

第一辑



标准英语新闻

# 听力教程

美

国

之

音

朱文化 董述曾 选编  
孙天义 审校

西安外语音像教材出版社



# VOA News in Standard English Listening Courses

美国之音

## 标准英语新闻听力教程 (第一辑)

朱文化 董述曾 选编  
孙天义 审校

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# 前

# 言

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“美国之音”标准新闻是高校英语专业高年级听力教学中的一项重要内容。根据国家教委颁发的《高等学校英语专业高年级教学大纲》的精神、目标和要求，我们特编写了这本《美国之音标准英语新闻听力教程》，奉献给广大读者，以满足大家的需要。

本书在练习和题型的设计上，依据《大纲》的要求，尽量采用客观性题型：多项选择、正误判断和简单填充；与此同时，还设计了部分主观性题型：回答问题和摘写提要等，以培养学生综合归纳能力和分析推理能力。这样，既注意到了练习题型的灵活多样性，也避免了同类型题的单调性。

为帮助学生更好地听懂每条新闻，进一步扩大知识面，减少听的难度，我们在多数新闻前增加了一定份量的背景知识，供读者参阅。另外，还对一些生词作了英汉注解，以便于读者查阅。

本教材由三部分组成：WORKBOOK，TAPE-SCRIPT 和 SUGGESTED ANSWERS。

本书中的新闻选自 1993 年 4 月至 1993 年 6 月期间 VOA 播放的标准新闻节目。本书配有录音带一盒。由于原录音不清晰，为了适用教学需要，我们特

请美国 ABC 广播公司播音员 Christ Susan 女士对本教材的全部新闻进行了重新录制，在此我们表示衷心的感谢。新制作的录音音质清晰，语音标准。

本教材供高等学校英语专业三、四年级学生使用，同时也适合于同等水平的自学者使用，用以提高英语听力水平。

由于编者水平有限，加之背景知识资料缺乏，书中定有缺点和错误，恳请广大同仁、专家和读者指正。

编 者

一九九三年八月于西安外国语学院

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# I. WORKBOOK

## News Item 1

### Cultural Notes

#### 1. San Jose 圣何塞

San Jose is the capital of Costa Rica, situated in the central tableland of Costa Rica. Founded 1736, it became the capital in 1823. Houses are built low as a precaution against tremors of earthquakes, but in recent years the construction of higher concrete buildings has increased. It is the chief trading center for the country's all-important coffee crop.

#### 2. Costa Rica 哥斯达黎加

Costa Rica is the smallest of the six Central American republics after El Salvador, with an area of 19,475 square miles. Costa Rica is bounded by Nicaragua on the northwest and by Panama on the southeast. Nearly 80 per cent of the population are of pure Spanish descent, the highest percentage of any Central American country. It is a country without an army.

### Vocabulary

1. ordeal: a severe experience that tests character or powers of endurance 严峻经历, 折磨
2. motorcade: a procession of cars (汽)车队

## Exercises

I . Circle the best answer to each of the questions after you hear the news item.

1. How many hostages were released by the gunmen?
  - A. Eighteen.
  - B. Six.
  - C. Five.
  - D. Twenty-three.
2. Where did the gun battle between the gunmen and the police take place?
  - A. At the airport.
  - B. On the way to the airport.
  - C. On the plane.
  - D. By a basement door near the downtown court.
3. What happened to the gunmen after the gun battle?
  - A. They escaped.
  - B. They were caught by the police.
  - C. They were killed.
  - D. They were captured and soon released by the police.
4. When did the gunmen release the hostages?
  - A. Before the gun battle.
  - B. After the gun battle.
  - C. On Monday.
  - D. Soon after they left the court.
5. How long did the hostage ordeal last?
  - A. Nine months.

B. One week.

C. Three days.

D. A short period of time.

II. *Listen to the news item again and fill in the blanks with the exact words from the tape.*

The gun battle \_\_\_\_\_ to a dramatic conclusion Costa Rica's \_\_\_\_\_ hostage ordeal in \_\_\_\_\_ months. It began on Monday when the gunmen \_\_\_\_\_ into the downtown court through a basement \_\_\_\_\_. Two groups of six cars then \_\_\_\_\_ the court, the identities of those inside concealed by \_\_\_\_\_ tinted windows.

## News Item 2

### Cultural Notes

#### 1. Organization of the Islamic Conference

##### 伊斯兰会议组织

An Islamic organization established in Jedah, Saudi Arabia, in May 1971, following summits by Muslim heads of state and government in 1969 and by Muslim foreign ministers in 1970. Membership extends to more than 40 states.

The conference aims at promoting Islamic solidarity by coordinating social, economic, scientific, and cultural activities. Under the banner of strengthening the struggle of Muslims, the conference pledges to eliminate racial segregation and discrimination, especially in regard to the PLO. Projects include the International Islamic News Agency, the Islamic Solidarity Fund, and the World Center for Islamic Educa-

tion. Egypt was suspended in 1979 after it signed the agreement known as the Camp David accords with Israel; in 1984 it accepted an offer to rejoin the organization.

## 2. Karachi 卡拉奇

Karachi is the largest city and port of Pakistan and formerly its capital, located in the province of Sind on the western edge of Indus Delta, near the southern base of the Kirthar mountain range. Its population is about 3,100,000.

## Vocabulary

1. convene: to call a committee to hold a meeting  
召集……开会
2. communique [kəmjuːni'keɪ]: official announcement, eg.  
as issued to the press 公报
3. be bent on: have as a fixed purpose  
打算, 专心致力于……
4. dissension: angry quarreling 纷争
5. reiterate [ri:'ɪtəreɪt]: say again several times 反复地说;  
重申
6. under the auspices of: helped and favored by  
由……主办
7. Serbian: of or relating to the largest and most populous  
constituent republic of Yugoslavia 塞尔维亚的;  
塞尔维亚人
8. Bosnian: of or relating to Bosnia, the northern region of  
Bosnia-Herzegovina 波斯尼亚的; 波斯尼亚人
9. restoration: that of giving back 归还

10. tribunal [trɪi'bjʊ:n]: board of judges appointed for special duty 审理团

### Exercises

*Listen to the news item carefully. Then mark a cross in front of each false statement, and correct it according to what you hear on the tape.*

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. A United Nations conference was held on Thursday to discuss the difference between terrorism and freedom fighting.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. An Islamic working group to define terrorism was established before a proposed United Nations conference.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. All the member nations of the Organization of the Islamic Conference have been maintaining good-neighborly relations with each other.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Pakistan's acting foreign minister is the chairman of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Twenty-one Islamic foreign ministers attended the conference which ended in Karachi on Thursday.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. The conference chairman asked the Islamic world to coordinate efforts to control intellectual terrorism and extremism when he addressed a meeting on Thursday.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. According to the final communique, the conference was neither cold nor warm toward the United Nations' support.

8. The conference chairman said at the closing session that the Islamic world was confronted with many problems.
9. The Organization of the Islamic Conference encouraged the United Nations to stop the war between Serbians and Bosnians.
10. It can be inferred from the news item that the Islamic countries side with Bosnians.

### News Item 3

#### Cultural Notes

##### 1. Kabul 喀布尔

Kabul is the capital of Afghanistan, located in the east of the country. It is situated on both banks of the Kabul River between the valleys of Chahardeh and Koh Daman. Kabul is the largest city in Afghanistan and the center of government, education, finance and economy.

##### 2. Hindu Kush 兴都库什山脉

Hindu Kush is one of the principal mountain ranges of Asia. The range extends over 500 miles west and southwestward from the Pamir Knot across north central Afghanistan.

#### Vocabulary

1. Tashqurghan: a town in the northern part of the country 塔什克干 (阿富汗北部一个城镇)
2. Mazar-e-Sharif: an ancient city in Afghanistan 马萨谢

## 里夫 (阿富汗—古城)

3. wrestling: having a struggle with sb. as a sport and try to throw him to the ground without hitting him 摔跤

### Exercises

I. *Summarize the news story according to what you hear on the tape.*

Event: \_\_\_\_\_

Occasion: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Place: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of people on board: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of the wrestling team's members: \_\_\_\_\_

Cause: \_\_\_\_\_

Casualties: \_\_\_\_\_

Rescue work: \_\_\_\_\_

II. *Give your answers to the following questions.*

1. Which city was the terminus of the plane?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Was the city in the north or in the south of the country?

How do you know?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Why was that the plane turned back on the way to its terminus?

\_\_\_\_\_

## News Item 4

### Cultural Notes

Belfast 贝尔法斯特

Belfast is the capital of Northern Ireland, a municipal, county, and parliamentary borough, seaport and railroad junction. It is partly in County Antrim, partly in County Down, and the largest city in Northern Ireland, located at the mouth of the Lagan River.

### Vocabulary

1. predominant: most powerful, noticeable 有势力的, 占优势的
2. salute: a raising of the right hand to the forehead to show respect 举手礼
3. Protestant: of any of several branches of the part of the Christian church that separated from the Roman Catholic church in the 16th century 基督教的
4. Catholic: a member of the Roman Catholic church 天主教教徒; 天主教的

### Exercises

*Fill in the blanks with the missing words after you hear the tape.*

Five people were \_\_\_\_\_ on Thursday in a suspected extremist \_\_\_\_\_ attack on a betting \_\_\_\_\_ in a predominant Catholic \_\_\_\_\_ of north Belfast. The gunman drove \_\_\_\_\_ after the attack, giving a mocking two-fin-



gered salute and \_\_\_\_\_. Police said one of the \_\_\_\_\_ was seriously injured. Betting shops \_\_\_\_\_ in the past been favourite targets \_\_\_\_\_ Protestant extremists, who support \_\_\_\_\_ links with Britain. They are \_\_\_\_\_ to Irish nationalists guerrillas, supported \_\_\_\_\_ by Catholics, who want to end British \_\_\_\_\_.

## News Item 5

### Cultural Notes

#### Kamchatka 堪察加半岛

Kamchatka is a peninsula of N.E. Siberia, Russia. Two active volcanic ranges and a central valley run north-south.

### Vocabulary

1. Itar-Tass news agency: the biggest news agency in Russia 俄通社-塔斯社
2. spectacularly: remarkably 壮观地
3. dormant: being in a state of inactivity but awaiting development or activity 潜伏的
4. spew: to come out in a rush or flood 喷发
5. reverberate: (of sound) to be thrown back again and again 回响, 回荡
6. extinct: no longer burning; no longer active 熄灭了的; 不再活跃的

### Exercises

Complete the following sentences with the information you