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(英语课程标准四级之一)

The Lost World 失去的世界

SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE 原著 阿瑟・柯南道尔



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SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE Retold by Anne Collins

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出版说明

为了促进我国中学生的英语学习,培养他们的文化素养和文学修养,上海外语教育出版社经过长时间的酝酿和市场调研,决定将英国麦克米伦出版公司的一套文学名著简写本引荐给我国的中学生。

麦克米伦出版公司是从20世纪初开始陆续出版这套文学名著简写本的。为了满足世界各地英语为非母语国家,也包括英语国家不同程度中学生的阅读需要,他们请专家对一些大家耳熟能详的世界文学名著进行了改写,在保留原著的故事情节和原著者的创作风格的同时,适当地降低了语言的难度,至今已经推出了200多本。若干年过去了,这些书仍然受到世界各地读者的欢迎。

外教社从麦克米伦出版公司的这套文学名著简写本中精心挑选了40本,汇成一套"轻松读经典丛书",难易程度跨越"英语课程标准"的3级—8级。这套丛书选编了英、美、法等国文学大师的经典之作,包括莎士比亚、狄更斯、马克·吐温、哈代、大仲马等著名作家的作品。为了让中学生在阅读过程中更好地把握原书的精髓和作家的创作历程,外教社还特地对读物中的语言难点做了注释;并加入了一篇关于作家、作品的背景介绍。

我们衷心希望"轻松读经典丛书"能够有助于提高 我国中学生的文学欣赏水平,陶冶他们的道德情操,增强 他们的英语阅读能力,成为开启中学生英语文学名著阅读之门的金钥匙。

> 外教社编辑部 2002 年 11 月

简 介

1859年5月22日阿瑟·柯南道尔生于苏格兰的爱丁堡,后于爱丁堡大学学医。1881年开始行医,但没赚到什么钱,于是便开始写书,创作剧本,发表文章。

他爱创作历史及冒险故事。1887年柯南道尔发表了首部侦探小说——《血字的研究》,因此而一举成名。书里叙述的是位才华横溢的侦探夏洛克·福尔摩斯和他的助手华生医生。随后发表的福尔摩斯的故事包括《福尔摩斯冒险史》、《福尔摩斯回忆录》、《福尔摩斯归来》、《四签名》、《巴斯克维尔的猎犬》和《恐怖谷》等。

1893 年柯南道尔创作了《最后的案件》,福尔摩斯在故事中身亡。读者不喜欢这样的结尾,他们愤怒、恼火,并不断写信给柯南道尔。于是柯南道尔又写了《空屋》,让福尔摩斯复活。

柯南道尔一生做过好多有意思的事。年轻时曾在 船上任职。1900 年去过南非。布尔战争期间在前线 一所医院工作,之后又去美洲、澳洲、非洲、欧洲旅行。 在这些国家他谈自己的书,谈论政治和社会问题。自 已还干过私人侦探! 搜集证据,帮助无辜的犯人,使他们后来得以无罪释放。

柯南道尔两次结婚。1885 年娶了路易丝·霍金斯。一起生活 21 年,有两个孩子。1906 年路易丝过世。1907 年柯氏娶第二个妻子琼·莱基。他们生了 3 个孩子。1902 年柯南道尔被授予爵士称号。1930 年7月7日去世,享年 71 岁。

《失去的世界》写于 1912 年。情节扣人心弦,故事冒险离奇。柯南道尔在书中描述了远古动物生存的一片陆地。

多年来,科学家们一直在思考地球上生命的起源。 大约在公元前400年,人们已在地下发掘出巨兽的骨头。起初,没人能鉴别这些骨头属于哪种动物。

今天,我们对这些动物有了更多的了解。它们大 约生活在两亿四千五百万年至六千四百万年以前,是 地球上出现并生活过的最大的动物。

在本故事中你将会遇到稀奇古怪的动物名称。下 列名字将有助你的阅读:

stegosaurus 剑龙

pterodactyl 翼手龙

iguanodon 禽龙

allosaurus 异龙

megalosaurus 巨龙

tyrannosaurus rex 霸王龙

The People in This Story



Professor George Challenger a zoologist, a scientist who studies animals 乔治・查林杰教授,动物学家。



Edward Malone a reporter on the Daily Gazette newspaper 爱徳华・马隆、《毎日新闻》记者。



Mr McArdle the Editor of the *Daily Gazette*. Ed Malone's boss 麦卡阿德尔先生,爰德华・马隆的老板。



Professor Summerlee a scientist 萨姆李教授,科学家。



Lord John Roxton a traveller 洛德・约翰・罗克斯汤,游客。



The Ape-King the leader of the Ape-People 猿人王,猿人的首领。



The Prince of the Indians 印第安人的王子。



Miguel a servant 米古尔,仆人。



Sancho a servant 桑乔,仆人。



Gomez a servant 戈梅斯,仆人。

CONTENTS

	Page
The People in This Story	
1	I Meet Professor Challenger
2	The Professor's Story9
3	Our Journey Begins
4	The River Amazon22
5	A Terrible Thing Happens 28
6	Creatures from the Past35
7	Death in the Night43
8	A Dreadful Walk50
9	Prisoners of the Ape-People 56
10	The Battle
1	Escape from the Lost World
12	We Return to London
Points for Understanding 81	

I Meet Professor Challenger

MY name is Edward Malone. I have a very strange and wonderful story to tell. Perhaps people will not believe my story. But everything in my story is true.

In 1912, I was twenty-three years old. I was working as a reporter for a newspaper in London. My job was to find out about things that had happened. Then I wrote about them in the newspaper. The name of the newspaper was the Daily Gazette¹.

My boss at the *Daily Gazette* was called Mr McArdle. Mr McArdle had worked for the newspaper for many years. He sent me to find news stories. I liked Mr McArdle and he liked me. I worked hard and enjoyed my job.

One morning, Mr McArdle called me into his office. He was reading one of my news reports.

'Congratulations², Malone, 'said Mr McArdle.

¹ Daily Gazette:《每日新闻》 2 congratulations: 祝贺

- 'You are doing some very good work. You are a very good reporter. Are you happy in your job?'
- 'Yes, of course,' I said. I was pleased that Mr McArdle liked my work. Then I said, 'But I want to ask you something.'
 - 'What is it?' said Mr McArdle.
- 'Well,' I said, 'I was thinking . . . Please, Mr McArdle, could you send me on an adventure 1?'
- 'An adventure!' said Mr McArdle. 'What do you mean?'
- 'I'm a young man,' I said, 'and I want to do something exciting. Something exciting and dangerous. Then I can write about it for the Daily Gazette.'
- 'I see,' said Mr McArdle. He thought. Then he said, 'Have you heard of Professor Challenger?'
- 'Professor Challenger?' I said in surprise. 'Do you mean the famous scientist? Yes, I've heard of him. But I don't know much about him.'
- 'Professor Challenger is a zoologist², 'said Mr McArdle. 'He studies the lives and the behaviour of animals. He is an expert in his work. He is very clever and knows many things.
 - 'Two years ago, Professor Challenger went

¹ adventure: 冒险 2 zoologist: 动物学家

to South America alone. He stayed there for several months. When he came back, he said some very interesting things.'

'What kind of things?' I asked.

'He said he found some wonderful animals in South America. These animals were very large and unusual. Nobody had ever seen them before.'

'But many people don't believe Professor Challenger. They think he is lying about the animals. Go and interview¹ Challenger. Talk to him. Find out if he is telling the truth.

'All right,' I said. Then I remembered something I had heard about Professor Challenger.

'Wait a minute,' I said. 'Professor Challenger hates reporters, doesn't he? He hit one reporter on the head. Then he threw another one down the stairs.'

'Yes,' said Mr McArdle. 'So if you want to interview him, you must be clever. That's all now, Malone. I have a lot of work to do. Goodbye!'

After I left Mr McArdle's office, I thought for a long time.

'Professor Challenger is very clever,' I thought, 'but he's also bad-tempered. He hates reporters. So he must not find out that I'm a re-

¹ interview: 采访

porter.'

I went to a library where old newspapers were kept. There were many articles about Professor Challenger in these newspapers. One article was about a talk he gave in Vienna1.

I read the article. Then I had an idea. I decided to write a letter to Professor Challenger. The letter said:

Dear Professor Challenger

I am a student of science. I read about the talk you gave in Vienna. Your ideas are very interesting. But I do not understand all of them. Please can I visit you to talk about your ideas? Can I come on Wednesday morning at 11 o'clock?

Yours sincerely Edward D. Malone

Two days later, I received a reply. It said:

Dear Mr Malone

Thank you for your letter. I am sorry you did not understand my ideas. They were very clear. Only a stupid person could not understand. However, if you want to see me, come to my house on Wednesday.

Yours sincerely Change

¹ Vienna: 维也纳

On Wednesday morning, I went to Professor Challenger's house. A servant showed me into the Professor's room.

The Professor was sitting at his desk. The desk was covered with books, maps and drawings. I stared at the Professor in surprise.

Professor Challenger had an enormous¹ head. It was the largest head I had ever seen. He had a red face, grey eyes and a long black beard. His hands were big and strong and covered with thick black hair.

'Who are you?' he said rudely. 'What do you want?'

'Good morning, Professor,' I said. 'I'm Edward Malone, the science student. You sent me a letter. You asked me to come and see you this morning.'

'Oh yes,' said the Professor. 'Well, what don't you understand about my work?'

I asked the Professor some questions about his ideas. But it was very difficult. My questions were not very good. I did not know anything about science. The Professor listened.

After a few minutes he said, 'Shall I tell you something, Mr Malone?'

'Oh yes, Professor Challenger, please do.'

¹ enormous: 巨大的

The Professor jumped up from his chair and came towards me. I was surprised. He was very short.

'Mr Malone, you are not a science student. Your questions are very stupid. You don't know anything about science. Shall I tell you what I think? I think you are a reporter!'

'Please, Professor—' I said. I was very worried. I moved away but the Professor followed me.

'I'm going to throw you out of my house,' he said. 'I threw out all the other reporters too!'

He ran towards me and pushed me through the door into the hall. The Professor held me around the neck and we fell to the floor. We rolled¹ together across the hall. The servant opened the front door and we went out into the street.

'What's going on here?' asked a voice.

It was a policeman. He was standing beside us.

'Why are you fighting? Has this man hurt you?' the policeman asked me.

I did not want the Professor to be in trouble.

'No, no,' I said. 'It was my fault. I did something wrong.'

¹ roll: 打滚,滚动