

Reader's
Digest

英
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Introducing “Reader’s Digest”

“Reader’s Digest” has come into being in the clarion call for the realization of the “four modernizations”. The aim of the journal is to serve as a stepping-stone for learners of English in their efforts to attain a good command of the said language.

As a comprehensive bimonthly, it records either in excerpts or in full fine works from newspapers, magazines and books published both in China and abroad. It is geared to meet the needs of the schools, colleges and the society at large. Following Marxism-Leninism, Mao Zedong Thought as its guide and upholding the four basic principles of our Party, it excerpts works written in good and flowing English which are decent and healthy in content, informative as well as entertaining in reading, in order to help readers enrich their knowledge, widen their horizons and raise their abilities to read the English newspapers and magazines as well as their abilities to express themselves in English.

With a view to focusing on the English language learning, the articles excerpted in the “Reader’s Digest” must relatively be short and vivid; they are simple in style and presented with accurate and detailed notes in the hope that the reader will be able to tour the delightful world of English with ease and without encountering too much fatigue.

May “Reader’s Digest” prove useful and helpful to our readers!

发 刊 词

《英语文摘》在全国人民向“四化”进军的号角声中破土而出了！在万紫千红的文苑里，她无意争春，仅希望作一朵路边篱下的小花，伴随着英语学习者跋涉学途的第一段征程。

《英语文摘》是一种广泛取材于中外英文报刊书籍的综合性文摘双月丛刊。她面向学校，面向社会。坚持以马列主义、毛泽东思想为指导，坚持党的四项基本原则，广征精选思想向上、内容健康、情趣隽永、语言规范的好作品，以帮助读者增长知识，扩大视野，提高阅读英文报刊和语言表达能力。

《英语文摘》立足英语学习。选文力求短小生动，文字浅显晓畅，注释准确详尽，使学习者不觉“苦读”之艰，而备享“自然入门”之乐。

愿《英语文摘》在英语界志士同仁和广大读者的热情支持下茁壮成长！

* * *

Knowledge is a treasure, but practice is the key to it.

—Fuller

知识是一座宝库，而实践就是开启宝库的钥匙。

——富勒

* * *

This world belongs to the energetic.

—Emerson

世界属于积极有为的人。

——埃默森

(丽春摘译)



本文摘自美国总统里根一九八四年四月三十日访华期间在复旦大学的演讲。文中简要论述了移民对今日美国的影响，热情赞扬了美籍华人的聪明才智以及他们作出的杰出贡献。语言生动、流畅，是一篇口语体佳作。（标题系选注者加）

A Nation of Immigrants¹

龚 园 选 注

We have been in your country only 5 days, but already we have seen the wonders of a life-time. The Great Wall of China — a structure so huge and marvelous that it can be seen from space—the ancient city of Xian, and the tomb of the great Emperor, and the buried army² that guards him still.

My young friends, I would like to tell you something about us, and also share something of my own value. First of all, America is really many Americas. We call ourselves “a nation of immigrants” and that is truly what we are. We have drawn people from every corner of the Earth. We are composed of a virtually every race and religion, and not in small numbers, but large. We have a statue in New York harbor⁴ that speaks of this—a statue of a woman holding a torch of welcome to those who enter our country to become Americans. She has greeted millions upon millions of immigrants to our country — she welcomes them still. She represents our open door.

All of the immigrants who came to us brought their own music, (literature), (customs), and ideas — and the marvelous thing, a thing of which we are proud, is that they did not have to relinquish⁵ these things in order to fit in.⁶ In fact, what they brought to America became American. This diversity has more than⁷ enriched us — it has literally⁸ shaped us.

The tradition — the tradition of new immigrants adding to the sum total⁹ of what we are — is not a thing of the past. New immigrants are still bringing their talents and improving the quality of American life. Let me name a few — I think you will know their names:

In America, Wang computers¹⁰ have become a fixture in offices throughout the country. They are the product of the energy and brilliance of Mr. An Wang¹¹—who himself is the product of a Shanghai university.

The faces of our cities shine with the gleaming buildings of Mr. I. M. Pei¹² — who first became interested in architecture as a student in Shanghai.

What we know of the universe, and the fundamental nature of matter, has been expanded by the Nobel Prize winning scientist Dr. Lee Tsung-Dao¹³ — who was born in Shanghai.

We admire these men, we honor them, and we salute you for what you gave them that helped make them great.

Sometimes in America, some of our people may disagree with each other. We are often a highly disputation¹⁴ nation. We rather like to argue. We are free to disagree among ourselves — and we do.

But we always hold together as a society — we have held together for more than two hundred years because we are united by certain things in which we all believe, things

to which we have quietly pledged our deepest loyalties¹⁵. I draw your special attention to what I am about to say because it is so important to an understanding of my country.

We believe in the dignity of each man, woman, and child. Our entire system is founded on an appreciation of the social genius of each individual — and his special right to make his own decisions and lead his own life.

We believe — and we believe it so deeply that Americans know these words by heart¹⁶ — we believe that “all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator¹⁷ with¹⁸ certain unalienable¹⁹ rights, that among these are life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness.” Take an American student or teacher aside later today and ask if he or she hasn't committed those words to memory.²⁰ They are from the document by which we created our country, the Declaration of Independence.²¹

(From *President Reagan's speech at Fudan University*)

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1. A Nation of Immigrants: “移民之邦”, 即: 美国。 2. the buried army: 指临潼出土的秦始皇陵兵马俑。 3. be composed of: 由……组成, 构成。 4. a statue in New York harbor: 指矗立于纽约港口的自由女神塑像。 5. relinquish: 放弃。 6. fit in: 适应(环境等)。 7. more than: 在动词前常表示“不仅……”。 8. literally: 实际上。 9. the sum total: 总数。 10. Wang computers: “王氏电脑”, 王安计算机公司所产的计算机。 11. Mr. An Wang: 王安, 美籍华人, 电脑专家。 12. Mr. I. M. Pei: 贝聿铭, 美籍华人, 著名建筑设计师。 13. Dr. Lee Tsung-Dao: 李政道博士, 美籍中国物理学家。 14. disputation: 争论, 争辩。 15. pledge one's loyalty to: 发誓对……忠心耿耿, 忠贞不渝。 16. know ...by heart: 牢记在心。 17. Creator: 缔造者, 上帝。 18. endow...with: 赐予某人某物, 赋予某人某种才能、智慧等。 19. unalienable: 不可放弃的, 不可转让的。 20. commit...to memory: 把……牢记在心。 21. the Declaration of Independence: 《独立宣言》(于一七七六年七月七日签订)。



EUROPE'S BEST- KNOWN TRAVELLER

王爱春 选注

Among the west Europeans who hope that absence makes the heart grow fonder must be President Mitterrand of France.¹ Because his standing abroad is so much higher than it is at home, it is easy to see why Mr Mitterrand travels constantly². Since taking office³ in May, 1981, he has made more than 40 visits to foreign countries. This schedule would tax a travel writer for the National Geographic. It excludes trips for summit meetings or Mr Mitterrand's tour of the European community countries during France's six-month EEC presidency.⁴

Early in his presidency, Mr Mitterrand wanted to get himself better known outside France. During long years of opposition, his contacts with foreign leaders were limited. On taking office, Mr Mitterrand made a priority of removing misunderstandings with the Americans.⁵ Suspicion of him inside the Reagan administration is now greatly diminished, thanks largely to his four visits to the United States.⁶

There is no let-up⁷ this summer. In the past three weeks, Mr Mitterrand's travels have included Moscow, Madrid, Lisbon, Amman and Cairo.⁸ In between there were stops at Fontainebleau (for the EEC summit) and the Auvergne⁹ (for a brief walking holiday).

Mr Mitterrand's pace may be hectic. But Fifth Republic presidents¹⁰ are expected to conduct their own diplomacy. When Mr Mitterrand's critics grumble, parochially, that France's future lies in the *département* of Corrèze, an old

symbol of rural Frenchness, and not on the Zambezi or the Potomac; nobody really listens¹¹. Frenchmen like to see their president cutting an impressive figure abroad¹². Besides, from the final days of July to the end of August, most of them are on holiday too.

(From *The Economist* July, 1984)

1. Among the west Europeans...of France: 法国总统密特朗一定是那些抱有“离别使人亲”想法的西欧人之一。 2. Because his standing...constantly: 因为密特朗先生在国外的声望远比在国内高,所以不难看出他为什么常常出去旅行。 3. take office: 就职。 4. It excludes trips... presidency: 这不包括他参加最高级会议的旅行,也不包括法国担任欧洲经济共同体主席的六个月中他去欧洲共同体国家的旅行。 EEC = European Economic Community. 5. On taking office...the Americans: 密特朗先生一就职,就首先消除和美国的误解。 6. Suspicion of him...the United States: 主要由于他四次访问美国,现在里根政府中怀疑他的人大大减少了。 7. let-up: 中止。 8. Madrid: 马德里(西班牙首都); Lisbon: 里斯本(葡萄牙首都); Amman: 安曼(约旦首都); Cairo: 开罗(埃及首都)。 9. Fontainebleau: 枫丹白露(法); Auvergne: 奥弗涅山(法)。 10. Fifth Republic presidents: 第五共和国的总统们(一九五八年法兰西第五共和国成立,同年十二月戴高乐当选总统执政,他是第五共和国第一任总统,一九六五年连连任。戴高乐之后,是蓬皮杜和德斯坦,现在执政的是密特朗)。 11. When Mr Mitterrand's critics...listens: 密特朗先生的评论家目光短浅地抱怨说,法国的前途在于科雷兹——农村法国的古老象征,而不是依赖赞比西河或波托马克河,可是实际上并没有人要听。 12. Frenchmen like to see...abroad: 法国人民喜欢看到他们的总统在国外大出风头。

A good book is the best of friends, the same to-day and forever.

—English Proverb

好书如挚友, 情谊永不渝。

——英国谚语

(邹淑群摘译)

· 人物 ·



The Real Sherlock Holmes

【英】Irving Wallace

陈孝明 选注

十九世纪英国作家柯南·道尔笔下的歇洛克·福尔摩斯，以其敏锐的观察、严密的逻辑推理和独特的办案手段，赢得了大侦探家的美誉，至今蜚声不衰。当然，虚构、夸大，甚至违背常理，无不给这位大侦探以及整个故事蒙上了一层神秘的色彩。但是，作者在塑造福尔摩斯时，并非完全虚构，而是依据当时生活中确实存在的一个人写成的。此人是谁呢？本文向你揭示这个秘密。

One evening, about the turn of the century², after a weekend shoot³ in Scotland, a dozen guests sat around a dinner table discussing human monsters, famous murders, and unsolved crimes. One of the guests, Dr. Joseph Bell, the eminent surgeon⁴ and medical instructor, had the others wide-eyed with his deductive acrobatics⁵.

"The trouble with most people," he said, "is that they see, but do not observe. Any really good detective ought to be able to tell, before a stranger has fairly sat down, his occupation, habits, and past history through rapid observation and deduction. Glance at a man and you find⁶ his nationality written on his face, his means of livelihood on his