

大学英语文库

总主编 秦傲松



# Stories of Famous Personages

朱汉雄 主编

## 名人故事篇

· 高级 ·

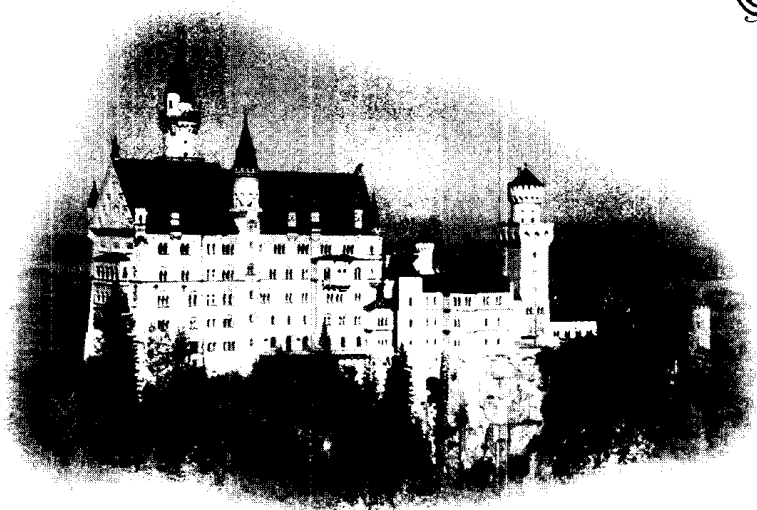
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# Stories of Famous Characters

名人故事篇 · 高级 ·

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## 内 容 提 要

本书是《大学英语文库·名人故事篇》的高级读本。书中收录了 40 篇介绍国际知名人物的文章，集知识性和趣味性于一体，帮助具有中高级英语阅读水平的读者进一步了解异域文化和提高英语阅读能力及欣赏水平。每篇文章都经过了内容和文字方面的精心挑选，对于生僻词语和超纲词汇作了详尽的释义，对长句、难句和相关的背景知识作了注解，并对部分语言优美、意义深刻的句子提供了参考译文。



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# 前 言

1999 年 12 月颁布的《大学英语教学大纲（修订本）》（以下简称新大纲）指出：“从语言学习的规律来看，英语应用能力的提高是建立在大量的语言输入、尤其是大量的阅读的基础之上的。”新大纲还提出：“大学英语教学还应有助于学生开阔视野，扩大知识面，加深对世界的了解，借鉴和吸收外国文化精华，提高文化素养。”

为了贯彻新大纲的精神，全国高等学校大学外语教学指导委员会英语组于 2000 年 7 月在大连召开工作会议，重点讨论了大学英语文库建设。会议确定了大学英语文库的编写原则和编写方案，会议提出，要“加紧大学英语文库建设”。

这套大学英语文库正是在上述思想指导下组织编写的，旨在使学生——读者通过大量阅读，巩固和加深所学语言知识，扩大词汇量，增强英语语感，达到双“提高”的目的，即：既提高英语语言应用能力，又提高文化素养。

这套文库内容十分丰富。从异彩纷呈的现代社会到五光十色的现代生活，从多姿多彩的各国文化到日新月异的科技世界，这套文库都有涵盖。这些内容分属五个系列，它们是：《社会聚焦集》、《文化广角镜》、《名人故事篇》、《科技新视野》和《生活万花筒》。每个系列均按语言难易程度分为初、中、高三个级别。原则上，初级适用于大学非英语专业一年级学生，中级适用于二、三年级学生，高级适用于四年级学生和研究生。

这套文库在选材、译注、体例和编排上均独具特色，不落窠臼。其主要特点有：

1. 各系列各级选文大都摘自国外报刊和互联网，仅个别选文有少量删改。文字规范，语言鲜活，有时代特征，并充分考虑了知识性和趣味性的统一。故这套文库不仅是学习英语、



提高语言应用能力的读物，而且是涉猎世界文化、社会、生活和科技知识的园地。每篇选文长度一般控制在 700—2 000 词之内（仅数篇确因内容不忍割舍的短文不足 700 词）。为方便读者做阅读速度的自我检测，文尾标出了该文的词数。

2. 每篇选文后均附有“Sentence Translations for Reference 参考译句”，以帮助读者加深对文中的长难句及全文的理解。这种在文中择句翻译的形式与全国大学英语四、六级考试中的“英译汉”题型是一致的，因此，它还有助于提高读者的英译汉能力，有助于他们备考英译汉测试。

3. 每篇选文以《大学英语教学大纲（修订本）》的词汇表为参照标准，直接在文中注出了超纲生词的词义，并且在不同文章中重复出现的生词重复注出词义。这样有利于读者打乱顺序任选文章阅读，也有利于读者加深对生词的记忆。此外，每篇选文还用脚注的形式针对有关语言难点和人物、典故进行注释，每条注释力求明快清晰、言简意赅。有的词语用了双语注释，目的是为了从各个方面来提高读者的英语应用能力。

4. 每篇选文均编撰了简明扼要的导读。读者在看到中英文对照的标题后，即可结合导读了解文章的主旨，有助于读者从语篇水平上加深对文章的理解；同时，导读还可以激发读者的兴趣，增强阅读的动力。

这套文库是华中科技大学、武汉理工大学和中国地质大学等三校联袂合作的成果。参加编写工作的有三校的老、中、青年英语教师和华南理工大学外国语言学及应用语言学专业部分硕士研究生，共计 30 多人。编写分工如下：华中科技大学负责《社会聚焦集》、《文化广角镜》和《生活万花筒》三个系列；武汉理工大学负责《名人故事篇》系列；中国地质大学负责《科技新视野》系列。

华中科技大学出版社对本文库的编写和出版给予了鼎力支持，投入了很大力量。本文库在编写过程中得到了华中科技大



学外语系、武汉理工大学外语学院和中国地质大学外语系领导的关心、支持以及许多大学生的帮助。我们全体编写人员在此谨表示衷心的感谢。

这套文库大部分选材来源于最新的有关原版书刊和互联网，编委会谨向原文作者一并致谢。

由于校际间合作编写这样的大型文库是我们的第一次尝试，经验不足；加上水平有限，时间匆促，疏漏与错误在所难免，敬希各方读者和同行不吝赐教。

大学英语文库编委会

2001 年 10 月



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# Caesar the Ruler

## 统治者恺撒



*Caesar is a great ruler. He changed the course of the history of the Greco-Roman world decisively and irreversibly. He was great beyond the requirements of his political ambition. He showed a human spiritual greatness in his generosity to his defeated opponents. On the other hand, his writings were of outstanding literary merit.*

Caesar<sup>①</sup> changed the course of the history of the Greco-Roman world decisively and *irreversibly* (不能更改地). The Greco-Roman society has been *extinct* (灭亡) for so long that most of the names of its great men mean little to<sup>②</sup> the average, educated modern man. But Caesar's name, like Alexander's, is still on people's lips

① 恺撒：古罗马统帅、政治家和作家。建立过独裁统治，制定了儒略历法，著作有《高卢战记》、《内战记》等。

② mean little to sb.: be of no importance or value to sb. 对…没有价值或重要性



throughout the Christian and Islamic worlds. Even people who know nothing of Caesar as a historic personality are familiar with his family name as a title signifying a ruler who is in some sense uniquely supreme or paramount—the meaning of Kaiser in German, “tsar” in the Slavonic languages, and “qaysar” in the languages of the Islamic world.

Caesar's gens (clan) name, Julius (Iulius), is also familiar in the Christian world; for in Caesar's lifetime the Roman month Quintilis, in which he was born, was renamed “July” in his honor. This name has survived, as has Caesar's reform of the calendar. The old Roman calendar was inaccurate and manipulated for political purposes. Caesar's calendar, the Julian calendar, is still partially in force in the Eastern Orthodox Christian countries; and the Gregorian calendar, now in use in the West, is the Julian, slightly corrected by Pope Gregory XIII.

Caesar was not and is not lovable. His generosity to defeated opponents, magnanimous though it was, did not win their affection. He won his soldiers' devotion by the victories that his intellectual ability, applied to warfare, brought them. Yet, though not lovable, Caesar was and is attractive, indeed fascinating. His political achievement required ability, in effect<sup>①</sup> amounting to genius, in several different fields, including administration and generalship besides the minor arts of wire pulling and propaganda.<sup>[1]</sup>

In all these, Caesar was a supreme *virtuoso* (技艺超群的人). But if he had not also been something more than this, he would not have been the supremely great man that he undoubtedly was.<sup>[2]</sup>

Caesar was great beyond—and even in conflict with—the requirements of his political ambition. He showed a human spiritual greatness in his generosity to defeated opponents, which was partly responsible for his *assassination* (暗杀). Another field in which Caesar's genius went far beyond the requirements of his political ambition was his writings. Of these, his speeches, letters, and pamphlets are lost. Only his accounts (both incomplete and

① in effect: in fact 实际上



supplemented by other hands) of the Gallic War and the civil war survive. Caesar ranked as a masterly public speaker in an age in which he was in competition first with Hortensius and then with Cicero.

All Caesar's speeches and writings, lost and *extant* (现存的), apparently served political purposes. He turned his funeral orations for his wife and for his aunt to account<sup>①</sup>, for political propaganda. His accounts of his wars are subtly contrived to make the unsuspecting reader see Caesar's acts in the light that Caesar chooses. The accounts are written in the form of terse, dry, factual reports that look impersonal and objective, yet every recorded fact has been carefully selected and presented. As for the lost *Anticato*, a reply to Cicero's *eulogy* (赞词) of Caesar's dead opponent Marcus Porcius Cato<sup>②</sup>, it is a testimony to<sup>③</sup> Caesar's political insight that he made the time to write it, in spite of the overwhelming military, administrative, and legislative demands on him. He realized that Cato, in giving his life for his cause (46), had made himself posthumously into a much more potent political force than he had ever been in his lifetime. Caesar was right, from his point of view, to try to put salt on Cato's tail<sup>④</sup>. He did not succeed, however. For the next 150 years, Cato the martyr continued to be a nuisance, sometimes a *menace* (威胁), to Caesar's successors.

The mark of Caesar's genius in his writings is that though they were written for propaganda, they are nevertheless of outstanding literary merit. A reader who has seen through their *prosaic* (无灵感的) purpose can ignore it and appreciate them as splendid works of art. Caesar's most amazing characteristic is his energy, intellectual and physical. He prepared his seven books on the Gallic War for publication in 51 when he still had serious revolts in Gaul on his

① turn sth. to account: use sth. 利用...

② Cato: 加图 (前 95—前 46), 古罗马政治家, 大加图之曾孙。他反对恺撒, 后因恺撒获胜而自杀。

③ a testimony to sth.: evidence in support of sth. 对...的见证或说明

④ put salt on one's tail: 诱捕, 使落圈套



hands, and he wrote his books on the civil war and his Anticato in the *hectic* (忙乱的) years between 49 and 44. His physical energy was of the same order. For instance, in the winter of 57—56 he found time to visit his third province, Illyria, as well as Cisalpine Gaul; and in the interval between his campaigns of 55 and 54 he transacted public business in Cisalpine Gaul and went to Illyria to settle accounts with<sup>①</sup> the Pirustae, a turbulent tribe in what is now Albania. In 49 he marched, within a single campaigning season, from the Rubicon to Brundisium and from Brundisium to Spain. At Alexandria, probably aged 53, he saved himself from sudden death by his *prowess* (非凡的才能) as a swimmer.

This cool-headed man of genius undoubtedly changed the course of history at the western end of the Old World. By liquidating (清除) the scandalous and bankrupt rule of the Roman nobility, he gave the Roman state—and with it the Greco-Roman civilization—a reprieve that lasted for more than 600 years in the East and for more than 400 years in the relatively backward West.<sup>[3]</sup> Caesar substituted for the Roman *oligarchy* (寡头政治) an *autocracy* (专制政治) that could never afterward be abolished. If he had not done this when he did it, Rome and the Greco-Roman world might have succumbed, before the beginning of the Christian era, to<sup>②</sup> barbarian invaders in the West and to the Parthian Empire in the East. The prolongation of the life of the Greco-Roman civilization had important historical effects. Under the Roman Empire the Near East was impregnated with<sup>③</sup> Hellenism (希腊文化) for six or seven more centuries. But for this the Hellenic (古希腊) element might not have been present in sufficient strength to make its decisive impact on Christianity and Islam. Gaul, too, would have sunk deeper into barbarism when the Franks overran it, if it had not been associated with the civilized Mediterranean world for more than 500 years as a

① settle/square accounts with: 向…进行清算

② succumb to sth.: yield 屈从…

③ impregnate sth. with sth.: cause sth. to be affected or influenced in every part by sth. 使…的各方面受其他事物的作用或影响



result of Caesar's conquest.<sup>[4]</sup>

Caesar's political achievement was limited. Its effects were confined to the western end of the Old World and were comparatively *short-lived* (短暂的) by Chinese or ancient Egyptian standards. The Chinese state founded by Shi Huang Ti in the 3rd century BC still stands, and its future may be still greater than its past. Yet, even if Caesar were to prove to have been of lesser stature than this Chinese colossus, he would still remain a giant by comparison with the common run of human beings.<sup>[5]</sup> (1,094 words)

## Sentence Translations for Reference

### 参 考 译 句

- [1] 他的政治成就需要才能，这种才能在几个不同的领域——除了较为次要的幕后操纵手腕和宣传外还包括行政和指挥才能——事实上相当于天才。
- [2] 但是，如果他没有超越这种地位，他就不会成为当之无愧的至高无上的伟人。
- [3] 他清除了罗马贵族的丑恶可耻与名誉扫地的统治，使罗马政府以及希腊-罗马的文明获得喘息机会。这在东部地区延续了六百余年，而在比较落后的西部地区延续了四百余年。
- [4] 否则，古希腊文化的因素不可能具有足够的力量对基督教和伊斯兰教产生影响。高卢如果不是由于恺撒的征服而和文明的地中海世界发生联系达五百余年的话，那么，当法兰克人入侵时，它也会更深地陷于野蛮状态。
- [5] 但是，即便恺撒证明自己比中国的秦始皇逊色，但同常人相比，他仍是一个巨人。



# 2

## Virgil the Poet

### 诗人维吉尔



*Virgil is a poet whom Dante had studied carefully and from whom he had acquired his poetic style, the beauty of which has brought him much honor. To Dante, Virgil is the poet of the Roman Empire, a subject of great importance, and he is a poet who has become a saggio, a sage, or moral teacher.*

Virgil was regarded by the Romans as their greatest poet, an estimation that subsequent generations have upheld. His fame rests chiefly upon<sup>①</sup> *the Aeneid* (《埃涅阿斯纪》), which tells the story of Rome's legendary founder and *proclaims* (宣布) the Roman mission to civilize the world under divine guidance. His reputation as a poet *endures* (持续) not only for the music and diction of his verse and for his skill in constructing an intricate work on the grand scale but

① rest upon: depend on 依靠