王玉琨



(第三册)

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英语阅读丛书

(注译本)

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主编 王玉琨

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《英语阅读丛书》以美国引进的《English Reading Laboratory II B》为蓝本,结合我国英语学习者的实际,精选了120篇,分为六册。每课后有阅读理解及词汇练习,配生词表和注释。每册之后配全部课文的参考译文。本书可供大学英语专业学生、函授及夜大学学生、非英语专业研究生、各类进修班及广大自学者使用。

本书所选文章深入浅出,通俗易懂。各课后所列生词的词义选择以在课文中使用的意义为主。注释主要包括难词、难句和背景知识。为了帮助读音准确理解,注释中还附加了示例。译文力求忠实于原文,以直译为主,旨在方便读者深入理解原文。

本书体裁、题材新颖多样,语言地道规范,系统性、科学性、知识性和趣味性均强。全书选文的内容广泛,名人传略轶事、科普科幻,应有尽有,政治、历史、地理、宗教、文化、风俗习惯等无所不包。对于扩大词汇量,拓宽知识面,培养阅读技能与技巧,提高阅读速度与理解能力,都有极大裨益。

本书由东北师范大学外语系王玉琨主持编写。参加注释的有薛永库和赵俊峰。参加翻译的有何善康、张绍杰、宫立都、符延军、王玉琨、范春荷、张跃东。全部注释及译文由王玉琨整理、修改并定稿。

由于编者水平有限,加之时间仓促,疏漏及谬误之处难免,恳请广大读者不吝赐教。

编 者 1989年10月

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Which was Witch?

by Eleanore M. Jewett

--- 1 -----

In Korea, there once lived a wise and learned man named Kim Su-ik, whose mind was entirely taken up with study and books. One night he was absorbed in studying a Chinese classic when he suddenly felt hungry. He clapped his hands to summon a servant; immediately his door opened, and his wife stepped in. "What does the master of the house desire?" she asked.

"Food," he replied briefly, his attention once again on his book.

"There is nothing much in the house but roasted chestnuts," she said. "If they will satisfy you, I will bring them to you myself, for the servants have all gone to bed."

Kim Su-ik grunted his approval and went on with his studies. Soon the door opened again and his wife came in carrying a brass bowl full of hot roasted chestnuts. He helped himself to one and was just putting it into his mouth when once more the door opened and in stepped his wife with a brass bowl full of hot roasted chestnuts.

But his wife was already there, standing beside him with the bowl in her hands! Kim Su-ik, with a chestnut halfway into his mouth, looked in astonishment from one to the other of the women. They were as like as two pins-faces, features, figures, clothes, everything. Never were twins more completely alike!

He passed his hands before his eyes. "I must have overdone my studying," he thought to himself. "My eyes are playing tricks on me—they are making me see double!"

But when he looked again, the two women were still there, and what was stranger still, they did not seem aware of each other. Both stood quietly, gracefully, their eyes fastened upon him as if waiting to know his pleasure.

Kim Su-ik leaped to his feet, choking back the cry of terror that rose in his throat. He knew suddenly exactly what this meant. It was midnight, the moon was full, and ghosts, witches, and goblins would be abroad, filled with evil power. One of these two creatures standing before him was his wife, known and loved by him all his wedded life. The other must be a witch, able to change into any form she chose at the twinkling of an eye!

But which was which? How could be protect his wife and drive the evil double away? Being a quick thinker as well as a wise one. Kim Su-ik sprang into action. He seized the arm of one of the women with his right hand and the arm of the other with his left hand. They both turned mildly reproachful eyes upon him but made no effort to free themselves.

"My dear." said one, "too much study has fevered your brow."

"My dear." said the other, "too much reading of books has affected your mind."

Kim Su-ik looked from one to the other, but from neither could he get a hint as to which was wife and which was witch. He shook them gently, but they smiled indulgently as at a child. He shook harder, yet neither one seemed resentful or struggled to get free. He was tempted to relax his grip on the two arms but he knew he must not for a moment do that.

Minutes went by, then hours, the dull slow-moving hours between midnight and cockerow, while the three stood motionless, silent, in the same spot. Kim Su-ik grew weary beyond words, and he knew his wife, too, must be weary, but neither of the two women showed any emotion at ali.

Kim Su-ik was very troubled indeed, for it wasn't like his wife not to say or do something. What in the world had gotten into her? Was she bewitched, or could she be walking in her sleep? Perhaps she was not either one of these women—maybe they were both evil spirits! He wanted to rush into the other part of the house to see if his wife was there, thus proving that both of these creatures beside him were witches. But he did not move, just hung on, grimly, silently.

At long last a cock crowed. Instantly the woman at his left tried to wrench her arm free while the other remained absolutely quiet.

Kim Su-ik released the unresisting one and threw all his strength into a struggle with the other. Like a wild thing, the creature fought—biting, snarling, spitting, leaping back and forth. Still Kim Su-ik held on to her, unwilling to let her go free.

The arm in his hand shrank and grew hairy, the whole figure dwindled, and the eyes grew round and green and blazed with fury. Another cock crowed and another, and the first gray light of dawn melted the dark shadows our of doors. But Kim Su ik did not notice the coming of morning. With a hideous shriek the creature changed before his very eyes into a powerful wildrat. In horror he loosed his hold, and she leaped through the window and was gone.

"I still think you are studying too much," said a quiet, familiar voice behind him. He turned around and saw his wife, pale, trembling a little, but smiling confidently.

"Why didn't you let me know which was which?" demanded Kim Su-ik.

His wife laughed. "I don't know what you are talking about. You behaved very strangely, but then one never knows what to expect of a scholar. Which was which

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HOW WELL DID YOU READ?

How careful was your reading?

- 1. This story takes place over several
 - A days
 - B hours
 - C minutes

What happened when?

- 2. Kim first realized that there was a witch in the house when
 - A he called for food and his wife said there was nothing but chestnuts
 - B he thought his wife came in twice
 - C he saw two women side by side
- 3. The first thing Kim did was to
 - A look for his wife in the other rooms
 - B catch hold of both women
 - C look for a hint of which was his wife

Did you grasp the main ideas?

- During the time the witch was in the house, the wife seemed
 - A to be impatient with Kim's strange actions
 - B to be too frightened to speak
 - C not to know that there was a witch
- 5. The witch struggled to free herself because
 - A Kim Su-ik had guessed the truth
 - B the true wife had revealed herself
 - C daylight had arrived
- 6. Kim let the witch go because she
 - A changed into a wildcat
 - B stopped struggling to free herself
 - C attacked him

Can you draw the right conclusions?

- 7. Kim su-ik was
 - A a beilever in witchcraft
 - B a serious scholar
 - C both A and B
- 8. One outstanding trait of Korean wives is
 - A intelligence
 - B a sense of humor
 - C obedience
- 9. This story probably came from a
 - A great Chinese classic
 - B book of folk tales and fables
 - C newspaper report

LEARN ABOUT WORDS

A. Often you can tell the meaning of a word by reading the words around it. This is called getting the meaning from context.

Directions: Find the word in the paragraph that means

- 1. example of great literature (1)
- 2. order; call for (1)
- 3. married (8)
- 4. took hold of (9)
- 5. full of blame or disapproval (9)
- 6. kindly; too kindly (12)
- 7. very tired (13)
- B. A word may have more than one meaning. Its meaning depends on the way it is used.

Directions: Read the three meanings for each

word. Look back to the paragraph to see how the word is used in the story. Then choose the correct meaning and write the letter that stands before it.

- 8. figures (5)
 - numerical symbols: numbers Α
 - designs and patterns
 - \boldsymbol{c} human forms
- 9. quietly (7)
 - Α without moving
 - R not loudly
 - not busily
- 10. dull (13)
 - blunt: not pointed Α
 - В boring
 - stupid
- 11. crowed (15)
 - boasted
 - B expressed pleasure
 - made the cry of a rooster
- 12. arm (15)
 - A part of the boby between the shoulder and the hand
 - В weapon
 - supporting side of a sofa

NEW WORDS

witch 女巫,妖精 轻拍 clap sum'mon 召唤 chest¹nut 栗子 grunt 咕哝地说 approval [ə'pru: vl] 同意 brass [bra: s] 黄铜 喷塞,闷住 choke

gob¹lin 妖怪

e^fvil 邪恶的

twin'kle 眨眼

see double 看模糊,看重影

mildly ['maildli] 温柔地,温和地 reproachful [ri'prout]ful] 责备的

fe'ver

使发烧

indul gently 金 密 金 曲

忿恨的, 不满的 resent!ful

tempt sb. to do sth. 引诱

bewitch' vt. 施魔力于

at long last 终干

wrench 猛扭 (拧、扳)

吠, 噻 snari

shrink, shrank, shrunk 收缩, 卷缩

多毛的 hairy ['heəri]

dwin¹dle 缩小

hideous [hidiəs] 可怕的

con fidently 有信心地:大胆地

but then

NOTES

1. (1.2)(第 1 段第 2 行,以下举推)…, whose mind was entirely taken up with study and books.

take up 占去 (地方、时间、注意力等) He is completely taken up with his work.

(他的全部精力都放在工作上了。)

2. (1, 2) One night he was absorbed in studying a Chinese classic when he suddenly felt hungry. be absorbed in …. 专心于…… He is absorbed in study.

(他专心读书。)

3. (1, 4) ..., and his wife stepped in. step in : 进来

If you happen to be passing by, be sure to step in and have a chat.

(如果你正好路过的话,请一定进来谈谈。)

4. (4. 1-2) Soon the door opened again and his wife came in carrying a brass bowl full of hot roasted chestnuts.

carrying a brass bowl full of hot roasted chestnuts

现在分词短语作伴随情况状语。

5. (4.3-4) ... when once more the door opened and in stepped his wife with a brass bowl ...,

in stepped his wife 副词 in 前置于句首, 句子 用倒装语序, 正常语序是 his wife stepped in

- 6. (5.2-3) ..., looked in astonishment from one to the other of the women. in (with) astonishment; 惊讶地to one's astonishment; 使某人吃惊He held up his hands in (with) astonishment. (他惊讶地举起他的双手。)
- 7. (6.2) My eyes are playing tricks on me.
 play a trick on: 诈骗、欺骗
 He played trick on his friend in a spirit of fun

(他作弄他的朋友以为玩笑。)

8. (8.1) ..., choking back the cry of terror that rose in his throat.

choke back — keep back (one's) anger, feelings, sobs, tears, etc) 抑制 (愤怒、感情、呜咽、眼泪等)

How could be choke back his indignation at the slanderous charges his opponent levelled against him?

(对于他的反对者加在他头上的种种诽谤, 他怎能不义愤填膺呢?)

PROMETHEUS GAVE MANKIND

The Gift of Fire

by Margaret Evans Price

The ancient Greeks told many tales to explain the things of nature. They imagined a whole family of gods—creatures who were somewhat like humans but had great powers. These gods were said to live on Mount Olympus. The Greeks made up stories about each of the gods. One story, concerning Prometheus, presents the Greek explanation of how man got fire.

Before Zeus became chief of all the gods on Mount Olympus, there were other gods—children of the Sky and the Earth. Some of them, the Titans, were savage and cruel. For ten years, Zeus and his brothers and sisters fought against the Titans. Finally, with the help of one—eyed giants called Cyclopes, the Titans were defeated, and Zeus sent them all to a fiery prison in the underworld.

One of these Titans, named Prometheus, was very wise. He had guessed that Zeus would win the war, and had therefore fought on his side. He had convinced his brother, Epimetheus, to do the same.

Thus, when there was peace again, and Zeus sat on his throne on Mount Olympus, he sent for Prometheus. In gratitude for Prometheus' help, Zeus gave him great power. He sent him to earth and told him to make mortal man out of clay. When Prometheus had made his statues of men out of clay, said Zeus, he would come and breathe l.fe into them. There were to be only men—no women or children.

Zeus told Prometheus to teach the mortals anything they needed to know in order to live. He was also to teach them the arts, so that they could build beautiful temples to honor the gods. There was, in fact, only one thing he could not teach them.

"You may give the mortals any gift except the gift of fire," said Zeus. "Fire belongs to the gods only, and must be kept on Mount Olympus."

Prometheus was happy to be of service to man. He taught people how to make their own tools and how to build homes for themselves. He taught them how to plant and grow their own food, and how to use animals to make their work easier. He even taught them how to make music and how to paint. but without fire, Life on earth was very difficult.

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Food had to be eaten raw; houses could not be kept warm. Tools had to be of stone, because there was no fire for working metal.

Athena, daughter of Zeus, had been watching over Parometheus and had helped him in his work. Now, because Prometheus was kind and wanted man to be comfortable on earth, he called upon Athena to help him get fire from Mount Olympus. She knew that Zeus was away and promised to lead Prometheus to Mount Olympus by a secret path. Before leaving, Prometheus called his brother Epimetheus to him and told him what he was going to do.

"My brother," said Prometheus, "I know that when I steal the fire from the heavens, Zeus will be very angry. He will, I am sure, punish me severely. I am willing to accept punishment if you will promise to take my place. I love mankind, and want to be sure that you will carry on my work."

Sadly, Epimetheus gave his promise. Then Prometheus added, "Be very careful when I am gone. Be sure, above all, that you do not do anything to anger Zeus. He has great powers, and is to be feared."

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Then Athena led Prometheus to Mount Oympus. Just as he arrived, Apollo came back from his day's journey in his chariot of the sun. Prometheus lit a torch from the chariot and put the fire in a hollow stalk that he concealed under his cloak. Then he stole away without being seen by any of the gods, and brought his fire to earth.

When Prometheus lit the first campfire on earth, the people were afraid of it. But they trusted him, and so they came closer and closer and enjoyed the fire's pleasant warmth and beautiful glow.

Prometheus knew that he would not have much time before Zeus discovered that he had been disobedient. But he also knew that, powerful as Zeus was, once a god had given a gift it could not be taken away. So he quickly taught the mortals how to use the gift of fire.

Soon Zeus returned to Mount Olympus. Looking down to earth at night, he saw sparks of light from the campfires, and he knew that Prometheus had given man fire. Angrier than he had ever been before, he called his son Hephaestus, god of metalworking. When he came before him, Zeus commanded:

"Go down to earth and capture Prometheus. Carry him to the great mountain at the edge of the world. Forge a metal chain that cannot be broken, and with this chain bind Prometheus to a rock and leave him there. He shall stay there forever, for he is an immortal and cannot die. He will freeze in winter and be scorched in summer. He will be an example to any who dare to disobey the god of the heavens."

Sorrowfully, Hephaestus carried out his father's wishes. Because he had helped mankind, Prometheus stayed chained to the rock for many years. Then at last the mighty Hercules came forth and broke the bonds forged by Hephaestus—but that is another of the wonderful stories of the Greeks.

C chaining Prometheus to a rock

Did you understand the characters?

- 8. The Greeks thought Zeus was
 - A cruel and unjust
 - B ungrateful and selfish
 - C powerful and strict
- 9. Prometheus can most fairly be described as
 - A foolish
 - B too trusting
 - C wise and good

LEARN ABOUT WORDS

A. Often you can tell the meaning of a word by reading the words around it. This is called getting the meaning from context.

Directions: Find the word in the paragraph that means

- 1. wild; fierce (2)
- 2. persuaded (3)
- 3. able to die (4)
- 4. aid (7)
- 5. greatly; harshly (9)
- δ . two-wheeled horse-drawn cart (11)
- 7. hid (11)
- B. A word may have more than one meaning. Its meaning depends on the way it is used.

Directions: Read the three meanings for each word. Look back to the paragraph to see how the word is used in the story. Then choose the correct meaning and write the letter that stands before it.

- 8. temples (5)
 - A buildings for worship
 - B flat surfaces in front of the ear
 - C devices used in weaving
- 9. raw (7)

HOW WELL DID YOU READ?

Do you remember the main ideas?

- 1. Promtheus was a
 - A Greek warrior
 - B brother of Zeus
 - C Titan
- 2. Zeus was indebted to Prometheus for
 - A rescuing him from the Cyclopes
 - B telling him that he would win the war
 - C helping him defeat the Titans
- 3. Prometheus' reward from Zeus was
 - A the power to make men out of clay
 - B permission to teach the men
 - C both A and B

Do you see why?

- 4. Zeus did not want men to have fire because he thought that
 - A it was too dangerous a gift
 - B it should belong only to the gods
 - C men did not need it to live
- 5. Prometheus gave man fire to
 - A disobey Zeus
 - make man's life easier
 - C please Epimetheus
- 6. Zeus did not prevent Prometheus from disobeying him because he
 - A planned to catch him in the act
 - B did not have that power
 - C was away from Olympus at the time it happened
- 7. Hephaestus carried out the punishment by
 - A killing Prometheus
 - B taking back the fire

- A sore and inflamed
- B cold and damp
- C uncooked
- 10. stole (11)
 - A moved quietly
 - B passed by without being noticeable
 - C both A and B
- 11. forge (15)
 - A make; shape
 - B imitate in order to deceive
 - C move forward slowly but steadily
- 12. bonds (16)
 - A written agreements
 - B interest-bearing certificates
 - C things that hold things together; shackles

NEW WORDS

Prome'theus 普罗米修斯 Zeus 宙斯 Tiltan 泰坦;巨人 Cyclo pes (pl.) 独眼巨人 un'derworld 始稅 grat'itude 感激,感恩 mor'tal 凡人(的) statue [ˈstætju:] 塑像 above all 尤其是 Apollo 阿波罗 (太阳神) chariot ['tfæriət] 战车,凯旋车 disobe dient 不服从的 Hephaestus 赫斐斯堵司 (锻冶之神) immor'tal 永生的,不朽的;古希腊神 Her'cules 海格立斯(宙斯之子,大力神):

scorch 烧焦,烤焦 bonds (pl.) 镣铐

NOTES

- 1. (1.4) Mount Olympus, 奥林匹斯山(在希腊 北部,古代神话中众神所居之处)
- (1.4) The Greeks made up stories about each of the gods.

make up:编造、虚构

The whole story is made up.

(这件事情完全是虚构出来的。)

- 3. (1.5) Prometheus: (希腊之主神) 普罗米修 斯
- 4. (2.1) Zeus: 宙斯(古希腊之主神)
- 5. (2.3) Tirans: 泰坦(希腊神话中的巨人族之 任何一员)
- 6. (2.5) Cyclopes: (希神) 独眼巨人。
- 7. (4.2) ··· , he sent for Prometheus. send for : 派人去请,派人去叫

The child is running a high fever. We must send for a doctor at once.

(孩子在发高烧,我们必须马上派人去请医生。)

8. (13.4) ..., powerful as Zeus was, ...
as 连词引出让步状语从句。 又如:
Tortuous as the road of struggle is, the prospects
for the revolutionary people are bright.

(尽管斗争道路是曲折的,革命人民的前途 是光明的。)

The Treasure of Sanibel Island

by Murray T. Pringle

On the beach of a little island in Florida, a college professor was collecting seashells from among thousands that lay strewn over the sands. They were of all sorts, shapes, sizes, and descriptions. Gathering an armful of the choicest specimens, he carried them to higher ground, well beyond the greedy clutch of the ocean. He left them there for about thirty minutes. When he returned, he stared in astonishment; every shell had vanished!

The only footprints in the sand were his own, so that no thief was responsible. Nor could ocean waves possibly have reached the spot, because the sand was bleached white and bone dry. What, then, had become of the shells? The solution was extremely simple; they had been "repossessed." What the professor had believed to be empty, lifeless shells were actually occupied by hermit crabs. While he was gone the crabs had simply taken their shells home to the shoreline. Mystery solved.

Such experiences are not unusual for the amateur conchologists (shell collectors) who seek the treasure of Sanibel Island. Sanibel, a strip of land twelve miles long and two miles across at its widest point, is four miles off Florida's Gulf Coast. Although it is visited by many who are interested in shell collecting, it is inhabited by only a few dozen people. Most of these earn their living by collecting and selling the strange treasures that the tide tosses on their shores.

For hundreds of years, the ocean has cast up tons of such wealth on the little island. With the exception of Australia's Great Barrier Reef and a few remote spots in the South Pacific, there is no other place in the world that offers collectors such a variety. Sanibel shells include nearly four hundred different species.

Following almost every storm, gay and unusual shells are washed onto the beaches. They form four or five long heaps, each as much as three feet deep. Even on calm nights, the ceaseless ocean tides deliver fresh supplies.

Why, of all islands in the Western Hemisphere, should Sanibel be so rich in this strange treasure? The answer lies in its position. Sanibel is the last in a string of coastal

islands extending south from Charlotte Harbor. The rest of the islands run from north to south, but Sanibel runs from east to west, forming a natural barrier that blocks shelled creatures working their way northward from the tropics.

Shell collecting may never become as popular as stamp or coin collecting, but it is enjoyed by thousands of people all over the world. There are about 150, 000 different types of shells. They can be divided into two main classes; univalves and bivalves. Univalves are best typified by conches and snails. Bivalves have twin shells connected by a hinge; there are more than 16, 000 varieties, including the familiar oyster, clam, scallop, and mussel.

Seashells range in value from a few cents to hundreds, even thousands, of dollars. Some of the deepwater shells around Sanibel are worth \$400 apiece. Not long ago a wealthy collector paid \$10,000 for a rather mediocre collection in order to obtain a rare univalve volute.

If a shell collector wanted to be cute in describing his hobby, he could say, "I collect skeletons!" For that is what shells really are—the skeletons of creatures that wear their bony framework on the outside rather than on the inside as most other animals do.

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Every year a shell show is held on the island. It draws collectors and shell experts who come from all over the world to study and marvel at the thousands of specimens and the novelties that have been made from the more common shells. The main exhibits, however, are not for sale. These include the rare and beautiful gloria maris (glory of the sea), which is found in Philippine waters. This shell is valued at \$1,000, but so few are known to exist that no collector who owns one will sell for any price.

Since the advent of deep—sea diving and skin diving, several shells that were once extremely rare have dropped in value. An example is the junonia, which is among the shells found on Sanibel. It is a striking specimen, a creamy white shell of slim spindle shape, marked with spiral rows of brown or orange spots. Once, around the middle of the nineteenth century, a junonia shell sold at a London shell auction for \$ 2500. Only a few years ago a junonia was still fetching a price of \$ 200. Recently, however, more and more have been found. Today good specimens are worth \$ 30, and ordinary ones sell for as little as \$ 3.

The rarer, more valuable shells found on Sanibel are sold to hobbyists, museums. and dealers. The more common types are shipped by the barrel to manufacturers who turn the shells into ashtrays, lamps, and other articles.

Shells have been used as money by many peoples. The American Indian, for instance, used shell money, which he called wampum. Indians also used certain shells as razors or as decorations for their costumes.

Shells were also used in early industries. The Phoenicians of ancient Tyre discovered that a purple dye could be made by crushing certain shells; this dye was used to color clothing.

Conchology is an inexpensive hobby that you can enjoy even if you don't live near the seashore. Snail shells can be found in wooded areas, especially under fallen leaves, decaying logs, or stones. You may also find fossilized shells embedded in rocks and dried—up stream beds. Clean the shells immediately. Washing may be enough for some; others may have to be soaked in alcohol. Dry your specimens in the shade to prevent the sunshine from fading them. As a final treatment, polish the shells with oil or petroleum jelly. Expanding your collection will be an endless source of fun and satisfaction. And perhaps someday you may add to it some of the treasures of Sanibel Island.

HOW WELL DID YOU READ?

What was the writer's purpose?

- The writer told the story of the professor and the vanishing shells to
 - A give the reader an idea of what shell collecting is like
 - B provide an interesting opening
 - C set a tone of mystery for the article

How carefully did you read?

- 2. The key to the mystery was the fact that the shells were
 - A valuable
 - B wet
 - C occupied
- The most unusual thing about the Sanibel shells is their
 - A variety
 - B colorfulness
 - C usefulness
- 4. Sanibel receives a fresh supply of shells
 - A once a year
 - B every night
 - C only after storms

Did you understand why?

- 5. The shells come to Sanibel because it is
 - A the last in a chain of islands
 - B a barrier in the path of shell creatures
 - C both A and B
- The clam is classified as a bivalve because it has
 - A a skeleton
 - B no hinge
 - C two shells
- 7. The junonia shell declined in value because
 - A the supply increased
 - B the quality decreased
 - C both A and B

Can you see the similarities?

- American Indians and ancient Phoenicians were alike in that both
 - A collected shells as a hobby
 - B used shells for decorative purposes
 - C had shell money
- 9. Stamp and shell collecting are alike in that
 - A rare specimens always increase in value
 - B one can spend much or little on them
 - C new varieties are created every year

LEARN ABOUT WORDS

A. Often you can tell the meaning of a word by

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