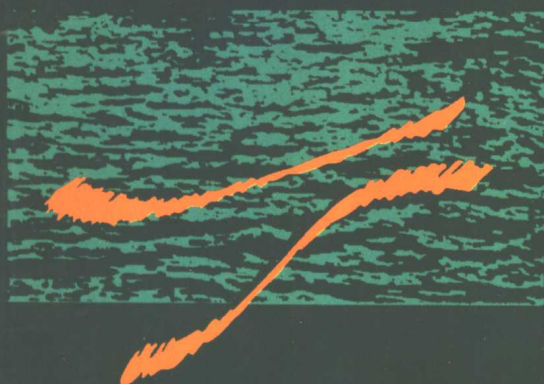


剑桥流利英语

CAMBRIDGE Skills for fluency

Series Editor: Adrian Doff



READING  
阅读

2

原著: Simon Greenall  
Diana Pye

编译: 侯毅凌



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# Reading 2

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原著 *Simon Greenall*

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## **阅读 2**

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## 《剑桥流利英语》丛书简介

《剑桥流利英语》丛书是为训练英语听、说、读、写能力而编写的一套强化教材;分 1、2、3、4 级,分别针对初中级、中级、中高级、高级英语学习者。

**目标:** 使您能够自信、流畅地运用英语。

**特点:** 严谨的教学体系——听、说、读、写 4 种技能有机结合,自然渗透。

独特的教学思路——取材于真实生活,消除您对非母语的隔阂感,使您直接进入英语思维和英语使用环境中。

全新的教学方法——提供广泛有趣的话题和活动,以激发您对英语的兴趣,鼓励您与别人分享各种看法和观点。

在此基础上,每种单项技能训练又有各自的**独到之处**:

——**听力 Listening:** 旨在培养理解日常生活口语的能力。记录原始、自然的生活语言,并根据各级的不同水平和需要选编其精华。

——**口语 Speaking:** 旨在培养流利的口语能力。主要讨论一些与您的生活、工作密切相关的话题,鼓励您从自己的经历、感受和社会文化知识中寻找语言灵感,与人交流。

——**阅读 Reading:** 旨在培养英语阅读技能。题材广泛、富有趣味性的原版文章,配以精心设计的辅助练习活动,帮助您更自信、更投入地阅读。

——**写作 Writing:** 把写作作为语言教学课的中心,使其成为一种对语言的总体学习有重要作用的创造性活动。

本丛书专为非英语国家的英语学习者而编写,其英文原著由剑桥大学出版社出版。为适应我国广大英语学习者的需要,外语教学与研究出版社特邀北京外国语大学英语系富有教学经验的老师,对其进行编译,补充了大量的背景知识和相关的语言资料,使其不仅适用于课堂教学,而且可以作为优秀的自学教材。

具有一定英语基础而又渴望全面、迅速地提高英语听、说、读、写能力的读者,选择本丛书,必定会如愿以偿。

# 改编前言

在国内令人眼花缭乱的英语教材市场上,阅读教材一向是重量级的产品,其原因是显而易见的,英语教师和学习者都倾向于把阅读能力看做英语水平的主要标志。阅读教材的繁荣使这类教材的编写思想和方法竞相出笼,为广大英语学习者在比较和选择更为有效的学习路径上提供了颇具参考价值的指导,而对于教材编写者来说,竞争意味着必须吸取他人经验,同时又要有所开拓乃至突破,方可拾级而上,达到新的水准。剑桥大学出版社新近推出的“剑桥流利英语”系列中的这套阅读教材(共四册)便是如此。它所突出的编写指导思想是激发学习者的阅读动力(learner's motivation)。

需要说明的是,这里所说的阅读动力并非等同于阅读兴趣。在母语环境中,阅读是出于多种多样的原因(其中兴趣也许是一个重要原因,它很大程度上基于母语便利条件下的阅读经验),也就是说,人们的阅读动力是自发的,而且具有很强的现实性。而对于外语阅读而言,尤其是对于以学习为目的的外语阅读而言,情形显然大为不同,阅读经常是一种在教师指导下的课堂活动,学习者往往是直接地或间接地被告知阅读内容以及阅读技巧。这套教材所针对的问题是如何在人为的课堂氛围下激发外语学习者在母语阅读过程中所具有的自动动力以及使他们得到原来所得到的阅读乐趣。为实现这一目标,编者在选材、阅读任务及编写形式上都作了精心考虑,特色卓然。

以精彩的选材来持续吸引阅读者的兴趣是外语教材编写者的共识和重要手段。这套教材所选的阅读语篇(the text)体现了以下一些特点:

1. 全部选用现实语言环境中的全真材料(authentic materials),避免那种专为外语学习者编写的进阶式规范读物,目的是要让学习者尽早接触到原汁原味的鲜活语言。
2. 内容广泛涉及社会、文化和生活等多方面;但另一方面,所选材料对于非英语文化背景的读者具有不同程度的挑战性,能够促发读者思考、调动读者的阅读参与意识,从而真正地激发他们的阅读动力,同时也使他们得到阅读乐趣,而不仅仅是对另一种语言的字面意义的“破译”的满足。
3. 语篇形式活泼多样,有报刊文章、评论、短篇故事、民间传说、歌谣、小诗、广告、游记、

问卷、语录、日记等,使读者能够体验到不同体裁的英语灵活而变化多端的特色。

尽管以语篇内容来激发阅读动力是基本目标,但指望一套选材本身来吸引所有读者是不切实际的,因此另一个因素——阅读任务对于激发阅读动力就显得非常重要。这套教材在阅读任务设计上有两个用意:首先是用以持续激发读者的阅读动力,其次是培养读者获得外语阅读方面的一些技能。在这一点上,任务设计注重就材料内容提出具有诱导启发性的问题,这些问题往往为阅读材料提供了一个更为宽泛的思维语境,有利于读者从更多角度对阅读材料作出反应。在培养阅读技能方面,这套教材设计了一系列不同类型的练习,简述如下:

1. 归纳大意:帮助学习者寻找段落大意并且避免生词的干扰。培养这项技能的典型题型是“匹配练习”(matching exercise),比如使标题与插图、文章与标题匹配。有时题中还附有额外的一句话或一幅图,让读者想得更多一点。
2. 理解文章结构:有时候不容易搞清楚文章里哪些是重要内容以及它们的位置,文章结构练习帮助读者明白文章里包含的内容以及句子之间是如何被合乎逻辑地联接起来的。
3. 深入推想:引导读者深入字面去理解,把握文章的内涵和基调。
4. 内容预测:阅读文章之前鼓励读者根据文章主题或标题来预测内容。预测是否正确并不重要,此项练习旨在激发读者的思维能力。
5. 查阅具体信息:有时候我们阅读并不是为了了解文章大意,而是为了找到一个具体问题的答案。教材中的有些练习是专为训练读者尽快获取信息的能力而设计的。
6. 衔接意思:这项练习主要是帮助读者通过上下文注意沟通意思的衔接词语。
7. 文本评价:为了透彻理解文章,读者可能需要评价作者的观点并理解写作原因,还需要分清文章的论点和论据。这项练习有利于提高评论能力。
8. 对文章作出反应:为激发读者的兴趣有必要使他们对文章作出主观方面的反应,比如针对文章中的幽默、文风、诗韵等等。读者对其他文体比如说明性文章的反应表现在他们能够按照说明执行任务方面。这项练习也可以培养读者补充相关信息的能力。

此外,这套教材的任务设计还将阅读与口语及写作训练自然地结合起来,使读者得以在获得“输入”(input)的基础上逐渐锻炼“输出”(output)能力,从而提高英语综合技能。

一套优秀教材在形式上的安排和处理上必然努力为读者着想（英文中所谓的 reader-friendly）。这样的努力同样体现在这套教材中：

1. 每本教材的前面都有涵盖本册所有单元的标题、内容提示、技能要点等的一览表，便于读者在学习每个单元之前做到心中有数。
2. 每个单元的容量合适，能够使学生既精神集中又兴趣盎然。
3. 文字配有大量插图和照片，既给人视觉愉悦，又起到补充信息的作用。
4. 版式富于变化，具有强烈的现实感。
5. 阅读语篇和阅读任务交替穿插。这一点是本书的一大特色。阅读促进思考，思考而又可以刺激进一步的阅读。

对这套教材所作的增补主要是针对外语自学者。不言而喻，增补的目的是为了将教师的作用部分地植入教材。增补内容大多是针对语篇中的语言难点、有关背景、各类典故、不易查找的生僻词、外来语以及语体等作了或详或略的注解，便于英语程度不同的读者更好地理解选文并获取一些背景信息。增补内容有时还包括相关语汇，以期扩大学习者的词汇量，启发、开拓思路，助其增强表达能力；有时还在适当的地方增加了阅读任务和提示片语。为了使初学者在阅读语篇之前能够放松心情、进入状态，笔者在第一册里所有单元的开始加了一项“话题点滴”。借题发挥三两语，除了前面所说的考虑之外还有一个用心，即在中文里夹入几个英文词或短语，于读者，或可为点滴之积。另外需要解释一点的是，这套教材中的阅读任务有一项是培养学习者与生词打交道的能力，也就是说，编者鼓励学习者根据上下文猜测一些生词的大意，而不是动辄必查词典，而编者给某些生词注出了中文意思。这是因为考虑到了中国大多数外语自学者的英语起点和非英语文化语境造成的思维障碍，而想适当减轻读者的生词负担，以助于激发读者的积极性。而这一点也主要体现在前两册书中。对于这套教材中的增补内容，读者可根据自身情况来参考。建议是，读者尽可能先独立阅读原文。

虽说增补后的这套教材在某种程度上适应了自学者的需求，但是对于使用这套教材的教师来说，它提供了很大的教学空间，因为它的任务设计中本身就含有对教师与学习者之间交流（interaction）的要求，而这是增补的辅导内容所无法做到的。我们衷心希望这套优秀的外语教材能够发挥其最大效用。

1

Have you got a spirit of  
adventure?  
你有冒险精神吗?

1

Look at the photographs.

Have you tried any of these adventure  
sports?

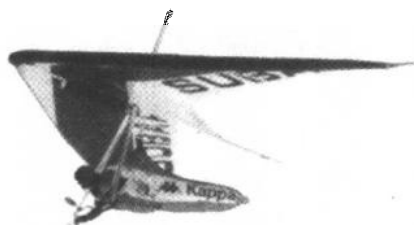
Which ones would you like to try?

Which would you say are the most  
dangerous?

Can you think of any other adventure  
sports?



*Microlighting*(微型机飞行)



*Hang gliding*(悬挂式滑翔运动)



*Kart racing*(微型赛车运动)



*Potholing*(洞穴探索运动)



## 2 Choose five adjectives(形容词) which describe the sort of person who enjoys adventure sports.

impulsive      irresponsible      careful      competitive      confident  
patient      mad      brave      independent

Use a dictionary for any words you do not understand. Would you use any of these adjectives to describe yourself?

## 3 Read the questionnaire and try to guess what the words *in italics* (斜体词) mean in your own language.

### ***Have you got a spirit of adventure?***

1 You would make a parachute jump <sup>①</sup>:

- a) Only in an emergency <sup>②</sup>.
- b) If it was *sponsored* for charity.
- c) Only for pleasure.

2 When choosing where to go on holiday, do you:

- a) Go to the same place as you went last year?
- b) Choose an area popular with tourists?
- c) Deliberately pick somewhere *off the beaten track*?

3 A friend challenges you to <sup>③</sup> sleep in a *haunted* house. Do you:

- a) Refuse?



- b) Accept as long as <sup>④</sup> other people stay with you?
- c) Say yes without even a second thought <sup>⑤</sup>?

4 If you were offered a good job in another country, would you go?

- a) No.
- b) Yes, so long as it was a shortterm contract <sup>⑥</sup>.
- c) Yes.

5 When you visit a restaurant,  
do you:

- a) Order something you've tried before?
- b) Try something slightly different?
- c) Order a dish you've never tasted before?

6 Would you ever go on *blind dates* with members of the opposite sex ⑦?

- a) No.
- b) Perhaps.
- c) Yes.

7 When you have a *hunch*, do you:

- a) Ignore it?
- b) Agonise over whether to follow

it or not?

- c) Follow it up?

8 Would you ever buy a house without seeing it?

- a) Under no circumstances ⑧.
- b) Only if you had no choice.
- c) If it was a good buy ⑨.

9 Compared with five years ago, do you:

- a) Make fewer *gambles* in your life?
- b) Take as many risks?
- c) Take more chances?

10 Would you go to prison on a matter of principle?

- a) No.
- b) Perhaps.
- c) Yes.

**注解:**

① make a parachute jump: 跳伞。 ② in an emergency: 在紧急情况下。 ③ challenge sb. to do sth.: 激某人做某事。 ④ as long as: 只要…… ⑤ without a second thought: 不假思索地。 on second thoughts: 再想之下…… ⑥ shortterm contract: 短期合同。 long-term: 长期的。 ⑦ opposite sex: 异性。 ⑧ Under no circumstances: 无论如何不, 决不。完整的说法即为: Under no circumstances would I buy a house without seeing it. ⑨ a good buy 与 a good deal 同义。buy 在这里作名词, 指“买得合算的东西”。

**4** Match the words *in italics* with their meaning in the context of the passage. 将下列词组与课文中的斜体词配对:

where ghosts appear  
raising money

*Unit 1: Have you got a spirit of adventure?*

actions or decisions which involve an element of risk  
appointments or meetings with someone you do not know  
somewhere not very well known  
a strong feeling about something

## 5

**Answer the questionnaire and check your score.** 查一下你的得分。



SCORING (计分办法)

**Give yourself one point for each (a) answer, two for each (b), three for each (c).**

*10 – 17 points*

You don't take many risks and you prefer to be absolutely certain of where you stand <sup>①</sup> before deciding anything. You are cautious and have the satisfaction of knowing that your life is well under control.

*18 – 24 points*

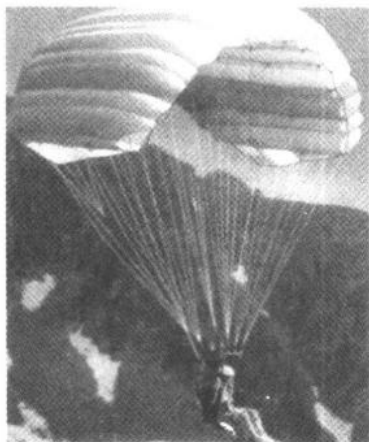
You think about all the possible problems of every new thing you do, and make your decisions after careful consideration of the risks involved. Even so, you are not against a calculated risk <sup>②</sup> occasionally as long as you won't be sacrificing too much if it goes wrong.

*25 – 30 points*

You are a true adventurer, and you believe that any project worth working on has risks which have to be taken. Progress in your life is likely to be by leaps and bounds <sup>③</sup>, with the occasional backward step when a gamble doesn't pay off <sup>④</sup>.

**注解:**

① be absolutely certain of where you stand: 明白自己的处境如何。 ② a calculated risk: 经衡量过得失的风险。 ③ by leaps and bounds: 大幅度地。 ④ pay off: 取得成功; 得到好结果。



parachuting(跳伞)



white water rafting(激流划筏)

**6** Write two more questions to continue the questionnaire.

**7** Read this passage and decide what sport it describes. Choose from the sports shown in the photographs on page 1.

When you mention the sport of ..... most people imagine crawling on your hands and knees <sup>①</sup> through tiny, muddy tunnels <sup>②</sup>, and getting cold and wet. This is an unfair image, since ..... is an exciting and challenging activity, and is certainly no more dangerous than other adventure sports.

Why do people go .....? This is difficult to explain to anyone who has never experienced the unique beauty of the underground world. Caves are fascinating places, and each has its own character <sup>③</sup>—some have dark, vertical <sup>④</sup> walls with powerful streams running between them, while others have large, silent chambers <sup>⑤</sup>, beautifully decorated with stalactites <sup>⑥</sup> and stalagmites <sup>⑦</sup>.

**注解:**

- ① crawl on one's hands and knees: 用手、膝抵着地爬行。 ② tunnel /'tʌnəl/: 这里指洞窟。  
③ character: 特征, 特点。 ④ vertical /'vɜ:tɪkəl/: 陡直的。 ⑤ chamber: 这里指洞里天然形成的石室。 ⑥ stalactite /'stæləktait/: 钟乳石。 ⑦ stalagmite /'stæləgmait/: 石笋。

**How do you feel about this sport?**

*Unit 1: Have you got a spirit of adventure?*

**8** Write a few sentences to describe how you see one of the sports in the photographs. Use the passage in Exercise 7 to help you.

**9** Can you think of some events of adventure that led to the significant discoveries about the world?

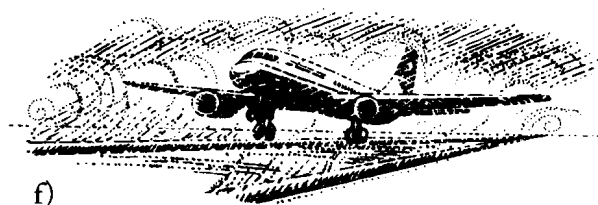
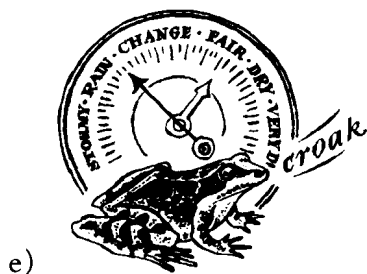
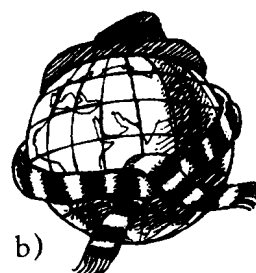
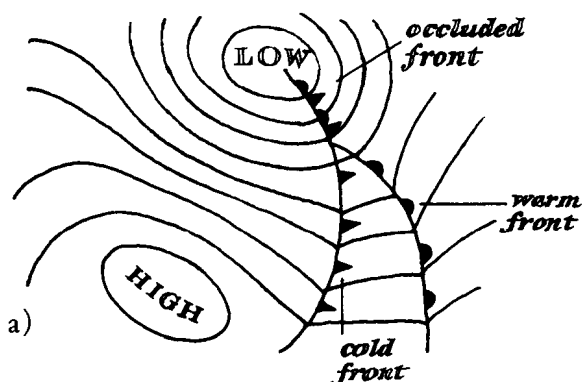
**10** Describe one of your own experiences of adventure and explain what kind of impact it has had on your life.

# 2

## Weather facts

### 天气知多少

1 These pictures are all connected with the weather. In what way?

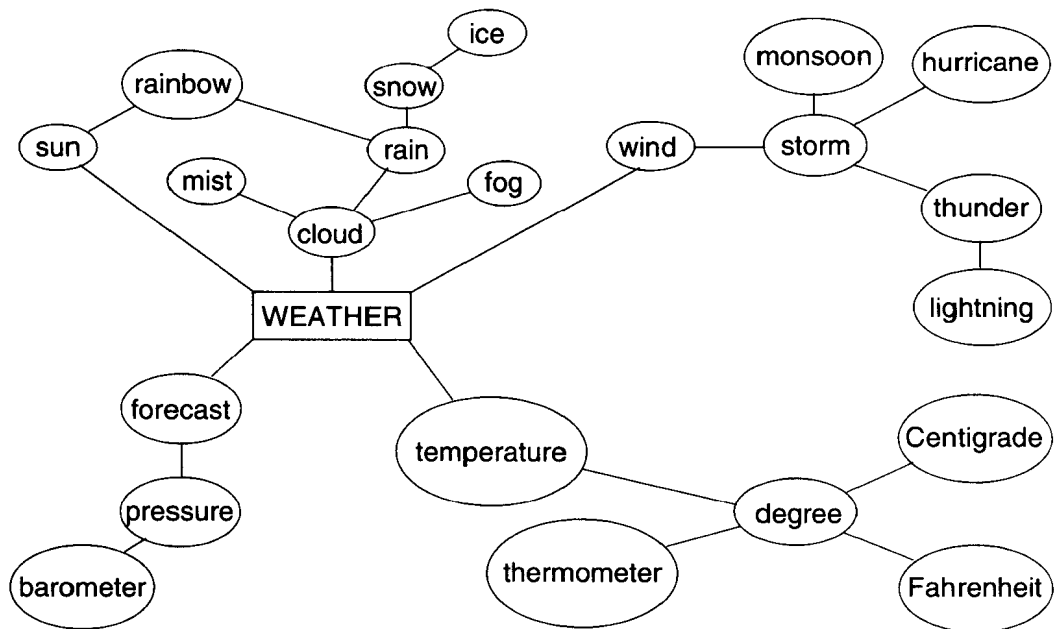


**注解:**

① occluded (/ə'kludid/) front: (气) 锢囚锋。 ② warm front: 暖锋。 ③ cold front: 冷锋。

**2** Read the numbered passages on Page 9. Which passages can you match with the pictures? Don't worry about the missing words for the moment.

**3** Look at the word map. Check you know what each word means.



**注解:**

① rainbow: 彩虹。 ② mist: 薄雾(形容词形式为 misty)。 ③ fog: 雾(形容词形式为 foggy)。  
 ④ forecast: (v. n.) 预报、预测。 ⑤ barometer /bə'rɒmɪtə/: 气压计, 晴雨表。 ⑥ hurricane /'hʌrɪkeɪn/: 飓风。  
 ⑦ thermometer /θə'mɒmɪtə/: 温度计。 ⑧ Centigrade /'sentɪgreɪd/: 摄氏的, Centigrade thermometer: 摄氏温度计。  
 ⑨ Fahrenheit /'færənhaɪt/: 华氏的, Fahrenheit thermometer: 华氏温度计, 例: Water freezes at 32°C Fahrenheit. 水在 32 华氏度结冰。

**Now read the passages again. The missing words are the same in each paragraph. Try to guess what they are and use the word map to help you.**

## 4 Answer the questions.



- 1 What do these have in common?
  - a) the Föhn and the Sirocco
  - b) frogs and ants
  - c) Huitzilopochtli and Dhakhan
  - d) London and Bombay
- 2 What prevents heat escaping from the earth?
- 3 How do scientists know what the weather was like in the past?
- 4 What causes acid rain?

## 5 Write down the 'weather' adjectives and verbs from the passage. Which ones go with(与...相配) the nouns in the word map?

- 1 Animals can predict the weather <sup>①</sup>, often very accurately. The Germans used to keep frogs as live <sup>②</sup> ..... because they croak <sup>③</sup> when the pressure drops <sup>④</sup>.
- 2 One way of finding out about past climates is by drilling holes in glaciers and pulling out long cores of ..... Distinct layers can be seen in the ..... The darker the ..... the colder the climate was. An ..... core 366m long can tell us about the weather of the past 1,400 years.
- 3 The Chinese believed that dragons formed ..... with their breath and brought rain. The rain fell when the dragons walked over the ..... and storms raged when they fought with each other.
- 4 Most scientists think that the Earth is getting warmer <sup>⑤</sup>. Burning coal, oil and forests increases the amount of the gas carbon dioxide <sup>⑥</sup> in the atmosphere. This prevents the heat from escaping. If the amount of carbon dioxide in the air was doubled, the Earth's ..... would rise by 2°C. If the Earth became even a few degrees warmer the ice at the Poles <sup>⑦</sup> would melt and the sea level would rise by about 60m. Coastal cities like New York, Bombay, London and Sydney would be flooded.



## Unit 2: Weather facts

- 5 There are two types of ..... —short and long range. Computers help forecasters produce short range charts for up to <sup>⑧</sup> a week ahead. Long range forecasting is less accurate and is often done by looking at past weather records. In India forecasts have been made of the next year's monsoon <sup>⑨</sup> so that famine can be prevented if there is not enough rain.
- 6 The ..... which falls on parts of Europe and North America can be more acid than lemon juice. Acid ..... falls when gases and chemicals from factories dissolve <sup>⑩</sup> in water in the air to form weak acids. Pollution carried by the wind can fall as acid ..... hundreds of kilometers away and destroy forests, crops and life in lakes and rivers.
- 7 People were predicting the ..... long before forecasts appeared on TV or in newspapers. They looked for 'signs' in the way plants and animals behave. When the pressure drops—a sign of bad ..... —sheep's wool uncurls and ants move to higher ground. Pine cones open when rain is about <sup>⑪</sup>.
- 8 ..... can cause accidents and delays at airports. Many airports today have huge pipes along the sides of the runways. Fuel is pumped into them and burned. This raises the air temperature so that the ..... evaporates and planes can take off and land <sup>⑫</sup> safely.
- 9 The Aztecs <sup>⑬</sup> believed that the ..... god, Huitzilopochtli, was a warrior who fought against the power of night so that the ..... could be reborn every morning. He had to be kept strong and people were sacrificed to provide him with human hearts and blood, which were thought to be his favourite food.
- 10 Some people say they can feel the weather in their bodies. Some people find that they have aches and pains when the air is humid. Others get headaches before a ..... . Some winds are said to damage your health. During the hot, dry Föhn wind <sup>⑭</sup> the accident, crime and suicide rates in Germany rise. The Sirocco <sup>⑮</sup> is said to cause madness.
- 11 The Kabi people from Australia worship a god called Dhakhan who is half fish and half snake. Dhakhan lives in deep water holes in the