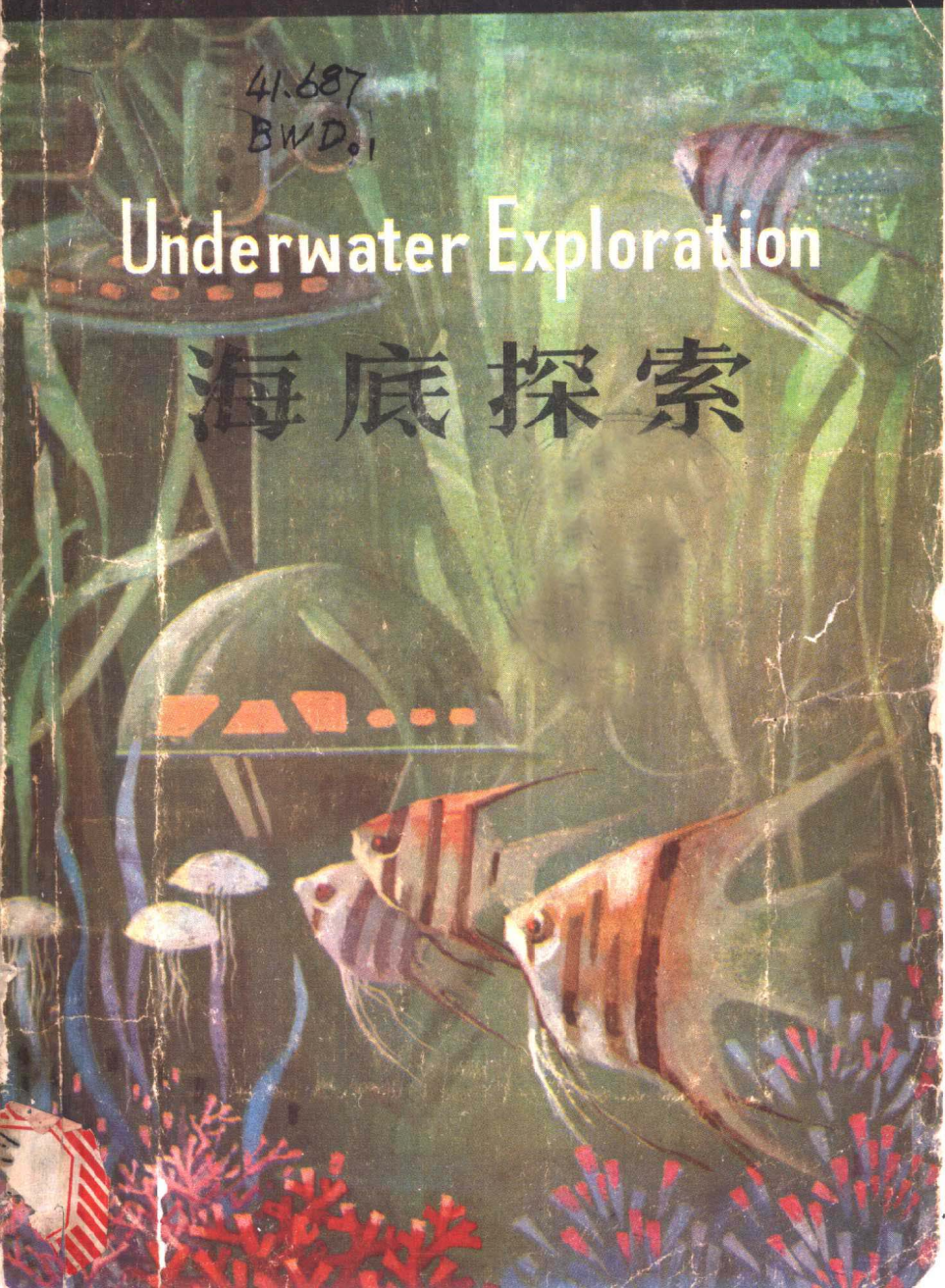


英汉对照科普读物

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# Underwater Exploration

## 海底探索



英汉词典

类物

期

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## 海底探索

[英] 理查德·鲍伍德 著

楼世正

谭志明

马秉恭

译注

陕西科学技术出版社

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# **A Ladybird 'Achievement' Book**

## **Underwater Exploration**

This book tells of man's achievements in underwater exploration and travel. With clear text and superb colour illustrations it describes the world under the sea, the early divers and gradual development of diving helmets, suits and other equipment, the invention of the submarine and the latest devices for exploring at great depths.

by Richard Bowood

with illustrations by B. Knight

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## 译注者的话

这本小册子扼要地讲述了人类在海底探索方面的成就。从人们最初用原始的闭气办法潜水采珠，到用潜水安全帽、潜水服以及现代化的潜水设备打捞海底沉船作了描述。同时，对海洋中的水生动、植物；对潜水艇、探海球以及探海艇等新的探海器也作了介绍。这对我们了解奇妙的海洋世界，探索海底的秘密都有益处。

本书内容通俗有趣，文字简易流畅，语法较规范，基本词汇重复率较高，可供初步掌握基础语法的读者阅读。为便于不同程度的对象阅读，我们对语法难点，特别是词汇惯用搭配作了注释；书后附有词汇表（约 800 个单词）以便查阅。

全书共 24 小节，原文各节前无序号，为方便起见，加了序号。原文每节附有彩色插图，译注时全部删去。内文以斜体字排的，均为注释部分。

由于译注者水平有限，时间仓促，难免有不妥之处，恳切希望读者批评指正。

# CONTENTS

## 目 录

1 The World Beneath the Sea.....	(1)
海洋世界 .....	(3)
2 Divers of Ancient Days.....	(4)
古代的潜水员 .....	(7)
3 Pearl Diving .....	(9)
潜水采珠 .....	(11)
4 The Diving Helmet .....	(12)
潜水安全帽 .....	(15)
5 The First Submarines .....	(17)
最早的潜艇 .....	(20)
6 The Wreck of the <i>Royal George</i> .....	(22)
“罗亚尔·乔治号”的失事 .....	(24)
7 Demolition of the <i>Royal George</i> .....	(26)
“罗亚尔·乔治号”的爆破工作 .....	(28)
8 The Diving Bell .....	(29)
潜水罩 .....	(31)
9 Diver's Dress .....	(32)
潜水员的服装 .....	(34)

10	Going...Down.....	(35)
	下潜 .....	(37)
11	The Diver at Work.....	(38)
	潜水员在工作.....	(40)
12	Return to the Surface.....	(41)
	返回水面.....	(44)
13	Breathing Cylinders and Armour.....	(45)
	呼吸气罐和装甲潜水服.....	(47)
14	Submarines.....	(48)
	潜水艇.....	(51)
15	"Dive, Dive, Dive!" .....	(52)
	"下潜, 下潜, 下潜!" .....	(54)
16	Schnorkel and Escape Chamber.....	(55)
	通气管和救生舱.....	(57)
17	Midgets and Giants.....	(58)
	小型潜艇和巨型潜艇.....	(60)
18	More Freedom for the Diver .....	(61)
	潜水员有了更大的自由.....	(63)
19	Fish Friends and Foes .....	(64)
	友鱼与敌鱼.....	(67)
20	Wrecks of 2000 Years Ago .....	(69)
	2000 年前的沉船 .....	(71)
21	Sea Salvage .....	(72)
	海底打捞.....	(75)

22	Treasure of the Deep .....	(76)
	海底宝藏 .....	(79)
23	Into the Deepest of the Deep .....	(81)
	已能探索的海洋最深处 .....	(84)
24	The Diving Saucer .....	(85)
	潜水碟 .....	(88)
	Vocabulary 词汇表 .....	(89)



## 1 The World Beneath the Sea

*Man*<sup>1</sup> has explored and mapped the dry land. He has climbed the highest mountains, penetrated the densest jungles and crossed the most desolate deserts. All these are measured and known, but the exploration of the vast world beneath the sea has only just begun.

Nearly three-quarters of the earth's surface is water to an average depth of two and three-quarter *miles*<sup>2</sup>. The immense area of the ocean bed with its great level plains, its sunken mountain ranges and its deep canyons still *awaits*<sup>3</sup> the explorers.

The seas *teem with*<sup>4</sup> animal and plant life. There are more than twenty thousand species of fish of *every*<sup>5</sup> shape, size and colour. The largest sea creature is the whale, and a blue whale can weigh a hundred tons. The smallest are so tiny *that*<sup>6</sup> they can only be seen through a microscope, yet they are of *dreamlike beauty*<sup>7</sup>. *Between these two extremes is a great range*

of creatures<sup>8</sup>; fish crustaceans such as lobsters and crabs, and such molluscs as the giant squid and the oyster and cockle.

*Underwater*<sup>9</sup> plants have infinite variety, too; there are many kinds of seaweed, and countless strange plants. There are even some sea creatures which look like plants.

In the eternal darkness of *the deep*<sup>10</sup>, *live animals and plants which man has not yet seen*<sup>11</sup>. This book describes man's exploration and achievements in this strange world of the sea.

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1. man 以单数形式出现, 不加冠词时, 作“人类”讲。 2. 一英里(mile) = 1.609 公里。 3. 及物动词。对比 wait, 常作不及物动词, 后面跟介词 for。例如: I am waiting for him 相当于 I am awaiting him. (我在等他。) wait 比较通俗, 用得更多些。

4. 充满; 富于。 5. 强调“全部”, 直译为“所有形状、大小、颜色的鱼, 海里都有。” every 和 each 不同, 后者强调“每一个”。

6. 如此……以致于……, 引出结果状语从句。 7. of 表示具有某些性质、内容、状况等。直译为“……具有梦幻般的美姿。”

8. 倒装句。主语为“a great range of creatures”, 表语为“between these two extremes”, extremes 意为“极端”, 这里指最大的动物和最小的生物两个极端。 9. 形容词, 作定语。本节后面出现的“under water”, 则为介词短语。 10. 常用于诗歌, 指“大海”。 11. 倒装句, 主语为“animals and plants which …”; 谓语为 live。

# 一 海洋世界

人类对陆地已进行了勘探并绘制了地图：他们攀登过最高的山脉，深入到最茂密的丛林，并穿越了极其荒芜的沙漠。他们对这些地方进行了勘测，并有了一定的认识，但对广阔的海洋世界的探索还只是刚刚开始。

地球表面水域几乎占四分之三，平均深度为二又四分之三英里。在这浩瀚的海洋底部尚有广阔的平原、淹没在水中的山脉和深谷，有待探险家们去探索。

海洋里的动、植物非常丰富，有两万多种鱼类，其形状、大小、颜色各不相同。最大的海洋动物是鲸鱼，一条蓝鲸鱼能有一百吨重；最小的生物用显微镜才能看见，然而它们却象梦幻中所见到的东西那样美妙。在这大小两者中间，有大量的水生动物：有甲壳类动物，如龙虾和海蟹；有软体动物，如大乌贼，牡蛎和鸟蛤等。

水生植物也是种类繁多说不完的，有多种海藻以及无数奇异的植物，甚至有的水生动物，看起来很象是植物。

在永远黑暗的深海中，还有一些人们从未见过的动、植物。本书描述人类对这个奇妙的海洋世界所进行的探索以及所取得的成就。

## 2 Divers of Ancient Days

Modern science has *made it possible for man to descend* safely to considerable depths, and to *stay*<sup>1</sup> under water for a long time. He can wear a diving suit with an air-tube to the surface, or he can carry his air supply strapped to his back with a tube to his mouth. He can go down in a submarine or in a specially constructed observation chamber.

But when a man dives without any equipment he can only stay under *as long as*<sup>2</sup> he can hold his breath, and the depth to *which he can go with safety is limited by the weight of the water above him*<sup>3</sup>, *which*<sup>4</sup> exerts a considerable pressure on the body. At thirty *feet*<sup>5</sup> this pressure is thirteen *pounds*<sup>6</sup> per square *inch*<sup>7</sup>, at one hundred feet it is forty-five pounds per square inch, and at one hundred and fifty feet it becomes sixty-six pounds.

Men have dived for thousands of years, but stayed under only for short periods. *Xerxes*<sup>8</sup>,

king of Persia employed a famous Greek diver in 460 B.C.<sup>9</sup> to dive to salvage treasure from sunken ships. *Alexander the Great*<sup>10</sup> used divers at the siege of *Tyre*<sup>11</sup> in 333 B. C. to destroy the booms put up by the enemy to defend the city from his ships.

Divers were used in ancient days to collect coral, mother-of-pearl and sponges from the bed of the Mediterranean. Sponges are still obtained by divers who plunge from boats, holding a heavy stone fastened to a rope. The weight takes them quickly to the bottom, where they cut the sponges with a knife, put them in a bag, tug the rope as a signal and are hauled to the surface.

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1. it 代替后面两个动词不定式 to descend 和 to stay, 是先行词 (也叫形式宾语)。它和 possible 构成 made 的复合宾语。例如: All these noises made it impossible to go on with the work. (这些噪音使工作无法进行下去。) 2. 长达。第二个 as 引出程度状语从句。3. 定语从句。介词 to 也可以放在从句谓语 go 之后, 但放在 which 之前更普遍, 这种情况本书中很多。 4. which 代替上文的 "weight of the water above him", 引出非限制性定语从句, 补充说明上文。翻译时通常另起一句。 5. 一英尺 (foot 的复数形

式为 feet) = 12 英寸 = 30.48 厘米。 6. 一英磅 (pound) = 0.454 公斤。 7. 一英寸 (inch) = 2.54 厘米。 8. 泽尔士 (即泽尔士一世, 公元前 519 年—前 465 年), 曾为波斯国王 (公元前 486 年—前 465 年在位)。 9. B.C. 或 BC (Before Christ 的缩写)。指公元前。 10. 亚历山大大帝 (公元前 356 年—前 323 年), 古代著名统帅, 曾为马其顿国王 (公元前 336 年—前 323 年在位)。他为了掠夺土地和财富, 曾大举入侵东方; 公元前 333 年败波斯王大流士三世于伊苏城。 11. 蒂尔, 黎巴嫩南部沿海的一个城市。

## 二 古代的潜水员

现代科学能使人类安全地潜到相当可观的深度，并在水下停留很长的时间。他们可以穿上潜水服，用一条通气管通到水面，或者把空气供应装置绑在背上，用一根管子通到嘴里；还可以在潜艇里或特制的观察器里下潜。

潜水员如果不用潜水装置，只能在水中停留闭一口气的时间；而他安全下潜的深度，则受他身上水的重量的限制，这就是作用在他身上的巨大的水压。在 30 英尺深处，水压为每平方英寸 13 磅；100 英尺深为每平方英寸 45 磅；而 150 英尺深则水压可达每平方英寸 66 磅。

人们潜水的历史已经有几千年了，而在水下停留的时间却很短暂。公元前 460 年，波斯王泽尔士雇用了一个著名的希腊潜水员，从沉没的船中打捞金银财宝。公元前 333 年，亚历山大大帝在围攻蒂尔城时，利用潜水员去破坏敌人为了防守该城不受他的船舰进攻所设置的水下栅栏。

古时候，潜水员被雇来在地中海海底采集珊瑚、珍珠以及海绵。至今，采海绵仍然靠潜水员抱一块绑着绳子的大石头，从船上跳进水中采集。这块重石头

使他们很快沉到海底。在那里，他们开始用力割下海绵，装进一个袋子，然后拉绳子发出信号，船上的人就把他们拉到水面。



### 3 Pearl Diving

One of the most beautiful and precious gems is the pearl, which is found at the bottom of the sea. A pearl is a *growth*<sup>1</sup> inside the shell of a pearl-oyster. *Oysters line their shells with a very smooth substance called mother-of-pearl*<sup>2</sup>, and if anything gets inside a shell the oyster makes that smooth too. If, for example, a *grain*<sup>3</sup> of sand gets in the shell, the oyster covers it with layers of mother-of-pearl, until it becomes perfectly smooth—and that is the pearl.

About a thousand oysters have to be collected *to find*<sup>4</sup> one shell containing a pearl, and *it is only occasionally that*<sup>5</sup> a perfect pearl of great value is found.

The richest pearl-oyster beds are off *Ceylon*<sup>6</sup>, in the Persian Gulf and in the Southern Pacific Islands. Pearls are also found off Australia and the coast of California.

Pearl divers learn to hold their breath for