

[TOPWAY]

[2013]



淘金

英语专业8级 标准阅读180篇

上海外国语大学

王兴扬 主审 刘绍龙 主编

阅读+词汇 双突破

5大题源

- ▶ National Geographic 《国家地理》
- ▶ TIME 《时代周刊》
- ▶ The Economist 《经济学人》
- ▶ The Guardian 《卫报》
- ▶ Newsweek 《新闻周刊》



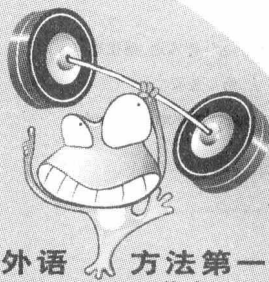
华研外语 方法第一!
www.topwayenglish.com

中山大学出版社



英语专业8级 标准阅读180篇

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中山大学出版社

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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

英语专业 8 级标准阅读 180 篇 / 刘绍龙主编. —广州:中山大学出版社,
2011.9

ISBN 978-7-306-03932-3

I. ①英… II. ①刘… III. ①大学英语水平考试—阅读教学—自学参考资料 IV. ①H319.4

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2011)第 125017 号

策 划: 华研外语

责任编辑: 熊锡源 郭中恺

封面设计: 方 鸣

责任校对: 晨 露

责任技编: 黄少伟

出版发行: 中山大学出版社

编辑部电话: (020)84111996, 84113349

发行部电话: (020)84111998, 84111160

地 址: 广州市新港西路 135 号

印 刷 者: 广东新华印刷有限公司

经 销 者: 广东省新华书店

规 格: 787mm×1092mm 1/16 22.5 印张 900 千字

版 次: 2011 年 9 月第 1 版

印 次: 2012 年 4 月第 2 次印刷

定 价: 26.80 元

本书如有印装质量问题影响阅读, 请寄回印刷厂调换

Preface

前言

《英语专业8级标准阅读180篇》是一本帮助考生在短时间内快速提高答题速度和正确率的阅读训练书,其特色如下:

180篇 标准阅读

要提高英语阅读能力,大量的阅读训练必不可少。本书提供180篇标准阅读训练,包括20篇题源阅读,帮助考生熟悉专八阅读文章,熟记核心词汇;60篇阅读分类特训,让考生熟悉题材,分类强化词汇;80篇阅读模拟集训+20篇阅读高分冲刺,以标准套题形式设置,帮助考生增强实战感及提升阅读能力。

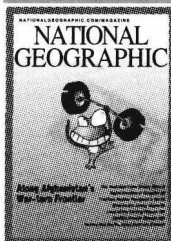
本书的选材均来自英美报刊杂志及人物传记和文学作品,这些阅读材料无论在长度、难度、题材、体裁,还是测试形式方面,均与英语专业八级考试大纲一致,是提升阅读能力行之有效的材料,真正能让考生做到熟能生巧。

5大题源 记核心词汇

怎样才能把单词记得牢固?几乎所有的英语老师都会告诉我们,只有在语境中记单词才能记得牢、记得久。本书根据近年来专业八级阅读真题的来源,从 *National Geographic*《国家地理》、*TIME*《时代周刊》、*The Economist*《经济学人》、*The Guardian*《卫报》以及 *Newsweek*《新闻周刊》5大题源报刊上精心挑选出20篇阅读文章。这些文章涵盖了约700个专八阅读中常考的核心词汇,有效帮助考生在短时间内迅速掌握阅读中的常见词汇,提高阅读速度。

1. Too Young to Wed

来源: National Geographic



what was happening. The third, their niece Rajani, was 5.

The grooms were **en route** from their own village, many miles away. No one could afford an elephant or the **lavishly saddled** horses that would have been **ceremonially** correct for the grooms' entrance to the wedding, so they were coming by car and were expected to arrive high-spirited.

Because the wedding was illegal and a secret, and because marriage **rites** in Rajasthan are often conducted late at night, it was well into the afternoon before the three girl brides in this dry farm settlement in the north of India began to prepare themselves for their **sacred** vows. They **squatted** side by side on the dirt, a crowd of village women holding sari cloth around them as a **makeshift** curtain, and poured **soapy** water from a metal pan over their heads. Two of the brides, were 15 and 13, old enough to understand

核心词汇

- rite** /raɪt/ *n.* 仪式,典礼
- sacred** /seɪkrɪd/ *a.* 神圣的;宗教(性)的
- vow** /vaʊ/ *n.* 誓言,誓约
- squat** /skwɒt/ *v.* 蹲,蹲坐
- makeshift** /meɪkʃɪft/ *a.* 临时的,代用的
- soapy** /səʊpi/ *a.* 有肥皂的;似肥皂的
- en route** (法)在途中
- lavishly** /ləvɪʃli/ *ad.* 挥霍地,铺张地
- saddle** /sædl/ *v.* 给...装鞍
- ceremonially** /,serɪ'məʊnjəli/ *ad.* 仪式上,礼仪上



5 大题材 分类训练

本书特设 60 篇阅读分类特训,按照考查频率的高低,将题材分为社会生活、文化教育、政治经济、科普环境及人物故事 5 大类,考生可根据个人的实际情况,针对自己相对薄弱的文章题材进行有针对性的强化训练,从而消除阅读中的“软肋”,同时能扩大知识面并积累相关语境词汇。

8 大 应试技巧

专八阅读的题目设置充满了陷阱,考生一不小心就会被“似是而非”的干扰选项所迷惑,在模棱两可的选项之间拿不定主意。故本书特别总结出 8 大应试技巧,如:通过定位法解题、同义替换是解、结合上下文语境推测、紧扣文章主题进行选择等,以帮助考生快速解题。

25 套 标准套题训练

本书最后两个部分提供 25 套套题训练,共 100 篇。其中,20 套标准的模拟集训的难度与专八真题相当,可以让考生强化题感。考生可以根据每篇文章的“建议用时”安排阅读时间,调整阅读速度,以达到在考场上合理分配考试时间的要求。最后 5 套高分冲刺供考生在掌握基本的阅读技巧后,进一步提升阅读能力,冲击高分。

编 者

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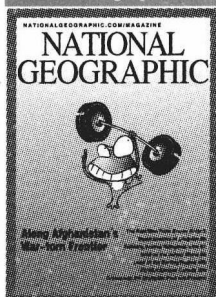


20篇题源阅读记单词



1. Too Young to Wed

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Because the wedding was illegal and a secret, and because marriage **rites** in Rajasthan are often conducted late at night, it was well into the afternoon before the three girl brides in this dry farm settlement in the north of India began to prepare themselves for their **sacred** **vows**. They **squatted** side by side on the dirt, a crowd of village women holding sari cloth around them as a **makeshift** curtain, and poured **soapy** water from a metal pan over their heads. Two of the brides, were 15 and 13, old enough

to understand what was happening. The third, their niece Rajani, was 5.

The grooms were **en route** from their own village, many miles away. No one could afford an elephant or the **lavishly** **saddled** horses that would have been **ceremonially** correct for the grooms' entrance to the wedding, so they were coming by car and were expected to arrive high-spirited. The only local person to have met the grooms was the father of the two oldest girls, a slender gray-haired farmer with a straight back and a **drooping** mustache. This farmer, Mr. M, was both proud and **wary** as he surveyed guests coming up the rocky path toward the bright silks **draped** over poles for shade; he knew that if a nonbribeable police officer found out what was under way, the wedding might be interrupted mid-ceremony, bringing criminal arrests and **lingering** shame to his family.

Child marriage spans continents, language, religion, **caste**. In India the girls will typically be attached to boys four or five years older; in Yemen, Afghanistan, and other countries with high early marriage rates, the husbands may be young men or middle-aged **widowers** or **abductors** who rape first and claim their victims as wives afterward, as is the practice in certain regions of Ethiopia. Some of these marriages are business transactions, barely **adorned** with additional **rationale**: a debt cleared in exchange for an 8-year-old bride; a family **feud** resolved by the delivery of a virginal 12-year-old cousin. Those, when they happen to surface publicly, make for clear and **outrage-inducing** news **fodder** from great distances away. The 2008 drama of Nujood Ali, the 10-year-old Yemeni girl who found her way alone to an urban courthouse to request a divorce from the man in his 30s her father had forced her to marry, generated worldwide headlines and a book, translated into 30 languages: *I am Nujood, Age 10 and Divorced*.

But inside a few of the communities in which parent-arranged early marriage is common practice—**amid** the women of Rajani's settlement, for example, listening to the **mournful** sound of their songs to

核心词汇

rite /raɪt/ *n.* 仪式, 典礼

sacred /ˈseɪkrɪd/ *a.* 神圣的; 宗教(性)的

vow /vaʊ/ *n.* 誓言, 誓约

squat /skwɒt/ *v.* 蹲, 蹲坐

makeshift /ˈmeɪkʃɪft/ *a.* 临时的, 代用的

soapy /ˈseʊpi/ *a.* 有肥皂的; 似肥皂的

en route (法) 在途中

lavishly /ˈlævɪʃli/ *ad.* 挥霍地, 铺张地

saddle /ˈsædl/ *v.* 给...装鞍

ceremonially /ˌserɪˈməʊnjəli/ *ad.* 仪式上, 礼仪上

droop /dru:p/ *v.* 低垂; 凋萎; 萎靡

wary /weəri/ *a.* 谨慎的, 小心的; 警惕的

drape /dreɪp/ *v.* 悬挂, 披

lingering /ˈlɪŋɡərɪŋ/ *a.* 经久不消的; 拖延的

caste /kɑ:st/ *n.* 印度的世袭阶级; 任何排他的社会阶层

widower /ˈwɪdəʊə/ *n.* 鳏夫

abductor /æbˈdʌktə/ *n.* 诱拐者

adorn /əˈdɔ:n/ *v.* 装饰

rationale /ˈræʃəˈnɑ:l/ *n.* 基本原理, 理论基础

feud /fju:d/ *n.* 宿怨; 世仇; 长期不和

outrage /ˈaʊtreɪdʒ/ *n.* 义愤

induce /ɪnˈdju:s/ *v.* 引诱; 导致

fodder /ˈfɒdə/ *n.* 素材

amid /əˈmɪd/ *prep.* 在...中间

mournful /ˈmɔ:nfəl/ *a.* 悲哀的, 哀痛的

the bathing brides—it feels infinitely more difficult to isolate the nature of the wrongs being **perpetrated** against these girls. Their educations will be shortened not only by marriage but also by rural school systems, which may offer a nearby school only through fifth grade; beyond that, there's the daily bus ride to town, amid crowded-in, **predatory** men. The middle school at the end of the bus ride may have no private indoor bathroom in which an **adolescent** girl can attend to her **sanitary** needs. And schooling costs money, which a practical family is surely guarding most carefully for sons, with their more readily measurable worth. In India, where by long-standing practice most new wives leave home to move in with their husbands' families, the Hindi term *paraya dha* refers to daughters still living with their own parents. Its literal meaning is “someone else's wealth.”

Remember this too: The very idea that young women have a right to select their own partners is still regarded in some parts of the world as misguided foolishness. Throughout much of India, for example, a majority of marriages are still arranged by parents. Strong marriage is regarded as the union of two families, not two individuals. This calls for careful negotiation by multiple elders, it is believed, not by young people following **transient** impulses of the heart.

So in communities of pressing poverty, where nonvirgins are considered ruined for marriage and generations of ancestors have proceeded in exactly this fashion. “One of our workers had a father turn to him, in **frustration**,” says Sreela Das Gupta, a health specialist, “This father said, ‘If I am willing to get my daughter married late, will you take responsibility for her protection?’”

perpetrate /pɜːpɪtreɪt/ v. 犯(罪), 作(恶)
predatory /predətəri/ a. 食肉的; 掠夺的
adolescent /ædəˈlesənt/ a. 青春期的
sanitary /sænɪtəri/ a. (有关)卫生的
transient /trænzɪənt/ a. 短暂的, 转瞬即逝的
frustration /frʌsˈtreɪʃən/ n. 挫败, 挫折

参考译文

儿童新娘

因为婚礼是违法的、是秘密的,因为在拉贾斯坦邦结婚仪式常常在夜间进行,所以进入下午时分这三个生活在印度北部干旱村落的新娘才开始为她们神圣的誓言做准备。她们并排蹲在泥巴土地上,一群村妇举着纱丽布围着她们作为临时围布,并从一个金属锅里把肥皂水倒在她们头上。其中的两个新娘一个15岁,一个13岁,她们已经到了能弄明白发生了什么事情的年纪,第三个新娘是她们5岁的侄女拉佳妮。

新郎正从距离她们很多里远的村庄赶来。没有人能买得起大象或者装上了豪华马鞍的马让新郎符合仪式地步入婚礼,因此他们坐车过来,并被期待着能兴高采烈地到来。唯一见过新郎的当地人就是那两个大一点的女孩的父亲,一个脊背挺直、身材消瘦、满头银发且有着下垂胡子的农民。当这位农民M先生看着客人们沿着岩石路走向将亮丽丝绸披在几根竹杆上而搭建的遮荫处时,他既骄傲又警惕。他知道如果一个未受贿的警官发现了事情的来龙去脉,婚礼可能就会中断,罪犯将会被逮捕,这会让他家庭长久蒙羞。

童婚跨州、跨语言、跨宗教、跨阶层。在印度,女孩通常会嫁给比自己大四、五岁的异性。而在也门、阿富汗以及其他一些早婚率较高的国家中,年轻的男性或中年鳏夫又或诱拐者可能会先强迫女孩与之发生性关系,随后声称受害者已经成为自己的妻子了,这在埃塞俄比亚一些地方是司空见惯的事情。有些早婚甚至是“商业交易”——几乎再没有其他的理由:用一个8岁的新娘抵债;为了解决家庭宿怨将一个12岁处女嫁给她的表兄弟或堂兄弟。当这些事情浮出水面、公诸于众时,便成为从千里之外传来的令人愤慨的新闻爆料。2008年一个年仅10岁的也门女孩努珠德·阿里想方设法逃了出来,并且向法院声明自己曾被父亲逼婚,嫁给了一个30多岁的男人,为此提起申诉,要求与丈夫离婚。这一案例成为全世界的头条新闻,一本名为《我是努珠德,10岁,离婚了》的书也被翻译成30多种语言。

然而在少数社群中,父母安排早婚已是很常见的做法了,比如在拉佳妮居住的村落,妇女们听着悲歌给新娘们沐浴。要想不去探究童婚给这些女孩带来伤害的事情的性质是极其困难的。她们所接受的教育不仅因为婚姻还因为农村的教育体制而被缩短。根据这种教育体制,女孩们在邻近的学校只能读到5年级。如果想再继续读下去,每天就得和一群如狼似虎的男人挤进拥挤的巴士去镇里上学。在车尽头的中学里没有单独的室内浴室,不能满足女孩们的卫

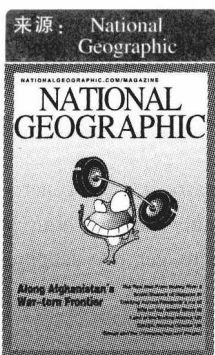


生需求。而且上学需要花钱,现实的家庭都会因为儿子具有更容易衡量的价值而格外照顾他们。在印度,长久以来都有这样的习俗,即大部分的新媳妇离开家搬到夫家居住。北印度语“paraya dha”指的是那些婚后仍然与自己父母居住在一起的女孩,直译的意思就是“别人的财富”。

也请记住:认为年轻女性有权选择自己配偶的想法在世界一些地方仍然被认为是误导人的愚蠢思想。比方说,在印度的许多地方,大部分的婚姻都是由父母安排的。两家人而不是两个人的结合才会被认为是牢固的婚姻。人们相信,这需要很多年长者的仔细协商而不仅仅是两个年轻人转瞬即逝的心跳。

在一些特别贫困的地区,非处女就会被认为会毁了婚姻,一代又一代的祖辈们就是以这样的方式过来的。健康专家 Sreela Das Guptas 说道“一个女孩的父亲很沮丧地对我的一个同事说,‘如果我愿意让我的女儿晚点结婚,你能保护我的女儿吗?’”

2. Jamaica



The southwest coast **embraced** eco-friendly tourism in the 1970s and **touts** its **abundance** of attractions—old-growth forests, bird-flocked **estuaries**, centuries-old sugarcane **plantations**, and miles of beaches. “Both Jamaicans and foreigners here are trying to learn from the mistakes of other parts of Jamaica by developing while maintaining the sense of place,” says **sustainable**-tourism consultant Chris Seek. Jamaican-born Jason Henzell, owner of the local

Jake's resort, says: “Here you can be part of a community of people full of pride in where they live.”

Treasure Beach, a series of four coves blessed with golden sand (hence the name), offers the classic Caribbean **pastimes** of sunbathing, beachcombing, and **snorkeling** in the atmosphere of an art colony: A popular art school teaches painting, and the area's annual Calabash literary festival—organized by Henzell's sister, Justine—draws Nobel Prize-winning writers like Wole Soyinka and Derek Walcott.

Nearby Bluefields Bay is home to a string of fishing villages, where you can hire a boat to **angle** for snapper, kingfish, and tuna. Boat tours bring you face-to-face with crocodiles, egrets, hummingbirds, owls, and grebes at the Black River Great Morass, the largest wetland in the English-speaking Caribbean. And you can pay your respects to a **reggae** pioneer at the Peter Tosh Memorial Gardens, a tiny museum and monument maintained by his family in the village of Belmont.

This region also is considered Jamaica's **breadbasket**. Local organic farmers offer free-range chicken, fresh-caught fish, and **heaping** platters of just-picked sweet peppers, pumpkins, papayas, mangos, eggplants, and melons. The drink of choice? Appleton Rum, made at a nearby estate.

Jason Henzell notes that communities here are **implementing** a

核心词汇

embrace /ɪmˈbreɪs/ *v.* 包括

tout /taʊt/ *v.* 招徕,兜售

abundance /əˈbʌndəns/ *n.* 丰富

estuary /ˈestjuəri/ *n.* 三角湾,河口湾

plantation /plænˈteɪʃən/ *n.* 种植园

sustainable /səˈsteɪnəbl/ *a.* 可持续的,环保的

pastime /pɑːstaim/ *n.* 消遣,娱乐

snorkel /ˈsnɔːkəl/ *v.* 用通气管潜水

angle /æŋɡl/ *v.* 钓鱼

reggae /reˈgeɪ/ *n.* 雷鬼音乐

breadbasket /ˈbred.bɑːskɪt/ *n.* 粮食产地,粮仓

heap /hiːp/ *v.* (使)成堆

implement /ˈɪmplɪment/ *v.* 使生效,实施

emphasize /emˈfæsaɪz/ *v.* 强调

luxurious /lʌɡˈzjuəriəs/ *a.* 奢侈的,豪华的

authentic /ɔːˈθentɪk/ *a.* 真正的;可靠的

proliferation /prəˈlɪfəˈreɪʃən/ *n.* 激增

outfitter /aʊtfɪtə/ *n.* 机器安装工

cite /saɪt/ *v.* 引用

aesthetically /iːsˈθetɪkəlɪ/ *ad.* 审美地,美学上地

vibrant /ˈvaɪbrənt/ *a.* 鲜明的;震动的

landscape /ˈlændskeɪp/ *v.* 美化...的景观

sustainable master plan for development that **emphasizes** environmental awareness. But threats remain, including **bauxite** (铝土) mining in the neighboring hills. Also of concern to some locals: the advance of all-inclusive resorts from the north. In 2005 the Sandals chain opened a **luxurious** resort, Whitehouse, designed to look like French, Dutch, and Italian villages. "We're really hoping no more are planned," says Henzell.

Such all-inclusive resorts, where you never have to leave the grounds, define the lower-scoring northwest coast around Ocho Rios and Montego Bay. The area, according to Larry Bleiberg, a former editor at *Coastal Living* magazine, is "more a resort theme park than an **authentic** slice of the Caribbean." Also affecting the region: a **proliferation** of new hotels, weak coastal-management plans, careless snorkelers (and **outfitters**) who damage the reefs, trash (both on land and in the waters), and increased bauxite mining. But some panelists express optimism, **citing** Ocho Rios for being "**aesthetically** pleasing with **vibrant** colors and local architecture," and plans that call for the historic town center of Falmouth to "be **landscaped** with many palm trees, flowering plants, and benches, and restricted to pedestrian traffic."

参考译文

牙买加西南部的美好风光

20 世纪 80 年代西南海岸开始开发生态旅游,极力宣传其丰富的景点——古老的森林,群鸟集聚的港湾,有数百年历史的甘蔗种植园,绵延数英里的海滩。“在这里,无论是牙买加人还是外国人都正在努力地从事从牙买加其他地区的错误中汲取教训,在大力开发旅游资源的同时保持地方特色,”可持续旅游顾问克里斯·恩克说道。出生于牙买加的杰森·亨策尔在当地开了家杰克度假村。他说:“这里的人为他们所生活的地方感到自豪,而你可以是他们中的一份子”。

珍宝海滩,四个海湾连成一片的金色沙滩(这也是海滩名称的由来),为游客提供了日光浴、赶海、潜水等经典的加勒比休闲活动,而这一切都笼罩在牙买加浓浓的艺术气息中:一所很热门的艺术学校教授人们绘画,由亨策尔的姐姐贾斯汀举办的一年一度的葫芦文化节,还会有像沃莱·索因卡和德里克·沃尔科特这样获得过诺贝尔奖的作家光临。

附近的布卢菲尔兹湾有一大片渔村,在那里你可以租一条小船去钓鲷鱼、石首鱼和金枪鱼。划船游览可以让你在黑河大沼泽面对面地观看鳄鱼、白鹭、蜂鸟、猫头鹰和鸬鹚,这片黑河大沼泽是加勒比说英语地区最大的湿地。而且,你还可以到彼得托什纪念花园拜祭一下这位雷鬼乐的先驱,他的家人为他在贝尔蒙建了这个小型纪念馆。

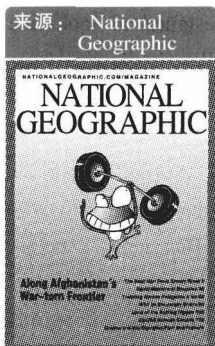
这个区域还被认为是牙买加的粮仓。本地种植有机作物的农民会为你提供放养的土鸡,新鲜捕捞的鱼,大量刚采摘的甜椒、南瓜、木瓜、芒果、茄子和甜瓜。特别的饮料呢,有附近庄园酿造的阿普尔顿朗姆酒。

杰森·亨策尔指出,这个地区的总体规划是进行可持续发展,强调环保意识。但威胁仍然存在,邻近山区的铝土矿开采便是威胁之一。令本地人担心的还有从北部扩张过来的全包式度假村。2005 年,悦来假日连锁酒店开了一家豪华度假村——白宫,其设计融合了法国、荷兰和意大利乡村风格。“我们真希望不要再有度假村建在这里了”,亨策尔说道。

这种让你来了就再也不想走的全包式度假村,是欧丘里欧和蒙特哥海湾下游西北海岸的一大特色。按照《海岸生活》杂志前任编辑拉里·布莱贝格的说法,这个地区“不像是加勒比一个实实在在的区域,更像一个度假主题公园”。影响这个地区的还有:不断增多的新酒店,不完善的海岸管理计划,破坏珊瑚礁的粗心的潜游者(还有旅行用品商),垃圾(包括地上的和水里的),不断增长的铝土矿开采。但是,一些专门小组成员对此却持乐观态度,称欧丘里欧为“鲜艳的色彩与当地建筑结合,非常具有美感”,并提出要在这个历史悠久的法尔茅斯镇中心“栽上大量的棕榈树和开花植物,装上长凳,仅限行人通行。”



3. A Lesson from Bangladesh



We may be seven billion **specks** on the surface of Earth, but when you're in Bangladesh, it sometimes feels as if half the human race were **crammed** into a space the size of Louisiana. Dhaka, its capital, is so crowded that every park and footpath has been colonized by the homeless. To **stroll** here in the **mists** of early morning is to **navigate** an obstacle course of makeshift beds and sleeping children. Later the city's steamy roads and **alleyways** **clog** with the **chaos** of some 15 million people, most of them stuck in traffic. Amid this **clatter** and **hubbub** moves a small army of Bengali beggars, vegetable sellers, popcorn **vendors**, **rickshaw** drivers, and **trinket** salesmen, all **surging** through the city like **particles** in a flash flood.

We should not be surprised. Bangladesh is, after all, one of the most densely populated nations on Earth. It is a place where one person, in a nation of 164 million, is mathematically incapable of being truly alone. That takes some getting used to.

So imagine Bangladesh in the year 2050, when its population will likely have **zoomed** to 220 million, and a good **chunk** of its current landmass could be **permanently** underwater. That **scenario** is based on two **converging** **projections**: population growth that, despite a sharp decline in **fertility**, will continue to produce millions more Bangladeshis in the coming decades, and a possible multifeet rise in sea level by 2100 as a result of climate change. Such a scenario could mean that 10 to 30 million people along the southern coast would be **displaced**, forcing Bangladeshis to crowd even closer together or else flee the country as climate refugees—a group predicted to **swell** to some 250 million worldwide by the middle of the century, many from poor, low-lying countries.

Such a **catastrophe**, even imaginary, fits right in with Bangladesh's crisis-driven story line, which, since the country's independence in 1971, has included war, **famine**, disease, killer cyclones, massive floods, military **coups**, political assassinations, and pitiable rates of poverty and **deprivation**—a list of **woes** that inspired some to label it an international basket case. Yet if despair is in order, plenty of people in Bangladesh didn't read the script. In fact, many here are **pitching** another ending altogether, one in which the hardships of their past give rise to a powerful hope.

To reduce its high birthrate, Bangladesh developed a **grassroots** family-planning program in the 1970s that has lowered its fertility rate from 6.6 children per woman in 1977 to about 2.4 today—a historic record for a country with so much poverty and **illiteracy**. Fertility

核心词汇

- speck** /spek/ *n.* 小点,斑点
cram /kræm/ *v.* 把...塞满(装满)
stroll /strɒl/ *v.* 散步,闲逛
mist /mist/ *n.* 薄雾
navigate /nævɪɡeɪt/ *v.* (艰难地)走过,经过
alleyway /æliwei/ *n.* 小巷,窄街
clog /klog/ *v.* 障碍,阻塞
chaos /keɪs/ *n.* 混乱
clatter /'klætə/ *n.* 撞击声
hubbub /'hʌbʌb/ *n.* 喧哗;骚乱
vendor /vendə/ *n.* 小贩;卖主
rickshaw /'rɪkʃəʊ/ *n.* 人力车;三轮车
trinket /'trɪŋkɪt/ *n.* 小装饰品,琐物
surge /sɜ:dʒ/ *v.* 蜂拥而出;汹涌
particle /'pɑ:tɪkl/ *n.* 粒子,微粒
zoom /zu:m/ *v.* 急速移动;急升
chunk /tʃʌŋk/ *n.* 大块;大部分
permanently /'pɜ:mənəntli/ *ad.* 永久地
scenario /sɪ'nɑ:riəʊ/ *n.* 剧本,脚本;情节
converge /kən'veɜ:dʒ/ *v.* 会合;(趋于)相似或相同
projection /prə'dʒekʃən/ *n.* 预测,推断
fertility /fɜ:'tɪlɪti/ *n.* 生育率
displace /dɪs'pleɪs/ *v.* 取代;迫使...离开家园
swell /swel/ *v.* 肿胀,膨胀;增强
catastrophe /kə'tæstrəfi/ *n.* 大灾难
famine /'fæmɪn/ *n.* 饥荒
coup /ku:/ *n.* 政变
deprivation /deprɪ'veɪʃən/ *n.* 匮乏,缺乏

decline has generally been associated with economic improvement, which prompts parents to limit family size so they can provide education and other opportunities to their children.

"It was very hard in the beginning," says Begum Rokeya, 42, a government health worker in the Satkhira District who's made thousands of home visits to persuade newlywed couples to use **contraception** and plan their family's size. "This is a very **conservative** country, and men put pressure on women to have lots of children. But they began to see that if they **immunized** their kids, they wouldn't need to have a **bunch** of babies just so a few would survive. They like the idea of fewer mouths to feed."

Working in partnership with dozens of NGOs, Bangladesh has made huge **strides** in educating women and providing them with economic opportunities; female work-participation rates have doubled since 1995. Its economy is growing, helped by its **garment**-export industry. And Bangladesh has managed to meet an important UN Millennium Development Goal: Infant **mortality** dropped dramatically between 1990 and 2008, from 100 deaths per 1,000 births to 43—one of the highest improvement rates among low-income countries.

woe /wəʊ/ *n.* 悲伤,忧伤;苦难

pitch /pɪtʃ/ *v.* 定调

grassroots /grɑ:sru:ts/ *n.* 草根

illiteracy /ɪ'lɪtərəsi/ *n.* 文盲,无知

contraception /kɒntrə'sepʃən/ *n.* 避孕(法)

conservative /kən'sɜ:vətɪv/ *a.* 保守的

immunize /ɪmju:'naɪz/ *v.* 使免疫

bunch /bʌntʃ/ *n.* 群;束

stride /straɪd/ *n.* 大步;步法;[常 *pl.*] 进展

garment /gɑ:mənt/ *n.* 衣服

mortality /mɔ:'tælɪti/ *n.* 死亡人数,死亡率

参考译文

孟加拉国的危机及应对

我们可能是地球表面的 70 亿斑点,但是当你在孟加拉国,有时候会感觉似乎人类的一半种族都挤在一个只有路易斯安那州那么大的空间里。孟加拉国首都达卡太拥挤了,每一个公园和走道都被无家可归的人占据。要想在晨雾弥漫的清早在这儿散步,你就得越过一张张临时的床和一个个熟睡的孩子。稍后,1500 万人让这个城市潮湿的道路和小巷变得一片混乱,他们中的大多数人都堵在拥挤的交通里。在喧哗和嘈杂中,走过一小群孟加拉乞丐、卖蔬菜的人、爆米花小贩、人力车车夫和小饰品销售员,他们汇聚成突发的洪水,向这个城市涌动。

我们应该不觉得惊奇,毕竟孟加拉国是地球上人口最稠密的国家之一。在一个拥有一亿六千四百万人口的国土上,从数学上计算,一个人无法真正算是独自一人。这需要适应。

因此可以想象 2050 年的孟加拉国。那时其人口总数将增长到两亿两千万,而它目前的一大块陆地可能将永远处于水下。这种情况是基于两个趋同性预测:尽管生育率大幅度下降,但是在未来几十年,孟加拉国的人口将增加数百万。而且由于气候变化,到 2100 年海平面可能会上升数英尺。这就意味着南海岸一带一千万到三千万的居民将要背井离乡,这就迫使孟加拉人要么更加稠密地居住在一起,要么作为气候难民逃离这个国家。据预测,全球气候难民的人数到这个世纪中叶将突破两亿五千万,很多都来自贫穷和低洼国家。

这样的灾难——即便是想象中的——都与孟加拉国危机四伏的故事脉络相吻合:这个国家自 1971 年独立以来经历了很多灾难,包括战争、饥荒、疾病、飓风、洪水、军事政变、政治暗杀以及可悲的贫困率和资源匮乏。一系列的灾难让有的人给它贴上了“毫无希望的国家”的标签。然而,如果“绝望”这个词合适的话,孟加拉国的很多人却并未意识到。事实上,很多人在这里一起打造另外一个结局,过去的艰辛让他们心里产生了强烈的希望。

为控制高生育率,孟加拉国于 19 世纪 80 年代开发出了基层计划生育计划,这一计划大大降低了生育率。1977 年平均每个妇女生育 6.6 个孩子,现在只有 2.4 个。这对一个有着这么多穷人和文盲的国家来说是个历史性的突破。生育率的下降通常与经济改善联系在一起,因为正是经济改善促使父母缩小家庭的规模以便给孩子们提供教育和其他一些机会。

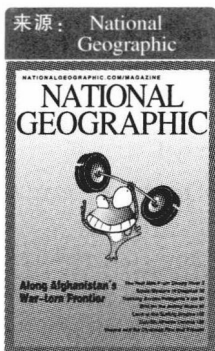
现年 42 岁的 Begum Rokeya 是沙特基拉区一名政府医疗卫生工作者,她做了数以千次的家访,说服新婚夫妇采取避孕措施、计划家庭规模。她说“刚开始的时候很难。这是个非常保守的国家,男人逼迫女人生很多孩子。但是他们开始意识到,如果他们给自己的孩子接种,他们就不必生一大群孩子,最后却只有少数几个存活。他们喜欢这



种供养少数孩子的办法。”

与几十个非政府组织合作，孟加拉国在女性教育和给她们提供经济机会上已经迈出了一大步。自1995年以来，女性就业率已经翻了一番。服装出口产业使得这个国家的经济在增长。孟加拉国已经达到联合国一个重要的千年发展目标：婴儿死亡率大幅度下降，从1990年每1000名新生儿有100人死亡到2008年每1000名有43人死亡，这在低收入国家中已经算是改善程度最大的国家之一了。

4. Humans Left Africa Earlier, During Ice Age Heat Wave



A period of climate change about 130,000 years ago would have made water travel easier by lowering sea levels and creating **navigable** lakes and rivers in the Arabian Peninsula, the study says. Such a shift would have offered early modern humans—which arose in Africa about 200,000 years ago—a new route through the formerly **scorching** northern deserts into the Middle East. The new paper was **spurred** by the discovery of several 120,000-year-old tools at a desert **archaeological** site in the United

Arab Emirates. The presence of the tools—whose design is uniquely African, experts say—so early in the region suggests early humans marched out of Africa into the Arabian Peninsula directly from the Horn of Africa, roughly present-day Somalia. Previously, scientists had thought humans first left **via** the Nile Valley or the Far East.

“Up till now we thought of cultural developments leading to the opportunity of people to move out of Africa,” said study co-author Hans-Peter Uerpmann, a retired archaeobiologist at the University of Tübingen in Germany. “Now we see, I think, that it was the environment that was the key to this,” Uerpmann said during a press **briefing** Wednesday.

The discovery “leaves a lot of possibilities for human migrations, and keeping this in mind, might change our view completely.” During the past few years, a series of tools were discovered at the Jebel Faya site in the U.A.E., some of which—such as hand axes—had a two-sided appearance previously seen only in early Africa.

Scientists used **luminescence** dating to determine the age of sand **grains** buried with the stone tools. This technique measures naturally occurring **radiation** stored in the sand. For the climatic data, scientists studied the climate records of ancient lakes and rivers in cave **stalagmites**, as well as changes in the level of the Red Sea. This warmer period 130,000 years or so ago caused more rainfall on the Arabian Peninsula, turning it into a series of **lush** rivers that humans might have boated or **rafted**.

During this period the southern Red Sea's levels dropped, offering a “brief window of time” for humans to easily cross the sea—which

核心词汇

navigable /'nævɪgəbl/ *a.* 适于航行的

peninsula /pɪ'nɪnsjələ/ *n.* 半岛

scorching /'sko:tʃɪŋ/ *a.* 灼热的

spur /spɜ:/ *v.* 激励, 促进

archaeological /,ɑ:kɪə'lɒdʒɪkəl/ *a.* 考古学的

via /vaɪə/ *prep.* 经过

briefing /'bri:fɪŋ/ *n.* 新闻发布会

luminescence /lu:'mɪnəsns/ *n.* 发光; 荧光

grain /greɪn/ *n.* 细粒, 颗粒; 谷物, 谷粒

radiation /reɪdɪ'eɪʃən/ *n.* 辐射, 放射

stalagmite /'stæləgmart/ *n.* [地] 石笋

lush /lʌʃ/ *a.* 繁密的, 茂盛的

raft /rɑ:ft/ *v.* 乘筏

disperse /dɪ'spɜ:s/ *v.* 分散; 消散

fertile /'fɜ:taɪl/ *a.* 肥沃的; 多产的

delta /'delta/ *n.* 三角洲

consistent /kən'sɪstənt/ *a.* 坚持的; 一致的

evidence /'evɪdəns/ *n.* 证据, 迹象

ancestor /'ænsəstə/ *n.* 祖先; 先驱

anthropology /,ænthrə'pɒlədʒi/ *n.* 人类学

propose /prə'pəuz/ *v.* 提议; 提出

trek /trek/ *n.* 艰辛的路程

was then as little as 2.5 miles wide, according to Adrian Parker, a physical geographer from Oxford Brookes University in the United Kingdom.

Once humans entered the peninsula, they **dispersed** and likely reached the Jebel Faya site by about 125,000 years ago, according to the study, published in the journal *Science*.

Geneticist Spencer Wells called the discovery a “very interesting find,” especially because the Arabian Peninsula is becoming a hot spot for archaeological finds—particularly underwater, since the Persian Gulf was a **fertile river delta** during early human migrations. But he noted that the study doesn’t “rewrite the book on what we know about human migratory history.” That’s because tools dating to the same period have already been found in Israel, so it’s “**consistent** with what we suspected” about an earlier wave of migration into the Middle East, said Wells, director of the National Geographic Society’s Genographic Project. Wells also noted there’s no **evidence** yet that the migrants in the new paper were our **ancestors**—the group, and their genes, may have died out long ago.

Bence Viola, of the Max-Planck-Institute for Evolutionary **Anthropology** in Leipzig, Germany, agreed the finding was interesting but not that surprising, also citing the evidence of humans in Israel about 120,000 years ago. Viola, who wasn’t involved in the study, added that the migration route **proposed** in the paper makes sense on another level—the Arabian Peninsula would have been something early humans were used to. “If you look even today, the environment in the Horn of Africa, in Somalia or northern Ethiopia, is similar to what you see in Oman or Yemen—not like the big desert,” Viola noted. “It’s not like they needed to adapt to a completely different environment—it’s an environment that they knew.”

Why they made the **trek** is another question, since they wouldn’t have been hurting for food or resources in their African homeland, Viola noted. “Curiosity,” he said, “is a pretty human desire.”

参 考 译 文

早期人类离开非洲的新证据

有研究称,大约 13 万年前的气候变化使海平面下降,在阿拉伯半岛出现了可以通航的湖泊和河流,这可能使水上交通变得更为便利。这一变化可能为早期现代人——约 20 万年前在非洲出现的人类——提供了一条从原来炎热的北部沙漠到中东的新路线。人们在沙漠中的阿联酋考古遗址中发现了一些 12 万年前的工具,研究人员受此启发写了这篇论文。这些工具——专家称其式样具有非洲特有的风格——这么早就出现在这个地区,说明早期的人类是直接从非洲之角,大体上就是现今的索马里走出非洲到阿拉伯半岛的。此前,科学家曾认为早期人类最初是通过尼罗河谷或远东离开非洲的。

“在这之前,我们都认为是文化发展给人们带来了离开非洲的机会,”德国蒂宾根大学退休的考古生物学家,这项研究的合著者汉斯·皮特·魏尔波曼说道。“我觉得,现在我们应该明白环境才是关键,”魏尔波曼在周三的一次新闻发布会上说。

这一发现“为人类的迁移留下了很多的可能性,牢记这一点可能会完全改变我们的视野。”在过去的几年里,人们在阿联酋的杰贝尔法亚遗址发现了一系列的工具,其中一些工具,例如手斧,有两个刃面,而这种式样的工具只出现在早期的非洲。

科学家用释光测年技术来确定这些石制工具上的沙粒的年代。这项技术能够测量沙粒所含有的自然辐射。为了收集气候数据,科学家研究了洞穴石笋中古湖水和河水的气候记录,以及红海水位的变化。13 万年前的气候要温暖得多,这为阿拉伯半岛带来了更多的降雨,从而形成了大量的河流,使人类得以划船或乘木筏通行。

在此期间,红海南部的水平面下降,为早期人类轻易穿过海峡提供了一个“短暂的时机”,——据阿德里安·帕克所说,当时海面只有 2.5 英里宽,他是一位来自英国牛津布鲁克斯大学的自然地理学家。

根据这篇发表在《科学》杂志上的论文,那些古非洲人一进入半岛便分散开来,很有可能在约 12.5 万年前到达杰贝尔法亚遗址。

遗传学家斯宾塞·韦尔斯将这一发现称为一个“非常有趣的发现”,特别是因为阿拉伯半岛正成为考古研究的热点——尤其是在水下,因为在早期人类迁移期间,波斯湾是一个肥沃的河流三角洲。但他指出,这项研究并没有“改写我们所知道的人类迁徙历史”。这是因为我们已经在以色列发现了属于同一时期的工具,所以这符合我们对早期到中东的迁移潮的猜想,国家地理学会基因地理项目主任韦尔斯说道。韦尔斯还指出目前尚没有证据表明这