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英语小说

Selected English Short Stories



Filling Basket With Water 篮子装水

王晓凌 编注

(适合初三、高中学生和英语爱好者)



湖北教育出版社

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前言



这本以短篇小说为主、题材广泛、可读性较强的英语读物，不仅适合广大中学生阅读，也是大学生和英语爱好者有益、有趣的好读本。

本书的编撰目的，是让学生通过英语阅读来领略不同风格的英语短文，了解不同类型的英语题材和接近原版的英语语言，以提高英语阅读的理解能力，并且能够在课外阅读赏析中一览英语世界的风貌。

本书选自不同国家，特别是从南太平洋大洋洲文学中选择了一些精彩的英语短篇，以开阔广大读者的阅读视野。在内容上，注重知识性和趣味性，文字上注意难易相兼、长短相配，以满足不同水平与程度的英语读者和爱好者的兴趣和要求。

本书在编撰形式上，采取每篇小小小说的开头都有一个阅读提示，提示不仅仅是对篇幅的内容作一概要介绍，还特别注意到读者的参与意识，或提出问题或产生悬念，以引起读者欲读的兴趣。每篇小小小说的后面列有生词、词组和对原文中难词难句的注释——即对文中难点或难句给出汉语译文，对必要的语法现象作出解释，以便读者顺利地进行阅读和充分地理解原文。

全书共收 54 个短篇小说。其篇名大部分根据英语原文名直译，也有的采用意译。

编 者

1996 年 10 月

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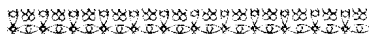
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A Clever Man

(America)

阅读提示

一向以聪明自居的约翰,稍不留意就被汤姆戏弄了。从此,他再也不以聪明为荣了。



John thought that he was very clever. He thought that no one could play a trick on him because he was too clever.¹ He often talked about his cleverness. He once spoke very rudely to Tom.

“You will never play a trick on me, Tom. You are too stupid.”

“Wait here by this gate,” replied Tom, “I will find a way to trick you.” Then he went home.

Two hours later Lucy came along.²

“Why are you standing here?” he asked John.

“I am waiting for Tom,” replied John. “He is going to try to trick me.”

“Tom has gone home,” said Lucy. “You have already been tricked!”³

John never spoke about the cleverness again.

Words and Expressions:

trick *n.* 诡计,恶作剧 *vt.* 欺,骗

cleverness *n.* 聪明

rudely *adv.* 无礼地,粗鲁地

stupid *adj.* 愚蠢的,笨的

Notes:

1. He thought that no one could play a trick on him because he was too clever.

他认为自己非常聪明,没有人能够捉弄到他。

2. Two hours later Lucy came along.

两小时后露西走了过来。

3. "You have already been tricked!"

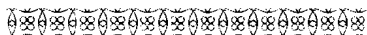
“你已经受骗了!”

Dickens and His Cat

(America)

阅读提示

猫是很聪明的,这一点你知道吗?如果你想知道它是如何表现其聪明的,就请看狄更斯的猫是怎样爱护狄更斯的。



It is true that the English people are a nation of animal lovers. The famous English writer, Charles Dickens had a cat. The cat was very fond of his master. He didn't like to see Dickens working too hard. At night, when the cat wanted to say "Stop writing" to his master, he often put out Dicken's candle with his paw!¹

Sometimes animals have more brains than we think.² There is a female baboon, as told by a French journalist. The news happens on a farm of Namibia, Africa. She can take her goats to the hills every day and brings them back at night. She always knows exactly which goats are hers.³

Words and Expressions:

- candle *n.* 蜡烛
paw *n.* 脚爪, 爪子
female *adj.* 女(性)的
baboon *n.* (动)狒狒
Namibia *n.* 纳米比亚
journalist *n.* 记者
exactly *adv.* 确切地

Notes:

1. ...when the cat wanted to say "Stop writing" to his mastes, he often put out Dicken's candle with his paw!
……当这只猫想对它的主人说“别干了”的时候,常常用它的爪子把狄更斯的蜡烛给熄灭。
2. Sometimes animals have more brains than we think.
动物有时候比我们想象的更聪明。
(more...than 比……更加)
3. She always knows exactly...
她总是准确地知道……

Trouble with Police

(America)

阅读提示

吉莉为了显示其摩托车开得比丈夫的快,却遇上了警察的麻烦。当她要警察拿出她违章的证明时,雷达公正不误地作出了裁判,吉莉无奈只好受罚。



One day, Jillian was riding home on her motorcycle. She was driving quickly because she knew that Martin, her husband, was behind her in his car and she wanted to arrive first. Suddenly she saw a police in front of her.¹ He held up his hand and she stopped.

"I've stopped you," he said slowly, "because you were driving too quickly. You have broken the law."² Please give me your name and address." "Oh, dear," Jillian said uncomfortably. "Yes, I was going quickly. I know, but I didn't know that I was going too quickly. How do you know that I've broken the law?"

"Ah," said the policeman. "We have some new radar equip-