

A Pool of
Examples
For
SAT Essay

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郑重声明

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I Great Souls

Ø Nelson Mandela

Mandela, the South African black political leader and former president, was awarded 1993 Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts to antiracism and antiapartheid. Nelson Mandela is one of the great moral and political leaders of our time: an international hero whose lifelong dedication to the fight against racial oppression in South Africa won him the Nobel Peace Prize and the presidency of his country. Since his triumphant release in 1990 from more than a quarter-century of imprisonment, Mandela has been at the centre of the most compelling and inspiring political drama in the world. As president of the African National Congress and head of South Africa's antiapartheid movement, he was instrumental in moving the nation toward multiracial government and majority rule. He is revered everywhere as a vital force in the fight for human rights and racial equality. (138)

Ø Gandhi

Mahatma Gandhi was the pre-eminent political and spiritual leader of India during the Indian independence movement. He was the pioneer of the resistance to tyranny through mass civil disobedience, firmly founded upon total non-violence—which led India to independence and has inspired movements for civil rights and freedom across the world. He is officially honored in India as the Father of the Nation. After assuming leadership of the Indian National Congress in 1921, Gandhi led nationwide campaigns to ease poverty, expand women's rights, build religious and ethnic amity, and increase economic self-reliance. Above all, he aimed to achieve the independence of India from foreign domination. Later he campaigned against the British to Quit India. Gandhi spent a number of years in jail in both South Africa and India. (128)

Additionally, Gandhi influenced important leaders and political movements. Leaders of the civil rights movement in the United States, including Martin Luther King and James Lawson, drew from the writings of Gandhi in the development of their own theories about non-violence. Anti-apartheid activist and former President of South Africa, Nelson Mandela, was inspired by Gandhi. Prior to becoming President of the United States, then-Senator Barack Obama noted that: Throughout my life, I have always looked to Mahatma Gandhi as an inspiration, because he embodies the kind of transformational change that can be made when ordinary people come together to do extraordinary things. That is why his portrait hangs in my Senate office: to remind me that real results will come not just from Washington – they will come from the people. (129)

Ø Martin Luther King

Martin Luther King, Jr. was an American clergyman, activist and prominent leader in the African-American civil right movement. His main legacy was to secure progress on civil rights in the United States and he is frequently referenced as a human rights icon today.

King led the 1955 Montgomery Bus Boycott and helped found the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in 1957, serving as its first president. King's efforts led to the 1963 March on Washington, where King delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech. There, he raised public consciousness of the civil rights movement and established himself as one of the greatest orators in U.S. history. By the time of his death in 1968, he had refocused his efforts on ending poverty and opposing the Vietnam War, both from a religious perspective.

In 1964, King became the youngest person to receive the Nobel Peace Prize for his work to end racial segregation and racial discrimination through civil disobedience and other non-violent means. He was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1977 and Congressional Gold Medal in 2004; Martin Luther King, Jr. Day was established as a U.S. national holiday in 1986. (192)

Ø Mother Teresa

Mother Teresa was an Albanian Roman Catholic nun with Indian citizenship who founded the Missionaries of Charity in Calcutta, India in 1950. For over 45 years she ministered to the poor, sick, orphaned, and dying, while guiding the Missionaries of Charity's expansion.

Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity continued to expand, and at the time of her death it was operating 610 missions in 123 countries, including hospices and homes for people with HIV/AIDS, leprosy and tuberculosis, children's and family counseling programs, and schools.

By the 1970s she was internationally famed as a humanitarian and advocated for the poor and helpless. She won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979 and India's highest civilian honor, the Bharat Ratna in 1980 for her humanitarian work. (122)

Ø Susan B. Anthony

Although I am not a feminist, I admire Susan B. Anthony for her daring to hold on to her view even being mocked cruelly by her contemporaries. A tireless civil rights worker, Anthony devoted her life to the work which has guaranteed women's basic right, including suffrage and equal protections under law. She believed that men and women are created equal and persevered unremittingly in opening doors and expanding acceptable modes of behavior for women. In the patriarchy society of her time, people considered her unladylike and ridiculous. However, 19th Amendment to the Constitution gives women's rights to vote, which established Susan B. Anthony as a bold revolutionary feminist in history. (111)

Ø Margaret Sanger

Margaret Sanger sparked the birth control movement with the publication of *The Woman Rebel*, in which she encourages women to view conception as a choice rather than an obligation. In 1923, her tireless efforts resulted in the establishment of America's first legal birth control clinic, which served as a contraceptive dispensary and research facility under the auspices of the American Birth Control League (one of the groups that eventually morphed into Planned Parenthood). The birth control movement has had far-reaching, worldwide implications, from women's rights to population control to the sexual revolution. (92)

Ø Thomas Paine

At the beginning of the American Revolution, the American colonies were, with hesitancy and troublesome doubts, moving toward independence. Few people favored complete independence, while others, firmly believed in conservative thoughts, wished to send more petitions and appeals to the King. At that time, Thomas Paine appeal the colonies to separate themselves from Britain and to make America one place in world where freedom and love of humankind could flourish. His famous pamphlet, Common Sense, was outspoken, touché, pierce to the truth with a single pertinent remark. It impressed deeply upon everyone's mind that his belief become one of the most important ideology of the American Revolution. (107)

Ø Socrates & Plato

Socrates, despite his foundational place in the history of ideas, actually wrote nothing because he felt that knowledge was a living, interactive thing. Most of our knowledge of him comes from the works of Plato. Since Plato had other concerns in mind than simple historical accuracy, it is impossible to determine how much of his thinking actually derives from Socrates. The most accurate of Plato's writings on Socrates is probably the Apology. It is Plato's account of Socrates' defense at his trial. It is clear, however, that Plato dressed up Socrates' speech to turn it into a justification for Socrates' life and his death. In it, Plato outlines some of Socrates' most famous philosophical ideas: the necessity of doing what one thinks is right even in the face of universal opinion, and the need to pursue knowledge even when opposed. (140)

Ø Ruby Bridges

Ruby Bridges played an important part in the Civil Rights Movement and the early development of equality of education. In her childhood, people wanted to keep blacks and whites separate. For example, blacks and whites had separate drinking fountains, blacks had to sit in the back of buses, and blacks and whites each had their own separate schools. White people didn't want blacks going to their schools because they thought blacks should not be treated as equals. Some white people threatened to poison Ruby and hurt her if she went to their school. On the first day of school in 1960, Ruby saw some people dragging their white kids out of the classrooms because they didn't want their kids going to the same school as a black kid. For the rest of the year, she was the only one in her class and she was taught on a whole different floor from all the other kids. The principal and many teachers also didn't think Ruby should be taught with the white children. However, Ruby, with determination and the faith of equality, persevered in her school work and graduated finally. She was one of the first black Americans to go to an all-white school. This helped make it easier for other blacks to go to white schools, get a better education, and help improve relations between blacks and whites. (221)

I Bright Minds**Ø Newton**

Newton's aim at Cambridge was a law degree. Instruction at Cambridge was dominated by the philosophy of Aristotle but some freedom of study was allowed in the third year of the course. Newton had a golden opportunity to study an abundance of great minds: the philosophy of Descartes, Gassendi, Hobbes, and in particular Boyle. The mechanics of the Copernican astronomy of Galileo attracted him and he also studied Kepler's Optics. It is a fascinating account of how Newton's ideas were formed. He collected all these thoughts and developed his own system by which he successfully explained a wide range of previously unrelated phenomena: the eccentric orbits of comets, the procession of the Earth's axis, and motion of the Moon as perturbed by the gravity of the Sun, as well as the three laws of motion that made him an international leader in scientific research and the greatest pilot in human's civilization. (157)

Ø Darwin's Origin of Species

The theory of evolution is one of the great intellectual revolutions of human history. Hundreds of years ago, people were confused with the complexity of different species of the world, and believed that species were created by the mysterious God. However, Darwin did not believe so. After several years' study, he eventually demonstrated that species, however complex seemingly, all evolved by natural selection from simple and preliminary conditions. When Darwin published his famous research results on the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection, the book encountered lots of controversies. Members of the religious community, as well as some scientific peers, were outraged and protested. However, Darwin's idea of evolution eventually defeated the traditional belief and was accepted and acknowledged by some insightful scientists and finally by the society. It is now revered as one of the greatest intellectual revolutions of human history. (144)

Ø Nicolaus Copernicus

Nicolaus Copernicus was a Polish mathematician and astronomer who proposed that the sun was stationary in the center of the universe and the earth revolved around it. Disturbed by the failure of Ptolemy's geocentric model of the universe to follow Aristotle's requirement for the uniform circular motion of all celestial bodies, Copernicus decided that he could achieve his goal only through a heliocentric model. He thereby created a concept of a universe in which the distances of the planets from the sun bore a direct relationship to the size of their orbits. At the time Copernicus's heliocentric idea was very controversial; nevertheless, it was the start of a change in the way the world was viewed, and Copernicus came to be seen as the initiator of the Scientific Revolution. (129)

Ø Galileo Galilei

Galileo Galilei was an Italian physicist, mathematician, astronomer, and philosopher who played a major role in the Scientific Revolution. His achievements include improvements to the telescope and consequent astronomical observations, and support for Copernicanism. Galileo's observations about four satellites of Jupiter with his new telescope convinced him of the truth of Copernicus's sun-centered or heliocentric theory. Galileo has been called the "father of modern

observational astronomy," the "father of modern physics," and "the Father of Modern Science." Stephen Hawking says, "Galileo, perhaps more than any other single person, was responsible for the birth of modern science." (96)

Ø Christopher Columbus

In 1485, Columbus presented his plans to John II, King of Portugal. He requested he be made "Great Admiral of the Ocean", appointed governor of any and all lands he discovered, and given one-tenth of all revenue from those lands. The king submitted the proposal to his experts and rejected it. In 1488 Columbus appealed to the court of Portugal once again, and once again it also proved unsuccessful. Then, Columbus travelled from Portugal to both Genoa and Venice, but he received encouragement from neither. In 1486, Columbus presented his plans to Queen Isabella. After the passing of much time, these savants of Spain, like their counterparts in Portugal, pronounced the idea impractical, and advised their Royal Highnesses to pass on the proposed venture. But after endless attempts at establishing a settlement of Hispanism, Catholic Monarchs finally gave him an annual allowance of 12,000 maravedis and furnished him with a letter ordering all cities and towns under their domain to provide him food and lodging with which Columbus successfully initiated widespread contact between Europeans and indigenous Americans and carved out the cross-continental trade market. (183)

Ø John Nash

Before 1950, Adam Smith was respected as "the father of Game Theory", he wrote a famous book named *The Wealth of Nations* and demonstrated "perfect competition" which was commonly accepted by people. There is a sentence from the book "Individual ambition serious the common good" which means when each individual pursue his own interests, the benefits of the group will be improved most effectively. However, John Nash, a normal mathematician in Princeton University, created a theory "Nash Equilibrium" which laid the foundation of Game Theory in 1950. He doubted the statement from Adam Smith, and he succeeded. John Nash wrote a 28 pages dissertation to argue a new theory. Due to the fact that personal benefits conflict each other, the interest of a group will be harmed. To ensure the interests of whole group, individuals should find equilibrium between the personal and group interests. Consequently, John Nash received the Nobel Prize in economics and fundamentally reformed the arena of economics. (160)

Ø Alfred Bernhard Nobel

Alfred Bernhard Nobel was a Swedish chemist, engineer, innovator, armaments manufacturer and the inventor of dynamite. To be able to detonate the dynamite rods he also invented a detonator which could be ignited by lighting a fuse. The market for dynamite and detonating caps grew very rapidly and Alfred Nobel also proved himself to be a very skillful entrepreneur and businessman. He later produced ballistite, one of the first smokeless powders. At the time of his death, his will provide his enormous fortune of the major portion of \$9 million estate to institute the Nobel Prize, a yearly prize for merit in physics, chemistry, medicine and physiology, literature, and world peace. The synthetic element nobelium was named after him. (119)

Ø Thomas Edison

In 19th century, people could only get light from candles, but it suffered from several disadvantages, including exorbitantly high price and inadequate lightness. Thomas Edison, one of the most prominent inventors in the 20th century, overcame 1500 failures and suitable filament for electric light bulb which were affordable for all people to buy and use. He tried numerous materials such as iron, copper, aluminum, silver, hair, even his colleague's brown beard, but he fails all times. Nevertheless he did not give up and dedicated himself in finding the best material. The belief held by him was that "we will make the electricity so cheap that only the rich will burn candles." He had the first successful experiment in 1879, finding that carbon filament can last over 40 hours, but he and his team were not satisfied for that. Through hundreds of tough trying, they finally found carbonized bamboo filament which could last over 1200 hours. Furthermore, the light bulbs invented by Edison with the most suitable filament have not only lit up the world, but influenced people's lives all over the world until now. (185)

Ø The Wright Brothers

The Wright brothers, credited with inventing and building the world's first successful airplane. But equally important is that they have walked a long way and endured numerous failures hardships and frustrations before the final success.

1900 Glider

In the first tests, the glider flew as a kite not far above the ground with men below holding tether ropes. Most of the kite tests were unpowered with sandbags or chains (and even a local boy) as onboard ballast. Although the glider's lift was less than expected, the brothers were encouraged because the craft's front elevator worked well and they had no accidents. However, the small number of free glides meant they were not able to give wing-warping a true test.

1901 Glider

Hoping to improve lift, they built the 1901 glider with a much larger wing area and made 50 to 100 flights. The glider, however, delivered another disappointment. It produced only about one-third the lift calculated and sometimes failed to respond properly to wing-warping. Back home, putting aside the three-wheel bicycle, they built a tunnel. The devices allowed the brothers to balance lift against drag and accurately calculate the performance of each wing.

1902 Glider and final success

The Wrights designed their 1902 glider, using another crucial discovery from the wind tunnel while they made the airfoil flatter. The improved wing design enabled consistently longer glides. With their new method the Wrights achieved true control in turns for the first time in 1902, a major milestone. On March 23, 1903, the Wrights applied for their famous patent for a "Flying Machine", based on their successful 1902 glider. They asserted that perfection of the 1902 glider essentially represents invention of the airplane. (280)

Ø Henry Ford

Henry Ford, one of the most influential inventors in the history, was always inattentive in school. Once, he and a friend took a watch apart to probe the principle behind it. Angry and upset, the teacher punished him both to stay after school. Their punishment was to stay until they had fixed the watch. But the teacher did not know young Ford's genius, in ten minutes; this mechanical wizard had repaired the watch and was on his way home. It is imagination that invigorated Ford to make a thorough inquiry about things he did not know. He once plugged up the spout of a teapot and placed it on the fire. Then he waited to see what would happen. The water boiled and, of course, turned to steam. Since the steam had no way to escape, the teapot exploded. The explosion cracked a mirror and broke a window. Ford's year of curiosity and tinkering paid off, when he built his imagination of horseless carriage into reality, the history of transportation was changed forever. (173)

Ø Alexander Fleming

Scottish physician Alexander Fleming accidentally discovered the ability of molds to destroy sickness-causing bacteria, when he noticed that mold growing on a staphylococcus culture had killed parts of the culture. Penicillin, the antibiotic derived from mold, allows doctors to easily treat patients for a variety of ailments previously considered incurable, including pneumonia, tetanus, gangrene, and scarlet fever as well as more mundane illnesses like respiratory and ear infections. (69)

Ø Yuan Longping

Yuan Longping is a Chinese agricultural scientist and educator, known for developing the first hybrid rice varieties in the 1970s. He is called "The Father of Hybrid Rice". His "hybrid rice" has since been grown in dozens of countries in Africa, America, and Asia—providing a robust food source in high famine risk areas. By his achievement, the Earth is able to produce extra rice equivalent to the food requirement by tens of millions of population. His achievement as a victory over the threat of famine and that Yuan was ushering us into a world with ample food. (98)

I Virtuous Hearts

Ø Audrey Hepburn

Audrey Hepburn was a British actress and humanitarian during the Second World War. Hepburn played the lead female role in *Roman Holiday*, winning an Academy Award, and a Golden Globe for her performance. Soon after Hepburn's final film role, she was appointed a goodwill ambassador to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). She dedicated the remainder of her life to helping impoverished children in the poorest nations. In 1992, President George H. W. Bush presented her with the Presidential Medal of Freedom in recognition of her work with UNICEF, and the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences awarded her The Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award for her contribution to humanity. (110)

Ø Bill Gates

Bill Gates, the chairman of Microsoft is one of the best-known entrepreneurs of the personal computer revolution and is also ranked consistently one of the world's wealthiest people. Gates has pursued a number of philanthropic endeavors, donating large amounts of money to various charitable organizations and scientific research programs. After studied the work of Andrew Carnegie and John D. Rockefeller, Gates began to realize the expectations others had of him when public opinion mounted that he could give more of his wealth to charity. In 2000, Gates and his wife combined three family foundations into one to create the charitable Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, which is the largest transparently operated charitable foundation in the world. As of 2007, Bill and Melinda Gates were the second most generous philanthropists in America, having given over \$28 billion to charity. (138)

Ø Warren Buffett

Warren Buffett is a U.S. investor, and businessman. In 2006, he announced a plan to charity, with 83% of his fortune going to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, making it the largest charitable donation in history. The following quotation highlights Warren Buffett's thoughts on his wealth. "I don't have a problem with guilt about money. The way I see it is that my money represents an enormous number of claim checks on society. It's like I have these little pieces of paper that I can turn into consumption. If I wanted to, I could hire 10,000 people to do nothing but paint my picture every day for the rest of my life and I would be keeping those 10,000 people from doing AIDS research, or teaching, or nursing. There's nothing material I want very much. And I'm going to give virtually all of those claim checks to charity when my wife and I die." (156)

Ø Henry Norman Bethune

Bethune was a Canadian physician and medical innovator. Bethune is best known for his service in war time medical units during the Spanish Civil War and with the People's Liberation Army during the Second Sino-Japanese War. In China, Bethune performed emergency battlefield surgical operations on war casualties and established training for doctors, nurses and orderlies. He did not distinguish between casualties, treating wounded Japanese prisoners as well as Chinese. (69)

Ø Jet Li (The One Foundation)

The One Foundation was founded by Chinese Red Cross ambassador Jet Li in April 2007, focused on promoting philanthropic activities and spirit by addressing issues related to the environment, education, health, poverty, and disaster relief in order to facilitate strong growth of China's social sector. Its idea is 1 Person + 1 Dollar/Yuan + 1 Month = 1 Big Family. (60)

Ø Helen Keller

Helen Keller was a well-known American author, political activist and lecturer. When she became blind and deaf from an undiagnosed illness at the age of two, it was regarded as a mission impossible for her to be as capable as normal people. However, her ambition of helping and learning from others motivated her to change gradually from a pessimist to an optimist, supported her to break through the isolation imposed by a near complete lack of literacy, let her became the first deaf blind person to earn a BA degree, and eventually, made her maintained

many remarkable achievements in dissimilar fields. As a prolific author, Keller was well traveled and was outspoken in her opposition to war. She campaigned for women's suffrage, workers' rights, and socialism, as well as many other progressive causes. Her splendid achievements as an example, not only make her known by the world as a symbol of ambition and courage in the face of overwhelming odds, but also an icon of hope, justice and goodness. (170)

Ø Stephen Hawking

Stephen Hawking is a British theoretical physicist. He is known for his contributions to the fields of cosmology and quantum gravity, especially in the context of black holes. Hawking's achievements were made despite the increasing paralysis caused by the ALS. By 1974, he was unable to feed himself or get out of bed. His speech became slurred so that he could only be understood by people who knew him well. In 1985, he caught pneumonia and had to have a tracheotomy, which made him unable to speak at all. Although having been afflicted by these enormous and unbelievable diseases and misery, Hawking was not beaten. He is a world-renowned theoretical physicist whose scientific career spans over 40 years. His books and public appearances have made him an academic celebrity. He is an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, and a lifetime member of the Pontifical Academy of Science. On August 12, 2009, he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian award in the United States. (170)

Ø Nick Vujicic

Nick Vujicic is a preacher, a motivational speaker. He regularly gives speeches across subject of disability and hope. Vujicic was born with the Tetra-Amelia disorder: limbless, missing both arms at shoulder level and legless but with two small feet, one of which has two toes. His life was filled with difficulties and hardships. Being bullied at his school, Vujicic grew extremely depressed and started contemplating suicide. After begging God to grow arms and legs, Nick eventually began to realize that his accomplishments were inspirational to many, and began to thank God for being alive. A key turning point in his life was when his mother showed him a newspaper article about a man dealing with a severe disability. This led him to realize he wasn't the only one with major struggles. After graduation from college, he began his travels as a motivational speaker, focusing on the topics on hope and struggle. So far, he has spoken to over two million people so far, in twelve countries on four continents. In his DVD he said: "No Arms, No Legs, No Worries", "Attitude Is Altitude". (180)

I Pure Pleasure

Ø Paul Potts

Paul Potts is a British pop opera tenor who won the *Britain's Got Talent* in 2007, singing an operatic aria, "Nessun dorma" from Puccini's *Turandot*. Potts was a manager at a mobile phone store who also performed in amateur opera from 1999 to 2003. Potts first sang opera in 1999 in a karaoke competition, dressed as Luciano Pavarotti. That same year, he appeared in a musical quiz show. Although he did not take first place, he was selected to perform in front of Pavarotti.

Potts broke his collarbone and suffered whiplash in a bicycle accident in 2003, which prevented him from pursuing opera as a career. The mishap and financial difficulties that followed led him to enter Britain's Got Talent despite not having sung in years. (126)

Ø Susan Boyle

Susan Margaret Boyle is a Scottish singer who came to international public attention in 2009 after she appeared as a contestant on Britain's Got Talent. Boyle became known when she sang "I Dreamed a Dream" in the competition. In the final of the third series of the show, Boyle finished in second place. When she appeared on the Britain Got Talent stage for the first time, the audience and judges appeared apprehensive and judgmental of her frumpy appearances. Upon finishing her song, she received a standing ovation from the live audience and unanimous praise from the judges. Simon Cowell is reported to be setting up a contract with Boyle with Sony Music. (113)

Ø Vincent Van Gogh

Vincent van Gogh is today regarded as one of history's greatest, most influential artists, and an important contributor to the foundations of modern art. Little appreciated during his lifetime, his reputation vastly increased in the years after his death. A central figure in his life was his younger brother Theo, an art dealer who continually and selflessly provided financial and emotional support to the troubled artist. Their lifelong friendship, and most of what is known of Vincent's thoughts and theories of art, is recorded in the hundreds of letters they exchanged from August 1872. By autumn 1882, Theo had enabled him to do his first paintings, but the amount Theo could supply was soon spent. Then, in spring 1883, Van Gogh turned to renowned Hague School artists like Weissenbruch and Blommers, and received technical support from them, as well as from painters like De Bock and Van der Weele. (150)

Ø Salvador Dali

As an art student in Madrid and Barcelona, Dali assimilated a vast number of artistic styles and displayed unusual technical facility as a painter. Most importantly, he rejected to follow the rules docilely and appeared a sharp contrast with the conventional painting style. He depicted a dream world in which commonplace objects are juxtaposed, deformed, or otherwise metamorphosed in a bizarre and irrational fashion. One of his previous mentors who had expected him to be a new rising star in European art became disappointed due to his attitude towards the traditional art. Some of Dali's bosom friends even discouraged him from being so unorthodox in order to chime in with the taste of the mainstream and to keep the pot boiling, but Dali refused that all and continued to bring up images from his subconscious mind. He induced hallucinatory states in himself by a process he described as "paranoiac critical". Once Dali hit on this method, his painting style matured with extraordinary rapidity, and from 1929 to 1937 he produced the painting that made him the world's best-known artist. (179)

Ø Beethoven

Beethoven, the German Composer, began to lose his hearing in 1801 and was entirely deaf by 1819. However, this obstacle could not keep him from becoming one of the most famous and prolific composers in art history. His music, including 9 symphonies, 5 piano concertos, several senates and so on, forms a transition from classical to romantic composition. (58)

Ø Leonard Bernstein

Contrary to legend, the golden boy did have some lean times. In 1942, Bernstein moved to New York City armed with glowing references, but couldn't find work. Lyricist Irving Caesar happened to hear him play the piano and thought he resembled his former collaborator George Gershwin. Bernstein told him that he needed \$10 a week to stay alive. "What!" Caesar exclaimed. "You, a genius, starving? Ten dollars a week for a genius? I'll get you fifty!" and promptly got him a job transcribing music. Within two years Bernstein had published his first symphony, written a successful ballet, and had a hit Broadway show. Though he had become white-haired and craggy, he retained the passion and quickness of a wunderkind and more importantly, maintained a golden friendship with Caesar till Caesar died. (131)

Ø James Cameron

James Cameron is a Canadian film director, producer, screenwriter, editor, and inventor. In total, Cameron's directorial efforts made him one of the highest-grossing directors of all time. Cameron's *Titanic* and *Avatar* are the two highest-grossing films of all time. *Avatar* is composed almost entirely of computer-generated animation, using a more advanced version of the "performance capture". James Cameron wrote an 80-page scriptment for *Avatar* in 1995 and originally intended *Avatar* to be 3D-only. So important is technology in Cameron's films that he waited years for the technical tools of the craft to advance sufficiently to realize his vision for *Avatar*, for which he had special 3-D cameras developed. The film went on to break the record for highest-grossing film ever, beating Cameron's previous film *Titanic*. *Avatar* also became the first movie to ever earn more than \$2 billion worldwide. It was nominated for nine Academy Awards, including Best Picture and Best Director. (112)

Ø J. K. Rowling

J. K. Rowling is a British author best known as the creator of the *Harry Potter fantasy series*, the idea for which was conceived whilst on a train trip from Manchester to London in 1990. The Potter books have gained worldwide attention, won multiple awards, sold more than 400 million copies, and been the basis for a popular series of films.

However, in December of the year that first Potter Novel has been made, Rowling's mother died, after her ten-year battle with multiple sclerosis. Rowling commented, "I was writing Harry Potter at the moment my mother died. I had never told her about Harry Potter." Rowling said this death heavily affected her writing and that she introduced much more detail about Harry's loss in the first book, because she knew about how it felt. Additionally, during the period when Rowling lived with her sister in Edinburgh, she was diagnosed with clinical depression, and contemplated suicide. It was the feeling of her illness which brought her the idea of Dementors, soulless creatures featured in Harry Potter. (114)

Ø Teng Hung-Chi

Since childhood, Teng has enjoyed learning about appliances by taking them apart. His curiosity and persistence have helped him create many quality innovations. The inspiration of his most famous invention, auto-flush toilet, came in 1983 during an exhausting day of work as a mechanic. While using the restroom, Teng didn't want to dirty the urinal by pressing the flush button with his greasy hands. He began thinking about how to combine an infrared sensor with a water valve. Two months later, his invention was completed, and Teng sold the patent for 1.5 million NT dollars! Since then, Teng's creative inventions have earned him the title "Taiwan's Edison." Teng's passionate interest in inventing has helped him win many prizes at the annual World Invention Contest. But behind these prestigious awards lie days and nights of continuous hard work. In 1999, Teng's "Remote Control Pager Device" made him the first Asian winner of the Genius Prize at the Nuremberg World Invention Exhibition. During his award acceptance speech, Teng said "As long as you can endure loneliness and stay curious and active, becoming an inventor isn't difficult at all." (186)

Ø Sports Teamwork

Sports offer some of the finest examples of teamwork. Great athletes always acknowledge that a great team, not just a great individual wins championships. As one of the greatest American baseball players, George Herman Ruth once said, "The way a team plays as a whole determines its success." For example, a football running back and quarterback's ability are totally dependent on the strength of their offensive line. A basketball center's ability in scoring is mainly dependent on his team's willingness to pass him the ball. Even a NASCAR driver's finish depends on the speed and skill of his pit crew. In addition, Teamwork has also become increasingly acknowledged as an essential skill for employees in both small and large companies. In today's increasingly global economy competition, company places a premium value on teamwork in their workplace. Like for example, companies that produce goods on one continent and then over a matter of a few days must transport, store and deliver them to customers on another continent, teamwork is not just important, it is essential. (174)

I Top Focuses

Ø Technological changes

In a culture which emails, cell phones and internet chat room have become everyday modes of communication, we are on the verge of breaking down all barriers to the complete and constant transfer of information. But if we seem to be moving toward unfetter union, we could also be seen more isolated as individuals than we have ever been before. Changes in technology definitely make our lives easier, as shopping at home becomes easier than driving to the store, as meeting people online eliminates the need to spend a lot of time traveling, and as faxing someone a blueprint gets rid of necessity of meeting to discuss a plan. However, the very technology that purports to make connections and bring people closer together is helping them drift apart. One can absolutely recall some scenes which you were sitting alone in your bedroom busily talking to someone on msn while rejecting the proposal to shop with your families or you

was having lunch with friends while talking to someone else on your cell phones. All these convenient technologies, including online services that prevent us from going out and meeting a real person and cell phones that reduce the real human interaction, do not necessarily make us better. (201)

Ø The Threats from Environmental Pollution to Human Health

Adverse air quality can kill many organisms including humans. Ozone pollution can cause respiratory disease, cardiovascular disease, throat inflammation, chest pain, and congestion. In India, air pollution is believed to cause 527,700 fatalities a year. Studies have estimated that the number of people killed annually in the US could be over 50,000. Water pollution causes approximately 14,000 deaths per day, mostly due to contamination of drinking water by untreated sewage in developing countries. An estimated 700 million Indians have no access to a proper toilet, and 1,000 Indian children die of diarrheal sickness every day. Nearly 500 million Chinese lack access to safe drinking water. 656,000 people die prematurely each year in China because of air pollution. (117)

Ø Environment pollution & Economic inequality

Since the Industrial Revolution, our environment has been in imminent danger. For example, a dramatic summer drought helped public focus their attentions on the greenhouse effect, a general warming of temperature on Earth, which is caused by an increase in atmospheric carbon dioxide released by burning fossil fuels like coals, gasoline products and rapid deforestation. Along with the rapid technology advance is the emergence of acid rain, ecological wasteland and natural disasters such as flood and hurricane. Not only to environment, but also to some people changes in today's seemingly progressive world are not always good. The booming America saw a growing economic inequality. In 2004, number of millionaire household in America increased by 14% as the number of people living below the poverty line rose to about 37 million, including 15 million children. The annual budget passed by Congress in 2005 severely cut programs essential to struggling families, including child assistance and medical funding for the poor. Left in such desperate condition, the poor could hardly appreciate these changes. (170)

Ø Global Warming

An increase in global temperature will cause sea levels to rise and will change the amount and pattern of precipitation, probably including expansion of subtropical deserts. Warming is expected to be strongest in the Arctic and would be associated with continuing retreat of glaciers, permafrost and sea ice. Other likely effects include changes in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, species extinctions, and changes in agricultural yields. Warming and related changes will vary from region to region around the globe, though the nature of these regional variations is uncertain. (91)

Ø The Great Smog

The Great Smog was a severe air pollution event that affected London in December 1952. A period of cold weather combined with an anticyclone and windless conditions, collected airborne pollutants mostly from the use of coal to form a thick layer of smog over the city. In the weeks followed, statistics compiled by medical services found that the fog had killed more than 4000 people. Most of the victims were very young, elderly, or had pre-existing respiratory problems. (78)

Ø Nuclear Science

Nuclear power is power produced from controlled nuclear reactions. Commercial plants in use to date use nuclear fission reactions. In 2007, 14% of the world's electricity came from nuclear power. However, the development of nuclear science introduced radioactive contamination, which can remain lethally radioactive for hundreds of thousands of years. Lake Karachay, named by the Worldwatch Institute as the "most polluted spot" on earth, and the area of Chelyabinsk served as disposal sites for the Soviet Union throughout the 1950s and 1960s. Additionally, A modern thermonuclear weapon weighing little more than a thousand kilograms can produce an explosion comparable to the detonation of more than a billion kilograms of conventional high explosive. Thus, even single small nuclear devices can devastate an entire city by blast, fire and radiation. (128)

Ø Clone

Clone, one of the most astonishing and challenging biomedical techniques, is thought to be quite promising in gene savings. However, the clone of human beings has been criticized by many scientists, politicians, ethicists and moralists, and even banned by some governments, for it is not only dangerous technically, but most importantly, is in defiance of our social morality. If the clone of human beings is carried out, our current moral systems may be overturned and thus the society would be in disorder. (82)

Ø Euthanasia

One needs look no further than the application of euthanasia. For long, to deprive other's lives is widely recognized as illegal and criminal behavior. However, beyond this cynicism, euthanasia can be considered as not crime but benevolence. From time to time some patients are hopeless as their diseases are cureless at that time, they cannot bear the afflictions of the disease any further, and their families are also on the brink of collapse mentally and economically. Therefore, peaceful death is the most helpful choice both to the patients and to their family. Under this circumstance, the doctors should help their poor patients with euthanasia, and these behaviors should never be judged guilty. (104)

Ø Modern Transportation

With our transportation system, we can commute locally and achieve long-distance traveling without any complexity. On the other hand, these conveniences motivate us to give up walking even the destinations are within walking distance, and this may cause lack of exercise, therefore affect our health negatively. Meanwhile, the increasing uses of modern transportations generate

more deleterious gases such as carbon dioxide. This has increased the pace of environmental destructions which can cause unpleasant living circumstances for all residents and worsen their satisfactions of life consequently. (85)

Ø Dam Projects

When the government plans to build a dam, experts from different disciplines may be aggregated to discuss about the plan. In the discussion, it is quite possible that those experts may have contrasting points of view. The hydrologist claims that the dam would be significant in combating drought and flood; the geologist concludes that the project may be infeasible as earthquakes are frequent in this region; the economist infers that the project must be quite helpful to solve the problems of electric power deficit, and the local economics would benefit much; and the ecologist and archaeologist may disagree with the project, because building such a dam may be perilous to some species and historic relics in the ambient regions. (119)

Ø Information Security

Governments, military, corporations, financial institutions, hospitals, and private businesses amass a great deal of confidential information about their employees, customers, products, research, and financial status. Most of this information is now collected, processed and stored on electronic computers and transmitted across networks to other computers. Should confidential information about a business' customers or finances or new product line fall into the hands of a competitor? Such a breach of security could lead to lost business, law suits or even bankruptcy of the business. Protecting confidential information is a business requirement, and in many cases also an ethical and legal requirement. (100)

Ø Government's Strategies to withhold some information for public security

Sometimes it is necessary, and even desirable, for public leaders to withhold information from the public in order to further the public's ultimate interests, in the sense that fully disclosing to the public certain types of information would threaten public safety and perhaps even national security. For example, if the President were to disclose the government's strategies for thwarting specific plans of an international terrorist or a drug, those strategies would surely fail, and the public's health and safety would be compromised as a result. Withholding information might also be necessary to avoid public panic. During the first few hours of the new millennium the U.S. Pentagon's missile defense system experienced a Y2K-related malfunction. This fact was withheld from the public until later in the day, once the problem had been solved, since immediate disclosure would have served no useful purpose and might even have resulted in mass hysteria.

Ø The Manhattan Project

At the end of WWII, despite Japan's heavy losses, the leaders in Japan was reluctant to surrender. When Truman became president, he was informed of the U.S government's secret Manhattan Project which had designed an atomic bomb. On August 6, 1945, the United States dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, resulting in nearly 130,000 casualties and the leveling of 90% of the city. Three days later, with no response from Japan, Truman authorized the second dropping on Nagasaki, killing and wounding over 75,000 people. While this policy successfully ended the

Pacific War which may cause even greater losses, it was a catastrophe to the innocent local people who suffered from this atomic annihilation. It succeeded in bring peace to the world at the cost of millions of innocent lives. (129)

Ø Adolf Hitler

Still a soldier in World War 1, Hitler became, through his effort (we have to admit that he achieved success by his own endeavor despite all the ugly method he used), the leader of Nazi. With the sovereign power of the German military force, Hitler began to use it as a method to fulfill his ambition, which directly led to the most disastrous event in human history—the World War 2. In this disaster of the mankind, millions and millions of people died, husbands and wives were forced to separate forever, children were deprived the rights to even have a family. I attribute this catastrophe of humililty to Hitler, the person who abused his success to bring a disaster to the whole mankind. It is obvious that after reaching the personal peak in Germany, Hitler's increasing aggression eventually resulted in the disastrous holocaust of millions of innocent people as well as his own suicidal. Therefore, success can be devastating to the whole society if captured and misused by some over-greedy people to realize their evil goal. (176)

Ø Progressive Era

The Progressive era, for example, is a time during which from president to muckrakers, all aspects of American society paid numerous effort to improve the way people live. President Theodore Roosevelt, who believed in equal opportunity and adherence to the spirit of law, ordered his Attorney General to bring suits against the growing monopolies, which exercised enormous control, both in economy and in political sphere. Muckrakers, journalists who expose a variety of problems in the society to the public, such as Upton Sinclair, who wrote about the unsanitary conditions in the meatpacking industry which eventually led to the passage of the Pure Food and Drug Act, and Ida Tarbell, who exposed a variety of methods used by Standard Oil company to achieve a monopoly. Thus their works more or less make some sweeping changes in the society.

Ø Civil Rights Movement

Another example comes from the Civil Rights Movement, which set the stage for the progress and turmoil of the 1960s. At that time, despite the American creed of "equality for all", segregation was prevalent in the South. Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka questioned the Supreme Court decision in Plessey v. Ferguson that "the doctrine of separate but equal has no place", and the successfully overrule of this decision encouraged civil rights workers to press for equality and freedom. (79)

Ø The Cold War

After WWII, the Cold War between democracy and communism started which includes economic, culture and especially arms and space exploration. On October 4, 1957, the successful launch of Sputnik-1 indicated to the world that the Soviet Union had taken the lead in space exploration. It also caused fear that this technology would allow the Soviet Union to launch nuclear weapons into space. In response, the United States established the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), embarking on a quest to the moon where Neil Armstrong took his revolutionary first steps in 1969. (91)

Ø The Critical Period

The Critical Period was a decade during which the United States underwent a hardship under the Article of Confederation. The Articles had weakness that hampered efficient operation of the government. With no provision for an executive branch, it lacked the ability to enforce laws that Congress passed; the Congress had no power to collect taxes, raise military, coin money, or regulate interstate commerce. The desperate condition of people was made plain by the Shay's rebellion and several meetings held by some states to modify the tariff walls that had been erected by each of the 13 states against imports from any other states. The new nation was staggering. The Founding Fathers, who hoped to make America one place in world where freedom and love of humankind could flourish, soon realized the powerless central government under the confederation forms of country was undesirable and impractical. It turned out to the Philadelphia Convention of 1787, which produced one of "the most wonderful work ever struck off at a given time by the brain and purpose of man"---The Constitution of United States. It established a federal form of government that has a separation of power among legislature, judicious and executive branch and a division of power between states and central government. Furthermore, it sets a great precedent for future generations seeking liberty and freedom as America did. (225)

Ø Information Crises in China: SARS & SanLu milk powder Scam

There should be absolutely no deception in terms of the information transmitted from the government, through the media, to the people. This has been demonstrated though several "information crises" that happened in China due to the coverage of information imposed by the government. The two rather significant crises were the SARS incident which happened in 2003 and the San Lu milk powder scam in 2008. (65)

In the spring of 2003, a horrific disease broke out in Beijing called *SARS*. The news of outbreak was modified by the government, modifying the shocking amount of people infected to a smaller number. The hospitals were affected by this modification: many small hospitals did not know the existence or the symptoms of this air-transmitted disease. Consequently, there were more contractions of *SARS* among the doctors, nurses and patients. This resulted in the mass of citizens believing in false rumors along with emphasized effects of *SARS*, creating a panic among the mass. After nearly 40 days did the government promulgate the actual "news" and details of *SARS* and the combating of *SARS*. Time was wasted and more lives perished due to the government concealment of *SARS*. Therefore concealing the truth from the public is detrimental to the well-being of the society. (141)

The company *San Lu* was revealed to be adding a chemical to its baby milk powder. While this chemical falsely boosted the protein index, it also causes kidney-stone within the drinker through accumulation. The local government knew the milk powder quality problem during the 2008 Beijing Olympics, but decided to cover it till all the foreigners leave China after the Olympics. This way, China's "face" would still look good. But this coverage led to more ignorant parents feeding their innocent babies with the infiltrated milk powder. Eventually, up to 600 babies had significant negative effects from the milk powder. If the government did not hide the truth of the poor

quality milk powder, fewer babies would have been affected. Therefore, disasters should not be substituted with deception by the government under any condition. (133)

Ø Sony Ericsson

- A. Sony Ericsson is a joint venture established in 2001 by the Japanese consumer electronics company Sony Corporation and the Swedish telecommunications company Ericsson to make mobile phones. The stated reason for this venture is to combine Sony's consumer electronics expertise with Ericsson's technological leadership in the communications sector.
- B. Ericsson, which had been in the cellular phone market for decades, was struggling with huge losses. Sony was a marginal player in the worldwide cell phone market with a share of less than 1 percent in 2000. Despite sustaining losses in this area, it wanted to focus on it more. In 2001, Sony confirmed that it was in talks with Ericsson for a possible collaboration in the handset business.
- C. In 2005, Sony Ericsson introduced K750i with a 2 megapixel camera, as well as its platform mate, the W800i, the first of the Walkman phones capable of 30 hours of music playback. In 2007 their first 5-Megapixel camera phone, the Sony Ericsson K850i, was announced followed in 2008 by the Sony Ericsson C905, the world's first 8-Megapixel phone. At Mobile World Congress 2009, Sony Ericsson unveiled the first 12-Megapixel phone. Many more magnificent financial success and technical innovation have been made due to the association of the two largest companies.

Ø Toshiba

In the field of business, new marketing method or services can often lead a company to a high level of profit and success. On the other hand, if used wrongfully, innovative services may cause misunderstanding and unpleasant results. The best example is Toshiba, one of the largest Japanese companies. In 2000, the Company announced that among notebook computers it produced, one model had serious defect. Users in North America could choose either replacements with an upgraded model or full refund --- a successful move that attracted more customers and remarkably profited the company. However, no such offer for users in China. Chinese users were outrage at the company's discrimination and refused to use any of Toshiba's notebook computers. What the company lost is not only the temporary revenue but also the consumer's confidence, which contribute to the long-term success of the company. (142)

Ø UN

United Nations is an international organization whose stated aims are facilitating cooperation in international law, international security, economic development, social progress, human rights, and the achieving of world peace. The UN was founded in 1945 after World War II to stop wars between countries, and to provide a platform for dialogue. It contains multiple subsidiary organizations to carry out its missions. There are currently 192 member states, including nearly every sovereign state in the world. From its offices around the world, the UN and its specialized agencies decide on substantive and administrative issues in regular meetings held throughout the year. (100)

Ø Greenpeace

Greenpeace is an independent global campaigning organization that acts to change attitudes and behavior, to protect and conserve the environment and to promote peace. Today Greenpeace focuses on worldwide issues such as global warming, deforestation, overfishing and nuclear power. Greenpeace is known for its direct actions and has been described as the most visible environmental organization in the world. Campaigns of Greenpeace have raised environmental issues to public knowledge and influenced both the private and the public sector but Greenpeace has also been a source of controversy. Its motives and methods have received criticism and the organizations direct actions have sparked legal actions against Greenpeace activists. (106)

Ø Talent VS. Effort

It does seem that some people achieve success more easily than others. It is often said that their success is due to good luck or that they are simply more talented than others. This may be true, but I think it is important not to ignore the value that hard work plays in any success. In some fields, such as music and art, it is necessary for a person to have some natural ability. However, talent is not enough. It takes hard work to develop such a talent. Musicians must practice; artists must study. If a talented person makes no efforts to improve his skills, he will always be someone with potential, but never someone who has realized it. In addition, one who is not especially talented can still succeed if he is willing to work hard. And his hard work may lead him to discover talents that he never knew he had. Therefore, the person who has never been called gifted should not despair. As long as he makes an effort, he is bound to have some success. Moreover, if he never tries, he may never discover his hidden talents. (191)

Ø Winners & Losers

The word “winner” and “loser” have many meanings. When we refer to a person as a winner, we do not mean one who makes someone else lose. To us, a winner is one who responds authentically by being credible, trustworthy, responsive, and genuine, both as an individual and as a member of a society.

Winners do not dedicate their lives to a concept of what they imagine they should be; rather, they are themselves and as such do not use their energy putting on a performance, maintaining pretence and manipulating others. They are aware that there is a difference between being loving and acting loving, between being stupid and acting stupid, between being knowledgeable and acting knowledgeable. Winners do not need to hide behind a mask.

Winners are not afraid to do their own thinking and to use their own knowledge. They can separate facts from opinions and don't pretend to have all the answers. They listen to others; evaluate what they say, but come to their own conclusions. Although winners admire and respect other people, they are not totally defined, demolished, bound or awed by them.

Winners do not play “helpless”, nor do they play the blaming game. Instead, they assume responsibility for their own lives.

If you want to learn the secrets of success, it seems perfectly reasonable to study successful people and organizations, but studying successes without also looking at failures tends to create a misleading — if not entirely wrong — picture of what it takes to succeed. But the performance of any given firm is influenced by many random events beyond the control of managers.

I Artistic Work**Ø Equality 7-2521**

Of all the characters that I have “met” through books and movies, one stands out as a cogent epitome of people who succeed by looking beyond the appearances. His name is Equality 7-2521 from *Anthem* by Ayn Rand. The story sets in a fictional world in which dominated by collectivism. People there are under the control of collectivist government since they were born. They live and work benightedly in the groups that assigned by the government. Equality 7-2521, a member of street sweeping group and after he discovered a tunnel and stayed temporarily, he realized that solitude pleased him. Since then, it became difficult for him to deny his own individuality. However, the World Council discovered his covert activities and permanently severed him from society. As a result, Equality 7-2521 was exiled, yet he did not stop pursuing his goal. He kept studying in the woods and eventually discovered the meaning of individualism and the word “I”. His discovery is an epitome of looking beyond the deceiving appearance. He successfully became an individual person and freed from the collectivist government’s control. (181)

Ø Deep Blue Sea

On a remote top-secret floating facility called Aquatica, a team of scientists are searching for a cure for Alzheimer's disease. A female scientist, despite her colleagues’ warnings, violates the code of ethics and creates three genetically engineered mako sharks. Her intent is to increase their brain capacity so they can harvest tissue as a cure for the disease. Unfortunately, the increased brain capacity also makes the sharks smarter, faster and more aggressive—as well as growing to the size of great white sharks, gaining increased memory, and even being able to swim backwards. Finally, during a rescue operation happened in a severe storm, the shark grabs the cable of the medical helicopter and drags it into the communications tower, resulting in a massive explosion that kills the pilots and destroys the "surface level" (the facility's level above water,) stranding the surviving crew beneath. Then the smart but slaughterous sharks start their vengeful hunting for human and devastate the scientific project that originally aimed to save human’s lives. (166)

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