

小书虫 点滴英语 简易英汉对照读物

触摸英语 感觉原著

LEARN ENGLISH
BY READING ORIGINAL WORKS

I NEVER WRITE RIGHT



我不懂写作
(精短散文)

司树森 / 主编
熊德锐 / 审定

吉林大学出版社
吉林音像出版社

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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

小书虫点滴英语简易英汉对照读物/司树森主编. —长春市:
吉林大学出版社

2005.5.8

ISBN 7—5601—2854—8 IV. G372

I. 小... II. 司... III. 汉语—英语—辅导

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2005)第 081203 号

小书虫点滴英语简易英汉对照读物(第三辑)

主编 司树森 责任编辑 于 泓

出版:吉林音像出版社 吉林大学出版社

地址:长春市人民大街 4646 号

邮编:130021

印刷:北京市后沙峪印刷厂

发行:全国新华书店

开本:850×1092 1/32 印张:33.25 字数:5000 千字

版次:2006 年 3 月第 1 版 印次:2006 年 3 月第 1 次印刷

书号:ISBN 7—5601—2854—8/G · 372

定价:148.00 元(全套 10 册)

(本书如发现印装质量问题请直接与承印厂调换)

内容提要

过往是人生的经验，一个聪明的人是善于借鉴别人的经验的。您即将打开的这本书就是我们为您推荐西方一些作家的关于人生经验的精短散文。

在这里您可以读到一位有退休女教师对自己学生的浓情回忆，也可以体悟到一位善良的法官培育一个小化子的良苦用心，还可以领悟“谢谢”二字的伟大力量，同时也可以看看一位畅销书作家成名的心路历程，最后寻找一下人世间胜过金钱的报酬，我总以为读别人的人生可以使自己感动，使自己少走弯路。

平实、精短的文字，也是您学习英文的最佳选择，流畅的叙述风格，感激的叙述心情，会给您带来愉悦的阅读体验。

“一本书，如果它来的正是时候，在恰当的时期，它将改变人生道路上随之而来的一切。”我们希望此书对您来说就是这样的一本好书。

前 言

学习英语,尤其是学好英语不存在速成的捷径,只有勤奋刻苦,循序渐进,日积月累,博览精思,大胆实践,打下坚实的语言、知识基础才可能达到英语学习的理想境界。正所谓“锲而不舍,金石可镂;驽马十驾,功在不舍。”

众多成功者的实践和经验证明:初、中级的广大英语学习者,尤其是中、小学生甚或大学生在打基础的阶段,应该听、说、读、写齐头并进,小学生可侧重听、说,扎扎实实打好基础。读书,读书,最重要的还是读书。学习英语,使用英语的整个过程就是一个不断接触、认真模仿和反复练习的过程,业精于勤,功成于练,而首先是阅读实践(应包括朗读、默读、精读和泛读)。无论古今中外,阅读都是培养语感,养成用英语思维,用英语流畅表达思想的最有效的途径之一。阅读的过程就是记忆单词、扩大词汇量和学习词汇用法的过程。大量阅读也是有效促进和提高其他各项听、说、写、译技能的好方法,而简易读物尤其是英汉对照简易读物对提高阅读理解能力、打好语言基础、全面提高综合运用能力极为有效。为此我们推出了《小书虫简易英汉对照读物》系列丛书。本丛书是为中学生、大学生和广大初、中级英语爱好者、自学者精心策划的一套英文原版课外读物。

本丛书编排形式活泼新颖,文章短小精悍,图文并茂,英汉对照,既方便阅读又宜于携带。

本丛书选材广泛,纵横古今中外,品类齐全,丰富多彩,包罗世界文学名著、优美动人的童话、广为流传的名人轶事和人们所喜闻乐见的影视文(章)网(络)的精彩片段。坚持阅读既可开阔视野、陶冶心灵又可激励人生、奋勇向前。

本丛书的实用性极强,通过阅读增加词汇量,提高阅读理解能力,最重要的是可以受到纯正地道英语情境的熏陶,从而增强语感。

最后,在本丛书的成书过程中,许多中、外朋友都付出了大量的时间和辛勤的劳动。我们在此向他们表示由衷的感谢。

本丛书由司树森教授担任主编,熊德轲教授审订。

尽管我们在尽最大努力做好每一件事,但是不妥之处或错误仍在所难免。敬请广大读者不吝指教,以便修正。

司树森

2006年5月

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Learn English By Reading Original Works

触摸英语·感觉原著

The Retired Teacher

退休老师

(精短散文)

主 编 司树森

副主编 周海燕

审 订 熊德轲





The Retired^① Teacher

I used to look forward to retirement. Now that I've stopped teaching, though, I really miss my job. I especially miss the kids. I taught many students over the years, you know. How many? An educated guess would be around eight thousand! I'm glad I kept all the old yearbooks^②. My husband wanted me to throw them away, but I couldn't. I have forty of them—one for each year that I taught—in a special bookcase. I love looking through those yearbooks. The photos help me to remember my students.

Here's the yearbook from 1952, my first year as an English teacher. See this photo of me with my class! I look as young as the students. When I graduated from teacher's college, I thought I knew everything. I quickly found out, however, that I still had lots to learn. The saying, "Experience is the best teacher" is true! I became a student of experience, in the school of hard knocks!

For example, I learned the hard way that I couldn't demand respect from my students. I had to earn it. In that first year, I tried to be very tough. I wanted to show the students that I was in control. When they misbehaved



退休老师



我过去常常盼着退休。现在,我不再教书了,却非常怀念我的工作。我尤其怀念那些孩子们。你知道,有多少吗?就算保守的估计也有 8000 名左右!我很高兴我保存了所有那些旧纪念册。我丈夫要我把它扔掉,但我不想这样做。我有 40 本纪念册——我教了 40 年书,一年一本——我把它放在一个特别的书架上。我喜欢翻看纪念册。它能帮我回忆起学生。

这有本 1952 年的纪念册,那是我当英语教师的第一年。看看这张我和学生们的照片,我看上去和他们一样年轻。那时我刚从师范学院毕业,以为自己什么都懂。可是,我很快发现,还有很多东西要学习。俗话说“经验是最好的老师”,在辛苦的学校中,我是经验的学生!

例如,我通过努力意识到不能光要求学生尊敬我。我得赢得尊敬。在那从教的第一年,我试着表现得非常严厉。我想证明我是主宰者。当他们不守

New Words

- ①retire [ri'taɪə] v. 退休
②yearbook ['jiə:bʊk] n. 年鉴



in class, I yelled^① at them and threatened^② them. At first I thought I had succeeded. The kids became fearful and quiet in my presence. I found it later, though, that they laughed at me behind my back. That really bothered^③ me. The experience was painful, but it taught me an important lesson. Before students could respect me, I had to respect them.

I had other lessons to learn, too. In fact, I made a lot of mistakes early in my career. Fortunately, I was a quick study. I soon learned how to enjoy my job and to do it well. To me, the most important part of teaching was this: helping students to find their destiny. All kids need to realize that their lives have a very important purpose. Otherwise, it's hard for them to hit the books. They cut classes. They don't do their homework. Some of them even flunk out. I hate to see that happen.

It's amazing what a little caring can do, though. I remember one student back in the 80's. He was the class clown, always making people laugh. He was smart but lazy, and doing badly in English. During a test one day, I caught him with a cheat sheet. He was afraid that I would fail him. Instead, I gave him a more useful "punishment." I told him to go to an old folks' home and make people laugh. Well, he did it. He prepared a half-hour program and made an appointment^④ to visit the home. He even took some classmates with him to



纪律时,我向他们大叫并威胁他们。起初,我以为成功了。我一出现,学生们就变得胆怯和安静下来。可是,后来我发现,他们尽在背后嘲笑我。这确实让我很烦恼。这种经历是令人伤脑筋的,但这给了我一个重要的教训。在学生们尊重我之前,我得先尊重他们。

我还有其它的东西要学习。事实上,我在工作之初犯了许多错误。幸好我学得快。我很快就学会了享受工作的乐趣并且把它做好。对我来讲,教书最重要的是:帮助学生找到他们的人生道路。所有的孩子都需要知道人生中要有一个非常重要的目标。否则,很难令他们用功读书。他们逃学,不做作业。有些甚至退学。我真不想看到这类事情发生。

然而,小小的关心会有意想不到的效果。我记起 80 年代的一位学生,他是班上的小丑,总是惹得大家发笑。他很聪明,但是懒惰,英文课的成绩很差。有一天考试时,他作弊时被我抓住了。他担心我会让他退学。而我却给了他一个更有效的“惩罚”。我让他去一家老人院,逗老人们笑。他真去了。他准备了一个半小时的节目,并且约好了拜访的时间。他甚至还带了几个同

New Words

- ①yell [jel] v. 大喊
- ②threaten [ˈθreɪn] v. 威胁
- ③bother [ˈbɒðə] v. 打扰
- ④appointment [əˈpɔɪntmənt] n. 约定





sing a few songs. The old people loved him. They asked him to come back again and again. The experience changed him completely. He became my star pupil and graduated at the head of the class! Now he's a TV star!

Well, that's just one example of the pleasure of teaching: I could give you many more. With these yearbooks, I'll never forget my students. I just hope they don't forget me.





学和他一起唱了几首歌。老人们都很喜欢他,并多次邀请他再去。这使他彻底变了样。他成了好学生并且以全班第一的优异成绩毕业!现在,他是电视明星!

好了,这只是我教书乐趣中的一个例子。我可以给你举出更多这样的例子。这些纪念册使我永远记住我的学生。希望他们也记住我。



Learn English By Reading Original Works

触摸英语·感觉原著

Thanks for Everything

感恩图报

(精短散文)

主 编 司树森

副主编 周海燕

审 订 熊德轶





Thanks for Everything

By Fred Bzuer

My wife, Shirley, and I have gone on vacations to a quiet beach in Southwestern Florida for most of our married life. But I realized one day that I had rarely expressed my gratitude^① to the one who'd lived those years with me. On our 40th wedding anniversary^②, Shirley and I walked again the familiar margin of the sea. I told her then how thankful I was that she shared my life.

We don't have to wait for anniversaries to thank the ones closest to us—the ones so easily overlooked. If I have learned anything about giving thanks, it is this: give it now! While your feeling of appreciation^③ is alive and sincere, act on it. Saying thanks is such an easy way to add to the world's happiness.

A few years ago, a young woman from a neighboring town won a scholarship to a prestigious^④ college. Although the innercity high school she attended was plagued^⑤ with problems, she overcame them and excelled. When she graduated, she commended the school for its challenging courses and her teachers for their special interest and



感恩图报

弗雷德·鲍尔



我和妻子雪莉结婚这么多年来，几乎所有的假期都是在佛罗里达州西南部一个宁静的海滨度过的。但是有一天，我意识到，我很少对她表达过我的感激之情。在我和雪莉结婚 40 周年纪念日那天，我们又一次漫步在那个熟悉的海滩，这时我才告诉她，和她一起生活，我是多么感激！

我们不一定非得等到纪念日才去感谢那些亲人——他们很容易被忽略。如果我已经学到了有关感恩之事，那就是：说出来！当你心中充满真挚的感激之情时，马上表达出来。说声“谢谢”是给世界带来快乐的一个简单办法。

几年前，邻镇有位姑娘赢得了一所名牌大学的奖学金。虽然她就读的那所镇中心中学问题很多，但是她克服了困难，并且取得了优异的成绩。当她毕业时，她称学校的课程富于挑战性，还赞扬老师对她的格外关心和鼓励。她

New Words

- ①gratitude [ˈgrætɪtjuːd] *adj.* 感激
- ②anniversary [ˌæniˈvɜːsəri] *n.* 周年纪念日
- ③appreciation [əˌpriːʃiˈeɪʃən] *n.* 感激
- ④prestigious [preˈstɪdʒiəs] *adj.* 闻名的
- ⑤plague [pleɪɡ] *v.* 困扰

