

胡敏 读故事记短语

常用英语短语

LEARNING THROUGH
READING

胡敏 主编
Scott Linder 著
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前 言

用风趣幽默的小故事把一些看似毫无关系的词汇串联起来,在故事中记词汇,在语境中学用法,这就是“胡敏读故事记单词”系列丛书倡导的词汇学习新理念。读故事让枯燥的单词变得活泼可爱,让沉闷的学习变得生动有趣;让记忆加速,让信心倍增!

“读故事”丛书自出版以来,已经在大中学生当中获得忠实的拥戴。“读故事”家族的成员也在不断增加,包括从初中、高中、大学,到托福、雅思等多种版本,不同年龄段的学生都能从中找到适合自己的“读故事”,都能感受到科学方法带来的惊奇效果。

要真正掌握英语,仅靠记单词是不够的,必须记忆足够的短语,才能组词造句,才能让英语活起来!“读故事记短语”是“读故事记单词”的姊妹篇。其中“基础英语短语”精选中学英语短语、日常英语口语和写作必备短语;“常用英语短语”收入大学英语、雅思、托福短语,以适应英语考试及地道英语表达的需要。

有人说过:If you love him, make him study English, for it's interesting; if you hate him, make him study English, for it's boring. 英语到底是 interesting 还是 boring, 这本身是个见仁见智的问题,我们希望读故事记单词这种形式能够帮助你找到学习英语的乐趣、增加征服英语的信心、提高掌握英语的效率。

作 者

2005年4月

The New Guy

新来的家伙

a babe in arms→a crew of

读故事

William C. Reilly always thought that he was a **big shot!** When Marcus Trubody came in for a **bite to eat**, however, everyone felt that it was like a **breath of fresh air**.

William pretended it was **no big deal**, but then he saw things that were **a bit of a shock**. First a **couple of** kids who usually ran when they saw him, walked right past him. Then, when he was waiting in a **blind alley** for townfolk to greet him, no one appeared. William just stood there in the dark, where no **beam of light** could enter. Finally, when the local **clock watcher** failed to tell the time as William walked by, William knew that he had to fight this **break with tradition**.

Five minutes later, William burst into the café like a **blast of wind**. Marcus didn't even flinch. Instead he picked up **the bundle of papers** and prepared to leave.

"I sense a **cloud of frustration**," he said to the town clerk. "I need a **change of pace**. I heard there was a **big sale** next door. I'll be over there if anyone needs me."

"There won't be anyone needing you any

威廉·C·赖利总认为他是个大人物!然而当马库斯·特鲁博迪进来吃一点儿东西时,大家都感觉是一种新鲜的刺激。

威廉假装没有什么大事,可后来他却发现了一些有点儿让人吃惊的事情。首先,几个从前一看见他就跑的孩子这次就在他身边走了过去。然后,当他在一条死胡同等着市民跟他打招呼时,却没有一个人出现。威廉就那么一直在黑暗中站着,那里一束光也进不来。最后,当威廉经过时当地那个老是看钟等待下班的工人却说不出时间来,这时威廉才明白他必须与这种背离传统的事情做斗争。

五分钟后,威廉像一阵风似地跑进了咖啡馆。马库斯甚至都没有退缩,相反他拿起一包文件准备离开。

"我感觉很失望,"他对这位城市职员说道,"我需要改变一下节奏,我听说隔壁正在大减价,如果有人需要我,我这就过去。"

more," William said.

That was when a sudden **column of water** flew on to William. He fell to the ground, knocking down a **cluster of grapes**. Stunned, he looked up to see Marcus Trubody over him.

"I got a **bunch** more where that comes from!" Marcus said. "I don't take kindly to threats. But I'm building a **crew of roughnecks** to work with me. You're welcome to join."

Still surprised and wet, William realized that he was a **babe in arms** compared to Marcus Trubody. He stood up, extended his hand and said.

"Welcome to town. Let's hear about that offer!"

"不会再有人需要你啦!"威廉说。

就在这时,突然有个水柱飞到了威廉身上。他倒在地上,打翻了一串葡萄。震惊之余,他抬头看见马库斯·特鲁博迪在他上面。

"刚才出来的那种东西我还有串呢!"马库斯说,"我不喜欢被人威胁,我正在发展一帮流氓跟我一起干,欢迎你加入。"

惊魂未定、浑身是水的威廉意识到和马库斯·特鲁博迪相比他不过是个涉世未深的人。他站起来,伸出手说道:

"欢迎来到城里,现在让我们来听听那个提议!"

记短语

a babe in arms 天真幼稚的人,涉世未深的人,没有经验的人(= a babe in the woods)

a beam of (light) 一束(光)

a big deal 至关重要的大事,了不得的事情;要人,名人

a big shot 大人物

a bit (of) 有点,些许

a big sale 大减价

a bite to eat 一口食物,少量食物

a blast of (wind) 一阵(风)

a blind alley 死胡同;绝境,绝路,僵局

a break with 对(传统)的背离 (the tra-

dition)

a breath of fresh air 使人耳目一新的人,带来新鲜感的东西;新鲜的刺激

a bunch of 一束,一串,一群

a bundle of 一包

a change of pace 节奏的改变

a clock watcher 老是看钟等下班(或下课等)的工人(或学生)

a cloud of 一大群;一大片

a cluster of 一串,一束;一群,一组

a column of water 一个水柱

a couple of 一对,一双;几个

a crew of 一组(或一班、一队)工作人员

An All-weather Friend

患难之交

a crowd of → a knight in shining armor

读故事

A great many women would never have lasted as long as Sarah Wilding did. She had been widowed twice, left at the altar once, and even abandoned in a crowd of aborigines. Now she lived alone on the north end of a barren island in Ireland. And perhaps it was because she was no longer waiting for a knight in shining armor that she truly had a heart of gold. She was a far cry from the women in town, but only one child knew this. That was Emily, the daughter of Mrs. Wilding's maid.

Emily had spent a good deal of time at the home on the island before she first met Mrs. Wilding. She kept to herself mostly and even Emily's mother had only really talked to her a handful of times. There was a heap of tales about Mrs. Wilding. So when Emily first met her, she was a bit scared. When a gust of wind blew Mrs. Wilding's dress, Emily even screamed. The wind made Mrs. Wilding look like a terrible witch.

“Aye now, come there lass. You know there isn't a grain of truth to the tales they

许多女人都不会像萨拉·怀尔丁那样那么有耐力。她两次守寡，一次在教堂婚礼上被遗弃，甚至被抛弃在一帮土著居民当中，现在她独自一人生活在爱尔兰一座荒岛的最北边。也许是因为她不再等待一个像中世纪骑士般彬彬有礼的男子的出现，她才真地有了一颗金子般的心。她和城里的女人有很大的差别，但只有一个孩子知道这一点，那就是艾米莉，怀尔丁夫人佣人的女儿。

首次见到怀尔丁夫人之前，艾米莉在岛上的家中已经生活了很长一段时间。她一般不与人交往，就连艾米莉的母亲也只会和她说过很少几次话。关于怀尔丁夫人的传说有一大堆，因此当艾米莉第一次见到她的时候，她是有点害怕的。一阵狂风吹起了怀尔丁夫人的裙子，艾米莉甚至叫了起来，因为那阵风使怀尔丁夫人看起来像个可怕的巫婆。

“好了，小姑娘，到这边来。你知道城里那些关于我的传闻没有一点儿可信的东

tell about me in town!” said Mrs. Wilding as she comforted Emily. “But I can tell you a **host of** stories about them that are true!”

And with that, Emily was won over. Her **fit of** fear passed and Mrs. Wilding became like a grandmother to her. Soon she spent many hours with Mrs. Wilding. Minutes became like **drops in the ocean**, as their relationship grew deeper and deeper.

When Emily was older and Mrs. Wilding became sick, Emily returned to take care of Mrs. Wilding.

“Ah, so you aren't a **fair-weather friend** then!” said Mrs. Wilding when Emily returned.

“No ma'am. I'm an all-weather friend!”

西!”怀尔丁夫人安慰爱米莉说,“但我可以告诉你许多关于他们的真实故事!”

听到这话,爱米莉被怀尔丁夫人说服了,她心中的阵阵恐惧也消失了,对她来说怀尔丁夫人成了奶奶一样的人物,很快她就和怀尔丁夫人呆了好几个小时。随着他们的关系越来越深,漫长的时间成了沧海一粟。

当爱米莉长大成人,怀尔丁夫人生病之后,爱米莉回来照顾起了怀尔丁夫人。

“啊,这么说你不是个酒肉朋友喽!”爱米莉回来时怀尔丁夫人说。

“不是,夫人,我是一个患难之交!”

记短语

a crowd of 许多;一大群

a drop in the ocean 沧海一粟

a fair-weather friend 酒肉朋友,不是患难之交

a far cry from 和…相距很远;和…大相径庭

a fit of 突发一阵,阵发

a good/great deal (of) (或 great) 许多,大量

a grain of truth 一点儿可信的东西,一丝真理

a great many 许多

a gust of wind 一阵狂风

a handful of 一把;少数,少量

a heap of 一大堆

a heart of gold 金子般的心,美好的心灵

a host of 一大群,许多

a knight in shining armor [讽](尤指对妇女)像中世纪骑士般彬彬有礼的男子

A Desert Walk

沙漠之旅

a large amount of → a matter of time

读故事

When Jack's car ran out of gas in the desert, a **myriad of** thoughts ran through his head. First, he didn't even have a **loaf of bread**. Second, nor did he have any water. Third, he was a **long way off** from anything. And without his cell phone, it didn't matter that he could have been just a phone call away from help. It was only a **matter of time** before he would die.

And so he began walking down the road. After only a **quarter of an hour** walking under the hot desert sun, he began dreaming of **large amounts of** water. And when a **million** other **things** could have been on his mind as well, he thought back to his wife. They had just separated over a **number of** irreconcilable differences. And she had always been too much of a **live wire** for him. It had always been only a **question of time** before their marriage would fail. But now, about to die, he began to think that he had been a **lucky dog** to have such an interesting wife.

She had told him a **million times** that she was good for him. Now he knew that she had

当杰克的车在沙漠中汽油用完时,他的脑子里冒出了许多问题。首先,他甚至连一块面包都没有了。其次,水也用完了。再其次,他离目的地还早着呢。由于没有带移动电话,他就是离救援只差打一个电话也无济于事,他的死只是个时间问题。

因此他开始沿路前行。在沙漠的骄阳下只走了一刻钟,他就开始梦想着有大量水。尽管心中可能有许多其他的事情,他还是想起了妻子。由于许多不可调和的矛盾,他们刚刚分居了。对他来说,她总是太活跃,他们的婚姻破裂一直就是迟早的事。可是现在,死之将至,他开始认为有这么个有意思的妻子,他真是个幸运儿。

她告诉过他许多次她对他挺有用,现在他知道她的确如此。要是他们还在一起就好了!

继续往前走的时候,杰

been so. If only they were still together!

As he continued walking, Jack noticed an odd **pile of** stones. He stopped. They could be covering a **multitude of** things, but Jack knew that it was a **must** for him to see if it was water. In a **matter of** minutes he had removed the rocks from what looked like an old bag. As he opened it, Jack shouted in relief. It was water; enough to last the rest of the day. Now he could safely get back to town.

Back in town, Jack called his wife.

克注意到了一堆奇怪的石头。他停下脚步,这些石头可能覆盖着许多东西,但杰克知道他必须弄清楚那不是水。大约几分钟之后,他把石头搬走了,里面看起来像是个旧袋子,打开一看,杰克如释重负地叫了起来,原来是水;足够应付那天剩下的时间。现在他可以安全地回到城里啦!

回到城里,杰克给妻子打了个电话。

记短语

a large amount of 许多,大量

(或 large amounts of)

a live wire 载电线,火线;活跃分子,富有进取心的人

a loaf of bread 一个(或一块)面包

a long way off 还有好长一段距离,还早着呢

a lucky dog 幸运儿

a matter of time 时间问题

a matter of ...问题;(表示数量)近似量

a million things 一百万件事情,很多事情(通常想说某人很忙)

a million times 一百万次,很多次

a multitude of 一大批,大量,许多

a must 必要条件,必不可少的事物

a myriad of 大量的,无数的

a number of 若干,许多

a pile of 一堆,一叠;一大堆,大量

a quarter of an hour 一刻钟

a question(或 matter) of time 迟早的事

Accepting an Award

领 奖

a rainy day → a wealth of

读故事

As Elizabeth walked to the stage to accept her prize, **swarms of** people stood up to shake her hand. Many even stood up to give her a **standing ovation**. She was overwhelmed and looked for a **shoulder to cry on**. She knew this wasn't the time, however, and reached the final **stretch of** walkway.

On stage she was given the microphone for her acceptance speech. The announcer gave her a **strip of** tissue to wipe her eyes. Elizabeth replied that she needed a **stack of** tissue boxes to do that—she was so happy! Finally calming down, Elizabeth smiled and pulled out a **sheet of paper**. Camera flashes were constant and she wondered how many **rolls of film** the photographers were going through. No matter. She needed to say something.

She first commented that she had a **wealth of** other people to thank. Instead, however, she said that her parents had always thought acting was a **waste of time**. She even had a special bank account from them in case of a **rainy**

当伊丽莎白走向讲台领奖的时候,许多人都站起来和她握手,许多人甚至站起来给她鼓掌。她很受感动,想找个患难时可以依靠的人。但她知道这不是时候,所以走到了过道的最后一段。

一到讲台上便有人递给她麦克风让她发表领奖演说。主持人给她一条手巾纸让她擦眼泪,伊丽莎白则说她要一堆纸盒才够——因为她太高兴啦!等到终于平静下来,伊丽莎白笑着抽出一张纸。照相机开始不停地闪烁,她不知道摄影师们用了多少卷胶卷。管它呢!她得说点什么。

她首先解释说她有一大堆的人要感谢。但是反过来,她说她父母一直认为演戏是浪费时间,他们甚至还给她开了一个特殊的银行账号以备她有不时之需!但是

day! But now, after a series of plush roles and a good slice of luck, she had already earned a set of prestigious awards. All of her acting classes had not been a waste of money. The crowd laughed. Elizabeth's silvery tongue had won them over.

In conclusion, Elizabeth encouraged young actresses to persevere, work hard in the beginning, and make the most of even the smallest parts. "A stitch in time saves nine!" She said to another laugh from the crowd. And then she walked off the stage to be interviewed in the rear of the stage.

现在,由于扮演了一系列成功的角色,加上一部分好运,她已经获得了一组大奖。她上的表演课都不是白花钱。人们笑了,伊丽莎白的好口才征服了他们。

最后,伊丽莎白鼓励青年女演员要锲而不舍,开始时要多下功夫,哪怕是最不起眼的角色也要充分利用。“小洞不补,大洞吃苦!”她说,人们又爆发出一阵笑声。最后她走下讲台,到讲台后面接受采访。

记短语

a rainy day 雨天;可能碰到的困难日子

(尤指财政拮据)

a roll of film 一卷胶卷

a series of 一系列的,一连串的

a set of 一套,一副,一组

a sheet of paper 一张纸

a shoulder to cry on 患难时可以依靠的人

a silver tongue 有很好的口才,口若悬河(或 silvery tongue)

a slice of 一片,一部分

a standing ovation 起立欢呼,起立鼓掌

掌

a stack of 一堆,一摞

a stitch in time saves nine 小洞不补,大洞吃苦;亡羊补牢

a stretch of 一大片,一段

a strip of 一条

a swarm of 一群,一大批;(~ s of)许多,大量

a waste of money 钱的浪费,浪费钱

a waste of time 时间的浪费,浪费时间

a wealth of 丰富的,大量的

The Leader of a Country? No Big Deal!

国家领导？没什么了不起！

a wet blanket → accede to

读故事

When Mike McGee **acceded to** the throne of Palador, he had no idea that it would soon be a **white elephant**! He quickly learned that while he had a **great range of** power, there was no way to use it. He could rule the country above all others, for example, but he could no longer **abandon himself to** any of his former pleasures, especially publicly. There were simply a **great variety of** things he could no longer do.

When Mike was **absent from** several key meetings, his staff called him **absent-minded**. When he refused to partake wholeheartedly in the hot discussions of the moment, they told him to stop being a **wet blanket**. But he was just not happy! He had to **abstain from** sex, not take part in the **abuse of** any alcoholic beverages, listen to boring classical music and always be **abounding in** grace and dignity. It just didn't suit him.

It didn't suit the country either.

In fact, he was quickly becoming **abhorrent**

当麦克·麦吉就任帕拉多总统时，他不知道那很快就成了一个不值钱的东西！他很快了解到，尽管他的权力很广，却无法使用。比方说，他可以在万人之上治理国家，却再也不能像以前那样尽情享乐了，尤其是在公众面前。他不能再做的种种事情可多啦！

当麦克缺席几次重要会议的时候，他的众手下就会说他心不在焉。当他不愿全神贯注地参加热烈的时事讨论时，他们就叫他不要做一个扫兴的人。可他就是快乐不起来。他得戒色，任何酒精饮料也不得滥喝，他得听无聊的古典音乐，时刻都要充满优雅和尊严。这些东西对他来说真是太不合适了。

这对国家也不合适。

事实上，他很快就厌恶他的所有公民了。不久以前，他们还很喜欢他，可现在

to all of its citizens. They had liked him a while back, but now they just wanted him to leave. When he finally told a white lie that he needed to return to America to visit his sick grandmother, they were happy to let him leave.

When he never returned, no one missed him. They just elected a new president more suited to the role of a puppet and moved on. And Mike McGee happily spent the rest of his life in Las Vegas on the pension plan they gave to him!

他们只想他下台。最后他告诉了他们一个善意的谎言,说他要回美国看望生病的奶奶,这时他们巴不得他赶快走人。

他再也没有回来,也没有人想念他。他们重新选举了一位更加适合扮演傀儡角色的人当总统,日子还那样过着。靠着他们给他制订的退休金计划,麦克·麦吉在拉斯维加斯幸福地过着他的晚年生活!

记短语

a wet blanket 扫兴的人(或事物)

a while back 一段时间之前,不久以前

a white elephant (保管起来既费钱又费事的)累赘东西,无价值(或不值钱)的东西

a white lie 善意的谎言

a (great/wide) variety of 种种,各种

a (great/wide) range of 广泛的;许多的

abandon oneself to 沉溺于,放纵

abhorrent to 与...相抵触的,与...不相符的

abound in 充满,富于

absent from 缺席,不在

absent-minded 心不在焉,健忘

abstain from 戒,避开

abuse of 对...的滥用;虐待

accede to 同意,答应;正式加入,参加;就任,继任,即位

The Guide

导 游

access to → adapt to

读故事

“I would like to **act as** your guide!” a strange young man said to me. “**According to** the word on the street, you want to visit an **active volcano**. Is that true?”

“Yes it is!”

“I am well **acquainted with** both the terrain and the language of the people you will need to travel through to do this. I can therefore help you **across the board**. And I only need **access to** the standard amount of pay.”

“Wonderful. But you seem a little bit young.”

“I will not **act my age**. Nor will I be your **Achilles' heel** on this journey. No one has ever **accused me of** not delivering what I promise. No, you will be impressed with my abilities to help you **adapt to** the surroundings as we travel together.”

“You're hired. What should we do first?”

“First we must **account for** all of the proper provisions. Have you **acquired a taste for** local food yet?”

“我想当你的导游!”一个陌生男子对我说,“根据街上传来的消息,你想参观一座活火山,是真的吗?”

“是真的!”

“对于你要做的这次旅行,我是既熟悉地形又熟悉那儿的人说的语言,因此我可以全面地帮助你,而我只想有机会享受标准报酬。”

“太好啦!可你看起来有点太年轻了。”

“我做事可不像我的年龄,我也不会成为你旅途中的致命弱点。还没有人指责过我,说我说话不算数。不会的,我们在一起的时间一长,你就会对我的能力留下印象,我会使你适应周围环境。”

“那就用你啦!我们首先应该做什么?”

“首先我们对所有要带的必需品做出解释。你已经对当地的食物产生兴趣了

“No, unfortunately not. We just arrived.”

“Then we will need to purchase more here in town before we leave. We must **act upon** that immediately. If you give me money to serve as a food budget I can **act for** you to purchase supplies.”

“Here you go. Do we need to rent a vehicle and driver?”

“Oh no. The drivers in this town **act up** too much. We will rent our own animals and travel straight up the mountain. It is the best way to go anyhow.”

“Okay. You’re the expert!”

吗?”

“没有,可惜还没有,我们刚刚才到这儿。”

“这样的话,我们就要在出发之前在这里多买些东西,我们必须马上照此行事。如果你把食物专款给我,我可以代你购买各种食品。”

“就照你的意思办。我们需要雇一辆车和一名司机吗?”

“不需要,这里的司机太爱捣蛋了,我们给自己租一个牲畜直接上山,反正这是最好的办法。”

“好的,你真是专家!”

记短语

access to 接近(或进入)的机会(或权力),享用机会(或权力);通向…的入口

according to 根据,依据

account for 提出理由,做出解释,做出说明

accuse (sb.) of (sth.) 控告;指责,把…归咎于

Achilles' heel 唯一的弱点,致命弱点

acquaint (sb.) with 使了解

acquire a taste for (sth.) 对…有兴趣,开始喜欢

across the board 全面地,包括一切地

act as 充当,担任…角色

act for 代理

act on(或 upon) 遵照…行事;作用于,影响

act up (机器)运转不正常;(疾病)发作;耍脾气,捣蛋

act(或 be) one's age 举止和年龄相称;举止有大人气

active volcano 活火山

adapt to 使适应