

C L A S S I C E N G L I S H H U M O R



英文

经典幽默 系列

王 勋 刘新玲 主编

清华大学出版社



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北京

学英语不再是无聊、枯燥的事情，通过阅读原版的英文幽默故事，可以在欢声笑语中学习地道英语，享受轻松学习的乐趣。阅读英语幽默故事能够帮助读者学到地道的英语思维和表达方式，增加对西方文化和幽默感的理解。

本书编者收集了大量的国外幽默故事素材，从中筛选出适合国内读者的英语幽默故事，所有内容均来自原版英文读物，原汁原味、语言地道、幽默诙谐、趣味盎然、令人捧腹。这些幽默故事虽然类型不同、题材各异，但都贴近时代和生活，可读性强。

本书在编辑过程中并没有采用中英文对照的方式，因为中外在文化背景上有很大的差异，很多英语幽默故事只能意会、无法言传，很难用中文反映其中的意境。书中只是对于较难理解的词语，另加了“注释”，以便读者更好地理解。本书适合各种水平英语爱好者在消遣娱乐的同时提高英文水平之用。

本书由王勋、刘新玲主编，参加编写的人员还有沙玉新、周河、安枚、刘建平、方茂、汤华、成枫、周雄方、李汤灵、张经峰、赵越、田德明等。

由于编者水平有限，书中难免不妥之处，衷心希望广大读者批评指正。

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☆ Where is god? ☆

A couple had two little boys, ages 8 and 10, who were excessively mischievous (*adj.* 调皮的, 恶作剧的). They were always getting into trouble (招致不幸) and their parents knew that, if any mischief (*n.* 灾祸, 恶作剧) occurred in their town, their sons were probably involved.

The boys' mother heard that a clergyman (*n.* 牧师) in town had been successful in disciplining (*n.* 训练, 惩罚) children, so she asked if he would speak with her boys. The clergyman agreed, but asked to see them individually. So the mother sent her 8-year-old first, in the morning, with the older boy to see the clergyman in the afternoon.

The clergyman, a huge man with a booming voice (洪亮的声音), sat the younger boy down and asked him sternly (*adv.* 严肃地), "Where is God?"

The boy's mouth dropped open, but he made no response, sitting there with his mouth hanging open, wide-eyed. So the clergyman repeated the question in an even sterner tone, "Where is God!!?" Again the boy made no attempt to answer. So the clergyman raised his voice even more and shook his finger in the boy's face and bellowed, "WHERE IS GOD!?"

The boy screamed and bolted from (急忙逃出去) the room, ran directly home and dove into (钻进) his closet, slamming the door (砰地

关上门) behind him. When his older brother found him in the closet, he asked, “What happened?”

The younger brother, gasping for breath (喘气, 喘息), replied, “We are in BIG trouble this time, dude. God is missing—and they think WE did it!”



Classmates?

While waiting for my first appointment in the reception room of a new dentist, I noticed his certificate, which bore his full name. Suddenly, I remembered that a tall, handsome boy with the same name had been in my high school class some 45 years ago.

Upon seeing him, however, I quickly discarded (v. 丢弃, 抛弃) any such thought. This balding (adj. 秃头的), gray-haired man with the deeply lined face (脸上的皱纹很深) was too old to have been my classmate.

After he had examined my teeth, I asked him if he had attended the local high school.

“Yes,” he replied.

“When did you graduate?” I asked.

“In 1952.”

“Why, you were in my class!” I exclaimed.

He looked at me closely, and then asked, “What did you teach?”



☁ Kids theories of science... ☁

When they broke open molecules (*n.* 分子), they found they were only stuffed (*v.* 填满, 塞满) with atoms (*n.* 原子). But when they broke open atoms, they found them stuffed with explosions (*n.* 爆炸, 爆发).

While the earth seems to be knowingly keeping its distance from the sun, it is really only centrifugating (*n.* 离心力).

There is a tremendous weight pushing down on the center of the Earth because of so much population stomping (*v.* 跺, 重跺, 重踏) around up there these days.

We say the cause of perfume disappearing is evaporation (*n.* 蒸发). Evaporation gets blamed for a lot of things people forget to put the top on.

To most people solutions (*n.* 解决办法, 溶液) mean finding the answers. But to chemists solutions are things that are still all mixed up.

Rain is often known as soft water, oppositely known as hail (*n.* 冰雹).

Thunder is a rich source of loudness.

Isotherms (*n.* 等温线) and isobars (*n.* 等压线), are even more important than their names sound.



🍃 Choose the Right One 🍃

A young man excitedly tells his mother he's fallen in love and going to get married. He says, "Just for fun, Ma, I'm going to bring

over 3 women and you try and guess which one I'm going to marry."

The mother agrees.

The next day, he brings three beautiful women into the house and sits them down on the couch and they chat for a while. He then says, "Okay, Ma, guess which one I'm going to marry."

She immediately replies, "The one in the middle."

"That's amazing, Ma. You're right. How did you know?"

"I don't like her."



Czech Dissident



In Czechoslovakia (*n.* 捷克斯洛伐克), there's a train speeding along. In one compartment of the train there are four people. A beautiful vivacious (*adj.* 活泼的, 快活的) young woman, an old matronly (*adj.* 主妇似的, 安详的) woman, a Russian soldier, and a Czech dissident.

Suddenly the train goes through a tunnel. It is completely dark. Then is heard a loud kiss and an equally powerful slap. When the train exits the tunnel, the Russian soldier is holding the side of his face, and the Czech dissident is grinning (*v.* 露齿而笑) his face off.

The old matronly woman thinks: "Now that's a fine young woman, the Russian soldier tries to steal a kiss (偷吻, 冷不防接个吻) in the tunnel and the lady slaps him one!"

The young woman is thinking: "Now that's a strange Russian soldier, he'd rather kiss that old hag (*n.* 女巫) than me."

The Russian soldier is thinking: "Now that's a smart Czech, he steal the kiss and I get slapped."