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● 世界名著英文

阅读与精练丛书 ●

# 远大前程

[英]查尔斯·狄更斯 著

John Den 弘 扬 编

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# 《世界名著英文阅读与精练丛书》

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## 前 言

随着我国经济文化与世界的接轨,英语交流变得越来越重要,如何熟练掌握和运用英语,早已成为众多英语学习者迫切希望解决的问题,尤其是对于广大青少年学生,常感到学英语无从下手。其实,学习任何一种语言,最重要、最关键的一环就是阅读,英语也不例外。在每年一度的高考中,阅读理解所占的比重已高达30%以上,因此提高阅读理解能力不容忽视。但是由于各方面的原因,许多读者一时很难找到适合自己的英文读物,或是没有足够的时间去阅读大量复杂繁长的英文著作。针对这种情况,我们策划编写了这套《世界名著英文阅读与精练丛书》。希望这套丛书能使读者在最短的时间内获得最显著的学习效果,快速提高阅读理解能力,扩大知识面,增强语感。

当然,阅读作品必须精选,只有选读高质量的作品才能收到高质量的效果,而这套《世界名著英文阅读与精练丛书》收录了8种近年来在国内普遍受欢迎的国外经典英文著作简易本,其中有《简·爱》、《远大前程》、《双城记》、《名利场》、《格林童话》、《伊索寓言》、《天方夜谭》、《希腊神话精选》等。该丛书浅显易懂,语言精美,每册每章都配备一定的练习题,使读者在阅读时不感到吃力、乏味,也不像读消遣读物那样浪费时间,令读者在轻松的环境中领略经典著作的魅力,在不知不觉中提高阅读理解能力。相信读者在读过、练过之后,定会对自己突飞猛进的英语阅读理解水平大感惊异!

本《丛书》主要是为广大在校的青少年学生以及有中等水平的

英语学习者设计编写的,是广大青少年学生提高阅读能力,拓宽知识面的最佳课外读物。此外,本《丛书》也可供中学教师作为课外阅读辅导材料。对于大学生或研究生来说,也不失为一套极佳的英文读物。

编 者

2001 年 12 月

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## ♣ CHAPTER 1

### I Am Told to Steal

**M**y father's family name being Pirrip, and my Christian name Philip, my **infant**<sup>①</sup> tongue could make of both names nothing longer than Pip. So, I called myself Pip, and came to be called Pip. Having lost both my parents in my infancy, I was brought up by my sister, Mrs. Joe Gargery, who married a blacksmith.

Ours was the **marsh**<sup>②</sup> country, down by the river, within twenty miles of the sea. My earliest memory is of a cold, damp afternoon towards evening. At such a time I found out for certain that this windy place overgrown with **coarse**<sup>③</sup> grass was the churchyard; and that my father, mother and five little brothers were dead and buried there; and that the dark flat wilderness beyond the church-

① **infant** *n.* 婴儿, 幼儿;  
*a.* 婴儿的, 幼稚的。  
如: infant voices 童音。  
infancy 是名词, 意为幼小, 婴儿期; in one's infancy 是“在婴儿期”的意思。

② **marsh** *n.* 沼泽, 湿地。  
意指 (a piece of) low land that is soft and wet, 既可作可数名词, 又可作不可数名词。

③ **coarse** *a.* 粗糙的, 粗的。  
此处指杂草丛生, 蔓草丛生。

yard was the marshes; and that the low **lead**<sup>④</sup> line further down was the river; and that the distant place from which the wind was rushing was the sea, and that the small boy growing afraid of it all and beginning to cry was Pip.

“Hold your noise,” cried a terrible voice, as a man started up from among the graves. “Keep still, you little devil, or I’ll cut your throat.”

A fearful man, all in coarse grey, with a great **iron**<sup>⑤</sup> on his leg. A man with no hat, and with broken shoes, and with an old rag tied round his head. He **limped**<sup>⑥</sup> and **shivered**<sup>⑦</sup>, and his teeth chattered in his head as he seized me by the chin.

“Oh! Don’t cut my throat, sir.” I begged him in terror. “Pray, don’t do it, sir.”

“Tell me your name,” said the man, “Quick.”

“Pip, sir.”

“Once more,” said the man, staring at me. “**Speak out**<sup>⑧</sup>.”

“Pip. Pip, sir.”

“Show me where you live,” said the man. “Point out the place.”

I pointed to where our village lay, a mile or more from the church.

④ **lead** *a.* 铅灰色的。

如: a leaden sky (cloud)  
铅灰色的天空(云)。

⑤ **iron** *n.* 手铐, 脚镣。用  
作此意时为可数名词,  
通常用复数形式。

⑥ **limp** *vi.* 蹒跚, 瘸着走。  
意为 to walk with an  
uneven step. 例: The  
wounded soldier limped  
off the battlefield. 那位  
伤员一瘸一拐地离开了  
战场。

⑦ **shiver** *vi.* 颤抖。

⑧ **speak out**: 大声讲, 清楚  
地说。例: The teacher  
asked her to speak out.  
老师要她大声讲。

The man, after looking at me for a moment, **turned me upside down**,<sup>⑨</sup> and emptied my pockets. There was nothing in them but a piece of bread, which he took and began to eat greedily.

“You young dog!” said the man, licking his lips. “What fat cheeks you **ha’ got**!”<sup>⑩</sup>

I believe they were fat, though I was at that time undersized for my years, and not strong.

He asked me where my father and mother were. When I had pointed out their tombstones to him, he asked me with whom I lived. I told him I lived with my sister, wife of Joe Gargery, the blacksmith.

On hearing the word “blacksmith” he looked down at his leg and then at me. He took me by both arms and ordered me to bring him, early the next morning at the old Battery, a file and some food, or he would have my heart and **liver**<sup>⑪</sup> out. I was not to say a word about it all. “I **ain’t**<sup>⑫</sup> alone,” he said, “as you may think I am. There’s a young man hid with me, **in comparison with**<sup>⑬</sup> whom I am an angel. That young man

⑨ **upside down**: 上下颠倒, 倒置。此处指把我头朝地脚朝天地翻了个个儿。

⑩ **ha’ got**: 即 have got。

⑪ **liver** *n.* 肝脏。此词是可数名词。另外它还有一个意思, 即与定语连用表示过着某种生活的人。如: a clean liver 生活清白的人; a good liver 会生活的人, 有道德的人。

⑫ **ain’t**: 即 am not, are not, is not, have not 的简体。例: We ain’t got any. (= We haven’t got any.) 我们一点也没有。

has a secret way, **peculiar**<sup>⑭</sup> to himself, of getting at a boy, and at his heart, and at his liver. It is **in vain**<sup>⑮</sup> for a boy to attempt to hide himself from that young man."

I promised to bring him the file, and what broken bits of food I could, and wished him good-night. He limped towards the low church wall, got over it, and then turned round to look for me. When I saw him turning, I set my face towards home, and made the best use of my legs.

⑬ **in comparison with**: 与……比较。comparison *n.* 比较, 对照。如: The tallest buildings in London are small in comparison with those of New York. 伦敦最高的楼房同纽约的比起来, 仍然是很低的。

⑭ **peculiar** *a.* 独特的, 特有的; 特别的, 特殊的。意为 belonging only to sb./sth. 是某人或某物所特有的, 如: customs peculiar to these tribes, 这些部落所特有的习俗。又如: Language is peculiar to mankind. 语言是人类所特有的。

⑮ **in vain**: 白费力, 徒劳地。与 uselessly 或 without a successful result 同义。例如: I tried in vain. 我白试了。All our work was in vain. 我们的一切工作都白干了。



## EXERCISE

**Read the passage carefully, then answer the following questions:**

1. What's the boy's second name?
2. What was the man who started up from among the graves?
3. Can you describe the man's appearance by your own words?
4. The boy was afraid of being killed, yes or no?
5. Was the man very cold and hungry? From which words you can see?
6. On hearing the word "blacksmith" he looked down at his leg and then at me, why?
7. Was there really a young man hid with the man? Or the man just wanted to threaten the boy?
8. Why did the boy promise to bring the man the file and some food?

I Rob Mrs. Joe

**M**y sister, Mrs. Joe Gargery, was more than twenty years older than I, tall, bony and plain looking, and had established a great reputation with herself and the neighbours because she had brought me up "by hand". Having at that time to find out for myself what the expression meant, and knowing her to have a hard and heavy hand, and **to be much in the habit of** <sup>①</sup> laying 'it upon her husband, as well as upon me, I supposed that Joe Gargery and I were both brought up by hand.

Joe was a fair man, with light brown hair and blue eyes. He was a mild, **good-natured**<sup>②</sup>, foolish, dear fellow.

When I ran home from the churchyard, Joe's **forge**<sup>③</sup>, which **adjoined**<sup>④</sup> our house, was shut up, and Joe was sit-

① **to be in the habit of. / . .**  
有……的习惯; 有……  
的脾气。此短语亦可说  
成 **to have a habit of. . .**

② **good-natured** *a.* 性情温和的; 心肠好的。如: a good-natured man 性情温和的人; be very good-natured 十分和善。其反义词为 ill-natured。

③ **forge** *n.* 锻工车间, 打铁间。

④ **adjoin** *v.* 毗连, 靠近。  
意为 to be next to, very close to. 如: The two houses adjoin. 两所房子相连。The playing-field adjoins the school. 操场与学校相连。

ting alone in the kitchen.

Joe and I being **fellow-sufferers**<sup>⑤</sup>, he told me that my sister had been out a dozen times, looking for me, and that she had got Tickler (a stick) with her. Presently he saw her coming, and advised me to get behind the door, which advice I took at once.

My sister, throwing the door wide open, and finding an obstruction behind it, immediately guessed the cause, and **applied the stick to**<sup>⑥</sup> me. She concluded by throwing me at Joe, who, glad to get hold of me **on any terms**<sup>⑦</sup>, passed me on into the chimney corner and quickly fenced me up there with his great leg.

"Where have you been, you young monkey?" said Mrs. Joe, stamping her foot. "Tell me directly what you've been doing to **wear me away**<sup>⑧</sup> with fright and worry, or I'd have you out of that corner if you were fifty Pips, and he was five hundred Gargerys."

"I have only been to the churchyard," said I, crying and rubbing myself.

"Churchyard!" repeated my sister. "If it wasn't for me you'd have been to the churchyard long ago, and stayed there."

⑤ **fellow-sufferer** *n.* 难兄难弟。这是个合成名词,类似的词还有 fellow-countryman 同胞; fellow-traveller 旅伴。

⑥ **apply to**: 把……应用于。与 bring into use, put into use 同义。

⑦ **on any terms**: 无论如何,不管怎样。not on any terms = on no terms; 无论如何不。例: On no terms I do such a thing. 无论如何我都不会做这种事情。

⑧ **wear away**: 磨损,(使)磨灭;折磨。例: The inscription on the stone has worn away. 石碑上的铭刻磨损得难以辨认了。



She applied herself to set the tea-things; she buttered a loaf, **cut** a very thick slice **off**⑨, which she again cut into two halves, of which Joe got one, and I the other.

Though I was hungry, I dared not eat my slice, for I must have something in reserve for my dreadful acquaintance, and his **ally**⑩, the still more dreadful young man. I took advantage of a moment when Joe was not looking at me, and got my bread and butter down the leg of my trousers.

Joe was shocked to see my slice disappear so suddenly, and thought that I had swallowed it all in one mouthful. My sister also believed this to be the case, and insisted on giving me a generous **dose**⑪ of a hateful medicine called "Tar Water" which she poured down my throat.

The guilty knowledge that I was going to rob Mrs. Joe, united to the necessity of always keeping one hand on my bread-and-butter as I sat or walked, almost **drove me out of my mind**⑫. Happily I managed to slip away, and **deposited**⑬ it in my bedroom.

On hearing big guns fired, I enquired from Joe what it meant, and Joe said,

⑨ **cut off**: 切开, 切断。

例: Cut off a piece of cheese for me, please. 请给我切一块奶酪。

⑩ **ally** *n.* 同盟者。其复数是 allies; 此词还可作动词, 意为(使)结盟。

⑪ **dose** *n.* 剂量; (一)服, (一)剂。如: take a dose 吃一服药。此外, 此词用作比喻意义时表示 (一)顿, (一)番。如: a dose of punishment 一顿惩罚。

⑫ **drive sb. out of one's mind**: 逼得某人发狂, 精神不正常。与 make sb. mad 或 make sb. crazy 同义。

⑬ **deposit** *vt.* 存储, 存放; 寄存。意为 to place in a bank or safe (*n.* 保险柜)。如: deposit money in a bank 把钱存放在银行里。