新世纪大学英语系列教材

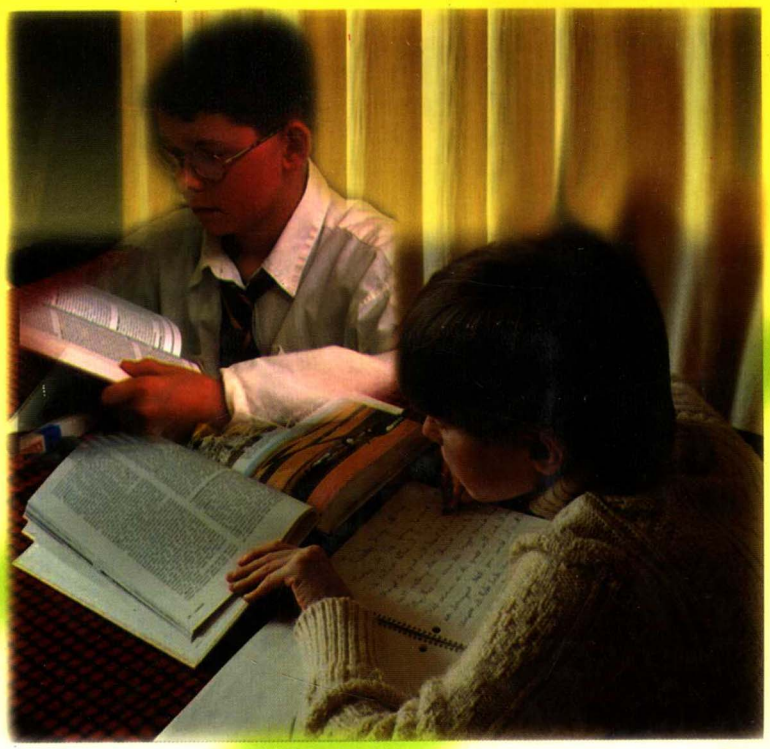
# 新世纪大学英语

## 读与写

第三册

华中科技大学外语系 编著

New Century College Ens



华中科技大学出版社

# New Century College English

# 新世纪大学英语

## 读与写(第三册)

华中科技大学外语系　编著

本册主要编写人员

主　编:雷小川

副主编:李家云　刘泽华

编　者(按姓氏笔画排列)

冯学芳　孙云梅　诸　[illegible]　[illegible]　[illegible]　[illegible]



华中科技大学出版社

**图书在版编目(CIP)数据**

New Century College English
新世纪大学英语读与写(第三册)/华中科技大学外语系　编著
武汉:华中科技大学出版社，　2000 年 9 月
ISBN 7-5609-2278-3

Ⅰ. 新…
Ⅱ. 华…
Ⅲ. 英语-高等学校-教材
Ⅳ. H319

**New Century College English**
**新世纪大学英语读与写(第三册)**　　华中科技大学外语系　编著

责任编辑:梅欣君　　封面设计:秦　茹
责任校对:张　欣　　责任监印:张正林

出版发行:华中科技大学出版社　　武昌喻家山　邮编:430074　电话:(027)87545012

录　　排:华中科技大学出版社照排室
印　　刷:京山县印刷厂

开本:787×1092　1/16　　印张:14.75　　字数:348 000
版次:2000 年 9 月第 1 版　　印次:2002 年 10 月第 6 次印刷　　印数:17 101—19 600
ISBN 7-5609-2278-3/H・346　　定价:17.50 元

# 内 容 提 要

本教材中的绝大部分文章都选自国际互联网的相关网站，或国外最新出版的多种电子读物。所选文章的内容涉及英美文化、历史、社会、政治、经济、科技、教育、体育、艺术、风俗习惯等方面；文章的体裁包括记叙、描述、说明、议论、诗歌等各种文体，它们中的大多数都能够充分反映当今英语的主流特点。

本教材具有鲜明的时代特色，很强的知识性、可读性和趣味性，有利于学生的英语综合能力的提高。

# 前　言

《新世纪大学英语》(New Century College Engish)是华中科技大学外语系根据教育部最新审定的《大学英语教学大纲(修订本)》及《词汇表》精心编写的一套系列教材,包括《读与写》、《听与说》、《听与练》和《泛读》各四册,分别供大学英语一至四级使用。

编写《读与写》遵循的第一个原则是在注重培养学生阅读能力的同时也兼顾提高学生写与说的能力;遵循的第二个原则是本教材不仅应成为语言的实体,更是信息的载体,从而使学生不仅识语言,而且知文化。因而本教材具有以下主要特点:

一、具有鲜明的时代特色。本教材中的绝大部分文章都选自国际互联网的相关网站,或国外最新出版的多种电子读物。

二、具有很强的知识性、可读性和可思性。本教材所选文章的内容涉及英美文化、历史、社会、政治、经济、科技、教育、体育、艺术、风俗习惯等方面;文章的体裁包括记叙、描述、说明、议论等各种文体,它们中的大多数都能够充分反映当今英语的主流特点。

三、具有很强的趣味性。选材形式有散文、小说、诗歌、戏剧、传记、寓言、演说等。

四、课文按主题(Topics)编排,每课(Unit)一个主题,每册共十个主题,这种编排形式可大大提高相关词汇及表达法的复现率。

五、为利于学生学习、掌握词汇,本教材根据新修订的《词汇表》对四、六级词汇及六级后词汇分别进行了标注——上标 4 表示四级、上标 6 表示六级,上标◆表示六级后。

在本书的编写过程中,华中科技大学外语系的领导、广大教师以及教务处、华中理工大学出版社领导和英语编辑都给予了我们热情的鼓励和帮助,编者在此致以诚挚的谢意。

本册是在华中科技大学 98 级约 800 名学生试用后,经仔细修改,增补后出版的。但由于编者水平和时间有限,教材中仍难免存在错误和不足之处,恳请广大读者及同仁批评指正。

编　者

2000 年 7 月

# *CONTENTS*


**Unit 1 Environment** ····· (1)

Part A Will Renewable Energy Come of Age in the 21st Century? ····· (3)

Part B Greenpeace Campaign ····· (11)

Part C How Big Is the Earth? ····· (15)

**Unit 2 Religion** ····· (23)

Part A Religion ····· (25)

Part B Religion and Technology ····· (31)

Part C Losing My Religion ····· (37)

**Unit 3 Titanic** ····· (43)

Part A Jack Saves the Life of Rose ····· (45)

Part B Why Are We So Fascinated with the Titanic? ····· (56)

Part C The Empress of Ireland——a Titanic Tale of Forgotten Tragedy ····· (61)

**Unit 4 Gender** ····· (67)

Part A Women and the Market ····· (69)

Part B Why I Want a Wife ····· (78)

Part C Why I Want a Husband ····· (82)

**Unit 5 Age and Youth** ····· (85)

Part A Age and Youth ····· (87)

Part B Late Bloomers ····· (94)

Part C Michael's Legacy ····· (99)

**Unit 6 Leonardo da Vinci** ····· (103)

Part A Leonardo da Vinci ····· (105)

Part B Flight and Other Obsessions: The Science of Leonardo da Vinci ····· (114)

Part C Mona Lisa ····· (119)

**Unit 7 Hi-tech & Internet** ····· (125)

Part A Hi-tech Moves into a World of Its Own ····· (127)

Part B The Internet, Children and Filters ····· (134)

Part C Copyright ····· (139)

**Unit 8 The 21st Century** ····· (145)

Part A Preparing for the 21st Century ····· (147)

Part B A Letter from the Future ····· (154)

Part C Future of Aging ····· (161)

**Unit 9 Health** ····· (167)

Part A Major Causes of Ill Health ····· (169)

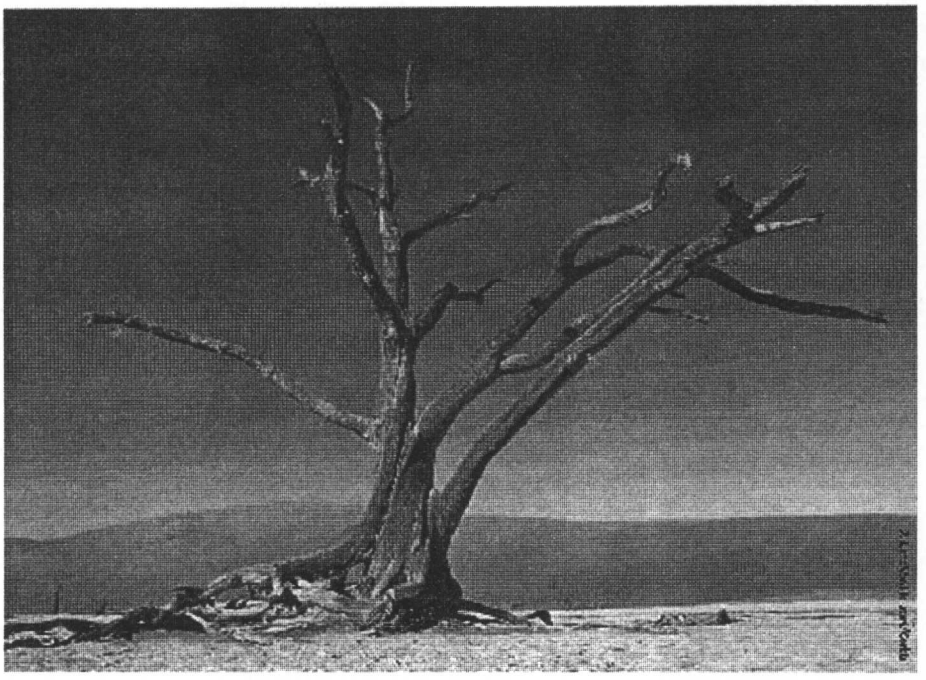
Part B Think You Want to Live Forever? ····· (178)

Part C Health Care Cost Reductions ····· (183)

**Unit 10 Short Stories** ····· (187)

Part A Table for Two ..... (189)
Part B Bellflower ..... (198)
Part C The Lottery Ticket ..... (206)
*Glossary* ..... (215)

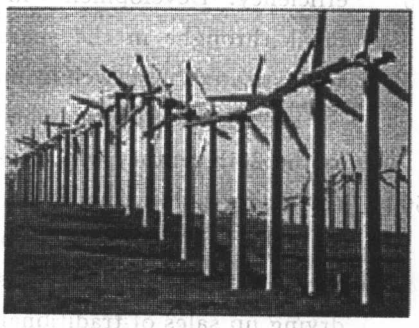
# Unit 1
# Environment



## Part A

# Will Renewable Energy Come of Age in the 21st Century?

Taking a train ride across Denmark, a small, tidy country with lots of rich farmland, is a unique visual experience these days. At almost any point on the journey, you can spot at least one or two giant, three-bladed wind turbines turning slowly in the breeze, quietly and cleanly converting currents of air into currents of electricity. These gleaming white machines now produce a full 7 percent of Denmark's electricity.



Unlike conventional power plants, which are owned by large private or public companies, Denmark's wind turbines are often owned by the farmers on whose land they stand, or by farmers' cooperatives. The revenue produced by the wind turbines typically flows directly into the local community, and to the manufacturers and service firms that maintain them. Denmark also draws on a form of renewable energy known as biomass (biological materials derived from plants). Small, locally based power plants burn straw and other agricultural waste to produce electricity as well as hot water for local heating.

The rapid transformation of Denmark's energy system during the last ten years may turn out to be the leading wave of something much larger. Around the world, new energy technologies that do not rely on fossil fuels such as coal, petroleum, and natural gas are moving from the experimental stage to commercial reality. Sunlight, wind, and other renewable resources are increasingly converted into useful forms of energy with ever-greater efficiency. The new technologies still provide less than 1 percent of the world's energy supply, but they appear to be advancing rapidly.

The timing of these advances could be of critical importance to the future of modern civilization. Most experts believe that an energy system based on fossil fuels cannot be sustained for another century. According to several recent estimates based on currently known oil reserves, oil production will peak within the first 10 to 20 years of the 21st century.

Even if additional reserves are discovered, many scientists say that continued reliance on fossil fuels as a primary energy source over the coming decades could release into the atmosphere billions of metric tons of carbon dioxide and other heat-trapping gases. International efforts, including the December 1997 Kyoto Protocol, are already underway to cap emissions of these gases, which many scientists have

linked to global warming (an increase in the earth's surface temperature). But the efforts of fossil fuel-dependent companies to thwart emissions caps may delay ratification and implementation of the protocol.

Advances in electronics, software, and synthetic materials are likely to play a key role in any new energy system. The silicon semiconductor chip, a technology that is less than 40 years old, is now used in nearly every industry. Increased processing power and the miniaturization of electronic devices make it possible to control nearly all energy devices more efficiently, opening new ways of producing, consuming, and conserving energy. Using the latest semiconductor chips, for example, the blades of a wind turbine, can now be precisely and inexpensively positioned to maximize efficiency. Developments in chemistry and materials science may also offer critical break-throughs in the years ahead, allowing the creation of a new generation of sophisticated, lightweight materials.

The 21st century may be as profoundly shaped by the move away from fossil fuels as the 20th century was marked by the move toward them. But most experts believe a new energy system will take decades to develop. Investment in the current system is massive, and enormous resources will be required to build a new one. As events in the late 19th century demonstrated, however, underlying markets can shift abruptly, drying up sales of traditional energy and transportation sources and affecting scores of industries. The economic health and political power of entire nations may be boosted, or in the case of some countries that now rely on oil production, sharply diminished. Nations, industries, cities, homes, and lives will likely be reshaped in ways that cannot be fully anticipated.

A wide range of renewable energy resources could play an important role in the 21st century. These include ancient sources of power, such as the wind and sun, as well as comparatively new forms of power, such as the fuel cell. A host of other resources, including geothermal heat, biomass, and ocean power, may also figure prominently in the world's next energy system. (725 words)

## NEW WORDS

**renewable** /riˈnjuːəbl/ *a.* that can replace ( something old ) with something new of the same kind 可再生的,可更新的,可恢复的

[4]**tidy** /ˈtaidi/ *a.* neat and orderly in appearance or habits 整洁的,整齐的

[4]**blade** /bleid/ *n.* the flat wide part of an oar, a propeller, a bat, etc. 叶片,桨片

[4]**turbine** /ˈtəːbain/ *n.* 叶轮机,汽轮机

[4]**breeze** /briːz/ *n.* a light gentle wind 微风

**gleaming** /ˈgliːmiŋ/ *a.* giving out a gentle light; shining softly 闪闪发光的

[4]**conventional** /kənˈvenʃənl/ *a.* following accepted customs and standards 传统的

[6]**cooperative** /kəuˈɔpərətiv/ *n.* a business or organization run by the people who work for it,

who share its benefits and profits 合作社,合作团体; *a.* 合作的

**biological** /ˌbaiəˈlɔdʒikl/ *a.* of biology 生物学(上)的

[4]**derive** /diˈraiv/ *v.* to come or develop from something 取得,获得

[4]**local** /ˈləukl/ *a.* responsible for or concerned with a small area of a country, for example a county or city 本地的

**biomass** /ˈbaiəumæs/ *n.* plant materials and animal waste used esp. as a source of fuel 生物能

[4]**straw** /strɔ:/ *n.* 稻草

**transformation** /ˌtrænsfəˈmeiʃən/ *n.* a complete change in someone or something 改变,变化

[4]**experimental** /eksˌperiˈmentəl/ *a.* used for or connected with experiments 实验(性)的;实验上的

[4]**efficiency** /iˈfiʃənsi/ *n.* the state or quality of being efficient 效率

[4]**reserve** /riˈzə:v/ *n.* /*v.* a quantity of something kept for future use 储备(藏)

[6]**reliance** /riˈlaiəns/ *n.* the state of being materially supported; dependence 依赖

[4]**metric** /ˈmetrik/ *a.* of system of weights and measures based on meter and kilogram 米制的

**thwart** /θwɔ:t/ *v.* to prevent from happening or succeeding 反对,阻挠

**ratification** /ˌrætifiˈkeiʃən/ *n.* formal approval of something, usually by signing it and thus making it official 批准,同意

[4]**semiconductor** /ˈsemikənˈdʌktə/ *n.* 半导体

[6]**chip** /tʃip/ *n.* 芯片;炸土豆条(片);薄片,碎片

**miniaturization** /ˌminjətʃərai'zeiʃn/ *n.* 小型化

**maximize** /ˈmæksimaiz/ *v.* to increase to the greatest possible size or amount (使)达到最高限度,(使)增至最大限度

**lightweight** /ˈlait-weit/ *a.* below average weight 较轻的,平均重量以下的

[6]**abrupt** /əˈbrʌpt/ *a.* sudden, unexpected 突然的,意外的

[6]**boost** /bu:st/ *v.* to increase; to raise; to promote 提高,促进

**comparatively** /kəmˈpærətivli/ *ad.* 比较而言

**geothermal** /ˌdʒi:əuˈθə:ml/ *a.* 地热的;地温的

[4]**prominent** /ˈprɔminənt/ *a.* 突出的,显著的

## PHRASES

**come of age** 进入成熟期;充分发展;到达法定年龄

**convert... into** 转变成

**draw on** 利用

**release into** 释放

**link to** 与……相联系

**scores of** 许多,大量

**a host of** 许多

# NOTES

**Denmark** /ˈdenmɑːk/ 丹麦［欧洲］

**three-bladed wind turbines** 三叶风车

**fossil fuel** 矿物/化石燃料

**metric ton** 吨

**carbon dioxide** 二氧化碳

**heat-trapping (gases)** 不(透)散热的(气体)；吸热气体

**Kyoto Protocol** /kiˈəutəu-ˈprəutəkɔl/ Delegates from over 150 countries meeting at the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in Kyoto, Japan, approve the Kyoto Protocol, calling for the industrial countries to reduce harmful gas emissions into the Earth's atmosphere 京都草约

**to cap emissions of these gases** "cap" here means to set an upper limit on

# EXERCISES

## Part I Pre-reading

1. What do you use/burn to cook, to heat water and to warm yourself? You can choose among the following three energy forms and give a brief description of both *the advantage(s) and disadvantage(s)* of each kind.

| Coal —— Electricity —— Gas |
|---|

***Suggested Words***

**cost**: *high —— low*

**price**: *expensive —— cheap*

**convenience**: *convenient —— inconvenient*

**operation**: *easy to operate/transmit —— complicated to use*

**environmental concern**: *heavily/slightly polluting —— clean*

2. Predict the most probable form(s) of energy source that will be used by human beings in the future after all the fossil fuels ( coal, natural gas, and petroleum ) in the earth have been used up. Compare both *the advantage(s) and disadvantage(s)* of each kind in the following block.

| | |
|---|---|
| a. Nuclear Energy | b. Wind Power |
| c. Solar Energy | d. Ocean Power |

***Suggested Words***

**cost**: *enormously high —— very low*

**investment**: *massive, large, big —— small, not large/big*

**price**: *expensive —— cheap*

**convenience**: *convenient —— inconvenient*

**operation**: *easy to operate/transmit —— complicated to use*

**environmental concern**: *heavily/slightly polluting —— clean*

**efficiency**: *high —— low*

**feeling**: *comfortable, confident, relaxed —— uneasy, nervous, dangerous, dreadful, deadly, disastrous*

## Part II While-reading

### *Reading Comprehension*

1. Choose the best answer to the following.

1) The text mainly discusses _____.

A. Denmark's wind turbines

B. rapid change of Denmark's energy system

C. renewable energy such as biomass drawn on in Denmark

D. the prospect of renewable energy

2) "something" in "... turn out to be the leading way of something much larger." (in the first sentence of Paragraph 3) refers to _____.

A. the using of renewable sources of energy

B. the turning of wind turbines

C. the reliance on fossil fuels

D. the discovery of additional energy reserves

3) From Paragraph 4 we can conclude that an energy system based on fossil fuels _____.

A. will no longer be in use next century

B. will be used up before next century

C. will not last till the end of next century

D. will totally destroy the balance of nature next century

4) "Silicon semiconductor chip" is mentioned in Paragraph 6 as an example to illustrate that high technology _____.

A. is widely used in energy industry

B. can be used to drive the wind turbine

C. may also lead to the creation of new synthetic materials

D. is likely to enable human beings to use a new energy system easily

5) The first sentence in Paragraph 7 can be interpreted as _____.

A. this century we use up fossil fuels so next century we will not have any left

B. this century we rely on fossil fuels while next century we will have to find other energy sources

C. this century we like fossil fuels while next century we will probably hate them

D. this century we rely heavily on fossil fuels while next century we might move away from it

6) "Wind and sun" in the last paragraph, are described as "ancient sources of power" because human beings _____.

A. used wind and sun as a main source of energy in its history

B. have a long history of using wind and sun as sources of energy

C. once used wind and sun as main sources of energy in ancient times but turned to fossil fuels later

D. had advanced technology of using wind and sun as renewable sources of energy in ancient time

2. Answer the following questions.

1) How does the author describe the process of converting currents of air into currents of electricity in Denmark?

2) Why does the author say that Denmark's wind turbines are not like conventional power plants?

3) What is the aim of developing new energy technologies that do not rely on fossil fuels?

4) What would happen if additional fossil fuel reserves are discovered?

5) What would life be like under a new energy system?

***Vocabulary***

1. Find a choice in column B closest in meaning to each noun in Column A. There are more choices in Column B than words in Column A, so you may choose more than one of them to match a word in Column A.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1) *current* | a. firm, farm, etc., owned and run by all who work in it |
| 2) *turbine* | b. accepted practice; esp. social behavior; tradition |
| 3) *convention* | c. willing to cooperate; helpful |
| 4) *cooperative* | d. income that the government receives as tax |
| 5) *revenue* | e. hardened part of animals or plants died long ago |
| 6) *fossil* | f. the act of lessening to the smallest possible size |
| 7) *miniaturization* | g. an important advance or discovery after failures |
| 8) *breakthrough* | h. a continuously moving mass of liquid or gas |
| | i. a formal agreement esp. between countries on some thing that i important to them all |
| | j. an engine or a motor used to produce electricity |
| | k. the flow of electricity past a fixed point |

2. Select among the following verbs in the text that can be used as both a verb and a noun. Explain their meanings either in English or in Chinese.

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| sustain | convert | renew | spot | demonstrate | cap | consume |
| release | position | ratify | peak | conserve | link | implement |
| thwart | diminish | shape | mark | maximize | figure | boost |

Example: look: *n.* 面容 *v.* 看，瞧

1)_____ n._____ v._____ 5)_____ n._____ v._____

2)_____ n._____ v._____ 6)_____ n._____ v._____

3)_____ n._____ v._____ 7)_____ n._____ v._____

4)_____ n._____ v._____ 8)_____ n._____ v._____

3. Find a choice closest in meaning in column B to each word in Column A.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1) *renew* | a. to keep in existence over a long period; maintain; |
| 2) *convert* | b. to approve and make it official by signing it; |
| 3) *sustain* | c. to keep from being damaged, destroyed; preserve; |
| 4) *ratify* | d. to replace sth. old with sth. new of the same kind; |
| 5) *conserve* | e. to become or seem smaller; |
| 6) *maximize* | f. to increase; to raise; |
| 7) *boost* | g. to change into another form, substance, or state; |
| 8) *diminish* | h. to increase to the greatest possible size or amount; |

4. Fill in the blanks in the following sentences by using the adjectives in the box below. Notice that there is one more blank than the number of the adjectives in the box, so you can use some word twice.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| renewable | gleaming | conventional | massive | critical |
| profound | underway | experimental | underlying | enormous |

1) The steel mills have been closed and replaced by _____ high-tech buildings.

2) The college is noted for its _____ forms of teaching.

3) Subscription to the updating service is _____ annually.

4) She had strayed from the path of _____ behavior.

5) There is a(n) _____ amount of hard work in child care.

6) I do not share these doubts, and the role played by Hopkins is _____ if Stalin's postwar strategy is to be understood.

7) The _____ problem of US airlines is financial.

8) Preparations for the trial were _____.

9) Intensive negotiations between the US, the European Community, Japan and Canada have been _____ for the past few weeks.

10) We are living through a period of _____ and accelerating change.

11) There is a way we could have an Olympic standard team but it would involve _____ investment in facilities.

***Use of English***

Fill in the blanks in the following passages.

Within the last century, the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere has increased 1) _____, largely because of the practice of burning fossil fuels——coal and petroleum and

its derivatives. 2)_____ temperature has also increased 1℃ (about 1.8℉) within the past century. Atmospheric scientists have now 3)_____ that at least half of that increase can be attributed(归因于) to human activity, and they have predicted that 4)_____ dramatic action is taken, temperature will continue to rise by between 1℃ and 3.5℃ (between 1.8℉ and 6.3℉) over the next century. Although this may not seem like a great difference, global temperature was only 2.2℃ (4℉) cooler during the last ice age than it is presently. The consequences of such a modest increase in temperature may well be 5)_____. Sea levels will rise, completely 6)_____ a number of low-lying island nations and many 7)_____ cities such as New York and Miami. Many plant and animal 8)_____ will probably be driven into 9)_____, agricultural regions will be separated, and the 10)_____ of severe hurricanes(飓风) and droughts(旱灾) is likely to increase.

***Translation***

1. Translate the following sentences into Chinese.
   1) Taking a train ride across Denmark, a small, tidy country with lots of rich farmland, is a unique visual experience these days.
   2) The rapid transformation of Denmark's energy system during the last ten years may turn out to be the leading wave of something much larger.
   3) The timing of these advances could be of critical importance to the future of modern civilization.
   4) The 21st century may be as profoundly shaped by the move away from fossil fuels as the 20th century was marked by the move toward them.
   5) The economic health and political power of entire nations may be boosted.
2. Translate the following sentences into English, using the phrases in the brackets.
   1) 天然气在燃烧时已由液态变成了气态。(convert...into)
   2) 真看不出来她居然有60多岁了。(turn out to be)
   3) 渔民每年这个时候都往湖里放入大量的鱼苗。(release into)
   4) 到底是什么在高科技中起着最关键的作用？(play a key role in)
   5) 人们把垃圾产生的能量作为再生能源来利用。(draw on)

**Part III Post-reading**

Write a composition on ***My Ideal Future Energy Source***. Try to use the words and phrases you have learned in the text.