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英语晚会

《英语学习》丛书

北京出版社

英語學習叢書

英 語 晚 會

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《英语学习》丛书

英 语 晚 会

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编 者 的 话

为了帮助广大初学和自学英语的读者更好地学习英语，我们特编辑《英语学习》丛书，由北京出版社分辑出版。内容包括：学习指导，语音、语法、词汇、口语、翻译、写作练习、注释读物、文学欣赏、戏剧电影选以及课外活动材料等。选材不求系统、全面，主要是向读者提供一些学习英语的辅助材料和基本知识。

本辑内容包括英语短剧、相声、歌曲、诗歌、谜语、笑话等，可作中小学和大学英语课外活动辅助材料之用。

我们水平有限，热切希望广大读者提出批评建议，使这套丛书能更好地满足读者的需要，为我国的四个现代化服务。

一九七九年六月

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Short Plays

Welcome¹, Little Friend from Africa!

陈 家 宁

Characters:

Bessie: an African girl of thirteen

The teacher

The monitor: a boy of eleven

Pupils A, B, C...

Monitor: (*comes out in front of the curtain and stands in the middle of the stage.*) We are pupils of Grade Four. Now we are going to put on a short sketch,² "Welcome, Little Friend from Africa!"

(*The curtain rises. The scene is a beautiful courtyard of a primary school. On the wall is a slogan, "Welcome, Little Friend from Africa!" Enter the pupils.*³ *The monitor joins them.*)

Pupil A: Get ready, boys and girls. Our African friend will be here soon.

Pupil B: Look! Here she comes with our teacher.

Monitor: Line up,⁴ everybody.

(*Enter Teacher and Bessie.*)

Pupils: (*clapping*) Welcome! Welcome, little African friend!
(*They say this several times.*)

Boys: Welcome to China!

Girls: Welcome to our school!

Monitor: We're very happy to meet you.

Bessie: I'm also very happy to meet you.

Pupil A: What's your name?

Bessie: My name is Bessie. I'm thirteen...

Pupil A: I'm eleven. You are two years older than I am.

Teacher: Come along, children. Now you can introduce⁵ yourselves to our African friend.

Pupil B: My name is Zhang Ping. I'm also eleven. I'm a Young Pioneer.

Pupil C: My name is Xiao Ling and his is Da Qi. We're classmates.

Pupil D: We're all in the Fourth Year.

Bessie: What do you study at school?

Pupil B: We study Chinese, Arithmetic,...

Pupil D: And English.

Pupil C: Yes, of course. And we like English very much.

Bessie: Oh, you all speak English so well.

Pupil A: Can you understand our English?

Bessie: Yes, very well. And do you understand my English?

Pupils: Yes, when you speak slowly.

Monitor: We're working very hard at our English because we want to make friends with⁶ the people of other countries.

Pupil B: And we also want to learn from them.

Bessie: I'm here to learn from you.

Pupil A: Where is your country, Bessie? Is it far from China?

Bessie: Oh, yes, it's very, very far away. There's no winter there and it never snows. It's summer all the year round.

Pupils: How interesting! Do tell⁷ us more about your country and your people.

Bessie: I will.

Pupil A: Bessie, are you going to tell your people about China when you go back?

Bessie: I certainly will. I've seen so many things since I came to Peking. I've been to factories, hospitals, beautiful parks, the Great Wall, and today I've come to your school. I'm going to tell everybody at home about what I've seen here.⁸

Monitor: We are so happy that we have now become good friends. Shall we sing and dance together?

Pupils and Bessie: Yes, let's!

(They sing and dance.)

Curtain⁹

注 释

1. Welcome: 在这里是形容词。 Welcome, little friend from Africa = You're welcome, little friend from Africa.
2. sketch: 自编小剧。

3. Enter ...: 是戏剧用语, 意思是: 某某上。Enter 放在句首, 因是祈使语气, 第三人称不加 s。Enter 的反义词是 Exit。Exit ...即: 某某下。
4. Line up: 排队。
5. introduce [ˌɪntrəˈdjuːs]: 介绍, introduce oneself, 作自我介绍。
6. make friends with: 同……交朋友。
7. Do tell: 在谓语动词前加助动词do是为了加强语气。
8. ...what I've seen here: 是一个名词性从句, 作 about 的宾语。意思是“我在这里看到的一切。”
9. Curtain ['kʌːtn]: 是戏剧用语, 意思是: 幕下。

Catching the Rat

陈 家 宁

Characters:

The Little White Kitten

Uncle Cock

Rabbit

Other kittens

Chicks

The Rat

Scene:

When the curtain rises the chicks and kittens are singing and dancing in front of the barns.¹ Behind the barns are big trees and blue hills.

(Enter the Cock.)

Cock: Good morning, children.

Chicks and Kittens: Good morning, Uncle Cock. We've been waiting for you. What shall we do today?

Cock: Today we are going to glean the wheat fields.²

Chicks: Let us chicks do it. We can pick up wheat quickly with our sharp beaks.³

Cock: All right. But be careful not to leave a single grain in the fields.

Chicks: No, we won't, Uncle Cock.

(Exit the chicks.)

Kittens: What shall we do, Uncle Cock?

Cock: Kittens are good at⁴ catching rats. Your job is to guard the barns.

Kittens: All right. We'll do a good job.

One kitten: There are three barns, and we've got three kittens.
Let each kitten guard a barn.

Another kitten: That's a good idea. I'll go to the first one.

Another kitten: I'll go to the second one.

Cock: So Little White Kitten will stay here. Can you do the work alone, my little sister?

Little White Kitten (*L.W.K.*): Yes. I am the youngest.
But I am brave. Don't worry about me.

Other kittens: Let's run to our barns. (*Exit.*)

Cock: Little kitten, this is the first time you've looked after a barn. The big Rat often comes here to steal our grain.
You must be careful.

L.W.K.: When the Rat comes, I'll catch him.

Cock: Good, see you later. (*Exit.*)

L.W.K.: I am all alone now. I must be very careful.
(*Sings to herself.*)

I am a brave little white cat.

I am learning to catch the rat.

(*Enter the Rat.*)

Rat: Good morning, Little White Kitten. What a nice day it is!

L.W.K.: Yes. It's lovely today. But may I ask who you are and what you've come here for?

Rat: Me? I'm your uncle. Why,⁵ don't you know your own uncle? Anyway I know you very well.

L.W.K.: Do you?

Rat: Certainly. And I know your mother too.

L.W.K.: My mother?

Rat: Yes, your mother has a round face and a pair of green eyes.

L.W.K.: Yes, you're right. That's my mother.

Rat: When you were a baby, I often carried you on my back and took you out to play.

L.W.K.: So, you are really my uncle.

Rat: There is no doubt about it.

L.W.K.: Excuse me, Uncle. I am sorry I didn't recognize you.⁶ Why don't you go and see my mother, Uncle? My home is quite near and we've some fish.

Rat: I'm busy today. I'll come some other day. Good-bye, little kitten. (*Exit.*)

L.W.K.: Good-bye, uncle. Why hasn't the Rat come, I wonder? Is he hiding somewhere in the barn?

(*She looks for the Rat.*)

(*Enter the Cock.*)

Cock: Little Kitten, have you caught the Rat?

L.W.K.: No, the Rat didn't turn up.⁷ But just a minute

ago my uncle came.

Cock: Your uncle? You never had an uncle. What does he look like?

L.W.K.: He has a sharp face, grey skin and a long tail just like a piece of string.⁸

Cock: That was none other than⁹ the Rat.

L.W.K.: Really?

Cock: The Rat is very sly. He often disguises himself as¹⁰ a good person. You mustn't be taken in¹¹ by him.

L.W.K.: I'll know him when he comes next time.

Cock: All right. I'll see how the other kittens are getting on with¹² their work.

L.W.K.: How silly I am. I am really ashamed of myself¹³.

(Enter the Rat.)

Rat: Aha! You lazy Little Kitten. Why are you sitting there doing nothing?

L.W.K.: I am waiting for the Rat.

Rat: The Rat? Will he come here?

L.W.K.: Yes, here he is. *(Catches the Rat.)*

Rat: You silly Little Kitten. You must respect your uncle.

L.W.K.: You are not my uncle. You are the Rat. I won't be taken in this time.

Rat: *(Cries.)* Have mercy,¹⁴ Little Kitten. Have mercy on me. I'll never steal again.

L.W.K.: Do you mean what you say?¹⁵

Rat: Yes, yes. I swear¹⁶ never to steal again.

L.W.K.: In that case¹⁷ I'll let you go. But be careful not to come here again.

Rat: Thank you, Little Kitten. Thank you, kind-hearted¹⁸ Little Kitten. (*Exit.*)

(*Enter the chicks.*)

One Chick: Come on, chicks. Let's pile the grain here.

Another chick: Have you caught the Rat, Little White Kitten?

L.W.K.: Yes, but I let him go.

Chicks: What? You let him go? Uncle Cock, come here!

(*Enter the Cock.*)

Cock: What's the matter, children?

Chicks: Little White Kitten caught the Rat, but she let him go.

Cock: Why did you do that? Come on and tell me, child.

L.W.K.: He said he would never steal again.

Cock: Oh, you silly child! He was telling a lie.

(*Enter the Rabbit with a sack on his back.*)

Rabbit: Look, Uncle Cock. Here's a sack of sesame.¹⁹

Cock: Where did you get it?

Rabbit: The Rat stole it. I tried to catch him. He left the sack and ran away.

Cock: See what the Rat has done. We must catch him. Let's put the sack here and hide. I am sure he'll come for it.

(*They all hide. Enter the Rat.*)

Rat: Aha, my sack of sesame. (*Smells it*) It smells wonderful, and will taste nice. Ha, ha, ha! I'll take it home now. It can last me the whole winter.²⁰

(*Enter L.W.K.*)

L.W.K.: Don't move. This time I caught you red-handed.²¹

Rat: Oh, my kind-hearted Little Kitten. Let me take it home or I'll starve.

L.W.K.: Don't play any trick²² again. I've seen through²³ you.

(*Enter the other animals.*)

Rabbit: Fasten²⁴ his hands and feet. Here is a piece of rope.

Cock: Little White Kitten, you've learned a good lesson²⁵ today. To be a good child, you must be able to tell good people from bad people.²⁶

L.W.K.: I'll remember what you said, Uncle Cock.

Kittens and Chicks: We'll all remember what you said.

Curtain

注 释

1. barn: 粮仓。
2. glean the wheat fields: (在麦地里) 拣麦穗。
3. beak: 鸟嘴; 喙。
4. be good at: 擅长于。
5. why: 这是个语气词, 不是疑问词, 相当于“怎么”。
6. I didn't recognise ['rekəgnaiz] you: 我没有认出你来。

7. turn up: 到来; 出现。
8. string: 绳子, 带子。
9. none other than...: 不是别人, 正是……。
10. disguise [dis'gaiz] oneself as: 装扮成。
11. be taken in by him: 上他的当。
12. how somebody is getting on with something: 某人对某事进行得怎样了。
13. be ashamed [ə'feimd] of oneself: 感到惭愧。
14. Have mercy ['mɜ:si]: 开开恩吧。 Have mercy on me, 饶了我吧。
15. Do you mean what you say: 你说的是真心话吗?
16. swear [swɛə]: 发誓。
17. in that case: 那样的话。
18. kind-hearted: 好心的。
19. sesame ['sesəmi]: 芝麻。
20. It can last me the whole winter: 我可以吃它一冬天。 last somebody some time, 意思是“维持某人多久”。
21. to catch... red-handed: 当场抓住。
22. play a trick: 耍花招。
23. see through: 看穿。
24. fasten ['fa:sn]: 绑住, 捆紧。
25. learn a lesson: 吸取教训。
26. tell A from B: 分清A和B; 说出A和B的区别。