

悦读时间系列

每天读点英文 好故事

励志
Encouraging

李明◎主编

英汉对照 难词边注

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励志
Encouraging

- 主 编 李 明
- 副主编 杨小兰 姚飞翔

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Preface

| 前 言 |

阅读是英语水平提升的重要方式，能够引起您的阅读兴趣才能使阅读变为一种习惯。我们将英文阅读的视角对准故事。

故事不像小说那样严谨，也不像散文那样写意，更没有诗歌那样的文采飞扬。但故事有的就是让你开始阅读就停不下来的吸引力，这就是一套英汉对照版的《故事会》！每天读点英文好故事，每天提升英语阅读能力！

本套“悦读时间”系列丛书分为《每天读点英文幽默好故事》、《每天读点英文感人好故事》、《每天读点英文探索好故事》和《每天读点英文励志好故事》共4册。

《每天读点英文幽默好故事》：笑一笑，十年少，我们将爆笑风趣的故事打包放送给您，每个故事都让您笑声不断，带给您每天快乐好心情。

《每天读点英文感人好故事》：在我们的身边，每天都会发生各种感人至深的故事，将它们记录下来，就成为我们的成长足迹，也给了我们生活的勇气和动力。

《每天读点英文探索好故事》：人生有很多的未知需要探寻，它吸引着我们游历全球、飞天入海、洞悉毫厘。有探索的人生是精彩的，读探索故事的过程是好奇的。

《每天读点英文励志好故事》：不论是人生得意还是失意，是精彩还是落寞，我们都需要别人的鼓舞与勉励，常励志的人总会动力十足。

本套丛书具有以下特色：

1. **阅读词汇量精确控制。**我们选取的故事所涉及的词汇，基本都在大学英语四级词汇要求之内，具备基本词汇量的读者都可以轻松阅读。对于文中较难词汇，会以边注形式标出，便于顺畅阅读。

2. **故事选材生动，包罗万象。**既有利于读者提高英语阅读水平，又可以作为愉悦身心、休闲阅读的好选择。

3. **疑难句重点解析。**在故事正文中，涉及一些较难理解的句子，

编者在文后有详尽解析，帮您遇到一个难点就攻克一个，不断提升英文阅读能力。

对于英文阅读，编者和广大读者分享一些经验：

1. 多读可以熟能生巧。

就像世界上的其他事情一样，英文阅读，也需要阅读量的积累来获得经验。阅读是英语学习中对于外部环境要求最低的，无论在课堂、在图书馆、在公交地铁上，只要随身带一本书即可开始阅读。合理安排阅读的计划，可以帮您避免阅读疲劳，少量多次，每天坚持读一点是很好的方式。

2. 选择阅读内容很关键。

英文可以阅读的内容是无限的，您在阅读中可以遵循由易到难、由感兴趣的内容读起这两个方式，不要勉强自己一开始就去阅读长篇名著。收看英文电视节目或者美剧、英文电影，也是提高英语的好选择。

3. 阅读也要勤动手。

阅读由眼、脑配合还是不够的，尤其对于初学者，适当的动手，可以加深学习效果。初级阅读者，有必要伏案阅读，备好纸笔和字典，遇到难词千万别放过，查一查，写一写，在书上留下自己的阅读笔记，方便下次反复学习。

相信本套故事书一定会成为您英语阅读的好伴侣！

由于时间仓促和水平有限，书中难免有不足之处，敬请专家和广大读者指正。

编者

2011年8月

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态度决定一切

Attitude Is Everything

1

The Meaning of Life

“Dr. Papaderos, what is the meaning of life?” I asked.

Papaderos looked at me for a long time, and taking his wallet out of his hip pocket, he *fished into*^① a **leather** billfold and brought out a very small round mirror, about the size of a **quarter**.

And what he said was like this, “When I was a small child, during the war, we were very poor and we lived in a remote village. One day, on the road, I found the broken pieces of a mirror. A German motorcycle had been **wrecked** in that place.”

“I tried to find all the pieces and put them together, but it was not possible, so I kept only the largest piece. By polishing it on a stone, I made it round. *I began to play with it as a toy and became fascinated by the fact that I could reflect light into dark places where the sun would never shine—in deep holes and **crevices** and dark closets.*^② It became a game for me to get light into the most inaccessible places I could find.”

“As I became a man, I grew to understand that this was not just a child’s game but a **metaphor** for what I might do with my life. I came to understand that I am not the light or the source of light. But light—truth, understanding, knowledge—is there, and it will shine in many dark places as long as I reflect it.

“*I am a **fragment** of a mirror whose whole design and shape I do not know.*^③ Nevertheless, with what I have I can reflect light into the dark places of this world—into the black places in the hearts of men—and change some things in some people. Perhaps others may see and do likewise. This is what I am about. This is the meaning of my life.”

人生的意义

“帕帕德罗斯博士,人生的意义是什么呢?”

帕帕德罗斯看了我好一阵子,然后从裤子后面的口袋里掏出他的皮夹,他把手伸进皮夹里,拿出一面非常小的圆镜,大概有 25 分硬币大小。

leather[ˈleðə]

adj. 皮革制的

quarter[ˈkwɔ:tə]

n. 25 美分

wreck[rek]

v. 失事,破坏

crevice[ˈkrevis]

n. (岩石、墙等)裂缝

metaphor[ˈmetəfə]

n. 象征,隐喻

fragment

[ˈfrægmənt]

n. 碎片

随后,他这样说道:“战争期间,我还很小的时候,我们很穷,住在一个偏僻的村里。有一天,我在路上发现了一面镜子的碎片。一辆德国摩托车在那个地方发生了事故。”

“我设法找到了所有的碎片,把它们拼在一起,但那不可能做到的,所以我只保留了最大的那块碎片。我把它在一块石头上打磨,把它磨成圆的。我开始把它当成玩具,并渐渐着迷,发现自己可以用它把光线反射到太阳永远照不到的暗处:深洞、裂缝和黑暗的壁橱。这渐渐成了我的一种游戏,把光线照到我能找到的阳光最难照到的地方。”

“随着我渐渐长大,我慢慢明白了这不只是一个孩子的游戏,还是对我人生的一种比喻。我最终明白我既不是光,也不是光源,但真理、理解和知识就在那里,只要我反射,就会照亮许多黑暗的地方。”

“我是镜子的一个碎片,我并不知道整个镜子的图案和形状。不过,我尽力把光照射到世界上那些黑暗的地方,照射到人们心灵的黑暗处,让一些人有所改变。说不定其他人会看到,也会这样做。这就是我。这就是人生的意义。”

知识点睛

1. fish into

短语,意为“在……中掏,摸索”。相关短语有 fish sth. out, 意为“掏出,摸出”。

例:Eric fished a peppermint out of the bag.

艾瑞克从袋子里摸出一块薄荷糖。

2. I began to play with it as a toy and became fascinated by the fact that I could reflect light into dark places where the sun would never shine—in deep holes and crevices and dark closets.

本句为复合句。后半句是由 that 引导的同位语从句 that I could reflect light into dark places where the sun would never shine, 作 the fact 的同位语。而在该同位语从句中,又包含了一个由 where 引导的定语从句 where the sun would never shine—in deep holes and crevices and dark closets。

3. I am a fragment of a mirror whose whole design and shape I do not know.

本句是含有定语从句的复合句。whose 引导定语从句 whose whole design and shape I do not know, 修饰 a mirror。

2

I Choose to Be Cheerful

economics

[i:kə'nɒmiks, ekə-]

n. 经济学

proceed[prə'si:d]

vi. 继续进行, 开始

address[ə'dres]

vt. 发表演说

flasher['flæʃə]

n. 灯光明灭装置

I teach **economics** at UNLV three times per week. *Last Monday, at the beginning of class, I cheerfully asked my students how their weekend had been.* ❶ One young man said that his weekend had not been so good. *He had his wisdom teeth removed.* ❷ The young man then **proceeded** to ask me why I always seemed to be so cheerful.

His question reminded me of something I'd read somewhere before: "Every morning when you get up, you have a choice about how you want to approach life that day," I said. "I choose to be cheerful."

"Let me give you an example," I continued, **addressing** all sixty students in the class. "In addition to teaching here at UNLV, I also teach out at the community college in Henderson, 17 miles down the freeway from where I live. One day a few weeks ago I drove those 17 miles to Henderson. I exited the freeway and turned onto College Drive. I only had to drive another quarter mile down the road to the college. But just then my car died. I tried to start it again, but the engine wouldn't turn over. So I put my **flashers** on, grabbed my books, and marched down the road to the college.

"As soon as I got there I called AAA and arranged for a tow truck to meet me at my car after class. The secretary in the Provost's office asked me what has happened. 'This is my lucky day,' I replied, smiling."

"Your car breaks down and today is your lucky day?' She was puzzled. 'What do you mean?'"

"I live 17 miles from here.' I replied. 'My car could have broken down anywhere along the freeway.' ❸ It didn't. Instead, it broke down in the perfect place: off the freeway, within walking distance of here. I'm still able to teach my class, and I've been able to arrange for the tow truck to meet me after class. If my car was meant to break down today, it couldn't have been arranged in a more convenient fashion.'"

"The secretary's eyes opened wide, and then she smiled. I smiled back and headed for class." So ended my story.

I scanned the sixty faces in my economics class at UNLV. Despite the early hour, no one seemed to be asleep. Somehow, my story had touched them. Or maybe it wasn't the story at all. In fact, it had all started with a student's **observation** that I was cheerful.

Deepak Chopra has quoted an Indian wise man as saying, "Who you are speaks louder to me than anything you can say." I suppose it must be so.

我选择快乐地生活

我每周在拉斯维加斯大学教三堂经济课。上个星期一,在上课之前,我愉快地问我的学生们周末过得怎么样。一个年轻人说他的周末从来没这么好过。他拔掉了他的智齿。然后这个年轻人又继续问我,为什么我总是看起来这么愉快。

他的问题使我想起了我以前在什么地方看到过的一些东西:“每天早晨当你醒来的时候,你就有权利选择想要怎样度过这一天,”我说,“我选择快乐地度过。”

“让我给你举一个例子,”我在全班 60 个学生的面前接着说道,“除了在拉斯维加斯大学教课,我也在亨德森社会学院教课,从我住的地方到那儿走高速公路有 17 英里。几周前的一天我开车行驶了 17 英里去亨德森。我出高速公路以后转到学院路。我只要沿着这条路再开四分之一英里就到学校了。但是就在那时我的车熄火了。我又试着发动了一次,但是引擎根本转不起来。所以我只好打开警示闪灯,拿起书,沿着路向学校走去。”

“我一到学校就给汽车协会打电话,安排拖车课后把我和我的车拖走。院长办公室的秘书问我发生了什么事情。‘今天是我的幸运日,’我笑着回答。”

“‘你的车都抛锚了,今天还是你的幸运日?’她疑惑不解,‘你是什么意思?’”

“‘我住在 17 英里以外,’我回答说,‘我的车可能在高速公路的任何一处抛锚。但是没有。相反地,在最理想的地方抛锚了:下了高速公路,到这儿只有几步路远。我还能来教课,课后我还能安排拖车找到我。如果我的车今天注定要坏掉,那么这样子已经是安排得再方便不过了。’”

observation

[ˌəbzə:'veɪʃən]

n. 观察

“那个秘书瞪大眼睛,然后笑了。我也朝她笑了一下,然后去上课了。”这就是我的故事。

我扫视了一下在拉斯维加斯大学我的经济课上的这 60 张脸。尽管还是一大早,却没有一个人看起来有困意。不知为什么,我的故事打动了他们。或者触动他们的根本不是这个故事。实际上,这一切都是从一个学生注意到我的快乐开始的。

迪帕克·乔普拉曾经引述一名印度智者说:“对我来说,你是谁比任何你能说的都重要。”我想它一定是这样的。

知识 点睛

1. Last Monday, at the beginning of class, I cheerfully asked my students how their weekend had been.

本句是含有宾语从句的复合句。句子主干是 I cheerfully asked my students。how 引导宾语从句 how their weekend had been, 作 asked 的宾语。

2. He had his wisdom teeth removed.

本句为简单句。句中的动词短语 have sth. done, 意为“让别人把某事做好”。例如:Where do you normally have your hair cut? 你通常在哪里理发?

3. My car could have broken down anywhere along the freeway.

本句为含有虚拟语气的简单句。句中 could have done 是虚拟语气,表示对过去事情的假设,而现实恰好相反。

3

Laws of Life of My Grandma

Two years ago my grandma left this earth. *It wasn't until she died that I truly recognized how much she meant to me.*^① She was my friend, my teacher and my **inspiration**. *She taught me things that became my personal laws of life, which have helped me get through each day with a smile, have made me aware of my strong points as well as my weakness, and helped me overcome those weaknesses.*^② They are true lessons to live by, and I hope I will never forget them.

inspiration

[,ɪnspə'reɪʃən]

n. 鼓舞人心(的东西)

One day, my grandma told me something I will always remember. She said, “Your **talent** is God’s gift to you. What you do with it is your gift to God.”

talent['tælənt]

n. 才能

Those words have become a part of me over years. Each day I thank God for many talents that he has given me, and I try to use those talents. I believe that we were all born to reveal the **glory** of God that is within us. As we each let our own light shine, through our talents and ideas, we unconsciously give others **permission** to do the same. Just think about what our world could be like if each and ever one of us let our own light shine through. I think it would be a better place.

glory['glɔ:ri]

n. 光荣, 荣誉

permission

[pə(:)'miʃən]

n. 许可, 同意

One more lesson my grandma taught me was to always go for my dreams and never give up. She once told me, “Shoot for the moon because even if you fall, you’ll land among the stars.”

I have never heard anything truer in all my life. *I have tried to live by these words, and have figured out that it is very important for you to go for your dreams and never let anything get in your way.*④ Even if you have had a bitter experience in the past, never limit your view of life by that experience. I believe that life is constantly testing our **commitment**, and I’m convinced life’s greatest rewards are reserved for those who show a never-ending commitment to act until they achieve. This kind of determination can accomplish miracles, but it must be continual and **consistent**. Simple as this may sound, it is still the common denominator separating those who live their dreams from those that live in regret.

commitment

[kə'mitmənt]

n. 承诺, 责任

consistent

[kən'sistent]

adj. 始终如一的, 持续的

Another great lesson my grandma taught me was, “Never let anyone come to you without coming away better and happier.” Everyone should see goodness in your face, in your eyes, in your smile. We also underestimate the power of such things: a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest **compliment**, or even the smallest act of caring. All have the potential to turn a life around.

compliment

['kɒmplɪmənt]

n. 称赞, 恭维

My grandma is no longer present here on earth, but she will always remain in my heart. Her words and **personality** have affected my life. Her lessons on life have become a part of me, and have

personality

[pə:sə'næliti]

n. 个性

made me a better person. I will never forget the great love my grandma shared with everyone. She is my idol. My grandma's laws of life will live in me forever.

祖母的人生准则

两年前,奶奶离开了这个世界。直到她去世,我才真正认识到,她对我有多么重要。她是我的朋友、我的老师和我的动力源泉。她教给我的东西渐渐成了我个人的生活准则。这些准则帮助我微笑着度过每一天,使我认识到自己的优点与缺点,并帮助我克服那些弱点。它们是我赖以生存的真正训诫,我希望自己永远都不要忘记它们。

有一天,奶奶告诉了一件使我终生难忘的事情。她说:“你的才能是上帝赐予你的礼物。利用它是你给上帝的礼物。”

这些年来,那些话已经成为我生活的一部分。每天我都感谢上帝赐给我许多才能,而且尽力利用那些才能。我相信我们生来就是为了展现上帝赐予我们的光荣。当我们各自通过自己的才能和思想让自己发光时,我们无意间就同意别人也这样做。试想一下,如果每个人都让自己的光照亮别人,我们的世界会是什么景象。我想那会是一个更加美好的地方。

奶奶教给我的另一训诫是,要永远追逐自己的梦想,决不放弃。她曾经告诉我说:“争取摘到月亮,因为即使你摔倒了,也会落在群星间。”

我一生从来没有听过比这更真实的事情。我努力按照这些话去生活,而且明白这对追逐梦想非常重要,永远不要让任何事情阻挡你的道路。即使过去曾有过惨痛经历,也永远不要让那种经历限制住自己的人生观。我相信,生活总是在考验我们的责任感,而且我确信,生活最大的奖赏是为那些不懈奋斗、直至成功的人准备的。这种决心可以成就奇迹,但必须始终如一。尽管这听起来可能很简单,但仍是区分追逐梦想和懊悔过去者的共同特性。

奶奶教给我的又一大训诫是:“如果离开时不能给人留下更幸福、更美好的印象,千万不要让任何人到你身边来。”每个人都应该从你的脸上、你的眼里和你的微笑中看到善意。我们也会常常低估一些东西的力量:一次抚摸、一个微笑、一句善言、一只倾听的耳朵、一声真诚的赞美甚至是一个最小的关爱之举。所有这些都拥有改变人生的可能。

尽管奶奶已不在人世了,但她会永远活在我的心里。她的话语和人格魅力已经影响到我的人生。她关于人生的训诫已经成为我的一部分,使我更加出色。我永远不会忘记奶奶和每个人分享的大爱。她是我的偶像。奶奶的人生准则将永远活在我的心里。

知识
点睛

1. It wasn't until she died that I truly recognized how much she meant to me.

本句为含有宾语从句的复合句，而且是一个强调句。强调部分是 not until she died，后面由 how much 引导宾语从句 how much she meant to me，作 recognized 的宾语；本句引用了 not until...that... 短语，意为“直到……才……”。

2. She taught me things that became my personal laws of life, which have helped me get through each day with a smile, have made me aware of my strong points as well as my weakness, and helped me overcome those weaknesses.

本句是含有定语从句的复合句。首先，该句的主干是 she taught me things；后接 that 引导的从句 that became my personal laws of life，作 things 的定语；其次紧跟 which 引导的定语从句 which have helped me get through each day with a smile, have made me aware of my strong points as well as my weakness, and helped me overcome those weaknesses，修饰祖母教我的这些事。

3. I have tried to live by these words, and have figured out that it is very important for you to go for your dreams and never let anything get in your way.

本句是一个含有宾语从句的复合句。该句主干是 I have tried to live by these words, and have figured out，由 and 连接；that 引导的宾语从句 that it is very important for you to go for your dreams and never let anything get in your way，作 have figured out 的宾语。

4

Give It Time, Give It Chance

My friend went afar to work, so he asked me to take care of the courtyard in the mountains. The place **adjacent** to the wall was built with a fence to plant green vegetable. Every morning or evening, I would take a chair to sit in the courtyard sipping tea or reading. It felt so charming.

My friend was an **assiduous** man, so he often kept the

adjacent

[ə'dʒeɪsənt]

adj. 邻近的,毗连的

assiduous

[ə'sɪdʒjuəs]

adj. 勤勉的,刻苦的