

魅力英语

大学生英汉对照
人文知识读本

Charming English

吴汉平 © 主编



军事谊文出版社

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人文知识读本

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前言

《魅力英语——大学生英汉对照人文知识读本》(Charming English)共有四册，由《实现潜能》、《提高情商》、《享受文明》和《猜想未来》组成。每册包括40篇散文，从数千篇当代报纸、杂志、书籍和网络文章中选出。每册书围绕一个主题，册与册之间相互照应，互为补充，形成一体。每篇英文文章千字左右，均出自英美作家之手，文章妙趣横生、引人入胜；文字地道隽永、富有启迪；译文忠实原文、流畅优美，是一套编排独特，构思巧妙，融知识性、趣味性、思想性和实用性为一体的英汉对照阅读丛书。

在茫茫书海中，不乏英汉对照阅读丛书，其主要特点在于：除了使读者通过广泛阅读不同题材和体裁的英文文章、培养良好英语阅读习惯外，还旨在帮助读者系统地拓宽人文知识面，提高人文素质，在潜移默化中培养高尚情操、树立积极向上、乐观豁达的人生观、价值观和世界观。

很多读者经常为英语水平提高慢而苦恼，殊不知其中重要原因是读的材料太少、面太窄，难以培养语感。因此，在为本书选择范文时，我们在充分考虑其知识性和思想性的同时，十分注意文章题材的广泛性和体裁的多样性，选文覆盖了历史、地理、文学、哲学、艺术、音乐、美术、语言、科技、军事、网络空间等多个领域，既有叙述文、描写文，又有议论文和说明文；既有正式文体，又有非正式文体，可以说篇篇有特色。

本书第一册《实现潜能》(Realize the Potential Ability)。当你告别父母，远离故土，来到陌生城市，踏入大学大门，开始崭新人生之旅时，难免会遇到很多困难和挑战，首先需要学会适应和学习。本书将告诉你如何和谐地“与新室友共度大学生活”、“什么样的知识最有价值”、“为什么要学数学”、“哲学有何用处”，帮助你在浩瀚的知识海洋中学会选择知识、学习知识、锻炼技能、培养科学的思维方法，还教你如何从读书和学习中得到乐趣，如何做笔记、“怎样自学写作”、“怎样巧过谈话关”、“如何扩大词汇量”、“如何随时随地面对任何人说话的技巧”、“如何应付考试”、“如何发挥你的真实

潜能”等等。有了这些知识，你就能树立信心，“正确认识自我”，“把握人生的变化”，从而掌握“成功背后的秘诀”。

第二册《提高情商》(*Develop the Emotional Intelligence*)。大学的生活丰富多彩，青年人面对多彩人生，需要磨练、点拨、教诲，才能健康成长。本册主要介绍富有生活哲理的人生经验、经历，包括正确的价值观、恋爱观，告诉你“为什么品德最重要”，“通向成功的路不止一条”；教你如何面对成功、失败、顺境、逆境，学会“走自己的路”；教你“如何修复破损的友谊”，“如何与难处之人相处”，等等。此外，本册还告诉你在情感世界里，最“难忘初恋”，但是“莫把钟情当爱情”，了解“网恋的虚与实”，“如何找到真爱”，“娶理想的妻子”，做到“相爱到地老天荒”。读完本册书，肯定会大大丰富你的阅历、经验，使你洞悉“生活成功的秘密”和“幸福的真谛”，更从容融入社会，坦然面对人生。

第三册《享受文明》(*Enjoy the Benefits of Civilization*)。在人类历史的长河中，文明的发展是指引人类不断前进的明灯。在此进程中，有无数精彩的历史瞬间值得我们回忆，有着丰富的人文知识值得我们去学习。本册着重介绍在历史长河中人类所创造出来的人文知识的精华，有文学、历史、地理、音乐、美术、艺术、语言、经济、信息技术等方面的散文，使你在增长人文知识的同时，大大扩充人文方面的英语词汇量。在这里，你可以观赏“荒诞派戏剧”和“喜剧大师卓别林”的表演；读一读“爵士乐史话”和“甲壳虫乐队诞生记”，聆听“流行天王迈克·杰克逊”的歌声；了解风雨人生的“英女王伊丽莎白二世”和“好莱坞传奇——伊丽莎白·泰勒”；浏览“脸谱网站创始人——马克扎克·伯格”的网络空间，在“全民联通的推特世界里”，了解不同肤色的不同语言和另类情感。你还能飞过千山万水，穿越时间隧道，视察“消失在丛林中的城市——吴哥窟”，攀登迪拜塔，看“神话诞生还是破灭”，游览“音乐之乡维也纳”，与“生活在爱尔兰”的人们笑谈“英法两个邻国，一对亲密仇人”。此外，本书还告诉你“学点历史好处多”，与你一起回顾“语言与歌曲的起源”、“美国人的创新简史”和“9·11恐怖袭击事件”，然后“重返伊甸园”，吃着“复活节的彩蛋”，用“短信传经典”，做“无忧无虑新一代”。

第四册《猜想未来》(*Guess the Wonders of Future*)。褪去少年的青涩，美好的青春徐徐展开了人生多彩的画卷。徜徉在人文的长河，领略了人类文明发展的历程，我们就禁不住地立足现在、畅想未来。本册重点介绍的是现代的文明和创造，如生物技术、



计算机技术、新媒体技术、智能手机、3D电视机的最新动态；了解信息技术如何改变人类生活，知道未来穿什么、用什么、吃什么，探询“火星存在生命的证据”和“向太空移民”的可能性；探索“核辐射为什么会带来伤害”，从而吸取日本福岛核危机的教训，远离“十大绿色生活误区”。本册还特别遴选了有关现代军事题材的数篇文章，使我们了解现代科技水平与武器装备、战争形态和战法的密切关系，了解海湾战争综合症的医学之谜，了解什么是电磁轨道炮、甲烷定时炸弹、微型仿真间谍飞机、隐形飞机和未来激光武器，研究如何与机器人作战，从而理性完成“未来28年猜想”，理性融入21世纪。

本书主要阅读对象为在校本、专科大学生，但是任何掌握了4000—6000英语单词的研究生、博士生或其他群体读者，都可以将其用作泛读教材或课外读物。相信它对拓宽人文知识面、提高英文水平、锻炼翻译技能、增长生活常识、丰富社会阅历等各方面均有裨益。

编译者

二〇一一年十二月于合肥



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1

A Homecoming of a Different Sort

在日常生活中，当两代人意见相左时，子女更多的是强调自我，往往视长辈的意见为过时或落伍。但是，事实是：在多数情况下，父母的意见是正确的。因为他们总是为我们好，也比我们更有阅历，更有经验。本文中的父亲，将不愿上大学的儿子赶出了家门，而父子在毕业典礼上的戏剧性重逢，消除了两代人之间的隔阂。

[1] Jeff and I had many conversations during the year, but I will always remember the time he told me about his family. His mother, a loving, caring woman, was the one who held the family together. She died shortly before Jeff graduated from high school. His father, a successful physician, cold and stern in Jeff's words, had firm beliefs that a person would never make a valuable contribution to the world unless they attended and graduated from college by the age of twenty-three. His father had even paved the way for Jeff to attend the same college from which he had graduated, and had offered to pay for Jeff's entire tuition and living expenses. As an active Alumni Association¹ member, he was excited that his son would someday follow in his footsteps.

[2] Jeff was twenty-seven and a successful business planner at a Fortune 500 company²—without a degree. His passion was skiing. When he graduated from high school he decided to decline his father's offer and instead move to Colorado to work with a ski patrol³. With pain in his eyes Jeff told me that he still remembered the day he told

his father he was going to give up college and take a job at a ski resort⁴. He remembered every word of the short conversation. He told his father of his passion for skiing and for the mountains and then of his plans. His father looked off⁵ into the distance, his face became red. Then came the words that still echoed in Jeff's mind: "You lazy kid. No son of mine is going to work on a ski patrol and not attend college. I should have known you'd never amount to⁶ anything. Don't come back in this home until you have enough self-respect to use the brains God gave you and go to school!" The two had not spoken since that conversation.

[3] Jeff was not even sure that his father knew he was back in the area near where he grew up and he certainly did not want his father to know he was attending college. He was doing this for himself, not for his father. He said it over and over again.

[4] Janice, Jeff's sister, had always remained supportive of Jeff's decisions. She stayed in contact with their father, but Jeff had made her promise that she would not share any information about his life with him.

[5] Jeff's graduation ceremony⁷ that year was on a hot, sunny day in June. As I walked around talking to people before the ceremony, I noticed a man with a confused expression⁸ on his face.

[6] "Excuse me," he said as he politely approached me. "What is happening here today?"

[7] "It's graduation day," I replied, smiling.

[8] "Well, that's odd," he said, "my daughter asked me to meet her at this address." His eyes sparkled and he smiled. "Maybe she completed her associate's degree⁹ and wanted to surprise me!"

[9] I helped him find a seat and as he left me he said, "Thank you for helping me. By the way, my name's Dr. Holstrom."

[10] I froze¹⁰ for a second. Jeff Holstrom. Dr. Holstrom. Could this be the same person I had heard about over the last year? The cold, stern man who demanded his son attend college or never enter his home again?

[11] Soon the familiar music could be heard. I turned around in my chair to get a



glimpse of Dr. Holstrom. He seemed to be looking for his daughter amongst the graduates on stage. Speeches were given, the graduates were congratulated, and the dean began to read the names of the graduates.

[12] Jeff was the last person to cross the stage. I heard his name being announced: "Jeff Holstrom." He crossed the stage, received his diploma¹¹ from the college president, and, just as he started down the stairs from the stage, he turned towards the audience looking for his sister.

[13] A lone figure stood up in the back of the audience—Dr. Holstrom. I'm not sure how Jeff even saw him in the crowd, but I could tell that their eyes met. Dr. Holstrom opened his arms, as if to embrace the air around him. He bowed¹² his head, almost as if to apologize. For a moment it seemed as if time stood still, and as if they were the only two in the auditorium. Jeff came down the stairs with tears in his eyes.

[14] "My father is here," he whispered to me. I smiled.

[15] "What are you going to do?" I asked him.

[16] "Well," he said, "I think I'm going home."

Notes

- 1.校友会 2.财富500强企业 3.滑雪巡查员 4.滑雪胜地 5.望着 6.等于, 相当于 7.毕业典礼
8.模糊的、难懂的表情 9.准学士(两年制高校[大专]颁发的学位) 10.惊呆, 吓呆
11.毕业证书 12.鞠躬, 低头, 垂首(注意读音)

浪子回头

[1] 在这一年里，杰夫和我交谈过多次，但是我永远不会忘记有关他的家事的那次谈话。他的母亲是一个充满爱心、体贴他人的女性。她像一根纽带，把全家人紧紧地拧在一起，可惜在杰夫中学毕业前就去世了。父亲是一位成功的医生，但是用杰夫的话说，他冷酷而严厉。他坚持认为，一个人如果不上大学，不在23岁前从大学毕业，就不能为这个世界做出有价值的贡献。父亲希望杰夫上他毕业的那所大学，甚至为此铺平了道路，主动提出为他支付学费和生活费。父亲是校友会的活跃分子，他心潮澎湃，因为儿子有一天会子承父业，踏着他的脚步前进。

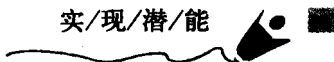
[2] 那年杰夫27岁，在财富500强的一家公司任商业规划师，但是没有学位。他爱好滑雪，中学毕业时，决定违背父意，到科罗拉多去做滑雪巡逻员。杰夫说这话的时候，眼里充满了痛楚。他说，他至今都不会忘记他对父亲说决心放弃学业到滑雪场工作的情形，他能记住那次简短谈话的每一个字。他把自己对滑雪、对高山的热情告诉了父亲，同时也讲述了自己的计划。但父亲的目光遥望着远方，脸涨得通红，然后从嘴角蹦出了几个字：“你这个懒小子，我的儿子决不能不上大学，去做滑雪巡逻员。我早就该知道你会一事无成。你要是没有自尊、不充分利用上天给你的脑子上学去，就不要踏进这个家门！”这些话现在还萦绕在脑际，而父子俩从此再也没有说过一句话。

[3] 杰夫甚至不清楚，父亲是否知道自己已回到从小生长的地方，当然，他也不希望父亲知道他正在上大学。他上大学是为自己，而不是为父亲。这句话，他一遍又一遍地重复着。

[4] 杰夫的妹妹杰尼斯一直支持杰夫的决定，同时，她也与他们的父亲保持接触，但是，杰夫要她承诺，不把自己的任何消息告诉父亲。

[5] 杰夫的毕业典礼是在6月。那天，阳光灿烂，天气炎热。典礼举行前，我四处走动，与人交谈，此时，我注意到一个人，他满脸困惑的表情。

[6] 他客气地向我走来，问道：“劳驾，今天这里有什么事吗？”



[7] 我笑着答道：“今天是毕业日。”

[8] “那就怪了，”他说，“我的女儿要我在这里见她。”他两眼发光，微笑着说道：“也许她拿到了准学士学位，想给我一个惊喜呢！”

[9] 我帮他找到一个座位，离开的时候，他说道：“谢谢你的帮助，我是霍斯邛大夫。”

[10] 有好一会，我惊呆了。霍斯邛大夫，霍斯邛大夫，这与我去年听说过的那个会是同一个人吗？那是一个冷酷、严厉的人，他要求自己的儿子上大学，否则永远不要踏进家门。

[11] 很快，熟悉的乐曲传进耳朵。我坐在椅上，转过身去，瞥了霍斯邛大夫一眼。他的目光似乎在舞台上的毕业生中搜寻自己的女儿。人们发表讲话，向毕业生表示祝贺，接着，校长开始宣读毕业生的名字。

[12] 杰夫是最后一个走上舞台的人。我听到宣读“杰夫·霍斯邛”的名字时，他走上舞台，从校长手中接过毕业证书。当他从舞台上开始走下台阶的时候，他面朝观众，寻找他的妹妹。

[13] 在观众的后部，一个孤独的身影站了起来。那是霍斯邛大夫。我不知道杰夫是怎么在人群中看见他的，但是我能够看出来，他们的目光相遇了。霍斯邛大夫张开双臂，仿佛要拥抱周围的空气。他低下头，差不多像是要道歉的样子。好一阵子，时间像是凝固了，仿佛礼堂里只剩下了他俩。杰夫走下台阶，眼里噙满泪水。

[14] “我父亲来了。”他悄悄对我说。

[15] 我笑了笑，问道：“你打算怎么办呢？”

[16] “哦，”他回答，“我想我该回家了。”

2

Surviving Life with a New Roommate

Sara Lindberg

室友关系是我们大学阶段最基本的人际关系。关系融洽不仅有利于学习，有利于身心健康，更有利于为今后的事业奠定基础。反之，关系不和，甚至紧张，就会给我们的大学活带来一系列负面影响。然而新室友之间由于交往频繁、个性和阅历差异大，难免产生摩擦和冲突。本文告诉你如何避免矛盾、建立和谐室友关系的有效办法。

[1] "Sara, have you been drinking my milk?" My roommate Julia asked, holding a nearly-full gallon of skim¹.

[2] Julia was a friend from my high school youth group, and we decided to be roommates our freshman year at college. We were living with two other girls in a two-bedroom suite² in one of the freshman dorms on campus. Never having had the experience of sharing a room, I thought it would be fun. "We'll be best friends". I thought. "And I won't have to worry about dealing with the usual freshman roommate problems." Boy, was I wrong.

[3] "Yeah, just a glass," I said. "I thought we decided we were going to share all of our food and stuff."



[4] "Well, I've changed my mind, and I'd appreciate it if you'd ask to use my things from now on."

[5] "Fine with me," I answered happily.

[6] Inside I was furious.

[7] When we moved in, we talked to our other roommates about how things would be divided. They wanted everything to be separate. Each person would have her own food, and everyone would do her own dishes. Julia and I decided that having four separate gallons of milk in the refrigerator was ridiculous, so we arranged to share our food. While my other roommates initialed³ everything they owned, Julia and I continued sharing with each other. I hadn't recognized that we had a problem until now.

[8] I went to the fridge to grab a snack and stepped back in amazement when I looked inside. Everything was labeled⁴. From juice boxes to sticks of butter to jars of salsa⁵. "You've gotta⁶ be kidding! Who labels a stick of butter?" I thought. I slammed⁷ the door and turned around to see a huge message from one of my other roomies⁸ on our new dry-erase board⁹: ANYONE WHO DOESN'T DO ALL OF HER DISHES BEFORE BED WILL BE WOKEN UP TO DO THEM. I glanced at the sink¹⁰ and noticed the cereal bowl and spoon left from my late-night snack. These people are nuts¹¹! What kind of psychos¹² have I moved in with? How am I going to get through the rest of the year with the labeling police and the dishwashing Nazi¹³? How will I ever be able to survive my freshman year of college if I can't even survive living with my roommates?

Help! I Live with Monsters

[9] Does this scenario¹⁴ sound familiar? Chances are, if you're living on campus you've had issues with your roommate. Even if she's someone you've known for years, living in close quarters with anyone can get to¹⁵ you after a while. Having to share your space with someone all the time can be frustrating, especially if you've never before had to share a bedroom. Here are a few tips to keep you from experiencing roommate meltdown¹⁶.

1. Remember that your roommates are dealing with the same problems you are.

[10] You may get annoyed by the fact that your roommate likes the TV loud or goes