##### Reading exercise

**Direction: read the following passage and translate the underlined sentences into Chinese**

**Things we can learn from “American Sniper”:**

You know the movie, right?（1）It has not only been nominated for the Best Picture Oscar; it could wind up selling more tickets than the other seven nominees combined. Plus, it’s triggered a left-right controversy that makes the old dust-up over “DuckDynasty” seem like a tiny cultural blip.

“American Sniper” tells the story of Chris Kyle, a real-life Iraq war veteran and sharpshooter. （2） The film is certainly powerful, and it celebrates our Iraq veterans. But it also eulogizes the killing of Iraq insurgents, including children, critics feel it ought to be put in the context of an invasion that didn’t need to happen in the first place.

There’s been less conversation about the final scene in the movie, which shows the hero walking through his family home, where the kids are romping. He’s carrying a handgun, which he points at his wife Taya, playfully telling her to “drop them drawers.” Taya says she can see he’s finally getting over his war traumas and back to his old fun-loving self.

This is, by virtually any standard, insane behavior. （3）Mike Huckabee, a big “American Sniper” fan, recently published a book called “God, Guns, Grits and Gravy,” which is so wildly opposed to any weapon regulation that Huckabee opens his chapter on modern education by complaining that public schools are anti-gun. Yet he also presents a list of universally accepted gun safety rules, many of which boil down to don’t point it at anybody as a joke.

“Yeah, but if you want to complain about the casual treatment of guns in movies, you don’t have to look very hard on any Friday night,” said Senator Chris Murphy of Connecticut. Murphy hasn’t seen the movie, but he’s one of Congress’s leading advocates of gun-control regulation. It’s not the world’s most rewarding job. （4）In recent years, his colleagues have not only refused to pass an extremely modest bill on background checks, they’ve failed to ban the sale of guns to people on the terrorism watch list.

“American Sniper” is on one, supremely obvious level, a celebration of gun culture. But it’s also a cautionary tale. The real Chris Kyle was shot to death while the script was being written. He had volunteered to help a troubled veteran, Eddie Ray Routh, who had a history of violent behavior and was an apparent victim of post-traumatic stress. Kyle felt the best way to get him to relax was to take him to a shooting range. While they were there, Routh turned his gun on Kyle, and one of Kyle’s friends, killing them both.

“American Sniper” could actually be seen, at least in the final scene, as a good-gun, bad-gun message. The real Chris Kyle did enjoy walking around the house, twirling a pistol. His wife said that as the clouds lifted after his Iraq service, he would playfully point a gun at the television and pretend to shoot down the bad guys.

Jason Hall, who wrote the movie screenplay, said the scene was meant to both show Kyle in recovery and presage the violence that was about to occur off-screen.

“There’s a tension in the scene that builds toward the ending,” he said in a phone interview.

（5）The American gun lobby has pushed its cause so far that it, too, may be falling off a cliff. Texas, where Chris Kyle’s alleged murderer is going on trial next week, has always had a gun-friendly culture, so much so that visitors can bring concealed handguns into the State Capitol. Some people definitely do not think this goes far enough, and, on opening day of the Legislature last month, they demanded new laws making it legal to carry handguns in the open, preferably without a license.

One particularly bouncy group, Open Carry Tarrant County, flooded the office of Representative Poncho Nevárez, a non-supportive Democrat. A video of the ensuing scene showed Nevárez, looking extremely wary, asking the demonstrators to leave his office, while one of them yelled back: “I’m asking you to leave my state.” When Nevárez tried to close his door, one of theprotesters stuck his foot in it. This was all happening, remember, in a building where carrying concealed weapons is perfectly fine.

When it was all over, some legislators in both parties wore “I’m Poncho” badges in solidarity with Nevárez, who was assigned a security detail after he and his family received threats.

The leader of Open Carry Tarrant County, Kory Watkins, then posted another video in which he claimed that the resistant lawmakers were forgetting their duty was “to protect the Constitution. And let me remind you: Going against the Constitution is treason. And treason is punishable by death.” （6）Meanwhile, in the Texas Capitol, enthusiasm for watering down the gun laws seems to be dwindling. That could qualify as a happy ending.

Answers for reference:

1. 它不仅获得了奥斯卡最佳影片提名，而且最终票房可能比其他七部提名影片加在一起都高。
2. 这部电影无疑令人震撼，它颂扬了我们的伊拉克老兵，但也赞美了对包括儿童在内的伊拉克叛乱分子的杀戮。评论家认为，它应该提供一个背景：这场入侵本来就是没有必要发生的。
3. 迈克·赫卡比(Mike Huckabee)是《美国狙击手》的铁杆粉丝，最近出了一本书，名叫《上帝、枪支、砂砾和横财》。该书猛烈抨击各种形式的武器管制，在“现代教育”一章的开始，他抱怨了公立学校的反枪立场。
4. 近年来，他的同僚们不但拒绝通过一个极其不起眼的背景调查法案，连禁止向恐怖主义监控名单中的人出售枪支都做不到。
5. 美国的枪支游说事业在推动其目标时不遗余力，简直已经到了悬崖边缘。在德克萨斯，也就是被控谋杀克里斯·凯尔的嫌疑人下周上庭的地方，一直都有一种奉枪文化，对枪的态度友好到前往州议会的人可以隐蔽携带手枪。
6. 与此同时，在德州议会，放宽枪支法律限制的呼声似乎在渐渐平息。这可以算作美满结局了。