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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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BIG AND LITTLE WORKERS

大大小小的劳动者











The Red Wagon

Once there was a beautiful big red wagon in the window of a toy store.

Billy and George often came to the store window and looked at the toys. Among them were tops and sleds, books and balls, and other fine things. But the boys liked the red wagon best of all.

? 红色的玩具马车

从前,一家玩具店的橱窗里摆放着一辆漂亮的红色玩具马车。 比利和乔治经常去那家玩具店的橱窗前看里面的玩具。那里有陀螺、雪橇、书、球 以及其他很多好玩的东西。但是他们最中意的就数那辆红色的玩具马车了。





"I wish I had that wagon," said Billy. "I could use it for so many things."

"I wish it were mine," said George. "I would play with it all day."

The man who kept the store heard the boys talking about the big red wagon.

"Both of those boys want that wagon," he said to himself. "I wonder which boy will get it."

One day George's mother wanted to bake a cake. She called George.

"I am going to bake a cake," she said. "I need some flour and butter. Will you go to the store for me?"

"Wait a minute, Mother," said George. "I want to spin my top for a while."









But he had such a good time spinning his top that he forgot all about going to the store.

The very same day Billy's mother said, "Billy, I need some things from the store. Will you get them for me, please?"

"Yes, Mother," answered Billy. "I'll go right now."

[●] 但是他玩陀螺玩得太入迷了,忘记了要去商店。 就在同一天,比利的妈妈说:"比利,我需要从商店买些东西回来,你能替我去吗?" "好的,妈妈,"比利回答道,"我这就过去。"







When Billy went past George's house, he saw George spinning his top on the walk.

"Come here, Billy," George called. "Let's spin our tops."

"I can't stop just now," answered Billy.

"Mother sent me on an errand. I'll play with you after I come back."

Billy went on. Soon he came past again with his arms full of packages.

当比利经过乔治家的时候,他看到乔治正在路上玩他的陀螺。
 "快来,比利,"乔治喊道,"我们一起来玩陀螺吧。"
 "我现在不能耽搁,"比利说,"妈妈交给我一个差事。等我回来之后,再和你一起玩吧。"
 比利走了。不一会儿,他又从这里经过,双手抱着袋子。









That evening Billy helped his father rake the leaves. They raked them into a big pile. Then they carried them to the garden and burned them.

"I could do more work," said Billy, "if I had a big red wagon."

那天晚上,比利帮助他的爸爸用耙子搂叶子。他们把树叶搂在一起,然后弄到花园里,烧成了灰。"如果我有一辆红色的马车的话,"比利说,"我还可以做更多的活儿。"





George's father was raking leaves, too. He needed a helper, but George was in the park, playing ball.

The two boys would often meet at the toy store. One day when they saw the big red wagon, it had a green card on it.

"Oh, look!" said George. "The card says SOLD. Some boy is going to get the red wagon."

The boys walked home slowly. They felt sad because the red wagon was sold. They wondered if any of their playmates would get it.

乔治的爸爸也在耙树叶。他需要一个帮手。但乔治却在花园里玩球。 两个男孩经常在玩具店碰面。一天,他们看到那辆红色的马车上面有一张绿色的 卡片。

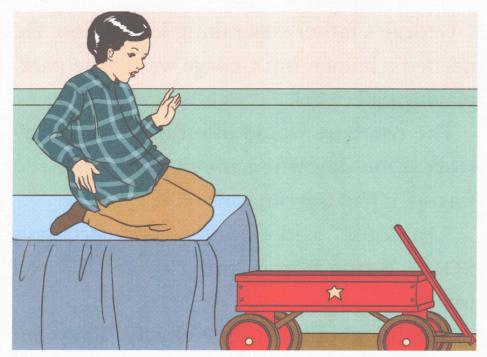
[&]quot;噢,快看啊!"乔治说,"卡片上写着:已售出。有个男孩就要得到这辆红色马车了。"

两个男孩慢慢往家走。他们很难过,因为红色马车已经卖出去了。他们想知道是哪一个小伙伴得到了它。









Next morning Billy's mother called, "Billy! Wake up! Wake up!"

Billy opened one eye. Then he opened the other eye. He saw something in his room that made him very wide awake.

There was the big red wagon! It had a card on it, but this card did not say SOLD. It said, "Happy Birthday to a good helper who needs a red wagon."

[●] 第二天早上,比利的妈妈喊道: "比利,快醒醒,快醒醒!" 比利睁开一只眼,接着又睁开另一只眼。他看见房间里多了一样东西,那东西让他 一下子就清醒过来了。 那辆红色的玩具马车!上面有一张卡片,卡片上写的并不是"已售出",而是—— "需要红色马车的好帮手,祝你生日快乐。"









Grandmother's Churn

John, Tom, and Sally were visiting Grandmother and Grandfather at the farm. One day when the postman came down the road, he brought the children a letter from their mother.

Sally read the letter. "Oh, listen," she cried. "Mother is coming! She will be here Saturday afternoon."

"Let's do something to surprise her," said Grandmother. "Can you think of something she would like?"

♀ 奶奶的搅拌器

约翰、汤姆和莎莉正在他们爷爷奶奶的农场做客。一天,邮递员经过这里的时候给 孩子们带来了一封他们的妈妈写的信。

莎莉读了信。"噢!听着,"她叫道,"妈妈要来了!她星期六下午就到。" "那我们做点什么让她惊喜一下吧!"奶奶说,"你们知道她喜欢什么吗?"









"I know something Mother likes," said Tom. "She likes gingerbread with good, fresh butter on it. We all like it, too."

"Yes," cried Sally. "Let's make some gingerbread when Mother comes."

Grandmother said, "I'll show you how to make gingerbread, and Grandfather will get the butter in town Friday."

奶奶说: 我来教怀们怎么做姜饼。星期五的时候,令令会从小镇上头些回来。"

[&]quot;我知道妈妈喜欢什么,"汤姆说,"她喜欢姜饼,尤其是涂了新鲜美味的黄油的那种。我们也都很喜欢。""是的,"莎莉说,"那我们就做些姜饼等妈妈来吧。"奶奶说:"我来教你们怎么做姜饼。星期五的时候,爷爷会从小镇上买些黄油