

21世纪

英语报刊阅读

何肖朗 主编

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21 世纪英语报刊阅读

主 编 何肖朗
副主编 林晓琴 安郁强
编 者 李秀香 吴 萍
唐 炯 洪 梅

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前 言

经过全体编者的共同努力,《21 世纪英语报刊阅读》与广大读者见面了。经专家评审,本书被列入“福建师范大学教材建设基金资助项目”。

本书旨在提高大专院校英语专业、其他涉外专业学生和从事外事、国际问题研究、报刊翻译等专业人员阅读与理解英语报刊和英语新闻的能力。

本书每单元中的 TEXT A 以英文报纸和杂志为主,围绕 2000~2004 年间的世界政治、经济、文化、环境保护、教育、体育、医疗、卫生、家庭、社会问题,以及高科技影响下的法制与道德等诸方面的社会情况,探讨当今世界和平、合作与发展的主题。课文版式与原版一致,英文也保留该报刊的美国英语或英国英语的表示方式。课文后附有注解(收集并解释高科技、计算机、信息产业发展等领域新的新闻词汇等),书后附有参考答案。

TEXT B 系统介绍英语新闻报纸专业基础知识,以及历史和高科技对英语报刊业的影响等。注解引用百科全书及历史、文学等著作中的论述,帮助学生在理解课文的历史、文化背景的基础上,逐步掌握阅读英语报刊的基础知识(例如英语报刊的版面编排原则、消息来源等)。课文后的练习(Special Expressions)集中了英语报刊中的特殊词汇,有助于学生今后大量快速阅读英语报刊。

西方国家(尤其是美国报纸)的新闻报道自诩公正或中立,实际上是与政府立场保持一致。编这本书的目的也在于引导学生持评判的态度来阅读西方国家的英文报刊。“Topics for Discussion”通过对英语新闻的来源、文章的实际基调等问题的讨论,帮助青年人克服盲目崇拜西方舆论的弱点。

本书适合大学英语及其他涉外专业学生选修,也可供准备参加英语级别考试的学生以及英语爱好者选读。通过较短时间的学习后,学生可较快地掌握和提高阅读英文报刊的基本能力和速度。

在本教材编写过程中,福建省图书馆等单位为我们提供了很多资料。在此,对所有关心和帮助过我们的各方面人员表示衷心的感谢。本教材的错误与不妥之处,敬请使用本书的师生和读者多提宝贵意见和建议。

编 者

于福建师范大学外国语学院

2005 年 6 月

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Unit 1

Text A

Report 1

THE TIMES¹

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 4 2004

Four More Years in White House²

Simon Jenkins reports on the voters' decisive rightward shift

1 GEORGE BUSH and John Kerry conferred a final, dignified epitaph on the 2004 US election campaign yesterday³. They agreed to heal the inevitable wounds of democratic combat and agreed that America had now to stand united against its challenges. *to restore to health or soundness*

2 Addressing Kerry supporters during his victory speech, Mr Bush said: "To make this nation stronger and better, I will need your support, and I will work to earn it."

3 He pledged to pursue the war on terrorism with unceasing commitment, and forge ahead with stabilising Iraq and Afghanistan, allowing US troops to "come home with the honour they have earned". *to offer or guarantee by a solemn building promise*

4 "We have one country, one constitution and one future that binds us," he said, "And, when we come together, and work together, there is no limit to the greatness of America."

5 But, amid this air of celebration, the toughest task fell to Mr Kerry. He stood with his supporters in Faneuil Hall, Boston⁴, and somehow held back the tears. They had planned a coronation and found themselves at a wake. *to offer or guarantee by a solemn building promise*

6 At 11am he had spoken to Mr. Bush in the White House and withdrawn his eviction notice. He "graciously" conceded an election that he had genuinely expected to win and spoke of "the damage of divisions in our country and the desperate need for unity".

7 America should offer formal status to the "good loser". He, and not the victor, is the true glue of American democracy. It is the loser who declares peace. *to offer or guarantee by a solemn building promise*

8 Mr Kerry delivered the customary eulogy with remarkable composure. The public had not warmed to him during the campaign. He seemed aloof and wooden in speech, compared with the jokey, vernacular, people-friendly Mr Bush. As the weeks lengthened, however, Mr Kerry relaxed and seemed almost to love his audiences. He grew in stature. The toughest and most divisive election of modern times never degenerated into personal abuse. *to offer or guarantee by a solemn building promise*

9 The final stumble was Ohio⁵. Rumours that Democratic backers were demanding a fight to the death over the Ohio "provisionals" gave America a shudder of recollection of the 2000 fiasco. Under state law, full verification and count of provisional votes would take 11 days. Both parties had hundreds of lawyers ready for battle. But Ohio Democrats reported that the odds were against them. Mr Kerry saw that Mr Bush had a clear majority in the country and an apparent majority in Ohio. He backed down. *to offer or guarantee by a solemn building promise*

An hour later, Mr Bush responded ^{以同样方式回敬对方} in kind. He and his team in the White House must at times have doubted the outcome, yet he won not just a clear majority but more convincingly than Bill Clinton⁶ and with the largest vote in history.

Some 20 million more Americans were ^{被吸引} enticed to the polls, but they kept their counsel ^{谨慎} from the pollsters. Predictions that high turnouts would help the Democrats proved untrue.

The extra voters, including young ones, split evenly. Everyone turned out old, young, conservatives, liberals, Republicans, Democrats⁷ and finally lawyers. Yet nobody could be found to declare the election stolen. It was fair and, given the sheer vastness of registering 120 million votes, undeniably impressive.

Over the course of yesterday, the networks were analyzing the result While Mr Bush was ^{为... 辩白} pleading for a healing of wounds, he also pointed out that his ^{到今} mandate was clear. He was ^{与鼓励} emboldened to push forwards with the war on terrorism, but also with his low-tax economy, with social service reform and, most controversially, with the "moral values ^{议程} agenda". He will know what was his strongest ^{诉讼} suit a majority of Americans have signaled a firm rightwards turn domestically. Yet it is a mandate from which a minority strongly ^{怀疑} dissents. This is no mandate to heal, but rather to divide. How Mr Bush handles it will determine the remainder ^{剩余} of his presidency.

This "values war" seems to have been the decisive factor against the Democrats. It hit Mr Kerry and everyone running under the Democrat banner. Middle Americans are fuming from easy abortion, gay marriage⁸, embryo research and any leniency towards criminals. The gay marriage constitutional propositions all lost, as did California's proposed dilution of its draconian "three strikes" life imprisonment.

A majority of Americans declared that they want their Government to answer for more than their security and prosperity. They want it to embrace their religious and moral beliefs. Many find the parallel with the Muslim world⁹ eerie and uncomfortable. But democratic politicians everywhere will have to take note. Mr Bush has tapped into something that is unlikely to depart from American politics. It leaves many Americans nervous, but yesterday not a majority.

Report 2

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2004 THE WALL STREET JOURNAL¹⁰

Back to Work

For the Winner, a U. S. Economy with

Some Stubborn Problems

On the To-Do List: Deficits, Health Care and Oil Prices;

A Twin Threat From China

Staving Off¹¹ a Dollar Dive¹²

By DAVID WESSEL And BOB DAVIS

For months, the presidential candidates have been boasting about¹³ their grand plans to stoke the American economy. The end of the campaign means it's time to confront longer-term problems that defy the sound-bite solutions of stump speeches¹⁴.

Among the most stubborn: persistent budget deficits, heavy dependence on imported oil, rising health-care costs, the growing U. S. reliance on borrowing from China and the imminent retirement of the baby-boom generation¹⁵, whose oldest members are now 58.

The U. S. economy appears headed in a better direction than it was in January 2001 when President Bush took office. Even before the Sept. 11 attacks¹⁶, the economy was sliding into recession as the stock-market bubble burst. Today, most economic arrows point up. The economy has grown at an annual rate higher than 3% for six consecutive Quarters. The unemployment rate has dropped to 5.4% from its June 2003 peak of 6.3%. But high oil prices and the business community's reluctance to buy more machinery, buildings, computers and software are acting as a damper¹⁷.

Because of the deficit's size, the winner will have only limited ability to stimulate the economy, if it falters¹⁸, with tax cuts or spending increases. As a result, the president's most potent strategy may be to bolster confidence by actually tackling some of the long-term problems that politicians typically like to defer¹⁹.

Here are some of the biggest:

The Budget

No matter how much attention the president devotes to Iraq and terrorism, he's forced to send a budget to Congress²⁰ early in February. The choices aren't easy. How should the tax code be changed? What's the right balance between spending on defense and homeland security and spending on education, health and highways? Which campaign promises should be kept now, which ones deferred?

As long as the economy grows at the 3.5% annual pace expected by private fore-casters, the White House should have little trouble devising a budget that projects a smaller deficit for next year than this year. That would be accomplished with a budget that simply extends this year's efforts, estimate Brookings Institution²¹ economists William Gale and Peter Orszag. Cutting the deficit in half, as both candidates pledged, is harder.

And the next four years aren't the problem. The real dilemma will come later as baby boomers begin to claim Social Security and Medicare²².

The president will have an opportunity to engage the country in a broad debate about taxes with the imminent expiration of a fix to the alternative minimum tax, or AMT²³. Invented in 1970 to make sure the rich didn't use tax breaks²⁴ to avoid paying income taxes altogether, the AMT isn't automatically adjusted for inflation. That means it's being levied on an increasing number of taxpayers, especially those with lots of exemptions, such as large families.

The latest fix expires at the end of 2005. The next year, according to Leonard Burman of the Urban Institute think tank²⁵, 18.6 million Americans will be hit by the AMT's higher, tax rates, up from 3.4 million in 2005. On the other hand, a permanent fix would cost more than \$5M billion over 10 years, Mr Burman estimates, roughly equivalent to the 10-year price of the new Medicare prescription drug benefit. With neither option palatable, the president could seek a more sweeping reform of the tax code²⁶.

Another budget issue the president probably can't duck is the fragility²⁷ of the federal fund that backs up private employers' defined-benefit pensions, the sort that promise a monthly check based on years of service and the level of wages. The federal Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp. has already absorbed the cost of paying pensions for many steel workers. It could inherit much of the airline industry's pension promises, too. So far, the premiums paid to PBGC²⁸ by employers have covered the pension checks it mails each month, but that won't last. The PBGC ended last year with ill. 2 billion more in promises than assets to meet them; it says this year's deficit will be bigger still.

Any solution would probably involve changing pension rules and putting gobs²⁹ of taxpayer money into the system. And that's just the private pension system. Although neither Social Security nor Medicare faces such an imminent crisis, neither is on a firm footing. Social Security is regarded as the easier fix. The politics are tricky, but there are options on the table-various combinations of payroll tax increases, reductions in promised benefits, private accounts and raising the retirement age.

Health

Restraining the rising cost of Medicare-the government health-insurance program for the elderly and disabled-while coping with new health-care technologies and an aging population, is more complicated than fixing Social Security. Medicare's problems are intertwined with the broader health-care system. Even before the new Medicare prescription benefit takes effect³⁰ in 2006, there are calls to rethink it. The left says it isn't generous enough and wants the government to muscle drug companies into³¹ charging less. The right says it exacerbates Medicare's already rising costs.

Independent budget watchdogs³² say both sides aren't paying enough attention to the long term. "Do you know how much money you'd have to have today invested in Treasury bills to deliver on the prescription-drug promise over the next 75 years?" asks David Walker, head of the nonpartisan congressional auditing body, the Government Accountability Office³³. His answer: \$8.1 trillion. That's almost twice the \$4.3 trillion in U. S. Treasury³⁴ debt currently held by the public.

Consumers of the private health-care system are also increasingly dissatisfied. Despite the growth in government health-care spending, about 55% of the nation's health-care tab³⁵ is paid by employers and families. The ranks of Americans without health insurance are growing, the costs to those with insurance are rising and the quality of care is uneven.

But the president will find little consensus about workable, affordable and politically

acceptable solutions to these problems. "First we have to answer: Why do health costs grow on a sustained basis more rapidly than the economy? Is it worth it? Are we getting our money's worth?" says Douglas Holtz-Eakin, director of the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office³⁶. "After that, there is the financing issue: How to distribute those costs in a way that doesn't, disrupt the economy and still provides a catastrophic backstop?"

"There is no clean solution," he says.

Energy

The big run-up in the price of oil and natural gas raises a fundamental question: Is the U. S. in for a long period of high oil prices or is this a temporary spike that will soon be forgotten? The latter is possible. Only five years ago the domestic oil industry was seeking tariffs to protect it from \$11-a-barrel oil, which it considered dangerously low. Now, odds³⁷ favor a prolonged period of higher prices, partly because of unstinting demand from China and India.

The specter of \$2-a-gallon gasoline and \$50-a-barrel oil are near the top of able to White House and Federal Reserve³⁸ worry lists. "Getting through the winter may well be the first energy challenge that the president faces," says Daniel Yergin, chairman of consultant Cambridge Energy Research Associates of Cambridge, Mass³⁹.

These aren't problems the president can do much to directly tackle. Nonetheless, the political and economic pain will put pressure on the president to intervene.

Price controls aren't likely, but there's already talk on Capitol Hill⁴⁰ of using the 670-million barrel Strategic Petroleum Reserve more aggressively to nudge prices down. The Bush administration released about five million barrels to only to compensate for hurricane damage to oil rigs and pipes in the Gulf of Mexico⁴¹, but Glenn has been reluctant to do more, arguing that the reserve should be kept for emergency use only.

Larry Goldstein, president of the Petroleum Industry Research Foundation⁴², advocates swapping 25 million barrels of low-sulfur crude in the reserve-about the amount he estimates was lost to Hurricane Ivan-for \$5 million barrels of higher sulfur crude from Saudi Arabia⁴³, Refiners could use the low-sulfur stock for heating oil, which could moderate price rises this winter, while leaving the oil reserve at the same overall level.

Higher oil prices could also help the administration find a way to address global-warming concerns that have divided the U. S. from Europe, By installing energy-efficient equipment to reduce energy costs, U. S. companies will also be able to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide and other gasses blamed for the rise in atmospheric temperatures globally. That will help U. S.-based multinational companies meet new regulatory regimes outside the U. S.

In January, the European Union⁴⁴ plans to cap industrial emissions of carbon dioxide. Companies that can't meet the targets will have to buy the emissions rights from other companies. The Kyoto treaty⁴⁵ on global warming', which is expected to take effect in January without U. S. participation, proposes a similar mechanism.

U. S. companies that have cut emissions in their European operations may support

something similar at home, if only to make sure their domestic competitors don't reap a cost advantage. Even Glenn Hubbard, who was chief White House economist when the Bush administration walked away from the Kyoto treaty, says a mandatory emission-trading regime is becoming more likely in the U. S.

China

While the issue of outsourcing business to China received lots of attention during the presidential campaign, there was little focus on more significant changes in the international economy: the Dec. 31 2004, expiration of the 30-year-old Multi-Fiber Arrangement⁴⁶, a deal that regulates world-wide trade in textiles and apparel, and the stubbornly low value of China's currency.

China wasn't even at the negotiating table when quotas on textile and apparel imports were ended a decade ago, but it has since joined the global trading system. China's combination of low wages and efficient production makes it possible for Beijing to take business-and hundreds of thousands of jobs-from competitors around the world.

Fearing a flood of cheap Chinese exports, a coalition of U. S. trade associations is asking the U. S. to invoke trade-law provisions that are designed specifically to limit the growth in imports of Chinese trousers, shirts, and yarn. Other petitions are expected. Similar efforts to block Chinese imports may follow in Latin America and in Europe.

At the same time, the refusal of China to let its currency, the yuan, appreciate is worrying economic policy makers around the world. Holding the yuan stable makes China's exports more attractive, encourages the U. S. to import its goods, increases the size of the U. S. trade deficit and, as a result, forces the U. S. to increase its overseas borrowing, often from China itself. Economists worry that the U. S. 's insatiable demand for imports and its addiction to borrowing from abroad is creating a dangerous imbalance in the world economy.

A rise in the yuan's value could solve both problems by damping the U. S. trade deficit-reducing its need to borrow overseas-and forestall worries about a collapse in the dollar caused by a sudden loss of international investor confidence in the U. S. economy.

Policy makers in the U. S. , Europe and Japan, backed by the International Monetary Fund⁴⁷, are pressing China to allow the yuan to rise in value, helping create a gentle decline in the dollar's value. China is signaling it sees reasons to let the yuan rise, mainly to thwart domestic inflation, but it refuses to be pinned down on timing.

A rise in the yuan "would unlock a series of moves throughout Asia that would be very helpful to dealing with the imbalances in the global economy," says Laura Tyson, a former top Clinton economic adviser. Only if China moves its currency against the dollar will Asian nations, who also export heavily to the U. S. and it lots of money, allow theirs to do the same.

The apparel and textile issue will force the White House to make a tough call. probably in late January. It's unlikely to reject the petitions flatly, and is likely to seek a deal with China to avoid a major trade fight.

The U. S. might, as it did with auto imports from Japan in the 1970s, ask China to limit

exports to the U. S. voluntarily. Or, if the White House is more ambitious, it could use the threat of more onerous restrictions on Chinese textile and apparel exports-which would be politically popular-as leverage to get Chinese government to unfetter its currency.

“Threats of action by the U. S. and China’s other trading partners pose an opportunity for China to make a move,” says Ms. Tyson, who is now dean of the London Business School.

I. Notes

Report 1

1. THE TIMES: A nationwide newspaper in the United Kingdom (<http://www.timesonline.co.uk> E-mail: 100444.3425@compuserve.com). 泰晤士报。它是英国历史悠久的报纸，消息灵通，报道求实，评论严肃，以较大篇幅报道和评论国际、国内重大新闻。1785 年该报由约翰·沃尔特创刊，当时称《每日环球纪录报》。1788 年改为《泰晤士报》，但仍以刊登商业消息和布告为主，并附带登些丑闻。1800 年后不久，在创办人之子沃尔特第二领导下，该报的读者队伍和报道范围都开始扩大。19 世纪中叶，它已成为对公众舆论有影响的报纸，得到美誉。报纸恪守办报传统，报道和写作有严格标准，大体上保持独立观点，力求细致准确。它也最敢于创新。在执行温和的社论政策的同时，以英国“幕后统治集团”的喉舌而闻名于世。20 世纪 50 年代初，该报编辑们进行旨在使该报更加富有生机和趣味的改革。例如，该报头版不再登商业广告和分类广告，而在第一页下方载有重大新闻摘要和版面索引，索引上面部分突出要闻简介。索引部分分为 24 种版面。与《纽约时报》不同，它不按英语字母顺序排列，内容分类也不尽相同。1981 年由英国九大报业集团之一的国际新闻社（News International）老板、澳大利亚资本家鲁珀特·默多克（Rupert Murdoch）从加拿大富翁肯尼思·汤姆森（Kenneth Thomson）处买下该报。《泰晤士报》星期日无报，由《星期日泰晤士报》（The Sunday Times）补缺。《泰晤士报》是英国发行量最大的日报之一。20 世纪 70 年代后期发行量增加到约 30 万份，因而财政上更加稳定。

2. Four More Years in White House: 根据美国宪法，每届总统任期 4 年。经过投票选举，同一人可连任两届总统。

White House: 白宫。美国总统正式官邸。在华盛顿市宾夕法尼亚大街 1600 号。有 3 层楼，130 多个房间。1792 年，白宫由费城建筑师霍本设计，1800 年建成，1814 年被英国人焚烧，其后 3 年间进行重建和扩建。19 世纪 20 年代加修半圆形南门廊和带廊柱北门廊。20 世纪 50 年代初进行全面整修。

3. GEORGE BUSH and John Kerry conferred a final, dignified epitaph on the 2004 US election campaign yesterday:

George Bush: 乔治·布什（也称小布什），1946 年 7 月 6 日生于美国康涅狄格州，在得克萨斯州的米德兰和休斯敦长大，其父为美国第 51 届总统乔治·布什。小布什 1968 年获耶鲁大学学士学位，1978 年获哈佛大学（Harvard University）商学院工商管理硕士学位，2001 年美国大选中以微弱多数击败美国民主党候选人阿勒·戈尔（Al Gore，克林顿政府时期副总统）当选美国第 54 届总统。2003 年 5 月小布什宣布竞选连任总统。2004 年在美国总统大选中他以微弱多数击败美国民主党候选人约翰·克里（John Kerry）当选美国第 55 届总统。John Kerry: 2004 美国总统竞选民主党总统候选人约翰·克里（John F. Kerry），

1943 年 12 月 11 日生于科罗拉多州丹佛, 1966 年毕业于耶鲁大学 (Yale University) 并获得文学学士学位。随后他加入了美国海军, 1968~1969 年在越南服役。他于 1976 年获得波士顿学院 (Boston College) 法学博士学位。信奉罗马天主教。2004 年美国总统大选中以微弱劣势败北。

confer: to give, grant, or bestow

epitaph: a short composition in prose or verse

4. He stood with his supporters in Faneuil Hall, Boston...

Faneuil Hall: 法纳尔大楼, 美国马萨诸塞州波士顿的旧市场大楼和办公会堂, 在独立战争中, 是爱国者聚会的场所, 故被称为自由的摇篮 (Cradle of Liberty)。

Boston: 波士顿, 美国马萨诸塞州首府, 临查尔斯河和大西洋马萨诸塞湾海湾边的城市: 人口 574 000 (大都市区人口 2 871 000)。当地约 50% 的居民是爱尔兰人, 20% 来自加拿大沿海各省; 新英格兰后裔占不到 11%; 其余为俄国、意大利、德国等欧洲国家的移民和黑人。1630 年由英国清教徒拓居。新建城镇以英国林肯郡的波士顿命名。1636 年建立教会学院 (哈佛大学的前身)。至 18 世纪中叶, 波士顿一直为英属北美最大城市。19 世纪随着移民大量增加, 形成各种宗教势力。哈佛大学的发展和新大学的建立使波士顿成为学术文化中心。19 世纪下半叶, 制造业和商业取代海上贸易成为主要行业; 现在经济以银行、保险、投资管理和其他商业金融业为主。

5. The final stumble was Ohio: 2004 年美国总统大选过程中, 美国共和党候选人乔治·布什与美国民主党候选人约翰·克里一直势均力敌, 直到最后的俄亥俄州投票结束后, 胜负才见分晓。

stumble: v. to proceed unsteadily or falteringly, flounder

Ohio: Midwestern state of the NC U. S. : admitted, 1803; 40 952 sq mi (106 065 sq km); pop. 10 847 000; cap. Columbus 俄亥俄州。它是美国中北部偏东一州; 东邻宾夕法尼亚州, 东南靠西弗吉尼亚州, 南界肯塔基州, 西接印第安纳州, 西背靠密歇根州, 北濒伊利湖; 18 和 19 世纪时大部分地区住有米亚米族、肖尼族、怀恩特祖和德拉瓦尔族印第安人。1803 年加入联邦, 为美国第 17 个州。俄亥俄河流域西南部采矿业和伐木业发达。该州位置适中, 在横贯东西、纵贯南北的客货运输中占有重要地位。俄亥俄州素称“院校之乡”, 高等学府的数量占美国第 7 位, 有许多久负盛名的院校, 州人口为 10 847 000, 首府哥伦布。

6. Bill Clinton: 比尔·克林顿 (依法登记名 William Jefferson Clinton; 原名 William Jefferson Blythe IV), 美国民主党人。1946 年 8 月 19 日生于阿肯色州霍普 (Hope, Arkansas)。1992 年, 年仅 46 岁的克林顿在大选中击败乔治·布什, 当选美国总统, 并于 1996 年竞选连任成功, 成为继林登·约翰逊 (Lyndon Johnson, 1963~1969 年在任) 之后第一位连任总统的民主党人。

Bill 一般是 William 的昵称。

7. Everyone turned out old, young, conservatives, liberals, Republicans, Democrats and finally lawyers:

Republicans: members of the Republican Party of the United States 美国共和党人

Democrat: members of the Democratic Party of the United States 美国民主党人

美国共和党, 也称老大党 [Grand Old Party (GOP)], 美国两大政党之一, 党徽是象。共和党于 1854 年 7 月在密执安州杰克逊城成立, 由当时一批前辉格党人、民主党人和主张

禁止奴隶的人组成，采用共和党名字。这一名称吸引了那些回忆起杰斐逊总统提出的“共和主义”的，一般说来把国家利益置于地方利益和州利益之上的人。共和党的创建人共同反对奴隶制，特别是为反对 1854 年的堪萨斯-内布拉斯加法令而联合起来。这个新法令要把奴隶制推广到这两个新开辟的领土上去。在以后的 4 年中，新成立的共和党在北方各州取代辉格党，成了民主党的主要对手。1856 年共和党第一个总统候选人约翰·弗里蒙特虽然竞选失败，但也有 11 个州支持他。1860 年北方 18 个州的选票，使共和党的第二个总统候选人亚伯拉罕·林肯当选总统。内战结束后，开始了共和党长期统治时代。虽然共和党被视为中右政党，但是它是一个不同利益的集团和地方集团的联合体；它执政的政策反映当时需要的实用主义，而不是顽固不化、一味追求政治思想的保守派。

美国民主党，美国两大政党之一，党徽是驴。民主党的历史可以追溯到 1792 年，当时，一个全国性的选民集团，以民主共和人士的名义支持托马斯·杰斐逊，强调反对君主思想。这个党曾有各种名称。到 19 世纪 30 年代，安德鲁·杰克逊任总统，党取得全面发展时，才采用现名。民主党一开始就是国会中强有力的反对派，但在 1801 年杰斐逊当选总统前从未执政过。以后 40 年，总统一直由民主党人担任。从 1837 年杰克逊总统辞职到 1860 年，有 4 名民主党人当选总统，他们是：马丁·范布伦，詹姆斯·波尔克，富兰克林·皮尔斯，詹姆斯·布坎南。1860 年内战前夕，民主党分裂为北部和南部两派。一直到 1876 年，共和党在多次选举中均获全胜。在 1876 年总统选举中，双方势均力敌，从而开创了两党角逐的时代。1884 年和 1892 年格罗弗·克利夫兰两次当选总统，民主党取得暂时性胜利。但 1896 年因自由铸造银币问题再度分裂。1912 年伍德罗·威尔逊当选总统后民主党才重新执政。1974 年 12 月，民主党在堪萨斯城举行党章会议，通过了美国历史上第一部大党的党章。新党章体现了 1972 年的许多“改革”，但禁止对大会的代表名额作强制性限制。1976 年总统候选人初步提名，有十来个人角逐。开始时没有一个人明显领先，佐治亚州前州长卡特根据党章的规定，争取到足够数量代表的支持，使他在 7 月举行的代表大会取得提名，并当选为总统。四年后，卡特被共和党人里根击败，民主党在全国范围内遭到严重失败，失去了许多州和民主党掌控的地盘，并且丢掉了对参议院的控制。

8. Middle Americans are turning from easy abortion, gay marriage, embryo research and any leniency towards criminals;

gay marriage; marriage of, relating to, or sharing the lifestyle and concerns of the homosexual community 同性恋婚姻

9. many find the parallel with the Muslim world eerie and uncomfortable;

the Muslim world; the world of an adherent of Islam

伊斯兰教虔诚信徒的穆斯林世界

Report 2

10. THE WALL STREET JOURNAL: A nationwide newspaper in the United States (<http://www.wsj.com>) 华尔街日报。大量报道和评论美国及世界工商业、财政、银行、股票、投资、税收、物价等消息；选择政治、外交的重点问题作详细报道，是美国著名报纸之一。该报于 1889 年由查尔斯·亨利·道创办《华尔街日报》社址在美国纽约市华尔街附近 (Dow Jones & Co. Inc., 200 Liberty ST. New York, NY 10281. USA)、由美国主要财政金融新闻出版企业集团“道·琼斯公司”(Dow Jones) 出版，是美国发行量最大的

日报之一。1979 年这家全国性日报发行 4 个版：东部版、中西版、西南版和西部版，共销售 150 万份以上。1940 年伯纳德·基尔戈任总编辑时，该报同时报道商业金融消息和一般消息。20 世纪 60 年代该报有 3 位工作人员因撰写社论获普利策奖。1972 年该报的彼得·卡恩获国际报道的普利策奖。该报曾进行不少编排和印刷上的革新，例如用集体报道方法报道许多头条新闻，它还用“摘要”栏，在头版摘要报道本国和世界新闻。1976 年开始，它利用人造卫星转播将稿子发给 4 个地区版。除一般新闻及评述外，该报着重报道财政金融等经济新闻。《华尔街日报》在第一页载有重大新闻摘要和版面索引；索引上面部分突出要闻简介。

11. stave off: to ward off, hold off, or put off, as by force, guile, etc. (用武力或诡计) 挡开, 抑制, 延迟

12. dollar dive: 美元急剧下跌

13. for months, the presidential candidates have been boasting about...

boast about: 自夸

14. The end of the campaign means it's time to confront longer-term problems that defy the sound-bite solutions of stump speeches.

defy: *v.* to oppose or resist with boldness and assurance 公然反对, 反抗 sound-bite: 简洁地说, 言简意赅地说明; 一针见血地指出 stump speeches: 树桩讲台的演说

15. ... and the imminent retirement of the baby-boom generation ... imminent: *adj.* about to occur; impending 即将来临的; 逼近的 baby-boom generation: 指第二次世界大战后(尤指 1946~1965 年) 美国生育高峰期出生的一代人。

16. Even before the Sept. 11 attacks, the economy was sliding into recession as the stock-market bubble burst;

the Sept. 11 attacks: 2001 年 9 月 11 日发生在美国的恐怖袭击。事件开始于美国东部时间上午 8 点 50 分, 两架被劫持飞机撞击纽约世贸中心南北两座大楼。华盛顿五角大楼等地也遭受恐怖袭击。袭击中纽约世贸中心大楼燃烧并倒塌, 造成三千多人伤亡和失踪。美国“9·11”恐怖袭击事件使美国蒙受 1000 多亿美元损失。

17. ...computers and software are acting as a damper.

dampener: *n.* one that deadens, restrains, or depresses 抑制因素, 使人麻木、抑制或压抑的人或事物

18. ...if it falters...: ...if it moves ineptly or haltingly and stumbles...

19. As a result, the president's most potent strategy may be to bolster confidence by actually tackling some of the long-term problems that politicians typically like to defer.

potent: *adj.* having great control or authority

bolster: *v.* support, strengthen, or reinforce

defer: *v.* to put off to a future time; postpone; delay

20. Congress: 美国国会——根据美国 1789 年宪法建立的立法机关。国会由参议院和众议院组成：每州（不论其大小）选举两名参议员组成参议院；每州按人口比例选举产生众议员组成众议院。

21. ...Brookings Institution: 布鲁金斯学会。它是美国非营利性研究机构，1927 年由商人、工厂主和慈善家罗伯特·布鲁金斯（1852~1932）在华盛顿特区创立。该机构通过社