

全国外经贸成人教育系列教材

# 外贸英语泛读

● 主编 安娜

EXTENSIVE  
READING  
FOR FOREIGN TRADE

中国对外经济贸易出版社

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**Extensive Reading for Foreign Trade**

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## 前 言

本书是为外经贸院校和外贸中专学校编写的外贸英语泛读教材,也可作为具有一定英语基础的外贸工作者巩固和提高外贸英语的自学课本。

本书选题广泛、知识性强,主要内容包括:国际经济贸易问题评论、国际经济贸易和金融组织、国际贸易术语、对外贸易管理、外贸有关业务和贸易方式等对外经贸理论和基础知识。

全书共有 37 课,每课课文后均配有单词注音释义、课文注释和少量练习。课文注释提供了有关专题的背景知识、专业术语释义和语言要点介绍,便于读者自学时参考。

参加本书编写工作的有:安徽外贸学校、湖北外贸学校、吉林大学外贸学院、北京经贸教育中心、陕西外贸学校和内蒙外贸干校。本书的第一、三、四、五、七、十八、二十六、二十七、二十八、三十一课由安娜编写;第二、六、八、九课由余晓怀编写;第十、十一、十二课由卢红兵编写;第十三、十四课由顾焱编写;第十五、十六课由戴云霞编写;第十七课由丁扬编写;第十九、二十课由阮宜宽编写;第二十一、二十二课由李慧盈编写;第二十三、二十四、二十五课由钟贤巍编写;第二十九、三十课由刘秀贞编写;第三十二、三十三、三十四课由来红旗编写;第三十五、三十六、三十七课由陈岩编写。

天津国际商务职工中专陈曼青副教授、罗来仪副教授和

天津轻工业品进出口公司业务员陈媛女士担任了本书的初审工作,在此表示衷心感谢!

由于编者水平有限,编写经验不足,错误和疏漏之处在所难免,恳请广大读者和同行专家学者批评指正。

编 者

1997年春于合肥

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# **LESSON ONE**

## **ZOOMING UP IN THE CHARTS**

**Adam Zagorin**

Two weeks ago, China had the 10th largest economy in the world. This week it jumps to third, behind the U.S. and Japan. India, formerly No. 11, leaps to No. 6. Mexico climbs from No. 12 to No. 10.

What has been going on? A stunning advance in Third World productivity? The sudden arrival of a new Green Revolution in the agricultural sector? No, something more mundane but almost as far-reaching is taking place as the Washington-based International Monetary Fund switches to a different system for estimating the size of each country's economy. Those most affected are rapidly industrializing nations such as Mexico, Brazil, India, Indonesia and Thailand, and their upgraded status is likely to change perceptions of the world's economic balance of power. Says Robert Hormats, vice chairman of Goldman Sachs International: "This new accounting underscores in quantitative terms just how powerful China, India and other developing countries are today, both as markets and as competitors."



The IMF's latest calculations replace an accounting technique that valued in U. S. dollars the output of goods and services in every nation. That system, still widely used by economists as well as by multilateral lenders like the World Bank, produces swings in a country's gross national product, its total output of goods and services, every time the value of its currency shifts in relation to the U. S. dollar. If the Chilean peso, for example, loses 5% of its value against the greenback, estimates of the country's growth - 10.4% in 1992 - are automatically reduced by the amount of the devaluation, as is the economy's total size. When currencies are kept in an artificial relation to the dollar, as in many of Asia's developing economies, wild distortions can occur. By the dollar-based method, the economic output of Asia, excluding Japan, accounts for only 7.3% of the world total, less than the Asian share of 10 years ago. "That's absurd given that Asia is the fastest growing region of the world," a senior IMF official points out. Distortions of that sort argued for a change.

The IMF's new gauge relies on "purchasing-power parity," a means of calculating national income that many economists believe should have been put into practice long ago. Rather than GNP being measured in dollars, a national basket of goods and services encompassing the likes of transport, food, clothing and shelter is tallied in local currency and compared with purchasing power of similar goods and services in other parts of the world. This method provides a more accurate

assessment of the value of what each person is able to buy, a figure that is multiplied by a country's total population to reach an estimate of national output. Using this standard, the IMF pegs China's output at \$1.7 trillion last year, far above the \$400 billion used in earlier estimates. China's per capita income rises from \$370 to \$1,600. Taken as a whole, the developing world's share of global output expands from 18% to 34%.

While the higher IMF estimates may be better yardsticks of economic progress, they have also aroused Third World concern that some hard-pressed developing nations may suddenly be seen as too well-off to receive needed World Bank loans. Under current rules, only countries with a per capita GDP of less than \$765 qualify for 35-year interest-free loans, the most favorable terms available. World Bank officials insist that they have no plans to change their own measuring techniques to match the IMF's revised numbers. So the worries in some countries may be justified.

The IMF's new tallies are still controversial. Some economists believe that in a number of cases, the value of goods and services in different countries cannot be meaningfully compared. But a majority of economists seem to applaud the change. Nor is the end in sight: forecasters who use IMF methods in adding the economies of Hong Kong and Taiwan to that of China – envisaging a Greater China, so to speak – calculate that that total output will exceed the U.S.'s in less than a decade.

From "Time", May 31, 1993

## Words and Phrases

- zoom [zu:m] *vi.* 陡直地上升,扶摇直上
- stunning ['stʌniŋ] *adj.* 使人晕倒的,惊人的
- mundane ['mʌndeɪn] *adj.* 世间的,世俗的,本文作“一般的,普通的”解
- switch to 改变,转至
- Brazil [brə'zɪl] *n.* 巴西
- Indonesia [,ɪndou'ni:zjə] *n.* 印度尼西亚
- Thailand ['taɪlənd] *n.* 泰国
- upgrade ['ʌp'greɪd] *vt.* 使上升,使升级
- status ['steɪtəs] *n.* 地位,状况
- perception [pə'sepʃən] *n.* 概念,观念
- underscore [,ʌndə'skɔ:] *vt.* 强调
- quantitative ['kwɒntɪtətɪv] *adj.* 数量的
- multilateral ['mʌltɪ'lætərəl] *adj.* 多边的
- lender ['lendə] *n.* 贷方,贷款机构
- in relation to 与……比价关系,关于
- Chilean ['tʃɪliən] *adj.* 智利的,智利人的  
*n.* 智利人
- greenback ['grɪ:nbæk] *n.* 美钞
- estimate ['estɪmeɪt] *n.* 估价数,预算  
*n.* 估计,估价
- devaluation [,dɪ:vælju'eɪʃən] *n.* 贬值
- distortion [dɪs'tɔ:ʃən] *n.* 歪曲,失真,变形

gauge, gage [geɪdʒ] *n.* 方法,手段,标准  
 parity ['pærɪti] *n.* 同等,平等  
 purchasing-power parity 购买力平价  
 encompass [ɪn'kʌmpəs] *vt.* 包括,包含  
 tally ['tæli] *vt. & n.* 计算,记录  
 assessment [ə'sesmənt] *n.* 估价,估价数  
 multiply ['mʌltɪplaɪ] *vt.* 使相乘,增加  
 peg [peg] *vt.* 固定,限定  
 per capita [pə'kæpɪtə] [拉丁语]每人,按人口计算  
 yardstick ['jɑːdstɪk] *n.* 标准,尺度  
 hard-pressed ['hɑːd'prest] *adj.* 财政紧迫的  
 qualify ['kwɒlɪfaɪ] *vt.* 使合格,使胜任  
 justify ['dʒʌstɪfaɪ] *vt.* 证明……是正当的(或有道理的),  
 为……提供法律依据  
 controversial [,kɒntrə'vɜːʃəl] *adj.* 有争议的,爱争论的  
 envisage [ɪn'vɪzɪʒ] *vt.* 设想,正视

## Notes

1. Zooming Up in the Charts: 在世界经济强国排名榜上扶摇直上的第三世界国家。
2. Green Revolution: 绿色革命。指的是20世纪60年代,为了解决粮食生产问题而兴起的一场农业生产方面的革命。主要是通过培育高产的粮食作物的新品种,结合肥料、灌溉等方面的推广和发展帮助缺粮国家达到粮食自给自足。

3. No, something more mundane but almost as far-reaching is taking place as the Washington-based International Monetary Fund switches to a different system for estimating the size of each country's economy.

都不是,一件比这些事更为平常但意义几乎是同样深远的事正在发生,即总部设在华盛顿的国际货币基金组织改用另一种方法来估价各国经济实力的大事。

(1) something ... is taking place 为主要句型, more mundane but almost as far-reaching as the Washington-based...至句末是 something 的定语,相当于定语从句 that is more mundane...。

(2) the International Monetary Fund: 简称 IMF, 国际货币基金组织(详见本书第 10 课内容)。

4. Robert Hormats, vice chairman of Goldman Sachs International 戈德曼·萨克斯国际公司副主席罗伯特·霍尔马茨。
5. That system, still widely used by economists as well as by multilateral lenders like the World Bank, produces swings in a country's gross national product, its total output of goods and services, every time the value of its currency shifts in relation to the U.S. dollar.

那套方法(指用美元来估价的会计方法)现在仍被经济学家们和世界银行这类多边贷款机构广为采用。一个国家的货币与美元的比价关系每有变动时,这个国家的国民生产总值,它的商品和劳务总产量就会发生涨落。

(1) gross national product 即 GNP, 国民生产总值。

(2) the World Bank: 世界银行(详见本书第 11 课内容)。

6. If the Chilean peso, for example, loses 5% of its value against the greenback, estimates of the country's growth - 10.4% in 1992 - are automatically reduced by the amount of the devaluation, as is the economy's total size.

以智利的比索为例,如果它相对于美元的价值下降 5%,这个国家的增长——1992 年为 10.4%——就自然按这个贬值幅度下降,和这个国家经济的总规模一样。

句中 as 是关系代词引导定语从句,如:

He opposed the idea, as had been expected.

正如预料到的一样,他反对这个意见。

7. When currencies are kept in an artificial relation to the dollar, as in many of Asia's developing economies, wild distortions can occur.

如果各国的货币以人为手段维持与美元的比价关系(就像许多亚洲发展中国家所做的那样),就会出现严重的失真。

8. That's absurd given that Asia is the fastest growing region of the world.

考虑到亚洲是世界上发展速度最快的地区,这个数字是很不合理的。

given (that) 考虑到,假使

Given sufficient time (或 Given that time is sufficient), we can amend L/C.

假如时间充裕,我们可以修改信用证。

9. ... a means of calculating national income that many economists believe should have been put into practice long ago.

许多经济学家认为这种计算国民收入的方法早该予以实施。

that 引导定语从句修饰 a means; many economists believe 可看成是插入成分; should have been put... 表示与过去情况相反的一种假设。

10. Rather than GNP being measured in dollars, a national basket of goods and services encompassing the likes of transport, food, clothing and shelter is tallied in local currency and compared with purchasing power of similar goods and services in other parts of the world.

不是用美元来计算国民生产总值,而是用一个国家的本国货币来计算一揽子包括运输、食物、服装和住房这类项目在内的商品和劳务,然后同世界其它国家的同类商品和劳务的购买力进行比较。

现在分词短语 encompassing... 修饰 goods and services; is tallied... 和 compared... 为并列谓语, compared 前省略了 is。

11. ...provides a more accurate assessment of the value of what each person is able to buy, a figure that is multiplied by a country's total population to reach an estimate of national output.

提供了更为准确的个人购买力价值的估计数,把这个估计数同一个人国家的人口总数相乘,就得出国民生产总值

的估计数。

a figure 是 assessment 的同位语, that is multiplied by... 修饰 figure。

12. ...they have also aroused Third World concern that some hard-pressed developing nations may suddenly be seen as too well-off to receive needed World Bank loans.

但也引起了第三世界的担心,一些财政紧迫的发展中国家会突然被认为十分富裕而不能获得所需要的世界银行贷款。

that 引导同位语从句,作 concern 的同位语。

13. ...only countries with a per capita GDP of less than \$ 765...

只有那些人均国内生产总值低于 765 美元的国家……

GDP = gross domestic product

国内生产总值、国内总产值

14. Nor is the end in sight: forecasters who use IMF methods in adding the economies of Hong Kong and Taiwan to that of China - envisaging a Greater China, so to speak - calculate that...

这个争议也还看不到尽头,有些预言家运用国际货币基金组织的方法把香港、台湾地区的经济和中国内地的加在一起——设想一个所谓的大中国,他们预测(大中国的总产量用不了 10 年就能超过美国)。

(1) forecasters...calculate that...为基本句型;

(2) 现在分词短语 envisaging...是一句解释性的插入语, so to speak 意为:可以这么说,打个比方说。



## Exercises

### I . Answer the following questions:

1. What is taking place that is as far-reaching as Green Revolution according to the text?
2. What is likely to change perceptions of the world's economic balance of power?
3. Which system produces swings in a country's GNP and its total output of goods and services? Why?
4. When do wild distortions occur?  
And where do they occur?
5. What are the IMF's latest calculations?
6. Why do some developing nations show signs of worry when the IMF's new gauge has been used?
7. Which system do you think is more favorable in calculating national income if a country desires World Bank interest-free loans for 35 years? Give your reasons.

### II . Translate:

- a) From English into Chinese:
  1. multilateral lenders
  2. gross national product (GNP)
  3. purchasing-power parity
  4. Third World productivity
  5. per capita income