



Special  
English

# 听美国之音学英语

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# VOA

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李桂媛 主编



天津科技翻译出版公司

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# 听美国之音学英语

# VOA<sup>®</sup>

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# 前言

# Preface

在听、说、读、写、译五大技能中,作为首位的“听”是最基本的,也是最难掌握的一项技能。面对浩瀚的英语听力资源,学习者时常感到迷茫,不知从何下手。作为从事英语教学的教师,多年的听力教学实践使我们体会到“美国之音”乃学习者的首选,因为“美国之音”的语言真实自然,内容丰富生动,语速正常,适合中国学生训练听力。因此,本书作者以“美国之音”为本书主要听力资料来源,内容涵盖十六大方面的内容:教育、医疗卫生、军事、农业、校园文化、文学艺术、电影、语言、经济、科技、历史、人物、社会、生态环保、体育、政治。众所周知,Practice makes progress,只有多听、多练才能掌握听力技能。因此,本书的宗旨就是为学习者尽量提供内容较为广泛、最新的听力训练素材,使学习者在听的过程中逐步提高英语听力能力。

内容构成:

《听美国之音学英语》全书 24 个单元,分上、下册。每章包括以下内容:

Section One : In the News

Section Two: Reports for Theme,分为 Module I 和 Module II 两部分。

Section Three: Listening for Appreciation

第一部分为热点事件回顾、相关背景知识及新闻报道;第二部分为“听力深入”,由两个模块组成,为学习者提供了原汁原味的英语故事、演说、访谈、报告等听力材料。第三部分是“听力赏析”。

本书特色:

本书具有内容广泛、主题覆盖面广、题材新颖、听练结合、语言标准地道、语速适中等特点。同时,为学习者提供了大量的听力练习以及听力技巧点拨。版式设计新颖,趣味性与真实性相结合,配有听力光盘各一张。

在本书编写过程中,天津外国语大学现代教育技术中心的李妹老师提供了技术方面的支持与帮助,徐菲老师承担了本书资料的采集、音频制作等大量的工作,在此一并致以衷心的感谢。

由于编写时间仓促,本书难免存在不足,敬请读者批评指正。

编者

2010 年 12 月

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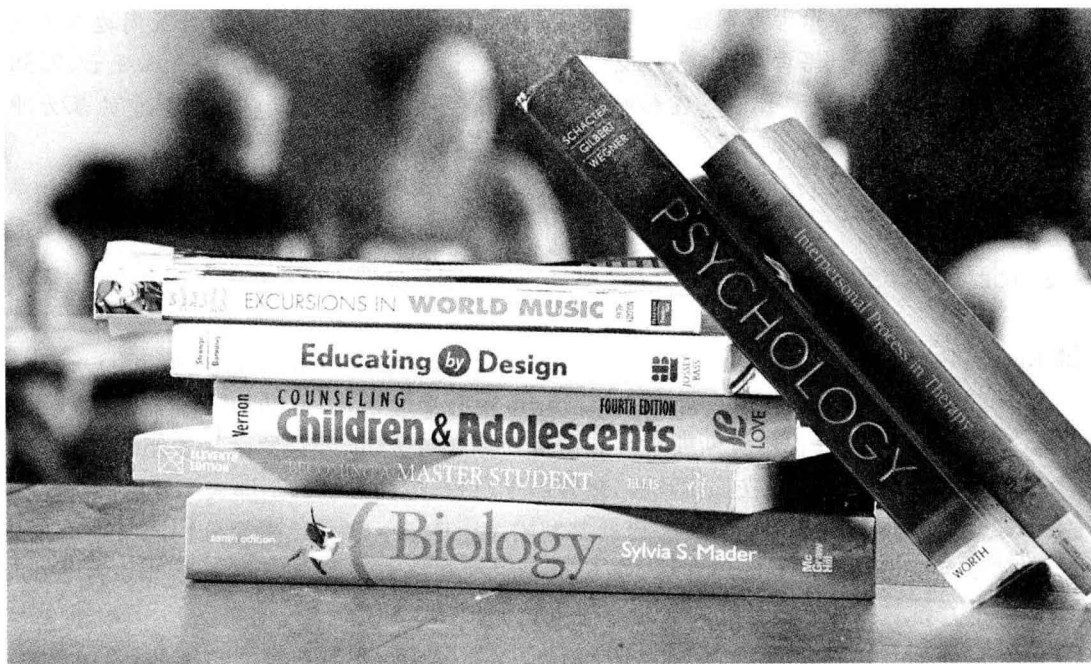
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# Chapter One

## *Appreciation of Stories*



小说赏析

## Section

## 1

## In the News

## 听力热身

## 热点事件回顾

2010年6月10日,一群吉尔吉斯族青年与乌兹别克族青年在吉尔吉斯斯坦第二大城市奥什市的一家赌场发生群殴,随后事态迅速扩大。当晚,暴力活动充斥整个奥什市和周边地区。吉尔吉斯斯坦临时政府11日凌晨宣布,从即日起在奥什及周边三个地区实行紧急状态。据吉尔吉斯斯坦卫生部的最新数据,冲突共造成283人死亡、2238人受伤。6月11日,奥什市爆发新冲突,为2010年4月发生政变以来最严重的暴力冲突事件。

## Guide for Listening

## 背景介绍

- 1 Kurmanbek Bakiyev: 库尔曼别克·巴基耶夫,吉尔吉斯斯坦第二任总统(2005—2010)。2010年4月反对派示威者在首都比什凯克市中心集会游行,逐渐演变成骚乱,造成数百人伤亡。4月8日,吉尔吉斯斯坦共和国反对派领导人、前外长罗萨·奥坦巴耶娃宣布,她领导的反对派已经成立临时政府,接管国家政权,迫使总统巴基耶夫离开该国。
- 2 Kyrgyzstan: 吉尔吉斯斯坦。吉尔吉斯共和国位于中亚,北、西、南面分别同哈萨克斯坦、乌兹别克斯坦和塔吉克斯坦接壤,东南部与中国新疆为邻,首都为比什凯克。在2009年举行的总统选举中,巴基耶夫成功连任。
- 3 European Union: 欧洲联盟,简称欧盟(EU),总部设在比利时首都布鲁塞尔,是由欧洲共同体(European Community)发展而来的,主要经历了三个阶段:荷、卢、比三国经济联盟,欧洲共同体,欧盟。欧盟是一个集政治实体和经济实体于一身、在世界上具有重要影响的区域一体化组织。1991年12月,欧洲共同体马斯特里赫特首脑会议通过了《欧洲联盟条约》,通称《马斯特里赫特条约》(简称《马约》)。1993年11月1日,《马约》正式生效,欧盟诞生。
- 4 Tony Blair: 托尼·布莱尔,1997年5月2日正式出任英国首相,后来他兼任的职务还包



括第一财政大臣、公务员事务部部长、英国工党党魁,以及英格兰东北部塞奇菲尔德选区议员。作为英国内阁的阁臣,他也是枢密院顾问官。布莱尔是工党历史上在任时间最长的英国首相,也是该党唯一一位带领工党连续三次赢得大选的首相。布莱尔卸任后成为中东问题特使。

## News Report

## 新闻原文

→2010年6月15日 VOA 新闻←

☞ Almost one hundred thousand **ethnic Uzbeks** have gathered at the Uzbek border in southern Kyrgyzstan. They fled their homes to escape ethnic violence that has killed at least one hundred twenty four people. More than one thousand six hundred people have been injured. Witnesses say ethnic Kyrgyz burned Uzbek neighborhoods. Some Kyrgyz say they are defending their country against Uzbeks who want to seize control. The South is a base for former Kyrgyz President Kurmanbek Bakiyev. He was **ousted** April 7th and is living in exile in Belarus. He denies Kyrgyz government accusations that his supporters are to blame for the current violence.

☞ The European Union has called the Israeli **blockade** of Gaza unacceptable and not politically productive. Former British Prime Minister Tony Blair is now a special international diplomat to the Middle East. Mr. Blair says Israel has agreed in general to allow civilian goods into Gaza while keeping the blockade on weapons and other military supplies. He says he hopes the new policy will start within days. Earlier Monday, Israel's cabinet did approve an independent public commission to investigate the attack. Both Turkey and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas have asked for an investigation by the United Nations.

☞ President Obama says his administration plans to help people in the states who are dealing with economic and environmental effect of a growing **oil leak** in the Gulf of Mexico. Mr. Obama visited the Gulf Coast States of Mississippi and Alabama Monday. He also



### NOTES

#### ★ ethnic

['eθnik]

adj. 种族的

#### ★ Uzbek

[uz,bek]

n. 乌兹别克人

#### ★ oust

[aust]

v. 驱逐; 代替; 剥夺

#### ★ blockade

[blɔ'keɪd]

n. 封锁

#### ★ oil leak

漏油

said he is organizing an effort to make sure that Gulf seafood remains safe to eat.

))) The United States says thirteen countries are not doing enough to fight human **trafficking**. The report from the American State Department says Iran, North Korea, Cuba and Burma are among the countries that fail to meet international standards. The State Department says they could be punished if their records on human trafficking do not improve. The report says more than twelve million adults and children around the world are victims of forced labor or sex trading. Other nations on the list include the **Dominican Republic**, **Kuwait**, Saudi Arabia, **Sudan** and Zimbabwe. American Secretary of State Hillary Clinton says the whole world has a responsibility to bring these crimes to an end.

))) Afghan official say American scientists have discovered almost one **trillion** dollars wealth of **unmined** minerals in Afghanistan. A spokesman for President Hamid Karzai said the minerals include gold, iron, copper, **lithium** and **cobalt**. The spokesman says the government is working closely to make plans to get the minerals out of the ground. The American Defense official who led the study says this mineral wealth could make Afghanistan economically powerful if it is properly developed.

★trafficking

[ˈtræfɪkɪŋ]

n. 交易; 买卖

★trillion

[ˈtrɪljən]

万亿

★unmined

[ʌnˈmaɪnd]

adj. 未开采的

★lithium

[ˈliθə]

n. 锂

★cobalt

[ˈkəʊbɔːlt]

n. 钴

## Translation

## 参考译文

1. 大约 10 万名乌兹别克人聚集在吉尔吉斯斯坦南部乌兹别克边界。骚乱造成至少 124 人死亡, 1600 多人受伤。为了躲避骚乱, 人们逃离家乡。目击者看到吉尔吉斯人烧毁乌兹别克人的房屋。一些吉尔吉斯人说, 他们在保卫自己的国家不受乌兹别克人的控制。吉尔吉斯斯坦南部是前国家总统库尔曼别克·巴基耶夫的基地, 他于 4 月 7 日被赶下台, 现流亡白俄罗斯。吉尔吉斯斯坦政府指控巴基耶夫的支持者造成了目前的骚乱, 但他否认指控。

2. 欧盟称以色列对加沙的封锁是不可接受的、政治上是无力的。英国前首相托尼·布莱尔现任中东问题特使。他说, 以色列已经同意允许人道主义物品运往加沙, 但对武器以及其他军用物品实行封锁, 他希望新政近日开始。周一早些时候, 以色列内阁批准了由一个独立公共委员会调查袭击事件。土耳其和巴勒斯坦总统穆罕默德·阿巴斯要求联合国进行调查。

3. 奥巴马总统说, 美国政府计划帮助在墨西哥湾漏油事件中遭受经济和环境受影响的人们。

周一,奥巴马视察了海湾附近的密西西比州和阿拉巴马州。他说正在组织力量确保海湾海产品安全食用。

4. 美国称有 13 个国家没有积极应对人口交易。美国国务院的报告说,其中伊朗、朝鲜、古巴、缅甸没有达到国际标准。国务院称,如果这些国家的人口交易问题得不到解决,他们将受到惩罚。报告还说,世界上有 1200 多万名成人和儿童成为强迫劳动和性交易的受害者。名单上的其他国家包括多米尼加共和国、

科威特、沙特阿拉伯、苏丹、赞比亚。美国国务卿希拉里·克林顿说,全世界有责任消灭这些罪行。

5. 阿富汗官员称,美国科学家在阿富汗发现了价值 1 万亿美元的矿藏。总统哈迈德·卡尔扎伊的发言人说,矿藏包括金、铁、铜、锂、钴。发言人表示,政府正紧锣密鼓地制订计划从地下挖出这些矿藏。一位领导此项研究的美国国防部官员称,如果开发合理,该矿藏能使阿富汗经济变得强大。

### 听力技巧点拨

请大家注意一些经常在新闻中出现和使用的短语,如:第一条新闻中 living in exile 过流亡生活;are to blame 受到责备、谴责;第二条新闻中 civilian goods 民用物品(物资);第三条新闻中 oil leak 漏油,此处的 leak 为名词,表示“泄漏”之意,但是 leak 也可以做动词使用,如:The pipe is leaking;第四条新闻中 meet international standards 达到国际标准;bring sth. to an end 使结束。平时多积累一些短语对正确理解新闻非常重要。

## Exercises

## 互动练习



**Exercise One.** Listen to the news and answer the following questions briefly.

1. Why did ethnic Uzbeks leave their homes?
2. What did Israel's cabinet approve?
3. What does Hillary Clinton say about human trafficking?



**Exercise Two.** Listen to the news for the second time and decide whether the following statements are true or false. Then mark them with T (true) or F (false).

1. \_\_\_\_\_ The former Kyrgyz President Kurmanbek Bakiyev was ousted on April 7.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Kyrgyz government accused supporters of former Kyrgyz President for the current violence.

3. \_\_\_\_\_ Israel has agreed to allow civilian goods, weapons and military supplies into Gaza.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ President Obama plans to give help to people who are affected by the oil leak in the Gulf of Mexico.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Some countries are not doing enough to fight human trafficking, among them are Iran, North Korea, Cuba and Burma.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ According to Hillary Clinton, it's the responsibility of the thirteen countries to bring these crimes to an end.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ The newly discovered minerals in Afghanistan were worth one trillion dollars.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ The mineral wealth could make Afghanistan politically powerful.

## Section

## 2

## Reports for Theme

## 听力深入

## Module I 材料 1

*A Municipal Report*

## Guide for Listening

## 背景介绍

**1** O. Henry: 欧·亨利, 原名为威廉·西德尼·波特 (William Sydney Porter), 美国著名短篇小说家。欧·亨利一生中创作了近 300 篇短篇小说和一部长篇小说。他的作品以出人意料的结局著称。代表作有小说集《白菜与国王》、《四百万》、《命运之路》等, 其中一些名篇如《爱的牺牲》、《警察与赞美诗》、《带家具出租的房间》、《贤人的礼物》、《最后一片藤叶》等, 使他获得了世界声誉。

**2** A Municipal Report: 《市政报告》, 欧·亨利的短篇小说之一。

**3** Nashville: 纳什维尔, 美国田纳西州首府, 位于坎伯兰河边。是美国最重要的制造业中心之一, 它的皮鞋、皮靴的产量在美国位居第五, 它还是南方最大的



生产糖果、饼干的城市,此外,其纺织品、食品和药品销售量也相当可观。

## Words and Expressions

### 关键词提示

1. municipal [mju:'nisipə] adj. 市政的
2. barroom ['bɑ:rum] n. 酒吧
3. Azalea Adair 人名,阿扎里亚·阿戴尔
4. Wentworth Caswell 人名,温特沃斯·卡斯韦尔
5. Uncle Caesar 人名,恺撒大叔
6. Impy 人名,英比

## Exercises

### 互动练习



### Exercise One. Listen to the passage and then fill in the blanks with what you hear.

It was raining as I got off the train in Nashville, Tennessee—a slow, gray rain. I was tired so I went straight to my hotel. A big, heavy man was (1) in the hotel lobby. Something about the way he moved made me think of a hungry dog looking for a bone. He had a big, fat, red face and a sleepy expression in his eyes. He introduced himself as Wentworth Caswell—Major Wentworth Caswell—from “a fine southern family”. Caswell pulled me into the hotel’s barroom and (2). We ordered drinks. While we drank, he talked continually about himself, his family, his wife and her family. He said his wife was rich. He showed me (3) that he pulled from his coat pocket. By this time, I had decided that I wanted no more of him. I said good night. I went up to my room and looked out the window. It was ten o’clock but the town was silent. “A nice quiet place,” I said to myself as I got ready for bed. Just an ordinary, sleepy southern town.

I was born in the south myself. But I live in New York now. I write for a large magazine. My boss had asked me to go to Nashville. The magazine had received some stories and poems from a writer in Nashville, named Azalea Adair. The editor liked her work very much. The publisher asked me to (4) to write only for his magazine. I left the hotel at nine o’clock the next morning to find Miss Adair. It was still raining. As soon as I (5) I met Uncle Caesar. He was a big, old black man with (6). Uncle Caesar was wearing the strangest coat I had ever seen. It must have been a military officer’s coat. It was very long and when it was new it had been gray. But now rain, sun and age had made it (7). Only one of the buttons was left. It was yellow and as big as a fifty cent coin.

Uncle Caesar stood near a horse and carriage. He opened the carriage door and said softly, “Step right in, sir. I’ll take you anywhere in the city.” “I want to go to eight-sixty-one Jasmine Street,” I said, and I started to climb into the carriage. But the old man stopped me. “Why do you

want to go there, sir?" "What business is it of yours?" I said angrily. Uncle Caesar (8).  
 "Nothing, sir. But it's a lonely part of town. Just step in and I'll take you there right away."

Eight-sixty-one Jasmine Street had been a fine house once, but now it was old and dying. I got out of the carriage. "That will be two dollars, sir," Uncle Caesar said. I gave him two one-dollar bills. As I handed them to him, I noticed that one had been (9). Also, the upper right hand corner was (10).

### 听力技巧点拨

该练习为听写填空 (Spot Dictation), 共有 10 个空格, 要求听者根据听到的内容进行填写。该练习主要考察听者的语音、词汇量、语法、记笔记等能力, 是一种综合性技能考察。听者不仅要能真正听懂材料, 而且亦应正确地将内容表达出来。在做这部分练习时, 一定要在听懂原文的基础上, 再开始填写, 不要急于填词。一旦进行填写, 要注意拼写正确。另外, 要注意边听边记, 养成记“要点”的习惯, 即一边听录音, 一边将听音过程中出现的较为重要的信息和细节记录下来。尤其是当遇到数字、人名、地名、时间时要做记录, 否则可能会忘掉或者混淆。



**Exercise Two: Listen to the passage again and decide whether the following statements are true or false. Then mark them with T (true) or F (false).**

- \_\_\_\_\_ It was a fine day when the author got off the train.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The author was asked to sign an agreement with Azalea Adair to write only for his magazine.
- \_\_\_\_\_ At the beginning of the story, there was only one button left on Uncle Caesar's coat.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Azalea Adair received her education from school.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Azalea Adair sent Impy to get some tea and some sugar cakes. But Mr. Baker had no tea that day.
- \_\_\_\_\_ It was Major Wentworth Caswell who took the two one-dollar bills from Impy and bought drinks with it.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Azalea Adair fainted because she didn't have enough to eat.



8. \_\_\_\_\_ Uncle Caesar used to be a slave of Azalea Adair's family and still helped her now.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Wentworth Caswell was Azalea Adair's husband who took away fifty dollars the magazine gave to Azalea Adair.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ From the end of the story we know Uncle Caesar was fighting with Wentworth Caswell for the fifty dollars and Caswell died in the fight.

## Module II 材料 2

### *The Exact Science of Matrimony*

#### Guide for Listening

#### 背景介绍

- 1** Illinois: 伊利诺斯, 美国州名, 该州面积为 149 998 平方公里, 人口数量约 1150 万, 主要城市为芝加哥。伊利诺斯州也被称为“草原州”(Prairie State), 因其广阔无边的草地令早期的探险者望而生畏而得名。此外, 伊利诺伊州拥有数百英里长的河道、山岭、大森林、闪闪发光的湖以及海滩。

#### Words and Expressions

#### 关键词提示

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. matrimony ['mætrɪməni] n. 婚姻, 结婚; 婚姻生活                            | 处指美国伊利诺斯州一地名。                                  |
| 2. marriage business 婚姻业务  | 9. illegal [i'li:gəl] adj. 非法的                 |
| 3. charming ['tʃɑ:mɪŋ] adj. 迷人的, 可爱的, 娇媚的                            | 10. investigate [in'vestigeɪt] v. 调查           |
| 4. widow [wɪdəʊ] n. 寡妇   | 11. agency [eidʒənsi] n. 机构                    |
| 5. invest [in'vest] v. 投资  | 12. tent show 帐篷下的户外演出                         |
| 6. care of 信封上用语, 略作 c/o, 烦……转交, 例如: Mr. A c/o Mr. B. 烦 B 先生转交 A 先生。 | 13. deal [di:l] n. 交易, 买卖                      |
| 7. agent ['eidʒənt] n. 代理人, 代办人                                      | 14. good-for-nothing 无益的, 无用的; n. 无用的人         |
| 8. Cairo ['kaɪərəʊ] n. 开罗(埃及首都), 此                                   | 15. suspicion[səs'pɪʃən] n. 怀疑, 猜疑             |
|  | 16. worldly ['wɜ:ldli] adj. 世俗的                |
|  | 17. for once 就这一回, 例如: Do it for once. 就干这一次吧。 |

## Exercises

## 互动练习

**Exercise One. Listen to the passage and then fill in the blanks with what you hear.**

Jeff Peters and Andy Tucker could never be trusted. One day, the two men decided to open a marriage business to make some (1). The first thing they did was to write an advertisement to be published in newspapers. Their advertisement read like this:

“A charming widow, beautiful and home-loving, would like to remarry. She is only thirty-two years old. She has three thousand dollars in cash and owns (2) property in the country. She would like a poor man with a loving heart. No objection to an older man or to one who is not good-looking. But he needs to be faithful and true, can take care of property and invest money with good judgment. Give address, with details about yourself. Signed: Lonely, care of Peters and Tucker, agents, Cairo, Illinois.”

When they finished writing the ad, Jeff Peters said to Andy Tucker: “So far, so good. And now, where is the lady?” Andy gave Jeff an unhappy look. “What does a marriage advertisement have to do with a lady?” he asked. “Now listen,” Jeff answered. “You know my rule, Andy. In all illegal activities, we must obey the law, in every detail. Something offered for sale must exist. It must be seen. You must be able to produce it. That is how I have (3). Now, for this business to work, we must be able to produce a charming widow, with or without the beauty, as advertised.”

“Well,” said Andy, after thinking it over, “it might be better, if the United States Post Office should decide to investigate our marriage agency. But where can you hope to find a widow who would (4) that has no marriage in it?” Jeff said that he knew just such a woman. “An old friend of mine, Zeke Trotter,” he said, “used to work in a tent show. He made his wife a widow (5). I used to stop at their house often. I think we can get her to work with us.” Mrs. Zeke Trotter lived in a small town not far away. Jeff Peters went out to see her. She was not beautiful and not so young. But she seemed all right to Jeff. “Is this (6) you are putting on, Mr. Peters?” she asked when he told her what he wanted.

“Mrs. Trotter,” said Jeff, “three thousand men will seek to marry you to get your money and property. What are they prepared to give in exchange? Nothing! Nothing but the (7). We will teach them something. This will be (8). Does that satisfy you?” “It does, Mr. Peters,” she said. “But what will my duties be? Do I have to (9) these three thousand good-for-nothings you speak of? Or can I (10)?”



**Exercise Two. Listen to the passage again and answer the following questions briefly.**

1. Who is William Wilkinson?
2. Under what condition will the man marry Zeke Trotter?
3. How much did Jeff and Andy collect from their marriage business?
4. Why did Jeff and Andy put two thousand dollars in a bank in Mrs. Trotter's name?

**Section****3**

## Listening for Appreciation

### 听力赏析

#### *Fireworks: What Is All the Noise About?*

The expression fireworks gets its meaning from the fireworks that people shoot into the sky when they are celebrating a great event. Rockets explode to fill the dark, night sky with bright reds and blues, with yellows and greens and whites.

The expression also means a great show of noisy anger, or something exciting. For example, a defense lawyer in a court trial may become very emotional in arguing with the government lawyer about evidence affecting the accused. The judge finally stops the loud argument and calls the two lawyers forward. He tells them, "I want no more of these fireworks in my courtroom."

Another kind of fireworks can be any event or activity that is especially exciting. One such event is falling in love. If anything can produce fireworks, it is a sweetheart's kiss or the touch of a lover's hand. Often movie or television cartoons show fireworks to represent the excitement of a kiss.

People use the expression fireworks throughout the year. But if you live in the United States and want to see real fireworks, the best time of the year is about now. The Fourth of July is Independence Day in the United States. Americans traditionally celebrate their nation's freedom with giant public parties and fireworks at night.

In Washington, for example, large crowds gather near the Washington Monument to listen to music and watch a huge fireworks show. In other cities and smaller towns, local people listen to band concerts and watch fireworks explode in a dark sky.

Many other countries around the world also enjoy the tradition of exploding fireworks on spe-