

英語學習

ENGLISH

LANGUAGE LEARNING

外語教學與研究出版社

英 语 学 习

(一九八四年合订本)

外语教学与研究出版社

英 语 学 习
1984年合订本

外语教学与研究出版社出版

(北京外国语学院23号信箱)

中国科学技术情报研究所印刷厂印刷

新华书店北京发行所发行

全国各地新华书店经售

开本 787×1092 1/32 25.25 印张 960千字

1985年6月第1版 1985年6月北京第一次印刷

印 数 1—35,000册

书号: 9215·298 定价: 3.80元

英語學習

1984年

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Deng Sets Criteria for Consolidation

Deng Xiaoping said recently *there are two important indicators to determine whether the Party consolidation is being conducted in a perfunctory way,*¹ according to an editorial in yesterday's *Economic Daily*.

The editorial quotes statements made by Deng, Chairman of the Central Advisory Commission of the Chinese Communist Party, at the second plenary session of the 12th Central Committee in October.

The first indicator, says Deng, is whether or not the "three types of persons" and those who have committed serious mistakes and wrought great harm are sternly disciplined organizationally.

The "three types of persons" are *those who rose to prominence as followers of the counter-revolutionary cliques of Lin Biao and Jiang Qing in "rebellion,"*² those who are still factionalists and those who took part in beating, smashing and looting during the "cultural revolution."

The paper says that a considerable number of such people have gone into hiding within the Party. They cling to their factionalist ideas, demagogic views and counter-revolutionary stance. Many keep in contact by stealthy means.

These people, the paper adds, must be weeded out so as to purify the Party organization.

The second indicator, Deng Xiaoping is quoted as saying, is whether Party members respond to ideological education by an enhancement of Party spirit.

The paper says all Party members must dedicate themselves to the service of the people and get rid of unhealthy practices and bureaucracy.

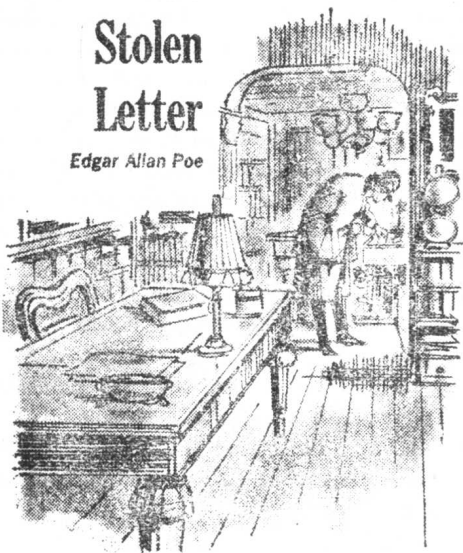
The *Economic Daily* also quotes Deng Xiaoping as saying that the policy of *"learning from past mistakes to avoid future ones, and curing the sickness to save the patient"*³ must be followed in inner-Party struggles. *The practice of "ruthless struggle and merciless blows" must be opposed.*⁴

(from *China Daily*, Nov. 13, 1983)

-
1. 整党是不是走过场,有两个重要标志
 2. 跟随林彪、江青反革集团造反起家的
 - 人。
 3. 惩前毖后,治病救人。
 4. 必须反对“残酷斗争,无情打击”的做法。

The Stolen Letter

Edgar Allan Poe



PART 1

In Paris, just after dark one evening in the autumn of 18 —, I was enjoying the company of an old friend, C. Auguste Dupin, in his small library. The door of the room was opened suddenly and an old acquaintance, Monsieur¹ G., head of the Paris police, entered.

We were glad to see him, for we had not seen him for several years. Monsieur G. said that he had come to consult us, or rather² to ask the opinion of my friend Dupin, about

some official business which was causing him a great deal of trouble.

"I will tell you in a few words what it is," he said, "but before I begin, let me tell you that this is a matter of the greatest secrecy and I might lose my position if it became known that I had told someone about it."

"Proceed,"³ said I.

"Well, I have received confidential information that a document of great importance has been stolen from the royal apartments. The thief is Minister D —. The person from whom the letter was stolen needs the letter badly. But, of course, he cannot proceed openly. And he has asked me to take care of the problem."

"My first act," he went on, "was to make a careful inspection of

¹Edgar Allan Poe (爱伦·坡, 1809—1849): 美国诗人、小说家、批评家。The Stolen Letter (《被窃的信件》)是他最好的短篇小说之一。

1. Monsieur [mə'sjɔː; mɔ'sjɔː] (法)用于姓名前作称呼, 相当于 Mr. 或 Sir. 2. rather: more exactly; it would be better to say (in the phr. or rather): 更确切地说。另如 He came home very late last night, or rather very early this morning. 他昨夜回来得非常晚, 或者更确切地说, 回来时已经是今天早晨了。 3. proceed: 继续(说, 做)(较正式的说法)。

the minister's apartment. Of course, I had to do this secretly and without his knowledge because we do not want the minister to know that we suspect him. Fortunately, the daily habits of the minister helped me greatly. He is frequently absent from home at night. He has only a few servants and they do not sleep in his apartment. I have keys, as you know, with which I can open any door in Paris. For three months, a night has not passed in which I have not been busy personally searching his apartment.⁴ It is now a question of my honor and my reputation. In addition, to mention a great secret, the reward is enormous. Therefore I did not discontinue the search until I was completely satisfied that the thief is a more clever man than I am. I am sure that I have examined every corner of the apartment in which it is possible that the paper can be hidden."

"But is it not possible," I suggested, "that although the minister has the letter, he has hidden it somewhere outside the apartment?"

"Oh, no!" said the police officer. "Twice he has been stopped on the street by my own men, pretending to be thieves, and they have searched him carefully under my own inspection."

"Tell us," said I, "exactly what you did in your search of the apartment."

"I have had long experience in these matters," answered the police officer. "Thus, I examined the apartment room by room, spending an entire week in each room. We examined the furniture. We opened every drawer, and I suppose you know that for an experienced police officer such a thing as a secret drawer is impossible. Next, we examined the chairs. We removed the tops from all the tables."

"But," I said, "you were not able to take apart all the pieces of furniture. That would be impossible."

"Of course," he answered. "But we did better. We examined every section of each piece of furniture under a very powerful microscope — and we found no indications or marks that the furniture had been touched or disturbed in any way to create a hiding place for the letter. After we had examined the furniture, we examined the apartment itself. We divided the entire surface into sections, and gave a number to each section so that we could not possibly miss any. Then we inspected each square inch of the apartment."

(to be continued)

4. a night has not passed ... his apartment: 没有一夜我不在亲自搜查他的住所(即我每夜都在亲自搜查他的住所)。注意句中的双重否定。

Exercise

Fill in the blanks in the following sentences with one of the words or expressions given:

- a. after dark b. cause trouble c. enormous
d. frequently e. become known f. take care of
g. outside h. at night i. in addition
j. a great deal

1. He was still working ____ .
2. It is very cold ____ . Put on more clothes.
3. Bats come out ____ .
4. He does ____ of work every day, more than anyone else in the office.
5. I don't want to ____ , but I have something bad to tell you about your husband.
6. It is very cold these days. ____ yourself so that you won't catch cold.
7. I have a lot of homework to do tonight. ____ I have clothes to wash.
8. We don't like him but he comes here ____ .
9. Beijing Hotel is an ____ building.
10. The news will ____ soon.

(cont. from p. 29)

else.²³ A high-level inquiry was immediately announced in London.

The investigation will have to answer some potentially damaging questions. How did the prisoners obtain guns? How did the escapees escape so many checks?²⁴ Did some guards contribute to the security lapse?²⁵ And how could such a thing happen in a fortress like Maze, with an 18-ft. concrete wall topped with barbed wire around each cell block, solid steel gates electrically operated, the whole prison built on solid concrete to foil tunnel builders?²⁶ The investigation could claim some high-ranking victims.²⁷

(Condensed from *TIME*, October 10, 1983)

23. and outrage... else: = and brought outrage to just about everyone else. 24. checks: 检查点; 监控哨。 25. Did some guards ... security lapse?: 是否有某些狱卒在造成防范疏漏方面起了作用? 26. the whole prison ... tunnel builders: 整个监狱是建造在整体混凝土地基上的,以防有人打隧道越狱。 27. The investigation ... high-ranking victims: 这次调查的结果,可能会使一些高级人员倒霉遭殃。

(向阳 选注)

MARRIAGE CUSTOMS

From the earliest times, marriage has been an important part of man's legal and religious systems.

In addition to the laws governing marriage that each nation establishes, marriage customs have grown up that vary widely from country to country.¹ Anthropologists² have studied and written about the numerous marriage ceremonies and customs that exist throughout the world and they make interesting reading, especially when they differ greatly from our own.

Let us look at just one country — the United States — to see some of the customs and the reasons for their existence. Why, for example, do people throw rice at weddings? Why does the bride always wear "something old, something new, something borrowed and something blue"?³

People in the U.S., once they meet certain legal age and medical requirements, are free to choose their own mates.⁴ Once a couple has decided to get married, the man customarily gives the girl a diamond ring. The use of a ring comes from the ancient custom of using a ring to seal an important agreement. When the wedding day is decided upon, the girl sends wedding announcements or invitations. Friends then send wedding gifts to the girl's home.

On the wedding day it is supposed to be bad luck for the bride and groom to see each other before the wedding. Another old superstition that many people believe will bring good luck to the marriage is for the bride to wear "something old, something new, something borrowed and something blue."
(from *Welcome to English*)

1. In addition to ... to country: 除各国制定的婚姻法律以外, 国与国之间的差异很大的婚姻习俗渐渐形成了。"that vary widely from country to country" 是定语从句, 修饰前面的 marriage customs. 2. anthropologist [ˌænθrəˈpɒlədʒɪst]: 人类学者, 人类学家 3. something old ... something blue: 某些旧衣服, 某些新衣服, 某些借来的衣服, 某些蓝色的衣服。这里 "something" 是代词, 在英语中, 修饰它的形容词一般放在它的后面。 4. once they meet ... their own mates: 他们一旦到了婚姻法规定的特定年龄, 并且通过了体格检查, 就可以自由选择他们的配偶。"meet" 在这里是 "达到、符合" 的意思。
(朱梅萍 选注)

JAMES DICKEY'S GLORY

James Dickey

In 1940 I was a senior in high school. My main sport was football, but my preference was really track.¹ I was a big strong animal who could run fast, and I gloried in this fact. My conference,² though I lived in Atlanta, was not the conference in which the big Atlanta high schools competed. I ran in the North Georgia Interscholastic Conference, or N.G.I.C.,³ as it was popularly known. The high-hurdles event,⁴ which was my specialty,⁵ was often held on grass, up the middle of a football field.⁶ This was the case at the 1940 N.G.I.C. meet. We qualified in the afternoon, all of us trying hard but not so hard as to tire ourselves out for the night's final.⁷ In the trials I lost to⁸ a fine hurdler from Canton, Georgia, and then went out with him, soaked with shower water, and got a cheeseburger.⁹ I felt that I had not run well, that my start¹⁰ had been bad, that I had not been able to get a good grip on the turf with my spikes,¹¹ that I had been too high over the hurdles,¹² that my finish had been poor. But my conqueror had set a new N.G.I.C. record, and he should have.

When I suited up¹³ for the finals, though I was ready, I felt that I had come to run. It was a cool night, and there were several hundred people in the stands,¹⁴ and when they called the hurdles final, a great many people were clustered about the finish line,¹⁵ where the tape glimmered with ghostly promise for the winner. I ran in the next lane¹⁶ from the boy from Canton. We shook hands: a new friendship, a fierce rivalry,¹⁷ for I knew he would give no quarter, and I knew damn well

1. track n.: 径赛。 2. conference n.: (运动)会。 3. N.G.I.C.: 北乔治亚州校际运动大会。 4. the high-hurdles event n.: 一百一十米高栏。 5. specialty n.: 专项。 6. up the middle of a football field: 在橄榄球场地中间。
7. final n.: 决赛。 8. lose to: 败给。 9. cheeseburger n.: 干酪面包。 10. start n.: 起跑。 11. get a good grip on the turf with my spikes: 我的钉鞋鞋钉抓地很牢。 12. be too high over the hurdles: 过栏时身体离栏太高(造成减速)。 13. suit up: 穿戴好(运动服, 鞋等)。 14. stands n.: 观众台。 15. be clustered about the finish line: (人群)聚集在终点线附近。 16. lane n.: 跑道。 17. a fierce rivalry: 一场激烈的争夺。(rivalry 有势均力敌的含义。)

that I wasn't planning to give any. We got down on the blocks.¹⁸ Before us was a great sea of grass, with faint line stripes from spring practice¹⁹ across it. I concentrated on getting as much pressure²⁰ on my legs as I could. I would try to get off²¹ well, though I was too big to hope for a really fast start. The gun cracked, and we were gone. I paid no attention to where anyone else was but concentrated on form²² and on picking up speed²³ between hurdles. But I could dimly sense the Canton boy. At the fifth hurdle I could tell that we were dead even.²⁴

The finish-line crowd was coming at us like a hurricane. I concentrated on staying low over the hurdles and made really good moves on the next three. I began to edge him by inches,²⁵ and by the next hurdles I thought that if I didn't hit the next two I'd make it.²⁶ I also said to myself, as I remember, don't play it safe.²⁷ Go low over the last stick, and then give it everything you've got up the final straight.²⁸

But I did hit the last hurdle. I hit it with the inner ankle of my left foot,²⁹ tearing the flesh to the bone, as I found out later, and the injury left a scar which I bear to this day. However, my frenzied momentum³⁰ was such that I won by a yard, careening wildly into the crowd after the tape broke around my neck. I smashed into the spectators³¹ and bowled over a little boy,³² hitting straight into his nose with my knee. He lay on the smoky grass crying, his nose bleeding, and I came back, blowing like a wounded stallion,³³ everybody congratulating me on a new N.G.I.C. record. But I went to the boy, raised him up in my arms, wiped the blood from his nose, tried to comfort him, and kissed him. That raising-up of an injured, unknown child was the greatest thing that I have ever gleaned from sports.

(from *the Reading Commitment*)

18. get down on the blocks: 做好起跑准备。 19. spring practice: 跳跃项目练习。 20. pressure n.: 后蹬力。 21. get off: 起跑。 22. form n.: 跑姿。 23. pick up speed: 加速。 24. be dead even: 相持不下, 不分上下。 25. edge him by inches: 一点一点地超越他。 26. make it: 取得胜利。 27. don't play it safe: 不要稳扎稳打。 28. the final straight n.: 最后一栏到终点的距离 (14.02米)。 29. the inner ankle of my left foot: 左脚内踝处。 30. my frenzied momentum: 我的强劲的冲力。 31. spectators n.: 观众。 32. bowled over a little boy: 急跑时撞倒了一个小男孩。 33. blowing like a wounded stallion: 象一正受伤的雄马大口喘着粗气。(高海原 选注)

Mrs. McWilliams and the Lightning

(Continued)

(cat meows loudly)

EVANGELINE Mortimer! What was that noise?

MORTIMER Only the cat. I stepped on its tail.

EVANGELINE The cat?

BERTHA Oh, Mama. Let's bring Smokey in here with us. He won't take up much room.

EVANGELINE If that cat comes in here I'm going out!¹³ Mortimer! Catch Smokey and put him down in the cellar. Cats are full of electricity.

(thunder)

MORTIMER All right, Evangeline.

BERTHA But Mama! Smokey hates the cellar!

EVANGELINE He likes to live, too. If he knows that's good for him he'll like the cellar for a few minutes.

(door open ... cat meows... door closes)

MORTIMER There.¹⁴ I've put Smokey in the cellar.

EVANGELINE Mortimer. Did you order that feather bed I asked you to?

MORTIMER I forgot. I'll do it the first thing in the morning.

EVANGELINE We'll all be dead in the morning! Your forgetfulness may cost your life! If you had a feather bed you could lie on it. You'd be perfectly safe.

MORTIMER I'm sorry.

EVANGELINE It's too late to be sorry.

(thunder)

MORTIMER That's the strangest thunder I ever heard. The lightning looks very odd, too. I'm going to open the curtains and look out the window.

EVANGELINE Don't you go near that window!¹⁵ How many times

13. If that cat ... going out! 如果猫上这里头来,我就出去: I'm going out 这个时态表示“即将发生”的动作,说明她态度坚决。 14. There: 行啦。和 well 一样, there 这个词常用来表示语气,意思要看上下文而定。另如 There, the work's done. (瞧,这事办完了。)

15. Don't you go near that window! 你不能靠近窗户。她在这个祈使句里用了 you, 很强调,真是声色俱厉。

do I have to tell you?

MORTIMER Very well.

EVANGELINE Bring me that book from the mantelpiece ... the big red one.

MORTIMER How can I tell if it's red?

EVANGELINE Don't worry about the color. It's the only book on the mantelpiece.

MORTIMER How are you going to read it?

EVANGELINE I'll light a candle.

MORTIMER But Evangeline, you just told me not to!

EVANGELINE In here where there are no windows it'll be perfectly safe. Give me the candle and some matches. I'll light it in here. Where's the book?

MORTIMER Here it is. What do you want the book for at a time like this?

EVANGELINE It's a science book. It tells what to do in a storm.

MORTIMER Why didn't you think of this before?

EVANGELINE Now listen to this and do what the book says.¹⁶
Bertha, you hold the candle for me so I can read.

BERTHA Yes, Mama.

EVANGELINE It says to stand on a chair in the middle of the room. The legs of the chair must be insulated. Get four water glasses, Mortimer. Hurry, before you get struck.

(thunder)

MORTIMER All right, Evangeline. I've got the chair legs in water glasses.

EVANGELINE I can't see this part too well. Hold the candle closer, Bertha. I *think* it says to keep something metal near you¹⁷ ... or does it say to keep metal things away from you? I'm not sure. Well, it seems reasonable to keep metal near you.

MORTIMER Evageline, I'm not sure about that.

EVANGELINE Put on your fireman's helmet, Mortimer. That'll be

16. Now listen to this... says: 你听着, 给我按书上说的去做。what the book says 这个从句在这里作动词 do 的宾语。 17. I *think* it says... near you: 我猜想, 书上说周围应该有点金属做的东西。something metal = something made of metal; 下一行的 metal things 意思相同 Mrs. McWilliams 不懂装懂, 其实水和金属最容易传电了。下面关于教堂钟楼应该敲钟这一点, 她也是瞎猜乱说。

just the thing!

MORTIMER All right, Evangeline. But it doesn't seem right to me.

EVANGELINE Do it anyway! The book says so. It also says it's dangerous not to ring the church bells.

MORTIMER *Not* to ring the church bells?

EVANGELINE It has something to do with the height of the church tower.

MORTIMER It does?

EVANGELINE Well, we don't have a church tower but we do have a dinner bell.¹⁸ Quick, Mortimer, get it. Now climb on the chair and put on your helmet. Now start ringing the bell.

MORTIMER Evangeline, this is going too far!

EVANGELINE Do as I say!

MORTIMER Very well, but I feel like a fool.

(bell begins ringing)

EVANGELINE Louder!

(thunder) (bell continues ringing)

MORTIMER *(shouting)* Is that loud enough?

EVANGELINE Ring the bell as loud as you can!

BERTHA Mother, my head is aching from all that noise.

(hanging on door)

EVANGELINE What's that?

(door opens ... bell stops ringing)

FRANK Mortimer McWilliams! What's going on here?

DICK What are you doing up there on that chair, Mortimer? At one o'clock in the morning? And why are you ringing that bell?

EVANGELINE Who is it, Mortimer? I hear voices.

MORTIMER It's Frank Watkins and Dick Freeman.

EVANGELINE What do they want?

FRANK We came to see what the noise was,¹⁹ Mrs. McWilliams.

DICK We thought someone might be in trouble here.

EVANGELINE We are in trouble. Don't you hear that thunder and see the lightning? Get inside and close the door before we all get

18. dinner bell: (招呼人们就餐的)吃饭铃(钟)。英美不少家庭现在仍然这么做。19. We came to see what the noise was: Frank 用了 came 和 was 这两个过去时形式,说明他当初决定来这里时的想法。这是英语里表示委婉口气的一个方式。下一句里 Dick 也用过去时,含意相同。

killed!

FRANK Thunder?

DICK Lightning?

EVANGELINE It's been going on for over an hour now.

MORTIMER Evangeline says that if you don't ring a bell the situation can be bad.

FRANK So that's why you're up there ringing a bell!

MORTIMER That's right.

DICK Well, I don't know what made you think there was a storm.

FRANK Open the curtains and look out. It's one of the clearest evenings we've had all year ... not a cloud in the sky.

EVANGELINE But we could see the lightning.

BERTHA And we heard the thunder.

DICK Well, that was the big cannon on the hill.

MORTIMER The cannon?

FRANK That's right. Garfield's been elected President of the United States.²⁰ We got the news at midnight. The boys are shooting the cannon to let everyone know.

EVANGELINE Well, I never would have thought of it! Mortimer, come down off that chair. Put the dinner bell away. You look ridiculous up there!

(from *Seven Plays from American Literature*,
adapted by George P. McCallum)

20. Garfield's been .. the United States: 卡菲尔德当选为美国总统了。Garfield's been=Garfield has been. 注意, President 一词前面不能加冠词。James Abram Garfield (1831—1881)是美国第二十任总统,被暗杀而死去。

(戚文生 译注)

麦克威廉斯太太和闪电(续)

(猫的尖叫声)

伊万娜琳 莫蒂默! 什么声音那么响

呀?

莫蒂默 猫叫唤。我踩着猫尾巴了。

伊万娜琳 猫叫唤?

伯莎 哦,妈妈,我们把斯基基弄到这里

头来,和我们在一块儿,占不了多大地方。

伊万娜琳 如果猫上这里头来,我就出去。莫蒂默,抓住猫,把它弄到地下室去。小猫全身都带电。

(雷声)

莫蒂默 好吧，伊万婕琳。

伯莎 可是，妈妈，斯莫基可不喜欢地下室了。

伊万婕琳 猫也愿意活着。如果它知道对它的好处，它就会喜欢在地下室呆几分钟的。

(开门声……猫叫声……关门声)

莫蒂默 行啦，我已经把斯莫基放到地下室里了。

伊万婕琳 莫蒂默，我要你订购的羽毛床垫你订购了吗？

莫蒂默 我忘记了。明天一早，我别的不干就先去订购。

伊万婕琳 明天早上，我们统统都死了！你的忘性这回可能要了你的命。如果你有羽毛床垫，你就可以躺在上面，那样就万无一失了。

莫蒂默 太遗憾了。

伊万婕琳 现在感到遗憾，太晚了。

(雷声)

莫蒂默 这种奇怪的雷声我从来没听到过。这种闪电看来也很特别。我要拉开窗帘，从窗户往外看看。

伊万婕琳 你不能靠近那窗子！我已经告诉你多少遍了，你还要去？

莫蒂默 好吧，好吧。

伊万婕琳 把壁炉台上……的那本大厚本红皮书给我拿来。

莫蒂默 我怎么分得清哪一本是红皮的呢？

伊万婕琳 别去管什么颜色。壁炉台上头只有那么一本书。

莫蒂默 你怎么看得了书呢？

伊万婕琳 我点蜡烛看书。

莫蒂默 可是，伊万婕琳，你刚才告诉我不能点灯火哇！

伊万婕琳 在衣柜里边，又没有窗户，点蜡十分安全。把蜡烛和火柴递给我。

我要在里头点上它。书给我拿来了吗？

莫蒂默 给你书。这种时候，你要书干什么用？

伊万婕琳 这是一本科技书，告诉我们发生暴风雨时怎么对付。

莫蒂默 你刚才怎么没有想起它来？

伊万婕琳 你听着，按书上说的去做。伯莎，你举着蜡烛照亮，我好看书。

伯莎 好的，妈妈。

伊万婕琳 书上说，把椅子放在屋子当中，然后站在椅子上头。椅子腿一定要绝缘。莫蒂默，拿四个喝水的玻璃杯来。快点，趁你还没有被雷电击中，快点拿来。

(雷声)

莫蒂默 好吧，伊万婕琳。我已经把椅子腿放在水杯里了。

伊万婕琳 我看不清楚这一段。伯莎，把蜡烛拿近点。我猜想，书上说周围应该有点金属做的东西……不对，书上说应该远离金属做的东西？我说不好。嗯，周围放有金属制品的办法，看来较为合理。

莫蒂默 我说这点不准对吧，伊万婕琳。

伊万婕琳 莫蒂默，把你那顶消防用的钢盔带上，正用得着这么个玩意儿。

莫蒂默 好吧，伊万婕琳。但是，我觉得这么办不对头。

伊万婕琳 无论如何，就这么办了。书上是这样说的。书上还说，如果不敲响教堂的钟，那也是危险的。

莫蒂默 你说什么来着？不敲教堂的钟？

伊万婕琳 因为，问题与教堂钟楼的高度有关。

莫蒂默 有关吗？

伊万婕琳 嗯，我们没有教堂的钟楼，可是我们倒有一个招呼吃饭用的铃铛。