

Unit 1

PART I

UNDERSTANDING AND LEARNING

Section A

The Tail of Fame

● Background Information

1. **Tennessee Williams** (1911–1983) was an American writer whose plays are mainly about people with emotional problems and are set in the Southern States. As a playwright Williams began his career while studying at the University of Missouri and Washington University, St. Louis. The first critical triumph came in 1945 with *The Glass Menagerie*. *The Glass Menagerie* ran on Broadway for over a year and received the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award. Williams' next major play, *A Streetcar Named Desire* (1947), won the Pulitzer Prize, and established him as a major American dramatist. Williams also received the Pulitzer Prize for *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (1955), about the moral decay of a Southern family, and for *The Night of the Iguana* (1961). For more information about Williams, visit <http://www.tennesseewilliams.net>.
2. **Ernest Hemingway** (1899–1961) was one of the most famous American novelists, short story writers and essayists, whose deceptively simple prose style has influenced a wide range of writers. Hemingway was awarded the 1954 Nobel Prize for Literature.

Hemingway's first books, *Three Stories and Ten Poems* (1923) and *In Our Time* (1924), were published in Paris. *The Torrents of Spring* appeared in 1926 and Hemingway's first serious novel, *The Sun Also Rises*, in the same year. The novel deals with a group of expatriates in France and Spain, members of the disillusioned post-World War I Lost Generation. Hemingway wrote and rewrote the novel in various parts of Spain and France between 1924 and 1926. It became his first great success as a novelist. Although the novel's language is simple, Hemingway used understatement and omission, which make the text multilayered and rich in allusions.



After the publication of *Men Without Women* (1927), Hemingway returned to the United States, settling in Key West, Florida. In Florida he wrote *A Farewell to Arms*, which was published in 1929. In 1937 Hemingway observed the Spanish Civil war firsthand. As many writers did, he supported the cause of the Loyalists. In Madrid he met Martha Gellhorn, a writer and war correspondent, who became his third wife in 1940. In *For Whom the Bell Tolls* (1940) Hemingway returned again in Spain. He dedicated the book to Gellhorn—Maria in the story was partly modeled after her. They divorced in 1945.

The *Old Man and the Sea*, published first in *Life* magazine in 1952, again restored his fame. The 27,000 word novella told a story of an old Cuban fisherman named Santiago, who finally catches a giant marlin after weeks of not catching anything. As he returns to the harbor, the sharks eat the fish lashed to his boat.

On July 2, 1961, Hemingway committed suicide with his favorite shotgun at his home.

For more information about Hemingway, visit <http://www.kirjasto.sci.fi/hemingwa.htm> and <http://www.ernest.hemingway.com/>.

3. **Robert Frost** (1874–1963) was one of America’s leading 20th-century poets and a four-time winner of the Pulitzer Prize. An essentially pastoral poet often associated with rural New England, Frost wrote poems whose philosophical dimensions transcend any region. His poetry is thus both traditional and experimental, regional and universal.

He unquestionably succeeded in realizing his life’s ambition: to write “a few poems where they will be hard to get rid of.”

Visit the websites <http://www.pro-net.co.uk/home/catalyst/RF/rfcover.html>, <http://www.ketzle.com/frost/> and http://www.english.uiuc.edu/maps/poets/a_f/frost/frost.htm for more information about Frost and his poems.

4. **T.S. Eliot** (1888–1965) was a poet, playwright, and critic. Born in St. Louis, after Harvard he studies in Europe, in 1927 becoming a British citizen. He won the 1948 Nobel Prize for Literature.

Eliot has been one of the most daring innovators of 20th-century poetry. Never compromising either with the public or indeed with language itself, he followed his belief that poetry should aim at a representation of the complexities of modern civilization in language and that such representation necessarily leads to difficult poetry. Despite this difficulty his influence on modern poetic diction has been immense.

For more information about Eliot, visit http://www.english.uiuc.edu/maps/poets/a_f/eliot/eliot.htm.

5. **Claude Monet** (1840–1926) was a French painter who was involved in starting Impressionism, best known for his pictures of the countryside in which he was concerned to



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show the effects of light. To learn more about Monet, visit <http://www.academic.scranton.edu/student/KOSINSKIK2/Life.html> and <http://www.giverny.org/monet/biograph>.

6. **Pierre Auguste Renoir** (1841–1919) was a famous French painter, and one of the founders and exponents of the Impressionist Movement. His works are characterized by an extraordinary richness of feelings, warmth of response to the world and the people in it. Renoir once said: “Why shouldn’t art be pretty? There are enough unpleasant things in the world.” For more information about Renoir, visit <http://www.renoir.org.yu/> and <http://www.ibiblio.org/wm/paint/auth/renoir>.
7. **Salvador Dali** (1904–1989) was a Spanish surrealist painter known for his strange life and habits. He painted his dreams and bizarre moods in a precise illusionistic fashion. Visit <http://www.dalionline.com/dalilif2.htm> or <http://www.dali-gallery.com> to find more about Dali’s life and his works.
8. **Sir Alfred Hitchcock** (1899–1980) was a British filmmaker. He was essentially concerned with depicting the tenuous relations between people and objects and rendering the terror inherent in commonplace realities. Visit <http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0000033/> and <http://www.imdb.com/Name?Hitchcock,+Alfred> for more information.
9. **Federico Fellini** (1920–1993), Italian film director, began as an exponent of poetic Neorealism, and later became the cinema’s undisputed master of psychological Expressionism and surrealist fantasy. Visit the following websites to learn more about him: <http://www.italian.vassar.edu/fellini/fellinihome.htm>, <http://www.inblackandwhite.com/FedericoFellini2.0/> and <http://www.imdb.com/Name?Fellini,+Federico>.
10. **Steven Spielberg** (1946–) is perhaps Hollywood’s best-known director and one of the wealthiest filmmakers in the world, and also one of the most influential film personalities in the history of film. Spielberg has directed or produced many of the top-grossing films in Hollywood history, including *E.T.: The Extra-Terrestria*, *Schindler’s List*, *Saving Private Ryan*, etc. To get more information about Spielberg, please visit <http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0000229/> and <http://www.spielbergfilms.com>.
11. **Thomas Wolfe** (1900–1938) was one of the greatest writers of the 20th century. His opulent language and unique literary style have elevated his life to legendary status through his four autobiographical novels: *Look Homeward, Angel* (1929), *Of Time and the River* (1935), *From Death to Morning* (1935), *The Story of a Novel* (1936). These books, along with many short stories published in magazines, complete the works that appeared during his lifetime. For more information about him, visit <http://www.library.uncwil.edu/wolfe/wolfe.html>, <http://www.ah.dcr.state.nc.us/sections/hs/wolfe/wolfe.htm> and www.wolfememorial.com.
12. *Look Homeward, Angel* is Thomas Wolfe’s first novel. Published in 1929, it is slightly autobiographical, and Wolfe uses the main character, Eugene Gant, as a stand-in for himself.



It shows his maturing from birth to the age of 18 in the fictional town and state of Altamont, Catawba, which many believe to be a not-so-subtle mirror of his hometown, Asheville, North Carolina. Many of the characters of *Look Homeward, Angel* were also strongly based on real people from Asheville, and were often not portrayed in a pleasing manner. This resulted in a certain estrangement between Wolfe and his hometown, and it is speculated that this formed some of the basis for his later work *You Can't Go Home Again*.

13. **Ludwig van Beethoven** (1770–1827) was a German composer. He is universally recognized as one of the greatest composers of the Western European music tradition. Beethoven's works crowned the classical period and also effectively initiated the romantic era in music. His astonishing *Third Symphony* (1803) was the thunderclap that announced the romantic century, and it embodies the titanic but rigorously controlled energy that was the hallmark of his style. He began to lose his hearing from c. 1795; by c. 1819 he was totally deaf. For his last 15 years he was unrivaled as the world's most famous composer. In musical form he was a considerable innovator, widening the scope of sonata, symphony, concerto, and string quartet. His greatest achievement was to raise instrumental music, hitherto considered inferior to vocal, to the highest plane of art. The websites <http://www.lucare.com/immortal/> and <http://www.madaboutbeethoven.com> provide more information about him and his works.
14. **Oscar Wilde** (1854–1900) was an Irish playwright, novelist, poet, and short story writer. Known for his wit and flamboyance, he was one of the most successful playwrights of late Victorian London, and one of the greatest celebrities of his day. As the result of a famous trial, he suffered a dramatic downfall and was imprisoned for two years of hard labor after being convicted of the homosexual offences. The following websites contain the information about Oscar Wilde's biography, career highlights, photos and quotes: <http://www.cmgww.com/historic/wilde/>, <http://www.victorianweb.org/authors/wilde/wildeov.html> and <http://www.ucc.ie/celt/wilde.html>.
15. **Johann Heinrich Pestalozzi** (1746–1827) was a Swiss educational reformer. Between 1805 and 1825 he directed the Yverdon Institute, which drew pupils and educators from all over Europe. His teaching method emphasized group rather than individual recitation and focused on such participatory activities as drawing, writing, singing, physical exercise, model making, collecting, mapmaking, and field trips. Among his ideas, considered radically innovative at the time, were making allowances for individual differences, grouping students by ability rather than age, and encouraging formal teacher training. The following websites have more information about Pestalozzi: <http://www.heinrich-pestalozzi.de/en/zurbiographie/kurzbiographie> and <http://www.ibe.unesco.org/publications/ThinkersPdf/pestaloe.PDF>.



● Detailed Study of the Text

1. An artist who seeks fame is like a dog **chasing** its own tail who, when he captures it, does not know what else to do but to continue chasing it. (Para. 1)

Meaning: An artist who tries to achieve fame will not stop doing so even when he succeeds in getting it, just as a dog tries to get its own tail.

- ★ **chase:** *vt.* run after someone or something in order to catch them

Police **chased** the thief and eventually recovered the missing money. 警察紧追小偷，最后把丢失的钱找了回来。

The kids **chased** each other in the garden. 孩子们在花园里相互追逐。

2. The cruelty of success is that it often leads those who seek such success to **participate in** their own destruction. (Para. 1)

Meaning: The harsh reality of success is that it often destroys those who try hard to achieve it.

- ★ **participate in:** take part in or become involved in an activity

Everyone in the class is expected to **participate** actively **in** these discussions. 班里的每个人都应该积极参加这些讨论。

They wanted opportunities to **participate in** the decision-making process. 他们希望有机会参与决策制定。

3. “Don’t quit your day job!” is advice frequently given by understandably **pessimistic** family members and friends to a budding artist who is trying hard to succeed. (Para. 2)

Meaning: The budding artist’s family and friends frequently advise him against giving up his day job. Their feeling that the artist might fail in his pursuit is understandable.

☞ A “day job” refers to the normal job where one earns most of their money. A “budding artist” is one who is beginning to develop or show signs of future success in a particular area.

- ★ **pessimistic:** *a.* expecting that bad things will happen in the future or that something will have a bad result

I am deeply **pessimistic** about the future. 我对未来感到极其悲观。

This may sound like putting the cart before the horse and being unnecessarily **pessimistic**. 这听起来像是本末倒置，是不必要的悲观。

4. The conquest of fame is difficult **at best**, and many **end up** emotionally if not financially **bankrupt**. (Para. 2)

Meaning: Even under the most favorable circumstances, gaining fame is difficult, and in the end many artists fail emotionally even if they do not fail financially.



★ **at best:** even when considered in the most positive way

The meeting was **at best** partially successful. 这次会议充其量只是部分成功。

The technique is **at best** ineffective and at worst dangerous. 这个技术说得好一点是无效的, 说得坏一点是有危险的。

★ **end up:** finally be in a particular situation or place

He **ended up** unemployed for a long time. 结果, 他失业了很长一段时间。

Instead of **ending up** in jail he was remarkably successful. 他最终没有坐牢, 而是取得了很大成功。

★ **bankrupt:** a. without enough money to pay what one owes

Many small businesses will go **bankrupt** unless interest rates fall. 除非利息降低, 否则许多小企业将破产。

He lent him several thousand dollars to help rescue his **bankrupt** textile business. 他借给他几千美金来帮助他拯救他那破产的纺织公司。

5. Still, impure motives such as the desire for **worshipping** fans and praise from peers may **spur** the artist on. The lure of **drowning** in fame's imperial glory is not easily resisted. (Para. 2)

Meaning: Impure motives such as the desire for worshipping fans and praise from peers may push the artist to achieve fame. It is almost impossible to resist the admiration and praise that fame brings.

★ **worship:** vt. admire and love someone very much

We all want heroes to **worship**, be they sportsmen, film stars, or politicians. 我们都要有崇拜的英雄, 无论他们是运动员、电影明星还是政治家。

As a child, I **worshipped** my older brother. 我小时候崇拜我哥哥。

★ **spur:** vt. encourage someone or make them want to do something

We **spurred** them on to greater efforts. 我们鼓励他们做出更大的努力。

It was an article in the local newspaper that finally **spurred** him into action. 是当地报纸上一篇文章最终促使他采取了行动。

★ **drown:** v.

1) have a very strong feeling or a serious problem that is difficult to deal with

The country is **drowning** in debt. 这个国家债台高筑。

We were **drowning** in data but starved of information. 我们被数据包围, 可是却缺乏信息。

2) die from being under water for too long, or to kill someone in this way

Forty-eight people have **drowned** after their boat overturned during a storm. 他们的船在暴风雨中翻了, 淹死了48个人。

Last night a boy was **drowned** in the river. 昨夜有一个男孩在河里淹死了。



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6. Those who gain fame most often gain it as a result of **exploiting** their talent for singing, dancing, painting, or writing, etc. (Para. 3)

Meaning: Very often the reason why some artists become famous is that they make good use of their talent for singing, dancing, painting, or writing, etc.

- ★ **exploit:** *vt.* use something well in order to gain as much from it as possible
You can **exploit** a talent which you already possess. 你可以利用已有的才能。
We need to make sure that we **exploit** our resources as fully as possible. 我们需要确保尽可能充分地利用资源。

7. They develop a style that agents market aggressively to hasten popularity, and their ride on the express elevator to the top is a blur. Most would **be hard-pressed to** tell you how they even got there. (Para. 3)

Meaning: These artists demonstrate a style that agents promote forcefully to make them popular more quickly. Most of them would find it difficult to tell you how they became famous.

☞ “Ride on the express elevator to the top” is a metaphor which means “becoming famous quickly”.

- ★ **be hard-pressed to do sth.:** have difficulty doing something
This year the airline will **be hard-pressed to** make a profit. 今年这家航空公司要赢利困难重重。
You'd **be hard-pressed to** find anyone better for the job. 你很难找到更好的人做这项工作。

8. Artists cannot remain **idle**, though. (Para. 3)

Meaning: However, artists cannot stop in their career.

- ★ **idle:** *a.* not working or producing anything
Half these factories are now standing **idle**. 一半的工厂在停工。
Thousands of workers are **idle** now that the car factories have closed. 汽车厂的关闭使数千人无事可做。

9. When the performer, painter or writer becomes **bored**, their work begins to show a lack of continuity in its appeal and it becomes difficult to **sustain** the attention of the public. (Para. 3)

Meaning: When the artist becomes tired and impatient, their work will lose its charm and they will find it hard to keep the public's attention.

- ★ **bore:** *vt.* make someone lose interest and become tired and impatient
I won't **bore** you with all the technical details. 我就不拿这些技术上的细节来烦你了。



The long novel **bored** me to death. 那部冗长的小说烦死我了。

It's easy to get **bored** doing the same thing every day. 每天做同样的事很容易感到厌烦。

★ **sustain**: *vt.*

1) make something continue to exist for a period of time

He found that he couldn't **sustain** his interest in the job. 他发现自己无法维持对那份工作的兴趣。

The speaker succeeded in **sustaining** the listeners' attention right to the very end. 这位演讲者成功地使听众的注意力保持到了最后。

2) give someone strength, energy or hope

A good breakfast will **sustain** us through the day. 一顿丰盛的早餐能维持我们一天的精力。

Throughout the trial he was **sustained** by the support of his family. 整个审讯过程中, 他家人的支持使他得以支撑下去。

10. After their enthusiasm has dissolved, the public simply moves on to the next flavor of the month. (Para. 3)

Meaning: After their enthusiasm has disappeared, the public simply turns to another star who then is very popular, but only for a similarly short time.

☞ “Flavor of the month” means “an idea, person, style, etc. that is very popular at a particular time, but only for a short while”.

11. Artists who do attempt to remain current by making even **minute** changes to their style of writing, dancing or singing, **run a significant risk of** losing the audience's favor. (Para. 3)

Meaning: Even if artists make very small changes to their style of writing, dancing or singing, etc. in order to sustain their popularity, they will probably lose the support, approval, or affection of the audience.

★ **minute**: *a.* very small

The scratch was almost too **minute** to see. 擦痕很轻微, 几乎看不清。

They shouldn't be loaded down with **minute** and unimportant details. 不应让他们被这些琐碎的事压垮。

★ **run a/the risk of**: be in a situation in which something bad could happen

Men **run a greater risk of** suffering from heart disease than women. 男子患心脏病的风险高于女子。

I don't want to **run the risk of** losing my job. 我不想冒失去工作的危险。

12. The public simply **discounts** styles **other than** those for which the artist has become famous. (Para. 3)



Meaning: The public only accepts the styles for which the artist has become famous and they think other styles are not worth their attention.

★ **discount:** *vt.*

1) regard something as unlikely to be true or important

Scientists **discounted** his method of predicting earthquakes. 科学家们对他的地震预测方法不予理会。

Thompson **discounted** the possibility that Dole would give him the nod. 汤普森不相信有机会得到多尔的首肯。

2) reduce the price of something

Games were **discounted** to as little as \$5. 打折后的游戏价格只有5美元。

All sale items have been heavily **discounted**. 所有出售的商品都大幅降价。

n. [C] a reduction in the usual price of something

I bought the pair of shoes at a 40% **discount**. 我买这双鞋打了6折。

Will you give me a **discount** for quantity? 如果买得多，可以给我打折吗？

★ **other than:** apart from; except

He didn't mention anyone else's contributions **other than** his own. 他只提到了自己的贡献，而没有提其他任何人的。

We missed the last bus so there was no choice **other than** to walk home. 我们错过了最后一班公交车，所以除了走回家别无选择。

13. Their **distinct** styles marked a significant change in form from others and gained them fame and fortune. However, they **paid for** it by giving up the freedom to express themselves with other styles or forms. (Para. 4)

Meaning: Their clearly different styles brought them fame and fortune. However, they got it at the cost of giving up their freedom to use other styles to express themselves.

★ **distinct:** *a.*

1) clearly different or belonging to a different type

Each party represents a **distinct** current of thought. 每个政党都代表了一种不同的思潮。

The Spanish temperament is **distinct** from that of the Portuguese. 西班牙人的气质明显有别于葡萄牙人。

2) able to be clearly seen, heard, smelled, etc.

These are modern buildings with **distinct** national style. 这些是具有明显民族风格的现代建筑。

At the moment there's a **distinct** lack of enthusiasm in her musical performances. 眼下她的音乐表演明显缺乏热情。

★ **pay for:** suffer as a result of doing something

If you refuse to cooperate with us, you will **pay for** it. 如果你拒绝与我们合作，你会为此付出代价。



We all **pay for** our mistakes in some way at sometime. 我们大家都会在某个时候以某种方式为我们的错误付出代价。

14. Fame's spotlight can be hotter than a tropical jungle—a fraud is quickly exposed, and the pressure of so much attention is too much for most to endure. (Para. 5)

Meaning: Fame leads to a lot of publicity. If a famous person commits a fraud, it will be exposed quickly. And the famous people attract so much public attention that they can hardly endure the pressure it brings.

15. It takes you out of yourself: You must be what the public thinks you are, not what you really are or could be. (Para. 5)

Meaning: You have to forget your true self. You have no freedom to be what you really are or could be and you must act and behave in the way the public thinks you should.

16. One drop of fame will likely **contaminate** the entire well of a man's soul, and so an artist who **remains true to** himself or herself is particularly amazing. (Para. 6)

Meaning: One drop of fame could poison a person's soul, and so an artist who acts according to his or her beliefs and does what he or she thinks is right is particularly amazing.

★ **contaminate:** *vt.* make something dirty or poisonous

The food was **contaminated** during the production process. 这食品在生产的过程中被污染了。

The town's water supply has been **contaminated** by chemicals from the factory. 该城镇的供水已被那个工厂排出的化学物质污染了。

★ **remain/be true to:** continue to be loyal to someone or something

I will always **be true to** you. 我将永远忠于你。

He always **remains true to** his principles. 他一直忠于自己的原则。

17. You would be hard-pressed to **underline** many names of those who have not compromised and still succeeded in the fame game. (Para. 6)

Meaning: You would have difficulty listing many names of artists who have not given up their principles in order to please their audiences and still succeeded in their careers.

★ **underline:** *vt.*

1) draw a line under a word to show that it is important

Underline the following that apply to you. 将下列内容中适用于你的部分划线标明。

All the mistakes had been **underlined** in red. 所有的错误下面都划了红线。



2) emphasize or show that something is important

The recent shootings **underline** the need for more security. 最近几起枪杀事件表明采取更多安全措施是必要的。

He **underlined** the importance of the question. 他强调了问题的重要性。

18. An example, the famous Irish writer Oscar Wilde, known for his **uncompromising** behavior, both social and sexual, **to** which the public **objected**, paid heavily for remaining true to himself. (Para. 6)

Meaning: An example was the famous Irish writer Oscar Wilde, who was known for his refusal to change his social and sexual behavior. However, he suffered heavily for being himself because the public did not accept his behavior.

★ **uncompromising:** *a.* unwilling to change one's opinions or behavior

The group has taken an **uncompromising** position on environmental issues. 这个团体在环境问题上采取了决不妥协的立场。

★ **object to:** oppose or disapprove of something

Local residents **objected to** the proposed development. 当地居民反对那个发展计划。

I always **objected to** the idea that everything is predetermined and that we have no choice. 我一直反对这种想法：一切都事先定好，我们没有任何选择。

19. The mother of a young man Oscar **was intimate with** **accused** him at a banquet in front of his friends and fans **of** sexually influencing her son. (Para. 6)

Meaning: The mother of a young man with whom Oscar had an extremely close friendship blamed him at a banquet before his friends and fans for being a bad influence on her son sexually.

★ **be intimate with:** involve or have a sexual relationship with; have a very close friendship with

He suspected that the boss **was intimate with** his secretary. 他怀疑那老板与他的秘书有染。

She **is intimate with** the President. 她和总统关系密切。

★ **accuse sb. of sth.:** say that someone has done something wrong or is guilty of something

They **accused** him **of** incompetence. 他们指责他无能。

He is **accused of** having committed a crime. 他被指控犯了罪。

20. Extremely angered by her remarks, he sued the young man's mother, asserting that she had damaged his "good" name. He should have hired a better attorney, though. The judge did not second Wilde's call to have the woman pay for damaging his name, and instead fined Wilde. He ended up in jail after refusing to pay, and even worse, was permanently expelled from the wider circle of public favor. (Para. 6)



Meaning: Wilde was very angry about her remarks, and he made a legal claim against the young man's mother, saying firmly that she had ruined his "good" reputation. However, he did not win the case. The judge did not agree to his demand to have the woman pay for damaging his name, and instead, the judge made him pay money as punishment. Wilde was put into jail after he refused to pay the money. And even worse, he lost public support for ever.

 **Cultural notes about the people in the legal process**

judge: the person in charge of a court, who decides how criminals should be punished

jury: a group of 12 ordinary people, who listen to the details of a trial, and then decide whether or not someone is guilty of a crime

lawyer/attorney (US): someone whose job is to advise people about laws, write formal agreements, or represent people in court

defendant: the person in a trial who is being charged with a crime

the prosecution: the lawyers in a court of law who try to prove that someone is guilty of a crime

witness: someone who tells what they know about a crime in a court of law

21. When things were **at their worst**, he found that no one was willing to risk his or her name in his defense. (Para. 6)

Meaning: The worst thing was that he found no one was ready to defend him at the risk of damaging his or her own name.

★ **at one's/its worst:** as bad or unpleasant as someone or something can be

The pain was **at its worst** in the late evenings. 深夜时痛得最厉害。

You saw the garden **at its worst**, I'm afraid. 我想你所看到的花园处于其最糟糕的时候。

22. Curiously enough, it is those who fail that reap the greatest reward: freedom! (Para. 7)

Meaning: It is very strange that those who fail get the greatest reward: freedom!

23. Failed artists may find comfort in knowing that many great artists never found fame until well after they had passed away or in knowing that they did not sell out. They may **justify** their failure by convincing themselves their genius is too sophisticated for contemporary audiences. (Para. 7)

Meaning: Failed artists may find comfort in knowing that many great artists won fame only many years after they had died or in knowing that they didn't give up their principles in order to gain fame. They may think that their genius is too advanced for contemporary audiences to appreciate and that explains why they fail.

★ **justify:** *vt.* show that there is a good reason for something that other people think is unreasonable




Unit 1

It is difficult to **justify** such behavior. 很难为这样的行为提出合理的解释。
He can't **justify** neglecting his wife and children. 他无法为自己忽略妻儿辩护。

24. **Single-minded** artists who continue their quest for fame even after failure might also like to know that failure has motivated some famous people to work even harder to succeed. (Para. 8)

Meaning: Those artists who are determined in their search for fame, even after they have suffered failure, might also like to know that failure has made some famous people work even harder to succeed.

 Pay attention to the word formation of “*a. + n.-ed*”. Words of similar formation include:
blue-eyed kind-hearted broad-minded good-natured gray-haired
light-hearted open-minded cold-hearted near-sighted single-handed

25. ... until he **came upon** the idea of teaching children and developing the fundamental theories to produce a new form of education. (Para. 8)

★ **come on/upon:** find something or meet someone unexpectedly

I **came upon** one of my college teachers on the street. 我在街上碰到一位大学老师。

We **came upon** the idea of asking people to donate money over the Net. 我们无意中想到了在网上请人们捐款的主意。

26. Thomas Edison was thrown out of school in the fourth grade, because he seemed to his teacher to be quite dull. (Para. 8)

Meaning: Thomas Edison was forced to leave school in the fourth grade, because his teacher thought he was too stupid.

27. I say to those who **desperately** seek fame and fortune: good luck. (Para. 9)

Meaning: I wish good luck to those who have a strong desire for fame and fortune.

★ **desperate:** *a.*

1) needing or wanting something very much

He is **desperate** for a job to support his family. 他急需一份工作养家糊口。

2) very worried and willing to do anything to change a bad situation

The missing man's family are getting increasingly **desperate**. 失踪者的家人越来越绝望。

★ **desperately:** *ad.* extremely; very

She **desperately** wanted her article published. 她非常希望自己的文章能被发表。

I was **desperately** lonely. 我非常孤独。



● Text Structure Analysis

The part of “Text Structure Analysis” is dealt with at two levels in Teacher’s Book. **Level I** gives teaching directions for the exercise in Student’s Book while **Level II** provides additional analysis of the whole text structure to meet teaching needs.

Level I Teaching directions for Text Structure Analysis

In Student’s Book we have examined one paragraph to show how a general statement is supported by details. We have come across such kind of writing technique before. The most important point to be taken care of is to make sure that every detail should help to support the general statement.

Level II An analysis of the whole text structure

The passage is a piece of argumentation which tries to convince us that seeking fame sometimes leads to one’s own destruction. The passage can be roughly divided into six parts.

The first part is Paragraph 1, which is the argument for the whole passage: Chasing fame often leads to self-destruction. Then the passage continues to argue for the point from four different aspects.

The second part consists of four paragraphs, from Paragraph 2 to Paragraph 5. In this part the writer tries to convince us that the conquest of fame is no easy job and that along with fame and fortune there come some negative effects which could be disastrous. In Paragraph 2, the writer argues that though the conquest of fame is difficult at best, the lure of fame is hard to resist. Paragraph 3 tells us that even if an artist succeeded by developing their own talent, it would be hard to keep the audience’s lasting enthusiasm. In Paragraph 4 the writer argues with some examples that successful and famous artists often have a distinctive style. But this also limits them in that they don’t have the freedom to express themselves with other styles or forms. Paragraph 5 tells us that the pressure to keep public attention can be too much for some artists. They have to please the audience sometimes against their own will.

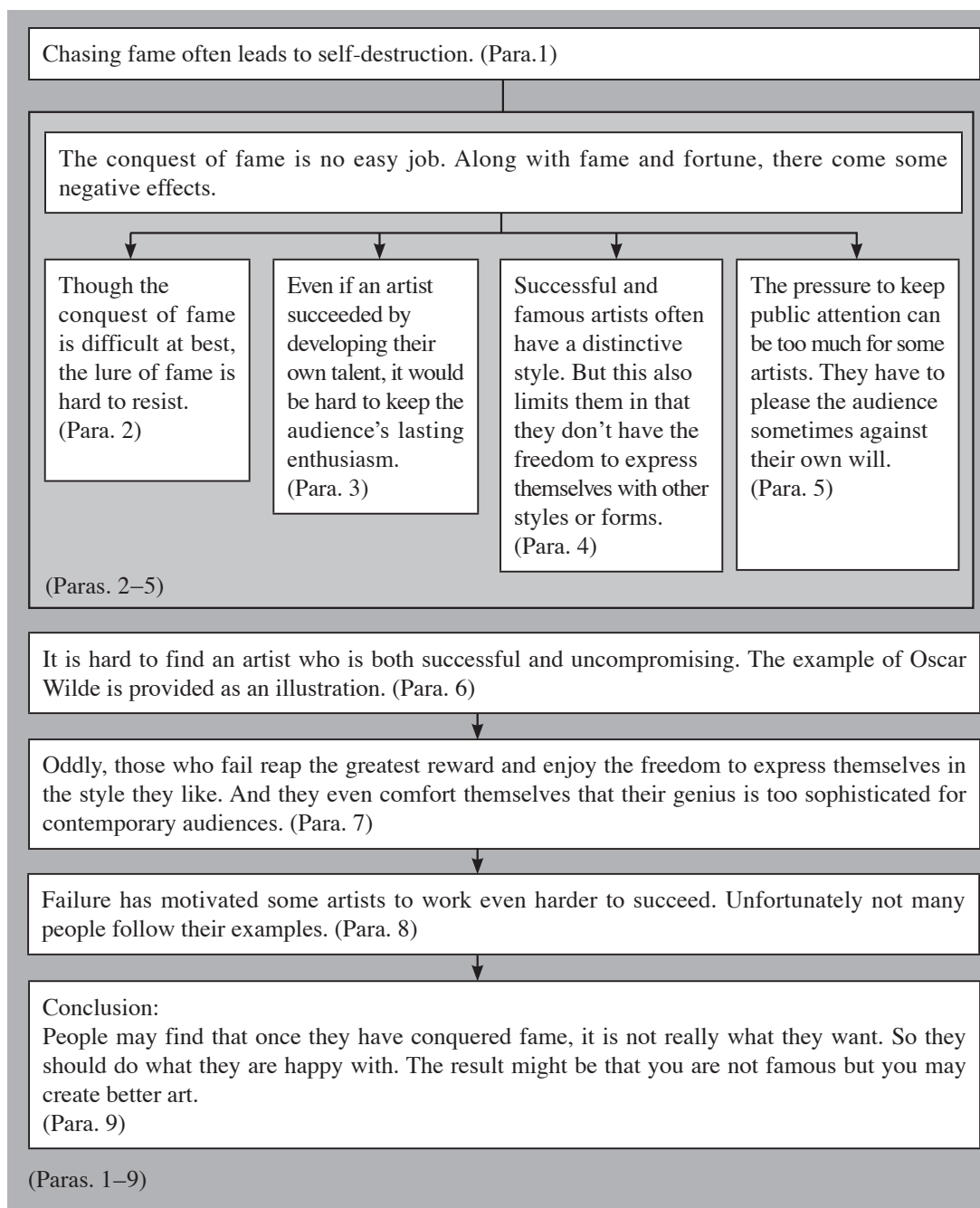
The third part is Paragraph 6, showing us how hard it is for successful artists to remain true to themselves. Oscar Wilde, known for his uncompromising behavior, is just an example.

The fourth part is Paragraph 7, telling us that the greatest winners, oddly enough, are those who initially fail in the conquest of fame. They enjoy the freedom to express themselves in unique and original ways without fear of losing the support of fans and they can even comfort themselves by saying that their genius is too sophisticated for contemporary audiences.

The fifth part is Paragraph 8, convincing us with examples that some famous artists have experienced successive failures before their final success. For these people failure has motivated them to work even harder to succeed, while to most people, failure is the end of their struggle, not the beginning.

The sixth part is Paragraph 9, which is the conclusion of the passage. The writer offers his advice to those seeking fame and fortune that once they succeed they might find that it is not really what they wanted. So instead, people should do what they are happy with. The result might be that you are not famous but you can create better art.





Section B

The Power of a Good Name

● Reading Skills

Making Inferences

Reading between the lines means making inferences about the writer's ideas from what is written and from what is not written. Writers don't always express all their thoughts openly, either as a matter of style, or because they assume we know and share their opinions.

To make inferences about the writer's ideas we have to be very careful with what is advised in the following:

- 1) You have to make use of contextual clues, common sense and your knowledge.
- 2) Connect ideas and draw conclusions from the reading passage.
- 3) Test what you have understood between the lines. Reading is a two-way communication between the reader and the writer about understanding, forming ideas, testing your ideas during the reading of the passage, correcting or changing your ideas and understanding and, finally, getting what the writer is driving at or communicating.

Here are two examples taken from Text A.

Example 1

They develop a style that agents market aggressively to hasten popularity, and their ride on the express elevator to the top is a blur. (Para. 3)

Question: Why is a rise in popularity like a ride on an express elevator?

Possible answer: Because it is something you cannot control. Also, it is fast and not very enjoyable.

Example 2

Fame's spotlight can be hotter than a tropical jungle—a fraud is quickly exposed, and the pressure of so much attention is too much for most to endure. (Para. 5)

Question: Why is the attention brought by fame like a tropical jungle?

Possible answer: Because it can make a person very uncomfortable.

● Detailed Study of the Text

1. One summer day my father sent me to buy some wire and fencing to put around our barn to **pen up** the bull. (Para. 1)



Unit 1

★ **pen up:** shut an animal or a person in a small area

The flu kept him **penned up** at home for a week. 流感令他一个星期都呆在家里。

The sheep have to be **penned up** every night. 羊群每晚都得关进圈里。

2. At 16, I liked nothing better than getting behind the wheel of our truck and driving into town on the old mill road. (Para. 1)

Meaning: At the age of 16, what I liked most was driving our truck into town on the old mill road.

3. Water from the mill's wheel sprayed in the sunshine making a rainbow over the canal and I often stopped there on my way to bathe and **cool off** for a spell—natural air-conditioning. (Para. 1)

Meaning: Water coming from the mill's wheel scattered in the sunshine and formed a rainbow over the canal. I often stopped there on my way to swim in the canal and escape the heat for a short while. This is natural air-conditioning.

★ **cool off:** become cooler after being very hot

I took a shower to **cool** myself **off**. 我冲了个澡，凉快凉快。

We had to stop at the top of the hill and wait for the engine to **cool off**. 我们不得不在山顶上停下来，让发动机冷却一下。

4. This trip was different, though. (Para. 1)

Meaning: However, this time, I could not enjoy myself because I had something on my mind.

5. My father had told me I'd have to ask for credit at the store. (Para. 1)

Meaning: My father had told me that I'd need to ask the storeowner to give me the things first and pay for them later.

6. It was 1976, and the ugly shadow of racism was still **a fact of life**. (Para. 2)

Meaning: That was the year 1976, and terrible racism still existed.

★ **a fact of life:** an unpleasant situation that exists and must be accepted

Mass unemployment seems to be **a fact of life** nowadays. 现在大规模的失业似乎是生活中的现实。

Persuading others to accept the hard **facts of life** is not a very popular job. 劝说别人接受残酷的现实是一项不受欢迎的工作。



7. ... while a storeowner **enquired into** whether they were “good for it”. (Para. 2)

Meaning: ... while a storeowner tried to discover whether they were worth giving credit/trusting.


★ **enquire into:** try to find out the truth about something

The police are **enquiring into** the murder. 警方正在调查这一谋杀案。

We're **inquiring into** the possibility of buying the apartment we're renting. 我们正在询问能否购买我们所租借的那套公寓。

They **enquired into** the complaints by consumers. 他们调查了消费者的投诉。

8. Buck was a tall, weathered man...(Para. 3)

 A “weathered man” is a man who has been exposed much to wind and rain, usually with rough skin from being outside for long periods. Mostly people tend to use “weather-beaten” instead of “weathered”.

9. “I need to put this **on credit**.” My brow was moist with nervous sweat and I **wiped it away** with the back of my arm. (Para. 3)

Meaning: I said that I needed to buy the goods first and pay for them later. I was so nervous that there was sweat on my brow and I used the back of my arm to wipe them off.

★ **on credit:** buying something and paying for it later

He wanted to know whether the store sold goods **on credit**. 他想知道这家商店是否可以赊帐。

★ **wipe away:** remove dirt, liquid, etc. from something by using a cloth, one's hand, etc.

The woman **wiped away** the tears that streamed down her cheeks. 那位妇女擦去从面颊上淌下的泪水。

Wipe away the crumbs. 擦掉面包屑。

10. The farmer gave me an amused, cynical look, but Buck's face didn't change. (Para. 4)

Meaning: The farmer smiled at me, thinking that I would not be able to get credit. But the expression on Buck's face didn't change.

11. I gave a sigh of relief. “Your daddy is always good for it.” He turned to the farmer. “This here is one of James Williams' sons. They broke the mold when they made that man.” (Para. 4)

Meaning: I suddenly felt relieved. He said that my father could always be trusted to pay the money back. He turned to the farmer and said to him that I was one of James Williams' sons and he was the rare type of person who could be trusted to pay off the money he owed.



Unit 1

☞ “They broke the mold when they made someone/something” is an expression that people use when they want to say that someone or something is very special and that there is not another person or thing like them.

12. Those three words had **opened a door to** an adult’s respect and trust. (Para. 5)

Meaning: Those three words helped me to be accepted, respected and trusted in the adult world.

★ **open a/the door to:** make something possible

This book **opens the door to** some of the most exciting findings. 这本书打开了通向一些最令人兴奋的发现的大门。

Indeed, ignoring these realities **opens the door to** disaster. 确实, 无视这些现实会招致灾难。

13. As I heaved the heavy freight into the bed of the truck, I did so **with ease**, feeling like a stronger man than the one that left the farm that morning. (Para. 6)

Meaning: As I moved the goods I bought to the truck, I did it without any difficulty. I felt as if I were much stronger than I was when I left the farm that morning.

★ **with ease:** fairly easily; without difficulty

Young children seem to master computer games **with ease**. 小孩好像能轻松地掌握电脑游戏。

She won the 400m race **with ease**. 她在400米赛跑中轻松获胜。

14. I had discovered that a good name could furnish a capital of good will of great value. Everyone knew what to expect from a Williams: a decent person who **kept his word** and respected himself too much to do wrong. (Para. 6)

Meaning: I had found out that a good name could provide us with something of great value. Everyone knew how a member of the Williams would behave and what a Williams would do: A Williams is a respectable person who always does what he says, therefore is trustworthy.

★ **keep one’s word:** do what one has promised to do

Gail **kept her word** and returned all the money. 盖尔信守诺言, 还了所有的钱。

It is useless trying to cooperate with people who cannot **keep their word**. 试图与那些不能信守诺言的人合作是无用的。

15. We had an interest in how one another behaved and our own actions as well, **lest** we destroy the name my father had created. Our good name was and still is the glue that holds our family tight together. (Para. 7)

Meaning: In order not to damage the good name my father had earned, we had a shared interest in how we behaved and acted. Our good name was and still is something that keeps our family together.



★ **lest**: *conj.* in order to make sure that something will not happen

He was very cautious **lest** he should be discovered by his enemy. 他小心翼翼, 唯恐被敌人发现。
They speak in whispers **lest** they (should) be heard. 他们低声细语, 怕被别人听见。

16. Eventually, that good name provided the initiative to start my own successful public relations firm... (Para. 8)

Meaning: Finally, the good name promoted me to start my own successful public relations firm...

17. America needs to **restore** a sense of shame in its neighborhoods. Doing drugs, spending all your money at the liquor store, stealing, or getting a young woman pregnant with no **intent** to marry her should **induce** a deep sense of embarrassment. But it doesn't. (Para. 9)

Meaning: America needs to bring back a sense of shame in its neighborhoods. People should feel embarrassed about abusing drugs, spending money at the liquor store, stealing, or getting a young woman pregnant without planning to marry her. But today people don't feel embarrassed.

★ **restore**: *vt.*

1) make something return to its formal level or condition

Your kindness and sincerity really did **restore** my faith in human nature. 您的仁慈和真诚确实恢复了我对人性的信任。

The government promises to **restore** the economy to full strength. 政府承诺使经济完全恢复。

2) repair a building, piece of furniture, etc. so that it looks as good as it did originally

The building has been carefully **restored** after the fire. 大火之后, 那栋楼已被精心修复了。

Experts are still working to **restore** the painting. 专家们正在修复那幅画。

★ **intent**: *n.* [U] what one intends to do

He glared at her with clear **intent** to frighten her. 他对她怒目而视, 明显是要吓唬她。

I spent half the morning on the phone, which wasn't really my **intent**. 我花了半个上午打电话, 我本来没想打那么久。

★ **induce**: *vt.* cause something, especially a mental or physical change

Their sudden success **induced** a sense of unreality. 他们的突然成功带来了不真实的感觉。

His illness was **induced** by overwork. 他的病是过度劳累所致。

18. Once the social ties and mutual obligations of the family **melt away**, communities **fall apart**. (Para. 10)

Meaning: As soon as the social ties and the moral duty that each member of the family has to fulfill disappear, communities stop being effective.

★ **melt away**: gradually disappear



Unit 1

Opposition to the government **melted away**. 对政府的反对慢慢消失了。

I suddenly felt sorry for him and my anger **melted away**. 我突然为他感到可怜，我的愤怒慢慢地消失了。

★ **fall apart:** (of an organization, system, etc.) no longer continue

I've tried everything to stop our marriage from **falling apart**. 我已经尽了一切努力来阻止我们的婚姻破裂。

I'm sure that the office would **fall apart** when I left and that nobody would be able to take over my work. 我肯定我一离开，办事处就会陷入崩溃状态，没人能接替我的工作。

19. **Meanwhile**, the small signs of civility and respect that **hold up** civilization are vanishing from schools, stores and streets. Phrases like “yes, ma'am”, “no, sir”, “thank you” and “please” get a yawn from kids today who are encouraged instead by cursing on television and in music. They simply **shrug off** the rewards of a good name. (Para. 11)

Meaning: During the same period of time, the small signs of polite behavior and respect that sustain civilization are disappearing from schools, stores and streets. Kids today are not interested in phrases such as “yes, ma'am”, “no, sir”, “thank you” and “please”. Instead, they are encouraged by rude words and expressions on television and in music. They just treat the rewards of a good name as unimportant.

★ **meanwhile:** *ad.* during the same period of time when sth. else is happening

I finished the job on August 28th, and **meanwhile** a very interesting event took place. 我是在8月28日完成这项工作的，与此同时一件有趣的事发生了。

Meanwhile, her husband has had great success as an artist. 与此同时，她的丈夫作为一名艺术家取得了巨大的成功。

★ **hold up:** support someone or something and stop them from falling down

We can't knock the wall down. It's the one that **holds up** the house. 我们不能拆毁这面墙，正是这面墙支撑着这屋子。

It is cooperation and mutual understanding that **hold up** the system like this. 是合作与相互理解支撑起了这样一个体系。

★ **shrug off:** treat something as unimportant and not worry about it

We can't just **shrug** these objections **off**. 我们不能仅仅是对这些反对不予理睬。

They've clearly **shrugged off** the disappointment of last week's defeat. 很明显，他们已从上周失利的沮丧中走了出来。

20. The good name passed on by my father and maintained to this day by my brothers and sisters and me is worth as much now as ever. (Para. 12)

Meaning: The good name my father passed on and kept in existence until today by us children is always valuable to us.



21. My family's good name did **pave the way for** me. (Para. 12)

Meaning: My family's good name indeed made it possible for me to succeed in my business and in life as well.

★ **pave the way for:** create a situation in which someone will be able to do something or something can happen

The meetings were intended to **pave the way for** peaceful talks. 这些会议旨在为和谈铺路。

The discussions are aimed at **paving the way for** formal negotiations between the two countries. 这些讨论的目的是为两国间的正式谈判铺平道路。

PART II KEY TO EXERCISES

SECTION A

Pre-reading Activities

Oscar Wilde was famous not only for his plays and offensive public behavior, but also for his cynical quotations. Here are two quotes and their meanings. The first quote is, "No man is rich enough to buy back his past." It means that a person should be careful about the choices he or she makes in life, because some mistakes can never be corrected later. The second quote is, "Men become old, but they never become good." It means that while men may get older, they never learn to be good. Wilde seemed to have very little faith in himself or his fellow man.

1. Oscar Wilde was famous for his plays, offensive public behavior and his cynical quotations.
2. It means that while men gradually become older, they never learn how to be good.
3. (Open-ended.)

Comprehension of the Text

I.

1. Because like a dog chasing its own tail, when the artist captures the fame, he does not know what else to do but to continue chasing it.
2. Their work begins to show a lack of continuity in its appeal and it becomes difficult to sustain the attention of the public.
3. Because the public discounts styles other than those for which the artists have become famous.
4. Their freedom to express themselves with other styles or forms.
5. They have to please their audiences by saying things they don't mean or fully believe.
6. Artists pay a heavy price for remaining true to themselves.



Unit 1

7. Their genius is too sophisticated for contemporary audiences.
 8. To show that failure has motivated some famous people to work even harder to succeed.

Vocabulary

III.

1. idle 2. justify 3. discount 4. distinct 5. minute
 6. accused 7. object 8. contaminate 9. sustain 10. worship

Exercises on Web course only: *

11. drown 12. fined 13. chased 14. cruelty

IV.

1. accusing... of 2. end up 3. came upon 4. at her worst 5. pay for
 6. run a risk of 7. participate in 8. other than 9. object to/objected to 10. at best

V.

1. K 2. G 3. C 4. E 5. N 6. O 7. I 8. L 9. A 10. D

Collocation

VI.

1. delay 2. pain 3. hardship 4. suffering 5. fever
 6. defeat 7. poverty 8. treatment 9. noise 10. agony

N	Concordance	File
1	We had to endure a nine-hour delay at the airport.	nwb2u10
2	He had to endure the sharp pain all night since no doctor could be reached.	rwtb2u10
3	She endured all kinds of hardships on the journey; nothing could keep her from finding her lost daughter.	rwtb2u10
4	Emptiness, hopelessness, fear, fury: Almost everyone endures the suffering of romantic rejection at some point in their lives.	tbb2u10
5	He was totally exhausted after the trip, in which he endured fever , starvation, and attacks by hostile people.	rwsb2u10
6	The change will not endure another defeat ; if the Labor Party loses next time the party will probably fall apart.	tbb2u10
7	In this society, a few enjoy luxury while others endure grinding poverty .	rwsb2u10
8	But Ali's fighting spirit helped her endure the treatment that soon began.	srb2u09
9	I couldn't endure this noise anymore.	rwtb2u10
10	As people around the world endure the agonies of war, is it possible to even hope for a brighter tomorrow?	rwsb2u10

* 该部分为网上补充练习答案。



Notes: Some rules for the naming of files

rwsb1u01: **Reading and Writing for Student's Book Band 1 Unit 1**
rwtb1u10: **Reading and Writing for Teachers' Book Band 1 Unit 10**
nwb1u01: **Reading and Writing New Words Band 1 Unit 1**
tbb1u01: **Testing Bank Band 1 Unit 1**
erblu01: **Extensive Reading Band 1 Unit 1**
srb1u01: **Speed Reading Band 1 Unit 1**
ceb1u01: **Comprehensive Exercises Band 1 Unit 1**
lsblu01: **Listening and Speaking Band 1 Unit 1**
b1u01: **Band 1 Unit 1**

Word Building

VII.

- | | | | |
|-------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1. justify | 2. glorify | 3. exemplifies | 4. classified |
| 5. purified | 6. intensify | 7. identify | 8. terrified |

VIII.

- | | | | |
|------------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1. bravery | 2. jewelry | 3. delivery | 4. machinery |
| 5. robbery | 6. nursery | 7. scenery | 8. discovery |

Sentence Structure

IX.

1. other than for funerals and weddings
2. other than to live an independent life
3. other than that they appealed to his eye
4. but other than that, he'll eat just about everything
5. other than that it's somewhere in the town center

X.

1. shouldn't have been to the cinema last night
2. would have told him the answer
3. they needn't have gone at all
4. must have had too much work to do
5. might have been injured seriously

Translation

XI.

1. The plant does not grow well in soils other than the one in which it has been developed.
2. Research findings show that we spend about two hours dreaming every night, no matter what we may have done during the day.



3. Some people tend to justify their failure by blaming others for not trying their best.
4. We remain true to our commitment: Whatever we promised to do, we would do it.
5. Even Beethoven's father discounted the possibility that his son would one day become the greatest musician in the world. The same is true of Edison, who seemed to his teacher to be quite dull.
6. They were accused by the authorities of threatening the state security.

XII.

1. 出入除自己家以外的任何场所时，如果你带有宠物，一定要了解有关宠物的规定。
2. 一些女性完全可以不待在家里，而是去工作，挣一份不错的工资。但是为了家庭，她们放弃了工作。
3. 你怎么为这样粗鲁的行为辩护？你将会为此付出沉重的代价，因为他们已经以诋毁名誉的罪名起诉你了。
4. 批评有其重要作用；我们可能当时不喜欢它，但是它能激励我们去做更伟大的事情。
5. 他毫不让步的行为遭到公众的反对，这使得他陷入了精神上崩溃、经济上破产的境地。
6. 即使你失败了，也不要被失败伤害，更不要被失败左右。记住：失败是学习过程中必要的一步；它不是学习的结束，而是学习的开始。

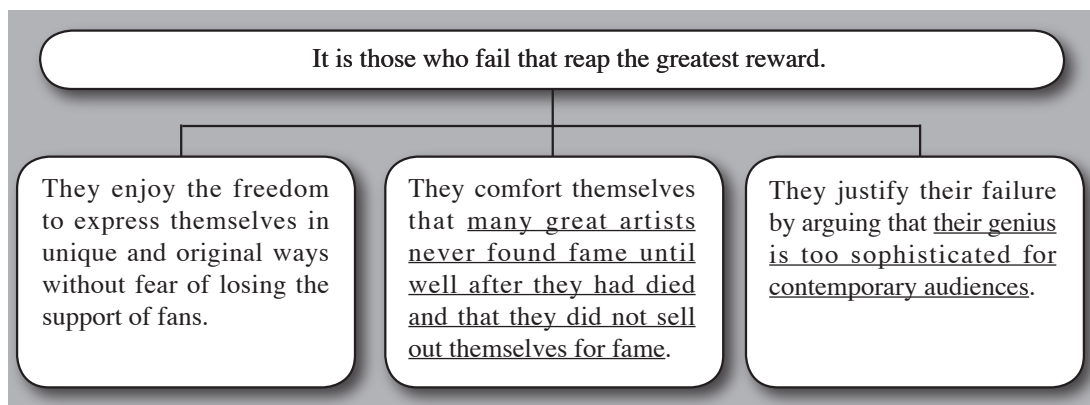
Cloze

XIII.

1. B 2. A 3. C 4. D 5. B 6. A 7. B 8. A 9. C 10. A
 11. D 12. C 13. D 14. A 15. C 16. D 17. B 18. C 19. A 20. D

Text Structure Analysis

XIV.



Structured Writing

XV.

Parents differ from children in their career choice.



The question of who should be responsible for planning their career often causes problems for many children. Parents think that they know their children well enough to decide what kind of job suits them. They are afraid that their children are too young to decide their future on their own. However, many children would argue that they should be left free to make their own choices.

The other aspect of career choice is that parents and their children are often different in their opinions of the ideal profession. Parents would prefer children to choose some professions that are stable and could bring prestige and economic benefits. But some children would rather choose professions that are challenging and require independent and creative thinking.

SECTION B

Reading Skills

I.

1. I was a black and was looked down on because of the ugly shadow of racism in 1976.
2. It means that the man was different from others for he was honest and paid debts.
3. The farmer's attitude toward me changed when he learned that I was the son of an honest man who was different from other blacks.
4. Because American social morality has changed for the worse.
5. Because people believe in honesty and this helps me in my life.

Comprehension of the Text

II.

1. F 2. T 3. F 4. T 5. T 6. T 7. F 8. T

Vocabulary

III.

- | | | | | |
|-----------|------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. melted | 2. restore | 3. initiative | 4. obligation | 5. induce |
| 6. lest | 7. relief | 8. furnish | 9. enquire | 10. meanwhile |

Exercises on Web course only:

11. deposit 12. intent 13. behave 14. amused 15. glue

IV.

- | | | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. kept his word | 2. shrugged off | 3. melted away | 4. enquire into | 5. cool off |
| 6. pave the way for | 7. hold up | 8. fall apart | 9. wipe away | 10. on credit |

Exercises on Web course only:

11. were good for 12. open the door to /pave the way for 13. penned up



PART III

READING PASSAGE TRANSLATION

课文 A

名气之尾

艺术家追求成名，如同狗自逐其尾，一旦追到手，除了继续追逐不知还能做些什么。成功之残酷正在于它常常让那些追逐成功者自寻毁灭。

对一名正努力追求成功并刚刚崭露头角的艺术家，其亲朋常常会建议“正经的饭碗不能丢！”他们的担心不无道理。追求出人头地，最乐观地说也困难重重，许多人到最后即使不是穷困潦倒，也是几近精神崩溃。尽管如此，希望赢得追星族追捧和同行赞扬之类的不太纯洁的动机却在激励着他们向前。享受成功的无上光荣，这种诱惑不是能轻易抵挡的。

成名者之所以成名，大多是因为发挥了自己在歌唱、舞蹈、绘画或写作等方面的特长，并能形成自己的风格。为了能迅速走红，经纪人会极力吹捧他们的这种风格。他们青云直上的过程让人看不清楚。他们究竟是怎么成功的，大多数人都说不上来。尽管如此，艺术家仍然不能闲下来。若表演者、画家或作家感到厌烦，他们的作品就难以继续保持以前的吸引力，也就难以保持公众的注意力。公众的热情消磨以后，就会去追捧下一个走红的人。有些艺术家为了不落伍，会对他们的写作、跳舞或唱歌的风格稍加变动，但这将冒极大的失宠的危险。公众对于他们藉以成名的艺术风格以外的任何形式都将不屑一顾。

知名作家的文风一眼就能看出来，如田纳西·威廉斯的戏剧、欧内斯特·海明威的情节安排、罗伯特·弗罗斯特或 T.S. 艾略特的诗歌等。同样，像莫奈、雷诺阿、达利这样的画家，希区柯克、费里尼、斯皮尔伯格、陈凯歌或张艺谋这样的电影制作人也是如此。他们鲜明独特的艺术风格标志着与别人不同的艺术形式上的重大变革，这让他们名利双收，但也让他们付出了代价，那就是失去了用其他风格或形式表现自我的自由。

名气这盏聚光灯可比热带丛林还要炙热。骗局很快会被揭穿，过多的关注带来的压力会让大多数人难以承受。它让你失去自我。你必须是公众认可的那个你，而不是真实的你或是可能的你。艺人，就像政客一样，必须常常说些违心或连自己都不完全相信的话来取悦听众。

一滴名气之水有可能玷污人的心灵这一整口井，因此一个艺术家若能保持真我，会格外让人惊叹。你可能答不上来哪些人没有妥协，却仍然在这场名利的游戏中获胜。一个例子就是爱尔兰著名作家奥斯卡·王尔德，他在社交行为和性行为方面以我行我素而闻名于世。虽然他的行为遭到公众的反对，却依然故我，他也因此付出了惨痛的代价。在一次宴会上，他一位密友的母亲当着他的朋友和崇拜者的面，指责他在性方面影响了她的儿子。他听了她的话以后大为光火，起诉了这个年轻人的母亲，声称她毁了自己的“好”名声。但是，他真该请一个更好的律师。结果是，法官不仅不支持他提出的让这个女人赔偿他名誉损失费的请求，反而对他本人进行了罚款。他由于拒交罚款最终还被送进了监狱。更糟糕的是，他再也无法获得更多公众的宠爱。在最糟糕的时候，他发现没有一个人愿意拿自己的名声冒险来替他说话。为保持真我，他付出的代价是，在最需要崇拜者时，谁也不理他。

奇怪的是，收获最大的恰恰是失败者。他们收获了自由！他们可以自由地表达，独辟蹊径，不落窠臼，不用担心失去崇拜者的支持。失败的艺术家的寻求安慰时，可以想想许多伟大的艺术家都是过世多年以后才成名，或是他们没有出卖自己。他们也可以为自己的失败辩解：自己的才华实在过于高深，不是当代听众或观众所理解得了的。



那些失败了却仍不肯放弃的顽固派也许会乐于知道,某些名人曾经如何越挫越勇,直至成功。美国小说家托马斯·伍尔芙的第一本小说《向家乡看吧,安琪儿》被拒39次后,才最终得以出版。贝多芬战胜了父亲认为他毫无音乐家潜质的偏见,成为世界上最伟大的音乐家。19世纪瑞士著名教育家裴斯泰洛齐原先干的工作没有一件成功,直到他想到去教小孩子,并研究出一种新型教育模式的基础理论。托马斯·爱迪生在四年级时被赶出了学校,因为老师觉得他似乎太迟钝。但不幸的是,对大多数人而言,失败是奋斗的结束,而不是开始。

对那些孤注一掷的追名逐利之徒,我要说:祝你们好运。但是,遗憾的是,你会发现这不是你想得到的。狗自逐其尾所得到的只是一条尾巴而已。获得成功的人常常发现成功对他来说弊大于利。所以要为真实的你、为自己的所为感到高兴,而不是拼命去获得成功。做那些你为之感到骄傲的事情。可能在有生之年你默默无闻,但你可能创作了更好的艺术。

课文 B

好名声的力量

夏日的一天,父亲让我去买些铁丝网和栅栏,用来围畜棚,把牛圈起来。那时我16岁,最喜欢开上货车,沿着老磨坊路到城里去。研磨机轮子上的水花在阳光下喷洒,在河道上空形成一道彩虹。我常在半路上把车停下来,在河里洗个澡,凉快一会,享受一下天然空调。太阳火辣辣的,不用毛巾擦,等我爬上岸边的土坡,穿过路边的壕沟,到达货车时,身上已经都干了。快进城时,有一段沿着海滩的路,我会在那儿拣贝壳,拣海藻,头顶就是正从轮船上卸货的巨大的起重机。但是,这次却有所不同。父亲告诉我,我得向店里要求赊账。

那是1976年,种族主义的丑陋阴影仍然是生活的现实。我曾目睹我的朋友要求赊账,然后就低着头站在那里,等着店主查询他“配不配赊账”。许多店员只要一看见年轻的黑人走进商店,就盯着他们,疑心他们是小偷。

我们家人诚实正派,有债必还。但在庄稼收割之前,所有的钱都已经花光了。银行里也没有新的存款,现金不够。在戴维斯兄弟杂货店,巴克·戴维斯站在收银机后面,正和一个中年农夫说着话。巴克个子高高的,穿着一件红色的狩猎衬衫,显得饱经风霜。我冲他点了点头,经过他的身边,向五金柜台走去,拿了一盒钉子,一卷用于捆扎的铁丝网和栅栏。我把要买的东西拖到柜台前,把钉子放进秤盘,小心翼翼地说道:“我要赊账。”一边抬起胳膊去擦额头上由于紧张而冒的汗。

那个农夫像寻开心般怀疑地看着我,但是巴克的脸色却没有变。他随和地说道:“当然可以,你老爹总能借有还,”一边伸手去拿记账的账本。我舒了一口气。他转过头,对那个农夫说:“这是詹姆士·威廉斯的儿子。像詹姆士·威廉斯这样讲信用的人是很少的。”

那个农夫友善地点了点头。我的心里顿时充满了自豪。“詹姆士·威廉斯的儿子”,这句话打开了通往成年人的尊敬和信任的大门。

当我把沉重的货物拉进货车车厢时,觉得轻而易举,感到比早上离开农庄时更有劲了。我发现,一个好名声所带来的友好是一笔无价之宝。人人都知道,威廉斯家的人是什么样的:是诚实守信的体面人,自尊自重,不干坏事。我的曾祖父也许曾被作为奴隶拍卖,但这不能成为伤害他人的理由。相反,我父亲相信,赢得尊敬的唯一方法就是努力工作、尊敬他人。

我们这些孩子——八个男孩和两个女孩——可以坐享这个好名声,除非或直到我们做错什么事情而失去它。我们要对自己的行为负责,我们也要为相互的行为负责,否则就会毁掉父亲建立起来的好名声。我们的好名声曾经是,现在仍是把我们家紧紧联系在一起的纽带。

我不愿意辜负父亲的好名声,这激励我成为了家里第一个上大学的人。我靠在这一家四星



Unit 1

酒店当行李工挣钱读完了大学。最终，好名声促使我在华盛顿特区开办了我个人的公共关系公司。

美国需要在社区里重新树立羞耻感。吸毒、在酒馆把钱挥霍一空、偷盗、让年轻女子怀孕却又不想和她结婚，这些事本应让人感到无地自容，但事实并非如此。在美国，近三分之一的婴儿是单身母亲所生的。这些孩子在成长过程中大多会缺乏安全感和指导，而这正是成为社会的好公民所需要的。

一旦社会纽带和家人相互间的责任瓦解了，社区也就分崩离析。自从1960年以来，美国的人口虽然只增长了40%，但暴力犯罪却陡增了550%，而我们对此却已司空见惯。青少年吸毒人数也在上升。在北卡罗来纳的一个县，警察从12所中学逮捕了73名交易毒品的学生，而有些交易就发生在教室里。

与此同时，支撑着文明、体现于细微之处的礼貌和敬意，却正从学校、商店和街头消失。由于受到电视和音乐中的脏话的影响，像“是的，女士”、“不，先生”、“谢谢”和“请”这样的话，只会让今天的孩子哈欠连天。他们对好名声的作用满不在乎。

从父亲那传下来的、由我的兄弟姐妹和我保持的好名声，在现在仍和过去一样地珍贵。甚至直到今天，当我走进巴克·戴维斯的商店，或去老家的理发店理发时，人们仍然称呼我是詹姆士·威廉斯的儿子。我们家的好名声确实为我铺平了道路。

