英美报刊阅读精选

（四）

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【内容简介】 本书素材选自英美各大报刊，内容涉猎广泛，既有热点透析、时事评述，又有科技前沿、人物报道，反映了多姿多彩、瞬息万变的世界。所选文章文笔优美，具有很强的代表性和阅读价值，有助于读者在欣赏文章、了解西方社会的同时，提高报刊阅读能力及英语综合水平。本书可供大学四、六级考生，英语专业以及英语爱好者使用。

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前　言

伴随经济全球化的日益加深，科技进步的不断加速，英语作为媒介手段和信息撷取的工具愈显重要，已然成为各国通行的国际交流语言，乃至于现代汉语中有了越来越多的英语“舶来词”。古人云：“士别三日，当刮目相看”，而现代世界，科技革命搭载的信息技术平台，使偌大的地球成为“地球村”，瞬息万变的世界，让我们可以足不出户地通过现代传媒做到“秀才不出门，同步知天下”，大有“一日不闻，恍如隔世”之感。据统计，国际互联网上的信息，90％左右以英语表现。了解当今世界，最重要的手段莫过于现代英语，了解现代英语，最重要的渠道莫过于报刊与国际互联网，它们最能反映这纷纭多变的世界，最能展示现代英语的变化趋势。

为了帮助读者了解社会，更为了使读者在阅读文章的同时，提高英文阅读欣赏水平，我们特编写此书。本书从 2003 年到 2005 年间出版的几十种英美报刊中精选了 30 篇具有代表性的文章，组成 10 个单元。所选文章涉及过去几年间的重大事件及世人关注的一些问题，如：2004 年诺贝尔奖，诺曼底登陆 60 周年纪念，IBM 公司员工状告公司，美国总统大选，阿拉法特脑死亡，柬埔寨新国王登基，世界首例试管婴儿披上婚纱，普京抓捕俄罗斯首富，别斯兰人质事件，虐俘丑闻，飓风等。每篇文章后附词汇表、难点注释、背景知识介绍、与文章相配的练习及答案，方便读者进一步理解文章、掌握文章的主要信息，同时，检测自己对文章的理解。

本书参编人员分工如下：张凤英编写一、二、十单元；艾峰编写三、五、六单元；郭静玉编写八、九单元；付宇编写四、七单元。最

后，由张凤英负责统稿、审稿。

在编写此书过程中，编者参考了一些国内外出版的主要报刊及与报刊文摘相关的文章和书籍，从中受益匪浅，在此谨向有关作者表示诚挚的谢意。

欢迎各位读者与我们交流，并提出宝贵意见。

编　者

2005 年 5 月 3 日

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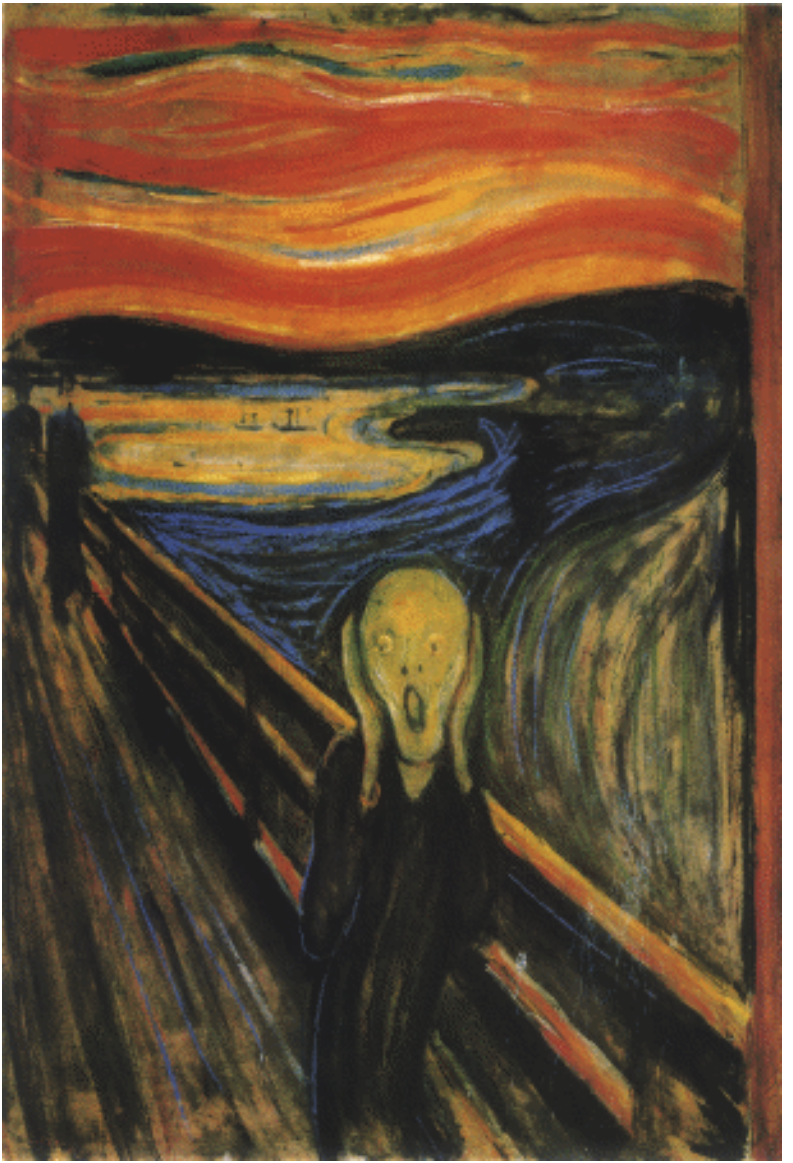
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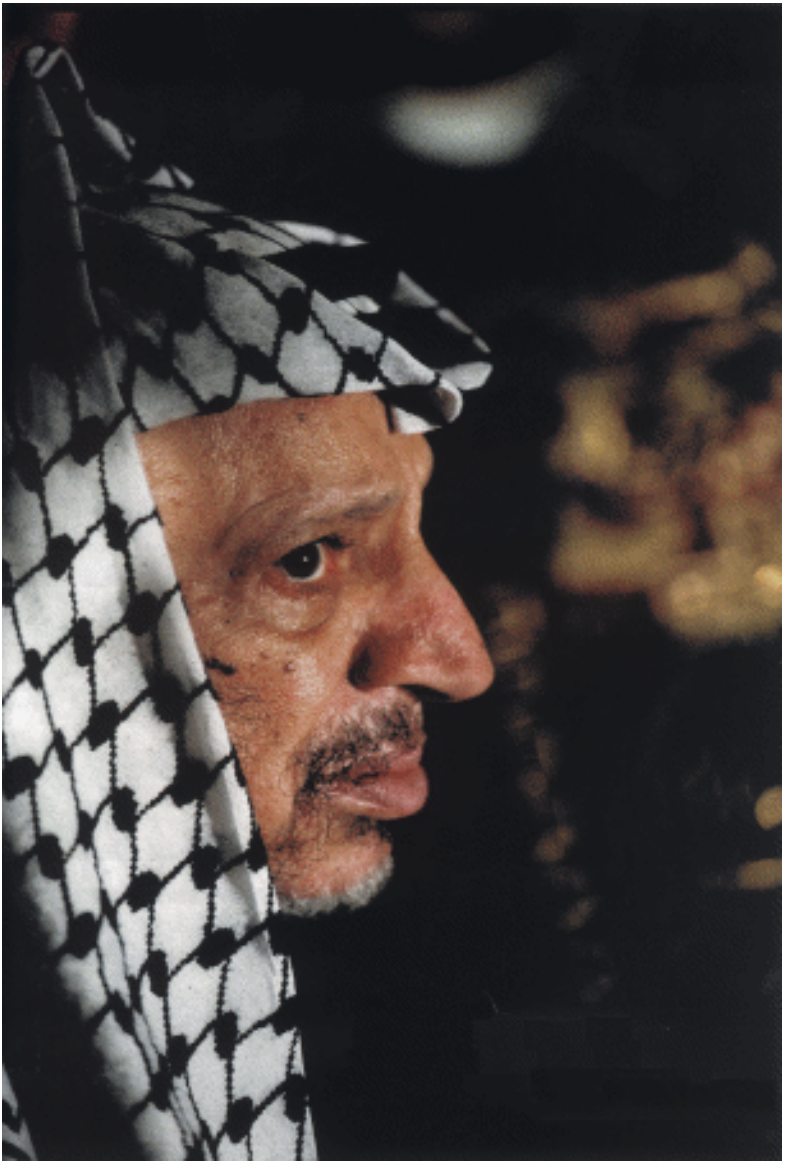
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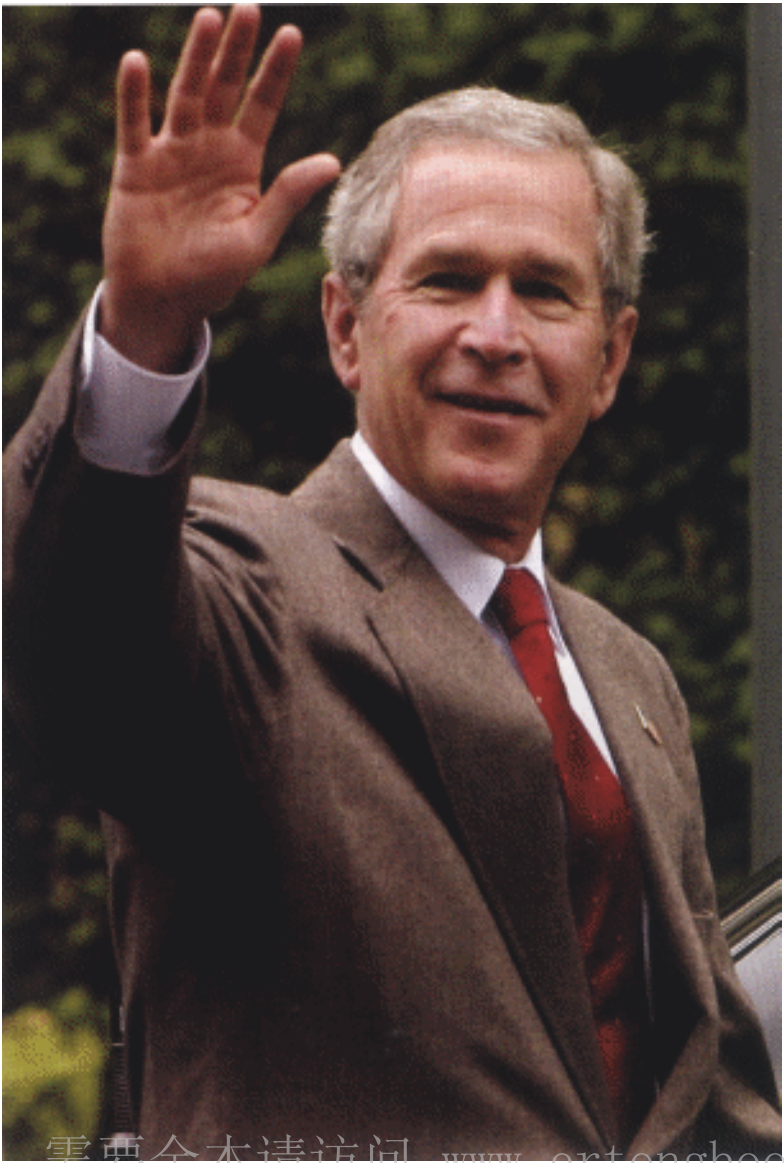
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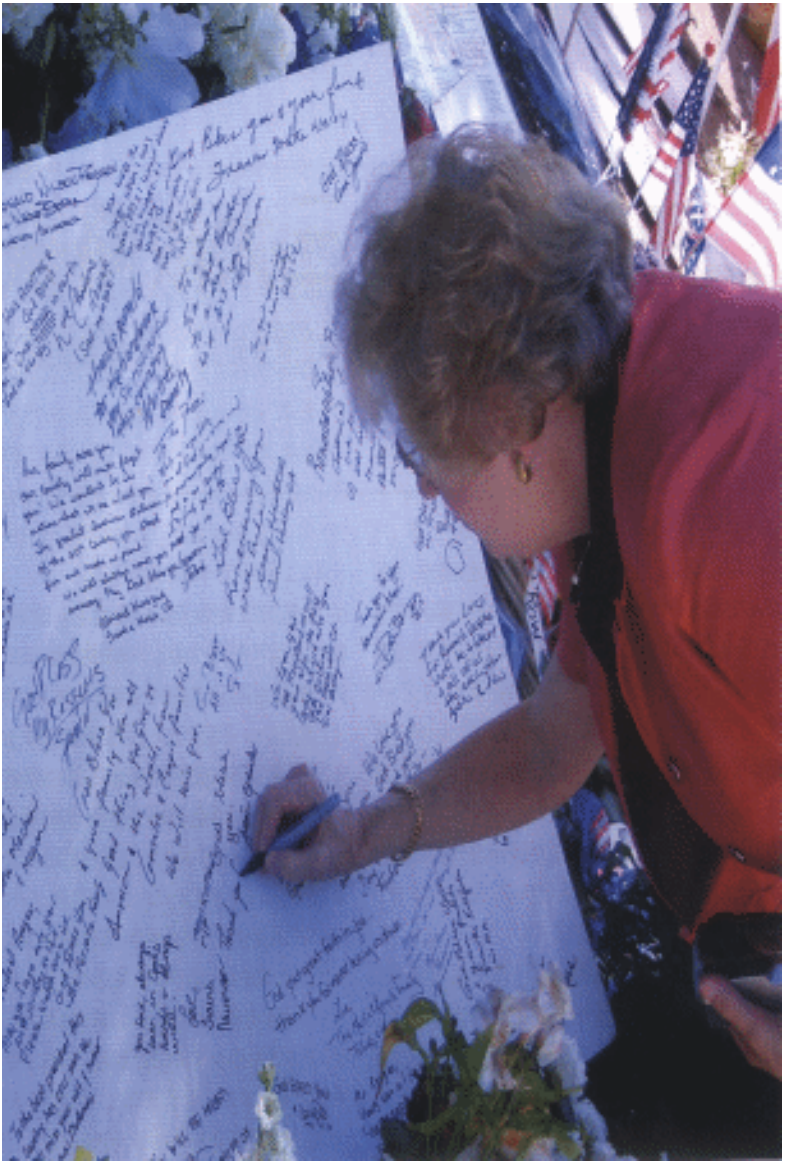

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Unit 1

Text A

U.S. Researchers Win 2004 Nobel Prize

Two Americans won the Nobel Prize in medicine Monday for discovering how people can recognize an estimated 10,000 odors, from spoiled meat to a lover's perfume.

Dr. Richard Axel, 58, of Columbia University and Linda B. Buck, 57, of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle revealed odor-sensing proteins in the nose and traced how they send their information to the brain.

The Nobel Assembly at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm said it chose the pair for the $1.3 million prize not because of any practical payoff from the work, but simply because they enhanced understanding of "the most enigmatic of our senses."

For two scientists to single-handedly map one of the major human senses is unique in the history of science, Nobel assembly chairman Goeran Hansson said.

"It's pretty amazing to be able to sit here in the 21st century and reward discoveries that explain one of the human senses," he

said.

Buck said she had not even known she was under consideration. "People have said things like, 'You should win the Nobel Prize,'" she said. "I feel very honored, of course."

Axel said sharing the prize with Buck was "a joy and a deep honor. I'm very surprised and very happy." He also said that the work might ultimately help scientists develop better insect repellants to keep away mosquitoes that transmit malaria, for example.

In 1991, Axel and Buck jointly reported discovering a large family of genes devoted to producing different odor-sensing proteins, called receptors, in the nose. Before that, scientists could only guess at how many different receptors were needed to distinguish smells in the environment.

Scientists now know that people have some 350 to 400 types of odor receptors, each of which can detect only a limited number of odors.

When a person sniffs perfume or fine wine, for example, a mix of different types of molecules flows over the receptors in the back of the nose. That activates an array of the receptors, but only those primed to respond to those particular molecules. The brain notes which receptors are activated, and interprets this pattern as the smell.

Since any given receptor can participate in more than one pattern, "you might have a rose and a skunk being recognized by some of the same receptors," Buck said.

Axel and Buck, who worked independently following their 1991 paper, went on to show that only one kind of receptor

appears on each of the 5 million or so odor-sensing nerve cells in the nose, which was a surprise. They also showed how these nerve cells are wired into the brain.

The Nobel assembly said that it is still unclear what the medical and scientific implications of the discoveries will be, but that the work could affect areas as diverse as psychology — to explain why scents often remind us of childhood — and cooking, since scent and taste are intertwined.

"It's possible, I guess, that someone down the road could use this knowledge to cook up something really delicious," Hansson said. "But I think that's pretty far in the future."

Last year's medicine prize winners were Briton Sir Peter Mansfield and American Paul C. Lauterbur for discoveries that led to the development of MRI, now widely used by doctors to get a detailed, 3-D look into their patients' bodies.

The award for medicine opens a week of Nobel Prizes that culminates Oct. 11 with the economics prize. The peace prize, the only one bestowed in Norway, will be announced Oct. 8. The physics award will be announced Tuesday and the chemistry prize will be announced Wednesday in the Swedish capital.

A date for the Nobel Prize in literature has not yet been set by the Swedish Academy, but is likely to fall on Thursday, Nobel watchers said.

Alfred Nobel, the inventor of dynamite, endowed the awards that bear his name. The awards are presented on Dec. 10, the anniversary of Nobel's death in 1896.

By Malcolm Ritter

Washington Post, *Monday*, *October* 4, 2004

WORDS

estimate ['estimeit] *v.* **估计**
odor ['əudə] *n.* **气味**
perfume ['pə:fju:m] *n.* **香水**
reveal [ri'vi:l] *v.* **透露**
protein ['prəuti:n] *n.* **[生化]蛋白质**
trace [treis] *v.* **探索**
payoff ['peiɔf] *n.* **报偿**
enhance [in'hɑ:ns] *v.* **提高,增强**
enigmatic [ˌenig'mætik] *adj.* **谜一般的,高深莫测的**
single-handedly ['siŋgl'hændidli] *adv.* **单独地,独立地**
unique [ju:'ni:k] *adj.* **惟一的,独特的**
ultimately ['ʌltimitli] *adv.* **最后,终于**
repellent [ri'pelənt] *n.* **驱虫药,驱虫剂**
mosquito [məs'ki:təu] *n.* **蚊子**
transmit [træns'mit] *v.* **传播**
malaria [mə'leəriə] *n.* **疟疾**
jointly ['dʒɔintli] *adv.* **联合地,共同地**
gene [dʒi:n] *n.* **[遗传]因子,[遗传]基因**
distinguish [di'stiŋgwiʃ] *v.* **区别,辨别**
sniff [snif] *v.* **闻到**
molecule ['məliˌkju:l] *n.* **[化]分子**
activate ['æktiveit] *v.* **刺激,使活动**
array [ə'rei] *n.* **大批,大量**
prime [praim] *v.* **刺激**
interpret [in'tə:prit] *v.* **理解**
skunk [skʌŋk] *n.* **臭鼬**
implication [ˌimpli'keiʃən] *n.* **含意**

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