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# The Alien Files



初中年级适用

## 外星人档案

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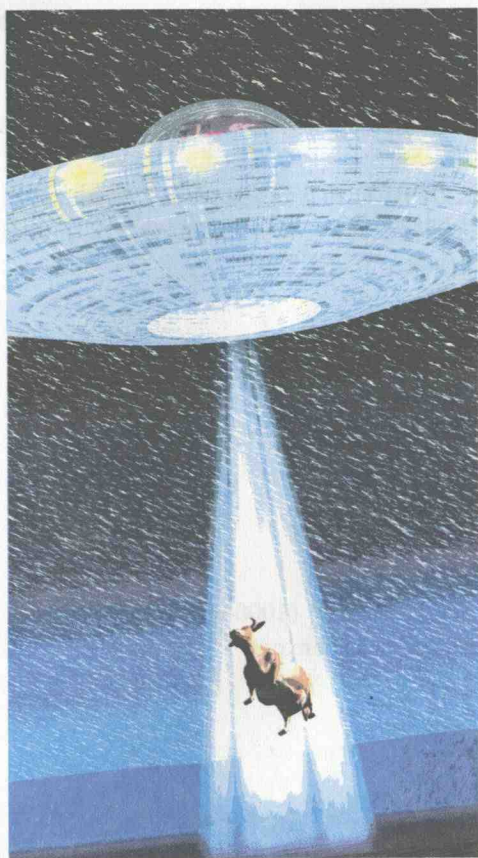
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# The Alien Files

## 外星人档案

保罗·迈克埃沃伊  
范薇

著  
编译



宇宙广阔无垠，除了我们生活的地球上有生物之外，别的星球上还会有生物存在呢？如果没有的话，秘鲁纳兹卡平原的奇特景观该如何解释？如果有的话，它们是否登陆过地球？本书将引领读者进入外星人的世界，和科学家们一起探索事实的真相。

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# 前言

由于近年来在中考和高考的英语科目中, 阅读部分都出现了一定比例的科普文章, 广大师生在英语课外阅读的训练中越来越重视此类阅读材料。根据这一需求, 中国电力出版社世纪东方外语部从美国著名的杂志社和教育出版公司引进出版了这套非小说类英语分级读物——阅读空间·英汉双语主题阅读。这套读物共58本, 其中初中版18本, 高中版40本。

本套丛书是“阅读空间·英汉双语主题阅读”的初中版, 共18种, 分为3个级别, 每级6种。丛书原版荣获美国2003年非小说类图书“杰出成果奖”。这套趣味科普英语分级读物融知识性、趣味性、启发性为一体, 循序渐进地引导学生在愉快的阅读、思考、练习的过程中逐步提高英语阅读能力和思维能力。其特点是以动物、植物、运动、探险、发明等专题百科知识为线索, 兼具知识性和趣味性, 让学生在探索知识的过程中掌握英语, 在学习英语的同时开阔视野, 提高学习英语的积极性。

与同类图书相比, 本套丛书的特点是**文章篇幅短小精悍、行文轻松幽默**。由于对非英语国家的学习者, 科普文章在单词上有一定的难度, 所以丛书严格地控制了每本书的篇幅长度, 约为1500-2000个单词, 以尽量避免读者在阅读过程中产生挫折感。丛书采用**国际流行开本, 彩色印刷, 图文并茂, 而且题材广泛, 话题新奇有趣**, 从爱迪生和达芬奇的伟大发明、古往今来人类对密码的应用, 到神秘的百慕大三角、物种灭绝、灾难逃生、极限运动, 等等。火星人的曾经登陆地球吗? 谁在月亮上发现了蓝色独角兽? 复活节岛上的巨型石像是从哪里来的? 对所有这些疑问, 读者都可以在书中找到答案。书中不仅配有大量真实的**照片**, 还穿插了许多幽默的**卡通图画**, 让读者在学习语言、掌握知识的过程中, 感受绝对的**轻松和愉悦**!

这套出版物的目标是既要让读者体会到如何运用课堂学到的英语恰如其分地描述丰富多彩的大千世界, 又要帮助读者避免在泛读中初次接触新鲜话题时被生僻的或专业的词汇所难倒。因此, 我们在改编的过程中为全书配了**中译文**, 并根据新课标的大纲词汇表对**超纲词汇**和**大纲词汇**作了**双语注释**, 相信读者能够在循序渐进的阅读中迅速提高词汇量, 有效地夯实英语语言基础, 早日自如地用英语去交流。

为了促进中小学英语阅读教学, 我们基于华中师范大学鲁子问教授提出的“英语教育动态真实原则”, 设计了国家教育部专项任务项目“中小学英语教育动态真实原则推广性实验”的子课题——“中小学英语真实阅读教学推广实验”。课题组将基于中国电力出版社出版的、中国教育学会外语教学专业委员会推荐的“阅读空间”系列读物, 组织各地中小学英语教研员和教师, 全面参与课题实验, 为探索适合我国中小学的英语阅读教学新途径而积极尝试。

**这是一套将英语、趣味和科普完美结合的优秀读物!**同学们, 让我们一起开始这轻松、快乐的阅读之旅吧!

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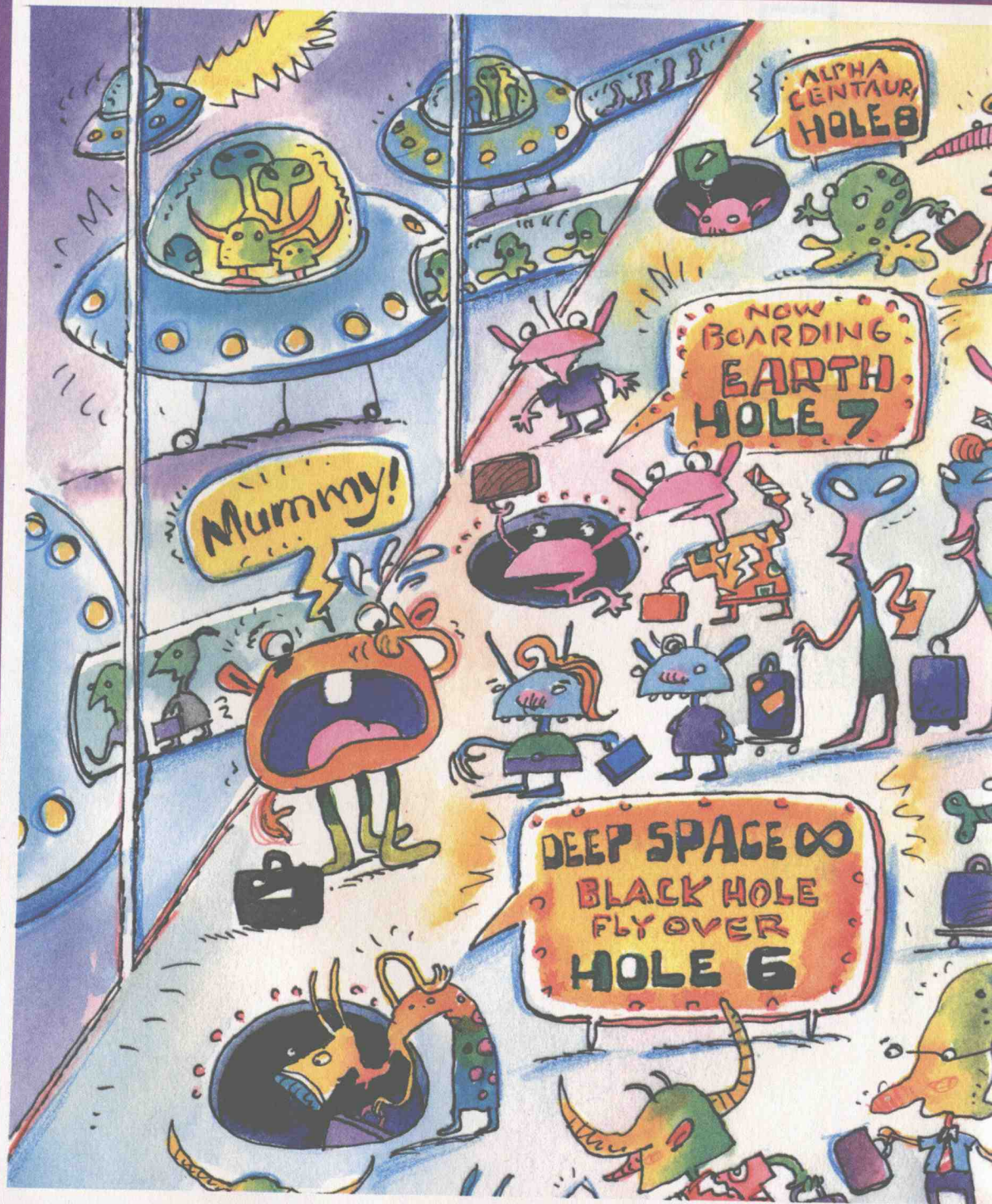
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# They're Out of This World

Do you believe that aliens have landed on Earth?

Have you ever seen a small grey creature with large black eyes and a big head? If you have, you are not alone. Every year, people from countries all over the world report that they have seen **aliens**.

Many people say they have seen Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs), which they believe are alien spaceships. Some people even describe how they were taken aboard the UFO, studied by the aliens, and then returned to their homes.

## 他们在这个世界之外

你相信外星人登陆过地球吗？

你见过一种小个子，大脑袋，长着大大的黑眼睛的灰色生物吗？如果见过，那你并非惟一见过他的人。每年世界各国都有人报告说他们见到了外星人。

许多人说他们见过不明飞行物(UFO)，并认为这些不明飞行物是外星宇宙飞船。甚至有些人还描述出自己是怎样被带上不明飞行物，被外星人研究后又返回到家里的。

### Notes

**alien:** a creature from  
outer space. 外星人

# Alien Signs

For many hundreds of years, people have seen strange lights and objects in the sky that they haven't been able to explain. When Halley's Comet first burned through the sky around 240 BC, people wondered if this was a strange craft from beyond the stars.

## 各种外星景象

几百年来，人们看到过天空中出现的奇怪的光线和物体，却对此一直无法作出解释。大约在公元前240年，哈雷彗星第一次燃烧着滑过天际，人们就想知道它是不是来自外星的奇怪飞行器。

It's easy to see how a **lenticular** cloud, with its smooth shape and bright orange or red colour, can be mistaken for a UFO.

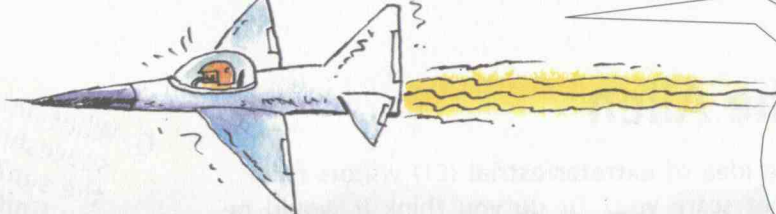
一块荚状云，外形平滑，颜色呈鲜艳的橘红色或红色，很容易被误以为不明飞行物。

The planet Venus sometimes seems to blink or look like coloured lights.  
金星有时看起来像在闪烁，或像有色的光线。

Halley's Comet appears approximately every 76 years.  
哈雷彗星大约每76年出现一次。

### Notes

**lenticular:** shaped like a biconvex lens. 像凸透镜的



Crescent-shaped  
spaceship  
straight ahead!  
新月形的宇宙飞船径  
直前进!

While some people look to the sky for signs of life beyond Earth, others look at mysterious things on land. On the Nazca Plain in Peru, there are straight lines that **measure** 60 kilometres long. When these lines were first seen from the air, they looked like an airfield. Did aliens make the lines to **guide** their spaceships to land?

有人在探索星空寻找地球以外的生命迹象，还有人则在观察地球上的神秘事物。秘鲁的纳兹卡平原上有些长达60公里的直线。第一次从空中鸟瞰，它们仿佛一个飞机场。外星人是不是画出这些线指引他们的宇宙飞船着陆呢？

These Nazca lines look like a bird when seen from the air. They were made about 2,000 years ago, but no one knows why.  
从空中看，纳兹卡平原上的这些线条的形状像是一只鸟。它们形成于2 000年前，但却没有人知道它们是如何形成的。

#### Notes

**measure:** ascertain the dimensions, quantity, or capacity of. 测量

**guide:** direct the course of; steer. 引导；指导

# Spot the Alien

Does the idea of **extraterrestrial** (ET) visitors from another planet scare you? Or do you think it would be exciting to meet visitors from outer space? What would they look like?

Probably not very much like us. Alien worlds would **no doubt** be very different from Earth. They might have the same **elements** as Earth, such as water, light or gravity. But in different amounts. Just as we have **adapted** to conditions on our planet, an alien's **appearance** would reflect the conditions on a different world.

**UFOlogists** say that there are several different kinds of aliens. The most common aliens reported by people seem to be "the Greys". These aliens have grey skin, big heads and large eyes. You'd certainly notice them in a crowd!

## 聚焦外星人

这些外星(ET)来客会不会令人感到恐惧? 或者你觉得和他们见面使你兴奋不已? 他们会是什么模样的?

或许他们的长相和我们不一样。无疑外星世界和地球截然不同。它们可能会和地球一样, 拥有一些同样的元素, 如水、光或引力, 但是数量会不同。正如我们已经习惯我们星球的状况一样, 外星人的外貌会反映出一个不同星球的状况。

不明飞行物研究人员认为有几种不同的外星人存在。其中最普通的一种似乎是“灰色人”。这些外星人长着灰色的皮肤、大脑袋和大眼睛。在人群中你一定会注意到他们!

Q: What do you call a spaceship that lands on the sun?  
A: An Unidentified Flying Object.

问: 你知道登陆太阳的宇宙飞船叫什么?

答: 不明飞行物。

### Notes

**extraterrestrial:** coming from outside of the Earth. 外地球的

**no doubt:** certainly. 无疑地

**element:** a fundamental constituent of an entity. 元素

**adapt:** make suitable to a situation. 适合, 适应

**appearance:** outward aspect. 外貌, 外表

**UFOlogist:** person who studies UFOs. 不明飞行物研究员

If there were life forms on the planet Jupiter, they'd find it hard to go for a walk. Jupiter is a huge ball of swirling gases with no solid surface.

如果木星上有生命形式存在, 那么行走对于他们来说会是很艰难的事。木星是一个被旋涡状气体包围的巨大球体, 没有固体表面。

Take me to your leader!  
带我古见你们的头!



## A Field Guide to Aliens

In UFOlogy, there are several types of aliens. Here are some of them:

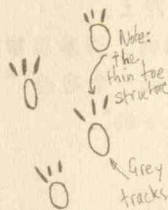
### 外星人实地考察指南

在不明飞行物这门学科里，有几种外星人。以下是其中一些：



**The Greys** These are 1 metre tall, with grey skin, large domed heads and black eyes. They have skinny arms. They are said to be the most common type of alien.

灰色人 身高一米，皮肤灰色，头顶大而圆，眼睛大而黑，胳膊干瘦。人们认为这是最普通的一种外星人。



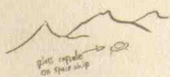
**Chupacabras** These are 1 metre tall with huge red eyes, fangs, long claws and vampire wings.

丘普卡布拉斯人 身高一米，眼睛又大又红，牙齿又长又尖，爪子长长的，长着巨大的吸血蝙蝠的翅膀。



**Nordics** These are humanoids with blonde hair, fair skin and blue eyes.

北欧人 长得像人，卷发，皮肤白皙，眼睛是蓝色的。



#### Notes

**fang:** a long tooth. 长牙

**claw:** a sharp, curved nail on the toe of animals. 爪

**vampire:** a bat. 吸血蝙蝠

**humanoid:** sth. that is like a human. 有人的特点的

# Is It a Bird? Is It a Plane?

When a new alien movie hits the big screen, reports of alien activity often increase. A new book on aliens can have the same effect. Many of these reported sightings happen at night, or when the person is driving along a **deserted** road.

During World War II, many British and American **pilots** said they saw bright shining balls near their aircraft. They called them "foo fighters", after a **comic** that was popular then.

## 是鸟还是飞机？

当一部关于外星人的新电影上映后，有关外星人活动的报道往往会增加。一本描写外星人的新书也会产生同样的影响。许多被报道的现象常出现在晚上，或是人们驾车行驶在人迹罕至的公路上。

第二次世界大战期间，许多英国和美国的飞行员说他们在所驾驶的飞机附近见过明亮的闪耀的球体。在一个名为“富牌战斗机”的喜剧演员走红后，飞行员们也把这些球体叫做“富牌战斗机”。

### Alien File 1

Date

30 November 1989

Name

Linda Napolitano, housewife

Location

New York City, United States

The Claim

Linda Napolitano said that she was asleep in her 12th floor apartment when aliens came to visit her.

She said she floated out of her apartment and up into the alien spaceship. There she was examined medically by the aliens, who then returned her home safely. At least three other people claimed they saw Napolitano being taken by the aliens.

### 外星人档案1

日期 1989年11月30日

姓名 琳达·那波里塔诺，家庭主妇

地点 美国纽约市

陈述 琳达·那波里塔诺说她当时正在自己12层的房间睡觉，突然外星人来到她的身边。

她说自己从房间里飘出，向上飘进外星人的宇宙飞船。在那里外星人对她进行了医学检查，然后把她在空地送回了家。至少有其他三个人声称他们见到琳达·那波里塔诺被外星人带走。

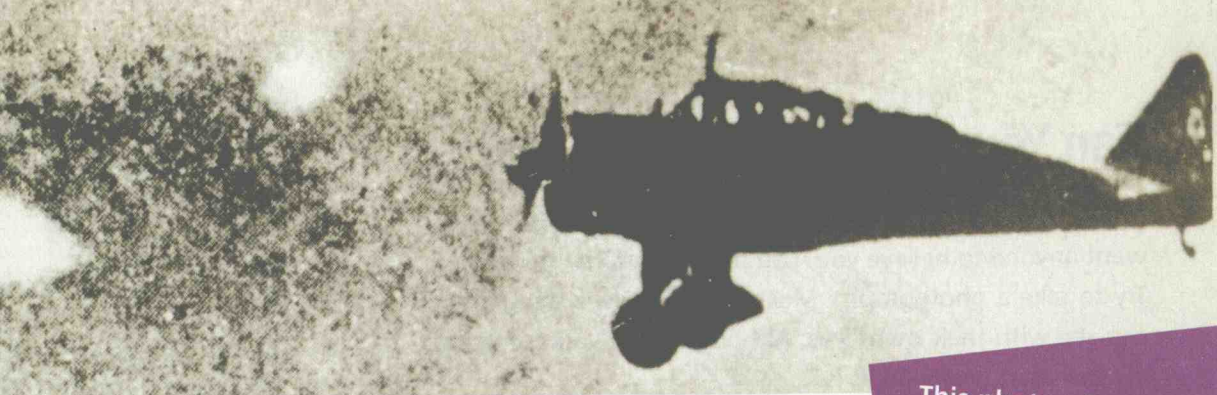


#### Notes

**deserted:** wild and uninhabited. 荒凉的

**pilot:** one who operates an aircraft. 飞行员

**comic:** a comedian. 喜剧演员



Between 1947 and 1969, the United States Air Force studied 12,618 UFO sightings in "Project Blue Book". They discovered that only 701 of the sightings were really unidentified. The rest were explained as aircraft and satellites, weather balloons, the planets Venus or Jupiter, meteors, or unusual clouds. Some were also put down to very good imaginations!

1947年到1969年间，美国空军研究了《预测未知事物计划蓝皮书》中的12 618个不明飞行物现象。他们发现只有701个现象的确不能确定。其余的可以解释为飞机和卫星，预测天气的气球，金星或木星，流星或是不同寻常的云。有一些现象则是因为想像力丰富造成的！

This photo of a Japanese fighter plane, taken in 1945, is said to show two "foo fighters" in the distance.

据说这张拍摄于1945年的日本战机的照片拍到了远处的两架“富牌战斗机”。

## Alien File 2

Date 5 November 1975  
Name Travis Walton, logger  
Location Arizona, United States  
The Claim Travis Walton said that he saw a flying saucer hovering above the road.

He approached it but was knocked backwards by a blue-green beam of light. Then he was **abducted** by aliens. Five days later he was returned — thin and unshaven. Doctors **hypnotised** him to see if they could find out where he had been! Under hypnosis, Travis said he had seen short aliens with large heads and eyes.

## 外星人档案2

日期 1975年11月5日  
姓名 特拉维斯·沃尔顿，伐木工  
地点 美国亚里桑那州  
陈述 特拉维斯·沃尔顿说他看到一个飞碟在路上盘旋。

他向飞碟靠近，却被一道蓝绿色的光线击退。接着他被外星人绑架，5天后被送回时，瘦瘦的而且胡子拉茬。医生们对他实施催眠术想弄清楚他到底去了哪里！在催眠术的作用下，特拉维斯说自己见到了矮个子、大脑袋、大眼睛的外星人。

### Notes

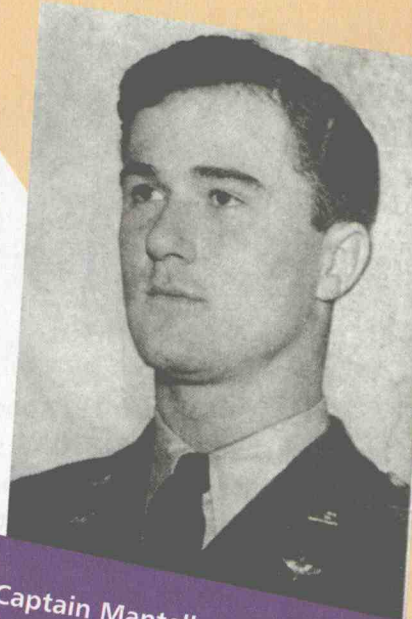
**abduct:** kidnap. 绑架

**hypnotise:** put into a state of hypnosis. 催眠

# Can You Believe What You See?

What should you do if you think you see a UFO? If you want anyone to believe you, you need to get hard evidence. Try to take a photograph. Most people believe things they can see with their own eyes. Although what you see is not always what you think it is.

Thomas Mantell was a pilot in the United States Air Force. On a routine flight in 1948, he radioed his base to say that a strange "metallic" object was flying above him. He chased the object higher and higher, determined to find out what it was. But then he passed out. The plane crashed and Mantell was killed. The official Air Force report said that he had probably been chasing the planet Venus.



Captain Mantell was 25 when he died chasing what he thought was a UFO.

曼特尔机长为了追赶他认为是不明飞行物的物体，不幸身亡，年仅25岁。

## 你相信自己的亲眼所见吗？

如果你认为自己看到了不明飞行物，那你该怎么办呢？如果你想让别人相信自己，就需要拿出铁证，尽量拍张照片。大多数人相信自己的亲眼所见，虽然你见到的东西与你所想的并不一致。

托马斯·曼特尔是美国空军的一名飞行员。1948年在一次执行任务的过程中，他用无线电向基地发出讯息，说一个奇怪的“似金属的”物体在他上方飞行。他追赶着这个物体越飞越高，想弄清楚那到底是什么。但随后他失去了知觉。飞机坠落，曼特尔身亡。空军官方报告说，他追赶的有可能是金星。



### Notes

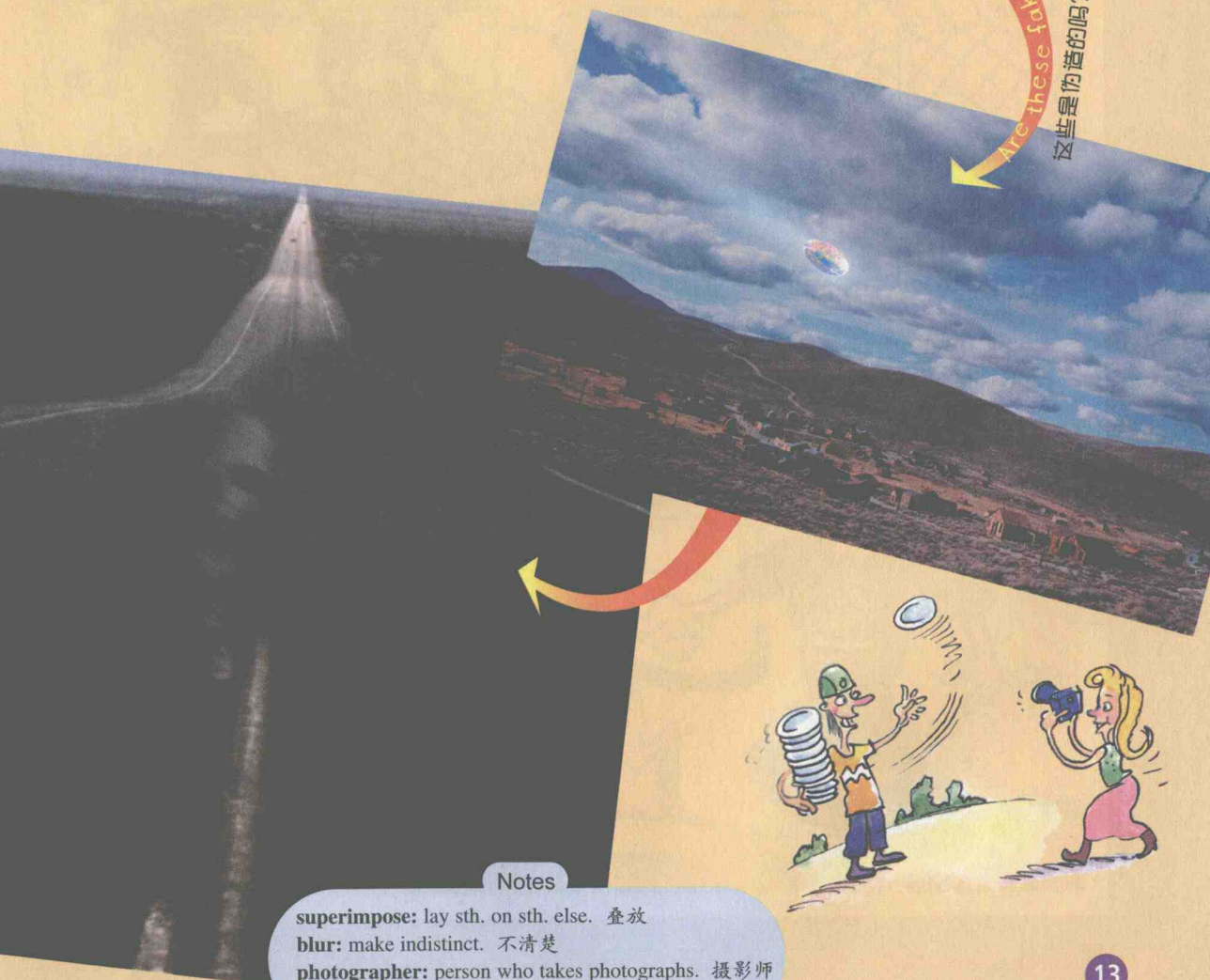
**metallic:** of, relating to, or having the characteristics of a metal. 金属的

**chase:** follow rapidly in order to catch or overtake. 追捕；追赶

# Photo Fakes and Forgeries 伪造的照片

Here are some clues to help you spot the fakes. 以下是帮你辨认真伪的线索。

| What you notice 你注意到的                              | What it might mean 它可能是                                                                       |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Different light patterns<br>不同的光线模式                | A fake UFO has been <b>superimposed</b> on another image.<br>一个假冒的不明飞行物叠放在另一个图像上。             |
| Blurred images<br>模糊不清的图像                          | The <b>photographer</b> has tried to hide exactly what the images are.<br>拍摄者试图准确地隐藏起图像真正的样子。 |
| Differences in texture or <b>grain</b><br>纹理或粒度的不同 | Two or more photos have been <b>superimposed</b> .<br>两张或更多的照片叠放在一起。                          |



## Notes

**superimpose:** lay sth. on sth. else. 叠放

**blur:** make indistinct. 不清楚

**photographer:** person who takes photographs. 摄影师

**grain:** a tiny bit or spot. 颗粒; 粒度

