



What Is Profit



by Fred Kent

What is profit?

01

line 1—line19

02


line 20—line46

03

line 47—line61

04

line 62—line77



reading &
summary

Jen

Profit is the result of enterprise which builds for others as well as for the enterpriser. What the 100th man did not only benefits himself but also saves the 99 others' time.

Question

Cleo

- line2: which builds for others as well as the enterpriser...builds for
为什么不用被动式？既然是企业发展是否应该先builds for the
enterpriser然后再是others？
- line 18: He is making a tremendous profit—but...句中破折号应该
是表转折，用逗号代替有区别吗？
- line18: ...in order to provide for his necessities...provide for 和
provide 有什么区别？
- line19: 为什么不把for himself直接放在tremendous profit 后面？
这样也可以解释but这个转折？

- **line2-5:** 企业是为企业的员工和企业家建立的，也正是企业的发展带来了利益。让我们设想一下，把上述现象放在原始社会中运作：假设有**100**个人，他们的智力水平仅仅停留在通过整天努力劳动来获取生活必需品的阶段。

- **line8-11:** **They do this...where he has his habitation.**

他们日复一日地上山下山，直到最后他们其中的一个人发现山里的泉水沿着他下山的方向从山上流下来。他心生一计，不妨在山坡上挖渠引水，将水一路引到他的住处。

- **line16-19:** **He will then receive...for himself.**

之后他每天能从其他人那里获得他们为他劳动**990**分钟的时间，这样一来他就不用每天工作**16**个小时来养活自己了。他现在做的事就是在为自己（？）谋取利益——但是同时他的事业也提供给了其他**99**个人每人可额外支配的**50**分钟时间。

line1—line19

Lizzy

line 10 : conceive

line 18 : tremendous

connection

My roommate conceived an idea when there was a knock on the door. And the idea is that everyone puts on our earphone and pretends not to hear the sound since it needs tremendous courage to stop the thing you are working on and leave your chair.

line1—line19

Monica

comments

Line10-11:

He conceives the idea of digging a trough in the mountainside all the way down to the place where he has his habitation.

This man is very smart, he knows how to break the rules. This kind of courage to think out of convention is very important .

line1—line19

Monica


comments



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What is profit?



reading &
summary

Maggie

The enterpriser now has many hours a day at his disposal for thinking and observing so that he develops tools to improve work efficiency and obtain more profits. What's more, he makes others work in specialty, making better quality.

Question

Jammy

- line33: ...having more time to themselves? to怎么理解? for是否比较妥当?
- line46: ...in an intelligent community.为什么用an不用the?

●line 21-23: He sees that...grind his corn.

他看见水冲刷过石头和碎木块。所以他（根据这个原理）发明了水车；然后他注意到（水推动水车使）水车产生了动能。最后经过几个小时的冥思苦想和钻研，他使用水车来驱动石磨从而磨碎谷物。

●line 35-39: 例如，他注意到99个人中有一个人鞋子做得比别人好。他就安排这第99个人用他所有的时间来做鞋，因为他（第100个人）在其他人的那儿得到的利益足以使他（第99个人）在吃穿住方面都不用愁了。其他98个人现在不用自己做鞋子了，但他们要拿出节省下来的时间中的十分之一为第99个人工作。由于第100个人（的聪明才智）使得其他的98个人为这第99个人工作，所以现在第99个人也能工作更短的时间了。

●line 42-46: 由于这第100个人的远见，分工产生了，并使这个团体里越来越多的人去做他们最擅长的事。每个人都有了更多自己可以支配的时间。除了最迟钝的人之外，每个人都对其他人在做什么感兴趣，并琢磨着自己如何才能做得更好。最终结果就是每个人都开始在这个智慧团体（？）里各司其职。

line20—line46

Monica

Line23:mill grind

connection

The old couple in this small village lead a very hard life,they have to rely on their old and small mill to give them scanty income.The only donkey in this mill also lead a hard life,it has to use all the power to grind corns from day to night.

line20—line46


Lizzy

comments

line 22-23

finally,after many hours of contemplation and work.....corn.

From this sentence ,we can know the importance of contemplation especially in modern life.Everyone is so busy that can hardly get time to think,let alone contemplate.The high speed and heavy burden of life push everyone to go ahead and never stop.As a result,we lost ourselves and forget what we really want.



reading &
summary

Lizzy

If the incentive of the most curious mind failed to develop, then life for people would still be a drudge. But if it develops, the community would prosper.

Question

Monica

- line50: take what water we want中的what怎么理解?
- line51: “The incentive of most curious mind to build upon his enterprising thoughts would have been taken away.” 这句话如何理解? 作者用build upon 而不是build up,build upon 是以.....为基础的意思? 在句中不通?
- line61: set sb to doing 只查到set sb to do和set sb doing?

● **line 52-56: He would have seen... just for a bare living.**

如果他仍在每个清醒的时刻继续工作从而维持生计，那他最后就会发现问题的解决并不能给他带来益处。团体也不可能会有任何进步，还是和刚开始一样愚昧。生活对于大家而言，依旧还是那么枯燥乏味，整日埋头苦干却只能勉强糊口。



In March, Google's Go-playing program AlphaGo played against Go grandmaster Lee-Se-dol.

AI successfully attracted worldwide attention once again.

Few years ago, Panasonic's Hospi robots are designed to take over drudge work in hospitals—toting around medicine, and performing rote work tasks like hairwashing. AI is produced to prosper our world. While some people worry about AI will gradually becomes the dominant form on earth; Computers or Robots will effectively taking control of the planet away from human race. I think it's a stupidity, if AI is a deliberate creation of human being, theoretically its creators could have the foresight to take precautions. My opinion is that AI will gradually take over part of human work, but not all the work, let alone replacing human beings.

line47—line61

Maggie

comments

line 52-54

He would have seen that he could gain nothing by solving problems if he still had to use every waking hour to provide his living. There could be no advancement in the community.

I definitely agree with that. As far as I'm concerned, profit is the incentive of the advancement of the community. Profits urge man to think and create, driving the development of technology, and along with the progress of science and technology, the society also follows the advancement. It is justified that labor needs to be rewarded, if a person achieved through his wisdom just serving others, cannot get anything in return, he will gradually lose the power of thinking, the society will lose opportunities to progress and become stagnant.


line47—line61

Maggie



comments

Nowadays, the high-tech industry has become one of the most profitable industries, scientists are actively studying, sold the results to enterprises to obtain profits, the companies use the technology to develop production and make more profits, and then the community continue to progress under the influence of profits.



reading &
summary

Monica

Everyone should be honest and keep innovative spirit, and try our best by using our own speciality to contribute to the whole society. This will not only do good to ourselves, but also help the advance of our human world.

Question

Lizzy

- line 62: as intelligence grew, as在这里引导原因状语从句，
可以不用逗号隔开？
- line 65: spend all their time at their art, giving their creations
to others...? 句子中用at? 为什么不是and give?
- line 75: because it works to the benefit of all, 为什么不用for?

●line 67-70: 随着这些发展的持续进行，社会中的每个成员都从自己所取得的成就中贡献东西的同时，也越来越依赖于其他人的努力。并且，要不是羡慕、嫉妒和不公平的法律干预限制那些受益颇丰的诚实的企业家，进步很有可能会是持续不断的。

●line 74-75: **Laws that kill incentive...benefit of all.**

那些扼杀了诚实企业家进取心并削减他们人数（使他们的做出的努力变得徒劳无功？）的法律阻碍了进步。真正的利益并不会使人惧怕，因为它的存在造福了造福所有人。

line62—line77

Jammy

line 74: incentive
cripple

connection

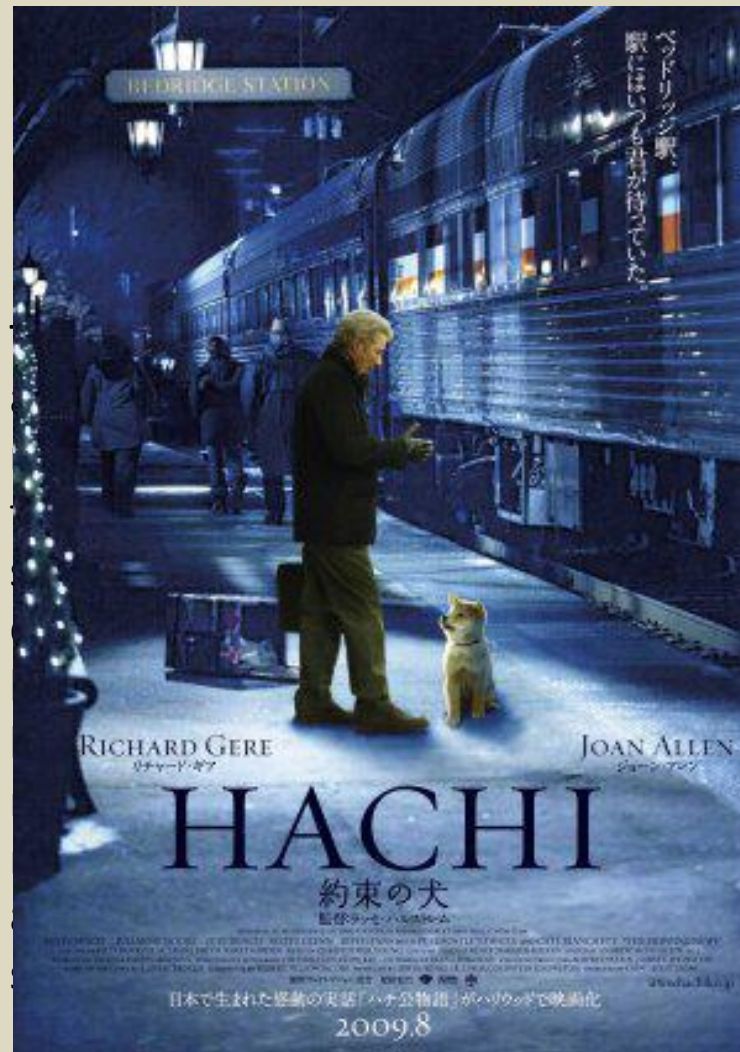
The effect of social welfare on poverty is controversial. It has been debated in the United States. Some people say that welfare creates a negative incentive to not find work and thus sustain poverty.

In some welfare states, policies limit the incentive system of the market by providing things such as minimum wages, unemployment insurance, resulting in capitalist having little incentive to invest; in fact, social welfare policies may cripple the capitalist system and increase poverty to some extent.

line62—line77

Jen

comments



world cannot be

't treat back what they
sure. If we don't act
this reminds me of a
is adapted from a real
professor saw a stray
s wife's unwillingness,
gradually treated back;
professor off every
ne back from work at
essor died of stroke
that happened, Hachi
until his own death.

What is profit?



Thank you



group 5
Jammy
Cleo
Jen
Monica
Lizzy
Maggie