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中英文对照

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*Select Readings
for Current English*



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Select Readings for Current English (I)

英语时文选读(1)

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东南大学出版社
· 南 京 ·

策划编辑:张煦

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

英语时文选读(1)/顾燕主编.-南京:东南大学出版社,
2002.8

(扬子文库/朱铭佐主编)

ISBN 7-81089-031-X

I.英... II.顾... III.英语-语言读物 IV.H319.4

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2002)第 054087 号

东南大学出版社出版发行

(南京四牌楼 2 号 邮编 210096)

出版人:宋增民

江苏省新华书店经销 通州市印刷总厂印刷

开本: 850mm×1168mm 1/32 印张: 7.50 字数: 195 千字

2002 年 8 月第 1 版 2002 年 8 月第 1 次印刷

印数: 1~9000 定价: 12.50 元

(凡因印装质量问题,可直接向发行科调换。电话: 025-3792327)

Preface

In the past three years, a series of books on hot topic have been published, such as *College Entrance Examination Composition: Instructions and Samples*, *College Entrance Examination Composition: Face-to-face Corrections & Expert Guide*, and *Fashion Lady* in 2000. We are now anticipating the arrival of the fourth one in this Yangtse Collection, named *Select Readings for Current English*.

Change is so fast, so great! China's entry into the WTO in 2001 brought China to a new stage of reform and opening to the world.

At this historical moment, we cannot help asking ourselves: as a member of world, are we clear about the politics, economy, culture, and lives of the rest of the world? Have we grasped the value of communicating in various languages? Those questions motivate more people than ever to be English learners. *Yangtse Evening Post*, having accompanied its readers for 16 years, also feels an even stronger urgency. That is the purpose for starting the English News Page, the first comprehensive newspapers in Jiangsu, to provide fresh domestic and overseas news in English. Meanwhile, we publish the Bilingual News, helping our readers improve their English while reading English news.

The maximum daily circulation of *Yangtse Evening Post* rocketed from to 1.47 million, 1999, to 1.68 million, 2000. In the next half of 2001, it stabilized at about 1.8 million, sometimes over 1.9 million. With a short history of only 16 years or so, it has become the largest evening newspaper in China. Looking back on the development of *Yangtse Evening Post*, we are happy to witness it moving from "Local Alternative" to "mainstream media" today. This year has seen a

much greater increase in its social and economic benefits over last year. Though many things can be improved, we can proudly say, with the epochal breeze of spring to revitalize reform, our enterprise is full of vitality and hope. As for the English News Page, it is a new attempt to contact the world and follow the tide front. This collection of bilingual news articles will offer good English extensive reading. Obviously, its publication has a profound significance.

As language is active, journalism should always be rooted in the soil of daily life. *The Yangtse Series: Select Readings for Current English* is but a beginning. It is hoped that the English News Page will grow with a new generation living in the era of reform and opening to the outside world, more and more collections of this nature will be published in the future to repay the loyalty of our readers and feed the English fans.

Zhu Mingzuo
Deputy Chief Editor, *Xinhua Daily* and
Chief Editor, *Yangtse Evening Post*
August 8, 2002

序

《扬子文库》自 1999 年以“作文园地”为基础出了《高考作文指要及示例》、《面批作文与专家指路》之后，2000 年出了《时尚女性》，今天，同仁们又推出《英语时文选读》，不能不说是与时俱进。

当我们回首时代步伐时，我们不能不惊呼：变化太快了，变化太大了！特别是 2001 年中国加入世贸组织，不仅具有里程碑式的意义，而且将使中国的改革开放进入一个新阶段。

在这历史性的时刻，我们的内心其实都在为自己打着这样的问号：作为其中的一分子，我们对世界各国的政治、经济、文化、生活等了解吗？我们掌握与世界各国交流的语言工具吗？这些问号，已演变成一种时代的紧迫感——越来越多的人，加入到学习英语的行列。伴您风雨兼程 16 年的《扬子晚报》，对这种时代脉动感受尤烈。为此，我们于去年底在省内综合性报纸中首家推出英语新闻版，每天用英语传递海内外新近发生的新闻，并专门开辟双语新闻专栏，在用英语为读者提供鲜活的英语新闻信息的同时，也为读者理解英语新闻提供参考。

两年多来，我们的事业也在不断发展。1999 年，《扬子晚报》的日最高发行量是 147 万份，在激烈的报业竞争中，2000 年上升到 168 万份，2001 年下半年稳定在 180 万份左右，最高时超过 190 万份，成为全国发行量最大的晚报。尽管报史只有十六七个年头，我们的报纸已经跨过了几个台阶，从当初的“补充型”，已成长为今天的“主流媒体”。今年以来，我们的社会效益和经济效益又比去年有较大幅度的增长。尽管我们工作中还有不少困难和问题，但是，我们仍然可以毫不夸张地说，时代的春风，催生着改革的活力与动力，我们的事业生机勃勃，充满希望！就拿英语新闻版来说吧，板块虽小，却是我们与世界接轨的一个新的开始，新的

尝试，也是我们勇立潮头的标志。今天，我们将英语新闻版创刊以来刊发的双语新闻精选汇编，制成英语泛读的佳酿，意义之深远，是可想而知的。

语言是有生命的，新闻语言更牢牢地根植于时代的土壤，这本《扬子文库·英语时文选读》仅仅是个开头，希望我们的英语新闻版与改革开放的一代新人共同成长，今后能汇编成更多的书册，回报读者的关爱。

《新华日报》 副总编辑 朱铭佐
《扬子晚报》 总 编 辑

2002年8月8日

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POLITICS

1. Is the 21st Century the Last Century for Monarchy?

Shortly before he was forced from power in 1952, Egypt's last king remarked, "There will soon be only five kings left—the kings of England, Diamonds, Hearts, Spades and Clubs."

A half-century later, Farouk I's prediction may seem off the mark—but not by much.

Of the roughly 200 countries in the world, only about two dozens remain monarchies. It's a far cry from the 19th century, when kings and nobles were the dominant form of government.

The 20th century was the era of the common man, and it was also the era of republics, when most of the world's nations moved to vest supreme power into the hands of citizens and their vote.

Monarchies are increasingly being looked upon as anachronisms. But they vary so widely in characterization that it's hardly possible to determine whether any of those remaining can or will disappear.

They exist in places as familiar as Spain and as far away as Samoa in the South Pacific.

They are also a part of countries as isolated as Bhutan, the "hermit kingdom" atop the Himalayas and as cosmopolitan as Belgium, headquarters for NATO and the European Union.

There are also differences in the nature of monarchies and the degree to which rulers hold power: Some are absolute monarchs, others share power in constitutional monarchies, and still others are mere ornaments of state.

The Future of the House of Windsor

Britain, host to the world's most famous royals, is a constitutional monarchy. There's little question that the House of Windsor has lost much of its luster since the death in 1997 of Princess Diana.

But Diana and her troubled marriage to Prince Charles weren't the only cause of the downward spiral. The antics of "Fergie", now ex-wife of Prince Andrew, provided plenty of fodder for the tabloids. And the steady stream of gossip continues. Britons speculate on the future of Charles and longtime love Camilla Parker Bowles. Prince Edward and his wife Sophie, Countess of Wessex, have raised questions about whether royals can pursue outside careers without creating conflicts of interest.

Amid the scandals, more and more people have also come to question the fiscal rationale for supporting a royal family.

Yet a poll cited by the London-based *Economist* says only one in five Britons would call for the abolition of the monarchy.

"There is no danger of monarchy in Britain disappearing," said Ronald Linker, a retired professor of history at Penn State University.

The royals are the living embodiment of "history of the nation", he said. "As far as all educated people are concerned, they know the monarchy represents who they are."

Britons regard their monarchy very much like the way Americans regard their flag, said Celia Sandys, a granddaughter of Winston Churchill and author of *Churchill: Wanted Dead or Alive*.

"It's not individuals we're talking about, it's an institution," she said.

As an example of the affinity most Britons retain for their royal family, Linker cited the crowds who gathered at memorials for

Princess Margaret, who died last month at 71. Sandys noted that Australians held an acrimonious debate in 1999 on whether or not to dump the queen, but eventually voted to keep the monarchy.

Linker dismissed the scandals surrounding the Windsors as a "media invention" .

"This is absurd," he said. "This is trying to put these people at the same level as Madonna."

Drifting Toward Republicanism

Others, however, are less sanguine.

"We're having the last days of the House of Windsor," said Michael Cole, a former Buckingham Palace correspondent for the British Broadcasting Corp.

Sentiment for the monarchy has been steadily decreasing, and the country in general has been drifting toward republicanism, he said.

"Tony Blair is creating a presidential style of premiership," he said. While older people still have an affinity for the royals, young people are largely indifferent, Cole said.

They would much rather be citizens than subjects, he said.

Cole blames some of this dwindling enthusiasm as what he sees as Queen Elizabeth II's failure to adapt to the changing needs of her people.

"The queen has been fantastically unimaginative," he said.

Cole acknowledged that the royal family is also a major tourist attraction, and one of the most recognizable aspects of Britain. But he observed that people still visit St. Petersburg, even though Russia's czars have long since departed.

He also noted that the British royals have not put up much of a fight over recent attempts to limit their power.

Still, he conceded, "It would take a huge upheaval for the monarchy to be supplanted."

Some Model Families

Britain's self-examination is hardly unique. Similar scandals have wracked Europe's other monarchies.

In the Netherlands, the crown prince caused a stir by marrying the daughter of a minister in Argentina's former military junta.

In Norway, a similar storm occurred when the future king married a single mother who had borne a son to a convicted drug felon.

And in Spain, controversy was averted, but just barely, when Crown Prince Felipe broke off a long relationship with a Norwegian underwear model.

The question among many people has become, "Why have a royal family at all, when they behave like commoners?"

But the acting like commoners can also be a recipe for popularity, even when it comes to one of the world's most venerated monarchies, Japan's Chrysanthemum Throne.

Japan's imperial family claims an unbroken line to the country's mythical past, and enjoys even greater popularity than the British royal family.

But Japan's royals are hardly as much of a tourist attraction as the Windsors are, nor do they surround themselves with as much pomp and circumstance, or media attention.

In fact, said Amanda Seaman, a professor at Randolph Macon College in Virginia, they serve as an "epitome of the model middle-class family."

It's a much different dynamic than the British royal family, she

said.

When Crown Princess Masako gave birth to a daughter last December, after eight years of marriage, she reminded Japanese women that they also could have a child later in life—to help raise the country's declining birth rates.

The Japanese imperial family has also consistently projected an image of frugality, experts said.

Kenneth Ruoff, author of *The People's Emperor*, recalls once seeing a “lifestyles” show on the princess when she was pregnant. The program noted that the princess' maternity dress could be re-cut and recycled after the birth.

“They are also pretty adept at changing with the times,” he said.

The monarchy is mostly ornamental, but it does have a symbolic value that is exalted by many rightists. Most of the calls for abolition come from those concerned about links to the vicious Japanese imperialism of the 1930s and '40s.

Absolute Powers

The one area where monarchs are less subject to the whims of the people is the Middle East.

Most of the monarchs there rule traditionally, claiming divine right and reigning with near-absolute power.

The kings of Morocco and Jordan say they are part of the lineage of the prophet Mohammed. Saudi Arabia's House of Saud says it has traditionally been the guardian of the holy sites of Islam.

Rami Khouri, an internationally syndicated political columnist based in Amman, Jordan, said that among the world's monarchies, these would be the most likely to next move to republicanism.

The more a country is economically developed, the more money

people have, the more they will want to take part in decisions that influence their fate, he said.

"That's what happened in Europe," he said.

But Khouri added that it was "not an automatic thing that monarchies have to disappear."

The power of the monarchs in the Middle East is based upon their ability to affect things like education and quality of life, he said.

If they could not satisfy their constituents, they would not be in power, he said. "There's a kind of built-in accountability."

Going Either Way

Ironically, monarchies are even gaining popularity in areas of the world that had previously known little but strife.

Bulgaria's King Simeon II lost his throne in 1946, but returned to power last year after an adoring public elected him prime minister.

Yugoslavia showed an interest in its exiled royal family following years of separatist violence and the downfall of strongman Slobodan Milosevic, now on trial before an international war crimes tribunal.

And just months ago, Afghanistan's exiled King Mohammed Zahir Shah was repeatedly floated as a potential interim leader after the departure of the Taliban. He is believed to be considering returning to the country this year.

Experts say monarchs can work as a unifying force, representing all the people and preventing the jockeying for power that characterizes republics.

But getting rid of them seems to have few side effects either. The Italians rid themselves of the House of Savoy in 1946, and seem to have no pangs about it.

Germany was united as an empire in 1871, but the kaisers lasted less than 50 years. Since World War I, Germans have shown no desire to revive the throne.

And in France and the United States, the anniversary of date marking the move to republicanism is celebrated as one of the biggest holidays of the year. ABC News

难句注释

1. Shortly before he was forced from power in 1952, Egypt's last king remarked, "There will soon be only five kings left—the kings of England, Diamonds, Hearts, Spades and Clubs." 本句极富幽默。为了说明世界上不久剩下的国王将寥寥无几，竟然把扑克牌中的老 K (King, 国王)也算作国王搬了出来凑数：方块 K、红桃 K、黑桃 K、梅花 K。因此，本句不宜译为：1952 年，埃及最后一位国王在被迫退位前不久曾预言：很快，全世界将只剩下五个国王：英格兰、丹麦、荷兰、西班牙和瑞典国王。试译：1952 年，埃及最后一位国王在被迫退位前不久曾预言：全世界将很快只剩下五个国王——英国国王，还有扑克里的四个老 K 王。
2. While older people still have an affinity for the royals, young people are largely indifferent, Cole said. 将本句译为“当老一辈仍然被皇族吸引时，年轻一辈早已不感兴趣”是错误的。while 一词既可表示时间，亦可表示转折或对立等。判断的标准是：while 所在的从句与主句的意思是否对立。试译：虽然老一辈仍然被皇族吸引，年轻一辈早已不感兴趣。
3. The more a country is economically developed, the more money people have, the more they will want to take part in decisions that influence their fate, he said. 本句前两部分均为从句，表示“条件”，