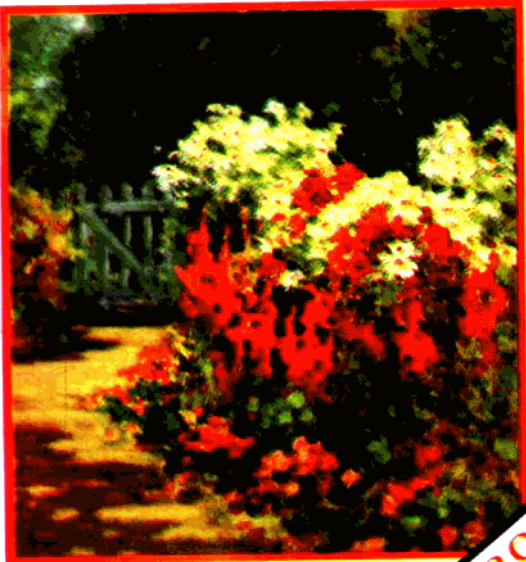


AAA 精释英语阅读系列 · 3 级

第一辑 · 5

神秘花园

吉林科学技术出版社



IMPROVE YOUR
ENGLISH

神秘花园

弗朗西斯·埃莉扎·赫卓申·博耐特，1849 年生于英国的曼彻斯特。

她 16 岁时随家人移居美国。她 18 岁时开始在杂志上发表小说。

她最著名的长篇小说《小房特勒雷勋爵》著于 1886 年。1911 年，她写完了《神秘花园》。

她 1924 年逝世于纽约。

AAA 精释英语阅读系列

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致 读 者

许多家长常常抱怨自己的孩子不爱学习英语。为了孩子学好英语,送他们参加各种学习班,甚至请家庭教师。但是,孩子的成绩还是上不去,往往事倍功半。

一位心理学家说过,学习的最大动力是兴趣。没有兴趣的学习,学什么也是注定学不好的。

说惯了自己的母语去学习英语,最大的困扰是枯燥、乏味。除了课堂上学过的单词和课文,什么也看不到,或者看不懂。在书店里买不到适于少年儿童初学英语可以阅读的书籍。

现在,我们出版的《AAA 精释英语阅读系列》,就是一套能激起学生学习兴趣的阅读书。这套引进 Libreria Meravigli Edirree 的简化英语读物,全都是由英语专家根据世界名著,简化词汇量,编辑而成的。所选编的故事都十分生动有趣,为世界各国孩子们所喜爱,书上提供的练习也颇具趣味性。

全套书共分 4 级。1 级的词汇量为 300 个单词,就是说只要掌握 300 个单词就可以阅读;2 级的词汇量为 500 个单词;3 级的词汇量为 600~1000 个单词;随着词汇量的增多,就可以阅读 4 级了。在结构设计上,

本书也独具特色。1~3级左边是故事,右边是练习;4级左边是故事,右边是生词,书后是练习。设计这些练习和游戏,帮助学习语法知识,检验理解能力,不再需要多余的作业,一扫学生学习英语通常出现的恐惧感,使学生在不知不觉中克服了畏难情绪,增加了安全感(Assurance)。

每篇故事短小精悍,既保留了世界名著的原貌,又使孩子们能一睹名著风采。每个故事独立成册,不要用多少时间就能读完一册。“瞧,今天我又读了一本世界名著!”孩子们多高兴啊!这种学习上的成就感(Achievement),无疑是学好英语的强大动力所在。

从阅读1级开始吧!你只要掌握300个词汇就足够了。再增加200个词汇,就奔向2级;再增加100个词汇,就奔向3级……当你进入了AAA精释英语系列,就像踏上了高速行驶的列车,用难以置信的加速度(Acceleration)闯入英语世界。

祝你成功!

编 者

The Secret Garden

Frances Eliza Burnett

Frances Eliza Hodgson Burnett was born in Manchester, England in 1849.

She emigrated to the USA with her family when she was sixteen years old. At the age of eighteen she began publishing stories in magazines.

She wrote her most famous novel, *Little Lord Fauntleroy*, in 1886. In 1911 she wrote *The Secret Garden*.

She died in New York in 1924.

There's Nobody Left

Mary Lennox was born in India where her father worked for the British Government. Her parents did not want a child and they never spent much time with her. Her father was always busy and her mother preferred going to parties. Mary was a lonely little girl. She had an *Ayah*¹ who looked after her and she could do what she wanted because her parents never wanted to hear her crying. She was a selfish² child and everyone disliked her.

One day when she was about nine years old she woke up to find that her *Ayah* was not near her. There was a strange woman who said, "It is not possible for your *Ayah* to come today."

Mary was very cross³. "Send me my *Ayah*!" she said, stamping⁴ her feet. But her *Ayah* did not come. There was something very mysterious in the air that morning. Nobody was doing normal things, everyone was busy and nobody told her anything. She went into the garden and began to play with her flowers.

Suddenly her mother came out on the verandah. Mary watched her. "How pretty she is!" she thought. She was talking to a young man.

"Is it so very bad?" she heard her mother ask.

"Yes, it's terrible," answered the young man.

At that moment loud crying came from the servants' rooms.

"What's that?" cried Mary's mother.

"Someone has died."

She turned and ran into the house.

At last someone explained to Mary what was happening. Cholera had broken out and everyone was dying. The crying they heard was when her *Ayah* died. There was panic everywhere.

Nobody thought of the poor little girl. She hid⁵ in her nursery⁶, listening to the crying, and, at last, she fell asleep.

1. Complete the following.

- a) Mr and Mrs Lennox had child.
- b) name was Mary.
- c) They came from but they lived in
- d) Mary did not have any
- e) The story begins when Mary is years old.
- f) Mrs Lennox did not look Mary.

2. Answer these questions.

- a) Why was Mary able to do what she wanted?
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- b) Which adjective do we use to describe children who can do or have what they want?
.....
- c) What did Mary think of her mother?
.....
- d) Why was everybody crying?
.....
- e) Why was everybody dying?
.....
- f) Why do you think everyone forgot poor Mary?
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- 1. **Ayah:** *Hindi (Indian) word meaning maid.*
 - 2. **selfish:** *egoistic, one who thinks only about himself.*
 - 3. **cross:** *angry, in a bad mood.*
 - 4. **stamping:** *beating on the ground or floor.*
 - 5. **hid:** *stayed where she could not be seen (to hide; hid; hidden).*
 - 6. **nursery:** *child's room.*

When she woke up there was complete silence. Mary did not understand.

Then she heard footsteps and men's voices outside. "What desolation!" one man was saying. "That pretty woman, and the child, too, I suppose. How tragic!"

When they opened the nursery door and saw Mary they were very surprised. "There's a child here! A child, all alone! Who is she?"

"I am Mary Lennox," said Mary. "Where is everyone?"

They told her that her mother and father had died that night of cholera and everyone had gone away, forgetting all about her.

Mary Goes to England

Mary had liked looking at her mother but she knew very little about her and so she did not miss¹ her at all.

She made the long voyage² to England with an officer's wife who was taking her children to boarding school³. When they arrived in London there was a woman to meet her.

"I'm Mrs Medlock," she said in a sharp⁴ voice. "I am the housekeeper⁵ at Misselthwaite Manor, the home of your uncle, Mr Archibald Craven. He's going to look after you. I have come to take you there. Come. We have a long journey."

They went by train, travelling north. They travelled all day.

Mrs Medlock looked at Mary and thought "What a plain⁶ child she is! And they say her mother was so pretty!"

Mary disliked Mrs Medlock, too. She sat in the corner and stared out of the window at the rain.

"Well," said Mrs Medlock. "Do you want to know where you're going? Misselthwaite Manor is a strange place. The house is six hundred years old and it's on the

3. Write the conversation between Mary and the two men when they tell her what has happened.

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4. Look at this: *Mary had liked looking at her mother.*
Many verbs are followed by the "ing" form of the verb.
Put the appropriate verb, in the correct tense, in these sentences.

Choose from: *hate, dislike, enjoy, like, continue, keep on.*

- a) Mary playing with other children.
b) Mary didn't travelling to England.
c) Mrs Medlock thinking about Mary.
d) It raining.
e) Mary's mother going to parties.
f) Mary meeting new people.

-
1. *miss: suffer for someone's absence.*
2. *voyage: journey by sea.*
3. *boarding school: a school where pupils live all the term.*
4. *sharp: acute, without gentleness.*
5. *housekeeper: woman who is responsible for a large family house.*
6. *plain: ordinary, not pretty.*

edge¹ of a moor². It's got about a hundred rooms but most of them are locked. There's a big park and lots of gardens."

"And my uncle?" asked Mary.

"You'll probably never see him. He never wants to see anyone. Not since his wife died."

"Oh," exclaimed Mary, surprised to hear that he was married. "She's dead!"

"Yes, and now he's stranger than before. He doesn't care about anyone. He's got a crooked³ back, too. Most of the time he is away. When he's at home he stays in the west wing⁴."

It sounded like something out of a book. Mary did not feel very happy.

"You'll have to play by yourself," continued the housekeeper. "We will tell you which rooms you can go into. You mustn't go wandering⁵ about the house. You can play outside."

Mary watched the rain and the darkness coming and fell asleep.

Mary's New Home

"Wake up! Wake up!" Mrs Medlock was shaking her. "We have to get out."

It was a quiet little station. The rain was pouring down and a strong wind was blowing. It seemed like the middle of the night. A horse and carriage⁶ was waiting for them.

"Where are we?" asked Mary.

"In Yorkshire," said Mrs Medlock. "We have to cross the moor now. It's a long way to Misselthwaite Manor."

"What's a moor?"

"Look out of the window and you'll see."

But it was quite⁷ dark.

"Is it the sea?" she asked.

"No. It's just miles and miles of wild land where nothing grows except heather and gorse⁸ and the only

5. Describe Misselthwaite Manor.

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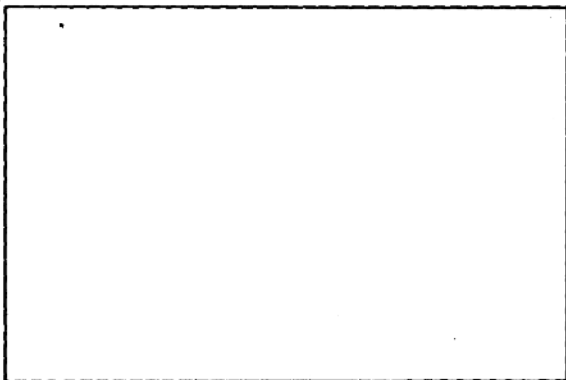
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6. Draw your dream house.



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1. **edge:** *border, side.*
 2. **moor:** *high area of open land covered in low vegetation.*
 3. **crooked:** *bent, the opposite of straight.*
 4. **west wing:** *one part of a very large house.*
 5. **wandering:** *going around in no particular direction.*
 6. **carriage:** *vehicle usually pulled by horses (before cars were invented).*
 7. **quite:** *(here) completely.*
 8. **heather and gorse:** *plants that grow on moorland.*

animals are wild ponies and sheep."

"It sounds like the sea."

"That's the wind. It's always windy."

"I don't like it," decided Mary.

When they stepped out she saw the great house in front of her, but she could only see a light in one of the windows. The rest was in darkness. An old man came to the door.

"Take her to her room," he said. "He doesn't want to see her. He's going to London tomorrow."

Mrs Medlock said "Follow me" and went up a wide staircase, down a long corridor, up some steps, along another corridor and another until she opened a door and Mary found herself in a room with a fire in it and supper¹ on the table.

"Well, here you are! This room and the next are where you will live."

Mrs Medlock shut the door and Mary was left alone.

Mary Meets the Maid², the Gardener and a Robin³

When Mary opened her eyes in the morning there was a young girl in the room.

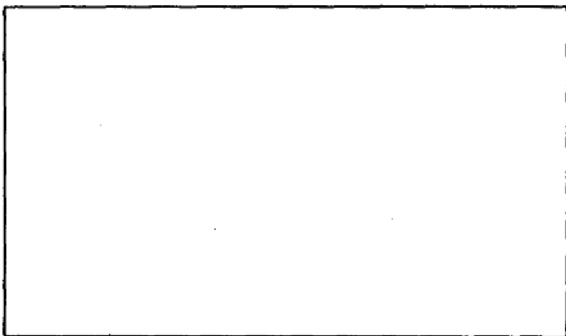
"Good morning. My name's Martha. I've brought you your breakfast. It's in the next room."

"Are you my maid?" asked Mary, rather rudely⁴.

"No, not really. I'm Mrs Medlock's maid," answered Martha. "But she told me that I must bring you your meals and clean your rooms."

Martha was a cheerful⁵, friendly girl and she chatted⁶ away to Mary while she cleaned the room. Mary was not used to servants talking so easily to their masters. In India they never spoke. She looked around her room. It was large and gloomy⁷ with pictures of horses and dogs and people dressed in strange clothes. She looked out of the window. She saw a vast stretch⁸ of

7. Copy or trace a map of Great Britain and mark the county of Yorkshire.



8. Find the nouns that the following adjectives describe.

great -	friendly -
wild -	gloomy -
young -	vast -

Now, using your dictionary, find synonyms for them and re-write the sentences.

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1. supper: *light evening meal.*
 2. maid: *servant girl.*
 3. robin: *friendly little bird with a red breast.*
 4. rudely: *impolitely.*
 5. cheerful: *happy.*
 6. chatted: *talked but not about serious things.*
 7. gloomy: *depressing.*
 8. stretch: *area.*

land with no trees. It looked like an endless¹, purple sea.

"What's that?" she asked, pointing out of the window.

"That's the moor," said Martha. "Do you like it?"

"No. I hate it."

"That's because you don't know it. When you get to know it, you'll love it. I do. It's covered with growing things that smell sweet. In summer it's lovely with the heather in flower. And the sky looks so high and there are the bees² and the birds. My brother Dickon is always on the moor. He's got a pony."

"Where did he get it?"

"He found it on the moor. He made friends with it when it was very small and it began to follow him about. Animals love Dickon."

Mary had never had a pet³. She was curious.

After breakfast she said, "What shall I do now?"

"Well," said Martha. "There's nothing to do in the house so you'd better go outside."

"To do what?"

"To walk about, to look at the plants and the trees and the animals. There's lots to do outside."

Mary was not convinced. It was cold and windy outside. But she had nothing else to do so she put on her hat and coat, scarf and gloves and went downstairs.

"If you go round the back of the house there are all the gardens," said Martha. "One of them is locked up."

"Why?"

"Mr Craven shut it up when his wife died ten years ago. It was her garden. He didn't want anyone else to enter it. He locked the door and buried⁴ the key."

As Mary walked around the gardens she kept thinking about that secret garden. How could a garden be shut up? You could always walk into a garden.

Then she saw an old man with a spade⁵. He was surprised to see Mary.

"What's behind this wall?" she asked him.

9. Describe the moor.

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**Do you think you would like to live there?
List good things and bad things.**

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**10. Do you prefer the seaside or the mountains?
List good things and bad things about both.**

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1. *endless: never ending, vast.*
 2. *bees: insects that make honey.*
 3. *pet: an animal to love (usually dogs and cats that are part of the family).*
 4. *buried: put into the ground.*
 5. *spade: garden tool used for digging (turning the earth).*

"There are the kitchen gardens¹," he answered roughly².

"Can I go in?"

"If you want but there's nothing but vegetables. On the other side there's the orchard³."

Suddenly she heard a bird singing very near. Then a little bird with a red breast flew down and walked about near them.

"Ah, there you are," said the gardener. "What have you been doing this morning?"

The bird seemed to listen to the old man. He stopped and put his head on one side, looking at him.

"What kind of bird is he?" asked Mary.

"Don't you know?" answered the gardener. "He's a robin. They're the friendliest, most curious birds. They're almost as friendly as dogs."

At that moment the robin gave a little whistle⁴ and flew up over the wall. Mary wanted to follow him.

"You can't follow him," said the old man. "He's flown into the garden where there's no door. He lives there."

"Are you sure there's no door?" asked Mary. Now she wanted more than ever to go and find the secret garden.

"Not now there isn't," mumbled⁵ the old man, picking up his spade and walking off.

"There must be a door," Mary said to herself. "And I'm going to find it!"

The Cry in the Corridor

"Why did Mr Craven hate the garden so much?" Mary asked Martha while she was eating her supper.

Mary had asked the girl to keep her company. It was a dark evening and there was a very strong wind blowing round the house

"Mrs Medlock says we must never talk about it." She hesitated. "Well," she said in a whisper⁶. "It was Mrs Craven's garden, you see. The gardeners could not go in.