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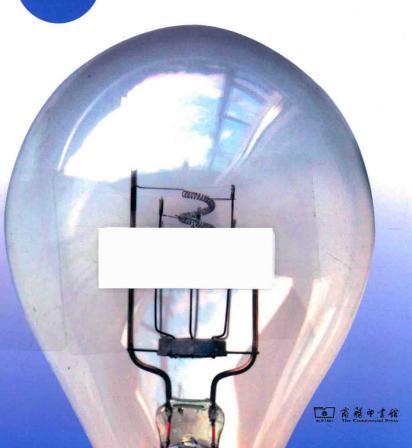


# 了不起的发明家

Amazing Inventors

〔英〕Silvia Tiberio 编

**1**级 英语注释



#### Collins

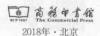


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## 出版前言

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

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## 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
第3级	中级	B1	96	约 1,100
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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
Johannes Gutenberg 约翰内斯·古登堡 ···································	1
Louis Braille	
路易·布莱叶	11
Alexander Graham Bell	
亚历山大·格雷厄姆·贝尔	21
Thomas Edison	
托马斯·爱迪生	31
Guglielmo Marconi	
古列尔莫·马可尼	43
John Logie Baird	
约翰·罗杰·贝尔德 ······	55
Glossary	
词汇表	65

# Johannes Gutenberg

约翰内斯·古登堡

c.1400 - 1468

the man who invented the printing press 印刷机发明人



本节朗读音频

# Johannes Gutenberg

约翰内斯一古登堡

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I invented a machine to print books – the printing press. After my invention, books were cheaper and easier to make. Books spread ideas around the world. I started the information age. But during my life, no one valued my work.

I went to school in Mainz, Germany. When I was young, there were very few books because it took several weeks to make just one copy. Books were written by hand, usually by <u>priests</u><sup>3</sup>. They wrote with a quill – a pen made from a bird's <u>feather</u><sup>4</sup> – and it wasn't always easy to read their handwriting. I asked myself, 'Can

① spread v. 传播, 扩散 ② value v. 重视, 珍视 ③ priest n. 教士

④ feather n. 羽毛

#### 4 了不起的发明家

I invent a machine to put words on paper?' A machine can make more books in less time.

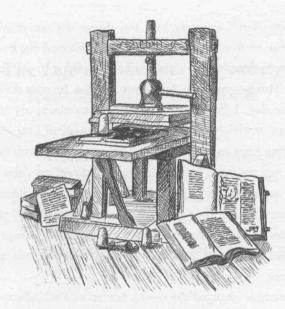
My training as a goldsmith<sup>®</sup> gave me good ideas for a printing press. I started my experiments<sup>®</sup> in Strasbourg in 1436. I had a girlfriend and we were engaged, but I didn't have very much money. So I couldn't get married and do my experiments as well. I had to choose – should I get married or continue my work on my printing press? It was so hard to decide that I couldn't sleep at night. Finally, after a lot of thinking, I told my girlfriend, 'I'm really sorry, but I can't get married. I need the money for my experiments.'

It was a difficult time. In my town, people had a bad opinion of me. My girlfriend was so angry that she took me to <u>court</u> because I broke my promise. And I was so poor that I had to borrow money to buy <u>materials</u> for my experiments.

In 1440, after four years of hard work, I invented a printing press that worked. It was a wooden press with 'movable type'. To make it work, I made small metal letters and put them in a wooden <u>block</u><sup>®</sup>. I used the same block to make several copies of the same page. My <u>system</u><sup>®</sup> was called 'movable type' because you could move the letters from one place in the block to another.

I was very pleased with my invention, but businessmen weren't interested in it. In 1444, I decided to open my own workshop<sup>7</sup>. I printed some poems and in 1448, I printed the calendar for the year. I earned<sup>®</sup> some money, but I couldn't pay off my debts<sup>®</sup>.

① goldsmith n. 金匠 ② experiment n. 实验 ③ to take someone to court 起诉某人 ④ materials n. 材料 ⑤ block n. (方形平面)大块,立方体 ⑥ system n. 系统,体系 ⑦ workshop n. 车间,工场 ⑧ earn v. 挣得 ⑨ debt n. 债务



Johannes Gutenberg's printing press

In 1450, I met Johann Fust, a rich man who gave me 8,000 guilders<sup>①</sup>. His daughter's husband, Peter Schöffer, started to work with me in my business. Soon my printing press was working again. I did some small jobs – for example, I printed some poems.

Next, I wanted to do something big, so I borrowed more money from Fust and printed the *Gutenberg*  $\underline{Bible}^{@}$ . It was a very beautiful book with 42 lines per page. But the cost of making each bible was much higher than the money I got for selling it. Soon my money problems were much bigger than before. My debt was very big now -20,000 guilders.

① guilder n. 荷兰盾 ② Bible n. 《圣经》

My <u>situation</u> was very bad, but things got worse when, in 1455, Fust took me to court. He said, 'Gutenberg borrowed some money from me to print books and used it to pay for other things!' This was not true, but to my surprise, he won the case<sup>®</sup>!

In one day, I lost everything – my workshop, my machine and all my materials! The court gave them all to Fust. He used my printing press to open a new printing company with Schöffer. Without my machine, I couldn't work or pay off my debts.

After several years, I started printing again, but there was a lot of competition then. There were more than 100 printing companies in Germany and there were printing companies in France and Spain, too. And they all used my idea – the movable type system.

My machine changed the world, but no one thought my work was useful during my life. The printing press was a very important invention. With books, people could read and learn. With books, people could share political ideas and ideas about technology. My printing press started the information age.

① situation n. 状况,处境 ② case n. 案件 ③ share v. 分享 ④ political adj. 政治的

# The Life of Johannes Gutenberg 约翰内斯·古登堡的生平大事年表

c.1400	Johannes Gutenberg was born in Mainz, Germany.			
	He was the youngest son of a businessman.			
	约翰内斯·古登堡出生在德国的美菌茨,他父亲			
	是商人, 他是家中最小的儿子。			

- He went to school and learnt how to read and write.

  开始读书识字。
- His family moved to Strasbourg. 随家人迁往斯特拉斯堡。
- He studied at the University of Erfurt. 在爱尔福特大学学习。
- He had a number of jobs. He worked as a goldsmith. 做过好几种工作,其中包括金匠。
- He moved from Mainz to Strasbourg. 从美茵茨来到斯特拉斯堡。
- 1434 He became a member of the Goldsmith's Guild. 成为金匠行会的成员。
- 1436 He began work on his printing press. 开始研究印刷机。

#### 8 了不起的发明家

1437	He decided that he wasn't going to get married. His girlfriend took him to court. 决定不结婚,他的女友将他告上法庭。
1438	He borrowed money from Andreas Dritzehn to continue his experiments in printing. 找安德烈亚斯·德里策恩借钱继续他的印刷机研究。
1440	He invented the wooden press with movable type. 发明了木活字印刷机。
1444	He returned to Mainz and started a printing shop at Hof Humbrecht. 回到美茵茨,在霍夫温布里奇开了一家印刷厂。
1446	He printed the Poem of the Last Judgment. 印刷了《最后的审判诗》。
1448	He printed the calendar for 1448. He borrowed money from Arnold Gelthus. He was his sister's husband. 印刷了 1448年的日历。他找姐夫阿诺尔德·盖尔图斯借钱。
1450	He borrowed 8,000 guilders from Johann Fust. Peter Schöffer started working with Gutenberg. 找约翰・富斯特借了 8000 荷兰盾。彼得・舎費尔 开始和古登堡合作。