

莱登英语书屋
LADDER

英语时文精选

(第 6 册)

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西安 北京 广州 上海

图书在版编目 (CIP) 数据

摇莱登英语书屋：英语时文精选 轶广贤主编 援
—西安：世界图书出版西安公司，圆园园愿
摇陈丹苑京苑京苑京苑京苑

摇Ⅰ援菜...摇Ⅱ援贺...摇Ⅲ援英语—对照读物—汉、英
摇Ⅳ援词典

中国版本图书馆 数据核字 (01101) 第 01101 号

摇摇摇摇摇摇 莱登英语书屋
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总 主 编 摇 贺广贤
本册主编 摇 周庆华
丛书策划 摇 唐娟利
责任编辑 摇 唐娟利
平面设计 摇 范晓荣
版式设计 摇 唐娟利

出版发行摇

地摇摇址摇西安市南大街 苑号摇邮编摇苑西

电摇摇话摇摇园恩原园恩园恩摇摇苑恩恩恩苑发行部)

摇摇摇摇摇(总编室)

传谣谣真谣园怨原园怨园怨

耘原皂葬 憎槽龔岳 赧趙驛韓 援壯

经摇摇销摇各地新华书店

印摇摇刷摇摇

开摇摇本摇摇愿象伊员愿摇摇员转圆

印摇摇张摇摇

字摇摇数摇摇员园千字

版摇摇次摇摇圆园年 月第 员版摇摇圆园年 月第 员次印刷

书摇摇号摇陽昇苑景翫翫景翫翫原袁·猿猿

定摇摇价摇(全六册) 远圆元

摇摇摇☆如有印装错误,请寄回本公司更换☆

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UNIT 1

A Kinder, Gentler Bill

慈善的比尔·盖茨

尽管微软公司受到官司的拖累,但比尔·盖茨和他妻子的爱心并未因此而减少。他们为使贫穷国家的儿童得到疫苗接种而慷慨解囊。

Words to Watch

vaccine n. 疫苗

mortality n. 死亡率

deposition n. 革职, 免职

antitrust adj. 反托拉斯的

merger n. 合并, 归并

philanthropy n. 慈善事业

Bill Gates and his wife, Melinda, announced last week a gift of \$100 million to speed the delivery of four vaccines to developing countries. The couple, now expecting a second child, wants to give more people better access to¹ new vaccines against a group of res-





piratory(呼吸的), intestinal(肠的) and liver diseases, which together take the lives of² more than 2 million children a year worldwide. On a trip to New York, Gates spoke to NEWSWEEK³ about the donation, the ongoing antitrust suit against Microsoft and other challenges.

NEWSWEEK: Why specifically this cause, and why this specific sum of money?

GATES: You think, “How could I (use the) resources I have to make an impact?” Contributing to the world’s health has got to be a great opportunity. These vaccination (接种疫苗) programs, from 1980 to today, went from 5 percent of kids to 80 percent getting six vaccines, and that has saved more lives than any medical effort in history. Four additional new vaccines really should be in the package; there’s just literally hundreds of thousands of kids who die because they don’t get (them) ... About a month ago the plan came together, and we decided to fund it very aggressively, because vaccines can have such a huge impact, and yet there hasn’t been that much private funding.

Are you giving the money for studies on how to get the vaccines to people more efficiently, but not buying the vaccines themselves?

Well, that’s one thing that we’re leaving a little bit open. We actually will be buying some of the vaccines, and that’s an area for some creativity in terms of making high-volume commitments, or helping (vaccine companies) get the manufacturing costs down.

Do you have an actual program set up to determine what constitutes a good way to get a vaccine into a particular population?





The actual plan for the first couple of years is to take five countries to do the pilots⁴ in, prove that it works and then prove that in the populations that get the vaccine, you reduce infant mortality. About \$25 million of the grant will get spent that way.

Do you think about a specific amount of money or percentage of your wealth that you want over time to be giving away?

I'm 43 years old, and contrary to what anybody might think, Microsoft's (continued) success is anything but assured. I've got a full-time job there, and how well I do that, I and all the other people in the company, how well we do our job will determine the value of the part ownership of Microsoft I have. And as I get older, I might get to put more time into this. Melinda and my dad, of course, get to put quite a bit of time into it.

Some people might think this is really an effort to improve your image, which has taken some hits⁵ at the antitrust trial.

We've been giving gifts for quite some time, and we'll keep giving gifts, and we do that because we think it can have some positive impact. If I was going to pause and not give until Microsoft was noncontroversial, you know, a lot of kids would go without vaccines for a lot of time.

Do you have any competitive concerns about the AOL/Netscape alliance⁶?

AOL is a strong competitor that just got stronger, assuming the merger is approved. AOL bought CompuServe. AOL bought Mirabilis. AOL is buying Netscape. AOL is a company we view as a serious





competitor.

Somebody in the last couple of days said to me: the real monopolist (专利者) in the high-tech industry now is (AOL chairman) Steve Case.

Well, in terms of being the guy who has a very high market share of people's access to the Internet, he's it. He bought the No. 2 company, raised its prices within weeks of the Department of Justice approving the thing and now he's buying the highest-traffic Web site. The ironies are quite deep.

What do you think of the government's tactic of playing your videotaped deposition at seemingly every opportunity, in the trial?

To take the snippets(片断) and edit them the way that they have, you know, it's unfair. I think it's pretty novel that they've been allowed to slice them up and play them in the way they have.

Given the way the judge has responded so far, are you at the point of figuring you're going to lose this round, and need to go to an appeal?

I think everything we've done (at Microsoft) has been pro-consumer, and that will come out very strongly as our witnesses get their chance to come forward.

How much of your time are you having to spend on the trial?

My time is not all that affected by the trial. I mean, I certainly view it as important, and I'm sending e-mail off when I see things that are being misrepresented, making sure the attorneys have my advice. My focus is making sure that we keep innovating, because





this is such a competitive business.

Can you talk just a little bit about Melinda's role in your philanthropy?

Well, Melinda is very key to all our philanthropy. She gets to spend even more time on it than I do, and it's an area that she is enjoying learning about. But Melinda is very careful in terms of her public role. You know, she views herself not as a public figure the way that I am. And so, privacy for herself and our children is important to her. She wants to speak out about some of these things while maintaining privacy, particularly of the kids.

Notes

1. give more people better access to: 使更多的人更好地有权使用……
2. take the lives of: 夺取了……的生命。
3. NEWSWEEK: 为美国“新闻周刊”杂志。
4. do the pilots: 做试点项目。
5. has taken some hits: 受到了一些打击(或影响)。
6. AOL /Netscape alliance AOL(American On-Line 的缩写), 意为美国在线服务公司; Netscape 为美国 Netscape 公司(以开发 Internet 浏览器闻名)。本词组意为 AOL /Netscape 两家公司联盟。

Exercises

1. Reading comprehension.

1) How much money would Bill Gates and his wife donate to help the kids in the developing countries to get vaccines?





A. \$10 000 000

B. \$1 000 000

C. \$100 000 000

D. \$1 000 000 000

2) Which is not True in the following statements?

A. Microsoft is involved in a case.

B. Melinda is very careful about her privacy.

C. Bill Gates is very concerned about the antitrust trial.

D. Bill Gates only lets his lawyers to handle the case themselves.

3) Which company did the Microsoft's strong competitor AOL buy first?

A. Netscape.

B. CompuServe.

C. Mirabilis.

D. highest-traffic website.

4) Bill Gates would not stop his philanthropy even if ____.

A. his company were being tried

B. his wife could not afford any time to do it

C. he could not get money from other donations

D. his relationship with his wife was not good enough

5) Which statement is probably right about the interview?

A. Bill Gates would pay more attention to donation than to innovation.

B. Bill Gates would pay more attention to innovation than to donation.

C. Melinda never helped his husband in his career.

D. Melinda helped his husband a lot in the field of high-tech.

2. Choose the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the italicized word(s) in each sentence.

1) There's just literally hundreds of thousands of kids who die because they don't get the vaccines.

A. about

B. factually





C. generally D. over

2) I think it's pretty novel that they've been allowed to slice them up and play them in the way they have.

A. original B. silly
C. necessary D. naive

3) Well, Melinda is very key to all our philanthropy. She gets to spend even more time on it than I do.

A. philosophy B. contribution
C. project D. charity

4) AOL is a strong competitor that just got stronger, assuming the merger is approved.

A. license B. agreement
C. joining D. separation

5) If we prove that it works and then prove that in the populations that get the vaccine, we reduce infant mortality.

A. death B. injury
C. disease D. lack of nutrition

3. Put in appropriate prepositions or adverbs.

take to take up take sth. into account
take back take after take for

1) Don't take me ____ a fool! I know what you are up to.

2) I apologize. I take _____ what I said.

3) They all took _____ their neighbor immediately, not knowing that this sweet-looking man was actually a cold-blooded murderer.

4) Let's get a smaller sofa. This one takes _____ too much room.

5) With his big fleshy nose he takes _____ his grandpa.





Reading for Fun

I Gotta Pee!

我得要小便!

I was in 3rd grade when it happened. One day at school I had to pee really bad, so I asked my teacher, Ms. McGuckin, for permission to use the restroom. She said no, because we were going as a class in 15 minutes. So I went back to my seat and I started to panic.

I went to ask her again a few minutes later and told her it was an emergency! Finally she agreed to let me go. But when I got to the restroom it was too late! I had already peed in my pants.

When I came back, I told her about my accident. The class was just getting ready to leave to use the restroom, before going to the computer lab.

Well, being the monster that she is, she made me sit on the heater while the rest of the class left!!! When I got home and told my mother, she was furious! My father had to stop her from going down to the school to beat up my teacher!

I have lived with this embarrassment all my life. Boys used to tease me because of that. They would say "Don't go chasing Waterfalls!" That was 5th grade humor then...

Keys

- | | | | | |
|----------|--------|------|------|---------|
| 1. 1)C | 2)D | 3)B | 4)A | 5)B |
| 2. 1)B | 2)A | 3)D | 4)C | 5)A |
| 3. 1)for | 2)back | 3)to | 4)up | 5)after |



参考译文



比尔·盖茨和他的妻子莫琳达上星期宣布捐赠 10 亿美元以加快对发展中国家四种疫苗的派发。夫妇俩人现在正期待着他们第二个孩子的出生,他们想使更多的人有机会得到预防消化道、肠道疾病和肝病的新疫苗,因这些疾病每年在全世界范围内会夺取 200 多万人的生命。在去纽约的旅途中,盖茨对新闻周刊谈起了这次捐赠和正在进行的起诉微软垄断案及其他的挑战。

新闻周刊:为何专门要从事这样的事业?以及为何捐赠这笔数目的金钱?

盖茨:你会认为,我怎么能够用我的财产制造声势?为世界健康做出贡献一定是一个伟大的机会。从 1980 年至今,这些疫苗接种计划使有机会得到六种疫苗的儿童从原先的 5% 到现在的 80%,这在历史上挽救人生命的数量比任何其他医疗措施都要多。四种新疫苗的确也应包括在这项捐赠计划中;事实上,有成千上万的孩子就因为得不到它们而离开我们。该项计划大约在一个月之间制定,我们当时决定对其进行巨额资金保证,因为疫苗能起到非常大的作用,至今还没有私人出资如此巨大。

问:您是用这笔钱从事研究如何使人更有效地得到疫苗,而不是让他们自己购买疫苗?

答:那是一件我们将要讨论的事情,实际上我将会购买一些疫苗。在这方面,就做出高调承诺或帮助生产疫苗公司把生产成本降下来而言需要具有一些创造性的工作。

问:您是否有一个制定好的实际项目来决定使某一特殊群体有效得到疫苗?

答:头几年的实际计划是先在五个国家里进行试点,一旦证明该计划实施有效并使试点群体能得到疫苗接种,你就能减少婴儿死亡率,大约从此项捐款中拿出 2500 万用于此试点工作。

问:您是不是考虑每隔一段时间就会无偿捐赠一笔数量的金钱或你拥有财富的一个百分比?

答:我已 43 岁了。同其他任何人的想像正相反,微软公司的持续成功是完全有保证的。我在公司做全职工作,我在公司的表现以及其他人在公司的表现将会决定微软公司所拥有的价值。随着我的年龄的增加,我会投入更多的时间,莫琳达和我父亲当然也会对公司投入许多时间。





问：有些人会认为您这次举动的确会改善您的形象，这在反垄断审理案中已经起到了一些作用？

答：一段时间以来我们一直都在捐赠，我们之所以这样做是因为它会带来积极的作用，如果我停止捐赠直到微软公司案平息时再进行，那就会使许多儿童在很长一段时间内得不到疫苗接种。

问：您对 AOL 和 Netscape 公司联盟有无在竞争方面的考虑？

答：假如合并得以批准，AOL 是一个日益强大的竞争对手，AOL 购买了 CompuServe 和 Mirabilis 公司。它现在正在收购 Netscape。我们认为 AOL 是一家强劲的竞争对手。

问：在前些日子，有人对我说：现在在高科技工业中的真正垄断者是（AOL 董事长）史蒂芬凯斯。

答：就其控制人们上网资源市场的巨大市场份额而言，他名副其实。他买下了二号公司，在司法部批准收购的几星期内他就提高了价格。现在他正在收购最高交通网站。其中的奥妙可见一斑。

问：您认为政府似乎在庭审中利用所有机会播放您离职录像的策略怎么样？

答：你知道，将录像带裁剪再按他们的意图进行编辑是不公正的。我认为他们能被允许拼接录像带按他们的意图播放的做法非常离奇。

问：就目前法官的回答而言，您是否在考虑您会在这一轮审理中输掉而需要进行上诉？

答：我认为我们微软公司所做的一切一直都对消费者有利，随着我们的证人有机会作证，这一点会被强烈地表现出来。

问：您现在有多少时间花费在审理中？

答：我的时间根本不受此案审理的影响。我的意思是，我当然认为此案审理很重要。每当我发现事情出现误解，我都会向律师发电子邮件，以确保他们接受我的建议。我的精力在于保证我们得不断进行创新，因为这是一项竞争性非常强的生意。

问：您能否谈一下莫琳达在这次慈善举动中的角色？

答：莫琳达对我们所有的慈善活动起着很关键的作用，她在这方面所投入的时间比我多。它是一个她喜欢学习的领域，但是莫琳达对她的公众角色非常留意。她并不把自己看做跟我是一样的公众人物。因此，她和孩子的隐私对她非常重要。她想在保证隐私的同时谈论一些有关孩子的事情。



UNIT 2



“There Is More We Can Do”

我们可以做得更多

美国接二连三出现的枪击事件引发了人们对枪支控制的争论，美国总统克林顿面对新闻记者就此问题的提问发表了自己的看法…

Words to Watch

enact vt. 制定法律

lobby n. 游说议员者

outright adj. 直率的，彻底的

vi. 游说议员

adv. 直率地，全部地

episodes n. 一段情节，

recklessly adv. 鲁莽地，不顾

插曲，插话，有趣的事件

一切地

After last week's deadly shootings, President Clinton provided written answers to questions from NEWSWEEK's Debra Rosenberg and Matt Bai. Excerpts:

NEWSWEEK: Why not register all guns?

CLINTON: We have licenses for driving and for hunting; I think we should have them too for buying new handguns. Under my plan, new handgun pur-





chasers would first have to get a state-issued photo license showing that they passed the Brady¹ background check and a gun-safety training requirement. As a first step, I favor licensing of new handguns over registration of all guns because it's the next practical measure we can enact...

Is there any chance Congress will pass your plan this year?

It's always tough to break the stranglehold the gun lobby has on the leaders of this Congress. But we've taken on the gun lobby² before and won... The Brady Law is a great example.

In 1998 you celebrated the fact that several major gun companies agreed to ship guns with safety locks. But now this doesn't seem to be enough. What do you say to those who see your efforts as the first step toward an outright ban on gun ownership?

I applaud the responsible leaders in the gun industry who agreed to ship guns with child safety locks, but there is clearly more we can do... I fired my first 22³ when I was just a boy. I grew up in a state where half the people have a hunting or fishing license. This isn't about infringing (侵犯) on the ability of hunters and sportsmen to get their firearms. It's about saving lives. Some say that no law could have kept this handgun out of a 6-year-old's hands. We can never know if any one proposal could have prevented these tragedies.

Still... all new handguns should be sold with child safety locks... I've proposed \$10 million to fund the development and expansion of "smart gun" technology that can limit a gun's use to the proper adult owner...

