

# 美国之音 特别英语选编

● 许为础

龚亚萍

选编译注

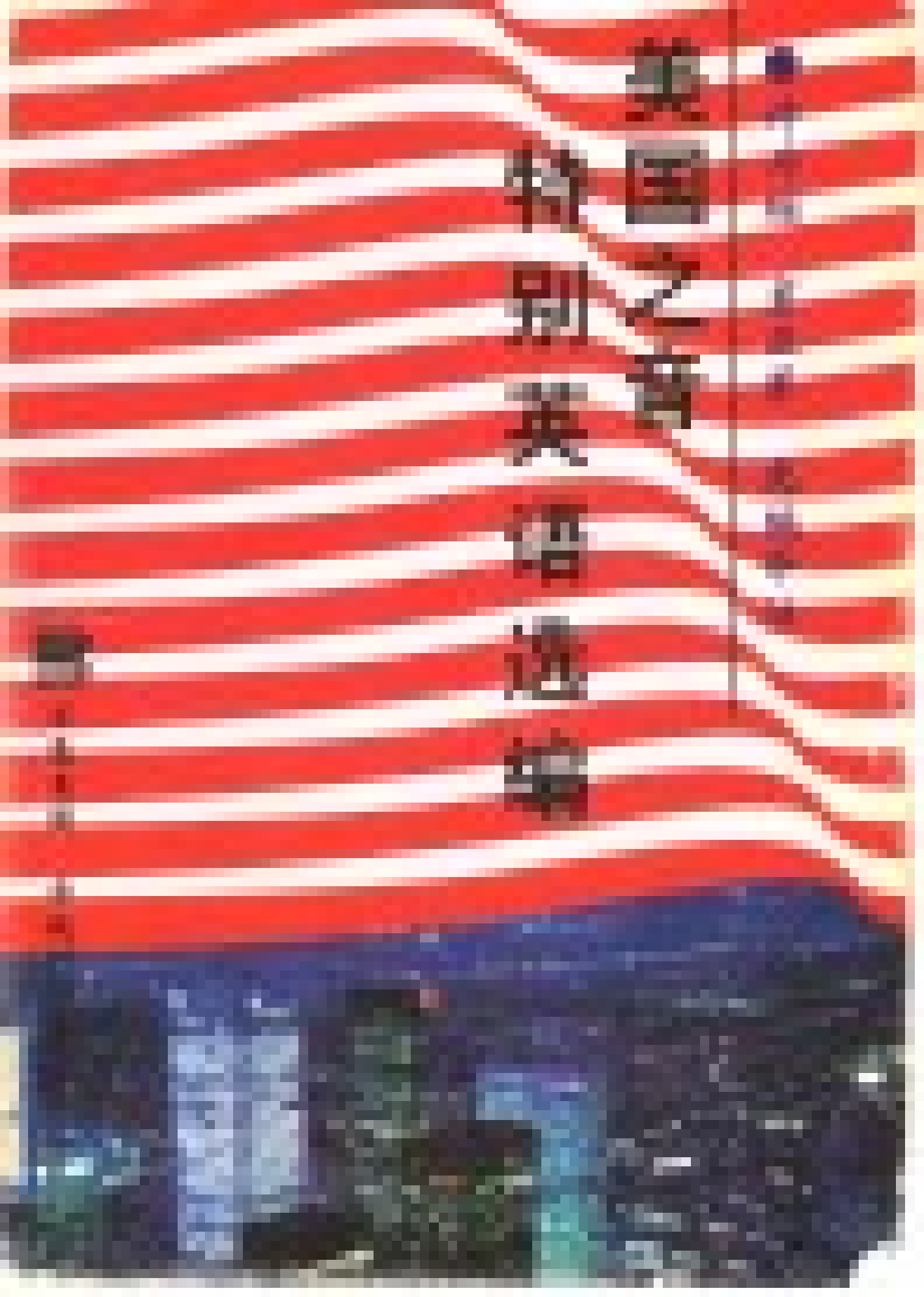


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美國之有特別英  
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# 美国之音 特别英语选编

A Selection of VOA Special English  
Feature Programs

● 英汉对照      ● 附听力练习

许为基础 宴亚萍 选编译注



百通集团  
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### 美国之音特别英语选编

许为础 窦亚萍 选编译注

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## 前 言

“美国之音”(VOA)广播电台目前共有10个用“特别英语”广播的专题节目(Feature Programs, 详见本书“附录”)。这本《美国之音特别英语专题节目选编》先选自下列三个节目:

1. Space and Man (太空与人): 这个节目主要报导人类探索宇宙的历史, 太空飞行及航天技术的新成就。本集共选14篇, 系列报导了美国的载人太空飞行的历史与现状。

2. Environment Report (环保报导): 主要报导世界各国保护生态环境, 改造大自然, 开发新资源, 改善生活条件等各方面的情况。本集共有22篇, 集中报导了1993年世界各国的环保情况。

3. American Stories (美国短篇小说): 选播美国作家的短篇小说。故事经改写后, 短小精悍, 情节紧凑, 语言生动。本集共收6篇。

其它专题节目拟选入本书的续集, 今后陆续出版。

本书可供我国高等院校学生, 准备赴美留学访问人员, 以及具有一定英语基础的自学者使用。既可用作听力教材, 也可作为泛读或快速阅读教材。本书附录音带7盒, 均为VOA直接提供的广播原声带, 声音非常清晰, 音色优美, 发音标准, 读速较慢, 便于模仿, 是学习标准美国英语的理想材料。

为了方便读者自学, 本书每课均配有生词和词组(New Words and Expressions), 听力理解练习(Listening Comprehension Exercise), 音带文字材料(Tapescripts)和参考译文, 书末还附有练习答案。不言而喻, 做听力理解练习时, 不能先看Tapescripts和答案。

为了使读者对VOA Special English有较全面深入的了解, 建议在使用本书之前, 先阅读附录文章《VOA Special English的语言特点及其教学意义》。

美国之音特别英语部主任克丽斯婷·约翰逊女士(Ms. Christine Johnson)为本书提供了材料, 并来信授权我们编著出版。我们向她表示衷心感谢! 本书的编著得到许蔡静小姐的协助, 顺此表示谢意。

由于编著者水平有限, 时间仓促, 书中不足之处在所难免, 敬请读者批评指正。

许为础 窦亚萍

1996年12月



August 15, 1994

Xu Weichu  
Director, Foreign Language Training Center  
South China University of Technology  
Guangzhou, China 510641

Dear Professor:

I recently received a copy of your textbook based on the VOA *Special English* program "This is America". I am sure your students will find it interesting and quite helpful in their study of English. Thank you.

Enclosed is a list of *Special English* programs that are available for publication at this time. I am sorry that I cannot send all of the programs you mentioned, but I believe the programs on the list provide a good mix of subject matter. The total listening time for all the cassettes is nine hours. This is more than you requested; perhaps you can make several books from these materials.

Thank you again for your interest. I look forward to seeing a copy of your next textbook when it is completed.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "Christine Johnson", is written above the typed name.

Ms. Christine Johnson  
Chief, VOA *Special English*

# Contents

<b>Environment Report (环保报导)</b> .....	(1)
1. Goldman Environmental Prize 戈德曼环境科学奖 .....	(1)
2. Debt-for-Nature in Madagascar 马达加斯加的还自然债计划 .....	(4)
3. Nature Conservancy Plan 自然保护计划 .....	(7)
4. "Green" Clothes “绿化”衣服 .....	(11)
5. Cleaner Paper 无污染造纸 .....	(15)
6. Bioplastics 生物塑料 .....	(18)
7. Superbug Produces Ethanol 用超级细菌生产乙醇 .....	(21)
8. Electric Cars and Fuel Cells 电动汽车和燃料电池 .....	(24)
9. Sunrayce '93 93 年太阳能汽车赛 .....	(27)
10. Levees and Floods 大堤与水灾 .....	(30)
11. Wetlands in the Netherlands 荷兰的水浸洼地 .....	(34)
12. Effects of the Alaska Oil Spill 阿拉斯加漏油的后果 .....	(37)
13. Pollution in Siberia 西伯利亚的污染 .....	(40)
14. Aluminum and the Environment 铝与环境 .....	(43)
15. Improved Refrigerator 超高效率电水箱 .....	(46)
16. Ocean Noise Pollution 海洋噪音污染 .....	(50)

17. Underwater Volcanoes	
水下火山 .....	(53)
18. Ancient Ice and Weather	
古代水与天气 .....	(57)
19. Rainforest Exhibits	
热带雨林展览 .....	(61)
20. CITES 20th Anniversary	
CITES 条约 20 周年 .....	(65)
21. World Water Shortage	
世界的水短缺 .....	(69)
22. State of the World 1993	
1993 年的世界环境状况 .....	(72)
 <b>Space and Man (太空与人)</b> .....	 (75)
23. Ballooning	
乘坐气球 .....	(75)
24. Airships	
飞艇 .....	(82)
25. X-15 Plane	
X-15 型飞机 .....	(89)
26. Voyager Plane	
旅行者号飞机 .....	(96)
27. Project Mercury (Part 1)	
水星工程 (第一部分) .....	(103)
28. Project Mercury (Part 2)	
水星工程 (第二部分) .....	(110)
29. Project Gemini (Part 1)	
“双子座”工程 (第一部分) .....	(117)
30. Project Gemini (Part 2)	
“双子座”工程 (第二部分) .....	(124)
31. Project Apollo (Part 1)	
“阿波罗”计划 (第一部分) .....	(131)
32. Project Apollo (Part 2)	
“阿波罗”计划 (第二部分) .....	(139)
33. Project Apollo (Part 3)	
“阿波罗”计划 (第三部分) .....	(146)
34. Project Apollo (Part 4)	
“阿波罗”计划 (第四部分) .....	(153)



35. Project Apollo (Part 5)	
“阿波罗”计划 (第五部分)	(160)
36. Skylab	
太空实验室	(167)
<b>American Stories (美国短篇小说)</b>	<b>(175)</b>
37. The Legend of Sleepy Hollow	
沉睡山谷的传说	(175)
38. Rappaccini's Daughter (Part 1)	
拉帕西尼的女儿 (第一部分)	(183)
39. Rappaccini's Daughter (Part 2)	
拉帕西尼的女儿 (第二部分)	(191)
40. A Horseman in the Sky	
天上骑手	(199)
41. The Cask of Amontillado	
一桶白葡萄酒	(207)
42. The Devil and Tom Walker	
魔鬼和汤姆·瓦克尔	(215)
<b>Key to Listening Comprehension Exercises</b>	
(听力理解练习答案)	(223)
<b>Appendix I (附录一) VOA Special English 的语言特点及其教学意义</b>	<b>(233)</b>
<b>Appendix II (附录二) 英文名歌 10 首</b>	<b>(238)</b>

# 1. Goldman Environmental Prize

The Goldman Environmental Prize winners for this year (1993) have been announced. The prizes of sixty-thousand dollars are awarded to people who have taken action to help save the Earth's environment. The winners are from Russia, the United States, Colombia, Australia, and Namibia.

Richard and Rhoda Goldman created the award in 1990. They say it is a way to honor environmental heroes. Winners are chosen from each of the six populated continents. Mrs. Goldman announced the winners last month (April 1993) in San Francisco, California.

Two People from Namibia received the Goldman Environmental Prize. Garth Owen-Smith and Margaret Jacobsohn found a way to protect rare elephants and black rhinos from illegal hunters. Their program involved local tribesmen. The local leaders appointed guards to prevent hunters from killing the animals. Namibia's Ministry of Conservation is planning to extend the program throughout the country.

John Sinclair of Australia is another winner. For twenty years, Mr. Sinclair has led efforts to protect Fraser Island. Fraser Island is the world's largest sand island. It has the oldest sand hills, known as dunes, in the world. And it has more than eight-hundred different kinds of plants. Mr. Sinclair's efforts succeeded in halting operations to dig the sand and cut down trees on the island.

S-1 Zabelin of Russia is another winner. Mr. Zabelin was one of the first environmental advisers in the Soviet Union.

Juan Mayr of Colombia was honored for fighting to protect the Sierra Nevada de (Santa) Marta Mountain. Illegal drug growers and guerrilla groups were destroying the mountain.

Joan Tall of the United States also won the Goldman prize. Ms. Tall is a member of the Lakota Indian tribe of the state of South Dakota. She has led opposition efforts against placing poisonous waste products on Native American lands.

This VOA Environment Report was written by Shelley Gollust. This is Stan Busby.

## I. New Words and Expressions

- |                                 |                                      |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Goldman /'gouldmən/ (人名) 戈德曼 | 4. announce /ə'nauns/ v. 宣布, 发表      |
| 2. Environment Prize 环保奖金       | 5. Russia /'rʌʃə/ n. 俄罗斯             |
| 3. winner /'winə/ n. 获奖者, 得主    | 6. populated /'pɒpjuleitid/ a. 人口稠密的 |

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 7. continent /'kɒntinənt/ <i>n.</i> 大洲, 大陆            | 15. dune /djʊn/ <i>n.</i> 沙丘            |
| 8. San Francisco /'sæn frən'siskou/ (地名)<br>旧金山 (三藩市) | 16. halt /hɔ:lt/ <i>b.</i> 制止           |
| 9. black rhino /'rainou/ <i>n.</i> 黑犀牛                | 17. adviser /əd'vaɪsə/ <i>n.</i> 顾问     |
| 10. illegal hunter 非法的猎人                              | 18. the Soviet Union (前) 苏联             |
| 11. tribesman /'traɪbzməŋ/ <i>n.</i> 部落成员             | 19. drug grower 毒品种植者                   |
| 12. appoint /ə'pɔɪnt/ <i>v.</i> 任命                    | 20. guerrilla /gə'rɪlə/ <i>n.</i> 游击队   |
| 13. Ministry of Conservation 自然资源保护<br>部              | 21. Lakota Indian tribe 拉科宅印地安部落        |
| 14. Fraser Island (澳大利亚) 弗雷泽岛                         | 22. opposition /əpə'zɪʃən/ <i>n.</i> 反对 |
|   | 23. poisonous /'pɔɪznəs/ <i>a.</i> 有毒的  |
|   | 24. Native American Land 美国本土           |

## II. Listening Comprehension Exercises

- First Listening: Listen to the passage from the very beginning to the end. After you listen, write T if the statement is true, F if the statement is false.
  - (1) The winners of the Goldman Environmental Prize are from United Nations, Columbus, Austria, and Hungary. ( )
  - (2) Illegal hunters killed rare elephants and black rhinos in Namibia. ( )
  - (3) Namibia's Ministry of Conservation is planning to extend the program throughout the world. ( )
  - (4) Fraser Island is in Australia. It is the world's largest sand island. ( )
  - (5) Juann Mayr of Colombia was destroying the Sierra Nevada de /Santa/ Marta Mountain. ( )
  - (6) Ms. Tall is placing poisonous waste products on Native American Lands. ( )
- Second Listening: Read the following questions. Then, listen to the passage again. Pay attention to the details (or facts) and circle the correct answer to each question.
  - (1) How much was the Goldman Environmental Prize for the year of 1993?
 

a. \$ 60 000	b. \$ 6 000	c. \$ 16 000
--------------	-------------	--------------
  - (2) Where did Mrs. Goldman announce the winners last month?
 

a. in California	b. in San Francisco, California
c. in France	
  - (3) How many people from Namibia received the Goldman Environmental Prize?
 

a. two	b. one	c. three
--------	--------	----------
  - (4) For how many years has Mr. Sinclair led efforts to protect Fraser Island?
 

a. two years	b. twelve years	c. twenty years
--------------	-----------------	-----------------
  - (5) Where is Mr. Zabelin from?
 

a. Russia	b. Warsaw	c. Belgium
-----------	-----------	------------
  - (6) In which state is the Lakota Indian tribe located?
 

a. North Dakota	b. South Dakota	c. Iowa
-----------------	-----------------	---------
- Third Listening: Listen to the passage for the third time. While you listen, fill in the

blanks with the words you hear from the tape.

Two people \_\_\_\_\_ Namibia \_\_\_\_\_ the Goldman Environmental Prize. Garth Owen Smith and Margaret Jacobsohn \_\_\_\_\_ a way \_\_\_\_\_ protect rare elephants and black rhinos \_\_\_\_\_ illegal hunters. Their program involved local \_\_\_\_\_. The local leaders appointed guards to \_\_\_\_\_ hunters \_\_\_\_\_ killing the animals. Namibia's Ministry of \_\_\_\_\_ is planning to \_\_\_\_\_ the program \_\_\_\_\_ the country.

John Sinclair of \_\_\_\_\_ is another winner. \_\_\_\_\_ twenty years; Mr. Sinclair has led efforts to protect Fraser Island. Fraser Island is \_\_\_\_\_ world's \_\_\_\_\_ sand island. It has the oldest sand hills, known \_\_\_\_\_ dunes, in the world. And it has more \_\_\_\_\_ eight-hundred different \_\_\_\_\_ of plants. Mr. Sinclair's efforts succeeded \_\_\_\_\_ halting operations to dig the sand and cut \_\_\_\_\_ trees \_\_\_\_\_ the island.

### III. Chinese Translation of the Essay

#### 戈德曼环保奖金

今年(1993年)的戈德曼环保奖金的得主名单已经公布。六万美元的奖金授予那些在保护地球环境作出贡献的人。获奖者来自俄罗斯、美国、哥伦比亚、澳大利亚和纳米比亚。

里查德和罗达·戈德曼于1990年创立这项奖金。他们说,这是给予保护环境英雄荣誉的一种方式。获奖者选自人口稠密的六大洲。戈德曼夫人上个月(1993年4月)在美国加州旧金山市宣布了获奖者名单。

纳米比亚有两个人获得戈德曼环保奖金。加思·欧文·史密斯和玛格丽特·杰克伯逊提出了一种方法,可使珍稀大象和黑犀牛免受非法猎人的捕杀,他们的计划得到地方部落成员的参与。地方部落首领指定看守员防止猎人捕杀这些动物。纳米比亚自然资源保护部计划在全国推广这项计划。

另一个获奖者是澳大利亚的约翰·辛克莱。辛克莱先生致力于保护弗雷泽岛已达20年之久。弗雷泽岛是世界上最大的沙岛,岛上有世界上最古老的沙丘,有600多种植物。辛克莱先生成功地制止了在岛上挖沙和砍树。

俄罗斯的泽柏林是另一个获奖者。泽柏林先生是原苏联第一批环境科学顾问的一员。

哥伦比亚的朱安·梅尔因保护(桑塔)玛塔山的内华达岭而获奖。非法的毒品种植者和游击队正在破坏这个山岭。

美国的琼·托尔也荣获戈德曼奖金。托尔女士是南达科宅州印第安部落的一个成员。她致力于反对在美国本土堆放有毒废料。

这篇美国之音的“环保报告”由谢丽·戈拉斯撰稿。我是斯坦恩·巴士比。

## 2. Debt-for-Nature in Madagascar

Madagascar is home of many rare plants and animals. In fact, about eighty percent of its plants are found nowhere else on Earth. The country is the fourth largest island in the world. It also is one of the poorest countries in the world.

Madagascar's poor economy threatens its environment. People earn only about two-hundred dollars a year. The population has increased by one-hundred percent in the past thirty years. [mə'dʒɑːsɪ]

The Malagasy people have been destroying wooded lands in order to survive. They burn trees for fuel and to clear land for crops. As a result, Madagascar already has lost eighty-five percent of its jungles. The disappearance of trees also causes the loss of rich dirt. The dirt is washed into rivers. It then pollutes the water.

Environmentalists say the remaining jungles could disappear in the next thirty-five years. They say the Malagasy people will suffer even greater losses if the jungles are completely destroyed.

Many environmental organizations have expressed concern about the future of Madagascar. They understand that poor economic conditions lead to destruction of the environment. One such group is the World Wide Fund for Nature. It developed a plan with Malagasy officials to help save the island's plants and animals.

The plan is called a debt-for-nature exchange. It was designed as a way to pay for environmental projects. It reduces the amount of money that developing countries owe to banks in industrial countries. And it provides money in developing countries for environmental projects.

The World Wide Fund for Nature has invested the money earned through the debt-for-nature exchange. It is using the interest earned on the money to train local people as nature protection agents. The workers teach other people about ways to save their environment.

The organization also supports other small projects. These projects use local people to supervise and protect the areas in which they live. For example, one program promised village leaders a school, health center, or crop-watering system in exchange for protecting a jungle. The continuing success of the debt-for-nature program in Madagascar is leading other groups to become involved in efforts to protect its environment.

Our Special English Environment Report was written by Gayle Shiraki. And this is Shep O'Neal.

### I. New words and Expressions

- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. debt /debt/ n. 债                       | 3. threaten /θretn/ v. 威胁       |
| 2. Madagascar /mædʒ'æskə/ n. 马达加斯加 (非洲国家) | 4. survive /sə'vaiv/ v. 幸存, 活下来 |
|   | 5. jungle /dʒʌŋgl/ n. 丛林        |

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 6. disappearance /disə'piərəns/ <i>v.</i> 消失              | 11. invest /in'vest/ <i>v.</i> 投资        |
| 7. dirt /dɜ:t/ <i>n.</i> 泥土, 松土                           | 12. interest /'intrist/ <i>n.</i> 利息     |
| 8. pollute /pə'ljut/ <i>v.</i> 污染                         | 13. agent /'eidʒənt/ <i>n.</i> 代理人       |
| 9. environmentalist /envaɪrən'mentlist/ <i>n.</i><br>环保专家 | 14. supervise /s'ju:pəvaiz/ <i>v.</i> 监督 |
| 10. design /di'zain/ <i>v.</i> 设计                         | 15. crop-watering system 庄稼灌水系统          |

## II . Listening Comprehension Exercises

1. First Listening: Listen to the passage from the very beginning to the end. After you listen, write T if the statement is true, F if the statement is false.
  - (1) About 80% of the plants in Madagascar can be found anywhere on Earth. ( )
  - (2) In order to survive, the Malagasy people have been destroying wooded lands. ( )
  - (3) Poor economic conditions lead to destruction of the environment in Madagascar. ( )
  - (4) The World Wide Fund for Nature is the name of the plan developed by Malagasy officials. ( )
  - (5) The World Wide Fund for Nature is training local people as nature protection agents. ( )
  - (6) The debt-for-nature program is a great success in Madagascar. ( )
2. Second Listening: Read the following questions. Then, listen to the passage again. Pay attention to the details (or facts) and circle the correct answer to each question.
  - (1) About how many dollars do people in Madagascar earn in a year?
 

a. \$ 100	b. \$ 120	c. \$ 200
-----------	-----------	-----------
  - (2) How many percent of its jungles has been lost in Madagascar?
 

a. 85%	b. 58%	c. 75%
--------	--------	--------
  - (3) What does the debt-for-nature program do?
    - a. It reduces the amount of money that developing countries owe to banks in industrial countries.
    - b. It provides money in developing countries for environmental projects.
    - c. Both a and b.
  - (4) What is the name of the organization that developed an environment protection plan with Malagasy officials?
    - a. debt-for-nature exchange
    - b. the World Wide Fund for Nature
    - c. nature protection agents
  - (5) What did one program promise village leaders in exchange for protecting a jungle?
    - a. a school and a health center
    - b. a crop-watering system
    - c. Both a and b.
3. Third Listening: Listen to the passage for the third time. While you listen, fill in the

blanks with the words you hear from the tape.

Madagascar is home \_\_\_\_\_ many rare plants and animals. In \_\_\_\_\_, about 80% of its plants are \_\_\_\_\_ nowhere \_\_\_\_\_ on Earth. The country is the \_\_\_\_\_ largest island in the world. It also is one of the \_\_\_\_\_ countries \_\_\_\_\_ the world.

The Malagasy people have been \_\_\_\_\_ wooded lands \_\_\_\_\_ order to survive. They burn trees \_\_\_\_\_ fuel and to clear land for crops. As a \_\_\_\_\_, Madagascar already has \_\_\_\_\_ 85% percent of its jungle. The disappearance of trees also \_\_\_\_\_ the loss of rich dirt. The dirt is washed \_\_\_\_\_ rivers. It then \_\_\_\_\_ the water.

Many environmental organizations have expressed \_\_\_\_\_ about the future of Madagascar. They understand that poor economic conditions \_\_\_\_\_ to destruction of the \_\_\_\_\_. One \_\_\_\_\_ group is the World Wide Fund for Nature. It developed a plan \_\_\_\_\_ Malagasy officials to help \_\_\_\_\_ the island's plants and animals.

### III. Chinese Translation of the Essay

#### 马达加斯加的还自然债计划

马达加斯加是许多稀有动植物的家乡。事实上，该国大约有 80% 的植物是在地球上其它地方无法找到的。马达加斯加是世界第四大岛，也是世界上最穷的国家之一。

马达加斯加的穷困经济威胁着国家的环境。这个国家的人民每年收入只有大约 200 美元。过去 30 年，该国人口增加了一倍。

马达加斯加人民为了生存，已经一直在破坏森林地区。他们砍树当柴烧，开垦土地种庄稼。结果，马达加斯加已经失去了 85% 的丛林。树林的消失还造成了肥沃泥土的流失。泥土被冲入河流，从而造成水的污染。

环境论者说，现存的丛林会在未来 35 年消失。他们说，如果丛林完全被毁，马达加斯加人民会遭受更加惨重的损失。

很多环保组织已经对马达加斯加的未来表示关注。他们深知，贫困的经济条件导致环境的破坏。其中有一个叫做“全世界自然基金会”的组织。它和马达加斯加官员共同制定了一项计划，协助挽救这个岛国的动植物。

这项计划称为“欠大自然债的交换”。它是一种自然工程的付款方式。它减少发展中国家拖欠工业国银行的债款，并向发展中国家提供资金，用于环保工程的建设。

“全世界自然基金会”用这个交换计划赚来的钱进行投资。它用所得的利息培训本地人当环保代理人，这些人又教会别人保护自然环境的方法。

该组织还支持其它的小工程项目。这些工程项目利用本地人去监督和保护他们所在的地区。例如，有一项计划答应给村领导人建一间学校、保健中心、或庄稼灌水系统、以换取该村保护一片丛林。这项还自然债计划在马达加斯加的成功实施，引来了更多的团体参加保护自然环境的工作。

这篇特别英语“环保报告”由加利·希拉奇撰稿，我是谢皮·奥尼尔。

### 3. Nature Conservancy Plan

An environmental organization in Panama has bought a large amount of land near Panama's border with Colombia. A group in Paraguay has bought land near the Mbaracayu forest. Both groups bought the land recently to protect some beautiful places threatened by development. They were helped by a private environmental organization in Washington: The Nature Conservancy.

The Nature Conservancy is among the world's largest environmental groups. It has worked for more than forty years to protect forests, wetlands, and other areas facing destruction. Other groups fight such destruction politically. They try to pressure government leaders to halt it.

The Nature Conservancy has a more direct plan. It quietly buys land in threatened areas. Then it blocks all building, farming, and other development on the land it buys.

This method works well some places. But it cannot succeed everywhere. Often it is impossible to keep people out of an area. People need homes and jobs. Their needs conflict with those of nature.

The Nature Conservancy designed a new program for places like these. It chose twelve places of natural beauty in North America and South America. One is a river system in a desert area. Another is open land with tall grasses.

Scientists at the Nature Conservancy call these twelve places 'bioserves'. The scientists are trying to get people and nature to exist together successfully in these places. They are working with local governments, business groups, and environmentalists to find ways for this to happen.

Flamingos and other rare birds live in the Yucatan area of Mexico. Wild jaguars hunt in the forest. Giant sea turtles lay their eggs on the beaches. These animals are threatened by expanding human populations. The Nature Conservancy is working with Mexican officials to provide for economic activity in the Yucatan while protecting the environment of the area.

Land recently bought in Panama will protect rare animals and rain forests. The Nature Conservancy will help local people learn new farming methods that protect nearby forests. In Ecuador, the Nature Conservancy is working to create businesses that make products from the jungle without harming it.

Today's Special English Environment Report was written by David Jarmul. This is Stan Busby.



## I. New words and Expressions

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. conservancy /kən'sə:vənsi/ <i>n.</i> 保护    | 10. conflict /'kɒnflikt/ <i>v.</i> 冲突, 抵触     |
| 2. Panama /'pænəmə/ <i>n.</i> 巴拿马             | 11. desert /'dezət/ <i>n.</i> 沙漠              |
| 3. Paraguay /'pærəgwai/ <i>n.</i> 巴拉圭         | 12. bioreserve /'baɪəri'zə:v/ <i>n.</i> 生物保留地 |
| 4. border /'bɒdə/ <i>n.</i> 边界                | 13. flamingo /flə'miŋɡu/ <i>n.</i> 火烈鸟        |
| 5. private /'praɪvɪt/ <i>a.</i> 私人的, 私营的      | 14. Mexico /'meksikou/ <i>n.</i> 墨西哥          |
| 6. wetland /'wetlənd/ <i>n.</i> 潮湿的土壤         | 15. jaguar /dʒæɡjuə/ <i>n.</i> 美洲虎            |
| 7. destruction /dis'trʌkʃən/ <i>n.</i> 破坏, 毁灭 | 16. turtle /tɜ:tl/ <i>n.</i> 海龟               |
| 8. pressure /'prefə/ <i>n. v.</i> 压力, 施加压力    | 17. Yucatan /'ju:kətən/ 尤卡坦地区                 |
| 9. block /blɒk/ <i>v.</i> 封锁, 限制, 禁止          | 18. Ecuador /ekwə'dɔ:/ <i>n.</i> 厄瓜多尔         |

## II. Listening Comprehension Exercises

1. First Listening: Listen to the passage from the very beginning to the end. After you listen, write T if the statement is true, F if the statement is false.
  - (1) The Nature Conservancy is a private environmental organization in Washington. ( )
  - (2) The Nature Conservancy tries to pressure government leaders to halt such destruction. ( )
  - (3) The Nature Conservancy quietly buys land in threatened areas for building and farming. ( )
  - (4) In some places people's needs conflict with those of nature. ( )
  - (5) Scientists call the twelve places of natural beauty in North America and South America "bioreserves". ( )
  - (6) The Nature Conservancy is threatening giant sea turtles in Mexico. ( )
2. Second Listening: Read the following questions. Then, listen to the passage again. Pay attention to the details (or facts) and circle the correct answer to each question.
  - (1) For how many years has the Nature Conservancy worked to protect forests, wetlands, and other areas facing destruction?
    - a. more than 14 years
    - b. more than 40 years
    - c. 140 years
  - (2) Why is it impossible to keep people out of an area?
    - a. Because people need homes and jobs.
    - b. because people like their homes.
    - c. because people are not interested in another area.
  - (3) Where did the Nature Conservancy choose twelve places of natural beauty?
    - a. in North America
    - b. in South Africa
    - c. in North America and South America
  - (4) What do scientists at the Nature Conservancy call these twelve places?