

中学英语拾级读物

GRADED  
ENGLISH  
READERS

第二级

Plays and Talks

剧本和对话

第3册

外语教学与研究出版社



中学英语拾级读物  
第二级 第三册

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Stage II No. 3

## Plays and Talks

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叶 林 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	对 应 年 级
一	500—700	10 万	初二
二	600—900	10 万	初二、初三
三	800—1200	12 万	初三
四	1000—1500	12 万	初三、高一
五	1400—1800	12 万	高一、高三
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、模拟试题,但收效甚微,对外语能力的提高并无多大益处,这是外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,一是抓篇章大意和故事情节;二是注意学过语言现象的再现和在新环境下的发展。对不易理解之处,要启发学生先根据上下文去琢磨,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。

第二级共五册,书目如下:(1)《布朗家的孩子们》;(2)《当代故事》;(3)《剧本和对话》;(4)《法网难逃》;(5)《古代希腊、罗马故事》。本册选收以剧本和对话形式编写的外国现代小故事25个。全书共用英语单词800个左右,语言浅近,合乎当代英语规范。除可用作阅读材料外,还可以用作提高英语口语的材料。

鉴于编者水平有限,本读物在选材、注释等各方面肯定有不少缺点,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

## 《中学英语拾级读物》 第二级 第三册

### 剧本和对话

本书选收用剧本或对话形式编写的外国现代小故事 25 个。内容生动活泼,语言浅近地道,合乎当代英语规范。全书共用英语单词 800 个左右。在初中英语教学中,本书除可用作课外阅读材料外,还可用作提高口语能力的材料。教师也可以利用本书提供的情景和对话,开展各种英语教学活动。

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## 1. No Home

Tom Barnardo,<sup>1</sup> a young man.

Dick,<sup>2</sup> a poor boy.

Mrs Tame<sup>3</sup>.

### Scene<sup>4</sup> 1

*An old building<sup>5</sup> in London in the year 1866. Barnardo is reading a book to some poor boys. It is very cold, but there is a hot fire<sup>6</sup> in the room. Dick is sitting by the fire.*

Barnardo (*Putting the book on the table in front of him*): That's the end of the story. No more work tonight, boys. Put away your things and go home.

*(The boys put away their things and leave the room.)*

Boys: Good night, sir. Good night, sir.

Barnardo: Good night, boys. Come again tomorrow. (*He looks at Dick. Dick is still sitting by the fire.*) Be quick, Dick. It's late. What are you waiting for?

Dick (*sadly*<sup>7</sup>): I want to stay here.

Barnardo: Stay here! Why?

Dick: Please let me stay, sir. I will be good.



Barnardo: But you can't stay here all night. You must go home to your mother. Run along quickly.

Dick: I have no mother.

Barnardo: No mother?

Dick: No, sir. I have no mother or father.

Barnardo (*looking sadly at Dick*): Who takes care of you?

Dick: No one! I'm all alone. (*He begins to cry.*) I have no home.

Barnardo: Don't cry, Dick. (*He walks over to the boy.*) You're all alone, are you? How old are you, Dick?

Dick: Ten sir.

Barnardo: You're ten years old, and you have no home! (*He sits on the floor by Dick.*) Where did you sleep last night, Dick?

Dick: I slept by the river.

Barnardo: By the river? Do you always sleep there?

Dick: Oh, no, sir! Sometimes I sleep in the street. Sometimes I sleep on the top<sup>8</sup> of a house.

Barnardo: On the top of a house! Isn't it very cold up there?

Dick: Yes, sir — very cold. Sometimes I can't sleep because of the cold. But the top of a house is the best place. I can hide<sup>9</sup> from the policemen there!

Barnardo: You're not afraid of the policemen, are you? They are very kind to children.

Dick: Oh, no, they're not kind to children! If a policeman finds me asleep in the street, he is very angry.

Barnardo: Are there many poor boys in London without a home?

Dick: Yes, sir — lots of boys. There are girls, too.

Barnardo: Do they *all* sleep in the streets?

Dick: Most of them do, sir. Hundreds of children sleep in the streets every night.

*(Barnardo looks sadly at Dick. Then he gets up and begins to walk about the room.)*

Barnardo *(speaking quietly to himself)*: Poor boy! He's only ten, and he has no one to take care of him — no one to buy him food or clothes, and no home. And there are hundreds of children without a home, he says. But is Dick's story true? Can I believe his story? *(He turns and speaks to Dick.)* Can you show me some of these children, Dick?

Dick: Oh, yes, sir. There are hundreds of them!

Barnardo: Will you show me their hiding-places<sup>10</sup> tonight?

*(Dick does not answer. He is afraid. Barnardo looks at Dick and thinks.)*

Where do you get your food, Dick?

Dick: I find it.

Barnardo: You find it! Where do you find it?

Dick: In the streets. And at the back of the shops.

Barnardo: In the streets! But the food must be dirty!<sup>11</sup> What food have you eaten today?

Dick: Some bread. That's all. I couldn't find any other food today. *(He begins to cry again.)*

Barnardo: Don't cry, Dick. I will give you something to eat.

Dick *(stops crying)*: Oh, will you, sir? When?

Barnardo: Now. I will take you to my home. I will give you

some nice hot food. Then we will go out and look for the children. Will you show me the children's hiding-places then? Dick (*very pleased*): Oh, yes, sir, I will — tonight. (*They leave the building and go to Barnardo's home.*)

## Scene 2

*Streets in London. The streets are quiet. Most people are in bed. It is very cold, and there is not much light. Barnardo is carrying a lamp<sup>12</sup> to see by. Dick is walking next to him.*

Barnardo: Are you happier now? Did you like the nice hot food?

Dick: Oh, yes, thank you, sir. I liked it very much.

Barnardo: You did eat a lot, didn't you? (*He laughs.*) Good hot food on a cold night. And what a cold night! Will the children sleep in the streets on a cold night like this?

Dick: Yes. They sleep in the streets every night. Come with me, sir. I will soon find some of the boys. This way, sir. (*They walk up a dirty street and look for the boys by the light from Barnardo's lamp. They find no boys there. So they go back and look in another street. They look in many streets and find no boys. Barnardo is not at all pleased.*)

Barnardo (*speaking quietly to himself*): Dick's story is *not* true! The children don't sleep in the streets!

(*They come to a dirty shop at the end of a street.*)

Dick: Quiet, sir! We're there now. This is one of their best hiding-places.

**Barnardo:** But where — where are the boys?

**Dick:** Up there, sir — on top of the shop.

**Barnardo** (*looking up*): Up there! It's very high! How can we get up there?

**Dick:** I will show you the way. Come with me, sir.

(*They pull<sup>13</sup> themselves up a wall and get on to the top of the shop.*)

Here are the boys, sir. Don't make a noise. They're asleep.

(*Barnardo looks at the boys by the light from his lamp.*)



**Barnardo:** How many boys are there? One, two, three — six, seven — ten. Ten poor boys without homes! Oh, and here is another boy! (*He is very unhappy.*)<sup>14</sup> Poor, poor boys! They have not eaten much. Their dirty old clothes are full of holes. The boys are white from the cold. They look ill — very ill.

**Dick:** There are lots more boys in other places, sir. Shall I show you another hiding-place?

**Barnardo:** No — not tonight. I don't want to see any more

boys tonight. I'm too sad. We will go home now.

*(They leave the boys and begin to walk back to Barnardo's home.)*

*(Speaking quietly to himself):* Poor poor children! I can't let them live like this. I must do something to help them. I must find homes for these children.

Dick: Oh, will you find a home for me, sir?

Barnardo: Yes. Yes, Dick, I will. You will never sleep in the streets again. I will find you a home. I know a very nice woman. Her name is Mrs Tame. She will take care of you. You will be very happy.

*(Dick is very pleased. He looks at Barnardo and laughs happily.)*

Yes — and I will find homes for all the other poor children in London, too. I will make all the children happy.

### Scene 3

*Five years later. Barnardo's Home for Poor Boys in London.*

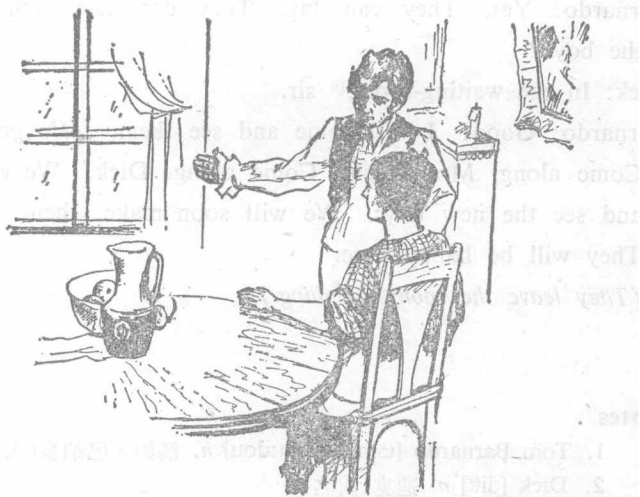
*Mrs Tame is living in the house and taking care of the boys, and Dick is helping her. Barnardo is talking to Mrs Tame.*

Barnardo: How are the boys today, Mrs Tame?

Mrs Tame: Oh, very happy. They're always happy. They're running about outside.<sup>15</sup> Come and see them.

*(They go to window and look at the boys.)*

Barnardo *(pleased)*: They're all laughing. They have a happier life now. Good food. Good clothes. And beds to sleep



in.

Mrs Tame: Yes, they have a good home now. (*She thinks.*) Six more boys came to the Home last night.

Barnardo: Six more? That's good. And ten came in yesterday. We shall soon have a hundred boys in the Home.

Mrs Tame: Then we shall want another house for the boys!

Barnardo (*laughing*): Yes — and we have got another house!

I have good news. I have just bought the house next to this one. So now we have two houses for the boys. (*He thinks.*)

I want to give the girls a home, too.

(*Dick comes into the room.*)

Dick: Good morning, sir.

Barnardo: Good morning, Dick. What do you want?

Dick: Three more boys have just come, sir. They all sleep in the streets. Will you give them a home, sir? Can they stay?

Barnardo: Yes. They can stay. They can stay. Where are the boys?

Dick: In the waiting-room,<sup>16</sup> sir.

Barnardo: Good! I will come and see them. (*He gets up.*)  
Come along, Mrs Tame. Come along, Dick. We will go and see the new boys. We will soon make them happy. They will be happy here.

(*They leave the room, laughing.*)

## Notes

1. Tom Barnardo [tɒm bɑ:'nɑ:dou] *n.* 汤姆·巴纳多(人名)
2. Dick [dik] *n.* 迪克(人名)
3. Tame [teim] *n.* 塔姆(人名)
4. Scene [si:n] *n.* (戏剧的)一场 (Scene 1: 第一场)
5. building ['bildiŋ] *n.* 建筑物, 房屋
6. fire ['faɪə] *n.* 炉火
7. sadly [sædli] *a.* 悲哀的
8. top [tɒp] *n.* 顶部
9. hide [haɪd] (hɪd 'hɪd), hidden ['hɪdn] *vi.* 躲藏
10. hiding-place ['hɔɪdɪŋpleɪs] *n.* 躲藏处
11. dirty ['dɜ:tɪ] *a.* 脏的
12. lamp [læmp] *n.* 灯
13. pull [pul] *vi.* 拉 (pull themselves up: [他们]爬上...)
14. unhappy [ʌn'hæpi] *a.* 不快乐的
15. outside ['aʊt'saɪd] *ad.* 在外面
16. waiting-room ['weɪtɪŋrʊm] *n.* 接待室, 等候室

## 2. Boats in the Streets

Mary,<sup>1</sup> a young woman.

Bess,<sup>2</sup> her sister.

A Policeman.

Mr. Potts,<sup>3</sup> the owner of a boat.

Henry,<sup>4</sup> his son.

*A very small town by the sea in England. The town is at the bottom<sup>5</sup> of very high hills. A river runs down the hills; it goes through the town and into the sea. It is raining hard, and the river is very full. It is late, and most people are in bed. Bess is asleep, but Mary cannot sleep.*

Mary (*thinking*): Oh, what a noise! The rain! The rain! Will it never stop? (*She gets out of bed and looks out of the window. She sees the river and calls to her sister.*) Bess! Bess!...

Bess (*sleepy*): What's the matter? Go to sleep.

Mary: Bess! The river has broken its banks. The water is running into the street. Quick! Come and see!

Bess: *What!* (*She jumps out of bed and runs to the window.*) The street is under water! The water will go into the houses!

Mary: Yes — it will. The people in the houses don't know.



They're in bed. We must tell them.

*(Mary and Bess dress quickly and run into the street. They call to the people in the houses.)*

Bess *(calling)*: Get up! Get up! The river has broken its banks. Get up!

Mary *(calling)*: The water will come into your houses. Get up! Quickly!

*(A Policeman is walking along another street. He hears the girls and runs to them.)*

Policeman: What has happened?<sup>6</sup> What's the trouble?

Mary: The river has broken its banks. Look! *(She shows him the broken river-bank.)*

Policeman: That's bad — very bad. Quick! We must — *(There is a great noise from the hills.)*

Bess *(looking to the hills)*: What's that noise?

Mary: It's the noise of trees falling, isn't it? I believe — Yes — Yes, it is the trees.

Policeman: You're right. The river is pulling down the trees on the hills.

Bess: The water is very strong. More trees are falling. What a noise!

*(The people in many of the houses hear the noise. They look out of their windows and cry out.)*

People: What's happening? What's happening?

Policeman *(crying out to the people)*: The river has broken its banks. The water is running into the street. Dress quickly. Be ready to leave your houses.