

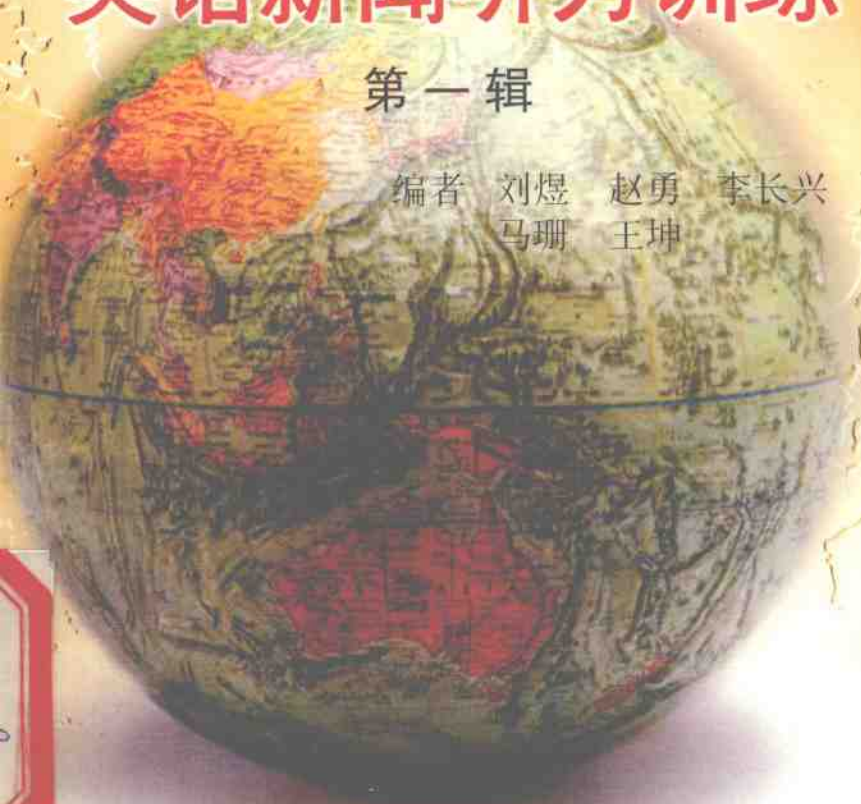
CNN NEWS



英语新闻听力训练

第一辑

编者 刘煜 赵勇 李长兴
马珊 王坤



西安外语音像教材出版社



CNN English News Listening Drills

**美国有线电视新闻网
英语新闻听力训练**

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前 言

《CNN 英语新闻听力训练》是一本起点较高的外台听力教材,其内容选自 1997 年美国有线电视新闻网的新闻节目。该节目的特点是:信息量大,词汇新颖丰富。本书是为那些具有一定英语基础的学习者进一步提高听力水平而编写的,适合英语专业学生、出国留学预备人员、研究生及准备参加 BEC(剑桥商务英语证书考试)二级以上、WSK 和 TOEFL 等考试的应试者使用。

全书共分十个单元,内容包括政治、外交、竞选、社会、经济、生态环境、科学与文化、新闻热点和法制等十个方面的近百条新闻。每单元配有文化背景介绍、生词与短语注释及形式多样的练习,旨在帮助使用者全面、正确、深入地理解所选听的内容。

本书在编写过程中,得到我院外籍教师 Shirley Smith 女士的热情帮助,在此表示诚挚的感谢。

由于我们经验不足,水平有限,错误疏漏之处在所难免,敬请专家及广大读者批评指正。

编 者

1997 年 11 月

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Workbook

Unit One Politics

Item 1

Part I Cultural Background

1. **Benjamin, Netanyahu** (1949-), also known as Bibi, prime minister of Israel (1996-). Netanyahu was born in Tel Aviv-Yafo and spent his early years in Jerusalem. In 1993 Netanyahu was elected leader of Likud. As leader of Likud, Netanyahu opposed the peace agreements negotiated by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin with the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) in 1993 and 1995. After Rabin was assassinated on November 4, 1995, by a Jewish extremist, Netanyahu was criticized for his advocacy of military policies and accused of having encouraged right-wing extremists, like the one who killed the prime minister. In early 1996, however, four suicide bombs set by Palestinian militants exploded in Israel, killing 59 people, and security became one of the central issues in Israeli politics. Netanyahu's call for fewer compromises and more guarantees of national security in peace negotiations became more popular. In 1996 he ran for

the position of prime minister against Shimon Peres, who had taken over as prime minister after Rabin's death. Netanyahu won the election by fewer than 30,000 votes, becoming the youngest prime minister ever elected in Israel.

2. **Likud and Israel Labor Party**, Israel has two major political alignments which were dominant in the mid-1990s. These were the Likud, a conservative group formed in 1973 by the merger of several organizations, including the Gahal and Free Center parties; and the Israel Labor Party, a social-democratic grouping established in 1968 with the merger of the Mapai, Rafi, and Achdut Ha'avoda parties.

Part I Words and Expressions

1. pose [pəʊz] v. 形成
2. reevaluation [ˌriːiʊəleɪʃən] n. 重新估价; 计算
3. artificial [ˌɑːtiˈfiʃəl] a. 虚假的
4. echo ['ekəʊ] v. 重复
5. accusation [ˌækjuˈzeɪʃən] n. 指责

Part II Exercises

Answer the following questions briefly:

1. Who was forced to resign from office?
2. Why was he forced to resign?
3. What is the effect of his resignation?

4. What did he think of his resignation?
5. What is the attitude of the opposition Labor Party?

Item 2

Part I Cultural Background

1. **Nicaragua**, largest republic of Central America, bounded on the north by Honduras, on the east by the Caribbean Sea, on the south by Costa Rica, and on the west by the Pacific Ocean. The capital and largest city is Managua.
2. **Daniel Ortega Saavedra**, former president of Nicaragua, led the urban resistance campaign of the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) that ousted dictator Anastasio Somoza Debayle in 1979. Ortega became president in 1984 after winning over 60% of the votes. His government tried to stabilize the country's economy, but received both economic pressure from the United States and military pressure from the United States supported Nicaraguan rebel groups known as *contras* in opposition to its leftist policies. In 1990 Ortega lost the presidency to Violeta Chamorro, whose more moderate policies earned her support from the United States and the disheartened Nicaraguan population.

Part I Words and Expressions

1. retaliate [ri'tælieit] v. 报复
2. snub [snʌb] v. 断然拒绝

Part II Exercises

Answer the following questions briefly:

1. How many people were injured in the clashes?
2. Who was involved in the clashes?
3. Why did the students retaliate against the Government?
4. How is the tension now?
5. How did the students fight against the police?
6. How long does the riot last?

Item 3

Exercises

Try to summarize the news in a couple of sentences.

Item 4

Part I Words and Expressions

1. mosque [mɒsk] n. 清真寺
2. secular ['sekjulə] a. 非宗教的
3. accountable [ə'kauntəbl] a. 有责任的

Part I Exercises

Listen to the news and decide whether the following statements are true or false. Write T for True and F for False:

- () 1. The new prime minister and his secularist government are very steady about their political point of view.
- () 2. The mosque is a symbol of struggle between Turkey's religious and secular traditions.
- () 3. Former Prime Minister Nechuti Albacon is accused of trying to mix religion and politics.
- () 4. The new government will win the vote of confidence in Parliament because of its secularism according to former Prime Minister Nechuti Albacon.

Item 5

Part I Cultural Background

Irish Republican Army (IRA), outlawed Irish military organization founded in 1919 to fight the British rule in Ireland. The IRA supported the aims of Sinn Fein, an Irish nationalist society that also advocated independence from Great Britain. On August 31, 1994, after 25 years of fighting, the IRA declared an unconditional cease-fire, promising to suspend military operations in favor of peace

talks. In February 1995 the British and Irish governments released an outline for peace talks. Their suggestions included the establishment of an all-Irish governmental body, an agreement by the Irish government to abandon its claims on Northern Ireland, and a guarantee to allow the people of Northern Ireland to choose whether to remain part of Great Britain or become part of the Republic of Ireland. However, the issues of disarming the IRA and removing British troops from Northern Ireland remained controversial. In April 1995 the British government elevated the peace talks from the civil service level to the ministerial level as an indication of its seriousness.

However, failure to agree on whether the IRA should disarm before the talks began led to a fragmentation of the peace process, and in February 1996 the IRA ended the cease-fire, exploding a bomb in East London. Over the next week, two more bombs went off in London. Later that month, peace rallies in both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland prompted British prime minister John Major and Irish prime minister John Bruton to agree to a summit. At the meeting, May 30 was set as the date of the election of participants for a cross-border parliament made up of British and Irish parties who will discuss the future of Northern Ireland. In late April, despite the threat of exclusion from the elections if the cease-fire was not restored, the IRA claimed responsibility for two more

bombs that exploded in London.

Part I Words and Expressions

1. sporadic [spə'rædik] a. 偶尔发生的
2. Catholic ['kæθəlik] a. 天主教的
3. Protestant [prə'testənt] a. 新教的
4. avert [ə'vɜ:t] v. 避免
5. unprecedented [ʌn'presɪdəntɪd] a. 前所未有的
6. conciliatory [kən'sɪliətəri] a. 和解的
7. stalemate ['steɪl'meɪt] n. 僵局

Part II Exercises

Listen to the news and decide whether the following statements are true or false. Write T for True and F for False:

- () 1. The violent unrest in Northern Ireland lasts only for one week.
- () 2. Regular violence took place overnight in Protestant areas.
- () 3. Widespread trouble occurred because of the violent unrest.
- () 4. The trouble-makers made conciliation voluntarily.
- () 5. The British thought the Protestants' offer was of great help in making progress to better the situation in the present stalemate.

Item 6

Part I Cultural Background

Londonderry (city, Northern Ireland), city, northwestern Northern Ireland, at the head of Lough Foyle, on the northern coast of Northern Ireland. Londonderry is a seaport. Beginning in 1969, bitter fighting broke out here between Roman Catholic and Protestant factions. Before 1974 Londonderry was the county town of the former county of Londonderry.

Part II Exercises

Listen to the news and decide whether the following statements are true or false. Write T for True and F for False:

- () 1. There are more violence in Northern Ireland just two days before peace talks.
- () 2. The homemade explosives are actually a functioning bomb.
- () 3. According to the chairman of Chanfin, such issues like Londonderry bomb will not come to an end until they can enter the peace talks more easily.

Item 7

Exercises

Listen to the news and decide whether the following statements are true or false. Write T for True and F for False;

- () 1. Students are rioting in Kenyan capital. They are demanding constitutional reforms.
- () 2. The students clashed with the police in the city center.
- () 3. The police surrounded the university and tried to suppress the riot.
- () 4. It is claimed that 9 people were killed.
- () 5. The students advocate a multi-party rule.

Item 8

Part I Cultural Background

Mobutu Sese Seko (1930-1997), former president of Zaire (1965-1997). Born in Lisala, in the Belgian Congo, Mobutu, whose original name was Joseph Dir Mobutu, joined the Belgian Colonial Army at the age of 19. Although he later left the army for journalism, he was appointed chief of staff in 1960, when the Congo won its independence. During the post independence turmoil, Mobutu, backed by

the army, temporarily suspended the civilian government, but he soon restored it to power and after that concentrated on rebuilding the army. In November 1965 he staged a second coup and assumed the presidency himself.

Mobutu stabilized the country and ruled with a strong hand, stressing return to African authenticity; thus the Congo was renamed Zaire in 1971. His government, however, was plagued by corruption and mismanagement, and Zaire's economy suffered as Mobutu's own personal fortune grew. In the 1990s he faced rising opposition and economic disaster. Suffering from advanced prostate cancer, Mobutu fled Zaire for Morocco just before rebels from eastern Zaire took over the country in May 1997.

Part I Words and Expressions

1. hemorrhage ['hemərɪdʒ] n. 出血
2. asylum [ə'saɪləm] n. 避难

Part II Exercises

Answer the following questions briefly:

1. When did the fighting begin?
2. How many people have been killed?
3. Is there any progress in arranging a new date for the election?
4. Why the voting was postponed?
5. How about the ailing former President of Zaire now?

6. When did he flee to Morocco to be hospitalized?
7. What is the name of Zaire now?
8. What is the origin of his hemorrhage?
9. Why did he accept extensive treatment in Europe?
10. Why did he ask European countries for political asylum?

Item 9

Part I Cultural Background

1. **GOP**, abbreviation for the expression Grand Old Party, popular name for the Republican Party in the U. S. Republican Party, one of the two major United States political parties, founded by a coalition in 1854. The coalition was composed of former members of the Whig, Free-Soil, and Know-Nothing parties, along with northern Democrats who were dissatisfied with their party's conciliatory attitude on the slavery issue. The early Republicans were united in their opposition to extending slavery into the western territories.
2. **Pentagon**, the five-sided headquarters building of the United States Department of Defense, in Arlington, Virginia, across the Potomac River from Washington, D.C. It covers an area of 11.74 hectares (29 acres) and is one of the largest office buildings in the world. It consists of five concentric pentagons around a center courtyard. The Pentagon was designed by the American

architect George Edwin Bergstrom and was built by U. S. Army engineers from 1941 to 1943. It was built to bring all of the offices of what was then the Department of War together in one building. The Pentagon now contains the offices for the departments of the Army, Navy, and Air Force, and for the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

Part I Words and Expressions

1. impeachment [im'pi:tʃmənt] n. 控告
2. fend off 挡开

Part II Exercises

Answer the following questions briefly,

1. Why did President Clinton appoint a Republican William Cohen as defense secretary?
2. How long has he served in the House and in the Senate respectively?
3. What is William Cohen famous for?
4. What is Cohen's point of view over the Pentagon's budget?
5. Did Cohen agree with the White House over keen appointments of the Pentagon?
6. Is Cohen a defense secretary who has served in the military?