Apple breaches \$1 trillion stock market valuation

苹果市值突破1万亿美元大关

Apple Inc on Thursday became the first \$1 trillion publicly listed U.S. company, crowning a decade-long rise fueled by its ubiquitous iPhone that transformed it from a nicheplayer in personal computers into a global powerhouse spanningentertainment and communications.

周四,苹果公司成为美国首家市值 1 万亿美元的上市公司,在其无处不在的 iPhone 的助推下,苹果实现了 10 年的增长,从一家专注于个人电脑细分市场的公司,转变为一个横跨娱乐和通讯领域的全球巨头。

"Financial returns are simply the result of Apple's innovation, putting our products and customers first, and always staying true to our values," Cook said in a memo to Apple's more than 120,000 employees on Thursday.

周四,库克在一份致苹果逾 12 万名员工的备忘录中表示:"财务回报只是苹果坚持创新、将产品和客户放在首位、 始终忠于我们价值观的结果。"

Started in the garage of co-founder Steve Jobs in 1976, Apple has pushed its revenue beyond the economic outputs of Portugal, New Zealand and other countries. Along the way, it has changed how consumers connect with one another and how businesses conduct daily commerce.

苹果于 1976 年在联合创始人史蒂夫·乔布斯的车库中起步,该公司不断地推动其营收增长,使之超过了葡萄牙、新西兰和其他国家的经济产量。一路以来,苹果改变了消费者彼此交流和企业开展日常商务活动的方式。

In 2006, the year before the iPhone launch, Apple generated less than \$20 billion in sales and net profit just shy of \$2 billion. By last year, its sales had grown more than 11-fold to \$229 billion—the fourth highest in the S&P 500 .SPX—and net income had mushroomed at twice that rate to \$48.4 billion, making it the most profitable publicly listed U.S. company.

2006年,即 iPhone 发布的前一年,苹果公司的销售额低于 200 亿美元,净利润还不到 20 亿美元。而截止去年,其销售额增长了逾 11 倍,达到 2290 亿美元,在标准普尔 500 指数中排名第四高,其净收入则以销售额涨幅的两倍的速度快速增长,达到了 484 亿美元,成为利润最高的美国上市公司。

Apple's stock has risen over 30 percent in the past year, fueled by optimism about the iPhone X, launched a decade after the original. Also propelling Apple higher in recent months was Apple's announcement that it earmarked \$100 billion for a new share repurchase program.

苹果公司的股票在过去一年上涨了30%以上,这得益于市场对iPhone X 手机的普遍乐观情绪,该手机是在iPhone 原版发布十年之后推出的。而最近几个月,苹果还宣布将拨款1000亿美元用于新的股票回购,这也推动了苹果股价走高。

"The markets are starting to recognize the value of its platform and services more and more, and that's what is being reflected in the increase in market capitalization." said Brad Neuman, director of Market Strategy at Alger, a growth equity asset management firm in New York City.

纽约一家成长型股票资产管理公司 Alger 的市场策略总监 Brad Neuman 表示,"市场开始越来越意识到该公司平台和服务的价值,其市值的增长正是反映了这一点。"

breach /bri:tʃ/ v. 突破

stock market 股票市场

Inc (Incorporated) /ink/adj. (用在公司名称后) 组成公司的

publicly listed 公开上市

crown /kraun/ v. 使某事完成、实现或圆满结束e.g. Their efforts were finally crowned with success.

decade-long 长达十年的

fuel /ˈfjuːəl/ v. 推动; 刺激e.g. Higher salaries helped to fuel inflation.

ubiquitous /ju: 'bɪkwɪtəs/ adj. 无所不在; 随处可见e.g. Coffee shops are ubiquitous in big cities these days.

niche /ni:ʃ/ adj. 针对特定客户群的;细分的;专营的

powerhouse /'pavərhaus/ n. 强大的集团、组织;强国e.g.

China has been described as an 'emerging economic powerhouse'.

span /spæn/ v. 横跨; 遍及; 囊括

e.g. His knowledge spans many different areas.

co-founder /kəʊ'faʊndə/ n. 联合创始人; 共同创办者

revenue / 'revənu:/ n. 营业额、营收

economic outputs 经济产量;经济产出

along the way 在这过程中;在这期间e.g.

I've been in this job for thirty years, and I've learnt a good deal of expertise along the way.

Along the way, the map of my life got better. 一路走来,我的人生地图愈来愈精彩。

I prefer to take my time and enjoy the scenery along the way.我喜欢花时间享受沿途的风景。

shy of 未达到;不足;不够e.g. He died two days shy of his 90th birthday.

fold /fould/adj. (单词后缀,常与数字连用构成形容词) ...倍的e.g.nthreefold/fourfold

mushroom / ma fru:m/ v. 快速生长; 迅速增长e.g. The little town mushroomed into a city

Its debt mushroomed, and global banks pulled back from advising the company last year.去年,它的债务激增,全球银行也退出了该公司的顾问业务。

propel /prəˈpel/ v. 推进; 驱动e.g. A sailing boat is propelled by wind.

earmark (earmark for) /ˈɪrmɑːrk/ v. 指定 (款项等) 用作特定用途e.g.

The education department has earmarked £6m for the new school.

share repurchase 股票回购

market capitalization 市值

equity / ekwəti/ n. 股票;股本 Officials worry the weak equity market couldn't absorb such large share offerings.官员们担心疲弱的股市无法承受如此大规模的股票发行。

asset /ˈæset/ n. 资产 Instead of buying when prices recovered, he cut costs and sold assets.他没有在价格回升时买进,而是削减成本并出售资产。

The app millennials are using to look like world travelers on Instagram

千禧一代正在使用这个 app 假扮 Instagram 上的环游世界者

Instagram has turned "travel bragging" —posting alluring images from exotic locales to one-up your followers—into something of an art form.

Instagram 已经把"照骗旅行"——即在社交媒体上发布异国拍摄的美照,以此显得自己比粉丝更加新潮——转变为一种艺术形式。

Amass enough followers and you could gain influencer status, allowing you to leverage your "social media clout to travel the world, frequently in luxury." That goal may partly explain why surveys from around the world are beginning to show that significant numbers of millennials spend multiple hours a day on their smartphones while traveling and would prefer posting jealousy-inducing selfies to photos with loved ones.

积累足够多的粉丝,你就可以获得网红的地位,这种地位使你可以利用你的"社交媒体影响力来环游世界,而且往往是用很奢侈的方式"。这个目标可以部分解释为什么来自世界各地的调查开始显示,大量的干禧一代在旅游时会每天花几个小时玩手机,并且更喜欢发布令人嫉妒的自拍照,而不是与至爱至亲的合影。

Now companies are beginning to capitalize on the pressure to post awe-inducing photos on social media as well. Among the most successful is Krome Photos, a photo editing website that uses artificial intelligence to pair people with professional photo editors who can take your images and transform them to make it look like you're anywhere in the world. The cost of edits range between \$3 and \$12 and most take between 12 or 24 hours.

现在,各家公司也开始利用人们这种在社交媒体上发布令人惊叹的照片的压力。其中最成功的公司之一是 Krome Photos,这个照片编辑网站使用人工智能将人们与专业修图师配对,他们拿到你的图像后,会对其进行 PS,使其看起来像你在世界上任何地方。编辑费用在 3 美元到 12 美元之间,大部分需要 12 或 24 小时。

"In the old days our car or our house represented who we were," said Eduardo Llach, the company's chief executive and founder who compared his employment model to Uber. "Now, your online persona is everything and people are realizing that photos give you the ability to create whoever you want to be."

"在过去,我们的汽车或房子代表了我们的身份,"该公司首席执行官兼创始人 Eduardo Llach 表示,他将自己的用人模式与优步进行了比较。"现在,你的线上人格就是一切,人们都意识到'照骗'让你有能力把自己打造成任何心仪的模样。"

For some, Instagram filters are already passe. Now, Llach noted, people are beginning to bypassconventional filters and editing apps on their smartphone and relying instead on artificial intelligence.

对于一些人来说,Instagram 的滤镜已经过时了。 现在,Llach 指出,人们开始绕过传统的滤镜和手机上的修图 App,转而依赖人工智能。

————— 文章来源 / 华盛顿邮报

重点词汇

brag /bræg/ v. 吹嘘 People routinely described him as humble, even though he spent most of his time bragging about being a legend.人们通常描述他为一个谦虚的人,尽管他花了大部分的时间吹嘘他如何是一个传奇。

alluring /əˈlʊrɪŋ/ adj. 诱人的e.g. an alluring smile

exotic /ɪgˈzɑːtɪk/ adj. 异域风情的 The courtyard was full of exotic plants in terracotta pots.庭院里到处都是装在赤土陶器中充满了异国情调的植物。

locale /loʊˈkæl/ n. 场所, 地点

one-up /'wʌnʌp/ v. 比...更加新潮

amass /əˈmæs/ v. 积累e.g. By the time he was 30, he had amassed a fortune.

leverage /'levərɪdʒ/ v. 利用e.g. leverage their personal contacts to find new investors

clout /klaut/ n. 影响e.g. The Queen may have privilege but she has no real political clout.

jealousy-inducing 令人嫉妒的

capitalize on 利用

awe-inducing /ɔːɪnˈduːsŋ/ adj. 引起惊叹的

pair s.b. with s.b 拿某人和某人配对

persona /pərˈsoʊnə/ n. 人物设定, 人格面具e.g.

He had a shy side to his personality that was completely at odds with his public persona.

The gramophone may be passe, but the ability of technological progress to change who wins - and who loses - persists.留声机可能是过时的,但是技术进步能够改变谁赢了-谁输了-仍然继续留存。

filter /ˈfɪltər/ n. 滤镜

passe /pæˈseɪ/ adj. 过时的e.g. Writing personal letters, unfortunately, is passe.

bypass / baipæs/ v. 绕过,避开

Ding! Alibaba office app fuels backlash among some Chinese workers

叮! 阿里巴巴旗下的办公软件在中国白领中遭到抵制

In the cramped former home of Jack Ma, founder of the Chinese e-commerce giant Alibaba, about thirty young engineers sit elbow-to-elbow, working to attract the next million users for DingTalk, Alibaba's workplace communication software.

在中国电子商务巨头阿里巴巴的创始人马云曾居住的狭窄房间,大约三十名年轻的工程师紧挨着彼此,正努力为阿里巴巴旗下的办公沟通软件钉钉再多招揽一百万用户。

Since December 2014, DingTalk has grown exponentially to become the world's largest chat service designed for companies.

自 2014 年 12 月以来,钉钉的用户规模以指数级增长,成为了世界上最大的面向企业而设计的聊天服务。

But its rapid rise—propelled by a promise to boost productivitythrough better monitoring of employee movements and faster responses to important messages—has sparked a backlash from Chinese workers who say the app fuels an unhealthy work culture.

其提升生产力的承诺推动了该应用的发展,而生产力的提升则来自于对员工行动更好的监控,以及对重要信息的快速回应。然而,钉钉的快速发展却引发了中国员工们对它的抵制,认为它助长了不健康的办公文化。

Like WhatsApp, DingTalk lets senders see if recipients have read messages, but it also has a "ding" feature that can bombardrecipients with repeat notifications, text messages and phone-call reminders.

和 WhatsApp 一样,钉钉让消息发送者可以看见接收者是否已经阅读消息,但是它还有一个"叮一下"的功能。这个功能会用重复的手机消息推送、短信以及电话提醒来轰炸接收者。

As DingTalk has grown, many Chinese office workers have ventedtheir frustrations online about the service, saying it is inhumane and destroys trust. On Zhihu.com, a question-and-answer website, a thread entitled "how does it feel like to be forced to use DingTalk at work" has more than a thousand posts and has been viewed over 7.7 million times.

随着钉钉的成长,许多中国白领员工开始在线上发泄他们对于这一服务的不满,称其并不人道,而且会摧毁信任。 在问答网站知乎上,一个名为"在公司被迫使用钉钉是怎样的一种体验?"的帖子下,有超过一千个回答,并被浏览 了超过 770 万次。

"There's a saying in my circle, that you should quit the day your company installs DingTalk," said Robert, who works in luxury retail in the northwestern province of Shaanxi and complains that DingTalk has "fragmented his time into pieces".

"在我的圈子里有一个讲法:当你的公司安装钉钉的那一天,就是你该辞职的时候。"在西北省份陕西从事奢侈品零售的罗伯特如是说,并抱怨钉钉"将他的时间变得支离破碎"。

The service's chief executive, Wu Zhao, is aware of the backlash DingTalk is facing, but says the problem is a "toxic work culture at some companies" and misuse by some employers.

钉钉的首席执行官无招了解钉钉正在面临的抵制,但是他表示问题出在"一些公司有害的办公文化"上,以及雇主们 对钉钉的滥用上。

"DingTalk's goal is to encourage transparent and equal communications among all staff," Wu said. "The tool itself is not the problem; the way it is used is the problem."

无招说:"钉钉的目标是鼓励所有员工间透明而平等的交流。工具本身不是问题,它们被使用的方式才是问题之所在。"

---------- 文章来源 / 路透社

重点词汇

fuel /ˈfjuːəl/ v. 刺激,激起e.g. to fuel speculation/rumors/fears

backlash /'bæklæʃ/ n. 强烈抵制e.g. backlash against sth./from sb.

The passage of the Affordable Care Act in 2010 fueled a backlash that powered Republicans in that year's midterm elections. 2010年平价医疗法案的通过遭到了强烈抵制,这一抵制运动也在当年的中期选举中助力了共和党。

cramped /kræmpt/ adj. 狭窄的 (cramp v.) cramp限制某事的发展

e-commerce /i: 'ka:m3:rs/ n. 电子商务

elbow to elbow 紧挨着e.g. shoulder to shoulder

The refugees were packed shoulder to shoulder on the boat.

Some people prefer the experience of running elbow to elbow with the masses.有些人更喜欢与一大群人互相紧挨着一起跑步。

Even with the driver and passenger sitting almost elbow to elbow, the cabin seems open and airy. 即使司机与乘客几乎是紧接着彼此坐着,车厢内看起来还是很空旷。

exponentially / ekspəˈnen[əli/ adv. 指数地; (增长) 越来越快地 (exponent n.指数)

propel /prəˈpel/ v. 推动e.g. a rocket propelled through space Fury propelled her into action.愤怒使她采取了行动。

productivity / proodak tivəti/ n. 生产力

spark /spa:rk/ v. 引发e.g. spark interest/debate

recipient /rɪˈsɪpiənt/ n. 接收人

bombard /baːmˈbaːrd/ v. 连续轰炸;不停地提出问题(或批评、咨询)e.g.

We have been bombarded with complaints.我们一直在接受投诉。

In a competitive business you are bombarded with ads from new companies offering a better deal. 在一个竞争激烈的行业中,你会被新公司高价招人的招聘广告轰炸。

vent /vent/ v. 发泄e.g. vent anger on sb.对某人发泄怒火

thread /θred/ n. 线; (网络社区上的) 帖子e.g. a thread of water/light—条涓涓细流/一道光线

fragment /fræg'ment/ v. 使...成为碎片

toxic /ˈtɑːksɪk/ adj. 有毒的;有害的e.g. toxic working environment

misuse / mis'ju:z/ n. 滥用,错误地使用 (misuse v.) e.g. misunderstand mislead

transparent /træns 'pærənt/ adj. 透明的e.g. a transparent paper

The bidding process is open and transparent.

Asia's last dog-racing track has closed

亚洲最后的赛狗跑道关闭

The kennels reeked of excrement. The dogs inside looked weak. Many were suffering from visible injuries. Such was the scene that greeted Zoe Tang at the Canidrome, a greyhound-racing stadium in Macau, an autonomous region of China, on the morning of July 21st.

狗窝散发着粪便的恶臭。窝里的狗狗们形容憔悴。许多狗狗身上有肉眼可见的伤口,备受折磨。这就是佐伊唐在 7 月 21 日来到逸园赛狗场时,映入她眼帘的一幕。逸园赛狗场是澳门一片格力犬竞赛场地,澳门则是中国的特别行政区。

The evening before, its billionaire boss had left behind all 533 race dogs owing to the expiry of the venue's operating concession, forcing the authorities to step in to mind them. Since then Ms Tang, who works for Anima, a local animal-welfare organisation, has been recruiting volunteers to help feed, walk and bathe the forsakencanines. Hundreds of people have turned up daily, far more than had been betting on the races. (far more than people who had..)

前一晚,身价十亿的赛狗场老板因为赛场的经营许可到期,抛弃了 533 只赛犬。政府部门不得不介入来照顾这些狗狗。从那时起,为澳门当地的动物福利机构 Anima 工作的唐小姐,就一直在招募志愿者,帮忙喂养这些被遗弃的犬只,并带它们遛弯,给它们洗澡。每天都有数百人前来,这个人数远远超过参与赛狗博彩的人数。

The Canidrome is one of the last vestiges of a grittier, seedier Macau. The greyhound track opened in 1963 (after a false start in the 1930s), when Macau was a Portuguese colony, and drew crowds of day-trippers from Hong Kong. Owned by the family of Stanley Ho, who once enjoyed a stranglehold on local gambling concessions, it was the last place in Asia where punters could wager legally on dog racing. But in the new Macau, with its glitzy casinos, it had lost its lustre. Attendance dwindled to just dozens a day.

逸园赛狗场是一个更顽固,更肮脏的澳门的残余之一。格力犬的赛道在 1963 年开放,(曾在 30 年代非法开放过一次),当时澳门还是葡萄牙的殖民地,赛狗跑道吸引了大量来自香港的一日游旅客。赛狗场属于何鸿燊家族,何家曾经垄断了当地博彩业的经营权,这片场地是亚洲最后一个可以供赌徒合法进行赛狗博彩的地方。但在有着奢靡赌场的新澳门,赛狗场失去了它的光彩,观看人数逐渐减少到数十人一天。

Animal-rights groups had urged the track be closed. They alleged that greyhounds were put down if they failed repeatedly to win races. In 2011 the head of Macau's animal-control division said that 30 dogs a month were being killed. Angela Leong, wife of Mr Ho, boss of the Canidrome and an elected lawmaker, denied any cruelty. She said her charges were the "happiest dogs in the world".

动物权利组织曾强烈要求赛道关闭。他们指控说,如果格力犬屡尝败绩,它们就会被杀死。2011 年澳门动物管控部门的负责人说,每个月有30只狗被杀害。何鸿燊的妻子梁安琪是逸园赛狗场的老板兼澳门立法会议员,否认任何残忍行径的存在。她说她的赛狗们是"全世界最幸福的狗"。

———— 文章来源 / 经济学人

重点词汇

kennel / kenl/ n. 狗窝 But when asked for more information about his kennel, he hung up. 但当被问到关于狗窝的更多信息时,他挂断了电话。

reek /riːk/ v. 发臭, reek of sth. 散发出...味道

excrement / 'ekskrimənt/ n. 排泄物

leave behind 抛开, 抛弃 e.g. The boat sailed away, leaving the coast behind.船驶离海岸

You must leave all that behind you and start afresh.你必须抛开那一切,重新开始。

concession /kənˈseʃn/ n. (尤指由政府或雇主给予的) 特许权

forsake /fərˈseɪk/ v. 放弃; 舍弃, forsaken被遗弃的

canine /ˈkeɪnaɪn/ n. 犬 Investigators believe the canine located the bones and dragged them to the yard. 调查人员认为,这只狗找到了这些骨头,并把它们拖到了院子里。

vestige /ˈvestɪdʒ/ n. 遗迹;痕迹 e.g. the vestige of the ancient civilization古老文明的遗迹

There is not a vestige of truth in this rumor.这个谣言毫无真实性。

gritty /ˈgrɪti/ adj. 坚韧不拔的; 顽固的

seedy /ˈsiːdi/adj. 破烂的; 粗鄙的

track /træk/ n. 轨道; 跑道

stranglehold / strænglhould/ n. 束缚;控制;垄断

punter / pʌntər/ n. 赌徒 The punter called the club after trying to get the money back. 赌徒后来给俱乐部打了电话,想把钱要回来。

glitzy / ˈglɪtsi/ adj. 浮华的;耀眼的e.g. glitzy hotels in Las Vegas奢华酒店

lustre /'lastər/ n. 光泽 e.g.

The soul is placed in the body like a rough diamond, and must be polished, or the lustre of it will never appear.灵魂就像一颗粗糙的钻石

Her hair had lost its lustre. 她的头发失去了光泽。

dwindle /'dwindl/ v. 减少;变小

charge /tfa:rdg/ n. 掌管; 负责, 被管理的人或物品

Pentagon is moving toward establishing Trump's Space Force

美国国防部酝酿建立特朗普的太空军

The Pentagon is moving toward fulfilling President Donald Trump's request to establish a Space Force, in what would be the first new branch of the military in more than 70 years.

美国国防部正在采取行动履行唐纳德·特朗普总统的命令,组建一支太空军。如果组建成功,太空军将会是美国 70 多年来的第一支新军种。

In a speech at the Pentagon Thursday at 11:15 a.m., Vice President Mike Pence is scheduled to lay out the administration's plan. The Pentagon is also expected to release a Congressionally-mandated report on the issue.

美国副总统麦克·彭斯安排于周四上午 11 点 15 分在五角大楼阐述政府关于组建太空军的计划。国防部也预期会发布一份由国会授权撰写的关于该计划的报告。

But the calls for a separate military branch have been met with strong reluctance in some parts of the Pentagon amid concerns that it doesn't need the burdens of a new bureaucracy. The move could significantly reorganize the military and potentially strip the Air Force of some of its key responsibilities.

然而,建立一支独立军种的呼吁受到了国防部一些官员的强烈反对,他们担心这个新的官僚组织会成为国防部的负担。组建太空军这一举动会在很大程度上改变军队结构,还可能剥夺空军的一些关键职责。

Congressional approval would be needed to stand up an entirely new military branch. A Space Force, dedicated to space the way the Navy is to the sea, would be the first new military service since the Air Force was created in 1947. But Defense Secretary Jim Mattis said that creating a new combatant command for space, such as one that governs the Pentagon's Special Operations "is certainly one thing that we can establish."

一个全新军种的成立需要国会的同意。就像海军致力于海洋安全一样,太空军将致力于外太空的安全。太空军将会 是继 1947 年美国设立空军以来的第一支军队。对此美国国防部长吉姆·马蒂斯表示,组建一个像掌管国防部特种任 务的作战司令部那样的指挥太空作战的司令部,是"我们力所能及的一件事情。"

Military leaders have said repeatedly that modern warfare depends on space. The Pentagon and intelligence community has a host of sensitive satellites that perform all sorts of vital national security tasks, such as missile warning, precision-guided munitions, military communications, intelligence.

军方领导多次重申,现代战争取胜的关键在于太空。美国国防部和情报系统拥有许多机密卫星,它们被用于导弹预警、精确制导武器、军队通讯以及情报等各种重要的国家安全任务。

———— 文章来源 / 华盛顿邮报

重点词汇

Pentagon /'pentaga:n/n. 五角大楼 (指美国国防部)

move toward doing sth. 准备做某事

fulfil /ful fil / v. 履行 (诺言等);执行 (命令等) e.g. You should fulfil your promise once you made it.

lay out 阐述;讲解; 策划e.g. lay out an idea lay out inspirations

mandated / mændeɪtɪd/ adj. 获得授权的 mandate命令, 授权

reluctance /rɪˈlʌktəns/ n. 不情愿; 勉强e.g. He admits he's wrong with reluctance.

He is reluctant to admit he's wrong.

bureaucracy /bjʊˈrɑːkrəsi/ n. 官僚体制; 官僚主义e.g. Bureaucracies can tend to stifle enterprise and initiative.

strip sb. of sth. 剥夺; 取消e.g. The criminal was stripped of his political right for life.

combatant /kəmˈbætnt/ n. 参战者;战斗人员 combatant command作战司令部

munition /mjuːˈnɪʃn/ n. 军需品; 武器

美国情报机构 (United States Intelligence Community)

拓展内容

analogy (类比修辞) 的常用句式

类比(analogy)修辞是英语写作中的常用技巧。类比的定义是将两个本质上不同的事物就其共同点进行比较,可以将复杂概念简单化,抽象事物具体化。比如:Reading is to the mind what food is to the body. (读书之于心如食物之于身。)这句话将"读书对于心灵的作用"与"食物对于身体的作用"相类比。

下面的句子也都用了类比修辞,大家可以细细品读:

A gang of boys is like a pack of wolves.一群男孩就像一群狼。

Obeying is to a servant, like ordering is to a master.就像主人需要发布命令一样,仆人需要服从。

You are as annoying as nails on a chalkboard.你就像指甲划在黑板上的声音一样令人讨厌。

Just as sword is the weapon of a warrior, pen is the weapon of a writer.就像宝剑是战士的武器,笔杆子是作家的武器。

A doctor's diagnostic method is similar to a detective's investigation. 医生诊断的方法和侦探调查的方法相似。

Strings are to a guitar as love is to life. 爱情对于生命的意义就像弦对于吉他的意义一样。

Test-doctoring to keep Japanese women out of medical school

医学考试造假将日本女性拒于医学院门外

Japan has made a lot of noise in recent years about demolishing the traditional view that women should stay at home while men go out to work. So it was shocking when, on August 7th, Tokyo Medical University, a prestigious medical school, confessed to marking downthe test scores of female applicants to keep the ratio of women in each class below 30%.

近年来,日本社会常有推翻"男主外、女主内"传统观念的声浪。所以,在8月7日,当声望卓著的医学院——东京 医科大学承认压低了女性申请者的考试分数,以将每个班级中女生的比例维持在30%以下时,社会一片哗然。

Their defence was that women are more likely to drop out to marry and have children. To judge female applicants to medical school purely on their merits would leave Japan with a shortage of doctors, they said. The admission has caused outrage.

东京医科大学的辩称,女性更可能为了结婚生子而中断职业。该大学指出,如果完全根据成绩评价女申请者的话, 日本将会面临医生的短缺。这一说辞已经引起了公众的愤慨。

Doctoring has long been a male bastion. But it is not the only one. Discrimination is rife in banks and trading houses, where stamina and loyalty, qualities somehow associated with men, are prized, says Mari Miura, a political scientist at Sophia University.

医生是男性的传统优势职业,但它绝非个例。日本上智大学的政治科学家三浦麻里介绍道,性别歧视在银行和贸易行业同样普遍,而这两个行业都重视耐力和忠诚——两个多多少少与男性联系在一起的品质。

All this embarrasses a government that has promised to make women "shine", its condescendingcatchphrase for female empowerment. The policy seems based on the need for more workers rather than on genuine concern for women. Shinzo Abe, the prime minister, says he wants to bring millions more women into the workforce to make up for a labour shortfall caused by its ageing and declining population.

这一性别歧视现象让日本政府陷入窘境,因为该政府曾用一个居高临下地支持女权运动的口号,承诺要让女性"发光发热"。这一政策似乎基于增加劳动力的需求,而非对妇女真正的关心。首相安倍晋三宣称,他想要将数百万的妇女引入劳动力,以弥补人口老龄化和人口减少带来的劳力短缺。

In the field of politics, the record under Mr Abe's premiership is lamentable. Just two members of his 20-strong cabinet are women, including Seiko Noda, in charge of women's empowerment. Ms Noda, who makes little secret of her ambition to dethrone Mr Abe in a leadership contest next month, has just published a book called "Grab the Future", her manifesto for pulling Japan into line with "global standards". She has almost no chance of winning.

在政治领域,安倍首相任内的女权政绩不甚乐观。他的二十人内阁中仅有两人是女性,其中包括主管女性权利的野田圣子。野田亳不掩饰她在下个月的竞选中击败安倍的野心。她刚刚出版了一本名为《抓住未来》的书,这同时也是她推动日本与"国际标准"接轨的宣言。而她,几乎亳无胜算。

———— 文章来源 / 经济学人

重点词汇

Test v. 篡改, 伪造

make noise 对于应该要做的事情不直接、不明确地表态

demolish /dɪˈmɑːlɪʃ/ v. 拆除;推翻;颠覆e.g. demolish the house

He completely demolished all my arguments.他完全驳倒了我的观点

confess to (doing) sth. 承认做某事

mark (sth.) down 减分,压低...的得分e.g. They have marked down their forecasts for growth.降低对增长的预测

drop out 辍学; 半途而废e.g. dropped out of college大学辍学

judge sb. on sth.

merit / 'merit/ n. 优秀品质; 成绩

bastion / bæstion/ n. 堡垒; 固守一种准则的事物e.g. a bastion of freedom

It's the last bastion of male privilege.

rife /raɪf/ adj. (指不良事物)盛行的;普遍的

stamina / stæmmə/ n. 耐力; 耐性; 持久力

condescending / ka:ndr'sendɪŋ/ adj. 有优越感的; 屈尊的 (condescend v.) e.g.

condescending attitude/remark/tone居高临下的态度/言论/语调

catchphrase /ˈkætʃfreɪz/流行语; (尤指电视演艺名人等的) 名言

labour shortfall 劳力短缺

premiership /prɪˈmɪrʃɪp/ n. 总理职位;首相职位

lamentable 可悲的,可怜的

20-strong 人数多达20个

make little secret of 公开某事;对不保守秘密e.g. I make little secret of my dislike for lettuce.

dethrone / di: 'θroon/ v. 打败; 击败 (顶尖好手); 废黜, 罢免

manifesto / mæni festou/ n. (尤指政党的) 宣言e.g. The Communist Manifesto共产党宣言

pull/bring sth. into line with... 让某物与...接轨;让某物与...对接e.g.

Liulishuo can pull your English ability into line with requirements of your dream job.

The Academy announces a misguided new category

奥斯卡宣布新奖项,被指是一步错棋

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences announced on August 8th that it will be introducing a new category in time for next February's awards ceremony, one that honours "achievement in popular film". The idea is that, alongside the time-honoured "Best Picture" category, there will be another for films which have a broader appeal: blockbusters, in other words.

8月8日,美国电影艺术与科学学院宣布,将在明年二月的颁奖典礼上介绍一个新奖项,该新奖项将表彰"受欢迎电影的成就"。也就是说,除了历史悠久的"最佳影片"以外,将会出炉另一个奖项,专供那些有更广吸引力的电影,说直白点,就是大片们。

Ironically, the announcement has been anything but popular. On social media, responses to this idea have ranged from hostile to very hostile indeed. Many feel that the once-prestigious Oscars are dumbing down to the level of the MTV Awards. What's next—Best Kiss? Loudest Shoot-Out? Most Skyscrapers Flattened by Aliens in a Single Action Sequence?

讽刺的是,这一公告根本不受欢迎。在社交媒体上,人们对这个想法要么不买账,要么非常不买账。许多人认为,昔日享有盛誉的奥斯卡金像奖是在把自己的逼格降到 MTV 电影大奖的档次。下一步会是什么,最佳吻戏? 最激烈枪战? 在一组动作镜头中,被外星人夷为平地的摩天大楼最多奖?

The concept of the "Hit Oscar" or the "Popcorn Oscar", as it has been nicknamed, raises other questions, too. To start with, who decides whether or not a film is popular? What are the criteria or thresholds? And isn't it an insult to nominees, the implicit suggestion being that hit films can't be artistic (and vice versa)?

"热门奥斯卡"(或它的绰号"爆米花奥斯卡")的概念也引发了其他问题。首先,谁来决定一部电影是否受欢迎?什么是标准或阈值?而且,暗示热门电影不可能有艺术性(反之亦然),这不是对提名者的侮辱吗?

There was a time when the likes of "Braveheart", "Titanic" and "Gladiator" could make zillions at the box office, while also scoopingup armfuls of golden statuettes. But in the past decade the top Oscar has gone to auteur projects such as "The Shape of Water", "Moonlight" and "Birdman": terrific films, but by no means the so-called "tentpoles" that keep a roof over the studios' heads.

曾几何时,像《勇敢的心》、《泰坦尼克号》和《角斗士》这样的电影可以在票房上大赚一笔,同时还能斩获大把的小金人。但在过去十年里,奥斯卡最佳影片奖被授予给诸如《水形物语》、《月光男孩》和《鸟人》这样的有导演强烈个人风格的电影,它们是好电影,但绝不是所谓的能保证帮电影公司收回成本的创收影片。

The new division between best picture and popular picture may be ill-judged, but it reflects a preexisting dichotomy between arthouse and multiplex fare. So have pity on the poor Academy. If Hollywood studios weren't quite so obsessed with superhero franchises, the Oscars might not be in this mess in the first place.

最佳影片和最流行影片之间的新划分可能是不当的,但它反映了长久以来艺术和票房之间的对立。可怜的奥斯卡。如果好莱坞的电影公司不那么痴迷于超级英雄系列,奥斯卡奖或许根本不会陷入这种困境。

———— 文章来源 / 经济学人

重点词汇

misguided / mɪsˈqaɪdɪd/ adj. 被误导的;被引入歧途的e.g. a misguided business plan一个错误的商业计划

in time for 及时;来得及e.g. Will we be in time for the six o'clock train?

time-honoured /'taɪm a:nərd/ adj. 历史悠久的

appeal /əˈpiːl/ n. 吸引力; 魅力e.g. Our programme has a wide appeal.

blockbuster / bla:kbastər/ n. 电影大片

ironically /aɪˈrɑːnɪkli/ adv. 讽刺地 (irony n.)e.g.

The irony is that the announcement has been anything but popular.

anything but 恰恰不; 根本不e.g. The hotel was anything but cheap. 非常贵

hostile / ha:staɪl/adj. 敌对的

prestigious /preˈstɪdʒəs/ adj. 有声望的; 受尊敬的

dumb down (为了更加普及而) 将...通俗化e.g. Many shows have been dumbed down.

criterion /kraɪˈtɪriən/ n. (作出评判的) 标准复数criteria e.g.

The schools should not be judged by financial criteria alone.

threshold /ˈθreʃhoʊld/ n. 阈值; 临界点e.g. I have a high laughter threshold.

nominee /ˌnɑːmɪˈniː/n. 被提名者

implicit /ɪmˈplɪs.ɪt/ adj. 不明言的; 含蓄的e.g. an implicit criticism

vice versa (Latin) / vaɪs 'vɜːrsə/ adv. 反之亦然e.g. I don't trust him, and vice versa.

gladiator / glædieɪtər/ n. (古罗马) 角斗士

zillion /ˈzɪljən/ n. 无限大的数目e.g. I've told you zillions of times not to do that.

box office /'baːks ˌaː.fis/ n. (戏院或电影院的) 票房, 售票处

scoop /sku:p/ v. 大量获得 (选票或奖项) n.勺子, 铲子 e.g.

The Democratic Party is expected to scoop up the majority of the vote.

armful /ˈɑːrmful/ n. 一抱(之量)e.g. an armful of clothes双手抱满衣服

statuette / stætʃu'et/ n. 小雕像

go to 给某人 / 某物e.g. Proceeds from the concert will go to charity.

All her property went to her eldest son.

by no means 绝不

tentpole / tent_poul/ n. 顶级大片; 卖座电影

keep a roof over the head 有栖身之所e.g. Keep a roof over the head of the homeless.让流浪汉们有家可归。

ill-judged 欠思考的,不当的

dichotomy /darˈkɑːtəmi/ n. 一分为二;对立e.g.

There is a dichotomy between what politicians say and what they do.

arthouse /ˈɑːrt haʊs/ n. 艺术影院

multiplex / maltipleks/n. 多放映厅电影院

franchise /ˈfræntʃaɪz/ n. (系列影片) 创意

拓展内容

独立主格结构

独立主格结构由两部分组成,前一部分是名词(或代词),后一部分是非谓语动词(现在分词、过去分词),前后两部分具有逻辑主谓关系。注意独立主格结构本身不是句子,在句子中作状语,表时间、原因、条件、伴随及状态等,相当于一个状语从句或并列句。比如:

表示时间

The meeting being over, all of us went home. 开完会后我们都回家了。

表示条件

The condition being favourable, he may succeed. 若条件有利,他或许能成功。

表示原因

There being no taxis, we had to walk. 没有出租车,我们只好步行。

表示伴随情况

Almost all metals are good conductors, silver being the best of all. 几乎所有的金属都是良导体,而银则是最好的导体。

以上名词与动词之间都是主动关系,用现在分词,下面举几个被动关系使用过去分词的例子:

The problems solved, the quality has been improved. 随着问题的解决,质量已经提高了。(问题被解决)

The teacher entered, her eyes filled with joy.老师走进来,眼里充满了喜悦。(眼里被喜悦充满)

The strange birth, death and rebirth of a Russian troll account called 'AllForUSA'

名为"一切为了美国"的俄罗斯僵尸号神奇的现世,离世与转世

An Indiana man named Jesse D. Allen created a website in 2005 with the title AllForUSA.com, apparently to pursue some business interests, but he soon abandoned the site. A decade later, at the age of 80, Allen died.

一位名叫杰斯·D·艾伦的印第安纳男子在 2005 年创立了一个网站,取名"一切为了美国.com",他显然是为了追求一些商业利益,但很快就弃用了这个网站。十年后,艾伦在 80 岁时去世了。

But AllForUSA was just getting started.

但"一切为了美国"的命运才刚刚开启。

As the 2016 presidential campaign heated up, AllForUSA.com suddenly bristled with what appeared to be news articles celebrating Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump and bashing his Democratic rival Hillary Clinton. "HILLARY May END UP in PRISON AFTER ALL," read one headline.

随着 2016 年总统大选升温,"一切为了美国"网站上突然充满了像是新闻报道一样的文章,公开颂扬共和党总统候选人唐纳德川普,并对其民主党竞争对手进行抨击。有一篇文章的标题写道:《毕竟希拉里最终很可能会进监狱》。

On Reddit, the commenter "allforusa" posted similar messages and linked to headlines on AllForUSA.com. The following year, after Trump's election, a Twitter account named "@allforusa11" retweeted the president before inexplicably changing subjects to tweet about feminism—in Japanese.

在论坛网站 Reddit 上,评论员"一切为了美国"发布了相似的消息,并且附有链接导向一切为了美国.com 上的新闻标题。次年,在川普大选过去之后,一个名为"@一切为了美国 11"的推特账号转发了总统的推文,接着莫名其妙转移了话题,发布了有关女权主义的推文——用的是日语。

The final twist came a few months later when AllForUSA.com was reborn again—this time as a Russian online gambling site.

一切为了美国.com 重生之后过去了几个月,最后一次转折发生了——这次它成了俄罗斯一家线上赌博网站。

A clue to the mystery of this multilingual burst of activity appeared in a February indictmentby special counsel Robert S. Mueller III. It said the Russians who operated fake social media accounts to manipulate American voters used allforusa@yahoo.com to fraudulently access a PayPal account and to promote a "March for Trump" campaign rally in New York.

特别检察官罗伯特·S·穆勒三世在二月份的一次指控为解开这井喷式的多语种网络行为之谜提供了线索。指控中提到,通过运营虚假社交媒体账号来操控美国选民的俄罗斯人,使用一切为了美国@yahoo.com 这个账号骗取了一个贝宝账号,还在纽约发起了一项"为川普游行"的活动集会。

The other "AllForUSA" accounts probably were operated in tandemwith this email address and with each other, according to a report Monday from cyberintelligence firm GroupSense, whose researchers found a subtle tangle of connections left in records discovered online.

网络情报公司 GroupSense 周一的报告显示,其他"一切为了美国"账号可能是和这个邮箱地址以及其他账号同步运作的,这家公司的研究员在网上查到的记录中找到了这些账号之间干丝万缕的微妙联系。

The report highlights how data breaches fuel nefarious online activity, giving criminal hackers and disinformation teams an endless supply of cheap accounts to use individually or for networks of "bots," automated accounts controlled by a single operative. All this typically takes place without the original owners knowing what happened to their creations.

这份报告凸显了数据外泄是如何助长恶意的网络行为的,为不法黑客和造谣团伙提供用之不竭的廉价账号,既可以单独使用也可以组建"僵尸粉"网络,也就是由一个技术人员运营的自动化账号。在典型的情况下,原号主完全不知道自己的账号遭遇了什么,一切就这样发生了。

———— 文章来源 / 华盛顿邮报

重点词汇

troll/troul/n. 发布挑衅内容的人;喷子

heat up 受热升温;加剧,情绪激化

bristle /ˈbrɪsl/ v. 被...覆盖; 充满e.g. She may appear to be a quiet girl, but her performance bristles with energy.

bash /bæʃ/ v. 重击, 抨击e.g. bash the unions, celebrate sb., bash sb. 捧一个人, 踩一个人

A links to B. A和B相连

inexplicably / ɪmɪkˈsplɪkəbli/ adv. 莫名其妙地

gamble /'qæmbl/ v. 赌博

indictment /ɪnˈdaɪtmənt/ n. 指控; 控告

fraudulently/'fro:dʒələntli/ adv. 欺诈性地

in tandem 协同;同步e.g. Their wechat, weibo and Qzone accounts are operated in tandem.同步更新

tangle /ˈtæŋgl/ n. 缠结e.g. tangled relationships

breach /bri:tʃ/ n./v. 缺口; 撕裂; 违反, data breach数据外泄

nefarious /nɪˈferiəs/ adj. 恶毒的, 恶意的

operative /ˈɑːpəreɪtɪv/ n. 技术工

Elon Musk is playing a dangerous game

埃隆·马斯克在玩火

There is never a dull moment with the mercurial Mr Musk, but he excelled himself on Tuesday, stunning the markets by tweeting that he was considering taking the company private by buying publicly available shares for \$420 each—a significant premium to the \$340 they were trading at before he dropped his bombshell.

反复无常的马斯克先生每时每刻都给人"惊喜",但周二他超水平发挥,让市场也大为震动:他在自己的官方推特上写道,自己正在考虑以每股 420 美元的价格对公司流通股进行回购,从而实现私有化——在扔下这颗重磅炸弹之前,每股市值是 340 美元,420 美元的价格是显著的溢价。

If it turns out his Twitter promise—that he has secured the tens of billions of dollars he would need to buy out public shareholders - is in any way shaky, then he could find himself accused of price manipulation. It's a very serious charge, which can land you in jail.

如果事实证明他推特上的承诺——即他买断公众股东全部股份所需的数百亿美元资金已经落实——哪怕有一丁点不靠谱,他都可能发现自己会面临操纵股价的指控。这是非常严重的指控,甚至可能让你锒铛入狱。

There is no doubt there is some sense in taking the company private. Private companies are not subject to the same scrutiny from investors, who want to see very transparent earnings on a quarter-by-quarter basis - and if you don't deliver it, your share price can be heavily punished.

毫无疑问,将公司私有化是有些道理的。私营公司是不受投资者严格审查的,而上市公司的"金主"希望看到非常透明的按季度计算的收益——如果你不予提供,股价可能受到严厉惩罚。

Also, Mr Musk did not enjoy having to answer the forensic questioning of Wall Street analysts who want minutiae on production, sales, timings, earnings et al. If he takes the company private, he won't have to do this. If it turns out that he doesn't have the financial firepower to deliver on his tweet, the regulators may think he's more than a bonehead.

此外,马斯克先生不喜欢被迫回答华尔街分析师的公开问题,这些分析师想要获得公司生产、销售、时间规划、收益等方面的细节。 如果他将公司私有化,他就不必这样和盘托出。 如果事实证明他没有资金实力来履行推文的承诺,监管机构可能会觉得他比傻瓜更愚蠢。

______ 文章来源 / BBC新闻

重点词汇

mercurial /mɜːrˈkjʊriəl/ adj. 反复无常的;易变的e.g. a mercurial temperament 性情反复无常a mercurial mind/wit聪明的头脑/智慧

excel /ik'sel/ v. 优于; 胜过e.g. Croatia excelled themselves this year to reach the finals.

stun /stʌn/ v. 使目瞪口呆; 使大吃一惊e.g. News of the disaster stunned people throughout the world.

take the company private 使公司私有化

publicly available shares 流通股

premium / 'pri:miəm/ n. 额外费用;溢价

trade at +价格 以该价格交易

bombshell /'ba:mʃel/ n . 爆炸性事件;令人吃惊的事情 drop bombshell

buy out 买下...的全部股份; 赎买

in any way 在任何情况下

shaky /ˈʃeɪki/ adj. 动摇的;不可靠的

His command is too spotty, his results are too inconsistent, his confidence is too shaky.他的指令零碎残缺,他的业绩忽上忽下,他的自信摇摇欲坠。

find oneself +被动/-ing 发现自己面临。。。境地

land sb in sth 陷入困境

I hope you realize that this investigation could land us in prison.我希望你意识到这次调查可能让我们入狱。

Failure in the final exam will land him in trouble.期末考试没考过会给他惹上麻烦。

there is some sense in doing sth. 做某事是有道理的

subject to 使服从; 使遭受e.g. Price may be subject to alteration.价格可能会有所变动。

scrutiny 仔细检查, 彻底审查

on a basis 以...为基础

quarter-by-quarter 按季度的

deliver 兑现承诺,及物/不及物

forensic /fəˈrenzɪk/ adj. 法庭的;公开辩论的

minutiae/mr'nu:fii:/ n. (复数) 微小的细节; 细枝末节; 小事

et al / et 'æl/ abbr. 以及其他; 等等

financial firepower 资金实力 firepower活力

bonehead /'bounhed/ n. 笨蛋; 傻瓜

The gender pay gap: women still earn a lot less than men

两性收入差距: 女性仍然比男性挣得少得多

Almost half of the companies included on a list of businesses feted as the best places to work as a woman in the UK have a gender pay gap higher than the national average, Guardian analysis has revealed.

《卫报》的一份调查显示,在英国,被誉为女性最佳工作场所的公司名单中,近半数企业的男女薪酬差距高于全国 平均水平。

Analysis also shows that more than four in 10 FTSE 100 companies, based on subsidiaries which were required to report, have a gender pay gap higher than the national average and nine in 10 report they pay women less than men on average.

分析还表明,每 10 家富时 100 指数公司中,就有 4 家以上的公司的男女薪酬差距高于全国平均水平,而且每 10 家公司中就有 9 家公司的女性薪酬低于男性。这些数据是根据富时 100 指数公司的子公司按要求提供的报告分析得出的。

Of the subsidiaries of companies included on the Times Top 50 Employers for Women list in 2017, more than nine in 10 pay women less than they pay men on average, with almost half of the companies reporting a gender pay gap greater than 18.4% – the national average as calculated by the Office of National Statistics.

在 2017 年,《泰晤士报》排名前 50 的最佳女性雇主的子公司里,每10家公司中就有超过9家公司平均付给女性的工资要比男性少,几乎有一半的公司所报道的两性收入差距比全国平均数 18.4%还要多,而这个平均数是由国家统计局计算出来的。(几乎有一半的公司所报道的两性收入差距比国家统计局计算出来的平均数——18.4%还要多)

Sam Smethers, chief executive of the Fawcett Society said the gender pay gap was an indicator of inequality in the workplace. "Even good employers can have significant pay gaps. What matters is their action plan to tackle it and deal with any inequality they find."

福西特协会首席执行官山姆·史麦泽斯说,两性收入差距体现了工作场合中的不平等。"即便优秀的雇主之间也可以有显著的薪资差距,但重要的是他们采取行动计划去处理这个问题,并解决他们发觉的任何不平等现象。"

重点词汇

earn /s:rn/ v. 挣得e.g. I've earned this.这是我应得的

reveal /rɪˈviːl/ v. 显示

subsidiary /səb'sɪdieri/ n. 子公司e.g. subsidiary=a subsidiary company

calculate /ˈkælkjuleɪt/ v. 计算

indicator / indikerter/ n. 指示物e.g. GDP is an important indicator of a country's economy.

inequality / ɪnɪˈkwɑːləti/ n. 不平等e.g. equal; equality; inequality

feted as 被誉为e.g. He has been feted as a great leader.

V.S. Naipaul, who explored colonialism through unsparing books, dies at 85

85 岁诺奖得主 V.S. 奈保尔逝世, 曾以无情之书探索殖民主义

V.S. Naipaul, the Nobel laureatewho documented the migrations of peoples, the unraveling of the British Empire, the ironies of exile and the clash between belief and unbelief in more than a dozen unsparing novels and as many works of nonfiction, died Saturday at his home in London. He was 85.

诺贝尔文学奖得主 V.S. 奈保尔于周六在伦敦家中辞世,享年 85 岁。他曾在逾 12 部毫不留情的小说和同等数目的非小说类纪实文学作品中记录了民族迁徙、大英帝国解体、极具讽刺意味的流亡生活以及信仰与无信仰之间的冲突。

His family confirmed the death in a statement, The Associated Press reported.

美联社报道,他的家人在一份声明中证实了他的死讯。

In many ways embodying the contradictions of the postcolonialworld, Naipaul was born of Indian ancestry in Trinidad, went to Oxford University on a scholarship and lived the rest of his life in England, where he forged one of the most illustrious literary careers of the last half century.

以多种方式表现后殖民世界里种种矛盾的奈保尔出生于特立尼达(曾属英殖民地)的一个印度裔家庭,曾凭奖学金前往牛津大学求学,并在英格兰度过余生。在那他开创自己的文学事业,使其成为过去半个世纪以来最为杰出的文学生涯之一。

Naipaul personified a sense of displacement. Having left behind the circumscribed world of Trinidad, he was never entirely rooted in England. In awarding him the Nobel Prize in literature in 2001, the Swedish Academy described him as "a literary circumnavigator, only ever really at home in himself, in his inimitablevoice."

奈保尔将一种移位感人格化。即使远离了特立尼达的封闭世界,他也未曾完全扎根于英格兰。瑞典文学院在 2001 年授予他诺贝尔文学奖时,称他是"一位文学界的世界周游者,他真正的家,只在他的心中,在他独特的观点里。"

Yet his existential homelessness was as much willed as fated. Although he spent his literary career mining his origins, Naipaul fiercely resisted the idea of being tethered to a hyphen, or to a particular ethnic or religious identity. His guiding philosophy was universalism which he described as "Our Universal Civilization".

然而,他这种存在主义式的无家可归既是命中注定,也是意志所致。虽然奈保尔的整个文学生涯都在寻找自己的根,但他强烈反对将自己拴在某个连字符上,或系于某个特定的种族或宗教身份。他的人生哲学是普世主义,他称之为"我们的普世文明"。

———— 文章来源/纽约时报

重点词汇

colonialism /kəˈloʊniəlɪzəm/ n. 殖民主义

unsparing /ʌnˈsperɪn/ adj. 苛刻的; 无情的e.g. She is unsparing in her criticism. 她批评人毫不留情

laureate /ˈloːriət/ n. 戴桂冠的人; 获奖者 (laurel n.月桂树, 桂冠) e.g. a poet laureate 桂冠诗人

migration /maɪˈgreɪʃn/ n. 迁徙; 迁移

unraveling /ʌnˈrævlɪŋ/ n. 解体; 瓦解 (unravel v.)

irony /ˈaɪrəni/ n. 反语; 反讽e.g.

The irony is that when a man gets something he wants badly, he doesn't like it anymore.

exile /'egzaɪl/n. 放逐;流亡

clash n. 冲突; 分歧; 接触 The event descended into violence, with clashes erupting between attendees and counterprotesters. 这一事件演变为暴力事件,与会者和反抗者之间爆发了冲突。

as many 同等数量的

embody /ɪmˈbɑːdi/ v. 表现; 体现e.g.

Many scholars think that The Great Gatsby embodies the American spirit.

postcolonial / poust 'kəlouniəl/ adj. 后殖民的

ancestry /ˈænsestri/ n. 祖籍; 血统 DNA holds the key to diversity, ancestry and which traits you'll pass to future generations. DNA掌握着关键要素:多样性、血统以及哪些特征会传给后代。

forge /fo:rdz/ v. 开创; 创造e.g. She forged a new career for herself as a singer.

illustrious /ɪˈlʌstriəs/ adj. 杰出的; 辉煌的e.g. illustrious accomplishments

personify /pərˈsɑːnɪfaɪ/ v. 拟人化; 人格化e.g. Animals are often personified in fairy tales

In Keats' 'To Autumn', the autumn is personified as a close friend of the sun.

displacement /dɪsˈpleɪsmənt/ n. 移位 (dislocation n.)

circumscribed /ˈsɜːrkəmskraɪbd/ adj. 局限的; 受约束的 (circumscribe v.画一个外接圆)

circumnavigator / ss:rkəmˈnævɪgeɪtər/ n. 世界周游者

inimitable /ɪˈnɪmɪtəbl/ adj. 无法模仿的; 独一无二的e.g.

He was describing, in his own inimitable style, how to write a best-selling novel.

existential / egzɪˈstenʃəl/ adj. 存在主义的

willed /wɪld/ adj. 具有...的意志的e.g. weak-willed strong-willed 意志薄弱

fated /'feɪtɪd/ adj. 命中注定的 (fate n.) e.g. He was fated to die young.

mine /maɪn/ v. 挖掘;探寻

tether /'teðər/ v. 将...拴(到)e.g. He tethered his horse to a tree.

Officers rescued a pit bull that was tethered outside with a chain that weighed more than the dog.警察救出了一只被拴在外面的比特犬,它的链子比狗还重。

hyphen / harfn/ n. 连字符; 连字号e.g. a Trinidadian-British writer

ethnic adj. 种族的; 人种的 It was a blend of histories, customs and ethnic identities which later formed an important part of his work. 它融合了历史、风俗和种族认同,后来成为他作品的重要组成部分。

philosophy /fəˈlɑːsəfi/ n. 人生哲学; 生活信条e.g.

Hemingway's philosophy is that a man can be destroyed but not defeated

universalism / juːnɪˈvɜːrsəlizəm/ n. 普世主义

FBI seeks motive after U.S. airline worker steals plane, crashes it

美国航空公司员工偷窃飞机后坠毁 FBI 将调查其动机

A Horizon Air ground service agent got into a Bombardier Q400 turboprop aircraft on Friday night in a maintenance area at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport and took off, Horizon sister carrier Alaska Airlines said.

地平线航空的姐妹公司阿拉斯加航空称,一名地平线航空的地勤人员在周五晚上,溜进了一架庞巴迪 Q400 型涡轮螺旋桨飞机,并驾机起飞。该客机当时正停泊于西雅图塔科马国际机场的维护区域内。

He flew for about one hour, often erratically with attempts at aerialstunts, before crashing onto sparsely populated Ketron Island in Puget Sound, some 25 miles to the southwest. The 29-year-old man was suicidal and appeared to have acted alone, according to authorities. He was believed to have been killed in the crash.

他驾机飞行了大约一个小时,期间飘忽不定地尝试着各种空中特技,最终坠毁于人烟稀少的皮吉特湾中的凯特隆岛,该岛在机场西南方向 25 英里处。根据官方说法,这位 29 岁的涉事男子有自杀倾向,并且是单独行动。他已被认定于飞机坠毁时死亡。

Relatives and co-workers identified the man as Richard Russell of Sumner, Washington. "This is a complete shock to us. We are devastated by these events and Jesus is truly the only one holding this family together right now," the family said.

涉事男子的亲属与同事们认定他的身份为来自华盛顿州萨姆纳市的理查德·拉塞尔。他的家人们表示: "我们对这一事件深表震惊。在这些事情过后我们遭受了重创,现在只有上帝在维系着我们这个家庭。"

Russell was not known to have had a pilot's license, Horizon Air Chief Executive Gary Beck said at a news conference, and it was not clear how he was able to take off and fly as he did. "There were some maneuvers that were done that were incredible maneuvers with the aircraft," Beck said.

地平线航空的首席执行官加里·贝克在新闻发布会上表示,根据当前已知的信息,拉塞尔并没有飞行员执照,目前也尚不清楚他是如何做到驾机起飞并飞行的。贝克说:"他开着这架飞机完成了一些令人难以置信的机动动作。"

In partial recordings of Russell's conversations with air traffic controllers that were published online by Broadcastify.com, he said he was sorry to disappoint people who cared about him and described himself as a "broken guy."

拉塞尔与空中交通管制员的对话的部分录音被 Broadcastify.com 发布在网上。在录音中,他表示他为辜负了关心自己的人而感到抱歉,并且形容自己是一个"垮掉的家伙"。

The FBI is leading the probe, which also includes the Federal Aviation Administration and the National Transportation Safety Board. "We are going to be thorough, which means taking the time needed to scour the area, delve into the background of the individual believed responsible, and review every aspect of this incident with all appropriate public & private partners," the FBI said in a statement.

联邦调查局 (FBI) 正牵头对此事件的调查,调查团队还包括美国联邦航空管理局和美国国家运输安全委员会。 FBI 在其声明中称:"我们将进行彻底的调查,这意味着我们将花费所需的一切时间去彻底搜索事发区域,深挖有关 责任人的背景,并与所有合适的国有及私立伙伴一起,重新审视这起事件的方方面面。"

———— 文章来源 / 路透社

重点词汇

turboprop/ts:rboopra:p/n. 涡轮螺旋桨发动机

maintenance / meintənəns/ n. 维护 (maintain v.)

Waste management and road maintenance are also in line for cuts. 垃圾管理和道路养护也在预算削减的行列之中。

erratically /ɪˈrætɪkli/ adv. 不规律地 (erratical adj.) e.g. He drove erratically.

aerial /'eriəl/ adj. 空中的e.g. an aerial force

stunt /stʌnt/ n. 特技e.g. Stop your childish stunts now!

sparsely /ˈspɑːrsli/ adv. 稀疏地 (sparse adj.) e.g. The museum is sparsely visited. 门可罗雀 sparsely populated人烟稀少的

suicidal /ˌsuːɪˈsaɪdl/ adj. 自杀的 (suicide v.) e.g. This new policy could be suicidal for the minister. 有自杀倾向的 (人), 自杀性的 (举动), 终结自己的生涯

devastate / devastatt/ v. 摧毀; 使某人感到震惊和难过e.g. The typhoon devastated this fishing village.

maneuver /məˈnuː.və/ n. 机动动作;调动,演戏;操作 (maneuver v.) e.g. diplomatic maneuvers外交动作 political maneuvers政治动作 maneuver the ship操纵船

probe /proub/ n. 调查

thorough /ˈθɜːroʊ/ adj. 彻底的,仔细的 e.g. a thorough search/clean 一个仔细的调查/打扫

scour /ˈskaʊər/ v. 彻底搜索

delve /delv/ v. 深挖, delve into深入探究

got a few screws loose 有一些不对劲

当机器人求你别关掉它,你还忍心按下turn off吗?

'Please do not switch me off!': An experiment with a begging robot shows people hesitate to pull the plug

"求求你别关掉我!"实验表明会哀求的机器人让人们关闭它时犹豫不决

If a little humanoid robot begged you not to shut it off, would you show compassion?

如果一个小小的人形机器人恳求你不要关掉它, 你会动恻隐之心吗?

In an experiment designed to investigate how people treat robots when they act like humans, many participants struggled to power down a pleading robot, named Nao, either refusing to shut it off or taking more than twice the amount of time to pull the plug. The experiment was conducted by researchers in Germany whose findings were published in the scientific journal PLOS One, the Verge reported this month.

当机器人的行为像人类时,人们如何对待它们?在一项旨在调查此问题的实验中,许多参与者在关闭乞求状机器人 Nao 时感到内心挣扎,人们要么拒绝关掉 Nao,要么花费两倍之余时间才关机。据本月 the Verge 的报道,这项实验由在德国的研究人员开展,研究结果发表在了科学期刊 PLOS One 上。

"No! Please do not switch me off! I am scared that it will not brighten up again!," Nao said to about half of the participants. Nao did not objectin the other half of the tests so that researchers could measure if his pleas affected how people reacted.

Nao 对大约一半的参与者说:"不!求求你别关掉我!我害怕天再也不会亮了!"。而在另外一半的测试中,Nao 没有拒绝关机。由此,研究人员可以衡量它的请求是否影响了人们的反应。

The study builds on existing research that shows humans are inclined to treat electronic media as living beings.

该项研究建立在现有研究的基础上,而现有研究显示人类倾向于将电子媒介视为活物。

In one prior experiment, researchers found that test subjects preferred interacting with robots with complementary personality traits to their own. And since robots can exhibit social traits such as speaking with human voices or taking the shape of a human body, the research suggests that people tend to react "especially social to them."

在先前的一项实验中,研究人员发现,受试者们更喜欢和性格特征与自己互补的机器人互动。并且由于机器人可以 表现出社交特性,比如用人类的声音说话或以人形呈现,研究显示人们倾向于用特别类似人类社交行为的方式给机 器人回应。

The researchers said that a possible explanation for their results was that people interpreted Nao's objections as "a sign of autonomy." In turn, this may have boosted the perception of the robot as an entitywith humanlike traits, according to the study. By expressing emotions and desires, the experiment showed that the robot played on the participants' inclination to treat electronic media as a social entity, and respond to Nao as if it were alive.

研究人员表示,针对研究结果,一个可行的解释是,人们把 Nao 的拒绝解读为"自主意识的表现"。根据这项研究, 这反过来又可能加强人们把机器人视作"具有人类特征的独立体"的认知。实验显示,通过表达情感和欲望,机器人 利用受试者们将电子媒介视为社会实体的倾向,让受试者们以对待生命体的方式回应 Nao。

	文章来源	华盛顿邮报
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switch (sth.) off 关闭 (开关);不再理睬 e.g.

The talk lasted for ages, and eventually I just switched off.

When a customer walks in, they switch on the charm. 一旦有顾客进门,他们就展现出魅力的样子。

pull the plug 拔掉插头;停止 (某事继续) e.g. pull the plug on the project 中止项目

pull the plug on the negotiation 中止谈判

humanoid /'hju:mənəɪd/ n. 人形机器人 -noid像...的

shut (sth.) off 关机; 停止供应e.g. shut off the water and gas 关水和煤气

compassion /kəmˈpæʃn/ n. 同情; 恻隐之心

power (sth.) down 关机; 停止供应

plead /pli:d/ v. 乞求; 恳求

conduct /kənˈdʌkt/ v. 施行; 组织e.g. conduct a research做研究 conduct an experiment 做实验

conduct a survey 做调查

brighten up 天亮起来e.g. It was rainy this morning, but it brightened upafter lunch.

object /əbˈdʒekt/ v. 反对; 拒绝 (objection n.)

plea /pli:/ n. 恳求e.g. He pleads for mercy. (v.) He made a plea for mercy. (n.)

be inclined to 倾向于...e.g. Tom is inclined to be lazy. 喜欢偷懒

complementary / ka:mpli mentri/ adj. 互补的e.g.

Strawberries and cream complement each other perfectly. (v.)

The painter uses bold complementary colors, pitting red against green or purple against yellow. 画家用大胆的互补色,红色和绿色,或紫色和黄色相映成趣。

trait /treɪt/ n. 特征; 品质e.g. His sense of humour is one of his personality traits.

exhibit /ɪgˈzɪbɪt/ v. 展现; 展出

autonomy /ɔːˈtɑːnəmi/ n. 自主意识; 自主权

entity /'entəti/ n. 实体; 独立存在体e.g. People regarded Québec as a separate cultural entity.

play on/upon sth.利用 (感情) e.g. the marketing strategies that play on/upon people's fears

inclination / ɪnklɪˈneɪʃn/ n. 倾向; 意向e.g. My own inclination would be to look for a job.

拓展内容

Nao 机器人

Nao 机器人是一款人工智能机器人,它拥有着讨人喜欢的外形,而且具备有一定水平的人工智能,能够与人亲切的 互动,还如同真正的人类婴儿一般拥有学习能力。 Nao 机器人能够表现出愤怒、恐惧、悲伤、幸福,兴奋和自豪的情感,当它们在面对一个不可能应付的紧张状况时,如果没有人与其交流,Nao 机器人甚至还会为此生气。

它的"脑子"可以让它记住以往好或坏的体验经验,还可以通过学习身体语言和表情来推断出人的情感变化,并且随着时间的推移"认识"更多的人,并能够分辨这些人不同的行为及面孔。

Nao 是在学术领域世界范围内运用最广泛的 humanoid,创造它的公司 Aldebaran Robotics 将 Nao 的技术开放给所有的高等教育项目,并于 2010 年成立基金会支持在机器人及其应用领域的教学项目。目前已经有超过 5000 个 Nao 被全球 50 个国家的 550 间顶尖高校和实验室购买作为研究工具。