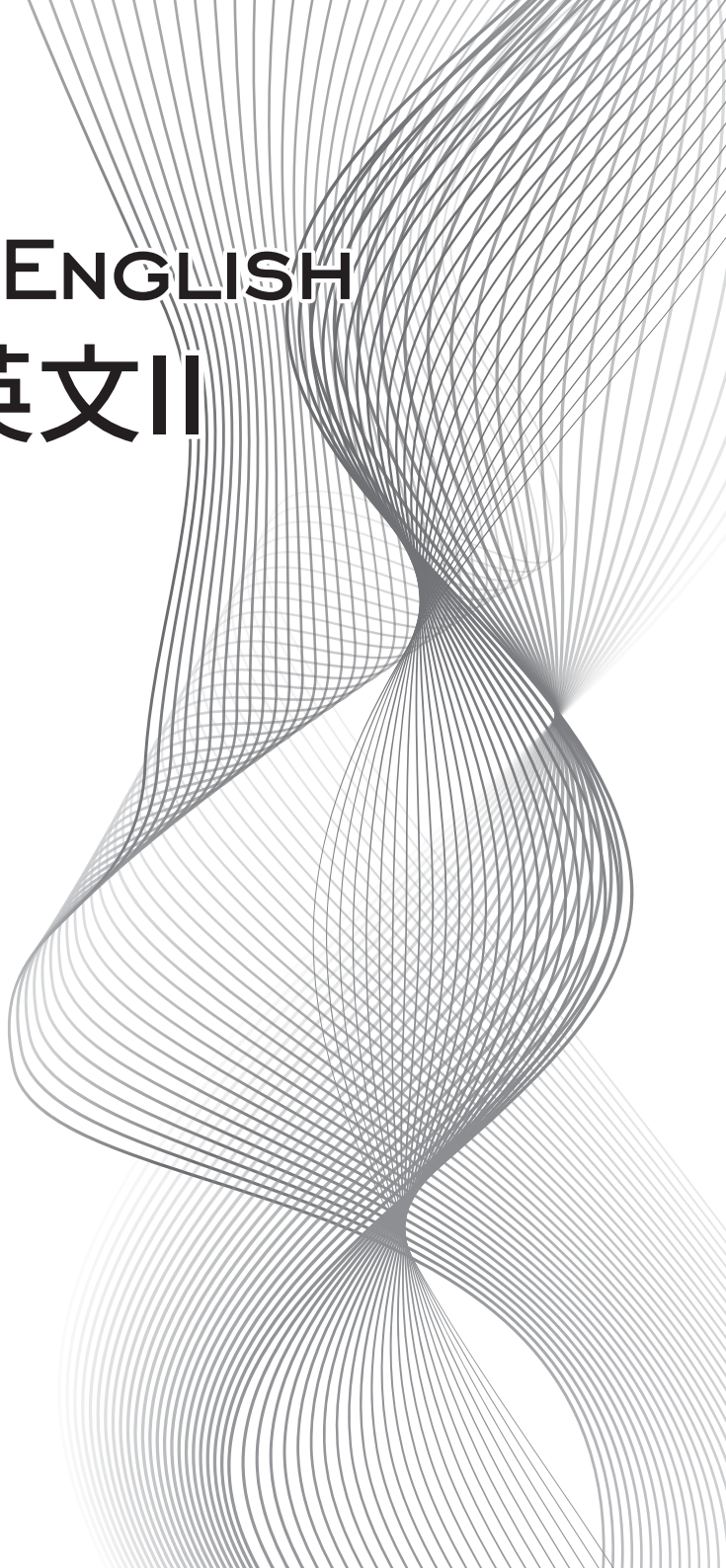


FANCY ENGLISH

精湛英文II

謝文欽 著



A watched pot never boils

| 好事多磨



A watched pot never boils

心急水不沸／好事多磨

一句英文諺語，字面上的意思是「盯著鍋永遠不會煮沸」，出自美國開國元老班傑明·富蘭克林 Benjamin Franklin 發表的《窮理查的年鑒》（Poor Richard's Almanack）一書。有沒有這樣的感覺，當你越想某事情快點發生，你會覺得時間過得越慢。就像你想鍋裡的水快點煮沸，一直盯著鍋子，可是感覺水好像煮了好久都不滾，可能還會懷疑火爐是否壞掉？

1. The idiom means that focusing too much on waiting for a result can seem to make the process drag on longer. 所以有些事情是需要耐心等待的，尤其是美好的事情是急不來的。
2. Checking my email nonstop for the job offer is like a watched pot. 不停地檢查我的電子郵件等待工作錄取通知，就像是盯著鍋永遠不會煮沸一樣。

來看一下這句諺語在短文中的應用：

In life, as in the kitchen, "a watched pot never boils." Emily learned this the hard way. Eagerly anticipating her promotion,



she fixated on every email, meeting, and casual remark from her boss. Yet, days turned to weeks with no news. It wasn't until she shifted her focus to improving her skills and helping her team that the long-awaited promotion announcement came. It seemed that when she stopped watching, her pot finally boiled.

在生活中，正如廚房裡的「盯著的鍋永遠不會沸騰」。艾蜜莉終於學到這個「好事多磨」的硬道理。她急切地期待著自己的晉升，非常關注在每一封電子郵件、每次會議和老闆的日常言語。然而，隨著日子一天天過去，卻依然沒有任何消息。直到她把焦點轉移到提升自己的能力和團隊的協助上，那個期待已久的晉升公告才來臨。這不就是好事多磨嗎？

Patience is a virtue和A watched clock never moves都與A watched pot never boils有相似的概念和效果

Patience is a virtue

強調了耐心的重要和價值，提醒人們等待過程中要保持耐心。

1. When learning a new language, remember that patience is a virtue; it takes time to become fluent. 在學習一門新語言時，請記住耐心是一種美德；要運用流暢需要時間。
2. She waited calmly for her turn to speak, showing that patience is a virtue, especially in heated debates. 她平靜地等待著講話的機會，顯示出耐心是一種美德，尤其在激烈的辯論中。



A watched clock never moves

強調當你焦急地等待某件事情時，時間似乎過得特別慢。

1. During the last few minutes of the workday, he found that a watched clock never moves, making the time seem endless. 在工作日的最後幾分鐘，他發現盯著의鐘表似乎從不動，時間顯得特別漫長無休止。
2. As she waited anxiously for the test results, she realized that a watched clock never moves, and each second felt like an hour. 她焦急地等待測驗的結果時，她意識到盯著の時鐘永遠不動，每秒鐘都像一小時一樣長。



Abrasive | 粗魯／魯莽



Abrasive（形容詞），形容那些表現出粗魯、刺激或令人不悅的特質或行爲。用來描述某人的態度，言語或舉止，通常是指他們的互動方式不夠溫和或友善，可能會引起摩擦或矛盾。在工業上，abrasive也可指磨損用的材料，如砂紙或磨輪，用於去除表面的不規則性。

The word "Abrasive", as an adjective, is often used to describe qualities or behaviors that are rough, irritating, or displeasing. It can be used to characterize someone's attitude, language, or conduct, typically implying that their manner of interaction is not gentle or friendly, possibly causing friction or conflict. In the industrial context, "abrasive" can also refer to abrasive materials such as sandpaper or grinding wheels used to remove surface irregularities.

再一起來閱讀如何將Abrasive運用在以下這篇有關「一個粗魯性格的人和與他人互動關係」的文章之中，如何運用的：

An abrasive personality can have a detrimental impact on relationships and interactions. When someone is consistently abrasive in their communication or behavior, it can wear down the patience and goodwill of those around them. An abrasive individual tends to come across as harsh, rude, or unkind, making it challenging to establish positive connections. It's



essential to recognize the importance of effective and respectful communication to avoid unnecessary conflicts. Treating others with kindness and understanding, rather than adopting an abrasive approach, can lead to more harmonious and productive interactions.

一個粗魯的個性可能會對關係和互動產生不利影響。當某人在溝通或行為上一直表現出粗魯時，可能會消耗身邊人的耐心和善意。粗魯的個體傾向於顯得嚴厲、無禮或不友善，這使得建立正面的聯繫變得困難。認知有效和尊重的溝通的重要性是必要的，以避免不必要的衝突。對待他人時時保持善良和理解，而不是採取粗魯的態度，才能實現更和諧和更有成效的互動。

閱讀一篇新聞有關「粗魯對待兒童的托兒所」相關新聞，學習及如何應用abrasive這個單字：

April 2023, a childcare center in New Taipei's Linkou faced accusations of child abuse when the director was seen roughly handling and even hitting a toddler's thighs four times for struggling during a diaper change. Despite complaints to the social welfare department, the center's director claimed surveillance malfunctions, leading to a delayed investigation. The city-imposed fines of NT\$150,000 on the individual, who was also barred from childcare employment for three years, and NT\$180,000 on the center for its failure to provide evidence and improper management. The abrasive behavior and scabrous neglect highlighted a severe lapse in care and oversight.

2023年4月，新北林口的一家托嬰中心因為中心主任在換尿



布時對一名幼童進行粗魯的處置，甚至因孩子掙扎而連續四次打擊孩子的大腿，而面臨虐童的指控。儘管對社會福利部門提出了投訴，中心主任卻聲稱監控故障，導致調查延遲。市政府對個人處以15萬新台幣的罰款，並禁止該個人三年內在托嬰中心就業，對中心因未能提供證據和管理不當處以18萬新台幣的罰款。這種粗魯的行為和粗鄙的疏忽凸顯了在照顧和監督上的嚴重失誤。

註：Scabrous / skæbr s/粗鄙的、爭議的。He is known for his scabrous sense of humor, which is not to everyone's taste. 他以其粗鄙的幽默感著稱，這並不合每個人的口味。

Abrasive的例句應用

1. Her abrasive comments during the meeting offended many colleagues. 她在會議中的粗魯評論冒犯了許多同事。
2. The abrasive tone of his email makes communication difficult. 他電子郵件的刺激語氣使溝通變得困難。
3. Using an abrasive substance, he smoothed the rough edges of the wooden table. 他使用拋光的材料來修整木桌的粗糙邊緣。

Abrasive的同義詞及例句

1. Rough粗糙的（形容詞）

The surface of the rock was rough to the touch. 這塊岩石的表面摸上去很粗糙。

2. Harsh嚴厲的（形容詞）

His harsh criticism left her feeling hurt. 他嚴厲的批評讓她



感到受傷。

3. Acrimonious 尖酸刻薄的（形容詞）

Their acrimonious exchange of words escalated the argument.
他們尖刻的言辭交鋒加劇了爭論。

4. Caustic 腐蝕性的、尖酸刻薄的（形容詞）

Her caustic comments left a lasting impact on his self-esteem.
她的刻薄評論對他的自尊心產生了長期的影響。

5. Gnarled [na:ld] 多節的、粗糙扭曲的，常用來形容老樹的樹幹或老人的手指。（形容詞）

The old man leaned on his gnarled walking stick as he moved slowly down the road. 那位老人依靠著他那根多節的手杖，緩緩地沿著道路前行。

6. Scabrous [skæbrəs] 粗糙的、難以處理的，引起社會爭議或不適的。（形容詞）

His weather-beaten face and scabrous skin belie his true age.
他歷經風吹雨打的臉以及粗糙的皮膚掩飾了他實際的年齡。

The novel was notorious for its scabrous depiction of the underbelly of society. 這部小說因其對社會底層的粗糙描繪而聲名狼藉。

（註：1. Belie（動詞）掩飾、與…不一致。通常指外表或某種表達掩蓋了真實的性質或情況。2. Underbelly（名詞）意指脆弱的部分、弱點或指社會、組織等的陰暗面或最脆弱的部分。）

