



实用英语新闻听力 技巧与实践

王伟炜 周迺菁 编著



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前 言

英语作为一种国际通用语言在全世界广泛应用。随着国际交流的增加,当代大学生越来越需要通过英语新闻来了解最新的世界。为适应国家战略发展和新形势的需要,全国大学英语四、六级考试委员会自2016年6月起对四、六级考试听力试题做了局部调整。四级考试取消原有的短对话和复合听写,取而代之的是3篇短新闻。

目前,国内大学英语听力教材虽然很丰富,但仍有一些不足。首先,许多新闻语料过于陈旧,跟不上日新月异的新时代发展。随着科技和社会的不断发展,英语新闻中的新词和热词层出不穷,“00后”的在校大学生需要储备最新的社会文化知识。其次,国内新闻听力教材的内容选择多偏重于国际事务,很少有对中国国内新闻的英文报道。在全球经济一体化和“一带一路”倡议的背景下,当代大学生有必要学会用英语向世界介绍中国最新的发展。再次,大部分英语新闻听力教材多选择政治、军事、自然灾害等类型的内容,与人们日常生活更接近的科技、经济、教育、旅游、健康等方面的内容却不多见。最后,很多新闻听力的素材较长且真实语境下的语速较快,对于大部分大学生来说有一定的困难。

基于以上问题,本书以学习者为中心,在选材上注重时效、内容、篇幅和可理解性,通过选取2018—2019年国内外新闻题材,遵循“以输出为导向”的原则,帮助学习者“接受输入—内化语料—主动输出”。

本书分三个部分。第一部分是关于英语新闻的8个听力技巧,包括语音、词汇、语法、语义等不同维度的策略,从关注数字和实词,理解热词、缩略词和多重前置修饰词,识别连读,注意时态的不一致和被动语态的特殊用法,了解新闻结构和大意等视角,引导学习者熟悉和把握英语新闻听力的基本技能。第二部分是国内新闻,共45篇;第三部分为国外新闻,共33篇。它们涉及科技、经济、旅游、健康、教育、社会等方面的国内外新闻材料。每篇新闻后设置四个难度逐渐

递增的任务。每个任务都为学习者搭建循序渐进的学习支架,帮助其获得可理解的输入信息并有效地进行语言输出训练。

本书适用于大学非英语专业基础阶段的英语听说课,也适用于中高级英语学习者感知英语新闻的语言特点,增进对国内外新闻事件的了解,培养语言认知能力及思辨能力。

本书得到了2018年度江苏省教育厅高校哲学社会科学研究外语教学专题研究项目“混合式教学模式在大学英语听说教学中的实证研究”(项目编号:2018SJZT53)和江南大学的资助,在此表示衷心感谢!

在编写过程中,我们参考了国内外新闻网站的部分新闻,在此谨向这些作者和网站表示衷心感谢。最后,衷心感谢李霄翔教授对本书编写提供的许多建设性意见和建议。

由于作者水平有限,加之时间仓促,本书疏漏和不妥之处在所难免,恳请专家、读者批评指正。

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Part One

News Listening Skills



扫一扫,听录音



扫一扫,看文本

News listening skill one

Focusing on numbers and units

In English news reports, numbers appear in address, price, time, date, year, percentage, and so on. Usually there are some pauses accompanied with a space or punctuation signs like a hyphen (-), a comma (,), or parentheses (()).

A unit of measurement is a standard used for measuring the physical quality, such as distance, weight and temperature. This kind of unit often comes after the number.

Examples of numbers

Address: 1568, Main Street, Warrington, PA

818, 60th St. Brooklyn

Price: 25 cents (1 quarter), 10 cents (1 dime),

129.99 dollars, 217.5 million yuan

Time: 6 a. m. , 9:45 p. m. , 12:15 p. m.

Date: August 12, February 23, September 10

Day: Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday

Month: January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August,

September, October, November, December

Year: 2019, 1990, 2025

Percentage: 6%, 27%, 84.04%

Examples of units

Distance: mile, meter, kilometer

Weight: gram, pound, kilogram

Temperature: Fahrenheit, Celsius

Some words about numbers and time

couple—2

dozen—12

score—20

a fortnight—14 days

- a decade—10 years
 a century—100 years
 a thousand—1,000
 a million—1,000,000
 a billion—1,000,000,000

Skill practice

Task one

You are going to hear ten numbers. Listen carefully and choose the one you have heard.

- | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. A. 1916. | B. 1960. | C. 1913. |
| 2. A. 15,914. | B. 50,940. | C. 50,914. |
| 3. A. April 27, 2018. | B. April 12, 2008. | C. April 12, 2018. |
| 4. A. 1/3. | B. 1/6. | C. 1/7. |
| 5. A. 76.3% . | B. 67.3% . | C. 36.7% . |
| 6. A. 986,372,000. | B. 983,672,000. | C. 938,372,000. |
| 7. A. Tuesday. | B. Saturday. | C. Thursday. |
| 8. A. 14 days. | B. 4 days. | C. 40 days. |
| 9. A. 11:15. | B. 11:05. | C. 10:45. |
| 10. A. 82.69. | B. 82.96. | C. 18.19. |

Task two

You are going to hear six sentences from six different news reports. Listen carefully and decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

- () 80% of the groups examined in China had average daily salt intake of 12.5 grams.
- () For the iPhone XS 64G, customers will only have to pay 7,380 yuan on Suning.com, 1,311 yuan less than on Apple's own online store.
- () Fifty-six percent of women aged 18 to 35 would be willing to buy something because a friend posted about it on social media, compared to thirty-eight percent for all age-groups.
- () From Jan. 21 to March 1, the total number of trips is expected to rise 6% compared with the travel rush last year.
- () In September 2016, the number of active WeChat users over the age

of 55 was 7,680,000.

6. () Cambridge had 420 postgraduate and 754 undergraduate students from China in the 2017 - 2018 academic year.

Task three

I. You are going to hear a news report. Listen carefully and fill in the blanks with the words you hear.

Chinese e-commerce giant Alibaba Group cashed a record 1. _____ *yuan* in sales on 2. _____ during its 3. _____ online retail frenzy Singles' Day. Total sales on its platforms, including Tmall and Taobao, on Sunday represented an annual increase of about 4. _____ from the 5. _____ *yuan* a year ago, Alibaba said. The Tmall site smashed the 6. _____ *yuan* threshold in just 7. _____ minutes and 8. _____ seconds, breaking last year's record of 9. _____ minutes, 10. _____ second. The biggest spenders were from Shanghai, followed by those in Beijing, Hangzhou and Guangzhou. According to Alibaba, more than 11. _____ overseas brands from 12. _____ countries and regions participated in this year's shopping spree. Health supplements topped the most popular imported products, with milk powder, diapers and skincare products also high on consumers' shopping lists.

II. Read the numbers and explain what these numbers are about in the news report.

1. 213,500,000,000 _____
2. 27% _____
3. 168,200,000,000 _____
4. 19,000 _____
6. 75 _____

Word tips

e-commerce giant 电商巨头

platform 平台

Taobao 淘宝

spree 狂欢

milk powder 奶粉

skincare product 护肤品

Singles' Day 双十一

Tmall 天猫

threshold 门槛, 极限

health supplement 保健品

diaper 纸尿裤

Task four

I. You are going to hear a news report. Listen carefully and choose the best answer to each of the following questions.

- How many Chinese people were studying abroad last year?
A. 53,700. B. 56,700. C. 662,100. D. 632,100.
- How many overseas students are funded by themselves?
A. 65,800. B. 596,300. C. 593,600. D. 35,800.
- What's the total number of overseas students who came back to China in 2018?
A. 519,400. B. 38,500. C. 480,900. D. 586,000.
- From 1978 to the end of 2018, how many students went abroad to study?
A. More than 1.53 million. B. Over 4.32 million.
C. More than 3.65 million. D. About 5.86 million.

II. Listen again and write down what the following numbers are about.

- 662,100 _____
- 65,800 _____
- 519,400 _____
- 1,530,000 _____
- 4,320,000 _____
- 3,650,000 _____

Word tips

Ministry of Education 教育部

sponsor 资助

self-funded 自费的

News listening skill two**Focusing on content words**

Content words convey the main idea of a sentence. Content words include nouns, main verbs, adjectives and adverbs that refer to some objects, action, or characteristics. Question words also belong to content words. In English, content words are often stressed. The ability to identify content words can help listeners to grasp the key information while listening to the news.

Examples of content words

Nouns: The *sun* came out for a *morning ceremony* at the *Imperial Palace* in *Tokyo*

on *Wednesday*.

Main verbs: China will *recruit* better-educated university students for army this year to *strengthen* army forces, according to a national conscription tele-conference.

Adjectives: People *worldwide* are *sadder*, *angrier* and more *fearful* than ever before, according to a *major* analysis of *global* well-being.

Adverbs: The loss of biodiversity has *recently* accelerated.

Question words: It's hard to visualize *what* three million tons look like.

Skill practice

Task one

You are going to hear five sentences from five different news reports. Listen carefully, underline the content words, and then repeat the sentences.

1. China on Wednesday lowered the payment by enterprises for their employees' insurance.

2. A fresh wave of cold air will hit the northern part of China on Saturday, lowering temperature and bringing rainfall.

3. Chinese tech company Huawei launched a foldable 5G smartphone in Barcelona on Sunday ahead of the 2019 Mobile World Congress.

4. Reports of the University of Cambridge starting to accept China's gaokao scores for students wishing to join its undergraduate courses went viral online over the weekend.

5. The Republic of Korea will become the first country to commercially launch fifth-generation (5G) services on Friday as it rolls out the latest wireless technology with Samsung Electronics' new 5G-enabled smartphone Galaxy S10.

Task two

You are going to hear five sentences from five different news reports. Listen carefully and choose the right content words for each blank.

1. China spent _____ (more/less) than 4.6 trillion *yuan* on education _____ (nationwide/worldwide).

2. China's first trial 5G _____ (wireless/wired) network on a _____ (university/college) campus has been established in Huazhong University of Science and Technology.

3. Apple said _____ (Sunday/Monday) it will offer new resources to open

_____ (hundreds/thousands) of free “Hour of Code” sessions at its Apple Store facilities across the _____ (country/world) to bring _____ (coding/code) education to students.

4. A national Chinese language proficiency competition for _____ (British/Irish) college students _____ (started/ended) here on _____ (Sunday/Saturday) evening with the first prize award going to Felix O’Mahoney, a language student in her _____ (fourth/first) year from University College Cork.

5. China’s _____ (prosperous/prestigious) Tsinghua University will intensify _____ (punishment/publishing) for academic _____ (misconduct/conduct) by expelling students who plagiarize in their graduation _____ (discussions/dissertations).

Task three

I. You are going to hear a news report. Listen carefully and fill in the blanks with the suitable content words. You should write down no more than three words for each blank.

China has provided 1. _____ aid for 2. _____ students from 3. _____ education to 4. _____ education in 2018, according to the Ministry of Education. The investment was worth 5. _____ yuan, up 6. _____ from 2017, said Ma Jianbin, an official with the ministry, at a 7. _____ conference over the 8. _____. Students of the nine-year 9. _____ education that ranges from 10. _____ school to 11. _____ high school enjoyed the policies of miscellaneous fee 12. _____ and free 13. _____ in 2018, Ma said. Nearly 44 million 14. _____ students received 15. _____ yuan of financial aid last year, up 9.48 percent from the 16. _____ year, said the official. The country has provided more than 17. _____ to 620 million students from 2012 to 2018, generally reaching the target of “18. _____ any student 19. _____ out of school because of 20. _____”.

II. Repeat the following sentences and translate them into Chinese.

1. China has provided financial aid for 135 million students from preschool education to higher education in 2018.

2. Students of the nine-year compulsory education that ranges from primary

school to junior high school enjoyed the policies of miscellaneous fee exemption and free textbooks in 2018.

3. Nearly 44 million college students received 115 billion *yuan* of financial aid last year, up 9.48 percent from the previous year.

Word tips

the nine-year compulsory education 九年制义务教育
miscellaneous fee 杂费

Task four

I. You are going to hear a news report. Listen carefully and choose the best answer to each of the following questions.

- What does “phase out” mean in the news?
 - Develop gradually.
 - Terminate gradually.
 - Develop quickly.
 - Terminate quickly.
- What is Flash?
 - A popular way for people to watch video clips.
 - A popular way for people to play games online.
 - Both A and B.
 - Neither A nor B.
- Why is Flash criticised?
 - There are some flaws in its code.
 - This technology is out-of-date.
 - It doesn't have many functions.
 - It doesn't see the mobile device revolution coming.

II. Listen again and fill in the blanks with the suitable content words. You should write down no more than three words for each blank.

Adobe Systems has said that it plans to 1. _____ its Flash Player plug-in by the end of 2020. The technology was once one of 2. _____ used ways for people to watch 3. _____ and play games 4. _____. But it also attracted

much 5. _____, particularly as 6. _____ in its code meant it became a popular way for hackers to 7. _____ computers. In recent years, much of its 8. _____ has been offered by the 9. _____ HTML5 technology. “Flash 10. _____ its promise for a while but it never saw the mobile device 11. _____ coming and 12. _____ that’s what killed it,” said the apps developer Malcolm Barclay.

Word tips

plug-in 插件

flaw 瑕疵

News listening skill three

Understanding neologisms and vogue words

As fresh ideas, innovative technology and new trends emerge now and then, people create new words to express the new-fashioned things. One of the features of English used in news reports is the frequent use of neologisms and vogue words.

Neologisms

Neologisms are formed by derivation, blending, or compounding.

Example 1

The word “bio-payment” in news “Bio-payments future of shopping” is a kind of derivation.

As high as 60.3 percent of payments made via Alibaba’s Tmall and Taobao during the recent Singles’ Day shopping frenzy were verified by users scanning their fingerprints or faces instead of entering passwords, according to the e-commerce giant.

Bio-payments are gradually replacing passwords to become the primary means of payment in future, Kankan News reported.

(*www.chinadaily.com.cn 2018-11-19*)

Example 2

“Brexit” in news “MPs OK Brexit date change” is a blend word for “Britain” and “exit”, which means “Britain exiting from the European Union”.

British lawmakers on Wednesday overwhelmingly voted to change original *Brexit* departure date in law to April 12 or May 22 as British Prime Minister Theresa May was in an 11 hour appeal to Tory MPs to back her Withdrawal Agreement.

(*www.chinadaily.com.cn 2019-3-29*)