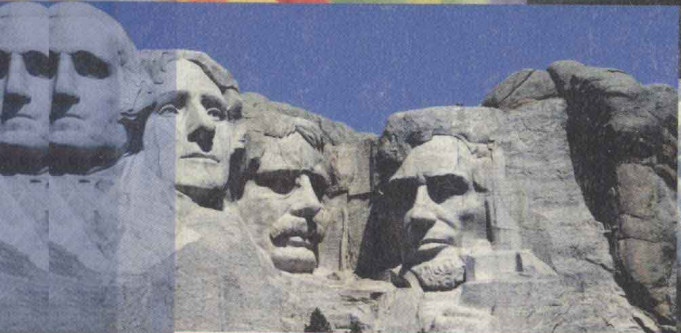
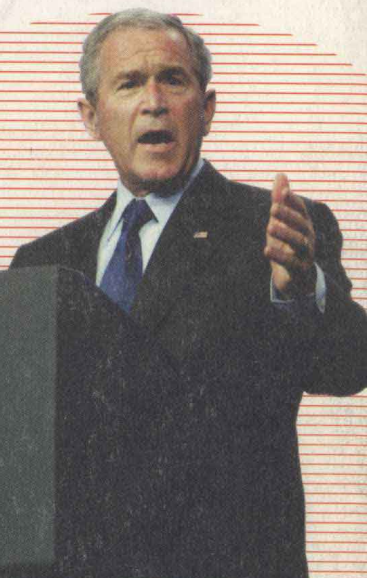


2001—2007 美国总统 广播讲话精选

主编：贾国栋



外语教学与研究出版社

FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH PRESS

附MP3光盘一张

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外语教学与研究出版社

FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH PRESS

北京 BEIJING

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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

2001—2007 美国总统广播讲话精选 / 贾国栋主编. — 北京: 外语教学与研究出版社, 2008.6

ISBN 978-7-5600-7645-4

I. 2… II. 贾… III. ①英语—语言读物 ②总统一演说—汇编—美国
IV. H319.4: D

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (2008) 第 100225 号

出 版 人: 于春迟

责任编辑: 吴晓玉

封面设计: 孙莉明

版式设计: 付玉梅

出版发行: 外语教学与研究出版社

社 址: 北京市西三环北路 19 号 (100089)

网 址: <http://www.fltrp.com>

印 刷: 北京双青印刷厂

开 本: 880×1230 1/32

印 张: 11.75

版 次: 2008 年 7 月第 1 版 2008 年 7 月第 1 次印刷

书 号: ISBN 978-7-5600-7645-4

定 价: 19.90 元 (附 MP3 光盘一张)

* * *

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物料号: 176450001

前言

《2001—2007 美国总统广播讲话精选》集文字和音频于一体，旨在帮助广大学生和英语爱好者通过听、读、练三种手段有效掌握英语。本书所选内容涵盖美国教育、文化、经济、民俗、自然等各个方面，学习者在学习地道美语的同时，能够更深入地了解美国社会的各个方面。

本书共七个章节，共计 84 篇广播讲话，每篇讲话根据需要包括“引言”、“讲话原文”、“词汇和短语解释”、“文化注释”和“听力训练”等五大部分内容。“引言”部分用简明扼要的中文对讲话进行概括和介绍，使学习者对讲话的主要内容有所了解，同时激活学习者的背景知识，以更好地理解讲话本身；“讲话原文”是与录音相配的文本；作为听力练习的辅助材料，“词汇和短语解释”对讲话中的重点词汇、习语作出说明，以消除学习者听力过程中可能遇到的障碍；“文化注释”是对讲话中所涉及的美国文化、历史、风俗等进行阐释，使学习者可以全面了解讲话的深层含义；“听力训练”是将讲话内容设计为各种不同的听力练习，有复合式听写、多项选择、句子改错、正误判断、填空等各种形式，使学习者通过练习能够更加有效地掌握学习内容。

以下是 2001—2007 年各个年度的主题范围。

2001 年上半年，布什讲话主要谈到两件大事：教育改革和减税。下半年在经历了“9·11”事件后，主题重点转入全方位打击恐怖主义和保护国家安全。该年讲话的主题还包括加强医疗保险制度、解决能源问题、对胚胎干细胞进行科学研究等。

2002 年在经历了“9·11”的打击后，美国一边与经济萧条作斗争，一边进行反恐战争，因此，增强美国经济和保卫国家安全是总统谈及的两个主要问题。此外，讲话也涉及了纪念马丁·路德·金、黑人历史月、能源危机、公立学校教育改革、福利改革、医疗保障方案、健康的生活方式、

公司财务丑闻、森林防火等话题。

2003 年的主题包括教育改革、改善经济、反恐、外交努力、环境保护等各个方面的内容。

2004 年的主题包括教育、医疗保健、经济发展、毒品控制、住房、环保、工人就业、职业培训、减税、社会保障等。

2005 年的主题有自然灾害、社会保障、能源、经济安全、高级法院、国土安全、医疗保障体系等。

2006 年的主题主要包括经济、美国竞争力计划、联邦医疗保险计划、减税问题、移民问题、卡特里娜飓风、纪念福特总统等。

2007 年的主题覆盖弗吉尼亚理工大学的枪击事件、美国经济问题、明尼阿波利斯市的桥梁坍塌事件、联邦儿童医疗保险计划等，特别是加州大火和自然区保护等 07 年的热点问题。

以上精选的讲话内容篇章短小、语言规范、结构清晰、论证有力、语音地道、涉及面广。本书及配套 MP3 光盘不仅可以有效地帮助学习者提高英语听力能力，而且可以使其了解美国的历史文化、风俗习惯等，是难得的英语学习材料。

由于编者水平有限，书中疏漏之处在所难免，敬请读者指正。

编 者

2007 年 11 月 25 日



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2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

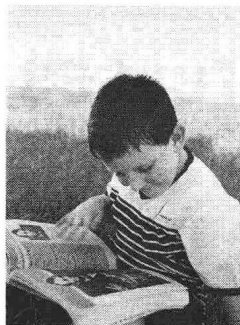
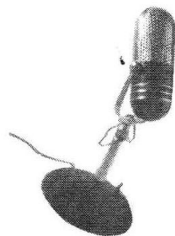
2006

2007



1. Education Reform

January 27, 2001



2001年乔治·沃克·布什总统上台后，高度重视教育改革，尤其是中小学教育的改革。他曾宣布教育将是国内议程的头号任务并拟大幅度增加教育财政预算。布什在这次讲话中提到的教育改革强调培养早期阅读能力、进行定期测试、赋予学校和学区更大的自主权和灵活性，以及加强成绩责任制等。

THE PRESIDENT¹: A week ago today I received a great honor, and all the great responsibilities that come with it. The first order of business is education reform, and we have started strong.

On Tuesday, I sent to Congress² a package of reforms to turn last year's **pledges** into this year's laws. I want to make all of our public schools³ places of learning and high standards and achievement. Our country must offer every child, no matter what his or her background or accent, a fair start in life with a quality education.

I also met this week with congressional leaders in both parties, and we found a lot of agreement on the basic goals of reform. No one is content with the **status quo**. Most are open to new ideas. Everyone agrees at least that the problems are serious and action is urgently needed.

This city has heard so much talk over the years about education reform. So many different **approaches** have been tried. So many new programs have

pledge	n.	誓言，誓约，保证
status quo	n.	现状
approach	n.	方法，方式

• 新计划

been created. But we need more than a few new programs. We need a new way of thinking. We must go back to the fundamentals of early reading and regular testing, local control, and **accountability** for results, **clear incentives** for excellence, and clear consequences for failure.

These are the elements of the plan I am proposing. Real reform starts by giving schools and school districts **more authority and flexibility**. We cannot expect schools to change unless they have the freedom to change. My plan respects the principle of local control. It does not try to run the schools from a central office in Washington. I view principals, teachers and parents as allies in reform. They are ready to raise the standards, ready to take responsibility and answer for results.

Those results must be measured by **testing every child every year**, in tests developed and **administered** by states and local districts, not the federal government. Without yearly testing, we do not know who is **falling behind** and who needs our help. Without yearly testing, too often we don't find failure until it is too late. Testing allows us to help children early, before frustration turns into **apathy**.

We need to **aim high**, but we also need to be realistic. Many schools, particularly those in poor neighborhoods, will need help to meet high standards. And they will have it, including a new \$5 billion **initiative** over five years for reading instruction. The goal is to improve our public schools. We want them to succeed, and when they're willing to change, we'll give them the tools to do so.

At the same time, we will not continue to pour taxpayers' money into schools that do not teach and will not change. My plan will give every failing school a fair

accountability	n.	(美) 成绩责任制
incentive	n.	刺激, 动力, 鼓励
flexibility	n.	弹性, 适应性
administer	v.	执行, 实施; 管理
fall behind		落在……后面
apathy	n.	冷漠, 无兴趣
aim high		胸怀大志, 力争上游
initiative	n.	计划, 措施; 立法提案

chance to improve, but there will be a deadline, a **moment of truth** when parents are given better options and their children are given a **way out**.

There are some honest differences of opinion in Congress about what form these options should take. I have my own plan which would help children in **persistently** failing schools to go to another public, private or charter school^①. Others suggest different approaches, and I am willing to listen. But all reform must be based on a principle: Children and parents, who have had only bad choices need better choices. And it is my duty as President to help them.

In sending my plan to Congress, I ask that we act before this summer, when schools begin planning for the next school year. I hope to have the support of Republicans^② and Democrats alike, and I hope to have your support, as well.

Thank you for listening.

Cultural Notes:

1 President: 总统。在美国,总统单独拥有行政权,可以否决国会通过的议案。总统同时担任三军的最高统帅,经参议院同意,可任命驻外大使、公使和最高法院法官。

2 Congress: 美国国会。美国最高立法机关,由参议院(Senate)和众议院(House of Representatives)组成。国会行使立法权。议案经两院通过后交总统签署;若总统不予否决,或虽否决但经两院三分之二议员重新通过,即正式成为法律。国会还拥有宪法所规定的其他权力,如对外宣战、修改宪法等。

3 public school: 公立学校,公办学校。美国的公立学校不同于英国的公立学校。英国的公立学校实际上是私立学校,主要为上层阶级子弟而设,而美国的公立学校是免费的地方学校,由各个州进行管理并承担费用。

4 accountability: 成绩责任制,或称教育问责制。是美国依据学生考试的分数来决定学校基金分配额及教师工资的做法。该制度发轫于 20 世纪 70

moment of truth

严峻考验的时刻,紧要关头

way out

摆脱困境的办法

persistently

ad.

持续地,坚持不懈地



年代，是针对当时中小学校培养的学生不能达到家长和社会的要求而产生的。在当时，教育问责运动无疑是一场“及时雨”，它使社会各界共同关注学校教育，从而使学校以更低的成本培养出更合格的学生，为美国社会的繁荣做出了重要的贡献。

5 charter school: 特许学校。美国 20 世纪 90 年代出现的一种新型学校，指的是由公共教育经费支持，由私人（一般是教育界人士或家长）或私人团体经营和管理的学校。这些学校遵守公共教育的基本原则，诸如不另收学费、不能挑选学生、不具有宗教性质等。所谓的“特许”指两方面的内容：一、学校可以获得办学经费，办学经费由州政府按照学生人头数计算直接付给学校；二、学校有相当的自由度，在许多方面不受地方和州政府规章制度的约束。特许学校可以有自己的经济预算，有自己的教学大纲，可以自行聘任教师，具有相当大的自由度，但是如果学生家长 and 公众对学校的教学结果不满意，可以随时把学生转走。

6 Republican: (美国) 共和党人，共和党的支持者。美国有多个党派，但在国内政治及社会生活中起重大作用的只有共和党 (Republican Party) 和民主党 (Democratic Party)。民主党党员和民主党的支持者称为 Democrats。美国总统通常由两党成员担任。

Exercises:

Directions: Choose the best answer to each of the following questions according to the talk.

- 1) What was the attitude of congressional leaders towards the education reform?
 - A. They were not open to new ideas.
 - B. They were not content with the current education.
 - C. They were not supportive of Bush's proposals.
 - D. They were not optimistic about the reform.
- 2) Which of the following was NOT an element of the plan Bush proposed?
 - A. Early reading.
 - B. Federal control.
 - C. Regular testing.
 - D. Clear consequences for failure.
- 3) What would be the \$5 billion initiative for?
 - A. Yearly testing.
 - B. Early education.