



企鹅英语简易读物精选

# 女侦探卡特里娜首案告捷



世界图书出版公司

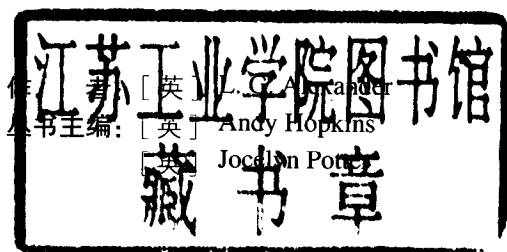




企鹅英语简易读物精选 (高三学生)

# *K's First Case*

## 女侦探卡特里娜首案告捷



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### 女侦探卡特里娜首案告捷

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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。解决这个问题的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，进入故事的情节，就像阅读中文小说一样。不必担心是否记住了新词语。阅读量大，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。

## Introduction

*K, our clever detective, has three important questions:*

*X murdered Sir Michael Gray, so*

*1 How did X murder Sir Michael?*

*2 Who was X?*

*3 Why did X murder Sir Michael?*

Katrina Kirby is a detective, but people call her 'K'. She wants to find the answers to these important questions. This is her first case. Can you help her?

This is a detective story with a difference. We invite you, the reader, to help K solve the case.

There has been a murder in a big country house in England. One of five people murdered Sir Michael Gray. Sir Michael Gray was in his study at the time of the murder. The study was locked from the inside. The window was locked from the inside, too, but someone murdered him. Who did it? How? Why?

Louis Alexander was born in London in 1932. He completed his studies at London University in 1954 and then taught English as a Foreign Language in a number of different countries.

He is best known as the writer of English language courses like *New Concept English* (1967), *Look Listen and Learn* (1971), *Follow Me* (1980) and *Direct English* (1993-1998); practice books like *For and Against* (1968); grammars like the *Longman English Grammar* (1988); and readers like *Dangerous Game* (also a Penguin Reader).

He and his wife, Julia, live in London.

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## The people in the story

This is a murder story.

This man was murdered.  
His name was Sir Michael Gray.  
He was fifty-five years old.  
He was very rich.  
He was the boss of Cavell and  
Company.



Look at this woman.  
She is young and pretty and she is  
very clever.  
She is a detective.  
Her name is Katrina Kirby.  
People call her 'K'.  
She wants to find the answers to some  
important questions.  
This is her first case.  
Can you help her?



K, our clever detective, has three important questions:

X murdered Sir Michael Gray, so

- 1 How did X murder Sir Michael?
- 2 Who was X?
- 3 Why did X murder Sir Michael?

**HOW...? WHO...? WHY...?**

## Who was X?

There was a murder. There were five other people in the house at the time. One of them was X. Who was it?



Lady\* Elizabeth Gray,  
Sir Michael's wife.  
She is forty-eight years old.



Colonel William Fawcett,  
Sir Michael's friend.  
He is fifty years old.  
He was in the army years ago, but he  
isn't in the army now.



Miss Angela Everett,  
Sir Michael's secretary.  
She has been Sir Michael's secretary  
for a year.  
She is twenty-five years old.



Andrew Cavell,  
Lady Elizabeth's brother.  
He is forty years old.  
He is one of the bosses of Cavell and  
Company, too.



Mrs Nancy Flack.  
She is the Grays' housekeeper.  
She has been with Lady Gray's family  
for forty years.  
She is sixty years old.

\*Lord/Lady: title of a man/woman from an upper-class family.



## What happened?

*The date:* November 17th

*The time now:* 10.15

*The place:* A large country house in England

November					
1	2	3	4	5	6
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19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30



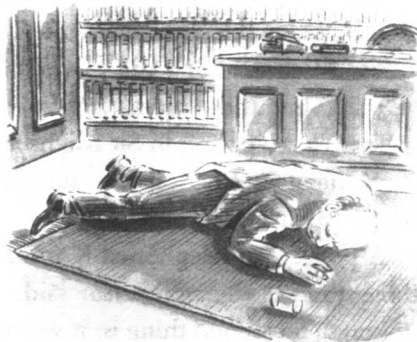
Sir Michael had dinner with four of the other people at eight o'clock this evening. Then he went to his study. The time was nine o'clock. He locked the door from the inside. He shut the window, too, and locked it



from the inside. At 9.30, the housekeeper, Mrs Flack, took some coffee to his room. She knocked at the door. Sir Michael didn't answer. She knocked again and shouted. He didn't answer, so she called three of the other people. They knocked at the door, too, and shouted, but Sir

Michael didn't open it. They broke down the study door and went in. They saw Sir Michael's body on the floor. Sir Michael was dead. Lady Elizabeth called the police.

The time was 9.40. The police arrived at 9.50 and K arrived with them.



*Sir Michael was dead.*



*'We know three things,' the policeman said.*

Now it's 10.15 and K is in the study. Sir Michael's dead body isn't here now. The police took photographs of the study and photographs of the body. Then they took the body to the police station. A police doctor has already looked at the body. The police already know the answer to three important questions.

- 1 Sir Michael didn't die of poison. He drank some whisky at 9.20, but there wasn't any poison in the whisky and there wasn't any poison in Sir Michael's blood.
- 2 X killed Sir Michael with something sharp through the heart.
- 3 Sir Michael died at 9.25.

A policeman telephoned K from the police station. 'We know three things,' the policeman said. 'The first thing is: it wasn't poison. The second thing is: it was something sharp – through the heart. The third thing is: Sir Michael died at 9.25.'

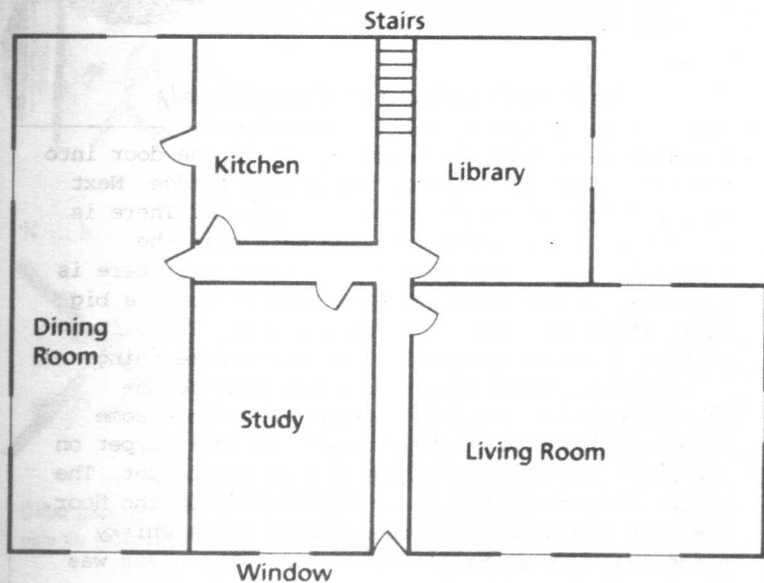
## The house

Look at this photograph of Sir Michael's house. Its name is 'Flanders'. It's a very big house and it's in a very big garden. There are eight bedrooms upstairs. Downstairs there's an entrance and a kitchen and there are four big rooms: a dining room, a living room, a study and a library.



*'Flanders'*

Here is a plan of the rooms downstairs. Look at the plan carefully. Sir Michael had dinner with the four other people at eight o'clock this evening. That was in the dining room. Then he went to his study at nine o'clock.



*'Flanders': downstairs plan*

## The study and the murder

The murder happened in Sir Michael's study. Here is a police photograph of the study. Look at it carefully and describe it. Then read K's report



### *Sir Michael's study and the shape of his body.*

Sir Michael's study is large. There is one door into the room. Next to the door there is a fridge. Next to the fridge there is a drinks cupboard. There is a clock on the cupboard. On the wall near the cupboard, there is a picture. On the right there is a window. In the middle of the room there is a big desk. There is a chair behind the desk. There is a bookshelf behind the chair. There are some things on the desk. There is a telephone. Next to the telephone, there is a dictaphone. There are some papers next to the dictaphone. There is a carpet on the floor. Sir Michael's body was on the carpet. The police have drawn the shape of the body on the floor. The feet are near the fridge. There was a whisky glass near Sir Michael's right hand. The glass was empty.

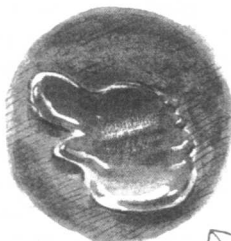
## What did K find?

Now look at these pictures carefully and describe them. Then read K's report. K found these things:

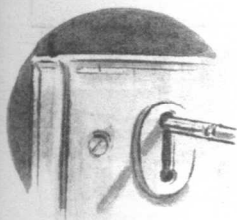


Whisky glass on the floor next to Sir Michael's right hand. A little whisky and water in glass.

Blood and water on Sir Michael's shirt. A hole in the shirt. X killed Sir Michael with something sharp through the heart.



Blood and water on the carpet.

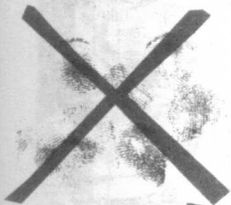


Door locked from the inside.



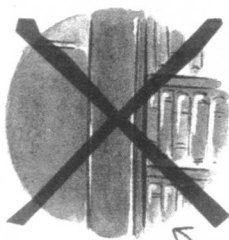
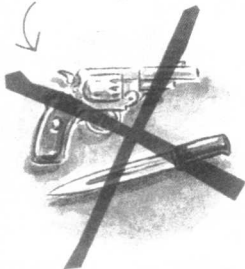
Window locked from the inside.

K didn't find these things:



Other fingerprints: only Sir Michael's.

There wasn't a knife or gun.



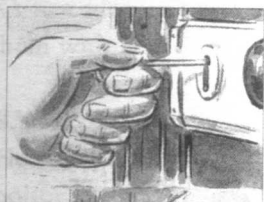
There aren't any secret doors or other secret ways into the room.

Sir Michael's body was in front of the fridge. His feet were near the fridge. He was on the carpet, face down. The whisky glass was almost empty. I smelt it. It was in Sir Michael's right hand at the time of the murder. There was blood and water on Sir Michael's shirt - over his heart. Sir Michael was killed with something sharp. There was blood and water on the carpet. X killed Sir Michael with something sharp, so there was blood on Sir Michael's shirt and on the carpet. But why was there water on Sir Michael's shirt and water on the carpet? Sir Michael locked the door from the inside and the window from the inside. There were fingerprints on the desk, on the fridge and on the whisky glass, but they were only Sir Michael's fingerprints. There aren't any secret ways into the room. There wasn't a knife or a gun in the room. Sir Michael's dictaphone was on.

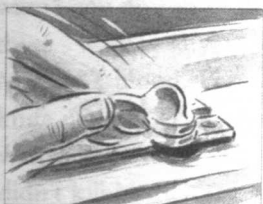


*K is writing notes for her report.*

## Is this what happened?



9.00 Sir Michael came into the study and locked the door from the inside.



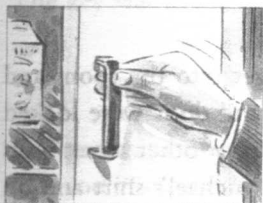
9.02 He shut the window and locked it from the inside.



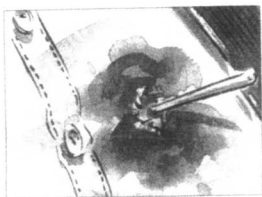
9.05 He sat at his desk and wrote. Then he used the dictaphone.



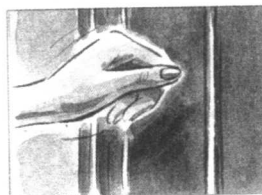
9.20 He went to the drinks cupboard. He poured a glass of whisky and drank some.



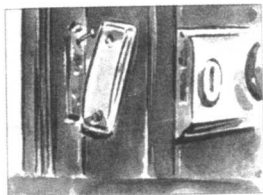
9.22 He went to the fridge because he wanted some ice.



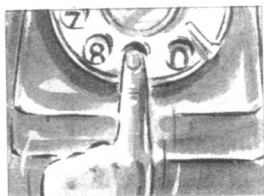
9.25 X came into the room and killed Sir Michael with something sharp. Then X left.



9.30 Mrs Flack knocked at the door and then called three of the other people.



9.35 They broke down the door.



9.40 Lady Elizabeth telephoned the police.



9.50 The police and K arrived.

Is this idea right? If so, then how did X get into the room and how did he or she get out? The window and door were locked from the inside. There aren't any secret doors or other secret ways into the room. Why is there water on Sir Michael's shirt and on the floor?

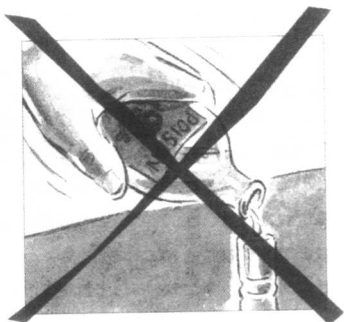


## Other ideas

K's first idea isn't very good. Think of other ideas. Then compare them with K's.

### K's second idea

He killed himself. Perhaps he used poison. No. Why? Because there wasn't any poison in the whisky and there wasn't any poison in Sir Michael's blood. Perhaps he used a knife. No. Why? Because there wasn't a knife in the room. So he didn't kill himself.



### K's third idea

X was already in the room. He or she murdered Sir Michael with a knife and left. X took the knife with him (or her). No. Why? Because the door was locked from the inside and the window was locked from the inside.



### K's fourth idea

X used the keyhole. No. Why?  
The key was in the lock.



Did you think of other ideas?  
Did you compare them with K's?  
Were they better than hers?