

20分钟读透《金融时报》最热点

Top News and Headlines from Financial Times

成应翠 马 梦 主编





20分钟读透《金融时报》最热点

自 编

成应翠 马 梦



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Preface 序

在国际化环境和跨文化背景下成长起来的新新人类,即使不能做到"学贯中西",也应做到"略懂"中西文采,自觉且努力地提高自身修养。英语报刊因其具有时效性、综合性、创新性和实用性等特点,已成为提高综合素养的极佳阅读材料。阅读英语报刊,不仅能学到地道英文、提升英语综合能力,而且还能了解欧美国家的风俗习惯和文化背景知识。在各类英语考试、职场充电和口语交际中,英语报刊杂志也扮演了重要的角色。此外,在教育部颁布的《英语专业课程教学大纲》和《大学英语课程教学要求(试行)》中,对英语报刊杂志的阅读能力也提出了较高的要求。为了满足读者对英语报刊的学习需求,"20分钟读透英美报刊最热点"系列应运而生,本系列丛书旨在帮助读者适应和熟悉英美权威报刊杂志的行文风格和特点,以便在学习、考试或工作中对此类材料应用自如。

本套书共六册,一报刊一册,分别是: 20分钟读透《商业周刊》最热点、20分钟读透《时代周刊》最热点、20分钟读透《新闻周刊》最热点、20分钟读透《金融时报》最热点、20分钟读透《福布斯》最热点、20分钟读透《经济学人》最热点。这些英美国家的主流报刊杂志,质量上乘、报道前卫、语言地道,是国内各大英语考试的绝佳题源。

与国内现有的英语报刊类图书相比,本套书有以下鲜明特色:

特色1:选材力求独特,尽显时文本色。本套书所选材料均来自英美主流报刊杂志最新时文,读者在洞悉世界最新动态的同时,也能体验到学习英语的价值所在。

特色2: 内容涵盖广泛,突破同类书局限。本套书内容丰富,覆盖面极广,包括时政、财经、市场、社会、生活、环境、科技、文化、艺术、教育、健康、人物、时尚等,阅读这些时文,不仅能扩大信息量、拓宽知识面、开阔视野,还能熟悉各类考试阅读题源,是高分的有力保证。

特色3:每天20分钟, Step by Step提高英语力。本**套书为读者制定好学习**计划,每天一篇,每篇只需20分钟,循序渐进。这样坚持2-3个月后就可以化蛹为蝶,英语阅读能力定会突飞猛进,自信满满进考场。

特色4:题源报刊精读+泛读,英语考试轻松拿高分。**本套书撷精取华,选取最** 易被作为题源的报刊独立成册。既可精读也可泛读,方便读者自主学习,熟悉不同 报刊的特点,考试中有的放矢。

收录各个领域鲜活关键词, 网罗各行各业流行行话。对从事外事、新闻、国际问题研究和翻译的工作人员或在校大学生来说, 方便实用, 随学随用。

长难句重点解

析,便于读者进一步理解文章、理解英语语言特色。本套书对于每一个长难句的解读,力求做到将"分析结构"、"理清句子层次成分"、"点拨词汇"、"解释词汇语境含义"、"语法拓展"、"温习重点语法"这几个方面融为一体;读完本套书,读者对英语句子结构的解读能力将有质的飞跃,进而为阅读、翻译、写作乃至英语能力的整体提升打下坚实基础。

在每一篇选文中都对生词、重点词汇进行详尽说明。这里有难词突破、常用词解析、实用短语剖析、同义词辨析、相关短语及词汇延伸学习……选词上注重"实用",每一个知识点都力求既清晰透彻又丰富多彩。

利用上班路上,下班回家的时间随时随地阅读,从阅读中提升英文水平,让阅读提升的关键一环得以加强、巩固。

成功青睐有准备的人。打开本书,潜心阅读,吸纳知识,开阔视野,提升英语思维,备战证书考试。衷心地祝愿广大读者朋友,在人生的旅途中,拾翼而飞,飞得更高,飞得更远……

编者 2012年初春于北京



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经济评论









背景速览

中国持有大量美国国债,而现在美元疲软,人民币有强大的升值压力。这使得持有大量 美国国债使中国陷入进退两难的境地:一方面中国若继续持有这些债券很可能因为美元贬值 而蒙受损失;另一方面如果中国大量抛售美元资产,市场上供给增加,必将导致资产价格下 跌,这样的话中国也将受损。中美债务关系已经称为影响两国政治、经济生活的重要因素、 具体来说,它将给中美两国关系带来怎样的影响呢?

Despite Chinese about wanting to diversify its official reserves away from the dollar, recently revised figures from the US Treasury suggest that the world's largest creditor country is finding the task pretty much with Sisyphus's efforts to push the uphill.

China's holdings of US Treasury securities at the end of December turned out last week to be a whopping 30 percent higher than earlier official estimates, emerging at \$1,160bn compared with \$895bn a year before.

1) This huge increase in just one part of the

尽管中国声称想要减持美元资产、实现官方储备多元化,但美国财政部近期修正后的数字表明,这个全球最大的债权国正发现此项任务几乎与西西弗斯将巨石推上山一样困难。

据上周的统计数字,截至12月底中国持有美国国库券比之前官方估计的数字高出30%,达到1.16万亿美元,而前年持有量仅达8 950亿美元。

①中国外汇储备总额估计高达 2.75万亿美元,而美国国债只是其中 美元资产的一部分,其所持美国国债

rhetoric ['retərik] adj. 花言巧语的,浮夸的on a par 同等,相当 如: As a writer I'd put him on a par with Joyce. 我认为他这位作家与乔伊斯实乃伯仲之间。同义词组:

of the same class on an equal basis **boulder** ['boulde] n 大石头,巨石



dollar component of reserves that are reckoned to top \$2,750bn in total, irks Beijing, which worries that the Federal Reserve's loose monetary policy is designed to ensure an endemically weak dollar. Yet such vulnerability is the inevitable result of pursuing a mercantilism exchange rate policy while running an excess of savings over investment.

As long as China persists in subsidizing exports via an exchange rate pegged to the dollar it is condemned to rack up further trade surpluses that suck in yet more dollars. And, given the difficulty of acquiring big dollar equity investments there is not much alternative to buying US government IOUs in the world's most liquid bond market.

As the dollars flow in from exports and foreign investment, the People's Bank of China has to buy them to prevent the Chinese currency appreciating. The resulting purchases flood the country with renminbi which then have to be mopped up, or sterilized, through the sale of bonds in order to prevent an inflationary surge. When the numbers are as big as they are in China, resisting inflation through sterilization becomes harder and harder. And because US interest rates are so low China's rates have to be fixed even lower to avoid incurring a running loss on its huge dollar reserves. This then causes property and other asset prices to overheat, which is where we are today.

The tone of Chinese criticism of US economic policy is increasingly moralistic. Yet the debtor-

арынуу а

总额的激增,这令北京官方非常烦恼,它担心美联储宽松货币政策的目的是维持弱势美元。而中国重商主义的汇率政策和储蓄超过投资的状况使得她非常容易受美联储政策的影响。

只要中国继续实行盯住美元的汇率政策来补贴出口,它就必然会吸纳更多的美元,产生更多的贸易顺差。同时,获得大笔美元股权投资异常困难。因此,除了在全球流动性最好的债券市场上购买美国政府债券外,也没有其他选择。

随着出口和外国投资,美元不断涌入中国。为避免人民币升值,中国央行不得不购人这些美元,大量则汇会导致中国市场充斥大量人民币,为防止通胀飙升,央行不得不发售债券来冲销流通中过多的人民币。但中国市场上充斥着如此多的人民币时。上充下着如此多的人民币时。此个人民币,其四人人民币,此个人民币。但这一个人民币。但这一个人民币。但这一个人的人。但这一个人的人。但这一个人的人。但这一个人的人。但这一个人的人。但这一个人的人。但这一个人的人。

中国对美国经济政策的批评越来越有说教的意味。然而,隐藏在当今全球失衡问题背后的这种"债务人和债权人"契约关系,却为中美双方都带来了便利。中国人想通过固定汇

irk [ə:k] vt. 使厌倦,使苦恼 如: She had been irked by the habit of male members of the family leaving their dirty socks everywhere in the house, including on the dining table. 她看不惯家中男成员把脱下的袜子随手乱放,包括放在餐桌上。

endemically [en'demikəli] adv. 风土地, 地方上地

rack up 击倒,获胜 如: Now Denver must rack up the wins at home. 现在压力在丹佛一端,他们必须在主场赢得胜利。

IOU 即I owe you 借条,借据

mop up 结束,作扫尾工作 如: We must mop up the arrears of work. 我们必须把耽误的工作做完。

moralistic [more listik] adj. 说教的, 教训的 如: In the moralistic accents of today's leaders we hear echoes of a previous generation's hypocrisy. 在当今领导人的说 教腔调中,我们感到了上一代人的伪善。

creditor compact that lay behind today's global imbalances has been mutually convenient. The Chinese wanted to subsidize their exports by rigging the exchange rate. The Americans were happy to accommodate them in the interests of extending home ownership. So poor Chinese households ended up being taxed to subsidise consumption by rich households in advanced countries. Where is the morality in that?

The difficulty for the Americans now is that a huge debt condemns them to growth. For the Chinese the value of their dollar investments is questionable and the leverage of the creditor country cannot be used without doing serious damage to itself. Selling dollars would simply shrink the value of the portfolio, inflicting severe losses on the central bank. This would then have to be recapitalized at considerable cost to the government's budget.

There is also a political cost to any decline in the value of the dollar. Chinese nationalist feeling runs high when government investments turn sour. Indeed, Chinese sovereign wealth funds caused a public outcry when they invested too early in US investment banks during the financial crisis. ②The irony here was underlined by a recent WikiLeak revelation that the head of the state-owned China Investment Corporation applied pressure in 2009 to Tim Geithner, US Treasury secretary, to speed the approval of a \$1.2bn investment in Morgan Stanley, which was promptly given the green light. Yet to call this pressure, if the story is true, is hiterrous.

率来补贴出口。为了延长房屋的拥有权,美国人也很乐意接受这种做法。 这相当于向贫穷的中国家庭征税,来 补贴发达国家富裕家庭的消费。这里 的道义何在?



目前,美国人的难处在于,巨额的负债使得他们的增长速度低于平均水平。而对中国人而言,他们美元投资的价值令人生疑;此外,这个债权国要动用杠杆,就必然对自身造成严重伤害。抛售美元只会使中国的投资组合贬值,令中国央行蒙受重大损失。随后,中国政府将不得不动用预算并以高昂的成本向央行注资。

美元贬值还会给中国带来政治成本。政府投资状况恶化会激发中国的民族主义情绪。事实上,金融危机期间,中国主权财富基金过早参股美国投行曾引起国内舆论一片哗然。②最近一次的维基解密就突显出其中的讽刺意味,其中称,2009年,国有中国投资公司的负责人曾向美国财长蒂姆•盖特纳施压,要求他加快批准中投对摩根斯坦利的12亿美元的投资,结果这一投资很快就获得了批准。不过即

compact [ˈkɔmpækt] n. 契约, 合同

overhang ['əuvə'hæŋ] ν. 悬于······之上,悬垂 如:The granite walls overhang and bend forward above to meet one another, almost forming an arch. 花岗岩的墙伸出在上面向前弯曲相互衔接,几

乎形成一道拱门。

sub-par adj. 低于正常水平的 hilarious [hiˈlɛəriəs] adj. 滑稽的, 欢闹的



The sovereign wealth fund was offering a boon to a man whose efforts to prop up a failing banking system were at a pretty desperate pass.

China is, in effect, a neurotic trillionaire, stuck on a treadmill seeking to resist the structural tendency of emerging market currencies to appreciate. The leverage that comes from being the world's biggest creditor scarcely qualifies to be described even as soft power. Most of the time it amounts to little more than impotence. Alternatively it can lead to mutually assured destruction.

Moralising about debt is in this case futile. To work, creditor-debtor relationships have to be a two-way affair. Instead, the world's biggest lender and borrower are conducting a dialogue of the deaf. The two probable outcomes are more protectionism from the US and, ultimately, a huge currency loss for China on its dollar reserves.

使真有此事,将其称之为"压力"也太过滑稽。实际上,主权财富基金是在向盖特纳"施恩",因为他当时努力支撑即将垮台的银行业体系,但也濒临绝望。

实际上,中国就像一位有点神经 质的亿万富翁,执着于一份单调的工 作,力求抵制新兴市场货币升值的结 构性趋势。全球最大债权国身份带给 中国的影响力甚至很难称得上是一种 软实力。绝大多数情况下,它几乎就 等同于软弱无力。不仅如此,它还会 把中美双方都带向毁灭。

因此在债务问题上进行说教是徒劳无获的。要想发挥作用,"债权人和债务人"关系必须变成一种双向关系。但实际上,全球最大的贷款人和最大的借款人正在进行一场聋子间的对话。这可能导致两种结果:一是美国的保护主义情绪抬头,二是中国的美元储备最终蒙受巨大的损失。

Key Expressions

关键词速记

official reserves 官方储备
creditor country 债权国
an endemically weak dollar 维持弱势美元
an exchange rate pegged to the dollar
盯住美元的汇率政策
equity investments 股权投资

shrink the value of the portfolio 投资组合贬值 severe losses 重大损失 nationalist feeling 民族主义情绪 the structural tendency 结构性趋势 a two-way affair 一种双向关系

boon [bu:n] n. 恩惠,实惠,福利
neurotic [njuəˈrɔtik] adj. 神经质的,神经病的
treadmill ['tredmil] n. 单调的工作
leverage ['li:vəridʒ] n. 杠杆作用 如:Margin requirements also

provide traders with substantial leverage. 保证金也给了交易商以极大的财务杠杆的便利。