

Sense and Sensibility

理智与情感



Jane Austen

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Jane Austen 著

吴春晓 译



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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

理智与情感: 英汉对照 / (英) 奥斯汀(Austen, J.)
著; 吴春晓译. —西安: 西安交通大学出版社, 2008. 8
书名原文: Sense and Sensibility
ISBN 978-7-5605-2882-3

I. 理… II. ①奥…②吴… III. ①英语—汉语—对照读
物②长篇小说—英国—现代 IV. H319.4: I

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2008)第 111869 号

版权登记: 陕版出图字 25 - 2008 - 044 号

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- | | |
|------|--|
| 书 名 | 理智与情感 |
| 著 者 | (英) Jane Austen |
| 译 者 | 吴春晓 |
| 责任编辑 | 李 蕊 张 鹏 |
| 封面设计 | 大愚设计 |
| 出版发行 | 西安交通大学出版社 |
| 地 址 | 西安市兴庆南路 10 号(邮编:710049) |
| 电 话 | (029)82668357 82667874(发行部)
(029)82668315 82669096(总编办) |
| 印 刷 | 北京画中画印刷有限公司 |
| 字 数 | 37 千 |
| 开 本 | 787mm×1092mm 1/16 |
| 印 张 | 9.5 |
| 版 次 | 2008 年 8 月第 1 版 2008 年 8 月第 1 次印刷 |
| 书 号 | ISBN 978-7-5605-2882-3/H·795 |
| 定 价 | 25.00 元 |

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内容及特色介绍

Password Readers 系列读物精选了原创和经典的小说类作品。这些作品经过改编后更加适合英语学习者的需要。该系列读物为读者自主学习提供了实用且易理解的学习材料。每册读物由十余个六页长度的章节组成，故事与练习交替循环，既巩固词汇学习，又增强阅读技巧。每个故事结束后还配有与主题相关的背景信息，有助于读者深入理解文本并扩大知识面。每册读物均配有一张音频光盘，在提高听力的同时，也给人一种听的享受。先听再读，你会发现每本书都具有更为丰富的价值。

第一级 (Beginner)

这一级别读物几乎都以现在时陈述，出现一些情态动词，尤其是 **must** 和 **can**；并包含大量关于形容词、介词和疑问词的练习。在第一级的读物中，插图在词汇学习与测试中起到了重要的作用。

第二级 (Elementary)

这一级别读物几乎都以现在时陈述。其中也出现一些情态动词的使用，尤其是 **must**, **can**, **should**, **have to**。这一级别的大多数读物包含关于形容词比较级、不规则名词复数形式，以及疑问词和疑问句的练习。每册读物都配有全彩色插图，既帮助读者加强对文章的理解，又增加练习题的生动性。

第三级 (Pre-intermediate)

几乎所有故事都以现在时讲述，涉及少量过去时，尤其是 **was** 和 **were**。大多数读物都聚焦于常用的基本词汇，很少出现助动词，读者可以进一步学习形容词的比较级和疑问词的用法。

第四级 (Intermediate)

一般过去时广泛地出现在这一级别的读物中。学生可以从中掌握不规则动词的过去时态变形。文章中还包括动词的一般将来时和一些常用情态动词的用法。这一级别的文章用词更为广泛，读者可以深入学习形容词比较级和最高级的用法。其中一些读本还讲述了更为复杂的语法结构，比如条件状语从句、不定式结构等。语法讲解采用大量疑问句和否定句作为例子，以加深对语法结构的学习。

第五级 (Upper-intermediate)

这一级别读物涉及的话题及词汇主要聚焦于现代时尚行业：电视产品、时尚设计、电子银行等。这些故事的中心内容是商业事务及现代无线通信。文章中使用了中高级难度的动词时态和其他语法结构。

读者可根据自己实际的英语水平(如词汇量、语法知识、理解能力、阅读能力等)选择适合自己的读物，而不必受制于学校年级划分或学历高低的约束。关于本系列读物的其他信息，请参考书末最后一页。



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Pictures

- I Look at the pictures in Chapter I.
Answer the questions.

- 1) In which country do you think the story takes place?
- 2) In which century does it take place?
- 3) Do you think the main characters are rich or poor? Why?

CHAPTER 1

Altered Circumstances

The Dashwood family had lived for many generations in Sussex. Their estate at Norland Park was large and they were a respectable family, liked by their neighbours and esteemed by their servants. Mr Henry Dashwood, the present owner of the elegant old manor house, had inherited the property from his uncle. He had one son by his first marriage, and by his second wife, three daughters. The son was well-provided for financially by the fortune of his late mother and by his own marriage to a wealthy lady, but Mr Dashwood's daughters' future was less secure. The father knew that when he died the estate had to be left to his son, for these were the conditions of the inheritance imposed by his uncle, and he was worried about his dear daughters. He therefore made his son John promise that when his father died, he would look after his half-sisters and make sure that they had everything they needed to live comfortably.

Soon after this Mr Dashwood became ill and within a year had passed away. John Dashwood remembered his solemn promise and decided to give his sisters a thousand pounds each from his considerable inheritance.

John Dashwood was a steady, respectable young man but rather selfish and cold. Perhaps if he had married a more affectionate and amiable woman, he would have become more generous, but in fact he had married a woman even more narrow-minded and selfish than himself. Mrs Fanny Dashwood did not like her husband's half-sisters or his stepmother. She was jealous of their strong affection for one another and their influence over her husband. When he explained his intentions to help the girls to his wife, she did not approve at all.

Words

2 Complete the table.

husband	
	daughter
	aunt
nephew	
brother	



She was certain these women were scheming to get some of her husband's money. Therefore, she replied that giving the three thousand pounds to his sisters would really mean taking the money from their baby son's future inheritance. Did he really believe that the Miss Dashwoods' claim to the money, as half-relations, could possibly be stronger than their dear little boy's, their only son and the apple of their eye?

Mr Dashwood was surprised at this interpretation but, being rather reluctant to part with his money, quickly began to see the reason in his wife's argument. He therefore decided to reduce the sum to five hundred pounds each – he was sure three young women would be perfectly comfortable on the interest from such a sum. But Fanny was still not content.

"If the girls marry they may end by having more money than us!" she cried. "Why not do something for their mother instead – a little sum to her will benefit them all. Four women living together can live very cheaply," she added.

Her husband agreed that she was probably right. A small yearly annuity to his stepmother of a hundred pounds would be the answer. His wife agreed but then pointed out a possible complication. His stepmother was still a strong, healthy woman and might live for another fifteen years! That could mean paying fifteen hundred pounds if they began now! Better to simply give his sisters a little present of fifty pounds now and again, she suggested, and not commit himself to the risk of any permanent arrangement. That would be more than generous; no one could expect him to do more for half-relations.

Mrs Dashwood and her daughters remained at Norland for several weeks after her husband's death. They were all very fond of the old place and leaving it would be difficult. However when Fanny, with an extreme lack of diplomacy and sympathy for their position, arrived without notice only days after her father-in-law had died and began to give the servants orders and alter the furniture, her mother-in-law began to see how she would be treated if she remained at Norland. She was therefore impatient to find another house as soon as possible.

She started to make inquiries and luckily a cousin of hers wrote her a very friendly letter offering them a charming property on his estate in Devonshire for a very reasonable rent.

Only one thing now stopped Mrs Dashwood from leaving Norland immediately. Recently she had noticed a growing romantic attachment between her eldest daughter Elinor and Fanny's brother, Edward. Edward was the opposite of his sister in every respect – a serious, thoughtful young man, rather shy but well-educated and sincere. The sensible and even-tempered

Elinor also seemed to like him very much and, to Mrs Dashwood's optimistic and romantic nature, their mutual affection looked certain to end in marriage.

When Elinor, in conversation with her impulsive sister Marianne, learned of her mother's hopes, she was very embarrassed and begged Marianne to convince their mother that their departure for Devonshire should not be delayed for this reason. Edward was sweet and attentive to her but so far had not mentioned marriage, and she knew that his rich family, in particular his snobbish mother, would disapprove of any connection between their eldest son and a girl of no fortune like herself. Marianne was surprised at Elinor's calm, practical attitude to such an emotional matter, but she respected her sister's wishes and told their mother what she had said. Mrs Dashwood wrote to her cousin accepting his kind offer of Barton Cottage and soon afterwards they began to make preparations for their departure.





Altered Circumstances

Check your comprehension

3 Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- | | T | F |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) <i>The Dashwood family lives in London.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2) <i>Mr Dashwood was married twice.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3) <i>John Dashwood is Mr Dashwood's son from his first marriage.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4) <i>John Dashwood and the Dashwood girls are cousins.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5) <i>Fanny Dashwood thought John should give a lot of money to the Dashwood girls.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6) <i>Mrs Dashwood decided to stay at Norland with her stepson.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7) <i>Mrs Dashwood's brother offers her a house.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8) <i>Edward is very like his sister, Fanny.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9) <i>Elinor is in love with Fanny's brother, Edward.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10) <i>Edward has asked Elinor to marry him.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Words

4 Look up these words in a dictionary.

to inherit

inheritance

narrow-minded

half-sister

stepmother

to commit yourself

annuity

attachment

Characters

5 What are these people like? Write the adjectives next to the characters.

respectable	jealous	sensible	steady	calm
selfish	narrow-minded	cold	practical	optimistic
	romantic	even-tempered		

- 1) John Dashwood _____
- 2) Mrs Dashwood _____
- 3) Fanny Dashwood _____
- 4) Elinor _____

Language

6 How would you write these examples in direct speech? Choose the correct answer.

INDIRECT SPEECH – FUTURE TENSE

She replied that giving the three thousand pounds... *would* mean taking the money from their baby son. Four women living together could live very cheaply, she added.

- 1) ☐ Giving three thousand pounds to your sisters will mean taking the money from our son.
☐ Giving three thousand pounds to your sisters has meant taking the money from our son.
☐ Giving three thousand pounds to your sisters meant taking the money from our son.
- 2) ☐ Four women living together will live very cheaply.
☐ Four women living together can live very cheaply.
☐ Four women living together lived very cheaply.

7 Now write these direct sentences as indirect speech.

- 1) ELINOR: We will arrive at our new home tomorrow.
- 2) MRS DASHWOOD: We can't stay at Norland with Fanny and John.
- 3) MRS DASHWOOD: I will write to my cousin in Devonshire.
- 4) EDWARD: My mother will not approve of my connection with Elinor.
- 5) MARIANNE: We can't leave Norland until Edward and Elinor are married.



Words

I Match the words to the pictures.

- 1) cottage
- 2) manor house
- 3) farmhouse

a)



b)



c)



CHAPTER 2

A New Home and New Friends

As soon as she had sent her reply to her cousin, Mrs Dashwood was able to tell her selfish daughter-in-law that she would be leaving Norland as soon as possible for a new home.

John Dashwood was very surprised that she had decided on Devonshire, so far from Norland Park, but Mrs Dashwood's feelings towards him and his wife were so changed recently that she had no inclination to remain near them. Although she cordially invited them to come and visit the cottage whenever they liked, she knew they would never come. She also noticed Fanny's evident annoyance when she extended a warm and more sincere invitation to Edward Ferrars. In spite of the black look she received from her daughter-in-law, however, she was determined that Elinor's chances of happiness would not be spoiled by Edward's family's prejudice towards her beloved daughter.

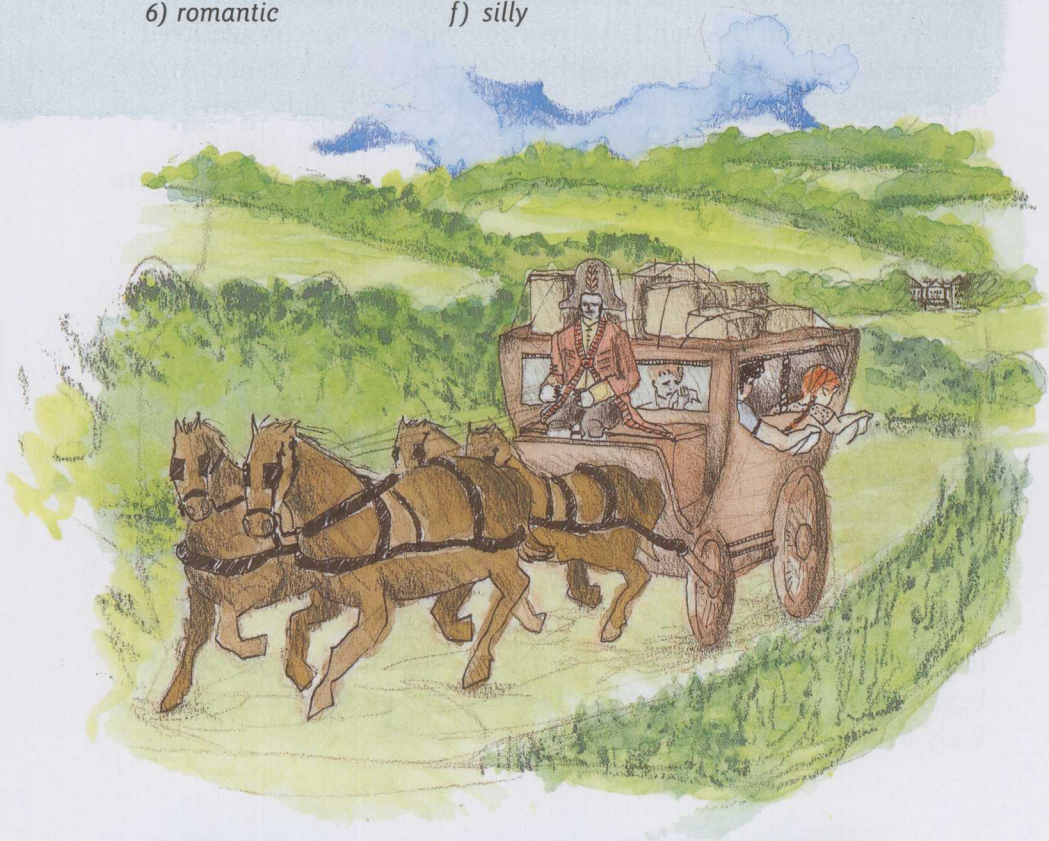
The girls and their mother made plans for their new home.

Mrs Dashwood and Marianne were full of ambitious projects for entertaining on a grand scale and extending the house in all directions to accommodate guests, but fortunately Elinor was more realistic and practical and eventually persuaded them to accept a more conservative plan, better suited to their reduced circumstances, with only three servants and no carriage.

While they packed their things, Mrs Dashwood waited for her stepson to speak out on the delicate matter of her daughters' financial position. She knew he had promised his father to help

2 Match the opposite adjectives.

- | | |
|--------------|----------------|
| 1) sincere | a) generous |
| 2) warm | b) false |
| 3) practical | c) cold |
| 4) sensible | d) impractical |
| 5) selfish | e) rational |
| 6) romantic | f) silly |



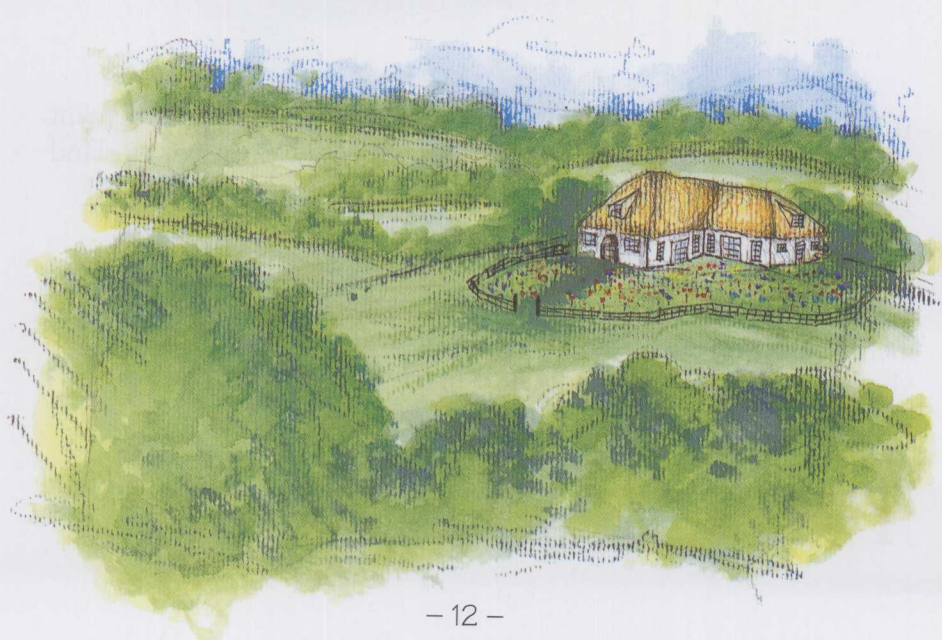
them and believed this was the ideal time to make them a settlement. Nothing at all was said on the matter by the new owner of Norland however and, apart from some assistance with the transportation of their furniture and boxes, it became obvious that he had no intention of helping them further. Mrs Dashwood was indignant, but pride and distaste at her stepson's shabby behaviour prevented her from saying anything. However, his behaviour only increased her disappointment in him and her dislike for his wife, and provided another reason for leaving their house as soon as she could.

The girls were very sad to leave their beloved Norland Park and cried many tears when their carriage finally turned west and

they left the lovely old house behind them. However, their spirits lifted a few days later when they arrived in Devonshire and saw the pretty valley which was to be their new home.

It was a fertile and pleasant spot with wooded slopes and rich pastures. The situation of the house was good with high hills behind it and lovely views from the windows over the valley. The cottage itself was small and compact but well-built. For Marianne's romantic tastes it was rather defective as a cottage because it didn't have a thatched roof, honeysuckle round the door, or green shutters. However, it was certainly comfortable and cosy and the ladies were generally pleased with it.

The next morning, after breakfast, they received their first visit from their relation and new landlord, Sir John Middleton. He was a good-looking gentleman of around forty, friendly and good-humoured. He urged them to accept his invitation to dinner to meet his wife as soon as possible and assured them that he was delighted to have such a charming family as his new neighbours. The same afternoon his kind words were followed by a generous present of fruit and vegetables from the gardens at the great house and a basket of game, which he had shot himself, for their table. In fact, from the beginning, their treatment at Barton was so different from what they had received recently at Norland that the girls began to feel happier immediately. They looked forward to meeting Lady Middleton the next day.



Barton Park was a large, handsome house where the Middletons lived in a style of elegance and hospitality.

Sir John apologised for the small size of their party – he was a fun-loving, sociable man who liked nothing better than to arrange noisy dancing parties, suppers and picnics for his young friends, and he would have liked to organise a dance in their honour.

Elinor, however, assured him that they preferred to be quiet on their first evening and thanked him for his kind invitation to dinner.

Of the guests present at the table, the girls thought Lady Middleton was rather a disappointment. She was certainly elegant and well-bred but her conversation was dull and insipid, her one interest in life being her noisy, spoiled children who annoyed the guests all night with their tricks and demands. Elinor privately wondered what Sir John and his lady talked about when they were alone; the husband's only real passion seemed to be hunting and his wife couldn't even ride!

Also present at dinner was Lady Middleton's mother, Mrs Jennings, a jolly, middle-aged lady whose main occupation in life was to try and make matches for all the young people she knew. She was delighted to meet the pretty Dashwood girls and began teasing them immediately about the broken-hearted young men she was sure they had left behind them in Sussex.

An old friend of Sir John's, Colonel Brandon, completed the group that night. A taciturn, serious man of around thirty-five, he seemed as unsuitable to be Sir John's friend as Lady Middleton seemed to be his wife and Elinor was curious about him. He was not handsome but had a pleasant, intelligent face and a respectful, gentlemanly manner. He didn't say much, but when he spoke, what he said was sensible. His age and quietness had caused Marianne to ignore him almost completely, but later in the evening, when the others found out she was musical and invited her to play, she saw a different side to his character. While the others insisted loudly that she play something, they nevertheless talked continuously throughout her entire performance, then praised her skill without having listened to her! Colonel Brandon, on the other hand, was silent and attentive and showed a real appreciation of her talent. So, while Marianne was convinced that at his advanced age the Colonel couldn't possibly feel things as acutely and passionately as she did, she had to admit that perhaps when he was younger he had been a man of sensitivity and taste.



A New Home and New Friends

Check your comprehension

3 Choose the correct word.

- 1) Mrs Dashwood was sad / pleased / embarrassed to tell her stepson they were leaving Norland.
- 2) Elinor / Mrs Dashwood / Fanny invited Edward to come to Devonshire.
- 3) Mrs Dashwood and Marianne wanted make a lot of / some / no changes to the cottage.
- 4) John Dashwood gave the girls three thousand pounds / one hundred pounds / nothing before they left.
- 5) Their new house is in the town / in the country / in a village.
- 6) Sir John Middleton is friendly and good-humoured / cold and reserved / indifferent to the Dashwoods.
- 7) The Middletons live at Barton Cottage / Barton Park House / Barton village.

Pictures

4 Look at the second picture in Chapter 2. Which of these things can you see in it?

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> flowers | <input type="checkbox"/> vegetables | <input type="checkbox"/> the sea |
| <input type="checkbox"/> mountains | <input type="checkbox"/> a garden | <input type="checkbox"/> hills |
| <input type="checkbox"/> woods | <input type="checkbox"/> busy streets | <input type="checkbox"/> cliffs |

Characters

5 There are four new characters at the dinner at Barton Park. Match the names to their descriptions.

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1) She is a jolly, middle-aged lady. | a) Sir John Middleton |
| 2) She is elegant and well-bred but dull and insipid. | b) Mrs Jennings |
| 3) He is a silent, serious man of around thirty-five. | c) Colonel Brandon |
| 4) He is a gentlemanly, good-looking man of around forty. | d) Lady Middleton |