

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

传奇聚焦

第2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:

- **Michelle Wie**
Golf's young
new superstar
- **Deion Branch**
Learning good
lessons on and
off the field
- **Shania Twain**
Singing her
way to a happy
ending
- **And more!**

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Johnny Depp
Being an actor
wasn't his plan

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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2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



Lang Lang



Shania Twain



Deion Branch

Lang Lang

Piano Man



Birth Name Lang Lang

Birth Date and Place June 14, 1982; Shenyang, China

Home Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Think About What You Know

Have you ever taken music lessons? Would you like to know how to play the piano? Read the article and find out about Lang Lang and his music.

Word Power

What do the words below tell you about the article?

pedal *n.* 踏板

accent *n.* 口音

pound *vt.* 连续重击

grin *n.* 露齿而笑

passion *n.* 激情

Reading Skill

Using Context (利用语境)

语境线索 (context clues) 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，这些词汇有助于理解不熟悉的词。如果遇到不明白的词，那就在它的附近寻找能提供帮助的线索，然后设法弄清楚这个词的含义。

Example

New Word

She has always enjoyed singing with a group. That's why

Context

she sings in a chorus.

Clues

If you don't know the meaning of the word *chorus*, you can use the clues "singing with a group," and "she sings in" to help you find the meaning. From these clues, what do you think *chorus* means?

Lang Lang

Piano Man

Can a baby enjoy and understand music? Some people may say no. But then how do you explain the Chinese pianist Lang Lang?

2 Lang Lang was born in 1982 in northern China. From the beginning, his parents could see that he loved music. Says his father, “Even at one month old, our son had a special reaction to music.”

3 When Lang Lang was two years old, he was watching TV. A cartoon came on. The cartoon showed a mouse playing the piano. The mouse was playing a famous piano piece by Franz Liszt. Lang Lang listened to this classical music. Then he walked over to his family’s piano and began to play. He didn’t just bang on the keys. He played the exact notes he had heard on the cartoon. Lang Lang’s parents could see that their son was gifted.

4 When Lang Lang was three years old, his parents found him a piano teacher. After just two years, Lang Lang could play many hard pieces. He did not sit down when he played. He would not have been able to reach the pedals. Instead he stood up. Even so, he had to stretch his arms wide to reach all the keys.

5 At age five, Lang Lang gave his first show. He was not at all nervous. To him, it was fun. “I remember I was just so excited to go out and play,” he says.

6 By the time Lang Lang was nine, he needed more training than he could get in his hometown of Shenyang. He needed to go to Beijing. That is the capital of China. But going there meant breaking up the family. Lang Lang’s mother worked as a telephone engineer in Shenyang. The family needed the money she earned. They could not afford to have her leave her job. So she stayed in Shenyang while Lang Lang’s father moved with him to Beijing, an 11-hour train ride away.

Life in Beijing was not easy for Lang Lang. He and his father lived in a tiny apartment with no heat. Lang Lang was cold all the time. “Sometimes my father would go to bed before me and warm up the sheets for when I went to

sleep,” Lang Lang says. Every morning at 5:00 A.M., Lang Lang got up to practice the piano. Then he went to school. When he came home, he practiced more. “I practiced piano five hours a day!” he notes.

- 8 Lang Lang missed his mother terribly. He also had trouble making friends at school. He had a heavy northern accent. Speaking differently than the other kids made him feel like an outsider. He didn’t feel like he belonged there. And worst of all, he did not get along with his new music teacher. “I had a teacher who didn’t like me,” he says. He tried to please her. But everything he did seemed wrong. For the first time ever, he did not have fun playing the piano. It made him sad. At last, he says, the teacher “kicked me out of her class.”
- 9 Lang Lang was very upset. But when he found a new music teacher, things got better. “I got a good teacher, and everything just changed,” he says. Once again he began to enjoy making music. His spirits rose, and he started to make friends at school. Soon he felt happy again.
- 10 Over the next few years, Lang Lang’s talent grew. He continued to play the piano many hours a day. He played with great energy, putting his whole body into the music. He pounded the keys so often and so hard that many of the strings broke. “In the end, some 30 tones didn’t work,” he says. “I must have broken about 70 strings. I didn’t mind. I just kept playing, and I replaced the missing notes inside my head.”
- 11 By 1997 Lang Lang felt ready to do more. He and his father moved to Philadelphia. There Lang Lang studied at the Curtis Institute. The teachers there helped him play even better.
- 12 His big chance came when he was 17. He tried out for Chicago’s Ravinia Festival. This is the oldest summer music festival in the United States. Many

Skill Break

Using Context

Look at paragraph 6. Find the word *afford* in the middle of the paragraph. What **clues** in the paragraph can help you find the meaning of *afford*?

From the clues, what do you think *afford* means?

Lang Lang plays at a free concert event in New York. He often does shows to raise money for children who are in need.



famous people play there every year. Lang Lang knew his try-out went well. “I was supposed to play for 20 minutes,” he says. “But I played for two hours.” Still, he thought it would be a couple of years before he got to play at Ravinia. He was surprised when the phone rang the very next morning. A Ravinia pianist had gotten sick. Would Lang Lang like to fill in for him?

- 13 Twelve hours later, Lang Lang took the stage. He amazed everyone. In that one night, he became famous. One Chicago paper called him the “biggest, most exciting keyboard talent” to come along in years.
- 14 Since then, many people have become fans of Lang Lang. People around the world love his style. They love to watch his hands and hair fly in all directions. They love his big grin. Most of all, they love the passion he brings to his music. Many say he is the greatest pianist of our times.
- 15 It’s not just classical music fans who know about Lang Lang. He has reached out beyond that group. His music was used on the TV show *Joan of Arcadia*. He has also been on *The Tonight Show*.
- 16 Lang Lang sees that the world is full of many kinds of music. It flows from people’s hearts and minds, he says. So of course music comes in different forms. He loves classical music. But he also likes Britney Spears, Eminem, and Michael Jackson. For him, all forms of music have one thing in common. “We should always remember,” he says, “that music is for sharing.”



- *Lang Lang* means “smart man with open mind.”
- He likes playing table tennis and table soccer.
- He plays piano in 150 shows a year.
- After playing he soaks his hands in hot water and rubs them.

Activities

A

Understanding What You Read

◆ Fill in the circle next to the correct answer.

1. What first caused Lang Lang's parents to think he should have piano lessons?
☐ A. He practiced more than five hours a day.
☐ B. He could play music he had heard on TV.
☐ C. He did not sit down when he played.
2. When Lang Lang moved to Beijing, his
☐ A. mother got a new job fixing telephones.
☐ B. father went on a trip to Philadelphia.
☐ C. music teacher didn't like him.
3. Lang Lang got his first big chance in the United States when
☐ A. a Ravinia Festival pianist got sick.
☐ B. he played piano on *The Tonight Show*.
☐ C. a Chicago newspaper wrote about him.
4. The author probably wrote this article in order to
☐ A. teach the reader about life in China.
☐ B. tell the reader about a great pianist.
☐ C. make the reader want piano lessons.
5. Which sentence **best** states the main idea of the article?
☐ A. Lang Lang is famous for being a great piano player.
☐ B. Lang Lang's music is well-known around the world.
☐ C. Lang Lang started piano lessons when he was three years old.

_____ Number of Correct Answers: Part A

B

Using Context

◆ Read the paragraph below. Look for context clues that tell you what the word *gifted* means. Underline the context clues in the paragraph. Then fill in the circle next to the correct meaning of *gifted*.

1. When Lang Lang was two years old, he was watching TV. A cartoon came on. The cartoon showed a mouse playing the piano. The mouse was playing a famous piano

piece by Franz Liszt. Lang Lang listened to this classical music. Then he walked over to his family's piano and began to play. He didn't just bang on the keys. He played the exact notes he had heard on the cartoon. Lang Lang's parents could see that their son was gifted.

- ☐ A. getting many presents
- ☐ B. very good at something
- ☐ C. funny looking

◆ Reread paragraph 8 in the article. Find the word *outsider* in the middle of the paragraph. Look for a clue about the meaning of *outsider*. Write the clue below. Then write what you think *outsider* means.

2. Context Clue: _____

Outsider 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.

pianist reaction classical accent passion

1. My brother has a _____ for collecting rocks.
2. The teacher asked the _____ to play a song for the class.
3. The new boy spoke with an _____.
4. Her _____ to the joke was to laugh.
5. My mom's favorite music is _____.

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

6. word: _____

_____ Number of Correct Answers: Part C

D Writing About It

Write a Story

- ◆ What happened when Lang Lang tried out for Chicago's Ravinia Festival? Write a story about it. Finish the sentences below to write your story. Use the checklist on page 82 to check your work.

In 1999 Lang Lang tried out for Chicago's Ravinia Festival. The Ravinia Festival is _____

During Lang Lang's tryout, they let him play _____

The phone rang the next morning and Lang Lang found out _____

When Lang Lang played at the show, people thought _____

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

Shania Twain

A Happy Ending



Birth Name Eillean Regina Edwards

Birth Date and Place August 28, 1965; Windsor, Ontario, Canada

Home Tour-de-Peilz, Switzerland