

王昱 王箐 编译

ENGLISH HUMOROUS  
SERIES

# 英语趣味小品

第八册



中南工业大学出版社

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## 编译者的话

《英语趣味小品》小丛书第一、二、三、四、五、六、七册出版以来，深受各界好评，许多读者来信鼓励我们多出这类融趣味、知识于一体的小品文章。为此，我们又选编了33篇幽默小故事汇集成第八册，本册各篇文字浅显，配有插图和练习，并给出汉语译文，使读者在有趣的阅读中获得提高阅读理解和语言的实践能力。



Jim walked into a store which had a sign outside: "Second-hand clothes bought and sold." He was carrying an old pair of pants and asked the owner of the store, "How much will you give me for these?" The man looked at them and then said rudely, "Two dollars."

"What!" said Jim. "I had guessed they were worth at least five."

"No," said the man, "they aren't worth a penny

more than two dollars".

"Are you sure?" asked Jim.

"Very sure," said the man.

"Well," said Jim, taking two dollars out of his pocket, "here's your money. These pants were hanging outside your store with a price tag that said \$6.50, but I thought that was too much money, so I wanted to make sure how much they were really worth".

Then he walked out of the store with the pair of pants and disappeared before the surprised store owner could think of anything to say.

A. Answer these questions:

1. What was bought and sold in the store that Jim went into?
2. What did Jim take into the store with him?
3. How much did the owner of the store offer Jim for them?
4. Where did Jim find the pants?
5. How much was the owner asking for them?
6. How much did Jim pay for them?

B. Which words in the story mean the opposite of:

- |             |                |             |
|-------------|----------------|-------------|
| 1. appeared | 3. new         | 5. politely |
| 2. little   | 4. not certain | 6. bought   |

C. Choose the correct sentence for each picture and write it down.

1. a. Jim has ironed his pants.

b. Jim is having his pants ironed.



2. a. Jim has ironed his shirt too.

b. Jim is having his shirt ironed too.

3. a. This man has cleaned his shoes.

b. This man is having his shoes cleaned.



4. a. This man has cleaned his shoes.

b. This man is having his shoes cleaned.

5. a. This woman has washed her hair.

b. This woman is having her hair washed.

6. a. This woman has washed her hair.

b. This woman is having her hair washed.

### 参 考 译 文 (1)

吉姆走进一家挂着“买卖旧衣服”招牌的商店。他拿着一条旧裤子问店主：“这条裤子您给多少钱？”店主看了看裤子，不耐烦地说：“两块钱。”

“什么？”吉姆说：“我还以为它至少值五块钱呢？”

“不，”店主说：“就两块，多一分也不值”。

“真的吗？”吉姆说。

“那当然！”店主说。

“好吧！”吉姆说，同时从口袋掏出两块钱，“给您钱，这条裤子挂在贵店外头，标价6块半，我认为太贵了，所以很想弄清楚它到底值多少钱。”

说完，他拿着裤子走出店门，消失在人群之中，而店主瞠目结舌，无言答对。





Mrs. Green was the manager of a large company, and she frequently had to have meetings with other business people in a room in her building. She did not smoke at all, but many of the other people at the meetings did, so she often found the air during the meetings terrible. One day, after an hour, her throat and eyes were sore and she was coughing a lot, so she called a big air-conditioning company and asked them to work out how much it would

cost to keep the air of the meeting room in her building really clean.

After a few days the air-conditioning company sent in two estimates for Mrs. Green to choose from. One estimate was for \$5,000 to put in new air-conditioning, and the other was for \$5.00 for a sign which said, NO SMOKING.

A. Answer these questions:

1. Why did Mrs. Green have to have meetings with business people?

2. Why did she often find the air in the meetings terrible?

3. What did it do to her?

4. What did she do about it?

5. What did the air-conditioning company do?

6. What did Mrs. Green have to choose between?

B. What words in the story mean the same as:

1. big

2. often

3. painful

4. phoned

5. very bad

C. Finish the second sentence in each pair (both sentences have the same meaning):

*Example:* a. Mrs. Green found the air in the meetings terrible.

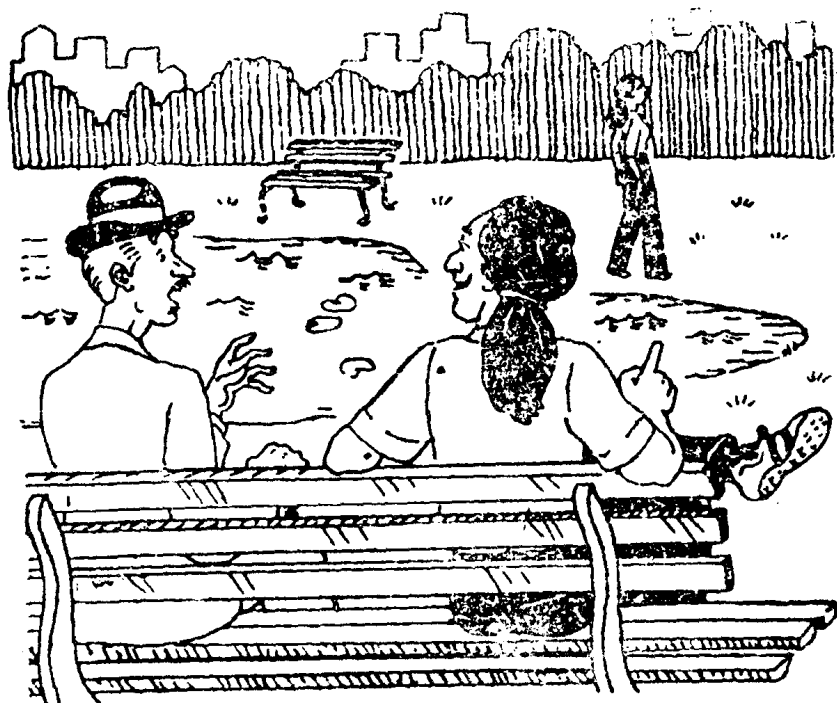
b. Mrs. Green found that the air in the meetings was terrible.

1. a. She saw the air full of smoke.  
b. She saw that \_\_\_\_\_.
2. a. She noticed the smoke rising.  
b. She noticed that \_\_\_\_\_.
3. a. She felt her throat burning.  
b. She felt that \_\_\_\_\_.
4. a. She confessed to being puzzled.  
b. She confessed that \_\_\_\_\_.
5. a. She expected the air-conditioning company to find the answer difficult.  
b. She expected that \_\_\_\_\_.
6. a. But the air-conditioning company found the answer easy.  
b. But the air-conditioning company found that \_\_\_\_\_.

### 参 考 译 文 (2)

格林夫人曾经是一家大公司的经理,她经常要跟生意人在办公楼的会议室里开会。她不抽烟,但是许多来开会的人都抽,所以她常常觉得会场内空气腥臭。有一天,开了一个小时的会,她的喉咙和眼睛顿感疼痛,而且咳嗽得厉害,因此她给一家大空调公司打电话,让他们估算一下要花多少钱才能使大厦会议室内的空气真正保持清新。

几天以后,空调公司送来了两张估价单供格林夫人选择。一张是花5千元购置新型空调,另一张是花5块钱挂块牌子“请勿吸烟”。



A lot of boys and girls in Western countries are wearing the same kinds of clothes, and many of them have long hair, so it is often difficult to tell whether they are boys or girls.

One day, an old gentleman went for a walk in a park in Washington, and when he was tired he sat down on a bench. A young person was standing on the other side of the pond.

"My goodness!" the old man said to the person who was sitting next to him on the bench. "Do you see that person with the loose pants and long hair? Is it a boy or a girl?"

"A girl," said his neighbor. "She's my daughter."

"Oh!" the old gentleman said quickly. "Please forgive me, I didn't know that you were her mother."

"I'm not," said the other person, "I'm her father."

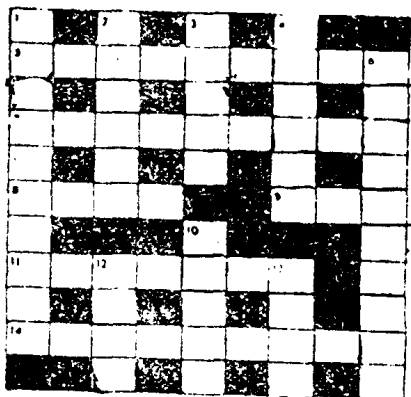
A. Answer these questions:

1. What did the old gentleman see on the other side of the pond?
2. Why didn't the old gentleman know if it was a boy or a girl?
3. Who did he ask?
4. What did this person answer?
5. What did the old gentleman say then?
6. And what did the person answer?

B. Do this puzzle:



Across:

5. Boys and girls often wear the same kinds of clothes in Western . . . . .
7. The old gentleman spoke to



- \_\_\_\_\_ sitting on a bench in the park. (two words)
8. A big town.
9. Neither boys \_\_\_\_\_ girls have short hair.
11. When one is not well, we can say he has an \_\_\_\_\_.
14. This story is about an old \_\_\_\_\_.

Down:

1. This cat is \_\_\_\_\_ a tree.  neighbor on the
2. Least polite. \_\_\_\_\_ bench was a man.
3. Actors and actresses act on \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Church \_\_\_\_\_ ring
- this. \_\_\_\_\_ every Sunday.
4. The little girl tied her \_\_\_\_\_ 12. The girl in this
- hair with a \_\_\_\_\_.  story had \_\_\_\_\_ hair.
6. The old gentleman thought 13. Boys and girls both
- it was very \_\_\_\_\_ that his looked the \_\_\_\_\_ to
- the old gentleman.

C. Write this story, using words instead of the pictures.



Mr. Jones went for a walk in a \_\_\_\_\_ with his granddaughter

one day. He wore a dark \_\_\_\_\_ with a white \_\_\_\_\_



and a nice \_\_\_\_\_ His granddaughter was a pretty girl. She



had

long \_\_\_\_\_, and wore a pair of very loose blue \_\_\_\_\_



and a pink



on one



She wore no jewelry except for a small

### 参 考 译 文 (3)

西方国家的许多男孩和女孩穿着一样，很多人都留长发，所以常常难以区分其性别。

有一天，一位老先生在华盛顿的某座公园里散步，走累了就坐在一张长条椅上。在水塘的另一边站着一位年轻人。

“天哪，”老先生对坐在旁边的人说，“您看见那位穿着大裆裤留长发的人了吗？他到底是男的，还是女的？”

“女的！”旁边的人答道：“她是我女儿。”

“噢，”老先生赶忙说：“请原谅，我不知道您是她的母亲。”

“不，”旁边的人又说：“我是她父亲。”



A young boy was playing with a ball in the street. He kicked it too hard, and it broke the window of a house and fell inside. A lady came to the window with the ball and shouted at the young boy, so he ran away, but he still wanted his ball back. A few minutes later he returned and knocked at the door of the house, and when the lady answered it, he said, "My father's going to come and fix your window very soon."



After a few more minutes a man came to the door with tools in his hand, so the lady let the boy take his ball away.

When the man finished fixing the window, he said to the lady, "That will cost you exactly ten dollars."

"But aren't you the father of that young boy?" the woman asked, looking surprised. "No," he answered, equally surprised. "Aren't you his mother?"

A. Answer these questions:

1. How did the young boy lose his ball?
2. Why did he run away?
3. And why did he come back?
4. Why did the lady let him take his ball away?
5. Who did the lady think the man was who came to fix the window?
6. Who did he think the lady was?

B. Which of these sentences are true? Write down the correct ones.

1. The young boy broke the window of his own house.
2. The young boy broke the window of someone else's house.
3. The ball went through the window.
4. The ball hit the window and fell into the lady's garden.
5. The young boy ran away because he wanted his ball back.