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英语时文

阅读进阶



英语时文阅读进阶

——名人演讲篇

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总序

经过一段时间的充分酝酿和准备,我们的《英语时文阅读进阶》终于和大家见面了。这套丛书共有五册——幽默篇、风土人情篇、史地篇、科技篇和名人演讲篇。这套丛书的目标在于帮助读者通过大量的阅读提高其英语综合运用能力,特别是阅读和翻译能力。这套丛书具有以下几个特点:

- 一、给读者提供一个较理想的、真实的语言环境。该 丛书选文题材广泛、内容丰富、既反映了英语国家的历史 传统和文化背景,又包括了当代科学技术的最新发展和 应用前景。这样就给读者提供了一个和自己的生活、学 习、工作和科学研究有密切关系的、比较真实的语言环境,使读者能够比较轻松自然地进行阅读,在吸收语言的 同时也学习进行中外双向交流所必需的文化背景知识, 从而增加读者的阅读兴趣,在不知不觉中提高应用语言 的能力。
- 二、给读者提供既地道规范又生动活泼的当代英语。 丛书取材于英语国家(特别是美国)在当代有影响的报刊杂志、文学读物、科技报道及各种优秀教材。不仅有较正式的书面语体,还有非正式的口语语体。这样使读者接触到的是富有时代气息的、比较实用的语言形式,从而学到地道规范、恰当得体的当代英语,进而提高对英语的感

悟能力、理解能力和表达能力。同时也可以管窥到一些英语的最新发展趋势。

三、注释翔实、明晰,译文通顺达意。丛书对原文中的难点均做了翔实明确的注释。每篇文章都配有参考译文,译文力求忠实原文,朴实无华,以利读者自学参考。这样不仅有助于提高阅读理解能力,而且通过对照译文,促进翻译能力的提高。

四、既具有针对性、又符合科学性和系统性原则。该 丛书大致适合于大学和研究生阶段的学生以及具有同等 水平的英语学习者的阅读需要。愿该丛书带您走进一个 较理想的英语语言环境,为您开辟一个新的英语世界,帮 助您成为既有科学知识,又有较强的英语交际能力的 21 世纪的新型人才。

本书在编写的过程中,参阅了大量的书刊并选编了 其中的一些文章。在此对这些文章的作者表示最衷心的 感谢。

由于水平有限,其中肯定有不少难尽人意之处,因此 我们恳请广大读者不吝赐教,以便我们再版时作进一步 的修订,使其更加完美,走进更多读者的心田。

前言

你听到思想的声音了吗?你听到历史的回声了吗?请在心灵的一角,留出一片宁静,让《英语时文阅读进阶——名人演讲篇》带我们进入一个文字与思想的世界,让我们一起去倾听激扬、雄辩、真挚、深情的演讲,它们,是思想的声音。

这些著名的演讲,字里行间熠熠生辉的,是亲情的缱绻、生命的光泽;铿锵有声的,是民族的尊严、人性的高贵;而那久久回荡的,是对自由的渴望和对和平的呼唤。它们,是历史的回声。

本书精心选取历史及当代名人的演讲 23 篇。以发表的时间先后为序,便于读者把握历史的脉络;中英对照,使原文与译文语言的精华相映成辉;对文中生词、发表背景及作者生平予以注释,便于读者理解语篇;摘取每篇演讲词的名句置于正文之前,更加突出中心思想。本书适合初中级以上英语阶段的学习者。也是一部不错的英语教师教学参考教材。

打开书,我们会欣赏到严密的逻辑、优美的语言、不 朽的词句;

合上书,我们会感悟到闪光的思想、深刻的哲理、和 永恒的智慧。

让我们一起,去倾听思想的声音吧!

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1. Give Me Liberty, or Give Me Death*

不自由, 毋宁死

Patrick Henry * *

帕特利克·亨利

Is life so dear, or peace so sweet to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take: but as for me, give me liberty, or give me death!

难道生命就那么宝贵、和平就那么美好,竟值得不惜以镣铐加 身、辱身为奴来换取吗? 上帝啊,阻止他们这样做吧! 其他人会 选择什么样的道路我不知道;至于我,不自由,毋宁死!

原文

... Let us not, I beseech vou, sir, decave ourselves longer. Sir, we have done everything that could be done to avert the storm which is now coming on. We have petitioned; we have remonstrated ; we have supplicated ; we have prostrated ourselves before the 议、恳求;我们也曾在英王 throne, and have implored ts interposition to arrest the tyrannical hands of the ministry and Parliament. Our petitions have been slighted; our remonstrances have produced additional violence and insult; our supplications have been

译文

.....各位先生, 我尽 求你们不要再欺骗自己了。 为了阻止这场正在来临的风 暴,我们能做到的一切都已 经做了。我们曾经请原、抗 宝座前俯首屈膝, 哀求英王 遏制任内阁和国会残酷的铁 腕。但是,我们的请愿被蔑 视,我们的抗议招来更多的 镇压和羞辱, 我们的恳求受

- * 美国独立战争前夕,美国境内的十三个英属殖民地,抵制英货的浪潮空前高涨, 抗英武装斗争风起云涌;同时,英国政府在积极调兵遣将。一场大战近在旦夕。这 篇演说是帕特利克·亨利于 1775 年 3 月 28 日在弗吉尼亚州发表的。
- **帕特利克·亨利(1736—1799),北美律师及政治家,其演说以号召力强和感情 真挚而著称。
- beseech v. 恳求 ② remonstrate v. 抗议 supplicate v 恳求,哀求
- prostrate v. 使…屈服 implore v. 恳求, 哀求 ⑤ interposition n. 干预, 插入

disregarded; and we have been spurned, with contempt, from the foot of the throne! In vain, after these things, may we include the fond hope of peace and reconciliation. There is no longer any room for hope. If we wish to be free-if we mean not basely to abandon the noble stsuggle in which we have been so long engaged, and which we have pledged ourselves never to abandon until the glorious object of our contest shall be obtained — we must fight! I repeat it, sir, we must fight! An appeal to arms and to the God of Hosts is all that is left us.

They tell us, sir, that we are weak; unable to cope with so formidable an adversary. But when shall we be stronger? Will it be the next week, or the next year? Will it be when we are totally disarmed, and when a British guard shall be stationed in every house? Shall we gather strength by irresolution and inaction? Shall we acquire the means of effectual resistance, by lying supinely, on our backs,

- 🕡 spurn v. 轻蔑地拒绝,摒弃
- S of effective resistance 进行有效抵抗所需的资力
- supinely ad. 仰卧地

译文

到蔑相解果我奋权地暂斗生须求测蔑相解果我奋权地暂斗生须求视一愿但们真、,放达,,对国人。得都到长爱们进不少一里在。得都到长爱们进不必一只重定尽到已自期侵不行休须遍有生生尽到已自期侵不行休须遍有自期侵不行休须遍有官之,来的于久的斗我武了,下军中境如果之圣鄙立高先必力,

and hugging the delusive phantom of hope, until our enemies shall have bound us hand and foot? Sir, we are not weak, if we make a proper use of the means which the God of nature hath placed in our power. Three millions of people, armed in the holy cause of liberty, and in such a country as that which we possess, are invincible by any force which our enemy can send against us. Besides, sir, we shall not fight our battles alone. There is a just God who presides over the destinies of nations; and who will raise up friends to fight our battles for us. The battle, sir, is not to the strong alone; it is to the vigilant, the active, the brave. Besides, sir, we have no election. If we were base enough to desire it, it is now too late to retire from the contest. There is no retreat, but in submission and slavery! Our chains are forged! Their clanking may be heard on the plains of Boston[®]! The war is inevitable - and let it come! I repeat it, sir, let it come!

译文

吗? 凭仰面长卧、紧抱希望的 幻影不放, 等着敌人把我们的 手脚捆绑起来,我们就能得到 足够的资力来进行有效的抵抗 吗?我们现在并不软弱、先生 们,如果我们合理利用自然之 神赐予的、我们能够得到的资 力的话。我们的三百万人民, 是在追求自由的神圣事业中武 装起来的,又立足于我们所控 制的这样一个国家,不管敌人 派来什么样的军队, 也是战胜 不了我们的。何况, 我们也不 会孤军作战,先生们,有着正 义之神主宰各民族的命运,他 会召集朋友来帮助我们的。胜 利不仅仅属于力量强大者,先 生们, 胜利属于警觉戒备者、 行动积极者、勇敢无畏者。再 说,我们还没有进行选举。 生们。即使说我们这些人想当 选是别有用心的话, 现在已为 时过晚,已来不及退出竞争了。 只要我们不屈服认输, 不做奴 隶, 就决不会退却! 用来对付 我们的镣铐早已锻打好了! 在 波斯顿平原就可以听到那哗啦 啦的响声! 战争是不可避免的 --那就让它来吧!我再说一 遍, 先生们, 计它来吧!

- phantom n. 幻影 hath v. [古] = has invincible a. 不可征服的
- ⑥ our chains 此处指 "对付我们的镣铐"。若无下文,也可作 "我们的镣铐"理解
- Boston n. 波斯顿,美国东北部沿海城市,当时是英军在美国的大本营

It is in vain, sir, to extenuate the matter. Gentlemen may cry peace, peace — but there is no peace. The war is actually begun! The next gale that sweeps from the north will bring to our ears the clash of resounding arms! Our brethren are in the field! Why stand we here idle? What is it that gentlemen wish? What would they have? Is life so dear, or peace so sweet to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take: but as for me, give me liberty, or give me death!

译文

3 先生们,掩盖局势的 严重性是无济于事的。绅士 们会叫喊和平,和平——可 和平根本就不存在。实际上。 战争已经打响了! 下一阵北 风就会把铿锵的刀剑撞击声 送到我们耳边来! 我们的父 老兄弟早已身临战场! 为什 么我们还按兵不动、袖手旁 观呢?绅士们想得到的是此 什么呢?他们又会得到些什 么呢? 难道生命就那么宅费、 和平就那么美好, 竟值得不 借以镣铐加身、辱身为奴束 换取吗? 上帝啊, 阻止他们 这样做吧! 其他人会选择什 么样的道路我不知道:至十 我,不自由,毋宁死!

- **①** extenuate v 掩饰, 掩盖
- ▶ brethren n [古] = brothers 父老兄弟们

2. Reply to the U.S. Government*

给美国政府的答复

Chief Seattle **

西雅图酋长

And when the last Red Man shall have perished, and the memory of my tribe shall have become a myth among the White Men, these shores will swarm with the invisible dead of my tribe, and when your children's children think themselves alone in the field, the store, the shop, upon the highway, or in the silence of the pathless woods, they will not be alone. At night when the streets of your cities and villages are silent and you think them deserted, they will throng with the returning hosts that once filled and still love this beautiful land. The White Man will never be alone.

当最后一个红种人死去,当关于这个部落的记忆已经成为白人中间流传的神话时,我们部落那些看不见的亡灵,仍将密密地聚集在这片土地上。当你们的子孙以为他们独自一人在田野、仓库、商店、公路或寂静的无路可通的森林中时,他们其实并非独自一人。——夜深人静,当你以为城镇村落杳无一人时,街上却满是归来的故主。他们曾经生活在这里,他们仍然热爱这片美丽的土地。白人永远不会独占这个地方。

原文

译文

- Yonder sky that has wept tears of 数不尽的世代以来, compassion upon my people for centuries 渺渺苍天曾为我族洒下多少
- * 美国政府要将印第安土著居民驱逐到"保留地"定居。本文是西雅图酋长在美国政府压力下的答复。
- ** 西雅图(1786—1866)是杜瓦密族(Dwamish)和苏夸米什族(Suquamish)等部落的酋长,他们居住在美国东海岸普吉特湾(Puget Sound)周边地区。
- yonder n. 更远的, 那边的

untold, and which to us appears changeless and eternal, may change. Today is fair. Tomorrow will be overcast with clouds. My words are like the stars that never change. Whatever Seattle says the great chief at Washington can rely upon with as much certainty as he can upon the return of the sun or the seasons. The White Chief says that Big chief at Washington sends us greetings of friendship and good will. That is kind of him for we know he has little need of our friendship in return. His people are many. They are like the grass that covers vast prairies. My people are few. They resemble the scattering trees of a storm-swept plain. The great, and-I presume-good, White Chief sends us word that he wishes to buy our lands but is willing to allow us enough to live comfortably. This indeed appears just, even generous, for the Red Man no longer has rights that he need respect, and the offer may be wise also, as we are no longer in need of an extensive country ... I will not dwell on, nor mourn over, our untimely decay, nor reproach

译文

同情之泪;这个在我们看来 似是永恒不变的苍天, 还是 会变的。今天天色晴朗,明 天又阴云密布。但我的话却 像天空的星辰, 永远不变。 西雅图说的话, 正如日出东 方, 四季更迭, 华盛顿的大 酋长可以确信无疑。白人酋 长说,华盛顿的大酋长向我 们致意,表示友好。我们感 谢他的好意,因为我们知道 他无所求于我们,不用我们 以友情回报。他的人民众多, 犹如覆盖着广阔草原的青草。 我的人民稀少, 像风摧雨袭 后的平原上稀疏的树木。那 位伟大的——我还假定他是 善良的——白人酋长派遣人 告诉我们,愿意买下我们的 土地,但同时也愿意留下足 够的土地让我们舒适地生活。 这看来确实很公道, 其至很 慷慨, 因为红种人已经再也

- the great chief at Washington 指当时的美国第十四任总统 (1853—1857) 富兰克林·皮尔斯 (Franklin Pierce, 1804—1869)
 the White Chief 指时任州长史蒂芬斯
- the White Chief 此处指美国总统 untimely a. 不合时宜的

our paleface brothers with hastening it, as we too may have been somewhat to blame.

Day and night cannot dwell together. The Red man has ever fled the approach of the White Man, as the morning mist flees before the morning sun. However, your proposition seems fair and I think that my people will accept it and will retire to the reservation you offer them. Then we will dwell apart in peace, for the words of the Great White Chief seem to be the words of nature speaking to my people out of dense darkness.

- It matters little where we pass the
- proposition n. 主张,建议
- reservation n. (印第安人) 保留地

译文

....

- 3 我们在何处度过余年

remnant of our days. They will not be many. A few more moons; a few more winters-and not one of the descendants of the mighty hosts that once moved over this broad land or lived in happy homes, protected by the Great Spirit. will remain to mourn over the graves of a people once more powerful and hopeful than yours. But why should I mourn at the untimely fate of my people? Tribe follows tribe, and nation follows nation, like the waves of the sea. It is the order of nature, and regret is useless. Your time of decay may be distant, but it will surely come, for even the White Man whose God walked and talked with him as friend with friend, cannot be exempt from the common destiny. We may be brothers after all. We will see.

We will ponder your proposition, and when we decide we will let you know. But should we accept it, I here

译文

已经无关重要。我们的来日不多 了。这原来比你们更强大、更有希 望的民族,曾经人口兴旺,受大神 的庇护,在这片广阔的土地上幸福 地安居乐业。再过几月,再过几 冬,这个民族再也不会有一个后裔 留下在它的墓前致哀了。但我又何 必为我们民族的夭折哀叹呢? 一个 部落没落,另一个部落就会振兴. 一个民族衰亡,另一个民族就会崛 起, 像海潮一样, 后浪逐前浪。这 是自然的法则, 悲叹惋惜是无用 的。你们衰落的时间可能还很强 远,却必定到来。因为即使是能够 同上帝像朋友一样亲密的白人, 也 不能免于同样的命运。我们终究会 成为兄弟的, 让时间来证明一 切吧。

■ 我们会考虑你们的建议的, 等到我们做出决定,就会通知你 们。但是如果我们接受这项建议,

● exempt v. 免除, 豁免

and now make this condition that we will not be denied the privilege without molestation of visiting at any time the tombs of our ancestors, friends and children. Every part of this soil is sacred in the estimation of my people. Every hillside, every valley, every plain and grove, has been hallowed by some sad or happy event in days long vanished ... The very dust upon which you now stand responds more lovingly to their footsteps than to yours, because it is rich with the blood of our ancestors and our bare feet are conscious of the sympathetic touch... Even the little children who lived here and rejoiced here for a brief season will love these somber solitudes and at eventide they greet shadowy returning spirits. And when the last Red Man shall have perished, and the memory of my tribe shall have become a myth among the White Men, these shores will swarm with the invisible dead of my tribe, and when your children's children think themselves alone in the field, the store, the shop, upon the highway, or in the silence of

译文

我现在在这里就要提出一个 保留条件: 我们要求有权随 时不受干扰地扫谒我们祖先、 朋友和子孙的墓地。这里的 每一寸土地对于我的人民都 是神圣的。每一片山坡,每 一个河谷,每一块平原,每 一从树林都由于往日的哀愁 与欢乐而变得无比圣洁。 ……地上的尘土在我们的脚 下比在你们的脚下更加舒适, 因为那上面浸满我们祖先的 鲜血, 当我们赤脚踏上这片 土地时, 更觉其充满真情。 ……甚至只是在这里短暂居 住、嬉戏过的幼童也会热爱 这沉沉的荒原。在暮色降临 之时,他们会迎接那些幽暗 朦胧的灵魂归来。当最后一 个红种人死去, 当关于这个 部落的记忆已经成为白人中 间流传的神话时, 我们部落 那些看不见的亡灵, 仍将密

- molestation n. 干扰
- somber a. 阴沉的, 阴郁的
- eventide n. 日暮,黄昏