



WONDERFUL WRITINGS IN ENGLISH
A READER FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

英语精彩篇章

中学生阅读训练

第一册



主编 \ 张 颖 李冬青

长 春 出 版 社

序 言

东北师范大学英语系的老师们对英美少年文学的研究始于1990年。他们率先倡议在我国高等师范院校英语专业开设英美少年文学课,承担了国家人文、社会科学规划项目相关的课题研究,撰写了大量论文,拓宽了我国英美文学的研究领域。他们的研究影响不断扩大,得到了外籍专家的支持和兄弟院校的赞同,也受到了学生的欢迎。有些学生以少年文学为题材撰写论文,他们阅读长篇原著,分析研究并完成了不少有价值的硕士论文。在我国普及英美少年文学是一件很有意义,也很费心思的工作。少年读者不同于英语专业的大学生和研究生,他们阅读少年文学的目的是学习,而不是研究;他们阅读长篇原著也有困难,还需要编者做细致入微的编注工作。张颖教授主编的这本普及读物,恰好适应了这一需求。

在英语国家,少年文学的对象是11~20岁的孩子。少年文学既有儿童文学的特点,又接近成人文学,是儿童文学和成人文学的过渡阶段。就语言学习来说,以英语为母语的少年读者需要这一过渡,以英语为外语的中国中学生更需要这一过渡,因为这符合由浅入深的学习规律。英美少年文学作品语言规范平易,纯净优美,大量阅读可以受到地道英语的熏陶,养成良好的语感,为进一步学习打下坚实基础。张颖教授主编的这本读物是根据中华人民共和国教育部制订《全日制义务教育英语课程标准(实验稿)》选材编题的。书中介绍了许多优秀的当代、现

Wonderful Writings in English
A Reader for Middle School Students (I)

代英美少年文学作品,选择了其中的精彩篇章,人物形象栩栩如生,故事情节引人入胜,又附以题解、注释、练习等,大大减轻了中学生的阅读负担。

说起阅读,不妨赘述几句。英语初学者,听、说、读、写都要学,四项基本技能,相辅相成,不可缺少,是获得英语交际能力的前提。细分起来,听与读为吸收,说与写为表达,没有吸收何以表达?吸收不足何以表达充分?作为吸收能力的阅读很重要,对中国学生尤其重要,因为我们生活在汉语的汪洋大海中,平时吸收英语的机会很少。学习英语也是一个从量变到质变的过程,没有量的积累,便没有质的飞跃。有个学生问一位美籍教授,英语怎样才能尽快“过关”。教授反问了一句,How much do you expose yourself to English written and spoken every day(你每天读多少听多少)?可见经常大量阅读对“过关”的必要性。我见过一位移居加拿大的波兰人,任教于卡尔顿大学,后晋升为教授并荣任英语系主任。这位波兰人的英语是怎么学的?他说他在波兰念中学时就能读英语原文小说。可见阅读能力对一个人成功的重要性。

张颖教授为中国中学生主编了这本旨在提高英语阅读能力的普及读物,我谨表祝贺并希望有更多新作问世。也预祝中学生借助本书养成良好的阅读习惯,能 read for examinations,也能 read for information,还能 read for pleasure.

杨 贵 生



前言


当本书即将付梓之时,我们由衷地感到欣慰。

为中学生奉献一本让他们满意和喜欢,对他们的英语学习有所帮助的英语读物,是我们的夙愿。听着素质教育的声声呼啸,我们,一群来自师范院校的教师,真的希望能够为之贡献自己的绵薄之力。为此,我们曾做了市场调查,发现那些为小读者编写的用于应试、选材陈旧、缺乏时代感的英语课外读物是难以引起孩子们的阅读兴趣的。于是我们决心为中学生们按新课标要求选编一本全新的英语课外读物!它既包括传统经典,又着重介绍当代现代优秀作品;它的语言浅显易懂,符合中学生学习英语的要求;它有着较浓的故事性和时代性,能够引起中学生阅读兴趣;它所描写的是少年们关心的问题,是他们“成长的烦恼”,能与中学生的心理产生共鸣。

我们的时代,是世界各种文化交融与交锋的时代。我们的中学生,是面向世界的一代。我们希望,我们所做的努力,能够帮助中学生更加正确地认识西方世界与文化。英语少年文学是反映西方社会的一面镜子。我们所选编的作品涉及了家庭、学校、社会、文化等许多方面,可以开阔小读者的视野,使他们对西方社会有一个更加全面的了解。同时,这些主题深刻,内容健康,格调高雅的优秀作品,也将帮助学生培养高尚的情操与高雅的情趣。

在本书的编写过程中,我们着重注意做到以下三点:一是按中学英语新课标要求,按难易程度,每单元选编了三篇

Wonderful Writings in English
A Reader for Middle School Students(1)



精彩篇章,并设计三种不同训练题:第一篇文章较短,要求学生读懂文章,了解故事梗概,能按课文实际回答问题;第二篇文章长短适中,要求学生能理解课文内容,透过字里行间的意义,通过认真思考,回答有一定难度的问题,并对作品有一定欣赏能力;第三篇文章较长,阅读题材广泛,根据上下文,挖掘新的含义,回答较复杂的问题;要求学生能鉴赏文章;通过阅读训练,可以很快提高学生阅读能力,在各种测试中稳操胜券。二是为使中学生阅读本书方便更快提高他们的阅读能力。对重要的语言风格、文化背景及生词、难句做了简要的注释。三是为调动中学生对英语阅读的兴趣。我们精选了英文原著中最精彩或最有趣的章节,使小读者能够欣赏到语言地道的原滋原味的英语。

本套书的主编为东北师范大学外语学院英语系副主任张颖教授、杭州师范学院李冬青副教授,副主编为谭晓瑛,参加编写的有(以姓氏笔画为序)马冬梅、马宏梅、刘晓笑、冯昕、曲艳丽、李盛、李冬青、张颖、胡伟、侯丹、祝贺、莫玉梅、谭晓瑛。

我们编写这本英语中学生读物,真心希望孩子们能喜欢它并从书中得到教益。同时,限于我们的水平与能力,本书也会有缺陷和不足,衷心地希望得到专家与同行的指教。我们会继续努力,为我国的中学生编写更多、更好的英语少年文学读物。

编者

目 录

第一部分 家庭小说 (1)

Unit 1 The Secret Garden(秘密花园) (2)

Unit 2 Little Women(小妇人) (21)

Unit 3 Mom, the Wolf Man and Me
(妈妈、狼人和我) (21)

Unit 4 When the Water Closes over my Head
(水没头顶啦) (42)

第二部分 动物与少年 (64)

Unit 5 The Bravest Thing
(勇敢的兔外婆) (87)

Unit 6 A Day No Pigs Would Die
(猪不会死的日子) (106)

Unit 7 Sounder(桑德) (124)

Unit 8 Shiloh(石罗) (142)

第三部分 历险故事 (161)

Unit 9 Julie of the Wolves (狼群中的朱莉) ... (162)

Wonderful Writings in English
A Reader for Middle School Students(I)

Unit 10	Island of Blue Dolphins	
	(蓝色海豚岛)	(180)
第四部分	学校与成长	(198)
Unit 11	The Outsiders(局外人)	(199)
Unit 12	Tex(泰克斯)	(218)
Unit 13	The Pigman(猪人)	(241)
Unit 14	Gentlehands(温柔的手)	(261)
Unit 15	The Chocolate War(巧克力战争)	(282)
Unit 16	I Am the Cheese(我是乳酪)	(304)
Unit 17	Anne of Green Gables(小孤女)	(327)
Unit 18	Soccer Shock(雀斑中卫)	(344)
Unit 19	On Guard(接剑)	(367)
Unit 20	Shark Shock(拜拜雀斑)	(388)
Answer Key	(参考答案)	(409)



第一部分

家庭小说

孩子从“自然的人”向“社会的人”过渡，受家庭、学校及社会的影响。孩子对社会的最初认识始于家庭。家庭的影响直接或间接地影响他/她的一生。因此，家庭的温暖、父母的爱护对于孩子的成长极为重要。也正是因为这样一个原因，家庭成为少年文学的一个重要题材。家庭小说描写幸福家庭，也揭示家庭问题。它可以帮助少年读者正视家庭问题，珍惜家庭幸福，也可以在正确处理家庭关系方面给他们一定的启迪。

Unit 1 The Secret Garden

秘密花园



I. 题解

伯内特生于1849年，卒于1924年。从16岁起她大部分时间住在美国，但经常回英格兰。她是一位终身作家，写了很多书，《秘密花园》是她的代表作，也是世界少儿文学的一部经典。

可怜的玛丽！谁都不要她，也没人喜欢她。父母去世以后，她被人从印度送回英国的约克郡，住在她舅舅的家里。玛丽住在那儿，情绪很坏，她感到厌烦、孤独，整天没事可做，除了园丁本·威瑟斯塔夫老头，没人跟她说话。不过后来玛丽听说了有关秘密花园的事。那花园的门紧锁着，钥匙也不知哪儿去了。10年了，除了那只能够飞过围墙的知更鸟，没有一个人进过那园子。玛丽望着知更鸟，琢磨着钥匙会在哪儿……再后来，夜里房子中什么地方传来奇怪的哭声，听起来像是个孩子……这就是弗朗西丝·霍奇森·伯内特(Frances Hodgson Burnett)的《秘密花园》。



II. Reading Comprehension

Passage One

When Mary Lennox was sent to Misselthwaite Manor¹ to live with her uncle everybody said she was the most disagreeable-looking child ever seen. It was

① Mary 的舅舅居住的庄园名字。



Unit 1 The Secret Garden

true, too. She had a little thin face and a little thin body, thin light hair and a sour expression. Her hair was yellow, and her face was yellow because she had been born in India and had always been ill in one way or another. Her father had held a position under the English Government and had always been busy and ill himself, and her mother had been a great beauty who cared only to go to parties and amuse herself with gay people. She had not wanted a little girl at all, and when Mary was born she handed her over to the care of an Ayah, who was made to understand that if she wished to please the Mem Sahib she must keep the child out of sight as much as possible. So when she was a sickly, fretful, ugly little baby she was kept out of the way, and when she became a sickly, fretful, toddling thing she was kept out of the way also. She never remembered seeing familiarly anything but the dark faces of her Ayah and the other native servants, and as they always obeyed her and gave her her own way in everything, because the Mem Sahib would be angry if she was disturbed by her crying, by the time she was six years old she was as tyrannical and selfish a little pig as ever lived. The young English governess who came to teach her to read and write disliked her so much that she gave up her place in three months, and when other governesses came to try to fill it they always went away in a shorter time than the first one. So if Mary had not chosen to really want to know how to read books she would never have learned her letters at all.

One frightfully hot morning, when she was about

① 坏脾气的，乖戾的，说话尖刻的。

② 是 Mary 的印度保姆。

③ 指 Mary 的母亲。

④ 不满的，烦躁的。

⑤ 婴儿般摇摇摆摆地走路。

⑥ 似暴君的，专横的。

⑦ 女家庭教师。



Wonderful Writings in English
A Reader for Middle School Students (I)

nine years old, she awakened feeling very cross^①, and she became crosser still when she saw that the servant who stood by her bedside was not her Ayah.

①脾气坏的,易怒的。

"Why did you come?" she said to the strange woman. "I will not let you stay. Send my Ayah to me."

The woman looked frightened, but she only stammered: that the Ayah could not come and when Mary threw herself into a passion and beat and kicked her, she looked only more frightened and repeated that it was not possible for the Ayah to come to Missie Sahib^②.

②结结巴巴地说。

③指Mary。

True or False Questions.

1. The young English governess cannot stand Mary so that she leaves Mary's home in three months.
2. Mary's parents love her so much that they spoil her.
3. Mary is not a healthy and happy girl.
4. Mary had been living in India.
5. Mary can neither read nor write.

Passage Two

Colin turned his head, frowning^④.

"Am I queer?" he demanded.

④科林转过头来,皱着眉头。

"Yes," answered Mary, "very. But you needn't be cross," she added impartially, "because so am I queer—and so is Ben Weatherstaff". I am not as queer as I was before I began to like people and before I found the garden."

⑤公平地,不偏袒地。

⑥Colin家的老园丁。

"I don't want to be queer," said Colin. "I am not

4

Unit 1 The Secret Garden

going to be," and he frowned again with determination.

He was a very proud boy. He lay thinking for a while and then Mary saw his beautiful smile begin and gradually change his whole face.

"I shall stop being queer," he said, "if I go every day to the garden. There is Magic in there—good Magic, you know, Mary. I am sure there is."

"So am I," said Mary.

"Even if it isn't real Magic," Colin said, "we can pretend it is. Something is there—something!"

"It's Magic," said Mary, "but not black. It's as white as snow."

They always called it Magic and indeed it seemed like it in the months that followed—the wonderful months—the radiant months—the amazing ones. Oh! the things which happened in that garden! If you have never had a garden you cannot understand, and if you have had a garden you will know that it would take a whole book to describe all that came to pass there. At first it seemed that green things would never cease pushing their way through the earth, in the grass, in the beds, even in the crevices^② of the walls. Then the green things began to show buds and the buds began to unfurl and show color, every shade of blue, every shade of purple, every tint and hue of crimson^④. In its happy days flowers had been tucked away into every inch and hole and corner. Ben Weatherstaff had seen it done and had himself scraped out mortar from between the bricks of the

①古怪的。

②(岩石、墙等的)裂缝;罅缝。

③展开,张开,铺开。

④深红色。

⑤挖出砂浆。



Wonderful Writings in English
A Reader for Middle School Students (I)

wall and made pockets of earth for lovely clinging things to grow on. Iris and white lilies¹ rose out of the grass in sheaves², and the green alcoves³ filled themselves with amazing armies of the blue and white flower lances of tall delphiniums or columbines or campanulas⁴.

Multiple Choice: 

① 堇尾属植物和白色的百合花。
② 原形是sheaf, 意为“束、捆”。
③ 花园中的小亭。
④ delphinium: 飞燕草。
columbine: 楼斗菜。
campanula: 风铃草。

1. Before Mary found the garden, she was _____.
A. friendly B. polite C. strange
2. Colin's attitude toward the garden is _____.
A. pessimistic B. positive C. doubtful
3. Mary had a _____ opinion of Colin's temper.
A. mistrustful B. fair C. favorable
4. Which of the following is NOT true according to this passage?
A. Ben Weatherstaff is not as strange as Mary.
B. Mary, Colin and Weatherstaff love the garden very much.
C. Good Magic in the garden changes both Mary and Colin.
5. The reason why Mary and Colin were fond of the garden is that _____.
A. the garden is full of beautiful flowers
B. they may play with Ben Weatherstaff
C. the garden makes them agreeable and friendly with people

Passage Three

In each century since the beginning of the world wonderful things have been discovered. In the last century more amazing things were found out than in any century before. In this new century hundreds of things still more **astounding**^⑤ will be brought to light. At first people

⑤ 令人震惊的。

Unit 1 The Secret Garden

refuse to believe that a strange new thing can be done, then they begin to hope it can be done, then they see it can be done—then it is done and all the world wonders why it was not done centuries ago. One of the new things people began to find out in the last century was that thoughts—just mere thoughts—are as powerful as electric batteries—as good for one as sunlight is, or as bad for one as poison. To let a sad thought or a bad one get into your mind is as dangerous as letting a scarlet fever germ¹ get into your body. If you let it stay there after it has got in you may never get over it as long as you live.

So long as Mistress Mary's mind was full of disagreeable thoughts about her dislikes and sour opinions of people and her determination not to be pleased by or interested in anything, she was a yellow-faced, sickly, bored and wretched child. Circumstances², however, were very kind to her, though she was not at all aware of it. They began to push her about for her own good. When her mind gradually filled itself with robins³ and moorland⁴ cottages crowded with children, with queer crabbed⁵ old gardeners and common little Yorkshire housemaids, with springtime and with secret gardens coming alive day by day, and also with a moor boy⁶ and his "creatures," there was no room left for the disagreeable thoughts which affected her liver and her digestion and made her yellow and tired.

So long as Colin shut himself up in his room and thought only of his fears and weakness and his detestation⁷ of people who looked at him and reflected hourly on humps⁸ and early death, he was a hysterical⁹ half-crazy little hypochondriac¹⁰ who knew

①猩红热病菌。

②环境, 情势。

③知更鸟。小说中几次出现知更鸟的场景, 如知更鸟把Mary引入秘密花园并与Colin家的老园丁Ben相识, 后来又是知更鸟的引路使Mary与Dickon结识。

④长有石南的荒地。

⑤脾气乖戾的; 易怒的。

⑥指和Mary、Colin一起在花园中玩耍的男孩Dickon。

⑦深恨; 极厌恶。

⑧弓起的后背。

⑨歇斯底里的。

⑩忧郁症患者。

Wonderful Writings in English
A Reader for Middle School Students (1)

nothing of the sunshine and the spring and also did not know that he could get well and could stand upon his feet if he tried to do it. When new beautiful thoughts began to push out the old hideous¹ ones, life began to come back to him, his blood ran healthily through his veins and strength poured into him like a flood. His scientific experiment was quite practical and simple and there was nothing weird² about it at all. Much more surprising things can happen to any one who, when a disagreeable or discouraged thought comes into his mind, just has the sense to remember in time and push it out by putting in an agreeable determinedly courageous one. Two things cannot be in one place.

① 十分丑恶的, 恐怖的, 可怕的。

② 不自然的, 怪诞的, 神秘的; 奇异的。

Answer the questions in your own words.

1. Why is Mary an agreeable and friendly girl?
2. How is Colin changed?
3. What role does "the garden" play in Mary and Colin's growth and change?



III. Supplementary Reading

Pre-reading questions: What did Mary find out following the sound that she was curious about?

She had been lying awake turning from side to side³ for about an hour, when suddenly something made her sit up in bed and turn her head toward the door listening. She listened and she listened.

③ 翻来复去。

"It isn't the wind now," she said in a loud whisper. "That isn't the wind. It is different. It is that crying I heard before."



Unit 1 The Secret Garden

The door of her room was ajar and the sound came down the corridor, a far-off faint sound of fretful crying. She listened for a few minutes and each minute she became more and more sure. She felt as if she must find out what it was. It seemed even stranger than the secret garden and the buried key. Perhaps the fact that she was in a rebellious mood made her bold. She put her foot out of bed and stood on the floor.

"I am going to find out what it is," she said. "Everybody is in bed and I don't care about Mrs Medlock—I don't care!"

There was a candle by her bedside and she took it up and went softly out of the room. The corridor looked very long and dark, but she was too excited to mind that. She thought she remembered the corners she must turn to find the short corridor with the door covered with tapestry—the one Mrs Medlock had come through the day she lost herself. The sound had come up that passage. So she went on with her dim light, almost feeling her way, her heart beating so loud that she fancied she could hear it. The far-off faint crying went on and led her. Sometimes it stopped for a moment or so and then began again. Was this the right corner to turn? She stopped and thought. Yes it was. Down this passage and then to the left, and then up two broad steps, and then to the right again. Yes, there was the tapestry door.

She pushed it open very gently and closed it behind her, and she stood in the corridor and could hear

①微开着,半开着。

②女管家。

③挂毯。



Wonderful Writings in English
A Reader for Middle School Students(I)

the crying quite plainly, though it was not loud. It was on the other side of the wall at her left and a few yards farther on there was a door. She could see a glimmer of light coming from beneath it. The Someone¹ was crying in that room, and it was quite a young Someone.

So she walked to the door and pushed it open, and there she was standing in the room!

It was a big room with ancient, handsome furniture in it. There was a low fire glowing faintly on the hearth and a night light burning by the side of a carved four-posted bed hung with brocade², and on the bed was lying a boy, crying fretfully.

Mary wondered if she was in a real place or if she had fallen asleep again and was dreaming without knowing it.

The boy had a sharp, delicate face the color of ivory and he seemed to have eyes too big for it. He had also a lot of hair which tumbled over his forehead in heavy locks and made his thin face seem smaller. He looked like a boy who had been ill, but he was crying more as if he were tired and cross³ than as if he were in pain.

Mary stood near the door with her candle in her hand, holding her breath. Then she crept across the room, and, as she drew nearer, the light attracted the boy's attention and he turned his head on his pillow and stared at her, his gray eyes opening so wide that they seemed immense⁴.

"Who are you?" he said at last in a half-frightened whisper. "Are you a ghost?"

①特指Mary要寻找的那个人。

②锦缎。

③生气的。

④巨大的。