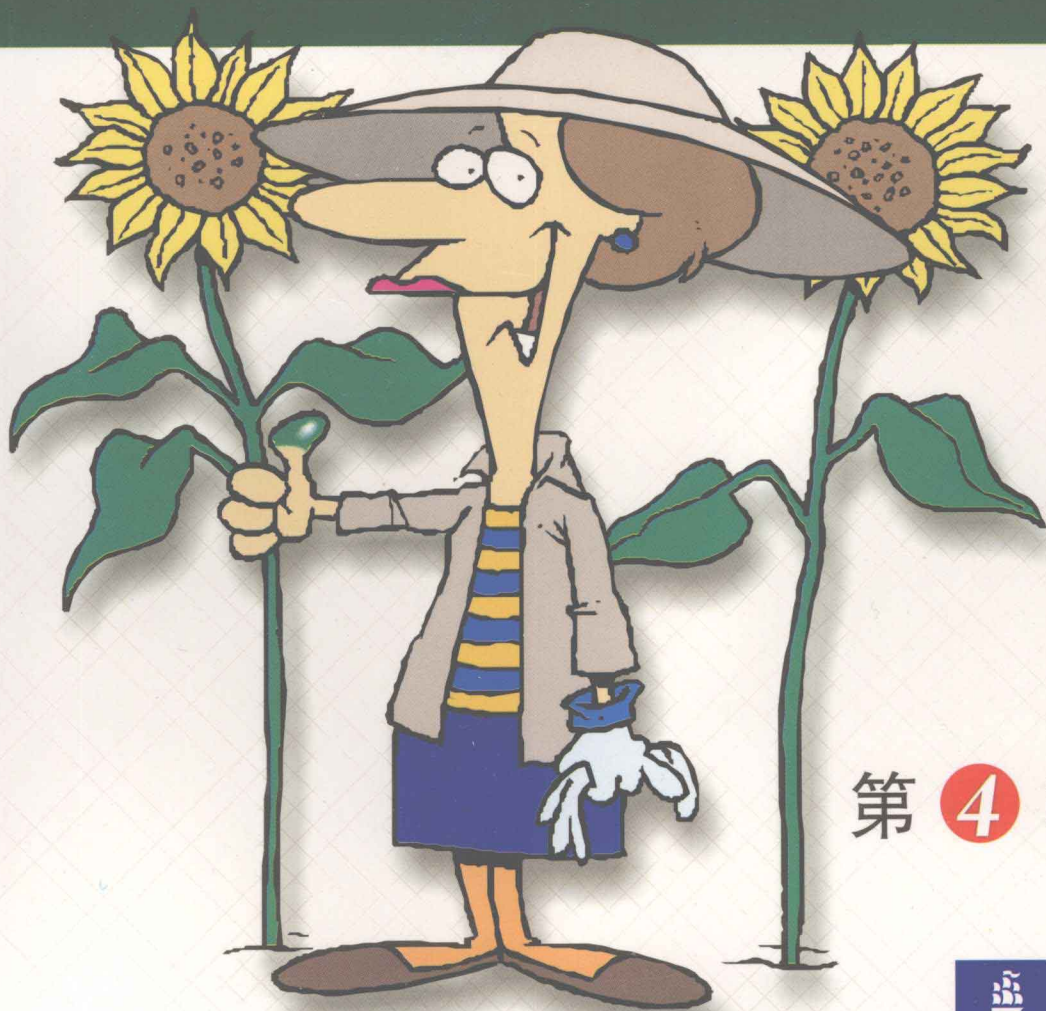


朗文英语

Short Stories

妙语连珠

950 词英汉对照幽默小品



第 4 辑



吉林出版集团有限责任公司
—— 外语教育出版社 ——



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950 词英语幽默小品

朗文英语妙语连珠

Short Stories

4

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Counting Chickens

1 UNIT



It was Mary's birthday. She received a letter from her uncle, who was a farmer.

"Dear Mary," the letter said. "Happy Birthday. I am sending you some chickens. They will arrive tomorrow. I hope you like them. Best wishes, Uncle Toby."

Mary was very pleased. She liked eating eggs and she liked eating chicken. "I can keep the chickens for their eggs or eat them," she thought.

When the chickens arrived the next day, they were in a box.

Mary was very **excited**. She took the box off the back of the truck and began to carry it back to her house.

However, the box of chickens was heavy and she **dropped** it.

The box fell to the ground and broke. The chickens all ran out.

They ran everywhere— into neighbors' gardens, into the road, into shops, even into the next street. Mary spent hours trying to find them and take them back to her garden.

A few days later her uncle came to visit her.

"Did the chickens arrive safely?" he asked Mary.

"Yes, Uncle Toby," Mary said. "But I had a lot of trouble with them. I dropped the box. It broke open and the chickens ran everywhere. I **spent** the whole morning looking for them."

"Did you find them all?" her uncle asked.

"I hope so," Mary **replied**. "I caught eleven of them."

"That's very interesting," her uncle said with a smile, "because I only sent you six."



NEW WORDS

生词快车

excited /ɪk'saɪtɪd/ *adj.* having strong feelings of pleasure; not calm 兴奋的

e.g. The *excited* children were opening their presents.

孩子们兴奋地拆开他们的礼物。

drop /drɒp/ *v.* to fall from a higher place to a lower place 落下; 扔下

e.g. The book *dropped* from her hands. 书从她手里掉了下来。

spend /spend/ *v.* to use up some time or money 花(时间); 花费

e.g. I *spent* an hour reading. 我花了一小时读书。

reply /rɪ'plaɪ/ *v.* give an answer 回答

e.g. I *replied* that I was unable to help them. 我回答说不能帮助他们。



USAGE

用法点拨

• 动词时态

故事中许多动词使用了过去时态。英语中,动词用不同的时态表示动作发生的不同的时间。动词可分为规则动词(regular verbs)和不规则动词(irregular verbs)。

• 即学即练:

考察你对动词时态的了解:写出下列动词的现在时形式。

a. received _____

b. pleased _____

c. thought _____

SHORT STORIES



d. arrived _____

e. began _____

f. dropped _____

g. fell _____

h. broke _____

i. spent _____

j. replied _____

k. sent _____

• A lot of

短语“a lot of”既可以与可数名词连用,也可与不可数名词连用。



例: **a lot of money** 许多钱

a lot of chickens 许多小鸡

a lot of anything! 许多事情!



EXERCISES 能力测试

1

从 a, b, c, d, e 中选出最恰当的答案。

A. Why did Mary's uncle send her some chickens?

a. Mary liked chickens.

b. He had too many chickens.

c. Mary liked eating eggs.

d. It was her birthday.

e. She wanted to start a chicken farm.



SHORT STORIES

- B.** How did the chickens get out of the box?
- a. They flew away.
 - b. The box fell off the back of a truck.
 - c. Mary dropped the box.
 - d. They ran away.
 - e. They jumped out.
- C.** How long did Mary spend trying to find the chickens?
- a. a whole morning
 - b. a whole day
 - c. a whole afternoon
 - d. a few minutes
 - e. her whole birthday
- D.** How many chickens did Mary's uncle send her?
- a. a dozen
 - b. six
 - c. two boxes full
 - d. eleven
 - e. the story doesn't say

2 用(f)到(j)完成(a)到(e)的不完整的句子。

- | | | |
|--|-----|---|
| a. Mary received a letter from her uncle | • • | f. or eat them. |
| b. she thought she could keep the chickens | • • | g. off the back of the truck. |
| c. The box of chickens | • • | h. whether the chickens had arrived safely. |
| d. Mary took the chickens | • • | i. who was a farmer. |
| e. Her uncle asked | • • | j. arrived the next day. |

3 从故事中找到适当的名词填入下列空白处。

On Mary's (a) _____, she received a (b) _____ from her (c) _____. He told her that he was sending her some

(d) _____. When the (e) _____ arrived the next
 (f) _____, they were in a (g) _____. She took the
 (h) _____ off the (i) _____ of the (j) _____
 and carried it to her (k) _____. However, the (l) _____
 was very heavy and she dropped it. All the (m) _____ ran
 away. She spent many (n) _____ catching them. At last she
 caught (o) _____ of them but her (p) _____ had sent
 her only (q) _____.

4 从故事找出与下列意思相似的词。

- a. enjoyed _____
 b. weighing a lot _____
 c. fell in pieces _____
 d. all over the place _____
 e. without any damage _____

5 从故事找出与下列词义相同,但词性不同的单词,并判断这些单词在故事中属于何种词性:名词、动词、形容词或副词。

- a. receipt _____,
 b. arrival _____,
 c. excitement _____,
 d. safety _____,
 e. broken _____,

6 猜出下列各题的答案。

- a. a type of bird that people eat (7 letters) _____
 b. we keep chickens for these (4 letters) _____
 c. children usually feel this on their birthdays (7 letters) _____
 d. the people in the next house (9 letters) _____
 e. all of (5 letters) _____



CHINESE VERSION

译文赏析



数小鸡

今天是玛丽的生日。她收到了来自农场叔叔的一封信。

“亲爱的玛丽，”叔叔在信中写道：“生日快乐！我送你一些小鸡作为礼物。明天就会送到你手里，希望你喜欢。美好的祝愿！叔叔托比。”

玛丽非常高兴，因为她很喜欢吃鸡蛋和鸡肉。她想：我可以养着这些小鸡，让它们下蛋，然后吃肉。

第二天，小鸡送到玛丽手里，它们都装在盒子里。

玛丽非常激动，她从卡车上取下盒子，向屋里走去。

但盒子太重了，一不小心就从玛丽的手里掉了下去。

盒子掉在地上摔破了，小鸡一下子跑开了。

小鸡跑的到处都是，有的跑进了邻居的花园，有的跑上了马路，跑进了商店，有的甚至跑向了邻街。

玛丽花了好几个小时才把这些小鸡找回来，把它们带回了花园。

几天后，叔叔来看她。

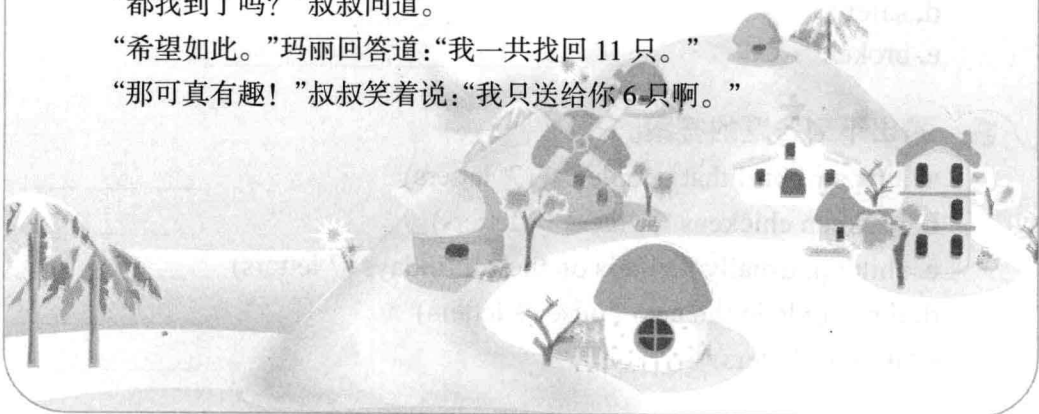
“小鸡都安全到达了吧？”叔叔问玛丽。

“是的，托比叔叔。”玛丽说：“可这些小鸡给我带来了不少麻烦。我不小心把盒子摔破了，小鸡跑得到处都是。我花了整个早晨才把它们找回来。”

“都找到了吗？”叔叔问道。

“希望如此。”玛丽回答道：“我一共找回 11 只。”

“那可真有趣！”叔叔笑着说：“我只送给你 6 只啊。”



A Housing Problem

2 UNIT



Sue and Alan had been **dating** for many years. Every **weekend** they went to a movie together on Saturday night. On Sundays they went to the beach in the summer and to the country in the winter.

Sue knew that Alan wanted to marry her, and she wanted to marry Alan. She waited **patiently** for him to ask her to marry him. However, although he often told her he loved her, he never said anything about marriage.

This made Sue unhappy. She was nearly thirty. She believed that if Alan did not marry her soon, she might never marry. She did not want to be a **spinster**. She wanted to have a husband and a family of her own.

One evening, as they were walking home after a **movie**, she said, "Alan, don't you think it is time you asked me something?"

Alan thought for a **moment**. He knew what she was thinking about. At last he said, "I'm sorry, Sue, but I don't think I have anything to ask you at this time."

"Then I will have to ask you, Alan," Sue said. "I cannot wait any longer. I'm getting old."

She stopped walking and looked at him.

"Alan," she said, "we've known each other for ten years. I love you and you love me. Will you marry me?"

Alan took hold of Sue's hand.

"Sue," he said, "I want to marry you, but we cannot get married yet. We have nowhere to live. I do not have much money and neither do you. We cannot buy a place of our **own**."

"That isn't important," Sue said. "We can live with your parents."

Alan shook his head.

"I'm sorry but that isn't possible."

"Why not?" Sue asked.

"Because my parents are still living with their parents," he **explained**.

A Housing Problem



NEW WORDS

生词快车

date /deɪt/ *v.* an arrangement to meet a boy or girl friend 约会
e.g. I will *date* her for the dance. 我将约她去跳舞。

weekend /'wi:kend/ *n.* the end of the week 周末
e.g. I don't work at the *weekend*. 我周末不上班。

patiently /'peɪʃəntli/ *adv.* calmly waiting for a result 耐心地
e.g. He sat *patiently* waiting for the bus. 他耐心地坐着等公共汽车。

spinster /'spɪnstər/ *n.* a woman who has remained single beyond the usual age for marrying. 老处女; 老姑娘
e.g. Her aunt is still a *spinster*. 她的姑姑还是个老姑娘。

movie /'mu:vi/ *n.* a story shown in acinema or on television 电影; 影片
e.g. I didn't see the *movie* last night. 我昨晚没去看电影。

moment /'məʊmənt/ *n.* a short time 一会儿; 片刻
e.g. He will be here in a *moment*. 他一会儿就来。

own /əʊn/ *adj.* of or belonging to oneself 自己的
e.g. She makes her *own* clothes. 她自己做衣服。

explain /ɪk'spleɪn/ *v.* say sth clearly 解释; 说明
e.g. I *explained* my plan to him. 我向他说明了自己的方案。



USAGE

用法点拨

• **Marry - marriage - wedding**

- **Marry** 是动词, 常与 **get** 连用:

I want to **get married**. 我想结婚。

I **got married** last year. 我去年结婚了。

但有两种情况, **marry** 不能与 **get** 连用:

- ① 当 **marry** 做形容词时:





Are you **married**? 你结婚了吗?

② 当 marry 后紧跟代词时:

例: I want to **marry** you. 我想跟你结婚。

John asked me to **marry** him. 约翰向我求婚。

• Marriage 是名词,意为“结婚,婚姻”:

例: My **marriage** is very good. 我的婚姻非常幸福。
(这句话的意思是丈夫和妻子的关系非常融洽。)

• Wedding 是名词,意为“结婚的仪式或庆典”:

例: My **wedding** will be this Saturday. 我这周六举行婚礼。
It rained on our **wedding** day. 我们举行婚礼那天下雨了。

• **即学即练:**

用 get married, wedding, marry 或 marriage 的正确形式填空。

- a. My girlfriend asked me to _____ her.
- b. When are we going to _____ ?
- c. Our _____ day was so beautiful!
- d. No, I'm not _____ yet.
- e. My mother and father's _____ is very strong.
- f. When is your _____ ?

• **Shook your head**

• Shake your head 意为“摇头”,表示对某事不赞成。

如果一个人点头表示同意,可以说:nod your head. (点头)。

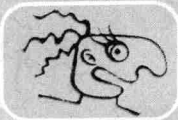


EXERCISES
能力测试

1 从 a, b, c, d, e 中选出最恰当的答案。

A. What did Sue and Alan do on Saturday nights?

- a. went to the beach
- b. went to a movie
- c. visited the countryside



SHORT STORIES

- d. went for a walk
- e. had dinner together
- B. What did Sue want Alan to ask her?
 - a. to go to the movies with him
 - b. to visit her parents
 - c. to go swimming
 - d. to do something different one Saturday evening
 - e. to marry him
- C. How long had Alan and Sue been dating?
 - a. about a year
 - b. since they left school
 - c. since Sue's thirtieth birthday
 - d. for more than nine years
 - e. not very long
- D. Why couldn't Alan marry Sue?
 - a. He was married to someone else.
 - b. They would have nowhere to live.
 - c. She was too young.
 - d. She was a spinster.
 - e. His parents did not like her.

2 用(f)到(j)完成(a)到(e)的不完整的句子。

- | | | |
|---|-----|---|
| a. Every weekend Sue and Alan | • • | f. and she wanted to marry him too. |
| b. Sue knew that Alan wanted to marry her | • • | g. they had nowhere to live and no money. |
| c. When they were walking home from a movie | • • | h. they could live with his parents. |
| d. Alan told Sue they could not marry because | • • | i. went to a movie. |
| e. Sue told Alan that | • • | j. Sue decided to ask Alan a question. |

3 在句子旁用 T 表示正确, 用 F 表示错误。

- a. Sue and Alan had been dating for seven years. _____
- b. Sue thought that Alan didn't love her. _____
- c. Alan owned an apartment. _____
- d. Alan's parents lived with his grandparents. _____
- e. Sue and Alan did not have enough money to buy a place of their own. _____

4 从故事找出与下列意思相似的词或短语。

- a. miserable _____
- b. in the end _____
- c. going out together _____
- d. a very short period of time _____
- e. mother and father _____

5 写出下列动词的原形。

- a. had been dating _____
- b. went _____
- c. knew _____
- d. said _____
- e. walking _____
- f. shook _____

6 猜出下列各题的答案。

- a. Saturday and Sunday (7 letters) _____
- b. where the sea meets the land (5 letters) _____
- c. become husband and wife (5 letters) _____
- d. unmarried older woman (8 letters) _____
- e. like very much (4 letters) _____