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Top American Universities' Commencement Speeches Selection

美国名校 励志演讲精选

最新版

主编 陈 芬

中英
对照

- 学习英语知识，获得智慧洗礼
- 领略精英魅力，感悟励志人生



Illuminating Your Future
人生路上的灯塔之光

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前言

其实随时都有转机。

其实每天都是新的开始。

看看这些已经大有作为的演说者们，可能现在的你们就是他们曾经的影子，现在的他们就是将来的你们！

——致读者

本书收录了世界精英人物在美国名校毕业典礼上的最新演讲，这些来自各领域的杰出人物、优秀校友以及时代先锋们用各种方式为即将踏入社会的毕业生送出自己的建议和祝福。从这些毕业演讲中，我们能听到 IT 领域的最新发展、纵横职场的不败秘诀，以及社会精英们的宝贵人生经验。他们或以自身经历为切入点总结人生得失，或从职业规划角度讲述非凡的成功理念、生存智慧。他们在各自不同的领域都做出了卓越的贡献，因此对各行业的看法也自然不同。相信全面传递的处世原则、人文精神，必然能使广大读者，尤其是在校的学子们获得不一样的智慧洗礼与心灵启迪，不致为人生未来迷惘，为自我命运忧伤。在人生路上，望最卓越的见识、最深刻的忠告、最真诚的祝福伴着你们走出一条光明之路。

本书中的每篇文章都是精选自演讲中的精华部分，让有限的书页里尽可能包含最多的内容，为读者们开启一次精华演讲之旅，更好地吸取书中之灵气。同时，本书以英汉对照的方式把多场风格各异的美国名校毕业典礼演讲介绍给广大读者，书中注释的单词或短语可以帮助读者扫清阅读障碍，对提及的一些重要人物、事件、法规等都进行了简要的介绍；书中规范的译文可以帮助读者练习翻译，更准确地把握演讲的内容；演讲原文还体现了具有演讲人独特风格的地道表达，饱含着丰富的社会文化现象。读者可以在学习语言的同时，开阔视野，增长见识。尤其值得一提的是，我们提供了演讲现场音频，让读者亲历毕业典礼现场，体验激情燃烧的校园岁月。

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Unit 1

引领前进的良言



Speech 1

学会对生活说 YES

——谷歌总裁埃里克·施密特 2012 年在波士顿
大学毕业典礼上的演讲

埃里克·施密特(Eric Schmidt), Google 董事长及首席执行官。1979 年, 施密特在普林斯顿大学取得电子电气工程的学士及硕士学位, 并在 1982 年于加利福尼亚大学伯克利分校取得电子工程与计算机科学 (EECS) 博士学位。毕业后, 他首先任职于美国齐格洛公司和贝尔实验室, 前者是 IT 业内著名的 Z80 系列 CPU 的设计公司, 后者是电信业巨子贝尔的研发基地。他还在 IT 业的技术圣地施乐的计算机科学实验室担任过研究工作。他同时亦是程序编译器 lex 的共同作者。1983 年, 施密特加盟太阳微系统, 并主导了 Java 平台技术的发展, 领导开发了太阳微系统独立平台的程序技术, 并且确立了公司的网络软件战略。之后, 他成为了太阳微系统的首席技术官 (CTO) 及企业总裁。1997 年, 施密特受雇于 Novell 公司, 任公司主席兼 CEO, 主管公司战略规划、管理和技术研发。2001 年, Google 创始人拉里·佩奇 (Larry Page) 和谢尔盖·布林 (Sergey Brin) 从 Novell 公司聘请埃里克·施密特担任首席执行官这一职务。埃里克与拉里和谢尔盖共同负责 Google 的日常运作。Google 是一个年轻而发展迅速的搜索引擎企业, 拥有独特的企业文化, 埃里克的丰富阅历能够完美地契合 Google 的发展需要。在他的领导下, Google 业绩继续高速增长。如今, Google 已成为全球规模最大的搜索引擎。

内容简介:

埃里克·施密特用轻松的话语, 同毕业生们分享了自己的人生哲学理念, 认可并鼓励新一代人要努力和世界保持联通, 并要有懂得说 YES 的乐观拼搏精神。

Say Yes to Things

Every class has its own unique challenges. Every class enters a history that, up to that point, is being written for it. This is no different. What is different, though, is the chance that each generation has to make a history and make it larger—or, in my business, to program it better. And, on that score, your generation's opportunities are greater than any generation's in modern history. You can write the code for all of us. You're connecting to each other in ways those who came before you could never dream of. And you're using those connections to strengthen the invisible ties that hold humanity together, and to deepen our understanding of the world around us. You are emblems of the sense of possibility that will define this new age. In the past, it's always older generations, standing up on high, trying to teach the next generation the ways of the world, you know, you know how it goes, trying to make sure they follow in their footsteps.

Well, graduates, I think it's different today. You're teaching us, interesting? This generation, your generation, is the first fully connected generation the world has ever known. What's the first thing you do when you wake up? Right? Check your phone? Your laptop? Read some email, comb through your social networks? I'm awake, here I am. Right? If you are awake, you are online. You're connected. Some of you are probably texting right now, or tweeting this speech, changing your status. Smile, you know, here we are. Smile, you're on camera. There's this joke about the college kid who, you know getting mugged, says, "Hold on, hold on, I need to update my status, telling my friends that now I'm getting mugged, then I'll give you my phone." Now, obviously, well, it actually didn't happen, but this is a stark¹ depiction of how just essential technology has become to your generation's identity and your ability to connect with the world.

Now, identity and connection—concepts as old as humanity itself—make up so much of what we are, who we are. They shape things as the way they are today,

学会对生活说 YES

每一届毕业班都面临着独特的挑战，每一届毕业班都会踏入新的历史篇章中。你们这一届也一样。不同之处在于每届毕业生创造历史的机遇不同，他们承担着谱写更加宏伟历史篇章的重任。或者，用我的行话说“编写”更好。而且，从这一点上说，你们拥有无限机会，这是现代历史上任何一届毕业生都无法比拟的。你们能为我们所有人“编写”历史。你们现在沟通互动的程度是前辈人做梦都想不到的，这样的联系无形地加强了人与人之间的纽带，也加深了我们对周遭世界的理解，你们象征着这个新时代的种种可能。在过去，老一辈人总是高瞻远瞩地教导下一代人处世之道，让下一代人追随他们的足迹。

毕业生们，我想今天的世界已经完全不同了，是你们在教导我们，是不是很有趣？这一代人，你们这一代人是迄今为止首次实现全面联系的一代。早上醒来你们做的第一件事是什么？看手机？打开电脑？查邮件？过一遍你的社交网络？你或许会发：“我醒了，我上线了。”对吗？只要你起床了，你就会上线，开始社交。也许，现在你们中有些人就在跟朋友发短信，或是在 Twitter 发演讲的消息，抑或是更新你们的状态。笑一笑，镜头正对着你。有个笑话说的是一位大学生遇上抢劫，结果这个大学生说：“等一下，让我先更新一下网上的状态，告诉我朋友我遇上抢劫了，再把手机给你。”当然，这在现实生活中是不可能发生的，但它干脆直白地指明：科技已成为你们这一代人的特性，你们认识、联系世界离不开科技。

特性和联系，这种与人类自身一样古老的概念，主宰着我们是谁，我们该怎样生活。它们刻画了我们所处的时代，定义了人类文明。特性和联系也决定了你们的任务就是接受这些陈旧的概念，玩转它们，复苏它们，给它们注入新鲜精彩的内容，

【NOTES】

1. stark

[stɑ:k] adj. 完全的；荒凉的；刻板的；光秃秃的；朴实的

define the human condition. Identity and connection—it is your task to take these timeworn concepts, spin them around, reinvigorate² them, make them fresh and new and exciting and you can do this. Now BU has built the platform that you can do this on. I know it's daunting³. It's not a great economy to be walking off this stage into. I know all of this. But you have an advantage, you have a competitive edge, you have an innate mastery of technology, an ability to define, build and foster connections that no generation before you ever possessed. It's a very, very powerful skill that you taught yourself.

People bemoan⁴ this generation that is growing up living life in front of screens, always connected to something or someone. These people are wrong. They are absolutely wrong. The fact that we are all connected now is a blessing, not a curse, and we can solve many many problems in the world as a result. Not only is it an advantage you all have; it's a responsibility you carry. Today, there are 54 wars and conflicts going on. It's terrible. 1.5 billion people live on less than \$1 a day, and hundreds of millions of children will go to bed hungry tonight. It's terrible. Nearly half the world's people don't live under democratic governments—the rights we all enjoy are a rarity, they're not the norm.

And when it comes to the Internet, we think “everyone” is online—and all of us are online now. But only 1 billion people have smart phones, and only 2 billion people are connected to the web. For most of the world, the Internet and cafes and all that kind of stuff that we take for granted are far-off digital oases in technological wasteland. They don't have access to it. But in this century, your century, not mine, your century, there is a chance for change on the horizon. The spread of mobile phones and new forms of connectivity offer us the prospect of connecting everybody. Right? And when that happens, connectivity will revolutionize every aspect of society—politically, socially, economically. To connect the world is to free the world, I say. If we get this right, then we can fix all the world's most pressing problems to beam bright rays of hope to millions who can see only a flicker⁵. You have that power, right in your pockets or your pocketbooks right now.

And, here's the deal. Yes, I know. We all have this knowledge literally at our fingertips. But now, just because we know much more than we used to doesn't mean our problems just go away. The future doesn't just happen. It's not etched⁶ or written or coded somewhere. There's no algorithm⁷ or formula that says something

你们能够做到。波士顿大学已为你们搭建好完成这种任务的平台。我知道这听起来有些令人生畏，因为走出这个平台迎接你们的经济形势并不乐观。这些我都知道。但是你们有你们的竞争优势——你们精通技术，能够建立和培养你们之前任何一代人都无法拥有的社会联系。这是一种非常非常强大的技能，而你们无师自通。

人们哀叹你们这一代人从小在电脑屏幕前长大，时时刻刻在和某些人或事联系着。他们错了，而且大错特错。事实上，整个世界都联系在一起是一件好事，绝不是坏事。正因如此，我们能够解决世上很多问题。这不仅是你们拥有的优势，也是你们要承担的责任。今天有 54 场战争和冲突正在上演，这是可怕的；有 15 亿人每天的生活费用还不到 1 美元；数亿儿童今晚将会饿着肚子去睡觉。这是可怕的。全世界将近一半的人口，还没有生活在民主社会，我们在这里享有的这些权利，其实不是标准，而是特例。

说到互联网，我们认为“所有人”都在线上了，就因为我们自己都在线上。然而，全球仅有 10 亿人拥有智能手机，仅有 20 亿人能够访问网络。对于世界上大多数人来说，网络、网吧和其他我们都已经习以为常的东西就像是数字荒地中遥不可及的绿洲。他们无法上网，但是这个世纪，这个属于你们而非我们的世纪，这种现状会有机会得到改变。手机的普及和新型联系方式的出现，给我们勾画了所有人都可以互相联系的美好前景。当这一切发生时，联系网能够彻底变革我们社会的方方面面：政治、社会和经济。我想说，联系世界就是解放世界。如果我们处理得妥当，那我们就能够解决全世界最紧迫的问题——给数百万几乎看不到希望的人送去希望，你们拥有这样的力量，它就在你们的口袋里。

诚然，我知道即使所有这些知识现在都触手可及，但是我们面临的问题并不会因为我们的知识比以前更丰富就会自动消失。未来不会自己发生。它并不是已经在某处刻好了或是编写好了。没有任何运算法则或公式会告诉你做了 X 就一定会得出

[NOTES]

2. reinvigorate
[riːnˈvɪɡəreɪt] v. 使再振作；使复兴
3. daunting
[ˈdaʊntɪŋ] adj. 使人畏缩的；使人气馁的；令人怯步的
4. bemoan
[brɪˈmeʊn] v. 惋惜；为……恸哭
5. flicker
[ˈflɪkə] n. 闪烁；闪光；电影
6. etch
[etʃ] v. 清楚地描写
7. algorithm
[ˈælɡərɪð(ə)m] n. 算法，运算法则

will do X or Y will be sure to occur. Technology doesn't work on its own. It's just a tool. You are the ones who harness⁸ that power. And that requires innovation and entrepreneurship. Innovation is disruptive, one thing I'll tell you: you know you are innovating when people are worried about you! Graduates, please make people worry, not your parents, but everybody else.

Entrepreneurship is the lifeblood of a new economy, it's a more prosperous society—the engine that keeps communities growing. Two-thirds of the new jobs created are in small businesses, and you all should try now to create a small business or be part of one... and, of course, I would recommend that you use all the products that Google has to offer to set it up. End of that.

Now you all have a chance to make an original contribution. Don't just be a shepherd following somebody else's vision or ideas—new models, new forms, new thinking—that's what we need from you. You don't need to become an aid worker or a teacher, although, those are obviously good. You don't need to be an engineer, I obviously like, right? We love this. Everyone, all of you, can make your mark by creating new standards of brilliance and innovation. And, those standards can spread, they can scale, they can scale in ways once unimaginable. The collective intelligence of our society, our version of the Borg⁹, is really quite different. Think of this as a new society, with shared norms and values, that crosses continents and unites all of us. The empowerment¹⁰ of each of us empowers all of us, and the distinctive feature of your new world, that distinctive feature is that you can be unique while being completely connected. It's never been possible before. I think this is the true fulfillment of the American Dream.

You see, computers can do amazing things. Those things in your pockets. They contain power inside them that your proud parents, your grandparents in the audience never could have possibly imagined. I certainly didn't. These computers, they have speed. They have memory. They have intricately¹¹ complicated wiring and unfathomably complex circuitry¹². But there's one thing, one thing they don't have. They don't have a heart. All of these connections that you forge, all of the things I'm talking about, the digital ties that bind our humanity together are not possible without technology. But it's also not possible without you, without a heart. You have the heart. And the future will not beat without you. Now, don't get me wrong: I obviously believe fully in the power of technology to change the world for

Y。科技并不会自己发生作用，它只是一种工具。你们就是驾驭它的人，而这需要有创新意识和企业家精神。创新是具有破坏性的，这一点我要告诉大家：在创新的过程中，人们常会为你担忧！毕业生们，让他们为你担忧吧，但不要让父母担心。

企业家精神是新经济和繁荣社会的命脉，它是促进社会发展的动力源泉。三分之二的就业来自于小企业。你们都应该尝试去创办一家小企业，或者成为小企业的一分子。当然，我会推荐你使用谷歌的产品来创办你们的企业。广告到此为止。

现今你们都有机会做出自己的原创性的贡献。不要只做一个追随别人愿景和思想的牧羊人：新模式、新形态、新思维，这些就是我们对你们的期待。也不一定非要成为救援人员或教师，当然这些职业显然也都不错；你们不一定非要成为工程师，当然我会非常支持的。你们每一个人都能通过杰出才华和创新精神留下自己的印记，而且这些新标准可以发展蔓延，而且会以从未想到过的方式形成规模。社会的集体智慧，与机械的集体意识大不相同，我们可以将它想象为一个新的社会，拥有共同的标准和价值，这种标准和价值跨越了各大洲，将我们所有人团结在了一起。每个人的壮大也让我们所有人都更强大，这个新世界的特殊之处在于与外界保持全面联系时你依然可以保持独一无二的自我。这在以前是不可能的事情，这就是美国梦的真正实现。

你看，电脑能处理各种惊人的任务。它们就在你的口袋中，它们所包含的巨大力量，甚至在座的以你们为傲的父母以及祖父母，也可能从未料想过，我也未想过。这些电脑拥有惊人的速度，拥有超强的记忆。它们还拥有异常复杂的程序，以及难以理解的复杂电路。但是有一样东西，有一样东西是它们没有的，那就是关爱的心。没有科学技术，你不可能建立这些联系，所有我先前提到的事情，将整个人类联系到一起的数字化纽带，都不可能发生。但是没有你们，没有一颗关爱的心，这些联系也同样不可能建立。你们有关爱的心。没有你们，未来将不再焕发活力。请不要误会我的意思，毫无疑问，我完全相信科技

【NOTES】

8. harness

[ˈhɑːnɪs] v. 治理；
驾驭

9. Borg

博格人是《星际旅行》虚构的一个宇宙种族。他们的身体上装配有大量人造器官及机械，大脑为人造的处理单元，具有高度的智慧与适应能力。

10. empowerment

[ɪmˈpauəmənt] n.
许可，授权

11. intricately

[ɪnˈtrɪkətli]
adv. 杂乱地

12. circuitry

[ˈsɜːktɪtri] n. 电路；
电路系统

the better. Obvious. And I believe even more fully in the ability of your generation to use that power to great effect, to rule technology. But you can't let technology rule you.

Remember, I want you to remember this, the one thing that you have to remember from my talk, is I want you to take one hour a day and turn that thing off. I know it's gonna be hard, I know it's gonna be hard. I want you to take one hour, just one hour, you know, you do the math, it's 1/24th. Turn it down, turn it off. Shut it down. Learn where the OFF button is. Take your eyes off the screen, and look into the eyes of the person you love. Right? Have a conversation, a real conversation, with the friends who make you think, with the family who makes you laugh. Don't push a button saying I "Like" something. Actually tell them. What a concept! OK? Engage with the world around you, and feel, taste and smell and hug what's right there, right in front of you, not what's a click away. Life is not lived in the glow of a monitor. Life is not a series of status updates. Life is not about your friend count, it's the friends actually you can count on. So, life is about who you love, how you live, it's about who you travel through the world with. Your family, your collaborators, your friends. Life is a social experience first, and the best aspects of that experience are not lonely ones, they are spent in the company of others. Now it's OK after that hour to turn it right back on, now to work.

Our modern landscape has changed, yes, but our humanity will always remain, and that, above all else, is what makes us who we are. And who you are is a proud and talented group of BU Terriers. Here will be you... right? Excited. Here, you know, you've come to know all the extraordinary people. Look around, take a minute. A few years ago you started off on the road here with these people, knowing them as boys and girls, wandering around campus, dazed and overwhelmed. Now you are all extraordinary men and women, in total control of your destinies, ready to make your mark not on history, but on the future. And the friendships you forged when the times were good and when the times were bad and when you realized you just overslept your lecture and needed someone else's notes to catch up and all the other stuff that goes on in college. Those are the friendships that will matter for your whole life. The people you have met here will be some of the strongest friends and closest allies you will ever meet in your lives. It's been that way certainly for me. When you leave here, don't leave them behind. Don't leave BU behind. Don't leave