**B3U1 Text A Language Focus**

1. **insight:** *n*. the ability to gain an accurate and deep understanding of people or things; a sudden clear understanding of sth. 洞察力，眼光；顿悟

*e.g*. This Baidu researcher offered some new *insight* into the company’s self-driving car program at the academic conference today.

这位百度公司的研究人员在今天的学术会议上透露了该公司无人驾驶汽车计划的一些新情况。

Data collected by scientists led to the *insight* that part of the South Pacific Ocean floor has been pushed downward.

科学家们收集到的数据让人们了解到南太平洋的部分海床受压下沉了。

1. **vanity:** *n*. excessive pride in one’s own appearance, abilities or achievements 虚荣，自负

*e.g*. Many people diet for reasons of *vanity* even when the weight loss is bad for their health.

许多人出于虚荣而节食，即使减肥有损健康也在所不惜。

*Vanity* is so secure in the heart of man that everyone wants to be admired: even I who write this, and you who read it.

虚荣心根深蒂固，以至于人人都希望得到敬仰和赞美：写下此句的作者如此，浏览此句的读者也是如此。

1. **for sb.’s (own) part:** used for emphasizing who you are referring to in a statement about sth. 就…而言

*e.g*. *For my part* I prefer living in the country.

就我而言，我更愿乐享乡间生活。

Some young students, *for their part*, stay up late playing computer games.

就某些青年学生而言，他们之所以晚睡，是因为玩电脑游戏。

1. **reflection:** *n*. an idea or opinion based on careful thought（经过仔细考虑形成的）想法，见解

*e.g*. I enjoy reading your *reflections* on the joy of teaching as a volunteer in a rural school.

我很喜欢读你写的去乡村学校志愿支教的体会。

The class blog enables students to share their *reflections* without worrying about being exposed to the public.

班级博客让学生们在分享见解的同时无需担心自己的想法被公众获知。

1. **occur to (sb.):** (of an idea) come to (sb.’s) mind suddenly（主意或想法）突然浮现于脑海中

*e.g*. It *occurs to* me that we have never travelled as a group.

我突然想到我们从来没有集体旅行过。

They had had quite a few drinks when the idea *occurred to* them that they could get married in Las Vegas.

喝了好几杯酒之后，他们突然想到可以到拉斯维加斯结婚。

1. **be (all) of a piece (with sth.):** be the same (as sth.) in all parts; be (entirely) consistent (with sth.) 浑然一体；（与）…完全一致

*e.g*. The style of the book *is all of a piece*, in both illustrations and text.

这本书的风格从插图到文字都浑然一体。

The testimony *was all of a piece with* the professor’s version of the event.

这份证词同教授对该事件的说法完全一致。

1. **slender:** *a*. thin in an attractive or graceful way 纤细的；修长的；苗条的

*e.g*. Jenny has a tall *slender* figure.

詹妮身材高挑修长。

Victoria ran a *slender* finger across the phone screen, and an image popped up.

维多利亚纤长的手指划过手机屏幕，一个图像跃然屏上。

1. **wrinkle:** *vt*. form small folds or lines in the surface 使起皱纹

*e.g*. The woman was forty, but looked fifty. Her cheeks were sunken and her skin was *wrinkled* and yellow.

这位女士实际年龄40岁，但看上去有50岁。她的两颊瘪塌，皮肤起皱，肤色发黄。

He *wrinkled* his brows, lost in thought.

他皱起眉头，陷入沉思。

1. **in accordance with:** in agreement or conformity with 与…一致；按照，依据

*e.g*. Students will be criticized or punished if their behavior is not *in accordance with* school regulations.

如果学生们的行为不符合校规，将受到批评或惩罚。

Some young people are self-centered, which is not *in accordance with* traditional Chinese values.

有些年轻人以自我为中心，这不符合中国传统价值观。

1. **elderly:** *a*. (a polite way to indicate sb. is) old 上年纪的

*e.g*. Do you think it is a good idea to gift my *elderly* parents with an African safari?

你觉得我花钱请我的老父母去非洲游猎是个好主意吗？

Police say three people were arrested for robbing an *elderly* couple.

警方说三人因为抢劫一对老夫妻而被捕。

1. **affectionate:** *a*. showing love or tender feelings; loving 充满爱的；亲切的

*e.g*. Katie is a loyal and *affectionate* friend.

作为朋友，凯蒂既忠心又有爱。

When it was time to say goodbye, Lisa gave her daughter an *affectionate* kiss.

告别时刻到来，丽莎给女儿一个深情的吻。

1. **mild:** *a*. gentle or kind; not severe or harsh 温和的，文雅的；不严厉的

*e.g*. Peter is a *mild* man, never getting angry easily.

彼得性情温和，不轻易动怒。

She can’t accept even *mild* criticism of her work.

她甚至不能接受对她工作的一星半点批评。

1. **benign:** *a*. showing kindness and gentleness; harmless 和善的；无害的，良性的

*e.g*. I picked out Ben right away. He was a large bald man with a *benign* face.

我很快就认出本来。他是个大块头，已经谢顶，面貌和善。

He was relieved when the doctor told him the tumor was *benign*.

医生告诉他肿瘤是良性的，他松了一口气。

1. **spicy:** *a*. exciting, esp. because of being slightly indecent; containing or tasting like spice 有刺激性的，有点下流的；（食品）辛辣的

*e.g*. You can often read *spicy* stories about film stars in the local newspapers.

地方小报上经常能读到有关影星的劲爆新闻。

People from all over China now seem to like *spicy* food.

如今似乎所有中国人都爱吃辣。

1. **something of a(n):** 可以说是一个…；相当突出的一个

*e.g*. Mrs. Hunt was *something of a* beauty in her days.

亨特太太年轻时是相当漂亮的。

It is *something of a* mystery why the trade union should continue to support this policy.

工会为什么仍然支持这项政策，这真叫人有点难以捉摸。

1. **instinct:** *n*. the natural tendency that a person or animal has to behave or react in a particular way 本能，直觉

*e.g*. It is the mother’s *instinct* to protect her children.

母亲有保护孩子的本能。

I knew by *instinct* that he had come to deliver bad news.

直觉告诉我他带来了坏消息。

1. **sip:** *v*. drink (sth.), taking a very small amount each time 小口地喝，抿

*e.g*. Jessica *sipped* her coffee, listening to music.

杰西卡一边小口喝咖啡一边听音乐。

He *sipped* at his glass and then put it down.

他拿着杯子喝了一口，然后放下。

1. **stroke:** *vt*. pass the hand gently over (a surface), usu. several times 轻抚，抚摩，捋

*e.g*. At the sight of her husband getting off the train, the woman walked forward, embraced him, and *stroked* his grey hair.

看见自己的丈夫下了火车，这位妇女走上前去，拥抱他，轻抚他的灰白头发。

I reached out to *stroke* the baby’s cheek.

我伸手抚摸小宝宝的脸颊。

1. **transparent:** *a*. allowing light to pass through so that objects behind can be seen clearly 透明的

*e.g*. *Transparent* plastic is often used for packaging foods, enabling the consumer to see the product inside.

透明塑料经常用于包装食品，这样的话消费者就能看到里面的食品。

Policies should be as *transparent* as possible.

政策应当尽可能透明。

1. **go broke:** have no money; go bankrupt 一文不名，破产

*e.g*. Many multinational companies *went broke* during the financial crisis, not to speak of small businesses.

金融危机中，许多跨国公司破产，更别提小企业了。

He invested all his money in stocks; unfortunately he made one wrong choice after another and finally *went broke*.

他把钱全部投资股票；不幸的是他选的都是烂股，最后一文不名。

1. **hitherto:** *ad*. (*fml*) up to this time; until now 迄今；到目前为止

*e.g*. The Hope Project sent money to students *hitherto* unable to afford tuition.

希望工程把钱捐给迄今还付不起学费的学生。

He has *hitherto* achieved great success in his career.

他的职业之路走到今天，可谓风生水起。

1. **trim:** *vt*. get the better of (sb.), typically by cheating them out of money; cut off irregular or unwanted parts 击败；修剪

*e.g*. They were *trimmed* by 3 goals to 2.

对手三比二打败了他们。

My friend *trimmed* my hair last week.

上周，我朋友帮我修剪了头发。

1. **down and out:** without any means of livelihood 穷困潦倒

*e.g*. When he was *down and out*, none of his friends gave him a helping hand.

他穷困潦倒之时，没有一个朋友帮助他。

Shortly after his company was declared bankrupt, John became *down and out*.

约翰在自己的公司宣布破产后不久就穷困潦倒了。

1. **commit:** *vt*. do sth. illegal or bad 犯（罪），做（坏事）

*e.g*. It took the jury five hours to decide Gerard had *committed* murder.

经过5个小时的讨论，陪审团认定杰拉德犯有杀人罪。

There are unconfirmed reports that Jack tried to *commit* suicide.

有未经证实的报道说杰克曾试图自杀。

1. **be/go/fall (all) to pieces:** lose one’s emotional or mental composure; fall apart 崩溃，垮掉

*e.g*. In this novel, a housewife *was all to pieces* as one disaster struck after another.

在这部小说里，一位家庭主妇在接踵而来的灾难打击之下崩溃了。

She nearly *went to pieces* when she heard that her husband was among those buried in the ruins of the World Trade Center.

听说自己的丈夫是被埋在世贸中心废墟下的人之一，她悲痛得不能自已。

When he heard the bad news, he just *fell to pieces*.

听到这一坏消息时，他一下子就崩溃了。

1. **insane:** *a*. (*infml*) very stupid; absurd; permanently and seriously mentally ill 蠢极的，荒唐的；精神错乱的

*e.g*. You would be *insane* to refuse the invitation to attend the conference.

要是你拒绝受邀参加这个会议，你一定是犯傻。

Fan Jin went *insane* upon learning he had passed the provincial examination.

范进得知自己中举后发疯了。

1. **drive at:** be really trying to say 意指，要说

*e.g*. I have no idea what you’re *driving at*.

我根本不明白你的意思。

The teacher didn’t mention the word “cheating” but I knew what he was *driving at*.

虽然老师没提到“作弊”，但我知道他的言下之意。

1. **on account of:** because of 由于，因为

*e.g*. Mary is absent today *on account of* a car crash on her way to work.

玛丽今天没来，因为她上班路上遭遇了车祸。

We bought this electric car *on account of* environmental concerns.

我们出于环保的考虑买了这辆电动汽车。

1. **be taken aback:** be shocked or surprised 吃一惊

*e.g*. It was her first visit to a city and she *was taken aback* by the volume of traffic.

这是她第一次进城，城里车流之多令她吃惊。

I *was taken aback* when I found my computer gone.

我发现自己的电脑不见了，大吃一惊。

1. **in (good)/poor/etc. condition:** 身体状况好/不好等

*e.g*. He is *in good condition* again after a long holiday.

长假之后，他身体恢复了。

She’s been exercising regularly to get *in condition*.

她一直有规律地进行锻炼，以期恢复健康。

In spite of the surgery the President is still *in bad condition*.

虽然动了手术，但总统的身体还是不好。

1. **turn up:** arrive; make one’s appearance 来到；出现

*e.g*. He didn’t *turn up* until the end of the examination.

考试都快考完了他才来。

Some students always *turn up* late for class.

有的学生上课老是迟到。

1. **constitution:** *n*. the physical makeup of a person 体格，体质

*e.g*. A boxer must have a strong *constitution*.

拳击手的体质一定要强壮。

Having been ill for several years, he has a particularly fragile *constitution*.

生了几年病之后，他的体质特别弱。

1. **a trifle:** a little bit 稍微，有点儿

*e.g*. Newly arrived tourists came out of the airport *a trifle* anxious.

初来乍到的游客们走出机场时有点焦虑。

Haven’t you had *a trifle* too much to drink?

你是不是有点喝多了？

1. **rub:** *vt*. press and move one’s hand(s) or an object over a surface 摩擦；搓揉

*e.g*. She started *rubbing* some cream onto her face.

她开始往脸上抹面霜。

He looked tired and sat *rubbing* his eyes.

他看起来很累，坐在那里揉眼睛。

1. **vacancy:** *n*. unfilled position or post 空缺

*e.g*. The company has a *vacancy* in the accounts department.

该公司会计部门有一个空缺职位。

He didn’t want to fill the short-term *vacancy* in the office.

他不想临时顶替办公室里的空缺职位。