

English

Extracurricular reading series of college students

大学英语课外素养阅读系列

心路之史话篇

The One of Soul History



● 主编 张霞 魏长青



天津大学出版社
TIANJIN UNIVERSITY PRESS

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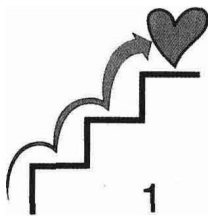
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前言



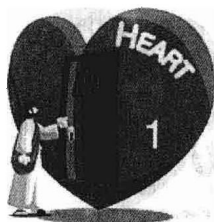
世界文化是属于世界人民的。这其中大学的诞生就是人类智慧的结晶，是世界文化发展的产物。然而，在面对当今世界收获到的物质成果与精神成果不相匹配从而引发各种各样的问题时，作为大学的才子们就应首当其冲自觉地肩负起自己的文化使命。了解文化、诠释文化、传播文化，才能将中国文化与世界文化恰当融合，才能实现一体多元、和而不同、相异相生的大格局。当我们真诚地向读者捧出这本小册子时，难道不也正是从人类智慧的海洋中采撷出的一束束晶莹的浪花？

全书所涉及的内容范围较广，涵盖了读者所关注的身边事物，具有可读性和趣味性的特点。全套书均配有合适的插图、参考译文，并在相应之处做了注释，以帮助读者阅读。

由于编者水平有限，编写过程中出现的疏漏和不当之处，恳请有关专家和学习者提出批评指正。

编者

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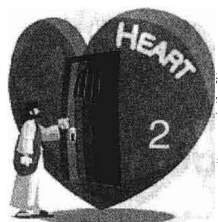
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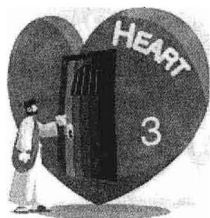
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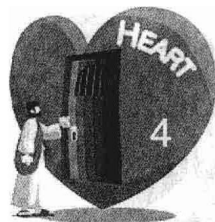
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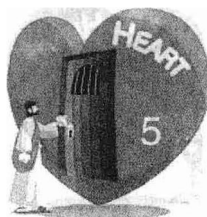
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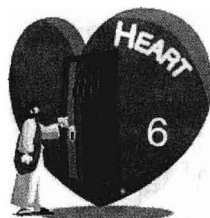
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Unit One

日久情深



1. Supermarkets

Supermarkets are now popular in Western countries. In a large building, bright and spacious, clean and comfortable, hundreds of customers, each pulling a cart, walk slowly through aisles and pick up whatever they like from the shelves and put them in the carts. Countless foods, daily necessities, utensils, detergents, cigarettes, grass-seeds, and even planting soil—whatever you can imagine—are neatly placed on shelves within customers' reach. On each, there is a price tag. At counters near the exit, several girls in uniforms count the prices with computers. After the customer pays for the things, a boy helps him / her pack them into paper bags. If you buy many things, he will help you carry them to your car.

The supermarket is a big business. Some of the greatest supermarkets are interstate corporations. They have their own warehouses, farms, orchards, dairies, ranches, food-processing plants, trucks and computer networks. They have widespread contacts with food producers and manufacturers of the items. The supermarket provides consumers not only with diversified

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commodities, but also reasonable prices, good service and convenience. The prices are about 1% to 5% lower than grocery stores can offer. Every clerk is polite and enthusiastic. They serve the customers 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Regularly, they send coupons to their customers and tell them what great things they can buy from their supermarket. Outside the building, there is a parking lot, where customers can park their cars free of charge. Usually, supermarkets locate near main highways. It is very convenient to drive for shopping in supermarkets.

The supermarket emerged in the mid-1950s, when more and more American women went to work. They wanted to buy their necessities at one go. As a strong rival of grocery stores, supermarkets could provide housewives with almost anything they needed and the price was a vital factor that could attract customers. Soon after supermarkets appeared, many grocery stores went bankrupt. Now supermarkets have become a dominator over retail markets and grocery stores can be found only at some small town's distant corners far away from commercial districts.

Interestingly, supermarkets sustain losses from their dishonest customers, who pick up "small things" from the shelves and hide them under their coats, and walk away with them. The boss doesn't intend to hire more clerks as watchdogs, since he can't afford the salary, besides, he doesn't like to have his neighbors punished by the police only for stealing things from his supermarkets.

Notes:

1. aisle *n.* 通道, 过道
2. detergent *n.* 洗涤剂
3. within one's reach 伸手可以够得着的地方

4. tag *n.* 标签
5. counter *n.* 柜台, 收银台
6. warehouse *n.* 仓库
7. diversified commodities 多样化的商品
8. coupon *n.* 礼券, 优待券
9. free of charge 免费
10. emerge *v.* 出现
11. at one go 一次
12. commercial district 商业区
13. sustain *v.* 遭受, 忍受
14. watchdog *n.* 监视者

Translation:

超级市场

目前, 超级市场在西方国家颇受欢迎。在宽敞、明亮、清洁、舒适的大型建筑中, 众多顾客的手中都推着一辆手推车, 在通道中慢慢地走着, 同时从货架上取下各自想要的货物放入车内。数不胜数的食物、日用必需品、器皿、洗涤剂、香烟、草籽以及栽种植物的土, 所有你能想到的东西都应有尽有, 整齐地摆放在顾客伸手可及的货架上。每件商品上都有价格标签。在出口处, 几位穿着制服的姑娘站在收银台前, 用电脑计算价钱。等顾客付完钱后, 就会有男服务员帮助顾客把货物装入纸袋。如果你买的东西多, 他还会帮你把东西送到你的汽车里。



超级市场是一项大产业。一些规模最大的超级市场都是洲际公

司。它们有自己的仓库、农场、果园、牛奶场、牧场、食品加工厂、运输车队和计算机网，并广泛地联络食品生产商和其他商品制造商。超级市场向消费者提供的不光是多样化的商品，而且还有合理的价格、周到的服务和提供的各种便利，价格比杂货商店的低1%~5%。每名职工都很热情，又有礼貌。他们每周7天、每天24小时为顾客服务。超级市场定期向顾客发放购物优惠券，告诉他们在这家超级市场能买到哪些便宜东西。超级市场外面有停车场。顾客不用付费就可以在那里停车。超级市场一般都位于主要公路附近，这对开车到超级市场购物是非常方便的。

超级市场出现于20世纪50年代中期，那时越来越多的美国妇女参加了工作，她们想出去一次就能买到所要的全部物品。作为杂货店的强劲对手——超级市场，几乎可以提供家庭主妇们所需的全部货品，而且价格是吸引顾客非常重要的因素，超级市场一出现，许多杂货店就破产了。现在超级市场在零售市场中占据着统治地位，杂货店只是在一些小城镇中远离商业区的偏僻角落才能见到。

有趣的是，超级市场却蒙受着一些手脚不老实的顾客给它带来的损失。某些人从货架上取下“小东西”藏在大衣内，“顺手牵羊”地离开超级市场。而老板并不打算用太多的职工做巡视员，因为他负担不起这笔工资；另外，他也不希望使他的邻居仅仅因为从他的超级市场中偷了点东西就受到警察的处罚。

2. Spectacles

Nobody knows who invented spectacles and when, but the oldest were found in the tomb of Tutankhamen. The article consisted of two brown-coloured pieces of glass with bronze wire smelted in to serve as a frame.

In ancient Greece a polished rock crystal was used for the purpose of magnification. Six big and 40 small crystal hemispheres as well as a magnificent plano-convex lens some 5cm in diameter were discovered during excavations at Troy.

The first confirmed reports about the use of eyeglasses date back to the 13th century. In his writings, the British scientist Bacon set forth the idea of constructing spectacle lenses and described their effect. Russia started using spectacles at the end of the 15th century.

New designs are forever appearing these days, such as glasses with a changeable focal distance consisting of double lenses with a transparent liquid between them. A mechanism built into the frame regulates the liquid's pressure enabling the wearer to change the focal distance within three diopters. This makes it