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#### 内容提要

本书精选了近 60 篇最新的、琅琅上口的新闻短文,旨在帮助读者提高词汇量、口语和写作能力。阅读这些富有时代气息、内容精当、语言生动的英汉双语新闻,不仅能让您知晓天下事,而且还能扩大知识面,同时愉悦身心,让英语学习不再枯燥。

本书适用于希望提高英语水平的广大英语爱好者。

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### 前言

## 

现实生活中很多前沿的英语词汇大多通过英语新闻传送。通过收看、收听、阅读富有时代气息、内容精当、语言生动的英语新闻,我们不仅能够知晓天下事,而且能扩大知识面,同时可以愉悦身心,从而将英语学习与娱乐有机地结合起来。

以英汉对照的形式读新闻、学英语的最大好处在于: 你可以在阅读最近世界上所发生的新闻事件的同时,复习到许多曾经学过却一直没有机会复习的、很重要的、常用的英语单词和句型,更可以学习到不少在世界一体化进程中产生的新生词汇以及对某个"专业"词汇的多种表达方式。

为帮助爱好英语的朋友,我们特编写了"读新闻学英语"系列丛书,希望能让广大读者养成每天阅读和跟听新闻的好习惯,并从此爱上英语。该系列包含文娱体育、科技生活、时事经济三个分册,每个分册都精选了60篇左右最新的新闻短文,这些短文与社会紧密贴合,读起来朗朗上口。同时,本书还采用英汉同步对照的编排方式,非常符合中国人的英语学习习惯和英语新闻学习的特点,相信本书对学习者的词汇量、口语和写作都有很大帮助。

本书由卓言英语工作室编写,李翔、赵国亚主编,刘伟、李超、张丹、罗丹、 刘小娟、陈建、王平、王雪琴、张剑、刘明亮、王晓东、刘欣欣、陈明韬参与了 本书的编写工作,在此一并向他们表示感谢。

由于时间和水平所限,书中不足和缺漏之处,请广大读者批评指正。

编者 2013年10月

### 目 录

## 

前言

Risks of skinny jeans 紧身牛仔裤的危害 / 1

Global warming could make humans shorter 全球变暖能使人类变矮 / 3

A new way to hasten energy solutions 加快解决能源问题的新途径 /5

High-educated female in Korea seek for matchmaker 韩国高学历剩女求助婚姻介绍所 /8

Sleeping well is your best bet for losing weight 睡得香才不会发胖 / 11

The unique mobile phone — it keeps its charge for 15 years 独一无二的手机——待机时间长达 15 年 / 14

We will be heading for a mini ice age 我们要进入小冰河时代 / 16

Happy children earn more money as adults 童年快乐,长大赚钱更多 / 19

Eating fruit and veg makes you SEXIER 多吃水果和蔬菜会让你变得更性感 / 21

Apple enters a new market 苹果引发教育新革命 / 24

Boeing has planned to develop "space taxi" 波音公司计划研发 "太空出租车" / 27

"Stay sober" pill could help you get rid of the embarrassment of after-work drinks "千杯不醉" 可以帮助你摆脱工作之余的酒局的尴尬 / 30

Study reveals women get more flustered and stressed in supermarkets 研究表明男性比女性更享受购物 /33

High-earning wives are more likely to end up in a divorce 高收入女性婚姻更易破裂 /36

Facebook "friend" offer exposes man's other wife 脸谱好友推荐功能令男子重婚行为败露 / 38

The abnormal weather in 2012 of United States 美国 2012 年气候反常 /41

Google's Internet-connected glasses 谷歌推出能上网的智能眼镜 / 44

Researchers are trying to develop technology to allow soldiers to telepathically speak to their peers

研究人员正在研制一项技术,让士兵通过心灵感应进行交流 / 47

C\$ 27 billion suit versus Big Tobacco starts in Montreal 加拿大烟民起诉烟草公司索赔 270 亿加元 / 50

Private divorce courts on the way in Britain 英国出现私立离婚法庭 / 53

NASA's Kepler space telescope finds "new Earth" 美国宇航局用开普勒太空望远镜发现"新地球"/55

Europe is developing an asteroid shield 欧洲欲建太空"防护盾"/58

Crowded House Britain: Third of us don't have enough space but can't afford to move 房子拥挤的英国: 1/3 蜗居,不能承担搬走的费用 / 61

Cut the working week to 20 hours and it will boost growth 工作时间减至每周 20 小时可推动经济增长 / 64 Be honest, every parent has a favorite child 每个父母都偏心 /67

The wisdom of Japanese reaches its top at 25 years old? 日本人 25 岁智慧达顶峰 /70

Vitamin pills and supplements taken by millions of women "do more harm than good" 服用多种维生素制剂无益健康 / 73

Smokers could lose one third of their everyday memory 吸烟者会丧失日常 1/3 记忆 /76

A range of high-tech watches can pay for a maximum of £15 each time —系列高科技手表每次可支付15 英镑以下商品 /79

Mask-bot, has its expression and even talk 面具机器人能做表情会说话 / 82

The fashionable clothes designed by milk 用牛奶制作的前卫时装 /84

Amount of space debris has reached "a tipping point" 大量太空垃圾已经到达"临界点"/87

Daydreaming is good for the mind 聪明的人爱做白日梦 / 90

Apple's core product 苹果新利器 / 93

The six ways to waste time on the Internet 浪费时间的 6 种网络习惯 / 96

Mobile passes print in time-spent among U. S. adults 美国成年人使用移动设备的时间超越了纸媒 /99

A high-tech way to feed puppies by Twitter 牛人发明推特喂狗器 / 102

A device which may be able to power your phone from energy in the air -种利用空气为手机充电的设备 / 105

The new age of living alone is coming soon 新独居时代马上就要到来 / 108

Russia plans for a space hotel in 2016 俄罗斯计划 2016 年启动"太空旅馆"/110

"Virtual supermarket" has been spread around the world "虚拟超市" 已经风靡全球 / 113

"Social X-ray" glasses tell you what the other person is thinking "社交 X 光眼镜"让你洞察他人内心 / 116

Humans really do have a six sense 人类确实存在第 6 感 / 119

Time machine is no longer a legend 时光机不再是传说 / 122

We will not have a planet left that is recognizable in 2050 2050 年我们的星球或将面目全非 / 125

Maybe you can't afford the house in Mumbai 孟买的房子买不起 / 128

Scientists have been developed a vaccine that could inhibit 70% cancers 科学家研制出一种可抑制 70%癌症的疫苗 / 131

Today's youngsters are "Generation C" or "Generation E" 今天的年轻人是 C 时代还是 E 时代? / 134

Further progress was made in developing AIDS vaccine 研究艾滋病疫苗有了新的进展 / 136

The most expensive mummy had lain for many years in Torquay Museum 最贵木乃伊在英国拖基博物馆沉睡多年 / 139

The iHospital has sprung up by repairing Apple devices 维修苹果设备的"苹果医院"悄然新生 / 142

Hotel travel at your fingertips 酒店入住、触手可及 / 145 Speed kills 4G phone batteries 4G 智能手机牺牲电量换速度 / 147

The impact of traffic fumes on the brain 汽车尾气对大脑的影响 / 149

Android will launch smart watchphone 安卓将推出智能手表电话 / 152

Employ "hoodies", minister tells company 英国就业部长要求公司雇佣"小混混"/155

Britons will get 20.12% slashed off bills if they holiday in UK 英国公民在国内度假就会得到 20.12% 的折扣 /158

New scientific test first to ferret out "addicted" workers 科学测试帮你鉴定你是否为工作狂 / 161

How to measure your happiness? 如何衡量你的幸福感? / 164

# Risks of skinny jeans 紧身牛仔裤的危害

## 

紧身牛仔裤一直被人们视为时尚法宝,然而最近的一篇报道指 出,紧身牛仔裤可能会因压迫神经导致腰背疼痛、身材变形等一系列 的健康问题。

Skinny jeans are awesome. They're the ultimate pants for fashion lovers.

They suit all body types because they flatter even the most **flawed** bottom-half. That's because they can **elongate** and slim the leg, and make one's butt look like an apple.

However, recently there's a public crossfire in the U.S. about whether it's a good idea to wear these sorts of jeans, or if it's better we discard pants that are just too tight.

A latest Wall Street Journal article goes further, pointing out some scary health risks of our favorite skinny jeans.

The article listed several symptoms of "skinny jean syndrome" including lower back pain, and in cases where the waistband is extremely tight, digestive issues and blood clots.

紧身牛仔裤真是棒极了,是时 尚潮人们的基本必备品。

它适合所有身材,即便是下半 身体型最糟糕的人,穿上紧身牛仔 裤也能收获满意的效果。这是因为 紧身牛仔能令腿部变得更纤长,使 臀部看起来像个苹果。

然而,近日,美国上下掀起一 场关于紧身牛仔的激烈论战,人们 质疑穿着这种紧身裤是否明智,是 否该摒弃这种过紧的裤子。

《华尔街日报》近日的一篇文章更进一步指出,我们最爱的牛仔裤可能对健康带来可怕的威胁。

这篇文章中列举出一些"紧身牛仔综合症"的症状,包括腰痛症状,以及一些由于(牛仔裤)腰部过紧而导致的消化系统问题及血液凝块现象。

Friction caused by overly tight pants may lead to **bladder** infections.

Plus, it causes nerve compression.

A very tight pant leg can **pinch** a sensitive nerve in your upper thigh. And it stirs terrible burning and pain.

Finally, a strange kind of disfigurement can occur when too-tight jeans force fatty tissue into areas above the knee. This causes horizontal **lesions** to appear around the thighs. They'll end up looking like thigh **donuts** that are ugly.

Would you like to become a fashion victim? Or will you opt to upsize your skinny pants a bit?

Tight jeans aren't the only fashion item on trial. The Wall Street Journal identified other trendy closet items with a dark side, such as high heels, earrings, tight belts, shirt collars and neckties.

过于紧身的牛仔裤所产生的摩 擦可能会导致膀胱感染。

另外,紧身牛仔还会压迫神 经。非常紧身的裤子会挤压到你大 腿上部的敏感神经,产生剧烈的灼 烧感和疼痛感。

最后,过于紧身的牛仔裤会将 脂肪组织推到膝盖以上部位,从而 产生一种奇怪的畸形。这会在大腿 周围产生一系列横向的皮肤损伤, 最终会使大腿看起来像是丑陋的甜 甜圈。

你是想沦为时尚的牺牲品,还 是选择把紧身牛仔裤的尺寸放宽 一点?

紧身牛仔裤并非唯一接受人们 审判的时尚单品。《华尔街日报》 同时也指出了其他一些暗藏弊端的 时尚衣橱品。例如:高跟鞋、耳 环、紧身腰带、衬衫衣领和领带。

### 重点词汇户

- 1. flawed [flo:d] adj. 有缺陷的; 有瑕疵的
- 2. elongate ['iːləŋgeit, i'ləŋ-] vt. 拉长; 使延长; 使伸长
- 3. crossfire ['krosfaiə] n. 交火; 论战
- 4. discard [dis'ka:d,'diska:d] vt. 抛弃; 放弃; 丢弃
- 5. bladder ['blædə] n. 膀胱
- 6. **pinch** [pintf] vt. 捏; 使苦恼; 挤压
- 7. lesion ['li:ʒən] n. 损害; 身体上的伤害
- 8. donut ['dəunət] n. 炸面圈; 环状线圈

## Global warming could make humans shorter

### 全球变暖能使人类变矮

## 

导读

近日,科学家们对全球气候变暖有了最新的研究,提示并警告说:全球变暖会使人类变矮。这一发现又再一次加重了人类对全球变暖的重视。

Global warming could make humans shorter, warned by scientists who claim to have found evidence that it caused the world's first horses to shrink nearly 50 million years ago.

In fact, a team from the universities of Florida and Nebraska says it has found a link between the Earth heating up and the size of **mammals** — horses, in this case, the last time the world **heated up**.

The scientists used fossils to follow the evolution of horses from their earliest appearance 56 million years ago.

As temperatures went up their size went down, and **vice versa**; at one point they were as small as a house cat, said Dr. Jonathan Bloch, curator of the Florida Museum of Natural History, was quoted by the "Daily Mail" as saying.

科学家警告说,全球变暖可能会使人类变矮。科学家宣称已经找到证据:近 5000 万年前全球变暖就曾让世界上最早的马个头变小。

事实上,来自佛罗里达州和内布 拉斯加州大学的一支研究团队称,他 们已经找到地球变暖和哺乳动物个头 之间的联系。这一案例中,马变矮的 现象是上一次全球变暖时发生的。

科学家用化石来追溯马从 5600万年前诞生至今的进化历程。

随着气温的上升,马的个头变小,反之马的个头就变大。《每日邮报》援引佛罗里达自然历史博物馆馆长乔纳森・布洛赫博士的话说,它们曾一度像家猫那么小。

The scientists say that the current warming could have the same effect on mammals — and could even make humans smaller.

"Horses started out small, about the size of a small dog like a miniature **schnauzer**. What's surprising is that after they first appeared, they then became even smaller and then dramatically increased in size, and that exactly **corresponds** to the global warming event, followed by cooling. It had been known that mammals were small during that time and that it was warm, but we hadn't understood that temperature specifically was driving the evolution of body size," Dr. Bloch said in the "Science" journal.

科学家称,当前的全球变暖可能也会对哺乳动物产生同样的影响,甚至可能会让人类的个子也变小。

布洛赫博士在《科学》杂志中写道: "马最初的个头很小,和一只小狗的个头差不多,大约也就像一只迷你型雪纳瑞犬那么大。令人惊讶的是,在马诞生后过了一段时间,它们的个子变得更小,之后全球变暖和变冷正好是相对应的。我们已经知道哺乳动物在那个时期气候也较暖,但我们还未意识到正是温度驱动着身体大小的进化。"

### 重点词汇户

- 1. mammal ['mæməl] n. 哺乳动物
- 2. heat up 加热
- 3. vice versa [ˌvais'vəːsə] [拉丁语] 反之亦然,反过来也一样 [略作 V. V.]
- 4. **schnauzer** ['fnauzə, 'fnautsə] n. 雪纳瑞犬 (德国种刚毛犬的一种)
- 5. correspond [ˌkoːri'spənd] vi. 符合, 一致; 相应

## A new way to hasten energy solutions

## 加快解决能源问题的新途径

## 

使用藻类生物燃料也好,建立微型核电站也罢,解决长期困扰我 们的能源问题的答案很可能来自北加利福尼亚。没错,我们需要他们 的研究成果,因为它们不但事关国家经济,更关系到整个地球的生存。

The research and advisory company Cleantech Group estimates that by 2020, the global clean-tech sector will be worth more than \$3 trillion and could account for as much as 15% of some nations' GDP.

"We know the potential benefit of focusing on energy or electricity is still valid, no matter what happens with the climate debate," says Amit Chatterjee, CEO of Hara Software and the author of The Post-Carbon Economy.

The problem is that clean-tech **start-ups** run on venture capital — and VC money, like just about every other form of financing, fell off a cliff during the recession.

But help could be coming from an unlikely source — the giant, slow-moving

Cleantech 集团是一家从事研究 和咨询业务的公司。根据它的预测,到 2020年,全球清洁能源技术 产业的总产值将达到 3 万亿美元; 在一些国家,这一产业占国内生产 总值的比例可能会高达到 15%。

阿米特·查特基是 Hara Software 公司的首席执行官,同时也是《后碳时代经济》一书的作者。他说:"不管有关气候变化的争吵结论如何,我们还是要关注能源和电力,这样做依然能够带给我们好处。"

问题在于,那些研究开发清洁能源技术的新兴公司是靠风险投资起家 ·的,而正如其他融资形式一样,风投在经济衰退时期也随之跌入低谷。

许多开发清洁能源技术的新公司都试图取代现有大型企业的市场

corporations that many clean-tech start-ups are trying to replace.

If done right, the relationship can benefit both sides: start-ups get a major name and funding to work with, while Fortune 500 companies can take advantage of **insurgent** innovation. "Big corporations now want to **get an edge on** this," says Sheeraz Haji, president of the Cleantech Group. "Clean tech is something big companies see as a growth area."

It also might represent the best way for revolutionary ideas to scale up fast, to go from promising pilot projects to products that can really change the world. But the role of major corporations isn't without risk. As a venture capitalist at the Cleantech meeting puts it, start-ups can suffer "death by pilot project," where a promising idea gets caught in the institutional eddies of a major corporation and never fully develops. "We've all heard the horror stories from entrepreneurs," says Haji. "But ultimately, we have to go with optimism." That's because there's really no other choice - not for start-up CEOs desperate to stay afloat or for the rest of us waiting for a clean-tech miracle.

地位。虽然这些大型企业对市场变 化应对缓慢,但令人意想不到的是, 正是它们助了那些新公司一臂之力。

如果进展顺利的话,这样做对双方都有好处:新公司得以与行业巨头进行合作,并得到所需的资金,而那些《财富》500强的大企业也同样得益于前者的创新成果。Cleantech集团总裁希拉斯·哈吉认为,"那些大企业现在想保住它们的优势,而清洁能源技术正是它们视作增长点的行业。"

此举也许同样是快速创新的最 好途径,并能够让那些具有光明前 景的试点项目能真正改变世界。但 是, 那些大企业的行为也并非没有 风险。正如一位参加 Cleantech 论 坛的风险投资家指出的那样,这样 的"试点项目"也能让那些新公司 倒闭,因为一个看上去不错的创意 可能会因为那些大企业的制度而胎 死腹中,不得到充分发展。"我们 都从企业家那里听到过这种可怕的 经历,"哈吉说道,"但是,最终我 们还是得抱着乐观的态度继续干下 去。"不论对于那些急于想让新公 司站稳脚跟的执行总裁们而言,还 是对于像我们这样期待清洁能源技 术能带来奇迹的人来说,都已经别 无选择。

### 重点词汇户

- 1. valid ['vælid] adj. 有效的,有根据的
- 2. start-up ['sta:tap] n. 启动;新成立的企业 adj. 起动阶段的;开始阶段的
- 3. insurgent [in'sə:dʒənt] adj. 叛乱的;起义的 n. 叛乱者;起义者
- 4. get an edge on (俚) 胜过某人; 获得优势
- 5. scale up 按比例放大,增加
- 6. pilot project 试点项目
- 7. eddy ['edi] n. 涡流; 漩涡; 逆流 vi. 旋转; 起漩涡

## High-educated female in Korea seek for matchmaker

韩国高学历剩女求助婚姻介绍所

在韩国,随着越来越多的女性教育程度的提高,她们对另一方的 要求也越来越挑剔。长此以往,有好多被剩下的女性不得不求助于当 下很火爆的婚姻介绍所。

If you are thirty-plus and a woman with a master's degree in South Korea, you may need the help of a **matchmaker** to find love — and your worried mother may even end up doing the **legwork** for you.

读

As women in this rich Asian country have become better educated, with five times as many now getting advanced degrees as in 1995, they have also become more **choosy** and are less likely to settle for the role of meek spouse traditionally expected of Korean women.

"I heard if you are a female with a master's degree, it is much harder to arrange a meeting than if you have a bachelor's degree because of an unfavorable perception toward 'too smart women' here," said Lee, 24, a college senior in Seoul who wished to be known only by her last name.

如果你是一个 30 多岁的韩国 女硕士,那么你可能需要媒人的帮助才能找到爱情,你那忧心忡忡的 妈妈甚至可能亲自跑腿给你物色 对象。

随着这个富裕的亚洲国家的女性教育程度的提高,她们对择偶也变得更挑剔,不甘于做温顺的传统韩国女人。如今韩国的高学历女性人数是 1995 年的 5 倍。

一位不愿透露名字的首尔大学生李小姐说:"我听说,如果你是一位女硕士,那么给你安排一次相亲会比女本科生难得多,因为在这里人们对'太聪明的女人'没有什么好感。"李小姐今年24岁,正在读大四。