

# IN THE SPOTLIGHT

## 传奇聚焦

第4辑

Henry Billings Melissa Billings / 著

杨睿 王瞳 / 编译

追星学英语  
做最好的自己

Also inside:

• **Bethany Hamilton**

Living through a  
shark attack

• **Beyoncé**

Her public side,  
her private side

• **LeBron James**

A truly gifted  
basketball  
player

• **And more!**

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Graw  
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国家一级出版社  
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Jet li

A fighter and a role  
model

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# 前言

《In the Spotlight 传奇聚焦》是由青岛出版社和麦格劳-希尔教育（亚洲）出版公司共同合作奉献给广大英语学习爱好者的精品读物。本套丛书共有八辑，每辑精选了九位当今明星级成功人士的传奇故事。他们当中有影视明星，有运动健将，也有作家或者音乐家。他们有的在成长过程中生活窘迫，但是通过不懈的努力，最终获得了成功；有的专注于实现自己的梦想，不理睬别人的诋毁和嘲笑；有的在功成名就之后依然会经受种种挑战。这些名人的成功历程将带给你超越语言学习的更多人生感悟和启示。

本套丛书将美国的阅读学习方法原汁原味地呈献给中国的英语学习爱好者。不要担心你看不懂文中的一些生词或句子，多读几遍，只要你按照书中的阅读技巧提示和训练坚持不懈地逐本书读下去，你一定会看到惊喜的变化！英语阅读水平的提高并不是本套丛书带领你学习的惟一目标，启迪思考、活跃思维、激发讨论才能让你真正会学习，并一生受益无穷！

第4辑重点介绍以下三种阅读技能：

Using Context	利用语境
Cause and Effect	因果关系
Making Predictions	预测下文

书中还附有其他阅读技巧和词汇提示，能帮助你理解和思考所读到的内容。每篇文章后面附有精心设计的练习题，通过各部分的测评分值可以让你更有针对性地提高阅读能力。

无论你追星与否，书中一定有几颗星星曾经照亮过你追梦的旅途。透过文章中朴实的文字了解这些名人成名前的真实经历，撩开辉煌的面纱看清颗颗巨星原本平凡如你我，从他们的励志故事中汲取营养，将漫天闪烁的星辉化作自己追梦旅途中的明灯吧，努力去做最好的自己！

# 如何使用本书

## 关于本书

本书共包含三个单元，每个单元有三课，每课中有一篇关于某位名人的文章，之后是相关练习题。

## 认真完成每一课

**Photo 照片** 每一课开始时，请先看照片。读一读题目和副标题，了解该篇文章主要谈论的内容。

**Think About What You Know 思维链接、Word Power 单词加油站、Reading Skill 阅读技巧点拨** 这几部分将帮助你做好阅读准备。

**Article 文章** 现在就开始阅读名人故事吧！祝你阅读愉快！

**Activities 练习** 完成所有的练习，然后进行检查。根据书后的参考答案，记录下你在每部分练习中答对的题目数量。在课文结尾处，把A、B和C三个练习部分的总分相加，然后在表格中查出相对应的百分比分数。在第84页的理解力和评判性思维进度图表（Comprehension and Critical Thinking Progress Graph）中记下你的百分比分数。

**Compare and Contrast Chart 比较和对照表** 在每个单元最后，你要填写一个比较和对照表。这个表会让你清楚地了解该单元中出现的一些名人具有的共同特质。

**Notes 注释** 在本书末尾选取了每一课中出现的一些难点词汇、短语或句子作了附注，有助于你加深理解文章内容，学习更多的语言表达。

**My Personal Dictionary 我的词典** 你可以把想要进一步了解的单词记录在本书的末尾，向老师或同学请教这些单词的意思，然后给这些单词加上自己的定义注释。

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# Unit 1



Ricky Martin



Ellen MacArthur





# Ricky Martin

Performing Since Childhood



Birth Name: Enrique José Martín Morales IV

## Think About What You Know

Is there a famous person who inspires you? What is inspiring about this person? Read the article to find out how Ricky Martin inspires fans with his music and his giving.

## Word Power

What do the words below tell you about the article?

**electrify** *vt.* 使兴奋

**lobby** *n.* 大厅

**rehearse** *vi.* 预演, 排练

**carpenter** *n.* 木匠

**nobody** *n.* 无名小卒

**surge** *n.* 陡增

**meditate** *vi.* 沉思冥想

**abuse** *n.* 虐待

**needy** *adj.* 贫困的, 需要帮助的

## Reading Skill

### Using Context ( 利用语境 )

语境线索 (context clue) 有助于理解生词的含义。语境线索是生词所在的句子中或邻近句子中的其它词汇。如果遇到不明白的词, 那就要通过语境线索来弄清楚它的含义, 在它的附近寻找能提供帮助的线索。可以稍作停顿, 先弄清楚生词的含义, 然后继续阅读。

#### Example

My brother and his friends started their own band. They are going to give a concert for the whole neighborhood. I am in charge of publicity for the concert. I made posters and put them up all around the neighborhood. I want to make sure everyone knows about the concert.

### New Word

#### Context Clues

# Ricky Martin

## Performing Since Childhood

February 24, 1999, was a night Ricky Martin would never forget. The biggest stars in music had gathered in Los Angeles for the 41st annual Grammy Awards. Millions of TV viewers had tuned in to watch. While some of them had heard of Ricky Martin, he wasn't really considered a big star. People began to think of him differently, however, when Martin walked out on stage and gave a live performance of his song "La Copa de la Vida" ("The Cup of Life").

2 The song lasted only 210 seconds, but in that short time Martin electrified the audience. Until then the awards show had been pretty dull. Martin's performance made people stand up and cheer. Suddenly Ricky Martin was one of the hottest performers in the United States.

3 By summer Martin had another song at the top of the charts. It was called "Livin' la Vida Loca." His album, titled *Ricky Martin*, was selling very quickly. His concerts were selling out the minute tickets went on sale. For some people, this sudden burst of success would have been hard to handle. Martin knew how to deal with the music business, though. Although the United States was discovering him for the first time, he had been a major star in other countries for years. In fact, show-business fame had been a big part of his childhood.

4 Martin was born in Puerto Rico in 1971. His father was a psychologist, and his mother was a secretary. Neither of them had ever worked in entertainment. That didn't stop Martin. By the time he was six years old, he knew he wanted to be a performer.

5 Martin began his career by making commercials. He appeared in thirty television ads over the next six years. Then when he was 12, he joined *Menudo*, a wildly popular Latin band for young people. Martin stayed with Menudo for five years. During that time, the band traveled all around the world. Martin got

6 By the time he was 17, Martin needed a rest. As he put it, “My school has been the hotel room and the lobby has been my playground.” His role in Menudo gave him little time for friends or family. He hadn’t spent much time with his parents in five years. When his grandmother was ill he wasn’t even allowed to take time off to see her. Martin was tired of band managers telling him what to do every minute. He was worn out from rehearsing up to 16 hours a day. He wasn’t happy with his life in Menudo.

7 “I was tired and confused,” he says. “I didn’t know if I wanted to be a singer or a carpenter.”

8 Martin quit Menudo. Although he knew this was the right thing to do, it was still hard to leave behind the fame. “It was a great shock to leave the band,” he admits. “I went from being a somebody who was famous and could have anything I wanted to being a nobody who wasn’t recognized by anybody.”

9 Martin returned to Puerto Rico to finish high school. Then in 1991, 19-year-old Martin moved to New York. There he spent months just hanging around, trying to figure out what he wanted for his future. “I was just trying to get my head together,” he says.

10 After several months, Martin again felt ready to commit himself to the life of a performer. In 1992 he moved to Mexico City and took a starring role in a television soap opera. The following year he moved to Los Angeles and got a role on the popular U.S. soap opera *General Hospital*. He also began playing one of the lead roles in the hit Broadway musical *Les Misérables*.

11 While he grew as an actor, Martin continued to work on his singing career. He recorded four albums, all of them in Spanish. They were huge hits in Latin America, Asia, and Europe. Together they sold 13 million copies. In 1998 one of Martin’s songs was chosen as the anthem for the World Cup soccer

## Skill Break

### Using Context

Look at paragraph 5. Find the word *posing* in the last sentence.

championship. It was “La Copa de la Vida,” the same song he would sing at the 1999 Grammy Awards.

12 Because of his life history, Martin knew how to handle the surge in his fame that came after his Grammy performance. He knew that this could have a bad effect on his life. So he worked hard to stay calm and focused.

13 “I meditate every morning,” he says. Some days he spends hours doing this. Even on his busiest days, he finds time for it. “I just ask people, ‘Can I have 20 minutes for myself so I can just breathe?’ I turn off the radio and television and just sit there and breathe five seconds in, five seconds out, just to find my center.”

14 Martin also worked hard not to forget those who were less fortunate and had difficult lives. He especially wanted to help children who were victims of poverty and abuse. He set up the Ricky Martin Foundation to bring aid to needy children around the globe. Martin hated to see children suffer.

15 When the tsunami hit Southeast Asia in 2004, Martin knew he had to help. The huge, unexpected wave of ocean water harmed hundreds of thousands of people. He flew to Thailand to see what he could do. “After looking at those images on television, it was impossible for me to stay at home with my arms crossed,” he said. He arranged to have his foundation help rebuild homes in the area.

16 Someone asked Martin if he planned to perform while in Thailand. He answered, “I don’t think this time is about performing. It’s about understanding the needs of this town and creating a plan so that we can really do something.”

17 For Ricky Martin, being a star was great. But he had learned early in life that fame comes and goes. So he focused on helping others and on “enjoying life as it comes.” As he said, “We know about today. We don’t know about tomorrow.”



# Activities

## A Understanding What You Read

◆ Fill in the circle next to the correct answer.

1. Which of the following statements is an opinion rather than a fact?
  - ☐ A. Millions of TV viewers tuned in to watch.
  - ☐ B. The awards show had been pretty dull.
  - ☐ C. The song lasted 210 seconds.
2. Before he performed at the 1999 Grammy Awards, Martin had
  - ☐ A. never been on TV before.
  - ☐ B. been a member of a Latin band.
  - ☐ C. played championship soccer.
3. What caused Martin to leave the group Menudo?
  - ☐ A. He wanted to help people in Asia.
  - ☐ B. He got a starring role in a soap opera.
  - ☐ C. He needed a rest from the travel and work.
4. Ricky Martin went to Thailand in 2004 to
  - ☐ A. perform a concert for his fans.
  - ☐ B. record a new Spanish album.
  - ☐ C. create a plan to rebuild homes.
5. How is Ricky Martin an example of a generous person?
  - ☐ A. He gives aid to needy children around the world.
  - ☐ B. He works hard to stay calm and focused every day.
  - ☐ C. He has been singing and acting since he was a child.

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of Correct Answers: Part A

## B Using Context

◆ Read the paragraph below. Look for context clues that tell you what the phrase *less fortunate* means. Underline at least **two** context clues in the paragraph. Then fill in the circle next to the correct meaning of *less fortunate*.

He set up the Ricky Martin Foundation to bring aid to needy children around the globe. Martin hated to see children suffer.

- ☐ A. not wealthy or not in a good situation
- ☐ B. not wanting to leave their homes
- ☐ C. not needing any help or assistance

◆ Reread paragraph 15 in the article. Find the word *tsunami* near the beginning of the paragraph. Look for context clues about the meaning of *tsunami*. Write the clues on the lines below. Then write what you think *tsunami* means.

2. Context Clues: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Tsunami* means: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of Correct Answers: Part B

## **C** Using Words

◆ Complete each sentence with a word from the box. Write the missing word on the line.

electrified    rehearsing    anthem    surge    meditate

1. She always feels more relaxed after she takes time to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. I felt a \_\_\_\_\_ of energy after I ate that apple.
3. He started \_\_\_\_\_ the song two weeks before the performance.
4. We sing the national \_\_\_\_\_ at the beginning of every baseball game.
5. The sports fans were \_\_\_\_\_ when their team scored the winning point.

◆ Choose one word from the box. Write a new sentence using the word.

6. word: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_






## Writing About It

### Write a Postcard

- ◆ Write a postcard to Ricky Martin. Finish the sentences below to write your postcard. Use the checklist on page 82 to check your work.

<p>Dear Mr. Martin,</p> <p>I just read an article about you. I liked reading about _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>I think you _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>I was wondering _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>_____</p>	 <p>Mr. Ricky Martin 345 Martin Ln. Rickytown, USA</p>
--	---

**Lesson 1** Add your correct answers from parts A, B, and C to get your total score. Then find the percentage for your total score on the chart below. Record your percentage on the graph on page 84.

\_\_\_\_\_ Total Score for Parts A, B, and C

\_\_\_\_\_ Percentage

Total Score	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Percentage	8	15	23	31	38	46	54	62	69	77	85	92	100

# Ellen MacArthur

## Sailing Around the World

