

Chapter 29

Money

I. Objectives

By the end of the chapter, students should have some ideas about

- the money
- the functions of money
- the development of money in history
- the different forms of money
- some new words and special terms related to money
- adverbial clause

Approach

- Warming up: discussion of new words and special terms about the money
- Paraphrasing: major words and sentences
- Questions and answers on the text
- Class discussion: ideas about the money
- Translation: key sentences.
- Summarizing: the text

II. Introduction

中国有这么一句俚语：“金钱不是万能的，但是没有钱是不行的”。我们所说的金钱，指的就是货币。其实，货币是商品交换的媒介，但货币不是天生就有的。在货币产生之前曾有许多商品充当过货币的角色。纸币的出现是贸易史上的一大革命，它使商品交换更加容易从而更加频繁，这大大促进了贸易的发展。

Money is the medium of exchange, but it didn't exist at the very beginning of the exchange among people. Throughout history all kinds of commodities have been used as money. Today every government has its own currency and tries its best to guarantee the value of its currency.

III. Main points of the text

1. As everybody knows, money is a measure of value and a medium of exchange.
2. Definition of money.
3. Explanations of coins, paper money and cheques
4. The role of the note-issuing country to keep its value

IV. Background and terminology:

1. Solomon Islands



Malaita, Solomon Islands

Malaita is part of the independent country of Solomon Islands, a monarchy which includes most of the Solomon Islands group in the southwestern Pacific Ocean. The entire Solomon Island chain extends about 1450 km (about 900 mi) and includes islands under the jurisdiction of Papua New Guinea. The islands are mountainous, with heavily forested volcanos rising steeply from the coastlines. The isolation of many of the villages on these islands has fostered the development of more than 80 distinct languages in the island chain.

[Microsoft ® Encarta ® Reference Library 2005]

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|-------------------------|-----------|
| 2. a measure of value | 价值尺度 |
| 3. a medium of exchange | 交换媒介 |
| 4. barter | 易货贸易，物物交换 |
| 5. gold currency | 金币 |
| 6. paper currency | 纸币 |
| 7. faith money | 信用货币 |
| 8. token coins | 辅币 |
| 9. reserves | 储备金 |

V. Language points

medium n.

An agency by which something is accomplished 媒介，手段：

The train was the usual medium of transportation in those days.

在当时，火车是普遍的运输工具

Commercial television is a medium for advertising.

商业电视是一种广告媒介。

alternative n.

抉择；选择余地

I wanted to go out, but I had no money. I had no alternative to staying at home.

我想出去，可是没钱；只能待在家里。

We have no alternative but to go on.

除了继续下去，我们没有选择的余地。

cumbersome adj.

麻烦的, 笨重的

I used to have one of those old sewing machines, but it was too cumbersome.

我以前有一个那样的老式缝纫机, 但太笨重了。

Doctors are complaining that the system is cumbersome

医生抱怨这项制度有些繁琐。

note n.

纸币; 钞票

a pound note

一镑的钞票

I changed a ten-yuan note at the bank, because I needed some coins for the ticket machine.

我在银行拿十块钱的纸币兑换了零钱, 因为我需要一些硬币投入自动售票机。

precious adj.

珍贵的, 宝贵的

precious words

珍贵的话

precious stones

宝石

We cannot afford to waste precious time.

我们浪费不起这宝贵的时间。

clip vt.

To cut small amounts of something 剪; 修剪

He clipped his finger nails.

他剪了指甲。

Soon the guard on the train came and clipped our tickets.

不久列车员走过来把我们的票剪了个口了。

supersede vt.

To take the place of; replace 取代; 代替

Iron began to supersede bronze for tool making about 3000 years ago.

叁千年以前, 铜就取代铁用于工具的制造

The old computers have been superseded by more recent models.

更新型号的电脑已取代了老的电脑。

fluctuate vi.

波动; 起伏

Fluctuating prices

波动的价格

The price of vegetables and fruits fluctuates according to the season.

蔬菜和水果的价格随季节而波动。

变动

His feelings fluctuated between excitement and fear.

他的情绪在兴奋与恐惧之间变化不定。

token adj.

a substitute for currency: 代币,

subway tokens. 地铁代币

A token action that is small and not very important, 最小的, 只作为象征的:

A token resistance.

象征性的抵抗

He won the presidency, with only token opposition.

他绝对的优势当选总统。

circulate v.

使循环; 环流

The blood circulates round the body.

血液在体内循环。

Rumors circulated rapidly.

谣言迅速散布开来。

agree to do something 同意做……

1. We agreed to leave his office at once.

我们同意立即离开他的办公室。

2. [Biz]: The seller has agreed to make delivery in advance.

卖方已同意提前交货。

be made from

be composed of 由……制成, 由……组成

1. [Biz]: Although their products were made from substitute materials, they sold well.

尽管他们的产品是由替代性材料制成的, 但销路仍很好。

2. Wine is made from grapes.

葡萄酒是由葡萄酿制的。

file something down

make something smooth and smaller in size by using a file
将某物锉光滑、锉小

1. The coins were filed down, however their value didn't reduce.

虽然这些硬币被锉小了, 他们的价值并没有减少。

2. He is trying to file down the rough spot.

他正试着把那个粗糙的斑点锉掉。

depend on something

be decided by something 取决于某物, 视某物而定

1. How much is produced depends on how hard we work.

产量的大小在于我们努力的程度。

2. [Biz]: Whether a company can get a loan from the

bank depends a lot on its financial stand.

公司是否能得到银行的贷款，很大程度上取决于他的财政状况。

fall back on

to use when there is failure or lack of other means (退而求其次地) 使用, (转而) 依靠

1. When I lost my job, I was glad I had my savings to fall back on.

当我失业时, 庆幸的是我还可依靠储蓄过活。

2. At least we can fall back on candles if the electricity fails.

停电时我们至少可以使用蜡烛。

1., money is a measure of value and a medium of exchange, an alternative to a complicated and cumbersome system of barter.

这是一个表语较为复杂的简单句, 其中 a measure of value and a medium of exchange 是表语。an alternative to a complicated and cumbersome system of barter 则是表语的同位语。介词短语 to a complicated and cumbersome system of barter 是 an alternative 的后置定语。

2. In China, even before the Qin Dynasty, clipping and filing down old coins were a profitable business, although punishable by death.

这是一个地点状语(In china)和时间状语(before the Qin Dynasty)前置, 并带有由 although 引导的让步状语从句的主从复合句。主句的主语是 clipping and filing down old coins, 从句主谓被省略, 其实从句应该是 although they were punishable by death。

注意这一现象, 在英语中时间状语要放在地点状语之后。

3. It will maintain its value in the financial world as long as.... of all imported goods.

这是一个带有用 as long as 引导的条件状语从句的主从复合句, 其从句是一个较为复杂的 there be 句型, “the faith and confidence”是该从句的主语, of the outside world 和 in the ability ... of all imported goods 是 faith and confidence 的两个后置定语, 说明 “谁对什么有信心”。而 ability 又有两个后置定语 of the note issuing country 和 to produce and export sufficient goods to be... of all imported goods。在 ability 的第二个后置定语中, to be able to pay ... goods 又是 produce 和 export 这两种行为的目的状语, 所以整个从句可理解为: As long as the outside world has the faith and confidence that the note issuing country is able to produce and export enough goods so that it could pay for its imported goods, the paper money issued by that country will maintain its value in the financial world.

VI. Summary of the Text

As everybody knows, money is a measure of value and a medium of exchange. We use money to pay for what we want. For thousands of years, first coins and then paper currency are issued by governments and backed by their own guarantee. Cheques are sometimes used as money, but they do not circulate much. Money usually maintains its value in the financial world as long as there is the faith and confidence of the outside world in the ability of the note-issuing country to produce and export sufficient

goods to be able to pay for the value of all imported goods.

VII. Comprehension questions:

1. How do you define money?
2. Why do governments issue currency notes and metallic tokens?
3. Under what circumstances will paper money maintain its value?
4. In order to avoid temporary embarrassment, what will a country do?