

读经典名著 记GRE单词

A Classic Novel with 682 GRE Vocabulary Words Identified and Defined

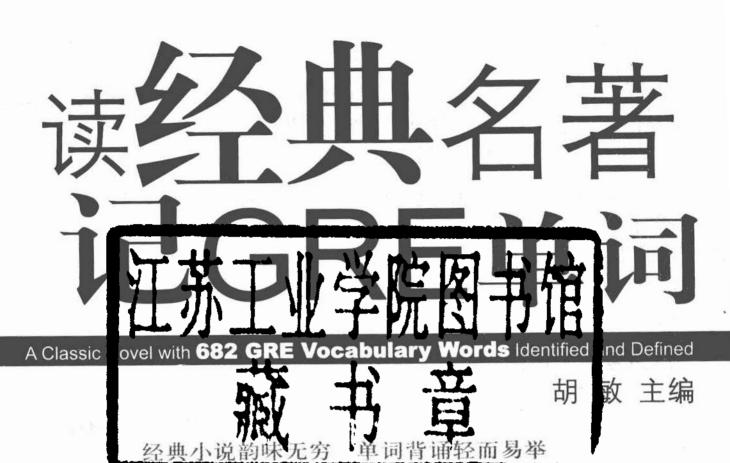
胡敏主编

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科学怪人

Frankenstein

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rejoice [ri'dzois]

v. 欣喜,喜悦 (to feel joy or great delight)

[反] grouse, sulk

commencement [kə'mensmənt]

n. 开始 (an act, instance, or time of beginning); (大学的) 毕业典礼 (the ceremony at which degrees or diplomas are conferred at a school or college)

[同] genesis, outset, inauguration

[反] cessation

fervent ['fə:vənt]

adj. 热情的, 热心的 (showing warmth and sincerity of feeling; enthusiastic; passionate)

vain [vein]

adj. 自负的 (having too high an opinion of one's looks, abilities, etc.; conceited); 徒然的, 无益的

perpetual [pə'petjuəl]

adj. 永久的,不断的,一再重复的 (continuing indefinitely; permanent)

[同] enduring, everlasting, eternal, permanent

[反] evanescent, transient, transitory, extinct, ephemeral, interim, fleeting

Volume I

LETTER I

To Mrs. Saville, England.

St. Petersburgh, Dec. 11th, 17-.

You will **rejoice** to hear that no disaster has accompanied the **commencement** of an enterprise which you have regarded with such evil forebodings. I arrived here yesterday; and my first task is to assure my dear sister of my welfare, and increasing confidence in the success of my undertaking.

I am already far north of London; and as I walk in the streets of Petersburgh, I feel a cold northern breeze play upon my cheeks, which braces my nerves, and fills me with delight. Do you understand this feeling? This breeze, which has travelled from the regions towards which I am advancing, gives me a foretaste of those icy climes. Inspirited by this wind of promise, my day dreams become more fervent and vivid. I try in vain to be persuaded that the pole is the seat of frost and desolation; it ever presents itself to my imagination as the region of beauty and delight. There, Margaret, the sun is for ever visible; its broad disk just skirting the horizon, and diffusing a perpetual splendour. There—for with your leave, my sister, I will put some trust in preceding navigatorsthere snow and frost are banished; and, sailing over a calm sea, we may be wafted to a land surpassing in wonders and in beauty every region hitherto discovered on the habitable globe. Its productions and features may be without example, as the phaenomena of the heavenly bodies undoubtedly are in

eternal [i'tə:nəl]

adj. 永恒的,不断的 (without beginning or end)

[同] enduring, everlasting, permanent, perpetual, immortal

[反] ephemeral, transient

celestial [si'lestjəl]

adj. 天上的 (of the sky)

render ['rendə]

v. 移交; 正式地交付; 给予, 还以(to~sth. <for sth.>; to~sth.<to sb.>; to give sth. in return or exchange, or as sth. which is due)

consistent [kən'sistənt]

adj. 一致的, 调和的, 始终如一的 (always keeping to the same pattern or style)

satiate ['seifieit]

v. 充分满足 (to provide <sb.> with so much of sth. that he wants no more)

[反] tantalize

requisite ['rekwizit]

adj. 需要的,必不可少的,必备的 (required by circumstances or necessary for success)

[记] quisit 表"追求,寻求"。

[同根] prerequisite 先决条件

prospect ['prospekt]

n. 期望 (reasonable hope that sth. will happen); 期望的事物 (sth. which is possible or likely for the future); v. 探察, 考察 (to explore)

injunction [in'dʒ∧ŋk∫ən]

n. 命令,指令,(法)禁制令(bidding; command)

seafaring ['si:feərin]

adj. 航海事业的 (of or relating to the use of the sea for travel or transportation); n. 航海事业

those undiscovered solitudes. What may not be expected in a country of eternal light? I may there discover the wondrous power which attracts the needle; and may regulate a thousand celestial observations, that require only this voyage to render their seeming eccentricities consistent for ever. I shall satiate my ardent curiosity with the sight of a part of the world never before visited, and may tread a land never before imprinted by the foot of man. These are my enticements, and they are sufficient to conquer all fear of danger or death, and to induce me to commence this laborious voyage with the joy a child feels when he embarks in a little boat, with his holiday mates, on an expedition of discovery up his native river. But, supposing all these conjectures to be false, you cannot contest the inestimable benefit which I shall confer on all mankind to the last generation, by discovering a passage near the pole to those countries, to reach which at present so many months are requisite; or by ascertaining the secret of the magnet, which, if at all possible, can only be effected by an undertaking such as mine.

These reflections have dispelled the agitation with which I began my letter, and I feel my heart glow with an enthusiasm which elevates me to heaven; for nothing contributes so much to tranquillize the mind as a steady purpose a point on which the soul may fix its intellectual eye. This expedition has been the favourite dream of my early years. I have read with ardour the accounts of the various voyages which have been made in the prospect of arriving at the North Pacific Ocean through the seas which surround the pole. You may remember, that a history of all the voyages made for purposes of discovery composed the whole of our good uncle Thomas's library. My education was neglected, yet I was passionately fond of reading. These volumes were my study day and night, and my familiarity with them increased that regret which I had felt, as a child, on learning that my father's dying injunction had forbidden my uncle to allow me to embark in a seafaring life.

niche [nit]]

n. 壁龛 (a recess in wall); 合适的环境, 适当的位置 (a suitable place or position)

acquaint [ə'kweint]

v. 1. 认识某人 (be ~ed with sb., to know someone, especially because you have met once or twice before); 2. 认识某物; 了解某事 (be ~ed with sth., to know about something, because you have seen it, read it, used it etc.)

bent [bent]

n. 1. 天赋, 天才; 2. 倾向, 爱好 (~ < for sth./doing sth.> natural skill < at sth.>; liking or inclination < for sth./doing sth.>)

[1 同] disposition, penchant, predilection, proclivity, propensity

[2反] ineptitude

want [wo:nt]

n. 短缺 (a lack or deficiency of sth.)

[同] privation, dearth, paucity, scarcity

fluctuate ['flaktjueit]

v. 波动; 动摇 (<of a price, number, rate, etc.> to rise and fall; to change irregularly)

depressed [di'prest]

adj. 沮丧的 (sad and without enthusiasm); 下陷的 (flattened downward)

[同] despondent

fortitude ['fo:titju:d]

n. 坚韧, 刚毅, 不屈不挠 (courage, endurance and self-control in facing pain, danger or difficulty); adj. 毅然的 sustain [səs'tein]

v. 支撑, 撑住 (to bear <weight> without breaking or falling); 经得住, 承受 These visions faded when I perused, for the first time, those poets whose effusions entranced my soul, and lifted it to heaven. I also became a poet, and for one year lived in a Paradise of my own creation; I imagined that I also might obtain a niche in the temple where the names of Homer and Shakespeare are consecrated. You are well acquainted with my failure, and how heavily I bore the disappointment. But just at that time I inherited the fortune of my cousin, and my thoughts were turned into the channel of their earlier bent.

Six years have passed since I resolved on my present undertaking. I can, even now, remember the hour from which I dedicated myself to this great enterprise. I commenced by inuring my body to hardship. I accompanied the whale-fishers on several expeditions to the North Sea; I voluntarily endured cold, famine, thirst, and want of sleep; I often worked harder than the common sailors during the day, and devoted my nights to the study of mathematics, the theory of medicine, and those branches of physical science from which a naval adventurer might derive the greatest practical advantage. Twice I actually hired myself as an under-mate in a Greenland whaler, and acquitted myself to admiration. I must own I felt a little proud, when my captain offered me the second dignity in the vessel, and entreated me to remain with the greatest earnestness; so valuable did he consider my services.

And now, dear Margaret, do I not deserve to accomplish some great purpose. My life might have been passed in ease and luxury; but I preferred glory to every enticement that wealth placed in my path. Oh, that some encouraging voice would answer in the affirmative! My courage and my resolution is firm; but my hopes **fluctuate**, and my spirits are often **depressed**. I am about to proceed on a long and difficult voyage; the emergencies of which will demand all my **fortitude**. I am required not only to raise the spirits of others, but sometimes to **sustain** my own, when theirs are falling.

This is the most favourable period for travelling in Russia. They fly quickly over the snow in their sledges; the

GRE Vocabulary

testify ['testifai] v. 目击,作证,证明 (to bear witness to) motion is pleasant, and, in my opinion, far more agreeable than that of an English stage-coach. The cold is not excessive, if you are wrapt in furs, a dress which I have already adopted; for there is a great difference between walking the deck and remaining seated motionless for hours, when no exercise prevents the blood from actually freezing in your veins. I have no ambition to lose my life on the post-road between St. Petersburgh and Archangel.

I shall depart for the latter town in a fortnight or three weeks; and my intention is to hire a ship there, which can easily be done by paying the insurance for the owner, and to engage as many sailors as I think necessary among those who are accustomed to the whale-fishing. I do not intend to sail until the month of June—and when shall I return? Ah, dear sister, how can I answer this question? If I succeed, many, many months, perhaps years, will pass before you and I may meet. If I fail, you will see me again soon, or never.

Farewell, my dear, excellent, Margaret. Heaven shower down blessings on you, and save me, that I may again and again **testify** my gratitude for all your love and kindness.

Your affectionate brother, R. Walton.

LETTER II

To Mrs. Saville, England

Archangel March 28th, 17-.

How slowly the time passes here, encompassed as I am by frost and snow; yet a second step is taken towards my enterprise. I have hired a vessel, and am occupied in collecting my sailors; those whom I have already engaged appear to be men on whom

GRE Vocabulary

dauntless ['do:ntlis]

adj. 大胆的,不屈不挠的 (not easily discouraged or frightened) [反] timorous, craven

assail [ə'seil]

v. 1. 困扰 (usually passive); 2. 猛烈功击, 打击 (to attack someone or something violently)

amend [ə'mend]

v. 修正;改善,改正 (to correct an error in <sth.>; to make minor improvements in; change slightly)
[同根] emend 修订,校勘

illiterate [i'litərit]

adj. 1. 不识字的,文盲的 (someone who is illiterate has not leamed to read or write); 2. (因未受教育而)满纸别字的,病句连篇的 (badly written, in an uneducated way)

despise [di'spaiz]

v. 轻视 (to ~ sb./sth. <for sth.>; to feel contempt for sb./sth.; to consider sb./sth. as worthless)

[同] scorn, disdain

[反] venerate

affection [əˈfek[ən]

n. 爱, 温情 (fond or tender feeling)

[反] antipathy, nonchalance

I can depend, and are certainly possessed of dauntless courage.

But I have one want which I have never yet been able to satisfy; and the absence of the object of which I now feel as a most severe evil. I have no friend, Margaret. When I am glowing with the enthusiasm of success, there will be none to participate in my joy; if I am assailed by disappointment, no one will endeavour to sustain me in dejection. I shall commit my thoughts to paper, it is true; but that is a poor medium for the communication of feeling. I desire the company of a man who could sympathize with me; whose eyes would reply to mine. You may deem me romantic, my dear sister, but I bitterly feel the want of a friend. I have no one near me, gentle yet courageous, possessed of a cultivated as well as of a capacious mind, whose tastes are like my own, to approve or amend my plans. How would such a friend repair the faults of your poor brother! I am too ardent in execution, and too impatient of difficulties. But it is a still greater evil to me that I am self-educated, for the first fourteen years of my life I ran wild on a common and read nothing but our uncle Thomas's books of voyages. At that age I became acquainted with the celebrated poets of our own country; but it was only when it had ceased to be in my power to derive its most important benefits from such a conviction, that I perceived the necessity of becoming acquainted with more languages than that of my native country. Now I am twenty-eight, and am in reality more illiterate than many school-boys of fifteen. It is true that I have thought more, and that my day dreams are more extended and magnificent; but they want (as the painters call it) keeping; and I greatly need a friend who would have sense enough not to despise me as romantic, and affection enough for me to endeavour to regulate my mind.

Well, these are useless complaints; I shall certainly find no friend on the wide ocean, nor even here in Archangel, among merchants and seamen. Yet some feelings, unallied to the dross of human nature, beat even in these rugged bosoms. My lieutenant, for instance, is a man of wonderful courage and disposition [dispə'zifən]

n. 部署, 处理 (management or settlement of affairs); 性情, 脾气 (temperament)

consent [kən'sent]

v. 同意, 赞成 (to give agreement)

suppliant ['sApliant]

n./adj. 哀求的 (人)(<a person> asking humbly for sth.)

remainder [ri'meində]

n. 残余, 剩余物 (the part of sth. that is left over); 其他的人 rival ['raivəl]

n. 竞争者, 对手 (one striving for competitive advantage);

v. 与…匹敌,比得上 (to equal)

inexorable [in'eksərəbl]

adj. 无情的,不为所动的 (relentless);不可阻挡的

[同] adamant, obdurate, relentless, rigid

[反] relenting

enterprise; he is madly desirous of glory. He is an Englishman, and in the midst of national and professional prejudices, unsoftened by cultivation, retains some of the noblest endowments of humanity. I first became acquainted with him on board a whale vessel. Finding that he was unemployed in this city, I easily engaged him to assist in my enterprise.

The master is a person of an excellent disposition, and is remarkable in the ship for his gentleness, and the mildness of his discipline. He is, indeed, of so amiable a nature, that he will not hunt (a favourite, and almost the only amusement here), because he cannot endure to spill blood. He is, moreover, heroically generous. Some years ago he loved a young Russian lady, of moderate fortune; and having amassed a considerable sum in prize-money, the father of the girl consented to the match. He saw his mistress once before the destined ceremony; but she was bathed in tears, and, throwing herself at his feet, entreated him to spare her, confessing at the same time that she loved another, but that he was poor, and that her father would never consent to the union. My generous friend reassured the suppliant, and on being informed of the name of her lover instantly abandoned his pursuit. He had already bought a farm with his money, on which he had designed to pass the remainder of his life; but he bestowed the whole on his rival, together with the remains of his prize-money to purchase stock, and then himself solicited the young woman's father to consent to her marriage with her lover. But the old man decidedly refused, thinking himself bound in honour to my friend; who, when he found the father inexorable, quitted his country, nor returned until he heard that his former mistress was married according to her inclinations. "What a noble fellow!" you will exclaim. He is so; but then he has passed all his life on board a vessel, and has scarcely an idea beyond the rope and the shroud.

But do not suppose that, because I complain a little, or because I can conceive a consolation for my toils which