

THE STANDARD ENGLISH READERS  
FOR  
SENIOR MIDDLE SCHOOLS  
BOOK FOUR

高中标准英語讀本  
第四冊

(1951 年新編本)

林漢達編著

時代出版社

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## 高中標準英語讀本例言

1. 本書共六冊，每學期教學一冊，供高中三學年之用。
2. 本書銜接初中標準英語讀本，由淺入深，生字平均，凡初中標準英語讀本已用過之字句不再作生字計算。（全書生字約三千個，連初中約計四千五百個）。
3. 本書編制以故事論文為緯，語法為經，交叉配合，密切聯繫。讀物內容以反帝反封建反官僚資本主義的故事與論文為主，以發揚新民主主義的教育思想；同時亦注意文藝作品與科學常識等短文。
4. 語法講解與練習，結合課文，有系統地有重點地分配如下：第一冊各類詞兒的區別；第二冊各種片語的用法；第三冊句子的結構與分析；第四冊通常文法上錯誤的改正；第五冊複雜句的圖解；第六冊以英譯漢為主的翻譯指導。
5. 本書課文必須精讀，與課文相結合之語法必須講解，反覆練習。其他如會話翻譯等雖亦編入課文內（一至五冊），但此只是啓發性質，教師可照實際情況，隨時予以補充。
6. 本書選用名著時，為了適應教材上的需要（如課文的深淺，生字的分配，以及字句的反覆運用等），有時不得不有所增刪或改寫，敬請中外原作者原諒。
7. 本書雖經數度易稿，失檢之處，在所難免，敬請讀者隨時指正，以便修改。

——編者。 1951 年 8 月。



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# THE STANDARD ENGLISH READERS

for Senior Middle Schools

## BOOK IV

### LESSON I

#### HONEST WORK

Men said the old smith was foolishly careful, as he wrought on the great chain he was making in his shop in the heart of the great city. But he did not heed their words, and only worked steadily with greater painstaking. Link after link he fashioned and welded and finished, and at last the great chain was completed.





Years passed. One night there was a terrible storm, and the ship was in sore peril of being dashed upon the rocks. Anchor after anchor was dropped, but none of them held. At last the mighty sheet anchor was cast into the sea, and the old chain quickly uncoiled and ran out till it grew tight. All watched to see if it would bear the awful strain. It sang in the wild storm as the vessel's weight surged upon it. It was a moment of intense anxiety. The ship with its cargo of a thousand lives depended upon this one chain. What now if the old smith had wrought carelessly even one link of his chain! But on the contrary, he had put honesty and truth and invincible strength into every part of it, and it stood the test, holding the ship in safety until the storm was over.

### STUDY HELPS

1. cast, cast, cast; work, worked (wrought), worked (wrought). "Wrought" 是 "worked" 的古體。 2. steady, *adj.*, steadily, *adv.*; coil, *n.* (線圈; 繩索圈; *v.* 盤繞); uncoil, *v.*; anxious, *adj.*, anxiety, *n.* 3. Practise on these phrases: What if (如果.....將怎麼樣呢); in the heart of; in sore peril; on the contrary; to stand the test (受得起考驗)。

### CONVERSATION

1. What was the old smith making?
2. Where was his shop?
3. What did men say of him? Did he listen to them?
4. How was the chain completed?
5. What happened to the ship one night?
6. What did the sailors do to save the ship from peril?
7. Why did everybody feel anxious?

8. How many people were there on board the ship?
9. Could the old chain stand the test?
10. What does a piece of honest work mean?

## GRAMMAR

**Common Grammatical Errors:**—You have studied the parts of speech (in Book One), the forms and uses of phrases (in Book Two), and the structure of sentences (in Book Three). No doubt, you remember most of the grammatical rules that a student of English ought to know and can do the exercises in these books, but still there are quite a many grammatical errors (錯誤) in your writing. For this reason, we shall pay special attention, this term, on two things: the correction of common grammatical errors and the correct use of words.

The most common errors are in the agreement of the verb with the subject.

**The Error of Nearness:**—When a plural noun happens to come between a singular subject and its verb, the student is likely to use a plural verb instead of a singular verb. *Ex.* "The great chain with many *links* *were* completed." The error is made because the nearest noun *links* is plural. But remember: the verb agrees with its subject, not with the nearest noun. The sentence should be as follows: The great *chain* with many links *was* completed.

Likewise, when a singular noun happens to come between a plural subject and its verb, the student is likely to use a singular verb instead of a plural verb. *Ex.* "All the ships in the sea *is* provided with anchors." (Wrong. Change *is* to *are* since the subject *ships* is plural.)

## EXERCISE

*Correct or justify the following sentences:*

1. The ship with its cargo of a thousand lives were in peril.
2. The old smith, a well-known worker for many years, were a very careful man.
3. Most of the shops in the heart of the city was nice-looking.

4. The rocks in the sea is a threat to the ships in storm.
5. All the people on board the ship were anxious to see if the anchor could hold the ship.
6. Good work of honest men are highly praised.
7. The idea of good workers are to do good work.
8. Honest workers in any factory is working with great pains-taking.
9. The difference between the workers and the parasites are the whole difference.
10. Your work in grammar for these few months is to correct grammatical errors.

## LESSON 2

### COMPULSORY LABOUR

“The economic crisis is steadily spreading.”

“Starvation is causing suicides, crimes, and prostitution.”

“No less than one thousand American workers die of starvation daily.”

These are not my words, I have taken them from capitalist newspapers. The capitalists are saying that they have not the means to feed the workers and that state aid to the unemployed cannot be thought of.

The manager of a certain labour exchange told an unemployed delegate, “We have no funds. All I can offer you is some money to buy a rope to hang yourselves with.”

The workers of the world begin to be convinced that to expect help from the capitalists is as hopeless as to expect to get milk from an ox.

Facts are facts. The capitalist system has created conditions under which tens of millions of people are out of work and must die of starvation.

It is a fact that in the Soviet Union there is no unemployment. On the contrary, there are not enough workers for building a state on socialist lines. It is very likely that in the near future the Soviet State will have to turn to outside sources in order to make good the lack of labour power; in part it is already doing so.

Since this fact is an unquestionable evidence of the rational nature of the socialist economic system, the capitalists had to invent the shameless lie about "compulsory labour" in the Soviet Union. To expect the capitalist to understand the fact is quite useless, because the capitalist as a rule is not a man, but a part of a soulless machine, driven by the forces of greed and envy.

The lie told by the capitalists about "compulsory labour" in the Soviet Union is an attack upon the Soviet Union—an attack in which the capitalists will compel their unemployed workers and poverty-stricken peasants to take part. The workers and peasants of the Soviet Union are courageously and successfully building a socialist state, and are therefore working in the interest of the workers and peasants of the whole earth. The success of socialism in the Soviet Union will mean the final collapse of capitalism throughout the world, especially in America.

It is this fear of their doom that is the root and origin of the hatred by the capitalists for the Soviet Union. It is from this fear and this hatred that produced the lie about "compulsory labour."

"Compulsory labour"? In the Soviet Union labour is obligatory, but not compulsory, for the basic teaching of Socialism is: "he who does not work, neither shall he eat." Under Socialism everyone must work, and there is no place for parasites. In the Soviet Union, there is no compulsory labour, not even in prisons. There illiterate prisoners are obliged to learn to read and write, and peasant prisoners are allowed leave to go home and work their land and see their families.

Compulsory labour cannot exist in a country where the workers and peasants are the masters, where they are doing their best to create a socialist culture.

The power of the capitalists rests on slave labour not only in the colonies, but in their own countries. They beat up and shoot down unemployed and strikers in the streets almost everyday. And yet they say that compulsory labour in the Soviet Union is horrible. They are lying, of course.

—ABRIDGED FROM MAXIM GORKY: *The Legend of "Compulsory Labour"*.

### STUDY HELPS

1. crisis, *singular*; crises, *plural*. 2. lie (騙), lying, lay, laid; lie (說謊), lying, lied, lied, lay (放), laid, laid. 3. unemployed, *adj.*, *n.* (失業的; 失業者), unemployment, *n.* (失業). 4. Practise on these

phrases: no less than; as hopeless as; on socialist line (按社會主義的路線), in part, as a rule, to take part (參加), the root and origin of (. 的根源)

## GRAMMAR

**Subject Followed by "With" or "As Well As":**—The use of the preposition "with" and the conjunctive phrase "as well as" is often confused (混亂) with the conjunction "and," since all the three terms may be translated as "及, 同, 與, 和" in Chinese. But the use of "with" or "as well as" after a singular subject does not make the verb plural as the use of "and" does. The noun or pronoun before "with" or "as well as" is the real subject. *Ex.* The soulless capitalist *and* his running dog *are* lying. The soulless capitalist *with* his running dog *is* lying. The soulless capitalist *as well as* his running dog *is* lying.

## EXERCISE

*Correct or justify the following sentences:*

1. The man as well as the woman work for the master all day long.
2. The workers as well as the peasants of the People's Republic of China are courageously building a new democratic state.
3. The success of Socialism and the collapse of capitalism is definitely determined.
4. The lie about compulsory labour as well as other lies are purposely created by the American capitalists.
5. The capitalist and the feudal landlord as a rule is soulless.
6. The illiterate farmer and his wife learns to read and write.
7. The illiterate worker with his children learn to read and write.
8. Compulsory labour and obligatory labour is not the same thing.
9. Anchor after anchor and the mighty sheet anchor were cast into the sea.
10. The economic crisis with its crimes are steadily spreading in America.

## LESSON 3

### THE UNDERHAND FRIEND (I)

Once upon a time there was a poor little fellow named Hans. He lived in a tiny cottage all by himself, and every day he worked in his garden. In all the countryside there was no garden so lovely as his. All kinds of flowers grew there.

Little Hans had a great many friends, but the most underhand friend of all was the Miller. Indeed, so underhand was the rich Miller to little Hans, that he would never go by his garden without leaning over the wall and plucking some flowers or filling his pockets with plums and cherries if it was the fruit season.

"Real friends should have everything in common," the Miller used to say, and Little Hans nodded and smiled, and felt very proud of having a friend with such noble ideas.

Sometimes, indeed, the neighbours thought it strange that the rich Miller never gave little Hans anything in return, though he had a hundred sacks of flour stored away in his mill, and six cows, and a large flock of woolly sheep; but Hans never troubled his head about these things, and nothing gave him greater pleasure than to listen to all the wonderful things the Miller used to say about the unselfishness of true friendship.

So little Hans worked away in his garden. During the spring, the summer, and the autumn he was very happy, but when the winter came, and he had no fruit or flowers to bring to the market, he suffered a good deal from cold and hunger, and often had to go to bed without any supper but a few dry pears or some hard nuts. In the winter, also, he was extremely lonely, as the Miller never came to see him then.

"There is no good in my going to see little Hans as long as there is snow," the Miller used to say to his wife, "for when people are in trouble they should be left alone, and not be bothered by visitors. That at least is my idea about friendship, and I am sure I am right.— So I shall wait till the spring comes, and then I shall pay him a visit, and he will be able to give me a large basket of roses, and that will make him so happy."

"You are certainly very thoughtful about others," answered the wife, as she sat in her comfortable arm-chair by the big fire, "very thoughtful indeed. It is quite a treat to hear you talk about friendship. I am sure the priest himself could not say such beautiful things as you do, though he lives in a three-storied house, and wears a gold ring on his little finger."

"But could we not ask little Hans up here?" said the Miller's youngest son. "If poor Hans is in trouble I will give him half my food and show him my white rabbits."



"What a silly boy you are!" cried the Miller. "I really don't know what is the use of sending you to school. You seem not to learn anything. Going to school hasn't made you any wiser. Why, if little Hans came up here, and saw our warm fire, and our good supper, he might get envious, and envy is a most terrible thing, and would spoil anybody's nature. I certainly will not allow Hans' nature to be spoiled. I am his best friend, and I will always watch over him, and see that he is not led into any temptations. Besides, if Hans came here, he might ask me to let him have some flour on credit, and that I could not do. Flour is one thing, and friendship is another, and they should not be confused. Why, the words are spelt differently, and mean quite different thing. Everybody can see that."

"How well you talk!" said the Miller's wife, pouring herself out a large glass of warm ale. "Really I felt just like being in church."

"Lots of people act well," answered the Miller, "but very few people talk well, which shows that talking is much the more difficult thing of the two, and much the finer thing also." And he looked sternly across the table at his little son, who felt so ashamed of himself that he hung his head, and grew quite scarlet and began to cry into his tea.

As soon as the winter was over, and the roses began to blossom, the Miller said to his wife that he would go down and see little Hans.