

# 英语经典名篇

## 阅读与赏析

高红 编译

Translated by Gao Hong

Reading and Appreciation  
of Classic English Stories

沈阳出版社

SHENYANG PRESS

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## 作者寄语

在英语学习中，阅读和写作能力的提高一直是困惑许多学生的难题。这是因为阅读和写作都离不开大量的练习，而这些练习往往都很枯燥，因此大大地降低了学习的效率。那么如何能让学生们从枯燥的学习中解脱出来呢？

在长期的教学实践中我们感到，改变上述状况最重要的就是精选教材。一本优秀的读写教材应当具备两个特征：一是课文内容要富有文学性，艺术性和趣味性，能够激发起读者的阅读欲望。二是教材的文字要准确流畅精炼。使读者能做到举一反三，提高读写练习的效率。

本书的编写正是遵循上述原则。书中大部分的文章都选自英文原版的经典故事，这些故事流传百余年，文笔优美，用词准确，故事情节引人入胜，像《卖火柴的小女孩》，《白雪公主》，《丑小鸭》，《灰姑娘》等等，都已是家喻户晓。通过阅读这些原著不但能使我们提高阅读和写作能力，同时也能原汁原味欣赏这些优美的故事，更好地了解西方文化。

为了方便大家阅读，文章按照由易到难，由浅入深地顺序

安排，每篇文章后都有词汇解释，阅读技巧。同时配有阅读理解题和答案，以供同学们自我检验阅读效果。在写作方面，我们选出写作风格具有代表性的几篇故事，在后面附有写作指导和写作练习。

由于时间和水平的原因，本书难免会有一些错误或不当之处，希望同学们能予以指正，以便我们再版修改。

作者

2007年10月

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## Unit 1 The Little Match-seller

### 卖火柴的小女孩

#### 导 读

《卖火柴的小女孩》是安徒生童话中流传最广,最具有影响力和感染力的作品。它讲述了一个饥寒交迫的小女孩,怀抱着燃烧完的火柴悲惨地冻死在寒冷的新年前夜。小女孩命运让世人深刻地反省当时冷漠、残酷的资本主义社会。这个故事同时也不断地唤醒人们沉睡、淡漠的良知、爱心。

It was terribly cold and nearly dark on the last evening of the old year, and the snow was falling fast. In the cold and the darkness, a poor little girl, with bare head and naked<sup>①</sup> feet, roamed<sup>②</sup> through the streets. It is true she had on a pair of slippers when she left home, but they were not of much use. They were very large, so large, indeed, that they had belonged to her mother, and the poor little creature had lost them in running across the street to avoid two carriages<sup>③</sup> that were rolling along at a terrible rate. One of the slippers she could not find, and a boy seized upon the other and ran away with it, saying that he could use it as a cradle<sup>④</sup>, when he had children of his own. So the little girl went on with her little naked feet, which were quite red and blue with the cold. In an old apron<sup>⑤</sup> she carried a number of matches,

and had a bundle of them in her hands. No one had bought anything of her the whole day, nor had any one given her even a penny. Shivering<sup>⑥</sup> with cold and hunger, she crept alone. The snowflakes fell on her long, fair hair, which hung in curls on her shoulders, but she regarded them not.

Lights were shining from every window, and there was a savory<sup>⑦</sup> smell of roast goose, for it was New Year's eve, yes, she remembered that. In a corner, between two houses, one of which projected<sup>⑧</sup> beyond the other, she sank down and huddled<sup>⑨</sup> herself together. She had drawn her little feet under her, but she could not keep off the cold; and she dared not go home, for she had sold no matches, and could not take home even a penny of money. Her father would certainly beat her; besides, it was almost as cold at home as here, for they had only the roof to cover them, through which the wind howled<sup>⑩</sup>, although the largest holes had been stopped up with straw and rags. Her little hands were almost frozen with the cold. Ah! Perhaps a burning match might be some good, if she could draw it from the bundle and strike it against the wall, just to warm her fingers. She drew one out—"scratch"! How it sputtered<sup>⑪</sup> as it burnt! It gave a warm, bright light, like a little candle, as she held her hand over it. It was really a wonderful light. It seemed to the little girl that she was sitting by a large iron stove, with polished brass feet and a brass ornament<sup>⑫</sup>. How the fire burned! And it seemed so beautifully warm that the child stretched<sup>⑬</sup> out her feet as if to warm them. When the flame of the match went out, the stove vanished<sup>⑭</sup>, and she had only the remains of the half-burnt match in her hand.

She rubbed another match on the wall. It burst into a flame, and

where its light fell upon the wall it became as transparent as a veil, and she could see into the room. The table was covered with a snowy white table-cloth, on which stood a splendid dinner service, and a steaming roast goose, stuffed<sup>⑮</sup> with apples and dried plums. And what was still more wonderful, the goose jumped down from the dish and waddled<sup>⑯</sup> across the floor, with a knife and fork in its breast, to the little girl. Then the match went out, and there remained nothing but the thick, damp, cold wall before her.

She lighted another match, and then she found herself sitting under a beautiful Christmas-tree. It was larger and more beautifully decorated than the one which she had seen through the glass door at the rich merchant's. Thousands of tapers<sup>⑰</sup> were burning upon the green branches, and colored pictures, like those she had seen in the show-windows, looked down upon it all. The little one stretched out her hand towards them, and the match went out.

The Christmas lights rose higher and higher, till they looked to her like the stars in the sky. Then she saw a star fall, leaving behind it a bright streak of fire. "Some one is dying," thought the little girl, for her old grandmother, the only one who had ever loved her, and who was now dead, had told her that when a star falls, a soul was going up to God.

She again rubbed a match on the wall, and the light shone round her; in the brightness stood her old grandmother, clear and shining, yet mild and loving in her appearance. "Grandmother," cried the little one, "O take me with you; I know you will go away when the match burns out; you will vanish like the warm stove, the roast goose, and the large, glorious Christmas-tree." And she made

haste to light the whole bundle of matches, for she wished to keep her grandmother there. And the matches glowed with a light that was brighter than the noon-day, and her grandmother had never appeared so large or so beautiful. She took the little girl in her arms, and they both flew upwards in brightness and joy far above the earth, where there was neither cold nor hunger nor pain, for they were with God.

In the dawn of morning there lay the poor little one, with pale cheeks and smiling mouth, leaning against the wall; she had been frozen to death on the last evening of the year; and the New-year's sun rose and shone upon a little corpse! The child still sat, in the stiffness<sup>⑩</sup> of death, holding the matches in her hand, one bundle of which was burnt. "She tried to warm herself," said some. No one imagined what beautiful things she had seen, nor into what glory she had entered with her grandmother, on New-year's day.

## Notes

- ① naked adj. 裸露的
- ② roam v. 漫游, 闲逛
- ③ carriage n. 马车, 客车
- ④ cradle n. 摇篮, 发源地
- ⑤ apron n. 围裙
- ⑥ shivering adj. 颤抖的
- ⑦ savory adj. 美味的, 好闻的
- ⑧ project v. 突出
- ⑨ huddle v. 拥挤, 蜷缩, 挤成一团
- ⑩ howl v. 嚎叫, 怒号
- ⑪ sputter v. 发出噼啪声

- ⑫ ornament n. 装饰品  
 ⑬ stretch v. 伸展, 延伸  
 ⑭ vanish v. 消失, 突然不见  
 ⑮ stuff v. 填, 装。  
 ⑯ waddle v. 蹒跚而行  
 ⑰ taper 细长的蜡烛  
 ⑱ stiffness n. 坚硬, 僵硬。

## Explanations and Translations

1. but they were not of much use. 没有什么用。be of 具有(特点, 功能, 用处)

2. but she regarded them not. 但她却没有感觉。

3. and where its light fell upon the wall it became as transparent as a veil, and she could see into the room. 光亮照亮的墙上变得像面纱一样透明, 她好像能看见屋里的东西。Where 引导的地点状语从句。后面 as...as 是比较状语从句。

4. It was larger and more beautifully decorated than the one which she had seen through the glass door at the rich merchant's. 它(圣诞树)比她在富商门前透过玻璃看到的圣诞树要更大更漂亮。than the one which she had seen through the glass door at the rich merchant's 是一个比较状语从句, 而其中 which 又引导一个定语从句修饰 the one。

## Reading Skills

本篇文章的第一段, 主要描写故事发生的时间, 地点以及对人物外在的描写, 为后面的故事高潮做铺垫。最精华最感人部分就是小女孩在墙角点燃四根火柴时的不同幻觉。第一根, “It

seemed to the little girl that she was sitting by a large iron stove, with polished brass feet and a brass ornament.” 第二根,“The table was covered with a snowy white table-cloth, on which stood a splendid dinner service, and a steaming roast goose, stuffed with apples and dried plums.” 第三根,“She found herself sitting under a beautiful Christmas-tree.” 第四根,She saw her grandmother, and the grandmother took her upward to the heaven. 最后故事落幕时,发现“she had been frozen to death. No one imagine...”

### Multiple choices

1. What was the weather like at the beginning of the story?
  - A. sunny
  - B. warm
  - C. foggy
  - D. freezing
2. Why did the boy keep the little girl's slipper?
  - A. Because the slipper was suitable to him rather than to the little girl.
  - B. Because he didn't own shoes himself.
  - C. Because he couldn't find the loser.
  - D. Because he wanted to get it for his own baby.
3. From the context(上下文), we can guess that the word “savory” probably means \_\_\_\_
  - A. smelly
  - B. delicious
  - C. bad
  - D. nasty

4. Why didn't the little girl go back home?
- Because she lost her way.
  - Because she was too cold to walk any farther.
  - Because she was afraid of the darkness.
  - Because she hadn't sold any matches, and also, it was really cold at home.
5. Here are the things the little girl saw after she had struck the matches. According to the story, which is the right order?
- Roast goose, stove, Christmas tree and grandmother.
  - Christmas tree, roast goose, stove and grandmother.
  - Stove, roast goose, Christmas tree, and grandmother.
  - Grandmother, roast goose, stove and Christmas tree.
6. From the story, we know that "Grandmother \_\_\_\_\_."
- didn't love the little girl, either.
  - was still alive.
  - loved her granddaughter a lot.
  - didn't take the little girl with her.
7. When the little girl died, she herself felt very \_\_\_\_\_.
- sad
  - regretted
  - happy
  - scared
8. Which of the following sentences is not correct?
- Altogether, the little girl rubbed her matches five times.
  - The little girl loved her grandmother very much.
  - The little girl made herself in the corner, for she wanted to get warmed.
  - Nobody knew why the little girl had died.
9. At last, the little girl died \_\_\_\_\_.
- happily
  - sadly
  - angrily
  - hungrily



10. What will the reader feel after reading the story?

- A. sympathetic    B. happy    C. sad    D. both A and C

### Writing Guides

本篇故事先从人物外部描写，逐步进入人物内心世界的描写。外部环境及人物的描写极好地衬托了故事的大环境，也为后面人物思想和幻觉的出现做好铺垫。本篇故事最精彩的部分就是对小女孩划亮四根火柴时的幻觉的精细描写，由第一根看到火炉，第二根烧鹅，第三根圣诞树，到第四根见到老祖母后死去，表现出小女孩对生活的热爱和向往，越临近死亡越向往美好的生活。作者这种层层推进直至高潮的写作方法，使作品的感染力达到顶峰。

### Writing Practice

写一篇题为：“我最好的朋友”(My Best Friend)描述文。字数为 100 字左右。

要求注意：

1. 人物自然情况的介绍
2. 要有一个事例说明如何成为好朋友的。