

词汇辅导：通过阅读学习英语六级词汇(十五) PDF转换可能丢失图片或格式，建议阅读原文

[https://www.100test.com/kao\\_ti2020/497/2021\\_2022\\_\\_E8\\_AF\\_8D\\_E6\\_B1\\_87\\_E8\\_BE\\_85\\_E5\\_c84\\_497890.htm](https://www.100test.com/kao_ti2020/497/2021_2022__E8_AF_8D_E6_B1_87_E8_BE_85_E5_c84_497890.htm) UNIT FIFTEEN What Is Going to Be Done with All This Knowledge? Why does the idea of progress loom so large in the modern world? Surely because progress of a particular kind is actually taking place around us and is becoming more and more manifest. Although mankind has undergone no general improvement in intelligence or morality, it has made extraordinary progress the accumulation of knowledge. Knowledge began to increase as soon as the thoughts of one individual could be communicated to another by means of speech. With the invention of writing, a great advance was made, for knowledge could then be not only communicated but also stored. Libraries made education possible, and education in its turn added to libraries: the growth of knowledge followed a kind of compound-interest law, which was greatly enhanced by the invention of printing. All this was comparatively slow until, with the coming science, the tempo was suddenly raised. Then knowledge began to be accumulated according to a systematic plan. The trickle became a stream. the stream has now become a torrent. Moreover, as soon as new knowledge is acquired, it is now turned to practical account. What is called modern civilization is not the result of a balanced development of all mans nature, but of accumulated knowledge applied to practical life. The problem now facing humanity is: What is going to be done with all this knowledge? As is

so often pointed out, knowledge is a two-edged weapon which can be used equally for good or evil. It is now being used indifferently for both. Could any spectacle, for instance, be more grimly whimsical than that of gunners using science to shatter mens bodies while, close at hand, surgeons use it to restore them ? We have to ask ourselves very seriously what will happen if this twofold use of knowledge, with its ever-increasing power, continues.

loom n. 织布机 vi.1.隐现 2.即将来临  
manifest a.明显的,显然的,明了的 vt.1.显示,表明,证明 2.使显现[联想词]  
disclose vt. 揭露,泄露,透露  
tempo n. 1.速度 2.节奏  
trickle vi. 1.淌,滴,流出 2.慢慢移动,逐渐消散[联想词]  
splash v. 溅,泼 n.1.溅泼声 2.溅出的水 3.斑点  
surge vi.1.蜂拥而出 2.洋溢,奔放 3.汹涌  
humanity n. 1.人类,人 2.人生 3.人道,仁慈 4.人文学科  
torrent n. 1.奔流,急流 2.爆发[联想词]  
outbreak n.1.爆发 2.突然发生  
erupt vi. 1.喷发 2.爆发,突然发生  
spectacle n. 1.演出,场面 2.景象,壮观 3.[-S]眼镜  
grim a. 1.讨厌的,糟糕的 2.严厉的 3.严酷的,无情的[联想词]  
stern a.严厉的,严格的,严峻的  
whimsical a. 1.多怪念头的 2.异想天开的,想入非非的 3.心血来潮的 4.反复无常的[联想词]  
eccentric a.古怪的,怪癖的  
sober a. 1.未醉的,清醒的 2.严肃的,持重的 v.(使)醒酒,(使)清醒  
shatter vt. 1.使粉碎 2.使破灭,使震惊 vi.碎裂

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