VOL. 1 FIRST ISSUE

WEEKLY IN ENGLISH 每週一期 讀美國人正在讀的英語

WEEK OF OCTOBER 19 TO 25, 2026

The Lucerna

英語週報 VOL.1 球場 選票 南瓜

英語正文 繁體中文講解 — 給繁體中文讀者的版本

EUROPE TURNS ITS CLOCKS BACK SUNDAY — AMERICA WAITS !

本週日歐洲撥鐘

Daylight saving ends one week later in the United States : on Sunday, November 1. Do not change your clock this week !

美國 11月1日才撥鐘 詳見第7版

THE BIG STORY 頭條

First Votes, First Games : America's Biggest Week of the Autumn

By The Lucerna newsroom Reading level : A2

Election Day is Tuesday, November 3. But in much of America, the election has already started. This Monday, October 19, early voting opened in Texas – and in Alaska, Arkansas, Connecticut and Colorado too. Millions of people are asking the same questions : where do I vote, and when ?

Early voting is simple : you go to a voting place before Election Day, you show your ID, you mark your ballot, and your vote counts on election night. No November lines, no problem if you work on Tuesdays. In Texas, it runs from October 19 to October 30.

And that is only half of the week. On Tuesday night, the new NBA season tips off. On Friday night, the World Series begins in Milwaukee. On Sunday, the fastest cars in the world race in Austin, Texas.

One thing is sure : this year, baseball will have a champion for the very first time. The Milwaukee Brewers and the Tampa Bay Rays have never won the World Series. One of them will win it now. Our sport dossier is on page 4.

This is the first issue of The Lucerna in English. Every week, we read America's real life with you – slowly, clearly, and always from the week's real news. Welcome !

講解｜early voting 提前投票 · ballot 選票 · tip off 開賽 · champion 冠軍。

THE WEEK IN NUMBERS 數字看本週

Nov 3 – Election Day（選舉日） · Oct 19 – early voting opens in Texas（德州提前投票首日）

43 – NBA games from Tuesday to Sunday（本週 43 場 NBA） · 2 – teams in the World Series, both after a first title（兩隊爭首冠）

TRY IT NOW 即學即練

A2 **1.**
You mark your choice on a ___ and put it in the box.

A2 **2.**
Voting before Election Day is called ___ voting.

A2 **3.**
Election Day is Tuesday, ___.

A2 **4.**
The winner of the World Series is the ___ of baseball.

B1 **5.**
Early voting ___ in Texas on Monday, October 19.

B1 **6.**
One team will now win the World Series for the ___ time.

SEARCHES OF THE WEEK

本週美國熱搜 Google Trends 美國區快照

1. early voting
2. world series schedule
3. hot dog recall
4. lakers roster
5. barca vs real madrid

Snapshots, Mon–Wed Oct 19–21 : search interest changes during the day.

“hot dog recall” 週一快照 200K+ 見第2版。

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THE WORD OF THE WEEK

« fall back »
when clocks go back one hour in autumn. Spring forward, fall back.

（時鐘）往回撥。fall back。



Boston fans at the Polo Grounds, New York, on October 8, 1912 : Game 1 of the World Series. The Fall Classic was already America's autumn ritual 114 years ago.

Bain News Service, Library of Congress — public domain

FALL, THE SEASON OF FIRSTS

Autumn in America is a season of firsts : the first votes, the first games, the first cold evenings. There is a first champion coming in baseball, and a first issue of this paper in your hands.

All week, our reporters follow the same rhythm : vote early, play hard, read slowly. See you on page 2 !

IN BRIEF 快訊

WORLD SERIES
Game 1 is Friday night in Milwaukee. Neither team has ever won it. (page 4)

CLOCKS
Europe changes its clocks on Sunday. America waits until November 1. (page 7)

HALLOWEEN
Saturday, October 31 : costumes, candy – and maybe a Game 7. (page 3)

LIGHTNING QUIZ 閃電問答

讀頭版，選出正確答案 答案見第8版

A2 **7.**
Early voting in Texas starts on... A. November 3 · B. Monday, October 19 · C. November 1

A2 **8.**
America turns its clocks back on... A. October 25 · B. October 31 · C. November 1

A2 **9.**
Game 1 of the World Series is in... A. Milwaukee · B. Tampa · C. Los Angeles

A2 **10.**
The new NBA season starts on... A. Friday · B. Tuesday · C. Sunday

Social Security Checks Grow by 3.6% in January

By The Lucerna newsroom　Reading level : A2

Good news for nearly 72 million Americans : on Wednesday, October 14, the Social Security Administration announced a cost-of-living adjustment – a « COLA » – of 3.6% for 2027. From January, the average retired worker will get about 75 dollars more every month.

Why do the checks grow ? Because life costs more. When the prices of food, homes and energy go up, the checks go up too – that is the idea of the cost-of-living adjustment. Workers on SSI, a second program for people with very low incomes, see their increase a little earlier : on December 31, 2026. About 7.3 million people receive SSI.

When will you see your number ? Personal notices come online at the end of November, and by mail in December. Every household does the same maths this week : 3.6% of my check is... how much, exactly ?

How is the number chosen ? Government statisticians follow the prices of a basket of everyday things – food, homes, energy, transport. When the basket costs more, the COLA rises. It is a promise written into the system : your check follows the cost of life.

Will 3.6% make anyone rich ? No. But for many households, 75 dollars is the difference between a hard month and an easier one – a full fridge, a warm house. That is why one small percentage is the week's biggest kitchen-table story.

The system is old. The first monthly check went to Ida May Fuller, of Vermont, on January 31, 1940. It was 22.54 dollars. In three years of work, Miss Fuller had paid 24.75 dollars into the system. She lived to be 100 years old, and in her long retirement she received more than 22,000 dollars in checks.

DO THE MATHS　算一算

3.6% of $1,000 is $36. Of $2,000, it is $72. The average increase – about $75 – tells you the average check is a little over $2,000 a month.

CHECK YOUR FRIDGE !

Second story of the week – and it is in your kitchen. On Saturday, October 17, the US Department of Agriculture announced a big recall : about 1.58 million pounds of hot dogs, bacon and deli meats from one company, Kayem Foods. A cooler in the factory did not work correctly, and the food was not cold enough.

What must you do ? Do not eat the food. Throw it away, or take it back to the shop. At the time of the announcement, no illnesses were reported – but the rule with a recall is simple : when in doubt, throw it out.

How do you read a recall notice ? Look for three things : the name of the food, the dates on the packet, and the lot number – a code printed near the date. If your packet matches, it goes in the bin, not on the table. A recall sounds frightening, but it is also good news : it means the safety system works.

譯注｜講解｜cost-of-living 生活費用 · a check 支票、（社會安全）月金 · a notice 通知 · a pound 磅（約 0.45 公斤） · to recall 召回（產品）。



A Social Security card from 1943 : the program began in 1935, and the first monthly check – 22.54 dollars – was paid in 1940.
Social Security Administration — public domain

DID YOU KNOW ?

Nearly 72 million people receive Social Security money every month.

The first check, in 1940, was 22.54 dollars. The average increase in 2027 is about 75 dollars a month.

Notices arrive online in late November and by mail in December. Check your number !

AND YOU ?　說說你自己

And you ? Is there a hot dog in your fridge today ? What money comes into your house every month ? Write two sentences in English and send them to the newsroom : the best ones will be printed in VOL.2 (page 7, « Readers' Corner »).

你家冰箱裡今天有熱狗嗎？你家每月有什麼固定收入？寫兩句英語寄給編輯部。

TELLING THE TIME　這樣報時間

Game times this week　本週開賽時間都用得上



It is eight o'clock.



It is half past two.



It is quarter to eight.

half past	= 30 minutes after the hour（半點）
quarter past	= 15 minutes after（一刻）
quarter to	= 15 minutes before（差一刻）
noon / midnight	= 12:00 in the day / at night（正午/午夜）

This week : Game 1 of the World Series starts at 8 p.m. on Friday. In Europe, the clocks fall back on Sunday – in America, on Sunday, November 1 : spring forward, fall back.

EXERCISES　第2版練習

答案見第8版　題目可跨級混排，按題號找答案

A　WHAT TIME IS IT ?

根據時間，用英語補全句子。

A2　11.　填空
8:30 – It is ___ eight.

A2　12.　填空
9:15 – It is ___ nine.

A2　13.　填空
7:45 – It is ___ eight.

A2　14.　填空
0:00 – It is ___ . The city sleeps.

A2　15.　填空
3:00 – It is three ___ . The game starts !

B　GOING TO

用 be going to + 動詞改寫（計畫與將要發生的事）。

A2　16.　改寫
Checks (grow) in January.→ ___

A2　17.　改寫
Milwaukee (play) Game 1 on Friday.→ ___

A2　18.　改寫
We (check) the fridge tonight.→ ___

B1　19.　改寫
You (vote) early this year ?→ ___

C　COMPREHENSION

讀第 2 版文章，選出正確答案。

A2　20.
In 2027, checks grow by... A. 1.6% · B. 3.6% · C. 6.3%

A2　21.
COLA notices arrive... A. in October · B. in late Nov. and Dec. · C. next summer

A2　22.
The hot dogs were recalled because... A. they were old · B. the price was wrong · C. a cooler failed

A2　23.
The first check, in 1940, was... A. $22.54 · B. $75 · C. $225.40

D　THE WORDS

A2　24–27.　把詞和釋義配對

24. a benefit
25. a recall
26. a pound
27. the cost of living

a. the price of everyday life
b. money the government pays regularly
c. about 0.45 kilos – 16 ounces
d. the company takes its food back

Halloween in America : a $13.5 Billion Night of Candy

By The Lucerna newsroom　Reading level : A2 → B1

On Saturday, October 31, America will put on its costumes. Halloween is not an official holiday – nobody gets the day off – but it is one of the biggest nights of the American year. This year, the National Retail Federation (NRF) projects record spending of 13.5 billion dollars, up 3.82% from 2025. That is about $115.14 for every person who celebrates.

Where does the money go ? Costumes come first : $4.4 billion. Decorations are second, at $4.3 billion – gardens full of skeletons, lights and giant spiders. Candy takes $4.1 billion, and almost everybody buys it : 96% of celebrants plan to buy sweets for the big night.

How does trick-or-treating work ? In the early evening, children in costumes walk from door to door in their neighbourhood. They ring the bell and shout : « Trick or treat ! » – a joke threat, always answered with candy. One rule matters : a light on the porch means « welcome, knock here ». A dark house means « please, not this year » – and children respect it.

The pumpkin is the symbol of the season. In October, families drive to pumpkin patches – fields where you choose your own pumpkin – and carve faces into them at home. A candle inside makes a jack-o'-lantern, and on October 31, thousands of orange faces glow on American porches.

What will America wear this year ? Google published its Frightgeist costume list on October 14, and the shop Spirit Halloween published its own : characters from KPop Demon Hunters and Toy Story 5, superheroes, and Greek gods. One number tells the story of 2026 : 47% of celebrants now use AI tools to plan a costume or a decoration. The robot helps you become a ghost.

Halloween was a national festival long before it was a shopping season. In the early 1900s, when telephones were still rare, Americans sent Halloween postcards – more than 3,000 designs were printed. The card on this page is from 1912. The greetings travelled slowly, by mail, and arrived like little paper ghosts.

This year, the calendar is kind : Halloween falls on a Saturday. No school the next morning, no work for most parents – the party can begin in the afternoon and the last jack-o'-lantern can burn late. Shops know it, too : the last full shopping week of the season is this one, and the costume shelves empty fast.

One object waits by every door : the candy bowl. Families fill it in the afternoon – chocolate, sweets, sometimes small toys – and children empty it, street by street, all evening. Economists study the $13.5 billion. Children study something simpler : which house gives the biggest chocolate ?

SAY IT ON THE NIGHT　當晚這樣說

« Trick or treat ! » – 不給糖，就搗蛋！（開玩笑的威脅，永遠換來糖果）

« Happy Halloween ! » – 萬聖節快樂！

· « Thank you ! » – 謝謝！（拿到糖果一定要說）

« What are you dressed as ? » – 你扮的是什麼？

譯注｜講解｜to celebrate 慶祝 · a porch 門廊 · to carve 雕刻 · a decoration 裝飾 · a survey 調查（NRF 調查 7,889 人）。

A　TRUE OR FALSE ?　判斷對錯

讀第 3 版文章，判斷對錯。

A2 28. 判斷
1. Halloween is on a Friday this year.

A2 29. 判斷
2. Americans will spend about $13.5 billion on Halloween.

B1 30. 判斷
3. Candy is the biggest part of the spending.

A2 31. 判斷
4. Almost half of celebrants use AI tools for costume ideas.

A2 32. 判斷
5. A house with no light on the porch is asking for visitors.

B　FESTIVAL WORDS　節日詞填空

A2 33. 填空
Children wear a ___ and go from door to door.

A2 34. 填空
You ___ a pumpkin to make a jack-o'-lantern.

A2 35. 填空
Families leave a light on the ___ to welcome children.

A2 36. 填空
Ninety-six percent of celebrants buy ___.

A2 37. 填空
In October, families visit a pumpkin ___ to choose a pumpkin.

C　CHOOSE　單選

B1 38.
The $13.5 billion is... A. last year's total · B. this year's projection · C. candy money only

B1 39.
Google's costume list is called... A. Frightgeist · B. Spiritgeist · C. Trendlist

B1 40.
This year's costumes include... A. Roman kings · B. Greek gods · C. astronauts only

B1 41.
In the early 1900s, Halloween greetings travelled by... A. telephone · B. postcard · C. radio

D　SENTENCES　句子變形

A2 42. 改寫
Children (go) door to door on October 31. → ___

B1 43. 改寫
She (buy) a Greek god costume. → ___

A2 44. 改寫
He (not / like) horror films. → ___

B1 45. 填空
I think it ___ (rain) on Halloween night.



« A Halloween Wish », 1912 : in the age of postcards, Halloween greetings travelled by mail – slowly, like little paper ghosts.
Halloween postcard, 1912 — public domain

FESTIVAL WORDS　節日詞表

trick or treat – 不給糖就搗蛋

a costume – 戲服、節日裝扮

a jack-o'-lantern – 南瓜燈

a porch – 門廊、門前台階

to carve – 雕刻、刻

a decoration – 裝飾品

spooky – 陰森的（好玩的那種）

a patch – 一片地；（pumpkin patch 南瓜田）

DATES TO REMEMBER　本月日曆

Oct 23 — Red Ribbon Week begins

Oct 24 – Make a Difference Day · Drug Take Back Day, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Oct 31 — Halloween (Saturday)

Nov 1 – clocks fall back · Nov 3 – Election Day

THE SEASON IN NUMBERS

3,000+ – Halloween postcard designs printed in the early 1900s

96% – of celebrants buy candy · 47% – now use AI for ideas

$115.14 – projected spending per person (NRF)

FUN, OR TOO MUCH ?

Halloween now costs America more than ever – and the robots help us dress up. Is it still a festival, or is it a shopping week with ghosts ? Write to us in English, two or three sentences : your letter may appear on page 7 of VOL.2.

萬聖節越來越貴，AI 還來幫你選裝扮：它還是節日，還是帶鬼的購物週？寫信告訴我們（見第 7 版讀者園地）。

The Biggest Sports Week of the Autumn

By The Lucerna newsroom　Reading level : B1

TIP-OFF TUESDAY

The NBA is back. On Tuesday, October 20, the 2026–27 season opened with something new : a tripleheader – three big games in one night – on NBC and its streaming service Peacock. Boston played at Detroit, Oklahoma City at San Antonio, and in New York, the champions received their rings.

Before the game at Madison Square Garden, the New York Knicks raised their championship banner – the club's first since 1973. Then the Philadelphia 76ers spoiled the party. Philadelphia won 106–100, with 28 points from Tyrese Maxey. LeBron James, now a 76er, began a record 24th NBA season. The season continues all week : 43 games from Tuesday to Sunday, including the Lakers against the Warriors on Wednesday.

A FIRST-TIME CHAMPION

Baseball offers the week's most beautiful storyline. In the National League final, Milwaukee swept the Los Angeles Dodgers – the champions of the last two years are out. It is the Brewers' first World Series since 1982. In the American League, Tampa Bay beat Cleveland in Game 6 on Monday night.

So the World Series is Milwaukee against Tampa Bay. Game 1 is Friday, October 23, in Milwaukee (8 p.m. Eastern, on FOX), and Game 2 follows on Saturday. Here is the magic number : zero. Neither club has ever won the World Series – so for the first time in years, a first-time champion is guaranteed.

SPEED IN AUSTIN

On Sunday, the week ends at full speed : the United States Grand Prix at the Circuit of The Americas in Austin, Texas. Practice is on Friday, qualifying on Saturday, and the race on Sunday afternoon. The weekend is also a music festival : Maroon 5 on Friday, Post Malone on Saturday, Alesso on Sunday. A special « Grand PrixView » day opens the circuit to fans on Thursday.

One more name to watch : Victor Wembanyama, the French star of San Antonio, meets Oklahoma City in the third game of the tripleheader. In France, they will watch at breakfast time ; in Texas, it is prime time.

THE FOOTBALL WEEKEND

And football ? It never stops. Week 7 of the NFL season brings the Patriots at the Bears on Thursday night, then, on Sunday, the Packers at the Lions and the Chiefs at the Seahawks in the night game. College football fills Saturday : LSU at Auburn, Texas A&M at Alabama, Ole Miss at Texas, Indiana at Michigan.

AND AT 4 P.M. ON SUNDAY…

…the world game joins the party. Barcelona play Real Madrid in El Clásico on Sunday – 4 p.m. Eastern on ESPN in the United States. On Wednesday morning, « barca vs real madrid » was the number one trending search in the US in one snapshot.

THE WEEK'S FIXTURES　本週賽程

Tue – NBA tip-off : 76ers at Knicks · Thunder at Spurs

Wed – Lakers vs Warriors · Thu – Patriots at Bears

Fri – World Series Game 1, 8 p.m. ET · Sat – Game 2

Sun – Austin Grand Prix · El Clásico, 4 p.m. ET

譯注｜講解｜a banner 冠軍旗幟 · to sweep 橫掃 · the defending champion 衛冕冠軍 · qualifying 排位賽 · a storyline 故事線。

A　READING　閱讀單選

B1　46.
The Knicks' banner was their first since… A. 1973 · B. 1982 · C. 2003

B1　47.
On opening night, Philadelphia won… A. by 6 points · B. by 16 points · C. after extra time

B1　48.
Milwaukee's last World Series before this year was in… A. 1973 · B. 1982 · C. 2020

B1　49.
The Grand Prix race day is… A. Friday · B. Saturday · C. Sunday

B1　50.
The NFL games this week are in… A. Week 6 · B. Week 7 · C. Week 8

B　SPORTS WORDS　體育詞配對

B1　51–54.　把詞和釋義配對

51. tip-off
52. a sweep
53. the defending champion
54. a banner

a. the team that won last time, playing to keep the title
b. winning every game in a series
c. a flag in the arena that remembers a championship
d. the start of a basketball game

C　COMPARATIVES　比較級

B1　55.　填空
The World Series is ___ (old) than the NBA.

B1　56.　填空
Austin in October is ___ (hot) than Milwaukee.

B1　57.　填空
This is the ___ (busy) sports week of the autumn.

B1　58.　填空
Maxey scored ___ points than Brunson on Tuesday. (28 to 21)

D　VERB FORMS　動詞過去式

B1　59.　改寫
The 76ers (win) 106–100 on Tuesday. → ___

B1　60.　改寫
The Knicks (raise) their banner. → ___

B1　61.　改寫
Milwaukee (sweep) the Dodgers. → ___

B1　62.　改寫
Tampa Bay (beat) Cleveland on Monday. → ___

B1　63.　改寫
Fans (watch) three games on Tuesday night. → ___

THE KING'S NEW TEAM

LeBron James begins his 24th season – a record – in a new shirt : Philadelphia. He arrived this summer, and on night one, his new team won on the champions' floor.

詹姆斯第 24 季（紀錄）改穿費城球衣，首夜就在冠軍主場取勝。

SPORTS WORDS　體育詞表

tip-off – （籃球）開賽、跳球

a banner – 冠軍旗幟

to sweep – 橫掃（全勝贏下系列賽）

the defending champion – 衛冕冠軍

qualifying – 排位賽

a race – 一場比賽；（賽車）賽事

overtime – 加時（extra time）

a fan – 球迷、粉絲

THE WEEK IN NUMBERS

43 – games in the NBA's first six days

106–100 – Philadelphia's win in New York

1973 – the Knicks' previous banner · 1982 – Milwaukee's last World Series

24 – LeBron James's season number, a record

WATCHING A GAME IN ENGLISH

« What a shot ! » – 好球！

« They are up by six. » – 他們領先六分。

« It is going down to the last minute. » – 要拚到最後一分鐘。

« We were robbed ! » – 我們被裁判坑了！（球迷口頭禪，輸球時說，帶玩笑）

THE DEBATE　討論

Three finals in one week : the NBA begins, baseball ends, and the cars race in Austin. A feast for fans – or too much sport ? Tell us on page 7.

Opening Week Lives on Your Phone

By The Lucerna newsroom　Reading level : B1

THE GAME COMES TO YOU

For fifty years, a big game meant a television in the living room. This week, the NBA opened its season in a new way : opening night was built as a tripleheader for NBC – and for its streaming service, Peacock. Three games, one night, every screen in the house.

Young fans do not always watch a whole game. Many meet the game first as a clip : forty seconds of the best moment, sent by a friend, watched on the bus. The full game comes later – or never. On Wednesday morning, one of the top trending searches in America was « lakers roster » : before watching the team, fans wanted the list of names. Who plays for the Lakers this year ?

AI PLANS YOUR COSTUME

Halloween is the other screen story of the week. The NRF counts a new habit : 47% of celebrants now use AI tools to plan a costume or a decoration. You describe an idea – « a Greek god, but funny » – and the machine offers ten versions. Then the group chat votes.

The costume itself is content now. A good costume is not finished when you put it on ; it is finished when the photo is posted. Google's Frightgeist list and the Spirit Halloween list agree on the stars of 2026 : KPop Demon Hunters, Toy Story 5, superheroes and Greek gods. This year, the gods have good lighting.

EARNINGS, IN PLAIN ENGLISH

On Wednesday, after the markets close, two giants publish their numbers : Tesla and Meta. Netflix and SpaceX did the same on Tuesday. « Earnings » is a company's report card : how much money came in, how much went out, and what is left – the profit.

For a few hours, every feed is green arrows and red arrows. One warning from our business desk : before the report, different experts give different numbers – nobody knows. After the close, everybody knows at the same time. That is the game, and this week, America is watching it live.

THE SECOND SCREEN

Watch a game with young fans and you will see two games at once. On the television, the match. On the phone, the second match : live statistics, polls – « Who wins tonight ? » – and the group chat, where every goal, every basket, produces twenty messages in ten seconds. The phone does not kill the game. For this generation, the phone IS part of the game.

The same phone plans the weekend. It holds the costume ideas, the AI pictures, the party address and the money for the pizza. One small glass rectangle runs the whole autumn : sport, money, festivals and friends. The Lucerna's advice ? Enjoy it – and sometimes, look up. The real game is also beautiful.

譯注｜講解｜to stream 串流 · a highlight 精華片段 · earnings 財報、獲利 · a feed 資訊流 · a roster 名單、花名冊。

A　CHOOSE　單選

B1　64.
The opening tripleheader was shown on... A. NBC and Peacock · B. FOX only · C. ESPN only

B1　65.
On Wednesday morning, a top search was... A. lakers roster · B. world series tickets · C. tesla stock

B1　66.
47% of celebrants use AI to plan... A. their votes · B. costumes and decorations · C. their homework

B1　67.
Tesla and Meta report their results... A. Monday morning · B. Wednesday after the close · C. Sunday night

B1　68.
Before a report, the experts' numbers... A. are all the same · B. are secret · C. differ from expert to expert

B　SCREEN WORDS　螢幕詞填空

A2　69.　填空
You can ___ the game live on your phone.

B1　70.　填空
No time for the full game ? Watch the ___ : three minutes of the best moments.

B1　71.　填空
Her costume photo went ___ : a million people saw it in one day.

B1　72.　填空
Before the season, fans study the ___ : who plays for the Lakers this year ?

B1　73.　填空
Wednesday is ___ day for Tesla and Meta : the companies publish their numbers.

A2　74.　填空
His ___ is full of game clips and costume photos.

C　THIS WEEK, LIVE　現在進行時

用現在進行時改寫：本週正在發生的事。

B1　75.　改寫
Tesla (report) its results tonight.→ ___

B1　76.　改寫
The teams (play) 43 games this week.→ ___

B1　77.　改寫
Fans (watch) the tripleheader on their phones. → ___

B1　78.　改寫
Milwaukee (prepare) for Game 1.→ ___

D　TRUE OR FALSE ?　判斷對錯

B1　79.　判斷
1. Many young fans meet a game first as a short clip.

B1　80.　判斷
2. Everybody knows Tesla's numbers before Wednesday's report.

B1　81.　判斷
3. The costume lists come only from shops.

WORDS OF THE SCREEN　螢幕詞表

to stream – 串流播放、線上看

a highlight – 精華片段、集錦

a clip – 一小段影片

a feed – 資訊流、動態頁

viral – 爆紅的（go viral 走紅）

a roster – 名單、花名冊

earnings – 財報、獲利

to post – 發文、發布

SAY IT ONLINE　在網上這樣說

« What a game ! » – 這比賽太精采了！

« Send me the highlights. » – 把集錦發給我。

« This costume wins Halloween. » – 這身裝扮贏翻了。

THE WORLD GAME AT 4 P.M.

On Sunday at 4 p.m. Eastern, American screens turn to Spain : Barcelona vs Real Madrid, on ESPN. In one Wednesday snapshot, it was America's number one search. The world's game needs no translation.

週日美東下午 4 點國家德比，ESPN 直播；週三快照中曾是美國熱搜第一。

PLAN YOUR STREAMING WEEK

Tue – the NBA tripleheader, on Peacock

Wed – Tesla & Meta numbers, after the close

Fri – World Series Game 1 · Sat – Game 2

Sun – Austin Grand Prix · El Clásico, 4 p.m. ET

NEXT WEEK ON YOUR SCREENS

Mon–Tue – the Series moves to Tampa · Sat Oct 31 – Halloween night · Sun Nov 1 – the clocks fall back · Tue Nov 3 – election night. The autumn does not slow down.

THE DEBATE　討論

Is a forty-second clip really « watching the game » ? Or is the full game a thing of the past ? Two sentences, in English, to the newsroom – the best answers appear on page 7 of VOL.2.

The Midterms : Why America Votes Early

By The Lucerna newsroom　Reading level : B2

On Tuesday, November 3, Americans vote in the midterm elections – the elections that fall in the middle of a president's term. There is no presidential race this year. Instead, voters choose the whole House of Representatives, part of the Senate, and most state governors. It is a smaller election than 2024, but in Washington, it changes everything.

The stakes fit in one line of numbers : the House today stands at 218 Republicans to 214 Democrats, according to Reuters – a margin of four seats. A handful of districts will decide who controls Congress for the next two years. That is why the advertising never stops : spending on election ads had already reached a record 3.8 billion dollars by October 12, the analytics firm AdImpact reported.

The newest fact of American elections is the calendar. Voting is no longer a day ; it is a season. Nurses, drivers, soldiers and parents often cannot queue for hours on a Tuesday, so states let them vote early, in person, with the same ballot. This year's wave opened on Monday, October 19, in Texas – early voting there runs to October 30 – and in Alaska, Arkansas, Connecticut and Colorado.

Louisiana and Missouri followed on Tuesday, Delaware and Maryland on Thursday, and Michigan and Florida's mandatory period begins on Saturday, October 24. Fifty states, fifty calendars : in the United States, elections are run by the states, not by Washington, and every state keeps its own doors and its own hours.

Early voting changes the campaign, too. Parties no longer aim everything at one Tuesday ; they aim at October. But one rule protects the suspense : early votes are counted under state rules, and the results, as always, arrive on election night. Voting early does not mean knowing early.

譯注｜講解｜midterm（elections）中期選舉 · the House 眾議院 · incumbent 現任者 · margin 差距 · turnout 投票率。

THE EARLY-VOTING WEEK

Mon, Oct 19 – Texas, Alaska, Arkansas, Connecticut and Colorado open

Tue, Oct 20 – Louisiana and Missouri follow

Thu, Oct 22 – Delaware and Maryland open

Sat, Oct 24 – Michigan opens ; Florida's mandatory period begins

Fri, Oct 30 – early voting closes in Texas

Tue, Nov 3 – ELECTION DAY

HOW TO FOLLOW IT　怎麼跟

Watch three numbers, not three hundred opinions : the turnout (how many vote), the House margin (218–214 today) and the ad money ($3.8 billion and counting). The rest is noise.

跟選舉看三個數：投票率、眾議院差距、廣告費。其餘多是噪音。



The Capitol in Washington : control of Congress is the prize on November 3.

United States Capitol — public domain

ELECTION WORDS　選舉詞表

a midterm – 中期選舉

an incumbent – 現任者

a margin – （票數/席位）差距

turnout – 投票率

a campaign – 競選活動

a district – 選區

HEADLINE LANGUAGE　標題語言

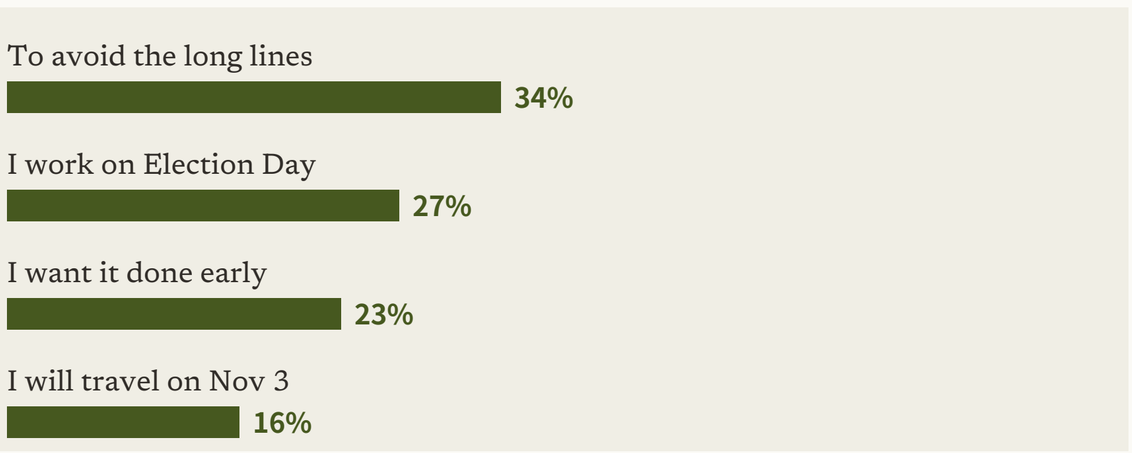
« Early voting opens » – 提前投票開始

« voters head to the polls » – 選民前往投票站

« too close to call » – 太接近，難分勝負

WHY DO VOTERS VOTE EARLY ?　練習圖表

PRACTICE DATA — simplified and invented for this exercise ; not a real survey. 練習數據，為教學虛構，非真實調查。



Four answers, 100 voters. 四個答案，合計 100 人。

READING THE CHART　讀圖

B2 82.
The biggest reason is... A. travel · B. work · C. avoiding long lines

B2 83.
Out of 100 voters, how many work on Election Day ?

B1 84.
The top two reasons together make ___ of the voters.

B2 85.
True or false : more than half vote early because of work or travel.

B1 86.
The difference between « lines » and « travel » is ___.

B1 87.
All four answers together make ___ of the voters.

KEY SENTENCE　關鍵句

« Voting is no longer a day ; it is a season. »

投票不再是一天，而是一個季節。——本頁深讀的核心句。

READING　閱讀單選

B2 88.
The midterms decide... A. the president · B. control of Congress · C. the Supreme Court

B2 89.
Elections in the US are run by... A. the White House · B. the states · C. the parties

B2 90.
The $3.8 billion is... A. the cost of voting machines · B. ad spending by Oct 12 · C. the price of ballots

B2 91.
Florida's mandatory early voting starts... A. Oct 19 · B. Oct 22 · C. Oct 24

COMPARATIVES　比較級

B2 92.　填空
Early voting is ___ (convenient) than voting on one day only.

B1 93.　填空
Ad spending this year is the ___ (high) ever.

B1 94.　填空
Texas starts ___ (early) than Florida.

B2 95.　填空
The House margin (218–214) is ___ (small) than ten seats.

ELECTION WORDS　選舉詞填空

B2 96.　填空
The ___ is the person who holds the job now and wants to keep it.

B2 97.　填空
218 to 214 is a ___ of four seats.

B2 98.　填空
A high ___ means many people vote.

B2 99.　填空
A ___ is the long season of work before an election.

SAY IT LIKE A HEADLINE

« Early voters ___ to the polls in Texas. » (head)

« The race is too ___ to call. » (close)

« Turnout is ___ this year. » (up)

三句報紙標題，自己填空說一遍——答案在日常表達裡。

LANGUAGE IN HAND　精講

The Lucerna
A2 → B2　Phrases of the week　本週金句

LEVEL A2　基礎

TELLING THE TIME

It's eight o'clock. · It's half past two. · It's a quarter to eight. For the hour, English always starts with « It's » – never « it has ». The three clocks on page 2 show the week's three times.

GOING TO + VERB

For a plan : « She is going to vote on Saturday. » be + going to + the verb, with no change. It is the friendliest future in English – use it for every plan of the week.

THE EXAMPLE　例句

« Checks are going to grow in January. » – the Social Security story, from page 2.

LEVEL B1　進階

COMPARATIVES

Short adjective + -er + than : « Austin is hotter than Milwaukee. » Long adjective : more + adjective : « more convenient ». And good becomes better – never « more good ». Page 4 and page 6 are full of them.

THE PAST SIMPLE

Regular verbs add -ed : raised, watched. Irregular verbs change : win → won, sweep → swept, beat → beat, go → went. Sports pages are written in this tense – every result is past.

THE EXAMPLE　例句

« Maxey scored more points than Brunson. » – comparison and past simple in one line (page 4).

LEVEL B2　挑戰

HEADLINE PRESENT

Headlines speak of yesterday in the present : « 76ers win opener », « Early voting opens in Texas ». The present simple makes old news feel live. Read the front page again and find three.

WHETHER = IF ?

« Nobody knows whether the Brewers can finish the story. » Whether introduces an open question inside a sentence – more elegant than if, and safe everywhere. It is the word of the deep read (page 6).

THE EXAMPLE　例句

« Voting is no longer a day ; it is a season. » – no longer = 不再 (page 6).

THE TOOLBOX　工具箱

Three sentences to keep in your pocket, one for each level :

A2 – « It's a quarter to eight. »

B1 – « The 76ers won, and Maxey scored more than Brunson. »

B2 – « Nobody knows whether the story ends with a trophy. »

And the newspaper reflex : every phrase of the week comes from an article of this issue. Re-read the article, and the phrase becomes easy.

工具箱｜本期三句隨身句，按級各一；金句全部出自本期文章，回讀原文最有效。

PHRASES OF THE WEEK　本週金句（全部出自本期文章）

每句一個語法點 + 一道小題　答案見第8版

« On Tuesday, October 20, the 2026–27 season opened with something new : a tripleheader. » (page 4)

語法點｜過去式：open → opened，規則變化。

B1　100.
The World Series ___ (open) on Friday.

« When the prices of food, homes and energy go up, the checks go up too. » (page 2)

語法點｜go up = 上漲；when 子句用一般現在時說規律。

A2　101.
When energy costs more, the bills ___ too. (go up)

« Milwaukee swept the Los Angeles Dodgers. » (page 4)

語法點｜sweep 的過去式是 swept，不規則。

B1　102.
Tampa Bay ___ (beat) Cleveland on Monday.

« Neither club has ever won the World Series. » (page 4)

語法點｜neither + 單數動詞：兩家（都沒贏過）。

B2　103.
Neither team ___ (have) a trophy yet.

« Voting is no longer a day ; it is a season. » (page 6)

語法點｜no longer = 不再，放在 be 動詞之後。

B2　104.
The game is ___ on television only ; it is on phones too.

« Voters head to the polls. » (page 6)

語法點｜head to = 前往（標題裡的現在時）。

A2　105.
On Tuesday, fans ___ to the stadium. (head)

« The average retired worker will get about 75 dollars more every month. » (page 2)

語法點｜about = 大約：說約數時用它。

A2　106.
The average check is ___ two thousand dollars a month.

« In Europe, the clocks fall back on Sunday – in America, on Sunday, November 1. » (page 2)

語法點｜fall back =（時鐘）撥回；春天是 spring forward。

B1　107.
In spring, the clocks ___ forward. (spring)

THE ERROR CLINIC　易錯診所

每句有一處錯誤：找出來並改正。

A2　108.　改錯
✗ « I am agree with you. »

A2　109.　改錯
✗ « Yesterday I go to the game. »

B1　110.　改錯
✗ « This week is more busier than last week. »

B1　111.　改錯
✗ « He don't like early voting. »

READERS' CORNER　讀者園地

« This autumn, I read my first book in English – one page every night, with Lucerna. » – R. T., a reader in Toronto (editor's example : the first real reader letters will take this place in VOL.2)

編輯回覆｜one page every night 是最穩的習慣：一般現在時說的就是習慣。說明：此信為編輯部示範，VOL.2 起刊登真實讀者來信，並點評本期第 8 版的寫作投稿。

NEXT WEEK　VOL.2 下週預告

Saturday, October 31 : Halloween night, live. Sunday, November 1 : America falls back – one more hour of sleep. Tuesday, November 3 : Election Day. What do Americans read, watch and eat while they wait for the results ?

下週六萬聖節之夜，週日全美撥回時鐘，11月3日週二選舉日揭曉。

EXERCISES & ANSWERS　練習與答案

A　CLOZE　完形填空

Maya is twelve. On Saturday, October 31, it is (112)___. In the morning, she helps her father (113)___ a pumpkin on the porch. « (114)___ rain nor cold can stop us », laughs her mother. In the evening, Maya puts on her (115)___ : she (116)___ a gold crown, like a Greek goddess. She takes her bag and goes from house to house : « Trick or treat ! » The neighbours give her (117)___. At nine o'clock, the street is quiet – and in the night, the clocks will (118)___ back : one more hour of sleep ! Tomorrow, Maya is (119)___ to sleep late, very late.

選項：

112. A. Christmas ・ B. Easter ・ C. Halloween

113. A. carve ・ B. eat ・ C. sell

114. A. Both ・ B. Neither ・ C. Also

115. A. costume ・ B. uniform ・ C. pyjamas

116. A. wear ・ B. wears ・ C. wearing

117. A. money ・ B. candy ・ C. flowers

118. A. fall ・ B. falls ・ C. falling

119. A. goes ・ B. go ・ C. going

B　MULTIPLE CHOICE　單選

A2　120.
The game starts at 9:15. In words : ... A. a quarter to nine · B. a quarter past nine · C. half past nine

A2　121.
On Sunday, we ___ an extra hour of sleep. A. get · B. gets · C. getting

B1　122.
The 76ers ___ the game 106–100. A. win · B. won · C. wins

B1　123.
Austin is ___ than Milwaukee in October. A. hot · B. hotter · C. hottest

B2　124.
___ the rain, the parade went on all evening. A. Despite · B. Because · C. Unless

B2　125.
Nobody knows ___ the Brewers will win the Series. A. whether · B. what · C. who

A2　126.
Early voting in Texas ___ on Monday. A. opened · B. open · C. opens

B1　127.
She is going to ___ her ballot on Saturday. A. cast · B. casts · C. casted

C　READING　閱讀理解

On Monday morning, Rosa Delgado, a nurse from Houston, finished her night work at six o'clock. She did not go home to sleep. She drove to the early-voting place near the hospital and joined a short line. « On November 3, I work all day », she explains. « Today, I have time. » Ten minutes later, her ballot was in the box, and a sticker on her jacket said : I VOTED EARLY. By Friday, October 30, when early voting ends in Texas, millions of Texans will do the same.

A2　128.
Rosa is... A. a teacher · B. a nurse · C. a driver

A2　129.
She voted early because on November 3 she... A. travels · B. works all day · C. sleeps

B1　130.
Her sticker said... A. I VOTED EARLY · B. VOTE ON TUESDAY · C. TEXAS FIRST

B1　131.
Early voting in Texas ends on... A. October 19 · B. October 30 · C. November 3

D　SENTENCES　完成句子與轉換

A2　132.
Be going to : « On Saturday, they (carve) a pumpkin. » → ___

B1　133.
Past simple : « The Knicks (raise) their first banner since 1973. »

B1　134.
Comparative : « My costume is ___ (scary) than yours. »

B2　135.
Whether : « ___ the parade will happen, nobody knows. »

E　TRANSLATION　翻譯

B2　136.
Translate : « Voting is no longer a day ; it is a season. »

A2　137.
翻譯：76 人隊以 106 比 100 贏得了比賽。

B1　138.
翻譯：今年的提前投票在星期一開始。

B1　139.
Translate : « Neither club has ever won the Series. »

F　WORDS　詞彙配對

B1　140–143.　配對

140. a midterm
141. an incumbent
142. a margin
143. turnout

a. the number of people who vote
b. an election in the middle of a president's term
c. the person who holds the job now
d. the difference between two results

G　DIALOGUE　對話補全

– Good morning ! Is this the early-voting place ? – Yes, welcome. May I see your (144)___ ? – Here it is. Is the (145)___ long today ? – No, five minutes only. Yesterday it was very long ! – Good. It is my first early vote. What do I do with the (146)___ ? – Mark your choices, check them twice, then put it in the box. – Thank you. And the famous (147)___ ? Everybody has one on their jacket. – The sticker ! Here it is : « I VOTED ». Wear it with pride. – I will ! See you on (148)___ 3rd, in the results ! – Ha ! Have a good day.

H　WRITING　寫作

Write a short text (80 to 100 words) : « My Saturday, October 31 ». Tell us : your costume, your street, the candy, the pumpkins – and one sentence about the clocks that fall back in the night. The best texts will appear in VOL.2 (page 7, « Readers' Corner »).

用英語寫 80–100 詞：我的 10 月 31 日星期六。寫清裝扮、街道、糖果、南瓜，再寫一句夜裡撥回的時鐘。

MODEL　範文

On Saturday, October 31, our street becomes a small Halloween town. In the morning, I carve a pumpkin with my father and we put a candle inside. At six o'clock, I wear my pirate costume and take my bag. House after house, I say « Trick or treat ! » and the neighbours smile and give me candy. My bag is heavy at nine o'clock ! In the night, the clocks fall back, so I sleep one hour more on Sunday. It is my favourite weekend of the autumn.

ANSWERS　全部答案與簡析（第1–8版）

— 第1版 —

1. ballot ・ 2. early ・ 3. November 3 ・ 4. champion ・ 5. opened ・ 6. first ・ 7. B ・ 8. C ・ 9. A ・ 10. B

— 第2版 —

11. half past (8:30 = 八點半) ・ 12. quarter past ・ 13. quarter to ・ 14. midnight (0:00 = 午夜) ・ 15. o'clock (3:00 = 三點整) ・ 16. Checks are going to grow in January. ・ 17. Milwaukee is going to play Game 1 on Friday. ・ 18. We are going to check the fridge tonight. ・ 19. Are you going to vote early this year ? (疑問句：be 提前) ・ 20. B ・ 21. B ・ 22. C ・ 23. A ・ 24. b ・ 25. d ・ 26. c ・ 27. a

— 第3版 —

28. False ・ 29. True ・ 30. False ・ 31. True ・ 32. False ・ 33. costume ・ 34. carve ・ 35. porch (porch = 門廊) ・ 36. candy (96% 的人買糖果) ・ 37. patch ・ 38. B ・ 39. A ・ 40. B (今年流行希臘神祇) ・ 41. B ・ 42. Children go door to door on October 31. (一般現在時表習慣) ・ 43. She buys a Greek god costume. ・ 44. He does not like horror films. ・ 45. will rain

— 第4版 —

46. A ・ 47. A ・ 48. B ・ 49. C (F1 正賽在週日) ・ 50. B ・ 51. d ・ 52. b ・ 53. a ・ 54. c ・ 55. older ・ 56. hotter ・ 57. busiest ・ 58. more ・ 59. The 76ers won 106–100. ・ 60. The Knicks raised their banner. ・ 61. Milwaukee swept the Dodgers. ・ 62. Tampa Bay beat Cleveland on Monday. ・ 63. Fans watched three games on Tuesday night.

— 第5版 —

64. A ・ 65. A (週三早間熱搜快照之一) ・ 66. B ・ 67. B ・ 68. C ・ 69. stream ・ 70. highlights ・ 71. viral ・ 72. roster ・ 73. earnings ・ 74. feed (feed = 資訊流) ・ 75. Tesla is reporting its results tonight. ・ 76. The teams are playing 43 games this week. ・ 77. Fans are watching the tripleheader on their phones. ・ 78. Milwaukee is preparing for Game 1. ・ 79. True ・ 80. False ・ 81. False

— 第6版 —

82. C (最大原因是避開長隊 34%) ・ 83. 27 (選舉日要上班：27 人) ・ 84. 61% (34 + 27 = 61) ・ 85. False (27 + 16 = 43，不到一半) ・ 86. 18 points (34 − 16 = 18 個百分點) ・ 87. 100% (四項合計 100%) ・ 88. B ・ 89. B (美國選舉由各州運作) ・ 90. B ・ 91. C ・ 92. more convenient ・ 93. highest ・ 94. earlier ・ 95. smaller ・ 96. incumbent ・ 97. margin ・ 98. turnout ・ 99. campaign

— 第7版 —

100. opened ・ 101. go up (go up 上漲) ・ 102. beat ・ 103. has ・ 104. no longer ・ 105. head ・ 106. about (about 大約) ・ 107. spring ・ 108. I agree with you. (agree 是動詞，前面不用 am) ・ 109. Yesterday I went to the game. (go 的過去式是 went) ・ 110. This week is busier than last week. (busier 已含比較級，不要再加 more) ・ 111. He doesn't like early voting. (三單否定用 doesn't + 原形)

— 第8版 —

112. C (10 月 31 日是萬聖節) ・ 113. A (carve 雕刻南瓜燈) ・ 114. B (neither...nor 既不…也不…) ・ 115. A (costume 萬聖節裝扮) ・ 116. B (she 三單 → wears) ・ 117. B (trick or treat 換來糖果) ・ 118. A (will + 動詞原形 fall) ・ 119. C (be going to → is going) ・ 120. B (9:15 = a quarter past nine) ・ 121. A (we → get 原形) ・ 122. B (已結束的比賽用 won) ・ 123. B (than → 比較級 hotter) ・ 124. A (despite + 名詞：儘管下雨) ・ 125. A (whether = 是否) ・ 126. A (過去的事用過去式 opened) ・ 127. A (be going to + 原形 cast) ・ 128. B (原文：a nurse from Houston) ・ 129. B (11 月 3 日她全天上班) ・ 130. A (貼紙上寫著 I VOTED EARLY) ・ 131. B (德州提前投票 10 月 30 日結束) ・ 132. On Saturday, they are going to carve a pumpkin. (are going to + 原形) ・ 133. The Knicks raised their first banner since 1973. (raise → raised（規則變化）) ・ 134. scarier (scary → scarier（y 變 i 再加 er）) ・ 135. Whether (whether 引導「是否」子句) ・ 136. 投票不再是一天的事情，而是一個季節。(no longer 不再) ・ 137. The 76ers won the game 106–100. (win → won；比數 106–100) ・ 138. This year, early voting opened on Monday. (open → opened；on Monday) ・ 139. 兩家俱樂部都從未贏過世界大賽。(neither 否定「兩家都不」；has ever won 現在完成時) ・ 140. b (midterm = 中期選舉 b) ・ 141. c (incumbent = 現任者 c) ・ 142. d (margin = 差距 d) ・ 143. a (turnout = 投票率 a) ・ 144. ID (投票時出示證件 ID) ・ 145. line (line = 排隊（美式英語）) ・ 146. ballot (ballot = 選票) ・ 147. sticker (sticker = 貼紙) ・ 148. November (選舉日是 11 月 3 日) ・ 149. 開放題 — 要點見寫作框，範本在第 8 版寫作框內 (按要點給分)