EU³ and IMF⁴. Bitcoins now trade at \$ 88 each, up from \$ 47 on March 16, 2013, according to data from Mt. Gox, the currency's main trading exchange. That compares with just 5 cents per bitcoin in mid-July 2010, when Mt. Gox first started **tracking** prices.

Related: 'Funny money' has officially entered the real world

Trading volume has also exploded. Between 60,000 and 110,000 bitcoins have changed hands per day recently, according to Mt. Gox. That's double to **triple** the amount traded a few weeks ago.

Albert Hendriks, a 32-year-old programmer for a high-speed trading firm in Amsterdam, jumped into the currency for the first time this week, purchasing 1000 worth of bitcoins. He's not worried about the safety of the global banking system, but he sees bitcoins as a **lucrative** investment.

"I think the currency is maturing," Hendriks said. "It's risky, but I think more and more people are starting to trust it."

Bitcoin investors can trade in their coins for cash through a number of sites like Coinbase and BitInstant that work directly with banks to **facilitate** transfers. Some **vendors** are starting to accept the coins too, including the blog hosting site Wordpress and the online community Reddit.

Jeff Berwick, a media **entrepreneur** who runs the website Dollar Vigilante, hopes to open one of the world's first bitcoin ATMs in Cyprus in the next few weeks. The ATM there would allow individuals to retrieve cash for their digital bitcoins or put cash into the machine to add to their bitcoin collection.

"It's going to be an experiment," said Berwick, who also aims to install a machine in Los Angeles in the next few weeks.

Related: Why cyber currency Bitcoin is trading at an all-time high

Bitcoin has been one giant global experiment since an anonymous developer using the **pseudonym** "Satoshi Nakamoto" created it in 2009 as a

currency that's free from government **intervention** and has no central bank backing. Bitcoin **transactions** typically carry very low exchange or processing fees.

As of now, nearly 11 million bitcoins are in circulation, making the current value of all outstanding bitcoins roughly \$975 million.

These coins are “minted” by a network of computers running specialized software on powerful (and often pricey) hardware systems. The software is designed to release new coins at a steady—and finite—pace that slows down over time. Bitcoin's **algorithm** caps the total number of bitcoins that will ever be created at 21 million. More than 99% of them will be circulating by 2033, but the very last bitcoin won't be generated until around 2140.

“The point of the bitcoin is that you don't have to trust the founder,” said Jeff Garzik, a computer programmer in Raleigh, N. C., who has served as a **consultant** to businesses working with bitcoins. “People are drawn to it because it can't be artificially **manipulated** by any human. Central bankers can't just decide to make more of it.”

Last week, the **Treasury Department's**⁵ Financial Crimes Enforcement Network issued new guidelines outlining what anti-**money laundering**⁶ rules virtual currencies like bitcoin must follow. Critics say that the currency's **anonymity** makes it particularly useful for **money launderers**. Members of Silk Road, an online drug **bazaar**, use it as their currency of choice.

Although bitcoin businesses now have more regulatory **hoops** to jump through, Garzik said he sees the new rules as a **tacit** acceptance by the U. S. government of the currency's **legitimacy**.

Meanwhile, Hendriks hopes that he won't ever have to exchange his newly purchased bitcoins for dollars or euros.

“I hope it will become a global currency, and I can use it without turning it back into another currency,” Hendriks said.

New words & expressions

algorithm *n.* a process or set of rules to be followed in calculations or other problem-solving operations, especially by a computer (尤指计算机)运算法则

- anonymity** *n.* the situation in which someone's name is not given or known
匿名; 无名; 不公开姓名
- anonymous** *adj.* made or done by someone whose name is not known or not made public 匿名的; 不知姓名的; 名字不公开的
- bailout** *n.* the act of helping a person organization that is in difficulty, usually by giving or giving or lending money (通常指经济上的)帮助(使某人或机构脱离困境)
- bazaar** *n.* a place where there are many small shops and stalls 集市; 市场
- consultant** *n.* a person who gives expert advice to a person or organization on a particular subject 顾问
- depositor** *n.* people who have accounts with that bank (银行的)储户, 存款人
- entrepreneur** *n.* a person who sets up businesses and business deals 企业家
- facilitate** *v.* to make easier or more likely to happen 促进, 使便利
- haven** *n.* a place of safety or refuge 避难所, 庇护所
- hoop** *n.* a ring of wood, metal, or plastic 圈, 环
- intervention** *n.* [mass noun] the action or process of intervening 插入, 插手, 介入; 干预, 干涉
- legitimacy** *n.* the quality of being legal 合法性; 合理性
- lucrative** *adj.* producing a great deal of profit 生利的, 赚钱的
- manipulate** *v.* [with obj.] to handle or control (a tool, mechanism, etc.), typically in a skillful manner (尤指熟练地)操作, 使用(工具、机械装置等)
- pop** *v.* to move quickly and suddenly, especially from a closed space 爆开, 弹出来
- pseudonym** *n.* a name which someone, usually a writer, uses instead of his or her real name 假名; 笔名
- tacit** *adj.* understood without being expressed directly 默示的; 不明言的
- tap** *v.* to get or make use of something 开发; 开辟; 着手利用
- track** *v.* to follow a person or animal by looking for proof that they have been some where, or by using electronic equipment 跟踪, 追踪
- transaction** *n.* a piece of business, for example an act of buying or selling something 交易
- triple** *v.* to become three times as large in size or number (使)变成三倍;

(使)增至三倍

unprecedented *adj.* never having happened or existed in the past 史无前例的,空前的;绝无仅有的

vendor *n.* someone who is selling something 小贩;摊主;卖主

Notes

1. **CNN**: The Cable News Network (CNN) is an American basic cable and satellite television news channel owned by the Turner Broadcasting System division of Time Warner. It was founded in 1980 by American media proprietor Ted Turner as a 24-hour cable news channel. Upon its launch, CNN was the first television channel to provide 24-hour news coverage, and was the first all-news television channel in the United States. 美国有线电视新闻网
2. **Cyprus Bailout**: The 2012—2013 Cypriot financial crisis was an economic crisis in the Republic of Cyprus that involved the exposure of Cypriot banks to overleveraged local property companies, the Greek government-debt crisis, the downgrading of the Cypriot government's bond credit rating to junk status by international credit rating agencies, the consequential inability to refund its state expenses from the international markets and the reluctance of the government to restructure the troubled Cypriot financial sector. On 25 March 2013, a 10 billion international bailout by the Euro group, European Commission (EC), European Central Bank (ECB) and International Monetary Fund (IMF) was announced, in return for Cyprus agreeing to close the country's second-largest bank, the Cyprus Popular Bank (also known as Laiki Bank), imposing a one-time bank deposit levy on all uninsured deposits there, and possibly around 48% of uninsured deposits in the Bank of Cyprus (the island's largest commercial bank), many held by wealthy citizens of other countries (many of them from Russia) who were using Cyprus as a tax haven. No insured deposit of 100,000 or less would be affected. 塞浦路斯援助计划
3. **EU**: The European Union (EU) is a political and economic union of 28

member states that are located primarily in Europe. It has an area of 4,475,757 km² (1,728,099 sq mi), and an estimated population of over 510 million. The EU has developed an internal single market through a standardized system of laws that apply in all member states. EU policies aim to ensure the free movement of people, goods, services, and capital within the internal market, enact legislation in justice and home affairs, and maintain common policies on trade, agriculture, fisheries, and regional development. Within the Schengen Area, passport controls have been abolished. A monetary union was established in 1999 and came into full force in 2002, and is composed of 19 EU member states which use the euro currency. 欧盟

4. **IMF:** The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is an international organization headquartered in Washington, D. C., of “189 countries working to foster global monetary cooperation, secure financial stability, facilitate international trade, promote high employment and sustainable economic growth, and reduce poverty around the world.” Formed in 1944 at the Bretton Woods Conference primarily by the ideas of Harry Dexter White and John Maynard Keynes, it came into formal existence in 1945 with 29 member countries and the goal of reconstructing the international payment system. It now plays a central role in the management of balance of payments difficulties and international financial crises. Countries contribute funds to a pool through a quota system from which countries experiencing balance of payments problems can borrow money. As of 2016, the fund had SDR477 billion (about \$ 668 billion). 国际货币基金组织
5. **the Treasury Department:** The Department of the Treasury is an executive department and the treasury of the United States federal government. It was established by an act of Congress in 1789 to manage government revenue. The Department is administered by the Secretary of the Treasury, who is a member of the Cabinet. On February 13, 2017, the Senate confirmed Steven Mnuchin as Secretary of the Treasury. 美国财政部
6. **money laundering:** It refers to the process of transforming the profits of crime and corruption into ostensibly “legitimate” assets. In a number of

legal and regulatory systems, however, the term money laundering has become conflated with other forms of financial and business crime, and is sometimes used more generally to include misuse of the financial system (involving things such as securities, digital currencies, credit cards, and traditional currency), including terrorism financing and evasion of international sanctions. Most anti-money laundering laws openly conflate money laundering (which is concerned with *source* of funds) with terrorism financing (which is concerned with *destination* of funds) when regulating the financial system. 洗钱

Exercises

1. Choose the best answer to each question.

- 1) Which of the following is NOT the reason why bitcoin is an unusual currency?
 - A. It appeared only several years ago.
 - B. It is digital currency.
 - C. It is not cyber currency, similar to gold.
 - D. It was developed by an anonymous hacker.
- 2) Which of the following is NOT right as to when bitcoin surges?
 - A. Depositors in the tiny island nation of Cyprus are struggling to gain access to cash stored in the nation's banks.
 - B. Some face losses on their deposits.
 - C. The situation has caused investors all over Europe to question the safety of the banking system.
 - D. People remain confidence in government-issued currencies.
- 3) Which is NOT the function of the bitcoin ATM?
 - A. The ATM would allow individuals to retrieve cash for their digital bitcoins.
 - B. People can put cash into the machine to add to their bitcoin collection.
 - C. People can exchange bitcoins for cash.
 - D. People can buy with bitcoins via ATM.

- 4) What is the disadvantage of bitcoin compared to traditional currencies?
 - A. It's a currency that's free from government intervention.
 - B. It has no central bank backing.
 - C. Bitcoin transactions typically carry very low exchange or processing fees.
 - D. Bitcoin can be transacted freely.
- 5) How can bitcoin be created?
 - A. by a network of computers
 - B. by central bank
 - C. by government
 - D. by companies

2. Explain in your own words the following sentences.

- 1) Shares of the cyber-currency bitcoin have surged in the past week as investors seek safe havens following the unprecedented bailout of Cyprus' banks. (paragraph 1)
- 2) ... the currency's anonymity makes it particularly useful for money launderers. (paragraph 15)

3. Answer the following questions according to the text.

- 1) How did the price of bitcoin change from 2010 to 2013, according to the data from the currency's main trading exchange, Mt. Gox?
- 2) How can bitcoin investors trade?
- 3) What did Albert Hendriks think of bitcoin?
- 4) What did the Treasury Department's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network do to regulate bitcoin?
- 5) What is the attitude of Jeff Garzik towards bitcoins?

4. Pair work: try to analyze the language features with what you learned in part II, and explain with examples.

IV. Text B

Euro Fears Boost Virtual Currency Bitcoin

By John Greenwood, June 8, 2012, *Financial Post*



Fearful of the future, Europeans are moving their money out of their banks and dumping it into safe havens such as U.S. Treasuries, Government of Canada bonds—and apparently the virtual currency Bitcoin.

“European volume has been skyrocketing,” said Charlie Shrem, chief executive of BitInstant LLC, a company in New York that enables clients to transfer funds between Bitcoin and U.S. and Canadian dollars, British pounds, euros and other major currencies.

According to Mr. Shrem, the sudden rise has been driven by people in countries like Greece, Italy, Spain—and even the Netherlands—anxious to protect their savings.

“We’re getting requests from people literally saying, can we mail you euros? We can’t do that legally, but they keep asking.”