

■美文阅读

The Color of Friendship

Once upon a time the colors of the world started to quarrel. All claimed that they were the best. The most important. The most useful. The favorite.

Green said: "Clearly I am the most important. I am the sign of life and of hope. I was chosen for grass, trees and leaves. Without me, all animals would die. Look over the countryside and you will see that I am in the majority."

Blue interrupted: "You only think about the earth, but consider the sky and the sea. It is the water that is the basis of life and drawn up by the clouds from the deep sea. Without my peace, you would all be nothing."

Yellow chuckled: "You are all so serious. I bring laughter, gaiety, and warmth into the world. The sun is yellow, the moon is yellow, and the stars are yellow. Every time you look

at a sunflower, the whole world starts to smile. Without me there would be no fun."

Orange started next to blow her trumpet: "I am the color of health and strength. I may be scarce, but I am precious for I serve the needs of human life. I carry the most important vitamins. Think of carrots, pumpkins, oranges, mangoes, and papayas. I don't hang around all the time, but when I fill the sky at sunrise or sunset, my beauty is so striking that no one gives another thought to any of you."

Red couldn't stand it no longer he shouted out: "I am the ruler of all of you. I am blood - life's blood! I am the color of danger and of bravery. I am willing to fight for a cause. I bring fire into the blood. Without me, the earth would be as empty as the moon. I am the color of passion and of love, the red rose, the

poinsettia and the poppy."

Purple rose up to his full height: He was very tall and spoke with great pomp: "I am the color of royalty and power. Kings, chiefs, and bishops have always chosen me for I am the sign of authority and wisdom. People do not question me! They listen and obey."

Finally Indigo spoke, much more quietly than all the others, but with just as much determination: "Think of me. I am the color of silence. You hardly notice me, but without me you all become superficial. I represent thought and reflection, twilight and deep water. You need me for balance and contrast, for prayer and inner peace."

And so the colors went on boasting, each convinced of his or her own superiority. Their quarreling became louder and louder. Suddenly there was a startling flash of bright lightening

thunder rolled and boomed. Rain started to pour down relentlessly. The colors crouched down in fear, drawing close to one another for comfort.

In the midst of the clamor, rain began to speak: "You foolish colors, fighting amongst yourselves, each trying to dominate the rest. Don't you know that you were each made for a special purpose, unique and different? Join hands with one another and come to me."

Doing as they were told, the colors united and joined hands. The rain continued: "From now on, when it rains, each of you will stretch across the sky in a great bow of color as a reminder that you can all live in peace. The Rainbow is a sign of hope for tomorrow." And so, whenever a good rain washes the world, and a Rainbow appears in the sky, let us remember to appreciate one another.

■轻松一刻

老板最大

There was a guy who went into a shop to buy a parrot. There were three parrots in the shop. One was \$5,000; another one, \$10,000; and the third one, \$30,000. The customer asked the owner, "How come this guy is \$5,000? That's so expensive for this kind of parrot." The owner said, "Because I have trained him and he can talk." So the customer asked him, "How about this guy? What can he do that makes him so expensive?" The owner said, "Well, apart from talking, he can also do some amusing actions, like dancing and so on. That's why he's so expensive." Then the customer said, "How about the third one? What can he do that makes him so expensive?" The owner of the shop said, "I don't know. Normally, I have never heard him talk, nor dance, nor whistle, nor sing, nothing at all! But the other two call him 'The Boss.'"

有个人到一间商店买鹦鹉。店里三只鹦鹉，其中一只卖5000美元，另一只卖一万美元，还有一只卖三万美元。顾客问老板，“为什么这只要卖5000元？这个价钱对这种鹦鹉来说太贵了！”老板说：“因为我有训练它讲话。”顾客又问：“那这只呢？它会做什么？为什么要卖这么贵？”老板说：“它除了会说话之外，还会表演一些有趣的动作，好比说跳舞等等，所以才卖这么贵。”顾客接着又问：“那第三只呢？它会做什么？为什么要卖这么贵？”老板说：“我不知道。我从没听过它讲话、吹口哨或唱歌，也没看过它跳舞，什么都没有！不过另外两只叫它：‘老板’！”

■知识播报

journey、tour、trip、travel 的区别

journey指在陆地上(或海上或空中)进行的长途旅行,不知终点,含有辛苦的意思;

tour指途中作短期逗留的巡回旅行,强调游览多处,常用来指观光等;

trip通常指往返定时的短途旅行,如出差度假等;

travel多指长期或长途的观光旅行,尤其指到国外,没有明确目的地,也作不可数名词,指旅行这一行为。

如: He made up his mind to make the journey to Dunhuang. (他拿定主意要去敦煌旅行。)

He has gone on a walking tour. (他步行观光去了。)

He took several trips to Shanghai last year. (去年他去了上海好几次。)

Did you go to Santiago (圣地亚哥) during your travels? (旅行期间你去圣地亚哥了吗?)

Travelling through thick forests is dangerous. (在密林里边穿行是很危险的。)

■短语妙用

Come to light 真相大白

Come to light 直译是“来到明亮”,可以理解为光亮照射到了原本在暗处的事物,即真相被隐藏了一段时间,最终被发现了,或者事情发生的真正原因终于被公布于世。这个表达类似中文里的“东窗事发”和“真相大白”。在英语里这一比喻往往带有贬义。

例句

Sam, I am sorry to call you, but a major problem with the production line has come to light.

山姆,我很抱歉给你打电话,但是生产线上出现了一个重大问题。

The fact he was the son of a well-known actor has only recently come to light.

他是一位著名演员之子这件事直到最近才为人所知。

Some new evidence has come to light about Mary's car accident.

最近已经发现一些和玛丽的那起汽车事故有关的新证据。