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华东师范大学  
沈勤敏 王敏华 主编

地道纯美英语

# 英语听力大世界

(四)

*Words and Their stories*

领略美国文化、风俗和语言的风采

An Insight into American Culture Customs and Language

东华大学出版社

# 英语听力大世界 (四)

## Words and Their Stories



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## 编者的话

我们编写此书的宗旨是帮助广大的在校大学生和英语学习者提高英语听力。Words and Their Stories 分四册，共收集了七十五篇词汇故事。通过这四册书的听力训练，相信广大学生和英语爱好者不仅能提高英语听力，而且还能了解美国人日常生活中使用的一些常用语，透过这些日常用语的来龙去脉，能或多或少地了解美国人生活的过去和今天。这对学好美语和恰如其分地使用美语将是有百利而无一弊的。

根据词汇故事的特点，本书每一篇课文安排如下：

### 第一部分 词汇

考虑到有些词看得懂，但一时不一定能听得懂，因而在编写过程中尽可能多列出一些词和词组。词和词组的意思完全根据上、下文中的意思来注。

### 第二部分 注释

这部分根据需求而设。如有的课文没有注释的必要，我们就略去了。

### 第三部分 听力练习

听力练习由练习 A 和 B 组成。练习 A 一般是针对词和词组的理解而编；练习 B 旨在帮助听者理解整篇文章或文章中的某些细节。有时练习 B 的目的在于帮助听者掌握对词和词组的运用。

### 第四部分 听写填充

听写填充的设计目的在于帮助听者提高听力的准确性和培养听者做笔记的能力。

参加本书编写的有王晓宁，王敏华，吴瑾和徐璐璐。参加录音文字翻译的有王敏华、吴瑾、徐璐璐和沈勤敏。主编 沈勤敏 王敏华。

本书的录音磁带除指令部分另外录制外，由“美国之音”馈赠，因而音质清晰悦耳。

另外本书由美籍教师 Gillian Kitrick 审阅。她非常认真、仔细地审阅了全书，并且核对了录音和录音文字。在此表示由衷的感谢。

如书中存在错误，欢迎指正。

编者

2002/7/20

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## Unit One NUTS AND BOLTS

### I . Vocabulary

nut /nʌt/	n. 螺帽
bolt /bəʊlt/	n. 螺栓
element /'elimənt/	n. 组成部分,要素
diplomacy /di'pləʊməsi/	n. 外交
shape /ʃeip/	v. 形成、构成
approve /'əpru:v/	v. 通过
committee /kə'miti/	n. 委员会
senator /'senətə/	n. 参议员
congressman /'kɒŋɡrəsman/	n. 国会议员 (尤指众议院)
assistant /ə'sistənt/	n. 助理
vote /vəʊt/	v. 投票表决
legislator /'leɪdʒɪsleɪtə/	n. 立法委员
unquestionably /ʌn'kwɛstʃənəbli/	ad. 毫无疑问地
negotiation /ni,gəʊ'fi'eɪʃən/	n. 谈判
negotiate /ni,gəʊ'fi:ɪt/	v. 谈判
ambassador /æm'bæsədə/	n. 大使
logistics /lə'dʒɪstiks/	n. 后勤
nail /neil/	n. 钉子
horseshoe /'hɔ:s'ʃu:/	n. 马蹄铁
fall apart	分离、瓦解
prime minister	首相、总理
a mass of	许许多多
day-to-day	a. 日常
joint action	联合行动
military operation	军事行动
strategy decision	战略决策
for want of	因为缺少

## II .Notes

1. Congress 美国国会(由参议院 Senate 和众议院 House of Representatives 组成)
2. the Majority Leader of the Senate 参议院多数党领袖
3. the Speaker of the House of Representatives 众议院发言人
4. Elizabethan poet 伊丽莎白女王时代的诗人, 如文中提到的 George Herbert
5. Benjamin Franklin 美国政治家、科学家 (1706 ~ 1790)

## III. Listening Exercises

A. Listen to the tape twice and choose the best answers to the following questions.

1. What does "nuts and bolts" mean ?

- a. Very important persons.
- b. Basic, necessary elements.
- c. Some detailed work of negotiations.
- d. Both b and c.

2. What does "eyes and ears" mean ?

- a. Something that is valuable.
- b. Very important politicians.
- c. Information collectors.
- d. All of the above.

3. In military operation , what is considered as "nuts and bolts"?

- a. Transportation of an army.
- b. Supply of the food.
- c. Logistics.
- d. Strategy decisions.

4. What does the poem in the passage express ?

- a. The extreme importance of basic elements.
- b. The extreme importance of an army.

c. The extreme importance of a battle.

d. The extreme importance of a horseshoe nail.

B. Listen to the tape again and decide whether the following statements are T(true) or F(false).

1. In the government, a lot of detailed work should be done by the president. ( )

2. Prime minister is the person who plans policies and gets them approved. ( )

3. In diplomacy, the chief ministers will not do the preparations for negotiations ( ).

4. In military operation, strategy decisions are as important as logistics. ( )

#### IV. Spot Dictation

Listen to the tape twice and fill in the blanks with the missing words. This is equally true in the day-to-day operation of \_\_\_\_\_. The \_\_\_\_\_, keep the business of Congress moving.

Behind every Senator and Congressman, however, are assistants. These people do all the \_\_\_\_\_ to prepare Congressmen to \_\_\_\_\_ each issue. The top assistant is the " \_\_\_\_\_" of the legislator.

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## Unit One NUTS AND BOLTS

## 第一单元 基本要素

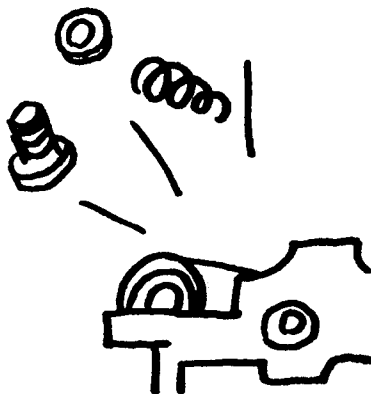
Every machine is held together by its "nuts and bolts." Without them, the machine would fall apart. That is also true of an organization. Its "nuts and bolts" are its basic, necessary elements. They are the parts that make the organization work.

In government, industry, diplomacy -- in most anything those who understand the "nuts and bolts" are the most important. Success depends more on them than on almost anyone else.

In government, the president or prime minister may plan and shape programs and policies, but it takes much more work to get them approved and to make them successful. There is a mass of detailed work to be done, the "nuts and bolts." This is often put into the hands of specialists. The top leaders are always well known, but not those who work with the "nuts and bolts."

*This is equally true in the day-to-day*

每一台机器都是由螺帽和螺栓装配而成的。如果没有了它们，机器就会散了架。对于一个组织来说也是如此。所以螺帽和螺栓是最基本、最重要的组成部分。它们是使一个组织运转的基本要素。



在政府机构、工业、外交领域，几乎在每一个领域，懂得螺帽和螺栓原理的人往往是最重要的人物。因为成功要靠他们。

在政府机构中，总统或首相也许是计划与决策的人。但是如果要想让这些计划和政策顺利通过并付诸实施，还有许多细致的工作要做。这些细节上的工作被称为基本要素，它们都是由专家来完成的。那些决策者非常出名，但这些专家却是默默无闻干实事的人。

在国会的日常运作中也同样如

*operation of Congress. The Majority Leader of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, together with the chairmen of committees, keep the business of Congress moving.*

*Behind every Senator and Congressman, however, are assistants. These people do all the detailed work to prepare Congressmen to vote wisely on each issue. The top assistant is the "eyes and ears" of the legislator.*

In diplomacy, the chief ministers are unquestionably important in negotiations. But there are lesser officials who do the basic work and preparations on the different issues to be negotiated.

A recent book tells of a British prime minister who decided to send an ambassador to Washington to learn if details could be worked out for joint action on an issue. The talks in Washington, the minister said, would be of "nuts and bolts." He meant, of course, the talks would concern all the necessary elements to make joint action successful.

In a military operation, strategy decisions are important. But much more time is spent on the "nuts and bolts," generally called logistics---- of how to transport and supply an army.

It has been said that Napoleon was successful because he knew the field po-

此。众所周知，参议院多数党领袖以及众议院发言人，他们和各委员会主席一起维持着国会的日常运作。

但是在每个参议员和国会议员背后都有各自的助手。他们做的都是一些具体的细节工作，以便为议员们对每项重大事件进行明智的表决做准备。所以说这些助手就成了立法委员们的“耳目”。

毫无疑问，在外交中，首席部长是谈判的核心人物。但是为谈判做准备工作的却是一些不太出头露面的官员。

最近有一本书提到，英国首相派一位特使去华盛顿，让他了解关于一项重大事件的联合行动计划是否可以出台。首相一再声明，此次华盛顿谈判将会是“nuts and bolts”。他的意思是说这个谈判涉及到关于此次联合行动是否成功的所有要素。

在军事行动中，战略决策固然非常重要，但是在一些基本要素也就是后勤上也需要花许多时间。比如军队运输和供给上。

曾经有人说，拿破仑之所以会成功是因为他了解他手下的一兵一卒。

sition of every one of his guns. He gave careful attention to the "nuts and bolts" of his operations.

The extreme importance of "nuts and bolts" was expressed by the Elizabethan poet, George Herbert.

He wrote:

"For want of a nail, the shoe is lost,  
For want of a shoe, the horse is lost,

For want of a horse, the rider is lost.

Benjamin Franklin carried these lines even further. He wrote

"For want of a rider, the battle was lost,

For want of a battle, the kingdom was lost,

And all for the want of a horseshoe nail."

也就是说他对每项军事行动的细节问题都了如指掌。

关于基本要素的重要性，伊丽莎白女王时期的诗人，乔治赫伯特在他的诗中表达得淋漓尽致。

"因为缺少一颗马蹄铁钉，马蹄铁丢失了。"

"因为缺少一只马蹄铁，马战死了。"

"因为缺少一匹马，骑士阵亡了。"

本杰明·富兰克林接着这首诗写道：

"因为缺少一名骑士，战役输了。"

"因为输了一场战役，国家亡了。"

而所有这些就只因为缺少一颗马蹄铁钉。"

## 答案

Unit One NUTS AND BOLTS

Listening Exercises

A. 1.d 2.c 3.c 4.a

B. 1.F 2.F 3.T 4.T

## Unit Two ON THE BEAM

### I. Vocabulary

beam /bi:m/	n. (导航用无线电或雷达的) 射束
age /eidʒ/	n. 时代
radio /'reidiəu/	n. 电波
signal /'signəl/	n. 信号
flier /flaɪə/	n. 飞行员
closely /'kləʊsli/	ad. 严密地、仔细地
daylight /'deɪlaɪt/	n. 白天
nose /nəʊz/	n. (飞机的)机头
point /pɔɪnt/	v. 把... 对着...
speed /spi:d/	v. 快速飞行
barrel /'bærəl/	n. 桶
take on	呈现、显现
on course	飞行航向正确
call on	借鉴
stock market	股票市场
a new low	(股指、股价)新低

### II. Listening Exercises

#### A. Listen to the tape and match the expressions with their explanations

##### Expressions

1. on the beam ( ) ( )
2. off the beam ( ) ( )
3. fly by the seat of one's pants ( )
4. nose dive ( ) ( )

##### Explanations

- a. flying a wrong course
- b. Something suddenly drops
- c. be on course
- d. do what feels right to someone

~~He didn't see~~ as the right idea

f. speed faster toward ground

g. wrong course of action

B. Choose the proper expressions to fill in the blanks.

a. on the beam

b. off the beam

c. fly by the seats of his pants

d. nose dive

1. Oil price took a\_\_\_\_today, dropping by three dollars a barrel.

2. When a worker does his job exactly as his boss told him to do it , he is said to be\_\_\_\_.

3. What he taught is\_\_\_\_, no one would believe him.

4. The job is new to Tom, no instructions or help, so he has to\_\_\_\_\_.

### III. Spot Dictation

Listen to the tape twice and fill in the blanks with the missing words

In the old days of flying , a pilot did not have a lot of instruments to help him fly his plane.

\_\_\_\_\_, with good weather , a pilot could see exactly where he was flying and where his plane was\_\_\_\_\_. But in bad weather , when it was difficult to see , he had only his experience to guide him. He had to " \_\_\_\_\_ ," by\_\_\_\_\_to him.

## Unit Two ON THE BEAM

## 第二单元 正确

Our expressions today first were used to describe pilots and flying.

我们今天讲的词语最初用于航空与飞行方面。

The age of flight has given us some interesting ways of saying things. Some of the expressions used in flying have taken on new and different meanings. One such expression is "on the beam."

飞行时代给我们带来了许多有趣的语言表达方式。其中一些是飞行术语，现在借来了许多新的含义。例如，

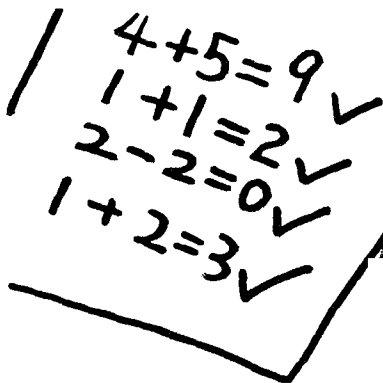
“on the beam”

The beam in this case is a radio signal. Not the kind of radio signal that you hear when you listen to the Voice of America. Instead, it is a radio signal that is used to help fliers find their way from one place to another. Instruments tell the pilot of a plane when he is exactly on course, when he is closely following the radio signal. He is "on the beam."

“beam”在这里指一种电波信号。当然不是你在美国之音中听到的那种，而是那种帮助飞行员找到正确航线的电波信号。这些设备可以让飞行员知道他是否在正确的航线上。当飞行员能够严格按电波信号指示飞行的时候，我们称他“on the beam”。

Americans also use the expression now to mean that someone has the right idea, or is taking the right course of action. When a student does his work exactly as his teacher told him to do it, the teacher might say that the student is "on the beam."

美国人有时也用这个词语来表示某人的想法或做法正确。当一个学生完全按照老师所说的去做了，老师可以说他做得对 (on the beam)。



beam" when he is not following the radio signal correctly and is flying a wrong course. In the same way, the expression could be used to describe any wrong idea or any wrong course of action.

*In the old days of flying, a pilot did not have a lot of instruments to help him fly his plane. In daylight, with good weather, a pilot could see exactly where he was flying and where his plane was in the air. But in bad weather, when it was difficult to see, he had only his experience to guide him. He had to "fly by the seat of his pants," by what felt right to him.*

Today, people use this expression when they talk about doing something new without instructions or help. Perhaps it is a new job that must be done, and there is no one to tell you how to do it. You must call on past experience to decide how to do it. You must "fly by the seat of your pants."

"Nose dive" is another expression from flying that is used in other situations. When a pilot points the nose of his plane toward the ground, he is in a nose dive. He speeds faster and faster toward the ground.

The expression is often used in news reports when something suddenly drops.

当飞行员没有按照电波信号指示飞行或飞错航道的时候，我们称他是“off the beam”。同样，这个词语可以用来指错误的想法或做法。

在过去，飞行员没有可以帮助他们飞行的设备，所以他们只能靠肉眼来判断。但他们只有在白天而且天气晴朗的时候，才可以判断自己在何处飞行以及飞机在空中的位置。如果天气恶劣，能见度很差，他们就很难判断飞机在空中的位置。这时，飞行员只能凭自己的经验飞行。这被称为“fly by the seats of his pants”，也就是说凭感觉飞行。

今天当人们谈到做一些新的事情，而且毫无指令或帮助时，就会用到这个词语。比如你要接手一件新工作，没有人告诉你该怎么做，这时你就要凭自己过去的经验决定该怎么做。你必须“fly by the seats of your pants”（凭经验做事）。

“俯冲”是在飞行中用到的另一个词语。现在其他场合也会用到。当飞行员把飞机头朝地面加速飞去时，这就是在俯冲。

这个词语目前在一些新闻报道中经常可以听到。它指某物急速下降。

A newspaper might say, "Oil prices took a nose dive today, dropping by three dollars a barrel," or "The stock market nose-dived today to a new low."

有时你可能在报纸上会读到：“今天油价暴跌，每桶下跌三美元。”或者：“今天股票市场指数跌至新低。”

## 答案

Unit Two ON THE BEAM

Listening Exercises

A. 1.c.e 2.a.g 3.d 4.b.f

B. 1.d 2.a 3.b 4.c



## Unit Three POKER

### I. Vocabulary

poker /'pəʊkə/	n. 扑克
willingness /'wɪlɪnɪs/	n. 意愿、心情
wild /waɪld/	a. 荒凉的、未开垦的
tense /tens/	a. 激烈的
conflict /'kɒflikt/	n. 冲突
cowboy /'kaʊbɔɪ/	n. 牛仔
gunfight /'gʌnfait/	n. 枪战
opposing /ə'pəʊzɪŋ/	a. 对立的
budget /'bʌdʒɪt/	n. 预算
bet /bet/	n. 赌注 v. 赌(钱)
chip /tʃɪp/	n. (作赌注用的)筹码
investor /ɪn'vestə/	n. 投资者
earning /'ɜːnɪ/	n. 收益
investment /ɪn'vestmənt/	n. 投资
cash /kæʃ/	v. 兑现
call for	要求
take chances	碰运气
head for	朝...而去、前往
come up	被提出
trade...for...	把...与...交易

### II. Notes

1. as American as apple pie 地道美国式的
2. New York Stock Exchange 纽约证券交易所

### III. Listening Exercises

A. Listen to the tape twice and fill in the blanks with the missing words

#### Words and Expressions

1. showdown

#### Explanations

a \_\_\_ between \_\_\_ sides or teams