

■阅读理解

■词汇新知

Low carbon Economy

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Developed and developing nations can learn from each other seeking a lowcarbon economy, a Chinese government official said in Shanghai yesterday.

“China doesn't lag developed nations in terms of energy saving and green economy”, said Zhou Changyi, director of the energy saving department of the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology.

“While we can learn many aspects from developed nations, they also should learn something from us, such as water conservation,” Zhou said in a speech during the new Path of China's Industrilization forum at the ongoing China International Industry Fair 2009.

He said industrilized nations and China are dealing with different issues to combat climate change. The United Kingdom, for example, is concerned about transport, buildings and new energy in reducing carbon emmissions. For China, the most urgent task is how to realize new-type of industrilization and avoid mistakes that other countries made when they industrilized.

As such, overseas exhibitors at this year's fair are showing ways to help China achieve low carbon emissions in the industrial section.

Swiss power and automation technology group ABB called for a stronger focus on product lifecycle assesment, or LCA, which is used to study the environmental impact of a product from the research and manufacturing stage through its usage and recycling.

Tobias Becker, head of ABB's process automation division for North Asia and China, said LCA is an effective tool in helping manufacturing industries to reduce carbon emissions.

LCA shows that industrial

customers should focus on a product's environmental impact throughout its lifecycle instead of on its initial investment or readytouse stage. For example, a motor's initial investment accounts for only 3 percent of its lifecycle cost, while 94 percent goes to fuel consumption and the rest to maintenance.

Richard Hausmann, North East Asia CEO of Siemens, said, “The color of future industrilization is green.”

The Germany Company recently announces that it wants to receive orders worth more than 6 billion Euros (US 8.8 billion) for intelligent net power networks, Smart Grid, over the next five years. Siemens has set a 20 per cent market share target for the global smart grid business.

A smart grid delivers electricity from suppliers to consumers using digital technology, advanced sensors specialized computers that save energy, reduce costs and increase reliability. The United States and China are considered the two biggest markets for smart grid.

1. “_____” can replace the underlined word “lag”.

- A. Fall behind
- B. Be superior to
- C. Attack D. Fear

2. Which of the following about LCA is TRUE?

- A. LCA is used to study the impact on a product.
- B. LCA can help manufacturing industries decrease carbon release a lot.
- C. LCA shows industrial customers should focus on a product's environmental influence on its initial investment.
- D. LCA was one of the exhibitions at this year's fair.

3. We can infer _____ from the

eleventh paragraph of this passage.

A. Siemens has occupied 20 percent market share for the global smart grid business

B. Siemens received orders worth 6 billion Euros recently

C. Siemens will earn \$ 8.8 billion from intelligent power networks

D. Siemens' plan about Smart Grid may come true in the future

4. _____ about Smart Grid isn't mentioned in the passage.

- A. Energysaving B. Lowcost
- C. Security D. Small in size

5. The best title for the passage _____.

- A. Developed and Developing Nations Can Learn From Each Other
- B. Lowcarbon Economy—a Shared Goal
- C. Intelligent Power Networks
- D. Two Biggest Markets for Smart Grid

【答案】

1. A. 词义猜测题。根据第二段“China doesn't lag developed nations in terms of energy saving and green economy, ...”可知,就节能和绿色经济方面,中国并不落后于发达国家,所以选择A项。

2. B. 细节理解题。根据第七段内容可知, LCA可以帮助生产企业减少碳的排放,所以B项正确。

3. D. 推理判断题。由第十一段可知,“智能电网”不仅可以节能,降低成本,而且还能提高可靠性。美国和中国将成为智能电网最大的市场。综上所述可知,西门子推出的智能电网计划得以实现的可能性很大。D项正确。

4. D. 细节理解题。最后一段内容没有提及“智能电网”的大小和规模,所以选择D项。

5. B. 主旨大意题。文章第一段表明发展中国家和发达国家就寻求低碳经济发展上可以互相借鉴,这是他们共同的目标。由此可知B项符合。

So,没那么简单

so看起来很简单,但我相信有些用法是课本上学不到的,因为它们不太规范。

我以前的英语老师全都强调:“so+形容词”是用在肯定句里的。比如:“I'm so lazy.”(我真懒。)

“The meeting is so boring.”(会议真无聊。)如果要表示否定意义,需要把so放在not后面:“I'm not so lazy.”“The meeting is not so boring.”事实上,“so+not+形容词”不但成立,而且对英语为母语者来说是非常普遍的用法。比如:

Mom says I've been a slacker these days. That's so not true! I'm writing a paper on prime-time television programs, and watching a lot of TV is a must. (妈妈说我最近不务正业。才不是呢!我在写一篇关于黄金时段电视节目的论文,所以每天必须看很多电视。)

“so+not+形容词”跟“not+so+形容词”的区别不仅仅是正规与否,两者的意思也不一样。前者表示“太不怎么样”,后者表示“不太怎么样”。也许你会觉得奇怪,“太不怎么样”可以用“so+反义词”表示啊,比如so untrue和so unfair,何必要说so not true和so not fair呢?

这就不得不再次提到美国特别受欢迎的情景喜剧Friends了。当中的几位主要角色,尤其是Rachel和Monica,都特别喜欢用“so+not+形容词”的结构。随着剧集的热播,这种非传统的否定句就流行了开来。Friends播了整整十年,所以“so+not+形容词”已经完全融入了日常口语。

我以前学语法的时候还听老师说过,so不能用来修饰动词。原则上这是对的,但在实际应用中,这也是不成立的。在口语里,动词直接跟在so后面的用法比比皆是。比如:

You so broke her heart! (你太伤她的心了!)

Don't believe his words. I saw him cheat in the exam. He so did it! (别信他的话。我看到他作弊了。他绝对这么干了!)

与此类似,so也可以放在否定句里修饰动词,跟“so+not+形容词”一个道理。比如:

Why is everybody mad at me? I so don't get it. (为什么所有人都生我的气?我太想不通了。)

You are so not gonna believe this! Our new neighbor turns out to be a friend of mine in elementary school. We haven't seen each other in over twenty years! (你绝对不会相信的!我们的新邻居竟然是我小学里的一个朋友。我们有20多年没见了。)

除了动词,so还可以修饰名词。在这种情况下,名词其实已经或多或少带上了形容词的成分。比如:

Come on, that dress is so 1980. (拜托,那条裙子也太土气了。)

I'm completely over you. We are so history. (我已经不再放不下你了。我们的关系彻底成为过去了。)

当然,我必须声明,这些用法都是很随便、很不正规的。在英语考试的时候要避而远之,但在日常对话的时候可以放心使用。事实上,只有在平时随意、自然地运用so的这些“另类”用法,才会比较接近大多数美国人的讲话方式,更容易和他们打成一片。