

A QUALITY  
SELECTION OF  
ARTICLES FROM  
AMERICAN &  
BRITISH PRESS

# 美英报刊 文章阅读

(精选本)

周学艺 编注

北京大学出版社



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## 编者的话

本书为高等院校英语专业及其他涉外专业高年级学生掌握阅读美英报刊基本能力而编。

阅读美英报刊必须具备的基本功有两项：一、美英报刊文章在写作和用词等方面与中国学生在中学和大学低年级所学的规范语言的课文不完全相同，初学者必须逐渐熟悉并掌握新闻语言及其特点。二、美英报刊涉及的面极广，政治、经济、军事、文化教育等内容无所不包。因此，初学者必须逐渐积累和丰富阅读报刊所需要的背景知识。

为此，本书在选材上注意多样性，既有美英内政和外交，也有国际上的一些重大事件，使学生通过学习这些课文后既能学到新闻语言，又能掌握阅读这些报刊必须具备的有关知识。各课的注释比1987年版的《美英报刊文章选读》和1993年版的《新编美英报刊文章选读》更为详细。除对难懂的和一般工具书中不易查到的词语作必要的解释和说明外，还指出新闻语言的一些特点，并对有关重要事件的背景和人物的简历做了必要的介绍。此外，对有关报刊的背景、立场、发行范围、影响及版面编排等方面也有所介绍。这些情况对初学者来说是十分重要，而且也是需要掌握的。

本书课文主要选自《纽约时报》、《亚洲华尔街日报》、《时代》周刊、《新闻周刊》、《美国新闻与世界报道》和《泰晤士报》、《经济学家》、《旁观者》等美英最有影响、受到国际上普遍重视的

报刊。多数文章发表于1991年至1993年，也有的发表于八十年代。编者认为，有的文章虽然旧一些，但其中的基本知识和词语是初学者必须掌握的。初学者不可因其“旧”而忽视这些文章在打好上述基本功方面的作用。

本书共计三十课，大致按内容分为九个单元。课文安排尽量贯彻由浅入深的原则。全书课文略多于通常一学期二十课的进程，目的是使任课教师根据对象、教学要求等不同而有选择的余地。为使读者进一步理解和掌握文章的主要内容，探讨作者的观点和立场以及提高使用政经等词语的表达能力，各课注释后均附有习题。为方便自修者，书末附有主要语汇表。

全书课文均取材于美英资产阶级报刊，编者相信，使用本书的读者和授课教师对其内容能够作出正确的判断，这是不言而喻的。

本书绝大部分课文承北京大学王岷源教授指导和审定，承在北京大学工作的美国专家郎瑞强（John Rumrich）、文丹（Betty Windham）、戴思誓（Joe Dennis）和英国专家胡琳达（Linda Hughes）分别校阅了部分英语注释稿，在此谨表示衷心的感谢和谢意。

由于编注者水平有限，时间短促，书中一定会有错误和不妥的地方。因此，编注者向读者提出一个请求：如果你们发现了错误或不妥之处，请写信给北京大学出版社（邮编100871），我将十分感激。

周学艺

1994年夏于燕园

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**Unit One**

**American Domestic Affairs ( I )**

**Lesson One**

**Lobbyists Out Of  
Shadows Into The Spotlight<sup>1</sup>**

Lawyers and public-relations consultants<sup>2</sup> have replaced the shady operators<sup>3</sup> of the past, but the game has not changed.

The Reagan administration's tax-reform proposal<sup>4</sup> is only the latest prime target of the fast-expanding army of lobbyists who make up Washington's hottest growth industry.

Recent years have seen an explosion in the number of advocates hired by corporations, labor unions, individuals and other special interests<sup>5</sup> who want to influence actions of the White House,<sup>6</sup> Congress<sup>7</sup> and regulatory agencies<sup>8</sup>. Experts estimate that more than 15,000 permanent or part-time lobbyists are now operating in the capital, double the number of 10 years ago.

Who are these people? How do they earn their pay? How effective are they?

Lobbying, a practice as old as the nation's government, got its name from the cozy relationship struck up in lobbies of the Capitol<sup>9</sup> and nearby hotels between members of Congress and those seeking favor. In the early days, companies would often seal the vote of a politician by simply putting him on retainer.<sup>10</sup>

**Shady reputation.**<sup>11</sup> Lobbyists quickly developed an unsavory reputation of being bagmen who conducted the people's business

around the poker table.<sup>12</sup> Despite periodic scandals and demands for reform, Congress has been reluctant to tamper with laws guaranteeing the right of citizens to petition their government.

There are still reports of lobbyists engaging in underhanded practices or charging clients fat fees — \$50 for a telephone call whether the subject answers or not, or \$4,000 for a brief meeting with an official.

Yet lobbyists insist the sinister image of their occupation has faded over the years, and they have even formed their own association—the American League of Lobbyists.<sup>13</sup>

Says one veteran operator: “Booze and broads don’t work any more and haven’t for a long time<sup>14</sup>. It is a professional undertaking now.”

Lobbyists come in a variety of guises, but lawyers, trade-association representatives and public-relations consultants dominate the field. Many women have invaded a profession once restricted largely to men.

A number of lobbyists previously served in key government posts. The roster includes more than 300 former members of Congress, cabinet<sup>15</sup> and White House officials and congressional aides.

Says an ex - congressman who represents a trade association : “Knowing your way around town and having access to important people<sup>16</sup> is critical to someone who has a problem and is bewildered about the intricacies of government.”

**A buyer’s market.**<sup>17</sup> Lobby firms come in all sizes. There are the jumbo outfits<sup>18</sup> such as the 100-member Gray & Company, headed by Robert Gray, who is well connected in the Republican Party<sup>19</sup>. Gray’s firm, like most in the field today, is carefully bipartisan and includes prominent Democrats in order to influence public officials from both political parties.

For every large lobbying firm doing business out of a plush downtown building, there are scores of tiny operations that often

deal in specialized issues<sup>20</sup>. Stanley Brand, a lawyer who once served as counsel to the House of Representatives, says of his small outfit: "We can be a lot more efficient than the large firms, and some clients aren't always interested in the big hitters."<sup>21</sup>

Lobbying is big money. A highpowered organization<sup>22</sup> will charge an annual retainer of \$ 200,000 or more. Hourly fees range up to \$ 400 for the superlobbyists. To put a premium on<sup>23</sup> winning, some contracts include "success bonus" clauses.

With millions or even billions of dollars on the line in bills before Congress, the stakes run high<sup>24</sup>. In some major battles, such as the 1979 proposal to bail out the financially ailing Chrysler Corporation,<sup>25</sup> more than one firm is hired to persuade lawmakers.

Gary Hymel, a lobbyist who used to work for House Speaker Thomas "Tip" O'Neill<sup>26</sup>, explains: "The other side is going to be organized to fight in what is basically an adversarial system. So your prospective client had better be organized, too."

Lobbyists often are hired not so much to influence officials as to find out what is going on in Washington that could affect a client. Says Howard Liebengood, who worked for former Senate Majority Leader Howard Baker<sup>27</sup> before opening his own firm last year: "We're primarily intelligence gatherers. Our credibility is the most important thing we've got."

Some firms, such as one headed by Nancy Reynolds, a friend of the Reagans, and Anne Wexler, a former key aide in the Carter White House, specialize in coalition building and grassroots lobbying<sup>28</sup>. Mounting a drive to get voters to work on members of Congress through letters, telephone calls and personal visits can have enormous impact.

Charls Walker, a leading tax lobbyist, notes: "First, last and always—it's the people at home that are nearest and dearest to the hearts of congressmen."

Example: In 1983, banks and savings institutions touched off a flood of 13 million postcards and letters that helped persuade legisla-

tors to repeal a law withholding taxes on interest payments<sup>29</sup>. While the maneuver was successful, it angered some members, including Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole of Kansas, who has a reputation for having a long memory.<sup>30</sup>

“For every winner in this business, remember there’s a loser,” says one influential lobbyist. “You just hear a lot more about the winners.”

**No 9-to-5 job.** Lobbying is a two-way street<sup>31</sup>. When they are not busy trying to sway the views of politicians, the lobbyists are engaged in raising campaign money for those same politicians. It is a rare night in Washington that does not see several fund-raising cocktail parties and other events where lobbyists make up a big share of the donors to incumbents in Congress. Clients, of course, pay most of the tab.

Lobbyists, like members of most professions, have their intramural quarrels. Maurice Rosenblatt, who has lobbied causes for nearly four decades, complains: “The professional lobbyist is being pushed aside by the lawyers.”

Where lobbyists used to avoid notoriety and preferred to work behind the scenes, many today seek publicity as a useful tool. Fred Wertheimer, president of Common Cause and a registered lobbyist, says the Watergate era<sup>32</sup> “put a stop to all the underground games being played, so they came out of the closet.”

Whether they work offstage or in the spotlight, lobbyists promise to continue exerting a powerful influence as long as there’s a Washington.

By John W. Mashek

(From *U. S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT*<sup>33</sup>,  
FEBRUARY 25, 1985)

### Notes

1. Lobbyists Out Of Shadow Into The Spotlight—Lobbyists(院外活

动人员, 游说者, 说客) came out of the closet and became visible: (“总统出主意, 国会作决定。”这是美国制度的一个重要特点。由于行政和立法两大部门相互制衡, 机制微妙, 加上条例繁琐, 非外人所能掌握。因此, 美国的个人、团体, 甚至外国政府, 要想将自己的要求在国会得到反映并获得通过, 往往不得不借助于院外活动人员。他们不但与议员及其助手关系密切, 而且能追踪数以千计的法规执行情况。他们还能展开广告宣传, 发动选民打电话、写信给议员, 对议员的投票取向施加影响。议员如不按他们的意图投票, 或许他们的仕途也就不妙了。院外活动人员中不少曾是政府官员, 被称为“旋转门院外活动人员”“revolving-door lobbyists”。)

初读报刊者要学会看懂标题, 需要注意它标法的若干特点:

a. 省略。标题往往只标实义词而略去虚词。省略最多的虚词是冠词及动词“to be”。例如:

(a) Italian Ex-Mayor Murdered

= An Italian ex-mayor was murdered

(b) Antitrust Action Urged For Press

= Antitrust action has been urged for press

(c) Married women to get care allowance

= Married women are to get care allowance

b. 常用缩略词, 尤其是首字母缩略词。例如:

(a) EEC and Japan

EEC — (*abbrev. for*) European Economic Community  
(欧洲经济共同体)

(b) The Great Superpower Spy War: KGB vs. CIA

KGB — (*abbrev. for*) Komitet Gosudarstvennoi Bezopastnosti (前苏联国家安全委员会)

vs. — (*abbrev. for*) versus

CIA — (*abbrev. for*) Central Intelligence Agency (美国中央情报局)

(c) World Bank, IMF — Do They Help or Hurt Third World

IMF (*abbrev. for*) International Monetary Fund (联合国国际货币基金组织)

c. 引用或套用名言、典故、谚语和文学著作之名等。例如：

(a) *A Tale of Two Hearts* 文章谈的是关于一个心脏病病人换了人造心脏的事。套用狄更斯名著：

*A Tale of Two Cities* (《双城记》)

(b) *Farewell to Arms* 文章谈当时的苏联共产党总书记戈尔巴乔夫向当时的美国总统里根建议彻底销毁核武器的事。它引用海明威的小说的名字 *A Farewell to Arms* (《永别了，武器》)。

(c) *Liberty is the true mother of invention* 文章强调自由对发明的重要性。套用谚语：

*Necessity is the mother of invention* (需要是发明之母)。

d. 运用押韵等修辞手法。有的则玩弄词藻和故弄玄虚。这常见于英国报刊中。例如：

(a) *Can he do a Deng?* 文章谈的是戈尔巴乔夫能否像邓小平一样在苏联搞改革。这里的 *do* 和 *Deng* 押头韵 (alliteration)。

(b) *Bovver boy's hover ploy* 文章谈的是前英国国防大臣 Michael Heseltine 原来对 Westland 直升飞机公司的命运采取漠视态度，后来美国和欧洲国际财团争相提出购买该公司，他站在欧洲国际财团一边，并对这个公司的前途特别关注起来了。他因此事与撒切尔夫人意见不一致而辞职。这个标题的四个字为间隔押(尾)韵 (alternate rhyme)。

*bovver boy* — a member of a gang of hooligans in the habit of engaging in the street fights using heavy, hob-nailed boots (钉有平头钉的靴子) to kick their opponents; a trouble maker, especially one who uses rough methods.

*hover* — a helicopter

(c) *Thatcher's style wars* 文章谈的是撒切尔夫人任英国首相时凌驾于内阁之上和独断专行的作风问题。我们知道美国有里根据说是用来欺骗前苏联的星球大战计划

(Reagan's star wars)。因此可以看出, style wars 是 star wars 的谐音, 是讽刺性俏皮语。

e. 一般用现在时表述新闻。新闻所叙述的事多半刚刚发生或已经发生, 按英语语法规则应用动词的过去时态或现在完成时态, 但标题中的动词常使用一般现在时。例如:

(a) Producer Prices Fall A Sharp 1.1%

(b) 13 die as crowded van crosses M4

(M — (*abbrev. for*) motorway (highway))

(c) Jeweler Is Slain; 2 Gummen Held After Shoot-Out

按照动词时态呼应规则, 以上三例应分别改为: “fell”; “died... crossed”; “was slain”。

对初学者来说, 还由于情况不明等原因, 许多报刊的标题不是一看就懂的, 需要看一段时间才行。

此外, 在印刷形式上, 美国报刊标题里的实义词, 还有的连虚词都用大写字母, 而英国报刊的标题只是第一个字母大写。我们从本书的课文中就可以看出其中的差别。

2. public-relations consultant — of or concerning the relations between an organization and the general public, which must be kept friendly in various ways, or the work of keeping these relations friendly. (公共关系。指公司、政府等利用大众传播媒介宣扬其产品或政策等, 以获得舆论上的好感; 也指一个机构与公众之间建立良好的关系, 以保持良好信誉, 任何时候都不能抵触公共利益。不过常含有“宣传”之意。)
3. shady operator — a behind-the-scenes lobbyist.
4. The Reagan administration's tax reform proposal — 里根总统宣布的税制改革方案的重点是: 简化税制和降低个人所得税率; 降低公司所得税率, 同时取消一些赋税优惠; 制定增加收入、堵塞漏洞的各种措施。美国当时的所得税税制混乱不堪, 漏洞百出。1986年一种国会和里根政府都能接受的所得税改革法案已获得通过。

Reagan, Ronald — See Note 3 of Lesson Eleven.

5. special interest — a person or group having an interest in a particular part of the economy and receiving or seeking special advan-



tages therein often to the detriment of (有损于) the general public (特殊利益的个人或集团)。

6. the White House—the official residence of the U. S. President, a white mansion in Washington, D. C.; here refers to the executive branch(行政部门) of the tripartite U. S. government (美国联邦宪法规定, 政府由三个平等和独立的部门——立法(legislative)、司法(judicial)和行政组成, 这就是美国的三头政治)。

在英语中, 尤其是新闻语言中, 常常借用地名、建筑物的名称来替代有关国家机构或作其他引申。the White House 就是一例。再如: Whitehall (白厅, 伦敦一街名) 和 Downing Street (唐宁街, 英首相官邸) 均可指“英国政府”。Whitehall 还可指“英国的政策”等, 而 Downing Street 还可指“内阁”等; Foggy Bottom (雾谷, 华盛顿一地名; 国务院所在地) 可指国务院; Capitol Hill, the Capitol 或 the Hill (国会山) 指“美国国会”; Oval Office (椭圆形办公室, 总统办公室) 可指“总统职务”或“权力中心”; the Pentagon (五角大楼) 可指“国防部”等。至于各国首都名称往往可替代各个国家或其政府。例如: a deal between London and Peking 英国或英国政府和 中国或中国政府之间的交易(指香港问题)(当然翻译时也可译成伦敦和北京之间的交易)。

7. Congress—the legislature of the U. S., consisting of the Senate (参议院) and the House of Representatives(众议院)。
8. regulatory agency—帮助控制国家经济活动而制定规章的独立机构。
9. the Capitol—the building in Washington, D. C., occupied by the U. S. Congress(See Note 6); The capitol refers to the building in which a state legislature (州议会) assembles. Care should be taken not to get “Capitol” or “capitol” mixed up with “capital” in both meaning and spelling.
10. companies would... on retainer — Firms determined his vote their way on legislation by giving him money.

retainer—a sum of money paid to a lawyer or professional adviser for his continuing advice or services; annual retainer(一年的定金)。