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●丁辰灵 陈燕飞 编著

大千世界

——趣味英语阅读



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华东理工大学出版社

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前言

大约是半年前，华东理工大学出版社的朋友给我打来电话，希望合作出版一套英文锁定阅读丛书。当时海狸网络在参加完第一届中国电子图文/互动教育展后，一直在思考着未来的电子图文和互动教育方向。是选择完全在线，还是选择向线下突破是我当时考虑的主要问题。

英文锁定(icansay.com)在当时已经是一个注册用户超过十万的大型英文学习娱乐网站，每个月的电子英文杂志要发送三百万份。电子杂志受欢迎的程度常常出乎我们的意料，由于发送量大，我们杂志技术合作方的服务器常常超载。拥有庞大的在线用户资源，不代表一切，怎样把这些用户资源和企业长期的盈利挂起钩来才是真正需要考虑的问题。最终的结果是icansay要走一条跨媒体的道路，把在线的品牌带入线下。而在中国，有这个能力的英语教育机构还太少。这几个月，互联网业风雨萧条，一家很著名的电子图文公司进行了大裁员，更加让我们坚定了做跨

2 前言

媒体英语教育平台的信心。

icansay.com 最早追溯于 1999 年 4 月,“全真英语”以其全真、精彩、体贴、专业的形象和服务迅速取得了成功。中国著名的英文《21 世纪报》这样说英文锁定:

On www. ICANSAY. com, learners can test their English vocabulary online. Meanwhile, they can even compete with each others in the verbal game, which brings much fun to those who find memorizing English words tedious.

“A good game and a school exam are essentially the same thing; There are a bunch of tasks and you get points for fulfilling them. Learners, however, hate exams and love games,” said Dr Jan Stelovsky, a professor in the field of computer science at the University of Hawaii.

(Excerpted from *21st Century*. June 22, 2000 《21 世纪报》)

此外,超过十家的中国媒体如《互联网周刊》、《电脑报》等都载文介绍或推荐过英文锁定网站。英文锁定的每日读图新闻因为选材精彩而且紧跟时代节奏,很多读者将文章打印下来作为自己的阅读材料。这次丛书的出版就是将这两两年来的精华毫无保留地呈现给我们的读者和更多需要英文中高级阅读帮助的朋友们。

现在,英文锁定已经初步具有了整合跨媒体英语教育资源的能力,朋友们可以通过手机订阅我们英文互动频道的内容。而这套丛书的出版意味着海狸网络在传统英语教育领域又迈进了一小步,虽然是一小步,但千里之行,始于足下。

在这里,我要感谢辛勤耕作的历任 iCanSay 的编辑们,他们包括恽爽,任晓宁,方亮,徐洁琼,梁莹,高照等

等。陈燕飞和朱怡菲又将所有的文章筛选、校对,重新整理生词列表,并给每一篇文章标识难度。我还要感谢华东理工大学出版社的韩宽程小姐,她为这套丛书的出版做了很多工作。最后,我要把这套丛书献给所有对iCanSay关心的朋友,希望你们能够鞭策我们更好地前进。

丁辰灵

英文锁定网站主编

2001年6月18日

目 录

1. Send in the Clones, Waiter
餐桌上的克隆牛肉 (1)
2. Resurrecting a Mammoth
复活的长毛象 (6)
3. Baby, oh, Baby
孩子, 哦, 孩子..... (12)
4. A Forest from the Past
水下森林 (16)
5. Test-Tube Elephant
第一头人工受精象诞生记 ... (21)
6. Free the Genes
英美将公开基因组 (25)
7. The Web's Growth Spurt
新媒体爆炸 (29)
8. Why Do Fools Fall?
天天愚人节 (35)
9. A World of Their Own
游戏网络人生 (39)
10. Cracked and Hacked
黑客帝国 (47)
11. To Be or Not to Be
生存还是毁灭 (50)
12. E-mail Signals Return to
Written Romance
电子情书 (54)
13. Across the Web in 19 Clicks
万维网, 小世界 (58)
14. FBI Investigates Web Attacks

2 目录

FBI 抓黑客	(62)
15. Take Your Pick, Ladies	
女人的欢心	(67)
16. Keep Your Shirt on	
狂欢节的陷阱	(71)
17. Where's the Bride?	
新娘在哪里?	(75)
18. Picture Perfect	
不可思议的家庭团聚	(80)
19. The Rich-Poor Gap Grows	
财富的魅力	(85)
20. Million-Dollar Arrest	
荒谬的逮捕	(89)
21. King of All Media?	
小说之王,网络之王	(94)
22. The Smelly Foot Feast	
臭鞋大会	(99)
23. For the Love of Flying	
我想高飞	(106)
24. Everest Season Approaches	
会当凌绝顶	(111)
25. Eagle-Eyed Child Spots Error in Harry Potter Book	
敏锐目光	(115)
26. Working Moms	
新时代妈妈	(118)
27. Mission: Impossible?	
不可能完成的任务?	(121)
28. Bush and Gore for Pizza Hut?	

比萨与总统大选	(124)
29. No Winner? Then Dance	
随心漫舞	(128)
30. Meet Rita Ng, Miss California 2000	
华裔加州小姐	(132)
31. Thinner Miss Americas	
骨感美女,君子好逑	(135)
32. Impending Freedom?	
罪与罚	(140)
33. A Circus without Animals?	
保护动物	(143)
34. Combating Space Depression	
寂寞三人行	(148)
35. Get Ready for Landing	
准备着陆!	(151)
36. Unsafe Safety Devices?	
隐患重重的手机安全	(154)
37. Cyber Conception	
网络制造婴儿	(158)
38. Mooning over an Illusion	
月色撩人	(164)
39. Noisy Snowflakes	
雨滴的喧哗	(168)
40. Old-Fashioned Winter	
这个冬天会很冷	(175)
41. Worrying Yourself Sick	
往事不要再提	(179)
42. Flu Shots for Kids?	
不干不净,要生病	(183)

43. Why Are Kids So Tired?	
昏昏欲睡	(187)
44. Memory Olympics	
记忆力的奥林匹克赛	(191)
45. Mentally Ill Smoke More	
吸烟与脆弱的心	(194)
46. Humans the Biggest Crybabies?	
泪眼朦胧	(198)
47. Weird Dreams	
梦的解析	(202)

1. *Send in the Clones, Waiter*

餐桌上的克隆牛肉 ☹

Japanese scientists and agricultural officials see cloning as the way to keep small farms competitive, but the Japanese public may not agree. Some worry that cloned food might be harmful to health, though evidences are still lacking. How on earth, is cloned food going to penetrate into every aspects of our everyday life in such an era of technology explosion?

你是否能分辨出无论是外观，还是口感都与普通牛肉别无二致的克隆牛肉？而你是否介意在不知情的情况下食用克隆牛肉呢？克隆牛肉到底是否会对健康产生威胁？克隆技术在食品行业的运用，对像日本这样资源匮乏、畜牧业发展自然条件欠缺的国家究竟意义何在？这一系列有待解决的问题，对全人类未知的将来，或许意义重大。



It looks like beef. It tastes like beef. In fact, it's nothing less than 100 percent pure beef.

But a batch of the stuff drew nationwide attention in Japan when it went on the market today advertised as the beef of a cloned cow.

"It's nice and soft," said Kaori Yoshimura, a 28-year-old office worker dining on the cloned meat at a steakhouse. "I'd buy it again because it tastes good."

But cloned beef has been getting less than rave reviews lately.

Beef Backlash

A government announcement in April that it had been sold unmarked for at least two years triggered threats of a beef boycott. Many retailers stopped selling it because of negative news reports.

The Agriculture Ministry insisted that the beef was safe and there was no need to specify its origin. Consumer demand for an informed choice, however, prompted the ministry to study compulsory labeling.

There is no decision yet. But in the meantime, the ministry provided one cloned cow to be divided among a Tokyo restaurant and several stores around the country. It asked them to label the beef and gauge the reaction.

Pure (pronounced PEW-ah), a Korean barbecue place in Tokyo's busy Shimbashi district, became the ministry's Exhibit A tonight.

How Does It Taste?

Inside the packed restaurant, TV crews crowded around the beer-drinking, beef-eating customers, demanding opinions on the taste.

"The word 'clone' has a bad image," said Yoshimura, the happy customer. "It makes you think of someone creating identical human beings in a lab."

That didn't stop her and dozens of other diners from wolfing down chopstick-loads of the grilled meat. Pure had notified regular customers of the experiment, and lowered prices for the event, which was to continue as long as the meat holds out.

Customers got pamphlets explaining the cloning process and stressing that beef from cloned cows is no different from regular beef.

Key for Competition

With a domestic cattle industry squeezed by imports of cheaper beef, Japanese scientists and agricultural officials see cloning as the way to keep small farms competitive. Cloning, they believe, could enable farmers to rear genetically superior cattle at a lower cost.

Cloned vegetables and fish are widely marketed here, also unmarked.

Cloning techniques vary from simple plant cuttings to the extremely delicate and still unreliable replication of adult mammals from their own genetic material.

In the more primitive technique that produced Japan's edible

cloned cows, an embryonic cell is inserted into an egg whose nucleus has been removed. The two are fused by an electric shock, then the egg is inserted into a cow's uterus, develops into a calf and is carried to term.

Pure's diners were asked to complete a questionnaire for the ministry on what they thought of the cloned beef.

"I don't trust scientists," said Yutaka Maruyama, a diner who works at a company that inspects organic vegetables.

"I don't care what happens to me, but I wouldn't feed it to kids," he said. "Who knows what kind of problems this might cause in the future?"

batch [bætʃ]

n. 一批

rave review [reiv ri'vju:]

过分热情的评论

backlash [ˈbæklæʃ]

n. (政治或社会上的)对抗性反应

gauge [geɪdʒ]

v. 测量

wolf [wʊlf]

v. 狼吞虎咽, 大吃

rear [riə]

v. 培养, 饲养

embryonic [ˌembri'ɒnik]

a. 〈生理〉胚胎的, 开始的

egg [eg]

n. 卵子

nucleus [ˈnju:kliəs]

n. 核子 nuclear 的复数

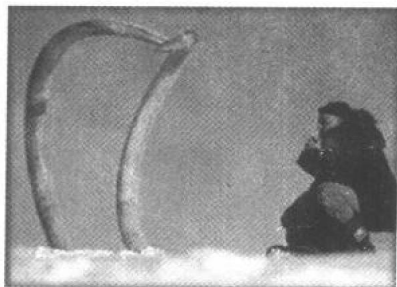
uterus [ˈjʊtərəs]

n. 〈解剖〉子宫

2. Resurrecting a Mammoth

复活的长毛象 😊

French explorer Bernard Buigues hopes that within this 2-ton frozen mammoth is some perfectly preserved DNA. That and some proven cloning technology could resurrect a long-gone species. What Buigues and his team would do is something similar to the process that created the famous sheep Dolly: extracting the nucleus of one adult mammoth cell and inserting it into an empty egg cell. The embryo would then be implanted in the uterus of an Asian elephant, the mammoth's closest living relative, a surrogate mother that would gestate it as its own but without transferring to the baby any of the elephant's genes.



先进的生物技术将在各个方面渗透和影响我们的生活。死而复生,早已不再只是神话和梦想。眼下,法国科学家们,正试图通过和克隆多利羊类似的方法,让早在四千多年前就已经灭绝的长毛象重见天日。科学家们将

会面临来自各个方面的困难和问题,但是,科学赋予他们的勇气和力量将会帮助他们克服种种艰难险阻。如果有奇迹的话,毫无疑问,是科学创造了它们。

Resurrecting dinosaurs à la Jurassic Park, experts say, is practically impossible. But what about cloning a woolly mammoth, that creature with long, curved tusks and small ears emblematic of the last ice age?

To some, resuscitating this hairy cousin of the elephant that went extinct 4,000 to 10,000 years ago is equally improbable.

Not to French explorer Bernard Buigues. He's out in the Siberian Arctic unearthing what he says is one of the best-preserved woolly mammoths ever found, a specimen that may provide perfect DNA. That string of genetic code could be seeded in an elephant's egg, which could give birth to a pure woolly mammoth — and to a huge debate about what we can do with, and to, Nature.

For the past 20,380 years, this 10-foot-tall mammal weighing more than 2 tons has remained buried under 4 feet of permafrost in the steppes of northern Russia (Fans of the Flintstones will recall a woolly mammoth serving as the “shower” at Fred's home.).

“We believe we have a 100 percent chance of finding parts of the mammoth, which died at 47 years old, still intact,” Buigues said a few weeks ago, before heading to the tundra with a multinational team of experts.

“Its head and trunk were closest to the surface, exposed to climate changes, and they have deteriorated, but not the