



名家英语阅读大讲堂

总主编 杨 枫

朗文精彩人生英语

What A Life! 3



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吉林出版集团有限责任公司
培生教育出版集团

Milada Broukal

捷进名家英语阅读大讲堂

朗文精彩人生英语

What A Life

3

总主编: 杨 枫

主 编: Milada Broukal 李淑华

编 委: (按姓氏拼音排序)

部铁军 韩 懿 胡亚红

孟凡明 佟陆离 王 冰

杨延伟 于 鑫 周 薇

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总 主 编: 杨 枫

主 编: (美)米拉达·布鲁卡(Milada Broukal) 李淑华

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总主编 杨枫

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程晓堂

北京师范大学外文学院英语教授、博士、院长助理，北京师范大学外语教育与教师教育研究所副所长，国家《英语课程标准》研制组核心成员。



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龚亚夫:中国教育学会外语教学专业委员会理事长,人民教育出版社外语分社社长,国家《英语课程标准》研制组核心成员

Anne Whelan:吉林出版集团外语教育中心英语顾问

总序



凡是学过或正在学习英语的人,书架上总会有几套教材,捷进国际英语学校丛书就推出了《捷进聪明宝贝英语教程》、《朗文大赢家小学英语教程》、《朗文新发现初中英语教程》、《朗文放眼世界英语教程》、《朗文畅通英语教程》等编写理念先进、教学策略实用的国际化、权威化优秀教材。然而,只凭一套或几套教材是学不好英语的,英语学习必须依靠广泛、系统、长期、大量的阅读。基于此,我们推出了这套“捷进名家英语阅读大讲堂”系列,第一辑包括《朗文文化交际英语》、《朗文精读美国名篇故事》、《朗文讲透美国经典名著》、《朗文神奇世界英语》、《朗文精彩人生英语》、《朗文中学英语智趣故事集》、《捷进万象英语》。该系列丛书从语言知识、语言技能、文化意识和学习策略等方面保证了阅读材料的系统性和组织性;从篇幅、内容、对象的控制和选择上保证了阅读材料的连续性和广泛性;从而丰富了课堂英语教学的内容和形式,特别是为社会各类英语培训机构的阅读课堂提供了广阔的天地,此外读者也可以通过个体阅读来激发兴趣、开阔视野、提升英语水平。

“捷进名家英语阅读大讲堂”系列丛书的编写特色还在于:

- 1. 原汁榨出,原味呈现。**全部材料由国际著名英语教育机构如培生教育集团、麦克劳希尔公司、安德鲁纳博格等公司提供的国外经典英语阅读类图书版权,由国内英语教育专家杨枫博士联袂龚亚夫、刘道义、程晓堂、张连仲等权威教授共同策划、设计和解读。
- 2. 主题广泛,视野宽阔。**丛书题材广泛,包括人间万象、神奇世界、精彩人生、名著经典、文化交际、智趣幽默、政治经济、教育科学无所不包,充分体现了知识性、信息性、趣味性、经典性和时代性,让读者在英语学习中始终与世界同步,与时代并行。

3. 练习丰富,测试科学。在设计练习栏目时,充分考虑到激发学生阅读兴趣和提高阅读技巧的需要,并且测试形式与各级各类主流英语阅读考试接轨,充分体现应用与应试的和谐统一。

4. 英汉对照,无师自通。阅读与翻译既是英语学习的重要技能,也是许多考试的测试项目,基于读者的需要与利益,我们对材料进行了准确翻译,方便大家学习与参考。

5. 快捷学习,精进人生。吉林出版集团外语教育中心拥有中国英语教育界的权威作者,并以“快捷学习,精进人生”为目标,以“一本书一个世界”为理念,整合了世界英语教育资源和中国英语教学策略。捷进英语教育品牌,既是世界的,更是中国的,“捷进”永远代表着进步、超越和成功。

我们希望读者能用英语去探求新知,去拓展视野,实现学以致用;我们希望读者能用英语汲取信息、品味文化,去享受丰盈人生;我们希望读者能用英语纵览云飞,感受万象,去开启世界之门。

吉林出版集团外语教育中心

前言

英国思想家培根说过,“阅读使人深刻”,而阅读在外语学习中的重要性更是不言而喻。只是长期以来中国英语教学中的功利主义思想使学习者无法真正利用这一工具,更谈不上体味其中的乐趣了,学生只会感到沉重的 Pressure。

通过阅读来提高英语水平归根结底有三个问题要解决,为什么读,怎么读和读什么。阅读的真正目的绝非是为了做豆腐块文章后面几道枯燥的练习,而是获取信息,增长知识,开拓视野和陶冶情操。从语言学习角度来说方法有精读和泛读之分:精读强调纵向挖掘,要一丝不苟地吃透文章,包括词汇用法和语法知识;而泛读则强调横向拓宽,要“不求甚解”地大量阅读,以此来培养语感,锻炼英语的应用和思维能力。至于读什么,当面对市场上汗牛充栋的英语图书时,许多学习者都踌躇难断。

另一位伟人的话似乎可以给我们一些启发。牛顿说过,“我成功是因为我站在巨人的肩膀上”。事实上,许多成功人士都曾表示,自己或多或少地从一些名人传记中获取过有用的知识和奋斗的信念。正是在这一思路的引导下,我们与世界著名的英语教育出版机构培生教育集团合作,推出这套《朗文精彩人生英语》及其姊妹篇《朗文神奇世界英语》,二者相映成趣。

本书收录了 70 多位世界著名人物的生平事迹,他们来自政治、经济、文化、艺术和体育等各个领域,既有如雷贯耳的彼得大帝、莎士比亚和李小龙,也有不太为中国人所熟悉的山崎实、霍华德·休斯、理查德·布兰森等。他们的经历和成就并不相同,但每个人都是真正意义上的成功者。成功的人生不可复制,但成功的故事可以分享和启迪。

除了阅读故事的精彩之外,文章后面的练习题也是本书的亮点所在。非传统形式的题目趣味性强,做起来毫不枯燥。多采用启发式、拓展性的问题,鼓励学生积极思考,真正起到检验阅读效果和巩固知识的作用。

VOCABULARY:除了鼓励学生利用上下文猜测词义的习题之外,还配有以应用为目的的口语练习,使学生抓住短暂记忆,循环利用,加深印象。

COMPREHENSION:从理解大意和把握细节两方面入手,锻炼学生的阅读技能,并巧妙地促使学生回视课文,进一步增进理解。还有复述故事和听写等项目,鼓励学生组对进行口头练习。

DISCUSSION:让学生对与阅读内容相关联的话题展开联想,表达自己独立的见解,并探讨不同文化之间的差异。

WRITING:“读书必须过笔”是古今中外学人的共同体会。只有经过笔头练习,才能真正将阅读到的知识内化为自身的技能。

本书的姊妹篇《朗文神奇世界英语》内容同样精彩,值得一读。

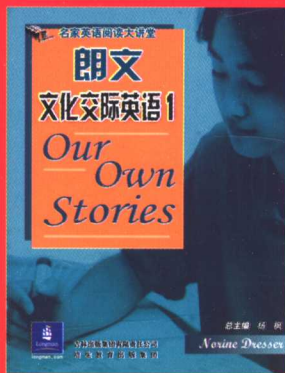
To some people reading maybe is a pressure, but we will make it a real Pleasure!

编 者

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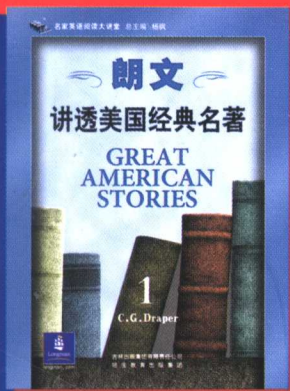
《Our Own Stories》、《Our Own Journeys》分别由

二十篇小文章组成，作者多是在美国生活的第二代移民，透过学生的视野，讨论了涉及节假日、风俗习惯、社会交往、餐饮忌讳、肢体语言等各种关于跨文化交际方面的话题。学生阅读之后，有助于培养国际意识和对其它文化的理解和尊重，并更好地与来自其它文化背景的人士进行交流。同时配有形式丰富的词汇与阅读技巧练习和互动式的口语讨论活动，实现阅读和口语能力的共同提高。

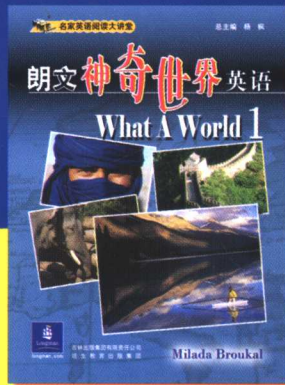


《朗文讲透美国经典名著》（共三册）由美国一流作家如欧内

斯特·海明威、杰克·伦敦、凯特·肖邦的名篇精心改编而成。在阅读故事并了解作者生平的同时，你会逐步了解美国历史、日常生活和文化方面的趣事。课后的阅读、写作等栏目，让你在赏析经典名著时提高英语综合运用水平。

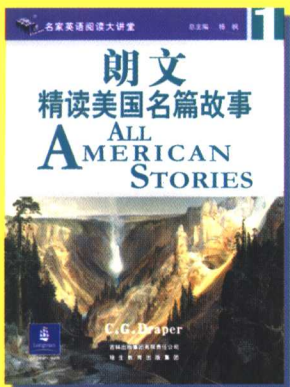


《朗文神奇世界英语》（共三册）描述了从古至今世界各地一些引人入胜的人物和故事，读者在阅读的过程中能开阔视野和增长知识。同时，还精心编排了词汇、阅读、写作等课后练习题，让读者在更好地理解文章的基础上大幅提高英语水平。



《朗文精读美国名篇故事》（共三册）所选的故事是许多年前

最著名的美国作家如马克·吐温、欧·亨利、艾德加·艾伦·坡撰写的，对词汇和句子的精心改写使把英语作为第二语言来学习的学生更容易理解。读者不仅能了解美国历史及人民多年前的日常生活情况，还有助于提高读、说、写、译等多种英语语言技能。



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Unit 1

LEONARDO DA VINCI

(1452–1519)



BEFORE YOU READ

Leonardo da Vinci was a genius with many extraordinary talents and abilities in many fields. What talents and abilities do you think he had? Make a list.

intelligence

Now read about Leonardo da Vinci.

LEONARDO DA VINCI

Most people know that Leonardo da Vinci was a great painter. However, he was also a talented sculptor, musician, poet, scientist, architect, and engineer. His work had a strong influence on artists throughout Europe, and his scientific ideas were centuries **ahead of their time**.

Leonardo da Vinci was born in 1452 in the town of Vinci, near Florence, Italy. His parents never married, so Leonardo lived with his father in Florence. Over the years, he had four stepmothers and eleven stepsisters and stepbrothers. One of them was 45 years younger than Leonardo! At the age of 15, Leonardo went to work with a famous artist. He studied painting, sculpture, music, mathematics, and science. By 20, he was a master painter. Leonardo was so talented that one day one of his teachers threw down his brushes and never painted again.

Although da Vinci was a great painter, he never gave up his interest in other subjects. He liked to do research in many different areas. He wanted to understand everything he saw. Many people think of him as the first modern scientist because he liked to **make observations** and look for explanations for things. For example, he was one of the first people to dissect human bodies. He cut the bodies open in order to figure out how they worked. Da Vinci wrote down all his ideas and observations in notebooks. He also filled the notebooks with more than 5,000 drawings of plants, animals, and the human body.

Da Vinci was a great inventor, too. His scientific research and knowledge of architecture and mathematics helped him to design many new things. For example, he drew a flying machine 400 years before the airplane was invented. He also designed an air conditioner, an alarm clock, a reading lamp, a submarine, a bridge, and many other things. In all,

da Vinci designed more than 1,000 inventions. Unfortunately, he did not have time to develop many of his ideas.

As a matter of fact, da Vinci started many projects that he never finished. He was always more interested in thinking about and planning projects than doing them. He was so brilliant that he quickly lost interest in one project and couldn't wait to start another. Because of this, he completed very few paintings. Sometimes people paid him to do a painting or a sculpture but he never did it. Other times he started the work, but he never finished it. Some people got tired of waiting, so they hired someone else to finish his work.

The pieces that da Vinci completed were magnificent and unique. He created a new, more realistic style of painting. At that time, when artists painted people, they looked **flat**. When da Vinci painted people, they looked real. No other artist of his time painted people or animals as well as da Vinci. His famous painting, the Mona Lisa, is a good example of this style. Da Vinci took four years to paint the Mona Lisa. Unfortunately, the man who ordered the painting didn't like it and refused to pay him. However, ten years later, da Vinci sold it to the King of France for 492 ounces of gold (about \$300,000). The King hung it in the Louvre palace in Paris. Today the Mona Lisa still hangs in the Louvre, which is now a museum.

Often, da Vinci painted in religious buildings, like churches and monasteries. In 1495, he painted another of his greatest paintings, The Last Supper, on the dining room wall of a monastery. It took him three years to complete it. People came to see it even before it was done. They admired the painting because it showed the emotions of the people in the **scene**. People also liked the bright colors that da Vinci used. Unfortunately, the painting had problems. In just a few years, the paint started to **peel** off the wall. Later, the people in the monastery made a doorway that went right through the painting. The rest of The Last Supper was almost destroyed

when foreign soldiers threw stones at it. Fortunately, it has been repaired.

Da Vinci was greatly admired for his artistic talent and his skill in many areas. However, some people probably thought he was quite strange. He was a very mysterious, **private** man. He wrote backwards in his notebooks so nobody could read what he wrote. Many people thought that his scientific experiments were some kind of **evil** magic. He was also left-handed. At that time, some people believed that being left-handed was the sign of the devil.

Most people liked and admired da Vinci. He was a strong and handsome man. He was also generous to his friends, both rich and poor. Although he never married, he **adopted** a son and he was a very good father. People invited him to parties because he was very entertaining. He talked about interesting things and people laughed at his clever jokes. He was also a great musician. He sang well and played an instrument that he had invented. Da Vinci was always well dressed, although he liked to wear unusual clothes. He wore short robes when everyone else wore long ones and loved to wear pink.

Da Vinci had some other unusual habits for his time. He was extremely clean when many people were not. He even hated to have paint on his fingers. He was also a vegetarian because he did not believe in killing animals. He used to buy birds just to let them free and to study their flight.

During his lifetime, da Vinci traveled to all the great cities of Italy and did many different kinds of work. Once, when he was trying to get a job, he made a list of 36 different jobs he could do. In addition to working as an artist, he had also worked as an architect and engineer. He designed buildings and canals and he figured out how to change the direction of rivers. At one point, he was a military **adviser** to the Duke of Milan.

Later in life, Leonardo da Vinci went to Rome to work for the pope. However, he was unhappy there because the younger artists were given

more work than he was. As da Vinci grew older, he stayed alone more and more. Although people admired him, many didn't understand him because his ideas were far ahead of his time. Da Vinci spent the last years of his life working for King Francis I of France. He made architectural designs, worked on engineering projects, and entertained the king with all his ideas. He also worked on his notebooks so they could be published after his death. Da Vinci died peacefully on May 2, 1519, at the age of 67.

- sculptor** *n.* someone who makes sculptures 雕塑家
- stepmother** *n.* a woman who is married to your father but who is not your mother 继母
- dissect** *vt. & vi.* to cut up the body of a dead animal or person in order to study it 解剖
- figure out** to think about a problem or situation until you find the answer or understand what has happened 了解; 解决; 算出
- magnificent** *adj.* very good or beautiful, and very impressive 壮丽的; 壮观的
- monastery** *n.* a place where monks live 男修道院; 僧院
- private** *adj.* for use by one person or group, not for everyone 私人的; 秘密的; 私立的; 隐蔽的
- evil** *adj.* someone who is evil deliberately does very cruel things to harm other people 邪恶的; 不幸的; 有害的; 诽谤的
- adopt** *vt.* to take someone else's child into your home and legally become its parent 采用; 收养; 接受
- entertaining** *adj.* amusing and interesting 令人愉快的; 有趣的