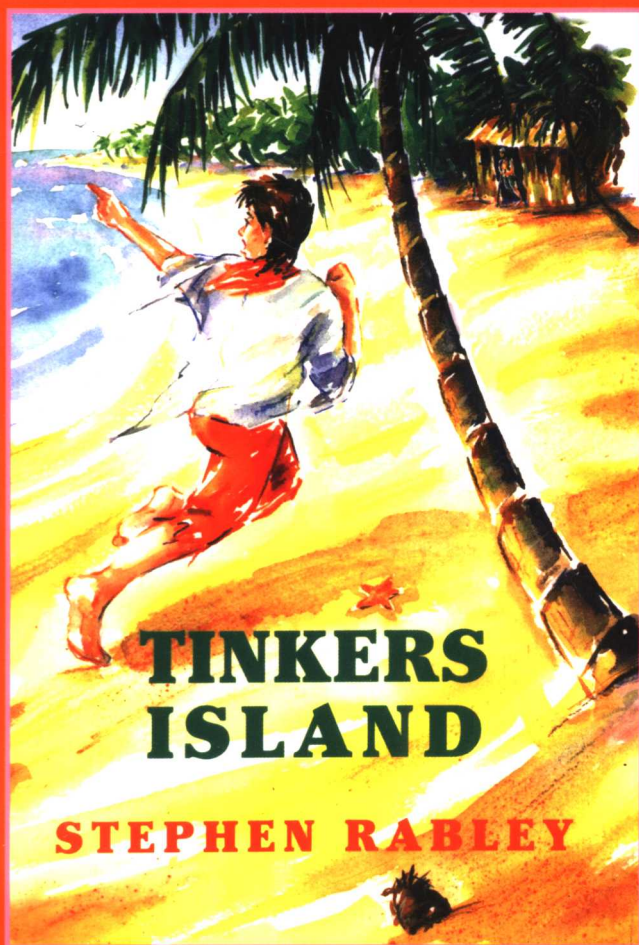




企鵝英語簡易讀物精選

廷克父女島



世界圖書出版公司

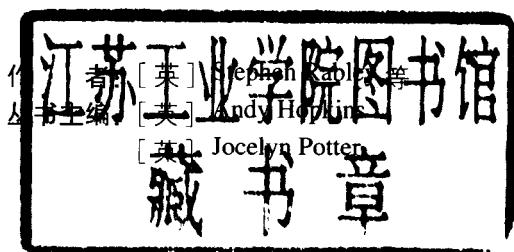




企鵝英語簡易讀物精選 (初一學生)

Tinkers Island and Other Stories

廷克父女島



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世界图书出版公司



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大量阅读简易读物 打好英语基础（代序）

北京外国语大学英语系历来都十分重视简易读物的阅读。我们要求学生在一、二年级至少要阅读几十本经过改写的、适合自己水平的英语读物。教学实践证明，凡是大量阅读了简易读物的学生，基础一般都打得比较扎实，英语实践能力都比较强，过渡到阅读英文原著困难也都比较小。这是我们几十年来屡试不爽的一条经验。

为什么强调在阅读英文原著之前必须阅读大量的简易读物呢？原因之一是简易读物词汇量有控制，内容比较浅易，而原著一般来说词汇量大，内容比较艰深。在打基础阶段，学生的词汇量比较小，阅读原著会遇到许多困难。在这种情况下，要保证足够的阅读量只能要求学生阅读简易读物。其次，简易读物使用的是常用词汇、短语和语法结构，大量阅读这类读物可以反复接触这些基本词语和语法，有助于他们打好基础，培养他们的英语语感。第三，简易读物大部分是文学名著改写而成，尽管情节和人物都大为简化，但依旧保留了文学名著的部分精华，仍不失为优秀读物。大量阅读这些读物对于拓宽学生视野、提高他们的人文素养大有帮助。

在这里我们还可以援引美国教学法家克拉申（Stephen Krashen）的一个著名观点。他认为，学生吸收外语有一个前提，即语言材料只能稍稍高于他们的语言理解水平，如果提供的语言材料难度大大超过学生的水平，就会劳而无功。这是克拉申关于外语学习的一个总的看法，但我们不妨把这个道理运用到阅读上。若要阅读有成效，必须严格控制阅读材料的难易度。目前学生阅读的英语材料往往过于艰深，词汇量过大，学生花了很多时间，而阅读量却仍然很小，进展缓慢，其结果是扼杀了学生的阅读兴趣，影响了他们的自信心。解决这个问题关键是向学生提供适合他们水平的、词汇量有控制的、能够引起他们兴趣的英语读物。“企鹅英语简易读物精选”是专门为初、中级学习者编写的简易读物。这是一套充分考虑到学生的水平和需要，为他们设计的有梯度的读物，学生可以循序渐进，逐步提高阅读难度和扩大阅读量，从而提高自己的英语水平。

应该如何做才能取得最佳效果呢？首先，要选择难易度适当的读物。如果一页书上生词过多，读起来很吃力，进展十分缓慢，很可能选的材料太难了。不妨换一本容易些的。总的原则是宁易毋难。一般来说，学生选择的材料往往偏难，而不是过于浅易。其次，要尽可能读得快一些，不要一句一句地分析，更不要逐句翻译。读故事要尽快读进去，进入情节，就像阅读中文小说一样。不必担心是否记住了新词语。阅读量，阅读速度适当，就会自然而然地记住一些词语。这是自然吸收语言的过程。再次，阅读时可以做一些笔记，但不必做太多的笔记；可以做一些配合阅读的练习，但不要在练习上花过多时间。主要任务还是阅读。好的读物不妨再读一遍，甚至再读两遍。你会发现在读第二遍时有一种如鱼得水的感觉。

青年朋友们，赶快开始你们的阅读之旅吧！它会把你们带进一个奇妙的世界，在那里你们可以获得一种全新的感受，观察世界也会有一种新的眼光。与此同时，你们的英语水平也会随之迅速提高。



London, November 1798

Jenny Tinker is fourteen. She and her father, Sam, work in Covent Garden market. They sell fruit and vegetables. The Tinkers get up early every morning and work very hard.

One day after work Jenny sees a man. He is running and he has got a watch in his hand.



“Here – take this,” he says, and gives Sam the watch. Five seconds later a lot of angry people run down the street after Sam.

“There’s the thief! He’s got my watch – stop him!” says an old man.

“You’re coming with us,” two policemen say to Sam. They do not listen to Jenny’s story.

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Jenny does not have a mother or any brothers and sisters. Who can she talk to? She goes to Peter Stone's house. Peter works in the market.

"What's going to happen?" asks Jenny. Peter looks sad. "They send thieves to Australia," he says. Peter is right. A week later Jenny watches a big ship – the *Black Star* – on the River Thames. One of the men on it is her father.



"How can I help him?" thinks Jenny. Then she sees a pair of trousers and a shirt on a line above the street.

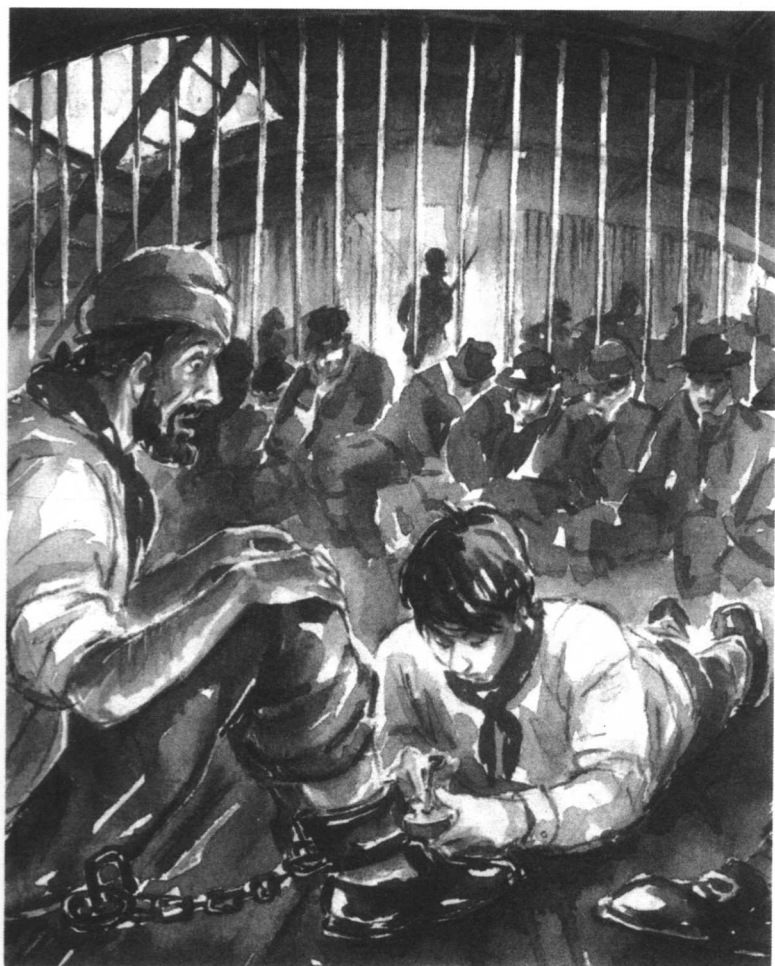
"Yes," she says. "That's it!"

Five minutes later she talks to the ship's captain.

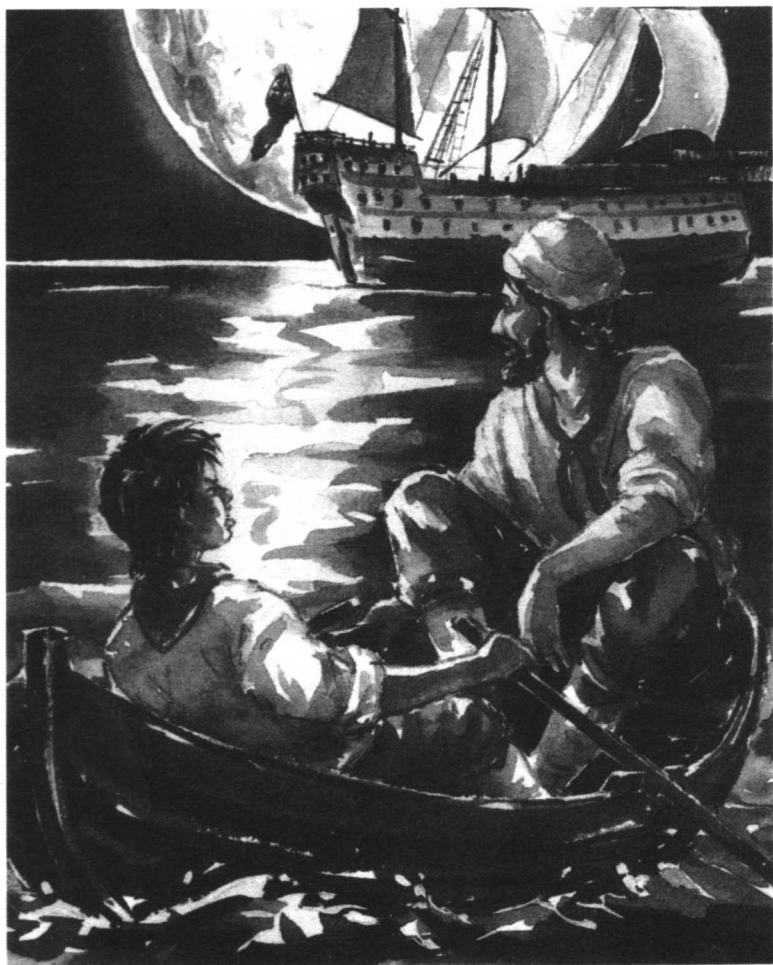
"I want a job," she says. "My name's Ned Bell."

"Well . . . why not," says the captain. "OK, Ned – you can help the cook."

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For six weeks Jenny works very hard on the *Black Star*. Then one night she goes to the captain's room. Usually his keys are next to the bed. Tonight they are on the table. Jenny takes them and goes down to the bottom of the ship. There she finds her father. "Jenny!" he says. "But how . . .?" "Ssshh – don't ask questions," says Jenny. "Come with me."



Fifteen minutes later the Tinkers are in a small boat. The *Black Star* is behind them. They can hear nothing but the sea and the wind. It is a beautiful night and there is a big moon. It shines on Sam Tinker's thin, tired face. Jenny looks at her father.

"Oh, Dad," she says. "You're *free*!" Then she tells him her story.



After three days Sam and Jenny are very hungry and thirsty. Then, after five days Jenny sees a big white bird. It is carrying some grass. "Look Dad," she says. "Do you think there's an island near here?"

Sam Tinker stands up in the small boat. He puts one hand across his eyes. "Yes, Jenny, you're right! I can see it. There is an island!!"



The island is big and has lots of tall, thick trees. First Sam and Jenny look for food and water. They find a small river. The water is cold and clean. They drink and drink and drink. There are coconuts on the island, too. The Tinkers know coconuts from Covent Garden market. Sam opens two of them and gives the first one to Jenny.



That night Sam and Jenny sleep on the beach. They are very tired. In the morning they start to make a small house with grass and wood. They work very hard. After four days they finish. Then Sam makes a flag with his shirt and puts it on the roof. He and Jenny look up at the flag. "This is 'Tinkers Island' now," Sam says. "It's our new home and we're going to be happy here."



Sam and Jenny are *very* happy for the first year. Every day they work, talk, eat and swim. They like their new home. It is quiet and beautiful.

Then one day something happens. It is early in the morning. Jenny is fishing. Sam is looking for coconuts. He does not see a long, thick snake on the ground. He puts his foot on the snake and it bites him.



Two hours later Jenny finds her father on the ground. He cannot walk. She pulls him along the beach to the house. After that there is nothing she can do. Sam is very, very weak. He cannot eat or drink.

Jenny sits next to his bed for three days and nights. Then Sam opens his eyes. "Jenny?" he asks. "Jenny – is that you?"



After ten days Sam is well again, but not very strong. He sleeps a lot and Jenny does all the work. She catches fish, finds coconuts, makes fires and cooks.

Then, one morning, she sees something. It is a ship and it is coming to the island. She runs to the house to find her father.

"Dad, Dad!" she says. "Come and look!"



Sam walks to the door of the small house. "Do you think it's the *Black Star*?" he asks. "I don't know," Jenny answers.

Sam looks at the ship. He can see three men. They are putting a boat in the water.

"I don't like this," he says. "I don't like this at all. Come on." He starts to run and Jenny helps him.