现代英文报刊阅读示范篇

（一般科技类）

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前摇摇言

FOREWORD

在《英文报刊阅读》这套书中，我们将文章的题材分为一般科技类、生命科学类和人文社科类三部分，旨在为读者提供一个有针对性的选择阅读、欣赏英文报刊原文的机会，从而扩大知识面，提高鉴赏能力。

一般科技类文章的内容特点

科技类文章主要涉及信息技术、电子、通讯、航空、天文、军事、新技术和新发明等方面。本书所选文章从不同角度向读者介绍这类学科中新的观点和发现、各种现象及某些领域的研究发展动态，使读者在语言学习的同时，也能掌握一些相关的知识，把二者有机地结合起来。我们认为，丰富的背景知识有助于阅读理解，如果读者能通过此书的阅读扩大自己的知识面，那么对以后的阅读理解则会有一定的促进作用。正是出自于这样的目的，本书选材都出自于国外的各种原版杂志，既保证了内容的丰富多彩，又保证了语言的真实，而真实语料的使用也是语言学习的关键之一，学生可以借此体会到语言在真实交际情景中的使用情况，这同从专门为语言学习而编写的教科书不同，读者从中接触到的语言形式和语料都经过一定的加工，有一定的限制。在国内，读者很少有机会接触真实的语言交际场合及所学语言的社会和文化，而要获得此方面的知识，只有通过大量的阅读，阅读提供了让读者了解世界其它国家的历史、文化、社会现状及在文学艺术科学技术和经济各方面的发展，多样的题材、新颖丰富的内容，既可激发学生的阅读兴趣，又可促进语言学习的动力。此外，文章后面都附有词汇、短语注释及难句结构和意思解释，以便于读者脱离于教师自己进行学习；而专业知识背景的注释，如学科或领域的奠基人、开拓者或做出杰出贡献的人物，不断出现的新科技，自然现象及重大科学发现和进展等的注释，都有助于拓宽读者的知识面。

一般科技类文章的体裁特点

英语科技类文章多采取说明文的写作形式，其主要目的是说明某个领域的发展动态、现状及取得的成果等，文中有时体现作者的态度及看法。说明文多以事实性的说明为主，而无华丽修饰的词藻。科技类的文章多采取描写解释及说明的形式，这与文章内容有关，因为说明文是直接传播知识的一种文体，它的内容必须有很强的科学性。科学性主要表现在两个方面：(员)它所反映的应是客观事物的本质特征，真实面貌，而不是歪曲了的事实，或主观臆想；(圆)它的语言应准确无误，因此说明文中常避开含糊的词语。

说明文是科技专业人员最常用的一种文体，它解释或探讨某个自然现象的起因，介绍新技术和新发明或某个问题的解决方法。在说明解释过程中，作者多采用定义、分类、比较及对照、解释或分析因果关系等方法，为使说明更加清晰，文章又多使用细节及例子，使读者能顺利理解抽象的讨论；作者在展示事实及现象时，常根据主题的特征，采取时间顺序或合乎逻辑的方式，词语及句子力求准确、清晰，说明力求思想性、科学性、条理性、完整性及通俗性

和趣味性。这类文章的语篇结构常包含如下几个方面：(员) 背景；(圆) 问题；(猿) 为解决问题而推荐使用的工具或必要条件；(源) 为达到预期的解决问题的效果，提供至少一个尝试性的程序建设；(缘) 指出用什么手段来检测问题是否已解决；(远) 结束语。尽管说明文并不是必须包括所有这些因素，但其中的主要方面如问题、程序和解决方法，都应涉及到。说明类文章有其表面结构线索，因它常基于某个暗含的逻辑结构，所以常以 thus，because 和 since 等词语把文章组织起来，一般是先给出证据后结论或相反。

科技类文章中常穿插着空间顺序、时间顺序及逻辑顺序等。在阅读时，读者应注意以下几个因素：what，why，how 等。作者介绍的目的可能是为了说明事情的缘内和过程，向读者传递信息。也就是说，说明文的目的在于对所写事物进行解释，从而给人以知识。

一般科技类文章的练习特点

练习采取多项选择的形式，这样可满足学生需要进行大量练习的目的，便于检测速度和核对答案，与一些国内外主要考试的阅读理解形式基本一致，使本书可适合于考试前的集中准备，学生可以从答案及注解中快速评估出自己的阅读理解水平，发现理解中的不足之处，因为文章后的选择题可分为主题大意类、细节类、推理类、词汇类、文章结构、文体及作者的态度等几类，从所错的题项中，读者可看出自己哪方面较差，需要在练习中加以注意，找出自己做选项题的特点及做题的速度等，这些都有助于考试，又使学生在不知不觉中提高了阅读速度、解题技巧及这类文章的阅读理解水平。总之，阅读理解练习题的最终目的是为了让读者在独立的语言学习中，对自己的阅读理解进行检查，因此，同扩大背景知识一样，都是围绕着提高阅读理解这一中心而设计的。

综上所述，同其它类的阅读理解一样，本书也是围绕着文章 结构形式（体裁），题材（内容）类型及练习题类型这三方面来编排的。在阅读理解时，应针对科技类型的文章作出不同的分析与理解。在科学领域中，广泛使用的说明文可以说明客观事物的特点和性能，介绍某种操作程序，也可用于解释抽象概念，阐明科学道理和自然现象。相应地我们应以此决定我们把握文章的方式，从而找到问题的正确选项。多样的体裁，丰富的题材及全面的理解练习体现出本书的独特性及价值。

编者

圆园园缘年 远月

C韵犇辣犇栽杂

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1援D TV

三维电视

Some Navy researchers think they have invented the television of the 圆员 century: Using 源园 团猿园 points of laser[员] light controlled by computer, the researchers have succeeded in generating real-time[圆], three-dimensional moving images—submarines coursing the sea, a space shuttle arcing in a glide, a human heart beating. The researchers already track aircraft from San Diego to Los Angeles in three dimensions with information from Naval radar tracking systems.

For now, the images are rendered[猿] in red, green, and yellow light, but soon (with the addition of a blue laser) the team at the Naval Command, Control and Ocean Surveillance[源] Center in San Diego expects to generate sharp, recognizable images of any colors. The images are projected inside a transparent cylinder, three feet in diameter and 员愿inches high.

Images are created when the points of light land on a spinning, helix-shaped[缘] surface that resembles a bridge ramp or a washing machine agitator[远]. Because the helix itself is three-dimensional, the images also seem to be 猿D.

Parviz Soltan, a physicist and early pioneer of laser-optics[苑] technology, says that the key to what he calls 猿D volumetric[愿] imaging was developing a system of cubes, resembling dice, that vibrate to splinter[怨] the laser so that it can hit 源园 团猿园 different points on the helix 圆园园 times per second.

员 激光

圆 实时的

猿 呈现,表现

源 监视,侦察

缘 螺旋状的

远 搅拌器

苑 激光学

愿 立体的,猿D volumetric 三维立体的

怨 使……裂成碎片

员园 碲(化学成份)

The half-inch cubes, made of tellurium[圆] crystal, move continuously, vibrated by sound pulses. A computer translates information about an image into an electrical voltage that vibrates a membrane[员] to produce sound waves. The waves ripple the cube鸳 lattices[圆] of atoms so that they resemble an accordion[猿] expanding and compressing. The entering laser reflects off the lattices and is splintered into the multitude of points.

NEOS[源] Technologies of Melbourne, Fla., has a license from the Navy to build such displays. It is offering a 圆圆 inch-diameter, full-color model, which is targeted toward engineers and amusement park designers, for about $ 员猿圆,圆圆圆.

Future versions of the displays should work for television as well. Information for a 猿D image must come from different angles. A 猿D telecast of a basketball game, for example, would require cameras positioned at different angles.

员 膜

圆 晶格

猿 手风琴

源 Naval Electronic Ocean Surveillance 摇海军电子海洋监视

***Comprehension*:**

[illegible]

2援 ehold the Palm PC

关注掌上个人电脑

The popularity of 猿Com 鸳Palm Pilot has been the rudder[员] steering the handheld computer market for a couple of years now. And if there was any doubt the Palm Pilot got it right, Microsoft and a host of[圆] hardware makers will provide ample[猿]evidence by cloning[源]the device many times over.

Microsoft 鸳new Palm PC design employs its Windows CE[缘]operating system, a scaled-down[远]version[苑]of Windows already used in many wallet-style computers with keyboards and fold-up screens. But those devices have proved less popular than the Pilot, which uses a vertically oriented screen and a pen, with only a few buttons.

Microsoft鸳Palm PC design looks much like the Palm Pilot[愿], and has a similar cradle[怨]for connecting the handheld device to your desktop or laptop[鹅]PC. You can type using an onscreen keyboard and a pen, or have the machine attempt to recognized your handwriting. Several organizing applications are included, plus an Internet "mobile channel" content grabber[鹅]. But no modem is built in; you have to connect via your PC. There is, however, a Compact Flash slot that will accommodate future wireless modems, according to Microsoft.

As with previous Windows CE devices, Microsoft will not be selling Palm PCs itself. Casio 鸳Cassiopeia E-鹅and Phillips 鸳Nino 猿鹅are among the first Palm PC models announced. LG Electron-

员 舵

圆 众多,许多

猿 充分的

源 克隆,复制

缘 一种视窗操作系统

远 缩小的,减少的

苑 版本

愿 掌上引擎(一种掌上个人电脑品牌)

怨 插槽

鹅 膝上型的

鹅 内容抓取器

ics, Samsung, and Uniden will also make Palm PCs. Most should be available in April or May, and they 鸳 expected to cost $ 圆缘 to 源缘, depending on the amount of included memory.

Comprehension:

[illegible]

[illegible]?

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]?

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]?

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]?

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

3援Carl Sagan

卡尔·萨根

"No one has ever succeeded in conveying the wonder and joy of science as widely and few as well."

That praise was bestowed on Carl Sagan when he was honored with the Public Welfare Medal, the highest award granted by the National Academy of Sciences.

On December 团园, Carl Sagan died at age 远园 of pneumonia[员], a complication of a rare bone marrow[圆] disease. In my experience, he was much more than a preeminent[猿] popularizer[源]. He was a brilliant scientist with solid achievements, a fiery defender of legitimate science, and a fiercely partisan debunker[缘] of the bogus[远] and irrational.

I first met Sagan at a meeting of the AAAS[苑]—the American Association for the Advancement of Science—where he took part in a session on the Viking Mars Project. (When Viking landed on Mars in 员怨苑远, it was at site he had helped select.) Then I interviewed him in Washington, D. C., after Mariner 怨 has sent back spectacular pictures of the Martian surface. Sagan had acted as head of one of Mariner 鸳 imaging teams. That interview, "Close-up Photos Reveal a Turbulent Mars," appeared in Popular Science in September 员怨苑园.

I had originally headlined the story "The Red Planet Isn鸳Dead," but Sagan pleaded with me to change it. "I鸳 in enough hot water with some of my colleagues as it is," he said, referring to the re-

员 肺炎
圆 骨髓
猿 卓越的
源 普及者,推广者
缘 揭露者
远 伪造的
苑 the American Association for the Advancement of Science摇美国科学促进协会

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sentment felt in conservative scientific quarters over his growing fame as a popularizer. That fame reached a zenith[愿] during his 灵愿藐灵藐part television series :Cosmos, "with an audience of 源园million people in 远园countries.

摇摇Along the way, he captured a Pulitzer Prize for his book The Dragons of Eden; intuited that wind storms are the real source of color changes on Mars; led or joined NASA teams on a host of planet wry explorations; helped stimulate discussion of life else where in the universe; and directed the Laboratory for Planetary Studies at New York鸳Cornell University, where he was David Duncan Professor of Astronomy and Space Sciences.

He was noted for the vigor of his logic and sometimes slashing[怒] style, especially when countering some piece of nonscience. I remember a 灵愿藐AAAS meeting at which he savagely demolished[阛] the theories of Immanuel Velikovsky, who was maintaining that only a few thousands of years ago, Venus had repeatedly collided with Earth and Mars, events dully noted, Velikovsky said, in the Bible.

Sagan was often heard wryly[枭] observing that drawings of flying saucers never included a door. "How did those aliens get in and out?" he once asked. In his last book, The Demon-Haunted World, he continued to lambaste[阛] alien abductions[藏], channeling, creationism, magic crystals, faith healing, and other spawn of scientific illiteracy.

"Pseudoscience is embraced," Sagan wrote, "in exact proportion as real science is misunderstood."

愿 顶峰

怒 雷厉风行的

阛 推翻

枭 讽刺地

阛 严厉申斥

藏 劫持

Comprehension:

[illegible]

苑

4援 Computerized Camouflage

电脑化伪装

员爰外人，外来者

圆爰模仿

猿爰变色龙

源爰人工合成的

缘爰光谱的

远爰电泳现象

苑爰小颗粒

愿爰染料

怨爰电泳的

员援多色的，变色的

员援天然色素

员援服装

Comprehension：

员园

5援VD

数字光盘

The Digital[员] Versatile[圆] Disc has scarcely arrived, and already a format that would render it obsolete[猿] is being demonstrated. Ready to outdo DVD is an Emeryville, California, company named Calimetrics, with co-funding from the Advanced Technology Program of the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

Why yet another format? Improvements in TV quality may require it. First-generation DVDs were designed to store a feature-length film on one side of a disc. But the emergence of high-definition[源] television signals the need for a substantial improvement in video-storage technology. At the pixel resolution[缘] specified for HDTV, 员源园园 by 员园愿园 an optical disc capable of storing a full-length feature would need more than three times the storage capacity of current DVDs. To meet this standard, proposals for dual-layer storage on both sides of a disc have been advanced. Calimetrics approach, however, would need only a single layer.

The lasers in current disc drives read tiny pits embedded in the disc surface. The absence of a pit edge is registered as a zero, the presence of an edge is registered as a one. This binary[远] digital method thus encodes[苑] all the audio and video material on the disc as a long stream of 园 and 员.

Based on an advanced encoding technique called pit-depth modulation[愿], the Calimetrics solution is radically different. Pit-depth modulation uses

员 数字化的
圆 通用的、多功能的
猿 陈旧、过时的

源 高清晰度

缘 (自) 分辨率

远 二进制的
苑 编码

愿 调节

怨 光电管、光电池

pits of varying depth in a non binary, three-dimensional approach. A photocell[怒] senses the differing pit depths and produces a variable-current analog output[阔]—rather than a binary one—encoding numbers from 园 to 愿. Encoding pictures and sound takes far less space with nine choices of numbers than with two, so the Calimetrics system can fit much more information in a limited space.

Calimetrics has demonstrated the reliability of the system by retrofitting[员] existing optical drives. The company will now use private venture capital from corporate partners to develop and market the new technology, with the expectation that optical drives based on it will be available in the latter half of 员怨愿.

员园 模拟输出

员员 对……做改进

Comprehension：

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