Myths

Apple of discord

海神女兒忒提斯(Thetis)和希臘青年珀琉斯(Peleus)結婚時,大排筵席款

"Apple of discord"來自希臘神話中一段眾女神反目成仇的故事。

待諸神,場面十分偉大。可惜這本來高高興興的大日子,最後演變成著名的特洛 伊戰爭 (The Trojan War)。 因為是次婚宴,諸神都收到邀請,唯獨專管是非爭端的伊利斯(Eris)未收 到邀請。這使她覺得很沒面子,決心為此報仇。於是當婚宴快結束時,她悄悄溜

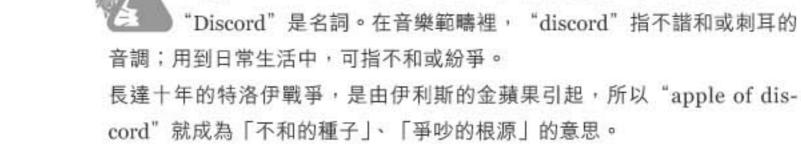
進大廳,留下一個金蘋果,上面寫□「贈給最美麗的女神」。 當時場內眾女神看到金蘋果,都想據為己有。天神之妻希拉(Hera)、智慧女 神雅典娜 (Athena) 和愛與美女神阿佛洛狄德 (Aphrodite) 都爭相要搶這蘋果。

天神宙斯(Zeus)無法解決,眼見無論判給哪位,都會激怒其他兩位,於是便將

這難題推給特洛伊(Troy)的王子帕里斯(Paris)裁決。 三位女神為了獲得金蘋果,各自討好帕里斯:希拉答應給他王國和權力; 雅典娜賜他文才武略和勝利之榮譽;阿佛洛狄德送他絕色美女和愛情。年青的 王子選擇後者,於是把金蘋果判給阿佛洛狄德。這使希拉和雅典娜大為不滿,

她們發誓要找機會算這筆帳。這件爭相做最美麗女神事件,引發後來著名的特

洛伊戰爭。



1. She is an apple of discord wherever she goes. 她無論去到哪裡,都成為引起爭端的種子。 2. Nuclear power has become a modern day apple of discord between countries.

"Apple of discord" 意思是「引起爭端的蘋果」、「不和的種子」。

"Discord" 是名詞。在音樂範疇裡, "discord" 指不諧和或刺耳的

3. Unfortunately, money is very often an apple of discord between family members. 很可惜,金錢很多時候是家族成員之間不和的導火線。

in discord, apple of discord, an apple of discord.

1. He is not speaking to his sister now. The _____

2. He wants to be a musician, but the music he writes is _____ 3. He is happy to have a puppy for his birthday present. But who should take care of it is already

Fill in the blanks with the following:

核能成為了現代國家爭吵的原因。

newly bought Play Station.



阿拉伯神話《一千零一夜》(A Thousand and One Nights) 中有這樣一個故

事:阿拉丁(Aladdin)是蘇丹國內一個裁縫的兒子,年少時遇到騙子。騙子訛稱

是其叔父,哄他到山洞找神燈。他們來到山洞,騙子□阿拉丁獨自入洞內,找到

恭敬敬地對他説:「主人,我是你的僕人,請問你有甚麼吩咐?」阿拉丁便命他

阿拉丁安全回家,把燈擱在一旁,也就忘得一乾二淨。一天打掃時,發現神

燈鋪滿塵垢,打算擦乾淨便賣掉它。誰知一擦,一個巨人站在面前,自稱是神燈

的奴隸,能滿足主人一切要求。阿拉丁於是要他弄些吃的,他果然送來豐盛的食

把自己救出洞。一眨眼,阿拉丁發現自己拿□燈,站在洞外。

物,且全以金銀器皿盛載。阿拉丁吃飽後,連器皿也賣掉。

Part

Five

阿拉丁果然找到神燈,不過他要騙子先拉他上去。騙子恐阿拉丁發現燈的神

神燈後遞出洞口給他。

Great Literatures

Aladdin's lamp

奇力量,狠毒地用石蓋住洞口,想把阿拉丁困在裡面餓死。阿拉丁在洞內呆了三 天三夜,無意中摸了一下騙子早前給他的戒指,忽然有個大個子在眼前出現,恭

後來阿拉丁看上蘇丹公主。蘇丹王説:「要娶公主必須在三個月內送來金銀 財寶作聘禮,並要建造一座離宮。」在神燈幫助下,阿拉丁果然夢想成真!誰 知,在遠方的騙子算出阿拉丁現況,便到蘇丹國用計騙走神燈。神燈被騙後,所 有由神燈變出來的東西都消失得無影無蹤。

此,英語中 "Aladdin's lamp"的意思是能實現一切願望的法寶。 1. Don't dream of becoming Cinderella anymore! In our society, knowledge is the true Aladdin's lamp for everyone! 不要再做夢變成灰姑娘了!在今天的社會,知識才是每個人實現夢想的 最有效工具。 2. "What is your Aladdin's lamp?" The reporter asked the famous foot-

baller. He replied, "It is practice, practice, and practice."

_____, not Aladdin's lamp.

. It is only a story.

記者問著名足球員:「甚麼是你的成功秘訣?」他説:「就是練習,練

1. Wake up! Don't dream! This is just an ordinary old

2. It is no use going to the second hand shop everyday, you will never find

3. Don't be silly. It is only an ordinary pen, not ______. If

4. Many Hong Kong people believe that winning the lottery is the same as

you do not study, you will fail in your test tomorrow even when you use

Fill in the blanks with the following expressions and words:

一切願望的法寶」。

習,和練習。」

Aladdin's lamp, lamp.

having _____.

"Aladdin's lamp" 字面意思是「阿拉丁的神燈」, 引申為「能實現

故事中有了「阿拉丁的神燈」,就能擁有一切;失去它就一切化為烏有。因

些情況開始。

們不及格。

this pen.

"Apple polishing" 意思是拍馬屁或阿諛奉承之類的事情,可以説是有人類

社會就已經存在。但在英語中, "polish the apple"、 "apple-polish" 和

"apple polisher" 等習語的用法,卻只有五、六十年歷史,由美國小學教室的一

曾經有很長的一段時間,美國學校的學生會在教師的桌子上,放一個鮮嫩

的蘋果。他們還把蘋果擦得鮮豔欲滴,讓它看來更加美味可口!學生這樣的行

動,最初可能確實是出於對老師的尊敬,但後來有些人便藉□這個看來新鮮美

味的蘋果來討好老師,希望老師能對他們一塌糊塗的功課網開一面,不要令他

久而久之,那些把蘋果擦亮送給老師的學生就被稱為 "apple polisher"

推展到社會各方面。凡是送禮討好別人的人都被稱為 "apple polisher",他們的 行為稱為 "apple polishing", 動詞形式為 "polish the apple"。

了!這種行為雖然在教室開始,但漸漸的,用此習語的人多了,範圍也由課室

"Apple polishing (or, polish the apple)" 字面意思是「擦亮蘋 果」,引申為「拍馬屁」。 "Polish" 是動詞,在這裡用作擦亮的意思。由美國教室的一個習慣開始的 "polish the apple",變成今天指為了達到目的而刻意討好別人的行為。 另外,在英語中還有兩個與 "polish the apple" 意思相同的短語,都指 「阿諛奉承」的行為,例如:"to soft soap"字面指「輕輕的抹上肥皂」, 抹上肥皂後表面滑溜溜的,一切自然順利。 "To butter up"字面指「塗上

way to success. We should think carefully when watching these films. 有些流行電影傳播錯誤訊息,讓人以為阿謏奉承是通往成功之路,我們

May's classmates do not like her because she polishes the apple all the time.

had been an apple polisher to get support from different people.

Fill in the following with these words and expressions: apple polisher, apple polishing, polish, polish the apple.

Part

Six

Stories of Everyday Life

Apple polishing

討好別人的行為自古以來已有,就連英國資產階級革命領袖奧利佛,克 倫威爾也曾致送很多禮物企圖獲得各方領袖的支持。

阿美的同學都不喜歡她,因為她時常刻意討好老師。 3. Some popular films spread the wrong message that apple polishing is the 觀看時要謹慎思考。

1. Today is spring cleaning. The most important thing is to the windows and floor to make them shine.

Every co-worker respects him because he is never an ______. 3. His friends do not trust him because he spends all his time to

牛油」,有牛油的麵包當然更滑、更美味!那麼事情便好辦了。 1. Apple polishing has been present for a long time. Even Oliver Cromwell

4. _____ the teacher is useless. If you want to pass the

examination, you need to work hard.