

通向哈佛



循序渐进的潜心编排

独具匠心的巧妙过渡

# 新英语阅读

编撰“通向哈佛”系列的初衷并非缘于一时的灵动与激情，它是数位北京名师长期以来智慧与汗水的结晶。我们不敢妄称它是最好的，但希望它是最适合您的。如果您能从中受益，我们将感到无比欣慰！

苏均塘 / 主编

精心绘制的彩色插图



海豚出版社

# NEW

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通向哈佛

# 新英语 阅读

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# 前 言

本书的编写旨在使中学生朋友在紧张的学习之余,能借助英语篇目开阔视野,同时提高英语水平和阅读应试能力。

本书具有以下特点:

1. 本书分为初级、中级和高级三大部分,文章难度由低到高,分别适用于中学各年级学生和英语初学者阅读。

2. 文章内容涵盖文化、体育、娱乐、政治等各个方面,体裁多样,趣味性强,可使读者全方位领略英语的魅力。

3. 本书除对读者朋友较陌生的个别词汇作了中文注释外,还根据相邻文章的内容精心设计了新颖的英文过渡段,并在适当位置依照文章内容配有精巧、诙谐的插图,以期激发朋友们的阅读兴趣,并帮助您理解文章内容。

编者

2001.4





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## **Part 1 Elementary**

### **Chinese New Year in Hong Kong**

In my experience, Hong Kong is a great place to spend Chinese New Year. People there really know how to celebrate it and they prepare in a variety of ways.

1

In the days before the festival, people visit temples to pray for the new year. They bring gifts of whole roast pigs, ducks, chickens and fruits. The temples are crowded with people and filled with the smell of incense. They also buy special foods and ingredients for their family feasts and small orange trees, peach trees and other flowers for their homes.

On New Year's Eve, the family gather together for the traditional family meal and everybody stays up all night.

On New Year's Day, the streets are really quiet. Almost all the stores are closed. It is time for people to visit their relatives.

On the third day after New Year's Day, people go to watch fireworks at the Hong Kong Harbour. When fireworks start, the sky is filled with colours, designs, lights and noise.

The smells, sights, and sounds of Chinese New Year in Hong Kong

are forever imprinted on my mind.

**Notes:**

1. a variety of: 各种各样
2. temple: *n.* 寺庙
3. pray for: 为……而祈祷
4. roast pigs: *n.* 烤猪
5. smell of incense: 焚香的味道
6. ingredients: *n.* 调料
7. fireworks: *n.* 焰火
8. be imprinted on one's mind: 给 ... 留下深刻的印象

2

Do you think Hong Kong is a good place in which to celebrate New Year's Day?

Now let's have a relax and listen to a well-known Chinese fable entitled *The Boy Who Cried Wolf*.

Once upon a time there was a very naughty shepherd-boy. He often fell asleep while he was watching his sheep. And he told lies. The villagers shook their heads and said, "That boy will come to a bad end."

One day, when he was feeling very bored, the boy decided to play a practical joke on the villagers. He ran down the hill. "Wolf, wolf!" he cried. "Help, come quickly. Wolf!" All the villagers seized their spears and ran to help him. But there was no wolf. "He heard you," the naughty boy lied, "and ran away." When everyone



had gone, he started to laugh.

Three weeks later, when he was feeling very bored indeed, he decided to play the same trick again. "Wolf, wolf!" he shouted.

"Help, come quickly. Wolf!" Most of the villagers hurried to help him. This time the boy laughed at them, "What a good joke!" The villagers were very angry. "Lies are not jokes," they said.

Two days later the boy woke up suddenly. He had fallen asleep in the afternoon sun. What was that big dark animal coming towards his flock? Suddenly it seized a lamb. "Wolf!" screamed the boy.

"Wolf! Help, come quickly. Wolf!" But none of the villagers came to help him. He screamed again. The wolf heard him and licked its lips. "I like lamb," it thought, "but the shepherd-boy tastes much nicer."

When the shepherd-boy didn't come home that night, some of the villagers went to look for him. They found a few bones only.

3

**Notes:**

1. naughty: *a.* 淘气的
2. shepherd: *n.* 牧羊人
3. come to a bad end: 没有好下场
4. seize: *v.* 拿着
5. spear: *n.* 矛
6. play a trick: 恶作剧
7. flock: *n.* 羊群
8. lick: *v.* 舔

## The Sun and the Wind

One day the sun and the wind had a quarrel. The sun said he was stronger than the wind. And the wind said he was stronger than the sun. Just then they saw a man walking down below, with a hat and a coat on. The sun said: "Let's see who can make the man take off his hat and coat. If you can do that quicker than I, then you are the stronger."

"All right," said the wind, "I'll try first."

So the wind began to blow. But the harder he blew, the tighter the man held his hat and coat. The wind could not make him take them off.

4

Then the sun tried. It shone quietly. Soon the man took off his hat and wiped his forehead. The sun began to shine a little brighter, and the man took off his coat. It shone harder still, and the man began to take off his shirt. Then the wind said to the sun: "That's enough. You are stronger than I."

### Notes:

1. have a quarrel: 争吵
2. blew: *v.* blow 的过去时, 吹
3. forehead: *n.* 前额

Do you like the fable? What lesson can you learn from it?

Now let's pay a visit to the beautiful and interesting giant's garden.

A long time ago, a giant lived in a castle. The castle had a big garden. There were lots of beautiful trees and flowers in the garden.

Some children lived near the castle. They liked the giant's garden, but the giant did not like them. "You can't play here! It's my garden!" he shouted. The giant was selfish.

One day, the giant went to visit his brother. "The giant's going to be away for a long time," said the children. "Now we can play in his garden." They were very happy.

Every day they went to the beautiful garden and played. They climbed the trees. They swam in the river. They ran on the grass. They chased butterflies. The children liked the garden in all the seasons of the year.

In spring the flowers and leaves grew.

In summer the children rolled on the green grass.

In autumn the leaves were orange and red. They fell from the trees and the children played with them.

In winter the children played in the snow. They made snowmen.

Different children came to the garden every year.

(to be continued)

**Notes:**

1. giant: *n.* 巨人
2. castle: *n.* 城堡
3. selfish: *a.* 自私的
4. chase butterflies: 追蝴蝶
5. orange: *a.* 橙色的

## Seasons in Different Countries

Japan is in the Northern Hemisphere. Spring is from March to May in Japan. In the spring, people wait to see the flowers on the Japanese cherry trees. Then they have parties under the trees. This is the Hanami Festival.

The longest day in the Northern Hemisphere is on 21 or 22 June each year. This is the middle of summer. There is a four-day flower festival each June in California, USA. There is a parade and people go to flower fields to look at the flowers.

- 6 There is a Chinese festival in the autumn. It is the Mid-autumn Festival. People wait to see a big round moon in the night sky. They eat mooncakes and light lanterns.

Christmas is on 25 December. It is winter in the Northern Hemisphere. It is usually very cold. Sometimes it snows. But Christmas in Australia is in the summer. It is usually hot and sunny. Some people get to the beach on Christmas Day!

### Notes:

1. Northern Hemisphere: 北半球
2. Japanese cherry trees: 樱花树
3. mooncake: *n.* 月饼
4. lantern: *n.* 灯笼

What about the seasons in your hometown?

Do you still remember the giant's beautiful garden? Do you want to know what happened when the giant came back? Now let's continue the story.

After seven years, the giant came home. He became very angry when he saw the children.

"What are you doing here?" he shouted in a harsh voice, and the children ran away.

"My garden is my garden," cried the giant. "I will not allow anybody to play in it."

So the giant built a high wall all round the garden.

It was now spring, and all over the country there were little blossoms and little birds. Only in the garden of the giant it was still winter. The birds did not come to sing as there were no children in it, and the trees forgot to blossom. Only the snow and the frost were pleased. The snow covered up the grass with her great white cloak and the frost painted all the trees silver. Then they invited the north wind to stay with them, and he came.

"I cannot understand why spring is so late," said the giant, as he sat at the window and looked out at the cold, snow-covered garden.

But spring and summer did not come. Autumn gave golden fruit to every garden, but she did not give any to the giant's. "He is too selfish," she said. So it was always winter there, and the north wind, the frost and the snow danced among the trees. (to be continued)

**Notes:**

1. harsh: *a.* 粗鲁的、刺耳的
2. blossom: *n.* 花
3. cloak: *n.* 斗篷
4. frost: *n.* 霜

## The Foolish Frog

Once upon a time a big, fat frog lived in a tiny shallow pond. He was the biggest creature in the pond, so he was very important. When he croaked, the water-snails listened politely. And the water-beetles always swam behind him. He was very happy there.

One day, while he was catching flies, a pretty dragon-fly passed by. "You are a very fine frog," she sang, "but why don't you live in a bigger pond? Come to my pond. You'll find a lot of frogs there. You'll meet some fine fish, and you'll see the dangerous ducks. And you must see our lovely water-lilies. Life in a large pond is wonderful!"

"Perhaps it is rather dull here," thought the foolish frog. So he hopped after the dragon-fly.

But he didn't like the big, deep pond. It was full of strange plants. The water-snails were rude to him, and he was afraid of the ducks. The fish didn't like him, and he was the smallest frog there. He was lonely and unhappy.

He sat on a water-lily leaf and croaked sadly to himself, "I don't like it here. I think I'll go home tomorrow."

But a hungry heron flew down and swallowed him up for supper.

### Notes:

1. frog: *n.* 青蛙
2. shallow: *a.* 浅的
3. pond: *n.* 池塘
4. croak: *v.* 呱呱地叫



- 5. dragonfly: *n.* 蜻蜓
- 6. water-lily: *n.* 睡莲
- 7. hop: *v.* 跳过
- 8. heron: *n.* 苍鹭
- 9. swallow up: 吞食

What a foolish frog!

Shall we return to the giant's garden? Spring and summer did not come into the selfish giant's garden. Do you know what happened later?

One morning the giant was lying awake in bed when he heard some lovely music. It was a little bird singing outside his window. The north wind had stopped. A sweet perfume came to him through the open window.

"I believe spring has come at last," said the giant. He jumped out of bed and looked out of the window.

And what did he see?

He saw a most wonderful picture. Through a little hole in the wall the children had entered the garden, and they were sitting on the branches of the trees. In every tree there was a little child. The trees were so glad to see the children back again that they covered themselves with blossoms. The birds were flying about and singing happily, and the flowers were looking through the green grass. It was a lovely picture. Only in one corner of the garden it was still winter. A little boy was standing there crying. He was so small that he could not reach the branches of the tree. The poor tree was still covered with frost and snow, and the north wind was blowing above it.

The giant's heart was touched as he saw all this.

(to be continued)

**Notes:**

1. perfume: *n.* 芬芳
2. branch: *n.* 树枝
3. be touched: 受感动



## The Tongue-Cut Sparrow

Once upon a time there lived a kind-hearted old man and his bad-tempered wife. The man kept a sparrow, but the woman hated it, so one day, when the sparrow pecked at some paste, she became very angry, cut the sparrow's tongue and let it loose.

When her husband came home she said to him, "Your sparrow stole my paste, so I cut its tongue and let it go." The man was grieved to hear that, so he went out, looking for the bird and calling it.

He wandered for a long time, then one day he found the sparrow. The sparrow took the man to its home and offered him all sorts of delicious and expensive food. The man stayed for several days, then he had to go back home. The sparrow offered him a basket as a parting gift.

When he got home, he opened the basket: it was full of gold, silver, jewels and silk. His wife was greedy, so she decided to visit the sparrow too.

She went to its home and was very pleasant to it, and asked a parting gift. The sparrow produced two baskets, one was light, the other was heavy, and said to the woman, "Choose the one you prefer." The woman chose the heavy one and carried it home. When she opened it, all sorts of devils sprang out of it and began to torment her.

### Notes:

1. bad-tempered: *a.* 坏脾气的
2. sparrow: *n.* 麻雀
3. peck: *v.* 啄食