

英语阅读成长计划丛书

ROYAL
LITERATURE READERS

英国学生 母语课本

关于美德、语言、智慧、梦想的心灵读本

4

主 编：戴 欣
分册主编：谭思宁

适合
高一、高二
年级

南开大学名师团队倾力译注

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前言



阅读能启迪心灵，阅读能增长见识，阅读能陶冶情操，而英语阅读不仅能使读者达到上述目的，更能培养学习英语的兴趣，从而提高自身的英语水平。《英语阅读成长计划丛书——英国学生母语课本》就是一套伴你成长的英语读物，丛书中精选了青少年成长中的精彩故事，是学生学习英语、汲取知识、领悟道理的理想选择，学生一定会从中受益匪浅。

《英语阅读成长计划丛书——英国学生母语课本》系列丛书选材于英国学生使用过的经典教材，语言地道，优美流畅，使读者不出国门，便可以与英国的学生共享规范的英语读本。通过阅读本套丛书，读者不仅可以培养规范地道的英语语感，提高英语阅读能力和表达能力；还可以熟悉英国乃至世界其他国家的历史文化，领略不同地区的自然风貌与人文景观，加深对世界重要历史事件的了解；更可以切身体会外国人的日常生活，及其价值理念。

本套丛书之所以称为经典读本，并且曾被广泛用于英语国家中小学教材，最重要的原因有三个方面。第一，整套丛书内容难度循序渐进，伴随读者小学至高中，甚至大学的各个阶段。第二，每册图书精选的文章，不仅考虑到其经典性、可读性，还考虑到适合

该阶段读者的阅读需求。第三，所选文章主题丰富，体裁多样，内容涵盖了文化、历史、旅游、体育、家庭生活、动物世界等诸多方面；文体有寓言、童话、日记、诗歌、叙事故事等。整套丛书为读者呈现一个色彩斑斓的阅读世界，或沉稳大气，或含蓄隽永，或华丽奔放，或清新流畅，或诙谐有趣。书中所配的大量精心绘制的插图，帮助读者通过直观的视觉效果，更深入、更全面地理解文章内容。

为了更加适合中国学生阅读本系列丛书，使其更易理解英文原文的含义，每篇文章均配以流畅的中文译文，以不同阶段学生喜爱的生动语言进行翻译，更能吸引读者的阅读兴趣。此外，对于原文中出现的生词、词组、俚语、古英语等均给予详细的解释。

《英国学生母语课本 1》适合三年级至五年级的读者；

《英国学生母语课本 2》适合六年级至八年级的读者；

《英国学生母语课本 3》适合八年级至九年级的读者；

《英国学生母语课本 4》适合高中一年级至高中二年级的读者；

《英国学生母语课本 5》适合高中二年级至高中三年级的读者；

《英国学生母语课本 6》适合高中三年级至大学的读者。

上述分级方法为建议分级，读者可根据自己的需求和阅读的兴趣进行选择。

坐着谈，何如起来行？亲爱的读者朋友，让我们一起徜徉于本系列丛书展示的大千世界之中，跋涉于火山脚下，冰河湖面，古战场遗址，漫步于英语国家的街头巷尾，把我们的英语打造得更地道、更流畅吧！

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1

FINGERS AND FORKS

手指与餐叉

课文

1. **Queen Elizabeth** of England was a very grand lady, and fond of fine clothes and of **jewels**. If you had been asked to dine with her, you would have met lords and ladies in gay dresses. You would have seen upon the table dishes of silver and of gold, as well as rich and **curious** china from abroad; for we had not then begun to make fine china-ware in this country. But one thing would have struck you as very strange—that the great queen and all the fine lords and ladies of her **court** ate their meat with their fingers!



2. **Alfred the Great** and **William the Conqueror**, and all the kings and queens before her time, had done the same. None of them had ever seen forks, and Queen Elizabeth had seen only a few which had been brought to her from **Italy**. There was one of **crystal**, another of gold, and

Queen Elizabeth 伊丽莎白女王 (1558年即位, 死于1603年)

jewel *n.* 珠宝

curious *adj.* 奇特的

court *n.* 王宫, 朝廷

Alfred the Great 艾尔弗雷德大帝 (871年

即位, 死于901年)

William the Conqueror 征服者威廉 (1066年即位, 死于1087年)

Italy *n.* 意大利

crystal *n.* 水晶



still another of **coral**. But the queen had never seen one used, and hardly knew what they were for.

3. Yet although these lords and ladies had no forks, they were as **dainty** and careful in their manner of eating as the great people of our own day. They had knives and they had fingers, and with these they **managed** very well. We learn how they did it from their old books on good manners. In the first place, every person must wash his hands before beginning the meal; and even if he had just done this **in private**, he must do so again on sitting down at table.

4. Before the meat was brought to the table, it was **prepared** so that it could be easily laid hold of with the fingers. If **stewed**, as was nearly always the case, it was in little bits; if **roasted**, it was cut in slices by a carver, and placed on the table in large plates.

5. When helping himself, each person had to choose and keep a certain part of the dish for his own. He helped himself **daintily** from this place, using only three fingers; afterwards in carrying the food to the mouth—which, of course, was done with the hand—the same three fingers were used.

6. Of course all this soiled the hands, and, at **various** times during the meal, **bowls** of **perfumed** water and **napkins** were handed round, and no one must refuse to wash. This old custom of handing round a silver bowl or dish of rose-water is still sometimes seen.

7. After a while forks slowly began to come into use. Great ladies kept them in their rooms to eat **comfits** with, and to toast bread; and in course

coral *n.* 珊瑚
dainty *adj.* 讲究的, 挑剔的
manage *v.* 做到
in private 私下
prepared *adj.* 准备好的
stew *v.* 炖
roast *v.* 烤

daintily *adv.* 优雅地
various *adj.* 很多的
bowl *n.* 碗
perfumed *adj.* 带香味的
napkin *n.* 餐巾
comfit *n.* 蜜饯

of time they brought them to the table.

8. At first there was a feeling against the use of forks, chiefly because they came from abroad; and the first few persons who dared to use them were laughed at. The habit spread very slowly in England, even after it had become common in other countries.

9. For a long time, however, it was only among the rich that forks were used. Until about a hundred years ago, **travellers** used to carry knives and forks when they went on a long **journey**, for they could never be sure of finding them at the **inns** on the road.

译文

1. 英国女王伊丽莎白是一位十分优雅的女士，她对华美的服饰和珍贵的珠宝都情有独钟。如果您被邀请与她共餐，您会见到许多衣着华丽的王公贵族，还有餐桌上的金银餐盘和来自国外的华丽、贵重而奇特的瓷器，因为当时的英国还没有开始制作瓷器。但有一件事会让您感到不可思议——伟大的女王和她王宫里的显赫贵族们居然用手吃东西！

2. 在伊丽莎白女王统治之前，所有的国王和王后包括艾尔弗雷德大帝、征服者威廉一世都是如此就餐的。他们都没见过餐叉，伊丽莎白女王也只见过几副，是从意大利带来的。其中一副是水晶做的，另外两副是纯金和珊瑚制成的。但因为女王从没见过有人使用餐叉，因此对于它们的用途就更无从知晓了。

3. 虽然这些王公贵族没有餐叉，但他们用餐和今天的大人物一样讲究、仔细。即使只用餐刀和手指，他们还是能应对自如。我们可以从那些有关礼仪的旧书中窥探一二。首先，每个人在就餐前要

traveller *n.* 旅行者
journey *n.* 旅行

inn *n.* 客栈，旅馆



洗手；即使自己私下已经洗过，在桌边就座时还要再洗一遍。

4. 在端上餐桌之前，肉类食物就已经按方便用手去拿的方式备好。如果是炖肉，按照惯例，就被切成小块儿；如果是烤肉，就用切肉刀切成薄片，然后用较大的盘子盛好再上桌。

5. 就餐的时候，每个人都只能从选好的某个部分取用食物，然后优雅地用三根手指从此处拿起肉，当然，还是用同样的三根手指直接把肉放进嘴里。

6. 这些动作一定会把手弄脏，所以在就餐过程中，大家会多次相互传递盛着带香味水的碗和餐巾，人人都必须洗手。这种就餐时相互传递盛着玫瑰水的银碗或盘子的古老习俗现在依然还能看到。

7. 后来，餐叉开始慢慢被人们所使用。贵族小姐们在她们的家里用它来吃蜜饯、烤面包，并渐渐开始在餐桌上使用。

8. 一开始，有人反对使用餐叉，主要因为餐叉来自国外；而那些最先敢于使用餐叉的人也总被人嘲笑。这种习惯在英国普及得非常慢，尽管在其他国家早已司空见惯了。

9. 然而，在很长的一段时间内，只有富人才用餐叉。大约一百年前，旅行者在长途旅行时习惯带上刀叉，因为他们不确定会在路边的小旅馆中找到这些物品。

WORD
EXERCISE

1. Give the meaning of the words *jewel*, *jeweller*, and *jewellery*, and make sentences containing them.

2. Make sentences containing the words *China* and *china*.

3. Make adverbs in *-ly* (like *daintily*) from *easy*, *steady*, *angry*, and *pretty*.

2

THE SNOWY OWL

雪鸮

课文

1. The snowy owl lives in cold northern countries like **Norway**, **Sweden**, **Russia**, and the north of **America**. It is sometimes seen in the Orkney and Shetland Islands.

2. The young bird is thickly spotted with brown, but as time goes on the brown **colour disappears**, and it becomes pure white, like most animals that live in the snowy North. Hares, foxes, and bears in those lands have white fur, while those that live farther south are brown or some other dark colour.

3. All these animals are well fitted for living among snow and ice. White is the warmest colour, and this helps them to stand the great cold of the "**frozen** North." White, too, is the colour of the snow; so a white covering helps the smaller animals to escape the notice of their enemies, while it helps the larger ones to get near their **prey** without being seen.

4. The snowy owl of the North is a bold fellow, and hunts by day as well as by night—looking for hares and rabbits, catching fish, and killing great numbers of small birds as well as of rats and mice.

5. It is very **amusing** to see him fishing—standing on a rock or a

Norway *n.* 挪威

Sweden *n.* 瑞典

Russia *n.* 俄罗斯 (是欧亚大陆北部的一个国家)

America *n.* 美洲

color *n.* 颜色

disappear *v.* 消失

frozen *adj.* 冻结的

prey *n.* 猎物

amusing *adj.* 有趣的



piece of ice, with the freezing water flowing over his feet and legs. Every now and then he makes a stroke at a fish as it passes him, and he seldom misses his aim. He does not seize his prey with his beak, as sea-birds do when fishing, but with a swift grasp of his claw.

6. Yet his feet do not freeze, as you might think, for they are well **protected**. They are not bare like those of other birds, but are covered down to the very toes with warm **downy feathers**, so thick that they make his legs look as large as those of a good-sized dog.

7. The eyes of the snowy owl are also well fitted for life in the far North. Most owls have big round eyes, and can see in the dark as well as a cat; but in strong sunlight they are blinded by the **glare**, and can hardly see at all. They sleep during the day, and hunt after the sun has gone down.

8. When this owl is caught and put into a cage, he does not sit on his



protect v. 保护
downy adj. 绒毛的

feather n. 羽毛
glare v. 耀眼的光