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序言

《英语阅读范文精华：名篇名段+思辨赏鉴（附赠音频）》在教育部的课程思政精神指导下编写而成，是为越来越多的大学开设的跨文化通识课程而特别编写的，旨在让修读者立足中国语言文化，审视英语语言文化，在这两种语言文化的浸润中实现英语能力和文化修养的共同提高。

选文体现经典性但又力避陈腐说教，追求时代性又不流于俗套跟风，引领大家进入丰富多彩的英语文化世界。通过相关的文化引导和具体文本的阅读，我们希望帮助大家达到提高英语语言认知水平、英语文章赏鉴能力和整体文化素养的目的。

本书的使用对象主要是大学生，其他阶段的英语学习者亦可通过本书学习英语，研读西方文化。希望通过阅读本书，读者们可以对西方文化特别是英美文化既有宏观和微观上的认识，又有理性和感性的认知，向着博雅的目标迈进。

主编 朱振武

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名篇散文



扫一扫，听本部分音频

Of Studies^[1]

Francis Bacon

📖 阅读思辨

论说读书之道的文章，罕有比培根的《论读书》更精辟者。读书之用、之度、之法、之类，在这篇五百余字的短文里悉数得到了回答，可谓凝练精辟之至。培根的随笔文笔隽永，思想深邃，妙语迭出，字字珠玑，其中不少佳句（如“凡有所学，皆成性格”）都已成为格言警句。细细读来，您定然收获良多。

Studies serve for delight, for ornament^①, and for ability. Their chief use for delight is in privateness and retiring^②; for ornament, is in discourse^③; and for ability, is in the judgment and disposition^④ of business. For expert men can execute, and perhaps judge of particulars, one by one; but the general counsels, and the plots and marshalling^⑤ of affairs, come best from those that are learned.

To spend too much time in studies is sloth; to use them too much for ornament, is affectation; to make judgment wholly by their rules, is the humor of a scholar. They perfect nature, and are perfected by experience: for natural abilities are like natural plants, that need pruning^⑥, by study; and studies themselves do give forth directions too much at large, except they be bounded in by experience.

Crafty men condemn studies, simple men admire them, and wise men use them;[2] for they teach not their own use; but that is wisdom without them, and above them, won by observation. Read not to contradict and confute^⑦; nor to believe and take for granted; nor to find talk and discourse; but to weigh and consider.

Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some few to be chewed and digested; that is, some books are to be read only in parts; others to be read, but not curiously; and some few to be read wholly, and with diligence and attention. Some books also may be read by deputy^⑧, and extracts made of them by others; but that would be only in the less important arguments, and the meaner sort of books, else distilled books are like common distilled waters, flashy^⑨ things.

Reading makes a full man; conference a ready man; and writing an exact man.[3] And therefore, if a man write little, he had need have a great memory; if he confer little, he had need have a present wit: and if he read little, he had need have much cunning, to seem to know that he doth not.

Histories make men wise; poets witty; the mathematics subtle; natural philosophy deep; moral grave; logic and rhetoric able to contend. *Abeunt studia in mores* (Studies pass into and influence manners). Nay, there is no stand or impediment¹⁰ in the wit but may be wrought out by fit studies; like as diseases of the body may have appropriate exercises.[4] Bowling is good for the stone and reins¹¹; shooting for the lungs and breast; gentle walking for the stomach; riding for the head; and the like. So if a man's wit be wandering, let him study the mathematics; for in demonstrations¹², if his wit be called away never so little, he must begin again. If his wit be not apt to distinguish or find differences, let him study the Schoolmen¹³; for they are *cymini sectores* (splitters of hairs). If he be not apt to beat over matters, and to call up one thing to prove and illustrate another, let him study the lawyers' cases. So every defect of the mind may have a special receipt¹⁴.

阅读释疑

1. ornament ['ɔ:məmənt] *n.* 装饰 for ornament 作装饰用, 在文中指点缀谈吐。
2. retiring [rɪ'taɪərɪŋ] 动词retire的动名词形式, 意为离群索居。
3. discourse ['dɪskɔ:rs] *n.* 论述, 交谈, (正式的)讨论 a lengthy discourse on diplomacy 关于外交的鸿篇大论
4. disposition [,dɪspə'zɪʃn] *n.* 性情, 性格; 意向, 倾向; 安排, 配置 在文中意为安排、处理各类事务。a boy with a sunny disposition 一个阳光的小伙子
5. marshalling ['mɑ:rfəlɪŋ] 动词marshal的动名词形式, 意为整理、排列。plots and marshalling of affairs意为运筹帷幄, 统率全局。
6. pruning ['pru:nɪŋ] 动词prune的动名词形式, 意为删除、修剪, 在文中指花木需要修剪。
7. confute [kən'fju:t] *v.* 驳斥, 驳倒 confute the debater 驳倒对方辩手
8. deputy ['depju:tɪ] *n.* 代表, 代理 be read by deputy 由他人代读, 然后给自己讲解
9. flashy ['flæʃɪ] *adj.* 闪光的, 俗丽的 flashy things 指华而不实的东西。
10. impediment [ɪm'pedɪmənt] *n.* 妨碍, 阻止 stand or impediment in the wit 心智方面的障碍
11. stone and reins: 单数形式的stone可指膀胱结石; reins指肾脏。
12. demonstration [,demən'streɪʃn] *n.* 证明, 论证 在文中指数学中的推理演算。
13. Schoolman ['sku:lman] *n.* 经院哲学家 经院哲学是基督教时代的主要哲学流派, 通过抽象的、烦琐的辩证方法论证基督教信仰。
14. receipt [rɪ'si:t] *n.* 收据, 发票, 收入 在文中指药方、疗法。

四 文本赏鉴

[1] *Of Studies*是《培根随笔》中的一篇文章，发表于1653年。《培根随笔》是英国随笔文学的开山之作，以其简洁的语言、优美的文笔、透彻的说理、迭出的警句在世界文学史上占据了非常重要的地位。

[2] *Crafty men condemn studies, simple men admire them, and wise men use them.*
“狡狴之人厌书，庸凡之群慕书，唯明智之士善用书。”知识本身并没有告诉人怎样运用它，运用的智慧在书本之外。这是技艺，不体验就学不到。

[3] *Reading makes a full man; conference a ready man; and writing an exact man.* 这里三个句子的结构类似，谓语都是*makes*，故后面的两个句子可以省略谓语动词。本句可以改写为“*Reading makes a full man; conference makes a ready man; and writing makes an exact man.*”，但是这样就显得冗赘。下文中的“*Histories make men wise; poets witty; the mathematics subtle...*”和“*Bowling is good for the stone and reins; shooting for the lungs and breast...*”两句也是一样的用法。

[4] *Nay, there is no stand or impediment in the wit but may be wrought out by fit studies; like as diseases of the body may have appropriate exercises.* *nay*是早期英语中表示否定的词，类似于*no*。*impediment*意为妨碍、阻止，*stand or impediment in the wit*指心智方面的障碍。*like as*在早期英语中表达的是“如同，正如”的意思，同*like*。本句意为：没有什么心智方面的障碍是不能用恰当的书来化解的。

美文译译

论读书

弗朗西斯·培根

读书可以愉悦耳目，可以缀饰言吐，可以长进才识。于彼孤斋幽憩之日，书可怡情忘忧；高谈阔论之际，可缀饰言吐；谋策辩判之时，可长进才识。练达之人虽可按部就班，操持细务，而至于运筹帷幄，统率全局，则非饱学之士不可为。

埋首书本不问世事实为倦怠之举，满口华章彩辞者难免矫揉造作，食书不化按图索骥者乃是腐迂学究。读书补资质之不足，阅历又补读书之不足。盖天生资质若自然花木，饱学而后知修剪删削；而若无阅历之辅，书中所示则大而无当，不足为用。

狡狴之人厌书，庸凡之群慕书，唯明智之士善用书。个中智慧常在书外，善观察审度方能获取。读书切忌一味斥驳，更不可轻信盲从，亦不可只为寻章摘句，而宜衡情度理，推敲细思。

书有可浅尝者，有可生吞者，有少数可细嚼慢咽、融会贯通者，换言之，或宜览其枝节，或宜察其大体，唯少数需悉心凝神，精修研习。书亦可听人诠释，或阅其节抄摘要，但仅在题材较次且价值不高者，否则书经提炼犹如水经蒸馏，寡淡无味。

读书使人渊博，辩谈使人机智，笔记使人精准。因此，不做笔记者需记忆超凡，不好辩论者需天资聪颖，读书甚少者需欺世有术，方能掩其无知本色。

读史使人明智，读诗使人秀敏，数学使人严谨，哲学使人深邃，伦理之书使人端庄，逻辑修辞使人善辩。一言以蔽之，凡有所学，皆成性格。凡心智之障碍，咸可以适当之书化之，恰如体躯之疾瘕无不可以运动除之。保龄健举肾，射箭利心肺，散步清肠胃，骑术益大脑，无不如此。若难以凝神自制，可令研习数学，盖推绎演算之时若有丝毫懈怠则前功尽弃；若拙于辨异，可读经院哲学，盖此辈皆吹毛求疵之人；若不能触类旁通、举一反三，可令读律师案卷。是以心智之缺陷皆有良方可救。

关于作者

弗朗西斯·培根（Francis Bacon，1561—1626），英国文艺复兴时期哲学家、散文家、政治家。培根是科学哲学的奠基人之一，对唯物主义哲学的发展产生了很大影响。其代表作有《培根随笔》《新工具》《学术的进步》和《新大西岛》等。他的随笔言简意赅、睿智深邃，包含许多洞察秋毫的经验之谈，富含人生哲理。培根晚年因贪污受贿身败名裂，后因做科学实验感染风寒而死。英国著名诗人蒲柏（Alexander Pope）称他是“最明智、最聪慧，也最卑鄙的人”（the wisest, brightest, and the meanest of mankind）。

The Mission of Universities

Lawrence Summers

📖 阅读思辨

现在社会上流传着这样一种声音：“大学生毕业找工作那么难，工资还不如农民工高，上大学有何用？”这番言论看似有理，实则只知其一，不知其二。曾任哈佛大学校长的劳伦斯·萨默斯告诉我们，当代社会需要的是在某一领域有所专长的人，是能够反思文明发展进程的人，是有思想、有远见，能透过眼下的凡俗看到未来机遇的人。大学的使命就是为社会输送这样的人才。相信你读罢此文，定会有云破日出、豁然开朗之感。

Today, I speak from this podium^① a final time as your president. As I depart, I want to thank all of you — students, faculty, alumni^② and staff — with whom I have been privileged to work over these past years. Some of us have had our disagreements, but I know that which unites us transcends that which divides us.[1]

Some things look different to me than they did five years ago. The world that today's Harvard's graduates are entering is a profoundly different one than the world administrators entered. It is a world where opportunities have never been greater for those who know how to teach children to read, or those who know how to distribute^③ financial risk; never greater for those who understand the cell and the pixel; never greater for those who can master, and navigate^④ between, legal codes, faith traditions, computer platforms, political viewpoints. It is also a world where some are left further and further behind — those who are not educated, those trapped in poverty and violence, those for whom equal opportunity is just a hollow phrase.

Scientific and technological advances are enabling us to comprehend the furthest reaches of the cosmos^⑤, the most basic constituents^⑥ of matter, and the miracle of life. At the same time, today, the actions, and inaction, of human beings imperil^⑦ not only life on the planet, but the very life of the planet. Globalization is making the world smaller, faster and richer. Still, 9/11[2], avian flu^⑧, and Iran[3] remind us that a smaller, faster world is not necessarily a safer world. Our world is bursting with knowledge, but desperately in need of wisdom.

Now, when sound bites^⑨ are getting shorter, when instant messages crowd out essays, and when individual lives grow more frenzied, college graduates capable of deep reflection are what our world needs.

For all these reasons I believe — and I believe even more strongly today — in the unique and irreplaceable mission of universities. Universities are where the wisdom we cannot afford to lose is preserved from generation to generation. Among all human institutions, universities can look beyond present norms to future possibilities, can look through current considerations to emergent opportunities.

And among universities, Harvard stands out. With its great tradition, its iconic reputation, its remarkable network of 300,000 alumni, Harvard has never had as much potential as it does now. And yet, great and proud institutions, like great and proud nations at their peak, must surmount a very real risk: that the very strength of their traditions will lead to caution, to an inward focus on prerogative^⑩ and to a complacency that lets the world pass them by.[4]

And so I say to you that our University today is at an inflection point in its history. At such a moment, there is temptation to elevate comfort and consensus over progress and clear direction, but this would be a mistake. The University's matchless resources — human, physical, financial — demand that we seize this moment with vision and boldness. To do otherwise would be a lost opportunity. We can spur great deeds that history will mark decades and even centuries from now. If Harvard can find the courage to change itself, it can change the world.

阅读释疑

1. podium ['pɒdiəm] *n.* 表演台；讲台；乐队指挥台；领奖台 在文中指大学讲坛。
2. alumni [ə'λmnaɪ] *n.* 校友 (alumnus的复数形式，源于拉丁语) alumnus 男校友 alumna 女校友 (复数形式为alumnae)
3. distribute [dɪ'strɪbjʊ:t] *v.* 分配，分发 distribute the examination papers 分发考卷 distribute financial risks 分散金融风险
4. navigate ['nævɪgeɪt] *v.* 驾驶；航行 (于) navigate between 在……间游刃有余
5. cosmos ['kɔ:zmoʊs] *n.* 宇宙；一个有序的整体
6. constituent [kən'stɪtʃuənt] *n.* 选民；成分，构成部分 *adj.* 构成的，组成的 同根词：constitute *v.* 组成，构成 constitution *n.* 宪法
7. imperil [ɪm'perəl] *v.* 危及，使……陷入危险 同根词：peril *n.* 危险，冒险 be in grave peril 陷入严重危机
8. avian flu 禽流感
9. sound bites 电视采访的原声录音
10. prerogative [prɪ'rɔ:gətɪv] *n.* 特权

三 文本赏鉴

[1] Some of us have had our disagreements, but I know that which unites us transcends that which divides us. 此句中的I know后是一个省略了连接词that的宾语从句。此处的that是代词，which unites us是修饰代词that的定语从句。本句意为：我们之间或许有意愿不尽一致之时，但我相信，我们之间的共识远大于分歧。

[2] “9·11事件”（又称“911”“9·11恐怖袭击事件”）是2001年9月11日发生在美国纽约世界贸易中心的一起系列恐怖袭击事件。此次事件对美国民众造成的心理影响极为严重，导致美国民众对本国经济和政治的安全感被严重削弱。

[3] 这里的Iran指伊朗核问题。20世纪50年代，伊朗开始了核能源开发活动，并在当时得到了美国及其他西方国家的支持。1980年美伊断交后，美国曾多次指责伊朗以“和平利用核能”为掩护秘密发展核武器，并对其采取“遏制”政策。

[4] ...that the very strength of their traditions will lead to caution, to an inward focus on prerogative and to a complacency that lets the world pass them by. 此句中的三个to都是lead后的介词，lead to意为“导致”，其后使用名词短语或动名词形式。本句意为：这些国家由于强势的传统而变得谨小慎微、内斗成风、夜郎自大，最终被时代淘汰。

美文译译

大学的使命

劳伦斯·萨默斯

今天是我最后一次以哈佛大学校长的身份站在这个讲坛上演讲。临别之际，我向在座的同学们、老师们和校友们表示由衷的感谢。过去这些年来，有机会与你们共事合作，鄙人幸莫大焉。我们之间或许有意愿不尽一致之时，但我相信，我们之间的共识远大于分歧。

在我看来，现在的局势与五年前大有不同。如今的哈佛毕业生即将接触的世界，和我们这些管理人员五年前所认识的世界不可同日而语。现在的社会带来的机遇是空前的。这些机遇属于那些会教子女读书的人，属于会理财的人，属于懂计算机存储和像素的人，属于那些熟稔法律、传统观念、计算机运用与各种政见的人。而与此同时，还有一些人则越来越落后于世界。他们目不识丁、食不果腹，奔走于硝烟炮火之中，平等的机遇对他们而言不啻一句空话。

由于科技的进步，我们能够探索宇宙的边缘，了解物质的基本构成和生命的奥妙。而与此同时，如今人类的作为和不作为不仅威胁到地球上生物的生存，也

影响着地球本身的存亡。全球化使世界越来越小，生活节奏越来越快，人们越来越富有。尽管如此，“9·11事件”、禽流感 and 伊朗核问题仍然提醒我们：这绝不意味着世界越来越安全。我们现在的时代堪称知识爆炸的时代，但我们迫切需要的是智慧。

现在电视采访的原声录音越来越短，即时信息已经淘汰了长篇累牍的文章，个人生活变得狂放不羁，在这个时候，世界需要具有深刻反思能力的大学毕业生。

由于以上原因，我坚信大学具有独特的、不可取代的使命。今天，这一信仰更加强烈。大学是使人类不可或缺的知识薪火相传的殿堂。在所有的机构中，只有大学能透过眼下的凡俗看到未来的希望，能透过当下的事情看到以后的机遇。

哈佛大学在大学中可谓鹤立鸡群。哈佛大学有光辉的传统，有显赫的声誉，有令人惊叹的由30万名校友组成的校友网，它的潜力是空前的。但是，就像处于鼎盛时期容易滋生骄矜之心的大国一样，哈佛必须克服一个危险因素，对此我们不能掉以轻心：这些国家由于强势的传统而变得谨小慎微、内斗成风、夜郎自大，最终被时代淘汰。

现在，哈佛正处于历史的转折点上。此时，我们很可能变得贪图安逸、随波逐流，并因此忽视锐意进取、高瞻远瞩的精神，但这样是不对的。哈佛大学拥有的无与伦比的人力、物力和财力资源要求我们必须高瞻远瞩，勇往直前，抓住历史的机遇。不这样做就会错失良机。我们的所作所为将永垂青史。如果哈佛能努力改变自我，那么它就能改变世界。

关于作者

劳伦斯·萨默斯（Lawrence Summers, 1954—），美国著名经济学家，因在宏观经济研究方面的成就而被授予约翰·贝茨·克拉克奖，在克林顿时期担任美国第71任财政部部长。自2001年起，萨默斯任哈佛大学第27任校长，并于2006年6月30日离任。本文选自他的离任致辞。

Companionship of Books

Samuel Smiles

📖 阅读思辨

读书是世界上门槛最低的高贵举动。无论你是达官贵人还是荒斋寒士，无论你是玄发朱颜还是白发苍苍，只要肯拿出买一个汉堡的钱，你就可以咀嚼作家毕生智慧的结晶，享受人类思想的饕餮盛宴。在这个喧嚣浮躁的年代，我们更需要读书来沉淀迷惑的思绪，找寻内心的方向。朋友们，拿起眼前的书本细细品味吧，与好书为伴的人生才是高贵的、完整的人生。

A man may usually be known by the books he reads as well as by the company he keeps, for there is a companionship^① of books as well as of men; and one should always live in the best company, whether it be of books or of men.

A good book may be among the best of friends. It is the same today as it always was, and it will never change. It is the most patient and cheerful of companions. It does not turn its back upon us in times of adversity^② or distress. It always receives us with the same kindness, amusing and instructing us in youth, and comforting and consoling^③ us in age.

Men often discover their affinity^④ to each other by the love they have each for a book — just as two persons sometimes discover a friend by the admiration which both have for a third. There is an old proverb, “Love me, love my dog.” But there is more wisdom in this: “Love me, love my book.”[1] The book is a truer and higher bond of union. Men can think, feel, and sympathize with each other through their favorite author. They live in him together, and he in them.

“Books,” said Hazlitt[2], “wind into the heart; the poet’s verse slides in the current of our blood. We read them when young, we remember them when old. We read there of what has happened to others, we feel that it has happened to ourselves. They are to be had everywhere cheap and good. We breathe but the air of books.”

A good book is often the best urn^⑤ of a life enshrining^⑥ the best that life could think out;[3] for the world of a man’s life is, for the most part, but the world of his thoughts. Thus the best books are treasures of good words, the golden thoughts, which, remembered and cherished, become our constant companions and comforters. “They are never alone,” said Sir Philip Sidney[4], “that are accompanied by noble thoughts.”

The good and true thought may in times of temptation^⑦ be as an angel of mercy purifying and guarding the soul. It also enshrines the germs^⑧ of action, for good words almost always inspire to good works.

Books possess an essence of immortality. They are by far the most lasting product of human effort. Temples and statues decay, but books survive. Time is of no account with great thoughts, which are as fresh today as when they first passed through their authors' mind, ages ago. What was then said and thought still speaks to us as vividly as ever from the printed page. The only effect of time has been to sift out the bad products; for nothing in literature can long survive but what is really good.

Books introduce us into the best society; they bring us into the presence of the greatest minds that have ever lived. We hear what they said and did; we see them as if they were really alive; we sympathize with them, enjoy with them, grieve with them, their experience becomes ours, and we feel as if we were in a measure actors with them in the scenes which they describe.[5]

The great and good do not die even in this world. Embalmed^⑨ in books, their spirits walk abroad. The book is a living voice. It is an intellect to which one still listens. Hence we ever remain under the influence of the great men of old. The imperial intellects of the world are as much alive now as they were ages ago.

阅读释疑

1. companionship [kəm'pæniənʃɪp] *n.* 友情, 伙伴关系 The majority of people own a dog for companionship. 大多数人养狗是为了有个伴儿。同根词: company *n.* 伴侣, 陪伴 be grateful for one's company 感谢某人的相伴
2. adversity [əd'vɜ:rsəti] *n.* 逆境, 不幸 show courage in adversity 在逆境中展现勇气
3. console [kən'səʊl] *v.* 安慰, 抚慰 console oneself by 以……自我安慰 同根词: consolation *n.* 安慰, 慰藉 He knew then he was right, but it was no consolation. 他当时就知道自己是正确的, 但这并不能给他任何安慰。
4. affinity [ə'fɪnəti] *n.* 喜爱; 亲密 show an affinity for 喜爱……
5. urn [ɜ:m] *n.* 瓮, 坛
6. enshrine [ɪn'frɑ:m] *v.* 把……奉为神圣; 珍藏, 铭记 enshrine private property rights 规定私有财产神圣不可侵犯 同根词: shrine *n.* 圣陵, 神龛
7. temptation [temp'teɪʃn] *n.* 诱惑, 诱惑物 succumb to the temptation to do sth. 屈从于做某事的欲望 同根词: tempt *v.* 引诱, 怂恿, 吸引
8. germ [dʒɜ:m] *n.* 萌芽, 起源 the germs of action 行动的萌芽

9. embalm [ɪm'ba:lm] v. 对……进行防腐处理；保存……使不被遗忘，使不朽
Thousands of years ago in Egypt, salt was used to embalm the dead. 埃及人曾在几千年前利用盐涂尸防腐。We must embalm the master's wise opinions. 大师的崇论阔议，我们一定要铭记于心。

文本赏鉴

[1] “Love me, love my book.” “爱我及于我书”，仿拟“爱我及于我狗”，取原句的“爱屋及乌”之意。

[2] Hazlitt: 赫兹里特 (William Hazlitt, 1778—1830)，英国文艺评论家、散文作家，曾在神学院就读，代表作《燕谈录》。《燕谈录》不仅是赫兹里特的代表作，也是一部为名家所推崇的名著。

[3] A good book is often the best urn of a life enshrining the best that life could think out. 该句用了暗喻的修辞手法，将书比作瓮，可以容纳百物。本句意为：一本好书就像一个神瓮，珍藏着人一生思想的精华。

[4] Sir Philip Sidney: 菲利普·西德尼爵士 (1554—1586)，英国作家、政治家、军人。代表作《爱星者与星星》(1591)，这部诗集中有很多结构完美、情感强烈的英语十四行诗。菲利普·西德尼爵士的许多重要作品都是在他死后出版的。

[5] ...and we feel as if we were in a measure actors with them in the scenes which they describe. 本句中的in a measure是插入成分，意为“在一定程度上”。The new law was in a measure harmful. 新的法律在某种程度上说是有害的。由measure构成的词组还有in some measure (在某种程度上，稍稍)、beyond measure (非常)等。You are right in some measure. 在某种程度上你是对的。She irritated him beyond measure. 她让他大为光火。She was sad beyond measure. 她伤心不已。

美文译译

与书为伴

塞缪尔·斯迈尔斯

通常，了解一个人可以通过看他所读的书，还可以看他结交的朋友，因为与书为友和与人为友是一样的。不管是与书为友还是与人为友，都应该挑其中最好的。

好书可以被看作最好的朋友，永远如一，不会改变。好书是所有伙伴中最有

耐心的，也是最能陶冶情操的。身处逆境或困境时，好书不会弃我们而去。好书总是以同样的友好态度对待我们，年轻时给予我们乐趣和教诲，年老时给予慰藉。

人们常常通过对同一本书的喜爱发现彼此性情上的相似之处，这就像两个人由于同时仰慕另一个人而成为朋友一样。古语说“爱我及于我狗”，但其实“爱我及于我书”的说法更为明智。书是将人与人结合起来的一种更可靠、更高尚的纽带。人们可以通过他们共同喜爱的作家而产生共鸣，所思所想都有相通的地方。这些人与作家生活在一起，作家也同样生活在他们之中。

赫兹里特说：“书籍深入人心，诗人的作品随着我们的血脉而循环。年轻时我们读过，年老时还记得。我们读着那些发生在别人身上的事，觉得就像是发生在我们自己身上的事一样。无论在何地，好书不需要花费多少便可得到。我们呼吸着书籍的香气。”

好书通常是生命的最佳归宿，一生思想的精华都蕴藏其中。因为人生在世，绝大部分都是思想活动。因而最好的书就是金玉良言和宝贵思想的宝库，这些言语和思想一旦被我们记住并珍惜，便成了我们永远的伴侣和慰藉。菲利浦·西德尼爵士说过：“与高尚思想为伍的人永远不会孤独。”面对诱惑时，美好忠实的思想就像仁慈的天使一样，守护并净化心灵。因为金玉良言总是激发好的行为，美好忠实的思想之中也孕育着行动的胚芽。

书籍具有不朽的本质。很明显，它们是人类努力创造出来的产品中最为持久的。庙宇和雕像塌毁了，但书籍流传下来了。伟大的思想不受时间的影响，千百年前它们首次从作者的心中产生，时至今日仍然和以前一样新颖。当我们翻看书页，品读着作者当时的所说所想时，我们会感到这是作者亲自在对我们生动地诉说。时间对书籍唯一的影响便是筛选出那些劣质产品，因为浩瀚文海中只有那些真正有价值的书才能长存。

书籍介绍我们进入上流社会，将我们带到那些伟大的思想者曾经生活过的地方。我们亲闻他们的言行，仿佛他们就活在我们眼前。我们同情他们所同情的，与他们同喜同悲。他们的经历成了我们的，我们觉得自己在某种程度上是和他们一起在他们所描述的场景中演出的演员。

在这个世界上，伟大的人和善良的人绝不会消逝，他们思想的精髓保存在书中，传到海外。书籍就是活生生的声音，我们聆听的仍然是有识之士的声音，因此我们始终受着古代伟人的影响。就像多年前一样，世上伟大杰出的人物现今仍然充满活力。