好事多應 载得久别爱子归 圣诞公公无需伴 在邮票上露脸情话偏宜左耳听 八哥想离婚? 喜事频频神父苦 灭门凶手部长无知惹非议 不会开车的公车司机 猪肉害死莫扎特?



手术美人 看不得的表演 骑扫把的正确方法 美景何如美食 手机赶鬼 革除官腔 古代邮票 质数化生存 实话实说 出路在别处 狱友可向网中寻 邮局也破产 去太空烧钱 左撒子的庆典 为你等待 声音的形状 污渍排行榜 重利轻名 赌城奇婚酿苦果 恶声驱雀 在职妈妈的好东家 朝九晚五是苦刑 带条码的可卡因 □□□□ 系列丛书→英语精短时文译评

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# 编者的话(代序)

一向以为,每一种语言都承载着一个民族的智慧与文化,它的不断更新变化也反映着使用者思维方式的变异和他们所处社会的演进。倘若脱离了社会现实,单单把语言当做工具来学习,不但没有什么趣味,效果恐怕也要大打折扣。本书所收的短文中使用的都是鲜活生动、原汁原味的英语,其内容则是在我们这个日新月异的世界上最近发生的一些有意思的事情。这些记录真实事件的短文涉及政治、经济、科技、宗教、艺术、体育、娱乐等各个方面,正如折射国外社会风貌的一颗颗小水珠。读者们可以借鉴其中鲜活的词汇、生动的句法和颇富风趣的行文,由此改善阅读和写作的技巧;也可以从中管窥我们这个星球上各个角落人们十分多样化的生活和思想。

古代许多文人雅士都喜欢搜集当时的异人异事乃至神仙鬼怪之说汇编成书,用以美善刺恶、讽时劝世,如刘义庆的《世说新语》、袁枚的《子不语》、纪昀的《阅微草堂笔记》等皆如此类。编者愚陋,不敢追攀前贤,但选文之时亦力求每篇皆有其令人回味或发人深省之处。其意不在讥弹,只在让读者对别样的文化和生活有所认识。作为文化的载体,英语本身无疑已经为我们揭示了许多西方世界的历史、传统、世界观和思维方式,而众多短文中记述的种种真实事件更是让当今世界中其他民族的生活跃然纸上、如在目前。

作为中国人,我们已经拥有一种源远流长、辉煌灿烂的文化,但这并不妨碍我们以开放的胸襟去了解和借鉴其他民族对世界的认识和思索。立足自身文化、放眼地平线之外多元文化的绚烂繁花,其中的乐趣和收获绝不仅仅局限于语言方面。编者在每篇短文之后附上了自己的一点心得,正是希望能借此与读者诸君分享思维的乐趣,或有强作解人之处,诸君但可一笑置之。总之,编者希望本书不仅是学习英语的好材料,也是一本值得在闲暇时一读的有趣的书。

为方便读者阅读,本书为全文英汉对照。编者在翻译时虽广泛查证有关资料,力求准确无误,但由于文章题材多样、所涉背景知识芜杂,加之编者才力有限,倘有疏失与未尽之处,恳请各位不吝指正。

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# Sports Minister Lampooned for Lack of Sporting Knowledge 部长无知惹非议

New British sports minister Richard Caborn has been lampooned by the media after he revealed a startling lack of knowledge about his country's top sportsmen. Caborn, appointed in the wake of the June 7 general election, could not name the captain of the British Lions rugby team touring Australia (Martin Johnson), any of the country's top jockeys or the coach of the England cricket team (Duncan Fletcher). He explained his failure in an interview by saying he was "more bothered about getting young kids into sport", but the press thought Caborn's performance was shocking. "Is this the most stupid sports minister ever?" asked the Mirror. "Quiz shows Caborn to be the weakest link." read the headline in the Daily Telegraph. "His authority has become suspect from he starts". "Not good, minister," said the Daily Mail of Caborn's effort.



英国新任体育部长理查德·卡本暴露出他对国内顶尖运动员惊人的无知,由是遭到媒体的冷嘲热讽。6月7日大选之后获委任的卡本不知道在澳洲作赛的雄狮橄榄球队队长姓甚名谁(马丁·约翰逊),也讲不出英格兰板球队教练(邓肯·弗莱切尔)或是任何一个优秀赛马骑师的名字。在采访中,卡本对此所作的解释是他"更关心的事情是让儿童参加到体育运动中来",不过媒体却认为他的表现实在太过离谱。《镜报》问道:"他是有史以来最蠢的体育部长吗?"《每日电讯报》写道:"测验显示:卡本是最薄弱的一环。他的权威在上任伊始就成了疑问。"而《每日邮报》则对卡本的表现评论道:"不怎么样啊,部长。"

<sup>●</sup> REMARKS: 橄榄球、板球和赛马都是在英国非常风靡的运动、这位体育部长可真是选错了行当。

# Quarter of Bus Drivers Lack Driving Skills 不会开车的公车司机

Nearly a quarter of the public bus drivers in India's capital — known for their appalling safety record - lack basic driving skills and hundreds of them have vision problems, a survey says. "Of the 9,500 drivers tested since the start of the year, more than 23 percent were found wanting in driving skills and in understanding of traffic rules," said R.K. Parimoo, head of the Institute of Driver and Training Research. There are more than 20,000 public transport bus drivers on Delhi roads and the institute conducts around 90 tests every day. About 500 of the drivers suffered from either defective near vision or distant vision, Parimoo added. Another 25 suffered from color blindness, while five had irreparable vision damage. More than 800 people have died on Delhi roads so far this year. Out of these deaths, 115 involved city public buses. Those driving school buses performed no better in the tests. Of the 300 school bus drivers assessed so far, 20 percent were found lacking in road knowledge, said the director of the institute run by India's largest carmaker, Maruti Udyog Ltd.

