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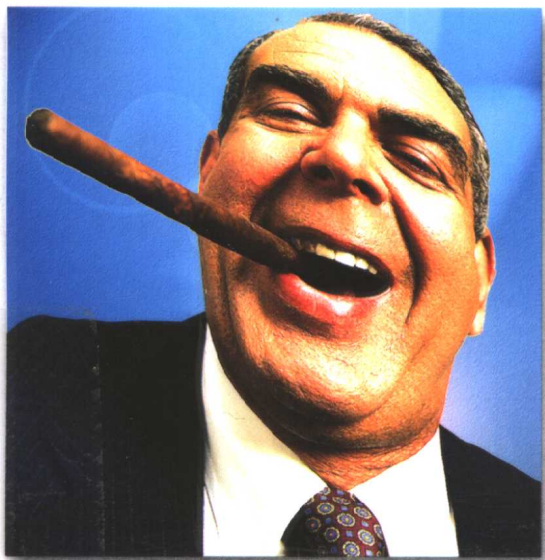
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丛书策划：梁卫

# Successful Americans

● 褚东伟 编译

## 成功的美国人



世界图书出版公司

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褚东伟 编译



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## 前 言

美国是个特别的国家。这个国家有着富饶的资源、独特的社会制度和两百多年来从世界各地积累起来的丰富的人力资源。这个国家的特殊的条件为许多人提供了成功的机会，使得一个又一个的成功故事（success stories）不断地上演。

成功的故事千千万，每个故事各不同。有人的成功纯粹得益于机遇，有人的成功完全凭借自己在逆境中的奋斗，有人的成功近似天方夜谭，而有人的成功过程又是那么的平淡无奇……不管他们的经历如何，他们都是一群被社会认可的成功人士，对众多的人产生了深远的影响。

这些人里面，有平民出身的总统，有大学没有念完却富可敌国的超级富豪，有艺人、作家、体坛明星，有世界级的电视节目主持人，有来自亚洲、欧洲等地的移民……

这本“小书”的目的主要不是为了宣扬这些人的成功故事，实际上要在这薄薄的百十页内收尽那么多人物的那么多故事也是不太可能的。我的目的是通过列举一些成功人士的事例或背景材料增加读者对美国社会的一些感性认识，丰富读者的英语语言知识。有的文章稍微严肃一点，如《比尔·盖茨，富人中的最富》、《韩裔人士金在美国的成功故事》、《美国齿轮大王乔的成功故事》等可谓“正传”；有的文章是比较活泼富有激情的人物事迹片段，如《“演艺之母”麦当娜》、《大卫·莱特曼对乔治·小布什》等；有的是网民的评论，如《保罗·爱伦：一不小心发大财》等；另外还有一篇假装称赞实为批评美国教育制度的文章《美国教育的成功方面》。

英文部分都是我根据地道的原始材料整理的，有浓郁的生活气息，然后我又进行了翻译编写工作，制作成这本英汉对照的小册子，方便中级以上程度的读者携带阅读。

世界图书出版公司的梁卫先生直接促成了这本书的诞生。我在此对梁卫先生和世界图书出版公司表示衷心的感谢。我的妻子蒋胜老师对全部书稿进行了仔细校对，在此一并感谢。在书稿成书之际又传来喜讯，收入本书的魏得曼小说《举重》片断的中文译稿获得了第四届戈宝权文学翻译奖“优秀奖”。

另外，有意思的是，这本小书的出世正伴随着一个“小宝宝”的出世。这本书就算我送给出世不久的孩子 Dong Dong 的一个见面礼，祝他健康成长，将来做成功的中国人。

褚东伟

于广东外语外贸大学

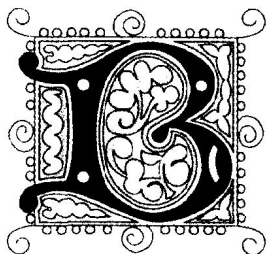
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# 1. Bill Gates, the Richest of the Rich



Bill Gates makes a better chief software architect than chief executive. The world's richest person for the seventh consecutive year — \$58 billion — gave up the top job early last year to brainstorm new products and strategy. Now, this year Microsoft will roll out more new products, including its first game platform, than any other year in its 25-year history.

William (Bill) H. Gates is chairman and chief software architect of Microsoft Corporation, the worldwide leader in software, services and Internet technologies for personal and business computing. Microsoft had revenues of \$22.96 billion for the fiscal year ending June 2000, and employs more than 39,000 people in 60 countries.

Born on October 28, 1955, Gates and his two sisters grew up in Seattle. Their father, William H. Gates II, is a Seattle attorney. Their late mother, Mary Gates,







was a schoolteacher, University of Washington regent, and chairwoman of United Way International.

Gates attended public elementary school and the private Lakeside School. There, he discovered his interest in software and began programming computers at age 13.

In 1973, Gates entered Harvard University as a

freshman, where he lived down the hall from Steve Ballmer, now Microsoft's president and chief executive officer. While at Harvard, Gates developed a version of the programming language BASIC for the first microcomputer — the MITS Altair.



In his junior year, Gates left Harvard to devote his energies to Microsoft, a company he had begun in 1975 with his childhood friend Paul Allen. Guided by a belief that the computer would be a valuable tool on every office desktop and in every home, they began developing software for personal computers. Gates' foresight and his vision for personal computing have been central to the success of Microsoft and the software industry.



Under Gates' leadership, Microsoft's mission has been to continually advance and improve software technology, and to make it easier, more cost-effective and more enjoyable for people to use computers. The company is committed to a long-term view, reflected in its investment of more than \$4 billion on research and development in the current fiscal year.

In 1999, Gates wrote *Business @ the Speed of Thought*, a book that shows how computer technology can solve business problems in fundamentally new ways. The book was published in 25 languages and is available in more than 60 countries. *Business @ the Speed of Thought* has received wide critical acclaim, and was listed on the best-seller lists of the *New York Times*, *USA Today*, the *Wall Street Journal* and *Amazon.com*. Gates' previous book, *The Road Ahead*, published in 1995, held the No. 1 spot on the *New York Times*' bestseller list for seven weeks.

Gates has donated the proceeds of both books to non-profit organizations that support the use of technology in education and skills development.

In addition to his love of computers and software, Gates

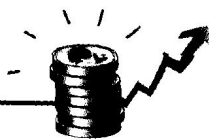




is interested in biotechnology. He sits on the board of ICOS, a company that specializes in protein-based and small-molecule therapeutics, and he is an investor in a number of other biotechnology companies. Gates also founded Corbis, which is developing one of the world's largest resources of visual information — a comprehensive digital archive of art and photography from public and private collections around the globe. In addition, Gates has invested with cellular telephone pioneer Craig McCaw in Teledesic, which is working on an ambitious plan to employ hundreds of low-orbit satellites to provide a worldwide two-way broadband telecommunications service.

Philanthropy is also important to Gates. He and his wife, Melinda, have endowed a foundation with more than \$21 billion to support philanthropic initiatives in the areas of global health and learning, with the hope that as we move into the 21st century, advances in these critical areas will be available for all people. To date, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has committed more than \$2 billion to organizations working in global health; more than \$500 million to improve learning opportunities, including the Gates Library Initiative to bring computers, Internet Access and training to public libraries in low-income communities in the United





States and Canada; more than \$200 million to community projects in the Pacific Northwest; and more than \$29 million to special projects and annual giving campaigns.

Gates was married on Jan. 1, 1994, to Melinda French Gates. The couple has two children: a daughter, Jennifer Katharine Gates, born in 1996; and a son, Rory John Gates, born in 1999.

Gates is an avid reader, and enjoys playing golf and bridge.





## 比尔·盖茨，富人中的最富



(你有电脑吗？如果有，那你一定装了Windows，而且还知道微软公司，可能还听说了它的创始人的传奇故事。)

作为软件设计师的比尔·盖茨比作为公司首席执行官的盖茨更为成功。他身价580亿美元，已经连续7年被评为全球首富。去年年初，他放弃了公司的最高职位，想在开发新产品、新策略上多动些脑筋。今年微软将以25年来从未有的规模推出更多的新产品，包括它开发的第一个游戏平台。

盖茨的全名为威廉（比尔）·H·盖茨，是微软公司的主席和首席软件设计师，而微软公司又是个人和企业计算方面的软件、服务和互联网技术的全球霸主。在2000年6月结束的这个财政年度，微软的收入达229.6亿美元，雇员超过3.9万人，分布在60个国家。

盖茨出生于1955年10月28日，和他的两个妹妹在西雅图长大成人。他们的父亲，威廉·H·盖茨第二，是一位西雅图律师。他们已故的母亲玛丽是个教师，华盛顿大学教务委员，同时也是国际联合运输公司的主席。

盖茨在公立学校上了小学，后来上了私立的雷克赛德中学。在雷克赛德读书时，他发现自己对软件特别有兴趣，于是13岁就开始了电脑编程生涯。

1973年，盖茨进入哈佛大学读书，和现在为微软总裁、首席执行官的斯蒂夫·鲍尔默同住一个楼层。在哈佛大学期间，盖



茨为第一台微型计算机“MITS牵牛星”开发了一个BASIC编程语言的版本。

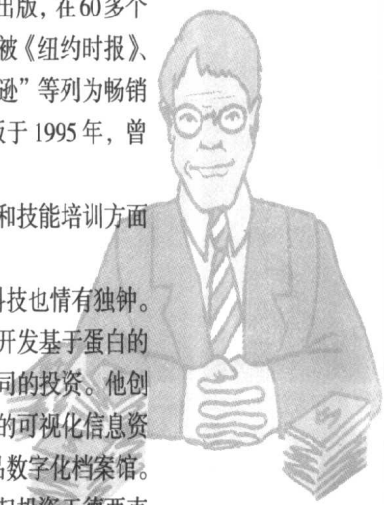
大三时，盖茨离开了哈佛，专心经营他和少年时代的朋友保罗·艾伦于1975年一起创办的微软公司。他们相信电脑将会成为每张办公桌和每个家庭不可缺少的工具，在这种信念的指引下，他们开始为个人电脑开发软件。盖茨对于个人电脑的这种远见卓识是微软和软件工业成功的关键所在。

在盖茨的领导下，微软不断地提升和改进软件技术，使电脑的应用日趋简便、日趋经济适用，并且给人带来越来越多的快乐。微软公司致力于长期的发展，这一点我们可以从当前财政年度超过40亿美元的研发投资上很明确地看到。

1999年盖茨写了《未来时速》。该书主要说明电脑技术怎样以全新的方式解决商业问题。该书以25种语言出版，在60多个国家公开发行。《未来时速》出版后好评如潮，被《纽约时报》、《今日美国》、《华尔街日报》和网上书店“亚马逊”等列为畅销书。比尔·盖茨的前一本书《未来之路》，出版于1995年，曾连续7周位于《纽约时报》畅销书榜的榜首。

两本书的收入盖茨都捐献给了支持在教育和技能培训方面使用技术手段的非赢利性组织。

除了酷爱电脑和软件，比尔·盖茨对生物科技也情有独钟。他是一家叫做艾科斯公司的董事，该公司专门开发基于蛋白的小分子药物。他还参与了很多其他生物科技公司的投资。他创立了科比斯公司，该公司正在开发全世界最大的可视化信息资料库：全世界公共和私人收藏艺术品和摄影作品数字化档案馆。另外，盖茨还和移动电话先锋克雷格·麦科一起投资于德西克



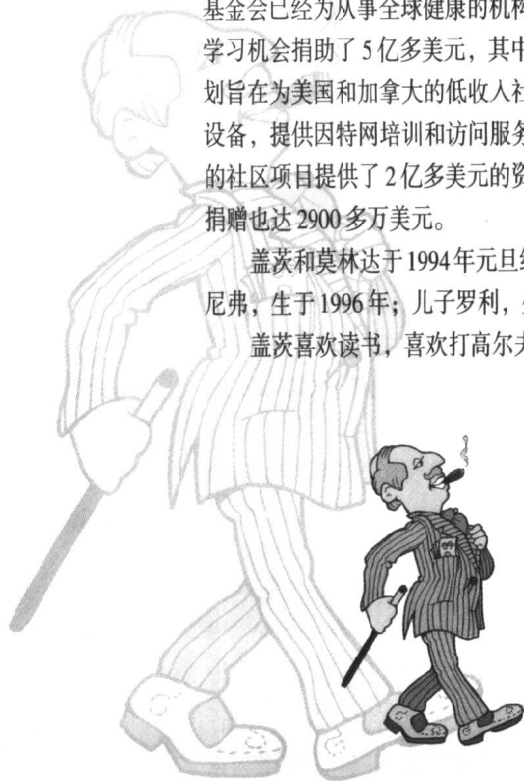


电信，该公司正雄心勃勃地要使用几百个低轨道人造卫星向全世界提供双向、宽带远程通信服务。

对于盖茨来说，慈善也是重要的事业。他和他的妻子莫林达捐款 210 多亿美元成立了一个基金会，用于支持世界医疗健康和教育培训方面的活动，他希望当人类进入 21 世纪的时候，这些重要领域的进步能够为所有的人造福。到目前为止，盖茨基金会已经为从事全球健康的机构捐助了 20 多亿美元，为改善学习机会捐助了 5 亿多美元，其中包括盖茨图书馆计划，该计划旨在为美国和加拿大的低收入社区的公共图书馆购置计算机设备，提供因特网培训和访问服务，此外还为西北太平洋地区的社区项目提供了 2 亿多美元的资助；另外，特殊项目和年度捐赠也达 2900 多万美元。

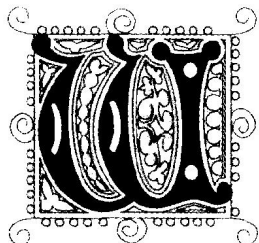
盖茨和莫林达于 1994 年元旦结婚。生有两个孩子：女儿詹尼弗，生于 1996 年；儿子罗利，生于 1999 年。

盖茨喜欢读书，喜欢打高尔夫球和桥牌。





## 2. Bill Clinton: Eight Years Is Too Short



When Americans cannot decide between Al Gore and George W. Bush for a new president, probably Bill Clinton is to blame. If the U.S. constitution allowed him a third term, the election results would have been clearer. Not every American takes a liking to him, though. The following are interesting remarks about the ex-President.

### **Johnson's Comparison of Bill Clinton and George W. Bush**

The following comparison is more in favor of Bill Clinton:

Now that this historic election process is coming to a conclusion, for the sake of history, let's do a comparison between outgoing President, Bill Clinton, and the man who will replace him, George W. Bush.

Bill Clinton is at the intellectual level of a Rhodes





Scholar. George W.Bush is at the intellectual level of Road Kill.

Bill Clinton is estranged from Hillary. George W.Bush is estranged from Reality.

Bill Clinton likes being a big wheel inside the Beltway. George W.Bush likes being drung drunk at the wheel on the Beltway.

Bill Clinton's anti-drug proposal will have a positive effect on the economy of Columbia. George W.Bush's personal drug habits once had a positive effect on the economy of Columbia.

Bill Clinton's brother stole 15 minutes of fame. George W.Bush's brother stole 15 thousand votes.

Bill Clinton manipulates the English language to persuade the public. George W.Bush mangles the English language to the amusement of journalists.

Bill Clinton, as an investor, believes in Whitewater real estate. George W.Bush, as an investor, believes in Whites-only real estate.

Bill Clinton: wife is in the Senate. George W.Bush: wife is barefoot and pregnant.

Bill Clinton, as a Boomer child, watched "Howdy Doody". George W.Bush, as a Boomer child, had the personality of Howdy Doody.

Bill Clinton believes that young people should

