

听力新闻原文

News Report 1

One of Google's self-driving cars crashed into a bus in California last month. There were no injuries.

It is not the first time one of Google's famed self-driving cars has been involved in a crash, but it may be the first time it has caused one.

On February 14th the self-driving car, traveling at 2mph (3km/h), pulled out in front of a public bus going 15mph (24km/h).

The man in the Google vehicle reported that he assumed the bus would slow down to let the car out, and so he did not switch to the manual mode.

In a statement, Google said: "We clearly bear some responsibility, because if our car hadn't moved, there wouldn't have been a crash."

That said, our test driver believed the bus was going to slow or stop to allow us to merge into the traffic, and that there would be sufficient space to do that."(1)

The company's self-driving cars have done well over a million miles across various states in the US, and until now have only reported minor accidents.(2)

Q1: According to Google, what was the cause of the accident?

Q2: How have Google's self-driving cars performed so far?

News Report 2

Thousands of bees left a town after landing on the back of a car when their queen got stuck

in its boot. Tom Moses who works at a nearby national park,(3) noticed a “brown patch” on the back of the car after the owner parked it to do some shopping. When he looked closer he realized it was a huge group of bees.

Moses said: “I have never seen that many bees in one spot. It was very unusual. They were very close together and there was a lot of noise and movements,(4) it was interesting to see such a strange sight. But there were a lot of people around and I was a bit worried about the bees and the people stopping to look. I thought that someone might do something stupid. Moses called two local bees specialists who helped removed the bees by attracting them into a box.

Moses spent three hours looking after the bees and was stung five times, he said my stings are a bit painful but I am pleased that all worked out and I could help, people need to realize that bees are valuable and they should be looked after.

Q3. What do we learn about Tom Moses?

Q4. What do we know about the bees on the back of the car?

News report 3

A new species of snake has been discovered on a remote island in the Bahamas.(5)

Scientists identified 20 of the one meter-long snakes during two trips to the Caribbean islands. The second trip was made in October last year.

One of the creatures made a dramatic appearance by moving on to the head of the team leader as he slept.(6)

The snake has been named silver boa because it is metallic colored and the first specimen found was climbing a silver palm tree.(7)

The team was led by Dr. Graham Reynolds, from Harvard University, the scientist confirmed the snake was a previously unknown species after conducting a genetic analysis of tissue samples.

Commenting on the find, snake expert Robert Henderson from the Museum of Natural History, said: "Worldwide new species of frogs are being discovered and described quite regularly. New species of snakes, however, are much rarer.

Q5. What is the news report mainly about?

Q6. What do we learn about the scientific team leader?

Q7. How did the newly discovered creature get its name?

新闻解析：本次新闻的着重点都在动物上，考查了蜜蜂和蛇，相比较之前的国际组织类，在话题难度上有减弱，并且语速相对较慢，总体信息点指示清晰，单词使用上以中等难度为主，涉及部分生难词汇。（标红单词为可能造成理解问题的词汇）