

Cowin 英语百科阅读

克隆会控制世界吗？

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Contents

Lincoln's Autobiography	001
British Pubs	007
Transport Systems in London	013
Better Than Flying — Train Journey between Beijing & Moscow	019
The Alpine Region	024
Julia Roberts	030
Noah's Flood	036
WTO Deal and China	041
Yes, There Must Be Life on Mars	048
Steven Spielberg	054
Shakespeare	061
Canada	066
Fighting with Mosquitoes	072
The Story of Jazz	078
Lauryn Hill	084
E-mail and Our Life	090
The Curies	096
Several Ways to Beat a Cold	103
American Experience	109
End of the PC Era	114
Will Cloning Technology Control the World ?	120
China: A New Territory for the Global 500	126
"All the Best" — George Bush's Book of Letters	132
British Women in Science	138
Beauty of the Beast — Volcanoes	145
Keys to Exercises	151

目 录

林肯自传	001
英国酒吧	007
伦敦的交通系统	013
比飞机安全	019
阿尔卑斯地区	024
朱丽亚·罗伯茨	030
诺亚洪水	036
世贸组织与中国	041
火星上存在生命	048
史蒂文·斯皮尔伯格	054
莎士比亚	061
加拿大风光	066
与蚊子的较量	072
爵士乐的起源	078
劳伦·希尔	084
电子邮件与我们的生活	090
居里夫妇	096
战胜感冒的几种方法	103
感受美国	109
PC 时代的结束	114
克隆会控制世界吗？	120
中国：世界 500 强的新领地	126
一切都好	132
科学界中的英国妇女	138
兽美人——火山	145
参考答案	151

Lincoln's Autobiography¹

林肯自传

I was born on February 12, 1809, in Hardin County, Kentucky . My parents were both born in Virginia, of undistinguished families — second families, perhaps I should say . My mother, who died in my tenth year, was from a family named Hanks, some of whom now reside in Adams County, and others in Macon County, Illinois . My paternal grandfather, Abraham Lincoln, emigrated, about 1781 or 1782, from Virginia to Kentucky, where he was killed by the Indians a year or two later, not in a battle, but when he was laboring to open a farm in the forest .

My father, at the death of his father, was six years old and he grew up literally without education .² He moved from Kentucky to Indiana when I was seven . We reached our new home about the time the state came into the Union .³ It was a wild region, with many bears and other wild animals still in the woods . I grew up there . There were some so-called schools, but no other qualification was ever required of a teacher beyond “ reading, writing, and adding .”⁴ If a stranger supposed to understand Latin happened to reside for a time in the neighborhood, he was looked on as a wizard . There was absolutely nothing to excite ambition for educa-

tion .⁵ Of course, when I came of age, I did not know much . Still, somehow, I could read, write, and add, but that was all . The little advance I have now made upon this store of education, I have picked up under the pressure of necessity .⁶

I was raised to farm work, which I continued until I was twenty-two . At twenty-one, I came to Illinois . I remained in New Salem, Illinois for a year as a clerk in a store . Then the Black Hawk War⁷ came; I was elected a captain of volunteers, a success which gave me more pleasure than any I have had since . I went into the campaign, ran for the legislature the same year (1832) . And was defeated — the only time I have ever been rejected by the people . In the next and the three succeeding biennial elections I was elected to the legislature . I was not a candidate afterward . During that legislative period, I studied law, and moved to Springfield to practice it . In 1846 I was elected to the lower house of Congress⁸ . I was not a candidate for re-election . From 1849 to 1854 I practiced law more assiduously than ever before . I was losing interest in politics when the repeal of the Missouri Compromise⁹ aroused me again . What I have done since then is pretty well known .

If any personal description of me is thought desirable, it may be said that I am nearly six feet, four inches in height; lean in flesh, weighing one hundred and eighty pounds on the average; I have a dark complexion, with

coarse black hair and gray eyes . I have no other marks or brands .

(491 words)

New Words and Phrases :

- 1 . autobiography [ˌ t baɪ r fi] *n* . 自传
- 2 . undistinguished [ˌ ndɪs tɪ wɪ t] *adj* . 不著名的; 平凡的
- 3 . reside [rɪ zaɪ d] *v* . 居住
- 4 . paternal [p t ɪ n l] *adj* . 父亲的
- 5 . emigrate [ɛ mɪ reɪ t] *v* . 移居
- 6 . labor [leɪ b] *n* . 劳动
- 7 . so-called [s k ld] *adj* . 所谓的
- 8 . neighborhood [neɪ b h d] *n* . 附近; 街坊
- 9 . wizard [wɪ z d] *n* . 奇才
- 10 . come of age 到达法定年龄
- 11 . volunteer [v l n tɪ] *n* . 志愿者
- 12 . legislature [led ɪ sleɪ t] *n* . 立法机关; (美国) 议会
- 13 . reject [rɪ d ekt] *v* . 拒绝; 否决
- 14 . succeed [s k si d] *v* . 继 之后; 接着
- 15 . biennial [baɪ enɪ l] *adj* . 两年一次的
- 16 . candidate [k ɒ ndɪ dɪ t] *n* . 候选人
- 17 . assiduously [sɪ dj slɪ] *adv* . 刻苦地; 勤奋地
- 18 . lean in flesh 很瘦
- 19 . complexion [k m plek n] *n* . 肤色

20 . coarse

[k s]

adj . 粗糙的

Notes:

- 1 . Lincoln's Autobiography 林肯的自传 Abraham Lincoln(1809—1865) 亚布拉罕·林肯, 美国第 16 任总统。本文是林肯 1858 年竞选伊利诺斯州参议员时写的一份自传。
- 2literally without education确实没受过教育。
- 3the state came into the Union印第安那州加入联邦。Union 即 United States of America。
- 4no other qualification was ever required of a teacher beyond " reading, writing, and adding ."除了能“读、写和算”之外对教师没有任何其他资格要求。
- 5 . There was absolutely nothing to excite ambition for education . 确实没有任何东西可以激发对教育的渴求。
- 6 . The little advance I have now made upon this store of education, I have picked up under the pressure of necessity . 我在知识方面取得的这点进步, 是适于需要而得到的。
- 7 . Black Hawk War 布莱克·霍克战争, 发生在 1830 年的一场白人与印第安人之间的战争。布莱克·霍克(1767—1838) 为一印第安人首领。
- 8 . the lower house of Congress 国会的众议院
- 9 . the Missouri Compromise 密苏里妥协案 1820 年美国国会通过的一项法案的附文。它禁止北纬 36 度 30 分以北的州拥有奴隶, 但把密苏里州排除在外。

Exercises :

. Answer the following questions:

- 1 . When and where was Lincoln born ?
- 2 . What did Lincoln do as a young man ?
- 3 . How was Indiana when Lincoln's family reached there ?
- 4 . What was the only time Lincoln was rejected by people ?
- 5 . Can you give the personal description of Lincoln ?

. Decide which of the following is the best answer:

1 . When his mother died, Lincoln was _____ year(s) old .

- | | |
|---------|------------|
| A . one | B . six |
| C . ten | D . twenty |

2 . Lincoln was named after _____ .

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| A . his father | B . his father's father |
| C . his mother's father | D . his father's mother |

3 . Lincoln grew up in _____ .

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| A . Kentucky | B . Virginia |
| C . Illinois | D . Indiana |

4 . Lincoln was elected to the legislature _____ time(s) .

- | | |
|-----------|----------|
| A . one | B . two |
| C . three | D . four |

5 . Lincoln was elected to the lower house of Congress in _____ .

A . 1846

B . 1832

C . 1849

D . 1854

. Put the sentences in the correct order according to what is said in the text:

1 . Lincoln's family moved from Kentucky to Indiana .

2 . Abraham Lincoln was elected to the lower house of Congress .

3 . Abraham Lincoln was born .

4 . The Black Hawk War burst out .

5 . Abraham Lincoln went to Illinois .

British Pubs

英国酒吧

Owing to the uncertainty of the weather, outdoor cafes are not a feature of English life. Their place is partly filled by what are colloquially known as "pubs", public houses. Here you can get any form of alcoholic drink, from beer to whisky, or soft drinks¹. Many pubs also run some kind of snack bar that provides cold food such as sausages, ham, salad, rolls and butter and sometimes hot pies or toasted sandwiches.²

Traditional pubs are divided into two parts — a public bar and a saloon bar. In the first there is often a dart board³, and groups of friends will gather in the pub for a friendly match. The loser may have to pay for a round.⁴ In the saloon bar your drinks cost a little more, but the atmosphere is quieter and there are perhaps fewer people. In many pubs there is also a restaurant, and the food here is of good quality. In fact, in order to taste good, traditional English food, you'd better visit a reputable pub. Many business men habitually have lunch in a pub near their office. In the country, the pub is often part of an inn where you can put up for the night.⁵

The Englishman's favourite drink is beer. It has a varie-

ty of sorts .“ Bitter”⁶ is probably the most popular .“ Stout” is a heavy dark beer , very popular in Ireland .English beer is different from Continental beer; the latter should be served very cold while English beer is at its best when it is only cool . Continental-type beer has become very popular in England in recent years and its sales are beginning to rival those of the more traditional beers . Wine is also increasingly drunk, both in pubs and in the home .

The times of opening of pubs are regulated by law . Usually a pub is open from half past eleven to three o’clock and from half past five to half past ten or eleven o’clock . Betting is forbidden in pubs and children are not allowed on licensed premises⁷ . In the old days, when people drank too much and pubs were often noisy, the law against children entering pubs was a wise one ⁸ . Today, however, increasing numbers of pubs are opening their gardens to customers so that children can play safely while their parents have a quiet drink .

The average English pub is not only a respectable, friendly place that provides good drink, good food and a pleasant social atmosphere .Far too often the foreigner has read accounts of sordid nineteenth-century drinking places, often visited by people whose desire was to drink as much as they could afford and as quickly as possible .

Another widespread idea is that people do not sit down in English pubs .But they often do .This misconception prob-

ably arises from the origin of the word "bar", which referred to the metal rod (bar) along the lower edge of the counter. The customer could rest his foot on it while standing up to have his drink. English pubs do not resemble the "saloons" shown in the more fanciful Wild West films!

(518 words)

New Words and Phrases:

1 . pub	[p b]	<i>n</i> . 小酒店; 酒吧
2 . owing to		因为
3 . cafe	[k fe]	<i>n</i> . 咖啡馆; 咖吧
4 . feature	[fi t]	<i>n</i> . 独特的事或物
5 . colloquially	[k l kw l]	<i>adv</i> . 口语地
6 . alcoholic	[lk h lk]	<i>adj</i> . 含酒精的
7 . whisky	[w sk]	<i>n</i> . 威士忌酒
8 . snack	[sn k]	<i>n</i> . 小吃; 快餐
9 . saloon	[s lu n]	<i>n</i> . 沙龙
10 . atmosphere	[tm sfi]	<i>n</i> . 气氛; 环境
11 . reputable	[repjut bl]	<i>adj</i> . 声誉好的
12 . habitually	[h b t l]	<i>adv</i> . 惯常地; 已成规则地
13 . Ireland	[ai l nd]	<i>n</i> . 爱尔兰
14 . Continental	[k nt nentl]	<i>adj</i> . 欧洲大陆的
15 . rival	[raiv l]	<i>v</i> . 比得上
16 . regulate	[re j le t]	<i>v</i> . 控制
17 . sordid	[s d d]	<i>adj</i> . 邪恶的; 不体面的

18 .widespread [waɪdspreɪd] *adj* . 流传广的; 普遍的

19 .misconception [mɪskənsepʃən] *n* . 错误的概念

Notes:

1 . soft drink 软饮料, 即不含酒精的饮料

2provides cold food such as sausages, ham, salad, rolls and butter and sometimes hot pies or toasted sandwiches提供香肠、火腿、色拉、卷饼和黄油等冷食, 有时也有热的馅饼或烤三明治。

3 . dart board 投镖游戏板

4 . The loser may have to pay for a round . 输者要给大家买一轮酒。(除非事先讲好, 英国人在外餐饮时各付各的账。)

5 . In the country, the pub is often part of an inn where you can put up for the night . 在乡下, 酒吧常常是旅馆的一部分, 游客可以在此过夜。

6 . “ Bitter” 和下文的 “ Stout” 都是啤酒的种类。 “ Bitter” 指苦啤酒, “ Stout” 指烈性黑啤酒。

7 . licensed premises 有执照 (允许开业的) 酒吧 premises 原意是房屋 (及基地等), 这里指 pubs (酒吧)。

8 the law against children entering pubs was a wise one禁止儿童进入酒吧的法律是明智的。

9 . English pubs do not resemble the “ saloons” shown in the more fanciful Wild West films ! 英国酒吧并不像更具幻想色彩的 (美国) 西部片中所展示的沙龙酒吧那样。

Exercises :

. Answer the following questions:

- 1 . Why aren't outdoor cafes popular in English life ?
- 2 . What is the full name of " pubs " ?
- 3 . What can you get in pubs ?
- 4 . When are pubs open ?
- 5 . What is forbidden in British pubs ?

. Choose appropriate words or phrases from the text to complete the following sentences:

- 1 . Many British pubs run some kind of _____ that provides cold food or hot food .
- 2 . Traditional pubs can be divided into a _____ and a _____ .
- 3 . _____ is the most popular beer in Britain . But _____ beer has become very popular in recent years .
- 4 . Today, when parents are having a drink in pubs, children can stay in _____ .
- 5 . In the nineteenth century, a lot of British pubs were _____ .

. Decide whether the following statements are true or false:

- 1 . British pubs are divided into two parts — a public bar and a saloon bar .
- 2 . In order to taste good traditional English food, you'd better visit a pub .
- 3 . English beer is different from Continental beer .

- 4 . The times of opening of pubs are regulated by their owners .
- 5 . Betting is forbidden in pubs .

Transport Systems in London

伦敦的交通系统

Today, London has one of the world's most extensive transport systems . But, because it was the first city to build a railway network, much of the infrastructure — the trains and buses, the tracks and tunnels — is now hopelessly out-of-date, and needs urgent modernisation .

London's future success depends very much on transport . The city lies at the heart of Britain's road and rail networks and problems in London can rapidly affect other areas of the country . On an average morning, overground trains bring passengers to stations on the outskirts of the city, and they then continue their journeys by underground, bus or taxi ¹ .

Over a million people travel into central London every day from outside the city . They, and the people who live in London, want a public transport system that is frequent, safe, reliable, affordable and environmentally friendly . What they often get, however, falls far short of that ideal .

Commuters complain about delays, unreliability, cost and pollution, while businesses worry about the problems their staff have getting to work on time . Companies also face high costs for delivering goods and services in a city where congestion means that cars today travel at the same