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传记、演讲卷

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——朱振武

朱振武教授

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名家精选读本

传记·演讲卷



主 编 朱振武

编 著 李 丹 王 敏

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阅读改变人生

小的时候，我喜欢读各种各样的中文书。后来这种兴趣转到了英语阅读上，发现同样有无穷的乐趣，而且一发不可收拾。现在想起来也的确是受益无穷。从我在文科上的学习经历来看，谁的阅读量大，谁的水平就高，谁的综合能力和整体素质就强。阅读可以改变一个人的人生。以《达·芬奇密码》、《天使与魔鬼》、《数字城堡》和《骗局》等著名小说称道于世的美国当红作家丹·布朗就认为他的成功秘诀是建立在大量的阅读基础之上的。

一般的本科毕业生乃至研究生至少都有十年左右的英语学习经历，但他们的英语大都没有形成起码的或较好的应用能力。其实，粗通一门外语，根本用不了十多年的时光。语言不同于数、理、化等学科，语言重在培养感觉和灵性。我经常对我的学生讲：“英语是用会的，不是学会的。”对于一个生活在非英语环境中的中国学生，怎样做到在使用中学习英语呢？一个最有效的办法就是坚持大量阅读。阅读可以提高多方面的素养，提高听、说、读、写、译等多方面的能力，可以学习多方面的知识，可以非常有效地复习、巩固所学语言知识点。阅读在给你带来快感的同时，从根本上也提高了你的语言感受力。

这是一套六卷本的分类精选的英语阅读提高丛书，主要特点如下：

(1) 经典性：本丛书所选小说、诗歌、散文等作品大都为历久弥新的经典作品，多出自名家之手，经典作品是人生的精神宝藏，阅读这些作品会使人们更觉受益匪浅。

(2) 知识性：本丛书包含了各种文体和多方面内容，包括文化、历史、地理、科普、议论、记叙、散文、传记、演讲、寓言等，让读者领略到实际应用中的英语，而不是试题中的支离破碎的英语。

(3) 趣味性：本丛书所选文章力除呆板的说教类型，让读者在轻松愉悦的氛围中获取语言学习的乐趣。

(4) 可诵性：选文均短小精悍、流畅上口，且含蓄凝练，很适合背诵，读者可以有侧重地或选择自己偏爱的内容反复吟诵，培养英语思维。

每本书在编排上依文章难度不同划分为三部分：千里之行，始于足下；山重水复，柳暗花明；面向大海，春暖花开。希望这种渐进式学习能帮你逐步体验到阅读的不同层次。

此外，我们在注释中有意识地加入了单词及短语的用法描述，希望能像梳辫子似地为你理清头绪，能够按图索骥，顺藤摸瓜，避免学用词法和句法知识时常见的“描述语法”所带来的模棱两可现象和“规定语法”带来的生硬刻板现象，也避免了读罢一篇文章或无所适从，或囫囵吞枣，或只见树木不见森林的现象。总之，希望本丛书能够从思维角度帮助你提高英语水平，这也是本丛书的编写初衷。

阅读改变了我的人生，让我从中获益良多，现在我想把这份乐趣传递出去，大家可以由此出发，让阅读进入你们的人生，施展它的魔力。

朱振武

2009年仲夏于上海

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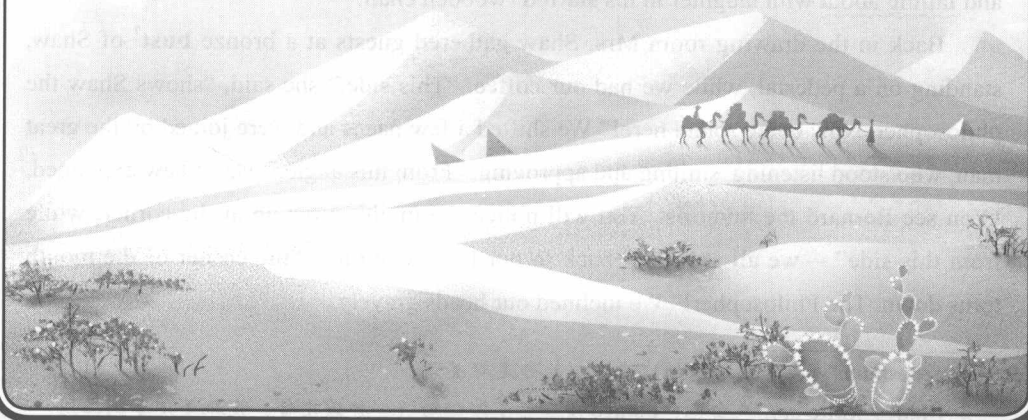
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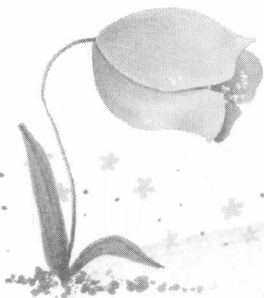
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“千里之行 始于足下”

TO BEGIN YOUR JOURNEY



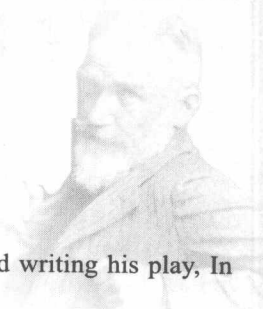


萧伯纳(George Bernard Shaw, 1856—1950), 英国伟大的戏剧家、评论家, 1925年诺贝尔文学奖的获得者。他一生共创作了五十多部戏剧, 其喜剧作品《卖花女》(Pygmalion) 因被改编为音乐剧及同名电影《窈窕淑女》(My Fair Lady) 而家喻户晓。他主张艺术应当反映迫切的社会问题, 反对王尔德(Oscar Wilde, 1854—1900) 的“为艺术而艺术”, 受过柏格森、叔本华和尼采的思想影响, 还曾经读过马克思的著作。本文摘自《泰晤士报星期日评论》, 记述了作者对这位伟人的一次拜访经历, 文中巧妙地运用了双关语, 读来令人回味无穷。



Shaw on a Pedestal¹

受人尊敬的萧伯纳



On the May day in 1939 when George Bernard Shaw finished writing his play, *In Good King Charles's Golden Days*, Guinness was invited to lunch.

He was unexpectedly tall and rather beautiful; his fluffy **Blanco white**² beard and pale baby-smooth skin were particularly striking. He entered smiling and full of greeting, with a hand extended to be shaken, but I hadn't been told how poor his sight was. I put out my hand to take his and he missed me by a yard, **scampering**³ past but calling out joyously, "I have just put the **finishing touches**⁴ to the play." "Oh, well done!" cried Mrs. Shaw, clapping her hands.

There wasn't much conversation to speak of as George Bernard Shaw talked continuously, mostly **recounting**⁵ the jokes to be found in *In Good King Charles's*, etc. and falling about with laughter in his **slatted**⁶ wooden chair.

Back in the drawing room Mrs. Shaw gathered guests at a bronze **bust**⁷ of Shaw, standing on a pedestal, while we had our coffee. "This side," she said, "shows Shaw the philosopher. Now come round here!" We shifted a few paces and were joined by the great man, who stood listening, smiling and approving. "From this angle," Mrs. Shaw explained, "You see Bernard the humorist. You will notice the mouth turns up at the corner; while from this side" —we all **shuffled**⁸ back to our first position— "the corner of the mouth turns down. The Philosopher!" We inclined our heads gravely.

1. **pedestal** *n.* (柱子或雕像的) 基座, 此处是双关语。

2. **Blanco white** *adj.* 灰白色; **blanco** *n.* 布兰可擦白剂 (一种擦皮带、皮靴等皮革制品用的白色或土黄色物质)

1939年5月1日，当萧伯纳写完了他的剧本《好国王查尔斯的黄金岁月》时，吉纳斯被邀请去吃午饭。

萧伯纳出人意料地高大，而且也算得上英俊；他那柔软蓬松的灰白胡子和白皙光滑的皮肤特别引人注目。他微笑着走进来，频频向我们致意，伸出手来要与人握手。原先没有人告诉过我他的视力有多么地糟糕：我伸手想去握他的手，他竟在离我一码之遥处跑过，却没看到我。他还高兴地大声说道：“我刚把剧本润色完成。”“哦，干得出色！”他的夫人一边拍手一边说。

我们没有很多话说，因为萧伯纳一开口就滔滔不绝，多半是细述《好国王查尔斯的黄金岁月》一剧中的笑话。他坐在木条板椅子上笑得前仰后合。

我们喝咖啡时，萧伯纳夫人回到了客厅，把客人召集到一边观看基座上的萧伯纳的半身铜像。“这一边，”她说，“显示出萧伯纳是个哲学家。现在请大家到这儿来！”我们移动了几步，伟人萧伯纳也跟了过来，边听边微笑，还表示着赞同。“从这个角度，”萧伯纳夫人解释说，“你们看到伯纳是个幽默家。你们会注意到他的嘴角向上翘起；而从这边看”——我们又都回到了原先的位置——“嘴角却向下撇。是哲学家！”我们都严肃地点头表示赞同。

传记

卷

3. **scamper** (to run or go quickly and lightly), v. 蹦蹦跳跳地跑

4. **finishing touches** 文章（最后的）润色工作

5. **recount** v. 叙述故事

6. **slatted** adj. 用条板制作的

7. **bust** n. 半身像

8. **shuffle** v. 拖着

Enlarge your vocabulary

miss v. 未看到


未理解或未体验到 *She completely missed the point of the film.* 她完全没有理解这部电影的含义所在。→遗漏→错过 *I was lucky to miss the traffic accident.* 我很幸运躲过了车祸。→想念→ **Miss. n.** 小姐

by prep. & adv. 在附近；在旁边

经；由 **to enter by the door** 由门进去；→依据；按照 →达到……程度 *This stick is shorter by two inches.* 这根棍子短了两英寸。→不迟于 **by 5:30 p.m.** 不迟于下午5:30

fall about 忍不住大笑

fall about laughing → **fall about with laughter** → **chuckle** 吃吃地笑 *He chuckled at the funny story.* 他听了这个滑稽故事后轻声地笑了。→ **giggle** 格格地笑 *The girls were giggling in class.* 女孩们在课堂上格格地笑。→ **snicker** 窃笑



这篇文章介绍了古希腊伟大的哲学家和教育家苏格拉底的生平事迹。他追求真理，勇于为真理献身的高贵品质和革新精神值得后人景仰和学习。他的思维方法和教学方法在今天仍具有重要的现实意义。

2. *Socrates* 苏格拉底.....



The Greek word for wisdom is *Sophia*, and *philos* means a friend. So “philosopher” means a friend of wisdom, and this is the best possible description of Socrates, who was one of the wisest and bravest teachers the world has ever known.

Socrates lived in **Athens**¹, nearly 500 years before the birth of Christ. He was not born important or rich, and indeed all his life he was poor, for he never asked his pupils to pay for what he taught them. He taught for the love of wisdom, not for money.

And what he to say was always new and worth hearing. Before his time, most philosophers had been interested in studying what we would now call magic or **superstition**². Socrates, on the other hand, was interested in how ordinary people ought to behave and think. He did not just tell his pupils what he thought they should do—in fact, he was fond of saying that he himself knew nothing. Instead, he would ask them endless questions about what they thought and believed, and then he would talk about their answers and make them talk too.

He would **cunningly**³ **lead the conversation round**⁴ in such a way that at the end of it people would suddenly see for themselves what was really true and right. They would feel they had **worked it out**⁵ for themselves which of course Socrates had helped them to do—and would feel much more sure of it than if Socrates had just told them what to think and do, without helping them to see the reasons why.

Socrates taught that the man who is master of himself is truly free. By being master of oneself he meant first knowing oneself, one's faults and weaknesses and one's good points, without making any pretence and without being **vain**⁶, and then being able to control oneself.

希腊文把智慧叫做sophia, 而philos则意味着朋友。因此, philosopher (哲学家) 的意思就是有智慧的朋友。这也正是我们对苏格拉底最好的描述。他是世上最聪明最勇敢的导师之一。

苏格拉底生活在耶稣基督降生前约五百年时的雅典。他并非富贵家庭出身, 而确实是毕生穷困, 因为他从不收学生的学费。他教学不是为了金钱, 而是出于对智慧的热爱。

他所说的话总是新颖且值得倾听。在他之前的大多数哲学家们所感兴趣的是研究我们现在叫做巫术或迷信的东西; 相反地, 苏格拉底所感兴趣的是平常人应该怎样做人 and 怎样思考。他不只是告诉学生他认为他们应该做什么——事实上, 他总爱说他自己什么也不懂。他总是没完没了地向学生们提出有关他们思想和信仰的问题, 然后再谈论他们的答案, 并让他们一起谈。

他会巧妙地引导谈话的进行, 使人们最后突然领悟到什么才是真实的和正确的。人们会觉得这是他们自己摸索出来的——当然苏格拉底帮助他们——而且会觉得假如苏格拉底只告诉他们怎么想和怎么做而没有帮助他们认识其所以然的话, 他们就不会得到这么肯定的答案。

苏格拉底教导说: “自主的人是真正自由的。” 自主, 首先指的是认识自己、认识自身的错误、弱点以及优点, 没有任何虚伪和自负, 并且能控制自己。

传记

卷



1. Athens (the capital and largest city of Greece), n. 雅典

2. superstition n. 迷信

3. cunningly adv. 巧妙地

4. lead...around 把……引到, 围绕……

5. work out 钻研出来, 探索出来

6. vain adj. 自负的, 自视过高的

This knowledge of himself was what helped a man to be courageous, and the courageous man has a very important sort of freedom: freedom from fear. Socrates himself, because he was not afraid of the consequences, always felt free to teach what he thought was right, **however unpopular this might make him with the powerful people in Athens**⁷.

No wonder all his pupils loved Socrates. But he made some dangerous enemies by his strange ways of teaching and asking questions. Some of the rulers in Athens did not like people to be encouraged to ask too many questions for fear they would begin asking questions about what their rulers were doing. So they accused Socrates of teaching young men wicked things and leading them to throw off their religion. This was false, for in fact Socrates was a very religious man. At last his enemies had him arrested, and he was condemned to death.

During the 30 days that lay between Socrates' **trial**⁸ and **execution**⁹, his friends and pupils were allowed to spend a great deal of time with him in his prison. They were astonished to find that he was calm and cheerful and seemed to have no fear of dying. He talked to them and taught them just as he used to in the streets and market places of the city. One of his pupils, Crito, bribed the **gaoler**¹⁰ to let him escape, but even then he would not go.

The Greeks' way of executing people was to make them drink a cup of **hemlock**¹¹, which is deadly poison. When the hemlock was brought to Socrates, his friends were in tears, but Socrates took the cup quietly and drank it as if it **were**¹² a glass of wine at a banquet.

传记

卷



7. 强调句型。However 放在句首，强调了 **unpopular**。
8. **trial** (examination of evidence and applicable law by a competent tribunal to determine the issue of specified charges or claims), *n.* 审判
9. **execution** (the act or an instance of putting to death or being put to death as a lawful penalty), *n.* 处决
10. **gaoler** *n.* 狱吏
11. **hemlock** *n.* 毒人参酒
12. **were** 表示虚拟语气，事实上并非宴会上的酒

这种对自身的认识会给予人们勇气，而有勇气的人有一种非常重要的自由：无所畏惧。苏格拉底本人，因为不怕一切后果，总是自由地把他认为正确的东西教给学生，而不顾这样会招致雅典权贵的不满。

难怪学生们都热爱苏格拉底。但是由于奇异的教学和提问的方法，他结下了一些危险的敌人。雅典的某些统治者并不喜欢人民受到鼓励来提出太多的问题，因为他们害怕人民会提出有关统治者正在干什么的问题。因此他们指控苏格拉底把邪恶的东西教给青年人，并引导他们抛弃宗教信仰。这是诬告，因为事实上苏格拉底是一个笃信宗教的人。最后，他的敌人把他逮捕了，并把他判处死刑。

在苏格拉底被审讯至处死的30天中，他的朋友们和学生们经允许，长时间地在监狱里陪伴他。他们惊奇地发现他镇静而乐观，好像并不惧怕死亡。他仍像过去在街上和集市中那样同他们谈话并教导他们。一个叫克利图的学生曾贿赂狱吏让他逃跑，但是即使那样，苏格拉底还是不愿逃跑。

希腊人处死人的方法是逼他喝一杯致命的毒人参酒。当苏格拉底拿到毒人参酒时，他的朋友们都流泪了。但是，苏格拉底却从容地举杯饮下，好像在喝宴会上的一杯酒。

传记

卷



Enlarge your vocabulary

for fear (of / that) 为了避免；唯恐

Helen didn't want to get out of bed, for fear of waking her little sister. 海伦不想下床，因为她害怕吵醒她的小妹妹。→ *No fear!* (对别人建议应做某事时的回答) 绝不！→ **without fear or favor** 公平；秉公

condemn 宣判；判决

adjudge 宣判；认为 → **judge** 审理；判定 → **sentence** 判决；句子 *Mark was sentenced to three years in prison for his part in the crime.* 马克由于他的此次罪行被判入狱三年。→ **verdict n.** 判决 *The verdict was that the prisoner was guilty.* 判决是犯人有罪。