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前 言

英语是获取世界科技、文化信息,提高民族科学文化素质,加强国际交往与合作的重要工具。《国家英语课程标准》强调,"在英语教学中应适当扩大听和读的输入量,通过大量的语言实践活动,切实提高学生综合运用英语的能力。"鼓励学生积极、主动地参与语言实践活动和创造性使用语言的尝试,促进语言技能的发展,进而逐步获得综合运用语言知识和语言技能进行交际的能力。

依据最新《国家英语课程标准》对中小学英语教学的 分级要求,结合现行教材中课文的难易程度,我们编写了 这套"英语随堂故事"。本套书共7册,每册均配有录音磁 带。由一线优秀教师和教研员编写。选编的故事内容丰 富,有幽默、成语、典故、童话、神话等各种题材,适合学生 作趣味阅读和听说训练之用,帮助学生提高英语阅读和听 说能力。

本套书在编写过程中得到著名英语教育专家杜效明 先生的指导和其他有关人士的帮助,在此表示衷心的感 谢。



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1. Four or Five Donkeys

One day, a farmer went to the market to buy four donkeys. He was very glad because he bought very good donkeys at the best price. He took them home happily. After they walked for a long time, he felt very tired. So he rode on the back of one of the strongest donkeys. But to his great surprise, he could see three donkeys in front of him then, no matter how many times he counted them. He was very sad and said to himself: "I'm too unlucky today, one of my donkeys must run away without my noticing."

When he got home, his wife met him and said to him, "My dear husband, you're so great. You bought such good donkeys. Did you buy them at good price?" Her husband said sadly: "Yes, I bought them at good price, but I lost a very good donkey today." His wife asked: "What has happened?" Her husband said: "I bought four donkeys at the market this morning. I'm sure that four



donkeys were with me when we left the market. But now it seems that we have only three donkeys." After his wife heard this, she looked at the donkeys his husband bought again and her husband surprisedly. She asked again: "How many donkeys on earth did you buy today?" "Four." Her husband answered. His wife knew what the matter was then. So she laughed and said: "My dear husband, you didn't buy four donkeys but five donkeys today."

donkey ['donki] n. 驴

at the best price 用最便宜的价格

1. 四头还是五头驴子

一天,一个农夫到市场去买了四头驴子。他很高兴,因为他今天用最便宜的价格买到了很好的驴子。他赶着它们高兴地回家了。当他们走了很长时间后,农夫累了,所以他骑到最壮的一头驴子的背上。但是这时他大吃一惊,因为无论他怎么数驴子,他都只能数到三头。农夫很伤心,自言自语地说:"我今天太倒霉了,那头驴子一定是趁我不注意时跑了。"

当他到家的时候,他的妻子迎接了他并对他说:"我亲爱的丈夫,你真能干,你买到了这么好的驴子。价格也很便宜吗?"丈夫伤心地说:"价格确实很便宜,可是我今天丢了一头很好的驴子。"妻子问:"怎么回事?"丈夫说:"我今天早晨在集市买了四头驴子。我肯定在离开集市的时候,四头驴子还都在。可是现在只剩下三头了。"他的妻子听后,看看他丈夫买的驴子,又奇怪地看看丈夫,又问:"你今天到底买了几头驴子?""四头。"丈夫回答。现在妻子终于明白怎么回事了。她大笑着说:"我亲爱的丈夫,你今天买的不是四头而是五头驴子。"



2. Why Didn't You Tell Me Earlier

Once, there lived a very wise man. He was a kind-hearted man and he also liked to play jokes.

One day, when he was walking along a street, a stranger stopped him and asked him how long it would take him to get to the biggest hospital in town. The wise man didn't tell him how long it would take him to get there but asked him to walk.

The stranger was very surprised, but he did as the man said. He walked a few steps and stopped. The wise man asked him to go on walking for three minutes. The stranger was a little



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angrier, but he still did as the man said. After the stranger had just walked for two minutes, he shouted to him: "It will take you twenty minutes to get there." The stranger turned round and shouted angrily: "Why didn't you tell me earlier?" The wise man shouted back, "If you didn't walk, how can I know how fast you can walk?"

play jokes 开玩笑

stranger ['streind3ə] n. 陌生人

2. 你为什么不早一点告诉我

从前,有一个智者,他是一个好心肠的人,也是个喜欢开玩笑的人。

有一天,当他在街上走的时候,一个陌生人拦住他,问他去镇上最大的医院需要多长时间。智者没有告诉他去那儿要多长时间,只是叫他朝前走。陌生人很奇怪,但他还是照智者说的去做了。他走了几步,然后停下来。智者叫他继续走三分钟。陌生人有点生气了,但他还是照智者说的做了。当陌生人刚走完两分钟路的时候,智者对他大叫:"去那儿大约要花二十分钟的时间。"陌生人转回身,生气地大叫:"你为什么不早一点告诉我呢?"智者也大声告诉他:"假如你不走,我怎么知道你走得多快呢?"





3. At the Barber's

Tim Jackson worked in a big office. One day he had nothing to do in his office. He found his hair was too long. So he decided to have his hair cut at the barber's. Although this was not allowed according to the rules of his office, he thought that no one would know it.

While he was sitting at the barber's, he saw his boss walking into the barber's and just sat beside him. He tried to hide his face, but the boss still recognized him soon. The boss said to him: "Hi, Tim, but why do you have your hair cut in the office time? Do you know that you have disobeyed our rules?" "Yes,





sir. "Tim pretended to be calm and said: "But you see, my hair grows in the office time. So I spend office time having my hair cut. I don't disobey our rules. "The boss said at once: "But some of it grows in your own time." "Yes, sir, that's right." Tim answered politely: "So I'm not going to have all my hair cut."

barber ['bɑːbə] n. 理发师 have one's hair cut 理发 obey [ə'bei] v. 服从 recognize ['rekəqnaiz] v. 认出 calm [kɑːm] adj. 平静的 at the barber's 在理发店 rule [ruːl] n. 规则 disobey [dis'əbei] v. 不服从 pretend [pri'tend] v. 假装

3. 在理发店里

提姆·杰克逊在一家大公司就职。有一天,他在办公室 无事可做。他发现他的头发太长了,所以他决定到理发店里 去理发。尽管这有悖公司的规定,但提姆认为没人会知道这 件事。

提姆正坐在理发店里时,他发现他的老板走进理发店并且刚好坐在他的旁边。他试着藏起他的脸,但老板还是很快认出了他。老板说道:"你好,提姆。不过你为什么在工作时间出来理发呢?你知道你已经违反公司规定了吗?""是的,先生,"提姆假装平静地说,"但你知道,我的头发是在工作时间里长出来的,所以我利用工作时间理发,我并没有违反规定。"老板立刻说道:"但是也有一些是在你自己的时间里长出来的呀。""是的,是这样的,先生,"提姆礼貌地回答道,"所以我不打算把所有的头发都理完呀。"



4. A Polite Notice

Mr. Smith lived far away from his office. So he had to drive to work every day. But one thing puzzled him every day. Every day when he drove back home, he found no place to park his car. Because some other people had parked their cars in the place in front of his garden. He had to park his car in other place, after that he had to walk far back home. This made him very angry. Mr. Smith had tried to write a notice to ask other people not to park their cars in front of his garden. But no one paid any attention to his notice. Because people only paid





attention to a police notice, not a private one.

Mrs. Smith advised him to steal a police notice. He didn't dare to do that because he was afraid of going to prison. Mrs. Smith then advised him to make a notice just like the police's. Mr. Smith also said it was not a good idea. Because he was not a policeman, he has no right to do so.

Mr. Smith thought about it for a long time. Then he had an idea. He found a piece of wood and painted it blue. He wrote some white letters on it. After he finished it, he showed it to his wife. It said:

POLITE NOTICE NO PARKING

His wife was surprised and said: "Didn't you tell me you weren't going to use the police notice?" Mr. Smith smiled and asked Mrs. Smith to look at it again carefully. Mrs. Smith looked at it again and then smiled: "You're really smart."

puzzle ['pʌzl] v. 困惑,费解 advise [əd'vaiz] v. 劝告 prison ['prizn] n. 监狱 smart [smɑɪt] adj. 精明的

private ['praivit] adj. 私人的 pay attention to 注意 polite [pə'lait] adj. 有礼貌的 No Parking 禁止停车



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4. 一条有礼貌的告示

史密斯先生的家离办公室很远,所以他每天开车去上班。但是有一件事让他感到头痛。每天当他开车回到家的时候,他找不到停车的地方。因为别人已经在他家院子前的地方停上了车。这样他就不得不把车开到别的地方去停放,然后再步行很远的路回家。这让史密斯先生很生气。史密斯先生曾试着写过一个告示,请人们不要把车停在他家院子前,但根本没人理睬他的告示。因为人们只遵守警察的告示,而不理会一个私人告示。

史密斯夫人劝他去偷一块警察的告示牌。史密斯先生不敢,因为他害怕蹲监狱。史密斯夫人还建议他仿制一个警察告示牌。但史密斯先生仍然认为不妥。因为他不是警察,他无权这么做。

史密斯为此事考虑了很久。终于他有办法了。他找来一块木板,并且把它漆成蓝色,在上面写上白色的字。当他做完以后,他把它拿给史密斯夫人看。上面写着:

礼貌告示禁止停车

他的妻子很奇怪地问:"你不是说不能用警察的告示?" 史密斯先生叫史密斯夫人再仔细看看。史密斯夫人看后笑着说:"你真聪明。"

5. Master and Servant

Once upon a time, there lived a rich man. He loved nothing except good wine and delicious food. More interesting, he had a servant who loved wine and good food as well.

So no matter how carefully the rich man hid his wine and food before he went out, the servant could find them out and ate them up every time. Although the rich man knew very clearly that the wine and food must be eaten by the servant, he could do nothing with him because he had never seen the servant drinking



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