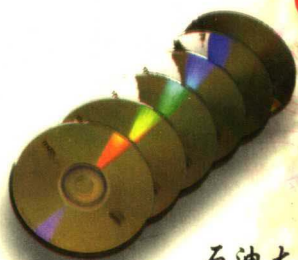




主编 张桂萍  
主审 吴铭方

# 实用 英语 听力 训练



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## 前言

我国对外开放的进一步深入以及我国科学技术的进步和经济的发展,对科技工作者的英语实际运用能力都提出了更高的要求。新的形势要求他们能够以英语为工具获取所需的科技信息。听广播就是一种运用英语获取国外最新科技信息的有效途径。广播节目词汇丰富,题材广泛,是扩大词汇量、培养语感、纠正发音以及通过模仿练习口语的好方法。为了提高大学三四年级学生的科技英语听力,使他们能够真正以英语为工具获取科技信息,我们编写了这本书。本书既适合高年级学生自学,也可以用做科技工作人员提高听力的自学教材。

书中所用的素材主要选自1998~1999年的美国之音以及其它英文广播和电视节目。另外,书中还收编了Bill Gates在清华大学的讲演以及几位美籍教师对交通、教育的讨论。本书题材多样,有科技新闻报道、新闻综述,有科学家的生平介绍,有讨论、讲演,有广告、天气预报等。本书内容丰富,涵盖了科技领域的诸多方面,从计算机、环境保护、太空研究到医疗卫生、通讯交通、经济管理。在难度方面我们尽量做到由易到难。1~4单元基本上都是VOA特别英语节目,从第5单元开始逐渐在每单元的最后部分增加标准英语节目,直到第14单元,全部是一般速度的英语讲演。我们希望借此为学习者提供原汁原味的科技听力素材,以提高他们听广播和电视节目的能力。

本书按不同的科技题材分为14个单元(7盒磁带)。每单元包括大约30分钟的节目,按难易又分为2~3课,5~6个部分。我们对每部分的听力节目都提供了以下几方面的指导:

1. 提供词汇和短语注释。对节目中出现的超过国家英语四级大纲规定的词汇进行注释。

2. 提供练习。为了加强培养学习者的英语实际运用能力,在设计练习时,尽量采用主观题型,如回答问题、写内容提要、做听力笔记、填补信息空白等,并注意做到题型多样。

3. 提供听力指导。此部分为学习者提供节目中所涉及的文化背景,以扩大知识面,减少听力难度。另外,为了方便自学,我们还介绍了一些听力技巧,如怎样听新闻、如何做听力笔记、天气预报中经常使用哪些词语等。此外,还对一些英语广播节目类型、播出时间等进行了简单的介绍,对节目中难理解的句子进行了讲解。

4. 提供录音的文字材料,供学习者参考。书中提供的所有的录音文字材料都是我们根据节目录音写出的。

在此书的编写过程中,我们得到了石油大学外语系张用德等领导的大力支持,也得到了清华大学外事处的慷慨帮助,在此对他们深表感谢。另外,除了本书的顾问 Judith L. Musselman 为本书的编写提供指导并做出了大量工作以外, Greg Bruno, Max Myers, Roy Geiser 等其他几位美籍英语教师也为此书的编写提供了很多帮助,在此也对他们表示衷心的感谢。

由于时间仓促,编者水平有限,书中错误难免,敬请读者谅解并批评指正。

编者

1999.6

## INTRODUCTION

There are many different aspects to the study of any foreign language. The four most basic aspects are reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Because language is, after all, principally a method of communication, a student must learn to communicate both in the written language and the oral language. Neither one, by itself, is sufficient; therefore foreign language study must be comprehensive, encompassing all aspects of communication. The written language, even with the help of a good phonetics system in an extensive dictionary cannot convey the sounds or variations in pronunciation. It cannot teach the intonation, expression, the way certain words are stressed, or the rhythm of a language. In short, the written language cannot teach the music of a language. This can only be conveyed orally; the student must hear the spoken language, preferably from native speakers, in order to gain fluency in speaking and listening comprehension.

There are many sources for oral practice: motion pictures, music tapes, radio, and television, and direct conversation with native speakers. The first four of these have certain drawbacks: The rate of speaking or singing is often too fast, much slang and colloquialisms are used, difficult accents are exaggerated, and/or the recording quality is not good. The last source is often not readily available. This book, along with the accompanying listening tapes, is an innovative alternative to these, and endeavors to enable the student to hear native speakers while reading the

accompanying transcriptions, and thereby greatly enhance their listening comprehension.

This book is designed for students who already have achieved a certain degree of proficiency in sentence structure and grammar, and can read well without too frequent consultations with a dictionary. It is designed also to be used either independently, or in conjunction with other oral studies. Some of the tapes are of English spoken at a slower rate than normal, in order for the student to be able to hear correct pronunciation and the nuances of speech, and others are recordings of a more normal rate of speech. They are taken from a variety of sources and cover a range of interesting, up-to-date topics. They will provide the student with much experience in listening comprehension, and at the same time, help him with his spoken English.

The best way to learn to write in a foreign language is to read, and the best way to learn to speak is to listen, preferably to native speakers, and then to practice all these aspects of learning. This will pave the way for the future communication in this modern world, which is depending more and more on English as an international language at all levels of communication between the countries of this planet, which has such a proliferation of different nations, all with their own languages. When we achieve better communication between countries, better understanding and cooperation will result, and all nations will benefit. It is hoped that this book and its accompanying tapes will help both students and teachers alike to achieve this goal.

**Judith L. Musselman**

June 1999

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# Unit 1 The Computer World

## Lesson 1

### Part I People Who Influenced the Computer Industry (I)

#### New Words and Expressions

Iowa ['aiəuə] n. 衣阿华(美国州名)

admiral ['ædmərəl] n. 海军上将

Cobol ['kəubəl] n. 一种通用商务计算机语言

Ms. [miz] n. 夫人,小姐

find its way into 进入,飞入

bug [bʌg] n. 故障,程序错误

#### Exercises

I. Before listening to the program, think about the following questions:

1. Who invented the computer?
2. Who helped develop the computer revolution?

II. Listen and supply the chief information about John Atanazof's and Grace Mary Hooper's biography.

John Atanazof

Grace Mary Hooper

1911 \_\_\_\_\_

1906 \_\_\_\_\_

1937 _____	1943 _____
1971 _____	1986 _____
1990 _____	1995 _____
1998 _____	

### Guide to Listening

1. *Voice of America* (VOA) is the Overseas Broadcasting Service of the U. S. Information Agency. The programs on it cover a wide range of subjects: news, stories, reports on science, agriculture, environment and so on. It provides both Special English, which uses a limited vocabulary at a speed of about 90 words per minute and Standard English which can serve as "real-life" listening material at a speed of about 135 words per minute. Explorations, the 20th Century Americans, Science in the News and Environmental Reports are typical programs in Special English.
2. *20th Century Americans* is a VOA program broadcast once a week in 1999, the last year of the 20th century. Many people were nominated for this one-year-long series. The writers and editors on Special English discussed those on the list. Then the staff members voted for those they felt were the most influential, important or interesting, those who played important parts in the history of this century, those who are known for their work in science and technology and changed the ways we view the world and even ourselves. The programs will give you a glance about the Americans who have made difference in the world during the past century.
3. Pay attention to the difference between a computer *bug* and a computer *virus*. The former is a small fault or error in the

system of instructions that operates a computer, while the latter refers to a small program that can copy itself and look for other programs to infect programming once attached to a host program. Thus it can spread quickly throughout a hard disk or an entire system.

4. *President Bush* refers to George Bush, the 41st President of the U. S. A. (1989~1993).

### **Tape Scripts**

*Welcome to the new VOA Special English program 20th Century Americans. In this year-long series, we tell about Americans who have played an important part in the past 100 years. I'm Sara Long. And I'm Rich Klinefelt.*

The computer is one of the most important devices ever invented to increase knowledge and spread information around the world. Four Americans who helped lead the computer revolution will be on our report today on *20th Century Americans*.

In 1937, John Atanazof was a professor at Iowa State University. He believed it was possible to design an electronic device to solve difficult mathematical problems. But he was not making much progress with it. One night, he took a long drive in his car. He stopped at a public drinking place. As he sat there, alone, the solution to several problems suddenly came to him. He thought of a way to store numbers electronically. He thought of a way to keep the electronic memory fresh. He also thought of a way to join tiny pieces of information electronically to solve problems. Professor Atanazof and one of his students began building an electronic computer. They used free ideas that had been put into every computer since then. Their computer had no

mechanical parts. It used zeros and ones to represent information. And it has separate areas for problem solving and for memory.

Professor Atanazof's computer worked. But World War II interrupted his experiment. He was asked to work on projects more closely tied to the war effort. His computer remained in the University Science Building. His electronic computer was the first ever built. Yet it was soon forgotten. After the war, other scientists interested in computers visited him in Iowa. He told them about his device. Later, these men claimed they had invented the computer. But professor Atanazof knew they had used his ideas. At a trial in 1971, he proved that the others had copied his work.

In 1990, President Bush awarded America's National Medal of Technology to John Vincent Atanazof for designing and building the first computer. He was 87 years old. Professor Atanazof died in 1998.

Grace Mary Hooper was one of the first computer scientists. She was also a mathematics expert, a teacher and admiral in the United States Navy. Admiral Hooper retired from the Navy in 1986. She was 80 years old. She died in 1995. Grace Hooper joined the Navy in 1943. The next year she began working with one of the first government computers. After World War II, Grace Hooper helped create the Common Business Orientated Language, known as Cobol. Cobol is a programming language. A programming language is the letters, words and numbers that give instructions to a computer. Early programming languages were difficult to understand and learn. Ms. Hooper believed they should be more like everyday language, so that many people



could use computers. Cobol made this much easier. It was considered one of the major improvements in computer technology.

Grace Hooper enjoyed teaching people about computers and their uses. When the computer was new, she traveled all over the world to explain its uses and how important it would be in the future. Grace Hooper also liked a good joke. She could be very funny. Once many years ago, a small insect found its way into a huge computer. It made the computer stop. Grace Hooper found the dead insect. She placed it in the computer's record book. Then she wrote that she had found the first computer "bug". Since then, any problem in a computer or a computer program has been called a "bug".

## Part II People Who Influenced the Computer Industry (II)

### New Words and Expressions

San Francisco [ˌsænfrənˈsiskəʊ] 旧金山 (加利福尼亚州)

Silicon Valley [ˈsilikənˈvæli] 硅谷

Oregon [ˈɒrɪɡən] n. 俄勒冈 (美国州名)

user-friendly [ˈjuːzəˈfrendli] a. 对用户友好的, 易于操作的

Microsoft Corporation (美) 微软公司

Seattle [siˈætl] n. 西雅图 (美国港市)

Harvard University 哈佛大学

General Electric (美) 通用电器公司

Citibank [ˈsitibænk] n. (美) 花旗银行

bring legal action against 控告

dealings [ˈdiːliŋz] n. 交易

striking [ˈstraɪkiŋ] a. 不寻常的, 极显著的