Chapter 14

The Mutual Fund Mess



I. 教学目的

1. 通过本文的学习,让学生对美国共同基金市场有所了解,认识投资共同基金的利弊和作为投资者如何经营和运作不同基金以确保收益等相关方面的问题,使他们学会分析和预测基金市场的走向和趋势。

1. 教学目的

2. 本文涉及到许多经贸知识,如:共同基金、养老基金、资本收益、标准普尔指数、套利基金、净高值等,学生应该掌握这些基本概念。

3. 增强学生对上述内容的英语表达。

II. 教学计划

拟使用四课时完成本课内容。一课时介绍背景知识,两课时用于课文讲解及难点讨论,最后一课时可就某一相关问题(如:共同基金投资是利大于弊还是弊大于利?如何运作小型基金以确保收益等)展开辩论。

III. 教学方法

以学生为中心,通过师生互动、各抒己见的方式理解和认识课文中涉及到的问题(也包括语言方面的问题)。

IV. 教学要点和重点

1. 本课阐述了美国基金市场的发展和现状,目前 行业所遭受的损失以及小规模基金投资公司的 成功应对和大牌基金公司的运作可采取的对 策。拟通过对本文的讲解, 使学生了解投资共 同基金的利弊以及作为投资者如何经营和运作 不同基金以确保收益等相关方面的问题,使他 们学会分析和预测基金市场的走向和趋势〉 此外, 使学生进一步掌握相关的专业知识和术 语。

IV. 教学要点和重点

- 2. 加强对学生在口语、笔头和语言面的技能训练和运用。
- 3. 通过补充时文,使学生了解此领域的现状和发展动态,不断更新背景知识和专业知识内容。

专业术语

money market 金融市场

mutual fund 共同基金

IRA 个人退休金帐户

bull market 牛市

money spinner 赚钱的人,赢利的企业

Standard & Poor's 500-stock index 标准普尔500种股票 指数

401(k) retirement funds(美国)401(K)退休储蓄基金

Securities & Exchange Commission (美国)证券交易管理委员会

理委员会

stock-picker 为别人挑选股票的公司或专家

pension fund 养老基金



专业术语

equity fund

capital gains

liquidity

operating outlays

real estate

hedge fund

stock market crash 股票暴跌

high-net-worth market 高值市场

股本(股票)投资基金

资本收益

资产变现能力;资产流动性

经营费用

房地产

套利基金,对冲基金

對計理所貿易

语言点

短语

clamp down
head out
down in the dumps
wolf down
on the rocks
hang on
scramble to

pull in face up to rake in come to terms with the lion's share hold on to brace for

句子

1. The industry rode a decade-long bull market and a booming retirement business so well that it managed a record \$7.5 trillion of assets – nearly as much as Europe's annual gross national product – by the end of 2000. (295页第2段第2-4行)

2. The carnage in stock funds — the biggest money-spinners for management companies — is far bloodier. (295页第2段第5-6行)



3. Even more pain awaits, as a corps of smaller, low-cost funds with smart managers and decent returns which starts to compete head-on with the behemoths. (296页第2段最后一句)

4. In a rush to scoop up every last investment dollar in the 1990s, fund firms bombarded investors with nearly 6,000 funds, many of them mediocre. (296页第 4段第4-6行)

5. To add insult to injury, some fund groups that have lost scads of money for investors are sticking them with extra charges — because the value of their accounts has sunk below the minimum investment. (297页第3段第5-7行)

6. SIG Chief Executive Hilda Ochoa-Brillembourg says big brand-name funds are a potential "toxic-waste site" for the baby boomers' retirement hopes. "All I see in their future is downside risk and very little upside potential," she says. (297页第2段第9-11行)

7. Many fund execs still earn more than Wall Street tycoons: Mario J. Gabilli Assent Management Inc. raked in \$45.5 million in 2000, while Lawrence J. Lasser at Marsh & Mclennan's Putnam Funds pulled in \$35.2 million, including options and other cash payouts. (298页第2段第2-5行)

8. Their worst tactic would be to sit back and wait for the market to recover—and the money to start rolling in again. It may well not. (300页第3段最后两句)

V. 背景知识

About the author:



- Mara Hovanesian—Business Week's markets and investments editor
- Lewis Braham—Business Week's personal finance editor.

What is a Mutual Fund?

- 1) Overview Description
- 2) How it Works
- 3) Pricing and Valuation
- 4) Fund Objectives And the Prospectus
- 5) Advantages and Disadvantages of Mutual Funds

Small Fund Comes into Being



VI. 课文讲解

概念讲解

- 1. mutual fund
- 2. hedge fund
- 3. pension fund
- 4.
- 5. 1987 stock market crash
- 6. capital gains
- 7. Securities & Exchange Commission

课文注释

1. "Am I concerned?' isn't a good question," she grumbles, "Am I thinking about never buying another mutual fund again?' is a better one. (p.295 L8)

注释:

"she grumbles"是个插入语,它将此句分开,形成前后两部分,使这两部分在结构上对仗、意思上对照:即由一个设问句作主语+ isn't +宾语和另一个设问句作主语+ is +宾语组成两个对仗结构的句子,并通过自问自答的句子形式来表示这位经纪人目前沮丧的心情和对投资于基金的灰心、失望。因此,在翻译时最好保留原文的语言风格形式。译文参考: "我担心吗? 这个问题提得不好",她咕哝道: "我在想是不是再也不买共同基金了?'这么问更为恰当。

2. No doubt about it, America's long romance with mutual funds is in on the rocks. (p.295 L11)

共同基金投资的增长和繁荣长达数10年,其间无论是投资方还是受托经营方都从中获取了不少收益,特别是基金经营对于基金管理公司而言是最赚钱的买卖。因此,美国人对此行业一直看好,热衷于对其的投资。这里将美国人与基金的关系比作热恋中情侣的关系一样,亲密无间。但随着基金业务的直线下跌,利润率下降,资产额锐减,这种亲密关系也走到了尽头。这里的long romance"实际上是使用了修辞手法,使整个句子的表述更为生动形象。

3. The industry rode a decade-long bull market and a booming retirement business so well that it managed a record \$7.5 trillion of assets – nearly as much as Europe's annual gross national product – by the end of 2000. (p.296 L12)

retirement business:退休金业务 retirement pension: 退休金。



译文参考:

基金行业的发展一路高奏凯歌,它成功驾驭牛市达十年之久,退休金业务亦欣欣向荣。直至2000年末,它所掌控的资金数量达到了创纪录的75亿美元——几乎等于欧洲的年国民生产总值。

4. Everybody's boat is sitting on the bottom right now. (p.296 L4)

这句话是一句很生动的比喻。它将共同基金投资市场比作海水,每种基金或基金公司比作在海上行驶的小舟。海水潮起潮落,市场亦有涨有跌,而现在的状况是:潮水退去,一艘艘行驶的小船即将触底搁浅,这意味着这个市场已衰弱下滑,风光不再了。

5. Even more pain awaits, as a corps of smaller, low-cost funds with smart managers and decent returns which starts to compete head-on with the behemoths. (p.296 L11)

开头短语的意思是,"使人更加难受的是……""更糟糕的情况还在后头"。"compete head-on with",表示"与……进行面对面地竞争"。"the behemoths":"庞然大物",这里指那些著名的大牌基金。

(接上)

文中还有两个类似的词: the mutual-fund giants (13段)和monolithic (11段)。这句话可译成: 更糟糕的是,头脑灵活的经理们操作着一批小型、低成本、投资回报率不菲的基金与那些庞然大物(大牌基金)展开了面对面的竞争。

6. In a rush to scoop up every last investment dollar in the 1990s, fund firms bombarded investors with nearly 6,000 funds, many of them mediocre. (p.296 L24)

这句话拟可译为: 90年代为了把投资资金一网打尽,基金公司争相圈钱,疯狂地推出了近6000种基金,其中许多都表现平庸。scoop up: "抢先获得"。every last: 是口语,表示,"每一个,全部,无一例外。"mediocre表示: "普普通通、平庸的,"如: a person of mediocre abilities能力平庸之辈。

7. Many fund execs still earn more than Wall Street tycoons: Mario J. Gabilli Assent Management Inc. raked in \$45.5 million in 2000, while Lawrence J. Lasser at Marsh & Mclennan's Putnam Funds pulled in \$35.2 million, including options and other cash payouts. (p. 298 L9)

此句较长,是由连词while连接的两个并列句。这句话中有几个表示口语的单词,如execs(经理、主管人员)、rake in(大量敛集钱财)、pull in(获取利润、报酬等)。



全句意思是:

许多基金公司的经理还是比华尔街大亨们挣得多:基金管理公司的经理玛瑞欧·J·伽比利2000年掠进4550万美元,与此同时玛斯和麦克里南的普特南基金经理劳伦斯·J·莱瑟赚到了3520万美元,包括期权和现金股息。

8. SIG Chief Executive Hilda Ochoa-Brillembourg says big brand-name funds are a potential "toxic-waste site" for the baby boomers' retirement hopes. "All I see in their future is downside risk and very little upside potential," she says. (p297 L16)

toxic: poisonous 有毒的 e.g. toxic waste from a factory工厂排出的有毒废物 baby boomer:生育高峰期出生的人,婴儿潮期间出生的人



译文参考:

战略投资集团(SIG)的首席执行官希尔德奥恰. 布里伦伯说,对于在婴儿潮期间出生的人的退休梦来说,大牌基金是个潜在的"有毒废料堆积场"。她说:"我看到的将来,只有下滑的危险,少有上升的潜质。"

9. They offer what mutual funds do not: more transparency and taxefficiency. (p.299 L15)

这句话的意思是说在今后几年内, 富裕家庭拥有的共同基金将有一半以上转到分立帐户中, 这些客户化的产品按客户的要求定制, 与共同基金相比, 他们的优势在于具有更高的透明度和税收效率。

(接上)

tax efficiency:

the ability of a tax-payer to invest his capital in such a way that the amount of tax pay able on the income from it is kept as small as possible.

税收效率:一个纳税人将其资本以下述方式投资的能力,即,使得从投资得到的收入的应纳税金额尽可能达到最小。



10. Still, Vanguard isn't resting on its laurel. (p.300 L12)

rest/sit on one's laurels: 满足于既得荣誉,固步自封,如: These companies sat on their laurels after they defeated their competitors in the stock market.这些公司在击败了股票市场的对手后就满足于现状了。laurels: 月桂枝叶。古代希腊人和罗马人用以编成冠冕,授与杰出的诗人、英雄或竞技优胜者。此句的参考译文: 然而,前锋公司并没有自持业绩而沾沾自喜,停滞不前。

11. Their worst tactic would be to sit back and wait for the market to recover—and the money to start rolling in again. It may well not. (p.300 L21)

全句的大意是:其下下策是坐等市场恢复——金钱重新滚滚而来。这样的机会也许不会再来了。sit back:在一旁闲着,如:Sit back and let others work.自己在旁边闲着尽让别人干活。

(接上)

It may well not. 这是全文的最后一句,也是提纲擎领的总结。严格地说,在语法上这不是一个很完整的句子,但却结束得干净利落,使人印象深刻。well是副词,后接not表示程度上的不可能。此句译文:这种情形很可能不会再有了。

THE END (维) 對計理所貿易大學