

大学英语教学与考试研究丛书

VOA 听力精选

张晓昆 主 编

最新版

中国方正出版社

大学英语教学与考试研究丛书

VOA听力精选

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改编说明

《VOA 听力精选》自面世以来很受广大师生的欢迎。为适应《大学英语课程教学要求》(试行)的颁布和实施,我们对该书做了部分改编,改编的部分主要有:

1. 删减篇幅,浓缩文章内容。原有 96 篇文章经精心筛选,保留了 60 篇精典文章。同时我们也对个别太长的篇幅作了部分删节,以突出重点,符合《基本要求》的要求。

2. 完善"Notes"部分。每课都有选择地解释了一些重要的基本词汇和句式,以方便同学们熟悉 VOA 常用词汇和句式。同时,也有利于教师教学。

3. 部分调整课后练习,使之更贴近改革后的大学英语四、六级考试方向。

本书主要适合在校本、专科学生以及希望提高英语听说能力的广大英语爱好者。

由于编者水平有限,疏漏和错误还请广大读者批评指正。

编者

2005 年 8 月

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AGRICULTURE REPORT

Turkeys in the U.S.

农业报道--美国火鸡

By Mario Ritter

Passage 1

Summary: *Turkeys are very popular in American life. Americans are second in the world for amount of turkey eaten, and six percent of turkeys raised in the United States are exported abroad.*

Notes

① **turkey:** *n. a large North American bird (Meleagris gallopavo) that has brownish plumage and a bare, wattled head and neck and is widely domesticated for food.* 火鸡, 吐绶鸡, 一种大型的北美洲鸟(吐绶鸡), 羽毛呈古铜色, 头颈赤裸、有垂肉, 一般家养作食物用。

--- **roast turkey** 烤火鸡

--- **a stuffed turkey** 塞有佐料的火鸡

② **the National Turkey Federation:** 全国火鸡联合会

③ **represent:** *v. to stand for; symbolize* 代表; 象征描绘; 表示; 表现

--- *We chose a committee to represent us.* 我们选出一个委员会来代表我们。

④ **average:** *a. of, relating to, or constituting an average* 平均的

--- *The average age of the boys is 13.*

男生的平均年龄是 13 岁。

⑤ **in the amount of:** 在……总数中

--- *In the amount of the students, half of them are girls.*

学生总数中, 有一半是女生。

⑥ **fertilize:** *vt. to cause the fertilization of (an ovum, for example)* 使(如卵子)受精, 受孕

--- *Bees fertilize flowers.* 蜜蜂使花受精。

⑦ **artificial insemination:** 人工受精

⑧ **tom:** *n. the male of various animals, especially a male cat or turkey* 雄性动物, 特别是雄性猫和火鸡

⑨ **process:** *v. to prepare, treat, or convert by subjecting to a special process* 加工; 对……进行加工

--- *One has to process a photographic film to print pictures from it.*

必须先处理照相底片才能冲印出相片。

⑩ **barn:** *n. a large farm building used for storing farm products and sheltering livestock* 谷仓; 牲口棚

⑪ **permit:** *v. to allow the doing of (something); consent to* 容许, 许可, 允许做(某事); 同意允许

--- *She won't permit dogs in the house.*

她不准许家中有狗。

⑫ **the Department of Agriculture:** 农业部

⑬ **hormone:** *n.* 激素; 荷尔蒙

⑭ **antibiotic:** *a.* 抗生的; 抗菌的

⑮ **efficiency:** *n. the quality or property of being efficient* 效率; 功效

--- *During work, we need high efficiency.*

工作中我们需要高效率。

⑯ **organic turkey:** 多肉火鸡; 肉鸡

Exercise

Listen to the news and write down the missing words according to what you heard.

This is Steve Ember with the VOA Special English Agriculture Report.

Last Thursday, millions of Americans ate turkey as part of a traditional meal on Thanksgiving, a national holiday. Turkey is also 1 on Christmas.

The National Turkey Federation in New York represents the 2. The group says Americans eat two times more turkey than they did 3 years ago. Last year the average amount per person was eight kilograms. Americans are second only to Israelis in the amount of turkey eaten. The French are third.

Six 4 of turkeys raised in the United States are exported. Mexico is the top importer. Next come Hong Kong, Russia and Taiwan.

Over the years, growers have 5 birds that are better for industrial meat production. A turkey hen lays eighty to one-hundred eggs in a season. To fertilize the eggs, reproduction is left not to nature but to the process of artificial insemination.

Farmed turkeys grow very quickly. In fourteen weeks, a hen 6 seven kilograms and is ready for market. Male turkeys, called toms, are grown longer. In eighteen weeks, a male turkey weighs more than fourteen kilograms. Hens are usually sold as whole birds. The toms are 7 into meat products.

Most turkeys are 8 inside barns. But higher-priced turkeys may be permitted to go outside in the open air. Farm turkeys cannot fly, and even wild turkeys cannot fly very far.

The Department of 9 says turkeys are not fed hormones to increase growth. It says turkeys may receive antibiotic drugs to prevent disease and increase feed 10. There are turkeys raised without antibiotics or feed grown with chemicals. But people who want to feed their families an organic turkey for the holidays, or any time, pay a higher price at the store.



Proverb:

A friend in need is a friend indeed.

患难之交见真情。

DEVELOPMENT REPORT

World AIDS Day

发展报道--世界艾滋病日

By Jill Moss

Passage 2

Summary: *AIDS is still a very serious problem all over the world. The aim of World AIDS Day is to end the unfair treatment of people with H-I-V and AIDS.*

Notes

① **World AIDS Day:** 世界艾滋病日

② **discrimination:** *n.* 歧视;不公

--- *Discrimination against women is not allowed.*
歧视妇女是不能允许的。

③ **remain a barrier to:** 是……的障碍

--- *His poor English remains a barrier to his communication with foreigners.*
他英语不好成为与外国人交流的障碍。

④ **show no signs of:** 没有反应;没有……的迹象

--- *After his taking the pills, there shows no signs of recovery.*
他吃了药后并没有恢复的迹象。

⑤ **ease:** *v.* to alleviate; assuage 减轻;和缓

--- *The doctor gave him some painkillers to ease the pain.*
医生给了他一些止疼片以减缓疼痛。

⑥ **estimate:** *v.* to calculate approximately (the amount, extent, magnitude, position, or value of something) 估计;估价;评价

--- *While an author is yet living we estimate his powers by his worst performance.*
当一个作家还活着时,我们是以他最差的作品来评断他的影响力。

⑦ **virus:** *n.* 病毒

⑧ **become infected with:** 受到……的感染

--- *Unfortunately, he became infected with the virus.*
很不幸的是,他受到了病毒的感染。

⑨ **the most ever:** 有史以来最多的

--- *The accident leads to 150 deaths - the most ever.*
这次事故导致 150 丧生,这是有史以来最多的。

⑩ **injection:** *n.* 注射

--- *hypodermic injection* 皮下注射

--- *an injection in the buttock* 注射在臀部的一针

⑪ **anti-retroviral:** *n.* 抗逆转录病毒

⑫ **restrain:** *v.* to hold back or keep in check; control 抑制阻止或抑制;控制

--- *He couldn't restrain the tears.*
他禁不住掉眼泪。

⑬ **negotiate:** *v.* to confer with another or others in order to come to terms or reach an agreement 商议;谈判;协商

--- *They negotiated a peace treaty.*
他们通过谈判达成和平协议。

Exercise

Link column A and column B.

column A	column B.
A: persons	B: reactions
1. Experts	says it hopes to have centers open in every health district
2. The United Nations	say such discrimination remains a barrier to prevention and care
3. Southern Africa	reported last week that the spread of AIDS shows no signs of easing

Notes

Proverb:

A friend who shares is a friend who cares.

能够分享,才有关怀。

EDUCATION REPORT
Middle School Recommendations
教育报道——中学建议
By Jerilyn Watson

Passage 3

Summary: *In order to improve the education of American middle school students, the National Middle School Association put forward a number of suggestions this month.*

Notes

① **crowding:** *n.* 拥挤现象

--- *The crowding can be seen everywhere in big cities.*

在大城市中,拥挤现象随处可见。

② **existing:** *a.* 现存的, 存在的; 现行的, 目前的; 实在的

--- *the existing circumstances/condition* 现状/现况

--- *the existing situation* 当前形势

③ **the National Middle School Association:** 国家中学协会

④ **advise:** *v.* to recommend; suggest 为……提建议

--- *The doctor advised me to take more exercise.*

医生嘱咐我多加锻炼。

⑤ **position:** *n.* a point of view or attitude on a certain question 观点; 看法

--- *What is your position on the new taxes?*

关于新税法你有什么见解?

⑥ **statement:** *n.* something stated; a declaration 陈述; 阐明; 表明

--- *The man made a statement to the police.*

这个人向警察作了陈述。

⑦ **adolescent:** *n.* a teenager 青少年

⑧ **employ:** *v.* to engage the services of; put to work 聘任

--- *The firm employs the retired professor as an adviser.*

这家公司聘任退休的教授担任顾问。

⑨ **a number of:** 许多; 大量

--- *We have a number of problems to solve.*

我们有很多问题要解决。

⑩ **get...actively involved in:** 使……积极参与

--- *The sport meeting gets many students actively involved in.*

很多学生积极参与运动会。

⑪ **the teaching process:** 教学程序; 教学过程

⑫ **create**: *v. to cause to exist; bring into being* 创作; 创造; 创建

--- *That remark created a stir.*

发言引起了一阵骚动。

⑬ **a mission statement**: 一项职责声名; 任务报告

⑭ **inviting**: *a. attractive; tempting* 诱人的; 动人的

--- *an inviting dessert* 诱人的甜食

⑮ **environment**: *n. the circumstances or conditions that surround one; surroundings* 环境

--- *The rural environment lent itself to the restoration of his health.*

农村环境有助于他恢复健康。

Exercise

Write down the sequence of the following verbs involved in the news.

Verbs: 1. get students actively involved in their learning

2. form teams of two to four teachers

3. offer a number of teaching methods

4. create a mission statement

5. develop an inviting and safe environment

6. employ teachers who are trained

Order: _____

Proverb:

Birds of a feather flock together.

物以类聚, 人以群分。

EDUCATION REPORT

Commission Finds Poor Writing in U.S. Schools

教育报道——考察团发现美国学校写作能力低下

By Cynthia Kirk

Passage 4

Summary: *The National Commission on Writing in America's Schools and Colleges suggests that students should spend more time writing. Writing helps people think more clearly and is necessary for both educational and professional success.*

Notes

① **establish:** *v. to set up; found* 建立; 设立

--- *The Minister established a commission to suggest improvements in the educational system.*
部长组织了一个研究组,为改进教育制度提供建议。

② **give...attention to:** 把注意力集中于……; 注意……

--- *All the audients give attention to the film in the cinema.*
电影院里,所有观众都聚精会神地看电影。

③ **project:** *n. a plan or proposal; a scheme* 计划, 方案计划或提议; 方案; 项目; 课题

--- *It is an elaborate project that answers many purposes.*
这是一项适用于多方面需要的精心完成的设计。

④ **grade:** *v. to give a grade to (a student, for example)* 评分给分数(例如一个学生); 给……评分; 给……分数

--- *These apples have been graded according to size and quality.*
这些苹果已经按照大小和质量分了等级。

⑤ **release:** *v. to issue for performance, sale, publication, or distribution* 发布; 发表

--- *a recently released film* 新发行的电影

⑥ **put most efforts into:** 为……付出大部分精力

--- *The scientists put most efforts into the experiment.*

科学家们为试验付出了大部分精力。

⑦ **concern about:** 关心; 专注

--- *We all should concern about our environment.*

我们都应该关心环境。

⑧ **campaign:** *n. an operation or series of operations energetically pursued to accomplish a purpose* 运动

--- *a campaign to stop people smoking* 一项阻止人们吸烟的运动

⑨ **senator:** *n. a member of a senate* 参议员; 参议院的成员

--- *And a Senator must have been a citizen of the United States for nine years at the time of his election.*
而且,参议员在参加选举时必须是在美国居住了九年的美国公民。

⑩ **put...into effect:** 使……开始使用

--- *The government will put the new scheme into effect next month.*

政府将于下月开始实施新方案。

⑪ **call on:** 呼吁; 号召

--- *The educators call on the whole society to help the poor students.*

教育家们呼吁全社会帮助贫困学生。

Exercise

Listen to the news and write down the missing words according to what you heard.

This is Bill Wight with the VOA Special English Education Report.

A report by 1 in the United States says students in American schools and colleges need to write better. The National Commission on Writing in America's Schools and Colleges 2 the report. The commission includes university leaders, public school officials, teachers and writing experts. A private organization, the College Board, 3 the commission.

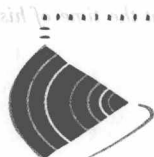
The report says writing helps people think more clearly and is necessary for 4 and professional success. But it says many 5 are not giving enough attention to writing. It says students are getting fewer writing projects from their teachers. Many teachers say they have too many students and not enough time to grade their work.

The commission found that most 6 students spend less than three hours a week writing. It says they spend many more hours watching television.

Twenty years ago, the 7 released a report about problems in the educational system in the United States. A reform movement followed, but most efforts were put into teaching reading and math.

Experts say that is changing now, because employers and teachers are deeply concerned about the writing skills of American 8.

The commission's report is to be followed by a five-year campaign led by former Senator Bob Kerrey to put its suggestions into effect. The 9 will urge lawmakers and educators to increase writing programs in schools. The commission also calls on educators and businesses to work together to develop technology to help teach 10 and measure writing quality.



Proverb:

Beauty is in the eye of the beholder.

情人眼里出西施。



EDUCATION REPORT

Tutoring

教育报道--家庭教师

By Jerilyn Watson

Passage 5

Summary: Nowadays, in order to get high scores in school tests, many American students also get help from tutors, who are often professional teachers in the certain subject.

Notes

① **traditional:** a. of, relating to, or in accord with tradition 按照传统的;传统的

--- There are also people who come to take such courses as Chinese traditional medicine, painting, calligraphy and photography.

还有一些人到学校里来是为了学习诸如中医、绘画、书法、摄影等课程。

② **tutor:** n. a private instructor 私人教师;家庭教师

--- Her tutor teaches her at home.

她的家庭教师在家里教她。

③ **the National Tutoring Association:** 国家家教协会

④ **professional:** a. of, relating to, engaged in, or suitable for a profession 专业的;职业的

--- For professional footballers, injuries are an occupational hazard.

对于职业足球运动员来说,受伤是职业本身带来的危险。

⑤ **be expert in:** 是……方面的专家,能手

--- He is expert in computer.

他是计算机专家。

⑥ **biology:** n. the science of life and of living organisms 生物学,生物(总称)

--- the biology of viruses 病毒生物学

⑦ **direct:** a. straightforward and candid; frank 直接的

--- The spokesman never gave a direct answer to any question of the reporters.

发言人对记者提出的问题从来不作直接的回答。

⑧ **score:** n. a result, usually expressed numerically, of a test or examination 成绩;分数

--- Students always want to get high scores on examination.

考试时,学生总想得高分。

⑨ **require:** v. to call for as obligatory or appropriate; demand 要求,需要,命令

--- All passengers are required to show their tickets.

所有乘客都必须出示车票。

⑩ **extensively:** adv. 广泛地;大量地

--- extensive knowledge 广博的知识

--- extensive funds 大笔经费

⑪ **the Washington D.C.:** 华盛顿

⑫ **make a big difference in:** 对……有很大作用或影响

--- The monitor makes a big difference in the decision of the class.

班长对班级决定起很大作用。

Exercise

Listen to the news and write down the missing words according to what you heard.

This is Bill Wight with the VOA Special English Education Report.

Traditionally, children in the United States have often gotten help with 1 from parents, grandparents and older sisters and 2. This still happens. But many students today also get help from tutors. The National Tutoring Association says the number of these 3 teachers has increased greatly in the 4 ten years.

Tutors are often professional teachers. Or, they may be experts in the subjects they tutor. For example, a scientist may tutor a student having trouble with 5. Many tutors charge between ten and fifty dollars per hour.

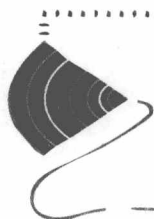
Students are often tutored at home. Others go to learning centers for help with schoolwork. Many centers have very small classes. One 6 may work with just three students. Or, students can be tutored on their computers. Some lessons on the Internet provide direct voice communication with teachers.

Students take many tests. Schools must have high 7 on some statewide tests if they are to receive government money. So 8 teaching may progress too fast for some children, as teachers try to prepare students for what might be tested.

Also, students in their last years of high school take tests required for college. At that time, the students may hire tutors. Or they may attend learning centers to improve their scores.

Some parents choose tutoring because they worry that their children simply are not learning enough in school. Or, their children may want more 9 work than their schools provide.

A woman who has tutored extensively in the Washington, D.C. area says even a little additional help can 10 make a big difference in a student's life.



Proverb:

Bitter pills may have blessed effects.

良药苦口利于病。