# step 2 - Lesson 34

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Lesson 34

## 1. part 1. 部分 (这篇内容不翻译, 是关于"手相学"的迷信)

Like most of us, I was pretty skeptical about palmistry, and I still am to some extent, but I have found one or two interesting things which I' d like to mention. There are, in fact, three kinds of hand interpretation which have to be considered. Most people tend to think immediately of chiromancy when they hear about palmistry — the study of the lines on the hand. This suffers from a bad press, really, because of the gypsy fortune-teller associations it has, but I will explain more fully about that later. The second type of hand interpretation is called chirognomy. This is concerned with the shape of the hand, the thickness and form of the palm, length of fingers and thumb, flexibility and so on. Then dermatoglyphics is the name given to the study of the ridges and furrows which make a pattern on our hands. It is this, incidentally, which is the basis for police identification of fingerprints and so on.

像我们大多数人一样,我对手相术非常怀疑,在某种程度上我仍然如此,但我发现了一两件有趣的事情我想提一下。事实上,必须考虑三种手牌解释。大多数人一听到手相术(研究手上的纹路)就会立即想到手相术。事实上,由于它与吉普赛算命师的联系,它受到了不好的报道,但我稍后会对此进行更全面的解释。第二种手部解释称为手相学。这与手的形状、手掌的厚度和形状、手指和拇指的长度、灵活性等有关。皮纹学是对我们手上形成图案的脊线和皱纹进行研究的名称。顺便说一句,这也是警方识别指纹等的基础。

I want to speak briefly today about the first two of these, which is where the bulk of my research was done, and I' Il start by saying something about chirognomy. The hand is divided into four areas which I will briefly describe by using this diagram here on the screen. There is, by the way, a connection with astrology. The signs of the Zodiac are, for instance, divided into four distinct groups of three, linked to the four elements, as are modern hand shapes. Now, looking at the diagram, this area here, which includes the little finger, ring finger, half the middle finger and the area below all three, is the inner active area, and this area, area A, relates to close relationships, your love life and your relationship to your partner. Now the second area, B, is called the outer active area around the base of the index finger and the other half of the middle finger, and that relates to our social attitudes, what we might call our relationships to the outside world. Area C is the inner passive area, which lies below the inner active area, and relates to the subconscious part of the mind, and then last of all is the part relating to our energy and our creative potential, area D, which is the outer passive area ... right here, and the area all around the base of the thumb.

今天我想简单谈谈其中的前两个,这是我的大部分研究完成的地方,我将首先谈谈手相学。手分为四个区域,我将使用屏幕上的图表对其进行简要描述。顺便说一下,这与占星学有联系。例如,黄道带的标志被分为四个不同的组,每组三个,与四个元素相关,就像现代的手形一样。现在,看图,这里的这个区域,包括小指、无名指、中指的一半以及这三个手指下方的区域,是内部活动区域,这个区域,A区域,与亲密关系有关,你的热爱生活以及你与伴侣的关系。现在,第二个区域 B 被称为食指根部和中指另一半周围的外部活动区域,这与我们的社会态度有关,我们可以称之为我们与外部世界的关系。 C区是内在被动区,位于内在主动区下方,与心灵的潜意识部分相关,最后是与我们的能量和创造潜力相关的部分,D区,这是外在的区域。被动区域……就在这里,以及拇指根部周围的区域。

Now I can already hear you asking yourselves why should there be any connection between us — our character, that is — and our hands. Well, the only possible explanation I can give is that there is a large part of the brain concerned with the hand, and there are more nerve endings in the hand than elsewhere in the body, proportional to size, so it just may be — and I stress may be — that the traffic is two-way; that not only does the brain gain information from the hand, but also passes it back again. So, in this way the hand reflects the way the brain operates.

现在我已经能听到你们在问自己,为什么我们——我们的性格——和我们的手之间应该有任何联系。好吧,我能给出的唯一可能的解释是,大脑的很大一部分与手有关,而且手上的神经末梢比身体其他部位的神经末梢更多,与大小成正比,所以它可能是——而且我强调的可能是——交通是双向的;大脑不仅能从手上获取信息,还能将其再次传递回来。因此,通过这种方式,手反映了大脑的运作方式。

Now I' d like to say a word about the fingers, and this is where the connection with astrology can also be seen, in the names given to the individual fingers. These are taken from the names of the old Roman gods, just like the planets' names. The index finger is the finger of Jupiter, and in this can be seen the worldly tendencies of a person — ambition, life energy, prospects for success. The finger of Saturn is the name given to the middle finger, which reveals the presence of saturnine qualities, as the name would suggest — brooding, melancholy, that type of thing. The third finger or ring finger is the one with which we move towards inner concerns, and this is the finger of Apollo or the Sun. And finally, the little finger or finger of Mercury reveals a lot about human relationships. Palmists look, too, at the shape of the fingers and their flexibility and general position in relation to the hand.

现在我想谈谈手指,从各个手指的名称中也可以看出与占星学的联系。这些名字取自古罗马众神的名字,就像行星的名字一样。食指是木星的手指,从中可以看出一个人的世俗倾向——野心、生命能量、成功的前景。土星之指是中指的名字,顾名思义,它揭示了土星特质的存在——沉思、忧郁之类的东西。无名指或无名指是我们走向内心关注的一根手指,这是阿波罗或太阳的手指。最后,水星的小指或手指揭示了很多关于人际关系的信息。手相学家也会观察手指的形状、灵活性以及相对于手的一般位置。

Look now, if you will, at my second diagram where I' ve illustrated five types of fingers and I' Il try to explain the characteristics people with these types of fingers are supposed to have. Now, the square shape illustrated here, where the nails and finger ends are squared off, this type reflects a cautious, thoughtful kind of person. Secondly, the spatulate type of finger, which you can see here, shaped like a spoon, narrow before the tip and then getting wider and flatter, these are the fingers of energetic and active people. Then the pointed type of finger with the tapering end; this belongs to the sensitive and artistic kind of person. Finger number three with the smooth joints indicates a quick-thinking and impulsive kind of character, and then finally the rather crooked type of finger with the knotty joints means a deep-thinking, dignified and methodical nature.

现在,如果您愿意的话,请看我的第二张图表,其中我展示了五种类型的手指,我将尝试解释具有这些类型手指的人应该具有的特征。现在,如图所示的方形形状,指甲和指尖呈方形,这种类型反映出谨慎、深思熟虑的人。其次,你可以看到这里的匙形手指,形状像勺子,尖端前窄,然后变宽变平,这些是精力充沛、活跃的人的手指。然后是末端逐渐变细的尖头型手指;这属于敏感且有艺术气质的人。三号手指,关节光滑,代表思维敏捷、冲动,而弯曲手指,关节多节,则代表思考深沉、端庄、有条理。

Now I' ve got another diagram to show you about chirognomy, and that concerns the little bumps we all have on the palm of our hand, which are said to reveal a whole lot about ourselves. Look first, if you will, at the mount of Venus, which is situated at the base of the thumb. This, you may remember, is the area of the hand relating to energy and creativity. Notice, too, the signs used to indicate these bumps: Venus, for example, as in astrology, is shown by the female sign of a circle and a cross underneath it. In the hand where this mount is very flat and under-developed it implies a person with a detached and self-contained nature. Where it is large it implies a person with lots of vitality, and where normal-sized it implies a person who is healthy, warm-hearted and sincere, with plenty of compassion. Moving across to the other side of the hand opposite the mount of Venus but, like it, just above the wrist, is the mount of the Moon. A normal-sized mount of this kind will supposedly be indicative of a

sensitive, romantic and imaginative type. If flat, the contrary is indicated, that is, an unimaginative, possibly unstable and even bigoted character. Where it is large, then we can interpret that as being a person who is over-imaginative and introspective. Directly above the mount of the Moon is the upper mount of Mars. It would seem that it's best to have a normal-sized one of these, because if this is the case you are meant to be morally courageous. If it's flat, then you're cowardly, and if it's large you're bad-tempered and cruel. We'll contrast this with the lower mount of Mars on the far side of the hand, above the mount of Venus I spoke about first of all. With this mount, if it's normal size you're meant to be physically brave and not a panicky sort of person; you' re violent and argumentative if it' s large. and cowardly if it's flat. The other four mounts are at the base of the fingers, the mount of Jupiter lies below the index finger, and next to that the mount of Saturn. Below the ring finger, here, is the mount of Apollo, and then next to that is the mount of Mercury. In the first of these four, the mount of Jupiter, if your mount is flat then that means you are a selfish, lazy individual, and if it's normal that is supposed to indicate enthusiasm, self-confidence and friendliness, whereas if large it would indicate an overbearing and very ambitious nature. The next one right beside it, Saturn, if normal would mean a serious and studious type of personality, and if flat would seem to indicate dullness, and if large a gloomy, reclusive and withdrawn nature, none of which is very promising. The mount of Apollo, when normal, corresponds to a lucky, sunny and pleasant nature, but if flat would indicate a lack of purpose and a philistine nature. Where this mount is large, an extravagant, hedonistic and pleasureseeking nature would seem to be implied. Finally I' ll come to the mount of Mercury, and where this is of normal size it would seem to indicate a lively, persuasive and hard-working character; where flat a gullible and humourless one, and where large a person with a good sense of humour. I' d like now to ...

现在我有另一张图表向您展示手相学,它涉及我们手掌上的小肿块,据说可以揭示我们自己的很多信息。如果 你愿意的话,首先看看位于拇指根部的金星丘。您可能还记得,这是与能量和创造力相关的手部区域。还要注 意用于指示这些凹凸的标志:例如,在占星学中,金星由圆形的女性符号和其下方的十字表示。如果手上的坐 骑非常平坦且不发达,则意味着此人具有超然和自足的性格。如果它大,则意味着这个人精力充沛;如果它正 常,则意味着这个人身体健康,热心真诚,富有同情心。移动到手的另一侧,与金星山相对,但与它-手腕上方,是月亮山。这种正常尺寸的坐骑据说代表着敏感、浪漫和富有想象力的类型。如果是扁平的,则表 明相反,即缺乏想象力,可能不稳定,甚至偏执的性格。如果它很大,那么我们可以将其解释为一个过度想象 力和内省的人。月球山的正上方是火星的上山。似乎最好有一个正常尺寸的,因为如果是这样的话,你就意味 着在道德上有勇气。如果它是平的,那么你就是懦弱的人,如果它是大的,那么你就是脾气暴躁、残忍的。我 们将把它与手的远端的较低的火星山进行对比,火星山位于我首先提到的金星山的上方。 有了这个坐骑,如果 它是正常尺寸,那么你应该是一个勇敢的人,而不是一个惊慌失措的人;如果事情规模很大,你就会变得暴力 和好争论。如果是平坦的,那就是懦弱的。其他四个丘在手指根部,木星丘位于食指下方,紧邻土星丘。在无 名指下方,这里是阿波罗山,然后旁边是水星山。在这四个中的第一个,木星山,如果你的山是平的,那么意 味着你是一个自私、懒惰的人,如果是正常的,则应该表明热情、自信和友善,反之,如果是大的,则表明你 是一个自私、懒惰的人。表明性格专横旦野心勃勃。旁边的下一个是土星,如果正常,则意味着性格严肃、好 学;如果平,则似乎表明迟钝;如果大,则性格阴沉、隐居、孤僻,这些都不是很有前途的。阿波罗山正常时 代表幸运、阳光和愉快的性格,但如果平坦则表示缺乏目标和庸俗的性格。坐骑大的地方,似乎就隐含着奢 侈、享乐、享乐的本性。最后我会来到水星山,在正常大小的地方,它似乎表明了一个活泼、有说服力和勤奋 的性格;扁平的人是容易上当受骗、缺乏幽默感的人,而大的人则是具有良好幽默感的人。 我现在想……

## 2. part 2. 部分

In the Philippines today, Cardinal 枢机; 枢机主教 Haimi Sung, the influential Archbishop 大主教; 总教主 of Manila, **endorsed** (v.)支持, 赞同 President Corazon Aquino's efforts /to negotiate with *Communist insurgence* 暴动;起义;造反;叛乱 of the New People's Army. Leaders of the Philippine military, however, and members of her own cabinet 内阁 /have criticized (v.) Aquino's attempts at negotiation.

The NPA rebels /had proposed a one-hundred-day cease-fire /to begin (v.) in December.

开始实行一百天停火。

### Example 1. 案例

cardinal

a priest of the highest rank in the Roman Catholic Church. Cardinals elect (v.) and advise (v.) the Pope .枢机; 枢机主教

A group of *civilian 平民的,民用的 negotiators* 谈判代表 and *military advisers* will meet (v.) tomorrow with rebel leaders /to discuss the possible truce 停战协定,休战. Garis Porter, an assistant professor 助理教授 at the American University's School of International Service, says /the rebel proposal **is** a response to President Aquino's earlier offer /for a thirty-day cease-fire.

一群文职谈判代表, 和军事顾问, 将于明天与叛军领导人会面, 讨论可能的停战协议。美利坚大学国际服务学院助理教授, 加里斯·波特表示, 叛军的提议, 是对阿基诺总统早些时候提出的三十天停火提议的回应。

"I think /they' re proposing a hundred-day cease-fire /primarily 主要地,首要地,根本地 because they want to regain (v.) initiative 掌握有利条件的能力(或机会);主动权, because they do have to have the appearance of being open to a cease-fire, in fact, being at least as open to cease-fire as the government is.

The real question, of course, **is** what terms the cease-fire will **be implemented** 使生效;贯彻;执行;实施 on.

And there is where you are going to find a lot of worms 蠕虫 /which 主 neither 两者都不 side, I think, 系 is really quite clear (a.)无疑的;清楚的;明白的 on [exactly] /表 what they' re yet ready to settle for 勉强接受;将就."

他说:"我认为他们提出为期100天的停火,主要是因为他们希望重新获得主动权,因为他们必须表现出对停火持开放态度,实际上,至少要像政府一样对停火持开放态度。当然,真正的问题是按照什么条件实施停火。在那里你会发现很多虫子,我认为双方都不太清楚他们到底准备接受什么。"

#### Example 2. 案例

#### neither

not one nor the other of two things or people 两者都不

- Neither answer is correct. 两个答案都不对。
- Neither of them has/have a car.他们两个都没有汽车。

neither • either 1.After **neither** and **either** you use a singular verb.neither和either<mark>后用单数动词</mark>:

- Neither candidate was selected for the job.申请这个工作的两个候选人都未获选上。
- 2.**Neither of** and **either of** are followed by a plural noun or pronoun and a singular or plural verb. A plural verb is more informal.neither of和either of后接复数名词或代词, 加单数或复数动词,用复数动词较非正式:
- Neither of my parents speaks/speak a foreign language.我的父母都不会说外语。
- 3.When **neither... nor...** or **either... or...** are used with two singular nouns, the verb can be singular or plural. A plural verb is more informal.neither ... nor ... 或either ... or ... 与两个单数名词连用时,谓语动词可用"<mark>单数</mark>"或"复数";用复数动词较非正式。

#### clear

- (a.)~ (about/on sth) | ~ what, how, whether, etc. having or feeling no doubt or confusion 无疑的;清楚的;明白的
- Are you clear (a.) about the arrangements for tomorrow? 你清楚明天的安排吗?
- My memory is not clear (a.) on that point.那一点我记不清了。

#### 'settle for sth

to accept sth that is not exactly what you want but is the best that is available 勉强接受;将就
• In the end /they had to **settle for a draw**. 最后,他们只好接受平局的结果。

• I couldn't afford the house I really wanted, so I had to **settle for** second best .我真心想要的房子我买不起,所以只得退而求其次了。

"They suggested five talking points 谈话要点;讨论要点. And some of those talking points /I would think could meet (v.) with some *pretty 相当,颇;非常,很 stiff 困难的;艰难的;严厉的;* 激烈的 opposition (强烈的)反对,反抗 /from the Philippine military."

"他们提出了五个谈话要点。我认为其中的一些谈话要点,可能会遭到菲律宾军方的强烈反对。"

"Well, there' s no question that /the military is going to oppose (v.), at least a couple of them very strongly."

"嗯,毫无疑问,军方会反对,至少有一些会非常强烈地反对。"

"Such as which one?"

"比如哪一个?"

"The first one, 主 the most important one, I think [for both sides at this point] 系 is /the disposition 排列;布置;安排 of the Philippine military, the New Armed Forces 武装力量 of the Philippines, NAFP, during a cease-fire.

The Communists 共产党员 have, from the beginning, made it clear that /they would insist on the pull back of NAFP units from areas /which they claim (v.) to control.

And the military, on the other hand, has also made equally clear that /they reject (v.)拒绝, 否决 any terms 条款 /which would not allow them to claim (v.) clear control of all of the countryside 乡村,农村.

"第一个,也是最重要的一个,我认为目前对双方来说,是菲律宾军队、菲律宾新武装部队(NAFP)在停火期间的部署。共产党从一开始就明确表示,他们将坚持要求国家武装部队,从他们声称控制的地区撤出。另一方面,军方也同样明确表示,他们拒绝接受任何"不允许他们明确控制所有农村地区"的条件。

"Is *President Corazon Aquino* **being** naive, **as** some of her military officials **suggest**, and thinking that /she can **negotiate** some kind of cease-fire agreement **with** the Communists /that will not ultimately 最终,最后;根本上 work (v.) to their advantage?"

"科拉松·阿基诺总统, 是否像她的一些军事官员所暗示的那样天真, 认为她可以与共产党谈判, 达成某种最终不会对他们有利的停火协议?"

"I don't think /'naive' is the term /to describe (v.)描述,形容 Aquino's policy /towards the insurgency 叛乱;暴动.

There are two points here.

One is that /she understands (v.) that /主 the intentions 目的,意向,意图;打算 of the Communist side /系 are [at best 充其量,至多] unclear (a.)/in terms of 就.....而言;从.....角度来看 the cease-fire.

She understands (v.) /they have their own interests /and cease-fire will **fit into** those interests /in a way 后定 that **may** or **may not** be an interest (n.) to the government.

The other point, however, I think /this is more important to her /and perhaps objectively 客观 地 more important /in looking at the situation.

She understands that /主 the military on her side /系 is simply not capable (a.)of controlling the NPA /through *military means* 军事手段.

And by threatening (v.) to unleash (v.)发泄;突然释放;使爆发 the military /she may actually be making a threat /which does not have much credibility 可靠性,可信度.

But I think /she would almost do anything possible /**to put off** 推迟 **having to** go to *primarily* 主要地;根本地 military strategy 军事战略 for dealing with the insurgency 叛乱;暴动;叛乱状态.

### So in a sense 在某种意义上 /she is playing for time 拖延时间, 为争取时间而拖延."

"我不认为用'天真'这个词来形容阿基诺对待叛乱的政策,是恰当的。这里有两点。其一,她明白,就停火而言,共产党方面的意图充其量是不明确的。她明白,他们有自己的利益,停火将在某种程度上符合这些利益,这可能符合政府的利益,也可能不符合政府的利益。然而,另一点,我认为这对她来说更重要,也许在客观地看待这种情况时更重要。她明白,她这一方的军队,根本没有能力通过军事手段,来控制新人民军。通过提出威胁动用军队,她可能实际上是在制造一个不太可信的威胁。但是我认为,她几乎会尽一切可能来推迟使用主要的军事策略,来对付叛乱。所以从某种意义上说,她是在拖延时间。"

"If they **manage to agree on** a cease-fire, then what **happens** /after that? What happens /when *the hundred days* is up?"

"如果他们设法达成停火协议,那么之后会发生什么?百日结束后会发生什么?"

"Nobody wants to **be** the first one /to break the cease-fire /once it' **s put into effect**. So I think /主 the agreement to a hundred-day cease-fire is, ... 谓 has much longer term 期;期限;任期 and much broader implication 可能的影响(或作用、结果), if [in fact] they could **come to** that agreement, which [at this point] I think it is still very much **up in the air** 悬而未决的事情."

"一旦停火协议生效,没有人愿意成为第一个打破停火协议的人。因此,我认为百日停火协议……具有更长期和更广泛的影响,如果事实上他们能否达成协议,目前我认为这仍然是一个悬而未决的事情。"

"If it fails (v.)失败;未能做到, if it fails, does that mean /an escalation 迅速增加,上涨;升级,恶化 in the military complex 相关联的一组事物?"

"如果失败了,如果失败了,是否意味着军事相关事情的升级?"

## Example 3. 案例

complex

1.a group of things /that are connected 相关联的一组事物

- This is just one of a whole complex of issues. 这仅仅是所有相关的问题之一。
- 2.( especially in compounds尤用于构成复合词 ) a mental state /that is not normal 不正常的精神状态;情结
- to suffer (v.) from a guilt complex 蒙受负罪感之苦

3.if sb has a **complex** about sth, they are worried about it in way that is not normal (对某事)不正常的忧虑

"Well, I think /the pressures on Aquino 阿基诺(人名) for ① letting the military go back its preferred 更合意的,更好的 strategy, ② attempting to go on the offensive (军事)进攻,攻势, to carry out 执行,实施 major military operations, particularly in Central Luzon 中吕宋(菲律宾地名) and in the Southern Tagalog 南他加禄(菲律宾地名), that is south of Manila, is very strong.

And that she will probably **make concession (n.)让步,妥协 to** the military /which will allow it /to resume (v.)重新开始; (中断后)继续 the offenses 进攻 **to**, at least, **try (v.) that out** 试用(某人);测试;试验."

"嗯,我认为,阿基诺让军队回到其首选战略,试图继续进攻,开展重大军事行动,特别是在吕宋岛中部,和马尼拉以南的南他加禄语地区,所面临的压力是非常强烈。而且她可能会向军方做出让步,允许军方恢复进攻,至少尝试一下。"

#### Example 4. 案例

try sb/sth out (on sb)

to test or use sb/sth in order to see how good or effective they are 试用(某人);测试;试验
• They'**re trying out** a new presenter for the show.他们正在为这个节目试用一名新的主持人。

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## 3. Technology and the Future (I)

### 三、科技与未来(一)

The title of my talk /is 'Technology and the Future', and it's only fair 公平的;合理的 /to start with a couple of warnings.

I have never been interested in the near future — only the more distant 遥远的, 久远的 one. So if you take my predictions 预测, 预言 too seriously, you'll **go broke** 破产; but if your children don't take them seriously enough, they'll go broke.

I' Il **deal first with** transportation 运输业 and communication 通信;交通联系, because they are inextricably 不可分开地,密不可分地 linked together /and do more [**than** anything else] /to shape (v.)society.

For near-earth applications 应用程序;应用软件, both communication and transportation may now **be approaching** (v.)接近 their *practical limits* 实际极限 /and may reach (v.) them /by *the turn of the century* 世纪之交.

我演讲的标题是"技术与未来",从一些警告开始是公平的。我对不久的将来从来不感兴趣——只对更遥远的未来感兴趣。所以,如果你太认真地对待我的预测,你就会破产;但如果你的孩子没有足够认真地对待它们,他们就会破产。

我将首先讨论交通和通讯,因为它们密不可分地联系在一起,并且对塑造社会的作用比其他任何东西都重要。 对于近地应用,通信和运输现在可能已接近其实际极限,并可能在世纪之交达到其实际极限。

For *terrestrial 陆地上的,地面上的(与卫星相对而言) transportation*, I don't see any real need /for much advance /beyond the currently planned *supersonic 超音速的 transports* 运输工具, operating [at almost two thousand miles /per hour].

对于陆地运输,我认为除了当前计划的超音速运输(每小时运行速度近 2000 英里)之外,没有任何实际需要。

True, one could build (v.) pure rocket vehicles 车辆;交通工具 /to go **from pole to pole** in about one hour, but I don't think /the public will enjoy (v.) fifteen minutes of high acceleration 加速,加快 /and fifteen minutes of high deceleration 减速, separated (v.) (使)分开,分离;隔开 by half an hour of complete weightlessness 失重;无重状态.

的确,人们可以建造纯火箭,在大约一个小时内,从一个极点飞到另一个极点,但我不认为公众会享受15分钟的 高加速,和15分钟的高减速,中间有半小时的完全失重。

Rather more practical (a.)切实可行的, and of much more immediate 目前的;当前的;迫切的 importance, will **be** ground-effect vehicles, or hovercraft 气垫船. I think /we'll have them /in the thousand-ton and ten-thousand ton class 种类;类别;等级/by the end of the century.

更实际、更重要的是地效飞行器或气垫船。我认为到本世纪末,我们将拥有干吨级和万吨级的潜艇。

Example 5. 案例 ground-effect

"地面效应"(Ground effect)亦称为"翼地效应"(Wing-In-Ground effect, WIG)或"翼面效应"(Wing-In-Surface-Effect, WISE),当运动的飞行器距离地面(或水面)很近时,整个飞行器体的上下压力差增大,升力会陡然增加。

The *political effect* of such vehicles /may **be** enormous, as they can **go over** 通过,穿过 land and sea /and can cross *most reasonable 还算好的;过得去的 obstacles* /**as if** 好像,仿佛 they

aren't there. You could have *the great 'ports*' of the world /at the centre of the continents 大陆, 大洲, if you wanted to.

这种交通工具的政治影响,可能是巨大的,因为它们可以越过陆地和海洋,可以越过大多数合理的障碍,就好像它们不存在一样。如果你愿意,你可以在大陆的中心拥有世界上最大的"港口"。

That *private hovercraft* will ever be popular, I rather doubt (v.). They are *noisy* /and *have poor efficiency* 效率, 效能 and *poor control*. (You can't **put on the brakes** 踩刹车 in a hurry /if you're riding [on *a bubble 泡;气泡 of air*.])

However, they are splendid 极佳的;非常好的 for **opening up** (使某事物)成为可能,可得到,可达到 terrain 地形,地势;领域 /where *conventional vehicles* 传统车辆 cannot travel (v.) — such as *shallow rivers*, swamps 沼泽;湿地, ice fields, *coral 珊瑚 reefs* 礁;礁脉 at *low tide* 潮;潮汐;潮水, and similar types of fascinating 极有吸引力的,迷人的 and now inaccessible wilderness 未开发的地区;荒无人烟的地区;荒野.

我很怀疑私人气垫船会不会流行。它们噪音大,效率低,控制力差。(如果你骑在一个气泡上,你就不能匆忙刹车。)然而,它们在开辟传统车辆无法行驶的地形方面表现出色——比如浅水河流、沼泽、冰原、退潮时的珊瑚礁,以及类似的迷人的、现在无法进入的荒野。

#### Example 6. 案例 low tide

(also low water) [UC] the time when the sea is at its lowest level; the sea at this time (大海的) 低潮时期,低潮

I hope to see the automatic 自动的 car /before I die.

Personally, I refuse to drive (v.) a car — I won't have anything to do /with any kind of transport 运输,运送;交通工具 /in which I can't read.

I can see a time /when it's illegal 非法的,违法的 for a *human being* /to drive a car /on a main highway(尤指城镇间的)公路,干道,交通要道.

我希望在死前能看到自动驾驶汽车。就我个人而言,我拒绝开车——我不会与任何我不能阅读的交通工具打交道。我可以想象有一段时间,人类在主要公路上开车是违法的。

More seriously, we'll certainly have to **get rid of** *the petrol engine*, and everybody **is now waking up** to *the urgent necessity* of this. **Apart from** the facts of air pollution, we have much **more** important uses (n.) for petroleum 石油,原油/than burning it.

更严重的是,我们肯定必须摆脱汽油发动机,现在每个人都意识到了这一点的迫切必要性。除了空气污染这一事实之外,石油还有比燃烧更重要的用途。

**To make** *non-petrol cars* and other vehicles **practical** (a.), we need some new power source. *Fuel cells* 燃料电池 are already here, but they are only a marginal improvement. I don't know /how we're going to do it, but we want something /后定 at least a hundred times 百倍 lighter /and **more** compact 小型的; 袖珍的;紧密的; 坚实的 **than** present batteries.

为了使非汽油汽车和其他车辆实用化,我们需要一些新的动力源。燃料电池已经出现,但它们只是一个微小的改进。我不知道我们将如何做到这一点,但我们想要比现有电池至少轻一百倍、更紧凑的东西。