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1

# What A Life

56位名人故事

# 英语知道

# 56位名人故事

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榜样的力量是无穷的  
56位名人故事

激励我们去创造

去实现多彩多梦的人生



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# What A Life

# 英语知道 56位名人故事

# 56

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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。

牛顿说过：我成功是因为我站在巨人的肩膀上。事实上，许多成功人士都曾表示，自己或多或少地从一些名人传记中获取过有用的知识和奋斗的信念。基于此，我们推出《英语知道 56 位名人故事》，分 2 册出版。

《英语知道 56 位名人故事》撷取了 56 位世界著名人物的生平事迹，他们来自政治、经济、文化、艺术和体育等各个领域，既有如雷贯耳的彼得大帝、莎士比亚，也有不太为中国人所熟悉的山崎实、霍华德·休斯、理查德·布兰森等。他们的经历和成就并不相同，但每个人都是真正意义上的成功者。成功的人生不可复制，但成功的故事可以分享和启迪。

《英语知道 56 位名人故事》采用英汉对照，既保留了教科书的功



# 言 语

用,又照顾到读者自学的方便,对提高读者英语理解水平和英语运用能力大有裨益。

《英语知道 56 位名人故事》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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# WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

(1564—1616)

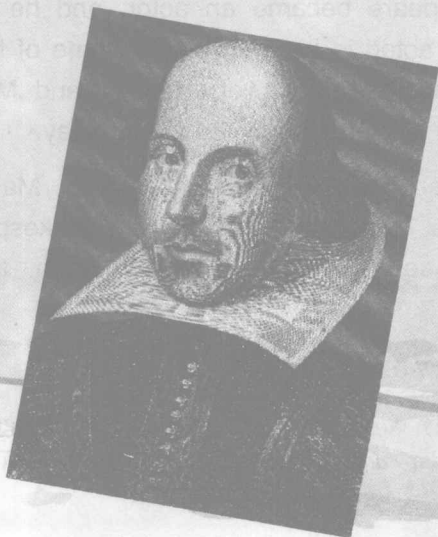
## Unit 1

### BEFORE YOU READ

William Shakespeare was a very famous writer. What do you know about him? Are these sentences true? Check (✓) Yes or No.

1. Shakespeare was American.  Yes  No
2. Shakespeare wrote poems and plays.  Yes  No
3. He was an actor.  Yes  No
4. His plays are still popular today.  Yes  No

Now read about William Shakespeare and check your answers.





## WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

At the age of one, William Shakespeare was lucky to be alive. After he was born, a *deadly* disease came to England. It was called the *plague*. It killed thousands of people. But William Shakespeare lived.

Shakespeare grew up in Stratford-upon-Avon, England. He went to school nine hours a day, six days a week. In 1582, at age 18, he married Anne Hathaway, a farmer's daughter. She was eight years older than he was. Their first child was a daughter. Later they had twins. In 1585, Shakespeare left Stratford-upon-Avon. His wife and children stayed behind. No one knows why he left or what he did between 1585 and 1592.

In 1592, Shakespeare lived in London. He rented rooms or lived with friends. He visited his wife and family once a year. Shakespeare became an actor, and he also wrote plays. He usually acted in his own plays. Some of his most famous plays were *Romeo and Juliet*, *Hamlet*, and *Macbeth*. He wrote 37 plays in all. They are still *popular* today.

Then the plague came again. Many people died. The theaters closed for two years. Shakespeare could not write plays, so he wrote poems. When the theaters opened,

### New Words

*deadly* *adj.* 致命的

*popular* *adj.* 流行的, 受欢迎的

*retire* *v.* 退休

*plague* *n.* 瘟疫

*earn* *v.* 赚; 获得

Shakespeare wrote plays again. Shakespeare had a theater group. It was the most successful group of that time. Shakespeare *earned* almost no money from his writing. But he made a lot of money from acting. With this money he bought a large house in Stratford-upon-Avon for his family. He was friendly with the richest people in town. He was a gentleman—a man of high class who didn't have to work.

At age 49, Shakespeare *retired* and went to live in Stratford-upon-Avon. He died at 52. He left his money to his family. He left his genius to the world.



## 参考译文

### 第一单元 威廉·莎士比亚

莎士比亚一岁时幸运地活了下来。他出生不久,一种叫做鼠疫的致命疾病流传到英国,那鼠疫夺去了成千上万人的生命,而莎士比亚却活了下来。

莎士比亚生长在英格兰埃文河畔的斯特拉特福。他每周上6天学,每天上9小时课。1582年,他当时18岁,娶了农民的女儿、年长他6岁的安妮·哈瑟维为妻。他们的第一个孩子是个女孩,后来他们又有了一对双胞胎。1585年莎士比亚只身离开了家乡斯特拉特福。没有人知道他为什么出走,也不知道在1585—1592年期间他都干了些什么。

1592年,莎士比亚来到伦敦。他有时自己租房子,有时和朋友们住在一起。每年他回家看一次妻子儿女。莎士比亚当了演员,还自己编写剧本。他通常在自己写的剧中饰演角色。他的著名剧作有:《罗密欧与朱丽叶》《哈姆雷特》和《麦克白》。他一生写了37部剧本,直

到今天它们仍颇受欢迎。

其后,鼠疫再次流传,许多人又因此丧命,剧院也关闭了两年。那时莎士比亚也就不能再写剧本了,于是他开始写诗。当剧院重新开张时,他又拿起笔来写剧本。莎士比亚拥有一个剧团,是当时最成功的剧团。他几乎没有从剧本创作中挣到什么钱,但从演出中挣到了一大笔钱。他用这些钱在斯特拉特福为家人购置了一处大寓所。在城里,他和富人的关系很好。他是一位绅士——可以不工作的上层人物。

莎士比亚 49 岁退出戏剧界后回到家乡居住,52 岁辞世。他把钱财留给了家人,把天才留给了世界。

# FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE

(1820—1910)

## Unit 2

### BEFORE YOU READ

Florence Nightingale was a famous nurse. What are three important qualities for a nurse? Discuss your answers with a partner.

A nurse should be:

clean	kind	educated	strong
rich	pretty	intelligent	polite

Now read about Florence Nightingale.



## FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE

Florence Nightingale was English, but she was born in Italy. Her parents named her Florence, after the city. Her family was rich, so Florence grew up with everything she wanted. When she became a young woman, her parents wanted her to get married. But Florence did not want to get married. She wanted to be a nurse. Her parents were angry. In those days, hospitals were dirty places. *Respectable* women did not work in hospitals. But Florence did not listen to her parents. She studied to be a nurse. Soon, she *supervised* a hospital for women in London. She was a great success.

In 1854, there was a war. Many British soldiers were in a hospital in Turkey. The hospital needed help. Florence Nightingale volunteered to go to Turkey. She brought 38 nurses to help her. When she got there, 42 *percent* of the soldiers in the hospital were dying. The hospital was very *dirty*. There was not enough food or clothing for the sick. Nightingale and her nurses started to clean and put the hospital in order. In just one month only 2 percent of the soldiers were dying! Nightingale worked 20 hours a day. Every night she walked around the hospital with her lamp. She comforted the sick soldiers. The soldiers loved her. They called her the “Lady with the Lamp.” Her story was in

### New Words

*respectable* *adj.* 有名望的  
*percent* *n.* 百分比

*supervise* *v.* 监督; 管理  
*dirty* *adj.* 肮脏的



the newspapers in England, and she became famous. Even Queen Victoria, the queen of England, wanted to meet her.

After two years, Nightingale went back to England. She was very sick, but she still worked. She started a school for nurses. The school continues to this day. Nightingale never married. But she did not live alone. She had 60 cats. When she was 43, Nightingale became sick. She was in bed for the rest of her life. She continued to work to help others. She died at age 90. We remember Florence Nightingale because she helped make nursing the important profession that it is today.



## 参考译文

### 第二单元 佛罗伦萨·南丁格尔

佛罗伦萨·南丁格尔是位英国人,但她出生在意大利。她父母用佛罗伦萨市的市名给她起的名字。她家很富有,所以,南丁格尔在成长过程中想要什么都有求必应。她长成大姑娘时,父母想让她结婚,而南丁格尔不想结婚,她想当护士。为此父母非常生气。那时候,医院很脏,有身份的女人不会去医院工作。但南丁格尔不听从父母的,她学习医护,打算当一名护士。很快,她负责管理伦敦一家为妇女开设的医院,并获得了巨大的成功。

1854年爆发了一场战争。许多英国伤兵住进了土耳其的一家医院,因此这家医院需要救援。南丁格尔带了38名护士志愿奔赴土耳其。她赶到那里时,医院42%的士兵在死去。医院很脏,伤病员们没有足够的食品和衣服。南丁格尔和护士们开始打扫卫生,把医院整理得井井有条。仅仅1个月,士兵的死亡率就降到2%。南丁格尔每天工作20个小时。每天夜晚她都要提着灯巡查病房,安慰、扶助伤病员。战

士们都爱戴她,他们称她为“擎灯女士”。英国各报都刊载了她的事迹,她成了名人,甚至英国的维多利亚女王也要会见她。

两年后,南丁格尔返回英国。她得了病,而且病得很重,但是她仍然坚持工作。她开办了一所护士学校,这所学校一直办到今天。南丁格尔终身未嫁,但她生活的并不孤独,她养了 60 只猫。43 岁时,她病倒了,在床上度过了余生。但是她继续从事帮助他人的工作,她 90 岁时逝世。我们怀念佛罗伦萨·南丁格尔,因为她的努力使护理工作能像今天这样成为一种很重要的职业。

# PETER ILICH TCHAIKOVSKY

(1840—1893)

Unit 3

## BEFORE YOU READ

Peter Ilich Tchaikovsky wrote beautiful. What do you know about him? Are these sentences true? Check (✓) Yes or No.

1. Tchaikovsky was Polish.  Yes  No
2. Tchaikovsky was famous for his ballets.  Yes  No
3. Tchaikovsky did not hear very well.  Yes  No
4. Tchaikovsky was a happy person.  Yes  No

Now read about Peter Ilich Tchaikovsky and check your answers.





## PETER ILICH TCHAIKOVSKY

Peter Ilich Tchaikovsky was born in 1840 in Russia. His family was rich and sent him to special schools. Tchaikovsky went to a university and studied law. But at the age of 23, he decided to give his life to music. He studied music in Saint Petersburg. When he was 26, he wrote his first *symphony*.

Tchaikovsky became a famous and successful *composer*. But he did not live a happy or exciting life. He was very shy and lived alone. Every day he stayed home and wrote music. He was often unhappy. He was afraid of many things. He was afraid to die. He was also afraid his head would fall off his shoulders. This was a problem when he conducted music. So he sometimes held his head with his left hand and *conducted* with his right hand.

In 1876, Tchaikovsky received a letter from a mysterious rich widow. Her name was Madame von Meck. She said she loved his music and offered to send him money every year. There was one condition. They must never meet. Tchaikovsky agreed. They wrote to each other for 14 years. Then Madame von Meck suddenly stopped writing. Tchaikovsky was very hurt. When he died three years later, he said her name.

Tchaikovsky died after he drank *contaminated* water. He

### New Words

*symphony* *n.* 交响乐

*conduct* *v.* 指挥; 引导; 管理

*swan* *n.* 天鹅

*composer* *n.* 作曲家

*contaminate* *v.* 污染

*ballet* *n.* 芭蕾舞