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Neuschwanstein Castle: A Fairy Tale Come to Life

德國新天鵝堡：巴伐利亞國王的童話交響曲

—Joe Henley



圖片來源：Wikipedia

巴伐利亞國王路德維希二世 (Ludwig II of Bavaria, 1844–1886, 左圖) 這一生最熱愛的就是城堡和華格納 (Wilhelm Richard Wagner) 的音樂。他打造的「新天鵝堡」(Neuschwanstein Castle [nɔɪʃvlaɪn]) 正是糅合了建築與藝術的理想典範，它結合了拜占庭式 (Byzantinesque) 和哥德式 (Gothic) 的建築風格，以華格納作品中的日耳曼傳說為藍圖，並與當地的天然景觀合而為一。隨四季呈現不同的風貌，極致夢幻。城堡內部共有三百六十間房間，但並未在路德維希國王在世時完工，而他真正入住天鵝堡的時間也只有短短的一百七十二天。但新天鵝堡的工程卻耗費國庫甚鉅而致民怨四起，因此路德維希國王去世後，城堡的工事也隨之停擺。儘管如此，該城堡如今仍是德國境內最受歡迎的觀光景點之一。



課文朗讀 正常 CD/MP3 Track 21 慢速 MP3 Track 93

In the southeastern German state of Bavaria, a storied¹ castle looks down on the picturesque¹ hills and towns of the region. The castle might look familiar, for it served as the model for the Sleeping Beauty Castle at Disneyland. With its romantic architectural style and beautiful surroundings,² Neuschwanstein Castle is the real thing, and it welcomes over a million visitors every year. It stands as a tribute³ to both the man who commissioned it and the musical visionary⁴ who partly inspired its design.



歌唱堂 singers' hall (c) Werner Schaefer



王位廳 throne room (c) Werner Schaefer



接見廳 audience room (c) Werner Schaefer

Neuschwanstein Castle was the idea of Ludwig II of Bavaria, also known as "Mad King Ludwig." Whether or not he was actually **insane**⁴ is still **open to debate**, but he was definitely a strange ruler. Instead of hosting grand royal **banquets**⁵ and holding court⁶ with the nobility,⁷ Ludwig preferred to spend his time alone working on creative projects.

The greatest of these was the series of castles he had built in the hopes of bringing Bavaria's cultural influence **on par with** that of France. However, the castles were not actually for the public, and Ludwig wanted people to appreciate his **contributions**⁸ to Bavaria **from afar**. Neuschwanstein Castle was meant to be his private refuge, where he could enjoy solitude⁹ far away from prying¹⁰ eyes.

課文朗讀 正常 CD/MP3 Track 22 慢速 MP3 Track 94

The foundation for Neuschwanstein Castle was **laid** in 1869, but it would be well over a decade before Ludwig could actually move in. As he became more and more reclusive,¹¹ the plans for the castle

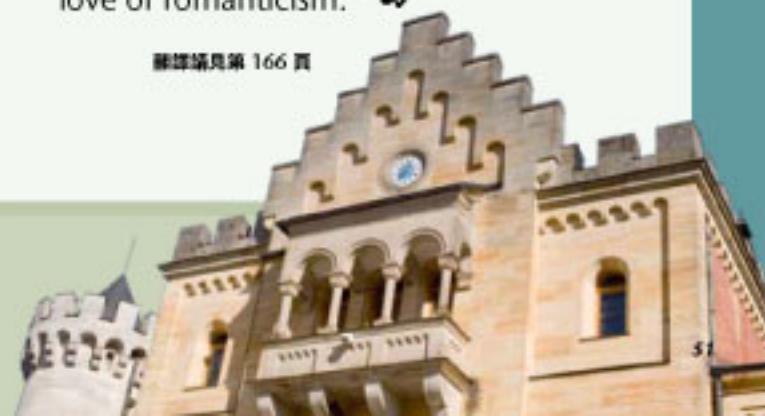
changed. Guest rooms were to be turned into a hall that was never completed, and the audience room became a huge throne room. It was decorated with paintings showing **kingship**⁷ as a right given by God.

Ludwig's **obsession**⁸ with the poetry of the Middle Ages and the music of Richard Wagner inspired much of the castle's **interior**⁹ decoration. The paintings on the walls were taken from the same **medieval**¹⁰ legends that inspired Wagner's works. Some of the paintings feature the poet Tannhauser, Lohengrin the Swan Knight, and the Grail King Parzival.

During Ludwig II's lifetime, the only thing citizens could see of the castle was the outside of it. It has a red-brick gatehouse and many strikingly beautiful towers, turrets, and sculptures. However, the castle's real story still lies in its interior, which opened to the public only after Ludwig's **mysterious**¹¹ death in 1886. Ultimately,¹² Neuschwanstein Castle served as a manifestation¹³ of the **sovereign**¹³ rulership Ludwig II wanted but was never able to realize. The castle remains as a **testament**¹⁴ to his vision and love of romanticism.*

城堡建築小辭典

guest room [ges̩t̩] [rum] 客房 (文中第 33 行)
audience room/chamber [əd̩ians] [rum]/[t̩ ŋembə] 接見廳 (文中第 34 行)
throne room [θron] [rum] 王位室；王位廳 (文中第 35 行)
gatehouse [get̩.haʊs] 守衛室 (文中第 49 行)
tower [taʊə] 塔 (文中第 50 行)
turret [trɛt̩] 小塔樓 (文中第 50 行)



Reading Comprehension

- Which does not describe King Ludwig II?
(A) Eccentric
(B) Solitary
(C) Friendly
(D) Romantic
- What is the main idea of this article?
(A) Neuschwanstein is a castle that gets lots of visitors.
(B) Neuschwanstein castle has a colorful history attached to it.
(C) Neuschwanstein castle holds many secrets to this day.
(D) Neuschwanstein castle was the home of King Ludwig II.

参考譯文第 166 頁

Discussion Starter

Describe a historic site you have visited.

Vocabulary

• 表示大考出頭的字彙

- picturesque** [pɪk'tɪfə'resk] *adj.* 如詩如畫的
There is a **picturesque** lake nearby that lots of people like to paint.
- * **surroundings** [sə'raʊndɪŋz] *n.* 環境；周圍的事物（作此義時恆用複數）
I like to get familiar with my **surroundings** whenever I go to a new part of the city.
- tribute** ['trɪbju:t] *n.* 敬意；尊崇
The theater was built as a **tribute** to a famous actor who came from the town.
- insane** [ɪn'sen] *adj.* 精神失常的；瘋狂的
■ **sane** [sen] *adj.* 神智正常的；頭腦清楚的
People who are **insane** are not allowed to drive cars or own guns.
- * **banquet** ['bæŋkwət] *n.* 宴會；宴席
All of the guests at the wedding **banquet** enjoyed the meal that was served to them.
- * **contribution** [kən'trɪbju:ʃən] *n.* 貢獻；捐獻
■ **contribute** [kən'tribju:t] *v.* 貢獻；捐助
Albert Einstein's **contributions** to science helped change the world we live in.



- kingship** [kɪŋʃɪp] *n.* 王身分；王權；君王特質

■ **rulership** [rulər'ʃɪp] *n.* 經治者的地位、職權或任期（文中第 56 行）

After the war was lost, the ruler of the country lost his **kingship** and was sent away from the land.

- obsession** [əb'seʃən] *n.* 著迷；迷戀

■ **obsess** [əb'ses] *v.* 使著迷

Karl's **obsession** with making money is beginning to affect his social life in a bad way.

- * **interior** [ɪn'tɪərɪə] *adj., n.* 內部（的）；室內（的）

■ **exterior** [ek'stɪərɪə] *adj., n.* 外部（的）；戶外（的）

The **interior** rooms of the house were badly damaged by water that leaked in.

- * **medieval** [mi'di'velɪə] *adj.* 中古世紀的；老舊的

Many **medieval** weapons, such as swords and knives, were on display in the museum.

- * **mysterious** [mɪ'stəriəs] *adj.* 神祕的

A **mysterious** note describing a crime was left on the steps of the police department.

- ultimately** [əl'temətlɪ] *adv.* 終究；最後

■ **ultimate** [əl'temət] *adj.* 最終的；根本的

Patrick **ultimately** left the company, but it took him many years before he made the move.

- sovereign** ['səvərən] *adj.* 擁有最高統治權的；至高無上的 *n.* 署主；最高統治者

The king has **sovereign** power over the land, and all of his decisions are final.

- testament** ['testamənt] *n.* 證明；證據（後接介系詞 to）

These poems are a **testament** to how much the poet loved the English language.

參考字彙

- * **storied** ['stɔ:ri:d] *adj.* 有精采歷史而出名的
- * **visionary** ['vɪʒənəri] *n.* 憲有遠景、充滿想像的人；願景家

■ **vision** ['vɪʒən] *n.* 遠見；視野（文中第 58 行）

- * **nobility** [nə'biliti] *n.* 貴族（作此義時，前面加 the 代表全體）；高貴的舉止
- * **solitude** ['sələ:tud] *n.* 孤獨；獨居（長期性的離群索居）
- * **prying** ['prɪəɪŋ] *adj.* 窺探的；愛打聽的
- * **reclusive** [rɪ'klju:sɪv] *adj.* 隱遁的；離群索居的
- * **manifestation** [mænɪfə'steɪʃən] *n.* 彰顯；表示
- * **romanticism** [rə'mæntɪkɪzəm] *n.* 浪漫主義

■ **romantic** [rə'mæntɪk] *adj.* 浪漫的（文中第 4 行）

Language Spotlight

1. be open to debate 尚待辯論

此用法中，debate 不加冠詞，也不用複數。

補充 **be open to discussion** 尚待討論

be open to negotiation 尚待商議

be open to question 尚有存疑；有待解決

be open to suggestions/ideas

樂於接受建議、想法

- The boss is a friendly guy, and he is always open to suggestions about how to improve his business.
老闆人很友善，他總是樂於接受關於如何提升業績的建議。

2. on par with 與……不分上下、平分秋色

用法 A and B are on par / A is on par with B

名詞 par 意為高爾夫球比賽中的「標準杆數」，在此表示「標準；同等」。

- The artwork Eric does is on par with some of the greatest oil painters of all time.
艾瑞克的藝術作品與史上一些油畫大師的作品不分軒輊。

補充 **below/under par** 在標準以下

above par 在標準以上

- I was happy when the manager told me that the work I was doing lately was well above par.
經理跟我說我近來的工作表現遠在水平之上，讓我很高興。

3. from afar 從遠處

afar [ə'fɔːr] 在此作名詞，意為「遠方」，亦可作副詞用，指「遙遠地」，意同 far。

- The explorers traveled afar in search of the lost city.
這些探險家千里迢迢去尋找那座失落的城市。

4. lay the foundation 打地基；紮下基礎

lay 在此表「放置」，三態為 lay、laid、laid。
foundation 意為「地基；基礎」，故 lay the foundation 表示「打地基；打基礎」之意。

- Learning basic arithmetic lays the foundation for learning harder mathematical subjects such as algebra and geometry.
學會基本的算數可以為學習代數和幾何學等更深的數學科目打下基礎。

參考片語

• **hold court** 上朝聽政；主持朝政

名詞 court 有「宮廷」之意。hold court with sb 表君王主持朝政或在宮廷會見朝臣，也可引申表「召集（會議、群众等）」，另外，hold court 亦可表示「以說笑話引人圍觀；與一群人談笑風生」之意。

- The tour guide was holding court with his clients on the bus.
那名導遊在遊覽車上說笑娛樂他的團員。

動手寫寫看

答案請見第 166 頁

❖ 士兵能從遠處看見戰場上的炸彈爆炸。

_____ , the soldiers could see bombs exploding on the battlefield.

❖ 這間公司新業務員的業績已達到與其他資深業務員一樣的水平了。

The new salesman at the company is already _____ other salespeople who have been there for years.



▼ 城堡內的穿堂與鐘樓。



▲ 柱子上的雕塑有宗教寓意，大門的刻工也十分精細。



▼ 外牆的壁畫呈現出中古世紀的騎士傳奇與聖經故事。

Chocolate Culture in Belgium

—Owain McKimm

比利時的巧克力文化

比利時 (Belgium [bɛldʒam]) 的巧克力舉世聞名，走在首都布魯塞爾 (Brussels [brʌsəlz]) 的街上，濃郁的巧克力香味撲鼻而來，令人難以招架。這個淵源可追溯至十六世紀時西班牙人從南美洲引進可可豆 (cacao bean [kə'kau])，而比利時就成了可可豆進入歐陸的第一站。從此之後，比利時人為巧克力注入了許多心力與創意，成為世界知名的巧克力王國。

課文朗讀 正常 CD/MP3 Track 59 慢速 MP3 Track 131

Walking around Brussels, the capital of Belgium, one cannot escape the warm, sweet smell of melted chocolate. Chocolate is the city's lifeblood,* and its **scent**¹ flows through the streets and alleys, causing mouths to drool* and purses to empty. With one chocolatier* for every 2,000 people, Brussels has chocolates to suit all tastes—from simple yet elegant confections* for the masses to wild **creations**² for chocolate lovers looking for something different.

So how did this small country in northwest Europe become the chocolate capital of the world? Chocolate first arrived in Europe when the Spanish brought cacao beans from South America during the 16th and 17th centuries. During the 17th century, Belgium was under Spanish rule, so when tons of cacao beans were being shipped back to the West, the country got an early taste for the **exotic**³ bean.

Later, in the 19th century, Belgium began colonizing⁴ large parts of central Africa and **took possession of** the area's vast cacao fields, a move that caused the country's chocolate industry to



圖解 巧克力

比利時果仁糖 (Belgian praline [prə'lin]) 又稱巧克力糖 (chocolate bonbon ['bɒn'bɒn])，有各式各樣口味的內餡 (filling ['fɪlɪŋ])，深受大眾喜愛。以下為文中提到的巧克力種類和內餡口味：

巧克力種類



內餡



Discussion Starter

What kinds of chocolates do you like best? Why?

Reading Comprehension

- Who brought cacao beans to Europe?
(A) The Belgians
(B) The Spanish
(C) West Africans
(D) Jean Neuhaus II
- Which of the following is NOT mentioned as something you would find in a Belgian chocolate shop?
(A) Truffles
(B) Chocolate animals
(C) Chocolate thins
(D) Chocolate-covered fruit

答案請見第 176 頁

Vocabulary

* 表示大考出現過的字彙

- scent** [sɛnt] *n.* 香味；氣味 *v.* 使具有香味
The pleasant **scent** of freshly brewed coffee filled the small café.
- creation** [kri'ɛʃən] *n.* 創造品；創作
creativity [-kri'e'trəti] *n.* 創意；創造力 (文中第 65 行)
Many customers agree that this dish is the chef's greatest **creation**.
- exotic** [ɪg'zɔtɪk] *adj.* 外來的；奇異的；異國風情的
Maggie showed me photos of her trips to exotic locations around the world.
- colonize** ['kələˌnaɪz] *v.* 將……開拓成殖民地
France colonized parts of North America in the 16th century.
- boom** [bum] *v.* 蓬勃發展
American oil companies started **booming** when large areas of oil were discovered.
- dominate** [də'meɪnət] *v.* 主宰、占據；支配；主導
English **dominates** throughout the United States, but Spanish is also widely spoken.
- dome** [dəʊm] *n.* 圓頂；半球形物
We could see the **dome** of the famous cathedral from our hotel window.
- alcoholic** [ælkə'holɪk] *adj.* 含酒精的
nonalcoholic [-nən'ælkə'holɪk] *adj.* 無酒精的
In most parts of the United States, you aren't allowed to consume **alcoholic** beverages until you are 21.
- goody** ['gʊdɪ] *n.* 美味的食物；吸引人的東西
On Easter Sunday, the children awoke to find chocolates and other **goodies** in their Easter baskets.
- high-quality** ['haɪ'kwələti] *adj.* 高品質的
This magazine has many **high-quality** photos of animals in their natural habitats.
- experimental** [ɪk'spərɪ'məntəl] *adj.* 實驗(性)的
The medicine is still in the **experimental** stage, but if it works, it will help many people.
- explosive** [ɪk'spləsɪv] *adj.* 爆炸(性)的；會引起爆炸的 *n.* 爆炸物
If you mix these two chemicals together, you will create an **explosive** substance.

參考字彙

- * **lifeblood** ['laɪfblʌd] *n.* 命脈；生命力
- * **drool** [drəʊl] *v.* 流口水；對……垂涎欲滴

- chocolatier [ʃɔkələ'tɪə] *n.* 巧克力師傅：巧克力生產商或銷售商
- confection [kən'fekʃən] *n.* 甜點、甜食；製作精細的物品
- kick [kɪk] *n.* (酒等)強烈後勁
- spirit [ˈspɪrɪt] *n.* 烈酒 (作此義時常用複數)
- artisan [ɑ:tɪ'sæzn] *n.* 工匠；技師

Language Spotlight

1. take possession of sth 占有……；獲得……

名詞 possession [pə'zɪʃən] 在此作單數，表示「擁有；占有」，指「所有物；財物」時則用複數形。

- After all of the paperwork was completed, the young couple finally took possession of their new house.
在所有書面作業都完成之後，那對年輕夫妻終於擁有了他們的新家。
- If you don't make all of your house payments on time, the bank might take possession of your home.
如果你不準時繳交房貸的話，銀行可能會拿走你的房子。

比較 in sb's possession 為某人所有

- That rare baseball card in David's possession is worth thousands of dollars.
大衛擁有的稀有棒球卡價值好幾千美元。

2. ahead of the game 居領先地位

ahead of 表示「在……之前」，名詞 game 在此是指「遊戲；比賽的一局」之意。be/get/keep/stay ahead of the game 指「處於領先地位；具競爭優勢」之意。

- The company stays ahead of the game by treating its employees fairly and focusing on customer service.
那間公司藉由公平對待員工及專注在顧客服務上來維持競爭優勢。

參考片語

• an Aladdin's cave 寶庫

阿拉丁 (Aladdin [ə'lædɪn]) 為故事集《一千零一夜》裡持有神燈的少年，此片語比喻某處充滿各式驚奇、有趣的事物。

- Last weekend, I found a store that was an Aladdin's cave of rare video games.
上週末，我發現了一間如寶庫般有著稀有電玩遊戲的店。

• over the top 過頭的；過火的

此片語字面意思是「超過頂端的」，用來形容某事物「超出預期的；不得當的」。

- Hector's outfit is too over the top for the graduation party.
赫克托一身的裝扮對畢業派對來說有點過頭了。

動手寫寫看一

答案請見第 176 頁

◆ 那個國家想要占領周遭所有的島嶼。

The country wants to _____ all of the surrounding islands.

◆ 這間企業位居領先地位，因為他們只雇用最能勝任的人在那裡工作。

The business is _____ because they hire only the most qualified people to work there.

Sentence Patterns

Had it not been for increasing competition from international chocolatiers, the Belgians **would not have had** to come up with interesting twists . . .

請見課文第 53 頁



Had it not been for + N., S. + would/could/might/should + have + p.p.
要不是……；若沒有……

本句型表示「與過去事實相反」的情況，Had it not been for If it had not been for 的倒裝句，可用 without 或 but for 舊換。

- Had it not been for Marcia's help, we would have missed the deadline.
要不是有瑪西亞的幫忙，我們會錯過截止日期。
- But for Marcia's help, we would have missed the deadline.
Without Marcia's help, we would have missed the deadline.
要不是有瑪西亞的幫忙，我們會錯過截止日期。

補充 but for、without 之後接名詞，搭配 S. + could/would/should/might + V. 則表達與「現在事實相反」的情況，可替換成 If it were not for 或倒裝句 Were it not for 。

- Were it not for the subway system, the commute to work would take me one hour.
要不是有地鐵系統，上班通勤會花掉我一小時。

動手寫寫看二

答案請見第 176 頁

◆ 要不是有那杯咖啡，我可能會在辦公室裡睡著。

I would have fallen asleep in the office.