

Elementary Anecdotes in American English



美国英语 幽默小故事

[美] L. A. Hill 著
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内容简介

本书是一本英汉对照读物，共包括30个幽默小故事。语言通俗易懂，故事性强，使初学英语的读者容易接受。每个小故事后均附有相应的练习，书末还附有答案，可供初级英语读者自学用。

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1 Jimmy lived in the country, and he loved playing in a very shallow river near his house; but then his father got a job in a big city, and he moved there with his family.

Their new house had a garden, but the garden was very small. Jimmy wasn't very happy.

"Is there a river near here?" he asked his mother on the first morning.

His mother answered, "No, there isn't, but there's a beautiful park near here, Jimmy, and there's a pool in it. We'll go there this afternoon." Then Jimmy was happy.

After lunch, Jimmy and his mother went to the

park. Jimmy wanted to walk near the pool, but there was a sign in front of it. His mother read it to him: "WARNING: This pool is dangerous. 367 people have fallen into it." Jimmy looked into the pool carefully. Then he said, "I can't see them."

A. Answer these questions:

1. Where did Jimmy play in the country?
2. Why wasn't he happy in the city?
3. What did he ask his mother?
4. What did she answer?
5. What did the sign in front of the pool say?
6. What did Jimmy say when his mother read the sign to him?

B. Write these sentences. Put one set of words in each blank space:

it was there was there were they were

1. ____ a park in Jimmy's city. ____ not far from his house.
2. ____ a pool in the park, but ____ dangerous, so ____ a sign in front of it.
3. ____ a lot of fish in the pool. ____ not very big, but ____ beautiful, so ____ always a lot of people there, looking at them.
4. ____ a very nice place for children.

译文

吉米以前住在乡下，他喜欢在离家不远的一条很浅的河里玩。后来，他的爸爸在城里找了个工作，全家就搬到城里。

他们的新居有一个花园，可是花园很小，吉米有些失望。

搬进新家的第一天早上，吉米问妈妈：“附近有河吗？”妈妈回答说：“没有，但是有一个美丽的公园，里面有一个水池。咱们今天下午去那里玩。”听妈妈这样说，吉米高兴起来。

吃过午饭，吉米跟妈妈一块儿去了公园。吉米很想在池边上走走，但水池前面有一块牌子。妈妈把上面的字念给吉米听：“注意！该池很危险，已有三百六十七人掉进去了。”吉米仔细地看了看水池里面，然后对妈妈说：“我看不见他们。”



2 Mrs. Green was an old lady. She traveled often and she wasn't afraid of flying. One day she was going from Chicago to San Francisco in a big plane. There were a lot of empty seats on it.

Mrs. Green's seat was near a window. There was a young man on the other side of the aisle. He was near a window, too. Mrs Green looked at the young man several times.

"He's always looking at the engine outside his window," she thought. She got up and walked around in the plane for a few minutes. Then she sat down and looked at the young man again.

"Yes," she thought, "he's looking at that engine all the time."

After half an hour Mrs. Green went over to him and said, "Take a walk around the plane, young man. I'm going to watch that engine for you for a few minutes."

A. Answer these questions:

1. How did Mrs Green go from Chicago to San Francisco?
2. Where did she sit?
3. Where was the young man sitting?
4. What was he doing?
5. What did Mrs. Green want him to do?
6. What did she offer to do for him when he wasn't in his seat?

B. Which words in the story mean the same as,

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. frightened | 4. look at |
| 2. go on a trip | 5. more than two |
| 3. not far from | |

译文

格林太太已经上了年纪。她常常旅行并且一点儿不害怕坐飞机。一天，她乘机从芝加哥到旧金山去，飞机很大，许多座位都空着。

格林太太的座位靠近窗口。过道另一边靠窗的座位上，坐着一个年轻人。格林太太打量了这个年轻人好几次，心想：“他总是看着窗外飞机的引擎。”她起身在飞机里来回走动了一会儿，然后又坐下来注视着那个年轻人。“是的，他一直在看着飞机的引擎，”她想。

半小时以后，格林太太走过去对他说：“站起来走走吧，年轻人。我来替你看几分钟那个引擎。”



3 It was a Saturday morning in May. When Mrs. Edwards opened her curtains and looked out, she smiled and said, "It's going to be a beautiful day." She woke her small son up at eight-thirty and said to him, "Get up, Teddy. We're going to go to the zoo today. Wash your hands and face, brush your teeth and eat your breakfast quickly. We're going to go to New York by train."

Teddy was six years old. He was very happy now, because he liked going to the zoo very much, and he also liked going by train. He said, "I dreamed about the zoo last night, Mommy."

His mother was in a hurry, but she stopped and smiled at her small son. "You did, Teddy?" she said. "And what did you do in the zoo in your dream?"

Teddy laughed and answered, "You know, Mom-

my! You were there in my dream too."

A. Answer these questions.

1. What did Mrs. Edwards say when she looked out of the window?
2. Why was Teddy happy?
3. What did Teddy dream about?
4. What did Mrs. Edwards ask Teddy?
5. What did Teddy answer?

B. Write this story. Put one of these words in each blank space.

*breakfast brush dream dreamed happy
hurry mother quickly train wash*

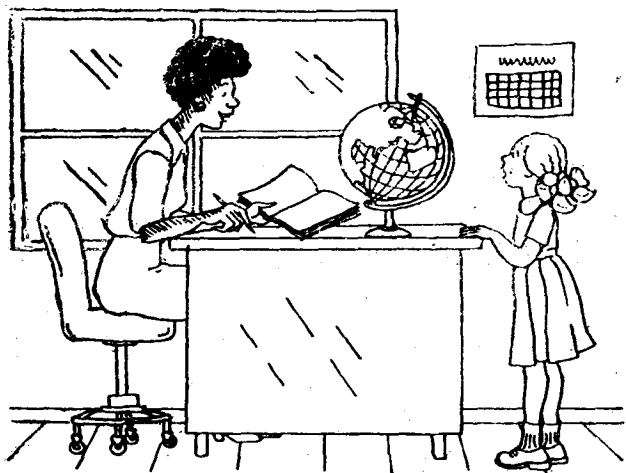
John and Mary live with their ___ and father in the country, but they go to school in the city. They get up at seven o'clock, ___ their hands and faces, ___ their teeth, have ___ in the kitchen, and then go to school by ___. They are usually in a ___, because they are late, so they do everything very ___.

One night, Mary had a nice ___. She ___ about her school; it was near their house, so they got up at eight instead of seven and ate their breakfast slowly. Then they walked across the road to school. Mary was ___ until her mother woke her up at seven o'clock.

译文

五月的一个星期六的早晨，爱德华兹太太拉开窗帘向外望去，笑着说：“今天是个好天”。八点半钟时，她叫醒了小儿子特迪，对他说：“起床啦，特迪。咱们今天去动物园。快起来洗脸，洗手，刷牙，吃早饭。我们要乘火车去纽约。”

特迪六岁了。听了妈妈的话，他可高兴了，因为他很喜欢去动物园，也喜欢乘火车。他对妈妈说：“昨晚我梦见动物园了，妈妈。”妈妈正忙着做事情，听了特迪的话，停下来笑着问：“是吗，特迪？在梦里你到动物园都干了些什么？”特迪大声笑着回答：“您知道的，妈妈！在梦里您和我一块儿去了动物园。”



4 Polly went to school when she was six years old. She liked her first day very much. Her teacher, Miss Yates, was very nice, and the other children in her class were nice, too. But at the end of the second day, when the other children left the classroom, Polly stayed behind and waited.

Miss Yates had some work to do and did not see Polly at first, but then she looked up and saw her. "Why didn't you go with the others, Polly?" she asked kindly. "Did you want to ask me a question?"

"Yes, Miss Yates," Polly said.

"What is it?" Miss Yates asked.

"What did I do in school today?" Polly said.

Miss Yates laughed. "what did you do in school today?" she said. "why did you ask me that, Polly?"

"Because I'm going to go home now," Polly answered, "and my mother's going to ask me."

A. Answer these questions.

1. Why did Polly like her school?
2. What did she do when the other children went home?
3. What did Miss Yates say when she saw her?
4. What question did Polly ask Miss Yates?
5. What did Miss Yates ask then?
6. What was Polly's answer?

B. Which of the answers are correct? Write the questions and the correct answers.

1. Did Polly enjoy her first day at school?
 - a. yes, she did.
 - b. No, she didn't.
2. Were her teacher and her class nice?
 - a. Her teacher was nice, but some of the children were not.
 - b. Her teacher was not nice, but some of the children were.
 - c. Her teacher and the children were nice.

3. Why didn't Polly leave the classroom with the other children?

- a. Because she had some work.
- b. Because Miss Yates had some work for her.
- c. Because she wanted to ask Miss Yates a question.

4. Why did Polly say, "What did I do today?"

- a. Because her mother always wanted to know.
- b. Because her teacher always wanted to know.
- c. Because she was angry with her teacher.

C. Put one word in each of the blank spaces in these sentences.

1. Mrs. Gray was nice. Mr. Lehman was ____ than Mrs. Gray, but Miss Yates was the ____ teacher in the school.

2. Mrs. Gray was kind to the children. Mr. Lehman was ____ than Mrs. Gray, and Miss Yates was the ____ of them all.

3. Polly is tall, but her mother is ____ than Polly, and her father is the ____ of all.

4. Polly's math lessons are hard. Her English lessons are ____ than her math lessons, and her history lessons are the ____ of all.

5. Polly can run fast, but her father can run ____ than she can, and her big brother can run the ____ of all.

译文

波莉六岁上学。上学的第一天，她高兴极了。她的老师叶芝小姐很和蔼。班上的小朋友们也很友好。

第二天放学后，其他小朋友都离开教室回家了，波莉还呆在那儿。起初，叶芝小姐忙着自己的事情，没有看见波莉。后来，她抬起头来，看见波莉还没走。叶芝小姐和蔼地问波莉：“波莉，你为什么不和其他小朋友一起走呢？是不是要问我什么问题？”“是的，叶芝小姐，”波莉回答说。“是什么问题呀？”“我今天在学校都干了些什么？”听了波莉的话，叶芝小姐笑了，问波莉：“怎么问这样一个问题呢？”“因为我现在要回家了，妈妈要问我的。”波莉答道。