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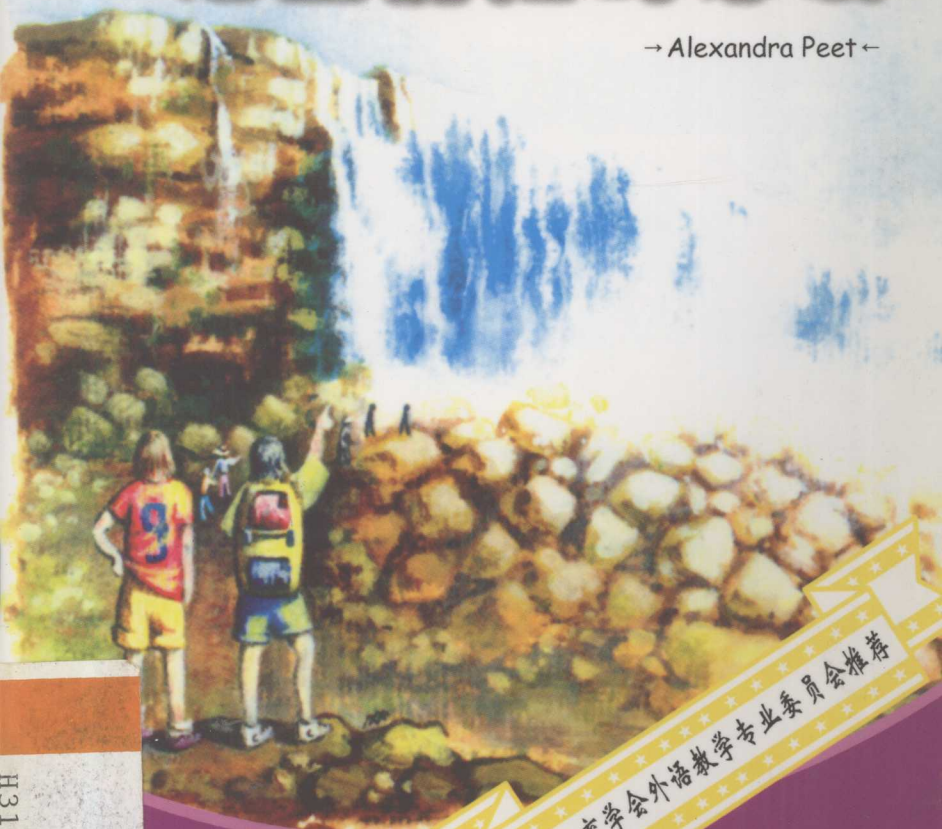
英语课程标准第四级

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Tragedy at Niagara

尼亚加拉的悲剧

→ Alexandra Peet ←



中国教育学会外语教学专业委员会推荐

中国电力出版社
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尼亚加拉的悲剧

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出 · 版 · 说 · 明

这是一套针对英语为外语的学生而出版的世界文学名著分级读物。丛书的编写紧密结合新《英语课程标准》的要求,按难易程度分为 8 个级别,适合各阶段学生的阅读需求,帮助学生在语言技能、语言知识、学习策略和文化意识等方面达到新课标的培养目标。

丛书主要有以下特点:

囊括西方经典文学名著,在帮助学生提高语言水平的同时,能通过阅读与自己外语水平相当的简写本一窥文学名著之全貌。

按新课标分级,词汇量从 150 词到 3500 词,满足中小学生的阅读需要。语言难度循序渐进,有助于教师拓展学生的语言知识和文化背景信息,提升学生的英语阅读技能。

第 1 至第 5 级一页一练,练习量大,测试题型丰富多样,非常有利于学生和教师以量化的方式考核和检测阅读能力与水平,是课堂教学的较好补充。

语言浅显、生动、地道,以英文注释的形式出版,既保留了英文的原汁原味,中英文双语注释又为读者在阅读英文时扫除了语言障碍,能够充分调动读者的阅读兴趣,使英语阅读更轻松。

希望本丛书能够增强我国学生的英语阅读能力,提升他们的文学素养。



序

随着国家《英语课程标准》的颁布和实施，中小学英语教学进入了一个新的阶段。新课标对学生课外阅读量和阅读目标都提出了更高的要求。作为课堂阅读的继续和延伸，课外阅读是中学英语阅读教学中的一个重要环节。新课标对课外阅读的新要求需要广大英语教师更好地解决以下三个问题：

❶ 如何激发和持久地保持学生的阅读兴趣？

❷ 如何将课外阅读活动与课堂阅读活动有效地结合？

❸ 如何在有限的课堂教学指导下监控和评价学生的课外阅读效果？

要解决上述问题，可以从以下几个方面考虑：

阅读选材 阅读材料的题材和难度是影响学生阅读兴趣的主要因素，因此教师在选择和推荐课外阅读材料时，首先应注意阅读材料是否符合学生的认知水平和语言水平，并在两者间找到平衡点。许多材料容易读懂，但对该年龄段的学生可能内容太过浅显，引不起学生的兴趣；也许材料符合学生的心理和认知水平，但语言太难，使学生望而却步。另外，阅读材料还应给学生提供更多的英语国家文化背景知识。许多英语文学名著、寓言故事等在英语国家家喻户晓，人们在言谈、写作时往往予以引用，如同我们引用古诗词和成语一样。如果学生对此毫不了解，就会造成交流和理解上的困难。这套百本之巨的《阅读空间·新课标英语分级读物》（西方文学名著系列）是在《英语课程标准》推广以来出版规模最大的一套中小学生英语阅读丛书，选题的设计者严格按照新课标的各个级别遴选阅读材料，提倡让英语阅读更轻松、更系统、更高效，这样的主导思想和策划方案无疑是正确的。这套丛书分级明确，语言浅显、地道，且与《英语课程标准》的分级标准相匹配，教师可以根据学生的外语水平和兴趣爱好帮助学生选择。

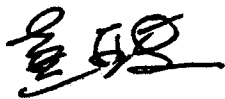
练习活动 阅读的练习和活动形式也是影响学生阅读兴趣的另一个重要因素。在以往的阅读教学中，由于教学时间的限制和应试的压力，阅读的练习和活动形式往往局限于单一的限时应试练习，给学生带来很强的压迫感，严重地影响了他们的阅读兴趣。因此，教师应该设计类型丰富、形式活泼的练习与活动，使学生从被动的阅读者转变为积极的参

与者，并使学生获得更多实践英语和使用英语的机会，如此才能激发和增强他们的阅读热情和兴趣。《阅读空间·新课标英语分级读物》丛书检测方式灵活，其多样化的阅读训练题型，对有意识地培养学生正确的学习策略很有意义。这套丛书的检测训练层级清晰，从初级的看图配话、趣味学用、拼字游戏、常识判断，到较深层的读前思考、推论归纳、背景探索，加上组对练习与互动讨论，明确地突出了学生语言应用能力的培养。

系统性与连续性 阅读材料的系统性，是指根据《英语课程标准》，从语言知识、语言技能、文化意识和学习策略等几个方面，对阅读材料进行科学分级，使学生能够循序渐进，拾级而上。阅读材料的连续性，则是指阅读材料的篇幅和内容的关联性能够让课堂阅读活动延续并拓展到课外。阅读教学中经常采用的短篇限时阅读，虽然容易控制时间，提高阅读速度，但是因学生的阅读能力存在差异而不能“面向全体”，且阅读限时和单一的应试练习形式也很难将课堂阅读活动延伸到课外。市面上的英文名著简写本版本虽多，但像《阅读空间·新课标英语分级读物》这样内容系统、分级明确，并配有大量形式多样、活泼的分项练习的，确实不多。它弥补了短篇阅读理解内容相对独立，不具有连续性的缺陷，使阅读活动能够从课堂延伸到课外。学生可以自己选择他们喜欢的、适合自己水平的读本，教师可以通过诸如写故事梗概、预测故事情节、进行小组讨论等多样、互动的阅读练习与活动，将学生在课堂中的思维延伸到课外，并在下一次课堂教学中检验和评价学生上一次课外阅读活动的结果。

希望有更多的一线教师积极总结自身的教学经验，广泛开展和参与阅读教学的课题研究与探讨，总结出更好、更有效率的阅读教学方法。

中国教育学会外语教学专业委员会理事长
人民教育出版社外语分社社长



龚亚夫

2004年4月18日

第 4 级

Title	书名
Oliver Twist	《雾都孤儿》
Pearl Harbor	《珍珠港》
Romeo and Juliet	《罗密欧与朱丽叶》
Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde	《化身博士》
Moby Dick	《大白鲸》
The Story of Anne	《安妮的故事》
Wuthering Heights	《呼啸山庄》
A Midsummer Night's Dream	《仲夏夜之梦》
The Adventures of Tom Sawyer	《汤姆·索亚历险记》
The Secret Garden	《秘密花园》
Dracula's Wife	《吸血鬼之妻》
Robinson Crusoe	《鲁宾逊漂流记》
Tragedy at Niagara	《尼亚加拉的悲剧》
Landru and His Wives	《兰度的审判》
King Solomon's Mines	《所罗门的宝藏》
Three Men in a Boat	《三怪客泛舟记》

简

介

贾斯汀和乔被邀去多伦多与堂兄妹共度暑假。他们已有十年没见面了。一开始，他们相处得不是很融洽。但参观完尼亚加拉瀑布后，贾斯汀、乔和堂兄妹决定去冒险。他们和另外两个朋友打算去一个国家公园野营。然而，冒险意味着危险，有时危险会导致悲剧……





Countdown¹

Justine put the last piece of toast into her mouth and went over to the calendar. She crossed off the day, just as she had done with all the others since the beginning of the month. Only five days to go now. She could not wait. Soon Joe and she would be flying to Toronto for the summer.

Her aunt's invitation had come just when she was beginning to think this year's summer holidays were going to be long and unexciting. Justine was curious to see Emma and Harry again after all this time. Emma had been her best friend while they were at infant school² together, then her father had been offered a job in Toronto. She could still remember how she had cried when she had said goodbye to Emma and how she had waved³ until their car and the removal van⁴ had turned the corner and disappeared from view. They had promised to remain best friends, but, of course, it had not happened. Justine's mother and aunt had written regularly to each other for the first year or so, then, gradually, the number of letters had dwindled⁵ until they only exchanged Christmas cards and the occasional postcard. Emma and Justine had included drawings in the early letters and later, when they had learned to write, put short letters in with the Christmas cards. In the last few years these had become more a matter⁶ of habit than a desire to maintain contact. They were both involved in their own lives, which had little in common any more.

Still, it would be nice to see Emma again.

Joe interrupted her thoughts, "Where's the bread?"

"I've finished it," she replied.

"Great," said Joe sarcastically.

"If you got up earlier..."



1 Who is your best friend? _____

How long have you known him/her? _____

When/how did you meet? _____

Write a brief description of him/her. _____

Why are you best friends? _____

2 Solve the anagrams of words from page 2 and write a sentence using each one.

a) delarnac: _____

b) stoat: _____

c) yodshila: _____

d) smirtachs: _____

e) soruiuc: _____

f) warnidgs: _____

g) cantoct: _____

h) dareb: _____

NOTES

1. **countdown:** count in reverse order to zero before something important happens. 用倒数方式进行计算

2. **infant school:** school from 5 to 7 years of age. 幼儿园

3. **wave:** move hand from side to side in the air to say goodbye. 挥手表示(告别)

4. **removal van:** van for transporting furniture when you move house. 家具搬运车

5. **dwindle:** become fewer and fewer. 减少; 变小

6. **matter:** question. 问题





"Yeah, yeah, yeah," Joe broke in¹, "I know. So how many days is it to D day?"

"Only five more to go," she replied excitedly.

Departure

"**B**ye, kids. Have a great time and do what Aunt Sarah tells you."

"OK, mum. Promise," Justine replied.

"See you, mum," said Joe.

"Oh, and ring me when you get there so I know everything's OK," their mother added.

One last hug² and then the queue of passengers waiting to get into the departure lounge moved forward. Justine and Joe's mother had to let them go. She stood behind the barrier, watching as they gave their passports and boarding cards to the man at the desk. Then they turned round to wave one last time before disappearing behind the screen. She blew them a kiss³, then sighed⁴ as she lost sight of them.

They went through baggage and passport control. Then they were in the departure lounge.

Fifty minutes later they were settled⁵ on the plane, seat belts fastened, ready for take-off.

"I hope it won't be bumpy⁶," Justine said nervously. "Remember the flight back from Crete last year?"

"This is a much bigger plane. I bet you won't feel any turbulence," Joe reassured her.

The plane taxied⁷ to its starting position, then stopped to wait its turn. Once the signal was given, the engines roared⁸ into action and Justine was pinned⁹ into her seat by the force of the ascent.

"Canada, here we come," Joe said, laughing. Justine gave a small tight smile as she concentrated on not panicking.



3 Find as many words as you can connected with the subject of flying.

.....

.....

.....

Choose 4 of the words above and write sentences using them.

- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)

4 Are the following statements true or false?

	T	F
a) Justine and Joe's mother wanted them to phone her.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Their mother was completely happy about them going to Toronto.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) The departure lounge is before passport control.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) The flight from Crete had been good.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Joe was worried.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Justine did not want to panic.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

NOTES

1. break in: interrupt. 打断
2. hug: embrace. 紧紧拥抱
3. blow them a kiss: send them a kiss through the air. 给飞吻
4. sigh: let out a long deep breath that expressed sadness. 叹气
5. settle: sit comfortably. 停留, 停息
6. bumpy: uncomfortable and rough. 颠簸的
7. taxi: move slowly. (飞机在地面上) 滑行
8. roar: make a loud sound. 轰鸣
9. pin: push back, preventing movement. 使不能行动, 推后





Arrivals

Sarah Lawson sat near the announcement board. Every few minutes she glanced up¹ at it to see if the plane had landed yet. She was still angry with Emma and Harry for not wanting to come with her to meet their cousins at the airport. Emma's friend Sandy had come round an hour before they had been due to leave² and Emma had asked to go down town with her instead. Harry had been more interested in playing ball with his friends in the local park. How rude they were! "Let's hope they get along, otherwise it's going to be a long summer," she thought to herself.

The announcement board said they were in baggage reclaim. Sarah got to her feet and went to stand by the barrier. She had a good view of the automatic door, and would be able to spot³ them as soon as they came through. She looked at the photo Marlene had sent her only the week before: how they had grown!

Then the doors opened and passengers started coming through. She spotted them immediately. Fair-haired Justine and dark-haired Joe, both with big rucksacks⁴ on their backs.

"Joe! Justine!" she said, approaching them. "It's great to see you!"

"Aunt Sarah!" they replied together, "Hello!"

"Did you have a good flight?"

"Yeah, it was fine, thanks," Joe replied.

Justine felt disappointed⁵ that Emma was not there to meet her, but she tried not to let it show on her face.

"OK, kids, let's go," Aunt Sarah said.

201 Cedar Drive

Justine and Joe looked out of the window as the Landrover left the built-up area⁶ behind and drove into a quiet residential suburb



5 Read the text again and correct the following statements.

- a) Sarah Lawson was pleased her children did not want to go to the airport.
- b) Sandy is Harry's friend.
- c) The announcement board said they had not landed.
- d) Sarah stood by the automatic doors.
- e) Marlene sent a photo two weeks before.
- f) Justine has dark hair.

6 Match the infinitives to their past tenses:

go—be—drive—think—	felt—went—had—came—
leave—take—have—	got—took—drove—left—
come—send—get—feel	was—sent—thought

Now choose the correct verb to complete the sentences below:

- a) After taking her children to the airport, Marlene _____ sad.
- b) Sarah _____ the photo with her so she would recognise Justine and Joe.
- c) Sarah _____ about her children while she was waiting.
- d) Marlene and Sarah _____ each other Christmas cards every year.

NOTES

1. **glance up:** look up quickly. 向上一瞥, 向上看
2. **they had been due to leave:** they should have left. 他们应该已经离开了
3. **spot:** identify, see. 认出
4. **rucksack:** bag for carrying things on back. 帆布背包
5. **disappointed:** sad. 失望的
6. **built-up area:** area where there are a lot of buildings. 建筑物多的地区



with wide shady¹ roads and big houses. Aunt Sarah turned into the drive of a large white house and switched off the engine.

“Well, here we are,” she said with clear satisfaction in her voice.

Justine and Joe climbed out² and followed her into the hall. It was spacious and light. Apart from a small circular table in the middle with a vase of fresh flowers on it, there was no furniture or sign that it was lived in. What a contrast with their small dark hallway, where an over-used coat stand³ bulged⁴ with coats and shoes, football boots and trainers littered⁵ the floor.

Aunt Sarah showed them their rooms. They had thought they would be sharing with Harry and Emma but clearly that was not the case. Two beautiful guest rooms with patio doors opening onto the back garden had been prepared for them. Justine threw herself on her bed and abandoned herself to her feelings of disappointment with her cousin.

Reunion

Emma and Harry both arrived home at about the same time: an hour after Joe and Justine had arrived. Emma knocked on Justine's door and went in.

“Hi!,” she said. “You got here alright?”

“Fine,” Justine replied. She did not return Emma's smile. They stood looking at each other for a few moments, assessing the changes ten years had brought. Justine was still fair but her hair was short and trendy now. Emma had lost her chubbiness⁶ and wore her tight jeans proudly⁷. The silence was just starting to become uncomfortable when Emma suddenly said, “Sorry I wasn't here when you arrived. Something came up⁸.”



7 Find some of the words used to describe the Lawsons' house.

Write a brief description of your home.

8 Answer these questions.

- What sort of area do the Lawsons live in?
- Which hall do you prefer, the Lawsons' or Justine and Joe's? Why?
- How did Justine feel about having a room to herself?
- When did Emma and Harry come home?
- How has Emma changed?
- What excuse did Emma give for not meeting Justine at the airport?

NOTES

- shady:** protected from the sun by trees. 成荫的; 多荫的
- climb out:** get out. 出来
- coat stand:** structure for hanging coats on. 衣架
- bulge:** be full. 凸出
- litter:** fill untidily. 乱丢
- chubbiness:** fat, often in babyhood. 丰满
- proudly:** with self-satisfaction. 自豪地
- come up:** happen unexpectedly. 发生



"That's alright," Justine replied grudgingly¹. Then, as she used to do when they had squabbled² as children, she stuck her tongue out³ at Emma. They both laughed.

"It's great to see you," Emma said, giving Justine a hug.

Harry and Joe had never been close. Although they were the same age, they had not had much in common when they had both lived in Hull. Joe had been quiet and shy. Harry had been a bit of a bully⁴. Harry knocked on the guest room door and went in. "Hi, Joe. My friend Kurt's got some new wheels⁵. You wanna come and see?" Harry asked.

"Sure, why not," Joe said with a shrug⁶.

Uncle Robert

That evening at dinner Aunt Sarah asked for all the news from home. Justine and Joe told them all about their father's promotion and their mother's decision to go back to college and retrain.

Uncle Robert arrived just as they were eating a generous portion of ice-cream.

"Hi, dad," Emma and Harry called out as the front door opened.

"Hi, everyone," he called back. "Hello, you two," he said warmly to Joe and Justine as he walked into the kitchen, "did you have a good flight?" He walked over to the stove⁷ and, picking up a fork, tasted the sauce left in the pan. "Hmm, that's good."

"Go and get changed and I'll warm your dinner up⁸ for you," Aunt Sarah replied.

Ten minutes later, Uncle Robert was back.

"So, what do you think of it here?" he asked.

Emma spoke up. "They've only just arrived, dad. They haven't seen anything yet."

