

朗文 英汉对照 无师自通

2

What A World

ENGLISH KNOW  
56 英语知道  
个为什么

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古老的历史  
悠远的文化

神奇的世界  
精彩的人生



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Foreign Language Education Books, Jilin Publishing Group



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# 一本书一个世界

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## 前言

英国思想家培根说过:阅读使人深刻。但长期以来中国英语教学中的功利主义思想使学习者无法真正利用这阅读工具,更谈不上体味其中的乐趣了。

阅读的真正目的绝非是为了做豆腐块文章后面几道枯燥的练习,而是获取信息,开拓视野和陶冶情操。从语言学习角度来说方法有精读和泛读之分:精读强调纵向挖掘,要一丝不苟地吃透文章,包括词汇用法和语法知识;而泛读则强调横向拓宽,要“不求甚解”地大量阅读,以此来培养语感,锻炼英语的应用和思维能力。至于读什么,当面对市场上汗牛充栋的英语图书时,许多学习者都无所是从。

神奇的世界,古老的历史,悠远的文化,幻变的人生,里面蕴含了多少弥足珍贵的遗产等待我们去挖掘,去品味。而语言,这一人类文明进化的产物此时便恰如其分地负载并传承这份遗产的作用。作为语言学习者,阅读历史,感受文化,品味人生,不仅意味着语言能力本身的提高,更是对情感世界的极大丰富。基于此,我们分 2 册编辑出版《英语知道 56 个为什么》。

《英语知道 56 个为什么》的内容似乎很难用常规的领域范围来加以界定,从自然环境到社会现象,从风俗传统到神话传说,从历史事件到名人轶事,可谓包罗万象。它可以告诉我们亚瑟王的传说为什么会如此风靡西方,南极洲的生活是什么样的一番景象, J.K. 罗琳,这位哈利波特之母一些不为人知的故事,以及新兴的安全卫士——网络天使



究竟是怎么回事。其知识性和趣味性远非常见的阅读材料可比,堪称一部精华浓缩版的世界文明史。

《英语知道 56 个为什么》采用英汉对照的形式,既保留了教科书的功用,又照顾到读者自学的方便,对提高读者英语阅读水平和英语运用能力大有裨益。

《英语知道 56 个为什么》既可以作为各类英语学校或培训机构开设英语阅读课的教材,也可以作为英语学习的通俗读物,其承载的世界先进文化遗产和英语学习策略将影响着读者进步和成功。

壹可亿教育培训中心编委会

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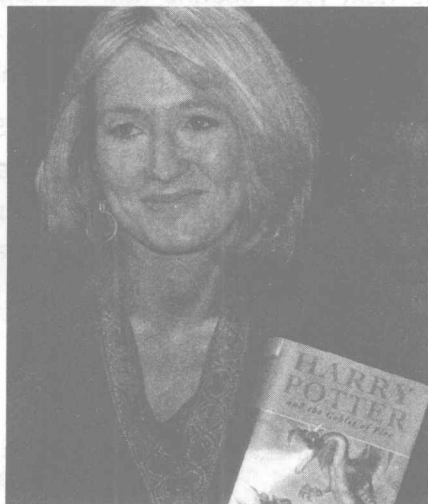
# UNIT 1

## Who Is J.K.Rowling?

### BEFORE YOU READ

Answer these questions:

1. What do you know about *Harry Potter*?
2. Is *Harry Potter* a real person?
3. How many *Harry Potter* books are there?





## ***Who Is J.K. Rowling?***

J.K. Rowling is the *author* of the Harry Potter books. J.K.'s name is Joanne Kathleen. She was born in 1965 in a small town near Bristol, England. Joanne lived with her parents and her sister. The Rowling family was not rich. Joanne did not go to *special* schools. She was a quiet child. She loved to read and write stories. Joanne went to Exeter University, and she finished in 1987. She worked in different offices. In her free time, she wrote more stories.

In 1990, Joanne's mother died. Joanne was sad, and she wanted to leave England. She saw a job in the newspaper for an English teacher. The job was in Portugal. She had an *interview*, and she got the job. In Portugal, Joanne married a Portuguese man. The next year, Joanne had a daughter, but she was not happy in her marriage. She left Portugal with her daughter and went to live in Edinburgh, Scotland, near her sister.

Life was very difficult for Joanne. She *took care of* her daughter. She was alone, and nobody helped her. She had no money and no job. She lived in a small apartment and began to write stories again. Joanne first thought about the Harry Potter story many years ago on a train. Joanne liked to go to a coffee

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### **New Words**

author *n.* 作家, 著作者

interview *n.* 面试

come true 变成现实

special *adj.* 特殊的; 特别的

take care of 照看; 照顾

adult *n.* 成人

shop to write. She sat there for many hours. She drank coffee and wrote. Her daughter slept beside her.

After five years, Joanne finished writing the first Harry Potter book. She sent it to many book publishers. They all said that they didn't like it. Finally, a publisher liked it, but the publisher said, "This is a children's book. Adults won't read it. You won't make a lot of money." In 1997, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* was in the bookstores. J.K. Rowling was very happy. Her dream to publish her book *came true*. The book was famous all over the world.

Now Harry Potter is in forty-two languages. The publisher was wrong about one thing: Everyone loves Harry Potter—children and *adults*. Over 100 million books were sold in 1999. Then two Harry Potter books became movies. J.K. Rowling wrote three more Harry Potter books after that. People all over the world want more Harry Potter. And what is J.K. Rowling doing now? She is writing another book!



## 参考译文

### 第一单元 谁是 J.K. 罗琳?

罗琳是《哈利·波特》一书的作者,她的全名是乔安·凯瑟琳·罗琳,1965 年出生于英国布里斯托尔港附近的一个小镇上。她和父母、妹妹生活在一起,由于家境并不富裕,所以没去专业学校念书。她是个很文静的孩子,非常喜欢读书和写故事。后来,她被艾克赛特大学录取并于 1987 年毕业。她从事过不同的工作,利用空闲时间,她写了很多故事。

1990年,罗琳的父母去世,这让她非常伤心,决定离开英国。有一天,她在报上看到葡萄牙有个地方招聘英语教师,面试后她得到了这份工作。后来,她嫁给了一位葡萄牙人。并在第二年有了一个女儿,可她总觉得自己的婚姻不幸福。不久,她带着女儿离开了葡萄牙,回到了苏格兰的爱丁堡市,那里离她妹妹家很近。

罗琳的生活非常艰苦,孤身一人,还要照顾女儿,没有人帮助。此时她既没钱也没工作,住在一个很小的公寓里,重新开始了写作。在一次火车旅行中,她开始构思哈利·波特的故事。她喜欢在咖啡店里创作,一坐就是几个小时,一边喝咖啡一边写作,女儿就在她旁边睡觉。

五年前,罗琳完成了《哈利·波特》第一本书的创作。她把这本书拿给很多出版商看,但他们都不喜欢这本书。最后终于有一位出版商同意给她出版发行,但她说:“这是一本儿童读物,成年人是不会读的,你肯定赚不了多少钱。”1997年,《哈利·波特与魔法石》面世了,罗琳非常高兴,她的作家的梦终于实现了,而且这本书一下就风靡了全球。

现在,《哈利·波特》被译成了42种文字,出版商的预计出现了错误,每个人都很喜欢哈利·波特——无论是孩子还是成人。1999年,销量达到10亿册,接着有两本《哈利·波特》被拍成电影,此后她又写了三本《哈利·波特》续集,全世界的人都期待更多的《哈利·波特》问世。想知道她现在正在忙什么吗?她正在写另一本《哈利·波特》。

## UNIT 2

# What Are Some Special Rules for Chinese New Year?

### **B** BEFORE YOU READ

**Answer these questions:**

1. What do you know about Chinese New Year?
2. When do you celebrate New Year's Day in your country?
3. How do you celebrate New Year's Day?



## What Are Some Special Rules for Chinese New Year?

Chinese New Year is a special holiday. It starts on the first new moon of the Chinese *calendar* between January 21 and February 19. The New Year *celebration* ends fifteen days later on the day of the full moon. Chinese New Year is a very old celebration. The Chinese do something different on each day. People believe many old *superstitions* about this holiday. There are special rules about how people clean and what people *look like*. There are also rules about how people act.

The Chinese believe that it is very important to have a clean house on New Year's Day. They clean the house before New Year's Day. Then they *put away* everything they use to clean. The Chinese don't sweep the floor on New Year's Day. They think they will sweep away good luck. After New Year's Day, they sweep again. First they sweep the dirt from the door to the middle of the room. Then they sweep the dirt from the middle of the room to the corners of the room. They leave the dirt there for five days. On the fifth day, they sweep the dirt to the back door. The Chinese believe that it is bad luck to sweep the dirt to the front door.

### New Words

calendar *n.* 日历

superstition *n.* 迷信

put away 放好, 放置

celebration *n.* 庆祝, 庆典

look like 看起来像……

tradition *n.* 传统, 惯例

The way people look on New Year's Day is also important. The Chinese do not wash their hair on New Year's Day. They believe they will wash away good luck. People also like to wear red clothes on New Year's Day. Red is a bright, happy color. It will bring good luck for the future.

The Chinese also have superstitions about how people act on New Year's Day. Older people give children and unmarried friends little red envelopes with money inside. The money is for good luck. People do not say bad or unlucky words. They do not say the word four because it sounds like the word for death. The Chinese never talk about death on New Year's Day. They also do not talk about the past year. They talk about the new year and new beginnings.

Today, some Chinese believe in these rules and some do not. But many people practice the rules. They are special *traditions*. The rules are part of Chinese culture and history.



## 参考译文

### 第二单元 中国新年的特殊传统是什么？

新年是中国一个非常特别的节日，它开始于中国农历的第一轮新月，一般是1月21日到2月19日之间，新年的庆祝活动要持续十五天，在月圆那天即正月十五时结束。新年是一个非常古老的节日，每个人都要做些不同的事情。人们相信许多关于这个节日的古老习俗，如何打扫卫生，人们如何穿戴都有特殊要求；人们如何做事也有一定说法。

中国人认为新年打扫房屋非常重要，新年到来之前将房屋打扫

干净,然后把打扫工具都收起来。新年那天是不能扫地的,因为他们认为这样会把好运扫走。新年那天过后,他们又开始打扫卫生。首先,将灰尘从门口扫到房屋中间,然后再把灰尘从房屋中间扫到角落里,并在那里放五天,在第五天把尘土扫到后门,将尘土扫到前门会被认为很不吉利。

新年那天,穿戴也非常重要。人们在这一天不能洗头,否则会把好运洗走。人们喜欢在新年那天穿红色衣服,红色是一种鲜艳、愉快的颜色,会给将来带来好运。

在新年那天还有很多其他习俗。老人会给孩子和没结婚的朋友红包,钱象征着好运。人们不能说不好听或不吉利的话,比如“4”,因为它是“死”的谐音。人们也从来不会谈及到死亡及和去年有关的话题,所有的话题都是新年和新的开始。

今天,有些中国人仍对此深信不疑,有些则不。但许多人都按这些习俗去做,因为这都是特殊的传统,是中国文化和历史的一部分。

## UNIT 3

# Where Is Buckingham Palace?

### B EFORE YOU READ

Answer these questions:

1. Why is Buckingham Palace famous?
2. How many rooms does the palace have?
3. Is Buckingham Palace a home or an office?





## ***Where Is Buckingham Palace?***

Buckingham Palace is in London, England. Buckingham Palace was built around 1705. It is famous because Queen Elizabeth of England lives there. She became queen in 1952.

Buckingham Palace is a big and beautiful building. A flag flies at the palace. It flies *on top of* the palace when the queen is there. Queen Elizabeth and her family live on the second floor of the palace. The queen also has her office at the palace. Presidents, kings, and politicians meet with her. Queen Elizabeth often asks important people to eat dinner at the palace. She also has three *garden parties* in the summer. She invites 9,000 people to each party! A lot of people meet the queen.

Buckingham Palace is like a small town. It has a police station, a hospital, two post offices, a movie theater, a swimming pool, two sports clubs, a garden, and a lake. The palace has about 600 rooms. About 400 people work there. Two people have very unusual jobs. They take care of the clocks. There are 300 clocks in Buckingham Palace!

Queen Elizabeth's day starts at 7:00 in the morning. Seven people take care of her. One person *prepares* her bath, and another person prepares her clothes. Another person takes care

### **New Words**

on top of 在……之上  
prepare *v.* 准备, 预备  
emergency *n.* 紧急情况

garden *n.* 花园  
the rest of 剩余的, 剩下的