

# 英美短篇时文选读

Short Articles  
Selected for Reading

英 汉 对 照

第 **1** 集

商 务 印 书 馆



# Short Articles Selected for Reading

Vol. 1

Selected and Translated

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# 英美短篇时文选读

(英汉对照)

第一集

陈翰笙 选译

张澍智 注释

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## 本书简介

本书中的材料主要选自当代英美报刊杂志.如《星期日泰晤士报》、《今日马克思主义》月刊、《现代评论》、《卫报》、《美国新闻与世界报导》、《每月评论》、《现代历史》、《当代历史》、《少年非洲》、《非洲评论》、《经济学人》、《大西洋月刊》、《时代》周刊,等等,其中多为时事报导和专题评述。为节省篇幅起见,在每篇选文后,不一一注明出处。但为了明确文中内容的时间性,在每篇末都标明发表的年份。所选各文之间没有什么系统性,但内容范围比较广泛,语言形式生动活泼,知识性强,有助于读者提高阅读当代英语的能力。

每篇选文均附有汉译及注释。在译法上,比较灵活,注释方面,比较简单,可供中等英语程度的读者阅读。

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## 1. Mankind

Two to three million years ago in East Africa a new species of primate began to evolve. Over millennia<sup>1</sup> his brain became larger, he began to walk on his hind legs, his hands became more flexible, he developed an opposable thumb, he evolved a language, his brain and his hands enabled him to become a tool-maker—in short, he became Man.

Nature began a new experiment. Instead of adapting to a specific environment,<sup>2</sup> man acquired the capacity to adapt himself to any specific environment, he spread throughout the globe, changing as he moved,<sup>3</sup> until he became the most widely distributed species on earth.

Man adapted physically as well as culturally to the new surroundings into which he moved. Those who stayed in or moved to equatorial climates developed dark skin to protect them from the rays of the sun. Those who moved to colder climates developed light skin to take advantage of<sup>4</sup> the sunlight for the synthesis<sup>5</sup> of vitamin D. People in cold dry climates became stocky, to conserve heat. People in hot dry climates tended to become tall and thin, to dissipate heat.

Popularly and simplistically, most of the people of the world fall into three generally acknowledged racial groups—Mongoloid,<sup>6</sup> Negroid,<sup>7</sup> and Caucasoid.<sup>8</sup> This grouping is based

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1. millennia [mi'leniə]: 数千年。单数是 millennium [mi'leniəm]。 2. adapting to ... environment: 适应...环境, environment = surroundings. 3. changing as he moved: 这是一个分词短语, 当状语使用, 表示在迁移中继续

## 1. 人 类

两百万至三百万年前一种新的灵长类动物开始在非洲东部演化。经过数千年之后,他的脑子变大,开始用后腿走路,两手变得更加灵活,拇指能并拢,逐渐发展了语言,他已能手脑并用制造工具。总之,他已成为人了。

自然界开始了一次新的实验。人类不再是顺应环境,而是有了能适应任何环境的能力。他们分散到世界各地,在迁移中不断变化,直到成为在地球上分布最广的动物。

人类在身体和文化方面都能适应他迁进去的新环境。住在气候炎热的赤道地带的人在强烈日光下为要保护自己就有了黑色皮肤。迁移到较冷地带的人为了利用日光制成综合了种维生素就有了较白的皮肤。住在寒冷而干燥地区的人们长得矮胖结实,借此得以保留热量。住在干燥而炎热地区的人们长得高瘦,这样可以使热气容易发散。

很多人笼统地把世界各族人民分为公认的三大类——蒙古人种、黑色人种、高加索人种。这种以皮肤颜色,眼睛形状

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续变化; as 此处用作连词。 4. take advantage of ...: 利用...。 5. synthesis ['sɪnəʊsɪs]: 综合物。 6. Mongoloid ['mɒŋɡəloɪd]: 蒙古人种。 7. Negroid ['ni:grɔɪd]: 黑色人种。 8. Caucasoid ['kɔ:kəsoɪd]: 高加索人种。

on rather arbitrary characteristics — skin color, eye form, and hair form.

In temperate river valleys, agriculture developed about 10,000 years ago. It became necessary for large groups of people to cooperate in order to distribute the waters of irrigation equitably. With irrigation came surplus food, which meant that large numbers of people were freed from the land to pursue nonagrarian specialities — technological development, scholarship for its sake — and war. These were the seeds of “civilization”. Human society became complex under these circumstances.

Every culture gives its members an identity and, to a large extent,<sup>1</sup> molds the way in which they perceive the world and interact with other people. People of one culture are likely to see other peoples in terms of two basic categories: “we” (“people like me”) and “they” (“people not like me”).

— 1972

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1. to a large extent: 在很大程度上。比较: to some extent 多少,

和头发的式样特点为根据的分类是相当武断的。

在温带的河流两岸大约一万年以前就开始有农业，为了灌溉均匀，大量的人必须合作。有了灌溉，粮食充足，很多人就被解放出来去从事农业以外的工作——发展工艺，研究学问，甚至参加战争。这些都是“文明”的种子，人类社会就在这种情况下变得复杂起来了。

每一种文化都使它的成员具有一种共性，而且在很大程度上使他们对世界具有某种同样的看法。他们的看法和另一种文化里的人们的看法相互影响。因此属于一种文化的人往往把自己和另一种文化的人分在两个基本范畴之内，即“我们”（同自己一样的人们）和“他们”（同自己不一样的人们）。

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有些。

## 2. The Oldest Face in the World

Today the Sunday Times Magazine publishes the first colour photograph of the oldest intact mummy<sup>1</sup> in the world. He is a man who died 2,372 years before the birth of Christ. He lies underground in a shallow rock niche<sup>2</sup> at Saqqara,<sup>3</sup> the site of the Step Pyramid and only a 30 minute drive from the centre of Cairo.

He was found partly by accident by Dr. Ahemed Moussa, the Inspector of Antiquities at Saqqara, who is reconstructing the causeway built by the Pharaoh<sup>4</sup> Unas more than 4,000 years ago. Dr. Moussa discovered a quarry close to the causeway which had been filled with sand and debris. Tombs were cut into the quarry face but had been looted within a few centuries. Each tomb was painstakingly cleared by hand in the hope that something might have survived. In the last corner of the last tomb, Dr. Moussa found the beautiful and intact mummy of a singer named Waty.

Waty died 4,348 years ago — a full 500 years before the oldest intact mummy previously discovered. He is a unique survivor of the old Kingdom of Egypt. The history of his time is covered by Gardiner's<sup>5</sup> "Egypt of the Pharaohs" and Margaret Murray's<sup>6</sup> "The Splendour that was Egypt," both available in paperback editions.

The mummy still lies in its tomb at Saqqara. It is too

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1. mummy ['mami]: 木乃伊; 干尸。      2. rock niche: 石壁上的凹处。  
3. Saqqara [sɑ:'kwærɑ:]: 萨克拉。      4. Pharaoh ['fɛərəu]: 法老(古代埃

## 2. 世界最早古人的面貌

今天出版的《星期日泰晤士报杂志》登载了世界最早的完整的木乃伊的彩色照片。这是在公元前二千三百七十二年死去的一个男人。他的干尸藏在萨克拉一面石壁上一个不很深的凹处里。萨克拉位于重建金字塔的地方，离开罗市中心只有半小时的汽车路程。

这个古人是萨克拉的古代文物检查官艾默特·莫沙博士偶然发现的。在重新建造四千多年前尤纳斯法老筑成的人行道时，他在人行道附近发现一个满是沙堆和碎石的采石场。近几百年来，原有的坟墓在被开辟为采石场的过程中早已被盗一空。为要寻找一些残存的有价值的东西，他对每个坟墓都艰苦地用手去清理。在最后一个坟墓的最后一个角落里他终于发现了一个名叫沃蒂的歌唱家的美丽而完整的木乃伊。

沃蒂是在四千三百四十八年以前死去的。比已经发现最早的、完整无损的木乃伊要足足早五百年。他是埃及古王朝时代唯一的遗体。加德纳所著的《法老王朝的埃及》和马格丽特·默里所著的《富丽堂皇的埃及》都叙述了沃蒂时代的历史。这两部书都有纸封面的平装本问世。

现在沃蒂的木乃伊还留在萨克拉地方的坟墓里。这个发

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及君王的称号)。 5. Gardiner ['gɑ:dɪnə]: 姓。 6. Margaret Murray ['mɑ:gərit 'mari]: 姓名。

rich a discovery to be moved<sup>1</sup> to a museum. Scholars have been aware of<sup>2</sup> its existence, but tourists cannot see it. The tomb was unlocked by Dr. Moussa for Sunday Times photographer Bryan Wharton to capture the first pictures of Waty for the public. The result is an extraordinary view of Man as he was more than four millennia ago.

— 1976

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1. too rich a discovery to be moved: 内容太丰富了, 以致不宜于移动。

现内容太丰富了，以致不宜于把它迁到博物馆。学术界固然已经知道这个发现，但游客们还不能看到它。《星期日泰晤士报》的摄影记者布赖恩·沃顿第一次为读者去摄影，莫沙博士为他打开了墓门。结果是使大家都非常清楚地看到四千年以前沃蒂的本来面目。

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2. have been aware of: 已经知道了。

### 3. The "Green Revolution"

The introduction of new varieties of rice and wheat in Asia and Latin America has been known as the "Green Revolution". So far<sup>1</sup> the new seeds and the accompanying technology have not resulted in increased agricultural production per head<sup>2</sup> or reduced malnutrition.<sup>3</sup> The direct, quantitative effects of introducing high-yielding varieties of foodgrains have been modest.

The indirect and quantitative effects, however, have sometimes been significant. The new technology has led to changes in crop pattern<sup>4</sup> and in methods of production. It has accelerated the development of a market-orientated, capitalist agriculture. It has encouraged the growth of wage labour, and thereby helped to create or augment a class of agricultural labourers. It has increased the power of landowners, and this in turn has been associated with a greater polarization<sup>5</sup> of classes and intensified conflict.

Changes in status and class alignments have been accompanied by changes in the distribution of income. Profits and rents have increased absolutely and relatively. The share of wages has declined and in some instances real wages rates or the number of days worked, or both, have declined. In short, an old system of agriculture, slowly or swiftly, is in the process of being destroyed by the advance of contemporary technology.

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1. so far: 到目前为止,迄今。      2. per head: 每人。      3. malnutrition ['mælnju(:)'triʃən]: 营养不良。  
4. pattern ['pætən]: 原意为“型”

### 3. “绿色革命”

亚洲和拉丁美洲采用了各式各样的稻麦新品种，通称为“绿色革命”。但到目前为止新品种和伴随而来的新耕作技术并未增加按每个人计算的农产品产量，也没有解决营养不良的问题。试用高产新品种直接数量效果并不显著。

但间接数量效果有时倒很显著。新技术改变了收成的次数和生产方法，同时也加快了面向市场的资本主义农业的发展。新技术使领工资的劳工不断增加，从而促成农业劳动者阶级的形成和壮大。它助长了地主的权力，反过来就促进了阶级的两极分化，使阶级斗争更加尖锐。

在阶级地位和阶级关系发生变化的同时，人们收入的分配情况也有所变动。利润和租金都有绝对的和相对的增加，而工资部分却减少了。有些地方的实际工资或工作日数减少了，甚至二者都减少了。总而言之，新的技术发展正在或快或慢地促使旧的农业制度趋于崩溃。

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式样”，此处指收成的次数。

5. polarization [ˌpɒləraɪˈzeɪʃən]: 两极分化。