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1121204 高中職生英翻中短文翻譯題目

People first started using money in order to trade. A farmer who had cattle might want to use salt to preserve meat or cloth to make clothing. For this farmer, a cow became a “medium of exchange” — a way of getting things that the farmer did not make or grow. Cattle thus became a form of money. In fact, whatever people agreed to trade became the earliest kinds of money. By the time of the Middle Ages in Europe (about A.D. 800-1100), gold had become a popular medium for trade. But gold was heavy and difficult to carry, and it was very dangerous to travel with large amounts of gold in Europe at that time. So merchants and goldsmiths began issuing notes promising to pay gold to the person who carried the note. These “promissory notes” were the beginning of paper money in Europe.

medium 媒介

merchant 商人

goldsmith 金匠

note 票據

promissory note 期票