**B3U5 Text A Language Focus**

1. **resistance:** *n*. fighting back; refusal to accept (a new idea or change) 抵抗；反对

*e.*g. The reduction in white blood cell counts lowers a person’s *resistance* to disease.

白血球数量减少，人对疾病的抵抗力就降低。

The no-smoking policy was introduced with little *resistance* from the staff.

采取禁烟政策并未遭到员工的反对。

1. **devastating:** *a*. causing great destruction 毁灭性的

**devastate:** *vt*. lay waste; destroy 毁灭；摧毁

*e.*g. The plague struck the city again with *devastating* effect.

瘟疫再次肆虐该城，造成了毁灭性后果。

If the factory closes, it will be a *devastating* blow to the local community.

如果这家工厂关闭，对当地社区是个毁灭性的打击。

Bad weather has *devastated* the local tourist industry.

恶劣的天气重创当地旅游业。

1. **bleak:** *a.* cold, dull, and unpleasant 寒冷刺骨的；凄凉的

*e.*g. The hills look very *bleak* in wintertime.

冬天里山上尽显凄凉的景象。

The future looks *bleak* for the traditional manufacturing industry.

传统制造业的前景惨淡。

The film paints a *bleak* picture of life in the inner city.

影片把城市中心区的生活描写得十分凄惨。

1. **campaign:** *n.* a series of military operations or planned activities with a particular aim 战役；运动

*e.*g. Grant’s Vicksburg *campaign* secured the entire Mississippi for the Union.

格兰特的维克伯格战役为联邦牢牢控制了整个密西西比。

The sales *campaign* was a total disaster.

促销活动一败涂地。

The anti-corruption *campaign* in China has been successful.

中国的反腐运动很成功。

1. **assemble:** *vt*. bring together; fit together the parts of 集结，召集；装配

*e.*g. The general *assembled* his men for a counter-offensive.

将军集结兵马准备反攻。

The furniture is delivered in pieces and you have to *assemble* it yourself.

家具分成若干部件交货，你得自己组装。

1. **equip:** *vt.* provide with what is necessary for doing sth. 装备，配备

*e.*g. More money was needed to train and *equip* the troops.

需要更多的钱来培训和装备这些部队。

She is well *equipped* to deal with emergencies.

她准备充分，可以应对紧急事件。

1. **decisive:** *a.* strongly affecting how a situation will progress or end; having the ability to decide quickly 决定性的；果断的

*e.*g. The economy often plays a *decisive* role in determining the outcome of a general election.

经济往往是大选结果的决定性因素。

You must be *decisive* and persistent to succeed in this competitive field.

要在这竞争激烈的领域胜出，你必须既果断又执着。

The fingerprint is *decisive* in establishing the criminal’s identity.

在确定罪犯身份时，指纹起决定性的作用。

1. **to one’s surprise:** used for saying that what happens gives the speaker a surprise令人吃惊的是

*e.*g. Much *to our* pleasant *surprise*, our debating team won the first prize.

使我们惊喜的是，我们的辩论队得了头奖。

*To everyone’s/no one’s surprise*, she refused to accept the award.

她拒绝领奖，使大家感到意外/谁也没感到意外。

1. **engage:** *v.* enter into contest or battle (with); (cause to) take part in or get involved in交战；（使）参与

*e.*g. His troops will only *engage* in a ground battle when all the odds are in their favor.

他的部队只有在占尽优势时才参与地面作战。

Don’t *engage* him in conversation. He will talk for hours once he gets the opportunity.

不要跟他交谈，他一有机会就会喋喋不休说上几小时。

1. **pursue:** *vt.* follow in order to catch and attack; follow or carry out 追击；贯彻，执行

*e.*g. The criminal is being *pursued* by police.

警察正在穷追不舍地捉拿罪犯。

The administration decided to help the poor by *pursuing* policies such as job training and a higher minimum wage.

政府决定实行职业培训和提高最低工资的政策，以此扶贫。

1. **gamble:** *n.* a thing one does with a risk of loss and a chance of profit 赌博

**take a gamble:** take a risk 冒险

*e.*g. It was a big *gamble* for her to leave the band and go solo.

她离开乐队单飞可真是风险很大的一搏。

They invested money in the company right at the start and the *gamble* paid off.

他们在公司初创时期就向其投资，这一搏很值。

I don’t know if I can rely on him, but I’m willing to *take a gamble*.

我不知道是否可信赖他，但我愿意冒险一试。

1. **press on/ahead:** continue doing sth. in a determined way（不顾困难）继续进行

*e.*g. We must *press on* with the work if we are to see any result soon.

如果要很快见到成果，我们就必须继续干下去。

We are nearly there, so let’s *press on* while it’s still daylight.

快到了，趁天还没黑继续前进吧。

The company is *pressing ahead* with its plans for a new warehouse.

这家公司正加紧推动设置新仓库的计划。

1. **flee:** *v.* run away (from) 逃

*e.*g. Thousands of panic-stricken people *fled* the city during the first week after the outbreak of the pandemic.

在疫情爆发后的第一周内，数千人在极度恐慌中逃离了这座城市。

The fire-fighter was accused of trying to *flee* the scene of the accident.

这名消防队员被指控试图逃离事故现场。

She had to *flee* for her life when the Japanese soldiers attacked the village.

日本兵袭击村庄时，她只得逃命去了。

1. **bide one’s time:** wait patiently for a chance 等待时机

*e.*g. Some of my friends think that the willingness to hide one’s capacities and *bide one’s time* is part of Chinese wisdom.

我的朋友中有人认为愿意韬光养晦是中国智慧的一部分。

Accept your limitations with good grace and *bide your time*. You need to gather experience before you start on your own.

坦然接受你自身的局限，等待时机。你需要积累经验后才能独立创业。

He’s been *biding his time* for years on the sideline, ready to step in when the time is ripe.

数年来他一直在一旁观望，等待时机成熟再插手干预。

1. **minus:** *prep*. below zero; made less by 零下；减

*e.*g. The new material can operate in temperatures from *minus* 253°C to 800°C.

这种新材料可以在摄氏零下253度到摄氏800度区间工作。

He came back from the dentist’s *minus* a couple of front teeth.

他去看牙医了，回来时少了两颗门牙。

Seven *minus* three is four.

七减三得四。

1. **at the cost of:** with the loss of 以…为代价

*e.*g. He rescued the boy from drowning *at the cost of* his own life.

他为救溺水的男孩付出了自己的生命。

A lower inflation rate could be achieved *at the cost of* an increase in unemployment.

通胀率可以降低，代价是失业率会上升。

1. **limp:** *vi.* walk with difficulty, esp. when one foot or leg is hurt 一瘸一拐地走

*e.*g. Jim was injured and *limped* off the field in the middle of the game.

吉姆受了伤，比赛中途就拐着腿离场。

After the collision both vessels managed to *limp* into harbor.

碰撞后两艘船颠簸着驶进了港湾。

1. **alliance:** *n.* an association to further the common interests of its members 联盟，同盟

*e.*g. The United States forged an *alliance* with France during the revolutionary war.

美国独立战争时期与法国结盟。

Relief workers in *alliance* with local charities are trying to help the flood victims.

援救人员和当地慈善组织正试图帮助洪水受灾者。

1. **catch sb. off guard:** take sb. by surprise 趁人不备

*e.*g. The students’ angry response *caught the speaker off guard*.

学生们的愤怒反应使演讲者措手不及。

The lawyer’s apparently innocent question was designed to *catch the witness* *off guard*.

律师看似无意的问题是事先设计好的，为的是出其不意让证人不知所措。

1. **instruct:** *vt.* give orders or directions to (sb.); teach (sb.) 指示，命令；讲授

*e.*g. The captain *instructed* the passengers to remain on board.

船长下令让乘客继续呆在船上。

He *instructed* his lawyer to proceed with the preparation of draft contracts.

他让律师继续起草合同。

Greater effort is needed to *instruct* children in road safety.

需要花更多的力气向孩子们讲授道路安全知识。

1. **render:** *vt*. cause to be, make 使成为

*e.*g. The virus *rendered* the computer useless.

病毒把计算机报废了。

The girls were *rendered* quite speechless by the miracle.

奇迹让这些女孩惊喜得说不出话来。

1. **desperate:** *a.* extremely severe or serious; ready for any wild act and not caring for danger, esp. because of loss of hope 非常严重的；不顾一切的，拼死的

*e.*g. The doctors made one last *desperate* attempt/effort to save the boy’s life.

医生们为了救这男孩做出了拼命的一搏。

*Desperate* for money, she called her sister whom she hadn’t spoken to for years.

因为急于用钱，她给好几年没说过话的姐姐打电话求助。

1. **run out:** become exhausted or used up 用完，耗尽

*e.*g. It looks as though his luck has finally *run out*.

看上去他的好运到此为止了。

People who live on the edge of this desert are in fear that their water may soon *run out*.

住在沙漠边缘的居民担心他们的水源不久会枯竭。

1. **slow down:** (cause to) proceed more slowly（使）慢下来

*e.*g. *Slow down* your car before making a U-turn.

汽车调头前要降速。

*Slow down*. I need a minute to catch my breath.

放慢点，我得喘会儿气。

1. **severe:** *a.* (of sth. bad or undesirable) very great or intense; harsh 严厉的，剧烈的，难熬的

**severity:** *n.* 严峻；严重程度

*e.*g. She is lying in bed with a *severe* headache.

她头疼得厉害，正卧床休息。

The city is faced with a *severe* shortage of affordable housing.

这个城市极缺经济适用房。

At first, everyone underestimated the *severity* of the damage caused by the accident.

最初，人人都低估了事故造成的损害的严重性。

1. **harsh:** *a.* unpleasantly rough or sharp, esp. to the senses 刺激人感官的，令人难以忍受的

*e.*g. Good advice is *harsh* to the ear.

忠言逆耳。

*Harsh* anti-trade union laws were brought in in the early 1980s in that country.

这个国家在20世纪80年代初，推出了严酷的反工会组织的法律。

I think punishment for drug trafficking is never too *harsh*.

我认为，对贩毒的惩罚再严酷也不过分。

1. **bring … to a halt:** cause … to stop abruptly 使…戛然而止

*e.*g. Heavy rains *brought* the enemy’s advance *to a halt*.

大雨使敌人的前进戛然停止。

The strike *has brought* production *to a halt*.

罢工使生产停顿了。

1. **shelter:**

1) *n.* protection from danger or from wind, rain, hot sun, etc. 掩蔽，保护

*e.g.* They are in desperate need for food and *shelter*.

他们急需食品和住处。

The bomb *shelter* has walls that are 3 meters thick.

防空壕有三米厚的墙。

Trees provide *shelter* from the sun.

树木遮挡阳光的照射。

2) *vt*. provide shelter for, protect 掩蔽，保护

*e.*g. The small wood hut *sheltered* him from the cold wind.

这个小木屋为他遮挡寒风。

Some parents are too protective. They want to *shelter* their children from real life forever.

有些父母太呵护孩子了，想永远护着孩子不让他们接触真实生活。

1. **weaken:** *v.* make or become less strong or less powerful（使）变弱；削弱

*e.*g. The dollar has continued to *weaken* against the euro.

美元相对于欧元继续走弱。

These facts *weaken* your argument.

这些事实使你的论据苍白无力。

1. **turn the tide:** change a situation, esp. so that you begin to win instead of losing 扭转局势

e.g. It looked as if our team were going to lose, but near the end of the game, our star player *turned the tide*.

看来我们队像是要输了，但就在比赛快要结束时，我们的明星球员使我们转败为胜。

At first, people were opposed to our plan. After a lot of discussion, we were able to *turn the tide*.

起初人们反对我们的计划，经过反复讨论，我们扭转了局势。

1. **in part:** to some extent, but not completely 部分地

*e.*g. Your health is determined *in part* by what you eat.

你的健康部分取决于你的饮食。

The toy gun is selling very well, *in part* because the packaging is so attractive.

玩具枪卖得很好，部分原因是包装很吸引人。

1. **reckon with:** deal with, take into consideration 应对，考虑

*e.*g. Now that this candidate has the support of quite a few local communities, she is definitely someone to be *reckoned with*.

这名候选人获得了不少当地群体的支持，可真的不能小看她了。

We must *reckon with* all possible difficulties when we calculate the cost of the project.

我们计算项目成本时必须考虑到所有可能出现的困难。

1. **underestimate:** *vt*. not realize how large or great sth. is or will be 低估

*e.*g. Never *underestimate* your power to change yourself. Never overestimate your power to change others.

绝不要低估你改变自己的力量，绝不要高估你改变他人的力量。

The first lesson Tom learned as a soldier was never to *underestimate* the enemy.

作为战士，汤姆学到的第一课是绝不低估敌人。

1. **take its toll/take a heavy toll (on):** cause damage, injuries or deaths 造成损失（伤亡等）

*e.*g. Last night’s rainstorm *took a heavy toll on* the crops in our village.

昨夜的暴风雨使村里的庄稼大受折损。

Years of smoking have *taken its toll on* his health.

抽烟多年伤害了他的健康。