



英语阅读文选

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1. A Present

One day my brother Dmitri, a sailor in the Baltic Fleet, came to see me. We had not seen each other for a long time. We talked about the revolutionary struggle and about Lenin. When I told him that Vladimir Ilyich was not getting enough to eat, my brother was quite upset. He said he had brought three loaves of white bread with him, and that he wanted to give them to Lenin as a present.

That same day, I took my brother to visit Lenin. Vladimir Ilyich was very pleased to meet a Baltic sailor and asked him a lot of questions. Lenin was a good listener, and Dmitri told him many things about the life of the sailors. My brother was so carried away that he quite forgot what he had come for. He thought of it only when it was time to leave, but he was so excited that he did not know how to tell Lenin about the present. I came to his help.

"Vladimir Ilyich," I said, "Dmitri has a present for you."

“Yes, yes,” my brother said as he laid his bag on the table and opened it. “Look, white bread!”

“Very good,” Lenin said, “the children in the kindergarten will like it very much.”

“Oh, but I brought it for you, Comrade Lenin,” Dmitri said.

“For me?” Vladimir Ilyich repeated in surprise. Then he laughed and said, “Why should I eat white bread today? It is not my birthday. Thank you just the same. Now, let’s send the loaves over to the children.”

When the children in the kindergarten heard where the bread had come from, their eyes shone. “A present from Ilyich!” they shouted.

New words and Expressions

present [ˈpreznt] *n.* 礼物, 赠品

Dmitri [ˈdmitri] *n.* 德米特里 (人名)

sailor [ˈseilə] *n.* 水手

Baltic Fleet [ˈbɔːltik fliːt] *n.* 波罗的海舰队

Vladimir Ilyich [ˈvlædimiə ˈiliɪtʃ] *n.* 弗拉基米尔·伊里奇 (人名)

upset [ʌpˈset] *a.* 不安的, 烦乱

loaf [ləʊf] *n.* 一块面包

kindergarten [ˈkindəɡa:tɪn] *n.* 幼儿园

shine [ʃaɪn] *vi.* 发光

Notes

1. One day my brother Dmitri, a sailor in the Baltic Fleet, came to see me.

“a sailor in the Baltic Fleet” 是 “my brother Dmitri” 的同位语, “Dmitri” 又是 “my brother” 的同位语。

“a sailor in the Baltic Fleet” 一个波罗的海舰队的水兵

2. Vladimir Ilyich was very pleased to meet a Baltic sailor. 弗拉基米尔·伊里奇很高兴地会见一个波罗的海的水兵。

3. Lenin was a good listener. 列宁是一个非常耐心听人讲话的人。

4. my brother was so carried away that he quite forgot what he had come for. 我的兄弟谈得那么起劲, 以致完全忘记他是为什么而来的。

5. ...he was so excited that he did not know how to tell Lenin about the present. 他是那么激动, 以致不知道如何跟列宁讲关于礼物的事。

6. I came to his help. 我就帮了他忙。

7. Thank you just the same. 我还是谢谢你。

这句话的意思是 “尽管我不收你的礼物, 我还是应该象收了你的礼物一样地谢谢你”。

8. When the children in the kindergarten heard where the bread had come from, their eyes shone. 当幼儿园里的孩子们听说面包是从哪儿来的时候, 他们的眼睛闪闪发光。

Reading Comprehension

Answer the following questions:

1. who was Dimitri?
2. what did Dimitri say when he heard Lenin was not getting enough to eat?
3. was Vladimir Ilyich very pleased to meet them?
4. What did Dmitri tell Lenin?
5. How was Dmitri when Lenin talked to him?
6. How was the children in the kindergarten when they heard the bread had come from Lenin?

2. Solid, Liquid and Gas

All matter is made up of molecules. The molecules do not remain in the same position. They are not all moving at the same speed.

When molecules in matter are very close

together and are fixed in a certain order, the matter is called a solid. When the molecules are close together, but can freely move, the matter is called a liquid. When the molecules are not close together, and can freely fly about, the matter is called a gas.

The form of matter can be changed by the increase or decrease of its temperature. For example, water is a liquid. But it can be changed into a solid or a gas. In winter, the temperature falls below 0°C . The water turns into ice. When the ice is taken into a warm room, it will be changed back into water. When water is heated, it will be changed into vapour.

Solid, liquid and gas can be changed from one to another. These changes are called changes of state.

New words and Expressions

molecule [$'\text{m}\text{ɒ}\text{lik}\text{j}\text{u:l}$] *n.* 分子

remain [$\text{ri}'\text{mein}$] *vi.* 仍然是; 停留在

fixed [fikst] *a.* 固定的, 不变

certain [$'\text{s}\text{ə:t}\text{n}$] *a.* 某种的; 一定的

order *n.* 次序

in a certain order 按一定次序

fly about 到处飞散

increase ['ɪnkri:s] *n.* 增加

decrease ['dikri:s] *n.* 减少

temperature ['temprɪtʃə] *n.* 温度

below [bi'ləu] *prep.* 在……之下, 低于

vapour ['veɪpə] *n.* 水蒸汽

Notes

1. in the same position 在同一位置
2. at the same speed 以同样的速度
3. When molecules in matter are very close together and are fixed in a certain order, the matter is called a solid. 当物质的分子紧密地结合在一起, 并按一定次序排列的时候, 这种物质叫做固体。When... in a certain order 是时间状语从句。a solid 是主语补语, 用来补充说明主语 matter. 比较: We call the matter a solid. 在这一句中, a solid 却是宾语补语, 用来补充说明作为宾语的 matter.
4. the form of matter 物质形态
5. to be changed into... 变成.....
6. below 0°C 在摄氏零度下, 0°C 读作 zero ['ziərəu] (零) degree [di'ɡri:] (度) centigrade ['sentigreɪd] (百分度的)。摄氏 Celsius ['selsjəs]
7. to turn into... 变成.....
8. from one to another 从一种形态 (个) 到另一种形态 (个)
9. changes of state 状态变化

Reading Comprehension

Answer the following questions:

1. What is all matter made up of?
2. How many forms of matter are there in the world?
3. How can the form of matter be changed?
4. How can water be turned into ice?
5. What are these changes called?

3. Joe Hill

You may know the song about Joe Hill. But many people do not know that it was written about a real person.

Here is his story.

Joe Hill was born in Sweden. In 1905 he went to the United States. There he took an active part in the workers' struggles. He went to meetings, helped to organize trade unions and took part in strikes. He sang songs which inspired the workers in their struggles. He himself wrote the words and the music.

Joe Hill was a fearless fighter for the working class. The bosses hated him because they were afraid of his organizing and his songs.

In 1915 Joe Hill led a strike in a city in the west of the United States. The bosses wanted to arrest him and they found an excuse when a man was killed by some robbers. They said that Joe Hill had shot the man. He was put in prison and was shot on November 19, 1915.

Even while he was in prison, Joe Hill thought only about his work for the working class. He wrote several poems and wrote the music for one of them.

Just before he was killed, he sent a message to his comrades all over the country. It was: "Don't waste time mourning. Organize!"

On the day he was killed, a speaker at a big meeting said: "Joe Hill isn't dead! He will never die!" To this day his name is remembered by every fighting worker in the United States.

New Words and Expressions

real [riəl] *a.* 真的

inspire [in'spaɪə] *vt.* 鼓舞, 启发

fearless ['fiəlɪs] *a.* 不怕, 无畏的

- boss [bɒs] *n.* 老板, 头子
 robber ['rɒbə] *n.* 强盗
 prison ['prɪzn] *n.* 监狱
 several ['sevrəl] *a. & pron.* 几个
 message ['mesɪdʒ] *n.* 消息, 口信
 waste [weɪst] *vt.* 浪费
 mourn [maʊn] *vi.; vt.* 悲伤, 哀悼
 speaker ['spi:kə] *n.* 演说者, 讲话人

Notes

1. Joe Hill ['dʒəu'hɪl] 乔·希尔 (人名)
2. Sweden ['swɪ:dn] *n.* 瑞典
3. trade union ['treɪd'ju:njən] 工会。
4. Don't waste time mourning.
 不要浪费时间去哀悼 (不要空悲伤)。
 Don't waste time mourning. = Don't waste time (in, for) mourning. 所以本句里的 mourning 为动名词 (gerund), 与它前面的 in 或 for 构成介词短语, 用作状语, 修饰谓语动词 waste。
5. On the day he was killed, ... = On the day when he was killed, ... 在他被害的那一天,
 (when) he was killed 是定语从句, 先行词是 the day.
6. to this day 直到今天

Reading Comprehension

1. Answer the following questions:
 1) Where was Joe Hill born and when did

- he go to the United States?
- 2) What did he do in the United States?
 - 3) Why did the bosses hate Joe Hill?
 - 4) How did they kill Joe?
 - 5) What did Joe do just before he was killed?
2. Decide whether the following sentences are true or false according to the story and put "Right" or "wrong" in brackets:
- 1) Joe Hill was a musician. ()
 - 2) Joe Hill sang songs to inspire the workers in their struggles. ()
 - 3) The bosses hated Joe Hill because he took an active part in the workers' strikes. ()
 - 4) The bosses arrested Joe Hill because he had shot a man. ()

4. A Clever Worker

James Thornhill was an English painter. He painted many beautiful pictures.

Once the king of England asked him to paint some pictures on the walls of the king's

palace.

The king showed the palace to the painter and said, "You must paint your pictures round the walls of this palace near the ceiling."

Then workers came and made a big platform.

Thornhill began to paint. He worked with a man who helped him. They painted on the platform near the ceiling. They worked for a year.

At last the pictures were ready.

Thornhill looked at the pictures and was happy. They were beautiful. He looked at them for a long time. How beautiful they were. He took one step back and looked again. Now the pictures were more beautiful. He took another step, then another. Now he was at the very edge of the platform but he did not know it; he thought only of his pictures.

The worker who helped him saw everything.

"What shall I do?" he thought, "Thornhill is at the very edge of the platform. If I cry out, he will take another step and will fall down to the stone floor. It will kill him." The

worker quickly took a pail of paint, ran to a picture and threw the paint at the picture.

“What are you doing?” cried the painter, running quickly back to his picture.

New Words and Expressions

James Thornhill [ˈdʒeɪmz ˈθɔːnhɪl] *n.* 詹姆斯·桑希尔
(人名)

painter [ˈpeɪntə] *n.* 漆工; 画家

king [kɪŋ] *n.* 国王

paint [peɪnt] *v.* 画, 着色 *n.* 颜料

ceiling [ˈsiːlɪŋ] *n.* 天花板

platform [ˈplætfɔːm] *n.* 台

edge [edʒ] *n.* (物的) 边缘

pail [peɪl] *n.* 桶

step [step] *n.* 步 *v.* 跨步

Notes

1. then another 于是又一步。(后面省略了 step)
2. at the very edge of the platform 就在台的边缘了
(very在这里是形容词, 表示加强语气。)
3. He worked with a man who helped him.
“who helped him” 是定语从句, 修饰 man, 关系代词 who 在从句中作主语, 指人。

Reading Comprehension

Underline the correct statements:

1. James Thornhill was
 - A. a clever worker.
 - B. an English painter.
 - C. an English writer.
2. Thornhill painted
 - A. few beautiful pictures.
 - B. a few beautiful pictures.
 - C. a lot of beautiful pictures.
3. Once he was told to come to the palace.
The king wanted him to
 - A. make pictures with paint on the walls of the king's palace.
 - B. paint the king's palace throughout.
4. The workers made a big platform in order that
 - A. the king could look at the pictures, standing on it.
 - B. the painter could make the pictures, standing on it.
 - C. The king could make speeches on it.
5. The painter worked
 - A. with an assistant.
 - B. with many assistants.
 - C. by himself.
6. It took the painter and his assistant

- A. twelve months to paint all the pictures.
 - B. twenty months to paint all the pictures.
 - C. several years to paint all the pictures.
7. Thornhill looked at the pictures and was happy,
- A. because he thought that he had finished his task in time.
 - B. because he thought that the king would give him a lot of money.
 - C. because he found his pictures to be wonderful.
8. When Thornhill was at the very edge of the platform, what did the worker do?
- A. He shouted at the painter.
 - B. He splashed the picture with the paint.
 - C. He was at a loss what to do.

5. An Elephant and a Monkey

Once upon a time an elephant and a monkey had a quarrel.

The elephant was proud because he was so strong. "Look how big and strong I am!" he

said, "I can pull a tree down, can you?"

Now the monkey was proud because he was so quick. "Look how fast I can run and climb!" he said. "Can you climb a tree?"

At last they went to a wise old owl. "We can not agree," they said. "Tell us what you think about it. Which is better--to be strong, or to be quick?"

The owl said to them, "Do just as I tell you, and then I shall find out which is better. Do you see that great fruit tree across the river? Go and pick the fruit and bring it to me."

So the elephant and the monkey went to the river, but the water was swift and the monkey was afraid.

"Get on my back," said the elephant proudly. "I shall carry you. I am big and strong, and I am not afraid to swim across a swift river."

Soon they got to the other bank. There stood the tree. It was so tall that the fruit hung high above them.

The elephant tried to break the tree down, but it was too strong. He tried to reach the