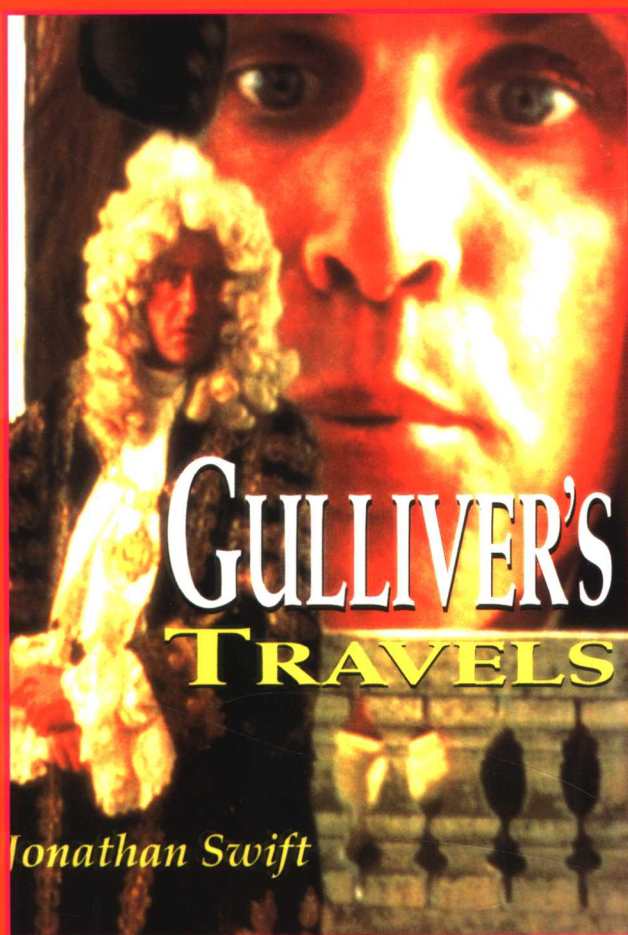




企鹅英语简易读物精选

# 格列佛游记



世界图书出版公司





企鹅英语简易读物精选 (初二学生)

# *Gulliver's Travels*

## 格列佛游记

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著: [英] Jonathan Swift  
与: [英] Pauline Francis  
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## 大量阅读简易读物 打好英语基础（代序）

改写。

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。

with

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。

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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。

北京外国语大学英语教授、博士生导师 胡文仲

## Introduction

*Then something moved on my foot. It moved over my body and up to my face. I looked down and I saw a man. He was smaller than my hand. Forty more little men followed him.*

This is Gulliver in Lilliput. He travels across the sea from England and has an accident. He arrives in a country of very, very small people. What will they do with him? How will he talk to them? And why are the Big-enders fighting the Little-enders? Is their fight *really* important?

Readers know that the stories about the country of Lilliput and the other countries in *Gulliver's Travels* are not true. But when we read the book, we see our world through the eyes of the little people – and later, through the eyes of big people and horses.

Swift wants us to think about our ideas and our lives, and perhaps to change them. But at the same time, we enjoy the stories. Children like them because they are clever and funny. But *Gulliver's Travels* is for people of all ages. Swift wanted everybody to learn from his book.

Jonathan Swift was born in Dublin, Ireland, in 1667. He went to university – to Trinity College, Dublin – and after that he worked for a writer in London. Then he wrote too.

Swift wrote well about the ideas of his time. But some people did not like his new ideas, and in 1714 Swift went back to Ireland. He wanted to help the Irish people, and he wrote about the English in Ireland. They were often unkind, people felt. At the same time, Swift wrote *Gulliver's Travels*. The book was in the shops in 1726 – and it is there now.

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## PART 1 A JOURNEY TO LILLIPUT

### Chapter 1 I Come to Lilliput

My father lived in the north of England, but he was not very rich. I was the youngest of five brothers. I left school when I was seventeen years old. My father could not pay for me after that. I travelled on the ship *Antelope* to the South Seas. We left Bristol in May, 1699.

I will not write down everything about our journey on those seas. But I will tell you this. On our way to the East Indies, a great wind carried us the wrong way. Twelve of our men died from the hard work and bad food, and the other men were not very strong.

One morning there was heavy rain and we could not see well. In the strong winds, the ship hit something in the water, and broke. Six of us got a boat into the sea. But we were weak and the wind turned it over. We fell into the water.

The wind and the water carried me away from the other men and I never saw them again.

'I'm going to die!' I cried loudly.

But then I put my feet down. I could stand! The wind was weaker now. I walked for more than a kilometre through the water and came to an island. It was after seven at night. I travelled another half a kilometre, but there were no houses or people. Perhaps I could not see them because I was very tired. Then I sat on the ground and slept the best sleep of my life.



I woke up after about nine hours. It was daylight and I was on my back. I tried to stand up, but I could not move! I turned my



*I travelled on the ship Antelope to the South Seas.*



head a little and looked round me. I saw thousands of strings across my body. They were everywhere – round my arms, my feet and through my long hair! I could only stay there on my back and look up at the sky.

The sun was hot, and the light hurt my eyes. I heard noises next to me, but I could see nothing. Then something moved on my foot. It moved over my body and up to my face. I looked down and I saw a man. He was smaller than my hand. Forty more little men followed him.

I cried loudly and they were afraid. They all ran away, and jumped onto the ground. Some were hurt, they told me later. They came back, and one man walked near my face. He threw up his hands and looked up at me. He called, '*Hekinah degul*.' And the other men answered, '*Hekinah? Degul hekinah!*' I could not understand their language.

I pulled very hard and I got one arm up from the ground. I tried to look at this man again. It hurt, because it pulled some hair out of my head. I put out my hand and tried to catch some little men. But they ran away. Then I heard a noise, and something hurt my hand.

'A thousand small swords!' I thought. I looked down. They were arrows! Some arrows went into my clothes and I could not feel them. But other arrows went high into the sky and came down on my face. They hurt me and I was afraid for my eyes.

I put my hand over my face. 'I'll stay quiet,' I thought. 'Then I can break the strings tonight. These people can't hurt me very much – they're too small!'

So I stayed quiet and waited. No more arrows came from the little men, but their noise got louder and louder. 'There are more people here now,' I thought.

I heard a sound near my ear. I turned my head to the noise and saw men next to me.

'They're building something from wood,' I thought. 'It's a



*I saw thousands of strings . . .*

table! Now there are four men on top of it. I understand – they want to talk to me.'

One of the men on the table was older and larger than the other three. He wore a beautiful coat. A little boy, his servant, carried the back of this coat above the ground. The older man called, '*Langro dehul san.*' Forty people came and cut the strings round my head. Now I could turn and see the people on the table better.

Then the man in the long coat began to speak. He spoke very well, and he moved his hands up and down. I began to understand him. He spoke for a long time. Of course, his words were strange to me, but I watched his hands.

'We will not hurt you,' I understood. 'But do not try to run away, or we will kill you.' I put up my hand and showed him: 'I will stay here.' Then I had an idea. I also put my hand to my mouth: 'I am hungry.'

The man understood me. He shouted to the people on the ground. A hundred men climbed onto my body and walked up to my mouth. They carried food for me. It came from the king, they told me later.

'What food is this?' I thought. 'They're giving me *very* small animals!'

Then I ate a lot of bread. The people watched me with wide eyes because I ate very quickly. A lot of men came with a very big cup of milk. I drank it and called for another cup. I drank the second cup and asked for a third cup.

'There is no more milk in the country,' they showed me with their hands. But they were happy, because I ate and drank their food. They danced up and down on my body and cried, '*Hekinah degul!*'

After my meal, a very important person came to me. He brought a letter from the king. Servants in very fine clothes followed him. He walked up to my face and put the letter near my

eyes. Then he spoke, and often turned to the north-west. Their city and their king were there, about a kilometre away, I learned later.

'The king wants to see me,' I understood.

I spoke to this man and showed him: 'Take these strings off me.'

But he moved his head: 'No. We have to carry you with the strings round you. But we will give you food and drink. We will not hurt you.'

I remembered their arrows. 'I don't want to feel them again,' I thought. 'They can carry me.'

The great man went away. After that the people made a loud noise, and they shouted, '*Peplom selan*.' Then they came to my head and cut the other strings. Now I could turn my head more than before. I was happy about that.

I began to feel very tired, and I slept for about nine hours. (There was something in my food, they told me later.)

The people brought some wood and pulled me onto it. Nine hundred men worked for three hours before I was on the wood. I was asleep. Fifteen hundred of the king's largest horses arrived.

After four hours we began our journey. The horses pulled me on my wood, and we travelled for a long time. At night we slept. One thousand men with arrows watched me, so I stayed quiet!

The next day, at daylight, we moved again. In the middle of the day, we were about 150 metres from the city. The king came out. He walked round me and looked up at me carefully.

'Do not climb up onto this man's body!' his men told him. 'It is too dangerous.'

We stopped in front of an old church. This was my house now! The great north door was more than a metre high and nearly a metre wide, so I could go into it on my hands. They put a string round one of my feet and tied it to the wall of the church. I could only walk about a metre away from the outside of my door.

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## Chapter 2 My Life in Lilliput

Early next day I came out of my house and looked round me. To me, the country of Lilliput was as small as a garden. The tallest trees were about two metres high. I turned and looked at the city. Was this little city a picture in a child's book?

Across the road from my church, about six metres away from me, there was a very big house. I saw people on top of it. The king was there with other men, women and servants.

'They're watching me,' I thought.

After a time, the king came down. He got up on his horse and came nearer me. The horse was afraid of me, the man-mountain. It began to jump up and down. But the king – a very good horseman – stayed on his horse. The servants ran to the animal's head and stayed with it.

When he could, the king got down. He walked round me, but he never came too near.

Men brought me food, and the queen and her young sons watched me from the top of the house. After a time the king went away. A number of his men stayed and looked after me.

'Some of our people want to hurt you,' they showed me with their hands. I sat on the ground near the door of my house and tried to sleep.

Suddenly, I felt arrows again and one arrow nearly hit my eye. The king's men caught these bad people – six men – and threw them to me.

I put five men in one hand. I took the other man and put him into my open mouth. He was very afraid. But I laughed and put the six men carefully on the ground again. They ran away from me as fast as they could!

At this time, I slept on the floor of the church or outside on the ground. But the king said to his workmen: 'Make a bed for him.' So they brought 600 little beds to my house and made them into one big bed.



*Was this little city a picture in a child's book?*

Then the king and his great men met and discussed me.

'Perhaps he is dangerous,' said the first man. 'We cannot untie his strings.'

'He eats too much food,' said the second man. 'The people of our country will be hungry.'

'Let's kill him now,' said the third man. 'We can do it when he is sleeping.'

'No,' said his friend. 'What can we do with his dead body? It is too big.'

Then a man said to the king: 'Some people tried to kill this big man with their arrows, but he was kind to them. He did not hurt them.'

'This is good,' said the king. 'We will not kill him now. But we will teach him our language.'

They did this, and in about three weeks I could speak quite well.



The king often came to see me and helped my teachers. We began to talk.

'Please untie these strings,' I asked him.

'Not now,' he answered. 'But I will think about it. First — and do not be angry — my men will look at your things.'

'I'll happily show your men these things,' I answered, 'but I'll never hurt you or your people with them.'

The next day two men came and walked over me. They looked inside my clothes. They made notes on everything — my notebook, the glasses for my weak eyes, my money and my money-bag.

The king called to me: 'Your sword is as big as five men. Please give it to me. Wait! I will bring more men.'

Three thousand men stood round me and watched.

'Pull out your sword now!' shouted the king.

I took my sword from under my clothes. The sun shone on it and hurt everybody's eyes. I put it on the ground and the king's men quickly carried it away.

'Now give me those other strange things,' he shouted.

I gave him my guns.

After this, the king sent me his 'Rules':

'Follow my rules and we will untie your strings,' he told me.

*Rules of Golbasto Momaren Evlame Gurdilo Shefin mully Ully Gue, King of Lilliput, a Great Man.*

- 1 *The Man-Mountain will ask before he leaves our country.*
- 2 *He will ask before he comes into the city. (Two hours before this, everybody will go into their houses and stay there.)*
- 3 *He will only walk on the roads.*
- 4 *He will walk carefully. He will not put his foot on any person, or on their horses. He will not take anybody up in his hands.*
- 5 *He will help our ships and our men in the war with the people of the Island of Blefuscu.*
- 6 *He will help our workmen when they build a wall round our garden.*
- 7 *We will give him food – food for 1,728 of our people.*

The reader will ask: 'Why did the king use the number 1,728?' Well, I was as tall as twelve people from Lilliput. So my body was as large and as heavy as  $12 \times 12 \times 12$  people from Lilliput –  $12 \times 12$  is 144;  $144 \times 12$  is 1,728. This was the answer of the king's clever men.

I read the rules and said to the king: 'I will follow them.'

The next day, men came and untied the strings from my leg. Now I could walk again!

### Chapter 3 I Make War on Blefuscu

Reldresal, a great man in Lilliput and a good friend of the king, came to my house with his servant. He wanted to speak to me.

'You can put me on your hand,' he said.

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We talked for an hour. 'There are many problems in Lilliput, between the Big-enders and the Little-enders,' he told me. 'The king and most people are Little-enders. But the people of the Island of Blefuscu help the Big-enders here. Now there is war. Can you help us?'

'But what is this war about?' I asked. 'And what is a "Big-ender"?''

'It is about eggs,' answered Reldresal, 'and it is very important. For many years, everybody in Lilliput cut their eggs at the big end before they ate them. We were all Big-enders. But this king's grandfather cut his finger when he opened his egg. He was only a boy at the time, but his father, the king, made a new law. Everybody had to open their eggs at the little end. We had to be Little-enders!'

'Many of the king's people were angry and opened their eggs at the big end. Some Big-enders left our island and started new lives in Blefuscu. The Big-enders hate the Little-enders and the Little-enders hate the Big-enders.'

I went to the king the next day. 'I can help you in your war,' I told him. 'The ships of Blefuscu are waiting for the right wind. Then they will come to Lilliput. They know nothing about me because I stay away from the sea. Listen, I have a plan.'

The king listened carefully to my words and he was very happy with my plan.

I then went to our ships and asked questions about the sea between the Island of Lilliput and the Island of Blefuscu.

'It is not more than a metre and a half or two metres to the bottom of the sea,' they told me.

I found some very strong string. Then I left my shoes on the dry ground and walked into the water.

In half an hour I came to Blefuscu and saw their ships. When they saw me, a lot of men jumped out of their ships into the water.