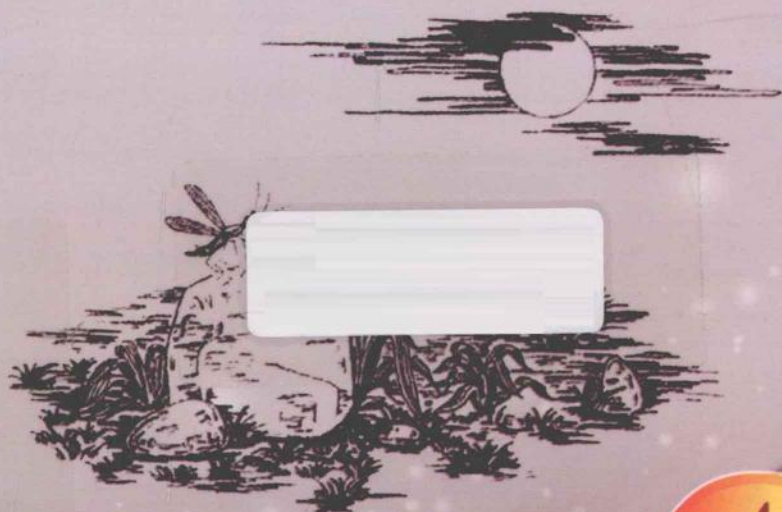


英语名篇阅读精选

蚊子城

叶秀芳 曾颖 朱葆红 编著



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初级版



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(初级版 4)

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前 言

英语界著名人士在谈及英语学习方法时,无不强调大量阅读的重要性。他们认为大量阅读是学习英语屡试不爽的好方法。大量阅读对于英语学习的作用,是其他任何形式的练习都无法达到的。在大量阅读中,已学过的词汇和句型多次出现,无需强记便能掌握它们。许多语言现象会在阅读中被自然而然地吸收,使英语水平在不知不觉中提高。即便是高考,也处处显示出阅读能力的重要。不仅是阅读理解题,其他题型也都是在读懂、读准的前提下才能回答正确。可以说,大量阅读是学好英语的必由之路。为配合教学改革,大力开展课外阅读,我们编选了这套《英语名篇阅读精选》,它具有以下特点:

一、本套书由多年在重点中学工作的一线教师编著。他们教学经验丰富,熟悉教学大纲和中考、高考范围。书中斜体标出部分和所加注释都是初、高中应掌握的语言重点。

二、这套书是在进行教学改革、开展课外阅读的过程中,从大量英国出版的英语读物中筛选出来的,是历届学生非常喜欢的经典名篇,内容丰富,故事性强,体裁多样,文笔流畅。后多次再版,对本书所选文章不断调整,使其更适合中学教学的需要。它们可使学生在兴趣盎然的阅读中接触新鲜、活泼、原汁原味的地道英语,不断提高学习英语的兴趣。

三、注释详尽,阅读方便,免去了频繁查阅字典的烦恼;所加注释不仅针对该句本身,还有适当扩展;典型句

型,斜体标出;重点词汇,另给例句。丛书分初级版(共五册:短文集锦、故事荟萃、海格立斯大力神、蚊子城、简·爱。适合初中学生和初学英语者阅读)、中级版(共六册,适合高中生阅读),均按由易到难的顺序编排,有初中一年级基础或掌握六七百单词者即可开始按序阅读。非常有利于提高学生的自学能力。对家中无条件辅导和师资缺乏地区的学生更为适宜。

新的教学理念,最重要的就是要教给学生一个终身受益的学习方法。参加本套丛书编注的老师,每送一届毕业班,都会收到学生的大量来信。几乎所有来信中都提到,由于在高中掌握了科学的学习方法,很快就能适应大学的学习,而且在大学阶段的英语学习中仍然游刃有余。其中有不少人在英语竞赛、四六级考试、TOFEL和GRE考试中的成绩名列前茅。丛书主编的教改经验于2002年3月在中央电视台播出后,已在多所学校推广,均收到明显效果。

开始阅读时,每天所用时间不要多,但贵在坚持,绝不能一曝十寒,也不能只限于一套丛书。内容要不断扩展,难度要不断增加。更要讲究方法,注意精读和泛读相结合,每篇文章至少读两遍。大量阅读会读出自信、读出奇效。愿这套丛书的出版,能对莘莘学子更快、更好地掌握英语有较大帮助。

编者水平所限,疏漏难免,敬请读者指正。

编 者

2012年12月

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Mosquito ([mə'ski:təʊ] *n.* 蚊子) Town (蚊子城)

Chapter 1

It was six o'clock, and the sun was appearing (appear [ə'piə] *vi.* 出现, 显露) ① in the east. All the mosquitoes were leaving Bamboko. ② They were *flying to* ③ their home in Mosquito Town.

Mosquito Town was *half a mile away from* Bamboko and it was beside a lake. It was a beautiful place, and the mosquitoes loved it. They loved the wet grass. They loved the dark corners (corner [ˈkɔ:nə] *n.* 角落) among the trees. ④ They loved it because it was quiet. The only sound was their own song.

One old mosquito was already *at home*. She had a thin (*adj.* 瘦弱的) body and very long feelers (feeler [ˈfi:lə] *n.* 触角, 触须). Her name was Zambra ([ˈzæmbərə] 老蚊子的名字).

Zambra was sitting *in front of* ⑤ her house and *waiting*

① A rainbow (*n.* 彩虹) appeared in the sky after the rain.

② 虚拟的城镇名

③ fly to ... 朝……方向飞去 (flew, flown) (1) Next week the manager (*n.* 经理) will fly to America. (2) The plane flew northward (*adv.* 朝北) to the Changjiang River Valley. 那架飞机往北朝长江流域飞去。

④ The piano is in the corner of the room.

⑤ in front of ... 在……的前面 Our teachers often stand in front of the blackboard to give us class. / in the front of ... 在同一物的前面 The driver is sitting in the front of the bus.

for her children. She washed her feelers while she was waiting. "They will soon be here," she *said to herself*. "Then I can *go to sleep*." ①

She had two hundred children, and they all lived with her. Her husband was dead, so she *had to look after* them *by herself*. ② It was hard work.

Zambra's house was the best house in Mosquito Town. It was *big enough* for all her family. ③ Her friends lived in small holes under the trees, but Zambra lived in a snake's hole. The snake lived there, too, he did not trouble(*vt.* 打扰) them.

Zambra always reached home before her daughters. They *had to find* ④ their food in Bamboko, and they flew there every night. She was old and she did not want to go far for her food. She had her own supply([sə'plaɪ] *n.* 供应, 补给). One old man did not live in Bamboko. He lived alone(*adv.* 单独地) beside the lake. His blood was thin(*adj.* 稀薄的), but it was good enough for Zambra. She went to the old man every night and *had a good drink of* blood from him. Then she *came home* early.

Some young mosquitoes arrived now and *sat down*

① go to sleep 入睡 / go to bed 就寝 Yesterday evening I went to bed at 10:00 but I went to sleep at half past ten.

② by herself 靠她自己 / by oneself 独自地, 单独地 (1) I can carry the heavy box by myself. (2) They can finish the work before supper by themselves.

③ 房子很大, 足以容纳下她全家。

④ have (has) to do ... 不得不干……(过去式 had to do ...) The Wangs' (王家的) house was on fire(着火) and they had to put up a tent(搭一个帐篷) to live in for the time being(临时).

beside her. She counted (count [kaunt] *vt.* 数, 计算) them. She always counted her children in the morning and **listened to** their news. This morning she sat quietly and did not talk. They **looked tired**. ① “What is the news today, children?” Zambra asked, “You’re **looking very thin**.”

“The news is bad, Mother,” they all cried. “We couldn’t get any food.”

“If you all talk **at the same time**, I shan’t (= shall not) **be able to hear** you properly ([’propəli] *adv.* 正确地, 完全地). ② Now, Mitsi (小蚊子的名字),” she **pointed a feeler at** one, ③ “you’re the oldest. Tell me quickly. What happened?”

Mitsi was not a pretty child. She had only five legs. The sixth one **came off** ④ in a fight when she was quite small. She **was always ready** ([’redi] *adj.* 准备好了的) **to fight for** ⑤ her food.

“We told you yesterday, Mother,” she answered. “We’ve told you many times, but you never listen. Strange

① ... looked tired ... 看起来很累 / look + *adj.* (形容词) 看起来……
The lady over there looks very young.

② 如果你们都同时一起说,我就根本没法听清楚你们说些什么。

③ 她用一根触须指着一只蚊子 / point + *n.* at ... 把……对准(指向)
…… Don’t point your fingers (*n.* 手指) at others and it is not polite (*adj.* 有礼貌的) to do that.

④ come off 脱落,分离,掉下 The button (*n.* 纽扣) has just come off my coat. 这个纽扣刚从我的外衣上掉下来。

⑤ be ready to do ... 随时准备干…… The girl is kind enough and she is always ready to help others. / to fight for ... 为……而奋斗 (1) The people in that country are fighting for freedom (*n.* 自由). (2) Two dogs fight for a bone (*n.* 骨头), and a third runs away with it. ……另一只狗把骨头叼跑了。(鹬蚌相争,渔翁得利)。

things are happening in Bamboko.” Mitsi was tired and hungry, but she **tried hard to be patient** ([ˈpeɪʃənt] *adj.* 耐心的). ①

“Strange things? I don’t understand you, ② Mitsi. What happened last night?”

“We couldn’t get near the people. It **becomes harder** every day.”

“That’s your fault ([fɔ:lt] *n.* 过错, 过失),” Zambra answered angrily (*adv.* 生气地). She still did not understand their trouble. “It isn’t easy, but you **have to be patient** and **wait for** your chance ([tʃɑ:ns] *n.* 机会, 机遇). You haven’t learnt their tricks (trick [trɪk] *n.* 窍门, 诀窍, 计策) properly. I **try to teach** you, but you don’t listen.”

“It’s not our fault...” Mitsi began. Mother’s tricks were old. They needed new ones (= new tricks), clever ones.



At that moment, Buzu (小蚊子的名字) arrived with thirty or forty sisters. They too were tired and hungry. Some of

① be patient with sb. 对某人有耐心的(能忍受的) In our daily (*adj.* 日常的) life we should be more patient with others. / be patient of sth. ... 对事物有耐心的(能忍受的) Are you patient of hardships? 你能忍受困难吗?

② 我不明白你说的话。

them **looked ill**.

“Did you find any food?” Zambra asked them **in a worried voice**.^①

“No, Mother,” Buzu replied. She was a pretty mosquito and she was Zambra’s favorite child. Some were fat and some were thin, but Buzu’s body was the right shape^②(*n. 形态, 形体*) and she had beautiful legs. She was clever, too, but this morning she **was in trouble**.^③ Zambra was counting again.

“I’m sorry, Mother,” Buzu continued(*continue [kən'tɪnju:] vi. 继续说*) “Twelve haven’t **come back**. I think they are dead.”

“Dead!” Zambra was really worried now. “It’s your fault, Buzu. You’re the leader(*n. 领头的, 带队的*). You didn’t **look after** them properly. Leaders must **take care of**^④ the young ones. Now come inside and **sit down**, children. I want to **talk to** you.”

They **sat round** her **in a circle**.^⑤ Some listened. Some soon **went to sleep** because they were tired. Buzu washed her back legs while she was listening.

① in a worried voice 用一种忧虑的口气问道

② the right shape 正是这种合适的体型

③ be in trouble 遇到麻烦, 陷入困境 When your friends are in trouble, you should help them.

④ take care of ... 照顾(爱护)…… = look after ... The boy is old enough and he can take care of himself.

⑤ sit round(around) ... in a circle 坐成一圈围着……stand (sit) in a circle 围着一圈站着(坐着) The children in the park are standing in a circle, dancing and laughing happily.

“Why can't you find food?” Zambra continued. “I've told you before(*adv.* 曾经, 以前) and I'll tell you again. You must work for it.^① You must work hard. It's different for your brothers. They don't drink blood. They can get their plant – juices(*juice*[dʒu:s]*n.* 水果、蔬菜、肉等的汁液)^② without any trouble.”

“Why can't we drink plant – juices too?” a very young mosquito asked. “Why must we drink blood?”

“It's for your eggs(*n.* 卵), my dear. Your eggs need blood. You want to have your own children, don't you? Now, listen carefully and remember my words,^③ please. Find a person when he is asleep. **Look for** a soft(*adj.* 柔软的) part of his body and sit on it carefully. Don't sit on his face. If you do so, he'll **wake up** and kill you. I've told you this often, but you ...”

“Mother,” Buzu cried. “We know all this. We can't reach their bodies **at night**. It's not our fault. Have you never seen a mosquito – net(*n.* 蚊帐)?”

“Yes, Buzu. I have. They're dangerous things, but only **a few people** use them. They're not cheap([tʃi:p]*adj.* 便宜的), you know.”

“All the people use them now, Mother. I saw some cheap ones in a shop ten days ago.”

“You surprise me,” Zambra said. Then she **had an**

① 为了食物你们必须为之奋斗。

② plant – juices 植物汁液

③ remember my words 记住我的话

idea. ①“**Get into** the net when the person **gets in**. That's quite easy.”

“It's easy, but it's dangerous, Mother. If you can't **get out** again, they'll catch(*vt.* 抓住,逮住) you and kill you. They will!”②

“Don't shout, dear. The snake is asleep and we mustn't wake him.” Zambra **was not afraid of** the snake but she did not want **to give him trouble**. “If it's dangerous in the nets,” she continued, “you **will have to** feed(*vi.* 吃东西,用餐) early in the evening. Bite(*vt.* 咬,叮) the people when they are not in their nets. Bite them while they sit in their chairs in the house.”



“That's a different trouble,” said Buzu. “We can't feed in their house. Some strange men have come to Bamboko. They're visiting all the houses and spraying(*spray* [*spreɪ*] *vt.* 喷,向……喷洒) the rooms. If you touch([*tʌtʃ*] *vt.* 触摸,

① have(has) an idea 有了主意了

② 他们准会逮住你并弄死你的。

碰到) the spray(*n.* 喷雾器), you will die. If you breathe(*[bri:ð]* *vt.* 呼吸) it, you will die. It killed my twelve sisters last night. No, we can't **go into** the house. It isn't safe."

Zambra was **feeling tired** now.^① She was old and she could not understand these new tricks of the Bamboko people. What is 'spray'? How do people 'spray' a room? Poor Zambra did not know. It was a new word for her. She shut her eyes and **tried to think**. **In a few moments** (*moment* *[ˈməʊmənt]* *n.* 瞬间, 一眨眼工夫)^② she was asleep.

Chapter 2

Zambra was dreaming(*dream vi.* 做梦).^③ In her dream she was **leading** (*lead vt.* 领着, 带着) **her children to** the farms^④ round Bamboko. It was **the middle of** the day(中午) and it was hot.

The people were **all asleep** under the trees on their farms. Zambra's family **sat down** on them, but they were **so sleepy** (*adj.* 困倦的) **that** they did not wake. Zambra watched happily while the young mosquitoes **filled their hungry little bodies with**^⑤ warm blood.

① ... feeling tired ... 感到劳累 feel + *adj.* (形容词) 感觉到(觉得)……
(1) After a week's study, all of us feel tired. (2) The boy didn't feel well this morning.

② in a few moments 几分钟后, 不一会儿

③ dream *vi.* 做梦 (过去式 dreamed 或 dreamt *[dremt]*)

④ Zambra 把她的孩子们带到农场去。

⑤ fill ... with ... 用……把……装满 Please fill the glass with water for me, will you?

“Mother,” they called, “come and drink!”

Zambra opened her eyes. She was not dreaming now. She was in her own home and Mitsi was calling her. “Mother! **Wake up!**”

She was properly awake([ə'weɪk] *adj.* 醒着的) now. ①

“What is it, Mitsi?”

“**Look at** these children. They arrived while you were sleeping. They are all very sick.” ②

Zambra **looked at** them. Their little faces were white and sad. They could not breathe properly.

“Mother,” one cried, “half(*adj.* 一半的) ③ my sisters are dead. They will never come home again. I think that I am dying too!”

“What happened?” Zambra asked, while Buzu was **looking for** some medicine([ˈmedsɪn] *n.* 药).

“Last night we found some girls. They were putting something on their legs. It **smelled very strong** ④ (*adj.* 冲鼻的, 烈性的) so we couldn't **sit down** on them. Then we were tired and rested on the wall. We **sat down** carefully, but there was poison([ˈpɔɪzən] *n.* 毒药, 毒) on the wall. My sister **fell onto** the ground and died. And I ...” The little mosquito **fell down**. She **tried to get up** but she could not. Zambra put some medicine in her mouth, but the poison was very

① 这时她完全醒了。

② 她们病得很厉害。

③ half *adj.* 一半的 (当形容词使用时, 往往放在名词前) half an hour half the books/half the students/half a bottle of wine 半瓶酒

④ smelled very strong 味道呛鼻子。smell + *adj.* (形容词) 闻起来……
The dumplings smell very delicious.

strong. After a few minutes she died.

Zambra was afraid now. How could she save her family? Why were the Bamboko people killing them? They only **asked for** a little blood every night. They were not dangerous like snakes. Why did people kill them? Why?

Zambra called all her daughters together. "Come here, I want to count you." She counted twice. Forty - six were not there. She **had to think** and act quickly. What could she do?

"Listen, children. I'm making plans, but first we must **find out the reason** (['ri:zn] *n.* 理由, 原因) **for** all this trouble. ① How can we do that? I'll tell you. First you must rest. Then you can **go back to** Bamboko and **listen to** the people. You usually go **by night** (在夜间), so they will not notice (*vt.* 注意) you **by day**. Go carefully if you **keep quiet**, they won't see you. Listen while they're talking, and you'll learn their secrets (secret ['si:krit] *n.* 秘密)." She **pointed her feelers at** the three leaders, Mitsi and Buzu and Soro (小蚊子的名字). "Mitsi, **take one group to** the hospital. Buzu, **take the second group to** the old school. Soro **take the third group to** the market (*n.* 市场). What are people saying about us? ② Why have mosquito - nets **become cheap**? Who is using this spray? If you can **find out**, I'll be able to make plans."

She stopped and **looked round** her, "The very young

① 搞清楚这个烦恼的原因。find out ... 调查清楚……The police have found out the reason for the accident (*n.* 事故).

② 人们在说我们些什么?

ones must stay with me,” she added. ① “This job is dangerous. If there’s trouble, the young ones won’t *be able to fly* quickly enough.”

Buzu and Mitsi were already calling the names of their groups. Soro did not need to call. ② She walked quietly to a corner, and all her group *ran to* her. She was the tallest mosquito in all mosquito Town, so they could not miss her. ③ She never talked. She listened and watched. Her head was *full of* deep thoughts, ④ but she never told her secrets.

The children were all excited ([ɪk'saɪtɪd] *adj.* 兴奋的, 激动的) “We’ve never gone to Bamboko *by day*,” they said. “Can we go now? We’re ready.”

“No,” Zambra said. “You must be patient and rest for an hour.”

At last she let them go, but she was worried about

① add *vt.* 又说(补充说)……At the meeting (开会时) the manager (*n.* 经理) first criticized (criticize [ˈkrɪtɪsaɪz] *vt.* 批评) those who were late for work and then he added that nobody would be allowed (allow *vt.* 允许) to be late again.

② Soro 没有必要喊。

③ ... so they could not miss her. 所以她们不会看不见她。miss *vt.* 未击中目标, 错过, 看漏, 使……逃掉, 没有能出席, 该词词义随着该词后面的词——即宾语有不同的翻译。(1) I threw the ball to him but he missed it. (2) My house is on the right side at the end of (在……的尽头) the road, so you can't miss it. ……你不会看不见的。

④ ...be full of deep thoughts 充满了深思熟虑/be full of... 充满……The boy's schoolbag is full of books. (full of... 该短语用在 be 之后在句子里为表语) The building full of books is our library. (full of ... 用在名词之后作后置定语) Yesterday evening, I went home in the dark, full of fear (充满恐惧). (full of ... 形容词短语用来修饰谓语动词 went home, 作伴随状语)