

学校的理想装备

电子图书·学校专集

校园网上的最佳资源

奋发篇



Introduction

The Chinese language has very long history, and is rich in colorful idioms, which can be used to enhance the language's powers of expression enormously.

Here we present the 24 most common Chinese idioms in four categories :Stirring Deeds, Virtuous Conduct, Wisdom and Legends .Each idiom has a brief explanation, followed by the story, in Chinese and English, of how it arose. The profuse illustrations will help readers to understand the historical background to the idioms.

内容简介

汉语历史悠久，丰富多彩。在语言表达中，恰当地运用成语可以使语言精炼，富有感染力。

本画册选出常用 24 则成语进行分类：奋发、美德、机智、传奇共四篇。每个成语的“解释”部分，说明成语的意义和用法。“故事”部分介绍了成语的来源和出处，并配以插图，文图对照，能加深读者对成语含义的理解，以便更准确地加以应用。

中国成语故事
奋发篇

Destroying the Cooking Pots and Boats

Explanation :

Equivalent to "burning one's bridges" or "crossing the Rubicon.."

Story :

Xiang Yu of the State of Chu was a sturdy youth who devoted himself to martial training from his earliest days. Growing up, he followed his uncle to participate in the uprising that toppled the Qin Dynasty.

Once, when the Qin army had occupied the State of Zhao, the fugitive king of Zhao appealed to the State of Chu for help.

破釜沉舟

解释：

釜是锅，舟是船。比喻下最大的决心，一拼到底。

故事：

项羽是楚国人，少年习武，能将百斤鼎高举过头。

长大后跟随叔父参加推翻秦朝的起义。

有一次，秦军攻下了赵国，赵王逃到巨鹿，急忙派人向楚国求援。

The king of Chu dispatched Xiang Yu at the head of 200,000 men to Zhao's rescue. When the troops arrived at a river which separated them from the enemy by only a short distance Xiang Yu personally led the main body across. He then ordered each man to carry no more than three day rations and to destroy all the cooking pots and the boats which had ferried them across the river. He then addressed his troops thus, "Now that we no longer have boats we cannot flee back across the river, so we have no alternative but to advance. And now that we no longer have cooking pots and only three days' rations we will starve to death unless we defeat the enemy within that time."

楚王派项羽带领二十万楚军前去救赵。项羽先派英、蒲两位大将率两万人做先锋，然后，自己率主力渡河。

渡过了河，项羽命令将士，每人带三天的干粮，把军队里的饭锅全砸了，把渡河的船只全凿沉了。他对将士说：“我们‘破釜沉舟’，有进无退，三天之内，一定要打退秦军！否则只有饿死在这里！” This stiffened the morale of the Chu forces, and they went on to inflict a crushing defeat on the Qin army.

It was this campaign that made Xiang Yu's reputation. He went on to become the spearhead of the forces which finally toppled the Qin Dynasty.

项羽的决心和勇气，对将士起了很大的鼓舞作用。楚军个个士气振奋，一个人抵十个，十个人抵百个，越战越勇，终于把秦军打得大败而

逃。经过这次战役，项羽名声大振，成了各路反秦的统帅。Sleeping on
Brushwood and Tasting Gall

Explanation :

Nursing a grievance and biding one's time for vengeance.

Story :

Goujian, king of the State of Yue during the latter part of the Spring and Autumn Period, was defeated in battle and taken captive by Fudiai, king of the State of Wu. The latter forced his royal prisoner to labor as a stable hand.

卧薪尝胆

解释：

薪：柴草。形容刻苦自励，发奋图强。

故事：

春秋末期，越王勾践每天睡在柴草上，临睡前，用舌头舔舔鹿胆的苦味，以此来提醒自己过往苦日子，要发奋图强，报仇复国。Goujian endured these years of drudgery and humiliation with apparent resignation, performing his duties well and showing the utmost devotion to his master. In reality, he was determined to restore the fortunes of his own state and was imply biding his time.

Fuchai, convinced that Goujian had accepted his overlordship and could be used as a faithful vassal of Wu, restored him to the throne of Yue.

Returning to his own country, Goujian swore to make Yue strong enough to avenge his humiliation.

原来吴王夫差发兵打败了越国，越王勾践被捉来吴国当了马夫，日夜侍候马匹。

对于一个君王来说，这实在是非常难堪的。但是勾践暗下决心，一定要恢复自己的国家，所以他没有露出丝毫的抗拒神态，老老实实养马。

勾践还装出对夫差忠心耿耿的样子。In person he helped the common people improve their farming methods, and soon prosperity reigned throughout the land. However, fearing that comfort might sap his determination, every night he slept on a pile of brushwood and every morning sucked on a deer's gallbladder to keep alive his resentment and bitterness. He also stationed a servant at the door of his palace.用心替他驾驭马车，态度谦卑。夫差认为勾践真心归顺了，就放他回国。

勾践回国后，决心要使越国富强起来。他亲自参加耕种，和百姓同甘共苦，他怕眼前的安逸消磨了志气，就“卧薪尝胆”，还常自问：“你忘了在吴国的耻辱吗？”whose duty was to cry, every time the king entered or left.- "Goujian, have you forgotten the disgrace inflicted on you by Wu?"In the meantime, in order to distract Fuchai's attention from affairs of state and bring about the

degeneration of Wu, Goujian presented the beauty Xishi to Fuchai. The ploy worked, and, as Fuchai sank ever deeper into debauchery, his state went to rack and ruin. Finally, after 20 years' preparation and sleeping on faggots and tasting gall-Goujian decided that the time had come for vengeance, and in a lightning swoop he destroyed the State of Wu. Fuchai was ashamed of himself and cut his own throat.

勾践又给吴王送去美女西施。吴王夫差就更加只顾吃喝玩乐，无心国政，弄得国家日渐衰弱。

经过二十年的充分准备，勾践看时机已经成熟，就在吴国没有防备的情况下，领兵把吴国打得大败。夫差感到很羞愧，举剑自刎而死。

Stunning the World with a Single Cry

Explanation :

A sudden rise from obscurity to prominence.

一鸣惊人

解释：

比喻平时表现并不突出的人，一下子干出了惊人的成绩。story

In the Spring and Autumn Period King Zhuang came to the throne of the State of Chu. For the first three years of his reign he devoted himself entirely to hunting during the daytime and feasting at night. Well knowing that his ministers frowned on such prodigal conduct, he decreed execution for anyone who dared to admonish him. Although no one dared to criticize the king to his face, a certain wily minister, Wu Ju by name, managed to get King Zhuang to change his ways by purporting to entertain him with a riddle, as follows: "Your Majesty, here in our State of Chu there lives a big bird renowned for its gorgeous plumage. However, for three years it has never soared aloft nor uttered its majestic cry. What kind of bird is it?"

故事：

春秋时，楚庄王即位已经三年，白天打猎，晚上喝酒，对国家大事全不放在心上。他知道大臣们对他不满意，就下了一道命令：“谁要是敢劝谏，就判他的死罪！”

有个名叫伍举的大臣对庄王说：“我有个谜请大王猜猜。”庄王说：“你说吧。”伍举说：“楚国有一只大鸟，身披五彩，可是一停三年，不飞也不叫，这是什么鸟？”King Zhuang replied, "It is no ordinary creature. A bird of that kind does not casually take wing, but once it does, it will make straight for the very summits of the heavens. Nor does it sing on just any occasion, but when it does, it will stun the world with a single cry."

楚庄王说：“这不是普通的鸟，这种鸟不飞则已，一飞将要冲天，

不鸣则已，一鸣将要惊人。你去吧，我已经明白了。”Begone! The meaning of your riddle is perfectly plain to me." From that day on, King Zhuang dedicated himself to the governance of his realm. Before long the State of Chu waxed strong, and King Zhuang who "shinned the world with a single cry" became one of the five powerful rulers of the Spring and Autumn Period.从那天开始，楚庄王振作起来，认真治理国家，楚国也渐渐强大起来。最后，这个一鸣惊人的楚庄王成了春秋五霸之一。A Man of Steadfast Purpose is Bound to Succeed

Explanation:

Equivalent to "Where there's a will there's a way."

Story:

In the Eastern Han Dynasty there lived a scholar named Geng Yan. In addition to letters, he was skilled in the martial arts, as he nursed a burning ambition to serve his country. Choosing a military career, he distinguished himself in countless battles, and in the course of time found himself promoted to commander-in-chief of the Eastern Han forces.

It happened that the dynasty was sorely troubled by rebellious warlords in the northern part of the country, and the emperor was at his wits' end how to deal with them. One day Geng Yan asked his master's permission to mount an expedition against the upstarts. But the emperor was reluctant to risk his troops in battle against what he considered formidable foes. Geng Yan pleaded with him, assuring him that he was determined to pacify the north at all costs, and that "a man of steadfast purpose is bound to succeed."

有志者事竟成

解释：

有志气有毅力的人，最后一定能把事情作成功。

故事：

东汉时，有一个读书人，名叫耿弇。从小就认真学习兵书，演练武艺，立志将来为国家效力。

由于耿弇英勇善战，足智多谋，屡建战功，很快就升为大将军。

一天，耿弇向皇帝要求带兵北上，平定割据势力。皇帝听了很高兴，但觉得这很困难，不易成功。耿弇说：“大王，只要我们立定志向，坚持不懈，就一定可以成功的！”

皇帝答应了。耿弇率兵北上，运用声东击西的战术，连战连胜，很快就平定了一大部分割据势力。The emperor gave in at last, and Geng Yan marched north. Deploying tactics, Geng Yan subdued the rebels one by one, until he finally faced the most powerful of them, the warlord Zhang Bu. In the desperate decisive battle Zhang Bu, Geng Yan was wounded in the thigh by an arrow. Hardly flinching, he

simply chopped off the shaft with his sword and carried on fighting. Not until the battle was won did he give another thought to his wound.

The emperor was overjoyed at Geng Yan's exploits, and said, "Now I know that you were right when you said that a man of steadfast purpose is bound to succeed."

接着，耿弇又率领大军向军阀张步盘踞的地盘推进。双方在临淄摆开了阵势，一场短兵相接的战斗杀得天昏地暗。

这时，一支箭突然直飞过来射中耿弇大腿，他拔出佩剑，砍断箭杆，继续作战，把张步打得大败而逃，他才想起腿上还有一枚箭头。

皇帝称赞耿弇说：“将军以前提出的计划，我还担心难以实现，但你终于做到了。这正是‘有志者事竟成’啊！” Spoiling the Half-Finished Cloth

Explanation :

Lacking the stamina to finish what one has embarked upon.

Story:

In the Eastern Han Dynasty there lived a man of weak will power, named Yue Yangzi. Fortunately he had a kind, clever wife who instilled ambition into him.

One day Yue Yangzi came upon an ingot of gold by the road side .He picked it up and took it home. To his surprise his wife was far from pleased, admonishing him : "This lump of gold belongs to somebody else .Take it back to where you found it at once .We should enrich ourselves only through our own hard work.."

Later a friend advised Yue Yangzi to attend a school some distance from his home .Ms wife agreed happily, and so Yue Yangzi went away to school.

半途而废

解释：

比喻没有毅力或缺乏条件把事情做完。

故事：

东汉时，有个名叫乐羊子的人，没有远大志向。他有一个贤慧聪明的妻子，经常勉励他上进。

有一天，乐羊子拾到一块黄金，他欢喜地拿给妻子看。妻子非常生气地说：“这块金子是别人掉在路上的，我们应该靠劳动挣钱啊！”乐羊子连忙拿起黄金，跑回原处，等待失主前来认领。有一位朋友劝乐羊子应该去求学。But before a year had passed he felt homesick, and asked his teacher for leave to return home for a visit. Seeing her husband return before he had finished his studies ,Yue Yang's wife was disappointed. She then took up a pair of scissors and cut the piece of cloth she had been working on in two. When the astonished

Yue Yangzi asked her why she had done so, his wife answered, "You are just like this piece of cloth. By giving up your studies before you have reached the end of the course you have wasted your efforts."

乐羊子回家跟妻子商议，妻子很高兴，鼓励他前去。

乐羊子在外面读了一年书，总是想家，于是向老师请了假回家探望。

当妻子得知乐羊子并没完成学业时，非常伤心，拿起剪刀，把自己辛辛苦苦织的布剪成两截。

乐羊子大惊，问妻子这是为什么？妻子说：“你求学应该是靠日积月累、刻苦钻研才能学成，现在你中途回来，不是和这块布一样半途而废了吗？” Yue Yangzi was greatly moved and chagrined by his wife's words, so he immediately went back to studies and did not return home until seven years had, by which time he had become an accomplished scholar.

乐羊子听了，深深受到感动，明白了妻子的苦心。从此，他发愤求学，整整过了七年，直到学业完成，才回家探望妻子。

Sword Practice at Cock-Crow

Explanation :

To get up and exercise sword skills at dawn shows iron-willed self-discipline. It is also an example of how to turn adversity into an advantage.

闻鸡起舞

解释：

凌晨听到鸡鸣就起来舞剑，形容有志者及时奋发的精神。 Story:

During the Western Jin Dynasty the young friends Zu Ti and Liu Kun were ambitious to serve their country, and so trained themselves diligently in the martial arts.

One dawn Zu Ti was suddenly woken by the crowing of the roosters. He wakened Liu Kun, saying, "Although this crowing is annoying, we can put it to good use by using it as a signal to get up and practice swordplay."

"That's a good ideal" Liu Kun agreed happily. Then the two went out to the yard and began to practice their sword skills.

From then on the two got up to exercise every day at dawn.

故事：

西晋时的祖逖，从小勤练武术，钻研兵法，立志要做一番大事业。

刘琨也是个有抱负的年轻人，两人很快便成为好朋友。这天晚上，半夜过后，祖逖忽然被一阵鸡鸣声吵醒，他连忙把刘琨唤醒说：“这鸡鸣声把人吵醒，虽然很讨厌，但我们可以趁此机会早些起床练习武艺。”

“好啊！”刘琨欣然同意。于是两人来到院子里，专心地练起刀剑来。

从此，两人每到夜半，一听到鸡鸣，便起床练剑。 Later, their

diligence paid off ,when Zu Ti, already an accomplished soldier, wrote to the emperor requesting to be allowed to lead an army against the invading Huns.

当时，祖逖看到国家被匈奴军队攻陷了很多城池，非常着急，立刻上书皇帝，请求率兵北伐，收复失地。The emperor was pleased, and appointed Zu Ti senior general. Thanks to their early self-discipline, Zu Ti and Liu Kun proved to be superb commanders, and succeeded in driving the Huns from Western Jin territory.

皇帝很高兴，封祖逖为“ 奋威将军 ”，带领军队北上。由于祖逖和刘琨作战英勇，不久便收复了很多北方的城池。

