



GOOD

ENGLISH

主 编 陈 亦



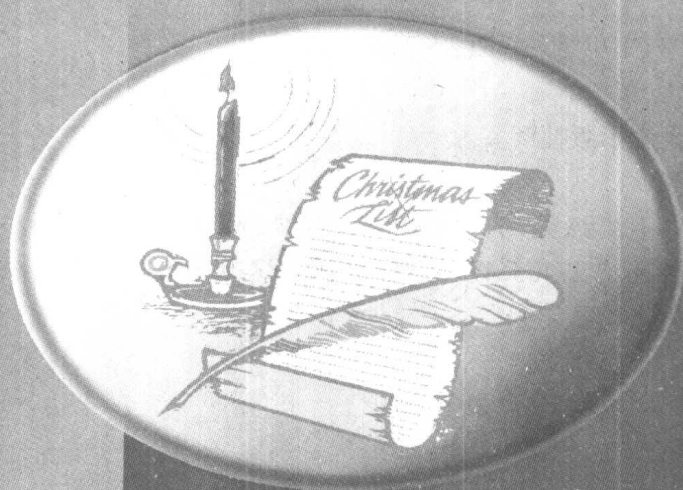
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*P*REFACE

With the deepening reform in the education nowadays, it would be a worldwide problem how to train men for professions of the new century, and what kind of quality they must have. In our opinion, the demands on modern students are that they should have a solid foundation, the wide knowledge, the strong ability and high quality, and flexibility to their knowledge. In the view of above-mentioned reason, we schemed and laid out this book with best of care. It is designed and arranged to provide a basis for the appreciation of the art of English. Its form is not closed but open, not restricted but free. It is meant to serve as a springboard for launchings into the exciting world of Good English. The pieces that have been included into this book have had to demonstrate both basic human appeal and intrinsic literary merit. There are six parts in this book: "The Highlights of English Speeches", "The Highlights of English Dialogues in the Movies", "The Highlights of English Love Letters", "The Highlights of English Proses and Poems", "The Highlights of English Words of Songs", "The Highlights of English Short Stories". In this book, the introductions of the authors, the expressions of cultural and historical significance are not provided as other books did. It is notable that there is room for difference of emphasis and evaluations. Each reader is entitled to illuminate a piece with the unique lights of himself to see and think about what is actually in the pieces, and remembers that what is there becomes meaningful.

This book is adaptable for a variety of purposes. These pieces may simply provide for leisure reading, so they may be not used in course for English majors, and they may be used by learners of English for reading to improve their abilities in English language.

序

英语是一门充满智慧的语言,她语言生动活泼,句子结构千变万化。熟读、熟记一些好的英语文章可以帮助我们深刻了解英语语言结构及变化规律,学会许多地道的英语表达方式,对提高学生的表达能力大有裨益。本书之所以以《GOOD ENGLISH》出现,是基于它集几百年来西方英语国家名篇佳作于一身非常精彩。英语语言文化包罗万象,源远流长,名篇佳作比比皆是。只有在精选、精编上下功夫,才会称得上“GOOD”。

本书编写时以可读性、实用性、代表性和经典性为选择标准,以高校师生为主要对象,兼顾社会上普通英语爱好者。本书共分六大部分:“精典英语论辩”、“精典影视对白”、“精典情书情话”、“精典英语歌词”、“精典英语小说”及“精典英语散文诗歌”。读者既可从获取英语语言知识,又能感悟丰富多彩的语言文化,并能从中陶冶情操,培养自己的文化意识,在不知不觉中提高自己的英语水平。

本书在编写过程中得到天津、北京、河北、山西等九所高校外语院系的通力合作,凝聚着他们的心血。本书由天津外国语学院80年代毕业生为主要执笔人,由现任天津市易文图文设计有限公司董事长陈亦先生为主编,赵亚辰、黄子娅、孔暄、杨晨为副主编,其他编写人员有陈树元、程家伟、锅力争、孔明、李东阳、李颜欣、李艳琳、李燕容、刘泽锋、宁淑琴、钱宝来、王俊、夏鸣、辛书伟、邢振华、杨秀琴、杨艳、尹玉桐、张凤、张敏、赵国柱、周京民。我们相信通过这本书,英语学习者能在英美文化海洋中欣赏到最美丽的浪花,能在短时间内了解到广泛的、有用的文学知识,能迅速提高英语文化水平和文学修养。

感谢天津大学出版社全体同仁,是他们的远见和气魄促成了本书的正式出版,为推进我国英语教学做了一件大好事。

编 者

2002年元月于天津

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The Highlights of English Speeches

*We may study for ever, and we are never as
learned as we would. We' ve never made a
statue worthy of our dreams.*

— R. L. Stevenson

Inaugural Address of George W. Bush

George W. Bush 2000

The 43rd U.S. President George W. Bush was sworn in on January 20 in Washington. In his inaugural address, President Bush urged civic respect and duty, and repeated some of the top issues of his campaign.

Thank you!

Chief Justice Rehnquist, President Carter, President Bush, President Clinton, distinguished guests and my fellow citizens, the peaceful transfer of authority is rare in history, yet common in our country. With a simple oath, we affirm old traditions and make new beginnings.

As I begin, I thank President Clinton for his service to our nation. And I thank Vice President Gore for a contest conducted with spirit and ended with grace.

I am honored and humbled to stand here, where so many of America's leaders have come before me, and so many will follow.

This is my solemn pledge: I will work to build a single nation of justice and opportunity. I know this is within our reach, because we are guided by a power larger than ourselves, who creates us equal in his image.

Today we affirm a new commitment to live out our nation's promise through civility, courage, compassion and character.

America, at its best, matches a commitment to principle with a concern for civility. A civil society demands from each of us good will and respect, fair dealing and forgiveness.

Some seem to believe that our politics can afford to be petty because, in a time of peace, the stakes of our debates appear small. But the stakes, for America, are never small. If our country does not lead the cause of freedom, it will not be led. If we do not turn the hearts of children toward knowledge and character, we will lose their gifts and undermine their idealism. If we permit our economy to drift and decline, the vulnerable will suffer most.

We must live up to the calling we share. Civility is not a tactic or a sentiment. It is the determined choice of trust over cynicism, of community over chaos. And this commitment, if we keep it, is a way to shared accomplishment.

America, at its best, is also courageous.

Our national courage has been clear in times of depression and war, when defeating common dangers defined our common good. Now we must choose if the example of our fathers and mothers will inspire us or condemn us. We must show courage in a time of blessing, by confronting problems instead of passing

them on to future generations.

Together we will reclaim America's schools, before ignorance and apathy claim more young lives. We will reform Social Security and Medicare, sparing our children from struggles we have the power to prevent. And we will reduce taxes, to recover the momentum of our economy and reward the effort and enterprise of working Americans. We will build our defenses beyond challenge, lest weakness invite challenge. We will confront weapons of mass destruction, so that a new century is spared new horrors.

America, at its best, is compassionate.

Government has great responsibilities, for public safety and public health, for civil rights and common schools. Yet compassion is the work of a nation, not just a government. And some needs and hurts are so deep they will only respond to a mentor's touch or a pastor's prayer. Church and charity, synagogue and mosque, lend our communities their humanity, and they will have an honored place in our plans and laws.

Many in our country do not know the pain of poverty. But we can listen to those who do. And I can pledge our nation to a goal: When we see that wounded traveler on the road to Jericho, we will not pass to the other side.

America, at its best, is a place where personal responsibility is valued and expected.

Encouraging responsibility is not a search for scapegoats, it is a call to conscience. And though it requires sacrifice, it brings a deeper fulfillment. We find the fullness of life, not only in options, but in commitments. And we find that children and community are the commitments that set us free.

Our public interest depends on private character; on civic duty and family bonds and basic fairness; on uncounted, unhonored acts of decency which give direction to our freedom.

Sometimes in life we are called to do great things. But as a saint of our times has said, every day we are called to do small things with great love. The most important tasks of a democracy are done by everyone.

I will live and be lead by these principles: to advance my convictions with civility; to pursue the public interest with courage; to speak for greater justice and compassion; to call for responsibility, and try to live it as well. In all these ways, I will bring the values of our history to the care of our times.

What you do is as important as anything government does. I ask you to seek a common good beyond your comfort; to defend needed reforms against easy attacks; to serve your nation, beginning with your neighbor. I ask you to be citizens. Citizens, not spectators. Citizens, not subject. Responsible citizens, building communities of service and a nation of character.

Americans are generous and strong and decent, not because we believe in ourselves, but because we hold beliefs beyond ourselves. When this spirit of citizenship is missing, no government program can replace it. When this spirit is present, no wrong can stand against it.