

VOA NEWS IN STANDARD ENGLISH LISTENING DRILLS

美国之音

标准英语新闻听力教程

第八辑

■主编 黄 震

编者 孙建中 池小泉 李文涛 王小刚



西安外语音像教材出版社

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二〇〇一年四月

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美国之音

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(第八辑)

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前 言

《美国之音标准英语新闻听力教程》第八辑是一本起点较高的外台听力训练教材，是为具有一定英语基础的学习者进一步提高外台听力水平而编写的。

本教材的素材选自世纪之交美国之音标准英语新闻节目。内容包括政治、经济、军事、外交、社会、科技、航天、体育、文化、医疗保健、事故与灾害及奇闻轶事诸方面。此外，还收集了悉尼世纪奥运盛况共计百余条新闻。本教材内容丰富、知识面宽，配有详尽的词汇和简要而实用有效的各种形式练习和必要的文化背景知识。

本教材适合于大学英语专业学生、非英语专业学生、英语教师以及准备参加 BEC 二级以上、PETS 第四、五级和 TOEFL 等考试的应试者学习或培训使用。

由于编者水平有限，书中缺点和错误在所难免，诚望广大学习者和同行不吝赐教。

编 者

2001 年 3 月

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WORKBOOK

News Item 1

Words and Expressions

1. Su-25 苏-25 (俄国攻击战斗机)
2. eject vi. 弹射
3. Dagestan n. 达吉斯坦
4. bid n. 企图
5. insurgent n 造反者; 反抗者
6. the Interfax News Agency 国际文传电讯社
7. troops n. (常用复数) 军队, 士兵

Exercises

I. Fill in the blanks in the following passage with what you hear on the tape.

Islamic rebels in Russia's Southern Dagestan province have shot down a Russian attacked jet. Officials say the pilot of the Su-25 ejected safely. Russian forces meanwhile have carried out more attacks against Islamic rebels in a bid to drive the insurgent out of Dagestan. The Interfax News Agency reported 149 Russian troops have been killed since the fighting began a month ago, and more than 500 wounded. Those figures do not include local casualties among local police and volunteers. The 9 want to set up an Islamic state in

guerillas

Dagestan.

II. Retell the news in your own words.

News Item 2

Words and Expressions

1. spree n. 无节制的狂热行为
a shooting spree 枪支的一阵狂射
2. Bloemfontein 布隆方丹[南非(阿扎尼亚)中部城市]
3. shootout n. 枪战, 交火
4. take one's life 结束生命

Exercises

I. Decide whether the following statements are true or false.

1. (F) At least 10 people have been killed in a shooting spree early today on a South African military base.
2. (F) An organized gang was responsible for the killings.
3. (F) The suspect, according to police, committed suicide.

II. Retell the news in your own words.

News Item 3

Words and Expressions

1. Fort Worth 沃思堡 (美)
2. speculate vi. 推测
3. motive n. 动机
4. obscenity n. (常用复数) 淫秽的语言 (或行为、动作)

Exercises

I. Answer the following questions according to what you hear on the tape. Fort Worth, Texas In a church Wednesday evening

1. When and where did the shooting incident happen?
2. What were the casualties?
3. What did the gunman do after he entered the church?
4. How did he die? He shot himself
on the head

II. Retell the news in your own words.

News Item 4

Words and Expressions

1. presume vt. 推测
2. stepdaughter n. 继女

3. decathlon n. 十项全能运动

4. the Associated Press 美联社

Exercises

I. Fill in the blanks in the following passage with what you hear on the tape.

And where in the United States, three grandchildren of former U.S. Congressman Bill Alexander are presumed dead in a house fire in California. Police tell the Associated Press they are investigating whether the father set the fire. The children's mother, who did not live in the house, is the daughter of Mr. Alexander, an Arkansas Democrat, who served in the House of Representatives for 24 years. She is also the stepdaughter of former Congressman Bob Mathias, a two-time Olympic decathlon champion and California Republican, who served in the House for 8 years.

II. Retell the news in your own words.

News Item 5

Words and Expressions

1. standstill n. 停止; 停顿; 停滞不前
to come (be brought) to a standstill 停顿下来

2. wrath n. 愤怒, 激怒, 狂怒; 愤慨
3. typhoon n. 台风
4. halt vi. 停住, 停止
5. cancellation n. 取消, 作废
6. delay n. 耽搁, 延误, 延迟
7. mudslide n. 泥石流
8. trigger vt. 触发; 促使
9. grind vi. (过去式与过去分词为 ground) 嘎嘎响着移动 (或行进)

Exercises

I. Decide whether the following statements are true or false.

1. (T) Hong Kong was hit by the worst typhoon in 16 years.
2. (F) Strong winds were up to 160 km an hour.
3. (F) Residents were told to leave their homes.

II. Describe the inconveniences caused by the typhoon.

News Item 6

Words and Expressions

1. hurricane n. 飓风
2. wake n. (移动物经过或留下的) 路线; 行踪; 痕迹

1. hurricane.
2. wake n. 路线, 行踪, 痕迹
3. downgrade vt. 降低等级
4. category n. 种类, 类, 类别
5. potential n. 潜势, 潜力, 潜能
6. North Carolina n. 北卡罗来纳州
7. Massachusetts n. 马萨诸塞州
8. south-southwest n. 南西南
9. Norfolk n. 诺福克
10. Virginia n. 弗吉尼亚州
11. north-northeast n. 北东北

Exercises

I. Answer the following questions according to what you hear on the tape.

1. What is the news about?
2. What do the weather officials say about the storm?
3. What does the latest report say?

II. Retell the weather news.

News Item 7

Words and Expressions

1. helicopter n. 直升飞机
- ✓ 2. stage vt. 举行, 谋划, 策动

3. tugboat n. 拖船
4. USS Kennedy 美国海军肯尼迪号航空母舰 (USS: 美国舰船)
5. Florida n. 佛罗里达州
6. hammer vt. 敲打, 锤打
7. radio beacon 无线电信标
- ✓ 8. don vt. 披上, 穿上, 戴上
9. pluck vt. 扯; 拉, 拖
10. scene n. 地点
11. be in ... shape 处于... (或固有) 状态
12. the Mediterranean n. 地中海
13. the Pentagon 五角大楼 (指美国国防部五角形办公大楼, 位于弗吉尼亚州的阿灵顿, 常用作美国国防部的代称)

Exercises

I. Fill in the blanks with what you hear on the tape.

The 15-meter-long oceangoing tugboat Gulf Majesty was nearly 800 km off the Florida coast Wednesday morning when the hammering from hurricane Floyd's 10-to-15-meter-tall wave forced the crew to call for help. Three members of the crew grabbed a radio beacon, donned life jackets and jumped overboard. The other 5 crew members clung to a life raft as the wind howled around them. The aircraft carrier USS Kennedy was steaming away from the hurricane, but turned back into the wind

and sailed within 160 kilometers of the frightened crew, just close enough to launch two helicopters. The three men with the beacon were plucked from the water by the first helicopter. A Coast Guard plane spotted the life raft and guided the second rescue helicopter to the scene.

II. Retell the news in your own words.

News Item 8

Words and Expressions

1. bureau n. 社, 所
2. National Hurricane Center 国家飓风中心
3. power failure 断电
4. meteorologist n. 气象学家
5. moderate adj. 中等的, 轻微的
6. landfall n. 着陆
7. dump vt. 倾泄, 倾倒
8. centimeter n. 厘米
- ✓ 9. mandatory adj. 强制性的
10. traffic jam 交通阻塞
11. reemerge vi. 重新出现
12. hug vt. 紧靠

Exercises

I. Decide whether the following statements are true or false.

1. (F) Hurricane Floyd went across the most heavily populated area of the west coast, leaving destruction and flooding in its wake.
2. (F) The center of hurricane Floyd made landfall near Wilmington, North Carolina, a town 600 kilometers south of the U.S. capital Washington.
3. (F) Three days ago, mandatory evacuations were ordered first in Georgia, then in Florida and South Carolina.
4. (F) Hurricane Floyd is expected to continue on an east-northeasterly course through North Carolina, reemerging to Atlantic waters near Virginia Beach.

II. Reproduce the weather news with the help of the following clue words and expressions.

1. Hurricane Floyd, most heavily populated region, in its wake
2. landfall, 800 km south of Washington
3. structural damage, trees, powerlines, rain and continuous winds
4. Three days ago, mandatory evacuations, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina
5. find themselves stuck in traffic jams