The Week (Dec 11th-17th, 2021)

一周外刊新闻

1. 语篇填空（《华盛顿邮报》2021年12月12日 A1&A17版面）

More than 30 separate tornadoes moved with devastating power and speed through \_\_\_\_ area stretching from Mississippi in the south \_\_\_\_ Illinois in the north. As they swept through the region over several hours, the twisters killed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (dozen).

The tornadoes that \_\_\_\_\_\_ (sweep) through parts of the Midwest and Tennessee River Valley on Friday night and into early Saturday likely may be recorded \_\_\_\_ the worst on record in the United States during December. Peak tornado season in the region is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (usual) late spring through early summer. The tornadoes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (trigger) by a powerful low-pressure system, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ lifted from the Southern Great Plains into the Great Lakes. The low-pressure intensified as the polar jet stream (急流) plunged into the central United States ahead of a blast of record-setting warm air. The unusual \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (combine)—the polar cold \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (meet) the unseasonably hot—created unstable air over Arkansas Friday evening that generated numerous thunderstorms. Those rotating storm systems eventually evolved into tornadoes.

1. 语篇填空（《泰晤士报》2021年12月13日14页）

They may have kept us afloat in lockdown but \_\_\_\_ international study has concluded that video calls have been bad for our wellbeing over the pandemic.

Research \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (conduct) during the first wave of lockdowns worldwide found that video calls and messaging \_\_\_\_\_\_(app) had a bad effect on mental health when we were unable to meet \_\_\_\_ person. This was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (particular) the case for younger people.

The study, by two universities, wanted to find \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ digital contact could replace face-to-face interactions and foster the same feeling of meaningful social connection. However, the research, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ analysed the responses of 6,675 people across 115 countries, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (determine) that text messages are no match for real-life meetings.

“We are a \_\_\_\_\_\_ (society) species,” Dr Martha Newson, a cognitive anthropologist said. “We don’t groom each other any more but we laugh and we joke and we hug. While we try and do these things online, nothing trumps face to face contact.” The results \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (publish) in the journal New Media & Society.

1. 语篇填空（《洛杉矶时报》2021年12月14日 A3版面）

President Cyril Ramaphosa of South Africa is receiving \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (treat) for mild COVID-19 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (symptom) after testing positive for the disease Sunday. He’s self-isolating (自我隔离) in Cape Town and is being monitored by the South African Military Health Service, \_\_statement from the president’s office announced. He has delegated all responsibilities to Deputy President David Mabuza for the next week.

 Ramaphosa, 69, is \_\_\_\_ (full) vaccinated. The statement didn’t say \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ he had been infected with the Omicron variant of the coronavirus, which was first \_\_\_\_\_ (detect) in South Africa. In the statement, Ramaphosa said his infection serves \_\_\_ a caution to all people in South Africa to be vaccinated.

 South Africa is battling a rapid coronavirus resurgence (复苏) \_\_\_\_\_ (drive) by Omicron. The country confirmed more than 18, 000 new cases Sunday night. More than 70% of the cases are estimated to be Omicron. So far, the majority of cases \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (be) relatively mild, and the percentage of severe cases \_\_\_\_\_\_ patients require oxygen has been low.

1. 语篇填空（《新闻周刊》2021年12月17日 10页）

Human activity is causing the earth's atmosphere to heat up much more quickly than any changes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ might happen naturally, leaving many ecosystems at their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (break) points.

November's United Nations COP26 climate summit in Glasgow was the first time a global climate deal clearly \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (identify) fossil fuel consumption as a major driver of climate change. While climate experts regarded that as a step forward, many also warned the Glasgow \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (attend) have not done enough to limit mean global warming to "well below"2 degrees Celsius \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (compare) to pre-industrial levels—a key goal of the 2015 Paris Agreement.

Climate Action Tracker is \_\_\_\_ international group of nonprofit institutes founded in 2009 that studies climate change science and \_\_\_\_\_\_ (track) the goals and policies of the 40 countries that produce 85 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions. \_\_\_ a statement, Bill Hare, CEO of Climate Analytics, said, "It's all well for leaders to claim they have a net zero target, but if they have no plans as to \_\_\_\_\_ to get there, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (frank), these net zero targets are just lip service to real climate action."

1. BBC一分钟新闻听写填空（One-minute World 12/15/21）

A U.S congressional committee has voted to hold Donald Trump's \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows in contempt (藐视法庭) for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to testify about the assault on the Capitol in January.

Hundreds of U.S National Guard Troops have joined the search for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the devastating tornadoes as Kentucky's governor says 100 people are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ there. President Biden will head there on Wednesday to see the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the disaster.

Scientists are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that one of the biggest glaciers in Antarctica could shatter like a windscreen within 10 years due to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Thwaites glacier is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 50 billion tons of ice into the ocean each year.