

# Spark

总主编/马德高

风靡全国 ◆ 畅销十年 ◆ 8000 万读者的选择

## 考研英语

美文趣文 优美录音 轻松语境  
第1册  
词汇贯通

# 多功能阅读

词汇贯通篇

主 编 马德高

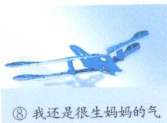


戴上耳机听美文。50篇美文由特邀英美资深外教朗读配音，有声助记。

### Unit 1

#### The Toy

I took the airplane to the living room and played with it for a long time. *I was still mad at my mother®* and I hurled the airplane into the air. It was so crisp and crashed down on the floor, breaking one of its wings.



⑤ 我还是很生妈妈的气

### 内容抢先看

#### WORDS & EXPRESSIONS

lobby ['lɒbi] n. (会议)休息厅; 门廊, 门厅  
local ['ləʊkəl] a. 当地的, 地方的; 局部的

lump [lʌmp] n. 团, 块 v. (使)成团, (使)成块  
medieval [ˌmedi'vi:əl] a. 中世纪的, 老式的

#### TRANSLATION

#### 玩 具

我拿着那个飞机模型在起居室(living room)里玩了很长时间。我还是很生妈妈的气, 一时冲动, 把飞机猛地向空中掷去(hurl)。飞机砸在地板上, 它是那么的脆, 一个翅膀摔得粉碎。

spark® 星火英语

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## 考研英语

# 多功能阅读

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# 使用说明

## ● 破除迷信——考研一定要背专项词汇书吗

不！一般大学生经过几年的英语学习，词汇量已经有了一定的积累。背专项词汇书并不是扩大词汇量的唯一方法。单纯的记单词由于缺乏具体的语言环境，效果不显著。而通过阅读记单词则可以解决这个问题。

## ● 打破陈规——考研一定是苦行僧般的炼狱历程吗

不！只要复习方法得当，计划周密，选材(考研辅导书)合理，考出理想的成绩并没有想象的那样难。本书分为三册，先是通过阅读记单词，然后是阅读基础训练，最后是阅读提高训练；体现出一种合理的复习方式。

## ● 摆脱桎梏——练习题做得越多越好吗

不！做练习题的根本目的在于培养对考研英语解题思路的熟悉和敏感度。如果不注意总结和反刍，那么做500篇跟50篇没什么两样。本书精选了84篇阅读题，分14个单元练习，这样的题量对于读者来说，是合适而且有效的。

### 精选美文50篇

本书第一册50篇文章全部由外籍专家反复遴选、仔细推敲而成。语言地道流畅，难度适中。故事情节性强。50篇文章覆盖了90%的考研大纲词汇，使读者在欣赏美文的同时，重温大纲词汇。

### 图文并茂 赏心悦目

50篇美文中，每篇都根据主题配有图片。每篇文章都是双栏排版，左栏为文章，右栏为难点注解。全篇布局安排错落有致，做到了真正的“悦读”。

### 难点注释 清除障碍

对于美文中相对生疏的词、句及习语，在右栏内都给出了注释。这样可以保证读者阅读时思路不会被打乱，或者因文中某一点不明白而失去兴趣。同时，这也可以帮助读者熟悉英文中一些地道的表达方式。

### 全文翻译 单词复现

每篇美文都提供流畅优美的译文，帮助读者全面理解原文。译文中的英文单词复现，进一步加深词汇记忆。

Spark 星火英语

## Unit 1

### The Toy

It was 1952 and my father was away at war, leaving my mother and me behind to face hardship alone. I was ten. My mother was a surgeon and worked at the local clinic a few blocks from where we lived. We both resided in a medieval apartment in the city. It was noisy and cold in the winter, whereas humid in the summer. My mother argued with the landlord constantly, as did the other tenants. To their dismay, the landlord made promises, which he never kept. My mother's only revenge for this devil was that he would burn in hell someday. I learned a valuable lesson that year which carries on to this day.

*The bell rang and thoughts of Christmas were the only thing on my mind. I raced home from school in the fresh snow that fell while I was in school. It lay there on the ground, white and smooth, waiting for my boy's beauty. I stopped briefly to gather some hands, packing it tight, then I threw it at Susie's head.*

"Daddy, I'm telling your mother on you!" she laughed and ran away.

The five-story building where I lived was made of bricks. There was a large, cement stoop in front of the building as you entered. A spiral staircase reached the apartment and continued to the top of the building. The summer brought many parties up there, and I would go up there and watch old man Macin...

① 下课铃响了，我脑子里想的全是圣诞节。

② 我猛地停下来。

③ 我要向你妈妈告你的状！

④ 夏天的时候，

词汇重现的设计思路吻合了许国璋先生“碰材料”的观点：“最好的记生词的办法不能只是复习已经学过的课文，而是要接触难度相仿的新材料。”

#### 词汇贯通篇 UNIT 1

lump [lʌmp] n. 团块	vs. (使)成团；(使)成块
medical [mi'di:kəl] n. 医药；(使)医	
opportunity [ɒpə'tju:nəti] n. 机会	
pace [peɪs] n. 步伐；(一)步	
package ['pækɪdʒ] n. 包裹；包；箱	
plane [pleɪn] n. 飞机；水平面；飞机	
promise ['prɒmɪs] n. 允诺；允诺；答应；有希望	
promising ['prɒmɪsɪŋ] n. 有希望的；有前途的	
prostate ['prɒstet] n. 前列腺	
replace [rɪ'pleɪs] n. 替换；取代；放回；归还	
replacement [rɪ'pleɪsmənt] n. 代替(物)；替换(物)	
rip [rɪp] n. 裂口；裂；破；撕裂；裂开	
shift [ʃɪft] n. 移动；转换；轮班	
staircase ['steɪkəs] n. 楼梯；(的)楼梯	
stair [steə] n. 楼梯；(的)楼梯	
surgeon ['sɜ:dʒən] n. 外科医生	

#### TRANSLATION

##### 玩 具


1952年，我的父亲在遥远的地方作战，留下我和母亲独自面对生活的艰辛(hardship)。那年我10岁，我的母亲是个外科医生(surgeon)，在离我们住处有几个街区远的一个诊所上班。我们住在市里一栋五层高的公寓楼里。冬天很冷，夏天很潮湿(humid)。像其他房客一样，我和妈妈经常和房东(landlord)吵架。房东从不兑现(always)的承诺，房东许下的诺言从不兑现。我母亲对这种恶魔(devil)的报复——就是在他死后在地狱(hell)遭火刑。正是在那一年，我学到了一个至今仍刻骨铭心的教训。

下课铃响了，我满脑子想的都是圣诞节。放学后我飞快地跑回家。地上洒满了新鲜的白雪，仿佛是在等待着我扔雪球去砸苏西(Susie)的头上。我停下来，收集了一些雪，把它们压得紧紧的，然后我把它扔到了苏西的头上。

我住的这栋五层高的公寓楼是砖砌的。在房子前面有一个很大的水泥台阶。你走进楼门时，螺旋形的楼梯会一直延伸到楼顶。夏天经常有聚会在那里举行，我会上楼去看那些老男人Macin...

阅读既是目的又是手段，是最常用的学习方法。

得阅读者得天下，  
科学复习，稳操胜券！



For the want of a nail the shoe was lost,  
For the want of a shoe the horse was lost,  
For the want of a horse the rider was lost,  
For the want of a rider the battle was lost,  
For the want of a battle the kingdom was lost,  
And all for the want of a horse shoe nail.

——Benjamin Franklin

因为少了一颗马蹄钉而掉了那马蹄铁，  
因为掉了那个马蹄铁而失去了那匹马，  
因为失去了那匹马而缺了那骑兵，  
因为缺了那骑兵而输了那战役，  
因为输了那战役而丢了整个国家，  
悔之晚矣！全是当初少了一颗马蹄钉。

——本杰明·富兰克林

失去一颗**马蹄钉**，可能会失去一个**国家**；  
忽略一个**细节**，你也可能失去整个**考研**。



# Preface

本书共分为“词汇贯通篇”、“阅读基础篇”和“阅读提高篇”三部分，并分别单独成册。

“词汇贯通篇”的特点在于语境记忆、重温词汇，完成阅读热身，让考生在精选出的 50 篇覆盖 90% 大纲词汇的英美时文(配有标准美语录音)这一真实、生动的语境中重温、复现大纲词汇，进一步加深对大纲词汇的印象。而且通过阅读这些文章，不仅重温了词汇，还完成了阅读基础、阅读提高训练前的热身和入门。

“阅读基础篇”的特点在于逼真模拟演练，适应真题实战，即利用近似考研真题信度和效度的阅读文章模拟实际考场场景，使考生对考试模式有真实的把握。本篇完全按照真题题型设计、安排，每单元 4 篇标准阅读、1 篇选择搭配题(或排序题、选择分论点、选择分论据)、1 篇英译汉，7 个单元共 42 篇文章，难度和真题保持一致，供学生在“词汇贯通篇”进一步巩固词汇、灵活领会后，开始标准难度的实战阅读训练，快速达到考试要求。

“阅读提高篇”的特点在于拔高难度，强化训练，实现满分冲刺，即利用难度稍高于考研真题的阅读文章，最大限度地提升考生的阅读水平。本篇完全按照真题题型设计、安排，7 个单元共 42 篇文章，难度高于真题，供学生在前面阅读基础篇训练后，进一步提高要求、提升训练，以获得在考试中居高临下、游刃有余的感觉和自信。

利用这种编排结构，本书可以最合理地解决词汇与阅读之间的关系，实现词汇突破基础上阅读能力的最快速提升。

编写过程中，我们充分考虑了考研英语复习的特点和广大读者的要求，在书中渗透了如下八大特色：

**选材严谨，贴近真题。**本书充分保证了所选材料的时新性和典型性，并且“阅读基础篇”和“阅读提高篇”的结构与最新大纲的要求完全一致，非常利于考生熟悉考试模式。

**分册编排，方便使用。**“词汇贯通篇”、“阅读基础篇”和“阅读提高篇”分别单独成册，考生可在不同使用阶段带着不同的学习材料，目标明确，携带方便。而且，如前所述，这三册书在难度上是逐步递进的，体现出一种自然的、循序渐进的学习方式。

**全文翻译，避错指导。**本套书所有文章均设有全文翻译，可供考生在汉语语篇环境下，更加准确地理解文章的整体意义。另外，由于考研英语阅读结构比较复杂，答案也需要较多的推理，所以，我们特别设立了“避错”栏目，对各题的四个选项均给出汉语译文，并一一讲解，力求让考生对每一题都能透彻理解。

**难点分析，答案详解。**我们为“词汇贯通篇”的文章加入了适当的难点解析，针对长难句部分做了句式分析，并对“阅读基础篇”和“阅读提高篇”中的典型长难句的句子结构、理解难点逐一分析，同时将翻译技巧点拨贯穿其中。而且，“阅读基础篇”和“阅读提高篇”的

所有参考答案皆由有多年考研辅导经验的专家反复推敲论证后确定,解析精辟,直击要点,触类旁通,注重总结命题规律,助考生轻松掌握应试技巧,了解备考方略。

分类索引,一书多用。本书独创性地将“阅读基础篇”和“阅读提高篇”的文章分别按照题材、体裁和难度设置了多功能分类索引,可供考生打破本书的自然结构,分别选取相同类型的文章进行集中、专门训练。

阅读写作,技巧点拨。本书在“阅读基础篇”和“阅读提高篇”中穿插为考生提供阅读写作技巧点拨,专门针对考生的弱点进行指导,使考生在阅读完一定量的文章之后,通过自己的经验总结和本书的技巧指导,真正领悟到有关阅读、写作的一些“微技能”。

双色印刷,版面活泼。双色印刷可让考生在阅读时缓解视觉上的压力,图文并茂可给考生营造一种心理上的愉悦。另外,本书还设置了“休息室”这一栏目,内容包括一些英语幽默和名言,可供考生在紧张之余轻松一下。

阅读软件,立体互动。为了方便考生多途径地使用本书,我们还为考生配备了考研阅读学习软件,通过互动式的练习,营造立体的学习氛围,使考生能够根据自己的弱点进行针对性、个性化练习,并根据考生的练习结果给出科学的指导,达到事半功倍的效果,大大提高您的学习效率!

词汇贯通、阅读达标、考试过关是每位英语学习者,尤其是准备参加研究生英语考试的考生所特别关注的,而这也正是本书所努力的方向。希望本书能够真正成为参加研究生考试的考生和广大英语学习者的学习之需和应考必备,助考生一臂之力,顺利过关!

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## Unit 1

## The Toy

It was 1952 and my father was away at war, leaving my mother and me behind to face hardship alone. I was ten. My mother was a surgeon and worked at the local clinic a few blocks from where we lived. We both resided in a medieval apartment in the city. It was noisy and cold in the winter, whereas humid in the summer. My mother argued with the landlord constantly, as did the other tenants. To their dismay, the landlord made promises, which he never kept. My mother's only revenge for this devil was that he would burn in hell someday. I learned a valuable lesson that year which carries on to this day.

*The bell rang and thoughts of Christmas were the only thing on my mind.* ①

I raced home from school in the fresh snow that fell while I was in school. It lay there on the ground, white and smooth, waiting for my boots to disturb its beauty. *I stopped briefly* ② to gather some snow in my hands, packing it tight, then I threw it at Susie as I ran past her.

"Danny, *I'm telling your mother on you* ③," she cried. I laughed and ran away.

The five-story building where I lived was made of brown bricks. There was a large, cement stoop in front of the building as you entered. A spiral staircase reached up to our apartment and continued to the top of the building. At the very top of the steps was a door that led you to the terrace. *The summer brought many parties up there* ④. Sometimes I would go up there and watch old man Macinni tending to his pigeons.

The apartment was empty when I arrived and a note was attached to the refrigerator. *My mother was working a double shift and left me instructions for the day*. ⑤ I became angry and ripped the note in several pieces. We had planned on making Christmas biscuits and apple pies together, but my mother spoiled it by working.

I *sulked* ⑥ for several minutes, and then realized I was alone. My mother hid the Christmas presents somewhere in her bedroom and I found this to be the perfect opportunity to investigate. I carefully *rummaged through* ⑦ her closet, finding most of the gifts wrapped in linen cloth. All but one toy, a model airplane.

I took the airplane to the living room and played with it for a long time. *I was still mad at my mother* ⑧ and I hurled the airplane into the air. It was so crisp and crashed down on the floor, breaking one of its wings.

I stood frozen with my eyes and mouth wide open, staring down at the plane. *Oh boy, am I in trouble*! ⑨ Picking up the broken parts of the plane, I thought, how was I going to explain this? I had not got even a coin in my pocket. Where did my mother buy the plane? How can I make some money to



- ① 下课铃响了,我脑子里想的全是圣诞节。
- ② 我猛地停下来……
- ③ 我要向你妈妈告你的状!
- ④ 夏天的时候,那里会举行许多派对。
- ⑤ 妈妈上班要两班轮班倒,只给我留下了一些关于今天该如何如何的嘱咐。
- ⑥ 生闷气
- ⑦ 翻箱倒柜地寻找
- ⑧ 我还是很生妈妈的气
- ⑨ 噢,天哪,这下可糟了!

replace it? Who would give me a job now? On Christmas Eve!

Then I heard my mother coming through the door. This is awful! Why was she coming home now? I raced to my room, hiding the broken plane under my sweater.

"Danny?"

"Yeah Mom?" I shouted through the closed door.

"I'm on a break. I came home to take a present to one of my patients," she shouted back at me.

I sat on my bed, unable to come up with a *good explanation*® for the toy missing in her closet. *The silence was torture*®. I did not hear my mother asking herself, where did that toy go? Or yell for me to come in her room. All I heard was a gentle knock on my door. I slowly went to the door and opened it. My mother stood there, leaning against the doorframe with her arms folded in front of her. *She stared at the lump that protruded from my belly*®.

After telling my mother the horrible truth, she made me put my coat on and told me to follow her. We left our apartment and walked to the hospital. *I stayed one pace behind her*®, my head bowed down as we walked. The avenue was illuminated with Christmas lights. People *busied*® the streets with their arms full of packages. I thought they all were staring at me for the terrible thing I had done. I knew why my mother was taking me to where she worked. The county clinic bore many tales.

Climbing the steps without catching our breath, we entered the clinic. We climbed more steps and reached the floor where my mother worked. Several nurses my mother knew greeted us with a "Merry Christmas". My mother returned the greetings without stopping as we continued down a lobby. We stopped outside a ward and I peeked inside the dim ward. There in a bed was a lad who looked very sick.

"That boy is going to die, Danny," my mother told me. "Possibly today, maybe tomorrow. He loves planes. I knew his mother could not afford to buy him one. So I did. I count my blessings every night and think of this boy and how grateful I am that you are not in that bed."

The words cut hard and sharp in my heart. The tears rolled down my face and I was so guilty. I ran as fast as I could, down the lobby and out of the clinic. I ran home and into my room where *I cried myself to sleep*®.

Nowadays, 30 years have elapsed, I am sitting behind my desk at my electronic enterprise, waiting for my wife. Susie and I married when we graduated from high school. On Christmas Eve, Susie and I take toys for the little infants at the local *shelters*®. Hitherto, we have never missed this seasonal tradition.

(968 words)

## WORDS & EXPRESSIONS

devil ['devl] *n.* 魔鬼; 恶棍

dim [dɪm] *a.* 暗淡的, 模糊的

dismay [dɪs'meɪ] *n. /v.* (使) 惊恐, (使) 惊愕; (使) 失望, (使) 绝望

disturb [dɪ'stɜ:b] *v.* 妨碍, 使不安; 扰乱

elapse [ɪ'læps] *n. /v.* (时间) 过去, 消逝

electronic [ɪlek'trɒnɪk] *a.* 电子的

enterprise [ˌentəpraɪz] *n.* 进取心, 事业心; 企(事)业单

位, 事业

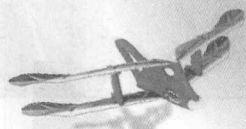
finding ['faɪndɪŋ] *n.* 发现(物); (*pl.*) 调查(或研究)结果

graduate ['grædʒueɪt] *n.* (大学) 毕业生 *v.* (使)(大学) 毕业

grateful ['ɡreɪtful] *a.* (to, for) 感激的, 感谢的

guilty ['ɡɪltɪ] *a.* (of) 有罪的, 内疚的

hardship ['hɑ:dfɪp] *n.* 艰难, 困苦



⑩ 一个充分的理由

⑪ 这种沉默是一种折磨。

⑫ 她眼睛盯着我腹部凸起的地方。由此可见作者把摔坏了的飞机藏在了衣服下面。

⑬ 始终保持落后她一步

⑭ busy 在此处作及物动词, 意为“忙于……”。

⑮ 我哭得精疲力竭, 直至沉沉睡去。cry oneself to sleep 是习惯用语, 意为“一直哭到睡着了”。

⑯ 此处作“孤儿院”讲。

**hell** [hel] *n.* 地狱, 阴间; 苦境, 极大痛苦  
**hitherto** [ˌhɪðə'tuː] *ad.* 到目前为止, 迄今  
**horrible** ['hɒrəbl] *a.* 令人恐怖的, 可怕的; 极讨厌的, 使人不愉快的  
**humid** ['hjuːmɪd] *a.* 湿(气重)的  
**hurl** [hɜːl] *v.* 丢, 投, 猛掷; 发射; 推翻, 压倒; 叫嚷  
**illuminate** ['ɪljʊːmɪneɪt] *v.* 照明, 照亮  
**infant** ['ɪnfənt] *n.* 婴儿, 幼儿  
**inside** ['ɪn'saɪd] *n.* 里面, 内部; 内脏; 内情 *a.* 内部的, 秘密的; 于室内工作的 *ad.* 在里面 *prep.* 在……之内  
**investigate** [ɪn'vestɪgeɪt] *v.* 调查(研究)  
**lad** [læd] *n.* 男孩, 小伙子  
**landlady** ['lændleɪdɪ] *n.* 女房东, 女地主  
**landlord** ['lændlɔːd] *n.* 主人, 地主, 房东  
**linen** ['lɪnɪn] *n.* 亚麻布(制品)  
**living room** 起居室  
**lobby** ['lɒbi] *n.* (会议)休息厅; 门廊, 门厅  
**local** ['ləʊkəl] *a.* 当地的, 地方的; 局部的

**lump** [lʌmp] *n.* 团, 块 *v.* (使)成团, (使)成块  
**medieval** [ˌmedɪ'ɪvəl] *a.* 中世纪的; 老式的  
**opportunity** [ˌɒpə'tjuːnɪti] *n.* 机会  
**pace** [peɪs] *n.* 步伐; (一)步 *v.* 踱步  
**package** ['pækɪdʒ] *n.* 包裹, 包装, 箱  
**plane** [pleɪn] *n.* 平面, 水平面; 飞机  
**promise** ['prɒmɪs] *v.* 允许, 允诺, 答应; 有希望, 有……可能 *n.* 承诺, 诺言; 希望, 出息  
**promising** ['prɒmɪsɪŋ] *a.* 有希望的, 有前途的  
**protrude** [prə'truːd] *v.* 突出  
**replace** [rɪ'pleɪs] *v.* 替换, 取代, 放回; 归还  
**replacement** [rɪ'pleɪsmənt] *n.* 代替(物), 替换(物)  
**rip** [rɪp] *v.* 撕, 剥, 劈, 锯, 裂开, 撕裂 *n.* 裂口, 裂缝  
**shift** [ʃɪft] *v.* 移动; 替换, 转换 *n.* 转换, 转变; 轮班, 换班  
**spiral** ['spaɪərəl] *n.* /*a.* 螺旋(的) *v.* 螺旋上升(或下降)  
**staircase** ['steɪkɛsɪs] *n.* 楼梯(=stairway)  
**surgeon** ['sɜːdʒən] *n.* 外科医生

## TRANSLATION

### 玩 具

1952年, 我的父亲在遥远的前方作战, 留下我和母亲独自面对生活的艰辛(hardship)。那年我10岁, 我的母亲是个外科医生(surgeon), 在离我们住处有几个街区远的一个诊所上班。我们居住在市里一间老式(medieval)公寓里。那儿很吵, 冬天很冷, 夏天却很潮湿(humid)。像其他的房客一样, 我母亲经常和房东(landlord)吵架。令人感到失望(dismay)的是, 房东许下的诺言从不兑现。我母亲对这恶棍(devil)的唯一报复是咒他死后在地狱(hell)遭火烧。正是在那一年, 给了我一个直到今天仍刻骨铭心的教训。

下课铃响了, 我满脑子想的全是圣诞节。踩着上课时才下的雪, 我从学校飞快地向家里跑去。地上洁白而平滑的积雪, 仿佛在等待着我的靴子去破坏(disturb)它的美丽。我猛地停下来, 手里抓上一把雪, 握紧了, 在跑过苏茜身旁时扔到她的身上。

“丹尼, 我要向你妈妈告你的状!” 她叫道。我笑着跑开了。

我住的那栋五层楼的房子是用褐色的砖砌的。在房子前面进去的地方有一个硕大无比的水泥门廊。螺旋楼梯(spiral staircase)可直达我们的房间, 然后继续向上到楼房的顶部。在楼梯的最上面有一扇门通往露台。在夏天, 那里会举行许多派对。有时我会去看一位叫曼西尼的老人照看他的鸽子。

我回到家的时候, 房子里空无一人。冰箱上贴着一张便条, 说妈妈上班要两班轮班倒(shift), 只给我留下了一些关于今天该如何如何的嘱咐。我十分愤怒, 把纸条撕(rip)成了碎片。我们原计划一起做圣诞饼干和苹果馅饼的, 但妈妈要上班, 一切全泡汤了。

我生了几分钟的闷气, 接着意识到我只有独自一人过节了。妈妈把圣诞礼物藏在她卧室的某个地方, 那么现在就是寻找(investigate)它的绝佳机会(opportunity)了。我在壁橱里小心翻找, 发现(finding)除了一个小飞机模型玩具以外, 大多数礼物都用亚麻布(linen)包好了。

我拿着那个飞机模型在起居室(living room)里玩了很长时间。我还是很生妈妈的气, 一时冲动, 把飞机猛地向空中掷去(hurl)。飞机砸在地板上, 它是那么的脆, 一个翅膀摔得粉碎。



我站在那里目瞪口呆地看着飞机。噢,天哪,这下可糟了!捡起摔坏的零件,我心想,该怎么解释这件事呢?我口袋里连一枚硬币都没有。这飞机是妈妈在哪儿买的呢?我该怎样弄些钱换(replace)一个好的呢?现在谁会给我一份工作呢?特别是在这圣诞前夜!

忽然我听到妈妈打开门进来了。糟了!她怎么这个时候回来了呢?我飞奔回自己的房间,把摔坏的飞机藏在我的羊毛衫下面。

“丹尼?”

“我在这里,妈妈。”我对着紧闭的门朝外喊。

“我趁休息的时候回来给我的一个病人拿礼物,”她冲我回喊道。

我坐在床上,想不出该怎么去解释为什么她壁橱里的玩具不见了。这种沉默是一种折磨。我没听到妈妈自问玩具到哪去了,也没听到她叫我去她房间的吼声,我只听到她轻轻地敲了一下我的房门。我慢慢地挪上前,打开了门。妈妈斜倚着门框,抱着胳膊站在那儿,眼睛盯着我腹部凸起(protrude)的地方。

我告诉妈妈那讨厌的(horrible)事实真相后,她让我穿上外套跟她走。我们离开家向医院走去。一路上我低着头,跟在妈妈身后,始终保持一步的距离。街道被圣诞灯装饰得一片辉煌(illuminate),到处是手提大包小包的忙碌的人们。我觉得他们都知道了我做的坏事,盯着我看。我知道为什么妈妈带我到她工作的地方去。诊所里有着许多的故事。

我们一口气爬上楼梯,进了门诊部。我们继续往上爬,来到了妈妈工作的楼层。几个与她熟识的护士向我们打招呼,并祝我们“圣诞快乐”。妈妈边走边回应着,然后我们到了一个大厅(lobby)。我们在一个病房外停了下来,我偷偷地往昏暗的(dim)病房里看。我看见病房的床上躺着一个少年(lad),看起来病得很厉害。

“那男孩很快就要死了,丹尼,”她告诉我,“可能今天,也许明天。他酷爱飞机。知道他母亲没钱给他买,所以我买给他了。我每天晚上都想着他,为他祈祷。我是多么地庆幸(grateful)躺在床上的不是你啊。”

这些话就像锋利的刀刃一样狠狠地刺在我的心上。我泪流满面,心中充满了负罪(guilty)感。我拼命狂奔,跑到大厅,跑出诊所。我跑回家中自己的房间,哭得精疲力竭,直至沉沉睡去。

现在,30年过去了(elapse)。我在自己的电子公司(electronic enterprise)里,坐在办公桌后,等待着我的妻子。苏茜和我在高中毕业(graduate)后就结婚了。在圣诞前夜,苏茜和我总会带玩具给当地孤儿院的幼儿。迄今为止(hitherto),我们从没忘记这一节日的传统。



休息一下,来一段轻松愉快的幽默,你会在紧张的学习后调整好自己!

A Humor



### Fish Fancier

A man was admiring the tropical fish in the pet shop where I used to work. When I offered my assistance, he mentioned that his new wife was a fish fancier. After I showed him around, he shouted, "There she is! That's the one I'll take." As I scooped out a large, sluggish goldfish with a gray splotch at the top of its head, the man exclaimed, "My bride will love this! She's always wanted to know what my first wife looked like!"



## Unit 2

## My Strange Experience

It was *the morning after the night before*①. I was aroused by the sound of the stereo from downstairs and the smell of bacon permeated the air. Usually such an odor would be from paradise, but not today, for *my throat was thirsty and my head dizzy*②.

I rubbed my eyes and tried to focus on my surroundings. Yes, I was in my flat, though I couldn't remember how I got back here last night. The only plausible thing I could recall was meeting my best friends Brian and George at an urban café before we left for the college ball. Just who was downstairs *making themselves at home*③, I wondered.

My eyes suddenly fixed on the female underwear lying on the chair next to my bed. On the floor below lay a white crumpled dress. I blinked twice to be sure that my eyes weren't deceiving me. It wasn't just any old dress—it was a superb wedding dress!

I stumbled out of bed, suddenly fully alert, my heart beating wildly in my chest. I tried to think back to the previous evening, but there appeared to be *an alcohol-induced gaping hole*④ in my memory. Suddenly, a few obscure images were evoked—there was a smiling ambassador, rings were being exchanged. Brian and George were there too, I was sure of it. Did I get *roaring*⑤ drunk and marry a complete stranger?

*Surely they wouldn't have let me go through with it, my supposedly intimate friends*⑥. They wouldn't let me get married—or were they also so drunk that they didn't care? It had to be a bad dream. But then who was down in my kitchen cooking breakfast and listening to the radio? It certainly wasn't my flatmate for I didn't have one. I crept over to my wardrobe and *fished out*⑦ some clean clothes—sock, jeans and an old T-shirt—anything to cover myself up from the strange woman downstairs who'd left her underwear and silky wedding dress beside my bed.

Just then I remembered a Mediterranean film I had seen once about a man and a woman who got drunk and ended up getting married two hours after meeting. I sat on the bed, trying to *rack my brain*⑧ for answers. Surely I couldn't have been so stupid! I looked over at the crumpled dress on the floor and my heart sank as I thought of how my poor parents would react when I broke the news: "Hi mum, hi dad—I just got married to a complete stranger I met when I was drunk. Sorry I didn't invite you, but it happened so fast..."

I couldn't possibly do it. *Here*⑨ I was only 21 and had just received a diploma in architecture, had a brilliant job lined up already. Mom and Dad were so proud of me at my graduation a week ago. What a mess!

I could hear the clatter of plates coming from downstairs and *the butterflies in the pit of my stomach began multiplying by the second*⑩. It was time



- ① 今天早晨
- ② 我的喉咙发干, 并且头晕目眩。此处的 head 与 dizzy 之间省掉了 was。
- ③ 像在自己家一样。make oneself at home: 随便, 无拘无束。
- ④ 一个由酒精过量引起的空白。此处使用增译法, 增加“过量”一词。
- ⑤ 此处作“非常的, 极大的”讲。
- ⑥ 此处的 they 即指 my supposedly intimate friends; go through with it 指与陌生人结婚。
- ⑦ 搜索出, 摸出
- ⑧ rack one's brain(s): 习语, “绞尽脑汁”之意。
- ⑨ 此处作“此时”解。
- ⑩ 从那一刻起我神经质的发抖开始加剧。“the butterflies in the pit of my stomach”在此意为由于紧张等情绪引起的欲呕吐的感觉。

to *face the music*. ⑪ I would go downstairs and choose my words carefully. Whoever I had married, surely she would be most likely to be full of regrets also? No one could be that arbitrary to get married, could they?

"Listen," I'd say as politely and as calmly as possible. "I'm sure you're an elegant lady and all that, but this was not a good idea for us to get married. It's just not the right time for me. Another time, another place perhaps, but..." Just then the words "*Grub's* ⑫ ready!" reverberated up from downstairs. Hang on, I thought—that's not a woman's voice. In fact I recognized it distinctly. I got up from the bed and cautiously made my way down to the kitchen.

There was a figure lounging on the couch, tapping the table. In fact, it was Brian, my best friend. He graduated one year earlier than me. A year later he became the chief clerk of a commercial association. He turned round to greet me, a huge grin on his face. "Well isn't it the new bride!" he quipped cheerfully. "What a state you were in last night! You drunk so many cocktail and so much champagne that I thought I'd better bring you home and stay over the night!" "What happened?" I pleaded. "You made a lovely bride," he laughed, "don't you remember—it was the final college ball last night. *Fancy dress*. ⑬ You insisted on swapping outfits with some girl who was dressed as a bride. There was someone dressed up as an ambassador, and hey—you married George!" With this he collapsed into heaps of laughter as I breathed a huge sigh of relief. "And," he added, "you two even exchanged rings!"

I looked down at my hand. Sure enough, there on the third finger of my left hand was an absurd *ring-pull* ⑭ from a beer can.

Suddenly I had a robust appetite. I picked up a chunk of steak sausage and bit into it, thinking to myself how lucky I was to be young, free and single...

(847 words)



⑪ 习语,勇于承担责任,临危不惧。

⑫ [俚]食物

⑬ 人们穿得五颜六色的!

⑭ 拉环

## WORDS & EXPRESSIONS

**associate** [ə'səʊʃieɪt] *vt.* 使发生联系,使联合 *vi.* 交往,结交 *n.* 合作人,同事 *a.* 副的

**association** [ə'səʊʃi'eɪʃən] *n.* 协会,团体;联合,联系,交往;联想

**butterfly** ['bʌtəflaɪ] *n.* 蝴蝶

**deceive** [dɪ'si:v] *v.* 欺骗,蒙蔽

**diploma** [dɪ'pləʊmə] *n.* 毕业文凭,学位证书

**distinct** [dɪ'stɪŋkt] *a.* (from)截然不同的;清楚的,明显的

**distinction** [dɪ'stɪŋkʃən] *n.* 差别;区分

**dizzy** ['dɪzɪ] *a.* 头晕目眩的,眩晕的

**drunk** [drʌŋk] *a.* 酒醉的

**elegant** ['elɪɡənt] *a.* 优美的,优雅的,精致的

**evoke** [ɪ'vəʊk] *v.* 引起,唤起,引发

**exchange** [ɪks'tʃeɪndʒ] *v. / n.* (for)交换,调换,兑换;交流,交易;交换台,交易所

**fancy** ['fænsɪ] *n.* 爱好,喜爱,迷恋 *v.* 想象,幻想 *a.* 花式的,奇特的,异样的

**female** ['fi:meɪl] *n.* 女性;雌兽 *a.* 女性的,雌的,柔弱的

**focus** ['fəʊkəs] *v.* (on)聚焦,集中 *n.* 焦点,中心

**gap** [ɡæp] *n.* 缺口,间隙

**grin** [ɡrɪn] *v.* 露齿而笑,咧着嘴笑

**heap** [hi:p] *n.* (一)堆,大量,许多 *v.* (up)堆(起)

**hole** [həʊl] *n.* 洞,孔

**induce** [ɪn'dju:s] *v.* 引起,导致;引诱,劝使;感应

**intimate** ['ɪntɪmɪt] *a.* 亲密的,密切的

**jeans** [dʒi:nz] *n.* (pl.) 牛仔褲

**laughter** ['lɑ:ftə] *n.* 笑(声)

**likely** ['laɪklɪ] *a.* 很可能的,有希望的 *ad.* 大概,多半

**lucky** ['lʌkɪ] *a.* 幸运的,侥幸的

**mess** [mes] *n.* 混乱,混杂;脏乱 *v.* 弄乱,弄脏,搞糟

**multiply** ['mʌltɪplaɪ] *v.* (by)乘,使相乘;增加,繁殖

**obscure** [əb'skjʊə] *a.* 模糊的,晦涩的;暗的,朦胧的

**odor** ['əʊdə] *n.* 气味,名声

**outfit** ['aʊtfɪt] *n.* 全套服装,装备,供给

**paradise** ['pærədaɪz] *n.* 天堂

**permeate** ['pɜ:meɪt] *v.* 弥漫,遍布,散布;渗入,渗透

**pit** [pɪt] *n.* 坑,陷阱;煤矿,矿井

**plausible** ['pləʊzəbl] *a.* 似乎合理的,似乎可信的

**plead** [pli:d] *v.* 恳求,请求;为……辩护

**previous** ['pri:vɪəs] *a.* 先,前,以前的;(to)在……之前

**rack** [ræk] *n.* 搁物架,挂物架 *v.* 使痛苦,折磨

**react** [rɪ'ækt] *v.* 反应,起作用;(against)反对,起反作用

**recall** [rɪ'kɔ:l] *v.* 回忆; 撤销, 收回  
**regret** [rɪ'gret] *v. /n.* 懊悔, 遗憾, 抱歉  
**relief** [rɪ'li:f] *n.* (痛苦等)减轻, 解除; 援救, 救济  
**ring** [rɪŋ] *v.* 按(铃), 敲钟 *n. /v.* 打电话  
**robust** [rəʊ'bʌst, 'rəʊbʌst] *a.* 强壮的, 健康的  
**rub** [rʌb] *v.* (摩)擦

**sausage** ['sɒsɪdʒ] *n.* 香肠, 腊肠  
**stumble** ['stʌmbəl] *v. /n.* 跌, 绊  
**superb** [sju:'pɜ:b] *a.* 极好的, 高质量的  
**surroundings** [sə'raʊndɪŋz] *n.* 环境, 周围的事物  
**throat** [θrəʊt] *n.* 咽喉, 嗓子  
**urban** ['ɜ:bən] *a.* 城市的

## TRANSLATION

### 离奇的经历

今天早晨,我被来自楼下的立体声音乐的声音唤醒,而且咸肉的气味(odor)弥漫(permeate)在空气中。若在平常,这简直是一种来自天堂(paradise)的味道,但今天例外,因为我的喉咙发干,并且头晕目眩(dizzy)。

我揉揉(rub)眼睛,努力看清四周的环境(surroundings)。是的,我确实是在自己的公寓里,尽管我不记得昨晚是怎样回到这儿的。只是模模糊糊地记得(recall)在我们前往学院舞会之前,在市里(urban)的一家咖啡馆遇见过我最好的朋友布赖恩和乔治。到底是谁在楼下道遥得像在自己家一样,我心里犯嘀咕。

我的眼睛突然锁定在紧挨着床边的椅子上的一件女性(female)内衣。在椅子下放着一件白色的皱褶礼服。我使劲眨眨眼,确信我的眼睛没有欺骗(deceive)我。这绝不是一件旧礼服,它是一件质地柔软华丽的(superb)结婚礼服!

我跌跌撞撞(stumble)地爬起床,突然完全警惕起来,心脏在胸腔里突突狂跳。我努力回想昨晚(previous evening)的事,但是记忆里仿佛有一个由酒精过量引起的空白(gaping hole)。突然,我记起了一些模糊不清的(obscure)图像:微笑的大使,交换的(exchanged)戒指。布赖恩和乔治也在那里,我确信。难道我喝得酩酊大醉,与一个完全陌生的人结婚了吗?

他们当然不可能让我那么做。按理说,他们可是我最亲密的(intimate)朋友!他们是不会让我结婚的——或许他们也喝得酩酊大醉(drunk),以至于未加干涉?那一定是个噩梦。然而是在楼下的厨房做早餐,还听着收音机呢?肯定不是我的合租伙伴,因为我还没有呢。我打开衣柜,拣出几件干净的衣服——袜子、牛仔褲(jeans)和一件旧T恤——穿在身上,使楼下那个将内衣和丝质结婚礼服放在我床边的陌生女人不至于看见我的窘相。

接着,我想起曾经看过的一部地中海电影,片中一男一女因喝醉了酒而在相遇两个小时之后结婚。我坐在床上,绞尽脑汁(rack my brain)想答案。我当然不可能如此愚蠢!我仔细看看地上的皱褶裙子,想象着我公布这个消息的时候,我可怜的父母将会有怎样的反应(react)。我的心开始下沉:“嗨,妈妈,嗨,爸爸,我刚刚娶了一个在我喝醉时遇到的陌生女人,抱歉我没通知你们,但这件事发生得如此迅速……”

我的直觉告诉我,我不可能这么做。我才21岁,刚刚取得建筑专业的毕业证(diploma),也找到了一份好工作。父母一周前还为我的毕业感到如此骄傲。现在真的是一团糟(mess)!

我能听到楼下盘子哗啦啦的响声,从那一刻起我神经质的发抖开始加剧(multiply)。到了该勇敢地承担责任的时候了。我要下楼并仔细想想该怎么说才好。不论我已经娶了谁,当然她很可能也充满歉意(regret),不是吗?没有人会一时兴起而结婚的,不是吗?

“听着,”我将尽最大可能礼貌而平静地说:“我确信你是一位优雅的(elegant)女士,但这对结婚来说并不是恰当的理由。对我来说这不是合适的时机。在别的时间,或者别的地方或许会,但是……”正当这时,“食物准备好了!”的声音从楼下响起。等一等,我想那并非女人的声音。实际上我清楚地(distinctly)听出来了。我起了床并且小心地走向楼下的厨房。

有个人懒洋洋地躺在睡椅上,敲着桌子。实际上,那是布赖恩,我最好的朋友。他比我早一年毕业,一年后成为一家商业协会(commercial association)的主管。他转身向我致意,咧开嘴笑(grin)着,“哦,这不是新娘嘛!”他高兴地嘲笑我。“你昨晚可真不怎么样啊!你喝了太多的鸡尾酒和香槟酒,我认为最好把你带回家并在这儿过一夜!”“究竟发生了什么事?”我恳切地问到(plead)。“你当了一回可爱的新娘,”他笑着说:“你不记得昨晚的毕业舞会了吗?人们穿得五颜六色的(fancy)!你坚决要求与一个打扮成新娘的女孩交换整套衣服(outfit)。有个人穿成大使的样子,并且——嗨——你嫁给了乔治!”他说着这些,笑倒在地上,而我则深呼一口气,如释重负。“还有,”他补充说道:“你们甚至交换了戒指!”

我低下头看看我的手。的确,我左手的第三根手指上戴着一个可笑的易拉罐拉环(ring)。

突然间我有了好胃口(robust appetite)。我拿起一大块牛排腊肠(sausage)并且咬了一口,庆幸自己还年轻、自由,并且单身……



# Unit 3

## Fantasy Farm

When my classmate Rashed informed me that Reza was back, I was really very happy. For the last two weeks Reza had not been at his house without any notice. Rashed also informed that Reza was not *like his usual self*①, he looked rather a shadow of the person we knew. *Of course it could be true.*② For the last few days Reza had been working really hard to gain body fitness. The last time I saw him, he was running in his red tracksuit. When I asked him, "Why are you running so early in the morning?" In reply he boasted, "It is beneficial to your health."

Since I was so eager to know where he had been for the last two weeks, I did not waste time to meet him after school. I went straight to his house. He opened the door. Yes, Rashed was right. Reza was really sick. He had become thinner. He could not even walk properly. He was a bit lame and feeling pain in every step. With the help of a stick he managed to sit on his bed. He asked me for a mug of water.

I became even more curious to know what had happened. I asked him, "What happened? Did you have an accident?"

He did not answer. He started trembling in unknown fear. Then he asked me in a low eccentric voice, "Have you ever heard of the 'Fantasy Farm'?" "No." "Thank God, he just spared your life." He then put a pillow behind his back and started telling me his story.

"I think you know my friend Rafat. I heard about 'Fantasy Farm' from him. He had heard about it from another friend. One day Rafat's friend went to 'Fantasy Farm'. It is a large farmhouse on approximately 50-acre of land. It has a flock of domestic animals and their breeding facilities like any other suburban farmhouses. But 'Fantasy Farm' is different from other farms for one reason. It has a 'Fun House'; a round, well-protected area for different sorts of funny games. There is even a balcony for spectators to entertain the games in the fun house. It is like a mini indoor gym.

"Rafat's friend went to the farm and participated in the fun game. It was so simple. He bought a ticket with 20 takas③. He was given a black blouse and a black bag by the cashier, and asked to find eggs in the 'Fun House' in a stipulated time of two minutes. Eggs were hidden under the sand. He managed to find 11 eggs in the stipulated time. Consequently, he won a flower crown.

"In the next week Rafat went to the farm to participate in the fun game. This time he was given a yellow blouse and given a stipulated time of ten minutes to catch as many hens as he could. Rafat was not ready for something like this. He tried his best to catch a hen but failed. The audience applauded him for his great effort though. It was great fun for the spectators.

"After that Rafat informed me about the 'Fantasy Farm'. I thought it was a great opportunity for me. If I visited the farm I could get valuable knowledge about farming as well as take the chance of attaining something in the 'Fun



- ① 像本来的他
- ② 拉希德说得一点没错。这是相对于前面的 he looked rather a shadow 说的。
- ③ 塔卡，孟加拉国的一种基本货币单位，1 000 塔卡相当于25美元。