

Collins

柯林斯名人故事集

AMAZING
PEOPLE
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了不起的作曲家

Amazing Composers

〔英〕Anna Trewin 编

2级

英语注释



商务印书馆
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〔英〕Anna Trewin 编

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出版前言

商务印书馆自创立以来，始终以“昌明教育，开启民智”为己任，致力于翻译西学、沟通中外，坚持以高质量的出版物促进文化交流，以传播先进思想推动社会进步。近年来更是加大了外语学习读物的出版，如推出“莎翁戏剧经典”丛书、“阿加莎·克里斯蒂经典侦探作品集”系列等，此次引进“柯林斯名人故事集”系列是我馆开发英语学习读物的又一成果。

本系列丛书的英文原书由英国柯林斯出版社按照柯林斯 COBUILD 分级标准，邀请英国语言和文学专家改编而成，每一级均对照欧洲语言教学大纲（CEF）相应级别，是适合初级至中级水平英语学习者的英语读物。

本系列丛书分为四级，每级 5 册，共 20 册，每册集中介绍一个领域的 5—6 个著名人物。正文部分用简明清晰的英文以第一人称讲述人物生平故事，并以脚注形式提供重点词汇的词性和释义；文后附英汉对照的人物生平大事记；书后附英文词汇表，供读者了解本书重点词汇详细的英文释义。

此外，每本书均提供点读笔和二维码音频下载功能。

希望这套“柯林斯名人故事集”丛书能够帮助读者在学习英语的同时了解人类历史上各个领域最杰出、最有影响力的人物，在提高英语能力的同时，走出一条成功的人生之路。

商务印书馆编辑部

2016年9月

Introduction

引 言

“柯林斯名人故事集”包含一系列简短的故事，每册介绍五至六个著名人物的生平，这些人的一生及他们的成就深刻地影响了今天的世界。所有故事都精心分级，以确保读者既可以享受阅读，又能从中受益。

你可以从头至尾阅读本书，也可以直接翻看自己喜欢的人物故事，每一个故事都是完全独立的。

每个故事后面都附有一个简短的年表，集中介绍该人物一生中最重要的事件，年表可以有效地帮助你复习刚才看过的内容。

超过本册阅读水平的单词第一次在每个故事中出现时都标有下画线，该书末尾的词汇表列出了所有画线单词的释义。第1级和第2级的释义来自 *Collins COBUILD Essential English Dictionary*，第3级和第4级的释义来自 *Collins COBUILD Advanced English Dictionary*。

为了给老师和学习者提供支持，以下网站提供了更多资料：www.collinselt.com/readers。

The Amazing People Worldwide

“柯林斯名人故事集”根据 The Amazing People Worldwide 出版的原始文本改编而成。The Amazing People Worldwide 是一个教育出版机构，于 2006 年由教育心理学家、管理学家查尔斯·马杰里森博士成立，出版纸质书、电子书、音频书、iBook 图书和视频内容，让读者可以“面对面”接触全世界各领域，如艺术、科学、音乐、政治、医学和商业等领域最鼓舞人心、最有影响力的人。

The Grading Scheme

分 级 标 准

柯林斯 COBUILD 分级标准是根据当下最新语言使用信息设置而成，每一级都有全新的语法和词汇综合框架，确保本系列完全符合读者的英文水平。

		欧洲语言教学大纲 (CEF) 级别	页数	词汇量
第 1 级	初级	A2	64	约 700
第 2 级	中级初阶	A2-B1	80	约 900
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欲知柯林斯 COBUILD 分级标准（包括每一级的完整语法结构）的更多信息，请参见：www.collinselt.com/readers/gradingscheme。

在线资料还包括：通过在线测试英语水平，了解自己的分级，测试网站：www.collinselt.com/readers/levelcheck。

目 录

Introduction

引言	1
----------	---

The Grading Scheme

分级标准	3
------------	---

Johann Sebastian Bach

约翰·塞巴斯蒂安·巴赫	1
-------------------	---

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

沃尔夫冈·阿玛多伊斯·莫扎特	13
----------------------	----

Giuseppe Verdi

朱塞佩·威尔第	25
---------------	----

Johann Strauss

约翰·施特劳斯	37
---------------	----

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

彼得·伊里奇·柴可夫斯基	49
--------------------	----

Irving Berlin

欧文·柏林	61
-------------	----

Glossary

词汇表	73
-----------	----

Johann Sebastian Bach

约翰·塞巴斯蒂安·巴赫



1685—1750

the man who wrote the *Brandenburg Concertos*

《勃兰登堡协奏曲》创作者



本节朗读音频



I was one of Germany's greatest^① musicians and composers. I could play the organ^②, violin, flute and harpsichord^③ and many other instruments^④. I also composed many different kinds of music.

I was born on 21st March 1685 in Eisenach, Germany, and I was the youngest of eight children. My family was very musical. My father was director of the Eisenach musicians and he could play the violin and the harpsichord. Three of my uncles were professional musicians and one of them showed me how to play the organ. This instrument became very important in my life.

① great *adj.* 伟大的, 重要的 ② organ *n.* 管风琴 ③ harpsichord *n.* 拨弦键琴, 羽管键琴 ④ instrument *n.* 乐器

Unfortunately, my parents both died when I was only 9 years old. As a result, I was sent to live with my older brother, Johann Christoph, and his family. But I was fortunate because Johann Christoph was a musician and he continued to teach me the organ and the harpsichord. He also gave me music by well-known German composers to copy. This helped me to learn a lot about composing music. I watched my brother playing the organ and I learned a lot from him. Soon I could compose music and play many instruments. I was also an excellent singer, so I sang in my school's choir^①. My teachers told me I was very talented^② at music. In 1700, I won a scholarship^③ to study at Saint Michael's School in Lüneburg.

When I arrived at Saint Michael's, I was asked to join the school choir. This was an honour^④ because the choir only accepted^⑤ the most talented students. At weekends, I visited churches and listened to the finest German organ music.

After I left Saint Michael's in 1703, I got a job in Weimar as a court^⑥ musician, but the work was boring. However, I still gave performances^⑦ in churches and people told me that I was a very good organist. As a result, I was soon employed as an organist for the people of Arnstadt. This position gave me a regular salary and I had time to compose my own music. Arnstadt was also close to my home town.

But I knew I needed to develop my talents^⑧. So I decided to leave Arnstadt for a short time to study with the famous organist

① choir *n.* 唱诗班, 合唱队 ② talented *adj.* 有才华的 ③ scholarship *n.* 奖学金 ④ honour *n.* 荣誉 ⑤ accept *v.* 接受 ⑥ court *n.* 宫廷 ⑦ performance *n.* 表演, 演出, 演奏 ⑧ talent *n.* 天赋, 才能

Dieterich Buxtehude, in Lübeck. While I was there, I used the time to hear Buxtehude play as much as possible. I went to the evening concerts where his cantatas^① were performed^②.

When I arrived back in Arnstadt, I had a lot of new ideas which I started writing into my music. During this time, I also fell in love with a lady called Maria Barbara. We spent many hours together and soon we decided to marry.

I needed to earn more money because I wanted to get married and have children. So in 1707, I accepted a job as organist in Mühlhausen. There, I started making a collection of the best organ music. I also trained the choir and started a new orchestra. Our first performance, *Gott ist mein König* (God is my king), was given for the new Town Council.

A year later, I was asked by the Duke of Weimar to join his court chamber musicians. I accepted the job, and Maria and I moved to Weimar.

In 1714, the Duke appointed^③ me as Director of Music. I had a good salary and my wife was happy in our new home. We decided to start a family, but unfortunately only four of our seven children survived^④ infancy^⑤.

I made many good friends at Weimar. They included the scholar^⑥ Johann Matthias Gesner. During this very busy and very creative^⑦ time, I began to love Italian music. I spent many hours

① cantata *n.* 康塔塔(常为宗教题材的短小音乐作品) ② perform *v.* 演出, 演奏 ③ appoint *v.* 任命 ④ survive *v.* 生存, 存活, 幸存 ⑤ infancy *n.* 婴儿期 ⑥ scholar *n.* 学者 ⑦ creative *adj.* 有创造力的

listening to the music of Vivaldi, Corelli and Torelli. I also wrote *The Little Organ Book* to help students who were learning to play the organ.



In 1717, I was offered the job of Director of Music by Leopold, Prince of Anhalt-Cöthen. I decided to accept the job and I told the Duke of Weimar I was leaving. But the Duke wasn't happy and we argued. As a result, I was sent to prison for a month. It was a very cold and unhappy experience.

But I knew that I'd made the right decision. I was in charge of an orchestra of 18 men and I was paid a good salary at Cöthen. I also had time to compose music. The prince was a talented musician and we enjoyed playing together.



During my time in Cöthen, I wrote the *Brandenburg Concertos*^① and wrote six works for the cello. Life was good and the Prince often asked his orchestra to join him on his long journeys. But while I was travelling abroad with him I received some terrible news. My wife had died suddenly from an illness. I grieved^② for Maria Barbara very much and I was very unhappy. I also had to look after my children alone, so I didn't have much time for my music.

The next year, Prince Leopold asked me to compose some cantatas to celebrate his birthday. Singers from nearby courts were invited to perform these works. One of them was a talented singer called Anna Magdalena, who was 19 years old. We fell in love, so I asked her to marry me. With Anna Magdalena I had thirteen more children, but only six of them survived infancy. I was lucky because Anna Magdalena was a wonderful mother to *all* my children.



In 1723, I was offered a new position as Director of Music at St Thomas's School in Leipzig. I became Director of Music for the churches in the town, too. It was my job for the next 27 years. As well as teaching school subjects, I had to organize music for the town. I also had to teach students how to play instruments so they could perform in the orchestra. But there was still enough time to compose my music. During my time in Leipzig, I wrote my cantata cycles^③, violin and harpsichord concertos, and many other works.

① concerto *n.* 协奏曲 ② grieve *v.* 悲伤, 伤心 ③ cycle *n.* 套曲

In 1729, I was appointed Director of the Leipzig *Collegium Musicum*. Our group performed twice a week at Zimmermann's Coffee House on Catherine Street. I continued to write music and wrote many of my masterpieces^①. These included the *Canonic Variations* and the *Musical Offering* and my *Mass in B Minor*. My last great work used all the skills I had learned as a composer – it was called *The Art of the Fugue*.

By now, I was becoming an old man. My hair had become grey and my eyesight was weak from working in bad light. I had two operations on my eyes. While I was recovering, I spent my last two months in a dark room. I used this time to finish a last *Chorale Prelude*. On 27th July 1750, I woke up and I could see well again. But later that day, I suffered^② a stroke^③ and I died that evening.

① masterpiece *n.* 代表作, 杰作 ② suffer *v.* 遭受 ③ stroke *n.* 中风