

中学英语拾级读物

**GRADED
ENGLISH
READERS**

第三级

**Stories
about Children**

儿童故事

第**2**册

华东师范大学出版社

中学英语拾级读物
第三级第2册(总第12册)

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Stories about Children
藏书章

儿童故事

赵纪堪
黄晔敏

编注

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前 言

受国家教育委员会中学司委托,由上海外国语学院、北京外国语学院、北京师范大学、华东师范大学所属的四家大学出版社联合编辑、出版的《中学英语拾级读物》(简称《拾级读物》或《GE》)与读者见面了。这是我国中学英语教学的一项重要配套工程,旨在促进中学英语教学的改革。

取名《拾级读物》,不仅因为它有十个级别五十本书,而且还寓有“循序渐进,拾级而上”之意。中学生从初二开始阅读,逐级向上攀登,便可达到借助词典读懂浅近原著的水平。

《拾级读物》每册的词汇量、字数及对应年级大致如下:

级 别	词 汇 量	每册大约字数	大致对应年级
一	500—700	10 万	初二
二	600—900	10 万	初二
三	800—1200	12 万	初三
四	1000—1500	12 万	初三
五	1400—1800	12 万	高一、高二
六	1700—2000	12 万	高二、高三
七	2000—2500	14 万	重点中学高三
八	2500—3000	16 万	外国语学校高三
九	3000—3500	18 万	高材生、中学教师
十	3000—3500	18 万	高材生、中学教师

阅读是学好任何一种语言的必由之路,也是获取信息的主要渠道。只做习题,不大量阅读是学不好英语的。近年来

不少学生为了应付考试，花费大量的精力和时间去做各种各样的复习题和模拟试题，但收效甚微，对英语能力的提高并无多大益处。这是英语教学中的一种偏向。《拾级读物》的出版正是为了给中学英语教学提供一套可读性与系统性相结合的课外读物。

《拾级读物》主要供学生自己阅读，但教师可根据学生的实际水平帮助他们选择使用，并进行适当的辅导。特别在阅读方法上教师可作示范性的讲示，引导学生逐步摆脱语法和汉语的束缚。在此过程中，一是要抓篇章大意和故事情节；二是要注意学过的语言现象的再现和在新情境下的发展。对不易理解之处，要启发学生先根据上下文去揣摩，实在影响阅读时再查阅词典。对不影响理解全文的语言难点则要舍得放过。只有这样，才能培养学生良好的阅读习惯，保持他们阅读的兴趣，提高他们阅读的速度。

《拾级读物》的级别是衡量中学生英语阅读水平的客观尺度。为了便于检查，我们还准备编写一套相应的测试材料和教学参考书。

《拾级读物》除供中学生使用外，还可作为中学英语教师培训、进修的教材。

本书精选了 27 篇关于儿童的故事，长短不等，分编为三组：第一组描述少儿在德、体、智方面表现出来的勇敢气质；第二组描写儿童在校外生活中的感受；第三组是少儿趣事。这些故事，思想内容大多激励少年奋发进取，语言浅显、规范，也能反映美国英语特点，故事情节生动而颇具童趣。书中某些幽默之处，读来令人哑然失笑。

本书的注释原则是：一、未学过的语法点，任其自然，既未作删改，也未予作注；二、各组故事的生词以初级中学课文

《英语》第五册为起点，即第一至四册学过的词汇本书一概不注；三、一组故事中的生词，先出现者先注；四、同一生词在另一组故事中重现时，仍予注释，以便学生以每组故事为单位，顺利地逐篇“拾级”而读。五、一般人名和地名不逐组作注，均在附录中列示音标及其译名。

鉴于编者水平有限，本读物在选材、注释等各方面肯定存在不少缺点，敬请广大师生、各界读者不吝指正，供我们再版时参考。

《中学英语拾级读物》编辑委员会
一九八七年五月

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1. Two Boys Save a Life

One afternoon Bill Bass and his friend Sam Hooker were coming home from a ball game. They had started up the stairs from the subway to the street.¹ Suddenly they saw a man lying on the platform.²

"Look!" said Bill. "What's wrong with him?"

"I don't know," said Sam.

The two boys stopped and looked at the man.

"He is sleeping," said Sam.

"How do you know?" asked Bill.

Bill went closer to the man.

"Is he breathing?"³ Sam asked.

"I don't know," said Bill. "Maybe he's sick. Maybe he's even dead. We should do something. We should tell somebody."

"Why should we do something?" asked Sam. "Many grown-ups⁴ are walking around him. If he needs help, they will stop and do something."

"How do you know?" asked Bill.

"Well, what can we do?" asked Sam.

"We can tell a policeman," said Bill. "He knows what to do. Come on. Let's go and find a policeman."

The boys hurried out of the subway. They found

a policeman at a corner of the street. Bill told him about the man on the subway platform.

"OK," said the policeman. "I'll call another policeman. Do you boys want to show him where the man is?"

The policeman walked to the police telephone across the street.⁵ In a short time two more policemen came along in a squad car.⁶

"Get in," said one of the policemen to the boys. "And showd us where the man is."

"Oh great!" shouted Sam. "We can ride in a squad car."

When one of the policemen went down the stairs with the boys, the man was still lying on the platform. And people were still walking around him.

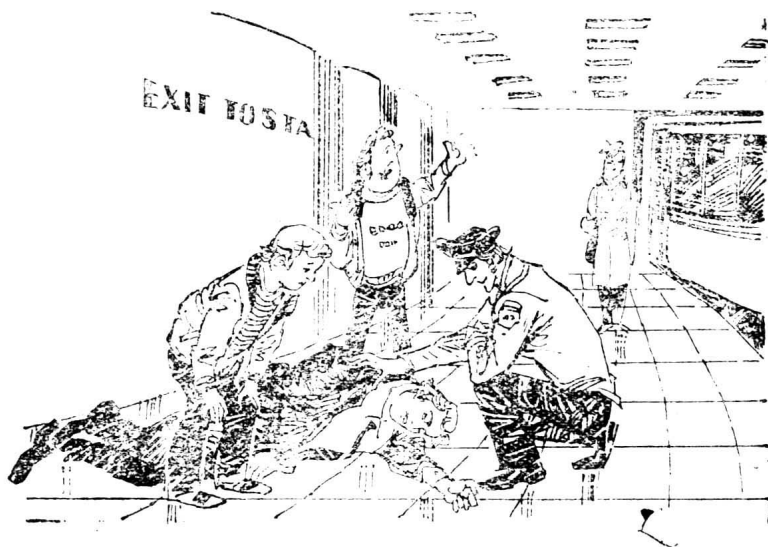
The policeman knelt⁷ down and said something to the man. But the man did not answer. Then the policeman put his hand on the man's shoulder⁸ and shook him gently.⁹ Still the man did not move.

"I think he is very ill," said the policeman. "I'd better send for an ambulance¹⁰ to take him to the hospital. You boys stay here while I make a call for an ambulance.

The policeman ran up the stairs to the street. In a few minutes he was back.

"You boys did the right thing," he said.

"What are your names and where do you live?"



When the policeman had written down the names and addresses of the two boys on his pad,¹¹ two men were coming down the stairs with a stretcher.¹² As some people watched, the two men carefully placed the sick man on the stretcher. Then they carried him up the stairs to an ambulance.

Sam and Bill walked up the stairs with the policeman. They stood beside the squad car and watched while the two men carefully lifted the stretcher into the ambulance.

As soon as the ambulance and the squad car pulled out,¹³ the boys started to run home. Sam went with Bill because he knew there would be no one at his

home until five o'clock. And they just had to tell someone what had happened!"

"Hey!" Bill shouted as they got to the apartment.¹⁴
"Guess what happened.

Bill's mother was at home. So the boys began to tell her their story excitedly.¹⁵

When the boys finished, Sam said, "It was Bill's idea. He said we should tell a policeman. And if we hadn't told a policeman, that man might be dead."

"I don't know about that," said Mrs Bass. "But you did a really good thing. Now I guess you boys want something to eat."¹⁶

Bill got milk and cookies¹⁷ for Sam and himself. Then they sat down and began to eat.

Soon the doorbell¹⁸ rang. Bill's mother answered it.

"Bill," she called. "You and Sam come here. Someone wants to talk to you."

The boys went into the living room.¹⁹ A man with a notebook²⁰ in his hand sat there.

"This is Mr Greene," said Bill's mother. "He wants to talk to you about the man on the subway platform."

"Are you a detective?"²¹ asked Bill.

"No," said Mr Greene. "I'm a newspaper man. The sick man is in the hospital. If you hadn't gone for help, he might be dead. You boys did the right thing. While other people walked around him and didn't do anything, you boys went for help. I want to write

a story about you for my newspaper.”

“You want to write about us—just because we called a policeman?”

“Yes,” said Mr Greene. “Maybe a story about you will make grown-ups understand their duty²² to help others.”

“Will the story be in tomorrow’s newspaper?” asked Bill.

“Yes,” said Mr Greene.

“Oh great! A story about us in the newspaper!” said Bill.

“Now will you answer some questions for me?” asked Mr Greene.

“Of course!” said Sam excitedly.

Mr Greene asked questions until he had the whole story.

Early the next morning the boys met on the street and ran to the corner to get a newspaper.

“Bill! Look!” said Sam as he glanced at²³ the front page. Bill read the headline²⁴

TWO BOYS SAVE A LIFE

“Hurrah!”²⁵ they shouted with great joy.

Notes

1. start up the stairs from the subway to the street 踏上从地铁站通往大街的梯级 stair[stɛə] n. (常作 stairs)楼梯
subway ['sʌbwei] n. (美国英语)地下铁道

2. lying on the platform 躺在月台上 see sb. doing sth. 看见某人正在做某事 platform ['plætfo:m] *n.* 站台, 月台
3. breathe [bri:ð] *v.* 呼吸
4. grown-up ['grəʊnʌp] *n.* 成年人
5. the police telephone across the street 大街对面的警方专用电话 police [pə'li:s] *n.* (单复数同形, 常作 the police) 警察当局; 警方人员 across [ə'krɒs] *prep.* 在……的另一端
6. squad car (装有短波无线电, 随时可与总局联系的) 警备车 squad [skwɒd] *n.* 小组, 小队
7. kneel [ni:l] (knelt [nelt] 或 kneeled [ni:ld]) *v.* 跪
8. shoulder ['ʃəʊldə] *n.* 肩
9. gently ['dʒentli] *ad.* 轻轻地
10. ambulance ['æmbjuləns] *n.* 救护车
11. write down sth. on pad 在拍纸簿上记下某事 address [ə'dres] *n.* 地址 pad [pæd] *n.* (可一张张扯用的) 便笺簿
12. stretcher [stretʃə] *n.* 担架
13. pull out (车) 驶出
14. apartment [ə'pɑ:tmənt] *n.* (美国英语) 一套公寓房间
15. excitedly [ik'saitidli] *ad.* 兴奋地
16. something to eat 吃的东西
17. cookie ['kuki] *n.* 家常小甜饼
18. doorbell ['dɔ:bel] *n.* 门铃
19. living room 起居室
20. notebook ['nəʊtbuk] *n.* 笔记簿
21. detective [di'tektiv] *n.* 侦探
22. duty ['dju:ti] *n.* 责任; 义务
23. glance [glɑ:ns] *at.* 瞥见
24. headline ['hedlain] *n.* (报刊的) 大字标题
25. hurrah! [hu'ra:] *interj.* 好哇!

2. The Seven Little Piffles

One day the wind blew and blew. It blew the hats right off the heads of the seven little Piffles. It blew the hats off the gardener and the baker,¹ too.

The big wind took Mr Piffle's hat right over the bus station. "Such a wind!" said Mr Piffle. "Our hats are gone and shall never, never get them back!"

"Well, they were old hats," said Mrs Piffle. "We can get some new hats now."

By the time night came, the wind had stopped blowing. The next day was bright and beautiful.

"What a fine Saturday this is!" said one of the little Piffles. "May we go on a trip to the canyon,² Mother?"

"Yes," said Mrs Piffle. "You may go to the canyon. But stay together and please come home in time³ for dinner."

Off went the seven little Piffles. Up hill and down hill they walked. Soon they came to a small canyon.

"Look! Look!" called Peter Piffle. "Just look in the canyon!"

The seven little Piffles looked. They saw something that made their mouths open in surprise.

There in the canyon in front of them were piles and piles of hats.

There were hats of all colors. Red hats! Green hats! Pink⁴ hats! Purple⁵ hats! Black hats! White hats!

There were hats of all kinds too. Girls' hats! Boys' hats! Hats with feathers!⁶ Hats without feathers!

Mrs Piffle went to the window when dinner was ready. She wanted to see if the seven little Piffles were coming. What a surprise she got!

The little Piffles were coming up the street. They were carrying all kinds of hats under their arms.

"We found our hats," called the little Piffles. "The wind blew them right over the big hill and into the canyon."

"We found the gardener's hat," said Patsy Piffle. "And all these hats too."

"My! Oh my!"⁷ said Mrs Piffle. "What shall we do with all these hats?"

Ebenezer Piffle looked at the piles of hats. "I know what to do," he said.

"What?" shouted all the other little Piffles.

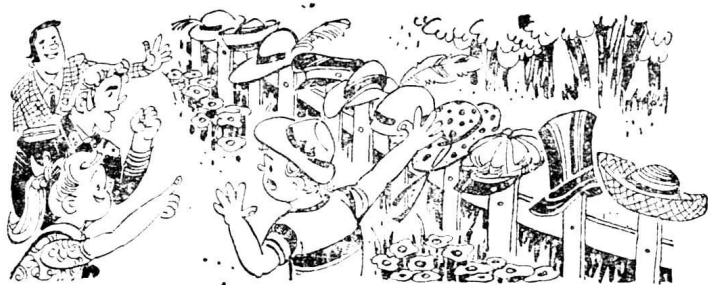
"I will show you," said Ebenezer. "Bring the hats and come along with me."

The little Piffles followed⁸ Ebenezer. Soon they reached the city park. They put all the hats on the grass by the picket fence.⁹

“Now do as I do,” said Ebenezer. He picked up some hats and walked along beside the picket fence. Then he put a hat on each picket.

The other little Piffles ran to help Ebenezer put the hats on the pickets.

What a strange-looking fence it turned out to be!¹⁰ The people all laughed when they saw so many different hats on the picket fence.



“Step right up and get your hats!” called the seven little Piffles. And that is just what people did.

“There is my tall silk¹¹ hat,” called Robin Turner.

“I see my little hat with all the dots¹² on it,” said Patsy King.

The gardener and the fireman¹³ came. The baker came in his little blue cart!¹⁴ All the people came to get their hats off the picket fence. By night all the hats were back on the right heads.

It was a good day for the seven little Piffles. They laughed and laughed as they ran all the way home.