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星火考研英语复习速成体系总论

星火记忆研究所所长 马德高

2005 年考研英语发生了重大变化:新增词汇 482 个,对考生词汇量的要求进一步显著增强;新增一篇阅读——选择搭配题,阅读部分在整张试卷中更加显得举足轻重;新增一篇作文——应用文写作,在考生综合运用语言方面更加注重。新的变化、新的挑战,英语,在考研复习中的重要地位更加令人不敢忽视。

最近三年统计显示,全国考研学子中,英语单科合格率仅在 30% 左右,众多学子因为英语不过关而含泪折戟、败走麦城。英语,愈来愈成为广大学子考研路上难以逾越的一道坎、难以释怀的一个结。

一边是考试要求的不断提高,一边是考试成绩的徘徊不前,广大考研学子渴望能有一套方法科学、效果明显的辅导用书出现,以帮助他们在英语复习中迅速掌握大纲知识、切实提高应试技能、显著提高应试成绩。

正是在这样的形势变化和广大学子的殷殷期盼中,《星火考研英语复习速成体系》应运而生。

英语学习,首先要有科学的方法,其次要有好的教材,最后,还要以能够显著提高成绩、通过各种考试为检验标准,这些构成了英语学习速成的三个要素。《星火考研英语复习速成体系》完全具备了这三个方面的要素,能够为同学们的复习带来立竿见影的效果。

首先,我们在详细研究历年真题、深入领会大纲精髓、反复设计复习模式、多次比较不同效果的基础上,博采众长、独辟蹊径,旗帜鲜明地贯彻系统复习理念——“词汇是基础、阅读是关键、综合是总揽”,从而科学独到地推出了高效复习方法——“立体式记忆词汇:巧记速记、以听促记、语境记忆立体组合,实现词汇记忆最佳效果;阶梯式突破阅读:词汇重现、标准训练、拔高训练阶次提高,完成阅读理解全面突破;整合式升华能力:结合真题、巧设模拟、讲解技巧整体融合,达到应试能力最后升华”。系统的理念、高效的方法,准确、到位地把握了考研英语复习中最重要的三个方面,将三者彼此呼应、互通互融、有机整合在一起,以期取得系统化的效果倍增。

其次,我们充分渗透上述系统化复习理念、巧妙运用上述立体化复习方法,独具匠心地设计、推出了一套高效、实用、新颖的复习教材,给您的英语复习带来令人欣喜的显著效果和快速提升。

《星火考研英语复习速成体系》由三本书组成,分别是《考研英语词汇星火式巧记速记》(或《考研英语词汇星火式巧记·速记·精练》)、《考研英语多功能阅读》、《考研英语一本全》。

三本书绝不是简单的捆绑,而是一个系统的、有机的组合,词汇为阅读奠定基础,阅读为词汇提供语境,词汇、阅读双向突破后,综合复习为两者全面融合、最后升华,彼此呼应、阶次提高,系统化的设计,让您的复习成为一个整体,从而获得效率的成倍增长。

《考研英语词汇星火式巧记速记》(或《考研英语词汇星火式巧记·速记·精练》)完美渗透风靡全国的独创星火式记忆法,由熟词到生词,一记一串,从大家耳熟能详的 600 个中学词汇迅速扩充到考研英语 6000 词,短时间内帮助考研学子完成大纲词汇的迅速扩充,为阅读奠定必需的基础。

2004 年,全国共有 94.5 万学子报名考研,而《考研英语词汇星火式巧记速记 2005》和《考研英语

语词汇星火式巧记·速记·精练》销售了 45 万册,足以证明星火式记忆法的神奇和魔力。

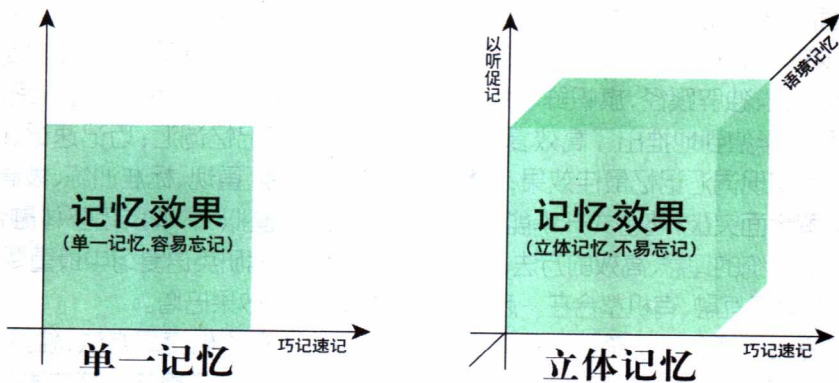
而且,根据心理专家所说,“人的记忆中,25%来源于视觉,15%来源于听觉,两者结合则可以达到 65%的效果,听、读结合可以有效促进记忆”,我们给您录制了专业、地道、优美的词汇朗读录音,让您边听边记、以听促记,获得最佳的词汇记忆、学习效果。

《考研英语多功能阅读》准确把握了词汇和阅读彼此呼应、互动提高的复习节奏,完美架起了从词汇到阅读有效推进的桥梁,为阅读训练提供了科学、高效的复习方案,由易到难、阶次提高,设计了上、中、下三篇,以完成阅读能力的全面突破。

《考研英语多功能阅读》上篇“词汇重现篇”,通过覆盖大纲词汇 90%的 50 篇活泼有趣的精选美文重现前面《考研英语词汇星火式巧记速记》(或《考研英语词汇星火式巧记·速记·精练》)中已经学习的词汇,帮您重温、消化、巩固,进一步加深印象、语境理解。而且,阅读这些文章,除了重温词汇,还完成了标准阅读、拔高阅读训练前的热身和入门。

本篇词汇重现的设计思路吻合了许国璋先生“碰材料”的观点。他说:“最好的记生词的办法不能只是复习已经学过的课文,而是要接触难度相仿的新的材料。在新的材料里反复碰到已学的词汇,这是更为积极的、也是更为有效的巩固词汇的手段。要扩大词汇,最快、最好的方法就是主动找新文章来读,要善于碰材料。”如此不断的“碰材料”,反复接触词汇,词汇、阅读才能螺旋式上升、立体般饱满。

到了这里,《星火考研英语复习速成体系》为您精心设计的“巧记速记、以听促记、语境记忆”三者互动结合的立体式词汇记忆模式,您已经完全领略了,立体式记忆,可以收到单一化记忆(或称平面化记忆)所不可能达到的神奇效果。



《考研英语多功能阅读》中篇“阅读达标篇”,完全按照真题题型设计、安排,每单元 4 篇标准阅读、1 篇选择搭配、1 篇英译汉,15 个单元共 90 篇文章,难度基本和真题保持一致,供学生在上篇进一步巩固词汇、灵活领会后,开始标准难度的实战阅读训练,快速达到考试要求。

《考研英语多功能阅读》下篇“能力突破篇”,完全按照真题题型设计、安排,每单元 4 篇标准阅读、1 篇选择搭配、1 篇英译汉,5 个单元共 30 篇文章,难度高于真题,供学生在前面标准难度阅读训练后,进一步抬高要求、提升训练,以获得在考试中居高临下、游刃有余的感觉和自信。

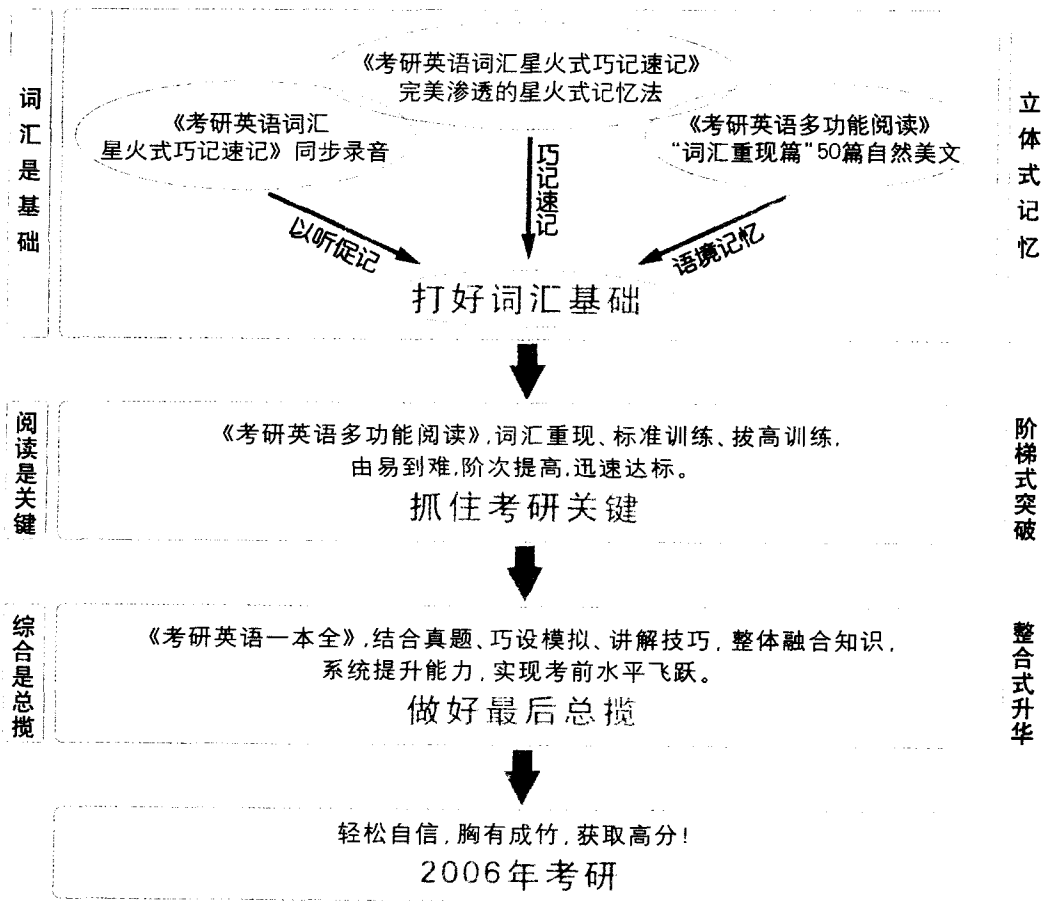
中篇和下篇所有的文章,独到之处还在于都分别按照所属题材、所属体裁进行分类列表,即我们所说的“双索引”,列在书的前面,方便同学们根据需要按照不同题材、体裁自由组合、分开专项训练。

在对词汇、阅读进行了扎扎实实的突破,考研英语中最重要的这两个方面的基础和能力有了

大幅度提高后,考生还需要对考研英语的各个题型、各种知识、各种技能、各种技巧有一个整体的融合和把握,从而获得应试能力、应试水平的最后飞跃。

《考研英语一本全》精讲考研英语各种题型、详析考研英语所有考点、梳理考研英语全部重点,充分运用对排、连线、图表等形式,结合真题、巧设模拟,将词汇运用、阅读强化、作文提高、知识融合、解题技巧、得分要领等全面系统地揉合在一起,在整个考试统一考虑的层次上,获得实战能力的系统升华。

通过《星火考研英语复习速成体系》三本书的彼此呼应、整合复习,我们就可以扎实稳健、科学迅速、充满自信地冲向 2006 年考研英语真题考场。



最后,《星火考研英语复习速成体系》在论证中得到了众多考试专家、辅导名师、考研学生的高度评价,在试验中取得了显著的速成效果。

《星火考研英语复习速成体系》酝酿过程中,数次在北京大学、清华大学、上海交大、山东大学等重点高校召开研讨会,受到了与会考试专家、辅导名师、考研学生的广泛好评,被他们称为“考研英语复习模式的一次全新尝试”、“考研英语复习方法的一次重大突破”、“考研英语复习取得前所未有的显著效果的希望之星”。

《星火考研英语复习速成体系》推出后,分别在北京、上海、济南进行了一次速成效果试验,三个城市各从当地几个高校中随机选取准备考研的学生 100 名,先让他们做 2005 年考研真题,记录

下他们的得分成绩,然后其中 50 名由他们自己自由选取《星火考研英语复习速成体系》之外的辅导用书进行复习,另 50 名选用《星火考研英语复习速成体系》的三本书进行复习,30 天后,再让他们做由几位考试专家严格按照考研真题设计的模拟试卷,成绩增长情况统计如下:

地区	自己选书的 50 名学生成绩平均增长	用速成体系的 50 名学生成绩平均增长
北京	20 分	35 分
上海	18 分	33 分
济南	18 分	31 分

无可辩驳的速成效果,立竿见影的成绩增长,让几个参与试验的高校的老师、学生大为震动、惊呼神奇,在京、沪、济引起了广泛关注。

“立体式记忆词汇、阶梯式突破阅读、整合式升华能力”,《星火考研英语复习速成体系》,将以科学、系统、实用的全新考案,陪伴考研学子一路上轻松向前。

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Unit 1

The Toy

It was 1952 and my father was away at war, leaving my mother and me behind to face hardship alone. I was ten. My mother was a surgeon and worked at the local clinic a few blocks from where we lived. We both resided in a medieval apartment in the city. It was noisy and cold in the winter, whereas humid in the summer. My mother argued with the landlord constantly, as did the other tenants. To their dismay, the landlord made promises, which he never kept. My mother's only revenge for this devil was that he would burn in hell someday. I learned a valuable lesson that year which carries on to this day.

The bell rang and thoughts of Christmas were the only thing on my mind. ① I raced home from school in the fresh snow that fell while I was in school. It lay there on the ground, white and smooth, waiting for my boots to disturb its beauty. *I stopped briefly* ② to gather some snow in my hands, packing it tight, then I threw it at Susie as I ran past her.

"Danny, *I'm telling your mother on you* ③," she cried. I laughed and run away.

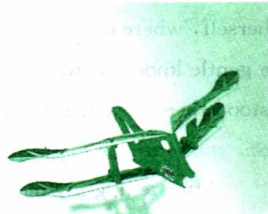
The five-story building where I lived was made of brown bricks. There was a large, cement stoop in front of the building as you entered. A spiral staircase reached up to our apartment and continued to the top of the building. At the very top of the steps was a door that led you to the terrace. *The summer brought many parties up there* ④. Sometimes I would go up there and watch old man Macinni tending to his pigeons.

The apartment was empty when I arrived and a note was attached to the refrigerator. *My mother was working a double shift and left me instructions for the day.* ⑤ I became angry and ripped the note in several pieces. We had planned on making Christmas biscuits and apple pies together, but my mother spoiled it by working.

I *sulked* ⑥ for several minutes, and then realized I was alone. My mother hid the Christmas presents somewhere in her bedroom and I found this to be the perfect opportunity to investigate. I carefully *rummaged through* ⑦ her closet, finding most of the gifts wrapped in linen cloth. All but one toy, a model airplane.

I took the airplane to the living room and played with it for a long time. *I was still mad at my mother* ⑧ and I hurled the airplane into the air. It was so crisp and crashed down on the floor, breaking one of its wings.

I stood frozen with my eyes and mouth wide open, staring down at the plane. *Oh boy, am I in trouble!* ⑨ Picking up the broken parts of the plane, I thought, how was I going to explain this? I had not got even a coin in my pocket. Where did my mother buy the plane? How can I make some money to replace it? Who would give me a job now? On Christmas Eve! Then I heard my mother coming through the door. This is awful! Why was she coming home now? I raced to my room, hiding



- ① 下课铃响了,我脑子里想的全是圣诞节。
- ② 我猛地停下来...
- ③ 我要向你妈妈告你的状!
- ④ 夏天的时候,那里会举行许多派对。
- ⑤ 妈妈上班要两班轮班倒,只给我留下了一些关于今天该如何如何的嘱咐。
- ⑥ 生闷气
- ⑦ 翻箱倒柜地寻找
- ⑧ 我还是很生妈妈的气
- ⑨ 噢天哪,这下可糟了!

the broken plane under my sweater.

"Danny?"

"Yeah Mom?" I shouted through the closed door.

"I'm on a break. I came home to take a present to one of my patients," she shouted back at me.

I sat on my bed, unable to come up with *a good explanation*^⑩ for the toy missing in her closet. *The silence was torture*^⑪. I did not hear my mother asking herself, where did that toy go? Or yell for me to come in her room. All I heard was a gentle knock on my door. I slowly went to the door and opened it. My mother stood there, leaning against the doorframe with her arms folded in front of her.

She stared at the lump that protruded from my belly^⑫.

After telling my mother the horrible truth, she made me put my coat on and told me to follow her. We left our apartment and walked to the hospital. *I stayed one pace behind her*^⑬, my head bowed down as we walked. The avenue was illuminated with Christmas lights. People *busied*^⑭ the streets with their arms full of packages. I thought they all were staring at me for the terrible thing I had done. I knew why my mother was taking me to where she worked. The county clinic bore many tales.

Climbing the steps without catching our breath, we entered the clinic. We climbed more steps and reached the floor where my mother worked. Several nurses my mother knew greeted us with a "Merry Christmas". My mother returned the greetings without stopping as we continued down a lobby. We stopped outside a ward and I peeked inside the dim ward. There in a bed was a lad who looked very sick.

"That boy is going to die, Danny," my mother told me. "Possibly today, maybe tomorrow. He loves planes. I knew his mother could not afford to buy him one. So I did. I count my blessings every night and think of this boy and how grateful I am that you are not in that bed."

The words cut hard and sharp in my heart. The tears rolled down my face and I was so guilty. I ran as fast as I could, down the lobby and out of the clinic. I ran home and into my room where *I cried myself to sleep*^⑮.

Nowadays, 30 years have elapsed, I am sitting behind my desk at my electronic enterprise, waiting for my wife. Susie and I married when we graduated from high school. On Christmas Eve, Susie and I take toys for the little infants at the local *shelters*^⑯. Hitherto, we have never missed this seasonal tradition.

(968 words)



⑩ 一个充分的理由

⑪ 这种沉默是一种折磨。

⑫ 她眼睛盯着我腹部凸起的那块地方。由此可见作者把摔坏了的飞机藏在了衣服底下。

⑬ 始终保持落后她一步

⑭ busy 在此处做及物动词,意为“忙于...”

⑮ 我哭得精疲力竭,直至沉沉睡去。cry oneself to sleep 是习惯用语,意为“一直哭到睡着了”。

⑯ 此处作“孤儿院”讲。

WORDS & EXPRESSIONS

Christmas ['krɪsməs] n. 圣诞节

devil ['devl] n. 魔鬼

dim [dɪm] a. 暗淡的,模糊的

dismay [dɪs'meɪ] n. /v. (使)惊恐,(使)惊愕;(使)失望,(使)绝望

disturb [dɪ'stɜ:b] v. 妨碍,使不安;扰乱

elapse [i'læps] *n. / v.* (时间)过去,消逝
electron [i'lektrɒn] *n.* 电子
electronic [ilek'trɒnik] *a.* 电子的
enterprise ['entəpraiz] *n.* 进取心,事业心;企(事)业单位,事业
fell [fel] *v.* 砍倒,砍伐
finding ['faɪndɪŋ] *n.* 发现(物);(*pl.*)调查(或研究)结果
graduate ['grædʒueɪt] *n.* (大学)毕业生,研究生 *v.* (使)(大学)毕业
grateful ['greɪtful] *a.* (to, for)感激的,感谢的
guilty ['gɪlti] *a.* (of)有罪的,内疚的
hardship ['hɑ:dʃɪp] *n.* 艰难,困苦
hell [hel] *n.* 地狱,阴间;苦境,极大痛苦
hitherto [hɪðə'tu:] *ad.* 到目前为止,迄今
horrible ['hɒrəbl] *a.* 令人恐怖的,可怕的;极讨厌的,使人不愉快的
humid ['hju:mɪd] *a.* 湿(气重)的
hurl [hɜ:l] *v.* 丢,投,猛掷;发射;推翻,压倒;叫嚷
illuminate [i'lju:mɪneɪt] *v.* 照明,照亮
infant ['ɪnfənt] *n.* 婴儿,幼儿
inside ['ɪn'saɪd] *n.* 里面,内部;内脏;内情 *a.* 内部的,秘密的;于室内工作的 *ad.* 在里面 *prep.* 在...之内
investigate [ɪn'vestɪgeɪt] *v.* 调查(研究)
lad [læd] *n.* 男孩,小伙子

landlady ['lændleɪdi] *n.* 女房东,女地主
landlord ['lændləʊd] *n.* 主人,地主,房东
learned [lɜ:nɪd] *a.* 有学问的,学术上的
linen ['lɪnɪn] *n.* 亚麻布(制品)
living-room *n.* 起居室
lobby ['lɒbi] *n.* (会议)休息厅;门廊,门厅
local [ləʊkəl] *a.* 当地的,地方的;局部的
lump [lʌmp] *n.* 团,块 *vt.* (使)成团,(使)成块
medieval [ˌmedi'ɪvəl] *a.* 中世纪的
opportunity [ɒpə'tju:nɪti] *n.* 机会
pace [peɪs] *n.* 步伐;(一)步 *v.* 踱步
package ['pækɪdʒ] *n.* 包裹,包装,箱
pigeon ['pɪdʒɪn] *n.* 鸽子
plane [pleɪn] *n.* 平面,水平面
promise ['prɒmɪs] *v.* 允许,允诺,答应;有希望,有...可能 *n.* 承诺,诺言;希望,出息
promising ['prɒmɪsɪŋ] *a.* 有希望的,有前途的
replace [rɪ'pleɪs] *v.* 替换,取代,放回;归还
replacement [rɪ'pleɪsmənt] *n.* 代替(物),替换(物)
rip [rɪp] *v.* 撕,剥,劈,锯,裂开,撕裂 *n.* 裂口,裂缝
shift [ʃɪft] *v.* 移动;替换,转换 *n.* 转换,转变;轮班,换班
spiral ['spaɪərəl] *n. / a.* 螺旋(的) *vi.* 螺旋上升(或下降)
staircase ['steəkeɪs] *n.* 楼梯(=stairway)
surgeon ['sɜ:dʒən] *n.* 外科医生

TRANSLATION

玩具

1952年,我的父亲在遥远的前方作战,留下我和母亲独自面对生活的艰辛。那年我10岁,我的母亲是个外科医生,在离我们住处有几个街区远的一个诊所上班。我们居住在市里一间老式公寓里。那儿很吵,冬天很冷,夏天却很潮湿。正如其他的房客一样,我母亲经常和房东吵架。令人感到沮丧的是,房东许下的诺言从不兑现。我母亲对这恶棍的惟一报复是咒他死后在地狱遭火烧。正是在那一年,我接受了一个直到今天仍刻骨铭心的教训。

下课铃响了,我满脑子想的全是圣诞节。踩着上课时才下的雪,我从学校飞快地向家里跑去。地上光洁而平滑的积雪,仿佛在等待着我的靴子去破坏它的美丽。我猛地停下来,手里抓上一把雪,捏紧了,在跑过苏茜时扔到她的身上。“丹尼,我要向你妈妈告你的状!”她叫道。

我住的那栋五层楼的房子是用褐色的砖砌的。在房子前面进去的地方有一个硕大无比的水泥门廊。螺旋楼梯可直达我们的房间,然后继续向上到楼房的顶部。在楼梯的最上面有一扇门通往露台。在夏天,那里会举行许多派对。有时我会去看一位叫曼西尼的老人如何照看鸽子。

我回到家的时候,房子里空无一人。冰箱上贴着一张便条,说妈妈上班要两班轮班倒,只给我留下了一些关于今天该如何如何的嘱咐。我十分愤怒,一下把纸条撕成了碎片。我们原计划一起做圣诞饼干和苹果馅饼的,但妈妈要上班把这全毁了。

我生了几分钟的闷气,接着意识到我只有独自一人过节了。妈妈把圣诞礼物藏在她卧室的某个地方,那么现在就是寻找它的绝佳机会了。我在壁橱里翻箱倒柜地寻找,发现除了一个小飞机模型玩具以外,大多数礼物都用亚麻布包好了。

我拿着那个飞机模型在起居室里玩了好长时间。我还是很生妈妈的气,一时冲动,把飞机猛地向空中掷去。飞机砸在地板上,它的材料是那么的脆,一个翅膀摔得粉碎。

我站在那里目瞪口呆地看着飞机。噢天哪,这下可糟了!捡起摔坏的零件,我心想,该怎么解释这件事呢?我口袋里连一枚硬币都没有。这飞机是妈妈在哪里买的呢?我还能挣些钱换一个好的吗?现在谁会给我一份工作呢?特别是在这圣诞前夜!

忽然我听到妈妈打开门进来了。糟了!为什么她现在回家呢?我飞奔回自己的房间,把摔坏的飞机藏在我的羊毛衫下面。

“丹尼?”“我在这里,妈妈。”我对着紧闭的门朝外喊。

“我趁休息的时候回来给我的一个病人来拿礼物,”她冲我回喊,语气显得十分的急迫。我坐在床上,想不出怎么去解释为什么她壁橱里的玩具会不见了。这种沉默是一种折磨。我既听不到妈妈在问她自己玩具到哪去了,也听不到她叫我去她的房间的吼声,我只听到她轻轻地敲了一下我的门。我慢慢地挪上前,打开了门。妈妈斜倚着门框,抱着胳膊站在那儿,眼睛盯着我腹部凸起的那块地方。

在我告诉妈妈那讨厌的事实真相后,她让我穿上外套跟她走。我们离开房间向医院走去。一路上我低着头,始终保持落后她一步。街道被圣诞灯装饰得一片辉煌,街上也到处是手提大包小包的人们。我想他们都因为知道我所做的坏事而盯着我看。我知道为什么妈妈带我到她工作的地方去。诊所里有着许多的相关传说。

我们一口气爬上楼梯,进了门诊部。我们继续往上爬,来到了我妈妈工作的楼层。几个她认识的护士向我们打招呼,说“圣诞快乐”。妈妈没有停,回了招呼,就来到了一个大厅。我们在一个病房外停了下来,我偷偷地往昏暗的病房里看。我看见病房里的床上有一个少年,看起来病得很厉害。

“那男孩很快就要死了,丹尼,”她告诉我,“可能今天,也许明天。他酷爱飞机。我知道他母亲没钱给他买,所以我给他买了。我每天晚上都想着他,为他祈祷。我是多么地庆幸躺在床上的不是你啊。”

这些话就像锋利的刀刃一样狠狠地刺在我的心上。我泪流满面,心中充满了负罪感。我拼命狂奔,跑到大厅,跑出诊所。我跑回家里自己的房间,我哭得精疲力竭,直至沉沉睡去。

现在,30年过去了。我在我的电子企业里,坐在办公桌后,等待着我的妻子。苏茜和我在高中毕业后就结婚了。在圣诞前夜,苏茜和我总会带玩具给当地孤儿院的幼儿。迄今为止,我们从没忘记这一节日的传统。



来,休息一下! 让我们一起看一句名言警句,以此来激励自己更加努力地学习。

If a jewel falls into the mire, it remains as precious as before; and though dust should ascend to heaven, its former worthlessness will not be altered.

(AL Jaber)

宝石即使落在泥潭里,仍是一样可贵;尘土纵然扬到天上,还是没有价值。

(贾比尔)

Unit 2

My Strange Experience

It was *the morning after the night before*①. I was aroused by the sound of the stereo from downstairs and the smell of bacon permeated the air. Usually such an odor would be from paradise, but not today, for *my throat was thirsty and my head dizzy*②.

I rubbed my eyes and tried to focus on my surroundings. Yes, I was in my flat, though I couldn't remember how I got back here last night. The only plausible thing I could recall was meeting my best friends Brian and George at an urban café before we left for the college ball. Just who was downstairs *making themselves at home*③, I wondered.

My eyes suddenly fixed on the female underwear lying on the chair next to my bed. On the floor below lay a white crumpled dress. I blinked twice to be sure that my eyes weren't deceiving me. It wasn't just any old dress—it was a superb wedding dress!

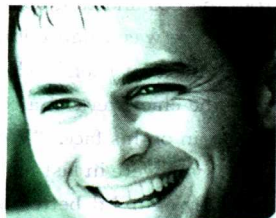
I stumbled out of bed, suddenly fully alert, my heart beating wildly in my chest. I tried to think back to the previous evening, but there appeared to be *an alcohol-induced gaping hole*④ in my memory. Suddenly, a few obscure images were evoked—there was a smiling ambassador, rings were being exchanged. Brian and George were there too, I was sure of it. Did I get *roaring*⑤ drunk and marry a complete stranger?

*Surely they wouldn't have let me go through with it, my supposedly intimate friends*⑥. They wouldn't let me get married—or were they also so drunk that they didn't care? It had to be a bad dream. But then who was down in my kitchen cooking breakfast and listening to the radio? It certainly wasn't my flatmate for I didn't have one. I crept over to my wardrobe and *fished out*⑦ some clean clothes—sock, jeans and an old T-shirt—anything to cover myself up from the strange woman downstairs who'd left her underwear and silky wedding dress beside my bed.

Just then I remembered a Mediterranean film I had seen once about a man and a woman who got drunk and ended up getting married two hours after meeting. I sat on the bed, trying to *rack my brain*⑧ for answers. Surely I couldn't have been so stupid! I looked over at the crumpled dress on the floor and my heart sank as I thought of how my poor parents would react when I broke the news: “Hi mum, hi dad—I just got married to a complete stranger I met when I was drunk. Sorry I didn't invite you, but it happened so fast...”

I couldn't possibly do it. *Here*⑨ I was only 21 and had just received a diploma in architecture, had a brilliant job lined up already. Mom and Dad were so proud of me at my graduation a week ago. What a mess!

I could hear the clatter of plates coming from downstairs and *the butterflies in the pit of my stomach began multiplying by the second*.⑩ It was time to *face the music*.⑪ I would go downstairs and choose my words carefully. Whoever I had



① 今天早晨

② 我的喉咙干燥,并且头晕目眩。此处的 head 与 dizzy 之间省掉了 was。

③ 像在自己家一样。make oneself at home, 随便, 无拘无束。

④ 一个由酒精过量引起的空白, 此处使用增译法, 增加“过量”一词。

⑤ 此处作“非常的, 极大的”讲。

⑥ 此处的 they 即指 my supposedly intimate friends, go through with it 指与陌生人结婚。

⑦ 搜索出, 摸出

⑧ rack one's brains, 习语, “绞尽脑汁”之意。

⑨ 此处作“此时”解。

⑩ 从那一刻起我神经质的发抖开始加剧。“the butterflies in the pit of my stomach”在此意为由于紧张等情绪引起的欲呕吐的感觉。

⑪ 习语, 勇于承担责任, 临危不惧。

married, surely she would be most likely to be full of regrets also? No one could be that arbitrary to get married, could they?

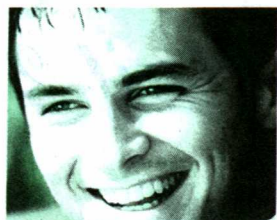
"Listen," I'd say as politely and as calmly as possible. "I'm sure you're an elegant lady and all that, but this was not a good idea for us to get married. It's just not the right time for me. Another time, another place perhaps, but..." Just then the words "*Grub's*^⑫ ready!" reverberated up from downstairs. Hang on, I thought—that's not a woman's voice. In fact I recognized it distinctly. I got up from the bed and cautiously made my way down to the kitchen.

There was a figure lounging on the couch, tapping the table. In fact, it was Brian, my best friend. He graduated one year earlier than me. A year later he became the chief clerk of a commercial association. He turned round to greet me, a huge grin on his face. "Well isn't it the new bride!" he quipped cheerfully. "What a state you were in last night! You drunk so many cocktail and so much champagne that I thought I'd better bring you home and stay over the night!" "What happened?" I pleaded. "You made a lovely bride," he laughed, "don't you remember—it was the final college ball last night. *Fancy dress*.^⑬ You insisted on swapping outfits with some girl who was dressed as a bride. There was someone dressed up as an ambassador, and hey—you married George!" With this he collapsed into heaps of laughter as I breathed a huge sigh of relief. "And," he added, "you two even exchanged rings!"

I looked down at my hand. Sure enough, there on the third finger of my left hand was an absurd *ring-pull*^⑭ from a beer can.

Suddenly I had a robust appetite. I picked up a chunk of steak sausage and bit into it, thinking to myself how lucky I was to be young, free and single...

(847 words)



⑫ [俚]食物

⑬ 人们穿得五颜六色的!

⑭ 拉环

WORDS & EXPRESSIONS

associate [ə'səʊʃieɪt] *vt.* 使发生联系, 使联合 *vi.* 交往, 结交 *n.* 合作人, 同事 *a.* 副的

association [ə'səʊʃi'eɪʃən] *n.* 协会, 团体; 联合, 联系, 交往; 联想

butterfly ['bʌtəflaɪ] *n.* 蝴蝶

deceive [di'si:v] *v.* 欺骗, 蒙蔽

diploma [di'pləʊmə] *n.* 毕业文凭, 学位证书

distinct [di'stɪŋkt] *a.* (from) 截然不同的; 清楚的, 明显的

distinction [di'stɪŋkʃən] *n.* 差别; 区分

dizzy ['dizi] *a.* 头晕目眩的, 眩晕的

drunk [drʌŋk] *a.* 酒醉的

elegant ['elɪɡənt] *a.* 优美的, 优雅的, 精致的

evoke [i'vəʊk] *v.* 引起, 唤起, 引发

exchange [ɪks'tʃeɪndʒ] *v./n.* (for) 交换, 调换, 兑换; 交流, 交易; 交换台, 交易所

fancy ['fænsi] *n.* 爱好, 喜爱, 迷恋 *v.* 想象, 幻想

a. 花式的, 奇特的, 异样的

female ['fi:meɪl] *n.* 女性; 雌兽 *a.* 女性的, 雌的, 柔弱的, (声/色) 柔和的

focus ['fəʊkəs] *v.* (on) (使) 聚焦, 集中 *n.* 焦点, (活动、兴趣等的) 中心

gap [ɡæp] *n.* 缺口, 间隙

grin [ɡrɪn] *v.* 露齿地笑, 咧着嘴笑

heap [hi:p] *n.* (一) 堆, 大量, 许多 *v.* (up) 堆(起)

hole [həʊl] *n.* 洞, 孔

induce [ɪn'dju:s] *v.* 引起, 导致; 引诱, 劝使; 感应

intimate ['ɪntɪmɪt] *a.* 亲密的, 密切的

jeans [dʒi:nz] *n.* (pl.) 牛仔褲

laughter ['lɑ:ftə] *n.* 笑(声)

likely ['laɪkli] *a.* 很可能的; 有希望的 *ad.* 大概, 多半

lounge [laʊndʒ] *n.* 休息室, 起居室, 客厅

lucky ['lʌki] *a.* 幸运的, 侥幸的

mess [mes] *n.* 混乱, 混杂; 脏乱 *v.* 弄乱, 弄脏, 搞糟

multiply ['mʌltiplai] *v.* (by)乘,使相乘;增加,繁殖
obscure [əb'skjuə] *a.* 模糊的,晦涩的;暗的,朦胧的
odor ['əudə] *n.* 气味,名声
outfit ['autfit] *n.* 装备,供给
paradise ['pærədaiz] *n.* 天堂
permeate ['pæmieit] *v.* 弥漫,遍布,散布;渗入,渗透
pit [pit] *n.* 坑,陷阱;煤矿,矿井
plausible ['plɔ:zəbl] *a.* 似乎合理的,似乎可信的
plead [pli:d] *v.* 恳求,请求;为…辩护;提出…为理由
 (或借口)
previous ['pri:vjəs] *a.* 先,前,以前的;(to)在…之前
rack [ræk] *n.* 搁物架,挂物架 *v.* 使痛苦,折磨
react [ri'ækt] *v.* 反应,起作用;(against)反对,起反作

用
recall [ri'kɔ:l] *v.* 回忆;撤消,收回
regret [ri'gret] *v. / n.* 懊悔,遗憾,抱歉
relief [ri'li:f] *n.* (痛苦等)减轻,解除;援救,救济
ring [riŋ] *v.* 按(铃),敲钟 *n. / v.* 打电话
robust [rəu'bʌst, 'rəubʌst] *a.* 强壮的,健康的
rub [rʌb] *v.* (摩)擦
sausage ['sɔ:sidʒ] *n.* 香肠,腊肠
stumble ['stʌmbəl] *v. / n.* 跌,绊
superb [sju:'pə:b] *a.* 极好的,高质量的
surround [sə'raund] *v.* 包围,环绕
throat [θrəut] *n.* 咽喉,嗓子
urban ['ɜ:bən] *a.* 城市的

TRANSLATION

离奇的经历

今天早晨,我被来自楼下的立体声音乐的声音唤醒,咸肉的气味弥漫在空气中。若在平常,这简直是一种来自天堂的味道,但今天例外,因为我的喉咙干燥,并且头晕目眩。我揉揉眼睛,并且注视着四周的环境。墙上挂钟的钟摆还是一如往昔地摆动着。是的,我确实是在我的公寓里,尽管我不记得昨晚我是怎样回到这里的。只是模模糊糊地记得在我们前往学院舞会之前,在都市咖啡屋遇见过我最好的朋友布赖恩和乔治。到底是谁在楼下逍遥得像在自己家一样,我心里犯嘀咕。

我的眼睛突然锁定在紧挨着我的床的椅子上的一件女性内衣。在下面的地上放着一件白色的皱褶礼服。我使劲眨眨眼,确信我的眼睛没有欺骗我。这绝不是一件旧礼服,它是一件质地柔软华丽的结婚礼服!

我跌跌撞撞地爬起床,突然完全警惕起来,我的心脏在胸腔里突突狂跳。我努力回想这之前的那个晚上,但是我的记忆里仿佛有一个由酒精过量引起的空白。突然,我记起了一些含糊不清的图像:微笑的大使,交换的戒指。布赖恩和乔治也在那里,我确信。难道我喝得酩酊大醉,与一个完全陌生的人结婚了吗?

当然他们不可能让我那么做,按理说,他们可是我最亲密的朋友!他们是不会让我结婚的——或许他们也喝得酩酊大醉,以至于未加干涉?那一定是个噩梦。然而谁在我楼下的厨房里做早餐,还听着收音机呢?我确信不是我的合租同伴,因为我还没有呢。我翻开我的衣柜,检出几件干净的衣服——袜子、牛仔裤和一件旧T恤——穿在身上,使楼下的那个将内衣和丝质结婚礼服放在我的床旁边的陌生女人不至于看见我的窘相。

接着,我想起曾经看过的一部关于一男一女因喝醉了酒而在相遇之后两个小时结婚的地中海电影。我坐在床上,绞尽脑汁想答案。我当然不可能如此愚蠢!我仔细看看地上的皱褶裙子,当我想像在我公布这个消息的时候,我可怜的父母将会有怎样的反应时,我的心开始下沉:“嗨,妈妈,嗨,爸爸,我刚刚娶了一个在我喝醉的时候遇到的陌生女人,抱歉我绕过了你们,但这件事发生得如此迅速…”

我的直觉告诉我,我不可能这么做。我才21岁,刚刚取得一个建筑专业的毕业证,一份好工作也已经安排好了。父母一周前还为我的毕业感到如此骄傲。现在真的是一团糟!

我能听到楼下盘子的哗啦啦的响声,从那一刻起我神经质的发抖开始加剧。到了该勇敢地承担责任的时候了。我要下楼并仔细想想该怎么说才好。不论我已经娶了谁,当然她很可能也充满歉意,不是吗?没有人会不经了解双方是否合适就草率地结婚的,不是吗?

“听着,”我尽最大可能礼貌而平静地说:“我确信你是一位优雅的女士,但这对结婚来说并不是恰当的理由。对我来说这不是合适的时候。在别的时间,或者别的地方或许会,但是…”正在这时,“食物准备好了!”的声音从楼下响起。等一等,我想那并非女人的声音。实际上我清楚地听出来了。我起了床并且小心地走向楼下的厨房。有个人懒洋洋地躺在睡椅上,敲着桌子。实际上,那是布赖恩,我最好的朋友,他生性爱开玩笑。他比我早一年毕业,一年后成为一位收入颇丰的商业协会的主管。他转身向我致意,咧开嘴笑着,“哦,这不是新娘嘛!”他高兴地嘲笑我。“你昨晚可真不怎么样啊!你喝了太多的鸡尾酒和香槟酒,我认为最好把你带回家并过上一夜!”“究竟发生了什么事?”我恳求道。“你当了一回可爱的新娘,”他笑着说:“你不记得昨晚的毕业舞会了吗?人们穿得五颜六色的!你坚决要求与一个打扮成新娘的女孩交换外衣。有个人穿成大使的样子,并且——嗨——你嫁给了乔治!”他说着这些,笑倒在地上,而我则大大地叹了一口气。“并且,”他补充说道:“你们甚至交换了戒指!”

我低下头看着我的手。真的,在我的左手的第三只手指上戴着一个可笑的易拉罐拉环。突然间我有了好胃口。我拿起一大块牛排腊肠并且咬了一口,庆幸自己还年轻、自由,并且单身…



休息一下,来一段轻松愉快的幽默,你会在紧张的学习后调整好自己!

A Humor



The Farmer

A man is driving down a country road, when he spots a farmer standing in the middle of a huge field of grass. He pulls the car over to the side of the road and notices that the farmer is just standing there, doing nothing, looking at nothing.

The man gets out of the car, walks all the way out to the farmer and asks him, “Ah excuse me mister, but what are you doing?”

The farmer replies, “I’m trying to win a Nobel Prize.”

“How?” asks the man, puzzled.

“Well I heard they give the Nobel Prize to people who are out standing in their field.”

Unit 3

Fantasy Farm

When my classmate Rashed informed me that Reza was back, I was really very happy. For the last two weeks Reza had not been at his house without any notice. Rashed also informed that Reza was not *like his usual self*^①, he looked rather a shadow of the person we knew. *Of course it could be true*^②. For the last few days Reza had been working really hard to gain body fitness. The last time I saw him, he was running in his red tracksuit. When I asked him, "Why are you running so early in the morning?" In reply he boasted, "It is beneficial to your health."

Since I was so eager to know where he had been for the last two weeks, I did not waste time to meet him after school. I went straight to his house. He opened the door. Yes, Rashed was right. Reza was really sick. He had become thinner. He could not even walk properly. He was a bit lame and feeling pain in every step. With the help of a stick he managed to sit on his bed. He asked me for a mug of water.

I became even more curious to know what had happened. I asked him, "What happened? Did you have an accident?"

He did not answer. He started trembling in unknown fear. Then he asked me in a low eccentric voice, "Have you ever heard of the 'Fantasy Farm'?" "No." "Thank God, He just spared your life." He then put a pillow behind his back and started telling me his story.

"I think you know my friend Rafat. I heard about 'Fantasy Farm' from him. He had heard about it from another friend. One day Rafat's friend went to 'Fantasy Farm'. It is a large farmhouse on approximately 50-acre of land. It has a flock of domestic animals and their breeding facilities like any other suburban farmhouses. But 'Fantasy Farm' is different from other farms for one reason. It has a 'Fun House'; a round, well protected area for different sorts of funny games. There is even a balcony for spectators to entertain the games in the fun house. It is like a mini indoor gym.

"Rafat's friend went to the farm and participated in the fun game. It was so simple. He bought a ticket with 20 *takas*^③. He was given a black blouse and a black bag by the cashier, and asked to find eggs in the 'Fun House' in a stipulated time of two minutes. Eggs were hidden under the sand. He managed to find 11 eggs in the stipulated time. Consequently, he won a flower crown.

"In the next week Rafat went to the farm to participate in the fun game. This time he was given a yellow blouse and given a stipulated time of ten minutes to catch as many hens as he could. Rafat was not ready for something like this. He tried his best to catch a hen but failed. The audience applauded him for his great effort though. It was great fun for the spectators.

"After that Rafat informed me about the 'Fantasy Farm'. I thought it was a great opportunity for me. If I visited the farm I could get valuable knowledge about



① 像本来的他

② 拉希德说得一点没错。这是相对于前面的 he looked rather a shadow 说的。

③ 塔卡(孟加拉国的一种基本货币单位), 1 000 塔卡相当于25美元。