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Global Economics

Part I Prepare for listening

1. 概述

英语经济讲座探讨的主要是当今世界经济生活中的新事物、新现象、新概念、新理念、新形势,传递的内容具有前瞻性、专业性、知识性、实用性、科学性、权威性的特点,折射出了经济社会的最新动向。总体说来,英语经济讲座具有脉络陈述清晰、语言规范严谨、语篇结构固定化、词汇表达程式化程度高、学术性较强、语体庄重、夹叙夹议等特点。

英语经济讲座的语言特点有:经济类专业术语多,程式化表达多,数字使用多,口语与书面语并存,普遍使用第一和第二人称等。经济讲座有较强主观性,大多属于独白式、宣讲式或述评式,因此,基本使用第一人称。也有部分讲座包括讲座主持人、讲座者和嘉宾。

从句式上来看,由于交际目的的严肃性及讲座者身份特殊等特点,英语经济讲座倾向于书面语篇的句法特点,常使用长句和复合句,句式灵活多样,长短句交替使用。

从语篇结构上来看,讲座的语篇模式相对固定,层次结构清晰,多采用"总一分一总"结构: 讲座开始部分是程式化的社交辞令,表达谢意,开门见山点明讲座的主题;中间部分转入讲座的实质部分,解释讲座主题或学术概念,阐述和展开经济解读或述评,其中也有背景综述、经济现象观察分析或经济数据分析;结尾部分为总述,复述要旨、总结要点或提出未来研究方向。但是考试中的听力讲座很多时候并非完整的讲座,可能缺乏完整的"总一分一总"结构,往往只包括引言及部分讲座内容,这应该引起学习者的注意。

2. 热点

近年来的英语经济讲座热点话题主要涉及国际经济合作、经济改革、全球和地区经济挑战、国际和各国货币政策、共享经济、能源问题、贸易协定、劳动力市场、企业经营、城市化、新型融资方式、新型理财方式、经济形势报告等等。

3. 要点

- (1) 经济讲座必备的专业主题基础知识、经济类高频英语专业术语。此类技术的和准技术类的术语有crowdsourcing(众包), green bonds(绿色债券), trade barrier(贸易壁垒), price index(物价指数), sharing economy(共享经济), carbon emissions target(碳排放目标), micro-credit(小额信贷), contactless payment(非接触支付), minimum wage(最低工资), monetary policy(货币政策)等。部分经济术语在讲座中有简要解释,但大部分没有。而这些经济术语往往是全篇的主题所在,或与主题密切相关。学习者若不熟悉经济术语,对全文主旨和细节的理解便会受到影响,面对选项也会无从下手。学习者应加强对这类词汇的积累和记忆,扫清听力词汇障碍。
- (2)与经济讲座相关的各类机构或协会的专有名词短语,如Association of Southeast Asian Nations (东盟, ASEAN), Federal Open Market Committee (联邦公开市场委员会, FOMC), Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (亚太经贸合作组织, APEC), Conference of State Bank Supervisors (美国州银行监管协会), London Stock Exchange (伦敦证券交易所), American Economic Association (美国经济协会)等。学习者需要积累并熟练掌握这些专有名词短语,以提高敏感度,在听音中快速做出反应。
- (3)大量使用数字,预测经济发展形势,为讲座观点提供有力支撑,增强说服力和可信度。可以这样说,数字是经济讲座的灵魂。经济讲座关系国计民生,要靠数字说话,既有大额数字,也有分数、小数,而且对数字的准确性、权威性、有效性要求较高。数字内容涉及许多经济热点,例如房价、失业率、股票价格、贸易总额、经济总量等。
- (4) 使用隐喻。经济讲座者大都为学者、经济工作者、高级财经管理人员等,常使用 隐喻,使语言形象、具体、生动,以增强语言的表现力,比如: throw out baby with bath water (把孩子和脏水一起泼掉),hit home (击中要害),get to the bottom of (弄 清……真相),pull oneself out of poverty (摆脱贫困)等。
- (5) 用词平实、精准、经济。如 bottom line, promise a crackdown on, go further, recession, joblessness, get a raise, replace, show, tough, decline, hike等。
- (6) 句式灵活多样,简单句和复杂句并用。受众不同,讲座的句式特点也大不相同。部

分讲座通俗易懂,走平民化路线,避免冗长的句式,符合讲座简洁、清晰的语言要求;而真正的专业学术讲座因受众是专业人士,则包含更多权威解读和观点,频繁使用如定语从句、同位语从句、状语从句和插入语等语言结构。

(7)专家或权威人士对某经济现象或事件的评价、解析或者研究结果是讲座听力考查的重点所在。

4. 句型

- (1) Thank you. It is truly a pleasure for me to join President Bullard and Chairman Cotney in welcoming you to the Community Banking Research and Policy Conference. 谢谢。很荣幸与总裁布拉德以及主席科特尼一道,欢迎各位参加社区银行研究与政策会议。
- (2) Thank you for having me here today. I'd like to introduce the basics of forms of business, which are critical issues that must be addressed first. 非常感谢各位的邀请。我将介绍商业形式的基本知识,这是首先要解决的关键问题。
- (3) My role today is to welcome you on behalf of the Federal Reserve Board. 我今天代表美国联邦储备委员会欢迎你们。
- (4) In the interest of getting to the important work of this conference, I will be brief, but if I accomplish anything by speaking to you today, I hope it is to convey the Board's understanding of the unique and important role of community banks. 为了圆满完成本次会议的重要议题,我的发言将尽量简短,但我希望我今天所说的话可以表达委员会对社区银行特殊、重要作用的认同。
- (5) My fellow Board members and I know that community banks provide essential financial services to households, small businesses, and farms in communities throughout the country.
 - 我和我的董事会成员都知道社区银行为全国很多社区的家庭、小企业和农场提供必需的金融服务。
- (6) I want to talk to you today about prosperity, about our hopes for a shared and lasting prosperity.
 - 我今天将与大家探讨繁荣,探讨我们对共同持久繁荣的希望。
- (7) So let's start with the data. Coke has a very clear bottom line. They report to a set of stockholders.
 - 所以,我们就从数据开始。可口可乐有非常明确的经营范围。他们向众多股东们 报告数据。

- (8) Hi, everybody. On Tuesday, I gave my final State of the Union Address. And a focus was this: How do we make the new economy work better for everyone, not just for those at the top?
 - 大家好。我周二发表了最后一次国情咨文演讲,其重点是:怎样使我们的经济更好地服务于每一个美国人,而不仅仅为少数上层社会的人服务?
- (9) Now many lectures have been given on this topic. I'd like to focus on the way the company runs.
 - 现在许多演讲都是关于这个主题的。我想把重点放在公司运营的方式上。
- (10) At the same time, our economy continues to go through profound changes that began long before the Great Recession hit.
 - 与此同时, 我们的经济继续经历深刻的变化, 这种变化早在经济大萧条之前就开始了。
- (11) She and others will delve deeply into the important research questions and other issues facing community banking.
 - 她和其他发言者将深入探究社区银行面临的重要研究问题及其他问题。
- (12) Maybe we can even go further and get an economy that pulls carbon out of the atmosphere, which is what we are going to need to be doing by the end of the century. 或许我们可以做得更好,将碳从大气中提取出来,这也正是我们到这个世纪末需要做的事情。
- (13) As many of you know, Airbnb is a peer-to-peer marketplace that matches people who have space to rent with people who are looking for a place to stay in over 100 countries. 正如多数人所知,爱彼迎是个人对个人的房屋租赁平台,覆盖一百多个国家,房主发布自己的房源信息,有需要的人可在上面预订。
- (14) As the economy recovers, many should be able to renegotiate their contracts or find permanent jobs.
 - 随着经济复苏,许多人能够和雇主重新协商合同或找到固定工作。

5. 常用词及短语

Match the English words and expressions with their Chinese equivalents, and learn them by heart.

A
career counseling
collaborative consumption
community bank
economic slump
entrepreneurial talent
existing assets
Federal Reserve System
flexible labor contract
limited liability partnership
market institution
micro-entrepreneurs
peer-to-peer marketplace
permanent staff
transaction cost
unemployment insurance system

В
有限责任合伙企业
现存资产
市场制度
职业咨询
联邦储备系统
经济衰退
个人对个人市场
企业家才能
失业保险制度
无固定期限劳动合同
社区银行
交易成本
微型企业家
协同消费
永久编制人员

Part II Listen to lectures

Lecture 1

Listen to the lecture and choose the best answer to each question you hear.

- **1.** A) A labor insurance system.
- B) A long-term labor contract.
- C) A long-term labor market.
- D) A flexible labor market.

2. A) Schools and hospitals.

B) Entertainment and sports companies.

C) Hotels and restaurants.

D) Engineering and auto companies.

3. A) Doctors.

B) Lawyers.

C) Engineers.

D) Pensioners.

4. A) Because they are held back by welfare cuts.

B) Because they are held back by locations, family commitments, etc.

C) Because they are held back by the contracts.

D) Because they are held back by labor-market reform.

Lecture 2

Listen to the lecture and choose the best answer to each question you hear.

- 1. A) They are lazy and sophisticated.
 - B) They are rational and business-minded.
 - C) They are illiterate and ignorant.
 - D) They are smart and fortunate.
- 2. A) They are efficient.

B) They are incompetent.

C) They are impressive.

- D) They are average.
- 3. A) Africa's market reform turns out to be inefficient.
 - B) Africa's market reform fails for the lack of market institutions.
 - C) Africa's market reform has been negated cruelly.
 - D) The public expresses reservations about Africa's market reform.

Lecture 3

Listen to the lecture and choose the best answer to each question you hear.

- **1.** A) An introduction to showrooming.
 - C) The dilemma of online shopping.
- **2.** A) People who are super-rich.
 - C) People who are carefree.
- **3.** A) Offer more choices of goods.
 - C) Give free gifts.

- B) The advantage of showrooming.
- D) The tips of online shopping.
- B) People who are brand-conscious.
- D) People who are short on money.
- B) Redecorate shops.
- D) Employ more salesgirls.

Lecture 4

Listen to the lecture and choose the best answer to each question you hear.

- 1. A) Prosperity.
 - C) Efficiency.
- 2. A) It is slow.
 - C) It is promising.
- **3.** A) Eastern incomes and lifestyles.
 - C) Western incomes and lifestyles.
- 4. A) Critical.
 - C) Pessimistic.

- B) Pollution.
- D) Recession.
- B) It is tough.
- D) It is accessible.
- B) Eastern ideals and lifestyles.
- D) Western ideals and lifestyles.
- B) Disappointed.
- D) Optimistic.

Lecture 5

Listen to the lecture and choose the best answer to each question you hear.

- 1. A) It's a community marketplace where guests can book spaces from hosts.
 - B) It's an online site where questions are asked, answered, edited and organized.
 - C) It's an online platform where one can obtain needed money or messages.
 - D) It's an e-commerce company where people can buy and sell goods and services online
- 2. A) It's using the power of technology to make money and save money.
 - B) It's using the power of technology to build trust bound between strangers.
 - C) It's using the power of technology to make more friends in virtual world.
 - D) It's using the power of technology to guide rational consumption.
- **3.** A) Because the speaker is passionate about collaborative consumption.
 - B) Because it enables people to save money from their idle assets.
 - C) Because it enables people to make their entrepreneurs' dream come true.
 - D) Because it enables people to make meaningful connections.

Lecture 6

Listen to the lecture and choose the best answer to each question you hear.

1. A) Middle class only.

B) Upper class.

C) Every American.

- D) Small-business owners.
- **2.** A) Everybody who works hard should live an easy life.
 - B) Everybody should be free from pressure and worldly cares.
 - C) Everybody should possess wealth and high respect.
 - D) Everybody should be able to get somewhere through hard work.
- **3.** A) To modernize the healthcare system.
 - B) To innovate the unemployment insurance system.
 - C) To ensure a stable private-sector job growth.
 - D) To cut the unemployment rate in half.

Part III Test yourself

Directions: In this section, you will hear 3 lectures. At the end of each lecture, you will hear three or four questions. Both the lecture and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A), B), C) and D).

Questions 1 to 4 will be based on the following lecture.

- 1. A) The role of community banks.
 - B) Opportunities of community banks.
 - C) Challenges of community banks.
 - D) The critical issues of community banks.
- 2. A) Local basic industries and pillar industries.
 - B) Households, small businesses, and farms in communities.
 - C) Local big businesses and investment corporations.
 - D) Self-employed small-business owners only in communities.
- **3.** A) The community banks can reduce the potential risk.
 - B) The community banks can compete against large banks.
 - C) The community banks can customize their products and services.
 - D) The community banks can ensure economic security.
- **4.** A) Local economic conditions.

B) Competitive business.

C) A financial crisis.

D) The board's commitment.

Questions 5 to 7 will be based on the following lecture.

5. A) Lasting prosperity.

B) Poor infrastructure facilities.

C) Easy access to Coca-Cola.

D) Lower education level.

- **6.** A) They develop effective marketing.
 - B) They provide quality products.
 - C) To innovate after-sales service.
 - D) To attract overseas marketing talents.
- 7. A) Innovation.

B) Insight.

C) Data.

D) Products.

Questions 8 to 10 will be based on the following lecture.

8. A) A sole proprietorship.

B) A partnership.

C) A corporation.

D) A holding company.

9. A) They are responsible for the debts of the corporation.

B) They can't reinvest the money back into the business.

C) They can receive dividends when corporations are making profits.

D) They can't sell their shares even if shares lose value.

10. A) Corporate finance.

B) Corporate policies.

C) Corporate image.

D) Corporate governance.

Part IV Supplementary words and expressions

Affordable Care Act (ACA)

aftercare

agricultural market

business lines

carbon intensity

carbon emissions target

dividend

exclusivity clauses

far-flung

feedback loop

Federal Reserve Board

financial institutions

Great Recession

Gulf of Mexico

hospitality business

idle capacity

inventory

knock-down price

平价医疗法案

售后服务

农业市场

经营范围,经营品种

碳浓度

碳排放目标

红利,股息

排他协议

遥远的, 广泛的

反馈回路

美国联邦储备委员会

金融机构

大萧条

墨西哥湾

酒店业务

闲置生产能力, 备用能量

存货,清单

最低限价

limited liability partnership 有限责任合伙 material possessions 物质财富 maternity pay 产假工资

pensioner 领养老金者, 领取抚恤金者

per capita 人均

private sector 私营部门,私营成分

proprietorship 所有权 product review 产品评价 public good 公益事业 real-time data 实时数据

serving (食品等的)一份

showrooming 展示厅现象 profit-minded 只顾赚钱的 purchasing power 购买力 retained earnings 留存收益 security broker 证券经纪人 snapshot 快照,简介 实际 proprietorship 独资企业

sovereign-debt crisis 主权债务危机

stagnate 停滯
State of the Union Address 国情咨文
statutory obligations 法定义务
stockholder 股东
the high street 商业街
the Labor Party 工党

the Office for National Statistics 英国国家统计局

TNS 特恩斯(一家市场研究公司)

ubiquitous 普遍存在的 under-capitalized 资本不足的