



英语环球 热门话题

大学英语阅读·写作·翻译训练

朱源 侯广健 编著
汪榕培 主审
大连理工大学出版社



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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

英语环球热门话题/朱源,侯广德编著. —大连:大连理工大学出版社,1997.11

ISBN 7-5611-1283-1

I. 英… II. ①朱…②侯… III. 英语-高等学校-课外读物
IV. H319.4

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(97)第 20676 号

大连理工大学出版社出版发行

(大连市凌水河 邮政编码 116024)

沈阳市市政二公司印刷厂印刷

开本:850×1168 毫米 1/32 印张:12.5 字数:288 千字
印数:1—8000 册

1997 年 11 月第 1 版 1997 年 11 月第 1 次印刷

责任编辑:洪 勤 责任校对:郭 红

封面设计:孙宝福 版式设计:琴 声

定价:14.00 元

序

GF45/16

改革开放以来，全国掀起了一阵外语热，城市里的男女老少都在学外语，可是真正能够熟练运用外语的人并不多。大多数人学习外语收效甚微的道理很简单：没有实践的机会。外语只不过是一种工具，使用外语这种工具需要掌握听、说、读、写、译等多项技能，而掌握这些技能的一项重要规律是熟能生巧。

朱源副教授给我送来了他与同事编著的《英语环球热门话题》，我在审读之后发现，这本书为缺乏实践机会的英语学习者提供了一种弥补的方式。引人入胜的阅读文章，加上训练英语技能的多种练习，使英语学习者能够在轻松的气氛中复习和巩固已经学会的英语知识，运用各种技能，从而收到事半功倍的效果，我愿意向读者推荐这本好书。

愿有志学习英语的人都能学业有成。

汪榕培

1997年10月

[illegible]

练习答案。读者通过这些环节的练习能够透彻地理解原文，学会其中的主要英语表达形式，同时了解全球各个方面的最新动态，获取有益的知识。读者如果能通过本书在英语学习方面获得更大的兴趣、乐趣和提高，并且能拓宽视野、扩大知识面，我们的目的就达到了。

编著者

1997年10月

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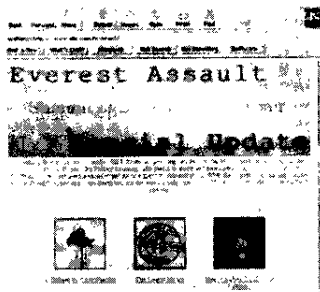
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Death Breaks Live on the Web

互联网爆出登山者遇难的实况消息

互联网现已成为人们谈论的热门话题，它对现代生活的潜在影响难以估量。那么，它对新闻界的影响又如何呢？



Death on Mount Everest is an old, oft-repeated tragedy, but the telling of this disaster had a modern twist; the story broke not in newspapers or on TV but in the swift new medium known as the Internet. The first word reached the outside world via a phone call to the Issaquah, Washington, home of journalist Jeff Herr at 7 a. m. on Saturday, May 11. Calling from Mount Everest, a climber told Herr, managing editor of *Outside* magazine's World Wide Web site, that a devastating storm had hit the mountain; among the missing was Scott Fischer, whose expedition *Outside* had been following since March. "Within two hours we had our first story up on the site," says Herr. News of the disaster appeared soon after on NBC's Everest Assault '96 site.

By midday Saturday, the Internet was buzzing over the real-time updates that trickled in from the climbers and rescuers via satellite phone and fax. *Outside* Online saw its traffic quadruple a day after the blizzard. NBC's site had more than 1 million visits on Monday alone. Full coverage of the mishap did not appear in the *New York Times* until Tuesday. "This is the first major international story that broke live on the Web," says Marty Yudkovitz, president of NBC Interactive Media. "It tells of the added dimensions the Internet can bring to journalism."

In fact, it was the second time in less than a year that news of a tragedy in the Himalayas broke on the Internet. When renowned British climber Alison Hargreaves died on K2 last August, Fischer was also on the mountain. He phoned in the news to *Outside* Online. But at the time, the major media outlets were doubtful of the Internet's reliability. "It was two or three days later that the news organizations picked it up," says Herr. This time, the Reuters wire

service latched onto the story and ran an item on Saturday, and the Associated Press quoted Internet postings in its initial reports. But by Monday, says Todd Harris, a senior producer at NBC Interactive, "there was a news vacuum that was building, and only the online community had all the details."

The Websites also proved invaluable to relatives and friends. *Outside Online* established a chat area—editors called it the grieving room—where people could share information. Fischer's sister and cousins logged on several times each day. So did Kit Weathers, brother of Seaborn Beck Wethers, who had been reported dead. When Kit got a call saying his brother was actually alive, he spread the word online; "Perhaps others who haven't heard about their loved ones can take heart from this message."

There is a risk that news flashing over the Internet, unfiltered and unconfirmed, may be wrong. That possibility concerned *Nova*, the U. S. science TV program, which was tracking an expedition led by filmmaker David Breashears on its Everest Quest site. Producer Liesl Clark received various reports of casualties from the mountain. After much debate, she and her colleagues decided to hold the information—some of which proved to be inaccurate—until all family members had been notified.

But at least the editors of cyberspace got information quickly and could begin to check it out. *Outside Online* received a macabre reminder of just how much slower traditional communications can be. Five days after the disaster, several postcards arrived in the mail—sent by Fischer and Rob Hall just before they began their fatal assault on Mount Everest.

— By Juile K. L. Dam

Notes

1. Mount Everest 埃佛勒斯峰（即珠穆朗玛峰 Mount Qomolangma）
2. twist 新手段
3. Internet 互联网
4. via 通过
5. World Wide Web site 国际互联网站
6. devastating 毁灭性的
7. NBC=National Broadcasting Company（美国）全国广播公司
8. buzzing 发出“嗡嗡”的信号声
9. updates 最新报道
10. trickled in 逐渐汇集到一起
11. Online 联机的
12. quadruple 增至四倍
13. blizzard 暴风雪
14. Full coverage of the mishap 对这场灾难的全面报道
15. Interactive Media 人机对话媒体
16. media outlets 传媒机构
17. reliability 可靠性
18. Reuters（英国）路透社
19. latched onto 抓住
20. news vacuum 新闻真空
21. chat area 交谈区
22. logged on 联机通话
23. take heart 树立信心
24. unfiltered and unconfirmed 未经筛选和未经确认的
25. concerned 与……相关

26. cyberspace 电脑空间

27. macabre 可怕的

Reading Comprehension

- The focus of this article is on _____.
A. the disaster on Mount Everest
B. the high efficiency of Internet in journalism
C. the risk of uncertainty of news over Internet
D. the contrast between the traditional communications by mail and the new communications by Internet
- Disasters on Mount Everest _____ take place.
A. never B. seldom C. frequently D. rarely
- What is the fast news medium through which the story of death on Mount Everest broke ?
A. The magazine. B. The mail.
C. TV. D. The Internet.
- Among the missing climbers in the storm was Scott Fischer, whose expedition *Outside* had been following since March. The underlined word means _____.
A. running after B. imitating
C. reporting D. discovering
- Which of the following is true?
A. One million people visited NBC's site on Monday.
B. One million people called NBC's site on Monday.
C. One million people logged on to NBC's site on Monday alone.
D. NBC's site received one million visitors on Monday alone.
- The president of NBC Interactive Media is _____ about the potential of Internet in journalism.

- A. optimistic B. pessimistic C. skeptical D. uncertain
7. When Fischer phoned in the news of British climber Alison's death to *Outside Online*, the major media outlets _____.
A. were suspicious of the validity of the news
B. were sure of the truth of the news
C. were definite about the truth of the story
D. were unconvinced of the Internet
8. Which of the following statements is NOT true?
A. The Reuters released the news on Saturday.
B. By Monday there was no more news reported by the news agencies.
C. By Monday only the Internet had all the details of the news.
D. By Monday the major media agencies all had the details of the news.
9. The websites proved _____ to the relatives and friends of the climbers.
A. to be of no use B. to be of great value
C. to be of no importance D. to be of great necessity
10. What Kit Weathers spread online indicates that _____.
A. the news of his brother's being actually alive may excite others to find their beloved ones
B. the news of his brother's being actually alive may help others to find their beloved ones
C. the news of his brother's being actually alive may give some hope and confidence to those who haven't heard about their beloved ones
D. the news of his brother's being actually alive may break the hearts of those who haven't heard about their beloved ones

11. The case of the US science TV program called *Nova* shows that the news over the Internet _____.
A. may prove to be accurate and correct
B. may not be always reliable and accurate
C. is always accurate and objective
D. is certain and clear
12. The way the tragic news on Mount Everest broke on the Web reveals _____.
A. the power of high-tech in traditional mailing systems
B. the contrast between the modern telecommunications by Internet and the traditional communications by mail
C. the sophistication of modern communications
D. the high efficiency of traditional communications

Analytical Questions for Discussion and Writing

1. What do you think of the writer's view on the prospects of the Internet? What about your view on this issue?
2. What are the advantages and disadvantages of the Internet in journalism?
3. Why did the editors call the chat area established by *Outside Online* the "grieving room?"
4. Do you think the Internet would be an indispensable part of our life in the near future? Why or why not?

Translation

1. By midday Saturday, the Internet was buzzing over the real-time updates that trickled in from the climbers and rescuers via satellite phone and fax. *Outside Online* saw its traffic quadruple a day