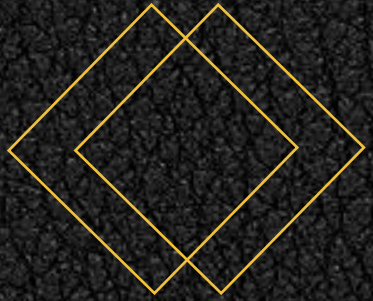


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# Words

A world full of charm

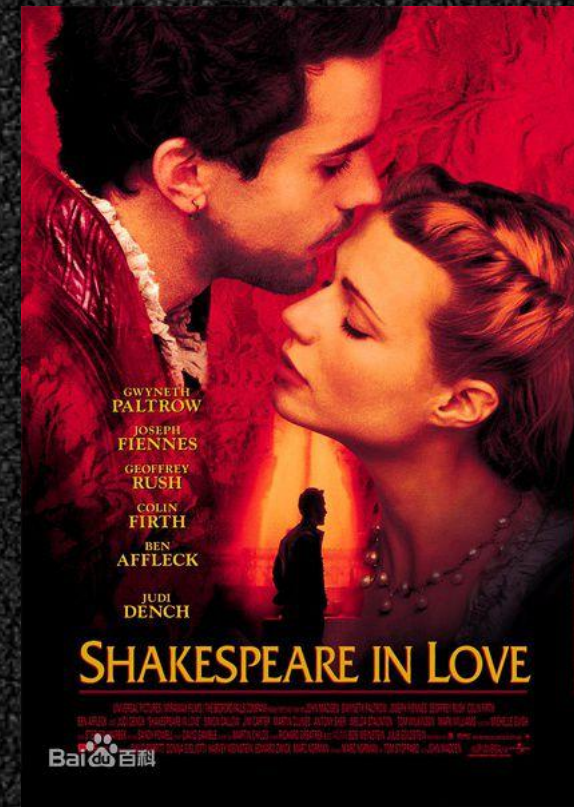
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In the movie "Shakespeare in love", due to the thought is exhausted, Shakespeare confides to the Dr Moth: "Words . words , words.. Once . .I had the gift . I could make love out of words as a potter makes cups out of clay."

The word in here means 文字. This shows that vocabulary is the basic material of language.

Shakespeare is one of the largest English vocabulary writers. The vocabulary of his works is about 20,000 to 30,000. So we should be more efforts to expand our vocabulary.





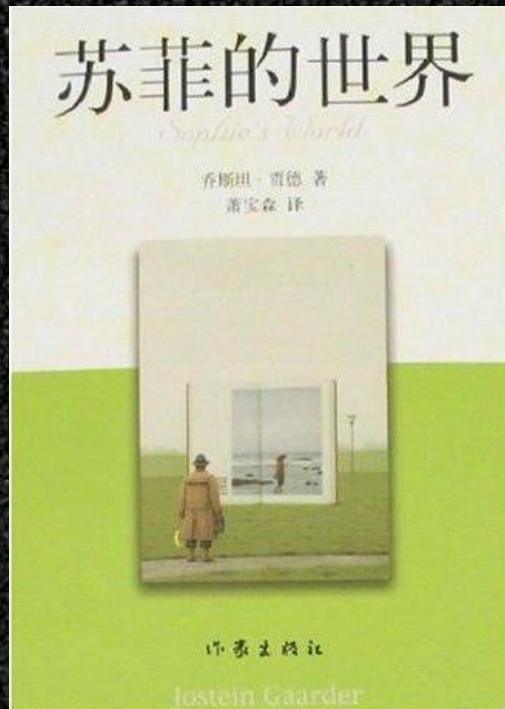
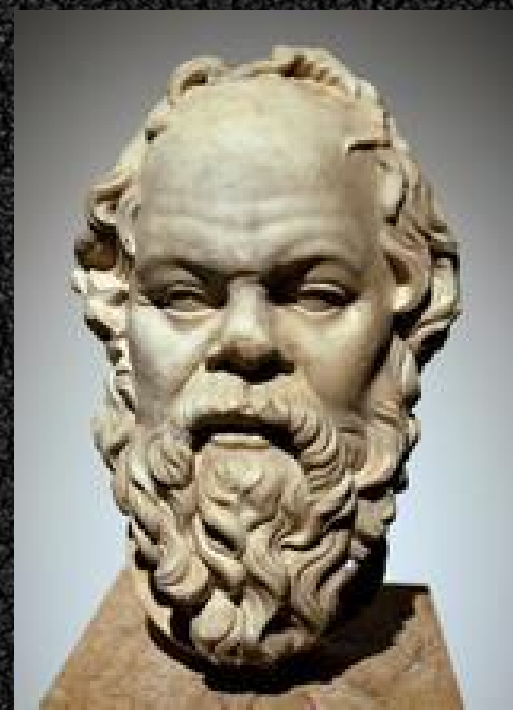
However for many students, memorizing words is a boring thing. Actually if we combine the word with memory and culture, stories and cultural origin analysis behind the words , memorizing words has become a kind of wonderful and exciting experience. That's what I want to tell you today .



Let's last forward to more than 2000 years ago, the ancient Greece, it is a place to seek wisdom, philosophers and heroes.

Socrates was walking barefoot in the streets of Athens to the teaching of philosophy. Philosophy is defined as “love wisdom” by the Greek. In Greek "**philo** -" is the meaning of "love", "**Sophia**" is the meaning of “Wisdom”. So philosophy is "love of wisdom".

Have you heard of the “Sophie ' s World”? Sophie is emotional, she is always in pursuit of the wisdom in this book, no wonder her name is Sophie.

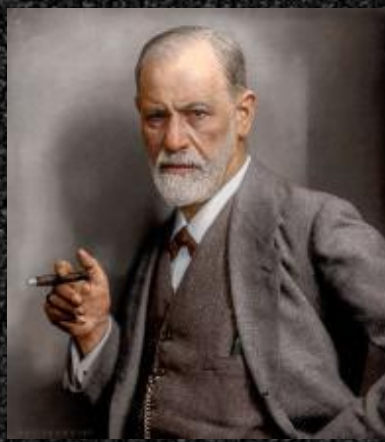
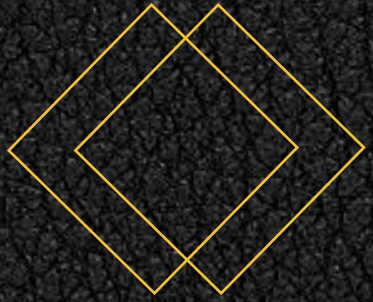




Now let's turn to Greek and Roman mythology. God of Flora and god of the west wind Zephyr married, the romantic husband gave his wife a garden filled with fragrant flowers. When the spring came, Flora and her husband were strolling in the garden full of flowers . So the plant was named after god of Flora.



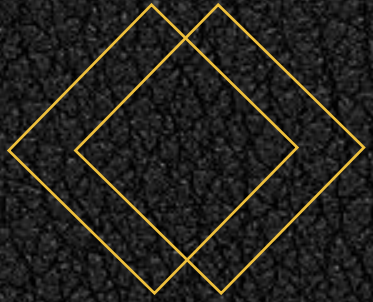
The Greek not only love beauty, but they also love art, the number of **Muse** is nine. When we listen to the **music**, visit the **museum** , we could remember the Muse of wisdom.



In the 19th century, there was a psychologist studying the analysis of the human spirit and person's dream named Sigmund Freud. The great psychologist, put the **psyche** as the research object. With psyche, creates a **psychology**, **psychologist**, **psychoanalysis**; According to the **conscious**, Freud made out of the **subconscious** and **unconscious**

2001.9.11. A plane hijacked by terrorist crashed into the World Trade Centre and The Pentagon. Terrorism caused a panic around the world. From that day on, The pentagon is manned history. Then we know that Penta - is the meaning of the prefix "Five". Besides Penta -, there are other represent prefixes of number, like tricycle 三轮车, triangle 三角形; bimonthly 双月刊, bilingual 双语的; monologue 独白, monolingual 单语的.





Now I believe that everyone has some progress.  
But why is the progress means 进步?

To answer this question, we have to divide the progress into "pro-" and "-gress". the meaning of the prefix pro - is "forward", the meaning of the root -gress is "go", so that's why the meaning of the progress is go forward.  
If we put the prefix re- in front of the -gress, the meaning of the regress is go back, because besides the meaning of "again", the prefix re- has the meaning of "backward".

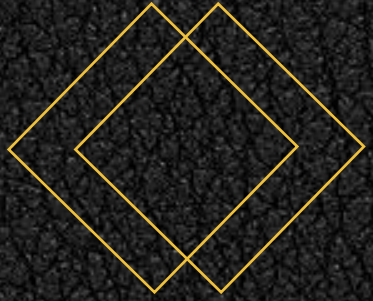




When we at the middle school, we have learnt a lot of words comprised of suffix - er ,like farmer . worker . waiter... and then we learned suffix - ee which also means human. But what the difference between the suffix-er and suffer-ee?

Let's see the two groups of words: employer , employee ; interviewer , interviewee. Comparing these two groups of words, we can conclude that: -er means someone is the action of practitioner, his position is higher or in the active position; While - ee means someone is the action of laid-off, his position is lower or in the passive position. According to what I have mentioned, we can know the appointee , examinee , trustee...





Actually there are many suffixes mean human, like -ster, gangster minister , youngster and spinster.

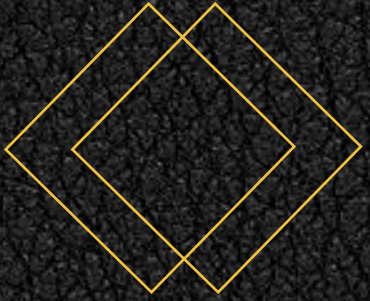
But if we take these words apart, there is another question: minister can be divided into the mini- and -ster, the former means "small", the later means people, the two combined to mean the "little guy", but minister means a politician who is in charge of a government department, in Britain and some other countries. We can think about it in another way: officials work as public servants, in this sense the minister is a worm, isn't it?





If we can split the word spinster, put it into the spin- and -ster, also can cause the same conflict. Spin- means "纺织", so spinster means "weavers"? No. Spinster means "unmarried women", long time ago, unmarried women spun at home, so after the 17th century, the marriageable age and unmarried women were so called.





The world of the vocabulary is so abundant and colorful, there are so many wonderful cultural stories behind the boring words.

Rodin said, "The world is not lack of beauty, but lack of eyes to find beauty". Similarly, the world is not lack of interest of vocabulary, but the lack of a heart to explore.

