新世纪英语新闻阅读

An English Press Anthology for the New Century Vol. 1

总主编 何肖朗 顾问 Roderick Ivall



English Press Readings for China Undergraduates 高等院校英语报刊阅读教材

An English Press Anthology for the New Century Vol.1 新世纪英语新闻阅读 第一册

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内容简介

全书共 10 个板块,分为 20 单元,每单元由 Text A 和 Text B 构成。所选文章主要是英文报刊 2005 年至 2006 年的世界政治、经济、文化、环境保护、教育、医疗等方面的社会情况介绍,体现当今世界和平、合作与发展的主题。

本书适合大学英语及涉外专业学生选修,也可供参加英语等级考试和研究 生入学、托福、雅思、商务 BEC 等考试的学生及英语爱好者选读。

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前言

在教育部颁布的高校英语专业教学大纲中的四、六、八级阅读项目中,明确将学生阅读美英报刊水平作为评定阅读能力的标准。为提高大专院校英语专业和涉外专业的学生及从事外事、国际问题研究、报刊翻译等方面的读者阅读与理解英语报刊和英语新闻的能力,经全体编者的共同努力,《新世纪英语新闻阅读》(第一册)与广大读者见面了。

本书每单元的 Text A 选编主要来自英文报刊 2005 年至 2006 年的世界政治、经济、文化、环境保护、教育、医疗、卫生、家庭、科技、社会问题等诸多方面的社会情况的介绍,体现当今世界和平、合作与发展的主题。 Text B 则系统介绍英语新闻报纸专业的基础知识。

课文尽量按照由浅人深的难度顺序编排。为方便阅读,每页课文下附有注释,主要引用百科全书与历史、文学等著作的论述以及高科技、计算机、信息产业发展等领域的新闻词汇等。课文后还附有背景知识、新闻链接、阅读理解练习、主题讨论和参考答案等。

本书适合大学英语及涉外专业学生选修,也可供准备参加英语等级考试和研究生人学、托福、雅思、商务 BEC 等考试的学生以及英语爱好者选读。

我们聘请有 25 年以上高校英语教学经验的福建教育学院、福建金融职业技术学院和福州广播电视大学的老教师参加本教材的编写工作。英国教师 Roderick Ivall 对本书课文、注释等方面提出了许多宝贵意见。在此,谨向他致以诚挚谢意。福建省图书馆、福建师范大学图书馆等为我们提供了很多资料。全体编者对提供帮助和指导的老师与同行们表示衷心的感谢。

本教材错误与不妥之处在所难免,恳请使用本书的师生和读者多提宝贵意见和建议。

编 者 于福建师范大学外国语学院

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Unit 1

Text A A Toast to Torino[®], with a Last Bicerin[®]

By Christopher Clarey

The New York Times³ Though it was not the ideal Winter Olympic host⁴, Turin does happen to have an ideal cure for the inevitable morning-after letdown⁵.

On Monday, as some stores in the city center were already dismantling[®] their "Turin 2006" displays, a small caf in the Piazza della Consolata was drawing a crowd as regulars[®] and Olympic stragglers[®] alike wedged into[®] its cozy, woodpaneled confines for a glass of bicerin, the frothy[®] local brew of espresso[®], cream and hot chocolate that gives one a gentle shake, instead of a slap, after sunup.

With the eyes now closer to wide open, it's easier to take one last look at the winners and losers in Turin.

Best performance on snow: Honorable mention goes to the Italian mountain

① Torino 托里诺,意大利西北部城市,即都灵(Turin)。

② bicerin n. a kind of traditional hot drink in Turin, Italy. 意大利都灵的一种由浓咖啡、饮用巧克力和全脂牛奶制成的传统热饮。

③ The New York Times 纽约时报是一份在美国纽约出版的报纸,在全世界发行,有相当的影响力。它有时也被戏称为"灰色女士"(The Gray Lady)或简称为"时报"(The Times)。

④ Winter Olympic host 冬季奥运会主办城市

⑤ morning-after letdown 过度行为带来的失望或沮丧

⑥ dismantle v. to get rid of 拆除,拆卸

① regular n. the usual customer 常客,老顾客

⑧ straggler n. drifter 游荡者

⑨ wedge into 挤入

① frothy adj. foamy 多泡沫的

① espresso n. thick coffee 浓咖啡

crews who pulled all-nighter[®] after all-nighter to clear fresh snow off the Alpine race courses. As for those who got the real medals, the German biathlete Michael Greis has a strong case to make after winning three gold medals and forcing the once-unbeatable Ole Einar Bjoerndalen to settle for second place in two individual events.

Michaela Dorfmeister, an Austrian, also deserves support after winning her first two Olympic golds in her final Games. But the races she won—the downhill and super-giant slalom²—were strangely lacking in suspense and sparkle on a slope that sometimes looked better suited to the recreational set. Her fellow Austrian Benjamin Raich provided better entertainment. After wilting³ in the final slalom run of the combined, he handled the pressure beautifully in the giant slalom and slalom, on brutally⁴ difficult courses that many of his rivals failed even to finish.

Best performance on ice: It's hard to ignore five medals in five events, which is what the Canadian Cindy Klassen won in the speed skating. It is hard to ignore three gold medals each for the South Korean short-track skaters Hyun Soo Ahn and Jin Sun Yu. But there's a certain amount of injustice in the fact that athletes who just happen to compete in sports that pile on the events get more glory (Do we really need a 1,000-meter race and a 1,500-meter race?) I'm going for quality over quantity, and for silver over gold. The Chinese pairs skater Zhang Dan took the sort of fall that usually ends seasons in the opening moments of her free program. But she managed to grit her teeth^⑤ and skate well enough to earn a place on the podium, which she reached with help from her partner, Zhang Hao, who carried her across the ice.

Worst performance on snow: You're thinking <u>Bode Miller</u>. Just about everyone's thinking Bode Miller, yet at least Miller was true to his stubborn, stubble-faced[®] self. He made it clear that he was into his alternative version of the Olympic experience more than he was into the medals and proved it by hitting plenty of bars and no podiums as he gave his sponsors and coaches the wrong kind

① all-nighter 持续通宵的活动

② slalom n. a kind of sport game on snow 障碍滑雪赛

③ wilt v. fail to maintain 支撑不住

④ brutally adv. severely 严峻地

⑤ grit her teeth 咬紧牙关,咬咬牙

⑥ stubble-faced 满脸胡子茬儿的

of chills by going 0-for-5. But the Norwegians, the <u>traditional Nordic kings</u>, were fully committed to winning, and for the first time in 18 years, they ended without a single victory in cross-country skiing^① or its gun-toting^② offspring,! biathlon^③. They struggled with their wax choices. They struggled with their health. They struggled with their aim, with one woman biathlete, Gunn Margit Andreassen, shooting at the wrong targets.

Worst performance on ice: You can play the blame game with Japan's medal-free speed skaters or the Canadian men's hockey team, the defending champion that slumped[®] to seventh after failing to score in 11 of its last 12 periods of play. But it's hardest to shake the image of <u>Sasha Cohen</u>, the seemingly sublime[®] American figure skater[®], facing the music[®] in the free program and botching[®] her first two jumps. Seldom has a silver looked more like a booby prize[®].

Best performance in thin air: Historians might opt for[®] Han Xiaopeng, the aerialist extraordinaire[®] who became the first Chinese man to win a freestyle skiing gold medal. Sentimentalists[®] and scientists might opt for Alisa Camplin, the telegenic[®] Australian aerialist who took the bronze in the women's competition on a knee that had been reconstructed with a ligament[®] taken from a cadaver[®]. The X Games set would surely opt for Shaun White, the American snowboarder with the flame-colored[®] hair who set the halfpipe alight with a series of tricks that could pass for a foreign language: frontside lien air, McTwist, back-to-back 1080,

① cross-country skiing 越野滑雪

② gun-toting 提枪的

③ biathlon n. a kind of sport game on snow 滑雪射击

④ slump v. drop, decrease 下跌,大失水准

⑤ sublime adj. outstanding 出众的,出色的

⑥ figure skater 花样滑冰运动员

⑦ face the music 承担自己行为的后果

[®] botch v. to make up in an awkward way 拙劣地弥补

⑨ booby prize (带有善意的戏谑性质的)末名奖

① opt for 选择

① aerialist extraordinaire 才能非凡的高空杂技演员

② sentimentalist n. those who are often overcome by sentimental mood 感伤主义者

② telegenic adj. fit for being filmed to show on TV 适于上电视镜头的

D ligament n. a part of physical structure 韧带

⑤ cadaver n. dead body 尸体(尤指供解剖用的人尸)

¹⁶ flame-colored 火红色的

frontside 900 and backside 900.

But this traditionalist is casting his vote for another 19-year-old instead. The Austrian ski jumper^① Thomas Morgenstern won the large hill competition with a 140-meter effort on his final jump, just good enough to beat his compatriot Andreas Kofler by a tenth of a point.

In the team competition, Morgenstern again needed something special at the last moment and produced it, as his 140.5-meter effort gave Austria (and himself) another gold medal.

Worst performance in thin air: Lindsey Jacobellis might have been true to her sport's means-over-end creed[®] when she went for much more style than she needed off the penultimate[®] jump with a huge lead. But you only get one chance to be the first woman to win the Olympic snowboard cross. When Jacobellis ended up in the snow after giving her board that now infamous extra grab and twist, the pioneer who ended up in the history books was Tanja Frieden of Switzerland.

Best performance on thin ice: Double nominee Miller gets his prize here: not for handling all that unwelcome Olympic attention off the slopes in Sestriere with aplomb⁴ (he bombed) but for handling what looked like genuine disaster on the slopes in Sestriere.

Apparently out of control in the super- G, Miller flailed toward the side of the course at high speed: one ski trailing behind high in the air at a right angle. The vast majority of other mortals would have gone hurtling into the safety nets or the forest. Miller missed a gate but somehow maintained his balance on one ski and eventually got everything back where it belonged, begging the question: "If Miller is that amazing an athlete, why can't he make it all the way to the bottom more often?"

Worst performance on thin ice: You'd think the Austrian Nordic team would have mapped out the highest road possible after a maid stumbled across alleged blood transfusion equipment in one of their residences in Salt Lake City after the last Olympics were over. That discovery was enough to earn an Austrian coach,

① ski jumper 跳台滑雪运动员

② creed n. faith 信念

③ penultimate adj. the second from the bottom 倒数第二的

④ aplomb n. a calm state of mind 秦然自若

Walter Mayer, an eight-year ban[©] from the Olympics but not enough to earn him a ban from the Austrian program. If he had not been silly enough to come visit his athletes at these Games, triggering[©] a late- night doping raid from the Italian police, he might still be on the payroll^③.

(From The New York Times, March 1, 2006)

I. Background

冬季奥林匹克运动会

19 世纪末 20 世纪初,随着冰雪运动(如滑雪、冰球等项目)的日益普及与发展,人们对冰雪运动的热爱逐渐演变为对比赛的狂热。在此背景下,以冰雪运动为主的冬季奥运会应运而生。

正式的冬季奧林匹克运动会始于 1924 年,由法国的夏蒙尼市承办。当时,这个被称为"冬季运动周"的运动会在两年后由国际奥委会正式更名为第一届冬季奥林匹克运动会(以下简称冬奥会)。冬奥会最初规定为每四年举办一次,与夏季奥运会在同一年的同一个国家举行。从 1928 年的第二届冬奥会开始,冬季奥运会与夏季奥运会的举办地点改在不同的国家举行。1994 年开始,冬季奥运会与夏季奥运会以两年为间隔交叉举行。

经过80余年的发展,冬奥会已由最初只有258人参加的小型运动会发展成为全球瞩目的大型综合性赛事。1980年中国首次派出由43人组成的体育代表团,参加了在美国普莱西德湖举行的第十届冬奥会。自此以后,每届冬奥会中国都派出代表团参赛。

(From http://www.future-ad.com)

I. News Interlinkage

中国体育报:感谢都灵

由于竞技体育特有的不确定性,致使本届冬奥会跟任何一届大型运动会一样,都会给国人带来一些惊喜,也有一些遗憾。但对照中国体育代表团参加本届

① ban n. the prohibition from a certain sport game 禁賽

② trigger v. cause 引起

③ payroll n. a name roll of those in-service employees 在职人员名单

冬奥会的总体目标——争取运动成绩和精神文明双丰收、争取有新的项目实现 奖牌的突破,那么,他们已经圆满地完成了任务。

都灵冬奥会是中国代表团参加冬奥会以来运动成绩最好的一届,共取得 2 枚金牌、4 枚银牌、5 枚铜牌,奖牌总数超过往届;中国冰雪运动整体实力有所提升,在短道速滑、自由式滑雪、速度滑冰、花样滑冰 4 个项目中获得奖牌,是获得奖牌项目最多的一届,并有 3 对选手进人双人滑前四名、6 名选手进入空中技巧决赛;韩晓鹏夺得男子自由式滑雪空中技巧冠军,使中国的雪上项目、男子冬奥会成绩实现了历史性突破;部分落后项目(如越野滑雪、高山滑雪等)虽然没有获得奖牌,但取得了一定的进步,获得了参加冬奥会历史上的最好名次。

张丹、张昊在冰场上以顽强拼搏的精神诠释了奥林匹克精髓,并赢得了当地市民、奥林匹克大家庭及全世界的尊重。中国参加冬奥会的运动员按规定接受了大会的兴奋剂检查,没有一例有问题。

所以,我们可以自豪地说,中国体育健儿在都灵表现得很出色,向全世界展示了他们"顽强拼搏、敢于超越自我、挑战强手的良好精神风貌和自强、自信的民族精神"。

都灵风住雪停,将迎来北京的云卷云舒。中国体育健儿在都灵的成功或者 失利,都将成为北京奥运选手的一笔珍贵的精神财富,其中尤为可贵的是,在与 对手的较量中,看到了自身实实在在的差距,使他们更懂得如何勇敢、如何自信、 如何坚毅、如何不屈、如何辉煌。从这个意义上来说,我们应该感谢都灵,让中国 体育界有了这样一个好的练兵场,让我们的选手面对 2008 奥运会增添了一份成 熟和勇气。

奥林匹克运动就是这样,在不断地突破自我、创造新成绩中实现"更高、更快、更强"的宗旨。相信到了2008年的北京奥运会,中国体育健儿也一定会向全国人民乃至全世界交出一份满意的答卷。

(摘自 2006 年 02 月 27 日 11:17 中国体育报,

From http://sports.sina.com.cn)

II. Reading Comprehension

1. What did a crowd of regulars and Olympic stragglers wedge into a small café in the Piazza della Consolata for?

A. a glass of bicerin

B. the frothy espress

C. cream

D. hot chocolate

2. How many medals did the Canadian Cindy Klassen win in the speed skating?

A. three B. four C. five D. two

3. Who is Sasha Cohen?

A. an Australian figure skater B. an American figure skater

C. an Australian pairs skater D. an American pairs skater

4. In which field did Han Xiaopeng win a gold medal?

A. figure skating B. pairs skating

C. speed skating D. freestyle skiing

5. How many years was the Austrian coach, Walter Mayer, banned from the Olympics?

A. six years B. five years C. eight years D. ten years

IV . Topics for Discussion

- 1. Whom does honorable mention go to? Why?
- 2. How many Olympic golds did Michaela Dorfmeister win in her final Games?
- 3. What did the Chinese pairs skater Zhang Dan manage to do?
- 4. Who is Gunn Margit Andreassen?
- 5. What happened to Alisa Camplin's knee?

Text B How to Read a Newspaper?

By Helen H. Carey and Judith E. Greenberg

(Adapted)

A newspaper is much like a precision[®] tool. It can help you work more accurately and effectively. Understanding the newspaper can give you the information necessary to analyze accounts of today's critical issues, yesterday's history, and tomorrow's problems. But like any tool, the newspaper is useless unless you know how to use it properly. It will enable you to become a more effective reader and user of newspaper and as a result, a more fully informed citizen.

The book helps you understand what a newspaper is, what it is that make news, and where news comes from. It also tells you something about the people who process the news, from reporters, who gather the news of the day, to editors,

① precision n. exactness, accuracy, etc. 精确,精密度,精度

who decide what news goes into the paper and where it will appear.

Does the newspaper print only "bad" news? Where can you find what the newspaper itself think about an issue? How can you detect bias and slanting of news articles? These are only some of the additional questions you will find in the chapters in this book. In addition, it offers some important tips on how to use the newspaper in your classroom that will help you in discussing current events and in making oral and written reports.

The importance of acquiring newspaper reading skills cannot be overstated^①. Without newspapers you would have to depend almost entirely on seeing and hearing the news, and although TV and radio newscasts are informative^② and generally enlightening^③, they must report the news of the day selectively in order to stay within a set time period. A newspaper isn't under such strict limits and has other advantages. It can be read at you leisure, gives you a choice of articles and topics, and is available free to everyone through public libraries. Because the newspaper must meet the needs of so many people, it has many different sections. Your and your increased skill in using them will not only heighten your pleasure in reading newspapers but will also make them more useful in all your activities.

News

What is news? The kind of event that becomes news depends on several factors. When did it happen? To be news it must be immediate and current; today's newspaper is a record of what's happening now. What happened? Was the event significant or important? —if so, it's news. How and where did it happen? Whom did it happen to, and what may happen as a result? The answer to these questions makes up what we call news. News is the history of the day in the making, and newspaper are the recorders of this history.

What kind of stories make news? Accidents, murders, robberies, awful fires—do only bad or sad events make news? It depends on what is happening on a particular day. At first glance it may seem that newspapers print more "bad" news

① overstate v. to exaggerate 夸大地叙述,夸张

② informative adj. giving information; educational; instructive 情报的,提供情报的,见闻广博的

③ enlightening adj giving the light of fact and knowledge to; free from ignorance, prejudice, or superstition 启迪的. 教化的

than "good" news. On certain bad days that may be true, but if you survey the stories in a typical edition of the newspaper, you may be surprised at the amount of good news newspaper contain.

While it would be nice if only good news was reported, events make news because they are out of the ordinary. To most people, a story that describes an unusual happening is far more interesting than one about an ordinary event. It's important to remember that news is about what's happening and if a significant event happens, it's news, good or bad. The following is the cases that make news:

Stories of interest to most Americans make news.

Houses Passes

Tax Bill

WASHINGTON, July 11—The House of Representatives today approved a measure that would have the effect of increasing the taxes of most Americans. The controversial bill was passed by a margin $^{\odot}$ of 235-189, with voting largely along party lines.

International stories make news.

Britain Sends Fleet To Defend Falklands

LONDON, April 5—Prime Minister Thatcher announced in Parliament today that she was ordering a task force of the Royal Navy to proceed with all speed to the Falkland Islands. The announcement, which constituted the government's response to the Argentine occupation of these South Atlantic islands, had been expected.

The humorously strange makes news.

Wren Takes Up Residence In Purse of Md. Woman

HAGERSTOWN, Md., July 2 (AP)—When June Henson hung her freshly washed canvas pocketbook out to dry last week, she never expected it would become a bird's nest.

① margin n. a measure, quantity, or degree of difference 差額

A Mother's Strike Convinces 5 Kids To Treat Her Better

By Gail Baker

Associated Press

DES MOINES. Iowa, July 8—A homemaker who went on strike against her family for six days is back on the job after the last of her five children signed her list of demands for more affection and consideration.

The failings of modern life make news.

1910 Mail Turns Up; Post Office Still Game

LOUISVILLE, Ky., June 22 (AP)—Two sacks of mail that should have been delivered in 1910 have been discovered in an old house, and the Postal Service says it will try to make sure the mail gets through this time.

Even when nothing happens, sometimes it's news.

No Serious Incidents

Sunday's Prince George's County Police Department communications bulletin contained the type of crime report we all like to hear: "no serious incidents to report".

(To be continued)

V . Group Discussion

- 1. What kind of news is printed in the newspapers?
- 2. Why is it important to require newspaper reading skills?
- 3. Summarize the cases that make news.

① failing n. a failure; a slight fault or defect 失败,缺点,弱点,过失