

(俞大綱主編) 英 語
自 學 手 冊

第 六 冊

河 南 大 學 外 語 系
三 年 級 英 語 教 研 組 編
王 曾 選 審 校

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河南大学外语系三年级英语教研组 编

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前 言

为了适应广大读者学习高等学校英国语言专业三年级《英语》（俞大纲主编）的需要，受河南教育出版社的委托，我们总结了河南大学外语系使用该教材二十年来积累的教学经验，编写出本书，供各大专院校、教师进修学院、各类成人业余大学的师生及其他英语爱好者参考使用。

本书与原教材配套，分为第五、六两册，其内容包括：

一、作者及背景知识补充介绍；

二、课文详细注释，包括课文理解、释义及难句翻译（着重防止误解）；词义、构词、辞源、辨义及词语用法；语法重点、难点的讲解及修辞手段、写作技巧的分析；

三、练习答案；

四、阶段水平测试题（附答案）；

五、补充阅读材料，使读者了解各课题材的新情况，扩大知识面，提高阅读能力。

本书是集体编写的。参加编写的同志分工如下：

徐有志 负责 Book V: LL 5 & 17;

Book VI: LL 4 & 17;

并主持本书定稿工作。

吕长发 负责 Book V: LL 1, 3 & 4;

Book VI: LL 3, 7 & 16.

苗普敬 负责 Book V: LL 2, 8 & 11;

Book VI: LL 2, 10 & 15.

夏克志 负责 Book V: LL 6, 7 & 16;

Book VI: LL 1, 5 & 6.

翟士钊 负责 Book V: LL 9, 10 & 12;

Book \]: LL11, 12 & 13.

刘清晨 负责 Book \: LL13, 14 & 15;

Book \]: LL 8, 9 & 14.

王曾选先生统一审校了全书。

Fred Mednick 先生通读了本书，提出了宝贵意见。

本书的出版得到河南教育出版社、河南大学外语系和其他有关同志们的热情支持和帮助。我们在此谨表衷心的感谢。

由于时间仓促，水平有限，本书缺点错误恐在所难免。恳望广大读者提出宝贵意见，以便今后改进。

编 者

一九八五年九月于开封

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LESSON ONE

SPRING FLOOD

An Extract from *Daughter of Earth*

by *Agnes Smedley*

Additional Background Material

About the author

Agnes Smedley (1892-1950) was a progressive American journalist and writer. She was born on a farm in north Missouri (密苏里州) of a working class family. Later her parents moved to a coal mine district in Colorado, where she spent her childhood in poverty. Because of poverty she had no chance to receive normal education. Then, with an aunt's help she learned typing and stenography. Thirsty for new knowledge, she enrolled in many schools. She worked as a waitress, a tobacco stripper in a cigar shop, a book-seller, etc.

In 1919 Agnes Smedley went to Europe as ship's waitress and lived in Germany. During her stay there she got in close touch with the then revolutionary leaders of the Indian independent movement. In 1928 she left Berlin for China as a correspondent for the *Frankfurter Zeitung* (法兰克福日报). Except for a brief stay in the Soviet Union (for reasons of health) and back in the United States (to get a job), she remained in China until malaria and malnutrition forced her back to California in 1941.

Smedley accomplished much in China. Her studies of Chinese women are the most lyrical and moving pieces we have about a variety of Chinese women in the 1930s. She helped to form the League of Civil Rights in order to publicize to the outside world the lack of civil liberties under Chiang. After the stories in *Chinese Destinies*, she wrote the first book on the Jiangxi soviet, *China's Red Army Marches* (1934), which was based on first-hand accounts by Communists like Red Army Commander Zhou Jienping, who for a while had recuperated in her Shanghai apartment. Smedley herself became seriously ill in 1933 and went to Russia to recuperate. After spending most of 1934 in the U.S. visiting family and endeavouring to find employment with U.S. papers and periodicals, Smedley returned to China. By December 1936, she was in Xian, reporting on the famous "incident" in which Chiang Kai-shek was kidnapped by Marshal Zhang Xueliang. Shortly thereafter she moved to Yan'an and is

credited with prodding the international correspondents to come there to see the "bandits" for themselves. During the war with Japan, her powerful pieces and her energetic personal effort to relieve the condition of the wounded brought in much international aid for medical supplies and helped to establish the Chinese Red Cross. Her letters to America sent along with Chairman Mao's brought Bethune and other Western doctors to China, and her personal appeal, to Nehru, together with that of Zhu De, resulted in five Indian doctors plus medical supplies being sent.

Smedley spent 1938 living in Hankou and waiting for the expected Japanese attack. She worked officially on publicity for the Chinese Red Cross and was a special correspondent for the *Manchester Guardian*. After the fall of Hankou Smedley joined the New Fourth Army. She shared the men's incredible hardships, helped to set up Red Cross stations and to minister first aid to the wounded. She was also a very effective speaker at mass rallies.

Increased danger from the Japanese in 1940 and ill health caused Smedley to leave her beloved New Fourth Army. In September 1940 she went to Guilin, Guangxi, and then flew over Japanese lines to Hong Kong. Then with the fall of Hong Kong imminent and being broke as usual, she borrowed money to return to her estranged family in San Diego.

During the 1940s Smedley produced her most important work. She continued to write book reviews for several journals such as the *New Republic*, but her main task, outside of lecturing and talking on the situation in China, was to complete a book which is now a classic (and was translated almost immediately into Chinese), *Battle Hymn of China*, and to start on the Zhu De biography. After publication and deserved critical praise for *Battle Hymn* in 1943-44, Smedley achieved relative peace in her personal life, her friendships with Edgar Snow and Jack Belden deepened as her book, lectures, radio programs, and debates with such people as Walter Judd proved her mastery over herself and her material.

Smedley's life of relative peace and productivity ended abruptly on February 10, 1949, when the U. S. Army released a report on the Sorge spy ring (produced by General MacArthur's staff) which identified her as a Soviet spy since the early 1930s. Smedley immediately went to court, quickly forcing the Army to recant in public. But the political atmosphere was charged with anticommunist witchhunts which were to culminate in McCarthyism. The suggestion now was ever in the air that Smedley was a communist and or traitor of some sort. All of this made it impossible for her to find enough work to support herself. Her nerves were shattered.

When the news of victory in China came at the end of the year, she was ecstatic. She was also fed up with America; so, despite her poor health, Smedley decided to return to China. She went to London, intending to wait there for a visa. On May 4, 1950, she underwent surgery in a London hospital to have two-thirds of her stomach removed because of ulcers. On May 6, Agnes Smedley died.

There was little public mourning over Agnes Smedley's death anywhere except in China. Lead articles in Chinese newspapers by Mao Dun and other friends mourned her death. These then were republished in a commemorative volume along with selected translations of her work. The Chinese expressed outrage, bitterly accusing the United States Government of murder for hounding Smedley into fatal illness and destitution because she supported the Chinese people. She remains today a heroine in Chinese eyes and is buried in honour outside of Beijing.

Publications: *Daughter of Earth* (1929)
Chinese Destinies (1933)
China's Red Army Marches (1934)
China Fights Back (1938)
Battle Hymn of China (1943)
The Great Road (1956)

About the novel

Daughter of Earth was written in 1927 and published in 1929. It is an autobiographical novel chronicling Agnes Smedley's childhood of grinding poverty in small towns throughout the West and Southwest, her desperate struggle for an education, and her work as tobacco stripper, waitress, teacher, and revolutionary.

Detailed Study of the Text

1. *Spring Flood*: This is taken from the second chapter of the novel *Daughter of Earth*. It gives a vivid description of the spring flood.
2. The springtime came, ... snows: Many signs may herald the arrival of spring, but the signs of spring – snow melting, trees turning green, flowers blooming – occur in the flat land before they occur in the high mountains because these places become warmer earlier than the high mountain areas.
 - 1) *plains*: (often plural with singular meaning) a large stretch of flat land
 - 2) *foothills*: low hills at the foot of a mountain or a chain of mountains
 - 3) The word *snow* is used here in plural form to refer to a great

quantity of snow. When an uncountable noun is used in plural number it denotes variety or great quantity.

More examples:

The rising *waters* did a lot of harm to the crops.

There are two different *bread*s available at the bakery.

Measures have been taken to control the *sands* of the Gobi.

We have had three *snows* this winter, and this is the heaviest one.

3. Trinidad: (特里尼达德) a city in south Colorado (科罗拉多州南部), on the Purgatory River (柏格托里河)
4. put on a fuzzy greenness: (三角叶杨) 已披上一层毛茸茸的绿色。
 - 1) (the cottonwood) began turning green
 - 2) *fuzzy greenness*: When trees just begin to bud in the spring before the leaves have bloomed fully, the little buds often give the trees a fluffy look.
 - 3) *fuzzy*: (informal) covered with soft, light, feathery stuff; indistinct, misty, as in: a fuzzy peach. a fuzzy photo "-ness" is a suffix to be added to an adjective or a participle to form a derivative noun representing a state or quality.
5. swelled by the melting snows: as the river was made bigger with the snows that were melting
swell: cause to grow higher, or more intense, as in:
Wood often swells when wet.
The enrollment of our school swelled to 1,000 this year.
6. eat nearer to: come closer and closer to. As the river became more filled with water it began to flood its banks, thus seeming to eat away some of the land, e. g.
The sea has eaten into the north shore.
7. piling: a number of piles supporting a structure, 'the iron and cement piling of the railroad bridge' refers to the reinforced concrete columns supporting the railroad bridge.
8. fearfully recalled: The people remembered with great fear what had happened 10 years before; they were afraid the same thing might happen again.
9. when spring floods had torn out ...town: This is an attributive clause used to modify "the time". at that time spring floods had changed the railway bridge and made the river change its course through the town
torn out: here, destroy, damage
10. Each night we went to bed ...arose to listen: This shows how worried the people were. They were made sleepless all night through.

each night: Note the difference between *each* and *every*. When you use *each* you are thinking of one at a time; when you use *every* you're thinking of a group.

More examples:

I know *each* member of her family. 我认识她家中每一个人。

I know *every* member of her family. 我认识她全家的人。

at intervals: happening regularly after equal periods of time. In the text it roughly means now and then.

11. they wandered restlessly to and fro near the river bank talking in low tones: they kept moving backwards and forwards, not knowing what to do
wander: move about an area without a fixed course, aim, or purpose
in low tones: in depressed voices
12. in the gray of an early morning: at dawnbreak, when greyish light was beginning to appear before the sunrise
gray: (AmE for grey) the twilight of the morning or evening
13. insisted there was time: asserted firmly that there was enough time
14. his voice was filled with fear: his voice sounded fearful. It's clear that he had realized how serious the situation was.
15. trembling with the cold: The family didn't have time to dress warmly and it was early spring and the icy water at that.
16. with a sound of danger: The sound of the water overflowing the banks of the river was threatening to the people.
17. elemental forces speaking in voice of finality: natural forces making the last judgment
 - 1) *elemental forces*: the forces of nature. The 4 simple substances, earth, water, air, and fire, are regarded in old times as constituting the material universe. These are like the five elements in ancient Chinese philosophy, wood, fire, earth, metal, and water (五行).
 - 2) *speaking*: here the four elements are personified
 - 3) *finality*: the quality of being or seeming final; certainty, decision, conclusion that which cannot be resisted
18. the semi-darkness: the twilight
19. hemmed in: enclosed, surrounded, placed in a situation in which one feels unable to escape
20. He reached down... and waded into the flood: He bent forward, took my two brothers under his arms and walked into the rushing water laboriously.

- wade*: walk through a substance that impedes, as water; make progress
21. then scrambling up the slag embankment: then climbing (with difficulty) the slag railway bed
- 1) *scramble*: climb with difficulty
 - 2) *slag*: waste material left when metal is separated from its natural rock (矿渣)
 - 3) *embankment*: a wall or a mound forming a bank or supporting a road or railway
22. crept nearer his hips: the level of the water became steadily higher; the flood was rising by the minute
- crept*: moved or advanced slowly and quietly, e. g.
The river crept up the bank.
23. I felt him feel... with his legs: When her father carried her she felt that her father was trying to secure his footing and moving in the flood with great effort.
24. clung to: held to, held tightly; refusing to let go
25. jist as leave: just as lief, rather
- jist*: (vulgar) just
as leave: This is the wrong way of saying *as lief*, meaning as willingly
26. Just as if it were a Sunday afternoon walk she was talking about: Helen spoke in a tone as if she were turning down an invitation for a Sunday afternoon walk instead of a life or death situation. Note that (*Just*) *as if* is used for showing the negative of what is said when expressing strong feelings.
27. My father's voice boomed: My father said in a loud, deep voice.
- boom*: make a deep, prolonged, resonant sound
28. stumble: walk unsteadily, stagger while walking or running. e. g.
The drunkard stumbled along the street and lost his cap.
29. Helen... across the waters: Now only the thin and tall and graceful figure of Helen was left on the small piece of land, surrounded by the waters. We could not see her clearly.
- outline*: the shape (of somebody)
30. Then in a minute she also stood by us: Very soon father carried her over to us.
31. with my father soaked to the waist: The water had reached his waist.
32. Down the track on higher land stood the big house of the section-master:
- 1) The sentence is in inverted word order. The normal order would be, "The big house of the section-master stood on higher land down

the tracks. "

2) *down*: prep. in a descending direction along, e. g.

Go down this street, turn to the left at the second block and you'll find the bus stop.

33. everybody was up: all the family were out of bed

up: out of bed. e. g.

Everybody is up early on New Year's Day, especially children in the countryside.

34. on the front porch: at the front entrance to the building

porch: a built-out roofed entrance

35. a pious Catholic: a devout member of the Roman Catholic Church

36. she put her faith in God against the might of the flood: she believed God would control the strength of the flood.

might: strength, power

37. She smiled continually, as one sometimes whistles when walking up a dark canyon at night: People often sing or whistle to encourage themselves when walking alone at night. In the same way the section-master's wife smiled frequently to encourage herself.

continually: repeatedly Cf. *continuously*: continuing without interruption
canyon: narrow opening between hills, deep valley with steep sides

38. at such a time as this one should not hesitate: in an emergency one should not be afraid to pray or doubt the power of God

39. My mother drew back: My mother turned away (from the section-master's wife).

40. something in her was hostile to Catholics, as to foreigners: She somewhat disliked foreigners. In the same way she disliked Catholics.

41. he would have prayed, ...carrying danger on their bosom: 他虽然还不信神，倒也愿意为了祷告本身给人们带来的那种如景似画的感觉而作起祷告来...温暖的房间，燃烧的蜡烛，通明的神龛，或许还有香烟缭绕，而耳边是那凶恶的洪水在吼叫。

1) he still did not believe in God, yet the scene of praying appeared to be so attractive to him that he would like very much to kneel down just to be part of it... amidst the roaring of the ever-rising ferocious flood, how pleasant it would be to stay in a warm, well-lighted and perhaps fragrant room, with a holy place for worship.

2) *for the picturesque effect of it*: for the attractive scene of praying
picturesque: charming or interesting enough to be made into a picture

effect: impression produced on the mind of a spectator, hearer, reader, etc. as in

The painting gives you a three-dimensional effect (立体感).

Fireworks and lanterns combined to make wonderful sky effects on the festival night (绚丽的节日夜空景色).

The performance was accompanied with very good sound effects (音响效果).

it: praying

- 3) *shrine*: a chest containing the remains of a holy person's body; a place for worship; place held in respect for its religious or other connections. In this case, a place for worship.
 - 4) *bosom*: (literary) a broad surface, esp. of a sea or lake, here of the flood
42. Only something... of such a dramatic situation: 只是母亲坚决而严峻的态度, 才使他没有敢用这样一个戏剧性环境。
- 1) Only my mother looked so firm and stern that my father did not venture to make use of such an exciting scene.
 - 2) *hard and cold*: firm and stern
 - 3) *prevent... from (doing)*: keep... from (doing), stop... doing
 - 4) *take advantage of*: use for a special purpose or for one's own benefit
43. it was softly and languidly: her walk was light and slow and without force
44. until sated: until she could eat no more
sated: completely full, disgusted, e. g.
The audience felt sated with advertisements on TV programmes.
45. Her whole manner showed.... He was protecting the section-house: She behaved in such a way that she was specially favoured by God as God had mercilessly inundated all the houses but had not touched hers.
He: God
46. *resented* the woman's manner: felt bitter and angry at the woman's way of behaving towards us
47. "my father was wet to the waist". "with my father soaked to the waist"
The sentence and the prepositional phrase both mean the father was wet from his waist down below. However, the sentence suggested that the father must be feeling terribly cold while the phrase suggested the depth of the water in the ditch.

48. all but: almost, very nearly, e. g.

The hikers were exhausted and all but frozen when they were found.

49. half dressed: They were half dressed because they had escaped directly out of bed.

50. but my mother was not a person to pray under compulsion: but my mother would not be forced to pray, she was a woman of strong will.

51. she was too honest for that: she was so honest that she could not pretend to do what she was not willing to do. The word "that" refers to doing things against her own will.

52. The water ... with the growing dawn: As the light of dawn was growing, the water was also growing.

53. veranda: open porch, usually roofed

54. watched the now dim outline of our tent: kept their eyes fixedly on (the shape of) our tent which was now not yet easy to see clearly from the section-house

55. in voices burdened with despair: in voices heavy with feelings of hopelessness

56. Across the seething, rolling waters ... slowly sailing away: The rolling waves of the turbulent waters swept the tent from side to side, uprooted it and slowly carried it away.

57. The wooden poles ... kept it upright: The tent had been fastened with nails to some wooden poles and a board floor, so the tent was standing erect on the water.

58. It caught on the willow trees ... sailed out of sight: The tent was hooked on the branches of trees and was stopped there for a little while, then continued to float forward, got stuck again, leaned to one side to break free from the trees, and then floated onward till at last we could see no more of it. The simple past tense used in the sentence describes a series of actions taking place one after another. This is known as narrative past.

1) *catch*: (cause to) become stuck in,

More examples:

The nail caught her dress.

Her dress caught on nail.

He caught his foot on a tree trunk and stumbled.

2) *careen*: (cause to) lean to one side

More examples:

He careened the cart to empty it.

The tree careens to the south.

59. with a face of desperation: looking desperate, looking extremely forlorn, lost, hopeless
60. Don't take on like that: Don't get so distressed. Don't feel so sad.
61. But his voice was also heavy with dull hopelessness: But his voice revealed that he was also sad and felt somewhat hopeless and futile.
1) *heavy*: sad
2) *dull*: no longer excited. Here, it refers to the father's resignation of defeat
62. She leaned limply against him: She felt unsteady and rested her body against him.
limply: weakly, exhaustedly
63. for she had long since lost the ability to weep: for she had not been able to weep since long ago; for a long time she had had no more tears to shed
long since: since long ago; for a long time
64. smiled reassuringly at us: gave us a smile to make us feel sure of the safety of her house
65. shivering on the veranda: participial phrase modifying "us"
66. receding: moving back, retreating, on the ebb
67. The mercy of God and the power of prayer were proved - God had saved the section-house: God was really merciful. The power of prayer was really great. The section-house (of the pious Catholic) was really spared. Note the tinge of irony conveyed by the last sentence. Where's God's mercy when He swept away all the houses on this side of the railroad track except the section-house?

Key to Exercises

2. 1) homophones: plains [pleinz] an expanse of nearly flat land
planes [pleinz] airplanes
- 2) heteronyms: row [rəu] a number of things or persons arranged in line
row [rau] noisy dispute or quarrel
- 3) homonyms: sound [saund] that which is heard
sound [saund] in good health, free from defect
- 4) homophones: waist [weist] part of the body
waste [weist] useless consumption
- 5) homonyms: banks [bæŋks] slopes bordering a river
banks [bæŋks] buildings for receiving, lending and safeguarding money
4. With-phrases in the collocations serve respectively as adverbial of: