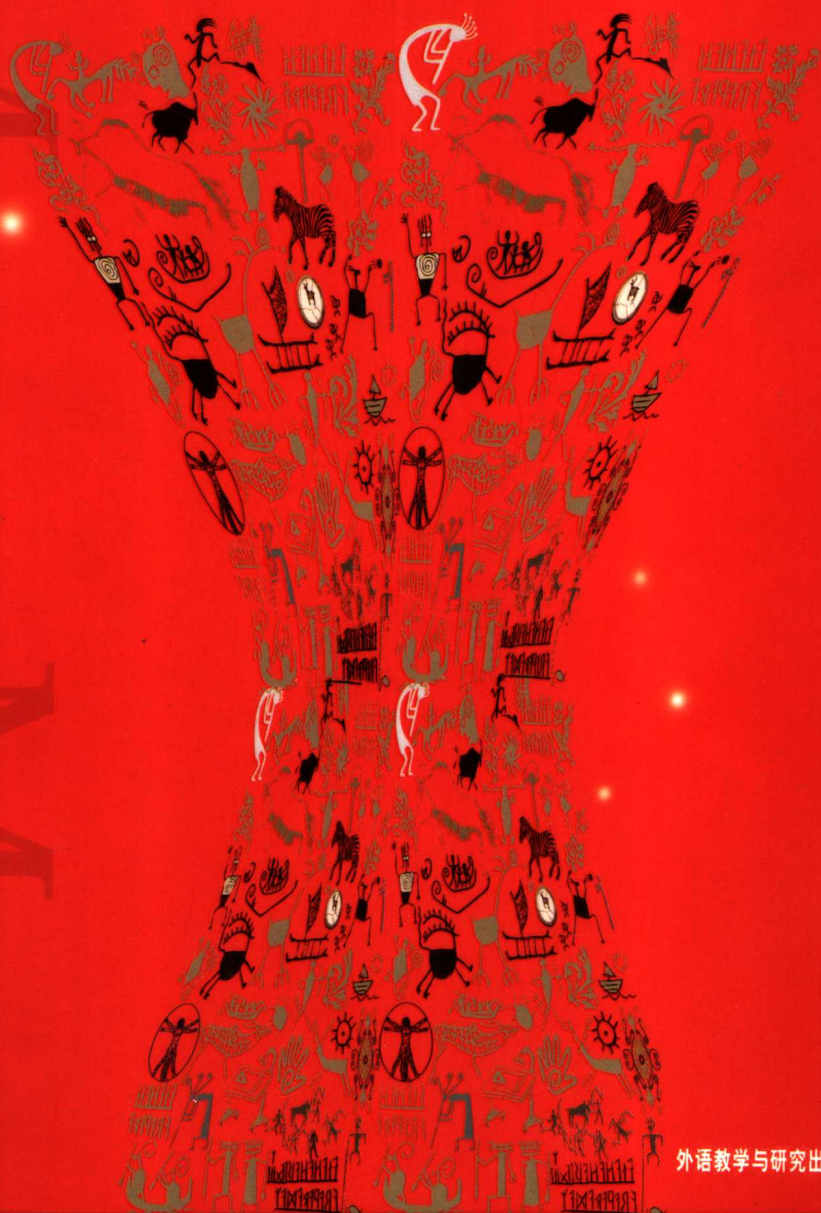


英语学习 四十年精选之

杂 · 闻 · 卷

斑斓的叶子

The More the Merrier



外语教学与研究出版社

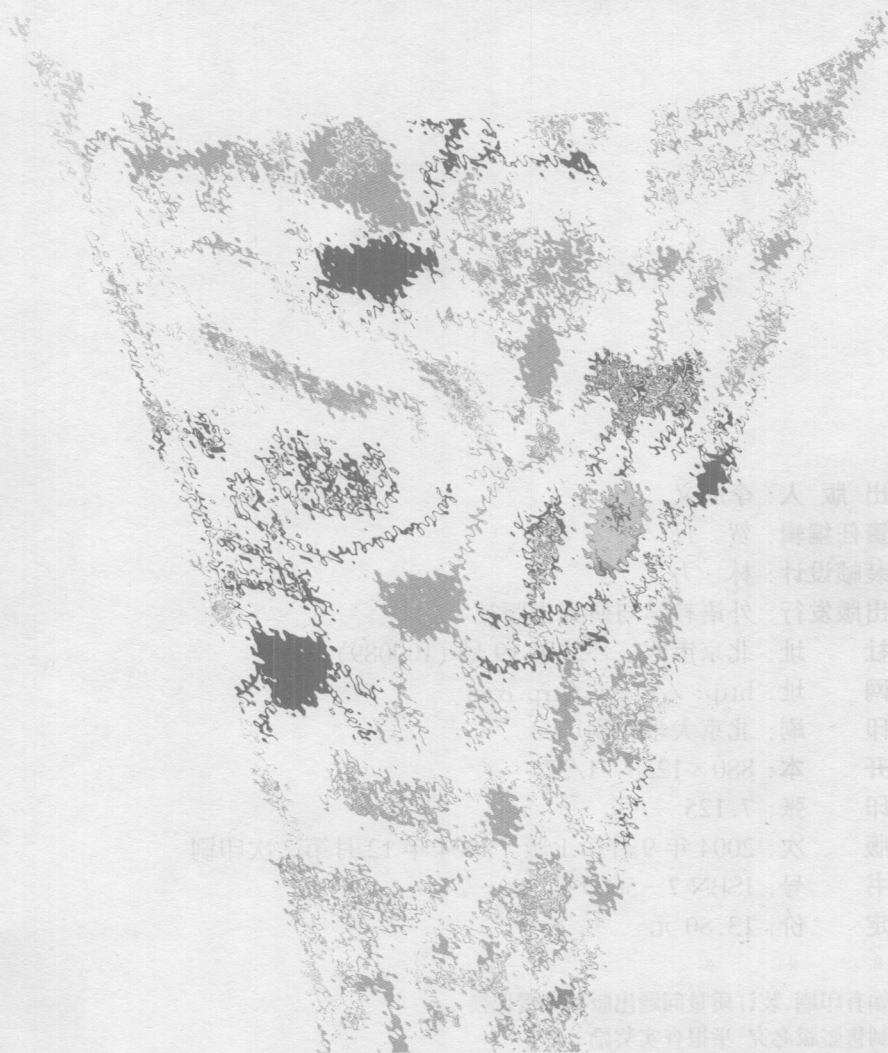
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前言

《英语学习》创刊于1958年，是中国第一本英语辅导杂志，从诞生的那一天起，《英语学习》就确立了严谨而不失活泼，品位与趣味并重的办刊风格，在帮助读者提高英语水平的同时介绍国外的社会文化，力图真正成为读者们“学习英语的终身益友，了解世界的精彩橱窗”。四十多年来，《英语学习》与一代又一代读者共同成长，在广大师生及社会各界英语爱好者中树立了崇高的威望，《英语学习》巅峰时期高达百万的单期发行量便是这一点的明证。

2002年，《英语学习》推出了总计七卷的四十年精选丛书，分别是《英语的门槛有多高》（名家箴言卷）、《时日留痕》（时文卷）、《性情人生》（美文卷）、《话里话外》（语言文化卷）、《给我讲个故事吧》（童话故事卷）、《科技之虹》（科技卷）以及《国外风情面面观》（异域风情卷）。四十年精选丛书以高品质的内容和典雅的装帧赢得了广大读者的青睐，短短一年间便重印了十余次。

在选编四十年精选丛书的时候，各位编辑有一个共同的体会，就

是《英语学习》四十年辉煌历程中的精华实在无法用区区七本书来体现。由于主题所限，很多精彩篇章被编辑“忍痛割爱”，未能得到与读者见面的机会。有鉴于此，我们选编了“英语学习四十年精选丛书”第二辑，共分七卷。《时尚款款行》（潮流风尚卷）记录了四十年来的潮流点滴，让你体会人们生活品味的时代变迁；《爱的风景》（情爱卷）尽数爱的缠绵悱恻；《闪亮的句子》（锦句箴言卷）汇集了杂志四十年来收录的无数妙语名言，隽永的文字会令你对人生更添一分体会；《在一起多关照》（职场情态卷）聚焦职场生活，让你了解职场生涯的甜酸苦辣；沿着《成长纪事》（青春记忆卷）中那些简单、地道又优美的文字，你可以再次回返单纯、快乐又迷惘的少年时光；《心智的感动》（哲思小品卷）中的一篇篇短文以精致的英文呈现意韵悠远的哲思，令你在享受阅读乐趣的同时获得诸多启发和教益；《斑斓的叶子》（杂闻卷）犹如一个小小的万花筒，你可以透过它看到我们身处的世界中那些令人着迷的点点滴滴。

谨以此丛书向王佐良、许国璋、周珏良、刘世沐、刘承沛、熊德锐等关怀《英语学习》成长的前辈及为杂志付出过心血的所有编者、作者表示敬意，并向予以我们最大支持的广大读者深致谢忱。《英语学习》的一贯宗旨是让读者充分体会阅读的乐趣，相信这套丛书也不会让读者们失望。

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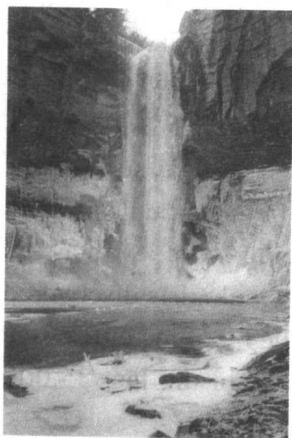
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瀑布

Waterfalls¹

■ By Chien Chin



You have all seen waterfalls in real life, on the screen or on picture-postcards of Lushan, Huangshan and other scenic spots, but do you know how they are formed?² Of course we know that the water in the river suddenly falls from a great height, forming what we call a waterfall, but do you know why there is such a sudden drop or precipice just where the river

runs through?³

We know that the bottom of the river, or river-bed⁴, is often formed from different kinds of rock. Some rocks may be weaker

1. waterfall: 瀑布。

2. picture-postcards: 画片; scenic spot: 风景区。

3. precipice: 悬崖; run through: 流过。

4. river-bed: 河床。

than others and therefore more easily worn away⁵ by the action of running water. When a section of this softer rock lies adjacent to⁶ the harder rock, the river-bed gradually becomes lower at that end, and in time, forms a waterfall. Not all waterfalls are formed in this way though. The cliffs of some waterfalls were formed during the Great Ice Age and others may even result from earthquakes.⁷ Sometimes the lava thrown up by an active volcano, or an avalanche of earth and stones may block the path of a river.⁸ The water rises and forms a lake. When the water finally finds an outlet⁹ it often comes pouring down in the form of a waterfall.

Waterfalls show us that the surface of the earth is continuously¹⁰ undergoing changes. Because of that, waterfalls may not only be formed but also be destroyed. The cliff of the waterfall is ever being worn away as the force of the water here is very great. Geologists discovered more than a hundred years ago that the lip of the cliff of the Niagara Falls had receded 11.2 kms. in the last 35,000 years.¹¹

The energy of a waterfall is very great. It is in direct proportion to the volume of water and the height of the fall.

5. wear away: 损耗, 损坏。

6. adjacent to: 临近。

7. cliff: 陡崖, the Great Ice Age: 冰河时期; earthquake: 地震。

8. lava: 熔岩; active volcano: 活火山 (dormant volcano: 休眠火山; extinct volcano: 死火山); avalanche: 山崩。

9. outlet: 出口。

10. continuously: 不断地。

11. the lip of the cliff: 陡崖顶部凸出部份, the Niagara Falls: 尼亚加拉大瀑布, 位于加拿大与美国接壤处; recede: 后退。

But before liberation in our country, this energy was all wasted. Waterfalls were for the painters to paint, for the poets to write poems about and for the rich to make money out of; but not for the ordinary people. In Mao Tsetung's era, however, we are making waterfalls work for the people. Big waterfalls can be used to generate electricity¹², smaller ones to make machines work on the communes. And besides using natural ones, we can also make artificial ones.

We have built many big dams throughout the country. Those of you who live in Peking have taken part in the construction of the ones at the Ming Tombs or at Mi Yun.¹³ The water shut in by these dams rises and forms huge and deep lakes. But at the other side of the dam, the river is very shallow¹⁴. We make little canals leading from the lakes into the shallow part of the river. The water rushes out of these canals down into the river like a miniature¹⁵ waterfall, the energy produced being used to generate electricity for the nearby communes.

Looking into the future, we are sure there will be many more even greater man-made waterfalls. Torrents of water cascading down from these, will roar out a triumphant song of man's victory over Nature as they plunge down to serve the will of the labouring people.¹⁶ ■

(选自 1960 年第 3 期)

12. to generate electricity: 发电。

13. the Ming Tombs: 十三陵; Mi Yun: 密云。

14. shallow: 浅。

15. miniature: 较小规模的。

16. torrents: 急流, 洪流; cascade: 成小瀑布落下来; plunge: 冲下。

蚂蚁

The Ant



In the forest or in the fields you can often see small hills of earth and busy little insects which are running up and down. These little insects are ants, and it is very useful to stop and watch them.

Ants live in different places—in trees, in sand; in the arctic lands and in the tropics;¹ on mountains and in deserts.

There are many kinds of ants in the world, and they differ in colour, from brown, yellow, red and white to black.

An ant has two strong jaws to dig soil or wood, to cut up food, to carry about the eggs or the young.

1. arctic: 北极的; tropics: 热带。

The head of an ant is triangular², with two large eyes and sometimes three more very small eyes. These eyes have many parts, so the ant can see everything that moves around it. Some of these eyes see things near it, while others can see things very far off in the distance.

The ant has six legs. Its antennae, or feelers,³ have twelve or thirteen joints; with them the ant finds its way in its underground home. The homes of ants differ greatly. Some ants do not build nests at all, but make use of hollows under stones or logs. Other ants are real carpenters and architects⁴. They build their little hills with leaves, bits of wood, sand and earth. When the soil is too dry, they bring water from a distance. Night does not stop their work.

The ant-hills have many rooms and galleries. Sometimes a hill has twenty storeys in its upper part and even more under the ground. The ants store food in many rooms at different levels. They work very hard, but they like to play too. Sometimes they run up a grass stem and swing in the warm sunlight,⁵ chase one another, or carry each other on their backs.

Of course these thousands of busy creatures could never work so hard or play without food. Their best food is the milk of tiny plant lice, or aphides⁶ that live on the leaves or

2. triangular: 三角形的。

3. antennae, or feelers: 两个字都是“触角”的意思。前者是拉丁学名，其单数为 antenna。

4. carpenters and architects: 木匠和建筑家。

5. 有时它们爬到草茎上，在温暖的阳光里荡悠。

in the bark of trees. They eat some other food too: insects, the sap from leaves or flowers,⁷ grass seeds and flower seeds.

The life of ants is not only work and play, they must have rest too. But ants do not sleep long. When they wake up, they stretch,⁸ and then they begin to clean themselves. An ant uses its tongue as a cat uses hers to clean itself.

Ants love their relatives and hate all strangers.

They have a most wonderful memory.⁹ When an ant, which has been away for a long time, returns to its nest, the others recognize it and show their greatest joy at its return. But if a strange ant comes into their nest, the ants kill the stranger at once. ■

(from *Stories about Insects and Birds*)

(选自 1962 年第 3 期)

6. plant lice, or aphides: 蚜虫, aphides 的单数是 aphis, 是拉丁学名。lice 为 louse 的复数, 原意“虱子”。

7. the sap from leaves or flowers: 叶子或花的汁液。

8. stretch: 伸展腿脚。

9. 它们记忆力特别强。