

ENGLISH STORIES

(英汉对照)

# 英语故事会

圣人的决定

看故事学英语

讲故事练口语

青岛出版社



# 成语故事会

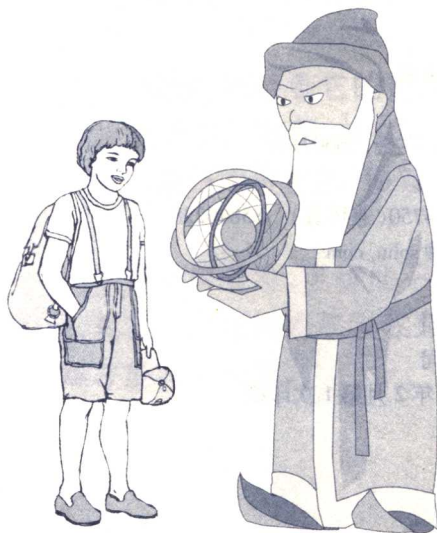
## —— 圣人的决定 *Clever Decision of the Sage*

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## 前言

通过读故事学英语,这是一条实践已经证明了的有效的途径。我国老一辈英语专家很多都是通过读《一千零一夜》、《福尔摩斯探案集》等饶有趣味的故事逐渐培养起对英语的兴趣,进而步入英语的殿堂的。读故事,读到着迷处,人们往往爱不释手,欲罢不能。常言说,兴趣是最好的老师。学英语亦复如此。读英语故事,没有语法的枯燥,没有死记单词的单调;有的只是引人入胜的情节,栩栩如生的人物,睿智诙谐的语言。寓学于乐,其乐无穷。

本丛书所收的故事,除了少数选自中国之外,其余的都是来自世界各地,无论是欧洲的英国、德国、俄罗斯,还是非洲的尼日利亚、埃及,无论是美洲的印第安人、近邻日本、朝鲜和印度,还是南半球的澳大利亚,或多或少,都有收入。所有故事都是编者精心挑选,篇幅短小精炼,内容丰富多彩,有神话,有寓言,有童话,有幽默,有笑话;有的教读者处世做人,有的仅供读者开心一笑,有的发人深醒,有的让人叹息甚至落泪。故事的主角有人们熟悉的传统的老虎、狮子、狐狸和猴子,有帝王、总统、大臣和将军,有富翁、乞丐、农民和士兵,也有美女、儿童、学生和小偷。本丛书堪称世界故事的百花园。

您可以把本书当作“疯狂英语”的素材,用以复述故事,提高口语;也可以当作“床头灯系列”,睡前给小孩或者是自己读上一篇;也可以摆放在案头桌旁,随手翻上一篇,放飞您的心情。无论您是中小學生,是大学生,还是已经踏上社会,无论您是用来参加故事大赛,用来学习英语,还是用于娱乐,本丛书定会让您开卷有益,平添几分乐趣。

本丛书英汉对照,译文力求忠实通顺。但由于时间和水平有限,疏漏之处在所难免,敬请读者批评指正。

本册编译人员分工如下:蒋金霞,故事 1-31;岳玉庆,故事 32-68;姜雪梅,故事 69-81;郭真,故事 82-95;王慧芳,故事 96-105;鞠燕娥,106-112。





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## 1. A Touching Speech

A group of ninja trainees were crossing a deep canyon. The ten men and one woman were moving hand-over-hand along a rope extending across the canyon. Half way across, they noticed the rope was fraying and would not support all their weight. They decided that one person had to let go so the others could survive. No one volunteered until the woman finally spoke up. She said she was willing to sacrifice her life for her comrades because women were used to sacrificing their lives for their husbands and children. Her speech was so touching that when she finished speaking, the men started clapping.



## 1. 动人的话

一批日本武士在练习跨越一条很深的峡谷。抓着一根系在峡谷两侧的绳子，十个男人和一个女人向前移动着。挪到半路上时，他们发现绳子在磨损，已经支撑不住他们所有的重量。他们决定必须有一个人撒手，其他人才能幸免。没有人自愿撒手，最后那个女人说话了。她说为了同伴们，她愿意牺牲自己的生命，因为一直以来，女人已经习惯为丈夫和孩子牺牲自己。她的话太动人了，结束的时候，男人们纷纷鼓起掌来。







## 2. Taekwondo Tournaments in Heaven

Two old black belts continued to compete in Taekwondo tournaments well past their prime. One day, while relaxing after yet another competition, they were chatting and wondering if Taekwondo tournaments were held in heaven. They made a pact that whoever passed away first would come back and let the other know. About a week later, one of them passed away. A few days later, the surviving black belt saw an apparition of his old buddy. "Well!" asked the surviving black belt, "are there any Taekwondo tournaments in heaven?" "I have some good news and some bad news for you," replied the apparition. "The good news is that, yes, there are Taekwondo tournaments in heaven. The bad news is that your first match is tomorrow afternoon."



## 2. 天堂里的跆拳道比赛

尽管已经过了鼎盛时期,但是两个年老的黑带选手还是坚持参加跆拳道比赛。一天,比完一场休息的时候,他们聊起来说不知道天堂里有没有跆拳道比赛。他们约定,无论谁先去世,都要回来告诉另一个人。一周以后,其中一人去世了。几天之后,健在的黑带选手看见了老朋友的灵魂。“哎,”他问道,“天堂里有没有跆拳道比赛啊?”“我给你带来了一个好消息,一个坏消息。”幽灵回答道,“好消息是天堂里确实有跆拳道比赛。坏消息是明天下午有你的第一场比赛。”







### 3. Bad News

Steve, who lived with his mother and a pet cat, went on a trip to Europe. Before he left he told his best friend to inform him of any emergencies. A few days after his departure, his cat climbed up on the roof, fell off and was killed.

His friend immediately wired him with the message, "Your cat died!"

In a few hours he was back home, having cut short his trip in grief and anger at his friend, whom he told, "Why didn't you break the news to me gradually? You know how close I was to my cat! You could have sent a message 'Your cat climbed up on the roof today', and the next day you could've written 'Your cat fell off the roof' and let me know slowly that he died."

After a quick memorial service, the bachelor left again to continue his trip. A few days later he returned to his hotel and there was a message waiting for him from his friend. He read, "Your mother climbed up on the roof today."



### 3. 坏消息

史蒂夫去欧洲旅行了。他和妈妈以及他的宠物猫住在一起,临走之前,他对最好的朋友说,有什么紧急事件就通知他。他走了几天之后,他的猫爬上了房顶,摔下来死了。

他的朋友立刻发电报告诉他这个消息:“你的猫死了!”

他心中十分悲痛,便缩短了旅程,几个小时之后就回到了家,生气地对朋友说:“你为什么不一步步告诉我这个消息呢?你知道我和我的猫是多么地亲密!你可以这样写消息:‘你的猫今天爬上了房顶’,第二天你可以这样写:‘你的猫从房顶上摔下来了’,然后让我慢慢地知道他死了。”

匆匆完成了悼念仪式,这个单身汉又继续旅行去了。几天之后,他回到旅馆,看见他朋友给他的消息,上面写着:“你妈妈今天爬上了房顶。”







#### 4. The Dropping Lizard

A monkey is sitting in a tree smoking a joint when a lizard walks past and looks up and says to the monkey, "Hey! What are you doing?"

The monkey says, "I am smoking a joint. Come up and have some."



So the lizard climbs up and sits next to the monkey and they have a few joints. After a while the lizard says his mouth is "dry" and is going to get a drink from the river. The lizard is so stoned that he leans too far over and falls into the river.

A Crocodile sees this and swims over to the lizard and helps him to the side, then he asks the lizard, "What's the matter with you?"

The lizard explains to the crocodile that he was sitting smoking a joint with the monkey in the tree, got too stoned and then fell into the river while taking a drink.

The crocodile says he has to check this out and walks into the jungle, finds the tree where the monkey is sitting, and he looks up and says, "Hey you!"

The Monkey looks down and says, "God... how much water did you drink?!"







#### 4. 失足的蜥蜴

一只猴子坐在树上吸大麻香烟,这时一只蜥蜴走了过来,向上望了望,对猴子说:“嘿,你在干什么?”

猴子说:“吸大麻香烟,你也来吸一点吧。”

于是蜥蜴爬了上来,坐在猴子旁边,一起吸了几支。过了一会儿,蜥蜴说他口干,想去河里找点水喝。可是蜥蜴神智恍惚,身子往前倾得太厉害了,就掉进了河里。

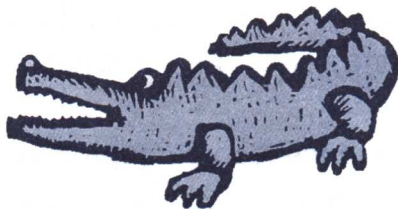


鳄鱼看见了,向蜥蜴游去,把他拖到岸上,问蜥蜴:“发生了什么事?”

蜥蜴向鳄鱼解释说,他跟猴子一起坐在树上吸大麻香烟,想喝水,结果脑子晕乎乎的,一不小心就跌进了河里。

鳄鱼说他要去核实一下,他走进了丛林,发现了那棵树,猴子正坐在上面。他朝上喊道:“嘿,你!”

猴子向下望去,喊道:“天哪……你到底喝了多少水?!”







## 5. The Dog and the Leopard

A wealthy man and his dog were on Safari when one day the dog started chasing butterflies and got lost. Wandering about, the dog noticed a leopard sprinting towards him, with the intention of having him for lunch.

The dog thought, "I'm in deep danger now." But out of the corner of his eye he noticed some bones on the ground and immediately turned his back towards the cat and started chewing them.

As the leopard was about to leap on him, the dog exclaimed loudly, "Wow, that was one delicious leopard. I wonder if there are any more around here."

The leopard halted his attack in mid stride, as a look of terror came over him, and slunk away into the trees. "Wow, the dog nearly had me!" said the leopard.

Meanwhile, on a nearby tree a monkey had watched this scene and figured he could put his knowledge to use in exchange for protection from the leopard. As he headed off, the dog noticed the monkey running after the leopard at great speed and figured something was up.

Catching up with the leopard, the monkey told all and struck a deal. The cat was furious at being made a fool of and said, "Here monkey, hop on my back and see what will happen to that canine!"

The dog saw the monkey and the leopard approaching and thought, "What will I do now?" Instead of running, the dog sat down with his back facing the attackers and pretended he hadn't seen them. Just when they got close enough to hear, the dog said, "Now where is that monkey?! I just can never trust him. I sent him off half an hour ago to







bring me another leopard, and he's still not back!"



## 5. 狗和豹子

富人和他的狗去旅行了。一天,他的狗追蝴蝶时走丢了。这只狗正在游荡的时候,发现一只豹子向他扑来,想把他当作午餐。

狗想:“我现在太危险了。”然而他眼角的余光注意到地上有一些骨头,他立即转身背对着豹子开始嚼起骨头来。

就当豹子正要向他扑来时,狗突然大声感叹道:“哇,这真是一只美味的豹子。我在想周围还有没有其他豹子。”

豹子急忙收脚停止了进攻,脸上露出惊慌的神色,然后潜逃到树林里去了。“哇,我差点就被这只狗吃掉了!”豹子说。

其间,附近树上的一只猴子看到了一切。他想把自己知道的告诉豹子,好换来豹子的保护。于是猴子飞快地向豹子跑去,狗回过头来时正好看见了,心想一定有事发生。

猴子追上了豹子,告诉了他一切,并跟他作了交易。豹子为自己被愚弄而非常生气,他说:“来,猴子,跳到我背上来,我们去看看该如何收拾那条狗。”



狗看见猴子和豹子向他走来,心想:“现在我该怎么办呢?”他没有跑,而是假装没有看见他们,背对着他们坐了下来。就当它们离他足够近的时候,他说道:“不知那只死猴子现在跑哪里去了!我再也不相信他了。半小时前我就派他再去带只豹子过来,到现在还没回来!”







## 6. The Well-dressed Lawyer and the Redneck

A famous city lawyer and a redneck got into a car wreck on a hot summer day. The lawyer got out of his BMW, and the redneck got out of his pickup to survey the damage, and the redneck realized he was at fault. . .

"You stupid hick!" shouted the lawyer.

"Hick, huh?" thought the redneck, "How am I going to get out of this?"

After looking over the well-dressed city lawyer, the redneck walked back to his car, got out a bottle, and brought it back. He handed it to the lawyer, and said, "Hey, you look pretty shook up. I think you ought to take a nip of this. It'll steady your nerves. . . It's homemade. "

The lawyer did, but because he was so angry about the wreck, he refused to speak. The redneck then said, "You still look a little bit pale. How about another?" The smug, pompous lawyer took another swallow.

After a few minutes, he began to feel the heat of the sun through his wool suit. Then the redneck said, "It's mighty hot today. Folks around here don't usually wear shoes on a day like this. Why don't you take off your fancy shoes, and the socks, too?"

The lawyer frowned, "Take off my shoes and socks?" But after a few more sips, the redneck asked him again, and then again, and finally the lawyer let out a drunken laugh, and took off his polished shoes and socks.

Then the redneck said, "Why don't you take off that fancy tie?"

"Take off my tie?" said the lawyer with a sneer in his voice, "I'm a lawyer!" Then he looked down at his bare feet and took off his tie. . .







The redneck said, "And the suit? You look kind of funny standing there barefoot in a suit! I got another pair of overalls you can wear while we figure out what to do about this situation!"

At the urging of the redneck, the lawyer then took another sip, and another, and another.

The suspenders and the cufflinks and the briefcase were all in a heap now, and the lawyer was having a hard time standing up.

After another half hour, the lawyer said he was feeling pretty good, and asked the redneck if he didn't think that he ought to have a little nip, too. Then he realized he couldn't find the redneck... or his expensive clothes...

"Not me," replied the redneck, stepping out from behind a tree and wearing the lawyer's clothes and holding the keys to his BMW. He looked at the formerly well-dressed and dignified lawyer, sitting in the dirt, barefoot in overalls and drunk as a skunk and transformed into a true redneck.

"I'm waiting for the police," said the redneck.



## 6. 衣着考究的律师和乡下人

一个炎热的夏日，一位有名的城市律师和乡下人撞了车。律师从他的宝马里出来，乡下人从他的皮卡车里出来查看车撞得怎样，乡下人意识到是他的错……

“你这个蠢货！”律师喊道。

“蠢货，哼？”乡下人心想，“我该怎么脱身呢？”

他看见城市律师穿着考究，就回到车里，拿出一个瓶子，走了回来。他把瓶子递给律师说：“嘿，你看起来受了惊吓。我觉得你应该喝一小口这个。它会让你镇定下来的……自己家

