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齐鲁电子音像出版社

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初中英语晨读美文 2

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If time doesn't wait
for you, don't worry!
Just remove the damn
battery from the clock
and enjoy life.



讽刺幽默



如果时不我待，也没什么好担心的！只要把那烦人的电池从钟表里拿出来你就可以好好享受你的生活了。



Marriage Proposal to Bernard Shaw

1

龙生龙，凤生凤。如果下一代能结合了两个人的优点，那当然皆大欢喜，可万一把双方的缺点结合起来，那可就有有点不妙啊！

Once a beautiful British actress wrote to **propose** marriage to Bernard Shaw. She said she did not mind Bernard Shaw's old age and **ugliness** because he was a **genius**. And if they could combine the beauty of the woman with the talents of the great man, that would be great. "With your **wisdom** and my **appearance**, our children must be perfect."

Bernard Shaw answered in a letter, "Your **imagination** was **splendid**. But, what if the children take my appearance and your wisdom?"

念念有词

1. **propose** [ˈprəˈpəʊz] v. 建议,求婚
2. **ugliness** [ˈʌɡliːnɪs] n. 丑陋
3. **genius** [ˈdʒiːnjəs] n. 天才,天赋
4. **wisdom** [ˈwɪzdəm] n. 智慧
5. **appearance** [əˈpiərəns] n. 外表,外貌

6. imagination [ɪˌmædʒɪˈneɪʃən] n. 想象, 想象力

7. splendid ['splendɪd] adj. 极好的, 壮丽的, 辉煌的



向萧伯纳求婚

英国有位漂亮的女演员曾写信向萧伯纳求婚。她说,因为萧伯纳是个天才,她不嫌他年迈丑陋。假如能使他们的美貌和超人的天才结合,那该是多么棒啊。“咱们的后代有你的智慧和我的美貌,那一定是十全十美了。”

萧伯纳给她回了一封信说:“你的想象很是美妙,可是,如果生下的孩子外貌像我,而智慧又像你,那又该怎么办呢?”





你是如何理解萧伯纳的话的含义的？试着用英语写一下吧！



Key:
In fact, Bernard Shaw refused the proposal
by saying so.



The Dangerous Green Light

2

出行在外，总要提防交通意外，可有些意外真是防不胜防。

A **Swiss** guy went to Sydney for an important meeting. **Completely** strange, he took a taxi to the **downtown** building where the meeting was held. They came to a red light. The driver ran the red light at high **speed**. The **passenger cried out**, “Hi, why did you do that?” The driver was very confident though he was of **medium** height. He said, “Don’t worry about it, my brother does it **all the time**.”

They came to another red light, and the same thing happened. The Swiss guy was upset and threatened to get out if he takes another chance(冒险). At the next crossing, the traffic light was green, but the driver stopped the car.

The Swiss guy was confused and asked, “What is wrong with you? You ran two red lights but stopped at the green one.” The driver **responded**, “My brother might be coming from the other direction!”

念念有词

1. Swiss [swɪs] n. 瑞士人
2. completely [kəm'pli:tli] adv. 十分, 完全地
3. downtown ['daʊntaʊn] adj. 在市区的, 市中心的
4. speed [spi:d] n. 速度
5. passenger ['pæsɪndʒə] n. 乘客
6. medium ['mi:djəm] adj. 中等的
7. threaten ['θretn] v. 威胁, 恐吓
8. respond [rɪ'spɒnd] v. 回答, 回应
9. cry out 大声呼喊
10. all the time 总是, 始终



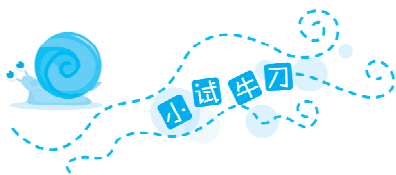
危险的绿灯

一个瑞士人到悉尼参加一个重要的会议。他对悉尼非常陌生,所以就叫了辆出租车朝会议举行的市区大楼开去。他们来到了一个红灯前,开车的人速度很快地闯过了红灯。这个瑞士人大叫:“喂,你为什么这么做?”司机中等身材,却很自信。他说:“别担心,我哥哥总是这么干。”

他们来到了下一个红灯前,相同的事情又发生了。这个瑞士人不高兴了,他威胁说,如果下一次还这样冒险他就下车。在下一个路口前,交通灯是绿色的,但司

机却把车停了下来。

瑞士人很迷惑,问道:“你到底怎么了?你闯了两次红灯,却在绿灯前停下了。”司机回答:“我哥哥也许会从另一方向开过来!”



Why did the driver stop at the green light?



Key:
Because his brother might be coming from the
other direction.



3

Lucky Bowl

姜太公钓鱼，愿者上钩。

① A famous art collector is walking through Warsaw when he notices a gray cat lapping milk from an exotic bowl in the doorway of a souvenir shop and he does a double take. He recognizes (认出) that the bowl is extremely ancient and very valuable, ② so he walks slowly into the shop and offers to buy the cat for two dollars.

The shop owner with an interesting moustache, listening to a cassette recorder, replies, “I’m sorry, but the cat isn’t for sale. ”

The collector says, “Please, I need a hungry cat around the house to catch mice. I’ll pay you twenty dollars for that cat.”

And the owner says, “It’s a deal,” and hands over the cat.

The collector continues, “Hey, for the twenty dollars I wonder if you could give me that old common bowl as a bonus. The cat’s used to it and it’ll save me from having to get a dish.”

But the owner says, “Sorry, buddy, but that’s

my lucky bowl. So far this month I've sold sixty-eight cats."

念念有词

1. bowl [bəʊl] n. 碗, 碗状物
2. Warsaw [ˈwɔːsɔː] n. 华沙
3. lap [ləp] v. 舔食
4. exotic [ɪgˈzɒtɪk] adj. 奇异的, 异域风情的
5. souvenir [ˈsuːvənɪə] n. 纪念品
6. offer [ˈɒfə] v. 显示意愿
7. moustache [məʊsˈtʃɑːʃ] n. 小胡子
8. buddy [ˈbʌdi] n. [口] 伙计
9. double take 心不在焉后突然注意而恍然大悟



幸运碗

①一个著名的艺术品收藏家在华沙城里散步时,注意到在一个纪念品商店门口,有一只灰色的猫正从一个奇异的碗里舔牛奶。此时,他突然觉得眼前一亮,认出这个碗非常古老,非常珍贵。②于是他慢慢地走进商店,提出愿意花2美元买这只猫。

留着有趣胡子的店主正在听盒式录音机,答道:“很抱歉,这只猫不卖。”

收藏家说:“请你卖给我吧,我需要只饥饿的猫在我

房子周围逮老鼠。我付给你 20 美元买这只猫。”

店主说：“好，卖了，”就把猫递给了他。

收藏家继续说：“嗨，为了这 20 美元，我不知道你是否愿意把那只破旧而又普通的碗送给我。这猫习惯用这只碗，再说这也省了我再花钱买只碟子了。”

店主说：“对不起，朋友，这可是我的幸运碗。这个月以来，我已经卖出去 68 只猫了。”



1. The famous art collector recognizes that the exotic bowl is very _____ and _____, so he wants to have it.
2. Does the art collector think that the shop owner knows the bowl is very valuable?



Keys:
1. ancient, valuable 2. No, he doesn't.



4

It's Hot Water

热水和凉水的用途有那么大的区别吗?

① Mr Brown was busy writing an important article in his room when his servant, a very stupid boy, rushed hurriedly into his master's room and shouted loudly in a panicky voice, "Fire, fire! The kitchen is on fire!" ② Mr Brown got up quickly, and he and the boy ran as fast as they could to the kitchen.

"Look there," shouted the boy, pointing to the flames. Mr Brown saw a big pot of boiling water on the top of the stove. "You silly fellow," he said, "Why didn't the water remind you to throw that on the burning wood? That would have put it out quickly."

"Oh, no," said the boy slowly, "That water would be useless. It's hot water."

念念有词

1. **servant** ['sɜ:vənt] *n.* 仆人, 助理
2. **panicky** ['pænikɪ] *adj.* 惊慌失措的
3. **flame** [fleɪm] *n.* 火焰