

20140226 Quote Presentation Scripts

洪詩涵 I am going to present a famous quote from a famous woman-politician. The quote goes like this: "Don't be so humble - you are not that great." This was spoken by Golda Meir, Israel's Prime Minister from 1969 to 1974. During her term, she was described as the "Iron Lady" and for a good reason. While most people believe humility is a virtue, Meir knew that as a woman and a politician, she had to demonstrate the contrary and be very aggressive. She then used this statement to explain that only the great need to be humble, and since she did not consider herself great, she did not need to be humble. The interesting thing is: in telling people that she was not great, she was exactly being humble.

翁子涵 Vince Lombardi was an American football player, coach, and executive, who had won many football games during his life. Here is a famous quotation from him: "We did not lose the game; we just ran out of time." Lombardi was using this statement to encourage the losing team that all it needed was a little more time, and that winning is still hopeful if the team would try harder next time. However, a football game runs only 90 minutes; if you don't make it within that time, you WILL lose the game. Andy Warhol, the world-famous American pop artist said it nicely, "They always say time changes things, but you actually have to change them yourself." In other words, the key to success is not wishing for more time but making your best effort and making it fast.

徐郁惠 I picked a quotation by Will Rogers, who was an American cowboy, humorist, social commentator and movie actor. He said: "Good judgment comes from experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment." He had traveled around the world three times, made 71 movies and wrote more than 4,000 newspaper columns. Coming from this kind of background, he knows best that experience can help us recognize the best or the right way. But I think the second half of his sentence is much more important, because a lot of our experiences are the mistakes we have made, and it is through these mistakes that we can correct our ways and be more successful.

王慶華 Vivian Greene is a singer with an optimistic and active attitude. She does not like to make sad or negative music because she does not want to be that kind of person. I chose a quote from her for today's class. She says, "Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass; it's about learning to dance in the rain." When faced with difficulties, there are two ways to deal with them. A passive person would feel powerless and just wait for the result to happen. An active man on the other hand would do everything he can to find possible solutions. Waiting for the storm to pass is passive; but making a rainy day into a joyful occasion by dancing in the rain is quite active. Even if you cannot find good solutions, at least you did not let the difficulties defeat you. You still remained joyful and hopeful. I think that is the meaning of this quote.

劉婷昀 Albert Einstein has said many famous quotes, but one of them stands out for me. He says, "Only two things are infinite, the universe and human stupidity, and I'm not sure about the former." This is a tricky statement, because we would think that he, as one of the world's smartest scientists, should be sure of the infinity of the universe. But he says he is not sure of that. So what is he really saying by bringing the universe and human stupidity together in this sentence? Well, if you take away the universe, you will see that what he really wants to say is that he is quite sure that human stupidity is infinite. Coming from Einstein, that should be a lesson for us all.

徐少婕 I have chosen a quote from the 35th President of the United States, John F. Kennedy. The quote goes like this: "Forgive your enemies, but never forget their names." When he sought his nomination by the Democratic Party, Kennedy had to first debate Lyndon B. Johnson. In the debate, Johnson ferociously attacked Kennedy, but after winning the nomination, Kennedy asked Johnson to be his running mate. This is a very good move because he turned an old enemy into a new friend. To forgive is to change tension into peace, but Kennedy also chose not to forget that he had enemies, lest he should become too comfortable in his victory. I think that is a very good lesson.