

American English Handbook for Recitation

美语名篇 背诵手册

李维 编



中国建材工业出版社

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前言

《美语名篇背诵手册》是我们从报刊杂志上精心挑选体现英语语言特色且脍炙人口的名篇佳作编写而成。在挑选这些文章时,既注意其学术性、研究性价值,又注意其知识性、趣味性。读者在读这些文章时,不仅能学到灵活实用的英语语法,而且能了解英美国家的历史文化背景、传统习俗。其中的现代科普小品也能帮助读者增加不少科学知识,而大量的生活哲理散文,更是让你回味无穷。

本书所选名篇佳作共百余篇,配有精美插画,每篇短小精悍,译文流畅生动,对文中的难字难词给出了音标及词义注释,每篇范文前边还有文章导读,可以引导读者的阅读视线,更好地理解文章主旨及风格特色。由于范文及译文的生动性、趣味性特色,建议读者尽量背诵原文,定会有意想不到的收获。

我们想提醒读者的是,如今英语学习已成为一种时尚和潮流,不学英文已被认为是落伍。学习英语并不是一件枯燥的事,关键是要掌握正确的学习方法和选择优秀的学习读物,这样在学习的过程中不但趣味横生,还会收到事半功倍的成效。本书作为课外读物,坚信能够做到这一点。祝愿广大学生朋友和英语爱好者激流勇进,前程似锦!

编者

2003年5月

44586/12

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Unit 1



***Life ,
Success ,
Happiness***



The Art of Living

【文章赏析】

平时我们只关注于琐碎甚至是无意义的小事,而忽略了对于司空见惯的经历做出反应。作者通过医院的一次经历懂得了生活的艺术在于要懂得取舍。

The art of living is to know when to hold fast and when to let go. For life is a paradox: it enjoins us to cling to its many gifts even while it ordains their eventual relinquishment. The rabbis of old put it this way: "A man comes to this world with his fist clenched, but when he dies, his hand is open."

Surely we ought to hold fast to life, for it is wondrous, and full of a beauty that breaks through every pore of God's own earth. We know that this is so, but all

too often we recognize this truth only in our backward glance when we remember what was and then suddenly realize that it is no more.

We remember a beauty that faded, a love that waned. But we remember with far greater pain that we did not see that beauty when it flowered, that we failed to respond with love when it was tendered.

A recent experience re-taught me this truth. I was hospitalized following a severe heart attack and had been in intensive care for several days. It was not a pleasant place.

One morning, I had to have some additional tests. The required machines were located in a building at the opposite end of the hospital, so I had to be wheeled across the courtyard on a gurney.

As we emerged from our unit, the sunlight hit me. That's all there was to my experience. Just the light of the sun. And yet how beautiful it was—how warming, how sparking, how brilliant! I looked to see whether anyone else relished the sun's golden glow, but everyone was hurrying to and fro, most with eyes fixed on the ground. Then I remembered how often I, too, had been indifferent to the grandeur of each day, too preoccupied with petty and sometimes even mean concerns to respond from that experience is really as commonplace as was the experience itself: life's gifts are precious—but we are too heedless of them.