

小学英语速读

120篇

第四册



(六年级)

姍晓 主编

北京工业大学出版社



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120篇



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目

录

<i>Passage 1</i>	1	<i>Passage 28</i>	40
<i>Passage 2</i>	2	<i>Passage 29</i>	41
<i>Passage 3</i>	4	<i>Passage 30</i>	43
<i>Passage 4</i>	6	<i>Passage 31</i>	44
<i>Passage 5</i>	7	<i>Passage 32</i>	46
<i>Passage 6</i>	9	<i>Passage 33</i>	47
<i>Passage 7</i>	10	<i>Passage 34</i>	49
<i>Passage 8</i>	12	<i>Passage 35</i>	50
<i>Passage 9</i>	13	<i>Passage 36</i>	52
<i>Passage 10</i>	14	<i>Passage 37</i>	53
<i>Passage 11</i>	16	<i>Passage 38</i>	55
<i>Passage 12</i>	17	<i>Passage 39</i>	56
<i>Passage 13</i>	19	<i>Passage 40</i>	58
<i>Passage 14</i>	20	<i>Passage 41</i>	59
<i>Passage 15</i>	21	<i>Passage 42</i>	61
<i>Passage 16</i>	23	<i>Passage 43</i>	62
<i>Passage 17</i>	24	<i>Passage 44</i>	63
<i>Passage 18</i>	26	<i>Passage 45</i>	65
<i>Passage 19</i>	27	<i>Passage 46</i>	66
<i>Passage 20</i>	29	<i>Passage 47</i>	68
<i>Passage 21</i>	30	<i>Passage 48</i>	69
<i>Passage 22</i>	32	<i>Passage 49</i>	71
<i>Passage 23</i>	33	<i>Passage 50</i>	72
<i>Passage 24</i>	34	<i>Passage 51</i>	74
<i>Passage 25</i>	36	<i>Passage 52</i>	75
<i>Passage 26</i>	37	<i>Passage 53</i>	76
<i>Passage 27</i>	38	<i>Passage 54</i>	78

<i>Passage 55</i>	79	<i>Passage 88</i>	127
<i>Passage 56</i>	81	<i>Passage 89</i>	128
<i>Passage 57</i>	82	<i>Passage 90</i>	130
<i>Passage 58</i>	84	<i>Passage 91</i>	131
<i>Passage 59</i>	85	<i>Passage 92</i>	133
<i>Passage 60</i>	86	<i>Passage 93</i>	134
<i>Passage 61</i>	88	<i>Passage 94</i>	135
<i>Passage 62</i>	89	<i>Passage 95</i>	136
<i>Passage 63</i>	90	<i>Passage 96</i>	138
<i>Passage 64</i>	92	<i>Passage 97</i>	139
<i>Passage 65</i>	93	<i>Passage 98</i>	140
<i>Passage 66</i>	95	<i>Passage 99</i>	141
<i>Passage 67</i>	96	<i>Passage 100</i>	142
<i>Passage 68</i>	98	<i>Passage 101</i>	144
<i>Passage 69</i>	99	<i>Passage 102</i>	145
<i>Passage 70</i>	100	<i>Passage 103</i>	146
<i>Passage 71</i>	102	<i>Passage 104</i>	148
<i>Passage 72</i>	103	<i>Passage 105</i>	149
<i>Passage 73</i>	104	<i>Passage 106</i>	150
<i>Passage 74</i>	106	<i>Passage 107</i>	152
<i>Passage 75</i>	107	<i>Passage 108</i>	153
<i>Passage 76</i>	108	<i>Passage 109</i>	154
<i>Passage 77</i>	110	<i>Passage 110</i>	155
<i>Passage 78</i>	111	<i>Passage 111</i>	157
<i>Passage 79</i>	113	<i>Passage 112</i>	158
<i>Passage 80</i>	114	<i>Passage 113</i>	159
<i>Passage 81</i>	116	<i>Passage 114</i>	161
<i>Passage 82</i>	117	<i>Passage 115</i>	162
<i>Passage 83</i>	119	<i>Passage 116</i>	164
<i>Passage 84</i>	121	<i>Passage 117</i>	165
<i>Passage 85</i>	122	<i>Passage 118</i>	166
<i>Passage 86</i>	124	<i>Passage 119</i>	168
<i>Passage 87</i>	125	<i>Passage 120</i>	169



Passage 1



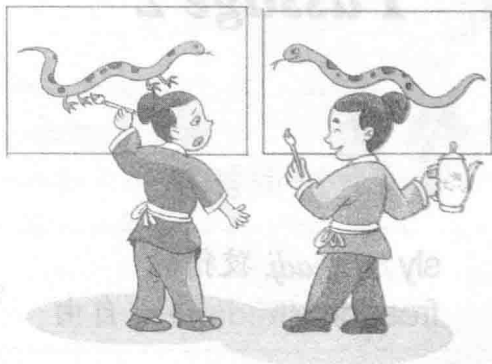
新词新语

competition /kəmpi'tiʃən/ *n.* 比赛, 竞赛

interesting /'intrɪstɪŋ/ *adj.* 令人感兴趣的, 有趣的

Painting a Snake with Feet

In ancient China, some people organized a drawing competition. The rule of the competition was that a person who finished the drawing of a snake first would win a pot of wine. A few minutes later, a man completed his work first. He prepared to take the wine, finding nobody around him had completed yet. Then he thought, "I have time to add some feet to the snake." But before he finished adding feet for the snake, another man completed his work. And he also wanted to take the pot of wine. But, at this moment, the person who finished drawing snake first said, "That pot of wine should belong to me; I am the first one!" The man who drew a snake without feet, pointing to the picture, said, "How could you add



some feet to a snake! All people know that a snake is born without feet." Then he took the wine. You must know this story and what do you learn from this interesting story?



初试锋芒

根据短文内容回答问题。

1. Who was the winner of the drawing competition?

2. What was the prize for the drawing competition?



参考答案

1. The second person who drew a snake without feet.

2. A pot of wine.



Passage 2



新词新语

sly /slai/ *adj.* 狡猾的

freedom /fri:dəm/ *n.* 自由



The Fox Assuming the Majesty of the Tiger

This story happened in a big forest. One day, a tiger caught a fox for lunch. But the fox was a sly animal, he was smart and he wanted to survive. Then he said to the tiger, "I am not afraid of you; I am the king of the animal kingdom. If you eat me, you will be punished." The tiger didn't trust the fox and said, "Really? All animals in this forest are scared of me. You tell me that you are the king! Why not prove it to me? If your words are real, I will give you freedom!" The fox said, "OK! Follow me. I will show you the truth." Then, the tiger walked behind the fox. When all animals saw they coming, these animals were shouting and running away. The tiger realized that all animals were afraid of the fox and he was not the king anymore. The ending of the story was that the fox was set free and the tiger lost confidence (自信) in his mind. The fox's wisdom saved his life.



初试锋芒

根据短文内容回答问题。

1. Who was the king in this forest?

2. Who was smarter?



参考答案

1. The tiger.

2. The fox.



Passage 3



新词新语

instrument /'instrʊmənt/ *n.* 乐器, 器具

pretend /pri'tend/ *vi.* 假装, 佯装

throne /θrəʊn/ *n.* 宝座, 王位

Be There Just to Make Up the Number

At one time there was a man named Nanguo. He knew that King Xuan liked listening to the music made with Yu. He asked for taking part in the band and played the most beautiful music for King Xuan. But, in fact, he didn't know how to play this kind of instrument. Nanguo just wanted to have a simple job and make a living. Fortunately, he became a member in the band. Everyday, he pretended to play the Yu to cheat King Xuan. One day, King Xuan passed away and his son King Min succeeded to the throne. The



hobby of King Min was also to listen to the music made with Yu, but he required musicians to play the Yu one by one. When receiving the latest news, Nanguo knew that he didn't know how to play the Yu and he learned nothing about it. In the end, he escaped from the royal band.



初试锋芒

根据短文内容回答问题。

1. Could Nanguo play music with Yu?

2. What was the same hobby of King Xuan and King Min?



参考答案

1. No, he couldn't.

2. They were fond of listening to the beautiful music made with Yu.



Passage 4



新词新语

pearl /pɜ:l/ *n.* 珍珠

precious /'preʃəs/ *adj.* 宝贵的, 珍贵的, 贵重的

glittering /'glɪtərɪŋ/ *adj.* 闪闪发光的, 华丽的

Keeping the Glittering Box and Giving Back the Pearl



Once upon a time, there was a man from the State of Chu. In order to sell his pearl, he went to the State of Zheng. He made a beautiful box for the pearl and set (镶嵌) some precious stones in the box. One day, a person from the State of Zheng was fond of the beautiful appearance of the box

and he made a decision to buy it. The seller gave this glittering box to the buyer from the State of Zheng. But the buyer kept the box itself and returned the pearl inside the box to the seller from the State of Chu.



初试锋芒

根据短文内容回答问题。

1. What did the man from the State of Chu sell, a pearl or a box?

2. Did the man from the State of Zheng keep the pearl?



参考答案

1. A pearl.

2. No, he returned it back to the man from the State of Chu.



Passage 5



新词新语

float /fləʊt/ *vi.* 漂浮

surface /'sə:fis/ *n.* 表面

eagle /'i:gl/ *n.* 鹰

The Story of a Fish

There is a fish living in a river, which will become bigger than before when it meets some danger. One day, when swimming in the water, its head hits a big rock and this fish feels very angry. It becomes bigger, floating on the surface of the river. It keeps this condition for a few minutes. At this moment, an eagle notices that there is a fish on the surface of the river. The eagle knows that it will have a big meal and then it takes the fish away.



初试锋芒

根据短文内容回答问题。

1. What will the fish do when it meets some danger?

2. Who eats the fish in the end?



参考答案

1. It will become bigger than before.

2. An eagle.



Passage 6



新词新语

liquid /'likwid/ *n.* 液体

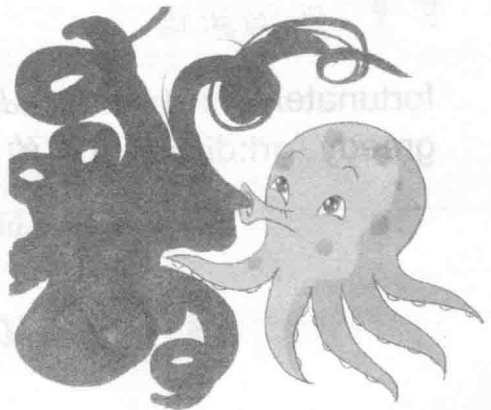
seashore /'si:ʃɔ:/ *n.* 海岸, 海滨

curiosity /'kjuəri'ɒsəti/ *n.* 好奇心, 求知欲

observation /,ɒbzə:'veɪʃ(ə)n/ *n.* 观察

The Cuttlefish

A cuttlefish (乌贼) lives in the sea. With the help of its dark liquid, the cuttlefish can protect itself from other animals' attack. When swimming by the seashore, the cuttlefish worries about being discovered by other animals. It always puts out its dark liquid to cover itself. But there are some seabirds playing near the seashore; the dark liquid arouses their curiosity. After careful observation, they find that there is a cuttlefish in the water. Then, they are getting close to the cuttlefish step by step without being noticed. Suddenly, they pick the cuttlefish out of water and eat it up.





初试锋芒

根据短文内容回答问题。

1. How does the cuttlefish protect itself?

2. Where does the cuttlefish live?



参考答案

1. The cuttlefish protects itself by putting out dark liquid.

2. The cuttlefish lives in the sea.



Passage 7



新词新语

fortunately /'fɔ:tʃənətli/ *adv.* 幸运地, 幸好

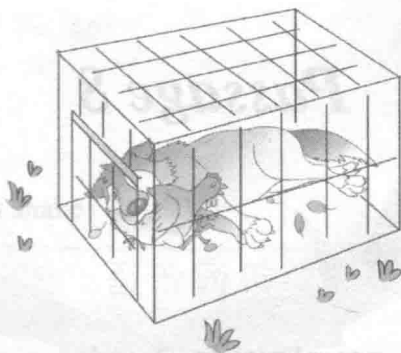
greedy /'gri:di/ *adj.* 贪心的, 贪婪的

A Greedy Wolf

This story will show you a greedy wolf. Once upon a time, a



farmer lived in the mountain. One night, a big wolf jumped into his front yard and stole one of his chickens. The farmer tried his best to catch up with the wolf, but he failed. The following day, the farmer made a wooden cage and got everything ready beforehand. He also put a chicken in the cage to attract the wolf's attention. Fortunately, the wolf came to the farmer's yard again. It found that there was a chicken in the cage. But this time, the wolf got stuck in the cage. The body of the wolf was locked in the cage; the chicken was still in its mouth. The wolf didn't open his mouth until its death.



初试锋芒

根据短文内容回答问题。

1. How did the farmer catch the wolf?
2. How many times did the wolf jump into the farmer's front yard?



参考答案

1. The farmer caught the wolf with a wooden cage.
2. Twice.



Passage 8



新词新语

countryside /'kʌntrisaɪd/ *n.* 乡下, 农村

poisonous /'pɔɪznəs/ *adj.* 有毒的

A Greedy Farmer

Once upon a time, there was a farmer who lived in the countryside. One day, he heard something from the grassland. And then he ran over to find a chicken. He was very happy. The farmer looked forward to catching a chicken again. The following day, he heard the same sound from the grassland. He ran over to check the grass. Suddenly, a poisonous snake appeared and bit him on the leg. As a result, the greedy farmer died.



初试锋芒

根据短文内容填空。

1. One day, a farmer found _____ in the grassland.
2. At the end of story, the farmer was bit by _____ and died.