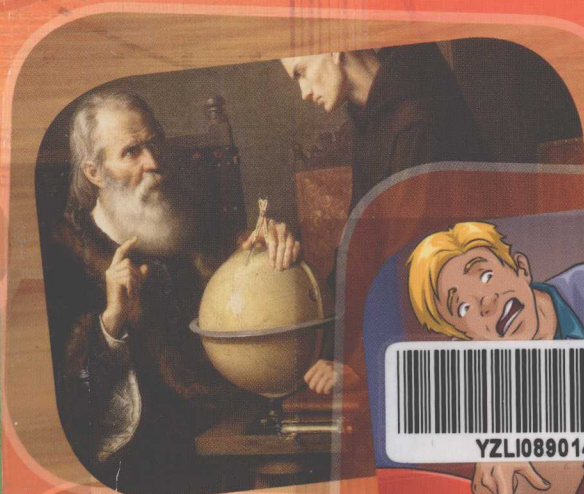


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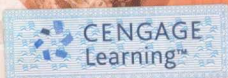
初中二年级

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LIFE IN THE
AMAZON
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 **CENGAGE**
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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

新理念英语阅读. 初中二年级. 第3册 / 梁泉胜改编.

—上海: 上海外语教育出版社, 2010

ISBN 978-7-5446-1918-9

I. 新… II. 梁… III. 英语—阅读教学—初中—教学参考资料

IV. G634.413

中国版本图书馆CIP数据核字 (2010) 第129070号

图字: 09-2010-242号

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5 Shenton Way, # 01-01 UIC Building, Singapore 068808

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出版发行: 上海外语教育出版社

(上海外国语大学内) 邮编: 200083

电 话: 021-65425300 (总机)

电子邮箱: bookinfo@sflep.com.cn

网 址: <http://www.sflep.com.cn> <http://www.sflep.com>

责任编辑: 刘 璟

印 刷: 常熟华顺印刷有限公司

开 本: 889×1280 1/32 印张 3 字数 72 千字

版 次: 2011年2月第1版 2011年2月第1次印刷

印 数: 6 000 册

书 号: ISBN 978-7-5446-1918-9 / G · 0704

定 价: 13.00 元

本版图书如有印装质量问题, 可向本社调换

出版前言

《新理念英语阅读》是由上海外语教育出版社从美国 Cengage Learning 出版集团引进改编的一套中小学英语读物。这套读物题材广泛，话题丰富；既有引人入胜、趣味无穷的故事，又有知识丰富、包罗万象的科普读物。把语言输入和知识输入融合在一起，让学生体验阅读的乐趣。

全套读物由美国 Cengage Learning 出版集团青少年读物金牌作家倾力打造，语言纯正、内容丰富、精彩纷呈。原汁原味的语言帮助读者培养英语语感、提升阅读兴趣。《新理念英语阅读》还强调阅读与视听的有机结合，全套读物的原版音频由英语语言专家绘声绘色、声情并茂地朗读，让读者有身临其境的感受。高中阶段另配由美国《国家地理》（National Geographic）精选的视频材料，能充分满足读者视觉和听觉的不同需求。色彩丰富、极具趣味性的插图在辅助读者阅读的同时，也让读者尽情享受前所未有的视觉盛宴。

本套读物针对每个故事精心设计了练习：小学阶段的题型和通用少儿英语星级考试接轨；初中阶段的题型和中考题的阅读部分题型匹配；高中阶段的练习分为阅读前、阅读中、阅读后以及阅读拓展训练和与视频材料相关的练习，帮助学生循序渐进地提高独立阅读能力，有效训练应试技巧。

整套读物分 9 个级别，从小学三年级到高中二年级，共 43 册，包含 78 篇故事和 132 篇科普读物。各级别根据国家《英语课程标准》规定的难度划分，充分考虑到不同年龄段学生的认知特点和阅读兴趣。

《新理念英语阅读》提供丰富多彩的阅读材料和多层次的拓展训练，在适宜性、可读性、多样性和有效性方面均凸显本套英语读物的优势。它让读者感受阅读乐趣的同时，也切实提高了他们的阅读解题能力，使其体验到新理念带给英语阅读的全新动力。

上海外语教育出版社

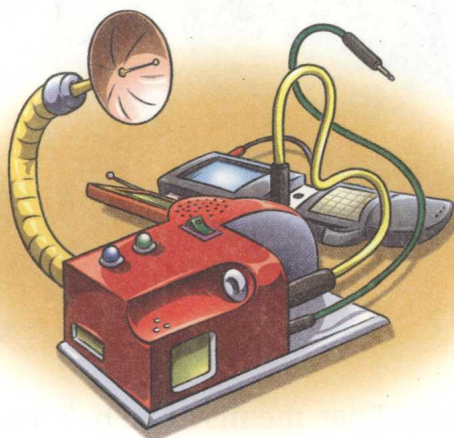
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My Best Friend's a Genius

George Ivanoff
Toby Quarmby



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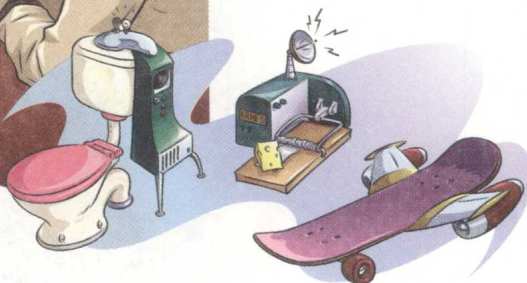
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The Boy Genius



NOTES

genius *n.* 天才
 smart *a.* 聪明的
 weird *a.* 稀奇古怪的
 skateboard *n.* 滑板
 automatic toilet flusher
 全自动马桶冲水器



Miles is a genius! That means that he's really smart – super brainy! He invents things ... weird things, things you think will never work, but they always do. He invents things like flying skateboards, computer-controlled mouse-traps and automatic toilet flushers.

How do I know this? Miles is my best friend.

My name is Gary. I'm not a genius. I don't invent things. But, I'm good at helping Miles get out of trouble. That's another thing that Miles is good at – getting into trouble. Well ... it's his inventions that get him into trouble.

The automatic toilet flusher scared Miles's mum so much that she grounded him for a week.

Let me tell you about the time Miles made a hyper phone.

Yes, that's right, a hyper phone. He sent me out to get the parts he needed for the phone. This was going to be his best-ever invention. It was, sort of.



NOTES

- scare v. 使惊吓
ground v. 关禁闭
hyper a. 超级的
best-ever a. 有史以来最好的

The Hyper Phone

What's a hyper phone? It's a mobile phone that lets you talk to aliens.

Miles read this feature article about UFOs – Unidentified Flying Objects – and he was sure that UFOs are spaceships from another planet.

Anyway, he decided to talk to the aliens in the UFOs.

"It won't work," I said when Miles told me about it. "A phone's no good unless there's another phone to ring. Why would aliens have mobile phones?"

"If aliens can build spaceships that come to Earth," explained Miles, "they must have mobile phones. It's logical!"

I didn't think it was logical, but there's no arguing with Miles. I just went and got what he needed.



NOTES

mobile *a.* 移动的

alien *n.* 外星人

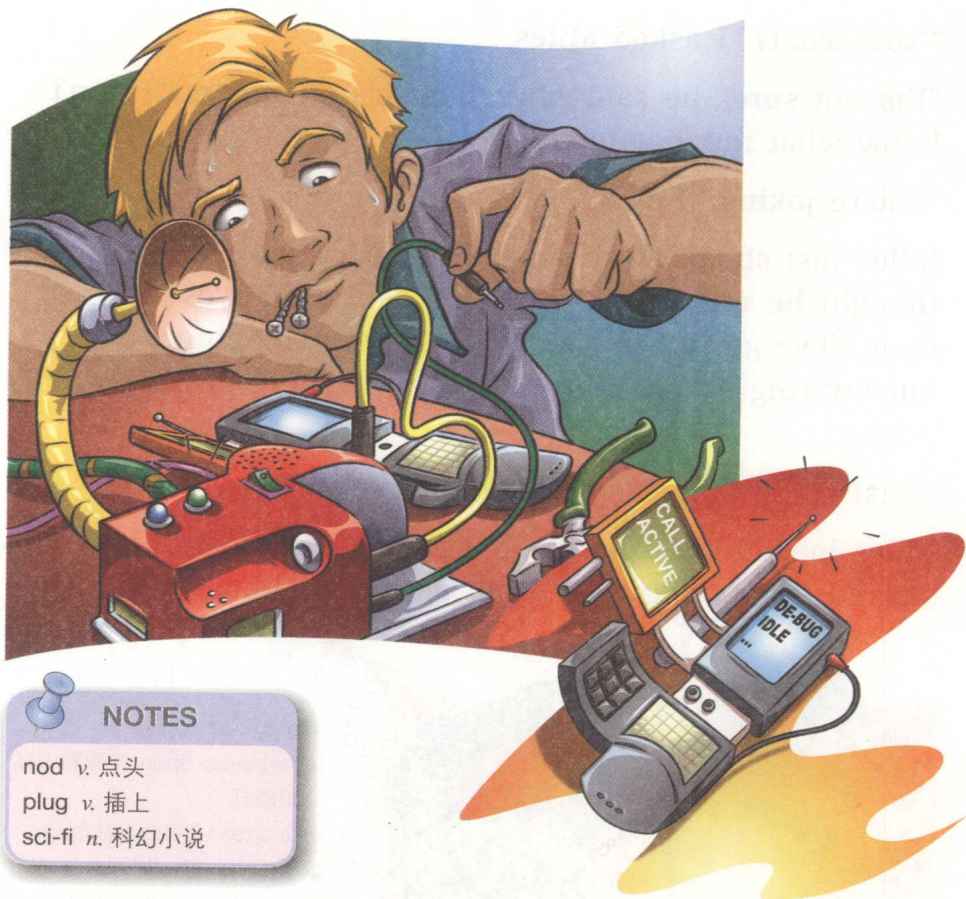
UFO *n.* 不明飞行物

unidentified *a.* 未被证实

的, 来路不明的

logical *a.* 符合逻辑的





NOTES

nod v. 点头

plug v. 插上

sci-fi n. 科幻小说

It took Miles three days to make a little box with flashing lights on it. When I saw it for the first time, I just nodded and said, "That's great."

Then, Miles got out his mobile phone and plugged it into the box.

Miles has a weird-looking mobile phone. His parents wouldn't buy him one, so he made one himself. It works really well, and calls don't cost anything, but it looks like something out of a sci-fi movie.

"Now what?" I asked Miles.

"I'm not sure," he said, shrugging his shoulders. "I don't know what number to ring."

"You're joking," I said.

Miles just shook his head sadly and closed his eyes. I thought he was going to cry. Suddenly, his eyes snapped open. "I've got it!" he said. "I'll use the computer to quickly ring numbers until we get an alien on the phone."

"That could take ages," I said.

Miles looked sad again ... but then the light on his desk started to go on and off, and his mobile phone rang ...



NOTES

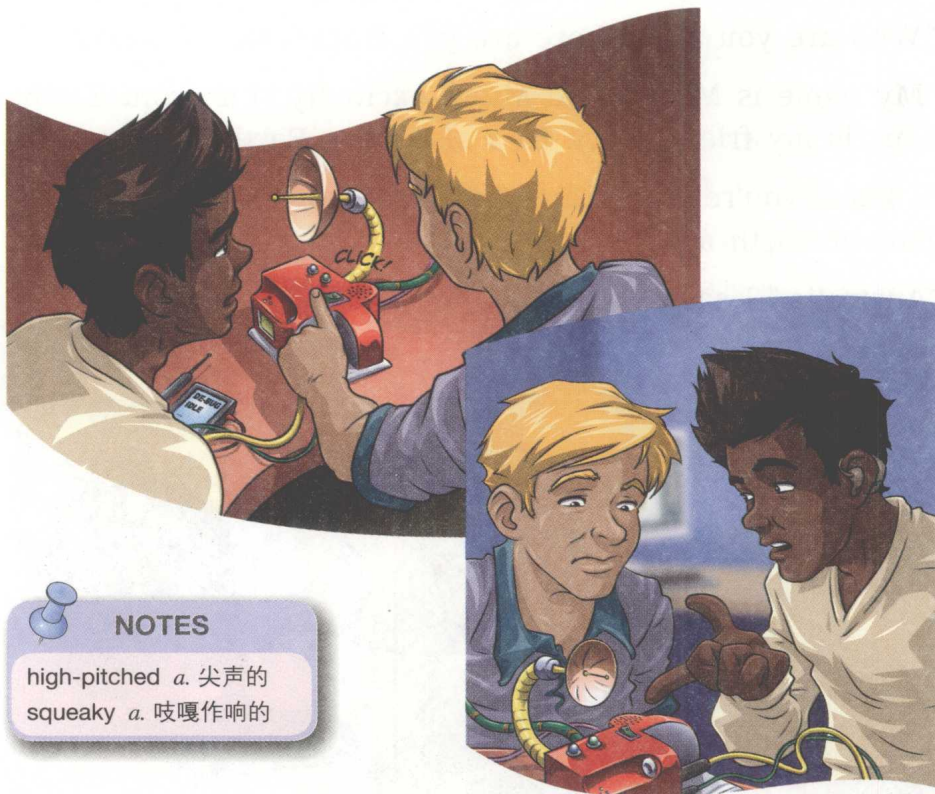
shrug v. 耸 (肩)

(eyes) snap open (眼睛) 猛地睁开

take ages 花好长一段时间

go on and off 闪烁

Talking to Aliens?



NOTES

high-pitched *a.* 尖声的

squeaky *a.* 吱嘎作响的

Miles pressed the speaker phone button. A high-pitched, squeaky sound came out of the phone.

"What is that?" I asked.

"I think that's an alien," answered Miles.

More strange sounds came from the phone.

"But ..." I looked at Miles. "What's the point of ringing aliens if we can't understand what they're saying?"

There was a crackle of electricity around the box, and the desk light went on and off again. Slowly, the strange squeaky sounds turned into words.

"Who are you and where are you from?" said a voice.

"My name is Miles," said Miles, excitedly. "I'm from Earth. This is my friend Gary. He's also from Earth."

"I know you're from Earth," said the voice. "I mean, what part of Earth are you in?"

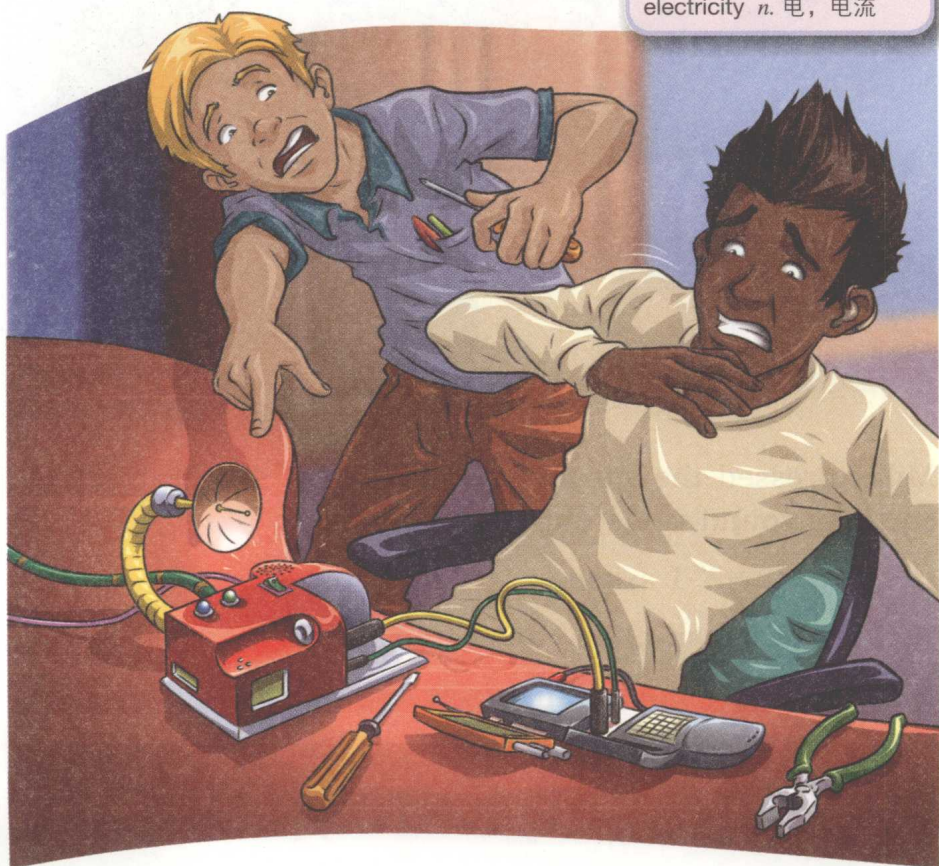
"Australia," I said.



NOTES

crackle *n.* 劈啪响

electricity *n.* 电, 电流





NOTES

Antarctic *n.* 南极洲

head for 向……走去

calm down (使) 平静下来



"Australia?" asked the voice.

"What about you?" asked Miles. "What planet are you from?"

"Planet?" replied the voice. "I'm on Earth."

"You're not an alien?" I asked.

"Alien?" laughed the voice. "No. I'm a scientist. I'm at the Antarctic research base."

Miles looked really disappointed. Suddenly, there was a huge crackle of electricity around the box and phone, and all the lights in the house went off.

"Miles!" called a voice from downstairs. "What have you done now?"

"My mum," said Miles, heading for the door. "I'd better calm her down."

The Future

As Miles left the room, the voice on the phone asked, "You say you're from Australia?"

"Yes," I replied.

"But Australia doesn't exist any more. It became a part of the Oceanic Republic over 100 years ago."

"What?" I shouted. Then I calmed down and controlled my voice. "What ... what year is it?"



NOTES

exist *v.* 存在

oceanic *a.* (有关) 海洋的

republic *n.* 共和国, 共和政体





NOTES

grab v. 抓起

“Year?” asked the voice. “It’s 2156, of course. That’s a very strange thing to ...”

Suddenly, there was another crackle of electricity and the phone went dead. I grabbed it and looked at the buttons. Yes! There was one called “last number.” I pressed it and waited. “I’m sorry,” said a strange voice, “but the number you are trying to reach is unavailable. Please try again later.”

I heard yelling from downstairs. Oh well, I thought, time to go help Miles get out of trouble – again!



NOTES

yell v. 叫喊

