

双语美文

思想结晶改变人生命运，经典美文提高生活品位

我的名人书信美文

用无限温柔来感谢你

英汉对照 词汇解析 语法讲解 励志语录

张波 编著

读书，让你慢慢成为
一个有温度、懂情趣、会思考的人



中国纺织出版社


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前言

思想结晶改变人生命运，经典美文提高生活品位。曾几何时，一个字，触动你的心弦；一句话，让你泪流满面；一篇短文，让你重拾信心，勇敢面对生活给你的考验。这就是语言的魅力。通过阅读优美的英文短文，不仅能够扩大词汇量，掌握单词的用法，了解语法，学习地道的表达，更让你的心灵如沐春风，得到爱的呵护和情感的滋养。

岁月流转，经典永存。针对英语学习爱好者的需要，编者精心选取了难易适中的英语经典美文，为你提供一场丰富多彩的文学盛宴。本书采用中英文对照的形式，便于读者理解。每篇美文后都附有单词解析、语法知识点、经典名句三大版块，让你在欣赏完一篇美文后，还能扩充词汇量、巩固语法知识、斟酌文中好句，并感悟人生。在一篇篇不同题材风格的英语美文中，你总能找到引起你心灵共鸣的一篇。

读一本新书恰似坠入爱河，是场冒险。你得全身心地投入进去。翻开书页之时，从前言直至封底你或许都知之甚少。但谁又不是呢？字里行间的只言片语不总是正确的。

有时候你会发现，人们自我推销时是一种形象，等你在深入了解后，他们就完全变样了。有时故事的叙述流于表面，朴实的语言，平淡的情节，但阅读过半后，你却发觉这本书真是出乎意料的妙不可言，而这种感受只能靠自己去感悟！

阅读之乐，腹有诗书气自华；阅读之美，活水云影共天光。阅读可以放逐百年孤独，阅读可以触摸千年月光。阅读中有眼前的收获，阅读中也有诗和远方。

让我们静下心来感受英语美文的温度，在英语美文中仔细品味似曾相识的细腻情感，感悟生命和人性的力量。

编者

2018年6月

目录

- 01 Leonardo da Vinci to the Duke of Milan**
达·芬奇致米兰大公书 001
- 02 Samuel Johnson to Lord Chesterfield**
萨缪尔·约翰逊致切斯特菲尔德大人 007
- 03 Letter to a Young Friend by Benjamin Franklin**
本杰明·富兰克林给年轻朋友的一封信 013
- 04 Napoleon Bonaparte to Josephine**
拿破仑·波拿巴致约瑟芬 017
- 05 George Washington to Colonel Nichola**
乔治·华盛顿致尼古拉上校 021
- 06 Victor Hugo to Adele Foucher**
维克托·雨果致阿黛尔·富歇尔 026
- 07 Friedrich Nietzsche to Richard Wagner**
弗里德里希·尼采致理查德·瓦格纳 034
- 08 John Keats to Percy Bysshe Shelley**
约翰·济慈致珀西·比希·雪莱 039
- 09 Ralph Waldo Emerson to Walt Whitman**
拉尔夫·瓦尔多·爱默生致沃尔特·惠特曼 044
- 10 Benjamin Disraeli to Thomas Carlyle**
本杰明·迪斯雷利致托马斯·卡莱尔 048
- 11 Abraham Lincoln to John D. Johnson**
亚伯拉罕·林肯致约翰·约翰斯顿 053
- 12 Abraham Lincoln to Mrs. Lydia Bixby**
亚伯拉罕·林肯致莉迪亚·毕克斯比夫人 058

- 13 Charles Darwin to R. W. Darwin
查尔斯·达尔文致罗伯特·达尔文 062
- 14 Henry David Thoreau to Ralph Waldo Emerson
亨利·大卫·梭罗致拉尔夫·瓦尔多·爱默生 067
- 15 Theodore Roosevelt to Theodore Roosevelt Jr.
西奥多·罗斯福致小西奥多·罗斯福 073
- 16 David Hume to Adam Smith
大卫·休谟致亚当·斯密 078
- 17 Adam Smith to William Strahan
亚当·斯密致威廉·斯特拉恩 082
- 18 Francis Scott Fitzgerald to Ernest Hemingway
弗朗西斯·斯科特·菲茨杰拉德致欧内斯特·海明威 087
- 19 Adam Smith to David Hume
亚当·斯密致大卫·休谟 092
- 20 Joseph Priestley to His Neighbours of Birmingham
约瑟夫·普里斯特里致邻居伯明翰 098
- 21 Thomas Jefferson to Giovanni Fabbroni
托马斯·杰斐逊致吉奥凡尼·法布罗尼 105
- 22 Thomas Jefferson to Martha Jefferson
托马斯·杰斐逊致玛莎·杰斐逊 110
- 23 Robert Southey to Charlotte Brontë
罗伯特·骚塞致夏洛特·勃朗蒂 116
- 24 Charles Lamb to S. T. Coleridge
查尔斯·兰姆致塞·泰·柯勒律治 125
- 25 Michael Faraday to Sarah Barnard
迈克尔·法拉第致萨拉·巴纳德 132
- 26 Percy Bysshe Shelley to John Keats
珀西·比希·雪莱致约翰·济慈 135
- 27 Abraham Lincoln to Miss Grace Bedell
亚伯拉罕·林肯致格蕾丝·比德尔小姐 140

- 28 Charles Darwin to W. D. Fox
查尔斯·达尔文致威廉·福克斯 143
- 29 Alfred Tennyson to Queen Victoria
阿尔弗雷德·丁尼生致维多利亚女王 147
- 30 Charles Dickens to Wilkie Collins
查尔斯·狄更斯致威尔基·柯林斯 151
- 31 Charlotte Brontë to Emily Brontë
夏洛特·勃朗特致艾米莉·勃朗特 156
- 32 Mark Twain to W. D. Howells
马克·吐温致威廉·迪安·豪威尔斯 161
- 33 Eugene O'Neil to Beatrice Ashe
尤金·奥尼尔致比阿特丽丝·阿希 166
- 34 William James to His Students
威廉·詹姆斯致他的学生 171
- 35 Charlotte Brontë to Ellen Nussey
夏洛特·勃朗特致爱伦·纳西 175
- 36 Edgar Allan Poe to Sarah Helen Whitman
埃德加·爱伦·坡致萨拉·海伦·惠特曼 180
- 37 William Cullen Bryant to Sarah S. Bryant
威廉·卡伦·布莱恩特致萨拉·布莱恩特 183
- 38 George Gordon Byron to the Hon. Augusta Byron
乔治·戈登·拜伦致奥古斯塔·拜伦阁下 188
- 39 George Gordon Byron to William Harness
乔治·戈登·拜伦致威廉·哈尼斯 193

01 Leonardo da Vinci to the Duke of Milan

达·芬奇致米兰大公书

My Excellency,

Having, most illustrious lord, seen and considered the experiments of all those who pose as masters in the art of inventing instruments of war, and finding that their inventions differ in no way from those in common use, I am **emboldened**, without prejudice to anyone, to solicit an appointment of acquainting your Excellency with certain of my secrets.

1. I can construct bridges which are very light and strong and very portable, with which to pursue and defeat the enemy; and others more solid, which resist fire or assault, yet are easily removed and placed in position; and I can also burn and destroy those of the enemy.

2. In case of a siege I can cut off water from the trenches and make **pontoons** and **scaling ladders** and other similar **contrivances**.

3. If by reason of the elevation or the strength of its position a place cannot be bombarded. I can demolish every fortress if its foundations have not been set on stone.

4. I can also make a kind of cannon

显贵的大公阁下：

我对那些冒充作战器械发明家的人所进行的试验做了观察和思考，发现他们发明的东西与平常使用的并无两样，故此斗胆求见阁下，以便面呈机密，但对他人不抱任何成见。

一、我能建造轻便、坚固、搬运便利的桥梁，可在追逐和击败敌军时派上用场；也能建造坚固的桥梁，能经受住敌军的炮火和进攻，这种桥梁装卸非常方便；我也能焚毁、破坏敌军的桥梁。

二、在围攻城池之际，我能从战壕中切断水源，还能制造浮桥、云梯和其他类似设备。

三、一个地势太高，或坚不可摧，因而无法用炮火轰击的据点，只要它的地基不是用石头筑的，我能摧毁它的每一个碉堡。

四、我还能制造一种既轻便又易于搬运的大炮，可用投射小石块，犹似下冰雹一般，其中喷出的烟雾会使敌军惊慌失措，因而遭受沉重损

which is light and easy of transport, with which to hurl small stones like hail, and of which the smoke causes great terror to the enemy, so that they suffer heavy loss and confusion.

5. I can noiselessly construct to any prescribed point **subterranean** passages either straight or winding, passing if necessary underneath trenches or a river.

6. I can make armored wagons carrying artillery, which shall break through the most **serried** ranks of the enemy, and so open a safe passage for his infantry.

7. If occasion should arise, I can construct cannon and mortars and light **ordnance** in shape both ornamental and useful, and different from those in common use.

8. When it is impossible to use cannon I can supply in their **stead** catapults, **mangonels**, **trabocchi**, and other instruments of admirable efficiency not in general use—In short, as the occasion requires I can supply infinite means of attack and defense.

9. And if the fight should take place upon the sea I can construct many engines most suitable either for attack or defense and ships which can resist the fire of the heaviest cannon, and powders or weapons.

10. In time of peace, I believe that

失，并造成巨大混乱。

五、我能在任何指定地点挖掘地道，无论是直的或弯的，不出半点声响，必要时可以在战壕和河流下面挖。

六、我能制造装有火炮的铁甲车，可用来冲破敌军最密集的队伍，从而打开一条向敌军步兵进攻的安全通道。

七、在必要情况下，我能建造既美观又实用的火炮、迫击炮和其他轻便军械，不同于通常所使用的。

八、不能使用火炮时，我能代之以弹弓、投石机、陷阱和其他效果显著的器械，非通用器械所能比——总之，必要时我能提供不胜枚举的进攻和防御器械。

九、倘若在海上作战，我能建造多种极适于进攻和防守的器械，也能制造可以抵御最重型火炮炮火的兵船以及各种火药和武器。

十、在太平年代，我能营造公共建筑和民用房屋，还能疏导水源，自信技术决不次于他人，而且包您满意。

此外，我还善于用大理石、黄铜或陶土雕塑；在绘画方面，我也绝不逊色于当今任何一位画家，无论他是谁。

此外，我还愿意承担雕

I can give you as complete satisfaction as anyone else in the construction of buildings both public and private, and in conducting water from one place to another.

I can further execute sculpture in marble, bronze or clay, also in painting I can do as much as anyone else, whoever he may be.

Moreover, I would undertake the commission of the bronze horse, which shall **endue** with immortal glory and eternal honor the auspicious memory of your father and of illustrious house of Sforza.

And if any of the aforesaid things should seem to anyone impossible or impracticable, I offer myself as ready to make trial of them in your park or in whatever place shall please your Excellency, to whom I commend myself with all possible humility.

塑铜马的任务，它将为您已故的父亲和声名显赫的斯福尔扎家族增添不朽的光彩和永恒的光荣。

如果有人认为上述任何一项办不到或不切实际的话，我愿随时在阁下花园里或您指定的其他任何地点实地试验。谨以无限谦恭之忧向阁下推荐我本人。

单词解析 Word Analysis

embolden [ɪm'bəʊldən] *vt.* 鼓励，使有胆量

例 Emboldened by the wine, he went over to introduce himself to her.
他借酒壮胆，走上前去向她做自我介绍。

pontoon [pɒn'tu:n] *n.* 浮码头；浮桥平台

例 Military engineers hurriedly constructed a pontoon bridge across the river.

工程兵在河上匆匆地架设浮桥。

scaling ladder ['skeɪlɪŋ; 'lædə(r)] 云梯

例 Here is an opening door. Welcome you all who are getting down from the scaling ladder of real life.

这里，是一个打开的门，欢迎所有从生活的云梯上下来的人。

contrivance [kən'traɪvəns] *n.* 发明；发明物

例 The film is spoilt by unrealistic contrivances of plot.

这部电影被不实际的牵强情节给毁了。

subterranean [sʌbtə'reɪniən] *adj.* 地下的

例 London has 9 miles of such subterranean passages.

伦敦像这样的地下通道有9英里长。

serried ['serɪd] *adj.* (指士兵的行列等) 密集的，靠紧的

例 Above the bush the trees stood in serried ranks.

荆棘之上耸立着密密麻麻的大树。

ordnance ['ɔ:dnəns] *n.* 大炮；军械（如弹药、军车等）

例 Shoes and clothing for the army were scarce, and ordnance supplies were scarcer.

军队很缺鞋和衣服，武器供应就更少了。

stead [sted] *n.* 代替

例 Foxton was dismissed and John Smith was appointed in his stead.

福克斯顿被解职，受命接替他的是约翰·史密斯。

mangonel ['mæŋgənel] *n.* 投石机，军用射石机

例 Manginel was widely used in ancient wars.

在古代战争中，投石机被广泛使用。

trabocchi *n.* [意大利语]陷阱

例 Watch out the trabocchi!

小心陷阱！

endue [ɪn'dju:] *vt.* 授予，赋予（特性、才能等）

例 He prayed to God to endue him with wisdom.

他祈求上帝赋予他智慧。

语法知识点 Grammar Points

- ① **Having, most illustrious lord, seen and considered the experiments of all those who pose as masters in the art of inventing instruments of war, and finding that their inventions differ in no way from those in common use, I am emboldened, without prejudice to anyone, to solicit an appointment of acquainting your Excellency with certain of my secrets.**

这个句子中主干为“I am emboldened...my secrets”，“Having seen and considered...”和“finding...”是动词的现在分词形式做原因状语。

- 例 Having no great talents, he lived a normal but happy life.
他没有什么才华，度过了平淡且幸福的一生。

- ② **If by reason of the elevation or the strength of its position a place cannot be bombarded, I can demolish every fortress if its foundations have not been set on stone.**

这是一个主从复合句，if引导了一个条件状语从句，用来说明事情发生的条件。

- 例 If there is no Einstein, the scientific world will be very different.
如果没有爱因斯坦，科学世界会变得十分不同。

- ③ **I can noiselessly construct to any prescribed point subterranean passages either straight or winding, passing if necessary underneath trenches or a river.**

这个句子中有一个插入语成分——if necessary，意为“如果必要的话”，同时也是if it is necessary的缩写。

- 例 He said he would help Lisa out of debt if necessary.
他说必要的时候会帮助丽莎摆脱债务。

- ④ **When it is impossible to use cannon I can supply in their stead catapults, mangonels, trabocchi, and other instruments of admirable efficiency not in general use.**

这个句子中有一个句型“it is impossible/possible/likely/unlikely (for somebody) to do something”，意为“某人做某事是可能的/不可能的”。

- 例 It is possible for you to enter a good university if you work hard.
只要你努力，就有可能上一所好大学。

经典名句 *Famous Classics*

1. There is no royal road to learning.
书山有路勤为径，学海无涯苦作舟。
2. He who seize the right moment, is the right man. — Goethe
谁把握机遇，谁就心想事成。——歌德
3. Cease to struggle and you cease to live. — Thomas Carlyle
生命不止，奋斗不息。——卡莱尔
4. You have to believe in yourself. That's the secret of success. — Charles Chaplin
人必须有自信，这是成功的秘密。——卓别林
5. The unexamined life is not worth living. — Socrates
浑浑噩噩的生活不值得过。——苏格拉底
6. Living without an aim is like sailing without a compass. — John Ruskin
生活没有目标，犹如航海没有罗盘。——罗斯金
7. “It is not our abilities that show what we truly are, it is our choices.” — *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*
决定我们成为什么样的人的，不是我们的能力，而是我们的选择。——《哈利·波特与密室》
8. Work hard! Work will save you. Work is the only thing that will see you through this. — *Sleepless in Seattle*
努力工作吧！工作能拯救你，埋头苦干可令你忘记痛楚。——《西雅图不眠夜》

02

Samuel Johnson to Lord Chesterfield

萨缪尔·约翰逊致切斯特菲尔德大人

My Lord,

I have been lately informed, by the **proprietor** of The World, that two papers, in which my Dictionary is recommended to the public, were written by your lordship. To be so **distinguished** is an honour which, being very little accustomed to favours from the great, I know not well how to receive, or in what terms to acknowledge.

When, upon some slight encouragement, I first visited your lordship, I was overpowered, like the rest of mankind, by the **enchantment** of your address, and could not forbear to wish that I might boast myself *Le vainqueur du vainqueur de la terre*;—that I might obtain that regard for which I saw the world contending; but I found my attendance so little encouraged, that neither pride nor modesty would suffer me to continue it. When I had once addressed your Lordship in public, I had exhausted all the art of pleasing which a **retired** and **uncourtly** scholar can possess. I had done all that I could; and no man is well pleased to have his all neglected, be it ever so little.

伯爵大人：

近日从《世界报》馆主得知，该报刊所载有关拙著词典之推荐文章二篇，均出自勋爵阁下手笔。承蒙您如此的推崇，本应是一种荣耀，只可惜在下自来无缘得到王公大人的青睐，所以真不知道该如何来领受这份荣耀，也不知道该用些什么言辞来聊表谢意。

回想当年，偶受他人怂恿，首次拜访大人阁下。我像所有的人一样，深为大人的言谈丰采所倾倒，不禁心生奢望有朝一日能口出大言“吾乃天下征服者之征服者也。”——虽知此殊荣是举世学人所欲得，仍希望有朝一日能侥幸获取。然而我很快发现自己的趋走逢迎皆不奏效。不管是出于自尊也好，自矜也好，我反正无法再周旋下去。我本是一个与世无争、不善逢迎的书生，但那时我也曾用尽平生所学的阿谀奉承的言辞，当众赞美过阁下——却终究不能取悦于你。能做的一切我都做了。如果一个人在这方面付出的一切

Seven years, my lord, have now passed, since I waited in your outward rooms, or was **repulsed** from your door; during which time I have been pushing on my work through difficulties, of which it is useless to complain, and have brought it, at last, to the **verge** of publication, without one act of assistance, one word of encouragement, or one smile of favour. Such treatment I did not expect, for I never had a patron before.

The shepherd in Virgil grew at last acquainted with Love, and found him a native of the rocks.

Is not a **patron** my lord, one who looks with unconcern on a man struggling for life in the water, and, when he has reached ground, **encumbers** him with help? The notice which you have been pleased to take of my labours, had it been early, had been kind; but it has been delayed till I am indifferent, and cannot enjoy it: till I am solitary, and cannot impart it; till I am known, and do not want it. I hope it is no very cynical **asperity** not to confess obligations where no benefit has been received, or to be unwilling that the public should consider me as owing that to a patron, which Providence has enabled me to do for myself.

Having carried on my work thus far

努力（不管是多么微不足道）受到完全的忽视，他是绝不会感到舒服的。

伯爵大人，从我第一次候立于贵府门下，或者说被您拒于门外时算起，已经过去7年。7年多来，我一直苦苦地撑着我的编撰工作。个中滋味，不说也罢。所幸我的劳作而今终于快要出版，在这之前我没有获得过一个赞助的行为，一句鼓励的话语，一抹称许的微笑。如此殊荣实出意料，因为我从来不曾得到过他人的赞助与恩惠。

维吉尔笔下的牧童最后终于和爱神相识，却发现所谓爱神竟是铁石心肠之人。

伯爵阁下，有的人眼见落水者在水中拼命挣扎而无动于衷，等他安全抵岸之后，却才多余地伸出所谓援手，莫非这就叫赞助人吗？大人而今忽有雅兴来关照在下的劳作，这原本是一桩美意，只可惜太迟了一点儿。迟到得我已经意懒心灰，再无法快乐地消受；迟到得我已经孤身一人，无法与家人分享；迟到得我已经名闻海内，再不需阁下附丽张扬。我既然本来就没有得到过实惠，自然无须感恩；既然是上帝助我独立完成这桩大业，我自然不愿让公众产生错觉，似乎我

with so little **obligation** to any favourer of learning, I shall not be disappointed though I should conclude it, if less be possible, with less; for I have been long wakened from that dream of hope, in which I once boasted myself with so much exultation.

My Lord,
Your lordship's most humble,
Most obedient servant,
Sam. Johnson

曾受惠于某一赞助人。但愿这么说还不至于太尖酸刻薄。

既然我的工作进行至今从未得到过学界任何资助，所以值此完工之际，也不会担心得到的资助变少（何来“变少”无从谈起），因为我早就已经从这个赞助的美梦里幡然猛醒；曾几何时，我还在那梦中得意非凡地自诩是大人。

伯爵阁下
您最谦恭温顺的仆人
萨缪尔·约翰逊

单词解析 Word Analysis

proprietor [prə'praɪətə(r)] *n.* 所有人，业主

例 He was the sole proprietor with total management control.
他是唯一业主，掌握全部管理权。

distinguished [dɪ'stɪŋgwɪft] *adj.* 著名的；卓越的

例 It seems such a pity that a distinguished and honored name should be commercialized in such a manner.
一个著名的、令人尊敬的名字被人用得如此商业化，似乎太让人遗憾了。

enchantment [ɪn'tʃɑ:ntmənt] *n.* 魅力；迷人之处

例 It was a place of deep mystery and enchantment.
这是一个极其神秘和迷人的地方。

retired [rɪ'taɪəd] *adj.* 与世隔绝的；遁世隐居的

例 The play starred a well-known retired actress who was intent on a come-back.
该剧由一名志在复出的著名隐退女演员主演。