

Article for English Corner Discussion

1. Article 9-4: A Special Teacher

Years ago a Johns Hopkins professor gave a group of graduate students this assignment: Go to the slums (贫民区). Take 200 boys, between the ages of 12 and 16, and investigate (调查) their background (背景) and environment (环境). Then predict (放预告) their chances for the future.

The students, after consulting social statistics, talking to the boys, and compiling (收集) much data, concluded that 90 percent of the boys would spend some time in jail (监狱).

Twenty-five years later another group of graduate students was given the job of testing the prediction. They went back to the same area. Some of the boys –by then men – were there, a few had died, some had moved away, but they got in touch with 180 of the original 200. They found that only four of the group had ever been sent to jail.

Why was it that these men, who had lived in a breeding (产生) place of crime (罪恶), had such a surprisingly (出乎意外) good record? The researchers were continually told, “Well, there was a teacher...”

They pressed further, and found that in 75 percent of the cases it was the same woman. The researchers went to this teacher, now living in a home for retired teachers. How had she exerted (发挥) this remarkable (了不起) influence (影响) over that group of children? Could she give them any reason why these boys should have remembered her?

“No,” she said, “No, I really couldn’t.” And then, thinking back over the years, she said amusingly (发笑), more to herself than to her questioners, “I **loved** those boys...”

2. Discussion:

1. Compare and list the findings of the two groups of graduate students who studied the same population of boys, but 25 years apart.
2. What did the Johns Hopkins University students discover as the main contributing factor to the surprising results?
3. How can this teacher’s attitude be an example to us today?

3. Remember Seven Phrases a Week:

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| 365. We walk on the garden path. | 我们走在花园小径上。 |
| 366. What you need is just rest. | 你需要的就是休息。 |
| 367. What's your favorite steps? | 你最喜欢跳什么舞? |
| 368. You'd better let her alone. | 你让她一个人呆会儿。 |
| 369. A lost chance never returns. | 错过的机会永不再来。 |
| 370. Don't let this get you down. | 不要为此灰心丧气。 |
| 371. He killed the lion with a gun. | 他用枪把狮子打死了。 |

4. Proverbs:

1. Let us love one another, for love comes of God and Knows God.
Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. (1 John 4:7)
2. God is love, whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him.
(1 John 4:16)
3. We love because God first love us. (1 John 4:19)