ENGLISH COACHIN

1979 江西人人人从

编者的话

英明领袖华主席向全党全国各族人民发出了"要极大地提 富整个中华民族的科学文化水平"的伟大号召,重申了毛主席 "向外国学习"的口号。英语是人生斗争和向外国学习的重要 工具之一,我们应当尽一切努力来打好英语学习的基础,提高 应用这一工具的水平,为实现四个现代化作出贡献。

本刊主要的对象是中学师生及自修英语的青年。本刊的任务是拟对他们学习英语起一定的辅导作用。读者学习英语时遇到疑难问题,亦可来信提问,本刊尽量予以答复。来信请寄江西人民出版社"英语辅导"编辑委员会。

本刊希望得到各方面有关人士的关怀与支持,并希望源源 不断向本刊寄送稿件("征稿启事"见后),以充实内容。还 希望随时向本刊提出批评与建议,以求不断改进。

本刊编辑委员会由下列 同 志 组 成: 万兆凤、罗伟纲、刘 平、张叔强、张联章、陈新维、姜建华、欧阳源、刘耀邦、张 经浩、魏乔年、孙宜民、徐韧。

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Messages from Long Ago

Did you know that there are stones that can tell us what the world of long ago was like? These are the stones that have fossils in them.

What is a fossil? A fossil is a special dent or mark in a stone—a mark that shows the shape of a plant or an animal. The mark was made in soft clay long, long ago. Later the clay hardened into stone.

When the stone was clay, some of the plants and animals that died fell on to the clay and were pressed into it—the way you might make a dent in a piece of clay with your finger. When the clay hardened, into stone, the animal and plant marks hardened, too. They left us a fossil picture of what the plants and animals looked like.

People collect and study fossils to find out about the plants and animals that lived long before there were any horses, dogs, cats or even people in the world.

New Words and Phrases

message['mesid3] n. 信息,消息 fossil['fosl] n. 化石 dent[dent] n. 凹痕 mark[ma:k] n. 痕迹, 标记
shape[[seip] n. 形状
soft[soft] a. 松软的
clay[klei] n. 泥土
harden['ha:dn] v. 变硬, 硬结
press[pres] v. 压
a piece of clay 一块泥土
collect[kə'lekt] v. 收集
find out 找出

Notes

- 1. harden into 硬结成
- 2. …were pressed into it 压入泥土中
- 3. ···the way you might make a deat ··· might 是 may 的过去式,但在这里不指过去。它用在现在时里,比may 的语气迟疑、婉转些。
- 4. …to find out about the plants and animals… 这是不定式短语,这里作目的状语。

Exercises

Pick out the correct answer to each of the following questions (对下列每个问题选出正确的答案):

- 1. What kind of stone can tell us what the world of long ago was like?
 - a. A big stone.

• 2 •

- b. A smooth stone.
- c. A stone that has a fossil in it.
- 2. What is a fossil?
 - a. A fossil is the name of an animal.
 - b. A fossil is a special mark in a stone.
 - c. A fossil is a the name of a plant.
- 3. When and where was the mark made?
 - a. The mark was made in soft coal (烟煤) long, long ago.
 - b. The mark was made in soft wood (软木) long, long ago.
 - c. The mark was made in soft clay long, long ago.
- 4. What were pressed into the clay?
 - a. Heaps of stones were pressed into the clay.
 - b. Some of the dead plants and animals were pressed into the clay.
- 5. What do people collect and study fossils for?
 - a. They collect and study fossils to aquire more knowledge about the plants and animals that lived long ago.
 - b. They collect and study fossils to find out a better way to grow rice and wheat.
 - c. They collect and study fossils to get a better understanding of the animal kingdom.

(魏乔年注释)

英美人习惯这么说

学英语,不仅要学习英语的词汇和语法,还要学英语的习惯表达方法。否则,你讲的话,尽管语法没错,但不合乎英美人讲话的习惯。比如在打电话的时候你想知道讲话的对方是谁,你问: Who are you? 这就不是英语的习惯说法,习惯的问话是 Who's speaking? 答语是 This is John Smith. 而不是 I am John Smith. 有人打电话要找某某人接话,你可能会说: Don't put down the receiver. I'll go and call him. (不要把听筒放下,我去叫他。) 这不好,该说: Hold on a moment. I'll go and get him.

两人相遇,按照我们的习惯,常用这样的话题开始谈话: "你吃饭了吗?"或 "你到哪里去?"如果对英美人也这样讲: Have you had your lunch? 或 Have you had your supper? 或 Where are you going? 则会给人一种奇怪或不礼貌的感觉。英美人通常是从天气开始谈话: Nice weather, isn't it? (天气真好!)或 Rather cold, eh? (天气好冷,是吗?)谈话当中,如果对方讲: I haven't been feeling well lately. (我近来身体不大好)。这时你不该讲: Really? (真的吗?)英美人在这种场合常说: Oh, I am sorry to hear that. (听到这我很难过)。如果你有什么喜庆的事,人们向你祝贺: Congratulations! 这时你该说: Thank you! (谢谢你!)而不要说 Not at all. 或 No, no.

你打算买一点东西时可能会说: I am going to buy something. 但英美人通常讲: I am going to do some shopping. 如果地面很滑, 你要别人小心走路可能会说: Be careful! 但英美人习惯说: Watch your steps! 或 Mind your steps! 要进屋 (或上汽车) 时, 你可能会谦 让 地说: Please, you go in first. (你先请!)但英美人说: After you. 你在征求对方意见时说: How do you think of it? (你认为这事怎么样?) 这不对。该说: What do you think of it? 有时你要问某件东西有多重,可能会说: How heavy is it? 但英美人习惯说: How much does it weigh?

不认真学习英语的习惯表达方法,不但说不好英语,也会听不懂英语。据说,有一次有一个法国旅游者在英国火车上张望窗外风景,前面检修铁路,吊车离铁轨很近,一位好心人连忙提醒他说: Look out! 这个法国人赶快把头伸出窗外去看,几乎碰着了脑袋。原来 look out 在这里不是往外看,而是小心,留神的意思。照字面理解,往往搞错。再举两个例子: You don't want to do that. 这句话的意思不是你不想作那个,而是你不应该作那件事。You can't be too careful! 这句话的意思不是你不应该太小心,而是你要特别小心。

望文生义在阅读时也会碰壁的。从前鲁迅先生就曾批评有 人粗心大意,对 Milky Way (银河) 不求甚解,译成"牛奶路。"下面这些句子常常被人误解:

1. The importance of this cannot be over-emphasized. 误: 这事不能过分强调。

正:这事怎样强调也不会过分。

2. All his words are not credible.

误:他的话都不可信。

正: 他的话不是全部都可靠。

3. He has eaten his words.

'误:他自食其言或他说话不算数。

正: 他承认他讲错了。

4. A rolling stone gathers no moss.

误:流水不腐,户枢不蠹。

正:滚石不生苔,转业不聚财。

下面是中国学生写英文常犯的一些错误,你是否能加以改

IE?

1. 我家有五口人。

误译: My family has five people,

2. 他有6呎高。

误译. He has six feet tall.

3. 他对我生气。

误译. He was angry to me.

4. 这位老师对学生要求很严格。

误译: The teacher is very strict to his students.

5. 她跟一位拖拉机手结了婚。

误译: She was married with a tractor driver.

6. 这消息一定不是真的。

误译: The news must not be true.

7. 这支钢笔价格很便宜。

误译: The price of this pen is very cheap.

8. 我昨晚看了一场电影。

误译: I saw a film yesterday night,

9、我到下星期五回来。

误译: I'll be back till next Friday.

10. 他的哥哥考取了江西师院。

误译: His brother entered Kiangsi Teachers College by examination.

正确的译法分别为:

- 1. There are five people in my family.
- 2. He is six feet tall.
- 3. He was angry with me.
- 4. The teacher is very strict with his students.
- 5. She was married to a tractor driver,
- 6. The news cannot be true.
- 7. The price of this pen is very low.
- 8. I saw a film last night (yesterday evening).
- 9. I won't be back till next Friday.
- 10. His brother passed the entrance examination of Kiangsi Teachers College.

(孙宜民)

The Crow and the Pitcher

A crow, half-dead with thirst_①, came upon_② a pitcher. When the crow put his beak into the mouth of the pitcher, he found that only very little water was left_③ in it. He could not reach far down enough_④ to get at_⑤ it. He tried and tried, but at last had to give up_⑥.

Then a thought came to him. He took a pebble and dropped it into the pitcher. Then he took another pebble and dropped it into the pitcher. Then another, then another, then another.

At last, at last, he saw the water <u>come</u> up near his beak, and after <u>dropping</u> in a few more pebbles, he was able to quench his thirst and save his life.

Little by little does the trick.

New Words

crow[krou] n. 乌鸦
pitcher['pit]ə] n. (有嘴和柄的) 大水罐
thirst[θə:st] n. 口渴
beak[bi:k] n. (鸟的) 嘴
pebble['pebl] n. 卵石
quench['kwent]] v. 解渴

trick [trik] n. 巧妙的事

Notes

- 1) half-dead with thirst 渴得半死
- 2) to come upon (偶然) 遇到, 例:

Yesterday I came upon Comrade Li. (昨天 我碰上了李同志。)

When he comes upon a new word, he turns to his teacher for help. (他碰到生词, 就向老师请教。)

3) …very little water was left in it. 瓶里没剩下多少水。这是被动语态,被动语态由助动词 to be 加上动词过去分词组成,例:

The chair was made by Tom. (这把椅子是 汤姆做的。)

The room is cleaned every day. (这房间每 天都打扫。)

- 4) ···reach far enough down···reach 在这里作"伸出"解,far 修饰动词 reach, 作状语表示 "(伸出)远", enough 作状语修饰 far,表示"(伸出)足够(远)",dewn表示 reach 方向的状语,"向下(伸出足够远)"。
 - 5) to get at 够着, 到达, 例:

I can't get at the books on the shelf. (我够不到书架上的书。)

The child is too small to get at the cup on

the table. (孩子太小,够不到桌上的杯子。)

6) to give up 放弃, 作罢, 例:

There will be a lot of difficulties, but he will never give up. (困难将会很多,但他决不会作罢。)

7) ···saw the water come up 看到水涨上来 在动词 see 之后, 宾语补足语若是动词不定式, 前面的 to 要省去, 例:

I saw him fall off the bike. (我看到他从自行车上摔下来。)

Did you see her leave the room? (你看到她 离开房间吗?)

8) after dropping in a few more pebbles 又扔进几 枚卵石之后 介词 after 的宾语是动名词 dropping。 下面也 是动名词作介词的宾语的例子:

After closing the windows, she left the classroom. (她关上窗子后就离开了教室。)

I am not afraid of making mistakes in speaking English. (我不怕在讲英语的过程中犯错误。)

9) He was able to… 能够 to be able to 是个常用短语,例:

He is able to work another hour. (他能再 . 干一个小时。)

10) Little by little does the trick. 词组 'little by

little (一点一点地) 作主语。to do the trick 是习语,表示 "达到目的",全句的意思是: 只要有恒心,就能成功。

Exercises

下面三句话,每句有四个答案,请选出正确的答案填入:

- 1) A crow, half-dead with thirst, came upon a pitcher. That means......
 - a, the crow got on top of a pitcher.
 - b. the crow stood on the mouth of a pitcher.
 - c. the crow found a pitcher by chance.
 - d. the crow flew on to the mouth of a pitcher
 - 2) The crow could not get at the water because
 - a. he was nearly dead with thirst.
 - b. there was no water in it.
 - c. the crow did not try hard enough.
 - d. the water level was too low in the pitcher.
- 3) The crow dropped pebbles into the pitcher because he wanted to......
 - a. break the pitcher.
 - b, stop the water from coming out,
 - c. raise the water level.
 - d, fill the pitcher with pebbles.

[答案 c, d, c]

(张叔强、叶逢注释)

同义 调解说

(-)

learn, study

- 1. 学习做某个具体事,该用 learn 而不用 study。如: He is learning to swim. 他在学游泳。
- Let's learn to say it in English. 我们来学学这话用英语怎么说。
 - 2. "向(某某人)学习"该用 learn 而不用 study。如: Learn from Comrade Lei Feng. 向雷锋同志学习。

We are learning a new technique from him. 我们在向他学新技术。

3. learn 或者含有"因不知而学习",或者含有"学会"、 "学到"的意思; study 含有的 意思是"努力学习"或"研究"。试体会下列各句中 learn 和 study 含义的这种差别。

If you study hard, you will learn English quickly. 只要努力学,你会很快学会英语。

I have learned a new song today. 我今天学了一首新歌。 He is studying physics at college. 他在大学里学物理。 It's never too late to learn. 学到老, 学不了。 He often studies late into the night. 他常学习到深夜。 We must be good at learning. 我们必须善于学习。 He studies Lu Hsun, 他研究鲁讯。

4. 确实, 在好些时候, learn 与 study 可换用, 这是因为按照上面所说的含义,它们用在同一句中都说得通。如:

I have learned (studied) English for three years. 我学了三年英语。

We are going to learn (study) a new lesson this week. 我们这星期将学新课。

a lot of, many, much

它们都表示"许多",但在用法上有如下区别:

1. a lot of 既可修饰可数名词又可修饰不可数名词; many 仅修饰可数名词; much 仅修饰不可数名词。如:

a lot of books

许多书

a lot of water

许多水

many books

许多书

much water

许多水

2. 在口语中多用 a lot of; many 与 much 在口语中多用作修饰主语的定语或主语。如:

There are many desks and chairs in the classroom. 教室里有许多课桌和课椅。(作修饰主语的定语)

Many of them left early. 他们中有许多人离开得早。 (作主语)

Much money was saved. 节省的钱不少。 (作修饰主语的定语)

Much has to be done. 要做的事还有许多。 (作主语)

3. 通常 a lot of 用于肯定句,而 many 与 much 用于 否定句和疑问句。如:

I have a lot of friends, 我有许多朋友。

Were there many people at the meeting? 到会的人 多吗?

There wasn't much food left. 吃的东西剩下不多了。

4. many 与 much 可被 how, too, so, as 修饰, 而 a lot of 则不可。如:

I don't know how many they want. 我不知道他们需要多少个。

There are too many people here. 这儿的人太多了。

I have so much to tell you. 我有许多事要告诉你。

I have as much as he. 我的东西跟他的东西一样多。

但 a lot of 可被what, quite和such修饰以加强语气。如:

What a lot of friends he has! 他的朋友真多!

There are quite a lot of books in our library. 我们 图书馆的书多极了。

Oh, you were given such a lot of apples. 噢, 你分了这么多苹果。

good, fine, nice

它们都可译为汉语的"好"。

good 的用途十分广泛。 汉语中可以形容为 "好"的东西 几乎都可用 good。如:

a good teacher (pupil) 好老师 (学生)

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