

科学就是力量 ▼ 知识就是财富

Human Literature

人文卷

双语 十万个为什么

BILINGUAL SO MANY WHY



主编 / 谢志敏



- Why to say Richard Smalley is "father of nanotechnology" ?
- 为什么说理查德·斯莫利是“纳米之父”？
- Why to say Louis Braille gave windows to the blind?
- 为什么说路易·布莱叶给盲人带来了光明？
- Why do Swedes have charm?
- 为什么瑞典人具有魅力？
- Why is William Shakespeare a great dramatist?
- 为什么威廉·莎士比亚是伟大的戏剧家？
- Why to say Italian is very romantic?
- 为什么说意大利人很浪漫？



北方文艺出版社



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DOUBLE LANGUAGE
SO MANY WHY

人文

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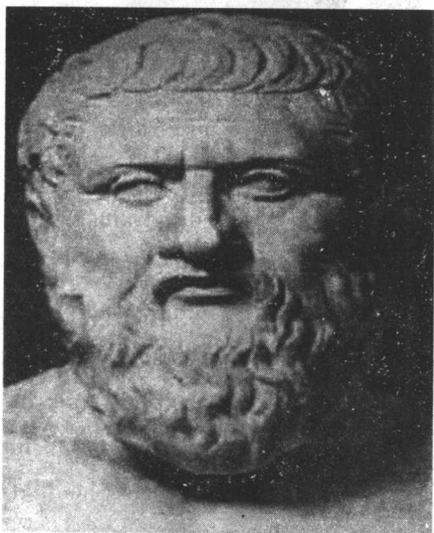




Why Was Aristotle the First Biologist in the World

为什么亚里士多德是世界上第一个生物学家？

Among the early Greeks Aristotle was the first to watch living things and to try to classify^① them, to attempt to find out how life begins, and to write down his observations.



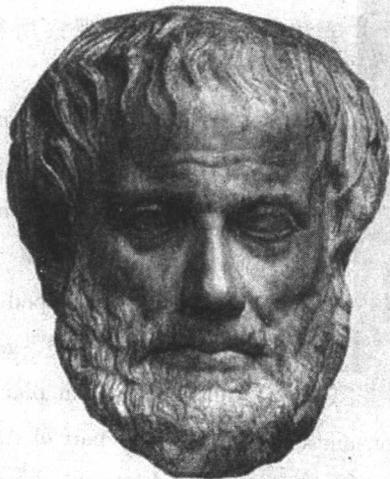
在古希腊人中,亚里士多德是第一个对各类生物进行观察,设法将生物分类,试图弄清生命起源并将观察所得作了记录的人。

Then Alexander having inherited^② his father's throne^③ and set off on his Asian expedition^④ and Aristotle settled down in Athens again. Here he helped to establish a great zoological^⑤ garden. Alexander the Great placed at the disposal^⑥ of Aristotle some thousands of men in every part of Asia and Greece, among them hunters, fowlers^⑦, fishers, parkkeepers, herdsmen, and bee-wards^⑧, as well as keepers of fish ponds and aviaries^⑨, in order that no creature might escape his notice. Through the information



thus collected, Aristotle was able to compose some fifty volumes.

亚历山大继承他父亲的王位后就远征亚洲去了。亚里士多德再度定居雅典。在那儿,他帮助建立了巨大的动物园。亚历山大大帝把亚洲和希腊每一个地区的好几千人交给亚里士多德支配。其中有捕走兽、猎飞禽的,有渔民、猎苑的看守、放牧者、养蜂者,还有鱼塘和鸟舍的管理人,以免漏掉任何一种生物。通过这样收集资料,亚里士多德得以写出大约五十卷巨著。



Modern scientists might think that Aristotle worked under great disadvantages. He had no books to consult, for no books on natural history had been written. He had no scientific training, no scientific instruments, no colleagues with whom he could discuss his findings. What he did have was inexhaustible energy and enthusiasm and a love of living

things. Sometimes when he wrote of his observations he drew diagrams to make his meaning clear—the first such diagrams in scientific writing. He



referred to them often in his writings, but unfortunately these diagrams have been lost.



现代科学家可能认为亚里士多德工作在非常不利的条件下。他没有书籍可供参考,因为那时还没有博物学的文献。他没有受过科学训练,没有科学仪器,没有可就自己的调查结果与之共同讨论的同事。他所具备的是永不衰竭的精力和热情,以及对生物的爱好的。有时,在他将观察所得写下时,为

了更清楚地阐明他的意思,他还画图表——科学著述中最早的这种图解。在他的著述中,他经常提及这些图解,可惜这些图解全部遗失了。

Aristotle thought that if he observed each living thing carefully enough and recorded what he saw, he would come closer to an understanding of life. He had great patience and extraordinary powers of observation, and besides these two essential qualities he had an imagination which made it possible for him to interpret¹⁰ what he saw. It is not strange that those who followed him thought it was useless to try to add anything to his knowledge.

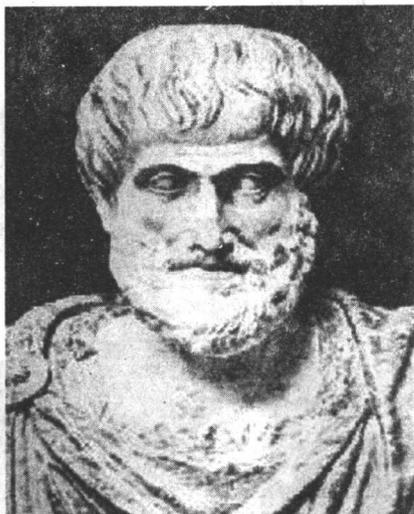
亚里士多德认为,如果他很仔细地观察了各种生物并记录下他所见到的情况,他就会对生物有更深刻的认识。他有巨大的耐心和



非凡的观察力,除了这两个主要特点外,他还有一种能将他所看到的事物作出解释的想像力。难怪很多追随他的人都认为,对亚里士多德解释过的东西想作任何补充都是徒劳的。

Most of Aristotle's books have been lost, but enough of his writings remain to establish him as not only the first but also the greatest biologist that ever lived.

虽然亚里士多德的大部分著述均已遗失,但剩下的著作仍足以确立他不仅是历史上第一个,也是最伟大的生物学家的地位。



亚里士多德

关键词注解:

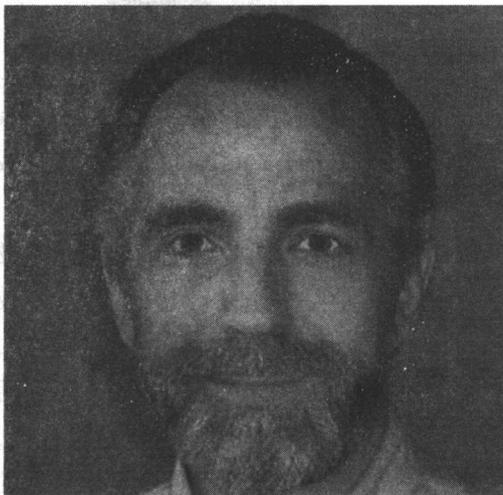
- ①classify *v.* 给……分类,区别
- ②inherit *v.* 继承
- ③throne *n.* 王位
- ④expedition *n.* 远征
- ⑤zoological *adj.* 动物学的
- ⑥disposal *v.* 处理,处置
- ⑦fowler *n.* 捕飞禽者
- ⑧bee-ward *n.* 养蜂者
- ⑨aviary *n.* 鸟舍
- ⑩interpret *v.* 解释



Why to Say Richard Smalley Is “Father of Nanotechnology”

为什么说理查德·斯莫利是“纳米之父”？

Richard Errett Smalley, a gifted chemist who shared a Nobel Prize for the discovery of buckyballs^①, helped pioneer the field of nanotechnology and became Houston's most notable scientist, died in an afternoon af-



ter a six-year struggle with cancer. He was 62.

杰出的化学家理查德·埃里特·斯莫利在与癌症抗争6年后，于一个下午逝世，享年62岁。他因发现“巴基球”而与其他科学家共获诺贝尔奖，为开创纳米技术领域作出了巨大贡献，并成为休斯敦最著名的科学家。

Smalley possessed prodigious^② talent both within the lab, where he cobbled individual atoms together^③ like tinker toys^④, and outside academia^⑤ after he won science's greatest prize. In the decade since he became



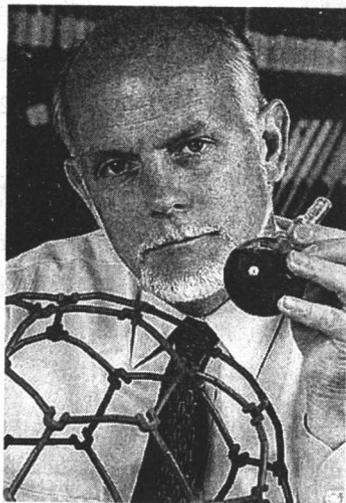
a Nobel laureate, Smalley pushed Rice University and Houston to the forefront of nanotechnology research.

斯莫利拥有惊人的天赋:他不仅在实验室里像装配东西一样将单个的原子加以拼接,而且在获得科学界最高的荣誉之后,还在学术领域外表现出非凡的才华。在获得诺贝尔奖后的10年里,斯莫利带领莱斯大学和休斯敦走到了纳米技术研究的最前沿。

“He was a person with extraordinary intelligence,” said Neal Lane, President Clinton’s science adviser. “But more than that, he was a real civic scientist, one who not only does great in science, but uses that



knowledge and fame to do good, to benefit society, and to try and educate the public. He had a palpable[®] wish to solve some of the world’s problems.”

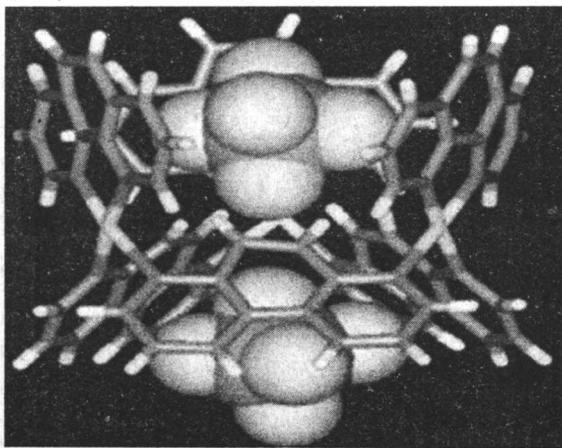


克林顿总统的科技顾问尼尔·莱恩说:“他是一个才智超群的人,不仅如此,他还是一位真正的平民科学家,不但致力于伟大的科学研究,还利用他的知识和声望来做善事,造福社会,努力教育公众。他有一个显而易见的愿望,就是解决当今世界面临的一些问题。”

Born on June 6, 1943, in Akron, Ohio, Smalley’s childhood was in one of mid-



dle America^⑦ and middle class. As a youth he spent hours with his mother, Esther Virginia Rhoads, collecting single-celled organisms from a local pond and viewing them under a microscope.



1943年6月6日,斯莫利出生于俄亥俄州阿克伦城,童年在美国中西部地区度过,家里是中产阶级。青少年时期,他和母亲埃丝特·弗吉尼亚·罗兹一起,从当地的池塘里收集

单细胞生物,然后放在显微镜底下观察。

After earning his chemistry doctorate from Princeton University, Smalley accepted a job as an assistant chemistry professor at Rice in 1976.

从普林斯顿大学获得化学博士学位后,斯莫利于1976年在莱斯大学担任化学助理教授的工作。

At Rice, Smalley's research group set about building a series of beam-and-laser machines that could vaporize material, leaving individual atoms in the residue^⑧. By vaporizing different materials and cooling the resulting atoms to very low temperatures, the researchers could study and manipulate how the atoms clumped^⑨ together.

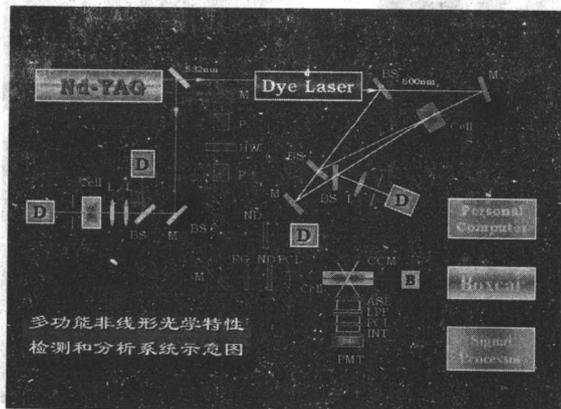
在莱斯大学,斯莫利的研究小组开始着手研制一系列激光仪器,用以使物质汽化,并使残留物中出现单个的原子。通过汽化各种不同的物质并将由此产生的原子冷却到极低温,研究人员便能够对这



些原子如何聚集成团进行研究和操控。

Smalley along with Robert Curl at Rice and Sir Harold Kroto of University of Sussex, discovered a new form of carbon. This fullerene^⑩, or buckyball, contained 60 carbon atoms arranged in a perfect sphere.

斯莫利与莱斯大学的罗伯特·柯尔和英国萨塞克斯大学的哈罗德·克罗托爵士共同发现了碳的一种新形式。这种富勒烯，或称巴基球，含有60个碳原子，排列成一个完美的球状。



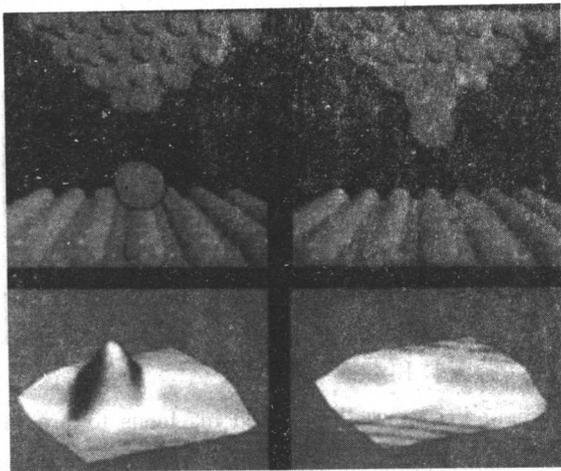
“It was an absolutely electrifying discovery,” said James Kinsey, then a chemistry professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology who later became dean of natural sciences at Rice. “Within a year or two, you couldn’t pick up a chemistry journal without one-third of the articles being about fullerenes.”

当时在麻省理工学院担任化学系教授、后来成为莱斯大学自然科学系主任的詹姆斯·金赛说：“这绝对是个令人震惊的发现。在其后的一两年内，你随便翻开任何一本化学杂志，里面都有三分之一的文章在讨论富勒烯。”

The new carbon material proved to be surprisingly strong and lightweight, and had almost magical electrical properties. The buckyball’s discovery helped fuel today’s explosion of nanotechnology research, in which scientists are racing to exploit the unique properties of myriad nanomate-



rials, with applications for everything from medicine to bulletproof vests.



事实证明,这种新的碳材料惊人地坚固且重量极轻,还有几乎令人感到不可思议的导电性能。巴基球的发现对今天的纳米技术研究热潮起到了很大的推动作用。科学家们争先恐后地探索各种纳

米材料的独特性能,并将其应用于从医药到防弹背心等一切领域。

After the discovery Smalley continued to develop his lab and machines, finding new research funding and convincing Rice University to invest tens of millions of dollars in a new building and equipment for nanotechnology research.

发现巴基球之后,斯莫利继续完善他的实验室和仪器,寻找到了新的科研资金,并说服莱斯大学投资数千万美元,修建用于纳米技术研究的新大楼并购置设备。

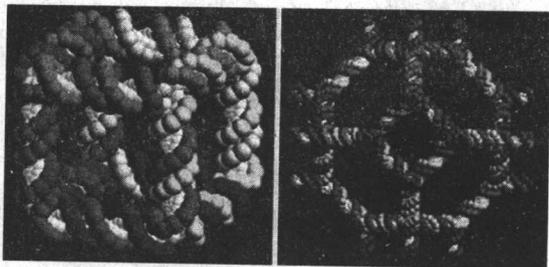
Rice's investment would pay off^⑩ handsomely^⑪. After discovering the buckyball, Smalley's research group found a method to produce large quantities of carbon nanotubes, a cylindrical^⑫ material also made of carbon which has eclipsed the buckyball in utility.

莱斯大学的投资得到了相当可观的回报。发现巴基球之后,斯莫利的研究小组找到了一个大量生产碳纳米管的方法,这种圆筒形的材料也是由碳所组成,但在实用性上比巴基球更胜一筹。



And then, in 1996, Smalley, Curl and K \acute{r} oto won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry. No other award comes close to bestowing as much honor and prestige on a scientist and university.

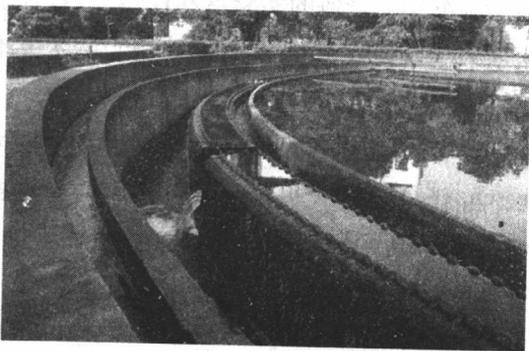
而后,斯莫利、柯尔和克罗托于1996年同获诺贝尔化学奖。对任何科学家和任何一所大学来说,没有什么能比获得诺贝尔奖带来更高的荣誉和声望了。



After winning the Nobel Prize, Smalley turned his focus toward increasing the stature of Houston's research community and converting his research into tangible benefits.

获得诺贝尔奖之后,斯莫利开始把注意力转向提高休斯敦科研界的声望,同时也致力于把他的研究实用化。

He founded Carbon Nanotechnologies Inc. in 2000, the city's largest nanotech company, to produce large quantities of nanotubes for research and commercialization.



2000年,他创办了休斯敦最大的纳米技术公司——碳纳米技术公司,大规模生产用于研究和商业化需要的纳米管。

Smalley also worked with Lane to establish

the National Nanotechnology Initiative[®], which provided the first federal