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COLLEGE
ENGLISH

英语视听说教程

EASY
ENJOYABLE
EFFECTIVE

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> Contents

UNIT 1

—
The power of nature P1

Pronunciation

Pronunciation skills: Rising intonation in unfinished sentences P2

Listening to communicate

- Conversation 1 P3
- Conversation 2 P4
- Act-out P5
- **Communication skills:** Expressing agreement

Listening to explore

- News report P6
- Passage 1 P7
- Passage 2 P8
- **Listening skills:** Listening for purposes

UNIT 2

—
Work to become P17

Pronunciation skills: Intonation to express surprise and give praise P18

- Conversation 1 P19
- Conversation 2 P20
- Act-out P21
- **Communication skills:** Talking about responsibilities

- News report P22
- Passage 1 P23
- Passage 2 P24
- **Listening skills:** Identifying the problem-solution pattern of a text

UNIT 3

—
The magic of lines and colors P33

Pronunciation skills: Stress and intonation indicating sense groups P34

- Conversation 1 P35
- Conversation 2 P36
- Act-out P37
- **Communication skills:** Expressing appreciation

- News report P38
- Passage 1 P39
- Passage 2 P40
- **Listening skills:** Listening for definition

UNIT 4

—
Just dance! P49

Pronunciation skills: Varying intonation to attract attention P50

- Conversation 1 P51
- Conversation 2 P52
- Act-out P53
- **Communication skills:** Asking for clarification

- News report P54
- Passage 1 P55
- Passage 2 P56
- **Listening skills:** Listening for opinions

UNIT 5

—
Secrets of advertising P65

Pronunciation skills: Reading parallel structures P66

- Conversation 1 P67
- Conversation 2 P68
- Act-out P69
- **Communication skills:** Making emphasis

- News report P70
- Passage 1 P71
- Passage 2 P72
- **Listening skills:** Listening for speakers' attitudes

UNIT 6

—
Digital life: Chances and risks P81

Pronunciation skills: Reading long sentences P82

- Conversation 1 P83
- Conversation 2 P84
- Act-out P85
- **Communication skills:** Expressing aims and purposes

- News report P86
- Passage 1 P87
- Passage 2 P88
- **Listening skills:** Listening for comparison and contrast

Sharing your ideas	Viewing to know	Further listening	Listening to appreciate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce a smart design • Presentation skills: Structuring a descriptive speech P10-11 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-viewing • While-viewing • Post-viewing P12-13 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conversation P14 • News report P14 • Passage P15 	<p><i>Miracle</i> P16</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Role-play a job interview • Presentation skills: Preparing for a job interview P26-27 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-viewing • While-viewing • Post-viewing P28-29 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conversation P30 • News report P30 • Passage P31 	<p><i>If</i> P32</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a discussion about a painting • Presentation skills: Moving the discussion on P42-43 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-viewing • While-viewing • Post-viewing P44-45 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conversation P46 • News report P46 • Passage P47 	<p><i>The Painting (Excerpt)</i> P48</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tell a story of a dancer • Presentation skills: Telling a story P58-59 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-viewing • While-viewing • Post-viewing P60-61 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conversation P62 • News report P62 • Passage P63 	<p><i>Dancing in the Moonlight</i> P64</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Propose a slogan for a product • Presentation skills: Using persuasion P74-75 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-viewing • While-viewing • Post-viewing P76-77 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conversation P78 • News report P78 • Passage P79 	<p><i>Sky</i> P80</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a mini-debate on the usage of mobile phones • Presentation skills: Presenting both sides of an argument P90-91 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-viewing • While-viewing • Post-viewing P92-93 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conversation P94 • News report P94 • Passage P95 	<p><i>When I Heard the Learn'd Astronomer</i> P96</p>

The power of nature

Learning objectives

After learning this unit,
you will be able to:

- * talk about natural disasters and damage control
- * express agreement
- * identify the purposes
- * introduce a smart design by structuring a descriptive speech

> Pronunciation

Pronunciation skills

Rising intonation in unfinished sentences

通常情况下，当一句话尚未结束时，句中使用升调。关于句中升调，有以下几种常见情况：

- 句首状语（包括单词、短语、从句）一般都用升调。如：

Up till now, about six countries are having this problem.

- 在罗列事物时，前几项一般都需要用升调。如：

There are many natural disasters caused by global warming, such as hurricanes, huge floods, very cold weather ...

- 在表示选择时，前面的选项一般需要用升调。如：

Do you want the paper cup or the glass bottle?

1 Listen and mark the rising intonation in the sentences with “↗”.

- 1 Did the fire start naturally or was it caused by human activities?
- 2 Nobody knows at the moment, but it has been very hot there recently.
- 3 But anyway, people should be careful when they're starting a fire in this hot, dry weather.
- 4 Not only geological hazards, the climate is getting worse, too.
- 5 The series expresses serious worries from the eyes of Mother Nature, the Ocean, the Sky, and so on.
- 6 That way, even though the ground is shaking, the house stays still.
- 7 However, it is by no means an easy job.
- 8 Although the work is very challenging, it is still worth it.
- 9 Whenever there's rain, it quickly overflows.
- 10 Countries are asked to cut their use of coal, oil and natural gas.

2 Work in pairs and take turns to read the sentences above to each other.

> Listening to communicate

Conversation 1

1 Listen to the conversation and choose the best answer to each of the questions.

- 1 According to the conversation, what does today's news cover?
 - A. A few stories about Africa.
 - B. A few stories about using fire.
 - C. A few stories about natural disasters.
 - D. A few stories about refugee camps.
- 2 What are the problems caused by the hot and dry weather according to the conversation?
 - A. Fire and food shortage.
 - B. Illness and lack of water.
 - C. Fire and lack of water.
 - D. Building damage and food shortage.
- 3 According to the conversation, how many African countries need help now?

A. 6.	B. 8.
C. 16.	D. 18.

2 Listen to the conversation again and decide whether the statements are true (T) or false (F).

- 1 A huge forest fire in Australia has affected a big area of land.
- 2 The woman is sure that the fire in Australia started naturally.
- 3 The hot and dry weather has caused lots of problems.
- 4 China and several other countries have offered help to African people.

Word tips

disaster /dɪ'zɑːstə/ *n.* 灾难;
灾祸; 灾害

refugee /ˌrefju'dʒiː/ *n.* 难民;
避难者



Conversation 2

Word tips

geological hazard

/ˌdʒi:ə'lədʒɪkl 'hæzəd/

地质灾害

climate /'klaɪmət/ *n.* 气候

suffer /'sʌfə/ *v.* (因疾病、痛苦、悲伤等) 受苦, 受难, 受折磨

1 Listen to the conversation and choose the best answer to each of the questions.

- 1 What are the speakers mainly talking about?
 - A. How to prevent pollution.
 - B. How to meet environmental standards.
 - C. Harms caused by climate change.
 - D. Environmental problems caused by humans.
- 2 What is the reason for climate change according to the speakers?
 - A. Human action.
 - B. Natural change.
 - C. Natural disaster.
 - D. Population growth.
- 3 What must be brought to people's attention?
 - A. Our behavior cannot get us what we want.
 - B. Our behavior is good for future generations.
 - C. We should use whatever we need today.
 - D. We should stop using what future generations will need.

2 Listen to the conversation again and check (✓) the expressions you hear.

1 Exactly.

2 I totally agree with you.

3 I think so.

4 Definitely.

5 I'm with you on that.

6 I can't agree more.

Act-out

Work in pairs and act out the following conversation. You may use the expressions in the skill box or come up with your own expressions.

Guided conversation

- A:** Ask if B likes the photographic exhibition you two are visiting.
- B:** Answer A's question and ask about A's preference.
- A:** Express your preference and ask about B's favorite photo on display.
- B:** Tell A which is your favorite photo and why you like it the most.
- A:** Agree with B's opinion about the photo.
- B:** Ask about A's favorite photo on display.
- A:** Tell B which one you like the most and why you like it.
- B:** Agree with A's opinion and ask how A understands the theme of the exhibition.
- A:** Express your understanding of the theme and ask about B's understanding.
- B:** Agree with A's understanding and further explain your understanding.
- A:** Agree with B's understanding.

Communication skills

Expressing agreement

- Sure.
- Of course.
- Certainly.
- Exactly.
- Definitely.
- I think so.
- Good idea.
- I (totally / completely) agree (with you).
- I'm with you on that.
- I can't / couldn't agree more.



> Listening to explore

Word tips

line *n.* 台词



News report

1 Listen to the news report and choose the best answer to each of the questions.

- 1 What is *Nature Is Speaking*?
 - A. A series of short films on environmental protection.
 - B. A series of short films on animal protection.
 - C. A series of TV programs on environmental protection.
 - D. A series of TV programs on animal protection.
- 2 What do the lines mentioned in the news report mean?
 - A. Humans need nature.
 - B. Nature needs humans.
 - C. Nature and humans need each other.
 - D. Nature and humans don't need each other.
- 3 What is the goal for producing *Nature Is Speaking*?
 - A. To raise money.
 - B. To connect with China.
 - C. To help Chinese people protect nature.
 - D. To change people's attitudes toward nature.

2 Listen to the news report again and decide whether the statements are true (T) or false (F).

- 1 Some Chinese actors have lent their voices to *Nature Is Speaking* for free.
- 2 The series expresses serious worries about the way humans are treating the planet.
- 3 The lines are difficult so you need to think hard to understand them.
- 4 The Chinese version of the series is produced to influence Chinese people.

Passage 1

1 Listen to the passage and choose the best answer to each of the questions.

- 1 With the air-bag technology, what will happen to your house during an earthquake?
 - A. It will be filled up with air bags.
 - B. It will be covered by an air bag.
 - C. It will be pushed aside by an air bag.
 - D. It will be lifted off the ground by an air bag.
- 2 What does the passage say about this air-bag technology?
 - A. It is a designed to reduce the impact of earthquakes.
 - B. It is an imagination of scientists and engineers.
 - C. It would never be put into use in real life.
 - D. It cannot bring comfort to people.
- 3 What can smart designs and technologies do?
 - A. They can reduce the impacts of natural disasters.
 - B. They can reduce occurrences of natural disasters.
 - C. They can stop natural disasters from happening.
 - D. They can free people from the effect of natural disasters.

2 Listen to the passage again and decide whether the statements are true (T) or false (F).

- 1 The air-bag technology is designed to protect you and your house during an earthquake.
- 2 With this technology, when the ground is shaking, the house stays still.
- 3 The air-bag technology is very challenging but still worth it.
- 4 With the help of smart designs and technologies, there is a way to stop earthquakes.

Word tips

destroy /dɪ'strɔɪ/ v. 破坏; 毁灭; 摧毁



Listening skills

Listening for purposes

明确听力篇章中表达的目的和意图对于听力理解是非常关键的。有时，我们会听到一些直接表明目的的句式，例如，本篇就用 *It is designed to ...*、*... so that ...* 等句式来表明“Remembrance of Climate Futures”的设计目的。此外，我们还要注意听辨间接提示意图的语言线索。例如，本篇中，讲话者为表明设计团队的做法有什么特殊意图，就使用了 *The idea is that ...* 的表达方式。

对于本篇这样的介绍性听力篇章，听辨设计目的是听力理解的要点之一。在其他类型的听力篇章中，讲话者也可能会加入以上的相关表达，以表明自己的讲话目的。识别这些语言线索并注意听线索后的内容有助于我们捕捉相关信息，把握听力重点。

Word tips

remembrance /rɪ'membrəns/

n. 记忆; 回忆

graphic design /'græfɪk

dɪ'zain/ 平面设计

1 Listen to the passage and choose the best answer to each of the questions.

- 1 What kind of project is “Remembrance of Climate Futures”?
 - A. It is a science project.
 - B. It is a public art project.
 - C. It is an education project.
 - D. It is a city planning project.
- 2 What is the purpose of the project?
 - A. To find possible reasons for climate change.
 - B. To support the scientific research of climate change.
 - C. To collect photos about climate change from the public.
 - D. To draw public attention to the possible results of climate change.
- 3 What do we know about the events described on the signs?
 - A. Most of them are happening now.
 - B. Most of them are impossible to happen.
 - C. Many of them haven't happened yet.
 - D. Many of them have happened already.

- 2 Listening to the passage again and fill in the blanks in the notes with what you hear.

Remembrance of Climate Change

Background:

- People seem unmoved by climate change and cannot see how it will 1) _____ them.
- This project is 2) _____ by a professor at Northeastern University and his team.

Action:

The team put signs in local areas 3) _____ people could easily see them.

Details about the signs:

- The messages on the signs were written from the perspective of somebody from the 4) _____ looking back.
- The 5) _____ is that people are offered a second chance to save their future by returning to the present to take action.
- It describes events like 6) _____ sea levels and talks about planting trees to 7) _____ the effect of heat in the city.

> Sharing your ideas

Introduce a smart design

Work in groups and introduce a smart design.



Think about some smart designs that have brought convenience to you, such as those helping you do your housework. Then, decide on which of them you want to introduce.



Search for information about its appearance, functions, features, innovations and limitations. Discuss the purpose of the design. You may think about the following questions:

- *What problem in our life inspired the design?*
- *What are the causes and consequences of this problem?*
- *How does the design deal with the problem?*



Step
3

Outline your presentation.

- *the name of the design*
- *the problem it is designed to deal with*
- *how it works and solves the problem*
- *innovations and limitations of the design*
- *its future prospects*

Step
4

Choose a group member to introduce the smart design to the class. Flow charts or diagrams may be used in your slides to help explain how it works.



Presentation skills

Structuring a descriptive speech

在做描述性的口语展示时，我们要遵循一定的逻辑顺序来确保所介绍的内容结构完整，表达清晰。首先，我们应当用一两句话对要说明的对象进行概述。其次，我们要根据介绍的要点，从不同方面进行细节描述，如分析特点、列举数据、举例说明等。除了事实性描述外，我们也可以在展示中加入对情绪、感受的描述，引起听者的情感共鸣，增强展示效果。最后，我们要对介绍中的要点进行总结。

在本单元的活动中，我们首先应当对智能技术的开发目的进行综述，即为了解决生活中的某个实际问题，开发了某项技术。在明确设计目的之后，我们需要从功能、特征、创新性、局限性等角度，进一步介绍这项技术是如何解决实际问题的。最后，我们要总结设计中的亮点，并展望其未来的发展前景。

> Viewing to know

Pre-viewing

Work in pairs and discuss the questions.

- 1 What damages may floods cause?
- 2 What do you think people should do to protect themselves when facing floods?

While-viewing



Word tips

urbanize /'ɜ:bə,naɪz/ v. 使城市化

discharge /dɪs'tʃɑ:dʒ/ v. (使) 流出; (使) 排出

shaft /ʃɑ:ft/ n. 竖井

duct /dʌkt/ n. 管道

space shuttle /'ʃʌtl/ n. 航天飞机

diameter /daɪ'æmɪtə/ n. (圆的) 直径

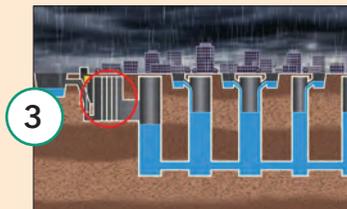
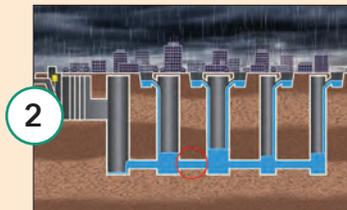
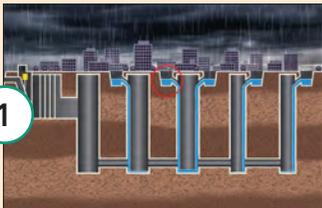
shield /ʃi:ld/ **machine** n. 盾构机

Statue of Liberty /'stætʃu:

əv 'lɪbətɪ/ 自由女神像

Indonesia /,ɪndəʊ'ni:fə/ 印度尼西亚

- 1 Watch the video clip and match the statements with the pictures.



A When river water goes above a certain level, it starts coming in through ducts.

B Finally, the water that flows in is slowed by this big tank, which controls the amount of water before it is discharged into a big river.

C The water in the shafts then flows to the underground tunnel.

2 Watch the video clip again and fill in the blanks with what you hear.

- 1 This is the metropolitan outer area underground discharge channel, a facility built as a flood _____ measure.
- 2 And from long ago, when there's heavy _____, the river floods, causing problems for local people.
- 3 To address such issues, the water collected is made to _____ its course to a bigger river before flooding occurs.
- 4 Comparing the situation before and after this facility was built, flood damages have been reduced to about a _____.
- 5 With its introduction in Indonesia, this technology is starting to aid in _____ flood control efforts.

Post-viewing

Work in pairs and discuss the questions.

- 1 Flood is also one of the most serious natural disasters in China. What have we done to reduce the flood damage? Name one flood control measure in China and try to explain how it works.
- 2 How can China's flood control measures help global flood control?



> Further listening

Conversation

Word tips

- hurricane** /'hʌrɪkən/ *n.* 飓风
escape /ɪ'skeɪp/ *v.* 逃离, 逃脱 (危险)
rage /reɪdʒ/ *n.* 盛怒; 狂怒
abuse /ə'bjʊ:z/ *v.* 滥用
ignore /ɪg'nɔ:z/ *v.* 忽略; 忽视; 不顾

Listen to the conversation and choose the best answer to each of the questions.

- 1 What kind of film is *The Day After Tomorrow*?
A. Romance. B. Detective.
C. Disaster. D. History.
- 2 Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a result of global warming?
A. Hurricanes. B. Sand storms.
C. Huge floods. D. Very cold weather.
- 3 What does the film remind us to do?
A. We should prevent natural disasters.
B. We should protect our planet.
C. We should be careful with global warming.
D. We should be brave when facing disasters.

News report

Listen to the news report and choose the best answer to each of the questions.

- 1 What is the scientists' warning?
A. The Earth is facing "Climate Emergency."
B. The energy is in short supply.
C. The forest is in danger of a big fire.
D. The animals have no food.
- 2 Which of the following is NOT mentioned in protecting the Earth?
A. Use energy more wisely.
B. Move toward a plant-based diet.
C. Believe in a better future.
D. React quickly to the warning.

Word tips

- emergency** /ɪ'mɜ:dʒ(ə)nsi/
n. 紧急情况; 突发事件
natural gas /'nætʃ(ə)rəl
gæs/ *n.* 天然气
diet /'daɪət/ *n.* 食物; 饮食

Passage

Listen to the passage and choose the best answer to each of the questions.

- 1 Who started the basis for weather prediction?
 - A. The ancient Greeks.
 - B. Renaissance scientists.
 - C. People in the 17th century.
 - D. People in the 18th century.
- 2 What invention made the scientific study of weather possible?
 - A. A tool to measure temperature.
 - B. A tool to measure air pressure.
 - C. A computer program.
 - D. A scientific model.
- 3 What does the speaker think of weather prediction?
 - A. It is a perfect science.
 - B. It is an impossible thing.
 - C. It will give us wrong forecasts.
 - D. It will be able to do more for us.

Word tips

forecast /'fɔ:kə:st/ *n.*
预测; 预报

observation /,ɒbzə'veɪʃn/
n. 观察; 观测

in advance /,əd'vɑ:ns/
事先; 预先

Renaissance /rɪ'neɪsɪns/
(欧洲14世纪至17世纪的)
文艺复兴(时期)

Culture notes

the Scientific Revolution

科学革命, 指迅速深刻的科学发展, 发生于欧洲近代16—17世纪。

> Listening to appreciate

Listen to the song and fill in the blanks with what you hear.

Miracle

singer

Above & Beyond

Don't they know that there's something going on?
What they're 1) _____ with their indecision
And who will be left standing when I'm gone?
There'll be nothing left but a vision

And it's too easy to turn a 2) _____ eye to the
light

It's too easy to bow your head and pray
But there are some times

When you should try to find your 3) _____
This is one voice that you must find today

Are you hoping for a miracle
As the ice caps melt away?
No use hoping for a miracle
There's a 4) _____ we'll have to pay

Don't they know that there's 5) _____ they can
do

To be sure of tomorrow's tomorrow

And too late is too late for me and you
No more time left for you to 6) _____

And it's too easy to turn a blind eye to the light
It's too easy to bow your head and pray
But there are some times
When you should try to find your voice
This is one voice that you must find today

Are you hoping for a miracle
As the ice caps melt away?
No use hoping for a miracle
There's a price we'll have to pay
Are you hoping for a miracle?
Are you hoping for a miracle?