

英汉对照

# 幽默故事精选

第三集

SELECTIONS  
FROM  
ENGLISH HUMOROUS STORIES



金盾出版社

# 英汉对照幽默故事精选

## 第三集

### SELECTIONS FROM ENGLISH HUMOROUS STORIES

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## 内 容 提 要

本书由解放军外语学院英语系教师从英美流行的幽默故事中,筛选出 58 则幽默有趣、寓意深刻、语言地道而又通俗易懂的故事,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阅读。

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# 前言

幽默的目的是给人带来欢乐,令人发笑。笑是一种审美效果。凭借幽默,我们可以笑代替苦恼,以轻松愉悦的心情排除生活与工作中的紧张和焦虑。

人世间充满了幸福和欢乐,但也存在许多矛盾,如好与坏、美与丑、善与恶、爱与恨、真与假,等等。这便为幽默的产生提供了必要的条件。当人们利用幽默来处理矛盾和不协调现象时,笑也就产生了。

幽默的种类繁多,有滑稽的、荒诞的、不协调的和出人意料。幽默的表现形式也灵活多样,有双关语、俏皮话、讽刺、夸张、格言警句、打油诗、轶事、荒诞故事,等等。

幽默是一种智慧的表现。在西方社会,评判一个人的重要标准之一是看其是否具有幽默感。人们一般愿意和具有幽默感的人在一起。例如,学生希望老师富有幽默感,聆听其讲课如沐春风;孩子们喜欢与有幽默感的父母相伴,在其熏陶下,他们有可能性情活泼,体魄健壮;雇员喜欢为有幽默感的老板工作,因为彼此之间容易缩短距离。善于幽默的人总是充满生机与活力。无论是平民百姓,还是叱咤风云的政治人物都可利用幽默来改善自我形象,增添个人魅力,融洽与他人的关系。

本集选编的幽默故事涉及英美社会的许多方面,如政治、宗教、商业、教育、娱乐和日常生活等等。故事中描绘了各类人物,上至国家总统,下至平民百姓,还有虔诚的牧师、狡诈的商人、愚蠢的醉汉以及幼稚的学童。这些故事语言地道、幽默

生动、寓意深刻、通俗易懂,而且具有较强的时代气息。我们相信这些幽默故事可帮助读者增进对英美社会的了解,扩大英语词汇量,激发学习英语的兴趣。同时,我们也希望这本小册子能为培养和增强您的幽默感作出一点贡献。

李经纬

(现任解放军外语学院英语系教授)

2001 年 3 月

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## 1. Gone Hunting

Linda was never fun to have around<sup>1</sup> as a child, so her mother used to ship her off<sup>2</sup> to various relatives for the summer. One summer, Linda was visiting an uncle in the country where, to try to keep her entertained<sup>3</sup>, he made a suggestion: "Why don't you grab a rifle<sup>4</sup>, take the dogs and go shooting?"

Linda, being something of a tomboy<sup>5</sup>, was delighted. So, with enthusiasm<sup>6</sup>, off she went toward the woods, gun on her shoulder, dogs trailing<sup>7</sup> behind.

In a couple of hours Linda returned, all smiles. Her uncle looked up and said: "Did you enjoy yourself?"

"It was great!" exclaimed Linda. "Got any more dogs?"



## 去 狩 猎

有琳达这样一个孩子在身边可不是件快乐的事,所以过去她母亲常打发她到亲戚家过暑假。有一年夏天,琳达去看住在乡下的叔叔。为了使她高兴,叔叔向她建议:“你何不拿枝枪,带上狗出去打猎?”

有些男孩子气的琳达听了此话很高兴。于是,她热情满怀地扛着枪带着狗到树林里去了。

几个小时之后,琳达回来了,满脸笑容。她叔叔望着她问:“玩得开心吗?”

琳达兴奋地说:“好极了,你还有狗吗?”

### 注释:

1. have somebody around 有某人在身边
2. ship somebody off 指派;打发某人
3. entertain v. 使快乐;招待
4. rifle n. 步枪
5. tomboy n. 假小子,顽皮姑娘
6. enthusiasm n. 热情
7. trail v. 跟踪

### 练习:

A. Answer the questions:

- (1) Why did the mother send Linda to various relatives?
- (2) Whom was Linda visiting one summer?
- (3) What was the suggestion of the uncle to Linda?
- (4) Did Linda enjoy herself? And why?

B. Which words or phrases in the story mean:

- (1) put forward a proposal
- (2) follow
- (3) have a good time
- (4) say with strong feelings

## 2. I'm No Quitter<sup>1</sup>!

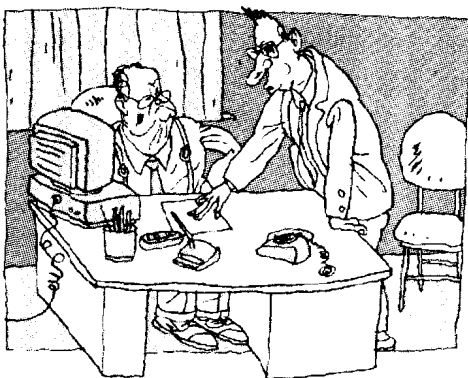
A guy walks into the human resources department of a large company and hands the executive his application. The executive<sup>2</sup> begins to scan<sup>3</sup> the sheet, and notices that the applicant<sup>4</sup> has been fired from every job he has ever held.

"I must say," says the executive, "your work history is terrible. You've been fired from every job."

"Yes," says the man.

"Well," continues the executive, "there's not much positive<sup>5</sup> in that."

"Hey!" says the guy as he pokes<sup>6</sup> the application. "At least I'm not a quitter."



## 我不是个轻易放弃工作的人

有个人走进一家大公司的人力资源部,向总管递上求职申请。总管浏览了他的申请表,发现这个申请人以前每次都是被解雇而失去工作的。

于是,他说:“我不得不说你的工作经历很糟糕。你每次都是被解雇的。”

“是的,”这个人承认道。

“嗨,”总管接着说,“这可对你不太有利。”

“嘿,”这个家伙用手指戳着申请表说,“至少,我不是个轻易放弃工作的人。”

### 注释:

1. quitter n. 轻易放弃工作的人,半途而废的人
2. executive n. 执行者,经理主管人员
3. scan v. 浏览,扫描
4. applicant n. 申请人
5. positive adj. 肯定的,正面的
6. poke v. (用手指、肘等)碰,触,戳

### 练习:

A. Answer the questions:

- (1) What does the applicant give to the executive?
- (2) What does the executive do with the sheet?
- (3) What does the executive notice?
- (4) What does the guy say when the executive tells him about his work history?

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

- (1) small (2) end (3) hire (4) good
- (5) negative (6) at most

### 3. Who Is God?

A little boy walks up to his father and asks him a question,  
“Dad, is God a man or a woman?”

Father answered, “Both, son, both.”

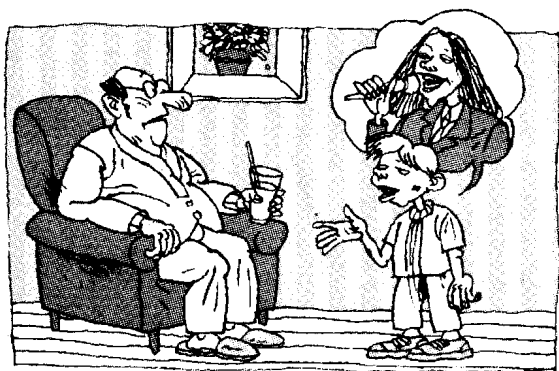
After a short while<sup>1</sup> the boy comes back.

“Dad, is God black or white?”

Father says, after thinking for a short while, “Both, son, both.”

After another wait, the boy comes back again.

“Dad, is Michael Jackson<sup>2</sup> God?”



### 谁是上帝？

一个小男孩走到父亲跟前，问：“爸，上帝是男人还是女人？”

父亲答道：“是男的也是女的，儿子，两者都是。”

过了一会儿,小男孩又过来,问:“爸,上帝是白人还是黑人?”

父亲思索了片刻后,答道:“两种都是,儿子,是白人也是黑人。”

又过了一会儿,小男孩又过来,问:“爸,迈克尔·杰克逊是上帝吗?”

**注释:**

1. after a short while 一会儿之后

2. Michael Jackson 迈克尔·杰克逊 (美国黑人歌星,做过整容手术,长得不黑,长发)

**练习:**

Answer the questions:

(1) What does the father think the god is?

(2) Who is made fun of in this story?



## 4. The Custody<sup>1</sup> of the Children

The scene<sup>2</sup> was a tiny mountain village in a remote<sup>3</sup> section of West Virginia. An old mountaineer<sup>4</sup> and his young wife were getting a divorce<sup>5</sup> in the local court. But custody of the children was a problem. The mother jumped to her feet and protested<sup>6</sup> to the judge that since she had brought the children into this world, she should retain<sup>7</sup> custody of them.

The old mountaineer also wanted custody of the children. The judge asked for his side of the story and, after a long moment of silence, the mountaineer slowly rose from his chair and replied, "Judge, when I put a dollar in a candy machine and a candy bar comes out, does it belong to me or the machine?"

