Listen to International News: Step by Step

主 编: 陈鸣芬

副主编: 覃成海 史 康



大学英语应用能力进阶系列教材

海南大学"中西部提升项目——本科教学质量与改革工程项目"

国际新闻英语听力进阶教程

Listen to International News: Step by Step

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内容简介

本教程为进一步提高大学生的英语新闻听力而设计,共12个单元,分为上下两篇:上篇为新闻听力入门,下篇为标准英语新闻。本教程以主题为中心,每单元提供大量相关主题的新闻报道和听力模拟训练,听力材料难度呈阶梯性,通过反复重现和大量练习帮助学习者温故而知新,掌握英语新闻的听力技巧,提高英语新闻听力水平。本教程可作为大学英语选修课程或后续课程的教材使用,亦可供广大英语学习者提高英语听力水平自学使用。

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总 序

高等教育改革发展在党的十八大之后,站在了新的历史起点上。就大学英语教学本身而言,我们当前面临的主要任务是如何把大学英语课程建设成大学生真心喜欢、终身受益的优质课程,以便更好地满足大学生接受高质量、多样化大学英语教学的需求,更加适应国家经济社会发展对人才培养的新要求。

近十年来,围绕着提高大学英语教学质量这一目标,海南大学的大学英语教学改革经历了四个阶段:

- 一、2004 年参与教育部启动的大学英语教学改革项目,成为全国 180 家试点院校之一,推行大学英语网络化教学试点;
- 二、2007年成为全国 65 所教育部大学英语教学改革示范点单位之一,承担向周边院校推广辐射大学英语教学改革成果的重任;
- 三、2010年,全面推行大学英语网络化教学,同年海南大学成为大学英语四、六级网考试点单位,大学英语教学改革全面普及;

四、2012 年海南大学启动基于课程改革的新一轮大学英语教学改革。此次改革以课程改革为出发点,改变以往大学英语只有一门课程的局面,通过拓展课程逐步形成新的大学英语课程体系,赋予大学英语新的内涵,以满足学生个性需要和社会需求。

此次出版的五本应用能力进阶系列教材便是我校多年大学英语教学改革的结晶之作。在出版的过程中,我们得到了学校教务处的大力支持,将该系列教材纳入学校中西部提升项目之本科教学质量与改革工程的子项目,予以全额资助,并多次组织专家对立项教材的选题、内容给予指导。同时,该系列教材也倾注了相关任课教师的心血,正是由于这些教师多年的坚持积累和无私付出,才有了这些成果。

在本系列教材即将付梓之际,敬请广大读者和专家斧正,以使之日臻完善。同时,谨向关心、支持本系列教材的所有相关人员表示衷心感谢!

是为序。

陈鸣芬 2014年6月

前言

随着全球科技日新月异,互联网的兴起,资讯普及的速度超乎想象,这些新的变化都要求新世纪的大学生具备一定的信息获取能力,而能够听懂英语新闻广播已经成为一名高素质人才的必备条件。《大学英语课程教学要求》对非英语专业本科生的英语水平要求分为三个层次,各个层次都提出了对新闻英语听力的具体标准:对于需要达到一般要求水平的学生要求能听懂语速较慢(每分钟 130~150 词)的英语广播和电视节目,能掌握其中心大意,抓住要点:对于较高要求的学生要求能基本听懂题材熟悉、篇幅较长的英语广播和电视节目,语速为每分钟 150~180 词,能掌握其中心大意,抓住要点和相关细节;对于更高要求的学生要求其能基本听懂英语国家的广播电视节目,掌握其中心大意,抓住要点。同样,《高校英语专业英语教学大纲》也对英语专业本科生提出了能听懂 VOA/BBC 等国际英语新闻的主要内容及记者现场报道的要求。因此,从面向非英语专业学生和英语专业学生的教学要求或大纲中都可以看到当前英语教学对学生掌握理解新闻报道的能力有明确规定。

为了满足非英语专业学生和英语专业低年级学生对新闻英语听力的需求,编者根据多年的教学经验和积累编撰了这本《国际新闻英语听力进阶教程》。本教程分为上下两部分,上篇为新闻听力入门,以VOA慢速英语为素材,围绕教育、经济、发展、农业以和科技这五个主题,帮助学习者初步了解英语新闻的基本框架结构和新闻英语听力技巧。本教程的下篇为标准英语新闻,采用VOA、BBC、ABC以及CRI等国内外电台的标准新闻作为听力素材,学习

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者可进一步深入学习英语新闻的语言特点及其在语篇结构的表现,接触不同国家的英语新闻。

本教程以主题为中心,每一章设一个主题,提供四篇主题相关的新闻报道作为学习内容,通过单词、短语、固定表达方式以及语法现象在这四篇新闻中的重现,帮助学习者熟悉了解该主题下英语新闻报道的常用表达、话题范围及其语篇特点。同时,每章还配有和主题相关的后继词汇搭配练习和听力模拟训练,通过反复重现和大量练习帮助学习者温故而知新,掌握英语新闻的听力技巧,提高英语新闻听力水平。

与本教程配套的音频资料,可从清华大学出版社的资源库里免费下载。请 学习者访问 ftp://ftp.tup.tsinghua.edu.cn/,选择所需的音频文件。

本教程是海南大学"中西部提升项目——本科教学质量与改革工程项目"的成果之一,专为学生完成大学英语基础课程后进一步提高英语听力,尤其是新闻英语听力能力而设计,可作为大学英语选修课教材或后续课程教材使用,也可作为英语专业低年级学生的新闻英语听力教材使用,亦可供广大英语学习者提高英语听力水平自学使用。

由于编者水平有限,时间紧张,疏漏之处在所难免,恳请广大同仁批评斧正。同时,向所有参与和关心本教程编写和出版的相关人员致谢!

海南大学《国际新闻英语听力进阶教程》编写组 2014年6月

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上篇: 新闻听力入门



Introduction

Today's society is characterized by the rapid economic development. What's more, the economic interdependence of national economies across the world is sharply increasing. Therefore, the topic of economy attracts great public attention and certainly becomes a focus of news reports in the west. The chapter of economic reports mainly deals with economic development situation in America and around the world and usually covers economic globalization issues.



REPORT 1 E-Commerce Challenges Traditional Stores

Americans are buying more products and services than ever before through the Internet. And experts say the popularity of online sales is likely to spread to other countries.

Online sales now represent as much as one-tenth of all retail sales in the United States. This has led traditional stores to seek new ways to keep their customers loyal.

Lynne Shaner used the Internet to buy everything she needed for her wedding and holiday gifts for her husband and step-daughter. Other than food, ninety percent of her purchases were made on her home computer.

"I find that, by being able to go online and choose the things that I need to choose, and have them delivered to me right at my doorstep, I eliminate all the driving,

all the crowds, all the noise of that, and I usually get a better selection."

There are a lot of people like her. Experts say American online shopping hit records in both November and December. Fifty-seven percent of Americans have bought something electronically.

Store owners worry that this growing amount of online sales will hurt their business.

Cornell University marketing professor Ed McLaughlin says they should be worried.

"Anything that can move online, will. And it's just a matter of time."

Professor McLaughlin says traditional stores can keep their customers by selling goods like clothing, which buyers may want to see and try on before purchasing. He says the stores could also offer things that are difficult to ship. He also says some stores can please customers by offering to set up or repair electronic products.

Bill Martin is the founder of ShopperTrak. His business helps stores learn about their customers. He told VOA by Skype that traditional stores offer a social experience that some people enjoy.

"There is still a lot of emotion in the buying decision, you know, that takes place. Oftentimes, you know, you need that last sense of 'Boy, this is exactly what I want'—that feeling before you're ready to part with money, and you can't always get that online. It's a rather cold process."

Bill Martin says traditional stores can provide goods to buyers more quickly than online stores. And some retailers are using websites to persuade people to visit their stores.

While e-commerce worries some business owners, the only worry for delivery services like FedEx and UPS is keeping up with the number of packages. UPS Manager Dana Kline says her company is very busy at this time of year. UPS is so busy that it has filled fifty-five thousand temporary worker positions during the holiday season.

REPORT 2

Former American Treasury Secretary Talks about US-China Economic Ties

The world's two biggest economies and their trade ties are important to global economic progress. China accounts for nearly half of the world's economic growth. Last year, trade between the United States and China was worth more than five hundred billion dollars.

The two nations share many interests. But they also differ on many, including trade issues.

American and Chinese policy experts have worked to study and improve relations between the trading partners. Recently, former Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson spoke in Washington about his report on a possible new direction in US-China relations. Former National Security Advisor Steve Hadley joined the discussion. Both men served in the administration of President George W. Bush. The slowdown in China's economy was the first issue they discussed. Members of the Chinese news media also attended.

Chinese officials reported last week that the economy grew at a rate of seven and six tenths percent from April to June. That is China's slowest growth rate in more than three years.

The Chinese economy needs a high growth rate in order to provide jobs for its huge work force. The People's Bank of China cut its main interest rate twice in July to support lending and economic growth. Mister Paulson said he thinks government measures to control lending will work over the short term.

"And so I would be quite surprised if they don't grow somewhere between seven and a half or eight percent this year." But there are important economic issues waiting in the future. Much of China's economic activity depends on investment by state-owned and foreign companies.

Mister Hadley said China's economy, its Gross Domestic Product, or GDP, depends on investment too much.

"Almost forty-seven point eight percent of the GDP is investment. Consumption is only thirty-three percent. And one of the things Hank calls for in this paper is they need to move from investment-based economic growth to consumption-based economic growth."

Consumer or personal spending accounts for about two thirds of the economy in the United States.

REPORT 3 World Not Prepared to Deal with the Fast Growth of Cities

The United Nations is warning that the world is not prepared to deal with the fast growth of cities. The World Economic and Social Survey 2013 calls for new ways to meet the needs of city populations. More than six point five billion people are expected to be living in cities by 2050.

Most new city dwellers will be in developing countries. The United Nations says the effect on limited resources in many countries will be huge. The World Economic and Social Survey points to the increasing demand for energy, water, sanitation, public services, education and healthcare.

The world population is expected to rise to more than nine billion by 2050, two-thirds of all people are expected to live in cities. The United Nations says about eighty percent of this growing urban population will be found

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