

English Corner: Suggested Article of Discussion

1. Article 12-4: The Dash

I read of a man who stood to speak at the funeral (葬) of a friend.

He referred to the dates on her tombstone (墓碑).

From the beginning to the end.

He noted that first came her date of birth.

And spoke the following date with tears.

But he said what mattered most of all.

Was the dash (一短横) between those years. (1934 - 1998).

For the dash between those years represents all the time.

That she spent alive (活看) on earth.

And now only those who loved her.

Know what that little dash is worth.

For it matters not, how much we own (有多少);

The cars, the house, the cash.

What matters is how we live and love.

And how we spend (使用) our dash.

So think about this long and hard.

Are there things you'd like to change?

For you never know how much time is left(剩下),

That can still be rearranged (重新排列).

If we could just slow down enough,

To consider what's true and real (真实),

And always try to understand (了解),

The way other people feel.

And be less quick to anger,

And show appreciation more (更多感谢)

And love the people in our lives,

Like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect (尊重),

And more often wear a smile (笑).

Remembering that this special dash,

Might only last (存留) a little while (不久).

So, when your eulogy's (葬礼颂文) being read,

With your life's actions to rehash(改造)

Would you be proud of the things they say:

About how you spent your dash?

2. Discussion:

1. What is the meaning of the "Dash" that is being talked about here?
2. Have you ever thought about what do people think of you?
What would you like people to say about your "Dash"?
3. Do you want to make some changes to the way you now live?

3. Remember Seven Phrases a Week:

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|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 491. I lost the door key around here. | 我在这附近掉了门 钥匙。 |
| 492. I'm not guessing, I really know. | 我不是在猜想, 我真的知道。 |
| 493. It's time to tell her the truth. | 是告诉她真相的时候了。 |
| 494. Let's watch TV with a candle on. | 咱们点上蜡烛看电视吧。 |
| 495. Most games cost about that much. | 大部分游戏差不多都是这个价钱。 |
| 496. My parents want me to go abroad | 我父母想让我出国 |
| 497. She has been collecting stamps. | 她一直收集邮票。 |

4. Proverbs:

1. It is more blessed to give than receive. (Acts 20:35)
2. Do to others what you would have others do to you. (Matthew 7:12)
3. For the love of money is the root of all evil. (1Timothy 6:10)
4. For we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but If we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. (1 Timothy 6:7 - 8)
5. "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. (Matthew 5:9)
6. What good would it be for a man to gain the world at the cost of his own life? (Luke 9:25)