

网上英语短文

对照本

毛荣贵 张韧弦 徐 曙 编著



上海交通大学出版社

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前 言

改革开放之初,我国大专院校的英语系开始开设一门新的课程,叫做“外报外刊选读”。莘莘学子眼睛一亮!英语学习从此可以接触原汁原味的英语,无须“隔靴搔痒”,去读那 Chinese-colored English。

转瞬之间,20年过去。而今,当我们站在新世纪的门槛前的时候,电脑正在迅速普及。英语学习正在与电脑联姻。

黎明即起,浏览 Internet。这是一种怎样的现代享受!偌大世界,近在咫尺,小小寰球,尽收眼底!

宽不盈尺的电脑屏幕上,那个个字符向你叙述着发生在世界各地的重大新闻,也许那是刚刚发生,甚至是正在发生的事情;那行行文字向你描绘着地球村各种肤色的居民的大喜大悲,也许那故事会拨动你的心弦,令你终生难忘。

天下英语读物,车载斗量,然不读网上英语短文,乃人生一憾!

网上英语短文,不可不读,它们有些是“新闻报道”,却文笔从容、文采斐然动人。

网上英语短文,不可不读,它们也许是“急就之章”,但是,其内容却历久而弥醇。

网上英语短文,不可不读,它们可能是“文化快餐”,却融信息、趣味、知识于一体。

网上英语短文,良莠不齐……

继“外报外刊选读”课程之后,现在是否应该开设一门全新的课程,叫做“网上英语选读”?

在这门“课程”中,我们可以及时接触到最新信息。

清晨,在网上读到的消息,在当天或是几天以后的日报或晚报上,你就可以读到其“中文版”的消息。此刻,你会油然而生“领先一步”的欣慰,更重要的是,有“中文版”的助读,我们仿佛请了老师在旁指点。

在这门“课程”中,我们可以及时接触到最新的英语词汇。

刚刚出版的《英汉大词典补编》收入了-friendly 这样一个构词成分。而在本书中,-friendly 就频频出现。如:

Conversely, carbohydrates having a low glycemic index, raising blood sugars only slightly, were heart friendly. 相反,糖血症指数低的碳水化合物只能使血糖略有升高,这类食品对心脏是有益的。

This weird word, which was coined in the 1980s by eco-friendly landscapers, derives from the Greek xeros, meaning dry, and “landscape”. 这个奇怪的词是80年代生态友好的园林学家创造的,起源于希腊语的 xeros, (意思是“没有水的”)和 landscape (景色)。

The report, titled “National Crop Residue Management Survey,” shows a 6-million-acre gain for environmentally friendly farming systems this year. 这个题为“全美庄稼残留物处理调查”的报告指出,今年新增六百万英亩土地采用环保型耕作法。

在这门“课程”中,我们可以品味到现代英语句式的发展的最新动向。如:

Nye said students will also be able to compete to create a tiny “nano-experiment”, which is about the size of a pea and weighs only a few ounces (grams), which is to be affixed to the rover. 奈说,学生们还能够互相竞争,创造出一个尺寸只有豌豆大小、重量只有几盎司(克)的“微型实验器”,附加在探险车上。

细心的读者一定能够在“见识”到许多这种不用标点隔离,不用从句,而仅仅连用介词结构、分词结构和不定式结构的“突破传

统”的句式。

本书每篇短文前的“提示”，其实是一位尽职的“导游”。她用三言两语把文章的核心内容加以概括，阅读原文，若是一场赛事，那么，“提示”让你在赛前“热身”。

短文后的“每篇一句”，选取了文章中的难句、佳句或反映英语句法特征的句子，编者加以演绎。演绎之中，让你产生举一反三、由此及彼、由表入里的联想，你的阅读能力、欣赏能力、表达能力乃至思维能力在不知不觉中得以升华。

美国教授 Rosemary Adang 和 Bill Hofmann 为本书的若干语言难点及文化背景作了详尽的解释。

参加本书编写工作的还有姚蔷珍、毛竹晨、陈衡、张韧弦、陆小鹿等。本书在付梓前，上海交通大学外国语学院的研究生宗玉又作了一次文字校正。没有他们的积极参与，本书就难以目前的面貌同读者见面。特向以上各位致以诚挚的谢意！

毛荣贵

1999 年 11 月

目 录

饕餮须知

Winemakers Get OK To Tout Health Benefits

饮酒有益健康——美国的葡萄酒酿酒商被允许如是说…… (1)

A Not-so-sweet Side Of Sugar — It Could Age You

吃糖未必尝甜头——它会催人衰老…………… (6)

An Apple A Day For A Healthy Heart

一天吃一个苹果你就拥有健康的心脏…………… (10)

Low-fat Diets Safe, Effective In Children

低脂肪饮食对儿童安全有效…………… (14)

Breakfast: The Most Important Meal Of The Day

早餐是不是一天中最重要的…………… (17)

Drinking Tea May Lower Your Cancer Risk

饮茶能降低患癌症的危险…………… (20)

Vitamin C In Fruits, Vegetables Lessen Cancer Risk

水果和蔬菜中的维生素C能降低患癌症的风险…………… (24)

Alcohol — How Much Is Good For You

喝多少酒才有益于健康…………… (28)

USDA Unveils New Food Pyramid For Kids

美国农业部颁布新的幼儿金字塔式膳食标准…………… (31)

It May Be Easy To Live Longer — Just Stop Eating

略带三分饥 健康又长寿…………… (35)

Does This Mean I Have To Eat TOFU

这是否意味着我得吃豆腐…………… (41)

Low-salt Foods Still Tasty

低盐食品仍不失美味可口 (45)

杏林夜话

Heart Disease's Foundations May Be Laid In Teen Years

心脏病的“基础”可能是少年时代打下的 (50)

Mother's Stress Affects Fetal Brain Development

孕妇精神紧张影响胎儿大脑发育 (55)

Spring's A Good Time For Ridding The Home Of Toxic Chemicals

春天是清除家中有毒化学品的好时机 (58)

The Cold And Flu Season: Knowing The Difference Can Help You Recover Quickly

感冒和流感:了解两者区别,使你迅速康复 (65)

Carpal Tunnel Syndrome: How To Protect Yourself

腕管炎:怎样保护你自己 (71)

What Should You Do If You Are Diagnosed With Cancer

如果被诊断为癌症,你该怎么办 (78)

Diabetes Becoming Worldwide Epidemic

糖尿病正向全球蔓延 (85)

科技前沿

More Evidence Of Life On Mars

是否又有证据表明火星存在生命 (89)

Cleaner Fuels On The Horizon

更清洁的燃料已曙光初现 (93)

When Whales Walked

巨鲸何时曾在陆地行走 (97)

Circadian Rhythms, Your Body's Inner Clock May Have

Profound Effects Upon Your Health

昼夜生理节律:人体生物钟对健康有深刻影响 (100)

School Children Will Help Drive Next Mars Rover

在校学生将协助驾驶下一辆火星探险车..... (105)

Fresh Source Of "Nursery" Cells Found In Blood

发现血液中有新的“繁衍”细胞来源..... (110)

Korea Clones Cow, Seeks Mass Production

为增加产量,韩国克隆奶牛 (115)

Scientists Try To Clone Monkeys For Experiments

科学家们试图克隆出供实验用的猴子..... (119)

Antarctic Ice Shelves Said Breaking Up Fast

南极洲的冰架正迅速消融..... (123)

Smart Cars Could Help Drivers Avoid Accidents

智能汽车能帮助驾驶员避免交通事故..... (128)

Israeli Scientists Hope To Speed Tree Growth

以色列科学家希望能加快树木的生长..... (131)

Rare Brain Features May Explain Einstein's Genius

罕见的大脑特征可能造就了爱因斯坦的天才..... (135)

Huge Japan Telescope To Peer Into Deepest Space

巨大的日本天文望远镜探索宇宙深处..... (139)

颐养之道

U. S. Study Links Women's Waist Size, Heart Disease

妇女腰围大小与心脏病的关系..... (146)

Education Slows Age-related Intellectual Decline

接受学校教育能减缓老年妇女智力衰退..... (149)

Sleep Better — Exercise!

要想睡好觉吗? 去参加体育锻炼! (153)

Why Are Some People Thinner Than Others? Little Daily

Habits Could Hold The Answer!	
为什么人们有胖有瘦? 从不起眼的生活习惯中找答案!	(156)
Stopping Your Children From Smoking	
怎样防止你的孩子抽烟.....	(161)
Do You Listen To Headphones	
你听耳机吗.....	(164)
Liposuction Linked To Five Deaths	
脂肪吸除术与五例死亡有关.....	(167)
Fish Oil Found To Ease Manic Depression	
鱼油能缓解躁郁症.....	(173)
Nightlights May Increase Myopia In Young Children	
夜明灯可能增加幼儿患近视的机会.....	(178)
Researcher Says Lifestyle Determines Aging Well	
研究人员认为生活方式决定晚年是否健康.....	(182)
Traveling Well: A Few Tips To Make Your Travel Plans Go	
As Smoothly As Possible	
旅途愉快: 使你一路顺风的几个窍门	(187)
The Importance Of Sleep! Don't Drive Tired!	
睡眠的重要性! 请勿疲劳驾驶!	(191)
New Research Is Restoring The Reputation Of Eggs	
新的研究为鸡蛋恢复了名誉.....	(196)
Tips For Selecting "Sunproof" Sunglasses	
选购“防日光”太阳镜的忠告.....	(201)
Seniors And Exercise: Let's Get Up And At'em	
老年人和体育锻炼: 积极行动, 增进了解!	(205)
Vitamins: What To Take Depends Upon Your Individual	
Needs	
服用何种维生素取决于个人的需要.....	(210)

善待家园

Native Plants Can Help Conserve Water

本地原产植物有助于储存水资源…………… (215)

Action Urged To Avert Freshwater Crisis

采取紧急行动,避免淡水危机…………… (221)

Arctic Warming Threatens Polar Bears

北冰洋气候转暖威胁北极熊的生存…………… (225)

Forecaster Sees Busy 1999 Atlantic Storm Season

预计1999年大西洋风暴频频…………… (232)

Environmentally Friendly Farming On The Rise

有利于环境的农业正在兴起…………… (237)

杂谈与补白

Differences Between Interpreting And Translation

口译和笔译的区别…………… (242)

Tell Your Children You Love Them Too

也要向孩子表达你的爱…………… (248)

Guns, Adolescents Lethal Mix, Experts Say

专家们称,青少年和枪支是一对致命拍档…………… (252)

Colorado Governor Says "Virus" Threatens U. S. Youth

科罗拉多州长称,文化毒素正威胁着美国青少年…………… (257)

Modern Man Still Has Primitive Sexual Instincts

现代人仍然具有原始的性本能…………… (261)

Life's Great Freeze And Thaw

生命的冰封和消融…………… (265)

Misplaced Mammal

错位的哺乳动物…………… (269)

饕餮须知

Winemakers Get OK To Tout Health Benefits

Richard A. Knox

适量饮酒有益健康,这似乎已被越来越多的人所接受。本篇的主题也是饮酒与健康的关系,当然,重点是葡萄酒。确实,本文提出了 small daily amounts of alcohol lowers the risk of heart attack and stroke。这下,有了素来对保健颇有研究的老美的支持,瘾君子们可以欢庆了……且慢,美国人在健康问题上一向谨小慎微,这回也不含糊:一方面批准葡萄酒酿造商在酒瓶上贴“饮酒有益健康”,另一方面却又要消费者去征询医生的意见。请接着往下读,读者可能更迷惑了:美国人好像处处在给饮酒保健泼冷水,与本篇标题也显得格格不入。

其实,酒精为害的观点早已深入人心,如:The downside of alcohol consumption, the Heart Association said, included alcoholism, high blood pressure, obesity, stroke, suicide, and accidents. 也难怪小小的标签会引来多方的怀疑与否定。最后还是由美国的农业部出面,订了一个颇为保守的饮酒有益健康的标准,请参见文末。

说实话,读完全篇,不胜酒力的笔者还是不知道该不该开怀畅饮。模棱两可可是本文给人的最深印象。但好在文章提供了翔实的数据资料和权威的参考意见,有眼力的读者一定能做出明智的判断。

Friday to put labels on bottles that allude to the “health benefits” of wine and invite consumers to write the government to learn more.

2 The Treasury Department, which regulates alcohol sales, approved the new labels at the behest of wine producers — and to the dismay of some health groups.

3 Evidence that small daily amounts of alcohol lowers the risk of heart attack and stroke has been accumulating for 20 years.

4 But some studies have also found hints of health risk, such as a slightly elevated risk of breast cancer in women.

5 The larger concern, however, is that a federal health imprimatur on wine bottles — right next to already-required warnings that alcohol can cause birth defects among infants born to women who drink — will be seen as “permission” by some to drink too much.

6 “Studies have shown that the incidence of heart disease in those who consume moderate amounts of alcohol is lower than in nondrinkers,” said Carole Bullock, a spokeswoman for the American Heart Association, “but there’s still a concern that these studies may not tell the whole story.”

7 The downside of alcohol consumption, the Heart Association said, included alcoholism, high blood pressure, obesity, stroke, suicide, and accidents.

8 The National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence criticized the new labels because they “could potentially be disastrous” for people who have difficulty limiting their alcohol intake. The Council said the government should have defined “moderate drinking” in the new labeling.

9 However, a Boston University authority on moderate drinking, Dr. R. Curtis Ellison, did not expect the new wine labels to have much effect on people’s behavior.

10 “Everyone knows already there are some health benefits from wine and alcohol,” said Ellison, director of BU’s Institute for Lifestyle and Health, which receives about 10 percent of its funding from the

alcoholic beverage industry.

11 "I think this will have minimal effect on heavy drinkers," Ellison added. "But if you're going to put any labels on a bottle, you should tell the truth. This doesn't say, as it should, that the health effects of light drinking are good and the effects of heavy drinking are bad. "

12 Another issue, according to some scientists, is that the scientific basis for singling out wine drinking for its beneficial effects is much more slender than the data for moderate consumption of any alcoholic beverage.

13 The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the Treasury arm that regulates alcohol producers, said it wasn't taking sides on the controversy but merely permitting wine producers to mention "health benefits" and to suggest that consumers ask their doctor or the US Department of Agriculture for more information.

14 "Alcohol beverage labels are approved by the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearm Bureau to make sure they do not contain statements. . . that are likely to mislead consumers," the agency said in a press statement.

15 "ATF worked with industry to modify their proposed statements to meet these criteria. "

16 Ed Knight, the Treasury Department's chief counsel, noted that the agency "can only deny labeling statements if they are false or misleading" and said the new wine labels meet that standard "because these statements do not make any health claim. "

17 One of the two approved labels permits wine producers to say: "The proud people who made this wine encourage you to consult your family doctor about the health benefits of wine consumption. "

18 The other invites consumers interested in learning about "the health benefits of wine consumption" to write the Department of Agriculture for its Dietary Guidelines for Americans. It gives an address and a website for the agency.

19 The federal Dietary Guidelines make no distinction between wine

and other alcoholic beverages.

20 They advise that drinking “no more than one drink per day for women and no more than two drinks per day for men” has been linked with lower risk of heart disease, and they warn against health risks.

21 The USDA defines a drink as 12 ounces of beer, five ounces of wine, and 1.5 ounces of 80-proof distilled spirits.

饮酒有益健康——美国的 葡萄酒酿酒商被允许如是说

1 星期五,美国联邦政府批准美国的葡萄酒酿酒商在酒瓶上贴上标签,暗示饮用葡萄酒“有益健康”,并欢迎消费者向政府部门写信,索取更多的有关信息。

2 主管酒精类产品销售的美国财政部根据酿酒商的强烈要求批准了这种新标签,但是一些卫生团体为此感到失望。

3 二十年来研究积累的证据表明,每天饮用少量的酒能降低患心脏病和中风的几率。

4 但是也有一些研究发现了饮酒对健康危害性的一些迹象,例如妇女患乳腺癌的几率略有增加。

5 然而,更令人担心的是,由于葡萄酒酒瓶上印有联邦政府的卫生许可,而且紧挨着规定必需的警告语:“饮酒的妇女可能生下有生理缺陷的婴儿”,这将被某些人视为对过度饮酒“开绿灯”。

6 美国心脏病协会的发言人卡罗尔·布洛克说:“研究已经表明,适度饮酒的人患心脏病的风险低于那些不喝酒的人。但是,有人担心这些研究可能没有揭示全部实情。”

7 心脏病协会称,饮酒的弊端包括酒精中毒、高血压、过度肥胖、中风、自杀及酒后肇事等。

8 全国酒精中毒和毒瘾治疗委员会对酒瓶上贴的这种新标签提出了批评,因为对于难以控制自己酒量的人,“这种做法可能会带来灾难性的后果。”该委员会说,政府本该在这种新标签上标明“适量饮酒”的字样。

9 然而,波士顿大学的研究适量饮酒的权威,R·柯蒂斯·埃利

森博士并不认为酒瓶上的这种新标签会对人们的行为产生多大影响。

10 埃利森说：“大家已经知道，葡萄酒和其他的酒对健康有一定的好处。”他还是波士顿大学的生活方式和健康研究所所长。该研究所约有百分之十的研究基金是由酿酒业界提供的。

11 埃利森接着说：“我想这一举措对酒徒的影响是很小很小的。但是，如果要在酒瓶上贴标签，就得说实话。标签上本应该注明：少量饮酒有益健康而过量饮酒会伤身体，但却没有。”

12 另一个问题是，一些科学家认为单独挑出葡萄酒来看其保健功效的科学依据似比适度饮用任何酒类都对健康有益的科学依据显得不够充分些。

13 财政部主管酒类生产的职能部门，酒精、烟草和枪支管理局说，在这场争论中，它不袒护任何一方，只是允许葡萄酒酿造商提及“饮酒有益健康”，并示意消费者向医生或美国农业部作进一步的咨询。

14 该机构在一次记者招待会上声明：“酒瓶标签须经酒精、烟草和枪支管理局核准，以确保不含有任何可能误导消费者的内容。”

15 “酒精、烟草和枪支管理局曾和酿酒业界合作，对酿酒业界原来拟定的文字说明进行修改，以符合这些标准。”

16 美国财政部的首席律师，埃德·奈特指出：“如果这些标签上的文字说明有虚假或误导消费者的内容，该管理局才能予以否认。”他又说，葡萄酒瓶上的新标签符合标准“是因为没有作出任何健康上的承诺。”

17 已经批准了两条酒瓶标签，其中有一条允许酿酒商这样说：“酿酒商为能酿造出这样的好酒而自豪，并建议您向家庭医生咨询有关饮酒保健的问题。”

18 另一条标签欢迎对饮酒的保健功能感兴趣的消费者写信给美国农业部，询问美国人的膳食指导原则。标签上还列出了美国农业部的地址和因特网网址。

19 联邦膳食指导原则并没有对葡萄酒和其他酒类产品加以区分。

20 它建议，“妇女每天饮酒不超过一杯，男子不超过两杯”能够减

少心脏病的发生率,并且提醒饮酒对健康的危害性。

21 美国农业部对一杯饮酒量的定义是:十二盎司啤酒,或五盎司葡萄酒,或一点五盎司四十度的蒸馏白酒。

每篇一句

Another issue, according to some scientists, is that the scientific basis for singling out wine drinking for its beneficial effects is much more slender than the data for moderate consumption of any alcoholic beverage.

初读此句,也许不知所云。

经梳理,得句子(宾语从句)的主干:scientific basis / is / slender than...这时,我们发现:basis / slender 两者的搭配很新颖,是我们很难想到的。

经推断,可察觉句子末尾似乎省略了for its beneficial effects。有了这样的分析,正确理解句子的障碍基本扫除。

此外,这是一个写得比较“洒脱”的句子,“头”很轻,主语只有两个词 Another issue,主语和谓语之间又有插入语(according to some scientists)。在翻译时,可以保留这种语序,留点“翻译腔”未尝不可。

此外,其宾语从句的内容不宜“捏”在一起译,分两句译,译文就显得从容许多。

试译:另一个问题是,一些科学家认为,单独挑出葡萄酒来看其保健功效的科学依据似比适度饮用任何酒类都对健康有益的科学依据显得不够充分些。

A Not-so-sweet Side Of Sugar — It Could Age You Reuters

吃糖一向被视为肥胖者的大忌,除此以外,一般读者可能还知道吃糖与蛀牙、与某些心血管疾病的关系。可你是否想到过吃糖与人的衰老也有关系呢?本文则报道了这方面的最新研究成果,读后令人大长见识。