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The Economist

策划：文都考研英语命题研究组

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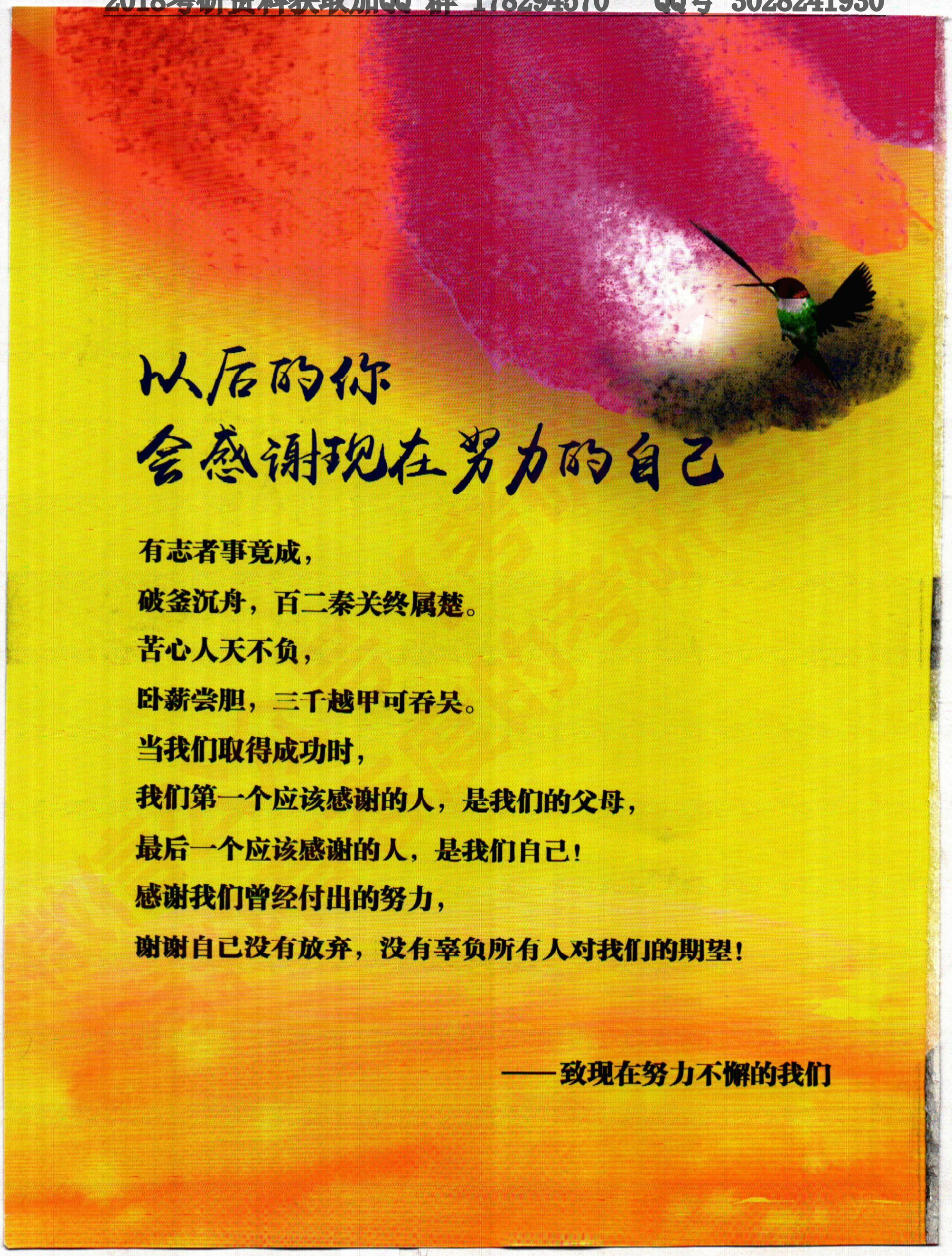

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前言 PREFACE

英文中有一句谚语：The greatest homage we can pay to truth is to use it.（加以使用就是对事实最大的尊重），试着同义替换这句话：The greatest homage we can pay to our knowledge is to use it.（运用所学的知识是对知识最大的尊重）。作为一名考研老师，我所接触到的中国考研群体可以说是成年人中最努力的人群了，考研的复习时间甚至可能延长到了一年半。很多同学从大三上学期甚至是大二下学期就开始背考研词汇，练习分析考研的句子，但是效果却并不是很理想。其中很大一部分原因就是没去使用自己所学的词汇和句子。词汇和句子一定要放到文章中才能有更强的生命力，考生也才能对词汇和句子有更深刻的理解，甚至相同的单词、句子放到不同的文章中都会产生不同的效果和不同的含义。作为考研学子，我们必须了解考研英语文章所考查的文章类型，如果能在复习考研英语的开始阶段就以这些文章为导向，那么最后的考试结果一定会更好。

基于以上理念，在对过去十多年的考研英文阅读和完形填空文章进行深入分析之后，我们发现其中有一半以上的文章都源自于英国的著名杂志 ***The Economist***（《经济学人》）。这是一本老牌的英文杂志，单从名字看人们会误以为这是一本只和经济有关的杂志，但实际上这本杂志所涵盖的内容非常广泛，包括经济、政治、文化、科技、历史等诸多方面的话题。而且在这本杂志上发表文章的作者都是在各自领域中表现非常出色、很有思想深度，且文字功底相当了得的人物。所以有人开玩笑说要是在伦敦的地铁上手拿一本 ***The Economist***，脸上都会浮现出三个字：有文化。玩笑归玩笑，这本杂志中大多数文章都写得机智、幽默，有力度、严肃又不失诙谐，并且注重如何以最小的篇幅告诉读者最多的信息，确实是当代英语世界中文字和思想的典范。

但是多年以来考生们除了从真题上接触为数不多的文章之外，很少接触这些外刊的文章。以往我们通常鼓励同学们到网上下载文章来阅读。但是，网上文章众多，且不是每篇都适合阅读，同学们遇到问题时也无法自己解决，所以为同学们编写一本时文的书籍就显得非常有必要了。

这本书从选材上贴近考研英语文章的选材，包括文化、经济、商业、历史、教育、科技、人物等主题，并根据考研的要求将文章编写到了 400 到 500 字。每篇文章后面均配上了单词的注释，可以帮助同学们复习由我所编写的《考研英语必考词汇突破全书》中出现的单词，在不同的地方看到相同的单词会产生最好

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的记忆效果，所谓“众里寻他千百度，那人却在灯火阑珊处”。本书对于文章中出现的结构相对复杂的句子也给出了分析，配合我编写的《考研英语长难句解密》一书使用，能更好地把握句子的结构和含义。最后本书还给出了全文的译文，可以帮助同学们打下理想的翻译基础。这本书没有配上题目，目的是为了培养同学们阅读文章的能力。以往通常都是因为要做题才去读文章，不做题就不会读文章了，这不怪大家，这个世界变得越来越快，人们越来越缺乏耐心，overnight的事情是被大家所钟爱的。但考研的学子们应该明白：在这样决定自己命运的考试面前不能急躁，宁静才能致远。

一位我很尊敬的老师曾经告诉我：读书是建造一个完全属于自己心灵世界的过程，可以用书籍逐渐在人的心灵里建造一个完全独立于外界力量的王国，这个王国是被心灵完全拥有的。而当一个人的心灵完全拥有这样一个王国的时候，他完全不需要依靠任何外力来支撑他的生命。同学们，从这本书开始吧，静下心来认真地读文章，找回丢失的阅读能力，构建属于你自己的心灵王国吧！

何凯文

2016 年 9 月

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No. 1

Panel endorses “gene drive” technology that can alter entire species

专家组支持可改变整体物种的“基因驱动”技术

Jun 8th, 2016

The New York Times

阅读难度：☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

文章导读：一直以来，人类都试图利用当代先进的技术来改变生物体的性状，以满足人们的需求。但改变自然的造物在情感伦理和客观实践上都面临着重重困境。备受争议的基因驱动技术正是如此。虽然遭到了众多科学人士的反对，但是美国科学院的一份报告仍对谨慎研究基因驱动技术表示支持。官方的正名将为基因驱动带来更多的资金支持，但其中蕴含的巨大风险也将同时引起更广泛的担忧，带来新的监管难题。

文章结构

1. 基因驱动技术令人既兴奋又恐惧。
2. 这种技术可帮助人类消灭疾病，但也可能破坏生态。
3. 美国国家科学院对发展该技术表示支持。
4. 一名专家认为妥善地研究该技术有益于人类。
5. 新的基因编辑工具带来了突破。
6. 目前我们改造物种的能力仍不理想。
7. 基因驱动可保证特定基因的永续传递。
8. 科学院的报告为基因驱动研究提供了便利。
9. 研究将带来伦理问题和监管难题。

正文

A revolutionary technology known as “gene drive”, which for the first time gives humans the power to alter or perhaps eliminate entire populations of organisms

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in the wild, has stirred both excitement and fear since scientists proposed a means to construct it two years ago.

Scientists dream of deploying gene drive, for example, to wipe out malaria-carrying mosquitoes that cause the deaths of 300,000 African children each year, or invasive rodents that damage island ecosystems. But some experts have warned that the technique could lead to unforeseen harm to the environment. Some scientists have called on the federal government to regulate it, and some environmental watchdogs have called for a moratorium.

On Wednesday, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine, the premier advisory group for the federal government on scientific matters, endorsed continued research on the technology, concluding after nearly a yearlong study that while it poses risks, its possible benefits make it crucial to pursue. The group also set out a path to conducting what it called "carefully controlled field trials", despite what some scientists say is the substantial risk of inadvertent release into the environment.

"The potential to reduce human suffering and ecological damage demands scientific attention," said Elizabeth Heitman, a medical ethicist at Vanderbilt University who helped lead the committee. "Gene drive is a fascinating area of science that has promise if we can study it appropriately."

For centuries, people have tinkered with the genetic makeup of living things whose survival and reproduction are already largely under our control: pets, farm animals, crops and assorted species of laboratory animals. With the advent of new gene-editing tools like one called Crispr, there is even growing debate about modifying human embryos with traits that could be passed on their descendants. But a gene drive involves potentially transforming an entire wild species over a few generations by modifying just a few individuals.

Our ability to do that has so far been stymied because any changes humans might make typically reduce an organism's ability to survive and reproduce in its natural habitat: natural selection eliminates the altered genes.

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专家组支持可改变整体物种的“基因驱动”技术

Gene drives overcome this by ensuring that a particular gene is transmitted to all of an individual's offspring, rather than the usual half, even if that makes them less fit. The phenomenon has long been known to exist in nature, and Crispr provides an effective way to harness it. By encoding the Crispr editing system itself into an organism's DNA, scientists can cause a desired edit to reoccur in each generation, "driving" the trait through the wild population.

The science has attracted intense interest from governments, nonprofit organizations and research institutes eager to explore its possibilities for public health, agriculture and environmental conservation, and the report seems likely to open the door to more funding for such efforts.

At the same time, it is uncertain how the technology will be regulated. The report pointed out the difficulty in predicting what might happen if an organism carrying a gene drive was deliberately or accidentally released, saying it "raises many ethical questions and presents a challenge for existing governance paradigms."

词汇

eliminate	[ɪ'lɪmɪneɪt]	*vt.* 消除;排除
deploy	[dɪ'plɔɪ]	*v.* & *n.* 部署;展开
malaria	[mə'leərɪə]	*n.* [内科]疟疾;瘴气
rodent	['rəʊdnt]	*adj.* 啮齿类的;咬的,嚼的;侵蚀性的 *n.* [脊椎]啮齿动物
unforeseen	[ˌʌnfɔː'siːn]	*adj.* 未预见到的,无法预料的
moratorium	[ˌmɒrə'tɔːrɪəm]	*n.* 暂停,中止;[金融]延期偿付
premier	['premɪə]	*adj.* 第一的;最初的
endorse	[ɪn'dɔːs]	*vt.* 背书;认可;签署;赞同;在背面签名
inadvertent	[ˌɪnəd'vɜːtnt]	*adj.* 疏忽的;不注意的
tinker	['tɪŋkə]	*v.* 修补;粗修
descendant	[dɪ'sendnt]	*adj.* 下降的;祖传的 *n.* 后裔;子孙
stymie	['staɪmi]	*v.* 从中作梗,阻挠;妨碍

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harness	['hɑ:nɪs]	*vt.* 治理;套;驾驭;披上甲胄;利用 *n.* 马具;甲胄
conservation	[ˌkɒnsə'veɪʃn]	*n.* 保存,保持;保护
paradigm	['pærədaɪm]	*n.* 范例;范式

长难句解析

1. A revolutionary technology known as "gene drive," which for the first time gives humans the power to alter or perhaps eliminate entire populations of organisms in the wild, has stirred both excitement and fear since scientists proposed a means to construct it two years ago.

【翻译】两年前科学家建议发展一种名为"基因驱动"的革命性技术,这种技术首次给予了人类改变甚至可能消灭野外整个生物种群的能力。它令人既兴奋又恐惧。

【解析】科学类文章常常出现较多的长句。当然并不是因为搞科学的人不好好说话,而是因为科学类文章需要表达详实的事实内容,同时需要保持各个事实内容的逻辑联系,于是树形的长句就是首选了。本句就是个典型的树形长句。主句是 A technology has stirred both excitement and fear。为了说明是什么样的 technology,又同时有一个过去分词作为独立成分:A revolutionary technology known as "gene drive"和一个 which 引导的定语从句:which for the first time gives humans the power to alter or perhaps eliminate entire populations of organisms in the wild。在最后,为了说明技术出现的时间,又接了一个 since 引导的状语从句:since scientists proposed a means to construct it two years ago。

2. Our ability to do that has so far been stymied because any changes humans might make typically reduce an organism's ability to survive and reproduce in its natural habitat: natural selection eliminates the altered genes.

【翻译】我们改造物种的能力目前受到限制,因为任何人类可能作出的改变通常会降低一个生物体在其自然生存环境中生存和繁殖的能力:自然选择会消灭被更改的基因。

【解析】本句的主句是 Our ability has been stymied。后接 because 引导的原因状语从句,解释为什么能力受到限制;注意状语从句的主语 any changes 后接了一个隐藏了引导词的定语从句:(that) humans might make。再说说这篇文章中有"改变"意思的词:change, alter, modify, edit, tinker with 和 transform。它们

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有微妙的差别，但核心意思都是“改变”。很多时候在写作文时，我们可能需要反复使用一个基本语义概念，特别是强调主题的时候。如果是名词的话，我们常常使用指代的方法来避免过多的重复。如果是动词，地道的表达就是和本文一样，在不同的句子中使用同义或近义词，这样既可以使文风简洁，也可以有效地展现写作水平。

专家组支持可改变整体物种的“基因驱动”技术

全文翻译

两年前科学家建议发展一种名为“基因驱动”的革命性技术，这种技术首次给予了人类改变甚至可能消灭野外整个生物种群的能力。它令人既兴奋又恐惧。

科学家们设想利用基因驱动技术来消灭携带疟疾（每年有30万非洲儿童因此疾病丧生）的蚊子或者破坏岛屿生态系统的入侵啮齿动物。但一些专家警告，这种技术可能对环境造成不可预估的损害。一些科学家呼吁联邦政府对该技术进行监管，一些环保机构呼吁中止该技术的研究。

本周三，美国国家科学院、工程院及医学院——联邦政府在科学事务上的首席顾问团体——结束了近一年的调查，对该技术的继续研究表示了支持：虽然该技术存在风险，但其可能带来的益处令继续研究变得十分重要。该团体还提出了自称为“谨慎控制野外试验”的研究路径，虽然一些科学家指出研究有无意污染环境的重大危险。

领导专家委员会的范德比尔特大学医学伦理专家伊丽莎白·海特曼说：“基因驱动技术减轻人类痛苦及生态破坏的能力值得科学界的注意。如果我们妥善地进行研究，基因驱动技术是一个极具吸引力和美好前景的科学领域。”

数世纪以来，人们一直在修改那些生存和繁殖已经很大程度上受我们控制的生物的基因结构，如宠物、家畜、庄稼和各种实验室动物。随着新的基因编辑工具的出现（如Crispr），现在甚至出现了越来越多的争论，关于是否改变可遗传给后代的人类胚胎性状。但基因驱动技术涉及通过修改少数个体的基因在几代的时间内改造整个野生物种。

我们改造物种的能力目前受到限制，因为任何人类可能作出的改变通常会降低一个生物体在其自然生存环境中生存和繁殖的能力：自然选择会消火被更改的基因。

基因驱动技术可通过确保特定基因被传递至个体的所有后代而不是常见的半数来克服这个限制，虽然这意味着所有后代都更不适应环境。这种现象存在自然环境中且长期为人所知，Crispr提供了利用它的有效途径。将Cripr编辑

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系统写入生物体的DNA，科学家可以使所需的编辑重新出现在每个世代，“驱动”这个性状分布在整个野生种群中。

这类科学引起了渴望使用它来造福公共卫生、农业和环境保护的政府、非营利组织和研究机构的强烈兴趣。这份报告似乎给此类努力提供了便利，使其能得到更多的经费支持。

与此同时，此类技术将受到什么样的监管还未可知。报告认为，如果携带基因驱动的生物体被有意或无意释放，后果将难以预估，“将带来许多伦理问题，并挑战现有的治理模式。”

阅读语法难点精粹1

非谓语作主语

在三种形式的非谓语中，不定式 to do 和动名词 doing 可以直接作主语。

1. 动名词 doing 作主语，一般表示该动作已经成为一种习惯。例如：

Having a sponsor dramatically improves a woman's career prospects.

若拥有一个赞助者，女性的职业前景将会得到明显改善。

Reciting aloud is very helpful.

大声背诵是大有裨益的。

Collecting dictionaries is rewarding.

收集词典回报丰厚。

使用动名词 doing 充当主语时，常常用 it 作形式主语。例如：

It's no use quarrelling.

吵架没有什么意义。

2. 不定式作主语，常常表示还没发生，将要发生的事。例如：

To finish the book in ten weeks is very hard.

10 周之内编写好这本书是很困难的。

To recollect the past may mean aging.

回忆过去也许是变老的表现。

同样，这里也可以使用 it 充当形式主语，以上句子改写后，成为：

It is very hard to finish the book in ten weeks.

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很难在 10 周内完成此书的编写工作。

It may mean aging to recollect the past.

回忆过去也许是变老的表现。

3. 一般而言，过去分词不能单独构成主语成分，除非借助于其他结构。例如：

Being cheated by his son makes him angry.

被儿子欺骗一事，让他很是生气。

Having cheated his father makes him nervous.

欺骗了自己的父亲，他显得很焦虑。

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No. 2

The battle over the future of bitcoin

比特币的前景之争

May 3rd, 2016
The Guardian
阅读难度：☆☆☆

文章导读：电脑和智能手机的流行改变了我们与世界交流的方式，其中支付习惯是变化最大的一个方面。从现金、支票和汇票等传统的实物货币支付到现如今的各种电子钱包支付，货币的电子化使钱币的携带和转账更加便捷。崇尚自由的技术宅们热衷的比特币则更进一步，试图摆脱银行、政府和国界的束缚。虽然技术天才拥趸者甚多，但目前比特币在实体经济中的流通仍受到限制。比特币的明天到底何去何从？

文章结构

1. 比特币是一种非传统电子货币。
2. 比特币的价值波动巨大。
3. 比特币的使用仍不便捷。
4. 一些公司正在努力提高交易效率。
5. 比特币的受欢迎程度间歇性地增长。
6. 一些开发者希望比特币“块”变大。
7. 很多比特币矿工并不准备接受大块生产。
8. 币块的变大将意味着更多的金钱投入。
9. 如果比特币块过大，就可能被少数群体垄断。

正文

Bitcoin is a paperless, bank-less, state-less currency that allows people to pay directly for goods and services. The coins themselves are made by computers solving

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a set of complex math problems, and people who use their computers to make coins and record transactions are called miners.

The value of a bitcoin has fluctuated wildly since 2009 but now hovers between $ 400 and $ 450. To spend it, users buy bitcoin and transact using a third-party app such as Coinbase. Rather than a central authority validating transactions, all transfers are recorded on a public ledger. It can be used to pay for coffee, dinner or software from online stores as well as some real-world shops.

Fans of bitcoin say the system, which tends to be a pet project of encryption wonks, could eventually rival Visa. Yet transactions are already taking longer to clear—sometimes more than 40 minutes, which is a long time if you're in a grocery store waiting for your payment to process. And without agreement on how to resolve the problems, it might soon become hard for anyone to use the service.

Some bitcoin companies are trying to improve the process to handle more consecutive transactions to reduce delays and boost volume. This isn't as simple as flipping a switch. Unlike Visa, bitcoin doesn't have a central clearinghouse to process all transactions. Instead, each purchase and transfer is verified by one of thousands of computers on a volunteer network and bundled into a digital "block". Each block of transactions is then recorded on a central ledger called the block chain.

Bitcoin's mainstream popularity has grown in fits and starts in recent years. For all its technological brilliance, there still isn't an easy way to use it at major stores, and spending a coin can appear to be more trouble than it's worth. For consumers, paying a merchant in person with bitcoin is similar to using PayPal or Venmo. They would need to open an app, pull up the store owner's bitcoin address and then transfer the funds, which can take several minutes to clear.

Key bitcoin developers want the blocks to be larger so more transactions can clear at the same time. Their argument is both financial and philosophical. Sure, they could make more money, but bitcoin could also become more democratic and less a pet currency of techies.

But for the blocks to get bigger, the people who run the computers that make blocks—so-called Bitcoin "miners"—need to switch to a different software designed

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by the advocates of bigger blocks. And a lot of the miners aren't prepared to switch, partly because some key Bitcoin developers have convinced miners that blocks for now should stay small.

If blocks become increasingly larger, miners will need more computing power to produce blocks, which means they'll need more money for more computers. Eventually, they warn, only professional mining operations will be able to produce blocks of transactions.

This all cuts against one of the key premises of bitcoin—that the currency is decentralized and not influenced or controlled by a central bank or corporation like Visa. If bitcoin blocks get too large, it could become a system controlled by a few powerful groups of miners, the small blockers warn.

词汇

fluctuate	['flʌktʃueɪt]	*v.* 波动;涨落;动摇
hover	['hɒvə]	*v.* & *n.* 盘旋,翱翔;徘徊
validate	['vælɪdeɪt]	*vt.* 证实,验证;确认;使生效
ledger	['ledʒə]	*n.* 总账,分户总账;[会计]分类账;账簿;底账
encryption	[ɪn'krɪpʃn]	*n.* 加密;加密术
wonk	[wɒŋk]	*n.* 书呆子;刻苦用功的学生
consecutive	[kən'sekjʊtɪv]	*adj.* 连贯的;连续不断的
boost	[bu:st]	*v.* & *n.* 促进;增加;支援
clearinghouse	['klɪərɪŋˌhaʊs]	*n.* 交易结算所;交易清算所
bundle	['bʌndl]	*v.* & *n.* 束;捆
advocate	['ædvəkeɪt]	*vt.* 提倡,主张,拥护 *n.* 提倡者;支持者;律师
premise	['premɪs]	*v.* 引出,预先提出;作为……的前提 *n.* 前提
decentralize	[di:'sentrə'laɪz]	*v.* 分散集权;疏散;去中央化

长难句解析

1. Yet transactions are already taking longer to clear—sometimes more than 40 minutes, which is a long time if you're in a grocery store waiting for your payment to

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process.

【翻译】然而目前交易的清算时间已经延长:有时超过40分钟,如果你在一家杂货店等待处理付款,那么这时间就过于漫长了。

【解析】本句的主句是Transactions are taking longer to clear。为了强调这个缺点,破折号后接了一个同位语解释具体时间长了多少:sometimes more than 40 minutes。which引导的定语从句则进一步说明了40分钟很长:which is a long time。而40分钟在什么情况下是很漫长的时间呢? if后接的一个状语从句则列举出了具体的情景:if you're in a grocery store waiting for your payment to process。在商店买东西无疑是最常见的支付之一了,在这种时候也要等40分钟,比特币真是太麻烦了。

2. This all cuts against one of the key premises of bitcoin—that the currency is decentralized and not influenced or controlled by a central bank or corporation like Visa.

【翻译】这一切与比特币的关键前提之一相悖——这种货币是去中央化的,不由中央银行或像维萨一样的公司影响或控制。

【解析】本句的主句是This all cuts against one of the key premises of bitcoin。其中this指代上个自然段所提及的比特币块变大带来的一系列后果(对计算能力提出更高的要求、控制权最后掌握到少数团体手中,等等)。这里特别提到this,因为发现大家常常在使用指代时偏爱it,而很少关注this这个多面手;而且很多时候错误地用it来指代本该用this指代的内容。this常用来指代相邻上文的一个句子或语段,相比之下it的指代距离并没有那么长。比如这里如果用了it,就会令读者不明白到底指代的是什么,犯下指代不明的错误。

全文翻译

比特币是一种不通过银行和国家政府发行的电子货币,人们可以用它直接购买商品和服务。比特币是由电脑解决一系列复杂的数学问题生成的。使用电脑"铸造"比特币和记录交易的人被称为"矿工"。

比特币的价值自2009年以来波动巨大,目前价值位于400至450美元区间。用户需要经由第三方应用(如Coinbase)购买比特币并进行交易。比特币并不由一家中央权力机构确认交易,其所有交易都记录在公共总账中。它可用于购买网店和一些实体店的咖啡、餐食或软件。

比特币的支持者认为这个系统(一个加密学学究所钟爱的工程)最终会超越维萨。然而目前交易的清算时间已经延长:有时超过40分钟,如果你在一家杂货店等待处理付款,那么这时间就过于漫长了。而且人们没有就解决这些问

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题达成一致，很快任何人都很难使用该服务。

一些比特币公司正在努力改善交易过程，来同时处理更多的交易，减少延迟和提高流量。但这并不像扳动开关一样容易。与维萨不同，比特币没有中央清算中心来处理所有交易。相反，每笔交易和转账均由志愿者网络中数以千计的计算机的其中一台来验证和捆绑成数字“块”。每个交易块都被记录在名为“块链”的中央总账中。

最近几年比特币的主流受欢迎程度间歇性地增长。虽然比特币技术杰出，但其还不能在大部分店铺中便捷地使用，花一个比特币带来的麻烦超过了它本身的价值。对于消费者来说，向商人支付比特币和使用 PayPal 或 Venmo 类似。他们需要打开应用程序，找到店老板的比特币地址，然后进行转账，而转账可能需要几分钟进行清算。

比特币的主要开发者希望“块”变大一些，以便可以同时清算更多的交易。他们的论证既基于经济也基于哲学。当然，他们可以赚更多的钱，但比特币也能变得更加民主，不再仅仅是技术人员钟爱的货币。

但要使币块变大，运行电脑的人——所谓的比特币“矿工”——需要切换到大块倡导者设计的不同的软件。但很多矿工都没有准备好切换，部分原因是一些关键的比特币开发者使矿工相信目前币块不应变大。

如果币块越来越大，矿工们将需要更多的计算能力来生产币块，这意味着他们将需要更多的钱来购买更多的计算机。最终，他们警告说，只有专业的“采矿”作业才能生产交易块。

这一切与比特币的关键前提之一相悖——这种货币是去中央化的，不由中央银行或像维萨一样的公司影响或控制。坚持比特币小块化的人警告道，如果比特币的块过大，就可能成为少数强势矿工群体控制的系统。

阅读语法难点精粹 2

比较状语从句的相关用法

比较状语从句通常由 than 或 as 引导，与大多数状语从句不同，比较状语从句不修饰动词，而是修饰副词，如 so，less，more 或形容词的比较级，例如 bigger，taller 等。例如：

Over the past quarter-century he has transformed a small, nearly defunct clothing manufacturer into a conglomerate that controls more than 60 luxury brands.

在过去的 25 年里，他（通过吞并若干公司）将一个濒临破产的小型服装厂打造成了一个拥有超过 60 个奢侈品牌的企业集团。

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相关用法：

1. no more than 只不过(嫌少的意思)

I have no more than three books.

我只有3本书。

It's no more than a mile to the barber's.

去理发店只不过一英里的路程。

2. not more than 不如……(前者不如后者)

Tom is not more talktive than Jay.

汤姆不如杰伊健谈。

3. according as 按照,根据

You may accept that or refuse to, according as you decide.

接不接受你自己决定。

A husband will be praised or blamed in the house according as his salary is high or low.

丈夫在家是受表扬还是受责备得看他的薪水是高还是低。

4. in proportion as 与之成比例

Men are happy in proportion as they are healthy.

人的幸福指数与健康程度成正比。

Some people are happy in proportion as they are differentiated.

有些人越是标新立异就越高兴。

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No. 3

The breathless rhetoric (and prosaic economics) of virtual reality

虚拟现实的豪言壮语(和乏味经济学)

Mar 31st, 2016
The New Yorker
阅读难度:☆☆☆☆☆

文章导读:我们这一代人成长在计算机席卷全球的岁月,成熟于智能手机占据每个视野的年头。技术改变一切是我们不灭的信仰。虚拟现实的发展再次燃起了各界对技术的热情。虚拟现实成为了投资者和企业家口中推动经济跳跃性前进的救世主。但经济和社会的复杂性意味着,再逼真的感知和旖旎的风景也解决不了现实生活中必须直面的问题。

文章结构

1. 西南偏南互动式多媒体大会上,虚拟现实备受宠爱。
2. 《连线》的创始主编凯文·凯利指出:虚拟现实是一股不可避免的技术力量。
3. 商界也对虚拟现实持乐观态度。
4. 虚拟现实的好处仍有待证实。
5. 虚拟现实无法解决经济体面临的复杂问题。

正文

Walking through the annual South by Southwest Interactive Festival earlier this month, in Austin, you got the sense that one segment of the ever-optimistic U. S. tech industry was feeling particularly sunny. With Facebook just weeks away from launching the long-awaited consumer version of the Oculus Rift, which came out this

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Monday, virtual reality was clearly the belle of the ball. Budweiser offered V. R. tours of a brewery. McDonald's allowed guests to paint the inside of a virtual Happy Meal box.

In a keynote presentation that packed the convention center's largest ballroom, the Wired co-founder Kevin Kelly singled out virtual reality as one of the inevitable technological forces that will shape our future. "I believed this was going to change everything in five years back in 1989," Kelly said, displaying a photo of himself wearing a V. R. headset from that era. Though his prediction was off by a few decades, he believes once again that V. R. is ascendant—not because it's "a thousand times better but because it is a million times cheaper." An experience that once required expensive hardware and vast processing power can now be delivered by placing a smartphone in a cardboard box (though the Rift will set you back six hundred dollars, and more if you need to upgrade your computer).

The business world appears to share Kelly's optimism. According to the consultancy Digi-Capital, last year investors poured nearly seven hundred million dollars into V. R. companies, more than double the amount that was invested in 2014. Already this year, the figure is more than a billion dollars, and Digi-Capital predicts that the market for V. R. and augmented reality (in which images are projected onto a user's field of view) will grow to a hundred and twenty billion dollars by 2020. Soon, we have heard, V. R. will improve the military, increase real-estate sales, change education, transform journalism, increase fitness, and reinvent fine dining. There have also been claims that it will revitalize the economy generally, for instance by using new collaboration and visualization tools to enhance workplace productivity.

With V. R. and A. R., the potential for gains clearly exists in some areas, such as video games and entertainment. Possibilities also exist in manufacturing; last year, Boeing presented results of a study that it conducted with researchers at Iowa State University, which suggested that instructions presented in augmented reality led workers to assemble plane wings faster than when the steps were presented in 2-D. But it's early yet, and most of the proposed benefits are largely unproven, which hasn't stopped some in the tech industry from making grandiose claims.

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The fleshy truth, it would seem, is that the business world's great challenges are challenging precisely because they're complex in ways that individual technological solutions cannot adequately address. V. R. may provide a boost to the entertainment industry, or, as Zuckerberg hopes, to social-media platforms, but translating these gains into widespread progress will be another matter. The problems that businesses and economies face involve a messy nexus of data, culture, circumstances, and human behavior—problems that, for now at least, must still be wrestled with in actual reality.

词汇

belle of the ball		舞会上最漂亮的妇人,舞会之花
brewery	['bruəri]	*n.* 啤酒厂
keynote	['kɪnəʊt]	*n.* 基调;主旨;主音
ascendant	[ə'sendnt]	*n.* 优势;运星;支配地位 *adj.* 上升的;优越的
revitalize	[ˌri'vaɪtəlaɪz]	*vt.* 使……复活;使……复兴;使……恢复生气
collaboration	[kəˌlæbə'reɪʃn]	*n.* 合作;勾结;通敌
visualization	[ˌvɪʒʊəlaɪ'zeɪʃn]	*n.* 形象化;清楚地呈现
assemble	[ə'sembl]	*v.* 集合,聚集;装配;收集
grandiose	['grændɪəʊs]	*adj.* 宏伟的;堂皇的;浮夸的;宏大的
adequate	['ædɪkwət]	*adj.* 充足的;适当的;胜任的
nexus	['neksəs]	*n.* 关系;连结,连系
wrestle with		全力对付;努力克服

长难句解析

1. An experience that once required expensive hardware and vast processing power can now be delivered by placing a smartphone in a cardboard box (though the Rift will set you back six hundred dollars, and more if you need to upgrade your computer).

【翻译】以前需要昂贵的硬件和强大的处理能力才能有的体验,现在只需要将智能手机放在纸盒中就能打造了(虽然虚拟现实眼镜 Rift 要花你 600 美元,但是如果你需要升级电脑,那就要花更多钱了)。

【解析】本句的主句为 An experience can now be delivered。experience 后接

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that 引导的定语从句解释这种体验过去需要的条件;这个定语从句在语意上表达了与后面 by placing a smartphone in a cardboard box 的对比。在表示对比时,我们更经常使用的是 while 引导的状语从句,如这一句也可写成 V. R. experience can now be delivered by placing a smartphone in a cardboard box while in the past it required expensive hardware and vast processing power. 这里我们看到,语法并不是死的,是有延展性和发展空间的,语法的灵活运用能够塑造不同的文风。

2. Soon, we have heard, V. R. will improve the military, increase real-estate sales, change education, transform journalism, increase fitness, and reinvent fine dining. There have also been claims that it will revitalize the economy generally, for instance by using new collaboration and visualization tools to enhance workplace productivity.

【翻译】据称虚拟现实将提升军工质量、增加房地产销量、改善教育、变革新闻业、增强体能和重塑精致美食。还有一些人声称,虚拟现实将普遍振兴经济,比如通过使用新的协作和可视化工具来提高劳动生产率。

【解析】在英文中,我们常常并不想列出直接的行动者,于是使用被动语态,如 it has been said/claimed/rumored that...。但如果一篇文章中反复出现以 it 开头的被动语态,文章就会显得极其贫乏,如 It has been said that V. R. will improve the military, increase real-estate sales, change education, transform journalism, increase fitness, and reinvent fine dining. It has been also said that it will revitalize the economy generally, for instance by using new collaboration and visualization tools to enhance workplace productivity. 这个时候就可以像本句中那样,使用 we have heard 或 there have been claims 这样的形式。

全文翻译

走在本月初于奥斯汀举办的年度西南偏南互动式多媒体大会上,你有一种感觉,一贯乐观的美国高科技产业的一个部分"自我感觉"尤其好。还有几周脸书就要推出备受期待的虚拟现实眼镜(Oculus Rift)消费者版(开发者版已于周一发布);虚拟现实显然是场上最亮的明星。百威提供酿酒厂之旅的虚拟现实体验。麦当劳允许参观者描绘虚拟的"开心乐园"餐盒的内部。

会议中心最大的宴会厅中的主题演讲,听者满座,《连线》的创始主编凯文·凯利重点指出虚拟现实是将塑造人类未来的一股不可避免的技术力量。"1989 年我就认为它将在五年内改变一切,"凯利说,同时展示了一张自己在那

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个年代头戴虚拟现实头盔的照片。虽然他预测的改变晚了几十年,但他仍相信虚拟现实方兴未艾,不是因为它“好一千倍,而是因为它便宜了一百万倍。”以前需要昂贵的硬件和强大的处理能力才能有的体验,现在只需要将智能手机放在纸盒中就能打造了(虽然虚拟现实眼镜 Rift 要花你 600 美元,但是如果你需要升级电脑,那就要花更多钱了)。

商界似乎也抱有凯利式的乐观情绪。据咨询公司 Digi-Capital 的数据显示,去年投资者对虚拟公司投资近 7 亿美元,是 2014 年的两倍多。今年这个数字已经超过 10 亿美元,同时 Digi-Capital 预测,虚拟现实和增强现实(将图像投射到用户的视野中)市场在 2020 年将增长到 1 200 亿美元。据称虚拟现实将提升军工质量、增加房地产销量、改善教育、变革新闻业、增强体能和重塑精致美食。还有一些人声称,虚拟现实将普遍振兴经济,比如通过使用新的协作和可视化工具来提高劳动生产率。

随着虚拟现实和增强现实的兴起,某些领域明显存在获益的潜力,如视频游戏和娱乐产业。这种可能性也存在于制造业;去年,波音公司公布与爱荷华州立大学共同完成的一项研究,其结果表明,与 2D 展示的步骤相比,在增强现实的指示下工人能更快地组装飞机机翼。但是现在下结论还为时过早,大部分好处大多未经证实,但这并没有阻止一些高科技产业人士立下豪言壮语。

切肤的真相似乎是这样的:商业世界最大的挑战之所以如此,正因为它们非常复杂,单独的技术方案并不足以应对。虚拟现实也许可以促进娱乐行业的发展,或者像扎克伯格希望的那样,提升社交媒体平台,但把这些进展转化成普遍的进步则是另一回事。企业和经济体所面临的问题涉及数据、文化、环境和人类行为组成的杂乱联系——这些问题至少在当下仍然必须在现实生活中全力克服。

阅读语法难点精粹 3

伴随状语

状语从句的动作伴随主句发生,称为伴随状语。它所表达的动作(或者状态)是伴随着主句谓语动词的动作而发生或存在的。可以使用以下几种形式来表示。

1. 分词形式

The cat entered the room, following the mouse.

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猫跟着老鼠进了房间。

The mouse entered the room, followed by the cat.

老鼠进了房间,后面跟着一只猫。

2. with 结构

The old man was drunk, with his face red.

老人喝醉了,满脸通红。

Facebook is examining ways to allow children under the age of 13 to use its service, with some form of parental supervision.

Facebook 正在策划如何让 13 岁以下的儿童在父母某种形式的监督下使用其网络服务。

3. 独立主格结构

The girl goes to restaurant, a dog accompanying her every day.

每天小女孩去餐厅的时候,身后都跟着一只狗。

4. 形容词

Jack came back, full of money and stories.

杰克回来了,带回很多钞票和故事。

5. 名词

Jack went away a beggar but returned a millionaire.

杰克离家时是一个乞丐,但回来时已是百万富翁。

6. 介词短语

How can you go to the wedding ceremony in slippers?

你怎能穿着拖鞋去参加婚礼?

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No. 4

American Well will allow telemedicine patients to pick their doctor

American Well 公司将允许远程医疗病人选择医生

May 17th, 2016
The New York Times
阅读难度：☆☆☆☆

文章导读：医疗资源在城市和农村地区分布不均，同时过度医疗和滥用药物更是进一步令传统医疗系统弊端丛生。智能手机和社交媒体的风靡让不少公司看到了一种可能的解决方案——远程医疗。远程医疗可以在医学专家和病人之间建立起全新的联系，节省大量的时间，同时与边远地区分享优质资源，即在一定程序上令医疗民主化了。但不少人认为，远程医疗仍存在质量难以保证的问题，并且未在医疗保险和监管上得到相应的支持。

文章结构

1. 远程医疗服务让患者随时获得适度护理。
2. 但患者鲜有机会了解远程医疗的医生或护士。
3. American Well 公司计划揭幕顾客可选择医生的在线市场。
4. 在线医疗可以降低成本并造福农村地区居民。
5. 一些保险公司不愿为虚拟医疗报销，并担心人们过度依赖在线医疗。
6. 卫生系统和病患均可受益于远程医疗。
7. 远程医疗不会取代传统医疗。
8. 保险公司和医疗系统都对远程医疗持谨慎态度。

正文

When patients use a telemedicine service offered through their health insurer or employer, they can get modest routine care at any time, without having to go to a

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doctor's office or urgent care center. But they usually know very little about the doctor or nurse on the other end of the phone or on the screen.

"It's a blind date," said John Jesser, an executive with Anthem, one of the nation's largest health insurance companies, which offers its customers telehealth services through LiveHealth Online, giving them access to medical care 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Now American Well, the company behind Anthem's service, is betting that people would rather choose the doctors or nurses they consult with online, much as they select an urgent care center or a specialist. On Tuesday, American Well, which offers telehealth to more than 100 million people, is unveiling an online marketplace where health plan customers will be able to choose from a menu of doctors.

For insurers and employers, the appeal of online care has the potential for lowering costs. Checking a child's nagging cough over a video call, for example, could avoid an expensive trip to the emergency room. Patients in rural areas, without easy access to specialists, can also benefit from online consultations.

But some insurers, including Medicare, are reluctant to pay for a virtual visit, and regulatory questions are swirling over whether doctors should be able to care for patients across state lines. There are also concerns that people may use the services for conditions that they would normally treat themselves, like a sore throat, meaning that the visit is an extra expense, not a savings. Critics also question the quality of care, worrying that it could be easier to misdiagnose a condition if a patient is not physically with the doctor or nurse.

The attraction for health systems is the ability to use their well-respected name or reputation in certain areas to attract more patients, potentially from across the country, and someone who might have to wait weeks or months for an appointment could find a specialist much more quickly.

Analysts say telehealth is not likely to evolve into a substitute for in-person care, but will instead be a way for providers to better connect with patients. "It's not

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a competition between physical and virtual," said Dr. Kaveh Safavi, a senior managing director for Accenture, a consulting firm, who sees care eventually being delivered in a blend of ways. A patient might see a specialist online who works closely with a local doctor for in-person care.

For now, insurers and systems are taking a cautious approach. Doctors may more easily treat patients across state lines later this year, when an agreement among some states to license doctors from certain other states is expected to take place. Doctors will still be prohibited from treating patients in states where they are not licensed, but the arrangement will make it much easier for a doctor or nurse to get another state license.

词汇

telemedicine	['telɪˌmedɪsn]	*n.*（通过遥测、电视、电话等方式求诊的）远距离医学
unveil	[ˌʌn'veɪl]	*vt.* 使公之于众，揭开；揭幕
nagging	['nægɪŋ]	*adj.* 唠叨的；挑剔的；使人不得安宁的
regulatory	['regjələtəri]	*adj.* 管理的；控制的；调整的
swirl	[swɜ:l]	*v.* 盘绕；打旋；眩晕；大口喝酒
misdiagnose	[ˌmɪs'daɪəgnəʊz]	*v.* 错误地诊断
in-person	['ɪn'pɜ:sn]	*adj.* 亲自的，亲身的；本人的；现场的，实况的
cautious	['kɔ:ʃəs]	*adj.* 谨慎的；十分小心的
license	['laɪsns]	*n.* 执照，许可证；特许
arrangement	[ə'reɪndʒmənt]	*n.* 布置；整理；准备

长难句解析

1. There are also concerns that people may use the services for conditions that they would normally treat themselves, like a sore throat, meaning that the visit is an extra expense, not a savings.

【翻译】还有人担心，人们对一些自己平常能够解决的症状也利用远程医疗，如喉咙痛；这意味着额外的医疗消费，而非省钱。

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【解析】本句的主句为 There are also concerns...。that 后引导的同位语从句细叙“担忧”的具体内容:people may use the services for conditions;同时 conditions 后又嵌套了一个 that 引导的定语从句限定修饰“症状”:that they would normally treat themselves。句子的最后是一个 -ing 形式的独立结构,进一步解释“人们对一些自己平常能够解决的症状也利用远程医疗”意味着什么。独立结构中同时有一个 that 引导的宾语从句:the visit is an extra expense, not a saving。

2. The attraction for health systems is the ability to use their well-respected name or reputation in certain areas to attract more patients, potentially from across the country, and someone who might have to wait weeks or months for an appointment could find a specialist much more quickly.

【翻译】对于卫生系统来说,远程医疗的魅力在于可利用自己的声望和在某些领域的口碑来吸引更多来自全国各地的患者;那些可能要提前数周或数月预约的病患则可以更快地找到专科医生。

【解析】本句的主句是 The attraction for health systems is the ability to use... and someone...could find a specialist much more quickly。而 ability 后接了两个不定式结构 to use...to attract more patients。someone 后接了一个 who 引导的定语从句限定修饰什么样的人能够更大地从中受益。

全文翻译

当患者使用健康保险公司或雇主提供的远程医疗服务时,他们不必去医生诊所或紧急护理中心,就可以在任何时候得到适度的常规护理。但他们通常对在电话或屏幕另一端的医生或护士鲜有了解。

“和相亲一样,”美国最大的医疗保险公司之一 Anthem 的高管约翰·耶瑟尔说。Anthem 通过 LiveHealth 在线为顾客提供全天候的远程医疗服务。

现在 Anthem 服务背后的 American Well 公司相信,人们愿意选择在线咨询医生或护士,就像选择紧急护理中心或专科医生一样。向超过 1 亿人提供远程医疗服务的 American Well,将在周二揭幕一个在线市场,在这个市场上健康计划顾客将能够从列表中选择医生。

对于保险公司和雇主来说,在线医疗的吸引力在于降低成本的可能性。例如通过视频通话检查孩子的长期咳嗽可避免去急诊室的昂贵行程花费。不容易看到专科医生的农村患者,也可以受益于在线咨询。

但包括 Medicare 在内的一些保险公司并不愿为虚拟访问报销,关于医生能

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否跨州接诊病人等监管问题也甚嚣尘上。还有人担心，人们对一些自己平常能够解决的症状也利用远程医疗，如喉咙痛；这意味着额外的医疗消费，而非省钱。批评者还质疑在线医疗的质量，担心如果病人不与医护人员直接接触更容易引起误诊。

对于卫生系统来说，远程医疗的魅力在于可利用自己的声望和在某些领域的口碑来吸引更多来自全国各地的患者；那些可能要提前数周或数月预约的病患则可以更快地找到专科医生。

分析人士说，远程医疗不会发展成面对面的传统医疗的替代品，但反而会让医疗提供者更好地与患者交流。“这并不是现实和虚拟之争，”埃森哲咨询公司的高级常务董事卡韦赫·萨法维博士说。他认为医疗的实现方式终将是多样的。病人也许会看一位与致力于传统医疗的当地医生密切合作的在线专家。

目前，保险公司和医疗系统都采取了谨慎的态度。今年晚些时候，一份允许一些州给其他特定州的医生颁发执照的协议生效后，医生会更容易接诊跨州病患。医生依然禁止在没有所在州执照的地方医治病患，但这种安排会使医护人员更容易取得另一个州的执照。

阅读语法难点精粹 4

现在分词作定语

和过去分词作定语相反的是，现在分词作定语时，意味着其修饰的中心语是动作的发出者。例如：

It is a fast-growing Asian country with slow-moving cars.

这是一个高速发展的亚洲国家，可是这里的汽车行驶缓慢。

在以上例句中，Asian country 是中心语，growing 是现在分词，表示 Asian country 是 grow 动作的发出者。

1. 该类定语放于中心词前后均可，但如果该定语由词组构成，则一般情况下将其后置。其意义相当于一个简单的定语从句。这点与过去分词作定语的情况类似。例如：

a running man = a man who is running

一个正在跑步的人

a boy standing there = a boy who is standing there

一个站立着的男孩

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2. news, letter, sign, message, notice 等词常常配合现在分词作定语，强调时效性。例如：

Broadcasting news has several types.

广播新闻有各种形式。

3. 某些现在分词作定语时，已经从分词的身份变为了形容词，不再表示动作，可以有比较级和最高级的变化，也可以被某些副词修饰。例如：

a very interesting book

一本非常有趣的书

注：此类短语一般不再转化为相应的定语从句。

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No. 5

Teaching the teachers

教师的教育

Jun 11th, 2016
The Economist
阅读难度：☆☆☆

文章导读：正如教育家蔡元培先生所说，“大学者，非谓有大楼之谓也，有大师之谓也。”优质教育的灵魂在于优秀的师资力量，而非豪华的教室，亦或先进的教学设备。然而为人师表的能力难以量化，故而常被人认为是一种天生的禀赋，可遇而不可求。下文的作者则通过多名学者的研究，发现好老师是可以教导出来的，而老师也能通过科学地学习，不断进步成更优秀的良师。学而不辍，每个人都可以比昨天更出色。

文章结构

1. 优质教学对贫穷的孩子帮助最大。
2. 大众认为好老师是天生的。
3. 教育改革者将重心放在问责制上。
4. 忽视教室中的实际教学不会有好效果。
5. 许多通行的教学方法并不理想。
6. 认知激活策略与考试成绩正相关。

正文

Rich families find it easier to compensate for bad teachers, so good teaching helps poor kids the most. Having a high-quality teacher in primary school could “substantially offset” the influence of poverty on school test scores. Thomas Kane of Harvard University estimates that if African-American children were all taught by the

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top 25% of teachers, the gap between blacks and whites would close within eight years. He adds that if the average American teacher were as good as those at the top quartile, the gap in test scores between America and Asian countries would be closed within four years.

Such studies emphasise the power of good teaching. But a question has dogged policymakers: are great teachers born or made? Prejudices played out in popular culture suggest the former. Bad teachers are portrayed as lazy and kid-hating. Edna Krabappel of "The Simpsons" treats lessons as obstacles to cigarette breaks. Good and inspiring teachers, meanwhile, such as Michelle Pfeiffer's marine-turned-educator in "Dangerous Minds" (pictured), or J. K. Rowling's Minerva McGonagall, are portrayed as endowed with supernatural gifts (literally so, in the case of the head of Gryffindor).

In 2011, a survey of attitudes to education found that such portrayals reflect what people believe: 70% of Americans thought the ability to teach was more the result of innate talent than training. Such a belief makes finding a good teacher like panning for gold: get rid of all those that don't cut it; keep the shiny ones. This is in part why, for the past two decades, increasing the "accountability" of teachers has been a priority for educational reformers.

There is a good deal of sense in this. In cities such as Washington. DC, performance-related pay and (more important) dismissing the worst teachers have boosted test scores. But relying on hiring and firing without addressing the ways that teachers actually teach is unlikely to work. Education-policy wonks have neglected what one of them once called the "black box of the production process" and others might call "the classroom". Open that black box, and two important truths pop out. A fair chunk of what teachers (and others) believe about teaching is wrong. And ways of teaching better—often much better—can be learned. Grit can become gold.

In 2014 Rob Coe of Durham University, in England, noted in a report on what makes great teaching that many commonly used classroom techniques do not work. Unearned praise, grouping by ability and accepting or encouraging children's different "learning styles" are widely espoused but bad ideas. So too is the notion that pu-

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pils can discover complex ideas all by themselves. Teachers must impart knowledge and critical thinking.

In a report published in February the OECD found a link between the use of such "cognitive activation" strategies and high test scores among its club of mostly rich countries. Studies by James Stigler, a psychologist at UCLA, found that American classrooms rang to the sound of "what" questions. In Japan teachers asked more "why" and "how" questions that check students understand what they are learning.

词汇

compensate	['kɒmpenseɪt]	*v.* 补偿,赔偿;抵消
quartile	['kwɔ:taɪl]	*n.* 四分位数;四分点
dog	[dɒg]	*v.* (尤指困难、问题等)紧随;纠缠,困扰,折磨,使苦恼
prejudice	['predʒʊdɪs]	*n.* 偏见;侵害 *vt.* 损害;使有偏见
endow	[ɪn'daʊ]	*vt.* 赋予;捐赠;天生具有
supernatural	[ˌsu:pə'nætʃrəl]	*adj.* 超自然的;神奇的,不可思议的
innate	[ɪ'neɪt]	*adj.* 先天的;固有的;与生俱来的
pan	[pæn]	*v.* 淘金
accountability	[əˌkaʊntə'bɪlətɪ]	*n.* 有义务;有责任;可说明性
black box		黑匣子
chunk	[tʃʌŋk]	*n.* 大块;矮胖的人或物
grit	[grɪt]	*n.* 粗砂,砂砾,粗砂石;勇气;决心
impart	[ɪm'pa:t]	*vt.* 给予(尤指抽象事物),传授;告知,透露

长难句解析

1. He adds that if the average American teacher were as good as those at the top quartile, the gap in test scores between America and Asian countries would be closed within four years.

【翻译】他还补充道,如果普通的美国教师的水准和排名前四分之一的教师

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一样，那么美国和亚洲国家在考试成绩上的差距也会在4年内消失。

【解析】本句的主句为 He adds that...。that 后接的宾语从句的主句为 the gap in test scores between America and Asian countries would be closed within four years。而 if 则引导了一个条件状语从句，表达在美国教师整体水平都能达到前四分之一时，宾语从句的主干内容才能实现。

2. Such a belief makes finding a good teacher like panning for gold: get rid of all those that don't cut it; keep the shiny ones.

【翻译】这样的观点认为，寻找好老师就和淘金一样：排除所有不合适的，留下闪闪发光的。

【解析】这个句子用了类比(analogy)的修辞手法，前半部分将寻找老师比作淘金，而后半部分则是说明了这样类比的原因——两者寻找的共性：去芜存菁。analogy 是较为常见的修辞手法，以一种人们熟悉或较容易理解的事物来类比作者想要表达的概念，使文章达意更直接清楚。所以在做阅读理解时，若遇到自己不太懂的概念和事物，而文章又使用了 analogy，最事半功倍的方法就是先剖析这个 analogy 的喻体，然后再将其推及文章的其他内容上。

全文翻译

富裕的家庭能够更轻易地抵消坏老师的影响，所以好的教学对贫穷的孩子帮助最大。高质量的小学教师可大幅地消减贫穷对考试成绩的影响。哈佛的托马斯·凯恩预测，若非裔美国孩子由全美排名前25%的老师教，白种人与黑种人的差距将在8年内消失。他还补充道，如果普通的美国教师的水准和排名前四分之一的教师一样，那么美国和亚洲国家在考试成绩上的差距也会在4年内消失。

这些研究强调了优质教学的力量。但是有个问题一直困扰着政策制定者：好老师是天生的还是后天培养的？大众文化偏向前者。坏老师被描述成懒惰并讨厌孩子的形象。《辛普森一家》里的克拉巴佩尔老师把课堂看作抽烟时间的障碍。而启发性的优秀老师则被定位为拥有超自然的禀赋，如米歇尔·法伊弗在《非常教师》里塑造的自海军陆战队退役的老师，J. K. 罗琳笔下拥有超级能力的米勒娃·麦格教授(这里不是修辞，因为她是格兰芬多的院长)。

2011年的一份针对教育态度的调查显示，这样的描述反映了大多数人的观点：70%的美国人认为教学能力是天生的禀赋，而非训练的结果。这样的观点认为，寻找好老师就和淘金一样：排除所有不合适的，留下闪闪发光的。这也能

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部分解释为什么在过去20年间,教育改革者将重心放在提高老师的“问责”上。

这么做有很大的意义。在如华盛顿一类的城市中,绩效工资和(也许更重要的)开除不合格的老师大幅提升了考试成绩。但仅仅依靠招聘和开除手段而不直接面对教师的实际教学方法,不太可能奏效。教育政策专家忽视了之前自己称作“生产流程的黑匣子”的“教室”。打开这个黑匣子,两个重要的真相呼之欲出。老师们(以及其他人)的很多教学观点是错误的。更好的教学方法——通常好得多——是可以学习到的。点石可成金。

2014年英国杜伦大学的罗勃·寇伊在一份关于卓越教学的报告中指出,许多常见的课堂教学技巧并不起作用。不相称的嘉奖、基于能力分组和接受或鼓励孩子不同的“学习风格”这些普遍被推崇的方法却都是糟糕的主意。那种认为孩子能够独自探索复杂概念的想法也是错的。老师必须教授知识和批判性思维。

经合组织2月份发布的一份报告发现,在其大部分富裕的成员国中,“认知激活”策略和优异的考试成绩相关。加州大学洛杉矶分校的心理学家詹姆斯·施蒂格勒的研究发现美国教室中常出现“什么”类的问题。而在日本,老师更多地提出“为什么”和“如何”类问题,来检查学生是否理解正在学习的内容。

阅读语法难点精粹 5

counter 的用法

counter 的含义比较丰富,而且各含义之间差异较大,故梳理如下:

1. 作前缀,表示“反对,对抗,相反”

Otsuka, which also produces a big-selling health drink called Pocari Sweat, sees it as part of a counter-offensive against Western snacks that are making Asians fatter.

大冢司正在推进一项反攻计划,目的是向把亚洲人变得越来越胖的西式零食发出挑战,而 Pocari Sweat 也属于该计划的一部分。

此外,例如:

counter-clockwise

逆时针方向

countcractivc

反对的,反作用的,抵抗的

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2. 作副词，表示“反方向地，相反地（ + to）”

Sometimes, we may act counter to old conventions.

有时候，我们可以尝试创新。

3. 作形容词，表示“反对的；相反的；对立的（ + to）”

Our friends' opinion was counter to that of mine.

朋友们的意见与我自己的意见相反。

4. 作动词，表示“反驳，抵销”

I try to argue but he counters that the witness has been absent all the way.

我试着争辩，但是他反驳说目击证人一直都未到场。

counter the debt

抵销债务

5. 作名词，表示“柜台，处方室”

the man behind the counter

营业员

You can buy the medicine over the counter.

这些药不用医生开处方也能购买。

Drugs are frequently sold under the counter in that country.

在那个国家，常常有人私下秘密交易毒品。

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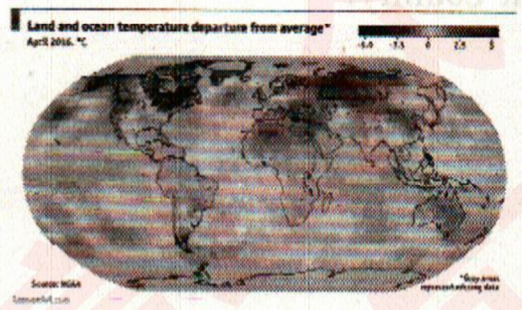
No. 6

In the red

红色高温

May 28th, 2016
The Economist
阅读难度：☆☆☆☆

文章导读：阳光炭火般炙烤着大地，万物像在熔炉里一样要被烤化。多年以来的全球变暖加重了厄尔尼诺现象，令极端天气频现，并又一次带来了一个创纪录的火热年。虽然简单地将所有包括风暴在内的极端天气统统归咎于全球变暖有失客观，但研究表明两者关联程度之高已不容我们忽视，不能再放任温室气体的排放，让全球变暖愈演愈烈。



文章结构

1. 今年是有记录以来最热的一年。
2. 厄尔尼诺现象是气温异常炎热的原因。
3. 厄尔尼诺可导致多个国家受灾。
4. 厄尔尼诺结束后可能出现拉尼娜现象。
5. 未来的厄尔尼诺现象也许会愈发出人意料。
6. 气候变暖与极端天气关联程度很高。

正文

Conditions in India are road-meltingly hot: on May 19th residents of Phalodi, a city in the north of the country, had to cope with temperatures of 51°C—the highest since records there began. Records are tumbling elsewhere, too. The average temperature over land and ocean surfaces in April was 1.10°C above last century's average. The current year will almost certainly be the warmest on record, and probably

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by the largest margin to date.

A Pacific-wide climatic phenomenon known as El Niño ("The Boy" in Spanish) helps explain the heat. In non-Niño years, trade winds blow warm water to the west, where it pools in the western tropical Pacific. Cooler water is drawn up from the depths to the surface in the Pacific's east as a result, in a process known as upwelling. Every two to seven years, the pool of warm water sloshes back eastwards when the trade winds weaken or even reverse; this is El Niño in action. The interaction of the Pacific Ocean and the atmosphere is part of a cycle called El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO).

This spilling of the warm pool across the tropical Pacific pushes up global surface temperatures. The consequent increase in atmospheric heat and moisture brings deluges to south-eastern South America and western North America, and drought to India, Australia, Indonesia and southern Africa. Niño-like conditions first began in mid-2014, but the full event did not emerge for another year. It then proved one of the strongest ever recorded.

On May 24th Australia's Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) declared El Niño finished, as surface temperatures across the tropical Pacific have cooled over the past two weeks. What follows? Temperature peaks typically occur towards the end of El Niño. BOM says that there is a 50% chance that La Niña, another phase of ENSO and one associated with unusually low surface temperatures in the eastern Pacific, will form this year. Cooler weather for south-eastern Asia and western South America could accompany it.

But each event has its own quirks. And future Niños may hold greater surprises, thanks to increasing concentrations of heat-trapping gases in the atmosphere. Resultant ocean warming means the barrier to extreme Niños "is now lower", says Eric Guilyardi, a meteorologist at the University of Reading in Britain. Between 1999 and 2012, 69 zettajoules of heat (or 69 × 1,021 joules—a vast quantity of energy) have been sequestered in the oceans between 300 metres and 1,500 metres down, according to a 2014 study in *Science*. Still warmer oceans in years to come will probably mean that the weather events unleashed by strong Niños will intensify.

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Blaming climate change for particular storms remains tenuous. But America's National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine released a report in March laying out where scientists can more confidently attribute the probability or severity of weird weather to climate change. It says the most dependable attribution findings are for events related to an aspect of temperature; a warmer climate means that unusually hot days become more likely while unusually cold ones become less so.

词汇

cope with		处理,应付
tumble	['tʌmbl]	*vi.* 摔倒;倒塌;滚动
margin	['mɑ:dʒɪn]	*n.* 边缘;利润,余裕;页边的空白
slosh	[slɒʃ]	*v.* 搅动,晃动;泼溅
oscillation	[ˌɒsɪ'leɪʃn]	*n.* 振荡;振动;摆动
deluge	['delju:dʒ]	*n.* 洪水;泛滥;暴雨
associate	[ə'səʊʃɪeɪt]	*v.* 联想;使联合;使发生联系
quirk	[kwɜ:k]	*n.* 怪癖;急转;借口
meteorologist	[ˌmi:tɪə'rɒlədʒɪst]	*n.* 气象学者
joule	[dʒu:l]	*n.* 焦耳
sequester	[sɪ'kwestə]	*vt.* 使隔绝;使隐退;没收,扣押
unleash	[ʌn'li:ʃ]	*v.* 发动;解开……的皮带;解除……的束缚
tenuous	['tenjuəs]	*adj.* 纤细的;稀薄的;贫乏的
severity	[sɪ'verəti]	*n.* 严重;严格;猛烈
dependable	[dɪ'pendəbl]	*adj.* 可靠的,可信赖的;可信任的

长难句解析

1. Every two to seven years, the pool of warm water sloshes back eastwards when the trade winds weaken or even reverse; this is El Niño in action.

【翻译】每隔两到七年,当信风减弱或甚至风向逆转时,积聚在西太平洋的温暖海水又向东流动,这就是厄尔尼诺现象在起作用了。

【解析】这个句段由两部分组成:第一部分的主句为 the pool of warm water

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sloshes back eastwards...; every two to seven years 是一个独立的时间状语。when 则引导了一个时间状语从句 when the trade winds weaken or ever reverse。第二部分为 this is El Niño in action。this 指代前一部分提及的内容。

2. It says the most dependable attribution findings are for events related to an aspect of temperature; a warmer climate means that unusually hot days become more likely while unusually cold ones become less so.

【翻译】报告指出,最可靠的因果关系是针对那些与温度有某些关联的现象——气候更温暖意味着异常酷热天气可能会更常见,而异常寒冷天气会更少见。

【解析】这个句段也有两部分:第一部分的主句为 It says (that)...,says 后面的部分是一个由省略了的 that 引导的宾语从句 the most dependable attribution findings are for events...,而 events 后面的部分为省略了 that 作为引导词的定语从句:events that are related to an aspect of temperature。第二部分的主干为 a warmer climate means that...,that 后引导一个宾语从句,而宾语从句中又嵌套了 while 引导的并列句子,表示对比。

全文翻译

印度热得马路都要熔化了:5 月 19 日,印度北部城市帕洛迪的居民不得不忍受 51℃的高温——这是当地有记录以来的最高温度。其他地区的最高温度纪录也摇摇欲坠。今年四月的地表和海洋表面平均温度比上世纪平均值高出 1.10℃。今年几乎可以肯定将成为有记录以来最热的一年,而且其打破纪录的幅度也很可能是有史以来最大的。

一种名为“厄尔尼诺”(西班牙语“小男孩”的意思)的环太平洋气候现象,有助于解释这种现象。在没有厄尔尼诺影响的年份里,信风将温暖的海水向西吹,并积聚在西太平洋热带海域,使得东太平洋深处温度较低的海水上涌,这一过程称为上升流。每隔两到七年,当信风减弱或甚至风向逆转时,积聚在西太平洋的温暖海水又向东流动,这就是厄尔尼诺现象在起作用了。太平洋和大气之间的相互作用是厄尔尼诺南方涛动(ENSO)循环的一部分。

太平洋热带海域温暖海水的外溢推高了全球的表面温度,气温和湿度随之升高,导致南美东南部和北美西部洪水泛滥,而印度、澳大利亚、印度尼西亚和南非则出现了大范围的旱情。最早在 2014 年年中时便有了一些类似厄尔尼诺的迹象,但严重的厄尔尼诺灾害直到一年后才出现,并成为有记录以来威力最

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大的一次。

5月24日，澳大利亚气象局(BOM)宣布本次厄尔尼诺现象结束，因为在此之前的两周里，整个太平洋热带海域的海洋表面温度一直在下降。接下来会如何呢？厄尔尼诺现象结束之前一般会出现温度高峰。澳大利亚气象局认为今年有50%的可能会出现拉尼娜现象。这是南方涛动的另一个阶段，与东太平洋表面异常低温有关，并可能为东南亚和南美西部带来凉爽的天气。

但这两种现象都有些难以捉摸的地方。未来的厄尔尼诺现象也许会愈发出人意料，这是由于大气中吸热气体浓度增加，由此造成的海水升高意味着发生极端厄尔尼诺现象的门槛“现在更低了”，英国雷丁大学的气象学家埃里克·吉利阿德说道。2014年《科学》杂志刊登的一项研究显示，1999年至2012年间，有69泽焦耳(其中1泽=1 021，超大量的能量)的热能封存于海洋深处300至1 500米之间。未来数年间，更加温暖的海洋很可能意味着由强厄尔尼诺引发的极端天气现象将会加剧。

将某次暴风雨归咎于气候变化尚属牵强，但美国国家科学院、工程院和医学院3月发布了一份报告，列出在哪些情况下科学家们可以更确定地将极端大气的发生概率或严重程度归咎于气候变化。报告指出，最可靠的因果关系是针对那些与温度有某些关联的现象——气候更温暖意味着异常酷热天气可能会更常见，而异常寒冷天气会更少见。

阅读语法难点精粹 6

关于 rumor

说到 rumor，很多同学第一反应就是“谣言”，事实上 rumor 标准释义是“传言”，不仅能表示消极的消息，还能表示积极的消息。因此，解答阅读题目时，千万不要看到 rumor 就直接排除掉正面积极的义项。

rumor 的用法在写作中也常常成为考点。

例句：

传言说她即将得到提拔。

不地道的表达　Everyone rumors that she is getting promoted.

地道的表达　Rumor has it that she is getting promoted.

或者　It is widely rumored that she is getting promoted.

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No. 7

When the drugs don't work

当药失效的时候

May 21st, 2016
The Economist
阅读难度：☆☆☆☆

文章导读：抗生素的发现是现代医学史上最有价值的贡献之一。人类借助抗生素克服了很多曾经如洪水猛兽一般的疾病。然而抗生素的大范围使用，甚至是无节制的滥用带来了一个严峻的挑战——细菌的抗药性不断传播。每年近70万人死于这些超级细菌引发的感染，而由于现有药物的失效，我们面对这些细菌束手无策。人们不合理使用抗生素时都短视地认为于己无害。然而丧钟为谁而鸣？为你，为我，为了整个人类。

文章结构

1. 拥有抗药性的超级细菌威胁着人类的健康。
2. 19世纪常见传染病由于更好的卫生条件得到控制。
3. 日益广泛的抗药性带来的危险更加微妙。
4. 抗药性会导致已经克服的旧疾卷土重来且来势更凶猛。
5. 抗药性的传播是一则“公地悲剧”。
6. 许多人并没有正确认识抗药性的问题。
7. 政府应采取措施教育公众。
8. 现在是时候直面难题、采取行动了。

正文

Some people describe Darwinian revolution as "only a theory". Try explaining that to the friends and relatives of the 700,000 people killed each year by drug-resistant

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infections. Resistance to antimicrobial medicines, such as antibiotics and antimalarials, is caused by the survival of the fittest. Unfortunately, fit microbes mean unfit human beings. Drug-resistance is not only one of the clearest examples of evolution in action, it is also the one with the biggest immediate human cost. And it is getting worse. Stretching today's trends out to 2050, the 700,000 deaths could reach 10m.

Cynics might be forgiven for thinking that they have heard this argument before. People have fretted about resistance since antibiotics began being used in large quantities during the late 1940s. Their conclusion that bacterial diseases might again become epidemic as a result has proved false and will remain so. That is because the decline of common 19th-century infections such as tuberculosis and cholera was thanks to better housing, drains and clean water, not penicillin.

The real danger is more subtle—but grave nonetheless. The fact that improvements in public health like those the Victorians pioneered should eventually drive down tuberculosis rates in India hardly makes up for the loss of 60,000 newborn children every year to drug-resistant infections. Wherever there is endemic infection, there is resistance to its treatment.

This is true in the rich world, too. Drug-resistant versions of organisms such as Staphylococcus aureus are increasing the risk of post-operative infection. The day could come when elective surgery is unwise and organ transplants, which stop rejection with immunosuppression, are downright dangerous. Imagine that everyone in the tropics was vulnerable once again to malaria and that every pin prick could lead to a fatal infection. It is old diseases, not new ones, that need to be feared.

The spread of resistance is an example of the tragedy of the commons; the costs of what is being lost are not seen by the people who are responsible. You keep cattle? Add antibiotics to their feed to enhance growth. The cost in terms of increased resistance is borne by society as a whole. You have a sore throat? Take antibiotics in case it is bacterial. If it is viral, and hence untreatable by drugs, no harm done—except to someone else who later catches a resistant infection.

The lack of an incentive to do the right thing is hard to correct. In some health-

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care systems, doctors are rewarded for writing prescriptions. Patients suffer no immediate harm when they neglect to complete drug courses after their symptoms have cleared up, leaving the most drug-resistant bugs alive. Because many people mistakenly believe that human beings, not bacteria, develop resistance, they do not realise that they are doing anything wrong.

Governments should educate the public about how antibiotics work and how they can help halt the spread of resistance. Such policies cannot reverse the tragedy of the commons, but they can make it a lot less tragic.

Combining policies to accomplish many things at once demands political leadership, but recent global campaigns against HIV/AIDS and malaria show that it is possible. Enough time has been wasted issuing warnings about antibiotic resistance. The moment has come to do something about it.

词汇

resistance	[rɪ'zɪstns]	*n.* 阻力;电阻;抵抗;反抗;抵抗力
antimicrobial	[ˌæntɪmaɪ'krəʊbɪəl]	*n.* [药]抗菌剂;杀菌剂
antimalarial	[ˌæntɪmə'leərɪəl]	*adj.* [药]抗疟疾的
		n. [药]抗疟药;抗疟疾剂
epidemic	[ˌepɪ'demɪk]	*adj.* 流行的;传染性的
		n. 传染病;流行病;风尚等的流行
tuberculosis	[tjʊˌbɜːkjʊ'ləʊsɪs]	*n.* 肺结核;结核病
cholera	['kɒlərə]	*n.* [内科]霍乱
penicillin	[ˌpenɪ'sɪlɪn]	*n.* 盘尼西林(青霉素)
endemic	[en'demɪk]	*adj.* 地方性的;风土的
		n. 地方病
Staphylococcus aureus		*n.* 金黄色酿脓葡萄球菌
elective surgery		*n.* 择性外科手术;非急需施行的手术
tragedy of the commons		*n.* 公地悲剧
prescription	[prɪ'skrɪpʃn]	*n.* 药方;指示;惯例
halt	[hɔːlt]	*v.* 停止;立定;踌躇,犹豫

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长难句解析

1. The fact that improvements in public health like those the Victorians pioneered should eventually drive down tuberculosis rates in India hardly makes up for the loss of 60,000 newborn children every year to drug-resistant infections.

【翻译】虽然公共卫生的进步(像维多利亚时期人们发起的那些)最终可以降低印度的肺结核发病率,但远不能弥补每年因抗药性感染而死亡的6万新生儿的损失。

【解析】这句话的主干为 The fact...hardly makes up for the loss of...。fact 后接一个 that 引导的同位语从句,具体阐述是怎么样的事实:that improvements in public health...should eventually drive down tuberculosis rates in India。而 public health like 后的 those(that) the Victorians pioneered 则是一个嵌套的定语从句。

2. The day could come when elective surgery is unwise and organ transplants, which stop rejection with immunosuppression, are downright dangerous.

【翻译】总有一天选择性外科手术会成为不明智的选择,需要抑制免疫系统来防止排异的器官移植会变得彻底危险。

【解析】这句话的主干为 The day could come...。when 引导了一个时间状语从句 when elective surgery is unwise and organ transplants... are downright dangerous。而 transplants 后接了一个 which 引导的非限制性定语从句 which stop rejection with immunosuppression 用来解释 transplants 的性质。

全文翻译

一些人认为达尔文进化论“仅仅是理论”。请向每年因抗药性感染而死亡的70万亲友们作出解释。对抗微生物制剂(如抗生素和抗疟疾剂)的抗药性是适者生存的结果。不幸的是,健康的微生物意味着不健康的人类。抗药性不只是进化起作用最显而易见的例子之一,也是造成直接损失最大的因素。而且目前形势每况愈下。如果现在的趋势延续到2050年,70万会变成1 000万。

愤世嫉俗者如果觉得这是老调重谈,他们可以被谅解。从20世纪40年代晚期抗生素开始大量使用开始,人们就一直担忧抗药性的问题。他们的结论是细菌性疾病可能会因此再次大流行;事实证明这个结论是错误的,而且以后一直如此。这是因为如肺结核和霍乱等19世纪常见的感染之所以消减是因为更好的居住环境、排水系统和清洁的水源,而非盘尼西林。

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真正的危险更加微妙——但依然十分严重。虽然公共卫生的进步(像维多利亚时期人们发起的那些)最终可以降低印度的肺结核发病率,但远不能弥补每年因抗药性感染而死亡的6万新生儿的损失。只要有流行性感染,就会有对治疗的抗药性。

富裕国家的情况也一样。抗药型的微生物(如金黄色酿脓葡萄球菌)增加了手术后感染的风险。总有一天选择性外科手术会成为不明智的选择,需要抑制免疫系统来防止排异的器官移植会变得彻底危险。想象一下热带的每个人面对疟疾再次变得脆弱,每一次轻微的外伤都可能导致致命的感染。值得我们恐惧的是旧疾而非新病。

抗药性的传播是一例“公地悲剧”:那些有责任的人并没有看到后果。你养牲畜?在饲料里加抗生素促进生长。抗药性增加的损失由整个社会承担。你喉咙疼?服用抗生素以防细菌性感染。如果是病毒性的,吃药不管用,那也没什么害处——除了那些后来感染抗药性病毒的人。

很难纠正对做正确的事缺乏动机这一现象。在一些医疗系统中,医生写处方可获得奖励。病人在症状消失后忘记吃完所需疗程不会遭受任何直接的伤害,但大多数有抗药性的微生物会继续生存。因为许多人错误地相信是人而不是细菌会发展出抗药性,他们没有认识到自己做错了。

政府应教育公众抗生素的生效原理,告诉他们自己可以如何帮助阻止抗药性的传播。这些政策不能反转“公地悲剧”,但可以使结果不那么惨烈。

结合各项政策来同时实现许多事需要政治领导力,但最近全球抗艾滋病和疟疾活动展示了这件事的可能性。在对抗生素抗性发布警告上我们已经浪费了许多时间。是时候采取行动了。

阅读语法难点精粹 7

less ＋内容(作者否定) ＋than ＋内容(作者肯定)

Its aim was less to drum up support for specific bills than, as one official put it, “to lift the conversation to a higher level”.

翻译过来是:

正如一位官员所说,奥巴马总统的演讲并不是设法争取获得民众对具体提案的支持,而是“将对话提到一个更高的层次。”

在这样的结构中,less 后面是作者否定的内容,than 后面是作者肯定的内容。转换成中文,即是:

与其说是 A,不如说是 B。

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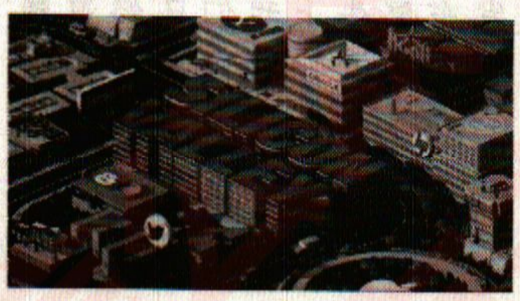
No. 8

Why the world loves silicon valley and fears it

为什么硅谷让人又喜爱又害怕

Jun 17th, 2016
Newsweek
阅读难度：☆☆☆☆☆

文章导读：硅谷拥有庞大的经济产值和世界影响力，其重要性不容置疑。硅谷的巨富们利用其财富做了一些令人震惊的事情，如支持诉讼来进行报复或拆掉邻屋来保护隐私。如此膨胀的自我和权力令民众和政府感到恐惧。然而萎靡的经济形势下，只有硅谷引领的高科技产业仍如火如荼。这意味着高科技产业将成为各国经济的救星。对于硅谷，我们究竟是爱还是惧？



文章结构

1. 硅谷和凯撒大帝时期的罗马一样。
2. 大众对硅谷和其亿万富翁的能力感到恐慌。
3. 脸书首席执行官拆掉邻屋来保护隐私。
4. 硅谷巨富们膨胀的影响力引起了全球政府的对抗性反应。
5. 硅谷帝国将带来新一代颠覆性的技术。
6. 20 家全球最有价值公司中有 11 家来自硅谷。
7. 硅谷开始占领曾经的传统行业。
8. 世界上大多数地方都需为使用技术向硅谷买单。

正文

Silicon Valley is the new Rome. As in the time of Caesar, the world is grappling with an advanced city-state dominating much of the planet, injecting its tech-

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nology and ethos everywhere it lands and funneling enormous wealth back home.

Peter Thiel—tech investor, avowed monopolist, proponent of skipping college—has many of us wringing our hands about Silicon Valley's swelling wealth and influence. Thiel spent about $ 10 million to secretly fund an ex-wrestler's lawsuit against a salacious news-gossip website, allegedly as revenge, and that revelation set off panic about the ability of Silicon Valley and its billionaires to impose their will.

Thiel's is just one of many stories with a similar theme. Facebook got accused of muting conservative news on the site, stirring still more worries about media control and censorship. Meanwhile, Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg made Thiel look like a cheapskate when he paid $ 30 million to buy and tear down four homes around his residence, just so nobody can see into his windows.

Similar angst about California's peninsula of geeks has resulted in backlash around the globe. India recently stopped a Facebook plan to offer free internet because the government felt India might lose control over its wireless infrastructure.

And yet the Silicon Valley Empire is just getting started. A new generation of technologies such as artificial intelligence, 3-D printing and blockchain are about to cross the chasm from prototype to mainstream and challenge everything you know about manufacturing, money, services, national sovereignty and much else in your life. If you think there's been head-spinning change since 2007, when smartphones, social networks and cloud computing combined to usher in the current tech era, the next 10 years could short-circuit your cortex.

Famed tech analyst Mary Meeker listed the 20 most valuable tech companies in 2015. Twelve were American, seven were in China, and one was in Japan. None came out of Europe or India or anywhere else. The U. S. companies represented 76 percent of the total market cap and 87 percent of the revenue. Of the dozen companies based in the U. S., just one is not in Silicon Valley.

In recent years, the payments going to Silicon Valley have been lurching into businesses that used to be non-digital and local. Uber shows how that works. It takes a 20 percent cut of the fare for every ride. In France, say, 100 percent of money

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spent on taxis used to stay in France. If Uber wins a significant chunk of France's taxi industry, 20 percent of that money will leave France. Now imagine that happening in industry after industry, country after country.

In the macro picture, tech is one of the few economic sectors growing in any meaningful way anywhere in the world. So if global growth is stagnant and technology is hot, that means most other segments are really crappy. Since most of the money being made in technology is by companies based in Silicon Valley, it seems that it is driving a lot of the world's economic dynamism—and most of the world is paying Silicon Valley for it.

词汇

grapple	['græpl]	*v.* 抓住;与……格斗
ethos	['i:θɒs]	*n.* 民族精神;气质;社会思潮
funnel	['fʌnl]	*n.* 漏斗;烟囱
avowed	[ə'vaʊd]	*adj.* 公开宣布的;公开承认的;公然的
monopolist	[mə'nɒp(ə)lɪst]	*n.* 垄断者;独占者;专利者
proponent	[prə'pəʊnənt]	*n.* 支持者;建议者
swelling	['swelɪŋ]	*adj.* 膨胀的;肿大的;突起的
salacious	[sə'leɪʃəs]	*adj.* 好色的;猥亵的;淫荡的
censorship	['sensəʃɪp]	*n.* 审查制度;审查机构
cheapskate	['tʃi:pskeɪt]	*n.* 小气鬼;吝啬鬼
angst	[æŋst]	*n.* 焦虑;担心
peninsula	[pɪ'nɪnsjʊlə]	*n.* 半岛
backlash	['bæklæʃ]	*n.* 反冲;强烈抵制

长难句解析

1. As in the time of Caesar, the world is grappling with an advanced city-state dominating much of the planet, injecting its technology and ethos everywhere it lands and funneling enormous wealth back home.

【翻译】正如凯撒大帝时期一样,世界正聚焦于一个发达的城邦国家,它统领全球大部分地方,将其科技和文化注入各处,把巨额财富运回家。

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【解析】这句话的主干为 the world is grappling with an advanced city-state...。as 引导了一个比较状语从句 as in the time of Caesar。dominating much of the planet, injecting its technology and ethos everywhere it lands 和 funneling enormous wealth back home 则是修饰 city-state 的三个现在分词结构。

2. A new generation of technologies such as artificial intelligence, 3-D printing and blockchain are about to cross the chasm from prototype to mainstream and challenge everything you know about manufacturing, money, services, national sovereignty and much else in your life.

【翻译】新一代的技术,如人工智能、3-D 打印和数据区块链,将完成从原型到主流的跨越,挑战你关于制造、金钱、服务、国家主权和其他生活多个方面的认知。

【解析】这句话的主干为 A new generation of technologies...are about to cross the chasm from prototype to mainstream and challenge everything you know about...。从结构上本句为两个并列分句构成,故可分解成:A new generation of technologies are about to cross the chasm from prototype to mainstream.(新一代的技术将完成从原型到主流的跨越)和 A new generation of technologies are about to challenge everything you know about...in your life.(新一代的技术挑战你关于……和其他生活多个方面的认知。)

全文翻译

硅谷是新的罗马。正如凯撒大帝时期一样,世界正聚焦于一个发达的城邦国家,它统领全球大部分地方,将其科技和文化注入各处,把巨额财富运回家。

科技投资者、公开承认的垄断者和支持大学辍学的彼得·泰尔让我们中的许多人对硅谷膨胀的财富和影响力感到不安。泰尔花了近千万美元秘密地支持一个前摔跤手与一家黄色八卦网站打官司,听说是为了报仇;这个事实揭露后,引起了大众对硅谷和其亿万富翁将自己意志强加给别人的能力的恐慌。

泰尔的故事仅仅是类似故事的其中一个。脸书被指责压制网站的保守派新闻,引起了更多关于媒体控制和审查制度的担忧。同时脸书的首席执行官马克·扎克伯格让泰尔看起来就像个吝啬鬼,他花了3千万美元购买和拆除了住处周围的4幢房子,只为了不让别人看到他家里。

关于加利福尼亚州这个半岛的极客的类似焦虑事件导致了全球的对抗性反应。印度最近叫停了一个脸书关于提供免费因特网的计划,因为政府认为印

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度可能会失去对无线基建的控制。

然而硅谷帝国仅仅刚刚开启。新一代的技术,如人工智能、3-D 打印和数据区块链,将完成从原型到主流的跨越,挑战你关于制造、金钱、服务、国家主权和其他生活多个方面的认知。如果你认为 2007 年以来已经发生了令人晕眩的变化——智能手机、社交网络和云计算一起开辟了当前的技术纪元——那么接下来的十年将会令你的大脑皮层短路。

知名的技术分析师玛丽·米克在 2015 年列出了 20 家最有价值的技术公司。12 家美国公司,7 家中国公司,1 家日本公司。欧洲、印度和其他国家一家都没有。美国公司代表了整个市场价值的 76% 和整个市场收入的 87%。而 12 家美国公司里,仅有 1 家不在硅谷。

近年来,流入硅谷的收入开始趋向于曾经非数字化且具有本土性的商业领域。优步显示了运作原理。优步收取每次出行车费的 20%。比如在法国,百分之百的出租车费曾经全部留在本国。如果优步赢得法国出租车产业的大部分,那么 20% 的收入将离开法国。试想同样的情况出现在一个又一个其他产业,一个又一个其他国家。

从宏观上看,科技产业是全世界仍旧保持着有意义增长的经济领域之一。所以如果全球增长停滞而技术仍势头强劲,这意味着大多数的其他产业真的非常糟糕。因为技术领域的钱大多数被硅谷的公司赚了,所以看起来硅谷似乎提升了世界的经济活力——然而世界的大多数地方都在为此向硅谷买单。

阅读语法难点精粹 8

yet 的用法

yet 既可以用作副词,也可以用作连词。

A. 用作副词时,表示:

1. (此时)还(用于否定句)。例如:

Don't move yet.

先别动!

2. 从现在算起的某一时间段内。例如:

We will be busy for ages yet.

我们还得辛苦很长一段时间。

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3. 与 would, might, may 等词一起使用，表示迟早可能发生的事。例如：

We may pass the entrance examination for postgraduate schools yet.

我们迟早会考上研究生的。

4. 与 the best, the longest 连用，表示迄今为止。例如：

This tower is the highest building yet in the city.

这座塔是迄今为止城内最高的建筑。

B. 用作连词时，表示转折，相当于 but。例如：

Yet the boss of a troubled company often has to belt out an upbeat number about how brilliant the firm is while simultaneously wailing a lament about how hard it will be to knock into shape.

然而逆境中的企业老板往往需要一边高调展示公司的繁荣表象，一边为改变惨淡现状暗自神伤。

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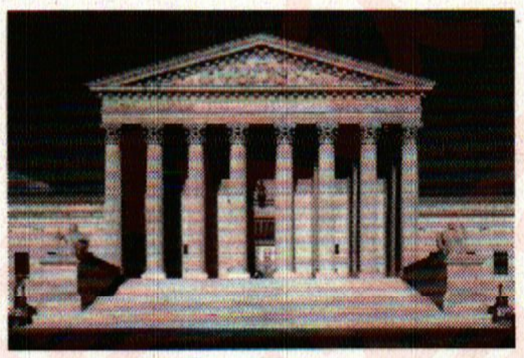
No. 9

Slowing down
放慢速度

May 14th, 2016
The Economist
阅读难度：☆☆☆

文章导读：9位大法官坐阵的美国最高法院因为斯卡利亚大法官的离世而陷入了“平手僵局”。4位左倾的大法官和4位右倾的大法官在判决下级法庭上呈的案子时无法做出有意义的判决，只能维持原判且原判并不因之而拥有判例的价值。如此的美国高院将导致各州对宪法和法律的司法解释混乱不堪。大法官们是否能因之缓和立场，达成妥协？



文章结构

1. 最高法院的现有人数导致其无法做出有意义的判决。
2. 现任期内仅有12个案件在审理中。
3. 大法官判决因票数相同将导致司法争议。
4. 大法官们可能会因此寻找妥协。
5. 若最高法院无法就医保和避孕之争做出指向性裁决，各州的女性将享受不同的医保待遇。
6. 法律解释混乱与美国现有的宪法结构并不相符。

正文

With five votes, the late Justice William Brennan liked to tell his clerks, “you can do anything around here”. The rule still applies after the death in February of Antonin Scalia. But with only eight justices remaining, the magic number of five is

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now harder to come by. Twice since Mr. Scalia's death the Supreme Court has performed the judicial equivalent of throwing up its hands. In a small case concerning banking rules and in an important one challenging the future of public-sector unions, the justices issued one-sentence per curiam ("by the court") rulings: "The judgment is affirmed by an equally divided court." A tie in the high court means that the ruling in the court below stands. But these non-rulings do not bind other lower courts, and the judgment has no value as a precedent. A tie, in short, leaves everything as it was and as it would have been had the justices never agreed to hear the case in the first place.

That's a lot of wasted ink, paper, time and breath. And now it seems the justices may be keen to reduce future futile efforts as they contemplate a year or more with a missing colleague. Only 12 cases are now on the docket for the October 2016 term, and grants are lagging below the average of recent years. The slow pace is especially notable because it marks a slowdown from an already highly attenuated docket.

What's wrong with eight justices? The main worry is that tied votes sow legal confusion. When the judges are split down the middle, they cannot resolve rival views on controversial issues—from affirmative action and public unions to gay rights, birth control and abortion. By letting lower-court decisions stand but not requiring other courts to abide by the ruling, the stage is set for odd state-by-state or district-by-district distinctions when it comes to the meaning of laws or the constitution.

This seems to be the worry that prompted the justices to search for a compromise, after hearing arguments in March in the latest fight over Obamacare and contraception. One federal district court has said that the law's compromise violates a law of 1993 banning the government from unduly interfering with other people's religious scruples. Half a dozen other appellate courts have come to the opposite opinion.

So if the justices divide 4-4 in Zubik v. Burwell, women across most of America will have access to birth control through their employer's health coverage, while women in seven midwestern states will not. Some legal scholars argue that an eight justice bench isn't so bad. Eric Segall, of Georgia State University, thinks the 4-4

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ideological divide is pushing justices to moderate their arguments in an effort to win votes from their colleagues on the other side.

Yet it is hard to see how a denuded court is appealing in the medium or long term. A patchwork of legal realities may have been fitting for America under the Articles of Confederation, before the country had a political system that turned it into a union, but America's constitutional design is not consonant with confusion about what the law means on controversial questions.

词汇

per curiam		依法院
precedent	['presɪdnt]	*n.* 先例;前例
futile	['fju:taɪl]	*adj.* 无用的;无效的;没有出息的;琐细的;不重要的
contemplate	['kɒntempleɪt]	*v.* 沉思;注视;思忖;预期
attenuate	[ə'tenjueɪt]	*vt.* 使减弱;使纤细
docket	['dɒkɪt]	*n.* 摘要;记事表;(待判决的)诉讼事件表
sow	[səʊ]	*v.* 播种;散布;使密布
affirmative action		肯定行动,平权行动
contraception	[ˌkɒntrə'sepʃn]	*n.* 避孕
appellate	[ə'pelət]	*adj.* 上诉的;受理上诉的
moderate	['mɒdrət]	*adj.* 稳健的,温和的
		v. (使)变缓和,(使)变弱
denude	[dɪ'nju:d]	*vt.* 剥夺;使裸露
patchwork	['pætʃwɜ:k]	*n.* 拼缝物,拼缀物;混杂物

长难句解析

1. A tie, in short, leaves everything as it was and as it would have been had the justices never agreed to hear the case in the first place.

【翻译】简而言之,相同的票数意味着一切都未改变,一切和大法官开始就不同意接受案件结果一样。

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【解析】这句话的主干为 A tie leaves everything as it was and as it would have been...。as 后面的部分(as it would have been had the justices never agreed to hear the case in the first place)使用了与过去事实相反的虚拟语气,从句使用过去完成时 had...never agreed,而主句使用过去将来完成时 would have been。

2. By letting lower-court decisions stand but not requiring other courts to abide by the ruling, the stage is set for odd state-by-state or district-by-district distinctions when it comes to the meaning of laws or the constitution.

【翻译】让下级法庭判决生效但却不要求其他法庭受其约束,结果会导致每个州或每个区对法律或宪法的解释都存在差异。

【解析】这句话的主干为 the stage is set for odd state-by-state or district-by-district distinctions...。句首介词 by 后接两个-ing 形式表示伴随:letting lower-court decisions stand 和 not requiring other courts to abide by the ruling。when 引导时间状语从句 when it comes to the meaning of laws or the constitution。

全文翻译

已故法官威廉·布伦南喜欢对自己的书记员说:“只要有5票,你就可以在这里做任何事。”二月份安东尼·斯卡利亚法官去世后,这个规则仍旧适行。但目前仅有8位大法官,得出5这个魔法数字更加困难。斯卡利亚法官离开后,最高法院已经两次做出等同于弃权的司法判决。在一个关于银行规则的小案件和一个挑战公共部门工会的未来的重要案件中,大法官做出仅一个句子长的司法裁决:“因法庭意见分歧且票数相等,支持前判决。”最高法院票数相同意味着下级法庭的判决有效。但这样的无意见裁决对其他下级法庭并无约束力,判决不能成为有价值的判例。简而言之,相同的票数意味着一切都未改变,一切和大法官开始就不同意接受案件结果一样。

这真是浪费许多墨水、纸张、时间和口水。现在看来大法官们思忖到未来一年或更长的时间内少一位同僚的状况,他们会极度想要减少将来的徒劳。2016年10月这个任期内,仅有12个案件在审理中,最高法院同意接受的案件数少于近年平均水平。这么缓慢的速度尤其值得我们注意,因为它标志着本来已经很少的案件的审理速度放缓。

8位大法官有什么不好?主要的担忧在于票数相同将导致司法争议。当法官们分成两个人数相等的阵营,他们将不能在争议性问题上达成一致——从平权行动、公共部门工会问题到同性恋权利、节育和堕胎。让下级法庭判决生效

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但却不要求其他法庭受其约束，结果会导致每个州或每个区对法律或宪法的解释都存在差异。

在3月聆听了最近就奥巴马医保和避孕之争的庭辩之后，这种担忧似乎正促使大法官们寻找妥协。一个联邦地方法院表示，该法案的妥协违反了1993年的一项法律，这项法律禁止政府过度干涉其他人的宗教考量。6家其他上诉法庭则表达了相反的观点。

所以如果大法官在Zubik v. Burwell案件上达成4比4的结论，那么美国大部分地区的女性将可以通过雇主的医保获得避孕医疗，而中西部地区的7个州则不能。一些法学学者则认为8位大法官也没有那么糟糕。佐治亚州立大学的埃里克·西格尔表示，4比4的思想分歧会迫使大法官们缓和自己的论调，以便争取另一方的同僚。

但现在仍旧很难看清这个没有悬念的法庭在中期或者长期将怎样令人喜爱。也许一大堆法律现实对于13州邦联宪法下的美国十分合适——那还是在美国拥有联邦政治系统之前，但在争议性问题上法律解释混乱与美国现在的宪法结构并不相符。

阅读语法难点精粹 9

谓语的识别

谓语由动词构成，然而在复合句中，往往有不止一组动词，再加上时态和曲折变化的原因，我们会发现在长难句中往往有几组动词，其中既包含谓语动词，又包含非谓语动词。主谓结构是句子的主干，所以在理解句子意义之前，一定要先找出谓语。找出谓语的关键就在于去掉①从句的谓语和非谓语；②主句的非谓语。

Seeing oxygen in another planet's atmosphere would be a giveaway of biological activity because the gas is so reactive that it needs to be continuously renewed.

如何识别本句话的谓语：

第一步，去掉从句的谓语和非谓语（一般情况下可理解为去掉连词 because，when，where 等后面的成分）。

显然，原句包含一个由 because 引导的原因状语从句，去掉此从句即去掉其谓语和非谓语，剩下部分为：

Seeing oxygen in another planet's atmosphere would be a giveaway of biological

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activity.

以上句子，包含两个动词（词组）：seeing，would be。

第二步，去掉主句的非谓语。

显然，seeing 作为一个动名词 *v*-ing，在这里联合名词 oxygen 一起构成词组 seeing oxygen 来充当主句的主语。

所以，原句谓语为 would be。

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No. 10

Power hungry

电荒

May 14th, 2016
The Economist
阅读难度：☆☆☆

文章导读：英国是世界上最早发展核电的国家之一，然而近年来却受到了技术和人才的制约，困境中的英国不得不通过优惠政策吸引“外援”来英国本土投资建设核电站。但这个“地球最贵工程”却屡次被推迟，令各界人士对承建者的技术不免质疑。再加上英国的电力供应逐渐吃紧，要想在不增加碳排放的前提下提高供电能力，英国电力系统压力空前。

文章结构

1. 欣克利角 C 核电站的建设陷入停顿。
2. 核电站的前景令人担忧。
3. 能源政策危机下的英国需通过补贴来干预市场。
4. 今年可能出现大的发电量缺口。
5. 英国国家电网将采取临时措施弥补短缺。
6. 由于能源制约，英国在未来难以蓬勃发展。

正文

For months a profound somnolence has settled over Hinkley Point C, where the government hopes to install an £ 18 billion ($ 26 billion) nuclear power plant. On a recent weekend the security guards were not on the gate. Dozens of diggers and bulldozers were lined up as if on sale. A sign hung at the entrance displaying the

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core values of the project. One of them was "Know how far we've come, how far we've got to go, and how we're going to get there."

In fact, no one has a clue when or how the world's most expensive power station will get anywhere. EDF, the French contractor, has once again postponed a decision to go ahead—until September. There are growing fears that the French nuclear technology it intends to use is flawed. The British government, which has offered a huge subsidy to ensure that nuclear power helps keep the lights on and emissions down for decades to come, insists it will go ahead.

The innumerable delays over Hinkley Point matter because they reflect what many consider to be a crisis in British energy policy: the inability to build large power plants of any kind at a time when many coal-fired ones are closing and existing nuclear ones are on their last legs. Britain, once a model of energy deregulation, is now able to get the power it needs only when the government meddles in the market with subsidies and other inducements.

Meanwhile investors are leery of investing in big gas plants when there is so much uncertainty about government policy, including whether or not Hinkley Point—which could supply 7% of the country's electricity—will be built. This year more than 6,000 megawatts (MW) of power generation could be lost, or almost twice Hinkley Point's proposed 3,200MW capacity. That would lead to potentially the biggest supply shortfall in decades.

On May 6th the Department of Energy said that the gap is the result of low fossil-fuel prices that have pushed down wholesale power prices, damaging the profitability of coal and gas plants. Under normal conditions, it says, the market can cope with up to three hours in which supply fails to match demand. National Grid, the system operator, makes up the shortfall with stop-gap measures. But with a 6,000MW shortage, that time span could increase to 38 hours, it said. As a result it has brought forward a market-based subsidy scheme that aims to secure temporary supplies to prevent blackouts in winter when demand is highest. It held the first two "capacity" auctions in 2014 and 2015, aiming to bridge a gap in the winters of 2018 – 19 and 2019 – 20.

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For now, the strain on the grid is lightened by feeble electricity demand in Britain, which is still more than 10% below its level before the financial crisis in 2008 – 09. But that could change if more people start plugging in their cars rather than filling them up, and switching on industrial plants rather than stoking their furnaces. The country with the cheapest and most abundant electricity will prosper in such a future. At this rate, it won't be Britain.

词汇

somnolence	['sɒmnələns]	*n.* 困倦;想睡;嗜眠症
digger	['dɪgə]	*n.* 挖掘机
bulldozer	['buldəuzə]	*n.* 推土机
postpone	[pəus(t)'pəun]	*v.* 延缓,延迟
emission	[ɪ'mɪʃn]	*n.* (光、热等的)发射,散发
innumerable	[ɪ'nju:mərəbl]	*adj.* 无数的,数不清的
deregulation	[dɪ'regjuˌleɪʃn]	*n.* 撤消管制规定
meddle	['medl]	*vi.* 管闲事,干预他人之事
inducement	[ɪn'dju:smənt]	*n.* 诱因,刺激物
shortfall	['ʃɔ:tfɔ:l]	*n.* 差额;缺少
wholesale	['həulseɪl]	*adj.* 批发的;大规模的
strain	[streɪn]	*n.* 张力;拉紧;负担
stoke	[stəuk]	*v.* 拨旺(火);烧(火),司(炉),给(炉子)加燃料

长难句解析

1. The British government, which has offered a huge subsidy to ensure that nuclear power helps keep the lights on and emissions down for decades to come, insists it will go ahead.

【翻译】为确保核电站能够在未来几十年中帮助点亮灯火同时减少排放,英国政府向该项目提供了数额巨大的补贴,并坚持认为项目会继续推进。

【解析】这句话的主干为 The British government insists it will go ahead。government 后接一个 which 引导的非限制性定语从句 which has offered a huge subsidy to ensure...,而这个定语从句中又嵌套了一个宾语从句 that nuclear power

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helps keep the lights on and emissions down for decades to come。

2. The innumerable delays over Hinkley Point matter because they reflect what many consider to be a crisis in British energy policy: the inability to build large power plants of any kind at a time when many coal-fired ones are closing and existing nuclear ones are on their last legs.

【翻译】欣克利角的无数次推迟关系重大,因为它们反映了(许多人认为是)英国的能源政策危机:现在许多煤电站正在关闭而现有的核电站要寿终正寝,与此同时英国却无法建设任何种类的大型发电厂。

【解析】这句话的主干为 The innumerable delays over Hinkley Point matter。because 引导一个原因状语从句 because they reflect...;这个原因状语从句同时含有一个宾语从句 what many consider to be a crisis in British energy policy: the the inability to build large power plants of any kind at a time...,time 后又接了一个定语从句 when many coal-fired ones are closing and existing nuclear ones are on their last legs。

全文翻译

几个月来欣克利角 C——政府想在此地建设价值 180 亿英镑(按当时汇率换算,约 260 亿美元)的核电站——陷入沉睡中。最近的一个周末,大门边并没有保安人员。数十台挖掘机和推土机排成一列,仿佛在大清仓。入口处的标牌正列示着该项目的核心价值观。其中之一是“知道我们走了多远、需要走多远、怎么去那儿”。

事实上,没有人清楚世界上最昂贵的电站什么时候以怎样的方式可取得进展。法国承建商 EDF 决定再次推迟项目——直至 9 月。越来越多人担忧计划使用的法国核技术有缺陷。为确保核电站能够在未来几十年中帮助点亮灯火同时减少排放,英国政府向该项目提供了数额巨大的补贴,并坚持认为项目会继续推进。

欣克利角的无数次推迟关系重大,因为它们反映了(许多人认为是)英国的能源政策危机:现在许多煤电站正在关闭而现有的核电站要寿终正寝,与此同时英国却无法建设任何种类的大型发电厂。英国曾经是放松能源管制的标杆,但目前只能通过补贴和其他优惠来干预市场,从而获得所需的电力。

同时投资者都不愿意在政府政策不明(包括能够提供全英 7% 电力的欣克利角是否能建成)时投资于大型天然气发电厂。今年可能会减少超过 6 000 兆

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瓦（MW）或欣克利角计划容量(3 200 兆瓦)近两倍的发电量。这会导致数十年来最大的供应缺口。

5月6日能源署表示,造成缺口的原因是石化燃料的低价压低了批发电力价格,损害了煤电和天然气发电厂的盈利能力。正常情况下,在供不应求时,市场可以应付三个小时。系统调度机构英国国家电网采取临时措施来弥补短缺。但6 000 兆瓦的短缺,意味着时间空白可能会上升到38 小时。因此它提出一项基于市场的补贴计划,目的是确保临时供应,防止在冬天的用电高峰时停电。英国国家电网在2014 年和2015 年举行了旨在弥补2018 至2019 年和2019 至2020 年度的冬季电力短缺的“容量”拍卖。

现在电网的压力因微弱的电力需求(比2008 至2009 年金融危机前水平低超过10%)得到缓解。但随着更多人使用电力而非汽油驱动汽车、工厂用电而非烧煤,这种情况可能会改变。在这样一个未来里,拥有最便宜和最充裕电力的国家会蓬勃发展。按照现在的速度,这个蓬勃发展的国家不会是英国。

阅读语法难点精粹 10

than 的用法

除了基本用法以外,than 还有两个比较特殊的用法常常被列为考查对象。

1. 作(准)关系代词,其后常常省略 which,what 等词。例如:

...this might lead them into thinking more fondly in hindsight about their parenting duties than they actually felt at the time.

这里的 than 后面省略掉了 what。

又如:

Children should not have more money than needed.

孩子们不应该有超出需要的钱。

2. 与其他词(组)一起构成倒装。例如:

No sooner had I sat down than there was a piece of laughter.

我刚刚坐下来就听到了一串笑声。

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No. 11

Why is American home birth so dangerous?

为什么美国家庭分娩如此危险?

Apr 30th, 2016
The New York Times
阅读难度:☆☆☆

文章导读:妊娠和分娩是生理现象,不能称之为疾病,然而其本身所固有的风险导致现代医学普及之前孕产妇和新生儿死亡率居高不下。与发达国家普遍的高存活率相悖,由于从业人员教育水平不高、行业缺乏安全标准,美国的家庭分娩相当危险。本文的作者认为,为了产妇的健康和新生儿的存活,美国应该禁止低水平的助产士从业,同时积极告知孕妇家庭分娩的风险。

文章结构

1. 家庭分娩在现代社会并非主流。
2. 在一些国家家庭分娩相对安全,但在美国并非如此。
3. 问题在于美国大多数从业的助产士缺乏正规医学教育。
4. 注册职业助产士组织没有发布安全标准。
5. 我们应保证孕妇知晓家庭分娩的相关风险。
6. 如果继续让不合格的助产士从业,等同于置母亲的健康和婴儿的生命于不顾。

正文

Is home birth safe? That depends on where you ask the question. In much of the developed world, home birth is a fringe practice, at about 2 percent of births or less, for obvious reasons: childbirth is inherently dangerous, and if an emergency occurs, the baby or even the mother may die. Indeed, in the United States, the switch from

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home birth to hospital birth over the 20th century was accompanied by a more than 90 percent decrease in neonatal mortality and nearly 99 percent decrease in maternal mortality.

But there are places in the world where home birth is relatively safe, like the Netherlands, where it is popular at 16 percent of births. And in Canada, where it appears safest of all, several studies have demonstrated that in carefully selected populations, there is no difference between the number of babies who die at home or in the hospital. In contrast, home birth in the United States is dangerous. Many studies of American home birth show that planned home birth with a midwife has a perinatal death rate at least triple that of a comparable hospital birth. Could racial or economic differences, or poor prenatal care, explain this deadly difference between home births here and in Canada? No.

The problem is that there are two types of midwives in the United States. The first, certified nurse midwives, called C. N. M. s, are perhaps the best-educated, best-trained midwives in the world, exceeding standards set by the International Confederation of Midwives. The other, certified professional midwives, or C. P. M. s, fall far short of international standards. This second class of poorly trained midwives attend the majority of American home births. They used to be called "lay midwives", in recognition of their lack of formal medical schooling. Many receive their education through correspondence courses and their training through apprenticeships with another C. P. M., observing several dozen births and presiding at fewer.

The American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists has published 163 clinical bulletins to establish parameters for safe and effective practice for all obstetricians. The American College of Nurse Midwives has published 14 such bulletins. None has been issued by the Midwives Alliance of North America. In the absence of safety standards, C. P. M. s have been known to attend births of women with serious medical conditions at home. In Oregon, midwives are protesting the state Medicaid program's decision to stop covering high-risk home birth, and in Arizona, where midwives cannot legally attend certain kinds of high-risk births, they have been lobbying to have the law changed.

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It is very hard to crack down on midwives operating illegally. Instead, we should focus on informing pregnant women about the risks and the fact that C. P. M. s would not even qualify as midwives in other developed countries. If women knew, most would not hire them.

But we need to do more. We must abolish the C. P. M. and demand that all American midwives meet international standards; keep women at increased risk of complications from giving birth at home; insist on transfer to a hospital at the first hint of potential problems. As long as we allow poorly trained laypeople with watered-down credentials to perform home births, we are risking the health of mothers, and the lives of babies.

词汇

fringe	[frɪndʒ]	*n.* 边缘;穗;刘海
obvious	['ɒbvɪəs]	*adj.* 明显的;显著的;平淡无奇的
inherent	[ɪn'hɪərənt]	*adj.* 固有的;内在的;与生俱来的,遗传的
neonatal	[ˌni:ə'neɪtl]	*adj.* 新生的;初生的
mortality	[mɔ:'tæləti]	*n.* 死亡数,死亡率;必死性,必死的命运
midwife	['mɪd'waɪf]	*n.* 助产士
perinatal	[ˌperɪ'neɪtl]	*adj.* 围产期的,出生前后的
certified	['sɜ:tɪfaɪd]	*adj.* 被证明的;有保证的;具有证明文件的
observe	[əb'zɜ:v]	*v.* 观察;遵守;评论
preside	[prɪ'zaɪd]	*v.* 主持;担任会议主席
bulletin	['bʊlɪtɪn]	*n.* 公告,公报
abolish	[ə'bɒlɪʃ]	*vt.* 废除,废止;取消,革除

长难句解析

1. In much of the developed world, home birth is a fringe practice, at about 2 percent of births or less, for obvious reasons: childbirth is inherently dangerous, and

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if an emergency occurs, the baby or even the mother may die.

【翻译】在许多发达国家，家庭分娩是边缘化的做法，仅占所有分娩的2%左右或更少，原因很明显：分娩存在固有的危险性，如果发生紧急情况，婴儿，甚至母亲可能会死亡。

【解析】这句话的主干为 Home birth is a fringe practice。后接两个介词短语 at about 2 percent of births or less 和 for obvious reasons。冒号后为两个独立分句：childbirth is inherently dangerous 和...the baby or even the mother may die。而第二个分句中有一个 if 引导的条件状语从句 if an emergency occurs，表示在什么情况下婴儿和产妇会出现生命危险。

2. And in Canada, where it appears safest of all, several studies have demonstrated that in carefully selected populations, there is no difference between the number of babies who die at home or in the hospital.

【翻译】而加拿大则是全世界家庭分娩最安全的国家，几项研究已经证明，在一些特定人群中，死于家庭分娩的婴儿与死于医院分娩的婴儿在数量上没有差别。

【解析】这句话的主干为 Several studies have demonstrated that...。句首的状语 in Canada 后接一个由 where 引导的非限定性定语从句 where it appears safest of all。demonstrated 后接了一个 that 引导的宾语从句...there is no difference between the number of babies...，在 babies 后接了两个并列的均由 who 引导的限定性定语从句 who die at home or (who die) in the hospital。

全文翻译

家庭分娩安全么？这取决于你在什么地方问这个问题。在许多发达国家，家庭分娩是边缘化的做法，仅占所有分娩的2%左右或更少，原因很明显：分娩存在固有的危险性，如果发生紧急情况，婴儿甚至母亲可能会死亡。事实上，在美国，从20世纪以来，伴随着从家庭分娩到医院分娩的转换，新生儿死亡率下降了90%以上，产妇死亡率下降了近99%。

但在一些国家家庭分娩是相对安全的。比如在荷兰，家庭分娩很普遍，有16%的新生儿在家出生。而加拿大则是全世界家庭分娩最安全的国家，几项研究已经证明，在一些特定人群中，死于家庭分娩的婴儿与死于医院分娩的婴儿在数量上没有差别。相反，美国的家庭分娩十分危险。关于美国家庭分娩的多项研究表明，由助产士执行的计划家庭分娩中围产儿的死亡率至少是可比的医

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院分娩的3倍。种族、经济的差异、或糟糕的产前保健能解释美国和加拿大在家庭分娩上这种致命的区别么？不能。

问题在于美国有两种类型的助产士。第一种是注册护士助产士，简称为C. N. M.，他们也许是世界上受过最好教育、最训练有素的助产士，超过国际助产士联合会的标准。另外一种，注册职业助产士(C. P. M.)则远低于国际标准。第二类缺乏训练的助产士参与了美国绝大多数的家庭分娩。他们过去被称为“外行助产士”，因为他们缺乏正规医学教育。他们中的很多人通过函授课程接受教育，所获得的训练则是从其他注册职业助产士那里接受的学徒训练，他们仅仅观察了几十次出生且主持的分娩更少。

美国产科医生和妇科医生协会发表163项临床公告，为所有的产科医生树立了安全和有效执业的标准。美国护士助产士大学则公布了14项公告。而北美助产士联盟则一项公告都没有发布。在没有安全标准的情况下，众所周知，注册职业助产士却为有严重医疗状况的产妇做家庭分娩。在俄勒冈州，助产士抗议国家医疗补助计划停止覆盖高风险的家庭分娩的决定。在亚利桑那州，法律规定助产士不能参加某些高危分娩；而助产士一直在游说修改法例。

严厉打击非法执业的助产士很难。相反，我们应该专注于告知孕妇相关风险以及注册职业助产士在其他发达国家不能成为助产士的事实。如果她们知道，那么大多数人不会雇用这些注册职业助产士。

但我们需要做更多。我们必须废除注册职业助产士并要求所有美国助产士达到国际标准；确保有较高分娩并发症风险的产妇不在家分娩；一旦出现潜在问题的征兆，坚持转到医院。只要我们允许缺乏训练的外行凭着没有价值的证书进行家庭分娩，我们就是置母亲的健康和婴儿的生命于不顾。

阅读语法难点精粹 11

have 的特殊用法

1. 允许。例如：

We will not have people coming late all the time.

我们不允许总是有人迟到。

2. 辩过，胜过。例如：

You have me there now.

你在那一点上战胜了我。

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3. 有能力。例如：

We think she has it in her to be a great boss.

我们都相信她有能力成为一个大老板。

4. 传闻。例如：

Rumor has it that he is winning the game.

据说他会赢得这场比赛。

5. 结束。例如：

Let's have done with this silly drama.

我们还是别再演下去了。

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No. 12

Priceless

无价

Jun 18th, 2016
The Economist
阅读难度：☆☆☆

文章导读：数据洪流是媒体、政府、企业和公众言谈中的宠儿，几乎没有人否认数据的空前流动推动了新时代经济的发展。然而在谈大数据色喜如此之久后的今天，我们仍无法对其价值进行精准定位，并计算出大数据对国民经济的助推程度。专家和企业发表的结果往往是根据粗略的估量方法和不靠谱的轶事证据得出。

文章结构

1. 国际数据流动呈爆炸性增长。
2. 海量数据通过互联网平台、电子产品和全球供应链改变贸易。
3. 量化数据流动十分困难。
4. 数据量与数据价值之间没有明显的相关性。
5. 精准确定数据的增值方面几乎不可能。
6. 数据流也大多无法估价。
7. 政策制定者不得不依靠不确切的证据。

正文

Although trade in goods and services is sluggish, international flows of data are exploding. According to the McKinsey Global Institute, a think-tank within a consultancy, data zipped across borders at a rate of 211 terabits per second in 2014. That

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is equivalent to 1.3 Libraries of Congress per second, and 45 times more than in 2005. McKinsey reckons that this torrent contributed more to global growth in 2014 than trade in goods.

The data deluge is changing trade in three main ways. First, it is spurring conventional trade in goods and services, through orders on internet platforms like Amazon and eBay. Second, a growing share of the products being traded is digital, from music files to insurance policies. And third, data are increasingly important lubricants for global supply chains. Companies ship vast datasets around the globe, using them to improve the efficiency of their operations.

Yet quantifying and valuing these flows is difficult. The McKinsey study yields impressive numbers, but relies on rough measures, which are valued using statistical correlations rather than precise measurements. Experts agree that data flows are growing at an amazing pace, but also that measuring them is dispiritingly difficult. Statisticians face three big problems. First, current trade data does not usually record how services are provided. On May 5th America's Bureau of Economic Analysis published new estimates showing that around half of American exports of services could be delivered digitally, and that the fraction was increasing. But whether they actually are or not is unknown.

Second, there is no clear correlation between the volume of data and its value. Twitter feeds are not as valuable as digital design files. According to Cisco, a maker of networking gear, video accounted for 70% of global internet traffic in 2015, a share it thinks will increase to 82% by 2020. If growing data volumes reflect growing cat video consumption, then "So what?" asks Robert Atkinson of the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation. On top of that, there may be lots of double counting. Data flowing through America could be in transit from Canada to Mexico.

Finally, identifying where exactly data are adding value is nightmarish. International e-commerce, which accounts for as much as 12% of all trade in goods and services, according to McKinsey, is enabled by international data flows. But none of that value is attributed to the data involved.

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More fundamentally, bytes shuttling across borders are mostly unpriced. Data are rarely valuable in themselves; they tend to generate value only indirectly. Google relies on global data flows to support emails and its search engine, but generates revenues from clicks on adverts. Companies like Caterpillar or Boeing use data transmitted by sensors in their products to improve efficiency, but the data is not priced as it flows. When cash is so disconnected from data, teasing out the latter's value requires lots of head-scratching.

For now, policymakers have to rely on anecdotal evidence from companies claiming to use data to make savings and generate value. Another hint is the willingness of companies like Microsoft and Facebook to invest in new cables to carry data around the world.

词汇

sluggish	['slʌgɪʃ]	*adj.* 萧条的;迟钝的;行动迟缓的;懒惰的
explode	[ɪk'spləʊd]	*v.* 爆炸,爆发;激增
think tank		智囊团;智库
equivalent	[ɪ'kwɪvələnt]	*adj.* 等价的,相等的;同意义的 *n.* 等价物,相等物
deluge	['delju:dʒ]	*n.* 洪水;泛滥;暴雨
lubricant	['lu:brɪkənt]	*n.* 润滑剂;润滑油
impressive	[ɪm'presɪv]	*adj.* 感人的;令人钦佩的;给人以深刻印象的
correlation	[ˌkɒrə'leɪʃn]	*n.* [数] 相关,关联;相互关系
nightmarish	['naɪtmeərɪʃ]	*adj.* 可怕的;恶梦似的;不愉快的
attribute	[ə'trɪbju:t]	*vt.* 归属;把……归于 *n.* 属性;特质
efficiency	[ɪ'fɪʃnsi]	*n.* 效率;效能;功效
tease out		梳理

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长难句解析

1. The McKinsey study yields impressive numbers, but relies on rough measures, which are valued using statistical correlations rather than precise measurements.

【翻译】麦肯锡的研究虽然给出令人印象深刻的数字,但却依赖于粗糙的估量,其数据是根据统计相关性而非精确的测量评估出来的。

【解析】这句话的主干为 The Mckinsey study yields impressive numbers, but relies on rough measures。后接一个 which 引导的非限制性定语从句修饰 rough measures:which are valued using statistical correlations rather than (using) precise measurements。

2. On May 5th America's Bureau of Economic Analysis published new estimates showing that around half of American exports of services could be delivered digitally, and that the fraction was increasing.

【翻译】5 月 5 日美国经济分析局公布的最新估计显示,大约一半的美国出口服务可以被数字化,而且占比正在上升。

【解析】这句话的主干为 America's Bureau of Economic Analysis published new estimates。后面的-ing 形式(showing...)为伴随状语。而这个-ing 形式中又有两个 that 引导的宾语从句 that around half of American exports of services could be delivered digitally 和 that the fraction was increasing。动词的-ing 形式具有动词的特征,同时又具有名词、形容词和副词的特征,因此它可以在句中作主语、表语、定语、宾语、宾语补足语和状语,是个灵活的多面手。但它的多功能也容易混淆视听,所以阅读时需要先仔细分析动词的-ing 形式在句子中的成分。

全文翻译

虽然货物和服务贸易发展缓慢,但国际数据流动正呈爆炸性增长趋势。根据咨询公司内部的智囊团麦肯锡全球研究所的研究,2014 年的压缩数据以每秒 211 兆兆位的速度跨国界传输。这相当于每秒 1.3 个国会图书馆,是 2005 年的 45 倍多。麦肯锡估计,这股洪流在 2014 年对全球经济增长的贡献多于商品贸易。

海量数据以三种主要方式改变贸易。首先,它通过包括亚马逊和易趣在内的互联网平台的订单推动货物和服务等传统贸易。第二,越来越多的交易产品

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是电子化的:从音乐文件到保险政策。第三,数据是全球供应链日益重要的润滑剂。公司在全球范围内传输巨大的数据集,以提高其业务效率。

然而量化和评估这些流动十分困难。麦肯锡的研究虽然给出令人印象深刻的数字,但却依赖于粗糙的估量,其数据是根据统计相关性而非精确的测量评估出来的。专家同意数据流动正在以惊人的速度增长,但同时量化它们却是困难得令人气馁。统计学家面临着三个大问题。第一,当前的贸易数据通常不记录如何提供服务。5 月 5 日美国经济分析局公布的最新估计显示,大约一半的美国出口服务可以被数字化,而且占比正在上升。但它们实际上是否真的会被数字化或未可知。

第二,数据量和数据价值之间没有明显的相关性。Twitter 订阅没有数字化设计文件有价值。根据网络设备制造商思科的统计,2015 年全球互联网流量的 70% 为视频,并认为该份额到 2020 年将增加到 82%。如果不断增长的数据量反映了猫猫视频消费的增长,"那又怎样?"信息技术与创新基金会的罗伯特·阿特金森问道。最重要的是,可能有大量的重复计算。流经美国的数据可能是从加拿大到墨西哥途经美国。

最后,精准确定数据在哪方面增值简直和噩梦一样。根据麦肯锡的调查,占所有货物和服务贸易 12% 的国际电子商务是通过国际数据流实现的。但没有任何价值归因于所涉及的数据。

更重要的是,跨越国界的字节大多是无法估价的。数据本身鲜有价值;它们往往只是间接地创造价值。谷歌依赖于全球数据流来支持电子邮件和搜索引擎,但却通过广告点击来获得收入。像卡特彼勒或波音等公司使用产品中的传感器所传输的数据来提高效率,但数据流动却并没有定价。当现金与数据分离时,梳理出后者的价值令人头疼。

现在政策制定者不得不依靠轶事证据,这些证据来自于那些声称利用数据节约并创造价值的公司。另一个线索是像微软和脸书等公司投资建设新电缆进行全球数据传递的意愿。

阅读语法难点精粹 12

同位语

同位语的定义

一个名词(或其他形式)对另一个名词或代词进行修饰、限定或说明,这个名词(或其他形式)就是同位语。同位语与被它限定的词的格要一致,并常常紧

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挨在一起。

例如：

The difference between a wild plant and one that serves some human end is a lot of selective breeding—the picking and combining over the years of mutations that result in bigger seeds, tastier fruit or whatever else is required.

其中 the picking and combining over the years of mutations that result in bigger seeds, tastier fruit or whatever else is required 是 breeding 的同位语。

同位语从句与定语从句的两点区别

1. 同位语从句一般跟在具有特殊含义的名词后面，例如 fact，idea，hope，proposal，thought，truth 等具有一定内涵的词。

2. 同位语从句属于名词性从句，是对前面抽象名词（先行词）的进一步说明或解释。而定语从句属于形容词性从句，是对先行词的修饰或限定，相当于一个较长的形容词。

例如：

The news that he has won the game is true.

同位语从句，为了补充说明 news 的具体内容。

The news that he tells me is true.

定语从句，限定修饰了 news 的发出者，但是并没有告知 news 的具体内容。

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No. 13

Air in the building

楼里的空气

Jun 10th, 2016
Newsweek
阅读难度：☆☆☆

文章导读：过去几十年间，新建的楼房密封性越来越好，抗寒、保温、节省能源；然而建筑的通风系统和空气流动却没有得到升级和改进，因而导致的室内空气污染对人们的健康造成了很大损害。一些领先的建筑设计公司开始重视室内空气质量，在通风系统和智能监测室内污染物上下足了功夫，并取得了瞩目的成果。科技一步步让生活更美好。

文章结构

1. 过去几十年的建筑物并未重视空气质量。
2. 目前室内空气质量标准得到提高，建筑师在设计时会特别考虑空气质量。
3. CookFox 设计的美国银行大厦是健康通风系统的极佳范例。
4. 越来越多的新建筑包含检测空气污染物的传感器。
5. 如果数以百万计的建筑在设计时考虑空气质量数据，那么很多生命可以得到拯救。

正文

Air quality was never a primary concern for building developers, but the past few generations of construction have been particularly problematic; since the 1950s, buildings have increasingly been constructed to be more airtight, mostly for energy

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efficiency, says Joseph Allen, an environmental health researcher at Harvard University. But often that trend wasn't offset by increased ventilation, leading to a common problem: buildup of carbon dioxide and various pollutants. This leads to "sick building syndrome," a term coined in the 1980s to describe the increasingly common maladies caused by improperly designed and ventilated buildings.

By 1984, a WHO Committee reported, "up to 30 percent of new and remodeled buildings worldwide may be the subject of excessive complaints related to indoor air quality." Since that time, standards improved, and now some architects are specifically designing buildings with air in mind, Allen says.

Architectural firm CookFox is a good example. The company designed One Bryant Park in New York City, also known as the Bank of America Tower, which was the first in the state to receive the highest rating for occupant health set by the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification program. Special filters remove more than 95 percent of the particulate matter, and occupants can individually control the flow and ventilation of air in their offices or cubicles, says CookFox partner Brandon Specketer. The firm is now designing a residential building in Manhattan with indoor and outdoor particle monitors that advise residents whether it's safe to open their windows.

Increasingly, new buildings contain sensors like these that sniff the air for pollutants. Carbon dioxide monitors have become commonplace in buildings, Specketer says. In offices, these are often coupled with the ventilation system to ensure that the latter automatically starts running when carbon dioxide concentrations get too high. The San Francisco-based company Aclima has made headlines by setting up a system of air quality sensors measuring things like carbon dioxide and particulate matter at 21 of Google's buildings and handling "half a billion data points per day," an enormous amount of information that just a few years ago would have been completely inaccessible, says Aclima CEO Davida Herzl.

Herzl believes this vast amount of new air quality data will guide construction and design of the future. The potential impact is enormous, considering that 70 percent of the infrastructure that will be around in 2050 has yet to be built. As hordes of

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people move to cities, more cars and power plants are inevitable, adding up to more emissions and dirtier air. But that doesn't have to be the case, Herzl says. If these millions of structures are designed with new data in mind, they could save many lives. Improvements in filtration and ventilation in older buildings are equally important to global public health. A soon-to-be-published study led by University of Illinois researcher Paul Francisco looks at the health of people in 81 low-income houses in the Chicago area before and after installing a ventilation system that is up to federal standards. Francisco's team found that six months after installation, children living in the homes reported fewer headaches and respiratory problems, and adults reported significantly less "psychological distress" than previously.

词汇

airtight	['eətaɪt]	*adj.* 密闭的,密封的;无懈可击的
efficiency	[ɪ'fɪʃnsi]	*n.* 效率;效能;功效
ventilation	[ˌventɪ'leɪʃn]	*n.* 通风设备;空气流通
buildup	['bɪldʌp]	*n.* 增强;发展
coin	[kɔɪn]	*vt.* 铸造(货币);杜撰,创造
malady	['mælədi]	*n.* 弊病;疾病;腐败
remodel	[ri:'mɒdl]	*vt.* 改造;改变;改型
filter	['fɪltə]	*vi.* 滤过;渗入 *n.* 滤波器
cubicle	['kju:bɪkl]	*n.* 小卧室;小隔间
horde	[hɔ:d]	*n.* 一大群,群;游牧部落
respiratory	[rɪ'spaɪərətrɪ]	*adj.* 呼吸的

长难句解析

1. The firm is now designing a residential building in Manhattan with indoor and outdoor particle monitors that advise residents whether it's safe to open their windows.

【翻译】该公司目前正在曼哈顿设计一幢拥有室内和室外颗粒物检测仪(可建议居民打开窗户是否安全)的住宅大厦。

【解析】本句的主干是 The firm is now designing a residential building in Man-

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hattan with indoor and outdoor particle monitors。moitors 后接 that 引导的定语从句，解释检测仪的用处：that advise residents (on)...同时定语从句中又有一个由 whether 引导的宾语从句，此从句为省略掉 on 的宾语：whether it's safe to open their windows。

2. The San Francisco-based company Aclima has made headlines by setting up a system of air quality sensors measuring things like carbon dioxide and particulate matter at 21 of Google's buildings and handling "half a billion data points per day," an enormous amount of information that just a few years ago would have been completely inaccessible, says Aclima CEO Davida Herzl.

【翻译】总部位于旧金山的 Aclima 公司因在谷歌的 21 座建筑物上设置空气质量传感器系统而上头条，该系统可测量二氧化碳和颗粒物，并每天处理5 亿数据点；如此大量的信息在几年前完全无法想象，Aclima 公司的首席执行官黛维达·赫茨尔说。

【解析】本句的主干是 The San Francisco-based company Aclima has made headlines。后接两个并列的介词短语成分：by setting up a system of air quality sensors measuring things like carbon dioxide and particulate matter at 21 of Google's buildings 和(by) handling "half a billion data points per day"。紧接着的逗号后为 half a billion data points 的同位语：an enormous amount of information...，同位语中还含有一个 that 引导的定语从句修饰 information：that just a few years ago would have been completely inaccessible。

全文翻译

空气质量一直不是建筑开发商的主要关心之处，但过去几代的建筑尤其有问题；哈佛大学环境健康研究员约瑟夫·艾伦说，自 20 世纪 50 年代以来，建筑物的密封性越来越好，大多出于能源效率的考虑。但往往这种趋势并未从通风系统的加强中得到补偿，这导致了一个常见的问题：二氧化碳和各种污染物的积累。这会引起"室内空气综合征"，该术语在上世纪 80 年代出现，用来描述设计不当和通风不佳的建筑物所造成的日益常见的疾病。

到 1984 年，一个世卫组织委员会报告说，"全世界多达 30% 的新建及改建楼宇可能是大量与室内空气质量相关的投诉的对象。"艾伦说，自那时以来，标准得到提高，现在一些建筑师在设计建筑时会特别考虑空气。

建筑公司 CookFox 是一个很好的例子。这家公司设计了纽约市的一座"布

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赖恩特公园”,也被称为美国银行大厦;这个建筑在该州率先获得美国绿色建筑协会所推出的“能源与环境设计先锋奖”(LEED)金奖。CookFox 合伙人布兰登·斯派克特表示,特殊过滤器可移除超过 95% 的颗粒物,居住者可以在办公室或隔间内单独控制空气流和通风系统。该公司目前正在曼哈顿设计一幢拥有室内和室外颗粒物检测仪(可建议居民打开窗户是否安全)的住宅大厦。

越来越多新建筑包含这些能够检测空气污染物的传感器。二氧化碳监视器已成为建筑物的常见配置,斯派克特说。在办公室中,这些设计往往结合通风系统来确保当二氧化碳浓度过高时后者可自动启动运行。总部位于旧金山的 Aclima 公司因在谷歌的 21 座建筑物上设置空气质量传感器系统而上头条,该系统可测量二氧化碳和颗粒物,并每天处理 5 亿数据点;如此大量的信息在几年前完全无法想象,Aclima 公司的首席执行官黛维达·赫茨尔说。

赫茨尔认为如此庞大的新空气质量数据将指导未来的设计与施工。考虑到仍有 70% 的基础设施将在 2050 年建成,其潜在影响是巨大的。随着人们成群搬到城市中,更多的汽车和发电厂将不可避免,这会增加更多的尾气和空气污染。但这并不是必然的,赫茨尔说。如果数以百万计的建筑在设计时考虑这些新数据,它们可以拯救很多生命。改进老建筑的过滤与通风系统对全球公众健康也同样重要。伊利诺伊大学研究员保罗·弗朗西斯将要发表的一份研究报告调查了芝加哥地区 81 幢低收入房屋在安装符合联邦标准的通风系统前后居民的健康状况。弗朗西斯的团队发现,在系统安装的 6 个月后,在其中生活的儿童的头痛和呼吸问题减少,成人的“心理压力”则明显比以前减少了。

阅读语法难点精粹 13

多分句长句的理解

If you are a suspicious type you may be disturbed by the fact that, despite reassuranccs of the safety of the procedure, dentists and their technicians, when administering X-rays, usually step out of the room while the deed is done.

当多个分句出现在一个长句中时,我们往往很难在第一时间弄清句子的完整含义。因此,我们不得不放弃以句号为单位来理解句意,而转向以逗号为单位来理解。如果你习惯先翻译成中文再来理解,以上的句子可以这样处理。

Part 1

如果你是个爱怀疑的人,你可能会被以下事件烦扰……

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Part 2

这事件就是，尽管我们都明白治疗过程的安全性，也都相信牙医和他们的技师……

Part 3

（相信牙医和他们的技师）哪怕是当他们使用 X 射线时……

Part 4

（被事件烦扰）往往是当我们接受完牙医的治疗，刚刚走出治疗室的时候。

不必花时间将以上 4 个部分还原成完整的句子，只要我们能准确理解每一个分句的意义，就能较好地把握整个句子的含义。

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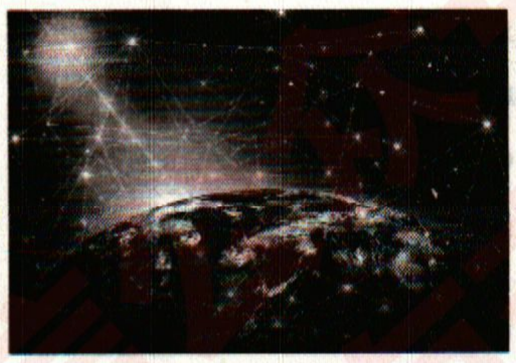
No. 14

Reweaving the web

重塑互联网

Jun 18th, 2016
The Economist
阅读难度：☆☆☆

文章导读：互联网的不断演进和效率的提高意味着数据越来越集中在少数拥有核心资源的公司。网络巨头垄断了社交网络、手机应用和在线搜索等现代生活的各个方面，这引起了一些人的抗争。他们试图反其道而行，继续维护一个民主化的、去中心化的网络。然而完全去中心化意味着这些新的项目将很难有盈利的突破点。新的技术能真正重塑网络吗？



文章结构

1. 互联网资源越来越集中在少数几个公司手中。
2. 一些新的企业和风险投资公司正在关注反互联网集中化的新技术。
3. 去中心化技术得益于比特币和区块链的崛起。
4. 新企业是否会如风暴一样侵袭着世界还未可知。
5. 去中心化的服务将面临严重的盈利问题。

正文

"The problem is the dominance of one search engine, one big social network, one Twitter for micro-blogging," Tim Berners-Lee declared on June 7th at a conference in San Francisco. Mr. Berners-Lee's observation that the internet has become heavily centralised is not new, yet in recent months warnings such as his have grown

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louder. Pundits estimate that Google's many sites attract an estimated 40% of all traffic on the web. Cloud computing, too, is a centralised affair, with Amazon leading the pack, followed by Microsoft and Google. These same companies, as well as Facebook, are in control of ever-growing piles of personal and other data. Such information may ultimately allow these online giants "to predict, shape and 'nudge' the behaviours of hundreds of millions of people."

Now a new band of entrepreneurs and venture-capital firms is emerging with a mission to "re-decentralise" the internet. This is not the first time that new technology has pushed against the centralizing forces of the internet. In the early 2000s "peer-to-peer" services such as Napster and Kazaa, for instance, allowed users to share music files rather than download them from a central server. But lawsuits from record labels and, in some cases, a failure to find ways to profit from these services meant these technologies ended up being limited to a few services, such as Skype, which offers free internet calling.

If decentralisation is now making a comeback, it is largely because of the rise of bitcoin, a crypto-currency, and its underlying technology, the blockchain. This is a globally distributed database, which is maintained not by a single actor, such as a bank, but collaboratively by many. Bitcoin and the blockchain have "shown what is possible," says Juan Benet, who invented the Inter Planetary File System, one of a number of efforts to build an infrastructure for a more decentralised internet. IFPS eliminates the need for websites to have a central server; instead, files are stored all over the web.

Whether these new businesses will take the world by storm is unclear. A big hurdle—which previous efforts at decentralized technology failed to clear—is to be as convenient and seductive as centralized incumbents. Regulators are likely to mount resistance against projects that transcend national jurisdictions. Initiatives such as the DAO, a novel investment vehicle that lets its shareholders vote on how to spend their money, is not based in any country—not even a tax haven—but on block chain.

Then there is the question of how decentralized services will earn their keep.

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Most are based on open-source software, which anybody can use without charge, so startups will have to make money with add-on services, such as updates, maintenance and subscriptions. More fundamentally, an internet that eschews control points may be one that affords firms less opportunity to build profits. To create a return that makes venture capitalists happy, the new tech firms will almost certainly come under pressure to get ever bigger. Decentralisation might fit the vision of the web's founding father, but the internet became centralised for a reason.

词汇

pundit	['pʌndɪt]	*n.* 专家;博学者
peer to peer		对等的;端对端
record label		唱片公司
collaborative	[kə'læbərətɪv]	*adj.* 合作的,协作的
hurdle	['hɜ:dl]	*n.* 障碍;栏
infrastructure	['ɪnfrəstrʌktʃə]	*n.* 基础设施;公共建设;下部构造
seductive	[sɪ'dʌktɪv]	*adj.* 有魅力的;性感的;引人注意的
incumbent	[ɪn'kʌmbənt]	*n.* 在职者;现任者
resistance	[rɪ'zɪstəns]	*n.* 阻力;电阻;抵抗;反抗;抵抗力
jurisdiction	[ˌdʒʊərɪs'dɪkʃn]	*n.* 司法权,审判权,管辖权;权限,权力
initiative	[ɪ'nɪʃɪətɪv]	*n.* 主动权;首创精神 *adj.* 主动的;自发的;起始的

长难句解析

1. But lawsuits from record labels and, in some cases, a failure to find ways to profit from these services meant these technologies ended up being limited to a few services, such as Skype, which offers free internet calling.

【翻译】但来自唱片公司的诉讼以及(在某些情况下)未能找到如何从服务中盈利意味着这些技术最终被限于少数几项服务,如提供免费网络电话的Skype。

【解析】本句的主干是 But lawsuits ...and a failure...meant (that)...。meant 后隐藏了一个 that,用来引导宾语从句 these technologies ended up being limited to a few services, such as Skype。Skype 后接一个 which 引导的非限制性定语从

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句 which offers free internet calling。

2. Initiatives such as the DAO, a novel investment vehicle that lets its shareholders vote on how to spend their money, is not based in any country—not even a tax haven—but on block chain.

【翻译】让其股东投票决定如何使用资金的新型投资工具 DAO 就是一种这样的倡议，它不基于任何国家——哪怕是避税国——却基于区块链。

【解析】本句的主干是 Initiatives is not based in any country but on block-chain。such as the DAO 为一种 initiative 的例子，后接其同位语 a novel investment vehicle...为了解释这个新型投资工具，同位语中又有一个 that 引导的定语从句 that lets its shareholders vote on...。这个定语从句中又嵌套了一个 how 加不定式构成的宾语 how to spend their money。

全文翻译

“问题在于一个搜索引擎、一个大的社交网络、一个 Twitter 对微博占据着支配地位，”蒂姆·伯纳斯-李在 6 月 7 日旧金山的一次会议上说道。伯纳斯-李的看法——互联网已严重集中化——并不新颖，但在最近几个月诸如此类的警告呼声越来越高。权威人士估计，谷歌的众多网站吸引约所有网络通信的 40%。云计算也是集中化很高的领域，由亚马逊领衔，其次是微软和谷歌。这些公司，包括脸书在内，控制了不断增长的个人及其他数据。这种信息可能最终让这些在线巨头“预测、塑造和‘推进’数以亿计的人的行为”。

现在一群身负“重新下放”互联网使命的新企业家和风险投资公司正在显现。这不是第一次新技术反对互联网的集中化。在 21 世纪早期，如 Napster 和 Kazaa 等“点对点”服务允许用户共享音乐文件，而不是从中央服务器下载。但来自唱片公司的诉讼以及（在某些情况下）未能找到如何从服务中盈利意味着这些技术最终被限于少数几项服务，如提供免费网络电话的 Skype。

如果去中心化如今卷土重来，很大程度上是由于加密货币比特币和其基础技术“区块链”的崛起。这是一个分布全球的数据库，不像银行由单个行动者维持，它得由众多行动者协作完成。星际文件系统（IPFS）——为建立更加分散的互联网基础设施而做出的努力之一——的发明者胡安·贝尼特说，比特币和区块链“展示了什么是可能的”。IPFS 消除了网站拥有一个中央服务器的需求。相反，文件都分散存储在网上。

这些新企业是否会如风暴一样侵袭着世界还未可知。一个巨大的障

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碍——以往去中心化的努力未能清除——就是像集中化的服务一样方便和诱人。监管机构很可能抵抗那些超越国家管辖权的项目。让其股东投票决定如何使用资金的新型投资工具 DAO 就是一种这样的倡议，它不基于任何国家——哪怕是避税国——却基于区块链。

另一个问题是去中心化的服务将如何维持生计。大多数去中心化的服务基于任何人都可以免费使用的开源软件，所以初创企业将不得不通过附加服务，如更新、维护和订阅来营利。更为根本的是，避开控制点的互联网能为公司带来利润的机会较少。若要获得能够满足风险资本家的回报，新的高科技公司几乎肯定会面对扩张的压力。去中心化可能符合互联网之父的愿景，但互联网的集中化事出有因。

阅读语法难点精粹 14

宾语从句

阅读理解中的宾语从句是考试的重点之一，然而有一类宾语从句因为结构上的特殊，常常被误认为是残缺句，其实不然。

在“动词 + it + 宾语补足语 + 宾语从句”结构中，it 后面的系动词是可以省略的。事实上，在实际使用中，系动词是不出现的。

例如：

我听说他出国了。

一般这样表达：

I heard it said that he had gone abroad.

而不这样表达：

I heard it *was* said that he had gone abroad.

又如：

我们发现他不可能在那么短的时间内完成。

一般这样表达：

We found it impossible that he could finish it in such a short time.

而不这样表达：

We found it *was* impossible that he could finish it in such a short time.

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No. 15

Between the borders

边界之间

Jun 18th, 2016
The Economist
阅读难度：☆☆☆

文章导读：英国退欧公投挑战了欧盟一体化价值观，却并不是欧盟目前的首要问题。在解决财政危机、难民危机的问题上，欧盟各国存在巨大分歧，无法实行统一的共同政策，从而动摇了单一市场的基本支柱——人员、货物、服务和资本的广泛自由流动。在全球化的背景下，欧盟曾诠释了新一代的国家主权观；但在英国出走、德国独大的今天，欧盟前路在何方？

文章结构

1. 欧盟无法从公民基础中获得新的合法性。
2. 起作用的各方力量缺乏达成欧盟新秩序的紧迫感。
3. 各方对如何解决问题看法不一。
4. 有一部分人正在起草拆解欧盟的蓝图。
5. 德国在决定难民和欧元问题上有过大的影响力，但却不能独自承担所有的负担。

正文

A geopolitical system must balance power and possess legitimacy if it is to be stable. The system faces challenges when power shifts or the sources of legitimacy alter. As Europe developed, champions of Monnet's dream thought the source of its legitimacy should shift from governments to the citizens. But the citizens have resisted.

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At the same time power has shifted. After the fall of the Soviet Union, first reunification and, later, the accession of the countries of central and eastern Europe increasingly put Germany in charge. The euro has strengthened Germany further. When the euro system has required someone to write a cheque, the pen has been brandished by Angela Merkel.

Monnet once said that Europe's six founding countries had produced "a ferment of change", starting "a process of continuous reform which can shape tomorrow's world more lastingly than the principles of revolution so widespread outside the West." It is an appealing vision; but the ferment has lost its fizz. A new settlement is needed. Unfortunately (in this respect) the forces at play today lack the nation-shaking urgency that brought the community together in the Salon de l'Horloge.

There is no lack of advice about how to make up for these deficiencies. One commentator thinks the missing ingredient is religious faith. Another reckons the EU went awry when it stopped being "boring". Despite many countries' chilly welcome to Syrian migrants, some still believe in the EU's importance as a moral exemplar for a world trapped in the zero-sum calculus of the Westphalian state. There are those who call for a dramatic transfer of powers and politics to the centre. They are countered by fans of a radical decentralisation, down to the level of the region and city.

Still others are drawing up blueprints for the EU's dismantling. Brexit is not the EU's greatest problem. Whether Britain stays or goes, the union will have to grapple with migration and the euro, which are even more complex. Its progress will be hampered by economic stagnation. Unemployment will continue to feed populism and frustration with the elites. The fight will go on between debtors and creditors over austerity, debt relief and the ECB. To the extent that people feel economically hard-pressed, they will be even less inclined to accept immigrants.

As ever, Germany will play an outsize part in deciding whether the deep problems of migration and the euro culminate in the development of a new stability or in collapse. It no longer needs Europe as absolution for the second world war, and it has become too big to be just one power among many. At the same time, it is too small to carry the EU's burdens alone. This is the German question today. German

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voters balk at a "transfer union" that sees their savings used to bail out countries in trouble. If transfers and debt relief are the price for holding Europe together, will Germany pay up? Or will it go its own way, with a coterie of close, like-minded followers? What are the borders of the possible?

词汇

geopolitical	[ˌdʒi:əʊpə'lɪtɪkl]	*adj.* 地理政治学的
legitimacy	[lɪ'dʒɪtɪməsi]	*n.* 合法;合理;正统
accession	[æk'seʃn]	*n.* 增加;就职;到达
ferment	[fə'ment]	*n.* 发酵;酵素;动乱
fizz	[fɪz]	*n.* 兴奋,活力;嘶嘶声;充气饮料
deficiency	[dɪ'fɪʃnsi]	*n.* 缺陷,缺点;缺乏;不足的数额
awry	[ə'raɪ]	*adv.* 歪曲地;歪斜地;错误地
calculus	['kælkjʊləs]	*n.* [病理] 结石;微积分学
decentralisation	[ˌdi:sentrəlaɪ'zeɪʃn]	*n.* 地方分权;疏散
dismantle	[dɪs'mæntl]	*vt.* 拆除;取消;解散;除掉……的覆盖物
stagnation	[stæg'neɪʃn]	*n.* 停滞;滞止
populism	['pɒpjəlɪzəm]	*n.* 民粹主义,平民主义
austerity	[ɒ'sterəti]	*n.* 紧缩;朴素;苦行;严厉

长难句解析

1. Monnet once said that Europe's six founding countries had produced "a ferment of change", starting "a process of continuous reform which can shape tomorrow's world more lastingly than the principles of revolution so widespread outside the West."

【翻译】莫内曾经说过,欧盟的6个创始国创造了"一个变革的酵母",开启了"一个不断变革的过程,这个过程比西方世界以外流传的革命原则更能够持久地塑造明日之世界"。

【解析】本句的主干为 Monnet once said that... that 后接宾语从句 Europe's six founding countries had produced "a ferment of change"。之后的 starting 为-ing 形式构成的独立结构 starting a process of continuous reform,而 reform 后又接了一

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个 which 引导的定语从句 which can shape tomorrow's world more lastingly than the principles of revolution。这个定语从句中又嵌套一个说明 principles of revolution 的后置定语 so widespread outside the West,也可以用定语从句来表达,the principles of revolution (that were) so widespread outside the West。

2. Despite many countries' chilly welcome to Syrian migrants, some still believe in the EU's importance as a moral exemplar for a world trapped in the zero-sum calculus of the Westphalian state.

【翻译】尽管许多国家在欢迎叙利亚移民时并不热情,但一些人仍然相信欧盟作为道德典范的重要性,尤其是在这个陷于威斯特伐利亚体系的零和博弈的世界。

【解析】本句的主干是 Some still believe in the EU's importance as a moral exemplar for a world。句首为一个 despite 作介词后接名词性成分组成的独立结构 despite many countries' chilly welcome to Syrian migrants。而句末 world 后是一个过去分词作后置定语修饰 world,也可以用定语从句来表达:a world (that has been) trapped in the zero-sum calculus of the Westphalian state。另外介绍一下历史背景:威斯特伐利亚和约是 17 世纪象征 30 年战争结束而签订的一系列和约,确定了国际关系中应遵守的国家主权、国家领土与国家独立等原则,对近代国际法的发展具有重要的促进作用,被誉为"影响世界的 100 件大事"之一。

全文翻译

地缘政治制度若要维持稳定,必须平衡权力并葆有合法性。当权力出现变动或合法性的基础发生动摇,系统即面临挑战。随着欧洲继续发展,莫内之梦的支持者认为其合法性的来源应从政府转向公民。但公民并未屈从。同时权力发生了转移。苏联解体、欧洲首次统一和之后中欧和东欧国家的加入将德国推向了掌控地位。欧元则进一步巩固了德国的地位。当需要有人代表欧元体制写支票时,挥笔的是安吉拉·默克尔。

莫内曾经说过,欧盟的 6 个创始国创造了"一个变革的酵母",开启了"一个不断变革的过程,这个过程比西方世界以外流传的革命原则更能够持久地塑造明日之世界"。这是一个极其吸引人的前景;但是这枚酵母已经失去了活力。欧盟需要一个新的协议。不幸的是(在这方面)今天起作用的各方力量缺乏令国家震颤的紧迫感,这种紧迫感曾经将大家集聚在时钟沙龙。

关于如何弥补这些缺陷的建议并不少。一位评论员认为遗漏的要素是宗教信仰。另一位认为当欧盟不再"乏味"时就会出岔子。尽管许多国家在欢迎叙利亚移民时并不热情,但一些人仍然相信欧盟作为道德典范的重要性,尤其

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是在这个陷于威斯特伐利亚体系的零和博弈的世界。还有人呼吁权力和政治大幅向中央转移。而他们遭到权力下放(至市、区一级)的激进支持者的反对。

还有一些人正在起草拆解欧盟的蓝图。英国退欧不是欧盟的最大问题。无论英国是去是留,欧盟都不得不努力面对更为复杂的移民和欧元问题。其发展将受累于经济停滞。失业率将继续助长民粹主义和人们对精英阶层的不满。债务人和债权人之间在财政紧缩、债务减免和欧洲央行等问题上会继续斗争。基于人们在经济上捉襟见肘的程度,他们甚至会更不愿意接受移民。

和以往一样,在决定移民和欧元的深层问题最终以新的稳定发展还是以崩溃而收尾时,德国会发挥过大的作用。德国不再因为为第二次世界大战赎罪而需要欧洲,而且德国已经变得很强大,不再只是众多力量的一员。同时,德国又太小,所以不能独自承担欧盟的负担。这是今天的德国问题。德国选民拒绝看到"转账联盟"将自己的积蓄用来救助陷入困境的国家。如果转账和债务减免是维系欧洲的代价,德国会买单吗?或者德国将与一群关系密切且志趣相投的追随者一起走自己的路吗?这些可能性的边界是什么?

阅读语法难点精粹 15

快速过滤人名和职位信息

报纸杂志为了增强文章的权威性,往往在关键人名前后添加一连串的职位信息,由于在视觉上割裂了字面句式,对于非母语阅读者来说间接增加了信息的处理量。为提高阅读速度,当遇到以上成分时,可以依据标点或者意义,自行过滤冗余信息。例如:

Above all, says David Carey, the boss of Hearst Magazines, a big American publisher, they represent aspirations...

过滤表示职位的信息,提取句子主干

原句简化为:

Says David, they represent aspirations...

又如:

...magazines, says Paul-Bernhard Kallen, the chairman of Hubert Burda Media, a large German publisher, remain essential for brand-building.

过滤所有人名信息后,原句简化为:

Magazines remain essential for brand-building.

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No. 16

Near miss at fukushima is a warning for U. S.

福岛的幸免　美国的警示

May 27th, 2016
Science
阅读难度：☆☆☆

文章导读：福岛核事故作为人类历史上仅有的两次7级核事故之一，其对核工业的影响之大甚至超过了切尔诺贝利核事故。且不说普通公众动摇了对核能作为清洁能源拯救人类的信心，就连业内的专家和学者都开始反思目前核电厂安全系统的不足，并通过研究指出官方机构对灾难程度的预估远远不足。福岛之殇是一个巨大的警示。

文章结构

1. 福岛核泄漏事件本可能有更糟糕的结局。
2. 根据美国科学院的研究报告，一道幸运的裂缝令日本躲过一劫。
3. 为保障安全，应加强监视乏燃料的冷却。
4. 美国的核电站可能面临和福岛事件一样的风险。
5～6. 美国核管制委员会对可能产生的损害的预测结果远小于普林斯顿大学两位研究者的模型所展示的结果。
7. 美国本土若发生乏燃料冷却受阻而导致的大火，后果将是空前的灾难。

正文

Japan's chief cabinet secretary called it "the devil's scenario." Two weeks after the 11 March 2011 earthquake and tsunami devastated the Fukushima Daiichi Nucle-

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ar Power Plant, causing three nuclear reactors to melt down and release radioactive plumes, officials were bracing for even worse. They feared that spent fuel stored in pools in the reactor halls would catch fire and send radioactive smoke across a much wider swath of eastern Japan, including Tokyo.

Thanks to a lucky break detailed in a report released last week by the U. S. National Academics of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, Japan dodged that bullet. But the report warns that spent fuel accumulating at U. S. nuclear plants is also vulnerable. The near calamity "should serve as a wake-up call for the industry," says Joseph Shepherd, a mechanical engineer at the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena who chaired the academies committee that produced the report.

After spent fuel is removed from a reactor core, the radioactive fission products continue to decay, generating heat. All nuclear power plants store the fuel in deep pools for at least 4 years while it cools. To keep it safe, the academies panel recommends that the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and plant operators beef up systems for monitoring the pools and topping up water in case a facility is damaged.

A similar scenario could play out at a U. S. nuclear plant if a pool lost water via evaporation or leakage. At most plants, spent fuel is densely packed in pools, heightening the fire risk. NRC has estimated that a major fire at the Peach Bottom nuclear plant's pool would displace 3.46 million people from 31,000 square kilometers of contaminated land, an area larger than New Jersey. But Von Hippel and others think that NRC has grossly underestimated the scale and societal costs of such a fire.

NRC used a program called MACCS2 for modeling the dispersal and deposition of radioactivity from a Peach Bottom fire. Princeton's Michael Schoeppner and Von Hippel instead used HYSPLIT, a program able to craft more sophisticated scenarios based on historical weather data for the whole region.

In their simulations, the Princeton duo focused on Cs-137, a radioisotope with a 30-year half-life that has made large tracts around Chernobyl and Fukushima unin-

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habitable. They assumed a release of 1,600 petabecquerels, which is the average amount of Cs-137 that NRC estimates would be released from a fire at a densely packed pool, and approximately 100 times the Cs-137 spewed at Fukushima. They simulated such a release on the first day of each month in 2015.

The contamination from such a fire on U. S. soil "would be an unprecedented peacetime catastrophe," the Princeton researchers conclude in a paper to be submitted to the journal *Science & Global Security*. For a fire on 1 January 2015, with the winds blowing due east, the radioactive plume would sweep over Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and nearby cities. For a fire on 1 July 2015, shifting winds would deposit Cs-137 over much of the mid-Atlantic. Averaged over 12 monthly calculations, the area of heavy contamination—exceeding 1 mega becquerel per square meter, the level that would trigger a relocation—is 101,000 square kilometers. That's more than three times NRC's estimate and would force the relocation of 18.1 million people on average, about five times NRC's estimates.

词汇

tsunami	[tsu:'nɑ:mi]	*n.* 海啸
devastate	['devəsteɪt]	*vt.* 毁灭;毁坏
swath	[swɒθ]	*n.* 细长的列
dodge	[dɒdʒ]	*v.* 躲避,避开
spent fuel		[核]乏燃料;用过的燃料
calamity	[kə'læməti]	*n.* 灾难;不幸事件
fission	['fɪʃn]	*n.* 裂变;分裂
beef up		加强(增援,充实);补充(人数,兵力)等
evaporation	[ɪˌvæpə'reɪʃn]	*n.* 蒸发;消失
displace	[dɪs'pleɪs]	*vt.* 取代;置换;转移;把……免职;排水
dispersal	[dɪ'spɜ:sl]	*n.* 分散;传播;散布;疏散;消失
radioisotope	[ˌreɪdɪəʊ'aɪsəʊtəʊp]	*n.* [核]放射性同位素

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长难句解析

1. In their simulations, the Princeton duo focused on Cs-137, a radioisotope with a 30-year half-life that has made large tracts around Chernobyl and Fukushima uninhabitable.

【翻译】在他们的模拟中,普林斯顿二人组关注铯137(一种半衰期为30年的放射性同位素);铯137令切尔诺贝利和福岛附近大片土地不适宜居住。

【解析】本句的主干是The Princeton duo focused on Cs-137。逗号后的内容为Cs-137的同位语:...a radioisotope with a 30-year half-life that has made large tracts around Chernobyl and Fukushima uninhabitable。这部分同时还内含一个定语从句修饰radioisotope:that has made large tracts around Chernobyl and Fukushima uninhabitable。

2. They assumed a release of 1,600 petabecquerels, which is the average amount of Cs-137 that NRC estimates would be released from a fire at a densely packed pool, and approximately 100 times the Cs-137 spewed at Fukushima.

【翻译】他们假定1 600太贝可的辐射量将被释放,美国核管制委员会估计一个密集的堆积池起火将释放同样的辐射量,并且是福岛释放的铯137的大约100倍。

【解析】本句的主干是They assumed a release of 1,600 petabecquerels。1,600 petabecquerels后接一个which引导的非限定性定语从句which is the average amount of Cs-137...and approximately 100 times the Cs-137 spewed at Fukushima。这个从句中还有两层从句——修饰average amount的限定性定语从句that NRC estimates...和作estimates宾语的由省略了that引导的宾语从句(that) would be released from a fire at a densely packed pool。

全文翻译

日本内阁官房长官称之为“魔鬼的剧本”。在2011年3月11日,地震和海啸摧毁了福岛第一核电站,导致三座核反应堆熔化并释放出放射性烟羽,两个星期后官员们准备面对更糟糕的情况。他们害怕储存在反应堆大厅池中的乏燃料会着火,产生放射性烟尘并扩散至日本东部更大的区域,包括东京。

根据上周公布的美国国家科学院、工程院和医学院的一份报告,由于一道

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幸运的裂缝，日本躲过一劫。但该报告同时警告，积累在美国核电站的乏燃料也易生危险。这次侥幸免于的灾难“应作为整个行业的警钟，”担任帕萨迪纳加州理工学院的机械工程师（同时也是发布报告的学院委员会主席）约瑟夫·谢菲尔德说。

乏燃料从反应堆堆芯中移除后，放射性裂变产物会继续衰减，产生热量。所有核电站都会将燃料存在水池中冷却至少 4 年。为了确保安全，学院小组建议美国核管制委员会（NRC）和核电运营商加强对乏燃料水池的监视系统以及补水系统的管理，以防设施损坏。

如果乏燃料水池因为蒸发或渗漏失水，美国的核工厂可能会出现类似的场景。在大多数核电厂，乏燃料被密集存在水池中，增加了火灾风险。美国核管制委员会估计，桃花谷核电厂的燃料池如果发生大火，31 000 平方公里（面积大于新泽西）的土地将受到污染，346 万人将流离失所。但冯·希佩尔和其他人认为美国核管制委员会远远低估了这类大火的规模和社会成本。

美国核管制委员会利用一个叫做 MACCS2 的程序模拟桃花谷核电厂大火造成的放射性物质扩散和沉积。普林斯顿大学的迈克尔·朔普纳和冯·希佩尔则使用 HYSPLIT 程序——这个程序可基于整个区域的历史天气数据来模拟更复杂的场景。

在他们的模拟中，普林斯顿二人组关注铯 137（一种半衰期为 30 年的放射性同位素）；铯 137 令切尔诺贝利和福岛附近大片土地不适宜居住。他们假定 1 600太贝可（1 太贝可 =1 万亿贝可）的辐射量将被释放，美国核管制委员会估计一个密集的堆积池起火将释放同样的辐射量，并且是福岛释放的铯 137 的大约 100 倍。他们模拟这种释放发生在 2015 年每个月的第一天。

美国本土发生此类大火造成的污染“将是和平时期的空前灾难”，普林斯顿大学的研究人员在一份提交给《科学与全球安全》杂志的文件中这样结尾道。若一场这样的大火发生在 2015 年 1 月 1 日，由于风向东吹，放射性烟羽会包裹费城、宾夕法尼亚州和附近的城市。如果是 2015 年 7 月 1 日失火，风向转变会将铯 137 沉淀在大西洋中部的大部分海域。根据 12 个月的数据平均计算，重污染（每平方米超过 1 兆贝可且将引发迁徙）的地区将达到 101 000 平方千米。这是美国核管制委员会估计的 3 倍以上，将迫使平均 1 810 万人搬迁，大约是美国核管制委员会估计的 5 倍。

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阅读语法难点精粹 16

过去分词(*v*-ed)作定语

过去分词作定语,则意味着其修饰的中心语是动作的接受者。例如:

There are three tested leeches.

这里有3条被测试过的水蛭。

在以上例句中,leeches 是中心语,tested 是过去分词。表示 leeches 是 test 动作的接受者。

1. 该类定语放于中心词前后均可,但如果该定语由词组构成,则一般情况下将其后置。其意义相当于一个简单的定语从句。例如:

前置

We are surprised by the unchanged condition.

一成不变的情况让我们大吃一惊。

后置

The gift given by him is inexpensive but nice.

他送的礼物物美价廉。

2. 当该类定语用作非限制性定语时,前后常用逗号隔开。例如:

The game, held in Tom's bedroom, was boring.

在汤姆房间里玩的那个游戏糟透了。

3. 有时,可以使用修饰人的过去分词来修饰物,虽然在形式上不直接修饰人,但所修饰的事物与人有直接关系。例如:

The man is looking at me with a pleased expression.

这人带着满意的表情看着我。

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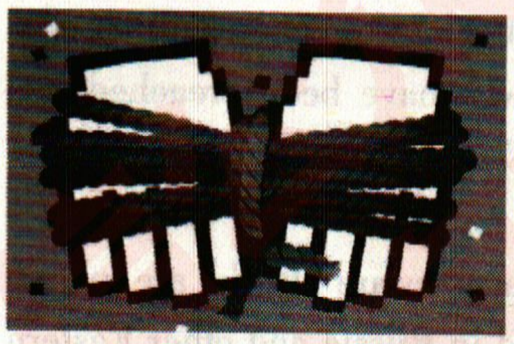
No. 17

Your money or your data

要钱还是要数据

May 20th, 2016
Newsweek
阅读难度：☆☆☆

文章导读：我们的日常工作和生活越来越依赖电脑和互联网。所以当一种叫做勒索病毒的电脑病毒入侵医院、学校、企业和个人电脑时，大多数人在捶胸顿足之后选择了用真金白银换来比特币支付赎金。这种病毒让电脑中的文件因高度加密而无法打开，致使重要数据无法读取，甚至导致一些机构的工作陷入停滞。我们怎样才能够防范勒索病毒呢？



文章结构

1. 勒索病毒通过加密被感染电脑的文件使文件所有者无法将其打开。
2. 文件所有者需通过支付比特币赎金找回文件。
3. 美国多家机构因为电脑感染勒索病毒而瘫痪多日。
4. 勒索病毒十分危险，因为任何人都可能成为攻击者或攻击目标。
5. 网络安全专家将之称做第三次世界大战。
6. 点击钓鱼邮件是病毒流行的主要原因。
7. 最好的防范措施是频繁备份文件和不点击恶意广告或邮件。

正文

The first wave of emotions, victims say, is a combination of panic and powerlessness. They click and reclick on files on their desktops—agendas for the Christian

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camp, payroll data for hundreds of teachers or medical information for veterans—to no avail. Someone, or something, has converted the files to foreign MP3 files or an encrypted RSA format. And next to these unopenable files the victims get a ransom note in a textfile or HTML file: "Help_Decrypt_Your_Files."

"All your files are protected by a strong encryption with RSA-4096 [military-grade encryption\]," reads one note shared by a victim. "So, there are two ways you can choose: wait for a miracle and get your price doubled, or start obtaining BITCOIN NOW!, and restore your data the easy way. If you have really valuable data, you better not waste your time."

In February, Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Center in Los Angeles made national news after it was the victim of ransomware, a virus that blocks owners from accessing their files. For weeks, the hospital had to shuttle its patients to nearby facilities. But hackers aren't going after only big targets. In the past few months, school districts in South Carolina and Minnesota, hospitals in Kentucky and Georgia, and a church in Oregon were paralyzed for days, and many experts believe there are far more ransomware attacks that have gone unreported.

"Ransomware is dangerous because anyone can [use] it and target anyone," says James Scott, a senior fellow at the Institute of Critical Infrastructure Technology. "There are two types of organizations now: those who have been breached and those who have been breached but [don't] know it yet."

While the culprits come from all over the world, ransomware attacks are mainly coordinated by highly organized mercenary hackers based in Russia and other Eastern European countries, prompting some to hark back to Cold War-era concerns. "This is World War III," says Clint Crigger, a cybersecurity manager for SVA Consulting, though he insists he is not an alarmist.

Firewalls or antivirus programs do a bad job detecting ransomware but aren't the cause of the epidemic. Instead, it is carelessness in clicking on infected emails. Two-thirds of ransomware cases stem from phishing emails, according to cybersecurity research company Lavasoft. Rookie hackers, known as script kiddies, can easily

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scrape together a fake email from a senior hospital doctor or school superintendent laced with ransomware viruses. A common method is mass-collecting email addresses from the company's domain name, identifying the top executives of the company using LinkedIn or Facebook, creating a fake email address under one of those executives' names and sending a ransomware-laced email to a lower-level employee with a subject line reading "Invoice" or something else that looks as if it demands attention.

Experts say institutions and people aren't helpless against ransomware. The best thing to do is to backup data frequently, on a cloud storage platform or external hard drive. Scott also advocates training employees about "cyber hygiene," comparing not clicking on malvertisements to washing one's hands before working in a restaurant or hospital. "Loose clicks sinks ships," Crigger says.

词汇

payroll	['peɪrəʊl]	*n.* 工资单;在册职工人数;工资名单
avail	[ə'veɪl]	*n.* 效用,利益
convert	[kən'vɜ:t]	*v.* 转变,变换;皈依;改变信仰
ransom	['rænsəm]	*n.* 赎金;赎身,赎回
encryption	[ɪn'krɪpʃn]	*n.* 加密;加密术
restore	[rɪ'stɔ:]	*v.* 恢复;还原
paralyze	['pærəlaɪz]	*vt.* 使麻痹;使瘫痪
breach	[bri:tʃ]	*v.* 违背,违反
		n. 缺口
culprit	['kʌlprɪt]	*n.* 犯人,罪犯;被控犯罪的人
mercenary	['mɜ:sɪn(ə)ri]	*adj.* 雇佣的;唯利是图的
		n. 雇佣兵;唯利是图者
script	[skrɪpt]	*n.* 脚本;手迹;书写用的字母
superintendent	[ˌsu:pərɪn'tendənt]	*n.* 监督人;负责人;主管;指挥者

长难句解析

1. While the culprits come from all over the world, ransomware attacks are

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mainly coordinated by highly organized mercenary hackers based in Russia and other Eastern European countries, prompting some to hark back to Cold War-era concerns.

【翻译】虽然元凶来自世界各地,但勒索病毒主要由俄罗斯和其他东欧国家的高度组织的雇佣黑客发起,使人回想起冷战时期的一些担忧。

【解析】本句的主干是 Ransomeware attacks are mainly coordinated by highly organized mercenary hackers。句首为一个让步状语从句:while the culprits come from all over the world。句末为现在分词作为独立结构 prompting some to hark back to Cold War-era concerns,相当于 the fact of which prompts some to hark back to Cold War-era concerns。

2. A common method is mass-collecting email addresses from the company's domain name, identifying the top executives of the company using LinkedIn or Facebook, creating a fake email address under one of those executives' names and sending a ransomware-laced email to a lower-level employee with a subject line reading "Invoice" or something else that looks as if it demands attention.

【翻译】一种常见的方法是大量收集从公司域名得来的邮件地址,通过领英或脸书识别公司高管,创建一名高管名下的假电子邮件地址,然后将附有勒索病毒的邮件发送给级别较低的员工,邮件主题写"发票"或其他看起来需要注意的内容。

【解析】本句的主干是 A common method is mass-collecting..., identifying... creating... and sending...。由 4 个-ing 形式并列阐述 common method 的组成:1. mass-collecting email addresses; 2. identifying the top executives of the company; 3. creating a fake email address; 4. sending a ransomware-laced email to a lower-level employee。而解释第 4 个步骤时,介词短语部分还含有一个定语从句:that looks as if it demands attention。

全文翻译

受害者说最初的情绪是恐慌和无力。他们不停地单击桌面图标——基督徒训练营日程、数百名教师的工资数据或者是退伍军人的医疗信息——但一点用都没有。有人或什么东西已经把文件转换成了陌生的 MP3 文件或 RSA 加密格式。在这些打不开的文件旁边,受害者收到文本文件形式的或 HTML 文件形式的勒索信:"帮助解锁你的文件。"

"你所有的文件都已通过强大的 RSA-4096 [军用级加密\]加密保护,"一

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名受害者分享的一封勒索信上写道,“所以,你有两个选择:要么等待奇迹并让赎金翻番,要么现在马上找些比特币,然后用最简单的方法恢复数据。如果你拥有宝贵的数据,最好不要浪费时间。”

今年2月,美国洛杉矶好莱坞长老会医学中心上了新闻头条,因其成为了勒索病毒的受害者;该病毒阻止文件所有者访问自己的文件。几个星期以来,医院不得不将病人送到附近的其他医疗机构。但黑客不只瞄准大目标。在过去的几个月中,南卡罗莱纳州和明尼苏达州的一些学区、肯塔基州和乔治亚州的一些医院,以及俄勒冈州的一座教堂已瘫痪多日;另外许多专家认为还有更多的案件未被报告。

“勒索病毒很危险是因为任何人都可以[利用]它来针对任何人,”关键基础设施技术研究所的高级研究员詹姆斯·斯科特说,“现在有两种类型的组织:那些已受到破坏的组织和那些已受到破坏但还[不]自知的组织。”

虽然元凶来自世界各地,但勒索病毒主要由俄罗斯和其他东欧国家的高度组织的雇佣黑客发起,使人回想起一些冷战时期的担忧。“这就是第三次世界大战,”SVA咨询公司的网络安全经理克林特·克雷格说,虽然他坚持自己不是危言耸听。

防火墙或防病毒程序虽然并不能很好地检测勒索病毒,但却不是病毒流行的原因。相反,大意点击感染病毒的邮件才是原因。根据网络安全研究公司Lavasoft的调查,三分之二的勒索病毒案件源于钓鱼电子邮件。菜鸟黑客,又称脚本小子,可以轻松地假冒一封从高级别医生或学校院长发出的掺有勒索病毒的电子邮件。一种常见的方法是大量收集从公司域名得来的邮件地址,通过领英或脸书识别公司高管,创建一名高管名下的假电子邮件地址,然后将附有勒索病毒的邮件发送给级别较低的员工,邮件主题写“发票”或其他看起来需要注意的内容。

专家说,机构和个人并不是抵挡不住勒索病毒。最好的做法是频繁备份数据至云存储平台或外部硬盘驱动器上。斯科特还提倡培训员工“网络卫生”知识,他将不点击恶意广告比作在餐馆或医院工作前洗手。“小心驶得万年船,”克雷格说。

阅读语法难点精粹17

表语从句

能够连接表语从句的有that, what, who, when, where, which, why, whether, how, whoever, whomever, whichever, whatever, because, as if等。

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注意几点：

1. 表语从句中的 that 不能省略。例如：

The main reason is that most people are useless at fractions.

这主要得归结于大多数人蹩脚的算术能力。

2. 表语从句使用陈述语气。例如：

错误：The question is when can you arrive at the store.

正确：The question is when you can arrive at the store.

3. 在含有表语从句的复合句中，主句时态和从句时态可以不同，这一点要区别于宾语从句。例如：

正确：The question is who will go to Shanghai with the doctor.

正确：The question is why he lied to me yesterday.

4. 引导表语从句不能用 if，只能用 whether。例如：

错误：The question is if she is still there.

正确：The question is whether she is still there.

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No. 18

How to crack a shell

如何打开空壳公司

May 20th, 2016
Newsweek
阅读难度：☆☆☆

文章导读：在公众的眼里，离岸金融中心和空壳公司就是避税和洗钱的代名词。权贵、毒枭、明星通过设立空壳公司来隐匿资产，躲避税收和司法惩罚的报道屡现报端。为了使所有权和实际受益人信息透明公开化，多国政府倾向于建立中央登记册制度，以便相关执法机构或媒体可在需要时获取所载信息。然而没有相关的信息查验机制和有力的执行机构，信息造假仍将盛行，中央登记册制度是否仍旧徒劳无益？

文章结构

1. 税收正义网络组织近年因打击偷税漏税和腐败受到媒体关注。
2. 腐败问题在政策议程上越来越重要。
3. 反腐宣言容易推出，但实践却很难推进。
4. 查验空壳公司的信息十分重要。
5～6. 一些离岸金融中心开始实施登记册制度。
7. 中央登记册成为了新的政治风向。
8～9. 由于成本限制，政府在信息有效性的查验和公司注册的监管上十分乏力。

正文

John Christensen runs the Tax Justice Network, a group that campaigns against tax evasion and corruption. A decade ago, its message fell on deaf ears. No longer.

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After the Panama papers leak last month, Mr. Christensen says international media were camped at his door for days, seeking his views on how to stop dodgy dealings.

Corruption has flown up policy agendas, thanks to the work such crusading groups have done to reveal the extent of hidden offshore wealth to angry voters facing austerity. On May 12th Britain will host an anti-corruption summit. Officials from around 30 countries, including America, Brazil and Nigeria, will attend.

Discussion will range from secret ownership of offshore firms to corruption in sport. It will, no doubt, end with a forceful declaration; commitments may be harder to extract. Campaigners are hoping for progress on corporate transparency, disclosure of payments in oil, gas and mining, and cooperation in cross-border corruption cases.

Cracking open shell companies is the most important of these. There is a correlation between graft and these anonymous vehicles: take investigations into a suspected multi-billion-dollar theft from 1MDB, a Malaysian state fund, which are focused on shell companies in the Seychelles and Caribbean. Tracing illicit funds to a shell's bank account is of little use if you cannot identify the individuals who control it. This worries business people as well as policymakers: a recent survey of corporate leaders in 62 countries by EY, an accounting firm, found strong support for more openness in ownership: legitimate firms want to know whom they are trading with.

International standards on "beneficial" owners (the real people, as opposed to other firms, behind firms) have been tightened, but remain quite loose. The information should be collected somewhere, whether in registries or by company-formation agents, and made available to "competent" authorities when requested.

Practice varies greatly. Some offshore centres, including Jersey, have had (nonpublic) registries for years, having set them up under pressure after scandals—though they rely heavily on regulated formation agents to collect, verify and update information. In America, by contrast, agents are not licensed, and ownership information is not collected, let alone verified.

Momentum is shifting towards central registries. A new European Union direc-

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tive calls on members to set these up and to make the data available to police, tax authorities and others with a "legitimate interest" (such as investigative journalists). Britain has gone further: it launched a public registry last month. Other countries, including Australia and the Netherlands, plan to do the same.

In principle, openness seems a fair exchange for the privilege of limited liability. But there are problems in practice. Those registries already up and running tend to be purely archival: they do not verify incoming information because of the cost. This tempts money-launderers to lie.

Britain plans criminal penalties for false declarations. But unless declarations are checked—and resources are stretched already—ne'er-do-wells may take their chances. Formation agents have little incentive to push for accurate information: monitoring of the industry, which falls under HM Revenue & Customs, is scant.

词汇

campaign	[kæm'peɪn]	*n.* & *vi.* 运动;活动;战役
evasion	[ɪ'veɪʒn]	*n.* 逃避;回避;借口
dodgy	['dɒdʒi]	*adj.* 狡猾的,逃避的;善于骗人的;躲闪的
crusade	[kru:'seɪd]	*n.* 改革运动 *vi.* 加入十字军;从事改革运动
offshore	['ɒfʃɔ:; ɒf'ʃɔ:]	*adj.* 离岸的
austerity	[ɒ'sterəti]	*n.* 紧缩;朴素;苦行;严厉
declaration	[ˌdeklə'reɪʃn]	*n.* (纳税品等的)申报;宣布;公告;申诉书
commitment	[kə'mɪtmənt]	*n.* 承诺,保证;委托;承担义务;献身
transparency	[træn'spærənsi]	*n.* 透明,透明度
disclosure	[dɪs'kləʊʒə]	*n.* 披露;揭发
correlation	[ˌkɒrə'leɪʃn]	*n.* [数]相关,关联;相互关系
graft	[grɑ:ft]	*v.* & *n.* 移植;嫁接;贪污
illicit	[ɪ'lɪsɪt]	*adj.* 违法的;不正当的

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长难句解析

1. Corruption has flown up policy agendas, thanks to the work such crusading groups have done to reveal the extent of hidden offshore wealth to angry voters facing austerity.

【翻译】因为这些改革派组织努力向面临紧缩政策的愤怒选民们揭露隐藏的离岸财富,所以腐败问题在政策议程上越来越重要。

【解析】本句的主干是 Corruption has flown up policy agendas。逗号后面的 thanks to 为习语介词,表示原因,意为“由于”“多亏”,引出 the work。而 work 后为一个 that(被省略)引导的定语从句:(that) such crusading groups have done to reveal the extent of hidden offshore wealth to angry voters facing austerity。

2. Some offshore centres, including Jersey, have had (nonpublic) registries for years, having set them up under pressure after scandals—though they rely heavily on regulated formation agents to collect, verify and update information.

【翻译】一些离岸金融中心,包括泽西岛,已建立(非公开)登记册多年——是丑闻发生后在压力下建立的——虽然他们严重依赖于受管制的公司注册代理来收集、验证和更新信息。

【解析】本句的主干是 Some offshore centres have had registries for years。having set them up under pressure after scandals 为现在分词构成的独立主格形式,解释登记册的建立背景。句末为 though 引导的让步状语从句 though they rely heavily on regulated formation agents to collect, verify and update information。

全文翻译

约翰·克里斯坦森管理税收正义网络组织,这个组织旨在打击偷税漏税和腐败。10 年前,没有人关注他们的消息。现在情况不再是这样了。上个月巴拿马文件泄露后,克里斯坦森先生说,国际媒体天天驻扎在他的门前,向他征求关于如何停止不正当交易的意见。

因为这些改革派组织努力向面临紧缩政策的愤怒选民们揭露隐藏的离岸财富,所以腐败问题在政策议程上越来越重要。5 月 12 日英国将举办反腐败问题首脑会议。来自包括美国、巴西和尼日利亚在内的约 30 个国家的官员将出席。

讨论范围包括离岸公司的秘密所有权和体育腐败问题。会议毫无疑问将

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以有力的宣言结束;但承诺却可能更难作出。活动推动者都希望能在公司透明度、石油、天然气和矿业支付的披露和跨境贪污案件的合作上取得进展。

“敲开”空壳公司是其中最重要的。贪腐和这些匿名载体具有相关性:以马来西亚国家基金1MDB疑似被盗窃数十亿美元的案件调查为例,调查就专注于塞舌尔和加勒比的空壳公司。如果你不能识别控制它的人,追踪非法资金至空壳公司的银行帐户就没有多大用处。这不仅使决策者担忧,也使商业人士担忧:安永会计师事务所最近对62个国家的企业领导人的一项调查发现,企业普遍强力支持所有权更加透明;合法的公司想要知道谁是他们的交易伙伴。

“实益”所有人(真实的个人,而非公司背后的公司)的国际标准虽已收严,但仍相当宽松。信息应在某个点收集(无论是在登记时提供还是由公司注册代理提供),并在被请求时提供给“主管”当局。

实践起来大有不同。一些离岸金融中心,包括泽西岛,已建立(非公开)登记册多年——是丑闻发生后在压力下建立的——虽然他们严重依赖于受管制的公司注册代理来收集、验证和更新信息。相比之下在美国,代理未被授权,无法收集所有权信息,更别说验证信息了。

势头正转向中央登记册。一项新的欧盟指令呼吁成员设置中央登记册,并将数据提供给拥有“合法权益”的警方、税收当局和其他人(例如调查记者)。英国则走得更远:上月已推出公共登记册。包括澳大利亚和荷兰在内的其他国家也打算这样做。

原则上,用开放来换取有限责任的特权似乎是公平的。但实践中却存在问题。这些已经运行的登记册看起来仅是纯粹的档案:他们因为成本而不验证新收录的信息。这诱使洗钱者撒谎。

英国计划对虚假申报予以刑事处罚。但除非对申报进行核验——目前资源已经很匮乏了——那些游手好闲的人员可能会碰碰运气(去核验申报信息)。公司注册代理几乎没有动力去确认公司的准确信息:英国税务海关总署对此行业的监督乏力。

阅读语法难点精粹 18

现在分词和动词不定式作结果状语的区别

现在分词和动词不定式都可以作结果状语。但是在意义上,具有一定的差别。

动词不定式作结果状语,常常表示令人不快的,或是未曾预料到的结果。

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例如：

1. To add insult to injury, consumers and power-hungry industries still expect the power utilities to take up the slack when sun and wind are idle.

雪上加霜的是，消费者和高能耗产业仍然期待着核能设施可以在太阳能和风能不足的时候进行弥补。

2. They got home to learn that the grandfather was ill.

他们回到家，只见爷爷生病了。

3. Jim got to the airport only to find the plane had gone.

吉姆到了机场，却发现飞机早已起飞。

现在分词作结果状语，常常指理所当然、意料中的结果，并常常使用 thus 连接。例如：

1. There are a lot of flowers, thus leaving the room a garden.

这里有很多鲜花，使得房间俨然成了一个花园。

2. The ball fell, striking against the floor and making a big noise.

球掉在地板上，发出巨大的响声。

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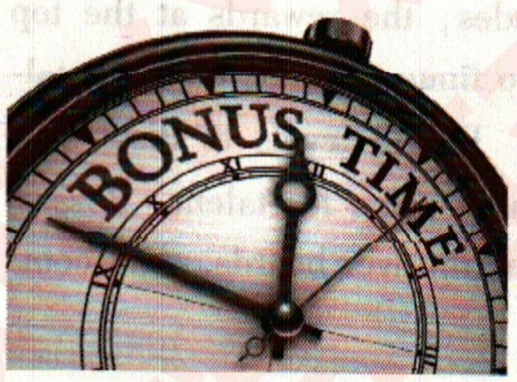
No. 19

Cheques need balances

高管薪酬和股东制衡

Jun 25th, 2016
The Economist
阅读难度：☆☆☆

文章导读：最近几年来高管的天价薪酬一直饱受争议，不仅普通公众对巨大的贫富差距十分愤怒，而且投资者也对薪酬体制并不能有效激励高管们致力于企业的长期发展而怨言颇多。虽然高管们的薪酬是由市场自由决定的，但由于高管人才市场并未（或不可能）达到完美的竞争，薪酬的体制和数额并不能有效促进企业的长期发展。高管们为了获得丰厚的浮动绩效薪酬，常常采取一些不光明的手段刺激公司股价短期上涨。



文章结构

1. 虽然大众系统性地在排放测试中作弊被揭露，但大众的前首席执行官仍得到巨额绩效薪酬。
2. 大众的薪酬政策激起了公众强烈的愤怒。
3. 关于如何改革薪酬支付体系，政客和股东的关注点不同。
4. 高管薪酬的设置由市场力量决定。
5. 但决定高管薪酬的市场并不完善，因为缺少流动性和产品同质性。
6. 不同公司的高管薪酬有共同上涨的趋势。
7. 应通过赋予股东更大的控制权来制约高管薪酬的无理上涨。

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正文

Volkswagen has had a pig of a year. The revelation that it was systematically cheating on emissions tests landed the carmaker with its largest-ever annual loss. The scandal cost Martin Winterkorn, the man in charge at the time, his job; this week it emerged that prosecutors are investigating him for possible market manipulation. But his bonuses survived: he received 5.9m ($ 6.5m) in performance-related pay for 2015.

Bouts of public anger about fat cats are nothing new. But in an era of populist campaigns, idiocies such as VW's pay policies strike a powerful chord. Investors in Europe have rebelled this year against pay packages that hand managers huge rewards even though the share price has dived.

The fury is understandable. But the debate about how to fix the system for setting executive pay is marred by muddled thinking and divergent objectives. Politicians, newly sensitive to concerns about gaping income inequality, care about curbing the vast sums that accrue to bosses. Shareholders, who want executives' incentives to be in sync with theirs, fret more about the structure of the boss's pay than its scale.

Contrary to popular perception, executive pay is set more by market forces than by a cigar-chomping boardroom cartel. In recent decades, the rewards at the top have gone up in numerous professions, from film stars to financiers, as the most talented apply their skills on a bigger, globalized stage. Rising levels of disclosure mean that executives and boards respond to an observable price for talent. Bosses' pay has rocketed even as shareholders have won more control over boards. And compensation is more tightly linked to performance.

Even so, there is plenty to worry about. One characteristic of a well-functioning market is liquidity, but senior executives do not leave their jobs very often: between 2001 and 2014 the average tenure of a CEO at an S&P 500 firm was close to nine years. Markets work best when buyers and sellers know the precise qualities of what is being traded, but boards cannot measure how much value a great CEO adds. Competitive markets have homogeneous products; the evidence that managers can

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transfer their talents to lots of different firms is slim.

The frictions do not stop there. Executive pay has an upward bias. Boards are incentivised to pay their executives at or above the average rate in order to signal they have above-average ambitions—or to assure investors that their new boss is of above-average calibre. That produces a ratchet effect, as a pay jump in one firm sends remuneration higher in companies that benchmark themselves against it.

One check on the upward bias is for shareholders to have more power over the companies they invest in. The pantomime of holding advisory votes on pay should end, for example; if investors strike down pay policies, firms should be bound to respond. Shareholders should use their clout to demand greater simplicity—it is no good firms producing detailed remuneration policies if no one understands them. They should press for longer vesting periods for stock awards, so that executives do not engineer short-term bumps in share prices at the cost of lasting success.

词汇

revelation	[ˌrevə'leɪʃn]	*n.* 启示;揭露
emission	[ɪ'mɪʃn]	*n.* (光、热等的)发射,散发;喷射;发行
scandal	['skændl]	*n.* 丑闻;流言蜚语;诽谤;公愤
manipulation	[məˌnɪpjʊ'leɪʃn]	*n.* 操纵;操作;处理;篡改
bout	[baʊt]	*n.* 回合;较量;发作;一阵
fat cat		有钱有势的人
populist	['pɒpjʊlɪst]	*n.* 平民主义者;民粹派;平民论者
chord	[kɔ:d]	*n.* 弦;和弦
mar	[mɑ:]	*vt.* 损毁;损伤;糟蹋;玷污
divergent	[daɪ'vɜ:dʒənt]	*adj.* 相异的,分歧的;散开的
in sync with		与……同步
disclosure	[dɪs'kləʊʒə]	*n.* [审计]披露;揭发
liquidity	[lɪ'kwɪdəti]	*n.* 流动性;流动资产

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长难句解析

1. Markets work best when buyers and sellers know the precise qualities of what is being traded, but boards cannot measure how much value a great CEO adds.

【翻译】当买家和卖家知道被交易物的确切品质时，市场效用才能实现最大化，但董事会并不能测量一名优秀的 CEO 可增加多少价值。

【解析】本句的主干是 Markets work best when...but boards cannot measure... when 引导时间状语从句 when buyers and sellers know the precise qualities of what is being traded。其中 what 引导的宾语从句作 of 的宾语。measure 的后面为 how much 引导的宾语从句 how much value a great CEO adds。

2. Boards are incentivised to pay their executives at or above the average rate in order to signal they have above-average ambitions—or to assure investors that their new boss is of above-average calibre.

【翻译】董事会被激励去以平均水平或高于平均水平的薪酬来支付高管，以表明自己高于平均水平的野心——或向投资者保证他们的新高管拥有高于平均水平的能力。

【解析】本句的主干是 Boards are incentivsed to pay their executives at or above the average rate...。rate 后接 in order to 和 to 引导的目的状语 in order to signal (that) they have above-average ambitions 和 to assure investors that their new boss is of above-average calibre。

全文翻译

大众流年不利。大众系统性地在排放测试中作弊被揭露，导致了该汽车制造商有史以来幅度最大的年度亏损。这一丑闻令当时的首席执行官马丁·温特科恩丢掉了工作；本周，消息称检察官正在就可能的市场操纵行为调查他。但他的奖金“幸免于难”：他收到了 590 万欧元(650 万美元)的 2015 年绩效薪酬。

公众对于权贵的愤怒并不新鲜。但在平民运动的时代，像大众的薪酬政策一样的白痴行为激起了强烈的共愤。今年欧洲的投资者抗议在股价已暴跌的情况下给予管理者丰厚奖金的薪酬福利政策。

愤怒是可以理解的。但关于如何改革设置高管薪酬的系统的争论，受到了混乱思维和不同目的的搅扰。刚刚开始关注巨大收入差距的政客关心的是对

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向高管支付的巨额资金的限制。股东们则想要高管的动力与他们保持同步，所以更担心老板的薪资结构，而不是数额。

与通行的看法不同，高管薪酬的设置更多地是由市场力量决定，而不是由嘴叼雪茄烟的董事会联盟决定。近几十年来，从电影明星到金融家等很多行业的最高收入都已经上涨了，因为最有才华的人在更大的全球化舞台上施展他们的技能。愈来愈高的薪酬透明度意味着执行官和董事会能够对可观察到的人才价格作出回应。虽然股东们对董事会有了更大的控制权，但高层管理者的薪水仍旧飙升。薪酬更紧密地与绩效挂钩了。

即便如此，还是有很多事值得担心。完善的市场的一个特点是流动性，但高层管理人员并不经常离职：2001 年至 2014 年间，标准普尔 500 指数下的公司的首席执行官的平均任期约为 9 年。当买家和卖家知道被交易物的确切品质时，市场效用才能实现最大化，但董事会并不能测量一名优秀的 CEO 可增加多少价值。竞争性市场拥有同类产品；而鲜有证据证明管理人员可以将才能运用到许多不同的公司。

摩擦还不止于此。高管薪酬有向上的倾向。董事会被激励去以平均水平或高于平均水平的薪酬来支付高管，以表明自己高于平均水平的野心　　或向投资者保证他们的新高管拥有高于平均水平的能力。这就产生了棘轮效应；一家公司的薪酬上涨会使其他以之为基准的公司也调高薪酬。

对这种向上趋势的一种制约是让股东对自己投资的公司有更大的控制力。例如关于薪酬的咨询投票的闹剧应该结束；如果投资者反对薪酬政策，公司应该一定有所回应。股东应利用其影响力要求更简明的政策——一家好公司不会制定出详细却无人理解的薪酬政策。他们应该迫切要求更长的股票奖励待权期，如此高管才不会以牺牲长久成功为代价来操纵短期股价。

阅读语法难点精粹 19

against 的各种意义

against 的意项比较丰富，与其他词语的搭配比较灵活。

1. 表示对比。例如：

One is the weakness of the euro, which has lost 15% against the Chinese yuan, 19% against the Japanese yen and 9% against the dollar since the start of 2010.

一方面，2010 年伊始欧元持续走低，兑人民币、日元、美元分别贬值 15%、19% 和 9%。

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2. 表示与某个方向或过程相反。例如：
Try not to row against the current.
尽量不要逆水行舟。

3. 表示轻轻地接触或是依靠。例如：
She leans herself against the jade door.
她斜靠在翡翠门上。

4. 表示猛烈的碰撞。例如：
During the storm, waves dash against the boat.
暴风雨中，波浪猛烈地拍打着小船。

5. 表示反抗或者抗争。例如：
fight against AIDS
同艾滋病作斗争

6. 表示为……而作准备。例如：
He is preparing money against the school.
他一直在攒学费。

7. 表示兑换，提取。例如：
Mike will draw a check against his bank balance.
迈克准备开支票支取自己的银行结余。

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No. 20

The return of the machinery question

机器问题的回归

Jun 25th, 2016
The Economist
阅读难度：☆☆☆

文章导读：科技的高速发展终将解放人类的双手，消灭地球上一切繁琐而枯燥的工作。然而这个风暴一般的革命进程并不会令每个阶级都平均地受益。正如200年前劳动阶级反对工业革命的大机器普及一样，许多人担心新的人工智能会急剧扩大贫富差距，令工薪阶层失去工作机会。更有科学家担心，人工智能最终不仅是让一部分岗位的从业者而是让整个人类都变得多余；人工智能最后会成为人类的主宰。

文章结构

1. 两个世纪前人们就开始担心新机器的使用会对劳动阶级造成冲击。
2. 人工智能的高速发展令机器问题重新回到舆论的焦点。
3. 有些人担心人工智能不仅会令贫富分化加剧，还会对人类生存构成威胁。

正文

There is something familiar about fears that new machines will take everyone's jobs, benefiting only a select few and upending society. Such concerns sparked furious arguments two centuries ago as industrialization took hold in Britain. People at the time did not talk of an "industrial revolution" but of the "machinery question". First posed by the economist David Ricardo in 1821, it concerned the "influence of

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machinery on the interests of the different classes of society", and in particular the "opinion entertained by the labouring class, that the employment of machinery is frequently detrimental to their interests". Thomas Carlyle, writing in 1839, railed against the "demon of mechanism" whose disruptive power was guilty of "oversetting whole multitudes of workmen".

Today the machinery question is back with a vengeance, in a new guise. Technologists, economists and philosophers are now debating the implications of artificial intelligence (AI), a fast-moving technology that enables machines to perform tasks that could previously be done only by humans. Its impact could be profound. It threatens workers whose jobs had seemed impossible to automate, from radiologists to legal clerks. A widely cited study by Carl Benedikt Freyand Michael Osborne of Oxford University, published in 2013, found that 47% of jobs in America were at high risk of being "substituted by computer capital" soon. More recently Bank of America Merrill Lynch predicted that by 2025 the "annual creative disruption impact" from AI could amount to $ 14 trillion-33 trillion, including a $ 9 trillion reduction in employment costs thanks to AI-enabled automation of knowledge work; cost reductions of $ 8 trillion in manufacturing and health care; and $ 2 trillion in efficiency gains from the deployment of self-driving cars and drones. The McKinsey Global Institute, a think-tank, says AI is contributing to a transformation of society "happening ten times faster and at 300 times the scale, or roughly 3,000 times the impact" of the Industrial Revolution.

Just as people did two centuries ago, many fear that machines will make millions of workers redundant, causing inequality and unrest. Martin Ford, the author of two bestselling books on the dangers of automation, worries that middle-class jobs will vanish, economic mobility will cease and a wealthy plutocracy could "shut itself away in gated communities or in elite cities, perhaps guarded by autonomous military robots and drones". Others fear that AI poses an existential threat to humanity, because super intelligent computers might not share mankind's goals and could turn on their creators. Such concerns have been expressed, among others, by Stephen Hawking, a physicist, and more surprisingly by Elon Musk, a billionaire technology entrepreneur who founded SpaceX, a rocket company, and Tesla, a maker of electric cars. Echoing Carlyle, Mr. Musk warns that "with artificial intelligence, we're summoning the demon." His Tesla cars use the latest AI technology to drive them-

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selves, but Mr. Musk frets about a future AI overlord becoming too powerful for humans to control. "It's fine if you've got Marcus Aurelius as the emperor, but not so good if you have Caligula," he says.

词汇

upend	[ʌp'end]	*vt.* 倒放,颠倒;竖立
furious	['fjʊərɪəs]	*adj.* 激烈的;狂怒的;热烈兴奋的;喧闹的
entertain	[entə'teɪn]	*vt.* 娱乐;招待;怀抱;容纳
detrimental	[ˌdetrɪ'mentl]	*adj.* 不利的;有害的
rail	[reɪl]	*vi.* 抱怨;责骂
overset	[əʊvə'set]	*vt.* 打翻;推翻;颠覆;为……排版过密
vengeance	['vendʒəns]	*n.* 复仇;报复;报仇
guise	[gaɪz]	*n.* 伪装;装束;外观
radiologist	[ˌreɪdɪ'ɒlədʒɪst]	*n.* 放射线研究者;放射科医师
automation	[ɔ:tə'meɪʃn]	*n.* 自动化;自动操作
deployment	[di:'plɔɪmənt]	*n.* 调度,部署
drone	[drəʊn]	*n.* 雄蜂;嗡嗡的声音;懒惰者;无人机
redundant	[rɪ'dʌndnt]	*adj.* 多余的,过剩的;被解雇的,失业的;冗长的,累赘的

长难句解析

1. First posed by the economist David Ricardo in 1821, it concerned the "influence of machinery on the interests of the different classes of society", and in particular the "opinion entertained by the labouring class, that the employment of machinery is frequently detrimental to their interests".

【翻译】它是由经济学家大卫·李嘉图在1821年首次提出的,涉及"机器对不同社会阶层利益的影响",特别是"劳动阶级的意见,他们认为机器的使用频繁地损害了他们的利益"。

【解析】本句的主干是 It concerned the "influence of machinery on the interests of the different classes of society", and in particular the "opinion entertained by the labouring class..."。句首为一个独立结构,相当于 the machinery question (it), which was first posed by the economist David Ricardo in 1821, concerned...句

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末为一个 that 引导的同位语从句，修饰 opinion：that the employment of machinery is frequently detrimental to their interests。

2. Martin Ford, the author of two bestselling books on the dangers of automation, worries that middle-class jobs will vanish, economic mobility will cease and a wealthy plutocracy could "shut itself away in gated communities or in elite cities, perhaps guarded by autonomous military robots and drones".

【翻译】两本关于自动化威胁的畅销书作者马丁·福特担心中产阶级的就业机会会消失，经济流动性将停滞，而富豪们可能会"将自己隔绝在封闭的社区或精英城市，这些地方也许还由军事机器人和无人机看守"。

【解析】本句的主干是 Martin Ford worries that...。Ford 后两个逗号中间的部分为 Martin Ford 的同位语，介绍他的背景：the author of two bestselling books on the dangers of automation。that 引导的宾语从句由 3 个并列的句子构成：1. middle-class jobs will vanish; 2. economic mobility will cease; 3. a wealthy plutocracy could "shut itself away in gated communities or in elite cities, perhaps guarded by autonomous military robots and drones"。

全文翻译

关于新型机器将夺走每个人的工作、仅让少数人受益并颠覆社会的恐慌并不令人陌生。两个世纪前英国开始工业化时，这种担忧就引发了激烈的争论。当时的人们不说"工业革命"，而说"机器问题"。它是由经济学家大卫·李嘉图在 1821 年首次提出的，涉及"机器对不同社会阶层利益的影响"，特别是"劳动阶级的意见，他们认为机器的使用频繁地损害了他们的利益"。托马斯·卡莱尔在 1839 年严词抨击"恶魔般的机械装置"，认为其破坏力"颠覆了整个工人阶级"。

今天机器问题以一种新的面貌卷土重来。技术专家、经济学家和哲学家现在正争辩人工智能的影响；人工智能这种快速发展的技术令机器能够执行以前只能由人类来完成的任务。其影响可能十分深远。它威胁着那些做着看似不可能自动化的工作的工人们，从放射科医生到法律文员。由牛津大学的卡尔·本尼迪克特·弗雷恩德·迈克尔·奥斯本在 2013 年出版的被广泛引用的研究发现，美国 47% 的就业机会很快将有"被计算机资本替换"的高风险。更近些时候，美国银行美林证券公司预测，到 2025 年因人工智能引发的"年度创造性破坏影响"可能相当于 14 万亿至 33 万亿美元，包括雇佣成本上减少的 9 万亿美元，该项成本下降是因为人工智能对知识性工作的自动化；制造业和卫

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生保健领域降低成本8万亿美元;自动驾驶汽车和无人机带来的价值2万亿美元的效率收益。智囊机构麦肯锡全球研究所表示,人工智能引发的社会转型“将以工业革命10倍的速度和300倍的规模,也就是约3 000倍的影响力进行”。

和两个世纪以前一样,许多人担心机器会使数以百万计的工人失业,造成社会的不平等和动荡。两本关于自动化威胁的畅销书作者马丁·福特担心中产阶级的就业机会会消失,经济流动性将停滞,而富豪们可能会“将自己隔绝在封闭的社区或精英城市,这些地方也许还由军事机器人和无人机看守”。还有人担心,人工智能将对人类生存构成威胁,因为超级智能计算机可能和人类的目标不同,从而攻击它们的创造者。其中物理学家斯蒂芬·霍金就表达了这种担忧。然而更令人惊讶的是,成立火箭公司SpaceX和电动汽车制造商特斯拉的技术企业家、亿万富翁伊隆·马斯克也持同样的观点。伊隆·马斯克的警告响应了卡莱尔的观点,“我们正在用人工智能召唤恶魔。”他的特斯拉汽车使用最新的人工智能技术实现自动驾驶,但是他担心未来人工智能“霸主”将变得太过强大,以致于人类无法控制。他说:“如果你的皇帝是马可·奥勒留,那很好,但要是卡里古拉就不太妙了。”

阅读语法难点精粹20

but的特殊用法

1. 用作副词,表示“仅仅,只有”。例如:

The takeover is but a step towards the long-forecast consolidation of a crowded industry.

视频行业混乱无序,本次收购不过是向并购整合的行业趋势靠近了一步而已。

I don't like it. Still, I can but try.

我不喜欢这事儿。但是,也不妨试试。

2. 用作连词,在非正式用语中表示“比起来”,类似于“than”。例如:

We had no sooner arrived but we turned around and left.

我们离开后不久就到达了目的地。

We had no sooner arrived than we turned around and left.

我们离开后不久就到达了目的地。

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3. 用作介词，表示“除了”。例如：

This problem is anything but difficult.

这个问题一点也不难。

Who but you can show me the love?

除了你，谁还能爱我？

4. 作名词，表示“借口”，常常用复数形式。例如：

No buts! We must win.

没有借口。我们必须成功。

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No. 21

Help urgently needed
急需援助

Jun 2nd, 2016
The Guardian
阅读难度：☆☆☆

文章导读：风生水起的网络经济蚕食实体店铺早已是不争的事实。短短几年间唱衰实体零售业不再是一种新奇的预言，而越来越成为正在一步步展开的现实景象。英国老牌连锁商店 BHS 集团在内忧外患之下宣告停业。高管的自挖墙脚是压倒本已处于困境的集团的最后一根稻草。如何拯救风雨飘摇的实体零售业，并不存在简单的答案；也许和任何一种沉疴一样，有效的永远是一张多味杂陈的药方。

文章结构

1. 英国家庭商店（BHS）将关门大吉。
2. 优步这样的创业公司却成为财团青睐的对象。
3. 英国家庭商店（BHS）的没落或与高管内幕交易有关。
4. 实体零售业面临的困境并没有简单的解药。

正文

British Home Stores, for nearly a hundred years a stalwart of almost every high street in the land, is to close. Despite upbeat reports of bank holiday trading and rumours of potential purchasers, the attempt to find a buyer has failed. As stocks run out, the shutters will come down, and 11,000 people who are directly employed in 163 stores will be told to go home. The security of their pensions is uncertain, their prospects for a job that matches the one they have lost in terms of pay and conditions are slender. The jobs of thousands more who work for suppliers may be under threat too. Millions of

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shoppers will lose a destination that was familiar to their parents and grandparents, and hundreds of towns and cities will have another gap in their struggling centres.

Meanwhile Uber, the taxi app that has built a global presence in a matter of years, has attracted the biggest ever investment in a startup, $3.5bn, from the Saudi Arabian government. Perhaps BHS workers will find a future as Uber drivers, working for a company that controls their capacity to work but refuses to treat them as employees. Disruptive technology comes at a high cost.

The collapse of BHS was not, or not only, the now familiar tale of the collapse of real shopping in the face of the digital challenge. Before the end of this month, Sir Philip Green and the man to whom he sold the group, Dominic Chappell, will have to face MPs on two Commons committees to explain why they took decisions that led to them extracting millions of pounds of assets before the collapse of the group in April. Sir Philip, who sold the business for £1 a year ago, took out more than the value of the pension fund in dividends, rent and interest payments during the 15 years that he owned it. Less publicly, a government insolvency service investigation will be asking hard questions about the impact of the policies followed by BHS directors. There is a real fear that BHS may merely be the first apple to fall in the face of an impending hurricane sweeping down the British high street.

There is no easy answer to the shifting dynamics of high street retail, and it will be small comfort for those now facing unemployment that when it launched in 1928, BHS was once a disruptive force too, driving out small independents. Years of relaxed financial regulation may have contributed to the retail group's demise and businesses may have a case when they complain that the rating system is old-fashioned and inadequate. However, economic slowdown and the transformational impact of changing shopping habits will not be solved by a more flexible and transparent system of local government finance. But it would certainly be a big help if online retailers had the same level of tax liability as those in the high street.

词汇

stalwart ['stɔ:lwət] *adj.* 坚定的;健壮的
n. 坚定分子

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急需援助

upbeat	['ʌpbi:t]	*adj.* 乐观的;上升的
disruptive	[dɪs'rʌptɪv]	*adj.* 破坏的;分裂性的;制造混乱的
extract	['ekstrækt]	*vt.* 提取;取出;摘录;榨取
insolvency	[ɪn'sɒlvnsi]	*n.* 破产,无力偿还;倒闭
impending	[ɪm'pendɪŋ]	*adj.* 即将发生的;迫切的;悬挂的
dynamics	[daɪ'næmɪks]	*n.* 动力学,力学
demise	[dɪ'maɪz]	*n.* 死亡,终止;转让;传位
slowdown	['sləʊdaʊn]	*n.* 减速;怠工;降低速度
transformational	[ˌtrænsfə'meɪʃənl]	*adj.* 转换的;改变的;转换生成的

长难句解析

1. Meanwhile Uber, the taxi app that has built a global presence in a matter of years, has attracted the biggest ever investment in a startup, $ 3.5bn, from the Saudi Arabian government.

【翻译】同时在短短的几年内遍及全球的出租车应用优步得到了创业阶段最大的单笔投资——来自沙特阿拉伯政府的35亿美元。

【解析】本句的主干为 Uber has attracted the biggest ever investment in a startup from the Saudi Arabian government。Uber 后接同位语 the taxi app that has built a global presence in a matter of years(在短短的几年内遍及全球的出租车应用);这个同位语中还含有一个 that 引导的限制性定语从句。后面的 $ 3.5bn 也是一个同位语,进一步说明 the biggest ever investment in a startup。同位语通常和限定的名词紧接在一起,对其进行解释和说明。在阅读理解中,考生容易因为语意突然被同位语中断而感到困惑。这个时候我们可以将同位语先放在一边,理解好整个句段后再回过去看。

2. Before the end of this month, Sir Philip Green and the man to whom he sold the group, Dominic Chappell, will have to face MPs on two Commons committees to explain why they took decisions that led to them extracting millions of pounds of assets before the collapse of the group in April.

【翻译】本月月底前,菲利普·格林爵士和他卖出集团的买家——多米尼克·查珀尔——将不得不面对两个下议院委员会的国会议员的质询,解释他们为什么做出了这样的决定,该决定使得他们在四月集团破产前提取了数百万英镑的资产。

【解析】本句的主干是 Sir Philip and the man...will have to face MPs on two

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Commons committees to explain...the man 后接一个定语从句 to whom he sold the group 和一个同位语 Dominic Chappell。to explain 后接一个表示原因的宾语从句 why they took decisions...而这个宾语从句中又有一个 that 引导的定语从句 that led to them extracting millions of pounds of assets before the collapse of the group in April 解释 decisions。

全文翻译

近百年来在英国国内每条商业街都坚定开业的英国家庭商店(BHS)将要关门了。尽管银行假期的营销报告十分乐观,还谣传存在潜在购买者,但寻找买家的尝试仍告失败。随着存货售空,门店将关闭,直接受雇于163家连锁店的11 000名员工通知被解雇。他们的退休金是否能得到保障并不确定,他们很难再找到同样薪酬和环境的工作。而为供应商服务的上千个工作岗位也可能受到威胁。数以百万计的购物者将失去父母和祖父母都十分熟稔的目的地,数百个城镇和城市本就屈指可数的购物中心将出现新的空缺。

同时在短短的几年内遍及全球的出租车应用优步得到了创业阶段最大的单笔投资——来自沙特阿拉伯政府的35亿美元。也许英国家庭商店(BHS)的工人未来会成为优步司机,为一家控制其工作能力却拒绝把他们当作员工的公司工作。颠覆性技术的代价高昂。

英国家庭商店(BHS)的崩溃不是或不仅仅是人人熟知的实体购物因数字化挑战而溃败的故事。本月月底前,菲利普·格林爵士和他卖出集团的买家——多米尼克·查珀尔——将不得不面对两个下议院委员会的国会议员的质询,解释他们为什么做出了这样的决定,该决定使得他们在四月集团破产前提取了数百万英镑的资产。一年前以1英镑的价格出售英国家庭商店(BHS)的菲利普爵士,在拥有该集团的15年间,获取了超过其数额的养老金、租金和利息报酬。不那么公开的调查中,还有一家政府破产服务调查组将会问一些令人难以回答的问题,关于英国家庭商店(BHS)董事奉行政策的影响。真正的恐惧在于,英国家庭商店(BHS)可能只是即将席卷英国商业街的飓风所吹落的第一个苹果。

对于商业街零售业的动荡和变化,并没有简单的答案。也许对那些现在面临失业的人们来说,有一个事实也许是个小小的安慰——英国家庭商店(BHS)在1928年创建时也是一股破坏性力量,它赶走了一些小型独立商店。多年宽松的金融管制可能导致了该零售集团的灭亡,企业抱怨评级系统老旧和不足或许言之有据。然而,经济增长放缓和购物习惯改变的变革性影响将不会因更灵活、更透明的地方政府财政体系而得到解决。但若在线零售商承担与商业街上商家一样的税负,那么这将会大有帮助。

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No. 22

Risks and rewards
风险和回报

Jun 18th, 2016
The Economist
阅读难度：☆☆☆

文章导读：风险与回报不一定成正比。野草般蔓延的编码训练营就是一个典型的风险选择：对于一般人来说，花费数万美金上几个月的课程可能并不能通向高薪职位，只是竹篮打水一场空。虽然编码训练营自称成功率高，但目前的成员都出自富裕的家庭并且已经拥有了大学学历。联邦基金对训练营的试点支持，是否会好心做坏事，降低行业质量并令寒门学子陷入债务之中？

文章结构

1. 编码训练营是信息时代的职业学校。
2. 编程岗位的需求刺激了编码训练营的成立。
3. 大多数学员将参加训练营视为通往高薪的途径。
4. 批评者认为速成班的毕业生达不到岗位所需的技术水平。
5. 教育署宣布试点向编码训练营开放联邦基金。
6. 很多人担心联邦政府介入会令营利性教育公司弄虚作假。

正文

Liberal-arts degrees and computer savvy rarely sit comfortably together. But computer-programming is increasingly where the jobs are. This logic guided Adam Enbar and Avi Flombaum in 2012 to found Flatiron, one of many coding boot-camps sprinkled across America. The camps offer intensive courses in web development, usually lasting three to six months. They aim to prepare students for software-engi-

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neering jobs, while offering career advice and the chance to network; in short, vocational school for the information age.

They have emerged to fill a pressing demand for coders. Software-engineering jobs will grow at a rate of 18.8% by 2024—nearly triple the rate of overall job growth, according to the Bureau of Labour Statistics. So boot-camps are multiplying. In 2015 more than 16,000 students graduated from them, a 138% increase from the year before, according to Course Report, an organization that tracks the industry.

Most boot-camp students are between 22 and 35 and have a college degree. Some have developed an interest in programming since graduation, or see it as a route to higher pay. Sarah Natow, a Harvard graduate, worked in museum fundraising until, dissatisfied with the non-profit sector, she gave up her job and started a course at General Assembly, a boot-camp in New York. She felt she needed "some skill set that would give me an entrée into some other area", and General Assembly offered a fairly quick fix: three months for $ 13,500, as opposed to hundreds of thousands of dollars for a two-year master's programme.

Boot-camps claim that over 95% of graduates find jobs as software engineers; starting salaries, they say, average around $ 65,000. Such claims are seldom independently verified. As the camps proliferate and more second-rate schools enter the market, quality may suffer. Critics also argue that no crash course can compare with a computer-science degree. They contend that three months' study of algorithms and data structures is barely enough to get an entry-level job.

Until now, worries about quality have mattered only to those who can afford boot-camps or can secure private loans to attend: tuition fees range from $ 10,000 to $ 20,000. That is about to change. Last year the Department of Education announced a pilot programme to make federal funds available to boot-camps, which are currently unaccredited and whose students are therefore ineligible for federal aid. The goal is both to open the boot-camps to students from poorer backgrounds, and to improve oversight of the courses offered.

Many who follow the education business worry about federal involvement. For-profit education companies have a mixed history in America; they have been known

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to take federal money while overpromising, offering sub-standard instruction and saddling unsuspecting students with debt. The vast majority of today's boot-camp students are sophisticated consumers who have gone through college. They view the courses as an expensive but necessary add-on, and judge their quality by how much private investment they attract. That is how for-profit education companies should work. To offer these companies the open spigot of federal funding seems too risky, both for taxpayers and for student borrowers.

词汇

savvy	['sævi]	*n.* 悟性;理解能力
boot-camp		*n.* 训练营
sprinkle	['sprɪŋkl]	*v.* 洒;下微雨;散置
vocational	[və'keɪʃənl]	*adj.* 职业的,行业的
multiply	['mʌltɪplaɪ]	*v.* 乘;繁殖;增加
fundraising	['fʌnd,reɪzɪŋ]	*n.* 筹款;资金募集
proliferate	[prə'lɪfəreɪt]	*v.* (使)增殖;(使)扩散;(使)激增
algorithm	['ælgərɪð(ə)m]	*n.* [计][数]算法,运算法则
tuition	[tju:'ɪʃn]	*n.* 学费;讲授
oversight	['əʊvəsaɪt]	*n.* 监督,照管;疏忽
spigot	['spɪgət]	*n.* 龙头;栓;饮水的地方

长难句解析

1. Last year the Department of Education announced a pilot programme to make federal funds available to boot-camps, which are currently unaccredited and whose students are therefore ineligible for federal aid.

【翻译】去年教育署宣布了一个试点项目,令联邦基金向编码训练营开放;目前编码训练营还未被授权,所以其学生没有资格获得联邦援助。

【解析】本句的主干是 Last year the Department of Education announced a pilot programme。为了解释 programme 的目的,后接不定式 to make federal funds available to boot-camps。同时,boot-camps 后接两个非限定性定语从句,一个由 which 引导,一个由 whose 引导:which are currently unaccredited and whose students are therefore ineligible for federal aid。

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2. For-profit education companies have a mixed history in America; they have been known to take federal money while overpromising, offering sub-standard instruction and saddling unsuspecting students with debt.

【翻译】营利性教育公司在美国的历史复杂;他们曾经拿着联邦政府的钱并信誓旦旦,同时却提供不达标准的课程,并让不知情的学生背上债务。

【解析】本句段由两个并列分句组成。第一个分句为简单句:For-profit education companies have a mixed history in America;第二个分句的主干为 They have been known to take federal money。这个分句中还有一个由 while 引导的时间状语从句 while they are overpromising。这个从句后接两个-ing 形式引导的伴随成分:offering sub-standard instruction 和 saddling unsuspecting students with debt。

全文翻译

将文科学位和精通电脑联系在一起总是显得很尴尬。但越来越多的就业岗位涉及计算机编程。这个想法引导亚当·恩巴尔和阿维·弗伦堡在2012年成立了“熨斗”——遍布美国各地的许多编码训练营之一。这些训练营提供关于网站开发的密集课程,通常持续3到6个月。它们的目标是培养学生成为软件工程人才,同时提供职业咨询和接触网络的机会:一言以蔽之,它们是信息时代的职业学校。

编码训练营的出现填补了对程序员的迫切需求。根据劳动统计局的数据统计,到2024年,软件工程岗位将以18.8%的速度增长,几乎是总体就业增长率的3倍。所以编码训练营在大量增加。根据行业观察组织“课程报告”的数据显示,2015年超过16 000名学生毕业于编码训练营,比上一年增长了138%。

大多数的训练营学员年龄在22至35岁之间,拥有学士学位。一些在毕业后对编程有浓厚的兴趣,或者将之视为通往高薪的途径。毕业于哈佛大学的莎拉·奈透开始在博物馆做筹款工作,后来她对非营利行业不再满意,于是放弃工作,参加了一家纽约的编码训练营“大会”的课程学习。她觉得自己需要“一些能让自己进入其他领域的技能”,“大会”提供了一个速战方略:3个月学费13 500美元的课程,而不是数十万美元的两年制硕士课程。

这些编码训练营声称,超过95%的毕业生找到了软件工程师的工作;平均起薪约65 000美元。这种说法几乎没有得到独立验证。随着编码训练营数量激增以及更多二流的学校入场,教学质量可能会受到影响。批评者还认为没有任何速成班能比得上计算机科学学位。他们认为,3个月的算法和数据结构学习勉强够从事一份入门级的工作。

直到现在,只有那些有钱或能获得私人借款上编码训练营的人才需要担心

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教学质量:学费从1万美元到2万美元不等。这种现状即将改变。去年教育署宣布了一个试点项目,令联邦基金向编码训练营开放;目前编码训练营还未被授权,所以其学生没有资格获得联邦援助。此举的目标是向来自贫穷家庭的学生开放编码训练营,同时加强对课程的监督力度。

很多观察教育产业的人担心联邦政府的介入。营利性教育公司在美国的历史复杂;他们曾经拿着联邦政府的钱并信誓旦旦,同时却提供不达标准的课程,并让不知情的学生背上债务。今天编码训练营的学生绝大多数是已经大学毕业的精明消费者。他们将这些课程视为昂贵但必要的插件,并通过这些训练营吸引私人投资的数量来判断其质量。以营利为目的的教育公司就应该这么运作。向这些公司开放联邦资金似乎风险太大,对于纳税人和借款的学生来说都是如此。

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No. 23

The sleep of union

联盟的沉睡

Jun 18th, 2016
The Economist
阅读难度：☆☆☆

文章导读：19世纪英国首相帕麦斯顿曾说过："没有永远的朋友，仅有永远的利益。"将此视作外交圭臬的英国认为自己在欧盟的利益并未得到保障，于是上演了一出退欧公投的大戏。英国退欧的前景将不可避免地助长其他各国的反欧浪潮；一些想借反欧之势捞点政治本钱的政客更是会进一步搅乱局面。然而欧盟面临的困境并不会因之有本质上的改变，毕竟摆在那里的问题还是那些，相关的国家也没有改变立场。

文章结构

1. 与欧盟官员的传统观念相悖，英国退欧渐成定局。
2. 英国退欧助长了各地的反欧情绪。
3. 欧盟是非常时期特别力量合作的产物。
4. 单一货币和边界开放体系均受到严峻考验。
5. 欧盟需要统一政策以应对危机。
6. 英国的去留并不会在较大程度上改变欧盟的现状。

正文

What a difference a couple of opinion polls make. Few brows in Brussels have remained unfurrowed by the declining fortunes of the campaign to keep Britain inside the European Union. The prospect of Brexit, which to the panjandrums of the EU was always such a patent absurdity that it could never come to pass, has suddenly roared into plain view. "We're reaching the point of no return," says one diplomat.

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A Brexit might not lead to a cascade of membership referendums, but it would be a huge fillip to anti-EU forces elsewhere, not least by demonstrating that membership is reversible. (This is one reason why other EU countries would offer Britain a lousy trade deal if it votes to leave.) Post-Brexit, Eurosceptic governments seeking concessions from the EU could also threaten to quit the club. Mainstream politicians would see political mileage in taking on Brussels; recent polls show anti-EU sentiment growing all over Europe.

Then again, the federalists' strength has always been exaggerated, especially in Britain. The history of the EU is not a Whiggish march towards ever-closer union, marked by a steady accretion of powers and a withering of the nation-state. The great push came in the 1980s, when Jacques Delors, a French Socialist in charge of the European Commission, joined forces with Margaret Thatcher, Britain's right-wing prime minister, to create the single market, a product of a peculiar alliance forged in unusual times.

It has been a bumpy ride since then. The single currency and the Schengen system of open borders are the most potent symbols of European integration. But each has been sorely tested by crises that have set nation against nation. Indeed, in recent years, as the EU has become largely a crisis-management forum, power has flowed back from Brussels institutions to national governments, particularly to a visibly reluctant Germany.

Britain is not in the euro, and has little to do with EU migration policy. But the rest of Europe faces a conundrum: to prevent crises, it needs more of the centralisation that Eurosceptics hate. The euro zone, particularly the banking union, remains half-built and may not withstand another financial crisis. The layers of dust grow thicker on last year's Five Presidents' Report, a stalled road map for euro-zone integration. On migration, last year's drama exposed the weakness of a borderless space with wildly varying asylum policies. Naval patrols and foreign deals can go only so far; in time the EU will have to integrate its asylum policies.

Do not expect drastic action if Britain votes to leave. The differences between creditors and debtors that have long stymied euro-zone integration are as entrenched as ever: Germany firmly opposes a common deposit-insurance scheme, for example.

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Upcoming elections in France and Germany will stay politicians' hands for at least 18 months. Still, whether or not Britain remains, the dilemma confronting the EU is growing more acute. To see off the next crisis, the train of integration will have to keep moving. But ever more voters are standing athwart the locomotive, yelling "Stop!"

词汇

furrow	['fʌrəʊ]	*v.* 犁;耕
panjandrum	[pæn'dʒændrəm]	*n.* 首领;自命不凡的人;架子十足的官吏
patent	['pætnt; 'peɪtnt]	*adj.* 专利的;新奇的;显然的
cascade	[kæ'skeɪd]	*n.* 小瀑布,瀑布状物;串联
fillip	['fɪlɪp]	*n.* 刺激;弹指
reversible	[rɪ'vɜ:səbl]	*adj.* 可逆的;可撤销的;可反转的
concession	[kən'seʃn]	*n.* 让步;特许(权);承认;退位
mileage	['maɪlɪdʒ]	*n.* 英里数
accretion	[ə'kri:ʃn]	*n.* 添加;增加物;连生;冲积层
wither	['wɪðə]	*vi.* 枯萎;凋谢;衰弱
alliance	[ə'laɪəns]	*n.* 联盟,联合;联姻
conundrum	[kə'nʌndrəm]	*n.* 难题;谜语

长难句解析

1. The prospect of Brexit, which to the panjandrums of the EU was always such a patent absurdity that it could never come to pass, has suddenly roared into plain view.

【翻译】虽然欧盟的大佬们一向认为退欧显然是不可能出现的荒谬事,但英国退欧的前景突然闯进了人们的视野。

【解析】本句的主干为 The prospect of Brexit has suddenly roared into plain view。Brexit 后接一个由 which 引导的非限定性定语从句 which to the panjandrums of the EU was always such a patent absurdity。这个定语从句中还有一个 such...that 引导的结果状语从句 that it could never come to pass,表达"非常……以至于"的意思。

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2. The great push came in the 1980s, when Jacques Delors, a French Socialist in charge of the European Commission, joined forces with Margaret Thatcher, Britain's right-wing prime minister, to create the single market, a product of a peculiar alliance forged in unusual times.

【翻译】大推进发生在20世纪80年代,当时负责欧洲委员会的法国社会党人雅克·德洛尔与英国右翼首相玛格丽特·撒切尔携手创建了单一市场——一个非常时期特别联盟的产物。

【解析】本句的主干为 The great push came in the 1980s。后接一个由 when 引导的非限定性定语从句 when Jacques Delors joined forces with Margaret Thatcher to create the single market。这个定语从句中同时有三个同位语成分:a French Socialist in charge of the European Commission、Britain's right-wing prime minister 和 a product of a peculiar alliance forged in unusual times 分别修饰 Jacques Delors、Margaret Thatcher 和 the single market。

全文翻译

几次民意调查能够造成多大的影响啊！英国留欧运动声势渐去,布鲁塞尔几乎没有人不皱眉。虽然欧盟的大佬们一向认为退欧显然是不可能出现的荒谬之事,但英国退欧的前景突然闯进了人们的视野。“我们已经到了无法回头的地步,”一位外交官说。

英国退欧可能不会导致一连串的成员国公投,但对于其他地方的反欧势力将是巨大的刺激,尤其证明欧盟成员国身份是可逆的。(这是如果英国决定退欧,其他欧盟国家将向英国提供糟糕的贸易协议的原因之一。)英国退欧之后,疑欧派政府也可能以退欧作为威胁寻求欧盟的让步。主流政治家会将与布鲁塞尔抗衡视作获取政治本钱的途径:最近的民意调查显示,欧洲各地的反欧盟情绪均有增长。

联邦党人的力量再一次被夸大了,尤其是在英国。欧盟的历史并不是走向更紧密的联盟(以更稳定的权力积淀和单一民族国家的凋零为标志)的辉格党主义进行曲。大推进发生在20世纪80年代,当时负责欧洲委员会的法国社会党人雅克·德洛尔与英国右翼首相玛格丽特·撒切尔携手创建了单一市场——一个非常时期特别联盟的产物。

从那时起道路崎岖不平。单一货币和开放边界的中根系统是欧洲一体化最强有力的标志。但这两者都已受到促使国家之间对立的危机的严峻考验。事实上,近年来,欧盟已经很大程度上成为一个危机管理论坛,权力已经从布鲁塞尔机构回流到各国家政府,尤其到了明显不情愿的德国。

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英国并不在欧元区，且与欧盟移民政策关系不大。但欧洲其他国家面临着一个难题：为了防止危机，需要更多欧洲怀疑论者所憎恶的中央集权。欧元区——尤其是银行业联盟——仍然不成熟，可能无法禁受另一场金融危机。去年的“五位总统报告”（停滞不前的欧元区一体化路线图）上面积尘日厚。关于移民问题，去年的事件暴露了这个存在诸多不同难民政策的无国界空间的弱点。海军巡逻和海外协议只能走到这里；欧盟将不得不及时统一难民政策。

如果英国投票决定离开，不用期待会出现激烈的行动。长期阻碍欧元区一体化的债权人和债务人的争议和以前一样根深蒂固：例如德国坚决反对一项共同存款保险计划。法德两国即将举行的选举意味着政客们至少18个月不会轻举妄动。尽管如此，无论英国是去是留，欧盟面临的困境正变得越来越严峻。为了杜绝下一次危机，一体化的列车应继续向前。但更多的选民挡在列车前，大喊“停！”

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No. 24

The NHS has a mountain to climb in its planned programme of change

国家医疗服务系统变革计划前路多舛

Jun 24th, 2016
The Guardian
阅读难度：☆☆☆

文章导读：全球各个国家都致力于建构一个政府和百姓都支付得起的医疗保障体系。英国的国家医疗服务体系一直承担着保障英国全民公费医疗保健的重任；但由于这个体系由政府控制资金调配，医疗机构可支配资源很少，而且公立医疗机构之间缺少竞争，造成了目前资金不足和效率低下的问题。英国政府近年来一直试图改革医疗体系，然而仍步履维艰。

文章结构

1～2. 英国国家医疗服务系统的官员深知只有务实和行动才能解决问题。
3. 政府资金支持将不足以拯救国家医疗服务系统。
4. 改革服务和控制支出同时进行十分艰难且耗时很长。
5. 很多针对医疗系统的计划仍不成熟。
6. 一些官员由于个人利益并不支持改革和大局。
7. 可持续性和改造计划的很多提议可能会被拒绝。

正文

There was something akin to desperation in the speeches by health service leaders at last week's NHS Confederation conference in Manchester. Wisely, there was little attempt to inspire the troops with misplaced rhetoric. The contributions from the two chief executives—NHS England's Simon Stevens and NHS Improvement's Jim

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Mackey—were business-like and practical. The unspoken title was "this is how we get out of this mess". The focus was purely on delivery, with no time for policy. As Stevens put it: "NHS England is out of the strategy business."

There were announcements of a "new programme to fast-track cutting-edge innovations from across the globe to the NHS frontline", but Stevens barely bothered to mention this breathlessly-worded hype in the hall, knowing it was all but irrelevant in the face of the financial crisis.

It is becoming increasingly apparent that the £ 8bn of additional government funding will not be enough. Stevens, defending his position, reminded the conference that the target set out in the Five Year Forward View of £ 22bn of savings was predicated on robust investment in prevention and social care.

Many of the plans are a long way from ready—a lot of additional work will need to be done. But he also sought to bury the idea that the government could be pushed into finding yet more money, pointing out that even if extra cash did become available it should probably go to social care. Meanwhile, Mackey made clear that the NHS's quest to hold down spending while transforming services would be a long one, saying: "We've got years of this."

The two speeches set the tone for this summer's discussions between the central bodies and the Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) "footprints" about how they are going to deliver new models of care while making the local health economy sustainable. Many of the plans are a long way from ready, and the tight timescale means a lot of additional work will need to be done after their formal submission this month. Many of the financial details will follow over the summer. Some health authorities are even struggling to agree what evidence is telling them about local need and establish the big picture goals.

Authorities which either do not engage with the STP process fully, fail to offer a credible way forward or allow the egos of local "big beasts" to override the needs of the whole system can expect gruelling, unforgiving interrogations with Stevens and Mackey. With the Department of Health in serious risk of breaking its departmental expenditure limit this year, Stevens made clear that once the EU referendum purdah

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period is over, ministerial pressure over NHS finances was going to get even more brutal.

With rare exceptions, STP proposals for wholesale mergers between acute trusts are likely to be rejected. Fusing organisations together can create as many problems as it solves, with any benefits likely to take years to materialise. Other forms of collaboration and integration will, however, be welcomed.

词汇

akin to		同类,近似
desperation	[ˌdespəˈreɪʃn]	*n.* 绝望的境地
misplaced	[mɪsˈpleɪst]	*adj.* 错位的;寄托错的
rhetoric	[ˈretərɪk]	*n.* 修辞,修辞学;华丽的词藻
irrelevant	[ɪˈreləvənt]	*adj.* 不相干的;不切题的
prevention	[prɪˈvenʃn]	*n.* 预防;阻止;妨碍
mention	[ˈmenʃn]	*vt.* 提到,谈到;提及,论及;说起
predicate	[ˈpredɪkeɪt]	*v.* 断言,断定
transform	[trænsˈfɔːm]	*v.* 变换,改变;转化
sustainability	[səˈsteɪnəbɪləti]	*n.* 持续性;永续性;能维持性
submission	[səbˈmɪʃn]	*n.* 投降;提交(物);服从;(向法官提出的)意见;谦恭

长难句解析

1. Stevens, defending his position, reminded the conference that the target set out in the Five Year Forward View of £ 22bn of savings was predicated on robust investment in prevention and social care.

【翻译】史蒂文斯为了捍卫自己的立场,提醒与会人员,“五年计划”中提出的220亿英镑的节约目标是以在预防和社会保健上的稳健投资为前提的。

【解析】本句的主干是 Stevens reminded the conference that...。Stevens 后的逗号后接一个-ing 形式的伴随状语 defending his position,解释 Stevens 此举是为了捍卫自己的立场。句末为一个 that 引导的宾语从句 the target set out in the Five Year Forward View of £ 22bn of savings was predicated on robust investment in prevention and social care(“五年计划”中提出的220亿英镑的节约目标是以在

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预防和社会保健上的稳健投资为前提的)。

2. Authorities which either do not engage with the STP process fully, fail to offer a credible way forward or allow the egos of local "big beasts" to override the needs of the whole system can expect gruelling, unforgiving interrogations with Stevens and Mackey.

【翻译】当局官员要么不充分地参与可持续性和改造计划,要么未能提供可信的推进方式,要么允许本地"大人物"自我凌驾于整个系统的需求;他们可以期待史蒂文斯和麦基的折磨人的无情审讯了。

【解析】本句的主干是 Authorities can expect gruelling, unforgiving interrogations with Stevens and Mackey。这个句子的难点在于 authorities 后接了一个较长的定语从句,从句中有3个并列成分描述 authorities: 1. which either do not engage with the STP process fully, 2. fail to offer a credible way forward or, 3. allow the egos of local "big beasts" to override the needs of the whole system。

全文翻译

卫生服务的领导者们在上周于曼彻斯特举行的英国国家医疗服务系统(NIIS)联合会议上的发言中透露出绝望。明智的是,几乎没有人试图用言语粉饰太平。两位首席执行官——英国国家医疗服务系统的西蒙·史蒂文斯和英国国家医疗服务系统改进部的吉姆·麦基——的发言都力求务实。而无人言及的主题是"我们只有如此才能摆脱这种混乱局面"。重点仅仅在于行动,因为已经没时间再鼓吹政策了。用史蒂文斯的话来说,就是"英国国家医疗服务系统已经与战略这摊子事无关了"。

会议宣布了一个"快速跟踪全球及国家医疗服务系统前线的前沿创新的新计划",但史蒂文斯在大厅中并没有费神提到这个需要大费口舌进行宣传的广告,因为他知道在面对金融危机时它太无关紧要了。

日益明显的事实是80亿英镑的额外政府资金并不够。史蒂文斯为了捍卫自己的立场,提醒与会人员,"五年计划"中提出的220亿英镑的节约目标是以在预防和社会保健上的稳健投资为前提的。

这些计划中有很多都远未准备好——还需要做大量额外的工作。但他也试图打消强迫政府投入更多钱的想法,他指出即使有额外资金,也应该投入到社会保健中。同时,麦基明确表示国家医疗服务系统在改革服务的同时控制支出将是个漫长的过程:"我们年头还长。"

这两个演讲为今年夏天中央机构与"可持续性和改造计划(STP)"的"实

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施者”之间所进行的关于如何在提供新的医护模式的同时促进当地卫生经济可持续发展的讨论定下了基调。很多计划都还不成熟，紧凑的时间表意味着这些计划在本月正式提交后仍有大量的额外工作。大量财务细节将在今年夏天出台。一些卫生官员甚至努力承认已有证据表明当地居民的需求并同意订立大局目标。

当局官员要么不充分地参与可持续性和改造计划，要么未能提供可信的推进方式，要么允许本地“大人物”自我凌驾于整个系统的需求；他们可以期待史蒂文斯和麦基的折磨人的无情审讯了。卫生署今年超出部门开支限额的风险极大，史蒂文斯明确表示一旦欧盟公投的帷幕期结束，国家医疗服务系统的财务压力将更加严峻。

除了少数例外，可持续性和改造计划关于全面合并急性病管理信托机构的提议很可能被拒绝。机构融合引发的问题和它能解决的问题一样多，而所带来的好处则可能需要数年才能实现。然而，其他形式的合作和整合将受到欢迎。

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No. 25

Poor Donald

可怜的唐纳德

Jun 24th, 2016
The Economist
阅读难度：☆☆☆

文章导读：最初被大家视为“玩票”的共和党人特朗普自2015年6月16日宣布参选以来一路备受争议。靠着口无遮拦和爆棚的自信心，特朗普竟然不仅未因其政治上的不成熟而被选民抛弃，反而人气飙升。然而以客观和理性的眼光来看，特朗普不论在言论上，还是在竞选活动运作上都有很大问题。可怜的“川普大叔”究竟还能走多远呢？

文章结构

1. 特朗普以自费参选作为自己参选的卖点。
2. 特朗普虽然改变论调寻求捐款，但所获不多。
3. 资金荒的原因是保守党人对特朗普信心不足。
4. 民主党已为电视广告积累了大笔资金，而特朗普却未留有任何广告时间。
5. 联邦选举委员会文件显示特朗普把捐款花在了自己身上。

正文

Throughout the presidential primary contest, Donald Trump's claim to be self-funding his campaign always drew loud cheers. Part boast—"I'm like, really rich" he would smirk—and part a badge of incorruptibility, the claim allowed the property developer to paint all his Republican rivals as puppets of special interests. Voters at campaign rallies would reliably cite his supposedly vast wealth, and the independ-

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ence it brought, as one of their biggest reasons for trusting the businessman.

Loyal Trump supporters forgave their champion when he secured the nomination and abruptly changed his tune, boasting in early May that he would create a "world-class finance organisation" to solicit donors and fill war chests for himself and for the Republican Party. The same Trump loyalists will doubtlessly shrug off headlines that greeted the release of campaign-finance reports for the month of May, showing that he raised just $ 3.1m from donors and has just $ 1.3m cash on hand—sums dwarfed by Mrs. Clinton's campaign, which raised over $ 26m in May and started June with $ 42.5m in cash on hand. Mr. Trump himself sounded defiant, asserting that he could spend "unlimited" sums of his own money if needs be.

The donor drought could still break—a small army of deep-pocketed Americans would commit millions if they were sure that their money would keep Mrs. Clinton out of the White House. The real danger for Mr. Trump is that his money woes point to a larger fear among conservatives: that his presidential campaign represents a bad investment. Mrs. Clinton needs to fund a formidable political machine that employs almost 700 people at her Brooklyn headquarters and in field offices across the country. The Trump campaign employs a tenth of that number.

The Clinton campaign and allied groups are estimated to have reserved $ 117m in television advertising, according to Kantar Media/CMAG, an ad-tracking firm, as the Democrats prepare for a summer air war intended to define Mr. Trump in voters' minds. As of June 20th, the Trump campaign was not thought to have reserved any TV airtime, reflecting its candidate's confidence, to date, in his ability to earn free publicity. Mr. Trump boasts that he is keeping his campaign "lean", delving into conspiracy theories to suggest that Mrs. Clinton will spend money from "the Middle East" and "from people you don't want her to have money from."

But the fine print of Federal Election Commission filings show considerable largesse directed to Mr. Trump's own businesses and the travel expenses of his family members. His largest expenditures in May included $ 350,000 for the use of his private aircraft and $ 423,000 for the use of Mar-a-Lago, his Florida resort (the campaign spent just $ 48,000 on data management). While he is obliged to reimburse his companies to avoid making illegal in-kind donations to his campaign, the

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extent to which Mr. Trump's brand and political ambitions overlap is unusual. Donors are reported to be anxious for Mr. Trump to write off almost $ 46m that he has lent to his campaign, rather than find their dollars being used to repay his loans.

词汇

smirk	[smɜ:k]	*n. & v.* 傻笑;假笑;得意的(地)笑
incorruptibility	[ˌɪnkəˌrʌptə'bɪlətɪ]	*n.* 清廉;不腐败;不能收买
puppet	['pʌpɪt]	*n.* 木偶;傀儡;受他人操纵的人
rally	['rælɪ]	*n.* 集会
nomination	[nɒmɪ'neɪʃn]	*n.* 任命,提名;提名权
war chest		专用资金
shrug off		摆脱;抖去;不屑理睬
loyalist	['lɒɪəlɪst]	*n.* 忠诚的人
dwarf	[dwɔ:f]	*vt.* 使矮小
defiant	[dɪ'faɪənt]	*adj.* 挑衅的;目中无人的,蔑视的;挑战的
formidable	['fɔ:mɪdəbl]	*adj.* 强大的;可怕的;令人敬畏的;艰难的
delve into		钻研

长难句解析

1. Part boast—"I'm like, really rich" he would smirk—and part a badge of incorruptibility, the claim allowed the property developer to paint all his Republican rivals as puppets of special interests.

【翻译】这个声明一方面是他在自吹"我非常有钱"(他会露出得意的笑容),一方面是他表明自己清廉;这使得这个房地产开发商可以把所有的共和党竞争对手描述成特殊利益的傀儡。

【解析】本句的主干是The claim allowed the property developer to do sth.。句首的两个独立成分用来详细解释 the claim,相当于 the claim is partly a boast—"I'm like, really rich" he would smirk—and partly a badge of incorruptibility。而句末的不定式则说明 claim 的用处:paint all his Republican rivals as puppets of special interests(把所有的共和党竞争对手描述成特殊利益的傀儡)。

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2. The same Trump loyalists will doubtlessly shrug off headlines that greeted the release of campaign-finance reports for the month of May, showing that he raised just $ 3.1m from donors and has just $ 1.3m cash on hand—sums dwarfed by Mrs. Clinton's campaign, which raised over $ 26m in May and started June with $ 42.5m in cash on hand.

【翻译】这些忠粉们毫无疑问也会对5月竞选财务报告出炉后媒体的头条报道不屑一顾,虽然报告显示特朗普仅获得了310万美元的捐款且手上仅有130万美元现金;这个数字和克林顿夫人的筹款成果相比,显得相形见绌,她5月份筹集了2 600多万美元且6月初手上有4 250万美元现金。

【解析】本句的主干是 The same Trump loyalists will doubtlessly shrug off headlines。为了解释 headlines 的内容,后接一个限定性定语从句 that greeted the release of campaign-finance reports for the month of May。为了进一步解释从句中涉及的 reports 的内容,逗号后又出现了-ing 形式的伴随成分:showing that he raised just $ 3.1m from donors and has just $ 1.3m cash on hand。而 $ 3.1m 和 $ 1.3m 这两个数目怎么样呢,看看后面的同位语就了然了:sums dwarfed by Mrs. Clinton's campaign。那对手实力究竟多大呢,不比不知道,一比吓一跳,且看后面的非限定性定语从句 which raised over $ 26m in May and started June with $ 42.5m in cash on hand。

全文翻译

在整个总统初选过程中,唐纳德·特朗普自费参选的声明总是引起高声喝彩。这个声明一方面是他在自吹"我非常有钱"(他会露出得意的笑容),一方面是他表明自己清廉;这使得这个房地产开发商可以把所有的共和党竞争对手描述成特殊利益的傀儡。竞选集会上选民会可靠地引证他的巨大财富以及这(给他)带来的独立性,作为他们信任这个商人的最大原因之一。

特朗普赢得提名后突然改变论调,在5月初鼓吹自己会创建一个"世界级的金融组织"来吸引捐赠者,为自己和共和党筹集竞选专用资金,忠实的支持者原谅了他。这些忠粉们毫无疑问也会对5月竞选财务报告出炉后媒体的头条报道不屑一顾,虽然报告显示特朗普仅获得了310万美元的捐款且手上仅有130万美元现金;这个数字和克林顿夫人的筹款成果相比,显得相形见绌,她5月份筹集了2 600多万美元且6月初手上有4 250万美元现金。特朗普表现得极不在乎,强调如果有需要,他可以"无限度地"花自己的钱。

捐赠荒依然能够被打破——如果确信钱能阻止希拉里入主白宫,那么一小撮富有的美国人愿意调拨数百万的钱将其捐给特朗普。对于特朗普来说真正

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的危险在于，他的钱荒源于保守党人广泛的担忧：他的总统竞选代表了他投资不善。希拉里需要资金维持一个偌大的政治机器，她在布鲁克林的竞选总部和全美的地区办公室共雇用了将近700人。而特朗普团队仅雇用了这个数字的十分之一。

据广告跟踪公司Kantar Media/CMAG的调查，随着民主党人逐步为夏天的电视大战做好准备，意图为选民定位特朗普，希拉里竞选团队及其合作集团估计已经为电视广告储备了1.17亿美元。至6月20日，特朗普竞选团队并未保留任何电视广告时间，反映了特朗普到现在还对自己赢得免费宣传的能力颇有信心。特朗普夸耀自己的竞选活动“精简”，挖出阴谋论暗示希拉里花的钱来自“中东”和“那些你不喜欢的金主”。

但联邦选举委员会文件的细则显示特朗普收到的捐款很大部分花在了他自身的事务以及他家庭成员的旅行支出上。他5月最大的支出包括使用私人飞机所花的35万美元和使用他位于佛罗里达州的玛尔拉格会所所花的42.3万美元(竞选活动仅在数据管理上花费了4.8万美元)。虽然他必须补偿自己的公司以避免做出非法的竞选实物捐赠，但他的品牌和政治抱负重合的程度真是非比寻常。据报道，捐赠者急切希望特朗普勾销他们借给竞选活动的近4 600万美元，而不是看到自己的钱被用来偿还特朗普的借款。

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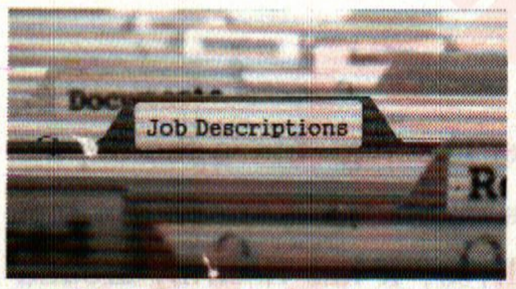
No.26

When a job is not enough
当一份工作不够时

Jun 24th, 2016
The Economist
阅读难度：☆☆☆

文章导读：关于贫穷这个社会痼疾，很多人认为努力工作是最对症的药。然而英国的就业数据告诉我们工作并不足以让人摆脱贫穷。虽然就业率创有史以来最高水平，且失业率也徘徊在低位，但绝对贫困率却不降反升。究其根本，住房成本飙升和生产力增长乏力是工薪阶层贫穷率上升的原因。



文章结构

1. 英国就业率和失业率数据均为有史以来最好。
2. 但贫穷率并未随就业率增加而下降。
3. 英国的工人确实在苦苦挣扎。
4. 非退休失业家庭的绝对贫困率有所下降。
5. 住房成本的飙升是贫穷率不降反升的原因之一。
6. 就业时长不充分也是工薪穷人不断壮大的原因。
7. 生产力增长乏力也是贫穷率上升的原因。

正文

"Work remains the best route out of poverty," the British government argues. The hourly minimum wage for workers aged 25 years or more now stands at £ 7.20 ($ 10.60), worth £ 252 a week to someone who works 35 hours. Unemployment benefit for the same age group is only £ 73.10 a week at best but Britain is a nation of strivers, not skivers. More working-age people are economically active than before: the employment rate, at 74%, is the highest ever and unemployment, at 5%,

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is near historical lows.

All this, you might think, should mean fewer poor people. Not so, it seems. Though more Britons than ever before are working, the rate of absolute poverty after housing costs has drifted up over the past decade. The composition of poor households has also changed. In the early 2000s about 40% of absolutely poor people lived in "working" households, which included people in some sort of employment. Today over half of the poor do.

This is not just a statistical trick: Britain's workers really are struggling. By the absolute-poverty measure, the number of people in working-poor households has grown by more than 2m over the past decade, a rise in the rate of over one-quarter. Even among households in which all wage-earners have full-time work the proportion in poverty has risen over the period. For parents in full-time work the rate of absolute household poverty has increased from 5% to 8% in the past decade.

It is hard to pin the rise in working poverty entirely on the government's austerity programme. After all, the share of non-retired workless families who are in absolute poverty has fallen in recent years. This is a group that relies heavily on state handouts.

A better explanation must include the soaring cost of housing. Since the depths of the recession in 2009, the average price of a home has increased by a tenth in real terms. In London, where about 13% of the population lives, it has risen by around 50% over the same period. On average London tenants now pay about a third of their disposable income on rent, up from a quarter a decade ago.

Another reason for the swelling ranks of the working poor is the labour market itself. The first difficulty is the relative scarcity of full-time jobs. Though the economy has been growing for six years, many people—particularly those at the bottom end of the labour market, whose skills are least in demand—do not work as many hours as they would like. About one in every 25 people in employment work part-time even though they would prefer full-time employment, up from one in 40 before the recession.

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当一份工作不够时

The second difficulty is that median hourly real wages are still 7% below their pre-recession level. This is largely because of measly growth in productivity. In its most recent forecast, in March, the Office for Budget Responsibility, a government watchdog, sharply cut its forecast for future productivity increases.

词汇

route	[ru:t]	*n.* 路线;航线;通道
striver	['straɪvə]	*n.* 奋斗者
skiver	['skaɪvə]	*n.* [英国俚语]一贯逃避责任(或工作)的人
composition	[kɒmpə'zɪʃn]	*n.* 作文,作曲,作品;[材]构成;合成物;成分
austerity	[ɒ'sterəti]	*n.* 紧缩;朴素;苦行;严厉
absolute	['æbsəlu:t]	*adj.* 绝对的;完全的;专制的
handout	['hændaʊt]	*n.* 散发材料;施舍物
soaring	['sɔ:rɪŋ]	*adj.* 翱翔的;高耸的;猛增的
disposable	[dɪ'spəʊzəbl]	*adj.* 可任意处理的;可自由使用的;用完即可丢弃的
swelling	['swelɪŋ]	*adj.* 膨胀的;肿大的;突起的
scarcity	['skeəsəti]	*n.* 不足;缺乏

长难句解析

1. The hourly minimum wage for workers aged 25 years or more now stands at £ 7.20 ($ 10.60), worth £ 252 a week to someone who works 35 hours.

【翻译】25 岁及以上的工人每小时最低工资现在为 7.20 英镑(相当于 10.60美元),对于一周工作 35 小时的人来说就是252 英镑。

【解析】本句的主干是 The hourly minimum wage stands at £ 7.20。本句在语法上值得一提的是逗号后的结构,worth 为形容词,前后均接名词,补全相当于 The hourly minimum wage worth 252 pounds a week。句末的 someone 后接限定性定语从句 who works 35 hours。

2. Though the economy has been growing for six years, many people—particularly those at the bottom end of the labour market, whose skills are least in de-

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mand—do not work as many hours as they would like.

【翻译】尽管6年来经济持续增长,但是很多人——尤其是劳动力市场底端人群,他们的技能需求最少——工作的时长并不能和自己想工作的时长一样。

【解析】本句的主干是 Many people do not work as many hours...句首是一个让步状语从句 though the economy has been growing for six years,表示虽然经济大环境尚可。两个破折号中间为独立结构,解释 many people:particularly those at the bottom of the labour market,而这些人还有什么特征呢,后面还有一个非限定性定语从句:whose skills are least in demand。

全文翻译

英国政府认为,"工作仍然是摆脱贫穷的最佳途径。"25岁及以上的工人每小时最低工资现在为7.20英镑(相当于10.60美元),对于一周工作35小时的人来说就是252英镑。而同等年龄的失业人员的失业救济金充其量一个星期仅有73.10英镑,但英国是一个奋斗者(而不是懦夫)的国度。现在比以前有更多的适龄劳动人口从事经济活动:就业率为74%,是有史以来最高,而失业率则是5%,接近历史低值。

你可能会认为所有这一切应该意味着更少的穷人。但看来不是这样。虽然有比以往任何时候都多的英国人在工作,但除去住房费用后的绝对贫困率在过去10年均有上浮。贫困家庭的构成也已更改。在本世纪初,约40%的绝对贫困人口生活在"工作"家庭,包括以不同形式就业的人。而今天超过一半的贫困人口生活在"工作"家庭。

这不仅仅是一个统计把戏:英国的工人真的在苦苦挣扎。以绝对贫困标准衡量,贫穷家庭工作的人数在过去10年已经增长了200多万,增长率超过25%。即使在所有工薪成员都在做全职工作的家庭,同时期的贫困率也有所上升。对于父母都在做全职工作的家庭,家庭绝对贫困率在过去10年间已从5%上升至8%。

很难完全将工作人口贫困率的上升归咎于政府的财政紧缩方案。毕竟,属于绝对贫困的非退休失业家庭的比例近几年已经有所下降。这些人群严重依赖国家援助。

更好的解释一定包括住房成本的飙升。自2009年经济衰退的低谷以来,房屋的平均价格已经实际增加了十分之一。在约有13%的英国人居住的伦敦,价格则同期上升50%左右。平均来说,伦敦房客现在将可支配收入的约三分之一用来支付租金,而10年前则是四分之一。

工薪穷人不断壮大的另一个原因在于劳动力市场本身。第一个难题是全

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职工作相对稀缺。尽管6年来经济持续增长，但是很多人——尤其是劳动力市场底端人群，他们的技能需求最少——工作的时长并不能和自己想工作的时长一样。就业人群中每25个人中就大约有1个人在做兼职工作，虽然他们宁愿做全职工作。在经济衰退前这个比率仅为1/40。

第二个难题在于实际时薪的中位数仍低于衰退前的7%。这很大程度上是因为生产力的乏力增长。作为政府监督部门的预算责任办公室在今年3月的最新预测中大幅下调了未来生产力的增长率。

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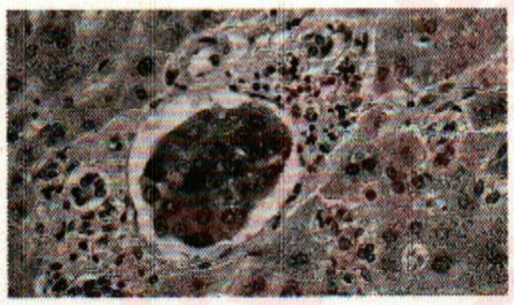
No. 27

Precision medicine the theme at world's biggest cancer conference

世界最大癌症会议的主题——精准医疗

Jun 3rd, 2016
The Guardian
阅读难度：☆☆☆

文章导读：在与癌症作战的过程中，现代医疗屡现不足。传统的化疗常常效果有限且代价惨重，甚至对一些病人并不起效。近几年兴起的精准医疗则强调基于患者的遗传信息测试确定其基因变化，再针对性地选择最佳疗法，即根据患者个体特征定制医疗，又称个性化治疗。毕竟知己知彼，方能百战不殆。



文章结构

1. 精准医疗是今年世界最大癌症会议的主题之一。
2. 英国临床试验将招募乳腺癌患者并对她们进行针对性基因测试。
3. 并非所有乳腺癌患者做化疗都有效果。
4. 精准医疗旨在找到肿瘤的生长原理。
5. 靶向治疗需要确定患者的肿瘤是否有特定的遗传变异。
6. 对所有肿瘤进行基因测绘成本极高。
7. 精准医疗可大幅度提高肿瘤收缩率。

正文

A new era of cancer treatment is beginning in which patients get drugs matched specifically to their tumour, according to scientists at the world's biggest cancer conference in Chicago. Precision or personalised medicine, as it is called, "is about targeting treatment so that it's more powerful, while reducing the toxicity, so there are fewer side-effects", said Prof Roy Herbst, chief of medical oncology at Yale

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Cancer Center. "At the moment it's more like using a cannonball to kill an ant—and creating a whole lot of damage at the same time."

Optima, a UK trial run by University College London and Cambridge University and funded by Cancer Research UK will begin in the summer; it will recruit 4,500 women with breast cancer, whose tumours will be genetically tested as soon as they are diagnosed to establish which will respond to chemotherapy and which will not.

Of the 50,000 or so women diagnosed with breast cancer in the UK each year, about 40%, or 20,000, are currently given chemotherapy but only half of them do well as a result of it; in the other half, the benefit is unclear. The researchers hope to find out which of the latter group actually need chemotherapy.

Precision medicine, one of the main themes at ASCO this year, was described by Herbst as "about finding the right key for the lock—finding out what it is that is driving the tumour, what makes it tick." At the moment it is informed guesswork, so that treatment often doesn't work for large numbers of patients.

The future is already here, said Herbst. Patients who are given the more established "targeted therapies", the best known of which is Herceptin, are already tested to ensure they are among the group in the population whose tumour has a particular genetic variation. Herceptin works only for the 20—25% of women whose breast cancer is Her2 positive—it has too much of a protein called human epidermal growth factor receptor 2, which makes the tumour grow.

About half of melanomas have a mutation in a gene called BRAF. Drugs targeting BRAF have had some spectacular, if sometimes short-lived, results but can be dangerous in people whose tumours do not have the mutation. Instead of these single tests to match a patient with a specific drug, many experts want to see genetic profiling of all tumours, in the hope that they can design a package of treatment to suit the individual. But cost is an issue.

Genetic testing can be used to select the patients who will best respond even in early clinical trials of new drugs, a study presented at ASCO has found. These trials are mainly intended to establish whether the drug is safe, but the study of more than

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13,000 patients in 346 trials found that patients had significantly better outcomes where genetic profiling took place. In trials using precision medicine, tumour shrinkage rates were 30.6% compared with only 4.9% in those that did not.

词汇

specifically	[spə'sɪfɪkli]	*adv.* 特别地;明确地
personalised	['pɜ:sənəlaɪzd]	*adj.* 个人化的
precision	[prɪ'sɪʒn]	*n.* 精度,[数]精密度;精确
side effect		副作用
oncology	[ɒŋ'kɒlədʒi]	*n.* [肿瘤]肿瘤学
cannonball	['kænənbɔ:l]	*n.* 炮弹
recruit	[rɪ'kru:t]	*v.* 补充;聘用;征募;使……恢复健康
therapy	['θerəpi]	*n.* 治疗,疗法
epidermal	[ˌepɪ'dɜ:ml]	*adj.* [解剖][动]表皮的;外皮的
melanoma	[ˌmelə'nəumə]	*n.* [肿瘤]黑素瘤;胎记瘤
mutation	[mju:'teɪʃn]	*n.* [遗]突变;变化;元音变化
spectacular	[spek'tækjələ]	*adj.* 壮观的,惊人的;公开展示的

长难句解析

1. ...it will recruit 4,500 women with breast cancer, whose tumours will be genetically tested as soon as they are diagnosed to establish which will respond to chemotherapy and which will not.

【翻译】它将招募4 500名乳腺癌女性患者,一旦确诊哪些患者做化疗有效哪些无效,即会对这些患者的肿瘤进行基因测试。

【解析】本句的主干是It will recruit 4,500 women with breast cancer。后接whose引导的非限定性定语从句修饰women:whose tumours will be genetically tested。从句中又有一个as soon as引导的状语从句as soon as they are diagnosed。而diagnose(诊断)的目的是什么呢,后面又接一个带宾语从句的不定式:to establish which will respond to chemotherapy and which will not。

2. Patients who are given the more established "targeted therapies", the best known of which is Herceptin, are already tested to ensure they are among the group in the population whose tumour has a particular genetic variation.

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【翻译】那些获得更高级的“靶向治疗”的病人已经接受了测试(其中最著名的治疗药物是赫赛汀),这样以便确保他们体内的肿瘤有一种特定的基因变异。

【解析】本句的主干是 Patients are already tested to ensure (that)…在主干的基础上,这个长句通过修饰主语 patients 的定语从句 who are given the more established “targeted therapies” 和不定式 to ensure 的宾语从句(that) they are among the group in the population 扩展了句子的层次。同时在这两个从句中,还有进一步的分层:1. 为了举例说明 targeted therapies,其后出现了同位语成分 the best known of which is Herceptin;2. 修饰 population 的定语从句 whose tumour has a particular genetic variation。

全文翻译

根据在芝加哥举行的世界最大癌症会议上科学家的发言,癌症治疗新时代正在开启,患者可以获得专门为他们的肿瘤定制的药物。精准医疗,又称个性化医疗,“是目标导向治疗,治疗效果更强的同时也降低毒性,所以副作用也更少”,耶鲁大学癌症中心肿瘤内科主任罗伊·赫布斯特教授说,“目前这个阶段更像是用炮弹杀死蚂蚁——同时造成巨大的伤害。”

由伦敦大学和剑桥大学共同管理,英国癌症研究中心资助的临床试验“最优解”将于夏季启动;它将招募4 500名乳腺癌女性患者,一旦确诊哪些患者做化疗有效哪些无效,即会对这些患者的肿瘤进行基因测试。

英国每年被诊断为乳腺癌的妇女在5万左右,其中约40%或2万人目前正在做化疗,但仅有一半人因之获益;而另一半人则未见明显益处。研究人员希望找出后一部分人群中哪些人真正需要化疗。

正如赫布斯特所描述的,本年美国临床肿瘤学会的主题之一——精准医疗——是“关于给锁找到正确的钥匙:找出是什么驱使肿瘤生长,它的生长规律是怎样的”。目前只是基于所知信息的推测,所以治疗往往对很多病人并没有效果。

赫布斯特说,未来已经在这里了。那些获得更高级的“靶向治疗”的病人已经接受了测试(其中最著名的治疗药物是赫赛汀)这样以便确保他们体内的肿瘤有一种特定的基因变异。赫赛汀只对20—25%的乳腺癌患者有效,她们的乳腺癌呈Her2阳性——含有太多被称为人类表皮生长因子受体2的蛋白质,这种蛋白质会促使肿瘤生长。

大约一半的恶性黑色素瘤会发生一种叫做BRAF的基因突变。针对BRAF的靶向药物有一些极好(但有时也是短暂)的效果,但对于肿瘤没有这种基因突

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变的患者来说可能相当危险。比起利用这样的单独测试找出特定药物来匹配每一位患者，很多专家更想要对所有肿瘤进行基因测绘，希望能够设计出一整套针对个人的治疗方案。但成本是个问题。

美国临床肿瘤学会提出的一项研究发现表明，即使在新药的早期临床试验中，基因检测也可以用来选择会有最佳反应的患者。这些试验主要目的是确定该药物是否安全，但这项涉及346个试验，有超过1.3万名病人参与的研究发现，对于那些进行过遗传分析的患者，效果明显更好。在使用精准医疗的试验中，肿瘤收缩率达30.6%，而没有使用精准医疗的则仅有4.9%。

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No. 28

No business like show business

轻歌曼舞好营生

Jun 18th, 2016
The Economist
阅读难度：☆☆☆

文章导读：现代媒体技术的高速发展令电影电视可以以更低的成本达到更好的传播效果和更惊人的产出。但同为讲故事的艺术，舞台剧却显得古老且关注度低。然而音乐剧《汉密尔顿》出人意料的成功提示我们舞台艺术的商业价值也不容小觑。长期上演和世界巡回的经典剧目甚至可以获得电影无法企及的高收入。

文章结构

1. 音乐剧《汉密尔顿》的成功出人意料。
2. 最成功的音乐剧可超越电影银幕。
3. 剧院可以竞争过电影的规模经济令人难解。
4. 很难预见《汉密尔顿》会如此成功。
5. 邀请好莱坞明星可提升音乐剧成功的机率。
6. 《汉密尔顿》的词曲作者是托尼奖获得者。
7. 《汉密尔顿》平均周收入是有史以来百老汇最高的。

正文

"Hamilton", a hip-hop musical about one of America's founding fathers and the architect of its financial system, is an unlikely smash. Lin-Manuel Miranda's creation has been the hottest ticket on Broadway since the show started in July last year. On June 12th it won 11 Tony awards, theatre's equivalent of Oscars. Its success is widely credited with convincing the Treasury to keep Alexander Hamilton on the $ 10 bill. But if its cultural heft is clear, its commercial achievements may be just as re-

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markable.

"Hamilton" serves as a reminder that although Broadway is rarely regarded as a big business in the same way as Hollywood is, the most successful musicals can outperform the silver screen. No film has ever banked $ 1 billion at the box office in North America, but three musicals—"The Phantom of the Opera", "The Lion King" and "Wicked"—have exceeded this benchmark on Broadway, admittedly over long runs. The gap widens further when counting performances worldwide. Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Phantom", began life on the London stage in 1986 before transferring to Broadway and beyond. It has earned $ 6 billion globally, more than twice the worldwide take of "Avatar", the film industry's record-holder.

At first glance, it is hard to fathom how theatre can compete with film's economies of scale. Many more people can see a movie; the biggest venues on Broadway seat fewer than 2,000 people a night. But scarcity also means prices are high: $ 100 a ticket for two hours of entertainment is common, about five times what it costs to go to the cinema. And popular shows run and run. "Phantom" still takes over $ 1m in a good week.

Given what people knew about "Hamilton" when it first launched, there was little hope of foreseeing the scale of its success. Two approaches appear relatively reliable paths to triumph on Broadway. One is to put successful films on the stage. Musicals based on films have grossed $ 145,000 more on average during their opening weeks than those that were not. "Hamilton", by contrast, is based on a stodgy 832-page biography.

A second tried-and-tested approach is to bring in a Hollywood star: "Lucky Guy", with Tom Hanks, rapidly sold out its entire three-month spell in 2013. The presence of a well-known actor can be expected to elevate a musical's probability of selling out in its opening week from 21% to 59%, while an A-list actor can bring the odds up to 92%. Yet "Hamilton" has no big stars.

One thing that "Hamilton" does have is a proven hitmaker in Mr. Miranda. His previous musical, "In the Heights", won four Tony awards and its total revenues exceeded $ 100m. But the past success of a show's writers and composers matters lit-

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tle. Even Broadway's biggest winners have trouble repeating past glories.

Yet despite not conforming to the template for commercial triumph, "Hamilton" has achieved the highest average weekly revenues of any Broadway show ever and is one of the biggest outliers of the past 30 years.

词汇

founding father		开国元勋;创建人
architect	['ɑ:kɪtekt]	*n.* 建筑师
credit	['kredɪt]	*vt.* 相信,信任;把……归给,归功于;赞颂
heft	[heft]	*n.* 重量;重要性
remarkable	[rɪ'mɑ:kəbl]	*adj.* 卓越的;非凡的;值得注意的
outperform	[ˌautpə'fɔ:m]	*vt.* 胜过;做得比……好
benchmark	['bentʃmɑ:k]	*n.* 基准;标准检查程序
record-holder	['rekɔ:dˌhəuldə]	*n.* 纪录保持者;保持最高纪录者
fathom	['fæðəm]	*vt.* 看穿;彻底了解;测量……的深度
economies of scale		规模经济
venue	['venju:]	*n.* 审判地;犯罪地点;发生地点;集合地点
scarcity	['skeəsəti]	*n.* 不足;缺乏

长难句解析

1. "Hamilton" serves as a reminder that although Broadway is rarely regarded as a big business in the same way as Hollywood is, the most successful musicals can outperform the silver screen.

【翻译】《汉密尔顿》提醒人们,虽然百老汇很少被视为是和好莱坞一样的大生意,但其最成功的音乐剧可超越银幕。

【解析】本句的主干是"Hamilton" serves as a reminder。紧跟的 that 后面的部分是修饰 reminder 的同位语从句 the most successful musicals can outperform the silver screen。而这个同位语从句中还包括一个让步状语从句:although Broadway is rarely regarded as a big business in the same way as Hollywood is。

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2. The presence of a well-known actor can be expected to elevate a musical's probability of selling out in its opening week from 21% to 59%, while an A-list actor can bring the odds up to 92%.

【翻译】著名演员的参演能将首演周售尽演出票的几率从21%提升至59%,而一位A级演员的加入则能将之提升至92%。

【解析】本句的主干是 The presence of a well-known actor can be expected to elevate a musical's probability of selling out in its opening week。而逗号后为 while 连接的并列句 while an A-list actor can bring the odds up to 92%(而一位A级演员的加入则能将之提升至92%)。这里谈一下同义词的指代妙用:在这个句子里 the odds 指代了前面的 a musical's probability of selling out in its opening week;很明显指代的本体很长,若要再次提起,则必然用到指代,而用代词又容易出现指代不明,所以这里用了 probability 的同义词 odds,加上 the 起到了指代的作用。

全文翻译

一部关于美国开国元勋之一(同时他也是美国金融体系架构师)的嘻哈音乐剧《汉密尔顿》出人意料地获得了成功。这部林-曼努尔·米兰达的创作是自去年7月上演以来百老汇最热门的表演。6月12日,它赢得了戏剧界的奥斯卡——托尼奖的11项大奖。人们普遍认为该剧的成功说服了财政部继续保留10美元纸币上亚历山大·汉密尔顿的头像。但如果说它的文化影响力显而易见的话,那么它的商业成就也一样显著。

《汉密尔顿》提醒人们,虽然百老汇很少被视为是和好莱坞一样的大生意,但最成功的音乐剧可超越银幕。诚然在很长的一段时间内,北美没有电影赚过10亿票房,但3部音乐剧——《歌剧魅影》《狮子王》和《女巫前传》的票房均在百老汇超过了这个数字。如果将世界范围内的表演都包括在内,差距就进一步扩大了。安德鲁·劳埃德·韦伯的《歌剧魅影》,于1986年在伦敦首演,之后又在百老汇和其他各地演出。它在全球范围内共赚了60亿美元,比电影业纪录保持者《阿凡达》全球收入的2倍还多。

乍一看,我们很难理解剧院是如何与电影的规模经济相竞争的。更多的人可以看到一部电影;而百老汇最大的剧场一晚只能容下不到2 000人。但稀缺意味着高价:100美元1张票享受2个小时的娱乐很常见,这是电影消费的5倍。受欢迎的剧目会一直上演。《歌剧魅影》在生意好的一周仍可以获得超过100万美元的收入。

《汉密尔顿》首演时人们对其知之甚少,几乎难以预见它会如此成功。有两

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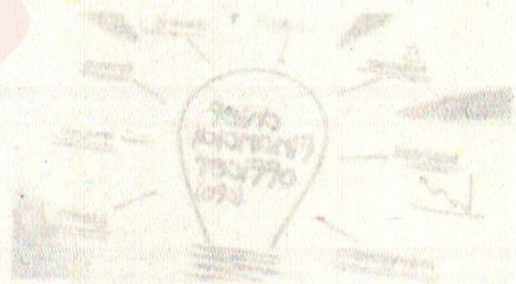
条在百老汇获得成功的相对可靠的路径。一是将成功的影片搬上舞台。基于电影的音乐剧在首演周的票房比其他非改编自电影的音乐剧的票房平均高出14.5万美元。相比之下,《汉密尔顿》只是基于古板的832页的传记。

另一种被证实的方法是请一位好莱坞明星:汤姆·汉克斯参演的《幸运儿》在2013年迅速地卖出了整3个月档期的票。著名演员的参演能将首演周售尽演出票的几率从21%提升至59%,而一位A级演员的加入则能将之提升至92%。可《汉密尔顿》没有大明星。

《汉密尔顿》有的是创作了其他成功戏剧的米兰达先生。他以前的音乐剧《身在高地》获得了4项托尼奖且其收入总额超过1亿美元。但是剧作家和作曲家过去的成功无关紧要。甚至百老汇最成功的获奖者们都很难重演过去的辉煌。

然而尽管《汉密尔顿》不符合商业成功的模板,但它的平均周收入是有史以来百老汇最高的,它是过去30年来最大的黑马之一。



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No. 29

The imperial CFO
首席财务官“陛下”

Jun 18th, 2016
The Economist
阅读难度：☆☆☆

文章导读：大众印象中，公司里说一不二的最高权威是首席执行官。然而事实上他们的光芒却更多地被公司的创始人或投资人所掩盖。并且作为聘用制的职业经理人，他们越来越信奉服务型领导力。而首席财务官却在现代企业中崛起，成为掌控公司从发展方向到日常经营各个方面的新权贵。

文章结构

1. 首席财务官成了新的企业权力人物。
2. 首席财务官在公司重大事务中拥有一票否决权。
3. 董事会和分析师更在意首席财务官的意见。
4. 股东价值运动推动了首席财务官的崛起。
5. 很难判断首席财务官的控制力过大是否是好事。
6. 现代化的管理工具可能会成为首席财务官伪造业绩的帮手。

正文

The days of imperial CEOs have long gone. Today's chief executives do their best to contain their egos and, instead, project a modest image. They talk about "servant leadership" and make a point of cultivating their "stakeholders". And yet a new authority figure has emerged within companies, much less exuberant than old-fashioned autocratic CEOs but just as determined to amass power: the imperial CFO.

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首席财务官“陛下”

Chief financial officers barely existed 50 years ago: company accounts were administered by mysterious people called “comptrollers”. Today, CFOs are at the heart of all the world's big firms. They are the only executive other than the chief who is feared by everybody: a “no” from the CFO means that your precious project is dead. Finance chiefs play a growing role in shaping the scope and direction of a company. They wield the red pen through the prism of corporate strategy and allocate capital with a view to bringing that strategy to life. CFOs also play a growing role in overseeing corporate operations. They now spend much of their time inspecting operations— dropping in here, there and everywhere to see what the accounts mean in practice.

The other province colonised by CFOs is external relations. They spend plenty of time talking to investors, board directors, regulators and other stakeholders. Analysts will often pay more attention to the views of the finance supremo than to those of the ultimate boss. The same can even be true of boards: Leo Apotheker's days as CEO of Hewlett-Packard were numbered when his CFO, Cathie Lesjak, told the board that she strongly opposed his decision to buy Autonomy, a software company.

Several things explain the rise of the CFO. The shareholder value movement played a role in promoting them and giving them a bigger role in setting corporate goals. Andrew Fastow, who was convicted for his role in the demise of Enron, was an ominous early occupant of the co-pilot's seat. The Sarbanes-Oxley legislation that was brought in to clear up that mess codified the CFO's role as the CEO's partner at the top of the corporate pyramid.

It is hard to work out whether an imperial CFO is a good thing. Encouragingly, there is growing diversity and professionalism. Women hold 13% of CFO positions at America's leading companies, against only just under 5% of the top jobs. Today's finance chiefs are better trained than their predecessors, and more likely to have degrees and experience in a broad range of corporate functions.

But the example of Mr. Fastow should serve as a warning. CFOs owe a higher proportion of their pay to performance than any other corporate officer other than the CEO. At the same time they are subjected to a welter of conflicting pressures—acting as spin-doctors and bean-counters as well as corporate strategists and auditors. The

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growing number of tools at a CFO's disposal may allow them to measure corporate performance more accurately but it also enables them to shuffle figures to produce the best results.

词汇

imperial	[ɪm'pɪərɪəl]	*adj.* 帝国的;皇帝的;至高无上的;威严的
ego	['i:gəʊ]	*n.* 自我;自负;自我意识
project	[prə'dʒekt]	*v.* 设计;计划;发射;放映
stakeholder	['steɪkhəʊldə]	*n.* 利益相关者
exuberant	[ɪg'zju:bərənt]	*adj.* 繁茂的;生气勃勃的,充溢的
autocratic	[ˌɔ:tə'krætɪk]	*adj.* 专制的;独裁的,专横的
amass	[ə'mæs]	*vt.* 积聚,积累
mysterious	[mɪ'stɪərɪəs]	*adj.* 神秘的;不可思议的;难解的
comptroller	[kən'trəʊlə]	*n.* 审计官;监查官
wield	[wi:ld]	*vt.* 使用;行使;挥舞
prism	['prɪzm]	*n.* 棱镜;[晶体][数]棱柱
allocate	['æləkeɪt]	*v.* 分配;指定

长难句解析

1. Leo Apotheker's days as CEO of Hewlett-Packard were numbered when his CFO, Cathie Lesjak, told the board that she strongly opposed his decision to buy Autonomy, a software company.

【翻译】当首席财务官凯西·莱斯杰克告诉董事会自己强烈反对首席执行官收购软件公司 Autonomy 的决定时,李艾科在惠普当首席执行官的日子就已经屈指可数了。

【解析】本句的主干是 Leo Apotheker's days as CEO of Hewlett-Packard were numbered。后接 when 引导的时间状语从句 when his CFO, Cathie Lesjak, told the board...。其后为 that 引导的宾语从句:that she strongly opposed his decision to buy Autonomy, a software company。

2. The Sarbanes – Oxley legislation that was brought in to clear up that mess codified the CFO's role as the CEO's partner at the top of the corporate pyramid.

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首席财务官“陛下”

【翻译】用来收拾残局的萨班斯－奥克斯利法案规定了首席财务官作为首席执行官搭档位居公司金字塔最顶层的地位。

【解析】本句的主干是 The Sarbanes－Oxley legislation codified the CFO's role as...。legislation 后接了一个 that 引导的限制性定语从句解释立法的目的：that was brought in to clear up that mess。as 后的内容是为了解释具体是什么样的地位(role)：the CEO's partner at the top of the corporate pyramid。

全文翻译

首席执行官一人独大的日子已经一去不复返了。今天的首席执行官想尽办法收敛个人欲望，展现温和的形象。他们谈论“服务型领导”，特别注意平衡各个利益相关方。然而企业出现了新的权力人物，他们没有守旧的的专制型首席执行官们劲头足，但同样下定决心去聚敛权力：他们就是首席财务官“陛下”。

半个世纪以前并没有首席财务官这个职位：公司账户由被称为“财务审计官”的神秘人物掌管。今天首席财务官处于世界上所有大公司的核心。他们是除了首席执行官外唯一每个人都害怕的角色：首席财务官的否决意味着你宝贵的项目被毙了。首席财务官在规划和引领公司的发展方向上发挥着越来越大的作用。他们透过企业战略的棱镜挥舞朱笔，并以实现战略的眼光分配资本。首席财务官们在监督公司经营上也发挥着越来越大的作用。他们现在花很多时间监督(公司的)经营状况——走访这里、那里和所有地方，看看账目在实际中如何运行的。

另外一个首席财务官称霸的领域是外联。他们花很多时间与投资者、董事会成员、监管机构和其他利益相关方交谈。分析师通常会更在意最高财务官的看法而不是顶头老板的意见。同样甚至董事会也可以说成是这样：当首席财务官凯西·莱斯杰克告诉董事会自己强烈反对首席执行官收购软件公司 Autonomy 的决定时，李艾科在惠普当首席执行官的日子就已经屈指可数了。

几件事情可解释首席财务官崛起的原因。股东价值运动起了推动作用，令他们在制定企业目标上扮演了更重要的角色。因安然破产而获罪的安德鲁·法斯图，就是一位不祥的早期“副驾”。用来收拾残局的萨班斯－奥克斯利法案规定了首席财务官作为首席执行官搭档位居公司金字塔最顶层的地位。

很难弄明白首席财务官“权倾朝野”到底是好还是坏。令人鼓舞的是，首席财务官的专业性不断提高，多样性越来越强。美国一流公司 13% 的首席财务官是女性，而顶层职位中女性仅占 5%。今天的首席财务官比他们的前辈受过更

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好的训练，学历更高，在企业不同岗位的经验也更多。

但法斯图先生的例子应该作为一个警戒。除了首席执行官以外，首席财务官比其他任何企业管理者的绩效薪酬比例都高。同时他们也受到一些相互冲突的压力——他们既是发展的引领者，又是精明的账房师傅，还要谋划公司的发展战略和负责审计。虽然首席财务官能使用越来越多的工具来更准确地衡量公司业绩，但他们也可以用这些工具伪造业绩。

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No. 30

Feeling low
情绪低落

Jun 18th, 2016
The Economist
阅读难度：☆☆☆

文章导读：市场的力量本应驱使买卖双方以理性的价格完成交易。然而今年的债券市场却违背了这条金科玉律：已经大肆举债的国家政府仍旧能够在经济不见好转的情况下继续以低成本借贷，而投资者竟然不仅不出手遏制，反而大量买进国债，进一步推低了国债收益率。究其原因，英国脱欧和特朗普当选的可能性令市场惧怕风险，从而引发众人纷纷转向安全系数高的国债。

文章结构

1. 政府借贷成本仍旧保持低位。
2. 全球各国国债前景被看好，收益率下降。
3. 美国的经济增长状况令人失望。
4. 经济出现不确定性时，投资者往往青睐国债。
5～6. 英国脱欧和特朗普可能当选带来的短期风险吸引了投资者的注意。
7. 债券收益率可以在很长一段时间内保持低水平。

正文

Whatever happened to the power of the bond markets? Bond traders were supposed to act as "vigilantes", keeping spendthrift governments in check. But despite high levels of government debt, they have not been selling bonds, pushing yields higher. In fact, the cost of government borrowing is as low, or lower, than it has ev-

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er been. In many countries, investors have driven the price of government bonds so high that they are, in effect, paying for the privilege of lending to the government. Around $ 10 trillion-worth of bonds now have negative yields.

In January almost two-thirds of global fund managers were gloomy about the outlook for government bonds. So far, however, this year has been another disappointment for the bears. Since the start of 2016, ten-year Treasury yields have dropped from 2.27% to 1.59%, British gilt yields of the same maturity have fallen from 1.96% to 1.24%, and the equivalent German yields have plunged from 0.63% into negative territory.

This was supposed to be the year when the economic recovery was so well established that monetary policy, in America at least, returned to normal. But after pushing up rates last December, the Fed has since stood pat. A month ago there were growing expectations of a rate rise in June; it didn't happen. America's GDP growth rate in the first quarter was disappointing. The latest non-farm payroll numbers showed the economy generated only 38,000 net new jobs in May.

Investors tend to head for the perceived safety of government bonds when they judge the political or economic outlook to be risky. Toby Nangle of Columbia Threadneedle, a fund-management group, says that investors, contemplating the short-term dangers of Brexit, a Trump presidency, are opting for the safety of government bonds despite their low yields.

The approach of Britain's referendum on EU membership on June 23rd has focused minds. Recent opinion polls have suggested that Britain may well vote to leave the EU, with one showing the Leave camp ten points ahead.

Donald Trump's erratic policy statements make it hard for investors to get a handle on what will happen if the businessman wins the White House in November. His stated intention to reduce taxes without compensating spending cuts seems likely to inflate the deficit; that should be bad news for bonds. In the short term, however, those worries are offset by the broader uncertainty about what a Trump presidency would mean—and uncertainty is good for bonds.

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情绪低落

If Britain votes to remain in the EU, if the American economy perks up (and the Fed tightens policy), then it is not hard to imagine bond yields heading back to their levels at the start of the year. But Japan has shown that bond yields can stay low for a very long time. There is no sign yet of the sustained rise in inflation or in productivity that would bring GDP growth, or bond yields, back to what were seen as normal levels a decade ago.

词汇

vigilante	[ˌvɪdʒɪ'lænti]	*n.* 义务警员;治安维持会成员
spendthrift	['spendθrɪft]	*adj.* 挥霍无度的;浪费的
privilege	['prɪvəlɪdʒ]	*n.* 特权;优待
gloomy	['glu:mi]	*adj.* 黑暗的;沮丧的;阴郁的
outlook	['aʊtlʊk]	*n.* 展望;观点;景色
gilt	[gɪlt]	*adj.* 镀金的
equivalent	[ɪ'kwɪvələnt]	*adj.* 等价的,相等的;同意义的
plunge	[plʌndʒ]	*v.* 突然地下降;投入;陷入;跳进
stand pat		坚持
non-farm payroll		非农业就业数据
contemplate	['kɒntəmpleɪt]	*v.* 沉思;思忖
referendum	[ˌrefə'rendəm]	*n.* 公民投票权;外交官请示书

长难句解析

1. In many countries, investors have driven the price of government bonds so high that they are, in effect, paying for the privilege of lending to the government.

【翻译】在许多国家,投资者将政府债券的价格推得如此之高,以至于他们事实上是花钱购买向政府提供贷款的特权。

【解析】本句的主干是 Investors have driven the price of government bonds so high that...。这里 so + 形容词或副词 + that...引导结果状语从句,意思是"如此……以至于……":they are paying for the privilege of lending to the government。

2. Toby Nangle of Columbia Threadneedle, a fund-management group, says that investors, contemplating the short-term dangers of Brexit, a Trump presidency, are

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opting for the safety of government bonds despite their low yields.

【翻译】基金管理集团哥伦比亚天利投资公司的托比·南格尔说,考虑到英国脱欧和特朗普参选的短期风险,投资者们选择了安全的政府债券,尽管政府债券的收益率低。

【解析】本句的主干是 Toby Nangle says that investors are opting for the safety of government bonds。Toby Nangle 何许人也,句首对其进行了解释,介词短语 of Columbia Threadneedle,其后又有同位语解释 Columbia Threadneedle 是个 fund-management group。investors 后接-ing 形式的伴随成分表示投资者作出选择的原因:contemplating the short-term dangers of Brexit, a Trump presidency。

全文翻译

债券市场的力量出现了什么问题?债券交易员本应充当“义务警员”,遏制挥霍无度的政府。但是虽然政府债务水平很高,但他们并没有卖出债券,推高收益率。事实上,政府借贷成本和以往一样低,甚至低于以往。在许多国家,投资者将政府债券的价格推得如此之高,以至于他们事实上是花钱购买向政府提供贷款的特权。目前大约有价值 10 万亿美元的债券收益率为负。

今年 1 月几乎三分之二的全球基金经理人并不看好政府债券的前景。然而,到目前为止,今年又一次让看跌者失望。从 2016 年初开始,10 年期的美国国债收益率已经从 2.27% 下降到了 1.59%,英国相同期限的金边债券的收益率已经从 1.96% 下降至 1.24%,而等期的德国国债收益率已经从 0.63% 跌入了负值。

这本来应是经济恢复良好、(至少美国的)货币政策回归正常的一年。但美联储自去年 12 月推高利率后就一直按兵不动。一个月前,人们对 6 月上调利率的期望日益增加;但利率上调并未如期而至。美国第一季度的国内生产总值增长率令人失望。最新的非农就业数据表明经济增长在 5 月份仅创造了38 000个新的就业岗位。

当投资者判断政治或经济前景颇具风险时,他们往往倾向于投资较安全的政府债券。基金管理集团哥伦比亚天利投资公司的托比·南格尔说,考虑到英国脱欧和特朗普参选的短期风险,投资者们选择了安全的政府债券,尽管政府债券的收益率低。

6 月 23 日英国脱欧公投的临近聚焦了众人的眼球。最近的民意调查显示,英国有可能会投票支持脱欧,其中一次民调显示脱欧阵营领先 10 个百分点。

唐纳德·特朗普飘忽不定的政策声明使投资者们很难确定,如果这位商人 11 月入主白宫会发生什么变化。他声明打算减少税收而不补偿削减的财政支

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出，这一举措似乎有可能会让赤字飙升；这对于债券来说应该是利空。然而在短期内，这些担忧被特朗普竞选总统带来的总体不确定性所抵消——不确定性对于债券来说是利好。

如果英国选择留欧，如果美国经济振作起来（且美联储收紧政策），那么不难想象债券收益率会回到今年年初的水平。但日本的情况显示，债券收益率可以在很长一段时间内保持低水平。现在仍没有迹象表明通货膨胀持续上升或生产力的不断提高会令国内生产总值增长率或债券收益率回到10年前被视为正常的水平。

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No. 31

Print still has a future

纸媒仍有春天

Jun 31st, 2016
The Guardian
阅读难度：☆☆☆

文章导读：以自由著称的网络带来了信息的平民化，令海量的免费信息触手可得。以出售信息和广告为主要收入来源的纸媒因之受到巨大冲击，朝不保夕。但法国《世界报》和英国《经济学人》的成功转型提示我们，定位鲜明的成熟媒体仍能获得读者的青睐，而用心耕耘数字销售和社交媒体更是能大大提升订阅人数。

文章结构

1. 两份报道为纸媒的未来唱了挽歌。
2. 皮尤研究中心认为2015年是自大萧条以来纸媒最糟糕的一年。
3. 路透社研究所发现英国及全球其他地方存在完全相同的困境。
4. 法国《世界报》依靠新战略扭亏为赢。
5. 《世界报》的成功在于定位独特。
6. 若把重心放在销售上，可减少广告拦截和恶意算法的影响。
7. 有特定目标读者和明确品牌形象的媒体仍有生存的机会。

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正文

Set aside this summer's No. 10 pulsations for a while and look at the noisy press gang on the other side of Downing Street. In particular, note how two heavyweight reports—one British, one American—have just sung the same grim song about newspaper futures.

The first, from the Pew Research Center in Washington DC, sees 2015 as possibly "the worst year for newspapers since the Great Recession" and its immediate aftermath: "Daily U. S. circulation fell by 7%, the most since 2010, while advertising revenue at publicly traded newspaper companies fell by 8%."

And the Reuters Institute finds exactly the same crunch in Britain and around the rest of the globe: digital ads draining away, growth hopes stalled, branding and the importance of running your own website diminishing as Facebook and Google mop up the stories they like. Plus the fact that "most consumers are still reluctant to pay for general news online, particularly in the highly competitive English-speaking world (9% average). But in some smaller countries, protected by language, people are twice as likely to pay."

Is France a "smaller country"? Louis Dreyfus, the publisher of *Le Monde*, out on the international conference circuit, tells a rather bigger story. Five years ago, France's most famous paper was losing money fast and seemingly lurching towards the grave. But then—after something of a confrontation with editorial staffers who thought they were in charge—the paper's commercial owners implemented a new strategy you might call "everything but the kitchen sink".

But do not treat language alone as the underpinning of renewed success in Paris. Think of it more as a definition of distinctiveness, one vital point of difference. Other newsrooms that offer something different have also had good news to trumpet on their home front in the past few weeks. There's the *Economist*, with its annual accounts showing pre-tax profits up from £ 59.3m to £ 60.6m and turnover up from £ 324m to £ 331m.

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In short, you can lessen the impact of ad blockers and malign algorithms and take control of social media if you put most of your emphasis on digital and print sales. And also if, *Economist* readers might add, the print version still helps define a brand image that can't get blown away or submerged whenever Facebook fiddles with its algorithms.

You'd say, as the evidence comes in, that news or comment which targets particular audiences and keeps the clear branding of print in the mix has some opportunities to survive and prosper. You'd add that the last 15 years have been stuffed with false starts and changes of tack. But you'd also add that general gloom is a lousy counsellor. It's only a handful of weeks since the news—including that news from Downing Street—saw print sales and online views boom away: a first recourse in times of need. Readers still respond mightily to mighty events.

词汇

pulsation	[pʌl'seɪʃn]	*n.* 脉动,搏动;震动;悸动
heavyweight	['heviweɪt]	*adj.* 重量级的;特别厚重的
grim	[grɪm]	*adj.* 冷酷的;糟糕的;残忍的
aftermath	['ɑ:ftəmæθ]	*n.* 后果;余波
crunch	[krʌntʃ]	*v.* 嘎吱作响地咀嚼;嘎吱嘎吱地踏过
branding	['brændɪŋ]	*n.* 品牌化,品牌术
mop up		捞起;吸收;[俚语]获得;榨取
confrontation	[ˌkɒnfrʌn'teɪʃn]	*n.* 对抗;面对;对质
editorial	[edɪ'tɔ:rɪəl]	*adj.* 编辑的;社论的
everything but the kitchen sink		可以想象到的一切
underpinning	['ʌndəpɪnɪŋ]	*n.* 基础,基础材料;[矿业]支柱,支撑结构;支撑
distinctiveness	[dɪ'stɪŋktɪvnɪs]	*n.* 特殊性;区别性;辨别性

长难句解析

1. Other newsrooms that offer something different have also had good news to trumpet on their home front in the past few weeks.

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【翻译】对于那些能提供不同内容的其他编辑室来说,过去几周在他们本土也有值得吹嘘的好消息。

【解析】本句的主干为 Other newsrooms have also had good news to trumpet(其他编辑也有值得吹嘘的好消息)。newsrooms 后接一个 that 引导的限定性定语从句 that offer something different。home front 战争中的大后方,即本国,这里指英国。句子里的 have...had 为现在完成时,表示过去发生或已经完成的某一动作对现在造成的影响或导致的结果。

2. In short, you can lessen the impact of ad blockers and malign algorithms and take control of social media if you put most of your emphasis on digital and print sales.

【翻译】简而言之,如果你能将大部分重心放在电子书和纸质书的销售上,你就可以减少广告拦截和恶意算法的影响,并掌握社交媒体。

【解析】句子的主干为 You can lessen the impact of ...and take control of...。impact 后的介词 of 作用于 ad blockers and malign algorithms;而 control 后的介词 of 作用于 social media。media 后的部分为 if 引导的条件状语从句 if you put most of your emphasis on digital and print sales。

全文翻译

让我们先暂时把今年夏天唐宁街 10 号的动荡放在一旁,看看街对面那帮喧闹的新闻人。特别要注意两份重量级的报道——一份英国的、一份美国的——这两份报道均刚刚为纸媒的未来唱了无情的挽歌。

华盛顿的皮尤研究中心首先认为 2015 年可能是“自大萧条以来纸媒最糟糕的一年”,紧接着认为“美国的报纸日发行量下降了 7%,是自 2010 年以来的最大下跌幅度,而上市报业公司的广告收入下跌了 8%。”

路透社研究所发现英国及全球其他地方存在完全相同的困境:数字广告流失;效益增长无望;随着脸书和谷歌肆意榨取他们喜欢的任何故事,品牌运营和运行自有网站逐渐不再重要。再加上一个事实——“多数消费者仍不愿为网络上的日常新闻付费,尤其是在竞争激烈的英语国家(愿意付费的人平均占 9%)。但在一些小国家,受语言的保护,愿意付费的人是英语国家的两倍。”

法国是一个小国家吗?法国《世界报》的出版商路易·达孚在国际会议上讲述了更多背后的故事。5 年前这份法国最著名的报纸正迅速亏损,眼看就要蹒跚着走向死亡了。但是在一次与自以为是的编辑们进行交锋之后,这份报纸

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的商业老板实施了可以被称作“可以想象的一切”的新战略。

但不要仅把语言视作巴黎再次获得成功的基础。成功更在于定位的独特性,这是一个关键的不同点。对于那些能提供不同内容的其他编辑室来说,过去几周在他们本土也有值得吹嘘的好消息。《经济学人》的年报显示,其税前利润从5 930万英镑上升至6 060万英镑,营业额则从3.24亿英镑上升至3.31亿英镑。

简而言之,如果你能将大部分重心放在电子书和纸质书的销售上,你就可以减少广告拦截和恶意算法的影响,并掌握社交媒体。而且《经济学人》的读者可能会补充道,纸质版本仍可帮助定义品牌形象,使其不因脸书改动其算法而消失。

你可能会说,这些证据证明,那些新闻或评论有特定目标读者且纸质版有明确品牌形象的媒体仍有生存和繁荣的机会。你也许还会补充道:过去15年堆满了错误的开始和策略的变化。但你也会补充道:总体的低迷没有什么指导意义。几则新闻(包括从唐宁街来的那个新闻)令纸媒销售和在线评论——有需要时获取信息的第一个来源——大幅增加的现象仅过去了短短几周。读者仍然仅对大事件反应强烈。

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No. 32

Republican-authored voting laws in Wisconsin and Kansas overturned

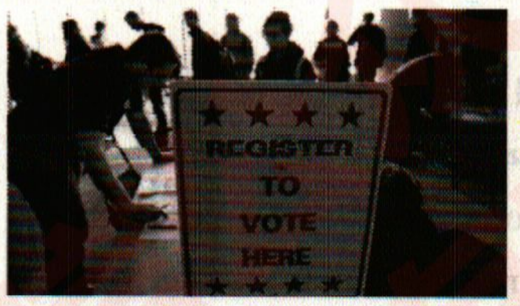
共和党人提出的选举法在威斯康辛州和堪萨斯州被驳回

Jul 30th, 2016

The Guardian

阅读难度：☆☆☆

文章导读：大选年的美国充满了明争暗斗。除了使尽浑身解数争取选民投票这条路子之外，一些共和党人还运用了通过法律限制特定人群的选民资格这一招，以期减少对手的支持率。当然他们都唱着防止选举舞弊的高调。民主党人也不是坐以待毙的软柿子，他们通过在多个州提起诉讼，成功地拦截了这些限制性的选举法律。



文章结构

1～2. 共和党人撰写的多项选举法被法院判决无效。

3. 威斯康辛州自由派就要求选民提供有照片的身份证明的法律提起诉讼。

4. 法官要求州政府为想免费获得有照片的身份证明的选民发放投票凭证。

5. 公民自由联盟亦针对选举法的限制提起诉讼。

6～7. 法官认为即使身份证明不符合要求，登记的选民仍可进行投票。

8. 州政府的共和党官员指责这些法官是以党派利益为上的民主党人。

正文

On a day that began with a major ruling against Republican voting laws in North Carolina, a federal judge in Wisconsin issued a sweeping ruling that declared a num-

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ber of Republican-authored election laws in that state unconstitutional.

There was also a ruling against Republican voting laws in Kansas, where a county judge ruled that the state must count potentially thousands of votes in state and local races from people who have registered without providing citizenship documents.

Two Wisconsin liberal groups filed a lawsuit in May challenging laws including a requirement that voters show photo identification. U. S. district judge James Peterson issued a ruling on Friday that upheld the voter ID law but struck down a number of Republican-written statutes and policies that restricted voting.

Peterson ordered the state to quickly issue credentials valid for voting to anyone trying to obtain a free photo ID for voting. He also struck down a restriction limiting municipalities to one location for in person absentee voting, time limits on in-person absentee voting, an increase in residency requirements from 10 to 28 days, and a prohibition on using expired but otherwise qualifying student IDs to vote. In Kansas, the order from Shawnee County district judge Larry Hendricks came only four days before Tuesday's primary election. Hendricks blocked an administrative rule from the Secretary of State Kris Kobach.

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) filed a lawsuit on behalf of three prospective voters earlier this month, a week after a state board allowed Kobach to impose the rule temporarily—through the November election—without a public hearing. It applies to people who register to vote at state motor vehicle offices without providing proof of their U. S. citizenship as required by a 2013 state law.

The affected voters were to receive provisional ballots to be reviewed later, and county election officials were directed to count only their votes for federal offices, not state and local ones. Ahead of the primary, about 17,600 people registered at motor vehicle offices without providing citizenship papers, and the rule could apply to 50,000 people in November.

Kobach's action was a response to a federal judge's ruling in May in another

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lawsuit that people who register at motor vehicle offices are entitled to vote in federal races even if they have not met the proof-of-citizenship requirement. In North Carolina, a federal appeals court struck down voting laws it said were enacted with "discriminatory intent" and targeted African Americans "with almost surgical precision".

Republican officials in the state government said the decision "by three partisan Democrats ignores legal precedent, ignores the fact that other federal courts have used North Carolina's law as a model and ignores the fact that a majority of other states have similar protections in place". They added: "We can only wonder if the intent is to reopen the door for voter fraud, potentially allowing fellow Democrat politicians like Hillary Clinton...to steal the election."

词汇

sweeping	['swi:pɪŋ]	*adj.* 彻底的;广泛的;扫荡的
unconstitutional	[ˌʌnˌkɒnstɪ'tju:ʃənl]	*adj.* 违反宪法的
potential	[pə'tenʃl]	*adj.* 潜在的;可能的
citizenship	['sɪtɪzənʃɪp]	*n.* [法]公民身份,公民资格;国籍;公民权
requirement	[rɪ'kwaɪəmənt]	*n.* 要求;必要条件;必需品
uphold	[ʌp'həʊld]	*vt.* 支撑;鼓励;赞成;举起
strike down		驳回;杀死;击倒
statute	['stætʃu:t]	*n.* [法] 法规;法令;条例
restrict	[rɪ'strɪkt]	*vt.* 限制;约束;限定
credential	[krɪ'denʃl]	*n.* 证书;凭据;国书
valid	['vælɪd]	*adj.* 有效的;有根据的;合法的;正当的
obtain	[əb'teɪn]	*vt.* 获得
absentee	[ˌæbsən'ti:]	*n.* 缺席者 *adj.* 缺席投票的

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长难句解析

1. On a day that began with a major ruling against Republican voting laws in North Carolina, a federal judge in Wisconsin issued a sweeping ruling that declared a number of Republican-authored election laws in that state unconstitutional.

【翻译】这一天首先有北卡罗莱纳州否决了共和党投票法的重大判决,而后有威斯康辛州一名联邦法官作出全面裁决:宣布该州共和党人撰写的大量选举法违宪。

【解析】本句的主干是 A federal judge in Wisconsin issued a sweeping ruling。ruling 后接定语从句 that declared a number of Republican-authored election laws in that state unconstitutional。句首用状语的形式(on a day)引出了一个定语从句:that began with a major ruling against Republican voting laws in North Carolina。从语意上看,这个定语从句和句子的主干呈并列关系,然而文章中以主从形式出现,加强了两个事件的相关性。

2. Kobach's action was a response to a federal judge's ruling in May in another lawsuit that people who register at motor vehicle offices are entitled to vote in federal races even if they have not met the proof-of-citizenship requirement.

【翻译】柯巴克的举动是对5月另一个案件中联邦法官裁决的回应,裁决认为在移动办事处登记的人即使身份证明不符合要求,仍有权在联邦选举中投票。

【解析】本句的主干为 Kobach's action was a response to a federal judge's ruling。后接修饰 ruling 的同位语从句 that people...are entitled to vote in federal races...这个同位语从句中又包含一个修饰 people 的定语从句 who register at motor vehicle offices 和一个让步状语从句:even if they have not met the proof-of-citizenship requirement。

全文翻译

这一天首先有北卡罗莱纳州否决了共和党投票法的重大判决,而后有威斯康辛州一名联邦法官作出了全面裁决:宣布该州共和党人撰写的大量选举法违宪。

在堪萨斯州亦有判决否定共和党人的选举法:一名县级法官裁定该州必须在州和地方选举中将潜在的没有提供公民身份文件就登记了的几千人的选票

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进行计数。

威斯康辛州的两个自由派团体于5月提起诉讼，质疑几部要求选民提供有照片的身份证明的法律。美国地方法院法官詹姆斯·彼得森周五作出裁决，维持选民身份认证法，但否决了其他许多共和党人撰写的限制投票的法规和政策。

彼得森命令州政府迅速向任何试图获取免费的有照片的身份证明的选民发放有效的投票凭证。他也否决了一项令各市在限定的一个地点进行现场缺席投票的法规，解除了现场缺席投票的时间限制，还否决了将居住要求从10大提高至28天的法律，以及禁止使用过期但仍合格的学生身份证明进行投票的法律。在堪萨斯州，肖尼县地方法院法官拉里·亨德里克斯的判决仅在周二初选的4天前才做出。亨德里克斯阻止了州务卿克里斯·柯巴克颁布的一项行政规章。

美国公民自由联盟(ACLU)在本月早些时候(即州理事会允许柯巴克在11月选举期间在不公开听证的情况下暂时施行行政规章的一周后)代表3位潜在选民提起诉讼。它适用于那些根据2013年州立法可在不提供美国公民身份证明的情况下在州移动办事处登记投票的选民。

受影响的选民们将获得临时选票且选票之后将被审查，县选举官员受指示只将这些选票计入联邦选举，而不计入州选和地方选举。在初选前，约有17 600人未提供身份证书便在移动办公室进行了登记，而该法规在11月可适用于5万人。

柯巴克的举动是对5月另一个案件中联邦法官裁决的回应，裁决认为在移动办事处登记的人即使身份证明不符合要求，仍有权在联邦选举中投票。在北卡罗莱纳州，一家联邦上诉法院推翻了几部选举法，认为其立法意图具有“歧视性”，且“精确瞄准”了非裔美国人。

州政府的共和党官员说，这一由“三个偏颇的民主党人”做出的决定“忽略了法律先例，忽略了其他联邦法院曾经以北卡的法律作为范例的事实，忽视了其他州也有类似的防范体制的事实。”他们补充道，“我们只能猜测他们的意图是否重新打开了选举欺诈之门，潜在地允许包括希拉里·克林顿在内的民主党政客……通过舞弊获选。”

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No. 33

Very hot drinks may cause cancer, but coffee does not, says WHO

世界卫生组织:过热的饮料可能导致癌症 但咖啡本身不是致癌物

Jun 15th, 2016
The Guardian
阅读难度:☆☆☆

文章导读:癌症的高发和现代医学的束手无策让我们“谈癌色变”,任何有关癌症的新闻都能轻松登上头条,例如“红肉致癌”“植物油致癌”“微波炉致癌”“手机致癌”等引爆舆论的报道。但是咖啡爱好者可以松一口气,因为世卫组织的研究表明“咖啡致癌”的科学证据并不确凿。爱喝热饮的人们则得注意一下了,因为同一份研究显示,过热的饮料与食道癌及咽喉癌的发病关系紧密。

文章结构

1. 世界卫生组织排除咖啡为致癌物,而认为过热的饮品才是致癌的原因。
2. 南美地区的食道癌更常见,专家认为这一现象与饮用过热草本伴侣的习惯相关。
3. 科学家们也观察了其他高温饮用的饮品。
4. 国际癌症研究机构发表的专著将热饮归为非常可能致癌的一类。
5. 大多数国家的热饮温度并没有非常高。
6. 动物研究表明,过热的水会促进肿瘤生长。
7. 国际癌症研究机构的分级依据是科学证据的确凿程度。

正文

The World Health Organisation has cleared coffee of causing cancer, but a detailed investigation has found that very hot drinks may be linked to cancer of the oe-

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sophagus, or gullet. Coffee was classified as a possible cause of cancer in 1991, but the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), which is part of WHO, has now reconsidered the evidence. It carried out a detailed review of the many studies published on the subject and found that coffee drinkers have no reason to worry.

IARC also investigated the herbal drink mate, also known as chimarrão or cimarrón, which is widely consumed in South America, where oesophageal cancer is more common than in other parts of the world. The experts found that mate was not a cause of cancer, but they believe the temperature at which it is drunk probably is—and that other very hot drinks could also be linked to oesophageal cancer.

Mate is drunk at temperatures of more than 65°C (149F), often through a metal straw. The scientists also looked at drinks including tea consumed at high temperatures in central Asia, China and Japan. "It is consumed very hot," said IARC's Dr. Dana Loomis. "This led to interest in other hot drinks around the world. There seems to be an effect of temperature."

IARC produces what it calls monographs on the causes of cancer, which use classifications from Group One, where the link is definite, as with smoking; to Group Four, where there is probably no link. The new monograph classifies hot drinks as Group 2A, meaning they are "probably carcinogenic to humans". Coffee and mate served cold are in Group Three, which means there is insufficient evidence to believe they cause cancer.

Those who enjoy hot tea in Europe and the US probably do not need to worry, Loomis said. "It is important to recognise that hot drinks that were studied for the basis of this classification are perhaps a bit different from tea or coffee as consumed [in other parts of the world]— 65°C is quite hot."

In European countries, coffee and tea are usually drunk at below 60°C, he said, and milk is often added, which cools it. Tea in Iran and mate in South America are often drunk at 70°C. "Mate is not only prepared very hot, but drunk through a metal straw that delivers it directly into the throat," he said. Studies in animals have shown that very hot water can promote the growth of tumours. "It appears that

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there is thermal injury from exposure to hot liquids that is capable of leading to cancer of the oesophagus," he said.

IARC's classifications relate to the strength of the evidence for a causal association, rather than the frequency with which something causes cancer. This is why tobacco, which increases the risk of cancer 100-fold, is in the same group as UV rays from sunbeds, which increase the risk of skin cancer two-fold.

词汇

detailed	['di:teɪld]	*adj.* 详细的,精细的;复杂的,详尽的
oesophagus	[ɪ'sɒfəgəs]	*n.* 食道,[解剖]食管
gullet	['gʌlɪt]	*n.* 食道;海峡;咽喉
reconsider	[ri:kən'sɪdə]	*v.* 重新考虑;重新审议
classify	['klæsɪfaɪ]	*vt.* 分类;分等
herbal	['hɜ:bl]	*adj.* 草药的;草本的
monograph	['mɒnəgrɑ:f]	*n.* 专题著作,专题论文
carcinogenic	[ˌkɑ:sɪnə'dʒenɪk]	*adj.* 致癌的;致癌物的
insufficient	[ˌɪnsə'fɪʃnt]	*n.* 不足;缺乏
promote	[prə'məʊt]	*vt.* 促进;提升;推销;发扬
exposure	[ɪk'spəʊʒə]	*n.* 暴露;曝光;揭露;陈列

长难句解析

1. IARC also investigated the herbal drink mate, also known as chimarrão or cimarrón, which is widely consumed in South America, where oesophageal cancer is more common than in other parts of the world.

【翻译】国际癌症研究机构还调查了一种南美地区大量饮用的草本伴侣(也被称为马黛茶),因为南美地区的食道癌比世界其他地方更为常见。

【解析】本句的主干是 IARC also investigated the herbal drink mate。drink mate 后先是接了一个同位语 also known as chimarrão or cimarrón,解释其名称;紧接着是一个 which 引导的非限定性定语从句:which is widely consumed in South America,进一步解释伴侣的特点。而 South America 后又接了一个由 where 引导的定语从句:where oesophageal cancer is more common than in other parts of the world。

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2. IARC produces what it calls monographs on the causes of cancer, which use classifications from Group One, where the link is definite, as with smoking; to Group Four, where there is probably no link.

【翻译】国际癌症研究机构发表了其称之为关于癌症起因的专著,使用从联系明确的第1组(如吸烟)至可能没有联系的第4组来进行分类。

【解析】本句的主干为 IARC produces what it calls monographs on the causes of cancer。其中 what it calls monographs on the causes of cancer 为 produces 的宾语从句。其后接一个 which 引导的非限定性定语从句 which use classifications from Group One to Group Four 来修饰 monograph。而为了解释第1组和第4组分别意味着什么,又分别有两个 where 引导的定语从句:where the link is definite 和 where there is probably no link。

全文翻译

世界卫生组织已经排除咖啡为致癌物,但详细的调查发现食道癌或咽喉癌可能与过热的饮料有关。咖啡在1991年被列为潜在致癌物,但世卫组织分支机构国际癌症研究机构(IARC)现在重新考虑了佐证。该机构详细审查了很多关于这个主题的研究报告,发现喝咖啡的人没有理由担心。

国际癌症研究机构还调查了一种南美地区大量饮用的草本伴侣(也被称为马黛茶),因为南美地区的食道癌比世界其他地方更为常见。专家们发现草本伴侣并不致癌,但相信饮用的温度可能致癌——其他过热的饮料也可能导致食道癌。

草本伴侣往往通过金属吸管饮用,温度超过65°C(149华氏度)。科学家们同时也观察了其他高温饮用的饮品,包括中亚、中国和日本饮用的茶。国际癌症研究机构的达纳·卢米斯博士说:"草本伴侣的饮用温度非常高。这引发了我们对世界各地其他热饮的兴趣。似乎温度有所影响。"

国际癌症研究机构发表了其称之为关于癌症起因的专著,使用从联系明确的第1组(如吸烟)至可能没有联系的第4组来进行分类。这份新专著将热饮归为第2A组,意味着它们"很可能导致癌症"。凉的咖啡及伴侣被分在第3组,这意味着没有足够的证据支持它们的致癌性。

那些喜欢热茶的欧洲人和美国人不需要担心,卢米斯说,"认识到这样被分类研究的热饮可能不同于(世界其他地区)大量饮用的茶或咖啡是很重要的 65摄氏度非常热。

他说,在欧洲国家,咖啡和茶的饮用温度通常低于60摄氏度,且基本都会

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加奶，加奶也有冷却的效果。而伊朗的茶和南美洲草本伴侣的饮用温度常常在70摄氏度。“伴侣不仅很热，而且用金属吸管直接吸进喉咙。”动物研究表明，过热的水会促进肿瘤生长。“热饮导致的损伤似乎能够导致食管癌，”他说。

国际癌症研究机构的分级依据并不是致癌能力的强弱，而是科学证据的确凿程度。这就是为什么使患癌风险增加100倍的烟草和使患皮肤癌风险增加2倍的日光浴浴床的紫外线被列在同一组。

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No. 34

Wrong project, wrong price

错误的项目　错误的价格

Jul 28th, 2016

The Guardian

阅读难度：☆☆☆

文章导读：史上最贵核电项目欣克利角 C 因成本过高、规模过大以及可能引发的环境问题而屡次被推迟。近日法国电力公司终于下定决心重启该项目。但下文作者认为这个项目若真的继续推进，对这家法国能源巨头来说将是一场灾难。而如果英国政府同意给予项目财政支持，那对于英国的能源政策来说也不啻于噩梦。宏大的设想竟成了烫手的山芋，英国核电工业的现状令人唏嘘。

文章结构

1. 法国能源巨头 EDF 决定继续推进欣克利角 C 项目。
2. 欣克利角 C 项目据设想应能提供大量无碳清洁电能。
3. 但这个项目的技术不确定且规模巨大。
4. 能源专家认为还有其他更可行的技术。
5. 投资可再生能源比投资核能更佳。
6. 新首相想以自己的方式继续推进该项目。

正文

The French energy giant EDF today finally decided to go ahead with Hinkley C. It may be a disaster for the largely state-owned company. If the British government now gives the nod to the first round of subsidies, it will surely be a disaster for British energy policy. This is not an untested model—worse than that. Its two sister

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stations, currently under construction in Finland and France, are overdue and over budget. Hinkley is predicted to cost £ 18bn to build, and it will cost consumers upwards of £ 30bn to run. It will displace billions of pounds of investment that could otherwise be spent reducing demand and developing renewable alternatives. The new prime minister and her ministers at the Department of Business and Energy, Greg Clark and Nick Hurd, should use the prerogative of a new government: stop it, now.

The justification for Hinkley C, originally conceived under Labour in 2008 and signed off by the coalition in 2011, is that when it finally comes on stream, perhaps in 2025, it will provide a large amount of carbon-free energy generation—7% of total demand, which cannot be met by the weather-dependent energy that comes from renewables such as wind or solar. It will be a vital contribution to the UK's low-carbon energy target. It looks like a bold solution to a big problem.

But it is not. The technology is too uncertain, and the scale is too large: so huge that it has been described as like building a cathedral within a cathedral. The construction costs are so great that EDF has had to be guaranteed a price for the electricity it generates that is higher than the cost of off-shore wind (which is expected to come down), and linked to the rate of inflation.

The government likes to suggest that there is no alternative. That is not what energy experts think. They point to different technologies, such as the Japanese-made advanced boiling water reactor, once scheduled to be built on Anglesey but now threatened by the voracious demands for cash of Hinkley C, or the US-made pressurised water reactor, the AP1000.

Better than any of these nuclear options, however, would be investment in renewables. Technology for tidal energy that will come from projects like the lagoons at Cardiff and Swansea is maturing. One of the world's largest proposed wind farms, at Dogger Bank, off the north-east Yorkshire coast, could challenge the output from Hinkley C. More extensive interconnection with France, Norway and Denmark could smooth supplies. Most effectively, an investment of less than £ 1bn a year in domestic and industrial energy efficiency would halve demand by 2050.

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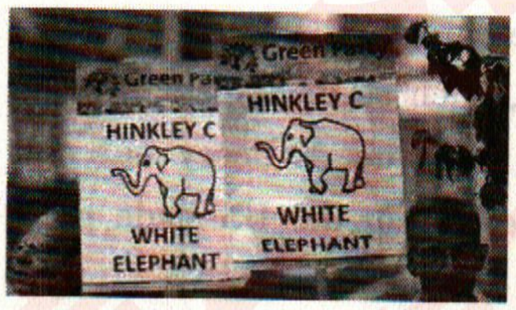

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Hinkley C has been repeatedly delayed by the EDF board in Paris; the unions think it will jeopardise their jobs. Two directors have resigned in protest. The project has been staggering along for years. Governments always fear changing their minds. But Theresa May says she wants to do things differently. She should start here.

词汇

disaster	[dɪ'zɑ:stə]	*n.* 灾难,灾祸;不幸
subsidy	['sʌbsɪdi]	*n.* 补贴;津贴;补助金
untested	[ʌn'testɪd]	*adj.* 未经检验的;[试验]未试验的
overdue	[ˌəʊvə'dju:]	*adj.* 过期的;迟到的;未兑的
displace	[dɪs'pleɪs]	*vt.* 取代;置换;转移;把……免职;排水
renewable	[rɪ'nju:əbl]	*adj.* 可再生的;可更新的;可继续的
alternative	[ɔ:l'tɜ:nətɪv]	*adj.* 供选择的;选择性的;交替的
prerogative	[prɪ'rɒgətɪv]	*n.* 特权
justification	[ˌdʒʌstɪfɪ'keɪʃn]	*n.* 理由;辩护;认为有理,认为正当;释罪
cathedral	[kə'θi:drəl]	*n.* 大教堂
guarantee	[ˌgærən'ti:]	*vt.* 保证;担保
inflation	[ɪn'fleɪʃn]	*n.* 膨胀;通货膨胀

长难句解析

1. The justification for Hinkley C, originally conceived under Labour in 2008 and signed off by the coalition in 2011, is that when it finally comes on stream, perhaps in 2025, it will provide a large amount of carbon-free energy generation—7% of total demand, which cannot be met by the weather-dependent energy that comes from renewables such as wind or solar.

【翻译】欣克利角C项目最初由工党在2008年提出,并由联合政府在2011年签字生效;这个项目上马的理由是,最终投入使用时(也许是2025年),它将提供大量的无碳清洁电能——这是总需求的7%,这些需求不能由依赖天气条件的可再生能源满足,如风能或太阳能。

【解析】本句的主干是 The justification for Hinkley C is that it will provide a large amount of carbon-free energy generation。其中 that 引导一个表语从句说明

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justification 的详细内容。Hinkley C 后两个逗号之间的部分 originally conceived under Labour in 2008 and signed off by the coalition in 2011 是个独立成分，解释项目的来历。7% of total demand 是 a large amount of carbon-free energy generation 的同位语，具体说明能提供多少电能。句末是一个非限定性定语从句修饰 total demand：which cannot be met by the weather-dependent energy，而这个从句中又含有一个修饰 weather-dependent energy 的定语从句 that comes from renewables such as wind or solar。

2. The construction costs are so great that EDF has had to be guaranteed a price for the electricity it generates that is higher than the cost of off-shore wind (which is expected to come down), and linked to the rate of inflation.

【翻译】建造成本如此之大，所以法国电力集团不得不需要保证项目的电价将高于离岸风能发电的电价(预期将下降)，还需要考虑到通货膨胀率。

【解析】本句的主干是 The construction costs are so great that EDF has had to be guaranteed a price for the electricity it generates。其中 so + 形容词或副词 + that... 引导结果状语从句，意思是“如此……以至于……”。而后面还有一个修饰 price 的定语从句 that is higher than the cost of off-shore wind and linked to the rate of inflation，解释价格定在什么程度。

全文翻译

法国能源巨头法国电力集团(EDF)今天终于决定继续推进欣克利角 C 项目。这对这家国有企业来说可能是一场灾难。如果英国政府答应给予第一轮的补贴，那么这对英国的能源政策来说肯定也是一场灾难。这并不是一个未经证实的模型——比这更糟糕的是，其目前在建的两个姊妹电站(分别在芬兰和法国)都已逾期和超过预算。欣克利预计成本为 180 亿英镑，运行花费也将超过 300 亿英镑。它将耗费本可用于减少需求和开发可再生的替代能源的数十亿英镑。新首相和她的商务部和能源部部长们——格雷格·克拉克和尼克·赫德应行使新政府的特权：现在就叫停这个项目。

欣克利角 C 项目最初由工党在 2008 年提出，并由联合政府在 2011 年签字生效；这个项目上马的理由是，最终投入使用时(也许是 2025 年)，它将提供大量的无碳清洁电能——这是总需求的 7%，这些需求不能由依赖天气条件的可再生能源满足，如风能或太阳能。它将对英国低碳能源目标做出重要贡献。这看起来像是针对一个大问题的大胆解决方案。

但欣克利角 C 项目不是。技术太不确定，且项目规模太大：如此巨大以至

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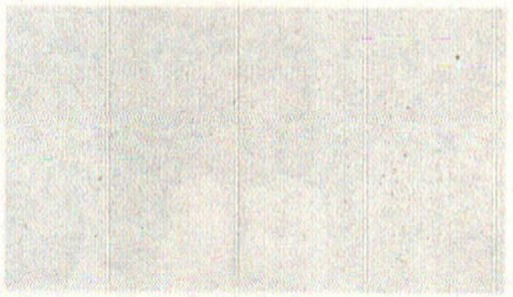
于它被形容成像是在一座大教堂内建另一座教堂。建造成本如此之大，所以法国电力集团不得不需要保证项目的电价将高于离岸风能发电的电价（预期将下降），还需要考虑到通货膨胀率。

政府喜欢暗示已经没有其他选择了。但这并不是能源专家的看法。他们提出了不同的技术，如日本先进的沸水反应堆——曾经计划建在安格尔西岛，但现在和欣克利角 C 一样受到巨额现金需求的威胁——或者美国的压水反应堆 AP1000。

然而投资可再生能源比投资任何这些核能项目都好。潮汐能源技术（如加的夫和斯旺西的泻湖项目）渐趋成熟。世界上最大的风力发电场计划之一——约克郡东北海岸的多格滩——可以挑战欣克利角 C 的输电量。与法国、挪威和丹麦建立更广泛的连接可平稳供电。最有效的方式是在生活能源和工业能源效率上每年投资不到 10 亿英镑，这样将在 2050 年前减少一半电能需求。

欣克利角 C 项目被巴黎法国电力集团董事会一再推迟；工会认为这将危及他们的工作。两名董事已辞职以示抗议。该项目已经蹒跚多年。政府总是害怕改变想法。但特雷莎·梅说她想要以不同的方式做事。她应该从这里开始。



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No. 35

Fit for the job, but is she fit for the contest?

她胜任这个职位，但能胜任这次竞选么？

Jul 29th, 2016
The Guardian
阅读难度：☆☆☆

文章导读：今年美国大选因为史上第一位女性候选人和史上最厚脸皮的大嘴商人同台而吸引眼球。不管谁入主白宫，历史都将会被打破。虽然攻击对方历来是政客惯用的招数，但特朗普的明显软肋令希拉里言语之外常含“选我，否则你就得选他”的威胁。可是特朗普的非主流政治手段出人意料地圈粉无数，引起了底层民众的强烈共鸣，希拉里真的胜券在握么？

文章结构

1. 美国今年的总统选举将创造历史。
2. 希拉里的当选对美国女性意义重大。
3. 希拉里作风强硬但过于不拘小节。
4. 希拉里从政经验丰富。
5. 支持者不得不为她塑造慈母的形象。
6. 媒体和政客都还未想出该如何挑战特朗普的不按常理出牌的政治手段。

正文

For better or for worse, history will be made when the United States votes this November. Should Hillary Clinton win, she would embody the progress a society can make in a lifetime; the electors of the first female president would include those born before women gained the right to vote.

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她胜任这个职位，但能胜任这次竞选么？

Her victory would demonstrate how unthinkable ideas can become first conceivable and then a matter of fact. So too, unfortunately, would the triumph of her opponent. A Donald Trump presidency might well demonstrate how quickly a society can unravel. The symbolism of a female president matters much less than the impact her leadership would have on the lives of women across American society compared with that of an unabashed misogynist. Should she lose—and it is not yet clear whether her party truly grasps what a very real possibility that is, despite worrying polls and her powerful speech in Philadelphia on Thursday the US will have chosen a man who threatens not only the dignity of women and the security of religious and racial minorities, but democracy itself in America and stability beyond its shores. Never in living memory have electors faced a starker choice, as Mrs. Clinton deftly reminded them.

The Democratic candidate is by instinct more hawkish than Barack Obama. Her promise to protect Main Street from Wall Street sits somewhat uneasily with her list of donors. She was pushed into adopting more progressive positions because of the stronger-than-expected challenge from Bernie Sanders. She has tended to shut out those beyond a trusted inner circle, a trait that was perhaps reflected in the controversy over her use of a private email server as secretary of state. Though she escaped prosecution, the FBI's director described the handling of messages as "extremely careless".

Such concerns, though real, are trifling if set against the prospect of Mr. Trump winning. They exist in part because of her years in vicarious, elected and appointed office; as Mr. Obama pointed out, no one has been more qualified to serve as president. Equally, it is hard to think of anyone less suited than her rival. Faced with an occasion he could rise to, he invariably lowers the tone instead.

By normal standards, and despite some lingering and vocal resentment from supporters of Mr. Sanders, this has been a successful convention: neatly choreographed with clear and consistent messages. Having won her party's nomination, she now fights for the nation's trust. Supporters have had to portray a potential commander-in-chief as a hug-loving, kiss-blowing grandmother—and, most tellingly, as "a girl"—to counter perceptions of successful women as less likeable.

Mrs. Clinton's team has deeper pockets and should be able to count on an effi-

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cient on-the-ground campaign. But neither the media nor politicians have yet fathomed how to challenge Trumpian "post-truth" politics and address the suspicion, fear and rage fuelling his rise, and their causes. Framing and messaging are not enough, and nor is the promise of sober proficiency.

词汇

embody	[ɪm'bɒdi]	*vt.* 体现,使具体化;具体表达
unthinkable	[ʌn'θɪŋkəbl]	*adj.* 不能想象的;过分的
conceivable	[kən'si:vəbl]	*adj.* 可能的;想得到的,可想像的
triumph	['traɪʌmf]	*n.* 胜利,凯旋;欢欣
opponent	[ə'pəʊnənt]	*n.* 对手;反对者;敌手
unravel	[ʌn'rævl]	*vt.* 解开;阐明;解决;拆散
symbolism	['sɪmbəlɪzəm]	*n.* 象征,象征主义;符号论;记号
unabashed	[ˌʌnə'bæʃt]	*adj.* 不害羞的;不畏惧的;厚脸皮的
misogynist	[mɪ'sɒdʒɪnɪst]	*n.* 厌恶女人的人
stark	[stɑ:k]	*adj.* 完全的;荒凉的;刻板的;光秃秃的;朴实的
hawkish	['hɔ:kɪʃ]	*adj.* 鹰派的;强硬派的
progressive	[prə'gresɪv]	*adj.* 进步的;先进的

长难句解析

1. The symbolism of a female president matters much less than the impact her leadership would have on the lives of women across American society compared with that of an unabashed misogynist.

【翻译】一位女总统的象征意义远没有她当选(与一位厌恶女性的厚脸皮的人当选相比)后将对全美妇女的生活产生的影响重要。

【解析】本句的主干是 The symbolism matters much less than the impact her leadership would have。这一句的难点在于出现了两个比较关系,一不小心就容易搞错对比关系。第一个比较是 symbolism 和 impact her leadership would have on the lives of women。第二个比较 impact her leadership would have on the lives of women compared with that of an unabashed misogynist 中的 that 指代 leadership,也就是将希拉里当选对美国妇女生活的影响和一位厌恶女性的厚脸皮的人的当

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选对美国妇女生活的影响进行比较。捋顺了说，这句话想表达的其实是：因为特朗普讨厌女人，所以女总统的象征意义再大，也没有希拉里打败特朗普当选对美国女性生活的影响大。必须选择她并不是因为她多好，而是因为选择她对手的后果太惨烈。

2. She has tended to shut out those beyond a trusted inner circle, a trait that was perhaps reflected in the controversy over her use of a private email server as secretary of state.

【翻译】她倾向于将那些不在核心圈子之内的人拒之门外，这个特征也许在她作为国务卿使用私人电子邮件服务器这个争议事件上有所反映。

【解析】本句的主干是 She has tended to shut out those beyond a trusted inner circle。后面的 a trait 为同位语成分，指代 her tendency to shut out...为了修饰 trait，后面又接了一个 that 引导的定语从句 that was perhaps reflected in the controversy over her use of a private email server as secretary of state。

全文翻译

不论好坏，美国今年 11 月的总统大选将创造历史。如果希拉里·克林顿赢得大选，她将代表社会在一个世代能够取得的进步；为首位女总统投票的选民中会有在妇女获得选举权之前就出生的美国人。

她的胜利将展示出不可思议的想法是如何从想像发展成事实的。不幸的是，对手的胜利也有同样的意义。唐纳德·特朗普若当选总统，将很好地证明社会可以如何迅速解构。一位女总统的象征意义远没有她当选（与一位厌恶女性的厚脸皮的人当选相比）后将对全美妇女的生活产生的影响重要。如果她失败了——尽管民意测试令人担忧，也不论她周四在费城的有力演说，现在并不清楚她的政党是否真正理解失败的可能性十分大——美国将选择一个不仅侮辱女性尊严和威胁宗教和少数族裔安全，而且令美国本土民主和世界稳定受到破坏的人。正如希拉里巧妙地提醒道，从过去到现在，选民从未面临过一个比这更显而易见的选择了。

这位民主党总统候选人本能上比奥巴马强硬。她提出的保护平民不受华尔街巨头剥削的承诺，与她的捐赠者名录不太和谐。因为受到了来自伯尼·桑德斯的比预期更强劲的挑战，她被迫选择更加激进的立场。她倾向于将那些不在核心圈子之内的人拒之门外，这个特征也许在她作为国务卿使用私人电子邮件服务器这个争议事件上有所反映。虽然她逃脱了起诉，但联邦调查局局长认

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为这种处理消息的方式“极其粗心大意”。

这些担忧虽然真实，但如果和特朗普先生当选的前景相比，则显得微不足道。这些担忧之所以存在，部分是由于她多年担任代理、当选和任命的职位；正如奥巴马先生所提及的，没有人比她更有资格当总统。同样，很难想到有谁比她的竞争对手更不适合当总统。面对他能应对自如的场合，他总是会降低格调。

按正常标准，尽管桑德斯的支持者仍有一些挥之不去的怨气，但这仍是一次成功的大会：利落的组织，传达明确一致的信息。她赢得了党内提名，现在要争取全国的信任。支持者们不得不把一位可能的总统描绘成爱意满满的祖母——以及最引人注目的“一个女孩”——以反转成功女性不讨人喜欢的印象。

希拉里的团队拥有更雄厚的竞选资金，应该能够进行高效的实地竞选。但无论是媒体还是政客，都还未想出应该如何挑战特朗普的“反事实”政治，如何应对助长特朗普崛起的猜疑、恐惧和愤怒以及它们的根源。仅仅准备和传达信息是不够的，清醒而成熟的承诺也是不够的。

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No. 36

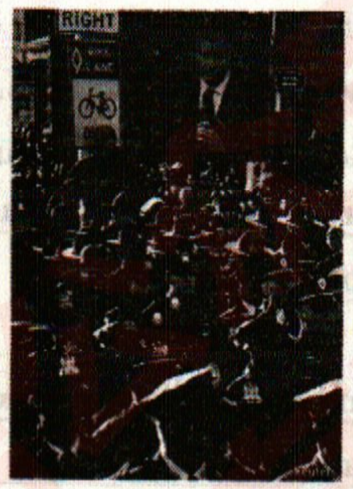
The blue thread frays

磨损的蓝线

扫码看课

Jan 3rd, 2015
The Economist
阅读难度：☆☆☆☆

文章导读：美国白人警察误杀黑人民众引起的种族歧视风波未平，又有警员被报复性枪杀。纽约警界认为市长的立场和言论煽动了民众的非理性行为。备受争议的市长该如何延续前任的政绩？又该如何团结警界打造一个更安全的纽约？



文章结构

1. 布林斯利枪杀了两名警员。
2. 蓄意枪杀受到反警抗议的启发。
3. 白人警察扼死黑人被判无罪，引发全美抗议。
4. 市长因暗示警察是种族主义者而与警界关系紧张。
5. 支持者认为市长在公众项目上有所建树。
6. 反对者认为市长正在挥霍前任遗留的繁荣和安定。
7. 如此局面下，市长会如何挽回与警界的关系？

正文

Ismaaiyl Brinsley vowed on social media to put "wings on pigs". Furious at the deaths of Eric Garner and Michael Brown, two African-Americans who died in 2014 at the hands of white policemen, he took a gun and shot dead Rafael Ramos and Wenjian Liu, a Hispanic cop and his Chinese-American partner, as they ate lunch in a patrol car in Brooklyn on December 20th.

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Mr. Brinsley appears to have been deranged. However, many police officers in New York think his actions were inspired by the anti-cop protests that have swept the Big Apple (and several other American cities) in recent weeks. That poses problems for Bill de Blasio, the mayor, as he ends his first year in office.

Thousands of New Yorkers took to the streets to decry a grand jury's decision in December not to indict the cop who choked Garner, a street vendor of untaxed cigarettes, to death. Cops feel besieged, and they doubt that Mr. de Blasio is on their side. The mayor has often implied that they are racist.

Taking office on January 1st 2014, Mr. de Blasio vowed to pursue a progressive agenda of curbing inequality and promoting justice. His supporters note that he won state funding for universal nursery school, and enrolled 53,000 children in 2014, up from 20,000 the previous year. He has a plan to "build or preserve" 200,000 affordable houses over ten years. To receive city subsidies, developers will have to set aside part of any new project for cheap apartments.

Mr. de Blasio's critics complain that he has done his best to hobble charter schools, which offer poor New Yorkers a way out of the worst public schools. (His election campaign was backed by labour unions, which detest non-union charters.) More broadly, the mayor's detractors worry that he will burn through the surplus built up by his more businesslike predecessor, Michael Bloomberg.

Mr. de Blasio inherited a safe, prosperous city. Crime is still falling, not least because Mr. de Blasio hired Bill Bratton, the cop who cleaned up New York's incomparably more dangerous streets in the 1990s, as his police commissioner. Mr. Bratton has not ended "stop and frisk", a controversial police tool, which Mr. de Blasio promised to curb during his campaign. He has reformed it instead. Stops are more carefully targeted, with more leading to an arrest or a summons. Mr. Bratton has tried harder to foster good relations between the police and the communities they serve. Until the summer of 2014, morale among the rank and file was good. Now it is awful.

In his eulogy for the murdered officers, Mr. Bratton described them as part of "the blue thread that holds our city together when disorder might pull it apart".

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磨损的蓝线

Many New Yorkers are worried that the blue thread is fraying, and want to know what Mr. de Blasio is going to do about it.

词汇

furious	['fjʊərɪəs]	*adj.* 激烈的;狂怒的;热烈兴奋的;喧闹的
patrol car		巡逻警车
deranged	[dɪ'reɪndʒd]	*adj.* 疯狂的;精神错乱的
decry	[dɪ'kraɪ]	*vt.* 责难,谴责;诽谤
untaxed	[ʌn'tækst]	*adj.* 未完税的
besiege	[bɪ'si:dʒ]	*vt.* 围困;包围;烦扰
curb	[kɜ:b]	*vt.* 控制;抑制;勒住
charter school		特许学校,契约学校;委办学校
summon	['sʌmən]	*n./v.* [法律]传唤;传讯
foster	['fɒstə]	*vt.* 培养;养育,抚育;抱(希望等)

长难句解析

1. Furious at the deaths of Eric Garner and Michael Brown, two African-Americans who died in 2014 at the hands of white policemen, he took a gun and shot dead Rafael Ramos and Wenjian Liu, a Hispanic cop and his Chinese-American partner, as they ate lunch in a patrol car in Brooklyn on December 20th.

【翻译】他为2014年两位非裔美国人埃里克·加纳和迈克尔·布朗死在白人警察手里和感到十分愤怒,因而在12月20日枪杀了布鲁克林街头巡逻车内正吃午饭的两名警察——拉丁裔的拉斐尔·拉莫斯和华裔的刘文健。

【解析】英语的树形结构是阅读理解的难点之一。本句的主干很简单,为He took a gun and shot dead Rafael Ramos and Wenjian Liu。主干前面的furious at the deaths of Eric Garner and Michael Brown, two African-Americans who died in 2014 at the hands of white policemen是一个独立结构的原因状语,解释了主语he的动机;同时在这个原因状语成分中还嵌套了一个充当同位语的由who引导的定语从句two African-Americans who died in 2014 at the hands of white policemen。句子结尾的as they ate lunch in a patrol car in Brooklyn on December 20th是一个由as引导的时间状语从句,说明事情发生的时间。

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2. More broadly, the mayor's detractors worry that he will burn through the surplus built up by his more businesslike predecessor, Michael Bloomberg.

【翻译】更广泛地说,市长的反对者担心他会将他善于经营的前任——迈克尔·布隆伯格——建立的盈余都消耗殆尽。

【解析】句子的主干是 The mayor's detractors worry...而 that 引导的宾语从句 he will burn through the surplus 则为 worry 的宾语。另外,分词短语 built up by his more businesslike predecessor 作为定语修饰 surplus,像这种分词短语作定语的情况很常见,但因为这种用法没有明显的引导词,容易将分词误认为动词或谓语,导致理解错误,所以平时练习时应留意。

3. Crime is still falling, not least because Mr. de Blasio hired Bill Bratton, the cop who cleaned up New York's incomparably more dangerous streets in the 1990s, as his police commissioner.

【翻译】犯罪率仍在下降,主要归功于他聘用了比尔·布拉顿作为警察署长。布拉顿先生在20世纪90年代肃清了比现在危险得多的纽约街道。

【解析】句子的主干为 Crime is still falling, not least because Mr. de Blasio hired Bill Bratton as his police commissioner。两个逗号中间的成分 the cop who cleaned up New York's incomparably more dangerous streets in the 1990s 是一个由 who 引导的定语从句,作为 Bill Bratton 的同位语。在遇到这种修饰人的同位语结构时,不妨视而不见,先把握句子的主要意思。

另外,此句中的 not least 也是容易弄错的地方,因为汉语的语言逻辑中很少会对原因的程度进行双重否定。least 是"最小",所以 not least 应该是"不是最小",不是最小的原因,也就是主要原因。或者直接把 not least 改成 least 的反义语 most,这样就容易理解了。

全文翻译

伊斯迈伊尔·布林斯利在社交媒体上放话,说要"给猪插上翅膀"。他为2014年两位非裔美国人埃里克·加纳和迈克尔·布朗死在白人警察手里而感到十分愤怒,因而在12月20日枪杀了布鲁克林街头巡逻车内正吃午饭的两名警察——拉丁裔的拉斐尔·拉莫斯和华裔的刘文健。

布林斯利先生看起来已经疯了。但是,许多纽约警察认为他的行为是受到了近几周席卷纽约以及其他几座美国城市的反警抗议活动的启发。这给任期刚满一年的市长比尔·德布拉西奥确实带来了一些难题。

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磨损的蓝线

12月，数以万计的纽约市民走上街头，抗议大陪审团所做的不起诉令非法贩卖香烟的小贩加纳窒息死亡的警察的决定。警察们感到孤立无援，他们认为市长并不站在他们这边。市长时常暗示他们是种族主义者。

2014年1月1日就职时，德布拉西奥先生曾许诺会采用一系列改革措施来遏制不公和宣扬正义。他的支持者提到，他为普及幼儿园争取到了州政府资金，并在2014年招收了53 000个孩子，而前一年仅有20 000个。他还计划在10年间“建造或保留”200 000栋经适房。为了获得市政补贴，开发商必须将新开发项目的部分用于经适房。

德布拉西奥先生的批评者则抱怨他“尽力”阻碍了特许学校的发展，而特许学校为纽约的穷人提供了离开糟糕的公立学校的机会（支持他竞选的工会厌恶非工会的特许学校）。更广泛地说，市长的反对者担心他会将他善于经营的前任——迈克尔·布隆伯格——建立的盈余都消耗殆尽。

德布拉西奥先生继承了一个安全富裕的城市。犯罪率仍在下降，主要归功于他聘用了比尔·布拉顿作为警察署长。布拉顿先生在20世纪90年代肃清了比现在危险得多的纽约街道。警察署长并没有结束备受争议的“拦截盘查”，虽然德布拉西奥先生在竞选时曾许诺要限制该执勤手段。相反，他改革了这种方法。拦截变得更有目的性，使更多的拦截导向了拘捕或传票。布拉顿先生在维系警民关系上花了更大的精力。2014年夏天之前，广大警员士气不错。但现在却很糟糕。

布拉顿先生在悼念被枪杀的警员时说道，他们是“将这座城市维系在一起，不因混乱而分崩离析的蓝线”的一部分。许多纽约人担心这根蓝线正在磨损，想知道市长先生会怎么做。

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No. 37

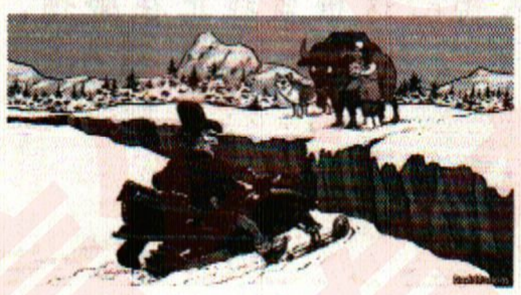
Ranchers *v.* bison-huggers

牧民与拥抱野牛的人

扫码看课

Jan 3rd, 2015
The Economist
阅读难度：☆☆☆

文章导读：专家和当地牧民就黄石公园的两种动物争论不休，看似纯经济纯科学的研究报告也好，法庭争论也罢，实际潜藏的乃是正反两方各自复杂的道德立场和利益考量。贾斯汀·法瑞尔的《黄石的战争》指出了美国政治的积弊。与其为了把自己的真理塞进别人的喉咙而费尽气力，不如多些体谅，求同存异。



文章结构

1.《黄石的战争》以黄石公园周遭的争议为主题。
2. 支持和反对引入狼群的人针锋相对半个世纪。
3. 支持和反对野牛放养的人也各不相让。
4. 针对机动雪橇是否有权在公园行驶的争论也未曾中断。
5. 贾斯汀·法瑞尔发现所有争吵其实都关于不同的道德立场。
6~7. 人人都自诩是在公正地维护真理。
8~10. 美国政治需要改变这种各执己见的、所谓的“不偏颇”的争论。

正文

The most original political book of early 2015 is not formally about politics at all. Instead, “The Battle for Yellowstone” by Justin Farrell, a young scholar at Yale University, ponders venomous rows that have shaken Yellowstone National Park in

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recent decades, and why they are so intractable. The rows turn on such questions as wolf re-introduction, bison roaming-rights and snowmobile access to that lovely corner of the Rocky Mountains.

It is nearly half a century since biologists first asked Congress to re-introduce wolves into Yellowstone, so that they might usefully eat some of the elk then lumbering about in over-large herds. Pro- and anti-wolf types drew up competing technical reports about the value of wolves as "apex predators", economic costs to cattle ranchers, tourism benefits and elk ecology.

Yellowstone's wild bison trigger ferocious rows, too, each time they amble outside the national park. Let them roam, cry fans of these last genetically pure survivors of the vast herds that once filled the West. Stop them, bellow ranchers who fear the bison will infect their cattle with brucellosis, a nasty disease.

As for snowmobilers and their right to roar along Yellowstone trails when winter descends, millions of dollars have been spent on lawsuits in Wyoming and Washington D. C. since the late 1990s, backed by studies of engine-noise, exhaust-pollution and wildlife behaviour. Some wrangling continues.

All this puzzled Mr. Farrell, who spent two years asking folk in and around Yellowstone why they are so cross. Beneath debates about science and economics he found arguments about morality and the proper relations between humans and nature—though those involved often do not, or will not acknowledge this.

Pro-wolf biologists and officials call themselves dispassionate custodians of a unique place. But they give themselves away with quasi-spiritual talk of wolves restoring "wholeness" to a landscape damaged by man.

As for anti-wolf types, when offered financial compensation for wolf-attacks on their livestock, some turn it down—suggesting that more than economics is at stake. Many "old West" types see a plot to drive ranchers from the land.

Yellowstone's hidden moral disputes offer wider lessons to America, a country

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that is increasingly divided and unusually keen on tackling complex ethical questions in judicial and quasi-judicial settings. From its earliest days American law courts and congressional hearings have rung to the noise of impassioned partisans, hurling facts (and, all too often, confected para-facts) at one another in a bid to prove the other side wrong.

This approach has its limits. "Most of us hold our beliefs in a tangled ball of yarn", especially in a religious, polarised place such as America. Tug at one thread, and people fear that their very identity is under attack.

This is not a call to abandon rationality or to scorn facts. It is a call for more empathy in American political debate, and more honesty about the tangled agendas that lurk in every breast. That would not end every conflict: just look at Yellowstone and its unending rows. But even agreeing to disagree would be a start.

词汇

ponder	['pɒndə]	*vt.* 仔细考虑;衡量
intractable	[ɪn'træktəbl]	*adj.* 棘手的;倔强的;不听话的
elk	[elk]	*n.* 麋鹿
apex predator		顶级掠食者
trigger	['trɪgə]	*vt.* 引发,引起;触发
amble	['æmbl]	*vi.* [马]缓行;从容漫步
brucellosis	[ˌbru:sə'ləʊsɪs]	*n.* [内科]布鲁斯氏杆菌病;波状热
wrangle	['ræŋgl]	*v.* 争吵;争辩
dispassionate	[dɪs'pæʃənət]	*adj.* 不带感情的;公正的
confect	[kɒn'fekt]	*vt.* 混合;调制

长难句解析

1. Instead, "The Battle for Yellowstone" by Justin Farrell, a young scholar at Yale University, ponders venomous rows that have shaken Yellowstone National Park in recent decades, and why they are so intractable.

【翻译】相反,耶鲁大学的年轻学者贾斯汀·法瑞尔的《黄石的战争》深刻

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反思了近几十年来动摇黄石公园的激烈争吵以及它们持续不休的原因。

【解析】句子的主干是“The Battle for Yellowstone” ponders venomous rows and why they are so intractable。书名的后面跟了作者及一个介绍作者信息的同位语成分。rows 后面的 that 引导了一个定语从句修饰争吵;而 why 引导的从句作 ponder 的宾语,语法层次上与 venous rows 并列。本句中需注意分清 that 从句和 why 从句不同的从属关系。

2. As for snowmobilers and their right to roar along Yellowstone trails when winter descends, millions of dollars have been spent on lawsuits in Wyoming and Washington D. C. since the late 1990s, backed by studies of engine-noise, exhaust-pollution and wildlife behaviour.

【翻译】而关于冬天机动雪橇是否有权在黄石的小路上行驶这件事,自从20世纪90年代后期,佐以各种发动机噪声、尾气污染和野生动物行为的研究,怀俄明州和华盛顿特区就已经有数以百万计美元花在了打官司上。

【解析】句子的主干是 Millions of dollars have been spent on lawsuits。本句状语成分较长,as for...的介词短语引出了与主句相关的事宜。后面的分词结构 backed by studies of engine-noise, exhaust-pollution and wildlife behavior 修饰 lawsuits,像这种放在句末的分词结构常常是作者为了强调而特意分开的。比较一下:Millions of dollars have been spent on lawsuits that were backed by studies of engine-noise, exhaust-pollution and wildlife behavior in Wyoming and Washington D. C. since the late 1990s。重心是否有所不同?

3. Yellowstone's hidden moral disputes offer wider lessons to America, a country that is increasingly divided and unusually keen on tackling complex ethical questions in judicial and quasi-judicial settings.

【翻译】黄石隐藏的道德争论对美国来说是一个教训。美国正日益分化,并异常执着于在司法或伪司法的环境下处理复杂的伦理问题。

【解析】句子的主干为 Yellowstone's hidden moral disputes offer wider lessons to America。谓语成分是 offer wider lessons to。a country that 这个句子充当 America的同位语。这个长的同位语结构也可以用从句来表述:Yellowstone's hidden moral disputes offer wider lessons to America, who is increasingly divided and unusually keen on tackling complex ethical questions in judicial and quasi-judicial settings。另外,“quasi-”是一个表示“伪、准”的意思的前缀。

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全文翻译

2015年最有原创性的政治类新书在形式上和政治一点儿也不沾边。相反，耶鲁大学的年轻学者贾斯汀·法瑞尔的《黄石的战争》深刻反思了近几十年来动摇黄石公园的激烈争吵以及它们持续不休的原因。争吵涉及重新引入狼群、野牛的放养以及机动雪橇是否可以进入落基山脉那美丽的角落。

近半个世纪前，生物学家第一次向国会提出重新在黄石引入狼群以便吃掉过度繁殖的麋鹿。支持者和反对者都编写了针锋相对的技术报告，提及狼作为“顶级掠食者”的价值、对于牧场主的经济损失、旅游业的红利以及麋鹿的生态。

每次黄石的野牛跑到国家公园外，都会引发激烈的争辩。“让它们跑起来，”这个曾经遍及整个西部的广大种群的最后一支纯种后代的粉丝们如是叫嚣。“阻止它们，”那些害怕野牛会传染烦人的布鲁斯杆菌病给自己的牲畜的牧场主气呼呼地喊着。

而关于冬天机动雪橇是否有权在黄石的小路上行驶这件事，自从20世纪90年代后期，佐以各种发动机噪声、尾气污染和野生动物行为的研究，怀俄明州和华盛顿特区就已经有数以百万计美元花在了打官司上。但一些争吵仍在继续。

所有这些令法瑞尔先生感到疑惑，他花了两年时间询问黄石内外的人们生气的原因。他发现在所有科学经济的辩论背后是关于道德和人与自然关系的争辩——虽然当事人常常不知道也不会承认这点。

赞成引入狼群的生物学者和官员将自己称为一个独一无二地区的公正的守护者。但他们谈起狼群恢复人类破坏的“完整”景观时的伪精神论调却一下子就出卖了他们自己。

而一些反对引入狼群的人们会拒绝接收针对狼群袭击牲畜给他们的补偿，这说明经济之外还有其他的相关因素。许多“老西部人”看到了将牧民驱赶出去的阴谋。

黄石隐藏的道德争论对美国来说是一个教训。美国正日益分化，并异常执着于在司法或伪司法的环境下处理复杂的伦理问题。美国法庭和国会听证会从早期开始，就充溢了“公正的”党派声音，他们将真相（并且常常是特意寻出的侧面事实）砸向对方，试图证明对方是错的。

这种方法效用有限。“我们大多数人将自己的想法绕成了一个杂乱的线团”，尤其是在像美国这样一个宗教化、极端化的地方。扯一根线，人们就担心自己的核心自我受到攻击。

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这不是号召大家放弃理性和鄙弃事实。而是号召美国的政治争论中增加更多的体谅,更多的坦诚——承认每个人心中都有复杂的动机。这样不能终结每个争论:看看黄石和关于黄石的无休止的争吵就可以知道。但即使是求同存异也是一个好的开始。

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No. 38

Draw back the curtain?

拉开窗帘?

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The Economist
阅读难度:☆☆☆☆☆

文章导读:网络信息时代让人们普遍接受了信息平等和资讯公开的概念。美国一些议员想让法庭也顺势而为,在众议院提出了“阳光法庭法案”,想达到通过影像媒体公开庭审的效果。但是就最高法院那几位大法官而言,他们不大可能一致同意这个法案。时机貌似还未成熟。

文章结构

1. “阳光法庭法案”旨在推翻70年的法庭禁令,但大法官们似乎并不青睐影像设备入法庭。
2. 四分之三的美国人将因此感到沮丧。
3. 优秀的庭辩是否能够影响法官的决定。
4. 最高法院其他几位大法官的庭审特点。
5. 目前,阳光法庭的实现还为时过早。

正文

A bill circulating in the House of Representatives, the charmingly named Sunshine in the Courtroom Act, aims to overturn a 70-year prohibition on cameras in federal courtrooms. It would allow media coverage of proceedings in such courts at the discretion of the presiding judge. Spectacles like the Boston Marathon bombing case may, if the bill passes, be streamed into citizens' living rooms. But the proceedings of the country's highest court are another story. The sun will shine on the

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Supreme Court only if the chief justice wants it to. And despite the grudging openness to new technology he showed in his end-of-year report, neither he nor his colleagues seem terribly keen on cameras.

This will disappoint the nearly three-quarters of Americans who say they would like to watch the justices in action. Some contend that oral arguments have little effect on how the court rules, but Timothy Johnson, Paul Wahlbeck and James Spriggs, three political scientists, posit that Supreme Court oral arguments "provide justices with useful information that influences their final votes on the merits".

A small cadre of advocates bend the justices' ears much more often than everybody else. Before he was appointed chief justice in 2005, John Roberts argued 39 cases before the court and won 25. Paul Clement, solicitor-general under President George W. Bush and now in private practice, has appeared before the court 75 times and is considered a virtuoso. Despite a universally praised appearance in 2012, however, Mr. Clement could not persuade the justices to strike down Obamacare. A somewhat bumbling defence of the Affordable Care Act by Barack Obama's solicitor-general nonetheless contained the key contention that the law's penalty for not buying health insurance was best regarded as a "tax" permitted by the constitution; and that was enough to persuade Chief Justice Roberts to join the court's four liberals in upholding the law.

Sitting one at each end of the bench, two liberal justices, Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan, are both feisty in arguments. Justice Sotomayor tends to bear down on lawyers with fine-grained questions about precedent, while Justice Kagan is the master of the big picture. Her hypotheticals are crystal-clear and concise, a contrast to Justice Breyer's sometimes impenetrable stream-of-consciousness. Justice Samuel Alito, with his cocked head and sternly arched eyebrow, often poses the toughest questions of the day. Two justices are sphinx-like: Clarence Thomas, who has not asked a question since February 22nd 2006, and Anthony Kennedy, often the presumed swing vote in the biggest cases, whose questions rarely betray how he will decide.

Transcripts and audio recordings of the hearings are available on the Supreme

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Court's website; but, for the time being, court-watchers are limited to members of the press and people who line up early to vie for one of a couple of hundred seats in the public gallery. Not a lot of sunshine penetrates the Supremes' sacred chamber; law or no law, the heavy drapery is not about to be pulled aside.

词汇

circulate	['sɜ:kjəleɪt]	*v.* 传播,流传;循环;流通
overturn	[ˌəʊvə'tɜ:n]	*v.* 推翻;倾覆;破坏
discretion	[dɪ'skreʃn]	*n.* 自由裁量权;谨慎;判断力
solicitor	[sə'lɪsɪtə]	*n.* 律师;法务官
virtuoso	[ˌvɜ:tju'əʊsəʊ]	*n.* 艺术品鉴赏家;古董收藏家;艺术大师
bumbling	['bʌmblɪŋ]	*adj.* 装模作样的;笨手笨脚的
contention	[kən'tenʃn]	*n.* 争论,争辩;争夺;论点
feisty	['faɪsti]	*adj.* 活跃的;好争吵的
fine-grained	['faɪn'greɪnd]	*adj.* 细粒的;有细密纹理的
impenetrable	[ɪm'penɪtrəbl]	*adj.* 不能通过的;顽固的;费解的

长难句解析

1. A somewhat bumbling defence of the Affordable Care Act by Barack Obama's solicitor-general nonetheless contained the key contention that the law's penalty for not buying health insurance was best regarded as a "tax" permitted by the constitution; and that was enough to persuade Chief Justice Roberts to join the court's four liberals in upholding the law.

【翻译】而奥巴马的总检察长对《平价医疗法案》的笨拙辩护却包含了关键论点,即法律对拒绝购买医疗保险者的惩罚最好被看做是宪法允许的"税";这点就足以说服首席大法官罗伯茨加入4个自由主义同僚,支持奥巴马医改法案。

【解析】此句段由两个完整的句子构成。第一部分的主干是 A defence of the Affordable Card Act by...contained the key contention...紧接的 that 从句修饰 contention,解释了这个论点的内容。容易在阅读中掉链子的是句子第二部分开头的 that。这个 that 指代的是前文的 contention。对于这类指示代词,需要仔细分析前文找出其替代的部分和内容,以免造成不正确的理解或是不知所云。

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2. Two justices are sphinx-like: Clarence Thomas, who has not asked a question since February 22nd 2006, and Anthony Kennedy, often the presumed swing vote in the biggest cases, whose questions rarely betray how he will decide.

【翻译】还有两个法官和斯芬克斯一样难以捉摸:从2006年2月22日至今都没有发过问的克拉伦斯·托马斯和通常在大案中被视为游离票的安东尼·肯尼迪——他的问题很少会流露出任何立场。

【解析】本句的主干为Two justices are sphinx-like: Clarence Thomas and Anthony Kennedy。两个人名后的逗句所接的部分则分别对两个人进行了描述。在遇见这种句式时,最好的方法是先化繁为简,先从主干把握整体意思,再还原主干上的枝叶,从而洞悉细节。

3. Transcripts and audio recordings of the hearings are available on the Supreme Court's website; but, for the time being, court-watchers are limited to members of the press and people who line up early to vie for one of a couple of hundred seats in the public gallery.

【翻译】庭审记录和录音都可在最高法院的网站上找到:但是,就目前而言,聆听庭审的仅限于媒体和早早排队坐上公众席几百个座位之一的人。

【解析】本句的主干为Transcripts and audio recordings are available; but court watches are limited to members of the press and people who...其中who引导的限定性定语从句解释了除了媒体之外还有什么样的人能够聆听法庭庭审。这里值得一提的是but在连接两个句子时所表示的转折逻辑关系。考生往往过于注重复杂的语汇和句式,反而忽略了常见用法蕴含的逻辑意思,造成理解上的错误,"失之毫厘,差之千里"。

全文翻译

一项意在推翻70年来影像设备禁入联邦法院这一规定的法案近日在众议院传阅,法案有个迷人的名字——"阳光法庭法案"。它将使媒体可以在主审法官的自由裁量下报道诉讼。如果法案通过,民众可能就可以直接在客厅里观看像波士顿马拉松爆炸案一类的大案庭审。但最高法院的诉讼程序却是另外一回事了。只有在最高法院的首席法官同意的情况下才可能实现"阳光"。虽然首席法官大人在年终报告中勉强表示了对新科技的欢迎,但他和他的同事们似乎都不太热衷于影像设备。

这会让将近四分之三的想目睹法官审判案件的美国人感到失望。一些人

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认为口头辩论对法院的判决影响甚小，但蒂摩西·约翰逊、保罗·沃柏克和詹姆斯·斯普里格三位政治科学家认为，最高法院的口头辩论可以“提供有用的信息，并影响法官们的最终决定”。

一小群律师常常比其他人更能改变大法官们的想法。约翰·罗伯茨在2005年被委任为最高法院首席法官之前，曾参加了39场庭辩，并赢得了其中的25场。曾在乔治·布什总统任期内提任总检察长的保罗·克莱门特现在私人执业，他曾参与了75场庭辩，被认为是大师。尽管人们对他2012年的表现交口称赞，然而克莱门特先生却无法说服法官否决奥巴马医改法案。而奥巴马的总检察长对《平价医疗法案》的笨拙辩护却包含了关键论点，即法律对拒绝购买医疗保险者的惩罚最好被看做是宪法允许的“税”；这点就足以说服首席大法官罗伯茨加入四个自由主义同僚，支持奥巴马医改法案。

坐在法官席两端的是两个自由派法官：索尼娅·索托马约尔和埃琳娜·卡根，她们在庭辩中都十分活跃。大法官索尼娅·索托马约倾向于使用有关先例的细节问题向律师施加压力，而大法官卡根则善于掌控全局。她的假设清晰简明，与大法官布雷耶令人费解的意识流形成对比。大法官塞缪尔·阿利托通常头抬得很高、眉毛紧锁地提出一天内最棘手的问题。还有两个法官和斯芬克斯一样难以捉摸：从2006年2月22日至今都没有发过问的克拉伦斯·托马斯和通常在大案中被视为游离票的安东尼·肯尼迪——他的问题很少会流露出任何立场。

庭审记录和录音都可在最高法院的网站上找到；但是，就目前而言，聆听庭审的仅限于媒体和早早排队坐上公众席几百个座位之一的人。迄今为止，并无充沛的阳光穿透最高法院神圣的议事庭，不管法案是否能成为法律，沉重的窗帘还没有被拉开。