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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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 [ud] *n*. **气味**
perfume [p fju m] *n*. **香水**
reveal [ri vi l] *v*. **透露**
protein [pr uti n] *n*. **[生化]蛋白质**
trace [treis] *v*. **探索**
payoff [pei f] *n*. **报偿**
enhance [in h ns] *v*. **提高,增强**
enigmatic [enig m tik] *adj*. **谜一般的,高深莫测的**
single-handedly [si gl h ndidli] *adv*. **单独地,独立地**
unique [ju ni k] *adj*. **惟一的,独特的**
ultimately [ltimitli] *adv*. **最后,终于**
repellent [ri pel nt] *n*. **驱虫药,驱虫剂**
mosquito [m s ki t u] *n*. **蚊子**
transmit [tr ns mit] *v*. **传播**
malaria [m l ri] *n*. **疟疾**
jointly [d intli] *adv*. **联合地,共同地**
gene [d i n] *n*. **[遗传]因子, [遗传]基因**
distinguish [di sti gwi] *v*. **区别,辨别**
sniff [snif] *v*. **闻到**
molecule [m li kju l] *n*. **[化]分子**
activate [ktiveit] *v*. **刺激,使活动**
array [rei] *n*. **大批,大量**
prime [praim] *v*. **刺激**
interpret [in t prit] *v*. **理解**
skunk [sk k] *n*. **臭鼬**
implication [impli kei n] *n*. **含意**

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diverse [dai v s] *adj*. 不同的

scent [sent] *n*. 气味,香味

intertwine [int twain] *v*. (使)纠缠,(使)缠绕在一起

culminate [k lmineit] *v*. 达到顶点,到达高潮

bestow [bi st u] *v*. 给予

dynamite [dain mait] *n*. 炸药

endow [in d u] *v*. 捐赠

anniversary [ni v s ri] *n*. 周年纪念日



NOTES

1. Nobel Prize 诺贝尔奖

诺贝尔奖是根据诺贝尔遗嘱所设基金提供的奖项(1969 年起由 5 个奖项增加到 6 个),每年由 4 个机构 (瑞典 3 个,挪威 1 个)颁发。1901 年 12 月 10 日即诺贝尔逝世 5 周年时首次颁发。诺贝尔在其遗嘱中规定,该奖应每年授予在物理学、化学、生理学或医学、文学与和平领域内"在前一年中对人类做出最大贡献的人",瑞典银行在 1968 年增设一项经济学奖,1969 年第一次颁奖。

2. Dr .Richard Axel 理查得·阿克塞尔

2004 年度诺贝尔医学奖得主,美国医学家,因发现了人类嗅觉系统及感受器的工作原理获奖。

3. Linda B .Buck 琳达·巴克

2004 年度诺贝尔医学奖得主,美国医学家,因与 Dr . Richard Axel 一起发现了人类嗅觉系统及感受器的工作原理而获奖。

4. the Nobel Assembly 诺贝尔大会

根据诺贝尔基金会的相关章程,医学奖的评选由卡罗琳斯卡医学院诺贝尔大会负责,大会由 50 名选举出来的卡罗林斯卡医学院知名教授组成,至于提名名单则是由之前得主、全球医学界或其它相关领域的教授或专家提出,然后再交由卡罗林斯卡的诺贝尔大会筛选。

5. the Karolinska Institute(瑞典)卡罗林斯卡医学院

6 . Stockholm 斯德哥尔摩(瑞典首都)

7 . under consideration 在考虑中

8 . keep away(使)离开,(使)不靠近

9 . devoted to 专用于……的

10 . Sir Peter Mansfield and Paul C . Lauterbur 彼得·曼斯菲尔德和保罗·劳特布尔,2003 年诺贝尔生理学及医学奖得主

美国伊利诺伊大学的 Paul C .Lauterbur 和英国诺丁汉大学的 Sir Peter Mansfield,由于在核磁共振研究中的重大贡献,共同获得了 2003 年诺贝尔生理学及医学奖。他们的研究成果现在已被医生们常规使用,以揭示人体内部惊人的秘密。这项获奖的研究是 Lauterbur 在纽约长岛 Stony Brook 大学时所做的。

11 . MRI 核磁共振成像

12 . the Swedish Academy 瑞典皇家科学院

13 . Alfred Nobel 阿尔弗雷德·诺贝尔(1833－1896),瑞典化学家,工程师和实业家,按其遗嘱将其遗产创设为诺贝尔奖。



EXERCISES

Ⅰ . Decide whether the following statements are true or false according to what you have read . Write T or F on the blanks .

1 . _____ Up to now, human beings ' understanding of human senses is far from complete .

2 . _____ Goeran Hansson thinks it is ridiculous to award Nobel Prize in medicine to people for their discoveries that explain one of the human senses .

3 . _____ Two Americans won 2004 Nobel Prize because their discovery has great practical value .

4 . _____ Axel and Buck had cooperated many times before they were awarded Nobel Prize .

5 . _____ Not all Nobel Prize winners are expected to go to Norway to receive their prizes .

6 . _____ The discoveries made by Axel and Buck may benefit a number of cross-disciplinary areas .

7 . _____ It can be inferred from the passage that more often than not Nobel Prize in medicine may be awarded to those who make great contributions to practical medicine .

8 . _____ Sir Peter Mansfield and Paul C .Lauterbur won last year's Nobel Prize in medicine because their findings enabled doctors to have a better understanding of the inner structure of human body .

II . Fill in the blanks with the words or phrases given below . Change the form where necessary . There are more words and phrases on the list than you will need .

transmit	estimate	distinguish	payoff
keep away	diverse	enhance	implication
unique	reveal	scent	activate
interpret	trace	jointly	

1 . The gardener _____ that it would take him four hours to weed the garden .

2 . The cabin belonged _____ to my older brother, my younger sister and me .

3 . My sister and I have _____ ideas on how to raise children .

4 . When you are choosing which flower to plant, appearance and _____ should both be considered .

5 . People who cannot _____ between colors are said to be color-blind .

6 . The influenza virus has shown person-to-person _____ in a

given locale .

7 . I could never _____ in her a spark of jealousy .

8 . Such work may indeed be tedious, but its _____ could be high .

9 . None of these social problems are _____ to this country .

10 . Police warned the bystanders to _____ from the blazing building .

Text B

Prescription For Suicide ?

British authorities say some antidepressants can be deadly for kids . Now the FDA is investigating

Kara Jaye-Anne Otter, 12, had been on the antidepressant Paxil for seven months when she committed suicide . " I was told the worst side effects would be flulike symptoms, " recalls her mother, Shannon Baker . " But after three weeks she had begun to cop an attitude . Her grades started falling . Then she didn't care what she looked like, and she was fighting with everybody . " Baker says her daughter developed rashes and dark circles under her eyes and had trouble sleeping . Then, on June 7, 2001, Kara pinned a note to her chest reading, " By the time you find me I'll be dead . I love you with all my heart . Don't worry, Jesus is with me . " She hooked a bungee cord onto a plate hanger on the wall, wrapped the cord around her neck and pulled against it until she passed out . Within minutes she was dead .

Baker is convinced Paxil is what killed her daughter, and that's what she'll tell a U .S . Food and Drug Administration panel meeting this week in Bethesda, Md . For years a small but vocal convinced group of patients and doctors have insisted that

certain antidepressants, including Paxil, Zoloft, Prozac and other medications known as selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs), carry an unacceptable risk of antisocial behavior and suicide in kids who take them. Many clinicians and most pharmaceutical companies disagree. Major depression is a dangerous illness that in itself can lead to suicide, and they insist that the benefits of these drugs outweigh the risks. But drug firms also refuse to release all their research — some of which tends to undercut their claims. "It's a real shell game here," says Vera Sharav, president of the Alliance for Human Research Protection, an advocacy group.

The issue is coming to a head. By last December, the British Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency, the equivalent of the FDA, had declared Celexa, Effexor, Lexapro, Luvox, Paxil and Zoloft (but not Prozac) too risky for kids under 18. Two weeks ago, a task force of the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology fired back, saying that despite the risk of potentially serious side effects, it's riskier to withhold the drugs.

Now comes the FDA probe, which began with an investigation of Paxil launched in the fall of 2002. Last June the FDA cautioned doctors against prescribing the drug to young people because of a possible increase in suicidal thinking. In October the FDA issued a broader public-health advisory alerting physicians that in clinical trials, Paxil, along with about half a dozen other antidepressants, wasn't any more effective than a placebo at treating depression in kids. Indeed, no antidepressant other than Prozac has been formally approved for young people.

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