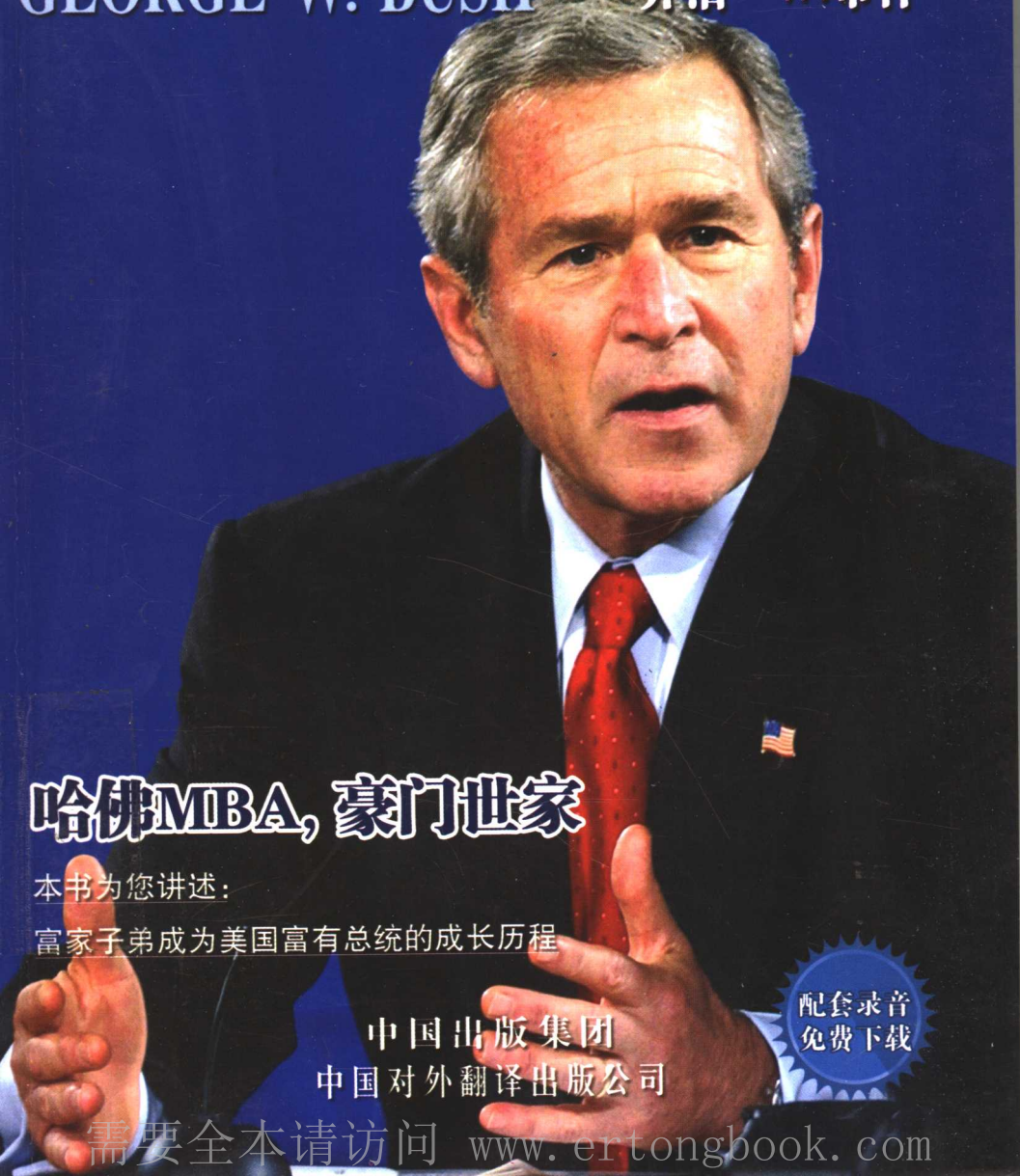
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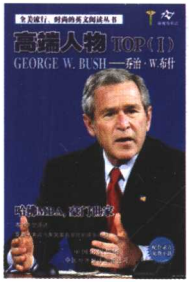
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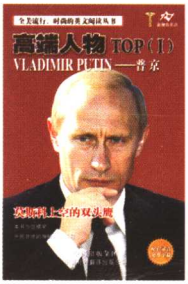
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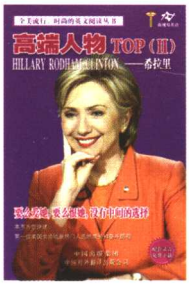
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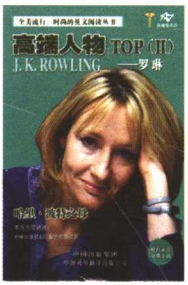

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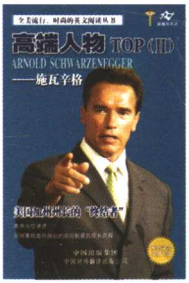

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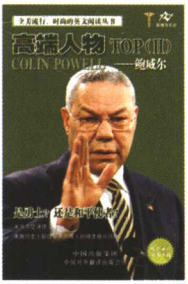

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序言

《高端人物》丛书是在全社会学好外语迎奥运的热潮中从美国引进的人物传记系列丛书。该套图书主要针对高中及大学在校生以及同等水平的英语爱好者。

2005年我国大学英语四六级考试进行了重大改革，改革为大学英语教学提出了一个明确的思路：教师和学生要从应试教学和学习向提高英语基础素质和应用能力方向转变。英语学习图书市场也悄然发生了变化：考试类图书出版趋于理性和谨慎；而有助于提高学生英语应用能力的阅读类、听力类、口语类、写作类等图书渐渐热销起来；还有一个重要的变化是，读原汁原味的原版外语读物渐成趋势并成为迅速提高阅读能力的一个有效途径。

我认为该系列丛书有四个方面的明显特点，值得大家一读。

一、原汁原味，质量可靠

本丛书是国内同类阅读读物中为数不多的原版引进图书。作为多年的美国教学辅助读物，其选材精细、内容成熟、编写严谨、质量可靠。特别是引进后的图书，完整保持了原汁原味的美语风格，使读者能够与全真的英文零距离接触，有助于同学们通过阅读改变语言思维习惯，迅速提高英文阅读能力。

二、在学习英语的同时了解西方历史和文化

本丛书选取的是8位当代西方国家著名人物的传记，他们的成长历程，（如：普京、布莱尔，从一个平民孩子到一个大国领袖；罗琳，从一个贫困潦倒的女作家到当今世界上最成功的女人之一等）为我们了解西方的政治背景和社会环境提供了一个窗口。

三、对疑难词句进行了注解

本系列丛书，对疑难词句进行了认真的注解，并针对书中的内容设置了问题，提供了答案。使同学们在时间充裕的情况下可以进行精读；也有助于单词量偏低的同学阅读顺畅。

四、有同步听力素材，免费下载

我们还邀请美籍专家对精彩片段进行了录音，配套的音频产品可以在网上免费下载。这是英语阅读类图书中的一个创举，有利于同学们阅读与听力同步提高，互相促进。

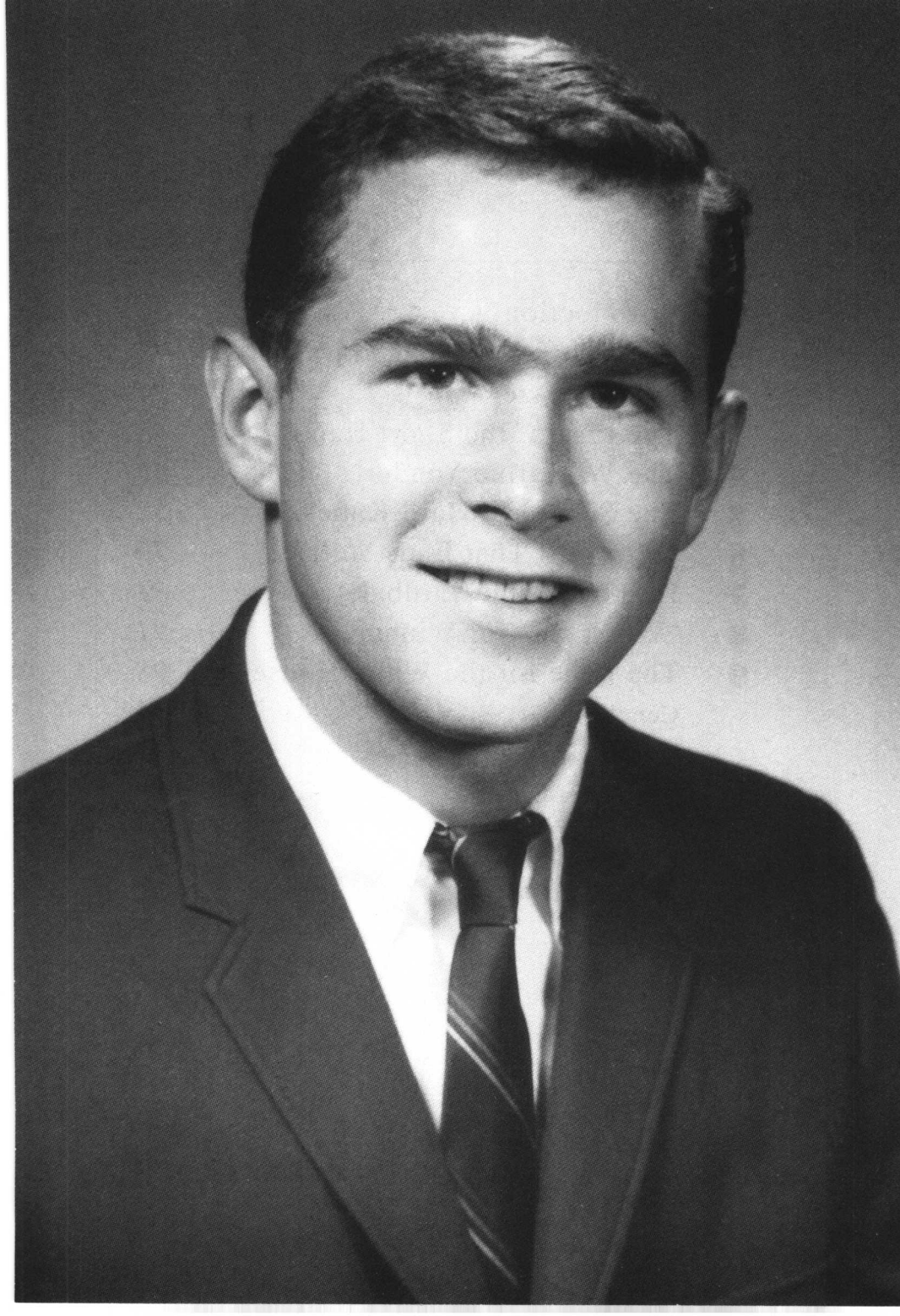
《高端人物》丛书，语言纯正，是集阅读、听力为一体的不可多得的好书，将对学习英语的青少年朋友们大有裨益。

2006年5月

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前言

2000 年，美国的总统大选充满了争议和戏剧性。当选的第 43 任美国总统乔治·W. 布什虽然赢得了选举人投票却输掉了选民票。尽管在美国大选的历史上，他不是第一位输掉选民票而当选的总统，却是第一任由联邦法官最终确认的美国总统。

选民票代表着民心和民意，一位输掉了选民票的总统注定会在执政的道路上充满了争议和苦涩。

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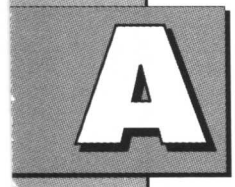
INTRODUCTION

Despite being born into one of the wealthiest and most powerful families in the country, success early in life never came easy for George Walker Bush[1]. He did not do well in school, was defeated in his first political race, failed at early business ventures, battled a drinking problem, and endured countless jokes and questions about his intellectual ability. Yet he had the last laugh when he was sworn in as the forty-third president of the United States on January 20, 2001. His road to the White House was, however, far from smooth.

From the beginning, Bush faced a serious challenge from within his own Republican Party. Senator John McCain[2], a Vietnam War hero, defeated Bush in the first presidential primary election of 2000. Even after Bush managed to win his party's nomination for president, fellow Republicans questioned the way he ran his campaign against the Democratic challenger, Vice President Al Gore. Although Bush finally prevailed over[3] Gore, he lost the popular vote[4] in what was probably the most disputed presidential election in American history.

When Americans went to bed on November 7, 2000, few could have imagined the election results would be hotly debated for the next five weeks. The controversy

Some Electoral History



s wild, dramatic, and nerve-racking[5] as the 2000 presidential election was for the country and the world, it was not unique in U.S. history. In fact, the race between George W. Bush and Al Gore was the fifth time that a candidate had become president by losing the popular vote and winning the electoral vote[6].

The first time it happened was in 1800, when it took several days and thirty-six ballots[7] in the House of Representatives for Thomas Jefferson[8] to be selected president over Aaron Burr[9]. The two candidates had a tie vote in the electoral college with seventy-three votes each from the nineteen states in the Union at that time. The result was seventy-three electors voting for Jefferson and seventy-three voting for Burr. Since there was no clear winner in the electoral college[10], election rules required that the matter be turned over to the House of Representatives to determine the next president. The vote finally swung in Jefferson's favor when Alexander Hamilton[11], who hated Burr, convinced enough representatives to vote for Jefferson. Burr, who never forgave Hamilton, carried a grudge[12] for many years. In 1804 Burr challenged Hamilton to a duel[13], in which Hamilton was shot and killed.

The next contested election, in 1824, did not lead to bloodshed, although emotions ran equally high. The electoral college selected John Quincy Adams[14], whose father had been the second president, over Andrew Jackson[15]. Jackson, a famous general, had won the popular vote and also was ahead after the first vote in the electoral college. But Henry Clay[16], who was not only a candidate but also the Speaker of the House, made a deal with Adams. Clay urged the representatives to support Adams. In return, President Adams named Clay as his secretary of state[17]. Jackson got his revenge when he

defeated Adams for the presidency in 1828.

Things were quiet for the electoral college for more than fifty years. Not until 1876, a decade after the Civil War, did another presidential election crisis erupt[18]. Democratic governor Samuel J. Tilden[19] of New York won the popular vote over Republican Rutherford B. Hayes[20] of Ohio[21]. Tilden seemed to be on his way to victory when several Southern states, still upset over their defeat in the Civil War, conspired to snatch[22] victory away from him. Democratic ballots were thrown out[23] in Louisiana[24], South Carolina[25], and Florida because of supposed fraud, violence, and intimidation against black voters. Republican officials "threw out" the votes in counties with especially bad records of violence and fraud. When these votes were thrown out, Hayes carried the three states. In a scene that was repeated 124 years later, both candidates sent lawyers to Florida to file lawsuits[26] contesting the vote. After the disputes were settled, the electoral count ended up in a tie. Congress set up a commission of eight Republicans and seven Democrats to select the winner. The Republicans voted as a group, and Rutherford B. Hayes was selected as the seventeenth president of the United States — just three days before his inauguration[27].

In 1888 the most popular candidate again did not become president. Grover Cleveland[28], who was running for reelection, was able to get 91,000 more popular votes than his challenger, Indiana senator Benjamin Harrison[29]. But Cleveland lost in the electoral college by a large margin, 233 to 168, and Harrison was declared the winner, despite widespread charges of fraud by Cleveland supporters. Although there were several close presidential elections in the years that followed, most notably in 1948 when Harry Truman[30] beat Thomas Dewey[31] and in 1960 when John Kennedy[32] beat Richard Nixon[33], it was not until the new millennium[34] when Bush beat Gore that history repeated itself.

caught the attention of the world as legal and political fights broke out over the outcome of the election in Florida[35], where Bush's younger brother Jeb[36] was governor. The controversy[37] began on election night when the national television networks reported that Gore had won the state of Florida and probably the presidency. A few hours later the same networks said they had made a mistake. They declared Bush the winner in Florida and the next president of the United States. Gore even called George W. at about two o'clock in the morning to congratulate him.

But the television networks were wrong again. The Florida vote was too close to call, and court orders were obtained to count the ballots by hand. For more than a month, local, state, and federal judges were asked to decide who had actually won the election. It wasn't until December 12, 2000, that the U.S. Supreme Court's[38] historic and controversial decision finally awarded the presidency to George W. Bush.

The election controversies hurt George W. politically because many people questioned the legitimacy[39] of the election and the Supreme Court ruling. The focus on Bush's difficulties in getting elected also diminished the historic nature of his accomplishment. George W.'s election was only the second time the son of a former president was elected to the nation's highest office and only

the fifth time in U.S. history that a president was elected despite losing the popular vote to his opponent. More important, the disputed election overshadowed the remarkable personal and professional changes that George W. had undergone to become president.

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