ENGLISH SIDE READERS FOR HIGH SCHOOLS AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS

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THE ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES



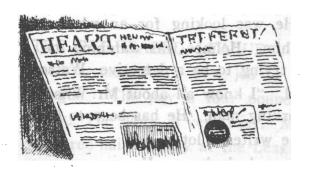
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ENGLISH SIDE READERS FOR HIGH SCHOOLS AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS 9+1/

THE ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES

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The Red-Headed League

One fall morning I went to Sherlock Holmes' rooms on Baker Street. He had a visitor. A very fat old man with bright red hair and a red face.

"Come in, Watson," Holmes said. Then he said to the red-headed man, "Doctor Watson is a very good 5 friend. He has helped me a lot. Watson, this is Mr. Jabez Wilson."

Mr. Wilson and I said hello to each other. Then Holmes said, "Mr. Wilson, please begin your story again for Doctor Watson."

Mr. Wilson took a dirty old newspaper out of his

The Red-Headed League [lig] 紅髮聯盟。 red-headed 紅髮的。 Sherlock Holmes ['Jslak'homz] 福爾摩斯 (本小說的主角,是位名偵探)。 Baker ['bekæ] Street 貝克街 (倫敦市内一條街道)。 Watson ['watsn] 華生醫生(是位醫生,也是福爾摩斯的好友,本小說的另一主角)。 Jabez ['dʒebez] 賈伯茲(人名)。

pocket. He was looking for an ad in it. I was watching him. Holmes was watching me.

"You're trying to be a detective, Watson!" Then he laughed. "I know all about Mr. Wilson. He was once a working man. He has been to China. And recently he writes a lot."

Mr. Wilson looked up. He was very surprised. "You're right, Mr. Holmes. How did you know?"

"Your right hand is a lot bigger than your left one. You must have used it a lot. So you were a working man."

"Yes, I was a carpenter. I went to China too. But how did you know?"

"You have a tattoo on your wrist. I studied tattoos before. That one is done only in China. You also have a Chinese coin on your watch chain. As for your writing, I looked at your shirt sleeves. The wrist of the right sleeve is almost wornout. And so is the left elbow. So you must have been writing a lot."

Mr. Wilson laughed loudly. "Now it sounds very easy."

Then Holmes asked, "Did you find the ad?"

Mr. Wilson handed the paper to me. "Here it is,"

an ad [æd] (美語) 廣告, 爲 advertisement 之省略。 tattoo [tæ'tu] 紋身。 wrist [rīst] 手腕。 wornout ['worn'aut] 破舊。 elbow 手肘。

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he said.

THE RED-HEADED LEAGUE. We need a man for a new job in this League. The pay is four pounds a week. The work is very easy. Must have red hair. Apply at the League's offices, 7 Pope's Square, Fleet Street, London at eleven Monday morning. DUNCAN ROSS.

"What does it mean?" I asked.

Holmes laughed. "It is unusual, Watson. Mr. Wilson, please tell us the rest of the story."

"I'm a pawnbroker. My shop is in Saxe-Coburg Square. It's a small business. It makes very little profit now. I have only one employee. And he works for half pay. But he's a very hard worker."

"What's his name?" Holmes asked.

"Vincent Spaulding" was the answer. "He loves photography. He often works in the shop basement on his pictures. We both have rooms above the shop. About two months ago he came into my office. He showed me that ad. I read it. Then I asked,

four pounds a week 一星期四英鎊。(冠詞 a 即每個之意) Pope's Square 波卜廣場大厦。 (Square 是指都市中的一個區或廣場。) DUNCAN ROSS ['dʌnykən rɔs] 鄧肯·羅斯 (人名)。 pawnbroker ['pɔn,brokə'] 開當 舖的人。Saxe-Coburg ['sæks-'kobəg] 薩克西一柯伯格。Vincent Spaulding ['vɪnsnt 'spɔldɪn] 文生・史波定 (人名)。 photography [fə'tɑgrəfi] 照相術。 basement ['besmənt] 地下室。

'What is the league?'"

"He was surprised. 'Don't you know?' he asked. I said no. Then he told me about it."

"Did you talk to Duncan Ross?" Holmes asked.

"Mr. Spaulding took me to the League's office. There were lots of other men there. The street looked like a big basket of oranges. All of the men had red hair. I wanted to go home."

"Did you go home?" I asked.

"No. Mr. Spaulding made me stay. He took me into Mr. Ross' office. He introduced us. He himself was a man with the red hair. Mr. Ross looked at



made me stay 使我留下 (made 是使役動詞)。

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my hair. 'It's very nice,' he said. 'But is it real?' Then he grabbed it and pulled it. Tears came to my eyes. 'Good. It's real,' he said."

"So you got the job?" Holmes asked.

"Yes, he gave me the job. Then he said, I'm the Secretary of the League. Let me tell you about your job. When can you begin?"

"I asked him, 'What are the hours?' He said, 'From ten in the morning to two in the afternoon.' I said, 'OK. When do I begin?' Mr. Ross answered, 'Come here tomorrow at ten. You will have to copy the Encyclopaedia Britannica. You can never leave this office during your work. If you do you will lose your job. Even if you're sick you've to work.' Then I went home."

"That's a very interesting story," Holmes said. "Did you go to work?"

"Yes. It was a strange job. But four pounds a week is good pay. So the next morning I bought some paper. Then I went to Pope's Court. Mr. Ross showed me the encyclopaedia. Then he left. At two he came back. That went on for eight weeks. Each week Mr. Ross gave me four pounds."

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"Didn't anybody watch you work?" Holmes asked.

"At first Mr. Ross checked on me a few times a day. But later he never came back until two o'clock. Then this morning my job ended."

"Ended?" said Holmes.

"I went to work at ten. There was a sign on the door. It said:

The Red-Headed League doesn't exist anymore." Holmes asked, "What did you do then?"

"I went to the other offices in Pope's Court. Nobody knew Duncan Ross. So I talked to the owner of the building. He didn't know Mr. Ross either. 'Who is the man with the red hair?' I asked. 'Oh,' he said, 'that's William Morris. He's a lawyer. He moved out yesterday.'"

"I was very surprised. 'Where can I find him?' I asked."

"The owner said, 'His new office is at 17 King Edward Street.' I went to King Edward Street. But Number 17 is a small shop. Nobody named Ross or Morris worked there."

"What did you do then?" Holmes asked.

watch you work 看着你工作 (watch 爲感官動詞, 其後的受詞補語 to work 中的不定詞記號 to 應省略)。 checked on me 檢査我 (的工作進度)。 William Morris ['WIljəm 'mɔrɪs, 'mɑrɪs] 威廉・摩瑞斯 (人名)。 Nobody named Ross or Morris ~ 沒有叫羅斯或摩瑞斯的人。

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"I went home to Saxe-Coburg Square. I told Vincent Spaulding. He was very surprised too. But I didn't want to lose my job. I need that four pounds a week. So today I came to you."

"That was a very good idea," Holmes said. "I want to ask you a few questions. How long has Vincent Spaulding worked for you?"

"About three months."

"How did he get the job?"

"I put an ad in the paper."

"Did any other men want the job?"

"Yes," said Mr. Wilson. "Ten or eleven men came to see me."

"Why did you choose Spaulding?"

"He looked like a hard worker. And he said half pay was OK."

"Describe him to me," Holmes said.

"He's small. He moves quickly. He's about thirty but he doesn't have any whiskers. He has a scar on his forehead."

Holmes got very excited. "A scar on his forehead! Does he have little holes in his ears for earrings?" "Yes, he does."

"I knew it! Well, Mr. Wilson, let me think for a



while. You can go home now."

Mr. Wilson left. Then Holmes lit his pipe. He began to smoke. He didn't say anything. For almost an hour he sat and smoked. Then he said to me, "Watson, there's a concert at the Steinway Hall this afternoon. Let's go."

So we put on our hats and coats. "I want to see Saxe-Coburg Square before we go to the concert. And we have to have some lunch too."

First we had lunch. Then we walked to Saxe-Coburg Square. It wasn't a very interesting place. There were just a few trees and some dirty grass. The air wasn't very clean either. Above one shop window there was a sign. It said JABEZ WILSON.

lit 點燃(light 的過去式或過去分詞)。 Steinway [staInwe] 史坦威 (人名)。 It said JABEZ WILSON 招牌上寫著賈伯茲·威爾遜的字樣。

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Holmes stopped in front of Mr. Wilson's shop. He looked at it for a minute. Then he knocked on the stones of the street with his stick. Finally he went to the door of the shop and knocked. A young man opened it.

"Can you tell me the way to the post office please?" Holmes asked.

"Sure," the young man said. "Go three blocks down this street. Turn right. Go four more blocks and it will be on your left."

We left. "A very clever man." Holmes said. "There are only three more clever men in London. And only two braver men."

"Did you recognize his face?" I asked.

"My dear Watson," Holmes answered, "I didn't 15 look at his face. I already knew him."

"Then why did you knock on the door?"

"Because I wanted to look at the knees of his pants," Holmes said. But he wouldn't say anything more about the young man. "We have seen Saxe-Coburg Square. Now let's look at the other streets around here."

We left the little square. The street in back was

in front of 在~面前。 blocks 街區(常指城市内的一個區及接連在一起的一片建築物而言)。 go four ~ and ~ 再過四個(街區)就~ wouldn't say 不願說下去(would 表示過去的意願)。

a very busy one. It had some big stores, the City Bank and an Italian restaurant. We looked at a few other streets. Then Holmes said, "Let's go to the concert."

We both enjoyed the concert. The music was very good. We left the Steinway Hall. Holmes said to me, "Watson, you go home. I want to do a few things. But I need your help tonight. A great crime has been planned."

"Where should I meet you?" I asked.

"Come to Baker Street at ten. And bring your gun."

I got to Baker Street at ten. There were two cabs outside the house. Two men were with Holmes. One was a police officer, Peter Jones. I recognized him. I didn't know the other one.

"Come in, Watson," Holmes said. "I'd like you to meet Mr. Merryweather. He's from the City Bank. Well, gentlmen, should we go?"

Mr. Merryweather said, "Holmes, you may be wrong."

"I don't think so," he answered. "We'll go to your bank. Then it won't be robbed tonight. And Jones

cab 路旁等客的馬車(現在叫它爲計程車。福爾摩斯的時代背景是在十九世紀末, 其時 cab 指出租馬車)。 I'd (=1 would) like you to ~ 我希望你能~ (是較 I want 爲客氣的說法)。

will catch a very clever criminal. He has wanted to catch him for years."

"Yes," said Jones. "John Clay is a very dangerous man."

We went out to the cabs. Mr. Merryweather 5 and Mr. Jones got in the first one. Holmes and I got in the other one. It was a long drive. But Holmes didn't say very much. He sang some of the music from the concert.

At last we got to the City Bank near Saxe-Coburg Square. We went into the bank. Mr. Merryweather took us to the basement. "The bank keeps lots of things down here," he said. "It's very safe." He knocked on the floor with his stick.

"It sounds very hollow," he said. "Why?"

"Please speak more quietly," Holmes said. "The robbers might hear us. Then we won't catch them. Everybody, please sit down."

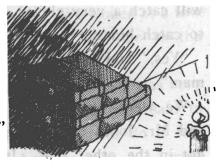
Holmes got out his magnifying glass. He looked at the floor very carefully. He looked at it for a long time. Then he stood up. He said, "Nothing will happen until midnight. Mr. Wilson goes to bed at twelve. Then the robbers will come."

lots of =a lot of 甚多。 The robbers might hear us 強盜可能聽到我們在此 (might 是較 may 可能性更弱的推想)。 goes to bed 就寢(請注意此處名詞前不加冠詞,與 go to church, go to school 用法相同)。

"What's in those boxes over there?" I asked.

"Mr. Merryweather will tell you," Holmes said.

"It's our French gold," he said. "There's almost



thirty thousand pounds in those boxes. We borrowed it a few months ago from the Bank of France."

"Now, gentlemen," said Holmes, "we'll have to wait in the dark." He put out the lamp. "The robbers will be here soon. Then we will catch them. Remember, they are very dangerous men. We'll have to act quickly. They may shoot at us, Watson. Then you will have to shoot back at them."

I got out my gun.

"There's only one way for them to escape," Holmes continued. "They will have to go back through Mr. Wilson's house. Jones, are the other officers at Mr. Wilson's house?"

"Yes, Mr. Holmes. There are three officers outside his house."

"Good. Now let's be quiet and wait."

We waited for an hour and a quarter. But it was

over there 在那裏。 put out (把亮光) 熄滅。 shoot at 對~射擊。 let's be quiet and wait 我們就靜下來等候吧 (let's 表示提議、勸誘之意)。

dark and it seemed a lot longer. My legs got very tired. But we couldn't walk around. Suddenly we saw some light. It was coming through a crack in the floor. Then a large stone was pushed up. More light came into the basement. Soon I could see a hand. But then the stone went down again. I could see only the light from the crack.

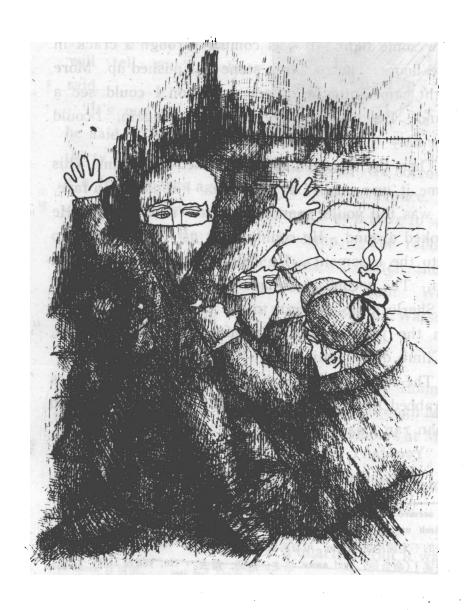
Then the large stone was pushed up again. This time it was pushed to the side. I could see a face. It was the young man from Mr. Wilson's shop. He looked around. He couldn't see us. He chimbed up into the basement. He helped another man climb up. The second man had red hair.

Sherlock Holmes ran to the two men. He jumped on the young one. The young man shouted out, "Climb down again! Run!"

The red-headed man began to climb down, Jones grabbed his coat. But the coat tore, The red-headed man ran away.

"You can't get away, Clay," Holmes said.
"No, you're right," Clay said. "You caught me.

It seemed a lot longer 時間似乎過得特別長。 looked around 四周張室。 climb up 爬上 He helped ~ climb up (climb 是不加 to 的 不定調, help 後的不定詞片語中的 to, 可有可無)。 Climb down again! Run!再爬下去! 快逃!(命令句) get away 逃走;避開;離去。 No, you're right 不(能), 你對了(No 後面省略 I can't)。



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