

英汉对照

幽默故事精选

第一集

SELECTIONS
FROM
ENGLISH HUMOROUS STORIES



金盾出版社



ISBN 7-5082-0901-X



9 787508 209012 >



ISBN 7-5082-0901-X

G·329 定价:7.00元

英汉对照幽默故事精选

第一集

SELECTIONS FROM ENGLISH HUMOROUS STORIES

袁行桢 张 鑫 一 兵 编译

金 盾 出 版 社

内 容 提 要

本书从英美当今流行的大量幽默故事中,精选出 58 则诙谐有趣、耐人寻味的故事,配以译文、注释、插图和练习题及答案,供大、中学生和英语自学者课外阅读。

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

英汉对照幽默故事精选 第 1 集/袁行桀等编译. —北京:
金盾出版社, 2000. 4

ISBN 7-5082-0901-X

I. 英… II. 袁… III. 故事-对照读物-英、汉 IV.
H319.4:I

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(1999)第 01486 号

金盾出版社出版、总发行

北京太平路 5 号(地铁万寿路站往南)

邮政编码:100036 电话:68214039 68218137

传真:68276683 电挂:0234

封面印刷:北京 3209 工厂

正文印刷:北京 2207 工厂

各地新华书店经销

开本:787×1092 1/32 印张:6 字数:160 千字

2000 年 4 月第 1 版第 1 次印刷

印数:1—21000 册 定价:7.00 元

(凡购买金盾出版社的图书,如有缺页、
倒页、脱页者,本社发行部负责调换)

前 言

奉献给读者的这本书是编者选辑的当今英美流传较广的精彩幽默故事。英美国家很重视人的幽默感。一个政治家,如果他的演说没有风趣,缺乏语言的幽默感,会被认为是低水平的政治家而得不到选民的信任。许多普通人的谈话也富有幽默的情趣。这可以说是英美国家文化的重要特色。因此许多英语阅读和听力练习材料中都有幽默题材。

这本书的内容看起来都是小笑话。但不要小看它们,这些笑话往往寓意深刻,能反映社会生活中的重要问题。书中有对政客谎言的揭露;有对官僚作风的鞭挞;有对愚昧、贪婪、狡诈的批评与讽刺。由于幽默故事本身具有矛盾突出、形象生动、语言风趣、手法夸张等特点,因而能给人留下深刻的印象,使读者在被逗乐的同时,受到启迪。

本书每个故事除有译文外,还有注释。注释不仅针对生词和短语,也包括对必要的社会文化背景知识的介绍。每个故事后面设有练习,目的是帮助读者掌握难懂的词汇和句子,理解故事的寓意。每个故事均配有插图,对理解故事能起到画龙点睛的作用。

本书是一本集知识性和趣味性于一体的英语课外读物,希望它对学习英语的朋友们有所帮助。

袁行桢
2000年1月

目 录

1. A Check Given to a Dead (1)
冥国支票
2. A Russian Baby Will Speak Russian (5)
俄国小孩天生说俄语
3. The Sun Wouldn't Be Hot at Night (7)
晚上的太阳不热
4. A Message to the Moon (9)
带到月球的口信
5. A Wonderful Medicine for Hearing Problem (12)
治听力障碍的良药
6. The Secret of Success (14)
成功的秘诀
7. Brave Volunteer Firemen (17)
逼上梁山
8. "New Mexico, Old Mexico" (20)
新老墨西哥
9. A Pair of Jeans Weighing 200 Pounds (22)
一条两百磅重的牛仔裤
10. The Rabbit's Dissertation (24)
兔子的博士论文
11. Lettres to God (29)
给上帝的信

12. A False Friend (32)
舍人救己
13. "Danger! Beware of Dog!" (34)
“危险！当心狗！”
14. "You'll Forget." (36)
对老人不用保密
15. "He Does Not Know Who He Is." (38)
“他不知道他是谁。”
16. A False Alarm (41)
一场虚惊
17. Parking a Car in a Bank (44)
百万富翁的小算盘
18. "B" Is Silent (47)
“B”不发音
19. Fishing with Magnet (50)
用磁铁钓鱼
20. A Mobile Mailbox (53)
流动信箱
21. Driving with a Goat (56)
带着山羊开车
22. Turning off the Big Fan (59)
关掉直升飞机的大电扇
23. "You Are Not the Flight Instructor?" (62)
“你不是飞行教员？”
24. A Hi-tech Watch (65)
高科技手表
25. "What Were You Stealing?" (68)

- “你一直在偷什么?”
26. A Wonderful Remedy (71)
回春有术
27. A Spider without Legs (73)
无腿蜘蛛
28. Every Mother's Child Is Handsome (76)
谁的儿谁夸
29. Follow One's Father (79)
父行子效
30. An Irrefutable Evidence (83)
铁案如山
31. Five Doctors' Reactions (87)
五个医生的反应
32. An Expert in Squeezing (90)
榨油水的能手
33. The First Class Cabin Doesn't Go to New York ... (93)
头等舱不去纽约
34. A Banker's Collateral (96)
银行家的抵押品
35. Leola's Revenge (99)
伦纳的报复
36. It's Hard to Wear Glasses with No Ears (104)
没有耳朵戴不了眼镜
37. Wise Counsel (108)
锦囊妙计
38. We Are Both Reduced to Poverty (111)
同是天涯沦落人

39. Mercy Killing	(115)
安乐死	
40. An Awful Haircut	(119)
发理得这么难看	
41. A Goalkeeper's Instinct	(124)
守门员的本能	
42. Politicians' Lie	(129)
政客谎言	
43. From Bad to Worse	(131)
一蟹不如一蟹	
44. The Game Is Not Worth the Candle	(133)
得不偿失	
45. Tom's ID	(135)
汤姆的身份证	
46. A Phone Call of a Patient	(137)
一个病人打来的电话	
47. A Parrot's Answer	(139)
鹦鹉的回答	
48. The Principal Not Willing to Go to the School	(141)
不愿去学校的校长	
49. She Wouldn't Jump a Second Time	(143)
她不会跳第二次	
50. "What's Time to a Pig?"	(145)
“对猪来说时间算得了什么呢?”	
51. Guns Buried in the Garden	(148)
埋在菜园中的枪	
52. The Wrong Leg!	(150)

好腿被截	
53. Cat Scan	(152)
猫咪检查	
54. It's Better to Drink Whisky	(154)
还是喝威士忌好	
55. A Diver from Above	(156)
天降奇兵	
56. Pay Him in His Own Coin	(159)
以其人之道还治其人之身	
57. Climb a Tree to Catch Fish	(162)
缘木求鱼	
58. Height, Not Length	(165)
是高度, 不是长度	
Answers	(167)

1. A Check Given to a Dead

As Mr. Smith was on his deathbed¹, he attempted to formulate² a plan that would allow him to take at least some of his considerable wealth with him. He called for the three men he trusted most: his lawyer, his doctor, and his clergyman³. He told them, "I'm going to give you each \$ 30,000 in cash before I die. At my funeral, I want you to place the money in my coffin⁴ so that I can try to take it with me." All three agreed to do this and were given the money.

At the funeral, each approached the coffin in turn⁵ and placed an envelope inside. While riding in the limousine⁶ to the cemetery, the clergyman said "I have to confess⁷ something to you fellows. Brother⁸ Smith was a good churchman⁹ all his life, and I know he would have wanted me to do this. The church needed a new baptistry¹⁰ very badly, and I took \$ 10,000 of the money he gave me and bought one. I only put \$ 20,000 in the coffin."

The physician then said, "Well, since we're confiding in¹¹ one another, I might as well¹² tell you that I didn't put the full \$ 30,000 in the coffin either. Smith had a disease that could have been diagnosed¹³ sooner if I had that very new machine, but the machine cost \$ 20,000 and I couldn't afford it then. I used \$ 20,000 of the money to buy the machine so that I might be able to save other patients. I know that Smith would have wanted me to do that."

The lawyer then said, “ I ’ m ashamed of both of you. When I put my envelope into that coffin, it held my personal check for the full \$ 30,000. ”



冥国支票

临终前,史密斯先生躺在床上,试图构想出某个方案,使得他死后至少能带走他那可观的财富的一小部分。他叫来他最信任的三个人——他的律师,医生和牧师。他对他们说:“我死前,将给你们每人三万美元现金。我想让你们在我的葬礼上,把钱放进我的棺木里,那样,我就可以想办法带上它们。”三人都愿意做此事,于是都得到了那笔钱。

在葬礼上,三人依次走到史密斯先生的棺木前,把一个信封放到里面。坐在去墓地的豪华轿车里,牧师说道:“我必须要向你们忏悔。在整个一生中,史密斯教友一直是位好教徒,我想他一定愿意让我做这样一件事的。教堂非常需要一个新的洗礼池,于是我从他给我的钱中,拿了一万美元买了一个洗礼池。在棺木中我只放了两万美元。”

医生接下来说:“好吧,看来我们是在相互坦白,我还是告诉你们实情吧,我也没把三万美元全部放进棺木里。史密斯患的病本来可用一

种新式仪器早一点诊断出来,但我当时没有,因为那部仪器要花两万美元,我买不起。为了将来我能够拯救其他病人的生命,我用了两万美元买了那部仪器。我知道史密斯一定会乐意让我做这件事的。”

律师接着说:“我为你们俩人感到羞耻。当我把信封放进棺木时,那只信封里装的是我足额开具的一张三万美元的个人支票。”

(译者注:支票的持票人未在规定的日期到银行兑现,该支票作废。)

注释:

1. deathbed n. 临终床
2. formulate vt. 规划(制度等),构想出(计划,方法等)
3. clergyman n. (英国国教会的)牧师
4. coffin n. 棺材,灵柩
5. in turn 依次地,轮流地
6. limousine n. (司机座与后座以玻璃隔开的)豪华轿车
7. confess vt. 坦白,(宗教)忏悔
8. brother n. 修士,男会友
9. churchman n. [英](某一国家的)国教教徒
10. baptistry n. 洗礼堂,洗礼池
11. confide in 吐露,告知(心事,私事)
12. might as well 倒不如,(满)可以
13. diagnose vi. 诊断

Decide whether each of the following statements is true or false based on the passage. Then write T or F after each statement.

1. Mr. Smith was planning how to take some of his wealth with him after death.

2. He called for three men he trusted most and discussed with them how to fulfill his plan.

3. Mr. Smith was going to give the three men altogether \$ 30,000 in cash and asked them to put the money into his coffin at his funeral.

4. Both the clergyman and the physician used some of the money and

place only \$ 20,000 in the coffin separately.

5. The physician used \$ 20,000 to buy a new machine to diagnose Mr. smith's disease.

6. The lawyer was the most cunning and the greediest of the three because he only put a check nobody would cash.

2. A Russian Baby Will Speak Russian

A couple was delighted when finally their long wait to adopt a baby came to an end. The adoption center called and told them they had a wonderful Russian baby boy, and the couple took him without hesitation.

On the way home from the adoption center, they stopped by the local college so they each could enroll¹ in night courses. After they filled out² the form, the registration³ clerk inquired, "What ever⁴ possessed⁵ you to study Russian?" The couple said proudly, "We just adopted a Russian baby and in a year or so he'll start to talk. We just want to be able to understand him".



俄国小孩天生说俄语

一对夫妇十分高兴,他们为领养一个婴儿的漫长的等待终于结束

了。婴儿领养中心打电话告诉他们,中心有一个非常好的俄国男婴。这对夫妇毫不犹豫地同意领养这个男婴。

在从领养中心回家的路上,他们在一所当地的学院门前停下,以便报名参加晚间课程。他们填完表格后,报名登记处的人员询问道:“究竟什么使你们对学习俄语着迷呢?”这对夫妇得意地说:“我们刚刚认领了一个俄国男婴。再过一年左右他就该开始说话了,我们想到时能够听懂他说话。”

注释:

1. enroll 注册,入学
2. fill out 填写
3. registration n. 注册,登记
4. ever adv. [用于特殊疑问句]究竟,到底
5. possess vt. 支配,控制,迷住

Decide whether each of the following statements is true or false based on the passage. Then write T or F after each statement.

1. The couple was delighted when they decided to adopt a baby.
2. The couple was delighted when there was a baby to adopt.
3. The couple had no hesitation in adopting a Russian baby.
4. The couple hesitated about whether to adopt a Russian baby.
5. The couple was going to study Russian in a local college.
6. The couple was very stupid because they thought they would never learn Russian.
7. The couple was very stupid because they thought a Russian baby speaks Russian by birth.

3. The Sun Wouldn't Be Hot at Night

Three astronauts¹, a Russian, an American and one from another country are arguing about who's the best.

The Russian: We are the best. We were the first in space.

The American: No, no. We are the best. We were the first to put a man on the moon.

The third one: No, no, gentlemen. We are the best. We are planning to land on the Sun.

The other two: But... but... you can't do that. The Sun's too hot.

The third one: But we thought of² that too. We're going to do it at night.

