

优秀英语

时文选读 2

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说明

熟练地阅读英文报刊，从浩如烟海的时文中提取与本专业相关的信息以帮助学习和研究，是研究生英语教学的重要目的。为此，编者从近几年发行的数十种欧、美报刊中遴选了50篇文章，每篇字数从100至1000余不等，为便于读者顺利阅读，还附上了单词表和少量注释及阅读理解题并答案。本书适于非英语专业的硕士生和博士生及程度相当的读者使用。

本书取材广泛，各种题材的新闻报道和人们关注的热门话题使人读来饶有兴味，选编的语料反映时代脉搏，语言地道，所用的词语典型，内容涉及政治、经济、军事、科技、民俗等各个方面，实用性很强，就阅读理解的两个关键因素语汇和背景知识而言，不同题材的文章覆盖了西方社会生活的各个方面，起着以点带面的作用，同时便于读者了解西方的文化，进一步学好英语语言。

本书的编写得到了许多人的大力支持，在此谨向他们表示衷心的感谢。

由于编者水平有限，加之时间仓促，书中定有错误和不妥之处，希望读者批评指正

编者

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Lesson 1

San Francisco Hosts Wedding For Gay Couples

SAN FRANCISCO—Pat and Karen Norman have been in love for 13 years. They're raising two children together and share a cozy home.

Monday, the churchgoing couple were planning on getting married, along with 175 other lesbian and gay couples who were to tie the knot at a historic mass wedding ceremony here.

A new San Francisco law taking effect Monday grants lesbian and gay couples the right to have city-sanctioned weddings, complete with marriage certificates.

The weddings will carry minimal legal weight since the state doesn't recognize same-sex marriages but, to the brides and grooms, the ceremony will have priceless symbolic value.

"This is a very incredible and important ritual."

says Pat Norman, executive director of a health outreach program. "It shows that here in San Francisco, we have a place, and it gives hope for the future."

Hawaii's Supreme Court appears ready to legalize same-sex marriages in that state, a possibility that's prompted two dozen states to consider laws banning the practice.

New York City and Madison, Wis., already allow same-sex marriages.

San Francisco Catholic Archbishop William Levada has condemned the ceremony. And a USA TODAY/CNN/Gallup Poll found Americans still oppose same-sex marriages by more than 2-1.

The Rev. Lou Sheldon of the Anaheim-based Traditional Values Coalition, says same-sex marriages are wrong because "it's impossible for homosexuals to truly bond."

"Marriage wouldn't stop their wild and crazy sex. The body parts just don't fit, and it messes with everything. Marriage will benefit none and do harm to many," Sheldon says.

But the lesbian and gay couples don't see it that way

Karen took Pat's last name when they had their own private wedding 12 years ago.

Zach Norman, 3, thinks the setup between parents

Pat and Karen Norman is great “Mom and Mommy love each other, and they’re already married,” says Zach, conceived through artificial insemination.

For many couples, the wedding is a dream come true

“I’m so excited.” says Jerry Windley, 41, who was to marry Ted Knapp, his partner of two years “It’s such a wonderful change for the gay community to be getting together to celebrate life and love, rather than getting together for the funeral of yet another friend who has died of AIDS,” Knapp says. (373 words)

Notes

- 1 gay n & a 同性恋者;(一般指男子)同性恋爱(者)的
- 2 to plan on 打算,想要
- 3 lesbian a & n 同性恋的女子
- 4 to tie the knot 结婚;主持婚礼
- 5 sanction v 批准;认可;准许
- 6 (be) complete with a 包括,连同
- 7 ritual n 仪式,典礼
- 8 outreach a 扩大服务的
- 9 Madison 麦迪逊[美国威斯康星州首府]
- 10 Wis (Wisconsin) 威斯康星州
- 11 Catholic Archbishop n 大主教

- 12 condemn v 谴责,声讨
- 13 CNN (美国有线新闻电视网:Cable News Network)
- 14 Gallup Poll (美国)盖洛普民意测验
- 15 (the) Rev (= Reverend) n 牧师,大人
- 16 Anaheim 阿纳海姆[美国加利福尼亚州西南部城市]
- 17 homosexual n 同性恋
- 18 bond v 粘合;结合
- 19 to mess with 捣乱
- 20 conceive v 怀(胎)
- 21 insemination n 授精,受孕

Comprehension Questions

- 1 How many Americans approve of same-sex marriage?
- 2 Why was Karen and Pat's wedding private 12 years ago?
- 3 Does Hawaii's law grant same-sex marriages?
- 4 Who is Zach?

Lesson 2

Prostate Test Could Lessen Surgery Need

SAN FRANCISCO A new test for prostate cancer may be the most accurate of those developed so far when it comes to showing whether the cancer has spread before a man undergoes aggressive and potentially unnecessary surgery.

“The test really has the potential in helping us choose which men to treat with surgery and which ones to treat with less aggressive alternatives,” says Dr Harmon Eyre, American Cancer Society, Atlanta.

Surgical removal of the prostate gland is the most common treatment for men whose cancer has not yet spread beyond the prostate gland. In these men, experts say the potential for being cured outweighs the risk of being rendered impotent and unable to control the bladder.

But when prostate cancer has spread, surgery’s side effects outweigh the benefits, so nonsurgical approaches are recommended that may put cancer in remission and help maintain quality of life.

The problem is that, because of inadequate tests, 25% to 50% of men undergoing prostate surgery

today have cancers that have already spread, and they are being exposed to unnecessary surgery, says Glen De Vries, Columbia University, New York.

The test employs common genetic laboratory techniques to detect in the bloodstream a gene found only in prostate cells. If the gene is detected in a sample of a man's blood, that means prostate cancer cells have escaped from the gland.

The research is too preliminary to show whether those cells are actually spreading the cancer, but the ACS's Eyre says "it is a pretty close step in that direction "

Studies involving 160 patients found that a man with a positive test was 16 to 20 times more likely to have prostate cancer cells in the blood stream than someone with a negative test. Likewise, men who had a positive before surgery were 4 times more likely to have a recurrence of cancer in the first 31 months after surgery. (321 words)

Notes

- 1 prostate a & n 前列腺(的)
- 2 gland n 腺
- 3 render v 使得,使成为
- 4 impotent 不起作用的
- 5 bladder n 膀胱

6 remission n 缓和;减轻

7 preliminary a 初步的

Comprehension Questions

- 1 What can the blood test do for the men suffering from prostate cancer ?
- 2 What is the most common treatment for men whose cancer has not yet spread beyond the prostate gland ?
- 3 What are the likely side effects of the surgical removal for the men who have prostate cancer ?

Lesson 3

Advertisers Plaster Names On City's Face

ATLANTA—Forget Madison Avenue. From mid-July to early August, Atlanta, home of the Summer Olympic Games, will be the world's commercial capital.

More than 160 corporate sponsors and licensees have poured \$ 900 million into the Summer Games. In return, they get to tout their Olympic ties on everything from automated teller machines to sunscreen. Most consumers will get a taste of the mar-

keting blitz through TV ads. But the 2 million folks who travel to Atlanta will be immersed in a corporate marketing fest.

Here's a look at what a typical "officially sponsored" Olympic day will look like during the Games: (Companies in bold face are official Games partners or sponsors who paid up to \$40 million for Olympic rights.)

7 a. m. Check in at the *Delta Air Lines* gate at New York's La Guardia Airport. The sight of the official Olympic torch symbol on your ticket jacket along with other Olympic references in red, white and blue jolts you out of your sleepy state. Olympic banners and patriotic colors give the waiting area an Election Day feel.

7:15 Surprise. You learn you're part of a random group of travelers who'll fly to Atlanta's Hartsfield Airport aboard *The Spirit of Delta*, a special jet festooned with stars and the Olympic torch. After boarding, a flight attendant wearing an official Delta Olympic scarf decorated with the torch offers you some magazines. Among them: *Sports Illustrated*, the—you guessed it—official Olympic print publication.

7:30. The flight attendant takes your drink order. You then guzzle the official Olympic nectar, Coca-Cola, straight from a can decorated with Olympic