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美国之音

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2005

下半年合集

■ 国政军事聚焦

■ 欧洲

■ 美洲

■ 亚洲

■ 中东



标准英语
Standard English

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学习手册 第一册

VOA 标准英语

2005 下半年合集 MP3 版

江苏工业学院图书馆
藏书章





现在国内大多数人学习英语是挣扎着学出来的。终日苦读、背单词、写句子、练语法、做习题,以应对各种考试,但是我们这样学习往往达不到预期的效果,付出的努力与收到的成效不成正比。而我们大多数人往往忽略了语言是一种工具这一重要问题。和其他语言一样,英语是用来交流的,在交流的过程中听、说两项技能是最重要的,这正是国外的一些考试比较重视对语言实际运用能力的考查的原因之一,而且国内的各种考试也在转型,也正在向考查学习者的综合语言运用能力发展,所以我们现在就要开始准备,从运用抓起,从打下坚实的语言基础入手,为成功的交流做准备。

那么我们怎样才能提高听说水平呢?首先我们要有语言输入 input,就是多听,勤听,而且要听地道的英语内容,这样才能保证准确度。输入的第二种方式是读。有了语言的输入,才能输出 output,所谓输出就是将自己已有的知识在与人交流过程中准确、适时地表达出来,这也就达到了用英语交流的目的,也真正达到了我们学习语言的目的。美国之音2005年下半年合集就是针对我们中国人学习英语的这种要求,在听的方面提供发音准确的听力材料,以便学习者模仿,为了配合扩大阅读量,我们还专门提供了学习手册。这样既满足了听的需求,也满足了读的需要。使学习者的听、说、读、写能力得到全面发展。

本专集在内容上结合“美国之音”各节目特点，为广大英语学习者和英语爱好者提供了最实用、最实惠的英语学习资料。“美国之音2005年下半年合集 标准版”，即Standard English，是按照“美国之音”报道新闻的正常语速录制的，对于提高学习者的听力水平大有裨益。本专集共分了国政军事聚焦、全球经济要闻、文化教育动态、体育娱乐看台、社会新闻点评、环境科学探索六大栏目，信息量大，在学习英语的同时，亦可纵览天下事。

为了帮助广大英语学习者和爱好者更好地使用“美国之音”的新闻材料，尽快提高英语水平，我们全体编辑在编辑过程中对素材进行了细致加工，对文章中的重、难点单词做了详细、准确的注释。

北京碟中碟软件科技发展有限公司精心制作的本套产品秉承了本公司一贯的“超值低价”的优良传统，奉献给广大英语学习者和爱好者实惠、实用的学习资料。如有任何建议或意见，均可以在本公司网站——www.every.com.cn上给我们留言，我们会一一给予答复。

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Politics and War

政军事聚焦



Blair to EU: Modernize or Fail

Tony Blair's message to the European Union is that it must change the way it does business if it is to survive.

He told the European Parliament that the people of Europe are ahead of the continent's politicians in recognizing the need for change.

Tony Blair: It is time to give ourselves a reality check to receive the wake-up call. The people are blowing the **trumpets** around the city walls. Are we listening? Have we the political will to go out and meet them so that they regard our leadership collectively as part of the solution and not part of the problem?

Mr. Blair's message comes as the EU wonders how it can get out of a crisis caused by French and Dutch voters' rejection of its constitution and its failure at a summit last week to agree on a long-term budget.

Tony Blair: In every crisis there is an opportunity. There is one here for Europe now, if we have the courage to take it.

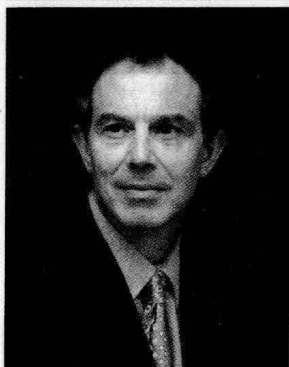
But for Mr. Blair, the issue is bigger than the constitution or the budget. It is that Europe must adapt itself to changing times in order to compete economically, not just with the United States but also with such rising giants as China and India.

Mr. Blair has been accused by the French and the Germans, among others, of wanting to destroy Europe's welfare state and impose **unfettered** capitalism across the continent. His critics also say Britain wants the EU to be a big common market and is not interested in closer political integration. Mr. Blair said those criticisms are unfair.

注释

trumpet ['trʌmpɪt] n. 喇叭

unfettered ['ʌn'fetəd] adj. 没有拘束的



Tony Blair: The issue is not between a free market Europe and a social Europe, between those who want to retreat to a common market and those who believe in Europe as a political project. This is not just a **misrepresentation**. It is to **intimidate** those who want to change Europe by representing the desire for change as a **betrayal** of the European ideal.

The British leader said his aim is not to kill Europe's highly regulated social model but to change it.

Tony Blair: What type of social model is it that has 20 million unemployed across Europe? The purpose of our social model should be to enhance our ability to compete, to help our people cope with globalization, to let them embrace its opportunities and avoid the dangers.

Mr. Blair's first challenge is to try to secure a deal on the EU's budget for the six-year period that begins in 2007. He will have difficulty doing that because he has insisted on maintaining a special rebate Britain gets for not receiving as much as France and Germany in farm subsidies. He says he is prepared to negotiate about the rebate only if other EU members are willing to cut back on the agricultural **handouts** that take up 40 percent of the EU budget. And France is unwilling to do that.

But diplomats say that, even if Mr. Blair cannot get a budget deal, he can at least start a Europe-wide debate over the economic policies Europe needs for the future.

Roger Wilkison, VOA news, Brussels.

注释

misrepresentation ['mis.reprizen'teɪʃən] n. 误传, 误说

intimidate [in'timideɪt] v. 胁迫

betrayal [bi'treɪəl] n. 出卖, 辜负

handout ['hændaut] n. 施舍物, 救济品

Russia's President Hosts Chinese Counterpart for Summit

Russian President Vladimir Putin welcomes Chinese President Hu Jintao to Moscow Thursday for a four-day official visit. The two leaders are expected to talk on strengthening **bilateral** relations, especially in the areas of energy and trade.

One day before President Putin was to host his Chinese **counterpart**, the Kremlin announced that 2006 would officially be named the Year of Russia in China, with the Year of China to follow in Russia in 2007.



The growing sense of accord between the two neighbors, is not lost on analysts. Many say that while this week's talks will not likely lead to any real **breakthroughs**, they will go a long way toward forging what officials on both sides are calling, a new relationship.

Key to that relationship is bilateral trade. It topped \$21 billion last year and Russian government officials predict trade figures could triple over the next five years.

But a lot will depend on whether Russia **grants** China much wanted access to

注释

bilateral [bai'lætərəl] adj. 双边的

counterpart ['kauntəpɑ:t] n. 相对人物

breakthrough ['breik'θru:] n. 突破

grant [gra:nt] vt. 同意, 准予, 承认

future Russian oil and gas projects, including a long-sought Trans-Siberian pipeline deal over its **rival** Japan. So far, Russia has only committed to boost its oil deliveries by rail to energy-starved China by 11 millions tons this year.

Both leaders have said they regret the collapse of the Soviet Union and, at present, find themselves looking for new ways to work together in the face of dramatic changes, perhaps nowhere more so than in Central Asia.

President Hu travels to Kazakhstan early next week for a meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization. The regional security body groups Russia, China, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan and Tajikistan.

The Russian and Chinese leaders will then meet again at the upcoming G-8 Summit in Scotland.

Lisa McAdams VOA news, Moscow.

注释

rival ['raɪvəl] n. 竞争者, 对手

Fate of the EU



The European Union is not on its knees, said Jean-Claude Juncker, Prime Minister of **Luxembourg** and President of the European Council at the recent summit in Washington. Yet, several days earlier, Mr. Juncker declared in Brussels the Continent is in a state of deep crisis over the failure of European leaders to agree on the Union's budget.

Failure to find common economic ground came just weeks after voters in France and the Netherlands dealt, what some observers call, a **lethal** blow to the Union's proposed new constitution. And they say the first **casualty** of Europe's latest crisis is EU's further expansion.

For years, European Union's enlargement was viewed as necessary for main-

注释

Luxembourg ['lʊksəm,bə:g] n. 卢森堡公国 (西欧国家)

lethal ['li:θəl] adj. 致命的

casualty ['kæʒjuəlti] n. 伤亡

taining stability and prosperity of the Continent. Deeper **political integration**, promised by the new Constitution, was supposed to strengthen the bloc's **coherence**.

But many analysts say the process has met with unsustainable **expenditures**, institutional **inefficiencies** and an ever-expanding **bureaucracy**.

John Hulsman of The Heritage Foundation in Washington describes the recent Constitution setback as a vote against the rule of bureaucrats and a continent ordered from the top down. He argues that most Europeans resent turning over ever more aspects of their lives to **technocrats** who are detached from most people's concerns.

John Hulsman: There is a huge democratic deficit in Europe between the rulers and the ruled, both at the national level and the European level. The EU will continue to exist, but a notion of some strongly unified Europe, I think which was always a false one, has now been proven to be false. The European **emperor** is wearing no clothes.

Since the end of World War II, European countries have evolved into advanced welfare states with high taxes and generous vacation, unemployment and retirement benefits. But what many Europeans view as the stability of the system comes with a price.

According to analyst John Hulsman, a stagnating economy, deepening unemployment, cheap immigrant labor, an endangered social welfare system,

注释

political integration 政治一体化

coherence [kəu'hierəns] n. 一致

expenditure [iks'penditʃə] n. 支出, 花费

inefficiency [ini'fiʃənsi] n. 无效率, 无能

bureaucracy [bjue'rɒkrəsi] n. 官僚作风, 官僚机构

technocrat ['teknəkræt] n. 专家政治论者

emperor ['empərə] n. 国王, 君主

and mounting competition from globalization are part of that price. He adds there is a feeling among many Europeans that their leaders can no longer guarantee upward mobility and economic security.

John Hulsman: The French, German, Italian core is in economically dire **straits** with 12% unemployment in Germany, ten percent unemployment in France and Italy with more than 106% of GDP debt. That would discredit any elite that says, don't worry about things and trust us when this is proven not to be very effective in managing economies.

But Stephen Szabo, Professor of European Studies at The Johns Hopkins University, recently visited several European capitals and says the EU's current crisis should not be over emphasized.

Stephen Szabo: I think the European movement will continue to go forward. It is based on very realistic interests, both political and economic. There is really no serious alternative to the European Union. None of these states can really contend anymore on the international stage as nation states. They need weight behind them and the EU provides that sort of weight.

Professor Szabo says the constitution setback may spark a much-needed debate over Europe's future that so far has been lacking. And it might save the EU from an open-ended commitment on expansion that could have been fatal to its own political unity.

And what does the EU crisis hold for US/European relations?

The US has consistently called for a strong, peaceful and democratic Europe that, along with America, would pursue a common global agenda in the war on terrorism, the promotion of freedom and democracy, and the containment of nuclear proliferation, something President Bush **reaffirmed** at the recent US/EU summit in Washington.

注释

strait [streit] n. (pl) 困境, 窘迫

reaffirm ['ri:ə'fə:m] vt. 重申

President Bush: The United States continues to support a strong European Union as a partner in spreading freedom and democracy and security and prosperity throughout the world. My message to these leaders and these friends was that we want Europe strong so we can work together to achieve important objectives and important goals.

Yet many analysts say if Europe's crisis continues, it could shake America's perception of the EU as a reliable partner.

According to John Hulsman of The Heritage Foundation, Europe matters to America. But he doubts whether Brussels can work **in tandem with** Washington.

John Hulsman: When the EU is unified on an issue, we will work with them at that level. But I think more and more, we are going to work with them at the state-to-state level, where very rarely do all Europeans agree on much of anything. We will have to get used to living in that much more complicated world.

Stephen Szabo: The problem the US is going to face now is that the EU will be so wrapped up with itself over the next ten years in terms of trying to deal with all of its issues.

Stephen Szabo of The Johns Hopkins University predicts a period of **stagnation** in which the US might view the EU as an ineffective partner. He adds the sooner the EU finds its way, the sooner the world's two richest, most democratic most powerful entities, Europe and the United States, can develop their shared goals.

For focus, I'm Jela De Franceschi.

注释

in tandem with 同……合作

stagnation [stæg'neɪʃən] n. 停滞