### What A Life

# 英语看人生

朗文英汉政语阅读





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## 英语看人生

WHAT A LIFE



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如有印刷、装订质量问题捷进可一公司负责调换。

英国思想家培根说过,"阅读使人深刻",而阅读在外语学习中的重要性更是不言而喻。 只是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一工具,更谈不上体味其中的乐趣了,学生只会感到沉重的 Pressure。

通过阅读来提高英语水平归根结底有三个问题要解决,为什么读,怎么读和读什么。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,增长知识,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,许多学习者都踌躇难断。

另一位伟人的话似乎可以给我们一些启发。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。正是在这一思路的引导下,我们推出这套《英语看人生》(1—3)及其姊妹篇《英语看世界》(1—3),二者相映成趣。

《英语看人生》(1—3)收录了 68 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、莎士比亚和李小龙,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。

除了阅读故事的精彩之外,文章后面的练习题也是本书的亮点所在。非传统形式的题目趣味性强,做起来毫不枯燥。多采用启发式、拓展性的问题,鼓励学生积极思考,真正起到检验阅读效果和巩固知识的作用。

VOCABULARY:除了鼓励学生利用上下文猜测词义的习题之外,还配有以应用为目的的口语练习,使学生抓住短暂记忆,循环利用,加深印象。

COMPREHENSION:从理解大意和把握细节两方面入手,锻炼学生的阅读技能,并巧妙地促使学生回视课文,进一步增进理解。还有复述故事和听写等项目,鼓励学生组对进行口头练习。

DISCUSSION:让学生对与阅读内容相关联的话题展开联想,表达自己独立的见解,并探讨不同文化之间的差异。

WRITING:"读书必须过笔"是古今中外学人的共同体会。只有经过笔头练习,才能真正将阅读到的知识内化为自身的技能。

本书的姊妹篇《英语看世界》(1-3)内容同样精彩,值得一读。

To some people reading maybe is a pressure, but we will make it a real Pleasure!

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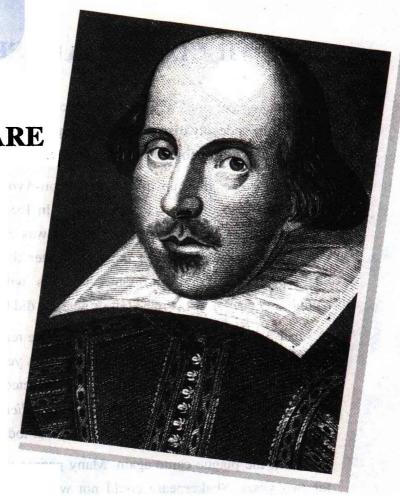
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### Unit 1

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

(1564-1616)



#### BEFORE YOU READ

William Shakespeare was a very famous writer. What do you know about him? Are these sentences true? Check  $(\checkmark)$  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, 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.

#### WORD STUDY

deadly adj. likely to cause death 致命的

eg: a deadly poison

**plague** n. a disease that causes death and spreads quickly to a large number

of people 瘟疫

eg: A plague spread quickly in Africa.

popular adj. liked by a lot of people 流行的,受欢迎的

eg: Hilary was popular at school.

v. to receive a particular amount of money for the work that you do 赚;获得 earn

eg: He earns nearly £20,000 a year.

v. to stop working, usually because you have reached a certain age 退休 retire

eg: Most people retire at 65.

## VOCABULARY MEANING

Write the correct words in the blanks.

disease retired	twins genius	plays poems	lucky
1. William Shal	_	fortune. Other babi	es died, but he did not.
2. The plague v	vas a terrible	It was a	sickness that passed from
3. Shakespeare the theater.	wrote	, and he and his	friends acted in them at
4. Shakespeare	wrote very well. H	Ie had a special abi	lity. He was a
•	~	ped working and ldren born at the sa	

7. Shakespeare wrote about is and few words. He wrote _		ng had short lines	
USE			
Work with a partner to an	nswer the questions. Use con	mplete sentences.	
1. What is your <i>lucky</i> numbe	r?		
2. The plague is a disease. W	hat are two other diseases?		
3. Hamlet is a play. What is t	he name of another famous p	lay?	
4. Who do you think is a gen	ius?		
5. What do twins have that is	the same?		
6. What does a person do wh	en he or she retires?		
COMPREHENSIOUS THE			
4			
Circle the letter of the cor			
1. Shakespeare worked		c. near his family	
	b. in London	-	
	Shakespeare		
a. wrote plays	b. started a theater group	c. wrote poems	
<del>-</del>	ney from his		
a. acting	b. poems	c. plays	
REMEMBERING DETAI	LS		
Reread the passage and an	nswer the questions.		
1. At what age did Shakespe	eare marry?		
2. Where did Shakespeare's family live?			
3. How many plays did Shall	kespeare write?		
4. What are two plays that S	4. What are two plays that Shakespeare wrote?		

5. Where did Shakespeare go when he retired?

6. Who did he leave his money to?

#### UNDERSTANDING THE SEQUENCE

Which happened first? Write 1 on the line. Which happened second? Write 2 on the line.

1	There was a plague in England.
	William Shakespeare was born.
2	Shakespeare had twins.
	Shakespeare had a daughter.
3	Shakespeare went to London.
	Shakespeare married.
4	Shakespeare bought a large house in Stratford-upon-Avon.
	Shakespeare retired.

#### TELL THE STORY

Work with a partner. Tell the story of William Shakespeare to your partner. Use your own words. Your partner can ask you questions about the story. Then, your partner tells you the story and you ask questions.

#### DISCUSSION

Discuss the answers to these questions with your classmates.

- 1. Do you know any of Shakespeare's plays? Which one(s)?
- 2. Why do you think Shakespeare's plays have been popular for over 400 years?
- 3. Do you want to be an actor or actress? Why or why not?

#### Writing

Write about a movie you saw.

**Example:** I saw a movie. The name of the movie was Titanic. It was about a famous ship.

### Unit 2

LOUIS XIV (1638–1715)



#### BEFORE YOU READ

Louix XIV was a famous French king. What do you know about kings and queens? Answer the questions with a partner.

- 1. How does a person become a king or queen?
- 2. Do any countries have kings or queens today?
- 3. What do you think of when you think of a king or queen?
- 4. Look at the picture of Louis XIV. What can you say about him?

Now read about Louis XIV.

#### **LOUIS XIV**

Louis became King of France at the age of five when his father died. In the beginning, he was too young to **rule**, so his mother helped him. Then at age 17, Louis ruled the country alone. He was king for 72 years. France became a **powerful** country with Louis as king. But Louis lived a life of **luxury**, which made people angry.

Louis built a huge **palace** at Versailles, near Paris. It took 40 years to finish it. At one time, 36,000 people worked on building the palace. The palace cost so much money that Louis did not let people talk about it. The gardens of the palace had 1,400 **fountains.** The fountains used a lot of water so they worked for only three hours at a time.

The fountains used water, but Louis did not! He hated to wash. He took only three baths in his life. He washed only one part of his body—the **tip** of the nose. Everyone in the palace had to do what the king did, so people washed only their noses!

Louis XIV had other unusual rules. He liked to keep the windows open at the palace. He wanted dozens of people around him when he got dressed. Also, only the king and queen could sit on chairs with arms. Everybody else had to sit on chairs with no arms.

Louis had problems sleeping. People say that he had 413 beds. He went from one bed to another until he fell asleep. But he had a good appetite. A normal dinner for Louis was four bowls of soup, two whole chickens, ham, lamb, a salad, cakes, fruit, and hard-boiled eggs. He also drank a lot of champagne because his doctor told him to. He lived to be 77 years old. When he died, doctors said his stomach was two times the size of a normal stomach.

Louis XIV was not always popular, but he was an important king in the history of France. He was so important that he was called "the Sun King."



alone adv. if you are alone in a place, there is no one with you 独自; 孤独:

powerful adj. a powerful person, organization, group etc is able to control and

influence events and other people's actions 强大的:有力的

luxury

n. something expensive that you do not need, but you buy for

pleasure and enjoyment 奢侈

eg: He was leading a life of luxury in Australia.

appetite n. a desive for food 食欲,胃口

eg: she has completely lost her appetite since the aperation.

### Vocabulary



Write the correct words in the blanks.

rule fountains	powerful appetite	luxury tip	palace
1. Louis XIV buil	t a very large ho	use called Versail	les. It was a beautiful
2. A king's job is		his country.	
3. When Louis 2	XIV was king,	his country was	s very important. It was
a	_ country.		
4. Louis liked to h	nave very expens	sive things. These	things were not necessary.
He liked	•		
5. Louis always a	te big dinners. H	e had a good	·
6. In a park, wate:	r often comes ou	ıt of	_•
7. The end of you	r nose is the	of it.	



#### Work with a partner to answer these questions. Use complete sentences.

- 1. Who rules England today?
- 2. What comes out of a fountain?
- 3. Who are some people who live a life of *luxury?*
- 4. Who is a powerful person?
- 5. What is the name of a famous palace?

#### Comprehension



### UNDERSTANDING THE READING

#### Circle the letter of the correct answer.

1.	Louis XIV was a fa	mous king because	•
	a. he ate a lot	b. he washed only	his nose
	c. he built the pala	ce of Versailles	
2.	Louis XIV loved_	•	
	a. beautiful beds	b. a life of luxury	c. baths
3.	Louis XIV ruled	·	
	a. for a long time	b. in England	c. 36,000 people

#### REMEMBERING DETAILS

#### Reread the passage and answer the questions.

- 1. How long was Louis XIV king?
- 2. How old was Louis XIV when he ruled the country alone?
- 3. What was the name of Louis's palace?
- 4. How many fountains were there in the gardens of the palace?
- 5. What part of his body did Louis wash?
- 6. In the palace, who sat on chairs with arms?



#### Match the words in Column A and Column B to make sentences.

A	В
1. Louis liked	a. sleep well.
2. Louis hated	b. a good appetite.
<b>3</b> . Louis had	c. to keep the windows open.
4. Louis didn´t	d. when he was 17 years old.
5. Louis became king	e. when he was five years old.
6. Louis ruled the country alone	f. to wash.

#### DICTATION

Work with a partner. Read four sentences from the exercise above. Your partner listens and writes the sentences. Then, your partner reads four sentences, and you write them.

#### DISCUSSION

Discuss the answers to these questions with your classmates.

- 1. Long ago, people didn't take many baths or showers. How often should you wash? Once or twice a day? Once a week? Give reasons.
- 2. Louis had a lot of unusual rules about the way he lived. Do you know someone that has unusual rules? Describe them.
- 3. Would you like to live a life like Louis XIV? Why or why not?

#### WRITING

Write about what you eat on a normal day.

Example: In the morning I have toast and coffee for breakfast.