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# 序

轻轻松松学习地道英语，愉愉快快领悟英美笑声。

我们没有必要老把学习英语当作一件苦差事。您在笑声中不仅可以提高学习效率，而且能够了解英语的地道表达方式，掌握许多活生生的语言要素，加深对英美等国文化、语言习惯和思维方式的了解，因为在阅读中笑得像以英语为母语的人们那样开心，那样心领神会，那样自然而然，并不是件容易的事情。

本书的编写者们从目前大量的英语读物中挑选了少儿幽默、婚姻爱情、职业趣闻、政治笑话、知识与教育幽默、公共场所笑料等方方面面的优秀笑话作品，并为理解作品做了注释、提示和翻译等工作。挑选作品的原则是文章风趣幽默、形象生动、雅俗共赏等。

本书的语言大多是口语化的生活用语，加上编写者做了一些必要的配套工作，因而适合于广大的英语学习者。

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# 一 童 趣 篇



## **Making Babies**

A 3rd-grade girl came home from school. She was very happy, and her Mom **noticed** this. Mom asked, "What makes you so happy today?" The girl said, "Mom, we learned how to make babies in school today!"

Thinking that 3rd grade was **a bit** early for that, she asked her daughter to tell her how.

"It's easy, Mom—you just **drop** the 'y', and add ies," the daughter said.

### **【注释】**

notice ['nəʊtɪs] v. 注意到

a bit 一点点

drop [drɒp] v. 除掉

### **【译文】**

### **生 孩 子**

一天，一位小学三年级的小女孩兴高采烈地从学校回到家中，她妈妈注意到她特别高兴，便问道：“今天你怎么这么高兴啊？”小女孩回答：“妈妈，今天我们在学校里学习怎么生孩子。”

妈妈觉得这事儿对三年级的孩子来说，知道得未免太早，便问她都学了什么。

“这很简单，妈妈，你只要把‘y’去掉，加上

ies 就行。”她回答道。

【提示】

老师教的是怎样把单词 baby (婴儿) 变成复数 babies。

## Teacher's Day

On a special Teacher's Day, a **kindergarten** teacher was receiving gifts from her **pupils**.

The **florist's** son handed her a gift. She shook it, held it over her head, and said, "I bet I know what it is... some flowers." "That's right!" said the boy. "But how did you know?" "Just a wild guess," she said.

The next pupil was the **candy** store owner's daughter. The teacher held her gift overhead, shook it, and said, "I bet I can guess what it is... a box of candy." "That's right! But how did you know?" asked the girl. "Just a lucky guess," said the teacher.

The next gift was from the liquor store owner's son. The teacher held it over her head but it was **leaking**. She touched a drop of the **leakage** with her finger and tasted it. "Is it wine?" she asked.

"No," the boy replied. The teacher repeated the process, touching another drop of the leakage to her tongue. "Is it **champagne**?" she asked. "No," the boy replied. The teacher then said, "I give up, what is it?"

The boy replied, "A puppy!"

【注释】

kindergarten [kində'gɑ:t (ə) n] n. 幼儿园

pupil ['pjʊ:pɪl] n. 小学生

florist ['flɔ:rist] n. 种花人

candy ['kændi] n. 糖果

leak [li:k] v. 泄漏

leakage ['li:kɪdʒ] n. 泄漏物

champagne [ʃæm'peɪn] n. 香槟酒

puppy ['pʌpi] n. (常指未满一岁的) 小狗, 小动物

【译文】

教 师 节

在教师节里，一位幼儿园老师正在接受孩子们送给她的礼物。

花匠的儿子递上他的礼物，老师摇了摇，举过头顶说：“我敢打赌我知道里面是什么……是一些花。”“对了”，小男孩问：“你怎么知道的呢？”老师回答：“瞎猜的。”

下一个学生是糖果店老板的女儿，老师把她送的礼物举过头摇了摇，说道：“我敢打赌我知道里面是什么，是一盒糖果。”“对了，你是怎么知道的呢？”小女孩问她，老师说：“碰巧猜出来的。”

下一个学生是酒店老板的儿子，老师把他送的礼物举过头顶，有液体漏了出来，她用手指沾了一滴漏出来的液体，尝了一下味道，问：“是果酒吗？”



“不是”，小男孩回答，老师又用舌头尝了一滴漏出来的东西，然后问：“是香槟吗？”小男孩又说：“不是”，老师说：“好吧，我猜不着了。里面到底是什么呢？”小男孩说：“是一只小狗。”

## **Out on the Balcony**

A married couple decided that the only way to **pull off** a Sunday afternoon **quickie** with their ten-year-old son in the apartment was to send him out on the balcony and order him to report on all the neighborhood activities.

The boy began his **commentary** as his parents put their plan into operation. “There’s a car being **towed** from the parking lot,” he said. “An **ambulance** just drove by.” A few moments passed.

“Looks like the Anderson’s have company.” he called out, “Matt’s riding a new bike and the Coopers are having sex.”

Mom and Dad **shot up** in bed. “How do you know that?” the **startled** father asked.

“Their kid is standing out on the balcony too.” his son replied.

### **【注释】**

pull off a quickie [俚] 抽空快速做爱；pull off 进行，办…事；

quickie ['kwiki] n. 匆匆做成的事物

commentary [ˈkɒməntəri] n. 解说

tow [təu] vt. 拖, 拉

ambulance [ˈæmbjuləns] n. 急救车

shoot up 弹起来

startled [ˈstɑ:t(ə)ld] adj. 受震惊的

## 【译文】

## 在阳台上

一对夫妇认为周日下午在房里做爱时安置他们那10岁大的儿子的最佳方法是让他站在阳台上, 向自己汇报邻居的一举一动。

男孩站到阳台上, 开始了他的报告, “有一辆车从停车场给拖走了”, 他说, “一辆救护车刚刚开了过去。”

又过了一会, 他喊道, “安德森家好像有客人。”  
“玛特骑着一辆新自行车, 库柏夫妇在做爱。”

他的父母从床上弹起来, “你怎么知道?” 震惊的父亲问道。

“他们的孩子也站在阳台上。” 儿子回答。

## 【提示】

这对夫妇低估了儿子对成年人性生活的理解力。

## Alcohol

A father was trying to teach his young son the evils of

**alcohol.**

He put one **worm** in a glass of water and another worm in a glass of **whiskey**. The worm in the water lived, while the one in the whiskey **curled up** and died.

“All right, son,” asked the father, “what does that show you?”

“Well, Dad, it shows that if you drink alcohol, you will not have worms.”

【注释】

alcohol [ˈælkəhɒl] n. 酒精

evil [iːv(ə)l] n. 邪恶

worm [wɜːm] n. 虫

whiskey [ˈwiski] n. 威士忌酒

curl up 卷曲起来

【译文】

酒 精

一位父亲想让他的小儿子明白酒精的坏处。他把一只虫子放在一杯水里，另一只虫子放在一杯威士忌酒里，结果水里的虫子活着，而在威士忌酒里的虫子蜷曲着死去了。

“好了，儿子，”父亲说道，“你从中明白了什么？”

“爸爸，这表明如果你喝酒的话，你身上就不会长虫子了。”

## **Driver' s Permit**

A young man had just gotten his **driver' s permit** and **inquired of** his father, an **evangelist**, if they could discuss the use of the car. His father took him to the **study** and said to the boy, "I' ll **make a deal with you**, son. You bring your grades up from a C to a **B-average**, study your **Bible** a little, and get your hair cut and we' ll talk about the car."

Well, the boy thought about that for a moment and decided that he' d best **settle for** the **offer**, and they agreed.

After about six weeks the boy came back and again asked his father about the car. Again they went to the study where his father said, "Son, I' ve **been real proud of you**. You' ve **brought your grades up**, and I' ve **observed** that you' ve been studying your Bible and **participating** a lot more in the Bible study class on Sunday morning. But I' m real **disappointed** seeing that you haven' t **got your hair cut**."

The young man **paused** a moment and then said, "You know, Dad, I' ve been thinking about that, and I' ve noticed in my studies of the Bible that **Samson** had long hair, **Moses** had long hair, **John the Baptizer** had long hair, and there' s even strong **argument** that **Jesus** him-

self had long hair.”

To which his father replied, “Perhaps, and they WALKED everywhere they went!”

【注释】

driver's permit 驾驶执照

inquire of 询问…某人

evangelist [i'vændʒəlist] n. 福音传道士

study ['stʌdi] n. 书房

make a deal with sb. 和某人做一笔交易

B-average B的平均成绩

Bible ['baib(ə)l] n. 《圣经》

settle for sth. 接受某事

offer [ɔ:fər] n. 提议

be proud of you 为你感到骄傲

bring your grades up 提高你的成绩

observe [əb'zə:v] vt. 观察

participate [pɑ'tisipent] vi. 参与

disappointed [disə'pɔintd] adj. 失望的

get one's hair cut 去理发

pause [pəʊz] vi. 暂停

Samson ['sæmsn] n. (《圣经》人物) 力士参孙

Moses ['məʊziz] n. 摩西, 《圣经》故事中犹太人的  
古代领袖

John the Baptizer (《圣经》人物) 施洗约翰

argument ['ɑ:gjʌmənt] n. 论据

Jesus ['dʒizəs] n. 耶稣(基督教信奉的救世主)

## 【译文】

## 驾驶执照

一个年轻人考取了驾驶执照，他问他那作传道士的父亲，能否用一下家里的汽车。父亲把儿子叫到书房，对他说：“儿子，我与你订一个协议，你把你的平均成绩从C提高到B，多学一点《圣经》，而且剪掉你的长头发，然后我们再谈汽车的事。”

那男孩想了一会儿，认为自己最好是满足父亲提出来的条件，于是他们达成了协议。

大约六个星期后，那男孩又回来向父亲问起汽车的事。他们又到了书房，父亲说：“儿子，我真为你感到骄傲，你的成绩上去了，我看到你已经开始学习《圣经》并更多地参与了星期天上午的《圣经》学习班。但我真的很遗憾你没有把头发剪掉。”

年轻人踌躇了一会儿说：“你要知道，爸爸，我想那样做，但学《圣经》时，我注意到力士参孙留长头发，摩西留长头发，施洗约翰也留长头发，甚至耶稣他自己很可能也留了长头发。”

这时父亲回答说：“也许是这样吧，但他们无论到哪里都是走着去的！”

## **First Day of School**

A child comes home from his first day at school.

His Mother asks, “Well, what did you learn today?”

The kid replies, "Not enough. They want me to go back tomorrow."

【译文】

开学第一天

一个小孩第一天上学后回到家中，他妈妈问他：“孩子，你今天学了些什么？”小孩回答说：“还没学完，他们叫我明天再去。”

**Being Punished for Things**

**I Did Not Do**

One day a little girl came home from school, and said to her mother, "Mommy, today in school I was punished for something that I didn't do."

The mother **exclaimed**, "But that's terrible! I'm going to have a talk with your teacher about this... by the way, what was it that you didn't do?"

The little girl replied, "My homework."

【注释】

exclaim [ikskleim] v. 惊叫

【译文】

没做什么而受罚

一天一个小女孩从学校回到家中，对她母亲说，“妈咪，今天在学校里我因为一件我没做的事而

受罚。”

她母亲惊叫，“这太可怕了！我要和你的老师好好谈一谈，……对了，你没做的是什？”

小女孩回答：“我的家庭作业。”

## *The Pager*

A mother takes her 5-year-old son with her to the bank on a busy Friday. They **get into line** behind a rather **obese** lady wearing a business **outfit complete with** a pager. As the mother waits patiently her son looks at the woman in front of him and observes loudly, “Hey, Mom, she’s fat.” At which the lady looks at the boy, makes eye contact with the mother and gives an understanding smile.

The mother quietly **reprimands** her son. After a minute or two the boy spreads his hands as far as they will go and loudly says, “I bet her **butt** is that wide.” At this the lady **glares** at the little boy and his mother, and the embarrassed mother **severely scolds** her son. Again after a couple of minutes the boy states loudly, “Look how the fat **hangs over her belt**.” The lady turns and tells the mother to control her **rude** child and the mother threatens him with his very life and existence.

Things in the bank are quiet. The lady gets to the front of the line when her pager begins to emit its **distinctive**



tone, at which the little boy yells in **panic at the top of his voice**, “Run for your life Mom, she’s **backing up!!!**”

【注释】

pager [ˈpeɪdʒə(r)] n. 寻呼机

get into line 排队

obese [əuˈbi:s] adj. 臃肿的

outfit [ˈaʊtfɪt] n. 外套

complete with 备有

reprimand [ˈreprɪmænd] vt. 斥责

butt [bʌt] n. [美俚] 臀部

glare [gleə(r)] v. 怒目相对

severely scold 严厉斥责

hang over the belt 吊在腰带上

distinctive [dɪstɪŋktɪv] adj. 清楚明显的

panic at the top of his voice 惊慌得高声尖叫

back up 倒车

【译文】

寻 呼 机

一位母亲领着他五岁的孩子在一个忙乱的周五到银行去，排队时她们站在一位非常肥胖的女士身后，那位女士身着商业制服，上面别着一个呼机。那位母亲耐心地在队列里等待，而她的儿子却盯着前面的人大声说道：“嘿，妈咪，她真胖。”那位女士看了看那男孩，又看了一眼他的母亲，脸上带着理解的微笑。