

ENGLISH SIDE READERS FOR HIGH
SCHOOLS AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS

高中、高職英文輔助讀物

402

MAUPASSANT



莫泊桑小說選

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SCHOOLS AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS**

MAUPASSANT

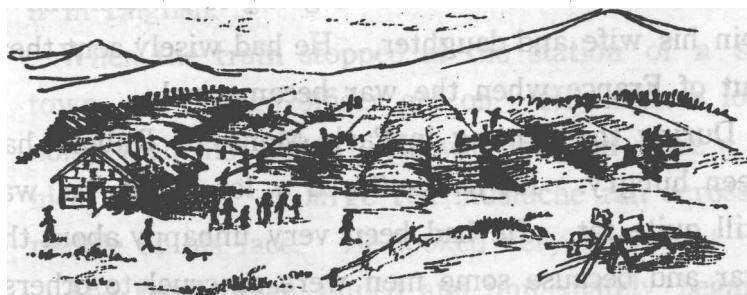
CONTENTS

A DUEL 1

Exercise.....12

TWO FRIENDS.....14

Exercise.....29



A DUEL

The war was over. The Prussians were now ruling France. France was on its back like a beaten fighter.

The first trains from Paris were going out into the country very slowly. They went through villages that had been burned. A few houses still remained. At the door of each of those houses there was a Prussian soldier, sitting in a chair and smoking a pipe. Other soldiers walked around. Even though the train made a lot of noise, the passengers could hear Prus-

Prussian ['prʌʃən] 普魯士人(普魯士是德國北部的舊王國)。 on its back 仰臥(意指失敗)。 like a beaten fighter 像一名被擊倒的鬥士。 smoke a pipe 抽煙斗。

sian officers shouting orders.

Monsieur Dubuis was on the train. He had been a French soldier. He was now going to Switzerland to join his wife and daughter. He had wisely sent them
5 out of France when the war became bad.

During the fighting in Paris Monsieur Dubuis had been hungry. He had suffered a lot. But he was still quite fat. He had been very unhappy about the war and because some men were so cruel to others.
10 He had been a good soldier and he had been a guard on many cold nights. As his train went through the country, however, he saw the first Prussian soldiers that he had ever seen.

He looked at these Prussians with hatred in his
15 heart. They made themselves at home in France, the country that he loved. He hated them; yet he was afraid of them.

In the same compartment there were two Englishmen. They had come to France as tourists, and
20 they watched everything with calm eyes. Both, like Monsieur Dubuis, were fat. They would sometimes look at their guidebook and begin to discuss

Monsieur Dubuis [mə'sjɜː dju'bjʊɪ] 杜比先生 (人名)。 wisely 明智地。
suffer 受苦。 cruel 殘酷。 a guard 衛兵。
with hatred 懷著憎恨。 make oneself at home 使自己毫無拘束。
compartment [kəm'pɑːtmənt] 車廂。 tourist 觀光客; 旅客。
guidebook 旅行指南。

it in English.

When the train stopped at the station of a small town, a Prussian officer got on. He made a lot of noise with his sword. He was tall and wore a very nice uniform. A large red mustache ran across the middle of his face. He looked very important.

The Englishmen smiled and immediately began to study him. Monsieur Dubuis, however, was quiet and pretended to read his newspaper. He sat in his corner, like a bad man before a policeman.

The train started again. Slowly it left the station. The two fat Englishmen went on talking and looking for places where the war had been fought. As one of them was pointing out of the window at a burned village, the Prussian suddenly put his legs up on the seat near Monsieur Dubuis. In very correct French he said: "I killed twelve Frenchmen in that very village. I took over one hundred prisoners."

The Englishmen immediately got very excited. They asked: "Really? What was the name of the village? Do you remember?"

sword [sɔrd, sɔ:d] 刀; 劍。 mustache ['mastæ, mə'stæf] 髭 (長在上唇的鬍子)。 A large red mustache ran across the middle of his face. 臉上長了大把的八字紅髭。 look important 看起來很神氣。 immediately [ɪ'mi:dɪətlɪ] 立刻。 (= at once) pretend to~ 假裝~ took~prisoners 捕捉過(百多名)俘虜。 over one hundred 超過一百人。 get excited 非常興奮。

"Pharsbourg," replied the Prussian. Then he went on: "I really beat those devils." He looked at Monsieur Dubuis and laughed proudly.

The train continued to move slowly, going through more and more towns with Prussian soldiers. The soldiers were on the streets, in restaurants, everywhere. In their black uniforms they looked like giant locusts all over the ground.

The officer looked out the window. "If I had been the leader, I would have taken Paris. I would have taken Paris, burned everything, killed everybody. There would have been no more France!"

Out of politeness the Englishmen said only: "Is that so?"

He went on: "In another twenty years all of Europe will belong to us. We are the strongest soldiers in the world."

The Englishmen felt a little nervous and said nothing. Their faces were no longer smiling. Then the Prussian officer began to laugh. He laughed at France. He laughed at her soldiers. He laughed at

Pharsbourg [far'bur] 法布爾(鄉村)。

in their black uniforms 穿著黑色的制服。

have taken~. 假如我是~, 我將佔領~

more France. 法國將已不存在了。

in another twenty years 再過二十年。

her=French

devil ['dsvl] 壞人。

If I had been~, I would

There would have been no

out of politeness 爲了禮貌。

feel nervous 感到不安。

Austria, which had been beaten a few years before. All at once he put his shoes on Monsieur Dubuis' legs. Monsieur Dubuis turned red and looked away.

The two tourists seemed to see nothing. They looked in their guidebook again and pointed out the window. It was as if they were alone, back home in England. There was no such thing as war.

The officer took out his pipe and looked straight at the Frenchman. "Have you got any tobacco on you?"

"No, sir," said Monsieur Dubuis.

Then the Prussian said: "Go and buy some for me when the train stops again." He added with a laugh: "I'll give you a tip."

The train began to slow down. It went past some burned buildings and came into a station. The Frenchman did not move.

The officer opened the door and took Monsieur Dubuis by the arm. "Go and do what I told you," he said. "And be quick about it."

There was a large group of Prussian soldiers in the station. More soldiers were standing outside. Monsieur Dubuis jumped down from the train. But he

all at once 突然地。(=suddenly) turn red and look away (臉色) 變紅(扭頭)向旁看。 back home in England 回到英國的家裏。
tobacco 香煙。 add 再說。 tip 小費。 slow down 放慢速度。
go past ~ 通過~ take ~ by the arm 捉着~的手腕。 be quick
about it 趕快去辦它。

did not go to buy tobacco. He got into the next compartment, although the station-master said that he could not.

He was alone! His heart was pounding, but he was alone. The train left the station and traveled through the country again. Monsieur Dubuis became calm and began looking out the window. After a while the train stopped at another station. Suddenly the officer came into the compartment. The two Englishmen followed. He sat down and said: "So you did not do what I told you to."

"That's right, sir."

The train moved off again.

"Then I'll cut off your mustache," said the officer, "to fill my pipe."

He reached his hand toward the Frenchman's face. The Englishmen watched closely, but neither said a word.

The Prussian took Monsieur Dubuis' mustache in his fingers. He began to pull it. Monsieur Dubuis hit him with the back of his hand. He pushed the officer down to the floor and jumped on him. He felt crazy and he hit him again and again. The

station-master 火車站長。 pound [paund]. 急速跳動着。 what I told you to (do) 我叫你辦的事。 watch closely 仔細地看。 neither said a word (兩人) 都沒有說一句話。 the back of his hand 手背。 feel crazy 覺得瘋狂起來。



Prussian fought wildly and tried to get his sword. But the weight of the Frenchman kept him on the floor. The officer's blood was running everywhere. Some of his teeth fell on the floor. Still Monsieur
 5 Dubuis kept on hitting him. He would not stop.

The Englishmen had stood up and come nearer to see better. They were watching happily. They were ready to bet on either of the two fighting men.

All at once Monsieur Dubuis got tired. He stood
 10 up. Then he took his seat without saying anything.

The Prussian was too surprised to jump on the Frenchman. He sat silently for a few minutes. Then he said: "You have to fight a duel with me. If you don't, I will kill you right now."

15 Monsieur Dubuis replied: "Whenever you want to, I am ready."

"We are coming into Strashourg," the Prussian said. "I will find two other officers to help me. There will be just enough time before the train leaves
 20 again."

It was very difficult for Monsieur Dubuis to breathe. He turned to the Englishmen and said: "Will you help

keep on ~ing 繼續(做)。 to see better 看得更清楚些。 ready to
 bet on ~ 隨時準備爲~打賭。 take his seat 坐下。 fight a duel
 決鬥。 right now 立刻。(=at once) Whenever you want to, I
 am ready. 任何時候你需要(決鬥)的話,我都已準備好。

A DUEL



me?"

They both said at the same time: "Oh, yes. We will be happy to."

The train stopped. In less than a minute the Prussian had found two other officers to help him. They went to get a pair of pistols. When they returned, the group of six men set out for the edge of the town.

The Englishmen were worried that they would be late for the train. They kept looking at their watches. They walked faster. They got everything

in less than a minute 不到一分鐘。 pistol 手鎗。 edge [ɛdʒ]
邊緣 (此處指郊外)。 be late for~ 趕不上~

ready quickly.

Monsieur Dubuis had never held a pistol in his life. He stood twenty meters from the Prussian officer. Then the officer shouted: "Are you ready?"

5 He said: "Yes, I am." He saw one of the Englishmen open his umbrella. The sun was very hot. Water ran from his face. A voice gave the order.

"Fire!"

Monsieur Dubuis fired immediately. He did not
10 point the pistol carefully. He was very surprised to see the officer drop his pistol and throw up his arms. Then the Prussian fell on his face. Monsieur Dubuis had killed him.

"Wonderful, wonderful," said one of the English-
15 men. He was very pleased with the show. Not every tourist had a chance to see something so exciting. He would remember this for a long time.

The other Englishman took his watch from his pocket and looked at it. "We have to go now," he
20 said. Then he took Monsieur Dubuis by the arm and began to run. They ran toward the station.

The first Englishman counted as he ran, his arms

in his life 他一生中。 water 汗水。 A voice gave the order.
一個聲音發出號令。 Not every tourist had a chance to see~. 不是
每一個觀光客都有機會看到~。 something so exciting 如此刺激的事情
(場面)。 (with) his arms against his sides 把雙手插在腰間。

against his sides: "One, two, one, two, one, two."

All three ran along in a row. Their fat stomachs moved up and down. They looked like clowns.

Their train was just leaving. They jumped into their compartment. Then the Englishmen took off 5 their hats, threw them in the air, and shouted: "Hip, hip, hooray!"

After that each shook hands with Monsieur Dubuis. They then went to sit down side by side in their corner of the compartment. One picked up the 10 guidebook, the other began looking out the window again.

in a row 列成一行。 stomach ['stʌmək] 胃; 腹。 clown [klaʊn]
小丑。 Hip [hɪp], hip, hooray [hu're, hu-] 萬歲! (歡呼聲)
side by side 並肩。

Exercise

I. 下列各問題的正確答案，從 a~c 各句中選出，以“O”號表示：

1. Who fought against the Prussians?
 - a. The Italians did.
 - b. The English did.
 - c. The French did.
2. Who got beaten in the war?
 - a. The French did.
 - b. The Italians did.
 - c. The Prussians did.
3. Was Monsieur Dubuis a Frenchman or a Prussian?
 - a. He was a Prussian.
 - b. He was an Italian.
 - c. He was a Frenchman.
4. What was he during the war?
 - a. He was a musician.
 - b. He was a dress-designer.
 - c. He was a soldier.
5. Did he like the Prussians?
 - a. Yes, he liked them very much.
 - b. No, he hated them.
 - c. Nobody knows.
6. Where was he going by train?
 - a. To Italy.
 - b. To Switzerland.
 - c. To Paris.
7. Why was he going there?
 - a. To climb the mountains.
 - b. To take pictures.
 - c. To join his family.

8. Who told him to go and get some tobacco?
 - a. An English officer did.
 - b. A French officer did.
 - c. A Prussian officer did.
9. Why did he hit the officer?
 - a. Because the officer was very rude to him.
 - b. Because the officer hit him first.
 - c. Because the officer took his seat away from him.
10. Who was killed in the duel?
 - a. The Prussian was.
 - b. The Englishman was.
 - c. The Frenchman was.

II. 下列各句，根據中文，在 ○ 中填入適當的字，造成英文句子。

1. 戰爭結束了。

The war () over.

2. 他聰明地將家人從法國疏散到外地。

He wisely () his family out () France.

3. 在寒冷的黑夜，他當一名守衛。

He was a () on a cold, () night.

4. 他懷著憎恨的心看着這名軍官。

He looked at the officer with () in his ().

5. 他們在法國境內毫無拘束。

They made () at () in France.

6. 再過二十年整個歐洲將屬於我們。

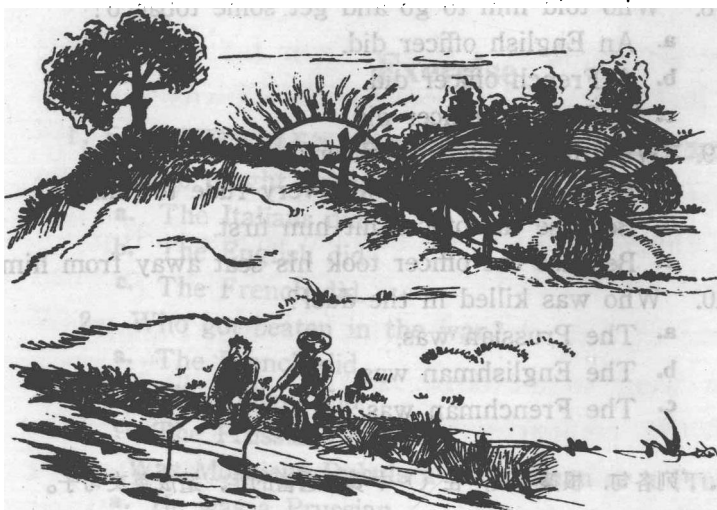
() another twenty years () of Europe will belong () us.

7. 火車開始減速慢行。

The train () to () down.

8. 你必需跟我進行一場決鬥。

You () to fight a () with me.



TWO FRIENDS

The January sun was bright in Paris, but there was a war going on. People everywhere were hungry. Some were moving to the country. Even the birds were leaving the city.

Monsieur Morissot walked sadly down the street with his hands in the pockets of his uniform. He, too, was hungry. As he walked, he met another sol-

there was a war going on. 有一場戰爭在進行中。 Morissot [marisa]
摩里蘇 (人名)。 uniform ['junə,form] 軍服。