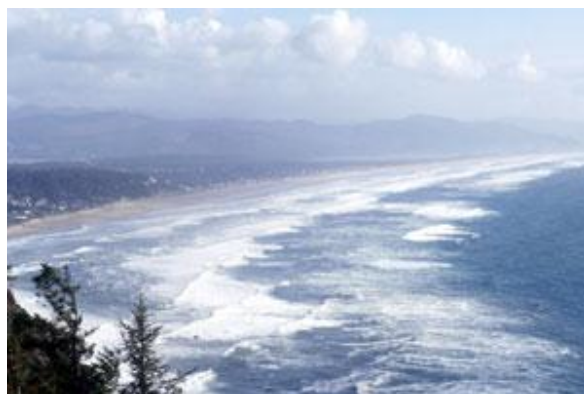


All at sea 海啸垃圾抵达美国海岸

Vocabulary: seaside 词汇: 海边, 海滨

It's not every day that you find a motorcycle or a concrete dock **washed ashore**, but that's what people on the West **coast** of the United States have been **spotting**. These items were among **debris** from the March 2011 tsunami in Japan.

It's been estimated that 1.5 million tonnes of debris is **floating** through the North Pacific Ocean and new items are frequently **dragged** up onto sandy beaches.



Volunteer **beachcombers** have been working at Yaquina Bay in Oregon to clean the beach of all rubbish. The group - college students, pensioners, **surfers** and locals - work alongside State Park officers and is given gloves to protect their hands. There's been no evidence yet of any **radioactive debris**, but they are all too aware of the **meltdown** at the Fukushima nuclear plant after the tsunami.

The arrival of alien species is another cause for concern in the US. The concrete dock that **drifted in** to Newport, Oregon, was found to contain sea creatures originating from Japan that could threaten the local **ecosystem**. Some **starfish** prey on native marine organisms and the **Wakame kelp** is known as one of the worst invasive species outside its natural environment.

As the Hatfield Marine Science Centre's John Chapman explained on the International Business Times website: "In sheltered waters, the **Wakame kelp** can quickly form large beds that **block out** sunlight essential for the survival of native kelps, **seaweeds**, and other **marine algae**."

The **debris** is also a reminder of the human suffering brought by the tsunami that killed more than 15,000 people.

Jack Barth, a professor at Oregon State University's College of Oceanic Atmospheric Sciences, points out that some personal items found can provide some **closure** for families in Japan.

Sixteen-year-old Misaki Murakami, a tsunami survivor, was reunited with his football after it washed up in Alaska. His signature on the ball made it possible **to trace** him.

Murakami said: "I'm very grateful as I've so far found nothing that I'd owned."

词汇表请参看答案与词汇部分

Quiz 测验

阅读短文并回答问题。

1. How much debris from the tsunami in Japan is estimated to be floating through the North Pacific Ocean?
2. In the material washed ashore, what is a cause for concern in the US?
3. Is the following statement true, false or not given? *Students are part of a group of beachcombers paid a salary to clean beaches in Oregon.*
4. What made it possible to identify the football's owner?
5. What marine creatures are mentioned in the article?

Exercise 练习

请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。从每个表格中选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. My uncle is a fanatical _____. He's always said that one day he will find a pirate's treasure buried under the sand.

| | | | |
|-----------|------------|-------------|-----------|
| beachwear | beachfront | beachcomber | beach bum |
|-----------|------------|-------------|-----------|

2. Police are trying _____ the owner of a car abandoned near the scene of the crime.

| | | | |
|----------|----------|---------|--------------|
| to trace | to drift | to wash | to block out |
|----------|----------|---------|--------------|

3. Betty was about to leave the office earlier than usual when she _____ her boss coming down the corridor.

| | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| dragged | spotted | drifted | washed |
|---------|---------|---------|--------|

4. _____ uranium has been buried in lead boxes at the bottom of the sea.

| | | | |
|---------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| counteractive | hyperactive | overactive | radioactive |
|---------------|-------------|------------|-------------|

5. _____ is used in Japanese cuisine to wrap rice cakes called 'sushi'.

| | | | |
|---------|------------|----------|--------|
| seaweed | ecosystems | starfish | debris |
|---------|------------|----------|--------|

Answers and Glossary 答案与词汇

Quiz 小测验

1. How much debris from the tsunami in Japan is estimated to be floating through the North Pacific Ocean? 1.5 million tonnes.
2. In the material washed ashore, what is a cause for concern in the US? The possibility of radioactive debris and species of animals and plants that might damage local ecosystems.
3. Is the following statement true, false or not given? *Students are part of a group of beachcombers paid a salary to clean beaches in Oregon.* False. The group is made up of volunteers, according to the article.
4. What made it possible to identify the football's owner? His signature on the ball.
5. What marine creatures are mentioned in the article? Starfish (kelp is a plant not a creature)

Exercise 练习

1. My uncle is a fanatical beachcomber. He's always said that one day he will find a pirate's treasure buried under the sand.
2. Police are trying to trace the owner of a car abandoned near the scene of the crime.
3. Betty was about to leave the office earlier than usual when she spotted her boss coming down the corridor.
4. Radioactive uranium has been buried in lead boxes at the bottom of the sea.
5. Seaweed is used in Japanese cuisine to wrap rice cakes called 'sushi'.

Glossary 词汇表

| | |
|----------------------|--------|
| washed ashore | 被冲上岸 |
| the coast | 海岸 |
| to spot | 偶然看到 |
| debris | 碎片，残骸 |
| to float | 浮 |
| to drag | 拖 |
| a beachcomber | 海滩清理者 |
| a surfer | 冲浪者 |
| radioactive | 放射性的 |
| meltdown | 彻底崩溃 |
| to drift in | 在海上漂流 |
| the ecosystem | 生态系统 |
| a starfish | 海星 |
| Wakame kelp | 裙带菜海带 |
| to block out | 阻挡 |
| a seaweed | 海藻 |
| marine algae | 海洋藻类植物 |
| closure | 完结 |
| to trace | 跟踪 |