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PREFACE 前 言

国内第一套来自美国的原版基础英语教材

语言的影响力与国力呈正相关。美国英语脱胎于英国英语,但独立趋势日益增强,无论是发音、拼写方式还是用法都逐渐自成一体。美国英语的使用范围日趋广泛,接受程度越来越高。

遗憾的是,现在国内盛行的正式出版且广为使用的基础英语教材要么为国内自编,要么引自英国,来自美国的原版基础英语教材几乎没有。这种状况与国人的实际需求是脱节的。鉴于此,我们特地从曾经在美国广泛使用的教材中精选了一套经典读本,取名为"美国幼儿英语"(原教材为学前部分)、"美国小学英语"(原教材为小学部分),以示区别。

我们之所以选中这套教材, 主要是因为它具有以下几个鲜明的特点:

- 一、使用时间长,影响范围广。本套教材的编者埃尔松和格莱为20世纪上半叶美国最具影响力、最权威的阅读教学专家,被誉为"对整个美国教育史都有重大影响的人物"。他们编著的这套读本影响了美国几代人,尤其是美国"婴儿潮"那代人,都是读着这套教材长大的。如今,那一代人已成为美国社会各个领域的中坚力量,从当今总统、国会议员等政界领袖,到企业巨子和商业大亨,乃至科技、教育、文化、艺术等专业领域的权威名流,应有尽有。教材中塑造的很多人物或动物形象也已经成为美国家喻户晓的文化标志,频繁出现在电影、动画、绘画和其他文艺作品中。
- 二、**选材广泛,内容经典**。编者表示,编选这套读本的首要目的是引导学生成为主动、热心的读者,在愉悦的体验中获取知识,培养情操。为此,编者详细考察了整个儿童文学领域,从浩繁的经典中选取最符合儿童兴趣的内容,然后根据全国各地一线教师的反馈和建议,结合课堂实际需要进行调整、评估和分级,确保最终的选材是经典中的经典,同时容易为孩子所接受。

三、编排严谨,体系科学。教材的编者首次把新的"心理数据分析法"应用于教学之中,成效显著。在为本套书选材并分类时,他们同样采用科学分析的方法,充分考虑孩子的心理认知特点和规律,既着眼于趣味性和知识性,又注重教学的实用性和学生的接受能力。每一篇材料都严格控制生词的数量,并确定生词的最佳重复率,以减少学生阅读中的障碍,使他们在保持愉悦感的同时自然而然地掌握和巩固词汇。各册之间循序渐进、衔接自然,使孩子的阅读兴趣和阅读能力同步增长。

本套读本最显著的特点是按照儿童认知规律先感性、后理性的特点,采用 绘本形式,由图到文逐渐过渡,即从以图带文到图文并重,最后过渡到图弱文 强,让孩子逐步提高文字阅读能力。它在美国教材史上是经典,也让我们看到 美国教材的活泼;它呈现给我们的英语完全符合我们心中对"美国英语"这个 概念的定位。

对于这样一套经典的读本,我们在编辑过程中,对英文原文未作任何改动,完全忠实于它的原貌。一开始,你可能会发现有些表达和国内的用法不太一样,但仅仅是表面的不一样。随着你的阅读渐入佳境,你会进一步发现这里的英语活泼灵动,进而会喜欢上它。

对于国内的英语爱好者来说,这套英语读本是最好的礼物。它的中英双语呈现,也是青少年读者绝佳的语言学习材料和文学读物。全套书共分为《美国幼儿英语》和《美国小学英语》两部分。《美国幼儿英语》分为1~3级,每级1册,共3册,可作为幼儿园英语教材;《美国小学英语》分为1~6级,每级分A、B两册,共12册,可作为中国7~15岁英语学习者的学习教材。

愿读者真正感受到"美国英语"的魅力,享受学习"美国英语"的乐趣。

另外,为使读者充分利用《美国小学英语》,除了美音朗读,我们还开发了 文本点读功能和在线微课程(《美国幼儿英语》另有开发)。详情请见"微课使 用说明"与"点读说明"。

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第一部分



GOOD STORIES FROM EVERYWHERE

世界各地的精彩故事









Off to Story-Land!

Many years ago people had no books at all, and so the boys and girls could never read interesting stories such as you read today. But they knew many stories, even if they could not read them out of books. For in those days there were men who went from town to town, and from country to country, telling wonderful tales. These tales the people would tell over and over again to each other after the story-teller was gone.

○ 向故事乐园进发!

许多年前,人们没有书籍,所以那时的男孩和女孩不能像你们今天这样读到有趣的故事。虽然他们没有书可读,但他们知道许多故事。因为在那个时候,说书人会游走于城镇和乡村之间,讲述精彩的故事。说书人走后,人们还会一遍又一遍地互相传诵这些故事。





This book is like one of the old story-tellers, because its tales, too, come from everywhere. Some of them are stories that boys and girls have loved for many years, and perhaps you will find one or two that are your very best friends. Others are new stories, and we hope you will learn to love them, too.

And now you are ready to read the first tales in your book, which will take you from animal-town to kings' castles.

本书就像一位老说书人,因为这里面的故事也来自世界各地。其中一些故事是一代 代孩子们都很喜欢的,可能你会特别喜欢其中的一两篇。另一些则是新故事,希望 你通过学习也会喜欢上它们。









A RIDE TO ANIMAL-TOWN

This story tells about an old rabbit who forgot something that everyone should remember. Find out what he forgot.

One morning Billy Beaver was riding to Animal-town. The day was very warm. So Johnny Fox, who was pulling the cart, walked along slowly.

After a while Billy saw a tired old rabbit resting by the side of the road.

? 驶向动物小镇

这则故事讲述了一只年老的兔子,他忘记了每个人都应该记住的事情。找找看 他忘了什么。

一天早上,海狸比利驾车去动物小镇。天很暖和,拉车的狐狸约翰尼慢悠悠地走着。 不一会儿,比利看到了一只疲惫的老兔子在路边休息。





"Are you going to Animal-town?" asked Billy Beaver. "If you are, you may hop in behind me."

The old rabbit hopped in, but he did not say a word.

After Billy had gone a little way, Rabbit said something. He said it so very soft and low that Billy Beaver could not understand him.

"What did you say, Rabbit?" asked Billy.

"Oh, nothing."

"Yes, you did. You said something."

"Oh, I just said that your cart is hard to sit on."

"Then put your coat under you," said Billy Beaver.

So the tired old rabbit sat down on his coat.

⁰ "你要去动物小镇吗?"海狸比利问,"如果是的话,那你就跳上来,坐在我后面。"

年老的兔子跳了上来,但他却一句话也没说。

比利走了一段路后,兔子咕哝了些什么。但他说得很轻,声音很低,海狸比利不知道他在说什么。

[&]quot;你说什么,兔子?"比利问道。

[&]quot;啊,没什么。

[&]quot;但你确实说了,你说了些话。"

[&]quot;哦,我刚刚说你的车子坐着好硬啊。"

[&]quot;那把你的大衣垫在下面吧。"海狸比利说。 于是,疲惫的老兔子坐在了自己的大衣上。









On and on walked Johnny Fox very slowly. Just as he was going by a green pond, the rabbit said something again. He said it very soft and low.

"What did you say, Rabbit?" asked Billy.

"Oh, nothing."

"Yes, you did. I heard you."

"Oh, I just said that your fox walks very slowly."

"He is doing the best he can," said Billy Beaver. "The sun is hot."

狐狸约翰尼继续慢慢地朝前走。经过一个绿色池塘的时候,兔子又说了些什么。他 说得很轻,声音很低。

[&]quot;你说什么,兔子?"比利问道。

[&]quot;啊,没什么。

[&]quot;但你确实说了, 我听到了。"

[&]quot;哦,我说你的狐狸车夫走得太慢了。"

[&]quot;他在尽力地走快,"海狸比利说,"太阳很毒的。"

"Oh." said the rabbit.

On they went, until they came to some woods and a red barn. Then the tired old rabbit said something again.

"What did you say?" asked Billy Beaver.

"Oh, nothing."

"Yes, you did, too. I heard you."

"Well, I just said that I could not see what is in front of us. You are so wide."

"I can't help being wide," said Billy Beaver. "Beavers are always wide."

"Oh," said the rabbit.

On they rode, past a yellow house and a big garden. After a while they came to a bumpy place in the road. Then the rabbit said something again.

^{○ &}quot;哦。"兔子应了一声。 他们继续走,一直走到了一片树林和一个红色谷仓前。这时,这只疲惫的老兔子又 嘀咕了一句。 "你说什么?"海狸比利问道。

[&]quot;啊,没什么。"

[&]quot;但你确实说了, 我听到了。"

[&]quot;好吧,我只是说我看不到我们前方是什么,你的身板儿太宽了。"

[&]quot;身体宽,我也没办法,海狸的身体都宽的。"海狸比利说。 "哦。"兔子回应。

他们继续前进,路过了一个黄屋子和一个大花园。不一会儿,他们走上了一段颠簸 的道路。兔子又嘀咕了一句。







"What did you say this time, Rabbit?" asked Billy Beaver.

"Oh, nothing."

"But I heard you say something! What did you say?"

"Well, I just said that the road is very bumpy here. It shakes me all around and bumps my tail."

Then Billy Beaver called "Whoa!" He looked around at the old rabbit.

"You had better get out," he said.

"Out!" said the rabbit. "Why?"

"If you don't like to ride, you had better get out and walk."

"But I do like to ride," said the rabbit.

^{♀ &}quot;这次你又说了什么,兔子?"海狸比利问道。 "啊,没什么。 "但我听到你嘀咕了!你说什么了?" "好吧,我只是说这里的路好颠簸,震得我七上八下,颠到我的尾巴了。" 海狸比利吆喝道: "停车!"他上下打量了一下这只年老兔子。 "你最好滚下车。"他说道。 "下车?"兔子说,"为什么?" "如果你不想坐车,你最好滚下去,自己走路。" "但我想坐车。"兔子说。









"You keep saying things," said Billy Beaver.
"You keep saying things very soft and low.
You said that the cart is hard to sit on. You said that the fox walks slowly. You said that you could not see what is in front of us. And now you say that the road is bumpy. Better get out, Rabbit. Better get out and walk."

The tired old rabbit's ears went wiggle, wiggle. He looked at Billy Beaver. Then he got out, but he did not say a word.

"Get up, there!" said Billy Beaver to the fox.

[&]quot;你总是说这说那的,"海狸比利说,"你不停地嘀嘀咕咕。你说车坐着很硬,狐狸车夫走得慢,看不到我们前面的风景。现在又说路很颠簸。兔子,你最好滚下去,滚下去自己走。" 这只疲惫的老兔子耳朵摆了摆。他看了看海狸比利,然后下了车,但是一句话也

[&]quot;我们往那儿走。"海狸比利对狐狸说。