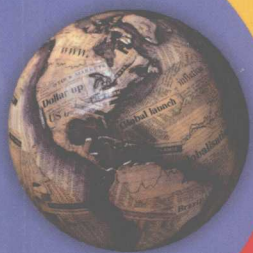


THE WILD SIDE



人类具有强烈的自卫本能。当自身安全受到威胁时，人们会很自然地采取措施来降低风险。当身处一种无法掌控的境地时，人们的害怕心理就会升级为恐慌.....

英语大千世界

—— 极度恐慌

英 / 汉 / 对 / 照 第⑨辑



吉林出版集团有限责任公司
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英语大千世界

——极度恐慌

9

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人类本身就具有强烈的自卫本能。当自身安全受到威胁时,人们会很自然地采取措施,降低风险。当身处一种无法掌控的境地时,人们的害怕心理就会升级为恐慌。此时人们头脑中唯一想到的事情就是逃离险境。盲目的,不自觉的,本能的恐慌情绪将笼罩在人们心头。这本书讲述了引发人群恐慌的15个典型实例,其中包括爆炸、火灾、突然袭击、火山爆发、瘟疫、骚乱等等,这些全都是在突然间的的事情。读者可能会同意这样的看法,在这些灾难面前,人们能够表现出来的唯一反应就是恐慌。

本书另一亮点在于习题的设置,不仅形式新颖,而且几乎完全符合国内各个级别英语考试的测试重点和测试手段。

1. **主旨题:** 归纳文章主旨大意,考察学生整体把握文章的能力。

2. **细节题:** 考察学生对文章细节的把握,检验学生的阅读效果,符合阅读理解的最基本要求。

3. **推理题:** 则考察学生的推理判断能力,让学生根据阅读后所理解的信息,并结合个人的背景知识,来做进一步的推断。

4. **语义题:** 不单纯检验学生对单词意义的理解和掌握,而是采取模糊原理,要求学生划对划线单词进行相近或相反意义的判断。

5. **态度题:** 检验学生对作者态度的理解和把握。

6. **诠释题:** 考察学生诠释文章核心内容的能力或对其中某一句话理解程度。

它既授人以鱼,又授人以渔,不仅从知识的角度,更是从思维技能的角度出发,从根本上改善中国学习者的阅读方法和技巧,综合提高阅读能力。因此本书可以是快读,也可以是泛读,更可以是精读,关键在于读者及各级各类学校的选择。

捷进可一编委会

Contents

Unit 1

Lesson 1	Smoke, Fire, and Death	2
Lesson 2	An Unexpected Explosion	12
Lesson 3	The Fall of Saigon	23
Lesson 4	Firetrap!	34
Lesson 5	A Deadly Plunge	45
Lesson 6	Nightmare in the Twin Towers	56
Unit Summarizing 1		66

Unit 2

Lesson 7	Stay Out of the Water!	72
Lesson 8	A Sniper in the Tower	83
Lesson 9	The Night the Dam Let Go	94
Lesson 10	Flood in Mozambique	105
Lesson 11	Tragedy in the Baltic Sea	115
Unit Summarizing 2		126



Unit 3

Lesson 12	A Horrible Way to Die	132
Lesson 13	A Strangler Among Us	143
Lesson 14	The Richard Riot	154
Lesson 15	A Volcano Wakes Up	165
Lesson 16	Death Rides the Subway	176
Unit Summarizing 3		187

Appendix

Answer Key	192
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UNIT 1



The Wild Side

LESSON 1

Smoke, Fire, and Death



A kitchen fire at Las Vegas's MGM Grand Hotel went out of control on the morning of November 21, 1980, causing fear and panic among the hotel's 4,500 guests.

"Fire! Fire!"

The cries echoed through the hallways of the 26-story hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada. On the 24th floor, Donald and Janet Tebbutt leaped out of bed. Donald pulled back the drapes and looked out the hotel window. All he could see was thick smoke billowing up from below. Frightened, he and his wife ran out into the hallway. There, they met swarms of other guests. All were looking for the best way out. No one knew whether to go down the stairs or up to the roof. It was a scene of utter chaos.

The Tebbutts tried to make their way down the stairs. But the smoke in the stairway was simply too heavy. Turning around, they headed up toward the roof. But the stairway was becoming jammed with people. And the fumes and smoke were making it harder and harder to breathe.

As it turned out, the door to the roof was locked. There were windows, but they were lined with steel mesh and unbreakable. For a minute, it looked as though everyone in the stairwell was trapped. Then a man threw himself at the door. It popped open. People poured out onto the roof, gulping in fresh air.

All this happened on November 21, 1980. About 7:00 A.M. a kitchen fire broke out in the MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas. The flames melted the alarm control box. Because of that, no alarm ever rang. The fire caught all 4,500 guests by surprise. There were other problems as well. None of the guest rooms had smoke detectors. And only the basement, first floor, and top floor had water sprinklers. "More sprinklers would have made all the difference in the world," a firefighter later said.

Police and fire trucks rushed to the scene. But the tallest rescue ladder reached only to the ninth floor. Everyone higher up was stranded. Many people climbed out onto their balconies. The police urged them to stay calm. Using bullhorns, police shouted, "Don't jump! Don't jump! The fire is under control!"

But one woman couldn't wait. She tied bedsheets together to make a rope. Then she crawled out her 19th floor window and headed down on the makeshift rope. She made it to the 17th floor. Then she lost her grip and fell to her death.

Meanwhile, some guests were trapped in the halls. Many were overcome by the smoke. They slumped against walls, gasping for breath. Some people stayed in their rooms. A few wisely soaked towels and used them to block the smoke from seeping under the doors. "If they had stayed in their rooms until we got them," said Fire Chief Ralph Dinsman, "a lot of the dead would have survived."

About 200 people made it to the roof. Rescue helicopters swooped down to get them.



The Wild Side

But the helicopters could take only a few people at a time. Everyone wanted to be the first to leave. People started pushing and shoving. Luckily, someone in the crowd was a police officer. He pulled out his gun and yelled, "Stand back and keep cool or I will shoot." It worked. Everyone stepped back to wait his or her turn. Before long, all the people on the roof were rescued.

Others were not so lucky. When the fire broke out, some gamblers didn't want to leave the first floor casino. They wanted to roll the dice or deal the cards one more time. The employees insisted on leaving. But 10 people stayed behind to scoop up their money and chips. All 10 died in the flames.

It wasn't the fire, however, that killed the most people. It was the smoke. The flames never got beyond the second floor. But black smoke funneled up the stairways to all 26 floors. Some people died in bed. One couple was found lying arm in arm. A waiter who had come to serve them breakfast lay dead on the floor beside them. In all, more than 700 people were injured and 84 people died. Kevin Beverton was one who made it out alive. When asked about the fire, he described it this way: "It was death, absolute death there."

Reading Time: Lesson 1

Minutes _____

Seconds _____

Comprehension

Check 阅读理解

(总分=100分 每题=25分)



主旨题

M= 符合中心思想 15分 B= 涉及范围过广 10分 N= 表达不全面 10分

M-Main Idea B-Too Broad N-Too Narrow

- _____ 1. Skyscrapers should always be equipped with smoke detectors and sprinkler systems in case of fire. [This statement is too broad. It doesn't mention where or when this fire took place. It doesn't describe the fire.]
- _____ 2. Helicopters rescued about 200 people who made it to the roof of the hotel. [This statement is true, but it is too narrow. It gives only one piece, or detail, from the article.]
- _____ 3. All 4,500 guests were affected by a terrible fire that roared through the MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas in 1980. [This statement is the main idea. It tells when and where the fire took place and how many people were affected by it.]



细节题(每小题=5分)

本文中的细节你记住了多少? 选出正确的答案。

1. The MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas had _____.
 - a. five stories.
 - b. 26 stories.
 - c. 98 stories.
2. The fire broke out first in the hotel's _____.
 - a. kitchen.
 - b. lobby.
 - c. elevator.
3. The hotel's alarm never rang because _____.
 - a. its battery was dead.
 - b. the room it was in was not affected.
 - c. the alarm control box had melted.
4. Some guests survived by soaking towels and putting them _____.
 - a. under their doors to keep smoke out.
 - b. around their heads.
 - c. over their clothing before they went into the hall.

5. Most of those who died _____
- were burned by the flames.
 - were frightened to death.
 - inhaled too much smoke.



推理题(总分=25分 每小题=5分)

将个人意见与文中所提供的信息结合起来,判断下列句子是否正确。

(C= 正确推理

F= 错误推理)

C-Correct Inference

F-Faulty Inference

- _____ 1. You can be sure that any hotel you visit today will have a working sprinkler system. [This is a faulty inference. You can't be sure of this unless you ask.]
- _____ 2. Police officers are trained to be calm and organized in any crisis. [This is a correct inference. Part of a police officer's job is maintaining order in crisis.]
- _____ 3. You are more likely to survive a crisis if you adopt a selfish attitude. [This a faulty inference. It was only after guests on the roof began to cooperate that they were rescued.]
- _____ 4. Greed can harm a person's good judgment. [This is a correct inference. Ten gamblers stayed behind and died because of their greed.]
- _____ 5. If people had all cooperated in escaping the hotel, no one would have died. [This is a faulty inference. Some people died in bed without a chance to cooperate in their rescue.]



语义题(总分=25分,正确表明 C=3分,正确表明 O=2分)

选出与文中单词或短语意思相近或相反的一项。

(C= 意思相近

O= 意思相反或接近相反)

C-Closest

O-Opposite or Nearly Opposite

1. All he could see was thick smoke billowing up from below.
 _____ a. playing _____ b. rising in wavelike puffs
 _____ c. shooting up rapidly with great force
2. It was a scene of utter chaos.
 _____ a. partial _____ b. sorrowful

- ___ c. complete; total
3. Then she crawled out her 19th floor window and headed down on the makeshift rope.
 ___ a. temporary; substitute ___ b. permanent
 ___ c. heavy
4. But black smoke funneled up the stairways to all 26 floors.
 ___ a. dried ___ b. spread out
 ___ c. moved as through a pipe or channel
5. When asked about the fire, he described it this way: "It was death, absolute death there."
 ___ a. unquestionable ___ b. private
 ___ c. possible



态度题(答对的问题数___)

根据作者态度,选出正确答案。

1. What do the authors mean by the statement "It was a scene of utter chaos"? ____
 a. The situation was frightening.
 b. The hotel guests did not know where to go or what to do next.
 c. The hotel guests were angry.
2. Judging by statements from the article "Smoke, Fire, and Death," you can conclude that the authors want the reader to think that ____
 a. the gamblers who refused to leave had made a wise decision.
 b. smoke detectors and more sprinklers probably would have saved lives.
 c. the MGM Grand Hotel was well prepared for a fire.
3. What do the authors imply by saying "[The gamblers] wanted to roll the dice or deal the cards one more time"? ____
 a. The gamblers didn't believe they were in serious danger.
 b. The gamblers didn't know there was a fire.
 c. The gamblers were braver than most other guests.
4. The authors probably wrote this article to ____
 a. discourage people from staying in hotels with more than nine floors.
 b. tell about an event that caused fear and panic.
 c. show how destructive a fire can be.

涂释题(答对的问题数____)

按要求完成下列各题。

1. Complete the following one-sentence summary of the article using the lettered phrases from the phrase bank below. Write the letters on the lines.

Phrase Bank

- a. how the fire started, how guests reacted to the emergency, and how firefighters rescued victims
- b. a summary of the death and destruction the fire caused
- c. how Donald and Janet Tebbutt tried to escape the fire

The article "Smoke, Fire, and Death" begins with _____, goes on to explain _____, and ends with _____.

2. Read the statement from the article below. Then read the paraphrase of that statement. Choose the reason that best tells why the paraphrase does not say the same thing as the statement. _____

Statement: The fire chief said that if guests had simply stayed in their rooms and waited to be rescued, more people would have survived the fire.

Paraphrase: According to the fire chief, all the guests would have survived if they had just waited in their rooms.

- a. Paraphrase says too much.
- b. Paraphrase doesn't say enough.
- c. Paraphrase doesn't agree with the statement.



逻辑题(答对的问题数____)

对于问题 1,2,3 请按照提示作答。其它问题选出正确答案。

1. For each statement below, write *O* if it expresses an opinion or write *F* if it expresses a fact. _____

- _____ a. None of the guest rooms at the MGM Grand Hotel had smoke detectors.
- _____ b. No one would have been hurt in the MGM Grand fire if there had been smoke detectors in every room.
- _____ c. One woman died after losing her grip on a rope made of bedsheets tied together.

2. Choose from the letters below to correctly complete the following statement.

Write the letters on the lines.

On the positive side, _____, but on the negative side, _____.

- a. 84 people died in the fire
- b. helicopters were able to rescue about 200 people from the hotel roof
- c. there were 4,500 guests at the MGM Grand Hotel on November 21, 1980

3. Choose from the letters below to correctly complete the following statement.

Write the letters on the lines.

According to the article, _____ caused the alarm box to _____, and the effect was _____.

- a. melt
- b. a kitchen fire
- c. no alarm ever rang to warn guests about the fire

4. How is "Smoke, Fire, and Death" related to the theme of *Total Panic*?

- _____ a. Guests at the MGM Grand Hotel panicked while trying to escape a fire at the hotel.
- _____ b. More than 700 people were injured and 84 were killed in the fire at the MGM Grand Hotel.
- _____ c. Most floors in the MGM Grand Hotel had no sprinklers to put out the fire.

5. What did you have to do to answer question 3?

- _____ a. find an effect (something that happened)
- _____ b. find an opinion (what someone thinks about something)
- _____ c. find a comparison (how things are the same)

Self Assessment 自我评估

I wonder why _____ [On the lines, complete the sentence with a thought or question that occurred to you while you read the article or after you finished reading it. You may wonder, for example, why there were no smoke detectors or sprinklers in the rooms or why one woman decided to climb down on her bedsheet rope.] _____

From reading this article, I have learned _____ [Choose one fact or idea that you learned from this article and write it on the lines.] _____

1980年11月21日清晨,拉斯维加斯MGM大酒店的厨房发生火灾,火势最终失控。这场大火引发了酒店里4500人的恐慌。

“着火了!着火了!”

惊呼声回荡在内华达州拉斯维加斯一栋26层楼酒店的走廊里。在24楼的一个房间里,唐纳德和他的妻子珍妮特·特巴特从床上一跃而起。唐纳德拉起窗帘,向酒店外望去,满目所见的全都是从楼下滚滚而上的浓烟。他和妻子非常惊恐,冲到走廊里。在走廊里,他们遇到了蜂拥而至的其他客人。所有人都在寻找最快的逃生路线,没有人知道是应该下楼还是应该跑到楼顶上去,现场一片混乱。

唐纳德夫妇试图下楼,但楼道里全是滚滚的浓烟。他们转身往楼上走,但是楼梯里已经堵满了人。浓烈的烟雾使人的呼吸变得越来越困难。

人们发现,通向楼顶的门是锁着的。虽然有窗户,但是这些窗户被钢丝网拦住,牢不可破。刹那间,好像楼道里的所有人都被困住了。这时,有个人向楼顶的这扇门撞去,门终于被撞开了。人们涌上楼顶,猛吸着新鲜空气。

所有这一切发生于1980年11月21日。大约在早上7点钟,拉斯维加斯MGM大酒店的厨房突然起火。大火烧毁了警报控制箱,所以警报器一直没有响。大火出其不意,袭击了全部4500名客人。其他方面也存在问题。所有客房都没有烟雾探测器,只在地下室,一层和顶层里才装备有灭火器。一位消防队员事后说道:“如果有更多的灭火器,情况就截然不同了。”

警察和消防车冲进事发现场。但是最高的救生云梯也只能伸到九楼,更高楼层里的人束手无策。很多人爬到阳台外边。警察劝他们保持冷静。警察对着扩音器高喊:“不要往下跳!不要往下跳!火情已被控制!”

但是有位妇人等不下去了。她把床单系在一起做成一条绳子,然后她爬出19楼的窗户并沿着这根临时编结成的绳子往下爬。爬到了17楼。结果,她手没抓住,掉下来摔死了。

此时,有一些客人被困在走廊里,许多客人都被浓烟熏倒。他们跌坐在墙角,艰难地呼吸着。还有一些人停留在自己的房间里。很多人非常聪明,他们弄湿了毛巾,然后用湿毛巾堵住了从房门下面透进来的烟尘。消防队长拉尔夫·丁斯曼说道:“如果他们坚持留在房间里,等着我们去救援,很多死者就能够幸存下来。”

大约有200人跑到了楼顶。救援直升机降落到他们面前,但是直升机一次只能装下几个人。每个人都想最先离开这里。人们开始推推搡搡,幸亏人群中有一个警员,他