

Listening Comprehension

Part

Section A

News Report One

A message in a bottle sent out to sea by a New Hampshire man more than five decades ago was found 1500 miles away and has been returned to his daughter.

The long lost message was discovered by Clint Buffington of Utah while he was vacationing.

Buffington says he found a soda bottle half- buried in the sand that looked like it had been there since the beginning of time.

The note inside the bottle said, "Return to 419 Ocean Street and receive a reward of \$150 from Richard and Tina Pierce, owners of the Beachcomber Motel."

The motel was owned by the parents of Paula Pierce in 1960. Her father had written the note as a joke and had thrown it into the Atlantic Ocean.

Buffington flew to New Hampshire to deliver the message to Paula Pierce. She held up to her father's promise giving Buffington that reward. But the biggest reward is the message in a bottle finding its way back home.

50 多年前新罕布什尔州的一位男子把一张便条放进瓶子里并扔进大海，现在这个便条在 1500 英里以外的地方被发现了，并被送回到那位男子的女儿手里。

这条消失很久的消息是犹他州的克林特·巴芬顿在度假的时候发现的。

巴芬顿说，他发现一个苏打水瓶半掩埋在沙子里，看起来就像是一开始就属于那里一样。

瓶子里的便条上写着：“请送到海洋大街号，那里的巨浪汽车旅馆的老板理查德·皮尔斯和缇娜·皮尔斯会给您 150 美元作为酬谢。”

这家汽车旅馆是由宝拉·皮尔斯的父母于 1960 年开的。她的父亲当时开玩笑写了一张便条，并扔进了大西洋。

巴芬顿坐飞机到新罕布什尔州，把这条信息传递给宝拉·皮尔斯。她遵守了父亲的承诺，赠予巴芬顿 150 美元的酬金。但最大的报酬是瓶子里的信息终于回到家了。

1. What is the news report mainly about?

本篇新闻主要报道了什么？

2. Why did Paula Pierce give Clint Buffington the reward?

宝拉·皮尔斯为什么赠与克林特·巴芬顿酬金？

News Report Two

Millions of bees have died in South Carolina during aerial insect-spraying operations that were carried out to combat the Zika virus.

The insect-spraying over the weekend left more than 2 million bees dead on the spot in Dorchester County, South Carolina, where four travel-related cases of Zika disease have been confirmed in the area.

Most of the deaths came from Flower Town Bee Farm, a company in Somerville that sells bees and honey products. Juanita Stanley who owns the company said the farm looks like it's been destroyed. The farm lost about 2.5 million bees.

Dorchester County officials apologized for the accidental mass killing of bees. Dorchester County is aware that some beekeepers in the area that was sprayed on Sunday lost their bee colonies. County manager Jason Ward said in a statement, "I'm not pleased that so many were killed."

在南卡罗来纳州，为对抗寨卡病毒而实施的空中喷洒杀虫剂作业导致了上百万只蜜蜂死亡。

周末喷洒的杀虫剂让南卡罗来纳州多切斯特县的两百多万只蜜蜂当场死亡；在多切斯特县，四起因旅行感染寨卡病毒的案例被确诊。

大多数死亡的蜜蜂主要来自鲜花镇蜜蜂养殖场，它是萨默维尔市一家销售蜜蜂和蜂蜜产品的公司。该蜜蜂农场主胡安妮塔·斯坦利表示，农场简直就像被摧毁殆尽的样子。农场损失了约 250 万只蜜蜂。

多切斯特县的官员为此次杀死大量蜜蜂的意外事故表达了歉意。多切斯特县了解到，在周日喷洒杀虫剂的地区，一些养蜂人失去了他们的蜂群。县负责人杰森·沃德在声明中说：“这么多只蜜蜂被杀死，我感到非常遗憾。”

3. Why was spraying operations carried out in Dorchester County?

多切斯特县为什么要实施杀虫剂喷洒作业？

4. What does the news report say about Flower Town Bee Farm?

关于鲜花镇蜜蜂养殖场，新闻说了什么？

News Report Three

The world's largest aircraft has taken to the skies for the first time. The Airlander 10 spent nearly 2 hours in the air, having taken off from Cardington airfield in Bedfordshire. During its flight it reached 3000 feet and performed a series of gentle turns all over a safe area.

The aircraft is massive as long as a football field and as tall as 6 double decker buses and capable of flying for up to 5 days.

It was first developed for the U.S. government as a long range spy aircraft., but was abandoned following budget cutbacks

The aircraft cost 25 million pounds and can carry heavier loads than huge jet planes while also producing less noise and omitting less pollution. The makers believe it's the future of aircraft and one day we'll be using them to go places. But there's still a long way to go.

The Airlander will need to have 200 hours flying time before being allowed to fly by the aviation administration. If it passes,. though, we can hope we'll all get some extra legroom.

世界上最大的飞行器已经完成了第一次试飞。天空登陆者 10 号在贝德福德郡的卡丁顿机场起飞，在空中飞行大约 2 小时。在飞行过程中，它最高飞了 3000 英尺，在安全区域展现了一系列平稳的转弯。

该飞行器很庞大，有一个足球场那么长，有 6 个双层巴士的高度，飞行时间可以持续 5 天。

天空登陆者 10 号最初是为美国政府开发设计的，原本是想利用它作远程监视侦察之用，但是后来因预算削减而被搁置。

该飞行器耗费 2500 万英镑，比大型喷气式飞机的载重量大，同时噪音小，污染少。制造商相信，它是飞行器的未来，总有一天，我们会坐上它去任何地方。但它还有很长的路要走。

天空登陆者 10 号在通过航空局的批准之前，必须飞行 200 个小时。不过，如果它获得批准，我们可以期待未来大家都会有更多的地方可以放脚了。

5. What do we learn about the first flight of the Airlander 10?

天空登陆者 10 号的第一次试飞，我们了解到什么？

6. What caused the U.S. government to abandon the Airlander 10 as a spy aircraft?

是什么导致美国政府放弃把天空登陆者 10 号作监测之用？

7. What is the advantage of the Airlander 10 over huge jet planes?

与大型喷气式飞机相比，天空登陆者 10 号的优势在哪里？

Section B

Conversation One

M: Do you feel like going out tonight?

W: Yeah, why not? We haven't been out for ages. What's on?

M: Well, there's a film about climate change. Does it sound good to you?

W: No, not really. It doesn't really appeal to me. What's it about? Just climate change?

M: I think it's about how climate change affects everyday life. I wonder how they make it entertaining.

W: Well, it sounds really awful. It's an important subject I agree, but I am not in the mood for anything depressing. What else is on?

M: There's a Spanish Dance Festival.

W: Oh, I love dance. That sounds really interesting.

M: Apparently, it's absolutely brilliant. Let's see what it says in the paper. Anna Gomez leads in an exciting production of the great Spanish love story, *Carmen*.

W: OK, then. What time is it on?

M: At 7:30.

W: Well, that's no good. We haven't got enough time to get there. Is there anything else?

M: There's a comedy special on.

W: Where is it on?

M: It's at the City Theater. It's a charity comedy night with lots of different acts. It looks pretty good. The critic in the local paper says it's the funniest thing he's ever seen. It says here Roger Whitehead is an amazing host to a night of fun performances.

W: Em... I am not keen on him. He is not very funny.

M: Are you sure you fancy going out tonight? You are not very enthusiastic.

W: Perhaps you are right. Okay, let's go see the dance. But tomorrow, not tonight.

M: Great, I'll book the tickets online.

男：你今晚想外出吗？

女：好啊，为什么不去呢？我们有一阵子没出去了。打算去做什么呢？

男：嗯，有一部关于气候变化的电影，你感兴趣吗？

女：不，不太感兴趣。它实际上并不吸引我。那部电影是讲什么的？只是气候变化吗？

男：我想它可能是关于气候变化如何影响日常生活的吧。我想知道他们如何能把它拍出娱乐性。

女：听起来真的很糟糕。我认同这是一个重要的主题，但是我没有心情看任何令人压抑的东西。还有其他的吗？

男：还有一场西班牙舞节。

女：哦，我喜欢跳舞。这个听起来很有意思。

男：显然，它一定很精彩。我们来看看报纸上是怎么评价的。它是一部由安娜·麦斯领衔演出的令人兴奋的作品，演绎西班牙伟大的爱情故事《卡门》。

女：好的，几点开始呢

男：七点半。

女：那就不太好了。我们没有足够的时间赶过去了。还有其他的吗？

男：还有一场特别的喜剧节目。

女：在哪里上映呢？

男：在城市剧院。它是一场由许多不同剧幕组成的慈善喜剧之夜。看起来很不错。当地报纸的评论家说这是他看过最有趣的了。据说到时罗杰·怀特海德会惊艳出场，担任整晚搞笑表演的主持人。

女：嗯.....我并不是很喜欢他。他并不是很幽默。

男：你确定今晚想出门吗？你兴致不高啊！

女：也许你是对的。好吧，我们去看舞蹈表演吧。但是是明天，不是今晚。

男：太好了，我会在网上订好票的。

8. What does the woman think of climate change?

女士认为气候变化怎么样？

9. Why do the speakers give up going to the Spanish Dance Festival tonight?

为什么对话双方放弃观看今晚的西班牙舞蹈节？

10. What does the critic say about the comedy performed at the City Theater?

评论家如何评论城市剧院上演的喜剧？

11. What does the woman decide to do tomorrow?

女士决定明天要做什么？

Conversation Two

W: Good morning, Mr. Lee. May I have a minute of your time?

M: Sure, Katherine. What can I do for you?

W: I'm quite anxious about transferring over to your college. I'm afraid I won't fit in.

M: Don't worry, Katherine, it's completely normal for you to be nervous about transferring schools. This happens to many transfer students.

W: Yes, I know, but I'm younger than most of the students in my year. And that worries me a lot.

M: Well, you may be the only younger one in your year, but you know, we have a lot of after-school activities you can join in, and so, this way, you'll be able to meet new friends of different age groups.

W: That's nice. I love games and hobby groups.

M: I'm sure you do. So you'll be just fine. Don't worry so much and try to make the most of what we have on offer here. Also, remember that you can come to me anytime of the day if you need help.

W: Thanks so much. I definitely feel better now. As a matter of fact, I've already contacted one of the girls who would be living in the same house as me, and she

seemed really nice. I guess living on campus, I'll have a chance to have a closer circle of friends, since we'll be living together.

M: All students are very friendly with new arrivals. Let me check who would be living with you in your flat. Okay. There are Hannah, Kelly and Bree. Bree is also a new student here, like you. I'm sure you two will have more to share with each other.

女：早上好，李老师。我能占用您一会儿时间吗？

男：当然可以，凯瑟琳。我能为你做什么呢？

女：我非常担心转学到你们学院。我怕自己不适应。

男：别担心，凯瑟琳，你对转学的事情感到担心是完全正常的，这种情况发生在许多转校生身上。

女：是的，我知道，但是我比同级的大多数学生都小，这令我非常担忧。

男：嗯，你可能是你们年级唯一一个年纪小些的学生，但是你知道我们有许多课外活动可供你参加，通过这种方式，你可以遇到不同年龄段的新朋友。

女：那样太好了，我喜欢游戏以及兴趣小组。

男：我相信你肯定喜欢，所以你会适应的。不用太过担心，试着尽量充分把握我们所提供的活动，而且记住如果你需要帮助，可以随时来找我。

女：太感谢了，我现在确实感觉好多了。事实上，我已经联系了和我住一个房间的其中一个女孩，她看起来非常友善。我猜住校会让我有机会交到一群更亲近的好朋友，因为我们将生活在一起。

男：所有的学生对新来的学生都非常友好。我来查查谁将和你住一间公寓。好的。她们是汉娜、凯莉和布里。布里和你一样，也是新来的学生。我相信你们两个会有更多的话题可以互相分享。

12. Why does Katherine feel anxious?

为什么凯瑟琳感觉焦虑？

13. What does Mr. Lee encourage Katherine to do?

李老师鼓励凯瑟琳做什么？

14. What does Mr. Lee promised to do for Katherine?

李老师承诺为凯瑟琳做什么？

15. What do we learn about Katherine's schoolmate Bree?

我们能知道凯瑟琳的同学布里的什么信息？

Section C

Passage One

Have you ever felt like you would do just about anything to satisfy your hunger? A new study in mice may help to explain why hunger can feel like such a powerful motivating force. In the study, researchers found that hunger outweighed other physical drivers, including fear, thirst and social needs.

To determine which feeling won out, the researchers did a series of experiments. In one experiment, the mice were both hungry and thirsty. When given the choice of either eating food or drinking water, the mice went for the food, the researchers found. However, when the mice were well-fed but thirsty, they opted to drink, according to the study.

In the second experiment meant to pit the mice's hunger against their fear, hungry mice were placed in a cage that had certain "fox-scented" areas and other places that smelled safer (in other words, not like an animal that could eat them) but also had food. It turned out that, when the mice were hungry, they ventured into the unsafe areas for food. But when the mice were well-fed, they stayed in areas of the cage that the mice were well-fed, they stayed in areas of the cage that were considered "safe."

Hunger also outweighed the mice's social needs, the researchers found. Mice are usually social animals and prefer to be in the company of other mice, according to the study. When the mice were hungry, they opted to leave the company of other mice to go get food.

你是否曾经觉得自己为了消除饥饿感可以任何事情?一项在老鼠身上进行的新研究可能有助于解释为什么饥饿感可以是一种如此强大的推动力。在这项研究中研究人员发现饥饿超过了其他的身体驱动力,包括恐惧、口渴和社交需求。

为了确定哪种感觉胜出,研究人员做了一系列实验。在一个实验中,老鼠们又饿又渴。研究人员发现,如果让老鼠在进食和喝水之间选择,它们会选择食物。然而,根据这项研究,当老鼠吃得很饱但又渴的时候,它们会选择喝水。

第二个实验是为了研究老鼠在饥饿和恐惧产生对抗时的反应,饥饿的老鼠被放进一个笼子里,笼子分成“有狐狸气味”的区域和闻起来更安全的区域(换句话说闻起来不像能吃掉它们的动物的气味),但也有食物。结果是,当老鼠饿了的时候,它们会冒险进入不安全的区域寻找食物。但是当老鼠吃得很饱的时候,它们就待在笼子里它们认为“安全”的区域。

研究人员发现,饥饿也超过了老鼠的社交需求。根据这项研究,老鼠通常是群居动物,喜欢和其他老鼠在一起。当老鼠饿的时候,它们选择离开同伴去寻找食物。

16.What is the researchers' purpose in carrying out the series of experiments with mice?

研究人员在老鼠上进行一系列实验的目的是什么?

17. In what circumstances do mice venture into unsafe areas?

在什么情况下，老鼠会冒险进入不安全的区域？

18. What is said about mice at the end of the passage?

这篇文章的结尾讲述了有关老鼠的什么信息？

Passage Two

The United States has one of the best highway systems in the world. Interstate highways connect just about every large and mid-sized city in the country. Did you ever wonder why such a complete system of excellent roads exists?

For an answer, you would have to go back to the early 1920s. In those years, just after World War I, the military wanted to build an American highway system for national defense. Such a system could, if necessary, move troops quickly from one area to another. It could also get people out of cities in danger of being bombed.

So-called roads of national importance were designated, but they were mostly small country roads. In 1944, Congress passed a bill to upgrade the system, but did not fund the plan right away. In the 1950s, the plan began to become a reality. Over \$25 billion was appropriated by Congress, and construction began on about 40,000 miles of new roads. The idea was to connect the new system to existing expressways and freeways. And though the system was built mostly to make car travel easier, defense was not forgotten. For instance, highway overpasses had to be high enough to allow trailers carrying military missiles to pass under them. By 1974, this system was mostly completed. A few additional roads would come later. Quick and easy travel between all parts of the country was now possible.

美国拥有世界上最发达的公路系统之一。州际公路连接全国几乎所有大中城市。你有没有想过为什么存在这样一个完善的道路系统？

为了得到答案，你不得不回到 20 世纪 20 年代初。在第一次世界大战刚结束之后的那些年，军方想要建立一个美国公路系统，用于支持国防。如有必要，这一系统可以迅速将部队从一个地区转移到另一个地区。它也可以将人们从存在被炸风险的城市疏散。

那些所谓的具有全国重要性的道路被确定了下来，但它们大多是狭窄的乡村道路。1944 年，国会通过了一项法案来升级该系统，但没有立即为该计划提供资金。在 20 世纪 50 年代，该计划开始成为现实。国会拨款 250 多亿美元，新建约 4 万英里长的道路。这个想法是将新系统与现有的高速公路连接起来。虽然该系统的建立主要是为了让汽车出行更便利，但防御措施并没有被遗忘。例如，公路立交桥必须足够高，以允许携带军用导弹的拖车从下面通过。到 1974 年，

这个系统基本完工。将来更多的道路将被修建。现在全国各地之间快速而轻松的旅行已成为可能。

19.What does the speaker say about the American highway system?

关于美国公路系统，讲话者说了什么？

20.What was the original purpose of building a highway system?

建立公路系统的初衷是什么？

21.When was the interstate highway system mostly completed?

州际公路系统是什么时候基本完工的？

Passage Three

Texting while driving was listed as a major cause of road deaths among young Americans back in 2013. A recent study said that 40% of American teens claim to have been in a car when the driver used a cell phone in a way that put people in danger. This sounds like a widespread disease but it's one that technology may now help to cure.

T.J. Evarts, a 20-year-old inventor, has come up with a novel solution that could easily put texting drivers on notice. It's called Smart Wheel, and it's designed to fit over the steering wheel of most standard vehicles to track whether or not the driver has two hands on the wheel at all times. Evarts' invention warns the drivers with the light and the sound when they hold the wheel with one hand only, but as soon as they place the other hand back on the wheel the light turns back to green and the sound stops. It also watches for what's called "close by hands", where both hands are close together near the top of the wheel so the driver can type with both thumbs and drive at the same time.

All the data Smart Wheel collects is also sent to a connected app. So any parents who install Smart Wheel can keep track of the teens' driving habits. If they try to remove or damage the cover, that's reported as well.

在 2013 年，边开车边发短信的行为被列为美国年轻人在交通事故中死亡的主要原因。最近的一项研究指出，40%的美国青少年称自己乘坐他人轿车时，遭遇过驾驶员使用手机的情形，这种行为将他人置于危险之中。这听起来就像是一种广泛传播的疾病，但是有一种科技或许可以帮忙解决这个问题。

T.J.埃瓦茨是一名 20 岁的发明家，他已经提出一个新奇的解决方案，可以非常容易地向发短信的司机发出警告。这种装置叫做智能方向盘，它适配大多数标准车辆的方向盘，用来追踪司机的双手是否一直放在方向盘上。埃瓦茨的发明以发光和发声的方式向只用一只手握方向盘的司机发出警告，但是当司机把另

外一只手放回到方向盘上的时候，灯就变回绿色并且停止发声。这种装置也监控那种叫“双手靠近”的行为，即将双手靠近并且放在方向盘的最高处，这样司机就可以一边开车，一边用双手拇指编辑短信。

智能方向盘收集的所有数据也会被发送到与之相关联的手机应用程序中。所以，安装了智能方向盘的家长可以追踪孩子的驾驶习惯。如果他们试图移开或者毁坏这个智能装置的表面，该装置也会进行报告。

22.What is a major cause of road deaths among young Americans?

造成美国年轻人在交通事故中死亡的一个主要原因是什么？

23.What is Smart Wheel?

智能方向盘是什么？

24.What happens if the driver has one hand on the wheel?

如果司机一只手放在方向盘上会发生什么？

25.How do parents keep track of their teens' driving?

父母如何追踪他们孩子的驾驶习惯？