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E n g l i s h g e m



编者的话

学英语需要背诵,已是英语老师普遍的共识,这是人们学好英语的经验体会。背诵可以强化记忆,训练用英语思维,体会英语的音韵美,它是一个语言知识和语言材料逐步内化的过程。因此,背诵不是一个可有可无的学习方法,而是一个必不可少的学习过程。

多年来,有不少英语背诵文选问世,使英语学习者受益匪浅。然而事物在发展,语言在变化,今天的学习者不仅需要经典名著,更需要鲜活的时文。而鲜活的时文恰是以往的背诵文选中所欠缺的。为了满足新世纪英语学习者的需求,我们编写了由经典和时文组合而成的《英语背诵文选 选篇》《英语欣赏文选 选篇》。

这两本文选的基本特点是既便于背诵,又适合欣赏。说它便于背诵主要是篇幅较短,字数一般控制在 100 字左右,所选段落语言优美,

题材广泛,文体多样,既容易引起背诵兴趣,又能减轻背诵难度;说它适合欣赏主要是指所选文章的经典性和语言美。这两本文选拮取了英语文献中的一些精萃,既表达深刻的思想,也抒发美好的情感。我们的设想是这两本背诵、欣赏文选能够容易上口,易背、易记,也能够经得起回味,能得到读者的喜爱。

本书肯定有诸多纰漏,切望读者不吝赐教。

编 者

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[illegible]

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青春与校园

*A plant may produce new
flower; man is young but once*
花有重开日，人无再少年

员 Raw Material : School Students

As every school student knows , the important raw materials of industry are coal , oil and iron . But , as every businessman knows , the most important raw material of all is the school student who , as a trained college graduate , will run the U . S . industry of the future . Today U . S . industry is faced with^① a tight shrinkage^② of such manpower , it needs not only more but better trained college graduates .

To help get them , many a businessman believes that corporations must provide much of the cash needed by college to expand their facilities and improve their teaching , and work more closely with colleges on business needs . As Robert R . Young pointed out at a White Sulphur Springs conference of businessmen and educators , industry and education have a clear mutuality of interest .

Businessmen and educators have not always recognized this . While there are a few businessmen who still regard college professors as fuzzy-minded and likely to be radical , and a few educators who still look on businessmen as mere money-grabbers , the mutual distrust has generally disappeared in the mutual need . The rapidly expanding U . S . economy has made college graduates more important than ever to industry . In turn , universities must depend increasingly on corporations for contributions , since high taxes have all but^③ cut off the flow of the big individual contributions that built the private school .

注释

① 遭受挫折 面临

② 紧缩 收缩

③ 几乎

原材料 :在校学生

正如学生们所熟知的,煤炭、原油和钢铁是重要的工业原材料,实业家们也深知,在校学生是最重要的原材料。受过训练的大学生将主宰着美国未来的企业发展。当今美国实业界面临着人力资源的匮乏,需要大量的受过良好训练的大学毕业生。

为了获得这类人材,实业界一致认为公司必须向学院提供所需资金以扩充设备,提高教学质量;就商业领域的需求与学校合作。就像罗伯特·泰勒在实业界和教育界人士共同参加的白温泉会议上所指出的那样,实业与教育有着明显的互利关系。

实业界和教育界人士并不总能认识到这一点。有些商人仍然认为学校里的教授们脑筋糊涂,思想激进;有些教育界人士则把商人看作惟利是图之辈,目前这种相互不信任由于相互需求已经基本消失了。迅速发展的美国经济使大学毕业生比以往任何时候都备受实业界的重视。反过来,学校也不得不越来越依赖公司的赞助,因为高税率几乎切断了创建私立学校的大笔私人捐赠。

圆 Professor Smith :My Favourite Teacher

Perhaps the most unforgettable^① person I have ever met is Prof. Smith who taught us philosophy at university. Although I last met him eight years ago, I still remember his special qualities most distinctively. First of all, I was impressed by his devotion to teaching. Because his lectures were always well-prepared and clearly delivered, students swarmed into his classroom. His followers appreciated the fact that he believed in what he taught and that he was intellectually stimulating. Furthermore, he could be counted on to explain his ideas in an imaginative way, introducing such aids to understanding as paintings, recordings, pieces of sculpture and guest lecturers. Once he even sang a song in class to illustrate a point. Second, I admired the fact that he would meet with students outside of the

classroom or talk to them on the telephone. Sometimes he would challenge a student to a game of chess. At other times, he would join groups to discuss subjects ranging from astronomy to pop music. Finally, I was attracted by his lively wit. He believed that no class hour is a success unless the students and the professor share several chuckles^② and at least one loud laugh. Through his sense of humor, he made learning more enjoyable and more lasting. If it is true that life makes a wise man smile and a foolish man cry, then Prof. Smith is truly a wise man.

注释

① 难以忘怀的 ~~难以忘怀的~~

② 会心微笑 ~~会心微笑~~

参考译文

史密斯教授 :我最喜爱的导师

也许我见过的最难忘的人是大学里教我们哲学的史密斯教授。虽然最后一次见到他是在八年前,但他所具有的独特品质我仍然记忆犹新。印象最深刻的一点是他对教学的热诚,他的课总是准备充分,讲述清楚,吸引着学生们涌进他的教室。他的追随者赞赏他对讲授内容的自信,对学生智力的启迪。而且,他阐述自己见解的方法极富想象力。例如,他常常借助于绘画、录音、雕刻和邀请客座教授的方法帮助学生理解所学内容。有一次为了说明一个观点,他还在课堂上唱起了歌。更令我钦佩的是他经常在课后与学生交谈,在电话中交流思想,有时还会找个学生下棋。其它时候,他组织小组讨论,话题从天文学到流行音乐无所不包。他的活力和风趣深深地吸引着我。在他看来如果师生在一堂课上没有几次会心的笑声或至少一次开怀大笑,就不是一堂成功的课。通过幽默,他把学习变得更愉快更有持续性。如果说“生活使聪明人微笑,使蠢人哭泣”,那么史密斯教授的确是一个聪明人。

猿 Adult Education in the U.S.

Millions of people are enrolled^① in evening adult education programs across America. Community colleges^② have become popular and their enrollments have increased rapidly. Larger universities are offering more courses in the evening for adult students. In this way, the demand for more education is being met. One reason for this is that many older people are changing their professions. They are looking for different careers^③. Another reason is that repair costs have increased. Adults are taking courses like plumbing^④ and electric repair. This way they hope that the high costs for repairs can be avoided. New and advanced technology is the most important for the rise in adult education. Engineers and teachers and businessmen are taking adult education classes. They have found that more education is needed to do their jobs well.

Various courses are offered. Many adult students take computers and business courses. Foreign languages, accounting and communication courses are also popular. Some adult students attend classes to earn degrees, others take courses for the knowledge and skills that they can receive. The lives of many people have been enriched because of adult education.

注释

- ① 参加, 登记, 注册, 加入
- ② 社区大学
- ③ 职业, 生涯
- ④ 管道工程

★ 参考译文

美国的成人教育

数以百万计的美国人选修了晚间成人教育课程。社区大学

日渐增多,报名人数迅速增长。较有规模的大学晚间向成人提供的课程更多,以满足成人接受继续教育的需求。出现这种情况有两个原因,其一是许多大龄在职人员打算改变自己的职业,他们正寻找新的发展机遇;其二是维修费看涨,成人选修管道、电器维修等课程目的是节省维修费用。高新技术的发展是致使成人教育增长的最重要原因。工程师、教师、商人都在进修成人教育课程,他们发现,做好本职工作需要接受更多的教育。

可供选择的课程是多种多样的。计算机和商业课程受到许多成人学生的青睐,外语、会计、传播学也是非常受欢迎的课程。有些成人上学是为了获取学位,有些就是为了多学点知识和技能。成人教育使许多人的生活变得更丰富了。

源 Learning Languages is Easy—or is it ?

Have you ever noticed advertisements which say : “ learn a foreign language in 远weeks , or your money back ! From the first day your pronunciation will be excellent . Just send . . . ” and so on ? Of course , it never happens quite like that . The only language that is easy to learn is the mother tongue . And think how much practice that gets ! Before the Second World War people usually learnt a foreign language in order to read the literature of the country . Now speaking the foreign language is what most people want . Every year many millions of people start learning one . How do they do it ?

Some people try at home , with books and records or tapes ; some use radio , television programmes or computer language learning softwares^① ; others go to evening classes . If they use the language only 圆or 猿times a week , learning it will take a long time , like language learning at school . A few people try to learn a language fast by studying for 远or more hours a day . It is clearly easier to learn the language in the country where it is spoken . However , most people cannot afford^② this , and for many it is not necessary . They need the language in order to do their work better . For example ,

scientists and doctors chiefly need to be able to read books and reports in the foreign language. Whether the language is learnt quickly or slowly, it is hard work. Machines and good books will help, but they cannot do the student's work for him.

🔍 注释

① 语言学习软件

② 支付得起

★ 参考译文

学习语言容易,是吗?

你可曾注意过这样的广告:六周之内保你学会一门外语,否则退款。开学的第一天你就会有标准的发音,只请寄来……”等等?当然,事实绝非如此。易学的语言只有母语,即使它也需要不计其数的大量练习。二战前,人们学外语的目的是为了读懂那个国家的文学作品。现在很多人都想学习说外语。每年几百万人开始学习一门外语,他们是怎样做的?

一些人靠书本、录音机和录音带在家里学习;一些人靠收听无线电、看电视或者利用计算机语言学习软件学习,还有一些人去上夜校。如果一个星期只有两、三次机会使用这门语言,那么学习的过程将十分漫长,跟在学校里学习语言没什么两样。因此,有些人试图加快学习速度,一天学习六个小时或更多的时间。显然,如果能置身于讲这门语言的国家里学习语言就容易多了,但大多数人支付不起这笔费用,而且对很多人来说也没这个必要,他们需要外语是为了更好地工作。例如,科学家和医生学习外语主要是为了阅读外语资料和报告。无论快慢,学习外语都是件很艰辛的工作。机器和书本对学习会有所帮助,但不能取代学生自己要下的功夫。

缘 Early Efforts at Writing

All through my boyhood and youth, I was known as an idler;