

Vocabulary: winter and heating 词汇: 冬日和供暖

In my memory, winters always used to be really unpleasant. You had to **bundle up** just to keep warm when you went outside. You were often cold, wet and never more than a **sodden** misstep away from a patch of **black ice**. If you didn't have a nasty **slide**, you'd arrive home to an ice-cold house. And that would mean turning on the heating and waiting. It's a miracle you didn't get **chilled to the bone**.

Fortunately, things don't have to be so challenging any more. Technology, engineering and design have advanced giving us new solutions to old problems. It means dealing with winter needn't be like **skating on thin ice**.

With a smart **thermostat**, our homes can be **toasty** when we need them to be. Many models feature smartphone apps that allow you to **regulate** temperature remotely, so we can warm up the house before we arrive home. According to techradar.com, the largest UK-based consumer technology news and reviews website, Tado's model features voice control, while the Nest 'learns' your habits and automatically heats the home for you.

Clothes have been given an upgrade, too. Electronic **thermal** jackets, hoodies and parkas heat up when you turn them on. What better way to keep **snug in the dead of winter**? At the touch of a button, or through an app on our phones, the clothing generates heat from **elements** placed inside. Many models offer three levels of heating which stay warm for over 12 hours.

Finally, there is the headgear. **Beanies** and **earmuffs** that feature speakers included in the fabric using Bluetooth technology so we can listen to our favourite music or, in some cases, have a phone call using the in-built microphone. All while keeping the head warm and avoiding a **chill**.

For many, the thought of winter used to be enough to **make their blood run cold**. But using technology, life needn't **freeze up**. With the right solutions, there's no reason why winter can't be really, really **cool**.

词汇表

bundle up	穿暖和，多穿衣服
sodden	湿漉漉的
black ice	（路面上的）薄冰
slide	滑倒
chilled to the bone	寒冷刺骨的
skating on thin ice	如履薄冰
thermostat	温度自动调节器
toasty	暖烘烘的，暖意绵绵的
regulate	调节、控制
thermal	（衣物）有保暖功能的
snug	暖和舒适的
in the dead of winter	隆冬时节
element	电热元件
beanie	（无檐的）毛线便帽
earmuff	耳套
chill	受凉
make someone's blood run cold	使人不寒而栗
freeze up	冻滞不前，失去生机
cool	很棒的（又指“凉爽的”，这里是双关语）

测验与练习

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. True or False? *Technology can do nothing to make winter less harsh.*
2. How does electronic thermal clothing work?
3. Where are the speakers in a Bluetooth beanie?
4. With a smart thermostat and a phone, what are we able to do?
5. Which word used in the article means 'from a distance'?

2. 请在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. You need to wear more than that! It's snowing and you'll be _____.

blood run cold	freeze up	chilled to the bone	dead of winter
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2. John, I'm tired of telling you off. You are _____. Sit down and study please.

skating on thin ice	black ice	sodden	toasty
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3. I had forgotten my umbrella. By the time I got home, my coat was _____ and I was exhausted.

slide	thermal	toasty	sodden
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4. Our heating isn't working. I think the _____ in the boiler might be broken.

thermal	element	ice	machine
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5. Once we'd lit a fire, the little wooden cabin became quite _____. It was lovely.

sodden	thermal	chill	snug
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答案

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. True or False? *Technology can do nothing to make winter less harsh.*
False. Technology, engineering and design have advanced, giving us new solutions to old problems. It means dealing with winter needn't be like skating on thin ice.
2. How does electronic thermal clothing work?
The clothing generates heat from elements placed inside.
3. Where are the speakers in a Bluetooth beanie?
The speakers are included in the fabric.
4. With a smart thermostat and a phone, what are we able to do?
We can regulate the temperature remotely, so we can warm up the house before we arrive home.
5. Which word used in the article means 'from a distance'?
Remotely (Many models feature smartphone apps that allow you to regulate temperature remotely.)

2. 请在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. You need to wear more than that! It's snowing and you'll be **chilled to the bone**.
2. John, I'm tired of telling you off. You are **skating on thin ice**. Sit down and study please.
3. I had forgotten my umbrella. By the time I got home, my coat was **sodden** and I was exhausted.
4. Our heating isn't working. I think the **element** in the boiler might be broken.
5. Once we'd lit a fire, the little wooden cabin became quite **snug**. It was lovely.