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5

# The Bermuda Triangle

## 百慕大三角

→ Pete Wright ←



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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— 第 5 级 —

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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。

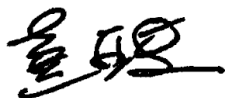
**练习活动** 阅读的练习和活动形式也是影响学生阅读兴趣的另一个重要因素。在以往的阅读教学中，由于教学时间的限制和应试的压力，阅读的练习和活动形式往往局限于单一的限时应试练习，给学生带来很强的压迫感，严重地影响了他们的阅读兴趣。因此，教师应该设计类型丰富、形式活泼的练习与活动，使学生从被动的阅读者转变为积极的参

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

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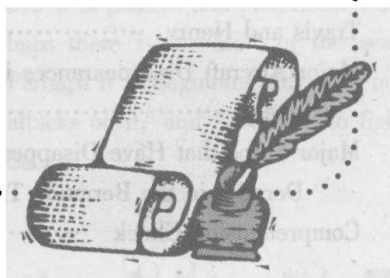
简

介

百慕大三角是一个谜。描写它的书有很多，查尔斯·柏里兹就写过好几本。同时也有许多反过来指出那些书的大部分内容是不准确的或是错误的。

但我们依旧喜欢这个谜。

本书的作者皮特·赖特从事音乐制作，惹过麻烦，也写小说。（许多人都会愿意让他和他的音乐在百慕大频繁地穿越。）





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### The Bermuda Triangle

The Bermuda Triangle is an area of ocean shaped like a narrow triangle, a thousand miles long. It stretches<sup>1</sup> from Bermuda to the coast of North America, near Miami. More than a thousand people have died in the Bermuda Triangle over the last fifty years. Many small boats have vanished, as well as several planes and ships. It is an unusually dangerous area of ocean.

It is possible that the disappearances could all be accidents. Some of the world's greatest sea currents<sup>2</sup> meet in this area. The weather is often unpredictable — a fine day can quickly become fierce and stormy.

Another possible cause of the high accident figures, is that inexperienced people take boats out to fish the rich waters near the coast. If the fishermen have problems, it is because many of them are badly equipped and untrained. The sea is a dangerous place!

The Bermuda Triangle could “exist”. It is too easy to be dismissive<sup>3</sup> of those who believe that there is a “supernatural”<sup>4</sup> force within the area. Few people actually travel by sea. The truth is there is not enough information to allow us to say one way or the other.

#### NOTES

1. **stretch**: spread over a large area or distance. 伸展
2. **current**: a movement of water in a particular direction. 洋流; 流
3. **dismissive**: considering a person, idea to be not worthy of attention. 轻视的
4. **supernatural**: caused by forces that cannot be explained by science. 超自然的

Many cultures believe that the sea has a life of its own. We humans happily pollute the ocean, thinking that it is passive and powerless. Perhaps there is a “life” in the sea. Perhaps it is beginning to notice our attacks on it, and is starting to fight back.



## Bermuda

Outside it was hot. Inside the bar it was cool.

Travis looked over the top of his beer glass at the two tourists sitting opposite him.

"Tell us more about 'The Triangle', Mr Travis."

"Oh, it's a dangerous place. Many ships are lost there. Many aeroplanes. People laugh at the stories. They set out into that devil sea, and some of them don't come back!"

"Another beer, Mr Travis?"

"Well, I won't refuse a beer offered in friendship!"

Travis was a tough, stocky<sup>1</sup>, middle aged man. His graying, dark hair was short and stood straight up from his head. He was a little bit drunk.

"Travis?"

Travis looked up at the man standing beside the table. He was tall, and dressed in a well cut, but old fashioned suit. His eyes were intense. Another tourist? Perhaps, but something about him was strange. The man had an unnatural calm. Was he from the Police, or the Harbour Master's office? Travis was reasonably honest, but only "reasonablyso".

### NOTES

1. stocky: thick, short and strong.  
矮壮的
2. vacant: available to be used.  
空闲的
3. private: only for one person or group and not for everyone.  
私人的
4. urgency: something important and need to be dealt with at once.  
紧急

"What do you want?" Travis kept his voice neutral.

"Travis, I'd like to speak to you..."

"Join us..." Travis waved to a vacant<sup>2</sup> seat at the table.

"... in private<sup>3</sup>."

The two tourists sensed the urgency<sup>4</sup> in the tall man's voice.



“Well, thank you, Mr Travis. I think we’ll stay on the land and away from the Bermuda Triangle until we fly back home to Miami.”

Travis watched them walk across the empty bar and out into the dazzling<sup>1</sup> light and heat of a Bermudan summer afternoon.

“Well, stranger, you’ve driven away my free drinks. Why don’t you get yourself a beer, and sit down? You’re British, right?”

“Yes, English.”

“What can I do for you?”

The stranger signalled to the barman, and sat down. He moved slowly and carefully, as if he were made out of glass.

“Are you sick?”

The stranger paused. “Not exactly.”

Two large beers arrived at the table. Travis smiled.

“Do you remember Henry?” The stranger had not touched his beer. Out of politeness Travis felt obliged<sup>2</sup> to leave the other one untouched<sup>3</sup> too.

“I don’t know any ‘Henry’, ” said Travis, staring at the beer.

“He was a boy — he’s sixteen now. He was... er... thirteen then. He was with a local girl. Her name was Hayley. Do you remember?”

Ah, those kids. I remember them.

They were OK — polite. They listened. They didn’t laugh at an old sailor.

“They asked you about the Bermuda Triangle?”

“Yes. They were interested in what happened to me.”

### NOTES

1. **dazzling**: bright.  
耀眼的
2. **oblige**: force someone to do something.  
迫使
3. **untouch**: not change or spoil in any way.  
未碰过



“So, it's true? Drink up<sup>1</sup>. They're both for you.”

Travis took a long drink from one of the glasses. The froth clung<sup>2</sup> to the short, grey stubble<sup>3</sup> on his upper lip. “What do you mean, ‘it's true?’”

“It's true about the plane you were flying?”

“How did you know about that?”

“Henry wrote about his holiday, and what he found out about the Bermuda Triangle, in a report for his school. It's all in that.”

“So?”

“I read it.”

“And you've come to laugh at the old man and his story about the ‘Cloud Tunnel’, and about how he lost his brother to that damned Triangle!”

The muscles in his forearm under the sundarkened skin were rigid<sup>4</sup> with silent anger.

“No, no, Travis. That doesn't matter...”

“Doesn't matter!”

“Travis, I'm sorry. What I mean is, there's something else in Henry's story which is more important — more important to both of us. Travis, read this.”

Travis calmed down. His anger came and went as quickly as a

summer squall<sup>5</sup> far out on the sea that glinted through the windows of the bar. The barman watched the two men without interest, and idly polished a glass with a spotlessly white cloth.

“Right. Before I read, you can tell me your name, stranger.”

“Henry.”

“What?”

“Henry, just like my nephew.”

### NOTES

1. **drink up**: finish your drink completely. 喝光
2. **cling**: hold something or someone tightly (cling; clung; clung). 紧贴
3. **stubble**: the short hair which grows on a man's face. 胡子茬
4. **rigid**: not able to be changed. 僵直的
5. **squall**: a sudden strong wind or brief storm. 暴风



### Aboard The Rescue Boat

“Can you tell me what is happening, Angela?” asked Hayley.

“Sure,” said Angela. “Come and sit here beside me. Do you see those shapes on the screen there? That’s the sea bed. If there is a boat over twenty feet long lying on it, even if it’s in pieces, we’ll find it. Or, rather, the computer will find it. It’s all automatic<sup>1</sup>. We don’t even have to watch the screen.”

“I’ve never seen anyone drowned,” said Hayley, softly.

Angela looked across at her. “This missing boat is what we call an ‘incident’, Hayley. Almost all incidents are false-alarms<sup>2</sup>. One time out of a hundred, we have to send for medical help usually because someone has been sitting out in the sun for too long!”

Hayley looked relieved<sup>3</sup>.

“Anything?” asked Mr Quint.

“Nothing,” said Angela, “What next?”

“It seems we have another victim<sup>4</sup> of the Bermuda Triangle.” Said Mr Quint, smiling.

“It’s a big ocean,” said Mr Quint, and then he was silent. They had all seen it. A great shining wall of mist was approaching the boat. The boat passed through the mist, which had a soft pink light. As quickly as it had come, it passed, and went on its way.

There was silence.

“It’s a big ocean,” said Mr Quint.

### NOTES

1. **automatic**: be able to operate independently of human control. 自动的
2. **false-alarm**: occasion when people believe incorrectly that something dangerous or unpleasant is happening or will happen. 虚惊
3. **relieved**: happy that something unpleasant has not happened or has ended. 放心的
4. **victim**: someone or something which has been damaged or killed. 受害者



*"It may be big, but I think that Henry may be right," replied Angela, "I'm going to radio the Coast-Guard and find out exactly what they were told by this missing boat!"*

Travis's lips moved as he read. Finally, he put down the sheet of paper.

"He's got a good memory, if he remembered all that conversation ..."

"He didn't remember it. That's exactly how the conversation went on board the search boat."

"How do you know that?"

"There was an automatic tape recorder going whenever people were speaking in the control cabin<sup>1</sup>. Quint gave the tape to Henry when they arrived back in harbour. It was a souvenir of the trip. Henry's record of the conversation is exact."

"OK." Travis picked up the second beer and drank half of it in one gulp<sup>2</sup>. "The conversation is exact. So what?"

Henry leaned back in his chair and sighed<sup>3</sup>. The chair creaked<sup>4</sup> sharply. "You don't see it, do you, Travis? I'm not surprised. My nephew didn't see it either."

"He didn't see what?"

"Look at these lines... What do you notice?" Henry took a pen from his pocket and underlined some of the writing. Travis looked closely at it.

### NOTES

1. **cabin**: a small, simple house made of wood. 船舱
2. **gulp**: drink liquid quickly by swallowing it in large amounts. 一口吞下, 大口(酒, 水)
3. **sigh**: breathe out slowly and noisily. 叹气
4. **creak**: make a sudden loud sound. 吱吱作响

"Well, Quint repeated himself, but we all do that."

Henry leant back again in satisfaction. This time, the chair was silent. "You're right, but not in the way you think. Quint repeated himself, but he repeated himself exactly — and I mean EXACTLY! I have the tape. Even the background noises repeat themselves."



It was an identical repetition. **Time repeated itself! It's a time loop<sup>1</sup>! This is proof — proof of the BERMUDA TRIANGLE!**"

## Sleep!

**"Y**ou're a strange fish<sup>2</sup>, Henry. You seem excited about this, but you also seem very, very calm."

Henry looked hard at the old seaman. "I am excited, Travis. I get too excited. I have to take certain pills."

"Heart?"

"No, no. I'm 'narcoleptic'."

"What in heaven's name is that?!"

"Oh, it's a genetic<sup>3</sup> disease. I don't have it too badly, but..."

"I've never heard of it. What did you call it?"

"Nar — co — lep — sy."

"That sounds serious." Travis looked a little worried in case "narcolepsy" was infectious<sup>4</sup>. "What is it?"

"When you sleep, Travis — when you sleep deeply you enter a state called 'Rapid Eye Movement' sleep — R. E. M. sleep. In this state your mind is working harder than it does during the day. The dreams are so vivid that your body would be thrashing<sup>5</sup> about wildly. To stop this, an area in the oldest and most primitive part of your brain paralyses<sup>6</sup> you. The only thing that can move in this state is your eyes — hence R. E. M."

Travis looked a bit disturbed at the news. "You say that everybody has this... er... R. E. M.?"

## NOTES

1. **loop**: the curved shape made when something long and thin. 环
2. **fish**: person. (文中指称) 人
3. **genetic**: of the genesis, or origin, of sth. 遗传的
4. **infectious**: able to infect. 有传染性的
5. **thrash**: moving from side to side in an uncontrolled way. 颠簸
6. **paralyse**: cause parts of the body to lose the ability to move or feel. 使麻痹







"Yes, everybody has R. E. M. sleep."

"And you are different in some way. Those pills you take..."

"Yes, you've guessed right. I am different. For me, and people like me, that R. E. M. sleep can break through into the day."

"You dream, but you're awake?!"

Henry looked sadly across at the older man, and remembered the years of suffering<sup>1</sup>, misunderstanding<sup>2</sup>, disbelief<sup>3</sup> and mis-diagnosis<sup>4</sup>. "Yes. If I have an attack, the dream world breaks through into the everyday world..."

"That doesn't sound too bad!" Travis looked down into his empty glass, as if expecting a dream to leap out at him.

"... and I'm paralysed, instantly!"

"Paralysed. Like when you sleep?"

"The attacks come suddenly."

"What sets them off?"

"Usually, it's excitement. That's why I take the pills. They are meant to keep me calm."

"So, you're excited and calm at the same time. What has all this got to do with the Bermuda Triangle?"

"Nothing until I noticed the 'loop'."

"Why are you so interested in this 'loop'?"

"Dreams are powerful things, Travis. Your dreams help you solve problems. They help you adjust to things you know you can't change. You know the saying — 'if you've got a problem, it's best to sleep on it'. It's true. You feel better in the morning because your dreams help

### NOTES

1. **suffering**: experiencing physical or mental pain. 受苦
2. **misunderstanding**: not understand something correctly. 误会
3. **disbelief**: the refusal to believe that something is true. 怀疑
4. **mis-diagnosis**: a wrong judgment about what a particular illness is. 误诊

