



新世纪英语丛书

New Century English



英语名篇 诵读菁华



MP3有声读物

主 编/徐广联 张绍华 陆道夫



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FOREWORD

前 言

英语语言底蕴深厚,名家大师辈出。他们的思想精华,经妙笔点化,遂成精湛的美文、瑰丽的诗篇。这些名篇,蕴藏着大师们卓越的见识、睿智的思考、伟大的抱负、高尚的情操;这些名篇,承载着大师们对人类的希冀,对大自然的关爱,对良知的呼唤,对邪恶的鞭挞;这些名篇,有对童年乐园的怀念,对已故亲人的追忆,对往昔恋情的梦回,对千古失足的惋惜。这些名篇,属于人类宝贵的精神财富。

书中共有 158 篇精美的短文,是精中求精,反复筛选,最终确定的,均为英美文学名篇中的精华。它们文风各异,或热烈奔放,或含蓄隽永,或古雅雄辩,或清新流畅,语言地道规范,闪耀着大师们璀璨的智慧之光,体现了大师们高超的语言技巧。

诵读本书,你既能得到审美的愉悦,提高英语语言的领悟力,又能学习英语写作技巧,掌握丰富多彩的表达方式,提高英语写作能力。同时,它还是道德修养、为人处世的好读本,能提升你的文化品味,使你从原文中了解人生百态,世事沧桑,帮你找到人生的坐标,助你走向理性与辉煌。

徐广联
记于南京四知斋

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第一部分

人生百态

To say that man is made up
of strength and weakness,
of insight and blindness, of
pettiness and grandeur.

Denis Diderot

可以说人类既强大又虚弱，既
卑琐又崇高，既能洞察入微又
常常视而不见。

狄德罗



1

A Gentleman 绅士

It is almost a definition of a gentleman to say he is one who never inflicts pain. This description is both refined and, as far as it goes, accurate. He is mainly occupied in merely removing the obstacles which hinder the free and unembarrassed action of those about him; and he concurs with their movements rather than takes the initiative himself. The true gentleman in like manner carefully avoids whatever may cause a jar or a jolt in the minds of those with whom he is cast;—all clashing of opinion, or collision of feeling, all restraint, or suspicion, or gloom, or resentment; his great concern being to make every one at their ease and at home. He has his eyes on all his company; he is tender towards the bashful, gentle towards the distant, and merciful towards the absurd; he can recollect to whom he is speaking; he guards against unseasonable allusions, or topics which may irritate; he is seldom prominent in conversation, and never wearisome.

He makes light of favours while he does them, and seems to be receiving when he is conferring. He never speaks of himself except when compelled, never defends himself by a mere retort, he has no ears for slander or gossip, is scrupulous in imputing motives to those who interfere with him, and interprets every thing for the best. He is never mean or little in his disputes, never takes unfair advantage, never mistakes personalities or sharp sayings for arguments, or insinuates evil which he dare not say out. From a long-sighted prudence, he observes the maxim of the ancient sage, that we should ever conduct ourselves towards our enemy as if he were one day to be our

friend. He has too much good sense to be affronted at insults, he is too well employed to remember injuries, and too indolent to bear malice. He is patient, forbearing, and resigned, on philosophical principles; he submits to pain, because it is inevitable, to bereavement, because it is irreparable, and to death, because it is his destiny. If he engages in controversy of any kind, his disciplined intellect preserves him from the blunder.

By John Henry Newman

① 难点注释

- concur [kən'kʌ:] v. (言行)步调一致
bashful ['bæʃfʊl] a. 害羞的,拘束的
distant ['dɪstənt] a. 冷淡的,矜持的
unseasonable [ʌn'si:zənəbl] a. 不合时宜的

② 作者简介

约翰·亨利·纽曼(1801—1890):英国神学家,出生在伦敦,他的第一部著作《4世纪的阿里乌》(*The Arians of the Fourth Century*, 1833)。其他作品有《英国的天主教教义》(*The Present position of catholics in England*, 1851)、《各种场合的布道》(*Sermons Preached on Various occasions*, 1857)、《赞同入门书》(*An Essay in Aid of a grammar of Assent*, 1870, 写信念的哲学)等。

③ 语篇赏析

绅士自有绅士的风度,他举止优雅,为人谦虚,待人宽厚,决不营求于一己私利。他心地善良,同情弱者,怜悯贫者,使近者爱之,远者仰之;他率直坦荡,从不心存恶意,对于闲言恶语,一笑了之。绅士从不占人便宜,能顾全大局,把助人看作助己。对于无法逃避的人生际遇,他能乐观而勇敢地面对,从不气馁,决不放弃。这就是绅士——一个温文尔雅、处乱不惊的智者。



2

Dating 约会

Nevertheless she returned to the beer and drank her share, and they went on their way. It was now nearly dark, and as soon as they had withdrawn from the light of the town they walked closer together, till they touched each other. She wondered why he did not put his arm round her waist, but he did not, he merely said what to himself seemed a quite bold enough thing: "take my arm."

She took it, thoroughly, up to the shoulder. He felt the warmth of her body against his, and putting his stick under his other arm held with his right hand her right as it rested in its place. "Now we are well together, dear, aren't we?" he observed.

"Yes", said she, adding to herself: "Rather mild!"

"How fast I have become!" he was thinking.

Thus they walked till they reached the foot of the upland, where they could see the white highway ascending before them in the gloom. From this point the only way of getting to Arabella's was by going up the incline, and dipping again into her valley on the right. Before they had climbed far they were nearly run into by two men who had been walking on the grass unseen.

"These lovers—you find them out of doors in all seasons and weathers—lovers and homeless dogs only," said one of the men as they vanished down the hill.

Arabella tittered lightly.

“Are we lovers?” asked Jude.

“You know best.”

“But you can tell me?”

For answer she inclined her head upon his shoulder. Jude took the hint, and encircling her waist with his arm, pulled her to him and kissed her.

They walked now no longer arm in arm but, as she had desired, clasped together. After all, what did it matter since it was dark, said Jude to himself. When they were half-way up the long hill they paused as by arrangement, and he kissed her again. They reached the top, and he kissed her once more.

“You can keep your arm there, if you would like to,” she said gently.

He did so, thinking how trusting she was.

By Thomas Hardy

① 难点注释

gloom [glu:m] *n.* 黑暗, 朦胧

vanish [ˈvæniʃ] *v.* 消失, 看不见

titter [ˈtɪtə] *v.* 窃笑, 傻笑

clasp [kla:sp] *v.* 拥抱, 紧紧抱住

② 作者简介

托马斯·哈代(1840—1928):英国著名小说家兼诗人。他的小说多写作于19世纪。20世纪以来,因为代表作《德伯家的苔丝》(*Tess of the D'Urbervilles*)和《无名的裘德》(*Jude the Obscure*)深刻揭露了当时英国社会的现实矛盾,受到批评家敌视与非难,于是愤然放弃小说创作,从事诗歌写作。他的诗作与小说,都遵循自己的创作