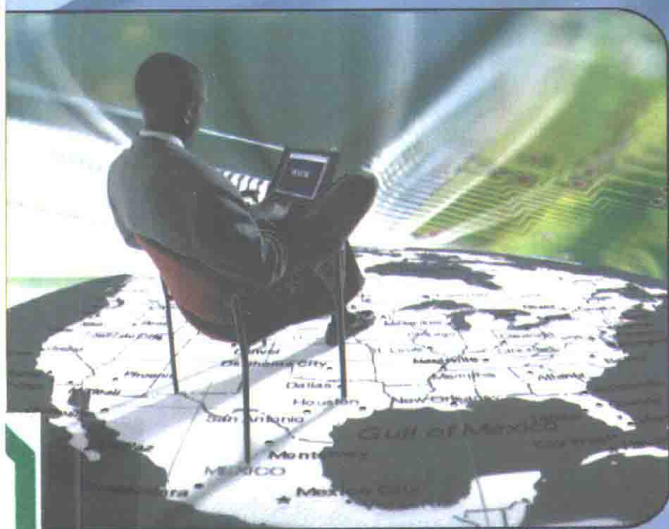


语文课外阅读丛书

聚焦科技



张丽娟
曾祥娟
编

新时代出版社



新时代英语课外
阅读丛书

聚焦科技

张丽娟 曾祥娟 编

新时代出版社

·北京·

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

聚焦科技/张丽娟,曾祥娟编. —北京:新时代出版社,2001.11

(新时代英语课外阅读丛书)

ISBN 7-5042-0635-0

I. 聚 ... II. ①张 ... ②曾 ... III. 英语 - 中学 - 课外读物 IV. G634.41

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2001)第 051700 号

新 时 代 出 版 社 出版发行

(北京市海淀区紫竹院南路 23 号)

(邮政编码 100044)

腾飞胶印厂印刷

新华书店经售

*

开本 787×960 1/32 印张 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ 116 千字

2001 年 11 月第 1 版 2001 年 11 月北京第 1 次印刷

印数:1—4000 册 定价:9.00 元

(本书如有印装错误,我社负责调换)

前言

在多年的英语教学实践中,我们发现学生在掌握了基本语法和一定量的词汇以及阅读技巧之后,阅读仍然存在许多困难。这主要是对常用词汇和语法缺乏具体感受,对英美文化缺乏一定了解的缘故。语言的发展和进化受时尚的支配,学习外语的同时也存在学习、了解外国文化的问题。实践证明,多读英语原文以增强语感和文化摄入是一条行之有效的提高阅读理解能力的途径。因此,推荐一些较好的背景知识性课外阅读材料,帮助解决英语学习中的难点、疑点,尽快提高英语学习者的阅读能力,扩大学生视野,提高学生素质,也就成了我们编写此书的最初设想。

《新时代英语课外阅读丛书》取材广泛,内容丰富广博,集知识性与趣味性于一体,具有较强的时代气息。《聚焦科技》涉及与现代生活息息相关的方方面面。从计算机到网络,从机器人到克隆技术,从环境保护到健康生活,有的文章介绍了最新科技发展动态,有的展望光辉灿烂的科学前景,无不深入浅出,引人入胜。《情系奥运》则从人文的角度系统地介绍了奥运知识,既有辉煌的奥运历史,又有历届奥

运冠军的夺冠趣事,更侧重于北京申奥的点点滴滴。《走近名人》帮助我们了解名人的内心世界,走入他们的生活。例如少年比尔·盖茨的学习和生活,曼德拉在狱中如何度过漫长几十年的,一个残疾科学家被邀请到白宫,克林顿跟他讲了一些什么……。《畅游仙境》则把你带入一个美好的童话、寓言世界,小熊的憨厚、小猴的机灵、大灰狼的狡诈等等,都会给你留下深刻的印象,既丰富了课外知识,又提高了英语阅读水平。

本丛书主要适用于中学生及大学低年级学生。水平偏低的读者可以用做学习材料,水平较高的可开拓视野,可精读,可泛读。读者既可欣赏英语语言之美,也可加深对英美文化的了解,扩大知识面。

本丛书根据文章内容及语言程度,从易到难精心设计编排,读者可以循序渐进,逐步提高。凡文中出现的个别难词、新词、俚语、俗语、短语和比较复杂的语法现象都略加注释,以帮助读者更好地阅读理解原文。

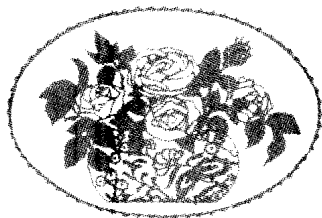
《聚焦科技》一书除封面署名作者外,邬易平、田踊也参与了编辑。

编 者

2001.5

内 容 简 介

本书内容涉及到与现代生活息息相关的方方面面,读之不仅能提高英文阅读水平,还可以从中了解很多科技知识,如“厄尔尼诺现象”、“未来的汽车”、“计算机犯罪”、“网络社会”、“机器人”、“克隆技术”、“电视与生活”等等,均是大家普遍关注的话题,读来引人入胜。



目 录

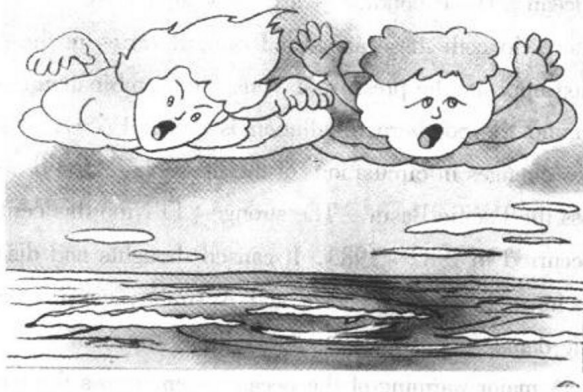
1. El Nino and La Nina	1
厄尔尼诺和拉尼娜	
2. S.O.S	6
紧急信号	
3. Water Pollution	12
水污染	
4. The Greenhouse Effect	17
温室效应	
5. Don't Believe These Environ- mental Myths	22
不要相信这些关于环境保护的荒诞说 法	
6. Cities of the Future	27
未来的城市	
7. Steps to the Future	31
迈向未来	
8. Car: On a Road to Nowhere	35
汽车:发展前景扑朔迷离	
9. The Car of the Future	41
未来的汽车	
10. What Is Multimedia?	46
什么是多媒体?	
11. Personal Computers in Future Homes	51
未来家庭中的个人计算机	
12. Computer Crime	56
计算机犯罪	

13. Finding It On line	61
在网上找信息	
14. Web Community	67
网络社会	
15. What Is Netiquette?	71
什么是网礼?	
16. Exploring Internet	77
网上漫游	
17. Rockets the Sky	82
火箭上天	
18. The First Man to Fly	86
首次尝试飞行的人	
19. Flying Saucers	91
飞碟	
20. We Reach the Moon	95
我们到了月球	
21. Is There Life on Mars?	101
火星上有生命吗?	
22. Cloning	106
克隆	
23. Gene Cloning	110
基因克隆	
24. Should We Clone Humans?	115
我们应该克隆人吗?	
25. Clone Ewe, But Not You	120
克隆羊,而不是你	
26. The Secrets of a Very Long Life	125

长寿的奥秘	
27. Television: How It Affects Our Lives	130
电视如何影响我们的生活	
28. A Whole New Body	135
一个全新的自己	
29. Bring the Past to Life	140
把自己带到现实中来	
30. The future is Full of Good Health	144
人类的健康前景是乐观的	
31. The Brain	149
大脑	
32. The Nerve System	154
神经系统	
33. All About Your Hair	158
你的头发	
34. Where Does Our Color Come From?	163
肤色是如何形成的?	
35. Your Body's Biological Clock	167
人体的生物钟	
36. The Mystery of Sleep	172
睡眠的秘密	
37. How was the Telephone Invented?	177
电话是如何发明的?	
38. E-mail Phones	181
电子邮件电话	
39. Robot	186
机器人	

40. Intelligent Robots	190
智能机器人	
41. Clocks through Time and Space	195
穿越时空的钟	
42. The Electronic Developments and the Future World	200
电子技术的发展与未来世界	
43. How Aircraft Carrier Developed?	205
航空母舰是怎样发展起来的?	

El Nino and La Nina (厄尔尼诺和拉尼娜)



El Nino is the Spanish name for the baby Jesus¹. The phenomenon is so - called because warm water moving across the Pacific traditionally reaches South America around Christmas². Scientists have now used the term El Nino to the major warming phenomenon. They noted that El Nino has a return period of four to five years³ and lasts





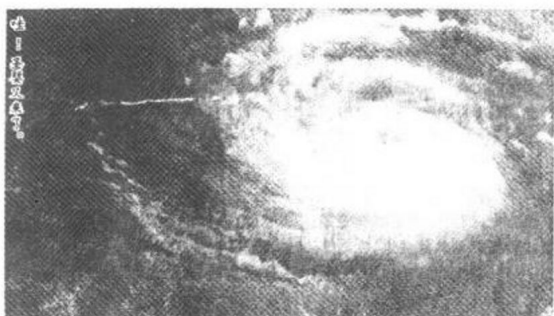
between 12 ~ 18 months.

In the late 1960s, scientists found out that it was the year - to - year changes in the sea surface temperature⁴ that led to El Nino events. These changes had close relationship with the Southern Oscillation⁵. Southern Oscillation is a relationship between atmospheric pressure over the southeastern Pacific and Indian Ocean. When pressure is high in the Pacific Ocean, it tends to be low in the Indian Ocean. These conditions are associated with low temperatures in both these areas and rainfall varies in the direction opposite the pressure⁶. Thus, the combination of El Nino and the Southern Oscillation is called ENSO. It involves changes in circulation⁷ of the atmosphere and oceans across the Pacific Basin⁸. The strongest El Nino this century occurred in 1982 ~ 1983. It caused droughts and disastrous forest fires in Indonesia and Australia, causing economic damage of at least US \$ 8 billion.

A major warming of the ocean waters across the eastern and central tropical⁹ Pacific Ocean has developed since March 1997. The El Nino developed very rapidly during April - May, and became the strongest by June¹⁰. This event is comparable in magnitude and extent to the 1982/1983 episode¹¹:

La Nina¹² weather phenomenon is characterized by





abnormally¹³ cold ocean conditions in the eastern equatorial Pacific. It brings opposite weather conditions to El Nino. Areas damaged by El Nino – generated¹⁴ draught, like Southeast Asia, tend to get unusually heavy rain and sometimes floods. La Nina is not a new phenomenon. According to WMO (World Meteorological Organization)¹⁵, La Nina occurred in 1904, 1908, 1916, 1938, 1950, 1954, 1964, 1970, 1973, 1975, 1988 and 1995. It has its effect between November and February¹⁶. The Southeast Asian region, especially countries near the equator, would receive a direct impact from La Nina because the warm current moves from South America's Equatorial Pacific sea coast. The warm current would cause higher sea temperature, then cause heavy rainfall. Countries like Chile, Ecuador and Peru would experience the opposite impact. When warm current moves towards Southeast Asia, cold





current that lead to¹⁷ dry climate and drought would replace it. The study predicted that a dry climate and drought would occur in these countries' pacific coastal zone¹⁸.

Notes

1. El Nino is the Spanish name for the baby Jesus.
厄尔尼诺在西班牙语中是圣婴的意思
2. Christmas 圣诞节
3. a return period of four to five years
每隔四到五年产生一次轮回
4. the year - to - year changess in the sea surface temperature 每年的海面温度变化
5. Southern Oscillation 南部波动,指东南太平洋与印度洋之间的气压关系
6. rainfall varies in the direction opposite the pressure
降雨量与气压成反比
7. circulation 循环
8. the Pacific Basin 太平洋盆地
9. tropical 热带
10. reached strong intensity by June 六月达到最强
11. This event is comparable in magnitude and extent to the 1982/1983 episode. 这一现象在规模和程度上都可以跟 1982 ~ 1983 年那次相提并论。Comparable 可比较的,比得上的





- 12. La Nina 拉尼娜,原意为圣女
- 13. abnormally 非正常地
- 14. generated 引起,导致
- 15. WMO = The World Meteorological Organization
世界气象组织
- 16. It has its effect between November and February.
它发生作用的时间为 11 月至次年 2 月
- 17. lead to 导致
- 18. pacific coastal zone 太平洋沿岸区域



2

S.O.S¹

(紧急信号)



The environment is everything that surrounds us: plants, animals, buildings, country, air and water. In other words, it is everything that can affect² us. The environment of the town, with its buildings, traffic, noise and smells³ is quite different from⁴ that of the countryside, with its fields and crops, wild and domestic animals⁵, and wide - open



spaces. And environment differs in different parts of the world.

Over the past thirty years or so the quality of many people's lives has become worse and worse in some respects because of technological progress. Cities can be frightening⁶ places. Most people live in noisy massive tower blocks⁷. And those living near airports are constantly attacked by the noise of larger and more powerful jet aircraft's noise. All you can see from your window is sky, or other blocks of flats. Children stay at home all day with nowhere to play. People feel isolated from the rest of the world. Strangely enough, in the past people living in one street all knew each other, but nowadays people on the same floor don't even say hello to each other.

As we know, ecology⁸ is the science of how living creatures and plants exist together and depend on each other and on the local environment. Where an environment is undisturbed⁹, the ecology of the area is in balance.

Man is part of the environment and has done more to upset¹⁰ the ecology during his short span¹¹ on earth. He has done this by his ignorance, his greed, and his wastefulness¹².

Man has poisoned the atmosphere and polluted both land and water. He has wasted the earth's natural resources.

