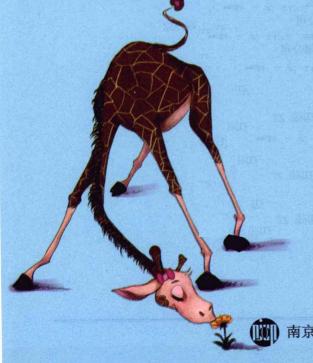




英语故事会哲理韵味

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这套"英语故事会"系列一共有五辑:《心情恋歌》、《科幻探险》、《哲理韵味》、《励志人生》、《奇思妙想》。

"英语故事会"系列贯穿"用耳朵学英文"的学习理念,全书配备MP3光盘,由 美籍教师倾情演绎故事内容,并配以相应风格的背景音乐,使各个故事产生立体式的 欣赏效果。朗读者吐字清晰、发音地道、感情充沛,为读者创造了一个优美的全英语 环境,无论是漫步在校园,还是搭乘地铁,或者早起后临睡前,都能不断地听英语故 事,练就英语耳。

为了便于大家记单词,我们采用了"读故事记单词"的板块。正文中的生词以斜体标注,并在侧栏附有注释;还有一些单词字体用彩色突出标出,是读者必须记住的必考单词,在中文翻译中特意没有翻译,是为了锻炼大家的记忆能力,在每篇文章的结尾处都有专门的注释。

以精彩的故事充分调动学习者的兴趣和感情,使人的注意力集中在故事情节的同时 关注英语语言现象,从而达到最好的英语学习效果。本系列图书正是本着这样的宗旨 和目的为广大渴望早日掌握英语的读者准备的。《心情恋歌》也许会勾起你对家人、 朋友、往事的回忆,让你被浓浓的爱意包围;《科幻探险》也许会打破你的常规思 维,挑战你的胆量,让你大开眼界;《哲理韵味》也许会给你以人生的经验和启迪, 让你少走弯路,更上一层楼;《励志人生》让你了解各界名人的成功心得,以及不为 人知的另一面,他山之石可以攻玉;《奇思妙想》让你在紧张的学习和工作之余开怀 一笑,感叹世界之大无奇不有。

本书为该系列图书之一的《哲理韵味》,撷取了有关人生哲理的动人故事:身处逆境,就换个角度去看人生,定会有不一样的精彩;犹疑不前,就带着坚强的信念去生活,生活肯定会给你想要的回报;常常感叹人生百态,世事无常,经历了许多,生活的真谛就了然心中,这也未尝不是一种结果。这些故事语言标准凝练,是学习英语的绝佳帮手。

用耳朵听故事是最有效的学习方法,它能在最短的时间内,让这些人在以下方面受益:





想要听懂地道生活英语的人 想要用英语自如交流的人 想要听力突飞猛进的人



想要大量扩展英语词汇的人想要轻松记忆英语单词的人



想要用英语思考和表达的人



想要英语脱口而出的人 想要克服不敢开口说英语的障碍的人

*阅读

想要迅速提高阅读速度的人 喜欢阅读故事的人



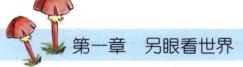
想要摆脱中式英语的人 想要写出地道、优美英语的人





英语故事会

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第一章 另眼看世界

世界还是那个世界,人还是那些人,似乎一切都没变。但是,假如你能换一种眼光,换一种角度,打破思维的定势,你会发现一个全新的世界,全新的自己;从而发现生命的另一层价值和意义,展开新的生活,得到更为丰富的生命意义。



A famous fashion designer tells about the best advice she ever had.

We were standing at the top of a church tower. My father had brought me to this spot in a small Italian town not far from our home in Rome. I wondered why.

"Look down, Elsa," Father said. I gathered all my courage and looked down. I saw the square in the center of the village. And I saw the *crisscross*¹⁾ of twisting, turning streets leading to the square.

"See, my dear," Father said gently. "There is more than one way to the square. Life is like that. If you can't get to the place where you want to go by one road, try another."

Now I understood why I was there. Earlier that day I had begged my mother to do something about the awful lunches that were served at school. But she refused because she could not believe the lunches were as bad as I said.

When I turned to Father for help, he would not **interfere**. Instead, he brought me to this high tower to give me a lesson—the value of an open, searching mind. By the time we reached home, I had a plan.



一位著名的时装设计师讲述她曾得到的最好建议。当时我和父亲正 站在一个教堂塔楼的顶上。这是一个意大利的小镇、离我们罗马的家不 远。父亲带我来到这里。我不明白他要做什么。

"向下看,埃尔莎。"父亲说道。我鼓足勇气向下看去,看到了村子 中央的广场、还看到蜿蜒曲折的街道交错着通向这个广场。

爸爸语气温和地对我说:"明白了吧,亲爱的,通向广场的路不止 一条、生活也是如此。如果一条路到不了你想去的地方、就试试另一条 路。"

现在我明白我为什么会到这儿来了。那天早些时候我恳求妈妈为学 校里难吃的午餐做点儿什么,但她拒绝了,因为她无法相信午餐会像我 说的那样糟糕。

当我向父亲求援时, 他不想interfere, 却把我带到这个高塔上, 给 我上了一课——具有开放和探究性思维的价值观。我们回到家时,我有 了一个计划。



十字形





At school the next day, I secretly poured my luncheon soup into a bottle and brought it home. Then I talked the cook into serving it to Mother at dinner. The plan worked perfectly. She swallowed one spoonful and sputtered, "The cook must have gone mad!" Quickly I told what I had done. and Mother stated firmly that she would take up the matter of lunches at school the next day!

In the years that followed I often remembered the lesson Father taught me. I knew where I wanted to go in life. I wanted to be a fashion designer. And on the way to my first small success I found the road blocked. What could I do? Accept the road block and fail, or use imagination and wits to find another road to my goal?

I had come to Paris, the center of the world of fashion, with my sketches. But none of the famous fashion designers seemed interested in buying them. Then one day I met a friend who was wearing a very beautiful sweater. It was plain in color, but it had a lovely and unusual stitch2.

"Did you knit that sweater?" I asked her.

"No," she answered, "It was done by a woman here in Paris."

"What an interesting stitch!" I continued.

My friend had an explanation. "The woman—her name is Mrs. Vidian told me she learned the stitch in Armenia, her native country."

Suddenly I pictured a daring design knitted into such a sweater. Then an even more daring idea came to me. Why not open my own house of fashion? Why not design, make and sell clothes—from the house of Schiaparelli! I would do it, and I would begin with a sweater.



2. stitch [stit[] n.

针法

第二天在学校,我偷偷地把我的那份午餐汤倒进了一个瓶子,把它带回了家,然后说服厨师在晚餐时把汤端给妈妈。我的计划进行得很成功。妈妈喝了一勺汤,就sputtered。"厨师一定发疯了!"我马上告诉妈妈这是我安排的,妈妈斩钉截铁地表示她第二天就去学校就午餐问题提出交涉。

在以后的岁月里,我时常记起父亲给我上的这一课。我知道我的人生目标:我想成为时装设计师。就在我走向第一个小小的成功时,却遇到了阻碍。怎么办呢?是承认此路不通,败下阵来,还是发挥想象力和智慧,去寻找通向目标的另一条道路呢?

我带着我的设计草图来到世界时装中心——巴黎,但是好像没有一个著名的时装设计师有兴趣购买。后来有一天,我遇到一位朋友,她穿着一件非常好看的毛线衣。虽然毛线衣的色彩平淡,但是它的针法却可爱、别致。

我问她: "毛线衣是你织的吗?"

她回答: "不,是巴黎的一位妇女织的。"

"针法真有趣!"我又说。

朋友解释说:"这位妇女叫维迪安太太,她跟我说她是在她的祖国——亚美尼亚学的这种织法。"

突然,我想在这件毛线衫上织出一个大胆的图案,继而一个更为大胆的设想闪现在我的脑海里。为什么不开办自己的时装店呢?为什么不设计、制作和销售斯基亚帕雷利时装店的服装呢?我要这样做,而且要从毛线衫开始。





I drew a bold black and white butterfly pattern and took it to Mrs. Vidian. She knitted it into a sweater. The result, I thought, was wonderful. Then came the test. I wore the sweater to a luncheon which people in the fashion business would attend. To my great pleasure, the sweater was noticed. In fact, the representative of a large New York store wanted 40 sweaters to be ready in two weeks. I accepted the order and walked out on a cloud of happiness.

My cloud disappeared suddenly, however, when I stood in front of Mrs. Vidian. "But it took me almost a week to knit that one sweater." She said, "Forty sweaters in two weeks? It is not possible!"

I was crushed—to be so close to success and then to be blocked! Sadly I walked away. All at once I stopped short. There must be another way. This stitch did take special skill. But surely there must be other Armenian women in Paris who knew how to do it.

I went back to Mrs. Vidian and explained my plan. She really didn't think it would work, but she agreed to help.

We were like **detectives**, Mrs. Vidian and I. We put ourselves on the trail of any Armenians who lived in Paris. One friend led us to another. At last we tracked down 20 women, each of whom could knit the special stitch. Two weeks later the sweaters were finished. And the first shipment from the new house of Schiaparelli was on its way to the United States!

From that day a steady stream of clothes and perfumes flowed from the house of Schiaparelli. I found the world of fashion gay and exciting, full of challenge and adventure.

I shall never forget one showing which was really a challenge. Once again Father's advice helped me. I was busy getting ready to show my winter fashions. Then—just 13 days before the presentation—the sewing girls were

English Stories

我画了一个醒目的黑白相间的蝴蝶图案,把它交给维迪安太太,她把这个图案织到了一件毛线衣上。我认为这件成品很漂亮,接着就是对它的检验。我穿上毛线衣,来到一个时尚界人士参加的午餐会。令我十分高兴的是,毛线衣引起了众人的注意。事实上,纽约一家大商店的代理商在两周内想要40件这样的毛线衣。我接受了订单,兴高采烈地走出了餐厅。

然而当我站在维迪安太太面前时,喜悦之情瞬间就一扫而光了。她说:"我几乎用一周才织完这样一件毛线衣,两周要织40件,绝对不可能!"

我非常失望——如此接近成功之时,竟又被迎头堵住了! 我悲伤地离开了。走了没多远,我突然停下了: 一定有别的办法可以办到。这种针法确实需要特殊的技巧,不过在巴黎一定还有其他亚美尼亚妇女会这种针法。

我回到维迪安太太的家,向她讲述了我的计划。尽管她确实认为这个计划行不通,但同意帮我的忙。

我和维迪安太太像detectives似的开始行动。我们追踪任何一位住在巴黎的亚美尼亚人,一个朋友把我们介绍给另一个朋友。就这样我们终于找到了20名亚美尼亚妇女,她们个个都会这种特殊的针法。两星期后,毛线衣都织好了,新开张的斯基亚帕雷利时装店的第一批货物被发往美国!

