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# 大学英语 长篇阅读2

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# 前 言

阅读是学好英语的重要途径，也是获取信息的重要手段。善于阅读的人更容易抢占学科的制高点，所以高端人才必须具备较强的外语阅读能力。英语阅读能力不仅体现在阅读理解率上，更体现在由阅读速度和阅读理解率共同决定的阅读效率上。

即将颁布的《大学英语教学指南》对阅读提出了明确的要求，在基础目标中规定：“能基本读懂题材熟悉、语言难度中等的英语报刊文章和其他英语材料；能借助词典阅读英语教材和未来工作、生活中常见的应用文和简单的专业资料，掌握中心大意，理解主要事实和有关细节；能根据阅读目的的不同和阅读材料的难易，适当调整阅读速度和方法，能运用基本的阅读技巧。”在提高目标中规定：“能基本读懂英语报刊上一般性题材的文章；能阅读与所学专业相关的综述性文献，或与未来工作相关的说明书、操作手册等材料，理解中心大意、关键信息、文章的篇章结构和隐含意义等；能较好地运用快速阅读技巧阅读篇幅较长、难度中等的材料；能较好地运用常用的阅读策略。”

信息获取能力、阅读速度、阅读注意力持久性既是目前多数学生阅读方面的软肋，又是将来工作中接触英语资料所必须具备的能力。本套教材以即将颁布的《大学英语教学指南》为指导，兼顾信息、语言和技能三大目标，其特点如下：

1. 结合学生的知识结构、认知特点、未来职业发展需要等进行选材。所选文章涉及英语国家的语言文化、风土人情、科学技术、社会热点等方面。文章主要源于近年出版的国外书籍以及英语国家的主要媒体和网站。

2. 选材包括散文、科普作品、广告、说明书、应用文等多种文体。每一单元以主题为线索，精选知识内容相近、体裁不同、风格各异的阅读材料。本教材共 32 个话题，题材涵盖当代社会的主要热点话题，应用性强。

3. 所选文章长度在 1000 词到 1200 词左右。习题的设计形式丰富，以信息匹配题为主，辅之以多项选择、单句或短文填空、是非判断、简短问答等常见题型，有针对性地训练学生篇章理解和快速定位的能力。

4. 本套教材共4册，每册8个单元，每单元包含3篇文章。教师可按规定时间随堂练习，有计划、有步骤地培养学生的阅读技能；也可作为课后阅读作业或自主学习材料，培养学生用英语解决实际问题的能力。

本套教材是大学英语教学改革成果的体现，旨在为我国大学英语阅读教学注入新的活力，引发新的思考。作为编者，我们衷心希望更多院校师生对书中的欠妥之处给予批评指正，以便在不断完善教材的过程中为大学英语教学资源的研究做出更大贡献。

编者

2015年5月

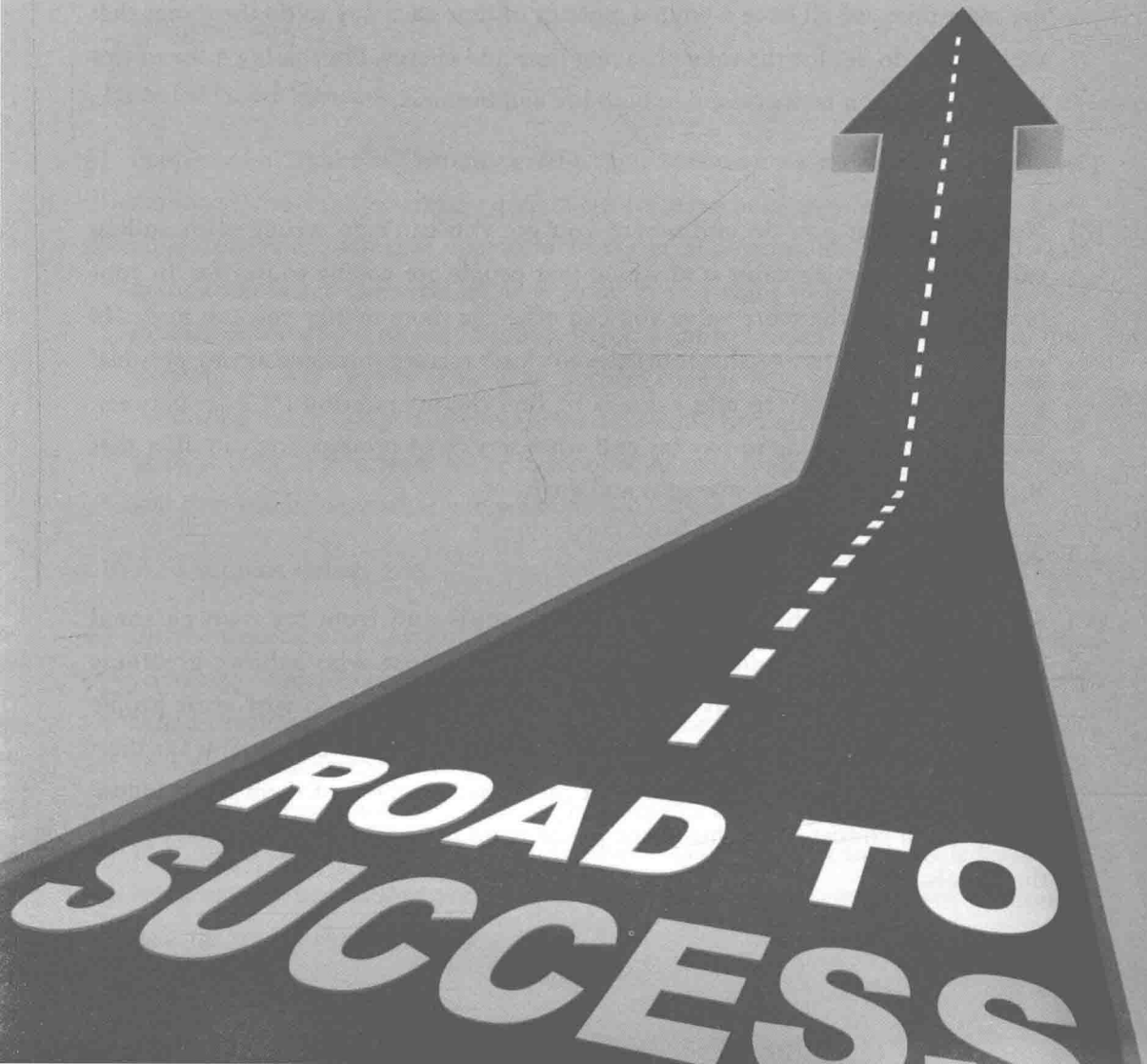
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**1**  
UNIT

# The Road to Success





## Passage 1

**Directions:** Read the following ten statements attached to this passage. Each statement contains information given in one of the paragraphs. Identify the paragraph from which the information is derived. You may choose a paragraph more than once. Each paragraph is marked with a letter. Answer the questions by marking the corresponding letter.

### Ten Great Tips for Success in both Life and Business

[A] Sometimes what helps us to be successful in our professional lives is not such a great idea in our personal lives — competition is a quality that comes to mind. At the same time, we all have a limited amount of time each day to do the things that we want to do. So for the sake of saving time and energy, I'm sharing a list of tips that will help you be successful in both life and business.

#### 1. Add Value

[B] No matter what you do and where you go, you can't go wrong with adding value. Simply putting value is anything that people are willing to pay for. In your professional life, the more value you can offer the more money you can make. In your personal life, more value translates to closer relationships and strong personal growth. The best way to add value is to find the intersection (交叉点) between what people are willing to pay for and what service or product you can offer that accords with your values, strengths and goals.

#### 2. Follow Your Passion

[C] Reading numerous biographies on great people and from my own personal observations and encounters, I've realized that those who achieve greatness professionally and personally follow their passion. The reason why great people are few and far in-between is because most people don't even know what their passion is. For those that do figure out their passion, most of them don't follow their passion consistently. This is one of the main reasons why people don't reach their goals.

### 3. Be Extraordinary

[D] If you do the same thing as everyone else, it's hard to be successful. It is important to find the edge and then push past it. That is how you become noticed and get what you want. Whether it is money, meaningful relationships or a sense of personal accomplishment, the extraordinary person attracts them all.

### 4. Start Now

[E] There are many factors that bring about a success in both your professional and personal life but the one factor required is taking action. Most people miss out on reaching their full potential because they never start. They are always preparing, planning and waiting for the best time to start. If I waited until I was ready, I would not have a coaching practice, a website, a blog, a workshop, etc. The stars rarely align and you will never be completely ready, so just start now and adjust along the way.

### 5. Hunt for Good Mentors

[F] People who “make it” usually credit their success to a mentor or a group of mentors who really helped guide them to get where they are. Mentors have gone down the road that you want to travel and can guide you to get to your destination faster than you go at it alone. If you want to be healthy, you would find a mentor who is already healthy. If you want to be rich, then you have to find someone who is already rich. What surprises me is how rarely people engage in mentoring relationships and those who do usually find mentors in only one aspect of their lives. If you want to be successful, be active about finding mentors that will help you achieve what you want.

### 6. Build a Support Group

[G] While mentors serve as a guide with whom you review your past actions and plan your next steps, a support group is your companion that helps you during the actual execution of your plan. This may be in the form of a mastermind group or an accountable partner which enables you to keep each other accountable for your goals and to help each other deal with situations that may arise while you are on your journeys. It is extremely helpful to have someone you know that is willing to listen to your frustrations and self-doubt and to encourage you and remind you of how far you've already come.

## 7. Personally Know Your Finances

[H] Numbers scare a lot of people. Start talking about assets, liabilities and net worth and people's eyes just glaze over. If you are one of these people who run away from numbers, please stop running because you are hurting yourself. If you want to be financially independent, you need to know how to keep score. If you have your own business or want to successfully invest, finances tell you how well you are doing and reveal the health of a business. If you don't understand finances, you have to learn. It will be easy once you get over the limiting belief that you are no good at numbers. For those interested in learning more, you may want to check out these personal finance resources.

## 8. Get Help

[I] I have a tendency to try to do everything myself and in some ways it is good and in many ways it is bad. It is important to know and understand all aspects of your life and business but that does not mean having to do all the tasks involved in maximizing your potential in those areas. It is true that we can always learn new things and become competent in them, but what is also true is that we are only given 24 hours each day to live full lives, and it is more effective to do what we do best and to outsource tasks that we're not good at to people who excel at them. Delegating effectively takes trust and the ability to clearly communicate what you want. For those who want to outsource, Elance is a nice way to find some quality freelancers (自由职业者).

## 9. Learn Sales

[J] Many people shrink when they hear the word sales. "I would never be in sales, that's a disrespected job." It is exactly this type of thinking that stops people from being their best. Sales is nothing more than persuading someone of something. When you are looking to get a date, you are selling. When you are interviewing for a job, you are selling. When you are trying to persuade your spouse or kids to go to Europe for your family vacation, you are selling. In a professional setting, sales is paramount and the lifeline for any business. If you want to get the most out of life and business, learn the skills for effective selling. I am beginning a series of blog posts on "How to Sell on My Blog" and you can learn from other successful sales trainers by reading materials from Zig Ziglar, Brian Tracey and Og Mandino.

## 10. Be Resilient (坚韧的)

[K] Things rarely work out the way you planned and there will always be distractions and stumbling blocks that you have to deal with when you are on your road to success. The key point to remember is to persist and to develop the courage to move on even when everyone around you is telling you it is OK to give up. This does not mean stubbornly holding on to your original plan but rather continuing to pursue your goal as long as the reasons for doing so is still valid (Make sure you know the “Why” of what you want). When everything seems to be going wrong, keep in mind that “the road to success is paved with a thousand failures” so each failure actually brings you closer to where you want to be.

(1,240 words)

- \_\_\_1 It is not always good to reach your full potential in doing all the tasks by yourself.
- \_\_\_2 If people figure out their passion and follow it consistently, perhaps they will hit the mark.
- \_\_\_3 Since people’s time and energy is limited, the author thinks it is necessary to learn some helpful tips in order to achieve success in both life and business.
- \_\_\_4 Learning the practical selling strategies may help you get the best out of life and business.
- \_\_\_5 Though preparation and planning are important, action is indispensable for success in both the professional and personal life.
- \_\_\_6 The author suggests that persistence, despite failures in the pursuit of your goal, will certainly get you somewhere on the road to success.
- \_\_\_7 The author mentions Elance as an approach to outsource tasks to people who are good at them.
- \_\_\_8 If people want to put value, nothing is better than achieving the critical balance for a win-win situation.
- \_\_\_9 You should learn more about finances if you have your own business or do not want a waste of money in an investment.

- \_\_\_10 It is suggested that to achieve their goals people should find guidance from those who have been successful in different aspects of their lives.



## Passage 2

**Directions:** Read the following ten statements attached to this passage. Each statement contains information given in one of the paragraphs. Identify the paragraph from which the information is derived. You may choose a paragraph more than once. Each paragraph is marked with a letter. Answer the questions by marking the corresponding letter.

### How to Make Work-life Balance Work

- [A] What I think I would do is to start with a simple request. I'd like all of you to pause for a moment and take stock of your miserable existence.
- [B] That was the advice that St. Benedict gave his rather startled followers in the fifth century. It was the advice that I decided to follow myself when I turned 40. Up until that moment, I had been a classic corporate warrior — I was eating too much, I was drinking too much, I was working too hard and I was neglecting the family. And I decided that I would try and turn my life around. In particular, I decided I would try to address the thorny (棘手的) issue of work-life balance. So I stepped back from the workforce, and I spent a year at home with my wife and four young children. But all I learned about work-life balance from that year was that I found it quite easy to balance work and life when I didn't have any work. Not a very useful skill, especially when the money runs out. So I went back to work, and I've spent these seven years since struggling with, studying and writing about work-life balance. And I have four observations I'd like to share with you today.
- [C] The first is: If society is to make any progress on this issue, we need an honest debate. But the trouble is so many people talk so much rubbish about work-life

balance. All the discussions about flexi-time or dress-down Fridays or paternity leave only serve to mask the core issue, which is that certain job and career choices are fundamentally incompatible with being meaningfully engaged on a day-to-day basis with a young family. Now the first step in solving any problem is acknowledging the reality of the situation you're in. And the reality of the society that we're in is there are thousands and thousands of people out there leading lives of quiet, screaming desperation, where they work long, hard hours at jobs they hate to enable them to buy things they don't need to impress people they don't like. It's my contention that going to work on Friday in jeans and a T-shirt isn't really getting to the nub of the issue.

- [D] The second observation I'd like to make is we need to face the truth that governments and corporations aren't going to solve this issue for us. We should stop looking outside. It's up to us as individuals to take control and responsibility for the type of lives that we want to lead. If you don't design your life, someone else will design it for you, and you may just not like their idea of balance. It's particularly important — this isn't on the World Wide Web, is it? I'm about to get fired — it's particularly important that you never put the quality of your life in the hands of a commercial corporation. Now I'm not talking here just about the bad companies — the “abattoirs of the human soul”, as I call them. I'm talking about all companies. Because commercial companies are inherently designed to get as much out of you as they can get away with. It's in their nature; It's in their DNA; It's what they do — even the good, well-intentioned companies. On the one hand, putting childcare facilities in the workplace is wonderful and enlightened. On the other hand, it's a nightmare — it just means you spend more time at the bloody office. We have to be responsible for setting and enforcing the boundaries that we want in our life.
- [E] The third observation is we have to be careful with the time frame that we choose upon which to judge our balance. Before I went back to work after my year at home, I sat down and I wrote out a detailed, step-by-step description of the ideal balanced day that I aspired to. And it went like this: Wake up well rested after a good night's sleep. Walk the dog. Have breakfast with my wife and children. Drive the kids to school on the way to the office. Do three hours' work. Play a sport with a friend at lunchtime. Do another three hours' work. Meet some mates in the pub for an early evening drink. Drive home for dinner with my wife and kids.

Meditate for half an hour. Walk the dog. Go to bed. How often do you think I have that day? We need to be realistic. You can't do it all in one day. We need to elongate (延长) the time frame upon which we judge the balance in our life, but we need to elongate it without falling into the trap of the "I'll have a life when I retire, when my kids have left home, when my wife has divorced me, my health is failing, I've got no mates or interests left". A day is too short; "After I retire" is too long. There's got to be a middle way.

- [F] A fourth observation: We need to approach balance in a balanced way. A friend came to see me last year — and she doesn't mind me telling this story — a friend came to see me last year and said, "Nigel, I've read your book. And I realize that my life is completely out of balance. It's totally dominated by work. I work 10 hours a day; I commute two hours a day. All of my relationships have failed. There's nothing in my life apart from my work. So I've decided to get a grip and sort it out. So I joined a gym." Now I don't mean to mock, but being a fit 10-hour-a-day office rat isn't more balanced; It's more fit. Lovely though physical exercise may be, there are other parts to life — There's the intellectual side; There's the emotional side; There's the spiritual side.
- [G] That can be daunting. Because people say, "Bloody hell mate, I haven't got time to get fit. You want me to go to church and call my mother." And I understand. I truly understand how that can be daunting. But an incident that happened a couple of years ago gave me a new perspective. My wife, who is somewhere in the audience today, called me up at the office and said, "Nigel, you need to pick our youngest son Harry up from school." She had to be somewhere else with the other three children for that evening. So I left work an hour early that afternoon and picked Harry up at the school gates. We walked down to the local park, messed around on the swings, played some silly games. I then walked him up the hill to the local cafe, and we shared a pizza for two, and then walked down the hill to our home, and I gave him his bath and put him in his Batman pajamas. I then put him to bed, tucked him in, gave him a kiss on his forehead and said, "Goodnight, mate." As I was walking out of his bedroom, he said, "Dad, this has been the best day of my life, ever." I hadn't done anything else.
- [H] Now my point is the small things matter. Being more balanced doesn't mean dramatic upheaval in your life. With the smallest investment in the right places,

you can radically transform the quality of your relationships and the quality of your life. Moreover, I think, it can transform society. Because if enough people do it, we can change society's definition of success away from the moronically simplistic notion that the person with the most money when he dies wins, to a more thoughtful and balanced definition of what a life well lived looks like. And that, I think, is an idea worth spreading.

(1,301 words)

- \_\_\_1 I learned it was not easy to balance work and life if I had to earn a living.
- \_\_\_2 People simply define success as having the most money when one dies, and this notion should be transformed.
- \_\_\_3 My book helped one of my friends realize that she was living in an unbalanced way, because there was nothing else in her life besides work.
- \_\_\_4 I didn't follow the advice to look into my life until I was 40 years old.
- \_\_\_5 I wrote to describe the ideal balanced day I longed for in detail before going back to work after a year at home, because I wanted to design my time frame carefully.
- \_\_\_6 The key problem for some young couples is that it's almost impossible for them to balance their work and life on a daily basis.
- \_\_\_7 Each individual should depend on no other than himself/herself to be responsible for the type of lives that he/she wants to live.
- \_\_\_8 An incident which happened a couple of years ago enlightened me, and I got to realize that the small things matter.
- \_\_\_9 Small things can even change the society if a great many of people do them together.
- \_\_\_10 Without exceptions, commercial companies by their nature aim to get as much profit as they can from people.



### Passage 3

**Directions:** Read the following sentences and decide if they are true or false, and write T for True and F for False.

## Alibaba Founder Jack Ma's Road to the Top

- [A] Jack Ma will emerge from the float of his company, Alibaba, with a paper fortune of about \$15.6 billion, vaulting him into the ranks of tech billionaires like Bill Gates and Jeff Bezos.
- [B] Revealing his ambition — and a love of numbers common in China — Ma says Alibaba will last 102 years so the Internet empire he founded in 1999 can span three centuries. Under Ma's maverick (标新立异的) leadership, the 15-year-old firm has already bridged a period of extraordinary change in global trade and the Chinese economy. In a nation with little e-commerce he raised a still-growing giant whose U.S. IPO (initial public offering, 首发上市) this month could be the largest in history.
- [C] His rags-to-riches journey is just as spectacular. A skinny Ma, just over five feet tall, was rejected by KFC and other employers in his hometown Hangzhou in east China. He believed in the Internet's business potential when few other Chinese did. Outlandish ideas earned him the nickname "Crazy Jack Ma". No one thinks he's mad now, even when dressing in wild wigs and lipstick for his annual meeting where he serenades (唱歌) a stadium full of Alibaba employees. Ma's readiness to make fun of himself, and speak his mind, stands in contrast to China's often conservative corporate barons (大佬). Charismatic and energetic, this former teacher has become an inspiration to millions across China. He failed at math but loved English, and countless books and DVDs sell his business lessons in every airport lounge.
- [D] Ma — whose net worth is \$21.9 billion, according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index — now stars in the coming-out party for China's private sector onto the world stage. He praises and uses Western management techniques but also quotes regularly from Chairman Mao Zedong. He is a fan of China's kungfu novels and

has made those legends part of his company's culture. He travels the world with a Taiji trainer.

- [E] Like most Chinese parents back then, Ma's father beat him growing up. But there were childhood pleasures, too. He liked collecting and fighting crickets. Ma developed an expert ear, able to distinguish the type and size of cricket just by the sound. Starting at age 12, Ma says he awoke at five a.m. to walk or bicycle to Hangzhou's main hotels so he could practice his English with foreign tourists. He did this for nine years and acted as a free tour guide to many, befriended several and later visited one family in Australia. Those experiences opened his eyes. "I realized what they told me was quite different from what I had learned in school or heard from my parents," Ma told Xiao-Ping Chen, a professor at the University of Washington in Seattle, in an interview published last year.
- [F] After twice failing the national college entrance exams, Ma entered what he called "Hangzhou's worst college". Graduating in 1988, Ma married his college sweetheart and taught English at a local college for five years, earning \$15 a month. During that time, he also applied for, and failed to land, jobs at a local KFC, a hotel and the city police.
- [G] Determined to enter business, Ma set up a translation company, but he still had to peddle goods on the street to get by. He traveled to the United States in 1995 as a translator to help a Chinese firm recover a payment. The attempt failed, and the American who owed money pulled a gun on him. But a friend in Seattle showed Ma the Internet, and an idea began brewing.
- [H] Ma noticed there was not a single online listing for "China" and "beer", unlike those that popped up for American and German beer. He returned to China and set up a listing site that he later sold to the government. After working in Beijing for an Internet firm under the Ministry of Commerce, Ma returned home to Hangzhou to pursue his dream.
- [I] With the help of more than a dozen friends who pooled their resources — just \$60,000 — he founded Alibaba, a business-to-business online platform. The company now makes more profit than rivals Amazon.com and e-Bay combined, as China's rapid-growing middle class are big spenders online, and small companies rely on Alibaba and its online payment system.

- [J] Ma seized opportunities as China was transforming into a market economy. “At the time, the Internet was first being promoted, and small, private businesses struggled to get loans and had to compete against government-protected state firms,” said economist Feng Pengcheng, director of the China Research Center for Capital Management at the University of International Business and Economics in Beijing. “The business model Ma Yun created in China suited the Chinese market. It might be a failure in the US market, but it’s so successful in China,” Feng said. “What’s more, Ma Yun is good at cooperating with other talents. His company culture and his personal charm attracted employees, and his slogans are uplifting,” he said.
- [K] For a billionaire so outspoken on company and business issues, Ma says little about his family and manages to keep his private life quiet and scandal-free. Ma and his wife Zhang Ying have a son, an undergrad at the University of California-Berkeley, where Ma had audited (旁听) classes. A black-and-white photo of a young Ma with his older brother and younger sister went viral this month in China’s cyberspace, as many people were unaware their richest citizen even had siblings.
- [L] “Ma Yun’s lifestyle is very simple and modest. His hobbies are still Taiji and kungfu novels,” Chen, his friend and assistant, said last week from Boston, while accompanying Ma on Alibaba’s U.S. roadshow before the IPO. “I don’t think he has changed much, he is still that old style. After the IPO, I am sure his lifestyle will be simpler. He won’t change,” Chen said. In his book, being published in English this month, Chen said Ma enjoys meditation (静思) in the mountains, playing poker with friends and writing his own kungfu fiction. By Ma’s own account, he believes in both Buddhism and Taoism, and follows many tenets (信条) of Confucianism.
- [M] “My father said if you were born 30 years ago, you’d probably be in a prison, because the ideas you have are so dangerous,” Ma told Charlie Rose in a 2011 TV interview. Despite such bravado (逞强) for a Western audience, Ma has always been careful in China to avoid statements and actions that could put his business at risk.
- [N] “If China ever did permit open elections, Ma could become a popular candidate for top office,” said Duncan Clark, a British who is a Beijing-based technology