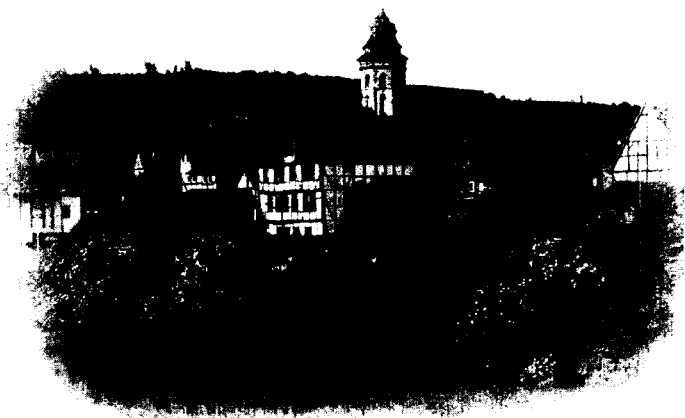


大学英语文库

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Stories of Famous Persons

名人故事篇 中级

主 编 吴汉梅

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内 容 提 要

本书是“大学英语文库”名人故事系列读物的中级部分，其中包括声名显赫的政坛要人，才华横溢的文人学者，魅力四射的歌坛巨星，才能卓越的科技巨子。故事中有些讲的是他们的光辉成就，有些却是他们高大身影下鲜为人知的方方面面。读者在阅读中既可多方面了解名人们的点点滴滴，又可充分体会英语学习的乐趣。

本书可作为广大高校学生英语学习的课外阅读材料，也是广大英语爱好者自学英语、开拓视野的良师益友。

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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1

*President Lincoln
and a Little Boy (I)*
林肯总统和小男孩(I)



A fourteen-year-old boy left home because he got angry with his father who had killed his favorite dog. Never did he expect that he should meet the president in the wood.

The brothers Ripley were as different in nearly every way as the rapids and still pools of a mountain stream.^[1] Perhaps that is why they loved each other in a degree not usually meant by "brotherly love".

Will Ripley was the still pool. He was thoughtful to drowsiness, honest as daylight, mild-tempered, and twenty.^[2] He was in Pennsylvania somewhere, either alive or dead, for the date of this story is July 7th, 1863, which meant that the terrible slaughter of

the battle of Gettysburg^① was just over. The Ripleys, on their farm near the Soldiers' Home, outside of Washington, had not heard from him.

Although Will was no soldier *at heart* (本质上)—it hurt him even to stick pigs^②—he had responded to Lincoln's call for more men two years before, leaving his young brother Dan at home to help his father and mother. Dan was now fourteen, a high-strung, impetuous, outspoken lad of quick actions and hasty decisions.^[3] He was the laughing rapid. But for all his hastiness, he had a head and a heart that could be appealed to, usually. The only thing to which he could not reconcile himself was the separation from Will. Even Will's weekly letters—which never missed their date except when the army was in retreat, and which always sent messages of love to Dan, coupled with^③ encouragement to stay on the farm as the best way he could aid the cause—scarcely kept Dan from running off and hunting up his brother. Dan knew that he and his *collie* (牧羊犬), Tam, were needed to look after the sheep; he knew that the President had asked the loyal^④ to raise all the wool possible; he knew that his father was little more than an invalid since he had been hurt some time before by an accident on the farm. But to see the soldiers marching down Pennsylvania Avenue set him wild to be away with them. In fact, Tam seemed to be the anchor^⑤ that held him; Dan sometimes even thought that he loved Tam next to Will.

The summer of 1863 had been unbearably hot. Then there had been an increasingly *ominous* (不祥的) list of military disasters. Even the loyal were beginning to murmur against Lincoln's management of the war. Then Will's letters had ceased, and Mr. Ripley could get no satisfaction from headquarters. Even Will's uncle, a Colonel Scott, of Illinois, and a friend of Lincoln's, after

① the battle of Gettysburg: 葛底斯堡战役

② to stick pigs: 宰猪

③ couple with: 一并提到, 连同

④ the loyal: 忠于林肯政权的人

⑤ anchor: 锚, (喻) 危难时可依靠的东西

repeated efforts^① to influence some officials at the War Department to aid him in securing news, had not been able to see the President, who was the last resort^② of everybody in those days of tribulation (苦难, 忧伤). Dan was nearly sick with the heat and tension.

The climax to this state came from an unforeseen event. Tam, either crazed by the heat or some secret taste for blood, ran amuck (胡作非为) one night, stamped the sheep and did grievous damage. Farmer Ripley doubtless acted on what he considered the most merciful course by having Tam done away with and buried before Dan got back from an errand to the city.^[4] But to Dan it seemed, in the first agony of his broken heart, an unforgivable thing. Weariness, worry, and now this knife-sharp woe^③ changed the boy into a heartsick (闷闷不乐的) being who flung himself on the fresh mound^④ behind the barn and stayed there the whole day.

He shed no tears; tears would have been dried up by the waves of hot anger against his father. That evening his mother carried some food out to him. He did not touch it; he would not talk to her.

Sometime later, as the night wore on, he stole into the house, did up some clothes into a bundle^⑤, took the food at hand and crept from his home. Once more he went to the grave of Tam. What he said there, aloud but quietly, need not be told. Sufficient it is to know that a burning resentment toward his father filled him, coupled with a sickening longing to be with his brother Will. With his hasty anger, he thought that Will was the only one in the world who loved or understood him.^[5] In the wee hours of morning^⑥ he left the farm, forever, as he thought, and turned down the wood road which led to the Soldiers' Home, where he hoped to find someone who

① repeated efforts 不断的努力

② the last resort 最后一个可以依赖的人

③ knife-sharp woe: 切肤之痛

④ fresh mound: 新坟墩

⑤ He did up some clothes into a bundle: 他把几件衣服胡乱捆在一起

⑥ in the wee hours of morning: 凌晨一两点钟或两三点钟

could tell him how to get to Will's regiment. The *sultry* (酷热的), starless heat of a Washington midsummer enclosed him; the wood was very dark and breathless; his head *throbbed* (抽痛). But he pushed on, high-tempered, unforgiving; he would show them all! Suddenly he recollected that he had not said the Lord's Prayer^① that night. Dan had been strictly raised. He tried saying it, walking. But that seemed *sacrilegious* (亵渎的). He kneeled in the dark and tried. But when he got to "as we forgive those who *trespass against* (冒犯) us", he *balked* (停止), for he was an honest soul. And this new gulf of mental distress was too much for him; it brought the tears.

There in the dark by the roadside, Dan cried himself to sleep.

At the same hour another worn soul, a tall, lean-faced man with eyes full of unspeakable sorrow, was pacing the chamber of the White House. The Rebellion^② had reached its flood tide at Gettysburg three days before; the President had stayed the flood, bearing in tireless sympathy the weight of countless responsibilities.^[6] Now, all day long there bore down upon him decisions that concerned not only armies but races; not only races, but principles of human welfare. He was grief-stricken still from his son Willie's death, and his secretary in the room downstairs, listened unconsciously to the steady march of steps overhead. Lincoln had given special instructions that no one was to interrupt him. He was having one of his great spiritual battles.

Finally, shortly before dawn, the footsteps stopped, the secretary's door opened, and the *gaunt* (憔悴的), gray face looked in. "Stoddard, do you want anything more from me tonight?"

The secretary rose. "I want you in bed, sir. Mrs. Lincoln should not have gone away; you are not fair with her or us."

"Don't reproach me, Stoddard," said Lincoln, kindly. "It had to be settled, and, with God's help, it has been. Now I can sleep. But I must have a breath of air first. There's nothing?"

"Only the matter of those deserters, sir, and that can wait."

① the Lord's prayer: 主祷文 (圣经新约全书)

② the Rebellion: 叛军 (美国南北战争时期的南军)

The President passed his hands over his deep-lined face. "Only!" he murmured. "Only! How wicked this war is. It leads us to consider lives by the dozen, by the bale, wholesale.^[7] How many in this *batch* (一批), Stoddard?"

The secretary turned some papers, "Twenty-four, sir. You remember the interview with General Scanlon yesterday."

Lincoln hesitated, saying, "Twenty-four! Yes, I remember. Scanlon said that *lenience* (宽大) to the few was injustice to the many. He is right, too." Lincoln held out his hand for the papers; then drew it back and looked up at Stoddard. "I can't decide," he said in a low voice, "not now. Stoddard, you see a weak man. But I want to *thresh* (推敲) this out a little longer. I must walk. These cases are killing me; I must get out."

"Let me call an attendant, Mr. Lincoln."

"They're all asleep. No, I'll take my chances with God. If anybody wants to kill me, he will do it. You must go to bed, Stoddard."
(1,320 words)

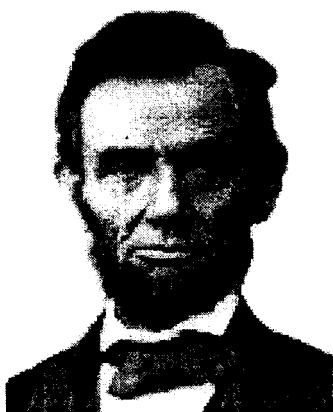
Sentence Translations for Reference

参 考 译 句

- [1] 理普利两兄弟性格完全不同，一个像湍湍的急流，一个像山涧里静静的深潭。
- [2] 20 岁的威尔·理普利诚实坦荡，脾气温和，喜欢静静地思考。
- [3] 丹是一位 14 岁的少年，容易激动，性情鲁莽，说话直截了当，行动敏捷，处事果断。
- [4] 农夫理普利在丹进城办事还没回来之前，杀死了塔姆并把它埋起来了。毫无疑问，他认为自己的所作所为是最仁慈的。
- [5] 气极了的丹认为这个世界上最爱他或最理解他的人只有威尔。
- [6] 总统以他不倦的同情心承担了数不尽的责任，终于压住了叛军的嚣张气焰。
- [7] 这场战争使我们成打成包地批发生命。

2

President Lincoln and a Little Boy (II) 林肯总统和小男孩(II)



"To err is human, to forgive divine." Both the boy and the president were divine because the boy forgave his father and the president forgave twenty-four deserted soldiers.

By the time dawn showed the ruts in the road, Lincoln realized that he was tired. "Abe, Abe," he said half aloud, "they tell me you used to be a whale at splitting rails, and now a five-mile stroll before breakfast—By jings!"^[1] It was his usual swear, that "by jings!" and this time it was occasioned by his nearly stepping on a lone youngster lying in the road. The boy raised his head from a bundle of clothes; the tall man *stooped* (俯身) with tenderness, saying, "Hello, sonny. So you get old Mother Earth to make your bed for you! How's the mattress?"

Dan sat up and rubbed his eyes. "What are you doing?" he asked. "I appear to be waking you, and making a bad job of it." said Lincoln.

"You didn't come to take me, then." said Dan, relieved. "I wouldn't a gone." he added *defiantly* (挑战地).

Lincoln looked at him sharply, his interest aroused by the trace of tears^① in the boy's eyes and the *bravado* (虚张声势) in his voice. "There's a misunderstanding here," continued Lincoln, "almost as bad a misunderstanding as Mamie and her mother had over Mr. Riggs, who was the undertaker back home." Here the gaunt man gave a preliminary chuckle^②. "Ever hear that story, sonny?"

Dan shook his head, wondering how such a homely man^③ could sound so likable. Lincoln seated himself on a fallen tree trunk. "Well, it was this way. Back home there was an old chap used to drive an *old rig* (收购旧货的车) around collecting rags. And one day when Mamie's ma was inside dusting the parlor, Mr. Riggs, whose job was undertaking^④, as I said, drops by for a friendly call, and Mamie sings out, country style, 'Ma, here's Mr. Riggs'; and her ma, thinking she'd said the man for the rags, called back, 'Tell him we haven't anything for him today.'"

The joke broke on Dan after one look at his friend's face, and his quick impetuous laugh might have disturbed the early-rising birds. Lincoln joined in, and for an instant Dan clean forgot Tam dead and home deserted; and for the same fleet instant^⑤ Lincoln forgot his troubles in Dan's laugh. "Tell him we haven't anything for him today!" repeated the boy, "I'll sure have to tell that to Fa—" He didn't finish, remembering with a pang that he was not going to see his father again.

Lincoln had caught the swift change on his face and it was his

① the trace of tears: 泪痕

② a preliminary chuckle: 还没开始讲就笑了

③ a homely man: 长相不好看的人

④ undertaking: 承办丧葬事宜

⑤ fleet instant: 瞬间