

English Corner: Suggested Article of Discussion

1. Article 11-2: The Perfect (理想) Gift

As a young child I could always remember rushing down (冲下) the steps (楼梯) on Christmas morning and looking around the tree for the biggest box.

I always believed that within the biggest box lay the most expensive and best gift. But as time worked its magic on the mind and soul of a young man, I soon realized each and every gift was special, unique, and meaningful. In fact, those presents I remember most are the gifts that came directly from the heart, such as one of my mothers' handmade sweaters (毛衣) or scarves (围巾). Christmas definitely is not about the gift itself, but rather the thought (体贴) behind the gift.

This Christmas I have already been blessed to receive the most beautiful and amazing (惊奇) gift in the world, my girlfriend Angela. But I know the true meaning of Christmas is found in the word "giving". So this Christmas I promised myself to search and find the most incredible (非凡的) gift for this most incredible girl. I spent many days searching the crowded stores and scanning the numerous holiday catalogs, but nothing seemed to stand out (突出). As Christmas quickly approached (来到). I wondered (怀疑) if I would ever find that "perfect" gift. I decided to try the local mall one last time. Maybe I had missed a store or new merchandise had just hit the racks and shelves (刚放在架上). But as I quietly passed from one store to the next, nothing attracted my eye. Somewhat defeated (失望), I slowly made my way to the mall (购物商场) exit (出口). But before I could reach the doors, I suddenly found that "perfect" gift.

No, this gift was not found in a fancy (高贵) department store. It will not be wrapped (包装) in pretty paper and adorned with (修饰) ribbons and bows. In fact, this gift doesn't have a receipt and can't be taken back. So, where did I find this "perfect gift" and more importantly what is it. I found it in the eyes of an elderly couple holding hands, I heard it in the playful words between a grandfather and grandson, and I saw it in the actions of a proud new mother.

Yes, the gift is "Love!" So Angela, this Christmas I give to you **My Love** and I trust that you will always keep it with you!

2. Discussion:

1. What is one way Americans traditionally celebrate Christmas?
2. Where did this author find the perfect gift?
3. What is the perfect gift this article talk about?

3. Remember Seven Phrases a Week:

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| 435. I've got to start my workout. | 我必须开始做健身运动了。 |
| 436. Japan is to the east of China. | 日本在中国的东部。 |
| 437. John asked Grace to marry him, | 约翰向格雷斯求婚。 |
| 438. My watch is faster than yours. | 我的表比你的表快。 |
| 439. New China was founded in 1949. | 1949 年新中国成立。 |
| 440. Thanks for your flattering me. | 多谢你的夸奖。 |
| 441. They charged the fault on him | 他们把过失归咎于他。 |