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# 青少年英语

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ENGLISH FOR YOUNGSTERS



## 少年儿童趣味数学丛书

图文并茂 生动活泼

丰富知识 开拓智力

适合于六岁至十二岁少年儿童

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|----------|-----|-----|----|
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将于1982年四季度由地质出版社陆续出版

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编 辑: 北京师范学院外语系《青少年英语》编辑部  
出 版: 地 质 出 版 社  
(北 京 西 四)  
印 刷: 天 津 新 华 印 刷 一 厂  
发 行: 新 华 书 店 北 京 发 行 所 发 行  
全 国 各 地 新 华 书 店 经 售  
书号: 7038·新66 1982年 8 月出版 定价: 0.06 元

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## Reading with Notes

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Pigeons are useful to man because of their love of their home. They always try to return home whatever the difficulties<sup>①</sup>. A pigeon will not take a message to just any place—the receiving station must be home.

From 3, 000 B. C. to the present, homing pigeons have worked as postmen. They have been especially useful for carrying messages in times of war. In 1870<sup>②</sup>, when the Germans surrounded Paris, the city was cut off from all the usual means of communication. The people tried many different ways of sending news. One way was to send off balloons carrying mail. But of course they only drifted where the wind carried them. Often they landed inside the enemy lines.

Many suggestions were made to solve the problem. Some suggested using hawks<sup>③</sup>. But in the end it was a different bird, the pigeon, that solved the problem. Somehow homing pigeons were brought into Paris. Soon they were carrying letters far and wide. The Germans

①不顾任何困难；②指1870年普法战争 (the Franco-Prussian War)；

③鹰。

found out about it and imported hawks to catch the pigeons, but the little postmen could fly faster, and they managed to escape their pursuers. In four months about 156,000 dispatches① were carried by pigeons.

The dove (a member of the pigeon family) is known as a symbol of gentleness and peace. But strangely enough, pigeons play an important part in war. During World War I every army had a corps of trained homing pigeons. The courageous birds were often cited in official dispatches②. Many of them won the "ring of honor"③. One of them was an American bird with a French name, Cher Ami, which means 'dear friend'. Cher Ami was a bird who flew right into the pages of human history. In fact, he won the Distinguished Service Cross④.

A battalion of the U. S. army in France will always be known as the Lost Battalion. The men were lost in the Argonne Forest⑤. No one knew where they were. They were starving and without ammunition. They were surrounded by the enemy and all means of communication were cut off. There was little hope for them -- unless one defenseless bird could make his way through the bullets, gas and smoke that lay between him and his pigeon house.

① 紧急信件；② 通报表扬；③ 奖圈（圈在鸽子腿上）；④ 功勋十字章；  
⑤ 法国东北部森林高地。

Cher Ami reached home and delivered the message. Planes were sent out to drop food and ammunition to the men. With their strength renewed and with fresh supplies of ammunition, the Lost Battalion fought through the enemy lines. They reached their own army, thanks to Cher Ami.

Cher Ami, stuffed and mounted<sup>①</sup>, now stands in the Smithsonian Institution in Washington. There is a scar on his breast, made by a German bullet. One leg is gone, cut off by another bullet. This happened during a later flight, but even then Cher Ami reached his own post. He lived to return to his native land, and became the most honored of all American "homers."

In times of peace, the birds are used for many purposes. For instance, if an airplane radio is destroyed, the birds can be sent to carry messages. The telegraph is not easy to carry about. Radio messages go to any place, even the enemy's. Sometimes only the little pigeon can deliver the message where it ought to go. Now they are being trained as night fliers. This greatly increases their usefulnesses.



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① 做成标本

## SEE HOW WELL YOU UNDERSTOOD

(选择正确答案)

1. Pigeons will carry messages
  - (1) only to their home station
  - (2) to any receiving station
  - (3) to the nearest receiving station
2. The balloons would only land in places
  - (1) where people wished
  - (2) where the wind carried them
  - (3) inside enemy lines
3. When Paris was surrounded, the pigeons were brought into the city by
  - (1) their own power
  - (2) piloted balloons
  - (3) some other means
4. Cher Ami once saved an army battalion by
  - (1) warning them of an enemy attack
  - (2) bringing news of their location to headquarters
  - (3) leading rescuers to them
5. Cher Ami was finally
  - (1) killed by an enemy bullet
  - (2) lost in the Argonne Forest
  - (3) neither (1) nor (2)
6. Giving a pigeon the ring of honor was the same as giving a soldier a
  - (1) parade (2) medal (3) rifle
7. Today pigeons are more useful than ever in
  - (1) times of war (2) city trips (3) night flights

(答案见本页)

key: 1. (1) 2. (2) 3. (3) 4. (2) 5. (3) 6. (3) 7. (3)

## “Arrive” or “Reach” ?

*In order to understand the two verbs ‘arrive’ and ‘reach’ better, do the following exercise: (选择填空)*

1. We (arrived, reached) at the station hungry and sweaty.
2. They (arrived, reached) the station in time to catch the 9:30 train.
3. The ship (arrived, reached) in Shanghai safely.
4. The passengers (arrived, reached) the village at sunset.
5. Your postcard has just (arrived, reached) me.
6. At last the day (arrived, reached) when he could leave his job and set out to see the world.
7. The Red Army men (arrive, reach) the village when the day was dark.
8. As soon as you (arrive, reach) in Shanghai, ring me up.



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Key:

1. arrived    2. reached    3. arrived    4. reached  
5. reached    6. arrived    7. reach    8. arrive



*Fill in the blank in each sentence with the correct word.*

(选择填空)

1. Mary's grandfather is \_\_\_\_\_ ill.  
(1) danger (2) dangerous (3) dangerously
2. The artist takes \_\_\_\_\_ in his work.  
(1) proud (2) pride (3) proudly
3. His \_\_\_\_\_ was due to hard work.  
(1) success (2) successful (3) successfully
4. The family gathered round the \_\_\_\_\_ man.  
(1) die (2) dying (3) death
5. I can \_\_\_\_\_ say that she is in no danger.  
(1) safety (2) safe (3) safely
6. The old man is too \_\_\_\_\_ to walk there.  
(1) weak (2) weakly (3) weakness
7. Being alone most of the time, the little girl lives in an \_\_\_\_\_ world of her own.  
(1) imagine (2) imaginary (3) imagination
8. Knowing her so well, I do not doubt her \_\_\_\_\_.  
(1) sincere (2) sincerity (3) sincerely
9. In this country there is free \_\_\_\_\_ for children of all races.  
(1) educate (2) education (3) educational
10. If Mr Norris is not in, give the parcel to his \_\_\_\_\_.  
(1) assist (2) assistant (3) assistance

(答案见本页)

7. (2) 8. (2) 9. (2) 10. (2)

Key: 1. (3) 2. (2) 3. (1) 4. (2) 5. (3) 6. (1)

## Think It Over

### 1. *My Uncle's Brother*

During the summer holidays my younger sister and I visited our uncle who lived in the country. My uncle has a brother, but this man is not my uncle. Who is he?

### 2. *Two Fathers, Two Sons*

Two fathers and two sons, who were good hunters, went up a mountain one day to shoot tigers. They shot three tigers. Each of them slung one on his back and they all started home.

How is it possible that two fathers and two sons carried only three tigers and yet there was one for each of them?

### 3. *How to Cross a River?*

A man wants to take a dog, a hen and some rice across a river. But there is only one boat, and he can only take one at a time. If he leaves the hen alone with the rice, it will eat the rice; if he leaves the dog with the hen, it will hurt the hen. How can he get the three across?

### 4. *A Rope Ladder*

A ship is at anchor (停泊). Over its side hangs a rope ladder with rungs (扶横档) a foot apart. The tide

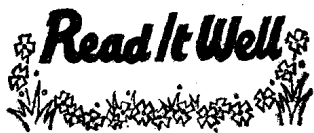
rises at the rate of eight inches per hour. At the end of six hours how much of the ladder will remain above water, if eight feet of it is above water when the tide begins to rise?

*Key:*

1. He is my father.
  2. Only three persons went hunting, grandfather, father and grandson. The father is the son of the grandfather and the son's father.
  3. He takes the hen across the river first, then returns and takes the dog. He brings back the hen, leaves it and takes the rice. Then he returns for the hen.
  4. It is still eight feet, because the ship rises with the tide.
- 

### Clouds

White sheep, white sheep, on a blue hill,  
When the wind stops, you will stand still.  
You walk far away, when the wind blow.  
White sheep, white sheep, where do you go?





*The Blind Men and  
the Elephant*

(A one-act play)

*Characters: Blind men A,B,C,D,E,F; an elephant driver*

*Scene: An Indian roadside*

*(Enter the six blind men, begging.)*

*(Voice): Make way, make way please! Here comes my  
elephant!*

*(Enter the elephant driver and the elephant.)*

*Driver: Make way, make way please!*

*A: Silence! I think an elephant is coming.*

*B: An elephant? How nice!*

*C: Do you know what an elephant looks like?*

*D: No. I've heard about it, though.*

*E: Sure we've all heard about it, but I've no idea  
what it is like.*

*F: How I wish I could touch it!*

*A: The blind are clever with their hands.*

*C: Yes, we see by touching.*

*D: Thank God, we have a  
good sense of touch.*

*E: Why not ask the dri-  
ver to stop the beast?*

*B: Indeed, why not?*



F: Kind master, please stop the elephant for a while.

A: We six poor blind men are anxious to know what it is like.

Driver: (*Turning to the elephant*) Come, come, my love, stand still.

A, B, C: Thank you, thank you.

(*The six blind men approach the elephant.*)

A: (*Touching the animal's side, up and down, right and left*) Well, well, this beast is exactly like a wall.

B: (*Grasping one of the elephant's tusks*) You're quite mistaken. He's round and smooth and sharp. He's like a spear more than anything else.

C: (*Getting hold of the elephant's trunk*) You're both completely wrong. This animal is like a snake, as anybody can see.

D: (*Embracing one of the legs*) Oh, how blind you are! It's very clear that he's round and tall like a tree.

E: (*Catching hold of an ear*) Even the blindest man can tell that this elephant isn't like any of the things you name. He's like a big fan.

F: (*Groping some time before catching hold of the tail*) Oh, how silly you are! The elephant is not like a wall, a spear, a snake, or a tree, nor is he like a fan. Any man with eyes can see that he is

exactly like a rope.

A: Silly fellow, have you ever seen a rope as smooth, as big, and as flat as a wall?

B: How wrong you are! Can a wall be as round and as sharp as a spear?

C: Stop all your nonsense. Blind as I am, I have a good sense of touch. When I feel something, I know its shape. The beast is like a snake, because it is round and soft.

D: I believe my nimble fingers. One touch is enough to tell me that the beast is the same as a tree, round and tall.

E: When you've grown as tall as I, you'll see that it is not round at all. It is flat and soft like a fan.

F: Short as I am, I can catch hold of it easily. It's a thin, soft thing like a rope.

*(All the blind men shout at the same time and make a lot of noise.)*

Driver: Stop shouting, my friends. All of you are wrong yet partly right.

A: Good fellow, please tell us what the elephant is really like.

B: Please do.

Driver: All right. Now let's start from the side. The elephant is a big animal; its side is big.

A: Feel it. Isn't it like a wall?

B, C, D, E, F: Exactly.

*Driver:* Please touch the tusks. There are two of them.

*B:* I was right to call them spears.

*Driver:* This way please. Between the tusks is the trunk.

*C:* Brothers, isn't it soft and round?

*A:* Yes, just like a snake.

*Driver:* The big animal has four strong legs.

*E:* Each leg is like a tree.

*Driver:* One of you said it was like a fan, because you happened to get hold of an ear.

*B:* No wonder he thought it was like a fan!

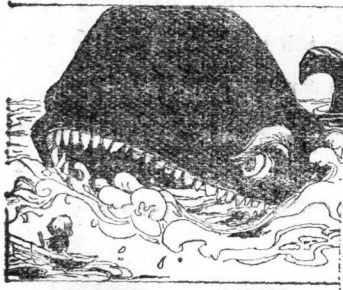
*Driver:* The tail is really too small for such a huge beast.

*F:* It is like a rope! Only it is not the whole elephant.

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### The Adventures of Pinocchio (III)

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(17) "My poor father! It's all my fault (全怪我)!" He and Cricket set off to find his father. They found a small boat and started rowing. Suddenly they came upon (遇到) the whale.

"Pinocchio, look out! He's going to swallow us up!" But it was too late.



(18) Then they were inside the whale and there at a funny table sat his father.

"Oh, Father, I've come to save you!"

Pinocchio started thinking. Then an idea came to him (想出一个主意). "Father, break up the table. We will set it on fire."

*Driver:* Now you have touched the elephant all over. We must move on.

Don't blame yourselves. Many people with perfect eyesight sometimes see only one part of a thing. Their one-sided views often do harm to themselves as well as to others.

*The blind men:* Thank you, brother. You have not only shown us the elephant but have also taught us a lesson. And the lesson is far more important.

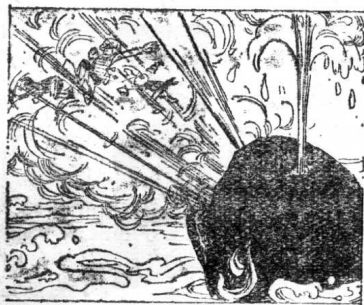
*Driver:* Make way, make way, please!

Make way for my elephant!

(The End)

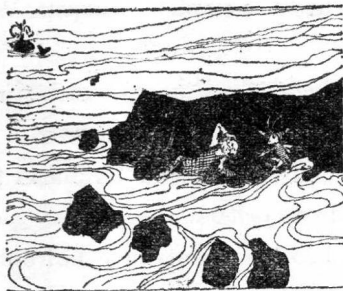


(19) Soon there was a big fire in the whale's stomach (胃). The fire was so hot that the whale did not feel well at all.

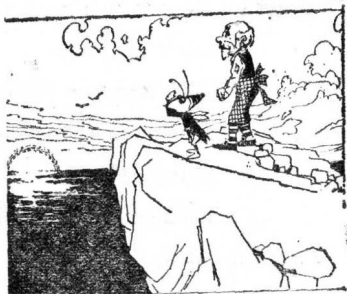


(20) The whale began to heave, and it moaned and groaned (喘大气哼哼). Then, suddenly, with a big sneeze, it spat (吐出) everything out, Pinocchio and all.





(21) Pinocchio, Cricket and Father landed in the water (落入水中). Geppetto and Cricket began to swim towards the shore (海岸). But Pinocchio had hit his head on a board (木板) and was knocked out (打昏了).



(22) Geppetto thought that Pinocchio had drowned (淹死) and cried, "My son was such a brave boy. But he got drown d trying to save me." He forgot that Pinocchio was a wooden puppet and there fore would float (漂浮) on water.



(23) Several days later Pinocchio was washed ashore and found unconscious by some townspeople.

"It's Pinocchio. Let's take him home."

His father sat by his bed side and watched him all night.



(24) When the first light of morning came into the room, Geppetto looked at Pinocchio and suddenly realized he had become a real boy! So Pinocchio and his father, Geppetto, lived happily ever after.