

全新版大学英语听说教程第二册听力原文

2-1-A

Statement 1:

Hello, welcome to "This Week's Sports". The big news this week is the basketball championship. It started on Friday. Los Angeles Lakers beat Philadelphia 76ers, 108 to 96. Lakers won.

Statement 2:

Utah Jazz played Miami Heat. Jazz lost the game. They lost by just one point. The score was 111 to 110.

Statement 3:

Detroit Pistons beat Indiana Pacers. The score was 135 to 130. Pistons won.

Statement 4:

And in the last game Houston Rockets played New York Knicks. Knicks won, 75 to 69. That's it for basketball action. Thank you.

2-1-B

Why Don't You Join Me at the Gym Sometime?

Peter: Hi, Laura. Where are you heading with that big bag?

Laura: Hi, Peter. I'm off to the gym. I've got to stay in shape, you know. I try to go three times a week, but I'm busy so I can't always make it.

Peter: I know more women who work out than men. What's the main reason you work out? For your health, or to look good?

Laura: To be honest, for both. With women, good looks are always a very important consideration.

Peter: If they were honest, most men who work out would admit that they also do it to look better, and not merely for health reasons.

Laura: How about you? Do you get any regular exercise?

Peter: I do a lot of walking, for exercise and enjoyment -- sometimes ten to twenty kilometers at a time -- but I never go to the gym like you do.

Laura: Well, walking is good exercise. How about sports?

Peter: Not since my school days. I used to love playing baseball, but it's impossible to get enough people together for a game now. Mostly I just watch sports on TV.

Laura: I play tennis fairly regularly with my friends, and sometimes go swimming and cycling by myself.

Peter: Oh, I forgot about that. I go cycling sometimes too. And I often go swimming on vacation, but only recreational swimming.

Laura: Why don't you join me at the gym sometime? I can get you a guest pass.

Peter: Well, maybe someday, but I'm pretty lazy about things like that.

2-1-C

Watching a Game

Alan: Going to the football game today, Betty?

Betty: No, but I'll be watching it on television with some friends.

Alan: Weren't you able to get any tickets?

Betty: I didn't try. I really don't go to games so often.

Alan: But don't you enjoy going? Don't you find it exciting to be part of the crowd?

Betty: Oh sure, nothing beats the atmosphere at a sporting event: the cheering, all that energy. But sometimes it's just too inconvenient getting into and out of the stadium before and after the game. And if you watch the game with friends, or at a bar or restaurant ...

Alan: ... you've basically created your own crowd.

Betty: That's right. Another reason why I like to watch sports on television is that I simply find it easier to follow the action on TV.

Alan: Yeah, sometimes it is a little difficult to keep track of the ball when you're sitting in the stands.

Betty: Especially when your seats are high up in the grandstand, and far from the field.

Alan: It's like you're watching from an airplane, sometimes.

Betty: Also good sports commentators on television can add to your understanding and enjoyment of the game.

Alan: After listening to you I'm starting to wonder how they are able to sell any tickets to these games!

2-2-A

1. The weather today: a fine day is in store nearly everywhere, with the best of the sunshine in southern and central areas of Britain. A pleasant day, then, with long sunny periods developing. Light winds. There will be light winds with a maximum temperature of 18 degrees Celsius, 64 degrees Fahrenheit.

Looking at the outlook for the next few days, it will become mostly cloudy with heavy showers moving in from the west.

2. A storm in Changchun, capital of Northeast China's Jilin Province, claimed four lives on Sunday. The storm lasted about three minutes from around 8 p.m. The winds reached speeds of over a hundred miles an hour, causing serious damage and a widespread power failure.

2-2-B

Did You Hear the Weather Forecast?

Alan: Oh, look at the sky, Michelle! It's starting to get cloudy.

Michelle: I see it. I hope it doesn't rain. I thought it was going to be a fine day today.

Alan: That's certainly what the department was hoping for when they chose today as the date for the annual picnic.

Michelle: You can't have a picnic without good weather. You need sunshine for all the eating and games and entertainment.

Alan: Yeah, sunshine -- but not too much! Do you remember last year?

Michelle: I sure do. It was so hot all we did was look for shade, look for ways to escape from the sun.

Alan: And no one wanted to participate in any of the planned activities. All we wanted was cold drinks. And then dozed off.

Michelle: If there had just been the tiniest breeze to cool us off...

Alan: But there wasn't. Just that burning sun, without a cloud in the sky, and the temperature just seemed to climb higher and higher.

Michelle Well, we don't have that problem this year, apparently. Alan, did you hear the weather forecast? Is it supposed to rain?

Alan: I don't know. I didn't catch the weather report. But maybe if it rains, it will only be a short shower which cools things off a little. That might not be bad.
2-2-C

A Thunderstorm

Lili: Look, Betty, the sky has turned completely black!

Betty: Oh, wow. A big thunderstorm is coming. But I guess it won't last long.

Lili: Yeah, maybe for about twenty minutes or so it's going to seem like it's the end of the world. And then the sun will come out again.

Betty: I like storms like this. Summer is dramatic. What do you think, Lili?

Lili: Yes, these storms do come quite suddenly in the summer. I often seem to get caught without an umbrella.

Betty: But it's not so terribly getting caught in the rain occasionally in the summer. Now if you got all wet during a cold, dreary winter day -- that really would be horrible.

Lili: True. Ah, it's starting to rain now. Here it comes. Yes, it's starting to pour.

Betty: Here comes the lightning and thunder too.

Lili: At least it's supposed to clear up later this afternoon, and to be fine this evening.

Betty: That's good, because I'm going to meet some friends tonight.

Lili: Well, most likely you will have a very pleasant evening, because this storm should take some of the humidity from the air.

Betty: Yes, I must admit that these Chinese summers are very humid.

Lili: More humid than in the US?

Betty: Well, I can't speak about the whole country. But as far as New York goes, I'd say that the weather here in Shanghai tends to be hotter and more humid.

Lili: But I think our winters are milder.

Betty: Yes, I'm sure they are. We probably also get more snow in New York than you do here.

2-3-A

1.

M: Have you ever been to that big restaurant opposite the school gate?

W: Yes, many times. Whenever my friends come to visit me, I'll take them there to eat.

Q: Does the woman enjoy the food in that restaurant?

2.

W: Is there something wrong, sir?

M: My wife and I have been kept waiting for nearly an hour for our meal.

Q: Is the man satisfied with the restaurant's service?

3.

W: Where is the cake I made this morning?

M: We ate it, mom. Can you make another one for us?

Q: Do the children like the cake?

4.

W: I hear you like chicken very much.

M: Next to beef.

Q: Does the man like chicken best?

5.

M: Have you tried this wine before?

W: No, never. It's the first time, but it's really to my taste.

Q: Does the woman like the wine?

6.

M: John, do you want a soda?

W: Soda? I think it tastes like medicine.

Q: Does John want a soda?

7.

W: Why, the fish is left almost untouched.

M: Well, it would be good if it were less salty.

Q: Does the man like the fish?

8.

M: Hi, Sue, would you like to eat out tonight?

W: Oh, I'd really like to, but my sister may come to visit me this evening.

Q: Will Sue eat out with the man tonight?

2-3-B

What about Dining Out?

Peter: Hi, Kate.

Kate: Hi, Peter. How have you been?

Peter: Oh, OK, I guess. And you?

Kate: Not too bad. We haven't seen each other for a while, have we?

Peter: No, we haven't. So that makes me ask... Do you have any plans for this Saturday?

Kate: No, not yet, I don't think so. Why?

Peter: What do you think about getting together and going out to dinner this weekend?

Kate: That would be great. Do you have any particular place in mind?

Peter: Well, I think I'd like to eat something that's not too heavy. I've been eating a little too much lately.

Kate: Me too.

Peter: I love Italian food, but maybe we should skip that this time. They always seem to serve so much food in Italian restaurants, and you end up eating more than you wanted to.

Kate: Chinese food would be good.

Peter: Yes, or maybe some Japanese sushi. That style uses a lot of natural flavors, and not much oil or cream or heavy sauces.

Kate: Yes, either of those choices would be good. Let's just meet on Saturday night, and decide then where to eat.

Peter: That's fine by me.

2-3-C

Eating Out

A: Well, here we are -- not too crowded.
B: Great! Let's order quickly so we can chat a little.
A: OK. What are you in the mood for?
B: Something light. I went out for pizza at lunch and I'm still full.
A: There are three salads. Or you could have soup and a sandwich.
B: What are you having? A hamburger, I suppose.
A: No, actually I ate out last night too, but we had fast food at McDonald's, then a late snack at Kentucky Fried Chicken.
B: Oh, dear. Well, maybe you should have the chicken salad.
A: Yes, I think so. Look, the daily special is spaghetti. That sounds good.
B: Oh, the prices are great, too. I'll have that as well.
A: Now let's decide on drinks.
B: I'll just have coffee and a glass of iced water.
A: Italian food needs red wine. you know.
B: But we have to go back to work.
A: OK, a Coke then.
B: Here comes the waitress. Let me order first.

2-4-A

Dialogue 1:

M: What's the trouble?
W: I feel dizzy and my whole body aches.
M: How long have you been sick?
W: Two or three days now.
M: How's your appetite?
W: I've got no appetite. The sight of food simply turns my stomach. What's wrong with me?
M: You seem to be generally run-down.
Q: What is the most probable relationship between the two speakers?

Dialogue 2:

W: What's the matter, Jack? You look pale.
M: Oh, I feel terrible.
W: Why? What's the matter?
M: I have a splitting headache and a sore throat.
W: Why didn't you tell me?
M: I thought they might go away, but I feel worse this morning. I'm aching all over.
W: Hmm. You feel warm, too. You must have got a fever. There's a pretty bad flu going around, you know.
Q: What is the most probable relationship between the two speakers?

2-4-B

Going to See the Doctor

D: So what's your trouble?

P: Well, doctor, I haven't been feeling well lately. My biggest problem is that I'm having trouble sleeping.

D: Have you tried any of the sleeping medications available?

P: I've tried one or two, but they don't seem to help.
D: How long have you had this problem?
P: Three or four months -- it's been rather a long time now.
D: Are you suffering from an unusual level of stress in your life lately?
P: Not more than usual. My biggest worry is the fact I can't sleep.
D: Well, some people don't need as much sleep as others.
P: But I feel tired all day, so it is a problem for me.
D: Have you been experiencing any other symptoms?
P: I've also had a lot of indigestion lately.
D: Well, you are a little overweight, aren't you?
P: Yes. And I've gained about seven kilograms this past year.
D: You really should try to lose at least that extra weight. Do you get much exercise?
P: No, not very much.
D: Physical activity is very important.
P: So what do you recommend, doctor?
D: I will give you some medication for your insomnia and your indigestion. But I also recommend that you begin a regular exercise program.
P: But I have neither the time nor the money to go to a gym.
D: You don't need to go to a gym. A simple walking program would be very beneficial for you. I think you'll find that diet and exercise will be very helpful in taking care of your recent complaints.

2-4-C

Eating Apples

You probably know a famous saying about the importance of eating apples. It is, "An apple a day keeps the doctor away.

Now, a new American study shows eating apples may help fight cancer, too.

Research scientists at Cornell University in New York say a combination of chemicals found in apples is important for good health. The study shows that the combination of chemicals plays an important part in anti-cancer activity.

The scientists say the chemicals are in both the skin and the flesh of apples. Results of the study were reported in the publication Nature. The Cornell researchers studied the chemicals, or extracts, taken from the skin and flesh of red apples grown in New York State. They studied the effectiveness of the apple extracts in fighting cancer.

The researchers treated colon (结肠) cancer cells with fifty milligrams of apple extract (苹果汁). Extracts from the apple skin reduced the growth of cancer cells by forty-three percent. Extracts from the fruit's flesh reduced the growth of cancer cells by twenty-nine percent.

The researchers also treated human liver (肝) cancer cells with apple extract. Extracts from the apple skin reduced the growth of those cells by fifty-seven percent. Extracts from the fleshy part of the apple reduced the cancer cells by forty percent.

Lead researcher Liu Ruihai said scientists have long known that apples are good for human health. He says some scientists are interested in testing single vitamins or other substances to see if they alone fight disease. He says his study

shows no single substance works alone to reduce cancer. Instead, the combination of chemicals in apples is effective and eating fruit and vegetables is better than taking extra vitamin pills.

推荐精选

2-5-A

1. Most people like music. In fact, we are surrounded by it. It's on the radio and television and can be heard in stores and offices. However, not everyone likes the same kind of music.
2. The manager of the music shop was called Brian Epstein. Because so many people had asked for a record by the Beatles, Epstein decided to go and listen to the group himself.
3. Firstly I would like to talk about classical music and its representative composers, then I will move on to jazz music, and finally I will focus on pop music in the last century.
4. We listen to exciting music and our hearts beat faster, our blood pressure rises, and our blood flows more quickly. In short, we're stimulated.

2-5-B

Background Music

Background music may seem harmless, but it can have a powerful effect on those who hear it. Recorded background music first found its way into factories, shops and restaurants in the USA. Very soon it spread to other parts of the world. Now it is becoming difficult to go shopping or eat a meal without listening to music. To begin with, background music was intended simply to create a soothing atmosphere. Recently, however, it's becoming a big business. An American marketing expert has shown that music can boost sales or increase factory production by as much as a third.

But it has to be the light music. Lively music has no effect at all on sales. Slow music can increase receipts by 34%. This is probably because shoppers slow down and have more opportunity to spot items they would like to buy. Yet, slow music isn't always the answer. The expert found that in restaurants slow music meant customers took longer to eat their meals, which reduced overall sales. So restaurant owners might be well advised to play faster music to keep the customers moving — unless, of course, the resulting indigestion leads to complaints.

2-5-C

Celine Dion

Celine Dion is the youngest of 14 children in a working-class family in Quebec, Canada. Her parents, who both loved music, encouraged her to develop her musical talent. At 12, Celine had composed the song "It Was Only a Dream". Her mother and brother helped her to make a recording of that song and sent it off to an address they found on an album of a popular French singer. The address was that of Rene Angelil, who became her first conquest, but there would be millions more.

Celine's rise from a teenage singer to a pop superstar has been steady, but not without difficulties. Record companies were at first less enthusiastic about investing in a teenager than Angelil, who mortgaged his own home to pay for her first album. But her first two albums won a great success. And by 1983 she became the first Canadian ever to have a gold record in

France.

In 1990, Celine made her first English language record with Unison but her real breakthrough in America came when she was selected by Disney to sing the theme song of Beauty and the Beast. The song went to No. 1 on the chart and won both a Grammy and an Academy award. In 1996 she performed at the opening ceremonies of the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games and in 1997, she recorded the theme song for Titanic, and her name became synonymous with the enormously successful film.

Celine Dion's favorite theme is love. She sings the depth and the power of love in a great many of her hits such as "Love Can Move Mountains", "Because You Loved Me", "The Power of Love" and, of course, the theme song of Titanic, "My Heart Will Go On".

2-6-A

Identifying the Major Event in a Conversation

W: Here we are, Mr. Wang. This is a newly-built building.

M: What a fine building! How many floors are there?

W: Forty. Our company has offices on four floors in the building.

M: Yours is really a big company.

W: Yes, it is. The sales office is on the first floor. The marketing and accounting offices are on the second floor. And we have many other departments: personnel, research, etc. They are all on the 8th floor.

M: Where's the manager's office?

W: It's on the 9th floor.

Passage:

Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to our company. Our company was established in 1999. It is a joint-venture company specializing in sportswear. Most of our products are for young students; some are for adults. All our products sell well both at home and abroad. In recent years, we have expanded our markets from China to Southeast Asia, East Africa, North America, and South America.

2-6-B

Who Is to Be Promoted?

(The Personnel Department is having a meeting. Joan Black is the chairperson of the meeting.)

Joan: I think John Jeffrey's already been with the company for 20 years. Surely he's not still expecting promotion. Do you agree, Peter?

Peter: Well, in my opinion, John's always shown great loyalty to the company. It's time this was rewarded. What do you think, Clive?

Clive: It's not just a question of loyalty. Would he be any good at the job? He would need to manage a small team -- he's got no experience of that yet.

Peter: He never will have any experience unless we give him a chance!

Joan: We can't afford to be sentimental. I don't think he's the man for the job. He's always been a follower, not a leader. Let's move on to the other candidates. Rita Hayden has already shown great personnel management skill, I feel, even if she's ...

Peter: Oh, come on, Joan! Rita's still learning her trade! We can't afford to take a risk with someone so inexperienced.

Clive: I agree with Peter. I favor Susan Palmer. She's got a lot of experience. She's already worked in the department on other occasions so she knows the ropes and she's ...

Joan: But Susan's always struck me as a bit cautious. We need someone dynamic for this job.

Peter: I'd agree with Clive. I think Susan Palmer would do a good job. Maybe she's a bit cautious but she's solid, reliable... We need those qualities too.

Joan: Well, if you're both so sure, I suppose I'll have to agree. Still, we'll wait a week before confirming it just in case any other applicants put their names forward.

2-6-C

A Good Salesman

Mr Stevenson was the owner of a general appliance store. He had seen many newly-weds coming into his store to shop for their first refrigerator, washer and dryer, and air-conditioner. Pen and pencil in hand, they would ask him a lot of questions about price, features and after-sale services, but they would usually walk away at the end of their inquiry.

The other day a young couple came into his store. They asked him all the usual questions and he answered all of them patiently. But when he suggested an order at the end, they replied firmly, "We'll have to look around places first."

Although feeling a bit disappointed, Mr Stevenson did not show it. Instead, he smiled, moved closer and said, "I know you will go to Discount Dan to look at the price tags. That's perfectly understandable. I do the same. In fact, they sell the same stuff as we do. But if you buy things there, there is something you will not get. And that is me. I come with everything I sell. I've been in the business for thirty years and in a few years' time I'm going to give my store to my daughter and son-in-law. I hope they will carry on the family business. I stand behind everything I sell and I will make sure that you will never regret buying things from me." After this short speech Mr Stevenson offered the young couple some ice cream to thank them for their interest.

Impressed by his honesty and sincerity, the young couple decided to place an order.

2-7-A Dialogue

M: Excuse me, do you have a T-shirt of this kind in a larger size?

W: What size do you want?

M: Medium.

W: Pardon?

M: I want a medium.

W: Here's a medium in black. Do you like it?

M: Well, I like the picture on the front, but I'd prefer a white one with a slogan on the front.

W: Here's a white one in medium. And it's 100% cotton.

M: Perfect. I'll take it.

推荐精选

2-7-B

Fashion -- Image or Reality?

Why do people spend so much money on fashion? Do they want to create an image or make sure they are not old-fashioned? Do people really judge each other by the clothes they wear? The billion-dollar fashion industry certainly tries to convince consumers that such judgements are made.

Unfortunately, they may be right. A recent study using elementary school students was interesting. They said that people wearing Calvin Klein designer jeans were more handsome and successful than those wearing Wranglers. Levi-wearers were seen as sporty, fashionable and fun! Obviously we learn early that "Clothes make the man." In other words, clothes show age, outlook, status and income. However, clothes that look great on professional models may look terrible on the average buyer.

Although beautiful clothes don't help physically, they are important for social and psychological effects. Expensive clothes can make the wearer feel like part of the high status group that sets taste and style. So you are buying an image of success. You may really live a routine life, waking up in the morning feeling dull and ordinary. But when you dress in these expensive clothes, your mood brightens. You feel good, ready to face another day with energy. Sound crazy? People who love clothes say it's true.

Of course, a lot of people don't like high fashion. They'd rather spend their money on something practical. Which would you prefer -- the image or the reality?

2-7-C

Platform Shoes

If you have been thinking that platform shoes are the newest fashion trend on the planet, then it is about time you found out something about these height boosters. Not only were they wildly popular during the noisy disco days of the 1970's, but they were also all the rage during the late 1400's to 1600's.

The platform shoes that were the sign of high fashion in the 1600's were more practical than today's style symbols. They were worn over delicate shoes to protect them from getting dirty when walking in muddy or dusty streets.

After going out of fashion in the 1600's, platforms returned to the style scene in the 1930's when designers such as Salvatore Ferragamo began breaking the rules of fashion. They re-emerged again towards the end of the 1960's and by 1975 were so common that men were also trying to balance on their massive heels.

No matter how fashionable platforms are, they also have a reputation for creating problems. It is very easy to twist your ankle while wearing platforms and the damage this can do to your foot can be serious. In Japan, they have also brought about traffic problems as women wearing them while driving have been unable to brake quickly enough and as a result caused accidents!

2-8-A

Nowadays, dieting is a popular practice in many countries. However, of the nearly 50 American adults currently dieting, only less than 10% will be able to maintain

their weight loss for at least a year. Researchers in the Framingham Heart Study pointed out that losing and gaining weight again might be harmful to your heart. Over a 14-year period, they analyzed the weight changes and health of 3,130 people. They found that those adults whose weight shifted the most had about a 50% increased risk of developing heart disease than those whose weight remained more stable. For now the researchers are not sure how weight changes are linked to health problems, but they think that people who diet frequently may prefer high-fat foods. Losing and regaining weight may also cause an unhealthy distribution of body weight. Dieters may lose pounds from their legs only to regain weight in an area such as their stomach, which increases the risk of developing heart disease.

2-8-B

Lottery Winners

Do you dream of winning the lottery? So have millions of other people. Every day, millions of Americans buy lottery tickets. They are hoping to win \$100,000, \$1,000,000 or more. What happens after you win the lottery?

When you win a million dollars, you don't receive a check for the total amount. You receive \$50,000 a year for twenty years. Also, you must pay taxes. After taxes, you receive from \$25,000 to \$40,000 a year for twenty years. This is a lot of extra spending money.

What have some people done with their money? Let's look at three past winners. Lisa K wanted to be an artist, but she didn't have enough money to go to art school. She was working at a job she didn't enjoy. In August, Lisa bought one ticket and won two million dollars. She quit her job three weeks later and is now attending art school.

Mark L was a car salesman. He worked seven days a week and had little time for family life. After he won the lottery, he quit working. Now he spends his time bowling, working in the garden, and fixing things in his house. But, he's bored. He doesn't want to sell cars again, but he isn't sure what he wants to do with his life.

Jack B is one of the small number of winners who did not quit his job. Jack still teaches at a school near his home. But now he and his wife take their children on an interesting vacation every year. And they don't worry about sending their children to college. They say that money brings security and gives a person opportunities, but it doesn't bring happiness.

2-8-C

An Abandoned Newborn Baby

A healthy newborn girl was discovered in Central Park yesterday morning. The baby was abandoned on the top of a rock shortly before dawn after the mother gave birth to her there.

The police said that the baby was healthy and weighed 7 pounds. Now they were searching for the mother. A policeman said that they had never had anything like this before. They really didn't get babies left in the park. But they were just happy the baby was all right.

The police rushed the baby to a nearby hospital. Fortunately she was OK. The police believed the baby was born less than half an hour before she was discovered. They also believed judging from the amount of blood found on the rock, that the mother might have given birth there. It was 70 degrees when the baby was found.

Detectives were investigating whether the mother was a homeless woman who called a baby rescue hotline early yesterday. The head of Hope Foundation said that his hotline received a call about 5:30 a.m. from a young homeless woman in Manhattan. The caller asked, "How do I get rid of my baby?" She was apparently in labor. Then she was told to go to either a hospital or a fire station. But the woman was afraid she would be recognized there. The head also said that the woman wouldn't even tell him where he could possibly meet her since they had two teams that could help with the delivery, if necessary.

2-9-A

Jack was a six-year-old dog. It ate up two 100-dollar bills but returned them to his master Paul the natural way. The first bill was found the next morning, smelly and undamaged, followed by the second during an evening walk. When Paul got all the money back, he said: "The bills are slightly yellow and I think I'll clean them."

2-9-B

A Belated Postcard

A postcard carrying a George V stamp has mysteriously arrived at its destination at least 63 years after it was first posted.

The card was sent to a baker named Richard Price of South Wales, before the outbreak of the Second World War. It was delivered to a van hire company last week, which is the current owner of the High Street house formerly used by the baker. After an appeal in the local newspaper to discover who the Mr. Richard Price of the address really was, a puzzled Mrs. Meyrick came forward.

Pam Meyrick, who is 66 years old, is a granddaughter of the baker. She couldn't believe her eyes when she saw the address and the name. "My grandfather died in 1970 at the age of 92," she said. "The card carries a halfpenny stamp with George V's head on it. I just don't know how it was delivered. Seeing his name brings it all back to me. But it baffled me to understand where the card, which is in mint condition, has been all this time." She said that the unexplained postcard will become a treasured keepsake to her and her family.

The card was sent from Birmingham by a salesman for a fruit essence maker. On the card it says: "Our Mr. Gwyn Thomas will have the pleasure of waiting upon you in a few days."

A spokeswoman for the Royal Mail said it was unlikely that the postcard was delivered by a postman. "There is a slim chance it could have slipped through the system but I don't think the postman would have missed the stamp," she said. "We'll certainly look into the matter."

2-9-C

A Broken Tube

One morning I was sitting in a junior college classroom listening to a sociology professor explain why he thought corporal punishment for disobedient children was a great idea. He suggested that "bad" children should be offered the opportunity to choose the instrument of punishment for themselves, from a selection of belts, switches, and sticks. I couldn't believe my ears at this. I was so angry that without thinking, I raised my hand and asked the professor if he beat his wife as well as

he beat his children. A tense silence swept through the classroom at that moment. The professor and I were glaring at each other. Both of us were speechless and shaking with rage. We were all waiting for something to snap. But before either of us could react to the horrible situation, the light in the enclosed ceiling box directly over my head shattered. Broken but untouched! You could see fragments of glass lying on the plastic window of the box. Everybody jumped at the little explosion. And startle turned immediately to laughter. The spell of anger was broken. And the professor finished his lecture and sent us all home early. The event was never discussed in class.

2-10-A

Report 1:

Turkey says more than 10,000 people now are confirmed dead after the earthquake three days ago. Most of the deaths are in 5 north-western cities. About 34,000 people are reported injured. Rescue workers are still searching for about 35,000 missing people; many are trapped under fallen buildings. Rescuers are using cameras, dogs and listening devices to search for survivors.

Report 2:

Early this morning a severe explosion took place in Shijiazhuang, the capital of North China's Hebei Province, killing 108 and injuring 38, according to the public security department. After treatment, 15 of those injured have been discharged from hospital care. Hospital officials say 5 among the 11, who were severely injured, are now out of danger. Police are still investigating the cause of the explosion.

2-10-B

Surviving a Plane Crash

Three months ago I flew to Burma with my boyfriend, Johan. The plane was a small one and our seats were near the back. The sky looked very black as we took off, and throughout the flight, we kept our seat belts fastened. Twenty minutes later we flew into a terrible storm. The plane rolled and shook in the wind. We were both very frightened. I couldn't remember anything after that until I opened my eyes. I didn't know where I was. Slowly I realized that the plane had crashed. I was in terrible pain and I couldn't move. "Johan," I called, but he didn't reply. It was dark, but I knew that he wasn't in his seat. I heard groans and I worked out that possibly six other people were still alive. When daylight came, I could see all the bodies around me. Johan was on the other side of the aisle, but I knew that he was dead. After a day or two the other voices stopped and I was alone. But the rescuers didn't come. "They must be on their way," I told myself. I didn't know that we were in a swamp in the middle of a jungle and that the helicopters couldn't fly in the heavy rain. Outside the window the flood water was slowly going up. But that water saved my life. I managed to stay alive by drinking that dirty water. At night the mosquitoes came. I was out of consciousness because of pain and hunger. Then I heard voices. I pushed my hand out of the window and amazingly someone grabbed it. The rescue team had arrived ... nine days after the crash.

2-10-C

Mount St. Helens

Most volcanoes are quiet. They rest peacefully for hundreds of years. No one pays much attention to them.

Mount St. Helens was one of these volcanoes. Until 1980, it was a beautiful recreation area. Its last eruption had been 123 years ago. No one was worried about another one. Then, in March 1980, Mount St. Helens began to make noises. At first, there were tremors. Then, small eruptions occurred. Some residents left immediately. Others felt there was no danger.

But on the morning of May 18, 1980, the mountain blew its top. With the power of twenty-five atomic bombs, Mount St. Helens exploded. Clouds of dust and ash rose more than twelve miles into the sky. Rocks and mud crashed down the slopes.

Unfortunately, many people were still living, camping, or working in the area. Over forty people lost their lives. Others were rescued.

Robert Baker was fishing with his family when the explosion occurred. He reported that the morning of May 18 was strange. No birds were singing. The air was still. Then, he saw a large black cloud coming down toward them. In minutes, day turned into night. He called his family to their van and they started on the slow dark ride away from the mountain. All the time, hot ash was raining on them.

But other people were not so lucky. David Johnston, a volcano expert, was standing near the summit of the mountain. At 8:31 a. m. , he radioed, "This is it!" He was never heard from again.

Mount St. Helens is peaceful now. But its slopes are empty. It will be many years before fish, plants, and trees will again live on the mountain.

2-11-A

Passage 1:

Napoleon was many things but he was, first of all, remembered as a military leader. Rising from an artillery officer to the commander of the French army, he waged war after war against neighboring countries. In 1804, he declared himself emperor and became the most powerful man in the world. At one time he controlled most of Europe. But Napoleon's power was short-lived. His defeat came when he decided to attack Russia. Soon the whole of Europe rose against him, eventually forcing him to give up his throne. In 1821, he died alone on the small island of St. Helena.

Passage 2:

Tom Cruise has always represented cool, but somehow over the last couple of years, he has gone from just another Hollywood pretty boy to a certified world renowned actor. It seems that everything he touches turns to gold. Not everyone likes him, but at least now almost everyone respects him. His movies make millions, he is an international star -- men envy him, and women love him.

Passage 3:

His critics agree that the United Nations Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, is a dignified moral idealist.

But he's also tough. Elected to the post in 1996, thanks largely to the US's displeasure with Boutros-Ghali, Annan has proved to be energetic and willing to press

Americans to accept greater international responsibility.

推荐精选

As the host of 159 heads of state at this year's Millennium Summit in New York September 6 to 8, he advocated intervention against war, disease and poverty.
2-11-B

A Musician-turned Economist

Alan Greenspan, who has been Chairman of the U. S. Federal Reserve Board for over a decade, is regarded as one of the most important men by many people in the world. Greenspan was born on March 6, 1926. His father was a stockbroker and his mother worked in retailing. When he was 4 years old, his parents divorced and he was raised by his mother in New York.

Young Alan was a shy boy but he was very good at large numbers. When he was only five, his mother would get him to add two three-digit numbers in his head.

He loved baseball and tennis. And, like his mother, he developed a deep appreciation for music. In the mid-1940s he studied briefly at a music school in New York, and then toured the country for a year with a music band. Then he entered New York University's School of Commerce and graduated with a degree in economics. He got a Master's degree at NYU in 1949, and shifted to Columbia University to work on his PhD. When his money ran low, he withdrew from graduate school and went to work for the National Industrial Conference Board. He eventually earned a PhD from NYU in 1977.

In the mid-1950s Greenspan opened an economic consulting company. In 1987 he began to work in the Federal Government. Today his work as Chief of Federal Reserve Board is much the same as the work he did on Wall Street, trying to understand how the economy is working and what drives it; offering suggestions for improvement. He is, however, making less money.

2-11-C

Edwin Hubble

Edwin Powell Hubble was a tall, elegant, athletic man. During his lifetime, his research was focused on nebulae, which are misty patches of light in the sky. In 1924, he announced the discovery of a star in a nebula. He calculated that this star was much further away than anyone had thought and that therefore the nebula was not inside our galaxy, but a galaxy of stars just like the Milky Way, only much further away. His discovery enabled the world to realize that the universe was much bigger than had been previously presumed.

Hubble wanted to classify the galaxies according to their content, distance, shape and brightness patterns, and in his observations he made another great discovery: the galaxies were moving away from each other at a rate constant to the distance between them. This is known as Hubble's law. The greater the distance between them, the faster they move away from each other. This supported the big bang theory of how the universe came into being.

Hubble died in 1953. To honor his great contribution to space exploration, his name was chosen for the world's most powerful space telescope, the Hubble Space Telescope.

2-12-A

Drawing Inferences

College students are familiar with the initials, WWW, which stand for World Wide Web. But do you know who invented this? According to the magazine Time, Tim Berners-Lee was the creator.

Tim Berners-Lee is extremely intelligent but not good at "random connection", such as linking names and faces. In order to keep track of such links, he wrote some software -- "a memory substitute" -- in 1980. A decade later, it took a great leap, growing to cover the world. It is today's World Wide Web, which could prove as important as the printing press. Yet so far, most of the wealth and fame coming from the Web have gone to people other than him. He has not appeared on the cover of any magazine. He has a small office at M. I. T., where his nonprofit group helps and guards the Web.

2-12-B

The Story of the Walkman

Akio Morita, chairman of Sony, was annoyed because his children constantly played loud music. He told his company engineers to devise some machine to make the music only audible to the user. They did, and the Walkman was born. This totally changed the way we listen to music. Morita personally insisted on using the name "Walkman" for the new machine. His advisers said the phrase meant nothing in English. But he knew it was easy to pronounce the word in nearly every language. It was also short, catching and summed up the importance of the new device!

Now the personal stereo is used by everyone. There are new designs such as CD Walkmans, recording Walkmans, etc. As size, weight and cost get smaller, quality gets bigger.

Socially, however, the Walkman habit may not be so good. By playing their personal stereos at full volume in small spaces, listeners may disturb others. The repeated loud beat can also be annoying. That is why in London's Underground Railway System there are signs saying, "Keep Your Personal Stereo Personal." Furthermore, drivers listening to Walkmans may sometimes cause road accidents to happen. And the rise in hearing problems is often blamed on their misuse.

There is no doubt that modern society has a love-hate relationship with the Walkman. Yet even criticism proves how popular the Walkman has become. Rather like the television or the computer, it is hard to imagine how we ever lived without them.

2-12-C

The Camera Man

Do you own a camera? Undoubtedly you do, and you probably use it often, too.

Just slip the camera in your backpack pocket, and you're set to record your activities on film. But before 1888, you would have needed a wagon to carry all the necessary equipment just to take one photograph. Early cameras were the size of microwave ovens! But George Eastman changed the way the world took pictures.

Born in upstate New York on July 12, 1854, George Eastman was the youngest of three children. His father died when George was a young boy. He was forced to quit school at 14 and work to support his family. In 1874, he got a job as a junior clerk

at a bank for \$15 a week.

推荐精选

A friend introduced George to photography when he was 24. George loved taking pictures, but he didn't like the complicated process. He worked for years to invent something to replace the old machine. When he succeeded, he started a company to produce his "film" -- Kodak. Then he worked on developing a simple camera. When he introduced his camera in 1888, George coined the advertising slogan, "You push the button, we do the rest." People began buying the cameras, and Kodak soon grew to be very large.

George Eastman was also a great philanthropist. He gave much of his fortune to establish hospitals, clinics, universities, museums and performing arts centers. When he died in 1932 at the age of 77, an editorial in The New York Times said he would be remembered for giving generously for the good of mankind. And, of course, for putting a Kodak smile on the faces of people around the world.

2-13-A

Passage 1:

Although children have little or no money of their own, they certainly have the capacity to be "givers". And because children often need so much help -- even with everyday things, they might think that they are the only ones who should be helped. But you can let them know that everyone in this world needs some kind of help, and that some people need more help than others.

Encouraging children to be helpful is one of the best ways to help them develop a charitable attitude, and that's an attitude that hopefully will grow all through their lives.

Passage 2:

What is self-control? Self-control is listening to your friend talk when you want him to listen to you.

Being quiet in the library takes self-control, especially when a friend comes in and you want to call to him.

What is caring? When you help a turtle cross a path in the park so he will be safe -- that's caring. When you leave flowers to bloom so others can enjoy them too -- that's caring.

Passage 3:

Plato thought there are four virtues: 1) wisdom, 2) courage, 3) temperance, or self-control, and 4) justice. The most important of these is wisdom, which is knowledge of what is truly good. People who have wisdom and, as a result, know what is truly good will tend to do what is right. These people will act in their own interest and be in harmony with themselves. This harmony is the basis of all justice. People who are just, in Plato's view, will tend to have other virtues as well.

2-13-B

Professor Sabbatucci's Noble Act

A thief who dropped a winning lottery ticket at the scene of his crime has been given a lesson in honesty. His victim, who picked up the ticket, managed to trace him, and handed over the cash.

The robbery happened last Saturday when maths professor Vinicio Sabbatucci, 58, was changing a tire on an Italian motorway. Another motorist, who stopped to "help",

以上内容仅为本文档的试下载部分，为可阅读页数的一半内容。如要下载或阅读全文，请访问：<https://d.book118.com/677126065123006104>