

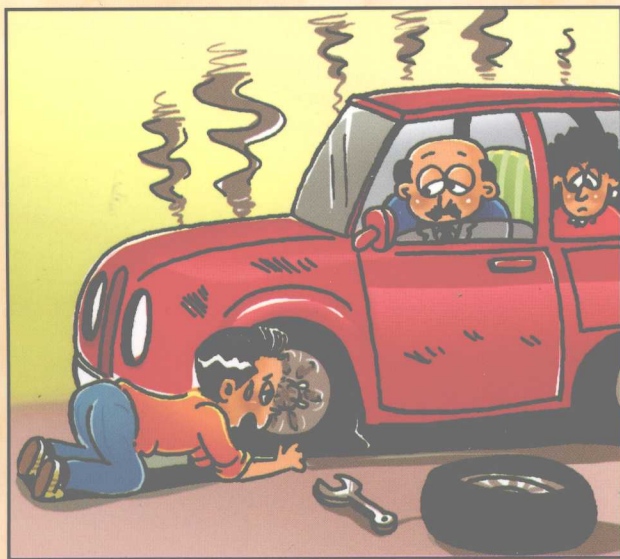
• 上外 — 朗文学生系列读物 •

Short Stories for Comprehension

Ken Methold, Clare Vickers

妙语短篇

D2



W 上海外语教育出版社
外教社 SHANGHAI FOREIGN LANGUAGE EDUCATION PRESS

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前言

本书是《上外一朗文学生系列读物》其中一本。

本系列读物是专为中国学生编写的，旨在提高学生对英语的阅读理解能力，同时扩大学生的英语词汇量，增进对英语语法和句型的认识。

本系列读物所选课文都是一些妙趣横生的故事和西方家喻户晓的笑话。通过阅读和学习，学生可以加深对西方幽默感的了解。

为了让学生能巩固所学内容，每个故事后都编有大量练习，练习的内容和形式多种多样，包括词汇理解、内容理解、句子配对、正误判断、选择填空以及作文训练等等。

针对学生的学习需要，每课课文后都从课文中抽出一些重点词汇、短语或语法句型作重点讲解，使学生在这些方面能有更深一层的认识和总结，并通过特别编写的练习加以巩固。

《上外一朗文学生系列读物》能有效地加强在校学生对英语的阅读理解，提高会考能力，同时也能帮助自学青年有效地自修，将英语阅读水平大大提高一步。

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An Army of Animals

A long time ago, the South American country of **Chile** belonged to **Spain**. Many of the **Chileans**, however, did not want to be ruled by Spain.

Led by Bernardo O'Higgins, some of them **formed** a small army. They **attacked** the Spanish soldiers at different times and in different places.

This made the King of Spain very angry. He sent more soldiers to Chile to deal with them.

Although there were far more Spanish soldiers than **freedom-fighters**, they **refused** to **surrender** and fought bravely.

At last, however, in 1814, they were **forced** to **retreat** to the town of Rancagua near Santiago. There, O'Higgins and his men were **surrounded** by the Spanish army and O'Higgins was wounded by an enemy **bullet**.

It seemed as if their fight for freedom was over.

But O'Higgins refused to surrender. Even though he was wounded, he ordered his men to collect as many **mules**, cows, sheep and dogs as possible.

As soon as the animals were **in position** in front of his men, O'Higgins was lifted onto his horse.

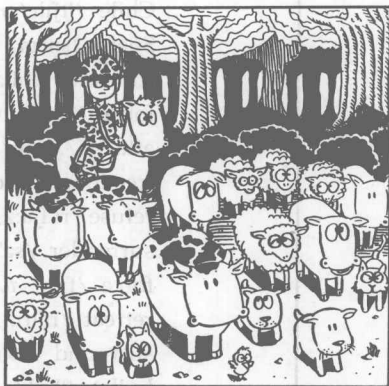
Shouting at the top of his voice, he rode into the animals.

Frightened, they began to run. They ran straight at the Spanish soldiers.

Now it was the **Spaniards'** turn to be frightened. They turned and ran away from the animals as fast as they could, allowing O'Higgins and his men to escape to the mountains.

There he built up his army, and in 1818 he **defeated** the Spanish.

He then became the first president of the new, free nation.



Words and Expressions

Chile /'tʃɪl/ *n.* 智利

Spain /speɪn/ *n.* 西班牙

Chilean /'tʃɪliən/ *n.* 智利人

form /fɔ:m/ *v.* 组成

attack /ə'tæk/ *v.* 攻击, 进攻

freedom /'fri:dəm/ *n.* 自由

refuse /rɪ'fju:z/ *v.* 拒绝

surrender /sə'rendə/ *v.* 投降

force /fɔ:s/ *v.* 被迫

retreat /rɪ'tri:t/ *v.* 撤退

surround /sə'raʊnd/ *v.* 包围

bullet /'bʊlɪt/ *n.* 子弹

mule /mju:l/ *n.* 骡

in position 在适当的位置

Spaniard /'spænjəd/ *n.* 西班牙人

defeat /dɪ'fi:t/ *v.* 击败

Exercises

A Reading comprehension (阅读理解)

Choose the correct answer.

找出正确的答案。

() 1 Where is Chile?

a) South America.

b) Spain.

c) Santiago.

d) North America.

- () 2 What happened in Rancagua?
- O'Higgins was shot and killed.
 - The Spanish army was surrounded by O'Higgins' army.
 - O'Higgins was shot and wounded.
 - O'Higgins defeated the town.
- () 3 What did O'Higgins' men do next?
- They surrendered.
 - They settled down to become farmers.
 - They collected different kinds of animals.
 - They fled to Spain.
- () 4 What did O'Higgins do after this?
- He went for a ride on his horse.
 - He made the animals run towards the Spanish army.
 - He shot the animals in front of the Spanish soldiers.
 - He rode on the animals.
- () 5 How did the Spanish soldiers feel?
- Afraid.
 - Brave.
 - Frightening.
 - Angry.
- () 6 What happened in 1818?
- O'Higgins escaped to the mountains.
 - O'Higgins joined the Spanish army.
 - The King of Spain was killed.
 - Chile became free.

B Diction (词语选择)

Synonyms: For each sentence, choose the word(s) which mean **the same** as the word(s) in bold.

从下面的词中为句中的粗体词找出同义词。

- () 1 The freedom fighters **attacked** the Spanish army.
a) defended b) fought c) annoyed d) hit
- () 2 They refused to **give in** to the Spaniards.
a) enter b) collapse c) let go d) surrender
- () 3 He **positioned** the animals in front of the men.
a) organized b) placed c) ordered d) distributed
- () 4 The animals ran **straight** at the soldiers.
a) directly b) honestly c) quickly d) upwards
- () 5 The soldiers **turned** and ran.
a) twisted b) went around in circles
c) changed direction d) passed
- () 6 O'Higgins was the first president of the new **nation**.
a) island b) city c) county d) country

C Dialogue (对话)

Choose the correct expressions to complete the dialogues.

选出适当的词句完成下列对话。

- () 1 X: Chile used to belong to Spain.
Y: _____
a) To whom does it belong now?
b) Who freed it?
c) How did it become free?
d) Did the Spanish give it freedom?
- X: A small army of freedom fighters defeated the Spanish army.

2 X: Didn't the freedom fighters surrender at Rancagua?
() Y: _____

- a) Yes, they did. b) Maybe they did.
c) No, they couldn't. d) No, they didn't.

3 X: Where did the freedom fighters put the animals?
() Y: _____

- a) Between themselves and the Spanish army.
b) To the left of the Spanish army.
c) To the right of the Spanish army.
d) Behind the Spanish army.

() 4 X: _____
Y: The Spanish soldiers.

- a) Who were the frightened?
b) Who was frightened?
c) Who was frightening?
d) Who were to frighten?

D Cloze test (填空)

Put the correct word in each blank of the following passage.

在下列一段话的空白处填上适当的词。

Chile at one time ¹_____ to Spain. Bernardo O'Higgins formed an army to ²_____ the Spanish army at different times. O'Higgins and his army were ³_____ to retreat to Rancagua in 1814. ⁴_____ though O'Higgins was wounded, he refused to surrender. ⁵_____ men collected several animals and he made them run at the Spaniards. When the Spaniards ran away, O'Higgins and his men ⁶_____ to the mountains. Later, he was able to ⁷_____ the first president of the new, independent Chile.

1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____

5 _____ 6 _____ 7 _____

E Translation (翻译)

Translate the following sentences into English, using the key words provided.

用括号中提供的关键词把下列句子译成英语。

1. 西班牙军队在多处不同的地点受到自由战士多次的攻击。(attacked, freedom fighters)

2. 那些男人只好把奥希金斯抬到马上。(had to, lift)

3. 西班牙士兵逃离那些奔腾的动物。(run away, running)

4. 奥希金斯逃跑后便开始建立自己的军队。(escaped, built up)

Usage

ALTHOUGH/EVEN THOUGH

In the story you will find:

你可在课文中找到下面几句话:

Although there were far more Spanish soldiers than freedom fighters, they refused to surrender and fought bravely.

Even though he was wounded, he ordered his men to collect as many mules, cows, sheep and dogs as possible.

Although and **even though** mean the same.

We can turn the sentences round and write them like this:

我们可把句子倒过来这样说:

They refused to surrender and fought bravely, **although** there were far more Spanish soldiers than freedom fighters.

He ordered his men to collect as many mules, cows, sheep and dogs as possible, **even though** he was wounded.

We can also write them with **but**:

我们也可以 **but** 来表示相同的意思:

There were far more Spanish soldiers than freedom fighters, **but** they refused to surrender and fought bravely.

He was wounded, **but** he ordered his men to collect as many mules, cows, sheep and dogs as possible.

Notice that you can use *either but* in these sentences *or although/ even though*. You must not use both.

注意: 在这些句子中或用 **but**, 或用 **although/even though**, 但不能两者都用。

An Unwelcome Interruption

Many people can tell stories about door-to-door **salesmen**.

They come to our homes and **apartments** or telephone us and, unless we are rude, it is difficult to make them go away.

For most of us, the time they waste is not too important.

For one man, however, the visit of a salesman was a **disaster**.

The man was Samuel Taylor Coleridge, a famous eighteenth-century English **poet**.

He is best known for his long **poem**, *The Rhyme of the Ancient Mariner*.

At this time, however, he was writing another one of his famous poems, *Kubla Khan*.

Unfortunately, it is only 54 lines long and comes to a sudden end.

Why? Because while he was writing it, Coleridge was visited by an **insurance** salesman.

Coleridge had been ill, and he had taken **opium** to make him feel better.

He had fallen into a **drugged** sleep and dreamt the poem.

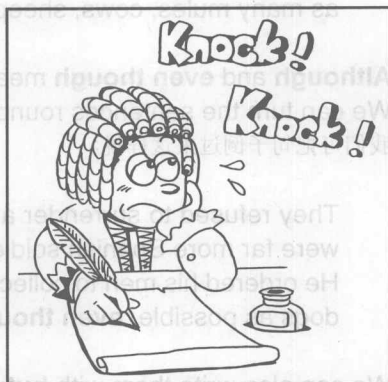
As soon as he woke up, he wrote down his dream — the first 54 lines of *Kubla Khan*.

Then the insurance salesman came to his door.

By the time Coleridge **got rid of** him, he had forgotten the rest of his dream.

And this is why he was never able to finish *Kubla Khan*.

It isn't known whether Coleridge bought any insurance from the salesman!



Words and Expressions

interruption /ˌɪntəˈrʌpʃən/ *n.* 打断

salesman /ˈseɪlzmən/ *n.* 推销员

apartment /əˈpɑːtmənt/ *n.* 一套房间

(英国人多用 flat)

disaster /dɪˈzɑːstə/ *n.* 灾难

poet /ˈpəʊt/ *n.* 诗人

poem /ˈpəʊɪm/ *n.* 诗, 韵文

unfortunately /ʌnˈfɔːtʃənɪtli/ *adv.* 不幸地

insurance /ɪnˈʃʊərəns/ *n.* 保险

opium /ˈəʊpjəm/ *n.* 鸦片

drug /drʌɡ/ *v.* 使麻醉

get rid of 摆脱

* * *

Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772–1834):

塞缪尔·泰勒·柯勒律治, 英国浪漫主义
诗人和评论家

Kubla Khan “忽必烈汗”是一首没写完的诗,
因柯勒律治在记录他的梦时被打断了。

Exercises

A Diction (词语选择)

Vocabulary: Fill in the blanks with correct words from the passage.

从课文中选出适当的词填空。

- 1 We can't always make salesmen go away without being
r_____ to them.

- 2 Something very bad that happens is called a d_____.
- 3 Poets write p_____.
- 4 The drug o_____ makes you sleep and dream.
- 5 The salesman hoped that Coleridge would b_____ insurance.
- 6 Coleridge couldn't r_____ the rest of his dream.

Antonyms: For each sentence, choose the word which means the **opposite** of the word in bold.

从下面的词中为句中的粗体词选出反义词。

- () 1 It isn't **difficult** to do the sums.
 - a) easy
 - b) hard
 - c) desirable
 - d) necessary
- () 2 These visits are **wasting** time!
 - a) keeping
 - b) spending
 - c) making
 - d) saving
- () 3 It was, **unfortunately**, only 54 lines long.
 - a) unhappily
 - b) unluckily
 - c) luckily
 - d) amusingly
- () 4 He was feeling **ill**.
 - a) sick
 - b) well
 - c) badly
 - d) goodly
- () 5 He had **forgotten** the dream.
 - a) memory
 - b) dismembered
 - c) remembered
 - d) lost
- () 6 *Kubla Khan* was **unfinished**.
 - a) ended
 - b) complete
 - c) attempted
 - d) started

B Dialogue (对话)

Complete the following dialogue that we imagine took place between the insurance salesman and Mr. Coleridge.

选出适当的词句完成保险公司推销员和 Coleridge 先生之间的下列对话。

Salesman : Good afternoon, Mr. Coleridge!

() Coleridge : _____

- a) Good afternoon, sir. b) Oh, hi.
- c) Good afternoon. d) How nice to see you!

() Salesman : _____

- a) Am I interesting you in buying insurance?
- b) Buy our insurance now.
- c) I want to sell you insurance.
- d) Are you interested in buying insurance?

Coleridge : No, I'm very busy now.

() Salesman : _____

- a) I come back next week.
- b) Shall I come back next week?
- c) I would come back next week, wouldn't I?
- d) Shan't I come back next week?

() Coleridge : I don't think so. _____

- a) I don't want to buy any insurance.
- b) I'm not buying insurance.
- c) I shan't buy some insurance.
- d) I don't like to buy the insurance.

() Salesman : _____

- a) Sorry to bother.
b) I'm sorry for that.
c) I'm sorry that I didn't trouble you.
d) I'm sorry I troubled you.

C Cloze test (填空)

Complete the following passage by choosing from the words in the list below (some words have to be changed).

从下列词中选出适当者完成以下一段话 (有些词要作必要的变化)。

important, ring, do, need, forget, interest, bother, interrupt

Salesmen often ¹ us by telephoning or ² the doorbell when we are busy. They ³ not usually apologize for the unwelcome ⁴. They are only ⁵ in selling their product. If you are thinking of something ⁶, it is easy to forget it when you are interrupted. A poet ⁸ peace and quiet. Once you have ⁸ the words, there is no way of getting them back again.

1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____

5 _____ 6 _____ 7 _____ 8 _____

D Translation (翻译)

Translate the following passage into English.

把下列一段话译成英语。

Coleridge 生病了, 于是他服了一种药使自己好受一些。他睡着了。在梦中他听到一首诗中的词。他一醒来, 便把那首诗写出来。它有 54 行长, 题目叫 Kubla Khan。尽管这首诗的结尾很突然, 它还是很出名。