

高等学校文科英语泛读教材



The Voice of Freedom  
Patrick Henry

# 自由声

(帕特里克·亨利传略)

外语教学与研究出版社

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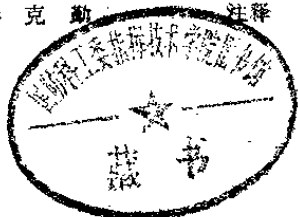
Patrick Henry

## 自由之声 (帕特里克·亨利传略)

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## 内 容 提 要

帕特里克·亨利(Patrick Henry, 1736—99)是美国爱国者和政治家,担任过弗吉尼亚州的州长(1776—79, 1784—89)。他是一位杰出的演说家,也是美国独立战争时期反抗英国统治的领袖之一。本书以简易的语言介绍了他的一生。现加上汉语注释出版,作为高等学校文科英语泛读教材之一,也可供其他学过1000左右单词的英语学习者阅读。

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# 1.

## The Boy Who Disliked School

The schoolmaster stood before the children in the old one-room school<sup>1</sup> and told them proudly, "Our new school supplies have arrived from England. Each one of you will now have something to write on<sup>2</sup>." He showed them the square slates<sup>3</sup> that had come from England. "Now," he continued, "I need some fishing-line to put through the holes in the slates, so that you can hang them around your necks."

The small sun-burned boy in the front row quickly tried to hide his fishing-line, but it was too late.

"Patrick," said the teacher, "give me that fishing-line."

Slowly the boy gave him the line and watched as the teacher cut it into short pieces. The fishing-line was gone. Patrick Henry<sup>4</sup> would pull no fish out of the Paumunkey River<sup>5</sup> this afternoon. Sadly, he closed his blue eyes.

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1 the...school: 只有一间教室的旧学堂。 2 have...on: 有个可以在上面写写划划的东西。 3 slate [sleɪt]: (书写用的)石板。 4 Patrick Henry ['pæ-rik 'henri]: 帕特里克·亨利(1736—99),北美独立战争时期群众领袖之一,政治家,杰出的演说家,“不自由,毋宁死”就是他的名言。 5 the Paumunkey [pau'munki] River: (美)波蒙吉河。

"Now," said the schoolmaster, after each child had received his slate, "find the answer to this problem:"

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Pat<sup>1</sup> made a sound as though he were in pain<sup>2</sup>, and rested his head in his hands.

"Patrick, why aren't you working?"

"It's useless."

"Useless?"

"When will I ever need to do a problem that looks like this<sup>3</sup>?"

"Mister Henry, you are a fool!" shouted the teacher, taking hold of<sup>4</sup> a stick and hitting the boy quickly across the legs.

Walking through the dry leaves on his way home, Pat thought of what a bad day in school it had been<sup>5</sup>. But every day was a bad day for him; he and the school did not like one another. But now that<sup>6</sup> he was in the forest, Pat began to feel more like his usual self. He stopped to look at the quick-moving stream of water called the Totopotomy<sup>7</sup>. This little river was named for a man Pat liked, Totopotomy, chief of the friendly Paumurkey Indians. He

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1 Pat [pi:t]: 帕特, 帕特里克的爱称。 2 as...pain: 他仿佛很苦恼似的。这句是虚拟语气, 所以用 he were。 3 When...this? 我什么时候需要解这种题呢? 4 take hold of: 抓住; 紧握住。 5 Pat...been: 帕特想到今天在学校里真不愉快, 其中 what...been 是 thought of 的宾语从句。 6 now that: 既然。 7 Totopotomy [tə'tɔ:pətəmi]: (美) 托托波托密(人名及小河名)。

had heard stories about boys caught by the Paumunkeys who, when they were free, did not want to go home. Pat could understand how they felt. They did not have to go to school; they lived in the fresh air, and went fishing and hunting. How wonderful that must be!

The gentle sounds of a bird singing could be heard through the trees. Pat looked up, and tried to make the same sound. Uncle Langloo had told him to try and learn the language of the birds, and he was trying. Pat wanted to be like his uncle in every way<sup>1</sup>. Langloo Winston<sup>2</sup> was a hunter who spent most of his time living with the Indians. He fished with them, talked with them, even dressed like them, and the Indians loved him.

When Patrick reached home, a young slave named Caesar<sup>3</sup> ran out to meet him. Pat gave him a friendly push, and both boys rolled in the red earth. Caesar's job was to serve Pat, but he was more friend than servant<sup>4</sup>. Even as a boy, Patrick Henry did not believe in such differences between men.

"Mister Patrick, here comes your father!" said Caesar.

"Patrick," said a loud voice. "Will you never learn any manners?"

"No, sir." Patrick's smile widened.

"Go into the house, boy, and do your school work for tomorrow. Life is nothing to laugh at, my young man."

1 Pat...way: 帕特想在各方面都模仿他大伯。 2 Langloo Winston  
[læŋlu: 'wɪnstən]: 兰路·温斯顿(人名)。 3 Caesar ['si:zə]: 西泽(人名)。  
4 but...servant: 他与其说是仆人,还不如说是朋友。



Patrick's father could not understand a son who disliked school. Mr. John Henry was a thoughtful, learned man with red hair who still spoke English as people do in Scotland. John Henry<sup>1</sup> and his brother, Patrick Henry, who was a minister and for whom young Pat was named<sup>2</sup>, had come from Scotland. They had been to college there, and to them learning was everything. John Henry knew every word of the Bible, the book of the Christian religion. He enjoyed work and spoke little, and he could not understand a son who worked little and loved to talk.

When John Henry came from Scotland, he went to live in the American colony of Virginia<sup>3</sup> with a cousin named John Syme<sup>4</sup>. Syme died, and John Henry married his wife, a happy young woman named Sarah Winston<sup>5</sup>, who became Pat's mother. Mr. Henry was very well liked and honored<sup>6</sup>, and had a high position in the colonial army of Virginia.

Everyone said Patrick was like his mother, Sarah Winston, a delightful, musical and gay person. The Winstons had come from Wales, in the western part of England. They loved to talk and enjoy the good things of life but had no special desire for work.

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1 John Henry ['dʒɒn 'henri]: 约翰·亨利(人名)。 2 for...named: 小帕特的名字就是按他的名字取的。 3 American colony of Virginia: 美洲弗吉尼亚殖民地(1607年约翰·史密斯船长等在詹姆斯敦登陆后在美洲建立的第一个英国殖民地,美国独立后,于1788年为美国的第十州)。 4 John Syme ['dʒɒn 'saim]: 约翰·赛默(人名)。 5 Sarah Winston ['sɜrə 'wɪnstən]: 萨拉·温斯顿(人名)。 6 Mr....honored: 亨利先生深受人们的爱戴和尊敬。

Studley<sup>1</sup>, the Henry home, was a stone house with shady trees all around it. For a young boy growing up<sup>2</sup>, there were many fields where he could run and many children with whom he could play.

Pat grew up with his seven sisters, who all thought he was wonderful. His two brothers, William<sup>3</sup> and John, were sometimes unkind to the girls, but Pat was always ready to help them. For one important reason, Patrick almost wished he had been born a girl<sup>4</sup>. In the colony of Virginia, girls were not allowed to go to school. Few of the women or slaves could read or write. Pat would have been happy to have their kind of life.

Pat's home was a Christian one, and it taught him many of the values of life. But from his schooling, he learned little. When he was in school, he spent most of his time thinking of ways to play. Patrick's mother and father did not know what to do with him. His father would hit him at times<sup>5</sup> and ask God's help in dealing with<sup>6</sup> the boy. Pat would play music to forget his troubles. One day, Patrick went to find Caesar. "Come, Caesar, we're running away."

"Where are we going, Mister Pat?"

"I don't like this gentleman's<sup>7</sup> life. Go and get the fishing things and some food. I'll get the guns. But be sure

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1 Studley ['studleɪ]: 斯图德雷(美地名). 2 for...up: 对一个正在成长的小男孩说来. 3 William ['wɪljəm]: 威廉(人名). 4 Patrick...a girl: 帕特里奇真想自己生下来是个姑娘就好了. 5 at times: 有时, 偶尔. 6 deal with: 对待, 处理. 7 gentleman ['dʒentlmən]: 绅士, 出身高贵的男人.

that no one sees you.”

The boys were gone two weeks, two wonderful weeks without wearing their shoes, changing their clothes, or washing their faces. They would swim in the cool rivers, and sleep beside a fire under a sky bright with stars.

One day while they were sitting under a tree, fishing, Patrick said, “You know what I think, Caesar?”

“What, Mister Pat?”

“Listen, don’t call me Mister out here in the forest, Caesar. I think there’s more than one way to learn<sup>1</sup>.”

“Yes, Mist—oh—Brother Pat.”

“We’ve learned many things out here, Caesar, following the marks left by the animals, and living from what we find on the land. I wish we could live in the forest forever. I’d like to find my way west, walking toward a golden sunset every evening, and listening to the cries of the wild animals in the black of night.”

“Oh, Pat, you can really talk. Your words are like gold.”

Pat threw himself on the ground and laughed. Warm sunlight came through the leaves and made little dark spots on his face. “I like silence, too. Sometimes I listen to my thoughts turning quietly in my head.”

“Do you want me to leave, so that they can turn around now<sup>2</sup>?”

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<sup>1</sup> I think...learn; 我想学习的方法绝不止一种。 <sup>2</sup> so...now? 以便现在让思潮起伏么? they 指上文 thoughts.

"No, come, we have to start going home. Father will be very angry with us, but it's been worth it<sup>1</sup>."

Mr. Henry was indeed very angry with the boys, and Mrs. Henry thought religion might help her son. She took Patrick to church with her to hear Samuel Davies<sup>2</sup> who was considered to be a very good speaker.

"How many of us," shouted Davies at the top of his voice<sup>3</sup>, "cry peace, peace to our hearts, when there is no peace!"

Patrick, the unhappy schoolboy who wanted to be left alone to enjoy the peace of nature<sup>4</sup>, thought those words wonderful. On the way home, Mrs. Henry asked Pat what Mr. Samuel Davies had said. She was surprised to learn that the boy was able to speak like Mr. Davies, and that he remembered everything that had been said.

John Henry talked with his brother about the problem of Patrick. "This boy of mine is part wild," he said. "I don't know what to do with him, and neither does the schoolmaster."

"Your boy is no fool, John. He has an unusually good mind<sup>5</sup> and notices and remembers everything. Give him time."

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1 but it's been worth it: 但那也值了。it's=it has. 2 Samuel Davies ['sæmjʊəl 'deivɪs]: 塞缪尔·戴维斯(人名)。 3 at the top of one's voice: 用自己最大的声音。 4 who...nature: (他)想单独呆着享受自然的宁静。 5 your boy...mind: 你的孩子一点也不笨,他有着异乎寻常的见解。 be no fool: 语气(很重,意思是很聪明。

But soon everyone felt that he had been given enough time, and at the age of<sup>1</sup> ten, Patrick Henry left school forever. This was a great pleasure to both Patrick and the school.

John Henry decided that his son would be taught at home, and his brother, Patrick Henry, came on horseback from Slash<sup>2</sup> Church to help him. With hard work they taught the boy to read and count, and even to enjoy Latin, the language spoken centuries ago by the people of Italy<sup>3</sup>. Patrick continued to enjoy Latin all his life. Mr. Patrick Henry also gave the young boy rules to guide him in life, most of which came from the writings of the Church of England. Fifty years later, Patrick still remembered every word without looking at the book.

By the time<sup>4</sup> Patrick was 14, John and Sarah Henry were certain their son would never be successful in life. He had given no sign by word or action that he was able to advance in the world. They need not have been concerned<sup>5</sup>. Of the 11 Henry children, ten of them were good and simple people; but one, for some unknown reason, seemed to have wings that would one day carry him to great heights.

At about the same time, the Henry family moved to Mount Brilliant<sup>6</sup>, a large home in the western part of Hano-

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1 at the age of: 在……岁时。 2 Slash [slæʃ]: 斯拉什(美地名)。

3 Latin, ... Italy 拉丁语,这是几个世纪前意大利人民讲的语言。 4 by the time: 到……时。 5 They...concerned: 他们本来就不必操心。 6 Mount Brilliant ['briljənt]: (美)宝石山。

ver<sup>1</sup>. It was a journey to be remembered, for the Henrys took all day to travel the 120 miles.

Mount Brilliant was built on high ground, and the forests all around were filled with animals to hunt. It was a good place to delight the heart of a boy like Pat, but Mr. Henry had other plans for his son.

"The time has come for you to work, my boy," said Mr. Henry. "I have spoken with Mr. Tate<sup>2</sup>, and you will work in his store. Please try to do yourself honor<sup>3</sup>."

In the beginning, Mr. Tate thought the young boy was good at the job. Pat was quick to learn, and he always remembered prices. But one day, Mr. Tate left Pat alone in the store. When he returned, he stopped in the doorway, greatly surprised. Pat was busy talking to two men who had come from a distant part of the colony of Virginia. Although a lady was in the store waiting for Pat to serve her, Pat did not see or hear her. His eyes were large as he listened to the lively stories of the Indians and the French.

Mr. Tate could stand still no longer<sup>4</sup>. He sold the lady and the men what they wanted, and then said a few words to Pat about his duties. That night, Mr. Tate went to see Pat's father.

"Mr. Henry," he said, "I'm sorry to have to tell you that Pat must leave the store. The boy can sell, there's no

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1 Hanover ['hænoʊvə] 汉诺佛(美地名).    2 Tate [teɪt]: 塔特(人名).

3 Please...honor: 你务必要争口气.    4 no longer: 不再.

doubt about that<sup>1</sup>. But he can also talk. And when he starts talking, he doesn't even see the buyers. In my business, you can only do this kind of thing once."

Sadly, Mr. Henry agreed with him. Patrick was a problem, although not as bad as his older brother, William. John Henry decided to take the small amount of money he had saved and buy his sons a store of their own. Perhaps if it were theirs, they would learn a sense of duty.

The Henry brothers opened their store. It had a pleasant view, indeed so pleasant, that Patrick had difficulty thinking about work. He sat for hours in the dark, airless room, wishing he could be out in the bright sunshine. If the days were too beautiful, the brothers would close the store, leaving behind a sign which read: GONE HUNTING.

In the store, day after day, Pat weighed sugar and measured cloth. Brother Willie<sup>2</sup> was little help. Patrick kept a note book in which he wrote the price of everything he had sold, and he was careful with his handwriting. But the words were often written wrong. There is no doubt that he tried his best, but too many things were against him.

Sometimes, during store hours, Pat's lively and happy character was too much for him to control<sup>3</sup>. He would jump on Willie, and the next buyer who appeared at the door found the young owners of the store rolling on the floor,

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<sup>1</sup> there's no doubt about that: 这是没有什么疑问的。      <sup>2</sup> Willie ['wili]: 威利, 威廉的爱称。      <sup>3</sup> too...to...: 太……以致不能……

enjoying a playful fight<sup>1</sup>.

The country store, in colonial times, was where people met their friends. It was a place where people would gather to talk about what was happening in town and in the colony. Before Pat's wooden tables, a thousand scenes were acted, and a thousand stories told.

If the buyers were gay and full of talk, Patrick listened very carefully. If they were slow and quiet, he knew how to make them talk. He liked to hear different opinions, and if those who disagreed started a fight, that was even better<sup>2</sup>. Pat's cousin, George Dabney<sup>3</sup>, told Mr. Henry, "Your son knows how to get everyone's opinion without making known what he thinks<sup>4</sup>. He sounds like a real lawyer."

"Sounds like he is throwing away valuable time<sup>5</sup>," said Mr. Henry.

At dinner, Pat made everyone laugh by talking like the people who came to buy from his store. He could make people laugh, but he was never unkind. Like his mother, he was kind and gentle.

On stormy days, when the store was quiet, Patrick enjoyed playing his music. To his own surprise, he also began to enjoy reading. He read a great number of books, especially

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1 enjoying a playful fight: 打闹着玩。 2 and...better: 如果那些人因意见不同而动起武来,那才更好哩。 3 George Dabney [dʒo:ʤ 'dæbni]: 乔治·达布尼(人名)。 4 Your son...thinks: 你儿子有办法掏出别人的看法,而瞒住自己的想法。 make known 意为“表示,发表”。 what he thinks 是 making known 的宾语。 5 Soundst...time: 他似乎在浪费宝贵的时光,前边省掉了主语 it。



history, but when people came into the store, he quickly put the books under the table. He did not want anyone to think he was trying to make himself seem more important than they.

There was always much interesting talk when Uncle Langloos visited the store. One day, he came in and said, "There's going to be trouble, Pat, my boy. The French plan to control the Ohio Valley, and we Virginians are not going to allow it."

"What will you do, Uncle Langloos?"

"Fight."

"Who will be your leader? The French, with Indian help, will be very strong."

"There's a young landowner, a big man with a good mind. Everyone likes him, but I forget his name. He lives at a place called Mount Vernon<sup>1</sup>." The man whose name Uncle Langloos could not remember was George Washington<sup>2</sup>.

Pat wished he could go west with Langloos and leave his store forever. Slowly but surely, the Henry Brothers' store lost money; Mr. Henry soon realized that his son Patrick was no better in the store than he had been at school. "Patrick," he said sadly, "you will never be anything but a failure<sup>3</sup>."

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1 Mount Vernon [maunt 'vɜ:nən] (美) 芒特弗农 (位于弗吉尼亚州北部, 首都华盛顿南 21 公里处, 为华盛顿的出生地和墓地)。 2 George Washington ['dʒɔ:ʤ 'wɔʃɪŋtən]: 乔治·华盛顿 (1732—1799), 北美独立战争时, 革命军总司令, 美国第一任总统 (1789—1797)。 3 you...failure: 你将一事无成。