Thursday 23rd 2025

Why Do I Read?

When I had time at evenings or at weekends, I would make time for reading books. No matter what kind of book it is, if it intrigued me I would read it. A few years ago I fortunately found a pair of textbooks which were used by my wife in university. They are collections of various articles, such as short novels, travelling blogs, scientific papers, playwrights and so forth. A prominent professor in a ~~prestigeous~~ language university wrote these books. They were the first Englsih books I have read. Some of the articles are easy without too many academic words while some of them, which are written for the readers with professional knowledge in English literature, are envitably difficult to assimulate. As I have learnt more and more, I could understand them gradually.

***Improved by my tutor***

....which were used by my wife in the university.

prestigious (spelling)

Some of the articles were easy without too many academic words while some of them, which were written for the readers with professional knowledge in English Literature, were inevitable difficult to assimilate.

***Revised by me***

Reading Books

When I had time at evenings or at weekends, I always read books. Although I was utterly exhausted after a daily grinding work, I felt relaxed and thereuputic when reading a book. In such a fast-paced world it is casarstic to slow down to do something in an unhurried manner. Most of the time I read English books. One reason is that I am able to read them. Second is that there are many highly recommended books which have not been translated into Chinese. The last reason is that I can improve my English since I am preparing for an IELTS examination.

A few years ago, I coincidently found two textbooks which used by my wife, who majored English in the university. They are collections of various topics of English articles, like novels, news reports, scientific papers, playwrghts and so forth. Some of them were easy to read; others were difficult due to academic vocabulary. Sometimes I counsulted a dictionary to fully assimilate them. Slowly but gradually, I have make significant progress after months.

A prominent professor in a prestigious foreign language university in China edited them for students. Another Chinese Doctor name WuFeng, who had used these books when he was a student, had an online course to use them as textbooks. The editor of the books was invited as a special guest to guide readers. I learned from them when I was studying for a English degree. Though I decided not to continue my study for English because all the students have to master English literature to pass all the examinations, I have continued learning using English ever since. The Doctor, Mr. Wu, said it was ridiculously difficult and was not necessary. ‘Not all the students will not or don’t have to become speciallists for English literature; it is a job for native speakers’, He added, ‘English is a tool. ‘ I wholeheartedly agree with him. We even don’t know much about Chinese literature, not to mention foreign countries’. Our aim is to express ourselves with fluent and natural English or Chinese. It is absolutely unrealistic for all the students to write essays with metphors or utterly complicated sentences like what famous talented writers did. Writing plain and proper English is enough.